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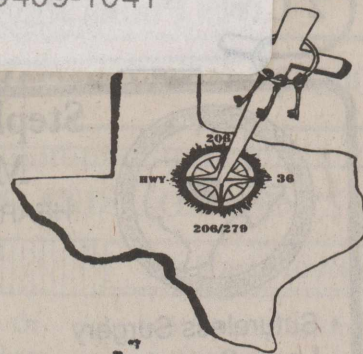
Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

# Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, January 5, 2006



SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
Texas Tech University  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409  
Keys to our Past,  
Present and Future  
Hinge on the Cross

97TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 42



THEIR FIRST PLACE—Seth and Angel Morgan stand in front of what's left of their double-wide mobile home destroyed by flames Tuesday, December 27 in Cross Plains. Seth, a volunteer fireman for the Cross Plains Fire Department, was out fighting the wildfire when the couple's home burned.



WALL OF FIRE

## Phenomenal Firestorm Raced Across Cross Plains

By Vanda Anderson  
Editor

Tuesday, December 27, 2006, will mark another day in the history of Cross Plains. What started as a grassfire exploded into a firestorm. An estimated total of 116 homes destroyed, 36 homes damaged and 7,665 acres burned has been reported. David Holmes Insurance Agency on Fos Bond Street (northeast of the old nursing home) and Hinkle TV Repair on North Main were the only businesses totally lost. However, many lost tools, computers, merchandise, etc. that contributed to their businesses in the flames. A list of the names of residents with losses cannot be published due to privacy restrictions.

The downtown area was not damaged and the electricity, water, gas and telephone service

to the majority of homes and businesses have been restored remarkably fast thanks to the dedicated employees of each utility.

Local firefighters first responded to a grassfire 3.5 miles west of Cross Plains at 12:47 p.m. that was moving in a northeasterly direction at 30 miles per hour. At that rate of speed it would only take 7.5 minutes to spread to town.

Local Fire Chief Bob Harrell had already called for additional units at 1:04 p.m. realizing the severity of the situation. Twenty-eight units from area towns assisted including: Brady, Lawn, Oplin, DeLeon, Merkel, Anson, Abilene, Dyess AFB, Abilene Airport, Cisco, Clyde, Rising Star, Stephenville, Brownwood, North Lake Brownwood, Lake Brownwood, Sipe Springs, Early, Santa

Anna, Putnam, Gorman, Dublin, Burkett, Eastland, Comanche, May, Potosi and Stamford.

The intense blaze was burning pastures, out buildings, homes and anything that fueled its path as it moved toward the Cottonwood community. Then suddenly the wind changed directions to the southeast and it headed directly to Cross Plains.

A strange phenomenon called a "firestorm" literally flooded Cross Plains with a wall of swirling consuming fire. Fire storms create their own weather. As the wall of fire moves forward, propelled by 30 m.p.h. plus winds, it begins to suck in oxygen inside of itself from around the ground below. This vortex creates "fire tornadoes" within the fire wall. The whirlwinds of flaming debris then shot up out of

See Firestorm Page 10

## 'At least we're still alive'

By Don Tabor  
Publisher

They caught my eye. This tall young guy was giving this pretty young woman a big hug. But it was not a hug of happiness. It was more like two people clinging to each other, maybe out of grief with a little fear thrown in. I was out in Cross Plains last Thursday in a futile attempt to capture in pictures the horror and tragedy of the wildfire two days earlier. The two people were standing in the driveway of what used to be a large double-wide home. I stopped and walked up to

them. The young woman waved shyly at me. I felt like I was intruding on their private moment but they greeted me in a warm quiet way, sort of like when you go to a funeral. They introduced themselves as Seth and Angel Morgan. Their two small children played nearby. "The baby's asleep in the car," Angel said. She said they had just celebrated their first anniversary in the house. "This was our first place," she added. I asked Seth if he had any insurance on their home. "I was in the process of getting some... no, we didn't," he answered.

There was a stream of vehicles waved shyly at me. Angel commented that many well-meaning strangers had come up and asked if they were okay. "Okay? With this?" she said, gesturing toward the burned ruins. I asked Seth where he was when their home burned. He explained he was out fighting the wildfire as a member of the Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Dept. His eyes had a far-away look as he recalled the event. "It moved so fast," he said. Then he returned to the present: "At least we're still alive."

## A Perfect Storm

By Don Tabor  
Publisher

As experts like to say, it was a perfect storm. They say that when everything is just right to make a catastrophic event. At about noon on Dec. 27, that's what happened to Cross Plains. A few months ago the whole area around Cross Plains had

had a deluge of rain, enough to cause flooding, but also enough to cause grass, weeds, underbrush and other plant life to flourish. Then, for three months there was no rain and that abundant growth turned bone dry. And on Dec. 27, a West Texas norther with winds of 45 mph bore down on Cross Plains. The humidity was extremely low and when someone tossed a cigarette out of a car along Highway 36 (they don't really know yet what happened) the perfect storm began. Scott Farwell of the Dallas Morning News told of Bob Harrell and other firefighters arriving four miles west of town when the fire was a small outbreak in a ditch. They nearly had it out when wind blew an ember into a briar-choked fence row. The fire then exploded and headed for Cross Plains.

"In that moment Cross Plains was lost," Farwell said in his story. Farwell quoted West Central Texas Council of Governments Director Jim Compton as saying: "Something like this could destroy the town, absolutely." I don't believe that. In the 20-plus years I have owned the Review, I have seen these folks carry on with courage and tenacity through tornadoes, drought and floods. I have also witnessed their amazing generosity. They have raised thousands of dollars in fund-raisers for worthy causes when towns twice the size would have only raised a few hundred. Now it's time for others to help them. They temper metal with heat to make the strongest steel. There is some very strong steel in Cross Plains.



WORSHIP SERVICE GOES ON—First United Methodist Church congregation sets up in the parking lot Sunday, January 1, 2006. (Photo by Vanda Anderson.)

## Jesus Survives in the Midst of the Fires

By Vanda Anderson  
Editor

Even though spring is not officially here, new life is already beginning to spring up out of the hearts of people in Cross Plains. The First United Methodist Church demonstrated the true spirit of Cross Plains residents as they held their regular worship service in the parking lot beside the remains of their burned out sanctuary. Sitting in folding chairs with the ashes swirling in the wind, they carried on their worship as usual.

Dr. Shelly Brooks, Methodist District Superintendent of Brownwood, stated, "This is a new year, a new day and by the grace of Jesus through us, new life will come forth through these ashes." She noted that many have asked, "Where is God?" She explained that He was in the midst of the ashes. Brooks encouraged those who had lost their homes and were directly effected to attend the Town Meeting, the Resource Fair, and complete the necessary forms for relief and aid. A \$10,000 check has already been sent to the community (not

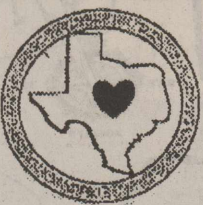
the local church) from the United Methodist Committee on Relief, national office. Chuck Graff, Chairman of the Central Texas Conference Disaster Response Committee attended the service. They are working closely with community leaders for long term recovery. Melody McWilliams directed the children's sermon where she told that when the Nativity Scene was located, it was only Baby Jesus that remained in tact and untouched in the midst of the fire in the church. The same See Methodist Page 7

Texas Heritage Bank  
"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"  
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Presents: "What's Inside"

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:  
IT IS NOW SAFE  
TO DRINK THE  
CROSS PLAINS  
WATER



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## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### CROSS PLAINS COWBOY CHURCH

**Pastor: LEN SMITH**

Join Us On Sunday Mornings At 10:30 a.m.  
 Wednesdays At 7:00 p.m.

16075 CR 459 Cross Plains, Texas

For Information

Call 254-725-6446 or 325-518-5514

**COME AS YOU ARE!**



### CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

832 Ave. E Cross Plains, TX

**Pastor:**

**Donald Duke**

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship.....11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship.....6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Night Bible Study.....7:00 PM



**Our Church Is A House Of Prayer**

### Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel ~ Prophetic ~ Apostolic  
*"Restoring And Equipping The Saints"*

It's not about where you've been... It's about where  
 God wants you to go!

SUN. 10AM \* TUES. PRAYER 7PM \* THURS. 7PM

Pastors: Max Evans & Colleen Anderson  
 For Information Call (254) 725-7418

### GOSPEL MISSION

716 1st Street  
 Full Gospel

Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 p.m.

Michael Ingram, Pastor

### 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

### 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

### MATTIE FAYE WILSON

Mattie Faye Wilson, age 67, passed away on Wednesday, December 28, 2005 in her home in Cross Plains. Memorial services were held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2005 at the Higginbotham Chapel in Cross Plains with Ronnie White officiating.

Mattie Faye was born November 25, 1938 to Barney Bell and Ruby Allene (Etheredge) Thurman in Big Spring, Texas. She completed college and began teaching elementary school. Mattie Faye taught at Jim Ned, Eula, Arizona and retired from the Cross Plains I.S.D. in 2000. She married Randy Wilson in June of 1981 in Tuscola, Texas. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Cross Plains.

She will be remembered for her yodeling and playing her harpsichord. Mattie Faye

touched the lives of many people through her dedication to teaching. She will be missed by her former students, co-teachers, friends and relatives.

Survivors include her sister, Patricia Lewallen of Early; several nephews and nieces including Edward Lewallen and wife, Linda, of Weatherford; Scott Lewallen and wife, Kim, of Blanket, Uvonna Alexander and husband, Chris, of Mansfield, Vicki Rutegar and husband, Mark, of California, Kim, Jaimey and Kathy of Tennessee; as well as two sisters-in-law.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Randy, and brother, Garrett Thurman.

Donations may be made to the Cross Plains Fire Relief and Victims Fund, c/o of Texas Heritage Bank, P.O. Box 699, Cross Plains, Texas 76443 in her memory.

### MAUDIE LEE SHEPARD

Maudie Lee Shepard 89 years 11 months and 17 days, passed away Tuesday, December 27, 2005 at her home in Cross Plains. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2005 at the Pioneer Baptist Church with Dwaine Clower officiating; burial followed in the Union Cemetery in Eastland County.

Maudie was born January 10, 1916 in Coke County, Texas to Calvin and Cynthia Cardela (Milligan) Dawson. She married Andrew Jackson Shepard Jr. on December 15, 1949 in Amarillo,

Texas. She retired from the State School in Abilene as a dorm parent. Maudie was a mother, homemaker and a member of the Pioneer Baptist Church.

Survivors include her son, Andrew Shepard of Cross Plains; daughter, Mary Jane Rushing of Vernon; brother, Calvin Dawson, of Alvard; sister, Ruby Pierce of Benjamin; Cora Strachan of Chico; Edith Downing of Kentucky; 2 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and 3 sisters.

### B. F. HUTCHINS

B. F. Hutchins, 90, passed away Wednesday, December 28, 2005 at the home of his daughter in China Spring with family members at his bedside.

Services were held Friday, December 30, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. at Higginbotham Funeral Home in Cross Plains with Brother Ronnie White officiating. Burial followed at the Atwell Cemetery.

He was born June 11, 1915 in Jones County to Charlie and Minnie Pillans Hutchins. B. F. was a life long resident of the Atwell community where he farmed and raised cattle.

B. F. and Elsie Mae Foster were married on October 5, 1940 at Atwell and recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at their home in Atwell.

He was a Baptist and loved to sing the old songs out of his Baptist Hymnal. He was an avid crappie fisherman and enjoyed many hours of fishing at Lake Brownwood with Mae, the kids, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews. In later years when he could no longer drive to the lake he stayed busy with his garden.

B. F. loved his family and gave the grandchildren their own special loving names. He was preceded in death by

his parents; five brothers, Bill, George, Tuff, Jim and little O. C.; four sisters, Eunice Tatom, Maurine Purvis, Lela Foster, and Edna Foster; in-laws, Emory and Julia Foster; and special granddaughter, Shayla Dewbre.

B. F. is survived by his wife Elsie Mae; daughters, Lynette Mitchell and husband Tom of Graham, Beth Arnold and husband Gale of China Spring; son, Bob Hutchins of Grand Prairie; grandchildren, Sheri Widner and husband Tony of Graham, Teri Smith and husband Brant of China Spring, Shawna Douglas of Grand Prairie and Ben Hutchins of Conroe; great-grandchildren, Whitney Crawford and husband Greg of Graham, Courtney Widner of Graham, Brooke and Blair Smith of China Spring, and Miranda and Bryson Douglas of Grand Prairie.

Pallbearers and Honorary Pallbearers were nephews Robert Hutchins, Freddy Tatom, Vondal Hutchins, Darvel Hutchins, Alvin Hutchins, Elvin Hutchins, Darwin Purvis, Bugs Foster, Jay Hutchins, Alvie Hutchins, C. B. Hutchins, Ronnie Hutchins and David Strahan.

Memorial may be made to the Cross Plains Voluntary Fire Department.

## All fire departments in need of donations

The West Central Texas Council of Governments wants to remind citizens that during this time of high demand for assistance to the people of Cross Plains that your local fire departments are also in need of funds in the form of donations made toward the area fire relief.

Many of our local fire departments have depleted their resources while battling the recent fires in and around Cross Plains. Resources include depleted fuel allocations, damaged equipment, repair of old aging equipment and other items that were used and expended during this recent effort.

Many of our rural areas depend on volunteer fire departments for fire protection. The fire departments that responded to this disaster are non-profit organizations that rely on the good will of the public. Most of these courageous fire fighters are self-sacrificing non-paid volunteers. Donations can be made

directly to your local fire department.

Fire Departments responding to the Cross Plains area fire include: Abilene, Abilene Air port, Anson, Baird, Brady Brownwood, Burkett, Cisco Clyde, Comanche, Cross Plains DeLeon, Dublin, Dyess AFB Early, Eastland, Eula, Gorman Lake Brownwood, Lawn, May Merkel, Miles, Northlake, Oplin, Potosi, Putnam, Rising Star, Santa Anna, Sipe Springs, Stamford, Stephenville, and Zephyr.

Also, helping your local fire department repair equipment and build cash reserves helps them to be able to respond to future events as they occur in the area. Without these donations there will be a diminished fire fighting capacity in the region.

For additional information on donating, call your local fire department or the Big Country Fire Fighters Association

## COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT  
 Roger Corn, Presiding

42nd DISTRICT COURT  
 John Weeks, presiding

Misdemeanor Minutes

Criminal Minutes

James Couch, order amending conditions of probation granted.

Gina Fagiani, transfer request from Callahan Co. to Shackelford Co. granted.

Raemy Danielle Marcee, motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation granted.

Jason A. Gillespie, compromise settlement agreement and order granted.

Michael R. Jackson, compromise settlement agreement and order granted.

Randy K. Davis, order releasing cash bond granted.

Jacob A. Jones, motion to dismiss to criminal trespass granted, defendant sentenced to prison on felony case.

Blas Aguero, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 4 years in prison, \$321 court costs.

Jacob A. Jones, plea of guilty to possession of anhydrous ammonia in an unapproved container, 3 years in prison, \$221 court costs.

Jacob A. Jones, plea of guilty to tampering with anhydrous ammonia equipment, 2 years in prison, \$251 court costs.

Civil Filings

State of Texas vs. David Lucas, Jr., writ of habeas corpus.

Roy Mack Clark and Becky Clark, divorce.

In Re: transfer structured settlement payment rights by Delilah Jewel Ellis.

### Cross Plains Review Deadlines

Ads Noon on Tuesday

Articles Noon on Monday

## First United Methodist Church

Will Be Meeting At The  
 Presbyterian Church

On Avenue D and 2nd Street  
 Starting At 10:45 a.m.

Beginning Sunday, January 8th

**Jim Senkel, Pastor**

325-280-8480 (Cell)

[fumc\\_cp@valonet.com](mailto:fumc_cp@valonet.com) [www.gbgm-umc.org/crossplains](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/crossplains)

**OPEN HEARTS**

**OPEN MINDS**

**OPEN DOORS**

## First Baptist Church

**SUNDAY**

9:45 am Bible Study  
 11 am & 6 pm Worship

**Wednesday**

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship

**Ronnie B. White, Pastor**

(254) 725-7629

3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443

**Triple Cross Cowboy Church**  
 Every Sunday at 10:30 am  
 Services held at  
 21272 State Hwy 279, Cross Plains  
 (CJS Ranch, on the left just past the 279/206 split)  
**Al Taylor, Preacher**  
 Bible Study on Wednesday Evenings  
 Phone: 254-725-7522  
 Cell Phone: 325-370-6680

## COTTONWOOD NEWS

By Wallace Bennett

It is Happy New Year time and I do wish you each and everyone such a year ahead. I know for some of you it is a time to reflect on the past few days of the old year, find the blessings in what's left from the devastating fire. I do not mean to take lightly the loss of life and family in this situation.

That's awfully hard to do. We've lost a lot of good warm homes where we felt comfortable and secure, but in the final analysis, things don't matter, people do! So, let us hunker-down, stay together and move on.

The Cottonwood Quilting Club will begin its new year on January 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th. Everyone is invited to join and participate in the fun and fellowship of this club. It meets on Thursdays at about 10:00 a.m. and ends about 2:00 p.m. or when everyone is sewed out.

### Fire Control Unit Sets Annual

The Cottonwood Fire Control

Unit meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station. This month the meeting will take place at the Community Center for the annual Community Meeting. It will be January 17th at 7:00 p.m. All residents are invited and urged to come and find out about the Fire Control Unit, its needs and its mission.

The unit will elect new board members and discuss other items of interest to all citizens.

### The "Hunker-down" Gets Bad Press Reviews

The phrase "hunker-down" is growing old and tiresome or so it seems, according to one TV station. Everyone is using the term, even the President of the United States. But according to the a-fore mentioned TV station, it is no longer acceptable nor is it cute.

Wow, who decides these things? Probably it is some little-known news reporter

somewhere, looking for a lead that will bring fame and fancy.

Whoever, it is that makes these decisions, I'm glad! It is very tiring to keep hearing, every time some one loses something, like a football game or soccer match, or a watch or a fortune. Oh, well, we've just got to hunker-down and move on.

What does the term mean? How do you "hunker-down"? What do you look like when you hunker-down—full of grace and dignity? I bet not.

Anyway, from now on, you will not see me use this term in my column. But, I may use the phrase "hunker-up" when I can find out what the term really means and learn to "hunker-up" with some sort of grace and dignity.

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

## LIBRARY NOTES

### Behind the Books

Oh my, oh my—I think we all want this week to be way, way back "behind the books" and behind everything else. But you know me, unusual things, thoughts and happenings "spark" my interest and send me looking up answers. This time, I went off to check the melting point of different materials and found that most everything (glass, silver, aluminum, brass, porcelain) melts at various points between 1000 and 1700 degrees!

So do you think that those Baby Jesus figures from all those Nativity Scenes were intact because of a temperature factor or because of something else???????

CU-BW

## SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

JANUARY 9 - 13

MONDAY - Chicken & Dumplings, Peas & Carrots, Tossed Salad, Cake, Bread

TUESDAY - Salisbury Steak w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Vanilla Pudding, Bread

WEDNESDAY - Chicken Cacciatore, Buttered Rice, Mixed Veg., Gelatin, Bread

THURSDAY - Brisket, Potato Salad, Pinto Beans, Apple Crisp, Bread

FRIDAY - Soft Taco, Tossed Salad, Refried Beans, Mexican Corn, Cookie

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

## RISING STAR NURSING CENTER NEWS

By Linda Merritt

Staff and residents here at the Center extend their sincere thoughts and prayers to the people of Cross Plains. Our hearts go out to those who have lost so much from the fires. We don't understand why things like this happen. But through such tragedies good things can happen. God brings us all closer to each other and closer to Him. God is getting ready to do something new. The question is whether we will get in on it. Things are here today, but gone tomorrow, but God is here for always.

Prayers for those who are in the hospital, Willie Wilson, Willie Phillips, Verna Hargrove, Elizabeth Chamberlain, Patsy Miller and Ruby Murdoch.

A warm welcome for our new

resident Spencer Evans.

Appreciation to Best Med for the delicious popcorn cake and to LaJuan Killion for the can of popcorn and mints.

Some of our residents were asked if they had a New Year's Resolutions or some thoughts for the new year.

**Kay Mosely**—I resolve to have ready a resolution for next year.

**Bessie Pope**—I am not going to make one because I don't keep them.

**Irene Starkey**—To be a little calmer.

**Jimmielee Payne**—To live each day as it comes, one day at a time.

**Virginia Payne**—Wants everyone to be happy.

**Grace Jenkins**—Hopes for a better year.

**Jake Landess**—Not going to make any, so that he won't make any mistakes.

**Pearl Anderson**—Try to have a positive attitude about situations that surround us.

**Sadie Erwin**—Hopes for lots of happiness for the New Year.

**Remember Yesterday... Dream of Tomorrow... Live for TODAY.**

## Barb's Cues

By Barbara Holmes Worcester

### My Treasures

I do a lot of sitting in my living room and one day I focused on my many treasures. These things are treasures in my memory, not necessarily things of monetary value. I am sure we all have our memory treasures. It makes us feel glad to go over them. We should do it often.

I began on my mantle with an unusual vase brought to me by a friend just because I had admired it. Also on the mantle is a horseshoe shaped in the shape of a fish from a horse shoe.

Moving around the room, my eyes lit on a painting done by my uncle who is 8 days younger than I am. We spent hours arguing about that when we were little. He insisted that uncles had to be older than nieces and I was sure that I was the older.

In the window is an arrangement in what I call a Clementine sandal. In the old ballad, Darling Clementine, there is a line that says, "Dynamite boxes without tops, sandals were for Clementine". So my arrangement in a dynamite box, is my Clementine sandal.

In another window is a beautiful glass decanter. It was the gift of a favorite uncle. Since I don't use liquor, I filled it with silk flowers and it is beautiful.

Moving on around the room is a baby doll carriage, part of my love for antiques. Next to that is

my mother's china cabinet, which is very precious to me.

Over the bar is a framed crocheted piece that was brought to me as a surprise "thank you" gift.

In the front part of the room are side by side "lift chairs which Bill and I use much of the time. One of them came from the estate of a dear friend which makes it even more treasured.

If you have ever been to my house you were probably directed to the painting I have of my great grand parents. Grandma has a revolver in her apron pocket. I tell people that it was for snakes, either walking or crawling.

As you can see, none of the items I have mentioned are valuable money-wise but the memories associated with them are valuable to my heart. All through my home are memory makers and living with them brings me joy.

I am sure your homes are filled with items that bring on memories filled with joy. I would urge you to relive these joyful memories. You will find that you are richer than you thought. I would urge you to enjoy every pleasant experience that comes to you and make your memory bank even richer.

I truly wish for each of you a 2006 that is full of happy memories and pleasant experiences. BHW

## 3-Cross Plains Review January 5, 2006

## QUIPS, CLIPS AND COMMENTS

By Kay Mosley

Note: Do you think Apple Orchard Annie that it's too early to begin making a list of New Year's resolutions for 2006? That way I'd have a head start on the New Year. Whatta you think, Apple Annie?

### "Of Seasons and Blossoms"

Have you noticed it yet? The days are getting shorter and the nights longer. Winter is upon us.

We're experiencing such a late winter. I'm wondering if that means we'll have a late spring, also. I sure hope not. I look forward to the coming of spring with all those long dark and cold winter months. I always can hardly wait until spring.

The crocus bloom poke their heads out and turn their little faces heavenward. Little, tender, lime green shoots of grass sprout up and with the help of sunshine grow lusher and deeper green, as the days pass. Soon the jonquils and narcissus shine their little yellow faces heavenward. The hyacinths with their pastel beauty are up. Not long after that, the irises, amaryllis and multiple species of lilies abound. Now that all sounds so fresh and beautiful. I'm

right now already anxious for spring to come.

Some plants love the cold weather. Pansies are notorious for loving cold weather. You can set pansies from the nursery out now and they will bloom for about 3 months at least. The growing season in Lubbock is different. So when we go there to see our children around the end of January and February I go to the nursery and buy some more pansies. They would just have arrived.

Because it is too cold in Lubbock to plant until February, then we'd bring them back here and set them out. That way they will bloom on into the month of June.

Also, I found some were different colors than those I purchased here and in Abilene. In Lubbock you don't even dare plant a vegetable garden until after Easter.

Fall and early winter are the perfect time to have your chrysanthemums up and blooming. They are lovely and come in a variety of colors. Visit your local nursery and check them out.

Well, I guess I better go to sleep, its 2:30 a.m.

## Project Pride Meeting date and time announced

Project Pride will hold their regular monthly business meeting on Tuesday, January 10, at 6:00 PM. at the Cross Plains Public Library.

The public is always welcome. Submitted by Era Lee Hanke

## The Grand Ole Oplin Schedule

The Grand Ole Oplin hopes everyone enjoyed a Happy New Year, we had a great crowd for our New Year's Dance and we hope everyone will continue to come on out for our Friday night dances. The Grand Ole Oplin welcomes Muddy Creek out on January 6 to play some of your favorite country tunes, on January 13th Country Classics will be here to entertain us all, on January 20th Texas Touch will be joining us playing all your favorites and on January 27th Muddy Creek will be returning to play some more of your favorite country tunes.

The Grand Ole Oplin is hosted by the Oplin Community Center located at the intersection of FM 604 S. and FM 2926. Admission to our regular Friday night dances is still only \$4.00 per person. Everyone is invited to bring a snack to be shared by all during the band's break. Alcohol and smoking is not allowed.

So gather the entire family and all of your friends and come on out each Friday night to the Grand Ole Oplin and be sure to wear your dancing boots.

Submitted by Pam Rumfield

## CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR, PUBLISHER  
VANDA ANDERSON, EDITOR  
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER 2006  
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Cross Plains Review Deadlines  
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## Texas Almanac

2006-2007

Sesquicentennial Edition

\$15.95

Texas Almanac Sesquicentennial Edition. First published in 1854, the Texas Almanac 2006-2007 is the book's Sesquicentennial Edition. New color maps of the state and the 254 counties have been created especially for this edition. The latest population estimates since the U.S. Census of 2000 are provided for Texas towns and counties. Also new in this edition is updated information on recreation, the environment, culture, business, health, politics, and education, as well as the astronomical calendar, holidays, and county profiles.

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- A feature on the ubiquitous mesquite.
- A report on the numerous mineral springs and their history.

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Cross Plains Review  
115 S.E. 1st St., Cross Plains  
Phone (254) 725-6111

## BREAKTHRU

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



Have you noticed that tragedies and disasters seem to bring the best out in people? Of course we knew that a lot of good people live here in Cross Plains and the surrounding area but it certainly has been reinforced these past few days, hasn't it?!

And the help that we have received from other people from far and near is simply tremendous! I know that as we join hands and hearts to clean away the rubble and build back for the future, that only brighter and more fruitful days are ahead.

I had just as soon back up and ask for a "re-do" of Tuesday, December 27. But in spite of the bad, all this reminds us that life really doesn't consist in the abundance of the things possessed, does it? Seems like I read of someone who said that...Oh yes, it was Jesus, in the parable of the "rich fool" who thought otherwise (Luke 12:13-21).

May we all continue to work and pull together so that our community may remain the bright light that it has been for so long, especially these past few days...

We encourage you to share in periods of life-changing Bible study and worship with us. We really do care about you, too!

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

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Cross Plains Review Only - \$3.00 for up to 20 words. 20¢ each additional word. Card of Thanks - \$3.00 & up.

Classifieds must be received in the review office by noon Tuesday to be published in the current week's edition.

The Cross Plains Review reserves the rights to reject any and all Classified Ads considered by the publisher to be subject objectional in matter, phraseology, or opposed to the interest or the policy of the newspaper. No fraudulent, dishonest, or misleading ads will be knowingly published in the Cross Plains Review for any cost, injury or liability upon it because of the content of any ad so submitted.

### BUSINESS SERVICES

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Brownwood <sup>1/071p</sup>

### HELP WANTED

**DQ OF CROSS PLAINS** now hiring day and night help. Looking for friendly customer service leaders. Smoke and drug free work environment. Drug test required. Apply in person today with new Manager, Bonnie Potter. <sup>42-41c</sup>

**HELP WANTED:** Adult or kids with adult supervision to rake and bag leaves and trash from yard. Will pay well, 254-725-6562. <sup>421p</sup>  
**DQ MANAGER TRAINEE** positions available for Cross Plains DQ and other Richeson DQ's. Unlimited bonus potential with above base pay. Non-smoking, drug free work environment. Drug test required. Call District Manager, Nita Frazier 325-938-6964. <sup>41-41c</sup>

**DQ OF CROSS PLAINS** now hiring night and weekend help. Starting at above average pay. Smoke and drug free work environment. Drug test required. Apply in person today with new Manager, Bonnie Potter. <sup>40-41c</sup>

### MUSIC LESSONS

**CADDO PEAK PIANO LESSONS**- Prefer beginners. Call 254-725-6569 leave name and number. <sup>91fn</sup>

### REAL ESTATE

**2BEDROOM, 1 BATH** - 316 SW 4th St.; \$12,500. Consider owner financing; Dora Smith Real Estate, owner/broker, 254-725-6489. <sup>351fc</sup>

### 21.83 ACRES FOR SALE

(Located on CR 569 North of Cross Plains)

21.83 acres w/24 fruit bearing Pecan trees, cross-fenced in 3 pastures.  
**2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Mobile Home**, completely redone, excellent condition. Covered with metal roof and covered front and back porches.  
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President: Andrew Ladyman, Attorney

### CARD OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to save my home, last Tuesday.

Lois Vaughn

### CARD OF THANKS

I want to thank all the fire boys and everyone that helped save my home from the fire. I really appreciate all of you and everyone that has helped me since the fire. May God Bless You!

Ruby Jones

### LOST

**LOST BLACK DAUCHOUND DOG** - With Red Collar during fire, Call 254-725-6489 or 325-668-6725. <sup>42-11p</sup>

**LOST DURING FIRE** - Show lamb, tagged and a white lab, female, 3 months old; Call Kayla Stout, 325-669-9160. <sup>42-11p</sup>

### CHILDCARE

**MISS INGA'S PLAY SCHOOL/DAY CARE**- Ages 18 mos to 4 years, opening in January, 7:30a.m.-5:30p.m.; Limited openings, please call 254-725-4278 for enrollment. <sup>40-41c</sup>

### FOR SALE

**JUSTIN BASIC ROPER BOOTS**, Black & Bay Apache; \$59.99; Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, 254-725-6211. <sup>41-11c</sup>

### For Your

**Mary Kay Cosmetics** or a **FREE Facial** Contact  
Sue Taylor-Neal  
Mary Kay Beauty Consultant  
254-725-7532 <sup>111fc</sup>

### MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

**MOBILE HOME**- 14X58; \$950; Call 254-725-7635, leave message. <sup>42-11p</sup>  
**NEW - USED - REPO'S** - 1-866-553-6070; No Down To Low Down; Fast Solutions For Housing NEEDS. <sup>42-41c</sup>  
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**3BR/2BA** - \$1,500 Down; 10.5% Fixed; \$285 monthly; 1-866-553-6070. <sup>42-41c</sup>

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Article 258.002(c) of the Texas Transportation Code, the Commissioners Court of Callahan County, Texas provides this notice to the public of its intention to convene a public meeting to receive comment upon the adoption of a County Road Map including each road in which the County claims the continued existence of a public interest and a right of access and egress for maintenance of an existing County Road. The roads in which the County claims a public interest have been maintained for many years, beginning some time prior to 1981, have previously been listed in a notice included in the 2005-06 Ad Valorem Tax statement. A proposed County Road Map depicting each road in which the County claims a public interest is available for inspection by the public at the office of the County Judge in the County Courthouse, during business hours, commencing December 1, 2005.

The Commissioners Court will conduct a public hearing on January 23, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Callahan County Courthouse. At this time, pursuant to Article 258.002(b), Texas Transportation Code, any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may appear before the Commissioners Court to object or protest the County's claim of its right to continue maintenance of the public roads depicted on the County road map. Any person asserting a private right, title or interest in a road may also file a written protest with the County Judge at any time before the time and date of the scheduled public hearing. By way of this procedure, the County makes no claim affecting title, acreage, or ownership of the land, but seeks merely to establish and document the right of the County to continue maintenance of the existing county road in its present location and dimension.

Jeanie Bohannon,  
County Clerk

### FLEA MARKETS

**LIBRARY FLEA MARKET**, Saturday, 8-12; Most vendors will have major sale prices on "stuff" that fire victims might need or want. Come on down for a diversion. <sup>42-11c</sup>  
**HOPKINS' BITTER CREEK RANCH** - Handcrafted furniture, metal art, & western gift items available at our booth at the Cross Plains Library Flea Market. <sup>42-11c</sup>

### WANTED

**WANTED** - Responsible party to take on small monthly payments on High Definition Big Screen TV, 1-800-398-3970. <sup>41-21p</sup>  
**OLD CARS & TRUCKS** - Classics; Any kind of scrap metal, Call 254-725-7671. <sup>91fc</sup>



**Pray For Rain**

4-Cross Plains Review January 5, 2006

# BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

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<sup>44-41p</sup> for appointment

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<sup>131fc</sup> **Regena Hart**  
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**Jim Dunn**  
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Cross Plains  
<sup>36-May</sup>

**JONES REAL ESTATE**

(254) 725-6163

**ROLAN JONES, BROKER**

**CRYSTAL DAVIS, AGENT 325-370-7790**

Email: rlestate@crossplains.com - Webpage: www.crossplains.com

**ACREAGE WITH HOME:**

**NEW LISTING--10/A** place at edge of town with 3BD/2B mobile home, Pecan trees, coastal, 14' X 32' shop bldg with electricity & water, goat fenced, Rising Star, Eastland County. \$45,000

**NEW LISTING--80/A** with small, good condition home, 2BD/1B, frame, carport, 4 water wells, one pond, good set of cattle pens, good fences, on pavement. \$120,000

\* 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.

**NEW LISTING--100/A** with 1996 model, 3000 sq. ft., 3BD/2B, mb home, pond, 9 water wells, barn, working pens, 2 storage bldgs., good fences, good hunting, 6 miles north of Cross Plains. \$160,000.

**NEW LISTING--100/A**, large Live oak, Oak Pecan, stock pond, creek, good cattle pens, older farm home, shop bldg., 2 water wells, excellent hunting, very pretty. \$210,000

\* 102.31/A with 3BD/2B, 2,495 sq. ft., brick home, 3 stock ponds, great hunting, deer, turkey, quail, barn, rural water, paved frontage, Oak, Pecan, & Mesquite trees, good fences, 6 miles south of Cross Plains. \$200,000

\* 106/A beautiful horse ranch, with new horse barn, pens, fences, newly remodeled farm home, on pavement, close to town, coastal hay operation, 2 water wells, wildlife. Must See! Callahan County. \$325,000

**NEW LISTING--107/A** with 3 year old 1,700 sq.ft. **AUSTIN STONE 3BD/2BTH HOME**, CH/A, metal roof, surround porch, 30X50 metal shop bldg., good water well, Live Oak, Post Oak, large creek, deer, turkey, quail, very scenic. \$400,000

\* 174/A, 2,075 sq. ft. nice farm home with geothermal CH/A, landscaped, 3 car detached garage, 80/A coastal Bermuda, 40/A Kline grass, large spring pond stocked with Crappie & Bass, peach orchard, large garden spot, scattered large Oaks, Pecan trees, good hunting, 3 water wells, 1/4 minerals, good fences, on pavement, Western Eastland County. \$290,000

**NEW LISTING!!!!** Beautiful 200/A with 3 single family residences, office, Indoor Arena with water misting dust control system, 9 stall horse barn, Tack Room, 22X30 shop, Utility/Storage Barn, 75X40 Storage Barn with restroom facilities, wash rack, dog kennel, 5 water wells, 6 septic systems, cross fenced, Coastal Bermuda Grass, wildlife food plot, 4 tanks, Great Hunting, Good 6 wire barbed wire fences, Post Oak, Live Oak, 7 miles East of Cross Plains. **ONLY \$995,000. MUST SEE!!!**

**RESIDENTIAL:**

**NEW LISTING--1BD/1B**, fixer upper house on 75X140 lot in Cross Plains. \$6,500

**NEW LISTING--3BD/2B** rock, older home, large trees, 2 car detached garage, large carport, 15 peach trees, storm cellar, in Rising Star. \$22,000

**NEW LISTING--3BD/1B**, landscaped, metal roof, water well, large trees, large lot, paved street, in Cross Plains. \$48,000

**NEW LISTING--3BD/2B**, 1,512 sq. ft. Brick, in new addition in Cross Plains, fenced back yard, landscaped, 8' X 12' storage bldg., new paint, good condition. \$75,000.

\* 2BD/2B Brick, CH/A, on beautiful, wooded 710/A lot, fireplace, patio, glassed porch, 2 car garage, utility room, carport, storage bldg., in new home area, in Cross Plains. \$112,000.

\* Beautiful, large, residential lots. Lots of trees, great location.

\* 3BD/2B frame, pier & beam, on paved street in Rising Star, lots of large Pecan trees, recent improvements. **REDUCED \$35,000**

\* 3,224 sq.ft. 4BD/3B, 2 story brick, CH/A, in **SOLD** bldg., good location in Cross Plains, \$65,000.

\* 2BD/2B, Brick, Central H/A, large 2 car detached garage with storage, large Oak and Pecan trees, in Rising Star. **REDUCED \$57,500.**

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

\* 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

**INCOME PROPERTY:**

**NEW LISTING--1BD/1B** frame home with 2 efficiency apartments, 2 1 car garages, all electric, 2 lots, large trees, in Cross Plains, \$750/mo income. \$60,000. Owner Agent.

**COMMERCIAL:**

**NEW LISTING--30 X 30 SHOP BUILDING**, 2-10 X 12 roll up doors, one 10 X14 roll up door, and one walk in door, one 50 X 140 lot with 9 X 12 office bldg., concrete floor, (auto-lift negotiable) in Cross Plains. \$25,000.


**FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO: www.crossplains.com**

January 6, 7 & 8  
First Friday, Saturday & Sunday Monthly  
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**Cross Plains Review**

# 5

January 5, 2006

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<b>ADOPTION</b>	<b>DRIVERS - OTR HOLIDAY</b> Cash\$. Class "A" CDL. 1 year OTR. From start, get extra \$800 first 8 weeks. Then 03 cpm to people specializing in matching birthmothers with loving families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7. One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-921-0565.	<b>AIRLINE MECHANIC</b> - Rapid training for high paying Aviation career. FAA predicts severe shortage. Financial aid if qualify - job placement assistance. Call AIM 1-888-349-5387.	<b>225+ ACRES,</b> West Texas, Terrell County. Deer, dove, quail, and javelina. \$210 per acre, owner financed, non-qualifying with 5% down. 1-830-885-4578. www.ranchenterprisesllc.com
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<b>ALL CASH CANDY</b> Route. Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. 30 machines and candy. All for \$9,995. 1-888-625-5481, Multi Vend, LLC.	<b>WOLFF TANNING BEDS.</b> Buy direct and save. Full body units from \$22 a month. FREE color catalog. Call today. 1-800-842-1305. www.np.etstam.com	<b>A BARGAIN - 75 Acres - \$39,900.</b> Rolling hills, good brush, rock outcroppings. Trophy deer habitat. Good highway access. Easy terms. Perfect for hunting retreat. Texas Land & Ranches, 1-877-542-6642.	<b>Run Your Ad In TexSCAN!</b>
<b>DRIVERS - COVENANT TRANSPORT.</b> Excellent pay and benefits for experienced drivers. O/O, solos, teams and graduate students. Bonuses available. Refrigerated now available. 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729).	<b>JOB TRAINING</b>	<b>NEW TO MARKET - 100 Acres - HUNTING RANCH.</b> First chance to own hunting retreat. Big buck area, plus turkey, dove, quail and more. Very private with EZ highway access. \$49,900 w/financing. Announcement Reference #5401. 1-866-899-5263.	Statewide Ad.....\$400 306 Newspapers, 1.1 Million Circulation North Region Only.....\$175 102 Newspapers, 381,000 Circulation South Region Only.....\$175 101 Newspapers, 462,000 Circulation West Region Only.....\$175 103 Newspapers, 254,000 Circulation

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop

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Lake Brownwood - Beautiful home site in gated community, short walk to lake	7,000
120 Angela Dr. - 3BR-2B, split level, hot tub, fireplace, 3 lots @ Lake Coleman, REDUCED	49,500
186 Lakeview Dr. - Nice newly finished 2BR-1B lake house with wrap around deck & lake frontage	79,500
260 Edgewood - Cozy 3BR-2B with fireplace, tile, granite, roof at edge of town	65,000
3 Ac. - 3BR-2B, new paint, central A/C, appliances, & AC unit, large oaks	104,900
10 Ac. & Home - 3/2 nice MH secluded & quiet, lots of oaks, garden, N. of Cross Plains	55,800
10 Ac. - Highway frontage, water well, electricity, good home site, mostly open	20,000
18.5 Ac. - 3BR-1B quaint farm house on paved road with good underground water	99,500

**HUNTING & RECREATIONAL PROPERTY**

11 Ac. - Rolling homesite with limited hunting & seasonal creek. Cottonwood area	29,500
13 Ac. - nice property with pond, trees, & a great homesite	39,000
18 Ac. - Post oak, live oak, on pavement, south of Cross Plains	36,000
20 Ac. - South of Cross Plains, oak trees, rolling, nice building sites	30,000
48 Ac. - Great location, good soil, good for livestock, may divide, REDUCED	71,280
59 Ac. - County water, beautiful views, oak trees, hwy frontage	87,000
60 Ac. - 3BR-2B home on excellent maintained & pasture land w/good barn & pens. N of Abilene	179,900
94 Ac. - Nice building sites, good fences, 1 tank, deer, turkey, quail, dove. May divide	169,200
97 Ac. - 5 tanks, post oak, hay bales, quail, dove, I-20 frontage	450,000
108 Ac. - 2 tanks & rough beautiful oak pastures with ridges & views. Lots of natural beauty	157,325
125 Ac. - Excellent for cattle or hunting. Hwy/county road frontage, new fences, 1 tank, deer/bird hunting	118,750
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
233 Ac. - High fences on 2 sides, 1 excellent tank, rolling with mesquite & native grass	279,600

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Rodger Hart -GRI, Broker 254/725-7189 office 325/669-3335, cell  
Tom Ames, Agent 254/725-6375 home 325/668-4157, cell

**ACREAGE:**  
**NEW LISTING--483/A:** Rolling Mesquite pasture near Abilene. Three stock tanks, paved frontage with electricity and rural water. Good fences and grass. \$765/A. WILL DIVIDE!

**ACREAGE WITH HOME:**  
**NEW LISTING--2BR/2B,** presently being remodeled, CH/CA recently installed, 15/A, m/l, all coastal, ten wire barbwire fence, 5 wells, 30x70 metal barn. Really nice place for horses, cattle, or goats. \$67,500.  
\* Very nice 3/3/2 on 1.5/A. City water and well. CH/A. Gas log Fireplace, Extra storage bldg w/nice office, 2 story house, nice yard with big trees. \$169,500  
\* 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.

**HAVE QUALIFIED BUYERS - NEED MORE LISTINGS**  
Check all our listings at callahanrealty.net.

**Want To Write Your Elected Officials?**

Here are their addresses:

Austin

Matt, a graduate of Abilene High School and married to Kyera (Tabor) Smith a 2001 graduate of Clyde High School. Invites all his friends old and new to stop by Big Country Dodge and let him put you in a new car or truck today!!

**Why drive to the big cities? When... We'll Beat Anybody's Price!!**

**Matt Smith**  
Sales



**(325) 893-1416**  
cell- 518-4333

**Rick Perry, Governor,** Room 200, State Capitol, Austin, TX. 78711.

**Harvey Hilderbran,** State Representative, P.O. Bos 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910. Phone 512-463-0536.

**Troy Fraser,** Texas Senate District 24, P.O. Bos 12068, Austin, TX 78711 or call 512-463-0124.

Washington

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George W. Bush, President of the United States, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20000.

**Randy Neugebauer,** Congressman, 19th Texas District, 429 Cannon HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515. Phone 202/225-9615. For email access, go to http://www.house.gov/neugebauer and click on the appropriate link.

**John Cornyn,** 517 Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510, Phone 202/224-2934. Fax 202/228-2856. For email access, go to http://Cornyn.Senate.gov

**Kay Bailey Hutchison,** 284 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Phone 202/224-5922. Fax 202/224-0776. For email go to http://Hutchison.Senate.gov

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## Local Students could win a trip to Washington!!!!

Taylor Electric Cooperative will offer area rural High School Students the opportunity to visit our national Capital for the 42nd year in a row. The program is one that is very valuable to this population, and is offered to students who are High School sophomores or older.

The Contest is oratory and will be a 5 to 7 min. Speech contest, judged by area personalities. Two students will win an all expense paid trip to Washington DC, along with 140 other students from across the southwest. The trip will

be in June of 2006. Students will tour the national monuments and memorials, visit the Smithsonian, and the Nations Capital and White House. Interested students, (home school students are also welcomed) should contact Rebecca Sharp @ Taylor Electric; Phone 325-928-4715 ext. 53 or via [connections@taylelectric.com](mailto:connections@taylelectric.com). Contest entry deadline is January 20th, with the competition date January 26th in Abilene.

## Relief Sale at Comanche Livestock Exchange

Due to the toll area wild fires have taken on the communities of Central Texas, the Comanche Livestock Exchange will have a Special Fire Relief Sale at the beginning of their sale and the proceeds will be donated in your name to the organization of your choice. Example of this includes the Cross Plains Relief Fund, your local volunteer fire department, Red Cross, etc.

For more information contact Gayle Jones at the Comanche Livestock Exchange at (325) 356-5231.

### Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from December 25, 2005 through December 31, 2005 include:

**Cases Investigated**  
Warnings—30  
Complaints—38  
Open Container—1  
**Vehicle Accidents**

There were three vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.



**Pray For Rain**

### Cross Plains Review

# 6

January 5, 2006

## Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Republican Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

### For Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #4 Larry Tennison

Political advertisement paid by Larry Tennison for Commissioner Precinct #4, Betsy Tennison, Treasurer, 4266 CR 243, Clyde, Texas 79510.

### Reggie Pillans

Political advertisement paid by Suzi Pillans, Treasurer, 8567 CR 419, Cisco, Texas 76437.

### Cliff Kirkham

Political advertisement paid by the Cliff Kirkham Campaign Committee, Connie Kirkham, Treasurer, 20235 FM 2707, Cross Plains, Texas, 76443.

All political calendar advertising for the Tuesday, March 7, 2006 Republican Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$100.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announcement.

## Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Democratic Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

### For Callahan County Judge Roger Corn

Political advertisement paid by Roger Corn, 532 Poplar, Baird, Texas 79504.

### For Callahan County Clerk Donna Bell

Political advertisement paid by Jeannie Bohannon, PR 2484 Lot 420, Baird, Texas 79504

All political calendar advertising for the Tuesday, March 7, 2006 Democratic Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$100.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announcement.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**JANUARY 7**  
Randall Kyle Foster  
Mrs. Roy Thornton  
Dick Koenig  
David Grider  
Glenda Lane  
Deloras Stover  
Karen (Ringhoffer) Combs  
Bobby Oliver  
Ricky Purvis  
Mrs. Carl King  
James Crowley  
Betty Strength  
Bridgette Allen  
Shae Connelly

Teri Brown  
Kim Koenig

**JANUARY 10**  
Russell Barnes  
Karan Wise  
Ricky Wayne Waddell  
Ellen Brown  
Lila Payne  
Eddie Edington  
J.T. Isbell

**JANUARY 11**  
Staci LeAnn (Weiss) Mayo  
Mrs. B.F. Hutchins  
Terry Dewbre  
Barbara Johnson  
W.A. Watson  
Benjamin Worley  
Mrs. Charley Havens  
Jeff Brown

**JANUARY 12**  
Fred Flippin  
Particia (Driskill) Musick  
Mike Walters  
Keri Machelles Bowman  
Angie Sanders

**JANUARY 13**  
Barbara (Clark) Robinson  
Sylvia Graham  
Cindy Sue Payne  
Kenneth E. Dobbins  
Edith Adkins  
Mrs. Albert Lee  
Randy Dillard  
Cecilia Smoot  
John Terrell Gardner

**JANUARY 8**  
Austin Chastain  
Joe McWilliams  
Claude Boyd  
Johnny Nunn  
Bill Forbes  
Jimmy Hargrove  
Jean Johnson  
Mrs. L.M. Barrow  
Allen Bland  
Jay Staggs  
Mrs. Eugene Strickland

**JANUARY 9**  
Carol Parsons  
Charles Williams  
Alvie Hutchins  
Karen (Dunn) Dooley  
Clint Ivie  
Ronny Nunn  
Patrick Sadler  
Cathy Meroney

**MRS. TEXAS**  
30th Anniversary  
Friendship Family FUN!  
Entry Deadline: February 1, 2006  
Entry Requirements: At least 18, Married, US Citizen, Resident of TX  
Call Today for Information! 817-442-8896 MrsTexas.net

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2006

EARLY OUT AT 1:00 PM

BUSES WILL RUN AT 1:00 PM

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006

SCHOOL IS OUT FOR THE CALLAHAN

COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW

CLASSES WILL RESUME ON

### MONDAY, JANUARY 23RD

AT REGULAR TIME

## SCHOOL MENU

JANUARY 9 - 13

### BREAKFAST

**MONDAY** - Breakfast Burrito, Assorted Juice  
**TUESDAY** - Pancake, Sausage, Assorted Juice  
**WEDNESDAY** - Poptart, Yogurt, Assorted Juice  
**THURSDAY** - Hot or Cold Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice  
**FRIDAY** - Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

### LUNCH

**MONDAY**- Pizza, Salad, Corn, Rosy-Applesauce  
**TUESDAY** - Chicken Nuggets w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Peaches  
**WEDNESDAY**- Meat-Cheese Nachos, Salad, Pinto Beans, Apple Crisp  
**THURSDAY**-Beef-Veg Soup, Grilled Cheese, Crackers, Diced Pears  
**FRIDAY**-Beef or Chicken Patty on Bun, Lettuce-Tomato-Pickles, Fries, Rice Krispie Treat

Have A Nice Week!!

# REPUBLIC

## FACTORY BUILT HOMES

1201 EARLY BLVD EARLY TX

PH. 1-800-451-7611

(325) 643-2654

RBI 32738

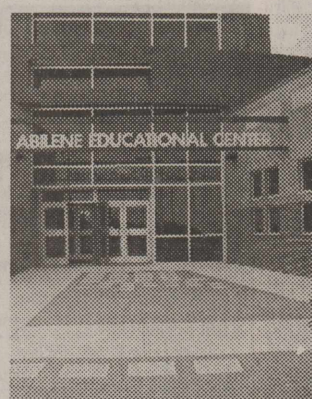
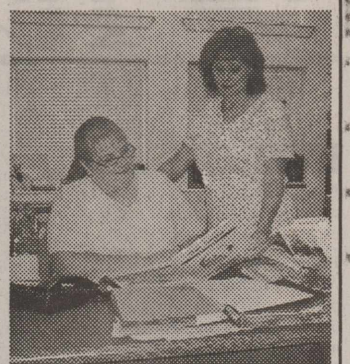
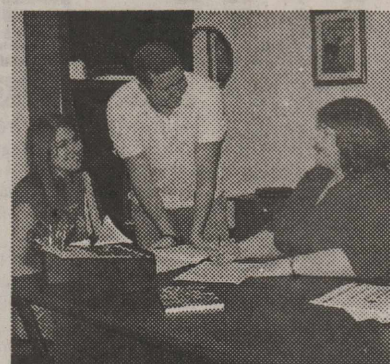
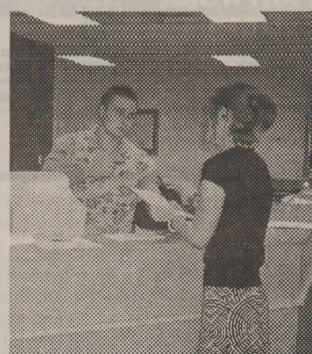
# YEAR END CLOSEOUT

WE HAVE A GOOD SELECTION OF NEW MANUFACTURED HOMES THAT MUST GO BEFORE INVENTORY TIME.

# BUY NOW AND SAVE!

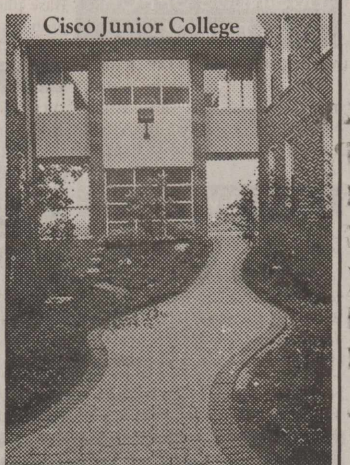
## Cisco Junior College Spring Registration

---Abilene Educational Center---  
January 10-11

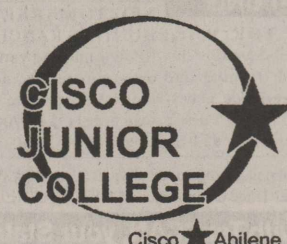


---Cisco Campus---  
January 12-13

Schedule & Registration Hours Available Online  
First Class Day January 17

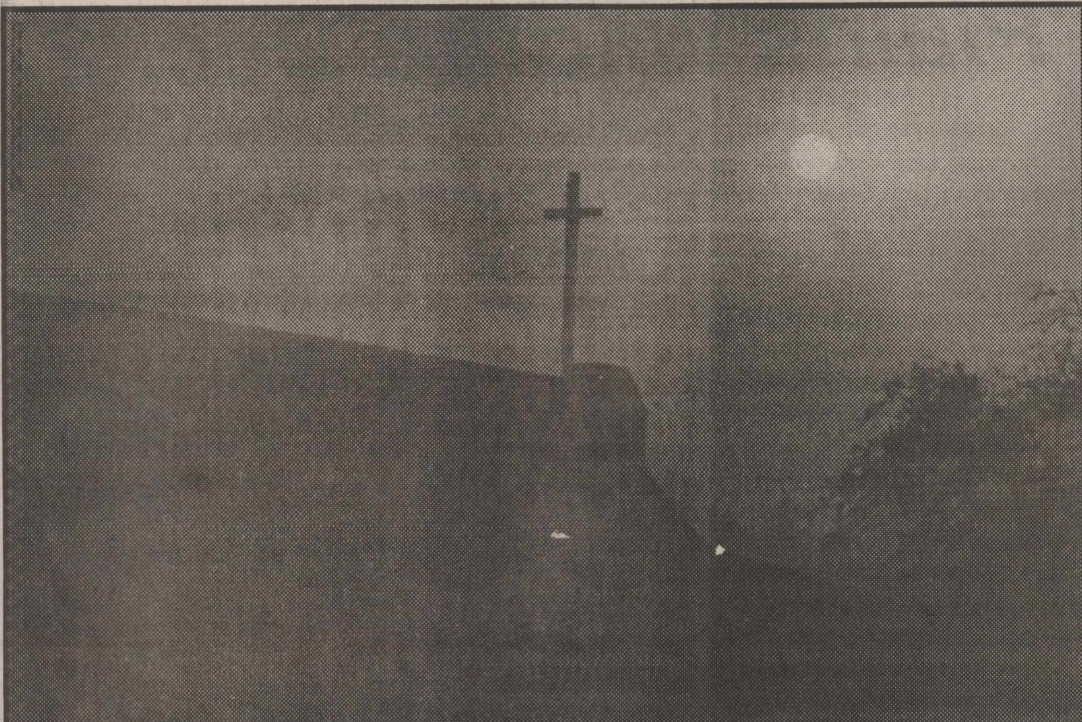


[www.cisco.cc.tx.us](http://www.cisco.cc.tx.us)  
Cisco (254) 442-5000  
Abilene (325) 794-4400



An Equal Opportunity Institution

Cisco Abilene



THE CROSS IS BEING MADE PLAIN IN CROSS PLAINS—The cross atop the First United Methodist Church can still be seen through the smoke and flames. The cross remained intact after the devastation. (Photo courtesy by Patricia Cook.)

**Be Joyful In Hope,  
Patient In Affliction,  
Faithful In Prayer.  
Romans 12:12**

The Members of Cross Plains First United Methodist Church would like to wholeheartedly thank each and every person for every prayer, thought, and donation sent to our church

We as faithful members of this church and the Cross Plains Community know that this devastation will only make our church and our town stronger and closer to God our Father. We will rebuild our church and our town.

In Christian Love,  
Members Past and Present Of FUMC

# Methodist

was true of other Nativity Scenes found throughout the community. This confirms Jesus' everlasting love for us and that He is always with us, and will never desert us.

Jim Senkel, pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Cross Plains, lost his church, his office, and his home, all in one day, but he was focusing on the

needs of others.

He was working in the oil patch, sitting in the shade of a tank battery three years ago, when the Lord told him he needed him to make himself available. He pastored churches with 10 and 40 members throughout the years, but last week, due to the fire, he was able to witness to millions through the media contact. Senkel was honored to deliver

God's Word and give Him the glory throughout this disaster.

His sermon appropriately related how man separates himself from God, not God from man, even from the beginning in the Garden of Eden. He emphasized that we must come back to God. Jim Senkel encouraged everyone to love God and one another.

Pastor Senkel expressed that there is something better than this earth with all its decay, etc. and at that point a wall fell in the midst of the rumble. In the spirit, this certainly symbolizes the walls that are falling in Cross Plains, bringing all the denominations together.

A solemn and reverent communion was shared. The closing hymn "Hymn of Promise" was sung:

In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise;  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until tis season,  
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's dawn in every darkness,  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season;  
something God alone can see.  
In our end is our beginning;  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing;  
in our life eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection,  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

The First United Methodist Church will be holding their services at the Presbyterian Church on Avenue D and 2nd Street starting at 10:45 a.m. beginning this next Sunday, January 8.

There was no evidence of grieving, but only rejoicing and praising the Lord. Our community has been badly shaken but never defeated. The resilience of our community was reflected in this endearing gathering of Christians.



FUMC CONTINUE TO PRAISE THE LORD IN SONG—Rhonda Swift leads the congregation. Dr. Shelly Brooks and Pastor Jim Senkel are in the background.



CHILDREN'S SERMON MEANINGFUL—Melody McWilliams tells them about Baby Jesus surviving the fire.

Cross Plains  
Review

7

January 5, 2006

**CROSS PLAINS  
VET CLINIC**

Temporary Business Phone

**254-631-2362**

## REPUBLIC FACTORY BUILT HOMES

1201 EARLY BLVD EARLY TX R32738  
PH. 1-800-451-7611 (325) 643-2654

**\$500 DOWN  
REPO SALE**

**6.75% apr fixed rate WAC**

16 X 56 REDMAN 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH  
\$198.22 PER MONTH 180 MONTHS

16 X 60 CLAYTON 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH  
\$215.92 PER MONTH 180 MONTHS

16 X 76 REDMAN 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH  
\$261.57 PER MONTH 240 MONTHS

16 X 76 PALM HARBOR 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH  
\$231.15 PER MONTH 240 MONTHS

28 X 44 OAKWOOD 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH  
\$299.58 PER MONTH 240 MONTHS

28 X 64 TOWN & COUNTRY W/FIREPLACE  
3 BEDROOM 2 BATH  
\$466.86 PER MONTH 240 MONTHS

28 X 68 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH W/RETREAT  
\$436.45 PER MONTH 240 MONTHS



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& Most Dental Insurance

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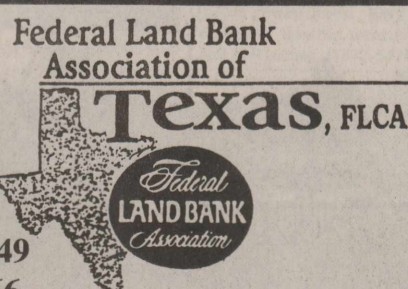
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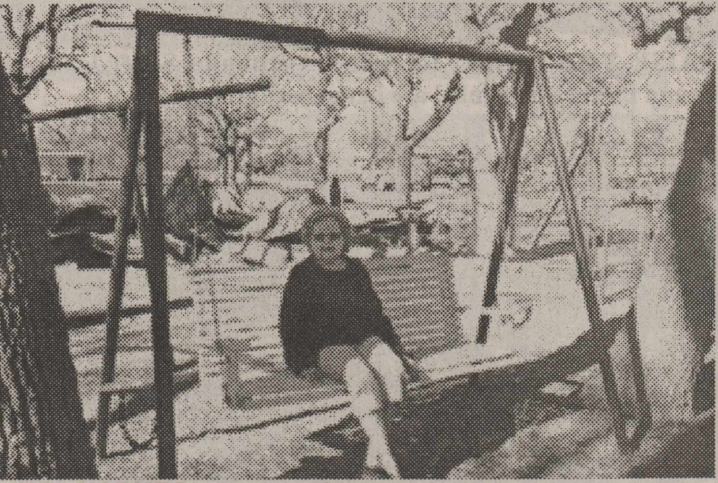


James R. Isenhower  
President Part of the fabric of rural life.

# Scenes from the Cross Plains wildfire Dec. 27



**MONTY HARMES (CENTER)**— clean-up after firestorm destroys along with son and daughter mothers home in Cross Plains.



**MRS. HARMES** —rests amid home yet left this wooden swing fire debris which burned her untouched.



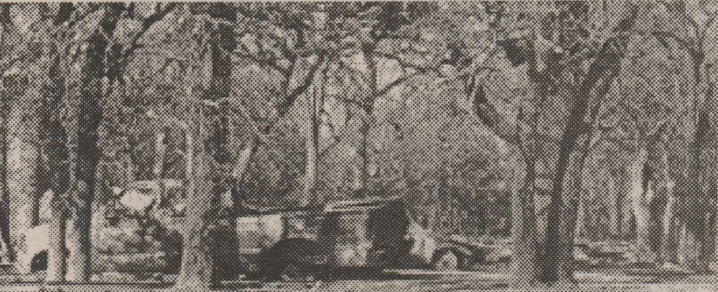
**DEBRIS HAILED OFF** —from family and friends on truck Harmes home after cleanup by donated by son's employer.



**AREA RESIDENTS ANSWER EMERGENCY CALL**— Livestock answered the call by donating many bales as this picture shows. fire. Area farmers and ranchers answered the call by donating many bales as this picture shows.



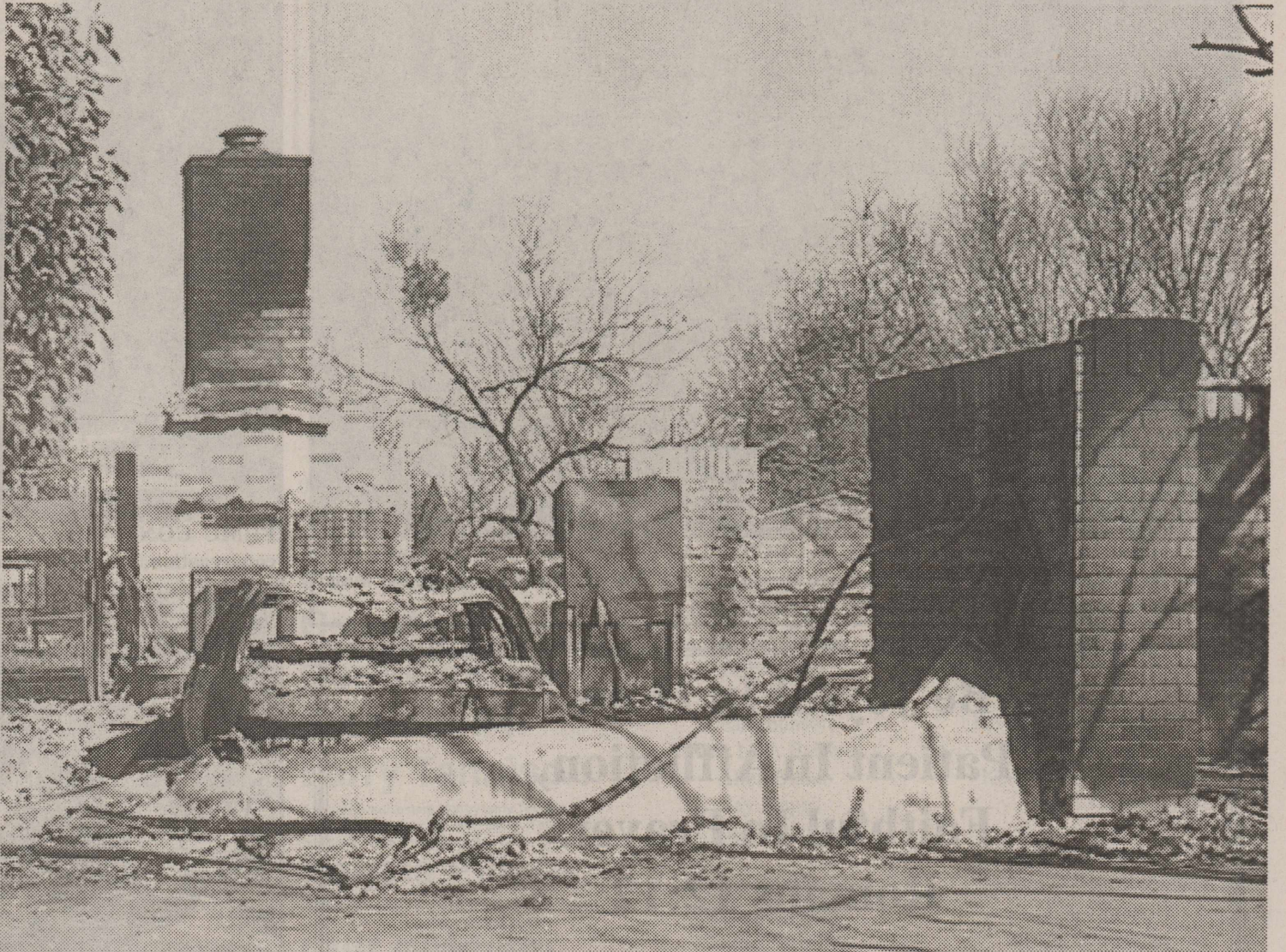
**RANDY WALKER HOME**— destroyed on the west side of Cross Plains.



**HOME, PICKUP**— truck and small car destroyed in northern part of Cross Plains.



**LARGE BRICK HOME**— in north Cross Plains destroyed by flames.



**HOME DESTROYED**— as well as car still inside garage. The home of Betty Montgomery in north Cross Plains burned with an auto still parked inside the garage.



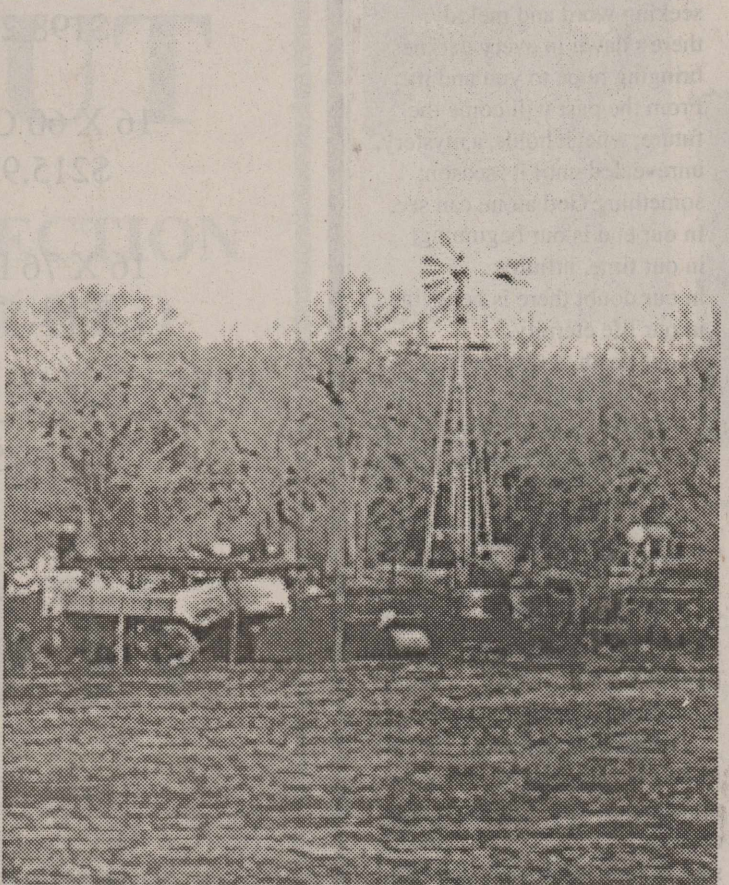
**ALL THAT'S LEFT OF A SIX-FAMILY APARTMENT BUILDING**— across the street from the Cross Plains School.



**SHELTER AFTER THE STORM**— the First Baptist Church Family Life Center has been home to a number of local residents who lost their homes in the fire.



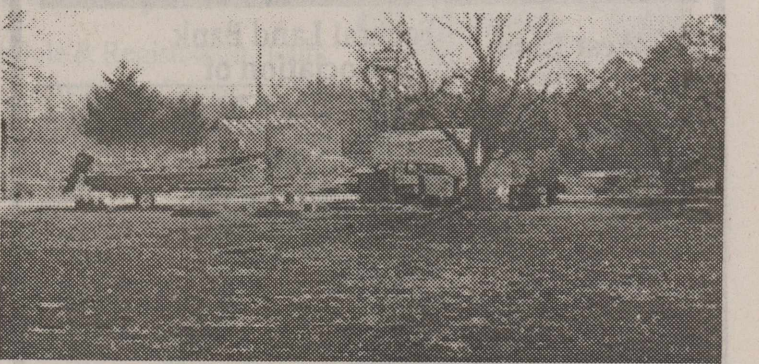
**HAY BALES** still smoldering two days after fire.



**ROWS OF FARM EQUIPMENT**— Lined up against the fence. This equipment burned as the fires whipped around to the east side of Cross Plains.



**LARGE HOME**— in north Cross Plains destroyed by flames.



**HOME AND AUTO IN NORTH CROSS PLAINS** destroyed while boat, shed and stock trailer left intact.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Challenge Offered by Former C.P. Resident

A challenge is offered to all exes of Cross Plains High School from Sylvia Graham.

This town is our childhood—memories—joy of youth—successes and failures.

Donate to the Cross Plains Relief Fund, C/O Texas Heritage Bank, P.O. Box 699, Cross Plains, Texas 76443, at least \$20.00.

If we all do this, it would be a great amount of money. God Bless our Hometown!!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

## "In This Fire"

By Dania Y. Gonzalez  
Cross Plains Elementary Student

In this fire there was panic, tears, sadness and the courage of our heroes working during the day and night saving lives and houses, and working hard doing whatever they could to save our town.

Sadly, two lives passed last night in this fire of horror. For our people downtown help was sent. People were trying to reach their loved ones. People were in action during this fire.

All we search for now is hope for our town, and now what

people try to do is help in all they can and rebuild our houses that we had before.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor,

Going home on Tuesday evening from Abilene, I was told Cross Plains was on fire and route to either Baird or Coleman. I went to Baird praying and praising GOD the whole time.

I stopped at the first convenience store, Alsups, to try to see what was going on and where my family evacuated to, since I don't have a cell phone.

The clerks at Alsups were very nice and one lady called the sheriff department for me. Another lady let me use her cell phone to try to find my mom and kids. The lady who answered the phones at the sheriff department was very polite and tried to give me as much information as she knew about the fires. Even when I was a little emotional trying to see where everyone was, she stayed calm and polite. I know she had to have tons of calls seeing what was going on.

I called two more times later seeing when I could get back into Cross Plains to see if I had a house, and both times the lady who answered was still very nice.

I praise God for those nice people at Alsups and the lady at

the sheriff department. It was a very stressful time and I appreciate everyone who helped me.

I also want to thank everyone who assisted in fighting fires to save Cross Plains because it could have been so much worse (and it was pretty bad) and the law enforcement who kept people from getting back in Cross Plains for a good reason (to protect them because it was a crazy time and I doubt many were thinking clearly).

Thank you.

Kerry (Pointer) Cantu  
Cross Plains, Texas

\*\*\*\*\*

## To the Resident's of Cross Plains

The Dodds family (formerly of Cross Plains) would like to send our thoughts and prayers to all our dear friends in Cross Plains, especially those who have lost their homes in the fire.

We are so saddened for the entire community for all your loss. You are a strong, God loving community and we know you will get through this traumatic experience.

You are loved and thought of often, God Bless You!

Gayna (Dodds) & Dick Harris  
Tom and Star

## Cross Plains Review

# 9

January 5, 2006



1 Medium Pro Special  
\$10.99 plus tax

Coupon expires 4-30-06

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# CENTER

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We will be glad to answer any questions you might have.

Bluebonnet Nursing Center is not just a "nursing home." It is a home full of fun, love and care to keep everyone young at heart.

Serving our residents at BNC Leslie Lane (Administrator) Shiela Hallmark (Business Development Specialist) Misti Edgar (Facility Controller)



WHEN YOU CARE ENOUGH TO WANT THE VERY BEST!

Bluebonnet Nursing Center  
283 Baird Hwy.  
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325-762-3329

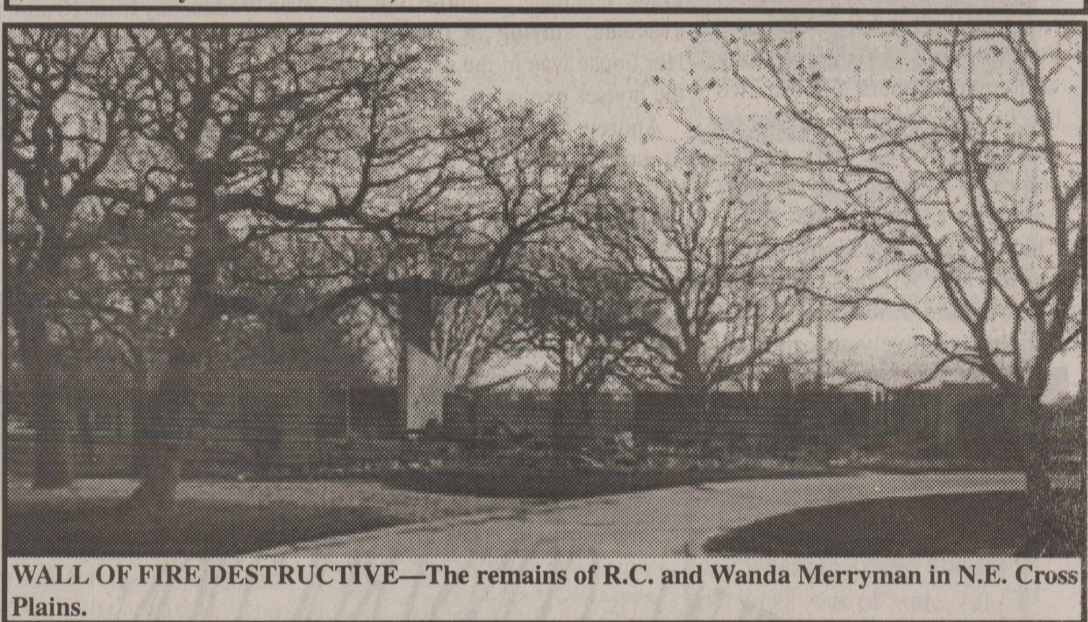
Make The Best Choice In Healthcare



STRUGGLING TO CONTROL THE FIRE HOSE—Volunteers pull together. (Photo courtesy of Patricia Cook.)



UP IN FLAMES—Rhonda, Larry and Joel Hinten's house just east of the Methodist Church. (Photo courtesy of Patricia Cook.)



WALL OF FIRE DESTRUCTIVE—The remains of R.C. and Wanda Merryman in N.E. Cross Plains.

## Cisco Family Chiropractic Offers FREE Evaluation Clinic This Thursday

Cisco Family Chiropractic will be sponsoring a free evaluation/treatment of injuries due to the recent fires in Callahan and Eastland Counties. This will be available for Firefighters, Ambulance and Law Enforcement Personnel on Thursday, January 5th from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at 1510 State Highway 206 in Cisco.

## County Judge declares disaster for Callahan County

### DECLARATION OF DISASTER FOR CALLAHAN COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County of Callahan on the 29th day of December 2005 is under imminent threat of severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from:

THE THREAT OF WILDFIRES DUE TO DROUGHT AND OTHER WEATHER RELATED CONDITIONS; and

WHEREAS THE COUNTY JUDGE of Callahan County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF CALLAHAN COUNTY:

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby proclaimed for Callahan County pursuant to Section

418.108 (a) of the Texas Government Code.

2. Pursuant to Section 418.108 (b) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than twelve days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners' Court of Callahan County.

3. Pursuant to Section 418.108 (c) of the Government Code, this Declaration of local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of Callahan County.

4. Pursuant to Section 418.108 (d) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Callahan County Emergency Management Plan.

This Proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance, ORDERED THIS THE 29th DAY OF DECEMBER 2005.

(s) Roger Corn  
Callahan County Judge

## Hilderbran Seeks Relief for Fire Victims

AUSTIN - Representative Harvey Hilderbran has requested that additional assistance be given to the areas affected by the wildfires, including Cross Plains, where more than 7,800 acres, a historic church, and at least 60 homes have been destroyed.

The representative spoke with Steven McCraw, director of the governor's office of homeland security, Wednesday morning.

"Basically, we are trying to get rid of a lot of the red tape so that the victims can get assistance as quickly as possible," Hilderbran said, adding that he is also working with local officials and

business leaders in Cross Plains to help victims. "My office and I are available and ready to aid anyone who has been affected by the fires."

Tuesday, the governor's office issued a statewide disaster declaration and ordered the deployment of Texas Army National Guard assets to battle the 73 fires across the state.

"The next step is to apply for a presidential major disaster declaration, which will allow for a long-term federal recovery program that is designed to help fire victims, businesses and public entities," Hilderbran said.

He added that if the president denies such a request, the state would ask that low-interest loans be made available through the Small Business Administration.

Further, Hilderbran is also requesting that the Texas Department of Agriculture distribute emergency feed for livestock.

A persistent drought, along with high winds and unseasonably warm temperatures, have created the most severe wildfire threat in five years. Thus far in December, 114 fires in 39 counties have burned approximately 10,000 acres.

**TO THE CITIZENS OF CROSS PLAINS**

We would like to thank the Cross Plains, Burkett, and Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Departments and all that helped save our town. Being a former volunteer fireman, I have experienced many fires. These valiant people couldn't have saved our house with 20 trucks on the scene. We saw six houses around ours explode before we managed to get out of this firestorm. Within 5 to 15 minutes all of these homes were gone.

We are thankful to be alive. Please help and honor these fire departments with your monetary donations. These men are heroes. Their dedication and courage saved our town.

God Bless them all and Thanks again,  
Mike, Robbi and Keali McClure

**Executive Order curtails all outdoor burning****EXECUTIVE ORDER OF CALLAHAN COUNTY**

WHEREAS, by proclamation issued December 29, 2005 the County Judge of Callahan County declared a state of disaster for Callahan County, resulting from

**THE POTENTIAL THREAT OF WILDFIRES DUE TO DROUGHT AND ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management:

NOW, THEREFORE, the following regulations shall take effect immediately upon issuance of this order and shall remain in effect for a period of not more than twelve days from the date of this executive order unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners' Court of Callahan County:

1. THE USE OF COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS IN AN OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT BY ANY PERSON IS PROHIBITED.

a. COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE USE OF ALL FIREWORKS, OUTDOOR MATERIALS USED IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS WELDING AND ANY OTHER ACTIVITY THAT COULD RESULT IN A FIRE. (INCLUDES ALL TRASH BURNING)

In accordance with the Local Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by

a fine of up to \$500.00.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER IS THE MITIGATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY HAZARD POSED BY WILDFIRES DURING THE CURRENT DROUGHT AND SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS BY CURTAILING THE USE OF ALL COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS.

(s) Roger Corn  
Callahan County Judge

Our county and the community of Cross Plains have been ravaged by fire, fueled by high winds and low humidity. This proclamation was put in place for the protection of the citizens and their property in Callahan County. It was not intended to take away a person's livelihood. Welding will be permitted if the proper precautions are taken.

I. The individual welding must have a spotter.

II. Two wet extinguishers must be available.

III. Must have sufficient supply of water on hand at all times.

IV. Must have water sprayer available for use.

V. Must wet down sufficient area (and rewet as often as necessary.)

The safety precautions must be taken and also, please use common sense and good judgment if the conditions are windy. If the job is not an emergency put it off until another date.

We are in a disaster situation, violators may be charged with a class C misdemeanor, with a maximum fine of \$500. An individual, or individuals, could be liable for damages, if fire occurs. If there is a fatality, one could face possible felony charges.

Thanks for your cooperation.

**Republican candidate filing ended Monday**

Callahan County Republican Chair Pat Chrane has announced a total seven candidates have filed for places on the March 7, 2006 Republican Primary ballot.

Chrane reported the position of Justice of the Peace Precinct #4 and the County Commissioner Precinct #4 will have contested races in the March primary, while the incumbent Clyde Justice of the Peace for Precinct #1 is running unopposed.

Those three Republican candidates for the Justice of the Peace Precinct #4 office in Cross Plains include Rodger Hart, Burlie Taylor and Robert Hill.

Republican candidate filing for the Cross Plains Commissioner in Precinct #4 include Larry Tennon, Reggie Pillans and Cliff Kirkham.

Incumbent Clyde Precinct #1 Justice of the Peace Roy Lee Chapman has also filed for re-election.

**Democratic Primary filing ends without any new candidates**

Callahan County Democratic Party Chairman Jon E. Hardwick announced candidate filing for the March 7, 2006 Democratic Primary Election ballot ended Monday, January 2 without any new candidate filings.

Seven candidates have filed for places on the Democratic Primary Election ballot, according to the county party chairman.

Those filing include incumbent

County Judge Roger Corn, incumbent Precinct #2 Commissioner Bryan Farmer, incumbent District Clerk Sharon Owens, incumbent County Treasurer Dianne Alexander and incumbent Precinct # Justice of the Peace Steve Odom.

Also announcing their candidacy were Donna Bell for County Clerk and Elvan Goode for Precinct #4 Commissioner.

# DRIFTWOOD RANCH AND CROSS PLAINS EQUIPMENT

WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL PEOPLE  
(VOLUNTEERS, CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.)  
THAT HELPED US THROUGH THE FIRE

ENERGEX Staff & Management

Cole Koenig, Mike McClure, & Kyle McClure

Cross Plains VFD & All other VFD's

Callahan County Law Enforcement

DPS

KGH Construction/Kenny Horan, Jr.

John and Dru Eppard/Eppard Electric

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Spratt

Rod and Neva Middleton

Al and Jeanne Taylor/Triple Cross Cowboy Church

Clay Koenig

Steve Pickett/Myriah Ridge Ranch

CJ and Sharron at Cactus and Jagged Saddle Ranch

George & Robin Watkins

Chance Watkins

Billy Whiteley at the Gas Company

Texas Forrestry Service

Jimmy Wilson

Vernon and All the Staff at Higginbothams

Lonnie and Staff at Food Plaza

All Volunteer Church Groups & City Officials

The Man who came by & gave a round bale of hay

at NO Cost

YOU CAN'T KEEP  
A GOOD TOWN DOWN  
THANK YOU SO MUCH,  
STAN AND MELANIE JACKSON

**Angel Food  
January Menu**

The Angel Food Ministries January Menu includes:

1- 5 lbs. Chicken Leg Quarters

1-1.5 lbs. Boneless Pork

Tenderloins

1- 3 lb. Chicken Breast Filets

2- 1 lbs. Ground Turkey

1- 1 lb. Ground Beef

1- 2 lb. Chicken Tenders

1-14oz. Philly Steaks

1- 12 oz. All Meat Hot Dogs

1-17 oz. Birds Eye Simply

Grillin'

1- 2 lb. Shredded Hash Browns

1- 1 lb. Cut Broccoli

1- 1 lb. Carrots

1- 16 oz. 16 Bean Soup Mix

1- 7.5 oz. Mac & Cheese

1- 7 oz. Pancake Mix

1- Dozen Eggs

1- Dessert Item

All This for the Low Cost of

JUST \$25.00.

One or more specials available

only with the purchase of a

regular unit.

January Special #1 -1- 1 lb

Popcorn Chicken \$15.00

Special #2 - 1- 5 lb Super Box

Ribeye Steaks (8 -10 oz. thick

cut) \$18.00

Special #3- 1-4.5 lb. Box,

Chicken Cordon \$18.00

Last day to pay and pay for your

is Monday Morning, Jan. 19,

2006. FOOD STAMPS NOW

ACCEPTED.

Distribution Day is Saturday,

January 21st at the Family Life

Center, West 8th and Avenue

from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

\*You must bring a large box or

container to pick up your food.

\*Reserves the right to substitute

any item due to availability,

cost and quality.

\*Units not picked up at time of

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wanting to purchase a food unit.

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Evelyn (254) 442-3752

Cotton's (254) 442-2565

300 West 8th

Trish (254) 442-1710

Stephanie (254) 442-4136

Food Stamp orders call for

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Eastland

Readers Choice (254) 631-0063

977 East Main (open Wed-Fri

from 10 a.m. -5:30 p.m.)

Rising Star

Simmons Hardware & Lumber

200 East College

(254) 643-4131

Cross Plains

Sun Rayz & Gifts

400 B. S. Main

(254) 725-4578

Tricia Hopkins (254) 725-6355

Breckenridge

Carolyn Clark

POB 412 (254) 559-3279

Jan Griffith (254) 559-8808

118 E. Walker

Distribution at Covenant

Tabernacle Church, 315 S.

Miller

Special "Thanks" to Dr.

Pepper-Pepsi, Ranger for helping

to supply drinks for our

Volunteers who work on

Distribution Day!

To Burgess-Manning for the

use of their pallet Jack to unload

the truck!

"A Food Ministry with a

Servant's Heart"

For additional host site infor-

mation, visit us on the web at

[www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com)



**TEXAS GOVERNOR IN CROSS PLAINS TO SURVEY FIRE DISASTER**—Gov. Rick Perry has asked the President for a federal disaster declaration. He spoke about providing temporary housing to local residents whose homes were destroyed. Governor Perry referred to the whole state as a "tinder box". He suggested that everyone be careful, as other people's lives were on the line.

**ADVERTISE IN  
THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW**

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- 97 Aerostar 7Pass,V6, very good condition, V6, dual air (Lt. Blue)...\$2,750
- 95 Aerostar 7Pass Extended Van,V6,Looks,Runs,Drives good (White)\$2,375
- 97 Plymouth Voyager 7Pass,V6, Looks,Runs,Drives good (White)...\$2,750
- 95 Plymouth Voyager 7Pass,V6, looks,runs,drives good(Green)...\$2,150
- 95 Chev Lumina Venture Mini Van,V6, Runs good (Green)...\$1,995
- 93 Isuzu Rodeo,4cyl, Runs good, A good buy at ONLY...\$1,595
- 88 GMC Conversion Van, new interior seat/bed, runs good...\$1,750

**GAS AND DIESEL TRUCKS**

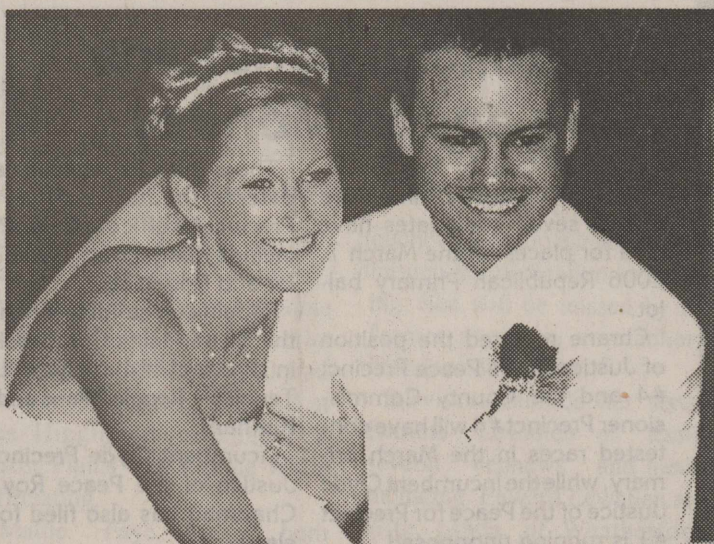
- 97 F250 Super Duty Power Stroke Diesel,5spd,good cond.....\$5,750
- 96 Ranger, 5spd, 4cyl, Fancy wheels/tires, very nice clean truck .....\$3,150
- 96 F150,6cyl, Auto, Looks,Runs good (White).....\$2,650
- 95 F350 Power Stroke Diesel,5spd,Dual rears, steal flat bed (White)...\$4,500
- 94 F250 Super Cab Turbo Diesel,5spd,looks, runs good (Gray/White)\$4,250
- 91 F350 Crew Cab Diesel,5spd,Under 100,000 miles,Very nice(Red)...\$4,500
- 90 F350 Diesel Dually Crew Cab,Auto, rund very good (Red/Tan)...\$3,500
- 89 Chevy Ext Cab,V8, Auto, In good condition (Red).....\$2,375
- 89 F250 Diesel Super Cab,5spd, very clean, runs good (Red/White)...\$2,950
- 89 F250 Diesel Super Cab,Auto, Good clean truck (Red/White)...\$2,950
- 89 F250 Diesel Super Cab,Auto, Pretty nice truck (Blue/White)...\$2,950
- 89 F250 Diesel Super Cab,Auto,Steal flat bed,runs good,weak paint...\$2,450
- 87 F250 Diesel Reg Cab,8Td Trans,looks,runs-very good (Black/Gray)...\$2,450
- 85 F350 Crew Cab Diesel,A pretty good old truck (White).....\$1,850

**AUTOMOBILES**

- 98 Ford Contour,In good condition inside/out (Red).....\$2,850
- 97 Mercury Sable,V6,4DR, cold air, clean inside/out (Red).....\$2,850
- 96 Mercury Mystique,4cyl, 4DR, looks,runs good(Blue).....\$2,250
- 96 Mercury Cougar XR7,Fully loaded, leather seats, moon roof.....\$2,995
- 96 Mercury Cougar XR7,4.6 V8,cold air,rear wheel drive (White)...\$2,495
- 95 Mercury Cougar XR7,4.6 V8, cold air, runs very good (Purple)...\$2,495
- 95 OLDS Cutlas,V6, cold air, Looks,Runs very good(Tan).....\$1,995
- 94 OLDS Cutlas,V6, Looks,Runs very good, cold air (White).....\$1,895
- 95 Lincoln Town Car,good fuel mileage, very nice car (Gold)...\$3,250
- 93 Mercury Cougar XR7,3.8 V6, very nice car, fully loaded(Silver)...\$1,750
- 90 Mercury Grand Marquis,very clean inside/out, runs good...\$1,295
- 91 Ford Crown Vic,Good dependable car (Lt. Blue) And ONLY...\$1,295
- 90 Lincoln Town Car,Looks,Runs,Drives good, Good family car...\$1,295

SEVERAL CARS UNDER \$1,000

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**KYLA NEAL AND JEREMY RINEY**  
...married December 17, 2005 in Clyde

**Kyla Neal and Jeremy Riney united in marriage December 17, 2005**

Kyla Neal and Jeremy Riney were united in marriage on December 17, 2005 at the Clyde Church of Christ with Jim Hall officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Terry and Terri Neal of Baird and the granddaughter of Kyle and Elizabeth Meadows of Bokpshe, Oklahoma and Jackie Neal and the late Gerold Neal of Baird. Kyla is a 2000 graduate of Baird High School and attended Oklahoma State University before transferring to Texas A&M University where she played golf for the Aggies. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Agriculture in May 2005. She is a professional golfer on the Future Tour and is also a teaching professional at Lone Star Golf Academy in College Station.

The groom is the son of Larry and Sherri Riney of Baird and the grandson of Ike and Sue Neal of Cross Plains and the late Penny Neal and Don Riney and Syble Riney South. Jeremy is a 1999 Baird High School graduate. He graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and is currently pursuing his Masters Degree in Health Administration from Texas A&M where he expects to graduate in May 2006.

Maids of honor were Jodi and Alex Neal of Baird, sisters of the bride. Bridesmaids were Candace O'Shields of Abilene, Miranda Orr of College Station,

Jessica Kapchinski of Lake Charles, Louisiana and Kate Meyer of College Station, Texas.

Best man was Zach Riney of College Station, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Ryon Vestal of Plano, Jim Scott of Houston, Dusty Barron of Houston, Shane Devenport of Horseshoe Bay and Chris Davis of Tyler, Texas.

Lighting the candles was Tereva Hunter of Baird. Flowergirl was K'Lynn O'Shields of Abilene and ringbearer was Luke Wilson of Abilene. Kirt Harle of Abilene, Bradley Neal of Baird and Mike Parker of Waco served as ushers. Serving in the house party were Megan Hunter of Abilene and Mindy McDowell of College Station, Texas.

"Imagine Me Without You" was sung by Ms. Ivy Byram to begin the wedding ceremony. Jodi Neal sang "Bless the Broken Road" and was accompanied by Dennis Byram in the duet of "When God Made You."

The rehearsal dinner was held at The Spaghetti Warehouse in Abilene and was hosted by the groom's parents. The wedding reception, hosted by the bride's parents was held at Fairway Oaks Country Club in Abilene immediately following the wedding ceremony.

The couple honeymooned in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico and will reside in College Station, Texas.

**Cisco Junior College to begin Spring Registration**

Cisco Junior College will soon begin regular registration for the spring semester. Registration at the Abilene Educational Center will be Tuesday and Wednesday, January 10 and 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on a walk-in, first come, first served basis. Sophomore and night student registration at the Cisco campus is scheduled for

Thursday, January 12 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., and open registration for freshman and all others will be held Friday January 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The first class day at both locations is Tuesday, January 17. For more information about CJC, to view spring schedules, and to apply online, visit our website at [www.cisco.cc.tx.us](http://www.cisco.cc.tx.us).

**Cross Plains Review**  
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**Texas Heritage Bank in Cross Plains sets up Disaster Relief Fund**

CROSS PLAINS - Steve Mack, CEO and David Estes, President of Texas Heritage Bank, Cross Plains have announced plans to aggressively seek government assistance in making loans for rapid economic recovery following the devastating fire in Cross Plains and Callahan County.

Steve Mack stated "we believe the role of a community bank is to assist in the development of the community, especially in times of disaster. We have tremendous faith in the people and businesses in Cross Plains."

Bank Board Members have contacted and are working with elected officials including U.S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer and State Representative Harvey Hilderbran to accelerate government response and assistance for Cross Plains

residents. Contact has also been made with the Texas Department of Agriculture in seeking emergency feed for livestock for affected farmers and ranchers.

David Estes said that "no one should hesitate to seek a short term emergency loan when they have a good credit history. We are prepared to move rapidly to assist our friends and neighbors for their emergency needs."

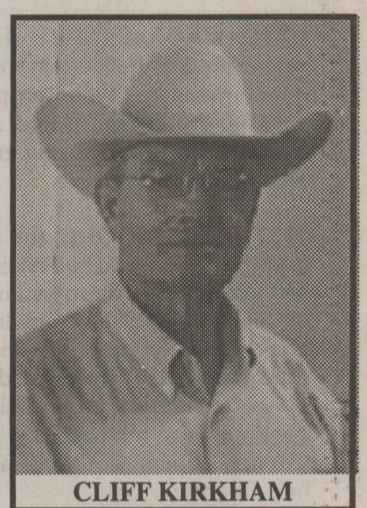
In addition, Estes said that "it is our understanding that once the Governor issues a disaster declaration it takes the federal government about two weeks to respond in either a positive or negative manner to a request for assistance from a local area."

A disaster relief fund has also been set up to assist fire victims. Deposits to the fund may be sent to Texas Heritage Bank, P.O. Box 699, Cross Plains, TX 76443.

**Cliff Kirkham seeks Republican Nomination for Callahan County Commissioner Precinct 4**

My name is Cliff Kirkham, and I am seeking the Republican nomination for Commissioner Precinct 4. To those of you who do not know me, allow me to share about myself. I am a lifelong resident of Callahan County and Cross Plains. I have spent 30 plus years in the service station and garage business and now operate C and C Handyman Service as well as a small cattle operation. Connie and I have been involved in local and county community services, and will continue to do so. My family and faith are very important to me. My wife Connie and I have been married 38 years, she owns and operates Connie's Cuts and Curls in Cross Plains. We have four children and three grandchildren. Our oldest daughter Alicia and husband Charles Cate and granddaughter Kinley of Maypearl, Texas; our daughter Courtney and husband Patrick Arbour of Austin; Whitney and grandsons Korbin and Roby of Cross Plains; and a son Bay Kirkham of Dallas.

I believe that the duties of a commissioner not only pertain to road maintenance, which is a big part, but also to oversee matters, which come before the commission with honesty and integrity. I believe that we should continue to provide good law enforcement for the citizens of this county, and upgrade whenever possible for maximum safety for citizens of the county. There will be decisions that have to be made everyday which require a thoughtful and common



**CLIFF KIRKHAM**

sense approach. I would also like to see more cooperation between the county government and the towns and small communities of the county to work together and explore new avenues to keep all of our communities in the county vibrant, healthy, and growing to create new business and other things that would entice our quality young people to look at our county for building homes, raising families, seeking job opportunities, and contributing to the well-being of Callahan County. The County and World is changing, and we will need to also change to meet the future demands of the people. I commit to seek avenues that affect our County with honesty, integrity, and thoughtfulness.

I am asking for your support on March 7.

Thank You- Cliff Kirkham  
A Conservative voice  
in County Government

Paid Political Advertisement Paid by the  
Cliff Kirkham Campaign Committee,  
Connie Kirkham, Treasurer  
20235 FM 2707, Cross Plains, TX 76443

**TAYLOR ELECTRIC Cooperative Inc**

**ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

**YOU COULD WIN AN ALL EXPENSE PAID TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC!**

**Enter our Youth Leadership SPEECH CONTEST!**

Competition will be judged over presentation of a 5 to 7 min. speech, from a topic selected by Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc. You must be classified as a High School Sophomore in our nine county service area to enter. (Home School Students are also Welcomed!)

The trip will be taken in June of 2006, with over 140 other winning students from the Southwest. See our National Monuments & memorials the Smithsonian, Mount Vernon, Arlington Cemetery, our Nations Capital & The White House, courtesy of Taylor Electric.

To enter: Contact Taylor Electric @ [connections@taylorelectric.com](mailto:connections@taylorelectric.com) or call 325-928-4715 ext. 53.

Contest Deadline is January 20th 2006 — Competition will be held Thursday Night, January 26th @ 7:00pm at the McM Elegante' in Abilene, Texas

**Get Ready For Winter**  
Come By And Let Us Winterize  
Your Car Or Truck

**Strength Paint & Auto Mechanic**  
116 SE 6th Cross Plains, Texas  
**254-725-6514**  
Open Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM

We Take  
Major  
Credit Cards

38 Years  
Experience  
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Auto Body

30 Years  
Experience  
In Auto  
Mechanics

# Firestorm

the moving fire, landing on trees and structures in its way. This explains the random way one house burned and the one beside it did not. Harrell said that it was racing so fast across the fields that it would burn under the fence, leaving the briars on top untouched. In some places it burned only the bottom of the trees, leaving the foliage intact. He compared it to the scorching flame of a blow torch.

This made fighting and containing this particular fire very difficult. "Even if we had all the equipment in the world, we couldn't have fought this any better because of the unpredictability of this fire storm," said Fire Chief Harrell. He wanted to express his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all of the volunteers and citizens of Cross Plains for their cooperation.

Houses literally exploded from the inside out as oxygen was forced out in the tornadic fury. These explosions fueled further fires.

Experienced firefighters and highway patrolmen had never seen anything like this. They expressed shock and disbelief at the magnitude of what they encountered. A Potosi Volunteer Fireman said the wind was blowing so hard it blew their fire helmets out of the truck. The fire burned the fire hoses and nozzles and they had to replace them. He remarked that the flames jumped from 5 feet to 50 feet in a matter of seconds and was desintegrating everything in its path.

Mike McClure, a local resident and former volunteer firefighter (with almost two decades of experience) actually witnessed the exploding of his home along with many others on the two blocks in front of the school on North Main Street and a row of homes on Avenue E. In this area only the Cornerstone Bible Church, Dorothy Odom's house and Roylene Wilson's house (the Arrowwood house) are still standing, relatively unharmed.

McClure said, "I've never experienced a fire so hot or smoke so black. I had to drive so slow, because I couldn't see anything and I hoped I didn't hit anything. The wind was literally rocking my pickup (an extended cab full-size truck)."

He expressed the fact that a fire truck couldn't have even approached the houses that exploded. He explained that the firestorm seemed to be more intense in the blocks west of the school.

Word was spread to evacuate and later the DPS announced evacuation warnings throughout the streets. Residents rushed to their vehicles and drove to the outskirts of town. Vehicles were bumper to bumper along the highway with everyone standing and watching Cross Plains burn, not knowing if our homes were still there. Small groups gathered to pray for the wind to cease and for the safety of those fighting the fire.

Many unsung heroes were able to stay and battle the flames saving their homes and others. Neighbors hooked several hoses together, stretching them to their capacity. Their efforts filled in the gaps for the already overtaxed firemen.

The efforts of every fire department, emergency medical service, and each caring individual who has assisted during this massive disaster has been greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately two residents, Mattie Faye Wilson and Maudie Shepard were lost in the disaster.

Mattie Faye, 67, a retired first grade teacher, chose not to evacuate, staying in her home. Her house was in the area where the houses exploded.

Andrew Shepard rushed home to save his 89 year old bedridden mother, Maudie Shepard, but it was too late.

Several firefighters and others who were fighting the fire were overcome by smoke. Bob Harrell, local Fire Chief, and Byron

McNutt were taken to the hospital treated and released.

The source of the fire is unknown and is under investigation by the Fire Marshal because of the fatalities and loss of homes.

The First Baptist Church provided a headquarters for the firemen, emergency medical personnel, the Red Cross, police personnel and residents who had no place to stay. Three meals were served each day to all in need. Food and water are available at the First Baptist Life Center, also.

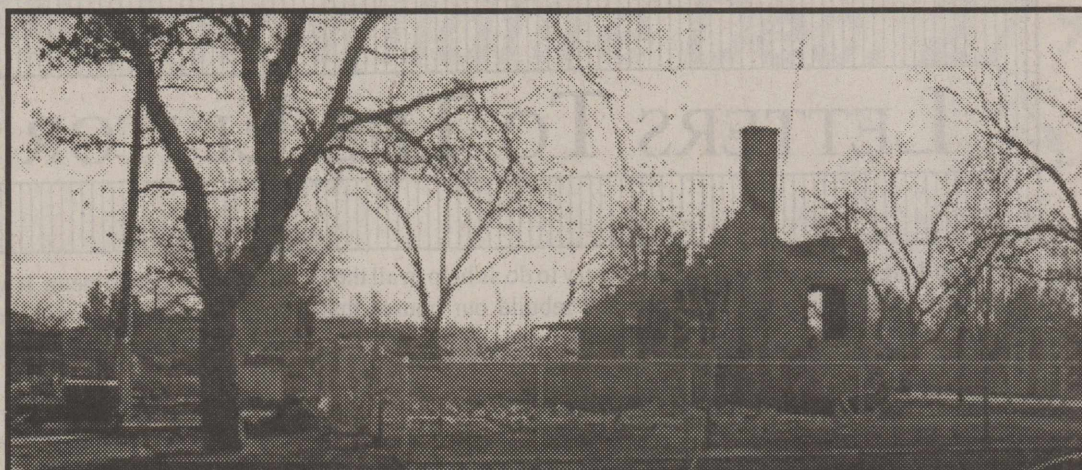
The Church of Christ Activity Center was set up as a place to deliver clothing and has now been moved to the old nursing home building on Avenue A and 7th Street. Anyone who needs clothing are welcome to come by and pick out clothing. No further donations of clothing are needed. **Volunteers are needed to help sort the huge piles of clothing donated.**

If you would like to donate to the Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Department or area volunteer fire departments send your contributions to Texas Heritage Bank, P.O. Box 699, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

Donations to the Cross Plains Relief Fund (directly benefitting the victims) or the Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Department can be mailed to Texas Heritage Bank, P.O. Box 699, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

A Town Meeting at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center was set for Tuesday, January 3. The Resource Fair was Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Its been reported on national news that the community has been devastated and our very existence is in question. However, they don't know the people in Cross Plains. Our faith in God is a cornerstone and we all work together, especially in times of crisis. We have already survived a major tornado, floods



ESCAPING THE FIRESTORM—Mike, Robbi and Keali McClure just barely manage enough time to leave their home before it burns.



WHAT REMAINS OF THE HOME OF AUDREY AND KAYLA STOUT AND CHILDREN.

and now a fire. The spirit of brotherhood bands us together for a common goal. We will come through this stronger, wiser, and more determined to stand

against any trial that tests us.

When you burn a field of grass, it comes back with new green sprouts called "tender". This new growth is stronger and more vibrant than what was burnt. The same is true of the people of our hometown. We never underestimate the power of God.

Cross Plains  
Review

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