

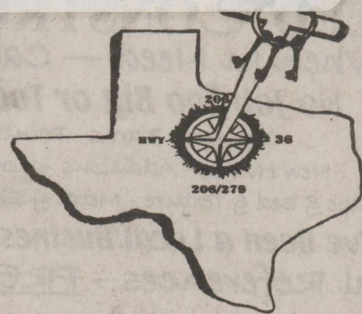
Rich in Agriculture  
Abundant in Wildlife

Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

# Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"  
"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, December 4, 2008



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

100th YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 38



VOLUNTEER WITH 2008 LAP CHILDREN—Beverly Ross is to be congratulated for 20 years of terrific service to the local library.

## Cross Plains Public Library Recognizes a Twenty-year Volunteer

In the fall of 1988, the young couple had just returned to Cross Plains from North Carolina. Wanting to provide their five year old son with an opportunity to meet and interact with other children, they visited the public library to see what the Learn About...Program was all about.

The fun approach to learning and preparation for Kindergarten was a good fit for James. Bettye Greenwood and Kathy Chesshir were leading the program for his age group at the time; "Mom" was invited to stay and help around the edges.

And now, 20 years later, "Mom" is still helping with the LAP activities. "Mom" being Beverly Ross, who says, "the kids grew up and went to school and I stayed behind." She moved from "helper" to "coordinator" of the LAP in 1990 and has amassed a collection of memories that would fill a book. The funny antics of pre-schoolers would undoubtedly be the lead off chapter, followed by stories the kids probably should not have told, their reactions to class activities and how she enjoyed watching her LAP kids move through school and go on to college. The boys and girls who were in the program when Beverly first got involved are now getting out of college, so participating in LAP undoubtedly helped prepare them for success in school.

Beverly recalls the early days of her involvement when there were 40 little kids packed into the

library on Wednesday mornings. They would work on little plays, complete with costumers, to present at their closing program in the spring. The library was totally inadequate for the crowd of parents plus the kids, so the end-of-the-year program would be moved across the street to the Senior Center. She is looking forward to the completion of the Children's Resource Center so that LAP will have plenty of room.

Over the years, Beverly has seen many children truly blossom, as they grew out of their shells and became comfortable in the "library school." She remembers many children who did not want their mothers to leave at the beginning of the program in the fall. Yet, by springtime, they were out-going and confident—ready for Pre-K and all it had to offer. Elementary teachers have had nothing but praise for the LAP, as they see a solid readiness level of those participants. And she's always enjoyed that moment at ball games, at the grocery store or in the DQ when little munchkins run up for a hug from their "library teacher!"

The Learn About Program had been started in about 1984 to help prepare children for Kindergarten, as the public school did not have a pre-k program at that time. Connie Swift, another early volunteer, remembers that the 3-4 year olds were dubbed "the daisies" and the 5 year olds were

the "green beans", but the reasoning behind the names has long disappeared. The premise of the program was to teach the youngsters how to sit quietly, to follow instructions, to improve their hand/eye coordination and to learn numbers and letters, PLUS the all-important development of a love of stories, music and BOOKS.

Typical of her dedication, Beverly entered the library a few days after the fires of 2005 and apologized that her LAP supplies and lesson plans had been destroyed when the family home burned to the ground. But she just cruised into "Plan B" and the program went on! "Plan B" was to work from the memory of all those plans she had developed over the years and to lean heavily on Sue Bennett. Sue is a relative newcomer to the library programs and is equally gifted with creative talents and a love of little children.

The LAP group meets every Wednesday morning from November through April that the public school is in session and runs from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Children, ages three to five, may still enroll in this program, while younger ones from birth to three may attend Lapsit. Please contact the Cross Plains Public Library, 725-7722, for more information about these programs.

Submitted by  
Arlene Stephenson

## Immunization Clinics Announced in Callahan County

Texas Department of State Health Services Immunization Clinics in Callahan County are announced as follows:

**Monday, December 8th**  
Baird Cafeterium  
400 West 7th  
10 a.m. - 12 noon

**Cross Plains Housing  
Authority**  
233 N. Main Street  
2 - 4 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 10th**  
Clyde First Baptist Church  
216 Austin  
10-12 noon and 1:30 - 3 p.m.

Please bring your child's immunization records. If your child has Medicaid or CHIP, please bring their card.

For more information call 325-754-4945.

## CALLAHAN SWCD Windbreak Tree Orders

The Callahan Divide Soil & Water Conservation District is now taking orders for their Annual windbreak Tree Program.

Each year, the District offers these trees to the general public on a first come first serve basis at a very inexpensive price. These windbreak trees come fresh from the Texas Forest Service Nursery out of Idalou, Texas.

This year's selection of available trees include: Afghanistan Pine, Eastern Redcedar and Italian Stone Pine. All hardwood and live oaks are sold out. These evergreen Seedlings are being offered for 5 for \$15.00 or \$75.00 for a box of 30 per species.

Tree orders will be taken until January 29, 2009 or until supplies run out, whichever comes first. The trees will be delivered to Baird on February 16, 2009. All orders are pre-paid with a check or money order. These trees are delivered fresh from the Texas Forest Service Nursery.

For more information on planning, planting and maintenance of windbreak trees or how to purchase these low cost seedlings, contact the Callahan Divide Soil & Water Conservation District, Texas at 325-854-1349 extension 3. The office is Baird is located at 141 W. 4th, Suite B.

## Santa Comes to Town this Friday, December 5th

The Kiwanis Club of Cross Plains' annual Christmas Program is this Friday, December 5, at the Senior Citizens' Center, beginning with a Stew Supper Fund-Raiser at 5 p.m.

The Kiwanis Club's Stew Supper is one of the club's annual fund-raisers each year to help have enough to meet all the worthy requests and needs there are. The stew supper begins at 5 p.m.- \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under (very young children who eat from their parents' bowl are free). Those who eat will receive one ticket each for the drawings for the turkeys and cash.

Santa will be arriving out front at the Senior Citizens' Center on the Fire Truck at 6 p.m. and he will want to see all the children of Cross Plains and the surrounding area as he arrives. Every child will be able to visit with Santa, inside, and have a personal free picture taken with him.

(Additional photographs may be purchased for \$1 each.) In addition to the free photograph, each child will receive a sack of candy and one (1) number for the drawing at the end of the program.

The drawing will be for twelve (12) frozen turkeys and eight (8) gifts of \$25 each. Drawings will begin immediately after the children are finished visiting and taking pictures with Santa.

The Kiwanis Club encourages everyone to attend, participate and enjoy Santa's visit to Cross Plains. There is no general registration for the drawings so the only recipients of tickets will be the children who visit Santa and those who attend the stew supper. You must remain and be present during the drawing in order to be eligible for the prizes. Come early and eat, stay afterwards and visit. Remember, this Friday night, December 5, beginning at 5 p.m.

Submitted by  
Bob Pipes

## Joan McCowen Day

Sat. Dec. 6  
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Cross Plains Public Library

Please drop by to visit with  
JOAN  
and to share memories and refreshments.

cards may be dropped at the Library  
if you are unable to attend

## Cottonwood Christmas Party Friday, December 5th

The Cottonwood Community Christmas Party is this Friday night, December 5, at 7 p.m. at the Cottonwood Community Center. It's a great opportunity to come out and visit with your friends and neighbors and get to know new folks who have moved into the community.

The Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group will be at the event. If you haven't had a chance to get tickets for their upcoming Benefit Prize Drawing, this a good opportunity to meet the volunteer firefighters and purchase your tickets.

Everyone —new and old—is invited to this community party. Coffee and punch will be served. Bring a finger food and join the fun!



"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"



Presents:  
"What's Inside"

Birthday Event	Page 8
Birthday List	Page 5
Christmas Ball	Page 3
Classifieds	Page 6-7
Cottonwood News	Page 3
Courthouse News	Page 2
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Student Updates	Page 4
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Trans-Tx Corridor	Page 8
Veterans News	Page 2

## Christmas Holidays

Semester Exam Schedule

**Wednesday, December 17th** School will dismiss at 2:25 p.m. Buses will run at 2:30 p.m.

**Thursday, December 18th** School will dismiss at 2:25 p.m. Buses will run at 2:30 p.m.

**Friday, December 19th** School will dismiss at 12:00 p.m. Buses will run at 12:10 p.m.

• Christmas Holidays- December 22, 2008 through January 2, 2009.

• School will resume on Monday, January 5, 2009 at regular time.



## IT IS TIME AGAIN TO WRITE YOUR SANTA CLAUS LETTERS

All pre-school children and students through 3rd grade may send your wish lists to the

Cross Plains Review by noon on December 10th.

The children's letters will be forwarded

directly to Old Saint Nick at the North Pole.

Watch for publication in the December 18th issue.

Mail To: Santa Claus c/o


Cross Plains Review P.O. Box 519

Cross Plains, TX 76443



**REED CONSTRUCTION**  
*"When in Need — Call Reed"*  
**No Job Too Big or Too Small**  
 Concrete - Barns - Painting  
 New Homes - Additions - Remodeling  
 Tape & Bed & Texture - Metal & Shingle Roofs  
**We've Been a Local Business Since 1980**  
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 We'll Be Here After Work Is Done  
**Work Is Guaranteed**  
 Home 254-725-7363 Cell 325-660-9805  
 www.rustyreedconstruction.com  
 Texas Contractors License 4047

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

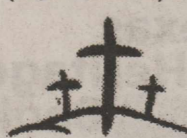
**CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH**  
 832 Ave. E Cross Plains, TX  
**Pastor: Walter Pope**  
 Sunday Morning Bible Study ...10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship.....11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship.....6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Night Bible Study...6:00 PM  
  
**Our Church Is A House Of Prayer**

**UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
 209 S.W. Hwy 36 CROSS PLAINS, TX  
**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 AM  
 Morning Worship.....11:00 AM  
 Evening Service.....6:00 PM  
 Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00 PM  
**Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599**  
 Church (254) 725-6266 Bible Teaching  
 Friendly Church

**Brushy Creek Cowboy Church**  
 112 W. Travis in Putnam  
**Pastor: Sam Stone**  
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30 AM  
 Wednesday Worship.....7:00 PM

**CROSS PLAINS COWBOY CHURCH**  
**Pastor: LEN SMITH**  
 Join Us On Sunday at 10:30 a.m.  
 Wednesday nights 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!** 

**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**  
 Phone: 254-725-7522  
 Cell Phone: 325-370-6680

**Pioneer Baptist Church**  
**Pastor: Rufus Wilson**  
 254-725-4589  
 Sunday School....10:00 am  
 Sunday Morning Worship....11:00 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship....6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Prayer Service....7:00 p.m.  
 Music Director: Barbara Jo Medley 254-725-4589

**Living Water Ministries Fellowship**  
*Restoring And Equipping The Saints*  
 Sunday....10:00 am Wednesday....7:00 pm  
**Pastor Max Evans**  
 For Information Call (254) 725-7418

**Rowden Baptist Church**  
**Pastor: Wayne Lenz**  
 Music: Karen Lenz & Diane Woods  
 Bible Study...10:00 am  
 Sunday Morning Worship...11:00 am  
 2990 Highway 36 at Rowden 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

**OBITUARIES**

**Wilma Jean Butler-Lasater**

Wilma Jean Butler-Lasater, 80, of Rising Star, passed away Sunday, November 30, 2008, at Rising Star Nursing Center. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 3, 2008, at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Rising Star with Matt McGowen officiating and Terry Jackson assisting. Burial was in the Rising Star Cemetery in Rising Star with Higginbotham Funeral Home of Rising Star in charge of arrangements.

Wilma was born June 29, 1928 in Brown County, Texas to Curt and Roxie Chambers-Butler. She married Herbert Doyle Lasater in 1952 in Eastland County, Texas. She was a member of the Church of Christ. She has lived in the community for most of her life. She was a farmer and rancher. Wilma was an avid golfer in her younger years. She also worked for Taylor and Eastland County Child Welfare Service.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Herbert Lasater, and a son, Edward Doyle Lasater. Survivors include her cousins, Butch Butler and Kay of Rising Star, Ken Butler and wife, Judy of Inez, Sara McGowen and her husband, David of Rising Star, and Ann Garms of Brownwood; and numerous other cousins.

**Vi Etta Harlow**

Vi Etta Harlow, age 99, of Alamogordo, New Mexico, passed away Saturday, November 29, 2008. Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday December 2, 2008 at Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains Chapel. Burial followed in the Cross Plains Cemetery.

Vi was born in Cross Plains, Texas on November 22, 1909 the daughter of James Samuel and Ida (Barr) Harlow. She attended school in Cross Plains. She worked in retail sales until she was 75 years old. She moved to Cross Plains around 2000 and lived here for several years before moving to New Mexico. Vi was a Baptist.

She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include several nieces and nephews including Janet Harlow of Ruidoso, New Mexico and nephew, Jeff Harlow of La Luz, New Mexico; sister, Jean Fore of Pioneer, Texas; brother, Paul J. Harlow of New Mexico; and sister-in-law Juanita Foster Harlow of New Mexico.



**Wanda Jean (Hall) Boyle**

Wanda Jean (Hall) Boyle, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend, went to be with her Lord on November 30, 2008. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 3, 2008, in the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Cross Plains; burial followed in the Burkett Cemetery.

Wanda was born October 7, 1928 in Valleyview, Texas, the daughter of Ira Henry Hall and Alice (West) Hall. She grew up in Cross Plains and graduated from Cross Plains High School in 1946. She married Arthur Boyle on September 24, 1946 in Cross Plains. During their marriage they were blessed with three children, Elaine, Jerry and Sandra.

She was saved and baptized in the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains. She was a current member of the First Baptist Church in Brownwood, where she and her husband have lived for the past 11 years. During her lifetime, Wanda worked as a dental assistant for several years. Later she lovingly worked in the education field as a teacher's aid in kindergarten and special education in both Howe and Cross Plains.

She is survived by husband, Arthur; daughter, Elaine Denney and husband Charles of Goldthwaite, son Jerry Boyle and wife Meladee of Burleson, and daughter Sandra Terrell and husband Rodger of Eastland. Survivors also include 8 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren; sisters, Doris Givens and Joan Kunkel; one sister-in-law Billie Hall and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ira and Alice Hall; one brother James Hall and one sister Kathrine Harris.

**Callahan County DPS Report**

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from November 23rd through November 29th included:

- Cases Investigated
- Warnings—156
- Complaints—106
- DWI—2
- Driving While License Invalid—1
- Possession of Marijuana—1
- Vehicle Accidents

There were three vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.

**2-Cross Plains Review December 4,2008**

**COURTHOUSE NEWS**

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE**  
 Roger Corn, Presiding  
 Misdemeanor Minutes

**Civil Filings**  
 RF Production, Inc. vs. Rodrick A. Hollowell, damages.

James Salway, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted in the interest of justice.  
 Kimberly Pursley, motion to withdraw as counsel granted.  
 Billy Chaney, motion to revoke probation and adjudicate granted.

**Civil Minutes**  
 Sheila Mae Thomason and Gary Ray Thomason, divorce granted.  
 John Baidas and Christina Baidas, divorce granted.  
 Sonya Lynn Ancell and Button Ray Ancell, divorce granted.  
 Britneay D. Flanary and Raymond J. Flanary, divorce granted.

**42nd DISTRICT COURT**  
 John Weeks, presiding

**VETERANS NEWS**

**By Tom Ivey**

The Department of Veterans Affairs has increased the rate of reimbursement for medical travel from 28.5 cents per mile to 41.5 cents effective November 17, 2008. This will be big help to Veterans travelling to Medical Centers since our closest VAMC is in Big Spring. On January 9, 2009 the deductible will decrease from \$7.77 to \$3.00 for a one-way trip and from \$15.54 to \$6.00 for a round-trip. The maximum monthly deductible of \$46.42 will then reduce to \$16.00. Veterans can thank Congressman Chet Edwards Dem.-Texas, Chairman of the House subcommittee on Veterans spending for this help. There is some talk of Rep. Edwards being named to Secretary of Veterans Affairs but he may be of more help to Veterans by remaining in the U.S. Con-

gress. The typesetting machine missed a line when the "Veterans Day 2008" column ran on November 5. Also answering the last call were Charles C. Holden-USA, Robert Francis Hunt-USN & USAF, and Billy mac Jobe-Edgar "Jake" Connel-USA, Horace Max Key- U S Merchant Marines, and Howet Neal Wilson-USN Seabees. Our condolences to the families of these veterans who served when needed.


Your Callahan County Veterans Service Office will be closed on December 9 and HOPEFULLY reopen December 29. Right knee replacement surgery will be done on December 10 in Fort Worth. Those needing an immediate answer to VA questions can leave a message at (817) 741-1047. Thanks for your patience!

*The First Family Welcomes You to join us for a Community Presentation of*  
**Tonight, Heaven Touches Earth**  
*A dramatic Christmas musical*  
**Saturday, December 6th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**FREE** First Baptist Church  
**ADMISSION** 301 N. Main St.  
 Cross Plains, Texas  
 Call for more info...(254)-725-7629

**WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH THE**  
  
**First United Methodist Church**  
 Sunday School 9:30AM  
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:45AM  
**1000 North Main Street**  
**Church office: 254-725-7377**  
 web site: www.crossplainsumc.com  
 email: crossplainsumc@gmail.com 34-1tc

**First Presbyterian Church**  
 Sunday Service 9:00 AM  
 Music- Connie Swift & Betty Lewis  
 Lead Singers: Rhonda Swift Amanda Sowell Matt Sowell  
**Pastor Kathy Monroe**  
**208 N. Ave. D** 23-4fn

**To Guarantee Publishing In The Current Week's Paper, PLEASE Have Articles In By 2 p.m. Monday and Ads By Noon On Tuesday Of That Week**

  
**Mark Your Calendars Now!**  
 for the musical performance of  
**"An Evening in December"**  
 December 21<sup>st</sup>, 7pm  
**United Presbyterian Church**  
 202 N Ave D, Cross Plains

# COTTONWOOD NEWS

By WALLACE BENNETT

## Cottonwood's Drawing to End All Drawings Taking Shape

Don't forget the sale of tickets for the "drawing to end all drawings". The date of the drawing, January 31, 2009, will get here sooner than you think. Joe Terstegge, Diane Smith and Beverly Brown have tickets and the Texas Heritage Bank in Cross Plains has more.

The tickets are \$10.00 each for a chance to win one of over 75 prizes. The more tickets you have, the more prizes you can win.

Stop any of these people on the streets of Cross Plains and ask about "tickets". If they have sold out, go by the bank and see if they have any left. If any of these people can't find one to sell, call Wallace Bennett, he will deliver a ticket anywhere within decent range of Cottonwood.

## December 7, 1941 Brings Back Memories

It may be the "forgotten" war to most folks, or the War never known about to the younger ones, but to me, and a few others, this date will loom forever in the mind, as the date Japan launched the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. And I, like all others my age, remember exactly where we were and what we were doing on that date.

It was on a bright and clear day, a Sunday, as I recall, and a few friends and I had gone over to the old Cross Plains Lake on Beatah Freeland's place, "just messing around". Blanton Freeland was along, and when they dropped me off at my home, my mother was listening to the radio which was broadcasting the first reports about the attack.

We were at war! 183 Japanese planes launched in the first wave. We listened to the "eye witness" accounts the rest of the day, people dead and dying by the thousands. Ships sunk, naval and air bases blown to splinters. War is hell, and we did not know and could not imagine what the future had in store for any of us. But shortly, my friends began to disappear from school, having entered the military service, and by the end of the next summer most of them had already joined up. A few of my friends had already joined up and were at Pearl Harbor and witnessed the attack first hand. I turned 17 years old just 16 days later and the big talk at school was about the war, who was joining the Army, the Navy and the Marines.

The next summer my father had put in crops, as usual, and had told me I could "join up" when the crops were in the barn.

Finally, the day came that my dad said I could go on and "join up", and I joined the U.S. Navy. Since I was only 17, the Boatswain's Mate at the recruiting office told me I would have to get my mother and father to sign the papers, and I went home to do that. Then the Boatswain's Mate said I was in the Regular Navy until I turned 21. It was called unofficially a "diaper cruise" to signify I was too young to make my own decisions. That designation scratched my craw, but hung on until I turned 21 years old.

If you want to read a different account of that war, get David Wallechinsky's "The 20th Century" published by *The People's Almanac*, printed in 1945, page 220. This account prints an "eye witness" account of Commander Mitsuo Fudia, who led that 183 planes of the first wave to attack Pearl Harbor at dawn on that Sunday in 1941.

(Please call Wallace Bennett at 254-725-7474 for any personal or local new items about Cottonwood or people living in Cottonwood concerning personal or local business or e-mail csb555@dishmail.net. Please remember, I can't print it, if I don't know about it.)

## LIBRARY STATS

November 24-26, 2008

Patrons: 59  
Books Checked Out: 49  
Copies: 18  
Reference: 4  
Internet Users: 23

**Donations:**  
Curt and Ginny Hoskins

**Memorials:**  
Donna Wagner  
In Memory of Cole and Helen Tillotson

**Book Donations:**  
Georgia Culwell

Byron and Myleah McNutt  
In Memory of Jimmy McNutt

**Volunteers:**  
Suzy Stiver-Nash  
Arlene Stephenson  
Michelle Kaiser  
Community Bakers for the Annual Bake Sale

## Cross Plains Review

3

December 4, 2008

# FINAL WEEK Cross Plains Public Library Trivia Contest

This is the last week of our Trivia Contest! Have you had fun? Oh-oh, didn't compete? It's not too late.

Come in and enter and you could be a winner! Search for the answers to our trivia questions that are hidden in different sections of the library. It's not hard and you don't have to read any books (but, we certainly won't discourage it!); we just want you to familiarize yourself with all the resources that are available right here at our library!

On December 10th, patrons who have found all the answers will be entered in a drawing and the winner will receive dinner for two at Mexico City Cafe.

**Week #12 Question:** How did Santa Claus get the name "Kris Kringle"?

**Week #11 Question:** Why do we use the expression "once in a blue moon" to mean very rarely?

If you missed our last weeks'

questions:

**Week #10:** Why do we call an exaggeration a "fish story"?

**Week #9:** Why do we call a quarter "two bits"?

**Week #8:** Why is a traitor called a "turncoat"?

**Week #7:** How did a "sheriff" get that name?

**Week #6:** How did something put by for an emergency get the name "nest egg"?

**Week #5:** Where did stray cattle get the name "maverick"?

**Week #4:** Where did we get the expression "that takes the cake"?

**Week #3:** How did we come to an inexperienced person a "greenhorn"?

**Week #2:** Why is a "bootlegger" called that?

**Week #1:** How did we get 'acre' as a measure land?

Questions and answers are from *Why Do We Say It? The Stories Behind the Words, Expressions, and Cliches We Use* published by Castle Books and available at the library.

Submitted by  
Michelle Kaiser

## SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

### DECEMBER 8-12

**MONDAY-** Chili Cheese Dog on Bun, Baked Beans, Coleslaw w/ Raisins, Fruit  
**TUESDAY-** Beef Vegetable Soup, Pimento Cheese, Sandwich, Peaches, Sugar Cookie, Crackers  
**WEDNESDAY-** Meatloaf, Au gratin Potatoes, Zucchini, Apple Crisp, Bread  
**THURSDAY-** Chicken Strips, Gravy, Tossed Salad, Whipped Potatoes, Gelatin, Bread  
**FRIDAY-** Baked Potato w/ Ham & Cheese, Broccoli Cheese Soup, Steamed Carrots, Tapioca Pudding, Crackers

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

# The Wagon Roadside Cafe

501 SE 5th Street, Cross Plains  
(Across the Hwy. from Bi-Rite Auto)

**Lunch Specials: 11:30 am - 1 pm Daily**

**Monday:** 2 Hot Dogs & Tea \$3.00  
**Tuesday:** 1/4 lb. Hamburger or Cheeseburger & Ice Tea \$3.25  
**Wednesday:** Large Potato Soup & Ice Tea \$2.75  
**Thursday:** 1/4 lb. Hamburger or Cheeseburger & Ice Tea \$3.25  
**Friday:** 1 Chili Cheese Dog & Ice Tea \$2.50

**Daily Breakfast Specials:**

2 Breakfast Burritos & Coffee \$3.75  
**Mon. - Fri. 6 am - 2 pm**  
**Sat. - 10 am - 3pm**

Call Ahead and Pick It Up!

325-439-9407

tonight, heaven touches earth

After tonight  
life will never be the same  
after tonight  
love will be refined  
after tonight we will partake of the miracles  
for tonight, heaven touches earth

RANDY VADER JAY ROUSE

The First Family Welcomes you to join us for a Community Presentation of:

**Tonight Heaven Touches Earth**  
a dramatic Christmas Musical

Saturday, December 6th, @ 7:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION  
254-725-7629

First Baptist Church  
301 N. Main  
Cross Plains



WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE OUR CROSS PLAINS, COTTONWOOD & SCRANTON MEMBERS  
WE ARE HERE TO MEET YOUR NEEDS  
Phone: 877-TEC-1939

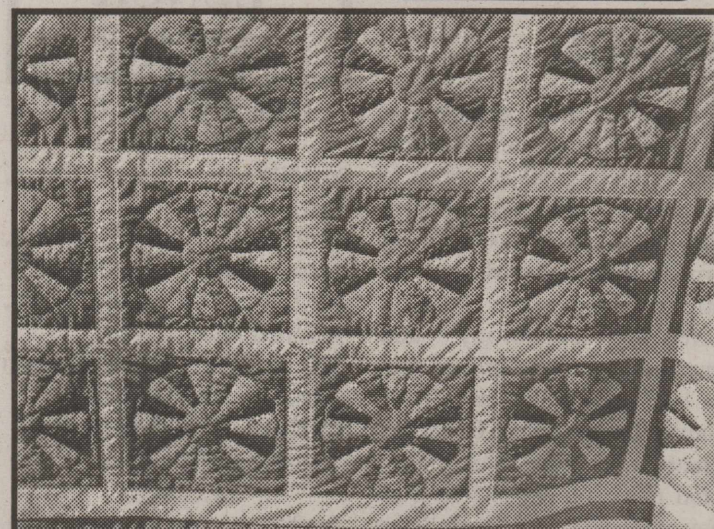
HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!  
CVFC TICKETS ARE GREAT  
FOR GIFT GIVING!

Look for all the items  
on the internet at  
[www.cottonwoodtexas.com](http://www.cottonwoodtexas.com)

Buy Your Tickets for Great Savings after the Holidays:

- \* 2 Gift Certificates- Dinner for 4- *Jean's Feedbarn*
- \* 4- each Gift Certificates \$50- *Lawrence Farm & Ranch Supply*
- \* 10 haircuts- *Ray's Barber Shop*
- \* Set of 4 Trailer Tires- *T&K Tire Alignment*
- \* 1 Month Free Tanning- *The Movie Store*
- \* 1 1/2 HP Well Pump w/ Control Box- *Jimmy Wilson Well Service*
- \* 1 each-5 Oil & Filter Changes- *Blessed Automotive*
- \* 3 Discount Coupon, 1 each \$50 off Income Tax Preparation- *Susan Schaefer CPA*
- \* Dinner for 3- *Catfish Corner*
- \* \$50 Gift Certificates for Village Market- *Joe Terstegge*
- \* 5 Haircuts- *Snippits*
- \* Dinner for 4- *Mexico City Cafe*
- \* Controller for Deer Feeder- *J&L Sales Quality Hunting Products*
- \* \$200.00 off Body Work- *Strength's Mechanic Shop*
- \* Quality Hair Products- *Connie's Cuts & Curls*

The drawing is to raise money for a new building to house our tanker/fire truck.



HANDMADE DRESDEN PLATE QUILT—that will be given away in the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group's Benefit Drawing, a fund-raiser to help build a new building to house the Brush Fire Truck. The quilt was donated by Mary Ella Weaver. The quilt and the other prizes in the drawing can be viewed online at [CottonwoodTexas.com](http://CottonwoodTexas.com). Tickets can be purchased at Texas Heritage Bank, Lawrence Farm & Ranch Supply, or by calling 254-725-6164.

## Grand Ole Oplin Annual Christmas Ball Set for Saturday, December 13

The Grand Ole Oplin will hold its Annual Christmas Ball on Saturday, December 13th. Herman Hearn and the Yellowjackets will be providing all of your favorite dancing tunes. Our Christmas Ball will begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 10:30 p.m. Admission to our Christmas Ball will be \$6.00 per person. The Oplin Community Center will provide snacks during the band's break.

The Grand Ole Oplin is sponsored by the Oplin Community Center and is

located at the intersection of F.M. 604 So. and F.M. 2926. All of our functions are alcohol and smoke free. For further information about the Grand Ole Oplin Dances please go to our website at [grandoleoplin.com](http://grandoleoplin.com)

So get into the Christmas spirit, dig your fancy duds out of the closet (preferably red) and come on out to the Grand Ole Oplin's Annual Christmas Ball for an evening of good friends, good music and lots of dancing.

Submitted by: Pam Rumfield

PUBLIC FAX (254) 725-7225

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## BREAKTHRU

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



Romans 15:25-26 "At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem in a ministry to the saints; for Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share their resources with the poor among the saints at Jerusalem."

Once in Jerusalem Paul distributed this money to the ones in need. Sharing resources with the poor is a noble act of kindness and generosity. Paul told the Ephesian church to "labor and work honestly" so they could have something to share with the needy (Ephesians 4:28). Let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith (Galatians 6:10). Jesus taught us "give and it will be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap" (Luke 6:38).

We are entering the season of the year that many of us are very generous in helping those in need. What a blessing that we are able to do so. Jesus said "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

I would like to encourage you to come and share in Bible study and worship this Sunday.

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



**HIGH SCHOOL TEAM**— Nathan Creamer (from left), Cody Self, Doug Bowden, Tawni Nichols and James Sullivan



**JUNIOR HIGH TEAM**— DJ Horito (from left), Riley Lawrence, Preston Posuk, Justin Willis, Josh Branch

## CP Places 3rd in Techstorm- Lego NXT Robot Competition

Mrs. O' Briant and Mrs. Webb attended a workshop at TSTC Sweetwater October 8th where they received the rules and a NXT robot. The meeting was attended by 17 other schools that would be competing in an NXT robotics contest November 18th. The students had just over 5 weeks to prepare for the competition which involved designing their robot and programming it. They competed against a total of 18 teams which included teams from Cooper High School, Graham, and Sweetwater.

Cross Plains High School took home 3rd place in Speed Racing at their first robotics Competition, November 18th. The contest titles "2008 Techstorm- Lego NXT Robot Competition" was a TSTC Sweetwater!! Cross Plains sent a Junior High and High School Team, sponsors were Kim O' Briant, Junior High Math teacher, and Dianna Webb, High School Technology teacher.

The program is designed to inspire students to pursue careers in engineering, science, technology, and math through participations in a sports-like science- and engineering-based robotics competition. The Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative will build on state and local efforts to improve math and science achievement among Texas students. The Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative will pilot innovative ways of delivering science, engineering, and math education and will focus on increasing the number of students who study and enter science, technology, engineering and math careers.

Governor Rick Perry has made economic development, especially growth in high-tech fields and the innovation economy, one of the key focuses of his administration. While economic development efforts

have become more dependent on workers with greater scientific and technological expertise, a number of reports have revealed that our education system is not producing enough graduates with strong backgrounds in math, science, technology and engineering to sustain job growth in these key businesses of the future. To ensure that Texas will continue to grow its economy, land more job expansions than any other state, and remain at the forefront in the battle for 21st century jobs, Texas is launching a bold and forward-thinking education program- the Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Initiative. Cross Plains is staying on the cutting edge encouraging our students to participate in this initiative.

For more information please visit the following site: [http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ed\\_init/thsp/tstem/index/html](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ed_init/thsp/tstem/index/html)

### Semester Exam Schedule

**December 17th**  
 1st Period 8:00-9:50  
 BREAK 9:50-10:00  
 3rd Period 10:00-11:50  
 LUNCH 11:55-12:30  
 7th Period 12:35-2:25

• Buses will run at 2:30

**December 18th**  
 2nd Period 8:00-9:50  
 BREAK 9:50-10:00  
 4th Period 10:00-11:50  
 LUNCH 11:55-12:30  
 6th Period 12:35-2:25

• Buses will run at 2:30

**December 19th**  
 5th Period 8:00-9:45  
 8th Period 9:50-11:35  
 LUNCH 11:35-12:00

• Buses will run @ 12:10

### Correction on Cross Plains I.S.D. School Board Meeting

It was inadvertently reported in the *Cross Plains Review* that Wanda Merryman spoke during the open forum during the November 20, 2008 Cross Plains I.S.D. School Board meeting, when in fact it was Jane Holmes.

### SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

#### DECEMBER 8-12 BREAKFAST

**MONDAY** - Biscuit, Eggs, Assorted Juice  
**TUESDAY** - French Toast Stick, Sausage Link, Assorted Juice  
**WEDNESDAY** - Muffin, Yogurt, Assorted Juice  
**THURSDAY** - Cereal, Graham Crackers, Assorted Juice  
**FRIDAY** - Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

#### LUNCH

**MONDAY** - Pizza, Salad, Corn, Rosy-applesauce  
**TUESDAY** - Sloppy Joe on Bun, Baked Fries, Pickle Spears, Peaches  
**WEDNESDAY** - Fiesta Salad: Chili Beans, Cheese, Corn Chips, Salad, Rice, Pineapples  
**THURSDAY** - Turkey & Dressing w/ Gravy, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Roll, Fruit Cup  
**FRIDAY** - Submarine Sandwich, Salad, Pickle Spears, Baked Chips, Ice Cream

## Kids' Health Briefs

**How is your child wired?**  
**MADISON, WI**- Telling your very anxious child to "calm down" probably won't work, says a psychiatrist at University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. New research in adolescent monkeys shows that the brains of those suffering from anxiety and severe shyness in social settings consistently respond more strongly to stress and show signs of anxiety even in situations others find safe.

Dr. Ned Kalin, chair of the UW psychiatry department, says the brain machinery underlying the stress response seems to be always "on" in these individuals.

A 2008 study published in Public Library of Science (PLoS One) looked at brain activity, anxious behavior and stress hormones in the monkeys (often used as a research model for human children). Those with the most anxious temperaments showed higher activity in the amygdala, the brain structure that regulates emotion and triggers reaction to anxiety.

"Severely shy or anxious children are not likely to just 'grow out of it' without help," says Kalin. "Having an anxious temperament at a young age is a predictor of the later risk to develop anxiety, depression and drug abuse related to self-medication."

**Picky your food battles**  
 A picky eater can cause a lot of anxiety around the family dinner table. But a registered dietitian with American Family Children's Hospital says forcing a child to eat is a great recipe for a power struggle between parent and child.

"In a meal situation," says Amy Podmolik, "children will always win. The more parents try to take control, the more combative it will become."

Podmolik, herself the mother of five, says most young children are pretty good at regulating their food intake.

"Until the age of three, children have a perfect sense of how many calories they need," she explains. "If a child eats 100 calories in a snack before a meal, he'll eat 100 calories less at the next meal." As children grow, parents need to establish more structure around food. Ideally, that will help children develop healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

Key strategies include having regular family meals; eliminating "free-range grazing" in favor of sit-down snacks; giving kids time to appreciate new foods; and respecting that children's eating habits are different from those of adults.

#### Counting on Colds

Parents can expect their preschoolers to come down with six to 10 colds between December and April, says Dr. Theresa Guilbert, associate professor of pediatrics at University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. For most kids, that's good news - early colds may help strengthen the immune system.

But for youngsters with a family history of allergies and asthma, exposure to the common-cold viruses may lead to wheezing and severe coughing - which in turn indicate that the child is more likely to develop asthma in later life.

Guilbert is researching the links between colds and asthma to see if there is a causal relationship. Until the link is clarified, Guilbert says, parents of high-risk children may choose to keep susceptible kids away from potential contacts that may be infected. Otherwise, since the viruses are transmitted through the air or in droplets, the standard precautions - hand-washing, covering mouths, and cleaning surfaces - apply.



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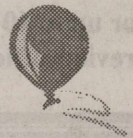


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| <b>DECEMBER 7</b><br>Mamie Webb<br>Imo Jean Clark<br>Mrs. Anne Burris<br>Michael Dean Wilson<br>Roy Richey<br>Estaline Gilmore<br>Allan Clark<br>Glen Lawrence<br>Mimmie Reynolds<br>Lovey Nichols<br>Christopher Michael Wheeler<br>Ann Marshal Burns<br>Frankie Hyles | <b>DECEMBER 10</b><br>Kelli Sue Bennett<br>Jimmy McCowen<br>Debbie Edington<br>Jessie (Foster) Raben<br>Jimmy Gilmore<br>Joe Dean Nunn<br>Mickie (Archer) Holmans<br>Wayne Newton<br>Sheri Lyn Bassett<br>Dustin Meiron             |
| <b>DECEMBER 8</b><br>Johnny Glenn Clay II<br>Judy (Gibbs) Steele<br>Neva Joyce Dillard<br>L.L. Morgan<br>Mrs. Perry Jennings<br>Elmer Casey<br>Garrett Stephens<br>Juanita Smith  | <b>DECEMBER 11</b><br>Tommy Cavanaugh Waggoner<br>Jill (Richardson) Betts<br>Pee Wee Pickett<br>Stuary Sowell<br>Peggy Purvis<br>Andrew Mark Young<br>Kay Horan<br>Noah Sealy Johnson<br>Shirley (Freeman) Bassett<br>Tammy Wolford |
| <b>DECEMBER 9</b><br>Bill Gunn  | <b>DECEMBER 12</b><br>Steve Franke<br>Mrs. Vernon Falkner<br>Reggie Pillans<br>Michael Allen Johnson  |

## Callahan County to host 3 hour CEU 'Night Course' December 15th

Many producers that have a pesticide license have a hard time attending daytime educational programs that offer CEU's (Continuing Education Unit) for re-certification of their license. Therefore, a special three (3) hour pesticide re-certification night course for Texas Department of Agriculture applicator license holders is set for December 15th in the Callahan County Extension Office located on the 2nd floor of the County Courthouse. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the program starts at 6:00 p.m. Texas Department of Agriculture has approved the program for 1 Hour in Laws and Regulation, 1 Hour in Integrated Pest Management, and 1 Hour of General. These hours will apply to Commercial, Non-commercial, and Private Applicators' license holders.

The program will begin with Laws and Regulations presentation followed by Integrated Pest Management presentation discussing alternative approaches available when using pesticides. The night course will conclude after a 1 hour general presentation at 9:00 p.m. CEU certificates will be awarded at the conclusion of the program.

Cost for the training is \$5.00. To register or for more information, contact the Callahan County Extension Office at (325) 854-5835. Submitted by: Hoss Sasin, County Extension Agent

## Cross Plains' 2008 retail sales are over 1 percent higher than 2007

The City of Cross Plains' one percent city sales tax payments in 2008 are running just over one percent higher than 2007 sales tax payments, according to the Texas State Comptroller's office.

Texas State Comptroller Susan Combs reported the city's sales tax payment on Friday, November 14th.

Cross Plains' 2008 sales tax payments for the year totalled \$167,852.66, which is 1.59 percent higher than the \$165,216.49 in sales tax rebate payments collected in 2007.

The payment to the city for November 2008 was \$18,534.54, which is 10.12 percent higher than the \$16,830.50 payment made in November 2007.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs says the state collected \$1.73 billion in sales tax revenue in October, up 5.2 percent compared to October 2007.

"Sales tax collections grew in the first two months of fiscal 2009, however, at slower rates than generally seen over the past three years," Combs said. "Collections have continued to increase overall, but remittances from the key retail trade sector have begun to decline slightly as consumers grow increasingly cautious and confidence erodes."

Today, Combs distributed \$548.3 million in November sales tax rebates to cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts. Local sales tax allocations are up 4.4 percent compared to November 2007.

Combs sent Texas cities \$373.8 million in sales tax allocations, up 4 percent compared to November 2007. So far this calendar year, city sales tax allocations are up 5.2 percent compared to the same time period last year. Texas counties received November sales tax allocations of \$33 million, up 8.7 percent compared to one year ago. For the calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are running 7.6 percent ahead of 2007.

The 137 special purpose taxing districts around the state received \$20.5 million in sales tax, up 23.4 percent compared to last November. Ten local transit systems received \$120.9 million in November sales tax rebates, up 1.7 percent compared to a year ago.

October state sales tax collections and November sales tax allocations to local governments represent September sales reported to the Comptroller in October by monthly tax filers and July, August and September sales reported to the Comptroller in October by quarterly tax filers.

For details of November sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web site at

CROSS PLAINS SALES TAX PAYMENTS		
Total yearly sales tax payments	2007	2008
	\$165,216.49	\$167,852.66
Total monthly sales tax payments	2007	2008
	\$16,830.50	\$18,534.54

www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html.

Comptroller Combs would also like to remind local governments help is available if they suffered a loss of sales tax revenue due to business disruption caused by Hurricane Ike. Local governments in the 29 counties declared FEMA disaster areas can, upon request, receive an advance local sales tax allocation in November and December if their allocation declined from November and December of 2007. The difference would be made up by the advance allocation in those two months. Taxing entities that choose to accept the offer will have to make repayment during 2009. Of the 241 local taxing jurisdictions in the FEMA disaster areas, 120 had lower sales tax allocations this month compared to November 2007.

The Comptroller's next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, Dec. 12th.

Other Callahan County towns reporting sales tax payments include:

—The City of Baird reported that sales tax payments in 2008 started the year 5.43 percent higher than the 2007 payments. The city has received \$97,259.54 in 2008, while the 2007 tax payments to the city totalled \$92,245.15.

Baird's monthly payment for November 2008 was \$10,274.63, which is 1.37 percent higher than the \$10,135.65 payment made in November 2007.

—The 2008 sales tax payments in the City of Clyde are 7.40 percent higher than the payments made to the city in 2007. The sales tax rebates for the City of Clyde have amounted to \$457,760.44 in 2008. The 2007 payments to the city during the same payment period were \$426,183.35.

The City of Clyde's monthly payment for November 2008 was \$70,528.03, which was 47.27 percent higher than the \$47,889.75 payment made in November 2007.

—The City of Putnam reported the 2008 payments to the town totalled \$13,326.43, up 2.53 percent from the 2007 payments to the city in the amount of \$12,996.63.

Putnam's tax payment for the

month of November 2008 was \$1,144.81, which was 7.89 percent lower than the \$1,242.88 payment made in November 2007.

Countywide, sales tax payments for 2008 in Callahan County are up 5.67 percent ahead of the 2007 payments in the county. Callahan County towns received sales tax payments in 2008 amounting to \$736,199.07 while the 2007 payments to the county towns totalled \$696,641.62.

The tax rebate in Callahan County for the month of November 2008 was \$100,482.01, which is 32.04 percent higher than the \$76,098.78 sales tax payments made in November 2007.

Merchants collect the state and local sales tax and send it to the Comptroller's office with their tax returns. The state keeps its 6 1/4 percent share and returns the local one percent sales tax each month to the local governments. Cities and counties may levy a combined tax of up to two percent above the state's sales tax.

Clyde businesses collect 2.00 percent including one percent for the City of Clyde, one-half of one percent for the Clyde Economic Development Corporation and one half of one percent to reduce property taxes (Proceeds to benefit the Clyde Volunteer Fire Department.)

Cross Plains collects 1.75 percent in local sales taxes, of which 1.00 percent is allocated to the city and 0.75 percent is allocated for economic development in the town.

Baird collects 1.50 percent in local sales tax of which 1.00 percent is allocated to the city and 0.50 percent is allocated to the community's economic development corporation.

Putnam collects 1.00 percent in local sales tax of which all 1.00 percent is allocated to the city.

All local sales taxes must be approved by local voters and may be used for any legal city or county expenses. Most areas put the money in their General Fund and use it for normal operations like fire fighting, maintaining roads and law enforcement, the Comptroller said. Some cities use up to an additional one percent city sales tax to help fund local economic development and to reduce property taxes.

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

## Rolling Oaks Golf NEWS

Things are really busy at the golf course. Everyone is trying to take advantage of the pretty days left in winter. We have a 4-Man Scramble scheduled for Saturday, December 6, at 10 a.m. The cost is \$200.00 per team with carts or \$175.00 without carts. Cash prizes will be awarded and we will be having door prizes given out at the end of the scramble. Call 254-643-4563 to sign up early as we are limiting it to 18 teams.

Rolling Oaks was closed on Thanksgiving. The course was open to members, but the pro shop was closed.

Something else we are really excited about is Kobey Morris has agreed to give golf lessons beginning on December 3 at 1:00 p.m. Kobey and Corey have given lessons previously and they were a big success. Cost of the lessons will be \$20 per hour and he will help you with your short, mid and long games each week. Call and sign up soon, as he will be limiting his class to 10 golfers.

Also we will be having our monthly 2-man scramble on December 13th at 1:00 p.m. We will scramble 18 holes and the cost is \$14.00 and closest to the pin will run you \$4.00. Carts are \$7.50 if you are a member and green fees and cart will run \$25.00 for non-members.

## November is Diabetes Awareness Month

Patients with Diabetes Urged to See Physicians Regularly (to Detect Kidney Disease Early)

Austin, TX— Last year, 1.6 million people learned they had diabetes, a chronic illness that requires careful daily oversight to maintain health and quality of life. As these 1.6 million people learn to manage their diabetes, they also should be aware of illnesses related to diabetes, particularly kidney disease. During Diabetes Awareness Month, TMF Health Quality Institute urges all patients with diabetes to take charge of their health and visit their doctor for annual screenings for kidney disease.

People living with diabetes are encouraged to take control of their health and schedule a doctor's appointment to check their kidney function. For more information on diabetes self-management and necessary preventive screenings for chronic kidney disease, visit [www.kidneyhealth.tmf.org](http://www.kidneyhealth.tmf.org).

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**NEW LISTING--25/A** water well, Oaks, Pecan, Live Oak trees, good grass, secluded, good fences, hunting, older mobile home, great location on county road, beautiful home sites! **ONLY \$75,900. WON'T LAST LONG!**

\* 34.7/A, 7 miles NE of Cross Plains, paved frontage, rural water and water well, beautiful home sites, great location, large Oak, Live Oak, Peach, Pear trees, perfect for a small farm or recreational place. \$104,100.

\* 35.55/A western Callahan County, good small farm, excellent home sites, fenced, close to schools, 15 miles from Abilene, excellent dove hunting, new survey, can divide into 11.85/A tracts with water meter. \$3,000/A

\* 338/A on the lake. Excellent views, excellent hunting, 1 pond, rolling terrain, large oaks, good fences, approx. 12,000 ft of shoreline at Cisco Lake, Eastland County. Hunters, this is the place to be! **\$3,900,000.**

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\*--Approx. 39/A with 6BD/5Bth 3,914 sq.ft. frame home; 1,900 sq.ft. carport, metal shop bldg, barns, pens, outbuildings, good wter well, Live Oak trees, good location. **ONLY \$250,000 MAKE AN OFFER!**

\* 71.4992/A in Eastland County, 7 miles NE of Cross Plains, paved frontage, old farm house, very nice farm and ranch place, or recreational, large Oak, Live Oak, Peach, Pear, Apple, Mesquite trees, good grasses, water well and rural water, good home sites. \$214,497.

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98.5 Ac.- Nice small ranch, great home sites, 2 excellent water wells, oaks, electricity, pecan trees	186,658
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110 Ac.- Great combination for hunting, fishing, and cattle, mesquite, oak, pecan, sandy soil	287,500
124 Ac.- Secluded along Clear-fork of Brazos, thick live oak, post oak, shinnery for hunting	297,882
136 Ac.-2 tanks, 2 water wells, barn, 100 ac coastal field, fertile soil, fenced, cross fenced	340,975
148 Ac.-Excellent hunting, beautiful hill for home site. within 30 min. of Abilene - Jones county	296,000
160 Ac.-Cultivation, trees, brush, & 1 tank, great for deer, quail, and turkey hunting	192,000
208 Ac.- Great hunting on Clear-fork of Brazos, huge oak, pecan & elm, 3 small fields	543,504
220 Ac.-Mesquite, oak, hackberry for wildlife, 4 irrigation wells, Klein grass, coastal for livestock	264,000
237 Ac.-Rolling with coastal, oak, & pecan, 18 ac & 3 ac lakes, 40 ac brush, 68 ac under pivot	711,522
249 Ac.-Well stocked ponds & plenty of deer, beautiful 6yr old home, hunter's cabin <b>REDUCED</b>	649,000
324.94 Ac.- South of Santa Anna, Very nice game ranch, bunk house, large stocked pond	1,400,000
331 Ac. - Scenic hills, lots of Liveoak, Post Oak, and Native Pasture. Abundant wildlife, near I-20	759,645
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497 Ac.- River front, fertile valley, scenic hill, lots of trees, plenty of deer, & wild turkey- <b>WILL DIVIDE</b>	1,300,000
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## Santa at the Bank 2008 Begins Collecting Gifts for Children

Come enjoy the season of giving with "Santa at the Bank" this Christmas. There will be a Christmas tree in the Texas Heritage Bank with ornaments telling the gender and ages of children throughout the Cross Plains area.

You may stop by the bank and choose an ornament with a child's information. Please return your gifts to the bank by Friday, December 12, 2008. The gifts will be wrapped and delivered by the Key Club and the American Legion the next week. Also, this year the Teen Leadership Class will be collecting toys for the Santa at the Bank.

A reasonable price to spend on the gift is \$20-\$25. If you wish to give money, we will buy the gift for you.

Some ideas include: cosmetics, hair accessories, perfume, sweat-

ers, hats, gloves and purses for older girls, and video games, sports related items, sweaters and hats for the older boys. Younger girls might enjoy dolls, sweaters, jewelry, purses, backpacks, or stuffed animals, while the younger boys might like Legos, trucks, cars, action figures, etc.

Christmas is a time for giving and kindness, so please help us make Christmas brighter for the children of our community this year. If you know of any children in need, please call Pat Stephens with your information—home 725-6819 or school 725-6123.

Also Dollar General has a box in the front of their store for donations to the Santa at the Bank tree.

Thank you so much for helping the children of our community.

Submitted by Pat Stephens

## Tick Problems

Area cattlemen are at risk if a tiny tick in South Texas cannot be contained by quarantine efforts, said Sam Snyder, president of the Callahan-Shackelford County Farm Bureau.

Snyder said the Texas Farm Bureau Resolutions Committee met recently in Waco and suggested a number of policy changes that relate to control of the fever tick, which carries a disease potentially fatal to cattle. That policy will be debated and voted on at the upcoming Texas Farm Bureau annual meeting in Corpus Christi Dec. 6th through 8th.

"State animal health officials and cattlemen are worried about how far the fever tick will spread," Snyder said. "We need to control the fever tick in its present area."

Snyder said the fever tick quarantine along the U.S. / Mexico border was recently expanded. He suggested the U.S. attempt to move that buffer zone across the river into Mexico. He also hoped Mexico would help control the pest.

"The fever tick poses a real threat not only to Texas, but the U.S. cattle industry as well," Snyder said. "We need to step up control efforts."

## NEW Farm Legislation a Concern to Local Farmers

Serious concerns over the risk management aspects of the new farm legislation have arisen among local producers, said Sam Snyder, president of the Callahan-Shackelford County Farm Bureau.

"Flood, drought, you name it, Texas farmers experienced it this year," Snyder said. "These extreme weather conditions have exposed flaws in the risk management aspects of new farm legislation."

Snyder said the amount of production costs have also skyrocketed this year, increasing farmers' risk.

"Farmers have very deep concerns about being able to protect ourselves from disaster," he said.

Snyder said it is too early to tell if changes are needed in the commodity portions of the new farm bill passed earlier this year by Congress. Regulations to implement that legislation are currently being written and will accelerate as the Obama administration takes office in January.

"As regulations are written for those commodities, there will be issues that probably need to be addressed in the future," Snyder said. "This is a very complicated problem."

Regardless, all Americans should be interested in farm policy, Snyder said.

"The farm bill presents a safety net for farmers in bad times," Snyder said. "The legislation provides food security for our nation and ensures a safe, reliable and abundant food source for all Americans."

## Trans-Texas Corridor Update

As gears start grinding in preparation for the upcoming legislative session in Austin, good news has surfaced for rural Texans as it relates to the Trans-Texas Corridor (TTC).

Callahan-Shackelford County Farm Bureau President said Trans-Texas Corridor citizens' advisory committee appointed to advise the Texas Transportation Commission on future transportation needs agrees with Texas Farm Bureau that the TTC needs to go back to the drawing board.

A report issued November 12th called a citizens' report on the current and future needs of the I-35 Corridor stated the committee does not support the TTC concept. It recommended a more inclusive solution that respects local communities and private property rights while addressing statewide and local transportation needs.

"Rural Texans don't question the need to address the transportation needs of a growing state," Snyder said. "Any solution, however, must minimize the impact of the proposed project on rural Texas and must respect the rights of private property owners."

The report specifically recommended that the Texas Department of Transportation coordinated with Texas Farm Bureau and other agricultural groups on how to minimize the impacts on the farming and ranching community, as well as improve safety.

The report also recommended that farmers and ranchers, whose land will be divided by a transportation project, be consulted early when determining placement and cost of agriculture crossings to ensure adequate spacing and minimum inconvenience.

"Most important, the committee acknowledged that every effort should be made to minimize the impact of future transportation projects to private property owners," Snyder said. "That is something Farm Bureau has advocated from the beginning."

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## Mabel Ross Celebrates 82nd Birthday

Mabel Ross of San Antonio was honored on Saturday, November 29th, with a party celebrating her 82nd birthday at the Regent Care Center where she resides.

Cake and refreshments were enjoyed by 26 family members

who gathered to spend the Thanksgiving holidays.

Charlie, Beverly, James and Karen Ross of Cross Plains attended and helped host the event.

## Texas Employers Add 23,000 Jobs in October Texas Unemployment Rate Rises to 5.6 Percent

AUSTIN, Texas—Seasonally adjusted nonagricultural employment grew by 23,000 jobs in October. Texas employers now have added 230,400 jobs in the past 12 months, for an annual job growth rate of 2.2 percent. The United States recorded 1.1 million job losses during the same period.

Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 5.6 percent in October, up from 5.1 percent in September and 4.3 percent in October 2007. The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate climbed to 6.5 percent in October, up from 6.1 percent in September and 4.8 percent a year ago.

"The combination of Hurricane Ike and adverse national economic trends has resulted in a one-half percent increase in the unemployment rate in Texas for October," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. "While Texas still has nearly a one percent lower unemployment rate than the rate of the nation, I would expect unemployment rates in Texas to continue to track the national trend upward in the months ahead."

The increase in the number of unemployed (not seasonally adjusted) in the Houston and Beaumont Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), which were impacted by Hurricane Ike, represents nearly half of the increase in the unemployed reported statewide. The Midland MSA experienced the

lowest unemployment rate in the state at 3.1 percent (not seasonally adjusted). The Odessa MSA was second at 3.7 percent, followed by the Amarillo and Lubbock MSAs at 3.9 percent.

Professional and Business Services gained 12,200 positions in October, for an industry gain of 62,000 jobs in the past year. Education and Health Services grew by 3,700 jobs this month, adding 34,700 jobs in the past 12 months.

"Texas is in a better position than most other states with continued positive job growth," said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. "However, we must remain diligent throughout our state, strategically connecting workers to job opportunities."

Trade, Transportation and Utilities employment increased by 2,700 jobs in October, with 34,300 positions added over the year. Natural Resources and Mining gained 1,600 jobs this month, with 16,500 jobs added since October 2007.

"The Texas unemployment rate rose again this month, but remains far below the national unemployment rate," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "Through TWC and the 28 local workforce development boards, job search assistance and training are available to Texas workers."

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99 Taurus, V6, Looks, Runs very good (Red).....	\$3,350
91 Pontiac Sunbird, 4cyl, 5spd, Looks, Runs good (Red).....	\$1,575
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94 Ford Probe, 4 Cyl, Automatic, Cold Air, Runs Drives Good (Silver).....	\$1,850
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95 F350 Power Stroke, 5spd, Dually, Flat bed, Looks, Runs good.....	\$4,500
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## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Joan McCowen has contributed greatly to the success of many organizations in Cross Plains, and

WHEREAS, she was instrumental in organizing and maintaining the Cross Plains Public Library, and

WHEREAS, she served faithfully on the Board of Directors for 29 years;

WHEREAS, she helped organize Project Pride and served on the Board of Directors for 22 years,

WHEREAS, she helped initiate the Robert E. Howard Days of celebration.

WHEREAS, Cross Plains is a better community because of Joan McCowen.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Ray Purvis, Mayor of Cross Plains, Texas do hereby proclaim Saturday, December 6, 2008 as

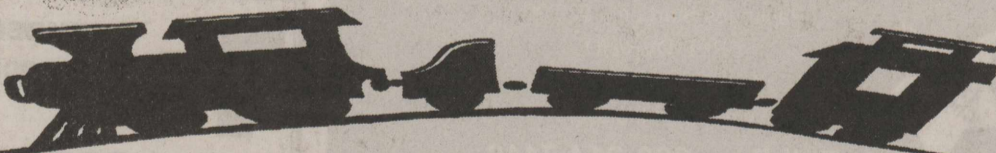
## JOAN McCOWEN DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand, and caused the seal of the City of Cross Plains, Texas to be affixed this day November 25, 2008

Debbie Gosnell  
Debbie Gosnell, City Administrator

Ray Purvis  
Ray Purvis, Mayor

## WHISTLE STOP CAFE



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TUESDAY—GRILLED CHICKEN OR CHICKEN STRIPS, MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY, GREEN BEANS, SALAD, TOAST, DESSERT...\$5.50

WEDNESDAY—HAMBURGER STEAK, BROWN GRAVY W/ MUSHROOMS & ONIONS, MASHED POTATOES, CORN, SALAD, TOAST, DESSERT...\$5.50

NEXT THURSDAY—CHILI, PINTO BEANS, CORNBREAD, SALAD, DESSERT...\$5.50 Drink not included in Lunch Special Prices.

SERVING BREAKFAST & LUNCH MONDAY-FRIDAY

854-1325

228 MARKET STREET BAIRD, TEXAS 79504

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