Cross Plan

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"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution" Keys to Our Past, Present

Volume 107 • Number 42 116 S. E. 1st St. • P. O. Box 519 • Cross Plains, Tx. 76443

"A Caring Community" & Future Hinge on the Cross!

December 24, 2015 • 20 Pages (254) 725-6111 • crossplainsreview@earthlink.net

SANTA INSIDE

*** See Santa Letters Inside ***

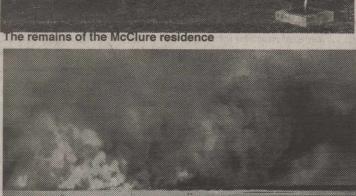


The First United Methodist Church, December 27, 2005





th the firefighters stretched thin, a DPS officer and citizens man a hose to combat the flames



Covering the horizon, the fire storm burns wildly.

Remember: December 27, 2005 Time to

On December 27, 2005, the history of Cross Plains, Texas was forever changed as a wall of smoke and fire descended on the small rural town in central Texas. It was about 12:47 P.M. when then fire chief, Bob Harrell received a call of a grass fire in progress located in a ditch west of Cross Plains on Highway With sustained winds of more than 30 mph it was less than 15 minutes before Chief Harrell sent out a desperate call for mutual aide to surrounding community fire departments. Twenty-nine units from the surrounding area arrived on the scene of a full blown fire storm.

The heat and winds that were created by that storm will live on in the memories of all who stood to fight or fled for their lives. Cross Plains lost the lives of two citizens, Ms. Mattie Faye Wilson and Ms. Maudie Shepard, close to 120 homes and more than 7500 acres on that day ten years ago.

Learn English while you complete your GED

GED and English as a Second, Language classes will be starting soon. Classes are currently offered in: Abilene, Albany, Ballinger, Breckenridge, Brownwood, Cisco, Coleman, Colorado City, Cross Plains, De Leon, Early, Hamlin, Snyder, Stamford, and Sweetwater.

Please call 325-671-4419 for more information. Classes are free and sponsered by the Abilene Independent School District.

That small roadside fire exploded to life and aggressively attacked a community still celebrating the Christmas holiday. As the fire burned and consumed more land and homes, it grew stronger feeding itself and creating a micro weather system with ever increasing winds and tornadoes of fire, reigning debris and chaos over the town. Homes literally exploded as fiery whirlwinds sucked the life giving oxygen from their rooms. Firefighters fought to keep their helmets on as wind blew the 20 pound helmets hither and yon. Hoses and nozzles melted and had to be replaced during the firefight. Citizen's who didn't flee towards the outskirts of town gathered hoses and began to fill in the gaps between firefighters as explosions and windblown debris kick started even more fires. The town burned, and burned and burned. People of all walks of life picked up hoses

to battle a monster.

As the embers died down and the ashes swirled to a standstill, Cross Plains came together stronger then ever. As Don Tabor wrote in his article "A Perfect Storm", "They temper metal with heat to make the strongest steel. There is some very strong steel in Cross Plains." The First United Methodist Church lost it's sanctuary, offices and parsonage all in one day, but held Sunday service in the parking lot as their building crumbled behind them. In the remains, they found the baby Jesus from the Nativity, unharmed. Even among the ashes, God was present.

The closing hymn sung on that cold January parking lot was a testament to the kind of people living in Cross Plains then and now. As we come together this Christmas and remember how lives were changed ten years can touch us all deeply. **Hymn of Promise**

"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 wants to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a 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

May we all be safe this season and may we count our blessings

ago, the words of this song still MERRY CHRISTMAS Cross Plains Review Our Office will be closed Dec. 24th & 25th

Clyde woman among three killed in 2-vehicle accident near Santa Anna

three killed in a two-vehicle accident in Coleman County on Saturday, December 19th.

The crash happened at 7:13 p.m. Saturday, December 19th belts. located on US 283, 9.3 miles south of Santa Anna.

Killed in the accident was Olga Cisneros Gutierrez. female, 54, of Abilene. She was pronounced dead at the scene by Judge Nance Campbell. The body was taken to Stevens

Critically injuried was Adela Campos Morris, female, 53, of Clyde, who was transported to Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene. She later died at Hedrick Medical Center.

Also killed was Javier Michael Garcia, male, 50, of Brady, who was also pronounced dead at

A Clyde woman was among the scene by Judge Campbell and the body was taken to Stevens Funeral Home in Coleman.

All three were wearing seat

According to the Department of Public Safety, Gutierrez was driving a 2008 Volkswagen Tuareg northbound on US 283 with Morris as a passenger.

Garcia was traveling southbound on US 283 in a 2005 Nissan Altima.

The Gutierrez vehic the wrong side of the roadway and struck the vehicle driven by Garcia head on. The crash is under investigation by Trooper Tyler Moses, Coleman DPS.

The speed limit on the roadway was 75 MPH, and the weather was clear/cloudy and road conditions were dry.

Christmas **Eve Service** at Methodist Church

By Christmas Eve, the details have all been nailed down for family gatherings on Christmas Day and it's time to slow down and ponder the reality of that first Christmas so long ago. As the Christian world prepares to celebrate the birth of our Savior, the Methodist Church warmly invites the community to its traditional candlelight service.

Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, the congregation will share in the anticipation of God's greatest gift to mankind - His Son, Jesus Christ.

Following the story of Christ's holy birth through scripture readings and music, everybody will be invited to share the Lord's Table where Communion will be offered to all who believe in this miracle. We welcome Jesus into our hearts as a reminder of God's love for us and share that gift with others as a token of our love for God.

The community is invited to share in this special time of worship in the Sanctuary made beautiful by poinsettias donated by members of the church. What a meaningful way to move into the real meaning of Christmas!





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Gregg Steinle, Youth Pastor Bible Teaching Friendly Church Church (254) 725-6266

Triple Cross Cowboy Church

Every Sunday at 10:30 am Services held at 18071 CR 421, Cross Plains (1/2 mile North of Cross Plains city limits on Hwy 206)



Al Taylor, Preacher Phone: 254-725-7522 Cell Phone: 325-370-6680

Music Director:

Pioneer Baptist Church

Pastor: **Barbara Jo Medley Dwaine Clowers** Sunday School......10:00am Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00am Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00pm

Wednesday Prayer Service.....6:00pm

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

First Baptist Church

Sunday Evening Sunday Morning 6:30 p.m. 10:45 a.m. **Sunday School** 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening

6:30 pm Evening worship 6:30 p.m. Bible Drill - 1st-6th 6:30 p.m. - Youth Discipleship Wednesday

6:30 p.m - Prayer/Worship Student & Children Ministies

(254) 725-7629 301 N. Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443 www.firstbaptistcp.com

CROSS PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

433 North Main Street Cross Plains, Texas 76443 **Minister: RICK AUSTIN SUNDAY:**

Morning Worship: 10:45 A.M. Bible Class: 9:45 A.M. **Evening Worship: 5:00P.M.** Wednesday: Evening: 7:00P.M. Ladies Class - Wednesday: 10:00A.M. (at the church activity center on East Hwy 36)

Office: (254-725-6117)

Cell Phone: Rick - (918) 348-6859



Cross Plains Review

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

Dec. 21st- Dec. 26th

Monday 28th Swiss Steak, Steamed Rice, Broccoli, Bread, Dessert

Tuesday 29th Burritos w/ Chili, Cheese, Lettuce and Tomato Salad, Pinto Beans, Bread, Dessert

Wednesday 30th Chicken Spaghetti, Lettuce/Tomato Salad, Hominey, Bread, Dessert

Thursday 31st Ham Black-Eye Peas, Cabbage, Cornbread, Dessert

Friday 1st Center Closed Happy New Year

> **MEAL IS SERVED -**11:45 A.M. - 12:30 P.M

Monthly Menu may be picked up at the Senior Citizen Center

Senior Citizens CenterActivities

Dec. 28th- Jan. 1st

Monday-28th Exercise 11:00 Tuesday-29th Crafts with Chris 10:00/ Exercise 11:00

Wednesday -30th Exercise 11:00

Thursday -31th New Years Eve Party 6:00pm Friday -1st (Center Closed) Happy New Year Cross Plains Senior Citizens Center

seeks to nurture our aging population through nutritional, social and educational programs our goal is for all seniors, both well and frail, to utilize our services to enrich their lives.

Financial Women in Texas comes to the Big Country

ABILENE, TX - December 16, 2015 A local group of Financial Women In Texas (FWIT) has been formed in Abilene and will begin official membership meetings in January 2016. FWIT is an association that brings together professional women in the financial services industry for the exchange of ideas, experiences and interests. The organization also serves to mentor and encourage women to choose the financial services industry and advocates and promotes improvements within the industry.

This group originally began as the National Association of Bank Women (NABW), which later changed its name to Financial Women International (FWI) to encompass more the tough decision to close their doors, but the Texas district of FWI chose to form a new state association to continue their mission. With the assistance of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas, FWIT is now in its fifth year and has eleven locations throughout Texas and a virtual group, assisting participation for members who are not located close to one of the groups. The newest addition to FWIT is the Big Country Group, with Judy Farmer, a Shareholder with Davis Kinard & Co, PC, as the

"In looking at the groups FWIT had in place, the closest one to our area was either Dallas or Lubbock," said Judy Farmer, President of Big Country FWIT.

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First United

Methodist Church

Kevin Morton, Pastor

1000 North Main Street

www.crossplainsfumc.org

Parsonage

254-725-7694

Sunday Worship

10:45 a.m.

Company of the Company of the Section of the Sectio

Office 254-725-7377

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

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services industry.

The Big Country Group is accepting new members. Membership is open to all who are either in or associated with the financial services. Benefits include networking, professional development, mentoring, areas of the financial services leadership opportunities and industry. In 2009 FWI made an annual conference with members from across the state. The Big Country group will have their first meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at Miguel's Mex Tex Café, 3001 South Danville, Abilene. The program will be "Fear-Less - Is Fear Holding You Back?" presented by Debbie Scanlon, a partner with BKD in Houston.

The Big Country Group currently plans to meet every other month, on the third Thursday. For more information on Big Country FWIT or to get on their meeting email list, please contact Judy Farmer at jfarmer@dkcpa.com or Kacy Bartlett, the Membership Chair at kbartlett@ffin.com. More information about the state organization can be found at www.fwitexas.org.

"We wanted to start a group in the Big Country area to be able to network and discuss items pertinent here. We are fortunate to have a wealth of knowledge and experience here and this group is a way to share that, learn from each other and promote West Texas. Also, with the number of local colleges and universities in our area, our hope is that a big effort of our group will be mentoring those that are new to the financial

> **Misdemeanor Minutes** Lucrecia Rose, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz. Dana Hogrell, possession of arijuana. less than 2 oz. End of term order discharing

defendants under deferred adjudication: Phillip Ormon; Derek R. Breazeale; Brandi L. Duke; Caleb J. Fairfield; Joshua Gallegos; Andrew P. Torres; Amanda J. Stephens. End of term order discharing

probation: Treva Y. Edgar, Latisha Monic Ulloa.

defendantsundermisdemeanor

Caleb Jake Fairfield, motion to dismiss motion to revoke

probation and adjudicate granted.

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Amy L. Kilough, plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 20 days in jail, \$429 court costs. Sky N. Saxon, plea of guilty

> **42nd District Court** John Weeks, presiding

to theft by check, 20 days in

jail, \$319 court costs.

Civil Minutes

Lone Star NGL Pipeline LP vs. Jan Carol Young, order of dismissal granted without prejudice.

Criminal Minutes

Lincoln E. Chaney, plea of guilty to sexual assault, 10 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$264 court costs.

Robert Garcia, plea of guilty to DWI, 4 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$459 court costs, \$180 restitution.

Local Student Receives Degree from FHU

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

First United Methodist Church of Cross Plains

Chamber of Commerce

Business Spot Light is The First

United Methodist Church of

Everyone is invited out each Friday to the Grand Ole Oplin

for an evening of good music,

good friends and a real good

time. On Friday, Dec. 25th,

Christmas Day there will be no

dance but on Thursday, Dec.

31st we hope everyone will

come out and ring in the New

Year with us. Our New Year's

Eve dance will be held from

8:00 p.m. until shortly after

midnight with admission being

\$8.00 per person. MUDDY

CREEK will be here to ring in

the New Year. There will also be

no dance on New Year's Day,

The Grand Ole Oplin is hosted

by the Oplin Community Center

and is located at the intersection

Callahan County Court

Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

intoxicated (DWI).

Charles Price, driving while

Bradley Childers, criminal

January 1st.

Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce

This month's Cross Plains Plains church has a wonderfully

Cross Plains. The First United Plains. For more information

Methodist Church of Cross contact them at 254-725-7377.

Grand Ole Oplin

December lineup

COURTHOUSE NEWS

rich history and an even more

promising future. Located

at 1000 North Main in Cross

2926. Alcohol and smoking

are not allowed at any of our

community center functions.

Our regular Friday night dances

begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at

10:30 p.m. Admission to our

regular Friday night dance is

Everyone is invited to bring a

Our dance hall is beautifully

decorated for the holidays

(Alice Denunzio along with

Judy and Regina Woodard and

their helpers did a fantastic job!)

So gather the family and all

your friends and come on out

to the Grand Ole Oplin!

snack to be shared by all during

\$5.00 per person.

the band's break.

Business Spotlight of the Month

Henderson, Tennessee (Dec. 16, 2015)—A resident of Cross Plains received a degree from Freed-Hardeman University Dec. 11 at commencement exercises. Tiffany Louise McCaghren graduated magna cum laude with a major in psychology. She received a Bachelor of Science degree.

Freed-Hardeman University, with locations in Henderson, Memphis and Dickson in Tennessee, provides an exceptional education from a distinctly Christian perspective.

It offers five baccalaureate degrees in 44 undergraduate majors and 66 programs of study. FHU also offers master's, specialist's and doctoral degrees. For almost 150 years, the university has combined character and career education to produce graduates prepared to lead in the marketplace, the church and community.

This commencement marked the first time FHU had conferred doctoral degrees. Four students were awarded doctorates in education.

Love Fund

for Lisa Floyd

has been set up at

Texas Heritage Bank

for medical expenses

Love Fund

has been opened for Jesse Markham at Texas Heritage Bank

for medical expenses

Love Fund has been set up for **Darby Nichols**

at Texas Heritage Bank to help with expenses

Love Fund

Sherryl Goble

has been set up at Texas Heritage Bank for medical expenses

Love Fund

has been opened for **Rickey Thomas** at Texas Heritage Bank for medical expenses!

Love Fund

Sue Neal

at Texas Heritage Bank to help with financial expenses

has been set up for

911

Dec. 24, 2015



The Coffey Store circa 1940's - 1950's, Cottonwood, Texas

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Everyone is enjoying the holidays with their families here visiting.

It's sad to see the old store in Cottonwood being town down. So many memories of the school bus letting the kids off at the store to get an ice cold coke and a candy bar after school, visiting with the old men as the sat around the heater in the morning. Remembering Norman using the old wooden dolly to grab a sack of feed. Dixie cutting off a chunk of longhorn cheese with a knife. Picking up bread and milk just after the bread man and milk man came through. So many memories. The memories will still be there for all of us, just not the store.

For sometime now, it seems like people have gone in and out of the store in its present condition and it's been a worry that the building could fall down on them. So, while it's sad, the building needs to come down. It's time.

Sunday, December 27th and will return in January.

LIQUOR

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HAPPY TRAI

RANCH

marks the 10th anniversary of the devastating Cross Plains fire. So sad remembering that horrible day and seeing everything so black and devastated afterward. Our prayers go out to all of those whose lives were effected by

4His Glory's Christmas Cantata was really excellent. Theirvoices blended beautifully. Outstanding Job, Mandi, Rhonda, Matt and Connie! I'm always amazed at the talent we have here in Cross Plains and Cottonwood. And, that two of those performers - Matt and Mandi - got their start singing here at the Cottonwood Baptist Church when they were little children. It doesn't seem like it was that long ago. Everyone enjoyed the cantata Sunday night. Some Cottonwood folks spotted in the audience: H.D. and Naomi Weaver, Adrian Allen, and of course, Stuart Sowell.

The Cottonwood Musicals are taking a break for the holidays

ICE

SODA

TIC WESTERN & BEYONE

The Log Cabin with the Copper Roof!

OFFICE

WATER

MIXERS

Library **Notes**

Library Hours

Mon.1:00pm to 5:00pm Tues.11:00pmto 7:00pm Wed. 1:00pm to 5:00pm Thurs. 1:00pm to 5:00pm Closed Friday

Dec., 14 - Dec., 17, 2015

Patrons 90 **Books Checked 58** Programs 35

GED 3 MTA ASAP LAP/LAPSIT 23 Other 11

Copies 358 Internet 17

Wi Fi 8 Reference 11

Memorials

Book & Misc. Donats. Jacque Childress

Brian & Lisa Ezzell George Methvin Janet Swanson Ruth York

Living Trubutes

Sandra Ross In Honor of CP Library Board

Donations

Volunteers

Sue Bennett Linda Burns Lavonne Childress Beverly Ross



December 27

Belva Gwinn Mrs.Elmer Wilson Dickie Nowell Bobby Lawrence Dr. Mickey Bush Norma Proctor John Ross McCaghren Hannah Brown Patricia (Lee) Regian Sheila Bell

December 28

Carol Bennett

December 29

Dianne Johnson Mrs. Earl Allen Johniee Strickland Kenneth D. Brown Frances Knott Vicky (Morre) Worley Michael Blake Foster

> D.J. Roe Jacob Strickland Peyton Wood Shelby Wood Jon Tonne Hunter Thomas

December 30

Keith Hopson Billy Gene Spoon Carol Bartes Mrs. Bob Dean Christopher Hamer Gertrude Johnson Wanda Jennings Milton Bates Billy King Joseph L. Hopkins Nancy Sheppard Randy Duncan

December 31

Sambo Fleming

Jesse Norris Kimberly (Ratliff) Stover Royce Lawrence Rodney Gene Gregory Austin Walker Seth Wyatt Kathy Denny Johnny Combs

January 1

John Bagley Henry Wellmaker Joyce Williams

January 2

Tami Hall Lessa Higginbotham Jimmy Harris Patsy Letney Cherilyn Fleming Linda Reed Camron Cobb

January 3 Sandy (Bailey) Low Teck Whitney Cookie Robinson Kathy Pippins

Mrs. Donald Baird Billy Joe Lofton Eddie Wade Dillard Jane Womack

"No Christmas Trees in Heaven"

There are no Christmas trees in Heaven,

What a mistake that would be. And we don't say Merry Christmas, from such thing we

And we don't look down and smile and smile,

At all the things you gathered up this while We never said there should be

a Christmas,

Just those called by Christ We asked that you be set

aside, not join in with all their No, there are no Christmas

trees in Heaven,

No cakes for Jesus' birthday. Somehow the facts have been clouded Made into some great big

display. If we could just get back to

the basics. Christ came to SAVE LOST SOULS!!

That would be a Christmas for ALL to behold.

Cross Plains I.S.D. **School Board Minutes**

On December 16, 2015. the Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting with the following members present: Jack Shepard, Tommy Ames, Davy Crockett, Michael Cowan, Roy Richey and Bryan Bennett.

(John McWilliams was absent.) The following administrators and guests were also in attendance: Superintendent Phil Mitchell, H.S. Principal Brad Jones, Elem. Principal Leslie Lawrence, Athletic Director Daniel Purvis and guest Cam Gulley.

Prayer was led by Brad Jones. Motion was made by Cowan and seconded by Richey that we accept the Annual Financial Report performed by Cameron L. Gulley (C.P.A.). For 6/ Against 0

Motion was made by Crockett and seconded by Cowan that we approve the minutes from November 9, 2015 meeting with corrections. For 6/Against

Motion was made by Cowan and seconded by Shepard that we approve the Training Credit Hour report. For 6/Against 0

Motion was made by Richey and seconded by Shepard that we approve the Highly Qualified Report. For 6/Against 0

Motion was made by Crockett and seconded by Bennett that we accept the Letter of Agreement between Cadco Architects and Cross Plains ISD. For 6/Against 0

Motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Crockett that we give Phil Mitchell approval to get bids and take action on replacing the high part of gym roof - for up to \$57,000. For 6/Against 0

Motion was made by Cowan and seconded by Crockett that we hire Ashley Moses on a Probationary Contract beginning January 4, 2016. For 6/Against 0

Motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Richey that we adjourn. For 6/Against 0

Buy a Brick and "Raise the Roof" locally

The Cross Plains Economic for private events, as well as Development Corporation and the City of Cross Plains need the help of it's community members. The city has laid the foundation for a new pavilion for community use in Treadway Park located on the west side of Cross Plains on Highway 36.

Funds are needed to erect the actual pavilion over the concrete slab. This pavilion will be in addition to the small covered stage and open area with surrounding benches already in place. The new structure will be 2600 square feet (60'x40') and will have electric lighting available.

With its majestic trees and scenic surroundings, Treadway Park has been the home of Homecoming dances, Fourth of July Celebrations, Barbarian Festivals, rodeos, weddings, reunions, and many other events. The new structure will be an asset to the community and will be available for recreational/personal use for low to no cost. The space will be available for reservations

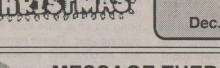
general open use throughout the community.

To help raise the funds for the pavilion, the City and the EDC are offering engraved bricks for the low donation cost of \$50. Each of these bricks will be displayed on-site, and be used to finish out the walkway that will run from the Turkey Creek bridge within Treadway to the new slab and future structure. Each brick may have up to 4 lines engraved with your choice of wording, with everything from honoring a loved one, to a class year, business name, or birth announcement. What a unique and lasting memorial for future generations. The donations are tax deductible as well so with the end of the fiscal year approaching this provides another way to give in tax year 2015. If you are interested in purchasing a brick and raising the roof on the pavilion, contact Debbie Gosnell at City Hall or Dannes Turner at the Senior Citizen's Center



Cross Plains Review

Dec. 24, 2015



MESSAGE THERAPY Barbara Clay, LVN, LMT

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We will Close Thurs. Noon & Fri. & Sat. for thristmas. Open on Mon. Close again Thurs noon Closed Fri. for New year. Open Sat. Jan 2nd!

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Great Stocking Stuffers!!



Santa visits the Cross Plains Public Library

Santa makes a special visit to Cross Plains

The LAP and LAPSIT program Clause surprised the children at the Cross Plains Public with a visit and gifts for each Library had a special visitor at child. The next LAP/LAPSIT

their Christmas Party. Santa program will meet January 6th.

A Special Honor at the CP **Senior Citizens Center**

Last week, Vivian Wooten in Cross Plains. and Carrie Wheeler of the Cross Plains Senior Citizen's the women to honor them for Center, were honored with gift all their charitable work in and baskets. Both women were around Cross Plains. Their surprised and delighted to efforts to always make the receive baskets filled with cards Senior Center an enjoyable and gifts from the community. place with smiles, laughter, and The gorgeous baskets were beautiful decorations have not decorated by Tim's Floral here gone unnoticed.

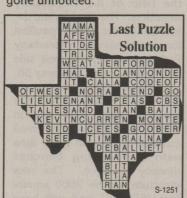
The baskets were given to

Time to be a **Blood Hero**

The next United Blood Service Blood Drive will be Tuesday, January 12th from 10am - 2 pm in Brownwood. It will be held in the Meeting Room of the 2nd floor outpatient building at the Brownwood Regional Medical Center. Please plan on starting your year off right by helping save lives by donating your

For scheduling you may either head to the link

https://www.bloodhero.com or call Andrea Lee at the BRMC at 325-649-3392.



Cross Plains Review Dec. 24, 2015

Grand Ole Oplin New Year's Eve Dance

The Oplin Community Center to bring a snack to be shared merriest of holidays. After all the shopping, after all the gifts have been opened, after all the Christmas dinners have been ate; it's time for a celebration!

everyone will join us in celebrating the New Year! end shortly after midnight. MUDDY CREEK will be playing waltzes. Admission to our New Year's dance will be \$8.00 per person. Some snacks will be provided but everyone is invited

wishes everyone the safest and by all during the band's break. Black-eyed peas will be served during the break to hopefully bring us all a little luck in the coming year. Please remember that alcohol and smoking are The Grand Ole Oplin hopes not allowed at any community center functions.

So gather the family and all Our New Year's Eve dance of your friends and come on will begin at 8:00 p.m. and out to the Grand Ole Oplin and we'll all celebrate the New Year together! Whether you all your favorite two-steps and join us or choose to celebrate somewhere else, please drive safely and responsibly and have a great Happy New Year!



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January 7th JHG JHB vs. Abilene Hawls @ Cross Plains

January 8th JVG VG vs. May @ May 5PM

January 8th JVB VB vs. Gustine @ Gustine 6PM

January 9th JHB vs. Rising Star @ Rising Star TBD

Varsity Girls Final: Cross Plains 50

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Junior Varsity Girls Final:

Cross Plains 27 Brownwood 26

Varsity Girls Final:

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Callahan County's jobless rate rises to 4.4% in November 2015

The unemployment rate in Callahan County increased onetenth of one percent to 4.4% in November 2015, according to jobless figures released Friday, December 18th by the Texas Workforce Commission. The unemployment rate in Callahan County one year ago in November 2014 was 3.4 percent.

Callahan County's unemployment rate was 4.3% in October,

Previous monthly jobless rates in Callahan County included: 4.2% in September 2015, 4.3% in August, 4.4% in July, 4.0% in June, 3.9% in May, 3.7% in April, 4.1% in March, 4.0% in February, 4.1% in January 2015, and 3.1% in December 2014, according to the unemployment figures.

Big Country area counties, bordering Callahan County, and the counties' unemployment rates for November 2015 include: Brown, 4.4%; Coleman, 5.8%; Eastland, 5.1%; Jones, 5.7%; Runnels, 3.7%; Shackelford, 2.9%; Stephens, 4.5%; and Taylor County, 3.7%.

The Abilene MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) unemployment rate, which includes Taylor, Callahan and Jones Counties, stood at 3.9% in November, 2015, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The Abilene MSA Combined Labor Force is 75,600. There were 72,700 employed during November 2015, while 2,900 were unemployed, giving the Abilene MSA an unemployment rate of 3.9%

The Abilene MSA reported the workforce was 75,400 in October, 2015. Total employment of 72,500 was reported in October 2015, while 2,900, or 3.9% were unemployed in October 2015.

The Abilene MSA unemployment rate for November, 2014 was 3.7%. The total workforce was reported at 77,100, with 74,200 employed and 2,900 or 3.7% unemployed in November,

The state's unemployment rate for the month of November, 2015 was 4.5 percent. The total Texas labor force was 13,100,300 in November 2015. The total number of Texans employed is 12,506,600. The total number of unemployed Texans was 593,700 in November 2015.

Last month's statewide unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in October 2015. The state's unemployment rate in November of 2014 was 4.5 percent.

Cross Plains Review Dec. 24, 2015

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UNEMPLOYMENT

Callahan County Unemployment

Highlights of the Texas

Labor Force

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

matched last year's November

unemployment rate. Over the

previous five years, the unem-

centage point between October

cember 2006.

by 102,500 people.

107,700 over the year.

by 5,100 individuals.

ployment rate declined by an

4.3%

4.4%

The United States unemploy- Statistical Areas (MSAs) in Texment rate for November, 2015 as and remained unchanged in was 4.8 percent. The nation's seventeen. The unemployment unemployment rate for the pre-rate decreased in the Texarkana vious month of October, 2015 MSA. The Amarillo MSA continwas 4.8%. The United States ued to have the lowest unemunemployment rate one year ago ployment rate at 3.2 percent. in November, 2014 was 5.5%.

The number of Texans continuing to seek unemployment insurance benefits increased by 3,171 over the month to 132,531 people. Over the year, the number of individuals seeking unem-The Texas unemployment ployment insurance benefits has rate in November remained increased by 30,520 claimants. unchanged at 4.5 percent. This

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE

Amarillo Plans Convention Center Hotel

average of one-tenth of a per-AMARILLO, TX (City of Amand November. The national arillo)—An audience of 200 unemployment rate also re- people gathered at a ceremony mained unchanged 4.8 percent. to mark the start of construct-The Texas unemployment rate ing a convention center hotel has remained below the national downtown. The groundbreaking unemployment rate since De- for the Embassy Suites hotel to be built by Newcrestmage, The Texas Civilian Labor Force with a revised budget of \$40 increased by 31 200 to a total million, is the result of a decade of 13,100,300 people. The past of planning and negotiation on three months have shown a total the core downtown projections.

increase in the labor force of Former Mayor Debra McCartt, 69,900 people. Over the year, the who participated in the early Texas labor force has contracted days, said, "When we first started talking about it, we knew it The number of employed Tex- would take time. The vision is ans increased by 21,400 over the coming together, and there's so month to a total of 12,506,600 many pieces." NewcrestImage people. Over the previous five CFO Chuck

years, the number of employed Patel told the audience his Texans increased by an average company was following up on of 29,800 people in the month its investment in the Courtyard of November. The number of by Marriott on South Polk Street jobholders has decreased by with the Embassy Suites he said would add hundreds of jobs and The number of unemployed bring in thousands of visitors. Texans increased in November He said,

by 9,800 to a total of 593,700 "We are putting our money people. Over the previous five where our confidence is. Mary Kay Announces New years, the number of unem-

ployed people decreased by an Facility

average of 16,500 in the month DALLAS, TX (Dallas Business of November. Since November Journal)-After announcing of last year, the number of un- plans in October to build a new employed people has increased research and development and manufacturing facility, Mary increased in seven Metropolitan Following an internal evaluation "dynamic tourist destination."

musical group 4 His Glory.

Glorious Christmas music

filled the First Presbyterian

Church Sunday evening when

4His Glory presented their annual Christmas Cantata,

"What Child Is This?". Matt

Sowell, Connie Swift, Mandi

chose the Lewisville site, but declined to give the exact location pending the closing of the property purchase. Mary Kay said it looked at several locations and decided on

Lewisville due to employee and logistical considerations. Construction of the new facility is set to begin in July and be completed in the first quarter of 2018. All 600 manufacturing and R&D employees will be relocated at that time. The new facility will allow Mary Kay to develop new products, which

may require more staff.

Denton Lands Travel Center DALLAS, TX (Dallas Morning News-Jenna Duncan)-The Denton City Council voted 5-2 to approve tax incentives for a Buc-ee's travel center to be developed on 38 acres along Interstate 35E. As proposed, the developer will get an estimated \$8.1 million in sales tax reimbursements. The plan currently calls for a 52,000-square-foot travel center, 96 gas pumps, and seven pad sites for restaurants and retail shopping at

I-35E and Lillian Miller Parkway. The project won't come online until 2018, after improvements along Interstate 35E are completed. Initially, the developer, Buc-ee's founder Arch Alpin III, will be reimbursed 100 percent of sales taxes until the total repaid hits \$2 million, approximately over three years. Then, Buc-ee's will be reimbursed 50 percent of sales taxes for 20 years. A slightly smaller Bucee's opened in Terrell, Texas in June 2015 with over 220 employees. Terrell is located 40 miles east of downtown Dallas. Restaurant Opens Down-

SAN ANTONIO, TX (San Antonio Business Journal)-Dallas-based Dave & Buster's is scheduled to open the doors to its long-anticipated downtown venue this month. The company expects to fill more than 240 positions for a nearly 35,000-square-foot center city entertainment facility. Dave & Buster's second San Antonio establishment will be inside of Rivercenter Mall-adjacent to the grounds of the legendary Alamo, David Pettengill, Dave & Buster's real estate executive, Between October and Novem- Nay Inc. has pinpointed a site said that San Antonio has posiber, the unemployment rate for a new \$100 million building. tioned its downtown area as a

up the local quartet. Jackie

Sowell and John Swift narrated

the program. Everyone

enjoyed the inspiring musical

and visual program.

DPS gradutes 102 new Texas State Troopers

AUSTIN - Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Director Steven McCraw, Texas Public Safety Commission Chair Cynthia Leon, and members of the Public Safety Commission (PSC) today were joined by Gov. Greg Abbott as the department commissioned 102 men and women as the state's newest Highway Patrol Troopers during the recruit graduation ceremony. Gov. Abbott was the keynote speaker during the ceremony, which was held today in Austin.

"DPS troopers are part of a select group of officers with a proud history in Texas," said Governor Abbott. "The troopers will leave here today with the opportunity to write a new chapter in the history of public service for the citizens of our state, and an opportunity to leave marks that will make a difference for generations to come. All of Texas joins me in thanking today's graduates and their families for their service and their sacrifice in keeping Texas safe.'

The new troopers will report to duty stations across Texas in the coming weeks and spend the first six months in on-thejob training.

"Each of you has worked tirelessly during the past six months - shaping and molding yourselves to earn the title of Texas Highway Patrol Troopers, and I want to congratulate you on your outstanding accomplishments while at the DPS Academy,' said PSC Chair Leon. "Today you have rightfully been given the tremendous honor and responsibility of serving the residents of this great state, and I am proud to welcome you into

The troopers began the 23week training academy in July. Instruction covered more than 100 subjects, including counterterrorism, traffic and criminal law, arrest and control procedures, accident reconstruction, first aid and Spanish. They also received training in use of force, communication skills, firearms, driving, criminal interdiction, cultural diversity and physical

"Today DPS is honored to add these 102 highly qualified and dedicated new officers to our law enforcement ranks, and we are deeply appreciative of the sacrifices each of you has already made to become Texas Highway Patrol Troopers," said Director McCraw. "Having risen to the challenge of months-long training and instruction, these courageous men and women will be indispensable in carrying on the department's mission to protect and serve Texas."

As part of the recruits' community service project, they raised more than \$11,000 for a variety of efforts, including an elementary school and assisting DPS families in need.

DPS is currently accepting applications for recruit classes scheduled for 2016. The next application deadline is Jan. 27 for the class beginning July 10, 2016. To apply or for more information about joining the Texas Department of Public Safety, visit www.joindps.com.

In addition, DPS schedules recruiting events throughout the year. To find an event in your region, visit http://dps. texas.gov/trainingacademy/ recruiting/recruitingEvents.

Christmas Greetings from Sen. Troy Fraser

AUSTIN-- The flurry and hurry blessed to live in a nation of of the Holiday season can make us overlook the blessings in our lives. Between last-minute shopping trips and preparing Christmas dinner, it can seem like there's no time to catch our breath or be thankful for the joy and generosity surrounding us. Whether you are traveling to visit family this Christmas your home. I encourage you to give thanks for those gathered around your table.

At Christmas, it's important to show gratitude for our friends, neighbors and the communities in which we live. I urge you to donate your money or your time to those less fortunate. Lend a hand to someone in need. Be kind to strangers on the street. Most importantly, open your hearts and homes to share with others the joy of the Christmas spirit.

As Americans, we are truly

freedom and opportunity, but our liberties have not come without sacrifice. Let us give thanks for our service men and women serving at home and abroad. We pray for their safety and well-being during this time. We pray for their families and for peace on earth. This Christmas, I ask or welcoming loved ones into you to embrace the common values--compassion, faith and understanding--that unite us all and make our country a beacon for hope throughout the world.

As always, I am especially grateful for the opportunity to serve you in the Texas Senate. From my family to yours, I wish you all a 'Merry Christmas' and a 'Happy New Year'

May God Bless Texas and May God Bless America,

> Troy Fraser **Texas State** Senator District 24

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Matt Sowell, Connie Swift, Mandi Sowell and Rhonda Swift of

4 His Glory Cantata

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Call for an appointment during these hours at 254-212-9914 or 325-893-4552 in Clyde at other times. We are also now serving Comanche County in Comanche (325-330-3351). Visit www.texasWIC.org for nutritious recipes, health tips and what to bring to your WIC appointment. WIC: We are here for you!





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(USPS138-660) published weekly on Thursday, for \$29.00 per year within Callahan County, \$34.00 per year elsewhere in Texas, \$37.00 per year out of state. (no foreign copies except APO or like Address): by Review Publishing Co.,116 S.E. 1st Street, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

Letters-to-the-Editor must be signed, dated and include the author's address, phone number and must be brought into the newspaper office. No mailed or e-mailed Letters will be accepted.

Periodical postage paid at Cross Plains, Texas 76443

POSTMASTER: address changes to Cross Plains Review, P.O. Box 519, Cross Plains, Texas 76443. Telephone: (254) 725-6111 Fax: (254) 725-7225

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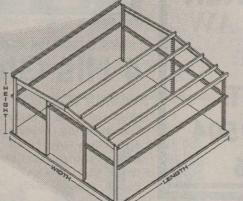
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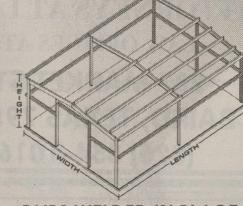
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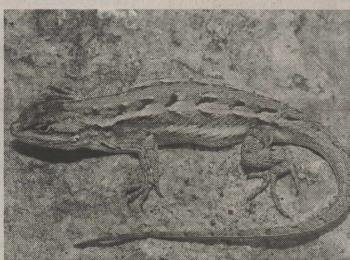
Prairie Lizard

Now that I have children of my own and am privy to the shenanigans they sometimes perform, I have a greater sense of appreciation for the patience that my own parents exhibited when I was a developing young naturalist. Many of the animals that I encountered as a youngster were of course collected, and I have doting memories of several lizards that resided in my room. One lizard species in particular, known as the Prairie Lizard, would reside on my wooden bedframe in front of my window and would become familiar enough with my presence to allow me to hand-feed them.

Commonly referred to "Fence Lizards" by antiquated texts, the Prairie Lizard (Sceloporus consobrinus) is one of seven species of "spiny lizards" that reside in Texas, and it considerably has the largest area of distribution. This variety can be observed throughout the entire state, save for the arid regions west of the mighty Pecos River, where it is replaced by a close relative that was only recently found to be taxonomically diverse. Outside of this great state it occurs from western Louisiana northward to Missouri, westward to southwestern Nebraska and southward through extreme eastern New Mexico. Its range in Mexico has yet to be fully ascertained, although I have seen individuals that appear to be Prairie Lizards in the Mexican states of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and San Luis Potosi. Further investigations are required to fully establish its known range.

This species of spiny lizard is oftentimes far more terrestrial than the majority of its cousins. It thrives in areas of openness such as grasslands, rocky hillsides,

and semi-arid scrublands. The genus to which this species belongs to is known as the "spiny lizards", and as such, this species has dorsal (back) scales that are quite bristly. The most distinguishing characteristics of this species are the presence of three pronounced stripes on the back. The middle stripe is gray and broad, occurs along the midline of the spine and is known as a vertebral stripe. Set on either side of this vertebral stripe are two very distinctive light dorsolateral stripes that run lengthwise down the body of the lizard. In between these light dorsolateral stripes and the vertebral stripe are small black spots that are sometimes in the shape of crescent moons. More often than not, there is also a light stripe that is scarcely visible



Prairie Lizard (Sceloporus consobrinus)

Background coloration varies the summer afternoons. from gray to tan to reddish brown that particular resides.

From above, males and fe- in its daily diurnal activities. males are not easily discernlack such coloration.

than the males, topping out at to fend for and care for themselves. approximately five inches.

sources for heating and cooling. about their business. They are active throughout the species, the high metabolism fullprice71@qmail.com.

that runs from front limb to back of this lizard enables it to be oblimb along the side of the belly. served during the hottest part of

This species of lizard is an opporand is largely dependent upon tunistic carnivore, feeding primarithe coloration of the soils where ly on small crickets, grasshoppers, flies, and moths that it encounters

The Prairie Lizard is oviparous, able from each other. But if which is a fancy way of saying one examines the belly of this that it lays eggs. After emerging lizard, then the ability to tell the from the winter-long brumation sexes from one another is quite period (reptiles do not hibernate simple. Mature males have two in the true sense of the word), black-bordered blue patches on males will search out females to either side of the belly, as well mate. After mating, the female as on the throat region; females will lay a medium-sized clutch of eggs (averaging nine) in moisture Males are the larger sex, achiev-retaining soil. Females will lay muling total lengths of up to seven tiple clutches of eggs per summer. inches, although most attain a After approximately two months length of just under six inches. of incubation, the diminutive two Females are slightly smaller inch long young emerge prepared

While this variety of spiny lizard 'Fence Lizards", like other is exceedingly alert, it tends to not lizard species, are "cold-blood- be tremendously wary. Many will ed", or ectothermic. This means sit motionless when approached, that they do not generate heat darting off at the seemingly last from the inside of their body, possible moment. This behavior as mammals and birds do, but allows for some spectacular phorather are dependent on outside tography of individuals as they go

Editor's Note: Michael Price day from early April to October, would love to hear from folks! He and unlike many other reptile can be reached by email at www.

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Lot 100 Oak Pt Dr, Lake B'wood-Gated community, elm & Reduced...\$8,000 Lots at 232 SW 4th, CP-Nice homesite! Well maintained w/ oaks......\$9,000 307 E 19th, Cisco-4 UNDER CONTRACT er/aged hm on prop......\$12,000 Lot at 423 N Ave A, CP-Pecan trees, 3/4 of a block, will diviReduced..\$14,000 NEW! 225 S Ave A, CP-3BR-1.5B,1,116 sq ft frame hm, mature trees...\$25,000 406 3rd, Blanket-4BR-1B hm w/ metal roof, chain link fence......\$29,900 200 S Ave B-2BR-1B on Ig lot, efficiency apartment, new windows, well.\$38,500 NEW! 733 N Ave E-CP-3BR/2B hm,1 bl from school, g yard.....\$39,500 308 E Pollock St, RS-2BR-2B, newly remodeled in and out\$48,500 520 Pine, Ranger-3BR-1 3/4B, C/H/A, hardwood floors in living room.....\$49,000 9955 FM 1079-Charming older 3BR-2B hm, needs TLC, barn, well............\$49,000 NEW! 210 S MillerSt, RS2BR-1B, 1,319 sq ft, 2 lots, shop, 2 wells.......\$49,500 NEW! 1412 Bliss, Cisco-Potential income prop! 3BR-2B, lg backyard....\$49,900 NEW! 708 E 1st St, CP-3BR.1.5B, w/metal roof, garden, mature trees....\$64,900 7776 Bay Oaks Dr, Lake B'wood-Cabin & 2 lots, Feather Bay......\$69,000 NEW! 301 N Ave F, CFUNDER CONTRACT 1, Irg lot, mtl shop......\$85,,000 157 Oak Tree, Lake Cisco-Spacious, updated 2BR-2B w/ private dock\$173,000

Commercial Property

NEW! 700 N. Ave A, CP-Potential investment property! 7,767 sq ft brick bldg NEW! Hwy 67-377, Blanket-RV park on 14+ac w/ hwy frontage on outskirts of Early, 41 designated spots all w/ elec, sewage & water, wifi avbl, laundry room, 1,200 sq ft workshop/office w/ bathroom, great income potential!!......\$675,000

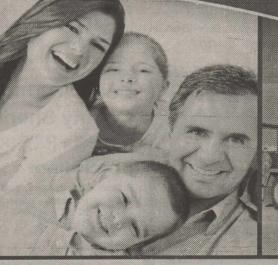
Featured Property of the Week: 26 Acres & Home, Atwell-Country living, 3BR-2b 2,400 sq ft stone and hardy siding home, metal roof, kitchen has inlayed tray ceiling, corian counter tops, beautiful builtins, secure valuables storage, walk in master closet, wood burning stove in living area, some flooring tile, carpet and mesuite wood.

Inga Brennan Matt Gilmore Christina Rainey Erik Woodard

325-642-1878 254-243-0557 254-631-8135 325-733-4611

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2nd Place Business winner is the Susan Schaefer CPA Office. Rickie Jo Brown and Susan Schaefer pictured.



2nd Place Home winners are Billy and Joyce Lee with Billy Lee

What Are You Reading?

Teen Edition

ROWDEN STORE

& EQUIPMENT

End of the year

Blowout!!

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did you?), and that's how she

Turns out Cinder has some

other talents and strengths,

too. And she may not be "just

another" cyborg... The truth

truly a great read and fantastic

first novel. Stay tuned for a

review of Meyer's second novel in the trilogy: "Scarlet."

meets Prince Kai.

by the Bookworms

The Cinderella fantasy is

updated for the 21st Century

in "Cinder" the first novel by a

promising new writer, Marissa

Meyer. Even more good news:

Cinder is a 16-year old cyborg

living with her evil stepmother

and an evil stepsister. Her only

human friend is her younger

stepsister, who dies tragically.

Cyborgs are hated in Cinder's culture, but being a cyborg

has its good side: she's an

expert mechanic and can fix

everything from robots to space

ships. That's how she makes

her living (you didn't think her stepmother would support her,

it's the first in a series.

Eva Fleming pictured.

1st Place Business winner is Bubba's Smokehouse with owner

Commerce Christmas house & business decorating contest went fantastic! The chamber hopes for this contest to continue to receive more entries with each year! Several homes were spotted that we hope will

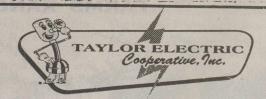
join in on this contest next year! Each winner received a gift certificate from one of our

Congratulations to our winners and Merry Christmas from the Cross Plains Chamber

Chamber Members.



1st Place Home winner is Darlene Meador with Darlene pictured



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may occur 30 to 50 years after ex-

posure to asbestos. Many work-

ers were exposed from the 1940s

through the 1970s. Industrial and

construction workers, along with

their families (second hand expo-

sure) are among those at risk for

mesothelioma, lung cancer or gas-

tro cancer (throat, stomach, colon).

Ryan A. Krebs, M.D., J.D. Richard A. Dodd, L.C. Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.

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about Cinder's past slowly **Political** comes out in this entertaining space-age fantasy. The characters are very well-Calendar drawn, and the plot moves along at a good pace. Cinder herself is an especially admirable and appealing character. This is

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 1,

For Callahan **County Sheriff** Franklin P. "Bucky" Shackelford

Political advertisement paid for by Franklin P. "Bucky" Shackelford, 4186 CR 273, Clyde, Texas, 79510, Treasurer Patty Ellis.

Terry Joy

Political advertisement paid for by Lenora Joy Treasurer, Terry Joy, 525 Stella, Baird, Texas 79510

All political calendar advertising for the Tuesday, March 1, 2016 Republican Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$125.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announce-

Cross Plains Review Dec. 24, 2015

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the Thumb Print Gil Tabor - Owner/Printer

Haven for Hope: Spreading the holiday spirit year-round

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas

As we celebrate this holiday season, I'd like to tell you about a place in San Antonio that captures the holiday spirit of caring year-round.

After Peter lost his job, he found himself living a life he never imagined: seemingly all at once, he was living on the street, using drugs, and without anywhere to turn. He'd lost his friends in his downward spiral, and shame and guilt prevented him from asking his family for

But fortunately for Peter, in his hometown was a nationallyrenowned transformation center meant to help people just like him. The non-profit Haven for Hope helps people down on their luck not only get back on their feet, but also empowers them to give back to the community that lifted them up.

Peter had hit rock bottom when he finally sought help at Haven for Hope. He worked with a case manager to develop a personalized plan, beginning with a 90-day inhouse recovery program. Peter received on-site treatment that cured his addiction, and medical care to restore his overall physical health. But most important for Peter was the restoration of his faith in himself. Healthy, clean, and on the path to independence, Peter was eventually able to reunite with his estranged family.

Peter's story is just one of nearly 8,000 Texans who have sought out Haven for Hope for shelter, restoration, and hope over the last five years, ranging from those in a rough patch, to those just released from prison, to the chronically homeless.

Having visited the facility, I can tell you Haven for Hope truly lives up to its name.

Located just west of downtown San Antonio, Haven for Hope's 22-acre campus can sleep 1,500 people on any given night, but as Peter quickly found out, the facility is much more than a shelter.

Just like Peter, each individual or family that comes through the doors of Haven for Hope's Transformational Resource Center first meets with a case manager to put together a specialized transformation plan based on the medical, legal, educational, employment, and other services offered that would most benefit them. To meet their specific needs, Haven for Hope guests' first step could be to enroll in a class to prepare for the GED exam, get help with a job application, or receive critical medical care.

All-in-all, Haven for Hope partners with 92 different agencies to offer over 150 specialized services, ensuring a comprehensive transformation for each of their guests.

For example, the San Antonio Food Bank's on-site facility not only serves three healthy meals a day there, but also offers an opportunity for guests to earn a certificate in Culinary Arts. As a testament to the effectiveness of this partnership, graduates can go on to find jobs in the food service industry; one graduate is now a pastry chef at a hotel in downtown San Antonio.

While guests work on personal improvement, Haven for Hope provides long-term living quarters for individuals and families. And for those who prefer temporary, anonymous shelter, the Courtyard allows guests to lock up their belongings while they sleep safely inside a guarded gate. Guests of the Courtyard are offered a hot shower and a hot meal, and the door is left open for them to explore the other programs Haven for Hope has to offer whenever they feel

All of these life-changing services Haven for Hope offers come at no cost to the guests. However, many choose to give

back by working at the facility or by donating when they are able to get back on their feet, a truly touching testament of the hope the center provides.

Partof Havenfor Hope's success stems from their unwavering positivity. Employees don't present troubles. Through a technique Haven for Hope calls 'motivational interviewing', guests are taught instead to focus on their desire to improve, and more importantly, their power to change.

Haven for Hope has succeeded in slowing down the revolving door of homelessness by treating the whole person. Their model of empowerment has helped the city of San Antonio make great strides in reducing homelessness. Since its opening in 2010, more than 2,400 Haven for Hope graduates have moved into permanent housing. Haven for Hope notes that homelessness in downtown San Antonio has dropped by 80 percent since the center's inception. And through a partnership with the Center for Health Care Services, San Antonio Police officers can divert some of those in need to Haven for Hope instead of a public jail or emergency room, which Haven for Hope estimates saves the city about \$1 million

And for a personal testament to their success, look no further than Peter, who has graduated from the program. He has moved into permanent housing on his own, yet still refers to Haven for Hope fondly as "home sweet home." Peter is now a full-time employee of Haven for Hope, helping people who face challenges he was all too familiar with not long ago.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Judiciary and Finance

DPS Increases Traffic Enforcement During Holidays

Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase patrols for an eight-day period that includes both the Christmas and New Year holidays. From Dec. 24th - 27th and Dec. 31st - Jan. 3rd, DPS troopers, let individuals dwell on past or as well as law enforcement across the state, will be patrolling roadways throughout the holiday weekends looking for drunk drivers, speeders, seat belt violators and other drivers who are endangering themselves and others.

"Drinking and driving is always a concern during the holidays, and these DPS patrols help by identifying impaired or reckless drivers who endanger the safety of the traveling public," said

"We urge Texans to do their part to save lives by always driving sober and adhering to all traffic laws.'

During the Christmas/New Year holiday enforcement effort last year, DPS troopers made 403 DWI arrests. DPS enforcement efforts also resulted in 7,274 speeding citations, 724 seat belt/child safety seat citations, 292 fugitive arrests and 166 felony arrests during the enforcement period.

DPS offers the following additional tips for safe travel during the holidays:

· Don't drink and drive. Designate a driver or take a cab. · Slow down - especially

areas and heavy traffic.

· Eliminate distractions, including the use of mobile

devices • Buckle up everyone in the

vehicle - it's the law. · Slow down or move over for police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles and tow trucks that are stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated

- it's the law · Don't drive fatigued.

· Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

· Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.

DPS Honors Employees, Civilian for Exemplary Service

AUSTIN - The Texas Public Safety Commission (PSC) and the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Director Steven McCraw presented two Lifesaving Awards and one Director's Award to DPS employees and one civilian for their outstanding service.

"Today we honor these award recipients and thank them for their continued service to the state of Texas," said Director McCraw. "In the face of harrowing circumstances, these individuals fearlessly answered the call of duty to help their fellow Texans, and we are grateful for their courageous actions - which absolutely saved lives."

The following awards were presented today:

Trooper William Grauzer, Highway Patrol in Corsicana, received a Lifesaving Award for his actions during a lifethreatening incident on Aug. 29, 2015. While on duty, Grauzer responded to a Corsicana house fire and was summoned to assist an injured man at the scene. The man had suffered a deep cut to his right arm, and Grauzer applied

a tourniquet to the injury to help an organization that assists control the bleeding. Grauzer then continued to monitor the man's condition until paramedics arrived. The man was flown to a Dallas hospital for emergency surgery.

Trooper Katrina Jones, Highway Patrol in Lubbock, received the Lifesaving Award for her assistance during a life-threatening situation at a Lubbock school. On Sept. 18, 2014, Jones was visiting the Preston Smith Elementary School during lunch when she noticed several children motioning to a student who was choking. Jones then approached the boy and ultimately helped dislodge the item from his airway so that he was able to breath on his own.

Tom Clutts received the Director's Award for his support during a life-threatening situation. On Sept. 24, 2015, a DPS employee learned that her son - who had recently returned from military deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan - was feeling alarmingly distressed. She then contacted her co-workers and was put in contact with Clutts, a veteran who operates

individuals suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder. Clutts immediately reached out to help counsel the son.

In addition to the awards above, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) recognized two DPS employees during the annual Texas Heroes for Children Gala in September. DPS Criminal Investigations Division Special Agent Ryan Kindell was named the 2015 NCMEC Hero for his investigative work that ultimately lead to locating a missing Dallas juvenile and the arrests of two suspects for sexual assault and compelling prostitution. Trooper Bradley Vick was also honored as the runner-up for the Hero award for rescuing three missing

juveniles during a traffic stop. Also, the Texas Association of State Systems for Computing and Communications (TASSCC) recognized DPS Licensing Services Applications Manager John Crawford with the TASSCC Excellence Award for his work on the singlesticker for vehicle inspection/



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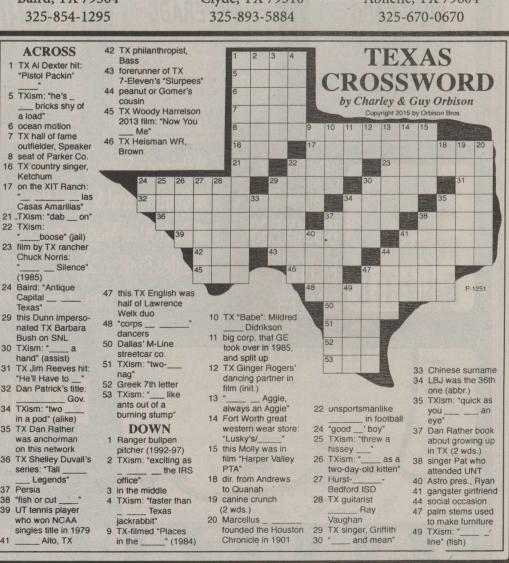
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Robert Wolfe of Little Rock, Arkansas

Resident from Arkansas visits Museum

last Wed. afternoon on his way back home from this area.

He is a CPA with Frost PLLC certified Public Accountants works with agricultural business on a pay for service basis audits, tax services, etc. They cover a large area including Arkansas, Kansas and Texas. He commented that several people in his Little Rock office were Howard fans (including

Robert Wolfe from Little Rock, himself) and suggested that AR; visited the REH Museum while he was in this area he should call to see if the museum

His main interest in Howard's works was a little different. of Little Rock. His company He was into the westerns. He stated that they were so much more interesting when read offering financial advice, aloud. He owns most of the western publications available. Buys paperback books anytime he sees one at a used book store and then passes it on.

He left anxious to give a report back at the office.

Calling All High School Students Who Love to Read a Good Book!

want to check out this science Plains Public Library.

Cinder by Marissa Meyer

this first novel by a promising new writer. Even more good news: it's the first in a series.

Cinder is a 16-year old cyborg living with her evil stepmother stepsister, who dies tragically. Cyborgs are hated in Cinder's culture, but being a cyborg has its good side: she's an expert mechanic and can fix everything from robots to space



If you have some time over ships. That's how she makes the winter break, you might her living (you didn't think her stepmother would support her, fiction novel from the Cross did you?), and that's how she meets Prince Kai.

Turns out Cinder has some The Cinderella fantasy is other talents and strengths, updated for the 21st Century in too. And she may not be "just another" cyborg... The truth about Cinder's past slowly comes out in this entertaining space-age fantasy.

The characters are very welland an evil stepsister. Her only drawn, and the plot moves along human friend is her younger at a good pace. Cinder herself is an especially admirable and appealing character. This is truly a great read and fantastic first novel. Stay tuned for a review of Meyer's second novel in the trilogy: Scarlet.

Cross Plains Review

Dec. 24, 2015



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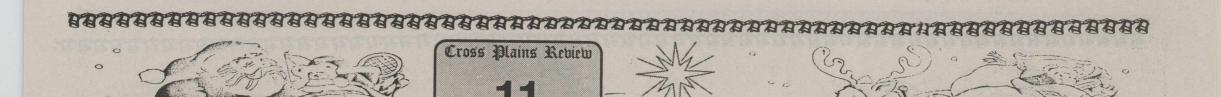
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In the spirit of the

season, we're pleased to present these touching letters from area children to their favorite holiday celebrity.

Dec. 24, 2015

In the Spirit Of the Season...

We'd like to join you and your family in giving thanks to our Lord for His love and guidance, just as we thank you for your trust and support over the years!

Jimmy D. Wilson and Carolyn Wilson

Around Town

Dear Santa,

I am 1 1/2 years old. size 4 shoes. I would Momma and Daddy say I like a pounding bench have been a good little toy, Paw Patrol Chasers boy this year. I love to Cruiser, Vtech Spin and

play, my favorite toys are Learn Color Flashlight blocks, cars and trucks and books. I wear 18-My name is Andrew, 24 months clothes and

and Seasame Street microphone. I will leave some cookies and milk

Andrew Rose

Rudolph.

Dear Santa,

This is William Dane Albrecht. I know I have been very good. Please for and reindeer food for bring me a green elf. Any color of hair is fine. Also a Green machine, a mote control car, a ball

pit, and a giant chocolate make me run fast. I also horse, and a giant plastic sure what those are yet

bar. And one more thing love music and flashing if you talk to Dada and lights, so maybe you can he says it's ok, a yellow find me a toy that does baby dog for me and both. Of course I need Mommy that is just like some UT stuff because I my black dog Brie. She am groing out of what is a Lavrador! And this I have. If it's not asking is a letter for my baby too much. I'd also like a brother August Hugo. He little stuffed monkey like is one. He has been a my bubba hasbecause I little crazy this year but love playing with it. My he wants a doe that is bubba and sister say we'll a stuffed animal, a giant leave chocolate milk and chocolate bar, a rocking cookies for you I'm not

Over The River And Through The Woods...

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Home

Thank you,

William Albrecht syr. and August Albrecht 1yr. P.S. don't forget my older bothers Theron, who is in the fourth grade and Graydon Albrecht is in

Dear Santa,

I'm so excited to meet you this year. My brother and sister have told me you bring good children toys. I've a very sweet boy this year, just ask my Mommy. I'm not exactly sure what I like yeat but I'm pretty sure I like sports because I go to an awful lot of games. I'd like a football, baseball baseball bat and

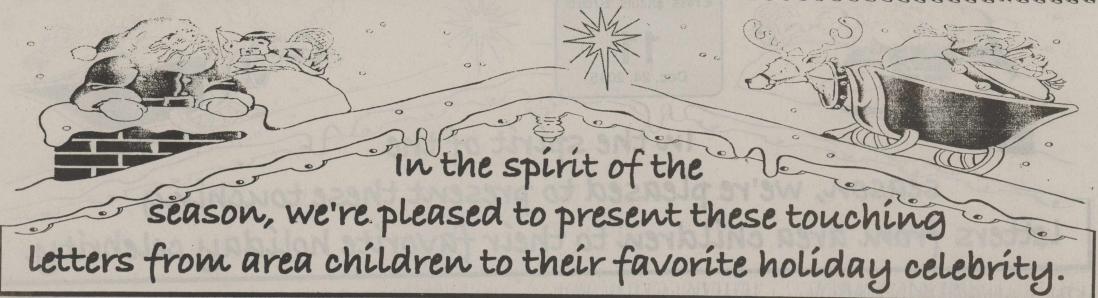
सम्बन्धस्ति स्तानि स

but they look pretty good! Merry Christmas. Love, Holt Dillard -

5 months old. Dear Santa,

I have been the best little girl this year. At least my mom, dad and brother think so. I don't want a whole lot for Christmas this year. I would like a few new toys to help me learn and develop. Most of all I would like prayers for my daddy. So he can get better and play and work again. He is a fun daddy. Maybe you could bring mommy a new frying pan she needs a new one. And please don't forget my brother Bentley. He tries some tennis shoes that really hard to be good!







Continued...

any delay. My house will be lit up so you can't Jessalyn Grace Markham miss it. My family will be inside and will be

really noisy, they love celebrating Christmas. Maybe a few prayers for You know that is Jesus's birthday right? Tell Mrs. I really hope your trip Clause Merry Christmas goes smoothly without for all of us at my house!!! Merry Christmas

Pre-Kindergarten

like a new red Thunder car because mine broke and Legos.

Thank you - Maxson



Santa Clos Iwot a cell fon and a purs wit munee. Thank you - Jasmine

Dear Santa,

My name is Denver. I am 5 years old. I want a play doh set and a peddle tractor and a baby doll with a bed and diapers and a bottle. I want a necklace for mom and tools for daddy. Love - Denver

Dear Santa,

I have been very good this year. I really need a new pair of boots. like to watch movies now. from Toy Story, moster Scooby Doo and Legos are dog and a dirt bike. my favorite.

Dear Santa,

I would like a toy horse, birds, toy gun, car, and Frozen Anna. Thank you for all you.

Kaybre Elkins

Dear Santa,

I like you very much. I'd



Dear Santa,

This year for Christmas I want a new purse, a new rocking chair, a new pink belt, and last but not least 11 dolls.

Love - Anabelle

Cross Plains Review

Dec. 24, 2015

Dear Santa,

I want a Woody doll hope you like choclote chip Love - Kolton Rickman cookies and choclote milk. Love - Noah

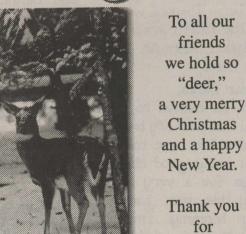
especially to us!

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As we grow older we become more aware of God's blessings upon us in our business and personal life. We have been blessed by many good friends in many ways. We pray everyone has a wonderful Christmas and blessed New Year.

Dale and Myrna





New Year. Thank you your kind patronage.



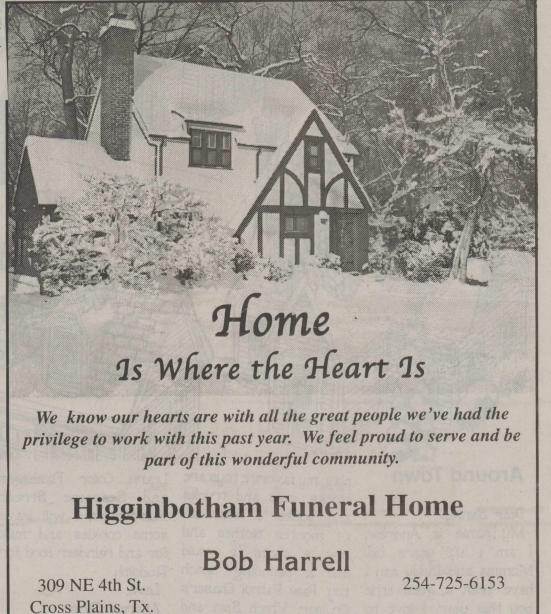
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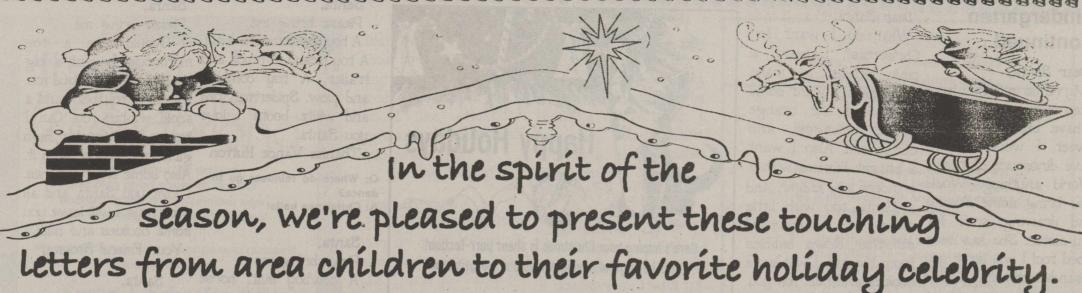


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Pre-Kindergarten Continued...

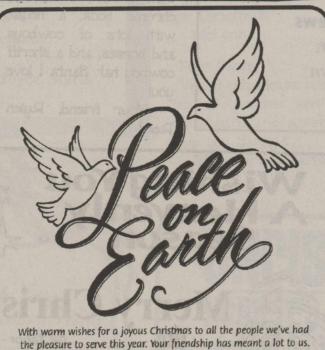
Dear Santa,

Happy Christmas Day! I want you to bring my baby brother baby toys. I want a fishing rod. I want a bomma and baby like my momma and baby brother. Cookies and milk and milk and cookies. Love - Rylin Martinez

Dear Santa,

Thank you for my Elves. If you can please bring me an elephant cloud pet. And the calico critters twin elephants and the house for them. Also the Pepa Pig camper van, train and school. And I would love a trampoline. And don't forget a bitty baby with blonde hair. Love - Mikki Daliege

Cross Plains Review Dec. 24, 2015



Project Pride and Robert E. Howard Foundation

Dear Santa,

I want a real elf that works with you that can ay with me forever. A de on tractor that can oop dirt. One hundred y cars and some Legos. Thank you

- Wesley Sendair

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a Captain America doll, the typhoon, a toy monster, a Incredible Hulk hands, a Captain America suit, a batman action figure, and a batmobile. PLFASEFF!

Kayden Savell

Kindergarten Mrs. Phillips' Class

Dear Santa

I would like A Truck, Trailer, spinderweb sHooter And SPiderMan Suit, And Mask. Little ni jia turtle super sewer And guys Nin ja. Turtle van. Nin ja turtle shirt. - Mason Gilliam

Dear Santa

For Christmas I want more orbeez for my foot spa, that crayon thing I saw on T.V., more games for my Wii, A pretend computer, and dress up clothes.

- Love Haylee Johnson

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas. How are the riendeer? Did you hear that I broke my elbow? I want a chimson new leo Turtle and daddy needs a pocket knife. I will have you egg nogg and cookies. Have a safe trip. - Love J.T.





सम्बद्धां स्वत्या स्वत्या

Kindergarten Continued...

Dear Santa

My name is Sam. I have been very good this year. I have been helpful and sweet. I would like to have dinosaurs, Jurassic World anything. Would you bring some sewing and drawing stuff for my sister. She has been good too! I will leave you a sandwhich with an apple alone with some apples for your reindeer.

P.S. Would you bring my Nana, Poppie a bulldog, Momma and Daddy and Uncle Norman remember Riley Whiz something too.

- Love Samuel Bell

Dear Santa

I want A smash brothers game And JuRAssic Dear Santa, World Lego Set and a My name is Jack. I star Wars Blke And a was a good boy. I want Star Wars Tuvle. - Dylan Strickland

Dear Santa,

I want ta real life unicorn and thank you for last years presents. - Love Emily Bisbee

Dear Santa,

What do I want for Christmas? I want a pink blender to make milkshakes, I want some "play" food like orange juice, oranges, and cucumbers. Also I want a playset Barbies with a princess and knight. And a Santa toy with little elves, and a mermaid set that blows bubbles from the tail. I will leave cookies and milk for you. - Hannah Johnson

Dear Santa

I have tried to be a good girl. I would like an easy bake oven. Please Easton and Owen.

- Love Peyton Whisenhant

a Dog zippy blanket. Can you bring Elizabetha a cat zippy blanket and Owen a toy that make noise. -Thank you Jack Bogue Happy Holidays

Here's hoping your Christmas is sheer purr-fection! It's been great having you as our neighbors.

Cottonwood News

Beverly Brown and Teri Brown

Dear Santa,

I would really like a My Little pony stuffed animal and a new dress up costume. I've been a good girl!

- Kambri Potter

Dear Santa,

I would like some hotwheels, lighting mcqueen, Zombie toys. - Curtis Cooper

Kindergarten Mrs. Golson's Class

Santa,

Please bring me SamApi LEGO *LEGO MEN Blue JEANS *WiNd-Up toy PoWEr rangeRs. Love Travis

Santa.

Pleas bring me Mal and Evi Dolls Sparkly black coweirl

Elsa and Ana dolls Stuffed turtle bubble gum toy horse Ceramic set I'll leave chocolate milk

and cookies for you. - Love Harper Dillard P.S Please tell "Buddy" the elf to stay out of my doll

clothes. Santa.

Please bring me

A whole set of army men. Stuffed Santa Clause to sleep with. A firefighter costume. My own cooking stuff. A pair of ca.no coveralls. A bow and arrow to hunt with. A desk to do homework on. An electronic kindle to play games on. A bow target. A new paint horse named cowboy.

- Love Kutter Riley

Reed Santa,

Please bring me My name is Dustyn Lee. I have been a pretty good boy this past year. Could you please bring me, a wreckeing ball toy, teenage mutant nin ja turtle toy, lego's, and a Tom Brady jersey, Also can you bring toy backhoe and a dump truck for my brother Landyn

Thank you!!! - Love Dustyn Lee

Cross Plains Remew

Dec. 24, 2015

Santa,

Please bring me

A toy tractor with duals. I would like a toy you Santa.

Thanks Vance Hutton

Q: Where do reindeer go to A: Christmas balls!

Santa.

Pleas bring me

A cowboy suit, horse with a man, a barn, a chrome book, a house with lots of cowboys and horses, and a sheriff cowboy hat. Santa I love

- Your friend, Rylen

Santa,

Please bring me

A toy pickup. A truck and motorcyle. I want a big trailer. A toy combine cloud and a little cloud too. and plow. Spiderman red I what a toy bear and a and white boots. I love acold winter toy. Can I have a big Monster High girl., and a house with it. Also some pretty clothes. I love you Santa and all your toys. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Santa,

Please bring me John Deere gloves

Your Friend Stormy

a guitar

a log hauler truck

a new rope

Thank you Love, Stryder Rutland

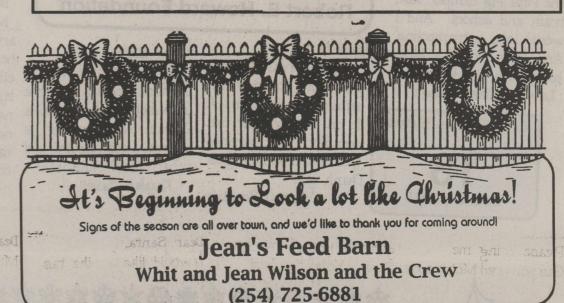


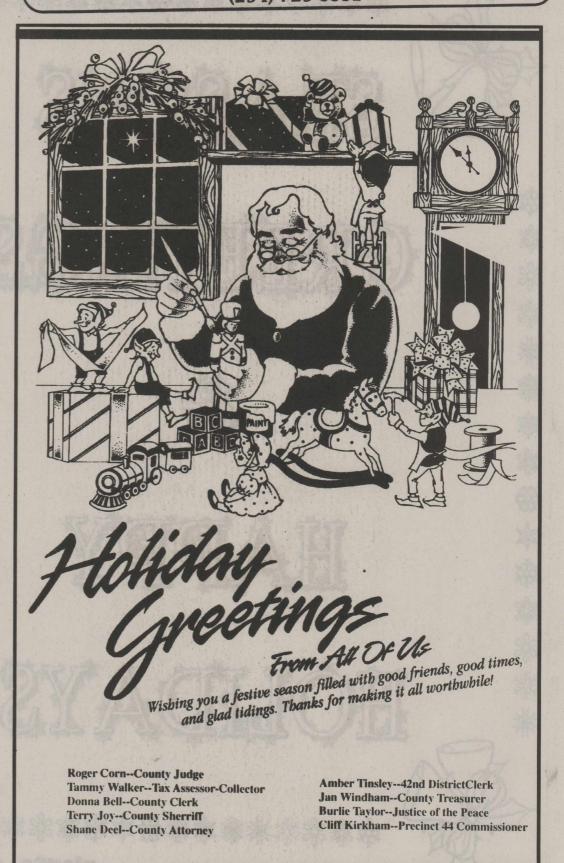
Customers like you are truly divine! Merry Christmas and sincere thanks.



Gil Tabor - Owner/Printer Cell (325) 665-2849

Fax (325) 893-2780 P. O. Box 1686 • Clyde, Tx. 79510







We're counting our blessings this holiday season, and your kind

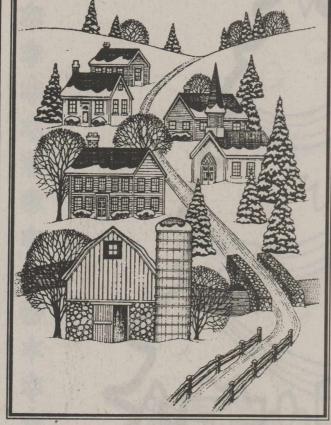
friendship is among them.

With thanks and best wishes from our family to yours for a very merry Christmas and a healthy, prosperous new year.

254-725-6866 or 254-725-4321

THE

CHILDRESS FAMILY



To Our Good Neighbors At

We're proud to be a part of this fine community and are grateful for the privilege of serving you.

Happy Holidays and heartfelt thanks! Merry Christmas and Heartfelt Thanks to Our Customers Lawrence Farm & Ranch Supply, Inc

E. Hwy 36 and Avenue B Cross Plains, Texas

स्वत्रम्यस्य स्वत्रम्यस्य स्वत्रम्य स्वत्यम्य स्वत्रम्य स्वत्रम्य



First Grade

Dear Santa, Halo please.

- Love Major

Dear Santa,

I need new makeup. New Winter pjs Would be nice. Lego set's I would like. Thank you Santa for what ever you give me for Christmas!

- McKenna

Dear Sants.

me to puppies and a Mostuffins set, Baby set. snowboard and a tablit. love you Santa.

- Love, Carbun Barnum

Dear Santa.

a toy Car. a blaCK toy How are you and your pupe. a real elf. a Colore reigndeer? Have I been In book. A noow dvd plaly. good this year? If so I a brenoownooW brbe would like stickbots, house a nooW tablit a legos, and a Xbox 360 with brenoow noow baker. a book a hale monster hictch my life cup.

- Chloe

Dear Santa,

I will have a amerikend gitl doll and a Santa doll if you have it. Thank you XOXOXOXOXOXO

-Love Cassidy Odell

Dear Santa,

I would like a tablet, Would you Please bring markers, shoes, Doc

- Love Hannah Marr

Yes, Virginia There Is & Jesus Christ By Geneva Nelson of Cross Plains

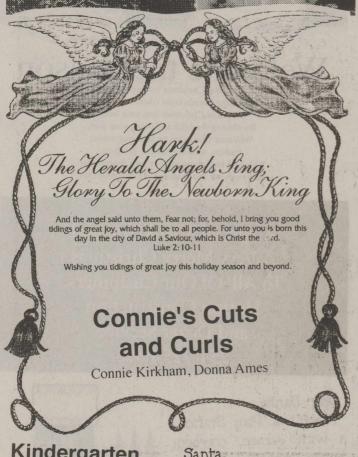
He is the happy in your Holidays, The twinkle in the lights. He is in the "Hellos" and "How are vas." And the heavenly Silent Nites.

He is the peace that stands beside you, When you have lost family or friends. He is the Savior with arems wide open, Asking you to come in.

He is the laughter that fills you, When things have gone just right. The caring arms thta have held you, Through you longest, scary night.

He is the Christ in Christmas, The Spirit that fills your soul. You have heard of that first Christmas, Passed down from Saints of ole.

But Virginia the thing about "Christ in Christmas", Is He is not just here once a year. For one quick happy celebration, He is with you forever, my dear.



Kindergarten Continued... Mrs. Golson's Class

Santa, Please bring me Gas powered Motorcycle Santa. Your the best and Zoomer Dino. I would also like a new bike. Love Lawson

Please bring me The Frozen dolls, A doll house, and dolls, please. I have been a very good Sint Your the best. I would like a bike tas

Yours truely Bethany Gilliam HOPE IT'S UPLIF



We know it gives us a lift to serve you.

Many thanks for your loyal support.

Hutton Auto Repair 254-725-0002

Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00 Sat- 8:00-12:00



yellow.

- Love, Josh Cody

Dear Santa,

My name is Bobby. I am 7 years old. I want a walkie talkie and a army set and a mp3 player with headset, a remote control airplane, a psp player for my brother Austin, a transformer for Taylor, Denver a necklace and mom one too. Daddy needs tools . - Love Bobby

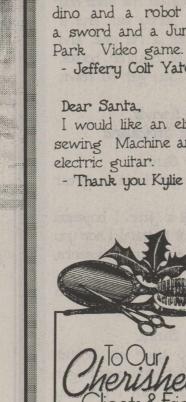
Dear Santa,

I will Leave you two kinds of cookies and milk please bring me minecraft story mode Jurassic World Zoomer dino and a robot with a sword and a Jurassic

- Jeffery Colt Yates

I would like an elf doll, sewing Machine and an

- Thank you Kylie Davis



Folks like you are really a

cut above! Happy Holidays

and heartfelt thanks.

Ray's Barber Shop

(254) 725-7530

Dear Santa

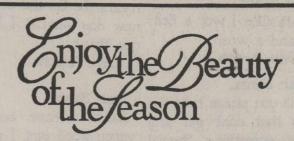
Dear Santa

I would like a car. army men , and toy guns, dinosaurs, and I would like ather kids to get presents.

Thank you Samuel

I would like a ninja Turtle lego set, optimes prime, smasher Thor and iron man, and Jurassic

World Toys. Please! -Thank you Jeremy Santos



May you revel in the splendor of the season and marvel at the miracle of all living things large and small.

With appreciation and warm holiday wishes from all of us.

Jim's Floral and Gifts (254) 725-6220 Tim Dillard

Cross Plains Review Dec. 24, 2015

Q: If Frosty the Snowman married a vampire, what would they name their child? A: Frostbite!!



First United **Methodist Church**





First Grade Continued...

Dear Santa, Santa Clos I wot a Cell fon and a wosh. - From Arleth

Dear Santa,

Will you please take the kids thut don't get any gifts something Special for the holidays. Also please be safe and warm on your trip.

- Jayden Phillips

Dear Santa,

I will have a toy fol Zach is a scooter at has and a noobic at gama has my sidh a toy scooter. littl at my gama. 2015 toy cabr has.

- Zach Cody

Dear Santa,

I have Been Good all year I would like minions. I Been so Good that I would like to get evre ting. But like a lot of ting and a tablet.

- Love Haylee

Dear Santa,

I wood like a machete. I wold like a air hockey table. I will leave you treats. be Careful of our new dog Rascal I Love you thank

- Love Anson

Dear Santa

Santa I have been a verey good girl. I would like a drumset and a scooter and a kitten. And that is all.

- Love Kyndall Purvis

cookies and corn for the the frinch. the elf that

- Love Virginia

Dear Santa,

I don't want presents Remeber last year when this year. pleg giv them you got some me and MS. to other kids who deserve I hope you remerber we

- Delanee

Dear Santa, and a Balloons.

- Thak yoo Kailey Rivas

Dear Santa,

December 2015 Dear Santa card board house army set remote controil cars a bike. -Isaiah Cody

Second Grade

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I like I hope you are felling Bae the Elf. Pleas will you good, I would like some give me some presents? toy tractors, or a I will leave you some combine I get to wach McDaniel reindeer. Thank you. you sent us we name hime Smartie.

I would like some books like the magic tree house. don't have a chimany.

Your Friend, Cullen

Dear Santa,

I hope that you don't get sick. Do you live in the sky? Do you love school? Do you like songs? I wuld like a elf on the shelf doll and a jorey set and a cunputer a rill one. and a set of chapter books. I hope you get to town

Your friends Gracie Strickland

Dear Santa,

Are you have a great

I will a jepe. I hopeyou are not to tiard. I hop you don't drop any presents. I like you.

You fiend Brandan Joues

Dear Santa,

I hop your sla bohtet sluc But you wont get slucsarta can I ples my I had a elf santa I my not hab your buc Santa

I my not illing and santa can I hab a babe trtitoo and can I ples hab a Libyh bs pispr Santa ples and I will set a nuhbuh and sum mtk OK santa I love you.

Your Friend LJ Eppard

Dear Santa.

I hope rain deer are redy for christmas. How Many elfs do have? For Christmas I would like two ps4 controllers and a flat screen tv and a black cat and last but not least a iphone 6x..

Your Friend, Trace Johnson

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa

I hope tahat you are haveing a great day at the north Pole. Do you Like it at the north Pole. for christmas i would like a Boy Baby Boston terrier. I would Like a presser. I would Like a

Your Freind, Abigail ann Bisbee

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Dear Santa

I love how you do your job I wold like a elf on I Want Boin aro and the shelf ples? Can i git a paint set and a junol some animal thaning like and dolls and a prinsoss a harness plese. I wold Dolls and a markers and like tow chapter bookse a shoos and a playdough plese. I like your hat and your rander.

Your friend Delainey Massey

Dear Santa,

How have been Is your workshop cold inside? I would like some one to getme a pare of roller llazs. I would like a non traing weewld bike. I would like to a scooter. I would like to learn how to sow.

Love, Jaci Breane

I would like a big bike with training wheels a new Play Stashon games

How is you day today?

A new friend for my dog. I would Like to bake cookies with my Mom then we can give them to Santa.

Your Friend Daniel

Mauricio

Tyler Dear Santa gage Mackey

I hope youer slay duot get stuk. I wnt a nooe folwele. I ned a tot for presets, I love my elf thak you for my elf. I ned a bike.

Your Find Tyler



Welcome the Season

By gathering friends from wherever they roam Welcome Christmas into your heart By sharing the faith and doing your part; Welcome Christmas by honoring others Fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers; Welcome the season in your own special way, And enjoy all the blessings of Christmas Day!

A Special Thank You and A Very Merry Christmas To All Of Our Customers. **Hutton Construction** and Dozer Service 254-725-6316

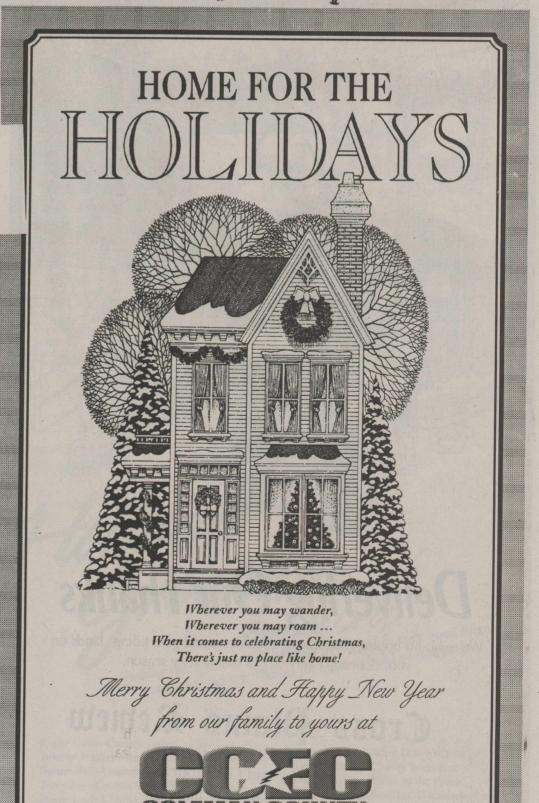
Dear Santa

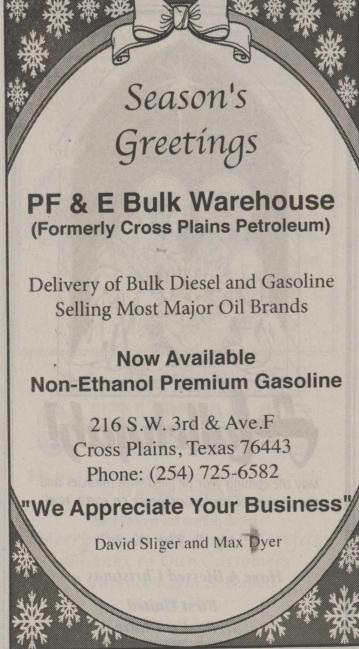
I want a Play Station 3 with games, cowboy boots square toe, a drone, spy gear, a watch, a cowboy hat, a camo jacket, a toy robot, a bow an arrow, a knife, and a shot gun.

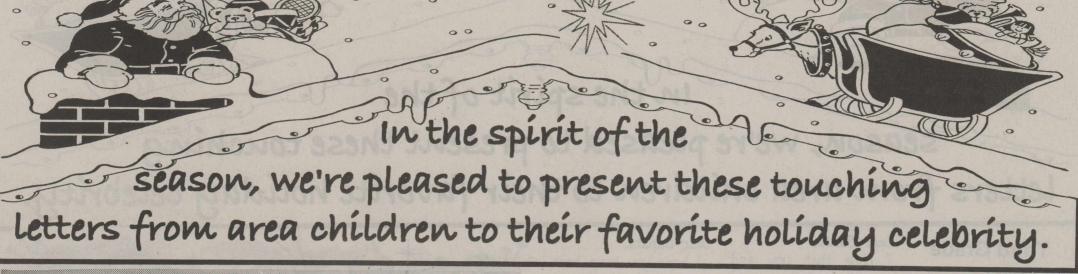
Love, Ethan Beasley

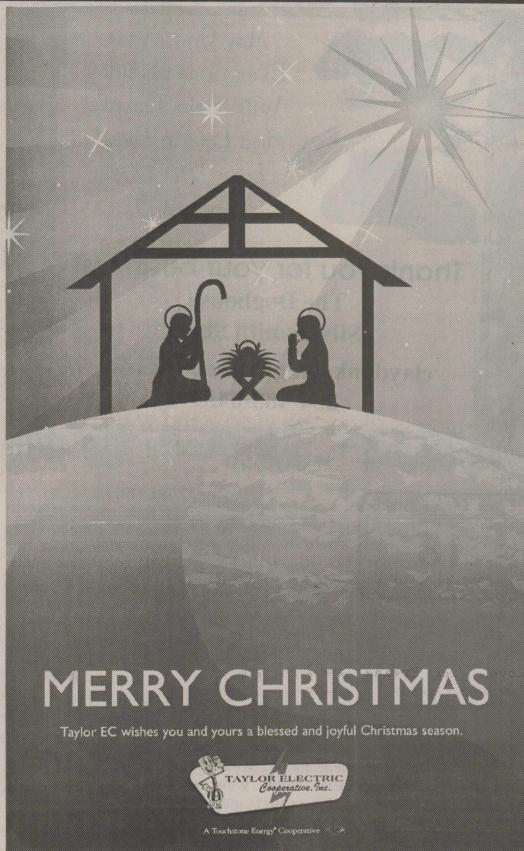


Q. Where does a snowman keep his money? A. In a snow bank.









Second Grade Continued...

Dear Santa,

give me sum presis.

Knight

Dear Santa,

I hope that you are having a great day, and getting a Lot of rest at the North POLE. I really May I have for Chrismes tired hard to be good, sum chrismes COOKies some times I messed Santa can you give me up. I'm really sorry. For for chrismes a mercon Christmas I would Like doll clozit and can you a drum set, xbox 360. Conner would like a train Your Friend Shelbi set. Kinlee my sister that is up to you.

Your Best Friend Alden

Dear Santa,

I hope you have a grat day Do you have many toy's to malk. I would like a tablite, a now bike, a elf on the shelf, a grinch move, and shopkins, a tree house, and pleas can I have a capiuter, amd pleas can I have a awl phone 4 pleas.

Your Friend Toni Roberts

Dear Santa,

2015

I hope that you have a safe flat kuming to town may I have un Elf on the Shelf and make cookies with my family and may I have the grith That stol crisns. Ples Marry Crise Your Friend Eva Farley

Dear Santa,

Santa are your elves doing good? For christmas can I please have a amerocan doll bity baby with blod hare. Also can I please have a stroller for the girl and the boy. Also can I hae on rabit and a goat. Also can I have a nerfrbell stuff.

Daliege

Dear Santa,

I hope Your elves had a great time coming here and. I have been good I hope. But this is what i want for christmas. i whant some skates for christmas. and I want some school stuff too athen I want some decoration for my Room. athen I want a Warm cozy coat. and books.

I love Alivia Allison,

Dear Santa,

I hope you are having a grate day how are you doing withe elfs. I ges some tutched and moved serlings elf. I wan't some roller skates. . Baby munkey with stroller. American doll house that you can fit in. American dall. . And a picture of you Mrs. clos.

Your lovly elf friend, Avery Switzer

Dear Santa,

I hope you have are having a grat day at the north pole Do you have the toys I love you. I ime going to see you eny day know you are going to be fun all the time and every chresmes. I love you are fun all all I wunt is Santa.

Your friend, Taylor Black

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I hope you have a good chrismas and I wolb like a beebeegun and allsowa Like 2000 Legopodple, I cake a play hows That I also 10000 Wii games, can fit in Pleas.

Bennett Phillips

Dear Santa

You are Best. I would and 20000 presints.

Your Frienb Karsyn Your friends Blake



Dear Sainta,

I love you, Do you know how, maks the Toys. For chrismas i woud lke a Bity Baby . chhala pupy spriz. and a alairmclak. I hope that you have a gat crismas.

Your Friend, Amanda Roberts

Dear Santa

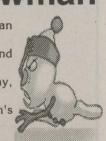
I hope you and your elfs are doing good at the north pole, pleas can I have a hover bord and a big big doll seat and pleas can I have shopkins and a new iphones.

Your friend Kambria

A Chubby Snowman



A chubby little snowman had a carrot nose. Along came a bunny, and what do you suppose? That hungry little bunny, looking for some lunch, Grabbed that snowman's Nibble, nibble, crunch.





From your Callahan County Sheriff's Office



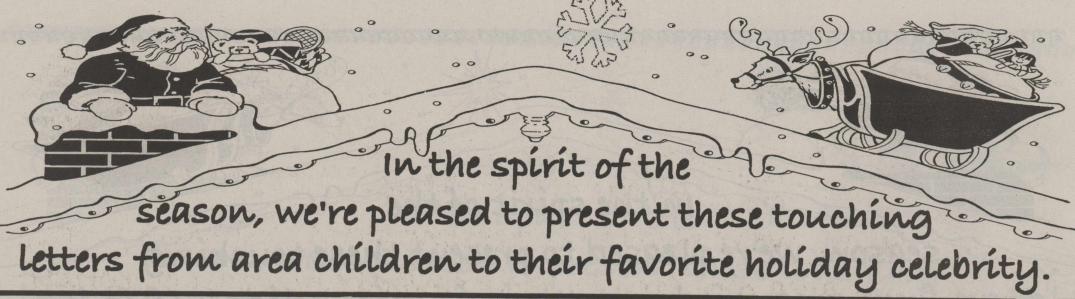
creations, large and small. We really feel fortunate for the blessing of your patronage.

Wild Texas Taxidermy (254) 725-4200



Bud and Becky Dillard River and Chloe Dillard Matt and Bree McGuire

Your friend, Addison



Third Grade

Dear Santa,

I hope you and Mrs. Claus are doing well this year and you got a lot of rest. I have been a very good boy this year.

I hope you can stop by my huose becasue I would like a remote control helicopter a remote contol truck, a farm set a dirtbike, go cart and a truck and trailer set. Santa please don't forget

to stop at hospitals where the peopel are sick and visit the pleopel with diseases.

Please have a Happy New Year.

Love you Ryder Reed P.S. I'll leave you same milk and cookies.



Christmas and all through the homeless people too. house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by and fudge. the chimney with care. They'd been worn all week and

Dear Santa,

I hope that you and Mrs. Claus had a good and reindeers I said hello. I hope that I am on the get ready for Christmas. Please Don't forget about the Veterans because they have been fighting for our lives.

Santa can you please get me a toy rapter, a silver bell, a Bible, a stuffs killer whale, and a silver watch. Merry Christmas Summer Black

P.S. I will leave you a surprise on the table.

Dear Santa,

Santa how have you been and how is Mrs. Clous? I hope the elves have been helping.

I hope I'm pm t je mice list because I sure don't want a stocking full of

For Christmas I want a world globe, a bike a Mindcraft story mode game, Hoale 5 game and a starwars Jet.

Don't faset to bring T'was the night before some blankets to the P.S. I'll leave you milk

Happy Hollidays

Dear Sanata.

I hope you have been taking care of the vacation. Tell the eleves reindeer and Rudolph. I hope they are ready to fly. Can you give all the nice list because I have reindeer and Rudolph a been helping my family hug for me. I hope I'm on the good list because I have been taking care of my baby cousin.

> I want a dirt bike, a 4-wheeler, a playstation and a new controler, and new bike. Santa please remember to bring a gift to the homeless

God Bless - Michael P.S. I'll leave you a suprise in the kitchen.

Dear Santa,

my elf Shaun that he's awesome. I wish I could hear your sleigh coming so you could tell me if I have been good or not. Guess I'll find out on

Merry Christmas.

Happy Halidays, Graydon

Would you please tell Christmas.

I want a LEGO set, a fort that's awesome, a sackfull of stuffed animals, a big bike and a watch. But I'm sure that orphans have a list of their own too, so please remember them. Have a good and happy time on your sleigh and

P.S. I wont forget the



Cross Plains Rebieb

Dec. 24, 2015

Q. What do you call Santa when he stops moving? A. Santa Pause!

Dear Santa,

this year. Pleas tell the Merry Christmas for me. I have tried to be good this year. I hope you put me on the good list.

I hope you are ready for Christmas and to take the presents to everyones house. I hope you visit me this year.

I want a horse book, toy horse, cowgirl hat, I- tunes card and new

Please don't forget the people with cancer.

I hope I can see you on Christmas Eve. I hope you have a good trip.

Love Katie Sutton P.S. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Dear Santa,

Santa tell Mrs. Claus and the elves Merry Christmas for me. I've tried to be good this year so please give me some presents.

Give Doner a hug for me and please don't forget the people in the hospitals. For Christmas I'd like a new belt buckle, cowboy hat, a fathead, camo fishing rod, and a bike. Thanks for caring for the children and people Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

Love Barrett Ps. I'll leave you donut holes and milk.

Dear Santa,

I hope you had plenty of rest this year. I hope the reindeer have been good and will you give them hug for me. The same .or the elves.

Santa, I've really tried to be good this year and I have worked hard in school and I mind my parents and

grandparents. I hope you and Mrs. stuff for Christmas this Clasis have been good year. Please bring me a new merf gun, a reindeer and the elves Sky Vipper, a Call of a gift too. Duty Advanced Warefare game, A pocket knife and wonderful trip. Grand Theft Auto Five.

Don't forget the Military, orphans and the Handicapped people.

Happy Hollidays, Chase

P.S. I will leave you milk and cookies.

I hope you have been telling the elves to work

Dear Santa,

hard for Christmas Eve Please hug Rudolf for me and especially Cupid. I hope I'm on the nice list this year unlike last year. Santa I tried to stay on the nice list this year.

I hope you think I've Been very good because I I hope I'm on the nice would like a PS3, a puppy, list because I want this a computer a little pony figure and PS3 games.

Please remember the orphans and bring them

I hope you have a

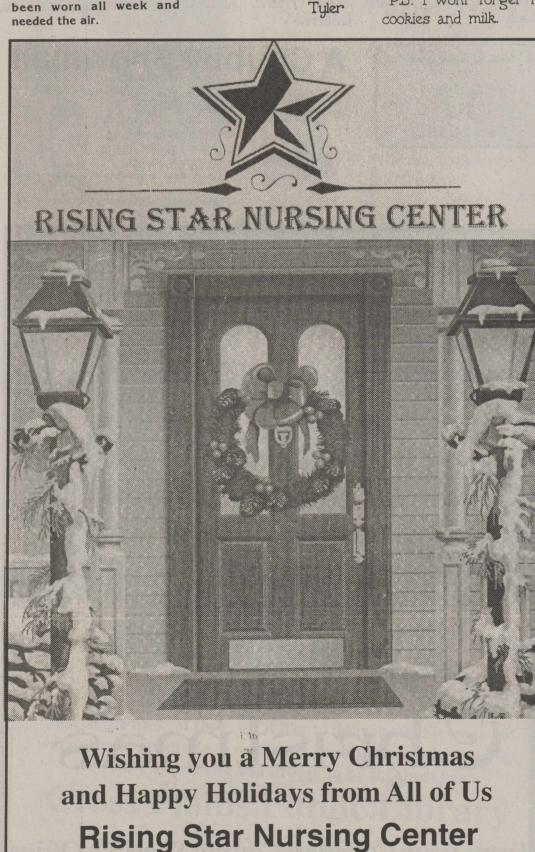
Good Luck Ialla

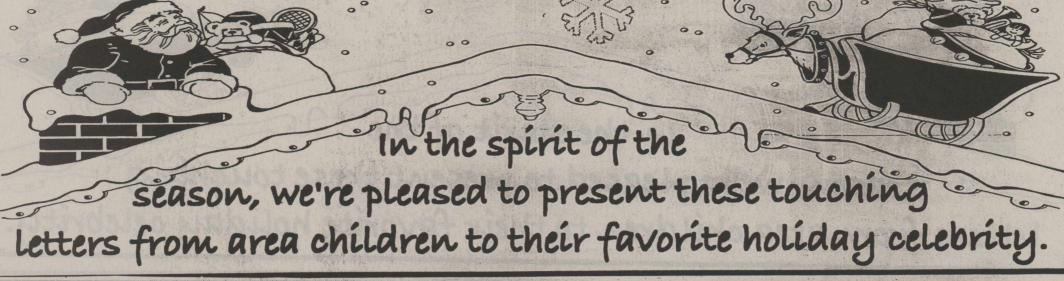
P.S. I will leave some

yummy cookies and mile











Third Grade Continued...

Dear Santa

Is your reindeer in good shape and ready to fly? I hope Mrs. Clause has been looking after you this year.

I really hope I am on the nive list this year.

What I want for Christmas is Minion stuff and a TV.

Don't forget the Orphans because they need food and water and clothes.

Love Katelyn P.S. I will leave you some milk and cookies, and I will leave some carrots for your reindeer.

Dear Santa

I hope you are not to Dear Santa, think that too.

all the aminal cases, a of my baby cousin. forget my teacher's baby for the homeless too. named Jade, and my friend Summer.

Merry Christmas. Love - Peyton

P.S. I will leave cookies and milk, and I will leave corn and carrots for the reindeer and wake me up when you come.

Q. What do you get if you cross mistletoe and a duck? A. A Christmas Quacker.

tiny for your suit and I I hope you have been hope you are doing good. taking care of the I have been very good reindeet and Rudolph. I this year and I hope you hope they are ready to fly. Can you give all th For Christmas this year reindeer and Rudolph a I would like some calico hus for me. I hope Im critters with a mansion, on the good list because a art case, play barn with i have been taking care

dospen, a play newborn I want a dirt bike, a 4 baby with the tub and wheeler, a play station, the other stuff, and the and a new controler, a rest can be spcial from new bike. Santa please you and please do not remember to bring a gift

Michael

P.S. I'll leave you a suprise in the kitchen.

Q: What do you call Frosty the Snowman in May? A: A puddle!

Dear Santa,

How is Rudolph doing? does his nose still glow? Have you been having fun with the reindeer? I'm really looking forward to your visit to my Nanny's house this year.

I think I have been good this year and I hope you do too.

Santa may I have these 5 things that I want for Christmas. I would like and American Girl doll, Julie American Girl wheelchair, Lalaloopsy baking oven, blue skateboard and an adult coloring book.

Please remember the Orphans as they need some gifts and love too. Merry Christmas

P.S. I'll leave you some milk and cookies.

Dear Santa,

I hope Mrs. Clause is taking good care of you. I hope you haven't lost any weight so you can fit in your suit.

i hope been trying to be good. I hope I'm on the nice list. I don't want a peace of coal in my stocking.

Please dont forget the orphans and the homeless. Can you please try to get me a 4 wheeler. and

get my dad a gift too. Happy hollidays Nathan P.S. I will leave you a

treat on the table.

Dear Santa,

I hope you and Mrs. Clause have been good this year. Tell the reindeer and the elves I said hello. I look forward to your visit.

I hope I'm on the good list this year. I would like a huge teddy bear, Drawing Notebook, a new phone, Wizard of Oz book, and a Wizard of O3 Movie.

Santa, please do not forget the Orphans, the homeless people, and the people in hospitals.

P.S Don't forget to stop

by the kitchen for some cookies and milk. God Bless - Mattie

Dear Santa

It's almost Christmas and I am really looking forward to your visit. I hope Mrs. Claus has been taking care of you.

I hope I am on the nice list. I have been trying hard to help our at the house, like helping with my baby brother Holt.

Santa if you think I deserve it, I would like a go Cartm a punching bag, a RC Rapid Fire Rocket Launcher, space voyagers and a glow in the dark zombie blast. not forget the orphans. Love - Stryker

P.S. I will leave you some cookies and some chocolate milk on the tray table.



How have you been this year? I hope Mrs. Claus has been taking care of you. I hope I am on the good list because I have been helping my mom with the baby and I do my chores.

I home you think I have to because I want a puppy, shoes, electric scooter, and don't forget the homeless people.

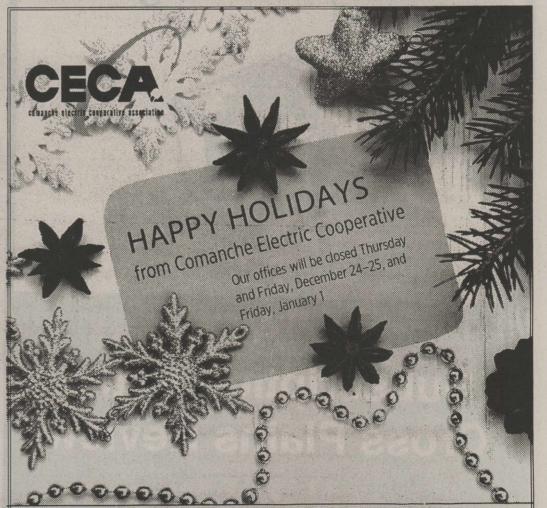
Love - Natalie P.S. I'll leave you milk and cookies.

Cross Plains Review Dec. 24, 2015



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Randy & Lee Ann, Cody & Charlotte, & Kevin Baker



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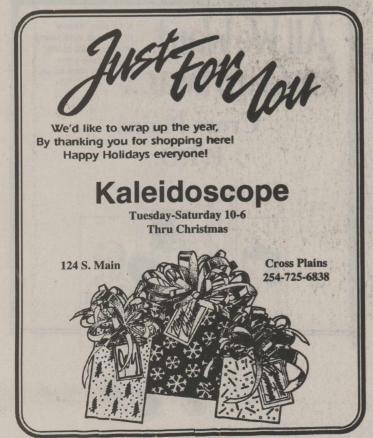
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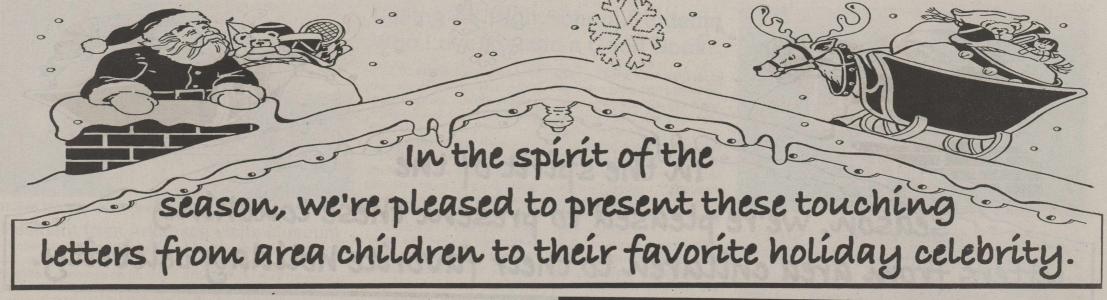
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Lunch 1-1:30

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Third Grade Continued...

Dear Santa,

I hope you had a fask vacation please tell the Elves hello for me. I have worked hard this year trying to be good for you and I hope you think I have. On Christmas Eve I hope you con bring me Monstertruck Legos, cowboy blanket, xbox 360 contro, Minecraft Santa I hope you have a safe trip around God Bless Love -

Giovannu

Dear Santa,

I hope you are taking care of the Reindeer and Rudolph. I hope you don't get bigger and I hope come for Christmas as kids can get presents from you to play with.

Santa, for Christmas I want a Rover Spy Tank, Hover Board, new bike, Zoomer Dino and a Zoomer Cat.

Please remember my Uncle Bubba and the rest of our family.

Love - Racelyn P.S. I hope you have a

Give the gift that will

all year long!

Dear Santa

Well Santa it's almost Christmas. I hope you have kept the reindeer and elves going I hope yall are in good shape. Can you give Rudoph a hug for me please?

I hope I am on the nice list because I have been trying to be good. I help my family and im trying hard in school

For Christmas can you please bring me a Lava Lamp. But what want the most this year is a puppy and a hourse.

Santa please don't forget about our Beterans because they have risked their lives to save us.

Thank you for coming this year. Have a safe And I hope it's not too cold through the

Happy Holidays - Rylee P.S. I will leave you a present under the tree.

Knock Knock Who's there? A very who? A very merry Christmas!





May peace and glad tidings visit your home this holiday season. We're grateful for your visiting us this year. Thanks!

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas

David Holmes Investment Services " Building Estates Today" 254-725-7141

www.DavidHolmesAgency.com

Dear Santa

I hope the elves have been helping you to get the presents ready for all the rids this year. I hope you have a sage trip.

I can't wait to see you. I've been trying to be good for you and I hope I'm on the nice list.

Please tell Mrs.Clause. the reindeer and the elves that I said "Hi!"

Please make sure you don't forget orphan, homeless people, and Kids with diseases.

Santa can you please try to get me these tous like a Wow Wee Mip Robot, Robot dinousaur snakeez, Zoomer Z Up and last but of least a real bird.

Love you, Rhianna P.S I'll leave you cookies and milk to eat.

Dear Santa,

I hope you had a fantastic vacation. Please tell the elves hello for me I have worked hard this year trying to be good for you and I hope you think I have. On Christmas Eve I hope you can bring me a Zoomer Kitty, Pop the doll and make-up.

on Christmas eve.

God Bless - Madison





Dear Santa,

Well it is almost here, Santa. I hope the reindeer Pig, toy dog, boy Barbie are in shape, and I hope you are eating good.

Santa I hope you have a Santa I have been saf trip around the world tryibng to help out at the house. I hope I am on the nice list.

> Santa, I would love to have a Rover Spy Tank, remote control Helicopter, NCAA backetball, NCAA baseball and Madden 15. Santa please don't forget about the orphans. God Bless - Kade

P.S. I'll leave cookies and milk for you on the coffee table and carrots for your reindeer.

Safe flying!

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Call 254-725-6111 or come by the office. 116 S.E. 1st Street



Q. Why do mummies fike Christmas so much?

