

Nichols
Worth



By Nanalee Nichols
'Tis the Season

Bah Humbug? Not I. I love Christmas. No matter how rushed, overburdened, overworked, understaffed or crippled up I get, I love Christmas.

Throughout the past week we have all worked long, long days to get ready for our yearly Christmas edition of the papers.

We will work far into the night Tuesday night, assembling the weeks of work into a (hopefully) coherent edition.

We will be tired, stressed and strained.

But I never tire of reading the memories, the Santa letters, seeing the photos of excited children, and working up the ads that have such lovely art work in them.

We will stop for a breather every now and again, and laugh, and sing (badly) snatches of Christmas songs, nibble on some goodies and go back to work.

And when the presses roll and that special Christmas edition comes off, there is a feeling of pride and joy that I simply cannot explain. Yes, we make money on the edition. If we didn't, there would be no papers. But for us, it truly is so much more than that. It is a time when people say "Merry Christmas" to friends and customers, a time when people put aside differences and wish one another well.

The Christmas edition helps to do that. It is a very special thing to me. This is my 20th year to put one together. I've never failed to enjoy one yet.

Another thing we enjoy are the personal messages many readers send in when they renew their subscriptions. Some send Christmas cards, others pen a little note that pleases us.

Which brings me to my whole point.

I know so many people I have never seen, nor even spoken to. I know them through years of reading about them, and writing to them through this column.

They are our readers, the people who make this paper possible.

They are special people. They stick with us through postal delays, mix ups and even disagreements over articles.

And somehow, I know them. Only it isn't "them", it's "YOU". Each and every one of you who are reading this right now.

Thank you, and may you have the most wonderful Holiday ever. You make it all worthwhile.

Merry
Christmas

Talco-Bogata CISD Tax Office holiday schedule

The Talco-Bogata CISD Tax Office will be open on Dec. 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The office will be closed Dec. 22 through Dec. 25. It will reopen Monday Dec. 28 and will be open Tuesday, Dec. 29 and Wednesday, Dec. 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Thursday, Dec. 31 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The office will return to regular hours on January 4, 1999.

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Talco Times

63RD YEAR, No. 8

TALCO, TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS

Thursday, December 24, 1998

50¢



A Christmas Story Whether It's a "true" story or not, it's a beautiful story

A friend told me this Christmas story the other day, and whether it is a "true" story or not, it is worth reading and pondering. Read it and hold the true meaning of Christmas in your heart.

One day, right before Christmas, there was a very depressed young man riding around in his beat up, worn out pickup truck. The factory where he and many others in the area had worked had closed. He had only his unemployment check coming in, and there were few other jobs to be had. He was down and out, depressed because he couldn't buy a Christmas present for anyone.

He passed an elderly woman in a brand new Cadillac on the side of the road. In the cold, freezing rain, she was trying to get her trunk open in order to fix a flat. It was obvious that she was not up to this task.

The young man thought to himself "well, even if I can't afford Christmas, I can do a good deed" and he stopped. Looking at him, the woman was a little fearful at first, but he was so kind, and she quickly lost her fear.

"Get in my truck, mam' and keep warm, and I'll change your tire". He did so in short order, then helped her back into her Cadillac.

"I must pay you well for this" the lady exclaimed, but he waved her money away.

"No, I won't take any money for helping out someone in need" he replied softly "You just do someone else in need a kindness and think of Joe when you do".

"Joe?" she replied.

"Yes, that's me, plain old Joe. Pass a kindness along for me, will you please".

Miles down the road the woman stopped at a small, roadside cafe to get lunch. The waitress was very nice to her, but she was obviously due to have a baby any day. Her poor feet were swollen, her maternity clothes were old and worn, and it was painfully evident that she was very tired.

The older woman watched the young waitress trudging away from her table and remembered Joe's words about passing along a kindness. She laid three crisp, new \$100 bills on the table and wrote a note. It read "A nice young man told me to pass along a kindness, and I'm doing so".

That evening, the waitress walked into her home waving the \$100 bills.

"Joe, Joe," she laughed, "the most wonderful thing has happened! We can buy things for the baby, isn't it a wonderful Christmas gift?"



CHRISTMAS APPRECIATION-Talco Principal, Kelly Stansell treated her staff and members of the Talco-Bogata School Board to a special lunch Thursday. Everyone enjoyed sandwiches, dips, chips, desserts and drinks. Pictured in line are; (from the left) Tina Nolen, Kelly Stansell and Lisa Via. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



PINATA FUN-The Talco Third grade class enjoyed taking turns until their Christmas candy filled pinata broke open at their class party Thursday. Pictured taking her turn is Grace Smith as teachers Debbie Ingram and Staci Hinton watch. Staci, who was in control of the rope helped a little in keeping the pinata from being broken before each child got their turn at breaking it. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Highway four-lane meeting postponed

According to Rick Mackey of the Texas Department of Transportation the meeting pertaining to the development of four laneing U.S. 271 from Paris to Mt. Pleasant has been set for January 19th.

The meeting previously set for Dec. 15th at Rivercrest High School had to be postponed in order to address more issues before the meeting is held.

The next meeting date is tentatively set for January 19th at the Rivercrest High School auditorium.

The time and confirmation of the meeting will be announced as soon as all details are worked out, Mackey said.

New Year's Eve dance planned

New Aces Band will provide music for a New Year's Eve dance at VFW Post 8187 in Bogata December 31, starting at 8:00 p.m.

This band plays music everyone can enjoy. Blackeyed peas and cornbread will be served.

Make plans to stay close to home and see the New Year in with your friends and neighbors.

Work on keeping Deport clinic open still progressing

There are still hopes that the Deport Medical Clinic will be kept open.

McCouston Regional Medical Center has expressed and interest, and Presbyterian Health Care Systems will be making a decision in conjunction with them soon. East Texas Medical Center has also been looking into the possibility of keeping the clinic open.

A group of doctors has also expressed a definite interest in the clinic and will be making a decision soon.

People 'n Things

Applications for Preparatory Band at Talco-Bogata Schools are in each campus office. any student who would like to join or re-join may pick up an application and return it by Dec. 17, 1998. For more information contact Band Director, Richard Davis at Rivercrest High School 632-5204.

The Talco-Bogata Junior High Lady Rebels and Rebels will resume play following the holidays with the Girls traveling to Honey Grove and the boys hosting Honey Grove at Rivercrest gym. Both games will begin at 5:30 p.m. Come out and support the teams.

Dec. 28-31 the Rebel varsity will travel to Leonard for tournament play. Game times are to be announced.

On Jan. 2 district play will begin for the Lady Rebel and Rebel teams vs Cooper at Cooper beginning at 4:00 p.m. Both JV and Varsity girls and boys will play. Come out and support the teams.

On Jan. 5 all 4 Rivercrest basketball teams will host to Chapel Hill beginning at 4:00 p.m.

On Friday, Jan. 8 the Rivercrest teams will travel to Honey Grove with games beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Attention Talco-Bogata PIPS

The Talco-Bogata PIPS (Players in Progress) have received their shorts for the coming performance season.

The shorts were given to each student at their schools on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1998. If anyone has a pair that does not fit they must be returned to Lori Franks. In order to get sizes corrected Lori must receive your call on or before Dec. 23, 1998.

The PIPS will meet for practice on Jan. 3, 1998 at Rivercrest High School gym. For more information contact Lori Franks at 379-9430 or 632-5204.



The TALCO TIMES
Wants
YOUR NEWS
Just Give us a call with
your visitors, feature
ideas or ideas for news
stories or cooks!
Call Us at 379-4445 or
632-5322

Papers will not publish week of Dec. 31

There will be no paper published next week (the week of Dec. 31).

All local news, subscriptions, photos or news items that would normally be published that week will be used in the following week's edition.

The staff at Thunder Prairie Publishing has literally worked 12-14 hours a day without a day off, and feel the need to rest and recuperate after the hectic holiday publishing schedule!

We hope our readers understand, and we wish you all a Happy New Year.

Spring registration is January 13-14 at PJC

Students planning to attend Paris Junior College this spring can make plans to register for classes on January 13-14. The first day of class will be Monday, January 18.

Registration will be held in the Mike Rheudasil Learning Center from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days. Students will be registered alphabetically according to their last name.

Night students may register from 5:30 to 7 p.m. both days. Late registration will be conducted on Monday and Tuesday, January 18-19 but a \$20 late fee will be charged.

Students should bring any test scores they may have, along with transcripts from previous colleges and an identification card that includes a photo and current address.



Country Cooking
By Liz Irwin

http://www.1starnet.com/tpp



Our featured cook of the week this week is the Deport ladies in their Cookie Swap. They can't remember exactly when they first started this little group, but we have featured them each Christmas for the last two years, so this makes it our third year in publication.

They certainly come up with some great recipes each year and thanks go to these ladies for letting us use their recipes.

I would like to take this time to wish everyone out there a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and hope that 1999 brings you all that you hope for and we will see you in the kitchen!

Chicken Crescent Wreath by Patsy Norrell-refrigerated crescent rolls is the center of this recipe and it is topped with soup and veggies along with water chestnuts and cooked chicken. Wonderful for the holidays!

Chocolate Fudge by Juanita Sparks-If unsweetened chocolate is used, decrease butter by 2 tablespoons. She likes to use cocoa. She almost always doubles the recipe when she makes it. By cooking the pecans in the candy, a toasted taste is achieved.

Divinity Candy by Juanita Sparks-this recipe was given to

Juanita in the early days of her marriage by Mary Taylor of Cunningham and she told her the secret of successful divinity was the crackling sound! It works every time.

Mixed Nut Turtle by Nanalee Nichols-Use mixed nuts that include macadamia, almonds and cashews.

Vanishing Oatmeal Raisin Cookies by Bocky Norman-As usual, Bock always turns in a wonderful cookie recipe and this year is no exception!

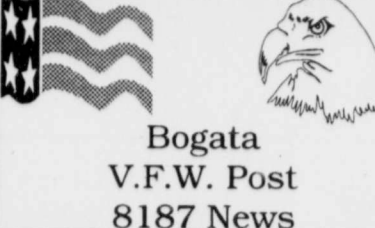
Almond Filled Cookie Cake by Dawne Darden-This can also be made into tartlets as well as cake form.

Chocolate Almond Cookies by Ann Lee-this recipe uses cocoa along with chocolate chips to add just that right amount of chocolate!

Toasted Oatmeal Cookies by Patsy Norrell-toast the oatmeal first and set aside and mix with dates, raisins and nuts along with a mixture of spices.

Crunchy Orange Slice Cookies by Juanita Taylor-Orange slices, pecans, coconut, oats and corn flakes make up this crunchy concoction of a cookies. They are superb!

Chicken Salad Balls by Juanita Taylor-the only trouble with this recipe is... you can't stop eating them!



Bogata V.F.W. Post 8187 News

Meeting time is 2nd and 4th Monday night at 7:00 p.m.

Post is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight, and Saturday from 12:00 noon until 1:00 a.m.

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. is 42 playing time and Pool and shuffleboard are open all the time.

*New Aces Band will provide music for a New Year's Eve dance at VFW Post 8187 in Bogata December 31, starting at 8:00 p.m. They play music everyone can enjoy. Black eyed peas and cornbread will be served.

Make plans to stay close to home and see the New Year in with your friends and neighbors.

December is National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has declared December as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

In 1997, there were 3,508 people killed on Texas highways. Thirty percent of these deaths were alcohol related. Responsible personal behavior could have prevented these traffic deaths. Texas motorists must make the right choice of abstaining from alcohol when driving. For those who have not learned this important lesson, Texas has tough drunk driving



A.E. "Doc" Cremeen dies December 15

A.E. "Doc" Cremeen, formerly of Detroit, died December 15 at Silver Haven Rehab Center in Burleson at the age of 83.

Graveside services were held at Laurel Land in Ft. Worth on December 17 with his nephew, Gaylon Cremeen officiating.

He was born in Manchester, TX on February 15, 1915, one of the eleven children of J.D. and Mattie Cremeen and was married to Mary Belle Doudney on June 15, 1940.

He moved to the Ft. Worth area in 1954 and had retired after years of ranching and self-employment.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Belle of Burleson; two daughters, Julia Ann Jett and husband Robert of Austin and Marilyn Tackett and husband Dick of Crowley; two grandchildren, Sheila Berry of Crowley and Mark Jett and wife Desiree of Dallas; one great-grandson, Josh Berry of Crowley; brothers, Difford Cremeen of Leaky, Bob Cremeen of Springtown, Bill Cremeen of Santa Fe; sisters, Lorene Carter of Tecumseh, OK, Mae Hackler of Paris, Fae Chesshire of Carthage and Dorothy Townes of Clarksville. He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Howard, J.D. Jr., and Carl Melvin.

Travis Fleming dies December 18

Travis Fleming died Friday, December 18 at Baylor Medical Center, Dallas.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, December 21 at East Paris Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike Fortenberry and the Rev. Mike Ryland officiating. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery under the direction of Fry-Gibbs Funeral Home.

Mr. Fleming was born October 13, 1940 in Woodland to Ownby Fleming and Audrey Baxter Fleming. He married Brenda McCain on August 7, 1964. He graduated from East Texas State University with a bachelor's in math and agriculture and received his masters in physical education.

He taught and coached at Detroit High School and was the first girl's coach at Paris High School where the girls' track team won a state championship in 1982.

He was a member of the East Paris Baptist Church and had been a member of the Paris Nw Day Kiwanis since 1980 and was presented the George F. Hixon award. He served as president for two terms and was serving as treasurer at the time of his death. He served as the commissioner for the Paris Teen League Baseball Association from 1987-1994 and currently was district director for the Dixie Majors Baseball Association. He was instrumental in bringing the Dixie World Series to Paris in 1992.

Surviving are his wife, Brenda of Paris; two sons, Craig and wife Sheila of Corinth and Chad and wife Wendi of Flower Mound; a granddaughter, Chelsea Beth of Corinth; his parents, Ownby and Audrey Fleming of Kanawha; a brother, Leon and wife Darla of Woodland; a sister, Brenda Sue Love and husband Mack of Mt. Pleasant; a mother-in-law, Odell McCain Wortham of Detroit; four sisters-in-law, Janice Brown and husband Harlin, Katy Williams and husband Howard, Sharon Leverett and husband Jerry and Tonya Georgieff; and several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Bearers were Dewayne White, Scott McDowell, Norris Ballard, Charles Marley, Bruce Knowles, Jim Lassiter, Dave Davidson and Doug Winn. Honorary bearers were the New Day Kiwanians.

Memorials may be made to the Travis Fleming Memorial Fund in care of the East Paris Baptist Church, 725 N. Collegiate, Paris.

Dennis Kelley, Jr. dies December 12

Dennis Herschal Kelley, Jr., age 75, died Saturday, December 12 in Clute, TX.

Services were held December 14 in the First United Methodist Church of Sweeney with the Rev. Bill Jobe and the Rev. Anthony Wade officiating. Burial followed in Sweeney Cemetery.

Mr. Kelley was born in Wilson, OK, a son of Dennis Herschal Kelley Sr. and Thelma Bennett Schofield Kelley in Titus County. He and his family moved to Sweeney in 1966. He was a member of the VFW Post #8551 and the United First Methodist Church in Sweeney. He was retired from Brown & Root after 21 years.

Surviving are his wife, Jean Ann of Sweeney; daughters and son-in-law, Gloria Jean Kelley of San Antonio, Cheryl Kelley of Sugarland and Peggy and Mike Carlin of Richmond; a son, John Dennis Kelley of Houston; sister, Mary Louise and D.M. Thomas of Odessa; grandchildren, Kelley, Jamie and Cody Carlin, John Taylor and Kirsten Anne Kelley, Jason Heath Germand; and a great-grandson, Hunter Carlin.

Gerald Holmes of Talco served as a bearer.

Card of Thanks

Thanks so much to all the people in the community who got together to give the Christmas baskets to the citizens in need. Thanks to the churches, the Lions Club, the students who collected canned food and the folks who made monetary donations.

This is a fine thing these folks do. Marie Keeney Bogata Seniors Apartments




New Year's Greetings

May you enjoy all good things in the new year.

We look forward to serving you throughout 1999.

Kim's Kuttin Korral
Kim Fields, Karen King Bogata, Texas



Love Is All Around

In the spirit of peace and brotherhood, we thank you for being such great neighbors.

Happy Holidays!

Geneva's Ceramics
Blossom, Texas
Kenneth & Geneva Matthews

December 24, 1998
Deport Christmas Cookie Club

Chicken Crescent Wreath
Patsy Norrell

2 tubes refrigerated crescent rolls
1 cup shredded Co-Jack cheese
2/3 cup condensed cream of chicken soup
1/2 cup fresh broccoli
1/2 cup chopped sweet red pepper
1/4 cup chopped water chestnuts
1 can white chicken-drained or 3/4 cup cubed chicken
2 tablespoon chopped onion

Arrange crescent rolls on a 12" pizza pan, forming a ring with pointed ends facing the outer edge of pan and wide ends overlapping. Combine the remaining ingredients; spoon over wide end of rolls. Fold points over filling and tuck under wide ends. Filling will be visible. Bake at 375 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Yield 6-8 servings.

Chocolate Fudge
Juanita Sparks

1/2 cup cocoa or 2 squares of chocolate grated
2/3 cup milk-scalded
2 cups sugar
3 tablespoons corn syrup
4 tablespoons butter or oleo
1 cup pecans
1 teaspoon vanilla

Mix cocoa, sugar and corn syrup; add scalded milk and then pecans. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until sugar is dissolved; bring to a boil; cover and boil for 3 minutes. Uncover and cook; stirring frequently, until it reaches a soft ball stage or 236 degrees. Remove from heat and add butter. Cool to lukewarm or 110 degrees without stirring. Add vanilla and beat vigorously until very thick and begins to lose its gloss. Quickly pour into buttered pan. When firm, cut into squares.

Divinity Candy
Juanita Sparks

2 cups sugar
1/2 cup hot water
1/2 cup Karo syrup
2 egg whites-stiffly beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup nuts

Mix sugar, water and syrup in a saucepan and cool until a thread spins about 6 inches or 236 degrees on a candy thermometer. While this is cooking, beat the egg whites. Add about 1/3 of this mixture to the egg whites and beat until mixture begins to thicken slightly. While beating this, continue cooking syrup mixture until it reaches a hard crack stage (test by dropping a spoonful into a cup of cold water and when you can hear crackling sound, it is ready). Add this to egg white mixture and continue beating until thick. Add vanilla and nuts. When it begins to lose its gloss, quickly drop by spoons onto a wax paper lined cookie sheet.

Mixed Nut Turtles
Nanalee Nichols

3/4 cup soft butter
1/2 cup sugar
1 egg yolk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 can mixed nuts (with macadamia, almonds and cashews)
1-1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate morsels
2 teaspoons shortening

Beat butter at medium speed of an electric mixer until creamy; gradually add sugar, beating well. Add egg yolk and vanilla, beating well. Add flour, beating until just blended. Drop dough

by level teaspoonsful 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets. Flatten each ball of dough to a 2 inch circle, using fingers. Cut any large nuts in half. Press nuts firmly into outside top edges of cookies. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes or until edges of cookies are lightly brown. Cool on cookie sheet 1 minute. Carefully remove cookies to wire racks to cool completely. Place chocolate and shortening in top of double broiler over hot water; stir until melted. Spoon heaping teaspoon melted chocolate onto center of each cookie. Spread and smooth chocolate between nuts. Let set until chocolate hardens. Yield 26 cookies.

Vanishing Oatmeal Raisin Cookies
Bocky Norman

1 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla
1-1/2 cup flour
1/2 cup flour
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 cups oatmeal
1 cup raisins

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Beat together butter and sugars, add vanilla and eggs. Mix dry ingredients, add oatmeal and raisins, mix well with butter-sugar mixture. Drop by rounded teaspoonsful onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 10-12 minutes. Makes about 4 dozen.

Almond Filled Cookie Cake
Dawne Darden

Crust:
2-2/3 cup flour
1-1/3 cup sugar
1-1/3 cup butter-softened (not margarine)
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 egg

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Grease 8 inch spring formed pan. Combine all crust ingredients. Divide dough in half and spread half in bottom of greased pan to form crust.

Filling:
1 cup finely chopped almonds
1/2 cup sugar
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
1 egg-slightly beaten

Combine all ingredients and blend and spread to within 1/2 inch of sides of pan. Between waxed paper, press remaining dough to make a top crust. Place dough over filling. Bake 325 degrees for 65-75 minutes. Cool 15 minutes in pan. 16-24 servings. Do the same for tartlets, bake until golden brown-about 30 minutes.

Chocolate
Chocolate Almond Cookies
Ann Lee

1 cup (2 sticks) butter or margarine softened
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup Hershey's cocoa
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips or mini chips
additional sugar
blanched slivered almonds

Beat butter and 1 cup sugar until fluffy. Add egg, almond vanilla extract; beat well. Combine flour, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt; gradually add

to butter mixture, beating to form smooth dough. Stir in chocolate chips. If necessary, refrigerate dough about 1 hour or until firm enough to handle. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Shape dough into 1-1/8 inch balls; roll in sugar. Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Place 3 slivered almonds on top of each; press lightly. Bake 9-10 minutes or until set. Cool slightly. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. About 3-1/2 dozen cookies.

Toasted Oatmeal Cookies
Patsy Norrell

1-1/2 cup regular oats
2 cups brown sugar-packed
3/4 cup shortening
2 eggs
2-1/2 cup flour
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon cloves
1 teaspoon nutmeg
1/3 cup buttermilk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup dates
1 cup chopped nuts
1 cup raisins

Toast oats under broiler-stir frequently. Set aside. Cream sugar, shortening and eggs. Combine flour, soda, baking powder, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. Add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk. Stir in vanilla. Add oats, dates, nuts and raisins. Mix thoroughly. Drop by teaspoonsful. Bake 10-12 minutes at 350 degrees. Makes 7-1/2 dozen.

Crunchy Orange Slice Cookies
Juanita Taylor

1 cup brown sugar
1 cup white sugar
1/2 cup Crisco
1/2 cup butter or margarine
2 eggs
2 cups unsifted flour
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup chopped orange slices
1 cup chopped pecans
1 cup coconut
1 cup oats
2 cups corn flakes

Mix well. Drop by teaspoonsful onto cookie sheet. Bake about 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Makes approximately 8 dozen.

Chicken Salad Balls
Juanita Taylor

1 cup chopped cooked chicken
1 tablespoons chopped onion
2 tablespoons chopped pimento
dash of hot sauce
1 cup more or less chopped pecans
1/2 cup mayonnaise


Combine all ingredients, mixing well. Chill 3-4 hours and shape into tiny balls. Yield about 2 dozen balls.

Skillet Cookies
Dot Nichols

1/4 pound margarine
2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 cup chopped dates
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup chopped dried apricots
1/2 cup chopped nuts
2 heaping cups Rice Krispies

Melt margarine in skillet, then beat eggs and add sugar. Add dates and apricots. Cook 10 minutes, stirring constantly. Then add vanilla, nuts and cereal. While warm, roll into balls, then roll in coconut. Refrigerate 1 hour before serving.

ARE YOU READY FOR SANTA?



Thanks to the churches, the individual citizens and the civic groups who contributed to the Bogata Christmas baskets this year. Whether you donated food, helped put the baskets together, donated money or just offered moral support, we appreciate you. A special thanks to the students who collected canned goods. This was a worthy project.

We are sincerely grateful that we can participate in this endeavor.

We wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Linda Eilers & Shirley Vickers, Bogata Lions Club

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LINDA CARTER RANCH BROKER

The following financial institutions will be closed
Friday, December 25th for
CHRISTMAS DAY

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(903)674-4355

Guaranty Bank - Talco
Member F.D.I.C. (903)379-3611

Guaranty Bank - Deport
Member F.D.I.C. (903)652-3615

Guaranty Bank - Bogata
Member F.D.I.C. (903)632-5269



**Bogata News
Locals**

By Judy Screws
CALL YOUR NEWS TO
632-5322

All My Children

by Nancy Brown

A feature was needed for this week's addition and as I thought of who I could feature, many came to mind. Special collections was my first thought. We have many people in our area who have unique collections of one sort or the other and then I thought of my own collection.

Anyone who knows me has first hand knowledge of my love for sports but especially girls softball. I loved to play the game and enjoyed watching my daughter play from 7 years old to 19 years old. For some reason someone suggested I form another girls team after my daughter and her team mates grew up and the ladies league and tournament play slowed down. So between myself, Carol Laing and Pete Swarts and later Johnny Swarts and Kim Stansell we formed the first of "All My Children's" teams in 1985.

Since that time I have worked hard with the girls, spent hours in practice, traveled all over to games, attended meetings, baby sat and became a Dixie Softball Umpire. I have laughed and cried with these special girls and even when I lost my cool, have loved each and every one. I have learned if you want a truthful opinion; ask a child. I've taken children places they had never been and watched the delight on their faces, seen them glow after a good performance on the field and cry due to a strike out or loss of an important game.

The memories they have given me are priceless. A run in from the outfield (in the middle of the game) to give me a wild flower and one who started at the age of 6 years old putting her hand into my hair underneath (which has been cut short on the lower layers for years) whenever I sat down or drove. At age 13 we left for the first practice of the year and she immediately put her hand in my hair. When I asked if she had not out grown her habit, she (a little embarrassed) said, "No, that's what I do with you".

Although space would not allow for pictures of "All My Children", who some of which now have children of their own, I'd like to say Thank You for being a part of my collection. Merry Christmas to the girls and their families; Jennifer Bond, Tonya Milner, Tawala Padgett, Amanda and Amelia McBride, Christy Baird, Shaunda Jones, Holly Gibson, Tiffany Hardy, Michelle and LeKeitha Savage, Misty Deming, Amanda Savage, Mandy Stansell, Candy Savage, Leanna Titsworth, Julie Nolen, Tajuanna Vela, Amy Haley, LaQuitta Norman, Courtney Jones, Jamie and Joanie Swarts, Erin Stansell, Joanie Plunkett, Tanna Simpson, Kristin Kuhl, Carey Johnson, Katherine Graf, Chusherry

Parker, Tawana and Rebecca Sanders, Lois and Glenna Waldrum, Dee and Lorena Parker, Rachel Case, Shari Wisinger, Stephanie Carroll, DeAnna DeLong, Shalina Richeson, Brandi Gaddis, Samantha Jones, Chrissy Wilson, Cheryl and Jessica Griffin, Carolina Prado, Laci Taylor, Christina Cartledge, Andrea Clark, Shelly Hollis, Tiffany, Amber, Jennifer and Kayla Morgan, Robyn Reeves, Crystal White, Amber and Jessica Forsyth, Sara Hollands, Valerie Morgan, Torrie Grissom, Melanie Smith, Jesi Navia, Whitney Savage, Leslie and Misti Richeson, Camill Wright, Alex Wright, Kelsey Clark, Jennifer White, Jessica Fenner, Kristi Cooksey, Helena Vanegas, Taylor Phillips, Rachel Smith, Cassandra Norman, Kelly Pierce Sara Hare, Miranda Mauldin, Lauren Beers, Kelsey Taylor, Jessica Thompson, Courtney Merchant, Wendy Stewart and any girl who's name I may have left out.

Nelda Talley of Bogata celebrated her "Children's Christmas" December 18-20 with her daughter, Audrey Morgan and children, Melissa, Misty, Henry and Hailey of Big Sandy and her son, Matt Talley and Madison of Monticello, AR. A part of their celebration included a trip to Santa Land near Lindale.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Screws and Tana attended the Christmas Program at Abundant Life Church at Minter Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Screws and Tana were in Paris shopping Saturday. Christopher and Jerred Guerra returned home with them to spend the night. Their mother, Chris Anna Guerra, came to Bogata and picked them up Saturday. Hali Screws of Deport spent the night Saturday night and her daddy, Mike Screws picked her up Sunday morning.

Zelma Mauldin visited her son, Jerry and Belinda Mauldin in Hurst over the week end for an early Christmas Family party on Friday night. Also attending were Kenneth and Phyllis Duffer from Bogata, Rick, Tricia, Corey and Casey Bradley from Bismark, Arkansas, Mike and Jill Hatfield, Scott, Kristin and Cortney Lichtenberg from Garland, Lynn and Brenda Burdette from Fort Worth, Lorene Duffer from Irving, Zelma also visited Lorene Duffer in Irving.

Charles and Cora Tidwell hosted a birthday dinner for Gerri Knowles and Pete Taylor Thursday evening. Attending other than the honorees and hosts were Lillian Taylor and Steve Knowles.

Lillian Taylor honored Pete Taylor with a birthday dinner Saturday, December 19. Attending other than Pete and Lillian were their children; Sherry Boyd of Paris, Larry Taylor of Red

Talco Assembly of God Church members enjoyed Christmas carolers on Sunday evening. The group exchanged Christmas cards and enjoyed group prayer. Following the service, a covered dish supper was enjoyed with each member present receiving a holiday food basket.

On Wednesday, Marilyn and Ronnie Presley, Yvonne Harris and J.C. and Vivian Fail visited in Scurry with Mrs. Fail's sister, Elsie and Edgar Kennedy for a family get together. Also attending were Mrs. Fail's sister Bennie and Johnny Crocker of Waco, a brother, Barney Tate of West Texas and Gerald and Billy Tate of Malakoff.

Oak and Misty Gage of Paris. Also attending were grandchildren; Lindsey and Logan Taylor and Shannon and Allison Boyd.

News from Cuthand

Charlotte Crow and Sandra Bush hosted an early Christmas dinner at the home of Charlotte Crow on Sunday, December 20. Turkey and Dressing and all the trimmings were enjoyed by everyone. Christmas lunch prayer was given by Glenda Cruise. After lunch card games were played and football games were listened to. The children all had a wonderful time playing and sitting by the campfire. The loved ones lost were truly missed. The group felt blessed to be together once again. Those attending were: the hostess, Russel, Jim Ann and Rob Ward, Brittany Walesiak, Pam and Brad Dill, Shannon Rhodes, Bubba Jack Rhodes, Lisa Watkins, Danny Morton, Carolyn Coggins, Terry Sessums, Shannon Blaine Sessums, Glenda Cruise, Elvin Byrum, Al, Sherry, J.D., Brian and Ashley Sessums, Jimmy and Nancy Speir from Deport, Judy Kay, Justin, Josh and Adrian Holt from Lake Cypress, Norris Woodall, Daniel Cruise, Elvis Byrum, Marie, Chelsey and Colby, Larry Bush, Ben Cato, Kay, Darla, Heather Presley of Talco. Late in the afternoon a phone call came from Jason and Alma Reed in El Centro California. Dinia Burson made a brief visit. J.C. and Carol Ward, Russel and Jim Ann Ward, Charlotte Crow, James and Wanda Henley from Bogata and Cheyenne Moffle of Wichita Falls attended the Christmas Program at the First United Methodist Church in Deport. Rob Ward and Brittany Walesiak participated in the program.

Visiting Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Glen Harris was their grandson, Landon of Bridges Chapel. They attended church at the Talco Assembly of God.

Students see Rugrats Movie

110 students in grades one through five at Bogata Elementary School completed AR goals and earned a trip to Movies 8 in Paris Wednesday, December 16. The group saw the movie "Rugrats".

Adults attending were Debbie Hare, Stacy Weddle, Kelly Kennedy, Jane Strawn, Ginger Jordan, Monica Townes and Anne Simmons.

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Hamburger Basket

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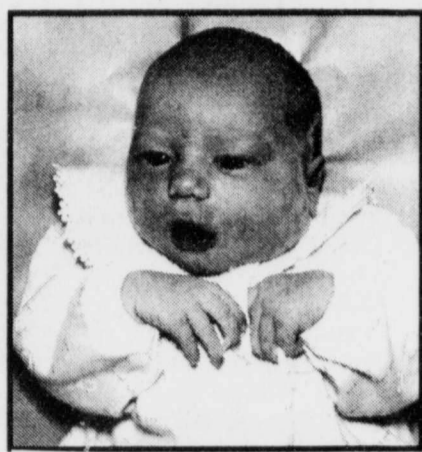


JANUARY
1
1999

**YEAR-ROUND
GOOD WISHES**

Thanks and best wishes are on our agenda, and we're hoping that yours is filled with 365 fun-packed days. Happy New Year, everyone!

JACK HERRINGTON
District and County Attorney
Red River County



New Arrival

Sydney Rekea Earley

Mr. and Mrs. Audie Earley are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Sydney Rekea Earley. She was born November 3, 1998 at 4:21 a.m. at McCuiston Regional Medical Center in Paris. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Sharon Williams of Bogata, Rickey Kennedy of Paris and Ray and Shirley Earley of Bogata. Pauline Williams of Bogata is the Great Grandmother.



Mr. & Mrs. Joel Andrew Cruce

Cruce-Doerrie Marriage vows exchanged

Elena Maricelda Doerrie and Joel Andrew Cruce exchanged wedding vows in a four o'clock candlelight ceremony on October 10 at the historic First United Methodist Church in McKinney.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Doerrie of Booker and Mr. and Mrs. Willis Friesen of Frisco. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cruce of Irving.

The marriage was performed by the Reverend Joe Lynch, minister of First United Methodist Church, Bixby, Oklahoma. The bride was given in marriage by her father, Jerome Doerrie.

Registering the guests were friends of the bride and groom, Lisa Goodson of Dallas and Jennifer Noonan of Milbridge, Maine.

The church altar was decorated with bouquets of fall flowers and two brass tree candelabras. The candles were lit by Willis Friesen, stepfather of the bride as the pianist, Faith Rio Rita Gray of Normal, Illinois, played "Love Solo."

The mothers were seated to "Sun Rise, Sun Set" by the ushers, Bill Mulhall of Providence, RI and Curt Switzer of The Colony.

Ms. Gray also served as organist and played "Trumpet Voluntary" for the bridal procession. Serving as vocalist was Derrick McCampbell of Dallas. Vocal selections included "Here We Are Now", "Give me Forever, I Do," and "The Lord's Prayer." "Pais Angelicus" was played for the bride and groom's communion and "Wedding March" was played for the recessional.

Serving as the bride's maid of honor was her sister, Jennifer Doerrie of Austin. Other bridesmaids were Teresa Carter Matthews of Austin and Stephanie Connie of Providence, Rhode Island.

The groom was attended by David Beatty of Irving, who served as best man, and groomsmen, Tommy Goodsen of Dallas and Paul Preston of Irving.

The bride wore a princess A-line gown of Italian Matte satin that featured an empire waist and a scooped neckline and back. The bodice was fully beaded and accented with

beaded French lace. Her shoulder-length veil of bridal tulle fell softly from a beaded headband. She carried a bouquet featuring fall colors of enchanted lilies, orchids, daisies, roses and accents of wheat.

The bridal attendants wore two piece navy satin dresses featuring scooped necklines, fitted waists and long slitted skirts. The bridal attendants carried bouquets of mixed fall flowers.

Following the ceremony the bridal couple greeted their guests as the guests enjoyed a buffet reception in the fellowship hall of the church.

The bride's cake was four-tier basket weave French vanilla cake featuring arrangements of fresh fall flowers. The groom's cake was also a basket weave and Dutch chocolate featuring dipped chocolate covered strawberries and a crystal replica of the groom's truck.

The house party included cousin of the bride; Crystal Green of Lubbock, Lindsay Green of Clarendon, Margaret Green of Austin, Charolette Payne of Amarillo and Stephanie Patterson of Fargo, Oklahoma.

Special guests included the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Naomi Olivia Green of Clarendon, and the groom's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sheffield of Bogata.

The groom's parents hosted a rehearsal dinner at the Opera House Restaurant on the historic square in McKinney on Friday, October 9. Other pre-nuptial events included a miscellaneous bridal shower hosted by friends of the bride's mother in Frisco on September 12 and a luncheon hosted by the bride's work colleagues at the Hotel Omni in Richardson on October 3.

The bride is a graduate of Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island and the Graduate School of Management, University of Dallas. She is employed by Strategic Outsourcing Corporation in Richardson. The groom is a graduate of the University of Texas, Arlington and is employed by Jamieson Manufacturing Company in Dallas.

Following a honeymoon to New Mexico the couple is making their home in Garland.

Whites host Christmas Party

Mr. and Mrs. Glen White hosted a Christmas Party in their home December 10. for the Texas Baptist Men Retiree Builders in this area. Eating, visiting, remembering good times on different church building jobs together and a visit from Santa Claus were enjoyed by all who attended.

In attendance were: Mr. and Mrs. Abner Bryant, Tyler, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Mitchell, Longview, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Webb, Greenville, Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Wilson of Mineola, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Tucker, Quitman, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Dill, Mount Pleasant, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jenkins, Hooks, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Kellis White, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Powell of Athens, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Henderson of Bogata and the host and hostess.

Talco Gift Subscriptions

To Mike Medlin from Ann Roberts.
To Tim Taylor from David and Teresa Taylor.
To Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Taylor from David and Teresa Taylor.
To Rickey Franks from Rufus and Shirley Merritt.
To David and Treasa and Lac Taylor from Tim and Beverly Taylor.

Bogata News Gift Subscriptions

To Betsy Whitten from Jane Davis.
To Roger and Rachel Elson from Judy Wantland.
To Ois and Edith Swaim from Dan and Mary K. Cotten.
To Mrs. Mickey Williams from Willie Clark.
To Mr. and Mrs. Pete Belcher from Sam and Carla Alsup.
To Mark and Annette Hudson from Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Huddleston from Mr. and Mrs. Ed Huddleston.
To Judy Wantland from Lizzie Legate.
To Dottie Pemberton and Lois McRae from Mrs. Russell Moore.
To Buddy and Cindy Abernathy from Marcelle Somerville.

To Sharon Williams from Shawna Earley.
To Glenn Garrison from Mr. and Mrs. Richard Garrison.
To Betty Maynard from Harold Geese.

To Terri Alford and Bryan Terry from Carrine Alford.
To D'Ann Montoya and Mar Stephenson from The A.D. Stephensons.

To Barbara Evans and Olet Presswood from Jeanette Hayes.
To Jace Jeffery and John and Stephanie Blair from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Jeffery.

To Mona Pitts from Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Roberts.

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*Please, don't drink and drive.
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Lions host bingo at nursing home

Bogata Lions Club hosted bingo at Red River Healthcare Center December 15.

Residents winning games were Oma McKinney, D.C. Thomas, Jimmie Duffie, Gladys Garretson, Doris Skaggs, Billie Hancock, Ann Cody, Tommie Woods and Nina Hudson.

Lions Club members helping with the games were Frances Rozell, Buck and Betty Ramsey, Neil Rozell, Raymond Franklin and Joyce Morrow.

<p>Bogata Rural Health Clinic: 213 N. Howison, Bogata, TX 75417 903-632-5632 Office Manager: Diana McGuire Pulkit K. Patel, MD, IM: Mon. thru Fri. Mary Wagner, FNP-C: Thurs. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Closed for lunch 12 - 1) Call for appointments - Walk-ins Welcome</p>	<p>DeKalb Rural Health Clinic: 203 N.E. Front St., DeKalb, TX 75559 903-667-4900 Office Manager: Aliesa Raulston Mary Wagner, FNP-C: Mon., Tues, Wed., & Fri. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Closed for lunch 12 - 1) Call for Appointment - Walk-ins Welcome</p>
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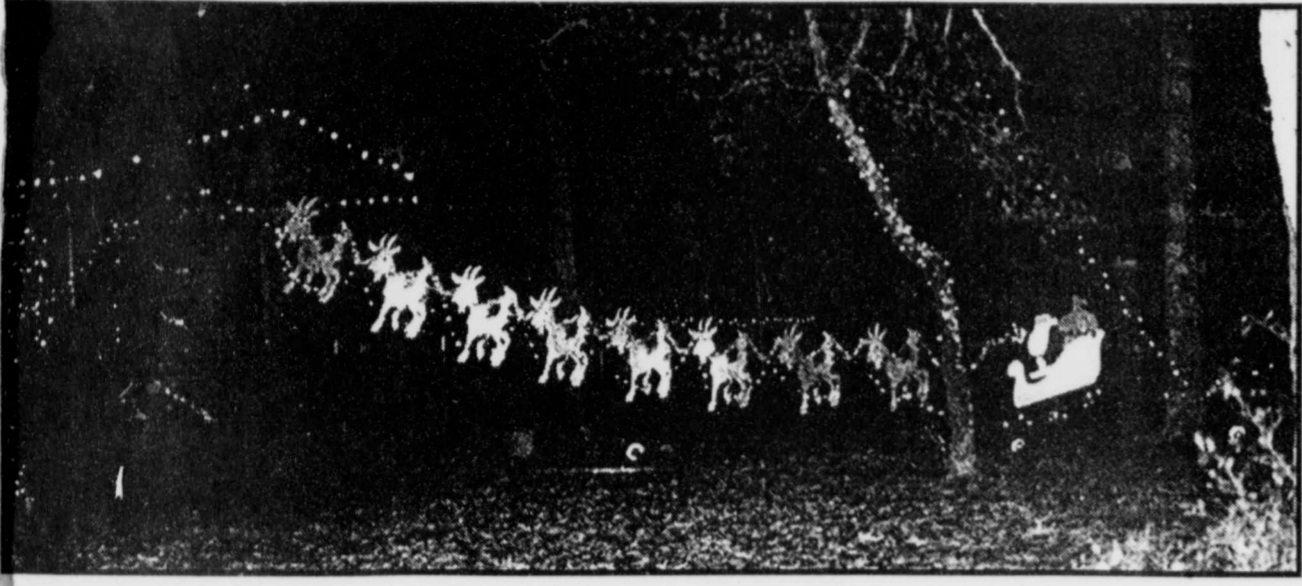
ARE SANDALS SAFE?

It's that time of year again, when shoe stores fill up with wispy little sandals and brightly colored flip-flops. They may look great in fashion magazines, but are most sandals—with their total lack of support and barely-there cushioning—good for your feet? The answer is a definite "maybe." If your feet are basically normal and healthy, wearing sandals probably won't hurt them. If, however, your feet need the kind of stability and shock-absorption provided by athletic shoes or even orthotics (prescription shoe inserts), sandals must be avoided. Your own body can help you judge: If your feet, back or legs start to hurt after wearing sandals, they're probably not good for you.

Although shoes are meant to protect our feet from cold, injury, disease and pounding on hard pavement, too often we choose them for style rather than comfort and function. Whether shopping for sandals or hiking boots, let common sense dictate, if they aren't comfortable, don't buy them. At the least, you'll end up not wearing them and wasting money; at the worst, they can aggravate foot problems and cause pain. At **DOCTORS FOOT CLINIC** we believe that good shoes are part of the good care your feet deserve. We're located at 3605 NO Loop 286, Suite 1800, Paris. Call for appointment at 784-5585.

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PS. Some 5 million Americans, many of them elderly, suffer from chronic wounds.



SEASON HUMOR-Gene, Marvie and Kristi Goates of Maple Springs, on Hwy 71 east of Talco, have put a new twist to Santa in their yard decorations. His sled is being led by goats. The play on the family name and Santa and his goats bring a smile along with the many other decorations in the families yard. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



By Jana Hawkins
632--5174

JOHTOWN LOCALS

Dan and Mary Kathryn Cotten spent the week-end having an early Christmas with their daughter's family, Lisa and Rick Graham, their son and family, Larry from Frisco, granddaughter and family, Dana and Shawn Gillham, and Janice Davis from Dallas. All were in Midland for this gathering. Enroute they visited an aunt and an uncle in Abilene.

Mrs. C.O. Magee, Jr. of Texas City spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents, Gene and Lydia Hawkins. They enjoyed visiting and a video from Jay and Kristin Ward of their home in Spring and pictures of their great grand son Colton Jay who is now 6 months old.

Friday night Jana, Hana and Heather Hawkins enjoyed visiting with Randy, Barbara and Ally Gibbs. Shane Gibbs (temporarily from Atlanta, GA. visited Monday with Mark and Jana Hawkins and family. Haley Hawkins spent Friday night with Sarah Jean.

Koren Hawkins spent Sunday night with Heather Hawkins. James and Pauline Gibbs, Jana and Hana Hawkins enjoyed shopping in Paris on Saturday.

Felina and Jerica White, Heather, Hana and Haley Hawkins enjoyed touring Christmas lights in Mt. Pleasant.

ant on Thursday night and ended up at Braum's for ice cream.

David and Lynne Barrett of Mt. Pleasant and a group of their friends from Australia enjoyed dinner at the home of Donald and Freda Jean Thursday night.

Donald and Freda Jean hosted the main course of a progressive dinner for the Discovery Teens of Bogata Missionary Baptist Mission on Sunday evening. Attending were; Mitchell Jean, Josh Griffin, Billy Jordan, Bryce Watkins, Clinton Cheatwood, Colby Brunson, Debra Janes, Lisa and Kim Shirley, Ashley Kuhle, Jamie Daniels, Chrystal Phelps, Megan Horn and the groups sponsors, Bro. Billy and Mary Lou Daniels, Kenneth and Mary Lynn Palmer, Martha Kuhle, Sherric Cheatwood, Ray, Susan, Jill and Chris Shirley.

Billie Pirtle and Robbie Hawkins made a business trip to Texarkana last Thursday.

Clay Pirtle, of Arlington, went to Longview last Wednesday and spent the night with his sister, Lana and Matt Buchheit and then went on to Shreveport, LA. on Thursday to visit with his mother, Judy and Jimmy Attaway. Clay returned home to Jothtown on Sunday afternoon to spend the holidays.

Lana and Matt Buchheit were in Jothtown Sunday night to visit her parents, Billie and Drue Pirtle. They returned to their home in Longview Sunday night.

The children of Jothtown Missionary Baptist Church had their annual Christmas program Sunday night. There were approximately 100 in attendance for this church service. Work on the church gymnasium was started again last week. The steel framing was painted and the wire was installed to get ready for the insulation and walls to be completed.

Cunningham News

Francis Sieminski of Grand Prairie, Betty Hershour of Morton Mills, Dean Ogden of Longview, Buddy and Sue Pynes of Paris, Regina Newman and Briana and Malcolm of Dallas and Blake Newman of Blossom visited this past week with Lorette Pynes.

Sunday the children of the late C.W. and Nina Anderson had Christmas lunch at Nanny's place in Cunningham. Attending were Rickey, Linda, Cindy, Rusty, Marty, Kerri and Susan Anderson, Edd, Sandra and Burk Burnett of Cunningham, Wendy, Carlos and Cord Ordorica, George, Carol and Jeremy Newberry,

Jessie, Lisa, Missy and Romy Newberry of Paris, Tracy, Riley and Conner Chipman and David Harris of Paris, Sharon and Sam Speir of Greenville, Darren, Christy, Bo and Brittney of Celeste, Mike, Jenny, Amanda, Lance and Samantha of Commerce, Mikey and Kelly Anderson and Shane.

The Sunday School class of Jennifer Barnes of Cunningham Baptist Church went to Marshall Saturday. They enjoyed ice skating and seeing the Christmas lights.

Life Tabernacle Church had their Christmas program Sunday night followed by a salad supper.

First Assembly to have New Year's Singing

The First Assembly of God Church on Highway 271 South in Bogata will hold a New Year's Eve singing December 31 at 7:00 p.m.

There will be special singing by The Country Gospel Singers of Cut-hand, featuring Stanley and Donna Jessee and Scott and Gail Ward, The Gospel Chimes of Texarkana, featur-

ing Jarvis and Renee Watson and David and Kathy Hendricks, and Miracle of Bogata, featuring Randy and Lorre Lemme and Mikel Haynes. The public is cordially invited to attend.

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The Detroit Weekly
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The ETMC Cancer Institute's mobile mammography unit will be in your area:
Bogata January 5 ETMC Health Clinic
*Dates subject to change.



Red River County Crimestoppers

Sometime between December 4 and 11, someone entered a hunting cabin belonging to Johnny Lee Broyles, located on CR 3225. During the burglary, there were two TV's and several other items taken.

Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and indictment of the party or parties responsible for this or any other felony crime.

Call Crime Stoppers today at 427-TIPS (8447).

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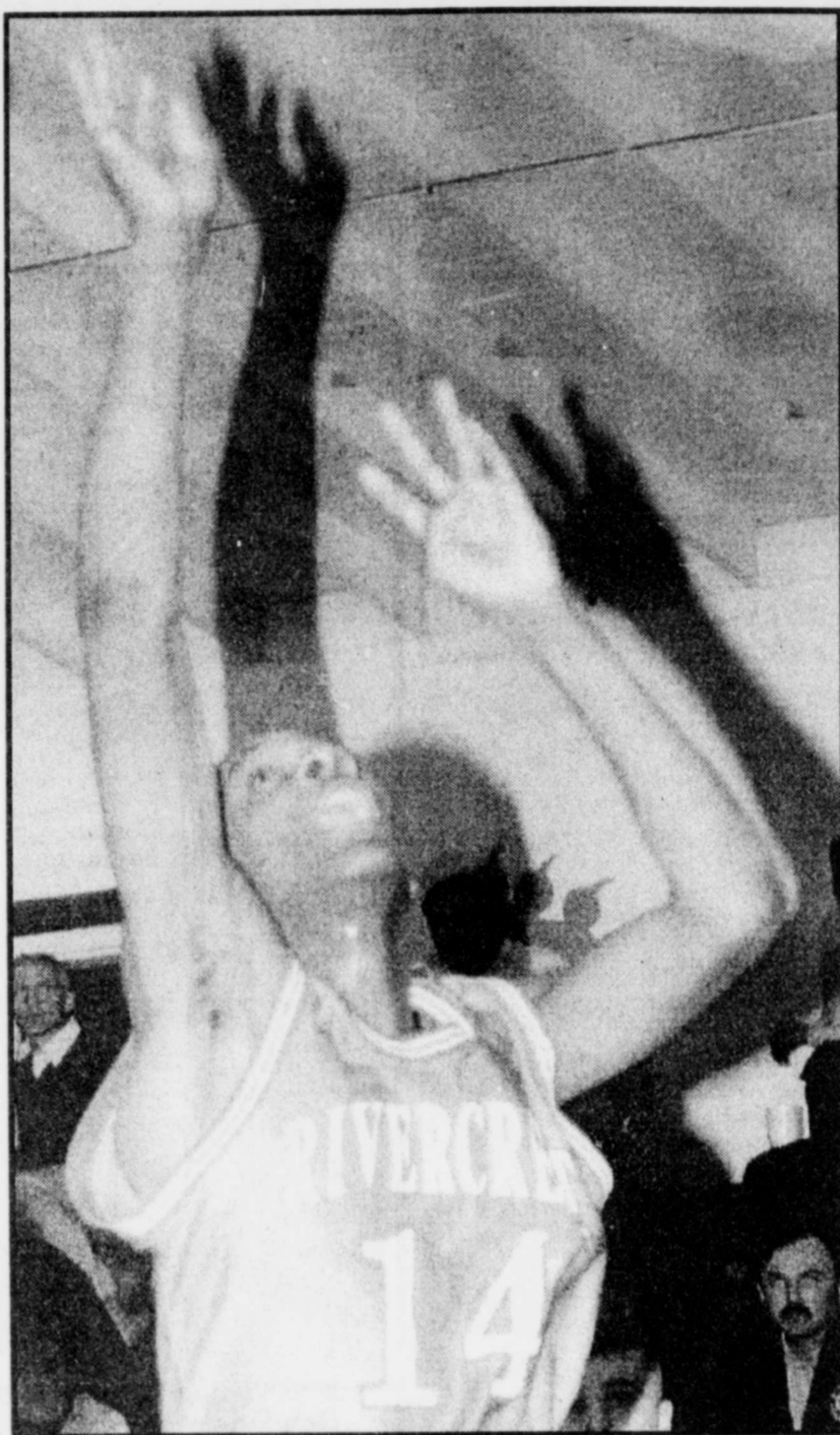


MERRY CHRISTMAS

From Our House To Yours

Home is where the heart is, and we love being a part of this great community. Thanks for making us feel right at home.

McMIKEL'S CABINET SHOP

UP AND IN-Rebel Keith Hines goes to the hoop as the team defeated Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, Dec. 15 with a 75-57 score. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



CARA MORGAN-rushes in for the Lady Rebel trap as the team met Paul Pewitt on Friday. The Lady Rebs took a 54-16 win over the Lady Brahmas. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I am writing for a couple of reasons: first of all I use to support our that is an under statement it is not our Police Department it is only for the people with money and to play up to the police-so I will rephrase that to the Police Department that serves the people with money. For some time we have had problems with the nose people around this town that can't seem to mind their own business and you know who you are! These nose people have had numerous law and humane people out and we received a no problem-well that was not what they wanted to hear so they just keep on harassing and the law enforcement want do their job and put a stop to it. You may have money and run this town but you don't have enough money, guts or anything else to run me. You need to sweep off your own door step before you start trying to sweep off mine. I'm also making it public notice: keep off my property!

Another issue I want to complain about the so called dog ordinance. The people with money can leave their dogs on leash and they don't get picked up but only a few select people get their animals picked up and also the issue with the junk cars as I look around this town people have junk cars and nothing is said to them to get them moved. That is more point proven about the law enforcement only a few select people are under these laws of dogs and cars but if you run this town with money and social standing you are above the law and you can do as you please.

Wendy Albritton

To the Editor:

In the last four months my wife and I have been fortunate enough to meet the local law enforcement, local animal control officers, people from the humane society in Paris and animal control from Paris. During our meeting with these people we have received a clean bill of health concerning our horses.

Since our meeting with these people, the complainants (Nosey people with money that run this town), have continued to call about our horses. The local law enforcement is continuing to pasify these people due to the social status of these complainants.

Now I did support the local law enforcement up until I found out that they were not going to stand up for everyones rights weather or not they have money, or their social status in the town.

I thought that in this little town that the law enforcement would try to be as fair and as equal as possible, but it has become completely clear that it will only be ran for the political status.

With all do respect,
Chris Albritton

Rebels defeat Tigers

The Rebel JV and Varsity played host to the Mt. Vernon Tigers Tuesday, Dec. 15.

After the JV taking a win the Varsity hit the floor to complete the evenings work. Chase Collins netted 31 points for the Rebs to stand as high scorer for the game. Also scoring were Michael Galloway with 15, Josh Posey with 9 and pulling down 9 rebounds, Keith Hines 7 points, Chad Holland with 7, Kyle Stansell and Jason Freelen both adding 3.


The Rebs took the win 75-57.

Lady Rebels defeat Paul Pewitt Dec. 18

There was a mix up in the place set for Friday nights game with Rivercrest and Paul Pewitt. The JV Lady Rebs were dressed out and waiting while the Paul Pewitt Lady Brahmas were also dressed out and waiting. When the coaches decided to contact one another to see why both had not arrived they discovered Rivercrest to be in the wrong. They should have traveled to Paul Pewitt. When the mistake was discovered it was too late for the JV teams to play but the varsity in order to avoid a forfeit had to rush to Paul Pewitt.

The Lady Rebel varsity did arrive in time and following the confusion defeated the Lady Brahmas 54-16.

Attend The Church of Your Choice This Sunday



Merry Christmas to All

We'd Like To Take This Opportunity To Say Thank You To Our Many Friends & Customers.

Our Lobby & Drive-In Will Close at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 24, 1998 And We Will Be Closed on Friday, Dec. 25, 1998.

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Tickets on sale now for New Year's Eve Dance!!

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"Neon Cowboys"
Private Club - Memberships Available

ALL NEW!! FIRST TIME BUYERS PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE

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SANDLIN AUTO CREDIT
903-572-2107
601 S. Jefferson - Mt. Pleasant, TX
15% *WAC **WAC

STATE OF TEXAS
BY VICE PRESIDENT
OF SALES
RED RIVER COUNTY
DATE
and issued
River County
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after number
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of said Court
30, 1998,
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1999, the
said month
Courthouse
City of Clark
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Your Ad Appears In Deport Times, Bogata News, Talco Times, Blossom Times and Detroit Weekly For One Low Price!!

.....WARNING.....
INVESTIGATE BEFORE.....
YOU INVEST.....
 Thunder Prairie Publishing does everything possible to keep these columns free of misleading, unscrupulous or fraudulent advertising. When a fraudulent ad is discovered in any paper in the country, we usually learn of it in time to refuse the same ad in this paper. However, it is impossible to screen all advertising as thoroughly as we would like to, so we urge our readers to check thoroughly any proposition requiring an investment.

Public Notices

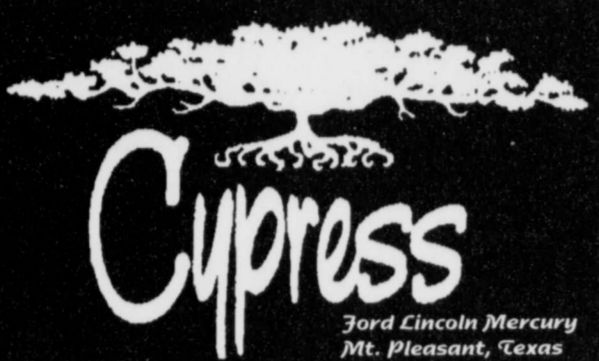
LEGAL NOTICE
 STATE OF TEXAS X
 BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER
 OF SALE

RED RIVER COUNTY, TX X
 DATED NOVEMBER 30, 1998
 and issued pursuant to judgement
 decree(s) of the District Court of Red
 River County, Texas, by the Clerk of
 said Court on said date, in the herein-
 after numbered and styled suits and to
 be directed and delivered as Sheriff
 of said County. I have on November
 30, 1998, seized, levied upon, and
 will, on the first Tuesday in January,
 1999, the same being the 5th day of
 said month, at the East Door of the
 Courthouse of said County, in the
 City of Clarksville, Texas, between
 the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4
 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at
 10:00 a.m., proceed to sell for cash to
 the highest bidder all the right, title
 and interest of the defendants in such
 suits and to the following described
 real estate levied upon as the property
 of said defendants, the same lying and
 being situated in the County of Red
 River and the State of Texas, to-wit:
**SUIT NO. Style of suit and
 property description**
 43-CV-9-93

upon the written request of said
 defendants or their attorney, a suffi-
 cient portion of the property described
 above should be sold thereof to satisfy
 judgment(s), interest, penalties,
 and cost; any property sold should be
 subject to the right of redemption of
 the defendants or any person having
 an interest therein, to redeem the said
 property, or their interest therein,
 within the time and in the manner
 provided by law, and shall be subject
 to any other and further rights to which
 the defendants or anyone interested
 therein may be entitled, under the
 provisions of law. Said sale to be
 made by me to satisfy the judgments
 rendered in the above styled and num-
 bered causes, together with interest,
 penalties and costs of suit, and the
 proceeds of said sales to be applied to
 the satisfaction thereof, and the re-
 mainder, if any, to be applied as the
 law directs.
 Dated at Clarksville, Texas, Novem-
 ber 30, 1998
Bob Edgington, Sheriff
Red River County, Sheriff
Darlena Shimcock, Deputy
 12-24

NOTICE OF SALE

The City of Bogata, TX is taking
 bids for the sale of the following:
 *1969 Ford 500 fire truck, less than
 500 miles on shortblock, V8, mfg.
 by Fire Appliance Co. of Texas
 *Side control panel; 2 inch discharge
 control panel inside; 2 inch suction-
 both sides; (2) 1 1/2"
 preconnects; (2) 1" discharges
 *100 foot of red line
 *300 feet of 2 1/2 inch hose
 *100 feet of 1 1/2 inch hose
 *excellent tires
 *new battery
 For information call 903-632-5315.
 Maintenance records available. The
 City of Bogata reserves the right to
 accept or reject any or all bids.
 12-24



YEAR END CLEARANCE!!

All vehicles clearly reduced to save you
\$\$\$MONEY\$\$\$
 We have prices from \$3,998 to \$33,998

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| PRE-OWNED TRUCKS | PRE-OWNED CARS |
| '97 Chevrolet Blazer, Red | '95 Chevrolet Lumina, White |
| '96 Dodge 1500, White | '95 Dodge Intrepid, Blue |
| '97 Ford Explorer, Green | '95 Ford Contour, White |
| '97 Ford F150, Red | '97 Ford Mustang, Orange |
| '98 Ford F150, Red | '97 Lincoln Town Car, Dk. Green |
| '95 Ford F150, Green | '98 Lincoln Town Car, White |
| '98 Ford F150, Red | '97 Mercury Gr. Marquis, Red |
| '98 Ford F150, White | '98 Mercury Gr. Marquis, Dk. Green |
| '98 Ford F150, Green | '94 Mercury Gr. Marquis, Copper |
| '97 Ford F150, Red | '97 Mercury Gr. Marquis, White |
| '97 Ford F150, White | '98 Mercury Sable, Tan |
| '96 Ford Ranger, Red | '93 Nissan Altima, Red |
| '96 Ford Windstar, Green | '96 Ford T-Bird, Green |
| '97 Nissan Truck, Red | '97 Ford T-Bird, Blue |
| '94 Plymouth Voyager, White | '93 Toyota Tercel, Red |

200 W. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, TX
903-572-3486 888-856-FORD
 Across from Cypress New Car Dealership
 We will be open until 9:00 p.m. on
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday,
December 28-29-30
 Come by and see us after dinner!!

Estate Auction
Tuesday, December 29, 1998

* Sale will be held on inside
 Location: County Line Service Station in Deport, TX
 Furniture Entertainment Items
 Electric Guitar w/ Peavy Amp
 Yard Furniture Lawn Equipment Pictures
 Antiques 1986 Toyota Car Jewelry Glassware
Frankie Norwood, Auctioneer
 903-652-2477 Txs #7994

This is only a partial listing!
 Many more items too numerous to mention.

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MOTORS, INC.
USED CAR &
TRUCK SALE

- Over 80 Units to Choose From!!
- '98 Olds Eighty Eight
 - '98 Chevy Cavalier
 - '98 Chevy Malibu
 - '98 Chevy Lumina
 - '97 Chevy Monte Carlo
 - '97 Chevy Cavalier
 - '97 Pontiac Grand Am
 - '97 Olds Eighty Eight
 - '98 Olds Achieva
 - '97 Pontiac Sunfire
- TRUCKS**
- '98 GMC C1500 Ex. Cab
 - '98 Chevy Astro
 - '98 GMC K1500 Reg. Cab 4x4
 - '98 Chevy Blazer
 - '97 Chevy Blazer 4x4
 - '97 Ford F150 Ex. Cab
 - '97 Nissan Reg. Cab
 - '97 Chevy K1500 Stepside Z71
 - '97 Chevy C1500 Ex. Cab
 - '97 Ford Expedition

Partial Listing
New Trades Daily

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MOTORS, INC.
USED
CARS

204 E. 16th St. Mt. Pleasant
903-572-3656

MERRY CHRISTMAS
MINI-ADS
5 Papers....
3 Weeks Only \$10

Miscellaneous

CARPET CLEANING-Stain removal, grease removal, water removal caused from flooding, leaks, etc. New equipment. For free estimate, call Frank Rhoades, Deport, TX 903-652-2883 after 5 p.m. MA t/c

WILLIAMS PLUMBING: All types plumbing, electrical and home repairs. We also do backhoe work. 903-632-4646. MA t/c

JOHNNIE'S USED FURNITURE and Appliances: We buy, sell or trade anything of value. We pay top dollar for good used furniture and appliances. Will buy all or portions of estates. West side of Market Square in Paris, TX, 330 Second SW. Phone 903-737-0979, Paris or 903-652-2084, Cunningham, TX. MA t/c

BACKROOM FLORAL DESIGN: Wreaths, table arrangements, plants, gift certificates for your Christmas needs. Beanie Babies and new shipment Attic Treasures Bears and balloons. Full florist for your funerals, nursing home or "Just Because". Next door to Bogata Funeral Home. 632-2003, 1-800-981-6922. 502 N. Main, Bogata. Free delivery. MA t/c

FLOWERS, FRAMES, GIFTS, also balloons and Beanie Babies. Call or come by Main Street Florist (old First National Bank Bldg.), Bogata. 632-BUDS (2837) or 1-800-510-9775. We deliver. MA t/c

MUSGROVE BAIL BONDS
 652-2084 or 737-0979
 In jail...want out? Call Johnny!
 MA t/c

271 MOTEL has vacancies. Weekly and daily rates. Reservations appreciated. 903-379-5411, Talco, TX. MA t/c

NOW TAKING ORDERS for Christmas fruit baskets starting at \$8; also home grown green tomatoes starting at \$5 per box. Kelley's Produce, Hwy. 271, Jothtown, 903-632-1051. MA 12-24

FOR SALE: Glider swings, porch swings, benches with backs and compartments and other craft items. 903-632-5131. MA 12-31

FOR SALE: Pedestal wood burning stove. Black with brass and glass front. Call 903-632-5173. MA 12-31

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR fireworks on sale now. 2.5 miles south of Talco, west side of Hwy. 271. MA 1-7

Homes & Real Estate

FOR SALE: New brick homes. Will build your new home in Deport, Detroit, Bogata, Blossom or Clarksville, TX area. 100% financing to qualified buyers. Call Mike Copeland 903-784-7474 or 903-652-3504. MA t/c

FOR SALE: 6.28 acres for sale, 3 miles south of Deport on FM1503. Utilities available. Serious inquiries only. 903-784-6969 or 903-652-6572. MA 12-24

FOR LEASE: outside Detroit city limits, 3-2-2 carport, approx. 3,000 sq. ft., large family room, no acreage, \$600 monthly. No pets and non-smokers preferred. Deposits required. References verified. Qualified applicants need only apply by appointment only. 903-674-2417. MA 12-24

I'M MAD... at banks who don't give real estate loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgages, 254-947-4475. MA 12-31

FOR SALE in Bogata. 5.55 acres (former Glover property). 468 feet of Highway 37N frontage. Large oak trees. Choice homesite. Will divide. Owner, 903-632-5444. MA 1-14

Vehicles & Supplies

FOR SALE: 1994 Ford Show Coach conversion van, excellent condition, clean, loaded. Must see. 81,000 miles. \$10,500. Pat. 903-537-2228 or 537-4241. MA t/c

FOR SALE: 1994 Ford Thunderbird, V6, low miles, great condition. \$7,200. 903-632-4397. MA 12-24

FOR SALE: 1989 Olds Calais, Quad 4 engine, great shape and clean. 903-632-4096. MA 12-24

FOR SALE: 15' fiberglass Terry bass boat with 40hp motor. \$1,500. 903-632-2049. MA 12-31

1994 FORD THUNDERBIRD, low miles, V6, great condition, green, loaded. 632-43979, \$7,200. MA 12-31

Livestock & Ag Supplies

HAPPY JACK SKIN BALM: Relieves hot spots & scratching. Promotes healing & hair growth on dogs & cats without steroids. Available at Buckman Drug, 125 N. Main, Bogata, TX. t/c

HAY FOR SALE: Fertilized SW Missouri orchard, red clover, Fescue mix, 4x5 round bales, \$37.50, \$42.50 delivered to Paris, Mt. Pleasant area. Delivery available other locations for reasonable charge 903-632-4437. MA t/c

Services

MEAT PROCESSING: Catfish fillets; chicken; beef and pork. All retail cuts. Beef by the side or quarter. Call for prices. Detroit Locker Plant, Detroit, TX. Pork, chicken, fish. Call 903-674-6911. If no answer, call 903-674-2352. We accept food stamps. MA t/c

HOUSELEVELING-Carpentry work. Call Randy or Brandon Miller, 903-632-4870. MA t/c

STARCOY SPRAYING SERVICE-Trees, termites, pests. Call Randy or Donna Miller, 903-632-4870 or 1-800-293-2627. MA t/c

STUMP REMOVAL-Friendly, professional service. Serving all of Northeast Texas. No job too large or too small. David & Neil Rozell, 903-632-5617. MA t/c

LOCAL SAND HAULING within the Deport, Bogata and Talco, TX areas. Call Neil Rozell, 903-632-5752. MA t/c

DeBERRY ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION: Free estimates, locally owned, residential insurance. All work guaranteed. 903-632-5841 or 903-632-4611. MA t/c

ROADRUNNER SELF STORAGE: Call Neil Rozell, 903-632-5752. Two locations: one in Bogata; one in Deport. A size to meet your needs. MA t/c

WRIGHT'S EXCAVATING: Clean out ponds, lakes, roads, pads, timber clearing, city streets, Swamp Dozers, Dump trucks, Scrapers. Day 903-379-3491; night 572-7323. MA t/c

G&S HANDY MART now has new credit card gas pumps. You can now buy gas 24-hours a day with Texaco, Fleet Cards, Visa, Mastercard, Discover, all major credit cards or debit cards. MA t/c

GRAVELORSAND HAULED, Belly dump trailers. Dan Kelley, 903-632-4437. MA t/c

WEEMES DIESEL & WRECKER Service, Clarksville. 903-427-5127; night 966-2463. Tow anywhere, all types of diesel work, 24 hr. wrecker service. MA 1-14

TP&E Repair: For all your plumbing & electrical needs. Call Michael. 903-684-5030. MA 12-31

Wanted:

DISPATCHER I-The City of Mount Pleasant is accepting applications in the Police Department. Applicants should be multi-task oriented and will be tested in comprehension, memory, note-taking, receiving and recording data, spelling, map reading, typing, indexing and filing. Shift work required in a stressful working environment. Applicants may apply at the Texas Workforce Center, 1902 West Ferguson Road. The City is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. 12-24

ATTENTION: Texas oil company needs person to work without supervision locally. Training. Write W.Y. Hopkins, Texas Refinery Corp., Dept. W-75435, Box 711, Ft. Worth, TX 76101-0711. 1-14-99

LOST & FOUND

REMEMBER, we don't charge for free pets, or for your lost or found animals, we want them to have a home! Call 652-4205 or 632-5322.

LOST: Pair of wire rimmed eyeglasses somewhere in vicinity of Hwy. 271 and FM1503 in Deport, on Monday, October 19. If found, please contact Mike Francies, 652-6052 or 652-4205. nc

Garage Sales

CAKLEBERRY'S: Crafts, angels, gifts, lawn furniture, Adirondacks. Hwy. 271 south, six miles from Talco. Open Wednesday through Saturday or call 577-7158 or 572-3825. MA t/c

FREE

FREE KITTENS: Handraised, litter box trained. One male Tabby, one female Siamese marked. 903-632-4095. MA 12-24

FREE PUPPIES-Male and female, part Australian Shepherd. In exchange for good home, will pay to have female spayed. 903-632-4032, leave message. 12-24nc

BELL PROPANE
 Mac & Kay Bell
 Rosalie, TX
 Commercial,
 Residential, Farm
 & Lease Tanks
 632-5386
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 & Gravel
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 225 Main Street - Deport, Texas
 Antiques - Collectibles
 903 632 6052

AREAWIDE MOVERS
 903-577-1983
 7 DAYS A WEEK
 Locally Owned & Operated
Tim Dale, Owner

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MOTORS
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'98 DODGE GR. CARAVAN Comfort & Convenience	'99 DODGE DAKOTA R/T Bad To The Bone!
'98 DODGE STRATUS ES V6, Red, Sporty	'98 FORD F150 Club Cab, V-8, Red
'98 PLYMOUTH BREEZE Auto, Warranty, Sharp	'98 DODGE RAM 1500 SWB, SLT, Warranty
'97 DODGE CARAVAN Ready To Roll!	'98 GMC SONOMA Ext. Cab, Gas Saver
'97 FORD EXPEDITION Do Not Hesitate!	'97 FORD F-250 Club Cab, V-8, 5 Speed
'97 DODGE STRATUS 4 Door, Auto, Warranty	'97 CHEVY C2500 Ext. Cab, Low Miles
'96 DODGE STRATUS 4 Door, Low Payments	'97 FORD F250 Club Cab, Power Stroke
'96 CUTLASS CIERA SL Roomy & Economical	'97 DODGE RAM 1500 Club Cab, V-8, Auto
'95 NISSAN MAXIMA V-6, White, Immaculate	'97 DODGE RAM 1500 4x4, Sport, Club Cab
'95 DODGE CARAVAN Priced for Quick Sale!	'97 DODGE RAM 1500 V-6, 5 Speed, Nice
'93 PONTIAC GRAND AM 2 Door, Auto, Nice!	'96 DODGE RAM 1500 Club Cab, V-8, 5 Speed
'96 DODGE RAM 1500 Club Cab, 360, Auto	

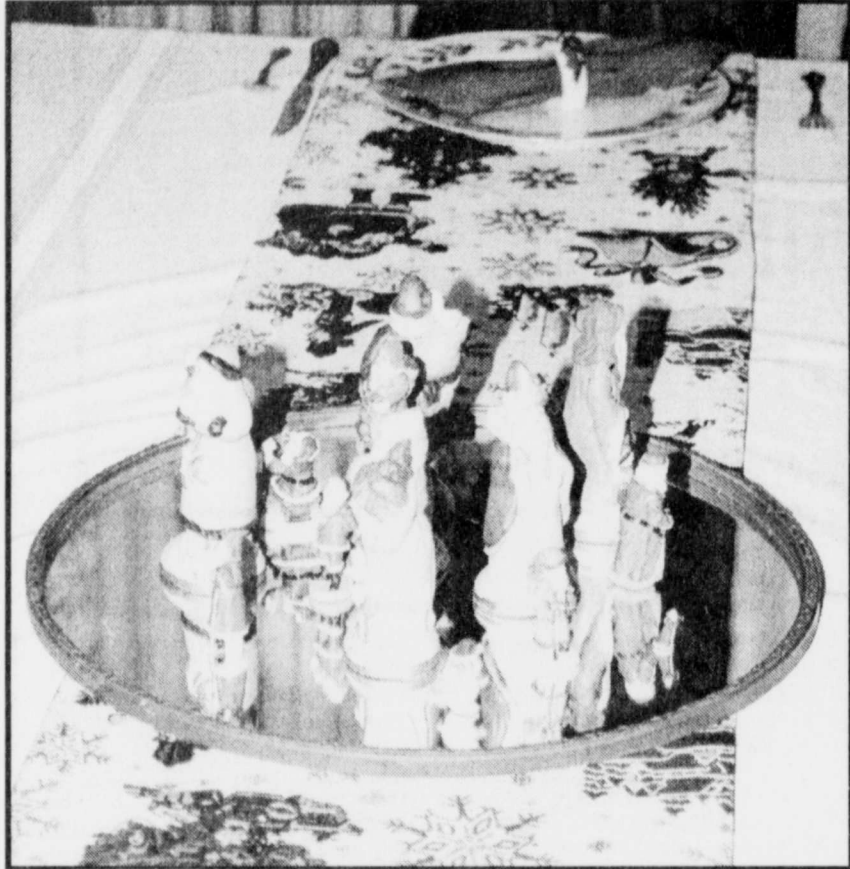
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 VICKI BALLARD, Agent
 FAX 903-785-0470



AT THE BOGATA LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY Gifts were passed out from under the Christmas Tree. A pot luck meal was enjoyed.



COLLECTION OF old world santas with mitres and copes, robes and trees, make a festive holiday table. (Staff Photo by Nanae Nichols)

Talco Locals

By Nancy Brown
Call in Your News To
379-4445



Buster and Sis Case celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary with dinner at Johnnie Cace's Restaurant in Longview.

Randy and Tina Nolen spent Sunday shopping in Texarkana.

Judy and Laura Stevens and Rachel Case spent Saturday shopping in Texarkana.

Cody Morgan, son of Sandra and Billy Morgan was injured in a go-cart accident Sunday afternoon. He was taken to Titus County Regional Hospital where 60 stitches were put in a gash in his back. He is reported doing well.

The Fidelis Sunday School Class of Calvary Baptist Church met for a Christmas party at the home of Betty Rollins on Tuesday. Boxes of food and gifts were gathered and taken to several families.

Patsy Smith and Sharon Price met their brother-in-law, Bud Venison of Safford, Arizona in Mt. Pleasant Saturday. They enjoyed lunch at the Western Sizzlin' Restaurant.

Visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Brown and Jack Thursday were David, Megan, Colby and Adam Horn, Tonya Hawkins and Kim and Paul Anderson.

Bruce and Tammy Case spent Monday shopping in Dallas.

Ricky Nolen and Jody, Randy Nolen and Destry and Gerald Holmes attended the State playoff football games at Texas Stadium in Dallas Saturday.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Charles Graf, Katherine, Justin, Rachel and Susan over the weekend were Andy, Beth, Jared and Jacob Myrcle of Tennessee.

Celebrating Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Finney in Pottsboro were Cindy Watts of Talco, Tawala Padgett of College Station, Scott Clasby of Tyler, Melissa and Scott Sinclair of Mt. Pleasant, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Finney, Susan and Cameron of Blue Ridge and Delbert Finney of Grandbury.

Laura Stevens spent Sunday afternoon visiting her grandmother, Latane Stevens in Gilmer. She enjoyed dinner with her aunt, Dianne Wren and family.

Celebrating Christmas at the home of Ruby and Troy Lewis in Blossom were Tina Nolen and Chris, Wanda and Billy Joe Vickers all of Talco, Brenda Russell, Troy, Jason, John and Sammy of Brazil, Jan and Johnny

Lily of Detroit, Becky, Kenda and Craig Blackburn and friend Karen of Paris, Cato, Annette and Jennifer Jones of Wewoka, OK., Janay and Colton Hull of Jacksboro, Greg, Becky and Holly Jones of Paris, Jill and Hal Jones of Blossom and John and Caroline Lily of Reno.

The youth of the Church of Christ in Talco enjoyed a Christmas skating party at Mt. Pleasant Monday evening.

Buster Case and grandson, Ryan Case spent Sunday and Monday in Colorado City, Tx. bird hunting. While there they visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rees in Westbrook.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Brown and Jack celebrated Christmas at the home of Mary Ann and Raymond Adler in Plano Sunday. Also attending were Bobby Jack and Bobbie Brown of Quitman, Lou Ann and Mike DeBerry of Greenville, Terrie and Mark Tatum, Mark and Nick of Plano, Martha Cody of Lewisville and Sue Malise of McKinney.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith and Melanie were over night guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Smith

gregation. Refreshments were served in the fellowship hall following the service. A good attendance was reported.

Christmas From The Heart Welcomes all Christmas Day

For the third year Christmas From The Heart will be held at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Bogata and at the Lonesome Dove Cafe in Deport.

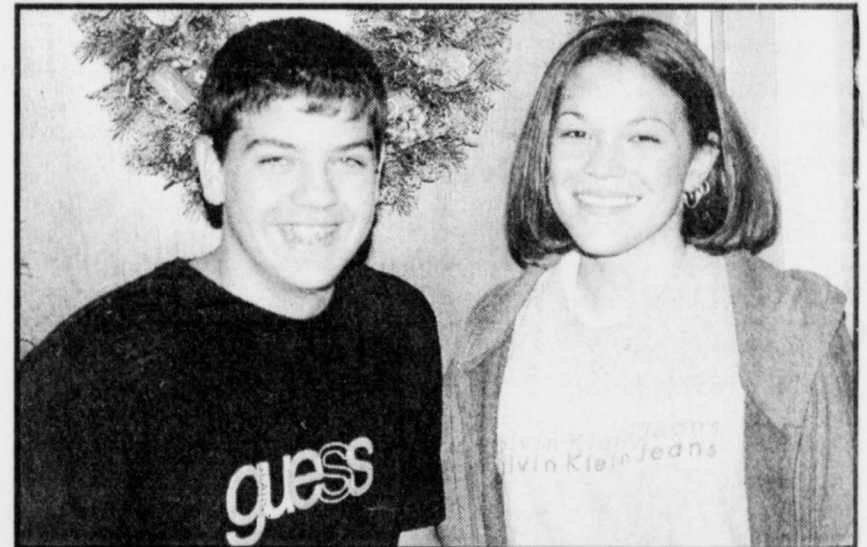
Organizers are making plans that will enable people to spend the holiday with friends as opposed to being alone. Last year over 100 people were served in both communities includ-

ing workers, guests and carry-out plates. This event is done strictly on a volunteer basis and welcomes everyone to come.

For more information call Wood Funeral Homes at 652-3195; Dave Seber at 652-6052 or Gilbert Arriaga at 652-9255.



BEST SENSE OF HUMOR-Elected the students with the Best Sense of Humor from the Rivercrest High School Freshman class are; Linda White, Lacey Edge and Nathan Carroll. Linda is the daughter of Joy and Wayne White of Bogata, Lacey is the daughter of Jeannie Hoffman of Talco and Nathan is the son of Lisa and Randy Carroll of Talco. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



CHOSEN MOST BEAUTIFUL AND MOST HANDSOME-from the Rivercrest Sophomore class for 1998-99 are Colby Guest and Jennifer Torres. Jennifer is the daughter of Ruth Norwood of Bogata. Colby is the son of Tracie Osborne of Bogata and Greg Guest of Bogata. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

A nativity from the 1850s

By John Howison

In this and other recent Christmas seasons, the media have been reporting "living nativity scenes" as something new. In reality, Bogata's first example of such a scene appeared almost a century and a half ago, in 1850.

We have no details and no pictures, but the evidence is official. The federal census-taker took down the bare facts when he appeared on horseback at the cabin of the William and Mary Humphreys family, the first settlers at the site of the future town of Bogata, in early December of that year. (Their cabin then stood a few feet north of the site of the present-day First Baptist Church in northern Bogata)

After listing the Humphreys couple and their children, the record appears at first glance to be just a reminder that human slavery, now only a part of our distant history, was still a grim reality. The "slave schedule" indicates two African slaves as part of the household. A slave who was in those days not even accorded the dignity of a personal name was listed as a black male, thirty years old. Another nameless black male was shown to be "4/12ths" of a year old.

The inevitable conclusion is that the older man was father of the four-months-old infant and that the mother had died in childbirth, or shortly thereafter, of what was then called "childbed fever". The account is a sad memento of pioneer life in northern Texas. But that is not the whole picture, or the end of the story.

The census also shows that the Humphreys household included two teen-age daughters, Mary, thirteen and her sister Elizabeth, fifteen. The natural maternal instincts of the of two girls make it a virtual certainty

that, as Christmas approached in 1850, a real, live baby, whose care fell in large part to them, replace their dolls. The infant's "manger" would in all likelihood have been an oak-splint basket, or perhaps a roughly-made crib that had previously held younger siblings of the two girls.

As the girls fed the child, or rocked and cuddled him and lent him a finger for his tiny ones to clutch, they doubtless had thoughts paralleling those of an earlier Mary and Elizabeth...that owing to the circumstances of his birth, the child was fated to have a difficult future.

It would be hard for us to imagine, as we approach the bi-Millennium, a more faithful reenactment of the nativity scene of Jesus of Nazareth.

Unfortunately, the sequels to this little story are only partly known. As for the Humphreys sisters who reenacted the roles of the Mary and Elizabeth whose story was detailed in the gospel of Luke, we know that they married and were the forebears of dozens of Bogatans.

Of the little orphan slave-child who played the part of the baby Jesus, the rest of his life is lost to history. In the census of 1860, there is a child, still nameless on the record, who may have starred in the living nativity scene of the previous decade, but even this identification is uncertain. We suggest no parallel for Joseph of Nazareth's flight into Egypt to save the infant Jesus from the wrath of Herod.

It is comforting to speculate, however, that the "baby Jesus" of 1850 could have survived well into the twentieth century, and may be the ancestor of many Americans celebrating the Nativity in 1998.



MILANO'S PIZZA

Bogata-TX 903-632-5777

HAPPY HOLIDAYS PARTY SPECIALS

HANDMADE CRUST & FRESH INGREDIENTS...JUST FOR YOU

LIMITED DELIVERY AREA

MUST PRESENT COUPON

1-LARGE, ANY TYPE, ANY KIND AND ONE ORDER OF CHEESE BREADSTICKS FOR ONLY \$10⁹⁹ + TAX

2-LARGE, ONE TOPPING FOR ONLY \$14⁹⁹ + TAX

3-LARGE, ANY TYPE, ANY KIND WITH ORDER OF CHEESE BREADSTICKS, 1-2 LITER PEPSI FOR ONLY \$22⁹⁹ + TAX

EXTRA CHEESE, OR DOUBLE TOPPING 99c EXTRA

