

## Basketball

HASKELL  
VB-VG Jayton Tournament  
Dec. 29-30  
at Jayton

## Calendar

### Candlelight service

Haskell First United Methodist Church would like to invite everyone to their Christmas Eve candlelight service Wed., Dec. 24, at 6:00 p.m.

### Candlelight service

St. George Catholic Church in Haskell would like to invite everyone to their Christmas Eve candlelight service Wed., Dec. 24, at 11:00 p.m.

### Hour of prayer

The Greater Independent Baptist Church, 301 N. Ave. C, Haskell will hold an hour of prayer from noon to 1 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Come by the church to pray for our city, state, country and other needs. Contact pastor Earnest Flanders, Jr. at 863-4405 for information.

### Men's bible study

A men's bible study will be held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. beginning Jan. 6 at God Loves You Ministries on the west side of the square. The study is open to all. For more information call 940-481-0495.

### TeamKID

TeamKID will meet at the First Baptist Church in Haskell on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. The program is for children ages 4 years pre-K through sixth grade. If your child needs a ride, call 864-2581.

### AWANA

AWANA children's activities at Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church will meet every Monday from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (on school days, not holidays), AWANA is a ministry for children 5 years old (by Sept. 1) through sixth grade. Activities include Bible stories, scripture memory, games and snacks. No pre-registration required. For more information, go to <http://www.cornerstonehaskell.org/> or call 940-864-5557.

### Water conservation

The City of Haskell has implemented stage three of the Drought Contingency Plan of the City of Haskell Water Conservation Plan. Stage three calls for a mandatory 25% reduction in water use by all City of Haskell water customers. Please make every effort to conserve and help secure our water supply as long as possible. For more information or a copy of the water conservation plan, contact Haskell City Hall.

### Water conservation

The City of Rule has implemented Stage Four of its Drought Contingency Plan Emergency Water Shortage/Water Allocations. Please contact Rule City Hall or call 940-996-2214 for more information.

### Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. at the AA building across from the RV park in Haskell.

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# Merry Christmas

# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 128-NO. 52, ©DECEMBER 25, 2014

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES-ONE SECTION-75 CENTS

## Exploring the true meaning of Christmas

by Caron Yates

Christmas, it truly is "A Most Wonderful Time of the Year." While it may hold a little different sentiment for each of us, there is no denying the excitement it brings.

When we think

"Christmas" most of us think shopping, wrapping, cooking, decorating and preparing for company. Children think Santa and presents. Perhaps many feel the joy of having family together, and whether or not we can physically be

"home for the holidays," our hearts and our thoughts are of home, family, Christmases past and those who are no longer with us.

There are many Christmas songs and stories to enjoy through the season, but for believers there is no story

as beautiful and as full of hope as the one in Luke, "And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not! For, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.' For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ

the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." He is the reason for the season.

For some on our list, we know exactly what to buy, but for others it isn't that easy. Oren Arnold offered these Christmas gift suggestions: to your enemy, give forgiveness; to an opponent, give tolerance; to a friend, give your heart; to a customer, give service; to all, give charity; to every child, give a good example; and to yourself, give respect.

Calvin Coolidge wrote, "Christmas is not a time or a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and good will, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas." How wonderful our world would be if we kept the "spirit of Christmas" all year long.

In the hustle and bustle of getting ready for Christmas and making sure everything is just as we want it, let's take a lesson from Dr. Seuss's "The Grinch" as he discovered, "It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes and bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."

However and wherever you celebrate Christmas this year, we wish for each of you a very merry Christmas.



**STUFFED ANIMALS**—The Haskell Mommy and Me group collected stuffed animals to donate to the Haskell County Sheriff's Department, DPS and City of Haskell law enforcement officers to carry in their cars. The officers often encounter children in their work and a stuffed animal can help calm a child

during a stressful situation. Making the donation to Haskell County Sheriff Winston Stephens, center, Dec. 17 were, l-r, Casandra Payne holding Malakai Hitcho, Christina Castorena holding Delilah Castorena, Katlyn Logan holding Jessa Logan and Alyssa Hitcho holding Destin Hitcho.

## Leadership Program going strong

The Knox-Haskell Rural Leadership Program launched in October of this year is going strong. The 2014-2015 class has twelve participants from both counties. They have met three times this year and will continue to meet once a month until graduation in May 2015.

The first session was held Oct. 17 at the Big County Baptist Encampment. Participants went through an orientation as well as team building exercises. The group learned the importance of working together to accomplish a common goal. They also got an introduction to community development from Haskell Mayor, John Gannaway.

The second session was held Nov. 7 in Haskell. The curriculum focus was Leadership in a Nutshell taught by Paul Leonard. Then, the group met with the Development Corporation of Haskell board of directors. They heard about various economic development projects and exactly what that board does for their community. They toured Encore Visions, a local business and a DCOH project. They also learned about the importance of agriculture in rural communities from Texas

A&M AgriLIFE Extension Service agents Jerry Coplen and Lorrie Coop. They toured the Rule Co-op Gin to see the agriculture economy up close and personal.

The third session was held in Knox County. The curriculum focus that morning was Communication Skills taught by Jimi Coplen and Lorrie Coop. The group also heard from Marla Hawkins about community development projects in Knox City. The remainder of the day was spent touring Knox County. The group was exposed to quality of life elements and people sprinkled throughout the county. The group met Glen Large and toured 57 Heaven Museum in Knox City. Then, they met Karen Longan and did a drive-by tour of various beautification projects around the City of Munday. Then, they went on to Goree and met with Tammie Trainham and toured the old bank building. They also made a stop in Rhineland to see St. Joseph's Catholic Church. After that, they made their way to Benjamin to meet Mary Jane Young and see the Wichita Brazos Museum, followed by some shopping at Santa Fe on the Brazos and Front Porch Quilts.

The group will participate

in four more leadership meetings plus a graduation ceremony in May. The participants will then choose a community development project to complete. The Knox County Visioning Group and the Development Corporation of Haskell are sponsoring the program. Partnering organizations are the Knox and Haskell County Extension Offices. Applications for the next leadership course will start in August of 2015.

For more information, call 940-459-4121.



**EXPLORES MUSEUM**—Parris Pittman explores the Wichita Brazos Museum while participating in a tour with the Knox-Haskell Rural Leadership Program.



**LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**—Participating in the Knox-Haskell Rural Leadership Program are, l-r, Erin Dunnam, Laura Bowers, Lorrie Coop, Jimi Coplen, Parris Pittman, Scott Bearden, Tammy Cunningham, Tatiana Nchotu, Sheena Crosson and Tamera Fredirici. Not pictured are Teresa Martinez, Mitzi Welch, Joy Lynn Pool, Mary Drury and Carl Milburn.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 940-864-2686



# Merry Christmas



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from

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## Commissioners' Court report

The Haskell County Commissioners' Court met at the regular meeting place Mon., Dec. 8 with all members present.

Commissioner Kenny Thompson reported on work being done on Loop Road. A lower speed limit will be imposed on Loop Road. A notice will be posted in the newspapers of a public hearing. The public hearing will be held Fri., Dec. 19 at a Special Called Meeting of the Commissioners' Court.

The Treasurer's monthly report was presented and approved.

Sheriff Winston Stephens reported hiring Delecia Garcia as dispatcher for the Sheriff's office.

The matter concerning the roof at the extension building was tabled.

A letter will be sent to extension office secretary Tammy Parham advising her that her position will be filled after Dec. 31. An advertisement will be placed after January 1 for that position. A discussion allowing Tamara Frederici to work as many hours as needed to catch up on office work was held.

Brandon Westlake with Cummings Westlake LLC was present to discuss the guidelines and criteria for the Tax Abatement.

The tax abatement for wind energy was tabled.

\*\*\*

The Haskell County Commissioners' Court met in a special meeting Mon., Dec. 15 with all members present.

A motion to accept the new Tax Abatement to build approximately 200 wind turbines in Haskell County was accepted.

## Weather

by Kim Hutto

National Weather Service  
Volunteer Co-op Observer  
Temperature

Mon., Dec. 15 ..... 40°/61°  
Tues., Dec. 16 ..... 34°/54°  
Wed., Dec. 17 ..... 43°/44°  
Thurs., Dec. 18 ..... 39°/70°  
Fri., Dec. 19 ..... 42°/47°  
Sat., Dec. 20 ..... 43°/60°  
Sun., Dec. 21 ..... 45°/69°

Precipitation

Wed., Dec. 17 ..... .41" rain



**TOUR FACILITIES**—The Vo Tech Center students of Rochester would like to say "thank you" to everyone at Steele Fire Apparatus for a recent tour of the facilities and for the training that was given to them. Bill Steele, above, gave the tour of the industry and spoke with students on employee relations, skills and requirements. Students were able to see the steps in the processes involved in the fabrication and production of firefighting and rescue vehicles. VTC students were introduced to the various firefighting rigs, equipment and the water torch cutting machine. Wes Steele gave students "hands-on" training in the welding processes involved in the production of their trucks.



## Obituaries

### Mavis Marion Middleton



MAVIS MIDDLETON

Funeral services for Mavis Marion Middleton, 82, of Haskell were held Mon., Dec. 22 at Cornerstone Baptist Fellowship Church in Haskell with Rev. Morris Johnson and Dr. Troy Culpepper officiating.

Mrs. Middleton passed away Friday evening, Dec. 19 at Haskell Memorial Hospital

in Haskell.

Mavis Marion Sorrells was born in Obar, New Mexico Dec. 10, 1931, the daughter of Pauline and William Elvin Sorrells. She married Gentry Middleton Dec. 31, 1950 at Sweet Home Baptist in Rule. Mavis was a wonderful seamstress, cook and housekeeper. She enjoyed scrapbooking, loved decorating her home and playing cards.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Pauline Sorrells; husband, Gentry Middleton; and brothers, Jerry Sorrells, Charles Sorrells and Doyle Sorrells.

Survivors include her two daughters, Beth Guess and husband Mike Guess of Haskell and Paula Fincher and husband Joe Fincher of Spur; three grandsons, Chan Guess and his wife Bridget of Haskell, Mart Guess

and wife Julie of Chicago, Illinois, and Les Fincher and wife Tammy of Spur; one granddaughter, Carrie Hiebert and her husband Michael of Idalou; four great granddaughters, Jacee Guess and Cami Guess both of Haskell, Addie Hiebert of Idalou, and Ramey Fincher of Spur; six great grandsons, Tyler Fincher, Chase Fincher, and Seth Fincher all of Spur, Landon Hiebert, Leyton Hiebert, and Austin all of Idalou; sister, Sonja Green of Stinnett; and very important caregivers, Birdie Goudeau and Brittany Jordan.

If desired, memorials may be given in Mrs. Mavis' name to the Cornerstone Baptist Fellowship Church, 1600 North First Street, Haskell, Texas 79521. 940-864-5557.

Online condolences may be shared with Mavis' family at [www.smithfamilyfh.com](http://www.smithfamilyfh.com).

PD. NOTICE

## Oh Holy Night!

*It is the season of Christ's birth ~  
Rich in love, joy, hope and peace.  
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as you have blessed us!*

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# Merry Christmas

*Wishing you the gift of faith,  
the blessing of hope and  
the peace of His love at Christmas and always.*

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**DISTRICT BANQUET**—A strong Haskell FFA presence was felt at this year's Double Mountain District FFA Banquet. The event, held at the Hawley High School auditorium, brought together all eleven of the district FFA Chapters. Presiding over the banquet were the district FFA officers, including Kourtney Howard serving as the District Student Advisor. The evening was filled with award recognitions, talent competitions, speeches, and the opportunity to socialize with students from surrounding schools. The highlight of the evening was the election of the 2015 district officers. Two Haskell FFA members were elected to serve as district officers for the next year. Katie Newberry

was elected to serve as the 2015 District Reporter, and Daphni Leonard was elected to serve as the 2015 District Parliamentarian. Haskell FFA Chapter and the Double Mountain District have once again had an extremely successful year and we look forward to the opportunities which await in 2015. Haskell members attending were Lane Burson, Chase Gibson, Kourtney Howard, Dalton Meinzer, Hayden Hudson, Lori Rodgers, Riley Sloan, Payton Thomas, Katie Newberry, Sam Fouts, Pryce Stewart, Kenna Ferguson, Kameryn Mathis, Makinzie Garvin, Sarah Fouts, Alye Stewart, Kylie Adams, Makenzie Gass, Daphni Leonard, Jacee Guess and Ariel Martinez.



**DISTRICT BANQUET**—Paint Creek FFA was represented by eleven members at the Double Mountain District Banquet Mon., Dec. 15 in Hawley. Felicity Hannsz performed in the talent show singing "We Will Rock You" by Queen. Catherine Lemond and Corey Mengwasser ran for 2014-2015 Double Mountain District FFA office while Kellie Jenkins and Stormy Darnell represented PC FFA as voting delegates. Candidates running for district office take a test, go through an interview, and give a speech in front of the district. Out of 18 district officer candidates this

year the top 10 make an office. Catherine Lemond ranked seventh and is the new 2014-2015 Double Mountain FFA District Student Advisor. The Double Mountain FFA District is made up of schools from Anson, Aspermont, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Jayton-Girard, Lueders-Avoca, Paint Creek, Roby, Rotan and Stamford. Attending from Paint Creek were, I-r, Corey Mengwasser, Catherine Lemond, Felicity Hannsz, Zhenia McTasney, Devon Benitez, Katelyn Jenkins, Stormy Darnell, Frankie Masias, Sara Edwards, Kellie Jenkins and Ashley Crossley.

## DPS increases DWI enforcement during holidays

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase DWI patrols for a 15-day period that includes both the Christmas and New Year holidays. From Dec. 19 to Jan. 2, DPS troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent.

"DPS' enhanced patrols are designed to help save lives by identifying impaired and dangerous drivers and getting them off Texas roadways," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Holiday celebrations create the increased potential

for drinking and driving incidents, and we urge Texans to designate a sober driver or find alternative transportation if they plan to drink."

During the Christmas/New Year holiday enforcement effort last year, DPS troopers made 1,505 DWI arrests. DPS enforcement also resulted in 24,928 speeding citations, 2,997 seat belt/child safety seat citations, 1,078 fugitive arrests and 797 felony arrests during the enforcement period. A Texas Department of Transportation grant allows increased patrols in

high-risk locations during the times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent.

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 in bad weather, construction 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.

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## Happy Holidays

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 In every way.

*Merry Christmas!*

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Promotion valid through December 31, 2014. Some restrictions may apply. Services where available. Up to three connections 50 percent off, additional connections \$20 each.

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# OPINION

## TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



## HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

### State contract with tech firm prompts calls for probe

AUSTIN—State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, on Dec. 18 requested that the special prosecution unit of the Travis County District Attorney's Office "begin a formal and thorough investigation" into transactions between the State of Texas and 21CT, a software intelligence firm with offices here and in Vienna, Virginia.

Information about the transactions came to light via an ongoing investigation and stories published by the Austin American-Statesman.

"I am particularly concerned about the reported involvement of Jack Stick and any other state employees in the negotiation and approval of the contract with 21CT," Whitmire wrote in a letter to Gregg Cox, director of the special prosecution unit.

Stick resigned Dec. 12 as general counsel for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission after the agency's executive commissioner, Kyle Janek, questioned a \$20 million contract and a \$90 million contract extension with 21CT to provide healthcare fraud detection and neutralization services.

Gov. Rick Perry and House Speaker Joe Straus, through their spokespeople, have called for investigations.

### DPS to post more patrols

Texas Department of Public Safety on Dec. 18 announced the number of DWI patrols will increase for a 15-day period that includes both the Christmas and New Year holidays, Dec. 19 through Jan. 2.

State troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent. DPS Director Steven McCraw said, "Holiday celebrations create the increased potential for drinking and driving incidents and we urge Texans to designate a sober driver or find alternative transportation if they plan to drink."

During the Christmas/New Year holiday enforcement effort last year, state troopers made 1,505 DWI arrests and enforcement also resulted in 24,928 speeding citations, 2,997 seat belt/child safety seat citations, 1,078 fugitive arrests and 797 felony arrests during the enforcement period, according to the DPS.

### Student loan debt grows

The Office of the State Comptroller on Dec. 9 released a report, "Footing the Bill: Rising College Costs, Deepening Debt," examining the growth of college tuition costs and student loan debt.

According to the report, in Texas, average in-state public university tuition and fees rose by 90 percent between 2003 and 2012. Yet enrollment in Texas degree-granting institutions rose the 49 percent from 2000 to 2012 "despite rising tuition costs and student loan burdens."

Furthermore, the agency pointed out, the rise in enrollment is expected to continue, "making it imperative for students to know

how their tuition and fees are spent and to have better access to tools to help them get a full picture of college costs."

The report can be accessed at [www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/student\\_loan](http://www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/student_loan).

Also related and noteworthy is an Oct. 27, 2014, release by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, reporting that Texas ranks ninth-best overall in a WalletHub analysis of student debt in the United States. Seven key metrics went into the analysis, such as average student debt, unemployment rate and percentage of students with past-due loan balances.

### Decrease in injuries noted

Texas Department of Insurance on Dec. 16 published information showing the number and rate of work-related injuries and illnesses requiring days off work decreased in 2013.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, the state agency said, "private industry employers in Texas reported 51,890 cases involving days away from work and an incidence rate of 66.6 injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time equivalent employees in 2013. These are decreases from 53,290 cases and a rate of 70.1 in 2012. The Texas rate is below the national rate of 99.9."

### Gansu delegation visits

Texas Agriculture Commissioner-elect Sid Miller in early December hosted a group of officials from the northwest China province of Gansu, population 26 million.

Meeting with Miller "to grow agriculture trade opportunities between Texas and Gansu" were the province's Executive Vice Governor H.E. Luo Xiaohu and five other high-ranking officials.

Exporting Texas beef to Gansu, according to the Texas Department of Agriculture, is one of the first items on Miller's list of trade opportunities to facilitate.

### Texans asked to waste less

Texas Commission of Environmental Quality on Dec. 15 encouraged citizens to generate less holiday-related garbage through its Take Care of Texas campaign.

Examples of recommended actions to generate less garbage:

1. Plan an eco-friendly party. Choose reusable plates, cups, linens and utensils instead of disposable ones; and avoid disposable hats, noisemakers, streamers, balloons or other throwaways.
2. Use reusable bags.
3. Buy local.
4. Recycle your tree.
5. Reuse gift wrap.

### Tesla's founder to speak

Texas Department of Transportation on Dec. 17 announced Tesla Motors CEO and co-founder Elon Musk will deliver the keynote address at the 10th Annual Texas Transportation Forum on Jan. 15 at the Hilton Austin Hotel.

Transportation leaders will meet at the forum, Jan. 14-16, to explore ways to improve the state's transportation infrastructure.



## From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

### 10 Years Ago

December 23, 2004

Laura Irvin of Haskell celebrated her 90th birthday at a party in her honor, held at the Trinity Baptist Church fellowship building. It was hosted by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Kristen Cypert, 2002 HHS graduate and daughter of Buddy and Tonya Cypert of Haskell, was inducted into the Texas Alpha Gamma Chapter of Alpha Chi at Midwestern State University. It is the highest academic honor that Midwestern State students can achieve.

The Haskell Indians defeated Hawley 58 to 37. Scoring for Haskell were Webb, 16; Mitchell, 10; D.J. McCulloch, 10; Hodge, 6; Chavez, 6; Foster, 4; L.J. McCulloch, 4; and Frierson, 2.

### 20 Years Ago

December 29, 1994

Medford Auto Parts, a new automotive parts business, has opened for business in Haskell. Studie Lewis, clerk, and Anita Medford, owner, are ready to assist customers.

Clariss Jones of Haskell was presented a new television by Eddie Medford of Medford Buick Pontiac GMC. She was the winner in the Buick Value Days promotion.

"The Redneck and the High Maintenance Woman," by coauthors Doyle and Roberta High, went on sale this week. The book highlights the joys and frustrations of their life

together.

### 30 Years Ago

December 27, 1984

Mary Lou Gonzales, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jose Gonzales of Haskell, will march with the Texan Marching Band and Texan Stars in the Cotton Bowl Parade in Dallas. She is a junior at Tarleton State University.

Chester Hodgkin, who has worked with Lone Star Gas for the past 35 years, was honored at a surprise retirement party. About seventy-five well-wishers were on hand.

Charles "Ike" Neal has been appointed Agency Manager of Haskell County Farm Bureau. He came to work for the county in 1980 as a career agent. He is married to the former Bonnie Woods of Rule.

### 40 Years Ago

December 26, 1974

Paula Middleton and Joe Fincher were united in marriage in a ceremony held at First Baptist Church in Haskell. Rev. Dudley Bragg officiated. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Gentry Middleton and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Fincher.

Several thousand people were in Haskell on Saturday to search through thousands of ticket stubs in an attempt to win some \$450 in give aways by Haskell merchants.

Rule Rotary Club members enjoyed a program presented by club president John Greeson, on various Christmas customs and how they originated from various

parts of the world. Weldon Norman led the prayer and Harold Woods led the group in singing Christmas carols.

### 50 Years Ago

December 24, 1964

Haskell County six-man All-District First Team picks were James Duncan and Carlton Rhoades, O'Brien; Larry Cunningham, Weinert; and Larry Edwards, Paint Creek. Named to the All-District Second Team were Keith Chapman and Dennis Opitz, Mattson; Jim Hackney and Larry Caddell, Weinert; and Bill Duncan, O'Brien.

Judy Baitz, 17 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Baitz, has been chosen FFA Sweetheart by the Haskell Chapter Future Farmers of America.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Quattlebaum, Haskell residents for more than 55 years, were honored by their children and grandchildren on their 50th wedding anniversary.

### 100 Years Ago

December 26, 1914

Mr. George Foster acted as toastmaster as members of the Yeomen Lodge and their families enjoyed an oyster feast at their hall in this city. Rev. J.D. White was called upon and delivered a splendid address.

Mrs. Jack Merchant of Weinert was shopping in this city Tuesday.

R.M. Smith, president of the Farmers Union of Haskell County, announced they will hold their quarterly meeting in the W.O.W. Hall in Haskell.

## Crime of the Week

A 2012 TXBR 12 foot, black, flatbed utility trailer was stolen Mon., Dec. 15 from 717 E. Texas in Stamford between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. The trailer has red and yellow pinstripes down the sides and some damage to the driver's side tail light. The trailer's VIN is 17FXP12XC1025857.

On the trailer, and also stolen, were two John Deere D100 riding lawnmowers, one Yard Man push mower, two Stihl weed-eaters, a two gallon gas can, a five gallon gas can, and two Stihl leaf blowers.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers, in cooperation with the Stamford Police Department, is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of those who committed this crime or the location of any of the items stolen. Anyone with information is urged to call the crime stopper tipline 800-222-TIPS or text CFCS@CRIMES. All callers remain anonymous.

Remember—We want your information, not your name.

Make some extra money for Christmas by calling in information about this crime or any other crime occurring in Jones, Haskell, Fisher, Stonewall, Shackelford and Kent counties.

See something, say something, make some money!

## Haskell Co. Arrest Report

The following arrests were reported by the Haskell County Sheriff's Office during the week of Dec. 15-17:

William Ryan Pierce, surety withdrawal possession of meth with intent to deliver felony.

Brenda M. Luce, theft more than \$50 less than \$500 Class B misdemeanor.

Melvin Barnes II, criminal nonsupport state jail felony.

Robert Preston Alexander, DWI 2nd and possession of marijuana under 2 oz.

Ambrosia Marie Rodriguez, assault family violence misdemeanor A.

Fifteen calls were made to 911.

## Holidays may be stressful for some families

**Andrew B. Crocker—Gerontology Health Specialist Texas AgriLife Extension**

For many Texans the family togetherness that accompanies the holiday season may be more stressful than joyous. Conditions such as dementia or events such as placement in a care facility may leave families wondering how best to celebrate the holidays. These tips will help families make the best out of the holidays regardless of their situation.

Care facility placements may be stressful at any time of the year but especially during holidays. Many families struggle with the question of whether or not to take their loved one out of the facility to celebrate together. While it might be fine for some patients, for others it could be a very traumatic experience. Consider the following

•**Adjustment to new surroundings.** Has your loved one adjusted to his or her new life in the care facility? If your loved one has not gotten used to the fact that he or she no longer lives at home, a return home may be a very stressful

situation. Talk to the facility staff to see how they feel your loved one has adjusted to the new surroundings. Also, trust your instincts—do not put yourself, your family or your loved one into an uncomfortable situation.

•**Explore options.** Check with the staff to see if you and your family might be able to celebrate part of the holidays in the facility. The facility may even be willing to let you eat a holiday meal with your loved one. Most places tend to be accommodating to family members, especially during the holidays.

•**Talk to your loved one.** No matter what you and your family choose to do for the holidays, make sure your loved one understands what is happening. If you decide to spend time at home with your loved one, use positive reinforcement to make sure he or she understands that you enjoy being together at home but it is temporary. For example, "We don't want you to miss anything happening at your new home."

Where dementia is concerned, families may not

know what to expect each new day, much less on holidays. You may want to talk to family members not used to your loved one's condition so that they may be prepared for any surprises that may arise during your time together. In addition

•**Keep a routine.** Predictability is a very important aspect in the life of a person with dementia. You and your family should try to adjust your schedules so that you all may celebrate together but still preserve your loved one's schedule.

•**Plan events earlier in the day.** In dementia, confusion often occurs as the day goes on—a condition known as "sundowning." For this reason, you may want to plan your holiday celebration earlier in the day.

•**Keep it simple.** While tradition and decorations may be an important part of your family's holiday celebration, remember that too much distraction may be frustrating to your family member. You may want to have some decorations that hold some family memories—something to which your loved one may

respond. Also, you may want to consider traditional holiday music that your loved one knows and with which he or she may be able to sing along.

•**Involve your loved one.** If your family's holiday celebration includes exchanging gifts, you may want to consider recommending what other family members could get your loved one: comfortable clothing, music or photos of family members, to name a few. In turn, involve your loved one in the gift giving as well—you may want to buy something and allow your loved one to wrap it.

No matter what situation you and your family may face this holiday season, remember that much of the stress from holiday celebrations stems from expectations being too high. Many times family members expect things to be like they have always been before. Realizing that you and your family are in a different situation will help reduce the risk of a stressful holiday season.

For more information, go to the Alzheimer's Association at <http://www.alz.org> or contact your County Extension Agent at <http://county-tx.tamu.edu>.

## The Haskell Free Press

Established January 1, 1886  
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY  
420 North First Street • P. O. Box 555  
HASKELL, TEXAS 79521  
Phone 940-864-2686 • Fax 940-864-2687  
[hfp@valornet.com](http://hfp@valornet.com)

John McDougal .....Publisher  
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Doris McDougal .....Production  
Caron Yates .....Editor

Periodical Paid Haskell, Texas 79521  
(USPS 237-040)

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Haskell County, one year, \$25.00.

Outside of Haskell County, one year, \$34.00.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Haskell Free Press, P.O. Box 555, Haskell, TX. 79521-0555.

This issue mailed Tues., Dec. 23, 2014





# Haskell Basketball



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HASKELL INDIANS—Members of the Indian basketball team include, front row, l-r, #34 Sean Weiser, #20 Brad Winterstein, #10 Kellen Parks, #12 Marc Guzman and #24 Dylan Hanson; back row, Coach Tate Thompson, #14 Kade Colley, #40 Henry Smith, #30 Riley Meinzer and #22 Lane Burson.

## Haskell Indians

V Indians  
Jayton Tournament  
Dec. 29-30  
at Jayton



HASKELL MAIDENS—Front row, l-r, #41 Katie Newberry, #35 Ashlyn Bevel, #11 Ariel Martinez, #33 Alys Stewart and #31 Brittany Amos; back row, #23 Crissy Bassett, #5 Jacie Klose, #21 Destiny Benavides, #15 Reagan Hadaway and #53 Kenzie Shelton.

## Haskell Maidens

V Maidens  
Jayton Tournament  
Dec. 29-30  
at Jayton



Go Indians! Go Maidens!





# Letters to Santa...

Dear Santa,  
I will not ask for a lot this year. I would like a nimbball sports gymnastic set, a Ipad. Just Ipad not a case, reborn if you do not know what that is its a baby that looks like a real Baby, a America girl doll, a look a like doll, and a art kit paint, brushes, shades and colors too.

Sincerely,  
Octavia Pryor  
P.S. Eat some of my mom cookie. She is a cook and milk.

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a touchscreen phone, xbox one and a nerf gun. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Dylan Campbell  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like camo clothes, an Ipad, a race track, with a car and a fourwheeler. I will leave some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Adrian Castorena  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an X-box one, a nerf gun and a scooter. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Daniel Flores  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an Iphone, Ipad and a nerf gun for Christmas. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Victor Garza  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Lego Chima Movie, an xbox and a remote control car. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Zakarey Jones  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa, I would like an Ipad, a toy car, and some movies for Christmas. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, K'Lee Mlenak  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Lego castle, a Lego house and a Lego scooter for Christmas. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Amelia Ngoun  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a nerf gun and an xbox one for Christmas. I will leave some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Ethan O'Donnell  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an xbox 360, a cat, and a toy motorcycle for Christmas. I will leave some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Sonny Payne  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a phone, and a poppin movie snacks playdoh. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Cort Rogers  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Barbie Dream House, a dog, and a cat for Christmas. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Audrianna Yanez  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a fake puppy, board games and a bright eyes blanket. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Thank you Santa.

Love, Abigail Castorena  
Paint Creek first grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Is the North Pole nice and cold? Are the elves helping you make presents? Does Rudolf's nose shine brightly? I would really like to get a green bike for Christmas.

Your friend,  
Evan Cisneros  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
What have you elves been doing this year? How is rudolf doing? Is he sick or not? How are you Santa? I want a PS4 for Christmas.

Love, Harry Boyd  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I hope you come to town on Christmas Eve. We made gingerbread men and have carrots for Rudolf. Your elves are working so hard. I bet they are tired! I hope I'm on the good list. Can you get me a DSi? I want it to snow a lot until it's at my knees. I believe you, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus. Have a nice Christmas and enjoy the cookies.

Love, Melanie Clary  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Have you had a busy year? I hope you have fun tonight! May I have my little ponies, and a doll? That's all! Look at the cookies, carrots, and milk now. Bye! Thank you!

Love, Delaina Todd  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you doing Santa? Are all the reindeer ready for Christmas Eve? Before you go, I want to tell what I want for Christmas. I want some pink mittens, a cotton candy maker, a Barbie doll, and a new pair of green shoes.

Love, Alisa Walburg  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I like you so much that I am happy. I like the way you give presents to kids. I like that. I like you, too. I want more legos for Christmas.

Love, Cayden  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I hope you have a great Christmas and have fun giving all the kids in the world their presents. I hope they like what you give them. All I want for Christmas is Legos, Mario games for the PS3, and Hot Wheel tracks. We hope you have a special Christmas.

Love, Zeke Cisneros  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Hi! How are you doing? I have cookies and milk for you. I want an electric scooter, go-cart, and a new bike.

Love,  
Christain-Cruz-Ramos  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you doing? You remember that time when I gave you Jolly Ranchers? How are the elves doing? I want a game for my xbox, MP3 player, jewelry, charm bracelet, perfume, and a picture of me on your lap.

Sincerely, Eden Graham  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you doing in the North Pole? Can I have an Xbox for Christmas? Santa, how are the reindeer doing? Are they being nice to Rudolf? Has Rudolf been eating his carrots lately? Mom, Dad, Harry, Adrian, Abigail, Jazzy, and I are very thankful for you because you work so hard.

Yours truly,  
Andrew Castorena  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I wish I could go to the North Pole with you. How is Rudolf? Is he sick or is he good? Can I have some toy cars, seven nerf guns and a WWE belt?

Love, Audie Shaw  
Paint Creek second grade

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been very good this year! I love you Santa Claus! I would like a barbie doll house. I would like a toy mouse. Please Santa don't put a finger puppet hole in the mouse. Please Santa bring me candy and other surprises. Santa, when we make some cookies for you, please share one with Rudolf. Santa, I would also like a sparkly cup. I love you Santa and miss you so much!

Love, Teagan  
Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Thank you for sending me presents. I want you to bring me some dinosours for under my tree.

I love you,  
Tyreike, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a stuffed animal horse. Have a good day and be safe.

I love you,  
Cason, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a real Chihuahua. What is the North Pole like there? I love you.

With love,  
Madisyn, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a new bike. I love you. I want to go to your house so I can go see the North Pole.

With love,  
Jayde, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a watch. I want a big bike like Lauren. I want a green truck. I love you.

Rylan, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I hope you have a great flight. I want a toy robot.

With love, Natalie Murray  
Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I want some toys. I want a monster high toy.

Thank you, Haylee Stone  
Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a stuffed animal and a doll.

Thank you,  
Madi Jones  
Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I hope you bring me a lot of presents. I want a toy princess. I hope you write back to me.

Thank you,  
Brylee, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I want a barbee doll house. I want a baby doll. I love Rudolph. Tell him I said hi.

Thank you,  
Arena, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a real horse. I want another horse for my brother. I love you and be safe. Will you bring me a toy pink four-wheeler with two seats.

Thank you,  
Leslie, Rule Elementary

Dear Santa,  
I want a doll house and a doll. I want doll shoes and baby clothes.

Sincerely,  
Hailey, Rule Elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a DS and a motorcycle toy.

Love, Junior Medina  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a Batman toy car, Robin and Joker.

Love, Josiah Smith  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring a doll house and a toy mouse.

Love, Teagan Deen  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a pony.

Love, Jovi Earle  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a barbie that talks and Princess.

Love, Kylee Delmasso  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a dinosaur and a toy robot (bumblebee).

Love, Carter Wolfe  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want three race cars and one race car track.

Love, Brydon Mackey  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a batman and a spiderman car.

Love, William Penman  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a large firetruck.

Miles Easterling  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a Spiderman toy.

Love, Jake Casey  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want all superman castles, batman, and airplane.

Love, Payden Wheat  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like legos.

Love, Heston Tatum  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a batman and a superman.

Love, Grant Lackey  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a scooter.

Love, Rory Pittman  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a baby.

Love, Allison Medina  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a boat and a reindeer.

Love, Everett Strickland  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me some cars.

Love, Lucyan Kolb  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a girl car.

Love, Arianna Contreras  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a dog and a big doll house.

Love, Miley Yohner  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike.

Love, Addison Agraz  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me monster high dolls.

Love, Faith Walker  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a bracelet.  
Love,  
Rebekah Cunningham  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a barbie.  
Love,  
Katelyn Casey  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a paint set, a babydoll and a scooter.

Love,  
Kamryn Delmasso  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike and a paint set and a tablet.

Love, Madison McGhee  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an electric scooter and a 4 wheeler with a man.

Love, Colton Crosson  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an art set.

Love, Francisco Contrera  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a scooter.

Love, Lyric Pittman  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an equestria doll and a pony.

Love, Lillian Penman  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me books and a night light.

Love,  
Zaebrion Mays  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a babydoll and art set.

Love, Natalya Mays  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a teddy bear and tweet tweet bird.

Love,  
Kennedy Buchanan  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like to have a skateboard and a ninja.

Love, Weston Lackey  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Jarassic Park ds game and Jarassic park movie.

Love, Brody Letz  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a tablet.

Love, Ashleah Rowden  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a bell from his reindeer.

Love, Carter Crosson  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like skylanders and a dinosaur with a bone in its mouth.

Love, Audie Shaw  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a baby doll and a baby sister and brother.

Love, Kasey Walker  
Early Learning Center

\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is Pokemon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire. Also, I would like a special edition Pokemon Egyptian mew card, Banjo-Kazooie Nuts and Bolts game, a Game Boy Color, a model jet that can fly, a Lego ship set and a coin collector set. Thank you for all my presents. I have a glittery present for you, milk and cookies. Don't forget Spencer, Rebekah, James, Louis and Jack. Also, please remember Wayland, Luke, Mihir and Corbin.

Love, Nathan

\*\*\*

**Merry Christmas**  
All our best wishes to you and your loved ones on this joyous occasion.



**WILD HORSE TRADING POST**  
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**Haskell's General Store and RadioShack**

To all our valued members we offer our gratitude and good wishes for a happy holiday season.

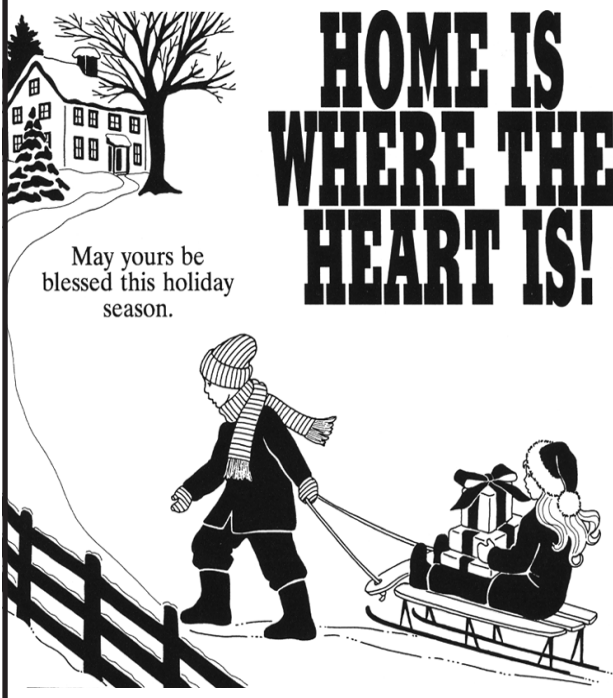
Merry Christmas!



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May yours be blessed this holiday season.



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# Dear Santa, Please bring me a...

Dear Santa,  
I have been pretty good this year. I hope our elf has been telling you all good things. This year I would like 7 Nerf guns, a WWE belt, Skylanders, a robot dinosaur, and a robot dog. Tell the reindeer and Mrs. Claus hi.

Love, Audie  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Zakarey Ryen Jones and I am 6 years old. I have been good sometimes, but its hard to be good. I want a toy dirt bike and a toy motorcycle. I also have a 4 year old brother, please don't forget him! Also please bring something for my mom, Papaw and Nana. I will leave some milk and cookies for you. I will tell my Papaw to get some feed for your reindeers. Be safe and Merry Christmas.

From, Zakarey Ryen Jones  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Audrianna Yanez and I am 6 years old. I have been a good girl this year! I want a Barbie dream house. I would also like an Elsa and Anna doll with a Olaf toy. My sister likes frozen too so could you please bring her a Anna doll like mine! She has been good too! I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies and a glass of milk.

Love, Audrianna Yanez  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Lukas and I am 4 years old. I am in Pre-k at Paint Creek and have tried to be good all year! I would like a rescue bot which is a transformer that turns into a dinosaur, and Disney Infinity that has Iron man. He is my favorite! I also have a older brother who would love to get a toy as well! I will leave some cookies and milk out for you and a carrot for you reindeer!

Love, Lukas Jones  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Malakai from Paint Creek Elementary and I am 4 years old. I would like some cars for Christmas! I have been good this year! I also have a younger brother named Dustin, and I think he would like some cars too! Thank you Santa. I will leave you some cookies and a juice!

Love, Malakai Hitcho  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Kamryn from Paint Creek Elementary and

I am 5 years old. I have been really good this year Santa! I would like a Santa costume just like yours! I just love the way it looks so red and soft! I also would like a cotton candy maker. I have a new baby sister Harper this year so please don't forget to bring her something along with my brothers and sisters. I will make sure to leave some cookies and milk waiting for you.

Love, Kamryn Delmasso  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Kash and I go to Paint Creek Elementary. I am 4 years old and would like you to bring me some tools. I like to fix things! And I would also like a water gun and a choo-choo train. I have really tried to be good this year! I have a baby sister, two older sisters and a brother who would also like to get some toys too! I love you Santa!

Love, Kash Holder  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Alexa and I go to Paint Creek Elementary. I am 4 years old and I have been a very good girl this year. I would like a Sophia the first dress to play dress up with and some Barbie's. I love to play with Barbie's! I have 3 older sisters and 2 older brothers who have also been good this year! Please don't forget them!! We will make you some cookies and a glass of milk for you to have when you visit.

Love, Alexa Yanez  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Jenna and I go to Paint Creek Elementary. I am 4 years old. I would like some little pet shop animals, and some bead. I have been good all year waiting for Christmas! I have a sister named Jenny who has been good too! I will leave you some cookies and milk for your arrival.

Love, Jenna Scheets  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Wayland and I am in Pre-k at Paint Creek. I have been a pretty good boy this year. I would like a pink pig and some Legos. That way I can teach my little brother how to build things with the Legos. He has been pretty good too, so please bring him something too. I will have some milk and cookies waiting for you.

Love, Wayland Anderson

Dear Santa,  
My name is Brianna and I go to Paint Creek Elementary. I am 5 years old and I have been a good girl this year! I would like some Barbie's, a Barbie house, and a Barbie car so that my Barbie's can go for a ride. Please don't forget my sister Melanie. She has been a good girl too! I will leave you and your reindeer some cookies and chocolate milk.

Love, Brianna Clary  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I wish that I could have my water speakers. Thanks for bringing my presents for me. I love you, Santa. I have been good this year. I like you coming down my chimney. Please bring a new bicycle horn for BooBoo's golf cart. I would like a new cement truck and two big batteries please Santa. Don't forget my brother, my cousins Rebekah and James, and all my friends, including Michael, Ashlynn, Kason, Matthew, and all my neighborhood friends. Santa, I'm going to leave you some milk, toaster strudels and Mountain Dew. I hope you love them.

Thank you, Santa.  
Spencer Ryan Martin,  
Junior, age 6  
\*\*\*

Dear santa,  
please bring me an xbox 360, a missile toy gun, a new tablit a Batman Laser light and a Batman skateboard. I will have cookies and milk for you by the Christmas tree.

Your friend,  
Lacoste Navarrette  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an xbox one, some cowboy toys, hunting toy and cat toys.

Love Waylynn Caldwell  
Rochester, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
p.s. thank you!  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Kaitlyn Saffel. I have been a very good girl this year. This year I would like Shopkins, a Barbie doll, paint set, a yoyo, playdoh and an Elsa and Anna frozen doll set that sings. Please don't forget my new baby brother Jaxson and my big sister, Shelby. We will leave you chocolate chip cookies and a root beer and hay for Rudolph and the other reindeer. Have a safe trip.

sidewalks, or playgrounds. It is important to supervise preschoolers when they are riding, and keep children younger than 10 from riding bikes in the street.

When teaching children to ride bicycles, also educate them on these tips for safe bicycle riding:

- Always wear a bike helmet.
- Make sure the bicycle is the right size for the rider and in good working order.
- Wear the proper clothing—neon, fluorescent, or other bright colors when riding day or night.
- Teach children to make eye contact with drivers.
- Ride in the same direction as other traffic.
- Use hand and arm signals.
- There should only be one rider per saddle.
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars.
- The bicycle must have a white light on the front and a red reflector or red light on the rear (for riding at night).
- Use effective brakes that are capable of making the braked wheel skid.

For more information, visit the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute's website at <http://www.bhsi.org/>, Bike Texas at <http://www.biketexas.org>, Safe Kids Worldwide at <http://www.safekids.org/bike>, and Bike Texas at <http://www.biketexas.org>.

Love, Kaitlyn Saffel  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a table, snackee cup, minute to win it, easy bake oven, 100 piece puzzle, dolls, and maybe a pet. Merry Christmas Santa. God bless you and I can't wait to see Giggles.

Love you,  
Haelynn Nicole Logan  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
p.s. A frozen Blanik and a frozen pillow  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a new bike blue and red boots some barbbie dolls and barbie clothes and a Barbie doll house.  
Love, Allie Boone  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
P.S. I will try not to forget to leave you some milk and cookies.  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been good this year. I would like a tv for my room. I would like halo video game. Also a cat and squishy sand. Thank you for reading my letter.

Love, Leland Blake Short  
Sagerton, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a rubot toy and a phone Borderlands game shield pokemon tablet.

Thank you,  
Skylor Kreger  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a Ipod, Ipad and a xbox 360. I also want a Battleship game. A kite, football and a bike, skateboard. I also want a scooter, soccerball.  
from, Skylar Leek  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
For christmas I want a lego xbox and a toy gun.  
Love, Shane Vickery  
Rochester, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a barbie baby doll pony ballerina supergirl girl pokemon.

Thank you,  
Neveah Frazier  
Rule, Texas  
Rule ISD first grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like an outfit with a scarf and I would like a computer, blanket, shirts and pants. A bike, candy cane, and one of your elves to come to my desk with my name on its shirt so they know He is mine.

Astrid Guzman  
Rule third grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like tires for my bike that won't pop. A new sharp knife that can clip on my pocket  
Michael Holt  
Rule third grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a bb gun, Ipod, or an Ipad. An airplane, a pocket knife and revolver.  
Timothy Moore  
Rule third grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a football, a dog, and a tablet. A sled and a sniper bb.  
Frankie Oliveria  
Rule third grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would most like for Christmas: a cotton candy maker, phone that I can call and text. A 4-wheeler, BB gun, makeup, orbies and snackies.  
Geneva Pauley  
Rule third grade

Dear Santa,  
I would like Nabie Big, water proof phone, new 3D S, cotton candy machine, snow cone machine and popcorn machine. One other thing a skateboard.

Lani Richards  
Rule third grade  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a batteries and big torch can glow from mine craft, a transformer-Optimus Prime makes a yo yo, a Christmas present big Optimus Prime, and a torch for Jack Jack. I think, I've been a good boy I want to be good

Sincerely, KK  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. Please bring me a truck and a dinosaur.

Love, Jayden  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want little bears, a pink baby doll, a bike without training wheels (gray), pencils with glitter you can open and pink shoes and blue shoes. I have been a good girl. I also want earrings.

Sincerely, Harlie  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a dinosaur, cars, and clothes. I've been a good boy.

That's all, Justin  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I've been a good girl this year. I want you to bring me a ballerina thing with slippers, a ballerina Barbie doll, a book—open book, some paper, glitter, and crayons, and a box that has glitter. He's going to bring me it glows when you step on it—a princess, and a Barbie doll that has a lot of clothes. I love Santa Clause.

Love, Kynzleah  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a trampoline. I love you Santa. I like to give you cookies and milk. I love you so much Santa. I like for Christmas

Santa and I want a big brand new beach ball with a lot of colors. I like to see my cousins everyday. I like elves making presents, Santa.

Love, Emma  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want Beauty and the Beast, and a Barbie with a lot of clothes, and two deer with a shiny nose. A cross that talks with some purple and pink. I want some books and socks. I want some markers and a folder that has a password that you say. They my brother tries to open my folder won't open. I love you Santa. I'm going to make chocolate cookies and white milk.

Love,  
Hannah  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want an Optomist Prime, some turtles, some transformers, and some pencils, and crayon. I've been a good boy. Please give me a bike also.

Love Santa, Teddy  
Rule Pre-K  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How are things at home? Good I hope. I want an Ipod touch and a case that has Hello Kitty. I would like a bow with pink polka dots. I would also like a Frozen necklace and bracelet. Please remember my brother James and my cousins Nathan and Spencer. I will leave out cookies and milk. I think I have been good.

Be safe traveling,  
Rebekah Cunningham, 6  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is James and I am 2. I am a pretty good boy, or so my mom says. I want a box for Christmas. I would also like a belt. I like farm stuff and Cars. My sister is nice to me. It would be great if you brought her something also. My cousins Nathan and Spencer live around the corner. Please stop there. We will leave out milk and cookies.

Love,  
James Cunningham, 2

## Get a helmet with that bike

by DaLinda Black  
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

Bicycles are always a popular gift at Christmas time, and many parents are shopping now for that perfect new bicycle for their child—maybe even their first bicycle. This is an excellent opportunity to teach children about the importance of wearing a helmet to protect their head. According to National Safe Kids, helmets can reduce the risk of severe brain injury by up to 88%, but only 45% of children wear bike helmets. Safe Kids also reports that bicycles are associated with more injuries in children than any other product except automobiles. Other studies from the organization found that nearly half of the hospitalizations related to bicycles are from traumatic injury to the brain. Helmets should be considered an important part of bike riding.

"Learning to ride a bicycle is not just child's play," said Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agent DaLinda Black. "In addition to promoting healthy living habits, riding bicycles can teach children about becoming independent. With this new independence, children need to learn to follow important safety rules. One of the most important rules is to always wear a helmet."

Parents can be great role models to promote bicycle safety by wearing helmets on every trip. A child who rides with companions wearing helmets or adults in general is more likely to wear a helmet himself. Even very young toddlers on tricycles should wear helmets to establish good habits.

When selecting a helmet for your child, follow these tips:

- Look for a helmet that has been certified to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission standards.
- Make sure the helmet fits properly. To do this, measure around the rider's head about an inch above his or her eyebrows, and select an appropriately sized helmet.
- When wearing a helmet, make sure the rim sits level from front to back and is worn low and just above the eyebrows.
- Make sure the helmet fits snugly. Adjust the helmet's size with extra foam pads, which are provided with most helmets.
- Buckle the chin strap on every ride.
- Replace a helmet if it has been in a crash, even if no damage is visible.

In addition to helmets, parents need to find safe places to ride, such as parks,



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Blessings to All  
Wishing you lots of good old-fashioned holiday cheer.  
Haskell Co-op Gin



HOLIDAY GREETINGS  
Wishing you Good Cheer for Christmas and the New Year!  
HTS Services  
206 S. Ave. E  
Phone 864-2900





**KATNANA CONTRERAS**



**ALANNAH LUCE**

## Students visit Rotary Club

Katnana Contreras is the daughter of Rachel and Roger Contreras of Haskell.

At Haskell High School, she is active in VTC-CNA.

She is OSHA certified and part of the first class of VTC.

She enjoys art, cosmetology and nursing.

She plans to attend college to become a nurse or cosmetologist.

\*\*\*

Alannah Luce is the daughter of Brenda and Christopher Luce of Haskell.

She attends Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church.

At Haskell High School,

she plays French horn in the band, is FCCLA vice president and is a member of National Honor Society.

She was voted Most Artistic/Talented, was in the Sweepstakes winning band,

is on the A honor roll, and is a state qualifier in FCCLA Chapter in Review.

She enjoys listening to music, singing in the Christmas Cantata, reading and Cornerstone youth group.

She plans to attend the University of Texas Austin to earn a bachelors degree in nursing.

## Area Basketball scores

### Girls

**Haskell 57, Roscoe 34**  
Scoring for Haskell: Hadaway 21, Benavides 9, Bevel 9, Shelton 8, Klose 6, Martinez 2, Whitt 2.

JV: Haskell 27, Roscoe 25  
**Haskell 52, Winters 23**  
Scoring for Haskell: Hadaway 20, Shelton 14, Bevel 6, Benavides 3, Whitt 2, Amos 2, Bassett 2.

JV: Haskell 42, Winters 14  
**Roby 56, Rule 9**  
Scoring for Rule: Gutierrez 6, Moore 2, Hollabaugh 1.

## Student in the News

Haley B. Chavez of Haskell was named to the President's Honor Roll at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls for the Fall 2014 semester.

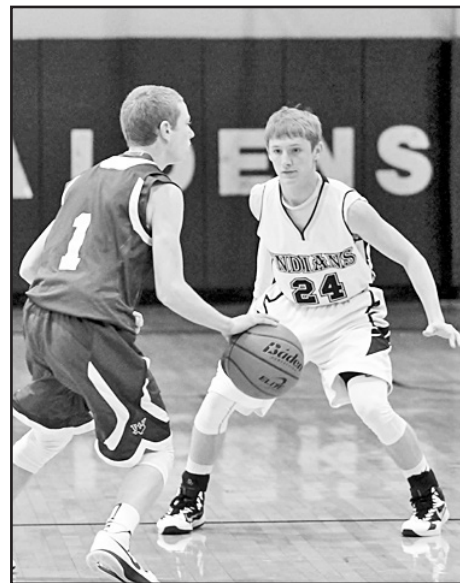
The President's Honor Roll list students who complete a semester schedule of at least 12 hours in one semester with no grade lower than A (4.0).



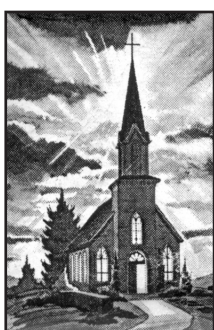
**MAIDENS WIN**—The Haskell Maidens defeated Winters 52-23. Haskell Maiden #21 Destiny Benavides, left, shoots behind the 3 point line to help the Maidens in their second district win. #33 Alye Stewart, right, puts up a jump shot for the Maidens.



**INDIANS PLAY WINDTHORST**—Haskell Indian #14 Kade Colley, left, drives in for a wide open layup after stealing the ball from Windthorst. Haskell Indian #24 Dylan Hanson, right, puts defensive pressure on the ball handler in the Windthorst game.



## This Week's Devotional Message:



Let us pray for true peace on earth at Christmas

The time has come for us to deck the hall, And greet our friends and relatives who call. The holly and the pine cones in our home, Along with angels made of styrofoam And colored bulbs that light the entryway, Proclaim that it will soon be Christmas day. The presents, gaily wrapped, beneath the tree Are further symbols of festivity,

But at this time, when loved ones reunite, The world conditions should be kept in sight. While many lands their freedom did obtain, Yet others under tyranny remain. So let's enjoy this gala holiday, But also let us not forget to pray, That when the Yuletide comes around again, We'll celebrate true peace, good will to men.

### ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL—
- East Side Baptist Church**  
Terry Bunch, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a.; 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**  
Sun. 10:45 a.m.  
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- Church of God**  
Bruce Ray, pastor  
Sun. 10:30 a.m. Thurs. 7:00 p.m.  
714 North First East, Haskell
- Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Rev. David White, pastor  
Sunday 9:30 a., Worship 10:30  
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
- Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**  
Art Flores, Interim pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 5 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Weston Pendergrass, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:50 a., 6 p.; Wed. 6 p.  
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Assembly of God**  
Rev. J.C. Amburn  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.; 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- St. George Catholic Church**  
Father Angelo Consemmino  
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. 9:00 a.m.  
901 N. 16th, Haskell
- Church of Christ**  
Philip Sims, minister  
Sun. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- First Presbyterian Church**  
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.  
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Trinity Baptist Church**  
Larry White, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 6:30 p.  
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a.; Wed. 7 p.  
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

- Greater Independent Baptist Church**  
Rev. Earnest Flanders, Jr., pastor  
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell  
940-863-4405
- New Covenant Foursquare**  
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**  
Jim Reid, interim pastor  
Jason Daniels, minister of Youth and Music  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:55 a.m., 6 p.m.;  
Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**  
Morris R. Johnson, pastor  
Sun. 9:30 a., 10:45 a., 6 p., Wed. 7 p.  
1600 N. First St., Haskell
- God Loves You Ministries**  
Mark Wallace, pastor  
Church Service 10 a.m.  
West side of square, Haskell
- WEINERT—
- First Baptist Church**  
Dan Bullock, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6 p., Wed. 7 p.  
Weinert
- Weinert Foursquare Church**  
Rev. Robert Harrison  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
Weinert
- ROCHESTER—
- Church of Christ**  
Mitchell Greer, minister  
Sun. 10 a.m., 10:45 a.m.  
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**  
Troy Culpepper, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.;  
Prayer Time/Team Kids 5 p.m.;  
Wed. Youth meeting 7 p.m.  
500 Main, Rochester
- Union Chapel Baptist Church**  
Clovis Dever  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
Rochester

- Faith Chapel of Rochester**  
Randy Hollingsworth, minister  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.  
Hwy. 6, Rochester
- SAGERTON—
- Sagerton Methodist Church**  
Cory Graham, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.  
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**  
Anna Robbins, pastor  
Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
Sagerton
- RULE—
- First Baptist Church**  
Scott Hensley, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
1001 Union Ave., Rule
- Primitive Baptist Church**  
Dale Turner Jr., pastor  
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.  
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
- Church of Christ**  
Paul Leonard, minister  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
811 Union, Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**  
Alfa y Omegas  
Manuel Marin, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.; Wed. 6 p.  
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**  
Russell Stanley, pastor  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Gladstone Ave., Rule  
940-997-2296
- West Bethal Baptist Church**  
Rev. Clovis Dever  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.; Wed. 7:30 p.  
300 Sunny Ave., Rule
- PAINT CREEK—
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**  
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Paint Creek
- O'BRIEN—
- O'Brien Baptist Church**  
Jim Reid, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p., Wed. 6 p.  
O'Brien

## Maidens basketball

### Maiden Win District Opener

The Haskell Maidens kicked off their 2014-2015 district play with a win over the Roscoe Plowgirls 57-34. The Maidens raced out to a 32-16 half time lead and never looked backed to move to 10-1 overall and 1-0 in district.

Haskell had a great night offensively and really shot the ball well. The Maidens were (21-48) for 43% from the field, (5-12) for the 41% from the three point line, and (10-16) for 62% from the free-throw line. Reagan Hadaway led all scorers with 21 followed by Destiny Benavides 9, Ashlyn Bevel 9, Kenzie Shelton 8, Jacie Klose 6, Ariel Martinez 2 and Courtney Whitt 2. Leading the team in assists was Hadaway with 4, Klose 3 and Benavides 3.

"Offensively, the girls did a great job making the extra pass and our shot selection was really good which led to us shooting a high percentage from the field. It's a beautiful game to watch when you have ball movement, player movement, and unselfish play," head coach Blake Eddleman said.

Hadaway had a team high 12 rebounds followed by Whitt with 9, Shelton 5, Klose 4 and Crissy Bassett 3. Klose had a team high 4 steals. "Overall, I thought we played great on both ends of the floor and it's always nice to win the first district game," Eddleman added.

Haskell 19 13 18 7 = 57  
Roscoe 6 10 8 10 = 34

### JV Maidens beat Roscoe 27-25

### Maidens blow past the Lady Blizzards

The Maidens blew past the Lady Blizzards 52-23 at home last Friday night in district 7 AA. Haskell started off a little slow but quickly turned up the heat against the Lady Blizzards. The Maidens move to 11-1 overall and 2-0 in district play.

Haskell offense was led by Reagan Hadaway's 20 points and Kenzie Shelton's 14 points. Other leading scorers were Ashlyn Bevel with 6, Destiny Benavides 3, Brittany Amos 2, Courtney Whitt 2 and Crissy Bassett 2. Hadaway had a team high 5 assists followed by Shelton, Martinez and Benavides who all had 3 each. "Offensively, I thought we did a solid job executing our zone offensive schemes and we had great

teamwork which led to us shooting almost 40% from the field," head coach Blake Eddleman said.

The Maidens man to man defense made it really tough on the Lady Blizzards forcing them to shoot (8-36) for 22% from the field. "Defensively, the girls have really taken a lot of pride in their defense again this year and that is the biggest reason for our success. The kids do a great job of being in good position and helping each other," Eddleman added. Leading rebounders were Hadaway with 11, Shelton 6, Amos 5 and Bevel 4. Hadaway had a team high 3 steals.

"Overall, I thought we played some very good basketball this week. We shot the ball well and we played some tough man to man defense. If we continue to do that and rebound the ball, winning will take care of itself," Eddleman added.

Haskell 13 16 13 10 = 52  
Winters 9 5 4 5 = 23

### JV Maidens beat Winters 42-14

### Jr. High Maidens Sweep Hamlin 7th A won 49-14 8th A won 47-20

## Maidens to promote cancer awareness, accept challenge by Hamlin Lady Pipers

The Haskell Maidens have been challenged by the Hamlin Lady Pipers in an effort to promote cancer awareness and the game is on!

The Maidens will be hosting cancer awareness night Tues., Jan. 6 at the

home basketball games versus the Hamlin Pied Pipers and Lady Pipers. The Maidens will wear pink headbands and socks during their game to promote awareness. Maiden JV basketball players will pass the hat during halftime of the Maidens varsity game.

### A shooting contest

### ECC Menu

#### Mon., Dec. 29

Sloppy Joes, pinto beans, chips, onions, pickles, misc. dessert, tea, or coffee

#### Wed., Dec. 31

Lasagna, blackeyed peas, onions, pickles, garlic bread, misc. dessert, tea or coffee  
Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

will be held for two age divisions during half-time of the Indians game that night.

Fifth grade and under division: Shoot from behind the 3-pt line.

Sixth grade and up division: Shoot from half court.

At the games in Hamlin Fri., Jan. 30, the Lady Pipers have more fund-raising fun and games in store for both teams, so be on the lookout for more information for that night.

All proceeds from the night are being donated to the Doug Neece family in Albany to help the family with expenses during his cancer treatments.

### Sonic Drive-In

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Randy Phelps, Manager

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# Five common food safety kitchen mistakes

by DaLinda Black  
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.  
Institute of Food  
Technologist Spokesperson  
and food safety expert,  
Christine Bruhn, PhD,  
CFS, Former Director of  
the Center for Consumer  
Research, University of  
California, Davis and  
her team videotaped  
120 consumers as they  
prepared a chicken and  
a salad in their home. They  
found that while many felt  
confident about their food  
safety skills, many were  
making critical mistakes  
while preparing their  
meals that could lead to  
foodborne illness. Take a

look at these five kitchen  
mistakes you can easily  
correct for a happy and  
healthy new year!

**Kitchen Mistake #1:  
Not Washing Hands**  
One of the first mistakes  
Dr. Bruhn and her team  
noted was that the  
participants forgot to wash  
their hands before starting  
to prepare their meal.  
Hands should be washed  
with soap and water for  
at least 20 seconds and  
dried with a paper towel,  
not a cloth towel. This is  
because the cloth towel can  
become contaminated and  
then spread bacteria when  
used to dry dishes, wipe

counter, etc.

**Kitchen Mistake #2:  
Washing Chicken**  
The study showed that  
participants often washed  
their chicken before  
seasoning and cooking,  
which is not the correct  
way to prepare it. When  
raw chicken is placed  
under running water, some  
of the bacteria that could  
be on the surface of it ends  
up in the sink, (where  
dishes are washed) and it  
can splatter as much as two  
feet around contaminating  
surfaces with dangerous  
salmonella or other "bad  
bugs."

**Kitchen Mistake #3:**

**Not Using a  
Thermometer to Test  
Doneness**  
Another mistake that  
participants made was not  
cooking the chicken to  
the proper temperature  
because they were using  
their eyes instead of a  
thermometer to see if it  
was done. It's not enough  
just to look and see if the  
chicken is white inside and  
there are no pink juices,  
a thermometer needs to  
be used to make sure the  
chicken is cooked to at least  
165 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Kitchen Mistake #4:  
Improper Refrigerator  
Temperature**

Dr. Bruhn and her team  
found that when they took  
the temperature of the  
participants' refrigerators,  
one was as high as 60  
degrees Fahrenheit, and  
almost 15 percent were  
about 45 degrees  
Fahrenheit, which is too  
warm. The refrigerator  
should register at 40 degrees  
Fahrenheit and the freezer  
at 0 degrees Fahrenheit.  
Since few refrigerator  
controls show actual  
temperatures, using an  
inexpensive freestanding  
appliance thermometer will  
allow you to monitor the  
temperature and adjust the  
setting of the refrigerator

and/or freezer if necessary.  
Buy one for the fridge, one  
for the freezer, and check  
them often.

**Kitchen Mistake #5:  
Rewashing Bagged,  
Pre-Washed Lettuce**  
Pre-washed bagged  
lettuce does not need to  
be rinsed or rewashed a  
second time. There's a risk  
that you'll end up adding  
bacteria to greens that were  
perfectly clean to start with  
if the sink or cutting board  
are not newly cleaned and  
sanitized. Just open the bag  
and dump it into a bowl,  
any bacteria that could be  
eliminated by washing has  
come off.



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### Cars For Sale

FOR SALE: 2012 250 Silverado truck. 20,495 miles. Call 940-864-2343. 52c

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FOR SALE: 280 +/- 175 acres of cultivation and the balance in pasture located NE of the city of Haskell off CR 205. Call Robert Tribbey with Big Country Real Estate at 940-864-2238 for more details. 39tc

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HIRING CDL DRIVERS: Class A, Class B. Apply in person Strickland Concrete, 940-864-2677. 19tc

### Public Notices

THE EXPERIENCED Citizens Center is needing an experienced cook. You must be able to work well with others. 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Come by center on these days to apply or call 864-3875. 50tc

### Help Wanted

WALMART Neighborhood Market is now hiring for the Haskell location. Anyone that is interested should apply at Walmart.com under Careers or at the Stamford Walmart kiosk. 50-1c

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NORTH CENTRAL Texas Municipal Water Authority is accepting applications for an Operator/Maintenance position. Competitive pay, retirement, health insurance. Applications may be picked up at 135 North Munday Avenue, Munday, TX 76371. Or, e-mail davidk@nctmwa.org, or call 940-422-4051. 51-52c

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE needed. Will train if necessary. Apply in person at Hanson Paint & Body Shop, Haskell. 51-52c

### Public Notices

NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF WEINERT The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the City of Weinert water system that the drinking water being supplied to

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### Public Notices

customers has exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Nitrate. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established the MCL for Nitrate at 10 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for Nitrate indicates a level of 25.1 mg/L.

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL

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### Public Notices

could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

At the present time we are currently looking into ways to correct this problem. An engineer has been hired and is awaiting

### Public Notices

approval for a filtration system. If you are pregnant or have an infant under six months included in this public water system as a customer, we have made arrangements with local grocery store in Haskell (Modern Way) so that you may get bottled water at the City of Weinert's expense. Please go by Weinert City Hall to pick up ID card before charging water.

If you have any questions or would like to know if you are currently being served


### Public Notices

as a customer of this public water system please feel free to call or contact the City Secretary Patricia Horan, c/o City of Weinert, Box 248, Weinert, Texas 76388 at 940-673-8223.

Our Public Water System ID# is 1040004. 52c

## Clear Fork Crime Stoppers

1-800-222-TIPS



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Chan Guess, Rhonda Lisle, Roger Roewe - agents  
Bridget Guess - broker

---

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121 HWY 380 W-Location, Location! 3300 S/f on 3.5 Acres! 3/2 \$234,500

2245 FM 2163-Rochester-Large brick home on 12 +/- ACRES \$199,900 **REDUCED**

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1507 N AVE E-Escape with Charm and Character! 4/3 \$175,000

805 S 1ST EAST-Complete Renovation! MUST SEE! 4/2 \$189,500 **UNDER CONTRACT**

131 CR 412-Live the life you love! 2 +/- acres, 3/2 \$142,500

1505 N AVE G-Exceptional Home, A Rare Find! 3/2.5 \$129,900 **SOLD**

1406 N. AVE. J-Updates Galore! 4/2. \$129,900

115 AVE J EAST-Heavenly Haven! 3/2 \$105,000 **REDUCED**

1605 N AVE E-New Improvements! 3/2 \$89,900 **SOLD**

1806 N AVE G-Corner Lot! 3/2 \$82,500

1300 N AVE F-Sitting Pretty! 2/2 \$74,900

1409 N AVE L-Surprisingly Spacious! 3/1.5 \$75,000

1407 N AVE L-Must See. Warm Cozy Family Home! 3,1.5 \$57,000 **NEW**

1603 N AVE E-Opportunity Knocks. 3/1.5 \$55,000 **REDUCED**

500 S 3RD E-Room to Roam 2006 Mobile home. 3/2 \$52,000 **NEW**

601 S. AVE. H-A place with space! 3/2 on 1/2 acre \$54,900 **UNDER CONTRACT**

1004 N AVE L-Perfect Starter Home! 2/1 \$59,900 **SOLD**

207 N AVE F-Home with Character! 2/1 \$35,000 **SOLD**

504 S AVE F-Great Curb appeal! 4/1 \$44,900 **REDUCED**

1200 N AVE L-Corner Lot & Spacious! 2/2 \$42,500 **SOLD**

710 S 12TH-Golden Opportunity! Fresh functional open plan home. 2/1 \$34,500 **NEW**

FARM & RANCH LAND:

3 +/- ACRES HWY 380 E-Great Home site!

160 +/- ACRES LOOP RD-Pasture land-Prime Hunting or Grazing.

20 +/- ACRES S HASKELL-Cultivated land **SOLD**

131 +/- ACRES N E HASKELL CO.-Can't beat this combo of CRP and Pasture! **SOLD**

156 +/- ACRES CR 268-NE Haskell County, Mattson Community 96 acres of cultivated & 80 acres pasture. 315 +/- ACRES CR 268-NE Haskell County, Mattson Community, 131 acres cultivated & 184 acres pasture. 30 ACRES +/- N HWY 277-Prime location for development, will divide, negotiable-\$239,500 **REDUCED**

HARVICK RIVER RANCH-1269.54 +/- Acres Knox County!

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY:

711 ROBBINS, RULE-Commercial Building in Good Condition on two lots. Great location! \$5,700 ALL OFFERS CONSIDERED **UNDER CONTRACT**

1 AVE E-Multi Purpose Building! \$47,500





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A community Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disabilities facility--Serving 19 counties in Texas--Seeks qualified applicants for positions in Haskell.

**Center Manager (#713):** This position assists consumers in making informed choices educating them on community resources and assists with assessing services. Performs uniform assessments and updates treatment plans and schedules and/or completes diagnostic updates in accordance with consumer need and required standards. Provides on-going outpatient services to consumers as needed. Provides face-to face assessment and crisis intervention services to any person requesting help or presenting a crisis.

**Monitoring & Compliance Spec. (#837):** M&C has duties of data entry of extensive case information for each individual client in the assigned coverage area and will also be responsible for regularly producing reports from both systems to distribute to responsible staff for review of data information and congruency.

**Clerk II (#932):** This position will serve as clerical support for the Mental Health Center. Responsibilities include: Greeting consumers, answering phone calls, directing calls to appropriate staff members or taking messages, obtaining purchase orders, and purchasing supplies. Position will perform complex data entry and run reports from various computer programs. Position will schedule appointments for all center staff including the doctor and nurse, and place reminder calls to all consumers one day prior to the appointment. Position will collect payments, financial information, and copies of all insurance cards; will make bank deposits as necessary. Position will file paperwork in the clinical record; pull charts for doctor and nurse, copy information from clinical record, and forward subpoenas following the system dictated by the Director of Clinical Records.



Applicants for these positions, as well as all other Helen Farabee Centers job opportunities, may view position descriptions, educational requirements, and salary ranges, plus submit applications and resumes online at [www.helenfarabee.org](http://www.helenfarabee.org), at [WorkInTexas.com](http://WorkInTexas.com), or at your local Texas Workforce Services office.

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FARM & RANCH

105 +/- AC. NW HASKELL COUNTY-All fenced with two wells and a center pivot located at the corner of 2229 and 187. \$1200/Ac.-**NEW**

81 +/- AC. KNOX COUNTY-Perfect balance of drip and pivot irrigation. \$150,000-**NEW**

160 +/- AC. EASTERN HASKELL CO.-Good balance of cultivation and pasture. \$995/Ac.-**NEW**

150 +/- AC. SUPERIOR HASKELL COUNTY FARM LAND-\$995/Ac.-**SOLD**

160 +/- ACRES NW CORNER OF HASKELL CO.-All pasture, great hunting potential. \$1000/Ac.-**NEW**

HASKELL RESIDENTIAL

503 N. AVE. F-Investment potential. \$19,900-**NEW**

1606 ROBBYN LN-Sccluded 3/2 on corner lot with double garage. \$119,900-**PENDING**

255 CR 453-Beautiful country home located just 10 miles out of Haskell on 40 acres with large barn, wells, view and much more. \$219,500-**REDUCED**

206 N. AVE. F-3/3.5 perfect for entertaining on large corner lot with ample parking. \$149,900-**NEW**

1301 S. 1ST-2/2 w/investment potential. \$24,000-**PENDING**

116 EAST AVE. J-Large 3/2 with double garage and metal roof on corner lot. \$79,500-**REDUCED**

1001 N. G-Beautiful historic 3/3 with wonderful yard. \$169,000-**REDUCED**

BIG COUNTRY RESIDENTIAL

405 6TH ST. ROCHESTER-3/2 updated with abundant covered parking and a pool. \$79,500-**NEW**

203 S. BIRCH, KNOX CITY-3/1 \$39,000

962 CR 132 ON 20 +/- AC., ROCHESTER-3/2 with new carpet & well. \$139,000-**NEW**

1004 UNION, RULE-3/2 on corner lot with ample parking. \$49,000-**NEW**

10218 US HWY 277, MUNDAY-3/2 with double garage on 1 acre. \$43,900-**NEW**

610 W. I. MUNDAY-3/1.2 with abundant charm on quiet street. \$52,500-**REDUCED**

712 W. OREGON, SEYMOUR-Ranch style 3/2 with abundant storage. \$129,900-**NEW**

1216 CR 113, ROCHESTER-Perfect country home on 15 acres. \$70,000-**REDUCED**

1150 WEST EDEN, MUNDAY-3/2 with new CH/A and a metal roof. \$74,500-**REDUCED**

923 EARLES CAMP-3/2 One of the nicest lake houses around with dock house. \$54,500-**NEW**

600 N. ARKANSAS-SEYMOUR-3/2 Beautiful historic home, income producing potential. \$69,900-**REDUCED & VERY MOTIVATED**

1041 N. 3RD-MUNDAY-Bungalow in secluded area, with covered parking. \$18,500-**SOLD**

120 L ST.-MUNDAY-3/2 great layout w/basement. Located on culdesac. \$59,900-**PENDING**

369 CR 251 WEINERT-Multi-purpose building on 3 acres. Your Barnhouse awaits! \$59,500-**REDUCED**

709 S. ASPEN, KNOX CITY-2/2 with large dining/living area. \$34,900-**PENDING**

COMMERCIAL

1406 N. 1ST, KVRP RADIO STATION-Stand alone building w/ample parking on corner lot and new roof. \$59,900-**NEW**

621 5TH ST. BOBCAT CAFE, RULE-2,500 sq. ft. turn key commercial building \$35,000-**NEW**

1305 N. AVE. I-Insulated shop on corner lot with abundant parking. \$39,000-**NEW**

DAVE'S CAVE, N. 1ST E-28,900 sq. ft. commercial bldg. with endless potential. \$79,000-**NEW**

107 N. AVE. A, KNOX CITY POST OFFICE-W/income potential, long term tenant with existing lease. Great deal! \$47,500-**NEW**

369 CR 251 WEINERT-Multi-purpose building on 3 acres. Your Barnhouse awaits! \$59,500-**REDUCED**

707 S. AVE. E, LIFESPAN BLDG.-Commercial stand alone with potential and parking. \$49,900-**REDUCED**

412 N. 1ST, YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES-Commercial bldg. CH/A, living quarters and large upstairs. \$49,500-**REDUCED**

7734 HWY. 6-Rule Drive in theater on 4 ac. Many amenities. \$60,000

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# Christmas poster contest winners named



**POSTER CONTEST WINNERS**—Christmas poster contest winners are, l-r, Lacoste Navarrette, Kaitlyn Saffel, Haelynn Logan, Shane Vickery, KyLeik Mason and Natalie Murray.

The Rule Chamber of Commerce held their annual Children's Christmas Poster Contest.

Winners include Kindergarten: Natalie Murray, first place;

First grade, Kaitlyn Saffel, first place; Shane Vickery and Leland Short, second place; Haelynn Logan and Lacoste Navarrette, third place.

Second grade, KyLeik Mason, first place.

Third grade, Shelby Saffel, first place.

Fourth grade, Karleigh Hertel, first place; Ragen Thompson and Patrick Lightfoot, second place; Sean Gatlin and Kiley Garcia, third place.

Fifth grade, Andy Andrews, first place; Macy Rodgers and Jaella Alvarez, second place; Lenzi Manske and Kurt Leek, third place.



**SHELBY SAFFEL**  
Poster Contest winner



**POSTER CONTEST WINNERS**—Christmas poster contest winners are, front row, l-r, Patrick Lightfoot, Kurt Leek, Ragen Thompson, Lenzi Manske and Jaella Alvarez; middle row, Sean Gatlin; back row, Kiley Garcia, Karleigh Hertel, Macy Rodgers and Andy Andrews.

# Bobcats, Pirates named to All-District football teams

Rule and Paint Creek had several players listed on the District 10-1A, Division II All-District teams.

Recognized for their efforts on the First Team Offense were Colton Rogers, Rule running back; Frankie Masias, Paint Creek utility back; Jonah Caddell, Rule fullback; and Ethan Harper, Paint Creek, special teams.

On the First Team Defense were Colton Rogers, Rule linebacker; and Josh Starr, Rule punter.

Listed on the Second Team Offense were Brandon Mitchell, Rule quarterback; Brandon Luevano, Paint Creek running back; Josh Starr, Rule wide receiver; Dylan Webb, Paint Creek wide receiver; Paul Nieto, Rule tight end; Seth Harper,

Paint Creek tight end; Rumaldo Chavez, Rule tight center; Bryant Booe, Paint Creek spread center; Adolfo Gonzales, Rule kicker; and Chase Potter, Rule special teams.

Included on the Second Team Defense were Luis Diaz, Rule and Dakota Mayor, Paint Creek, both defensive linemen; Frankie Masias, Paint Creek linebacker; and defensive backs Jonah Caddell, Adolfo Gonzales and Chase Potter, all of Rule; and Ethan Harper and Dylan Webb, both of Paint Creek.

Rule's Coach Mark Weaver was selected Coach of the Year for the district.

Congratulations to all these young men for their efforts as they represented their schools on the playing field.

# City Council report

The Haskell City Council met in a regular meeting Mon., Dec. 8 with Mayor John Gannaway, Mayor Pro Tem Shane Whitt, Councilwoman Jill Druesdow and Councilmen Allen Morrow, Ernest Frye and Dan Hoover.

A proposal to repair the roof on the Helen Farabee Center was approved with the money to be taken from the reserves.

Resolution #12082014 was tabled until Shannon Strickland could get figures for the adjustments to the city.

A movie checking account

will be set up with the name of Haskell Family Movie Night with the requirement of two signatures from Brandon Anderson, Janet Moeller or Mynea Short.

More information was requested on the quote from Warren Cat for the loader transmission.

Costs for videotaping the council meeting for rebroadcast on the website were requested.

City administrator Brandon Anderson gave his report.

Mike Alsbrook Sr. made a public comment.

# Goodfellows Donations

Cash donations may be sent to The Haskell Free Press, P. O. Box 555, Haskell, Texas 79521.

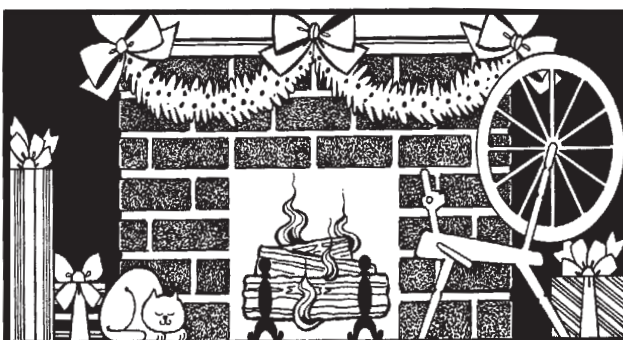
In loving memory of Truman Barbee

by Louetta and J.W. Wallace.....\$25

Total this week .....\$25

Previous total .....\$2770

Total to date.....\$2795



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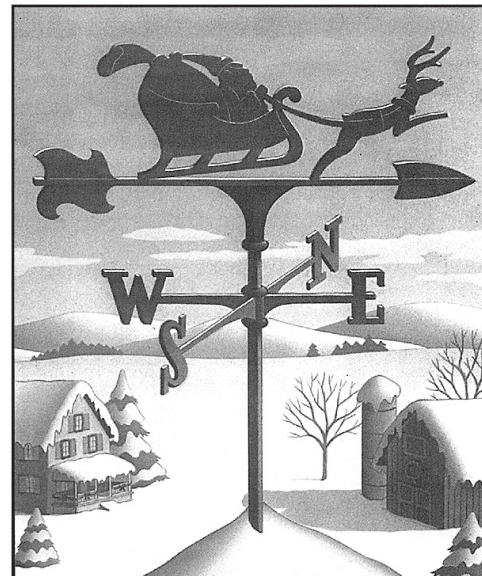
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*And hearts are aglow,  
Because they all know,  
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*May the peace of Christmas be in all hearts this the most joyous of seasons. Happy holidays to you.*

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