

# Merry Christmas

# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 123—NO. 52, ©DECEMBER 24, 2009

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES—ONE SECTION—75 CENTS

## Basketball

**HASKELL**  
**VG-B Eula Tournament**  
 Dec. 28-30  
 at Eula  
**PAINT CREEK**  
**VG-B vs Loraine**  
 Tues., Dec. 29, 12 noon  
 at Loraine  
**RULE**  
**VG-VB Jayton Tournament**  
 Dec. 28-30  
 at Jayton

## Calendar

### Candlelight service

The First United Methodist Church of Haskell invites each of you to join us Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. for a very special candlelight Christmas Eve service. Together, we will "Ring the Bells" to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### Christmas service

St. George Catholic Church in Haskell will hold a Christmas service Dec. 24 at 8 p.m.

### Candlelight service

First Christian Church, 107 N. Ave. F, in Haskell will hold a Christmas Eve candlelight communion service at 5 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 24. Everyone is welcomed to attend to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

### Cookbooks

The Committee to Help Haskell County's cookbook, comprised of recipes from Haskell County cooks, is available at the Tax Assessor/Collector's office and at Susan Cockerell's office in the courthouse for \$15. This is one of CHHC's major fund-raisers for providing an academic award for a graduating senior at each of our three county high schools.

### Reception

A reception honoring Janette Frierson, who is retiring from the Haskell County Farm Bureau, will be held Wed., Dec. 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the office located at 508 N. 1st St. in Haskell. Everyone is invited to drop by and wish her well.

### Cancer support

The Haskell Area Cancer Support group meets every other Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the First Assembly of God Church. For more information, call 940-864-5964.

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## Goodfellows Donations

The Haskell Goodfellows are accepting donations for Christmas boxes to be distributed to needy families this holiday season. Boxes will be delivered on Dec. 24 to those who have been selected to receive them. Those with donations of food, contact a Lions Club member, toys and clothing may be taken to the Haskell Fire Dept.; and cash donations may be sent to The Haskell Free Press, P. O. Box 555, Haskell, TX 79521.

Anonymous .....	\$50
Jacob & Martin LTD .....	\$100
In honor of Dr. Wayne Cadenhead by Bob and Debbie Earles.....	\$50
In lieu of Christmas cards to family and friends from Eloise and Dudley Perrin.....	\$50
Denton and Dee Bates.....	\$250
Joe and Rhonda Stephens.....	\$50
In memory of Bernice Hilliard, by Bennita and Larry Clark.....	\$40
In memory of V.P. Terrell and George and Lydia Moeller .....	\$50
Bridge bunch .....	\$125
In memory of Jo Cox, Don Nanny and Leon Jones by Carl and Lisa Milburn .....	\$200
Dewayne and Jonita Felty .....	\$25
Mike and Teresa New .....	Bread
Total this week .....	\$990
Previous total .....	\$1275
Total to date.....	\$2265



**RIBBON CUTTING**—Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held for 5-C BBQ & Catering, located at 701 N. 1st East in Haskell, by Haskell Chamber of Commerce members Wed., Dec. 16. Participating in the ceremony, l-r, were Sally Rueffer, Robert Tribbey, Debbie Kennedy, owners Ray Don Campbell and Stephen Campbell, Bill Alcorn and Tom Bassett.

## Hollingsworth memorial fireworks to pop Dec. 31

The eleventh annual W.E. Hollingsworth Memorial Fireworks display, sponsored by the Haskell County Historical Commission, will be held Thurs., Dec. 31, beginning at 9 p.m.

Jim Hollingsworth, chairman of the commission, and his family will set off another large load of fireworks on their farm between Rule and Rochester, located five miles west of Hwy. 6 at the intersection of FM 617 and County Road 146. The fireworks will be on the west side of County Road 146 on thirty acres of land especially prepared for the event due to dry weather conditions. Parking along FM 617 for a mile east of County Road 146 will provide a prime view of the fireworks display.

About this time in 1999 a local article was published about Jim and his grandfather William Edward Hollingsworth's discussion in 1944 about the change of

the century. A five year old boy was heartbroken that his beloved granddad would not be with him to witness the new century on New Year's Eve.

Hollingsworth vowed to celebrate in honor of his grandfather nevertheless. News wires picked up the story for Abilene, Wichita Falls, Amarillo and Lubbock newspapers.

That article triggered an overwhelming response among area grandparents. The older generation brought their grandchildren to witness the fireworks party that Hollingsworth gave in honor of his grandfather's memory a half century after their talk. The roads were lined triple deep for miles around. Hollingsworth says he feels the presence of his granddad every New Year's Eve during the fireworks

display.

It is estimated that the small but close-knit Jud Community, population about 25, swells to hundreds of people on New Year's Eve. The event has become a ritual for many area residents.

The Haskell County Historical Commission invites everyone out to view the display.

## Filing period open for March election

The March primary is just a few months away. Anyone planning to run for local office in that election, must file with the county clerk's office by January 4.

According to Rhonda Moeller, county clerk, completion of the forms and

## Watson retires from Appraisal District

by Caron Yates

Beginning Jan. 1, Haskell County's Chief Tax Appraiser, Kenny Watson, will be exploring new pathways in his life, as he retires at the end of December.

Watson was named Chief Appraiser in Sept. 1997, following the retirement of Jamie Weaver. For the past twelve years, Watson and his staff have served the county in a very professional and honest way. He says that although it can be a stressful job, because most people don't like paying taxes, it has also been rewarding.

Watson moved to Haskell with his parents, John and Betty Watson, from Stamford in 1959. He graduated from Haskell High School and earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from McMurry University.

In 1975, after college, Watson and his wife, the former Doris May Davis of Weinert, moved back home. Here they raised their three children, Bo, Wendi and Mary Kay. They are proud grandparents of five grandchildren.

Upon his return to Haskell, Watson worked for two years at Strickland Bridge and then was employed at Bill Wilson Ford for the next twenty-one years.

After being named Chief Appraiser, the first order of



**KENNY WATSON**

business for Watson, was earning his certifications in both appraisal and collections. Each required many hours of classes, followed by Level 3 and Level 4 state exams. Although working toward these certifications was intense, he says he met many people he will always consider friends.

Watson has been an active member of the community. He served as a member of the Haskell Fire Department for thirty years, has attended the First United Methodist Church his entire life and served on many church boards. He also served on the city council for eleven years. For personal enjoyment, he has been a part of the Texas Chiefs Model Airplane group for many years.

Many changes in the tax office have taken place in the last twelve years, but Watson is especially proud of the new computer system that has recently been implemented. He states that technology has made such a difference in their day to day work, and this system has provided the most efficient and effective way to serve the citizens of Haskell County.

Watson was honored with a retirement party on Dec. 21.

Although he is not sure what the next step in life's journey will be, he does plan to stay busy. He and Doris will be moving to Abilene, to be closer to family. First on his agenda, however, is to make some memories with those grand kids, as they all board the Polar Express.



**LUNCH MONEY**—Lonnie Meredith, owner of The Drug Store in Haskell, presents a check to Jennabeth Kimbrough, director of the Haskell County Experienced Citizens Center, to pay for the Christmas turkey and dressing lunch enjoyed by all on Wed., Dec. 16.



**DONATION**—Noah Project Service Area Director Donna Sue Anders, left, accepts a basketful of health and beauty items from Haskell Young Homemakers' representative Megan Cox.

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

# THE SOCIETY OF CIC RECOGNIZES JAN SEARCEY FOR TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP



Jan Searcey, CIC, of Charles Baker Insurance, was recently honored for her ongoing pledge to education, commitment to excellence, and dedication to the insurance profession. The Society of Certified Insurance Counselors (CIC) presented Mrs. Searcey with a formally-inscribed certificate for her continued participation in the CIC Program.

Earning her CIC designation and maintaining all update requirements for twenty years places Mrs. Searcey in the top one percent of all insurance professionals in the country. "The high standard maintained by Mrs. Searcey not only benefits Charles Baker Insurance, but the insurance profession as a whole," said Dr. William T. Hold, CIC, CPCU, CLU, President of the Society of CIC.

The Society of CIC is an organization nationally recognized as a leading continuing education program for insurance professionals. A not-for-profit organization, the Society of CIC is the cornerstone program for The National Alliance for Insurance Education & Research, headquartered in Austin, Texas.

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- 1989 - Jan earned ARM Designation (Accredited Risk Manager)
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## Obituaries

### Alma Joan Cole Simpson



**JO SIMPSON**

Funeral services for Alma Joan Cole Simpson, 91, of Rule were held Thurs., Dec. 17 at First United Methodist Church in Haskell with Rev. Tom Long and John Greeson officiating. Burial was in Rule Cemetery in Rule under the direction of McCauley-Robison Funeral Home of Rule.

Mrs. Simpson passed away Sun., Dec. 13 in Stamford.

Born Nov. 15, 1918 in Rule, she was the daughter of Alma and Oswald Cole. She attended and graduated from Rule High School in 1936. After attending McMurry College in Abilene for the fall semester, she succumbed to Thomas Edwin Simpson's insistence and married Dec. 24, 1936 at the First United Methodist Church in Rule. They lived on the

family farm in Stonewall County, where she was a homemaker. During World War II, she followed T.E. from base to base during his pilot training, moving every nine weeks. She would tell of their adventures in San Antonio, Missouri, Nevada, California and Washington. Their only child, Tommy Jo Simpson Clark was born Feb. 17, 1945, while Tom Ed was flying missions in the Philippines. She loved everyone and had many friends wherever she went, including the friends she made while working at Lane-Felker for 25 years. She was an avid bridge player and an avid reader and reviewed books for area study clubs and for events for many years. At one time she was the president of the Philadelphian Study Club. She loved her church. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Rule, and later moved her membership to Haskell when the two churches combined. She had been a WSCS president, Sunday school teacher, youth director and was willing to take on any responsibilities the church needed her for. No one was ever a more devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, daughter-in-law and friend. She was preceded in death

by her parents and husband, Thomas Edwin Simpson in January of 1989.

Survivors include her daughter, Tommye Jo Simpson and son-in-law Charles Robert Clark of Rule; sister Ruth Cole Barton of Davidson, North Carolina; three grandchildren Evangelyn LeCole Clark of Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania, Kyle Thomas Clark and wife Jennifer of Southlake, and Judson Robert Clark and wife Laura of Keller; six precious great grandchildren; brother-in-law, Joseph E. Barrett of Santa Anna, California; three nephews, two nieces; and a host of dear friends.

The family wishes to thank the loving and caring staff of Community Care Center of Stamford for their devotion and love extended to her and the family during the past six months. In addition, love and thanks goes to the staff and friends at Brookridge Retirement Community in Pharr where she lived from June 2001 to June 2009.

Memorials may be made to Kids Christmas Fund, 808 Gladstone Avenue, Rule, Texas 79547; The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, P.O. Box 780, New York, New York 10008-0780 or a charity of your choice.

PD. NOTICE

### Brenda Sherry Griggs



**BRENDA GRIGGS**

Funeral services for Brenda Sherry Griggs, 60, of

Lubbock were held Fri., Dec. 18 at Resthaven's Abbey Chapel in Lubbock under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home.

Mrs. Griggs left this earth to be with her Lord and Saviour Mon., Dec. 14.

Born Nov. 2, 1949 in Haskell, she was the daughter of Wallace and Helen Allison. After high school graduation, she became a hairdresser, her life's passion for the next forty years. She met her soul mate, James Lee, and they were married Aug. 28, 1980 in Rule. She was preceded in death

by her husband, James Lee Griggs, Jan. 31, 1998.

Those left here to cherish her memories are her children, Craig Griggs and wife Connie of McCamey, Brooke Griggs of Lubbock; mother, Helen Allison of Rule; sister, Jan Brilles and husband Art of Waco; brother, John Allison and wife Celinda of Odessa; and mother-in-law, Nadine Griggs.

Memorials may be made to the Susan G. Komen Cancer Society or Vistacare.

PD. NOTICE

## Commissioners' Court report

The Haskell County Commissioners' Court met Dec. 13 in a regular meeting with all members present.

Roy Wright, Traffic Operations Engineer with TxDOT, met with the court to discuss county road signs on TxDOT right of ways.

No action was taken on the item in consideration and action to approve the petition to vacate County Road 474 in Precinct 4.

No action was taken concerning the Karen Allison-Homes grant.

A motion to approve the \$423.91 health insurance policy from First Care for county employee health insurance passed.

The monthly County Treasurer's report was approved.

A motion to approve the hiring of Erin McLellan and Debbie Gressett for the County Clerk's office passed.

A motion to have the precinct redistricting lines redrawn in house was approved.

Wishing you health and happiness throughout the Christmas Season and New Year.

*Merry Christmas*

from the staff of

## Haskell Home Health

**Michelle Johnson, RN Branch Mgr.**  
**Emily Medford, Secretary**  
**Vicky Cochran, LVN**  
**Jeryl Anne Cooper, LVN**  
**Shelley Myers, RN**  
**Patricia Hemphill, HHA**  
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**EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR—Patricia Gray, LVN, left, was selected as the Haskell Memorial Hospital employee of the year by the hospital staff. The award was presented by Charlotte Welch, DON, center, and Fran McCown, hospital administrator.**

## Gray honored by hospital

Haskell Memorial Hospital honored employees and guests at the annual Christmas party held Dec. 10 at the Hospital Education Building.

Patricia Gray, LVN, chosen by popular vote by the entire staff was named employee of the year.

Gray entered the nursing profession following two important people in her life, her mother and aunt. She became a role model for one of her daughters, who also chose the nursing profession.

Beginning her career in 1980 at Stamford Memorial Hospital after graduating the nursing program there, she joined the Haskell Memorial Hospital staff in 1993.

She worked full time at both facilities for many years, and continues to work full time in Haskell.

A mother of four, she worked the night shift, allowing her to be home with her children in their early years for 'breakfast and scriptures' each morning

before school and to be home when they returned home in the afternoon.

She 'mothers' her co-workers, providing nourishing meals almost every night she works and nurses from her heart with Christian love.

Hospital Administrator Fran McCown presented

## Art club meets

The Brazos West Art Association met Dec. 14 for its annual Christmas party.

A delicious meal was enjoyed and gifts were exchanged. Toys were collected for gifts for needy children.

## Winners of courthouse door decorating contest listed

The door of the Haskell County attorney took first place honors in the Christmas door decorating contest held at the Haskell County Courthouse.

Second place went to the

service pins to L.C. Johnson, Gloria Munoz, Linda Latham and Benita Flores for 15 years of service; Linda Mahan for 10 years; Lesa Meier, Ellen Johnson, Mickie Estrada and Janie Guzman for 5 years; and Debbie Wilde, Karen Wolf, Clara Naylor and Michelle Joiner for one year.

Attending were Marsha Whittemore, Doris Reeves, Martha Spitzer, Florence Larned, Betty Hook and Betty Berry.

The next meeting will be Jan. 11, when Paul Friske will be the guest artist.

## Christmas coffee benefits Goodfellows

by Caron Yates

Wilbert and Dwanna Klose recently hosted a Christmas coffee. According to Dwanna, her reason for the occasion was multi-purposed.

Christmas is about helping others, so Klose saw this as an opportunity to collect canned goods for the Goodfellows' drive. This holds a special meaning for the Kloses, because as a fireman for twenty-two years, Wilbert has helped deliver many packages of goods to families at Christmas time. A large box and several sacks of goods, brought by guests were collected for the cause.

Klose also wanted to spread some Christmas cheer and compassion to others. She says she made several cakes, a big pot of coffee and invited everyone she saw around town to stop by and enjoy a time of visiting and fellowship.

She was anxious to open her home up to the community. It has a long history in her family. Built by Wilbert's dad in the 1950's, it was owned by daughter Pam, before the Kloses bought it four years ago. The cabinets were built by Guy Kennedy of Haskell.

Klose says she would like to see this Christmas coffee grow and become a tradition. After all, the spirit of Christmas is about family and friends, and what better way to reconnect than with coffee, cake and good conversation.

## Merry Christmas

Nellie Garza



### My First Christmas In Heaven

I see countless Christmas trees around the world below,  
With tiny lights like heaven's stars reflecting on the snow.  
The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away your tears,  
For I am sharing Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,  
But sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas choir here.  
I have no words to tell you the joy their voices bring,  
It's far beyond description, to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me, I see the pain within your heart.  
But I am not so far away – we really aren't apart!  
So be happy for me loved ones, you know I hold your dear.  
And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year!

I send you each a special gift from my heavenly home above,  
I send you each a memory of my undying love.  
After all "LOVE," is the gift more precious than pure gold,  
It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as my Father said to do,  
For I can't count the blessings or the love he has for you!  
So have a Merry Christmas, and wipe away those tears,  
For I am sharing Christmas with Jesus Christ this year!  
– Anonymous

Buttercup, we Love and miss you very much.  
Never a day goes by that we do not think about you.  
Our memories of you will always be with us.

### Last Minute Gift Ideas

- Stars
- Books
- Jewelry
- Calendars
- Splatterware
- Yankee Candles
- Crosses Angels
- Camouflage Gifts
- Russell Stover Candy
- Perfumes & Colognes
- Bible Covers Travel Bags
- Frames Dominoes Cookbooks
- Purses, Wallets & Cell Phone Cases
- Coca Cola, John Deere & Western Gifts
- Collegiate Gifts – Texas Tech, UT and A&M
- Much, much more!

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## Christmas Blessings



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# OPINION

## TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



### HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

#### Texas statewide unemployment rate shows improvement

AUSTIN—Texas' November unemployment rate was 8.0 percent, a decrease from 8.3 percent in October.

The rate, at two percentage points below the national average, validates "the approach we take here in Texas," Gov. Rick Perry said on Dec. 18.

"Over the past two months, while the nation as a whole lost 122,000 jobs, Texas gained nearly 70,000 jobs, which is promising news for those Texans who are seeking employment," Perry said.

Also, according to figures publicized by the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas civilian labor force reached its highest level ever at 12.1 million workers in November.

In other news, the Texas Workforce Commission alerted unemployment claimants about fraudulent e-mail text messages scammers use to illegally obtain personal identification information. Messages asking for that kind of information appear to originate from the commission, but the commission said it does not ask for personal ID numbers via email.

#### Job turnover rate lowest in years

State Auditor John Keel on Dec. 14 released an annual report on state employee turnover for fiscal year 2009.

The report says the statewide turnover rate was 14.4 percent for full- and part-time employees, the lowest turnover rate recorded in the last five years. The rate was 17.3 percent for the year 2008.

Excluding involuntary separations and retirements, the fiscal year 2009 statewide turnover rate was 8.1 percent. This rate, which is often considered more of a true turnover rate because it reflects preventable turnover, also decreased since fiscal year 2008, Keel's report explained.

Factors that may have had an influence:

- Texas unemployment rates increased from 4.6 percent in fiscal year 2008 to 6.5 percent in fiscal year 2009.

- The average regular, full-time classified employee salary increased from \$32,848 in fiscal year 2005 to \$38,461 in fiscal year 2009.

- Agencies worked to improve retention efforts.

#### Bond program to reopen shortly

The Texas Permanent School Fund Bond Guarantee Program, closed since March, will resume functions in the first quarter of 2010 to back bonds issued to pay for school construction, saving school districts millions of dollars in interest costs.

The Internal Revenue Service informed the Texas Education Agency that it will revise its rules to allow bonds

to be guaranteed up to 500 percent of the cost value of the Permanent School Fund as of Dec. 16. The State Board of Education oversees the fund and sets its capacity.

The Texas Education Agency said it was forced to close the Bond Guarantee Program on March 11 when turmoil in the stock market caused the value of the state's Permanent School Fund to fall dramatically, reducing its capacity to back bonds.

According to TEA, the Bond Guarantee Program has backed more than \$83 billion in bonds since its inception in 1983.

#### Friedman to run for ag chief

Hill Country musician, writer and animal rescue activist Richard S. "Kinky" Friedman ended his candidacy for governor and filed to run for state agriculture commissioner.

Friedman, running as a Democrat, will face Tyler rancher Hank Gilbert in the Democratic primary. Gilbert earlier ended his quest to be the Democratic Party's nominee for governor and filed for the agriculture commissioner when Houston Mayor Bill White announced his candidacy for governor.

Republican Todd Staples, a former state senator from Palestine, Texas, is the incumbent agriculture commissioner. Gilbert lost to Staples in the November 2006 election.

Friedman got 12.44 percent of the vote when he ran for governor as an independent in the 2006 general election.

#### Dome to get spruced up in 2010

The State Preservation Board on Dec. 11 announced the Texas Capitol dome will undergo a 10-month repair project in the coming year. Estimated completion date is December 2010.

Workers will paint, fix leaky windows, remove asbestos and rust, and more. The job is not expected to interfere with Capitol tours and other normal activities.

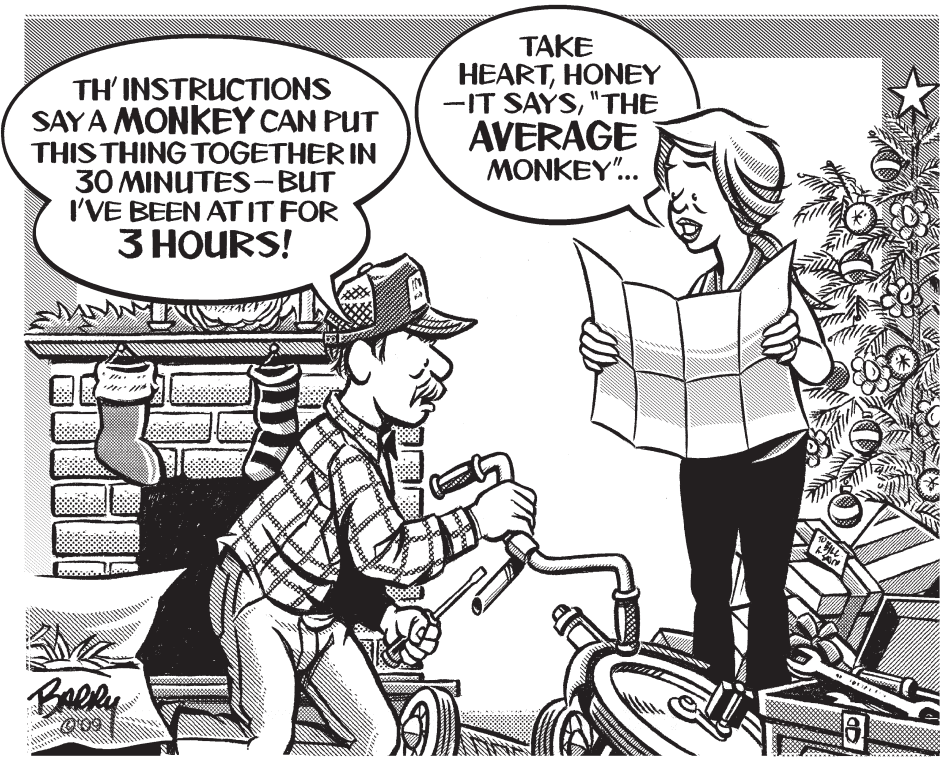
#### Earle to run for Lt. Governor

Former Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle, a Democrat who retired in 2008 after 35 years at the post, filed to run for lieutenant governor. Incumbent Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, a Republican, filed for re-election earlier in December.

#### Keel is named state agency chief

The Texas Facilities Commission named former State Rep. Terry Keel, R-Austin, as director of the agency, effective Dec. 31.

Keel is a former Travis County sheriff. And, he served as House parliamentarian for then-speaker Tom Craddick at the end of the 2007 legislative session.



## From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

**10 Years Ago  
December 30, 1999**  
Thanks to the community effort, Haskell Goodfellows distributed a total of fifty packages to families for Christmas.

Philip Martin will lead the singing during a time of praise, worship and prayer at the community-wide New Year's Eve Watch Service held at the First Christian Church.

Dr. Frank Cadenhead was honored with a come and go retirement reception in appreciation of his many years of care to this area.

**20 Years Ago  
December 28, 1989**  
Haskell dentist Dr. William Kemp has been elected president of the Texas Board of Dental Examiners.

Curtis Weise was honored with a retirement party from the Haskell County ASCS, having worked there for 31 years.

Coloring contest winners who received a \$50 Savings Bond from Haskell National Bank were Teddy Graciano, Eric Hager and Lane Murphy.

Jim Mattox announced that Sharon Mullino of Rochester will serve as the Haskell County coordinator for his campaign.

**30 Years Ago  
December 27, 1979**  
Retiring members of the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department who were presented plaques included Jack Speer, 37 years; Dent Atchinson, 31 years; Brooks Middleton, 28 years; and Jim Alvis, 24 years.

Mrs. Charles Swinson was presented a plaque designating her as an honorary member of the Haskell Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary.

Haskell County is in the final stages of producing a record cotton crop with estimates that near 150,000 bales will be ginned in the county.

#### 40 Years Ago December 25, 1969

Haskell County 4-H Club members participating in the Hereford and Quarter Horse Show in Odessa were Jeff and Larry Denson, Jackie Wilcox, Kim and Sue Hager and Jim Bob Mickler.

While out hunting, Jack Dunnam of Weinert and Kent Dunnam of Rule, killed a rattlesnake that was five feet long with fifteen rattles.

First place winners in the home lighting contest were Mrs. Ed Fouts, door division; Dorsey Oliphant, yard division; and Mrs.

Jimmy Browning, window lighting division.

#### 50 Years Ago December 24, 1959

Paulette Fischer's twenty-six points paced Paint Creek to a win over Knox City to take first place in the Haskell Girls' Basketball Tournament.

J.W. Rutherford pulled a 44 pound yellow catfish off a trotline near Shaw's Fishing Camp on Lake Stamford.

Judy Guinn was presented as Football Sweetheart and Alfonso Guerrero as Hero during the annual Rule Bobcat and Pep Squad banquet.

#### 100 Years Ago December 25, 1909

D.W. Fields of Rochester said cotton receipts at Rochester would run something over 2000 bales.

Frank Baldwin, Buford and Brevard Long, all of who have been attending State University in Austin, returned home for the holidays.

J.A. Creaser, manager of the X Ranch, reported that Arch Williams had killed about fifty coyotes on the ranch within the past three weeks.

Miss Breeden has moved to Forth Worth to accept a position with a real estate firm.

## TWC alerts unemployment claimants of text message scam

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) advises unemployment claimants that the agency does not use text messages to provide or gather information about unemployment benefits. Some Texas unemployment claimants report receiving fraudulent text messages that claim to originate from TWC requesting confidential information or advising them to call a special phone number to reactivate benefits.

A similar scam has been reported in Ohio.

TWC representatives do not use text messages to contact claimants, do not make home visits and do not ask for Personal Identification Numbers (PIN). Although these fraudulent text message incidences appear to be isolated, the situation merits a warning to protect all Texas benefit claimants.

Claimants should only provide Social Security

numbers or other confidential information when filing for benefits online at [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org) or when speaking to an unemployment benefit customer service representative on the Tele-Center phone filing system.

Claimants are advised not to respond to any text messages claiming to come from TWC, the U.S. Department of Labor, or any other agency regarding unemployment benefits.

TWC also warns unemployment benefit claimants to be aware of unscrupulous business operators who may try to charge a fee to file unemployment claims. Filing for benefits through TWC always has been free.

The unemployment benefit program, funded through employer taxes, provides temporary, partial income replacement to workers who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. TWC administers and oversees the collection of taxes from employers and the payment of unemployment benefits to qualified claimants.

Any claimants who receive suspicious calls or text messages should contact the TWC Fraud and Program Abuse Hotline at 800-252-3642.

## District 11-A All-District football teams list Rule, Paint Creek players

The District 11-A sixman football All-District football teams have been announced.

Running back Wesley Short of Rule was named to the offensive first team.

On the second team offense were tight end J.J. Garcia of Paint Creek, Joseph Turner of Rule, center, and Cade Brown of Rule, quarterback.

Listed on the first team

defense were cornerbacks, Turner and Short of Rule; Jordan Adkins, cornerback, of Paint Creek; safety, Brown of Rule; utility player, Nick Johnson of Rule; and punter, Garcia of Paint Creek.

Jacob Large of Rule was on the defensive second team.

Brown of Rule was named Newcomer of the Year.

## City Council report

The Haskell City Council met in a regular meeting Dec. 14 with Mayor Bob Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Sue Medford and councilmen Chan Guess and Randy Bowers in attendance. Absent were councilmen Robert Tribbey and Jason Hall.

Randy Bowers gave the invocation.

The low bid by B-C Company of Fort Worth in the amount of \$307,776.00 for the TxDOT Aviation and City of Haskell project to refurbish the airport was accepted.

The Council declined the request of the Haskell school to put handicapped accessible parking in front of their early learning center on the square. The city agreed to paint the areas of the two existing ramps on each end of the block so they will be more visible.

Cloetta Shotts and Herb Beslanowitch were sworn in and testified in the substandard structures public hearing.

The council approved the case involving the property at 1308 North Avenue G (Block 2, Lot 3 NWC 50x140, Robertson and Day Addition, Beslanowitch owner), finding the structure dilapidated, substandard, unfit for human habitation and a hazard to the public health, safety and welfare; that the property be repaired, removed, demolished, any holes filled, lot cleared; any wells capped and cesspools filled, but to honor the request by owner Beslanowitch and allow 30 days for the yard to be cleaned and entries secured. Another hearing will be held in 30 days including a written report on plans and a time scheduled.

The council approved the case involving the property located at 610 South 8th (Block 2, Lot 12 Highland Addition, Buelah Golden and Robert Rohmfeld, owners), finding the structure dilapidated, substandard, unfit for human habitation and a hazard to the public health, safety and welfare; that the property be repaired, removed, demolished, any holes filled, lot cleared; any wells capped and cesspools filled within 30 days.

A complaint on the police department was discussed.

Police Chief Steven Grand gave the November police department activity report.

In the City Administrator's report, Brandon Anderson mentioned:

- A letter included from the First Presbyterian Church designating a front door for measuring purposes. The Wes-T-Go convenience store will be able to move their door and become compliant with the distance restriction for applying for their alcohol license/permit.

- A retirement party was held for Kenny Watson, Chief Tax Appraiser for the Appraisal District, on Dec. 21.

- The school held a Christmas Open House Dec. 14.

- The City Christmas party was discussed.

- The next scheduled council meeting on Dec. 28 will likely be cancelled unless a pressing matter comes up.

### The Haskell Free Press

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This issue mailed Wed., Dec. 23, 2009



# BASKETBALL '09

## Indians

**Haskell Indians  
Varsity  
Eula  
Tournament  
Dec. 28-30  
in Eula**



HASKELL INDIANS—Front row, l-r, Tyrone Neskorik, Christian Myers, Austin Marshall, Kelson Aguero and Clint Howard; back row, Austin Nanny, Ross Wittenborn, Kosta Mahlelis, Simon Rodriguez and Sterling Bird.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

## Maidens



HASKELL MAIDENS—Front row, l-r, Marissa McGhee, Aubrey Bassett, Briè Torres, Kayce Wilcox, Cheslee Hearn; back row, Jordan Burson, Ashley Short, Lisa Rodgers, Miranda Johnson, Harley James and Lonnie Alvarez.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

**Haskell  
Maidens  
Varsity  
Eula  
Tournament  
Dec. 28-30  
in Eula**

*This Page Sponsored By The Following Indian and Maiden Boosters*

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Haskell Save-A-\$  
Larned Sales Center  
Smitty's Auto Supply  
D & S Aerial  
Matlock & Associates**

# Happy Holidays Letters to Santa...

**SEASON'S GREETINGS**  
All our best wishes to you and your loved ones on this joyous occasion.




**WILD HORSE TRADING POST**  
419 S. 1st, Haskell • 864-2200

Haskell's General Store and **RadioShack**

**HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

Wishing you Good Cheer for Christmas and the New Year!



**KP'S MESQUITE GRILL**  
411 S. 1st  
Phone 863-4568

**HTS Services**  
206 S. Ave. E  
Phone 864-2900




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

Merry Christmas!



**Big Country Electric Cooperative**  
Stamford • Roby • Snyder




**Merry Christmas**  
from  
**Smitty's Auto**  
Floyd & Penny Baker, Owners  
Gene Gibbs, Manager  
107 N. 1st East • Haskell • 864-2607

**It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!**

And we'd just like to say,  
Hope your season is perfect  
In every way.

**Merry Christmas!**

**Double A Drive In**  
1103 North 1st • Haskell  
864-2466



Dear Santa,  
I have been a good boy. Thank you for my gifts last year. Please bring me a shiny red race car, an air-hog zero gravity r/c car, some John Deere tractors and combines, and anything else you think I would like. Don't forget to visit Trinity, MaKaylah and all my little cousins. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love, Wayland Isbell  
Age 4  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike, helmet and DS game for Christmas. Don't forget that I moved to Washington. I hope to see you at Great Wolf Lodge during Christmas.

Dylan Rodriguez  
Age 7  
Lacey, Washington  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas I would like a baby, DS like my brothers, and a bike. Don't forget to send presents to our Soldiers in Iraq.

P.S. Thanks for letting my Dada spend Christmas with me this year!

Yasmin Yamila Martinez  
Age 2  
Lacey, Washington  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I ben good this year. For Christmas I would like The Three Muskaters movie, jasmine toy, sleeping beauty toy, truck game, my own pink, purple, blue, black phegrneal polish, and boots, super Mario bros. game, sparkel stuff that you put in your hair, Nintendo DS, Mario, Hannah Montana, and Spunchbob viedo games.

Love, Natyleigh  
Shi'Anne Boatman  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I ben good this year. I would like to get a Nintendo DS gamu. I want a Hannah Montana gamu, the moreo brotheruss gamu, fig polish, rambots, a freshish rel keake that are shrobare, chlokkit, vinelu and the girl skaots camp.

Love, Brooklynn  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a polar bear thing, a robot, an art project, a cash register and that's all. Maybe you can also give me a penguin.

Thank you,  
Maddie

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a big 4 wheeler, motorcycle a toy one, I want a Gorage for my motorcycle. Oh, and motorcycle clothes and a table.

Logan Isbell  
5 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me some cars, tractors and some sheeps. Oh, and some sharks and some ships.

Zachary Ingram  
4 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me Hello Pony pillow, Sponge Bob pj's, Barbie's with Big Barbie house and dress up clothes. Oh, and a surprise from Santa.

Cassidy Phemister  
5 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Barbie bike, Hannah Montana Shirt, knee pads and helmet for my big bike.

Reagan Daniels  
4 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me Guitar, a Robot Toy, Dump Truck, Toy Monster, Toy City and a Santa Clause toy.

Carter Crosson  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Barbie, a Santa Clause toy.

Clyne Williams  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me Legos, a robot truck, race truck and 3 farms.

Ethan Rosenbaum  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a big bike, and some toys.

Kayce Coleman  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want presents! Like a dinosaur that bites.

Audie Shaw, 28 months  
Haskell CISD ELC

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Karoke machine, Hannah Montana songs, a dryer for my room.

Kelbi Parks  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like a big Barbie house, some Barbies, TV, Dora, Barbie clothes.

Harley Medford  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a baseball bat and ball, a new car, new backpack.

Michael McBroom  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a DS, a Transformer, a house and steer toys and a guitar, drums.

Brock Bridges  
4 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like dress up clothes, and a lot of different toys.

Ashlee Isbell  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Dora bike, Barney, Dora House. Oh, and some more toys.

Kelsey Biba  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a red choo train, race car #2, anything else you would like to bring me.

Colton Hopkins  
4 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Dora Doll, Dora CD's and a big horsie.

Alyssa Martinez  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a ball toy and a dinosaur. Oh, and a pig too.

Jonathan Brown  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a DS, Hannah Montana make-up, a dog that moves its head, Barbie with a Barbie house.

Aubrey Isbell  
5 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a Dora gown, candy, coke and a pink turtle.

Miley Yohner  
31 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC

Dear Santa,  
I want a baby doll, some puzzles, and some pretty fingernails.

Carley Isbell  
29 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a ball, sunglasses, and a new Dora movie.

Krislyn Rodriquez  
33 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a fire truck, some paper and paints and a new football.

Aiden Lindsey  
25 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a Elmo toy, a train and some gum.

Evan Casino  
29 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a motorcycle, a swing and something pretty for mommy and sister.

Brayden Lampe  
26 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a teddy bear, a house and a real quack quack duck.

Paisley Guevara  
22 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me some toys, and a guitar with sparkles.

Kaylin Siegfried  
23 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me shoes, a chair and a princess baby.

Allie Boone  
28 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a baby doll, some new hair bows and a book. Oh, and some drums!

Veda Guzman  
29 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a fire truck, a bike and some cool gloves.

Joshua Gonzales  
3 years old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
This is my first Christmas. I am three months old. I have enjoyed watching the lights on our Christmas tree. Please bring me some diapers, that is all I really need. My big sisters and I will be waiting for you.

Love, Lezli Manske  
3 months old, 2009

**Happy Holidays to one and all.**

**Computer Solutions!**  
Computer Sales & Service  
419 South 1st • Haskell  
**(940) 864-2200**




**Greetings Of The Season**

'Tis covered with snow,  
O'er hills and below,  
Just in time for the big day.

And hearts are aglow,  
Because they all know,  
St. Nick's on his merry way!



**Central Texas Farm Credit, ACA**  
550 S. Second • 864-8565  
Haskell, Texas 79521



The Master of the Universe became a Baby.  
And then a Man. Oh, what a Man!  
Teacher - Champion - Savior - Immanuel. May the blessings of His glory be yours this Christmas.

**The folks at Holden-McCauley Funeral Home Haskell - Rule**

# Letters to Santa...

Dear Santa,  
I want a truck, a hat and lots of candy.  
Jameson Daniels  
26 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a cabbage patch baby, a purse and some princess slippers.  
Dafne Masias  
18 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a truck, a big truck with lights. Also I would like some drums.  
Hagyn Barbee  
23 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a new baby doll, some books and some pretty clothes.  
Paige Scheets  
22 months old  
Haskell CISD ELC  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Ava. I am 2 years old. Please bring me a baby doll and stroller. I really like stuffed animals too. I like Disney's Princesses too. Pink in my color. I have tried to be a good girl.  
Love you, Santa,  
Ava Tate  
River Oaks, Texas  
P.S. I will be with my cousin Zakarey at Nana's and PePaw's house. We will leave you some milk and cookies.  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Zakarey. I'm 21 months old. For Christmas please bring me a Spring Jumping Horse. I would also like a Lightening McQueen Quad Car. I really love Wubbzy, too. Anything Wubbzy. I also have a baby brother on the way. Please don't forget to bring him something, too. We will be at my Nana's and Pepaw's house. I've really tried to be a good boy. You know how hard it is being almost 2.

Love you, Santa,  
Zakarey Jones  
River Oaks, Texas  
P.S. My mom will leave you and the reindeer some milk and cookies.  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I am 8 years old this year. I want a DS. The movie Molly and Me. Glitter that you can put on paper. This is something very simple, \$1000 dollars. I would also like a Reba CD, Miley Cyrus CD, a Hannah Montana CD, and a Taylor Swift CD. Please bring me some Pet Shops and a Pet Shop house.  
Love, Leann Manske  
8 years old-2009  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? I have been good this Christmas. For Christmas I would like a puppy that can swim. I really want a DS. I want a big girl baby. Thank you Santa.  
Love,  
Abby Andress 2009  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a shotgun. I need a new deer target. My turtle needs a new aquarium. Go ahead and bring me shells for my shotgun. I also collect hot wheels so that would be cool too.

Love,  
Adam 2009  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I am 5 years old this year. Will you please give me a fake puppy that swims in the water. I want a baby doll that pees when you feed her a bottle. I want the Barbie Three Musketeers movie. That's all I want. And Taylor Swift movie and CD now that's all.  
Love,  
Lenzi Manske  
Age 5, 2009

Dear Santa,  
My name is Gaige Strickland and I am 21 months old and I have tried to be a good boy this year. For Christmas I would like some toy guns, so I don't have to sneak in my big brothers room to get them. I would also love anything that plays music because I love to sing and dance. Me and my brother will leave you some cookies and milk by the tree, I'll try really hard not to eat them.  
Love, Gaige  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
This is my first Christmas and I'm so excited about all the lights and decorations! I'm not sure what I want for Christmas, so I will just let you know what all I like. I LOVE to eat, so some new yummy snacks would be great! I think Uncle Andrew's drum sticks are the coolest thing and I get very upset when mommy takes them away from me when it's time to leave church, so maybe I need my own to take home. I've learned how to throw things, so maybe a new football or basketball that is just my size would be fun to play with. I like music and The Mickey Mouse Clubhouse "Hot Dog" song gets my full attention every time. I'm learning how to walk and a new toy I can walk with would be good. And please bring my puppy Kacie some more food because I like to throw and scatter hers all over the place. And maybe some new toys for her too so she will quit trying to play with mine.  
Love,  
Landon Stephens  
10 months old  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a Hannah Montana CD. I would like High School Musical 1, 2 and 3 movies. A zuzu pet would be good. Please bring me a bigger case for my glasses. I would like peace sign earrings. I want the big gym Pet Shop house with the Kangaroo. I also need another case for my Pet Shops, because I'm nearly out of space in my other one. I would also like a Wii for Christmas so we could all play it. I would like a peace sign hat and scarf. Please bring me some makeup. That will be all.  
Love,  
Allie Andress -2009  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have been super good this year. I would really like for you to bring me Buzz Lightyear green car and a rope so I can rope really good. Thank You for bringing me my toys. That is all. I love you Santa.  
Colt Moore

Dear Santa,  
My name is Angel. For Christmas I want a laptop and a DS with some games. I have 2 brothers. For brother Jack I want you to bring him a lot of different kinds of balls to play with. He likes to throw and kick them and chocolate candy. He loves chocolate. For my other brother Keagen could you take him some toboggans and blankets and a toy bear. He is in the hospital. Take all the babies there some toboggans so that their heads don't get cold. Bring my Uncle Gus something too. We have tried to be good. Say hi to all the deer. If we are not home we will be at Fort Worth with my baby brother.  
Love,  
Angel  
P.S. Merry Christmas. I will get you some cookies and milk.  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I am fine. I've tried to be really good this year. For Christmas I would like an ipod, a DS, and a Swim to Me Puppy. I would also like a Candy Bracelet Bakery with yarn and a sand castle bucket. Please bring my dogs, Daisy and Lily chew bones for their stockings. Granny and Paw-Paw are spending Christmas together in Heaven now, but we will still be at their house. Don't forget my cousins, Spencer, Cole and Marley, please. Have a safe trip and tell everyone at the North Pole hello. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!  
Love,  
Addisyn  
P.S. Do you think I could have a picture of Rudolph?  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I am good. I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a camera and a real puppy. I also would like Littlest Pet Shop stuff. I need some picture frames for my pictures that I am going to take. Also, I would like a Karoke machine with Taylor Swift, Carrie Underwood and Hannah Montana CD's. I will be happy with anything you bring. Please don't forget my brother Cole and my cousin Addisyn.  
I love you Santa,  
Marley Casey  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Kendall Thompson. Thank you for the toys last Christmas! I have been a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like a red car, a baby doll that you can feed, a trike, and a kitchen. You can find me at Grana and Pop's house on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. Hope you have a Merry Christmas.  
Love, Kendall

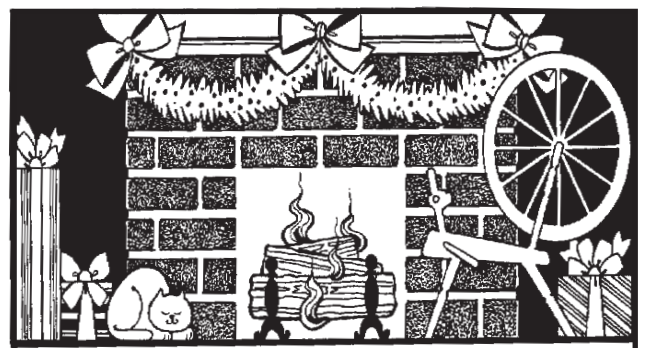
Dear Santa,  
My name is Brayden Brzozowski. I am six years old and in Kindergarten. This year for Christmas I would like an army lego city, toy shotgun, and red top boots. I'll let my little brother share the toy shotgun with me because he always likes to play with my toys. We will leave you some cookies and milk by the tree.  
Love, Brayden  
P.S. I would also like 2 trucks and trailers for me and my little brother.  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want you to know that I have been a good boy this year. Please bring me the three Lego sets that I have been wanting this year: the Lego Wind Turbine, Lego Farm and the Lego Road Maker. I have also been wanting that new Optimus Prime with the jet that is on Transformers 2, the new Bumblebee and also a new Transformers 2 movie because I lost my other one.  
Please remember my baby brother, Spencer Ryan. I think Spencer would like his own Legos. Big ones that are safe for him to play with. Please stop at Rebekah's house too and bring her new toys and Jack a new dog bone. Don't forget to bring new toys to my friends from school and church and Mrs. Cox's house too. I think my dad needs a new hammer or saw, but he says he gives me all his Christmas wishes this year. Remember all my family and also the kids that do not have very many toys.  
And, don't worry...we will set out cookies on the fireplace for you to eat. Dr Pepper is way not good for you to drink so we will leave milk.

Thank you, Santa.  
Love, Nathan Martin  
5 1/2 years old  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like for you to bring me a splashey the whale game, zhu zhu pets, an ice cream maker, and pop the pig game. I will leave you cookies and milk and a candy cane for theodore and hay for the reindeer. I love you.  
Jaclyn Snelling  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Caden Matthew Cardenas. I'm 5 years old. I've been a good boy. (Don't listen to my sister Cobie). For Christmas I want a Star wars gun, a boxing toy that they punch there heads pop up, a book, a toy for Carly, a baby for Cecileigh, gun for Christian and a doll for Cobie.



May your heart and your home be warmed by the spirit of Christmas this season.  
**Larned Sales Center**  
864-2749 - Haskell  
Merry Christmas from The Larned Family

**Blessings to All**

Wishing you lots of good old-fashioned holiday cheer.

**Haskell Co-op Gin**  
Brian Lehrmann, Mgr.

Wishing you **Happy Holidays**

We appreciate your business!

**G & G Carpets**  
108 N. Ave. D • 864-3966

**HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS!**

May yours be blessed this holiday season.

**Haskell Save-A-Dollar Inc.**  
204 N. 1st • Haskell • 940-864-2146

**ALL OUR HOLIDAY BEST**  
*Season's Greetings!*  
**Nanny Plumbing Inc.**  
301 S. Ave. E  
Haskell  
864-3043

One of the true joys of the Holiday Season is to say ~  
**Thank You** to our customers, friends and family and wish you the very best for the new year!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**D & S Aerial**  
*Looking forward to serving you in 2010!*

Season's Greetings

**RE-ELECT  
Rhonda Moeller  
Haskell Co. Clerk**

After careful consideration,  
I have decided to run  
for re-election.

PLEASE VOTE TO RE-ELECT  
**RHONDA MOELLER,  
HASKELL CO. CLERK  
IN THE MARCH 2 PRIMARY.**

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Rhonda Moeller

**Klean Sweep  
Chimney Cleaning**

Since 1985

Fireplace \$100  
w/Insert \$120

Chimney Caps  
Minor Repairs

**325-736-5015**



**LADY PIRATE DEFENSE**—Shana Armstrong, right, plays defense for the Paint Creek Lady Pirates during a game at the Woodson tournament.



**PIRATE DEFENSE**—Nathan Edwards, right, plays defense for the Paint Creek Pirates during a game against Moran.

*Letters to Santa...*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I am enjoying all the sights and sounds of Christmas this year. I love music and really like to listen to my mommy and brother sing Christmas songs to me. I have also learned that you say "Ho. Ho. Ho."

I don't have a lot of specific requests this year, but there are a few things that my parents and brother think I would like since I am such a good boy. I really like dinosaurs and anything that ROARS. I also like playing with my big brother's toys, especially the Legos. Mommy, Daddy and Nathan all keep saying they aren't very safe for me to play with so maybe I need some Big Legos of my very own. I would also be happy to have some new books and whatever else you think I might like to play with.

Please remember my big brother Nathan because he is a great big brother to me. He says you can never have too many Legos so he probably needs some new sets too. Don't forget to stop at my cousin Rebekah's house down the road. I know she would be excited to find new toys under her Christmas tree too. Also, please remember to stop by the houses of all my daycare friends.

We will leave you cookies and milk on the fireplace. Ho. Ho. Ho.

Love, Spencer Martin  
17 months  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Shalee Dunnam and I am 5 years old. I am in Pre-K this year and I love school! I have tried to be a good girl. For Christmas I would like Hannah Montana clothes, a kitty cat, a puppy dog, a baby crib, an iPod, roller skates, a dress up dress, and my own flower (a sunflower).

I will leave gingerbread cookies and milk by the tree. Have a safe trip!

Love, Shalee Dunnam  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
This year I have been pretty good most of the time and only sassy a little bit. I will try not to be so sassy. Would you please bring me an American Girl sewing machine and a Barbie? Is Rudolph one of your reindeers? I hope you have a lot of reindeers so you can go really high. I will leave you candy, milk and cookies. The milk is for the cookies. I will also leave you mittens to keep your hands warm. I hope you have a Merry Christmas and stay safe. Thank you for bringing me my toys.

Madilyn Moore  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I think I have been very good for a 1 year old. Please bring me a mini Barbie jeep, a baby doll and some books. Also, bring my cousin Nathan some legos and my cousin Spencer a toy because I love them. I will leave you some milk and cookies. Or maybe some coke. I think it tastes really good!

Love, Rebekah  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a eye clop toy and a another eye clop toy that shows on the wall I want a air hog toy thats drives on the wall.  
from Christian Cardenas  
8 years old

Dear Santa,  
My name is Caden and I am 3 years old. I want a drum. Me also want Colby (my brother) a drum. I want a computer. Also a John Deere tractor like at Wal-Mart. I'm not always a very good boy, but I do try. I like to get into things and be a little destructive. Don't forget to go see all my cousins, Averie, Jathan, John, Andrew.

Love,  
Caden Bradley West  
3 years old, Haskell  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I've been good... sometimes! I like Longhorns and I want a big horsey to ride and a litte farm. And I want a little food set. I like your reindeers because I have seen them before and I like them. I want a computer like my mom and dad's. I want a drum like they have at Granbury Live. Santa Claus, have you ever been to Granbury Live? I also want lots of Longhorn clothes! I want to leave milk for you to drink and also two snacks, a cookie and some cereal. One more thing, I want a new John Deere shirt to wear with my John Deere boots. I wish I could see you at night when you come because I love you and I like your reindeers. I want to pet your reindeer. I want you to bring my mommy and daddy something special.

Love, Colby Ryan West  
5 years old, Haskell  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I hope your reindeer are doing well. I have been really good this year and would like a new green tractor and a big long truck. My sister thinks I need some new shoes too. Thank you Santa. Sorry for pitching a fit when I saw you during the Parade. You kind of scare me with that big white beard. Maybe next year I can get to know you better.

Ryan Cox, 2 years old  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
We would like to cook you some cookies but I am not sure what kind you like. What kind of milk do you like? White or Chocolate? I would like a new Barbie doll, some sunglasses, clothes and shoes. I have really been good this year and I am doing really well in Mrs. White's class. Please remember my brother and his tractor. Thank you Santa. See you soon!

Kenley Cox, 4 years old  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cobie Marie Cardenas. I'm 6 years old. This year I've been a very good girl. I'll leave milk and cookies for you. For Christmas I want a glow stick, Baby Alive, a toy kitchen, a doll for my sister Cecileigh, a bee gun for Christian, a blast off rocket for Caden.

Thank you.  
P.S. My brothers have been bad but please give them gifts!  
\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
My name is Cecileigh Jade Cardenas. I'm 2 years old. I've been a good girl. For Christmas I want a baby, kitchen, for Christian a gun, Cobie needs a new baby, Caden needs a gun, and Carly needs toys. I'll leave milk and cookies.  
Love, Cecileigh

*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**  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**  
Jim McCurley, pastor  
Sun. 10:45 a.m.  
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- Church of God**  
Bruce Ray, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
714 North First East, Haskell
- Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Ron Rennegarbe, pastor  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30  
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
- Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**  
Art Flores, Interim pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Tom Long, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.  
Wed. 6 p.m.  
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Assembly of God**  
Rev. J.C. Amburn  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- St. George Catholic Church**  
Father George Roney  
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.  
901 N. 16th, Haskell
- Church of Christ**  
Philip Sims, minister  
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.;  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
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.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

- Greater Independent Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
- New Covenant Foursquare**  
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. 7 p.  
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
- Mission Revival Center**  
Rev. William Hodge  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.  
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**  
Greg Gasaway, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Church in the Wind**  
C.C. Curran, pastor  
Sun. fellowship 5 p.m. Church 5:30 p.m.  
Tues. Bible Class 7:30 p.m.  
203 S. 1st East, Haskell
- Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**  
Morris R. Johnson, pastor  
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
1600 N. First St., Haskell
- God Loves You Ministries**  
Mark Wallace, pastor  
Sun. School 10 a.m.; Church 10:45 a.m.  
West side of square, Haskell
- WEINERT—
- First Baptist Church**  
Dan Bullock, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.  
Weinert
- Weinert Foursquare Church**  
Rev. Robert Harrison  
Sunday 11 a.m  
Weinert
- ROCHESTER—
- Church of Christ**  
Steve Willis, minister  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**  
Joseph Barrett, 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.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
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**  
Stephania Gilkey, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.  
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**  
Rev. Dr. Keith Palmquist, pastor  
Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
Sagerton
- RULE—
- First Baptist Church**  
Russell Stanley, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
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**  
John Greeson, minister  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
811 Union, Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**  
Alfa y Omegas  
Manuel Marin, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**  
Larry Neal, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m.;  
Gladstone Ave., Rule
- West Bethal Baptist Church**  
Rev. Clovis Dever  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
300 Sunny Ave., Rule
- PAINT CREEK—
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**  
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 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.m.  
O'Brien

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**Area basketball scores**

Girls	Boys
Jayton 59, Paint Creek 23 Scoring for Paint Creek: Waggoner 10, Walker 7, Buerger 6.	7, Torres 6, Rodgers 4, James 3, Alvarez 2, Johnson 2.
Aspermont 57, Rule 42 Scoring for Rule: Polk 13, Rowan 11, Lyon 7.	<b>Cisco 48, Haskell 44</b> Scoring for Haskell: Myers 11, Rodriguez 9, Marshall 6, Howard 5, Bird 4, Wittenborn 4, Neskorik 4, Agüero 1.
Haskell 50, Knox City 22 Scoring for Haskell: Bassett 14, Short 12, Hearn	JV: Cisco 43, Haskell 18.





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### Miscellaneous

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### Real Estate

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### Public Notices

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing was held before the City of Haskell City Council on the 14th day of December, 2009 at City Hall, 301 S. 1st Street, Haskell, Texas 79521 to determine whether the following structures are in violation of the Haskell Structural Standards Code:

Case No. 5-2009  
Beulah Golden and Robert Rohmfeld, owners. 610 S. 8th Street, aka Block 2, Lot 12, Highland Addition, Haskell, Texas.

Order: Structures are to be repaired, removed or demolished within 30 days, lot cleared, any holes or cesspools filled, any wells capped and any underground flammable tanks removed.

Bob Smith, Mayor 52c

### Season's Greetings

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#### FEATURED LISTINGS

**806 N. 16th. SITS ON 4 ACRES. JUST NEEDS SOME TLC.** 4 bedroom, 2 bath, large brick home, large living area with brick fireplace, kitchen with huge separate pantry area, formal dining room, nice size utility and mud room, 2 car garage, 2 water wells, cellar, fenced back yard. House sits on 4 acres on the outskirts of town.

**701 N. 17th ST. THIS IS THE ONE!** 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick home, kitchen with eat in dining area open to living room. Lots of storage space. Newly remodeled bathroom. Great covered patio, above ground swimming pool, privacy fence, 2 car carport. UNDER CONTRACT.

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#### FEATURED PROPERTIES

**NEW-1534 Seamans Way, Abilene**, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. **SOLD** \$99,900.00.

**NEW-200 N. 2nd St.**, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large corner lot. Recently updated. Must see inside.

**507 N. 5th St.**, 2 or 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Recently updated. New windows, large corner lot, water well, storage building. O/A. UNDER CONTRACT.

**210 Carothers, Rochester.** Grocery/market/cafe/game room/etc. Unlimited possibilities. Call for details.

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**1304 N. AVE. L.** Cute three-bedroom, two bath with living, kitchen-dining, utility hookups, great yard with good water well and garden plot that is ready for a fall crop. Home has window units for cooling and furnace for heat. Owner is leaving the



kitchen range and will sell the washer/dryer and refrigerator. PRICE REDUCED.

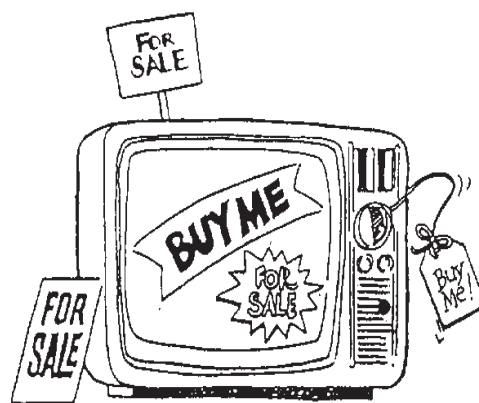
**162 S. HWY 277.** Property with approximately 1.3 Ac. located near the vet clinic has two large **SOLD** and a possible third, two bath kitchen with range. The home as a metal roof, siding and a fenced yard. There are several outbuildings.



**NORTHWEST HASKELL COUNTY, 80+/- Ac.** cultivated farm located at the southeast corner of CR 113 and CR 130. The cotton base is 65 acre **SOLD** yield of 351 lbs. Electricity is available on the county road. This property is located west of Russell Lake.

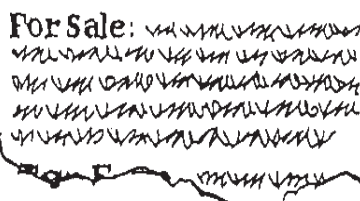
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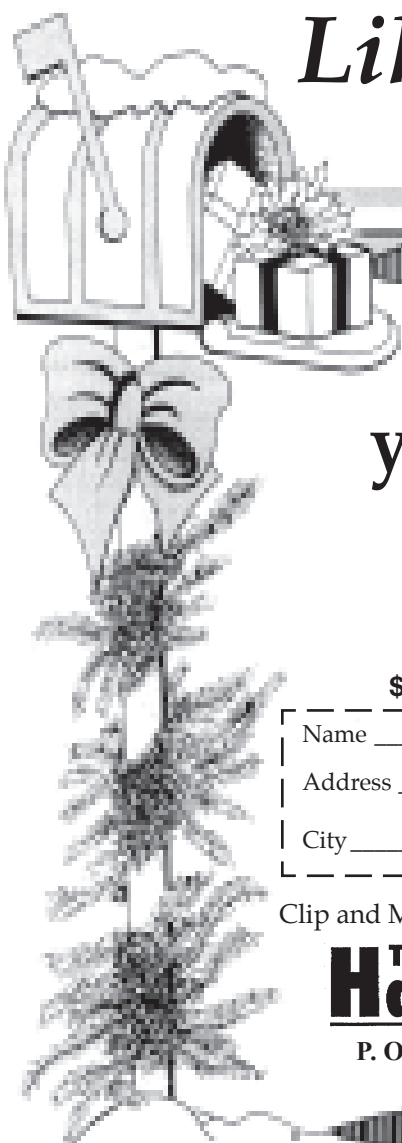
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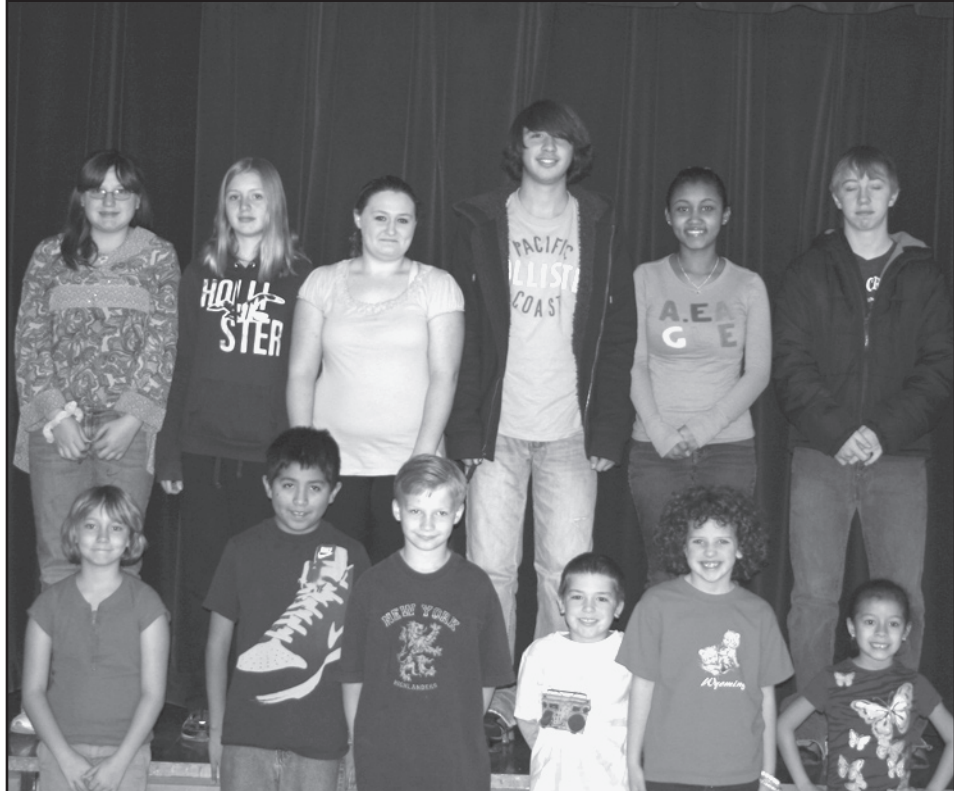
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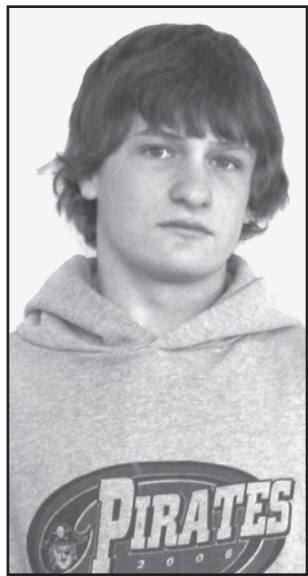




**CHARACTER EDUCATION AT PAINT CREEK**—The character theme for the month of November was “Appreciation.” Elementary students wrote thank you notes to the PTO to show their appreciation for the new playground equipment. November Citizens of the Month include, front row, l-r, Dylan Webb, sixth grade; Cory Mengwasser, fifth grade; Kaiden Castillo, kindergarten; A.J. Bailiff, second grade; Brittany Melton, third grade; Marina Salinas, fourth grade; back row, Justin Bailey, eighth grade; Bryant Booe, seventh grade; Bente Senders, twelfth grade; Brittany Herring, ninth grade; Katie Bosnjak, tenth grade; Jordan Adkins, eleventh grade; and not pictured, Isidro Salinas, first grade.



**CHARACTER EDUCATION AT PAINT CREEK**—The character theme for the month of December is “Caring.” Elementary students were read the story, “The Christmas Sweater,” then designed their own sweater to hang in their classroom. The sweater is to remind them that Christmas is not just about giving or receiving material items for gifts. Sometimes handmade gifts or acts of caring are more special. December Students of the Month are, front row, l-r, Audrey Cochran, fourth grade; Jarrett Lopez, sixth grade; Garrett Arendall, third grade; Ethan Jenkins, kindergarten; Kayla Bosnjak, second grade; and Jasmine Boyd, first grade; back row, Sabrina Conn, fifth grade; Sylvia Schantz, seventh grade; Dalinne Reed, eighth grade; Matt Booe, ninth grade; LaCresha Escamilla, twelfth grade; and Dalton Barnett, tenth grade.



**CARING**—The character theme for the month of December at Paint Creek School is “Caring.” Denton Reed, eleventh grade was one of the December Students of the Month.



**FREE THROW**—Hunter Hall, left, attempts a free throw for the Paint Creek Pirates during a game against Benjamin.

## Student in the News



### ROBBYN TRIBBEY

Robbyn Dyamond Tribbey graduated Summa Cum Laude from Hardin-Simmons University Sat., Dec. 12. The commencement ceremony was held in Berhens Auditorium on the HSU campus.

Tribbey received a bachelor of business administration degree in finance. At the ceremony, she was recognized as the only student graduating with a perfect 4.0 average.

Tribbey was presented with the Academic Foundation Medal during the ceremony. This medal is awarded annually at the winter commencement to the graduate who has achieved the highest grade point average, exemplifies the highest scholarly achievement, and has completed at least 90 hours of residence credit at Hardin-Simmons University. Students who receive this award are unaware until the commencement ceremony.

Tribbey has enrolled in Hardin-Simmon’s Masters of Business Administration program and will begin in January. She plans to work part time for a financial advisor while she attends graduate school.

Tribbey is the daughter of Robert and Lynette Tribbey of Haskell and granddaughter of Luther Meier of Old Glory.



**FREE THROW**—Britney Martinez, right, attempts a free throw for the Paint Creek Lady Pirates during a game at the Woodson tournament.

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