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# The Post Dispatch

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Thursday, December 25, 2008

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

All of these meetings are open to the public.

**Garza County Ceremony**  
Swearing-in for newly elected officials  
January 1  
9 a.m.  
County Courthouse

**Garza County Commissioners Court**  
January 5  
9 a.m.  
AgriLife Extension Office  
215 W. Main Street

**City of Post City Council Meeting**  
January 6, 2009  
6 p.m.  
Council Chambers  
City Hall  
105 E. Main Street

**Post ISD School Board Meeting**  
January 15, 2009  
7:30 p.m.  
Administrative Board Room  
501 S. Avenue K

**Garza County Hospital District**  
January 15, 2009  
6:30 p.m.  
Citizens Bank Meeting Room  
210 N. Broadway

### OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Event info available at press time.

**First Baptist Church**  
Christmas Eve Service – 6 p.m.  
402 W. Main St.

**First United Methodist Church**  
Christmas Eve Service – 10 p.m.  
216 W. 10<sup>th</sup> St.

**Holy Cross Catholic Church**  
Christmas Eve Mass – 6 p.m.  
Christmas Day Mass – 11 a.m.  
Avenue K and Main St.

**Lady Lopes vs Hollis Caprock Holiday Tournament**  
December 29 – Noon  
Trinity School, Lubbock

**POST ISD**  
Return from Holiday Break  
January 5, 2009

**Legacy Five in Concert and Premier of "Judas the Lost Apostle"**  
Ragtown Gospel Theater  
January 9, 2009  
7 p.m.

## Holiday helpers



Post Santa Stop volunteers (from left) Jaynie Dickson, Paige Huckaby, Barbara Palmer and Judy Martin (not pictured) gathered toys and clothes to distribute to Garza County families for Christmas. Organized by the Post Parent Teacher Organization, Post Santa Stop processed and qualified requests for help with Christmas gifts for local children. The group has also received donations of toys, clothes, food and bicycles from local residents to help fulfill the requests from approximately 30 families. "Earlier this month we realized that, since there is no longer an active Lions Club in Post, there would be no Toys for Tots to gather and distribute to those in need," explained Paige Huckaby, President of PTO. "For such a short time, we are amazed by the generous response from the community. We greatly appreciate all of the contributions." In some situations, Huckaby said that individuals and families "adopted" an entire family providing everything on their "wish" list. Above, Robby Palmer checks out one of the bicycles donated to Post Santa Stop for distribution this Christmas.

Photo by Rosa Latimer



Volunteers with the Rural Community Organizing and Post Ministerial Alliance prepared boxes of food to help elderly Post residents during the holiday season. Pictured (from left) are Pepper, Jude and Aaron Edwards; David Paul Pequeno and Reyes Pequeno who serves as Director of Rural Community Organizing. Several Garza County organizations including Lord's Acre, Garza County 4-H and the Victim's Assistance Program donated food and money to fill boxes delivered to over a dozen households.

Photo by Whitney Williams

## Post Christmas closings

Banks will close at noon, Dec. 24; will close Dec. 25 and open again Friday, Dec. 26 regular hours.

Post Office will close at noon, Dec. 24; will be closed Dec. 25 and open for regular hours on Friday, Dec. 26.

The City of Post offices will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

The Garza County Courthouse will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

The Garza County Health Clinic will close at noon Dec. 24 and will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

The Post Dispatch will be closed Dec. 25 and 26 and will open again Dec. 29.

The Trailblazers Senior Citizens Center will be open for lunch Dec. 24 and closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

Hometown Pharmacy will close early Dec. 24 and will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

Most retailers will close early on Dec. 24; will be closed Dec. 25; some will open for regular hours on Friday, Dec. 26. Most restaurants will be closed Dec. 25, but will open again Friday, Dec. 26.

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce office will be open until 3 p.m. Dec. 24 and will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26.

United Super Market will close at 7 p.m. Dec. 24 and will open again Dec. 26 for regular hours.

The OS Museum will be closed Dec. 24 through Dec. 26 and will open Saturday, Dec. 27. The Garza County Historical Museum will be closed Dec. 24 through Dec. 27.

## Increase in domestic violence a holiday reality

By Rosa Latimer  
News Editor

During this bright, shiny holiday season, it is difficult to realize that many families will be faced with the extremely difficult and dangerous reality of domestic violence. Statistics tell us that domestic violence increases during the holidays. Between Thanksgiving and Super Bowl Sunday, family violence is the crime most committed in the United States.

"Domestic violence is an ongoing problem," said Lt. Mike Taylor, Garza County Sheriff's Department.

"We are available to anyone who experiences this type of situation or who witnesses domestic violence. When this happens, immediately reach the sheriff's department by calling 911 and we'll respond immediately."

Unfortunately, the current increase in unem-

(Continued on Page 2)

## Post Note

### Clothes and food available from church

Graham Chapel Church of Christ has food pantry (non-perishables only) and a clothes closet for the needy in Post. Please contact Tim Tatum at 495-3066 or Bill Short at 495-4104.

# HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS!

# Eat This!

by Ryan Mills

One of my favorite recipes comes from my mother, Denese. She's been making this for as long as I can remember and it generally pleases the eaters. My son, Tanner, is a picky eater and he will destroy this dish. He's only a 7-year-old but he ate two full chicken breasts himself last Sunday at lunch. He's a bottomless pit (if he likes it) and I fear

that feeding him over the next 10 years or so is going to hurt me far worse than the price of gas. Anyway, I'm not sure this dish has a name so I guess I'll give it one. I'll call it Cracker Crumb Chicken for today. It's very easy to make. Mom said she got the recipe from the late Greta Longbine way back in the 1970s. And she's

been making it for that long and I have never gotten tired of it in 34 years. Cracker Crumb Chicken  
Ingredients  
6-8 boneless chicken breasts  
1 sleeve of saltine crackers  
1 can cream of mushroom soup  
8 tbs. butter  
Directions  
Take the sleeve of crackers and roll with a rolling pin. Transfer the crumbs to a bowl and put the soup in another. Spray a casserole dish with nonstick cooking spray. Coat each piece of chicken in the soup and then the crumbs. Place the chicken in a baking dish and put four tablespoons of butter at each corner of the pan. Bake at 375 for 60-75 minutes depending on the thickness of the chicken. About halfway through, you will need to add the rest of the butter at the corners of the dish.



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## Domestic Violence

(Continued from Page 1)

employment and the uncertain economic times of this holiday season will most likely lead to an increase in domestic violence. The added stress and frustration of guests, buying gifts and increased food costs can put a strain on a healthy relationship, but these situations become explosive in abusive relationships.

Those out of work have more time to worry about the extra expense of the holidays. They are also often alone while other family members are at school or working. These circumstances become more dangerous if alcohol consumption increases. If an individual is prone to violence or abuse during ordinary times, the situation now becomes even more dangerous. The incidence of child abuse also increases.

Domestic violence isn't always physical abuse against a partner or family member. According to information from Women's Protective Services it also includes other types of abuse: verbal (constant criticism, degrading remarks); emotional

(controlling actions, manipulation); financial (refusing to share money; refusing to let partner work) and sexual (withholding affection, unwanted touching).

Women especially will stay in an abusive relationship because they fear they cannot make enough money to support themselves and their children. Tough economic times and unemployment make it even more difficult to break away. The pressure to protect children from the actions of an abusive parent and to maintain a pleasant atmosphere for guests adds a tremendous amount of stress during the holidays.

Professionals who work with victims of domestic violence or abuse concur that the biggest mistake is believing that you can change violent behavior in a partner. This happens most often with women since many believe it is their responsibility to make a relationship work.

If you are a victim of domestic violence or find you or other family members in a dangerous situation, get out of the house

and call a friend or family member who can help or call 911.

The Victims Assistance Program, serving Garza and Dickens County, has an office at 225 W. Main St. in Post. The agency's telephone number is 495-2479. Jayta Cravy serves as Victims Advocate and ensures that the agency will assist the victim in getting immediate medical attention, counseling, legal aid or other kinds of help. Womens Protective Services also serves Garza County.

Their crisis hotline is always answered: 747-6491 or 800-736-6491. Services are free and confidential and include shelter, food, clothing and transportation as well as support and educational groups.

WPS offers this encouragement: "You can change yourself, not your partner. You do not deserve abusive treatment. You can insist that your children grow up in a home free from violence." Remember that help is available to you and, with courage, you can make the changes that will give you hope for a better life.



The holiday season that spans Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and New Year's celebrations displays the marvelous diversity of foods Texans enjoy as they gather with family and friends. The holidays in Texas bring a renewal of ancestral traditions.

Christmas Eve has special meaning for Polish-Texans, whose ancestors arrived at Panna Maria in Karnes County, southeast of San Antonio, on Dec. 24, 1854. Polish-Texan families may hold a Wigilia, or vigil, a holiday meal which begins after the first star of

Christmas Eve has appeared. It starts with sharing good wishes and oplatek, a wafer-like piece of bread embossed with a Christmas scene.

Many Norwegians settled in Bosque County, in and around Clifton, north of Waco. One Norwegian tradition is an annual December dinner where lutefisk, a recipe for dried codfish, is served. The cod are imported from Norway, then soaked in lye water followed by lime water, and finally, in clear water. After being boiled, lutefisk is served with potatoes and white sauce.

A cherished custom in Mexican-American households is making tamales for enjoyment during the holiday season. Other favorites include the buñuelos, a deep-fried, sweet pastry sometimes served with hot chocolate on Christmas Eve.

As early holiday baking began in German settlements in Texas. "Children were told that the brilliant autumn sunsets in Texas were actually the angels baking cookies for Christmas," according to writer Dorothy McConachie. A favorite cookie was the anise-flavored springerle, a cookie with a design stamped on it.

The eight-day Hanukkah celebration observed by Jewish-Texans in December may include potato pancakes called latkes. Kwanzaa, which comes from words meaning "first fruits of the harvest," is a seven-day event celebrated in African-American homes. A final occasion in the seven-day observance is the Karamu dinner which might include dishes from Africa or the Caribbean or traditional southern dishes such as hoppin' john, a

combination of rice and black-eyed peas.

A traditional recipe among Danish-Texans is ris a la mande, rice almond Christmas pudding. Another Danish treat served at Christmas time is an apple cake called aebleskage. A recipe enjoyed by Czech-Texans is vanocka or Christmas braid, a sweet bread.

New Year's falls on different days on some calendars. The New Year on the calendar for Muslims begins on Dec. 29. Asian-Texan families celebrate the Lunar New Year which typically begins in late January or February. Families of Chinese ancestry may serve a red sausage known as fung chung.

Many Texans would not begin the New Year without a serving of black-eyed peas for good luck. A Greek specialty often served on New Year's Day is vasilopita, St. Basil's cake, which contains a lucky coin.

Whether our families came here generations ago or just this year, from another state or another nation, the food and traditions they brought help create the splendid mosaic that represents Texas and unites us as one under the "Lone Star."

*Sen. Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Border Security and Refugees subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee's Airland subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.*

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## Martinez employee of the year

Linda Martinez, an Administrative Technician for the 106th Judicial District Community Supervision and Corrections Department has been named "Employee of the Year." Ms. Martinez has worked for the Garza County Probation Department for 11 1/2 years. She also serves as the Victim's Coordinator.

The award was presented at the Department's annual Christmas dinner in Lamesa by Director of Probation, Lloyd Glass. In presenting the award, Glass stated, "As always, Linda has done an absolutely outstanding job during the past year. She has displayed a high degree of dedication and her

professionalism is exceptional. We are indeed fortunate to have Linda on our staff."

The 106th Judicial District Community Supervision and Corrections Department covers four counties, with offices in Lamesa, Seminole, Tahoka and Post. The Department has 16 employees, including 8 Community Supervision Officers, 5 Administrative Technicians, and 3 Community Service Supervisors.

Martinez, a life long resident of Post, has two children, Jamie and Kris Hernandez. They are members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lubbock, Tx.

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# Obituaries

## Ruth Doggett

Graveside services for Ruth Doggett, 80, of Lubbock were held at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, 2008 at Terrace Cemetery with Rev. Ed Sena of Lubbock officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home.

Ruth died Saturday, Dec. 20 in Lubbock. She was born Oct. 23, 1928 in Garza County to Walter and Esther Crider. She married Jim Doggett on August 8, 1953 in Carlsbad, NM. He preceded her in death on March 15, 2002. She and Jim farmed in Garza County for many years before moving to Lubbock in 1992.

Survivors include two sons: Lee Doggett of Post and Bill Doggett of Amarillo and a daughter: Shirley Doggett of Lubbock, 8 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

## Charles Propst

Masonic graveside services for Charles Propst 78, of Post will be 2:30 p.m. Friday December 26, 2008 at the Terrace Cemetery. Services are under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Charles died Sunday December 21, 2008 at his home.

Born January 8, 1930 in Lynn County to Jesse and Bernice (Miller) Propst. He attended school at Graham Chapel and Post. In 1946 he joined the US Air Force and served three years before returning to Post. After returning he completed school and attended the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque. He married Rhea Hays November 21, 1962 here in Post. They made their first home here and later went to work in New Orleans for OIG as an investigator. They moved to Kansas City, Missouri and later to Denver, Colorado. He retired in 1982 and returned to Post, where he worked as an investigator for the Connell Estates. Charles also served as a reserve deputy for the Garza County Sheriff's Department. He was a fifty-year plus member of the Post Masonic Lodge, longtime Shriner and a Baptist.

Survivors include: his wife: Rhea Propst of Post and a daughter: Pamela Jones of Rowlett. Four sisters: Dorrace Huff of Woodland, California; Jeneice Jenkins of Las Cruces, N.M.; Thelma McGaugh of Abernathy and Wanda Markham of Dallas. One granddaughter: Lexie Jones of Rowlett.

The family will greet friends at Justice-Mason Funeral Home on Friday December 26, 2008 from 1:30 p.m. until service time.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to VistaCare Family Hospice, 1717 Norfolk Avenue, Bldg A, Lubbock, Texas 79416.

## Cotton producers vote to continue boll weevil program

The Texas Department of Agriculture announced today that cotton producers in the Southern High Plains/Caprock Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to continue program operations.

Final results were 1,730 voting "for" and 272 voting "against" continuation.

TDA issued 4,905 ballots to cotton producers who were eligible to vote in the referendum. A total of 2,002 valid ballots were postmarked by the Dec. 10 deadline and counted.

In addition to deciding if an eradication program should be continued in the zone, voters elected Slaton cotton producer, Joe Alspaugh, to serve as the board member on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Inc.

The Southern High Plains/Caprock Eradication Zone consists of all of Cochran, Hockley and Lubbock counties; and parts of Crosby, Garza, Dickens, Terry and Lynn counties.

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## Birth



## Khloe Valdez

Colton Valdez and Stephanie McPhaul are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Khloe Marie Valdez. Khloe was born Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 2:55 p.m. at Covenant Lakeside Hospital. She weighed 6 lbs 14 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. Khloe was welcomed home by her paternal grandparents, Jimmy and Rhonda Valdez, great-grandparents, Kenneth and Carolyn Williams, and great-great grandmother Elberta Martin, and her uncle Quinton Valdez. And her maternal grandparents, Denis and Christine Pevehouse, great-grandparents, Henry and Olga Castillo and Pat and Shirley McPhaul, Great-great grandmother, Frances Ortiz, and her uncle Zach McPhaul and aunt Aaron McPhaul.

## Extension Extras

**AgriLIFE EXTENSION**  
Texas A&M System

**Premium Sale**  
Thursday, January 22, 2009 - 6:30 pm Post ISD Cafeteria.

**Hometown Holiday**  
Cookbooks may be picked up at the Extension office! Recipes and craft ideas. \$8.00 Each.

**GCJLA Stock Show Information**  
Stock Show January 15-17, 2009.

GCJLA Work Day - Saturday, January 3, 2009 - 9 am  
Entries Due - January 8, 2009 - 5 pm  
Weigh-In - Thursday, January 15, 2009 - 3 pm  
Show Order - Saturday, January 17, 2009 \*

9 am - Hogs  
11 am - Steers  
1 pm - Rabbits  
2:30 pm - Lambs  
3:30 pm - Goats  
Pee Wee Goat Show - Following Goat Show

\*No Trailer parking on the GCJLA show grounds

\*All livestock released at the completion of the Pee Wee Goat Show

\*Pen clean-up at completion of the Pee Wee Goat Show

**Reminder**  
The Extension office will be closed on December 25 & 26. Merry Christmas!

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# The Paperboy

By CHRISTOPHER BLACKBURN

I feel kind of lost this year. Many of you have been through it as well.

I lost my mother in February and my father resides in an Alzheimer's unit and has no idea who I am. My grandmother passed in January.

Dad was pretty bad last year, but we managed to have a nice Christmas. We will this year as well, but I find myself lost with the thoughts of Christmases past.

My mom worked hard at Christmas. She worked hard on the house, food, presents and everything else. She made it very special.

I remember coming in the house and the incredible smells there to welcome anyone who entered.

Despite the usual holiday stress, Mom was happy. Actually, the holidays were the time she was the happiest.

Dad was always in a good mood around the holidays as well. He liked to play little tricks.

One time he bought a baseball glove for himself and wrote on the card, "To: Bill - From: His Secret Admirer." Pretty clever guy.

My wife and I were talking about how our children seem to make this first Christmas without my parents okay. The joy of their experiences have a way of helping with the pain and emptiness left by those who've passed.

There are other joys as well. Simply finding a quiet time to remember exactly what we are celebrating puts things in perspective. I'm still amazed at the humble nature of the birth of Jesus. It's astounding and moves me.

Doing something for others also has a way of helping ease the grief. There are many who need the aid of a friend or the goodwill of those of use better off.

Still, this Christmas will be difficult at times... Really, it already is. Just this past weekend I tried to count the number of phone calls I would have received from my folks on

the weekend before Christmas in the past. I'm sure it would have been at least six. Strange... half of the phone calls probably would have annoyed me in some way. Man, I'd love for that phone to ring right now...

For those of you who've lost loved ones this past year, my heart goes out to you and your families. Fill your homes with love and let those sharing your pain know how much you love and care for them.

For those of you with families intact, give them an extra hug and kiss this year and take just a second and think of this special time without them. Then go ahead and give them another hug.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenebastion.blogspot.com/>.

## White River Weekly Report Dec. 6, 2008

Gauge Reading	Rainfall for 2004
2352.10	43.58"
Feet below spillway	Rainfall for 2005
20'4"	15.57"
Rise	Rainfall for 2006
0"	28.85"
Rainfall Past Week	Rainfall for 2007
0"	24.19"
Rain to Date	
33.61"	

White River Lake has 2,905,613,367 billion gallons left available at the Intake or 27% capacity or 8,917 acre feet. Subtract 17,659,021 MG for evaporation this week in December that leaves 2,887,954,346 MG available as of today. White River's daily average demand for 2007 was 1.26 million gallons per day for all White River Customers. The Oil Company using water for mining has been stopped until the Lake level rises.

White River Municipal Water District is in Stage 1 of its Drought Contingency Plan. Remember that the Water District is there for you if we can assist you in any way let us know.

Source: Mickey Rogers GM White River, general manager, WRMWD

## This week in Post City

By Rosa Latimer

I love the familiarity of Christmas. The things that we only experience at this time of year: those wonderfully familiar ornaments; the delicious aroma of Christmas cooking; and the sounds of holiday music.

A certain quote from a book about Christmas and a favorite Christmas hymn are two things that have over the years come to strongly symbolize this wonderful season to me.

I appreciate the opportunity to share these Christmas inspirations once again.

### SOME CHILDREN SEE HIM

This hymn by Wihla Hutson and Alfred S. Burt was written in 1951. In 1922, Burt's father, an Episcopalian minister, began a tradition of writing a Christmas hymn each year for his congregation and friends. After the elder Burt's death, his son, Al, a well-known jazz musician and Wihla Hutson, the church organist, began a collaboration to continue this annual Christmas tradition. Hutson's family provided this description of the 1951 Christmas hymn, "Some Children See Him:" *With the U.S. engaged in the Korean War--following so closely after the Second World War with Germany and Japan--the simple but moving lyric of this carol affirmed that children of any nationality could imagine Jesus to be like them, with the underlying message that love is more important than any claim of race or nationality.*

There isn't enough space here to share the entire song, but here is the final verse, the last line pretty much tells us all we need to know about this season:

"The children in each different place will see the baby Jesus' face Like theirs, but bright with heavenly grace, and filled with holy light. O lay aside each earthly thing and with thy heart as offering, Come worship now the infant King, 'tis love that's born tonight!"

In my experience, this song has not enjoyed wide-spread popularity as a traditional Christmas hymn, but I've found it in some church hymnals and I was very happy to hear an outstanding version by James Taylor on his Christmas CD.

### MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

As long as I can remember the approach of Christmas evokes discussion about the "true" meaning of Christmas. It is researched by television; preached from the pulpit and usually discussed by generations gathered around the dinner table on the holiday itself.

I believe Sigrid Undset (b. 1882 - d. 1949), a Norwegian writer who received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1928, may have said it best, but before I share this favorite quote, let me tell you a little about this remarkable woman.

The oldest of three children, Sigrid had to forego a university education to help support her family after her father's death. She worked long hours as a secretary and snatched bits of time

to write late at night, weekends and holidays. At the age of 30 she married, raised six children (two were severely retarded requiring extra care) and wrote late at night after her household had gone to bed.

After her marriage to a very difficult man ended, Sigrid left Norway in 1940 when the Germans invaded and later she lived in the United States before settling in Switzerland.

Until the last years of her life, in all circumstances, she continued to write. Undset's 36 books have been published in virtually every language, movies have been made of her stories and today her books still appeal to a wide variety of readers.

This quote from Sigrid Undset's book, "Christmas and Twelfth Night," published in 1932, is part of my personal Christmas tradition:

"And when we give each other Christmas gifts in His name, let us remember that He has given us the sun and the moon and the stars, and the earth with its forests and mountains and oceans - and all that lives and moves upon them.

He has given us all green things and everything that blossoms and bears fruit - and all that we quarrel about and all that we have misused - and to save us from our own foolishness, from all our sins, He came down to earth and gave us Himself."

Christmas blessings to you this week in Post City!



## Kay Bailey Hutchison

UNITED STATES SENATOR, TEXAS

This holiday season, Texans are observing cherished traditions and creating new memories. Friends and neighbors are gathering for parties, families are preparing to host relatives or travel to see distant loved ones, and children are brimming with anticipation of presents to come. This time of year also brings a bright array of regional customs and celebrations that are unique to Texas.

During the first week of December, Galveston residents flocked to the historic landmark district to take part in a beloved annual festival, Dickens on The Strand. Each year, downtown Galveston is transformed into Victorian-era London for the weekend-long event, which features reenactments from Dickens' novel "A Christmas Carol," home tours, concerts, a feast, a ball, and other special events at historic sites across the island. This year marks the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dickens on The Strand, and the 2008 celebration was particularly poignant. Just three months ago, Hurricane Ike devastated the island and badly damaged many of the historical landmarks that have been fixtures of Galveston for generations. Despite the challenges this community has faced, the festivities were as exuberant as ever and show that Galveston is well on the way to recovery.

In Austin, for more than 40

years Texans have visited the famous man-made Zilker Tree. The massive tree is 120 feet in diameter, towers 155 feet above the metropolitan park, and sparkles with 3,309 bulbs on 39 streamers strung from Austin is historical Moonlight Tower. Zilker Park also boasts a one and a quarter mile long Trail of Lights, which includes 41 lighted scenes such as the North Pole Express, Sautais Sleigh, 12 Days of Christmas, Home for the Holidays, and many others.

Beyond Austin, holiday lights illuminate many Central Texas communities. The Texas Hill Country Regional Christmas Lighting Trail takes visitors on a journey from Goldthwaite to New Braunfels and many towns in between. Along the way, Central Texans can see elaborately-lit historical homes, a variety of life-size manger scenes, brightly decorated town squares, and even Santa sitting atop a lighted John Deere tractor!

In East Texas, Marshall is home to one of the largest Christmas light shows in the country. Hundreds of businesses and entire neighborhoods decorate their

homes around holiday themes with a collective 7 million lights. The holiday beacon that shines brightest is Marshall is historic downtown courthouse. Known as the iCrown Jewel of the city is Wonderland of Lights, the courthouse alone is decorated with over 125,000 sparkling bulbs. Each year, Marshall is world-renowned display draws more than 125,000 visitors from across Texas.

It is the tradition of many North Texans to visit the Whistle Stop Christmas display in Cleburne. Hulene Park is aglow with 3 million lights across 11 acres throughout the holiday season. Visitors can have their pictures taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy live music, and take a candlelit tour of historic area homes.

In West Texas, Santa Land has brightened the Lubbock sky for 52 years. This holiday village features a 60-foot Christmas tree, animated displays, bonfires, traditional holiday scenes, and Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Across Texas, these brilliant displays and merry celebrations fill residents with the joy of the season. But we must not let the true meaning of the holidays fade

in the radiance of brightly decorated homes and communities or get lost in the flurry of festivities. Where we can experience the true wonder of the holidays is in the low-light of the advent candles, as we honor the day Baby Jesus was born in a manger 2000 years ago. The spirit of Christmas is most radiant as we sit next to our friends and families in the pews of our churches, singing Silent Night in the dimness of candlelit services. The joy of the holidays is also spread in homes and synagogues illuminated by the growing light of the menorah.

As we gather with those dearest to us to celebrate the season of hope and peace, let us also remember our men and women in uniform who are unable to be home for the holidays because of service overseas. These brave soldiers protecting our freedom may be thousands of miles away, but they are always present in our thoughts and prayers. They too are providing messages of hope and peace to future generations.

May Texans of all faiths appreciate the gifts we have been given and enjoy a festive, safe holiday season.

## Russell Graves Outdoors

### A Brand New Experience

First, some introductions.

My name is Russell Graves and I write this column from Childress, Texas. For the past several years I've made my living as a teacher at Childress High School and as an outdoor photographer, keynote speaker, magazine writer, and book author. In that time, I've had the chance to travel the state and country to see and photograph all kinds of cool things that help shape my perspective.

I spent the first part of my life growing up in Northeast Texas near the tiny town of Dodd City, Texas. A life spent outdoors in the country helped foster a love of our wild lands and the people who work hard to make a living off the land. When I moved to Childress back in 1993, I found that the open spaces and big, blue skies fit my personality well and so this is where my wife Kristy and I settled where we now raise our two kids Bailee, 8 and Ryan, 4.

This column is a wonderful opportunity for me to share my passion for everything outdoors and to celebrate the rural and outdoor heritage that makes areas outside the big city lights so unique and relevant in the fabric of our 21st century lifestyles. Keep in mind, however, that I do not want this column to be a platform for me to espouse my solitary views. Instead, consider this as my invitation to start the dialogue between us. Therefore, if you ever have any questions, story ideas, or comments, be sure to let me know.

In the coming columns, I'll share my views and experiences on hunting, fishing, camping, land and wildlife management, local destinations, outdoor photography, and tips for getting your kids outdoors and experiencing nature as a family. While I'll admit it bothered me at the time, probably the most valuable words I heard as a kid was my mom insisting that, "You kids turn off the TV and go outside!"

We live in a time where, even in the country, we are connected to one another unlike ever before. High speed internet, cell phones, digital cameras, and a host of other technological devices allow us to collectively communicate with the world that's well beyond our door. However, in my opinion, no amount of technology can replace the thrill of seeing a big whitetail buck sniffing the air while steam rises from his nostrils or the sounds of Rio Grande turkeys calling from a roost. Yep, the way I see it, there are some things that technology cannot replace. Those are the things on which I plan to write.

So, let's get this thing started. What do you want to read about? Do you have a favorite experience you'd like to share? Do you have any outdoor related questions that needs answering? If so, send me a note.

If you want to see more of what I do you can check out my blog at [www.russellgraves.com/blog](http://www.russellgraves.com/blog) and if you have any questions or comments, shoot me an e-mail at [russell@russellgraves.com](mailto:russell@russellgraves.com).

I hope to hear from you soon.

See more at [russellgraves.com](http://russellgraves.com)

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# In and Around Close City

The Post Dispatch Thursday, December 25, 2008 Page 5

by Traci Freeman

## Weather

The weather has been good but very cold the last couple of days, I heard the weather man say last night that we have a very slight chance for some moisture on the 25th.

Who knows, with this crazy West Texas weather we might just have a white Christmas but I'm not holding my breath. We are moving right along out here, as of Monday afternoon our bale count was at 2,817 and a yard full of modules. We still have about five farmers pulling and they will be winding it up soon. I hope everyone is ready because believe it or not Christmas is here. This year seems to have just flown by. We have even more Christmas lights out here this week. Nancy Morris has a really cute yard as well as up the road at the Contreras'. All of us here in Ragtown want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. Be sure to let me know about all of your get-to-gathers and visitors so that I can

share them with everyone.

The Bush's all got together at Logan's last Friday night. We try to get together for a Christmas gathering every year. We had around twenty four present. Ricky and Judy of Levelland; Mom was there but Daddy stayed at the gin so that I could go, Thanks Dad, Trevah, Kale and Will; Me, Ryan and Reece; Megan and Xan from South Carolina; Josh, Amy and Barbi of Wharton; Amanda, Steven, Alison, Ethan and Addie Grace of Lubbock; Robby, Kerri, Kaylyn, Kylie and Kenley Kay of Gail. We really enjoyed visiting with each other.

Quincey Quintana celebrated her 11th birthday with a trip to Lubbock to the movies and to eat with her parents. Quincey's cousin, Stevie also celebrated his birthday on the 17th, he and grandma, aka, Susan Gonzales, made a birthday cake together. They are both the great-grandchildren of Mike and Eva Gonzales; Quincey is the granddaughter of Tino

and Linda Alaniz and Stevie the grandson of Danny and Susan Gonzales.

## Visitors

Gene King came out to visit; Nancy Thuett stopped in for a plat book; Bill Criswell; Robert and Belinda Brown and Keith Meredith also came by. Daniel Yarbro came out for some cottonseed cooking oil; he says it fries a good turkey. Mike Gatzki with S & J enterprises stopped in to see how things were going. Grant Bright stopped in and brought us some of his famous fudge. Yummo! He and his wife are going to have Christmas with his Aunt and Uncle, Doug and Claudine Tipton before heading to the Austin area to visit with his mom and sister.

## Get Wells

Hope everyone is feeling ok, I haven't heard of anyone being ill this week.

Birthdays this week

December 26th - Trevor Thuett  
December 26th - Alison Quisenberry  
December 29th - Amy Pennell  
December 30th - Raegan Belongia  
December 31st - Ayda Lopez

Don't forget our Ragtown Folks in the nursing homes; Doug and Claudine Tipton, and Fannie Ballentine in Post and Mary Ethridge and Carmen Abraham in Lubbock. Keep our troops in your daily prayers.

## FYI

Check the daily bale count at <http://closecity-coopgin.blogspot.com>. Don't forget to send me your recipes so that I can post them on our blog.

Be sure to call and let me know about any happenings going on, birthdays, anniversaries or any one that may be sick. If you don't tell me, I don't know to write about it. You can call me at the gin or email me at [close.city.coop@pcca.com](mailto:close.city.coop@pcca.com)



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## Weekly Inspirations

### A GIFT FOR BABY JESUS

By: Michael F. Taylor

During this time of year, we commemorate Christmas by the giving and receiving of gifts. I am reminded of the story of a young five year old boy on the day after Christmas.

It seems that the pastor of one of the local churches decided to get an early start on putting away all the Christmas decorations.

As he walked into the foyer of the church to begin taking down the life-size Nativity Scene, he noticed that Baby Jesus seemed to be missing from the wooden manger.

Noticing that a young boy had just left the building, he hurriedly walked out the front door and saw little Billy happily pulling a red wagon behind him, and low and behold, Baby Jesus was nestled comfortably in the wagon. The pastor curiously bounded down the front steps of the church and gently approached Billy and his new found friend in the wagon.

"Well now, Billy, where did you get your little friend?" the pastor inquired. "Why, I got him from the church, Pastor" the young man immediately responded.

Just a little more curiously now, "Why did you take him from the church?" the pastor asked. "Well, a week before Christmas, I prayed to the little Lord Jesus for a brand new red wagon" Billy answered. "And I promised him that if I got it, I would take him for a ride around the church."

I think that little Billy had it right. He had made a promise to the Lord and he was going to keep it.

And he did it with gladness in his heart. This time of year reminds each of us of another promise made. A promise of the coming of the Messiah!

Luke 1:26-35 teaches us, "26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." 34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." NIV

And what a wonderful, glorious, joyous gift was given. My encouragement to each of you this week is to remember what the true gift really is. The gift of Jesus Christ!!! His blessings in our lives daily! He is interceding for us at the right hand of the Father! His Blood which was shed for our salvation! I wish each of you a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Oh yea, and don't forget to give the little Lord Jesus a gift- Your Heart, your Life and your All.  
God Bless.

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## Card of Thanks

The Mitchell family would like to express our sincere gratitude for the many kind gestures and help during our time of bereavement. We appreciate all of the flowers, cards, prayers and all that could join us to celebrate the home going of our soldier Malachi Mitchell Jr.

## Personals

\$1,000 Reward offered for information leading to the theft of 4 bulls from the Dalby Ranch. Black bull, Hereford bull, red m/f bull, all six hundred weight, 1 Red Angus bull four hundred weight. Contact Dean Bohannon at 789-9476 or 748-3809 or Sheriff Cliff Laws at 495-3595.

## Post Group Alcoholics Anonymous

Meets on Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. Closed meetings, except for last Thursday of every month. For info, contact: 806-781-1156 or 806-495-5371 10th & Ave K, behind United Supermarket.

## Post Al-Anon

Family Group Meeting, meets at 8:00 p.m. Same building, different room. For info, contact: 325-347-2068 cell or 806-495-0151.

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## Legal Notices

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

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Post Landfill Cell Expansion Section 00100 Page 1  
Sealed proposals addressed to the Honorable Mayor and City Council of the City of Post, will be received at the City Hall, Post, Texas at 2:00 pm, Thursday, January 15, 2009 for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence and labor for construction of "Post Landfill Cell Expansion", including other incidental items of work as called for in the plans and specifications. All bid summaries shall be read aloud in the Council Chambers on the

date stated above.

The base bid includes excavation of a new waste cell and relocating approximately 89,766 CY of excavated material to an on-site spoil area, installing approximately 1,374 LF of orange construction fencing, and other miscellaneous items.

Bidders must submit a Cashier's or Certified Check issued by a bank satisfactory to the Owner, or a Bid Bond from a reliable Surety company, payable without recourse to the order of the City of Post, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible bid submitted as a guaranty that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute bonds and guaranty in the forms provided within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract to him. Bids without the required Check or Bid Bond will not be considered.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond, and Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, written by a responsible Surety Company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and satisfactory to the Owner.

All lump sum and unit prices must be stated in both script and figures. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating the prices in the bids, the Owner reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject the bid. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive formalities, and to accept the bid which seems most advantageous to the City's interest.

Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions under which the work is to be done.

Payment for the work performed on this project will be paid by the City of Post. Information for Bidders, proposal forms, plans and specifications are on file at the office of Oller Engineering, Inc., 2517 74th Street, Lubbock, Texas (806)748-5700.

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## TxDOT seeking green transportation ideas

TxDOT's five goals: reduce congestion, enhance safety, expand economic opportunity, improve air quality and increase the value of transportation assets.

TxDOT seeking ideas for "green" freight transportation systems The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is looking for innovative and environmentally-sensitive ways to move freight across the state.

But before the agency puts pen to paper on the planning side, they are asking transportation special-

ists for "how to" ideas.

TxDOT published a Request for Information (RFI) today asking for suggestions on how to develop future freight transport systems that minimize environmental impacts, specifically technologies with low carbon emissions.

Potential systems could include technology involving electromagnetic propulsion where the electricity is supplied by green technology such as wind or solar generation.

"At this stage, we are asking

for ideas that are financially and technologically feasible, environmentally appropriate, supportive of a robust and growing Texas and that lessen long term carbon dependency", said TxDOT's Director for Innovative Project

Responses should be submitted to Mark Tomlinson, P.E., Texas Turnpike Authority Division, 125 East 11th Street, Austin 78701-2483. For more information, call Government and Public Affairs media relations at 512 463-8588.

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## Menus

Post ISD  
Dec. 29-Jan. 2  
Out for Holidays

Southland ISD  
Dec. 29-Jan. 2  
Out for Holidays

## TRAILBLAZERS

December 29  
Baked Chicken, oven potatoes, corn, roll, dry jello

December 30  
Roast potatoes, carrots, roll, cobbler

December 31  
Green chili chicken, Mexican beans, salad, chips & salsa, ice box cake

Windmill/Century Heights Apts.  
1305 W. Woodrow Rd.  
Slaton, Texas 79364  
(806) 828-3866  
[windmill@stellar-management.com](mailto:windmill@stellar-management.com)  
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- Washer/Dryer Connections  
- Fireplaces  
- Pet Friendly  
ask about our specials

Last Puzzle Solution

S-886

## HOUSE FOR SALE

1011 Sunset Dr., 3 bd., 2 ba., 2 car carport with basement  
Approx. 2110 sq. ft. \$112,000  
Call Steve Brown, Coldwell Bank at (806) 441-8797 or (806) 793-0677 for a private showing.

SPACIOUS BRICK! 4 BR/ 2B/ dbl. CP, C-H/A, workshop/storage, fenced, ready for move in. 405 Mohawk.  
GOOD LOCATION! 32+ acres, convenient to town, will have a city water meter. 2997 West 15th Street.  
NICE AND CLEAN! 3 BR, 2 Bath, 1 Garage, C-H/A plus 1 car detached garage/ storage, fenced yard. 120 N. Ave. N.  
CUTE AS CAN BE! Brick, 3 BR, 1 B, C-H/A, remodeled and ready to move in! 708 North Avenue O.  
MUST SEE! 3/1/1, C-H/A, appliances included, metal roof, storage building, fenced back! SOLD! tilly Lane.  
BRICK! 3 Br, 2B, C-H/A, office/storage, double carport, fenced b... SOLD! Sunset.  
ACREAGE AVAILABLE! UNDER CONTRACT! U.S. Hwy 84.  
**Anne Sims Real Estate**  
(806) 495-3171

- "Good Morning Donut Shop" -building and equipment- 416 W. 8th Street
- 3 BR/2 bath/2 car garage - 1 1/2 lots, central H/A, 1001 W. 11th Street.
- Commercial property and home lots in Robinson addition
- Ranch properties
- 2 BR/2 bath - 915 W. Main Street
- Wonderful building on Historic Main Street - 3364 sq. ft - owner motivated to sell - 203 E. Main St.
- Have buyer looking for 100 A ranchland in Southland/Post/Wilson area
- Absolute Dollhouse! 3 BR, 2 bath house on 2 lots! Deck, carport, and storage house. A must see!
- Great neighborhood! 2 BR, 2 bath house. Approximately 1400 square feet. Unlimited possibilities!

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# Yesteryears

Compiled by Donna Jones  
From The Post Dispatch archives

10 Years Ago  
December 24, 1998

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Steven C. Tidwell, son of Wesley G. and Anita J. Morris of Post, completed a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian oceans and Arabian Gulf with Fighter Squadron 31, embarked aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln.

Post FFA members Matthew Ledbetter, LaRinda Ledbetter, Emily Smith and Jarrett Bland participated in the Mesa District FFA meeting at South Plains College. Emily won the talent contest advancing to the Area II FFA Talent competition.

During the annual fireman's Christmas party, rookie firemen Kelly Baker, Leslie Looney, Michael Self, Daniel Redman and Sammy Zubia weren't shy telling Santa their wish list. Gifts included a loud siren for their trucks, a little white puppy with black spots, and a fireman's coat, hat and maybe some boots.

20 Years Ago  
December 28, 1988

Buddy Skinner of Justiceburg and John W. Beck of Lubbock announced the invention of a new apparatus for delinting cotton seed.

Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Humble celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, December 25 with a family Christmas dinner in their home. The former Patsy Haywood and Humble were married in Bronte on December 11, 1938.

Christmas was a happy one at Garza Memorial Hospital...good food and festive Christmas spirit were shared by the hospital staff on Christmas eve when Pauline and Stanley Mathis, owner of Chadco, catered a gala affair sponsored by Clint Herring, an appreciative GMH patient.

The Post junior varsity boys basketball team beat the JV boys from Plains, 61-52. Individual scoring was as follows: Bobby Blair, 16; Matt McCook, 15; Jr. Armendariz, 14; Manuel Perez, 10 and Kelly Brown, 2.

30 Years Ago  
December 27, 1978

Formation of the Citizens Task Force to combat teenage drug use here was Post's No. 1 news story for 1978, with the death of two Post Motorcycle Enduro riders via heat exhaustion ranked close behind as runner-up. Ranked as the No. 3 news story of the year was the completion of the new Algrita Senior Citizens Center by David Newby.

Darrell Jones was reelected to a three-year term on the ASC county committee. He served as a member with Luther Bilberry as chairman and John Boren as vice chairman.

Mother and daughter were two of the three winners in the third and last Post Yule Drawing. Nell Morris, wife of D. E. Morris, won the \$100 gift certificate for adults and her daughter, Sherry, won the \$25 gift certificate for youngsters 17 and under.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rogers had as their Christmas guests, their son, Rev. Kenneth Rogers and family, missionary from the Republic of South Africa, also their daughter and family, Rev. and Mrs. Bill Burton of Fort Worth.

40 Years Ago  
December 23, 1968

Wishing the community best wishes for Christmas were directors, officers and employees of The First National Bank. They were: J. B. Potts, President & Director - 12 years; Lewis

C. Herron, Jr., Vice President & Director - 7 years; Vernon Scott, Cashier & Director - 9 years; Fred Myers, Assistant Vice President - 7 years; E. W. Williams Jr., Vice President & Chrm. of Board - 14 years; C. E. Basinger, Director; Louie Burkes, Director; S. E. Camp, Director; Bob Collier, Director; J. Harvey Herd, Director; K. W. Kirkpatrick, Director; G. C. McCrary, Director; Glenn Norman, Director; Arnold Sanderson, Director, L. G. Thuett, Jr., Director, Wilma Pirtle, Assistant Cashier - 24 years; Martha Compton, Assistant Cashier - 24 years; Vearl McBride, Assistant Cashier - 18 years; Rita Nelson, Assistant Cashier - 7 years; Dennis Guichard, Custodian - 7 years; Molly Conoly, Proof Machine Operator - 6 years; Iva Jo Ammons, Bookkeeper - 6 years; Mary Howell, Assistant Cashier - 5 years; Margie Pennell, Secretary - 4 years; Veda Morrison, Bookkeeper - 4 years; Kathryn Johnson, Drive-In Teller - 4 years; Ruth Ann Young, Bookkeeper - 4 years; Melanie Windham, Bookkeeper - 3 years; Will Parker, Teller - 2 years and Linda Waldrip, bookkeeper - 1 year.

50 Years Ago  
December 25, 1958

Butch Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Wilson, is home visiting through the holidays. Butch is attending Texas Tech and is employed at the West Texas Hospital.

An estimated crowd of 750 gathered around the community Christmas tree for the merchants' gift party sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Presiding over the ticket hopper mounted on a truck were Chant D. Lee, Chamber president; John N. Hopkins, manager of the organization, and OL' St. Nick himself.

James Williams, San Angelo Ram quarterback who made the All-American Junior College team, is home for Christmas sporting a dandy wrist-watch awarded him as the Rams' most valuable player this season. A few years ago, James' brother, lineman Roy Williams, won the same award at the San Angelo College.

Members of the Golden Age Club elected officers for the 1959 club year at Antelope Alley, with Mrs. Maude Pettigrew named president of the organization. Others elected to office were: G. N. Leggott, vice president; Mrs. G. N. Leggott, secretary and treasurer, and Mrs. Ona Moreman, reporter.

60 Years Ago  
December 23, 1948

Dr. David H. Templeton, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, will be the main speaker for the first of a series of New Year's services sponsored by all the local churches.

A box car with 110 bales of cotton was derailed here because fire had broken out in the car and was out of control. The flame was extinguished by the Post Volunteer Fire Department after a tedious battle. Forty or 50 bales were damaged, according to Fire Chief Homer McCrary.

The Post Independent School Board authorized funds from the school athletic department to buy an army barracks building which will be placed behind the gymnasium for the use of the football players.

Grade C Well Water Supply Operator's Certificates were issued by the Texas State Department of Health for Roy C. Maddox and Charles W. Wood, city water department employees.

# SUDOKU

					3			
	1		2					8
	5			1		4		
	2	9	3	6	8			1
6				9				
1		6			5			3
8				3				4
	9			7			5	

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	5	1	4	7	8	2	6	3
4	2	6	3	1	9	5	7	8
3	8	7	5	6	2	9	4	1
6	9	8	2	5	7	3	4	1
5	3	2	3	6	7	1	4	8
7	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4
7	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4
8	9	8	6	5	2	6	5	8
9	6	4	5	8	7	3	1	2

ANSWER:

### ACROSS

- Cedar, TX
- this org. opposed TX in '89 flag burning case
- TX singer/actor Jimmy
- dir. to Denton from Comanche
- overalls
- landing surface at DFW Airport
- former Dallas Sidekicks star
- Jacksonville used to stage the "Battle of \_\_\_\_\_" during "Tomato Fest"
- one \_\_\_\_\_ Ranger
- De Leon's "Peach & \_\_\_\_\_ Festival"
- TXism: "want \_\_\_\_\_ I could split"
- Campbell was a TX Ranger in "True \_\_\_\_\_"
- break a promise
- TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ a door nail"
- Fort Worth's Robert Bass is a \_\_\_\_\_
- TX ZZ Top album: "\_\_\_\_\_ Grange"
- TXism: "get while the \_\_\_\_\_ is good"
- TX Vikki Carr album: "\_\_\_\_\_ Hombres"
- "vaya \_\_\_\_\_ Dios"
- TX poet: Naomi \_\_\_\_\_ Nye
- suburban community just NE of Plainview
- \_\_\_\_\_ you later"
- this Nye was on '71-'72 Cowboy Super Bowl team
- spacious
- classified \_\_\_\_\_
- Jackson Co. seat
- official store of UT apparel: "Longhorns, \_\_\_\_\_"
- "Post \_\_\_\_\_ region is in east central TX"
- '76 film: "The \_\_\_\_\_ Texas Dynamite Chase"
- "black gold"
- TX-born Stills' "Love the \_\_\_\_\_"
- "You're With \_\_\_\_\_"
- TXism: "hopping \_\_\_\_\_"

### The Original

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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### DOWN

- TX Ginger Rogers '47 film "It \_\_\_\_\_ to Be You"
- TX Blue Bell \_\_\_\_\_ cream
- pink granite found only in Llano Co.
- Boerne, TX has one of only seven of this rare book (2 wds.)
- word with mariachi or marching
- TXism: "as welcome as a \_\_\_\_\_ sleeping bag"
- world peace org.
- Troy wanted this Norv to be head coach in '97 (init.)
- TWU exhibit: "Texas \_\_\_\_\_ of Fame"
- TXism: "camps out in the \_\_\_\_\_ corner" (religious)
- George W.'s alma mater
- namesake of Post, TX developed this breakfast cereal
- droop
- Ector Co. seat
- washed in the tub
- TXism: "It's \_\_\_\_\_ hog or die"
- understand (2 wds.)
- ex-Cowboy CB Issiac (init.)
- arrest
- credit
- My \_\_\_\_\_ County
- TXism: "If he's \_\_\_\_\_ he'll bark"
- TXism: "nervous as a cat \_\_\_\_\_ full of rocking chairs"
- bundled hay
- TX-based "Giant" actress (init.)

## Fun-n-Facts for Brain-iacs!

# Brain Boost!

THE NOT JUST FOR KIDS PAGE

### Seasonal 1 December Reindeer Report

**True or False?**

- Rudolph was born in Chicago.
- All reindeer can fly.
- Reindeer and caribou are the same species
- Male & female reindeer have antlers.

Read on to find the answers...

In winter a reindeer hoof is covered and cushioned by long hair and fatty pads, making it easier to walk in freezing snow.

When in danger, a reindeer releases a scent from glands in the hoof. The herd following its trail is then alerted to danger ahead.

**Fancy Feet**

Caribou and reindeer are the same species. Thousands of years ago in Europe the reindeer was domesticated or tamed. Canadian and Alaskan reindeer are called caribou and have never been tamed. Unlike most deer, both male and female reindeer/caribou have antlers. During migration they travel further than any other land animal, up to 3000 miles a year. Reindeer may not be able to fly (except the magic Santa variety) but lightweight bones allow the reindeer to run as fast as a 55 mph. car and leap 8 feet into the air.

The two long toes (dewclaws) flatten out, spreading the animal's weight over the snow, much like snowshoes help us not to sink in drifts.

The rough horny edges of the hoof act like cleats to help the reindeer to travel easily over snow and ice.

### Fun Facts!

A newborn reindeer weighs about 13 pounds.

Like cows, reindeer are cud chewing plant eaters.

The word caribou means snow shoveler in an Alaskan Indian language

Reindeer have a thick coating of hollow hair that acts as insulation and makes them buoyant in water.

In long ago Europe, wealth was judged by the size of your reindeer herd.

Rudolph was born in Chicago in 1939. The red nosed caribou was created by Robert May, an advertising executive for the Montgomery Wards department store. The story and character were part of a coloring book handed out to store customers. The shy reindeer with the funny looking nose immediately became a holiday favorite. Ten years later, Mr. May's brother-in-law and songwriter, Mark Johnny, penned the famous tune we all like to sing at the top of our lungs at Christmas time. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer is the second biggest Christmas song of all time. White Christmas may be the best selling carol but Rudolph is our favorite reindeer!

Help Santa find all eight reindeer hidden in the above word search.

**Merry Christmas**

## *A Merry Christmas to All*

We wish all of you and your loved ones the most wonderful Christmas ever and in this coming year of 1977, it is our hope that you may have  
Enough happiness to keep you sweet  
Enough trials to keep you strong  
Enough sorrow to keep you human  
Enough failure to keep you humble  
Enough hope to keep you happy  
Enough success to keep you eager  
Enough friends to give you comfort  
Enough wealth to meet your needs  
Enough enthusiasm to look forward  
Enough faith to banish depression  
Enough determination to make each day a better day than yesterday.



Annual Christmas ad as it appeared in 1976.

*As we look back to simpler times,  
the message from our family to yours remains the same today.*



I been good Santa please come to my house and bring me lots of presents. I will have crackers and milk for you. I want a Barbie house, microphone, drums, heelys like J.J, a fake dog, some maracas, and a doggy swing set for Lucy. Take care of your elves. I hope you come to my house please.

Love you Santa,  
Evangelina Zubia

I will leave you some milk and cookies. I have been good this year. I want Spongebob Operation and a Tini Puppini named Tutu. I also want a Tini Puppini carrying case and an extra change of clothes. I would like a playhouse for my backyard. I would also like gator golf. Tell the reindeer I said hi.

Your friend,  
Chloe Davis

I would love if you could get me a Nintendo D.S. for Christmas and that new Guitar Hero game for the Nintendo D.S. please santa. Oh and would you give us all a Wii so please please.

Love  
Brody Britnell

I am 4 years old and I want a truck and cool hotwheel cars please. And some jeans because I wore the knees out of my other ones playing with my old cars and trucks. I will leave you some brownies and milk at Christmas.

I love you Santa,  
Love Steven Blair Huff

What I want for Christmas is some make-up and a hand-held video game.

Nyrah Soto

What I want for Christmas is some small monster trucks, some guns like Pops has, and lots of presents under my tree.

Bryson Todd

Can you please bring me a baby doll and some clothes.

Aneliz Alaniz

What I want for Christmas is all kinds of cars and trucks.

Austin Holly

What I want for Christmas is a Thomas Waterfall and a Thomas the Train with tracks.

I love you, Santa  
Dontae Gaffner

What I want for Christmas is a Jacket and lots of toys

Arron Ojeda

What I want for Christmas is a big Barbie car, books and some princess clothes. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Tyara Guerrero

How are you, Santa what I want for Christmas is a purse and some tapping shoes and some Dishes.

I love you Santa  
Haley Perez

What I want for Christmas is a baby doll, some candy and some paint so I can Paint my mommy a picture.

Merry Christmas, Santa  
Rayven Soto

What I want for Christmas is a big, big truck with a trailer, a new x-box game and a race track with hot wheels cars, that's all I want Santa

Love, Steven Huff

All I want for Christmas is a blue gun and a pirate suit with a sword. Santa can you give my sisters some toys too, and a baby toy for my new baby brother Kristopher.

Merry Christmas,  
Santa Sebastian Rodriquez

All I want for Christmas is a new bike and a beautiful dress with some shoes. Don't forget my brothers and little sister.

Alyssa Perez

What I want for Christmas is a big monster truck with a big trailer, a race car tracks with hot wheel cars. Have a good Christmas.

Kelby Short

My name is Julian, what I want for Christmas is a bike, a superman, batman and robin, spiderman, a fireman and a Underdog would be cool too.

Julian Basquez

Hi Santa, all I want for Christmas is a cash register, a yoyo with sticks, a baby doll with hair and a counting pancakes with spatulas game. Eat your cookies and milk.

Emma Lester

All I want for Christmas is a monster truck and a new truck.

Aiden Rodela

I've been a good girl, all I want for Christmas is a Pet Shoppe Puppy.

Amiah Martin

I wold like some John D's and some horses.

Cooper Osborn

Please bring me a box with frogs, a yellow and a green one. And bring me a Bzz Lightyear and a Woody.

Love Kalem Soto

I love you, Please give ma a toy horse and a dolly.

Love Lillian Perez

I want a Humpty Dumpty, a toy shield, and a wiggly toy.

Brody Molnoskey

Please, I want two toy puppy dogs.

Love, Avery Kleiner

I want a boat and some skates for Christmas,

Love Tristan Gomez

Quiero dos carritos y dos caballos.

Gracias, Jose Garcia

I want a dolly and a horse and a snowman for Christmas.

Love Bo Tienda

Please bring me a plankton and a Sponge Bob.

Love Hannah Smith

Please bring me a robot and a Spongebob and a Plankton.

Love Abygale Ramirez

Please bring me a witches castle!

Love Raymond Salas III

Please bring me a Santa Claus toy.

Love Audrey Collazo

I want a whole pack of toys.

Love Robert Segura

Please, I want a baby, a bottle for my baby, and a teddy bear.

Love Melonie Lopez

I want you to bring me a microphone and I want you to bring me a toy Spongebob and some drums.

Evangelina Zubia

I want a guitar, gash register. Santa bring me letters.

Love Xavier Hernandez.

Please bring me a bumble bee transformer, iron man toys, wheelie motorcycle, moon sand, leapster, incredible hulk toy, I will be at Cedas house in Post.

Elijah Abraham



### Filled With Warm Wishes At Christmas

We're overflowing with best wishes, And gratitude, too... From everyone here, To each one of you!

Caprock Cellular GSM  
We'll Come to You!  
Call (888) 271-3344



### Top Ten Reasons To Send You Our Very Best:

1. 'Tis the season.
2. We're grateful for your friendship.
3. We appreciate your loyalty.
4. You're such good neighbors.
5. It's a pleasure to serve you.
6. You make it all worthwhile.
7. We couldn't have done it without your support.
8. We look forward to your continued business.
9. We know you've been good.
10. It gives us joy!

With warm wishes from all of us for a merry and bright holiday season.



CitizensBANK Post employees include (back row, from left) Jay Young, Christie Curb, Earline Bagby, Donna Baker, Kay Wallace, Mary Hadderton, Allison Holly, Shad Sturgeon, (front row, from left) Linda Waldrip, Syan Thomas, Keith Williams



# CitizensBANK

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## Deck The Halls!

In the true spirit of the holiday season, we'd like to offer you the best of wishes and much gratitude for your friendship and never-ending support.

Merry Christmas everyone!

# B.O.F. Services



Please bring me a ponyville amusement park, ponyville stage show bus, High school musical 3, prom date doll pair, Barbie party cruiser car, little mommy potty, rose petal cottage, cupcake maker, girls 12 inc Disney princess bike. I will be at Cedas house in Post.

Apryl Abraham

I want a present. I want a school folder. I want transformers.

Eric Guerrero

I want a dirt bike, play dough, and a hampster and that's all I want.

Briley Winkle

I want a cake maker and a diamond.

Love D'Leagh Ramos

I want a wrestling people and airplane people and a new bicycle and a pet fish and bonetoy and bone people and army people.

Zavan Gill

I want a bicycle and a diamond and a doll house and crayons.

Jocelyn Moore

I want a robot, a pet dog, a pit bull dog, a pet fish, and a pet gorilla.

Knoah Escobedo

I want a monster truck with horses in it and cars, and bikes and people.

Aiden Rodela

I want a cupcake maker and a real horse.

Laci Gonzales

I want a guitar and a microphone and a musical phone, and a jump rope.

Mykaela Turner

I want a doll monkey, and a ball gun and I want Zacky to get a little gun and my mom to get a new ring and my daddy a new vampire costume.

Shawn Looney

I want some chalks, some puzzles, and a back pack and a plant.

Daisyana Cruz

I want a Hannah Montana mixer, a baby doll, a club house, and a dolly movie. I love you.

Adriana Hernandez

I been a good girl. I want a swimming dog with gargles and dresses. I love you.

Sheridan Gomez

I want a Mickey Mouse Club House, and I want a truck so you can drive it.

Gavin Gomez

I like your sleigh, and I love you Santa. I want a scooter. I love you Santa.

Briley Miller

Hi! Hello! I want a tinkerbelle and a kitchen. I love you Santa.

Marti Cruse

I want a princess and a kitchen. I love you Santa.

Iva Cruse

I love you. I want a doll. I love you santa.

Morgan Pernokis

I want a princess toy. I love you Santa.

Samantha Mathis

I want a spider man toy. I love you Santa.

Elijah Fox

I love you Santa. I want a Barbie and a new bunk bed. I love you!

Shayla Brown

Hello. I want presents wrapped up with Santa's on it. Bye Santa!

Jayden Carroll

I want a dollhouse with people in it and stuff. I love you Santa.

LeAndra Arredondo

Hi Santa! I wanna give you a hug. And I want a toy gorilla and a t-rex toy and a bicycle. I love you Santa.

Hezekiah Gutierrez

Hi Santa! I want a Dallas Cowboy real helmet and a real Dallas Cowboy coat. Love you.

Zachary Sawyer

Hello Santa. I want a Hannah Montana Barbie. I love you Santa.

Lupita Gonzales

Bring me a playhouse and a bike. I love you Santa.

Jhonathan Rodriguez

I want a real phone that works when you charge it. I love you Santa.

Kerstine Berkley

I want a toy car and a bicycle.

Kavon Ward

I want a Christmas toy and a girl train and a rabbit. Bye Santa.

Citlaly Contreras

I want a Barbie doll and a cat named Sarafina. I love you.

Kylee Fowler

I love you Santa. I want an army truck with guns. I want an army car too.

Nathan DeForest

I was really good. How is your reindeer? I will leave you cookies and milk. Could you please bring me a dirt bike, and a make-up desk with mirror.

Ryleigh Graves

How is your reindeer? I want a drum set. I want electric guitar. I will leave you milk and cookies.

Hagen Hodges

I have been good. I want a Barbie for Christmas. I want an abc board. I love you Santa. How is the Reindeers?

Haley Lopez

Thank you for my presents last Christmas. I have been good. I want a spiderman laptop, and a drex.

Jacob Isbell

# 7 things you may not know about Christmas

The Christmas season is full of traditions, folklore and rich history. However, amid all of the traditions we've come to know, there are many bits of trivia of which you may not be familiar. Here are a few little-known facts about Christmas.

1. The first manufactured Christmas tree ornaments were sold in 1880 by the former Woolworth department store.

2. Christmas trees originally featured actual lighted candles, which were naturally a fire hazard. So containers filled with water had to be kept near the tree.

3. Construction workers first erected an undecorated tree at Rockefeller Center in New York City in the early 1930s. They have been credited with

starting the annual tradition.

4. Although sometimes construed as sacrilegious, the shortened form "Xmas" is actually derived from Christ's name and has been popular in Europe since the 1500s. It is believed to be derived from the Greek word "Xristos," which means Christ.

5. The National Confectioners Association reports that for 200 years candy canes were solid white. In the 1950s an automated machine was invented that could put on the red stripes.

6. The idea of Christmas greeting cards started in Britain in the 1830s.

7. Christmas celebrations were banned in Boston between 1659 and 1681. Those caught celebrating would be fined.

I want a present. I have a Christmas tree. I want a doll and make-up.

Emily Rodriguez

How are you doing? I have been good! I want a rock Band for my 360 and a race car for Christmas. I will leave you cookies and milk for you.

Isaiah Alvidrez

I have been good! How are you? How do your reindeer fly so far? I want a trampoline and some hee-les. I love you!

Magdalena Soria

How are the reindeer? I have been good! I want a Nintendo DS and a Wii.

Abraham Sanchez

I wish I could go to the North Pole! I want a baby polar bear, and new glue. How have you been doing? I have been good!

Lindsey Berley

How are you? How big is your sled? I have been good all year! How is Mrs. Santa? I really want a DS and Make-p! Be careful!

Emma Thompson

I want a teddy bear, and a lightening McQueen. How big is your sleigh? I love you! HO, HO, HO!

Shawn Ledbetter

I love you! I have been good! I want new crayons, Lightening McQueen, and new scissors. How do your reindeer fly?

Matthew Basquez

## REJOICE!



*In this season of miracles, may you and your family find peace, joy and enlightenment.*

Merry Christmas!  
**FAMILY CLEANERS**  
111 W. Main  
495-0777  
Linda & Marcie

*A Flurry of Holiday Wishes*

We deeply appreciate your support as customers and friends. Thanks, and Feliz Navidad!

**Chapa's**

Family Restaurant

We'll be closed December 21 through January 2

US Hwy 84 North • 806-495-3848

## Greetings Of The Season

May peace, joy, harmony and contentment visit your home during this special time of year. We are sincerely grateful and look forward to your continued friendship.

Management & Training Corp.  
Giles W. Dalby  
Correctional Facility

**All The Best At The Holidays**

It's been a real treat serving folks like you!

Merry Christmas and many thanks.

**The Post Dispatch**  
Jeff, Kristie, Rosa, Whitney, Mitch, Janice & Donna

# Merry Christmas!

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 Geneva Belongia  
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 Ronnie, Voda Beth, Vondi & Addi Gradine  
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 Odee Kemp  
 Dr. Jim Kemp

## AMITY STUDY CLUB MEMBERS & FAMILIES

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 Patsy & Virgil Bilbo  
 Margaret Bull  
 Ginger & Kent Carlisle  
 Beth & Joe Cook  
 Jane & Bud Davis  
 Joy Dickson  
 Jane George  
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 Marilyn & Jody Mason  
 Naomi Matisler  
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We thank each person for your generosity...  
 This is our annual fund raising event to  
 support a scholarship for a graduating  
 Post High School Senior  
 God Bless all of You

# Amity Study Club



I want the color brown. I have been good. I have been listening to my teachers. I give a hug to my teachers. I will leave you chocolate cookies and chocolate milk.  
Makin Contreras

I have been good! I will have a Christmas tree at my house and I will have a little picture of Santa. I want a princess computer and a doll of Sleeping Beauty. I will leave you a cake and a glass of milk.  
Carolina Carrillo

I've been good. I want a doll and pencils and a car. I want colors. How is your house and reindeers?  
Yadica Garcia

How are your reindeer? For Christmas I want a dirt bike, a little telescope, and a tractor. How do they make presents at the North Pole?  
Lane Judd

I would like make-up, a real puppy, and lip gloss. Are your deer soft?  
Saleen DeForest

I would like a x box, x box games, and a remote control for my x box. What is it like to fly with reindeer?  
Ethan Fox

I have been good! I want a football T.V. and a table. I am gonna leave you cookies and milk.  
Jadon Bustoz

How are your reindeer doing? I have been good! I want a drum and a new chair. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Noah Flores

I've been very good. How are the reindeer? I want a dirt bike, and an electric guitar. How are the elves?  
Taye Perez

Thank you for the toys! For Christmas I would like a Play Station 2, games and a sign with my name.  
Spencer Poe

I would like a Nintendo DS, a motorcycle, and hot wheels. Can I have a ride in your sleigh?  
Johnathan Rodriguez

I would like a Nintendo NS, a Mario game, and a Mario party game. D your elves make the presents?  
Blake Parrott

Please bring me a dog. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Arecely Gonzales

I have been good! I have a Nintendo D.S and a car. Is it really cold in the North Pole? I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Cole Boren

How are your reindeer? For Christmas I want Dora, a bike and a Play station. How is Mrs. Santa?  
Josie Ortiz

I love you! For Christmas I want a Play Station game, a t.v. and a computer. I want to see your reindeer.  
Jeremiah Wright

I would like a transformer, a TV, and a box of crayons. How do your reindeer fly?  
Nathan Taylor

I would like a Nintendo DS, a white dog, and a dollar machine. Can I ride a reindeer?  
Aldo Soto

Maybe I have been good! Please bring me toys! I will leave you cookies.  
Estela Rodriguez

I have been good! I want a pink Nintendo DS and a blue Nintendo Ds for my brothers. I also want a Baby Alive. I want to be an elf in the parade. I hope I get to! What kind of cookies do you like? I will leave you sprinkle ones with milk. I love you Santa and the elves.  
Cayci Britton

Hi! For Christmas I want a race track, a Nintendo DS and a bike. How is Mrs. Claus?  
Stephen Solis

I love you! For Christmas I want a Nintendo DS, a PSP and a Wii, How is the North Pole?  
Shawn Curtis

Thank you for the presents last year! I would like a toy transformer, a toy lightening McQueen car, and a big toy truck. Can I have a ride in your sleigh?  
Ian McDaniel

I would like a horsey, a batman and a doll. How do your reindeer fly?  
Skylar Smith

Thank you for giving us presents! Can I see your reindeer? I want a Hulk and a Spiderman! I will leave you cookies and milk!  
Matthew Frausto

I have been good! I want a pink Nintendo DS and a blue Nintendo Ds for my brothers. I also want a Baby Alive. I want to be an elf in the parade. I hope I get to! What kind of cookies do you like? I will leave you sprinkle ones with milk. I love you Santa and the elves.  
Cayci Britton

What do you have in the north Pole? I want a motor scooter. I want a play kitchen. I want a play car. I want a new bike.  
Krista Birchfield

I love you, Santa! For Christmas I want a Nintendo DS, an X-Box and a Wii.  
Cruz Delgado

I would like a cup cake maker, slippers, and a dress. What does it feel like to fly?  
Leah Gonzales

I would like a dirt bike, a remote control that spys on people, and a real dirt bike. What's it like where you work?  
Carter Rankin

I want a doll that drinks juice and has a pink toilet. I also want a baby that swims. I will leave you milk and cookies!  
Fatima Esparza

I have been good. I want a blue DS and a bike. Do reindeer look good? I will leave you cookies and milk!  
Jadon Hair

How is the elves? For Christmas I want a computer, a phone, and a rabbit. How is Mrs. Claus?  
Vanessa Soto

I want a PSP. I want a new game for my Nintendo. How are the Elves doing? How are the reindeers doing? How are you Santa?  
Nicolas Quintana

I would like a water gun, a puppy and a turtle. What is it like to ride in your sled?  
Jesse Johnson

I would like a soccer ball a toy turtle, and a pencil. Does your reindeer fur feel like our deer?  
Sterlin Self

Your are nice! I want to be with you in the North Pole! I want a dinosaur and a ninja turtle!  
Angel Trinidad

I have been good. I want a Nintendo and a Kitty. Do your reindeer fly to give presents?  
Jenifer Trinidad

How are you, Santa? For Christmas I would like a computer, a phone and a doll house. I have been good this year!  
Jacki Sanchez

Can I go hunting with you? How are the reindeer? Can I have a new fighting game?  
Blane Justice

## THANKS, FOLKS!



**We wouldn't be riding high this season without the friendship and support of good people like you!**  
**Merry Christmas and best wishes to all.**

**George's Restaurant**  
George, Cathy and Crew

I love you! I am going to make cookies for you! I like the North Pole. I have been good. I want presents. I want a computer and a laptop for my Bubba.  
Kalista Pena

I have been good. I want a BB gun and stuff to make gingerbread men. What are your elves names? I will leave you cookies and milk too!  
Kristopher Gibson

How are the reindeer? How are you? I would like a dirt bike, I want new video games, I want some transformers.  
Josiah Ward

I would like a new Barbie. Can I have a new baby doll? I want a Thomas Train. Thank you!  
Shania Quintana

I have tried to be good this year. I want to bring me a play station up car.

I haven't been very good, but I'm gonna be very good! How do you make the presents? Could you give me presents? I want a Cadillac and a firefighter. I will leave you cookies and two juices.  
Neftali Valdez

I've been good at the house. I want a robot Benteinson, and a car. How are you doing? I leave cookies and Christmas tree and pencils for you. I will sleep good tonight. I want a rabbit purple, and a red car.  
Andrew Contreras

I miss you! For Christmas I want a game, a Spiderman toy, and a Power Ranger toy. I want to be like you Santa!  
Kendrick Curtis

Thank you for the presents last year! I would like a dog, a dirt bike, and a box of crayons. Can I ride a reindeer?  
Marcos Perez

## At This Season Of Enlightenment

*May your faith be rekindled by the light of His love, and your spirits warmed by the love of family members and friends this holiday season. Thanks!*



**Garza Abstract Inc.**  
217 W. Main  
495-2750

*With Bright Wishes At This Holy Season*

*For your friendship, we offer our heartfelt gratitude along with our best wishes for a truly blessed and miraculous Christmas. Thank you for brightening our year with your visits.*

**Germania Insurance**  
Jerry, Cindy & Lisa  
495-3330





## To Our Good Friends Everywhere!

**We couldn't fit everyone's name on our list, but we hope you all know how very deeply we appreciate your goodwill and support.**

**Merry Christmas!**

## GARZA COUNTY HEALTH CLINIC

Ben Edwards, M.D.  
Angela Hathaway, P.A.C.  
1104 N. Ave. S  
(806) 495-2853





I would like a Wii and a fake puppy. I love you Santa!  
Maddie Guthrie

I want a real Laptop, a dollhouse and a real phone I love you!  
Cloie Cimental

I want a motorcycle, a real four wheeler, a puppy, heeilies, a ski boat and a guinea pig.  
Blaine Graves

Can you please get me a gun 2.43, a bike and a jet pack. I would also like a phone.  
Michael Dean

I want a phone, a bike, a real four wheeler, a B.B. gun and a red and white phone. I am really good! I love you!  
Javen Diaz

I would like the following for Christmas: a blue phone, a jump rope, a jet pack, a pair of boots, and bunk beds and a pony. Thank you Santa!  
Dylan Greer

For Christmas I would like a fishing pole and three pair of shoes. I would also like a laptop.  
Annie Gilbert

I would like a D.S, 8 pearl straws choclaty, guitar hero, rock band, arthur books, rap up, skate board, toy pet perret, heelys, a jacket that says texas tech rules, supplies, cupcakes, eraser, folder with donkey king on it disco ball, little guitar, gold fish, wii games, sims 2 creater, still being gunners friend please pretty please, chocolate cookies, dallas cowboys shirt!  
Matthew Eller

I will like a Nintendo DS and a wii and a scooter and heeilies and a guitar and high school Musical stuff. I hope you have a good Christmas.  
Diamond Rodela

Can I please have my meebas, Hannah Montana guitar, heeilies, motor scooter, high school musical teenie shoes, makeup. I will come see you on December 15 2008.  
Cheyenne Judd

I want to get a spechel babby! And I want a DS.  
Presley Cowley

Play station, heeilies, skate board, bike, wii, DS, gameboy! Thanks.  
Dylan Huffman

The number one thing that I want is a Wii. I would like RockBand. Mini golf, skating. A nerf machine gun. And a Nintendo DS. Say hi to Rudlph.  
Landon Greer

Can I have a electric scooter, a selphone because mine broke, purse, High Scool Musical shirt, puppie, DS game, and teacher stuff.  
Kara Thomas

Please bring me a baby puppy for Christmas please. Please let my daddy come from Elposo to sellebrate cristmas with us. I love you so much. Please bring me presents  
Alondra Vazquez

I want a Wii and a bell, and thats all I want thank you.  
Meagan Reiter

I wode like a baby doll and Nintendo DS and sum little les petsopes.  
Emily Rankin

I want a dog o and tall Rudolph and comet and all the ther rain dirs I side hy and I want a sps.  
Allison Guerre

I would like a Wii and Marcers and a picture of you and a new bike and a rit like cloie and that nail thing that is on tv and pj's and new shoes and clothes and glue and a phone and Christmas bookes.  
Alexus Rodriguez

How are you doing and how are the reindeers doing. I hope you have a good Christmas and Santa I would like a barbi house.  
Mirka Cesillon

Can you give me a x box 360 a skate board a sonic the hedgehog the video game and a phone. I hope your reindeers are ok. Are you real Santa? Have a good Christmas Santa Clause.  
Mauricio DeLuna

## Cookies & Christmas: a match made in holiday heaven

There's a good reason fitness club memberships tend to spike come January. After a holiday season spent party-hopping and letting their diets fall by the wayside, many people look to the gym as the means to helping shed those inevitable holiday pounds.

Perhaps no food is more popular around the holidays than cookies. Cookies are as much a part of the holiday season as Christmas trees, long lines at the mall and kids searching the house for presents. For those with guests to entertain this holiday season, the following recipe for "Kitchen-Sink Chocolate Chip Cookies" from Elinor Klivans' "The Essential Chocolate Chip Cookbook" (Chronicle Books) is sure to please.

### Kitchen-Sink Chocolate Chip Cookies

Makes About 36 Cookies

- 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons unbleached all-purpose flour
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 6 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup pecan halves
- 1 cup walnut halves or large pieces
- 1 cup blanched whole almonds, toasted and chopped roughly in half

Position a rack in the middle of the oven. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line two or three baking sheets with parchment paper.

Sift the flour, baking soda, and salt into a medium bowl and set aside.

In a large bowl, using an electric mixer on medium speed, beat the butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar until smoothly blended, about 1 minute. Stop the mixer and scrape the sides of the bowl as needed during mixing. Add the egg and vanilla and mix until blended, about 1 minute. The mixture may look slightly curdled. On low speed, add the flour mixture, mixing just until it is incorporated. Mix in the chocolate chips, pecans, walnuts, and almonds until evenly distributed.

Use a tablespoon to drop well-rounded tablespoonfuls of dough (about 2 tablespoons each) onto the prepared baking sheets, spacing the cookies 2 inches apart.

Bake the cookies one sheet at a time until the edges are lightly browned and the centers are slightly colored, about 14 minutes. Cool the cookies on the baking sheets for 10 minutes, then use a wide metal spatula to transfer the cookies to a wire rack to cool completely.

The cookies can be stored in a tightly covered container at room temperature for up to four days.

Choices: You can add 1 cup of raisins, dried cranberries, or chopped dried apricots to the dough with the chips and nuts. White, bittersweet, or milk chocolate chips, or a combination, can be substituted for the semisweet chips.

## Especially For You At Christmas



At our favorite time of year, we'd like to acknowledge the many people who have helped to make our dreams come true, and wish all of you a truly miraculous and wonderful Christmas. For your friendship, we feel deeply blessed. Thanks!

Lots of Items on Sale at  
**Main Street Mercantile**  
231 E. Main Street • 495-4344  
Post, Texas 79356

I would like a fake car, a coloring book, and crayons. How do your reindeer fly?  
Kiana Salone

I would like a ppwer ranger, Spider man, and Superman. How do reindeer fly?  
Chemo Rodela

I have tried really hard to be good this year. I would like for you to bring me a jingle bell, toy car and kite. I will leave some milk and cookies for you. Please remember all the other boys and girls.  
Chris Dihenia

I have tried really hard to be good this year. I would like for you to bring me a guitar, laptop, and play kitchen. I will leave some milk and cookies.  
Courtney Lamb

I have tried really hard to be good this year. I would like for you to bring me a teddy bear, Nintendo DS, and laptop and racecar.  
Giovanni Montoya

I have tried really hard to be good this year. I would like for you to bring me a motorcycle, air plane, and car toy.  
Jaime Gonzalez

I have to be good this year. I would like for you to bring me a four wheeler, play station, and a charge up car.  
Jayden Diaz

I have tried really hard to be good this year. I would like for you to bring me MP3 player, dirt bike and laptop. I will leave milk and cookies!  
Jazmyne Ortiz

I would like for you to bring me a play station 2, Xbox 360 and Wii.  
Kagen Welch

I would like for you to bring me a Barbie, a Barbie laptop, and a Brat.  
Katelynn Clark

I would like for you to bring a guitar hero, charge up car, Barbie shirt.  
Machala Hengen

I have tried hard to be good this year I would like for you to bring me a laptop, bike, Barbie. I will leave cookies and milk.  
Paulina Ceja

I would like for you to bring me Cupcake baker, Little petshop and toy pet.  
Sydney Walls

I want a Nerf gun, a play gun, a get pack, a B.B. gun, a pet rabbit, a light saber, a lap top. I have been good this year!  
Ryan Rathbun

I want a play dog a mp3 player and a real dog for Christmas. I also would like a dog, and I have been real good this year.  
Kierra Curtis

I would like you to bring my sister a fake butterfly and houseshos. I would like you to bring laptop.  
Caitlyn Silva

I would like to have a laptop, fun pony, heeilies, a bird, guinea pig, a fish and Nintendo. I have been a good girl this year!  
Breana Torres

I want a real laptop and a Sonic D's game, and a mustang, I have been good. The thin I want most is to visit you at the North Pole, get it? Ok Santa.  
Gavin Riley

### With Resounding Thanks At Christmas!



As we give thanks to the Lord at this special time of year, we also offer our gratitude to the many good people who have shown their friendship and goodwill towards us. Merry Christmas!

### Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.

Jack Hairrington, Manager  
Dusty, Vonda and D'Nae  
110 S. Broadway • 495-2080

## Merry Christmas

Wishing you and yours a gifted season filled with good times, good friends and good fortune. We know we feel fortunate to have neighbors like you.

### Handy Oilfield Supply

Jay, Sherry,  
Sammie, Jimmy,  
Trey, Bill,  
Chita & Jon  
33rd  
Christmas



## Merry Christmas To All,



## And To All A Good Night!

To all our good friends everywhere go our very best wishes for the happiest holiday ever. Merry Christmas!

**H & M Dirt Contractors, Inc.**



Cant I get a xbox 360 and I want a nitendo DS.

Jose Robles

I want a Barbie doll and it's lily doll and Hannah Montana game and a mice phone and sellphone. A skateboard and how is Ms. Clos is she good and tell Rudolph I love him so very much and the other reindeers too.

Marissa Luna

Can I get a playstation and how is it going in the nowfpole? Is it rile cold in the nowf side of the plantit. I cant wat to see rudof. Have a merey crismis and I hope every won has a good mercy crismis.

Damontre Curtis

For Christmas I want a Nintendo DS and a Hannah Montana game. How is Rudolph doing? Is Mrs. Santa doing ok? Mary Christmas

Thalia Warren

Can I name yours deers Rudlph and Belly and Shalley and Sharley and then Welley? I want a psp and a playstation3. Then I want a phone. Then I want a Hannah Montana game. And a twins that have same clothes and same beds. Have a good Christmas Santa!

Arinana Gomes

This is what I want for Christmas. Bratz house with a bed set and a living room and a dog and a microphone and say hi to Mrs. Clause for me. Mary Crismas!

Sandy Soto

I want a Doll hous bratz really rock bratz diary bratz twins littly momy to to bed doll ike esay bake and a toy house. How are you are you good or bad?

Heather Jackson

Can you bring me a phone that is reall. Can you bring me a skateboard to fall over. Can you bring me som hot wheels and can you bring me some 20 teck deck.

Agustin Mata

For Christmas I want a Nintendo DS, phone, for wheeler, candy, brats game, and that's all. Merry Christmas.

Aubriana Marie Perez

I want a Plasma screen tv, diary, Nintendo DS bratx magic hair color I pod skates.

Marisa Gutierrez

Here are the things that I want for Christmas, I want a PSP, a pokemon Ranger game called Shadows of Almia and Madden 08 football game for PSP, Please remember my baby brother Zak!

Riley Lewis

Can you give me a phone a play station 2 and the came is called Scant Cadoe. How are you doing? How are the Weandeer?

Hector

I want to have for Chrismas is a Brat computer and a brat bed and a brat macup doll and a strawberry club house and one that locks too.

Kiara Estrada

I want a Nintendo DS and Bratz. How is Rudolph and the reindeers? And I want a phone. I love Chrismas time.

Josefina Trinidad

I wonder who helps you do all the work with you and who feeds your reindeers now what I wont is a brats play house and a DS and a wii and house with a an up stares if I can be rich and have a limo and big houses.

Nadia Garza

I want a Psp video game, and a house so I can live in it, a scat board. Have a merey crismas!

Beton Justice

I would like a xbox 360, a new game for my Nintendo and an ipod a pirts on play station, ping pong table, new clothes, new shoes that is all I want for chrismas.

Alonzo Ayala

Can I have a d rex chrismas and a Nintendo ds and a motercikel that does tricks pleas can it have a remote and a gatere hero game and a football game that it goes with a Nintendo game that is football.

Holden Basquez

I would like a wii and a football.

Anthony Cruse

I want a flip phone and can you by a real phone? Thank you and I want a alive baby doll too and I will like some baderes.

Delaney Fluitt

I want a mashmallow blaster, bat man, legos, madden 09, and guiter hero 3, and nerf game.

Aaron Gomez

Santa can I have a Hannah Montana doll for Christmas. And can I please have a I pod and a guitar hero. And can I have a wii. And can you please get me a xbox 360 santa. And can I have a Nintendo DS for Christmas. My mom said we might put cookies on the table for you.

Malina Gomez

I would like an easy bake oven, new boots, Barbie cruise ship, wii games and the Bratz house also the cupcake maker and a Barbie house and carrige. I believe in you Santa Claus.

Averi Graves

I want a Ipod and camera. Can I have a touchphone for chrismas?

Cecilia Hernandez

I loved the island princess dolls you got me last year. May I have a book of fairy tials. Can I have a Hannah Montana Barbie doll please? Can I have a new coloring book please? Can I have a new ceskless please? Can I have a Hannah Montana guitar please? Can I have a Hannah Montana brush please? Can I have a Gabriela and Troy doll please?

Krista Moore

I wish I had a Hannah Montana doll, I wish my Dad had a xbox 360, I wash my brother had a Nintendo DS, I love you!

Summer Murray

I will like an ipod and guitar hero. I will like a new play station. I will like sponge bob.

Bandy Osborn

I would like a guitar and a Hannah Montana Barbie doll, and one more thing, a toch phone. Please give me presents and some for my sister and my brother.

Miranda Perez

I want a guitar and a ipod and a guitar hero and brats magic hair color and some bookes and a hanah Montana Barbie doll and sponge bob tedy and some bendaros.

Addisen Rodriguez

I wont have a computer on crismes and I wont have a flog on crismes wut have you been dowing at the noth pow I bet you have a mushen is a snow gown that you can go to the botum of the snow and you have a mieeyin elf and you have sum hot cow cow and you can rest on your big bed and wen is crismes agin and you can eat sum cooces and sum melk and wen you are dun giving sum toyes and you can cum bake!

Justin Self

I would like for you to bring me a John Deere tractor, and a DS a skateboard, I will leave some milk and cookies!

David Quintana

I would like for you to bring me one a Nintendo, and two a skateboard and a Nintendo game.

RC Curtis

I would like for you to bring me a four wheeler, a motorcycl, and a hot wheel set.

Dillon Poe

I would like for you to bring me my own copy book, a Nintendo game, and little dresses for my dolls.

Lexie Turner

I would like for you to bring me psp a spider robot play station.

Damien Castillo

I would like for you to bring me a baseball, a phone, and a skateboard.

Angelique Ellinson

I would like for you to bring me cow girl boots, a play kitchen and a Hannah Montana doll. I will leave some milk and cookies!

Audrey Moreno

I would like for you to bring me a PS game, a purse a drawing set.

Lachlan Prather

I would like for you to bring me NCAA football games for DS, Guitar hero on tour Deca Des DS game and Nerf N strike.

Zeke Lott

I would like for you to bring me a transformer, an Incredible Hulk, and a four wheeler. I will leave some milk and cookies for you.

Jacob Clay

I would like for you to bring me a drum set, a skateboard, and a dirtbike.

Colter Smith

I would like for you to bring me a doll, a bicycle, and a Cinderella car.

Krystal Archer

I would like for you to bring me a toy robot, a bike and a dirt bike.

Isacc Perez

I would like for you to bring me a four wheeler, a helmet, and some knee and arm pads

Koleman Babb

I would like for you to bring me bike, a baby alive, and a computer.

Cheyenne Sapp

I would like for you to bring me a computer, a Barbie doll and a bike.

Cecilia Esparza

I would like for you to bring me a Barbie doll, some makeup and a bike.

Charlene Torres

I would like you o bring me a motorcycle, and a racetrack, and a hot wheely.

Montana Williams

I would like for you to bring me a cup cake maker, a crown to wear, and a I pod.

Krystal Soto

I would like for you to bring me a dirtbike, a helmet and a laptop.

Chris Jackson

I would like for you to bring me a doll, a shirt, and a piggy bank.

Chloe Dissinger

I would like for you to bring me a Barbie, a laptop, and a toy cat.

Nayeli Perez

I would like for you to bring me a cupcake maker and a mp3 player and a dog.

Chelsey Nelson

**SHAKE IT UP... IT'S CHRISTMAS!**

Wishing you and your family a truly festive season filled with lots of love, laughter and celebration.

You're the reason we have so much to celebrate this year. Thanks, friends!

**Ira Pump & Supply Inc.**  
Shane, Charles, Jessie, Carla, Jimmy, Blake, T.J., Mitch & Dickey

**With Well Wishes At The Holidays**

Wishing all our customers, a happy and safe Christmas holiday filled with a large measure of peace, joy and merriment.

It's an honor to serve you, and for your faith in us, we are truly grateful.

**Hometown Pharmacy**  
495-2535 • 132 W. Main • Post, Texas  
Alisa Peters, Aaron, Regina, Terry, Ashley & Zach

**Silent Night Holy Night**

With best wishes from all of us for a truly enlightening holiday season. Thank you for lighting up our year.

**Hudman Funeral Home**  
615 W. Main • 495-2821



I would like for you to bring me a hamster Nintendo games and makeup.  
Shaylee Salmon

I want a phone and a ipod. I want clothes. I love Christmas!  
Jonah Menchaca

May I have a PSP and PSP games and a gator charger.  
Kelson

May I have a necklace and a batman compute and a bracelet.  
Jayden

May I have a cooking shop and a horse and a princess costume.  
Trea

May I have skates and a princess play shop and a princess costume.  
Elizabeth

May I have a computer and a batman and a spiderman web.  
Benjamin

May I have a Barbie and a Hannah Montana doll and a play kitchen.  
Kalli

May I have a cat and a horse and a dog.  
Diamond

May I have a Barbie and a baby doll and a bunny rabbit.  
Kia

I will like a cupcake maker. I will like a Barbie doll and a bike. I will like a Hanna Montana doll and a game boy. That's all I want  
Haylee Willborn

I want a Wii, and a PSP. Please bring me a Spongebob blanket. I also would like a gameboy.  
Shadia Hernandez

I will like a areal lap top. I also want a pick too, for my guitar. Can you bring me 3 little Skateboard's. How are you, Santa?  
Larry Nino

I want a four wheeler and a parrot for Christmas and a Xbox 360. I also want a t-shirt that says I love Jesus and God, a new bible and a cross. How do you make toys?  
Nehemiah Guerrero

I want a chopper Motorcycle, an Xbox 360 and a bike. I also want a Playstation 3. I love you Santa!  
Kaleb Steffens

I want a Nintendo DS and Xbox. Pleas bring me iron man, an Xbox 360 and a game boy. How are your reindeer? How are your reindeer flying?  
Christopher Reed

For Christmas I want a Wii and a PSP. I also want Lego Star Wars the Complete Saga and Lego Batman. How are you rives? Merry Christmas Santa!  
Kevin Cruse

I want a PSP and an Xbox 360. I want a rocket launcher, and a game boy. I hope you have a Happy Merry Christmas!  
Josiah Colloazo

I want a wii in more tech deks for my cousns a skateboard for my dad a dirt bike for my mom kitchen stuff and for my brother a bike.  
Christian Sanchez

I want my mom to have som towels and jewelry. I want my brother to have a new bike. I want my sister to have a doll. I want my dad to have boxing gloves. I want my fmily to go on a vacation. I would like a dirtbike. I want my whole family to have a party. Thank you so much and merry Christmas.  
Jacob

I want a puppy, laptop, and a xbox 360. I would like my mom to have a dog, laptop, and xbox 360 too.  
Brooklyn Landa

I want a bb gun and for my mom I want a car and for my dad I want a truck I would like bevo and feed and a plasma tv.  
Ryan Willborn

This Christmas I would like a treehouse. I would also like a play station 3. I would also like a TV. I would also like my mom to have a good Christmas.  
Corbin Mason

Bring a brand new dog and a pogo stick. A scooter, koogon creepy crawler and tools supplies and I love you.  
Jeremiah McCowin

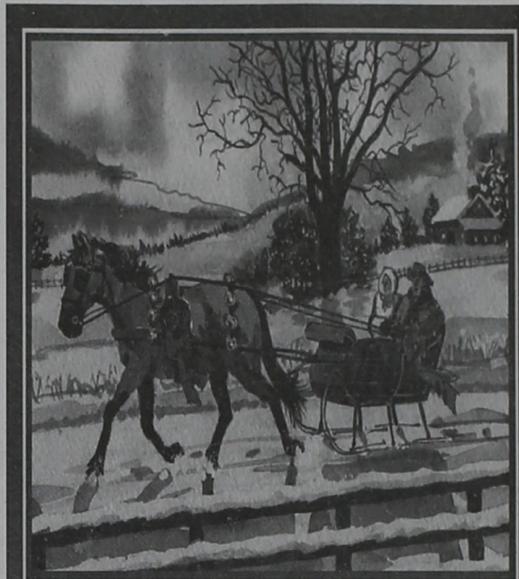
*Ring In The Season*

*Church bells chime throughout the land  
To remind us it's Christmas once again,  
A time to express to the Lord above  
Our gratitude for His light and love;  
And to the good folks that we know,  
Our warmest wishes also go;  
For your friendship we feel blessed*

Merry Christmas to you and all the best!

**Justice-Mason  
Funeral Home**  
Dee and Janet Justice  
301 W. Main • 495-2833

[www.postdispatch.com](http://www.postdispatch.com)  
[postcitydispatch@yahoo.com](http://postcitydispatch@yahoo.com)



*Jingle Bells... Jingle Bells...*

Merry Christmas and many thanks for your generous support.

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DAVID HERNANDEZ  
JOSE RODRIGUEZ

ONE STEAK OR THE WHOLE COW

**Believe In The Magic!**



May your holiday deliver an abundance of joy, peace, contentment and magic. Thank you for helping us to realize our dreams this past year.  
**Greg, Channa, Skylar, Pake, Coby and Mandy Jones**



*Merry Christmas!*

*From our flock to yours, go our best wishes for a picture-perfect season filled with lots of love, laughter, joy, and serenity.*

*Your business means a lot to us, and we thank you for your friendship and support this year.*

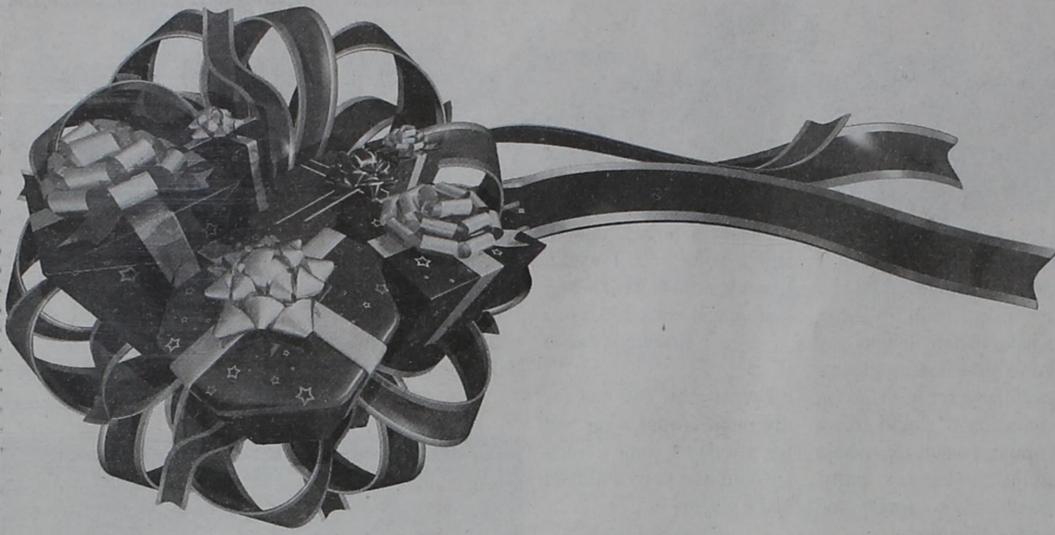
**Anne Sims**  
Real Estate  
(806) 495-3171

R S S R H T R R S R F A S T H  
E W N I F E Y A D R F A T D O  
T Q V O N Y M D I S I Z Q D L  
N J Z N I T L E A N E E F U I  
I Y I Y S T N I T A H U S S D  
W D Z I N D A N M Y V F Q E A  
I P R D S G I R Q A I B A I Y  
G H W F E C D H O B F D I T Y  
C M V K H C P L R C Z R V I Y  
B Y R O T R E E S I E Y R V V  
X S L E I O O M H Z U D P I H  
C A N O I T A R B E L E C T L  
S W E R J G Q Q P E J F N S M  
P R E S E N T S R Q R C E E E  
N U S E L D N A C P V D Q F G

**Holiday Word Find**

Find the holiday-related words hidden throughout the puzzle.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>CANDLES<br/>CELEBRATION<br/>CHRISTMAS<br/>DECEMBER<br/>DECORATIONS</b></p> | <p><b>DINNER<br/>FAMILY<br/>FESTIVITIES<br/>FRIENDS<br/>HOLIDAY</b></p> | <p><b>PRESENTS<br/>SAINT NICHOLAS<br/>TREE<br/>WINTER</b></p> |
|--|---|---|



## History lesson: Why Christmas is celebrated on December 25

The birth of Jesus Christ has long been celebrated on December 25 of every year. The first recorded celebration of Christmas dates back to December 25, 336.

However, it is not known for sure if Christ was even born during the month of December, much less on the day we come together to celebrate.

It is speculated that Christ may have been born as early as November or as late as March. However, through time the date of December 25 was adopted as His official

birthday. In the early days of Christianity, there wasn't much emphasis given to celebrating or recording birthdays. Rather, the day a saint died received more emphasis and was considered more significant than a birth.

In terms of Christ, some historians and religious scholars surmise that Christmas was chosen to be in December to coincide with other religious and cultural festivals taking place at the same time. The Jews had their "Festival of Lights," while pagans celebrated Saturnalia, a celebration giving gifts to the

poor, but also feasting and drinking. Some say that to prevent his people from pagan debauchery, a Christian bishop at one time established Christmas on December 25 to compete with these other festivals.

Others believe a different story. When the church reached a consensus that Christ's conception occurred on March 25, it seemed reasonable to simply celebrate His birth nine months later. Regardless of how it started, Christmas remains a time to share in the wonder of Christ's birth and the magic of charity and love this time of the year.



**You're Always Welcome Here!**  
May the coming season deliver lots of happiness and good fortune to your doorstep.

**Tanner's Appliance Heating & Air**



**Here Comes Christmas!**

We couldn't have come this far without the support of good friends like you. Merry Christmas and many thanks for helping us go the distance.

**Post Auto Parts Vintage Motors**

110 W. Main • Post, Texas • (806) 495-2888

O Come Let Us Adore Him!



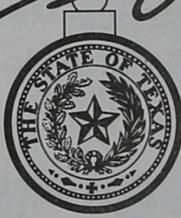
This Christmas season, we'd like to join you and yours in a prayer for harmony, understanding and peace.

**Ruby Lane Books**

127 E. Main  
495-BOOK

As we give thanks to the Lord, we'd also like to acknowledge all the people who have given to us their friendship and generous support. Merry Christmas!

*Happy Holidays*



from

**State Representative Joe and Linda Heflin**

District 85

Pd. for by Joe Heflin Campaign

# Santa isn't the only one looking out for you!

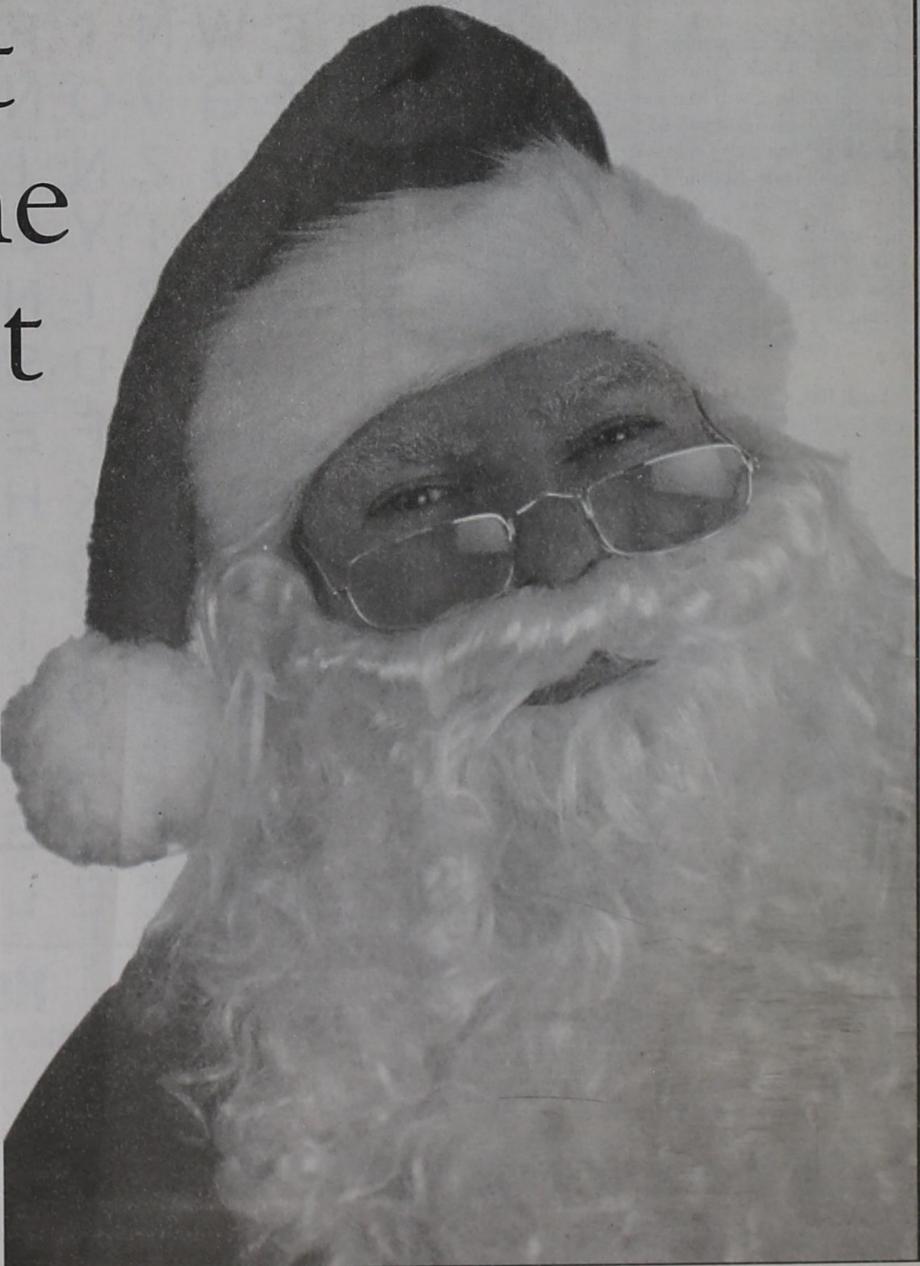
Your electric cooperative looks out for you 24/7, 365-days a year!  
We have the newest technology and local employees to get the job done.  
So enjoy the holidays without worries!



**South Plains Electric Cooperative**

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www.SPEC.coop



Making perfect gingerbread men

Many a favorite tradition comes with the season starts in December. Come the holidays, you tend to gain a little weight because of the good food this season. It's no coincidence that New Year's Day is a common resolution for a few pounds.

While New Year's might be for the holidays, enjoying good food with friends and family is typically common. Among popular choices is gingerbread. Those hosting a holiday season can use this recipe for gingerbread men. Perry's "Holiday" (Chronicle Book)

Gingerbread  
Makes About  
5 1/2-inch

2 1/4 cups all  
1/4 teaspoon  
1/2 teas  
2 teaspoons  
1 teaspoon gr  
1/2 teaspoon  
1/4 teaspoon  
1/2 cup veget  
1/4 cup firm

dark br  
1  
1/2 cup li  
mo

1. Into a  
sift together  
soda, salt, gin  
cloves, and  
lightly whisk

## Making perfect gingerbread men

Many a favorite family tradition come the holiday season starts in the kitchen. Come the holidays, people tend to gain a pound or two because of the abundance of good food this time of year. It's no coincidence that come New Year's Day, the most common resolution is to shed a few pounds.

While New Year's Day might be for resolutions, the holidays are all about enjoying good times with friends and family and enjoying the good food that typically comes with those times. Among the more popular and traditional choices is Gingerbread Men. Those hosting a party this season can use the following recipe for "Gingerbread Men" courtesy of Sara Perry's "Holiday Baking" (Chronicle Books).

Gingerbread Men  
Makes About 2 Dozen  
5 1/2-inch Cookies

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/2 cup vegetable shortening
- 1/4 cup firmly packed light or dark brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup light or dark molasses

1. Into a medium bowl, sift together the flour, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, cloves, and nutmeg, then lightly whisk and set aside.



2. In a stand mixer set on medium speed, beat the shortening until creamy, about 30 seconds. On medium speed, beat in the brown sugar until light and lump free. Beat in the egg until well blended, scraping down the sides and bottom of the bowl as necessary. Beat in the molasses until blended. Turn off the mixer, add half the flour mixture, and beat on low speed until blended. Add the remaining flour and beat until blended.

3. Using lightly floured hands, gather the sticky dough into a ball. Divide the ball in half and flatten each portion into a 6- to 8-inch disk. Wrap each disk in plastic wrap and chill for 2 hours or until firm.

4. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or grease it lightly and set aside.  
5. Remove the dough from the refrigerator and, if needed, soften slightly for easier handling. Roll it out 1/8 inch thick on a lightly floured board, between 2 sheets of parchment paper or on a pastry cloth with a cloth-covered rolling pin.

6. Lightly dip a 5 1/2-inch

gingerbread man cookie cutter into flour, then firmly press it straight down into the dough. Repeat, cutting the cookies close together to avoid rerolling. Using a spatula, carefully transfer the cookies to the baking sheet. If a cookie is to be used as an ornament, press a hole through the top with a drinking straw or a large skewer.

7. Bake until the cookies are lightly browned, 9 to 11 minutes. Let the cookies firm and cool slightly on the baking sheet before transferring to a rack to cool completely. If desired, decorate the cookies with icing and decorative candles.



### GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

At this special time of year, we'd like to express our gratitude and warmest wishes for a very merry season to all our good neighbors. Your friendship makes it all worthwhile for us...thanks!

**plum crazy**  
495-0888  
220 E. Main Street

## More Christmas letters ...

I want a psp. I want a gocard. My mom wants a ring. My dad wants a gocard too.

I want a psp and my mom wants a ring. My sistr wants a barbe and my bruthr wus a psp too.

Lazaro Galindo

Dalton Davis



Pam Jones and Susan Boren

LYNN/ GARZA  
COUNTY  
FARM BUREAU  
117 E. MAIN  
495-0404



# NOEL

**To Our Valued Customers & Friends At The Holiday Season**

We wish for hope, good cheer and joy  
For every man and woman, girl and boy  
For 'tis the season once again  
Of peace on earth, goodwill towards men;  
And when the holiday is through,  
May prosperity reside with you;  
For the loyal support you've given us,  
Go our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas!

Thank you for choosing Sonic  
215 S. Broadway • 495-3440  
Locally owned and operated by Jose Alvidrez

**SONIC**  
America's Drive-In.

Enjoy Coca-Cola CLASSIC

## Catch The Spirit!

We're counting our blessings this Christmas and your friendship is at the top of the list.

With best wishes to all our neighbors this beautiful holiday season.

**Giles and Louise McCrary**  
OS Museum & McCrary LTD,  
Staff  
Janie, Wanda, Marie, Christi and Dory



# Stay safe under the holiday lights

When asked to pick their favorite holiday films, movie buffs almost always name "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" as one of their favorite yuletide comedies. Among the more notable struggles faced by protagonist Clark Griswold in the film is stringing up the Christmas lights on his home.

While audiences can laugh at Clark's flirtations with death during this ordeal, as anyone who has ever undertaken their own Christmas lighting knows, accidents are no laughing matter. They can prove deadly if you're not careful. That said, consider the following safety tips before diving in to your own lighting display this holiday season.

- Don't overdo it. One of the biggest hazards with holiday lighting is to overload electrical circuits with too many power chords and lights. This is a big mistake, as a house fire is the most likely result from such a scenario. While you might feel pressured to keep up with the neighbors, there's no need to make your house visible from outer space. If an outlet appears overloaded, it probably is.

- Use external bulbs for the outside. External lights are built to handle the harsh weather of the holiday season. Internal lights aren't as durable, in part because, if they're indoors like their manufacturer intended, they're easier to replace when they go out. However, lights that are placed along the trim of a home's roof or atop a tall tree aren't as easy to replace. So use the more durable external lights outside the house.

- Keep lights off when you're not at home. Keeping Christmas lights on when you're not home is inviting disaster. Not only will no one be around to fix a broken bulb, but no one will be around to call for help in the case of a fire as well.

- Avoid powerlines. Make sure no lights are wrapped around powerlines leading to or from your house or a

neighbor's house.

- Keep walkways clear. Make sure the driveway and sidewalks are clear of extension chords. In the case of snow or even if it's just a dark night, extension chords on such surfaces can lead to injury. Just because you know the chords are there doesn't mean any potential guests will, too.

- Keep other decorations away from lights. While it might appear beautiful to wrap tinsel around lights (be it inside or outside the house), tinsel is often made of metal foil, meaning it's fully capable of conducting electricity.

This can be a potential disaster, so make sure all decorations are separate from one another.

- Don't be afraid to hire a pro. Just as you don't have to take your axe out to the forest to cut down your own Christmas tree, you can also leave the lighting up to the pros. If you've never decorated a house with lights before, it can be a very dangerous affair, and one that doesn't end up looking as glorious as you had hoped. Nearly every town boasts a company that

offers a lighting service, so rather than risk injury, leave the trouble to the pros.

## Thanks, A Bunch!



As we deck the halls, we fondly recall all the good times we've had serving you, and hope that all your dreams come true this holiday season.

### Merry Christmas! Post Tire & Lube

Ted, Leonard, Tony, Steve, Donald & Jenny  
604 E. Main • 495-1355



Wells Fargo Post branch employees include (from left) Erika McNeely, Laura Elmore, Keisha Odom, Carol Short, Heather Blacklock, Sierra Reiter, Suzie Barboza and Charles Hardin.

WELLS FARGO



Wishing you and yours all the blessings of this special time of year. We really appreciate your business. Thanks!



Steve Deaton, Regional Community Manager  
(806) 765-2921

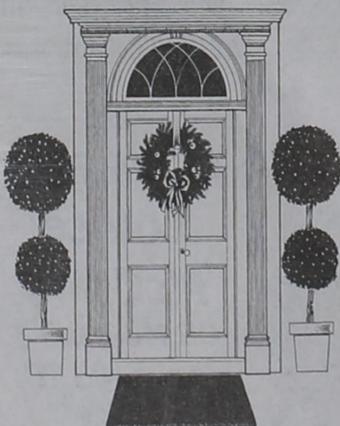


## Warm Wishes at Christmastime

As another year comes to a finale, we'd like to offer a chorus of thanks to all of those who made this year a noteworthy one for us.

Dorothy & Charles L. McCook, DDS  
204 W. Main • 495-3600

## Welcome The Season!



Home is where the heart is, and ours is with all the good neighbors we've had the pleasure to meet this past year. We're proud to be a part of this great community!

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

## Rocker A

5 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Corner East Main and US Hwy. 84 • 102 N. Broadway  
Come See Us! Merry Christmas!