

Have A  
Picture Perfect  
Christmas

# FRIONA STAR



Serving Bovina, Friona, & Parmer County

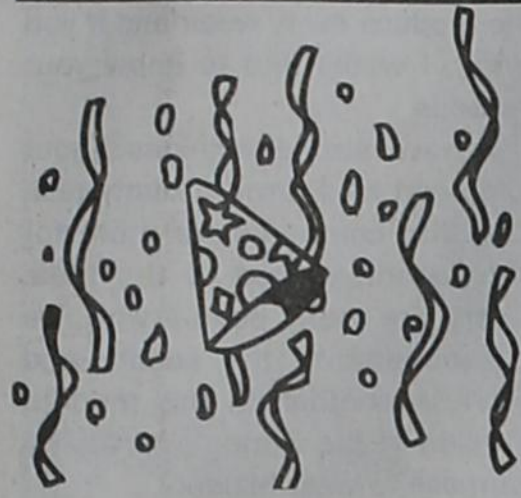
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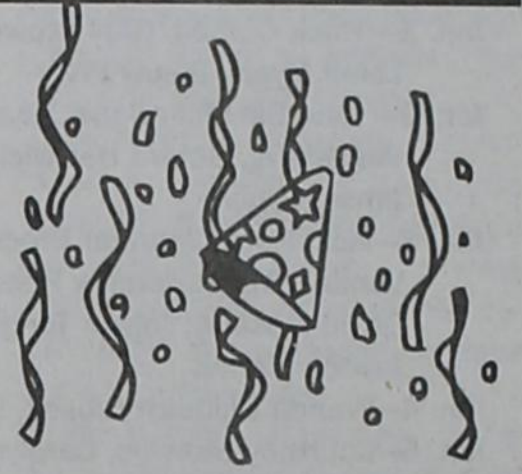
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2003

SIXTEEN PAGES

50 CENTS



## Happy New Year



### Bovina History Review For Newspaper's Final Edition *The History of Bovina by Bernice Hartzog*

(Editor's Note) Bernice Hartzog and her husband Arlin, moved to the Bovina area in 1949. According to her daughter, Helen Hartzog Estlack, Arlin and Bernice both "loved Bovina and her people."

Mrs. Estlack, a retired school teacher now living in Clarendon, Texas, grew up in the Bovina area. Roger Estlack, Helen's son and Arlin and Bernice's grandson, is the owner and publisher of *The Clarendon Enterprise*.

This accounting of Bovina history was presented by Bernice Hartzog as a program to the Bovina Women's Study Club "sometime in the 1970s" according to Helen. Mrs. Hartzog passed away in September, 1998.

We are grateful to the Estlacks, Roger and his mother Helen, for sharing this history for the final edition of the *Bovina Blade*.

The history of Bovina along with the XIT Ranch and the other towns in Parmer County can be related from two different sources of information. One is marked factual and is the most popular, but it leads through logic and becomes mere computer fodder, very soon bogged down in columns of figures, dates, and bone dry statistics, devoid of sentiment or humor.

The romantic source, with all its meandering as it touched the lives and hearts of the people who lived it, puts a little sugar coating on the pill of knowledge and makes one feel that he really knows the people who made Bovina's history.

For those who want the pinpoint accuracy of names and dates, the Panhandle Plains Museum Library at Canyon has tons of records given them by the Capitol Reservation Lands Company of Chicago, Illinois. These records represent one of the most valuable gifts ever made by a business organization to an institution.

Because the origin of Bovina is so interwoven with the history of Parmer County and the XIT Ranch, it seems that the best way to begin a history of Bovina is with an account of the origin of the famous XIT, the county, and Bovina's neighboring towns.

In 1882, the Sixteenth Texas Legislature set aside three million acres—or about 4700 sections of its public lands—in the Panhandle as payment to whoever would contract to build a suitable state capitol. The contract went to a Mattheas Schnell of Illinois, who shortly assigned his interest to a group that came to be known as the Capitol Syndicate. The beautiful state capitol at Austin, with its pink granite exterior, its terrazzo floors depicting the history of Texas under six flags, and its enduring reminders of Texas men and events preserved in stone, pictures, and documents was the result of this unusual contract.

The capitol building cost in the neighborhood of three million dollars. So it is simple arithmetic (one doesn't need new math) to determine that the land was valued at a dollar an acre. The three million acres encompassed parts of ten counties with Parmer County being given almost in entirety. From the map it appears that only about two sections in the far north east part of the county were not included.

By 1885, ground breaking for the capitol building had begun, and a trail driver, Abner Blocker, had delivered the first herd to the XIT's Buffalo Springs pasture. When asked to design a brand that would confuse rustlers, he raked the heel of his boot in the ground and formed the XIT, saying, "That brand will hold 'em." During the next year 110,000 cattle

were brought in, and the first ranch house was built. At its peak, the XIT was running 150,000 cattle on its ranges. In 1887 the ranch was split into seven divisions—later eight, the eighth being the Bovina division—with each division operating as a separate ranch with its own headquarters and equipment. The division foreman reported monthly to the manager at general headquarters, then at the Rito Blanco's division.

Bovina was originally the Hay Hook line camp—division #8 of the XIT; and the headquarters building, which stood about a quarter of a mile north of the present city of Bovina, was one of the earliest structures built in Parmer County. Many of you remember when the old headquarters burned.

In 1898, the Pecos Valley and Northern Texas Railway was built as far west as a switch that was called "Bull Town" by train crews because a herd of bulls was in the habit of getting on the tracks near a cottonseed warehouse and had to be driven from the tracks before the train could move on. When the name was officially bestowed, the town was given the more dignified name—Bovina.

Bovina became one of the largest cattle shipping points in the United States. Cattle were driven here from distant ranches in the Plains country. The Bovina post office was established on January 31, 1899, with William M. Guy being the first postmaster.

Bill Mersfelders was one of Bovina's (indeed Parmer County's) first businessmen—opening a general store and an eating place in a large dugout on railroad property because at that time the Farwells as owners of the Syndicate had not offered any land for sale. The business flourished because the cowboys had been out on the range for several months and had plenty of money to spend.

Bill also had a contract to load all cattle on the railroad cars; and he kept a loading crew of ten to twenty men all the time, loading cattle day and night. At that time the railroad eating-house was at Bovina and was operated by a Mrs. Nichols.

Since there were no local officers and no law or preachers in the county, a group of the citizens took Bill Mersfelder (who was at the time under 21 years of age) to Hereford and had him appointed Justice of the Peace of the unorganized Parmer County. The story is told that when they neared Bovina on the return trip, all having had a few drinks too many, Bill gave a yell saying, "The Law has come to Bovina." They all threw their lines to the wind and straddling those wild ponies took off, everyone yelling, straight for the store. One tried to go on one side, one on the other, but one pony went right through the window into the store, broke out the show cases, and tore things up in general; and thus "The Law Came to Bovina."

To be factual, Volume 1, Deaf Smith County Court Records, page 626, item 988:

Bill Mersfelder made bond on November 24, 1902, to become Justice of the Peace and ex-officio notary public for the unorganized county of Parmer.

George McLean and his wife, the former Ollie Whitaker, who were married by Mersfelder on November 30, 1905, were the first couple to be married in Parmer County.

(Continued on page 11)

Blood Drive in Bovina  
December 30, 4-7 p.m.  
at the EMS building.  
Each donor will receive  
an ornament.  
For an appointment call  
800-658-6178.

### Excel Pays \$650K To Employees

Excel Friona brightened the holidays for many employees and put \$650,000 into the local economy just in time for Christmas.

Company spokesman Rick White said Excel handed out recognition bonuses to all clerical, production and hourly management employees. In all, approximately 2,000 employees at the Friona plant received the \$300 bonus.

White said Excel paid the bonuses to employees at all five of their major plants, including Plainview and Friona in Texas. Because of higher cattle prices, employees have been held to fewer normal working hours for the past few months so the company decided to pay the bonuses to compensate.

### Ho! Ho! Home For The Holidays Winners Given

The Friona Chamber of Commerce Ho Ho Home for the Holidays promotion ended Friday with the drawings for Friona Bucks winners.

Each participating business had a drawing for \$25 in Friona Bucks to be spent at that business. Three overall \$100 Friona Bucks winners were drawn. They are Johanna Shelby, Stella Shirley and Billie Powell.

Winners at each business were: A-1 Service Center, Jean Hollis; Bi Wize Drug Store, Irma Mendoza; Campbell Electric & Hardware, 1st Baptist Church; Friona Star, James Wiley; Ingram's Department Store, Anya Fair; Ivy Cottage, Yvette Williams.

Also, Kendrick Oil Co., Sadie Armendariz; Los Arcos Restaurant, Cynthia Delgadillo; Lowe's, Lynn Clark; Malouf's, Annette Loflin; Silver Screen Video, Alexis Torres.

Also, Sugar Shack, Luella Drake; Tasty Cream, Judy Cummings; Town & Country, Nora Castanon; Veterinary Industries, Inc., Bill White; W.T. Services, Martha Barker; Walco Animal Health Store, Jayn Looper.

FELIZ AÑO NUEVO



### Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays FHS Student Council Does Good Deeds

The Friona high school student council sponsored a couple of projects before the holiday break.

On December 17 they sponsored a luncheon in the school cafeteria for the student body. The meal of brisket, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls and strawberry shortcake was prepared by the cafeteria staff and served by the staff and faculty members.

The student council decorated the cafeteria with snowman placemats and napkins. The school Christmas tree was assembled and lighted by the student council; the lifeskills classes made various snowman ornaments and decorated the tree.

The Friona high school choir, directed by Allison Johnston and accompanied by Claudia Hanes,

provided the entertainment for the meal.

The council also sponsored a supply hunt for the Ronald McDonald House in Amarillo. Lists of 31 items needed by the House were given to each third period class at FHS. The first two classes to turn in one of each item on the list were given a soft drink and cookie party during one of their class periods.

Winning classes were Mrs. Osborn's and Mrs. Hadley's combined class and Mrs. Barnett's class. Several other classes and staff members participated in the contest.

Ten boxes of donated items ranging from combs and brushes to canned goods to baby items were delivered to the Ronald McDonald House.

Brito Is Alleged To Be In Violation Of Agreement

Is Sarah Brito behind on her restitution payments to the City of Bovina? That is what Bovina city manager Ernest Terry, Mayor Galen Hromas, and the city council are trying to find out.

In an agreement reached in May, 2003, Brito, former city secretary, pleaded guilty to misapplication of fiduciary property. The amount embezzled was approximately \$280,000. A letter from District Attorney Johnny Actkinson to the City of Bovina dated May 21, 2003, stated that Brito received 10 years community supervision and was ordered to pay court costs and restitution and perform 320 hours of community service.

The restitution was supposed to be in monthly payments of about \$900 and sent to the District Clerk. The District Clerk, Sandra Warren, was directed to forward the money to the city "as she receives same." Apparently she hasn't received money or else hasn't forwarded it. That is what Terry is trying to find out.

In a letter dated December 16 to Brito's probation officer in Muleshoe, Terry said Brito is four months behind on her payments and failure to comply with the terms of the plea bargain should result in jail time.

Terry's letter stated, "Conversations with your office, the District Clerk, and the District Attorney indicate that Sarah Brito may be avoiding her supervision. An integral part of the agreement by the City of Bovina for a reduced re-payment amount was that she would be closely supervised and

### Star Will Not Publish Jan 1

The Friona Star will not publish a weekly issue on Thursday, January 1, 2004.

In keeping with a long tradition, the newspaper does not publish the week during Christmas and New Year's to allow our hard working employees a holiday break.

The Friona Star office will reopen on Monday, January 5, 2004, and the next issue of the paper will be published on January 8. Have a safe and peaceful holiday season. Thanks for your support in 2003. See you next year.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRIONA

Birthdays for December 28 through January 10.

- Dec. 28—Allen Stewart, Todd Long, James Chadwick, Sara Zerfas, Kim Caffey, Jan Parker, Nathan Hoon, Amy Stephens, Caroline Zagorin, Brandon Berend
- Dec. 29—Holly White Schueler, Alan Monroe, Debby Stovall, Heather Schueler, Melissa Vazquez, Zora Gaede
- Dec. 30—Jerry Goen, Larry Sanders, Jessie Gonzales, Jianna Davenport, Frankie Lindeman, Sarah Hendley, Jessica Jamerson
- Dec. 31—Bill Ellis, Glenda Ellis Kitten, Keith Martin, Staci Murphree, Oscar Torres
- Jan. 1—Hack Corbell, Gary Stowers, Richard Wilson, Cordella Jeter, Loree Myers, Benny Pryor
- Jan. 2—John Bill McFarland, Sunny Horton Ratliff, Dr. Neil Veggeberg, Buford Hartwick, Jose Luis Prieto, Deanna Duke, Jimmy Bynum
- Jan. 3—Vicki Kube, Jennifer Brockman Baize, Marriott Horton, Vondale Mann, Jeremy Reed, John Jarecki, Maxine Bolding, David Moseley, Jolynn Tongate, Keylan Moore, Dale Mann, Jayden Merket
- Jan. 4—Wanda Wilhelm Gibson, Debbie Stowers, Mike Sunderlin
- Jan. 5—Courtney Stowers, Carolyn Kaufman, Keith Moore, Jalyne Scott, Destiny Sandoval, Sarah Zagorin
- Jan. 6—Wesley Barnett, Randy Lee Sharpe, Megan Conlee, Linda Griffin
- Jan. 7—Jeff Hamilton, Mike Lamb, Laquita Dodson, Shae Dodson, Harold Taylor, Gloria Turner, Kelli Spring, Drew Baize
- Jan. 8—Dave Buske, Ruben Gomez, Betty White, Richard Allen Roberts, Sherry Dawn Compos, Richard London
- Jan. 9—Eva Miller, Joe Bill Jones, Jennifer Baker, Joel Hight, Cindy Weatherly, Anthony Nunley, Lorine White, Mitchell Wiseman
- Jan. 10—Chris Houlette, Ben Neelley Loy Loafman, Joshua Snyder, Margie Fallwell, Jeff Moser, Larry Rogers.

If you or someone in your family has a birthday coming up soon, please call the Friona Star office at 250-2211 by Tuesday noon and report it.

When you see names, which should have been removed from our birthday listings (moved away, names that have changed, deceased, etc.) call the newspaper and let someone know. Thank you.



### Grant Awarded To WTAMU Student

Killgore Research and Research Enhancement Grants totaling more than \$50,000 have been awarded to faculty members and six student proposals also were funded at West Texas A&M University.

The proposals were vying for more than \$35,000 allocated for research enhancement grants and approximately \$20,000 in re-

search grants. Student grants were funded at \$500 each.

One of the students receiving grant funds is Greg Lewellen, from Friona, graduate student in biology, "Influence of Topography on Plant Communities of Palo Duro Canyon".

Greg is the son of Debbie and Donnie Lewellen of Friona.

### T. Spencer Graduates From LCU

Tammy Kay Spencer of Friona was one of 102 graduates who participated in commencement exercises for Lubbock Christian University on December 13, 2003.

Spencer graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies in Secondary Education and is the daughter of Raymond and Cathy Spencer of Friona.

Tammy was a member of the LCU Lady Chap basketball team for three years and then served as a JV basketball coach for two years.



## OUT HERE

BY RON CARR

### Changes Coming in 2004!

This is the last paper of 2003. The next issue published will be Thursday, January 8, 2004. Our business office will be open again on Monday, January 5, 2004.

As far as I know, we may be the only weekly paper that takes the last week of the year off. It is a long tradition here at the Star and one that I plan to continue, at least for now.

This December 25, 2003, issue is significant in another way. It is the final official issue of the Bovina Blade. We are merging the two papers effective January 8, 2004. The Bovina Blade name will be discontinued, but coverage of Bovina news will not.

We began the merging process several months ago. There has been input and some mixed reactions. Some in Bovina think there is not enough Bovina news while a few in Friona think there is too much Bovina news. Go figure.

From an average of six pages a week, Bovina readers have received 14-16 pages for the last few months. I received a call at

home a few weeks ago just hours after the paper came out on Thursday. The lady from Bovina phoned to complain that "there is nothing on the front page about Bovina." I pointed out that she must not have read the front page since there were indeed two stories about Bovina, one of which was right in the middle of the top of the page.

The name of the paper will continue to be the Friona Star. Some have suggested that I compromise and call it the Friona Blade. I don't think so. Others say we need "a county paper" and recommend I call it the Parmer County Star. No again. The Friona Star is already a county paper.

The first issue of the Bovina Blade was June 29, 1955, almost 50 years ago. In that issue, Blade publisher Dolph Moten wrote editorials about what Bovina needed: telephone service, a sewer system, and more than three paved streets.

Things have changed in the almost 50 years since. Businesses

have come and gone. Mostly gone. The annual Bull Town Days celebration, which drew as many as 3,000 people, has faded into history. Oldtimers in the area could rattle off a list of changes they have seen over the years.

On today's front page is a history of Bovina written by a pioneer, Bernice Hartzog. She mentions Tom Hastings who arrived in Bovina in the early 1900s. He married Pearl Dean. Their children Dean Hastings and Donalita Hawkins still live in Bovina today. Bernice's account of Bovina history is also an account of Parmer County history. I think you will find it interesting.

We are phasing out the Bovina Blade name but not Bovina. Future issues of the Friona Star will contain just as much, if not more, Bovina news as before. The cost per issue will be fifty cents and the annual subscription rate will be \$25 in Parmer County and \$30 for all subscriptions out of the county.

We encourage you to send us news items you would like considered for publication. We need news from the community. You can call, stop by, email, or fax. In today's digital camera world, emailing pictures and stories is as easy as sitting down at your computer. All of our contact information is in the Friona Star ad elsewhere in today's paper.

When 2003 began, I had no inkling that when it ended I would be the owner and publisher. But I am proud, and humble, to claim that title today. I have friends in Friona and friends in Bovina. For the past eight years I have covered news in both cities. That will not change.

I hope you will support me and

the staff here at the newspaper as we make this transition. I also think you will like the newspaper we produce every week and if you don't, I would like to know your reasons.

I have strong opinions about the need for Parmer County residents to communicate more for the common good of the area. There are many people who live in one part of the county and work in another. In this modern version of the world, it serves no purpose to wear blinders.

Thanks to our advertisers and our readers for the support over the years. We hope to improve every week and with your input, we will.

Have a safe and sane holiday season. See you next year!

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Bill Ellis

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ron

This is my first time in something like this so you may have editing to do.

Since I have sold my home in Friona after 30-odd-years I have lots of good memories of a lot of people there. Rather than sending a lot of cards to everyone I love, decided maybe I could do it this way.

Two years ago I had a health problem that would no longer let me live alone, so I moved to Farmington, New Mexico to live with my son.

I miss all the friends I made there over the years so would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

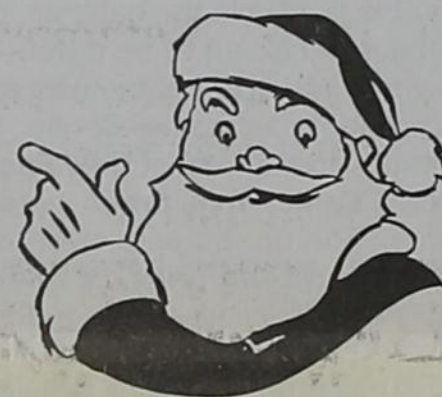
My address is 616 Teton Dr., Farmington, N.M. 87401.

I'd love to hear from you. I

wish a Merry Christmas to everyone and the best of the New Year.

Love you all and miss you and my home.

Ma  
(Clara "Mama" Seale)



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DELTON & BETTY LEWELLEN (1953)



DELTON & BETTY LEWELLEN (2003)

## Lewellen's Celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Delton & Betty Lewellen will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 27, 2003. Delton married the former Betty Shapley in Center, Colorado. They have lived in Friona the past 50 years. They celebrated their anniversary with a trip to Alaska in September with their children Dale and Donna Schueler and Raymond and Pam Hamilton, all of Friona. Their family includes: grandchildren, Monty

and Tessa Schueler, Wade and Candice Schueler, Kevin and Ami Schueler of Friona, Davy and Kelly Hamilton of Canyon, Corbin and Jenny Riethmayer of Friona, and Jeff and Kamie Hamilton of Tyler, Texas; and two great-grandsons, Colton Riethmayer and Tristan Schueler.



## Leadership Forum Slated for High School Students

The College Talent Search program at West Texas A&M University and the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin will present a leadership forum for high school students January 9 on the WTAMU campus.

The John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute Student Forum is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Agriculture and Natural Sciences Building. Approximately 75-100 students—primarily juniors—from high schools in Amarillo, Boys Ranch, Bovina, Friona, Hereford and Tulla are expected to attend.

"This forum is an excellent workshop for students who have an interest in learning more about public service and leadership," Julie Arias, director of WTAMU's College Talent Search program, said. "These students will discuss public-affairs issues that impact our local and state communities."

John Ben Shepperd student forums are conducted throughout Texas. They include guest speak-

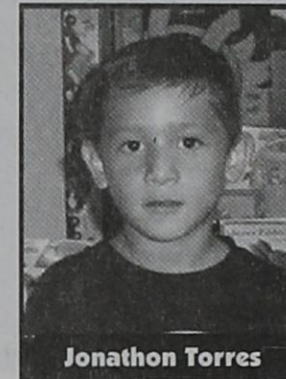
ers and breakout sessions to develop skills such as goal-setting and communication. The forum also encourages awareness of responsible citizenship.

Welcoming speaker will be Janie Rivas of the Amarillo Independent School District's Board of Trustees. David Terry, associate director of WTAMU's Enterprise Network, will deliver an address, "The Leader Within", during lunch.

John Ben Shepperd served Texas as secretary of state from 1950-52 and as attorney general from 1953-57. He was a long-time advocate of leadership opportunities and public-service training for young people.

The College Talent Search program was devised to identify and assist individuals from disadvantaged or underserved backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education.

For more information about the leadership forum or College Talent Search, contact Montana Hisel at WTAMU's College Talent Search office at 806-651-5350 or [mhisel@mail.wtamu.edu](mailto:mhisel@mail.wtamu.edu).



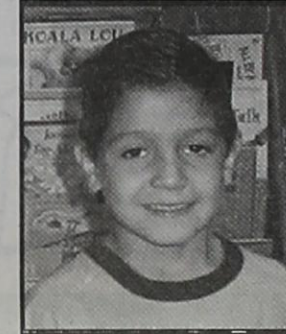
Jonathon Torres

### Meet the Class of 2016

Jonathon is a kindergarten student at Friona Schools. His parents are Mario and Goretty Torres. He has 2 sisters, Sheyla and Goretty.

Jonathon likes sword playing. His favorite food is fried chicken and his favorite colors are yellow and blue.

FRIONA TEXAS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



Tommy Lee Benavides

### Meet the Class of 2016

Tommy is a kindergarten student at Friona Schools. His parents are Jaime & Lourdes Benavides. He has one sister, Marisol, and one brother, Jaime Benavides Jr.

Tommy likes to jump on the trampoline, ride bikes and play with his sister.

FRIONA TEXAS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**The Pioneer Heritage Museum would like to thank you for your Christmas donations. Your generosity is so kind.**

CORBEN, BRANDY & EMMA BAXTER  
 JOHN, DEBRA, CAMERON & COURTNEY BAXTER  
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 REX & DARLA BRACKEN  
 BILL & ANN CARTHEL  
 STUART, JULIE, MORGAN & RILEY DAVIDSON, SEMINOLE  
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 RICKEY & PAM RECTOR  
 RON & MELBA SMILEY  
 MR. & MRS. RENE SNEAD  
 DON & GLADYS SPRING  
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 MISTY TOWNSEND, RAINEY, MACEY & BRETT  
 ETHEL WALKER  
 TEDDY & SHARON WHITE  
 BILLY GENE & KARON ZACHARY

*From All Of Us To All Of You*

Top row, l-r, Jerry Hinkle, Nora Rose, Cecelia Dominguez, Belen Trevino, Jena Hardin, Susie Teague. Middle row, l-r, Myra Rangel, Cheryl Goodson, Shirley Ferguson, Larry Knowles, Cherlyn Pruitt, Ginger Quinn, Mary Rodriguez, Casey Sharrock, April Reyes, Candice Schueler, Mac Langford, Marca Herring. Seated, l-r, Elaine Cain, Enrique Rodriguez, Gary Brown, Carolyn Dement.

*Happy Holidays*

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## Friona Boys Basketball Quick Take

The Friona 7th grade boys lost to Lockney 43-23. Scoring for the Braves were Mike Keen 8 points, Joey Mendoza 5, Andy Bentley 4, Rolando Castanon and Justin Dominguez 2, and Aaron Hand one point.

The FHS freshman Chiefs, coached by Mike Fair, edged Hereford 37-34 in spite of a miserable 2 of 11 from the free throw line. The youngsters were fairly consistent, scoring 12, 6, 7, 12 quarter by quarter. Tolby Wilcox led with 12 points, Caleb Miller had 7, Valente Casas 6, Eddie Ortiz 4, Hector Sanchez 3, Bret Field and Sean Lookingbill 2, and Chance Lewellen one point. (Note to all scorebook persons, the Wilcox boy's first name is Tolby, not Toby. It has an "L" in it. Thanks.)

The varsity Chiefs took an 84-53 licks from the Dimmitt Bobcats. Their record is now 3-7 as they head to the Littlefield Tournament December 29-31. Stats available from the Dimmitt game had Jonathan Nava as leading scorer with 23 points. Friona JV lost to Dimmitt 71-36 but no stats had been turned in by press time.



MARC HAILE

# Squaws Carry 11-2 Record, State Ranking, To Caprock

The Friona Squaws continued their winning ways with a 63-38 blowout of the Dimmitt Lady Bobbies last Friday. If you are among the fans that thought it was a home game and went to a deserted Friona gym you are not crazy. The printed schedule did indeed list the Dimmitt games as being here, but they weren't.

For a pleasant change, the Squaws put together four quarters of good scoring. Their lowest output was 8 points in the third quarter, with 20, 19, and 16 points in the other three quarters. All ten Squaws scored in the game

as the girls got out to a 20-13 first quarter lead and increased it to 39-21 at the break.

Ashley Smiley led the way with 14 points, almost matched by Trisha Winebrinner's 12. Katy Welch had 8, V'Lesha Wilcox 7, R. J. Barrett 6, Shayli Reed 5, Andrea Gerles and Misty Adams 4, Haleigh Herbert 2, and Brenda Murphree one point.

Friona was awarded 31 shots at the free throw line, converting 20 of them. Good heads up defense by the Squaws allowed Dimmitt only 17 free throws. They made 12.

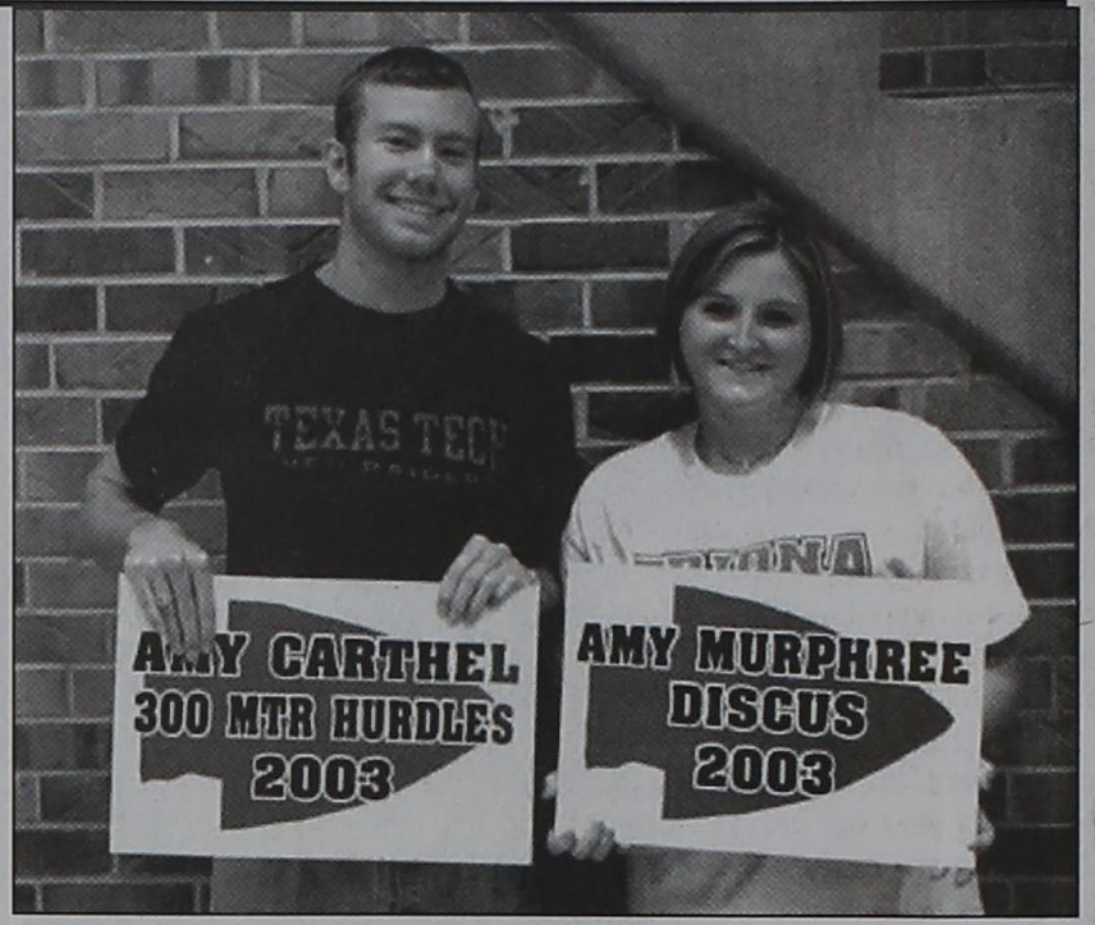
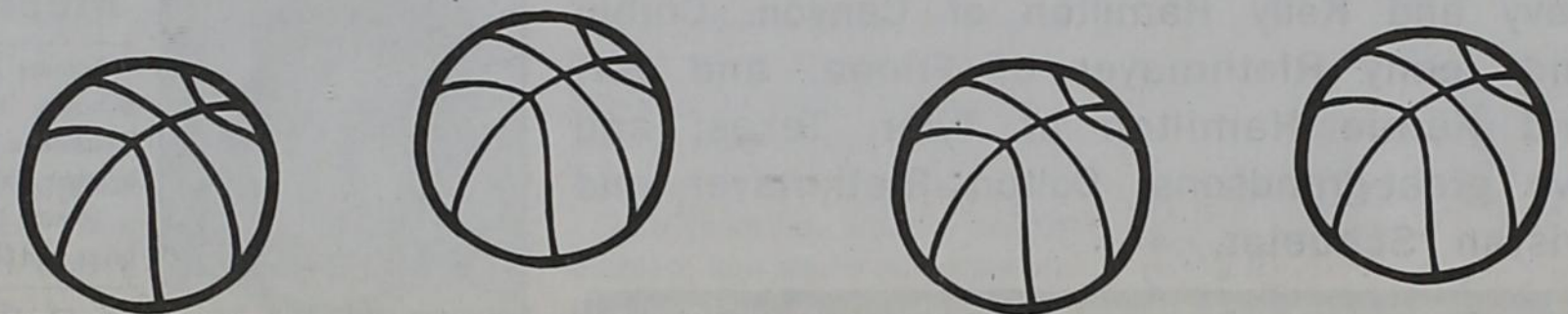
The Squaws, recently rated number seven in the state by Texas Basketball Magazine, take an 11-2 record into the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock December 29-31. Brackets and results of the tournament will be available in the Lubbock Avalanche Journal during this holiday break.

The next home game is scheduled for January 2, 2004, vs. Hart, January 6 vs. Muleshoe, then a district opener vs. Abernathy January 9. All three games are listed as home games, but you might check before tip-off time to be sure.



SQUAW SENIOR V'Lesha Wilcox (44) chases a Bovina Fillie while teammate Brenda Murphree (22) comes up to help. The Squaws are 11-2 and will compete in the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock December 29-31.

ron carr photo



HEADING FOR THE GYM WALL ...FHS 2003 Grads Andy Carthel and Amy Murphree will have their names placed on the gym honor wall for going to State in track. Andy competed in 300m hurdles and Amy in discus.

tyler jameson photo

## FCCLA Seeking Recipes

During the 2002-2003 school year FCCLA coordinated two multicultural fairs to benefit Heifer International. Heifer International is a charity that takes the saying, "give a man a fish and he eats for a day, but, teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime", and puts it into practice. The charity provides animals to impoverished areas around the world.

Last year Friona schools raised enough money to purchase one heifer, two goats and three flocks of geese. These animals allow families to sell excess animals, milk, eggs, etc. For many families this help allows them to improve their diet, build or improve their home, and for many children it means they can go to school for the first time.

This year the FCCLA and Family and Consumer Science classes have partnered with the primary

school, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Lamer, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Allen, and Ms. Wright's classes, along with the students in all the buildings for a new project.

Family and Consumer Science classes are asking all students in the Friona Schools to submit a recipe. The recipe can be for a food the students like to make, one they like to eat, or a family favorite.

The recipes will be put together in a cookbook tentatively named, "Friona Schools Feed Hungry Children". The cookbooks will then be sold and the profits will go to Heifer International. If you have not submitted a recipe for your children it is not too late.

Recipes can be turned in to a child's teacher, at Friona High School, in care of Ms. Murdock, or they can be mailed, c/o Ms. Murdock, Friona High School, 909 E. 11th, Friona, Texas 79035.



CHIEFTAIN SENIOR Brock Field on defense



J.V. SQUAWS won first place in the Muleshoe Tournament. Back, l-r, Coach Ky Graham, Staci Murphree; middle, l-r, Lucretia Field, Krista Graham, Tiffany Vasquez, Courtney Adams; front, l-r, Molly Carthel, Yvonne Vega, Beth Nava, Breann Barnett.

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<b>Cheaper by the Dozen</b>	PG
1:40 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:05	
<b>Something Gotta Give</b>	PG 13
1:15 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:25	
<b>Mona Lisa Smile</b>	PG 13
1:30 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:20	
<b>Lord of the Rings</b>	PG 13
1:00 - 7:15	
<b>Paycheck</b>	PG 13
1:30 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:15	
<b>WEEKEND &amp; HOLIDAY</b>	
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**COMPETITIVE RATES IN BOVINA & FRIONA CALL OR STOP BY OUR FRIONA OFFICE**

## FSB Seniors Enjoy Another Christmas Trip To Branson

BY CAROL ELLIS

**THE EVENT:** Friona State Bank Seniors' Christmas trip to Branson, Missouri, December 2. **THE AGENDA:** 48 local folks, friends and relatives, on and off the bus nearly 70 times, seeing 11 shows in four days with a couple of shopping trips thrown in for good measure, plus a lot of food, fun and fellowship.

The tired travelers returned home to Friona late in the evening on December 7.

After seeing three shows a day, almost everybody fell into bed at the motel every night, except for a few who enjoyed a late night card game almost every night...and this included some of the oldest members of the group, the octogenarians.

All of the Christmas shows were beautiful and inspiring. We must have heard at least a thousand Christmas songs performed, seen dozens of youthful and exuberant dance troupes, hilarious comedians, and some adorable little kiddos. There is a wealth of talent in Branson, both oldsters and youngsters.

The shows the group attended were: "Broadway Celebration", "Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers", "The Rockettes", "Violinist Shoji Tabuchi", "Comedian Jim Stafford", the multi-talented "Lowe Family", "Country Tonight", "Moe Bandy Show", "The Brett Family Singers" with comedian Mike Bliss, "50s At The Hop", and the final and most inspirational production was "Dino's Christmas Extravaganza".

Several out-of-towners joined the FSB Seniors on the trip. Former Friona residents Andy and Winifred Hurst, and Marion and Ruthie Fite of Lubbock went along. Both the Hursts and Fites were in business in Friona for many years. Plus Nola Fay Vestal's good friend and former Friona resident Marianne Jack of Paris, Texas joined in.

Others were: Pat Martin's sister, Joann Ratliff; Donita Martin's cousin, Carolyn Norbury of Edmond, Oklahoma; Opal Baxter's sister, Jewel Seigrist, also from Oklahoma; and Judy Cummings' sister, Beverly Gamble and husband Robert of Clovis.

The Gambles celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary while on the trip and several emcees read off their names at various shows. Peggy Higgins and Doris Hill of Hereford were with the group and have been along on several of the FSB trips so they seem just like home folks to most of the tour members.

Bovina folks Carolyn and Lawrence Widner, who are cousins of Dale Widner, were a fun addition to the bus group, as were Wayne and Elizabeth Jesko of Clay's Corner.

Other home folks were: Katherine Smith, Marlene Drake, Gerri Taylor, Gary and Barbara Brown, Victor and Socorro Gonzalez, Nola Fay Vestal, Lewis and Elizabeth Gore, R.J. and Betty Renner, Dale Widner, John Baca, W.D. and Reba Buske, Jerry and Lucy Beth Hinkle, Larry and Pat Martin, Delton and Betty Lewellen, Bill and Carol Ellis, Donita Martin, Betty Wiseman, Wyona Clark, Clarence and Wynona Martin, Billy Joe and Tommie Mercer, and Marca Herring.

Dale Widner was called up out of the audience to appear onstage with comedian/magician Mike Bliss at the Brett Family Show. Dale represented us well and popped off with some pretty sharp retorts while onstage. At one point Bliss said, "Now I'm supposed to be the funny one up here!"

Later in the trip, a singer at one of the restaurants called Dale up to put on a grass skirt while the guy did a rendition of the old Don Ho Hawaiian song, "Tiny Bubbles".

A shopping trip to Engler's Block found several of the more sedate elder gentlemen on the trip trying on "do-rags" with long wig hair attached, which made the guys look like bikers or hippies.

Everyone on the bus got a kick out of seeing the FSB president Gary Brown done up as a hippie.

Others who participated in the highjinks were: Marion Fite, Delton Lewellen, Andy Hurst, Jerry Hinkle, Bill Ellis, Wayne Jesko, and Dale Widner.

Anyone who enjoys traveling to interesting places and having tons of fun with local friends and neighbors, should contact the bank about becoming a member of the FSB Seniors Club.



AT THE FSB TEA the Parsons' and the Maddoxes enjoy the goodies and festive music provided by Clint Mears and Mandy Gerries. dana d. jameson photo



FRIONA STATE BANK SENIORS' Christmas trip to Branson, Missouri, December 2, 2003



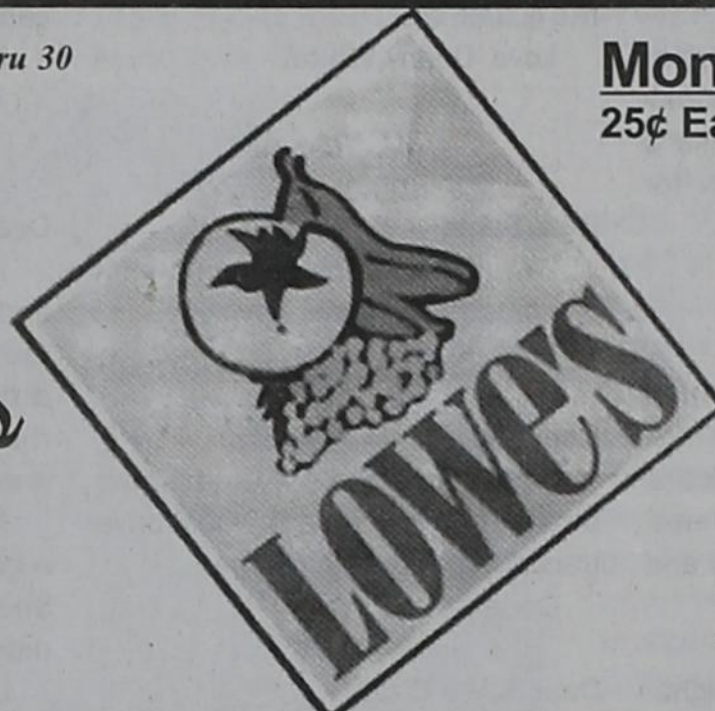
**WALTZ ACROSS BRANSON**—When the guitarist struck up "Waltz Across Texas" Santa picked out a Texas lady to dance with. Carol Ellis enjoyed the waltz at Engler Block in Branson in spite of her "bad knee".



**BIKER BOYS**—Eight of the "elder statesmen" on the Branson trip donned "do-rags" with long hair and enjoyed amusing everyone on the bus trip. Back row, left to right are: Marion Fite, Bill Ellis, Dale Widner, Gary Brown, and Wayne Jesko. Seated in front, Delton Lewellen, Andy Hurst, and Jerry Hinkle.

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**SEE YA AT LOWE'S**

## FRIONA FLASHBACKS

### AROUND TOWN

There is no charge for news included in Around Town. So call us at 250-2211, fax to 250-5127, email to [frionastar@wtrt.net](mailto:frionastar@wtrt.net), or mail info to P.O. Box 789, Friona, Texas 79035.

We reserve the right to approve all copy and edit submitted article for space reasons. Let us hear from you.

One More Time! Ricky Ellis from L.A. will be offering another free yoga class. The class on Monday was a big success. The next one is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, December 27 at 4 p.m. at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall where there will be plenty of room to stretch out.

Remember, wear sweats or loose clothing; bring a mat or large towel. No small children, please.

Senior Citizen meals are cancelled until January 5, 2004.

Parmer County Retired Teachers Association will have a meeting Tuesday, January 6, 2003 at 2 p.m. at the Friona State Bank.

Sunday, January 11, 2004, there will be a Mexican Pile On noon meal at Calvary Baptist Church on a donation basis. The meal is a fundraiser for the Matt. 25 project of renovating the old Clovis hospital and turning it into a ministry and community social services center to provide services for the region within a 50-mile radius of Clovis.

Matt. 25 is made up of local business leaders from the churches of Clovis who formed the organization for the purpose of renovating the old hospital.

Winter Bible Study in the books of Jonah and Proverbs on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, 7-9 p.m., Sunday night, January 18, 6-8 p.m. and Wednesday, January 21, 7-9 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist Church

Everyone is invited to come hear Dr. David Howell of Wayland Baptist University present this marvelous study. The study will meet in the church fellowship hall.

60 Yrs. Ago

December 24, 1943

Dear Santa Claus,  
I'm a good boy eight years old. Bring me a bat and ball, a tinker toy set and some clothes. Bring my little brothers something too. Don't forget Mother and Daddy. Bring us some nuts, fruits and candy. Don't forget the other little boys and girls. I love you.  
Glenn Evan Reeve \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I am a boy one year old, but I will soon be 2. Please bring me a stick horse and a pistol. Don't forget the candy and good stuff.  
Love, J. Benson Collier

50 Yrs. Ago

December 24, 1953

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are you getting along at the North Pole? I listen to you sometimes on the radio. I would like a bicycle and a bow and arrow for Christmas. I must leaving now.  
Love, Larry Von Potts \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I am a girl 10 years old. I am in the fourth grade. My teacher is Mrs. Ford. She is a good teacher. Please bring me a doll and anything else. Don't forget all the other boys and girls.  
Love, Betty Drake  
P.S. I'll see you Christmas Night. \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a telephone, cash register, paint set, basketball, table and chairs set and beauty kit.  
Love, Betsy Ann Frye

40 Yrs. Ago

December 26, 1963

Dear Santa,  
I am a little girl seven years old. This is my first year in school. I have the mumps now. Would you please bring me a 36-inch walking doll. I also would like some clothes for my Barbie Doll. Please remember all the other little boys and girls. Thanks.  
I love you, Marilyn Jones  
P.S. I forgot. I also want a bicycle \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I would like to have a Chatty baby, a doctor's kit with tray and a basketball goal.  
Love, Glenda Reeve \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a Tammy Dream House and a Tammy car and a Tammy ski suit.  
Love, Jeannie Bandy \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like a bride doll and a nurse kit. I have been a good girl. Please remember all the other boys and girls. I love you.  
Jeanine Jarboe \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I'd like to have a boat and a trailer and a pickup. Please bring me a train too.  
Love, Donny White

30 Yrs. Ago

December 23, 1973

Dear Santa,  
I want my birthstone ring, pink newborn baby Tender Love.  
Love, Kriste Herring \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a good 22 and some boxes of shells and a 4 wheel drive tractor and a tape recorder.  
Doug Carthel \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want me a bicycle and a truck.  
Jessie Gonzales \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a walkie talkie and a Roger Staubach football game. I have been a good boy.  
Love, Charlie Morgan \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? You love and I love you too. Aren't you happy with Rudolph? Does Rudolph's nose shine pretty and red? Do your little elves work hard? Is old Lazy still not working? Are you still smoking your pipe? Are you riding your sled today? You really are a jolly Santa with your bag of toys. Is it fun sliding the chimney? I live at Friona, Texas and am a good boy. It's forty

miles to the North Pole from my house. Will you bring me a road grader, tractor and plows?  
Bye, Brian Blackburn

25 Yrs. Ago

December 24, 1978

Dear Santa,  
I want a racecar set and a star bird, please, and my sister wants a doll and Bugs Bunny guitar. We have been pretty good. Merry Christmas.  
Love, Cody and Julie Bracken \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a doll.  
Love, Maria Delarosa \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Hi, I love you. I am 7 years old. Please bring me a race track with cars and movie camera and gloves.  
Love you, Hector Perez

20 Yrs. Ago

December 25, 1983

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy 2 1/2 years old and Grandmom says I have been real good. I want a Touch and Tell, a typewriter, gun, and some hammers, saw and things so I can help granddad in his workshop.  
Also Kayla my cousin has been a good girl. She is 7 1/2 months old. She would like a little doll, sit and drive and lots of soft toys.  
Love you bunches, Gaines Butman & Kayla Smiley \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a bicycle and a blossom baby that Myrna makes and a microphone. I have been a good girl.  
Love, Jodi Looper \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a LA Raider helmet. And the Steeles Van on page 159. And the Raiders Jersey. And the Raiders robe. I want L on page 147. I want A on page 124. I want a on page 122. I want I on page 91. I want C on page 70.  
Love, Josh Snead  
P.S. Santa's helper things this is a Montgomery Ward catalog \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a Return to the Jedi land walker, operation game, Dukes of Hazzard spinout, big wheel, remote car, Coltsever remote pickup, two walkie talkies, Donkey Kong mini Atari and a peek-a-boo.  
Love, Blair Burney

15 Yrs. Ago

December 25, 1988

Dear Santa,  
I have done good. I am ready for you to give me presents. I love my Mommy and Daddy and my brother and sister. We made a Christmas and I like it. I want a Barbie Pool and a baby that moves and a make-up kit. We hanged up our stocking, mine is green. I love you Santa. I like to sing Jingle Bells. And I like everyone. Merry Christmas.  
Love, Jena Grimsley \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I have tried to be good. I do not want much for Christmas. Here's what I want a color TV, big teddy bear, wispy walker, and a teddy bear gown. Please give me all of these things.  
Love, Valerie Beth Hardgrove \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want ice cream Barbie, Kisen doll and Little Miss Makeup doll.  
Tania Hand \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a tape recorder and a tape case and swing set with monkey bars.  
Love, V'Lynda

10 Yrs. Ago

December 18, 1993

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a doll, a Barbie, the talking, a barbe car, the reindeers, Rodolph and Frosty the Snowman.  
Your pal, Wendy Peralta \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want anything because there is too much girl things.  
Clayton Smiley \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I don't want very many presents this year. Just a couple of games

for a game boy.  
Your Friend, Joy Height \*\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa Claus,  
I like the toys you gave me. I like them very much. Thanks Santa Claus. I want the Barbie that has clothes that I can wear.  
Your friend, Jisela Torres \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike and a car and treasure motorcycle go-cart, super Nintendo. Dear Santa, I want a new go cart. Dear Santa, I want a bicycle and a train and bus and clothes.  
Alejandro Tafoya \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want a fast track, super bowl techno bowl, of road, bike, scatboard, a real driving car, a boom box and all the toys you have. But I do not want girl toys. I would like a dynamitar. Last I want the longest sword you got.  
Love, Cody Snyder

5 Yrs. Ago

December 25, 1998

Dear Santa,  
What I really want to get for Christmas is a Hot Pink Gocart. If you can get it for me I would be really really happy. If you will bring it I will give you warm warm milk and chocolate chip cookies. Another thing I really want is a little black kitten with emal green eyes. I want it to be three weeks old. Please take a peace of paper with my name on it on the gocart and put my name on the box that the kitten is in so my brothers want take the gocart or the kitten. Thank you so much.  
Love, Lindsey Neill \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I want a real puppy. I want a real bird. I want bead blast Barbie. I want Nike roller blades. I want a big swimming pool. I want a real cat. I want a real gerbil. I want a new robe bx. I want my very own room.  
Megan Carr

# Happy Holidays from the Friona Star Staff

We will be closed next week and reopen the office January 5, 2004.

Our next issue of the Friona Star will be January 8, 2004.

Effective with this next issue, we have discontinued the Bovina Blade name and combined into one paper, The Friona Star

Send all correspondence to: P.O. Box 789, Friona, TX 79035

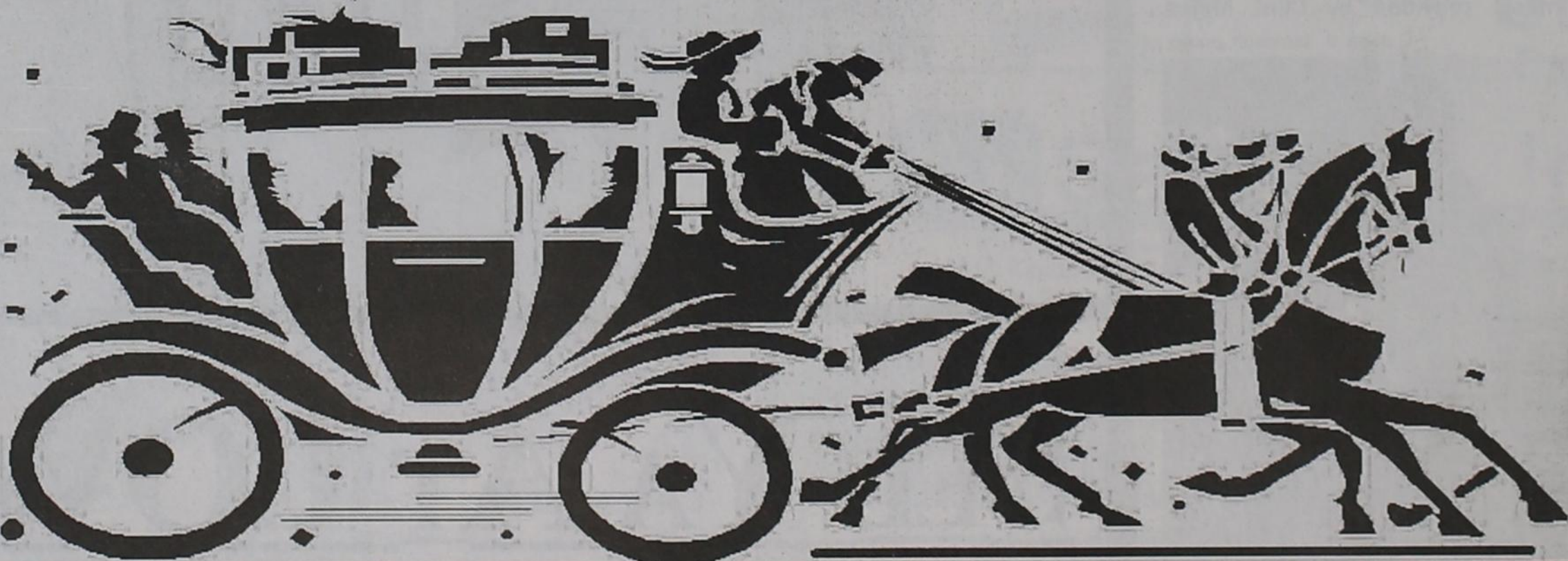
Contact us at: 806-250-2211

806-250-5127 fax

[frionastar@wtrt.net](mailto:frionastar@wtrt.net)

If you need to contact us during the holiday break, please leave a message at the above number.

Thank you for your support during 2003. Happy New Year to all.



## COTTON NEWS

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### USDA Announces Preliminary CSP Rules

Friday, December 19, 2003

By Shawn Wade

Since passage of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, one of the most anticipated new programs it included was the Conservation Security Program. After months of hard work the United States Department of Agriculture has finally released a set of proposed rules to carry out the program.

One of the major issues that USDA has dealt with in developing the CSP rules has been the changing funding authority for the program. Originally passed as an entitlement program with no overall funding limit, the CSP has since been restricted in its funding authority by the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2003 which capped the program at \$3,773 billion over ten years.

At this time the CSP faces a further funding restriction in The Omnibus Appropriations Bill of 2004. This bill currently contains language that would reduce CSP funding authority even more. As proposed, the \$3,773 billion ten year funding cap would be removed and replaced by a one year \$41 million funding limit for FY 04.

The proposed rule defines eligible land as agricultural land in cropland, orchards, vineyards, pasture and range, regardless of size, location or crops produced. Forest land or land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, Wetlands Reserve Program or Grassland Reserve Program will not be considered eligible for the CSP program.

Applicants must address water quality and soil quality concerns as part of the initial requirements to establish program eligibility. Enrollment will be targeted to those operations demonstrating the highest levels of stewardship.

CSP payments will be based on three "tiers" that correspond to increasing levels of conservation activity. Payment amounts rise with increased levels of treatment.

The three tiers are capped at \$20,000, \$35,000 and \$45,000 annually and will last five years for Tier I and 5-10 years for Tier II and Tier III.

In addition, the Base payments for each tier are proposed to be capped as follows: \$5,000 for Tier I, \$10,500 for Tier II and \$13,500 for Tier III. USDA's decision to cap the amount payable through the Base component is to encourage additional conservation efforts by focusing more of the overall payment on implementation of those activities.

Final CSP payment amounts will be composed of payments from up to four different payment components as applicable: 1) Base Component—calculated based on specific land use categories, 2) Existing Practice Component—to offset costs associated with maintaining existing conservation practices, 3) New Practice Component—to offset a portion of the cost of implementing new conservation practices, and 4) Enhancement Component—to provide additional payments for exceptional conservation efforts.

The proposed rule has a 60-day comment period and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is encouraging anyone interested to submit comments during this time. The comment period opened on December 19 with publication of the proposed rule in the Federal Register.

As part of the comment process, listening sessions will be held in a number of locations across the country to gain additional input.

Comments on the CSP proposed rule may be sent to [david.mckay@usda.gov](mailto:david.mckay@usda.gov) or by mail to Conservation Security Program Comments, ATTN: David McKay, NRCS Conservation Operations Division, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, D.C. 20013.

### CAFTA—U.S. Finalizes New Trade Agreement

Friday, December 19, 2003

By Shawn Wade

With the Bush Administration touting completion of a new Central American Free Trade Agreement, the politics of trade, free or fair, will continue to be a hot campaign year topic in 2004.

Whether or not the deal is actually final may be a question of semantics as one country (Costa Rica) has at least temporarily backed out of the negotiations and several points apparently remain to be finalized.

For cotton and its allies in the textile industry the CAFTA deal offers opportunity as well as the potential for future problems. For U.S. textile manufacturers lax textile rules could cause more problems than they solve if the region is allowed to become another hole for transshipment of textile goods to America from other parts of the world.

Cotton industry support for CAFTA continues to be contingent on making sure the benefits of the agreement accrue to the signatory countries and their industries. It is imperative that CAFTA not allow loopholes for third party countries that might cause further losses in the U.S. manufacturing sector.

The industry has made it clear that should the final agreement contain such loopholes and adversely impact U.S. jobs, that final approval in Congress could be next to impossible and make the negotiations a wasted opportunity to create a competitive atmosphere in which U.S. manufacturers and cotton growers could compete with China and other countries.

## Industry Outlook Positive For 2004

Cattle feeders, coming off a year that can only be described as incredible, can look forward to continued strength in the fed cattle market, according to TCFE Market Director Jim Gill.

Speaking at the annual Year-End News Conference of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA), Gill predicted fed cattle prices would range from \$90 to \$98 per cwt. in the first quarter of 2004; \$83 to \$90 in the second quarter; soften to \$78 to \$86 in the third quarter; and rebound to \$85 to \$94 in the fourth quarter.

"Following three years of extreme equity losses from 2000 through 2002, the cattle feeding industry finally responded with reductions in placements in late 2002 and early 2003," Gill said as he explained the factors that contributed to this year's record prices. "Prices traded \$3 to \$5 over previous year levels until late July, when an incredible run-up in prices began."

That run-up, he said, was caused by increased beef demand, reduced supplies and closing the Canadian border due to one cow with BSE. "Prices peaked in mid-October, reaching \$110 for a common top and outside sales of \$111 per cwt."

For 2004, tight supplies will again be a major market factor, Gill says. "Beef production in the first half of 2004 will be down about 3% from

the previous year. For the entire year, production will likely be 2% to 3% below 2003. In addition to reduced cattle supplies, cattle feeders will likely continue the trend of reduced carcass weights," he said.

"The reduction in available feeder cattle due to herd liquidation that began in 1996 will be reflected in prices as well," Gill said. "A 750-lb. feeder steer averaged near \$87.50 in 2003—more than \$8 higher than 2002. Prices in 2004 will remain

## Parmer County Receives Sales Tax For December

Comptroller Carol Keaton Strayhorn reported, "November sales tax revenue is up 4.3 percent compared to November 2002. This is the largest growth since August 2001, before the terrorists' attacks." The state received \$1.36 billion in sales tax revenue in November.

"Last December, the Grinch stole Christmas," Strayhorn said. "We were seeing declining sales tax revenue sources. This year, the Grinch isn't going to steal Christmas. State sales tax revenue is up and overall, local taxing entities will receive more sales tax this calendar year than they took in last calendar year."

Strayhorn sent tax payments of \$208.9 million to Texas cities, up 6.2 percent compared to December 2002. For calendar year 2003, city sales tax allocations are up 1.9 percent compared to 2002. Texas counties received December sales tax payments of \$17.7 million, up 5 percent compared to one year ago. Counties'

sales tax allocations for 2003 are 1.7 percent higher than 2002.

State sales tax revenue for November, and December sales tax allocations to local governments represent sales made in October and reported to the Comptroller in November.

Parmer County's December payment totaled \$31,281, broken down as Bovina \$4,916; Farwell \$5,680; and Friona \$20,684, an increase of 5.00%.

Comparing December 2003 to December 2002 tax receipts, Bovina was up 0.16%, Farwell was up 41.84% and Friona was down -0.91%, accounting for the overall increase in monthly tax revenue.

For the year 2003, Parmer County cities have received a total of \$376,805 compared to \$333,342 for the same period last year. For the year Bovina tax revenue is up 117.14%; Farwell is up 29.88%; and Friona is down -3.43%.



PANHANDLE DAIRYWOMEN spread Christmas cheer to area nursing homes last Saturday. The women made monetary donations for the gift bags and visited with area seniors. Back row, l-r, Linda van Adrichem, PPP Dairy; Bernadette Mulliken, Vista Grande Dairy; Pauline De Vos, Fox Dairy; Jamee Long, Bendora Dairy; Margret DeWit, High Plains Dairy; Maria Untiedt, E&M Dairy. Front, l-r, Tretha Martin, RTM Dairy; Sue Van de Pol, Red Rock Dairy; Gay Eppinga, Eppinga Dairy; Ilona Schilderink, Spandet Dairy; and Piertsja VanderLie, 5 Star Dairy.



THE GRAND OPENING ribbon cutting of Johnson & Sheldon, P.C., Certified Public Accountants was held this week.

strong throughout the year."

Grain production will continue to set records, he predicted. "Corn production in 2003 was estimated at a record 10.3 billion bushels, only the second time in history that production has been above 10 billion bushels. Production in 2004 could set another record above 10 billion bushels. Cattlemen can expect level supplies of competing meats for 2004," Gill said, "with pork production about steady compared with 2003 and poultry

production showing a small increase."

Consumers will see little change in beef prices next year. "Retail beef prices averaged \$3.64 per pound in 2003, up about \$32 from last year's \$3.32," Gill said, explaining that an unexpected turnaround in beef demand in the U.S. starting in 2000, coupled with improving export markets and reduced imports, pushed beef prices to higher levels. "

## Winter Natural Gas Bill To Be Higher Than Last Year

Atmos Energy Corporation stated Thursday, December 18, 2003 that its customers in West Texas can expect their winter natural gas bills to be around 10 percent higher than bills last winter, assuming normal weather. If the winter weather is colder than normal, resulting in higher gas consumption, customer bills would go up more than 10 percent, the company said.

Wholesale prices for natural gas in October and November declined from the summer high of \$6 per 1,000 cubic feet due to decreased summer demand and warmer-than-normal fall temperatures. However, wholesale gas prices spiked last week, reflecting an increase in demand caused by the cold weather across much of the United States.

"The steep rise in the wholesale price of natural gas reflects 'market psychology' rather than actual shortages," said Robert W. Best, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Atmos Energy Corporation and incoming chairman of the American Gas Association.

"I believe we have adequate supplies of natural gas for the winter and I'm very optimistic prices will moderate," Best said Friday, December 5, 2003 at a meeting with reporters in Washington, D.C. He added that price spikes occur during most winters, but the recent run-up in the wholesale price of gas for delivery in January and February was irrational. "I know it's irrational—just because it is cold today doesn't mean it'll be cold in February," he said.

Utilities like Atmos Energy purchase natural gas on behalf of their customers and pass on the cost each month to customers without any markup. Atmos Energy earns income from the rates, approved by the appropriate regulatory body, for delivering the gas to customers and for maintaining its distribution system. During winter months, the gas-cost portion of a customer's bill represents nearly two-thirds of the total bill.

Atmos Energy uses underground storage and a combination of purchasing methods and financial tools to lessen the effect of sharp swings in wholesale gas prices that occur with changes in supply or demand.

"Atmos Energy will continue to aggressively pursue storage and hedging strategies for this winter with the aim of stabilizing gas prices to our customers, but the ultimate price paid by our customers will depend on supply and demand factors and their influence on wholesale natural gas prices and overall winter temperatures," said Atmos Energy's Texas Division President Tom S. Hawkins, Jr. "We can assure our customers of an adequate supply of natural gas for this winter, but it's difficult to predict how much we will have to pay for that supply."

Atmos Energy offers a budget-

billing plan to help customers spread out annual gas bill payments throughout the year. Customers can sign up for the budget-billing plan at any time. It is a "rolling" 12-month plan, with no annual settlement. Each month, the budget amount is calculated by averaging the previous 12 months of billings, which factors in changes in gas prices and consumption. Additionally, Atmos Energy partners with local energy-assistance agencies to provide options for customers who have difficulty paying their winter gas bills.

Despite the outlook for higher gas costs this winter, natural gas remains the country's fuel of choice. By 2020, natural gas consumption is expected to increase more than 50 percent, compared to current demand, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The American Gas Association says 70 percent of new homes nationally use natural gas. Natural gas is a domestic energy resource, with 85 percent of the gas consumed in the U.S. being produced here in more than 20 states. Experts forecast that the country has ample reserves of natural gas for the future, but new legislation is needed to permit drilling in restricted areas and to add the delivery infrastructure needed to best use this domestic energy resource.

"Affordable, dependable natural gas supplies for the future require new investments in energy production and expanded pipeline systems," said Hawkins. "For many years to come, natural gas and other fossil fuels will remain the backbone of our nation's energy supply. However, natural gas wells and pipeline systems cannot be built overnight, and action is needed now to improve supply conditions and keep prices stable."

Atmos Energy Corporation, headquartered in Dallas, is one of the largest natural gas distributors in the United States, serving about 1.7 million utility customers. Atmos Energy's utility operations serve more than 1,000 small and medium-sized communities in 12 states from the Blue Ridge Mountains in the East to the Rocky Mountains in the West. Atmos Energy's non-utility operations, organized under Atmos Energy Holdings, Inc., operate in 18 states. They provide natural gas marketing and procurement services to industrial, commercial and municipal customers; manage company-owned natural gas storage and pipeline assets and construct small distributed generating plants for industrial and municipal customers. For more information, visit [www.atmosenergy.com](http://www.atmosenergy.com).

The Texas Division of Atmos Energy Corporation, based in Lubbock, Texas, serves approximately 318,000 natural gas utility customers in West Texas.

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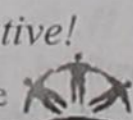
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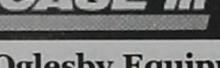
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# Obituaries

## Josephine Davis Blackburn

Josephine Davis Blackburn, 91, of Friona, died on Saturday, December 20, 2003 at BSA Hospice in Amarillo.

She was born November 2, 1912 to Henry Clay Davis and Christfenie Bolton Davis in Fannin County, Texas. She moved to the Friona area in 1928. She was 1930 graduate of Friona High School and was valedictorian of her class.

She married Claude Blackburn on December 10, 1932 in Clovis, New Mexico. He died February 5, 1989.

She was a homemaker and mother and was a member of the Sixth Street Church of Christ in Friona.

Besides her husband, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Carol Beth Pounds, in 1971; a brother, Albert Davis, in 1956; and a sister, Mary Edna Hobbs, in 2000.

Services for Josephine were held Tuesday, December 23, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the Sixth Street Church of Christ with Leon Talley, minister, officiating.

Burial was in the Friona Cemetery under the direction of Blackwell Funeral Home, Friona.

Survivors include one daughter, Donna Smith of Amarillo; two



JOSEPHINE BLACKBURN

sons, Rex Blackburn and Keith Blackburn, both of Friona; 11 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.



# Texas Ten Commandments Monument Stands

By Greg Abbott, Attorney General of Texas

The question of whether the Ten Commandments should be allowed on public property has for years been the subject of debate and litigation. At least six of the nation's 13 federal courts of appeal have now ruled on the issue, and more than a dozen states have either dealt with the topic or are facing it now.

Last year, the debate came to Texas when a red granite Ten Commandments monument on the Capitol grounds was challenged as an unconstitutional establishment of religion. The plaintiff in this case, Thomas Van Orden, argued that the monument's continued display would cause him "irreparable injury" because of its placement along his regular walking path through the northwest quadrant of the grounds. He lost his case at federal district court and he lost again at the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in November, when the judges agreed with the State of Texas that the Decalogue should stay where it is.

"History matters here," wrote Judge Patrick Higginbotham in the 5th Circuit's ruling, noting that the Ten Commandments monument stood for more than 40 years before anyone filed a legal complaint. But the fact that someone finally did, indicates that time has faded the public's memory of why those stone tablets were first memorialized.

In 1961, the Fraternal Order of Eagles donated the six-foot monument to the state as a way to combat juvenile delinquency and promote a personal code of conduct for youths, resulting in "liberty, peace and justice". The group gave similar monuments for the same reason to other states during the 1950s and '60s. In Texas, donations of monuments must be accepted by the Legislature before being placed on the Capitol grounds. Plaintiff Van Orden argued that by accepting such a gift, the state directly endorsed a religion favoring the Jewish and Christian faiths and thumbed its nose at all others. Though the legislative record is brief, it suggests that lawmakers accepted the Ten Commandments monument to commend the Eagles for their efforts in fighting juvenile delinquency—a constitutionally secular reason in the court's eyes.

The Ten Commandments are undoubtedly a sacred religious text, but they are also a foundational document in the development of Western legal codes and culture. As such, they deserve a place on the Capitol grounds among the other 16 statues and memorials to the people, ideals and events that have shaped Texas' history. The monument certainly isn't hidden from visitors to the Capitol, but neither is it a requisite stop along the way. The main entrance to the Capitol is on the south side; the Ten Commandments sit on the northwest side of the building.

The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment was never intended to remove religious expression from the public realm. As the court noted, "Such hostility toward religion is not only not required; it is proscribed."

Interestingly, the monument isn't the only one with a religious depiction or theme. For example, the seal of the Republic of Mexico, which hangs over both north and south entrances to the Capitol and is in the floor of the Rotunda, contains an eagle holding a serpent in its

mouth, perched on a cactus which grows from a rock surrounded by water. A representation of Aztec mythology, this religious display is neither Jewish nor Christian, but is an acknowledgment of the historical and cultural contributions made by people of differing faiths.

Given the conflicting court rulings across the country on the question of the Ten Commandments, I would not be surprised if the U.S. Supreme Court eventually takes up the issue. It would be an appropriate setting for the debate, for the court's own chambers contain a frieze of Moses holding the Ten Commandments.

It remains to be seen whether the Texas ruling will be appealed to that level, but if it is, I will be there to again defend the monument's display.



## That Little Box of Christmas Candy

By John Dinan

The elementary school I attended had four rooms and four grades. It was typical of the school buildings of its day, meaning that it was a dark, gloomy building. Dark mahogany prevailed; even the boys' room was dark, with a black slate group urinal covering half of one wall.

At Christmastime we kids taped cutouts to the windows—Santas, Christmas trees, etc.—in an effort to brighten the décor and jump-start the season. The teachers had us singing seasonal carols, and the feeling of Christmas filled the air.

On the day before Christmas vacation began, after our afternoon recess, we were herded two by two to our classrooms where we discovered the one thing that guaranteed Christmas was coming: that little box of Christmas candy, one on every desk.

Today's kids wouldn't give it a second look, but back in 1935 it was the defining sign of Christmas for all of us. It was a little box, about 4 inches wide and a couple of inches tall, and its contents—rock-hard candy.

But as I took my seat I couldn't hide my delight. I examined the box itself; I lifted it to feel its weight and shook it to hear its contents. It provided Christmas joy to all my senses.

As class was dismissed, I picked up the little box of Christmas candy by its flat-string handle and rushed home to my mother, who shared my delight at such a great gift. Each year, just before Christmas vacation, the ritual was repeated.

We eventually "graduated" from that school to attend a different one for grades five and six only. There was no Christmas candy box ritual at our new school. Of course, being big fifth-grade guys, we didn't complain; in fact, no one even mentioned the Christmas candy.

But somewhere deep inside, we all longed for that little box of Christmas candy. And that longing remains to this day.

### LET THE "SON" SHINE

"TIS THE SEASON"...To Remember. While we know that December 25th is likely not Christ's birthday, we can be thankful that many people do remember the special event of Jesus' coming to this world. Perhaps we can find ways to remind ourselves and others that the birth of Jesus, whenever it was, along with His death and resurrection requires from us the gift of ourselves to His cause! (Rom. 12:1-2)

Have a great week! (TLT)

## Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

### A CITY OF REFUGE

ONE OF THE GREAT PHILISTINE CITIES WAS GATH. IT WAS NOTED AS THE RESIDENCE OF A REMNANT OF GIANTS, NAMED THE ANAKIM. (1 SAM. 7:14) A MEMBER OF THIS RACE WAS GOLIATH WHOM DAVID DEFEATED. GATH WAS ALSO THE REFUGE, ON TWO OCCASIONS, OF DAVID, WHEN HE HAD TO FLEE KING SAUL'S MURDEROUS INTENT. HOW MANY OTHER REFUGEES FROM SAUL'S ANGER WE ARE NOT TOLD, BUT IF IT SERVED AS A REFUGE FOR DAVID AND HIS FOLLOWERS, IT MUST HAVE BEEN LOOKED UPON AS A HAVEN FOR MANY WHO FELL OUT OF FAVOR IN SAUL'S KINGDOM.



WILL WE YET BE SAFE IN GATH?



WILL NOT KING ACHISH GIVE US WELCOME REFUGE WHEN IT IS HIS MORTAL ENEMY KING SAUL WHICH SEEKS TO SLAY US?

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

## Church Directory

### Friona Churches

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER  
5th & Ashland  
Rick Beard, Pastor  
250-2207

**TEMPLO "MARANTHA" SPANISH**  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
301 GRAND  
Rev. Isidro Jimenz

**BAPTIST**  
CALVARY BAPTIST  
14th & CLEVELAND  
ALVIN PETTY  
250-3000

**FIRST BAPTIST**  
SIXTH & SUMMITT  
MARK STOVALL, PASTOR  
250-3933

**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
NORTH END OF CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH  
1601 EUCLID  
265-5267

**TEMPLO BAUTISTA**  
403 WOODLAND  
MAURICIO ANTONIO MARTINEZ, PASTOR  
250-3472

**CATHOLIC**  
ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC  
16th & CLEVELAND  
FATHER ED SWEENEY, PASTOR  
250-2871

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST  
502 WEST SIXTH  
T. LEON TALLEY, MINISTER  
250-2769

**TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
10th & EUCLID  
RON SMILEY 250-3213  
GERALL WYLY 295-6774

**METHODIST**  
FRIONA UNITED METHODIST  
8th & PIERCE  
REV. STEVE PATTERSON  
250-3045

**IGLESIA COMPANERISMO**  
CRISTIANO  
7th & WASHINGTON  
RUBEN RIVERA, MINISTER  
250-8011

**CONGREGATIONAL**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
UNION CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH  
1601 EUCLID  
JULIA ALEXANDER  
250-3635

### Bovina

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
308 3rd STREET  
AARON REED, PASTOR  
251-1632

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
500 AVE. E  
MIKE PRATHER, MINISTER  
251-1334

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
205 4th STREET  
QUETA JONES, PASTOR  
251-1124

**ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
401 3rd STREET  
FATHER JUAN CARLOS BARRAGAN  
251-1511

**LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO**  
THE CHURCH OF GOD OF THE FIRSTBORN  
102 2nd

**IGLESIA BAUTISTA HISPANA**  
103 1st STREET  
RAFAEL MARIN, PASTOR  
251-5232

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101 North Third 251-1442

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PO Drawer GG - Bovina TX

**CATTLE TOWN**  
Mobile: 806-357-9132  
Office: 806-357-2231  
Summerfield  
PO Drawer 1938 Hereford TX 79045

**Caprock Cattle Feeders**  
806-225-4400  
A Cargill Company  
PO Drawer E Bovina, Texas

**HI-PRO FEEDS**  
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Phone: 250-2791  
Friona TX 79035

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1010 Columbia at Hwy 60, Friona  
Hours: 8am-noon and 1-5 pm  
Monday-Friday  
250-5555

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Hereford, Texas 79045

# BOVINA REFLECTIONS

Bovina History Reviewed in Newspaper's Final Edition  
(continued from front page)

One story goes that when Bill decided to organize Parmer County, there were not enough "real people" in the county to form a legal organization. To overcome this handicap, the cow ponies were named and votes were cast for them. Still one vote short of the legal number, McLean's old dog was registered, and the vote cast in his name made the necessary number.

When the organization was completed on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1907, W.L. Townsen, who lived at Parmerton Switch, became County Judge; E.T. Stevens became Sherriff and Tax Collector, J.F. McKay was County and District Clerk; and Norman Wilson was County Treasurer. The town of Parmerton was duly elected and designated to be the County Seat of Parmer County, Texas. Thus, Parmer County, which had been created by the State Legislature on August 21, 1876, and named after Martin Parmer (a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence) became an organized county.

The officers of the Parmerton Townsite Company were Wallace Good, President; Norman Wilson, Vice President; and W.L. Townsen, Secretary; and the 28' x 30' building used as a temporary courthouse belonged to that company.

The town site was mapped. The plat revealed that it was to have 74 city blocks plus a public square in the center of the plat. All streets were designated as 60 feet wide except Main, Seventh, and Eighth Streets, which were to be 80 feet. These were the streets leading to the public square.

Although much planning had gone into the Town of Parmerton by its officers, it was destined for failure.

The businessmen at Bovina were against the new town site, and the Capitol Syndicate had already established offices in Farwell and wanted the county seat to be there. A petition was presented to the Commissioners Court of Parmer County calling for a county seat election.

The election was held December 10, 1907; and 126 votes were cast. Legend has it that a few New Mexico neighbors and at least one burro voted, along with many XIT cowboys who had their laundry done at Farwell every two or three months and, thus, were considered legal residents.

There were many contested votes, but all were validated except for a Katerina Rubal Coba of Mexico. After much searching—even to points as far away as El Paso, the man was found in Artesia, New Mexico, by Press Abbott, an XIT cowboy. After questioning, his vote was validated; and Farwell became the new county seat. The majority of the Bovina voters favored Farwell in the election.

Among the first to come to the little settlement of a couple of stores, a railroad, and acres of cattle pens was Frank Hastings, who arrived in 1902.

Mr. Hastings says there was never a saloon in the county (Texico at one time had 13), and it was against the law to wear pistols. When the county was organized, he became a deputy sheriff. He had acted as an unofficial lawman before that. He relates that there were numerous fistfights, and his policy as a lawman was to let them fight it out. He says the fights weren't as easy to stop as the ones Mr. Dillon stopped in Dodge City.

Mr. Hastings came to the area when he was about 20 years old and first worked as a carpenter and painted the Star Ranch headquarters near present day Lazbuddie. The XIT had been slow to show a profit and, needing money to meet obligations, the Syndicate decided to sell some land in large parcels, the minimum being 50 thousand acres.

Kelley Brothers and a Mr. Laird had just bought 90,000 acres and had started improvements. Hastings was sent to Bovina that winter to keep track of their supplies that were being shipped in by rail and to see that they were loaded and sent to the ranch.

Bovina was shipping cattle that had originated on ranches as far away as the Big Spring and Midland areas. The cattle were driven to Bovina and allowed to graze on the lush grass all the way. Then they were put on a train at Bovina and would reach Kansas City with much less time to shrink that if they had been put on a train in their local areas.

Bovina continued to grow. A Mr. Williams had a livery stable, Norman Wilson opened a lumberyard, and Porter Johnson was the blacksmith. Four businessmen ran the Bovina Mercantile Store: Tom Houghland, Luther Barnes, Frank Hastings, and A.J. Oliver. This store had been the Laird-Herring Mercantile, which was established in 1905.

Other early day settlers were the Tidenbergs (1909) and the F.A. Springs (1906), the father of Doctors Paul and Lee Springs. W. L. Townsen was the first County Judge in 1907 and later operated the Townsen Hotel in Bovina in 1910 and 1911. The Deans (1908) were the parents of Pearl Hastings, who was a Bovina teacher in 1913-14. There were others who are not familiar to me.

The first settlers were mostly young couples with only small children, and the need for a school was not pressing until the children became older. As pioneers recall, the first school in Bovina was held in the Section House of the Santa Fe Railroad under a private tutor. The first school that could be genuinely regarded as a public school opened in 1905 and was held in the Catholic Church for two or three years. Old-timers say that school was held in a downtown business building about 1907, and a Miss Alice Mersfield was the teacher.

In 1910, the Bovina School Board was founded, and school was held in an old residence near the city water works. Mr. Joe Burnam was the first teacher in 1910. Eulalia Spraws, a young lady almost 18, was hired as a second teacher. There were 20 children in the first three grades.

The school continued to grow so that by 1911 a brick school building consisting of eight classrooms was constructed. In 1927, seven more classrooms and a study hall were added. This was a part of the Bovina school that burned in 1953.

Other early day teachers were Lem Fertch, principal; Pearl Dean—who later married Tom Hastings and is the mother of Dean Hastings and Donalita Hawkins; Mrs. Frank Hastings; Benton Graham; Leora Tidenberg, and Madge Lively.

The first Methodist Church building in Bovina was dedicated by the Presiding Elder W.O. Kiker in September, 1913.

Around 1905, the Syndicate began selling smaller parcels of land. Much advertising was done, and land companies such as the South & West Land Company were established. Settlers moved in, and those without a great deal of tenacity moved back to where they came from after a year or so.

When the Bovina Division of the XIT was made, John R. Armstrong was sent as foreman and manager. He stayed until the land was disposed of and then took charge of all Syndicate land south of the Canadian. He met an untimely death on the streets of Bovina on November 17, 1908.

Bovina incorporated as a city shortly after World War II. Bull Town Days was started in 1963. The statue of the longhorn bull and the historical marker were unveiled in 1969. The marker was dedicated to the preservation of American history.

I have gathered most of my information from the romantic approach and have sprinkled in a few statistical facts, hoping that I may have stirred nostalgic memories for those of you who know Bovina's history. I also hope that I have made those of you who are newcomers feel the warmth and closeness of the people of the Bovina community.



Please bring all the other little boys and girls something also. Tell Rudolph hello for me.  
Love, Alan Hromas  
**20 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1983**

I am in first grade and I have been good. Please bring me a Barbie doll set, dishes a Care Bear doll, Make-and-Bake-It oven.  
Love, Gina Villarreal  
\*\*\*\*\*

I am in first grade and I have been good. Please bring me a bike, a Barbie, a Barbie house, Barbie clothes, a new swing set, play make-up and a baby that pushes a stroller and Smurf.  
Crystal Brito  
**15 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1988**

Please bring me a play dough set that makes french fries and ice cream. If you can't find that bring me a baby doll-any kind of baby doll.  
Thank you, Jamie Kunselman  
\*\*\*\*\*

I want a jewelry set. And a elephant wuzzle. And a new bedspread. And a Lil Miss makeup. And a little bit of new clothes.  
Love, Jamie D. Stanberry  
\*\*\*\*\*

I would like to have a play dough set. My sister wants to share it with me. I wish I could have everything I want. I want you would fix the kitchen! Not really.  
Love, Gina Kunselman  
**10 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1993**

How are you? I hope you are well. Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. I hope you bring me some roller blades. Game gear, and a teddy bear. Please give by family some gifts, too.  
Dustin Lara  
\*\*\*\*\*

How are you? I hope you are fine. Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. Please bring me a bunny rabbit, bike and roller blades. I hope Mrs. Claus is fine. I hope the elves hae got the gifts ready. I hoe the reindeer are ready to go.  
Kristen Montgomery  
**5 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1998**

Santa, how is Rudolph and the other reindeer? I would like to thank you for the things you gave me last year. I would like a viper for Christmas. And a corvette for Christmas. You better get the reindeer fed before you leave for Christmas. Is Rudolph's nose still shining as bright as it was? Will you tell the reindeer Hello for me please? I like all of the reindeer you have. Have you gotten any more reindeer this year? I was just wondering.  
Love, Brett Anderson  
\*\*\*\*\*

For Christmas I want a bike and a big bear and I will give you some cookies on your plate. Can you bring me a little baby rabbit for me and a belt for my pants?  
Your friend, Yoselin Rueda  
\*\*\*\*\*

I want a go-cart, gun and a Big Bertha cannon. Remember all the other little boys and girls, too.  
Thank you, Butch McCain  
**35 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1968**

Please bring me a hot wheels and a train, too. Please bring me an airplane and trucks too. That's all. Now I want to say goodby, Merry Christmas.  
Love, Buddy Ed Hutto  
\*\*\*\*\*

My name is Greg. I want a stretch monster and some hot wheels. Little Larry wants some toys too. Please don't forget to bring my aunt Ne-Ne and Pam something so they don't cry. I'll leave some cookies and juice on the cabinet for you.  
Love, Greg McCormick  
\*\*\*\*\*

My name is Alan and I am 2 1/2 years old. I have been a good boy so please bring a train set and a guitar.  
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Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a swinger camera. And a bicycle and a baby small walk. Merry Christmas.  
Love, Pamela Rhodes  
**30 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1973**

I am 8 yrs. Old. I think I have been good. I would like to have the blue Petite Typewriter and case. I like the blue. But, if you don't have any of the blue, I would like the green. Thanks for all the gifts Santa Clause that you have given me. I like them so much. How is Rudolph? And how are all the reindeer? And how are you and your wife? I love you so so very much.  
Love, Wendy Hall  
\*\*\*\*\*

How are you this year? I have been a good little girl. I would like to have a big baby doll and doll buggy. Remember all the other boys and girls. I live at Bovina, Texas.  
Cathey Ruth Sikes  
**40 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1963**

I want a robot, a scooter, skates, some guns and cowboy boots, a horn, a cowboy hat, also some nuts, candy, gum and fruit. Thank you so very much.  
Love and peppermints, Randal Charles  
\*\*\*\*\*

Would you please bring me a go-cart, gun and a Big Bertha cannon. Remember all the other little boys and girls, too.  
Thank you, Butch McCain  
**35 Yrs. Ago**  
**December 25, 1968**

Please bring me a hot wheels and a train, too. Please bring me an airplane and trucks too. That's all. Now I want to say goodby, Merry Christmas.  
Love, Buddy Ed Hutto  
\*\*\*\*\*

My name is Alan and I am 2 1/2 years old. I have been a good boy so please bring a train set and a guitar.  
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# Merry Christmas

from our family to yours.

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOVINA

Birthdays for December 28, 2003 through January 10, 2004.

- Dec. 28—Tammy Stormes, Francis Johnson
- Dec. 29—Angie Riley, Scott Riley
- Dec. 31—Michelle Stanberry, Joshua Parson, Brenda Wilson
- Jan. 1—Jody Wilburn
- Jan. 3—Jerry Ward
- Jan. 4—Judy Hromas, Brad Hromas, Peter Vanegas, Sandra Cockerham, Joe Black, Sr., Brandi Ventura
- Jan. 5—Nora Fuentes, Charlsie Eubanks, Ricky Jamerson
- Jan. 6—Don Teague, Carlene Grissom
- Jan. 7—Wayne McClaran, Rosa Anaya
- Jan. 8—Ruben Serna
- Jan. 9—Galen Carson, Aaron Ramon, Jerry Rocha
- Jan. 10—Rocky Bartlett, Gaylon Rhodes

If you or someone in your family has a birthday coming up soon, please call the Friona Star office at 250-2211 by Tuesday noon and report it.

When you see names, which should have been removed from our birthday listings (moved away, names that have changed, deceased, etc.) call the newspaper and let someone know. Thank you.



## Make Sure Your Children Know You Care This Holiday Season

By Greg Abbott, Attorney General of Texas

Anyone who has ever purchased a Christmas gift or hosted a big holiday meal knows the value of a dollar at this time of year. Many single parents know this dilemma all too well, especially if they depend on regular child support payments to make ends meet each month.

Child support enables parents to put a roof over their children's heads, clothes on their backs, and food on the table. During the holidays, these challenges are compounded as parents also try to put gifts under the tree or gas in their car for a long trip to grandma's house. That's why I am giving parents this special reminder to pay their child support.

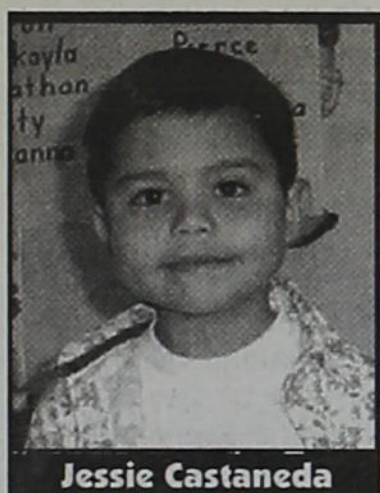
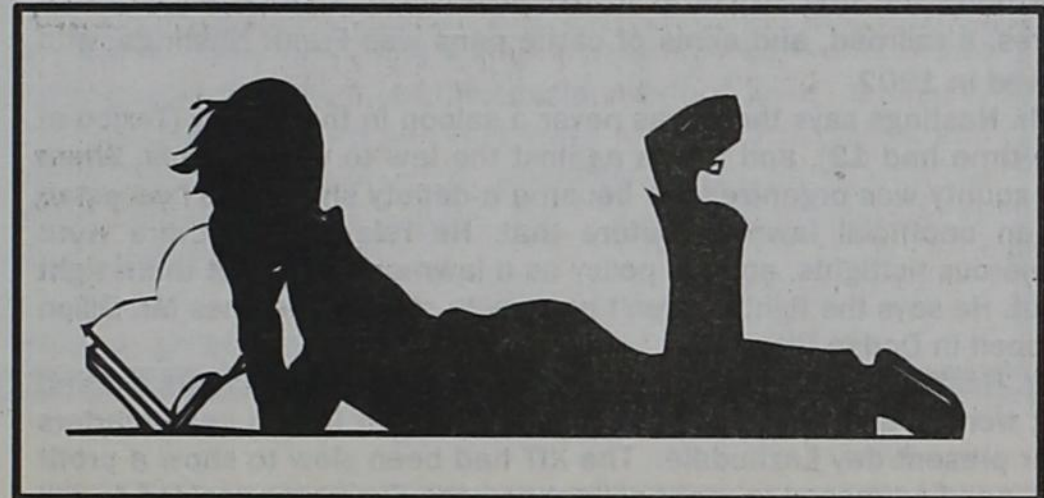
To those parents who regularly pay their child support in full and on time, I extend my heartfelt thanks. Your faithfulness will reap great rewards as you help your children remember the holidays as a time of provision rather than hardship.

I know that sometimes circumstances arise, such as losing a job, that make it difficult to meet one's child support obligation. For parents who are in a situation like this, I encourage you to contact my office so we can work together to determine a course of action. As an additional service, my office partners with the Texas Workforce Commission and workforce development boards across the state to help low-income parents find good-paying jobs, so they can meet their child support obligations.

Ultimately, what children need most is to know their parents care about them. For unmarried parents, this begins with establishing paternity. When paternity is established, a child has a legal connection to his or her father that protects the child's access to a whole range of benefits fathers can provide, starting with having a dad's name on the birth certificate. Through the Paternity Opportunity Program, my office trains and certifies employees of hospitals and birthing centers to assist parents with the process of acknowledging paternity just after their child's birth. We can also facilitate DNA tests to scientifically and legally establish fatherhood.

As children grow up, my office also encourages their parents to stay involved in their lives beyond paying child support. For example, we are part of the Tarrant County Fatherhood Coalition, a collaboration of more than 20 agencies and organizations seeking to strengthen the role of fathers and families in the lives of their children. We also help parents who are having trouble getting the access to their children that they desire. My office just administered nearly \$500,000 in federal grants to 23 groups across Texas who facilitate parents' access to and visitation with their children.

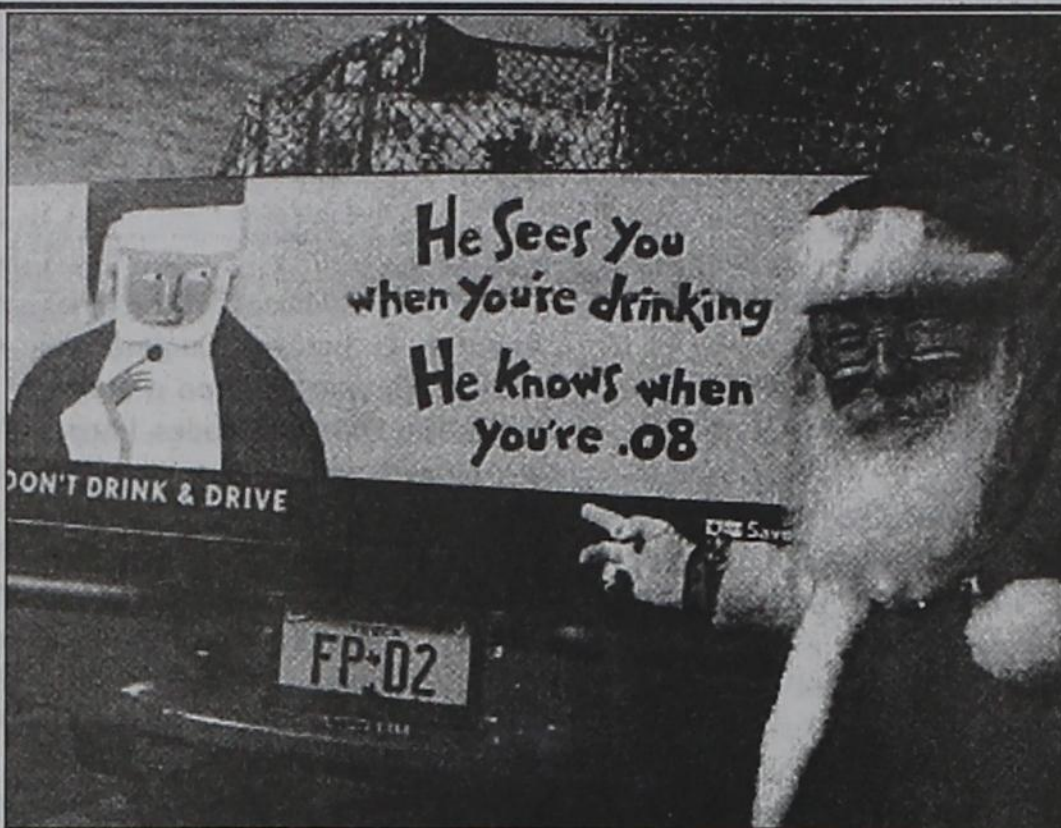
Kids will remember forever what happens during this holiday season. Please, help make those memories good ones by being there for them and paying your child support.



### Meet the Class of 2016

Jessie is a kindergarten student at Friona Schools. His parents are Jessie and Nancy Castaneda. He has one sister, Isabel. Jessie likes playing videos, and playing with his baby sister. His favorite foods are spaghetti and pizza. His favorite color is yellow.

FRIONA TEXAS  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



SANTA AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION have a reminder for Texas motorists: don't drink and drive. Law enforcement will be out in force statewide during the holiday season in an effort to get drunk drivers off Texas streets and highways. Last year more than 1,700 people were killed in alcohol-related fatalities.

## DPS: New Year's Driving Resolutions

Let the confetti fly, wear your funny hats and welcome the New Year with good cheer, but resolve to drive responsibly this New Year's holiday. Anyone planning to consume alcoholic beverages should have someone else—who hasn't been drinking—drive them home.

Starting at midnight on New Year's Day, Operation Holiday will go into effect. Extra troopers will be on the lookout for speeders, seat belt violators, reckless drivers and drunk drivers from January 1<sup>st</sup> through January 4<sup>th</sup> to reduce the number of traffic accidents and traffic fatalities.

"If you choose to celebrate the New Year, please drive sober. If you plan to drink, please designate a driver. We want all Texans to be around to enjoy 2004," said Col. Thomas A. Davis, Jr., director of the DPS.

While making your New Year's resolutions, please remember to add "Improve Driving Habits" to your list!

Here are some good habits to employ:

- \* Make sure everyone is buckled up.
- \* Drive sober.
- \* Use your turn signals.
- \* Do not tailgate.
- \* Obey the speed limit.
- \* Do no speed up, block lanes, slam or tap on brakes.
- \* Report extreme cases of reckless driving to the appropriate authorities.
- \* Do not retaliate, gesture or make eye contact.

## Barnes To Campaign In Friona

Republican candidate for Texas Senate Bob Barnes will bring his listening tour to Friona on December 29 at the Old Depot as part of his "BARNES-storming West Texas" listening tour of District 31.

Barnes is visiting communities in all 26 counties to hear directly from the voters what they want out of their next state senator. "I've got a lot of ideas about how we can improve our public schools, bring new jobs to the area, and unify West Texans, but I don't have all the answers," Barnes said. "That's why I'm visiting directly with voters in all 26 counties, to hear their concerns and ideas and take them to Austin as their state senator."

The public is invited to attend the event. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

## COURTHOUSE NOTES

The Parmer County Courthouse has released the following warranty deeds this week.

Susan L. Ables, Eric Williams Estate; Farwell Abstract Company, Inc.; N/2 S66 BLK Z JOHNSON.

Farwell Abstract Company, Inc.; Beverly Obenshain, Harlin Obenshain; N/2 S66 BLK Z JOHNSON.

Hud; Donnann Teague, Lance Teague; N70' L8 B1 RIDGELEA FRIONA (corrected).

## SHERIFF'S REPORT

December 19, Roy Valdez, 34, of Clovis, was arrested by the Sheriff's Office and charged with DWI, pending County Court; and possession of a controlled substance, pending Grand Jury.

December 19, Joe Garcia, 43, of Clovis, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with DWI, pending County Court.

December 20, Israel Carrillo, 29, of Dallas, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with DWI 3<sup>rd</sup> or more, pending Grand Jury; driving while license suspended, pending County Court; and four Dallas County warrants.

December 20, Ricardo Ornelias, 18, of Portales, was arrested by the Sheriff's Office and charged with possession of marijuana, pending County Court.

December 21, James Castillo, 19, of Texico, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with DWI, pending County Court; and possession of a controlled substance, pending Grand Jury.

## Quick, Healthy Breakfast Doesn't Have To Be Expensive

Reprinted from Baylor College of Medicine Nutrition Briefs, November 2003

Teens caught in the morning rush who stop for a quick bowl of cereal help their bodies and the family budget.

"There are food choices that are convenient and taste good that can be part of a healthy diet," said Dr. Theresa Nicklas, professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "Ready to eat cereals provide a good choice for teens in a hurry."

Nicklas, a researcher at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor, says that adolescents who consume a cereal breakfast obtain more vitamins and minerals for their dollar than those making other breakfast choices. Although breakfast cereals are perceived as being expensive, they remain a good morning-meal buy from a nutrition standpoint when compared to fast foods and other breakfast choices.

Consumer food choices are influenced by taste, nutrition, cost and convenience, so determining food efficiency—nutrients consumed per dollar—provides information helpful to families making food selection decisions.



## YOUR EYES

### IMPROVING NIGHT VISION

Do you have difficulty seeing in the evening? As people age, they are more prone to night vision problems. Although this condition cannot be eliminated completely, improvements are possible. First, you should have your eyes checked at least every two years if not annually. Nearsightedness may become worse in the evening because you have difficulty focusing at a distance. It is important for the eye-care specialist to prescribe the correct glasses.



Second, you should have an antireflection coating on the lens of your glasses. This helps reduce glare and significantly enhances night vision. Third, a good diet with lots of vegetables can improve eyesight. This is not a myth. Carrots are not the only food that can help. Current research shows that dark green leafy vegetables, such as spinach, kale and collard greens can maintain healthy eyes and good vision.

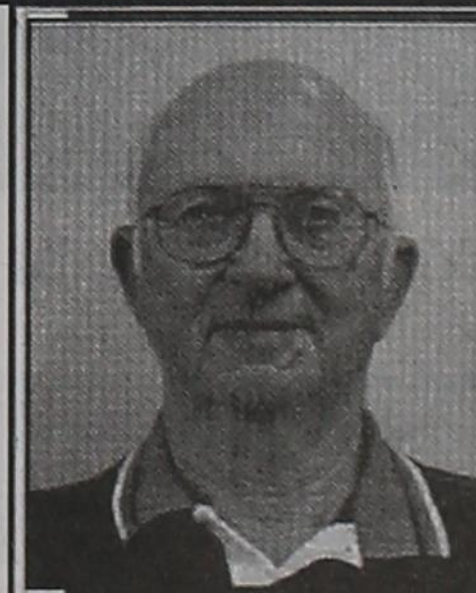
If you are having difficulty seeing at night when you are going out to do some last minute holiday shopping, do not take chances by driving. See your vision-care professional, who can suggest ways to improve your eyesight both in the daytime and at night.

Brought to you as a community service by:

## DR. HAROLD W. BRIGANCE

Optometrist O.D.

426 N. Main-Suite Hereford The Atrium 364-8755



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We would like to thank our customers and the community who attended our Open House last week. We had a wonderful turnout and a great time. We would especially like to extend our appreciation to our customers for their business.


We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Just to let everyone know we are now accepting City water payments.

**F** First National Bank  
Friona Banking Center

MEMBER FDIC  
710 W 11<sup>TH</sup>  
PO BOX 727  
Phone 806-250-2900  
Banking Hours:  
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### Livestock Auction

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FRIONA MASONIC**  
**LODGE No. 1332**  
 Slated Meeting-1st Tues.  
 8 P.M. - 7th & Ashland  
 John R. Blackwell, W.M.  
 Larry J. Knowles, Sec.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Sixth St. Church of Christ is collecting clothes for Medina Children's Home. If you have clothes that you would like to discard, regardless of size or condition, please bring them to Sixth St. Church of Christ.

**THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE**  
**PHONE**  
**NUMBER IS**  
**1-800-252-5400.**  
*Remember that our children today are our future tomorrow.*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Friona Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors voted to provide a grant to Lone Star Dairy, Friona, TX. A public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2004 at 7:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the Friona Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture at which time the public may be heard.

**REAL ESTATE**

**FOR SALE...3 BR home,** oversized garage, separate apartment, 1301 Columbia in Friona. Call (806)655-4650.

**FOR RENT**

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*Happy Holiday Season*

## Snead Realty

**REALTOR**  
 908 W. 11th St. Phone 250-2345 Fax 250-3682  
 Gary Snead, MFLA, MSA Home Phone 265-3383

NEW LISTING 3 BR, 1 bath, w/rent house, newly redone...\$46,000  
 NEW LISTING 2BR, 1Ba, C/P, nice, clean twin living...\$32,250  
 NEW LISTING 3BR, 1Ba, Brick, Fence, storage bldg...\$36,900  
 NEW LISTING 4BR, 2Ba, 2 Living, F/P, C/P, Nice...\$74,000  
 NEW LISTING 3BR, 2Ba, Nice Size, 1-Car, 2 C/P...\$37,250  
 2 small rent houses, corner lot, investment prop...\$23,000  
 2 BR, 1 bath, large living area, basement...\$35,000  
 4BR, 3 baths, 2 car, 2 living, BIG, metal roof...\$81,900  
 3 BR, 1 bath, 1 car, new paint, carpet...\$38,000  
 3 BR, 2 bath, 2 car, brick, quiet street w/nice covered porch...\$60,000  
 3 br, 1 bath, 1 car, new SAU...\$30,500  
 3 BR, 2 bath, basement, 2 car...\$80,000  
 Small Office/studio with 1/2 bath, to be moved...\$5,000  
 3-4 Br, 1-1/2 ba, metal roof, 4637 acres...\$58,000  
 3 BR, 2 bath, 2 car garage, newly repainted...\$72,000  
 Upstairs & downstairs apartment complex...\$21,900  
 3 BR, 1 bath, utility room, basement...\$25,500  
 2 BR, 1 bath home plus mobile home lot...\$25,000  
 3 BR, 3 BA, 2LR, DR, lg. garage, re-done...\$123,900

## CLASSIFIED Ads

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2/3 BR, 1 BATH, LARGE LOT...\$39,900  
 2 BR, 1.5 BATH, VERY NICE...\$51,900  
 3 BR, 2 BATH, IN BOVINA...\$62,000...\$58,000  
 3 BR, 2 BATH, 2 CAR, CORNER LOT (IN CONTRACT)...\$65,000  
 3 BR, 2 BATH, 2 CAR GARAGE, METAL TRIM, BIG...\$64,900  
 3 BR, 1 BATH, 1 CAR GARAGE, VERY NICE...\$47,900  
 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, BUILDING WITH 8 LOTS...\$40,000

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**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**CLOVIS NEWS JOURNAL IS LOOKING FOR AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACT CARRIER IN BOVINA. RACK SALES AND HOME DELIVERY. MUST HAVE RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION, PROOF OF INSURANCE AND VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE. ROUTE AVAILABLE JANUARY 1. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1-800-819-9925. ASK FOR LYNN BERRY OR BERNICE ORTEGA. 8-5 MONDAY-FRIDAY.**

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 CAROL BOYD Sales Associate Call: 806-265-7984

PHONE: 806-250-2745-102 East 11th-Fax:806-250-2165

**NEW LISTINGS**

3/1 STUCCO-Great beginner home...33,000  
 3/1.5 BRICK carport, near high school, stor. bldg. ....44,500  
 3/2 BRICK-Fenced yard, fireplace, cent. h/a, storage bldg...53,500  
 6/3/6 COUNTRY HOME 6,000 sq. ft., add'l acreage...225,000  
 COUNTRY ACREAGE-Great Buy for 350+ acres...SOLD  
 COUNTRY ACREAGE-800+ acres...Contract pending

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3/1 BRICK-Great buy!...Contract pending  
 3/2/2 BRICK-Great neighborhood, w/basement...Contract pending  
 2/2/1 BRICK-Ceramic tile, new carpet, lg. living area, cent.h/a. 68,000  
 3/3/2 COUNTRY HOME-Central heat/air, basement, acreage...100,000  
 3/2/1 BRICK-Corner lot, central heat/air, storm cellar...65,000  
 REDUCED: 2 lg. lots w/vacant house...Make an offer...15,000  
 JUST REDUCED:3/2/1 Brick-cent. h/a, close to hospital...62,000  
 2/1 STUCCO-Corner lot,carport, central heat/air, cellar, lg. lot...32,500

**BOVINA LISTINGS**

MOTEL ON HWY 60: 10 furnished rooms, RV hookups...100,000

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 NEW LISTING: Nice sized lot with restaurant facility...39,500  
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 NEW LISTING: Very nice business space on main street...24,000  
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 GREAT BUY: Restaurant \$33K - \$25K equip. only/rental opt...33,000  
 TRUCK BUSINESS: On Hwy 60 with Equip, tools, etc...149,900  
 BLDG ON HWY 60:Offices, lg. parking lot, 2 service bays...92,500

**Happy Holidays from Holly!**

## PEEKABOOS

Use miniature cookie cutters to create the "windows" in these cookies. You can also use a small, sharp knife to cut out your own designs (children should be supervised, of course). Makes about 30 cookies

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon zest
- 1/4 cup seedless jam or jelly in flavor of choice

Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone-coated nonstick liners.

In a bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, and salt; reserve.

In a large bowl, combine the butter, sugar, vanilla, and lemon zest. With an electric mixer set on medium-high speed, beat until the mixture is light and fluffy. With the mixer set on low speed, add the flour mixture and beat until a smooth dough forms.

Divide the dough in half and form each half into a ball. Wrap each ball well in plastic wrap and chill until ready to use, at least 30 minutes or for up to 3 days. Let stand at room temperature for 10 minutes before proceeding with recipe.

Lightly flour a work surface and a rolling pin. Place 1 dough ball on the work surface and pat it into a thick round. With the rolling pin, roll out the dough about 1/8 inch thick. Use 2 1/4 to 3-inch cookie cutters in the desired shapes to cut the cookie bottoms. With a spatula, transfer the cutouts to prepared baking sheets, spacing them about 1 inch apart. Reserve the dough scraps.

Repeat the rolling and cutting process for the cookie tops, using the remaining dough ball and the same cookie cutters. Reserve the dough scraps. With the miniature cookie cutters, cut out a shape from the center of each cookie top. Discard the tiny shapes that result from the pattern cutting (or bake them along with the cookies; be watchful though, as they will be done in the blink of an eye). With a spatula, transfer the cookie tops to a baking sheet.

Repeat the process with the remaining dough.

Place the baking sheets in the oven. Bake the cookies until they are light brown around the edges, 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool on the baking sheets for 2 minutes, then transfer to racks and let cool completely.

While the cookies are cooling, melt the jam in a small saucepan over low heat, stirring until it thins.

To assemble the cookies, spread the cookie bottoms with a thin layer of warm jam, leaving a border of about 1/4 inch around the edges. Top with the cutout tops. Peekaboo!

(Reprinted from Donata Maggipinto's holiday book, "Christmas Family Gatherings: Recipes and Ideas for Celebrating with People You Love".)



## Too Many 'Food' Rules May Lead To Weight Problems

(Reprinted from Baylor College of Medicine Nutrition Briefs, November 2003)

Parents who try to tightly control the eating habits of their little girls may be contributing to their later weight problems.

Dr. Jennifer Fisher, assistant professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine, found that girls ages 5 to 7 who eat regardless of hunger have a higher risk of being overweight. The risk of eating in the absence of hunger at age 7 increased when parents tried to restrict their food intake.

"We think that eating in the absence of hunger is produced in part by parental restrictions," said Fisher, also a researcher at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor.

"Kids, just like adults, don't like to be told what they can't do," said Fisher. "Eating is an important part of who we are as families and as a society. Restrictions may focus children's attention away from their own hunger and fullness cues."

# Happy Holidays

...And Many Thanks!

From all of us, to all of you, go our warm wishes for the brightest holiday season, ever!

Thank you for brightening our year with your friendship.

*These folks have joined together to wish their Bovina friends and neighbors a very Merry Christmas. Proceeds from the Annual Christmas Card Fund benefit the Bovina Ambulance Service and Bovina Volunteer Fire Department. Donations were received from:*

Gabe Anderson, Jr.  
Rouel Barron & Thelma Barron  
John & Jo Blackwell  
James & Sandra Clayton  
Jimmy & Barbara Cockerham  
Mary Sue Fowler  
Scott & Clara Gober  
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## Library Corner by Darla Bracken

### What's New At Your Library?

By DARLA BRACKEN

#### Counting our blessings...

For many years now, libraries in the state of Texas have benefited as they tried to serve the diverse needs of their communities. State and Federal dollars have come into our area through the Texas Panhandle Library System, one of ten systems in the state of Texas. We are one of 31 member libraries in the Panhandle.

Through the years (since 1972) they have funded or provided access to special projects as varied as:

\* Spanish, Art, Large Print, Audio Book, and 16 mm Film Rotating Packets; these have supplemented and enhanced our local collections.

\* Grants for Automation, Networking, and High Speed Public Internet Access; these grants made these state-of-the-art technologies a reality for us.

\* Access to TexShare Databases and Loan Star Program for assistance; funds have been given each year in direct reflection of our local efforts, for collection development, i.e. money for books in direct response to how our local budgets for materials increase.

\* Public relations efforts: brochures, advertising, bookmarks, calendars, and farm & ranch show booth.

\* Professional training, consultation, and expertise for librarians; this is invaluable help to our library's growth and development.

\* Collection Development Funds and Access to Major Resource Center/Amarillo Public Library's discount to purchase materials locally.

Many of these things would never have happened without this assistance.

Currently, the funds to pay for these services are in danger of being revamped, re-assigned or at worst, completely phased out. Brenda and I attended a regional planning meeting in Hereford on December 17 to brainstorm with area officials about how to best serve our libraries through 2007 with existing funding. Kathy and Alvin Petty, our TPLS lay representative and board member, respectively, also attended a similar session in Amarillo on November 25. In a time of budget crisis, libraries suffer.

New arrivals: Fiction, Johnny Angel by Danielle Steel, Touch by Colleen McCullough, Safe Harbour by Danielle Steel, By Sorrows River by Larry McMurtry, Big Bad Wolf by James Patterson, Blow Fly by Patricia Cornwell, Shepherds Abiding by Jan Karon, Capital Crimes by Stuart Woods, Balance of Power by Richard North Patterson, Hello Darkness by Sandra Brown, Stone Cold by Robert Parker, O'Hara's Choice by Leon Uris; Video: Finding Nemo, Holes.

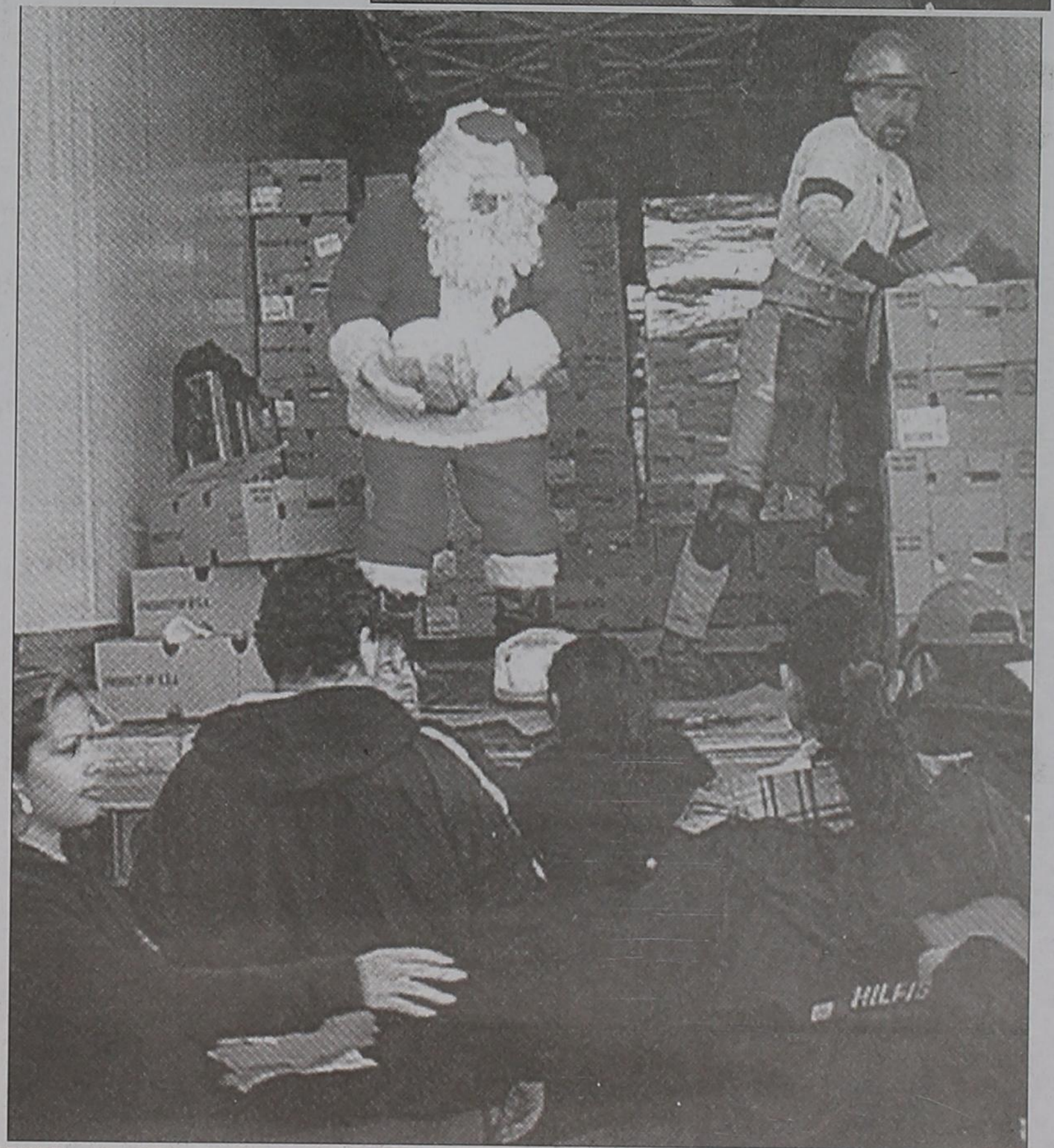
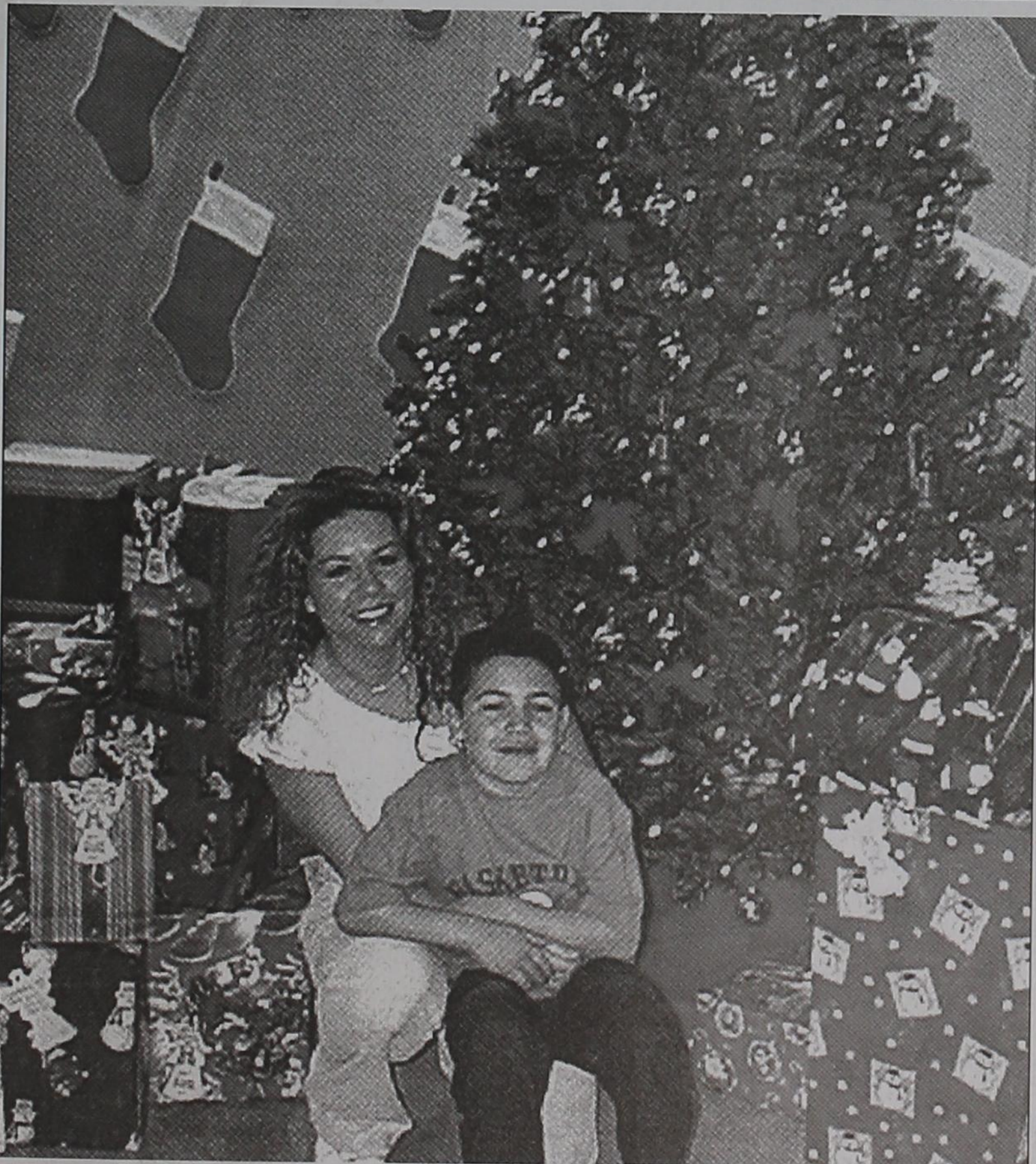
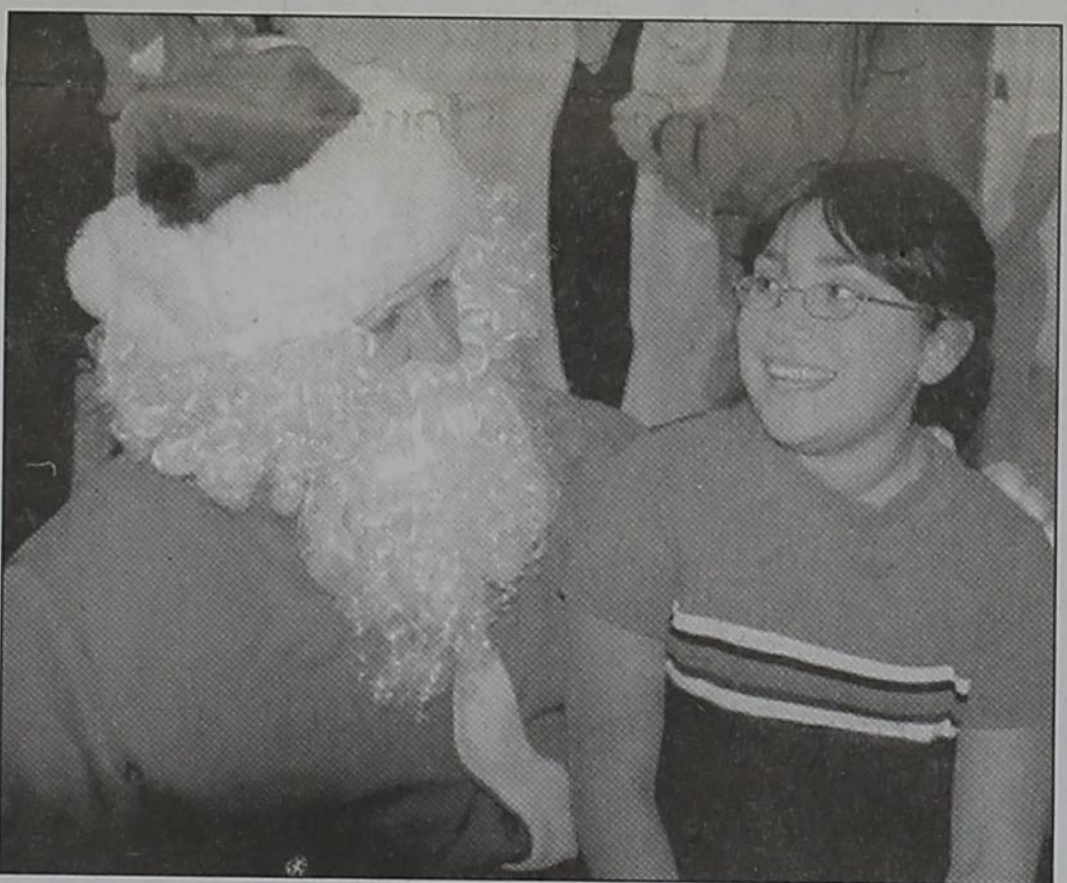
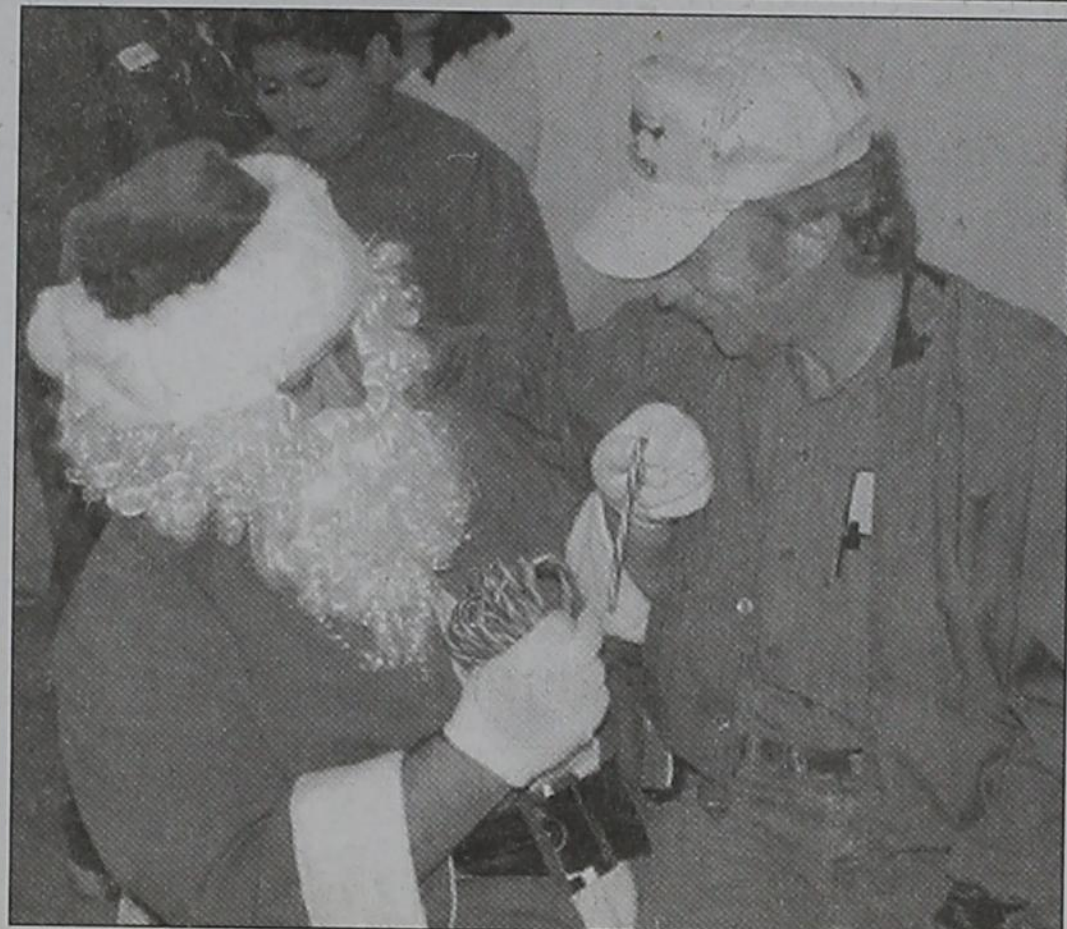
Memorial donations have been made by: Rex Brackens to NATALIE WILLIAMS; Rex Brackens to LORRAINE GALLMAN; John Baxters to ANN GEE; Charles Myers to JUSTIN BROWN; Marlene Drake, Rex Brackens, John Baxters, Jean Roberts, Lloyd Rectors to RALPH SHIRLEY; Lloyd Rectors to BILLY DON WIGLEY, J.D. HUMPHRIES, FRANCES PARVIN, and JOHNNIE DOSHIER; Wessie Hand to RUBEN TAYLOR; Charles Myers to HERB HINER; Wessie Hand to ANNIE HARGROVE; Charles Myers, Kenneth Fords and Wessie Hand to ANITA HARRIS; Eddie Halls to DAVID TRENT STEWART; Cass Perkins, Rex Brackens and Kent Pattersons to JOSEPHINE DAVIS BLACKBURN.

Honorariums were presented to Lunell Horton for birthday by Wanda Hart; to RALPH & STELLA SHIRLEY and to RUBEN & OLLIE TAYLOR, for their many years of Civic Service to the City of Friona by Cass and Marie Perkins; Christmas Gifts to Robert Neelleys, Pudge Kendricks, and Ron Davenport from the Cecil Maddoxes.

For all of you in our community who have given to the library in so many ways...THANKS. Happy Holidays to all of you from your library.

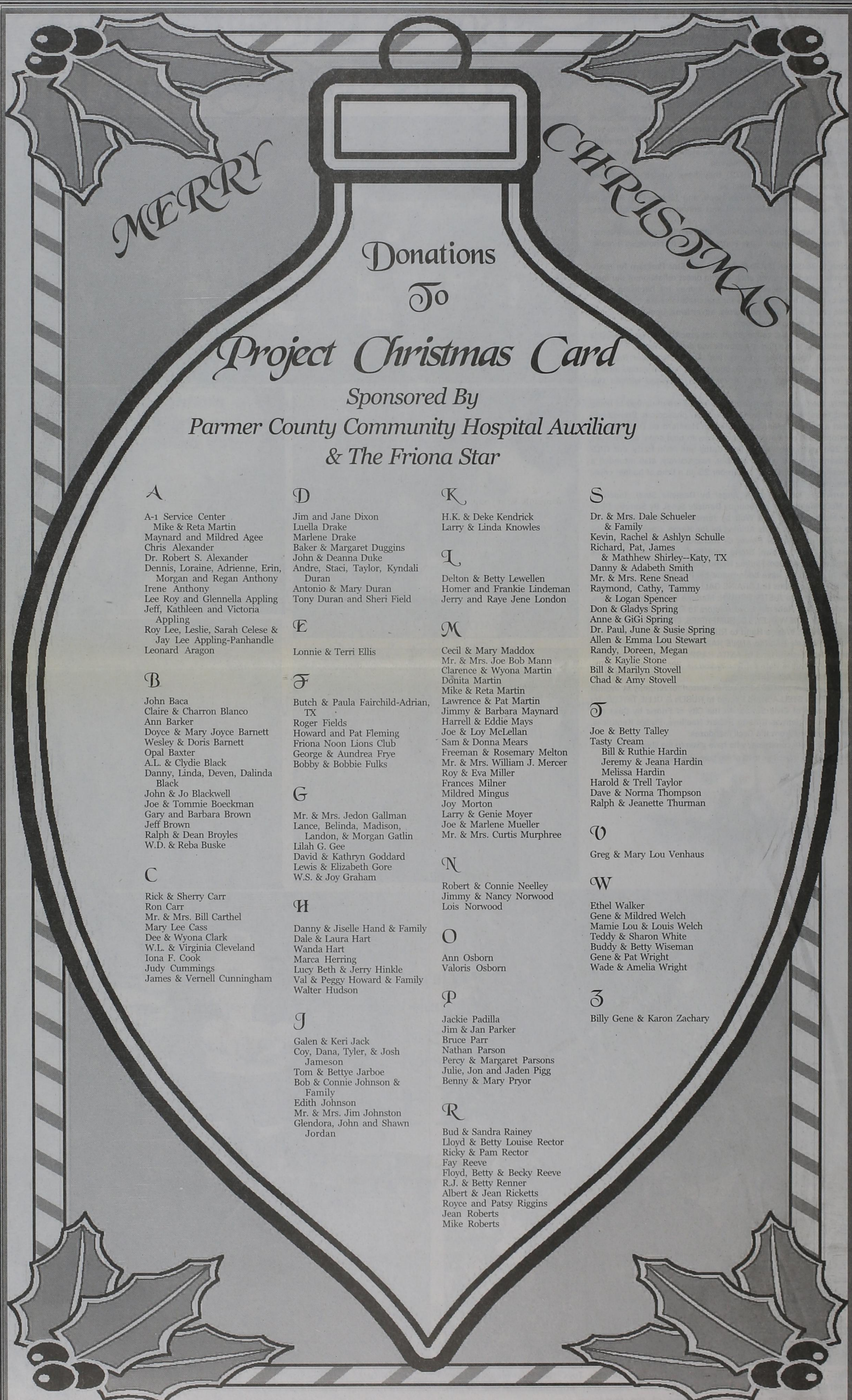
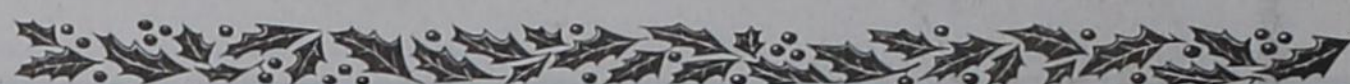


# Bovina Christmas Lights & Visits With Santa Claus



FOR THE third year Excel employees participated in the Toys for Tots program. Toys were delivered to several children December 21. Excel employee Stefanie Ancira and son Matthew are pictured with some of the toys.

EXCEL FRIONA partnered with the Local 540 union to distribute turkeys to all Excel employees for Christmas.



MERRY

CHRISTMAS

Donations  
To

Project Christmas Card

Sponsored By  
Parmer County Community Hospital Auxiliary  
& The Friona Star

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Wade & Amelia Wright

Z

Billy Gene & Karon Zachary