

Merry Christmas

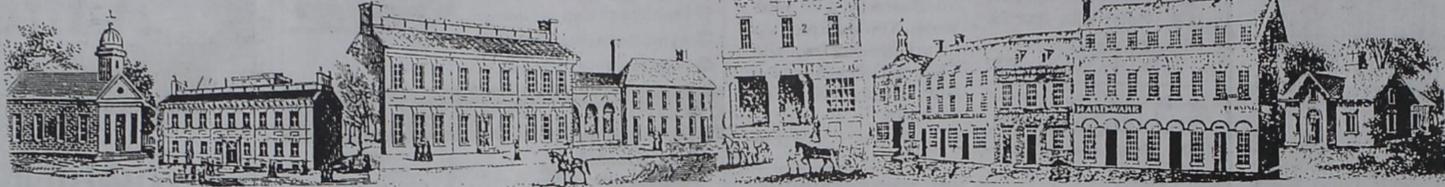
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BAIRD: Officially Designated Antique Capital Of West Texas - Texas Legislature June 22, 1993

Volume 110 Number 52

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Baird, Texas 79504

Thursday, December 24, 1998

Santa Letters

Inside This Edition

A Safe Trip To All and To All A Merry Christmas

Americans will hit the roads this holiday season in record numbers, traveling to be with family and friends across the country. But what drivers might not realize is that 3 out of 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives—a statistic we'd like to do everything to avoid.

December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, and the Texas Coalition for Vehicle Choice is urging all Americans to take the extra precautions to prevent the unthinkable.

With the increase in travel, inclement weather and alcohol consumption, driving can become difficult this time of year. But with simple precautions and common sense, this can continue to be a happier and safer holiday season:

*Never drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, including prescription and non-prescription medication that may cause drowsiness

*Make sure you have a designated driver—especially when traveling in groups. Take turns at various events so that no one misses out on any holiday cheer

*If you're having people over, make sure

both food and non-alcoholic beverages are being served. Also, pay attention to those leaving. If someone is not fit to drive, make sure they are found an alternative way of getting home

*Drive defensively. Make sure all passengers use their safety belts and children are in approved child safety seats in the rear seat. Ironically, safety belts were used by only 18.5 percent of the fatally-injured intoxicated drivers

*Use good judgment. Follow posted speed limits, and, if weather has affected road conditions, adjust your speed accordingly. Approximately 30 percent of all fatal crashes result from exceeding speed limits or driving too fast for road conditions

*If you have the choice between taking a smaller or a larger vehicle, take the larger one. Larger cars, mini vans, sport-utility vehicles and light trucks provide more protection to their occupants than smaller ones

*Make sure you not only watch out for yourself during this holiday season," speaker for the Texas Coalition added, "but watch out for those around you—including family and friends. Even though you might be a responsible driver, the driver next to you may not be as smart."

Edgewood ISD At A Crossroads

by Angie Garcia

The Edgewood School Board and administration is at a crossroads. Last April, the Children's Educational Opportunity Foundation announced the Horizon Scholarship program that will provide up to \$4,000 to any child in poverty residing in the district to attend another public or private school.

Since the announcement of Horizon, Edgewood administrators and board members have worried out loud about the negative impact it will have on their district. The

school board president even proclaimed that Horizon should have just given the \$50 million of private scholarship money to the school district.

As the State Director of the League of United Latin American Citizens, I represent the interests of Latinos across Texas. The parents I represent are often frustrated with the public school system. They are concerned about the high dropout rate of Hispanics, half of whom leave school before they graduate. They are concerned about their children's

(Continued Inside)

The Smallest and Poorest Communities Have Potential

A story from Terlingua, Texas

Terlingua, TX-- You've heard that things are "bigger" in Texas, but can you feature a place that's a full day's drive to the mail box, and you have to drill a fifth of a mile down to find water?

Texas Rural Development State Director, Steven A. Carriker, a small town, West Texas kind of guy himself, recently traveled to the twin communities of Terlingua and Study Butte (pronounced "stooey beaut") to make a \$1,348,000 funding announcement for a new water system. While Steve knows first hand about the expansiveness of the Lone Star State, its size was brought home to him yet again after making the 1,000 mile round trip.

Texas has its share of rural communities that are "a long way from nowhere," but Study Butte and Terlingua, with a combined population of about 300, are perhaps among the most remote. In fact, not only did the official State of Texas contract parcel carrier object to delivering documents to the local health clinic and requested that packages be picked up in El Paso (a mere 275 highway miles away), the official State of Texas mileage guide doesn't even know where Terlingua is located.

The recent USDA funding paid for the drilling of a well that struck water on the first try at 900 feet below the surface. The bottom of the hole was completed at 1100 feet, where the geothermal water is a steamy 106 degrees. The USDA-funded treatment and distribution system is governed by a local non-profit board and will serve about 150 taps.

Once mining towns, Terlingua and the nearby community of Study Butte are nestled in the mountains of the northern Chihuahuan desert, where the average annual rainfall is about 8 inches. Mines which produced cinnabar, (an ore from which mercury is extracted) were abandoned in the 1970's, leaving Terlingua a literal ghost town. If you want to know anything about the mining operation, give Charles Taylor, USDA's own

Rural Development Manager from Abilene, a call as he once worked in the Terlingua mines. Many of Terlingua's original rock and adobe buildings are now abandoned and roofless, but the sturdy walls built by stacking flat rocks are still standing in the dry climate.

A few years after the mines closed, the "ghost town" was "discovered" and each fall the "chili heads" converge on Terlingua, now recognized for its scenic desolation, for the International Championship Chili Cookoffs. Arriving by motorhome, pickup truck, motorcycle, and even airplane, the Chili enthusiasts turn Terlingua into a booming "tent" metropolis of thousands during the first weekend of November of each year.

Terlingua is building a new economy by providing services to visitors of nearby Big Bend National Park. Catering to visitor's recreational activities such as dinosaur bone-hunting, river trips on the Rio Grande, and horseback riding have become mainstay businesses for year round residents of the area. In fact, the board president of the Study Butte Water Supply Corporation which USDA funded is a river rafting guide.

The little communities recently established a school. Previously local children were bused more than 80 miles where many were boarded out during the week. The school lunchroom is only a gazebo-like awning, but Texas Rural Development is working on a

Baird Cemetery Association Receives Large Donation

Early Christmas Present for the Baird Cemetery.

Tom Ivey, President of Board of Directors, received a call from an Attorney in Denver, Colorado stating that the Cemetery was one of the recipients in the will of Mr. John L. Turpin and his wife Katie Lou (Moore) Turpin. Mr. Turpin died July 21, 1997 and Mrs. Turpin died March 26, 1998.

The check that the Cemetery received was for the amount of

\$200,000 to be added to the Endowment Fund.

This will give access to more interest and enable the directors for the Cemetery to do more needed repairs and upkeep as needed.

Mrs. Turpin was the sister of Mrs. S.L. (Tatchie) McElroy and spent some of her early days in Callahan County.

The Cemetery Board of Directors was extremely pleased and excited to receive the news of the Turpins very generous gift to the Baird Cemetery.

Entries Sought For 1998 Rural Heroism Award

Waco--Entries for the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council's 1998 Rural Heroism Award are now being accepted, according to Ben Bullard, Council President.

To qualify, a candidate must have performed a heroic act of human lifesaving within Texas during 1998. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching. The 1998 recipient will be announced March 22, 1999, at the Texas Safety Association 60th Annual Texas/Southwestern Conference and Exposition, to be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Houston.

The nominations must be submitted and postmarked no later than February 1, 1999. Send all nominations to the Texas Farm and Community Facilities financing package to build a new lunchroom for the school.

The come-back of Study Butte and Terlingua just goes to show that even the smallest and poorest

Ranch Safety Council, P.O. Box 5539, Waco, Texas 76708.

The letter of nomination should include a written account of the incident and names, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons involved. Newspaper clippings and photos should also accompany nominations when available.

The 1997 winner was Stanley H. Davis of Port Neches who rescued Clyde Allison from being attacked by a bull. Davis then administered first aid for his injuries until EMS arrived.

Bullard has been president of the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council for 22 years and is retired from the Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies.

***** rural communities have potential. Local initiative, willingness to change with the times, and a little help from USDA Rural Development can make things happen in rural America.

Census Bureau To Begin Testing For Census Takers

The Census Bureau will be testing people for the roll of Census Takers. The test will be given every Monday at The Depot in Baird at 10:00 a.m. through January 1999. If you are interested in taking the test you need to be at the Depot a little bit early, because they will start promptly at 10:00 a.m.

You will need to bring two forms of identification, one of them can be a Social

Security Card. Veterans need to bring their DD214.

This is for part time and full time temporary positions.

The pay is \$8.00 an hour and field workers will receive 32¢ a mile.

If you need another testing site you may call 1-888-325-7733 toll free to find out where you may take the test other than Baird.

The Census Bureau is an EEO Employer.

Bank To Close Early For Holidays

In observance of the Christmas holiday, the First National Bank of Baird will close early, 12:00 p.m., Thursday, December 24, 1998. The bank will be closed all

day Friday, December 25, 1998.

Regular business hours will resume Monday, December 28, 1998. We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday.

Baird Post Office To Close Early For Holidays

The Baird Post Office will be closing at noon on December 24th and all day on the 25th of December so the employees might enjoy this special season with their families.

Mail will not be removed from the collection boxes around town on the 24th except for those directly in front

of the Post Office. If you choose to mail on that day, please use those boxes. There will be no collections on the 25th.

Regular mail service and hours will resume on December 26th.

Have a safe and happy holiday from the employees at the Baird Post Office.

Candlelight Service To Be Held December 24th

First Presbyterian Church in Baird would like to invite the community to participate in

its annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service on Thursday, December 24th at 6 p.m.

DPS Report

12-13-98 to 12-19-98
CASES INVESTIGATED

Warnings--77
Complaints--93
Minor in Possession of Alcoholic Beverage--1

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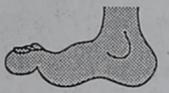
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Real Estate News For Consumers



NEW FHA LOAN LIMITS ENABLE MORE TEXANS TO REALIZE AMERICAN DREAM OF HOMEOWNERSHIP

AUSTIN — New, higher limits for mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) are in effect nationwide, which will help many Texas families obtain home financing, according to the Texas Association of Realtors. Federal legislation signed into law Oct. 21 increases the range of FHA's mortgage insurance limits for single-family homes to \$109,032 (from \$86,317) in low-cost areas and \$197,620 (from \$170,362) in high-cost areas.

The new loan limits will particularly benefit first-time homebuyers, who received more than 80 percent of FHA-insured home loans during the past year.

"Higher FHA loan limits will open the door to homeownership for more Texans than ever before," said Charles McMillan, president of the statewide Realtors' organization.

In Texas, FHA's new loan limits affect consumers in all 254 counties. The Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University estimates that the new figures open up the FHA program to 336,000 households statewide.

"Now, these families can experience the pride of owning their own home and investing in something that builds equity and contributes to the Texas economy," McMillan said. FHA does not make mortgage loans directly, but rather insures

loans made by private lenders to homebuyers. FHA insurance guarantees the lender timely payment of principal and interest in the event the homebuyer defaults on the loan.

The loan limits were increased to enable more families to get larger mortgages, to keep pace with rising home prices. Without the increase, which had strong support from the national, state and local Realtor associations, growing numbers of families would be unable to borrow enough to buy a home.

Higher limits will not cost the government any money, because FHA insurance is funded by premiums paid by borrowers.

Because FHA mortgage insurance protects lenders from losses, it enables millions of Americans who would otherwise be locked out of the mortgage market and homeownership to qualify for mortgages.

In addition to the increased loan limits, FHA has changed its mortgage downpayment formula. In many cases, the new formula will enable homebuyers to purchase a home with a lower downpayment, because minimum FHA mortgage downpayments for all homebuyers are now 3 percent.

For more information on this and other homeowner issues, visit the Texas Association of Realtors' Home on the Web at www.

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CALLAHAN COUNTY STAR

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Guest Slot

Childhood Memories
Come to Gordon In A
Dream

What a nightmare!
There I was wondering
what on Earth I was

'Twas The Night Before Jesus

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house.
Not a creature was praying not one in the house.
The Bibles were lain on the shelf without care
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
Was watching the "Late Show" while I took a nap.
When out of the east there arose such a clatter.
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.

With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray
I knew in a moment this must be the DAY!
The light in His face made me cover my head
It was Jesus returning just like He had said!

And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.
In the book of Life which he held in his hand
Was written the name of every saved man.

He spoke not a word as He searched for my name
When He said, it's not here...my head hung in shame.
Those people whose names had been written with love
He gathered to take to His Father above.

With those who were ready He arose without a sound.
While all the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knee but it was too late.
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight
Oh, if only I'd been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There's only one life and when comes the last call
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!

doing with a bunch of second and third grade kids? The horse carved of Ivory soap was mine and I looked around that Vacation Bible School at Jack Bowen, Bobby Beaughardt, Richard Taylor and Billy Massy but they were much younger than when last I saw them yet I was old!

Letty Lang with her flaxen hair and the young women leading the class as they sang, "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, to shine for Him each day, in every way try to please Him, at home, at work, at play. A sunbeam, a sunbeam! Jesus wants me for a sunbeam. A sunbeam, a sunbeam! I'll be a sunbeam for Him!"

How did I get back to the summer of 1929 in the Pleasant Heights community of East Liverpool, Ohio? For indeed it was that time and place. Next we were singing the SMILE SONG. "You can smile when you can't say a word, you can smile, when you can not be heard, you can smile, when it's cloudy or fair. You can smile any time anywhere." And on they sang of "Though the World forsake your joy will overtake you if you smile today. Don't parade your sorrow. Wait until tomorrow

for a smile is better than a frown or tear...
"Don't you remember? If you haven't heard those kid songs since then, why in the middle of the night? I'm awake as Mary Jo wants hot tea to settle her stomach. I go the kitchen with songs still ringing in my head.

I asked Viola Payne if she had any idea what could awaken memories buried 70 years ago and her opinion was that my mind was trying to retreat to a happier, less complicated time. But I didn't think I was a happy kid at all. Still, I haven't heard a better opinion than Viola's.

A prison inmate wrote me a couple years ago saying he had a disciplinary case written against him for destruction of state property because he

carved a horse out of TDCJ soap. That certainly wasn't in my mind related to the soap carving in Bible School. Nor can I afford the Farrah-Fenton Bible another inmate requested.

The trouble with being pen pals with prison inmates is that so many of them distress you with stories of mistreatment and others request contributions so they can buy coffee, snacks or writing material. Still, writing them is the best I can do for "the

least of these my brothers."
Here's a 'civil rights' thought for you. If one in four of a class of male adults is in prison or under supervision, these cannot vote nor serve on jury. So if an increasing

number of Americans lose rights of citizenship, the power of that block of votes is effectively reduced.
Gordon Clark

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ACROSS

- Form an opinion
- Pine
- BYU's state
- French pronoun
- Believe it
- "Shall" proceeder
- In the middle of
- Type of door or treat
- Spice
- 12: abbr.
- le Pew
- Hereditary factors
- Past adolescence
- Peculiarity
- Nail-biting, e.g.
- Useless bustle
- Larkia
- Put up a monument
- Sound Bo Peep longed to hear
- Chew the fat
- Small amount
- Tsuris
- Tops
- Cooper's wood
- Unfamiliar
- HBO offering
- Butterfly snatcher
- Toupees, slangly
- Marriage
- April sign
- Pretend
- Ululated
- Address Jane
- "I" Rhythm

DOWN

- Expired
- "Sesame Street" character
- Child star born 2/27/32
- Between sm. and lg.
- Sing without words
- Blow, & la Etna
- Stake
- Legendary avian
- Extreme degree
- Absolute
- Fourth Thursday in November
- Excellent
- Embraces
- Kin of chip or drive
- Heart of the matter
- Recipe verb
- Elizabeth, for one
- Gp. with the right stuff
- Cartoon hero
- Revolt

29. Aviates
31. Transceiver
32. Rosmersholm playwright
34. Ships' prisons
37. Sticky stuff
38. "Tall Sally"
40. Dehydrated
41. Actress Esther
46. Receives the benefits
47. Illustrous
48. Use artium
49. Woman on Catfish Row
50. Desire (Stanwyck film)
51. Teetotaler's bar order
53. Fairy tale monster
54. Incine
56. Cries of delight
57. Kind of session
58. Sheep mother

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Entries Being Accepted For Texas Farm And Ranch Safety Council's Rural Heroism Awards

Entries for the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council's 1998 Rural Heroism Award are now being accepted, according to Ben Bullard, Council President.

To qualify, a candidate must have performed a heroic act of human lifesaving within Texas during 1998. The heroic deed should be related to

farming or ranching. The 1998 recipient will be announced March 22, 1999 at the Texas Safety Association 60th annual Texas/Southwestern Conference and Exposition, to be held at Adam's Mark Hotel in Houston.

The nominations must be submitted and postmarked no later than Feb. 1, 1999. Send all nominations to the

Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council, P.O. Box 5539, Waco, Texas 76708.

The letter of nomination should include a written account of the incident and names, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons involved. Newspaper clippings and photos should also accompany nominations when possible.

The 1997 winner was Stanley H. Davis of Port Neches, who rescued Clyde Allison from being attacked by

a bull. Davis then administered first aid for his injuries until EMS arrived.

Bullard has been President of the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council for 22 years and is retired from the Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies.



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State Capital

HIGHLIGHTS
Compiled by Ed Sterling
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — Texas Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer last week ordered cuts averaging 5.5 percent to the private-passenger auto insurance benchmark rate.

The cuts are to take effect Feb. 15.

Drivers carrying only liability insurance also will see cuts averaging 7.8 percent, Bomer said.

Bomer's action follows a 5 percent benchmark rate cut he ordered last January. At the time, he urged companies to file lower rates. Major companies in the personal auto insurance market responded by reducing rates 7 percent on average.

Insurance company claim payouts continue to lag behind premium collections because of tort reform, safer cars, less drunken driving and other factors, Bomer said.

"We need to close this gap so

that consumers don't pay too much for their car insurance. All the evidence justifies a substantial rate reduction that still should leave the companies a fair profit on their Texas business," he said.

The rate changes apply only to drivers insured by rate-regulated insurance companies that cover about 75 percent of the drivers in Texas.

Bomer did not order changes to rates for commercial auto insurance, following a recommendation by administrative law judges.

Minorities, Poor Pay More

Where a driver lives may have a bearing on how much he must pay to get behind the wheel with suitable insurance coverage in Texas, a new study shows.

State Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, last week told the *Austin American-Statesman* that data collected in the first quarter of 1998 by the House Insurance Committee show that "many lower-cost, standard insurers appear to systematically deny coverage to consumers who live in poor and minority areas."

Only 49.7 percent of drivers are insured by less-costly, rate-regulated lines of insurance if they live in areas where the minority population is 85 percent or greater.

In 1997, rate-regulated premiums in Texas averaged \$800 a year, while non-regulated premiums averaged \$1,300 a year, the study said.

Welfare Rolls Have Shrunk

A study released last week by the Texas Department of Human Services gives a first look at the impact of the 1995 welfare reform law.

More than two-thirds of adults pushed off welfare rolls found work; those workers were paid an average of \$6.28 an hour; and most of them found jobs in the food service, clerical, retail sales or health-care fields, the study shows.

The average annual salary of the respondents was slightly more than \$11,000. The figure the federal government uses to mark the poverty level for a family of three is \$13,650.

Since 1994, state welfare rolls have dropped by nearly 400,000 recipients, and over the same period, food stamp rolls have

Thursday, December 24, 1998

dropped by 1.3 million recipients, the study said.

Work requirements and time limits on Texas welfare benefits took effect in 1996. Work or job training is mandated for most people between ages 18 and 59.

Scholarship Hike Proposed

State Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, last week filed legislation that would give Texas high school students access to \$250 million more in financial aid for college.

Student loan and grant programs presently total about \$156 million.

Under Cuellar's proposal, an applicant's family's annual income would have to total less than \$75,000, among other criteria.

Teacher Reward Plan Proposed

Education Commissioner Mike Moses, in response to a legislative directive, last week announced a teacher pay-for-performance program that will reward teachers for gains in student performance.

Every year, cash awards of \$750 per person would go to 25 percent of the state's educators, under the commissioner's proposal.

Rewards would go to all teachers at campuses that have shown significant improvement in student performance, as measured by the state education agency's Academic Excellence Indicator System.

Other Highlights

Officers from 25 law enforcement agencies are fanning out in Austin's Sixth Street club district to catch and arrest minors using fake identification. Offenders face a stay in jail, a fine and interrogation by federal agents.

Crossword Solutions

DEEM	YEARN	UTAR
ELLE	ORNOT	THOU
AMID	DUTCH	TANG
DOZ	PEPE	GENES
ADULT	QUIRK	
HABIT	FUSS	SRI
ERECT	BLEAT	GAB
WITE	GRIEF	LIDS
ASH	ALIEN	MOVIE
NET	RUGS	UNION
ARTES	FEIGN	
BAYED	CARR	GOT
ELLA	AROMA	EDGE
SLOP	HALES	WARN
SIRS	SPADE	EYED

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Santa Letters

Mrs. McCraw's AM Pre-K

Dear Santa:
Please bring me an angel with wings and a pretty dress. I want a Santa Doll. Please bring me some new games. Please bring me a Barbie doll and Prince Ken. I also want a gray shark. I would like a pink dress, and play angel wings. Please bring Mommy a big present.

Love,
Ashley Johnston

Dear Santa:
I have been a good boy this year. Alex hasn't, but baby sister has. I would like new trucks, a train set and building blocks for Christmas. Please bring me a stocking full of candy. Bring Alex and baby sister some presents, too. Please bring me some money, too.

Love,
Aric Pearce

Dear Santa:
This is my Christmas list: all kinds of Barbie stuff, a jewelry box, purse, and a Barbie gown. And please, bring my sisters some stuff, too.

Love,
Brittney Cook

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a P.P. Baby and a baby trampoline and a big people's trampoline. I want a baby sink and a baby high chair and a baby playpen and a pacifier and bottle for my baby.

Love,
Brooklyn McKennon

Dear Santa:
Bring me some presents, please. I would like some wrestling guys for my brother. I would like a skating doll and some new markers for school. I want a butterfly puzzle and some puppets. I would like a new light on my Christmas tree in my playroom. I would like glitter, all colors, and can I have a play kitchen and fingernail polish.

Love,
Carae Hilcher

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a ball shooter thing. I also would like a new game and a magnifying glass. I want new horse shoes, and I need a new puzzle and a new video of "Lion King". I think I need a new parachute, when I go somewhere on a plane to a new place, I can jump out. I don't need new handcuffs, but I need a new gun for Dad. I need new cups and new toy chain links.

Love,
Ethan Brookey

Dear Santa:
Please bring black light skates to me for Christmas. I also want a new nintendo game set. Please bring Cassie a new baby doll. Please bring Cassie a bracelet. We would also like a puppy dog. And bring us some surprises.

Love,
Garrett Kirkland

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a new Barbie and new Ken doll. I also want a new ball tent for me to play in and a new Barbie House. I would also like a new vacuum cleaner. My old one got broke. Please bring me a new game, and my brother, Hunter, a littler car, I can push him in.

Love,
Haleigh Prather

Dear Santa:
I would really like a play-doh machine and a picture of a fake Christmas tree. I would like a picture of Haleigh and me together. I want a blue skirt and a blue soft shirt to go with it. I want lost of toys for my baby brother. I would like a Barbie jeep. Please put different colored strings on my Christmas tree.

Love,
Hunter Dyer

Dear Santa:
Will you please bring me a new guitar for Christmas? I want a drum set, a piano, and a speaker. I also want a talking "Bubba Doll" and bunk beds for my room. I also want a playhouse and new puzzles.

Love,
Katelynn Mitchell
P.S. I also want a baby puppy.

Dear Santa:
I want a baby that goes potty and I want a horse and Barbie. I want a puppy dog, a microwave and play kitchen. Thank you for all my presents last year.

Love,
Mackenzi Hargrove
P.S. Bring Issac new toys, too. He's a pretty good brother.

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a VCR, some movies, a falking Bubba with a flashlight. I have been a very good boy and I'll be waiting for you on Christmas night.

Love,
Russell Hess

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a new baby doll, a movie, and a baby stroller. I have been a very good girl. Will you please bring Aaron and Daniel some surprises.

Love,
Rebekah Brock

Mrs. McCraw's PM

Dear Santa:
Please bring me some new cars for Christmas. I would really like some trucks, too. Please bring me a basketball. I would like a singing Christmas tree for our house. Can you bring Momma a new rocking chair and I'd like a new slinky.

Love,
Brandon Watts
P.S. I would like new glue and colors, colored pencils and scissors and tape

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a Barbie doll and a baby doll. I would like a play dog and a play kitty. And maybe a surprise.

Love,
Courtney Ringhoff

Dear Santa:
I would like two teletubbies, and a big teletubbie. I also want a rock and roll Barbie doll. I want a baby doll with clothes, and a red sleigh. I have been nearly a good girl and will keep trying to be a very good girl. Tell Rudolf "Hi!"

Love,
Charlcie Voights

Dear Santa:
I would really like a robot from Star Trek, a Roly Poly bug from "A Bug's Life" and Archer, a "Small Soldiers" figure.

Love,
Dusty Neff

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a radio with a CD player. I also want CD's. Please bring me a Barbie Telephone and a new Barbie doll. I would like new clothes and new shoes. Bring Dooley some presents, too.

Love,
Harley Boyd

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a pink car for Barbie and a Barbie doll. I would like some little people and doll house. I would like a Beauty and the Beast book and a book about kittens. Please bring me some games and new toys for Mark and Anthony.

Love,
Hope Cardenas

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a toy kitchen and a slinky. Please bring me new scissors, new colors and a new TV. I also want a new red ball. I also want a snowman to play with and a play school house.

Love,
Kelli Bowen

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a Smoochie Pooch for Christmas. I also want a Barney Banjo and just lots of surprises. Daniell and Mitchell are trying to be good so bring them some presents too! I love you!

Love,
Somer Lewis

Dear Santa:
Please bring me an Angel Barbie doll and a ginger bread doll. I would also like a baby doll that talks or does flips. I would like an Angel Barbie book and a new slinky and play dress up earrings.

Love,
Taylor Benson

Dear Santa:
I like where you live. I want a bat looking air plane that opens up and shows lots and lots of little airplanes. I would like an army set and some small soldiers figures (Archer). I want a robot with a big remote and antenna. I want a "Flash" super hero. I also want a computer.

Love,
Tyler White
P.S. I also want a pencil shape pencil case, new colored pencils, and whiteout

Mrs. Tollett's Kindergarten

Dear Santa:
I would like the game "Trouble", an Angel Barbie, the Barbie doll in the blue dress with markers, a toy Christmas tree with a twisting musical Santa, a big white soccer ball, and a slide. Could you please bring a rocking chair for my baby brother. Thank you.

Love,
Alexis Almanzar

Dear Santa:
My name is Austin and I just turned six. My mom says I have

been real good. I would like a stuffed, brown teddy bear and a real horse. My brother, Weston, is good too even if he gets his name on the board sometimes.

I love you,
Austin Snyder

Dear Santa:
I am Weston. I have been a pretty good boy most of the time. I am really ready for Christmas and some snow to play in. I would like a Godzilla toy and a Batman. My brother, Austin, would like some toys too.

Love,
Weston Snyder

Dear Santa:
Can you please bring me a piece of paper that says your name on it? Besides that, I want you to bring a suit just like yours and a fake beard just like yours. I would like a new pair of black cowboy boots, Baskin Robbins Ice Cream Maker, this basketball thing, I forgot the name of it, but you know, and some clothes, any kind would be fine. I know you already know this, but I have been a good boy. I love you Santa!

Love,
Doug Walker

Dear Santa:
I love you. Please bring toys. I need a doll, roller blades and clothes.

Love,
Heidi Hopkins

Dear Santa:
I want a car, a truck and a bicycle. Take care of your reindeer.

Love,
Brandon Baker

Dear Santa:
I want a skirt, boots, a toy and a stuffed animal. I love you Santa. Sastenes Carmona

Dear Santa:
I want a barbie. I want my size barbie. I want a dollhouse. I want a kitten. I want a barbie mobil home. I want some barbie clothes. I want Winnie Pooh shoes.

Dear Santa:
Please bring me shoes, clothes, a

necklace, barbies, a dress, car babies, a skirt and a big Christmas tree.

Love,
Yadira Chavarria

Dear Santa:
I think I have been a good boy. I would like to have a new bike to ride.

I would also like to have a pair of sockem boxems to play with my daddy. I would like some wrestling guys too. I would like some sharks in a box.

Bye-Bye Santa,
Dalton Walker

Dear Santa:
I want a hot wheels fire station, a spiderman web-blaster copter, a bug's life computer game, the new Rug Rat computer game, Simba's Pride computer game and please bring me a couple of Nintendo 64 games. Have a Merry Christmas.

Love,
Colton Fox

Dear Santa:
I want a Ninja doll, a power ranger toy, a baskin robbins ice cream maker, my own computer, a power wheel, a chalkboard, an umbrella, some building bricks, and a tiger cup. Have a safe trip.

Love,
Jacob Shouse

Dear Santa:
I want a toy car, fake tools and real tools, a toy computer, a fake reindeer, a fake beard, a real microphone, and a real dog. I hope the reindeer don't get tired. I love you.

Love,
Ivy Byram
Merry Christmas
Santa!
Trevor Jackson

Ms. Coplen's Kindergarten

Dear Santa:
Please bring me a go cart, a bug catching thing, a white ferbie, and a Reptar and Tommie toy. Please be careful. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Love,
Jarrid Armstrong

Dear Santa:
I want a Godzilla and I want a Santa Claus CD and I want a clock-a Godzilla one, and a Godzilla race car and I want my own books. I want a toy pumpkin that when I take the head off it talks funny.

Love,
Robert Arthur

Dear Santa:
I love you. I would like to hug you. Please bring me a truck, a car, and a toy box. I want some letters, and I want some pencils, and some crayons. My sister wants a Barbie.

Love,
Brody Black

Dear Santa:
I would really like to have a coin counting machine. I would like blue and gold Barbie dress, a purple lace dress, and a red Christmas dress. I would like a pink tea party set. Please bring my daddy a new truck and my mommy would like a new house shoes. Jasmine, my kitty, would like a fuzzy gray mouse. Oh, and I would like a Barbie cake and white dress.

I love you,
Ivy Byram
Merry Christmas
Santa!

Dear Santa:
Please buy me some shoes and new clothes. I would like a dog and lots of presents under the Christmas tree.

Love,
Armondo Carmona

Dear Santa:
I wish you a Merry Christmas. How is Rudolph and the other reindeer? Thank you for the toys last year. Would you please bring me a Playstation, a picture of Rudolph, roller blades, K-nex blocks, and Archer. I'll leave you some milk and cookies on the table.

Thank you Santa Claus,
Cody Hunter

Dear Santa:
I love you Santa. You are special. Please ask Jesus to let my great grandmother to be well. I would like a beautiful doll with a blue dress. We will leave cookies-n-milk for you.

Love,
Lauren Raelare

Dear Santa:
I have been a good girl this year and for Christmas I would like to have a Star Gymnast Jamie and a Barbie farm house and I want Pooh doll and accessories and a Easy Bake oven to make cake for my family and something for my brothers and some cordless style walkie talkies of Barbie. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Thank you.

Love you'll,
Grace Gomez

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I would like bunk beds, stereo, a big gum ma-

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chine, a Santa Claus suit, chaps and a rope. Also a TV and VCR, remote control nitro dozer, some farm trucks and farm toys, and a 4-wheeler for my dad, and a big tent. We will leave you out some milk and cookies. I hope I get to see you.

Peyton McIntire

Dear Santa:
I want an Angel Barbie and a computer and a polk-dotted furby if you can find one. Please bring my sister, Jodi, a furby too and Kyla some new CD's. You can bring Jeremy the Godzilla movie. I'm trying to be good this year and I'm trying to be big and quit sucking my thumb. Have a safe trip.

I love you,
Alex Anne Neal

Dear Santa:
I would like to get Nintendo 64 Zelda toys, power rangers set, a star wars action figure, and the new land before time movie for Christmas. I am being a very good boy this year.

Love,
Jonathan Perkovich

Dear Santa:
I would like to have a bike and some legos and for my little sister a little bike pink one and for my brothers Fabian wants a bike too. Mito a CD player. Thank you for the presents last year. Lupe all she wants is her front tooth.

Thank you,
Adolfo Portillo

Dear Santa:
I want a diving Barbie, twin babies or the baby that wets like my sister and one new wheel for my bicycle. My sister Allison needs a toe to chew on. Bring something for my mom & dad and all other little children and all my family.

I love you,
Michelle Allison
Robbins

Dear Santa:
I want to get something for Christmas. I am going to see some trees. Please take me to see my Nanny and Papa so I can bring them a Christmas present. I would like a car for Christmas. I want to

leave you a present too.
Love,
Elizabeth Watts

Dear Santa:
I have my tree up and we're looking forward to Christmas. I want a color sand with candles and animals. Please bring my brothers and sister something too. I have been good this year. I think your reindeer are cute.

Love,
Amanda Willcoxin

Dear Santa:
I like you dear Santa. Well I have tried to be good this year. I want the bugs life toy and then Furby. Now I want a new skaters for Christmas. I want the wrestling ring like my cousin Craig. And then I want a new coat and Batman stuff. I want a Bat mobile for my brother Aric and a baby crawl and walk for my baby sister Jordan LeAnn.

Thank you,
Alex

Mrs. Kendrick's 1st Grade

Dear Santa:
I would like a my size Angel barbie, a raindeer costume, a pink flashlight and a frog costume.

Love,
Alysa Isenhower

Dear Santa:
I would like a trampoline, a furby and the dog you got me last year to come back home.

Love,
Mitzi McDowell

Dear Santa:
I want a puppy for Christmas. I also want a McDonalds baby doll. I will leave you cookies and milk under the tree.

I love you,
Brittani Dover

Dear Santa:
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a cat and easy bake oven.

I love you Santa,
Fallon Donlan

Dear Santa:
I have been a very, very good boy. So will you please bring me a pair hockey skates, goalie mask, hockey jersey, and all the hockey gear. I would also like cloths, and a big stereo with a CD

player and a remote control boat, and some cars and trucks that I can play with. Please, don't forget all the kids that don't have a mom or dad. Also I would like the bike that you can do tricks on. And a three baby turtles. Santa there will be sugar cookies and milk in the fridge so it won't go bad. Gran Gran will get some deer corn for Rudolf and the other reindeers. I would like to see Rudolf red nose.

I love you and I hope Mrs. Santa has a good Christmas, I hope you make it back safe.

Love,
Dylan Mendez

Dear Santa:
Hi! How are you? I have been a good girl this year. All I want is a gymnastic doll and some clothes and a baby deal pickles do but what ever you bring me will be just fine.

Love ya,
Jessica King

Dear Santa:
Hi! My name is Mark Kilough. How is Mrs. Claus and Rudolf? I have tried to be very good this year. I want a new bike, a nintendo 64 with some games, a new skateboard, with new pads for me. And my own computer. A hot wheels track. And I want a new cassette player with headphones. I love you Santa. Have a good day. Don't go outside it's so cold-if you want to go outside when it's Christmas--okay.

Love,
Mark Kilough

Dear Santa:
I would like a girl Barbe and a Barbie box and a puppy and four rudoft to work at noon and a kid in the orphange to have a presents.

Love,
Olivia Jackson

Dear Santa:
I hope you had a good Christmas Eve. I love you. I hope your reindeer are all well because if they're sick we won't have Christmas

Love,
Jonathan Dannheim
Merry Christmas

Mrs. Gerngross' 1st Grade
Dear Santa:
I want a dollhouse, ballerina barbie, and a

without them to bring you, Old St. Nick. I wish I had a pony for Christmas.

Love,
Andy Koch

Dear Santa:
I have tried to be good. I would like a bb gun with a scope. A remote control boat. A skeet shooting gun, a TV. Also a toy army tank and a toy cop motorcycle. And for my cat, a pillow with a bell on it and blanket with her name on it. I want a lot of candy. I'm gonna leave you some cookies, and some corn out by the cattleguard for your deer. Be careful when your coming to my house. Merry Christmas, ho ho ho.

I love you,
Lucky Davis

Dear Santa:
I would like a swimming pool for summer, my size Angel barbie, a go kart, a TV and radio, and new shoes for Cassie, my sister. I wish you would give all the little boys and girls in the flood lots of toys and please watch over them and bless them and if you can give them some money. Please give PeePaw a new dozer so I can drive it.

Merry Christmas,
Kristen Marian
Burns

Dear Santa:
I have been very good most of the year. Would you please bring me a pony and all the things that a pony needs. A big bubba and a smoochie pooch, a new bike. Would you please bring Roger a computer and a CD player. Please bring my little brother Blake some toys too.

Thank you,
Rose Wamsley

Dear Santa:
My name is Jonathan. I want a bike and roller blades and a skateboard and twister and gader golf.

Love,
Jonathan Dannheim
Merry Christmas

Mrs. Gerngross' 1st Grade
Dear Santa:
I want a dollhouse, ballerina barbie, and a

teletubbies movies.

Love,
Jenna Betcher

Dear Santa:
I would like a remote control car that turns into a monster truck. And another remote control car that is a front end loader. I have not been very good this year but I have tried real hard most of the time. Could you bring Chelsea a doll.

Love,
Jeremy Matthews

Dear Santa:
I want a remote control race track. I want a big race track that will glow in the dark. Please bring me all kinds of fun new toys.

I love you,
Tyler Beall

Dear Santa:
Hi! I'm glad it is nearly Christmas. I have a nice long list for you. I want a TV, a sony play station, and a big box of legos. I want a big new bike. Please make the bike black and red. This will be all. I will have milk and cookies out for you.

Love,
Cody Isenhower
P.S. Please bring Dillon, my brother, a teddy bear.

Dear Santa:
My name is Maria Carmona. I do hope you will come to see me and my brothers. I would like a bear, pretty clothes, a pair of shoes and a computer. I like to read, so I would like some books. Thank you for everything.

Love,
Maria Carmona

Dear Santa:
I'm so glad you are coming to see me. I want a pink and purple bike. Please bring me a Christmas bear. I would like pretty clothes and jewelry. Thank you for coming and don't forget to bring something for my family. My dogs want a Christmas present too.

Love to you,
Heather McWhorter

Dear Santa:
I live in Baird, Texas. I would like for you to come see me. I want a red bike and a race track that you put

together. I want a little red wagon too. Thank you for everything.

Love,
T.C. Ashcraft

Dear Santa:
My name is Joshua Lang. I've been thinking about what I want for Christmas. Would you please bring me a teddy bear, a life savor sword, a remote control car, and that's all.

I love you,
Joshua Lang

Dear Santa:
I would like to have a go cart, a remote control car, a sky driver, and a train track. I also want a car set, bike, and a race track. That's all. See you Christmas.

Love,
Robert Orr

Dear Santa:
I would like a rudolf game. Please bring me a furby, a barbie car or jeep and a dog and a cat.

Love,
Ashley Baker

Dear Santa:
I would please like you to bring me a beanie baby book and roller blades and computer.

Love,
Shelby

Dear Santa:
I would like to have a gigapet, bearable bear, detective barbie CD, racing barbie CD, Dal Mations CD.

Love,
Amber Clark

Dear Santa:
I have been very good this year. I would like some roller blades and a baby doll that eats a

happy meal!

Love,
Holley Owens
P.S. Please don't forget my sister, Hannah-she's been good too.

Dear Santa:
I have been a good boy this year could you please me a tonka truck, a play station, a game disc, and a watch.

Love you Santa,
Jonathan Diaz

Dear Santa:
I would like a white Christmas first of all. Then I would like these things; tommy doll, easy bake oven, all the Spice Girl dolls, MacDonalds doll, barbie phones, constructive blocks, artist easel and paints, betty spaghetti, food sets, jewelry, clothes, baby swing, doctor cart, back pack club.

I love you Santa,
Courtney Nail

Mrs. Corn's 2nd Grade

Dear Santa:
I wish I had a TV or play station, a play truck, a ring the rosie doll, play dishes, a pup, new dress shoes, a pretty necklace, a horse.

Love,
Ariel Elizabeth

Dear Santa:
I would like to have some boxing gloves for Christmas. Could you also bring a nintendo 64 game. Would you also bring me a remote control car.

Thank you Santa please bring all those things to me.

Love,
Jacob

Dear Santa:
I am making a list for Mrs. Fitzgerald and she really wants a husband.

Thank you,
Emily Green

Dear Santa:
I wish I could have a my size barbie, a bike, a CD player, a box of play-doh, some cookie cutters, a porcelain doll, a real rabbit. These are the ones I really want.

Sincerely yours,
Emilie Green
I love you!!!

Dear Santa:
I have been a good girl this year. I want it to be a great Christmas for me. I wish I could have barbies, clothes, Ken, car, my clothes, baby doll, stroller, diapers, flashlight, kitchen set, doll house.

Love,
Jessica

Dear Santa:
For Christmas please bring me Grand Prix Race Track, remote motorcycle, electric train, warbird airplane, GI Joe foot locker, air command helicopter, power ranger mega voyager, silver power ranger, batman set, Godzilla action figure, motorcycle arcade game, harley davidson motorcycle toy, v-8 engine kit, bridge kit, diesel blaster, electric train set, ultimate Godzilla, Godzilla movie.

Love,
Billy

Ms. Barton's 2nd Grade

Dear Santa:
How are the reindeer? Thank you for the toys last year. May I please have a Nintendo 64, Beastwar, a pet kitten, a pet puppy, and a basketball hoop?

Your friend,
Logan Donlan

Dear Santa:
I want a Perfect Pink Teriasa, the Barbie motor home, also Baby Born, pretty love lashes, and meal time magic baby. Also my sister wants Fingernail Fun.

Love,
Zena Hooks

Dear Santa:
I have been really good this year. We will

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
With thoughts of thanks and appreciation for your loyal support.
Baird Auto Repair
Lee Roy, Danny, Ron

May your home be blessed by the glory of His love this holy season, and may His good graces follow you wherever you go.
Merry Christmas and many thanks.
Boydston Hardware
Steve & Lynette Bowen, Owners

HATS OFF
To Our Customers & Friends
You make it all worthwhile! A very, merry Christmas to all.
Russell-Surles
Title, Inc.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Might God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

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Season

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the Gang
at the
Whistle Stop

We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
Conner House Bed & Breakfast

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Greetings

From The Employees & Directors
Of
First National Bank - Baird
Over 113 Years of Personal Service
FDIC

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year

City of Baird, Mayor, City Council, Employees

Seasons Greetings
"And To All A
Good Year..."

Bob McCool & Office Bunch

leave 3 cookies and a glass of milk for you. You might not recognize our house because we trimmed some trees down. I would like a BB gun and a dog. I want a whole weight set. I would like a trampoline, a world globe, zogs, and I really want a pistol.

I love you Santa,
Bradley Neal

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I want clothes, a playstation, drum set, and computer. Please get me these things. Thanks. You're the best guy I ever met.

Jordan Burns

Dear Santa:
Merry Ho Ho to you too! For Christmas this year I would like a new bike, some more Sega games, some movies, and a nice family dinner like last year. It was yummy! I hope you have a nice Christmas too!

Love,
Daryl Fox
P.S. I'll leave milk and cookies in the usual spot!

Dear Santa:

I would like to thank you for the presents that you gave me last year. This year I would like a My Size Barbie and also a necklace, and a computer. Also I would like a trampoline. I would also like a tea set and an easy bake oven.

Thank you very much.

Lots of love,
Casey Wolf

Dear Santa:

This is my wish list. I wish for: Barbie, Ken, a puppy, cat, baby slurrp and burb, baby crawl and walk, bedtime Bubba, drum set, CD player, magic set, and roller skates.

Thank you,
Morgan White

Dear Santa:
Do you remember when you came and gave me my present last year? Well thank you. This year I want a Sky Dancer like I got last year and I want a Barbie doll and doll house.

Love,
Joanna Wilcox

Dear Santa:
I want a football, a basketball and a basketball goal, a bike, skateboard, a rocket, a jump rope, and a bag of clay.

Love,
John Edwards

Dear Santa:
Thank you for the presents last year. Thank you for my little sister's presents. This year I want a dog, a club house, and my friend Josh back. Thank you.

Love,
K l a u d y n k a
Szafranek

Dear Santa:
Thank you for my presents last year. I will like it if you will get me a baby, a pretty little Barbie, a Nintendo, a big play house, a Barbie house, a pair of gloves, and a little kitten.

Love,
Angel Brooks

Mrs. Odom's 3rd Grade

Dear Santa:
This year for Christmas I would like a bike, a pair of roller blades, but the thing I want most is a pet snake and some candy

canes.
Your friend,
Andrew

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I would like new folders, a crayon glue stick. I hope for a slinky, some makeup, a fort, a trampoline, better swing set, and one more thing an art set. Santa, I do not want you to get all of this. The one thing I want most is a trampoline. And anything else you would like to bring.

Your friend,
Lauren Thackerson

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I would like a doll with a china face and a blue bonnet dress and a china tea set with beautiful flowers and trees and tiny apples on it, too. I would love to wish for a trick bike. Also I wish for a cute white and brown puppy. P.S. Thank you for going through all this horrible trouble.

Your friend,
Loren

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I want nike clothes, and new nike shoes, a new black TV and a big black boombox, and a new nintendo 64 game. For it I want Golden Eye. With 4 controllers, and new toys. Thank you Santa.

Your friend,
Corey Kowalzek
Write Back.

Dear Santa:
The things I want for Christmas are a small checker board, eight chopsticks, a cockatoo, and a collie, a condo, and a computer. I thank you for going through all of this trouble.

Your best friend,
Dakotah

Dear Santa:
Thanks Santa for what I received last year. This year all I wanted was power 2,000 grey roller blades if you can, and a drum set that's all. Thanks if you get me, this stuff. If you don't that's ok, I'll understand. Have a Merry Christmas, yourself Santa.

Your friend,
Dalton
P.S. You can call me at 854-1055 or write back.

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I would like all toys, but my mom said I have to get some clothes for Christmas. I want you to give me clothes and toys but mostly toys please. Please give me a bird. May I see your reindeer on Christmas Eve and see you Santa. Let my mom's stepmom and dad give me all the things I ask them to get me for Christmas.

Love you friend,
Nycole Ames
Thank You

Dear Santa:
I can only have 3 presents because Donna Ringhoffer, my mother said that because she can't get anything else except a computer and a nerf gun and a cock gun. P.S. I hope you bring the presents.

Your friend,
Timothy Ringhoffer

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I want a small puppy for Christmas. Two more things can I have a red and white bike. My bike is too small for me to ride. Can I have a kitty for Christmas too.

Thank you.
Your friend,
Victoria

Mrs. Wilson's 3rd Grade

Dear Santa:
I could use a bike and some roller blades pads. The bike is 40.00 and the roller blade pads won't cost much. I want a Tie Dye Barbie and a Very Velvet Barbie. I need Rugrats giga pet. I really want a birth stone ring and necklace. I want a basketball and a basketball goal. I also want Cool Borders Three.

Have a safe trip!
Love,
Kate Dannheim

Dear Santa:
How are you? I would like to visit you. Are you ready for Christmas? I want a motorcycle, a helmet, a TV, and a VCR with a playstation. I also want a giga pet.

Well, have a nice trip.

Love,
Cameron McIntire

Dear Santa:
How are you doing this year? I'm sure you are busy getting ready for Christmas. I would like a watch and maybe some porcelain dolls. I would like a printer for the computer and a Barbie camera. I would like some clothes. I think that is all. Have a great night on Christmas.

Yours truly,
Nicole Darnell
Dear Santa:

How is Mrs. Claus doing? Are the elves doing good? What I want for Christmas is a Barbie boombox, a white dirtdevil, a princess diary, a doll, a ballerina suit, a ballerina tutu, and ballerina slippers.

Love,
Khrysti Bair
P.S. I will have a big tree.

Dear Santa:
How are you doing? I am doing fine. How are the elves and the reindeer? There are only 3 things I want for Christmas shoes, clothes, and makeup. Write back please.

Truly yours,
Summer Olivari

Dear Santa:
How are you doing? I bet your busy for the big day. There's only one thing I want for Christmas and it is for my dad to come home. I really hope you could make my dad come home. If you can't it's ok you really don't have to.

Your truly,
Chris Ross

Dear Santa:
How are you doing how is your wife I would like to have nintendo 64 and a cool kid motor cycle I.M 8 so i will be able to ride it. I am sure you are getting ready for Christmas I also want a sega have a nice trip.

Yours truly,
Thomas

Dear Santa:
I would like to go to my grandma and grandpas for Christmas. I would also like to go to my dad's friends house to work on his truck. I want a cat, computer, new tubes for my bike, baby dog, and computer games.

Love,
Jacob Dillard

Dear Santa:
How are you doing? I'm sure you are busy getting ready for Christmas. I would like a special wonderful and that special gift is boxing gloves. One more thing some real art paper.

Your friend,
Kelci Gonzales

Dear Santa:
How are you doing? Are the reindeer ok? You must be working them out. You be busy. Here is a couple of toys I want a tie dye Barbie and a slurp and burp baby. I also I want a puppy to play with I hope you get this letter.

Sincerely,
Amanda Aguirre

Dear Santa:
I'm sorry to interrupt you I know you're very busy, but there's just one thing I want a nintendo 64. If it's too much trouble don't bother because I have everything I need. I have parents, friends and last but not least, teachers. I think I'm really lucky to have these things. So I'll let you go good by.

Love,
Sincerely,
Rustin Williams

Dear Santa:

How are you doing? Thank you for the presents last year it was exactly what I wanted. I would like a few more this year. This is my list. I would like some roller blades, a skateboard, a bike radio, N64 Blitz, N64 Nascar 99, N64 NFL Quarterback Club 99, N64 Golden Eye, a toy silencer gun that turns into a machine gun, and a toy real talking airport. That my list. If that is too much don't get some of it. You be careful on your trip. Thank you for all of the Christmases you've done for the people I bet they are real happy and so am I.

Love,
Dillon Fox

Mrs. Jones' 4th Grade

Dear Santa:
I wath four Christmas is a kids motorcycle and I want my a ant back and I do not want my granny to be sick.

Sincerely,
Micheal Turner

Dear Santa:
All I want for Christmas is snow so I can have a snowball

fight with my dad. I also would like some playstation games, the last thing I want is for all of my family to be in good health.

Sincerely,
Chance White

Dear Santa:
I want a Labergeany De ablo and a viper vinem, mustang GTE, Porsche. I want to collect cars.

Sincerely,
Michael Wolf

Dear Santa:
Christmas is coming soon, so I would like another bunny because my other bunny died, a radio that has a cd player, and a tv/vcr and if you can, get my mom a Convertible and have an elf to drive it down to Baird, Texas, 318 Pine Street, and I would like it to snow. Last and best I want my Aunt Debbie and my granny Lovvorn to heal her sickness.

Sincerely,
Kayla Harris

Dear Santa:
I would like a flowerbed skirt, football, Nike shoes, and Nike socks. That is all that I would like for Christmas this year thanks! Hope you have fun making toys for next year. This is why I wanted a flower skirt, football, nike shoes and nike socks is because I like playing catch and I like skirts cause I think they look good on me nike shoes and socks are real popluar thes days so that is what I want.

Yours truly,
Amanda

Dear Santa:
For Christmas I want a computer with the Internet, a real phone, a real Dalmation, books and toys. I want a computer because ours doesn't print. I want a phone because Candace is always on hers. I want a Dalmation because I love Dalmations. I want books so I won't get bored. I also want toys to play with.

Love,
Angela Christine Ellis

Dear Santa:
What I want for Christmas; Barbie, baby doll, clothes, bunnie play makeup and barbie clothes. The reason why I want a baby doll because it makes me happy and I can

feed it and give it a bath.

Love,
Ashley Dillard

Dear Santa:
I have been a good girl lately. For Christmas would you send me a computer so I can have something to do. Santa please bring me a telephone so my dad won't listen on the other line. I want some lip gloss and nail polish so I can look pretty. Please bring my best friend, Summer, a spice girl poster and the spice girls cd because she likes the spice girls. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Your friend,
Chelsea B. Williams

P.S. I will leave milk and cookies for you.

Dear Santa:

I would like to have a real diamond rind to watch it glisten. I would like a talker Bubba because he's so funny. I would like also to have ck perfume because it smells good. I would like a cd player to listen to at night. I would like a lime green telephone so I can talk to my friends. I would like a computer with the Internet to talk to my friends, and finally I would like a BB gun to practice shooting so I can eat deer.

Sincerely,
Cassie Burns

Dear Santa:

What I want for Christmas is a bike because every bike i've had has been stolen. Something else I want is a gameboy because I did not get it for Christmas or my birthday.

Sincerely,
Kayla Cardenas

Dear Santa:
I would like a bike due to the fact that I out grown my old one. I also would like some game boy games because my other ones are old. That is all that I want.

Thank you,
Fabian Portillo

Dear Santa:
I would like to have a gameboy (it's a game) and a skydriver and a soccer set. These toys will be alot of fun and I want to play soccer. Soccer is my favorite sport. I have been good

this year thank you.

Kyle Orr

Dear Santa:
I wish I can have some money because I would get some plane tickets so I could see my brother, sister, and dad. Then I would want a C.D. player so than it would give me something to do and leave my mom alone. Then, I want the Back Street Boys C.D. so then it would go with the C.D. player. What I really want for Christmas is a computer, so I would learn more about things. I would also like to have some games that go to a computer.

Sincerely,
Ashley Lynn Houghtaling

Mrs. Menzies' 4th Grade

Dear Santa:
My name is Jacob I want a ranch and 20 buck skin horses. I want 40 dogs and a fishing hole. I would really like a hunting license and playstation games.

Sincerely,
Jacob West

P.S.S. I want all the little boys and girls to have shelter.

Dear Santa:

My name is Candy Jobe. I want to have friends and for all the kid's to have food and be safe and to have a furby.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

Candy Jobe
Dear Santa:

My name is Justin Roberts. I want a sega game boy and some games for it. games for a gameboy, and a remote control car.

Sincerely,
Justin Roberts

Dear Santa:

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday!

Love,
Paige Robinson

Dear Santa:

My name is Jud. What I want for Christmas is a playstation, Nentendo sixty-four, Gameboy games. And all the children to have a home to go too.

Love,
Jud Clark

Dear Santa:
I want a computer for our family and for the market to go up so my

dad will not jump on the water tower and his friend Lloyd Ray too.

Sincerely,
Clayton James

Dear Santa:

I want a Nintendo 64 and a big screen TV.

Sincerely,
Usiel

Dear Santa:

My name is Kerry Mendez. And all I want for Christmas is for all the people's health to be excellent. If you can do that, it will be great.

Sincerely,
Kerry Mendez

Dear Santa:

My name is Megan. I want a V.C.R., a make over creation kit, titantic, the land before time six, cable on my T.V., some sega games, and lots more. P.S. For all kids to be healthy.

Sincerely,
Megan Betcher

Dear Santa:

My name is Larrah. I want the new Hanson c.d. called "River" and a furby.

Sincerely,
Larrah Barton

Dear Santa:

My name is Adam Clayton. All I want for Christmas is a Baird Bears pin and a toy bus.

Love,
Adam

Dear Santa:

I wish for people to have clothes and food.

Sincerely,
Wes Reynolds

Dear Santa:

I would like a glass babydoll, furby, 2 sets roller and a horse.

Sincerely,
Bucky Shouse

Dear Santa:

My name is Justin Patterson and I would like to have a basketball goal and 2 or 3 Jogo sets and a surfing frog set and some gameboy games.

Sincerely,
Justin Patterson
P.S. I would like all the poor people to have shelter and food.

Dear Santa:

I want a gameboy and a playstation.

Sincerely,
Rafael Gomez

Dear Santa:

I would really like you to get the orphanage so very good clothes. I would like some roller blades and shoes.

P.S. I will leave so milk and cookies.

Sincerely,
Summer Hargrove

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Need to sell a house?

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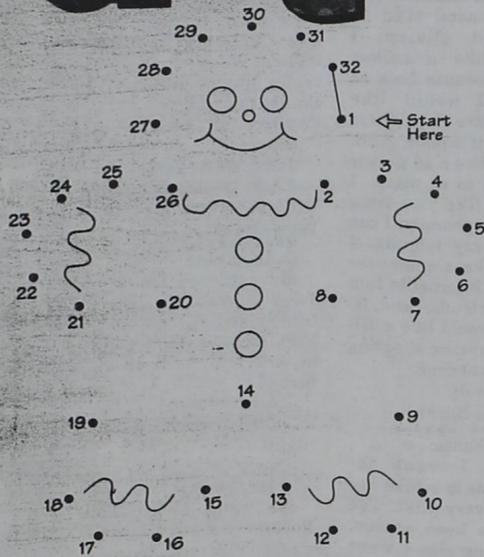
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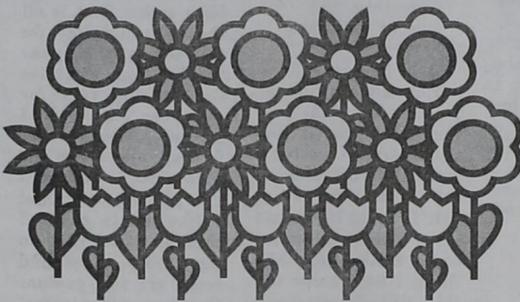
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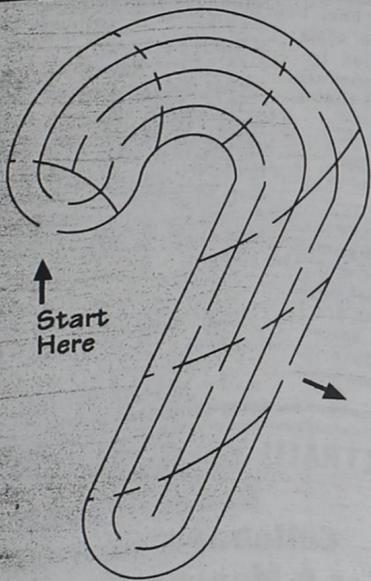


Les fleurs



The flowers are in the garden.
Les fleurs sont dans le jardin.

MAZE



SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

AMERICAN COLBY MOZZARELLA
BLUE CHEESE JACK MUNSTER
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SWISS

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

WHAT DO YOU EAT?



The holidays are usually a time to gather with family and friends and eat special meals. So what do you eat for Christmas, Hanukkah or New Year's Day? Look at some of these traditions from other countries.

Denmark

Christmas is celebrated December 24 in Denmark. Oatmeal balls are prepared by combining oatmeal with butter, sugar, coffee and cocoa powder and rolling the balls in coconut pieces. Christmas dinner is either pig or duck, which is stuffed with apple slices and dried plums. After dinner they dance and sing around the Christmas tree and have coffee and cookies.

Québec, Canada

Today in Canada, people eat turkey for Christmas dinner. In the old days, they ate Tourtière. It is a stew made up of layers of meat, potatoes and onions, with a layer of pastry on top. Christmas dinner is called Reveillon, which means waking up, and it is eaten when people return from Midnight Mass, usually about 2 a.m. The end of Christmas is called La fête du Roi and celebrated January 6. For this celebration, a cake is baked with a bean inside. Whoever gets the bean is the king or queen.

Japan

The New Year is celebrated in Japan by eating special kinds of sushi, sashimi and rice cakes called mochi. Relatives give children money to spend at shops that have special toys and candy.

Russia

On New Year's Day, a tree is decorated with glass balls and other glass decorations. Along with the glass, chocolate candies wrapped with paper are hung on the tree. When it's time to eat them, it's like the tree is giving candy to children.

Israel

Hanukkah is celebrated from the 25th day of Kislev to the second day of Tevet, a total of eight days. Potato latkes (or pancakes) are fried in oil and eaten during the holiday, many times with applesauce on them. Children play with a top called a dreidel and earn gold-covered chocolate, gelt, as prizes.

New Zealand

Christmas is usually hot and sunny in New Zealand. Family and friends get together, and the children play outside. Usually steaks and chicken are cooked on the grill for dinner.

Belgium

In Belgium, Christmas is known as St. Nicholas Day. On this day, children get bags filled with sweets, oranges and peppernuts.

Alaska—Eskimo

Villagers may gather together to eat the traditional Christmas feast. It consists of maktak (raw whale meat); Beluga whale; caribou; seal; owl; nigiglik (eider duck); polar bear; walrus; and new to the menu, roast turkey and stuffing. Eskimo doughnuts and Eskimo ice cream are served following the meal.

England

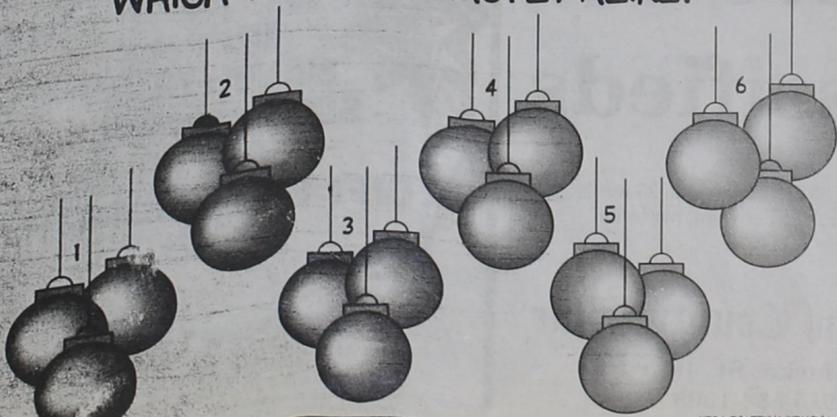
After the stockings are emptied, families go to church. When they arrive home, dinner usually consists of goose. Then they get to open their presents and crackers, which are made out of rolled up paper. When you pull it apart, a little toy falls out.

Newfoundland

"Mumming" is an old custom that involves people disguising themselves in old articles of clothing. Sometime during the 12 days of Christmas, they cover their faces and visit the homes of neighbors and friends. They usually carry their own musical instruments to play and sing and dance at each house. Mummers are usually served Christmas cake with a glass of syrup and blueberry or dogberry wine.

FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



ANSWER: THREE AND FOUR

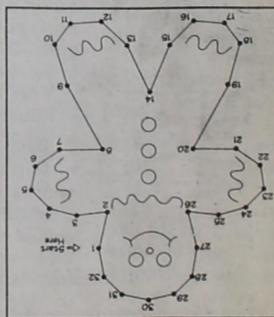
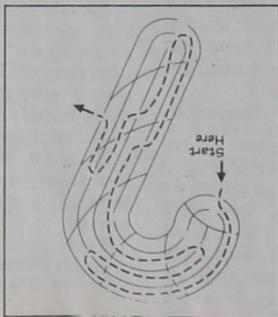
TIC-TAC-TOE



Answers



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



'The Magic Flute' To Be Broadcast Dec. 26

Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" ("The Magic Flute") will be broadcast live from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera House in New York on Saturday, Dec. 26, at 12:30 P.M. Central Standard Time. This will come over the Texaco-Metropolitan Opera International Radio Network, and will be heard locally over Radio Station KEAS, Eastland.

Making their Metropolitan Opera debuts will be American soprano Laura Aikin as the Queen of the Night, German baritone Matthias Goerne as Papageno, and German bass Franz-Josef Selig as Sarastro. Dawn Upshaw of Nashville, Tenn. will

be heard as Pamina, Paul Groves of Louisiana as Tamino, Alan Held of Illinois as the Speaker, and Yvonne Gonzales of Houston as Papagena. Charles Mackerras of Sydney, Australia will conduct, and the announcer for the broadcast will be Peter Allen.

There will be a special "Holiday Music Quiz" during the single music intermission. The moderator will be Steven Blier, co-artistic director of the New York Festival of Song, and the panelists will be Randall Behr, Music Director for the Julliard School's Department of Vocal Arts, and Brian Zeger, who is also on the faculty of the Julliard

School. The Texaco-Metropolitan Opera International Radio Broadcasts have brought Saturday afternoon performances live from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera to audiences in the United States and Canada for 59 consecutive seasons - the longest sponsorship in broadcast history. They have also been heard in more than 25 European countries since 1990, and are being transmitted to Australia and New Zealand for the third season.

The 1998-99 Texaco-Metropolitan Opera radio broadcast season continues through April 17 for twenty consecutive Saturday radio broadcasts.

Merry Christmas

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Wise men still worship and serve the precious babe in the manger.

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To allow you to begin life anew
By trusting in Him who won
Victory by showing His love
As He walked on this earth
And returned to His Father above
And offered everyone new birth
He lived each day for joy of others
He brought hope from despair
He longs to make us all brothers
He came broken hearts to repair
Jesus is the great Son of God, the I am
The all-knowing Counselor and Friend
The willing sacrificial lamb
It is the season to give the nod
To fill your heart to the end
For God so loved me and you
He sent His precious Holy Son
Let Him make your life all new
His mighty deed of love is done*

Wanda Lee Beck Skinner

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W H M R F T O D W N T R L
R E C S A O G N P J R F C
I G T T M L E R S T S T T
T D S T I I H K G W L N H
I E H D C P N S A P U R T
N H E N I A M Y R T D N L
G T C X B V M N S N G M D
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Did Anyone See The Dec. 1st Star?

More on what I saw of space junk, but I think it was just a meteor. Dale Baker

P.S. Someone else interesting. I wrote this letter yesterday the 20th of Dec. Last night a

What fascinated me, I had never seen one explode before. And explode it really did, not just break up and continuing in same direction until consumed by friction.

It popped out in all directions. And no, it was NOT a weather balloon.

I also would like to know if anyone else saw it. This one was very big and bright, I've seen only two that was bigger in my life, and I have seen lots of them.

Someone suggest it might have been a piece

of space junk, but I think it was just a meteor.

Dale Baker
P.S. Someone else interesting. I wrote this letter yesterday the 20th of Dec. Last night a

man, and I regret I can't remember his name, called me and said he had seen what I was talking about. As he described the light, being red and ending in a blue white flash. But what he saw was in the southwest, and the time was 6 a.m. What I saw was in the north and at about 6 p.m. SO



In "The Prince of Egypt" Moses is pictured leading his people out of Egypt, back to their Promised Land. This film will begin showing Friday, Dec. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre in Eastland, and continue showing nightly through Monday, Dec. 28.

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Back Talk Chiropractic Care Questions & Answers

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Back Talk is copyrighted by the Texas Chiropractic Association and is edited by a panel of doctors headed by Dr. Chris Dairymple, editor in chief of the Texas Journal of Chiropractic.

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11th Court Of Appeals

The following proceedings were had in the Court of Appeals, Eleventh District of Texas on December 16, 1998:

Cases Submitted
American Home Products Corporation et al v. Archie Burrough et al., Nolan.

The following proceedings were had in the Court of Appeals, Eleventh District of Texas on December 17, 1998:

Affirmed
Randal Franklin Caraway v. State of Texas, Eastland. (Opinion by Chief Justice Arnot) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice McCloud)

Alfred Lewis Alridge v. State of Texas, Harris. (Opinion by Justice McCloud) (Panel consists of: Justice Dickenson, Justice Wright, and Justice McCloud)

Paul Owen Price, Jr. v. State of Texas, Harris. (Opinion by Justice McCloud) (Panel consists of: Justice Dickenson, Justice Wright, and Justice McCloud)

el consists of: Justice Dickenson, Justice Wright, and Justice McCloud)

Walter Byron Sexton a/k/a Rusty Sexton v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. (Opinion by Justice Dickenson) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright)

Clifford Russell Gilbert, Jr. v. State of Texas, Hunt. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright)

Elouise Louis Henry v. State of Texas, Taylor. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright)

Elouise Louise Henry v. State of Texas, Taylor. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright)

Former Opinion & Judgment Withdrawn; Affirmed

Suzanne Kay Doubrava v. State of Texas, Harris. (Opinion by Chief Justice Arnot) (Publish) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright)

Motions Granted; Appeals Dismissed
The State of Texas, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Wayne Scott and James A. Collins v. Harbert

International, Inc., Dawson. Agreed motion to dismiss. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright)

Stanley Wayne Hackfield v. Karen Ann Lambert, Scurry. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Mustafa Abdul Rashad v. State of Texas, Taylor. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Mustafa Abdul Rashad v. State of Texas, Taylor. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Elouise Louis Henry v. State of Texas, Taylor. Appellant's motion to withdraw as attorney.

Elouise Louis Henry v. State of Texas, Taylor. Appellant's motion to withdraw as attorney.

Clifford Russell Gilbert, Jr. v. State of Texas, Hunt. Appellant's motion to withdraw as counsel.

Ensearch Exploration, Inc. v. Stanley Charles Thorne, Dallas. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

David Lee Randle v. State of Texas, Brown. Appellant's second motion for extension of time to file brief.

Camillo Galofaro v. Maria D. Galofaro, Tarrant. Appellee's motion for extension of

time to file brief.
Charles Lee Trimble v. State of Texas, Tarrant. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Glynn Ocie Camp v. State of Texas, Brown. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Mustafa Abdul Rashad v. State of Texas, Taylor. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Mustafa Abdul Rashad v. State of Texas, Taylor. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Mustafa Abdul Rashad v. State of Texas, Taylor. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Elouise Louis Henry v. State of Texas, Taylor. Appellant's motion to withdraw as attorney.

Elouise Louis Henry v. State of Texas, Taylor. Appellant's motion to withdraw as attorney.

motion to withdraw as attorney.

Cesar Lozano v. State of Texas, Taylor. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Latressa Denice Campbell v. State of Texas, Taylor. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Gail Hernandez v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Gail Hernandez v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

In re M.A.B., Jefferson. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Elizabeth Rhoton v. Rex Rhoton, Taylor. Appellant's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Motions Submitted & Granted in Part
Michael Anthony Allen v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's pro se motion for extension of time to file brief.

Michael Anthony Allen v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's pro se motion for extension of time to file brief.

motion to consolidate.

Michael Anthony Allen v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's pro se motion for extension of time to file brief.

Randall Gary Whitehead v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's pro se motion for extension of time to file brief.

Randall Gary Whitehead v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. Appellant's pro se motion for extension of time to file brief.

Motions Submitted & Overruled
Suzanne Kay Doubrava v. State of Texas, Harris. (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright) Appellant's motion for rehearing.

Payton Ellis Tankersley v. State of Texas, Knox. (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright) Appellant's motion for rehearing.

Mark Anthony Tutt v. State of Texas,

Taylor. (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright) Appellant's pro se motion requesting appeals court to reconsider jurisdiction.

Mark Anthony Tutt

v. State of Texas, Taylor. (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Dickenson, and Justice Wright) Appellant's pro se motion requesting appeals court to reconsider jurisdiction.

Poetry Corner

Bethlehem
Oh little town of Bethlehem
How brightly beams thy light.
For in your manger lay
Our little Lord Jesus Christ
The shepherds on the hillside
Watching over the sheep
For the glory of this holy night
There may be joy, happiness and peace.

For God so loved the world
That on this holy night
The angels watching over him
While he sleeps throughout the night
So let the joy of Christmas
Be with you throughout the year
May he lead and guide you
And be with you while you kneel in prayer.

Bob Harbin

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Ed Headrick, Minister
Bible School, 10:00 a.m.; Sun-
day Morning, 11:00 a.m.; Sun-
day evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wed-
nesday Evening, 7:30 p.m.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF EULA**
529-3768
Johnny Hailes, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sun-
day morning worship, 10:55
a.m.; Discipleship Training, 5:00
p.m.; Sunday evening worship,
6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer,
7:15 p.m.
- CHERRY HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH**
N. 4th & Cherry Ln.
893-5630
Jimmy Davis, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sun-
day morning worship, 11:00
a.m.; Sunday evening worship,
7:00 p.m.; Wednesday night,
7:00 p.m.
- NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**
No. First & Pine
893-2783
Sunday Morning service, 10:30
a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:00 p.m.
- BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**
South 604
893-5851
David McGraw, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.;
Sunday morning worship, 11:00
a.m.; Sunday Eve worship, 6:00
p.m.; Wednesday Night, 7:00
p.m.
- TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH**
North First & Cedar
893-4438
Sam Nichols, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sun-
day morning worship, 10:45
a.m.; Sunday evening worship,
7:00 p.m.; Wednesday night
7:00 p.m.

- EULA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
529-4241
John Bill Hedrick, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sun-
day morning worship, 10:50
a.m.; Sunday evening worship,
6:00 p.m.; Youth Fellowship,
7:00 p.m.; Wednesday Bible
Study, 7:00 p.m.
- CLYDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Jim Hall, Minister
So. 4th & Austin
893-4723
Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.; Sun-
day worship, 10:55 a.m.; Sun-
day evening worship, 6:00 p.m.;
Wednesday evenings, 7:00 p.m.

- AREA CHURCHES**
- OPLIN BAPTIST CHURCH**
Riley Fugitt, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.;
Sunday morning worship, 11:00
a.m.; Sunday evening, 5:00 p.m.;
Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m.
- COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**
Knox Waggoner, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Wor-
ship, 11:00 a.m.; Choir practice
6:00 p.m.; Sunday evening 7:00
p.m.; Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.



JAMES EDWIN MINEAR
Abilene-James Edwin Minear, 84, died Tuesday, December 15, 1998 in a local hospital.
The body was cremated. A memorial service was at 1:00 p.m. Monday, December 21, 1998 in Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Chapel of Memories with the Rev. Randy Perkins officiating. Burial was in Cedar Hill Cemetery.
Mr. Minear was born in Atlanta and lived in Abilene most of his life. He served with the U.S. Army Air Corps. He married Violet C. Hendricks in 1941 in Baird and worked as a carpenter for Abilene Sash and Door for more than 30 years. He was a Baptist.
Survivors include his wife, Violet Minear of Abilene; one son, Jimmy Don Minear of Clyde; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.
Memorials may be sent to West Texas Rehabilitation Center, 4601 Hartford, Abilene, Texas 79605.

ADA JONES BRECHEEN
Ada Jones Brecheen, 67, died Wednesday, December 16, 1998 in an Abilene hospital.
Services were at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 19, 1998 in Mount Olivet Funeral Home Chapel in Ft. Worth. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery.
Mrs. Brecheen was born in Washington, Okla., and lived in Fort Worth most of her life. She worked as a beautician and taught classes at Haltom Beauty College for many years. She moved to Baird in 1990. She was a past president of the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary and was a member of the Knights of Pythian, Order of the Eastern Star, Rebecas, Calvary Baptist Church in Fort Worth and the Baird Assembly of God. She was the widow of Billy Joe Brecheen.
Survivors include one son, Wayne Jones of Baird; two daughters, Sue Dunn of Fort Worth and Beth Huffstetler of Abilene; three stepdaughters, Margie Arredondo, Eva Mae Pedroza and Peggy Ramos, all of Fort Worth; two brothers, Louie J. Troutman Sr. of Fort Worth and James R. Troutman Sr. of Arkansas; two sisters, Velma Jean Findley and Mary Ann Troutman, both of Fort Worth; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

RAYMOND 'COBBY' STRICKLAND
Raymond L. "Cobby" Strickland, 81, lifelong Baird resident, died Thursday, December 17, 1998 in an Abilene hospital.
Services were at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, December 19, 1998 in Parker Funeral Home Chapel with Alfred Gadberrry and Lyle Ancell officiating. Burial was in Ross Cemetery.
Mr. Strickland was born in Burkett and served with the U.S. Army during World War II. He married Ruth Hardwick in 1953 in Abilene. He retired as Head of Maintenance of the Baird Housing Authority. He was a member of the Church of Christ.
Survivors include his wife, Ruth Strickland of Baird; two sons, David Strickland of Abilene and Paul Strickland of Denton; one daughter, Martha Strickland of Abilene; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

BOBBY LEE MCBRIDE
Bobby Lee McBride, 61, died Friday, December 18, 1998 in an Abilene hospital.
Graveside services were at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, December 20, 1998 in Ross Cemetery Annex with the Rev. Jerry Joplin officiating, directed by Parker Funeral Home.
Mr. McBride was born in Baird. He returned to Baird from Wichita Falls and served with the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict. He worked as a laborer and was a Baptist.
Survivors include three sons, Jerry McBride, Ray McBride, Randy McBride, all of Bowie; one daughter, Bobbie Jean McBride of Bowie; one sister, Patsy Chaney of Clyde; two brothers, Herbert McBride of Tyler and Jim McBride of Lubbock; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

safety and about the academic challenges offered to them in the classroom. For many of these children, a good education is their only ticket out of poverty since their families do not have the privileges that other children have. These parents are proud of their communities and would like to support their neighborhood public schools, but not at the expense of their children. The Horizon program gives Edgewood parents more power to demand a good education for their children because they will take their money elsewhere if they don't get it.
For many years, those who had enough money have left our inner city neighborhoods to buy homes in better school districts. This has weakened our inner city communities both financially and culturally. Our schools are still segregated, not because the government dictates it, but because of flight from low-performing, often unsafe inner-city schools. To escape from Edgewood, 200 of the 722 children given Horizon scholarships were already using "black market school choice" by claiming false residence in another school district. Now these children have returned to attend schools in their community rather than another school across town.
I have heard the frustration of parents. I have intervened on their behalf with school district administrators, even at times participating in public demonstrations to get our point across. Even with this, parents' concerns are often dismissed by school officials with condescending attitudes. With this history, I would like to offer Edgewood some advice.
The question now is how to prevent more flight from Edgewood schools by Latino parents who now have the power to buy a better education. The answer from parents, and wait four or five years for our children to show improvement, we are the ones who are ultimately responsible when your experiment fails. Over that time, our children have forever lost opportunities to learn at a developmentally appropriate point in their lives.
Some say Horizon scholarships will hurt Edgewood; I think they will help it. But it's up to the Edgewood School Board and its leadership. If you change nothing to meet the demands of parents, they will remove their children from your schools.

Good luck, Edgewood. I know you can do it. Someday you will look back and see how focusing on customer satisfaction made you achieve excellence rivaling your public and private school competitors.

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