

Nichols
Worth



It's Christmas time

It's almost Christmas. We're harried and hassled, sickly and stressed as we frantically scramble around trying to get everything ready.

But, in between the Christmas Crazies, there is the Christmas Beauty.

It does exist. Go to one of the area Christmas parades. Look at the bright eyed youngsters surrounded by doting parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles as they are lifted onto their floats surrounded by sparkling decorations, stuffed animals and Santas.

Watch them waving to the crowds, as proud as real princesses and princes would be.

Look at the faces of the elderly as they watch the parade go by, taken back to a different time, filled with joy at the youth and the fun around them.

Stop long enough to watch a child as his or her eyes light up in glorious joy at the sight of Santa in a window display, or when they see a Christmas tree studded with twinkling lights.

Look at the pride in a young couple's face as they balance on ladders, stringing icicle lights on their very first home, stepping back with their arms around one another as they inspect their work.

Watch the faces of grandparents as they welcome family in their front door, smells of holiday baked goods drifting out the door along with warm air, smiles so wide they fill the world.

Listen to the drifting sounds of a church choir as it practices for their Christmas eve performance.

Drive around and relax, looking at the decorations and lights that turn cold night time into a fairyland. Look at a nativity scene, really look at it, truly thing about it.

Yes, there is hypocrisy, stress and commercialism. But there is much more to this season that is real, and so, so beautiful.



Christmas Cantata scheduled at Calvary

Calvary Baptist Church of Talco invites everyone to attend their Christmas Cantata this Sunday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Special guests will be the choir from First Baptist Church in Naples, who will join the Calvary Baptist choir.

Refreshments will be served following the cantata.

Editor's Quotes

Too Late-There is a wealth of unexpressed love in the world. It is one of the chief causes of sorrow evoked by death: what might have been said or might have been done that never can be said or done.
Arthur Hopkins

Talco Times

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Talco Times

65TH YEAR, No. 6

TALCO, TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS

Thursday, December 14, 2000

50¢



WINNING FIRST PLACE-in the car division of the annual Talco Christmas Parade were the Junior High Rebel Cheerleaders whose theme was "Peace and Happiness". All the decorations on the vehicle were hand made by the girls. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS- was the theme of the First place float at the annual Talco Christmas Parade. The float held Talco First grade Christmas King and Queen, Jacob Wright and Chloe Hodge; Talco Sixth grade Christmas King and Queen Destry Nolen and Danica Easterling; Talco Sixth grade Class Favorites Destry Nolen and Alex Wright; Bogata Kindergarten Class Favorites Carli Brown and Rob Ward, Kayla Brown and the "Grinch" better known as Danielle Easterling. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



A FULLY DECORATED-Christmas tree and Mr. and Mrs. Santa welcomed guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wilson for Saturday's First Annual Tour of Homes in Talco. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Deport man arrested in burglaries

According to Lamar County Precinct 1 Constable Randy Boren, a Deport man was arrested last week at a Bogata residence in connection with stolen property taken from four counties in Northeast Texas.

According to Boren, as many as 12 thefts have been linked to Billy

Slaton of Deport. Property valued at over \$10,000.00 has been recovered and traced to thefts from Lamar, Red River, Franklin and Collin counties.

Slaton is being held in Red River County Jail on Class "B" theft charges with charges pending in Lamar County.

ACS meeting is Dec. 19

The Franklin, Morris, Titus Counties American Cancer Society will hold its December board meeting Tuesday, December 19 at noon in the auditorium of Titus Regional Medical Center. Members are asked to bring a covered dish for the meeting. For information, call 577-6576.



A DEER THEME-was used at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Shane Wright for Saturday's First Annual Tour of Homes in Talco. Above the fireplace these three mounted deer carried out the theme with decorations complete with the center deer supporting a red bulbous nose. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Talco lighting contest to offer cash prizes

James Via of Talco wants to see Talco lit up for Christmas! He is offering a \$100 first prize for the best decorated home inside the city limits of Talco and \$100 First Place for the best decorated home on the Talco side of the Rivercrest School District.

Judging will be done December 23rd. Winners will be contacted on the 24th of December.

If you would like your home entered in the competition call Via Well Service at 379-4011 to sign up.

Talco Historical Society formed

On Monday, December 11, 2000 those interested in forming a Historical Society in Talco met at the Trader's Villa downtown Talco at 2:00 p.m. The interest was there and officers were elected as follows: President-Karen Jones, Vice President-Christelle Cato, Assistant Vice President-Richard Swarts, Treasurer-Jane Holmes, Secretary/Reporter-Grace Hearron and serving as board members; Francis Stephens, Jerry Clemmons, Jimmy Sloan, Dorothy Jones, Wanda Morris, Morris Brown and Nancy Brown. The group voted to have a \$10 per year membership which will go toward purchasing needed items. The City of Talco has agreed to let the group use a room or rooms at the City Hall to house the newly formed Talco Historical Museum.

Those attending the meeting brought great pictures of early Talco including when the first roads were being paved, the old refinery, pictures of a moonshine raid and more, write-ups from newspapers, even the

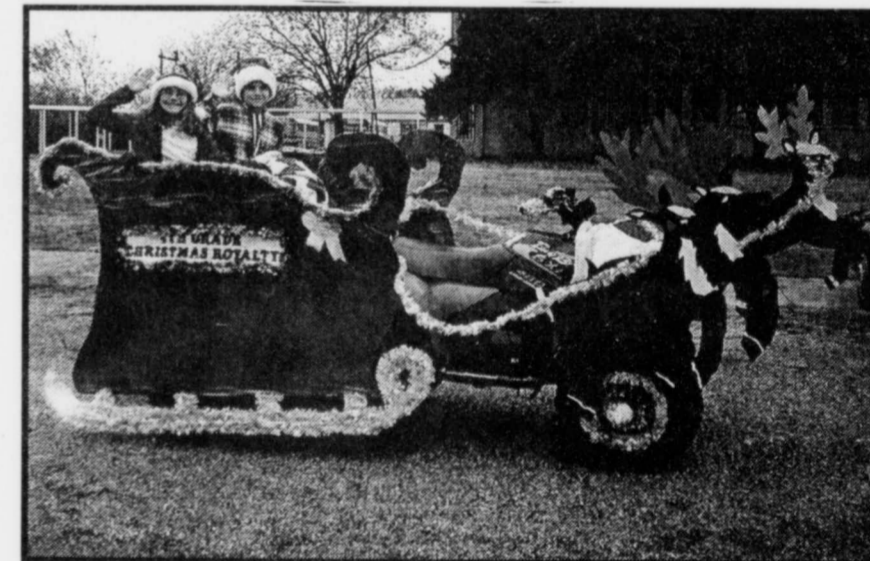
first ever Talco phone book. Everyone was excited about the many possibilities for the museum.

To get the project off the ground donations are needed. Monetary, frames for pictures, display cases, items on loan, pictures that can be copied and any type memorabilia from the oil field, local churches, schools, bank, post office and businesses will be appreciated. The group would also like to obtain pictures of all Talco's mayors. They plan to offer memories on tape and already have a tape of John D. Wright telling stories from the past and donated by his daughter, Sue. Plans to tape as many memories as possible are being made and eventually copies will be made available for sale, as will copies of pictures and other items.

The group will meet again on December 18, 2000 at the Trader's Villa downtown Talco at 2:00 p.m. and encourage everyone to attend and help make the museum a reality from Talco's beginning to present day.



CODY COX won First Place with his entry into the Talco Christmas Parade. His dirt bike was loaded with "Holiday Cheer" (Staff Photo by Nancy Brown)



FIRST PLACE-in the 4 wheeler division of the annual Talco Christmas Parade went to Talco Fifth Christmas Queen and King, Emily McCuller and Colby Chitsey. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Santa is coming to town. Please don't hit him!!

In an effort to promote safety during the holiday season, the Texas Department of Transportation has joined with local businesses in a holiday campaign to help promote safe driving.

Safety is always a factor regardless to the time of year, but put even more emphasis on it during the holiday season when there is a lot of celebrating going on statewide and people are trying to get to their various destinations.

There is a lot of traffic out on the roads and people will find that sometimes they have to practice safe driving for themselves as well as the other drivers but its worth it in the long run. Statistics show that the Christmas and New Year's holiday season is the second most deadly time of year following the Memorial day and Independence Day holidays. Driver should be aware of the dangers of driving under the influence, dashboard dining and fatigue driving and take extra measures to ensure their safety and the safety of others.

Country Cooking

By Liz Irwin

<http://tpp.1starnet.com/>



Our cook this week is quite unique. She is one of those cooks that can take one recipe and add it to another recipe to come up with a completely different one or she takes a pinch of this and a dab of this and creates her own recipe. She is JaLynda Ballard Mitchell of Deport. To say that she enjoys cooking is an understatement. She cooks for teachers, neighbors, her church and any other occasion that Arises or needs food.

She and husband Carl have three children. They are Dakota, 14, Dambri, 12 and Jaylan is 4. They enjoy doing things together as a family. The kids are involved in sports and other activities and they are members of the Abundant Life Church in Minter.

Along with cooking, JaLynda enjoys crafts and volunteering at school and helping her parents and friends in the community.

We hope you enjoy her recipes and we will see you in the kitchen! Reese's Crunch-top chocolate

graham crackers with this mixture and you have a great cookie!

Nutty Sugar Cookies-uses Club crackers for the base and topped with butter and sugar, vanilla and almond extract!

Toffee Cookies-toffee flavored graham crackers make a taste delight!

Sugar Cinnamon Cookies-this recipe uses cinnamon graham crackers topped with butter and sugar. Yummy!

Butterfinger Bars-combine butterfingers with other ingredients for a tasty treat that everyone will enjoy!

Butterfinger Brownies-use the Butterfinger Bar recipe as a base and top with margarine, butter, flour, eggs and cocoa and see what you come up with!

Cherry Melts-these are wonderful and easy to make!

Peanut Butter Brownies-like chocolate brownies, try these for a little different flavor!

December 14, 2000
Jaylynda Ballard Mitchell

Reese's Crunch
2-1/2 sticks butter-melted
1 cup sugar
1-1/2 cup chopped pecans
2 teaspoons vanilla
chocolate graham crackers
1 package Reese's peanut butter chips
1 cup chocolate chips
Boil butter, sugar and pecans for 3 minutes and then add vanilla. Meanwhile, line Pam sprayed cookie sheet with broken graham crackers. Pour butter mixture evenly over crackers and spread. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Remove from oven and sprinkle with chips. Let sit 10 minutes and then spread. Cool and break.

Nutty Sugar Crackers
1-2 packages Club crackers-broken
1-1/2 stick butter
3/4 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon almond extract
1 cup chopped walnuts
powdered sugar
Line crackers in a foil-lined cookie sheet, sprayed with Pam. Melt butter in pan and then add sugar and walnuts and boil 2 minutes. Remove from heat and add vanilla and almond extract. Pour mixture over crackers evenly. Bake at 350 degrees for 8 minutes or lightly browned. Let cool and sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Toffee Cookies
1/2 cup butterscotch chips
2-1/2 sticks butter-melted
1 cup sugar
2 cups chopped pecans
2 teaspoons vanilla
1-1/2 packages graham crackers
1/2 package brickle toffee
12 ounces chocolate chips
Boil three minutes and add vanilla. Line pan with graham crackers. Pour mixture over crackers evenly and then spread. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle with toffee and chips. Let sit for 10 minutes and then spread. Cool and break. Can be cooled in refrigerator or freezer.

Sugar Cinnamon Cookies
1-1/2 packages cinnamon graham crackers
2 sticks of butter-melted
3/4 cups sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
Line cookie sheet with foil and spray with Pam. Line with crackers. In pan melt butter and add sugar and boil 2 minutes. Remove from heat and add vanilla. Pour mixture evenly over crackers and bake at 350 degrees for 8 minutes. Remove and cool.

Butterfinger Bars
1 cup peanut butter
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup sugar
1 stick butter at room temperature
2 eggs
2 teaspoons soda
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 cups flour
2+1 butterfingers-crushed
Cream everything but flour and butterfingers. Then hand mix 2 butterfingers into mixture and then add flour. Mix well. Press into cookie sheet. Sprinkle remaining candy bar on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 15-20 minutes.

Butterfinger Brownies
1/2 of Butterfinger Bar recipe
1 crushed butterfinger bar
1 cup margarine-melted
2 cups sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla
4 eggs
6 tablespoons cocoa
1-1/2 cup flour
Press the halved Butterfinger Bar recipe into pan and top with crushed candy bar. Mix margarine, sugar, vanilla, eggs and cocoa. and then add flour and mix well. Pour over butterfinger mixture and bake for 350 degrees for 25 minutes

Cherry Melts
1 box cherry chip cake mix
18 ounce tube Cool Whip
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
Mix well. Roll into small balls and then roll in powdered sugar. Place on cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for 12 minutes.

Peanut Butter Brownies
1/2 cup flour
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs
1/4 cup soft butter
1/2 cup peanut butter
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 cup sugar
Mix all ingredients but flour. Cream well. Then add flour and press into brownie pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.



Cook of the Week Jaylynda Ballard Mitchell



*Meeting time is 2nd and 4th Monday night at 7:00 p.m.

*Post is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight, and Saturday from 12:00 noon until 1:00 a.m.

*Thursday at 7:00 p.m. is 42 playing time and Pool and shuffleboard are open all the time.

*The VFW will be open on Sunday's for the Dallas Cowboy football games. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the game with friends and neighbors.

*Feel Better Wishes are sent to Mildred Eudy, Deon McKeegan, June Killen, Jean Smith, Burl Moore and Tom White.

*Happy Birthday to: Bobbie Hervey, Geri Knowles, Wootie Harville and Dennis Carr.

*Thanks is expressed to the young ladies who decorated the VFW Post for Christmas. It looks so pretty.

*Sympathy is extended to the family of Eunice Miller. She will be missed.

Thank you
The Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church, 430 Elm Street in Blossom would like to express our appreciation to the Blossom Community for your love and support of our Bake and Barbecue Sales this year. Also for all that you have done in the past. We are thankful when someone reaches out to help us through our struggles. It gives us determination to carry on. Thanks for all your kind deeds. May God's Blessing be yours in the year to come.
The Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church Family
Pastor Rev. C. H. Littlejohn

In Memory of Lenton Roach
May 4, 1923- December 15, 1990
Do not stand at my grave and weep, I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow; I am the diamond glints on the snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain; I am the gentle autumn's rain. When you awaken in the morning's hush, I am the swift uplifting rush Of quiet birds in circled flight. I am the soft star that shines at night. Do not stand at my grave and cry. I am not there; I did not die.
The daughters of Lenton and Virginia Roach
Carolyn Roach Holland, Bobbie Roach Calhoun, Nancy Roach Dixon, June Roach Banks, Jane Roach Rhea and Ginger (Pete) Roach Swarts

Have A Great Weekend!

Obituaries

Card of Thanks

Carlos and I were so very grateful for the calls, cards, prayers and memorial donations that were sent following the sudden loss of my brother, Don Royce Guyon.
Thank you,
Melba Ladd

Ada Lee Chaddick dies December 10

Ada Lee Chaddick, age 91 of Deport and formerly of White Oak, died Sunday, December 10 in Deport Nursing Home.

Wood Funeral Homes conducted chapel services on Wednesday, December 13 at 11:00 a.m. Interment services were held at 3:00 p.m. in the Gladewater Memorial Park Cemetery, Gladewater. Grandsons were pallbearers.

She was born in Uvalde on March 10, 1909, the daughter of William and Zella Yett Robertson. On December 23, 1925, she married Isaac Chaddick. He preceded her in death on April 15, 1989. She was also preceded in death by two sons, Charles Leon Chaddick in May, 1945 and Henry Isaac Chaddick on November 19, 1997.

She is survived by three daughters, Winnie Christine Basham of Avinger, Rebecca Nadine Moody of Ft. Worth and Patsene Ham of Deport; two sisters, Jessie Simpkins of Denton and Jimmie B. of Nevada; 15 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Thank You

Thank you to the Oak Hill Baptist Church, Blossom Fellowship Baptist Church and the Blossom Community. When someone reaches out to help us through when times are tough. It does so much to give us hope and brighten up our day. And though our "Thanks" is genuine, its never quite enough compared to all the happiness their kindness brings our way. Thanks is not enough when someone cares the way you care. It means so much to live in a community, like the Blossom community, where people really care. Thanks again for all your kind deeds and words that you have shown to my daughter and I. Thanks so much.

Stephanie and Raven Dowd.
May God's Choice Blessings be yours to enjoy.

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the food, cards, calls, visits, prayers and acts of kindness shown during the loss of our loved ones. Special thanks to Bro. Park Robertson and the Wood family for the beautiful service.

God bless you,
The Family of
Weldon & Louise Smith

Card of Thanks

A great big thank you to the Bogata Volunteer Fire Department for the great response to our fire alarm last Sunday. We were very impressed with the number of responders and the speed with which they responded. Also thanks to the many local people who came out to offer their help. It is so comforting to know that we can depend on our community to assist us when needed.

Red River Healthcare Center

Card of Thanks

I would like to express my thanks to the Bogata First Responders and Bogata law enforcement. Their courtesy and concern during my illness was outstanding. I hope everyone appreciates just what we have here. They are exceptional.

Molee Huddleston

It never yet did hurt to lay down likelihoods and forms of hope.
—William Shakespeare, Henry IV, Part 2

Ora Pirtle dies December 8

Mrs. Ora Pirtle, age 88, died Friday, December 8 at IHS Nursing Home in Mt. Pleasant.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, December 10 at the Bogata Cemetery. Services were conducted by Mark and Lance Hudson under the direction of Curry-Welborn Funeral Home.

Mrs. Pirtle was born May 7, 1912 in Jothtown to Sam and Mary Emma Askins. She was married to Jim Pirtle on February 4, 1928. They owned and operated the Jothtown Grocery Store for a number of years. She was a long-time member of the Church of Christ.

Surviving are her daughter-in-law, Billie Pirtle of Bogata; her daughter, Fredrika and David Hudson of Mt. Pleasant; five grandchildren, Kathy Miller of Commerce, Mark Hudson of Lewisville, Karen Hudson of Paris, April Hudson of Lubbock and Lance Hudson of Laurel, MS; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1985; her son, Kenneth in 1987; her parents; three brothers and four sisters.

Revival set in Clarksville

The Clarksville Assembly of God Church will hold revival services on December 15-16-17 with evangelist Randy Caldwell of Cabot, AR.

Pastor Keith Brown invites everyone to attend services on December 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. and on December 17 at 6 p.m.

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Scouts hold annual meeting

Jorene Carpenter and Ruth Smith of Detroit and Donna Stewart of Bogata served as delegates to the Red River Valley Girl Scout Council annual meeting and awards banquet on Saturday, November 11 at the Calvary United Methodist Church in Paris.

Mrs. Carpenter is a member at large on the Board of Directors.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Stewart are troop leaders and the neighborhood chairs for Detroit and Bogata and are responsible for recruiting leaders, organizing troops, keeping leaders informed about events, helping plan neighborhood events and activities and generally supporting the troop leaders and other volunteers in Red River County.

The evening opened with the presentation of colors by troops from

Lamar County and a welcome by Dr. Stansell. During the business session, the delegates approved changing the name of the council to Girl Scout Council of Red River Valley.

Mrs. Carpenter, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented its slate of candidates, who were elected by acclamation. Officers elected were Dr. Melissa Stansell, president, Paris and Gary Gunder, treasurer, Paris.

Members at large elected were Sherry Moree, Lisa Johnson, Beverly Lewis, Becky Burton, Jennifer Gregory, Stephen Blezinger and Pat Baggs.

The Red River Valley Council covers Camp, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River and Titus counties and Bryan, Choctaw and McCurtain and Pushmataha counties in Oklahoma.

Holidays in Historic Mt. Vernon

"Holidays in Historic Mt. Vernon" will be held Saturday, December 9, 2000 starting with a "Breakfast with Santa" at the Alley downtown from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Other events for the day will be as follows:

10am-5pm-Arts and Crafts on the square

10am-3pm-Franklin County Arts Alliance Old Jail, open to the public, Christmas Project "Stockings for Charity"

10am-12noon-"Crepes & Crepe Myrtles", on the porch at First National Bank. Free crepe myrtles and light brunch crepes sponsored by Mt. Vernon Beautification Coalition & Friends.

10am-11am "Story Hour with Santa and Mrs. Claus" at the Depot Museum.

10am-12pm-Franklin Co. Heritage Museum open til 12:00 p.m.

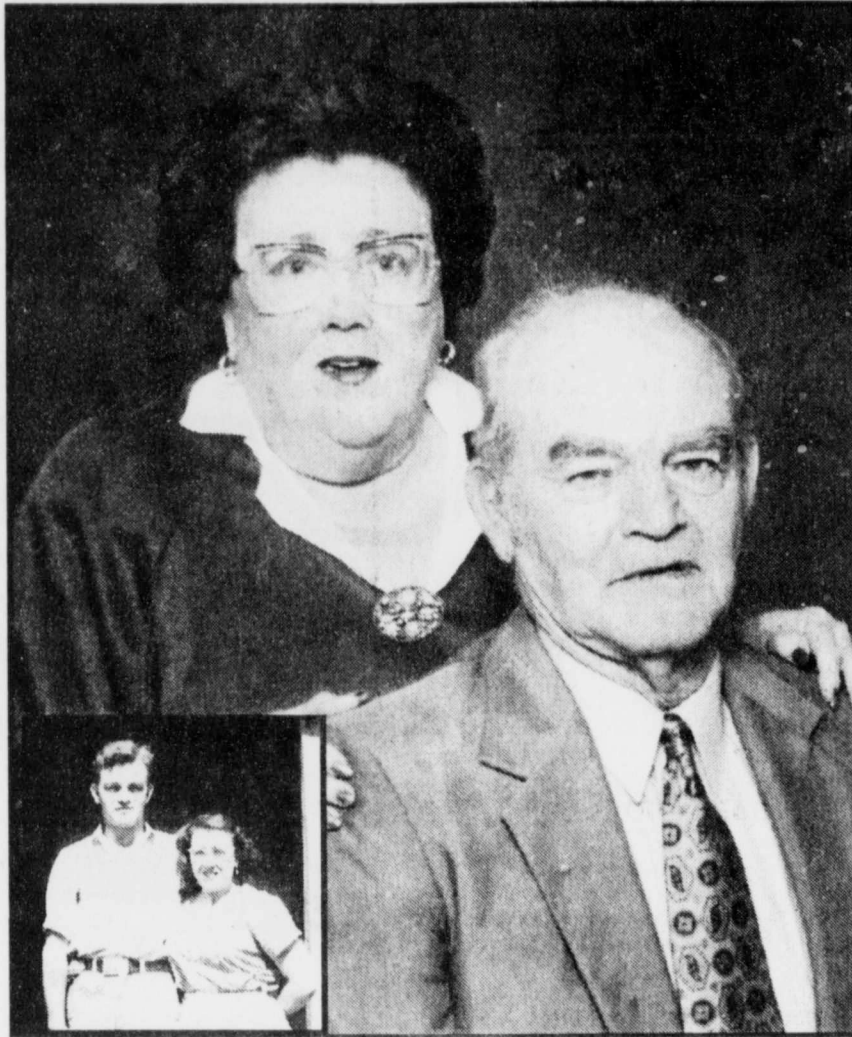
12:30 p.m.-Get a steamin bowl of the red at Franklin Co. Historical Ass'n's Chili Cookoff. All the chili you can eat for \$5.00. Free hotdogs for children.

1pm- 5pm-Free miniature train rides for the children downtown.

2pm-5-pm "Holiday Tour of Homes", a holiday wonderland. Tickets available at the door or call 903-537-4760.

5:30pm-Annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade

5:45 pm-Downtown lighting of Christmas light at Franklin County Courthouse.



Dodd's celebrate 50 years together

On December 16, 1950, Dorothy Lee Watts and Wayne Grady Dodd were united in holy matrimony. After working in the construction industry for many years, the couple moved back home to the Johntown community in 1964, where they raised their family. Grady is now retired from the Texas Highway Department and Dorothy has been a life-long wife, mother and homemaker. They have two children, Ed Dodd and Terry Dodd. Ed and his wife, Janet reside in Paris, Texas and Terry resides in Mesquite, Texas.

Dorothy and Grady have four grandchildren, Chad, Shana, Kami and Claudia. Chad and his wife, Heather reside in Plano, Texas and

Shana is a sophomore at North Texas University in Denton. Kami and her husband, Jim live in New Orleans, LA. and Claudia is a junior at the University of Texas in Austin. Also blessing the family are great grandchildren, Brandon, Marissa and Jackson.

These fifty years of loving, growing, working and raising children together have indeed been years of great accomplishment. The love that has been shared and passed down to the next generations continues to inspire and be greatly appreciated knowing that this love began with these two, Dorothy and Grady. Congratulations on your fifty years of marriage.

Christopher family Christmas held

The Christopher family Christmas dinner was held at Hazel Goodbar Center in Mesquite with 51 present. The group report a great time with lots of hugs, laughing and catching up over the past year.

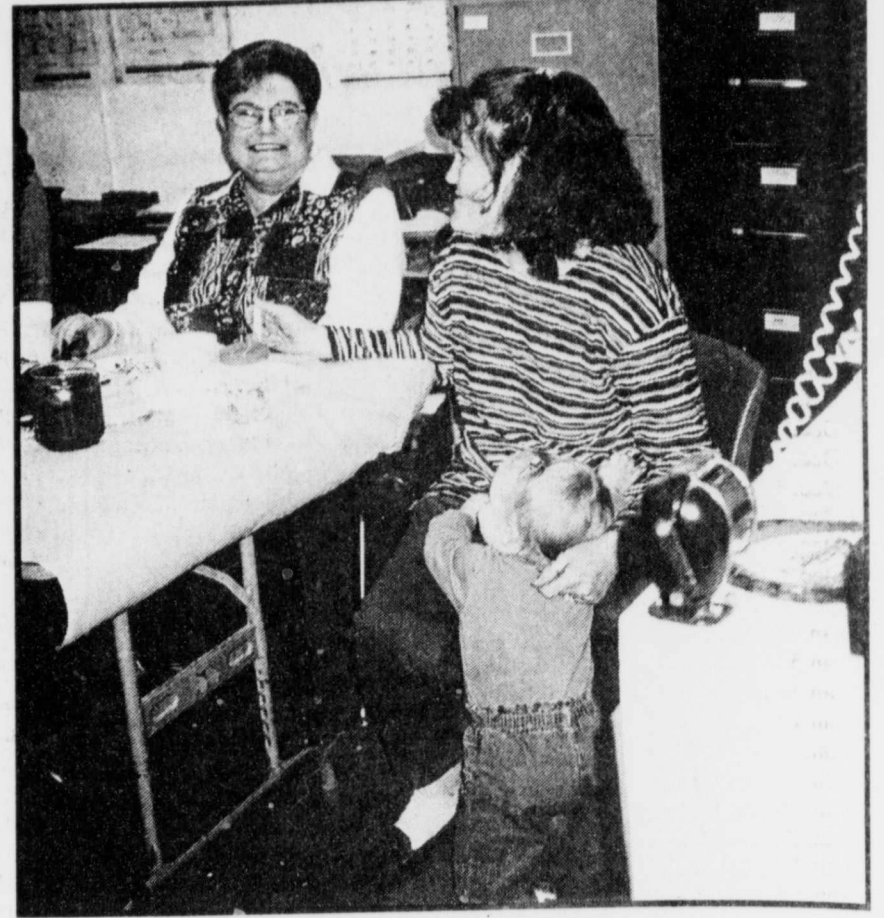
Attending were; Gussie Mussick of Bogata, Edith McLee of Wiley, Jack and Christine Christopher of Dallas, Ida Mae Christopher of Clarksville, Sarah Floyd Barthomew of Wiley, Bonnie and Lowell Griffin and Sandy Griffin of Wiley, Melba Henry of Ft. Worth, Thomas, Catherine, Lauren and Sharon Rawdon of Carrollton, C.D. and Zella Warren of Athens, Don and Margee Christopher of Cato Mills, David,

Zebbie, Zane, Cody and Jessica Cantu of Houston, Janice Day Davidson of Chicago, IL., Sheryl and Chris Watkins of Little Rock, AR., Gene Davidson and Jasmine of Garland, Darrell, Sherry and Jason Warren and Seth Woods of Garland, Pistol, Kathy, Brittani and Trey Rawdon of Mesquite, Thomas Christopher of Conroe, Robert, Phyllis and Christopher Kremer of Wiley, Randy Christopher of Clarksville, Janice Christopher of Dallas, Brian and Christy Kremer of Wiley, Linda Chaney of Dallas, Gary Christopher and friend Carol Kee of Conroe and Bruce and Sandra Christopher of Dallas.

Donald Tucker honored with retirement party

Former Bogata area resident, Donald Tucker, recently retired after 34 years of service with Bell Helicopter in Hurst. He was presented a glass framed plaque displaying miniature replicas of each kind of helicopter that was built at Bell while he worked there, along with other memorabilia.

Donald and his wife, Iris, have returned to Negley, in Red River County, where they are in the process of building their new home. Iris is the daughter of Troy Lee and the late Burt Lee of Clarksville. Donald is the son of Mildred Tucker and the late Lonnie Tucker of Bogata.



Jane Strawn

Jane Strawn honored a Bogata School November 29

Jane Strawn was honored with a retirement salad luncheon on Wednesday, November 29, 2000 at the Bogata Elementary School.

Those attending were friends from the elementary and junior high schools. Special guests were Mrs. Strawn's daughter and granddaughter, Sharon and Hollie Greer and Dr. Gary Van

Deaver. Bogata Principal, Bill Mabry presented Mrs. Strawn with a clock plaque on behalf of the Rivercrest ISD. A cash gift was given to Mrs. Strawn to be used at her favorite restaurants and movies. She also received many nice cards and best wishes.

RR Historical Society to sponsor Christmas tour of homes

The Red River County Historical Society will sponsor the Second Annual Christmas Tour of Homes in Clarksville on Saturday, December 9, 2000, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Tour sites will include: the home of Manuel and Jane Avila, the home of James and Jennifer Raulston, the Lennox House and the Courthouse Inn. Community singers will provide Christmas music at the First Presby-

terian Church, with a "Broccoli-Cheese Soup Super" and "Cookie Walk" in the Education Building.

Prices for the events will be: Christmas Tour of Homes-\$10, Soup Supper-\$3 and Cookie Walk-\$5 or \$10. All proceeds will go toward the historical restoration and upkeep of Miss Belle's House. Everyone is invited to attend.

Adopt An Angel program is in full swing

The Red River County Adopt An Angel program is in full effect, with donations being accepted through Saturday, December 16.

Any gifts purchased may be left at the Wal-Mart Customer Service Desk or at the Clarksville Fire Station in

Clarksville. Parents should pick up their children's Christmas gifts on Tuesday, December 19 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Clarksville Post Office in the basement.

Blood drive is December 19 in Clarksville

The Lennox Health Resource Center and Stewart Regional Blood Center will host a blood drive on Tuesday, December 19 from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the mobile unit on the square in Clarksville.

Everyone who will donate blood

is asked to eat before donating and to bring your driver's license.

You will receive a holiday T-shirt from Stewart Regional and a holiday gift mug from Lennox Health Resource Center.



Holiday promises, be realistic

After the holiday leftovers are gone, family members have returned to their homes and the beginning of the year looms large, the rush to make resolutions begins. But making those New Year's resolutions should include realistic expectations and a plan that helps people reach their goals.

Most people make resolutions because they want to change something about themselves that they don't like.

People don't tend to think out their resolutions very well, instead they tend to make impulsive decisions and rash goals. More than 60% of all resolutions are abandoned in the first quarter of the new year.

Resolutions also are difficult to keep if they are unrealistic.

Planning resolution-making is critical. Follow these steps:

Assess yourself. Look at your skills and use them to establish steps toward setting goals.

Select resolutions based on small increments of achievement, have subgoals within goals.

Keep a daily or weekly ledger or diary of your progress to help monitor behavior.

Make a written contact with yourself, specifying the details of your steps.

Reward yourself, but not excessively, with material items. Graciously accept and enjoy compliments and positive feedback from peers.

Be patient with yourself. Often, people are their own worst critics.

Admit and analyze your mistakes and continue with the steps. Don't be overwhelmed by small setbacks.

Seek help from others or those who are trying to accomplish the same thing.

Join a support group or enlist the help of friends.

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Lady Rebel 2000-2001 basketball schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Nov. 14	Pittsburg (9/JV/V)	There	4:30
Nov. 17	Chisum (JV)	There	6:00
Nov. 16/17/18	Dodd City Tourn. (V)	There	TBA
Nov. 20	Quitman (9/JV/V)	There	5:00
Nov. 21	Clarksville (JV/V)	There	6:00
Nov. 27	Saltillo (JV/V)	There	6:00
Nov. 30/Dec. 1/2	Mt. Pleasant Tourn. (JV)	There	TBA
Dec. 5	Pathway Academy (9)	Here	5:00
Dec. 5	Mt. Vernon (JV/V)	Here	6:00
Dec. 7/8/9	North Hopkins Tourn. (V)	There	TBA
Dec. 12	*Hughes Springs (JV/V)	There	6:00
Dec. 15	Winnsboro (JV/V)	There	6:00
Dec. 18	North Hopkins (JV/V)	There	4:30
Dec. 19	*DeKalb (JV/V)	Here	5:30
Dec. 28/29	Quitman Classic (V)	There	TBA
Jan. 2	*Chapel Hill (JV/V)	There	5:30
Jan. 5	*Chisum (V)	Here	5:30
Jan. 9	*Prairiland (JV/V)	There	5:30
Jan. 12	*Paul Pewitt (V)	Here	5:30
Jan. 11/12/13	Chapel Hill Tourn. (JV)	There	TBA
Jan. 16	*Hughes Springs (JV/V)	Here	5:30
Jan. 19	Winnsboro (JV/V)	Here	6:00
Jan. 20	Mt. Vernon (9/JV)	Here	10:00
Jan. 23	*DeKalb (JV/V)	There	5:30
Jan. 26	*Chapel Hill (V)	Here	5:30
Jan. 27	Cooper Tourn. (JV)	There	TBA
Jan. 30	*Chisum (JV/V)	There	5:30
Feb. 2	*Prairiland (V)	Here	5:30
Feb. 6	*Paul Pewitt (JV/V)	There	5:30

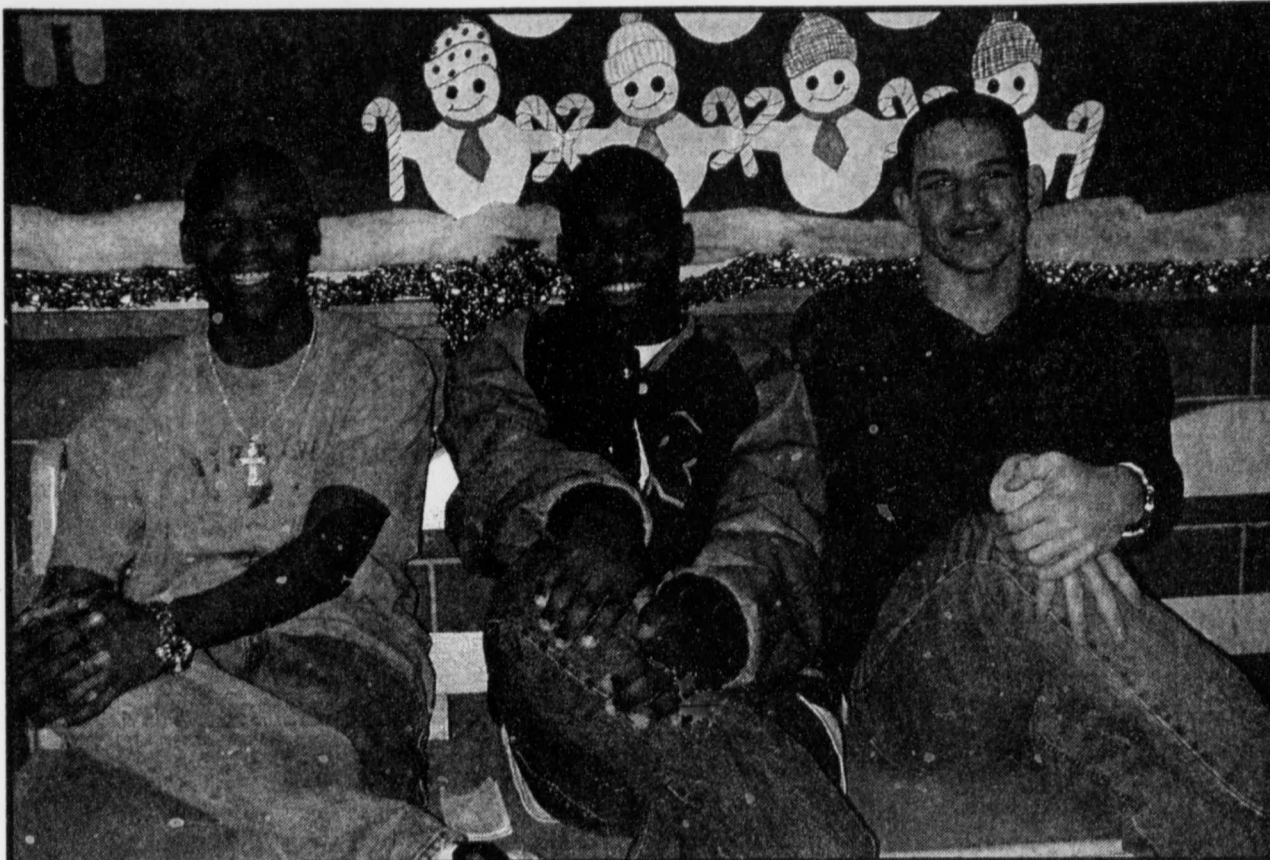
*Denotes District games
Coaches Debbie Williams, Karl Whitehurst

Talco-Bogata-RHS school menu December 18-19

Monday
Breakfast
Cereal
toast
milk & juice
Lunch
Pizza
corn
salad
milk

Tuesday
Breakfast
Cinnamon rolls
graham crackers w/peanut butter
juice & milk
Lunch
Cheeseburgers
beans
salad
chips
ice cream
milk

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



ALL TOURNAMENT AND MVP-Rivercrest Rebels recently named All Tournament and MVP at the Prairiland Tournament were; (from the left) Keith Hines, All Tournament, Michael Galloway-MVP and Chase Collins-All Tournament. The Rebels took first place in the tourney. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Lady Rebels earn 4th place at North Hopkins

The Rivercrest Lady Rebel varsity traveled to North Hopkins for tournament play this past weekend. The varsity Rebels were also in the tournament.

In their first game the girls met Roxton and took the win 54-42. Kim Shirley was high scorer for the team with 23 points. Also scoring were Kim Ross, Brittany Bull, Erica Williams, Cheryl Griffin and Rachel Case.

On Friday the girls returned to play Bland and were defeated by a score of 52-41. Kim Ross was high scorer for the Lady Rebels netting 3 treys among her 15 points scored.

Being put into the loser's bracket set the Lady Rebels to play again on Friday against Cooper. The team has not defeated the Cooper team many time over the past several years and the two rivals went head to head.

When the dust settled the Lady Rebels had chained the Bulldogettes 56-51. Kim Shirley was high scorer for the game netting 3 treys among her scores. Kim Ross also hit 4 treys and scored 16 points for the team but was lost to foul trouble in the last quarter. Also scoring were Rachel Case, Erica Williams, Cheryl Griffin and Jennifer Hays.

On Saturday the Lady Rebels returned to play for 3rd place against Riverdale Academy. It was not to be and the Lady Rebels were left in the 4th place spot by a score of 54-34. The Riverdale team knocked down the scores of the Lady Rebels considerably. High scorer for the game was Kim Shirley with 9 points. Also scoring were Charla Hines, Erica Williams, Jessica Rose, Cheryl Griffin, Jennife Hays and Kim Ross who hit 2 treys and a free shot.

The Rebel varsity team took the championship at the tournament. Stats were unavailable at press time.

2000-2001 Rivercrest Boys Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time	Place	Teams
Dec. 5	Leonard	5:00	Leonard	9, JV, V
7-9	N. Hopkins Tourn.	TBA	N. Hopkins	V
12	Bonham	4:30	Bonham	9, JV, V
14-16	Rivercrest Tournament	TBA	Here	9, JV, V
18	Redwater	4:30	Redwater	9, JV, V
19	*DeKalb	5:30	Here	V
28-30	Whataburger Tournament	TBA	Ft. Worth	V
Jan. 2	*Chapel Hill	5:30	Chapel Hill	V
5	*Chisum	5:30	Here	JV, V
6	Chapel Hill	10:00	Chapel Hill	9, JV, V
9	*Prairiland	5:30	Prairiland	V
11	Chapel Hill	7:00	Chapel Hill	9
12	*Paul Pewitt	5:30	Here	JV, V
16	*Hughes Springs	5:30	Here	V
18	*Hughes Springs	5:30	Here	JV
19	Bye			
23	*DeKalb	5:30	DeKalb	V
25	Paul Pewitt	7:00	Paul Pewitt	JV
26	*Chapel Hill	5:30	Here	JV, V
30	*Chisum	5:30	Chisum	V
Feb. 2	*Prairiland	5:30	Here	JV, V
6	*Paul Pewitt	5:30	Paul Pewitt	V
9	*Hughes Springs	5:30	Hughes Springs	JV, V

Head Boys Basketball Coach, Steven Weddle
Asst. Boys Basketball Coaches, Brandon Oats and Derek Bowman
AD/Principal, Keith Brown
Superintendent, Dr. Gary VanDeaver

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Lets Go Rebels & Lady Rebels!



Good Luck Teams!

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928 W. 16th St., Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455

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Lime & Weed Control
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Bogata, TX 632-5341

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Bogata Gas Company
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M&M Food Mart
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903-652-2321

Lone Oak Pet Camp
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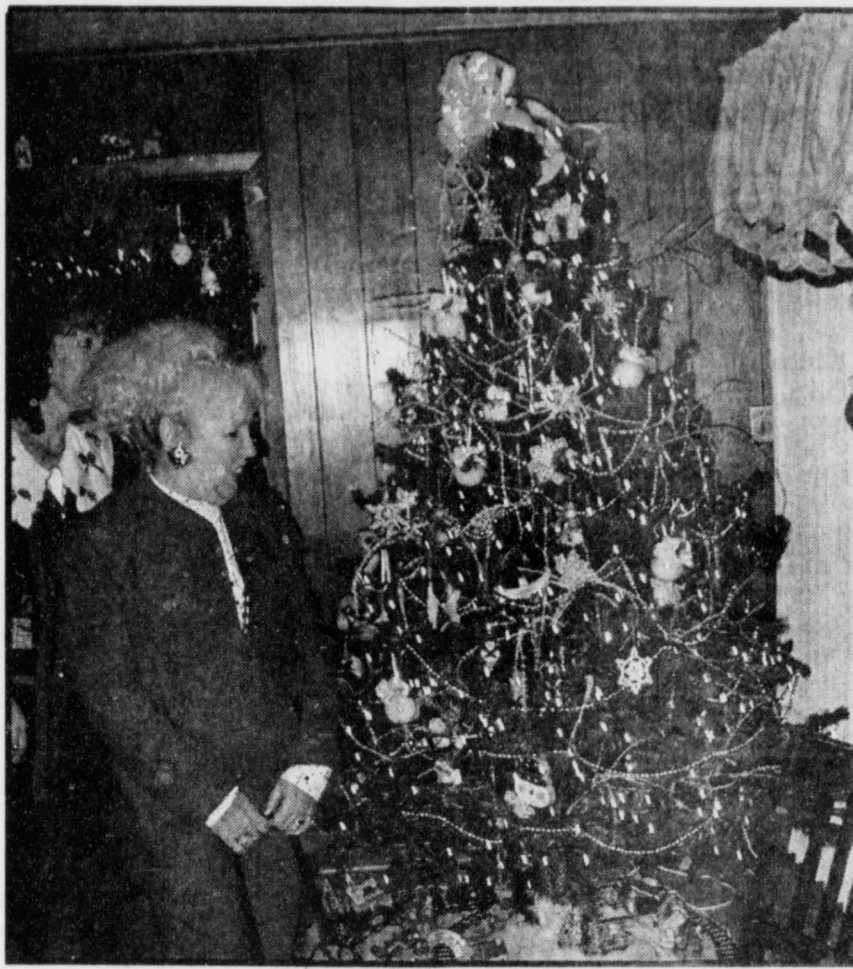
Cypress Basin to hold fund raiser

Cypress Basin Hospice, a local non-profit organization serving terminally ill patients and their families, is kicking off their annual Christmas fund-raising campaign. "From Our Tree To Yours", is a memorial fund-raiser which offers a Christmas card and ornament honoring the memory of a loved one of someone special. After your donation is received, Cypress Basin Hospice will send a Christmas card along with a holiday ornament to the family of the person being memorialized or honored.

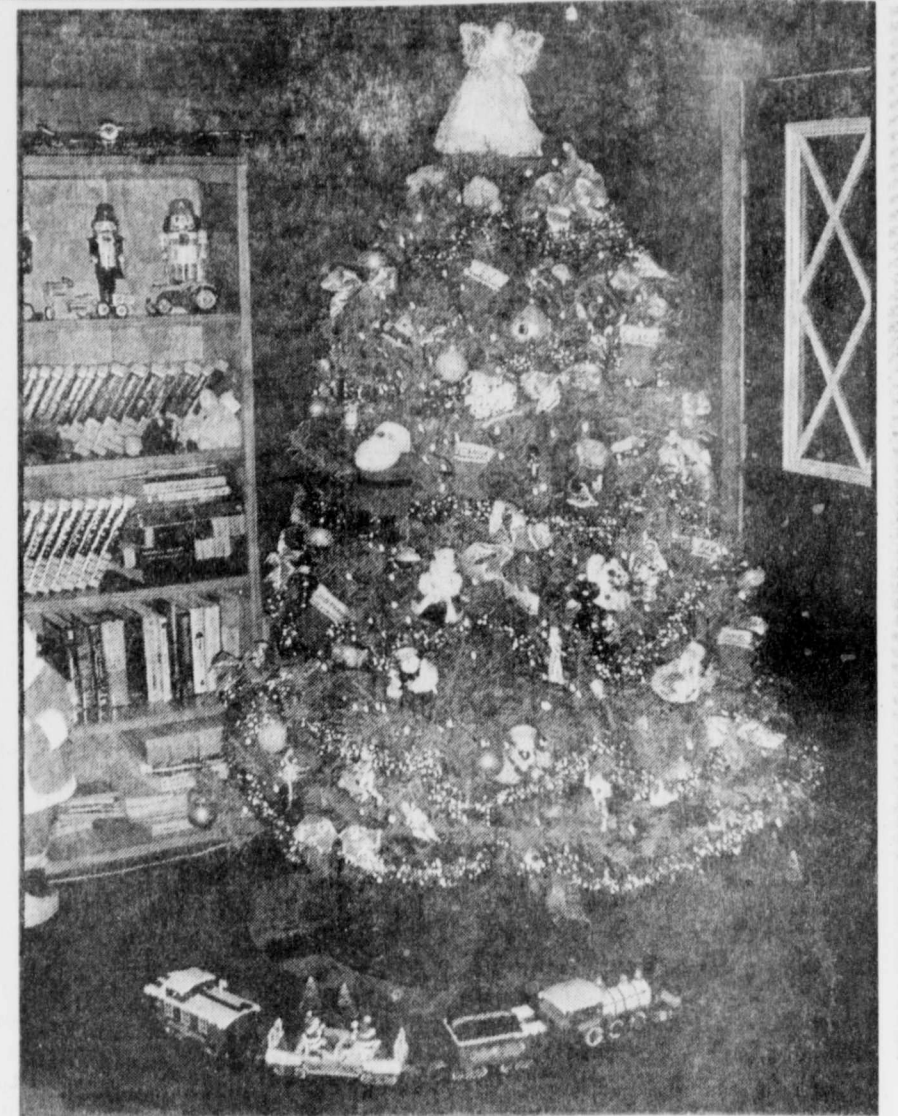
Edd Hess, Executive Director, is excited about the fifth year of this fund-raising project. "Holidays are always a special time, because in addition to bringing them a sense of joy and peace, they also bring back the memories of those who have touched their lives in a special way," says Hess. "This year's ornament is a gold filigree and white enamel angel. They also have some selections from the previous year's Christmas ornaments," Hess continues. "The orna-

ment and card is there, in the home, throughout the holiday season. Memorial donations help Cypress Basin Hospice defray costs of courtesy care they provide each year. This program will help them off-set some of the expenses so that they can continue their mission of service to the terminally ill and their families, regardless of their ability to pay. They are very proud of this program. They have individuals who have told them that this is the perfect way to remember friends who really don't want or need a gift."

The Cypress Basin Hospice Christmas Tree, located in the Mt. Pleasant Hospice Office at 1805 N. Jefferson, will be decorated with the beautiful ornaments for patrons to come by and see. Please stop by or contact Cypress Basin Hospice at 903-577-1510 for an order form today so the memorial Christmas ornament will reach the family in time for the holidays.



WHITE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS-A Christmas tree decorated all in white and surrounded by a train was a main attraction at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hinton for Saturday's First Annual Tour of Homes. Most of the decorations at the home were made by the couple and guest enjoyed being able to purchase items while there. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



FAMILY CHRISTMAS-was the theme set in the living room of Mr. and Mrs. James Via's home on Saturday for the First Annual Tour of Homes in Talco. The huge tree held hand made mementoes from the Via's children and grandchildren as well as an array of animated Santa's and ornaments. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

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Editor's Quotes
There were ten lepers healed, and only one turned back to give thanks, but it is to be noticed that our Lord did not recall His gift from the other nine because of their lack of gratitude. When we begin to lessen our acts of kindness and helpfulness because we think those who receive do not properly appreciate what is done for them, it is time to question our own motives.



THIRD PLACE-Winning Third place in the float division of the 2000 Talco Christmas Parade was the entry from Red River Healthcare with King, Casey York and Queen, Stasha Home. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

COME JOIN US FOR A CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will be available to take any last minute wishes from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and again from 4:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2000 in Bogata and on Thursday, December 21, 2000 in Talco.

Complimentary photos will be made and refreshments will be served.

Guaranty Bank

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RIVERCREST FRESHMAN QUEEN-Paige Boyd received Third place in the car division at the annual Talco Christmas Parade. The theme of Paige's entry was "Dreaming of a White Christmas". (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Republican Women of Northeast Texas honor local veteran

Last Saturday, the Republican Women of Northeast Texas honored the memory of Jake Simmons, a local WWII veteran, at their 1st Annual Jake Simmons Freedom Award Dinner.

Jake was a local Mt. Vernon man who enlisted in the Marines in 1942, shortly after graduating from high school. He received a Rifle Sharpshooter designation in boot camp and was assigned as a machine gunner and squad leader. Jake took part in four of the most famous campaigns of WWII: Guam, Guadalcanal, Bougainville and finally Iwo Jima. In a taped interview earlier this year before Jake died, he said that the first three battles were "a Sunday School

picnic" compared to the horror of Iwo Jima. Nothing could have prepared him for what he saw there. Jake was left as the sole survivor out of his squad on several occasions, while on Iwo Jima. He also recalled how proud he was when the U.S. flag was raised. That very famous picture of the flag being raised was used as the model for the national memorial built to commemorate the battle of Iwo Jima, which was the bloodiest battle in Marine Corp. history, and the only time American casualties exceeded those of the Japanese.

Retired Air Force officer Dr. John Lawrence, of Pittsburg, was the keynote speaker for the dinner. He spoke on the heroics and valor of what he referred to as the "Great WWII Generation".

The Republican Women had planned to create this award and give it to Jake on Veteran's Day. Unfortunately Jake died August 29, 2000 before this could be done. Maxine Patton, President of the Republican Women's organization, presented the first Jake Simmons Freedom Award to Jake's wife, Doris Simmons, in memory of Jake and for his extraordinary courage and bravery. Daughters Patty Brenner and Margaret Kaiser were also present along with Margaret's husband, Floyd and grandson Chris and Patrick.



MOST BEAUTIFUL AND MOST HANDSOME-Elected Most Beautiful and Most Handsome from the Rivercrest Junior class for the 2000-2001 school year are: Dusty Townes and Nathan Carroll. Dusty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benny Townes of Bogata. Nathan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Randy Carroll of Talco. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Research could enhance recovery from spinal injury, says A&M prof

COLLEGE STATION - Victims of debilitating spinal cord injuries may in the future have greater chances for recovery of some locomotive functions, thanks to pioneering spinal cord research by Texas A&M University neuroscientist James Grau.

Grau, who has studied the spinal cord for more than a decade, has helped advance the concept that the spinal cord - long considered to be only a simple conduit for the relaying of impulses to and from the brain - is capable of learning without the brain.

"It appears the spinal cord is far smarter than most assume," Grau says.

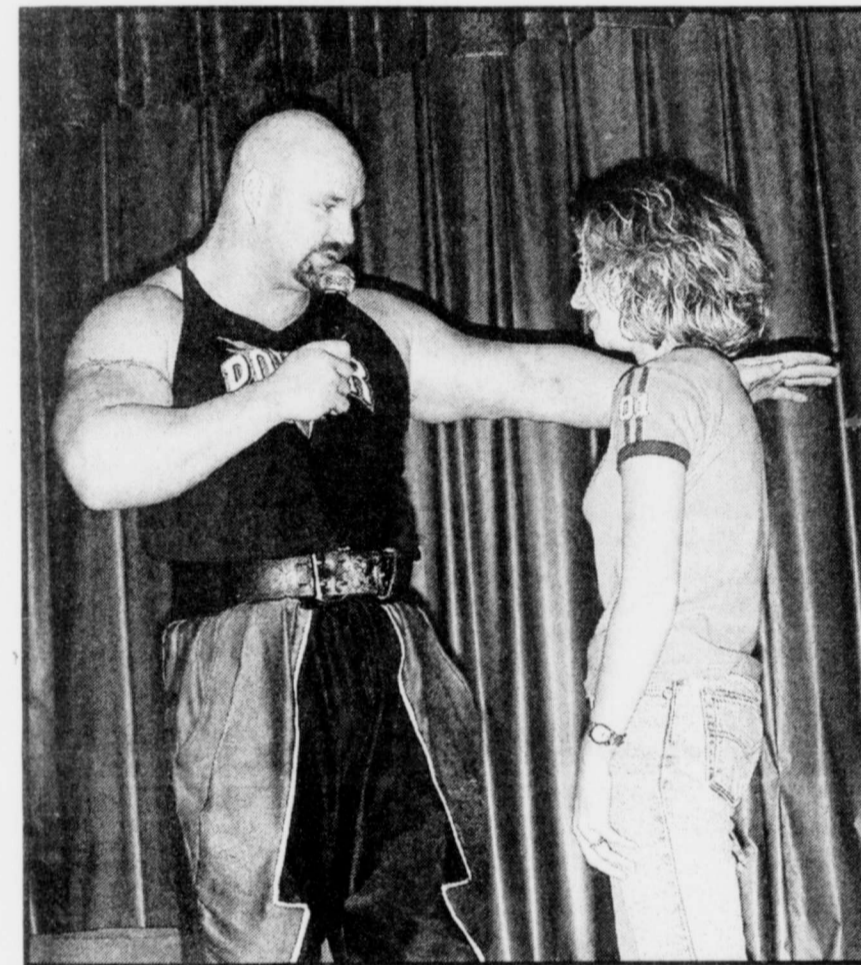
He says his animal models have demonstrated neurons in the spinal cord are capable of different types of advanced learning, acting as a "back-up system" when communication with the brain is disabled.

Normally, the brain is responsible for locomotive activities and inhibits the spinal cord's learning abilities. However, given a potentially catastrophic set of events, the spinal cord can take on extra responsibilities that include the ability to learn locomotive function, Grau explains.

The ability of the spinal cord to learn, which is referred to as "plasticity," has come to the forefront of the scientific community within the last five years thanks to Grau and his colleagues, but Grau's continued research has taken spinal cord plasticity into uncharted territory.


While spinal cord plasticity has been the focus of experts throughout the United States and Europe, Grau and former student Robin Joyne's work on the phenomenon of "learned helplessness" in the spinal cord is unique to Texas A&M, Grau says.

Life teaches us to be less harsh with ourselves and with others.
—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



RUSS CLEAR- of the Power Team used Rivercrest Senior, Kim Exum in one of his demonstrations as he and teammate, Mike Fontenot performed for the high school students Friday morning. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

FOOT NOTES



Dr. Austin Roman
SUCCESSFUL OPTION FOR ANKLE INSTABILITY

Ankle instability causes the ankle to turn or roll, which can lead to sprains, fractures, or long-term instability. According to a California study, an arthroscopic procedure is just as effective as more traditional surgery in treating ankle instability. The procedure, an arthroscopic monopolar thermal stabilization, uses a radio-frequency probe that emits controlled heat to shrink connective tissue (collagen) in the ankle. As the heat shrinks the connective tissue, the ankle ligaments bind more closely together to strengthen the ankle. When compared with the more traditional surgery that requires a larger incision, arthroscopy is a shorter procedure and patients need less time to recover. In addition, there is a decreased risk of infection, nerve injury and scarring.

Ankle and foot emergencies are the kind of foot mishaps that can, and do, happen any time. They can include sprains, broken bones, contusions, infections and other serious injuries. And among other modalities, treatment can include surgery, orthotics or medication. If you sustain a foot or ankle injury of any kind, you should seek immediate treatment from a podiatric physician. Remember, your feet are not supposed to hurt, and **DOCTORS FOOT CLINIC** is here when they do. Call 784-5585. for your appointment today.

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Have A Great Weekend!



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Faye Faulkenburg

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Patient Coordinator

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Papers now on sale, save money and fill your Christmas list

The newspaper is now on sale! It's that time of year again, the time when Christmas gift giving is simple! The Deport Times, Blossom Times, Bogata News, and Talco Times will be on sale for \$2 a year off now until the end of December.

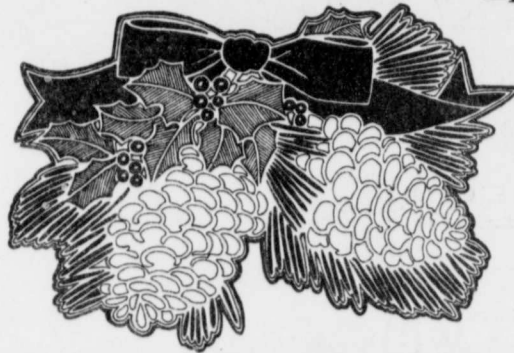
If one compares the amount of local news in these weeklies to a whole week's worth of local news in a daily it's clear...the competition isn't even close!

Where else can a reader get a whole year's worth of local news, sports, photos, award winning articles and columns, a delicious cooking column and much, much more for the price of \$17 within Lamar, Red River and Titus counties and only \$20 everywhere else?

Take advantage of the sale to send family and friends their home town paper for Christmas, and don't forget to renew for you!

Every cause produces more than one effect.

—Herbert Spencer



Government available to assist with paying energy bills


Is your heating bill too expensive for your budget? If so, information in a new booklet might help.

The Financial Assistance Network in Washington, DC has just published a booklet, "How To Get Government Help To Pay Your Energy Bills." The booklet gives information on how and where to get government help to pay your heating bills.

"The federal government had budgeted over one billion dollars to help people who are struggling to pay their heating bills. Many people do not know that his money is available or how to get it," says Edmund Billings, a researcher at Financial Assistance Network. "We've published a booklet that explains the program and tell

consumers where to apply for assistance in their area. The booklet also has a special section for homeowners to get up to \$25,000 of government money to help reduce their energy bills, even if they have no equity in their home.

Consumers can receive a copy by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to: Financial Assistance Network, Government Help for Energy Bills Booklet Offer, P.O. Box 60848, Washington, DC 20039-0848. Consumers can also get information by calling 202-595-1027 or by visiting Financial Assistance Network's Internet web site at www.FinancialAssistanceNetwork.org.



Cunningham News

By Jane O'Neal

Gordon Cox brought Velma home after spending three weeks during the Thanksgiving holidays. While she was gone she visited Vera Cox and Helen and David Taylor of Ft. Worth. She also visited with Charlene and Gene Fetter of Ft. Worth. Velma enjoyed Thanksgiving with Gordon and Jan Cox. Others attending were Morris and Kyle Cox of Dallas, Meredith and Dusty form A & M and Mary Ann and Raymond Gaylord of Baytown. Velma spent the night with Shelly and Ken Wardle of Ft. Worth. Mary Ann, Gordon, Jan and Velma attended an after Thanksgiving dinner at the Fred Cox home in Bowie. 54 people attended. Larry and Virginia Bell also joined them.

L'Wanda and Pete McKnight had the "O'Neal Christmas Party" Saturday night. Those attending were donnie and Clovis Morrison, Ethelyn Davic, Jane O'Neal, Sue and Murray Jackson, Jane and McKenzie Jackson, Karla, Kara and Aaron Palmer, Lisa, Dwayne, O'Neal and Weston Drinnon, Della O'Neal, Jeannie and Shelby Little, Johnnie, Fran, Johnna and Jenna Patterson, Connie McKnight and Cindy.

Linda Anderson attended the Anderson Women's Christmas Party at Carol Newberry's home. Johnna and Jenna Patterson both

won Queen in the Victorian Dream Pageant. Johnna also won Grand Talent.

Cindy and Charles Nichols had the couples of Life Tabernacle Church over Sunday night for a Christmas party.

James, Pat, Darold and Ida Mae Norwood went to Cindy and Charles Nichols Saturday night to play cards. The Cunningham Baptist Church had their holiday lunch Sunday.

Ida Mae and Darold Norwood went to the Foster Christmas in Deport Sunday. John Darold Walker visited them in the afternoon.

Georgian and Billie Joe Oats had lunch for Billy Ray, Neva and Brandon Oats, Brad and Georjeana Nutt Sunday. Wanda Joe Lawler visited them in the afternoon.

Heath, Missy, Laytner, Kayker and Jeff Kennedy visited with Bobbie and Shelby Sunday afternoon.

Jane O'Neal and Geneva Norwood attended the play at the Community Theater Friday night.

Dean, Ada and Marie Watson visited Ira and Mary Norman in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Margie Shell of Oklahoma City spent the weekend with Johnnie and Nelta Musgrove. Stacy, Linda, Stoney, Charity musgrove, Alice McPherson and G.W. and Mildred Pratt joined them for Sunday supper.

e-mail devotional to be offered

The Talco Church of Christ is offering a daily e-mail devotional beginning January 2, 2001. It is designed to be a short but thoughtful lesson for busy folks.

This will be sent Monday through Friday but not on holidays. Please send your e-mail address to

brymelho@peoplescom.net.

Also the Talco Church of Christ would like to invite the young people of the community to a lock-in on New Year's Eve at the church building. Come join in for some good clean fun. More details will be made available soon.



If Your Pockets are empty, come see us at Adkins United Finance!

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SECOND PLACE- in the car division at the Talco Christmas Parade went to Mr. and Miss Bogata Elementary, Nikki Lewis and Seth Hawkins. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



CREWELLA DEVILLE-made a stop in Talco Wednesday looking for more Dalmations, which she found, in Talco Fifth grade Class Favorites, Alex Savage and Laura Bevell. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Extended Holiday Hours!

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December 17
Open 'til 8 p.m.
Monday, December 18 thru
Saturday, December 23



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Wilkinsons go to reunion in Seattle, Washington

Charles Wilkinson and his wife, Jean, plus a younger sister, Marjoree Glover, attended Charles' 376th Division Reunion in Seattle, Washington this past August. This is a partial account of their journey.

We went through Wheeler, Guthrie, passing some of the 6666 ranch, and through the Oklahoma panhandle of Oklahoma and on to Kansas.

In Liberal, KA, we stopped at a B-24 third phase training base museum. I had heard that there was an exhibit on the 376th, but discovered it had been taken down.

We spent the night in Garden City, and just before the Nebraska line in Oberland, KA, visited the Last Indian Raid Museum.

We went through the sand hills of Nebraska, and spent the night at Valentine, Nebraska. People from all over have their Valentines post-marked there before sending them on to the intended person.

We went through beautiful evergreen forests, than back to farming country.

We crossed into South Dakota and went to Mt. Rushmore, which is very impressive.

We were unable to see the Crazy Horse monument because of the enormous fires burning.

Smoke from these fires got heavier, and we spent the night in Sheridan, Wyoming.

In Montana we asked if the fires would cause us trouble and were told to just go straight through and not to take any side trips.

We stopped at the Little Big Horn Museum, and crossed the Continental Divide that afternoon.

In Butte, Montana we saw the 90 ft. statue "Our lady of the Rockies" which is beautiful.

We also toured the old Montana State Prison, used from 1870 to 1979.

It didn't look like any place that I would like to spend much time in. We saw a herd of 30 or 40 buffalo

in a pasture and made it to Ritzville, Washington.

We saw the Columbia River, and a guy with long, unkempt hair and a cardboard sign. I expected the sign to say "Homeless, broke, will work for food". It said, instead, "I won't lie to you. I need a beer". I thought it was funny.

The next day we made it to Seattle and checked into the hotel.

We had a day to ourselves and went to the incredible Pike's Place market, the oldest farmer's market in continuous use in the United States.

The next day began the Reunion events.

We toured Seattle, a beautiful city. We saw homes, Washington Sate Campus, Puget Sound and much more.

I was the only member of our crew at this reunion.

On Saturday, Sept. 2nd we had a general meeting, then boarded buses for Emerald Downs and the races. Jean and I did not need help bringing our winnings back.

Saturday night we entertained friends with a get-together.

Sunday there were church service and we took buses for a dinner cruise aboard the "Spirit of Puget Sound".

Monday we went to the Museum of Flight. There were many different planes suspended from the ceiling and parked on the floor.

We had Squadron Photos made, and Squadron meetings. That evening there was a dinner dance, and unveiled a picture of a B-24 painted and given to our organization by Larry Hofmann. The picture was 4 x 12 feet.

Tuesday we gathered for our Memorial Breakfast. It was an emotional time.

We bid our friends farewell until next year, when the reunion will be in Oklahoma City.

We headed back to Texas by a different route.

We stopped in Las Vegas, where we saw the amazing Laser Light Show, saw Boulder Dam, and headed for Arizona. We stopped in Kingman, Arizona, where I was stationed from Nov. 43 to June 44. We went through the Air Base memorabilia. I found my picture and they made a copy of that page.

Saturday we drove to Albuquerque, N.M. and then to Santa Fe. It was Fiesta Days and crowded.

We visited the chapel of Our Lady of Light, which houses the Inexplicable Stairs. The chapel was begun in 1873. When it was nearly finished it was found that the chapel was wonderful, and so was the choir loft, but a terrible mistake had been made and there was no way to build a stairway. Numerous carpenters tried, but no one could do it until an old man with a donkey and a few tools came and asked to try.

In six to eight months he had created a marvelous winding stairway. But when time came to pay him, he had vanished. Mother Magdalen went to the local lumberyard to pay for the materials, they knew nothing of it there! The stair makes two 360 degree turns, with no supporting pole. Architects have said it should have collapsed, yet it has been in daily use for 100 years. An expert says the wood definitely doesn't come from New Mexico.

Back on the road, we headed towards Amarillo, spending the night in Canyon, and then getting in the next day. Needless to say it was good to be home after 17 days away. This was the 11th reunion for us.

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People 'n Things

Third Tuesday of each month
Bogata Lions Clubs sponsors Bingo at Red River Healthcare Center. Lions Club members should volunteer to help when they can.

Third Tuesday of each month
Free commodities are distributed on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Bogata.

Tuesdays
BAM! (Bogata Area Moms) play group for stay-at-home moms and children will be meeting weekly from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All interested should call Kelly at 632-4493 for day and more information.

Bogata Public Library/Museum
The Bogata Public Library/Museum is open each Friday from 10 am to 4 pm and each Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. A library card is available to all citizens of Bogata and the surrounding area. Come by and enjoy the Museum and check out a good book for your reading pleasure.

December 18
The Talco School Annual Christmas Program will be held December 18, 2000 beginning at 9:00 a.m. under the direction of music teacher, Neva Oats. Everyone is invited to attend.

December 18 Rivercrest ISD schools will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. Students who walk home may leave at 2:15 p.m.

December 18 the newly formed Talco Historical Society will meet at Trader's Villa downtown Talco at 2:00 p.m. All interested persons are invited to attend.

December 19
The Bogata School Annual Christmas Program will be held December 19, 2000 beginning at 9:00 a.m. under the direction of music teacher, Neva Oats. Everyone is invited to attend.

December 19 will mark the end of the 3rd Six Weeks for Rivercrest ISD students and the end of the 1st semester. All library fines, cafeteria charges and library money need to be paid before students leave for the holidays.

December 19 Rivercrest ISD schools will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. Students who walk home may leave at 2:15 p.m.

In politics there is no such thing as an enemy—only someone who disagrees with you today and who might be with you on the next vote.

—Gerald Ford

Talco Locals

Call your news in to the Talco Times at 379-4445

Recent visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Watts and family were Mr. Watts sisters and brother, Janie Harlan of Terrell, Margie Armstrong of Mesquite and Carl and Linda Watts of McKinney.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Brown Sunday were Kim, Paul and Quinton Anderson, Jack and Jennifer Brown of Paris and Jody Nolen.

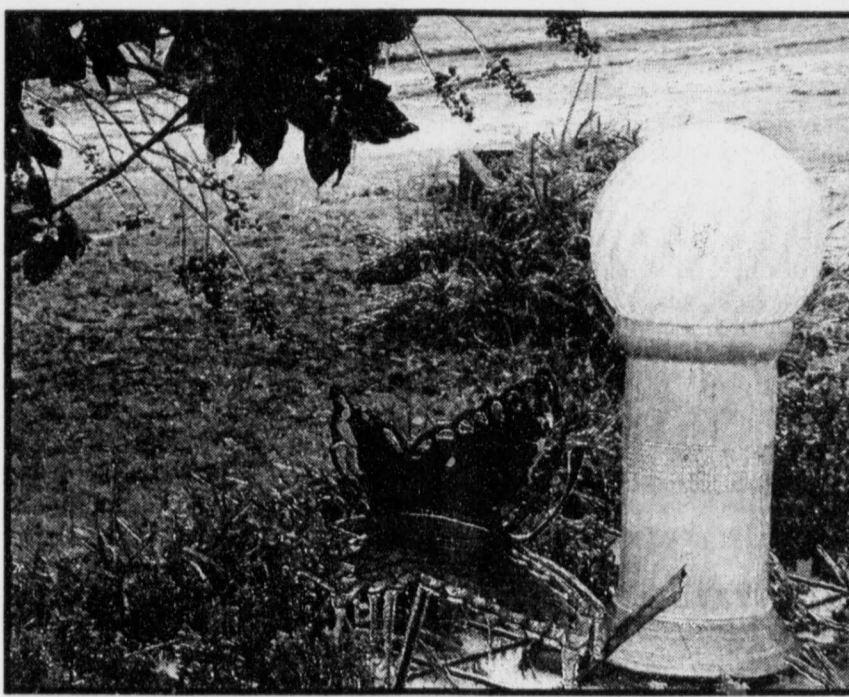
The Maple Springs Church congregations and guests enjoyed their annual Christmas party following

services Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Watts and Cindy Watts enjoyed lunch with Willima Lee Watts in Tatum Friday.

Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith traveled to Waco to pick up grandson, Chad Smith and take him home to Elysian Fields for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Livingston and children of Mt. Pleasant visited Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anderson and Quinton Saturday evening.



ICY BUTTERFLY-this metal lawn ornament and gazing globe were coated in ice Wednesday morning as was the rest of the world. Icy roads and downed power lines cause many difficulties in spite of the icy beauty. (Staff Photo by Nanalee Nichols)

Services held at Thedford Homes

A mid-week church service was held in the recreation room of Thedford Homes in Bogata on December 5, 2000. There were 19 in attendance.

A time of gospel singing followed the pot luck lunch. Everyone received a copy of a humorous description of "wash-day, 1916". Happy Birthday was sung to Charlotte Brumalow.

The devotion centered on Christ's advice in Mark 6:31, "Come ye yourselves apart...and rest awhile". Everyone shared in a "God bless you" testimony service and then prayer requests were taken.

Everyone is invited to the Christmas service on Tuesday, December 19 at 12:00 noon. There will be a skit, door prizes, Christmas carols and a pot holder gift exchange. The guest speaker will be Donna Stout of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Hospice holds fundraiser

Cypress Basin Hospice is holding their fifth annual holiday ornament fundraiser, "From Our Tree To Yours".

For information on sending a special ornament, contact 577-1510 or go by their tree at 1805 N. Jefferson in Mt. Pleasant.

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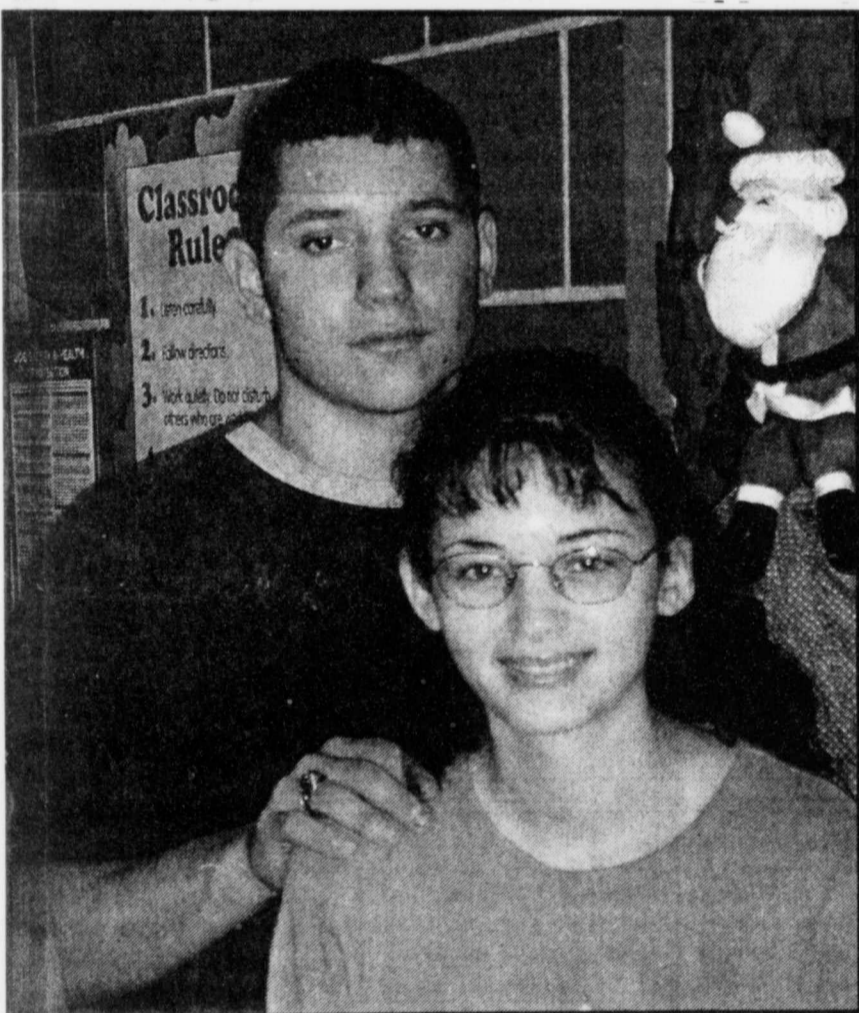
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MOST INTELLIGENT-Chosen Most Intelligent girl and boy from the Rivercrest Junior class this year were Robyn Hollis and Brandon Davis. Robyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Randy Hollis of Talco. Brandon is the son of Mary Meade of Talco. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

Think Texas
by Agriculture Commissioner SUSAN COMBS

Texas shares more with Mexico than a common border. Trade with our southern neighbor has been booming since the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement, and we'll continue to have a prosperous two-way relationship with new Mexican leadership taking office Dec. 1.

But while major headway has been made, there are still glitches to tackle. Border infrastructure problems have long slowed deliveries in both directions, and we need new innovative facilities to help us overcome some of them.

A new producer-owned truck-to-truck transfer station was unveiled in Rio Grande City in September, and it's expected to help Texas producers deliver their grain directly to buyers in Northern Mexico. The new transportation system will allow Mexican transport trucks to cross the border on privately maintained roads. The trucks will then go to the transfer station to pick up deliveries from U.S. trucks transporting Texas grain shipments.

Food and agricultural trade between the United States and Mexico has more than doubled during the last 10 years and is expected to total \$10.9 billion in fiscal year 2000. Mexico is now our nation's fourth-largest export market for farm products.

Clearly, for business and trade to continue to grow - and to ensure the continued success of NAFTA and trade between our two nations - we must continue to develop solutions like this transfer station.

Bogata Locals

Doris Strain, Inez Gill and Collette Conlan visited Mrs. C.M. Conlan and Peggie Cuarles in Clarksville. They also visited Maggie Lee, Myrtle Singleton, Alice Craig, Beulah Pierce and Willie Mae Gray.

Happy December Anniversary to Steve and Geri Knowles.

Visiting with Chrystine Baker Tuesday were Mary Jane Lowry and Billie Welch of Blossom.

Recent visitors of Mrs. Dixie Stringfellow were Vicki Tabb, Dee and Maggie Richardson, Felina White, Billy Stringfellow, Grady Rhodes and Buddy Stringfellow.

Helen Williams, Frances Rozell and Patty Barton shopped in Texarkana Wednesday.

Russell, Inez Gill and Collette Conlan visited Mr. and Mrs. George Strain in Oklahoma recently.

Mark and Annette Hudson of Lewisville visited their grandparents, Ed and Loyce Huddlestone Sunday and enjoyed supper before returning home.

On Wednesday, Pam Whitten and Chrystine Baker enjoyed shopping in Clarksville.

Recent visitors with Helen Williams were Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Miller

and sons, Ramsey and Reagan of Humble.

Dixie Stringfellow, Dee and Maggie Richardson and Vicki Tabb visited one day with Mrs. Lorene Bogie. Mrs. Bogie presented Maggie with some beautiful hand crocheted slippers. Dixie also visited Edna Earl and M.J. Dodd.

Sunday, Joe Stringfellow of Paris picked up his grandmother, Dixie Stringfellow and took her to Paris where they, his wife, Misty and sons, Josh, Jake, Brent, Darrin and Tyler and Tyler's friend, Megan, enjoyed a concert by "The New Plainsmen Quartet" at Paris First Church of the Nazarene. Later they were joined by the singers and their families for lunch at TaMolly's.

Friends and relatives attending visitation and/or graveside services for Ora Pirtle were: Buford and Gale Hervey, Gene Hawkins, Doris Pirtle, Mrs. Twyman Pirtle, Nancy Estill, Mabry O'Keefe, Frances Thomas, Robbie McLaughlin, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Love, Lucille and Carl Jones, Myra Permenter, Vance Pirtle, Donald Jean, Bessie Roberts, Ann Barnard, Mary Margaret Barnard, Lee Hood, Anita and Frank Stubblefield,

Bonnie Huddlestone, Ed and Loyce Huddlestone, Dorothy Jones, Dan and Mary Kathryn Cotten, Doris Kennedy, Lonnie Kennedy, Sydney and Pat Hudson, Gloria and Homer Holt, Pat Jeffery, Ike and Jane Hartsell, Suzanne and Pat Sisk, Bill and Amy Jones, Dana Neeley, Jerry Ann Via, Mary Good, Mary Ann Brazeale, Roy Willmon, Freda and Clayton Wellborn, Mary Ann Williams, Peggy Risinger, Jaci Haney, Johnny Whitney, Raynard Screws and Jim Parker.

Yvonne Powell who lives in Carrollton visited her sisters, Margie Garrett and Zelma Mauldin Sunday.

Happy December birthday to: Donnie Gentry, James Walker, Angela DeBarry, Lee Booker, Miriam Stephenson, Leon Tuck, Sherry Rolen, Kelli Kimmy, Bow Willis and James Duffee.

Recent visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Screws and Tana were Mike, Bren and Kara Screws of Deport, Jerry, Chris Anna, Christopher and Jerred Guerra of Paris and James A. Watts of Rockwall.

Robbie Marshall was in Dallas Tuesday to pick up son Tee Green at DFW Airport.

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First annual tour of homes held Dec. 9

The First Annual Tour of Homes was held in Talco Saturday night, sponsored by the Talco Baseball/Softball Inc. and those attending had a wonderful time.

The first home viewed was Mr. and Mrs. Shane Wright's which was decorated with a "deer" theme. As the guest arrived live deer had gathered near the Wright's front yard (They raise axle, red tail and white tail deer along with many other types of animals). The front entrance was decorated with greenery and a beautiful Christmas wreath. Inside, a large Christmas tree trimmed with ribbon, bows and ornaments filled the front window. Deer antlers had been used in many of the homes decorations and 3 mounted deer heads above the fireplace sported greenery with lights and the center one, a red bulb on his nose, a life like version of Rudolph. Guest were treated to punch, homemade cookies, brownies and breads. It was truly a warm and welcoming holiday home.

Next the group traveled to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wilson whose beautiful yard decorations welcomed them. The front entrance held a fully decorated tree and a huge Santa. The home's living room, which has an African motif was decorated with greenery. Stockings held by small wreaths decorated the fire place and a Santa, his sleigh and reindeer candle holder centered the table at the front window. Mrs. Wilson's collection of Santa's were shown in the hallway shelves and beautiful glass and crystal were used throughout the home with special lighting and candles. Guests were served homemade candy

, finger foods and punch, all delicious. The crisp, bright home was beautiful.

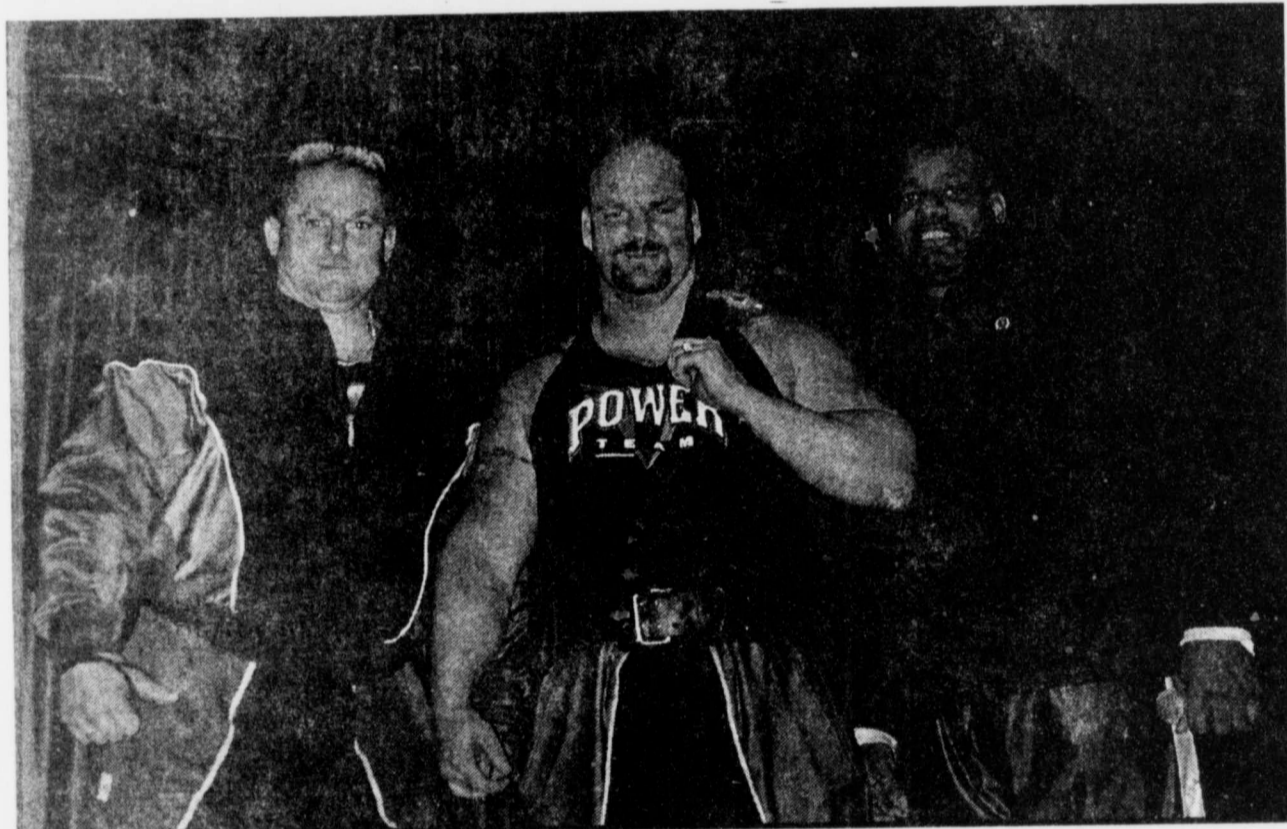
Next the group visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hinton whose yard decorations also welcomed. The front entrance began with a "Santa Stop Here" sign along with lighting and other decorations. The Hinton's greeted their guest into the living room which held a beautiful tree decorated in white ornaments, a large majority made by Mrs. Hinton and was surrounded by a train track. The theme was a country Christmas and decorations throughout the home were hand made by the Hinton's, including a 4 poster bed made by Mr. Hinton. Items were offered for sale and guests enjoyed purchasing ornaments and various skillfully made wooden decorations. Guest were served hot apple cider, fruit and dip, vegetables and dip, meats and tortilla roll ups. Again the guest enjoyed the wonderful food, visiting and the beautiful decorations.

After taking the long way back to Talco and enjoying the Christmas lights in Sugar Hill, on Fm 71 and Crawford Lane the group traveled down Hwy 271 to the home of Mr. and Mrs. O.B. Goolsby whose two story home is beautiful any time of the year. Guests were greeted at the front entrance by the Goolsby's into the antique decorated home. The Christmas tree decorated by Mrs. Goolsby and grandson, Zach held among the ornaments and lights an antique BB gun and pheasant feathers. The home is an antique lovers dream. The massive fire place was gorgeously decorated with greenery, flowers and ribbon. Among the bed-

rooms which all held antique furniture, one held a simply beautiful sleigh bed. Upstairs in Mr. Goolsby's den another Christmas tree decorated the picturesque room. Guest were served homemade fudge, decorated sugar cookies, spiced tea and punch.

Following the elegant Goolsby home the group traveled to the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Via whose driveway entrance began the outdoor lighting display. At the home the front yard held a nativity scene and more. The full length front porch was decorated and Christmas music filled the air. Guest were greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Via and entered their living room which held a huge tree decorated with family keepsake ornaments and was surrounded by a train track. The room held many animated ornaments and Santa's. The dining room table was set with beautiful Christmas dishes and the room was fully decorated using the Disney theme including a tree filled with Disney ornaments. Truly a picture perfect family Christmas setting. Guest were served shrimp, cheeses, chips, dips, drinks and received a parting gift from the Via's, wonderful snowman decorations.

Each home visited was unique and beautifully decorated. The Talco Baseball/Softball Inc. would like to express their deep appreciation to the host and guest who participated. Host were presented with original hand painted Christmas ornaments as a token of appreciation. Funds raised from the event will help insure Talco and surrounding area's boys and girls an opportunity to play summer league baseball and softball.



RIVERCREST ISD WELCOMED-"The Power Team", (left to right) Mike Fontenot, Russ Clear and Ferman King, manager to the school on Friday. The men presented a program of strength and carried a Christian message to the student body from high school to Kindergarten in 3 different programs throughout the day. They did a wonderful job of speaking with the students of each level. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



LET IT SNOW-was the theme of the Second place winner in the float division of the Talco Christmas Parade. Bogata Junior High Queen, Koren Hawkins, family and friends depicted a beautiful snow scene. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)

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Page 3

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3 BR, 1 B frame, carport, large lot, N. Howison St.	\$42,500
3 BR, 1 1/2 B frame, carport, large lot, 5th Street SW.	\$25,000 ⁰⁰
3 BR, 1 B frame, carport, chain link fence, pecan trees, S. Howison St.	\$22,500 ⁰⁰
3 BR, 2 B brick w/fireplace, dbl. carport on 1 acre. Tanglewood St. & Hwy. 37, Bogata. 1,200 sq. ft. office building on 100x100 lot, Main Street, Bogata.	

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Wanted, Cooks!
Liz Irwin, our cooking columnist, needs cooks to interview anywhere in this area. Please call her at 903-982-5829, or the Bogata News at 632-5322 or Deport Times at 652-4205 or Talco Times at 379-4445 and tell us about a good or unusual cook of any age that you would like to see featured.

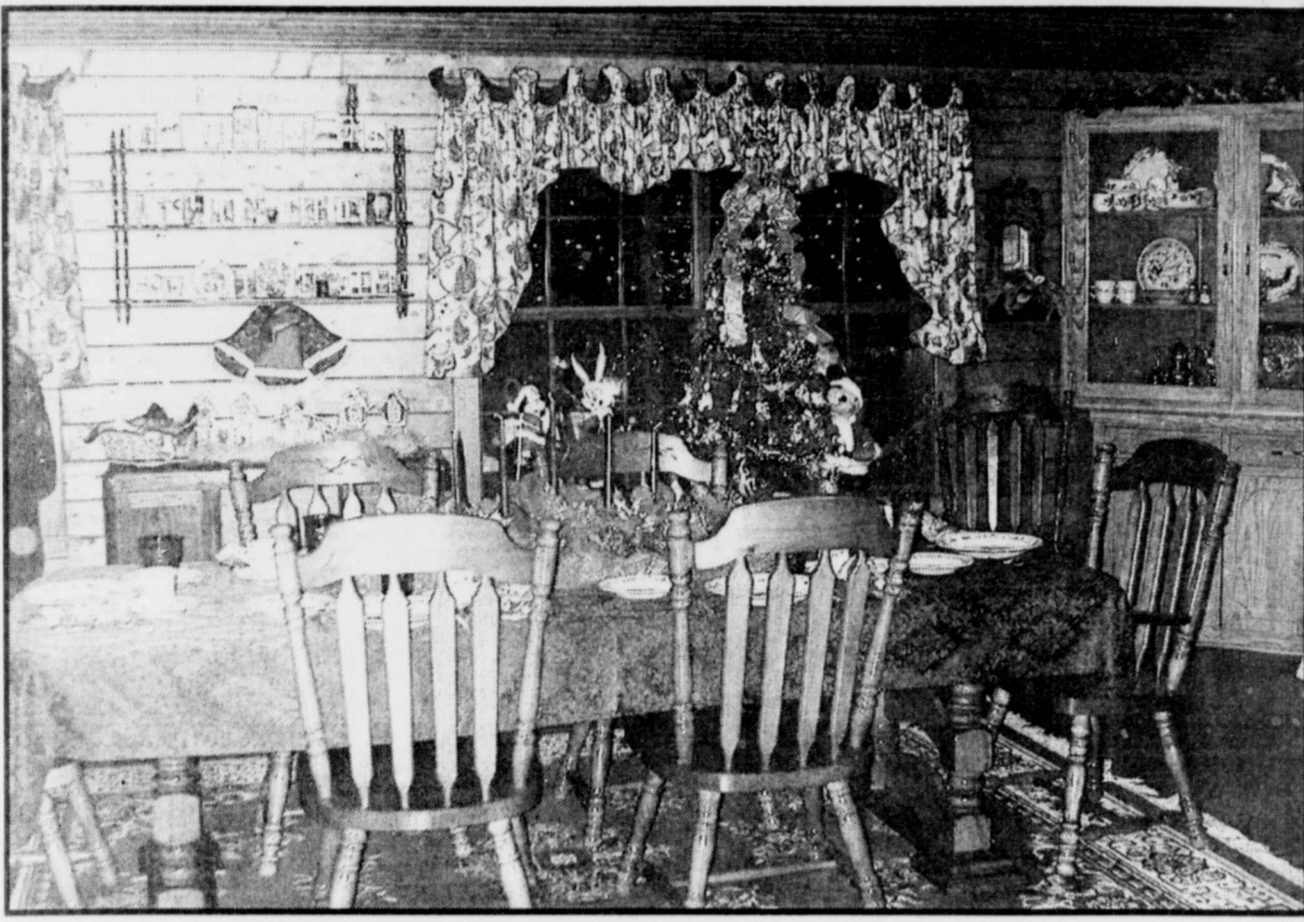
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2000 Ford F-250 Air, XL Decor Pkg, 4.10 Ratio Axle, Aero Headlamps, Chrome Bumper, Spare Tire & Wheel, Cruise, Tilt, Pass. Air Bag, Stk#24844 Sale Price \$19,988*	2000 Ford F-250 Super Cab XL Decor Pkg, Aero Headlamps, Chrome Bumper, Spare Tire & Wheel, Cruise, Tilt, Pass. Air Bag, AM/FM Clock Cass. Stk#24963 Sale Price \$22,528*
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A BEAUTIFULLY SET-dining room table, tree decorated with Disney characters and animated Disney characters decorated the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Via for Saturday's First Annual Tour of Homes. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



SECOND PLACE-in the 4 wheeler division of the annual Talco Christmas Parade went to 3 decorated 4 wheelers; (from the left) Joy Easley, Judy Easley and Jackie Thompson and granddaughter, Darian. (Staff Photo Nancy Brown)



Don't Miss The Paper Sale
See Page 3 for Details

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BOGATA 632-5624 7 Days A Week

We Honor
Manufacturers
COUPONS

PORK RIBS 99¢ Lb. 		CAMPBELL'S CREAM OF MUSHROOM OR CREAM OF CHICKEN SOUP 10 Oz. 79¢ 		PET RITZ PIE SHELLS 2/9 In. 99¢ DEEP DISH \$1.49 		KRAFT COOL WHIP Reg. & Lite 8 Oz. Bowl 99¢ OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY SAUCE 16 Oz. Can 79¢ 	
BRISKETS \$1.19 Lb. 		TIP TOP HAM Whole \$1.39 Lb. Shank Half \$1.29 Lb. Butt Half \$1.49 Lb. HENS 4-7 Lb. 79¢ Lb. 		FRESH GROUND CHUCK \$1.79 Lb.		PILGRIM'S SPLIT CHICKEN BREASTS \$3.99 3 Lb. Bag	
EGGS Grade A Large 89¢ Doz.		PRICE'S PIMENTO & CHEESE 14 Oz. \$1.99		OWENS SAUSAGE 2 Lb. Roll Reg. & Hot \$3.49 SMOKED SAUSAGE 1 Lb. Pkg' \$1.99 HOT LINKS 1 LB. PKG. \$2.99		PARKAY MARGARINE 4 Stick 79¢ 	
BOUNTY PAPER TOWELS Big Roll All Kinds \$1.69 		BLUE BELL ICE CREAM & YOGURT All Kinds 1/2 Gal. \$3.99 		GOLDEN ROYAL MILK Gal. 2% & Homo \$2.79 		PILLSBURY PIE CRUST 15 Oz. \$1.89 	
BAKER'S COCONUT 14 Oz. \$1.49 		LAY'S POTATO CHIPS Reg. \$1.49 99¢ 		SUGAR POWDERED OR BROWN 2 LB. BAG 99¢ 		PECANS ELLIS HALVES & PIECES 8 OZ. PKG. \$2.29	
FRITO LAY SALSA CON QUESO DIP 10.75 Oz. \$1.79 		DORITOS CHIPS All Kinds Reg. \$3.29 \$2.69 		FRITOS All Kinds Reg. \$2.29 \$1.89 		PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE 8 Oz. 99¢ 	
PRODUCE GREEN ONIONS 3/\$1 APPLES 59¢ LB. PEANUTS \$1.29 LB. BANANAS 39¢ LB. WALNUTS \$1.49 LB. PEANUTS \$1.29 LB. POTATOES 10 Lb. Bag \$1.59 YELLOW ONIONS 49¢ LB. ORANGES 29¢ LB.		STOVE TOP STUFFING MIX All Kinds 6 Oz. 89¢ 		ROTEL TOMATOES All Kinds 10 Oz. 69¢ 		COKE, DIET COKE, SPRITE DR. PEPPER, DIET DR. PEPPER 2 Liter \$1.19 3 Liter \$1.69 12 Pk. \$2.99 6 Pk. 16 Oz. Btls. \$2.49 	