

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## THE MCGREGOR MIRROR

75c

Vol. 104, No. 51

McGregor, Tx. 76657

& CRAWFORD SUN

Thursday, December 18, 2008

### Mullen It Over

by Bonnie Mullens

## Reception Thursday for retiring librarian

I AM LOOKING forward to my family getting together and spending a day of fun, food and fellowship this weekend for Christmas. Mynette, Claudia, Meghan and I were working on our Christmas dinner menu—deciding who would be making what of our traditional fare.

The past couple of years Meghan has enjoyed taking a part in the cooking of Christmas dinner, and believe me, I am happy about it. She has the dressing down to a fine art. She loves cooking and I willingly will give up control of the kitchen. I'll happily do the dishes, but I will be making my annual batch of fudge and trash later this week for the get-together.

While on the subject of Christmas dinner, I thought I would share with our readers some holiday eating tips.

1. Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately! Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.

2. Drink as much eggnog as you can—and quickly. It's rare. You cannot find it any other time of year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an egg nogaholic or something. It's a treat. Enjoy it. Have one for me. In fact, have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas.

3. If something comes with gravy, use it. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.

4. As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim milk, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.

5. Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Helloooooo?

6. Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.

7. If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. If you leave them behind, you're never going to see them again.

8. Same for pies. Apple, pumpkin, mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert?

9. Did someone mention

See Mullen, page 2

The Board of Directors of McGinley Memorial Library is honoring longtime library director Betty Crelia Horton with a retirement reception on Thursday, December 18 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the library. Betty has served as librarian since September of 1995 but her involvement with the library goes back to its very beginnings.

Betty made her presence felt all over the city in the spring and summer of 1985 as she carried a petition to citizens to sign requesting that the city "establish a free library in McGregor." In August the petition was presented to the City Council and incorporation papers were drawn up in September. Betty became president of the library board in October and the board accepted the Ritz Theater Building from the McGinley family in November. During this time Betty was the main influence and guiding leader of a dedicated group of volunteers who refused to let their dream of a library die out. She begged and borrowed what was needed to transform the old theater into a library and obtained shelving and donated books to permit the original chartering of the McGinley Memorial Library with the State of Texas.

The library opened in the lobby of the former theater in April of 1986 with Betty serving as the first volunteer librarian. When renovations to the building began a short time later Betty was again at the forefront as the library was packed and temporarily moved to the old Lechler Grocery Building. She was instrumental in organizing volunteers and helping clean the old theater building as well as sorting and cataloging books.

From these humble beginnings, Betty has brought the McGregor library to modern standards. Throughout her tenure as librarian she has been



Betty Crelia Horton

instrumental in writing grants for shelving, furniture, fixtures, books, and computer technology.

Betty has continued to give of her effort and time far beyond normal library hours in working with volunteers, patrons, and participants whether it be with adults, students, English as a second language instruction, or children's reading programs each summer. When the library could no longer afford to pay a full salary Betty resigned her paid position and resumed her duties as a full-time volunteer.

From the library's beginnings to the present time, a dedicated and humble Betty Crelia has been the backbone as well as the heart and soul of our city library. The library will seem a little emptier without Betty's presence and patrons will miss her familiar greetings. Although Betty's official retirement date is December 31st of this year, she will continue on a temporary basis to assist in the hiring and training of a new librarian.

After retirement Betty plans to spend more time with her husband, Jim Horton. She hopes to travel as much as possible and is also looking forward to spending time with her grandchildren. But don't be surprised if you visit the library and Betty has dropped in for a visit!



**OFFICIAL VISIT**—Santa made his first visit to McGregor on the top of a firetruck during the annual Christmas parade. He will be returning to the area in a few days, but this time he will bring his own ride—a sleigh filled with toys, powered by reindeer. Be watching the radar Christmas Eve night to see if you can catch a glimpse of his arrival.

## Auditor gives district high marks

McGregor School Board members started off their meeting last Thursday evening with a favorable report from auditor Fred Shavers of the accounting firm William, Cunningham, Shavers, & Christensen, L.L.P.

"The district is in excellent financial condition with a total fund balance of \$2,368,034," Shavers stated. "Of that amount, \$750,000 has been designated for construction. Total revenues were \$10,251,097 while total expenditures were \$10,712,846."

Shavers pointed out that even though \$1,540,524 was spent on facilities acquisition and construction during that period, the net change in the fund balance was only \$461,749.

"The district has continued to improve its facilities and by using innovative financing, the district has maintained the lowest possible tax rate while meeting increasing demands to provide high quality facilities and educational opportunities," Shavers said.

Before finishing his remarks, Shavers complimented the work

See SCHOOL, page 14

## Mirror football bowl contest deadline 12/20

The Mirror's annual College Bowl Football Contest is back. This year's official entry form can be found on page 2 of this week's Mirror. Deadline for the contest is December 20th.

The Mirror will be closed for Christmas vacation Thursday, December 17th, but entries postmarked by December 20th will be accepted. Forms may be mailed to The Mirror, P.O. Box 415, McGregor, TX 76657, brought by the Mirror office at 311 S. Main or winner choices may be emailed to [bonnie@mcgregormirror.com](mailto:bonnie@mcgregormirror.com). You may also fax in entry forms to 254-840-2097.

The winner will again receive bragging rights, their picture in the paper and a cup of coffee. We will even throw in a year's subscription this year.

Last year's winner was Houston lawyer and Class of 1970 Valedictorian and avid Aggie fan William Wade.

You might notice TCU is set in bold type on the contest form. Gene Taylor, TCU alumni, happens to be our official contest chairman.

Cut out the form and get to making your selections, and don't miss the deadline.



See Mullen, page 2

**MCGREGOR HIGH SCHOOL PALS** assisted the local fire and EMS volunteers by purchasing approximately \$3,000 in toys for the local toy drive. The MHS PALS group, under the leadership of Jerry Lynch, has helped with this endeavor several years.

# News Briefs

## McGinley Library Book Sale Dec. 1-19

The McGinley Memorial Library, at 317 S. Main, is sponsoring its "Biggest Book Sale Ever" fund-raiser. Hardbacks are 50 cents each and paperbacks are two for 25 cents. The sale will continue through December 19th. Library hours are Tuesday through Friday noon to 5 p.m.

## Retirement Party Dec. 18th for Betty Horton

The McGinley Library Board will host a retirement party for librarian Betty Crelia Horton on Thursday, December 18th from 4 to 6 p.m. in the library. Everyone is invited to attend.

## FUMC Children's Program Wednesday

The children of the First United Methodist Church will present their annual Christmas Pageant program on Wednesday, December 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The program will be followed by refreshments and a visit from Santa. The community is invited.

## College Avenue Baptist Special Services

The College Avenue Baptist Church will have two special Christmas services. The first, a Christmas celebration, with the Lord's Supper will be at 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 21st and the second, will be a Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary on December 24th.

## Methodist Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

First United Methodist Church of McGregor will have its annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6 p.m. December 24th. The Lord's Supper will be served. All the community is invited to attend.

## Youth Baseball Assoc. Meeting January 7th

The McGregor Youth Baseball Association will be having an open meeting on January 7, 2009, at the McGregor Elementary Cafeteria to elect the voting board for the 2009 season. All interested persons are invited to attend.

## Military Blood Drive Set For February 4th

A Military Blood Drive, with blood donations going to injured soldiers in Iraq or those returning home to recover, will be held February 4th. If you wish to donate at this drive, please do not donate after December 10th in order to be eligible.

## Recycle Your Christmas Tree

Keep Waco Beautiful will host its annual "Chipping of the Green" Christmas tree recycling event, Saturday, January 3rd at Paul Tyson Field Parking lot on Lake Air Drive, behind the HOT Coliseum, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The event is open to all McLennan County residents. After the holidays, load up your tree, bring it to be recycled, and receive a bag of wonderfully scented tree mulch plus a native Texas sapling. Mulching your tree is a wonderful way to end your holiday season and planting a native tree sapling is a great beginning to the New Year! For more information contact, Keep Waco Beautiful, 750-5728.

# Public Notice

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The City of McGregor Building Standards Commission will conduct a public hearing to discuss health and safety violations at 215 Patricia Circle, McGregor, Texas.

The hearing will be at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 302 S. Madison, McGregor, Texas.

# Public Notice

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The City of McGregor Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on a request to replat Lots A11, 12 and 13 of Block 88, Lots A4, A5 and 6 of Block 93 and Lots 1, 2, 3, B7 and B8 of Block 94 and abandoned right of way to Lot 1, Block 1, Keith Addition.

The hearing will be at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 302 S. Madison, McGregor, Texas.

# Public Notice

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The City of McGregor City Council will hold a public hearing on a request to replat Lots A11, 12 and 13 of Block 88, Lots A4, A5 and 6 of Block 93 and Lots 1, 2, 3, B7 and B8 of Block 94 and abandoned right of way to Lot 1, Block 1, Keith Addition.

The hearing will be at 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 19, 2009 at 302 S. Madison, McGregor, Texas.



**SANTA POSES** for pictures during his yearly visit to McGregor at the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting sponsored by Chamber and Community Development.



Continued from Page One

fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.

10. One final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Re-read tips; start over, but hurry, January is just around the corner. Remember this motto to live by: "Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming, Woo Hoo, what a ride!"

Have a great holiday season!

## Holiday pictures with your pet

People, pets and pictures go together during the holidays and Happy Endings Dog Rescue, a non-profit dog rescue shelter in Waco, is offering special holiday pictures with you and your pet.

Photo sessions, featuring a professional pet photographer, will take place 19 and 20. The location is 102 Jim Drive in the Panther Square Shopping Center, across from the Hewitt Scott and White Clinic.

You can reserve your session by calling 254.666.8240. Photo sessions are between the hours of 2 and 6pm each day. Photos and packages start at \$10, plus a CD is offered so that buyers can make Christmas cards. Proceeds will benefit Happy Endings.

## Merry Fitness!!



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Call Becky at 716-1427 or 840-2095  
208 South Main, McGregor, Texas

## Official Bowl Game Contest Entry Form

### McGregor Mirror Annual Bowl Game Contest

(Circle one team)

Date	Bowl	Team	vs	Team
Dec. 20	EagleBank	Navy	vs.	Wake Forest
Dec. 20	New Mex. Bowl	Colorado State	vs.	Fresno State
Dec. 20	St. Petersburg	South Florida	vs.	Memphis
Dec. 20	Las Vegas	BYU	vs.	Arizona
Dec. 21	New Orleans	Troy	vs.	Southern Miss.
Dec. 23	Poinsettia	TCU Horned Frogs	vs.	Boise State
Dec. 24	Hawaii Bowl	Hawaii	vs.	Notre Dame
Dec. 26	Motor City	Central Michigan	vs.	Florida Atlantic
Dec. 27	Meineke	North Carolina	vs.	West Virginia
Dec. 27	Champs Sports	Florida State	vs.	Wisconsin
Dec. 27	Emerald	California	vs.	Miami
Dec. 28	Independence	Louisiana Tech	vs.	Northern Illinois
Dec. 29	PapaJohns.com	Rutgers	vs.	North Carolina St.
Dec. 29	Alamo	Northwestern	vs.	Missouri
Dec. 30	Humanitarian	Nevada	vs.	Maryland
Dec. 30	Holiday	Oklahoma State	vs.	Oregon
Dec. 30	Texas	Rice	vs.	Western Mich
Dec. 31	Armed Forces	Houston	vs.	Air Force
Dec. 31	Sun	Oregon State	vs.	Pittsburgh
Dec. 31	Music City	Vanderbilt	vs.	Boston College
Dec. 31	Insight	Kansas	vs.	Minnesota
Dec. 31	Chick-fil-A	LSU	vs.	Georgia Tech
Jan. 1	Outback	Iowa	vs.	South Carolina
Jan. 1	Capitol One	Georgia	vs.	Michigan State
Jan. 1	Gator	Nebraska	vs.	Clemson
Jan. 1	Rose	Southern Cal	vs.	Penn State
Jan. 1	Orange	Cincinnati	vs.	Virginia Tech
Jan. 2	Cotton	Texas Tech	vs.	Mississippi
Jan. 2	Liberty	Kentucky	vs.	East Carolina
Jan. 2	Sugar	Utah	vs.	Alabama
Jan. 3	International	Connecticut	vs.	Buffalo
Jan. 5	Fiesta	Texas	vs.	Ohio State
Jan. 6	GMAC	Tulsa	vs.	Ball State
Jan. 8	BCS Champ.	Florida	vs.	Oklahoma

**Tie Breaker: Write in total number of points (both team's scores added together) of BCS Championship game:**  
(Example: Okla. 40 and Florida 20 would be 60 total points.)

Circle your choice for winner of each game and complete tie breaker question. Return to McGregor Mirror in person or mail to:

McGregor Mirror Bowl Game Contest  
P.O. Box 415  
McGregor, TX 76657  
To Fax entry send to 840-2097

You may e-mail winners & tie breaker to [bonnie@mcgregormirror.com](mailto:bonnie@mcgregormirror.com)  
You may deliver to Mirror office but we are closed week of Christmas so any entry postmarked by December 20 will be accepted. All emails must be received by Bonnie Mullens by 10 a.m. on December 20.

**Only one entry per person will be accepted. Let's keep it fair.**

Name:  
Address:  
City, St. Zip  
Phone  
E-mail address

**First Place Prize:** Photo in McGregor Mirror and braggin' rights for one year as top Pigskin Prognosticator in the Central Texas area. Decisions of the judges, as strange as they may be, are final.

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City	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	Percent Change	2008 Payments To Date	2007 Payments to Date	Percent Change
McGregor	\$35,619.63	\$41,415.04	-13.99%	\$551,696.03	\$600,255.24	-8.08%
Crawford	\$3,504.17	\$3,701.56	-5.33%	\$47,319.15	\$52,437.45	-9.76%
Oglesby	\$322.24	\$358.16	-10.02%	\$7,609.27	\$8,428.93	-9.72%
Moody	\$2,749.47	\$2,918.14	-5.78%	\$32,753.96	\$40,111.88	-18.34%
Valley Mills	\$10,111.20	\$4,200.94	140.68%	\$62,012.94	\$55,817.40	1.09%
Clifton	\$47,188.78	\$51,257.27	-7.93%	\$661,071.16	\$541,022.73	22.18%
Robinson	\$86,208.94	\$71,535.83	20.51%	\$906,182.57	\$864,653.48	4.08%
Gatesville	\$119,097.32	\$115,257.59	3.33%	\$1,576,802.27	\$1,501,203.11	5.03%
Waco	\$2,201,075.92	\$2,197,648.09	0.16%	\$28,081,494.18	\$27,553,059.16	1.91%

**McGregor EMS Memorials**

In memory of Mary Morris from Mike and Barbara Turner, Jason and Tami Turner, Tim and Kara Turner, Frances Hudson, Ed and Janet Dunigan

In memory of Charlene Rushing from Mike and Nita Wilson

In memory of Darlene Keltner from Gary and Stephanie Hannemann.

In memory of Connie Elaine Denard (niece of Geneva Goff) from 6th and Adams Church of Christ, Yvonne Webb, Frances Hudson, Charles and Claudia Mooney family, Bonnie and Jimmy Mullens

In honor of Yvonne Webb on her birthday from David and Joan Livingston.

Send memorial contributions to Frances Hudson, 311 S. Adams, McGregor, Texas 76657

**Food pantry will be open Thursday**

The McGregor Food Pantry will be open this Thursday afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m. We want to thank all the folks that have stepped up to the plate with their donations. Especially during this time of our "economic crunch". The people of McGregor are some of the most thoughtful and giving folks around. Be assured that as you are giving to bless others, you too will be blessed. Thank you so much.

To receive help from the pantry, please contact your Pastor, or if they're unavailable, contact Beverly at 840-9563 or 447-1080.

To donate please call either of the above numbers or stop by 311 West Third Street.

**MOC cities receive final 2008 sales tax allocation**

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs reported the state collected \$1.98 billion in sales tax in November, up 4.7 percent compared to November 2007.

"For the first three months of the state's 2009 fiscal year, state sales tax collections have continued to grow," Combs said. "However, the increase is less than in the past three years, and collections from important sectors such as retail trade and construction have declined slightly."

The City of McGregor's final allocation for 2008 was for \$35,619.63, a decrease of 13.99 percent over the December 2007 payment. Year-to-date, McGregor's allocations are down 8.08 percent. Total received for 2008 is \$551,696.03 compared to the \$600,255.24 final 2007 allocations.

The City of Crawford's final allocation for 2008 was for \$3,504.17, a decrease of 5.33 percent compared to last December's allocation. Year-to-date payments show a 9.76 percent decrease from the 2008 payment totals.

The City of Oglesby also recorded a negative percentage in

allocations for the month of December over last year. Payments were down 10.02 percent for the month and 9.72 for the year.

The Comptroller sent cities, counties, special purpose districts and transit systems their final sales tax allocations of 2008 \$488 million, up 9.2 percent compared to last December. Despite the economic slowdown, Combs said local governments collected \$5.9 billion in sales tax this year, 6.3 percent more than in 2007.

Combs sent Texas cities December sales tax allocations of \$328.5 million, up 9.5 percent compared to December 2007. City sales tax allocations during calendar year 2008 totaled \$4 bil-

lion, up 5.6 percent compared to 2007. Counties' December sales tax allocations totaled \$30.8 million, up 11.8 percent compared to December 2007. Counties received \$365.8 million in sales tax during calendar year 2008, up 7.9 percent compared to last year.

Ten local transit systems received December sales tax allocations of \$109.7 million, a 5.1 percent increase over December 2007. Sales tax allocations to transit systems this year totaled \$1.3 billion, up 6.2 percent compared to the 2007 total. December sales tax allocations of \$19.2 million went to 150 special purpose taxing districts, an increase of 26.4 percent compared to last

December. Special purpose districts received \$215.1 million during 2008, up 19.1 percent compared to 2007.

For details of December sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the *Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports* on the Comptroller's Web site at [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allosum/compsum.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allosum/compsum.html).

The next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, Jan. 9.

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Psychology	Tuesday & Thursday, 2:30-3:50 p.m.
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**Spring semester starts January 12.**  
299-8MCC ■ [www.mclennan.edu](http://www.mclennan.edu)



# holiday recipe corner

## Holiday favorites

It's the most wonderful time of the year—for baking delicious meals and snacks. Here are a few to enjoy this holiday season.

This one comes from Deedie Hering.

"Years ago, when the children were little, in an effort to keep them focused on the real meaning of Christmas, we would always have a birthday cake for

Baby Jesus following our Christmas dinner. The recipe we used was a simple one, cut from a magazine, but it was good, easy, very pretty and the children loved it."

### CHRISTMAS POKE CAKE

- 1 pkg. white cake mix
- 1 (3 oz.) pkg. Jello cherry flavor gelatin

vor gelatin  
2 cups boiling water  
1 (8 oz.) container Cool Whip  
Prepare cake mix as directed on package. Pour batter into 2 round pans—8 or 9x1 1/2-inch pans. Bake as directed and cool 10 minutes. Remove layers from pans and cool completely. Wash baking pans. Place cooled cake layers, top sides up, back into the 2 clean pans. Prick each layer with a utility fork at 1/2 inch intervals.

In a bowl, pour 1 cup boiling water over cherry gelatin, stirring until dissolved. Spoon cherry gelatin over 1 layer. Repeat with other layer and lime flavor gelatin. Refrigerate 3 to 4 hours. Dip one layer into warm water for 10 seconds, invert onto plate, gently shaking to loosen. Spread layer with 1 cup of Cool Whip. Remove remaining layer from pan as above, invert onto first layer. Frost with remaining Cool Whip and refrigerate until serving. May be garnished with red and green gumdrops, flattened and cut with scissors to resemble holly berries and leaves.

And, of course, add birthday candles.

### BROWN SUGAR CAKE

w/Peanut Buttercream and Brittle Topping  
This recipe works good for a make-ahead... Prepare the pea-

nut Buttercream (recipe follows)  
1 1/2 cups butter, softened  
2 cups firmly packed light brown sugar  
6 large eggs  
3 cups sifted cake flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 cup milk  
2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
Peanut Buttercream (recipe follows)  
1/2 cup semisweet chocolate morsels  
2 tablespoons milk  
1 tablespoon butter  
Prepare Old-Fashioned Peanut Brittle.

Beat 1 1/2 cups butter at medium speed with an electric mixer until creamy. Gradually add sugar, beating 7 minutes or until fluffy. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating just until yellow disappears.

Combine flour and baking powder. Combine milk and vanilla. Gradually add alternately to butter mixture, beginning and ending with flour mixture. Beat at low speed just until blended after each addition. Spread batter into 2 greased and floured 9" cakepans.  
Bake at 350 degrees for 24-25 minutes or until a wooden pick

clean. Cool in pans on wire racks 10 minutes. Remove from pans, cool on wire racks.

Break one fourth of Old-Fashioned Peanut Brittle into 1 1/2 inch to 2 inch pieces. Place an additional one-fourth of brittle in a large zip-top freezer bag, crush into coarse crumbs using a mallet or rolling pin. Reserve remaining brittle for another use.

Spread Peanut Buttercream between layers and on top and sides of cake. Press coarsely crushed brittle onto sides of cake. Place chocolate morsels, milk and 1 tablespoon butter in a small glass bowl. Microwave on high 1 minute. Stir until smooth. Dip ends of peanut brittle pieces in chocolate ganache, place on wax paper to harden. Drizzle remaining ganache over cake. Arrange dipped brittle on top of cake.

### PEANUT BUTTERCREAM

9 tablespoons butter, softened  
1/4 cup creamy peanut butter  
1/2 cup milk  
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
5 1/2 cups powdered sugar  
Beat butter and peanut butter in a large bowl at medium speed with an electric mixer until blended. Combine milk and va-

vanilla milk, one tablespoon at a time, beating until spreading consistency.

### OLD-FASHIONED PEANUT BRITTLE

Munch on half the brittle, use rest for cake. Easy microwave directions.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups shelled raw peanuts
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- Microwave first 3 ingredients in a 2-quart glass bowl on High 5 minutes, using an 1100 watt microwave oven. (Microwave 1 more minute if using a 700-watt microwave). Stir in peanuts. Microwave 3 more minutes in a 1100-watt oven (add 1 more minute in 700-watt oven).
- Stir in butter and vanilla. Microwave 45 seconds in a 1100-watt oven (add 1 more minute in 700-watt oven) or until candy is the color of peanut butter.
- Stir in baking soda (Mixture will bubble.). Working quickly, spread hot candy in a thin layer onto a lightly greased baking sheet using two metal forks.
- Cool completely.
- Break candy into pieces. Makes 1 pound. Enjoy!

# The Rear View Mirror

It Happened This Week . . . 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 Years Ago

A look back at McGregor's Past by Bonnie Mullens

### DECEMBER 14, 1928—

- Eunice King became the bride of Victor Green in Oglesby.
- A Bow Wow Cheer printed in *The Mirror* read: "ABC—Who are we? A is for action, B for biz, C for courage, Oh, gee whiz. Don't you worry, Don't you fret, McGregor's not been beaten yet!"
- McGregor Commandery No 35 Knight's Templar officers were Walter S. Amsler, Elmer C. King, T.E. Tenneson, D.C. Richards, J.B. Brown, E.J. Thomason, F.M. Lyon and J.F. Ellis.
- Grammar School Honor Roll included Martin Schwetmann, Herman Sargeant, Mildred Nell Pettway, Ann Hanover, Grady Elms, Beth Kent, Margaret Scruggs, Myrtle Estelle Harding, John F. Scruggs, Margarete Milo, Estelle Smith, Raymond Austin, Juanda Walters, Frances Johnson, Lanham Connally, Arthur Hamilton, Eugenia Lee, Elmer Patton, Billie Lou Morrison, Lois Val Smith, Claudine Nance, Lois Hanover, Reynold Welch, Louise Bailey, Helen Dalton, Jerry Lou Brown, Virginia Ford, Dawn Isbill, Marion Isbill, Camille Johnson, Kathryn Cook, Martha Moore, Anita Jean Harris, Virginia Brown, Ernestine Luedtke, Walter Scott Amsler, Buford Hitt and Franklin Walters.

### DECEMBER 17, 1948—

- Merchants of McGregor and Chamber of Commerce were expecting big crowds here during the week when more than \$1,000 in cash and merchandise were to be given away.

### DECEMBER 19, 1958—

- Cavitt Caufield, local Dodge dealer, was elected Chamber of Commerce president. Serving with him were O.T. McGinley, H.N. "Spud" Brown, Alva Wright and Lee Ardell.
- The McGregor School Board appointed Alvis Bourland, local manager for the Lone Star Gas Co. to the board, replacing Dr. Tom Cartwright who moved to College Station.
- Dick Whisenant was elected president of the McGregor Volunteer Fire Department for 1959. John Blake was re-elected fire chief. Other officers were Bill Hering, Raymond Hampel, Ray Harris, Garnet Morgan, Bobby Mayo, Henry Smith, Harry Blackburn, Lonnie Muegge and the mascot was Gary Hering.
- Some 120 names for the McGregor Christmas Welfare Baskets were gathered before deadline and more names of fami-

lies needing help continued to pour in. Final count was 150 needy names overflowing the welfare Yule Baskets.

- Naler Insurance basketball team members were Garry Wallace, Ted Uhelander, Bobby Bond, Douglas Stone, Joe Paschall, Richard Skipper, Joe White, Jack Keltner and Millard Owens.
- Krause advertised their gift shop with the largest and best selection of toys in town.
- George Stone, local builder and contractor for the past 12 years, announced he bought the former W.F. and J.F. Barnes Lumber Company on Highway 84 and will operate under the name of Stone Lumber Company.
- Take a sentimental stroll down Main Street of the past. Some former businesses sending their Christmas greetings included: Clements Specialty Shop, Cam Ewing Motors, J.D. Poss Gulf Distributor, Graves Barber Shop, W.T. Hix Co., Krause Drug Store, By-The-Way Cleaners, Ed's Food Mart, Lane's Top Shop and Furniture, Mayo and Sons, Roger Chamblee Used Cars, Western Auto, Stanley Cook Shoe Shop, Witte's Food Store, Murray Grain Co.,

Jessie Chilcoat Flowers, Dor'Ve Beauty Salon, Rollerdrome Skating Rink, Ben Franklin's, Neff's Store, Ever's Corner Drug, Bluebonnet Cleaners, Brown's Grocery, The Fair Store, The B.J. Allen's, V.J. Rich Grocery, McGregor Milk Bucket, McGregor Home and Auto Supply, Hennig Lumber Co., Tony's Cafe, Chat-n-Curl Beauty Shop, Lee Hardware Co., Home Produce Co., Duncan's Sinclair Service, McGregor Milling and Grain, Graham's, Caufield Motors, A&A Frozen Foods, Connor's Drive In Grocery, Harry's 66, Moran Meador Realtors, H.W. Fagg Insurance and Real Estate, Dossman Radio and TV, White's Jewelry, Chick-A-Dee Shop, D & W Barber Shop, Cuenod's Dry Goods and Dairyland.

Businesses still wishing you a Merry Christmas in 2008 include Anderson Texaco (now Anderson Oil and Tire), Naler Insurance, McGregor Farm Center, McLennan County Electric Cooperative and The McGregor Mirror.

### DECEMBER 19, 1968—

- MHS Senior Shirley Brumley was crowned queen of the Winter Festival held in the elementary school cafeteria. Her escort was senior class president David Anderson.
- Alva Wright was pictured with his nephew Bob Dickson,

who had had a good first year as a professional golfer, winning \$42,000.

- McGregor voters accepted a one-cent city sales and use tax by a 205 to 126 margin. The new tax went into effect April 1, 1969.
- Santa was the featured attraction at the Lions Club Annual Christmas Party held at the elementary school. A variety show of youth choirs, bands and piano students provided the entertainment along with a barber shop quartet of Bill Burkes, Joe Taylor, Harlan Dugger and Tom Harris. Louis Kaelin was president of the Lions Club.
- Rocketdyne won a \$5 million contract for the Sparrow-Shrike.
- Pope Gribble was president of the Chamber. Officers were O.T. McGinley, Harris Fagg, Joe Paschall and Charles Cole.
- Henry Smith, veteran fireman and movie theater owner, was elected president of the McGregor Volunteer Fire Department. Other officers included Earl Whitmore, Frank Stovall and Rev. John Harper.

### DECEMBER 14, 1978—

- The 24-page proposed Home Rule Charter was mailed to each voting family in McGregor.
- MOC was hit with cold weather. Mercury dropped to 18 degrees.
- Westview Manor recognized three employees of the year. They were Lucille Finley, Charlene Thomas and Ceola Finley.
- McGregor area would doff its collective hat to say "thank you" to its veteran county commissioner during Joe Lechler Appreciation Day on December 28th. He had served as the area's commissioner for 28 years.
- Receiving their state EMT certifications were McGregor volunteers Polly Ferguson, Sue Roe and LaJuan Pledger. Lewis Westbook was elected president of MOCEMS and serving with him as officers were Dennis Rabroker, Frances Hudson and John Blake.
- McGregor City Council asked Henry F. Smith to continue as the fire marshal for the McGregor Volunteer Fire Department for another year. He had served in that capacity for 10 years.
- First place winner in the Chamber Christmas parade was the MHS Junior Class. Sophomores took second and Freshman placed third.
- Lindsey Luedeker and Emily Skrhak were named to the All-American Band Hall of Fame. Their band director was Bob Johnson.

### DECEMBER 22, 1988—

- Coach Lloyd Mitchell was honored and greeted by 33 former Bulldog football players of the 1936-1942 era. It was the 50th Anniversary of the Bulldogs winning Regional Championship in 1938 with only six points being scored against the team in district. Mitchell was pictured being greeted by Moe Spradley and August Hader. Quarterback William Janes was emcee.
- Eldon Whitley became the new Chamber of Commerce president. Other officers were Peggie Eusebio, Jim Gailey and Margaret Cole.
- The 1988 Regional Championship McGregor Bulldogs dominated the All District selection for 16 AA. Making first team offense was Leonard McLeain, Brad Waters, Chuck Klander, David Lillard, Andre Dulin. Second team offense was Skip Skipper, and Brian Brandt. Honorable

Mention were Xavier Young and Amon Rogers. First team defense were Brad Waters, Charles Brown, Mike Caufield, Leonard McLeain. Second team defense was Danny Ripley, David Patterson and Tommy Miller. Dennis Pleasant received honorable mention.

- The McGregor United Fund was only \$700 short of its \$24,000 goal.
- McGregor Chamber had an impressive night time parade which attracted large crowds and many participants. First Baptist Church won first place float. Second went to the Oddfellows and third went to 4-H.
- The McGregor City Council voted to spend \$103,848.48 to purchase a new fire truck. The McGregor Volunteer Fire Department contributed \$25,000.
- Mrs. Eula Meador was The Mirror's Cook of the Week.

### DECEMBER 17, 1998—

- Land acquisition to the north of the main runway in order to expand runway length at McGregor Executive Airport was one of the recommendations from a draft master plan presented to the City Council. Stu Shirey was airport manager.
- E. Ray Simpson announced he had merged with Robert Bestor of Waco to form the accounting firm of Simpson and Bestor. Bestor had been in private practice for 26 years and Simpson for 20 years. Their office manager was Shirleen Smith.
- Chamber Christmas Home Decoration Winners included Jan and Jerry Walter, Glen and Leandrea Cole, the Symanks, Virda Pyburn and Lester and Pauline Tieben.
- The Firemen gave toys to 125 needy children for Christmas.
- Dana Patterson became the bride of Todd Schultz.

### ACROSS

1 TXism: "\_\_\_ of bones" (skinny)  
5 TX Wiley Post was the 1st to fly \_\_\_ around the world  
6 TX Audie film: "To \_\_\_ and Back"  
7 West TX climate  
8 TXism: "bought a pig \_\_\_ poke"  
9 Switzer coached at this university  
17 monthly expense  
19 "Fugitive" TX actor Tommy \_\_\_  
20 Astros' Drabek won \_\_\_ Young award in '90  
21 TXism: "beats anything I \_\_\_ saw"  
22 Cowboys league  
24 laden with salsa  
30 mountain in Culberson Co.  
34 Yo \_\_\_ Digo Creek  
35 TXism: "\_\_\_ white flag" (give up)  
36 TXism: "I'm all \_\_\_ (attentive)  
37 TX Kristofferson's "Sunday Mornin' \_\_\_ Down"  
39 "mop lady" actress from San Antonio  
43 TXns don't duel with this  
44 tasty pastry  
45 TXism: "\_\_\_ 2-steps to his own beat"  
46 TX McMurtry's "The \_\_\_ Picture Show"  
48 TX Howard Hughes once dated this famous actress Jean

### DOWN

1 TXism: "thick \_\_\_ on a dog's back"  
2 Cascade Caverns are near this town  
3 airport between Denton & Ft. Worth  
4 TX Orbison had several \_\_\_ records  
9 good \_\_\_ boy  
10 TXism: "hard work \_\_\_ fences up"  
11 blue jeans Strauss  
12 what Jerry Jones flies in (2 wds.)  
13 1st name of Carswell AFB's namesake

## The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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14 TXism: "happy as a kid \_\_\_ Santa's lap"  
15 film of 53-across: "Dead \_\_\_ Don't Wear Plaid"  
16 TXism: "thick \_\_\_ a garbage dump"  
18 nickname of TX Earl Campbell (2 wds.)  
23 San Antonio street: \_\_\_ Chaney  
24 George H. to George W. (abbr.)  
25 TX Utilities agency (abbr.)  
26 TX Mandrell tune: "Sleeping Single \_\_\_ Double Bed"  
27 TXism: "take the \_\_\_ (quit drinking) periods of time  
28 most NW county  
29 TXism: "you \_\_\_ bet your boots on it"  
30 TX Prentiss' "Where the Boys \_\_\_"  
31 "no pass, \_\_\_"  
38 TX singer "Loaf"  
40 TXism: "beer shed"  
41 TX high school sports assoc. (abbr.)  
42 Texas State \_\_\_ Institute  
47 Ft. Worth defendant Cullen (init.)  
49 TX Ranger "Lone \_\_\_ McQuade"  
51 TXism: "birthday \_\_\_ (naked)"  
52 state fair's "Big \_\_\_" in 1839 & 1881, these destroyed the capitol buildings  
59 TXism: "to boot!"

Texas Crossword brought to you by



Maraakand Karla Cunningham Home at 307 S. Monroe—Best Old Fashioned Christmas



Paul and Robbie Jo Allison Home at 801 West 6th—Judges Award



Cindy and James Stone at 1307 West Third—Best Use of Lights



Joe and June Latham, 701 Jefferson Way—Best Traditional Christmas



First United Methodist Church, 501 S. Madison—Best Reason for the Season



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# Bulldogs win two third places in tournaments at Dublin and Jarrell

The McGregor Bulldogs have been getting in some good time on the basketball court by entering recent tournaments at Dublin and Jarrell.

McGregor won third place in both tournaments. In the Dublin Tournament, Larry Smith and K. J. Minor were named to the All Tournament team, and at Jarrell, Larry Smith was selected to the All Tournament team.

Just out of football, McGregor defeated Valley Mills 63-24 before a large home crowd. Scoring came from Tim Estrada with 16, followed by Larry Smith, 11; Harvey Lee and Jared Green, six each; Sean Chappell, four; Carl Brown and Robertino Salas, two apiece.

The McGregor varsity has recorded victories over Comanche 45-43, Rio Vista, 54-35, and Dublin 65-58, and lost to a strong Eastland team 28-58.

Scoring in double figures

against Comanche was Minor with 25 points. Green and Estrada each contributed six points.

The Bulldogs enjoyed balanced scoring against Rio Vista with Smith chunking in 18 points, Minor and Lee, 10; and Estrada, eight.

Estrada and Smith had the hot hands against Dublin with 20 and 13 points. Smith and Minor scored 123 and nine points in their loss against Eastland.

Head boys Coach Jeff Burgess reported the Bulldogs lost to Rosebud Lott 36-56 and to Thorndale 33-41, but came back strong against Grange 56-36 and Johnson City 47-27.

High point men against Rosebud-Lott was Estrada with 12 points and Smith with 11.

Smith and Minor both swished the net for 13 points each against Johnson City, while Minor and Smith led the charge against Thorndale with 12 and 10

point totals.

Smith and Estrada found the groove in their game against Granger by scoring 27 and 21 points. More points in that final game came from Green, four; Lee, two; and Michael Aviles, two.

In Jayvee boys action, the A team is 5-3 and the B team is 2-4.

The Jayvee A team won their first two games against Valley Mills, 48-16, and Whitney, 51-35, before dropping games to Gatesville, 24-56; and Academy, 26-49.

The Jayvees won their next three games against Rosebud-Lott, 27-20; Thorndale, 30-26; and Johnson City, 65-23. In their final game against Jarrell they were edged 40-35.

Scoring points against Valley Mills were Holden Seward, nine; Travis Allison, eight; Chad Seale and Jose Solis, six each; Damaun Tucker, five; Abel Benitez, four; Eric Esquivel, two.


In the second game against Whitney, Esquivel had the hot hand with 13, followed by Allison, eight; Solis, six; Seward, five; Keith Reineke, four; Benitez, three; Tucker, two; Dylan Ripley, one.

The Jayvee B team recorded wins over Valley Mills, 33-16; Johnson City, 35-17; and lost to Gatesville, 33-51; Comanche, 24-47; Thorndale, 25-47; and Bruceville-Eddy, 12-18.

In the first game against Valley Mills for the Jayvee B team, Luke Pilant hit the hoop for 21 points. More points came from Jake Matus, four; Bobby Dixon, two; Daniel Garcia, two; Sam Blair, two; Chris Fehlman, one; and Clay Herbort, one.

In the second contest versus Gatesville, Courtney Clary and Daniel Garcia both lit up the scoreboard with seven points apiece.

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Maria Torres, Art II Junior student at McGregor High School, was recently recognized as the T-shirt winner for Kids for the Cure T-shirt design. Art Instructor Lisa Carpenter reported that the art students will be helping this organization by painting a large mask and doing some face painting.

## Christmas Band Concert set for Dec. 18 at the high school

Everyone is invited to attend the free concert

The annual Christmas concert by the McGregor High School Band and the Junior High Band will be held Thursday evening, December 18th. The program will start at 7:00 p.m. with the Junior High Band, immediately followed by the High School Band. Admission is free and Band Director Paul Fullerton said that everyone is invited to enjoy some Christmas cheer and support the local band program.

## Games during the Christmas holidays

The McGregor Lady Bulldogs will face Bruceville-Eddy here on Dec. 19 starting at 5:00 p.m. and will play Crawford there on Jan. 2 at 5:00 p.m.

The varsity Bulldogs compete in the Rosebud-Lott tournament on Dec. 29-31 and also play Crawford there on Jan. 2.

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A McGregor Bulldog goes up high for an easy bucket in early season action.



LARRY SMITH DRIVES TO THE BASKET AGAINST Valley Mills in a early season game. The McGregor Varsity Bulldogs won the game by a big margin.

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Kendall Schmalriede on a jump shot



Senior Kristen Chapman on a fast break to the basket



Paige Baize dribbling down the court.

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**Crawford action photos by Mark Chapman**

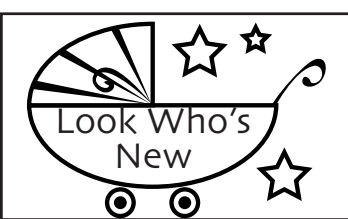
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Timothy Grusendorf

## Grusendorf completes basic training

Air Force Airman Timothy C. Grusendorf has graduated from Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas.

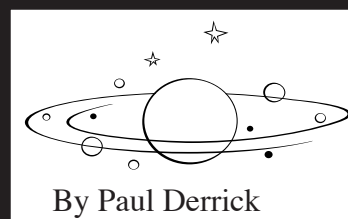
During the six weeks of training, the Airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises and special training in human relations.

Grusendorf is a 2008 of McGregor High School and the son of Tim and Deneen Grusendorf of McGregor.

## It's a boy!

Wade and Misty Cook of Gatesville are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Kaison Graham Cook. Kaison arrived on November 18, 2008, at 1:40 p.m. at Providence Hospital in Waco. He weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces and measured 21 inches long. He is welcomed home by his big brother, Cannon, 3.

Maternal grandparents are David and Samantha Anderson of Oglesby. Paternal grandparents are Garland and Elaine Cook of McGregor. Great-grandmothers are Katherine Anderson and June Parham, both of McGregor.



## The Stargazer

By Paul Derrick

## Winter Solstice

The winter solstice, the first day of winter, and the shortest day and longest night of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, falls on December 21 this year.

Have you ever wondered about the word "solstice?" Literally, it means "the Sun stands still," and it happens twice each year, at winter and summer solstice. Of course, the Sun really doesn't stand still—indeed it doesn't even move as it's apparent daily movement across our sky comes from Earth's rotation on its axis.

What does stand still is the Sun's rising and setting point on the horizon. The Earth's 23 1/2 degree tilt on its axis which produces seasons also causes the Sun to rise and set at a slightly different place on the horizon each day of the year.

At the spring equinox the Sun rises exactly due east and sets exactly due west, making day and night each 12 hours in length.

Each day thereafter it rises slightly north of east and sets slightly north of west. Since the Sun's path across the sky tilts to the south in our hemisphere, the Sun is in the sky slightly longer each day, and days grow increasingly longer than nights until the summer solstice. Then the gradual daily northward movement of the Sun's rising and setting points stops and the Sun "stands still." The day of the summer solstice is the year's longest day with the Sun in the sky longer than any other day—at our latitude about 14 hours.

The Sun then reverses course and begins retracing its steps, rising and setting slightly south of where it rose and set the previous day, making each day slightly shorter. At the fall equinox, when it again rises and sets due east and west, the day and night are again of equal length.

The rising and setting points continue to gradually move southward until the winter solstice when the Sun again "stands still" on the year's shortest day—about 10 hours for us. So next week when the Sun stands still at its southern-most rising and setting points, it will be the shortest day of the year and the beginning of winter, but it also means each day thereafter we can

look forward to gradually longer days until the summer solstice.

Knowledge of the movements of the Sun, Moon, planets and stars was important in the lives of the ancients, thus they were quite in tune with rhythms of nature, like the solstices. That we moderns no longer are, I think, is our loss.

### SKY CALENDAR.

\* 17 Wed. morning: The gibbous Moon is below the star Regulus.

\* 18 Thu. morning: The moon is to the right of Saturn.

\* 19 Fri.: Saturnalia, an ancient Roman festival celebrating the god and planet Saturn.

\* 21 Sun. morning: The crescent Moon is below the star Spica.

\* 22 Mon. morning: The Ursid meteor shower peaks under favorable Moon conditions.

\* 25 Thu. morning: The thin crescent Moon is below the star Antares near the southeastern horizon at dawn.

\* 27 Sat.: The Moon is new.

\* 28 Sun. evening: The thin crescent Moon, Mercury (above the Moon) and Jupiter (above Mercury) are aligned just above the southwestern horizon 45 minutes after sunset with Venus well above them.

\* 29 Mon. evening: The crescent Moon is above Jupiter.

\* 31 Wed. evening: Mercury is just to the left of much brighter Jupiter near the southwestern horizon 45 minutes after sunset; higher up, the Moon is above Venus.

### NAKED-EYE PLANETS.

Evening: "Evening star" Venus is brilliant in the west with Jupiter to Venus' lower right; Mercury appears late in the month. Morning: Saturn is high in the south.

### ASTRO MILESTONES.

Dec. 25 is the 366th birthday of Isaac Newton (1642-1727), father of modern physics. Dec. 27 is the 437th birthday of Johannes Kepler (1571-1630), discoverer of elliptical orbits.

*Stargazer appears every other week. Paul Derrick is an amateur astronomer who lives in Waco. Contact him at 918 N. 30th, Waco, 76707, (254) 753-6920 or paulderrickwaco@aol.com.*



Ora Pleasant

## Celebrates 100th birthday

Ora Pleasant celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at Westview Manor Nursing Home with all of children, her grandchildren, great grandchildren and great, great grandchildren. She and her family would like to thank other family and many friends that came from far and near. And for the many cards and gifts to help us celebrate this blessed day for a blessed lady.

## Qualin Brown completes infantry basic training

Army Pvt. Qualin E. Brown has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid and Army history, core values and traditions.

Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewmen.

Brown is the son of Patricia Brown and grandson of Lonnie and Loretta Brown of McGregor. He is a 2008 graduate of McGregor High School.

## MHS seniors share Christmas memories

More in Greeting section

By Jordan Hutton

My favorite Christmas memory would have to be the one when I was about 9 or 10 years old. I remember waking up that Christmas morning all excited and eager to see what Santa had brought for me. I quietly but quickly ran out of my room and down the hallway toward the living room. There were tons of toys all around the tree that had not been there the night before, glistening in the multicolored lights that were on the tree. The one that caught my eye first though was a white and purple bike. I couldn't believe my eyes; I had received my very own bike. No longer would I have to use my older step-brother's old one. Now I had my own NEW one. One that I could ride whenever I felt like it.

That afternoon my dad took me out to the front yard with my bike and set it up at one end where we had a fence. On the opposite side was a row of thick bushes that had been growing there for as long as I can remember. My dad helped me on the bike and got behind me. He then started to push me, and I started to pick up speed. He was telling me to keep pedaling, then suddenly he let go. I kept on going straight, the bushes coming closer and closer with each turn of the pedals. My dad yelled at me, "Turn!!!" I started to panic and my mind went blank. Then, without warning, BAM! I rode straight into the bushes. I was stuck for a good 20 minutes or so. To this day my dad still won't let me forget about it, and he tells the story to everyone each Christmas.

By Cylane Rogers

My favorite time of year is Christmas, because we have a family talent show on Christmas Eve. Two years ago my mom and I played Santa and Rudolf. I was a gangster Santa and my mom was like a dog with a red nose and antlers. I had created a rap song to "Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer". Once I began to sing, I heard my mom make a barking noise, and the last time I checked Rudolf was a reindeer not a dog. By this time everyone realized that she was barking and began to laugh.

## Food for families Food basket signup

The families that have signed up with the Fire Department for toys for the children, should have then come to 311 West Third Street to sign up for your food boxes also. If you have not, please do so.

You may pick up your box of groceries, Sunday, December 21, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Methodist Family Life Center building. We will be giving only to those on our list, so make sure you are on our list.

Please bring an interpreter, I am sorry, but I do not speak Spanish.

You may call 840-9563 for information or to be sure I am there.

Beverly Denton, coordinator.

I was so embarrassed at this point I didn't know what to do. So we kept on going with the song and the sounds coming from my mom got worse. She went from a duck to a bird to everything else.

We ended up losing the talent show, because my cousins had made a DVD of the whole family. Everyone was on it, even my deceased grandmother "Mama Mae" who we loved dearly. Everyone was touched by the movie. After that we ate and then we opened gifts at 12:00. This was by far the best Christmas experience in my life and I hope there are more to come.

By Harvey Lee

There is one Christmas memory that I will never forget. When I was in elementary school I had always wanted a go-cart. My parents said that they would see what they could do, but deep down inside I knew that they were going to get it for me. The day of Christmas was getting near and yet I still hadn't received my go-cart. I had noticed that my dad had about three guys building a shed in the back. This made me very suspicious. I asked my parents what they were building a shed for and they said that they

had to have a place to store a big item that they would be purchasing. Once I heard them say that I knew for a fact that I was getting my go-cart. I then started to make sure that I kept my room and the dishes and anything else as clean as I could.

The day of Christmas was getting even closer and I woke up one morning to look for my dad to see if he would go get me a burrito. I couldn't find him, so I asked my mom where my daddy was. She said that he went to Waco, but I looked outside and saw both of our cars, so again I went to ask my mom where my daddy was. She said he was in Waco.

After that I decided to go outside and drive my remote control car. After about ten minutes, I saw this black Dodge truck come by with a red go-cart on the back of it. I kept on admiring it as it came by. The truck started to slow down and then it stopped right in front of my house! As soon as it stopped I saw my dad hop out and he said "MERRY CHRISTMAS, SON!!"

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98 Newspapers, 276,893 Circulation  
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## FOR RENT OR LEASE

**FOR RENT:** 2 bedroom, 1 bath house at 1104 W. 10th, fenced backyard, no indoor pets, \$550 mo. plus deposit. 744-4335. jg51c

**SELF STORAGE FOR RENT:** Secure inside units with all weather access. 118 South Main, McGregor, 722-5684.

**FOR LEASE OR SALE:** former My D Han D building & land on Highway 84. Call Lester at 254-744-2533. lt36tfc

**FOR LEASE OR SALE:** Commercial Building, 7th and Main. Call Mickey Lella, 254-722-9018. 25tfc

**FOR RENT:** New McGregor duplexes—2 bedroom, 1 bath. For more information call (254) 803-9636. Falls Capital, Inc. 51c

**FOR RENT:** Two J's Mini Storage Buildings 10 x 20's \$50 per month. 10x12 \$40. 510 East McGregor Drive. Days 840-4512 and Evenings 840-2548. Jimmy and Janet Buth. 40tfc

**FOR RENT:** Storage units, 10'x10', located 1 block off Main Street behind the Post Office. Call 840-2786. If no answer, leave message.

**FOR RENT:** Single wide mobile home; Oglesby area. Call 715-7519. be50c

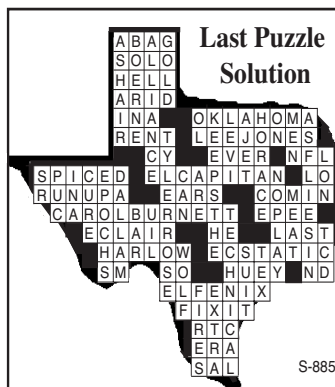
**RENTERS WANTED:** Call 800-929-9197 Today! RBI 33478. phh2c

## Have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

**LOSE WEIGHT/TONE:** Brand New. Pro Form Elliptical Machine. Already assembled. All the bells and whistles. Programable, Can plug in MP3 player, etc. Cost over \$800. A bargain @ \$500. Would make a great Christmas gift. Call 254-749-0460. 46x



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**THERE ARE NO BAD DOGS ONLY MISUNDERSTOOD DOGS.**

Obedience Training & Home Consultations  
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## FOR SALE

**TAMALE SALE:** St. Eugene Catholic Church Choir Fund-raiser. Saturday starting at 11:00 a.m. at the church hall. \$7 a dozen. tl51c

**RABBITS FOR SALE:** 2 pet rabbits (mom & dad) 9 mo. old \$15 each; 4 (3 mo. old) rabbits \$10 each. Can be seen at 1012 S. Van Buren. tl51c

**FOR SALE:** Firewood—\$110 per cord; \$60 per 1/2 cord. Mobile 495-0459 home 486-2668. dw51c

**FOR SALE:** 2004 Freestar Van with curbside electric chair lift, also electric chair. Asking \$14,000. Frank Leos. Call 644-4793. 46tfc

**FOR SALE:** 1994 E350 Diesel Ford Van with a Ricon Wheelchair lift. \$3,000.00. Call 840-3179 or 853-3070. 1p

**FOR SALE:** John Deer 950 with shredder; \$5000. Call 840-2706 or 733-6790. lv51tfc

## REAL ESTATE

**FOR SALE:** 1640 sq. ft. 3 bd/2ba on 2 city lots. Spacious kitchen and master bedroom/bath. Central Heat/Air, lots of closet space. Includes 2 car garage/workshop and storage building. Price reduced. Includes 1 year home warranty. 209 Phillips Road. 840-4520/ 749-7550/ 855-9082 pc45tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER:** In Crawford. 1,935 sq. ft., built in 1997. For more information call Jimmy Buth, 709-8900. jb36tfc

**HOUSE FSBO:** 618 S. Van Buren, 2,100 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. \$125,000. OBO 254-722-6554. se21tfc

**MINI RANCH AVAILABLE:** 4 bedrooms w/2 baths!! Call 254-412-0123! RBI 33478. phh2c



WE REPRESENT BUYERS OR SELLERS

423 South Main Street, McGregor, Tx. Office: 840-2824

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Joe Paschall—840-2774  
Kyle Paschall, GRI—744-4893  
Mike Paschall—744-0126  
[www.psrealtors.com](http://www.psrealtors.com)

**GREAT LOCATION** on South Harrison. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. BV & Frame home with 1623 sq. ft. of living area. Built in 1954 and remodeled in 1988. This is an all electric home with CA & CH, 1 car carport, double pane windows and huge covered deck. Beautiful lyard with sprinkle system.

**THIS IS** a home built for family living with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room, large open family room/kitchen, 2 car attached garage w/side entrance, covered front porch, large rock patio, built-in entertainment center and surround sound system, central air and heat, WB fire place and built-ins. Built in 2002 with 2,217 sq. ft. of living area. PRICE DRASTICALLY REDUCED!

**TEXAS TEA AND COFFEE BUILDING** on 3rd Street. Two story brick built in 1922 with 3,996 total sq. ft. Completely renovated in 2004 with urethane foam over metal roof and central air and heat. Downstairs has serving counters, raised stage, kitchen, wash area, restrooms and office with internet connections. The loft is currently leased.

**FOR SALE:** 40 acre tract, Evening Star Rd., nice pasture land.

**COMMERCIAL RETAIL SPACE** available for sale on Main Street with approximately 2100 sq. ft. Up to 4,000 sq. ft. may be negotiated.

**PRIME COMMERCIAL PROPERTY** for sale in downtown McGregor. The existing Toby Design Guild building. Approximately 33,000 sq. ft. in two separate locations. Each location individually priced. Call for details.

**SPLIT LEVEL BV Home** on large lot near Junior High School. Over 2300 sq. ft. of living area with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large family room with WBFP, living room/den, kitchen/dining with all built-ins, large pantry and 2 car attached garage. Fencing, covered patio and sprinkler system. **HUGE PRICE REDUCTION!**

**LOOKING for a starter home?** We have a one story, modular home with 1568 sq. ft. consisting of 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, kitchen with breakfast area central heat and air with attached carport.

**NEW LISTING IN MOODY—** Frame dwelling built in 1937 with over 1600 sq. ft. of living area. New aluminum windows installed in 1996 and vinyl siding in 1998. Features are 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, formal dining/living room, utility room and 2 car attached carport, 114 ft. x 140 ft. corner lot with large trees.

**GREAT LOCATION—** A 2/2/1 house with a lot of potential located at 706 W. 3rd Street. A short distance to Middle School and downtown. Big fenced backyard.

HOUSE W/ADDITIONAL vacant lot: 114 N. Van Buren St. McGregor. Reduced to \$69,500. Contact 361-920-0764. rr51tfc

**FOR SALE:** building lots in city of Crawford; Baylor University properties. Call Don Crockett 315-3827. 1p

**FOR SALE:** Approx. 120 acres of land. Adjacent to Oglesby on FM 1996. City water, recognized school dist. Call 254-216-3332. rs32tfc

**PROPERTY FOR SALE:** Lake Whitney. Full-time RVer's; 30' x 45' motor home barn with electricity, water and septic tank hook ups, 1/2 mile to marina. \$49,000 254-780-3631. 1p

**FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER & SINGLE PARENT PROGRAM!!** Easy to qualify!! You have to have verifiable income!! Call 800-929-9197! RBI 33478 phh2c



**FOR SALE:** 709 W. 4th Street. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, completely remodeled home with hardwood and tile flooring, oak cabinets, New HVAC, plumbing, wiring, double paneled windows, storm doors, metal roof and covered back deck. Call Lu with Hart Realtors at 254-744-6601. \$93,000.00 Seller says bring us an offer. This price is negotiable. hr44c

**Mirror Classifieds Get FAST Results!**

## Great Gift Idea

Call 840-2091

A subscription to **The Mirror** is a gift that keeps giving all year long. We will send a gift card to recipient to announce your gift.  
\$25 in county;  
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\$30 out of state

**The McGregor Mirror and Crawford Sun**

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## CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION CO.

GATESVILLE, TEXAS

**SALE EVERY SATURDAY Cattle .... 12 noon**  
Jody and Robin Thomas  
HOME:(254) 865-8219  
BARN:(254) 865-9121

**WE WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 27TH & JAN 3RD FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

## SALE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2008

**No. 1 STEERS:** under 300 lbs. 90-120, up 2-3; 300-400 lbs. 90-115, up 2-3; 400-500 lbs. 90-105, up 2-3; over 500-600 lbs. 80-95, up 2-3; 600-700 lbs. 72-83, up 2-3; 700-800 lbs. 70-77, up 2-3

**No. 1 HEIFERS:** under 300 lbs. 90-115, up 2-3; 300-400 lbs. 75-90, up 2-3; 400-500 lbs. 75-90, up 2-3; 500-600 lbs. 70-85, up 2-3; 600-700 lbs. 70-80, up 2-3; 700-800 lbs. 65-74, up 2-3

**SLAUGHTER COWS:** High Yielding—42-47, up 1; Low Yielding—34-39, up 1; Fats—40-46, up 1; Thin and Shelly—20-32, up 1

**PACKER BULLS** (1250-2075 lb.) Yield Grade 1 & 2, 46 to 54, up 1

**COW AND CALF PAIRS** Young Choice 800 to 975, steady; Young Fair 650 to 800, steady; Aged Pairs, 500-600, steady

**Young Pregnancy Test Stocker Replacement Cows** 400 to 870, steady  
Number of Head: 683



While writing about the Nativity in his book *The Faces of Jesus*, author and pastor Frederick Buechner reflects on an early scene in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Three characters—Horatio, Marcellus, and Barnardo—are keeping watch at night, discussing the possibility of having seen a ghost. In the midst of their conversation, they briefly stumble into a discussion about the night of Christ's birth. To help us navigate the difficulty of Shakespeare's prose, Buechner offers a summary of the trio's conversation—a conversation that finds Marcellus offering a breathtaking thought about the power of the coming of a Savior: "On the dark battlements of Elsinore, Marcellus speaks to his companions of the time of Jesus' birth. It is a hallowed time he says, a holy time, a time in which life grows still like the surface of a river so that we can look down into it and see glimmering there in its depth something timeless, precious, other. And a gracious time, Marcellus says—a time that we cannot bring about as we can bring about a happy time or a sad time but time that comes upon us as a grace, as a free and unbidden gift. Marcellus explains that Christmas is a time of such holiness that the cock crows the whole night through as though it is perpetually dawn, and thus for once, even the powers of darkness are powerless."

Satan tried so hard in Genesis to ruin God's creation only to come to defeat in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of God's only Son. It is as Buechner's passage says, "even the powers of darkness are powerless."

More light than we can learn,  
More wealth than we can treasure,  
More love than we can earn,  
More peace than we can measure,  
Because one Child is born. (Unknown)

Have a blessed and wonderful Christmas. You have heard Jesus is the reason for the season, but think about this, you are the reason for the season. He did not come to live and die for Himself but to live and die for you. Be grateful for His grace.



*Luke 2: 6. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7. And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

If we were to take a survey on what Christmas is really about, we would get all kinds of answers. Some might say that it is a good time just to have a couple of days off from work, enjoying a four day weekend. But what about those who look down on this holiday, because of the pressure that our society has put on it's meaning. Buying gifts to share with loved ones, without the income to pay, falling into the trap to make the holiday one of good memories, but instead the sacrifices are extended, on credit cards that will be paid well into the next year. Been there and done that! For some the meaning of Christmas has painful memories, of loved ones that are not around anymore.

I have also listening to the debates from all spectrums of people. Feeling offended about the Christmas National Holiday, a plan was implemented to take Christ out of Christmas, by putting a big X, in front of the Mass, ending result XMASS. One thing is for certain, these people might get offended by the Christ in the Holiday, but they don't mind taking the time off in conjunction with this day! Don't hear them saying anything about that, huh!

When Jesus was born, the Angels announced His coming, proclaiming to the World that a Savior was born! The Shepherds tending their flocks were the first to hear the good news but Bethlehem was crowded and everyone was busy, so busy that they totally missed the birth of the King of King and the Lord of Lords. The same is happening today! The stores crowded with people rushing, buying, eating, and laughing not considering the true meaning of Christmas. This should be a day of celebration that should not be totally about us giving or receiving gifts. It should reflect on the birth of the Savior who came to take the sins of the World upon his shoulder. He came to lay it all on the line, so that we all can have a home, not built with human hands, but a home that would last forever. He came to die and rise again for your sins and mine, so celebrate Christmas, by giving Jesus Honor! Happy Birthday Jesus!



## THE MCGREGOR MIRROR

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The McGregor Mirror and Crawford Sun, P.O. Box 415, McGregor, TX 76657. (ISSN 1044-0348) (USPS 335-980). The McGregor Mirror is published weekly (except the week of Christmas) at 311 S. Main, McGregor, TX 76657, by The Mirror Printing Co. Inc. Periodical class postage paid at McGregor, TX 76657.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** \$25.00 per year in McLennan County; \$29.00 per year in state; \$30.00 per year out of state. All subscriptions are payable in advance. Subscribers may pay by mail to: The McGregor Mirror, P.O. Box 415, McGregor, Tx. or by credit card by calling 254-840-2091.

**DEADLINES:** For all news articles, classifieds and display advertising, the deadline is 11:00 a.m. Tuesday for the Thursday publication. All articles and advertising must meet accepted newspaper standards and format as determined by management.

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**CHARLES E. MOONEY, BONNIE MOONEY MULLENS,  
MYNETTE MOONEY TAYLOR**

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*The McGregor Mirror and Crawford Sun is not responsible for copy omission, typographical error, or any unintentional error that may occur other than to make proper corrections after being brought to the newspaper's attention. Advertising is accepted on this basis only.*

311 South Main, McGregor, TX 76657-0415

Phone 254-840-2091 Fax 254-840-2097

E-mail: bonnie@mcgregormirror.com

Online www.mcgregormirror.com

# MCGREGOR & CRAWFORD CHURCHES

### ST. EUGENE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

207 North Johnson Drive  
McGregor  
Father Hilario Guajardo  
840-3174

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

**Sunday:**  
8:00 A.M.—Spanish  
11:30 A.M.—English

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

101 Garfield Street  
McGREGOR

Tuesday evening.....7:30 p.m.  
Sunday morning.....10:30 a.m.  
Sunday evening.....3:30 p.m.

*Keeping the Ordinances as they were delivered by the Apostles  
I Corinthians 11: 1-2*

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

3rd and Pullen  
McGREGOR

Bible Study.....10:00 a.m.  
Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Sunday evening.....5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....6:00 p.m.

Minister Agathus Robinson

### PLEASANT HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

315 Cleveland, McGREGOR

"WELCOMES YOU"  
"A Sharing & Caring Church"  
Rev. Jacqueline Taylor  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....10:45 a.m.  
B.T.U.....6:00 p.m.  
Mid Week Service.....6:30 p.m.  
840-4344

### First United Methodist Church

500 South Madison Street in McGregor <http://fumcmcgregor.com>



Rev. Lianne Turner  
Excellent Nursery Facility

**"A Place Where Everyone is Welcome."**  
254-840-2181

Contemporary Worship (Informal) — 9:00 A.M.  
Sunday School for all Ages — 10:00 A.M.  
Traditional Worship — 11:00 A.M.

Children's Hour (Grades 1-6) Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm  
Youth — 7:00 Wednesday evenings

### Church of the Living God of McGregor

112 Pullen • McGregor  
840-3468

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service  
10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Harold Haynes, Pastor Emeritus  
Sammie E. Haynes, Sr., Pastor

### Roberson Chapel A.M.E. Church

402 South Arthur, McGREGOR  
840-2000

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11 a.m.  
Wednesday ~ Prayer Service and Bible Study.....6 p.m.

Rev. William A. Forbes, Jr.

### Nuevo Pacto De Vida

### New Covenant Life Church

304 S. Main, McGregor

For Information Call—Para Informacion Llamen

Pastor Jesus (Jesse) Guerrero (254)470-9972

### Servicios Domingo

Escuela Dominical 10:30 a.m.

Adoracion 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### Miercoles

Adoracion 7:00 p.m.

emmanuel christian fellowship

web site: [ecf-mcgregor.com](http://ecf-mcgregor.com)

254-840-2435  
415 North Main  
McGregor, Texas

### Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

## worship at Zion Lutheran Church McGregor

Contemporary Service  
2nd & 4th Sunday 8:30 am

Sunday School  
Every Sunday 9:30 am

Worship Service  
Every Sunday 10:30 am

1125 West Sixth & Tyler Street  
840-2128 Nursery Provided

## Crawford Churches

### Canaan Baptist Church

Est: 1891 (Located in the Prairie Chapel Community)  
Sunday School (All Ages) 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday evening Service 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening 7:30 p.m.  
Pastor: Dub Oliver  
Church phone Number 254-486-2298



As followers of Christ, we should be about Experiencing the Love of God, Knowing the Word of God and Discerning the Will of God.

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CRAWFORD

SUNDAY  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:50 a.m.

WEDNESDAY  
Prayer Meeting.....6:00 p.m.  
includes RA's, GA's, Youth & Adults

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CRAWFORD

375 West 6th Street  
(254) 486-2361

Come worship with us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL for all ages 10 a.m.  
WORSHIP SERVICE.....11 a.m.

Rev. Rebecca N. Hull, Pastor



Join us for worship and fellowship every Sunday  
**St. Paul**

### Lutheran Church

Rev. Tom Beers, Pastor

Sunday Services  
Sunday School ... 9:30 am  
Worship .....10:30 am

At the corner of FM 185 and Prairie Chapel Road  
254/486-2126  
stpaulcrawford@txwi.net

### JOHNSON DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Johnson Drive  
McGREGOR  
WELCOMES YOU  
Evangelist Wayne McKamie

"Let the Bible Speak" on KBBW AM1010  
Sundays.....8:30 to 9:00 A.M.

Sunday.....10:00 a.m.  
Sunday night.....5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday night.....7:00 p.m.

### WELCOME NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

206 Arthur Street  
McGREGOR  
840-3402  
Rev. Larry Davis, Pastor  
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
Mid Week Prayer.....6:30 p.m.

### MCGREGOR UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

"The House of Prayer"  
Come worship God with us.  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Sunday night.....6:00 p.m.  
Tues. night.....7:30 p.m.  
Wed. night.....7:30 p.m.  
401 North Tyler  
McGREGOR  
Pastor: Charles Griffin  
Church phone: 840-4122

### Sixth and Adams Church of Christ

McGREGOR  
Jon Mark Smith  
Minister

SUNDAY:  
Bible Study.....10:00 a.m.  
Worship.....10:55 a.m.  
Sunday Evening.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Office: 840-3422

God Loves McGregor and so do we!



### BETHLEHEM CHURCH

209 North 2nd Street  
McGREGOR  
Rev. Lionel Aviles

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Sunday evening.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.  
Worship and Bible Study  
Saturday.....7:30 p.m.

Services in English and Spanish  
840-2040

### Merry Christmas!

"For where two or three are gathered together, in my name, there am I in the midst of them."  
Matthew 18:20.

#### CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday morning—10 a.m. Praise & Worship  
11 a.m. Preaching & Ministry with Pastor D.L. Summers  
Sunday evening—6 p.m. Celebration Service with Curtis Jones  
Wednesday evening—7 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Youth Service with Lindsey Longo

### Victory Chapel

D. L. Summers, Pastor  
605 N. Third.....1 block off Hwy. 84 behind Dandy Dan's Church: 840-3283 • Residence Phone: 662-1109

### College Avenue Baptist Church

PEOPLE SHARING JESUS

201 South Monroe Street, McGregor 840-3782  
David W. Thompson Pastor Jim West Youth Minister Janice Young Music Minister

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY
9:45 a.m. Sunday School	6:00 p.m. Children's Activities
10:55 a.m. Morning Worship	6:00 p.m. Youth Activities
6:00 p.m. Discipleship Training	6:45 p.m. Prayer Meeting
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship	7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Connecting...Building...Transforming...

Sunday, December 21  
What Christmas Is All About  
Micah 5:4-5

Sundays:  
9:15 a.m. ConneXion (Coffee, Juice, Donuts)  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship

Wednesdays:  
6:30 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Youth & Children

Phone: 254-840-3301  
Robert Parker, Pastor

Website: [www.fbcmcgregor.org](http://www.fbcmcgregor.org)  
Email: [fbcpastor@centexbiz.rr.com](mailto:fbcpastor@centexbiz.rr.com)

# Mirror to close Christmas week

The McGregor Mirror office will be closed for the Christmas holidays at 3 p.m. Wednesday, December 17, 2008, and will reopen on Monday, December 29th at 9 a.m. Deadline for advertising and copy for the January 1, 2009 issue is 2 p.m. December 30th.

There will be no paper published the week of Christmas.

Any news articles or advertising can be emailed to [bonnie@mcgregormirror.com](mailto:bonnie@mcgregormirror.com) or faxed to 254-840-2097.

## School — Continued from Page One

of Maxine Burson in payroll and Theresa Kinnear in accounts for the fine job they do in maintaining accurate district financial records.

Shavers also complimented Food Service Director John Carpenter for doing a good job of managing the breakfast and lunch program. His program finished in the black by \$62,065.

In other school business, board members approved bids for new band uniforms, for student services software and for painting the steel structures at Bulldog Stadium.

A sample band uniform was shown to the board before they submitted a bid of \$36,879 for the new uniforms.

The school currently uses PowerSchool student software, but the board was told that technical support for the program is now difficult to obtain. This software is used for teachers to post grades of their students and a tool for parents to view the grades of their children online.

The new software is called Skyward for Student Information Services Software. First year cost of the software is \$78,000 with an annual fee thereafter of \$9,173.

Peters Painting Company received the bid of \$25,000 for painting the steel structures at Bulldog Stadium.

Under personnel, the board accepted the resignation of Kathy McDuffie at the McGregor Elementary School. Her husband has accepted a job in Diboll, Texas as the city manager.

In more business, Superintendent Kevin Houchin reported to the board that three school zone flashing signs have been ordered to be placed on Bluebonnet Parkway and Jackson Street.

"The solar powered signs will help warn drivers of reduced speeds near the high school and elementary school zones," Supt. Houchin commented. "The signs will cost about \$3100 each."

The district is also currently meeting with vendors to prepare bid proposals to replace the

bleachers in the high school gymnasium. Supt. Houchin said new bleachers may be installed after basketball season, but before graduation.

Assistant Superintendent James Lenamon gave a presentation on the No Child Left Behind Highly Qualified Report.

"All teachers in the elementary and junior high meet the qualifications for the highly qualified status of NCLB," Lenamon stated. "One teacher at the high school does not meet the qualifications of NCLB even though the teacher is a veteran teacher and holds a masters degree in the subject matter being taught. The district has a 98.38 percent of its teachers meeting the requirements."

Supt. Houchin gave an update on the Chapter 41/42 Partnership.

"The partner school originally wanted to purchase 965 in WADA, which stands for Weighted Average Daily Attendance, from McGregor ISD," Supt. Houchin noted, "but now they would like to purchase 1,700 in WADA. The district will receive payments of about \$1.7 million in February and August and a larger payment of \$3.4 million in May."

Supt. Houchin pointed out the district must repay the money at the end of the fiscal year to the TEA, but will be able to earn revenue on the money until that time.

"State leaders briefed superintendents on school finance issues at a recent forum at Austin," Houchin reported. "Major school finance legislation is not expected but an additional \$2 billion is expected to be available to schools during the period. Many school districts are operating on deficit budgets this year."

The superintendent reported that the district met adequate yearly progress at all campuses. He added that the district improved in most areas of the TAKS assessment. The completion rate for students stayed the same or improved in all areas, but one.



**MAGNIFICENT DECEMBER SUNRISE**—Mirror photographer was in the right place at the right time. A couple minutes earlier or later and the spectacular site would have been missed. It's worth waking early for the amazing sunrises we have been experiencing the past few weeks.

The dropout numbers were too small to be counted on the AEIS Report. Math and science are areas targeted for continued improvement.

Latest edition of The Growl has been completed and is available online at the school website. Assistant Superintendent James Lenamon gathers information from each campus for the publication he produces.

Lenamon told the board he is preparing an Annual Report for publication during the next few weeks. Copies will be mailed to households in the district.

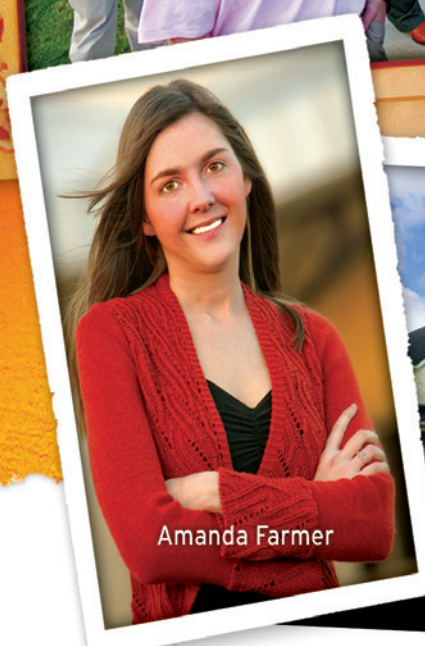
Board President Herman Tucker, Jr. commended the board members for their dedication and diligence in not only meeting the board training requirements, but exceeding them.

Tucker received 11.75 hours of training, Jim Bates, 11.75 hours; Deidre Lauterbach, 10.5 hours; Carolyn Lillard, 13 hours; Gary Hannemann, 10.5 hours;



**HOT DOGS WITH SANTA**—Three directors of McGregor Community Development are pictured getting Supper with Santa ready for the kids of all ages to enjoy while visiting with the jolly ole elf from the North Pole on Saturday, December 6th. Pictured are Leann Bowden, Ed Vallejo and Danny Davis. The group served over 100 hot dogs and hot chocolate to the crowd attending the annual parade and tree lighting co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and McGregor Community Development.

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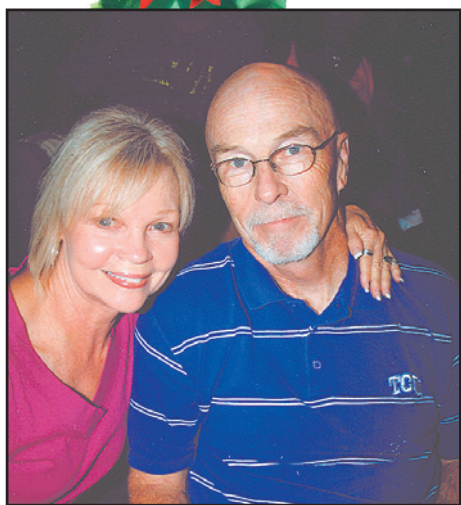
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# THE MCGREGOR MIRROR AND CRAWFORD SUN



The Mooney Family



Mynette & Gene Taylor



David Taylor Family



Jimmy, Bonnie & Meghan Mullens



The Bitzkies

## Season's Greetings FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU

May the coming year bring only good news to your doorstep. We are proud to serve this fine community and we thank you sincerely for your readership and endless support. With glad tidings to you and your kin this holiday season from The Mirror Family

Charles & Claudia Mooney  
Jeannine, Michael, Anna, Joseph, Elizabeth and Teresa

Mynette & Gene Taylor  
David and Amy, Rachel and Andrew Taylor  
Jeanette and John, Luke and Lily Bitzkie

Bonnie, Jimmy & Meghan Mullens



# Christmas Memories

By Taylor Rost  
My favorite Christmas memory would have to be when I was about seven or eight years old, and for my big Christmas present my dad made me a fort.

Now to you this might not sound like much, but to a seven year old, it seemed like I had died and gone to heaven. It stood a towering seven feet off the ground and was just completely awesome. Looking back, it wasn't made out of the finest material. I had some old wood that he had gotten from our neighbor and some old piping that he used for the ladder, but to me, it was the best thing I had ever seen in my life.

I still remember that day. I didn't even hope the rest of my presents. I just went straight outside and started playing on it. I mean it was just so amazing I couldn't believe what I had. I have no clue why I was so amazed by this little rinky-dink fort, but I was.

After that morning, we went to my grandma's house to eat Christmas lunch and to open the presents that our other family members had bought, but my heart was at my house. All I could

think about was that stupid fort, even when we were opening presents and my grandma gave me a present that contained a Nintendo 64. I didn't care.

So that would have to be the best Christmas I have ever had. Even though I am older, I still have that little fort in my backyard and my sister loves it.

By Samantha Rodriguez  
"knock, knock, knock!" was the sound that caused all the kids to rise in excitement. After all, Santa was at the door.

One Christmas at my aunt's house, my brother was asked to play the role of Santa for the night. My aunt had a door with a semi-circular window at the top that allowed you to see only the top of people's heads. All my brother had to wear was a Santa hat to pull off his character. The plan was to knock at the door and take off as fast as he could so when they opened the door, all that would be there were brand new bikes. He had to be sure they could see the Santa hat through the window to make them believe it was the real deal.

When the plan was in action,

he knocked three times and waited. The kids were amazed that Santa was at *their* door. But just seeing the Santa hat wasn't good enough for them. They wanted to see the whole thing so they opened the door sooner than expected. My brother ran off as fast as he could, but unexpectedly tripped over something on his way and fell flat on his face. Luckily, he got up and ran out of sight.

The belief in Santa is still important. He is real no matter who plays his role. He just can't be everywhere at once, so he has his helpers play his part for him!!

By Sabrina Williams  
My favorite Christmas memory is from a long time ago. I was about the age of five or six, I can't quite remember. I just loved when it came around the time for Christmas, not because I was getting new presents or anything like that, but for the simple fact that I was going to help my granny in the kitchen.

I loved putting my hands in her homemade mixes for cakes, cookies and pies and eating the cookie dough. It was so much fun. She always gave me the job of using the cookie cutter, but I never really got that job done.

I miss those days of playing and eating the mixes and dough that she made. Sometimes I wish I was a kid again and she was still alive, so I could have a chance to relive those memories and really understand what I was supposed to be doing.

## Stock Up On Cheer!

What's that on aisle two's shelf?  
Could it be an elf?  
Can it be in aisle three  
A reindeer or two, or possibly three?  
What's in-store, but in aisle four—  
I saw Santa Claus himself!  
And what's all that good cheer in my cart?  
It must be Christmas at the mart!

With Best Wishes For A Happy Holiday  
Season From All Of Us At ...

# Brookshire Brothers

Food & Pharmacy

Here's to a season filled with tenderness,  
love, and the best of friends.

We appreciate your making this year a memorable one.

Merry Christmas!

# Tidings Of Comfort & Joy



**We Wish You A Joyous Yuletide!**

Robbie, Retha, Robbie Jr., Brenda, Fazlynn and Devida  
and our sweet angel Renee Alyse ★

Brett, Matt and BreAna Anderson and Michele Anderson

**Anderson Oil & Tire Company**

Debi, Delfino, Fernando

and

**A&A Food Mart**

Sarah, Karen, Norma, Misty, Roxanna, Elaine, Angela, Kellie



*Home Is Where The Heart Is!*

Home. It's a place to unwind. A place to dream.  
A place you always feel welcome.

For the hospitality and goodwill you've shown us, we are deeply grateful.

We are proud to call this town "home" to our testing facility and wish all of our neighbors, a very merry holiday season

# SPACE X

# Local children take time to visit with Santa in order to give their requests for the season.



# A Christmas memory

By Erin Saylor  
 What's my favorite Christmas memory? I would have to say last year was my favorite. It was just my sister Angela, Mom, Dad and me. We all just wanted to spend time together. To us, it's not about gifts; it's about coming together and having fun. We're such a close family so every time we are together, we tend to get on the crazy side.

The first thing we did was eat some really good food. After we ate, we opened our gifts. This is where it gets a little crazy. We turned on the music and let me just say, we all love to dance. Even my dad was dancing. So my sister, Mom, Dad and I got up and started dancing but in a very goofy way and just singing very loudly. It was so much fun! Next came pictures, crazy pictures I must say. It is really impossible to take a serious picture when my dad is around. He is so funny.

This was my favorite Christmas because we had so much fun together. We just made more really good memories.



*Joyous Noel*

Wishing you a bundle of glad tidings this Christmas!

**Security Bank of Crawford**

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 6688 N. Lone Star Parkway  
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**CHRISTMAS... Hope It All Works Out!**

Looks like another great season is shaping up around here, and we owe it all to you, our neighbors, our members, our friends. We wish you a healthy holiday season.

*Brent & Renessa Niemeier*

**Crawford Fitness Center**

6775 North Lonestar Parkway  
 Crawford, Tx. 254-379-1252

Rejoice In All His Creations Both Large And Small

*Christmas is the perfect time to offer our thanks to God for his many gifts and the beauty that is all around us. It's also the perfect time for us to express our gratitude to you!*

Happy Holidays!  
**McGregor Veterinary Clinic**  
*Dr. Andy and Patsy Ainsworth*

**Next Stop... Christmas!**

Old fashioned wishes for friendship and fun this Yuletide. We're so very glad to know and serve you.

*Danny Davis CPA*

410 West 3rd  
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 840-2147



**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

May joy, prosperity, peace and goodwill visit your home this holiday season.

**Leland Home Repair**  
 840-3007

Just a few handy words to express our profound gratitude.....

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MANY THANKS!**

**A Western Christmas**

Here's to good friends, our customers, who make every day seem like Christmas. Enjoy the holiday season!

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of serving you this year!

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Eddie, Jimmy, Mario, Bil, Dustin and Tom

# Favorite Christmases

By Jeremy Bishop

Everyone remembers his or her favorite Christmas. Maybe you remember when your crazy uncles came to town, or when your clumsy cousin knocked over the Christmas tree. Everyone's story is unique due to all the small things that make Christmas what it is.

It was December 25, 1997 around eight in the morning. I awakened to the mouth-watering smell of a cooking turkey. As soon as my brain was able to recognize what day it was, I was by the Christmas tree. I was amazed by the massive amount of presents Santa had left me. I would have ripped into them but my grandpa was able to stop me.

My cousins and I then went outside to play until my other family members arrived. When everyone got there we ate turkey, stuffing, green-bean casserole, cranberry sauce, deviled eggs, and yams. I was stuffed! After that we opened the presents. I got my first pair of roller-blades and my first puppy. My cousins and I played with our gifts all day without a worry in the world.

This is my first and my favorite Christmas memory. I really miss being a little kid. Being young made life simple and enjoyable. I believe this is why I was able to enjoy Christmas as much as I did. If I could go back in time I probably would. I really do not see that

happening any time soon so all I can do is provide a Christmas just like this for my brothers.

By Marcus Booker

I remember every detail, sound, and sight of a special Christmas when I was 15. I woke up to a bunch of kids running around and yelling, "Get up! Get up! It's present time!" Drowsy and confused I rubbed the crackers out of my eyes. I walked down the hall and turned the corner to see all my family there to greet me. We said our breakfast prayer and everyone began feasting on all the food... which was lovely.

Afterwards, we let all the little ones open their presents from Santa, then the older kids, and after that the grown folks. I was excited that I received a Playstation 2, a closet full of new clothes, two pairs of new shoes, and my all-time favorite: \$\$\$\$\$, which totaled \$250.00.

Most important of all, I got to see my father. What an experience! As I was opening my presents, he busted through the door and said, "Hey, Son!" I think I forgot every toy, kid, and person in that house. I mean, to see someone you love, the person that gave life to you for the first time, it just really brought out the real Christmas in me.

By Carl Brown

Last year when I was 16 years old I had the best Christmas Eve party ever. All of my family was there. We started talking about the good old times when we were little. Then some of us started playing dominos.

When we brought out the food everybody started munching. We ate chicken with tortillas chips and sauce. We drank a lot of soda and ate a lot of food.

More and more people started to show up and we

exchanged gifts. Then all the boys began playing football. After we finished playing we posted up by the car to listen to music. Then we had a dance contest. Everybody was dancing and having a lot of fun. Then we watched a Tyler Perry movie and played video games.

The boys had a boxing tournament, and my dad won the whole thing. We went to the park to play basketball for just a little

while. Then we had a spelling bee. Some of us went to the mall to shop for each other. Then we went back to my uncle's house in Waco. For dessert we had a vanilla cake with vanilla ice cream and a peach cobbler.

Finally, we all said goodbye and started to head home. That was the best Christmas Eve party ever. One of the best things about it was that nobody argued and everybody acted like a family.

**Merry Christmas & Many Thanks!**

★ Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year ★  
to all my friends and customers.  
I really appreciate you all.

*from Karen at A Cut Above*

**WITH OUR THANKS**




To all our valued patrons, we extend our warmest wishes for a very merry Christmas and a prosperous year.

**Bestor & Associates, P.C.**  
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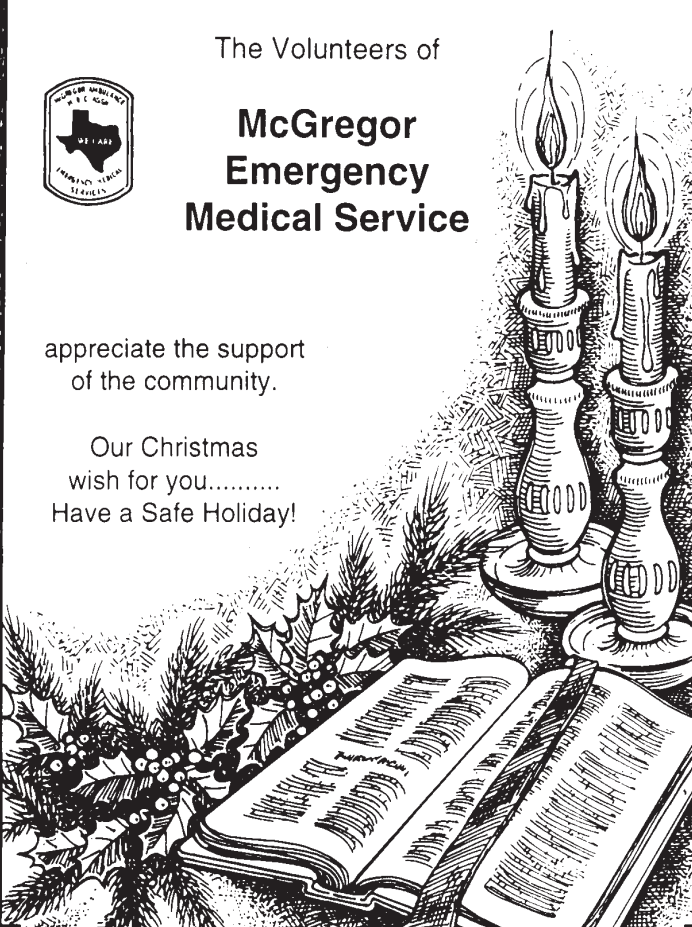
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Emergency  
Medical Service**



appreciate the support of the community.


Our Christmas wish for you.....  
Have a Safe Holiday!




**Deck The Halls!**

Happiness is... sharing a special holiday with good friends like you.

**Tobacco Junction**  
David and Joan Livingston





**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.**

I appreciate your support.

**God Bless Texas!**

**"Doc" & Sandy Anderson**

State Representative  
District 56





**Merry Christmas!**

from  
**Meghan Mullens**


**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

to all the businessmen and farmers who have supported the.



**McGREGOR FFA CHAPTER**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**



With glad tidings to you and your loved ones at the Christmas season. We appreciate your business and look forward to serving you again soon.

**Mynette Taylor and Bonnie Mullens**

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By Jeannine Mooney  
I have to say, last Christmas was my favorite because we were all able to spend it with my mom's family and friends in GERMANY!!

I remember waking up that chilly morning to my sister Anna opening the door and calling out

my name. The scenery there is magnificent! The sun was peering through the clear glass door into my room, which led out onto the balcony. When you laid foot on this balcony, a chill ran up your spine.

With the snow glistening through the whole town, it was

truly a winter wonderland. What a magnificent sight to wake up to. Once our family had gotten dressed and had finished eating breakfast downstairs, our family headed into town to do some Christmas shopping. The stores stayed open until 1 that day, so we were able to purchase a few

last minute gifts.

You would be amazed at how fast the time goes by in Germany. Everyone was bundled up from head to toe and moved quickly through the icy, cold snow. With a crunch here and a crunch there, we had soon arrived at our destination. From outside, this store looked small, but when you stepped inside, it grew. There was even a downstairs where all the goodies and children's toys, games, art supplies, etc. were located.

We were the last ones out of this store and the walk back to my uncle's guesthouse seemed longer and colder. Walking along the snow covered paths, I couldn't resist throwing a few snowballs. Michael and Joseph got caught up in this, which kept their minds away from the cold. After dropping our gifts off at the guesthouse, all eight of us went to visit my grandma until dinner back at the guesthouse that evening. I enjoyed talking to my grandma and playing games with her is always something fun all of us love.

My grandma has such a beautiful view from her balcony. You can see the mountains from a distance, a nice big green field where cows graze and deer just might step out in view and the tall pine trees covered with snow. There's a nice view of the town and you always see people walking or jogging.

Once we said our goodbyes, we were on our way back to the guesthouse to have dinner and then see what Saint Nikolaus brought. You can't beat that good ole German food!! It was amazing (and always is I might say).

After dinner, Saint Nikolaus came and brought everyone a little gift they would appreciate and take pride in sharing. I had fun playing with my uncle's two little girls and they enjoyed our

company. It was hard for them to see us leave and it was plenty hard for our family to have to leave my grandma, and such wonderful friends and family. I

will always treasure those great memories of that particular Christmas. I hope to go again with my family back over to Germany very very soon!!



Frozen temperatures this week froze the fountain at First United Methodist Church for a winter wonderland look.

## A Note Of Thanks To Our Loyal Patrons At Christmas

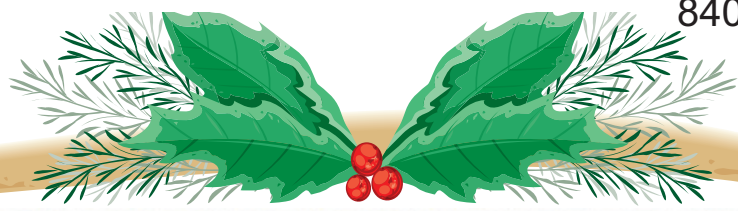
Wishing you every happiness this holiday season and beyond.

Debra & Ricky Doyle



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Wishing You Every Happiness This Holiday Season



Amy Lella, Caye Caves, Sandy Ferrell, Linda Shannon



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A Message Of Thanks At The Holidays

Kellie, Carolyn, Annie, Angie & Bell

We're displaying this message of cheer to thank you all for stopping here. Because one thing that we know is true, is it wouldn't be Christmas without all of you! A very merry Christmas to our friends, neighbors and customers. You make it all worthwhile!

**Irene's**  
Flowers & Gifts  
201 S. Main  
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It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!

As we rejoice in the wonder and splendor of this special season, we feel fortunate to enjoy the goodwill and friendship of people like you, and wish you and your family all the best this year.

Martha Sheer, Maxine Connor, Norma Haddock, Linda Kelley, Judy Fox

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# Christmas Memories

By Diana Martinez

My favorite Christmas memory would have to be when I was a little girl, and we were living in Florida. I remember my mom and sisters coming in the door with bags full of things. Instead of taking them to the kitchen like they always did, they took all the bags to my mom's room. After they brought all the bags in, I noticed that my sisters and mom went straight to Mom's room. I tried to open the door, but it was locked. I remember asking them what were they doing in there and why they wouldn't let me in. They just said they weren't doing anything and that they would be out in a minute.

So I walked away, but I was anxious to know what was going on behind that door. I walked back quietly to the door and stuck my ear on it trying to figure out what they were saying. I heard paper being cut and the sound of paper being balled up. So I lay down on the floor and looked underneath the door. All I saw were their feet walking around back and forth.

I heard them saying they were almost done so I got up quickly so that I wouldn't get caught. I ran to the living room and waited for them to come out. After about five minutes they came out and went straight to the living room. They all had wrapped presents in their hands that they placed under the Christmas tree. I was wondering what was under there for me.

Christmas came, and I was so ready to open my presents. That Christmas Day I got this Barbie toy where I could trace and color Barbie. It was my favorite present of all that I got. This would have to be my favorite Christmas because not only did I get what I wanted, but I was being a nosy little girl.

By Robert Cervantes

Christmas memories are possibly some of the best memories every American should experience. I have had some very fortunate Christmas holidays and some not so, but to me Christmas isn't about the gifts, food, or physical aspects. It is about the Christmas spirit, having a family to enjoy and to be part of. When I think about Christmas, I flashback to an extraordinary Christmas engraved in my memory.

The older I get the harder it is for me to keep the Christmas spirit alive. One of my favorite Christmas experiences was during my sophomore year in high school. It was one of a few Christmases when I got everything I asked for on my wish list. I also remember it very well because I really enjoyed it.

I remember having dinner with my family and watching Christmas movies with my brother. After spending quality time with my favorite people I went to my best friend's house. We sat around the fireplace and looked at pictures of ourselves from throughout the years. I recall it like it was yesterday.

When I got home my family was impatiently waiting for me around the Christmas tree. With a sense of urgency I sat across from my family and, at exactly midnight, I started opening gifts. I opened the first gift with my name on it. I hurried and tore all the wrapping paper off. It was a laptop; I also got all the clothes I asked for.

I was very thankful for the gifts and the amazing family and friends I was blessed with.

By Alex Garcia

There is one Christmas that I will not forget; it was the Christmas when I was about ten years old. About one week before Christmas we had not gotten a tree yet so my dad thought it would be a great idea to go out to his friend's place and cut down our own tree.

Well, there must not have been a lot of trees out there to choose from because he came home with the skinniest, smallest tree I'd ever seen come into our house. It was only about six feet tall.

Since it was a last minute thing and since it was some sort of a tree it would have to do. We noticed that it was a little crooked when we put it in the stand but, oh well. We started stringing every bit of lights we had onto

this little hoopy tree and then started in on the ornaments. I got down low towards the bottom to decorate those branches when all of a sudden that tree came falling down on top of me. Since I was a little bitty guy back then I could not get that tree off of me by myself. My dad was laughing so hard that he couldn't get the tree off of me either!

That was a very memorable Christmas and one of the funniest Christmas memories ever for me.

By Mary Ashleigh Johnson

One of my most memorable Christmases was when I was about eight years old. That Christmas I had been asking for a trampoline. I had always wanted one and was hoping for one! A few days before

Christmas, I was snooping around in my mom's office. I wasn't really going through all of her stuff, but I came across a receipt. As I happened to glance at the receipt, way on down the list was a trampoline. All of a sudden I felt this nervous rush take over the pit of my stomach! As fast as I could I put away the receipt and left the room. During the next few days I kept telling myself that I wasn't really getting a trampoline. I tried to forget about how I came across the receipt, but I couldn't help but know that there was a possibility of getting one. On the day of Christmas I felt really guilty. I don't really like knowing what I'm going to get; I want it to be a surprise.

After everyone opened all of their presents my family acted like we were done. My mom told

me to go out to the car and get something for her. As I walked out to the car, right before my eyes was a trampoline! I grinned from ear to ear! I was so excited. I hopped on to test it out, ignoring that it was 30 degrees outside, it was snowing, and I was still in my house shoes and pajamas! That was one of my most memorable Christmases ever!

By Tanisha Jones

My favorite Christmas memory occurred when I was about 6 years old. It happened on Christmas Eve, and I was so excited because I wanted to see Santa Claus that night. A couple of weeks before, my older cousin had told me there was no such thing as Santa Claus. I was eager to see if she was telling the truth.

That evening my mom and I decided to bake cookies for Santa. We baked sugar cookies, but somehow we got distracted and the cookies burned. I was upset, but my mom had a back-up plan. She set out Oreo cookies instead.

I tried to stay awake as long as I could. Then my mom finally made me go to bed around 10 o'clock. I was always told that Santa Claus would come at 12, so I lay awake in bed for 2 hours. When it was almost 12, I got up to see if Santa was really there.

I walked out of my room, but I paused because I heard a noise. It sounded like someone moving things around. As I entered the kitchen, I saw my mom eating the Oreo cookies and drinking the milk. I was shocked, but I will never forget the Christmas I found out Santa wasn't real.



## With Warm Wishes AT THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

**"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, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."  
Isaiah 9:6**

**Wishing you and your family the gifts of peace, faith and enlightenment throughout this holy season.**



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McGregor, Texas**

# Winning Christmas Parade Floats



Gloryland Church—First Place



A Cut Above—Second Place



College Avenue Baptist Church—Third Place



*Merry Christmas, Friends!*

*This holiday season we're delivering best wishes to all those who've been so good to us this past year. We couldn't have asked Santa for better friends and neighbors than you. Thanks!*

**John and Teresa Sneed**

**Sneed Insurance & Catering on Main**

313 S. Main, McGregor



A Proud Past with a Solid Future • Since 1896

By Jared Green  
Christmas is always the time of year when families come together and celebrate and enjoy food and life as it is. Everybody loves to get presents, but it's not all about the presents. It's more about moms and dads, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, and cousins all catching up with each other and having a jolly time.

My favorite Christmas was the last Christmas that my parents were still together. I don't remember everything, but I remember some of the important parts. That year I got some hockey sticks, a hockey ball and two hockey goals. Everyone was at my dad's out in the country, so there was a lot of room to run around and play, and me being only six years old, I had all the energy in the world.

My brother and I were, for some reason, really into hockey, so we were in our big driveway playing hockey. My cousin joined in and teamed up with my brother, and I was so good that I still beat them three to two. They started picking on me because they were mad that I won. Then my dad came and helped me out and stopped them.

Later we all gathered around the dinner table and ate the last meal that we would ever have as a family as a whole. Half a year later my parents split up and then divorced. I was so young and didn't know why we were moving away. I still see my dad all the time and go to his house for Christmas and all the other holidays, but it's just not the same as it was.

I hope that nobody has to go through the troubles of divorce, but if you do, then I feel your pain. I want to wish everybody a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

## HOPE IT'S NOTEWORTHY

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

*Frances Hudson*



MERRY CHRISTMAS to our Nana (Frances White) Granny Helen Kattness, Nomie White, Daddy Bob White, Papaw Cargile & Grandma & Grandpa Kattness in Alaska We miss you Grandad White, Grandpa Bob Kattness & Mamaw Cargile We Love You, Hunter and Larkin Kattness

JOYEUX NOEL  
FELIZ NAVIDAD  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
SEASON'S GREETINGS  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

No matter how you say it, we hope it's grand from the first day 'til the end.

## McGregor Independent School District

Board of Trustees—

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McGreggor Fourth Grade Choir entertains crowd at Tree Lighting December 6th



Big attendance for Tree Lighting, Santa visiting and parade.



Lighting of the official Christmas Tree at Legacy Park.



Several citizens teamed up to bring Christmas music to the crowds. The band members were Kyle Paschall, Chris Clarkson, Mark Cunningham, Brooke Wallace, Wendy Zacharias and Mike Aviles.



## GLAD TIDINGS TO YOU!

*Wishing you all things bright and beautiful this holiday season. We appreciate your patronage and look forward to seeing you soon.*



103 S. Main • 254-840-4106

## Christmas Memories

By Daniel Luna

There is always one time of the year that brings the whole family together. That holiday is Christmas. There is always at least one Christmas holiday that you will remember forever. I enjoy being with my family.

One Christmas morning about 5:30 a.m. I heard something and woke up. I was about 10 years old and didn't know any better. I ran to my parents' room and started jumping and yelling "It's Christmas!" My parents told me to go back to my room, so I did, but I still couldn't go back to bed.

I woke my brother and sister up and told them we should go wake up our parents so we could open up presents. We went into their room, and all of us jumped on their bed. They finally woke up and we went to the living room and started going through the presents.

They got all of us new bikes and they told us that we must go back to bed before we could go out and ride the bikes. We got a lot of other things, but those bikes have such memories for us. When we woke up later on, we rode them for a while then came in and spent some time with our family. We had a lot of food and a lot of fun.

I have had 18 Christmases and want them to keep coming. This will be the last Christmas that my family and I will be together. I am leaving to join the Marines, and all I want this Christmas is to spend time with my family and with the ones I care for. Christmas is a time to be with family.

It's not all about the presents. It's more about being with people that you want to be around. I hope that when I get back, that I can be with my family.

By Samantha Rodriguez

"knock, knock, knock!" was the sound that caused all the kids to rise in excitement. After all, Santa was at the door.

One Christmas at my aunt's house, my brother was asked to play the role of Santa for the night. My aunt had a door with a semi-circular window at the top that allowed you to see only the top of people's heads. All my brother had to wear was a Santa hat to pull off his character. The plan was to knock at the door and take off as fast as he could so when they opened the door, all that would be there were brand new bikes. He had to be sure they could see the Santa hat through the window to make them believe it was the real deal.

When the plan was in action, he knocked three times and waited. The kids were amazed that Santa was at their door. But just seeing the Santa hat wasn't good enough for them. They wanted to see the whole thing so they opened the door sooner than expected. My brother ran off as fast as he could, but unexpectedly tripped over something on his way and fell flat on his face. Luckily, he got up and ran out of sight.

The belief in Santa is still important. He is real no matter who plays his role. He just can't be everywhere at once, so he has his helpers play his part for him!!

## With Wishes Merry & Bright

In this season of giving, we'd like to give you our best wishes for a holiday celebration that's as special as you are to us.



Jodie Gaylor, Nancy Ross, Carri Clarkson, Cristy Blackman, Mike Walters

**OGLESBY STATE BANK**

# Visiting with Santa



## Tidings Of HOLIDAY CHEER

To all our "best" friends, both the four-legged and human variety, we wish all the blessings of this very special time of year.

We thank you for your friendship and support.



### K9 Mutt Training

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Sandy & Skip



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

FROM

eAGLE eYE SIGNS & gRAPHICS  
Mark, Karla & Family

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The children loved visiting with Santa



## Season's Greetings

from

# Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Barry Ballard            | De Wayne Draeger |
| Cary Bates               | Kermit Dreyer    |
| Jim Bates                | Tracy Ellison    |
| Keith Bearden            | Randy Farrar     |
| Urbana Benitez-Rodriguez | Kenneth Fikes    |
| Bradley Bishop           | Sonny Foote Jr   |
| Robert Boop              | Dan Foster       |
| Mike Brenegar            | Victor French    |
| Brooke Brown             | Jimmy Fulp       |
| Jim Campbell             | Keith George     |
| Bryan Chandler           | David Goff       |
| Robin Ciscell            | Rick Haile       |
| Serina Cole              | Kenneth Hollas   |
| Garland Cook             | Melissa Johnson  |
| Christi Condry           | Neil Johnson     |
| Danielle DeLeon          | EJ Kasper        |
|                          | Larry Koslosky   |

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Megan Kuzel       | Olivia Reyna      |
| DeeDee Lauterbach | Stanley Schrank   |
| James LeFevre     | Keith Schwake     |
| Derek Lewis       | Thurman Self      |
| Doug Matous       | Charles Simmons   |
| Miles McPherson   | Bobby Skala       |
| Joey Montgomery   | Shad Sleeper      |
| Kelly Montoya     | Shirley Sleeper   |
| Don Moore         | James Slover      |
| Sherri Morgan     | Robert Snider     |
| Bobby Nawara      | Ricky Steinkamp   |
| Bill Packer       | Larry Stock       |
| Justin Portillo   | David Stuart      |
| Ron Poston        | Doris von Soosten |
| Calvin Rachui     | Randy Westerfield |
| Bobby Ramsey      | Lemuel Williams   |
| H.F. Redding      | Brandon Young     |

### LET FAITH BE YOUR GUIDE

Whatever course you take, may His love and wisdom lead the way to peace and enlightenment during this holiest of seasons.

We appreciate our customers, friends and family. Thank you for your support. Have a happy and prosperous New Year.

## Joy To The World

...And best wishes to you, our friends and neighbors. Your goodwill fills us with immense joy this holiday season.

### Westview Manor

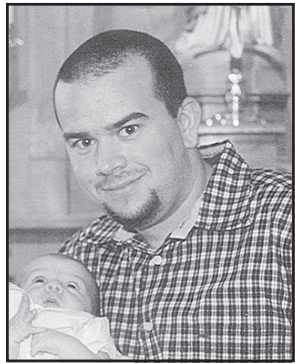
## ~ In Memoriam ~

### Michael Andrew Lella

October 20, 1979 ~ June 24, 2002

Daddy,  
I miss you everyday.  
Have a Merry  
Christmas  
in heaven.  
I love you so much,

Michael Austin Lella



### Papa Tony Lella

Christmas mornings will never be the same without you, but we will always carry the memories in our hearts!

We miss you and love you!  
Your grandchildren and beloved great grandchildren



### Our Angel In Heaven

### Jeanette Lee Bickford

June 6, 1982 - April 30, 2005

Baby girl, there is not a day that goes by that you are not in our thoughts and hearts. We miss and love you so much.

Poppa Bear and Mama Gwen



### In Memory of Anitoniou G. Cantu

You left us on Dec. 11th eight long years ago. You will be in our hearts forever.

Love, Manuel Cantu and family



### Thomas & Bonnie Mooney

Not a day goes by without loving thoughts of you.

Mynette, Charles Bonnie and families



# WISHING YOU A DAZZLING SEASON



Hope it's filled with smiles all the way around. Many thanks for brightening our year.

Walter Brinkman, Jr. D.D.S.

South Main in McGregor

Walter, Sharon, Erin and Jamie

# Letters To Santa



Dear Santa, My name is Cheyenne Sanders and I am 7 years old in the first grade. Santa all I want for Christmas is a pink PSP and a pony. Oh, and a play phone. Please see if you can help me. P.S. Don't forget to come to my house for milk and cookies and please don't let my daddy eat them all!! I love you Santa,  
**Cheyenne**



Dear Santa,  
My name is Skylar Sanders and all I want for Christmas is a blue PSP, new clothes for church. Oh yea, I want a new pear of Jordens and a dirtbike. P.S. Don't forget to come over 4 milk and cookies.  
Love ou Santa,  
**Skylar Sanders**

By Jasmine Oliver  
My favorite Christmas memory was when I was eight years old. I remember that Christmas Eve I was so anxious that I couldn't even sleep. I was wondering how Santa was going to come in the house, and I was hoping I was going to get the bike and keyboard I had wanted for the longest time.

I remember waking up early in the morning and running straight to the Christmas tree. I

saw a huge bike with flowers on it. That made me so happy. But when I noticed my keyboard, I almost passed out. I didn't even notice or care about the other presents. I ran straight to my parents' room telling them to come and look at my presents.

The best thing about that Christmas was that I got to spend it with both of my parents, and to see them together. It makes me wish I could go back in time and relive that Christmas.

## A Wish for YOU!

Just to let you know you're wished the very best!

**Great Shapes**  
Lou Ann and Puff Crawford

## Bring Christmas Home

As we welcome the holiday and all that it represents, we're reminded of the many people who have pulled for us this year, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. With warm wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.

# McGregor Farm Center



200 Jefferson  
840-3224

## With Pride At The Holidays



## OPERATION PRAYER

"Be strong in the Lord, and in his mighty power." Ephesians 6:10 "Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen."

### MOC Men & Women currently serving in the military

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Chad Bost               | David Hutsonpillar   |
| Akeiah Sheenay Owens    | Ronnie Robinson      |
| Arelly Reynoso          | Ben Diaz             |
| Tamara Hughes Willich   | Col. Kelly Fisk      |
| Ensley (Chip) R. Seay   | Mike Love            |
| Israel Lopez            | Dusty Harrison       |
| Sean M. Gorman          | Carl Shehorn         |
| Heaven Hicks            | Hubert Middleton     |
| Kris Shaw               | Amber Middleton      |
| Daniel Harris           | Candice Middleton    |
| Chelsea West            | Cameron Moffat       |
| Ryan Retzlaff           | Rusty Weatherby      |
| Paul Zavadil            | Kem Lance            |
| Scott Brock             | Brett Wolff          |
| Roberto Martinez        | Randall Young        |
| Julia Maddox Wilcoxson  | Chancey Pinkerton    |
| David Maddox            | Sarah Hoffman        |
| J.R. Ewing              | Mike Hoffman         |
| Matthew Johnson         | Dr. Michael Mooney   |
| Sean Howze              | Phillip Praesel      |
| Dustin Terrell          | Adam Arthurs         |
| Katie Gutierrez         | Brion Herrings       |
| Craig Colvin            | Tyson Carpenter      |
| James Johnson           | Clinton Summers      |
| Ernest Willich          | Mike Nelson          |
| Charles H. Crawford III | Lee Garza            |
| Donald Eddings          | Junior Aviles        |
| Heath Yeager            | James Long           |
| Mario Oliverez          | David Williams       |
| Chris Ruiz              | Juan Ortiz           |
| Dustin Englutt          | Stephen Napier       |
| Leslie Longan           | Terry Thompson       |
| Sherry Klander          | Bryan Shepard        |
| Stephen Esau            | James C. Carroll III |
| Christopher Fitzhugh    | David Hayes          |
| Steve R. Summers        | James Cabezas        |
| Christopher Mitchell    | Jared Stuteville     |
| Chad Hickey             | Jamie Jones          |
| Mike Nelson             | Tim Parnell          |
| Jimmy Fellers           | Richard Stedronsky   |
| Michael Griffin         | Paul Ziehe           |
| Amanda Nicole Ward      | Robert Wehrmann      |
| Timothy Sampson         | John Mark Thane      |
| Benjamin Witt, Jr.      | Jim Chalkley         |
| Justin Dittfurth        | Adam Arthurs         |
| Josh Browder            | David Livingston     |
| Robert Wehrmann         | Charlene Livingston  |
| Jason Sneed             | Scott Crawford       |
| James Edwards           | Freddie Felan        |
| Adam Drake Villarrial   | Jonathan Smith       |
| Ryan Baldwin            | Willie Castillo      |

### Sponsored by The McGregor Mirror

Call 840-2091 to add or delete names to list or email [bonnie@mcgregormirror.com](mailto:bonnie@mcgregormirror.com)

## All The Best To You!

Wishing you peace, love and joy plus all the "stuff" great holidays are made of!  
We really appreciate your business.

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Pat M. Richardson  
Insurance and Financial Services Agent

**Pat, Rosemary & Veronica**

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Fax: 254-840-9669  
[prichardson@farmersagent.com](mailto:prichardson@farmersagent.com)



**TWO LUCKY STUDENTS** from McGregor Elementary started Christmas a little early this year. The Kindergarten Krew & Co. held a drawing for two large bags of toys to raise money for the annual Relay for Life held in May. John Carter, a third grader and Cheyenne Sanders, a first grader, were the lucky winners. The Kindergarten Krew & Co. would like to thank all of the students and parents who contributed to this worth cause.

## Christmas Memories

By Nicolas Martinez

My best Christmas memory was when I was about 12 years old. Under the Christmas tree were a lot of presents that I was very eager to open; my dad said he had bought my brother and me something very special. My whole family in McGregor came to my big house to celebrate Christmas, we had a lot of food for everyone. We were just waiting for my dad to give us permission to open the presents.

It was about midnight when my dad finally gave us permission. Well, I didn't waste any more time. I jumped at the chance and started to open the biggest box that there was under the tree. My dad told me to wait for everyone to get to the living room. It was huge and it was really heavy. When I finally opened it I was the happiest kid in the world. My dad had given me a brand new TV for my room, so now I could watch TV as late as I wanted, without any interruptions and no one to bother me.

When I was done rejoicing I opened my other presents and I got a PS2. I knew from then on that my dad was the best dad in the world. That night my dad gave me a few games that he had gotten for me. That night I stayed up late playing my PS2, and I was the happiest kid in the world.

By Blake Tieben

It was a very cold Christmas Eve at my Granny T's house and there was food everywhere. We arrived during the middle of the day. We were watching and waiting on all of our cousins so my three little brothers and I could play hide and go seek with them.

When they finally arrived, it was about two P.M., and we were ready to start the game. I ended up being the first one "it." I can't really remember the rest of the game, but after the game we all were called inside for dinner. We had ham and turkey, green beans, corn, mashed potatoes, and last but not least we had lots of dessert. Then we all threw our trash away and started watching movies until Santa came.

Each year someone would dress up like Santa and all of us would try to guess who it was. But this year I was too busy to guess. When he walked in, he told us to go outside. What we found was a dirt bike for my oldest younger brother and me. We were so excited we couldn't wait to ride it, but it was too dark. So we finished opening the rest of our presents.

The next day we finally got to ride it. The first time I ever got on it I ran into the fence, and I was done.

By Jenna Driver

It was the Christmas of 1997, and I was seven years old. I remember that Christmas vividly. I couldn't fall asleep because I was so excited! I was the first to wake up that morning so I ran and woke up everyone else. We rushed into the living room and there it was: our go-cart! It was a blue two seater, and it went fast! We took it outside in the front yard and my brother drove while I rode. Then it was my turn to drive. I drove all the way around the house several times. Then the bad part happened.

I drove through the ditch, almost flipped, and nearly crashed into a white Chevy that was driving down the road. My parents nearly had a heart attack! They ran over to see if we were okay, and to make sure that the go-cart wasn't messed up. My brother was a little frightened, and I was crying, but we were fine. After that Christmas Day I didn't get to drive our go-cart anymore.

There are so many wonderful memories with that go-cart. We haven't received another gift like that, and I don't blame my mom for not getting us another one! Although that was a very scary Christmas, it was one of my favorites. I wouldn't mind having another crazy Christmas like that again!

By Miguel Angel Cruz

My little brother and sister didn't want to sleep. My mom told both of them, "Don't open any of the presents. Wait until tomorrow." Everybody was going to sleep, but both of them were sitting on the sofa next to the Christmas tree waiting for it to be tomorrow so they could open their presents.

I remember it like it was yesterday. At 11:30 p.m. they were still awake, sitting on the sofa next to the Christmas tree watching T.V. Everybody was already sleeping. We were the only ones awake. By 11:45 I went to sleep and they stayed there all night.

The next day, my mom came rushing to wake me up. I asked her, "What do you want?" She told me to come and look at this.

I got up, and she took me to where my little sister and brother were. They were both sleeping under the Christmas tree with all the presents open. I will never forget seeing my little brother and sister that morning.



## More Santa visits

Thanks Santa for the amazing visit!



# OUR PART

by Lianne Turner, pastor of First United Methodist Church



In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because

there was no place for them in the inn.

Each time I read the Christmas story found in Luke's gospel, I find myself wrestling with questions. There are phrases that just jump out at me and set my mind to reeling. We learn that while Mary and Joseph were away from home, it came time for her to deliver her child. I wonder who helped Mary through those long, grueling hours of labor. Who set to work cleaning some patch of the stable floor and spreading clean hay so this mother-to-be would have a place to rest her travel-weary body? Who mopped her sweaty brow as pain racked through her? Who served as her cheerleader when

she was ready to give up in exhaustion? Who loaned her their strength and energy when she needed to make that final push and bring God's gift of amazing love into the world? So often we think of the end result, but forget the process and all those who might have been involved in making this wondrous thing come to pass. Was Joseph there by his beloved's side, even though this wasn't the kind of thing men knew much about and he'd certainly never experienced before? Were there local women who left their homes and families, who came out that night to serve as midwives to this stranger? Was there a wizened one who shared secrets and wisdom, who helped clean up the newborn and showed young Mary how to begin to care for this precious gift?

If the Christ is to be born again this Christmas who will be involved? Are you the one whom God has asked to nurture the seed of hope as it grows, waiting for the right time to burst forth? Are

you the one who has the faith to accept that God is doing something too wonderful for us to understand? Are you being asked to simply step out on shaky little faith legs to do your part? Are you one who is willing to tend to the needs of a stranger, to share your knowledge, your strength, your compassion so that at the end of that dark night there

is a new light shining? Luke tells us Jesus was laid in a manger because there was no place for him and his family. If we sing "be born in us today!" have we made a place in our hearts for that to happen? Have we filled our hearts with hatred, greed, apathy, love of idols, and so many other things that there's really not any room for the one

who is God in the flesh? "And she gave birth." But I don't think she did it alone. And so I wonder: Will we each do our part to make Christmas happen in our hearts this year? And, perhaps more importantly, are we willing to help as God comes to prove once again that God so loves the world...?

# Merry Christmas

## McGregor, Crawford & Oglesby

We Thank You, our Friends and Customers, for your support over the years!!!

**Our Holiday Hours:**  
 We will be open  
**Christmas Eve**  
 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Closed Christmas Day**  
 Reopen Dec. 26 @ 6 a.m.  
 serving our famous  
**Breakfast Buffet**  
**Open New Year's Eve**  
 until 2 p.m.  
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# Merry Christmas!

With joy and glad tidings to those we hold "deer"  
 Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From the Mansion  
 Jim & Sharon Griffith



Have a safe and Merry Christmas Season.

JOY  
 HOPE  
 LOVE  
 PEACE  
 HEALTH  
 HARMONY  
 HAPPINESS

With exceeding great joy, I wish you and your family a truly miraculous holiday season. It's been a privilege to serve people like you. Thanks!



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# Ring In The Joy!

The staff and Board of Directors of Rocket Federal Credit Union extend to you our warmest wishes for a safe and joyous Christmas. We look forward to the opportunity to serve you in the New Year.



# Rocket Federal Credit Union

**Board of Directors & Supervisory Committee:** Claudia Parrot, Lambert Havelka, Lawrence Finley, Garry Miller, Dick Fox, Ernie Casbeer, Sophia Mendoza, Justin Havelka, Michele Anderson and Martha Nors.

**Office Staff:** Glenda Hollingsworth, Carol Cox, Gigi Morgan, Judy Allen, Tammy Cantu, Sue Roe, Charlette Renfro, Anjelica Suarez (not pictured), Vanessa Asebedo and Sophia Mojica

**HOLIDAY HOURS:** Close at 12:00 noon on December 24th.  
 Closed Christmas Day December 25th, 2008  
 Close at 12:00 on Wednesday, Dec. 31st & Closed New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2009

# With BRIGHT Wishes At The Holidays

What could possibly brighten our lives more than the holiday season? It's the chance to serve deLIGHTful people like you!

Merry Christmas and many thanks for your support.

# Mary Ann Needleworks

309 W. 4th  
 McGregor  
 840-9797



# From Our Family To Yours This Christmas

## Naler Insurance—The Next Family Generation



Katie Beth & Kylie

Joe Paschall (50 Years)  
Joe and Marcy

Kyle Paschall (21 Years)  
Kyle and Jill

Mike Paschall (5 Years)  
Mike and Patti



Jones & Izzy Egan



Colton, Keaton and Hayden Ford

Richard

Skipper

(40 Years)

Richard and Carolyn

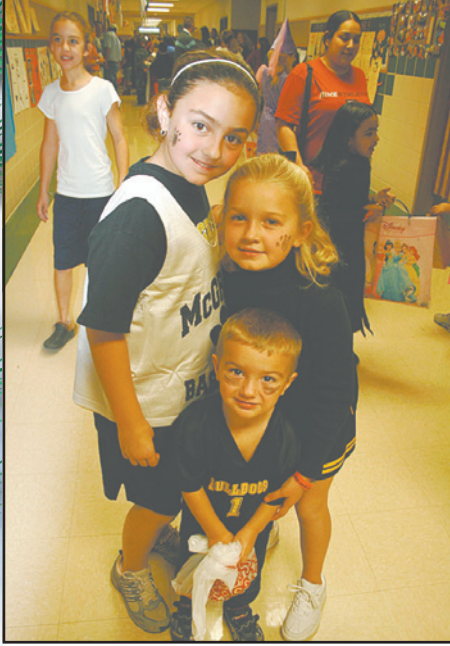
Allyson and Peyton Fisk  
(not pictured)



Jacob Thomas and Sidney Skipper

Ann Zacharias (24 Years)

Ann and Billy



Alli, Madi and Zachary Ainsworth



Drew Zacharias



Kaley Zacharias



Conner, Caitlin and Cade Zacharias

Missy Duckett (5 Years) Missy and Jody



Jake, Allison and Dalton

As we count our blessings this holiday season and reflect on the miracle of life, we realize how much ours has been enhanced by knowing and serving all of you. May you and your loved ones revel in the joy of the season, and please accept our best wishes and gratitude.

**PS Realtors**  
**Paschall, Skipper & Associates**



**NALER INSURANCE**  
**AGENCY, INC.**

# With Tidings Of Peace & Joy

As we rejoice in the abundance and splendor of His blessings, we feel fortunate to enjoy the goodwill and friendship of people like you!

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes  
For A Joyous Holiday Season From All Of Us.



McGregor Branch Staff



South Bosque Branch Staff



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