

# The Fairfield Recorder

Since 1876

FAIRFIELD, FREESTONE COUNTY, TEXAS 75840

50 CENTS

www.thefairfieldrecorder.net

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2008

NUMBER 13

## In special meeting set Dec. 4 . . .

# Dew trustees to explain truancy

Comments from parents to Dew Independent School District trustees last week split between questioning the school absentee and truancy policy and venting anger.

Trustees heard from parents, some of them charged recently with contributing to

failure to attend school, during a public comments portion of the board meeting Tuesday, Nov. 18.

A special meeting has been set for 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, to address concerns about school absentee rules and their enforcement.

Two weeks ago DISD superintendent Tom Weeaks filed truancy complaints in precinct three justice of the peace court against nine parents and 11 students.

Peace Justice Beth Ireland heard those cases last week and dismissed charges against nine parents and their children.

Two parents and their four children were found in violation of state truancy statutes and were issued deferred probation/distribution sentences that order the parents to ensure their children attend school regularly.

DISD board president Eric Simpson allowed 30 minutes of the meeting for comments, explaining that no action could be taken because the matter was not on the agenda.

Simpson reports that to get on the board agenda, an individual must make a request five days before the meeting.

One parent says she requested to be on the agenda about truanancies, but it was not included in business last

week.

Parent B.J. Noland, who was served with a truancy summons, asked the board if

members were made aware that the superintendent was going to file the truancy complaints, what the district

absentee policy is and why only one person made the

See DEW, p3-a

# Wortham wreck claims 3 victims

Two victims were sent to a forensics laboratory for identification after a triple fatality automobile wreck early Monday morning in Wortham.

The wreck occurred about 4:50 a.m. on Hwy. 14 about a mile north of its intersection with FM 27.

Eventually three vehicles were involved.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Travis Alewine reports that a 2006 Honda Ridgeline pickup/suv driven

by Sammy McGowan, 42, of Wortham was northbound on FM 14.

A 1996 Ford F-150 pickup with two occupants, identified as Jorge Castaneda, 40, the driver, and passenger Rodolfo Gomez, 41, was southbound on Hwy. 14 and crossed into the northbound lane of traffic, striking the McGowan vehicle head-on, the trooper says.

After the initial wreck, a 1996 Ford Explorer with three

See WORTHAM, p6-a



**BIG BROWN DIVERSITY COUNCIL**, made up of members of the Luminant Big Brown power plant and mine, collected coats to be distributed to less fortunate Freestone county area residents this winter. The coats were delivered to River of Life Community Pantry for distribution. Pictured are: l-r, Marian Goolsby of Big Brown, pantry volunteer Shirley Robinson, Big Brown employee Shana Mireles and River of Life pastor Bubba Rutherford.



**THE U.S. POST OFFICE** in Fairfield received an unscheduled remodeling Friday afternoon when this pickup truck crashed into the front entry of the building. Nobody was hurt in the wreck.

# Pickup crashes into post office

The U.S. Post Office in downtown Fairfield closed a few hours early Friday afternoon after it received an unscheduled remodeling.

Remodeling consisted of a pickup truck running into the south side foyer.

The wreck occurred at 1:42 p.m. when a 1981 GMC pickup truck driven by Dorothy Moore Hollis, 83, of Fairfield crashed into the foyer, and proceeded most of the way into the building.

Black tire marks on the sidewalk in front of the post office indicated that the truck remained under power after striking the building.

Mrs. Hollis told Fairfield police that she had entered the post office parking lot from E. Commerce Street prior to accidentally striking the

building.

An eye witness to the

See PICKUP, p6-a

# Recorder asks for letters to Santa Claus

Letters to Santa Claus are now being accepted at *The Fairfield Recorder* office, located at 101 E. Commerce, for publication in the annual Christmas greetings section of the newspaper.

A special mailbox has been set up in the office for all Freestone county children who wish to hand deliver their letters.

Children can also mail

See RECORDER, p6-a

## 4 proposed by XTO . . .

# Gas wells to drill in city

Hoping to begin production early next year, XTO Energy, Inc. presented plans to drill within the city limits to members of Fairfield's city council during last week's meeting.

The company has marked four sites including: Well No. 3 at the intersection of Williford and Wesley streets; Well No. 6, north of W. Main, between Jefferson and Newman, and south of C.R. 1161; Well No. 4 at Hwy. 27 and the service road ramp for I-45 North; and Well No. 5, off U.S. 84, near Awalt Road.

Concerned with the possibility of noise pollution, council member Jo Olive Zickuhr questioned what the company could do in an effort to reduce noise produced by compressor stations.

A company representative responded, stating that sound barriers could be erected around the station but that there was no way to complete-

ly eradicate the noise.

In reference to television commercials produced by

See GAS, p2-a

# Football playoff set at Eagle Field

Anyone whose eyes are glazed over from watching televised football games this holiday can head to Eagle Field this Friday for a Class A high school playoff game.

The game, which kicks off at 7:30 p.m., pits the Cayuga Wildcats against the Bremond Tigers.

Cayuga is the District 20-A

champions this season and is posting a 10-2 season record.

The Wildcats beat Tenaha 18-16 in the bi-district playoff game and Bowie 33-19 last week at area.

Bremond is the District 22-A champions and is posting an 11-1 season mark. The Tigers defeated Dawson 55-8 at bi-district and West Hardin 49-8 in the area playoff game.



**FOR THE NINTH CONSECUTIVE** year, Fairfield FFA won the Sweepstakes Award at the Sandyland District leadership development event, held this year at Trinity Valley

Community College at Athens. See story and more pictures on p-5a.

Visit our new website at...

# www.thefairfieldrecorder.net