

Jerry and Eileen Lamb are the proud great-grandparents of a great-granddaughter, Izabella LaNee Anderson. She was born on Jan. 2, at 1:06 p.m.

and weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long. Proud parents are Brandy and Anson Anderson, and big brother is Kason, of Seagoville. Grandparents are Shannon and Ted Matlock of Emory, and great-grandfather is Gary Darrow of Sulphur Springs.

Elise Micca Campbell was christened at New Life Family Church in Caddo Mills on Sunday, Jan. 4. Her parents are Mike and Dacy (Weir) Campbell. Robert, Yvonne and Wesley Weir and Alice Hall were there, and so were Destri and Ryan Main. Mike's dad Ed from Dallas and mom Debra from Charlotte, N.C., as well as Dave and Lauren (Mike's brother and his wife), were there, too. Yvonne reports, "Five-month-old Elise was beautiful in a long full white gown. Afterwards we had barbecue at the Campbell home."

J.R. and Donna Durst had a busy week last week. Monday afternoon, Dec. 29, they traveled to Durant, Okla., for the birth of Amy and Kyle Kitchens' son, Cooper Clay Kitchens. He made his appearance at 11:37 p.m., weighing only 5 pounds 4.5 ounces and was 18 inches long. Donna reports, "We were not expecting such a 'little guy,' so we had to get busy getting him some 'preemie' clothes." Donna stayed in Oklahoma with the "new little family" from Wednesday until Saturday, and loved every minute of it. This was the first time in 34 years that J.R. and Donna didn't spend New Year's Eve and New Year's Day together. J.R. made a quick trip to visit his new grandson again for awhile on Friday, then went back to pick up "Gramma" on Saturday to return home. Donna says, "Of course, I cried half the way home because I didn't want to leave my new grandson, but I was excited about getting back home to see my other 'new' grandson, Joseph Durst. I cried when I saw him! He had changed so much during my short time away. Our lives will never be the same again with these two new little blessings!"

Daylee Fite and Aysha Day spent the night with Sandra Wester and Suzan Miller on New Years Eve and "had so much fun!" Sherry Smiddy and Powell Vickery went to the Elk's Lodge in Paris with Judy and Randy Roberts. They all celebrated the New Year with Diana Wilburn, Judy and Phillip Holt, and all of the Swann family from Winnsboro. Everyone had a great time.

Kadee Melton was at the McKinney FFA North Texas Showdown on Saturday to show her

Hereford heifers. There were four rings with four different judges. With her Polled heifer, Aggie Girl, Kadee was first in class in all four rings. Polled heifer Minnie Mouse was 3rd in two rings and 4th in two rings. With her Horned heifer, Chula, Kadee placed second in two rings, first in two rings, and was Reserve Champion in ring D, winning a buckle key chain. Parents Kevin and Dee Melton, along with grandparents Larey and DeLeen Melton, were there to watch.

Betty Lawson spent the Christmas holidays visiting her niece, Pamela Tyner, and her family in Longview. While there Pamela gave her a puppy. Betty is trying to adjust to the schedule of her new "baby!"

The Weirs celebrated Christmas on Christmas Eve. Dacy, Mike, and Elise Campbell, and Debra (Mike's mom), Dustin Weir and his fiancé Natalie, Dakota Weir, Alice Hall, and Yvonne, Robert and Wesley Weir ate a "huge Mexican lunch" and then opened gifts. That night several attended the candlelight service at the Tira Methodist Church and then the Weirs hosted the traditional family gathering, with lots of food and family. Some of the attendees were Helen Weir, Joyce Dodd; Meagan, Alyssa and Gavin Shelton; Janie and Von Prahl; Joe Vicars and Heather; Jackie Vicars and Zack and Larado; and Betty Weir, along with all of the Robert Weir family, except Ryan and Destri (Weir) Main, who were spending Christmas in Michigan. Later in the evening, several of Dustin's friends came by and they had a bonfire.

Malcolm, Tiffany, Landon, Morgan, Kenden and Jaidyn Joslin, and Mason Rogers (Landon's friend from Princeton) joined us on the 30th to celebrate the New Year holiday early. We had hamburgers on the grill and then the kids enjoyed shooting fireworks. We kept Morgan and Kenden on New Year's Eve, while Malcolm, Tiffany and Jaidyn went to a Sunday School party at the home of Brad and Karman Holland, and Landon and Mason visited neighbors, Bruce and Julia and their family. On New Year's Day, Chip and I went to Dallas and enjoyed a delicious home-cooked meal with Chip's sister, Linda. That afternoon Chip and I went to the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine and enjoyed seeing all the amazing ice sculptures at the ICE! Exhibit and looking at the lovely decorations in the Gaylord atrium. That night we went to Frisco to see the "biggest holiday lighting display in Texas." It was very beautiful and the lights were synchronized to music. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner at the Rockfish Seafood Restaurant in McKinney that night, and then returned home on Friday.

If you have any news pertaining to Tira residents, past or present, please contact Jan Vaughn at 903-945-2190 or 903-438-6688 or jvaughn1@academicplanet.com.