

THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 111 • Issue 51

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 21, 2000

Merry CHRISTMAS



Christmas is for the young and the young at heart. Enjoy your holidays! Mikey Owen enjoys his first visit with Santa.

by Tryon Fields
Destiny - Luck - Great Coaching - Excellent Athletes - What ever the phrase or combination of all - The 2000 Bronco Football Team has created its own Legend! When the Broncos won the 2A Division I State Championship last Saturday; they joined the ranks of four previous Bronco football teams. They became only the second Bronco Football Team to achieve a perfect undefeated season, yet there is no need to compare them to any of the previous Championship Teams; because this team has created their own mystic and their climb to fame will be counted around the dinner tables, in the halls of the Sonora Public Schools, in the cafes, and on the playground for decades to come. Congratulations to the coaching staff and the members of the 2000 Sonora Bronco Football Team on a tremendous season. Thanks for the memories and the joy that you have brought to this community.

The total spectrum of emotion was witnessed in the game between Sonora and Blanco. As the game began; the Bronco faithful oozed the feeling of extreme confidence in the outcome of the ball game. As the game progressed, the tide began to shift to one of dismay, then to moms and others praying openly in the stands, to not being able to breathe (scared to take a breath), and then finally to one of tears; not tears of defeat, but tears of relief - tears of joy - The dream and goal finally being realized.

Sonora Broncos - State Cham-

ions!



The Blanco Panthers not ranked in any of the state polls ignored the media releases, did not pay heed to the talk about how great the Sonora Broncos were, and for the most part; just were not at all intimidated by all of the hype over the Broncos. They came to Waco to play and play they did. Taking advantage of Bronco miscues, the Panthers jumped out to

an early ten point lead and would continue to hold the lead until the last minute and a half of the fourth quarter. My hat is off to the Panthers; as they turned a potential blowout (on paper) into one of the best State Championship games that this reporter has ever witnessed.

After winning the coin toss, Blanco elected to defer to the second half. Why would you want to

give the Sonora Broncos the football to open the game? The strategy would ultimately pay off. Upon receiving the kick-off, the Broncos would start deep in their own territory at the seventeen. Initially; it looked as if the Broncos would live up to the media billing.

A fifteen yard pass from Bryce Williams to Riley Crain would get

See Champions page 5

Hospital to Receive New Funding

Submitted
Hudspeth Hospital has set the wheels in motion for a new funding structure that will improve and increase income for our hospital. Critical Access is a federal government approved program implemented to help rural hospitals in critically underserved areas. Critical Access allows rural hospitals access to more leverage and flexibility in its Medicare billing and staffing structure, thus improving reimbursements and decreasing costs.
What does Critical Access mean to the patient?
The new Critical Access pro-

gram will not affect patients or patient care. Patients coming to the hospital's emergency department or who are admitted to the hospital floor will be treated with the same reliable care they have always received.
What does Critical Access mean to the hospital?
Critical Access means improved reimbursement and staffing flexibility for the hospital.
Why is the hospital having a town meeting to address the Critical Access system?
One of the application requirements for the implementation of the

Critical Access program is to have a town meeting. Richard Hoeth, Director of Rural Health and Hospital Affairs with the Texas Hospital Association will be at the town meeting to introduce the Critical Access program and answer your questions. Anyone interested in more detailed information is encouraged to attend this town meeting.
When and where is the town meeting?
Monday, January 8, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at the hospital.

Mayor Proclaims Unity in 2000

The Year 2000, The New Millennium-
We all wondered what changes it would bring to our community, something has been brought to our attention over and over this year, the unity of our city has been overwhelming.
When we were in a drought, we united in praying for rain.
We united and showed support to the Multi-Chem family, the Savells, the Wallaces and the Hollays when all suffered losses due to fire.
We united at our annual Thanksgiving holiday. We all

worked hard to get the black bear to a safe location.
We all united for the first football game of the season and that support continued to grow because we all knew in our hearts that this year was the year for our Sonora Broncos. We thank our broncos and coaches for bringing our town together.
If anyone of us is faced with a difficult time in our lives and our goals seem to be just a dream. Remember to not give up. This group of young men showed us that fighting hard will result in reaching a goal. They fought hard, reached

their goal and brought home a state title.
We will never forget the year 2000 because of the community support that has been shown.
I challenge all of you to continue showing your support to all of our youth in Sonora. Let us continue to fill the stands, the gyms, and auditoriums to capacity as we support them in sports and especially in academics.
Merry Christmas!
JoAnn Hernandez
Mayor, City of Sonora

Ports-to-Plains Passes In Congress

Excellent news has been received right before the holidays. The Ports-to-Plains language designating the route by specific highways has been passed by Congress. This is a major step for our coalition and one that has taken other corridors several years to accomplish.
In part, the news release from Representative Larry Combest's office reads: "At the behest of U.S. Rep. Larry Combest (R-TX), statutory language, which defines the

Ports-to-Plains Corridor within Texas and allows the Texas Department of Transportation to move into the implementation phase of the corridor. The language allows TXDOT the opportunity to finish its studies, but ensures speedy designation for a corridor through cities in the Panhandle, South Plains and Permian Basin."
In 1998, Rep. Combest led the effort to have the Ports-to-Plains corridor recognized in federal law. Today's action builds on that general

designation by defining the actual route of the corridor in West Texas and directs which cities it will pass through. Ports-to-Plains is a trade corridor that extends from Denver, Colorado to the Mexican border via Interstate 27.
"Improving and expanding the transportation infrastructure in West Texas is the future for economic expansion for rural West Texas. The Texas Legislature has set an agenda
See Ports-to-Plains page 9

Spotlight on Sutton Co. EMS



Meet Sutton County EMS members, Kate Kinder and Carla Luttrell. Kate joined the EMS in May of 2000. She and her husband, W.A., have five children, Amberlie - 15, Whitney - 13, Chad - 11, Nolan - 5 and Kaden - 4. She has been employed at Teaff Oil Co. for three years and is a member of the P.T.A. In addition to being an EMT - B, Kate is CPR certified.
Carla joined the group in June of 2000. She has one son, Michael, and one daughter, Logan. Carla has been employed by Dr. Charles Pajestka, M.D. for nine years and is CPR certified.

Annual Rehab Telethon Scheduled for January 13



Rosa Hernandez will be on hand to take pledges on telethon night.
Sutton County residents have an opportunity between now and midnight on January 13 to help West Texas Rehabilitation Center by making a gift to Rehab 2001, the Center's 31st annual telethon.
Rosa Hernandez is spearheading the local solicitation effort and has arranged for a phone bank to be
See Telethon page 9

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the community takes pleasure in recognizing and publicly acclaiming the fine contribution of talent, initiative and performance made by the Sonora Bronco Football Team in the success as the Class 2A, Division 1, STATE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS.

WHEREAS, the fine efforts of a combined group of young men, ably guided and led, is a reflection of the high esteem this community holds for your excellence in the community.

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the citizens of the community give well and deserving honor and recognition to the achievements in football.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JoAnn Hernandez, in recognition thereof, do hereby proclaim December 20, 2000 as,

BRONCO DAY

In Sonora, Texas and urge all citizens to take part in observance of this day and shall henceforth hold a special place of high admiration in the minds and hearts of the people of this city.

Signed and sealed this the 18th day of Dec, 2000.

JoAnn Hernandez
JoAnn Hernandez, Mayor

ATTEST:

Becky Covington
Becky Covington, City Secretary

Sonora Church Directory

PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA
Rick Sanchez
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

CHURCH OF CHRIST
304 N. Water
387-3190

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
T. Wayne Price
Pastor
404 E Oak
387-2951

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rev. Ted W. Harris
404 E. Poplar
387-2955

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Suzanne Steves, Pastor
201 N. Water
387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS
Rev. Santos Beserra, Jr.
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Charles Huffman
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER
Jerry & Joy Wood
204 E. Main
387-3241

LA IGLESIA HISPANA PENTECOSTAL DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC.
Pastor
Hector A. Portillo
807 Orient Ave.
387-6065

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN
Lewis Allen, Pastor
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH
Don Longoria, Pastor
Corner of Hwy. 277 S. and Glasscock

PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED
Randy Greenwood
Pastor
509 Amistad
387-5266

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father William DuBuisson,
O.M.I.
229 W. Plum
387-2278

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS
310 St. Ann's Street
387-5658 or 387-5518

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
Don Seigler
511 Cornell
387-5207

SONORA FAMILY FAITH CENTER
Sonora Stock Pens
Sunday 6:00 p.m.

FORD
BRONCHO FORD INC.
115 N CONCHO
SONORA, TX 76950
(915)387-2549

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

Open House

Jim and Betty Stephen
invite you to their
Open House on
December 31, 2000
from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
609 E. Poplar, Sonora.

Cards of Thanks

On behalf of the Sonora ISD - Board of Trustees, I want to thank the Sonora football team and its organization, the High School band, the staff of SISD, and the community of Sonora for making this past football season one of the most memorable in recent history. The dedication of the team, coaching staff, and other school officials and organizations during these great times is "One for the Books". We as adults will remember this season as one when our children took us to the next level of play and for some, to let us remember our childhood. The members of the state championship football team will forever have these memories.

The Trustees want to give a big thank you to the citizens of Sonora. At all our games, it appeared that the crowd of Bronco supporters far outnumbered those of the opposing side. What more can you say. A town that supports its youth can only be one of the best towns to live in. We should all be proud that we live in Sonora and be grateful that we have dedicated parents, teachers and school employees who are willing to take that extra step to see that our children succeed, whether it's athletics or academics. Let us as a community continue that support in all other school and civic activities. Thanks again for all your support and lets not stop here!

Tom W. Payton
Pres., S.I.S.D. Board of Trustees

Thanks for the unforgettable memories!
Eddie and Treva McReynolds and Mike

We would like to thank everyone that sent food, flowers, plants, cards and anyone who called in our time of sorrow. We would like to give a special thanks to the former Hudspeth Nursing Home for the wonderful care they gave our loved one, Francisca M. Lira during her 3 year stay there. Also, we would like thank Chava and Ruben Castilleja for the beautiful music, and the ladies who prepared the meal after the service. Thanks to those who had us in their thoughts and prayers. May God Bless you.

The Jesus Flores Family,
Carlos Gamez Family
and Narciso Lira Jr. Family

The Scholastic book fair on December 4 - 8 was a great success, providing exciting books for our children and raising \$1,643.04 for A.R. books. Several parents and family members visited the fair. They purchased and donated books for our classroom libraries.

The Elementary Library credits the success of the Book Fair to the school's support and the hard work of several volunteers, including Head Coach Herring, Sonora Bronco Football Team, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Kearney, Sonora Cheerleaders, Tabitha Ovalle, Tina Covey, Chasady Garcia, Alexie Marie Ortiz, Peter Duran, Israel Mendoza, Norbert Ortiz, Marissa Faz, Maria Mesa, Toni Charo, Jan Stephens, Mary Beth Luttrell, Bonnie Lou Campbell, Laurie Garza and Rachel Agüero. Plans are already under way for the next Book Fair. If you want to be a part of this wonderful event, call the Elementary Library at 387-3780.

Thank you for your continued support.
Sara Ortiz and Monica Buitron

Ronnie Cox
would like to be
your pharmacist.

Senior Center News

Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas! Feliz Navidad! Sr. Center will be closed!
Dec. 27 - Birthday Party for December Babies!
Dec. 28 - Crafts anyone?
Dec. 29 - Bingo and get ready for the New Year...2001.

Senior Menu

Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas! Feliz Navidad! Center Closed!
Dec. 26 - Steak fingers with gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, roll, fresh orange.
Dec. 27 - Salisbury steak with gravy, blackeyed peas, broccoli with cheese, roll, jello with fruit.
Dec. 28 - Baked chicken, fried rice, zucchini squash with tomatoes, roll, orange juice, peach cobbler.
Dec. 29 - Fish sticks, herbed new potatoes, peaches, roll, three bean salad, lemon pudding.

Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon. \$1.50 donation is suggested for those 60+ and \$4.00 for others.

Obituaries

JoAnn "Guggle" Thorp



JoAnn "Guggle" Thorp, 80, of Sonora passed away Tuesday, December 19, 2000 at Lillian Hudspeth Memorial Hospital.

Services were held on Wednesday, at 1:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church with the Rev. Ted Harris officiating. Burial followed in Sonora Cemetery under the direction of Kerbow Funeral Home.

Guggle was born February 25, 1920, in Sonora to Vernon Marion and Sal Karnes Marion. She graduated from Sonora High School in 1938 and attended Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. She returned to Sonora where she married Thomas B. Thorp on March 14, 1946. Together in 1948 they established Thorp's Laun-Dry which is

still in operation today. Guggle was very active in civic and church affairs. She was a member of the Tarantella Dance Club, Fling Ding Club, and the Sonora Broncos Booster Club. She was an avid bridge player and belonged to two bridge clubs both in Sonora and Eldorado.

She was preceded in death by her husband Tommy Thorp, a sister Lunetta Morgan and her parents Sal and Vernon Marion.

Survivors include two sons and daughters in law, Tim and Leslie, Steve and Kelly, all of Sonora; five grandchildren, T.J. and Joni of College Station, Jericho of Austin, Casey and Claire both of San Marcos; and friend Dorothy Harrell of Sonora.

Pallbearers were Gene Thompson, Lee Bloodworth, Gil Trainer, Royce Mears, Larry Finklea, and Scott Shurley.

Honorary pallbearers were employees of Thorp's Laun-Dry, Lawrence Finklea, Bill Tittle, Glen Chadwick, Nelson Stubblefield, Fred Adkins, and John Tedford.

Ushers were Charles Graves and Bill Stewart.

The family requests memorials be sent to St. John's Episcopal Church Sunday School Building Fund or to a favorite charity.

The family would like to extend special thanks to Dr. Charles Pajestka, Dr. Guido Calderon, and the nursing staff of Lillian Hudspeth Memorial Hospital.

Leon Claude Bruns

Funeral services were held for Leon C. Bruns, a former resident of Snyder, Texas, Saturday, December 9, 2000 at Trinity United Methodist Church. He died suddenly on Wednesday, December 6, 2000, at his home in Sonora, Texas. Arrangements were made under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born February 9, 1945 in Roscoe, Texas. Mr. Bruns is survived by a sister, Blanche Lane of Snyder; brothers, Roland Bruns of Snyder; Howard Bruns of Snyder and Truett Bruns of Roscoe, Texas.

Survivors include a granddaughter, Erica M. Johnson of Bonham, Texas; a daughter, Lana L. Loper of Las Vegas, Nevada; a daughter, Christy L. Johnson of Bonham, Texas; a son, Bryan K. Bruns of Las Vegas, Nevada; chil-

dren of Sandra Neely of Bonham, Texas; and a step-son, Brian N. Potter of Colorado City, Texas, son of Theo Holt of Big Lake, Texas.

Survivors also include an aunt, Gladys Kuss of Hermleigh, many nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws and friends.

Mr. Bruns, 55, was preceded in death by his father and mother, Erwin and Faye Bruns of Snyder.

Leon worked in West Texas in the oil and gas business for most of his life, living in Snyder, Big Lake and Sonora, Texas, and branching out to Bakersfield, California, within the last couple of years. He previously owned a Bar-B-Q restaurant in Sonora, Texas.

Leon Bruns was interred at the Roscoe Cemetery in Roscoe, Texas, December 9, 2000.

Joyce Leddy Franklin

Joyce Leddy Franklin, 71, of San Angelo died Sunday, Dec. 10, 2000, in a local hospital after a courageous battle with a lengthy illness. A resident of San Angelo since 1936, she was born May 11, 1929, in Brady to early McCulloch County residents, M.L. Leddy and Mabel Williams Leddy.

M.L. and Mabel moved with their three children, Dale, Hollis and Joyce, to San Angelo in 1936. M.L. Leddy and Sons had its beginnings on Chadbourne Street. During pre-college days in San Angelo, Joyce, an accomplished musician, served Trinity United Methodist Church as an organist and choir member. While attending Southern Methodist University, she pledged Delta Gamma sorority. Joyce and Jim C. Franklin were married Aug. 3, 1947, in San Angelo's Trinity United Methodist Church.

Joyce was a devoted wife and mother, always supporting her father, husband and brothers in the family business. She took pride in her participation with the San Angelo Saddle Club and Stock Show Association. She had special memories of her many friends and good times with the Hoolihan of Merton.

Her total commitment to her four children was evidenced not only by her active participation in their school and church activities, but always by daily nurturing. She also took pride in her grandchildren's accomplishments in academics, music and sports. She loved them and her great-grandchildren with

her special kind of love.

She was preceded in death by her husband, father and mother, and brother, Dale. She is survived by her children, Marie Robertson and husband, Jerry, Rusty Franklin and wife, Melanie Wilde, all of San Angelo, Wilson Franklin and wife, Martha, of Fort Worth and Beverly Allen and husband, Ricci, of Knickerbocker.

Pallbearers were her grandsons, Jim Herring of Big Lake, Jason Herring of Sonora, Joel Herring of Marble Falls, Jim Morgan Franklin of Aledo and Jed and Casey Franklin of San Angelo.

She also is survived by two granddaughters, Josilyn Franklin of Aledo and Betsy Franklin of San Angelo. Six great-grandchildren, Brittani, Christian, Amelia and Amanda Herring of Big Lake and Kenzie and Koby Herring of Sonora survive her. Survivors also include a brother, Hollis Leddy and wife, Nancy, and sister-in-law, Will Evelyn Leddy; a special cousin, Helen Schafer, as well as very special friends, DeeAnn Franklin and Kathy Petty.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, in Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bill Fiero and the Rev. Paul Terry officiating. Burial followed in Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, West Texas Boys Ranch or West Texas Rehab. The family would like to give special thanks to the personal caregivers who so generously gave their love and care to our mother during this past year.

Dining Out Directory

La Mexicana
240 N. Hwy 277
387-3401

Los Jarritos
605 S. Crockett
387-2838

Pizza Hut
401 Hwy. 277 N.
387-3540

Rosie's Cafe
207 Glasscock Ave
387-5552

Sutton County Steakhouse
1306 N. Service Rd
387-3833

Taqueria El Torito
210 S. Hwy 277
387-9307

Town & Country Subway
610 S. Crockett
387-6181

Town & Country - Country Kitchen
903 N. Crockett Ave.
387-2169

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

USPS (155-920)
every Thursday at 228 East Main Street Sonora, Texas 76950
Phone: (915) 387-2507 FAX (915) 387-5691
Second class postage paid at Sonora, Texas
Storie Sharp, Publishing Editor
Erica Morriss, Advertising
Guest Columnist: Jo-Ann Palmer
Email: General Information: drn@sonoratx.net, Accounting: billing@sonoratx.net, Advertising: sales@sonoratx.net, editor@sonoratx.net
Owner: Cam Longley Campbell.
\$20 per year in county • Seniors \$18.00 per year (in & out of county)
\$25 per year out of county
Attn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Devil's River News, 228 East Main St., Sonora, TX 76950

Copy and Ad deadline -
Monday, 5:00 p.m.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication.

The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of the staff.



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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Community

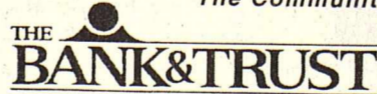
December

Sonora Merchants Weekly Drawings every Monday.

Dec. 20

Sonora Bronco Parade
5:15 p.m. • Main Street

The Community Calendar



207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Calendar

Dec. 20

SISD Early Dismissal • 1:00 p.m.
Christmas Vacation Dec. 21 - Jan. 3

Jan. 8

Hospital Board Town Meeting 6:00 p.m.
4-H Civic Center

is made possible by:



P.O. BOX 718 SONORA, TEXAS 76950

(915) 387-3881 Member FDIC

Letters To The Editor Policy

The Devil's River News encourages letters from its readers. Letters should be to the point, typed if at all possible and signed. Name, address and telephone number should be included for verification purposes. Letters will be printed on a space available basis. Letters should stick with issues, and not simply be personal attacks. Letters endorsing a particular position on issues of local interest will be accepted, however letters endorsing a candidate for political office will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit for length, content, and potentially libelous statements.

Letters to the Editor published in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the position of this publication on any subject.

Correspondence should be mailed to: The Devil's River News-Letters to the Editor, 228 East Main, Sonora TX. 76950.

Email us at editor@sonoratx.net

Historical Society



Rear: Will Wilson, Elna Holland. Front: Belle Holland, Payne Rountree and Maud Turney ride around town.

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer, Secretary
Anyone having any papers, besides the Sonora and San Angelo papers, with articles on the Sonora Bronco games this year, please let me make a copy of them or send a copy to us for the archives. Thank You! I've listened to all the games on the radio for 11 years now and have to say that this last one had the most excited commentators I have heard in all that time. It was quite a game and we are so happy you brought the title #1 back to Sonora.

Q. Do you have anything on the wedding of Maude Taylor?
A. Devil's River News, May 8, 1920 - On Wednesday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock, Mr. Dave Joy and Miss Maudie Taylor were united in marriage at the Baptist Church, the pastor Rev. S. F. Marsh, officiating. Mr. Sam Adams, a cousin of Mr. Jay's and the bride's sister, Miss Veria Taylor were the only witnesses of the ceremony. These fine young people are of the Cedar Hill and Copperas communities, the groom being a son of Mr. and Mrs. Doc Joy and the bride a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larking Taylor. - Junction Eagle

Q. Do you have a copy of the obituary of Alma Johnson, she died in 1920 in Pecos Co.?

A. Devil's River News, January 24, 1920 - Mrs. Alma Luckie Johnson, beloved wife of Howard Johnson, died at Dryden, Pecos County, Friday, January 16, 1920, in her 30th year. Deceased was born at Barksdale, October 18, 1890 and moved to Sutton County with her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Luckie when a child, and practically all of her life was spent here. Her death was due to a sudden attack of heart trouble. She is survived by her husband and four children as well as by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Luckie, her brothers Haynes and Max Luckie and her sisters, Mrs. M. C. Alley of Comanche, Mrs. W. J. Ford, Mrs. Frank Russell and Miss Eva Luckie of Sonora. The remains were brought here for interment and the funeral was held from the residence of her brother-in-law, W. J. Ford, Sunday afternoon, Rev. S. C. Dunn of the Methodist Church conducted the burial services at the Sonora Cemetery.

Max Luckie and wife of Dryden, Haynes Luckie and wife of San Angelo, J. V. Alley and sister Lucy May Alley of Comanche, nephew and niece of the deceased, as well as the other members of the family attended the funeral. Note: Alma Luckie Johnson (1-18-1892 - 1-16-1920) is buried in Block D, Lot 37, Grave 1 of the Sutton County Burial Park.

Will Carver fans, a new book has come out called "Den of Outlaws" by Barbara Barton. It is the history of six outlaws, Will Carver, Ben Kilpatrick, Dave Atkins, Sam Ketchum, Tom Ketchum, who lived along Dove Creek near Knickerbocker and can be purchased by sending \$16.75 to Barbara Barton at P.O. Box 6, Knickerbocker, TX 76939.

Q. Do you have the obituary of Jane Justice from 1900?

A. Devil's River News, December 1, 1900 - Miss Jane Justice, died at the home of her brother H. G. Justice, 16 miles west of Sonora, on Friday, November 30, 1900 in the 52nd year of her age. Deceased was woman of loving and retiring disposition and had made her home with her brother, the late Frank Justice up to the time of his death in January last. Deceased has been a terrible sufferer for this past two weeks from blood poison which started from an insignificant scratch on her finger. All that medical aid and careful attention could do was done without avail. The interment was had in the family lot in the Sonora Cemetery Friday afternoon and was well attended. Rev. A. R. Watson of the Baptist Church officiating. Deceased leaves three brothers to mourn her loss. Note: Mary Jane Justice (11-16-1849 - 11-30-1900) is buried in Block F, Lot 3, Grave 1 of the Sutton County Burial Park.

As long as I have the box down, let's see what was happening in Sonora in December of 1900.

The matched race between Mat Keton's Valentine and Lon Reynold's Tripod, Wednesday afternoon, was a pretty race. The distance being 200 yards dash for \$50. Considerable money changed hands on the result, but the Valentine people stayed the longest. It was nip and tuck for 150 yards, but Valen-

tine came under the wire a winner by six feet.

Ed Keeton came in from Juno Thursday and reports that Mod Cowsert sold his saloon business to Theo Williams for \$1770 and that Mod and his family left for Arizona.

Miss Maggie Word the charming and accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Word will be one of the many attractions at J. Lewenthal's and will help to dispose of the Christmas presents. John Paul Jones and son Eli of Rock Springs were in Sonora Tuesday with a load of sweet potatoes.

Sheriff E. S. Briant and Ada Stewart and son Forrest made a trip over to Ozona to attend the Nolen-Gurley wedding. First Class Board, Day, Week or Month, at Mrs. Ada Stewart's two doors south of the Post Office.

Dennis Green, colored cook at the Marfa House for some weeks past, died of pneumonia last Friday in Marfa.

An enthusiastic meeting of citizens was held at the Court House Monday afternoon for the purpose of arranging a programme of the celebration of Christmas at Sonora. John W. Hagerlund was called to the chair and D. B. Woodruff elected secretary. It was decided there should be given in Sonora a genuine good time to the people of the country and visitors and it was decided to have a Christmas tree, racing, turkey shooting and a grand ball.

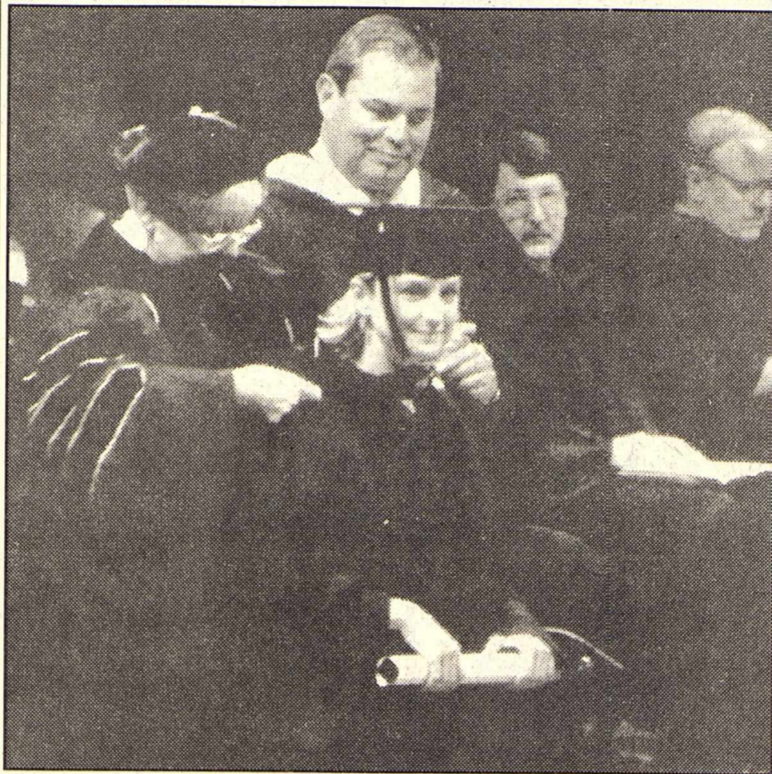
Two days of racing were to be held on the 25th at 2 p.m. for 3/8 mile dash, free for all with a purse of \$40, 1/4 mile dash free for all with a purse of \$35, on the 26th at 2 p.m. a 1/4-mile dash free for all with a purse of \$40 and a 300 yard dash for saddle horses only for a \$35 purse. Entrance fee for the race is 10% of the purse. The winning horse will take all of the purse. Four horses must be entered for each race and three to start. The winner of any race being barred from entrance in succeeding races.

The Christmas tree will be held in the Court House Monday the eve of Christmas and the public generally are invited to use the tree for the distribution of presents. Mrs. J. C. McDonald, Mrs. A. R. Watson and Mrs. E. F. Vander Stucken were elected a committee to solicit subscriptions for the purchase of gifts for all children under eight years of age. E. F. Vander Stucken was elected a committee of one to secure a tree and have it placed in position.

A grand free ball will be given on Christmas night under the management of D. H. Burroughs, J. J. Brumley, Frank McGonnagill, Max Vander Stucken and Alex McGonnagill.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton County history, send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or e-mail them to sehs@sonoratx.net. You may call me any day but Wednesday at 915-387-2855 and research appointments may be made by calling me at the same number.

Straka Receives Ph.D.



Dr. Erika Straka

Erika Jane Straka, daughter of Ronald Morris Straka and Karen Kingeter Lampke, was born in Boston, MA. on December 5, 1968. She attended primary and secondary schools in Belmont, MA. and graduated from Belmont High School in 1986. She attained a B.S. degree in Animal Science from Cornell University in 1990. She attained an M.S. Degree in Rangeland Ecology and Management from Texas A&M University in 1993. She spent a year working as a research technician at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Sonora in 1993. She has worked toward the Ph.D. degree in Toxicology in the Department of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology at Texas A&M University since 1994. She resides in Sonora and has worked as an adjunct faculty member at Southwest Texas Jr. College from September 1998-July 1999, teaching Anatomy & Physiology, and Zoology. She has worked as a lecturer in the Department of Biology at Angelo State University since September 1999, teaching Anatomy and Physiology. Congratulations Erika!

Behind the Scenes at Hudspeth Hospital



Meet your hospital office personnel. They are happy to help you. Vicki Cook-Insurance & Billing; Lydia Martinez-Admitting & Billing; Sheila Richter-Assistant Medical Records, Billing, & Quality Assurance Coordinator; Belinda Robles-Insurance & Billing; Donna Schooley-Payroll & Billing, and Pete Samaniego-Insurance & Billing (not pictured).

Did you know??? Government programs such as Medicare and Medicaid pay only a portion of a patient's total hospital bill. In addition to Medicare and Medicaid, Commercial insurance and private pay cover only a small portion of our hospital's operating expenses. The uncompensated portion of the bill is absorbed by the hospital. Our hospital operates as a hospital district subsidized by tax money. Donations, contributions, trusts, grants; and gifts also help support our hospital's operations.

Saint Ann Catholic Church
Christmas Schedule

Dec. 23
Confessions - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Vigil Mass - 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 24
Sunday Mass - 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass - 11:00 a.m.
Christmas Vigil Mass - 7:00 p.m.
Midnight Mass - 12:00 a.m.

Dec. 25
Christmas Day Mass - 10:00 a.m.

311 W. Plum St. • Sonora, Texas 76950

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Firefighter of the Year Awarded to Green



**Firefighter of the Year
 Russell Green**

Submitted
 On December 15, 2000 the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department had their annual Christmas party. Our firefighter of the year was Russell Green, a well deserved position.

We had a few visitors show up, Chris Green and Cole Cearley of the Mighty Bronco Football team. And an early visit from jolly old Saint Nicholas riding in on a firetruck, surprising all the kids. We would like to say thank you to everyone for making this party a success. Also, a big thank you to Harold Martinez and his cooking crew, the Ladies Auxiliary, and the community of Sonora, Sutton County for all of your support this past year. Also our new officers were presented, as follows: Chief-Russell Green; 1st Assistant Chief-Rick Cearley; 2nd Assistant Chief-Harold Martinez; Captain-Brad Black; 1st Lieutenant-Donny Yocham; 2nd Lieutenant-Johnny Snyder; President-Billy Lipman; Vice-President-Wayford Tyler, Jr.; Treasurer-Pat Campbell; Secretary-Alta Alewine; Reporter-Ronald Pincence; Chaplin-Lewis Allen; Fire Mothers-Trevlin Strong and Jean Humphreys. And remember that we still make house calls.

F.Y.I.

The Devil's River News office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays Thursday, December 21 - Monday, December 25.

TAAS/TEAMS Out of School Registration

Individuals who are no longer enrolled in school and who have not previously met minimum expectations on all sections of the exit level TAAS or TEAMS test, may retake the necessary section(s) any time that the tests are offered. The next scheduled test dates for the exit level TAAS and TEAMS tests will be February 20, 2001 (Writing), February 21, 2001 (Mathematics) and February 22, 2001 (Reading).

If you are no longer enrolled in a Texas public school and wish to register to retake the exit level TAAS test or TEAMS test, pick up a registration packet from the Sonora High School counselor. The test registration form must be completed and returned in the pre-addressed envelope and must be received in Austin, Texas, no later than 5:00 p.m. January 19, 2001.

State Champion Shirts and Caps

The Sonora High School is now taking orders for State Champion Shirts and Caps. You can pick up your order form at the high school office, Devil's River News, First National Bank, The Bank & Trust and Food Center. Once completed, mail your order form to the Sonora High School, 807 S. Concho, Sonora, Texas 76950. Orders will be filled as received beginning January 5, 2001. All proceeds benefit the SHS Athletics.

New Hope Baptist Church of Sonora will conduct a Christmas Eve service on December 24, 2000. The candlelight and Lord's Supper service will begin at 7:00 p.m. The church is located at 511 Cornell. The public is cordially invited to attend this special Christmas celebration.

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys, ages 8-19, and Girls, ages 10-19, can apply. Players are selected by Invitation Only. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players named to The All-American Team. For an evaluation form call (704) 568-6801 ANYTIME.

Sonora Vocational Trades Students are selling apples, oranges and grapefruit for their annual fundraiser. This Rio Grande Valley fruit is only available this time of year. If you have not been approached by a student and wish to purchase fruit, please contact Reggie Williams at 387-2097 until 2:00 p.m. or at 387-2108 after 2:00 p.m. The High School number is 387-6533. Thank you for your support.

Sonora Intermediate is collecting empty printer cartridges. Recyclers USA pays the school \$1.00 - \$2.00 per empty cartridge. Please help our school recycle and raise money for student activities. Empty cartridges may be dropped off at the Sonora Intermediate School office. Thanks for your help!

Merry Christmas from the people of St. John's, Sonora and St. James', Ft. McKavett!

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS!

Sunday morning, Eucharist, St. John's 10:15 a.m.

Christmas Eve Eucharist at St. James' 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve at St. John's: Children's Program and Carols 10:00 p.m.

The Mass of Christmas 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day, St. John's 10:15 a.m.



Deadlines are always passing us by! So, please remember DRN deadline is Monday at 5:00

Merry Christmas to All from the Staff of the Sutton County Steakhouse

We will close Christmas Eve at 2:00 p.m. and will be closed all day Christmas. We will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, December 26th at 6:00 a.m.

1306 N. Service Rd.
 (Next to Days Inn Devil's River)
 387-3833

Thorp Chosen as EMT of the Year

Sutton County EMS held their monthly business meeting on December 4, 2000. Glenna Hulsey gave the business report. Pascal Allison gave the treasurers report. The office report was then given by Pat Campbell. Texas Department of Human Services now requires all emergency personnel to wear name tags. Group pictures will be taken after the first of the year. Nominations were also taken for the EMT of the year. Nominees were Tim Thorp, Pat Campbell and Glenna Hulsey. We will order new shirts at the next training meeting. The EMS held their Christmas party on December 13, 2000 at which time the EMT of the Year was announced. This years winner was Tim Thorp. Congratulations!!



Tim Thorp - EMT of the Year

Happy Birthday

- December 21**
 Robin Conner, Tomas Hernandez, Joe Hidalgo, Carolyn Legan, Sonny Lozano, Harvey Villanueva, Cody Whitten, Maria McAfee, Steven Guana
- December 22**
 Westley Lipham, Carol Sessom, Juanita Vickers, Armando Avila, Roy Roach
- December 23**
 Tommy Newkirk, Paola Garcia, Rosa Elena Sanchez, Diana Gonzales, Stephanie Reddin, Kelly Martin
- December 24**
 Teri Foulds, Marco Jimenez, Jason Brock, Freddy Casillas, Joe Esquivel
- December 25**
 Betty Arredondo, Chris Vyvelecka, Father Bill DuBuisson, Curt Dempsey, Ty Love
- December 26**
 Larry Luckett, Claire Richards, Scott Gonzales, Jesus Capuchina Jr., Jessie Noriega, Brandon Munn
- December 27**
 Charlie Alewine, Ryan Garmon, Melinda Crain, Al Elliott

Sonora Elementary News

The Sonora Intermediate faculty and staff would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Relax and enjoy your family.
 Students will return to school on January 4, 2001. Report cards will be distributed on that day. Please watch for the 1999-2005 School Report Card and the Parent, Student, Teacher Agreement which will be included with your child's report card. Please sign and return your child's report card and the agreement. If you have questions, please contact the school office at 387-5669.
 The faculty and staff of Sonora Intermediate would like to thank the P.T.A. for the Appreciation Breakfast held on December 13. It was wonderful! We appreciate you!

- * Lots of New Southwest Art
- * Cowboy Bronzes
- * Mary's Photography
- * Ken Rowland's New Watercolor Pieces
- * Wooden Crosses by Martha
- * Nora's Fabulous Oils
- * Angels, Angels...and More Angels. Pins, Earrings and Art
- * Jewelry Chests - 25% Off (Only two left)
- * Oriental Rugs - Only Two left from our Tent Sale 30% Off Now until Christmas!
- * Huge Shipment of Circle E Candles (all sizes)
- * Roosters and Turkeys by Marvin and Pat K.
- * Missions - Sonya's pieces just arriving!
- * Sheep, Goats and Donkeys by Mary and Frances!
- * Tigers, Kangaroos & Swans by Barbara Earwood
- * Bronzes and Oils by Hugh Campbell III
- * Wooden Cabinets, Benches, and Vegetable Bin by Billy Martin
- * Jeani's Custom Design Jewelry for that "Special Someone"
- * Hand Carved Wooden Boxes
- * Lots of New Oils - Watercolor - Graphite Pencil - Pastels to choose from.
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- Duke Energy Field Services



Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Champions from page 1

things rolling. Runs by William Renfro and Tom Jacoby would quickly move the ball down the field. Bronco offense at its finest!

Then the one thing that has not really hampered the Broncos all year occurred! Turnover! At the Blanco twenty-seven, a very aggressive Panther defense stripped William Renfro of the football.

Panther speedster Muhammad Weusi would pick the ball up at the thirty; Bryce Williams would slow him down at the Bronco ten and Chance Armke would tackle him at the five to save the touchdown. The Red Hoss defense with its back to the wall would now have its first test of the evening. Plays led by Anthony Sanchez, Jarred Solis, and Chris Green would force the Panthers to try a twenty-two yard field goal after three plays. Blanco place kicker, Chris Bibb would give the Panthers an early three point lead with half of the first quarter already in the history books. Fueled by their early success, the Panther defense would do what very few other teams had been able to do. Shut the Bronco Express down! Being able to only manage six positive yards, the Broncos were forced to punt into a very stiff Northeast wind. After the punt by Scottie Moore, the Panthers would have excellent field position at their own forty-seven. Doing an excellent job of running the wing T; the Blanco Panthers began to grind out the yardage. Looking like a covey of quail scattering, it was hard to tell which one of the four Panther running backs had the football. The quarterback Tristen Webber would hand off to either Garrett Granberg, Muhammad Weusi, or Daniel Mayne for good yardage on each carry. And just to keep the secondary honest, Webber would throw passes to his tight-end Joseph Mann or to his big wing-back Daniel Mayne. And with time running out in the first quarter, the Panthers would be approaching the Bronco goal-line. With a first and goal at the Bronco eight, Weusi would score on the counter play with no time remaining on the first quarter clock. Bibb would split the uprights to give the Panthers a ten point advantage at the end of one quarter of play. Sonora 0 - Blanco 10.

To open the second quarter, the Broncos would take the ensuing kick-off and return it to their thirty-five yard line. Taking advantage of the wind, Williams would hit his wide receiver, James Elliott on a thirty-five yard fade route to move the Broncos into Panther territory. Hard running by Renfro and Jacoby would move the pigskin to the Blanco nineteen. Faced with a third and ten at the nineteen, Williams would call for the screen to Renfro. Behind tremendous blocking, Renfro was able to scamper down the sidelines for the nineteen yard touchdown reception. Having problems getting all of the PAT unit on the field; Javier Gaytan was forced to rush the try and subsequently pushed the ball wide. However, we do have a new ballgame, with the Broncos now only down by four. Sonora 6 - Blanco 10. Not to be out done, the Blanco Panthers came roaring back. After the kick-off, the Panthers began their next offensive possession on their own thirty-two. Going strictly with the running game, Blanco once again began to grind out the yardage. Weusi and Granberg would take turns in eating up the yards. At the Sonora's forty-four; Panther wingback, Daniel Mayne would get the call. Running the counter, Mayne would break free at the Bronco forty and from there it would be a foot race with Mayne winning.

After Bibb added the PAT, the Broncos would find themselves down by eleven: Sonora 6 - Blanco 17. With six minutes and thirty-one seconds left in the half, the Red

Hosses definitely had their work cut out for them. Composure - key word for the Broncos - And the Bronco offense responded. A short pass to Elliott, Short runs by Renfro, and "Mr. Thunder", Tom Jacoby, using brute strength powered his way for thirty-seven yards to move the Broncos to the Blanco thirteen with two minutes and eighteen seconds left in the half. Faced with a third and seven, Williams called for the scatter offense. All receivers and no running backs, caught the Panthers off guard. "Mr. Go To", Riley Crain came free in the middle of the end zone. Williams threading the needle and Crain cradling the ball in brought the Broncos within five points of the Panthers.

Down by five, the Broncos elected to go for two. A tremendous defensive surge by the Panthers would keep the Broncos from gaining the end zone. Sonora 12 - Blanco 17.

With renewed confidence, the Bronco defense came on the field after the ensuing kick-off. Thomas Bloodworth, Tom Jacoby, Chris Green, Riley Crain, Anthony Sanchez and the rest of the Bronco defense rose to the occasion. Three plays and out. Forcing the Panthers to punt for the first time, the Broncos had hopes of good field position. However; an illegal chop block by the Broncos would push the Red Hosses into a hole at their own sixteen. With only fifty-six seconds left in the half, would the Broncos try and claim the lead? Williams throwing passes to Cole Cearley and James Elliott would get the ball into Blanco territory at the thirty-five. A direct snap from Beau Hughes to Renfro would get another seven yards to the Panther twenty-seven. With time running out in the half, Blanco put a tremendous rush on Williams for the next three plays forcing three straight incompletions and most important; forcing the Broncos to turn the ball over on downs with twelve seconds left in the half. Blanco would be satisfied to run out the clock and take the seventeen to twelve lead to the locker room. Halftime: Sonora 12 - Blanco 17.

Having deferred to the second half, the Blanco Panthers would start the second half with the football. Coming out of the dressing room for the second half, it seemed that the Red Hosses were showing more spirit than at the beginning of the game. Being down by five points, the Bronco defense would need to make a statement to begin the half. After the kick-off; plays led by Chris Green and Thomas Bloodworth took the Panthers down with minimum yardage gained. On a third and long, Blanco quarterback, Tristen Weber, tried to hit his wide out on a crossing route. Bronco cornerback, Sean Fields, locked up man for man on the receiver made an excellent play on the ball and took it away from taller player to give the Broncos excellent field position at their own forty-six. The Bronco offense however; would be unable to capitalize on the turnover and would be forced to punt after three downs. A picture perfect punt

by Scottie Moore would put the Panthers deep in a hole at their own three. What ensued was a lesson in ball control offense.

Blanco used the quick hit running of Garret Granberg and the misdirection attack of Daniel Mayne to use the remaining eight minutes and forty-one seconds of the third quarter to move the football down the field. Aided by an encroachment called to begin the fourth quarter, the Panthers used thirty-eight seconds of the fourth quarter to move the football to the Bronco fourteen. At the fourteen, the Broncos went to an eleven man front to try and stop the Panther onslaught. Weber sensing this, went to the air. A break down in coverage left Muhammad Weusi all alone in the corner of the end zone. An easy six points for the Panthers. Bibb added the PAT to give Blanco a twelve point advantage. Sonora 12 - Blanco 24. With a little over eleven minutes left in the game, many of the Bronco faithful began whispering prayers. Sean Fields taking the Bibb kick-off answered a few of the prayers as he broke free of the pile at the twenty-five and returned the kick to the Blanco forty-one. Broncos have new life! An incomplete pass intended for Elliott and then Williams keeps for four yards sets up a third and six at the Blanco thirty-seven. Williams out of the shotgun formation took the snap and rolled to his right. Under heavy pressure, Williams stayed calm and collective and threw back across the field to William Renfro on the screen play. Renfro behind a wall of Bronco linemen sprinted into the end zone to pull the Broncos within six. Javier Gaytan gets back on track as he split the uprights to cut the Blanco margin to five. Sonora 19 - Blanco 24. And there are still nine minutes and fifty-three seconds left in this Championship game. It is time for big brother to take care of business at the prom. And take care of business is what big brother did.

After a booming kick by Stetson Hall, Blanco's offense took over at their own twenty-eight. All big brother needed was one play. A tremendous hit by Anthony Sanchez on Daniel Mayne knocked the football loose with Chris Green coming up with the loose pigskin at the Panther twenty-eight. (Bronco fans thinking about breathing.) Using the straight ahead running game, the Broncos began to inch their way toward the go ahead touchdown. At the Panther nine, the turnover bug bites again. Renfro struggling for extra yards gets separated from the football and Blanco gets a reprieve.

Once again the Bronco faithful; some with their hearts in their throats, some with their heads in their hands, and some wondering if it really is meant to be. The Big Brother, the Bronco Defense, took the field with a purpose in mind. Stop the Panthers! And once again; Three and out! Tom Jacoby, Thomas Bloodworth, Anthony Sanchez, Chris Green, Riley Crain, and the rest of the Mighty Bronco defense stood the test. After the punt, the Bronco Express is stoking

the fires at the Blanco forty-four. As if possessed; the Bronco front line of Beau Hughes, Javier Gaytan, Thomas Schenkel, Jake Trainer, Dustin Patino, Chance Armke, and Riley Crain stepped up to dance. Rocking the Blanco Panthers back on their heels, Renfro and Jacoby found holes and creases to get the locomotive moving. The offensive play of the game occurred during this drive. With two minutes and fifty-four seconds left in the game; the Broncos were faced with a fourth and six at the Blanco twenty-one. No breathing, a lot of praying, and a whole lot of "I can't watch" swept across the visitors side of the stadium. Snap to Williams - looking - looking - looking - then he lets it fly; "Mr. Go To", Riley Crain, possibly makes the greatest catch of his career. Diving and cradling the ball in; the Broncos have a first goal at the Blanco seven. Two power runs by Jacoby moved the ball to the three. Third and goal at the three. William Renfro has his number called. Sprinting to the outside and following the lead blocks of Tom Jacoby and Javier Gaytan; Renfro just gets inside the pillion for the go ahead touchdown. Up by only one, Coach Herring elected to go for two. Once again; Renfro is called upon. This time; power running and the will not to be denied at the end zone, Renfro went in standing up to give the Big Red Machine a three point advantage.

Sonora 27 - Blanco 24. With a minute and twenty-one seconds left in the game the Broncos are still not out of the woods.

Blanco came to play and that meant from the opening kick-off to the final gun. After the kick-off, Blanco would start at their own thirty-seven. Going to the passing game, Tristen Weber found Joseph Mann for twelve yards, then Muhammad Weusi for fourteen, and then Garrett Granberg for nine. This was not a game for the faint of heart! The Panthers were now in Bronco territory at the twenty-four. After a procedure penalty was called against Blanco; the Panthers found themselves with twenty-four seconds on the clock and faced with a second and fifteen at the Bronco twenty-nine. On the next play a blitzing Tom Jacoby dropped Weber for an eight yard loss to effectively put the Panthers out of field goal range. Now all it boiled down to was a fourth and twenty-three with twenty-one seconds left on the game clock. The ball was snapped to Weber - tremendous pressure by the Broncos and the pass falls short of the Panther receiver. And the Bronco celebration begins. All Bryce Williams has to do is take a knee and the State Championship belongs to the 2000 Sonora Broncos.

Final Score: Sonora 27 - Blanco 24

This was truly a game for the history books and one that will be talked about for years to come. Once again; Congratulations to the Coaching Staff and the members of the 2000 Sonora Bronco Football Team. This was your destiny and you made it happen!

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

There are some things going on with the high school athletics that have been weighing heavily on my mind for quite some time. There are a handful of parents who are destroying a very good program. These parents seem to have a personal vendetta against the coaches and are on a witch hunt. There are also some derogatory remarks about the coaches posted on various message boards on the Internet.

Parents, if you have a problem with the coach, go talk to the coach first. These coaches have a right to defend their actions and listen to the complaints and suggestions from you. This will give everyone involved a chance to talk out any problems. Going to the Athletic Director, Principal, or School Board before talking to the coach only causes resentment by all involved. If you have followed the chain of command, and still are not happy with the results, maybe you need to ask yourself if what you are asking for is what you really want or possible. Is the coach physically harming the child? Is the program in question harmful to the child in any way? If the answer is no, then maybe you need to rethink your views.

The problems with girls basketball are parent induced. If these parents would just let the coach do the job, our team has a very good chance of advancing once again this year. The girls need to be a team and play as a team. This will not happen until the parents resolve their differences with the coach. You do not have to like her, but you must let her do her job. If you do not feel that the program is in the best interest of your child, then you might want to remove your child from the program. As it is right now, my child is being harmed by all the bickering going on among the girls as a result of the parents. And because it affects my child, I feel that I have to stand up and say "enough is enough".


The coach was hired to coach a team, not individuals. There are not enough coaches in the district to personally coach each athlete. If you would just let the coaches do their job, our children could have some of the most awesome experiences of their lives. As it is, all that they are getting is frustration.

In closing, I would like to repeat something that a parent from Winters said to me during the Ballinger tournament: "The coach is not the referee. The players are not the referees. The spectators are not the referees. Referees are hard to find. If you do not have something nice to say, just clap." I would like to add, "The players are not the coach. The parents are not the coach. Good coaches are hard to find. If you do not have something nice to say, just clap."

Thank you,
Jerrilyn Ward

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Back Talk is copyrighted by the Texas Chiropractic Association and is edited by a panel of doctors headed by Dr. Chris Dalrymple, editor in chief of the Texas Journal of Chiropractic. Send questions for Back Talk to 1601 Rio Grande, Suite 420, Austin, Texas 78701.

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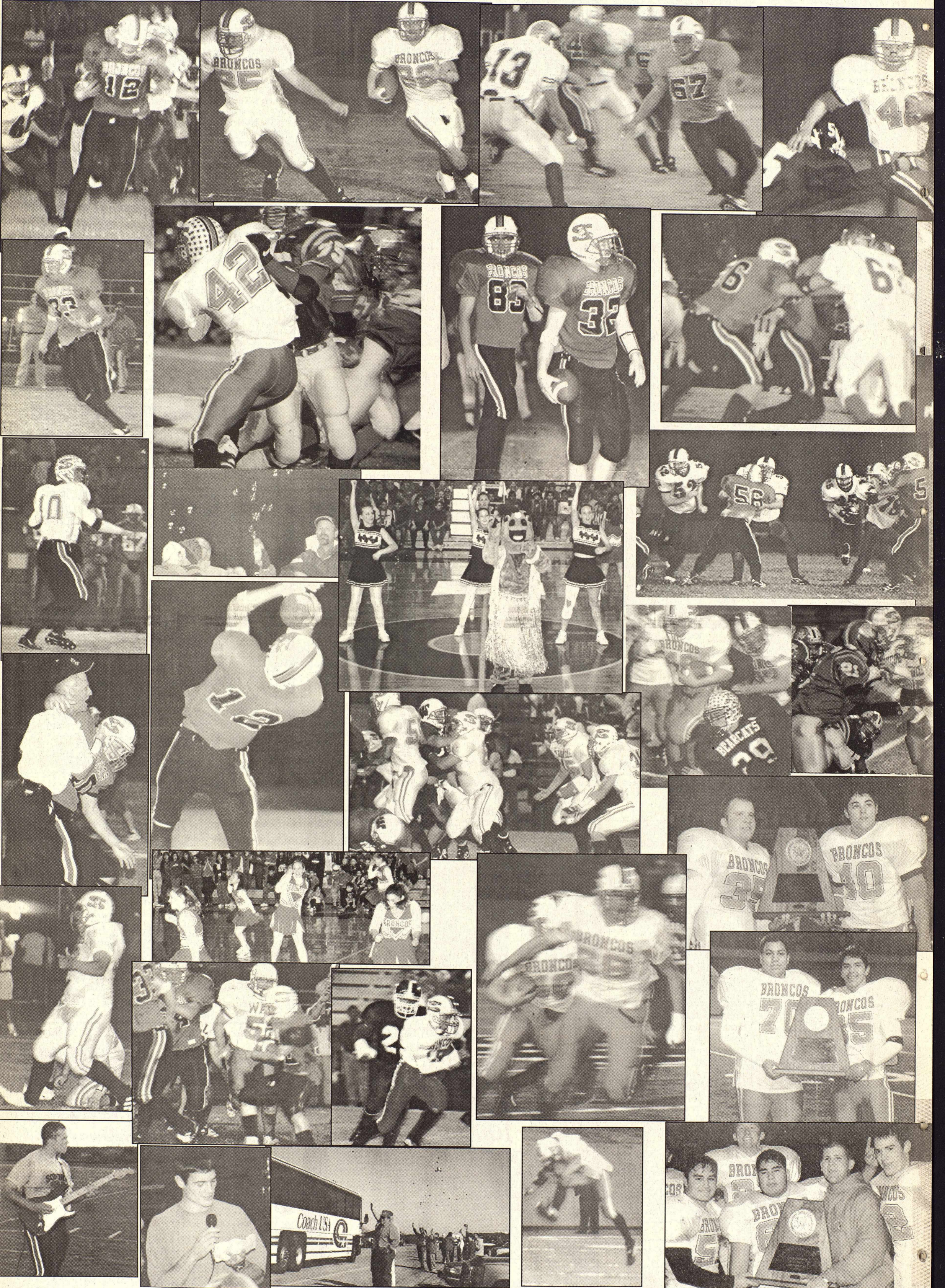
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Letter to the Editor

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I want to congratulate each and every player, manager, and of course the coaching Staff for a great season and a championship that is well deserved. All the "HARD WORK" since spring training paid off. Keep up the good work. I was a witness to what I call one of the greatest "COME BACKS" for our school, 24-12 with maybe 6 minutes or so left.

A 1964 GRADUATE and Proud Bronco.

GO BRONCOS!

Jose S. Favela, TSgt, USAF - 307th RHS/LGS

Hudspeth Shares The True Spirit of Christmas



In the spirit of Christmas the employees of Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital decided that instead of exchanging gifts with each other they wished to adopt a Family. A committee was formed and guidelines set. All contributions for this project were to come from the employees and no hospital funds were to be used. The employees contributed enough money to purchase gifts for three families, which included adults as well as children. The employees were also able to give gifts to six of the residents of the Senior Apartments. Five of the seniors received food baskets filled with an assortment of non-perishable foods, and one received a blanket as requested.



District 10 Food Show Results

Uvalde, Texas- Two local 4-H members from Sutton County competed at the District 10, 4-H Food Show held on Saturday, December 4 at the Morris Activity Center in San Antonio.

Tracey Randolph placed 3rd in the Nutritious Snacks Category in the junior division.

In the pre-junior division, Colton Moore placed 4th in the Fruits and Vegetables Category.

Each of the 4-Hers competing at the district show had previously won in their division at the county food show. Each youngster had to demonstrate what he or she knows about nutrition, meal planning, food buying and meal service, as well as preparing food. Congratulations!

Brother Cleared of Murder

Junction Eagle, December 13, 2000.

On December 7, after a four day trial held in Sonora, Cody Cardwell, 80, was acquitted of murdering his older brother, Bill Cardwell.

Undisputed during the trial was that on May 5, 1997, Cody Cardwell shot his brother with a deer rifle on the family ranch. This occurred when an argument escalated into a physical confrontation.

At the time of the shooting, the two brothers lived in neighboring houses, approximately 200 yards apart, on the Cardwell Ranch 35 miles southwest of Junction.

The 1997 incident, as well as the recent trial, has sorely divided the Cardwell family.

Christmas "Best Dressed House" Winners

The Sonora Main Street Program has awarded our final winners of the "Best Dressed Up House for Christmas" Contest. The Businesses of Sonora who have participated in sponsoring this contest would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

This weeks winners are:

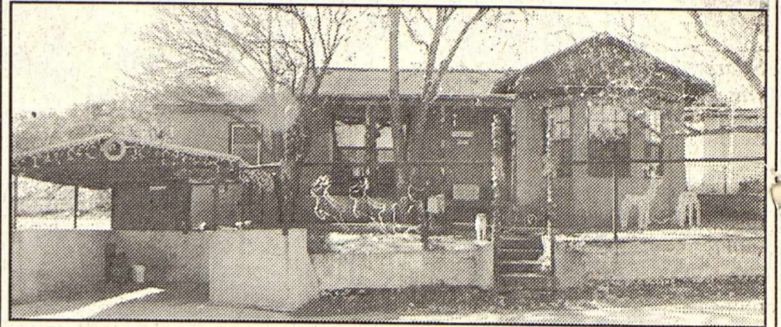
The Oscar Perez Family- 206 Rock Ave.

The Mark Holt Family- 122 Deerwood Dr.

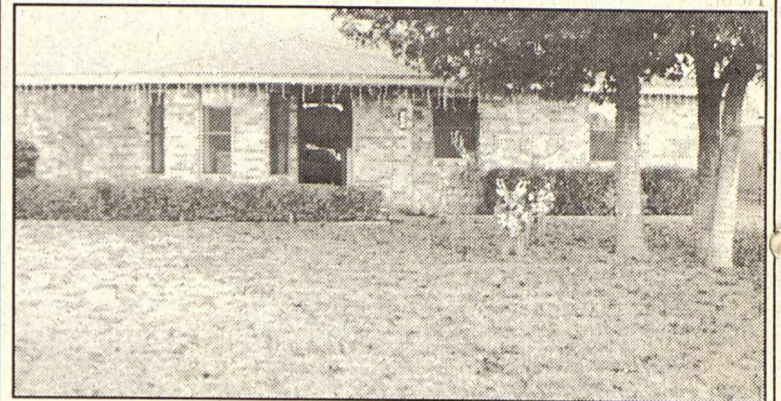
The Johnny Solis Family- 206 Lorene St.

The Layne Hopper Family- 310 Brookside.

Gifts for the "Best Dressed up House" for Christmas are provided by: image, The Video Store, KHOS Radio Station, Sonic Drive-In, Dairy Queen of Sonora, Ol' Sonora Trading Post, Corner Drug Store, The Bank & Trust of Sutton County, Busy Bee Dept. Store, B & C Department Store, Business Basics, First National Bank, La Mexicana, and Radical Rays.



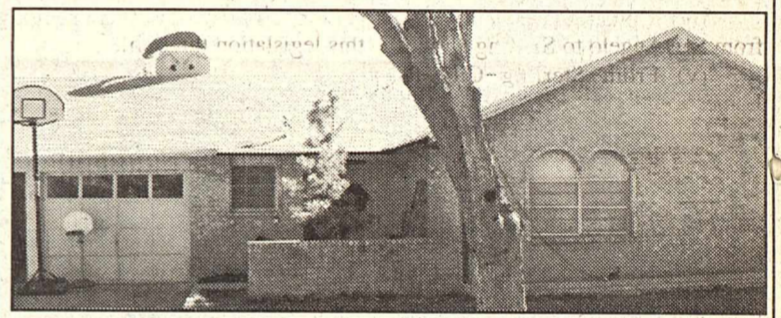
The Oscar Perez Family- 206 Rock Ave.



The Mark Holt Family- 122 Deerwood Dr.



The Johnny Solis Family- 206 Lorene St.



The Layne Hopper Family- 310 Brookside.

A Twist To The Tale



It figures!

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen...had to be a girl.

We should've known. Only women would be able to drag a fatman in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night, and not get lost.

SONORA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2000

EXHIBIT A-2

Data Control Codes	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES		TOTALS (Memorandum Only)	
	100-199 General Fund	200-499 Special Revenue Funds	98 August 31, 2000	97 August 31, 1999
REVENUES:				
Local and Intermediate Sources:				
Investment Income	\$ 223,350	\$ 1,395	\$ 224,745	\$ 172,836
Other Local and Intermediate Sources	5,005,395	86,533	5,091,928	6,027,042
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	5,228,745	87,928	5,316,673	6,199,878
5800 State Program Revenues	1,206,769	87,058	1,293,827	915,489
5900 Federal Program Revenues	18,228	485,253	503,481	396,557
5020 Total Revenues	6,453,742	660,239	7,113,981	7,511,924
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0010 Instruction and Instructional-Related Services	4,218,844	338,944	4,557,788	4,274,502
0020 Instructional and School Leadership	344,668	-	344,668	284,143
0030 Support Services - Student (Pupil)	600,932	285,595	886,527	1,020,524
0040 Administrative Support Services	389,030	-	389,030	414,283
0050 Support Services - Nonsudent Based	945,471	13,197	958,668	1,285,889
0080 Capital Outlay	-	-	-	360
0090 Intergovernmental Charges	-	40,112	40,112	31,428
6030 Total Expenditures	6,498,945	677,848	7,176,793	7,311,129
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(45,203)	(17,609)	(62,812)	200,795
7020 Other Resources	74,824	17,120	91,944	32,458
8030 Other (Uses)	(17,120)	-	(17,120)	(31,433)
1200 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues & Other Resources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	12,501	(489)	12,012	201,820
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	2,253,607	489	2,254,096	2,052,276
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 2,266,108	\$ -	\$ 2,266,108	\$ 2,254,096

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

All I Want For Christmas

Tedford Jewelry

Sonora's Fine Jewelry and Prestigious Gift Center

Watches by Seiko (the world pacesetter in watch technology), Michel Jordi (The Spirit of the West) and Pulsar (sale-priced from \$49.99)

Wildlife Bronzes, numbered limited editions.

Dept. 56 Snow Village lighted houses, buildings, and accessories (America's favorite Christmas collectible, and very affordable)

Diamond Add-a-Link bracelets, also available with rubies, emeralds, or sapphires.

Exquisite gift ware from Waterford Crystal, Lenox, Lynn Chase, Mottahedeh, and other prestigious names.

Wilton Armetale cook and serve ware, sale priced.

Heirloom ornaments from Waterford, and the new Spode Christmas Tree ornaments.

Come in and check out our Holiday Sale Brochure filled with incredible buys in fine jewelry.

Fine gift ware throughout the store sale-priced for your last-minute shopping.

Can't make up your mind? Let us wrap a Gift Certificate from Tedford's.

107 NW Concho Main Street Historic District 387-3839

We will be open all day Saturday, and Sunday 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m.

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MINUTES
\$39.99
Per Month

2 Cents
Per Minute!
INCLUDING
Long Distance

Ask me...
about the
\$9.99 Plan
Includes a
FREE phone!

Limited Time Offer



The Hottest
Golf Pass in Texas
Enjoy over 680 rounds of golf at 289 courses throughout Texas! Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's life-saving programs of cancer research, education, and patient services.

For Only
\$35.00

Call Lou Faulks by
December 21st
Have your pass in
time for Christmas!
387-3269



Chamber Members Conduct "Business After Hours"



Sharon Kemp of the Bright Spot Beauty Shop and Frank Wamble enjoy snacks and conversation at the "Business After Hours".



Justin McGeath draws for a lucky winner - too bad they weren't there!

by Storie Sharp

The first Sonora Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" was a refreshing treat after a long day. The Sutton County Steakhouse and the First National Bank played host to the first of a series of events to be held throughout the coming year. Acting Chamber members are invited to come and enjoy refreshments and socializing with fellow members at any of the events. Two businesses will host each event and a \$100 cash door prize will be awarded to one lucky winner that is present at that party. If the Chamber member that is drawn is not present the money goes back into the pot until the next drawing, increasing each time by \$100. This quarter's "un-lucky" winner was WTU, who was not present to collect the prize, thus making the pot bigger for the next "Business After Hours" party. If you are interested in hosting a "Business After Hours" party or would like to become a member of the Chamber of Commerce you can contact Justin or Ladonna at 387-2880.

Ports-to-Plains from page 1

to focus on rural development during their next legislative session. The language included today is in line with that goal and will serve as an important tool to help promote balanced growth in Texas."

The language reads:
"SEC.1106. Section 1105 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2032-2033) is amended by striking paragraph (38) and replacing it with the following:

"(38) The Ports-to-Plains Corridor from Laredo, Texas, via I-27 to Denver, Colorado, shall include:

"(A) In the State of Texas the Ports-to-Plains shall generally follow -

"(i) I-35 from Laredo to United States Route 83 at Exit 18;

"(ii) United States Route 83 from Exit 18 to Carrizo Springs;

"(iii) United States Route 277 from Carrizo Springs to San Angelo;

"(iv) United States Route 87 from San Angelo to Sterling City;

"(v) From Sterling City to Lamesa, the Corridor shall follow

United States Route 87 and, the corridor shall also follow Texas Route 158 from Sterling City to I-20, then via I-20 West to Texas Route 349 and, Texas Route 349 from Midland to Lamesa;

"(vi) United States Route 87 from Lamesa to Lubbock;

"(vii) I-27 from Lubbock to Amarillo; and

"(viii) United States Route 287 from Amarillo to Dumas.

"(B) The corridor designation contained in paragraph (A) shall take effect only if the Texas Transportation Commission has not designated the Ports-to-Plains Corridor in Texas by June 30, 2001."

Please let your State and Federal representatives know how important this Corridor is to the economic development of the western part of Texas. Also, please send your appreciation to Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson, Rep. Combest, Robert Duncan, and Mayor Windy Sitton (Lubbock) for their efforts in getting this legislation through.

Social Security Benefits On The Rise

Submitted

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will increase 3.5 percent in 2001, according to Fredi Franki, Social Security manager in San Angelo, Texas. "Today's news tells us that inflation continues to be low which is certainly good news for everyone living on a fixed income," Franki stated. "Inflation is one of the worst enemies of the elderly. The past eight years, which have seen low inflation rates and a strong economy, have been particularly good for the elderly."

The 3.5 percent increase will begin with benefits that Social Security beneficiaries receive in January 2001. Increased payments to SSI recipients will begin on December 29, 2000.

For Social Security beneficiaries the average monthly benefit amount for all retired workers will rise from \$816 to \$845. The maximum federal SSI monthly payments for an individual will rise from \$512 to \$530. For a couple, the maximum federal SSI payment will rise from \$769 to \$796.

Social Security and SSI benefits increase automatically each year based on the rise in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) from the third quarter of the one year through the corresponding period of the next. This year's increase in the CPI-W was 3.5 percent.

"American workers continue to benefit from our unprecedented economic growth," commented Franki. "Wages continue to grow faster than inflation. This is good news for American workers."



Telethon from page 1

in operation on telethon night at the Bank & Trust.

Rehab friends in the community who won't be able to call in their pledge on January 13 are encouraged to make an advance donation. Checks payable to WTRC may be mailed to Rosa Hernandez, P.O. Box 895, Sonora, Texas 76950.

The five-hour television special will be aired from 7 p.m. to midnight on 10 Texas stations, including KLST-TV in San Angelo.

Lee Ann Womack, recent winner of two Country Music Association awards, will be the telethon's featured entertainer. Peter Marshall and Charlie Chase will emcee the show, which will also include entertainment by Florence LaRue of the 5th Dimension, rising new talent Jay Michaels and long-time Rehab telethon regulars Bill and Susan

Hayes and Anacani.

Significant underwriting for Rehab 2001 has come from AEP-West Texas Utilities and Associated Publishing's Area-Wide Phone Books. "The challenge for the rest of us," said WTRC president Woody Gilliland, "is to build on the momentum started by these two great corporate friends of Rehab."

"The telethon is a critical fundraiser for Rehab because we count on it to launch the New Year in a good position to meet the needs of more than 17,000 patients who'll look to us for help in the next 12 months," said Gilliland. "That's why we're so grateful to local volunteers staffing telethon phone banks...why every advance gift and every pledge called in during the show are so deeply appreciated."

Failure To Drink Responsibly Could Turn Holiday Celebration Into Lifetime Tragedy

by Jeff Wentworth

State Senator, District 25
December is filled with family gatherings and holiday parties, many of which frequently include drinking alcohol.

Unfortunately, too many of these celebrations become lifetime tragedies when Texans fail to drink responsibly. In spite of stricter driving-while-intoxicated laws and don't-drink-and-drive educational campaigns, Texas still leads the nation in the number of alcohol-related automobile crashes.

According to a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) report, 1,734 persons died on Texas highways in alcohol-related automobile crashes last year. Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) statistics indicate that in December, 1999, there were 2,295 alcohol-related accidents in which 83 citizens lost their lives, including six teenagers.

Although statistics are not good, some laws have been successful in reducing alcohol-related traffic accidents. Laws that raised the minimum drinking age to 21 are credited for cutting the traffic fatality rate for youth by over half since 1988. The 75th Legislature in 1997 lowered the permissible Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) level for drivers under the age of 21 to a zero tolerance level of .00 percent.

Nationwide, alcohol-related traffic fatalities decreased by one percent from 1998 to 1999 for all

age groups. Alcohol-related deaths on Texas highways decreased from 1,792 in 1998 to 1,734 in 1999, a number still far too high.

For six weekends in November and December, someone was killed in an alcohol-related accident in Bexar County, according to Lt. Christina Guerra of the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission. After every accident, TABC agents work with local police and DPS troopers investigating alcohol-related accidents to discover who is selling alcohol to minors and/or intoxicated persons.

While law officers enforce existing laws, legislators have filed bills that would increase the penalties for driving while intoxicated (DWI).

A bill filed by Senator Judith Zaffirini would suspend a person's driver's license for 180 days on refusal to take a breath or blood test to determine BAC levels. Another one of the senator's bills would lower a driver's permissible BAC from .08 to .06 if a person younger than age 14 is a passenger in the vehicle.

Senate Bill 90 by Senator Jane Nelson would provide certain punishments and consequences for repeat DWI offenders, including the automatic driver's license suspension of anyone convicted for two or more DWIs within five years. After their licenses are suspended, drivers must send their vehicle registration receipts and their license plates to

DPS.

The passage of Senate Bill 90 would bring Texas into compliance with the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st century. Noncompliance may result in the significant loss of highway construction dollars.

Senator Nelson also filed Senate Bill 91 which would do away with Texas' "open container" law. Current law prohibits drivers from consuming alcohol while driving, but does not prevent them from having alcohol in the passenger area of a vehicle.

Senate Bill 91 would prohibit the possession of a bottle, can, or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that has been opened, has a broken seal, or has had the contents partially removed in the passenger area of a vehicle. The bill would not apply to motor homes or vehicles for hire, such as taxicabs.

Previous legislatures failed to pass bills banning open containers in vehicles, and I do not foresee an easy passage for this one. Something must be done, however, about alcohol-related deaths on Texas highways. The 77th Legislature will consider these and other bills when we convene on January 9, 2001. I will decide to support or oppose them based on your concerns and our shared philosophy of local control, less government interference and regulation, and personal responsibility.

Merry Christmas from La Mexicana

The Management and Staff of La Mexicana Restaurante would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a most joyous Christmas and a very prosperous New Year filled with many blessings.

La Mexicana Restaurante will be closed on

December 24, 25 & 26, 2000.

We will resume regular business hours on December 27

from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

We will also be closed on

January 1 to celebrate the New Year!

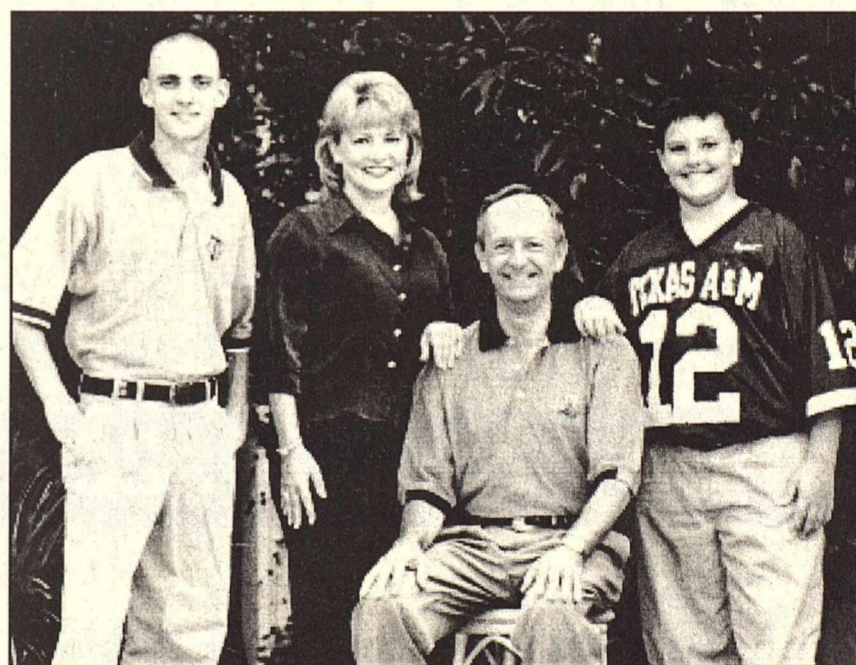
Feliz Navidad

y Prospero Año Nuevo!

Brenda and Square

Tabitha and Rene

Maria	Melissa	Jason
Hilda	Myrna	Dana
Socorro	Jose	Elbe
Julia	Liza	Quirina
Lupita	Austin	Mary Jo
Veronica	Angel	Katrina
	Adam	



MAY THE GIFTS OF LOVE,
PEACE AND HAPPINESS
BE YOURS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
AND THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR

Senator Jeff Wentworth and Family
Jeff, Karla, Jason and Matthew

Sutton County EMS Wants You!

Submitted
An Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B) course will be offered in Sonora beginning January 11, 2001 through May 10, 2001. The course will be sponsored by Sutton County EMS. Classes will be held at the Sutton County EMS Training Facility at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The course provides emergency medical training in such areas as bleeding and shock, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, emergency childbirth, pediatric care, and other emergency illnesses and

trauma. While attending the course, the student will be required to spend twenty four (24) hours in the emergency room at San Angelo Community Medical Center. It is also necessary to make five ambulance runs with a certified ambulance service.

Upon completion of the course, a student will be trained to work for public or private ambulance firms, and in some hospital emergency departments.

EMT courses normally cost approximately \$300.00 to \$500.00 per person, but Sutton County EMS

will make this class available at \$100.00 plus the cost of the text book. The cost of the course has been reduced, due to a grant from the Concho Valley Regional Advisory Council.

If you are interested, contact Patrick Campbell, EMS Coordinator, at the Sutton County EMS Office between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. The office is located at 211 East Third Street, and the phone number is (915) 387-5132. Pre-registration is required.

Merry Christmas
from
**The Landmark Apartments &
The Country Club Apartments**
We hope you have a
safe and joyous Holiday.
For info. call Jana at 387-2104
Frontier / Dunes Mini Storages
HUD Accepted.

PREMIERE CINEMA CORP
NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS
\$3.00 BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE SIX
\$3.00 BARGAIN TUESDAYS (+RESTRICTED)
SOUTHWEST 7
949-9985 3598 Knickerbocker Rd.
Friday/Saturday/Tuesday-Thursday Times
Miss Congeniality (PG-13)
11:15 1:45 4:20 7:10 9:45
How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) DTS
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 9:45
11:00 1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00
• 102 Dalmatian (G) 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:15
• The 6th Day PG-13 2:05 4:40 7:20 9:50
• Men of Honor (R) 1:00 3:45 6:45 9:35
The Legend of Bagger Vance (PG-13)
1:40 4:15 7:05 9:40
NO 9:00 Christmas Eve Shows
Times good for the week of 12/22-12/28 only!
Monday Showtimes
Miss Congeniality (PG-13) 4:20 7:10 9:45
How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG) DTS
5:00 7:30 9:45
4:00 6:30 9:00
• 102 Dalmatian (G) 4:30 7:00 9:15
• The 6th Day PG-13 4:40 7:20 9:50
• Men of Honor (R) 3:45 6:45 9:35
The Legend of Bagger Vance (PG-13)
4:15 7:05 9:40
• No Passes or Discounts

Holiday Wish

It was the night before Christmas and all across Texas,
the highways were crowded with Chevys and Lexuses,
As the holiday spirit was felt in the air,
people drove around safely and passed with great care.
They knew their road rules without having to think,
like wearing their seatbelts and swearing off drink.
They obeyed all the road signs and never got mad,
and furnished child safety seats for their lassies and lads.
They never tailgated nor sped and stayed off their phones,
and made it back safely down the roads to their homes.
It's a holiday dream we hope comes to pass,
that every Texan drives safe and lets up on the gas.
Let's join together and raise our voices:
buckle up, everyone, and make sober choices.
And as we travel this holiday free from all strife,
We say "Drive Friendly, Texas... and please, save a life."

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SERVICE**
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40 Years Experience
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M. Jackson

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Eldorado, Texas

Announcing a 2-Day
Mammography Clinic
located at our facility

January 23 & 24, 2001

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performed by appointment only
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Insurance and Medicare
claims will be filed by the
Texas Tech Mobile
Mammography Van

Caring People
In the Business of Caring for You

Schleicher County Medical Center

400 West Murchison ~ Eldorado, Texas 24-Hour Phone: 853-2507

The History of The Twelve Days of Christmas

The Twelve Days of Christmas is one Christmas carol that has baffled me.

What do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and my true love giving a partridge in a pear tree have to do with Christmas?

Today, I found out. From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholic children. The song has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning, plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

A partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.

Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens stood for Faith, Hope and Love.

The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying stood

for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit - Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Matthew 5:4-11 "Blessed are... those who mourn, for they will be comforted. The meek, for they will inherit the earth. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. The merciful, for they will be shown mercy. The pure in heart, for they will see God. The peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. You when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you - because of me."

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit - Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.

The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The twelve drummers drum-

ming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed. "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN."

So there is your history for today. This interesting and enlightening

knowledge was shared by my brother living in Virginia. You also now know how that strange song became a Christmas Carol.

May you have a partridge in your pear tree this year.

Deducting The Cost Of Doing Good

by Lucy Medrano - TSCPA Austin (Austin, TX) Perhaps the holiday season finds you volunteering at a homeless shelter or organizing a gift collection, or maybe even dressing as Santa at a party for disadvantaged children. If so, your costs for transportation to and from the shelter, for publicizing the gift drive, and for renting the Santa Claus suit may all qualify as deductible charitable contributions.

According to the Texas Society of CPAs (TSCPA), if you do volunteer work, you can generally claim a deduction for unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses you incur when it directly benefits a charity. There are many expenses you can deduct and a few that you cannot. The following information can help you determine if your good deeds qualify for a tax break.

AUTOMOBILE EXPENSES

You CAN deduct the cost of driving your car in connection with your volunteer work. There are two ways to take the deduction. You may deduct the actual cost of gas and oil for traveling to and from meetings, fundraising events, and other charity-related work. Or, if you prefer, you can deduct a flat 14 cents per mile for every mile you travel that is directly related to charitable activities. Under either method, you can deduct parking fees and tolls. You CANNOT deduct your car's general repair and maintenance costs, depreciation, registration fees, or any part of the costs for tires and insurance.

You CANNOT deduct car-related costs unless the organization directly benefits from your efforts. If, for instance, you drive several neighborhood children to Girl Scout meetings every week, the cost of driving is not deductible because the children receive the primary

benefit and not the organization.

MEAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

You CAN deduct the cost of airfare or other transportation when your volunteer work takes you out of town overnight. You may also deduct the costs of meals and lodging while you are away on official charity business.

Deductible travel expenses include air, rail, and bus transportation, taxi fares, and reasonable lodging costs and meal expenses. Because these travel expenses are not business related, they are not subject to the same limits as business deductions.

You CANNOT deduct your expenses if the trip involves only nominal duties or, if for significant parts of the trip, you do not have any duties or responsibilities. The IRS says it is okay to have a good time, but if there is a significant element of personal pleasure, recreation, or vacation associated with the travel, a charitable deduction is disallowed.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

You CAN deduct the cost of buying, laundering, and dry cleaning a uniform you are required to wear while volunteering as long as the uniform is not suitable to every day wear. You CAN deduct the cost of stamps and stationery, materials and supplies you purchase to publicize an event, and the ingredients for a cake you bake for your church fundraiser, as well as the cost of long distance telephone calls in connection with your charitable endeavors.

You CANNOT deduct the value of your time or your services, childcare costs incurred to enable you to volunteer, or the value of using your home or office to host meetings.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses are considered cash contributions and are reported as an itemized deduction on Schedule A. The total of all charitable contributions made during the year is generally limited to 50 percent of one's adjusted gross income. (In rare cases, 20 percent and 30 percent limits apply.)

It is important to keep records, such as canceled checks, to substantiate the amount of your out-of-pocket expenses. To deduct an unreimbursed expense of \$250 or more, such as for a plane ticket or a dinner you hosted on behalf of the charity, you must follow IRS regulations. For example, for each such expense, you need to obtain a statement from the organization that describes the services you provided and shows whether you were provided with any goods or services in return. The acknowledgment must be obtained by the date you file your return, or the extended due date if you get an extension.

Don't miss the opportunity to get a tax break in return for your volunteer efforts. A CPA can provide you with additional advice for making the most of deductible volunteer expenses.

About the TSCPA
The Texas Society of CPAs is a nonprofit, voluntary professional organization representing Texas CPAs. With a membership of 28,000 and a history of over 85 years, the Society has one of the largest in-state memberships of any CPA organization in the nation. The Society promotes professionalism, ethics, and integrity among CPAs, and is committed to protecting the interests of the public and its members.

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USDA Reminds Farmers to sign up for Programs

Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director, Jan G. Wanoreck, reminds our farmers and ranchers of pending application deadlines for emergency assistance programs and announces recently developed new emergency programs.

"As area farmers and ranchers continue to fight Mother Nature, increasing input expenses and low commodity prices, FSA continues to develop and deliver programs designed to alleviate these hardships. Through the existing programs and with the proposed new programs, USDA and FSA continue to recognize the farm community's need for support," said Wanoreck.

Application deadlines for programs previously announced this year are:

* 2000 Oilseeds Program: \$500 million in payments is available to the more than 600,000 producers of the 2000 crops of certain oilseeds. Eligible oilseeds include canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, sesame, soybeans, and sunflowers. Application deadline is January 12, 2001.

* 2000 Crop Year Peanut Market Loss Assistance Program: An estimated \$61 million is available to partially compensate over 16,000 peanut producers for low commodity prices and increasing production costs. Application deadline is February 1, 2001.

* Flood Compensation Program: \$24 million is available to producers to help offset losses due to land inundated with floodwaters. Application deadline is January 19, 2001.

* Wool and Mohair Market Loss Assistance Program: Approximately \$11 million in relief is available for farmers who suffered economic loss due to low prices during the 1999 marketing year. Application deadline in December 29, 2000.

* 2000 Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program: Approximately \$10 million is available to producers who's lamb carcasses meet minimum grade specifications. Application deadline is January 18, 2001.

tion deadline is August 15, 2001.

Local USDA Farm Service Agency offices will also begin accepting applications soon for the following programs:

* 2000 Crop Disaster Program (CDP): Funds will be made available to producers who have been affected by crop disaster. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

* 2000 Livestock Assistance Program (LAP): An estimated \$438 million is available to producers for grazing losses due to weather related disasters. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

* Dairy Market Loss Assistance (DMLA III): Payments to operations that received assistance under DMLA II will be automatically issued to producers later this month. Payments will also be available to new operations and to operations that did not have 12 months of marketing established under DMLA II, and will be based on October 1999-September 2000 marketing. The four-week sign-up period for these producers will begin in late January, 2001.

* 2000 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP): Up to \$10 million will be available to producers who lost livestock due to natural disaster, fire and anthrax. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

* Extension of the 1999 Livestock Indemnity Program/Contract Growers (CG-LIP): Program coverage of last year's CG-LIP will be extended through February 7, 2000. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

Producers should watch for new program announcements released from their local Farm Service Agency office. County Offices will receive national guidance regarding new program delivery prior to program sign-up dates. Please contact the FSA office at 915-387-3111 for additional information about current program eligibility. New program eligibility and application information will be available in January.

Bonilla Secures 100 Percent Of Bovine Tuberculosis Funding



Washington, D.C. - U.S. Representative Henry Bonilla, R-Texas.

Bonilla today announced that the bovine tuberculosis (TB) eradication program will receive 100 percent of the claims requested to keep the program alive.

"In Far West Texas, I saw firsthand the devastating effect bovine tuberculosis may have on our farmers and ranchers," said Mr. Bonilla. "The White House dropped the ball on this one. I am pleased that my colleagues in the Congress recognized the necessity of this program and funded the full amount".

This October, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced that they would deny full funding for the bovine TB eradication program. Rather than funding the \$43 million requested by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the OMB chose to fund only \$25.7 million, effectively killing any chance for a successful program. Mr. Bonilla was able to secure the full funding of \$43 million by inserting specific language in the Labor Health and Human Services bill that directs the Secretary of Agriculture to pay 100 percent of the claims for the program.

"The men and women at the Animal and Plant Health Inspecting

Service are on the ground working to solve this problem. They recommended \$44 million, because they have the information and experience to properly estimate the funding needed to solve the problem - I'm glad to see that we were finally able to get them the necessary funding," said Mr. Bonilla.

Bovine TB is a chronic and debilitating disease that primarily affects cattle, bison and cervine species, which include elk and deer. Recent scientific tests have identified a significant bovine tuberculosis threat from infected wildlife, especially free-ranging deer, which in turn, transmit the disease to nearby cattle. El Paso, Texas and parts of upper Michigan are the only two areas within the United States still known to harbor TB.

For fifteen years, El Paso farmers have been fighting a low, but persistent incidence of bovine TB in their herds. The persistence of the disease offers little hope for complete eradication using the traditional test and removal program. The full funding will help prevent the continued spread of this disease.

"Fully funding the bovine TB eradication program will take the Washington bureaucrats out of the mix and allow the experts at the US Department of Agriculture to do what is necessary to carry out this important program," said Mr. Bonilla.

AGRIBUSINESS

Rig Locations as of December 15, 2000

Crockett County

OXY Permian; 16000' Mitchell - C - #48, Nabors Drilling. New WTG Exploration; 7000' University - 30-35A #1, Patterson Drilling.

New Union Pacific Res; 7600' Union Pacific - #79, Patterson Drilling. New Harrison Interests; 9100' John W Henderson III - A - #56, Patterson Drilling.

J. Cleo Thompson; 8200' Chambers - CSL - #3, Patterson Drilling. Encore Operating; 9000' Jones Ranch - B - #9038, Cleere Drilling.

Sutton County

New Burlington Res/Mid; 6720', Barton #13, Cleere Drilling. New Louis Dreyfus; 8050' Duke Wilson #1882 R, Patterson Drilling.

New Louis Dreyfus; 5400' Cusenbary - 71 - #14, Patterson Drilling. New Louis Dreyfus; 8450' Simmons Ranch #18, Patterson Drilling.

Terrell County

New Conoco/Midland; 12533', Culbertson #182 H, Nabors Drilling. Athanor Texas; 9000', Mitchell Unit - 4 - #7, Cleere Drilling.

Pure Resources; - 17000' ACU #5701, TMBR/Sharp Drilling.

Schleicher County

New TXP, Inc.; 6900' Parker #4, Cleere Drilling.

New TXP, Inc.; 6800' West - 48 - #2, Cleere Drilling.

New Ladd O&G Corp.; 6200' JM Christian - A - #1, Heart Land Drilling.

Edwards County

New Hamman Oil & Refin'g; 8000' Wheat - 109 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

For complete report contact: Scott Huggins,

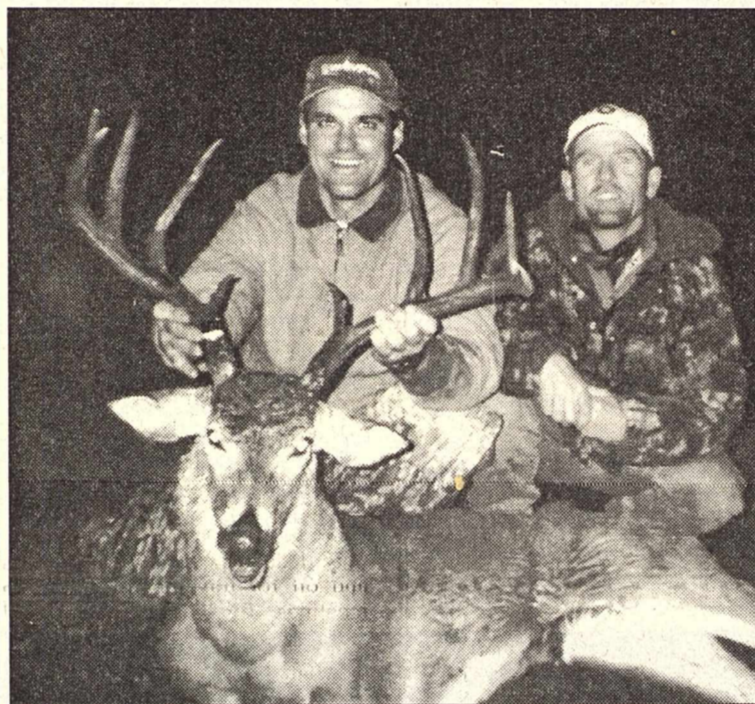
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Devil's River Internet Service
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Who's Baggin' the Big Bucks



It appears that the Larry & Bill Finklea Ranch (Miers Black Ranch) is the place to go hunting this year. Jim Crites, of San Antonio (above) shot this 10 pt. at Finklea's. According to Game Biologist, Mary Humphrey, the buck was about 9 1/2 or 10 years old. He had a 21 1/2 inside spread and scored a 157 on the Boone & Crockett scale. Dale Grubbs, of Florida (below) also got his 13 pt. on the Finklea Ranch. The 8 1/2 year old buck had 5 1/2 inch bases and 12 inch G2s. He scored a 156 on the B & C scale.



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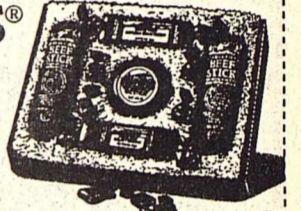


Darla McKissack and Irene Friess
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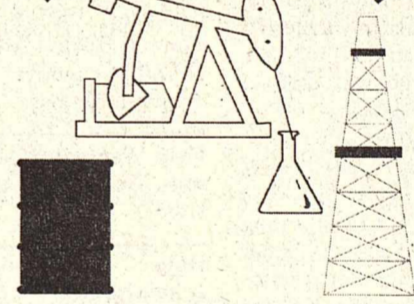
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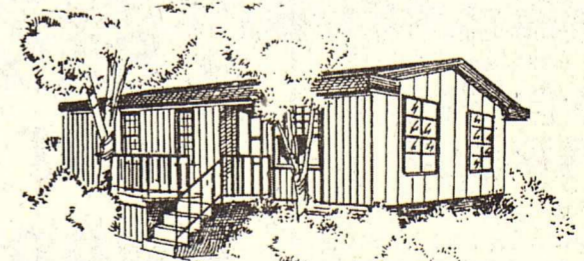
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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At AEP-West Texas Utilities, we value a good relationship with our customers and we will continue to work hard to serve you with safe, reliable power during 2001.

On behalf of the employees at AEP-West Texas Utilities, we extend to you and your family our wishes for a season filled with warm, happy memories.



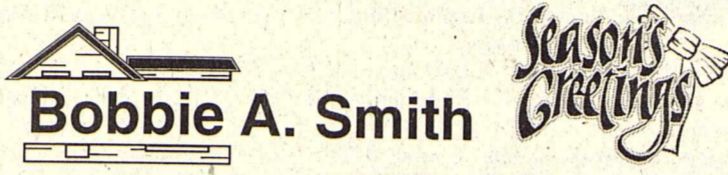
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For Sale: Office Bldg, 223 E. Main Street. Phone 915-387-3077. Office hrs. are 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Office Furniture for Sale: Maple Credenza with locking drawers 54" x 20", Desk Chair, 5 drawer Lateral File 64" x 42", Magazine table 19" x 28", 2 Library Tables 5' x 2 1/2', Form storage cabinet with 5 columns 8 3/4" wide each 4' x 3', 2 Storage Cabinets with sliding doors and 2 shelves 4' x 3', 2 Cabinets with 3 adjustable shelves 4' x 3 1/2', 1 black 3 drawer Legal Filing Cabinet, 1 black 2 drawer Letter Filing Cabinet, Office Refrigerator 4' x 2 1/2'. Call 853-3278 for details.

For Sale: 100+ Spanish and Boer Cross Nannies. Will start kidding the first of March. Gentle. Call 387-3174 for more information.

Help Wanted: Maid needed at the Holiday Host Motel. Reliability and transportation required. Experience preferred. Come by 127 Loop 467, Sonora, Texas.

Help Wanted: Crockett County Probation Department accepting applications for full time secretary position until December 29th. Contact 387-5744 for an application packet.

Driver Wanted: Eddins-Walcher Company, 1505 N. Crockett Ave., Sonora, Texas. Must have CDL, HAZ/MAT, current DOT Physical. Apply in person.

Help Wanted: Cook and wait persons. Come by La Mexicana 240 Hwy. 277N.

Help Wanted: Hospital Administrator - Sutton County Hospital District dba Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital is accepting applications for Hospital Administrator. Hospital licensed for 21 beds. Certified Trauma Level 4. Hospital or Medical background preferred and experience dealing with regulatory agencies. Submit resume to Hudspeth Hospital, 308 Hudspeth, Sonora, Texas 76950. Fax 915-387-2396. Attention: Dianne Dower.

Help Wanted - Ozona: Crockett County Care Center is accepting applications for a LVN. Position is full time with benefits. Excellent working conditions. Applications can be picked up at the Care Center located at 103 Ave. H, or call 915-392-2671 for application. EOE.

Ozona

FOR SALE: Complete 10' Satellite Dish with upgraded electronics. IQ Prism with Video Cypher II Plus. 392-3256.

WOOD FOR SALE: Mesquite - \$125.00 a cord. Live Oak - \$140.00 a cord. Ask about out-of-town delivery fees. Call Stephen at 392-5109.

FOR SALE: 1988 Ford Bronco II, 4X4, auto-trans, V-6, 2.9L, Eddie Bauer pkg. Used stove (gas) and refrigerator, \$50 each. Used ceiling fan (no lights), 3-speed, 4-blade - \$30. Call 392-2337.

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2 AND 3 BEDROOM Trailer for rent. Call J. B. Miller. 392-2641. Also large lot to rent for trailer.

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sutton County Hospital District will use the following rules and procedures to comply with its responsibility under the Indigent Health Care and Treatment Act. These rules and procedures are the same as found in the County indigent health Care program handbook published by the Texas Department of Human Services. In summary, these rules are as follows:

1. An application form must be completely filled out. Application forms can be requested at/from Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Business Office.
2. An appointment is set for personal/telephone interview and the applicant must be present at the personal interview.
3. Verification of income or termination of income, residence, household composition, and resources are required.
4. Net income per month cannot exceed the following.

Family Size	Single Adult & Adult with Children	Couples & Couples with Children	Minor Children Only
1	\$ 78	\$	\$ 64
2	163	125	92
3	188	206	130
4	226	231	154
5	251	268	198
6	288	294	214
7	313	330	267
8	356	356	293

5. Liquid resource assets cannot exceed \$2,000. The fair market value of a vehicle greater than \$4,650.00 is countable against the \$2,000. limit. personal property and homesteads are exempt assets.
6. An eligible person must be a resident of the Sutton County Hospital District.
7. An eligible person must provide all requested information and documentation or the application will be denied.
8. An applicant has the right to appeal an adverse decision.

Hunters

Hunters! Save Time & \$\$\$ Have your deer feeders monitored & filled on a routine basis. For more info, call D.E. (Danny) Reinhardt 915-387-2362 or 915-650-3662

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