

# Merry Christmas

## THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

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SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 25, 2003



### The gift of giving

by Storie Sharp

The giving season abounds. Students that are active in the youth groups from the First United Methodist Church, St. John's Episcopal Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd met on Wednesday, December 17, 2003 to help fill the Christmas Baskets for families in need. The annual project, headed by the Sonora Ministerial Alliance allows for families in need to receive food and staples that they may not have or be able to afford this holiday season. All the kids were in good spirits as they started the job, with the feeling of sharing filling the room as they filled the baskets. Over 100 households in Sonora were treated with the packages. The youth groups filled 75 and the Sonora High School Student Council, sponsored by Donald Patton, filled the remaining 25.

The Christmas Basket project is just one of many such charitable activities that Sonora has for its community members. The Angel Tree allows children under the age of 18 to receive presents each year. The Deer Distribution allows for families to receive deer meat during the winter months. Toys for Tots, though not just local, also gives little ones a special gift to open under the Christmas tree, that otherwise may be bare, and there are many individual donors and acts of kindness done every day. Its great to live in such a caring community at this time, and at all times, where sharing and love are spread year-round. Christmas is a time when such activities are highlighted more, but the extended family of Sonora is there for each other whenever they are needed. There are bake sales, barbecues, dances, drawings, funds set up at the banks and much more, when someone from home is in need.

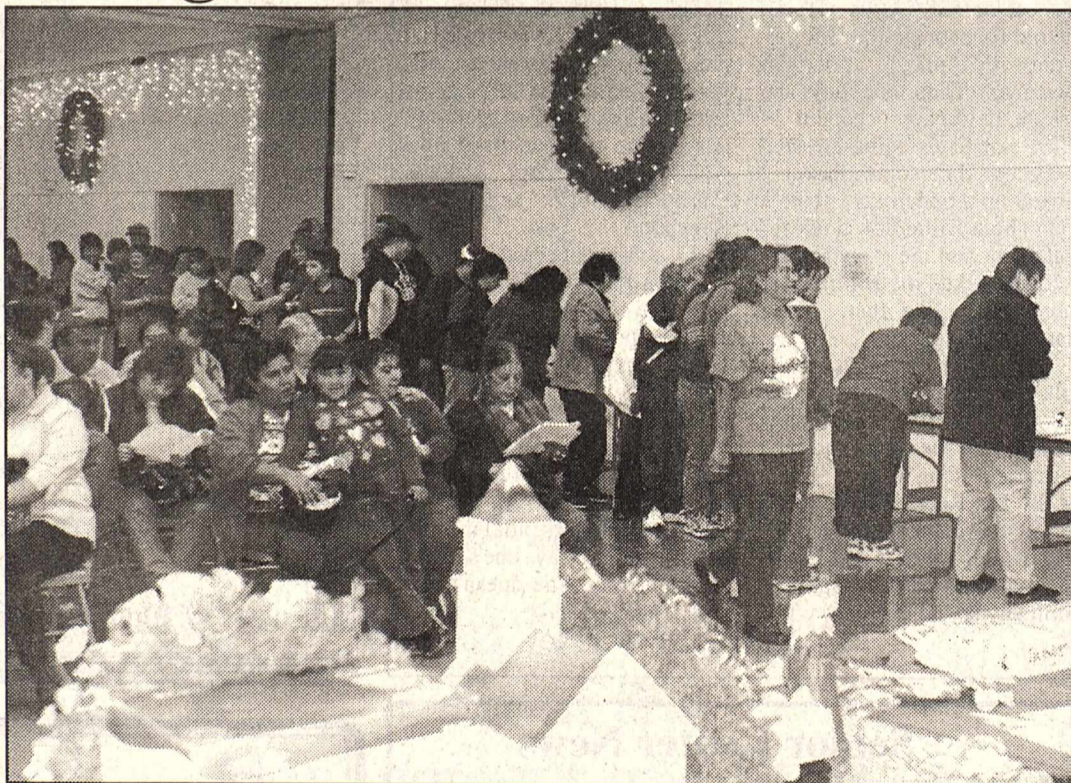
During this time of love, family and remembering, don't forget how lucky we are to live in a small town, where we still wave at one another on the street and most merchants know you by name. Enjoy every day of the holiday season, and may the spirit of Christmas stay with you throughout the entire year. Happy Holidays.

### Buyers spend big at Santa Bucks Auction

by Ruthie Bounds, Chamber of Commerce Executive Administrator

If you did not shop in Sonora this Holiday Season and did not collect Santa Bucks, then you missed out on a lot of wonderful prizes and the fun and competition of bidding on them. Last Thursday evening at the Sutton County Civic Center approximately 300 people showed up with Santa Bucks in hand to bid for \$2,846.00 worth of prizes donated by local merchants and businesses. I think the local merchants and businesses know how to say "Thank You" to their customers. Now I want to say "Thank You" to all those local businesses for their participation and strong support of the Santa Bucks shopping promotion. I think everyone that attended enjoyed the excitement that filled the air, whether they got a prize or not. The children really had a great time bidding on all the children's items and at times, the competition for bidding on items was exciting to say the least. There were over 91 items to bid on, including the silent auction, live auction or children's auction, and we genuinely appreciate all those who donated items to the auction.

The last couple of items of the evening brought out the competitors, with the 5 CD Disc player going for over \$600 Santa Bucks to Mrs. Dinney Dudley and the \$100 Shopping Spree in Sonora going for approximately \$6,000 Santa Bucks. It was a race to the end to see who could gather the most bucks from those that had a few extras here and there. The two groups split, and the counting went on for what seemed like, forever! In the end, Betty Arredondo took home the certificate to spend. It was fun for everyone to watch as the bids



Bidders set their prices at the Silent Auction, while eager "shoppers" wait for the auction to begin.

went up. There was no way we could keep up with all the lucky buyers of the fast paced live auction, but the silent auction prizes went as follows:  
**Free Standard Oil Change - Moore's Oil & Lube - Bridgette Rogers**  
**5-50 Lb Bags of Corn - Red Horse Feeds - Nita Thorp**  
**Free Standard Oil Change - Moore's Oil & Lube - Mike Fay**  
**2 Daily Specials - Stagecoach - Starla Williams**  
**\$50 Sonora Shopping Spree - First National Bank - Jason Arredondo**  
**5-50 Lb Bags of Corn - Red Horse Feeds - Mari Sanchez**  
**Christmas Wreath - Lisa's Flowers - Darla McKissack**  
**2 Daily Specials - Stagecoach - Annette Castro**  
**Santa Wind Flag - Team**

**Graphics - Kavina Hudson**  
**Car Wash & Detail - KD's - Rebecca Love**  
**Brown Bag Special - Sonic - Starla Williams**  
**Free Standard Oil Change - Moore's Oil & Lube - Alissa Adkins**  
**\$10 Gas - Shot's #6 - Mari Sanchez**  
**Ice Cube Snowman - Ol' Sonora - Storie Sharp**  
**\$10 Gas - Shot's #5 - Sylvia Ramon**  
**Breakfast for 2 - Angel Café - Jenny Sue Trainer**  
**1 Year Subscription - Devil's River News - Mari Sanchez**  
**Auto Creeper - Victor's Auto - Lisa Galindo**  
**1 Night Stay - Best Western Inn - Paul Freeman**  
**Case of Oil - Teaff Oil - Ferial Balindo**  
**\$25 Gift Certificate - Dairy**

**Queen - Mari Sanchez**  
**1 Night Stay - Days Inn - Cheree Fitzgerald**  
**KC Steak Dinner For 2 - Steakhouse - Rita Mendez**  
**Electric Knife - T&C Village - Susan Hall**  
**Free Haircut - Ronda's Styling Haus - Starla Williams**  
**Lunch For 2 - Angel Café - Russell Adkins**  
**Wallet - image - Brandi O'Brien**  
**1 Month Free Service - Cellular One - Sylvia Ramon**  
**\$25 Meal Certificate - Dairy Queen - Mari Sanchez**  
**18 Holes of Golf - Sonora Golf Club - Jenny Sue Trainer**  
**Christopher Radko Ornament - Gifts Galore & More - Kay Faris**  
**Mohair Socks - Carl J Cahill -**

See Santa Bucks page 8

### Sutton County Hospital District awarded a \$300,000 Grant

The Sutton County Hospital District was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the San Angelo Health Foundation. The grant was made possible by a bequest from Myrtle Williams in honor of her parents William Harden Williams and Mary Eveline Holmes Williams. The grant funds will go toward construction of a replacement hospital and new Wellness Center. Chairman of the San Angelo Health Foundation Board of Directors George Alexander announced the award as part of \$629,117.00 to eleven area non-

profit organizations. This quarterly grant award brings a total of \$18,337,804 dollars having been committed to 221 projects in seven years. "I am very pleased the hospital project was selected for funding" Mr. Keith L. Butler, CEO of Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital, said. "This generous gift will greatly support the replacement hospital and Wellness Center construction program." Bids for the project will be opened on December 23, 2003, and construction is anticipated

to begin in January 2004. The project should take one year to complete. The replacement hospital will provide expansion of many existing programs and the Wellness Center, which includes a fitness facility and indoor pool, will provide a host of prevention programs not available in Sonora or the surrounding counties. For more information about the project please contact Mr. Keith L. Butler, CEO at 325-387-2521.

### Sonora Downtown Lions Club roasts up some fun for Past Governor Polocek



Past District Governor, Virgil Polocek and his wife, Jackie, smile at a special roast held for Virgil.

by Ann Kay, Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Manager

Sonora Downtown Lions honored Past District 2-A1 Lions Governor Virgil Polocek on Saturday, December 13, 2003, at the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall.

The Lions from the District 2-A1 came from all over the state of Texas to express their appreciation to P.D. Governor Lions Virgil Polocek on a job well done. The evening started out with a prayer of appreciation for blessings from God to have all the District 2-A1 Lions together again to celebrate the accomplishments of P.D. Governor Virgil Polocek by Lion Pastor Lewis Allen.

Sonora Downtown Lions President Frank Wamble welcomed each of the special Lion guests and explained that the evening was going to be an old fashioned roast of P.D. Governor Virgil Polocek, but first we would eat a Texas-size steak done by B. & H. Catering. Lion Judge Jim Stephen was the Master of Ceremonies opening up the roast with a favorite story about P.D. Governor Lion Virgil


and explaining how he knew that P.D.G. Lion Virgil lived his life full of Lionism. Lion Lewis Allen shared a story about P.D.G. Lion Virgil's love for candy bars and Lionism. Mike Polocek told the story of how his dad is always the first to volunteer and how a simple 15 minute trip to Town & Country Grocery Store may turn into a two hour trip if his dad starts to visit with his neighbors. Sonora Police Chief House expressed how sharing a Santa Claus suit with P.D.G. Lion Virgil was a Christmas experience. He agreed with every one of the speakers that P.D.G. Lion Virgil was a man who gives meaning to Christmas Spirit and that Lionism is his life. The District 2-A1 Lion Governor Melvin Felch, Vice District 2-A1 Governor Lion Joyce Drowning, P.D.G. Sabine Garcia, and other Lions told many funny stories. But we all agree that P.D. Governor Lion Virgil has the love of people. He is always ready to help any child or person whether it is to build an ADA ramp or find a pair of glasses for someone to be able to see the beauty of our community.

The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program and I are very proud to be a part of Sonora Downtown Lions and the Sonora Downtown Lions Roast of Past District 2-A1 Lions Governor Virgil Polocek. I would like to express my appreciation to Jackie Polocek, who is the rock that helps to keep P.D.G. Lion Virgil Polocek's Lionism world turning. We would like to also express our appreciation to The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, B & H Catering, Petal Pushers, and all of Sonora Downtown Lions for helping us make the roast a success.




Lion Rev. Lewis Allen "tails" off on Lion Virgil Polocek.

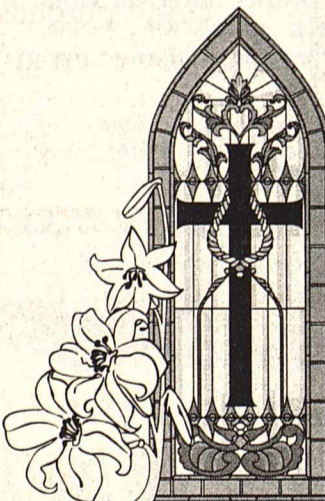
**Lighthouse  
Community Church**  
"Where Community is our Middle Name"  
**Sunday Services**  
Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
Worship • 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.  
1705 N. Crockett

  
**SUTTON COUNTY  
HEALTH FOUNDATION**

Your memorial gift helps preserve access to quality healthcare for generations to come. Please consider the Sutton County Health Foundation, P.O. Box 18, Sonora, TX 76950. All contributions 100% tax deductible.

  
**Sonora Church  
Directory**

<p><b>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA</b> Antonio F. Gonzales, Sr. 504 Santa Clara 387-2035</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> Jerry Jackson 304 N. Water 387-3190</p> <p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</b> T. Wayne Price Pastor 111 E Oak 387-2951</p> <p><b>ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b> 404 E. Poplar 387-2955</p> <p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Rev. Conrad Archer, Pastor 201 N. Water 387-2466</p> <p><b>TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS</b> Enoc Elias Nunez 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713 387-3092</p> <p><b>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> Rev. Charles Huffman 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366</p> <p><b>LA IGLESIA HISPANA UNIDA DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC.</b> Pastor Felipe Martinez 807 Orient</p>	<p><b>THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN</b> Lewis Allen, Pastor 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616</p> <p><b>LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> Don Longoria, Pastor 1705 N. Crockett</p> <p><b>PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED</b> 509 Amistad</p> <p><b>ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Father William DuBuisson, O.M.I. 229 W. Plum 387-2278</p> <p><b>JEHOVAH'S WITNESS</b> 310 St. Ann's Street 387-5658 or 387-5518</p>
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Brought to you by:  
**Kerbow Funeral Home**  
387-2266

**Card of Thanks**

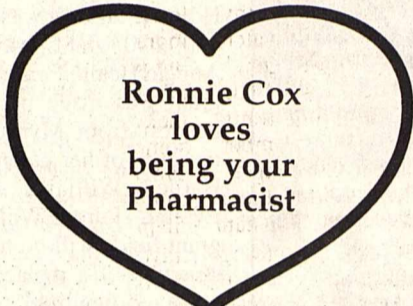
National Oilwell would like to thank the Sonora Fire Dept. and Russell Green for the use of the Fire Hall for our Christmas party. We want to give a SPECIAL Thank You to Donny Yocham for coming and staying during our party. We greatly appreciate it!!! It is hard to find a place for parties this time of year, and we didn't give much notice!! Sorry guys! Donny took an evening of his time to come and be with us, and we are grateful for it. Thanks Donny and Russell!!!!

Jenny Sykes, Katie Kinder, & Lisa Price

Thank you so much for all the love and time you gave throughout the year to our "Christmas in Mexico Project". You did a great and wonderful thing in making lots of God's children happy. We truly value all the angels from San Angelo, Sonora, Ft. Worth, Eldorado, Metroplex, and Midland.

To all our friends, we say Merry Christmas and God Bless.  
Smith Neal, Clayburn and Ilene Stewart,  
Terry and Don Surridge

On behalf of the St. Ann's Building Committee and St. Ann's Parish we would like to thank everyone who purchased and helped sell tickets to make the St. Ann's 1st Annual Electronic Bonanza a great success. We would also like to take the time to thank all the winners: 1st prize - 52" wide screen HD TV to Kassie Tyler, 2nd prize - 27" TV to James Freeman, 3rd prize - Digital Camera to Steve Vickers, Sr., 4th prize - X-Box to Tina Perez, 5th prize - PS2 to Betty Castro, 6th prize - Portable DVD to Marie Aldwell, 7th prize - Coby DVD Player to Zacharias Rojo and 8th prize - 3 gallon water can to Melissa Velez. Top Sales Winners: Irene Dominguez, Brittany Hernandez, Victoria Robles, Cody Perez, John Lopez IV, Mark Samaniego, Fabian Guzman, Kelsey Velez, Danielle Castro, Chris Castro, Evelyn Solis, Catherine Herrera, Netza Estrada and Abigail Garcia. Also, a special thank you to Carrie and Brian Sinosic and Annette Castro for organizing our fundraiser and to our special guest at the drawing, Santa Claus!

  
Ronnie Cox  
loves  
being your  
Pharmacist

**TEXAS TALES TOLD BY  
TUMBLEWEED SMITH**

**Lu Mitchell is happier than ever**

**Tumbleweed Smith**

When Lu Mitchell of Farmers Branch was growing up in Pennsylvania, she learned folk songs at summer camp. "I wasn't very good at building a fire, but I loved the songs," says Lu. "I became camp song leader."

She did nothing with her music until she got to Texas in 1949. "Folk music was just getting popular. Pete Seeger and Peter, Paul and Mary were singing some of the songs I learned at camp. So I bought a guitar and taught myself how to play it."

During her 29 years as a secretary for a big corporation, Lu made an occasional appearance at coffee houses singing the old folk songs like "Froggy Went A'Courtin'" and "Oh Susanna." Then one day she read a newspaper account of Billie Sol Estes being arrested in Pecos. "For some reason, I picked up a pencil and wrote a song about Billie Sol. I sang it that night and the crowd loved it. They asked me if I had any more songs like that. So I started writing more."

She uses the tunes of the folk songs but she creates the words. Once at a company social event she wrote and sang a satirical song called "Chant of the Rat Race" which poked fun at the corporate life. "My bosses didn't like it and I wasn't invited to perform again at company social events."

When Lu retired in 1983, she went into music full time. She has an agent who books her in theaters, retirement homes, churches, clubs and universities throughout the southwest. She has produced eight CD's and a songbook. Her CD about senior citizens is called "Off Our Rockers." It has a song called "Mrs. Clark's Garden Has gone To Pot" created after Lu read about a lady in Houston getting arrested for growing marijuana in her back yard.

Most of her audiences are over fifty. "They don't like rock and roll and they like to understand the words to songs. I make sure they do."

There is no central theme running through her songs. She reads a story in the newspaper or notices something while driving and gets ideas for songs. She sings about TV evangelists, side effects from medicines, garage sales, lines at K Mart, construction zones, personal ads on the internet, the Dallas Cowboys, beauty shops, Starbucks' Coffee and Martha Stewart.

Lu has appeared on stage with the Kingston Trio and has been the subject of articles in various media. Some of her songs have won awards and she started the Dallas Folk Music Society. She does about 80 appearances a year in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

"I used to do 120, but I cut back. At 79 years old, I'm slowing down." Lu says she's happier than ever. She doesn't look or act her age.

**Obituaries**

**William Monte Cowsert**

William Monte Cowsert, 66, died Monday, December 15, 2003. Services were at 4:00 p.m. at Lighthouse Community Church. A memorial service was at 2:00 p.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church in Anson. Arrangements were by Kerbow Funeral Home.

Monte was born in Jones County, Texas on January 4, 1937. He married Bernice in June 1988.

Survivors include his wife, Bernice Cowsert of Sonora; sons: James Edward Cowsert of Anson, TX and his two children, Stephanie and James Jr., James McKnight and wife Tammy of San Diego, CA. and their two sons, Dillon and Matthew; daughters: Suzanne Anuskiewicz and son-in-law Ronnie of San Diego and their four children, Renee and her husband Jake of Sonora and their children Jacob and Nicole, Danielle Anuskiewicz, Michelle Anuskiewicz and Aiden Anuskiewicz, Melissa Lockaby and husband Anthony of Sonora and their daughter Raynie and a special grandson Justyn Gray, who was like a son to Monte. Special friends: Jason Bomba, and two men that were like brothers to Monte Lee Stephens of Morton, Texas, and Wayne Peterson of Roswell, New Mexico.

Monte was preceded in death by his daughter Carrie Lynne Cowsert in 1979, his son Thomas Thurston Cowsert in 1987 and his son William Murray in 1999.


**Juanita H. Garcia**

Juanita H. Garcia, 77, passed away December 20, 2003, at her residence in Brackettville, Texas. She was born July 21, 1926, in Brackettville, Texas. She was preceded in death by her husband Eulalio Garcia and son, David Garcia and siblings Pedro Hernandez, Pete Hernandez, Santos Hernandez and Ramon "Chino" Hernandez.

Mrs. Garcia is survived by children Abel Garcia and wife Rosemary of Sterling City, Texas, Eulalio Garcia Jr. and wife Terry of Sterling City, Texas, Mary Jane Fague of Brackettville, Texas, Oscar Garcia and wife Verdie of Del Rio, Texas, Efrain Garcia of Brackettville, Texas, Jesus Garcia and wife Lisa of Bebbou, Kentucky, and Rosa Rios and husband Reuben of Leakey, Texas. Her siblings are: Carmen Burdohan of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Jovita Munoz of Sonora, Texas, Luisa Ramos of Dalhart, Texas, Gloria DeLaRosa of San Antonio, Texas, Ester Martinez of Brackettville, Texas and Jimmy Hernandez of Sterling City, Texas.

She is also survived by 25 grandchildren including Shauna Lopez and Abel Garcia of Sonora, Texas, and 41 great-grandchildren including Chassidy Garcia, Devon and Dalylah Lopez of Sonora, Texas, and numerous nieces and nephews.


Visitation was Monday, December 22, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Del Rio Funeral Home Chapel. A Rosary was recited at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel and a Mass of Christian burial was held Tuesday, December 23, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Magdalene Catholic Church in Brackettville, Texas. Burial followed in Kinney County Cemetery.



May the heart-warming joys of Christmas be with you throughout the year.  
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**SONORA**  
Chamber of Commerce  
915 • 387 • 2880

**Saint Ann Catholic Church  
Holiday Schedule**



**Dec. 27**  
Confessions - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
Vigil Mass - 7:00 p.m.

**Dec. 28**  
Sunday Mass - 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday Mass - 11:00 a.m.


**Dec. 31**  
Vigil Mass - 7:00 p.m.

**Jan. 1**  
New Year's Mass - 10:00 a.m.

311 W. Plum St. • Sonora, Texas 76950

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 **Member 2003**  
**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**Senior Center News**

**Dec. 29** - Bingo!  
**Dec. 30** - Pre New Year's Eve Party!  
**Dec. 31** - New Year's eve! Center Closed!  
**Jan. 1** - New Year's Day! Center Closed!  
**Jan. 2** - Run errands and pay bills!

**Senior Center Menu**

**Dec. 29** - Beef stew with vegetables, sweet peas, cornbread, peaches, cornbread, peaches, chocolate pudding, milk.  
**Dec. 30** - Baked ham, glazed carrots, mixed squash, roll, fresh fruit cup, milk.  
**Dec. 31** - New Year's Eve...Sr. Center Closed!  
**Jan. 1** - New Year's Day...Sr. Center Closed!  
**Jan. 2** - Catfish, spinach, pinto beans, coleslaw, cornbread, pudding.

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

**Community Calendar**

**Dec. 19 - Jan. 4**  
SISD Christmas Holidays

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!  


The Community Calendar is made possible by:

Member FDIC  
207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Letters To The Editor Policy

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### Ask the Historical Society

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer, Secretary Sutton County Historical Society

Q. What was happening at the end of 1953?

A. November 1953, Devil's River News-It was quite a year for the Sonora Broncos; they got their first District Football Championship. Listed as members of the winning team are: Rus Chalk, sophomore end; Eddie Smith, junior tackle; Joe Renfro, junior center; Sam Gonzales, sophomore back; Tommy Adams, freshman guard; Armando Badillo, freshman back; Don Valliant, sophomore tackle; Francisco Sanchez, sophomore tackle; Preston Love, freshman tackle; Gene Eubank, sophomore guard; Tomas Santos, freshman guard; Jerry White, freshman back; Alfredo Trevino, freshman guard; Felipe Bernal, freshman tackle; Harold Garrett, freshman back; Donald Fuqua, junior guard; Ted B. Joy, sophomore tackle; James McLaughlin, sophomore tackle; Jim Skinner, junior end; Jack Johnson, junior back; Jodie Minnick, senior back; George Wright, junior back; Tracy Crites, junior back; Eusabio Gonzales, sophomore back; Jack Adkins, sophomore back; George Johnson, freshman back; Turney Friess, junior center; Billy Frank Turney, senior guard; Richard Mayer, senior end; Shannon Ratliff, freshman end; Reed Jennings, junior guard; Augustin Martinez, freshman guard; Tommy Sessom, manager and Donny Letsinger, assistant manager. Coaches were Joe Turner, Oliver Wuest, Jack Fry and John Kenner.

We found a beautiful picture of Mrs. Doris Jane Mayer Rousselot in her wedding gown. Seems she and Norman Wayne Rousselot were married in 1953 at the First Presbyterian Church, in San Angelo. The bride wore a gown of imported white satin designed by William Cahill of Calif. The portrait neckline of the gown had a narrow band of beaded pearls. An accordion pleated inset extended to the floor in front and the satin skirt swept into a chapel-length train. Her floor-length veil fell from an inverted crown of pearls. Her crescent bouquet was of calla lilies, and Stephanotis. Her attendants wore floor-length gowns of blue tulle and taffeta. Their headdresses were crowns

of mother of pearl encrusted with blue brilliants. They carried crescent bouquets of yellow roses. The reception was held in the ballroom of the Cactus Hotel.

December 11, 1953, Devil's River News- Mary John Espy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Espy posed with an 11 point buck she had bagged. Not bad for a third grade student.

Joe Brown Ross, ranchman and longtime Boy Scout worker, was elected president of the Concho Valley Council. The 6-A District Trophy was awarded at the annual banquet to Coach Turner who then presented it to team Captains, Eddie Smith and Jodie Minnick.

The Sonora High School Band won a first division rating Saturday night at the Interscholastic League Marching Contest held at Bobcat Stadium. Last year only six of sixty bands in the region won such rating.

December 25, 1953, Devil's River News-L. W. Elliott was re-elected head of the Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital at the annual board meeting. Other officers re-elected include Joe M. Vander Stucken, first vice-president; Mrs. E. E. Sawyer, second vice-president; George H. Neill, treasurer and Mrs. Henry Decker, secretary.

The DeMolays from Sonora and their dates attending the DeMolay annual Christmas Dance held at the Melody Club in San Angelo included Albert Ward, Jan Keng, Darcy Carroll, Betsy Ross, George Spinks, Martha Powell, Donald Fuqua, Vicki Archer, Turney Friess, June Henderson, John Stanley Hamby, Rose Alice Turney, Tracy Crites, Marla Schwiening, Jack Johnson, Vicki Savell, Jimmy Morrow, Mrs. J. W. Pepper, Robert Guest, Martha Mittle, Frank Adkins and Patty Hardesty of Ozona. Willis Minnick, Martha Moore, Henry Ehrenburg, Lou Ann Adkins, Billy Frank Turney and Shirley Thornton of San Angelo.

Under "Little Known Facts" about the Navy: The first mass operations of jet planes from an aircraft carrier, took off from the USS Boxer in March of 1948 near San Diego. Eighty thousand gallons of sea water are converted into fresh water per day aboard the battleship



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Hunt, around 1900

USS Missouri.

Sutton County 4-H members have entered 31 lambs in the Junior Lamb Show of the 1954 Houston Fat Stock Show to be held February 3-14. Many prizes are offered but the group is also interested in meeting "The Cisco Kid and Pancho," played by television stars Duncan Renaldo and Leo Carrillo, the featured entertainers. Cisco and Pancho have promised to hand out autographed photos to all children attending the rodeo.

I think half the kids in New England that had television sets in 1953 were walking around hailing their friends with "Hey Cisco!" They would get the reply, "Hey Pancho!" In my childhood we just had to watch the "Cisco Kid," "Roy Rogers," "Hopalong Cassidy" and "The Lone Ranger." Admitting to my age, I must say I can remember listening to "The Lone Ranger" on the radio before it became a hit on the television. You can still see the old Hopalong Cassidy episodes; only now it costs \$19.95 to get 4 episodes from Worldwide Video in New Jersey.

As a child we got to meet Hopalong when he got a flat tire on route 20 in West Springfield, Massachusetts, almost in front of our house. We all get to pet his splendid horse and get autographs. Every kid in the neighborhood sure was happy he had gotten that flat tire. Anyway the neighbors helped fix the flat, and we were pretty sad when he drove off. With West Springfield being the home of the Eastern States Exposition we got to meet Roy Rogers and Dale Gribble, Zorro (Guy Williams) and several other western television stars. Maybe that is where I got my yearning to live in the southwest.

Sonora looks so pretty right now. Christmas lights everywhere. The Chamber of Commerce did a beautiful job of decorating downtown, and so many other places of business have gone all out to make Sonora a twinkling jewel of lights at night. Mr. Creek gets my vote for the prettiest lights to be seen from I-10. His display and our beautiful flag sure do get people's attention. We decorated the Miers Home Museum, Depot and office this year, and hopefully we will be able to decorate the Old Ice House Museum by next Christmas. If enough people would volunteer and show up on Saturdays to work with us it would get done a lot quicker. We really need a few more people to get some of these big pieces of duct work, etc. out of the building. Many hands make light work. We also need someone with a trailer so that we can haul loads to the dump. A lot of that metal sheeting just won't fit in the trash containers. Or if anyone wants it, to use for shed roofs, etc., they are welcome to it. So come on down on Saturday and dig through what we are taking out; you might find something you want.

To rent the Depot, reserve tickets for the San Angelo Symphony performance on March 19, or if you have any questions about local history, stop by the office at 307 Oak Street on Monday or Friday mornings or give us a call at 325-387-5084 or call me at home at 325-387-2855. We will keep up the display on "Collecting can be fun," for a few more weeks. Bring the children by on any Saturday afternoon to see Snow Babies, M&M collectibles, stamps and coins.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

### Happy Birthday

- December 25  
Father Bill DuBuisson, Curt Dempsey, Chris Vylvlecka, Ty Love, Noah Chambers, Cynthia Perez
- December 26  
Oscar Perez, Jr., Donny Deel, Larry Luckett, Claire Richards, Scott Gonzales
- December 27  
Charlie Alewine, Al Elliott, Melinda Crain
- December 28  
Amy Gann
- December 29  
Donna Benson, Ruth Ramos
- December 30  
Erica Olson, Jeannette Thompson, Jeb Hunt, Mary Jean Sims, Mario Lira, Jr., Carol Pope, Justin Northcott
- December 31  
Patsy Samaniego, Nathan Longoria, Ron Morris, Jerri Martin

### Hardin-Simmons Announces Fall Graduates

Abilene, TX - Hardin-Simmons University announces that Sonora resident Anthony Renfro was among approximately 200 students that received degrees during the fall commencement exercises on Saturday, December 13, 2003.

Renfro received a Bachelor of Behavioral Science degree in Sports/Fitness/Leisure Studies with a minor in Communication.

### Dancing through the holidays



Carolyn Earwood's School of Dance performed their annual Christmas Ballet program for families and friends on Tuesday, December 16, 2003. Young ladies from 3 years old and up danced to Christmas favorites for what may be the last time at the holidays. Carolyn is reportedly retiring after this year. Everyone enjoyed snacks after the dancing, and the girls took home special ornaments made for them by Mrs. Earwood.

**Feliz Navidad!**  
from the  
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Mrs. Russell Crenwelge nee Connie Yocham  
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- THE LAST SAMURAI (R) 12:45
- STUCK ON YOU (PG-13) 1:15 4:00
- THE MISSING (R) 12:30 3:30
- THE CAT IN THE HAT (PG) 1:00 3:15 5:30
- ELF (PG) 4:10 12:20 2:45 5:00
- TIMELINE (PG-13) 4:10
- BAD SANTA (R) 12:40 3:00 5:15

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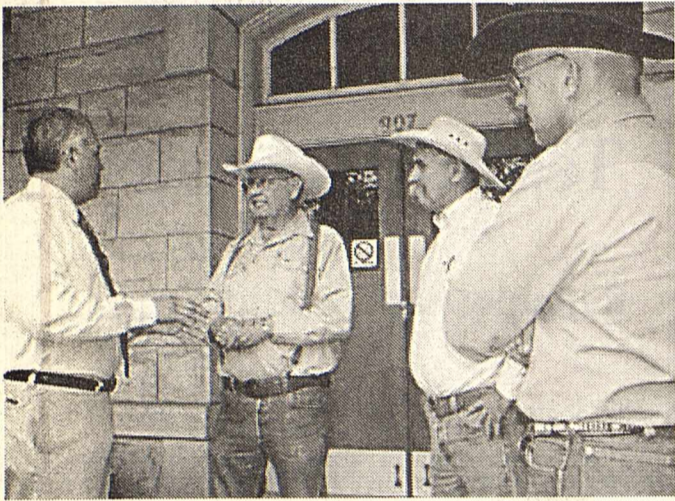
Show Times for FRIDAY-TUESDAY

- THE LAST SAMURAI (R) 6:45 9:50
- THE LAST SAMURAI (R) 7:00
- STUCK ON YOU (PG-13) 7:10 9:45
- THE MISSING (R) 6:30 9:30
- THE CAT IN THE HAT (PG) 7:35 9:35
- ELF (PG) 7:20 9:40
- TIMELINE (PG-13) 9:55
- BAD SANTA (R) 7:40 10:00

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 A Holiday Greeting from
 
  
**Congressman Henry Bonilla**



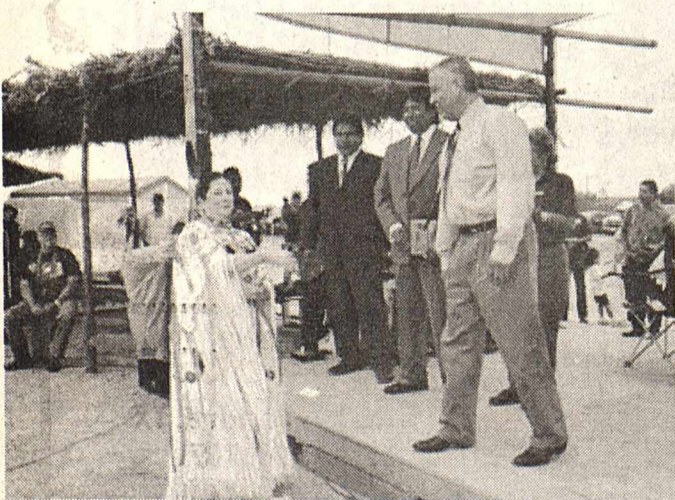
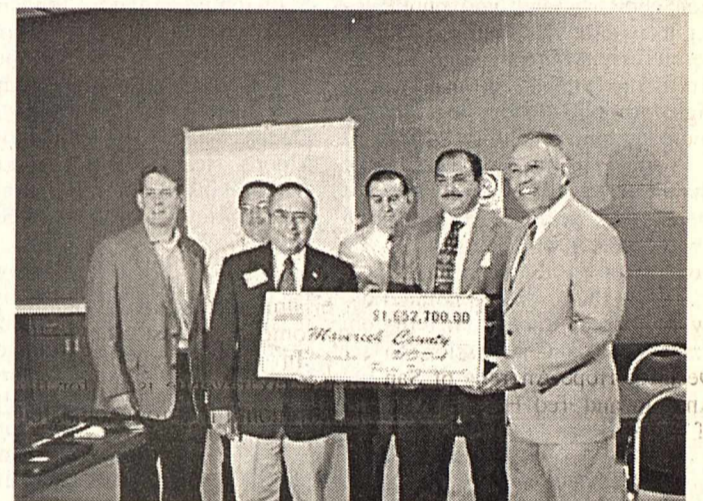
Dear Friends,

I hope that this holiday season brings you and yours all the joy on earth.

It has been my honor to represent you for the last eleven years and I look forward to another successful year for the people of the 23<sup>rd</sup> district.

All the best,

*Hy Bonilla*



# Commission paves way for toll roads in Texas

## State Capital Highlights

Texas Press Association

By Mike Cox

AUSTIN - Looking down the road toward Texas' transportation future, there's a toll booth not too many figurative mile markers ahead. Or maybe a toll tag on your vehicle's windshield, right there above your registration and inspection stickers.

The three-member Transportation Commission voted unanimously last Thursday to institute a new policy that will lead to a new way of building highways faster than currently possible through the use of gasoline tax revenue.

The policy the commission approved requires the Department of Transportation to study every controlled-access highway project - either in the planning or construction phase - to see if it could be converted into a tollway.

"We are just developing guidelines on the best way to collectively figure out how to solve the [transportation] problem and evaluate which roadways should be considered [for tolls]," Commissioner Ric Williamson said before the vote.

Commissioner Robert L. Nichols noted that the gasoline tax, which has paid for Texas highways since the 1920s, is "inefficient." On the other hand, he said, "Tolling ... allows us to build roads years, if not decades, faster."

John W. Johnson, commission chair, stressed that public input would be sought long before any toll booths go up. And converting segments of highways will take a vote by county commissioners.

But the fundamental change seems to be coming - there are no "free" roads.

**Speaking of transportation...**

Gov. Rick Perry appointed two new members to the Transportation Commission on Dec. 15: Hope Andrade of San Antonio and Ted Houghton Jr. of El Paso.

Once the commissioners are sworn in by the secretary of state, the policy-making body

will be up to its new five-member strength. The Legislature increased the size of the panel last spring.

Andrade is vice president of OptimaCare Inc. and has prior experience as a member of the Texas Turnpike Commission (since folded into the Transportation Department.) Houghton is an El Paso insurance executive.

**Something for the teachers...**

One measure that got little or no attention during the 78th Legislature was House Bill 1844. But if you teach school, or go to a public school in Texas, the bill has resonance.

Essentially, the new law allows the Texas Education Agency to grant eligible schools up to \$200 per teacher so they can be reimbursed for any classroom supplies they buy with their own money.

School districts must match the money with local funds.

Teachers may use the money at their discretion, providing it benefits their students.

**Easier than the shots...**

Flu vaccine is a lot harder to get these days than an attack from the viruses the shots protect against, but there is another way to protect yourself - wash your hands.

Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez recently recommended a two-step flu control program: Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing and wash your hands frequently.

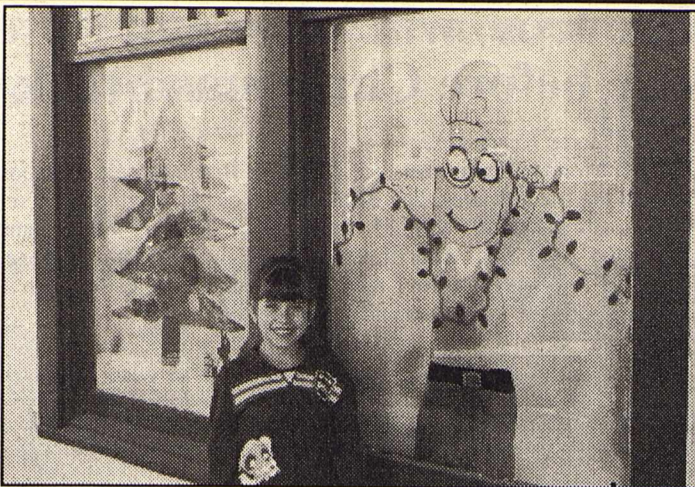
Simplistic as that sounds, that's how the flu spreads, Sanchez said.

**Bad December for the Grinch...**

"Last year, the Grinch stole Christmas," Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said recently. "We were seeing declining sales tax revenue at both the state and the local level, and tough economic times were also taking a toll on other revenue sources."

But this year, she said, the Grinch isn't going to get Christmas. Sales tax revenue is up compared to last year.

In fact, Strayhorn said, sales tax revenue is up for the sixth month in a row compared to last year. The last time that happened was in 2001, prior to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 that year.



Helping to deck the halls, 7-year-old Ashley Perales, daughter of Gabriel and Holly Perales and granddaughter of Steve and Charlene Lynn, added a youthful approach to the Christmas decor at Lone Star Collision on Crockett Ave. The second grade Sonora Elementary student free-handed the smiling characters for her family's business, Lone Star Collision.

## Attorney General Greg Abbott asks U. S. Supreme Court to uphold 'Under God' in Pledge Of Allegiance

AUSTIN - Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott today urged the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold as constitutional the practice of reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools. Attorney General Abbott made his argument in an amicus curiae ("friend of the court") brief that he filed on behalf of all 50 states, in a case involving a California man who contends that having public schoolchildren recite the Pledge of Allegiance violates the U.S. Constitution because the Pledge contains the words "under God."

"From the time of her founding, our nation has recognized her religious heritage in historical documents, speeches and even her architecture," Attorney General Abbott said. "The phrase 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance is one such acknowledgment, and I urge the Supreme Court to protect its continued presence in our public schools."

The Court's decision in the case, Elk Grove Unified School District v. Michael A. Newdow, will directly impact the laws of at least 43 states, including a newly enacted Texas statute that requires school districts to have students recite the Pledge of Allegiance once during each school day. The law was passed to help fulfill the Texas Education Code's mandate that students be taught to be "thoughtful, active citizens who understand the importance of patriotism."

Attorney General Abbott notes in the brief that virtually every reference to the Pledge of Allegiance by the Supreme Court has agreed that the Pledge is entirely consistent with the First Amendment. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, for example, said in 1985's Wallace v. Jaffree that the reference to God in the Pledge of Allegiance "serve[s] as an acknowledgment of religion with the legitimate secular purposes of solemnizing public occasions, [and] expressing confidence in the future."

Attorney General Abbott added, "The Supreme Court has consistently acknowledged a key distinction between government-sponsored religious ceremony or display, and simple historical and patriotic recognition of religion by government institutions. We urge the Court to continue that tradition in this case."

The case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court after the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the use of the words "under God" in the Pledge violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. Oral arguments have yet to be scheduled at the Supreme Court.

After an early form first appeared in a youth publication in 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance grew in notoriety and changed form until Congress officially adopted it in 1942. Congress added the phrase "under God" in 1954.

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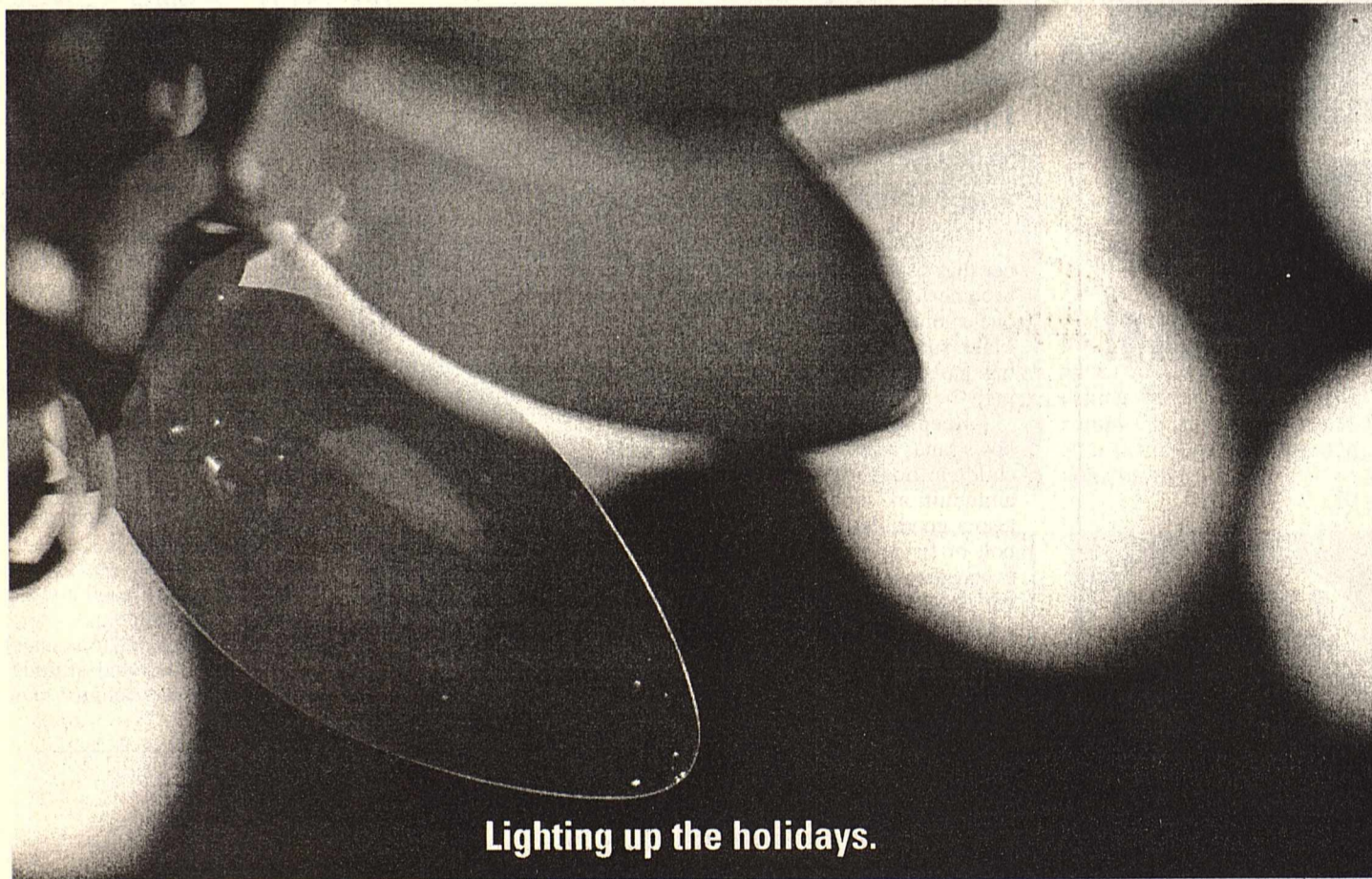
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As you begin using decorative lighting in and around your home this holiday season, AEP reminds you to keep safety in mind. Check light strings for frayed cords, and use only UL-approved lights and extension cords. Remember not to overload circuits, and remind children not to touch lights or outlets. And on behalf of all of us here at AEP, please enjoy a safe, bright holiday season with your family and friends. **AEP is there, always working for you.**



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## Broncos win one and lose one before Christmas break

by Maray Cearley  
On Monday, December 15, 2003, the Broncos were in action against the Iraan Braves. The Broncos won 57-44. High point scorer was Chris Martin, with 17, followed by Trapper Valliant and Brett McDaniel, both with 14. Other scorers were Austin Wagoner 4, Embre Smith and Dustin Creek 3 each, and Clint Cearley with 2. Martin had three 3-pointers and McDaniel had 1.  
Friday's game was against the much bigger and quicker Ballinger Bearcats. At the final buzzer, Sonora trailed 57 to 61. Leading the Broncos was Cearley with 15, McDaniel 12 and Valliant with 10. Martin followed closely with 9, while Steve Duhon and Creek each had 4. Cearley had four 3-pointers, McDaniel had two and Martin had one.  
After Christmas the Broncos will be participating in the Iraan Tournament on December 29 - 31.

## Sutton County 4-H sets clip day and lamb shear date

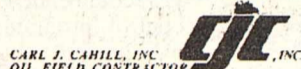
Wildlife Project participants will meet at the Langford Barn on Monday, December 29, 2003, at 5:30 p.m. Mary Humphrey, wildlife biologist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will take the group on an actual deer survey.  
Friday, January 2, 2004, has been scheduled for the clip day for county gilts. The work schedule will be posted at the FFA farm or is available by calling the Extension Office.  
Sunday, January 4, 2004, has been scheduled for the market lamb shear date. Chente

Arispe will start shearing at 8:00 a.m. at the FFA farm where all shearing will be done. Please bring your lambs to the farm sometime after lunch if they are not penned at the farm. Exhibitors entered in the Hill Country District Stock Show at Kerrville will also meet on this day at 1:00 p.m. at the Langford Barn in order to work on the Herdsman Award displays. It is very important that everyone have five projects such as feeding, trimming, exercising, or putting on covers. Please bring your pictures with you when you come to the workshop so that the albums can be completed.

## Oil & Agribusiness

### Rig Locations as of December 19, 2003

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Dominion; 8800' Brown-Whitehead - 2 - #12, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 8590' Mayfield - 41 - #5, Key Energy.  
Dominion; 8550' Richardson - 139 - #9, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 8500' Simmons Ranch #52, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 8200' Lancaster - 154 - #5, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 7450' Duke Wilson #1713, Patterson Drilling.  
New KCS Resources; 6600' Carta - 113 - #5, Patterson Drilling.  
New Silver Oil & Gas; 6200' Hull #9604, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 6150' Davis - F - #11, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 6000' Cusenbary - 60A - #5, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; Brown-Whitehead - 2 - #36, Patterson Drilling.  
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Chevron/Midland; 9500' C E Davidson NCT - 1#10, Nabors Drilling.  
Beach Expl; 7600' Meadows - 52 - #1, Rod Ric Corporation.  
New J. Cleo Thompson; WS Todd #10-1, Patterson Drilling.  
New Patina O&G Corp.; 5200' Adams #121, Key Energy.  
Terrell  
Nuevo Texas Inc.; 19000' Mitchell - 7 - #6, Nabors Drilling.  
ExxonMobil Dev Co; 16000' Banner Estate Unit - B - #1, Patterson Drilling.  
Nuevo Texas Inc.; 9000' Mitchell - 6 - #12, Nabors Drilling.  
Edwards  
Chi Operating, Inc.; 9800' Hi Hi Newby - 117 - #1, Patterson Drilling.  
Par Minerals Corp; 8000' Four Square Ranch #10, Key Energy.  
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## Hunting accident sends one to hospital

by Storie Sharp  
For the first time in three years, a hunting accident has been reported in Sutton County. Texas State Game Warden, Will Allison reported that at approximately 5:45 a.m. on Saturday, December 20, 2003, a 56 year old man was walking to his hunting blind near Sonora. While walking, the hunter tripped and fell, causing the loaded 30-06 to fire. The hunter reported that he heard a bang and thought someone else had fired. It took a minute for him to realize that it was his gun that had fired, and he had shot himself in the foot. The shot took off the second toe on his left foot. The safety was not on while the gun was being transported. Warden Allison said that the victim was taken to Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital, and later transferred to Community in San Angelo. He underwent surgery Sunday morning.

This brings about the opportunity to remind hunters to BE CAREFUL!

## Don't Become A Statistic, Be A Safe and Ethical Hunter

Every hunter must remember that firearms and bows can become lethal weapons during one moment of carelessness. Make sure you and your hunting partners obey the following:

Keep guns, ammunition, bows and arrows away from children. Lock up the guns and ammunition separately. It is also a good idea to remove the bolt or firing mechanism from every gun and store it separately. Use trigger locks also.

Treat every gun as though it were loaded. Check for cartridges in the magazine and chamber every time you pick

up a gun. Always point the muzzle of a gun in a safe direction.

Do not aim a firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot.

Leave the safety on until the moment you intend to shoot.

Unload your gun in any situation where you could fall, such as, crossing fences, creeks, ditches, etc.

Be aware of where you shoot. Never fire towards other hunters, buildings or livestock. Do not shoot over a road or ridge.

Use the right type of ammunition for your firearm. Carry only one type of ammunition at a given time.

Keep the barrel clear. Always check the gun barrel before going afield. Check it after a fall.

Bowhunters, protect your broadheads. They are extremely dangerous. Use a quiver that completely covers the broadheads.

Wear blaze orange while deer hunting with a firearm.

Never drink alcohol before or during a hunt. Alcohol impairs your judgement and coordination and also causes your body to lose heat faster than normal.

Beware of fatigue. When you become tired, return to camp. Unload your gun. Leave the action open as a courtesy to other hunting partners. This way they will know the gun is unloaded.

Remember, firearms are precision instruments. If your gun is not working properly, do not hunt with it or take it shooting.

All hunters should let someone know when and where they are going and when they expect to return.

Hunters should also understand about hypothermia and how to treat the condition.

Get into excellent physical condition before the hunting season. Know your limitations and stay within them.

### TRREE STAND SAFETY

Be sure your portable platform is securely chained or strapped to the tree. Check the platform for any loose bolts or screws each and every time you use it.

Never attempt to use a permanent treestand that you are unsure of.

Never attempt to use a tree stand without some kind of safety belt attached to yourself and the tree.

Practice climbing with portable tree stands well before the season begins.

Never climb with a bow or firearm. Raise and lower them with a rope. Make sure the firearm is NOT LOADED!!

### HUNTING ETHICS

If the sport of hunting is to survive, it is up to us as hunters to become more ethical while afield. If every sportsman pledges to be an ethical hunter, there will be many more places to hunt. Below are some rules of ethics that every hunter should try to follow.

If hunting on private property, I will consider myself an invited guest of the landowner, seeking their permission, and conducting myself so I will be welcome in the future.

I will obey the rules of safe gun handling and will insist that others do the same.

I will obey all game laws and regulations, and will insist that my hunting partners do the same.

I will do my best to become a good shot so I can make clean, sportmanlike kills.

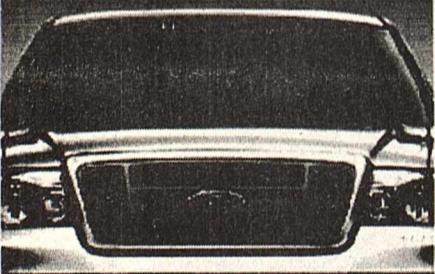
I will support conservation efforts that assure good hunting for future generations.

I will pass along to younger hunters the skills and attitudes to become a good outdoorsman.

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**Lariat Services, Inc.** is seeking an experienced Air Driller. Wage ranges between \$20.00 to \$24.00 an hour depending on experience. Will pay \$30.00 per diem and mileage reimbursement. Benefits include 401K Plan and Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 325-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 325-336-7821.

**I-10 Exxon** is looking for reliable candidates to join our team. The following positions are available: Full and Part-Time cashiers. Retirees welcome. Come by the corner of I-10 and Hwy. 277 N. EOE.

**Best Western Sonora Inn**  
Now taking applications for several positions:

**Maintenance:** Must have reliable transportation and clean driving record. Requires flexible hours, weekends and must be available from 7 a.m. till 4 p.m.  
**Housekeeping:** Weekends and flexible hours with reliable transportation required.  
**Front Desk:** P/T Floater. Requires Evening, Nights and Weekend flexibility.

**Help Wanted:** General home repair and remodeling experience needed for a multi-home ranch 25 miles SE of Sonora. Long-term project part-time. Fax resumes to 281-495-9889.

**Driver: Up to 38¢ cpm.**

Company drivers: no loading/unloading, no forced NE/Canada, top of the line equipment, fuel bonus program. 1 year OTR exp., 23 yrs. old, Class A CDL with HazMat required. Guaranteed home policy, 2000/newer conventionals. O/O's welcome. 1-800-848-0405.

Major Oilfield Service Company now hiring Equipment Operators with Class "A" CDL and good driving record. Call **Snelling Personnel** at 800-296-7106.

Customer Service Reps for Special Project at local Mall. Sales Ability/Outgoing \* Mature qualities. **Snelling Personnel** 800-296-7106

**Pool Company**, an industry leader in oilfield services, is accepting applications for the following positions in Sonora, TX:  
**Vacuum Truck Drivers**  
**Transport Truck Drivers**  
**Kill Truck Drivers**

Applicants must have experience in their position applied for and be DOT certified with the proper license and endorsements.

Pool Company offers an excellent wage and benefits package including medical and dental insurance, paid vacation, and other benefits.

Forward Resume or Apply in person to:

Pool Company Texas Ltd.  
Hwy. 277 South  
Sonora, TX 76950  
Attn: Nancy Fullen  
Pool Company Texas  
An Equal Opportunity  
Employer (M/F/D/V)

**Sports Decals**

**Vinyl Sports Decals**  
Call Erica 387-2507

**Real Estate**

**Lots suitable for building.**  
Zone restrictions.  
Contact Main Street Realty at 325-387-6115.

**For Sale by Owner:** 117 Deerwood Dr., 4 bedroom, 2 bath, central heat and air, fireplace, 2 car garage. Call 325-387-5474.

**House for Sale:** 301 S. Water. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, hardwood floors. Nice yard. Must see! Call (325) 387-5801.

**Eldorado:** 202 Live Oak, beautiful corner lot, large brick home, 4/2.5, utility, large master suite, built-in entertainment center in den, screened back porch. Call 325-853-2204 or 830-613-8342.

**ELDORADO.** Make Happiness Your Own. 298 CR 414. Burrow into the comforts of this country home. Hill country rock design, beautifully sited on 8 acres, quiet street, 3 bedrooms, farm-style kitchen, cellar, trees, well. PRICE REDUCED \$100,000. Call Julie McWilliams 325-944-9559.

**Rent or Lease**

**Moving to Sonora in early January.** Interested in rent house or buying a country home. Call (432) 943-3815.

**Pizza Wagon**

**Texas Pizza Wagon** will be here every Monday beginning December 8th from 4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. with fresh, hot, hand tossed pizza baked to your order. We are located at The Video Store 809 N. Crockett Ave. Order ahead 325-456-8106.

**Hunting Lease**

**Responsible Hunters** looking for long term hunting lease. 432-687-1565.

**Automobile**

**For Sale:** 1976 Chevy K5 Blazer, equipped with steel high rack with bench seat, engine and transmission are good, 4-wheel drive, needs work. \$1,500.00, located in Juno. Call 281-236-8633 or 281-236-2066.

**Pets**

**Pet Care Service**  
Shaylynn Kresta, age 14 would like to take care of your pets. Call 325-387-5649 for more information.  
References provided.

**FREE PUPPY**

8 week old male Australian Shepherd Mix/Rat Terrier. Call 387-2578

**For Sale**

**For Sale:** One like new-brass half bed, mattress, box springs. \$200.00. Two matching mauve recliners \$75.00 each. Call 387-5151.

**Found**

Found; red, male Chow on Del Rio St., Glasscock area. Please call 387-5276.

**Gulf Shrimp**

**Fresh Gulf Shrimp for Sale.** Special orders upon request. Call Frank Wamble 325-387-2672.

**Sonora Office Supply**  
228 E. Main  
387-2498

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SATURDAY	NOON-9PM
SUNDAY	NOON-9PM
MON-FRI	1PM-9PM
SATURDAY	NOON-9PM
SUNDAY	NOON-6PM

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**Public Notices**

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS**

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

**CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)**

Dist/Div: San Angelo  
Contract 0907-00-062 for THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARKINGS in TOM GREEN County, etc. will be opened on January 09, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 11739

**State Office**

Constr./Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-416-2540

**Dist/Div Office(s)**

San Angelo District  
District Engineer  
4502 Knickerbocker Rd  
San Angelo, Texas 76904  
Phone: 325-944-1501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

**Mobile Homes**

**For Sale:** Mobile Home 16 x 76, 3 BR, 2 BA, central air & heat. Call 650-2089.

To be moved from Sutton County Ranch, 2002 Skyline Winner, 16 x 66, 2 br, 2 ba, vinyl siding, shingle roof, thermal pane windows, taped and textured in living, dining, kitchen, mountain energy packages including R-22 insulation ceiling, R-19 floor and walls, completely furnished, \$44,500. 325-387-3169, 806-790-9741, 806-795-0317.

**CARROLL REAL ESTATE**  
SINCE 1985

FARM & RANCH

1-800-868-3154

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**Scott Jacoby Real Estate**

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P.O. Box 295  
802 S. Concho  
Sonora, TX 76950

387-9065 Office  
387-2200 Fax  
Email: sjacoby@sonoratx.net

**Bob Caruthers Real Estate**  
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Anita Balch Hudson, Broker / Owner

www.mainstreetrealty.net • mainstr@sonoratx.net  
215 East Main • Sonora, Texas 76950 • 325-387-6115 • Fax 325-387-2402

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

In appreciation to all of our customers and friends, Main Street Realty wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

(325)387-2728

**Bobbie A. Smith Real Estate**

New Hope Baptist Church. 2.07 ac tract with church bldg. containing auditorium, 6 classrooms, restrooms, kitchen, office & nursery. Furniture & equipment included. Established yard, parking lot, playground with basketball court & baseball area. Property contains lovely 4 BR, 2 BA Doublewide on large corner lot. May be sold separately.

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Please send legal description to **Belmont Royalty Company**  
PO Box 60498 • San Angelo, Texas 76906  
or call 325-223-0200.

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www.texas-injury-law.com

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**ADOPT-A-PET**  
8 wk. old female  
German Shepherd Cross

2 Male  
Black & White Cats  
Neutered Male  
Black Cat

Sponsored by: **drc**  
Sonora Animal Hospital  
387-2481

**Hudson Technology**

Computer Service and Support  
222 E. Main #203  
206-0168  
206-0713

# Location-Builders

As of December 22, 2003

## Gas

\$6.33 per MMBtu.

## Crude Oil

\$28.72/BBL

203 S. Hwy 277 • 387-3881

### SERVICE DIRECTORY

**Sonora Electric Company**  
Electric Repair  
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Farm & Ranch  
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Arnold Hosford  
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201 Ave I Ozona, TX

Windmills • Pumps • Drilling  
Deep Well Rig  
**George Thorp Waterwell**  
Drilling & Service  
GEO. "JENKY" THORP  
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MOBILE: 325-206-0230  
206-0233  
510 W. Mulberry  
Sonora, TX 76950

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Free Estimates  
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387-2767 Fax  
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OILFIELD CONTRACTOR  
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Sonora, TX

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Office Supplies  
Open M-F 8:30-5:00  
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PO Box 1035  
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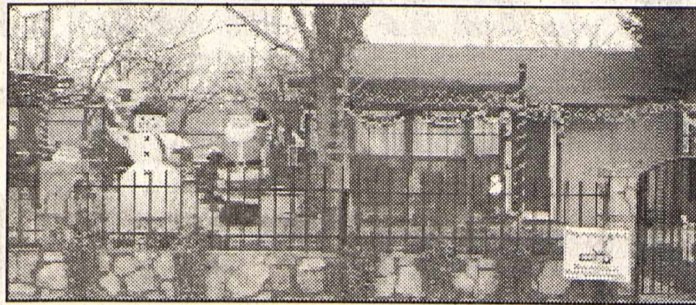
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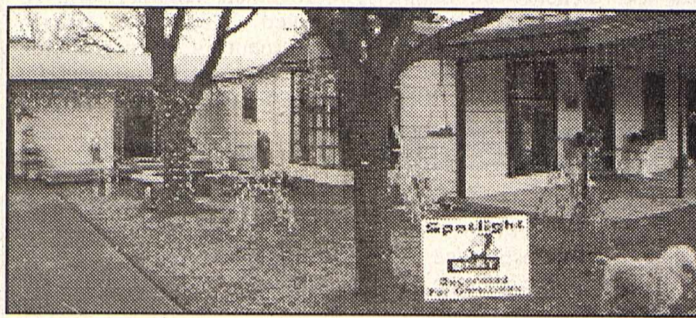
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### Best Christmas Decorated Homes and Businesses

OOPS! Well, with all those Letters to Santa, too many sugar cookies, and last minute shopping last week, we ended up working pretty late to get the paper done. So I guess the wee hours of the morning made me get a little careless and I switched some addresses and/or labeled some winners wrong. We apologize for the confusion, and hope that you enjoy the lights anyway. We will print the final week of winners in next week's issue.



311 Benito Juarez—Linda Patlan



305 Calle San Francisco—Victor & Yolanda Fuentes



The Bank & Trust

### F.Y.I.

GED Classes are being offered once again, starting Jan. 6, 2004 at the Sonora Middle School. New students please phone 387-3736.

For holiday health hints, handmade gift ideas, unique recipes, and activities to do with the kids during Christmas break access the Sutton County Extension Office Website at <http://sutton-co.tamu.edu/newsletters/2003Holidaynews.doc>

Westside Lions Club meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Sutton County Library at 6:30 p.m.

Emmaus gathering - 2nd Tuesday of every month at Lighthouse Community Church, 6:30 p.m. Babysitting provided.

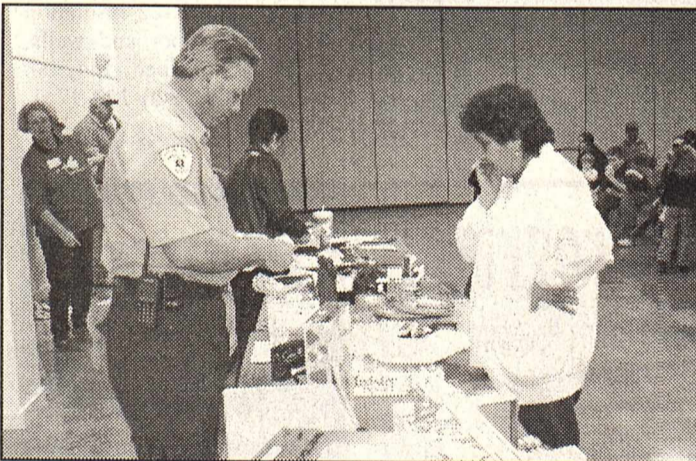
### Santa Buck Auction from page 1

Kay Faris  
Santa Wind Flag - Team Graphics - Valentino Gallego  
Santa Wind Flag - Team Graphics - Mari Sanchez  
Golf Plaque - Image - Lenka Whizenhut  
Cookware Set - T&C Village - Diana Ramos  
Brown Bag Special - Sonic - Jessica Esquivel  
1 Night Stay - Days Inn - Sylvia Ramon  
Christmas Candle - Ol' Sonora - Jenny Sue Trainer  
Burger Deal - Sonic - Faye

Thorp  
These events don't just happen; they take a lot of work and planning. I would like to acknowledge all the support and help this office received in preparing and putting on such a fun event. Donna Garrett, the administrative assistant at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce office spent endless hours making sure that all the merchants had Santa Bucks and wouldn't take "no" for an answer when asking for donations for the auction. A great deal of the suc-

cess of this event sets squarely on her shoulders. Local merchants and interested citizens furnished cookies, coffee, hot chocolate and spiced hot punch. A big "thank-you" to Marla Percifull, Lou Faulks, Ronnie Cox, and Maggie Mesa; we certainly appreciated all the goodies. Little Miss Sutton County, Holly Sparks, and Little Mr. Sutton County, Robert Zapata helped us display and hand out all the items that were auctioned off. Our wonderful auctioneer for the evening was John Q.

Adams, who generously donated his time and talent. Mike Samuels set up the chairs for us Thursday afternoon, and Mickey Sharp helped set up more chairs as the building filled up. Keith Butler, Storie Sharp, Juanita Estrada, and Sue Moore were Santa's helpers, and helped our auctioneer and staff keep up with who won what bid. It was a fun evening! Have a Safe & Merry Christmas!!



Chamber of Commerce President, Keith Butler, counts the cash for a special gift purchased at the Santa Bucks auction.



The counting became very competitive at the end of the auction.

**Dining Out Directory**

- Angel Cafe  
1005 Crockett  
387-3748
- Dairy Queen  
134 Hwy. 277 N.  
387-2118
- Los Cerritos Restaurant  
605 S. Crockett  
387-2838
- La Mexicana  
240 N. Hwy 277  
387-3401
- Pizza Hut  
401 Hwy. 277 N.  
387-3540
- Sutton County Steakhouse  
1306 N. Service Rd  
387-3833
- Taco Grill  
232 Hwy. 277 N.  
387-9127

**Happy Holidays**

**Location-Builders**

325-387-3881 • Fax: 325-387-2165  
P.O. Box 1225 • Sonora, Texas 76950