THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 117 • Issue 49

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 15, 2005



by Storie Sharp

It was a chilly 18 when the few remaining "Ride to Provide" riders rode into town on Tuesday, December 6, 2005, but Sonora was ready for them. What started out with over 100 riders on the East Coast had dwindled down to about a handful as they made their way through Texas, but that didn't lessen the enthusiasm for their mission. The men and women that parked in front of the Sutton County Courthouse were almost frost bitten, but they were all smiles and gratitude as they stood before the small crowd that gathered to welcome them. Chamber of Commerce Board of Director Jody Luttrell welcomed the crew to town, having led the bikes through town with other local "bikers". Luttrell thanked everyone and made introductions of the group including the riders, their program managers and the drivers, as well as the local volunteers that had formed the committees to make the guests feel welcome during their short stay in Sonora.

COC Board member, Lance Castro joined the group on the steps, presenting them with a check in the amount of \$980 that had been collected locally. There was also a truck full of needed items and several people added to the truck as the presentation continued.

The Ride to Provide leader, Mitch Morrison explained that this was his second such trip, having made the treck across the United States after 9/11 to raise money for victims in New York. Several of the group were also a part of that trip and their passion and gratitude was obvious to everyone as they thanked the community for their donations and hospitality.

The group then made their way over to The Church of the Good Shepherd where they were treated to a BBQ provided by Sonora Chamber of Commerce and Creek Swabbing.

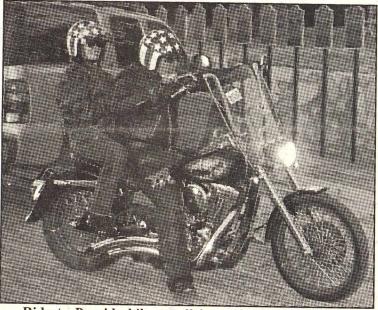
Stagecoach BBQ and the Sutton County Steakhouse made Sonora proud, with a delicious meal of brisket, chicken and even a local favorite... goat, provided by local ranchers M.D. Shurley and Marvin Shurley. Many had never tried the meat, but most agreed that it was great. Some even took home seconds! The meal was completed with all the sides, potato salad, pasta salad, beans, bread and desserts provided by the local 4-H cooking

The group was friendly and appreciative, and actor/dancer Chris Judd even sat down to tickle the ivories for the crowd with music he wrote himself.

As they prepared to leave and catch some shut-eye before braving the cold again on Wednesday, a last minute donation was delivered, putting the total collected from Sonora over \$1,000. Not bad for a little town in Texas!

"If we had known how nice and hospitable this place was we would have planned to stay longer," was heard as they left the Cowboy Christmas decorated parrish hall.

The eight-day motorcyle fundraising event and Holiday gift drive for the displaced families of recent hurricane victims continued on through Austin, to the Gulf Coast region, where once again, Sonora was a part of helping others in need.



Ride to Provide bikers roll into town, frost bitten, road weary but pumped up for their cause.

Sutton County 4-H to Host Clinic SIDC awards For Goat and Lamb Exhibitors submitted

Sutton County 4-H will offer a clinic for area 4-H & FFA exhibitors of market lambs and goats. The clinic will be held at the Langford Barn (county barn) and begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 17th. Discussion topics will focus on preparing your animals for show. There will also be demonstrations and a showmanship class. Speakers will be Katie & Bonnie Wallace, Texas A&M students who were themselves topnotch exhibitors recently.

The program is open to all 4-H and FFA exhibitors from surrounding counties. Participants may bring an animal to work with. The barn (certain sections) will be available on Friday evening for anyone wishing to pen early, as the clinic begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. the next morning. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Call project leader and host, Louise Ingham-Moore, at (325) 387-5398 if you will be attending or need details.

\$50,000 to **JMC**

by Storie Sharp

Sonora Industrial Development Corporation met in their office on Concho Street on Monday, December 5. After approving financial statements for October and monthly bills, the SIDC board heard an Eaton Hill report. In the absence of Delyse Jaeger, Eaton Hill manager, Ruth Bounds reported that the hill was still receiving many visitors and because of a new question on the sign-in sheet,

See SIDC page 8

Sonora Head Start receives donation from Devon Energy Corporation

submitted

SONORA, TEXAS - Youngsters at the Sonora Head Start will soon receive a new learning tool through a \$500 donation toward their planned learning center. Devon Energy Ambassador Lynn Hinsley recently presented the check to the Center. Devon's donation will be used to purchase a computer for the planned learning center for 20 students at Head Start.

"The learning center is a new effort to acquaint young people with computers," said Orlando Tirado, a Head Start parent spearheading the Center's fundraising drive. "For many of these children, this will be

"The plans for the Learning Center are a great way to introduce and Elizibeth Ramierz. very young people to technology in a positive manner," said Hinsley. "We are happy to

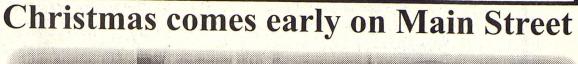
be able to support this community-wide effort." Devon has had operations throughout west Texas

for the past 20 years. Currently there are 60 Devon



their first experience with a com- LEARNING CENTER DONATION - Devon presented a \$500 check to the Sonora Head Start Learning Center. Left to right, Jo Ann Leverio, Alicia Salazar, Lynn Hinsley (Devon), Romie Tirado

employees in the area and many subcontractors. In 2004, Devon extracted 282,649 barrels of oil and 11,341,316 million cubic feet of natural gas from the





by Storie Sharp

Local youth from the St. Ann Catholic Church reenact the story of Christ's birth in a manger as part of the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program's Christmas celebration on December 7, 2005. The biting cold was almost forgotten as visitors joined the Las Posadas march down the street, ending on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn where the Christmas nativity scene came to life. The pageant was just a portion of the evening, which started with the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus in a horse drawn carriage making their way down Main Street. The jolly duo warmed up in City Hall, hearing Christmas wishes of Sonora's girls and boys. Tasty treats were more than just a vision in visitors heads with vendors offering a sleigh full of snacks to select from. For more on the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Christmas celebration, see page 5.

Webb family celebrates son's return with removal of yellow ribbon; shares special gift with Sonora



Yellow Ribbon removed from Old Oak Tree - Wayne and Barbara Webb celebrate the return of their son, Major Richard Webb with special friends and family on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn.

submitted by Ann Kay

It was a special Christmas gift as friends, family, and the community gathered together on December 10, 2005, at the Old Oak Tree on the courthouse lawn to welcome home Major Richard Webb and his family

A year ago Richard's Mom, Barbara, was joined by family and friends as she tied a yellow ribbon on the Old tree, only to wait until Richard returned home

Sonora wanted to show their appreciation to Richard for all that he has done for this country, but Richard turned the tables, announcing that he had a gift of appreciation to present to the community.

This special gift was a United States Flag that had flown over liberated Iraq, aboard the greatest fighter aircraft in the world.

Richard explained that, deployed as the 93rd EFS in support of the Global War on Terrorism, Operation Iraqi Freedom, our members ensued democracy and

freedom was brought to those willing to stand up for the principles that keep America free.

The U. S. Flag presented was flown on the 12th day of October 2005, by the 93rd FS Homestead, FL Balad AB, Iraq and was raised by Capt. Sean "Thor"

I cannot tell you how proud I am of this great gift and how honored I was to be the one to accept this gift for the community. The Old Oak Tree represents our soldiers who have given their "all" for our freedom and we are honored and proud to say that we are Americans who have not forgotten the price of freedom.

Welcome Home Major Richard Webb and May God keep you safe.

The Old Oak Tree Project is sponsored by the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program, with support from KHOS Radio, Devils River News, Sutton County, City of Sonora, and Sonora Chamber of Commerce.

Hudson Technology Consulting, Inc. Business & Home Computer Networking, Web Page Design, PC Technical Support & Data Management Craig Hudson (325) 206-0713/Joan Hudson (325) 206-0168

Lighthouse Community Church

A place for returning Prodigals and recovering Pharisees

Sunday Services

Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.

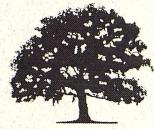
1705 N. Crockett

First United Methodist Church

201 Water Avenue

Christmas Eve Service Saturday, December 24 · 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship Service 10:00 a.m.



SUTTON COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION

Your memorial gift helps preserve access to quality healthcare for generations to come. Please consider the Sutton County Health Foundation, PO Box 18, Sonora, TX 76950.

All contribution 100% tax deductible.



Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesisa Bautista 504 Santa Clara 387-2035

The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian

319 E. Mulberry 387-2616

Lighthouse

Community Church 1705 N. Crockett 387-9100

Pentecostal Calvary **Temple United** 509 Amistad 387-5266

St. Ann's Catholic Church 229 W. Plum

387-2278 Jehovah's Witness

310 St. Ann's St. 387-5658/387-5518 **Church of Christ** 304 N. Water 387-3190

First Baptist Church 111 E. Oak 387-2951

St. John's **Episcopal Church**

404 E Poplar 387-2955

First United Methodist Church

201 N. Water 387-2466

Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713

Hope Lutheran Church 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366

Brought to you by:

Kerbow Funeral Home 387-2266

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

USPS (155-920)

Every Thursday at 228 E. Main Street, Sonora, Texas 76950 Phone: (325) 387-2507 • FAX (325) 387-5691 Second class postage paid at Sonora, Texas Storie Sharp, Publishing Editor

Carolyn McMeans, Advertising Juanita Gomez, Billing & Finances Guest Columnist: Jo-Ann Palmer

Email: General Information: editor@sonoratx.net, Accounting: billing@sonoratx.net; Advertising: sales@sonoratx.net, editor@sonoratx.net

Owner: Cam Longley Campbell \$20 per year in county • Seniors \$18 per year (in county & out of county)

• \$25 per year out of county Att. 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.

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Thank You Notes

actors, Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus (Virgil Polocek & Mattie Nix), angels (from Lighthouse Community Church Youth Group), Mr. & Mrs. Todd Munn, City Hall Staff (place for Santa to have his pictures made with the Children), Johnny Solis, Carlos Gallegos, KHOS Radio, KLST Channel 8, Devil's River News, Mayor of Sonora Gloria Lopez, The Studio, Team Graphics, Radio Shack, Tedford Jewelry, Nathan & Nicolas Favela, First National Bank of Sonora, City of Sonora, Sutton County, Judge Carla Garner, Don Longoria, Rafter W Feed, Brenda Sanchez, St. Ann Catholic Choir, St. Ann's Youth Group, George & Jo Ann Hernandez, Houston Powers, (Christmas Kings on horseback) Sam Powers, Judge Alvarez, (Christmas King on horse back) Aaron Gaytan, Sam Dillard State Farm Insurance, Jennifer, Dwain & Beverly Parson, and all that battled the cold to watch the youth of our community celebrate Christmas. The evening was a moment to remember and I am proud to say the youth of this community are a wonderful gift. Merry Christmas Sonora!

Ann Kay and the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program

Virgil and I have always known that we live in a special community, but we didn't know how special until this fall. The outpouring of well-wishers and good deeds has been overwhelming.

To this wonderful community, we are sincerely grateful for everything you have done to make our lives easier these past few months. We want to thank everyone who has been so supportive as I continue to battle my illness. Your visits, phone calls, emails, inspirational notes, and prayers have helped us to get through these challenging days. In addition, thank you for the food you delivered when I was too ill to cook. There were many of you who donated blood on my behalf, and there are those of you who generously contributed to a housecleaning fund. Thank you.

Everything you have done seems to be helping as I appear to be getting stronger and am feeling better every day. We will never forget your generosity and your concern for our welfare.

Jackie and Virgil Polocek

We would like to say a very special thank you to the St. Ann Catholic Church youth group, the Church of the Good Shepherd, Pam Armke, Cindy Allen and Karen Fincher, who all went above what was asked of them to help make the dinner served to the riders on the Ride to Provide extra special and enjoyable. These people assisted the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors in preparing the Parrish Hall, serving the food, playing the piano, refilling glasses, bagging leftovers for guests to take home, and cleaning up. Also, to the secret santa that wrote a late evening check to push the total collected over \$1,000, thank you for being so special (and for reminding us that it's not about the recognition, it's about helping others in need!) You were all a joy to work with and made the evening even more special for all those that attended, especially our special guests from California.

Thanks again and we look forward to working with you all again, Storie Sharp and Delyse Jaeger (Food Committee: Ride to Provide)

Senior Center Activities

Fri. Dec. 16 - Happy Birthday Bernice Hearn Mon. Dec. 19 - Happy Birthday Mencha Flores, Don Surridge, & Teresa Vasquez - Bingo after lunch

Wed. Dec. 21 - Van to San Angelo Thurs. Dec. 22 - Happy Birthday Maydell Moore

Senior Center Menu

Fri. Dec. 16 - Cheese enchiladas, pinto beans, rice, coleslaw, crackers, citrus fruit salad, milk

Mon. Dec. 19 - BBQ on bun, oven French Fries, lettuce, onions tomatoes, carrot salad, fruit cocktail, milk

Tues. Dec. 20 - Chicken strips w/gravy, beans, mustard greens, juice.

Wed. Dec. 21 - Pepper steak w/rice, spinach, cooked carrots, rolls, pineapple rings, milk Thurs. Dec. 22 - Baked ham w/dressing, sweet potatoes, green beans,

rolls, fruit salad, milk Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older.

Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m.

Donations are accepted (suggested donation for Seniors is \$1.50; \$4.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go)

T. Wayne Price - Pastor

SHS Theatre Dept. presents

Laundry and Bourbon

8:00 p.m. @ SHS Auditorium

December 18

6th Grade Band, Kickin' Colt Band &

Mighty Bronco Band - Christmas Concert

High School Auditorium @ 2:00 p.m.

P.O. Box 798, Sonora, Texas 76950 (325) 387-386

Welcome Home

To First Baptist Church

Be part of our family at Christmas...

December 18 Special Christmas Music, a.m.

Missions Ingathering, a.m. • Church Caroling, 6:00 p.m.

December 24 Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 p.m.

December 25 Christmas Day Service, 10:45 a.m.

January 1 Bible Study, 9:45 a.m. • Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Regular Weekly Schedule

Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Bible Study • 10:45 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Worship

Wednesdays: 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study • 5:45 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:30 p.m. AWANA Club (3 yrs - 5th grade)

7:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center • Adults - Fellowship Hall

Welcome home!

111 E. Oak St. • 387-2951 • twp@sonoratx.net • website: www.fbcsonora.org

Letter to the Editor

Dear People of Sonora,

I really don't know where to start to say "Thank You" for the opportunity to promote the town I love so much.

I guess I'll start at the beginning of my time with Sonora Chamber of Commerce by saying a very special thank you to then president of the chamber, Keith Butler. All the other board members at the time to whom I also owe a great deal of gratitude are Storie Sharp, Marla Percifull, Sue Moore, Mickey Schaeffer, Lisa Seaton, Juanita Estrada, Oscar Marshall, Ben Solis, Lynn Wipff, Brant Meyers and Mike Samuels. It has been my distinct privilege to work with these community leaders, and the current board members; JoAnn Jones, Jody Luttrell, Greta Ramsdell, Susan Hall, Doug Huddleston, Lance Castro, John Jones, Becky Allison, and Jim Phillips. I learned an awful lot from these wonderful people.

I don't think many people realize the time and effort that these individuals give to their community. They are all unsung heroes of civic and community service on a strictly volunteer basis.

The rewards of working for the chamber have been many, but I will have to count as the best reward, the time spent with people that love Sonora as much as I do. The selflessness of putting what was best for the community above their own personal interests and agendas, in most cases, was the norm.

Of course those are the simple items to deal with; the people with whom you might not always agree, but at least they had the same goal in mind - Promoting Sonora. The more difficult items to deal with were those that are only in attendance or service to promote their own agenda and themselves. Every town has those, even Sonora. But never once did any member of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, ever stoop to that kind of behavior. I'm so proud of their leadership and ability to guide me to always keep my focus on what was really important. No wonder I love this town so much!

My thanks would not be anywhere near complete without mentioning my wonderful family, Rick, Jason, Tonya, and Mama Nell. They worked together to keep our family strong while I was attending meetings, writing press releases, putting together promotional advertising, and everything else that comes with the executive director's job. The long hours, weekends, and time away from home all put extra burdens on them and I cannot begin to express my appreciation for their support. Likewise, I must express the same appreciation to Donna Garrett, my administrative assistant. Donna's support has been the most tangible aspect of the job. She made sure I was at every meeting on time, with all the information needed for that meeting, whether it was the City Council, Sonora Industrial Development Corp., County Commissioners, or any of the many other meetings I attended every month. She kept me as organized as was humanly possible and was a great tower of support and calm when things would get too hectic for me. I feel blessed beyond measure to have had an opportunity to work for something that I believe in very strongly, and to have done it with people for whom I will always carry a great deal of admiration.

It was a difficult decision that I made that has resulted in my leaving the chamber. It was a decision not made lightly and many tears and long hours of soul searching went into the decision, but I know for now that this is the best decision that I could make for myself and my family. I will miss being at the chamber and seeing all of you wonderful members and supporters, but rest assured that I am not going anywhere. You will all still have to put up with me.

So let me finish by telling the people of Sonora how very blessed they are to be living here in the most wonderful community, in the most wonderful state, in the most wonderful country in the world.

Merry Christmas and God Bless Sonora and all the young men and women serving our nation, and keeping us safe and free!!

Gratefully submitted with love, Ruth W. Bounds

Family, friends and neighbors,

I just wanted to see if I could get some help from the people back home. There is a chapel here on Camp Bucca that "had" a window that had a cross shaped glass, until the higher ups decided that the window might offend the "non-Christian" forces, without

taking a survey. The window was boarded up even though 98% of all the forces on Bucca are Christian. We're extremely offended by this outrage. Why is it that Christian's voices are not being heard, but the imagined whispers of non-Christian are appeased? Muslims are not even allowed to enter a place of Christian worship so where does this stop?

Our voices are not being heard. Will you help speak for

Please contact your congress person and forward this message on and encouraged them to listen as the majority speak.

SSG Christopher King

(SSG Christopher King is the son of Krysta Brooks of

Senior Center plans Christmas festivity

The Sutton/Sonora Senior Center will have their annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 15, from 5:30 p.m. to

Make plans to join the staff and friends for a good time, with entertainment provided by Oscar Galindo on the drums and Charlotte Wilson on the Piano.

There will be Christmas carols, door prizes, and if everyone is very good between now and then, Pancho Claus might even make an appearance.

Everyone is invited.

For more information call Juanita Mesa at the Senior Center, 387-5657 or 387-3441.

If you need a ride to the party, please call ahead of time.

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Community Calendar

is made possible by:

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Mike Andress - Minister of Music

December 21

Special Called School Board Meeting @ 7:00 a.m.

Sonora I.S.D. Early Release @ 1:00 p.m.

December 20

City Council Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.

8th Grade Choir Performance

SHS Auditorium 8:00 p.m.

BANK&TRUST

229 Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Ask the Historical Society

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer, Secretary

Sutton County Historical Society OUR **OFFICES** CLOSE AT NOON ON SATUR-DAY DEC. 17 AND REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL 8 A.M., MON-DAY, JANUARY 9. The Depot is rented Dec. 17 and open the rest of the month. If you wish to rent the Depot please call JoAnn Hernandez at The Bank & Trust or stop in and see her.

Q. Where does Santa Claus live?

A. According to "Alaska the Magazine of Life on the Last Frontier," Santa Claus lives at North Pole, Alaska. This is a little town about 13 miles south of Fairbanks. It is between Eielson Air Force Base and Fort Wainwright. Some of the streets are Santa Claus Lane, Donner Drive, Blitzen Drive and Snowman Lane. There is even a subdivision (must be where the elves live) called Kris Kringle Subdivision.

When you enter the town there is a big sign that says "Welcome to North Pole Alaska, the home of Santa Claus, where dreams come

Someone told me that Santa Claus even drives a car there and that it has Alaskan license plates with SANTA written on it. In North Pole, Alaska, Christmas lasts all year long. Civic groups help Santa handle the large volume of mail he receives from children around the world...

There are many other places named North Pole in the United States but I like to think of Santa Claus as being home in the "land of the midnight sun" where the temperatures drop to 40° below 0° and the snow creates a natural runway for his reindeer and sleigh to take off from on Christmas Eve.

Can't you picture him in your mind silhouetted against the snow capped trees, calling to his reindeer, "on Dasher, on Dancer, on Prancer and Vixen, on Comet, on Cupid, on Donner and Blitzen." I almost forgot, Rudolph's at the head of this group, as they take off from North Pole, Alaska and head south. I know one of their stops is going to be at the homes of all the good little children in Sonora,

Q. Why do we have Christ-

A. There are a lot of different answers to this question but this is my favorite:

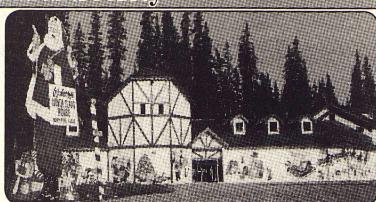
There is a legend that comes to us from England in the early days of Christianity. There was a monk named Wilfred, later to be known as Saint Wilfred, who was trying to spread Christianity to the Druids. The oak tree was an object of worship in the Druid religion. One day surrounded by a group of converts Wilfred took an axe and struck down a certain oak that the Druids normally worshiped. The oak split into four pieces and from the hollow center there grew a young fir tree. The crowd was amazed to see the tree growing inside the oak.

Wilfred dropped his axe and turned to the people saying "This little fir tree shall be your Holy Tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for you build your houses of fir. It is the sign of endless life, for its leaves are evergreen. See how it points toward the heavens. Let this be called the tree of the Christ Child. Gather about it, not in the wilderness as the Druids worship the oak, but in your homes. There it will be surrounded with loving gifts of rights of kindness.'

Q. Did they have Christmas in Sonora in the early days?

A. Of course they did. Wherever Santa Claus, and the spirit of Christmas lives in the hearts of people there are Christmas celebrations. Some are more religious oriented than

commercial but the whole world knows the true meaning of Christmas is the love in our hearts and our generosity to our fellow man. Some religions don't celebrate the birth of Christ but most, unless they are extremely orthodox or radical, celebrate the arrival of Santa Claus and the gifts he brings children. Our troops in war zones have had relatives send them small presents they can give to local children for Christmas. They get Santa Claus to go out among the children and deliver them. Even though they are away from home they keep the spirit of giving and love alive in their hearts. They hope that by showing love and giving presents to the children they can make peace in the region by making friends in the area instead of having to go into battle to make



It's Christmas every day at Santa Claus House, North Pole, Alaska, because Santa lives there the year 'round.

In Sonora we find that on December 24th and 31st of 1891 there were grand dances held at the old wooden school house.

The Christmas Eve dance was held immediately following a celebration around a Christmas tree. The decorating committee were E. C. Saunders, L.L. Russell, George Traweek, G. L. Moore, J.M. Bell, Mrs. Dr. Coleman, Mrs. Baugh, Misses May Callahan, Mary Rudasil, Agnes Murchison, Ollie Cusenbary, Susie Martin, Lucille Adams. Evergreen collectors were George Traweek, Dave Dunagan, G. Huber and P. Hurst, Jr.

In 1895 they had a Christmas tree at the church and a grand ball and supper at the Sutton County Courthouse on Christmas Eve. There was racing, sports, games, etc. for the whole week before New Years Eve. Presents of great variety were hung on the Christmas tree to insure that no child in

Sonora went without a present. In 1896 there was again a dance at the Sutton County Courthouse and presents were collected and put under the tree at church for distribution on the 24th. Church Services were held at the courthouse on Christmas morning at 11:00 a.m. with the Rev. Arthur Rooney of the Episcopal Church presiding. The rest of the day was devoted to racing, cattle roping, turkey shooting, games and Christmas dinner. On December 30th the ladies of the Baptist Church gave an entertainment at the courthouse consisting of vocal and instrumental music, recitations and games to benefit the church building fund. On New Years Eve there was dancing and on Jan 1st the Sonora Fire Department gave a grand ball for the purpose of raising funds for the

In 1897 there were over 300 people at the dance at the courthouse. A huge Christmas Dinner was held at the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bond which was followed by dancing, refreshments that evening and many of the county participated in games at their home.

In 1899 there was again a Christmas tree and dances at the courthouse but the big thing that year was the horse racing on Main Street. The gentlemen seemed to prefer the horse races to the Christmas celebration that year.

Now we ride around Sonora and see all beautiful the Christmas lights that have either been put up by the Chamber of Commerce on the street and the Courthouse, the Sutton County Historical Society lights and decorations or lights and displays put up by business groups on Main Street and people at their private residences and you can clearly see the spirit of Christmas is alive and going strong in Sonora. Our Chamber of Commerce really works hard to do the lights every year and I think they deserve a special thank you from everyone in Sonora.

Send your questions concerning Sutton County history to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or e-mail them to schs@sonoratx. net. You may call us until December 17th or after January 9 at 325-387-5084 with your questions. Office hours are Mon., Fri., and Sat. Mornings from 8-12 except when

we close for holidays or vacation. HAPPY HOLIDAYS EV-ERYONE SEE YOU IN THE **NEW YEAR!**

FEMA resets move-out dead-

Hurricane Katrina evacuees

now have until Jan. 7 to move

out of Texas hotels and motels,

Gov. Perry announced Dec. 8. The

same deadline applies to FEMA-

reimbursed apartment leases. In

November, Perry talked FEMA

out of enforcing a Dec. 1 deadline for the housing assistance. Perry announces corridor plan Gov.

Perry is not waiting for federal aid

before moving on his Trans Texas

to work with the private sector to

develop an interstate-quality road-

way connecting the Rio Grande

Valley with the midwestern states.

through East Texas and into

Plans route the corridor

He said the state will proceed

Corridor/Interstate 69 plan.

Tedford Jewelry

Gift Gallery & Hallmark Cards

RadioShack. × cingular

387-3839

105-107 NW Concho

Downtown Sonora

387-2733



Daily Dew

Treat skin from head to toe with a new hydration sensation. LUXIVA® Moisture Works is an intensive body cream infused with natural emollients and humectants to replenish and retain moisture for a comfortable feel. White Tea extract and Vitamin A, C and E derivatives revitalize while helping to protect skin against harmful elements. It's a daily dew!



MERLE NORMAN

Ol' Sonora Trading Company 121 N. Hwy 277, Sonora (325) 387-5507 Merle Norman Cosmetic Studios have been independently owned and operated since 1931.

ges against DeLay Judge lets stand 2 char coming year - and (2) to move the at a national meeting in Phoenix, incumbent Gov. Rick Perry, but

AUSTIN - Senior state District Judge Pat Priest let stand felony charges of money laundering and conspiracy against former U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, and dismissed other conspiracy charges also leveled by a Travis County grand jury at the Sugar Land Republican. Charges that stuck allege DeLay and his associates moved campaign donations from Texas entities to Americans for a Republican Majority, his national fundraising committee in Washington, D.C., and the money was returned to Texas as donations to his Austinbased fundraising committee, Texans for a Republican Majority.

When DeLay was indicted in September, he stepped down from his leadership post in accordance with U.S. House rules.

DeLay did not deny the campaign funds in question helped a select few Texas House Republicans in their successful 2002 races. Their votes in favor of DeLay's redistricting plan in 2003 helped the GOP pick up five U.S. congressional seats in 2004.

Now, DeLay's attorney Dick DeGuerin of Houston is asking Judge Priest for a couple of things: (1) to speed up the trial date - so DeLay has a better chance of putting the issue behind him before he campaigns for reelection in the trial away from Austin. (Trial) location, location,

DeGuerin, a Democrat who also donates to Republican candidates, told reporters DeLay can't get an impartial jury and thus a fair trial in the state's capital city, where a jury panel is likely to include more than one or two Democrats.

After all, Austin is the Travis County seat, and Travis was the lone Texas county "blue" enough to vote against the proposed constitutional ban on gay marriage back in November.

Meanwhile, Vice President Dick Cheney attended a fund-raiser for DeLay in Houston and had to walk within earshot of hecklers to get in. A DeLay aide said the hecklers were "professionals" not from the congressman's district.

Status: DeLay vs. prosecutor

Judge Priest has not ruled on DeLay's complaint alleging Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle, a Democrat, illegally goaded grand juries into the indictments.

Agency chief touts Texas

Coal will be increasingly important in the next energy boom and Texas has plenty of it, Texas Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams told energy executives

But there is a desperate need for sensible federal and state regulatory policies that balance economic interests with environmental concerns for coal usage, Williams said.

"Our challenge is to tell that story in Washington, D.C., just as we have done in Texas," he said.

Williams said Texas also is the No. 1 coal-using state and the No. 5 coal-producing state.

Either Texas is consuming its own stockpile or it is importing quite a bit of coal, because, Williams said, Texas consumed 103 million tons last year and produced 45 million tons.

Friedman formalizes candi-

Hill Country humorist, musician and author Kinky Friedman took a serious step by filing papers with the secretary of state Dec. 8, officially declaring his intention to run as an independent candidate for governor.

In a statewide grassroots effort to earn him a spot on the November ballot, Friedman's camp must collect about 45,540 signatures from registered Texas voters who do not vote in the March 7 state Republican or Democratic primaries.

After filing, Friedman said his main opponent will not be



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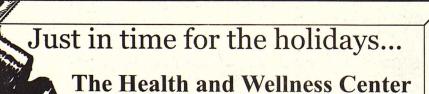
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Chamber of Commerce recognizes Ami's Gift Shop; salutes hospitality extended for Ride to Providers

Chamber Chadier

by Ruthie Bounds, COC Executive Director

Sonora Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Ami's Gift Shop as the December Landscape of the Month recipient. Ami's has been a breath of fresh air and a star in an area of Sonora that is not always recognized as one of the most aesthetically pleasing. Sandra and Florie have made Ami's a great asset to our community, not only for its appearance and welcoming atmosphere, but for the diverse decorations and seasonal promotions available at their little store. Consistently the gals at Ami's have kept their place of business looking its best to welcome people to come shop in Sonora. Ami's is strategically located where most people, visitors and residents alike can see their darling decorations day and night. Sonora Chamber of Commerce would like to-congratulate Ami's Gift Shop for being the recipient of the Landscape of the Month recognition for December.

Though the cold weather prevented many of the riders from being able to participate in the "Ride to Provide" fundraising motorcycle ride, the hale and hardiest of the riders braved the coldest

weather we have seen in Sonora in several years to make sure that displaced hurricane families could have some kind of Christmas.

As usual the citizens of Sonora came through with great donations, great food, great decorations and the undying spirit of hospitality and generosity.

There are many people and businesses that deserve a "Big Thank You"; some of them are: Creek Swabbing & Roustabout, XS Ranch-M.D.Shurley, Marvin & Wanda Shurley, Pam Armke, St. Ann's Catholic Youth Group, First National Bank of Sonora, Southwest Texas ACA, Mickey Sharp, Sutton County Steakhouse, Shanna Petty, The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian, Lee, Darlette & Hilton Bloodworth, Stagecoach BBQ & Catering, and of course, all the Board Directors of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce.

While the arctic blast of cold chilled everyone and everything, the warm hearts of the people in Sonora warmed the heart and souls of the riders and crew of the "Ride to Provide".

One of the fundraising coordinators has since told me that now she understood why we have the email signature that says "Sonora is more like a large family than a small town!"

This hospitality is one of the many reasons why Sonora stands out among many towns and cit-

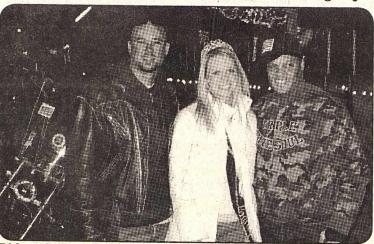
Amis gift shop owner, Sandra Luz Gonzales, smiles proudly at the announcement that her shop has been chosen as the COC "Landscape of the month"

ies. The people of Sonora are its biggest asset. While working for Sonora Chamber of Commerce, I have endeavored to promote all of the assets of Sonora to any that will listen, and to anyone with which I correspond. The statistics that are contained in demographics and geographic assets are easily promoted, because they are facts of record and are tangible to most people. The truly tangible and real part of Sonora, that is the best asset of our community, is the heart of the people that reside in this wonderful community. It is much harder to promote to researchers, editors, and travel writers this very real asset. Many of them think that we are just bragging when we tell them how wonderful people are

here, until they visit us, and then

they understand. Most of you probably know by now that the Sonora Chamber of Commerce will be hiring a new Executive Director in the very near future. I'm sure that the new Executive Director will be shown the same warmth, consideration, and commitment that the people of Sonora have shown to me. This will probably not be the last Chamber Chatter column that you will read in the Devil's River News, as I have agreed to assist the Chamber Board with the transition to the new Executive Director, and in the mean time, there will still be activities going on in Sonora that need to be reported.

Ride to Provide bikers enjoy a warm welcome in Sonora



Ride to Proivde riders, Chris Judd and Rajé Richardson pose with Miss Sutton County, Heather Lawson, during their stop in Sonora on their way to Katrina ravaged Louisiana.





lic Church youth group serves with

Left: Mayor Gloria Lopez dines with Rebecca Morrison, Ride to Provide organizer, Rebecca Morrison.

Right: Celebrity Actor/Dancer, Chris Judd looks on with interest as Karen

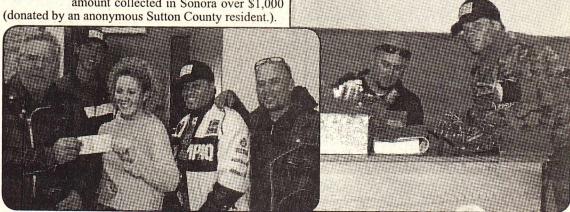
Fincher plays holiday tunes. Bottom right: Judd takes a turn at the piano, playing a tune he wrote himself, as fellow rider, Rajé Richardson looks on.

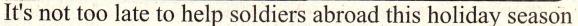
Below: Storie Sharp stops the Ride to Provide crew as they head out the door to present the check that put the total amount collected in Sonora over \$1,000



Chief of Police, Mike House and Officer Dick Dudley present

Ride to Provide rider, Gilbert Ochra with a bag of needed items





for victims on the Gulf Coast.

Above left:



Congressman Henry Bonilla

The holiday season can be maddening. There are so many gifts to buy, cards to

send, lights to hang, homes to decorate, parties to attend, and people to see. Just thinking about it can be a burden. It seems like since before we even marked Halloween off our calendars, department stores wanted us in this holiday frenzy.

I think I speak for most Americans when I say that over the last few years, people have wanted to tone down the extravagance and do more for others. Watching our brave soldiers every night on the news has helped people pause and recognize the things for which we are truly grateful this holiday sea-

In most cases, those "things" can't be bought in a store, wrapped in a bow, or stuffed in a stocking. People who used to splurge - or even compete - when it came to

submitted . by holiday gift-giving, just want to spend time with their loved ones.

I've heard people say they don't want anything for Christmas; they just want to spend time with those who matter most. Now more than ever this holiday season, people are counting their blessings faith, family and friends top the list. No doubt about it, also on that list is freedom.

One of the most important things we can do as a country is show strong support for our military men and women. This holiday season, I urge those who just want to "do something," to send gifts to our troops online through Operation Santa's Gift from the Home-

Just log onto www.aafes.com and click on the camouflage -clad Santa. You can purchase certificates in \$10, \$20, or \$25 denominations accepted at any military exchange (AAFES, NEX, MCX, Coast Guard Exchange) retail store around the world, including those supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi

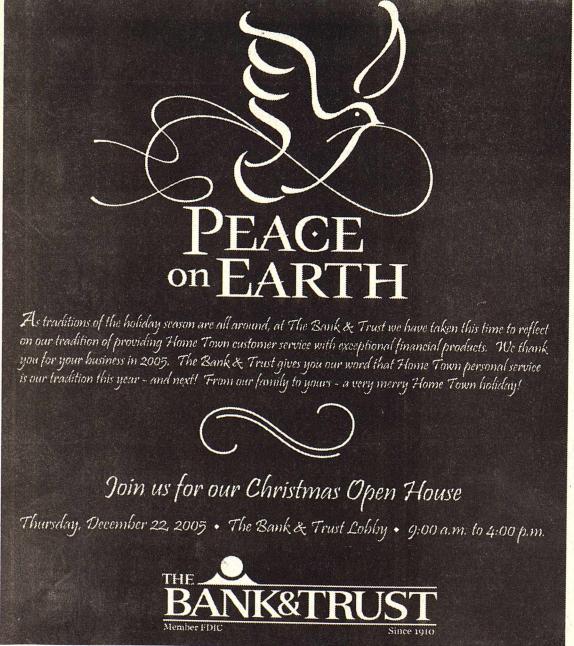
Freedom. There will be a shipping charge added depending on the number of certificates sent.

One of the many benefits of this certificate is that soldiers will be able to use it right away. AAF-ES ensures that soldiers will have immediate access to merchandise from home - like American candy bars - in Iraq. Also, this allows soldiers to buy things when they need them, and not have to worry about the logistics of heavy packages.

Serving your country is a great honor. However, that doesn't keep our soldiers from missing family, friends, or America. Receiving gifts and messages of support from back home is a real boost and a great way to stay focused on the mission at hand -- winning the war for freedom.

Please consider sending a gift to a soldier abroad. Your gift of support may be the most touching present a soldier far from home receives this holiday season.

Thank you. God bless you and God bless



hat a wonderful Christmas!!

Written and released by Jennifer Esparza, Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Office

On Wednesday, December 7, 2005, it was a cold and windy night downtown. It was filled with so much Christmas sprit that it warmed up your hearts. With the Elementary choir starting out the night with singing Christmas carols filling the room with cheer. "The Studio" danced away to Rudolph the Red Nosed Raindeer, Jingle Bells and Rock'n Around the Christmas Tree. Outside Mr. & Mrs. Claus rode down Main Street and in to city hall where kids were able to take pictures with him and tell him what they wanted for Christmas. We had venders selling hot chocolate, hot dogs, frito pies, baked goods, wrapping, toys, and even decorated eggs that come all the way from Slovakia.

Even with the wind blowing and it being 17° that night, we still carried on. The ladies from the Catholic Church sang the "Las Posados". The sophomore class from the Saint Ann Catholic Church played a big part in making the live nativity scene possible. They all participated in one way or another, from being Mary, Joseph, Angels, and even Shepherd's. Sam Powers was grateful enough to ride down the street as one of the Wise Men, even with his teeth chattering as loud as the choir was singing. We would like to give a special thank you to him for being such a good sport.

We would also like to thank everyone else that participated in the Ann Kay welcomes Santa and Mrs. Claus to the FHSMS "Soul of "Soul of Christmas" that we had downtown. You are all very much appreciated by us, standing out in the cold; events like this are so very successful. Thank you and have a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program.



Above: Children from the St. Ann Catholic Church youth group lead the Las Posadas (Spanish for "the inn"), a traditional Mexican festival which re-enacts Joseph's search for room at the inn.



reinactment on the courthouse lawn.

Fat is Not a Four-Letter Word

by Kelly L Thorp, MS Sutton County Extension Agent-

Texas Cooperative Extension

In spite of what you may have heard, not all fat is bad. Although a high-fat diet probably isn't good for anybody - especially for people with diabetes - fat can still have a place in a healthful menu.

People with diabetes need to be more careful than others in watching their dietary fat intake, because diabetes brings an increased risk of heart disease and other medical conditions. But a fewsimple steps can help you lower your fat intake: · When cooking and baking, use oils and fat substitutes instead of lard or shortening. • Buy leaner cuts of meat and low-fat or no-fat dairy products. • Trim the visible fats from cuts of meat before cooking. • When cooking, reduce the amount of fat in a recipe by onequarter. • Limit the amount of fat you consume to 30 percent or less of daily calories.

There are four types of fat: monounsaturated fats, polyunsaturated fats, saturated fats and trans fatty acids. All of these fats contain nine calories per gram. But they affect the body in different ways.

The good news: Monounsaturated fats and polyunsaturated fats can help you lower your blood cholesterol if you decrease the amount of saturated fat in your diet. Both of these kinds of fats are liquid at room temperature and can be used in sauteing and frying; polyunsaturated fat can also be used in bak-

Monounsaturated fats are found in olives, olive oil, peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, avocados and some nuts. Polyunsaturated fats are in vegetable oils such as corn, sunflower and soybean oil.

The bad news: Saturated fats are solid at room temperature and, when consumed, tend to accumu-

late in the blood vessels, which restricts blood flow through those vessels. This increases the risk of heart attack or stroke. Experts advise that you limit your intake of saturated fats to no more than 10 percent of your total fat intake.

Saturated fats are found in animal sources such as meats and dairy products. They are also found in some plant oils, such as coconut, palm and palm kernel, which are often used by manufacturers of packaged baked goods.

Trans fatty acids, often found ily in baked goods, margarine and hydrogenated oils, can raise blood ingredients labels, check to make sure hydrogenated oils are listed second or lower, and the food contains no more than two grams of saturated fat per tablespoon.

While you're checking the label, check the amount of dietary cholesterol listed, if any. Some dietary cholesterol is necessary for good health, but too much can increase your risk of heart disease.

Cholesterol is found only in foods of animal origin, such as meat or eggs. It is not found in foods of plant origin, such as vegother animal products are included so. in the sauces or breading.

ministration requires that nutrition information be included on food packages so consumers know what they are eating. When checking these labels, in addition to caloriecount and cholesterol amount, check for the serving size, total fat, types of fat, and the amount of sodium, fiber and carbohydrates in each serving. Use this information to help plan your daily menus.

For more information about cooking with diabetes, contact Texas Cooperative Extension at 387-3604.



Christmas" celebration on Main Street.



Dancers from The Studio rock around the Christmas tree and jingle

"Happy Holyday"

By Warren Throckmorton, PhD

This Christmas season is just getting stranger as we go.

All over the place people are trying to figure out what to say to each other ("Happy holiday(s)," "Merry Christmas," "Get out of my way, I want that iPod") and how to talk about the time of year we are in. I tried just saying Happy December to a few people and they just rolled their eyes. I agree; it didn't do much for me either.

Schools are hotbeds for these kinds of scuffles. One school near Seattle spent \$494 to reprint a cafeteria menu that had Merry Christmas on it. The news account in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer said, "a new nutrition services employee mistakenly prepared them (the menus) with the greeting "Merry Christmas" Apparently, the new nutrition services employee missed an important part of the job orientation.

Another Seattle-area school district had a problem with a Christmas tree. Some shrewd people at Medina Elementary are aware that far away from the tolerant halls of the public school, some children still celebrate Christmas. Thus, they put paper mittens labeled with gift ideas on the tree to serve as buying prompts for the students. Children were to take them and bring back the wrapped gifts to distribute to needy children as Christmas presents. Not on tax-payer funded school time of course.

The whole plan was undone by some thoughtless and probably bigoted person who put a star on the top of the tree, thus giving the tree an eerie and palpably offensive resemblance to a religious symbol. Naturally a parent complained and the school staff resourcefully covered up the star on the tree, calling it a "giving tree." Brilliant.

However, the affront to the sensibilities of the offended parent was Local church youth groups portray angels at the live nativity scene not assuaged by this clever subterfuge. And now, the tree is gone. In the nonspecific spirit of the nonspecific season, the school is continuing to distribute paper mittens and accept donations at the counter in the office. The school office manager explained: "We covered the star and called it a giving tree. We hoped it would suffice, but it didn't," Chris Metzger said, "Now we just have a giving counter."

> I can hear the school holiday program now. Instead of the strains of "O Christmas Tree," the children will sing: "O Giving Counter, O Giving Counter, How Shiny is Thy Surface.'

> Speaking of catchy and inclusive holiday pageant tunes, a school district in Wisconsin is attracting attention through the singing of a song called "Cold in the Night." The words are "Cold in the night, no one in sight, winter winds whirl and bite, how I wish I were happy and warm, safe with my family out of the storm." These words are supposed to be sung by the children to the tune of "Silent Night" (for those of you who don't know, or remember, 'Silent Night' is a Christmas carol).

> As poetic as those new lyrics are, I don't understand the point of singing them. I've been to Wisconsin in winter; it is really cold there. Call me crazy but I don't understand why I would want to break out into festive song about freezing outside, alone and separated from my fam-

Sounds depressing to me. All of this holiday happiness

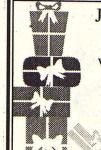
cholesterol levels. When reading got me thinking. What is a holiday anyway?

The dictionary reminds us that holiday is derived from two words: holy and day. A holy day. So at root, a holiday is a day set aside for religious observance. Seems like we've come full circle.

Here's how I am going to think of it. When folks say "happy holidays," they are really wishing me a pleasant holy observance. In my tradition, during December, that would be Christmas. I appreciate that. And I will smile to myself knowing that one cannot completely avoid the reason for the season, etables and fruits, unless eggs or even when tolerantly trying to do

In any case, whatever your The U.S. Food and Drug Adholy tradition, here's wishing everyone a Happy Holyday.

Warren Throckmorton, PhD is an Associate Professor of Psychology and Fellow for Psychology and Public Policy with the Center for Vision and Values at Grove City (PA) College. Dr. Throckmorton is past-president of the American Mental Health Counselors Association and is the producer of the documentary, I Do Exist about sexual orientation change. His columns have been published by over 70 newspapers nationwide and can be contacted through his website at www.drthrockmorton.com.



Joe Brown's new book "Buskin"

which may be purchased at Ol' Sonora Trading Co. Gifts Galore & More or the Devil's River News will make an excellent

Christmas gift!



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School Lunch Menu • December 19-21 Breakfast

Mon. - Oatmeal, toast, juice Tues.- Breakfast pizza, asst. juice



Wed.- Graham crackers, asst. juice

Milk and cereal offered with all b

Lunch

Mon.- Pizza, tossed salad, kernel corn, cookie Tues: - Fish nuggets, ketchup, celery sticks, macaroni & cheese, Jell-O/fruit

Wed.- Grilled cheese sandwich, potato wedges, pickles, fruit cup Early Release @ 1:00 P.M.

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S.H.S. the Week Jose Hernandez



Jose Hernandez is a senior this ear at SHS. He is the son of Maria nd Jimmy Aguero. Jose is a memper of the Sonora Spanish Club. ose moved to Sonora a few years go from Campwood, Texas. His favorite thing about SHS is that the chool has so much to offer with its

After graduation, Jose plans to attend Incarnate Word University in San Antonio and study graphic

Crystal Marshall



Crystal Marshall is a junior at Sonora High School. Crystal is a member of the Mighty Sonora Bronco Band. She enjoys Sonora High School very much saying it is much different from her previous school in Austin. The teachers and staff at SHS congratulate Crystal for all of her hard work and effort.

Happy Birthday

December 15 Dawn Cahill, Krysta Brooks, Clay Gentry, Dustin Neff, Chris Neal

December 16 Jane Archer, Bo Jimenez-Mejia, Maryoly Gonzalez, Bobby Morgan, Bobby Taylor, Shannon Rushing

December 17 Olinda Jimenez, Candise Martin, Israel Leija, Donna

December 18 Fernie Emiliano, Donny Yocham, Sr., Yesenia Gandar,

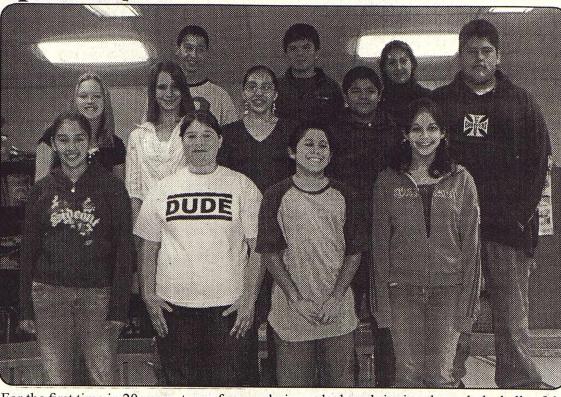
Hoot Hearn December 19 Gonzalez, Rex Ann Friess, Colton Moore, Teresa

Vasquez, Ooye Hernandez December 20 Amelia Butler, Dave Love, Tom Wilson, Swade Draper, Daniel Gutierrez, Tommy:

Arnwine, Andi Allen, Eddie Hernandez, Mike Badeaux, Jamie Hernandez, Amelia Butler, Landon Castro, Donia December 21

Gabriel Perez, Luke Sanchez, Harvey Villanueva, Judith Law, Nette Lopez, Joe Hidalgo, Steven Guana

Choir reinstated at SMS School; Students of special performance December 20th



For the first time in 20 years, tunes from a choir can be heard ringing through the halls of the Sonora Middle School. Under the direction of Mrs. Donna Christian, students are singing and learning to read music, music theory and music history. The SMS Choir is made up of 100 students in grades 5 through 8.

The 8th grade choir students will be a part of a special concert on December 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sonora High School Auditorium.

Pictured above is the 4th period Choir Class, including Araceli Calderon, Juan Capuchina, Diego Dominguez, Brittani Dover, Alyssa Favila, Anali Garcia, Sara Gillit, Erica Granados, Elle Newton, Cody Pena, Pedro Ramirez, Josh Salazar.

7th Grade Boys Fall to the Hawks

submitted by Coach Boxell

The Sonora Colts traveled to Wall on Monday December 12, to take

The Colts went into the game feeling confident and ready to protect their unblemished season. When two tough teams match up, at some point, something has to give.

The Colts struggled shooting the ball and just could not get it to fall in. Meanwhile the Hawks, with home court advantage, could not miss. The Sonora Colts were averaging 34 points per game up until this

night, which only saw 25 total points for Sonora. Leading the scoring for the Colts was Ethan Morriss, who lit it up for 2, William Otwell knocked down 4, Colyer Dermody added 3 and Shane Patlan, Preston Lopez and Osbauldo Castaneda each put in 2 points. In the end, the Colts had lost its only game of the season by a score of 37-25. The Colts are anxiously waiting to revenge this loss by possibly meeting up with the Hawks again in the Wall tournament after the holidays beginning on January 5.

8th grade Colts victorious in Wall

submitted by Coach Dempsey

The 8th grade boys traveled into the Wall Hawks' Nest on Monday, December 12, and came out the victors.

The boys played with a lot of frustration the first half, but came out the second half leaving nothing but feathers on the ground by the end of the game.

The only adjustment made at half time was adjusting to the officials. My philosophy with officials is, the team that adjusts the best with the way they are calling is the team that has the best chance to win.

Defense, led by Kris Aguero, the little field general, kept the team inspired and on course.

The Colts completed lots of steals deep in their press by Cash Jennings and Tyler Creek.

Sonora led the first period 11-9. High point player was Tyler Creek with 4, followed by Cash Jennings with 3, Will Anderson 2, and Dustin Neff 2.

With A. K. Williams on the

bench in foul trouble for most of the second quarter, the Hawks out-scored the Colts 12-8.

Scoring in the second quarter were, A. K. Williams 4, Cash Jennings 3, and Tyler Creek with 1.

The Colts came out in the second half playing more of their style of basketball, defense to set up the offense.

A. K. Williams started playing above the rim without fouling and scored 8, Dustin Neff scored 4 to finish out the 3rd period.

A. K. awed the crowd with a block, sending the ball deep into the bleachers.

The boys were playing hard and scored 10 pts. to their 9 to fin-

ish the game. A. K. led the Colts with 4, Caleb Gonzales 2, Dustin Neff 2,

and Cash Jennings 2. Final score, Colts 41 Wall 34 Scoring: A. K. Williams 16, Dustin Neff 8, Cash Jennings 8,

Tyler Creek 5, Will Anderson 2, and Caleb Gonzales 2.

Polar Bear Classic helps raise funds for **Golf Teams**

by Storie Sharp

Golfers will don their coats. shake off the cold and take to the course on Saturday, January 14, 2006 for the 7th Annual Polar Bear Classic, sponsored by the Sonora High School Golf Team. Tee Time for the annual fundraiser will be 12:30 p.m. and the team is asking that interested players sign up early at the Sonora Golf Course or by calling 387-3680.

The entry fee is only \$10 per person to play in the 18 hole, Par 3 scramble, but any extra donations for the team are greatly appreciated. The Sonora Golf Course has waived green fees for all non-members.

Ties will be broken with a

If the weather is too bad for even a polar bear, the event will be postponed until the following Saturday.

The Sonora Golf teams both competed at the State competition last year, with the girls finishing as the 1st place Runners-Up. Representing the Broncos on the varsity boys' team this year are Mason Martinez, Embre Smith, Cullen Parker, Trent Reiner and John Duke Hudson. This strong team is sure to make a great showing on the courses this year and are looking forward to teeing off at state once again.

Returning for the varisty girls are Kayla McBride, Candise Martin, Erin Newton and Kaci Chavarria. The final spot on the team will be announced in January. The girls are also looking for a return trip to state, changing only to move up one position. Best of luck to all the golfers.

The Polar Bear Classic is a great opportunity to show your support of the Bronco and Lady Bronco Golf Teams.

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7th grade Lady Colts fall to Wall

7TH Grade Lady Colts played Wall at home on Monday, De-

The young Lady Colts fell to the Wall girls, 42-28, but played a hard game and are constantly improving.

Scoring was as follows: CHELBY RAMOS - 15; MORGAN SMITH - 6; MACI ZUNIGA - 6; KARINA TREVINO - 1

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8th Grade Colts Highlight DVD - \$10 8th Grade Colts Photos on CD - \$5 7th Grade Colts Highlight DVD - \$10 7th Grade Colts Photos on CD - \$5 2000 Playoff Games DVD - \$10 2001 Playoff Games DVD - \$10 Ed Lee Renfro Highlight DVD - \$10

Four games from the 1970 Broncos (includes semi-final game against Petersburg) - \$10

Send checks or money order to Ray Glasscock, PO Box 723, Sonora, TX 76950

All photos and movies at www.sonorabroncos.org are free for downloading to your PC.



Laura Martin and the judge at the Bandera Angora Goat Show.

Sutton County 4-Her's Compete in Bandera

Three Sutton county 4-Her's traveled to Bandera on Saturday, December 10 to compete in the Bandera Angora Goat Show. There were a record number of entries in the show this year with over 100 goats entering. Sutton County fared well. Cash Jennings took 2nd in the Buck kid class, 7th in the yearling buck class and 2nd in the aged buck class. Hunter Jennings placed a doe kid 3rd and Cash also had two doe kids that placed 8th and 10th. Laura Martin had a yearling doe that placed 4th and aged does that won 1st and 9th in their class. The 1st place aged doe went on to win reserve champion doe of the show. This was a promising start for these 4-H contestants and they are looking forward to showcasing their animals along with other 4-Her's during the county show, which will be held January 13 and 14 at the Sutton County Civic



Cash, Sky, and Hunter Jennings in Bandera.

Oil & Agribusiness

Rig Locations as of December 9, 2005



Dominion; 9200' Duke Wilson #183 - 2, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8950' Mayer - 21 - #15, Patterson Drilling.

Dominion; 8950' Mayer - 20A - #1, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8350' Edwin S Hill - Mayer Jr - Q - #5, Patterson

New Dominion; 8300' Edwin S Mayer Jr #13 - 3, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 8300' Mayer Ranch - E - #6, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 8250' Mayer Ranch - AA - #2504, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 7750' Sawyer - 144 - #10, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 7550' Shurley RR - 1F - #6X, Patterson Drilling. New KCS Resources; 7000' Carta - 103 - #14, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 6950' Canyon Ranch #2074S, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 6000' Cusenbary - 59 - #6, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; Hill-Mayer - D - #2, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett Henry Petroleum; 10800' University - 6 - Paige - 27 - #1, Big Dog

Harrison Interests; 9800' RB McMullan #1 Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 9750' Joe Friend Estate Unit #2032 - B, Patterson

New Approach Operating; 9000' Bailey #420, Nabors Drilling. Approach Operating; 9000' Addie Clayton #908, Nabors Drilling. New Approach Operating; 9000' Addie Clayton #2612, Nabors

Orbit Crude, Inc.; 9000' Childress #2102, Patterson Drilling. New Approach Operating; 9000' JR Bailey - A - #503, Patterson

New Anadarko E&P; 7500' S Millspaugh - 14 - #10, Patterson Drilling.

New Bluegrass Energy Inc.; 7000' Simpson Canyon - 3027 - Unit #1, Adobe Drilling.

EOG Resources; 6500' Shannon Hospital - 2 - #4, Adobe Drilling. New FIML Natural Res; 5500' Maggie Moore #2E, Patterson Drilling.

Schleicher

Approach Operating; 9000' Rousselot #1321, Nabors Drilling. Dominion; 8750' Powell - 23 - #4, Patterson Drilling. Discovery Operating; 7100' Ruth - C - #2, Heart Land Drilling. Terrell

ConocoPhillips; 12000' Creek Ranch - 15 - #3, Patterson UTI. BP America Prod; 16000' Banner Estate #28 H, Helmerich & Payne. Encana O&G; 11300' ACU - 48 - #8, Nabors Drilling. J. Cleo Thompson; 10300' Ingham - 22 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

Edwards New Newfield; 10000' Ralston #801, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 7800' Canyon Ranch #1204E, Patterson Drilling. Val Verde

Devon; 16000' Jarrett - Farmer - 4 - #1, Nabors Drilling. Newfield Exploration; 16000' Rio Diablo #1, Patterson Drilling. **Gruy Petroleum**; 15500' Phillip Arledge #8, Grey Wolf Drilling. **Patterson Petrol**; 15000' Redd State #1, Patterson Drilling. For more rig locations call 1-800-627-9785 or go

online to www.rigdata.com.



NRCS announces availability of Farm Bill Conservation Programs for 2006

that farmers and ranchers wishing to be considered for 2006 funding in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the EQIP Ground and Surface Water Conservation Program (EQIP-GSWC), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) have until the close of business Friday, February 17, 2006, to sign applications.

The 2002 Farm Bill authorized the EQIP, EQIP-GSWC, and WHIP as tools to implement voluntary conservation. Each program offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and/or management practices on eligible land.

"The \$77.55 million allocated for these programs in Texas will help farmers and ranch-

The USDA - Natural Resources Conser- ers improve the natural resources on private practices next spring. Local NRCS field offices vation Service (NRCS) in Texas announced working lands in Texas," said Dr. Larry Butler, have complete details for their county and the NRCS Texas State Conservationist. "The funds will be used to solve local identified resource problems in each county and will also fund special statewide concerns recommended by the Texas State Technical Committee such as water quantity, water and air quality, wildlife habitat, and treatment of invasive species. Each program offers cost share and incentives payments to producers applying approved conservation measures."

Immediately following the end of the sign up period, all applications will be ranked. For those approved, a NRCS conservation planner will develop a contract and conservation plan. Producers with approved contracts can then begin implementing the approved conservation

applicable state concerns.

NRCS, through the invitation of the local soil and water conservation districts, is the federal government's principal agency for conserving natural resources on private lands, while encouraging voluntary efforts to protect soil, water, and wildlife on private lands. NRCS offers its services free of charge. For more information, call the USDA-NRCS office in your county, listed under "USDA" in the Yellow Pages. The information, including ranking criteria, eligible practices, and cost share rates for all NRCS Farm Bill programs is also on the Texas NRCS Web Site at www.tx.nrcs.usda. gov/programs.



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Owner Jock Dutton

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Junction Livestock Auction would like to wish you and your family A safe and happy holiday!

NO SALE DATES DECEMBER 20TH, 26TH, AND 27TH

The New Year sales begin: Monday, January 2, 2006, 10:00 (Sheep & Goat) Tuesday, January 3, 2006, 11:00 (Cattle)

SPECIAL CALF AND YEARLING

SALE TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2006

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conditions of the promotional agreement and Residential Customer Agreement, available at waw distinstwark com or upon request. Local Channels packages by satellite are only available to customers who reside in the specified local Designated Markel Area (DAM). Local channels may require an additional dish antenna or a SuperDISH antenna from DISH Network, installed free of any charges with subscription to local channels at time of initial hinstallation. Social Security Numbers are used to obtain credit iscores and with not be released to third parties except for verification and collection purposes only or if required by governmental authorities. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective

Plant Pecan Trees Properly

EXTENSION

submitted by Pascual Hernandez One of the keys to growing pecans, whether in the backyard or in a commercial orchard, is to plant the trees properly so that they get off to a good start. Tree planting time is at hand- - January and early February are the best times- - and here are a few guidelines.

To begin, select a tree 4 to 8 feet tall as soon as nurseries get supplies. Plant as soon as possible, using care not to let roots dry out or freeze. When selecting a site in the landscape, consider the eventual spread of the tree. Spacing pecan trees at least 40 feet apart will provide sufficient room for future growth.

Plant the tree at the same depth it grew in the nursery row. Look at the colors to determine the soil line: the bark is gray and the root is dark brown. Dig the hole only as large as the tree's root system. If the hole is too deep, the tree will settle and this can cause poor growth or death. The taproot should sit in the bottom of the hole. If the hole cannot be as deep as the length of the roots, cut back the taproot to fit the hole.

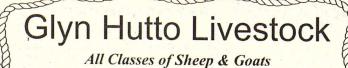
Pack original soil around roots as tightly as possible. Packing the soil in 2 to 3-inch layers is better than watering to pack the soil. Use adjacent soil to complete filling the hole, not light soil, sand or potting soil. Cut off the top half of the tree at

planting time to balance the stem and roots and to force growth close to the soil line. Wrap the lower 18 inches of the trunk with aluminum foil to prevent side shoots, sun scald and rabbit damage.

Build a basin around the tree to hold water and give each tree five gallons of water immediately after planting. Make sure trees do not go longer than 14 days without

These are some basic steps in planting pecan trees that can lead the way in getting them into production in a few years. For additional information, call or visit the Sutton County Extension website at http://sutton-co.tamu.edu

Cheetah Wireless 228 E. Main 387-6099



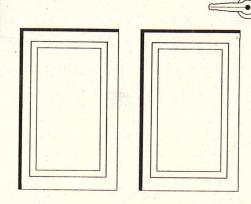
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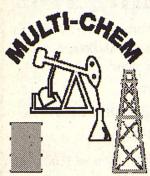


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5:35 p.m. Thursday



Still smiling after unloading 2000+ lbs. of paper in San Angelo.

Susan Hall and volunteers Julia & Ronny Hines are upbeat after delivering recyclables dropped off by Sonora residents for Keep Sonora Beautiful.

Sonora residents came through to make KSB's first recycling effort a success. The participation rate was incredible. According to Sam Kent of TXDOT who participated in Angelo's recycles day, Sonora had over a 60% participation rate of San Angelo's and we are but a fraction in size. Just imagine what KSB can do next year.

* Senator Madla visits Sonora schools.

*Sonora ISD Board of Trustees hires teachers and calls special meeting to announce new SISD Superin-

* Santa Letters, Christmas fun, and much more in next week's issue of the

Devil's River News!

Texas Department of Transportation 4502 Knickerbocker Rd. San Angelo, TX • 325-944-1501

Job Title: Trans Maint Tech II

00-9234

Location: Sonora Maintenance Office

708 US 277 North Sonora, TX 76950

Job Number:

Closing Date: 12/23/05 at 5:00 p.m. Salary: \$9.92 - \$12.92 per Hour

Minimum Requirements: One (1) year experience in maintenance, construction or an equipment operation-related field. (Experience requirements may be satisfied by full-time experience or the pro rated part-time equivalent.) Must have or obtain within 60 calendar days rom date of employment a Class A Commercial Driver License. I addition to the CDL employee must have or obtain within 90 lendar days of employment the X endorsement on their CDL. Must

be able to report for duty within 30 minutes of notification on a 24 hour basis.

(The above is not a complete list of requirements or qualifications.) A Completed Application is Required. For additional information call Human Resources at 325-944-1501 or sit our web site at http://www.dot.state.tx.us/ An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for the above job may call Human Resources. An Equal Employment Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer

SIDC from page 1

many were documenting how they heard about it: Most contributed their visit to a travel or nature website. Bounds reported that Delyse and Jimmy Cahill were working on adding an authentic "outlaw" campsite along one of the trails on the hill. SIDC board member John Tedford expressed concern to the possibilty of adding too much and commercializing the area too much. Ruthie assured the board that no one wanted to overdevelop the area, but were trying to include items of interest that could be used as educational tools and that only authentic pieces were being collected from the area. The idea, Bounds explained, that the goal was to entice new visitors to the location. John Friess also expressed concern to adding unnatural items to the natural conservatory. Tedford stated that he felt any future plans for the Hill should be presented to the SIDC board before action was taken. Bound reminded the board that the contract between the Chamber and the SIDC stated that such action was not necessary and that the Chamber of Commerce was in charge of making such decisions.

SIDC board president, Carl Teaff reiterated this, stating that the whole idea of the transfer of manangment of Eaton Hill to the Chamber was to not have to make such decisions or spend time on these issues. Teaff agreed that everyone should communicate and made a motion to leave the contract as is, with the Chamber of Commerce as the decision making entity. A second was made by SIDC board member Cam Campbell and it was agreed to leave the contract as is.

Bounds then gave a report on the "Ride to Provide" project that was coming to town and informed the board of her resignation from the Executive Director position at the Chamber of Commerce. The SIDC board expressed their gratitude for all that Bounds has done for the community

SIDC Office Manager, Nancy Glasscock reported another good month for sales tax and that the check for \$25,000 had been delivered to the Hotel Management, Inc. Glasscock and board member Max Howorth updated the grant projects that the SIDC presented to the City Council. Howorth said that Mac Oil still had some performance requirement information to complete. He also stressed that the board needed to set up a process for reviewing the special grant applications, with representatives from both the SIDC and the Keep Sonora Beautiful boards being pres-

A letter from Sutton County Hosts, LP was read. Representative John Jones informed the board that the requests were for improvements to lighting at the Best Western parking areas and improvements to an area behind the motel to provide truck parking. Jones also stated that they were looking at adding an illuminated sign to direct the trucks to the area. Landscaping was also included in the future plans, with a request for general assistance in that area. Jones stated that he was still working on researching the revenue increase statistics that such improvements would make. Howorth said that the landscaping portion might fall under one of the new special grants being offered. Jones agreed to continue working on his plans and approach the board again at the next meeting.

The board approved the 2006 meeting schedule.

Ann Kay gave an update on the Pecos Trails project and the application being submitted to the state for Sonora to be the host location of the main office. Kay stated that changes had been made and it looked really good for Sonora because of the overall package that was being offered. The SIDC discussed their offer to provide the office space, in addition to the \$3,300 for the benefits project to offer the manager of the new

Glasscock and Teaff went over the audit findings, explaining the few minor discrepencies that were found. All were corrected and approved by the auditor.

The board then went into executive session. After reconvening in open session the directors voted to award JMC Transport \$50,000 over a

two year period. JMC purchased the former stockyard property on Hwy 277 South and is developing it for three industrial yard sites and JMC's permanent facility. This will go to the Sonora City Council at their December 20th meeting for a public hear-

Position

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Attention Public-Emergency Care Attendant Course Schleicher County Volunteer EMS will be having an **Emergency Care Attendant Class beginning Jan. 5, 2006** and End Feb. 2, 2006, if you are interested in taking this class please contact the Schleicher County Volunteer EMS business office at 853-3456. The ECA Course Provides classroom and skills instruction in CPR, (cardiopulmonary resuscitation, choking) bleeding and shock, bandaging, splinting, child birth, injury and illness care for infants, children and various other emergency subjects. Spaces are limited Please call soon!

As of December 12, 2005

<u>Gas</u> \$15.39 per MMBtu. **Crude Oil** \$56.25/BBL

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Lighting up the holidays.

As you begin using decorative lighting in and around your home this holiday season, AEP Texas 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 Texas, please enjoy a safe, bright holiday season with your family and friends. AEP Texas is there, always working for you.



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Public Notices

PUBLIC HEARING FOR **EXPENDING SECTION 4B** TAX PROCEEDS

The City Council will hold a public hearing concerning the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation expending Section 4B sales tax funds for the following project:

Project to expend \$50,000 for John M. Creek to develop a mini-industrial park on Hwy 277

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 20, 2005 at 4:00 p.m., City Hall, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Texas.

All citizens are invited to attend and provide the council with written or oral comments.

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the Sutton County Hospital District will receive bids for depository of the District's funds for the period commencing February 1, 2006, and ending January 31, 2008. Any banking organization qualifying under the laws of the State of Texas as a depository of municipal funds may submit a written application, sealed and marked, "Depository Bid". Such applications shall be received in the office of the Hospital District, Attention: Keith L. Butler, CEO, P.O. Box 455, 308 Hudspeth Avenue, Sonora, Texas 76950, no later than 3:30 p.m. on January 5, 2006. Applications will be opened and reviewed at this time. The Board of Directors will review and take action on the bids on January 9, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. The Directors reserve the right -to accept the bid that offers the most favorable terms and conditions for handling of the Hospital. District funds and shall have the

BID NOTICE Sutton County is hereby requesting sealed bids on bulk oil and gas for all county departments. The grades of fuel needed are listed as follows: Taxable Diesel, Off Road Diesel, and Unleaded. Sealed bids will be opened on Monday, January 9, 2006 at 9:00 a.m., at the regular meeting of Commissioners Court. Please deliver or mail "Sealed Bids" to Judge Carla Garner, P.O. Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For further information, please contact County Auditor, Maura Weingart, 325/387-5380.

right to reject any or all bids and

to waive informalities.

CAUSE NO. 1303 ESTATE OF **Billy Edward Burch** DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF SUTTON COUNTY, TEXAS PUBLISHED NOTICE TO **CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration for the Estate of Billy Edward Burch, Deceased, were issued on September 26, 2005, in Cause Number 1303, pending in the Probate Court of Sutton County, Texas, to William Burch, Administrator. The residence of the Administrator is in Houston, Texas, and the mailing address is:

Estate of Billy Edward Burch William Burch, Administrator c/o Elizabeth W. Wallace, Atty. 105 W. Main

Sonora, Texas 76950 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and manner prescribed by law. Dated the 6th day of December,

ELIZABETH W. WALLACE Attorney for Administrator 105 W. Main Sonora, Texas 76950 (325) 387-6551 (325) 387-6554 FAX State Bar No. 21683550

Minerals/Oil/Gas

Want to purchase minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to:

P.O. Box 13557, Denyer. CO 80201

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

KCS Resources, Inc., 7130 S. Lewis, Tulsa, OK 74136-5498 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid in the Wolfcamp Formation, Miers A Lease, Well Number 7. The proposed injection well is located 4 miles Northeast of Sonora in the Sonora (Canyon Upper) Field, in Sutton County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3,900 to 4,300 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

For Sale

For Sale: 2003 Tahoe LT, 59,000 miles. Call 226-0432.

14 x 70 mobile home for sale or rent. Call 432-770-3497.

Motorcycle for sale: 2000 Valkyrie V-6, 33,000 miles. Can see at http://web.sccn2.net/bike. Asking \$7,500.00. Call 650-9553.

Commercial Property for Sale: 1100 Orient St., Eldorado. 5500 sq. ft. - office and warehouse on 1.43-acre caliche lot. Asking \$196,000. Call 325-853-2711.

For Sale: 2002 Yukon XL. Very Clean - one owner. \$15,000.00 Call 387-3072 after 5:00 p.m.

For Sale: 5th wheel hitch for Travel Trailer. 12,000 lb. rated. Call 387-2253.

For Sale: Chrome Grill Guard for 2000 - 2004 GMC Suburban, Pickup or Tahoe. Call 387-2253

Ready for Christmas AKC dachshund puppies. \$150 make and \$200 female. Call 387-

For Sale: 2 wood office desks great shape, 110 wire welder, concrete blankets, Coleman camp heater, new 454 header, double pane window 3'x4', new screens 5 1/2' x 6 1/2', bow & arrows w/case, mini van rear seat 650-0221, 206-1722.

Wanted

Broken Arrow Ranch is buying axis, sika, fallow and blackbuck deer. Field harvest animals on your property under state inspection. deer on area Harvesting ranches for 20 years. available. references Call Glen 800-962-4263 or email to glen@brokenarrowranch.com.

Wanted: Ranch Property Individual looking for active, existing or former, ranching operations. Interested in keeping large property intact. No "recreational" properties. Please contact 800-340-1425, M-F 8-5 p.m.. or ranchi ngproperties@hotmail.com.

Estate Sale

Beautiful couch and matching loveseat, white metal trundle bed, chest of drawers, 3 wicker bar stools, like new blue/cream/wine floral couch with built-in recliners, hunter green swivel recliner/rocker, bicycles, high chairs, bar stools, Mahogany table and 6 chairs. Pentium computer w/ printer & warranty (\$300). Great selection winter clothing. Lots More. Please call ahead before bringing in clothing or furniture. All must be in good condition. SECOND HAND ROSE 853-

For Sale • • 115 Deerwood



BR • 2 bath • 2-car garage • CH/CA • fenced back yard Call Jesse @ 226-1133 or 387-3721 or leave message @ 226-0766

Employment

EXPERIENCED DRIVERS NEEDED!

Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operation pump trucks & winch truck. Monthly performance & safety bonuses. Health insurance, annual profit sharing, driver's days off schedule. Please apply in person at Niblett's Oilfield Service, Inc. Hwy 277 South, Eldorado. No phone calls

Days Inn is now hiring housekeeping and front desk clerks. Apply in person @ 311 N. Hwy

Looking for Mechanic's helper w/experience and dump truck drivers. Call Mittle Dozing @ 277-6883.

Help Wanted: Full time and part time. Weekends & Holidays. Apply in person or call The Caverns of Sonora at 325-387-3105 FMI.

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 432-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 432-336-

Hiring Commercial Drivers: Current Class A CDL w/Haz Mat/Tanker. Want great pay and cash incentives? No 24-hour call. Established Company looking to hire drivers. All applicants must pass drug/alcohol test. Please call Justin (432) 339-0540 or 800-523-5566 ext. 140.

Experienced Rig Up Truck Drivers Needed and Experienced, Alert Rig Up Truck Swampers Needed ASAP. Service company needs conscientious road truck and winch truck opertors. Must have current CDL, clean driving record, and experience in rig moving/oilfield equipment hauling. Offers most competitive pay in the area, commensurate with experience. Drug free and dependable persons call for interview 325-387-5220. All responses confidential.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN NEEDED. Will train qualified applicant for Certification. For interview, pick up application at Everett's Pharmacy, 417 Hwy 277 North, Sonora.

Help Wanted: Full time and part time. Apply at Mr. D's, 216 Hwy 277 N. from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Help Wanted: Full time, dependable service technician needed in the Sonora area. Will train. Must be 18 years of age with a current Texas drivers license. Call 325-387-3154 for more information.

Lubrication Services, LP **Driver Needed** Minimum Qualifications

CDL with Hazmat endorsement High School Diploma or GED Great Benefits! 401K, Medical, Dental, Vision, Prescription, paid Vacation and much more. Come join a winning team. Drivers interested should fax their resumes to (325) 387-5762. For additional information you can call (325) 387-2654. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CNA's NEEDED

Crockett County Care Center is presently looking for CNA's to work in our long term care facility. Great staffing-to-resident ratio with great pay. We are a "no lift" facility with CPR certifications offered. Mileage and employee insurance are added benefits. "Personnal Time Off" begins accruing upon day of hire. Top dollar for top quality. Call Vicki, Valerie or Donna for application/interview - 325-392-2671. CCCC is an EOE.

Best Western Sonora Inn Now accepting applications for Front Desk Sales Associates Floating schedule.

Experience is not necessary. Full training is provided. If you are flexible, have a winning personality, and would like to be a part of the Best Western team, stop by and fill out an application. You may also fax your resume to 325-387-9221, Attn: Starla. No phone calls please.

Hill Country Care Center, in Junction, a small, not-for-profit, Christian nursing home, has openings for Weedend/relief RN, LVNs and CNAs. Call Barbara Myers 325-446-3351.

SONORA TANKER DRIVER **POSITION**

Simons Petroleum, Inc. an Oklahoma based petroleum distributor in business since 1947 has an immediate opening in Sonora for a tanker driver. This position will deliver diesel fuel to exploration sites from our Sonora bulk fuel facility and, as needed, will deliver fuel to Sonora from San Antonio.

WE OFFER: • Affordable family benefits including, Health, Dental, Eyeglass, Life Insurance, Short and Long Term Disability and 401K after one year . Two Weeks Vacation after One-Year Service · Company Paid Cell-Phone · Company paid Uniforms Annual Safety Bonus of \$2,000 per year · Secure and Stable Position • Great Equipment and Work Atmosphere

WE NEED: • Class A CDL with X • Minimum 2 Years Tanker Experience · Good MVR & Work History • Previous Fuel Delivery Experience including Pump Operation • Customer Service/Self-Starter/Self-Motivated Individual · Good Attitude and Willingness to Work • Hours of Work Vary - 8 to 14 per day. For consideration please call Simons Petroleum, 800-256-2056, Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm or local call Duane Kinkcad at 325-387-

Monroe Welding needs welders and welders helpers. Top Pay, experience a plus. Apply at 411 S. Concho or call 325-387-5454 for an appointment.

Sooner Plumbling is now hiring. Experience help preferred. Call 387-5656.

Help wanted: Driver & Shop Hand. CDL w/HAZ MAT a MUST. Please send resume to Sonora Chemical, PO Box 1183, Sonora, TX 76950.

Looking for someone to ride with to Ozona on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Early. mornings and afternoons if possible. Will share expenses. Call 387-2672.

Needed sales/manager with 5 -10 years experience in wireline industry. Fax resume to 432-550-0092.

Iaco Grill Now open evenings on

Wednesday • Thursday • Friday 5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

232 N. Hwy 277, Sonora, Texas (325) 387-9127



For Sale 304 Plum \$110,000

ally remodeled with 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, custom kitchen cabinets. refinished hardwood floors, new centeral heat/AC, fireplace, rock patio, covered porch, detached storage. Approximately 1465 sq. ft. on approx. 85' X 200' lot.

Call Sharon Holman 325-387-7046.

• Sonora

- Eldorado
 - Ozona
- Big Lake

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387-2507

Weekend Retreat

X Bar Ranch Lodge & Nature Retreat. Lodge & Private Cabins, Round House Meetings, Retreats, Parties, Family Reunions, Weddings, Quiet Get-Away, Outdoor Adventure. 325-853-2688. www.XBarRanch.com.

All real estate advertising in this news-paper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference. limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians. pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the aw. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspa-per are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free 1-800-669-9777. The tollfree telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Free

Jack Russell Terrier, male, 2 yrs. old. Beautiful but have to let go. Loves kids. Paid \$300 but free to good home. Call 387-3731

Real Estate

Lynn Meador & Company P.O. Box 646 • 5 N. divide St. • Eldorado, Texas 76936

Phone 325/853-2808 • Cell 325/650-6324 E-mail: lynn@xbarranch.com LISTING ROSTER - December 2005

HOMES FOR SALE

603 North Street: 3 BR - 2 Bath, 1498 sq. ft., large corner lot, covered front porch, fireplace, 28' x 37' metal shop, fenced yard, large storage unit. \$85,000.00. 2. 809 N. Divide: 2 BR - 1 1/2 Bath, 1393 sq. ft., frame, new appli-

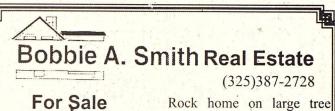
ances, new carpet, new CH/CA system, covered carport, fenced yard. \$55,000.00 ** 100% financing available to qualified borrower.** 3. 110 Dixie Drive: 3BR - 2 Bath frame home with vinyl siding,

1825 sq. ft., CH/CA, lots of storage, metal roof, privacy fence, good 4. 708 Lee Street: 4 BR - 2 Bath frame home with steel siding, 1592

sq. ft., carpet, large lot w/fenced yard. \$50,000.00 5. Old Mertzon Road: 4 BR - 2 Bath home on large lot. 2186 sq. ft. Attractive hardwood floors, CH/CA, privacy fence, metal storage

building. Excellent condition. \$98,000.00 6. 307 Depot Street: 3 BR - 2 Bath frame home on approx. 1.65 acres. City utilities, 1998 sq. ft., CH/CA, water well, carport, vari-

ous out buildings and other improvements, large trees, privacy.



308 Cedar St.

AC/CH, tiled floors, tiled bath, equipped kitchen, double carport and large storage bldg. Home has vaulted ceilings and is easy care. Ideal for single person at affordable price.

shaded lot. Open space with

Real Estate

735 acres • Terrell Co. 83.88 acres • SE Crockett Co. 11 lots on Del Rio St. • \$45,000

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



387-9065 Office

387-2200 Fax Email: sjacoby@sonoratx.net

Bob Caruthers BROKER Real Estate Lot for Sale - Menard Street

House (Fixer upper) Tom Green & 4th Small Acre Tracts west of Sonora on Bloodworth Road 16 to 23 acres available Tracts 3,6,7, (8 & 9) Val Verde County - Game Managed - 6600 Acres cabin at the end of road - \$345.00 per acre. Terrell County 3820 Acres available now electric/water 8 miles south of Dryden (325) 387-LAND

email: bobc@sonoratx.net



111 W. Oak \$79,500.00 New Listing!



This 3 BR, 2 BA frame home offers a great floor plan with a living room and separate den with a wood burning stove. The pier & beam house features original hardwood floors,

AC/CH and a composition shingle roof. Exterior amenities include a concrete patio, green house and a large storage room. The home is located on 4 city lots which offers great potential for privacy and expansion.



305 S. Crockett \$55,000.00 Huge Price Reduction

This large 3000+ sq. ft. building is ideally located for commercial property. The downstairs contains approximately 2470 sq. ft. of space, while the upstairs room is 600 sq. ft. It has a very open and spacious floor plan and is shown by appointment only.

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The Devil's River News

City and County Maps

Sonora Chamber of Commerce has contracted to produce new city & county maps with Tammy Schofield of WLM Enterprise. The only person authorized to sell advertising space on these maps is Tammy Schofield. If another representative from WLM Enterprises contacts you, do not give them any information. These maps are vital to our community and more than 1500 of these are handed out at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office & Welcome Center each year to hunters tourists, service companies, and everyone else that requests one. Remember, only Tammy Schofield is contracted to sell advertising space on these maps.

The SHS Theatre Department will present Laundry and Bourbon by James McClure, published by Dramatists Play Service, Inc. on Thursday, December 15, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. in the SHS Auditorium. Admission is \$2.00

Please join the 3rd Annual Jingle Bell Parade in downtown Roosevelt, Texas on Saturday, December 24, 2005. Everyone is invited to participate or just come watch the festivities. Put jingle bells on your horse, bike, tractor, truck or on yoursel and line up at the Roosevelt Community Center at 10:00 a.m. The parade begins at 10:30 and Santa will listen to the children's wish lists at Simon Brothers Mercantile immediately afterward. For more information please call 325/446-8032.

Little dribbiers will be Sat. December 17. Fifth and sixth grade boys 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the junior high gym, Fifth and sixth grade girls 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the

iunior high gym. Anyone interested in coaching or helping coach should also

be there. Now is the time for senior ads for Yearbook. They are due no later

than December 20. Prices are as follows: full page - \$180; half page \$100; 1/3 page \$75; and ¼ page \$60. A maximum of six pictures is allowed and text should be kept brief. Ad copy and payment are due no later than December 20. For more information, call the High School Office at 387-6533.

Sonora 3rd Grader, Justice Barber, who was seriously injured in an accident last month is slowly recovering and greatly misses his friends in Sonora. The holidays can be a lonely time when you are far away from home. Let's remind Justice how special he is and how great it is to be from Sutton County by showering him with letters, cards and notes of encouragement. You can write Justice at: Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children; Attn: Justice Barber, Room 330; 2222 Welborn Street; Dallas, Texas 75219

Ft. McKavett announces new hours of operation

New operational hours at selected Texas State Parks are taking effect December 1st. The changes are necessary due to a staffing cutback systemwide. All Texas State Parks remain open and available to the public. Please check our web site, www.tpwd.state.tx.us, before you plan a visit to a Texas State Park for the latest information on park hours of opera-

Beginning December 13th, Fort McKavett State Historic Site will not continue to operate seven days a week. The new days of operation will be Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. While this reduction in hours will affect special events and activities we will make every effort to accommodate schools and other groups for educational tours.

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450-2654 cell

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12:35 3:30 6:55 10:05 CHICKEN LITTLE

STEREO SURROUND SOUND IN ALL AUDITORIUMS 2:30 6:30 10:40 KING KONG **AEON FLUX** 11:00 1:20 4:15 7:05 9:30 YOURS, MINE, AND OURS KING KONG PRIDE AND PREJUDICE THE FAMILY STONE 9:40 JUST FRIENDS PG-13 CHRONICLES OF NARNIA 12:10 2:40 5:20 7:45 10:10 ♦ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:00 3:40 7:15 10:45 WALK THE LINE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG-13)

12:50 4:20 7:40 10:50 ◆ SYRIANA 10:40 1:30 4:30 7:20 10:20 () - Friday through Sunday only. Showtimes Valid 12/016 - 12/20/2009

Santa is watching... better make sure your on your best behavior











DIRT CONSTRUCTION, ROUSTABOUT AND CONSERVATION WORK

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Robert Sanchez Roustabout Foreman

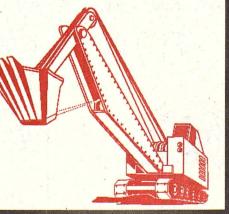
Alfredo Hernandez **Construction Foreman**

Rick Bounds Construction Foreman

Elpidio Torres Jr. **Construction Foreman**



203 S. Hwy 277 Sonora, TX 76950 325-387-3881



Dr. Rico Forlano

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MONUMENTS & PRE-NEED **FUNERAL PLANS** CALL **JOHN WILSON KERBOW FUNERAL HOME** 387-2266