

Merry Christmas



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Crockett Keller's riverside retreat

Some folks in Brady told me I ought to go see Crockett Keller's place south of Mason on the Llano River. It's an interesting place, but not quite as interesting as Crockett himself.



by Tumbleweed Smith

When I drove up to Keller's Riverside Store early one morning, I saw some guineas and peacocks by the side of the driveway. That gave me a clue that the guy I was going to meet was a character. He certainly lived up to the expectations.

When he came around the side of the building, he was wearing a 20-gallon hat and a pistol. His pants legs were tucked into his boots.

After introducing ourselves, he showed me around the place.

His store is like a museum. It has some items that were in the store when his great-great-grandfather had it back in 1862. Crockett

bought the place 4 years ago.

"Our house in Austin got ripe and we decided to sell it," says CK. "I ended up with a chunk of money and decided to come to the old home place and spend some of it."

He put in a beer store in Mason and named it Keller's Cooler. He opened a restaurant next to the Llano River store and has a respectable clientele that comes in regularly for a 20-dollar steak and a Greek salad. He designs the menu and sometimes does some of the cooking. He urges his customers to be patient with the slow serving time, since all orders are prepared from scratch using fresh ingredients, some of which come from his garden.

On weekends a room just outside the restaurant serves as a venue for musical entertainment.

"Mostly we have solo performers," says CK.

"Guitar players, singers, piano players. Spider Johnson comes in at least once a month and plays his saw. Most of the times he has Bill Worrell with him to sing and play the guitar."

CK lives on the premises. His house is just behind the store. He restored an old blacksmith shop for private events. It can accommodate fifty people for parties and some fewer than that for dinner.

CK's background is far from anything having to do with food. He started out in the family engineering business, then was in construction, trailers and trucking. That toughened him up for the restaurant business.

When I asked him about his big hat and pistol, he told me the hat was for shade and the pistol was for protection against rattlesnakes and would-be outlaws. "We're a long way from the law and I want to protect my customers. Actually, I bought this new holster and I'm trying to put some patina on it."

Holidays away from home

I'm one of the lucky ones this year. Barring unforeseen difficulties it looks as if I will get to spend Christmas with my family. Of course, there's always the possibility that the police scanner will beckon and Kathy or I will take camera in hand and follow the emergency personnel to the scene of car wreck, or a fire, or worse.

Years ago, when I worked in the oilfield, I would volunteer to work through Christmas. I wasn't married then and the overtime pay was very tempting. Once the family came along, however, a day off at Christmas meant more than mere money.

This year, as always, there will be plenty of people whose job keeps them away from home. The first who spring to mind are the men and women who serve in our armed forces.

This Christmas, as you gather with friends and family to open presents and share a holiday meal, please take a few moments to remember those who won't have the privilege.

Think of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who will spend their Christmas



OVER THE BACK FENCE by Randy Mankin

holiday protecting us from a strange and hostile world. As we bask in the holiday glow, it is they who will contend with land mines and rocket propelled grenades in places like Fallujah and Kandahar.

Then, think of the police officers and firefighters who would like to spend the day at home with their families, but cannot. While we enjoy our Christmas dinner they patrol our streets and wait by their fire trucks, just in case we need them. And...too many times we do.

Remember the paramedics and emergency medical personnel who would prefer to stay home and watch their kids unwrap presents. Instead, far too many of them will spend their Christmas Day in the back of an ambulance risking their own lives in holiday traffic in order to help a complete stranger get

medical attention.

Think of the nurses and other hospital staff who spend their Christmas Day taking care of the of the sick and injured. They would dearly love to be home with their families, but they answer a higher calling.

Then there are the convenience store clerks and the radio disc jockeys...the 9-1-1 operators and tow truck drivers. Where would we be without the long-haul truck drivers, power plant operators and airline pilots. Or how about the snow plow drivers, ferry boat captains, prison guards, toll booth clerks and TV weathermen.

Okay, maybe we wouldn't miss the TV weatherman, he's wrong most of the time, anyway.

I'm sure there are hundreds if not thousands of other professions that I've overlooked, but suffice it to say that our modern world now operates on a 24 hour a day, 365 day per year cycle where holidays have almost become a luxury.

Regardless of your circumstances, we here at The Success wish you and yours a very Merry and Joyous Christmas.

Transportation Commission agency approves \$600 million highway improvement packages

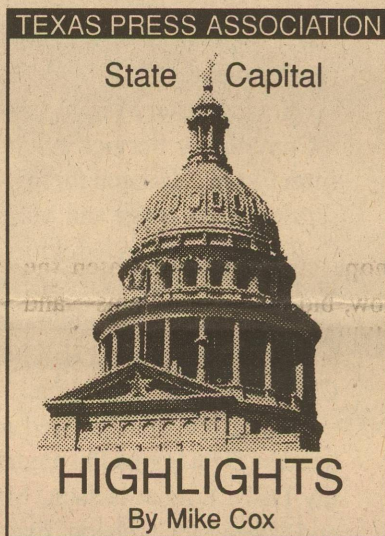
AUSTIN — Texans are getting an early holiday present — \$600 million in highway safety improvement projects approved last Thursday by the Texas Transportation Commission.

The money won't really be coming from Santa Claus, of course. Texas voters in 2003 gave the Department of Transportation authority to sell up to \$3 billion in bonds to pay for highway improvement projects, with up to 20 percent dedicated to safety improvements. This is the first tangible result of that, the largest highway safety improvement project in Texas history.

The money will fund 644 projects across the state that the Texas Transportation Institute's Safety Center estimates will save 90 lives and prevent 1,100 injuries a year. All the contracts will be let by

August 2006, with many of the projects getting under way before then.

The projects include widening 1,600 miles of roadway, installing 740 miles of median barriers, 171 left turn lanes and 10 new over-



By Mike Cox

passes. Collectively, they will reduce run-off-the-road accidents, head-on collisions and rear-end crashes, TxDOT says.

For a list of the safety projects, see the TxDOT Web site at www.dot.state.tx.us.

Spanish group to develop toll road...

Spain built the first highway across Texas, the Camino Real, and it seems on track to build the largest toll road in Texas.

Madrid-based Cintra was se-

lected last week by the Transportation Commission to begin developing detailed design and financial plans for the first component of the Trans-Texas Corridor, a 4,000-mile transportation network for car, trucks, trains and utilities.

The Spanish group has offered to spend \$6 billion to build a 316-mile toll road from Dallas to San Antonio by 2010 and to give the state another \$1.2 billion for construction projects along the Interstate 35 corridor.

Comptroller cites teacher pay hike...

Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn last week released a report called "The Cost of Underpaying Texas Teachers" that proposes a \$3,000 annual pay raise for teachers.

Texas ranks 33rd nationally in teacher salaries, and low teacher pay is associated with high turnover rates, the report says.

"Nearly 37,000 Texas teachers leave the classroom each year taking their skills to better-paying jobs or simply quitting," Strayhorn said.

Also recommended in the report is an automatic state-funded salary adjustment every two years, an expanded mentor program for teachers and a \$2,500 bonus to teachers at low-performing schools that raised their ranking from "academically unacceptable" to "acceptable" or higher.

The report can be viewed at www.window.state.tx.us/special-rpt/teachersalary04/.

Fishy fund raising...

A non-profit group hoping to raise \$2 million for an education building at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Freshwater Fisheries Center at Athens has come up with a way to convert left over fish food to cash.

The Friends of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center recently put up for auction on eBay two dried, gold-painted chicken bones left over from meals eaten by Splash, Texas' record blue catfish.

Mounted in oak display cases with a notation that they were cleaned by the 121.5-pound Splash, the bones would make the perfect holiday gift for a couple of people who may think they already have everything.

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Weekly Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- Heed the alarm
 - ___ mater
 - Bull baiter
 - Brief diaression
 - Serengeti
 - predator
 - Black cat, to some
 - Robert Herrick Christmas poem
 - Furnace output
 - Satellite launched 7/10/62
 - Rumsfeld's department
 - Part of T.G.I.F.
 - Loan shark, e.g.
 - Bart Starr, notably
 - W. is ours
 - Kate's TV friend
 - Wide smile
 - Rebuke to Brutus
 - Words of evenge
 - Dele undoer
 - Blunted blade
 - Do penance
 - Zorro's marks
 - Not as friendly
 - Less meaty
 - Chinese "way"
 - Mosaic designs
 - Glacial debris

- Bulb unit
- Big Apple stadium
- Germany's ___ Canal
- HSagen-Dazs rival
- Not masc. or fem.
- On one's toes
- Dogpatch diminutive
- It may swing
- Certain Californian
- Humorist Myron
- Make changes to
- "___ porridge hot ..."
- Butler's invitation
- Thieves' hideout
- Moroccan's topper
- Most nimble
- Is worthwhile
- Zillions

UL Approved

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64					65				66				
67					68				69				

See solution on Page 6

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:
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OBITUARIES

Fred Logan

Eldorado—Fred Logan passed away Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004, in the Schleicher County Medical Center at the age of 91.

Service were at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20, at the Westside Church of Christ with Clyde Dukes officiating.

Fred was born July 17, 1913, in Eldorado, Texas, to his parents, Thomas Wiley Logan and Alice Wilson Logan. While in high school he met Louise Newlin and they were married on July 17, 1932. They lived many places in Texas, as he was a skilled carpenter. He built many of the beautiful homes in Eldorado. He also helped with the construction of the hospital in which he passed away. Fred was a member of the Church of Christ and worked very hard to care for his family that he loved dearly.

He was a lover of nature and spent many weekends fishing or hunting. He also enjoyed playing dominos with his friends. He was very witty and had lots of fun with his grandchildren.

Fred was preceded in death by

his son, James Logan; his parents; sisters, infant Ardelia and Eva Mae Jenkins; and one brother, Vernie Logan.

He is survived by one sister, Minnie Skinner of San Angelo; his wife, Louise; daughters, Charlene and husband Myrl Sudduth, and Yvonne and husband Rony Kerr; daughter-in-law, Wilma Jean Logan; and eight grandchildren, Teresa Poyner, Benny Logan, Margie Jean Logan, Lori Jones, Amy Thorne, Glyn Sudduth, Ronda Kerr and Kelly Kerr. He is also survived by 15 great-grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, a special friend and brother-in-law, A.A. Cooper of Big Spring, Texas, and many nieces and nephews.

Honorary pallbearers were Willard Newlin, Jim Skinner, Tom Jenkins, A.A. Cooper, Newlin "Chuck" James, Mike Newlin, Corey Lloyd and Logan Jones.

Pallbearers were Glyn Sudduth, Kelly Kerr, Benny Logan, Clay Butler, Ricky Jones and Brandon Logan.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Gifts to "Our Soldiers" Eldorado Head Start students gathered items to be shipped overseas to several soldiers, including an adopted soldier from the "My Soldier" program. Students are shown here with the items they collected. They are L-R: Michael Parks, Jayda Reed, Caitlin Covarrubiaz, Markus Martinez, Myra Sierra, Marisol DeLuna, Courtney Espinosa, Destiny Rodriguez, Albert Arispe, Lorena Huerta, Jacquelynn Lozano, Efrain Manriquez, Julio Narvaez, Jade Cortez, Edmundo Garcia, Kandace Aguilar, Eddykah Rodriguez, Abigail Arevalo.

Eldorado Head Start adopts soldiers

Eldorado Head Start students learned early the real meaning of Christmas, as they began collecting items to send to their three special soldiers friends overseas.

Their teacher, Mrs. Susie Ramirez found a special program on a website called "My Soldier" hosted by Manhattanville College.

My Soldier is a program where a sponsor agrees to adopt a soldier. The program was created by Manhattanville student Juan Salas, an active U.S. Army Sergeant who uses the Internet and the help of many people

to give something back to his fellow soldiers who are still in Iraq.

The students adopted soldier CPL Jason Goodwin. Being a two way commitment, the Goodwin also agrees to participate and correspond with the students.

The students received a "starter kit" containing guidelines for letter writing and care package preparation, a red My Soldier bracelet, and a specially designed My Soldier baseball hat to be included with the first letter and package they sent to their

deployed United States Armed Serviceperson. The cost of the starter kits are financed with donations.

The students recently prepared CPL Jason Goodwin care package to be shipped off before Christmas. They also prepared two other care packages to be sent to two local service men serving overseas. They are Cole Pina and SPC Christopher Martinez.

The My Soldier program can be found at www.mville.edu and is free and donations are accepted.

Let the bidding begin...NOW!

Though the 35th annual telethon benefiting West Texas Rehabilitation Center won't be aired until January 15, the telethon auction website is now open for bids on more than 250 retail items and dozens of handcrafted quilts and afghans. Log on at www.rehabauction.org.

If you're looking for something with four wheels, take your choice of a 2005 Chevrolet Silverado with extended cab, a 2005 Ford Mustang, or a 2005 Polaris Ranger with bench seat. Or how about a Tige boat, a Texas Motor Speedway experience, or a six-person spa?

With 17 categories of retail merchandise plus all the quilts and afghans, the Rehab telethon auction has something for everyone...thanks to generous donations from retail businesses in the Big Country and Concho Valley.

Auction bidding will continue on-line until midnight on January 15. That's also the deadline for telephone bidding, which is possible from 6 p.m. to midnight on January 15 by dialing toll free 1-866-219-7013.

While keeping tabs on bids for an item of particular interest, a great way to spend January 15 is to watch Rehab 2005, a five-hour television special featuring fast-paced entertainment. Country-western singer Joe Nichols will be the show's headliner. Recipient of several Country Music Association awards, Nichols has a string of recording hits including *The Impossible* and *Brokenheartsville*.

Others sharing the spotlight will be 20-year-old Kristy Lee, a fast-rising female vocalist from Dallas who's equally comfortable with country music and pop ballads; cowboy singer/poet Red Steagall, Anacani, Brad Maul and Bill and Susan Hayes. Charlie Chase and Peter Marshall will share the hosting role for Rehab 2005.

And while all the activity's going on in the Abilene Civic Center, site of the live production, a group of volunteers spearheaded by Mary Roden will be set up at

the Southwest Electric Co-op that night. They'll have pen in hand, waiting to take local pledges to help West Texas Rehab Center continue to provide top-quality outpatient rehabilitation care to all who enter its doors—regardless of their financial status. The local phone bank telephone number will be 853-2544.

"This is such a critical fundraising event for the Rehab Center, that I hope everyone will watch the show, bid on auction items—and call in a pledge to the local phone bank," said Roden. "Rehab is always there for all who need it...let's all be there for Rehab on January 15."

Births, Deaths, Weddings, Engagements are all reported in **THE SUCCESS** It's the best source around!

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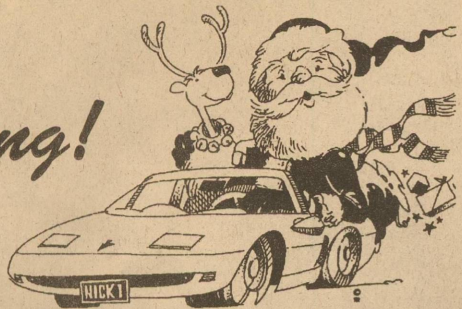
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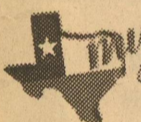
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Junior Varsity Lady Eagles Leslie Cruz (L) put up this shot as her teammate Ashley Lozano (R) positioned herself for a rebound during district action here last Friday night against the Walls JV Lady Hawks.

PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

JV GIRLS

November 11, 2004

Eldorado 02-09-10-05=26
Pecos 02-11-08-08=29

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Alicia Corrales (4), Kassi Tyler (4), Chelci Sellers (2), Ashley Lozano (2), Deysi Rios (1), Chelsey Hill (13). Shooting for 3: Chelsey Hill (1). Also playing for the Lady Eagles: Amika Gonzales, Kristen Mittel, Tiffany Hernandez, Desiree Valeriano, Joy Martinez, Leslie Cruz.

November 12, 2004

Eldorado 01-08-09-08=26
McCamey 13-12-12-08=45

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Alicia Corrales (3), Kassi Tyler (1), Ashley Lozano (3), Deysi Rios (1), Tiffany Hernandez (3), Chelsey Hill (15). Shooting for 3: Chelsey Hill (1). Also playing for the Lady Eagles: Chelci Seller, Amika Gonzales, Kristen Mittel, Desiree Valeriano, Joy Martinez, Leslie Cruz and Leanna Morales.

November 16, 2004

Eldorado 05-00-02-07=14
Christoval 07-10-02-06=25

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Kassi Tyler (2), Chelci Sellers (2), Kristen Mittel (2), Deysi Rios (7), Tiffany Hernandez (1). Also playing for the Lady Eagles: Ashley Lozano, Desiree Valeriano, Joy Martinez, Leslie Cruz and Leanna Morales.

HOOP SCORES



JV GIRLS

November 22, 2004

Eldorado 08-10-03-05=26
Irion County 12-15-11-09=47

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Alicia Corrales (2), Kassi Tyler (5), Chelci Sellers (1), Ashley Lozano (5), Kristen Mittel (3), Deysi Rios (1), Tiffany Hernandez (9). Also playing for the Lady Eagles: Amika Gonzales, Chelsey Hill, Desiree Valeriano, Joy Martinez, Leslie Cruz and Leanna Morales.

November 23, 2004

Eldorado 04-06-15-03=28
Rocksprings 15-12-07-14=48

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Alicia Corrales (2), Kassi Tyler (5), Chelci Sellers (2), Ashley Lozano (2), Deysi Rios (4), Tiffany Hernandez (3), Chelsey Hill (12), Desiree Valeriano (1). Also playing for the Lady Eagles: Amika Gonzales, Kristen Mittel, Joy Martinez, Leslie Cruz and Leanna Morales.

7th GRADE GIRLS

December 6, 2004

Eldorado 00-03-00-02=05
Wall 24-12-18-16=70

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Victoria Garza (2), Maureen Martinez (3); Also playing: Emily Espinosa, Crystal Hamilton, Clarissa Hernandez, Patricia Hernandez, Megan Self, Adrianna Hernandez. Playing for the Eldorado White team: Veronica Bellman (2); Also playing for the Eagles: Darci Graves, Marcela Huerta, April Porras, Lindsay Pridemore.

December 13, 2004

Eldorado 02-04-02-03=11
Grape Creek 08-04-12-06=30

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Victoria Garza (4), Maureen Martinez (7); Also playing: Emily Espinosa, Crystal Hamilton, Clarissa Hernandez, Patricia Hernandez, Megan Self, Adrianna Hernandez.

8th GRADE GIRLS

December 13, 2004

Eldorado 08-10-01-10=29
Grape Creek 06-04-08-07=25

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Cassandra Buitron (2), Haley Higgins (8), Kirsten Stubbs (12), Bridgett Mitchell (3), Deyanira Cruz (2), Megan Griffin (2); Also playing for the Lady Eagles: Bridgett Mitchell, Jessica Valero, Tracy Brenner, Corie Williams. "B" Team Playing: Lindsay Pridemore (4), Veronica Bellman (2), Darci Graves (2);

8th GRADE BOYS

November 29, 2004

Eldorado 09-09-08-03=29
Ozona 01-08-02-05=16

Playing for the Eagles: Milo Villajeo (7), Rance Cathey (2), Dustin Ramirez (4), Austin Grubbs (6), Joseph Turnbull (10), Erik Luna (3). Also playing for the Eagles: Gabriel Gomez, Troy Russell and Timmy Maskill. Eagles "B" Team: Mark Garcia (2), Rofando Gonzales (2). Also playing for the "B" Team: Isidro Granados, Chris Minor, Victor Cardenes, Johnny Bellman, Landy Alfaro.

December 6, 2004

Eldorado 12-05-06-05=28
Wall 06-00-07-04=17

Playing for the Eagles: Dustin Ramirez (5), Austin Grubbs (7), Joseph Turnbull (5), Gabriel Gomez (3), Erik Luna (5), Tory Russell (2), Timmy Maskill (1). Also playing for the Eagles: Milo Villajeo, Rance Cathey. Eagles "B" Team: Landy Alfaro (2), Dustin Gauna (1). Also playing for the "B" Team: Mark Garcia, Rolando Gonzales Isidro Granados, Chris Minor, Victor Cardenes and Johnny Bellman.

December 13, 2004

Eldorado 07-02-04-09=22
Grape Creek 05-08-09-04=26

Playing for the Eagles: Milo Villajeo (2), Rance Cathey (3), Dustin Ramirez (4), Austin Grubbs (7), Joseph Turnbull (4), Gabriel Gomez (2). Also playing for the Eagles: Erik Luna, and Timmy Maskill.

8th GRADE GIRLS

December 12, 2004

Eldorado 04-04-07-00=15
Wall 02-09-02-06=19

Playing for the Lady Eagles: Cassandra Buitron (4), Haley Higgins (5), Kirsten Stubbs (12), Bridgett Mitchell (2), Megan Griffin (2), Deyanira Cruz (2); Also playing for the Eagles: Kirsten Stubbs, Jessica Valero, Lindsay Pridemore, and Veronica Bellman.

7th GRADE BOYS

December 13, 2004

Eldorado 06-02-12-06=26
Grape Creek 04-00-06-03=13

Playing for the Eagles: Tony McCord (2), David Tirado (8), Wes Brown (2), Dustin Ramos (2), Ivany Sanchez (6), Mason Baker (6), Juan Medrano (2).

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- FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 1:45 *4:10 *6:45 *9:15
- CLOSER (R) 2:00 *4:40 *7:15 *9:40
- THE GRUDGE 2:20 *4:50 *7:20 *9:50
- SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE dts PG 2:30 *4:45 *7:00 *9:00
- BRIDGET JONES, THE EDGE OF REASON (R) 1:45* 4:20 *6:50 *9:25
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Hospital board considers single-member districts

The Schleicher County Medical Center board of trustees met Monday, Dec. 20, 2004 in the hospital board room where they heard from attorney Jesus Lopez concerning the possibility of reorganizing the hospital district into single-member districts. Concern about the board's at-large elections began to surface as news of the building program at the YFZ Ranch first became known. Several trustees have expressed concern that a mass influx of people from the Utah/Arizona border to the YFZ Ranch could directly impact the makeup of the board. Consequently, the trustees began seeking legal opinions on whether or not the district could restructure along single-member district lines.

Lopez explained to the board that the enabling legislation that created the hospital district in the late 60's specifically called for a 7-person board to be elected at-large. He said any change would need to be addressed by the state legislature before local action could be taken.

Board President Randy Mankin explained that he had already visited with State Representative Harvey Hilderbran about the possibility that legislation would be needed. He said he had also spoken with an aide in State Senator Robert Duncan's office and suggested that, if the trustees were serious about restructuring the district, that they come up with a resolution asking Hildebran and Duncan to

sponsor legislation.

After a brief discussion, it was decided the board would call a special meeting on Thursday, December 30, 2004, at which time they will consider a resolution. Attorney James Kosub, who was also in attendance urged the board to carefully consider any other changes they might want in the enabling legislation so that it could be addressed in the upcoming legislative session that will begin in early January.

Monday night's meeting was the board's regular monthly session, but was held a week early due to the upcoming Christmas holiday. Mankin called the meeting to order with trustees Shirley Joiner, J.D. Doyle and Jim Martin in attendance. Trustee Susie Richers joined the meeting in progress. Board member Ricky Fuessel was absent.

Also on hand for the meeting were Hospital Administrator Sharon Dietz, Assistant Administrator Beverly Minor, hospital consultant Andy Freeman and attorneys Lopez and Kosub.

In other business, it was noted that Postmaster Wayne McGinnes was out of town and would not be able to meet with the board. Ms. Dietz explained, however, that problems with the hospital's post office box had been addressed.

The trustees then approved the minutes of the Nov. 22, 2004 meeting before receiving the monthly administrator's report.

Ms. Dietz explained that the

hospital has received 500 doses of flu vaccine and that high risk or priority patients will be vaccinated first, as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control. She said a flu clinic has been scheduled for next week for priority patients only. A follow-up clinic for the general public will be scheduled for a later date, provided there is enough flu vaccine remaining, Dietz said.

Ms. Dietz also explained that the hospital's phone system has been upgraded with a "music on hold" feature so that anyone placed on hold will hear various musical selection along with promotional messages about the facility.

The board then looked over the district's financial reports and explored several options with Andy Freeman for separating the nursing home overhead from that of the clinic and hospital. It was noted that current Medicare rules allocate much of the hospital and clinic's overhead to the nursing facility, which seriously reduces the amount of Medicare reimbursement the facility receives. Randy Mankin noted that an answer must be found or the board will be facing some "difficult decisions."

After approving the financial and indigent care reports, the board voted to charge \$60,746.22 in bad debt in a reserve account the board has set up for the purpose. The trustees also approved a new contract with pharmacy consultant Shannan Wideman and approved changes to the employee hand-

book. The new handbook will take effect on Jan. 1, 2005.

Next, the trustees passed a resolution authorizing Ms. Dietz and Ms. Minor to access the district's bank accounts via the Internet. It was explained that the access will be "read only" so that the status of various accounts may be checked.

The board then entered into a brief executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. They returned to open session about 15 minutes later and adjourned without taking action on the matter.

The group's next regular meeting is slated for 6:00 p.m. on Jan. 24, 2005 in the hospital board room.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sauer Agency
Germania Insurance

God Bless You This Christmas!



Matt, Christy, Courtney, Lauren and Wes Brown

Santa has set up shop at

MyEldorado.net

Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS CLASSIFIED ADS



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Celebrating 100 Years — Eldorado Masonic Lodge #890 officers and special guests gathered to mark the lodge's centennial. They include (L-R) Grand Orator David Counts, Treasurer Orval Edmiston, Grand Marshall Orville O'Neil, Past Grand Master Graham Childers, District Deputy Grand Master Brian Edmiston, Tiler Gene Jones, Grand Master Elmer Murphy, III, Senior Warden Scott Edmonson, Worshipful Master Danny Crowder, Junior Steward John Mitchell, Junior Deacon Frank Haines, Senior Deacon Dean Williams and Junior Warden Milton Caveness.

1st Community Federal Credit Union

Kim-et
Lucy
Dorothy

WISHING YOU A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

7:00 p.m Friday, Dec. 24th

Everyone is Welcome

Healthy Holiday Wishes From

Schleicher County Medical Center Family
400 West Murchison ~ Eldorado, Texas 76936



Merry Christmas!

Eldorado Animal Clinic

Happy Holidays Greetings from all the employees. We are hoping for the best Christmas to all our friends! Greetings from the entire staff at Shots #3 & Shelton Oil



YFZ Update

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The tax man cometh

Chief Appraiser Scott Sutton of the Schleicher County Appraisal District told the Success this week that he hopes to gain access to the YFZ Ranch by the end of the year so in order to appraise the buildings on the property for the 2005 tax year. Sutton noted that if he isn't allowed to go on the property he will be forced to estimate the value of the buildings, based primarily on aerial photos.

YFZ Land L.L.C. currently owes \$3,973.00 in taxes for 2004. Sutton noted that the 2004 assessment was based on the value of the land and the 2,000 sq. ft. home that was originally on the property when it was sold to YFZ. None of the new buildings were on the 2004 tax roll. They will be included in the 2005 assessment, which is why Sutton wants to visit the property.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Large earth-moving machines are dwarfed by the size of the rock quarry at the YFZ Ranch where workers are removing limestone blocks. Many of the blocks are being hauled to a stone cutting area where a series of rock saws stand ready to shape them into smooth building stones.

A Healthy & Happy Holiday To All



Pat's Hair Salon

Pat, Nancy and Megan

Sales tax rebates indicate economic growth

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn announced last week that the state collected \$1.4 billion in sales tax in November, up 6.6 percent compared to November 2003. The Comptroller sent \$321.6 million in December sales tax payments to local governments, up 4.9 percent compared to December 2003.

The final sales tax allocation of 2004 brings total local sales tax revenue for the year to \$4.2 billion, up 7.7 percent compared to calendar year 2003.

Texas cities' December sales tax allocations were \$218.2 million, up 4.5 percent compared to

December 2003. City sales tax allocations during calendar year 2004 totaled \$2.8 billion, up 7.5 percent compared to calendar year 2003. Counties' December sales tax allocations were \$18.6 million, up 5.1 percent compared to December 2003. Counties received \$246.8 million in calendar year 2004, up 8.1 percent compared to the previous year.

Nine local transit systems received December sales tax allocations of \$76 million, a 5.9 percent increase over December 2003. Sales tax allocations to transit systems in 2004 totaled \$1 billion, up 8.3 percent compared

to the 2003 total. December sales tax allocations of \$8.7 million went to 89 special purpose taxing districts, an increase of 6.2 percent compared to last December. Special purpose districts received \$115.5 million during 2004, up 6.9 percent compared to 2003.

Locally, Schleicher County's numbers showed the most improvement over the same month last year, but all three local rebates were up substantially. The year-to-date figures were also up across the board here in Schleicher County with the county showing the lowest growth at an impressive 18.98 percent. (See chart below)

December 2004. State sales tax revenue for December 2003. City sales tax allocations during calendar year 2004 totaled \$2.8 billion, up 7.5 percent compared to calendar year 2003. Counties' December sales tax allocations were \$18.6 million, up 5.1 percent compared to December 2003. Counties received \$246.8 million in calendar year 2004, up 8.1 percent compared to the previous year.

For details of December sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html.

The Comptroller's next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, Jan. 14 and will be reported the following week in The Eldorado Success.

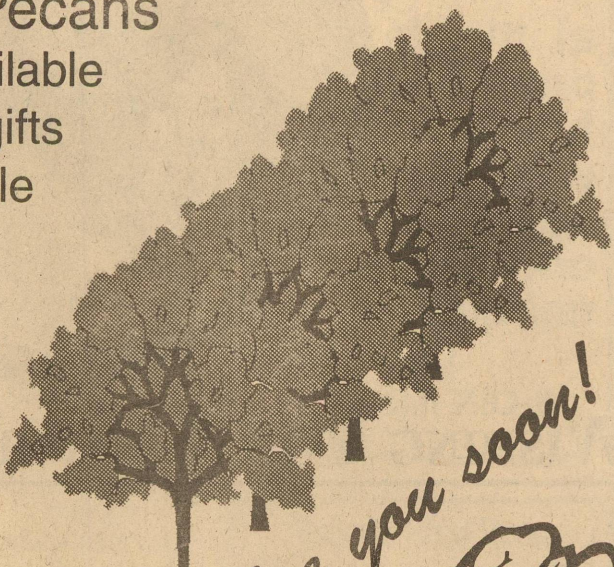
December 2004 Sales Tax Rebates

Local Jurisdiction	Dec. '04	Dec. '03	% Change	2004 YTD	2003 YTD	% Change
City of Eldorado	\$6,316.54	\$5,744.37	9.96%	\$95,386.61	\$76,146.67	25.26%
Schleicher County	\$8,807.84	\$6,671.19	32.02%	\$106,953.64	\$89,888.13	18.98%
Schleicher Co. Health Services Tax	\$8,766.66	\$6,957.39	26.00%	\$105,511.12	\$83,505.52	26.35%

my Eldorado.net
www.myeldorado.net
Eldorado's Internet Homepage

MEADOR PECAN ORCHARD

Excellent Quality Pecans
Shelled Pecans available
Great Christmas gifts
Shipping Available



See you soon!

Will do custom cracking
Call for more information or
come by our office

Hwy. 190 East
Eldorado, Texas
(915) 853-3135

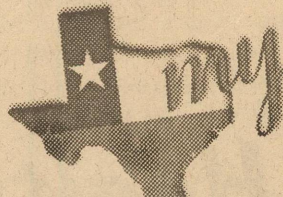
Rita and John E. Meador

Solution to puzzle on Page 2

Ut. Approved

W	A	K	E	N	A	L	M	A	C	A	P	E		
A	S	I	D	E	L	I	O	N	O	M	E	N		
T	H	E	Y	U	L	E	L	O	G	H	E	A	T	
T	E	L	S	T	A	R	D	E	F	E	N	S	E	
					J	I	T	S	L	E	N	D	E	R
P	A	C	K	E	R	P	R	E	Z					
A	L	L	I	E	G	R	I	N	E	T	T	U		
Y	O	U	L	L	P	A	Y	F	O	R	T	H	I	S
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T	I	L	I	N	G	S	M	O	R	A	I	N	E	
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Eldorado Online...

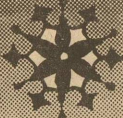


Eldorado.net
www.myeldorado.net



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Jeanne Snelson (L) greeted a number of friends and customers, including Danelle McCormack (R) last Thursday during First National Bank's "Customer Appreciation Day." Jeanne is leaving the bank after 27 years in order to begin her new career as Schleicher County Tax Assessor/Collector.


 O
 Christ-
 mas tree,
 O Christmas
 tree, With happi-
 ness we greet you.
 When decked with
 candles once a year, You
 fill our hearts with Yuletide
 cheer. O Christmas tree, O Christ-
 mas tree, With happiness we greet
 you. O Christmas tree, O Christmas
 tree, How lovely are your branches. In
 summer sun, in winter snow, A dress of
 green you always show. O Christmas tree,
 O Christmas tree, How lovely are your branches.

BJ SERVICES



*All
the Best
to You & Yours
At Christmas Time*

Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative

**FIRST GRADE
MRS. GRAY'S CLASS**

Dear Santa
Plea give me a Game Cube and an Xbox for Chistams. Santa give my mon earrings. Pease bring my dad some tools. Please bring my brother some new clothes Merry Christmas
Keanle Herandez

Dear Santa Claus,
I want new cars. I also want a tramoline for Christmas. Can I have a trampoline? Can I have baseball bat? Can you bring my mom someclothes? How are a the raindeer?
Merry Christmas
Jose Guerra

Dear Santa,
Can I have a bike? Can you make chrimas as good as it was last year. I have been a good boy this year. I love you, Santa. I like all fo your reindeer.
Merry chistmas
Love Byron Aycock

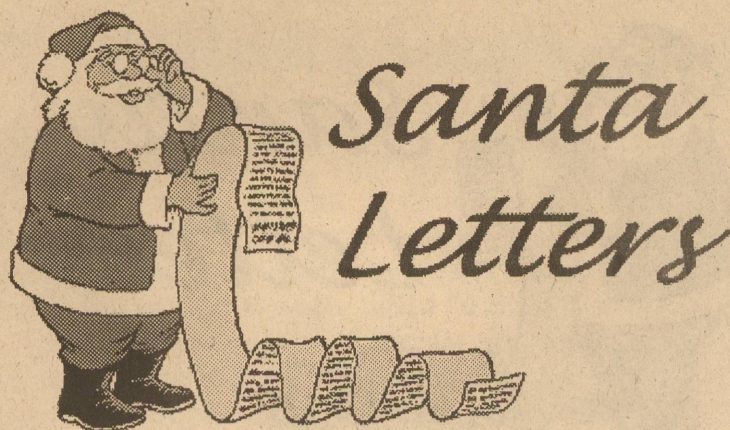
Dear Santa,
Can you give my dad some tools? Can you give me some leggos? Can you bring my mom a ring? Please give my sister a wreath? Please bring my brother a football. How are your elves doing? thank you for the presents.
Love, Jess Gonzales

Dear Santa Claus,
please give me a Monster Truck santa. How are your reindeer? please bring me an Xbox Santa Claus. can you bring me a Game Boy?
Merry Christmas Santa
Justin Ochoa

Dear Santa,
I want a puppy for my dog. I also wount a computer for my room. Santa, can you give me a bicycle?
Can you brina a big swimming pool for my family? Santa can you come to my house with your present Merry chrismas!
Love Luisa Muniz

Dear Santa Claus, Could I please have a barbie for Cristmas. I would also like a little puppy dog. Could I please have an Angel? Could I please have a pihure frame for my mom? Could I pleas have tools for my dad? How are you Santa and Rudolf?
Merry Chistmas,
Crystal Pina

Dear Santa,
I wanta Spider mongame cube game. I would like a new toy car for christmas. I would like a new Spider man book. thank you Santa. how is roodoff the ran dir
love Clayton Arendt



Dear Santa,
I want more video games. The Thing I want most is an electric scooter and one for my sister. I want more tools for my dad and more plates for my mom. Santa how do you fee I am fine.
Merry Chiessimas
Artie Escobar

Dear Santa Claus,
Can I Have a cross necklace for Christmas? Can I have a computer for Chistams too? Santa Claus may I have a bracelet? Santa Claus will you bring my mom a glass angel? Can you bring my dad some tools? How are you doing Santa Claus. I have been good. How is Rudolph?
Merry Christmas,
Marinda Villanueva

Dear Santa Claus,
Will you please give my mom a diamond ring for Christmas? Will you please give my sister a new bridle? Can I please have a toy jet and a picture frame for my sisters picture? Can I please have 100 Yu-Gi-oh-cards? How is Dancer? Merry Christmas Santa
Love Jaime Chancellor

Dear Santa, What I want four Christmas is a brand new back. Please and thank you! What I want four Christmas is a Play Station II.
Please bring my mom some necklaces and rings. Please bring my brother a Dallas cowBoy jersey number 97? How is Rudolf and the elves?
Love Aaron Santello.



PHOTO BY STACI KEY
Mark Muniz got a personal visit with Santa last Thursday during the Arnie Dillo Christmas Party sponsored by 1st Community Federal Credit Union in the Schleicher County Memorial Building. Mark is the son of Edgar and Lucy Muniz.

Dear Santa, How are you? I have been real good this year. Can you please give me 50 Yu-Gi-Oh cardr? Please bring me some clothes for chritmas. Please bring my dog a collar. I hope you have a good chistmas!
love Jake Swindull

MRS. HALBERT'S CLASS

Dear Santa,
May I please have a tore aeroport and a chock bord. We hav cukes and milk for you. please breg us sno. I Lovy you.
Joey Jacobsen

Dear Santa,
May I please have a getr.
love Rylea

Dear Santa,
May I please have a playstashun. I will like a tv for my mom and dad. I Love you.
Jose Luis

Dear Santa, May I please have a motsicle and a cmputr for my sister. I have ben good. I have cuces for you.
I love you, Fabian Gomez

Dear Santa,
May I please have a fourwirl and a Ninj Trtle. Please bring sum Sno. I madw cookies for you. I Luvu you Santa.
Rachelle K Garcia

Dear Santa,
May I please have a tv my sister, brut her and me. I want a horse purs for my mom. I am puting out cookies and milk.
Love Justin

Dear Santa,
May I please have a teentitan toy and a Dora doll for my sister. I hope you have good Christmas!
Love, Kaitlyn Lindsey

Dear Santa,
May I please have an angel and a little bell. I have food for you and Rudolph. Have a hope trip. I love you.
Megan powell

NOTICE

First National Bank of Eldorado will close at 12:00 noon on Friday, Dec. 24, 2004 so that our employees may enjoy the Chistmas holiday with their families
Thank You

Dear Santa,
All I want is a new Collar and a trip to the Critter Cottage!
Merry Christmas from Mondee, Tres, Justin and Payton

Merry Christmas
Griffin & Joy Insurance

"Bloomers"
Flowers & Gifts
Happy Holidays

BIRTHDAY LIST

- DECEMBER**
23rd Marci Minor, Manuel Pina, Jacey Sellers, Josh Jones
24th Joyce Whitten, Sammy Prater, Doug Garvin, Travis Lloyd, Jennifer Cheatham
25th Corrine Hext, April Robinson, Sonny Dean, Heliodoro Sanchez
26th Ashley N. Ramos, Victor Pina, Irene Reynolds
27th Veronica Ussery, Ashby Ragsdale, Jim Chancellor, Garrett Lux
28th Dee Jay Garvin, Tracy Sellers, Abigail Ussery
29th Cynthia Caldwell, Laura Hill, Howard Ledbetter, Allison Reynolds, Mary Barton Robinson, Jan Fuessel

ANNIVERSARIES

- DECEMBER**
23rd Jose & Vivian Sanchez
24th Robert & Pansie Jay
25th Claude & Jessie Jenkins
26th John & Rita Meador, Bob & Stacy Page
28th Danny & Janet Curtis, Joe & Sonja Key, Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Roubison,
29th Sam & Cynthia Caldwell

You're a part of our family
....we'll be there for you!



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915-853-3068
TOLL FREE-1-800-657-9225



For God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son, so whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.



John 3:16

Joy To The World



Shaw's Motel
Janet Marlow

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS, for he shall save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21



CREEK
SWABBING & ROUSTABOUT SERVICE

Wishing You A



Holiday Season Filled With Joy and Love

Amigo's Dream Staff & Employees

For God So Loved The World He Gave His Only Begotten Son ... JOHN 3:16 N.I.V.



Merry Christmas

Niblett's Oilfield Services, Inc.

A Holiday Tradition

What memories this season brings... we hope your holidays are the happiest!



Myrl & Charleen Sudduth
Sudduth Surveying, Inc.

 Eldorado.net
www.myeldorado.net

ELDORADO ONLINE ALL THE TIME

MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE STAFF OF

PIZZA PRO

and

 Shell Star Stop
303 N. Divide

Dear Santa,
May I please have a dirt bike and a golf cart. I'll leave cookies for you. I Love you Santa.
Cade Ledbetter

Dear Santa,
May I please have a chock bord and a motsrskol. I like Santa. I hope it snos.
Luev, Johnathan Martinez

Dear Santa,
May I please have a mortrsikl and a fourwelr. My bruther wuod like car and tev. I bakt cooks for you.
Iuv Jr Gonzalez

Dear Santa,
May I please have a dozr and a sKootr. I like Santa. I like your Deער.
Iuv Jeremiah Geuea

Dear Santa,
May I please have a Brbe and a tede Bar. My mom wants a birb.
Iuv Rebecca Hernandez

Dear Santa,
May I please have a Hamstr and a tuy soldr. I lvyoy. Jesus DeLuna

Dear Santa, May I Please have a spunjBob cker and a Game. I like your Rander. I like you Santa. Tell the elvs hi for me.
Love, Tito

MRS. CURTIS' CLASS

Dear Santa,
I want a dog for me. I want another action figure. I want a dollar. Thank you.
Merry Christmas, Jimmy Miller

Dear Santa,
How do you fit down chimnys? Would you bring me a big Club houes pless. Could you bring my mom a diamond ring. have a Happy chistmas.
Love, Mariah Aguilar

Dear Santa
How are you? Can your elves make me a buzz lightyear toy and a belt for buzz lightyear? I hope you have a merry Christmas and a happy new year
Love, Lonnie Estrada

Weekly Scripture

My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart. God is a righteous judge, and a God who has indignation every day.
Psalm 7:10-11

Second Hand Rose Consignment

Good selection formals & winter clothing. Need (2T to 6 yr). Please call ahead before bringing items in.

Hwy 277 South
Open 10-6 pm
Mon-Sat. 853-3736



Santa Letters

Dear Santa,
What toy is in your bag? I want a Fast car please. My sister wants a Bear. My Boys want a snack. I Want a Big reel rudof.
Canyon Faull

Dear Santa Claus,
Do you have every toy in your bag? Santa I want a new bike please. Please bring my sister a new doll. I want a sled. Thank you Santa.
Love, Okshana Hernandez

SECOND GRADE MRS. O'HARROW'S CLASS

Dear Santa,
This Christmas, please bring me a p-pdoll because mine broke. I also want a new puppy that can play fribee. please bring Brooke a big box of chocolat kandy with a chery inside because She is fun to play with. Please bring Mom a diamond ring because she does hard work. How do you deliver all those presents in one night? Tell every body I said Hi!
Love, Elizabeth Guerrero

Dear Santa,
This Christmas please bring me an xbox, because my brother won't let me play. Bring me a dog so I won't be bord. I want a monster truck so I can make it go orver jumps Please bring Mom a paper doll set. My brother wants a Harley, my dad wants a necklase. Santa how is it in the North Pole?
Alex Rodrigeuz

Dear Santa,
This Christmas, please bring me a bike because I was good all year, and three collers for my dogs name Robert, snowbell, and gray because they never run away. Please bring my mom a diamuring, because she always takes care of me and she loves me so much. Please bring an alarm clock for my momom and dad, because they never wake up, and a comfortable for my dad because his back hurts a lot. Please bring my baby sister her bed because my parents took her bed away and put it upstairs. Please bring my big sister a Brat because it is almost her birthday. Tell Rudolph I said Hi!
Love, Estephanie Estrada

Dear Santa,
This Chismas, please bring me a game boy Sp. because I have been wanting it all year. I also want a chopper because I want to ride it. for Edward Bring a double bear Shot Gun. Is Rudolph's nose really Red? Have a merry Chistmas!
Love Jacob Sanchez

Dear Santa,
This christmas, Please bring me a monkey for Sarah For my mom and dad a \$1,00,0000, and colten had been bad.
Please bring me a ne Scootter, a 300 six, and 3 Wheeler. What do you do at the North Pole?
Love, Wesley Jackson

Dear Santa,
This Christams, please bring me a doll with yellow hair with a silk dress because it would be a beautiful doll to play with, a laptop because I've been good all year, and a kid nail polish set with a lady bug drier. Please bring my brother a couple of hot wheel cars because he collects them, a monster truck with a controler because he likes to control things, and an astronaut dress up suit because he's been wanting it for a long time. Please bring my mom a pretty picture frame because it will look really pretty on the wall with a picture in it. Please bring my dad a new suit to preach in because his other one is old. Please bring my cat a wind up mouse because she likes to chase things around. Please bring my aunt and uncle some baby stuff because they're having a baby. How is Mrs. Claus, the elves, and the reindeer doing?
Your Friend, Claire Wideman

Dear Santa,
This Christmas Please bring me a motorcycle because I want one very bad. Please bring me a new horse because my horse is stubborn. Please bring my big sister a new basket ball because she loves basket ball. Please bring my little sister a whole basket of make-up. Please bring my mom some new jewelry because sh really needs some. Please bring my dad a new gun because his is getting old. Please bring my little brother a barn because he likes barns. Please bring my grandfather a new fishing rod because he loves fishing. Please bring my grandmother some new jewelry because I Love her very much. Please bring my cat a new collar so he doesnt get lost. Santa please give our family our new house. Merry Christmas.
Love, Abby Nolen

Dear Santa,
This christmas, Please bring me a chopper bike, a big Brat doll, and a baby toy for my couesn, Sam. I would ask santa will you make sam grow up big and strong because he is only two months old. Please bring my family a big present and Taylor a new cd. Have a Merry Christmas! Tell Rudolph I said Hi!
Love, Mika Key

Dear Santa,
This Christmas, please bring me a cool new skateboard because my dad broke my old one. And a new skoter because someone broke it. And by the way can you tell Radoph I said Hi!
Love, Tony Rey Martinez

Dear Santa,
This Christmas, please bring me elf clothes. I want a minny motorcycle, A harly davidson, and a four wheeler. Can you find a baby monkey for my baby sister? My friend's brother a BB gun. Will you bring all the boys and girls clothes Bring all those things for all of us because we have been good. What do you drink at the Noth Pole? Tell the Elves to keep up the good work!
Love, Tres Whitten

Dear Santa,
This Christams, please bring me a game boy because I have been good. And some games for my game boy. I want new cloths for my school. Please bring a puppy for my baby Cousin because she wants one. For my mom please bring her some flowers becdfse she loves flowers. And for my dad bring him pajamas because he needs some. For my brother, bring him a game cube and some games. Is it cold at the North Pole? Have a Merry Christmas.
Your friend, Jessie Gonzalez

Dear Santa,
This Christmas, please bring me a ps2 because I like to play games. Please bring my mom a dimend because she is the best mom in the World. Tell the elvs I said Hi. How cold is it there?
Love, Julian Garcia

Dear Santa,
This Christmas, please bring me a 22 because I have ben wanting it and a new bike My mom wants a candle. Please bring my dad a new saddle and please bring Robert a 410, and for Franklin a flash and batman, and a spider man. How is Rudolf doing?
Love, Dalton Buchholz

Dear Santa,
This Christmas please bring me a care Bear Cousin because I have been good and Care Bear movies please Santa so I can watch them and one cd It is Shark Tale because I have been waiting to get it. For my brother, please get him yoo-ge-yo cards because he has a lot of them. For my Mom, please get her a diamond ring because she thinks it looks pretty. For my Dad, please get him the Hallo 2 the game. How is Mrs. Claus, the reindeer, the elves, and expecially you?
Love, Whitney Perez

MRS. VAUGHAN'S CLASS

Dear Santa,
This Christmas I would like a doyp puppy because I like dogs. I also would like a new bike. I would like this because I need a ne w bike. There will be milk and cookies for you and Rudolph.
love, Morgan

Dear Santa,
This Christmas I would like a big bike because I want to ride my bike around the block. I would also like a real foot ball player because I want to tackle him. I would also like a foot ball trower because I could catch. I would also like a baseball trower so I can hit The ball. Hi Rudoph!
Love, Adrian

Dear Santa,
This Christmas I would like a bell off your seigh because I like the spirit of Christmas. I also would like this Christmas a Bratz hair styler because I like Bratz. Finally I would like a poodle because I would like to see how it would be to have two pets. Tell Mrs. Santa Clause I said Hi. And I believe in ya'll.
Love, Tori

Dear Santa
This Christmas I would like new shoes because my old shoes got dirty. I also want new clothes because all my pants are too small. Finally I want karaoke machine because I dont have one. Make peace in the world.
Love, caitlyn

Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, December 27
Baked Chicken, Au Gratin Potato, Italian Vegetables, Dinner Roll, Fresh Orange Half, Milk
Tuesday, December 28
Ground Beef w/ Vermicelli, Pinto Beans, Flour Tortillas, Toss Salad, Mixed Fruit Cup, Milk
Wednesday, December 29
Baked Ham, Green Beans, sweet Potato, Dinner Roll, Peanut Butter Cookie, Juice, Milk
Thursday, December 30
Roast Beef, Mashed Potato, Brussels Sprouts, Wheat Roll, Carrot Stick, Apple Sauce, Milk
Friday, December 31
Catfish w/ Tartar Sauce, Spinach, Pinto Beans, Coleslaw, Corn Bread, Lemon Pudding, Milk



Wishing you and yours a safe and Happy Holiday from Schleicher Co. Emergency Medical Service

Dear Santa

This Christmas I would like a Barbie because I want to play with it. Also I would like some cookies. Finally I would like a new supplies because I need them for school. Can I come visit you?

Love, Jessica

Dear Santa

This Christmas I would like a dog because I like dogs. This Christmas I would also like a new folder for school so I could use it. I would like a bike for Christmas so I could ride it. Merry Christmas Rudolph!

Love, Melissa

Dear Santa,

This Christmas I would like a pet horse and a motorcycle because I can ride both. I also would like another trampoline because I can give because I can give one away. Finally, I would like a kite because I can fly it all day.

Love, Jacob

Dear Santa,

This Christmas I would like a motorcycle because I want to go crazy with it. I also want a horse because I can ride it everywhere. Now I want a doggy because I can play with it. finally, I want a ZOO at my house.

love, Lucas

P.S. Please Santa tell Rudolph he is cool.

Dear Santa,

This Christmas I would like a Juice Box. A juice box is a video player. It plays little Cd's. They are cartoons. I want this because my friend Tammy Nicole has one. She moved so I want the same thing as her. And I want all the poor people to get lots of things. Every time I get in trouble my mommy says she will call Santa and tell him. Tell the reindeer to be good, even Rudolph

Love Abbigail Spradley

Dear Santa,

This Christmas I would like a Spider-Man chair. And I want a Spider-Man room too. I want these because they look cool. How are your reindeer.

Love, Deonn.

Dear Santa,

This Christmas I would like a Golden Retriever because mine past away. This Christmas I also like a kitten because they are comfortable and furry. There will be cookies for you and Rudolph.

Love, Jaqueline

MRS. SESSOM'S CLASS

Dear Santa Claus, I would like you to find my dog PeeWee please and I would like a bratz bike It is purple and It says bratz. Please give my whole family a present especily my grandma Ama and my grandma Diana big presents. I will leave you and your raindeer snacks.

Love Kiarra Ilyanna Trevino

Dear Santa, This Christmas please bring me a Laptop so I can play games on it. I want a game boy evens sp because my causen has one. I want 30 decks of Yo gi Yo cards so I can play with my brother. I want a Harley Davidson game so I can play 10 levels I want one more thing. A Harley Davidson shirt.

p.s. How is Blitson, Vicson, Dasher, Donder, Pranser, Rutof, Cubis, and Comik, is doing? I will leave them food and leave cookies and choctlet milk.

Love, Dominique Ochoa

Dear Santa This Christmas please bring me a black jack because my freind has one Please bring me a real dog because I like them Can you please buy my mom a ring can you give me a bratz costume and hills because I like it. hi rudolph. have a nice Christmas You too Santa.

Yvonne Ramirez

Dear Santa, This Chirtmas please bring me a controller and New bike the same bike That you brot me Last year please. Also, I wanta Ninja motorcycle Will you please give My Little brother a motorcycle

Merry Chirtmas West Ramon

Dear Santa,

This Christmas please Bring me a new bunkbed because my brother and I want to sleep in one room. Bring me a new Playstation so I can play it. Please bring me a new motorcycle.

Gabriel Villarreal
And a Merry Christmas



Santa Letters

Dear St. Nick,

This Christmas please bring me a remote control air-boat with the fuel lab with a motorcycle from Toys R' Us. Will you please get me a real air-boat. Please bring me a motor boat from San Angelo and a relly small sea tutle. Bring Mrs. Sessom any thing she wants.

Merry Christmas Garet

Daer Santa This christmas please bring me a skat dord then I can play with my Dad. this christmas please bring me a miny chopper than I will be ridding with my DaD and my sister. this cristmas please bring me a snow dord than I will de playing with my dad.

merry christmas! Kyler wilha

Dear Santa

This Christmas please bring me a nutcracker that has a wite beard and a red gakit with blue pants and black boots. Please let me have a motorcycle that is red and orange and yellow fire streks. May I have a computer and an Elef sut Please bring my dady sum more patience becquse my sister.

Love Arden Mertz

Dear Santa,

This Christmas please bring me a new belt because some of my pants don't fit me This Christmas please bring my sister some more makeup. finally bring my dad a ring to give my mom. I'll set some cookies and a glass of milk.

Evelyn Martinez

Dear Santa,

This Christmas please bring me a laptop computer because a real computer gets virurses sometimes and its hard to fix. Also will you please bring me a Shamu Sanow Golbe. I was little when I broke it. Santa will you please bring me the Scoo-by-doo the night of 100 Frights I have wanted that game since it came out. I also want a pecan cracker. I don't like them but my family does. So please bring me one. My sister dosin't know what she wants but bring her anthing she will like. I will feed all your raindeer some food. Bring Hank and Claire a stoking. Also bring Mrs. Sessom anthing she wants.

Mery Christmas! Baylee Griffin

Dear Santa,

This Christmas please bring me a book about the reindeer becuse I always wanted on a me there in deer and alos bring Mrs. Sessom whaterer she wants shes very good to us Bring My parents what they want they alos being good to me and my sister will leave you and Rudolph cookies.

Love, Martin Iglesias

Dear, Santa This Christmas please bring me an indian doll with Blue feathers in it because it means to me an I want a leather heads stall with a silver concho with my name on the leather. How are your reindeers? Give Mrs. Sessom what ever she wants. I want lots of cows to rope and lots of new christmas books

Love Kenzie McAngus

This Christmas please bring me a computer so I can have my own. Please bring my sister a bratz room because she is nice to me sometimes. Please bring me some pink boots because it would match my outfit. Please bring me a pink leather jacket so it would match my outfit. Please bring my sister a bratz computer.

Love Bre

Dear Santa,

This Christmas I would like a new car because I want to know what it would fill like. I want a Spider-Man bed. I would like a puppy because I want to play with it. I have been good this year.

Love, Jerry Pina

**Mrs. McGregor's
Third Grade Class**

Dear Santa,

When are you coming? You are cool. How are you? At wate time are yo coming santa? Is my sister good or bad?

Sincerely, Beto Nava

Dear Santa,

Am I on the nice list or the naughty list? I have been a little good. I think I should get something besides coal this year. How are the reindeer? This year we moved our Christmas tree, but it is in the same room.

Sincerely, Jackson

Dear Santa,

Howdy! Santa what do you do when it's summer? I do not know if I should belive in you or not? I'm just wondering if I'm on the bad list or good list. I'm guessing I'm on the bad list because one time I put a fake rat on me Aunt's shoulder. Fairwells Santa It's good visiting you.

What I want for Christmas is a pogo stick, and a game of checkers.

Sincerely, Adriana

Dear Santa,

How are you? How are the elves doing? How is Rudolf doing? I hope you have a great Christmas. I want new shoes and socks. I want a chalk board for Christmas.

Sincerely, Maria

Dear Santa,

I bet the elves have been very busy this month. I have always wonder how you go to all the houses in one night. How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I bet it is snowing a bunch at the North Pole. I can't wait until our big Christmas party. Christmas is my favorite holiday of the year. I would like a Raven CD and DVD. I would also like some socks and jeans.

Sincerely, Addye Chatham

Dear Santa,

Hi! How is it at the North Pole? Is it snowing a lot? It is not snowing here yet, I but it will snow on Christmas I bet. How is Mrs. Claus and the reindeer doing? I think I'm on the bad list because I hit my sister. If I'm on the good list I'll be good for you on Christmas Eve at my gramas. Can I have a Gameboy Advance

Sincerely, Robert

Dear Santa,

How are you doing at the North Pole? I'm doing great here. How is Mrs. Claus and the elves? Could I please have a Video now and a teddy bear for Christmas?

Sincerely, Brittany

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Jesus**
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805 SW Main, Eldorado
Come by and see our selection of Great Gifts!
Merry Christmas
OPEN HOUSE
Fri, DECEMBER 24
9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Steve Sessom D.D.S., Family & Staff

A Merry Little Christmas Wish to You All

J.A. McKEE TRUCKS

Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in
THE ELDORADO SUCCESS CLASSIFIED ADS



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN
LiAna Danford and Rhapsody Swyter qualified for the Region 7 All Region Band at tryouts earlier this month in Coleman. The pair qualified for Area tryouts to be held in Waco on Jan. 8, 2005. They will also participate in the All Region Concert and Clinic at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene on Jan. 21 & 22, 2005.

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Steve and Kim-et Nelson

Have A Very Beary Merry Christmas Everyone!

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Sonora, Texas

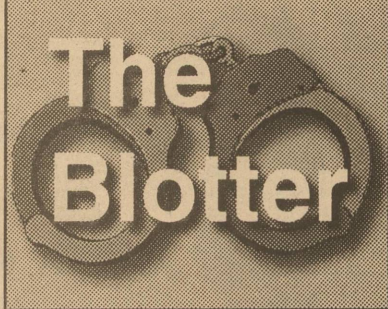
Eldorado Weather

Fri 12/24	Sat 12/25	Sun 12/26	Mon 12/27	Tue 12/28
35/14	48/26	54/32	63/39	66/39
Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s and lows in the mid teens.	Sunshine. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the mid 20s.	Sunshine. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.

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Santa Letters



The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the Sheriff's office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Incidents of major impact will be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ARRESTS

December 14 • Gonzales, Arturo, male age 26, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Expired License, Expired Registration. Released on time served.

December 14 • Gutierrez, Sergio, male age 40, arresting officer SC deputy, offense DWLI. Released on \$1,000.00 Surety Bond with Concho Bail Bonds.

December 17 • Corona, MaryLou, female age 48, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Public Intoxication 3rd. Released on \$1,000.00 PR Bond.

December 18 • Melendez, Juan, Jr. male age 31, arresting officer SC deputy, DWLS. Released on \$1,000.00 Surety Bond.

December 21 • Smith, Paul Franklin, male age 56, arresting officer Game Warden, offense Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Felon.

December 21 • Smith, Paul Franklin, Jr., male age 36, arresting officer Game Warden, offense Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Felon.

by a Felon.

INCIDENTS

December 14 • 10:30 a.m. Complainant requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.

• 7:25 p.m. Complainant stated that someone had stolen some of his things from his residence on Wheat Ave. Officer responded.

• 7:35 p.m. Caller reported a cow in the middle of the road. Officer notified.

December 15 • 11:03 p.m. Complainant reported a possible burglary. Officer responded.

December 16 • 5:12 p.m. Complainant stated he had a red bull put up on his property. Complainant could not locate owner. Officer notified.

• 9:35 p.m. Complainant stated that her son did not want to come home from his friends. Office responded.

December 17 • 1:43 a.m. Complainant reported noises outside Zacatecas Restaurant. Requested an officer to check around the outside. Officer responded and reported found no one.

• 5:36 a.m. Complainant requested an ambulance for her sick husband. EMS 1 responded.

• 6:33 a.m. Complainant reported stranded male driver 25 miles North on Hwy 190. Complainant was suspicious of driver wanted an officer to respond. Officer notified.

• 8:24 a.m. Hospital requested an ambulance for an ACLS transfer. EMS 2 responded.

• 9:20 a.m. Requested an ambulance. EMS responded.

• 9:14 p.m. Complainant reported drunk driver heading North on Hwy 277. Officer responded. Officer reported driver not intoxicated. Driver just tired and had already stopped to get some rest.

• 11:52 p.m. Complainant requested road side assistance. Officer responded.

December 18 • 9:30 p.m. Complainant reported a possible burglary. Officers responded. Officer reported everything O.K.

PHYSICIAN'S PRACTICE/REAL ESTATE AUCTION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 10AM

ONLY DOCTOR IN TOWN RETIRES NOW, SELLING HIS PRACTICE, LAND, & BUILDING AT PUBLIC AUCTION

DR. WORKED PART-TIME INCOME \$275,000-300,000 YR (DR. ACCEPTED NO INSURANCE CARRIERS)

APPROX. 8,000-10,000 ACTIVE PATIENT FILES

35% MEDICARE-30% MEDICAID-35% PRIVATE PAY

CLOSED 45 DAYS - OVER 3,300 SQ FT BUILDING DESIGNED SO ONE END CAN BE LEASED OUT WHILE MAINTAINING ONE END FOR PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE. 1 BLOCK FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL. 5% BUYERS PREMIUM

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Eldorado.net ELDERADO ONLINE ALL THE TIME

www.myeldorado.net

Dear Santa,

How is the North Pole? I have been sort of bad. How are the reindeer? I hope you haven't over worked the elves. How do you stay in the freezing cold! I hope Rudolph and the other reindeer are fine. For Christmas I want red under armer JR and green under armer Jr. Michael Vick jerry in black he plays for the falcons

Sincerely, Michael

Dear Santa,

Are you busy? I am unpacking from Florida. How are your elves and reeender doing? Do you a enormous red bag of toys? We have aready set up our Christmas tree and have all our gifts wrapped. We are not going to put up our pillar lights because our dog Hally will eat them. She likes to eat everything.

The two main things I want for Christmas is a motor scooter and a hair wrapper. O I forgot to say Merry Christmas.

Sincerely, Madison

Dear Santa,

I know you are not real because when I was 3 years old I wrote you a better, and you did not write back and it's inpospl to deliver presents on a night.

Sincerely, Roger

Dear Santa,

I know you are not real because when I was 3 years old I wrote you a better, and you did not write back and it's inpospl to deliver presents on a night.

Sincerely, Roger

Dear Santa,

How have you and all the others been? Is Rudolph and the others reindeers okay? Is it cold at the North Pole? Are the elves working hard? This Christmas Eve we are going to our friend's house to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

These are the things I hope to get: an outfit, jewelry, a video now in color, a cd player, anything of ducks for my Mom, toys for my little sister, a couple of monkey shirts, and a lot of tools, clothes and a watch for my dad.

Sincerely, Yssenia.

P.S. Santa cam I have some walking stick.

Dear Santa,

What is it like at the North Pole? Are the elves doing ok? I bet they are making toys. It would be cool to go to the North Pole.

I love Christmas because I like seeing my family. I het good gifts for Christmas. I would like to spend Christmas with my cousins. Some holidays they are gone.

Sincerely, Macy

Dear Santa,

I know you are not real because when I was 3 years old I wrote you a better, and you did not write back and it's inpospl to deliver presents on a night.

Sincerely, Roge

SELF INKING STAMPS

FAST SERVICE ELDERADO SUCCESS

ZACATECA'S RESTAURANT

Our family wishes the community of Eldorado a Merry Christmas. Zacateca's Restaurant will be closed for the Christmas Holidays through the New Year. Zacateca's will be back open for regular business on January 4, 2005. May God Bless Each and Everyone with a Prosperous New Year.

Sincerely, Jesus and Elena Rios

Wishing My Eldorado Patrons a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

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JOY TO THE WORLD

LET EARTH RECEIVE HER KING

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a joyous holiday season!

Randy, Kathy & Staci

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- SONORA
- OZONA
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Place your non-commercial classified ad in the Eldorado Success, Devil's River News, Ozona Stockman and the Big Lake Wildcat for one low, low price. Call today for details!

853-3125

Sign Up Now for ECA Course Emergency Care Attendant Course

Schleicher County Volunteer EMS will be having an Emergency Care Attendant Class beginning in January, 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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed Proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TXDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT (S)

Dist/Div: San Angelo

Contract 0907-00-063 for OVERHEAD FLASHING BEACONS in TOM GREEN County, etc. will be opened on January 11, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

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

NPO: 15159

State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office (s)
San Angelo District
4502 Knickerbocker Rd
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Phone: 325-944-1501

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

EMPLOYMENT

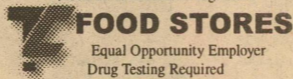
Caverns of Sonora
Help Wanted: Full-Time and Part-Time (part-time will include holidays & weekends); Responsible students welcome to apply. Apply in person or call 387-3105 FMI.tfn

T & J Valve Service is now hiring a Store Manager / Salesman and a Shop Mechanic. Must have some knowledge about oilfield valves, controls, chemical pumps, production units, De-Hy's and etc. Call 325-206-0163. 50-53b

NEEDED - Assistant Cook for 6 to 8 hours, 6 days a week. Please call and leave a message at 853-3629. 52-53b

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START UP TO \$9.05 hr.
Must work shifts & have prior experience to qualify for \$9.05 hr.
\$8.00 hr. is minimum wage start.



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Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operating pump trucks & winch truck.

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Please apply in person Niblett's Oilfield Service, Inc. Hwy. 277 South, Eldorado. No phone calls please. 9th

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Benefits Available: Paid Time Off; Paid Holidays; Health Options; Childcare; Retirement Options.

Please come by the SCMC Business Office to fill out an application and/or turn into Vicki Farmer, BS, DON.

Resumes may be faxed to 325.853.3523 to the attention of Vicki.

NOTICE FOR BIDS

ACCEPTING BIDS

Schleicher County ISD is accepting bids on a used enclosed tandem 12X7X6 cargo trailer with a back door and side door, a 2110 Ford Tractor and a 1984 white Chevrolet Suburban. These items can be seen at the SCISD bus barn. For more information call Oscar Martinez at 325-853-3138.

Bids will be received in the Administration office until January 6, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. They highest bid will be awarded during the SCISD Board meeting on January 10, 2005. SCISD reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

MISCELLANEOUS

TO GIVE AWAY (4) BLACK PUPPIES.
CALL 450-8267.

LOST between 302 Callender and Super S Foods or Hwy 190 East, Sunday morning 12-19-04; Tri-Tronics Classic 70 Training Dog Collar Transmitter. Call 853-3162

NOTICE FOR BIDS

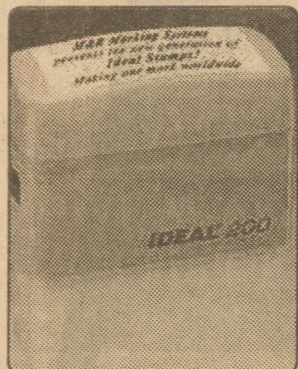
CALL FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Schleicher County Independent School District acting by and through its Governing Board, will accept sealed bids for the purchase of:

One (1) Conventional School Bus

Specifications may be obtained from:
Schleicher County ISD
Ray Ballew
P.O. Box W
Eldorado, Texas 76936
325-853-2514 ext. 225

SELF INKING STAMPS



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SALES Estate, Garage, Yard

New arrival of cream print chair, antique rocking chair and fireplace mantel, youth bed (no mattress), coffee table, white spindle baby bed & mattress, recliner, microwave, green leather loveseat, Western loveseat, Duncan Phyffe mahogany table with 6 chairs, antique wicker dressing table and chair, beautiful knotty pine dining table and 6 chairs \$450, LOTS MORE. PLEASE CALL AHEAD BEFORE BRINGING IN CLOTHING AND/OR FURNITURE all must be in good condition. Second Hand Rose, Eldorado 853-3736.

Announcement from

Rosa's Casita Restaurant

Rosa's Casita Restaurant will be open Friday, December 24, for LUNCH ONLY.

Closed for Christmas Holiday
Friday evening, Saturday, Sunday & Monday
Open Tuesday, December 28, 2004

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The Eldorado Success



In the True Spirit of Christmas

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TexSCAN Week of
December 19, 2004

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Merry Christmas



Preston



Tristen



Kiersten



Wyatt

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North Region Only	\$175
102 Newspapers, 381,000 Circulation	
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Season's Greetings

To our Customers and Friends
we extend our best wishes for a
very happy Holiday Season and
prosperous New Year



Board of Directors: (Standing L-R) Raymond Mittel,
Bobby Helmers, Hyman Sauer, Lynn Meador, Steve Chandler
(Seated L-R) Jeanne Snelson, Martha Sue Oliver



Administration: Mason Vaughan, Deanne Walker,
Hyman Sauer, Jo Helen Kotsch, Shirley Joiner



Customer Service
Glenda Harris, Carolyn Mittel, Lupe Herrera



Loan Operations
Helen Ledbetter, Linda Gonzalez, Mary Jenkins



Loan Officers
Mason Vaughan, Jeanne Snelson, Stacy Haynes



Operations
Caroline Hight, Nora Perez, Angela Redish

Merry Christmas



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