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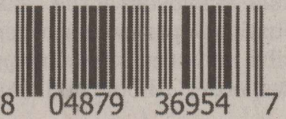
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December 21, 2017

\$1

Volume 128  
Issue 50



# The Devil's River News

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP & STRONG • COVERING THE NEWS IN SONORA AND SUTTON COUNTY SINCE 1890

## Sutton County Cemetery Hosts Emotional Wreaths Across America Event

Desiree Gonzales's love for her family and country inspired local residents and gave rise to the holiday wreath laying in honor of veterans this past Saturday, December 16, 2017 in the Sutton County, Sonora, Cemetery.

Similar wreath-laying events were also held Saturday at Arlington National Cemetery and at more than 1,200 locations across the country.

Gonzales said she organized the event out of respect for her grandfather Pedro Virgen who passed in 2015 as a way of honoring him for his courage and devotion to his country and family.

"He taught us the importance of honoring our veterans," Gonzales said. "I wanted to do something to make him proud. I wanted to bring it home."

Gonzales's paternal grandfather, Alejandro Gonzales also served in the United States military as well as many other members of her family.

A crowd of people including law enforcement, military and civilians, alike, gathered at the front of the cemetery where they bowed their heads in silence to open the official ceremony.

Delaney Ramsdell sang "Star Spangled Banner", followed by County Judge Steve Smith who inspired listeners with words of appreciation for all the members of the U.S. military.

Smith, a retired Lt. Col. from the United States Air Force, said he was honored when asked to speak at the ceremony and he is proud to be a part of the event. He recognized Gonzales for her passion and commitment and thanked those present for their support of the countless individuals who have served as well as those who are serving in the military today.

"I was so proud to see our community respond in such a way to honor our military both past and present," Smith



Scott Garrett and Ralph Gonzales placed a wreath in remembrance of the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps during Saturday's veteran wreath laying ceremony, December 16, 2017, at the Sutton County Sonora Cemetery. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

said.

Seven remembrance wreaths were placed recognizing each branch of the United States military. Scott Garrett placed a wreath in memory of those who served and are serving in the U.S. Army, Ralph Gonzales, U.S. Marine Corps, Ruben Velez, U.S. Navy, Lionel Cervantez, U.S. Air Force, Kevin Litterell, U.S. Coast Guard, Scout Pack 19, U.S. Merchant Marines and Col. Pete Bradley, in honor of the 93,129 U.S. servicemen

from all branches of the service whose last known status was either Prisoners of War or Missing in Action.

Marking the close of the ceremony, Calvin Hernandez of the Sonora High School band trumpeted an emotional solo of "Taps" bringing tears to his eyes as well as others. Stephanie Hernandez, his mother, said it hit him harder than he expected.

"He is emotional because of his grandfather, grandmother and uncles who have

served in the military," Hernandez said. "He remembers them and knows how important their service is to our family and our country."

A wreath was placed on the grave of each individual "American Hero" buried in the Sonora cemetery.

Three hundred and twenty-five in all.

Volunteers and families braved the cold and rain to pay tribute to those who endured much worse to protect the freedoms and liberties

of all U.S. citizens.

Striving to continue the holiday wreath laying ceremony in Sonora in the future, Gonzales said she is thankful for the overwhelming support from the community making this year's event successful.

"I thank everyone who participated in this event," Gonzales said. "Especially those who opened their hearts and family history to help myself and others learn more about the history of Sonora and its people."

## Sonora Middle School OAP 'Dark Road' Yields Nine Awards

The award winning cast and crew of the Sonora Middle School's One-Act Play took the stage Thursday, December 14, 2017, for their fourth and final performance this year.

This performance follows their recent contest in Mason where they collected nine awards Saturday, December 10, 2017 while competing against area schools.

Assuming their character

roles, students acted out scenes from the drama, "Dark Road."

In addition to being awarded first place overall, eight individual students also earned awards for their outstanding work on stage as well as behind the scenes.

Sophia Gutierrez was awarded Best Actress and Ava Worrell, Jacky Galindo and Abigail Fuentes earned

All-Star Cast.

Additionally, Amaris Jimenez, Tais Gaytan and Alex Hernandez were awarded Honorable Mention All-Star Cast and Abigail Mendoza earned Best Crew Member.

"Dark Road", written by Ian Rankin and the Royal Lyceum Theatre's Artistic Director Mark Thomson, premiered at the Royal Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh,

Scotland in September 2013.

The play centers around the character Isobel McArthur, Scotland's first female Chief Constable and Chief Superintendent of Edinburg following the creation of the official Scotland Police.

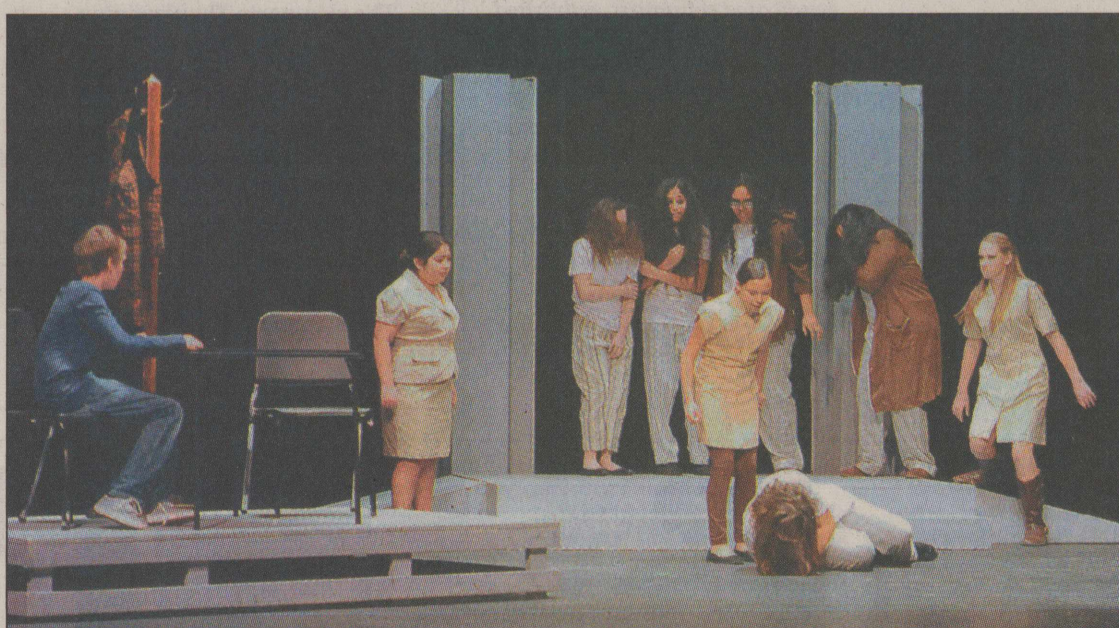
As she contemplates her retirement and writing a book, McArthur reviews the case of a serial killer, Alfred Chalmers, who killed four

girls twenty-five years previous, in which she has always questioned the conviction.

The process throws herself, her daughter and her colleagues into a psychological battle against Chalmers.

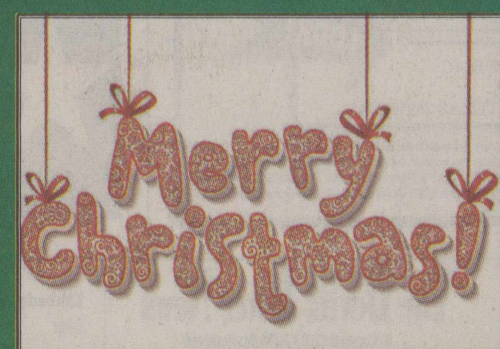
The SMS One-Act Play cast included: Ava Worrell, Conner Vyvlecka, Sophia Gutierrez, Alex Hernandez, Abigail Fuentes, Jacky Galindo,

SEE OAP ON PAGE 3



Cast members of the Sonora Middle School One-Act-Play took the stage for their final performance this year of the drama, "Dark Road" Thursday, December 14, 2017. The production earned first place overall against area schools. As well, eight students were awarded individually for their exceptional work. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

The Devil's River News will be  
CLOSED next week for Christmas



There will not be a paper published next week.  
The next edition of The Devil's River News  
will be published on Thursday, January 4, 2018.

# Abbott Asks Rangers to Investigate Reports of Misconduct

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott has asked the Texas Rangers to investigate reports of sexual misconduct and inappropriate relationships by Texas Juvenile Justice Department personnel.

On Dec. 13 Abbott sent a letter to Texas Department of Public Safety Director Steven McCraw requesting the investigation.

"Recent reports of sexual misconduct and inappropriate relationships by state employees at the Texas Juvenile Justice Department are reprehensible and necessitate an appropriate response," Abbott said. "Action is

needed to guarantee the protection of the youth in the care and custody of the State of Texas. I am requesting that our esteemed Texas Rangers immediately open a detailed investigation to determine the extent of the alleged misconduct at the Texas Juvenile Justice Department."

Abbott also sent a letter to Camille Cain, newly named executive director of the Juvenile Justice Department, urging her to work with his office to ensure that the youth in the state's care are protected, and to carry out the agency's mission to transform young lives and

create safer communities.

## Tax payments spreadable

Taxpayers with hurricane-damaged homes and businesses may pay their 2017 and 2018 property taxes in installments, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said in a Dec. 13 statement.

Patrick said the option is open to residents with damaged homes and businesses in the 60 Texas counties declared disaster areas following Hurricane Harvey. Ordinarily, taxpayers are expected to pay their taxes in a lump sum due by Feb. 1.

"This will not lower appraisals or property taxes, but it will spread out what is owed over several months and eliminate penalties and interest," Patrick said.

Eligible property owners must take the following steps in order to pay their property taxes in installments:



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 13

## Do Santa's Elves Listen to Wrap Music in the Workshop?

One of our younger readers was concerned that too much attention is being paid to Santa's reindeer and not enough to his faithful elves. So, the youngster forwarded me an e-mail chock full of



information about elves. I got a chuckle, hopefully you will, too. For example, the favorite music of Santa's elves

is Wrap Music.

It takes ten elves to change a single light bulb...one to change the bulb, of course, and nine to stand on each other's shoulders.

Elves make their sandwiches with shortbread and they pay their debts with jingle bills.

Depressed elves are sent to see the North Pole therapist for treatment for low elf-esteem.

One misconception about elves is that they have short legs. In truth, their legs are just as long as your — long enough to reach the ground.

It takes a lot of training to be one of Santa's elves and the H.R. department at the North Pole is strict in its hiring policy. You must have a higher education to work at the bottom.

The first thing elves learn in school is the elf-abit. Likewise their favorite meal is elf-abit soup.

Their favorite singer, Elfis, regularly performs in the Christmas lounge where he sings "Blue Christmas."

Elves come to the North Pole from all over the world. There's even one from Texas. He's the one who builds the Susie Homemaker Ovens. He is known as the Gnome on the Range.

When the Christmas season is over many of the elves work at one of the Disney theme parks where they are regularly featured in "It's a Small World After All."

Interestingly, the North Pole has its own sports leagues. Hockey is popular, but so is basketball, even if the hoop is a bit lower. The elves never suffer from athlete's foot, though. What they get is called mistle-toe.

Elf bowling is popular, too, even if it is played a bit differently than late-night television would have us believe.

Speaking of TV, one elf made it onto several shows as a stand-up comic. Everyone said he was a real Christmas card.

Elves do more than make toys. Some work in the front office at the Santa's Workshop. Those who work directly under the big man are called subordinate clauses.

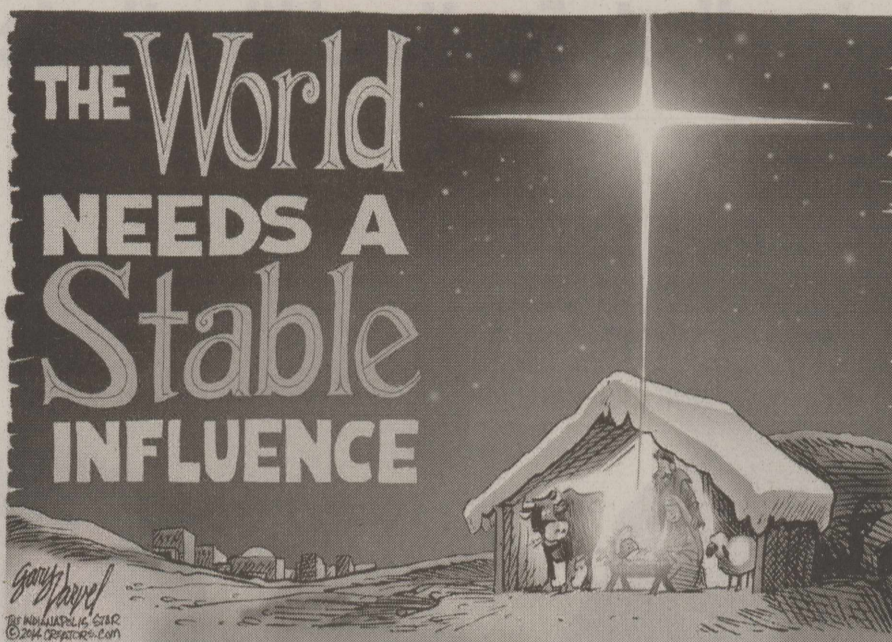
Elves are concerned about the environment so they carpool to work in a minivan.

Because Santa has so many elves working in his shop, he is required to pay elf-employment tax.

One lucky elf no longer has to work. He won the lottery last year now he's independently wealthy.

Lastly, where is the best place to look for an elf? Depends on where you left him, of course.

Seriously, my wish is that you and yours will have a happy and joyous Christmas season and that all of tomorrow will be Merry and Bright.



## Holiday Shopping and Shopping and Shopping

It's the gift-giving season. And who doesn't enjoy giving a good gift? I certainly do. Problem is, I get sucked in. It happens every year.

I start around the end of November with a cool head and practical intentions. I will get people only the things they really need. Nothing more. I am sure of my doggedness; my willpower is strong. My budget set.

But buying gifts is sort of like rolling a snowball downhill. Once you get the momentum going it's hard to stop. This is compounded by the temptations that lie lurking online, on television ads and in the stores.

Already this year I've been enticed by some doozies. They are hard to resist items that I'm sure I desperately need (or someone on my gift list desperately needs) even though I didn't know said items existed before I learned of the need. There's logic in there somewhere.

More than a few potential gifts pertain to pets. You can get a sterling silver pendant that is cast to duplicate a photo of your dog or cat. Alternatively you could opt for the custom pillow, also made in the likeness of your feline or canine friend. Or I suppose you could send them a photo of your fish. There's no limit to creativity when it comes to pet likenesses on household items.

There is a ceramic cat tissue holder that dispenses tissues from the cat's backside. #conversation-piece. A dog-brella and catnip joints (100 percent legal) are sure to be a hit.

While the pet products are mostly for show (except the tissue holder) there are numerous multi-taskers that can make anyone's life easier. There's the ironing board that doubles as a full-length mirror. One side for pressing clothes the other for self impression.

Kitchen shears with an attached cutting board make slicing and dicing as easy as grabbing a tissue from

a cat's butt. And I don't even have to explain the duo functionality of the men's dress tie with attached flask.

The worst thing about a candle is you burn it and it's gone. This isn't the

case with the resilient and ingenious reusable candle. As it burns, the wax melts and drips into a compartment under the candle. After the candle has burned all the way down, you flip the whole thing over and burn again. It's a twofer.

Some gifts, albeit clever and fun, are dreaded uni-taskers. They perform just one function. Still they might be the

perfect choice for someone on your list. Take the triceratops taco holder (really, please, take it). I didn't even know dinosaurs liked Mexican food.

If your family is like mine and eats all the ice cream before you get a chance to get even one scoop you could invest in the security-minded ice cream lock. No more hiding the ice cream; lock it up! Just make sure you don't lose the key.

Other notable options include beer flavored jelly beans, bacon flavored candy canes, a big foot car air freshener and a disco ball that attaches to any smart phone. Welcome back to the 80s!

The fanny pack made to look like a chubby belly might be the perfect gift for uncle Larry and a levitation plant holder that uses magnets to float is actually pretty cool. Who am I kidding? They are all cool.

Shopping for the perfect holiday gifts is a never-ending task. I've been done for days, but still, I continue — just looking. I can't stop myself. At this point I'm like a great big snowball rolling at breakneck speed. December 25 can't get here fast enough.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

## Slices of Life



By Jill Pertler

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## The North Pole of Texas

Alan Screws grew up on his family's dairy farm 4 miles north of Pickton in northeast Texas. He has turned part



## Rolling Along

by Tumbleweed Smith

of the farm into what he calls THE NORTH POLE OF TEXAS which features lighted

Christmas scenes and a fifteen minute train ride that goes across a couple of bridges and right through the middle of a toy shop.

"It'll stop in the toy shop," says Alan, "which is a twenty-four by forty foot building. I got the idea from the mine train at Six Flags, which goes through an old saloon. The toyshop has animated elves in it. Every night Santa is there and talks to everybody on the train and gives them a bag of jellybeans. The words Happy Birthday Jesus are printed on each bag."

The place has become a major tourist attraction. Thirty volunteers help.

"Back in 1997, we built a small train and I thought it would just be to carry children around in our yard at Christmas time. I found out pretty quick that adults like to ride, too. So we built a bigger train for the adults. We soon ran out of room in our front yard to run the trains so we got permission from the county commissioners to build a bridge over the county road to get to the other side of our property. Soon we built another bridge. The crowds kept growing and we started having two or three hundred a night, then four hundred and six hundred, then a thousand. We've had up to two thousand people ride in one night. Some folks have waited up to two or three hours for a ride. This is our twentieth year. Last year we hit our one hundred thousandth ride. It's all free. We've got four trains now so we can give about four hundred rides an hour. While people are waiting in line we have big TV monitors that show me reading the Christmas story. We've had as many as 800 waiting in line. Commissioners have let us build a by-pass on the county road so traffic can be diverted and people can stand in line on the county road. We have a Christmas cabin where the people can come in and visit with Mrs. Claus and take pictures with her. We have Kim's hot chocolate factory, Kim's wife, where we give away the best hot chocolate you'll ever want to drink. We always have a live nativity scene. We have a huge Texas-sized sleigh that you can put your whole family in and take pictures."

Alan, who used to race cars and pickups on dirt tracks, is mechanically minded and built the trains. One of the displays features racecars. One on a pond has jet skis.

"The train engine is a Kubota tractor that we built a cab around and put a nose on it like a train. We put a smoke machine on the front so it smokes like a train. And it has a bell on it. Each train has three passenger cars that carry 8 to 10 people each."

The ride starts Thanksgiving weekend and operates until December twenty-third. It runs from six to nine PM. The address is 227 CR 3378, Pickton.

"It an experience. People need to come out and enjoy the true meaning of Christmas with us."

www.tumbleweedsmith.com

Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in  
**THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS**  
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## SMS One-Act-Play



Sonora Middle School One Act Play cast and crew pose for a post performance photo with their first place award Saturday, December 10, 2017. Pictured (L-R) Back Row: Whitney Gilbert, Mariana Montoya, Alex Hernandez, Lane Taylor, Austin Figueroa, Ava Worrell, Sophia Gutierrez, Yailin Dominguez, Susie Levario, Amaris Jimenez and Sally Shepard. Middle Row: Tais Gaytan, Brijida Garza, Joe Ivan Abrego, Madison Mayfield, Alexis Guerra, Jacky Galindo, Ellie Edwards, Conner Vyvlecka and Abigail Mendoza. Front Row: Abigail Fuentes, Brandon Torres, Tanner Flanagan, Sebastean Garza, Cainaan Miller and Jina Dooley. | COURTESY PHOTO



Individual award recipients pose for a group photo Saturday, December 10, 2017. Pictured (L-R) Tais Gaytan, Abigail Mendoza, Amaris Jimenez, Alex Hernandez (kneeling), Sophia Gutierrez, Ava Worrell, Abigail Fuentes, and Jacky Galindo. | COURTESY PHOTO

### OAP:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

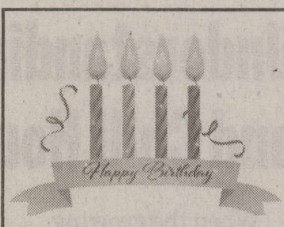
Amaris Jimenez, Ellie Edwards, Tais Gaytan, Susie Levario, Mariana Montoya, Yailin Dominguez, Brandon Torres, Cainaan Abalos and Joe Ivan Abrego.

One-Act-Play Crew included: Lane Taylor, Sebastean Garza, Alexis Guerra, Abigail Fuentes and Madison Mayfield.

The Understud-ies included: Austin Figueroa, Tanner

Flanagan, Brijida Garza, Jina Dooley and Interns James Galindo, Agassi Rodriguez and Atalia Ruiz.

All of the students deserve applause for their hard work this year.



#### DECEMBER

22nd Westley Lipham, Edna Poheco  
 23rd Kelly Martin  
 24th Delia Samaniego, Marco Jimenez, Derick Edward Castro  
 25th Ty Love, Monica King, Cynthia Perez, Betty Longoria, Chris Vyvlecka, Melissa Surber  
 26th Claire Jones, Linda Cumpian, Hortencia Castillo, Lisa Galindo, Anita Spiller, Lucy McGuffin, Jesse Carillo  
 27th Jerry Don Balch, Al Elliott, Charlie Alewine, Ryan Garmon  
 28th Dean Dermody, Donna Benson  
 30th Mary Jean Sims, Rosalie Richardson, Carol Pope, Justin Northcott, Blayze Sykes  
 31st Jerri Martin, Ron Morris, Patsy Samaniego, Nathan Longoria, Anita Samaniego

#### JANUARY

1st Ana Lesa Samaniego, Becky McAngus  
 2nd Keith Hudson, Betty Lopez, Alex Morrow, Pablo Favela  
 3rd Missy Longoria, Mickey Galindo  
 4th Linda Neff, Wylie Wagoner, Katelyn Lipham, Callie Humphrey, Delaney Ramsdell, Heather Smith

Send us your birthdays to [editor@devilsriver.news](mailto:editor@devilsriver.news)

#### SONORA WEATHER FORECAST

| Thu 12/21  | Fri 12/22  | Sat 12/23   | Sun 12/24  | Mon 12/25  |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| 74°/50°  | 60°/29°  | 58°/30°   | 44°/14°  | 47°/23°  |
|  |  |   |  |  |
| Partly Sunny & Mild<br>Sunrise 7:36 a.m.<br>Sunset 5:46 p.m. | Partly Sunny & Cooler<br>Sunrise 7:36 a.m.<br>Sunset 5:46 p.m. | Times of Cloud & Sun<br>Sunrise 7:37 a.m.<br>Sunset 5:47 p.m. | Mostly Cloudy & Cold!<br>Sunrise 7:37 a.m.<br>Sunset 5:47 p.m. | Sunny & Patchy Clouds<br>Sunrise 7:37 a.m.<br>Sunset 5:48 p.m. |

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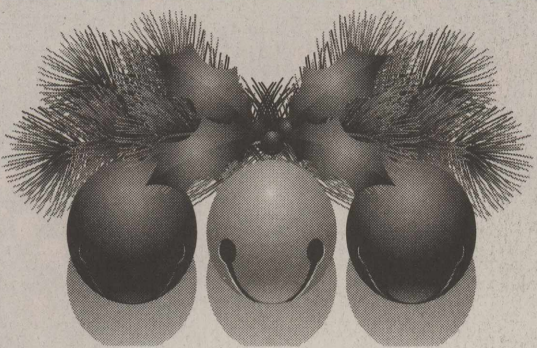
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**Weekly Crossword Puzzle**

**ACROSS**

- Menu offering
- Certain hanger
- Less lenient
- Beverage container
- Menu offering
- Main dishes
- Whitens
- Do a hair job
- Female ruff
- Heavens: comb. form
- Pub offering
- Cable
- Between pi and sigma
- Erwin of films
- Like some bathrooms
- Contributor to blood pressure reading
- Took out the creases
- Biographer Leon
- Artist Chagall
- Watercourse
- Aerial
- Belle or Ringo
- Total: abbr.

**43. Charged atom**

**44. Sweet place**

**45. Hawaiian food**

**47. Test places**

**48. Donkey, in Brest**

**49. Girl's name**

**51. Certain eye**

**52. Sweet**

**54. Ice cream offerings**

**56. Usher**

**57. Some tubes**

**58. Scandinavian**

**59. Depression: anat. peak**

**10. Childish**

**11. Ostentatious**

**13. Looked myopically**

**14. Armadillos**

**16. Sow**

**19. \_\_\_-de-vie**

**23. Flinch**

**25. Part of a loom**

**26. Prefix for dynamic or phase**

**27. Wrong: law**

**29. \_\_\_ Haute, IN**

**30. Aura**

**31. Muslim leader**

**32. Carry on**

**35. Expiates**

**36. Pharaoh**

**38. Falls**

**39. Peers**

**40. Handles: Fr.**

**41. Food fish**

**42. To expose**

**45. Shaved**

**46. Bizarre**

**47. Puts on cargo**

**49. Dole, with out**

**50. \_\_\_ I cared**

**51. Danube tributary**

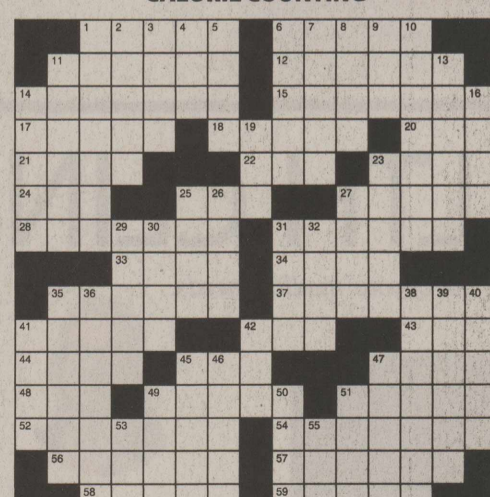
**53. Lumberjack's tool**

**55. Numero \_\_\_**

**DOWN**

- Theater districts
- Abalone
- Companion of Andy
- But, to Caesar
- Weight allowance
- Filch
- Go rigid
- Speed
- Prefix meaning

**"CALORIE COUNTING"**



See solution on Page 14

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by

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## Understanding Dormancy and Chill Hours for Plants

When the growing season ends in late fall, we say that plants go into dormancy. But did you know that there are actually two types of dormancy? We also hear that grass is cured, but what does that mean?

Let's start with the dormancy question. The first type is called endo-dormancy and is induced during the fall, when decreasing day length and cooler temperatures cause deciduous trees to produce growth inhibitor hormones. These hormones disrupt growth and maintain a tree in dormancy during winter.

The plant will not grow even during mild winters. That's because trees need a certain amount of cold weather (chill units) before they end dormancy and begin spring growth. These chilling units are hours of time spent between 40 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit. The number of chill hours required varies for different plants (from less than 500 to 1,500 hours or more).

The second kind of dormancy is called ecto-dormancy and occurs when sufficient cold temperatures break down the growth inhibitors within the tree. The plant is ready to grow, but the environmental conditions are not yet right. Warmer temperatures and longer daylight will eventually cause the tree to begin spring growth.

Now to grass curing. Curing describes the dying and drying out of grass. It is a measure of grass 'greenness' and

relates to the percentage of grass material that dries at the end of the season. Curing is dependent on seasonal conditions such as rain and temperature. As grass dries, it becomes more and more cured.

To understand how curing changes plant quality, we must first look at the make up of plants.

Plant cell contents can be grouped into cell solubles and cell wall material. Cell solubles are easily digested. Cell solubles include crude protein, sugars, starch, and lipids (fats). The cell wall, however, contains lowly digestible material called fiber (includes hemicellulose, cellulose, and a very indigestible substance called lignin).

Cell solubles are highest in actively growing forage tissue and decrease as plants become mature and dormant. Decline in cell solubles is due to increased fiber and to the movement of nutrients from leaves to roots. That is why hay which is cut at late maturity is less nutritious.

When cold weather comes and plant cells freeze, they rupture, spilling the cell solubles. For that reason, grasses may contain 15% protein content early in the growing season, but then drop to 5% protein once it is cured.



Pascual Hernandez



Mary Kyle Johnson



Carly Brown

## 2017 All-West Texas Volleyball

Sonora's Mary Kyle Johnson and Carly Brown earned recognition in the 2017 All-West Texas Volleyball.

Johnson, a junior, was one of two named Co-Blockers of the Year. Johnson assisted her team in making program history this year by going through District 4-3A play undefeated.

After sweeping the first two playoff opponents, Sonora lost in the regional quarterfinals.

In addition to middle blocker, Johnson also spent some time on the

back row.

Named All-District 4-3A MVP she finished the season with 437 kills, 67 blocks, 30 aces and 270 digs.

Carly Brown, a senior and middle blocker, also showed her versatility by playing on the back row as well.

The District 4-3A Defensive Player of the Year had 276 kills, 43 aces, 36 blocks and 284 digs.

Congratulations to both ladies on their accomplishments this year.



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

### SONORA PD INCIDENTS

**DECEMBER 11 - 8:07 PM** • Caller reported disturbance at 600 S. Crockett. Officer responded.

**10:29 PM** • 9-1-1 call from 900 block of S. Crockett. Officer responded to assist EMS.

**DECEMBER 12 - 9:40 AM** • Caller reported a reckless driver 7 miles N on US Hwy 277. Officer responded.

**2:50 PM** • Caller requested to speak with officer regarding stolen property at 400 block of S. Concho. Officer responded.

**DECEMBER 13 - 8:40 AM** • Caller reported truancy at the corner of E. 2nd and S. Water. SRO responded.

**6:42 PM** • Caller reported Theft at Dollar General. Officer responded.

**DECEMBER 14 - 9:05 AM** • Caller reported a Welfare Concern at Sure Stay. Officers responded.

**10:56 AM** • Caller requested an officer at Sure Stay. Officer responded.

**8:01 PM** • Caller reported disturbance W 2nd and Menard. Officer responded.

**DECEMBER 15 - 11:04 AM** • Caller requested motorist assistance near Sonic. Officer responded.

**DECEMBER 16 - 2:56 PM** • Caller reported Theft at Laredo Taco. Officer responded.

**6:59 PM** • Agency Assistance requested with Warrant at 400 block of Glasscock Ave. Officer responded.

**8:53 PM** • Caller reported Theft at Dollar General. Officer responded.

**DECEMBER 17 - 4:50 AM** • 9-1-1 call at 900 block of S. Crockett. Officer responded to assist EMS.

**1:40 PM** • Caller reported Theft at Dollar General. Officer responded.

**5:37 PM** • Caller reported suspicious activity at 500 block of Chestnut. Officer responded.

**10:12 PM** • Caller reported a welfare Concern at 1100 block of Glasscock. Officer responded.

**10:42 PM** • Agency Assistance requested at I-10 414 mm. Officer responded.

### SUTTON COUNTY SHERIFF ARRESTS

**DECEMBER 11** • Darien Lopez, 22-year-old male of San Angelo, was arrested on a Sutton County warrant.

**DECEMBER 12** • Rene Vela, 25-year-old female of Mission, was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of Marijuana.

**DECEMBER 14** • Connie Castillo, 45-year-old female of Sonora, was arrested on a Sutton County warrant.

**DECEMBER 16** • One Illegal Alien detained for Border Patrol

• Jesse Escamilla, 22-year-old male of Comanche, was arrested on a Comanche County warrant.

• Harvey Buruca, 20-year-old male of Culver City Ca., was arrested for Possession of Marijuana.

**DECEMBER 17** • Kelly Morrow, 39-year-old male of Sonora, was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated.

### INCIDENTS

**DECEMBER 11 - 7:17 AM** • Caller reported a tractor trailer on fire on RR 864. Deputies and SVDf responded.

**4:48 PM** • Caller reported a gunshot victim at LMH. Deputy responded.

**10:58 PM** • Deputy assisted PD with a burglary at the Senior apartments.

**DECEMBER 13 - 3:18 PM** • Caller reported a disturbance at Best Western. Deputies responded.

**DECEMBER 14 - 9:31 AM** • Caller reported goats on I-10 at 405 mm. Deputy responded.

**DECEMBER 15 - 9:55 PM** • Caller reported a stranded motorist on I-10 at 416 mm. Deputy responded.

**DECEMBER 16 - 1:00 PM** • Deputy responded to an unattended Death on CR 311.

**DECEMBER 17 - 8:45 AM** • Abandoned vehicle on I-10 at 423 mm. Deputy responded.

**4:38 PM** • Caller reported a reckless driver on Bloodworth Rd. Deputy responded.

**11:05 PM** • Caller reported and assault on I-10 at 414 mm. Deputy and EMS responded.

Sonora



Senior Center

**Monday December 25**  
CLOSED

**Tuesday December 26**  
Taco Salad, Corn Tortilla Chips, Mandarin Oranges, Cookie, Milk

**Wednesday December 27**  
BBQ Chicken Breast, Potato Salad, Pinto Beans, Tangy Coleslaw, Fruit, Milk

**Thursday December 28**  
Steak Fingers, Mashed Potatoes, Cream Gravy, Capri Veggies, Wheat Roll, Pudding, Milk

**Friday December 29**  
CLOSED

**Monday January 1**  
CLOSED

**Tuesday January 2**  
Chicken Tenders, Mashed Potatoes, Cream Gravy, Vegetable Medley, Dinner Roll, Chunky Fruit, Milk

**Wednesday January 3**  
Country Ham, Sweet Potato, Seasoned Veggies, Wheat Roll, Ambrosia Cup, Milk

**Thursday January 4**  
Beef Lasagna, Zucchini, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Peaches, Milk

**Friday January 5**  
Chicken Stew, Greens, Cornbread, Chocolate Pudding, Milk


For transportation to and from the center call 325-387-5657

"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us: authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful counselor; Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." - Isaiah 9:6

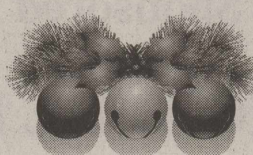
Christmas Eve Service 6:00 p.m.  
Rev. Casey Berkhouse

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
404 E Poplar St. Sonora, TX • 325-387-2955



# Letters to Santa Claus



## Fifth Grade

Hi Santa  
I want to thank you for all the presents you have given me over the years past. What I want this year, is a new golf club. It is a new epic driver, it is the new red limited edition. It is the coolest looking driver of all time. Ever since it came out I have wanted it, it will mean a lot to me if you get it for me. It will be the best Christmas gift I will ever get in my life. I will pray for one, I hope I get it and hope you get the presents you want.  
Dylan Ford

This year for Christmas I would like white Beats Headphones that has Bluetooth. I would also like some White and Black Kd's which are Basketball shoes. I would like a Samsung note 8 with a Gold phone case and I want the phone to have unlimited gigabytes.  
Justin Lozano

Dear Santa,  
Hi! How are you doing Santa? What have you been up to these last few days of December. I have been waiting to talk to you about what I want for Christmas so lets just jump on to it. This Christmas may I have some clear bottles of elmer's glue and some bottles of glitter glue. The reason I want bottles of glue is because I love, love, love making slime. Once I first made slime I fell in love with it that right second. That is the main thing I want. But I just want to thank you for taking time to read my letter.  
Sencerly, Ava Rodriguez

Dearest Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is nothing big or expensive, but I have two things I want. Please choose one and bring it here, if I've been good. I hope I'm on the nice list. Well, what I want is either an art set or a laptop. I know, my mom says I'm too young for a laptop but I've wanted one for 3 years! The art set is plan B incase something goes wrong at the workshop. All of my life I've wanted an art set.  
Sweetest wishes,  
Braylin Welham

Dear Santa  
All I want for Christmas is vurtiral reality gogeyes and that's it pretty much. Ya santa. That's all I want for Christmas. You don't need to buy me anything else ya santa.  
Angela Cardona

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas can I please have a bluetooth speaker, galaxy colored hoverboard with a key, blind bags lots and lots, iPhone 6 cases, popsockets, fruit squishies, color changing stressballs, school supplies like markers, pens, and pencils. That's all I want. I hope you are going to have a good Christmas and I hope you like my cookies that I make you.  
Your friend, Sabrinah Castro

I want a plain for Christmas and a manchin a dron, lambo, and a pod that is rely all I want for Christmas  
From Broden

Hi, Santa This year I would like a nice and lovely dinner. A I would like a motercicle and a lamdergeni on a 12 ft swimming pool, and my own house.  
Weston Fisher

All I want for Christmas are new shoes, Nerf guns, a football, basketball, goal, basketball, Dallas Cowboy fathead stickers, and a bike.  
From Juan

Dear Santa,  
I would like to have a Hoverboard to have fun and ride all over the place. I will share with my brothers. I really didn't have that much but I'm start thinking of some. I would like to have a tablet for games. I would think of stuff because that's all I could think of I'll think of more and add it on to my list.  
Naylana Estrada

Dear Santa,  
I want a phone for Christmas. Maybe you can give me it. It would be really cool to have a phone so that I would like. I would also like an RC car (Remote Control) I would drive it every where. I almost forgot about the drone.  
Sincerly Jorge Leija

Dear Santa I just want to say thank you for all the presents you've given me. Here is what I want for Christmas!!! I would like a tablet and some sweat shirts and a necklace I would also like some pens that would be all I want for Christmas thank you Santa  
Julianna

Dear Santa,  
I want a hoverboard  
Harvey Meza

I don't want a lot for Christmas. 1 I want to see my family back in las cruses new mexico. 2 I want a cool dvice called a makey makey to re-program letters on a key board. 3 I want a DJI phantom 3 uk camra drone to fly around. Anything else I get will be what my family gives me.  
Gregorey Madrid

Dear Santa,  
I don't want much for Christmas so I'll just check in on you. How is Prancer, I'll give him some carrots on Christmas Eave. Who is your best Elf is it that super ninja, Eliot Spy elf or do you not have favorites I'd understand if you don't because your santa. Well I was Just checking in  
Owen Jones

Dear Santa,  
All I want for Christmas is a gopro so I can record while I'm riding my dirt bike and do fun tricks. And I want a new xbox one because the one I have right now is mesing up.  
Sincerly Pete Ramirez

Dear Santa.  
This year for Christmas that I want is indian supplies, sedimentary rock kit, arrow head kit, computer with power point 2016 on it and Googlecrome to, and art supplies, and indian clothes.

Hi Santa,  
I would like to get a gun, go-cart or a bow and arrow I have been a good boy.  
Zane White

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas I would like for all of the people to get a long. Family and friends should get together and just have fun. But what I have been wanting for a very long time, is a laptop. I also hope that everyone has a nice Christmas every year. Merry Christmas to all of the children and their families all over the world. Make this the best Christmas ever.  
Sencerly Jackie Lopez

Dear Santa,  
How are you doing this Christmas? Santa, I hope you have a great day. I want a purple camera and a baby doll. I hope you have a great Christmas. Can you get presents too?  
Mery Christmas from Ashley Longoria

Dear Santa,  
How cold is it at the North Pole. How is Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid Donner, Blitzen and Rudolph. How is Mrs. Claus doing, I hope you are doing OK in the North Pole. What do ya'll doing when you aren't delivery presints? Can you get me a PS4, trampoline, and a big drone? Can you all so get som presints for my brother like some new clothes, toy cars, and a puppy. I hope you can get all the stuff I want for my brothe and me.  
Brian Mendoza

Dear Santa,  
My parents have been talking to me what I want for Christmas. Well now I'm gonna tell you what I want for Christmas. For Christmas I want money, new games,

clothes, shoes and that is it. So can you please get me those things I would to have them. How are your reindeer doing? I heard they have been doing so far this year if I can I will get reindeer food and I will leave you some milk and cookies. Well I hope you give me all the gifts I want  
Sincerly, Christian Martinez

Dear Santa Claus,  
may I please have a Xbox one X and a IphoneX because I have been a little bad but I patched them up. I also wanted a hundred dollar gift card for the xboxone and for the xbox onex. How have your reindeer and elves been. Well I hope I get all that stuff write to you next year. Bye.  
Michaelangelo

Dear Santa Claus  
All I want for Christmas is a iPhone X, x-box1, UGS, wedges, ripped jeans. How is Mrs. Clause and your Reindeer doing tell them I sayed hi.  
Nevaen Aleman

Dear Santa Claus,  
I think I've been good, but a little bit bad. For Christmas I want... 1. An Xbox, 2. A Laptop, 3. A huge calendar, 4. Clothes for my cat, 5. A really cute, little bag  
Thank you!!!! Jezebel Pasillas

Dear Santa I don't want a lot for Christmas but there are a few things I do want. One of those things is a Yeti cup. It would be good because during those summer my mom let's me drink coffee, but it get's cold when I leave. I could take the milk out but then it's to strong. Another thing I want is some arrows. My cousin gave me his old bow from when he was a kid, But I haven't been able to get arrows for a month or two. Those are the things I want for Christmas. Jonathan Cardenas

Dear Santa Claus,  
How are the reindeer? Are the elves working hard? Well, I hope they are because I want a lot of things this Christmas! This Christmas I would like, \$1,000,000,000 dollars. Cash please. Singles, too. A pet cat, orange tabby. A PS4 with

Disney Infinity 2.0. Some more money. One of your reindeer. Even though you might not be able to get all this it's be nice to have them.  
With Love,  
Sicity Gutierrez

Dear Santa,  
I would like a new puppy, a gray and white pullover hoodie, a new laptop, a new Iphone, a gallon of glue, slime kits, clear glue, glitter glue, o L.A. colors contour kit, and the thing I want most is a \$7 makeup book... The one I saw at the store yesterday  
Love, Kalena Foster

Dear Santa For Christmas I would like a 22 lenner action rifle, a pocket knife, Yeti cup, and a tool box. That's all I want for Christmas.  
Corbin Crenwelge

Dear Santa,  
How are you these past few weeks? I hope good, I want to tell you that I have been very good and I really want: An Insta Camra and an Xbox 360. These are my main two I want this year. But heres what I also want: Baking stuff, more easy bake cookies, 3D making thing, and a Hoverboard case. I want a lot of things this year, but I rely just want an Xbox 360 and the InstaxCamra. So I hope you give everybody a happy Christmas this year and deliver all the presents, I just told you about. Have a happy Christmas Santa!  
Liliana Gallegos

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like a Iphone, puppy the breed I would like is a golden retriever or a husky  
Dianika Medez

Dear Santa,  
I know I have been bad kid this year and I am truly sorry for that. I only want two things for christmas. One of them is a HoverBoard but there's one thing I want the most this year, that is to get to spend Christmas with my family.  
Sincerly, Richard Gutierrez

All I want for Christmas is for those who are in the hospital to get better. The reason why I pick this because EVERYONE

deserves a second chance.  
Rylie Thorp

What I want for Christmas is a hoverboard, Dog. I want the dog the most because sometimes I get board at home just sitting there watching T.V. and doing my homework. I wan a hoverboard  
Abigail Solis

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas I would like a P.S.4 if not I would like a hoverboard!  
By, Adan Trevino

I want a new phone and cloths and play station. Also I want for Christmas is new shows and the new NBA 2k 18. I want a lot for Christmas but, All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth! So really I hope every kid in the world will get presents. That's my wish.  
Hollis Snyder

Hi santa, how is the elves working on the presents. You having hard time or is everything going great. All I want for Christmas is for every place that's never had snow and that have had to snow. Now that is through I can't wait for Christmas so just one day of the year where family, friend, and people of the world to get along. Everyone should deserve snow at least once, but that's up to you Mr. claus.  
Aaron Martinez

Dear Santa I'm going to tell you about what I would want this year. This year I'm not going to be picky or needy this year. Ok lets get to what I would like for this year. first I would like a brand new mountain bike with gears. I would like some new winter clothes. My one that I really, really want is a nice white hoverboard that will go so fast. My last thing I would like is some new police Lego's so I can build. Well merry Christmas and a good night!!!  
Brandon Litterell

Dear Santa,  
I would like some things that I have wanted since I was little. I would like a drone with a

camera on it. Christmas is the most greatest holiday because all of your family and friends come and you celebrate. One of the things that makes Christmas the best is that it's Jesus's birthday. Christmas isn't just about presents and food, we are supposed to remember our creator and what he did for us. My Christmas present from me to the world is peace and love.  
Jayla Williams

Dear Santa I want a couple of things for Christmas. Here's the list of things I want. I want a Halo armor mix set, a Halo toy shot gun, a Halo man, a laptop, bike ramp, Bluetooth head phones, hoverboard, Halo revolution game, crossbow, toy grenades, military set, bionycle set, a dog toy for my dog. Some dog treats also for my dog. Some skilset song lists, a shield, a laser gun game set, a wobble bubble ball, a ball that can turn into a frisbea, and that's all for now. But if you can't get all that it's fine, but pls at least get me a laptop pls. I know my list is long but it's worth it when you get a kid who loves military. I wish marry Christmas to you and a happy new year  
Sincerly from thad

Dear Santa,  
I have been looking forward to gitting a hoverboard and I wish that one day that I can go see you at the north pole and this year I am going to leave you some cookies out on the counter and some milk for you and I hope you have the best Christmas santa.  
From Dakota Borders

Dear Santa, this Christmas I want the new Magnus Chase/ Percy Jackson book this book has about 350 pages and is worth a lot of A.R. points. I've already read all the other books in both the Magnus Chase and Percy Jackson series when I was in 3rd grade and have been waiting a long time for this book to release. I just released this month and isn't even in most libraries yet. If you could by any chance get me this book for Christmas I would so thankful.  
Luke Nichols

**New Year's Eve Dance**  
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**BRutherZ**  
December 31, 2017  
8:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m.  
Sutton County Civic Center

**BYOB No Glass**

**Tickets \$20**  
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Sponsored by Sonora Chamber of Commerce FMI: 325-387-2880

# DRN Comics

Daddy's Home

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



Dogs of C-Kennel

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni

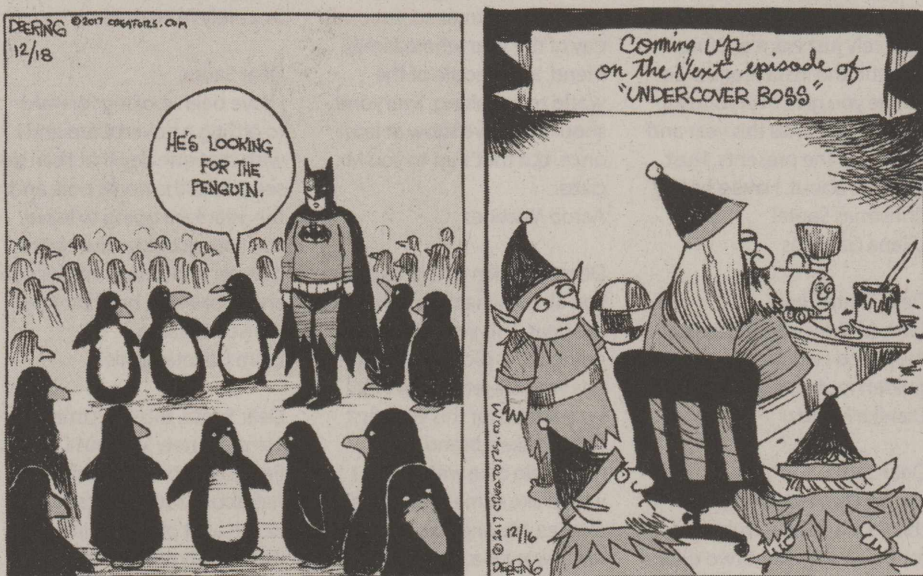


Strange Brew

by John Deering

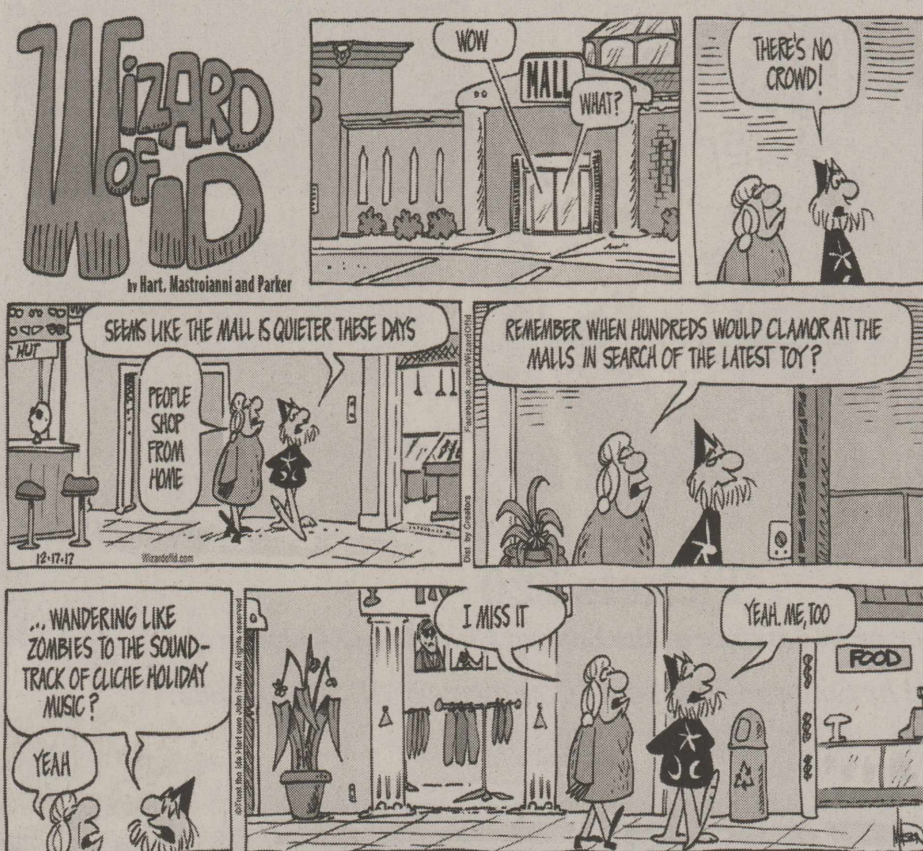
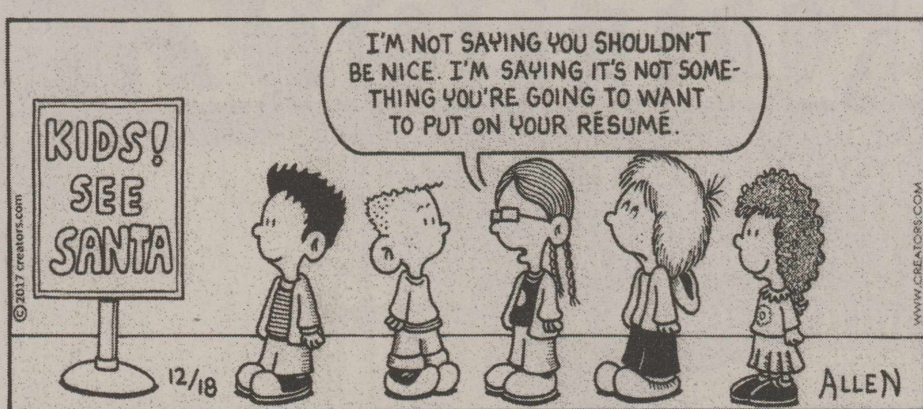
Strange Brew

by John Deering



Nest Heads

by John Allen



Comics Page Sponsored Each Week By

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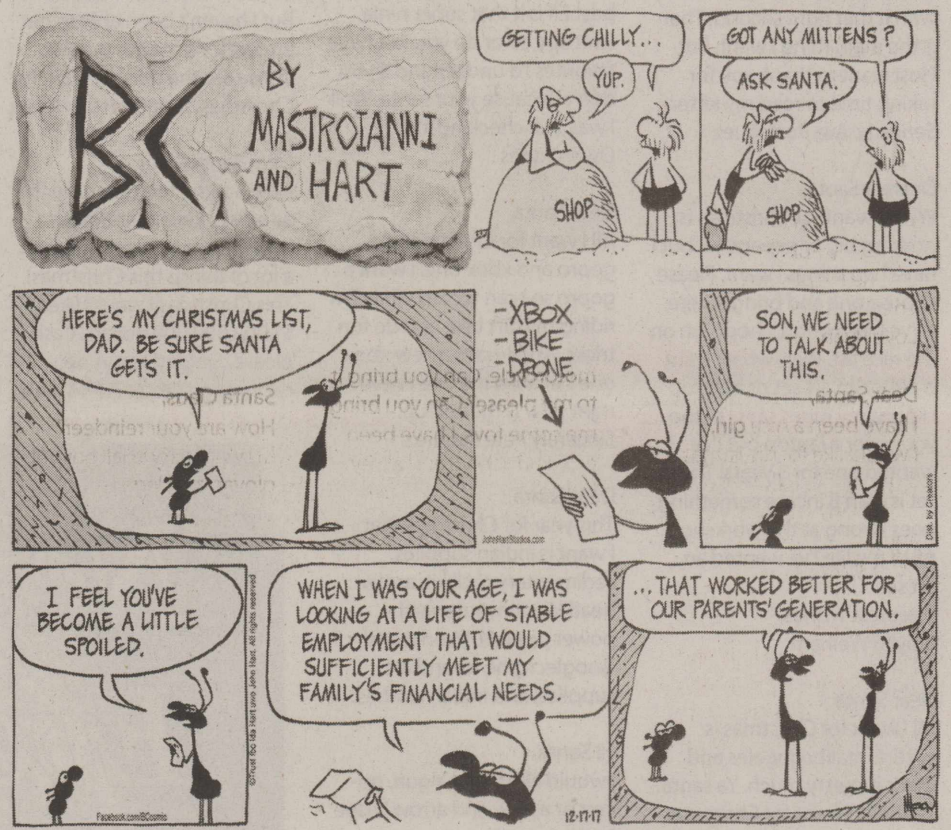


Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly



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SEE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 14

**ZIG-ZAG**  
THE ORIGINAL WORD MAZE PUZZLE

**INVESTMENT TERMS**

ALL WORDS TO BE CONSTRUCTED PERTAIN TO THE ABOVE TOPIC. TO YOUR ADVANTAGE ONE WORD HAS ALREADY BEEN TRACED. YOU MUST TRACE THE THREE REMAINING WORDS, USING ONLY THE LETTERS DESIGNATED BY THE DARKENED CIRCLES. WORDS MAY BEGIN AND END FROM EITHER COLUMN BUT EACH LETTER CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE.

★ ★

EACH PUZZLE HAS A DIFFICULTY RATING (ABOVE). FOUR STARS SIGNIFY THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY.

GIVEN BELOW ARE THE POINT VALUES FOR EACH WORD. YOUR WORDS MUST CORRECTLY MATCH THESE POINT VALUES.

⑩ BOND  
⑧  
⑧  
⑧  
⑧

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**The Devil's River News**  
Kimberley & Danny Meyer, Randy & Kathy Mankin and Mary Gartman

# Letters to Santa Claus



## Pre-K

### Mrs. Jimenez's Class

Dear Santa Claus, Hello! I am a good boy and I want a "Ho Ho" for Christmas, that is all. Bye, Jadyen

Hello! How are you? I want to ask you for a present. I want a car and a ball. Thank you, Darek

Dear Santa Claus, Hello! Santa Claus. How are you? I would like new clothes, some blue boots and a brown horse to play with it. Bye, Jose

Dear Santa Clause, How are you? I only want one toy, Woody of Toy Story. Only one because I already have a lot of toys. I will give you cookies and milk. Thank you Santa Claus! A big hug, Angelo

Dear Santa, Hello! I will give you cheese and milk. Can you bring me a Barbie house, and a doll that I can paint her eyes and lips. I would like a car for my Barbies and one car that they can drive. Thank you! Yarely

Dear Santa, I have been a very good girl. I would like a pink sleigh for Christmas. Love, Emma

Dear Santa, I have been good this year. And would like a Batman toy, and a Batmobile, and a house that he lives in and works. Thank you for all the toys. Love Ryan

Dear Santa, I have been a nice girl. I would like for Christmas a Poppy Troll doll, and a My Little Pony that is white. And, aw, yes a...no...that's it! Love, Itzayana

Dear Santa, I have been good girl and would a pink air place. That's my favorite! And also, a toy car that looks like a colorful rainbow. Love Emmeline

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy and would like a red big toy car. Love, Elias

### Mrs. White's Class

Dear Santa, Can you please bring me a movie fish hook? That is all I want. Merry Christmas Casen

Dear Santa, How are your reindeer and where is Rudolph? When are you going to bring us some presents? For Christmas I really want a new Ariel doll and an Ariel dollhouse and new crayons. I have been good a lot of times for a lot of days. I hope you have a great day! Love, Abigail

Dear Santa, How do the reindeer noses turn black and red? I have behaved so can you bring me some presents please. I want a big big big dollhouse withy dolls and I want a piggy bank and another dog and a girl car that opens the door and the back door. Also I want a girl dinosaur and a mermaid doll. Love, Kiki

Dear Santa, How are you doing? I want a remote control truck and a hot wheels Lero truck and a nerf gun please. I also want a hot wheels car like Lane's. Love, Gus

Dear Santa, How are your reindeer? Merry Christmas! I love you! I wanted to ask you for some presents. Some toys. I want the fox that you press the head and then the pants fall down. I saw it at the store. Love, Jordan

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a sled can you please bring it to me? I have been good at school and at the house. Love, Cort

Dear Santa, Where is Rudolph? I have been really good! Can you bring me a barbie camper please? Also a pink car and a barbie that's all. Love Reta

Dear Santa, How are your reindeer? I really want my own Jeep. Can you please bring it to me? I have been a really good boy at school and at home. Love Lane

Dear Santa, Are you working? Can you please bring me a Hello Kitty for a present? Also I want a shopkins too. Love Unique

Dear Santa, Are you watching a movie? Can you please bring me a surprise. I want a barbie and a beautiful dress like Angie has. Love Payton

Dear Santa, Is the North Pole warm? I want a Paw Patrol toy tower please. Love Ezekiel

Dear Santa, Are you almost here? Are you cold at the North Pole? Can you please bring me a bow and arrow and arrows. Tha is all I want. Merry Christmas. Love, Silas

Dear Santa, I want a remote control motorcycle. Can you bring it to me please? Can you bring me some toys. I have been nice and school and at my house. Love, Andres

Dear Santa, Can yo please bring me a Princess Poppy doll? I have been a good girl. Love, Camila

Dear Santa, I want it to be a Merry Christmas. I want you to come to school. Can you bring me a barbie please. I have a gift for you too. Love Eveleen

Dear Santa, I want a robot please. Love, Jackson

Dear Santa Claus, Hello! I have been good. I would like 2 big "Dinos" and that is all. Thanks, Eli

### Mrs. Worrell's Class

Dear Santa, I would like a lego minion set. I do not remember anything else. Your Friend, Eddie

Dear Santa, I want an American Doll 24. I want a rainbow unicorn. Love, Daylin

Dear Santa, I would like a unicorn for Christmas. Love, Cataleya

Santa, Please give my Mom lots of kisses. Can you give us candy canes? I would like a pink power ranger. I want a unicorn with wings, a princess and a horse. Oh, I want an lpad. I want a puppy dog that is real. I wants treats for my dog. See you later, Jennifer

Santa, I love you. Thank you bringing everyone presents. You are a very nice Santa. I want a uniuicorn that has wings. I want a train set and a Bateman lego set. I like penguins and I love you. Hugs and kisses, Kate

Hi Santa, How was your day? How are your reindeer? I want to sit in your lap. How are your elves? I want three Batman legos. I want starwars legos. I want a transformer. Your Friend, Canon

Hi Santa, I want new pink shoes. I want a necklace, lipstick and earrings. Marissa

Santa, I want a pokemon. I think. I want legos and a horse. Love, Cade

Dear Santa, I know where you are above my house. I would like a pink horse adn some tiny, not the big ones, hatchimals. Hugs and Kisses Destiny

Dear Santa, I would like a humongous batbot. I want a lion guard and a Lion King. Warren

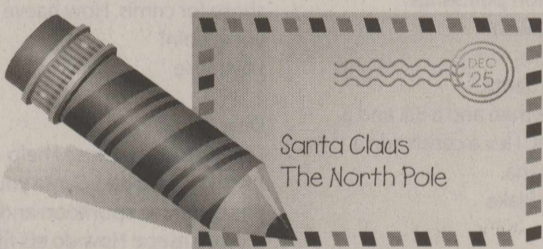
Santa, I love you. How old are your reindeer? I want cars, trucks, tractors and that is it. Your Friend, Keegan

Santa, I want to take a picture with you. I want to give you a hug and take anotehr picture again. I would like to eat smores with you. I want a barbie doll house that talks by itself and it turns off the lights and that is how it goes, a talking doll house. I want more pretty earrings. Love, Ava

Santa, How old is milk? How many elves do you have at the North Pole? How old are you? I would like mini elves and a ral elf on the shelf that is a girl. I would like some legos. I would like a reindeer elf. Merry Christmas, Amy

Santa Claus, How are your reindeer? hi I want a football helmet, gloves, and legos. Merry Christmas, Powell

Dear Santa, I hope your elves will be nice to you. I hope they don't be bad. I love you! I would like a football helmet, gloves, shoulder pads and knee pads and starwar legos. Your a nice Santa, Brooks



### Kindergarten Mrs. Lohman's Class

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like magnets Love, Derek Gamez

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a piggy bank. Love, lleah Gamez

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like to see Santa Claus. Love, Anayi Lopez

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a dog of my own named Flowers. A real one. Love, Andi Archer

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a new shirt. Love, Cayden Guerra

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a bike. Love, Jimmy Garcia

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a monster truck. Love, Edgar Dominguez

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a toy turkey. Love, Estrella Acevedo

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a cat. Love, Jeremiah Fraire

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a puppy. Love, Syllas Robles

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a pony. Love, Ariana Alvino

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a bumble bee grey robot. Love, Jonathan Carava

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like to see Santa. Love, Jason Martin

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a puppy. Love, Andrew Ramirez

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a puppy. Love, Rey Acevedo

Dear Santa, For christmas I would like a bicycle. Love, Blanca Vasquez

### Mrs. Berkhouse's Class

Dear Santa I would like a blue robot with orange and a helicopter with remote control and more legos. Please Santa, no boats. Some soft blocks like in my class for my sister and me. For boys and girls. That's it. Merry Christmas, Jacob

Dear Santa, I want a toy brand new snow globe and I want a coloring book. Merry Christmas Delilah

Dear Santa, Please bring me a racecar. That's it. Love, Noah

Dear Santa, I want to play with race cars then we play games then we'll play jumping then we'll play hide and seek. Thank You, Eli

Dear Santa Claus, I want a race track for Christmas and then I want a red moster truck with remote control and even I want a BATman toy with a Batmobile and the joker with his truck and a purple race car from Angelo that I really, really wanted. Some legos for Christmas Some Brand new blocks for Christmas and that's it. Merry Christmas, Levi

Dear Santa, I would like a Batbot, a Superstation, some new legos, a car track that glows, some new Dino toys, a new jacket, new blocks, a new shirt, some new jeans, new boots - red ones and a new hat. Merry Christmas, Jorday

Dear Santa Claus, I know what i want for Christmas, a toy van that you can fit 3 people in and drive and then I want a Santa suffed animal and then I want a swimming pool for my dog. Then I want a toy dog that you can walk and then I want puzzles, pepa pig puzzles and then I would like a stack of paper and new shoes. Then I would like little flowers and a necklace and then a unicorn clock. Merry Christmas, Bella

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want orbies and I want a pool and I want a pet hamspter. That has a cage. Love, Lily

Dear Santa Claus, I would like a rainbow car and a truck. A rainbow truck. A rainbow chris car. A school toy with Mrs. Berkhouse on it. A book about machines. A table like Mrs. Berkhouse's table. A Christmas tree with a Star and a tree with lights Love, Tyler

Dear Santa Claus, I want 6 coloring books and I want a treasure box with stuff in it like Mrs. Berkhouse's. And I want some glue and I want some markers so I can color on my coloring book and I want a trash can in my room and I want a bathroom in my room and I want crayons and that's it. I love you, Lynette

### Mrs. Purvis's Class

Dear Santa, I want a play kitchen and a barbie. I hope you can see me. I have been good. I hope I see Rudolph! Merry Christmas Dulce

Dear Santa, I want blue presents. I want a car that can drive. I hope you come to see me. I would also like a phone and a tablet. That is it. Thank you Santa, Jesus

Dear Santa, I am thankful for you! I am a good girl. I like playing with my baby sister. She always gets on me to hug and tickle me. My baby sister is a good girl, but she doesn't know how to behave because she is a little girl. I want a toy bird for my baby sister. I

want an American girl doll, doll house, baby that tears, owl, play house, toy dog, American horse, and toy kitty. I'm making cookies today. At Christmas I will leave you Christmas tree cookies and milk. You have a Merry Christmas! Mia

Santa, I have been really good this year. I really want a toy train, cowboy and T-Rex. The T-Rex walks, roars, and his eyes turn on. I also want an Imaginext Pyramid Surf and Strike with figures. I hope you can bring me a dancing toy robot and toy rocket ship. I will give you some cookies and milk or some brownies! Have a safe flight and have a very tood Christmas! Love, Hadley

Dear Santa, I want you to come to my house so you can eat my cookies, and give me a toy rocket. I also hope you can give me a sled. Please give me mittens. Give me a box of cars. Have a safe flight. David

Hi Santa! I have been good this year. I have been good because I help others. Please bring me some toys. Can you bring Dad a needle for the football because it is flat. The other football went to the goats. I hope you can get a red football and a skate board. Have a merry Christmas! Love, Neno

How is your day in the North Pole with Mrs. Claus? I bet Comet is learning to fly. If he already knows how to fly, that is good! When Comet has a waife, and when his wife has a baby, if the baby is a boy or a girl, if it is both, that's good because my brother and me are twins. I have a big sister, so there is three of us! I think my mom accidently knocked over our elf with her cup! I have been trying to be good, but my sister hasn't been good. My brother has been good! I hope you will bring me a doll house, because my mom got rid of my old one. Merry Christmas and Thank You Santa! Harper

Dear Santa, I love you! I want lots of presents! I have been good this year. I want pop the pig, a scooter, a rocket, fishing rod, and a mini hoverboard. I'm going to leave you cookies and milk. I hope you like them. Merry Christmas! Love lan

Dear Santa, How are you? I have been good. My Elf, Bert, is watchng me to make sure I'm good. I want you to bring me some legos and a new football. I want some new shoes and socks. I'll leave a cookie for you. Have a Merry Christmas! Love, James

Dear Santa, I have been good this year. Oscar the Elf has been watching everyone to make sure we are good. I hope that you will bring me a skate board and a remote control

SEE LETTERS ON PAGE 8

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# BLESSINGS

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Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative



## Letters to Santa Claus



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

car. I hope I get to see you soon. I know the North Pole is far away. Be careful delivering presents.  
Love, Jacoby

Dear Santa, How have you been at the North Pole? Down here in Sonora where I live it's been cold. For this year I've been so good I'm waiting to hear the sound of your bells and I would like to have a doll. Thanks  
Allison Ramirez

Dear Santa, I would like for you to bring me a present this year. I would like a baby doll with several changes of clothes and a diaper bag. So I really feel I deserve it. By the way I want to let you know that I started kindergarten this year and I love my teacher Mrs. Purvis and Ms. Dominguez, but I've learned English. OK this is all I will have cookies and milk for you and food for your reindeer.  
Thank You!  
Zaida

### First Grade Ms. Taylor's Class

Dear Santa, I was a good girl this year and I hope Santa brings me presents.  
Love, Jahzelle

Dear Santa, How are you. If you ask my I am gud. I love you I want Bumb B that changes  
Love Isaac

Dear Santa, I want a koten kande mackr plez and I wot a yunck on.  
Luv Maribell

Dear Santa, I want a kotin kande makre I want a brbee hous. I want a brbee car.  
Lov Balee

Dear Santa, I want a little pig. I want a noW bicke. I want to get lyia a presin?  
Love Destiny

Dear Santa, Do you want a glass of milk and cookies? How are you doing Santa. How is it cold in the norf pull Santa.  
Love, Rico

Dear Santa, I wt a than and a Bik and a ulrbiK. I lev a cerish adn a creadna.  
Love Blake

Dear Santa, I heart a yoory elf to the mon and back I wunt a fonn Ples dreg my tae that I wnt a soda b.  
Loav Jace Braden

Dear Santa, Can you dring me a I phone! Santa you ar The bast!  
Love, Wesley

Dear Santa, Santa can you pless bring me a toking doll hous and a toking doll.  
Love Lyla

Dear Santa, Hown are yre elvs. I whont a toy dol And I wont oso a toye dog. And i oso whont a Elv on the shelf. And i oso whant a toe cor.  
Love, Kaylin

Dear Santa, How are youi doing? How is Rodoff? What are the elvs doing? What I wunt for chrismtun is a Lps.  
Love, Kynlie

Dear Santa, I want a cat. and a toy JaCabot. and oso a gunu.  
Love, Ramberto

Dear Zanta, I wat a Hot will. How to mek tof.  
Tiago

### Ms. Rogers' Class

Dear Santa, How are your elves? I want a phone for christmas! I wan a rant a remote knctrol krr.  
Love, Dekota

Dear Santa, How are you? For Christams I would like a bracelet. I would also like bocks. a game, a soccer ball and a candy cane.  
Thank you Santa,  
Andrea Huichapa

Dear Santa, I been good because I did my job. I wot a tablet. How have your elves been?  
Love Chloe

Dear Santa, How are your elvs doing this year. p.s. I am wondering if your rander is doing good. have a saff flit home. may I have all unucorn stuff.  
Love Jarrett

Dear Santa, I will lev you kuesk and mlk. Ples kan I hav a kichen pla set? How is Mrs Kos?  
Love, lan

Dear Santa, I haeve bin good because I haeve bin helping my dad clen. I want a per of Una ormor shose for crimis. How haeve yur elf bin?  
Love Jose

Dear Santa, I bend good because I help my mom and dad. Santa you pleeas git me spontoon and morroe aseca. How do efs fly?  
Love Keanu

Dear Santa, I have been good because I help my Mom sometim wrck on the house. For Christmas I want a Spa Set and a orby Spa set. How is your famuly dooing? Wath do your randir eta?  
Love, ShaeLee

Dear Santa, I have been very good I lissin to my mom and my dad. I would like a race car. I hope you have a good christmas Santa  
Love Carlos Lopez

Dear Santa, I been good because I help my momy fed hr chicens. I wot a stuft anml. Mere christmas.  
Love Victoria

Dear Santa, I have been very good because I help other sread when they have trouble. This Christmas may I have a bike. I will leave cookies for you and carrets for the reindeer.  
Love Maegan

Dear Santa, Whut I wut for christmas is sum present and shocis and gluv Rus I good with my mom. How is your radis?  
Love Brenda

Dear Santa, I have been rile gud thi yir because I help my mom and

sisters I wad rile love if you get me a whoch. hae Santa hal arn the efs I will leve you cukese.  
Love Ryder

Dear Santa, I have bin good this yir because I folo inshchusins. If I get sum of my toule trucks I will be hape.  
Love Carson

### Ms. Rodriguez's Class

Dear Santa, I am gud. Haw are you? gud. I want a polese car. Merri Christmas.  
Love, Fernando

Der Santa, How are you doing? I am good can you bring me some legos and ninja turtles. Merry Christmas.  
love, Noah

Dere Santa. you can bring a dog? I can get a cat. Santa say Ho Ho Ho. I help me Mom. Memy Christmas.  
Love, April

Dear Santa, How are your Reindeer and Mrs. Claus? I want a mermade tale.  
Love, Nevaeh

Dere Santa Cos. how are you doing? I want Legos a Iphone. 100 nert boolits and toy words. Merry Christmas  
your friend Eliseo

Dear Santa, Are you gud? Santa can I have a brack and red jr agin? mery christmas.  
Keaton F.

Deer Santa, How are yoyr reindeer and mrs. claus? I wat mace up kit, a mermade tale, barbi dolls, and rainbo frizbee.  
your friend, Gillian

Dere Santa, How are your reindere? This chrismis I am doing good. This chrismis I want a toy hors and ari Iphone and a tablet. You have a good day.  
Your frend Geneva

Deer Santa, How are you doing Santa I no I have dun to bruthr. I want a toy dinoser and more legos.  
Luv Aaron  
Merry Christmas Santa

Dear Santa, How are doing? I want a mermade tale. Merry Christmas.  
Love, Gabby

Dere Santa, Are you okay? How are your raindeer? I no you have Bin working a lot. I am going to make you some cookies. We all LOVE YOU a lot. I want a hamster also a miniture rangers and a big toy casle with nites.  
Your friend,  
Rudley Bryan

Deer Santa, How are you doing with your deer? how many deers do you got? Elfs are good at making toys I want a per of gluv for crristmas.  
Love, Ethan

### Ms. De Luna's Class

Dear Santa, For Crismis I would like a robot cat and dog and a feagrling becues they all are fun.  
Peyton

Dear Santa, Fer Christmas I would like for you to bring me a fingerling and a Flipzie girl because they are fun to play with.  
Annslee

Dear Santa, For cristmas I want a hoverbord because they are fun to ride.  
Burkes

Dear Santa, For Christmas I would like you to bring e video games beus they are fun to play.  
Alison

Dear Santa For Christmas I would like a baisico bicos I dont hav one.  
Melany

Dear Santa For crismis I wud like a. prinsis

hous beus I Lic to plai with my dols in the prinsis haus.  
Naomi

Dear Santa For Chrisme I would like for you to bring me a baby dol becus I like babys  
Sapnia

Daer Santa for christmas I want a Hybrid Villosoraptor becous they are faster than cheetas.  
Jayce

Der Santa For crimes I want a police Bicle becuse it is my drem.  
William

Dear Santa For christmas I want a kiten becus they are soft.  
Justys

Deer Santa, For Chrismis I want you go breng a doll house becuse I want to play whith it.  
Than you!  
Anahi

Dear Santa, For Chrismis will you get me a tablit becuse I like to play gams  
Adrialyis

Der Santa For crismis I wont two kitns for me and my grama Maria becus we both like kitns.  
Jocelyn

### Second Grade Mrs. Cearley's Class

Dear Santa, Can I have a trampolen and 15 Helos. I want legos and a x box1 and I want also have sum pants. I hope you get a good day with Roodof.  
Love, Alexander

Dear Santa, For Christmas I wood like a Plastashin. and BeBe rifle. Pleas I hope you have a good Christmas and a good time at the north Pole.  
Love  
Trysten

Dear Santa, I want a tambilet, want a baby puppy, want a compunter, and a candy cane. I sol you in the pray and thank you for the gifts. Have a mary crismas and a good day.  
Love, Melissa

Dear Santa, How is the north pole? I want a huverberd, a ipad, dinrs, x box one. I will mack choctet cuces. I will mack a prans for you. can I tack you pich?  
Love, Riley

Dear Santa, I want a intendo swich. and i wald like mariyo onisty, mariyo cart 8, and alexa. You are the Jollyest man. You and mis, clas be well. merry christmas!  
Love Robert. Z

Dear Santa, I will like a intendo switch becuse I get good grades. I will also like pokemon cards becuse I clean up at home. and transformers. I want a nerf gun becuse I read lots of 5th grade books. merry Christmas.  
Love Daniel

Dear Santa, I whant 7elfs on the Shelf. I whant now shoes. I whant a now Phone case. I whant a now pants, chacet short boats. I so you at the prade. I made all a's & b's. I have been kind.  
Love, Brianna

Dear Santa, I sou your videyow. I souu you at the prad. Thank you for the toy you drot me. I wat for crismis a football, weels on shoes, huveborb and a igod. cegwom.  
Love, Adele

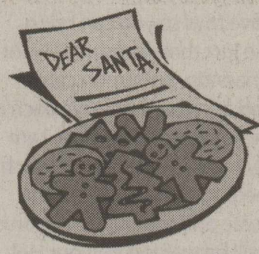
Dear Santa, Can I have a new set of boots for christmas? And I need some new supper skinny jeans, a new necklece, and bracelet. Thank you for my elfs you send. And I want you to know that I've been very good this year. I hope my elfs had told you I have been good this year. Thank you for my new elf Alxa.  
Love, Kenzee

SEE LETTERS ON PAGE 9





# Letters to Santa Claus



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

your footsteps of joy, and love. I appreciate all you do for kids. Warmly Yours, Alejandra Hernandez

Dearest Santa, Jingle Bells! Jingle Bells! That is My favorite Song. I have Quite a list this year, and I have been really good I think. I know there are a lot of other kids that need a whole lot more than I do, but I would really, really, really enjoy a new Christmas tree stick and a bike. I deserve each of these presents because I obey my mommy and daddy. I also helped Mrs. Della with the babies and I also fed the youngest one. I also helped my mom with laundry and clean the living room. I will be waiting to hear your footsteps of joy and Love. I appreciate all you do for children around the world including me! Warmly yours, Nayeli

Dear Santa, Jingle bells! Jingle bells! That is my favorite song. I have a small list this year and I have been good! I know there are other kids in the world. But I don't care I just want a nerfgun and an x-box game. I've been really good. I deserve these gifts because I've made mostly A's on my classes and I did well in UIL and went to practice every Tuesday and Thursday. I will be waiting to hear you come. I appreciate all you do for kids around the world, including me! Sincerely yours, Rogelio Ruiz

Dear Mr. Claus I love hearing clink clink on the roof top and down through the chimney. My list is huge but it does not matter about the list it matters what is inside. I know people are poor and have no food. If

santa gave me food, I would donate it, but I really want a laptop. I deserve some of these presents because I'm a hard worker because I help feed at my ranch. I would hit myself to get a present. I will be waiting for clink! clink! clink! and a hol! hol! please let my Elf, Sneaky, stay until the end of December. Warmly yours, Emory

Dear Santa man, HO! HO! HO! I can't want for you to come. I have a tiny list. I hope that I am being good this year. I will make good choices for you. I want for christmas is a AmarkedallBed, food for my Amarkedall, a pupey rill one, close for my amrkn girl dall, traire for amrkn dall and I want sum choos for my amrkn dall. I deserve each of these resonts because I am nice to my Bruther, I have good grades, I have not plaed on my taplet for a long time and I have ben good to my frinds. I will be waiting to hear your foot steps of joy and love. I appreciate all you do for kids around the world. Warm'y yours Sydney Lynn Routh

Dear Santa, How are you Santa how have you ben at the North Pol. I love Christmas because we get elves. I rele wunt a shcpen soopcas pleas. How old are you thak youi for the present Santa Love, Payten White

**Mrs. Jones' Class**

Dearest Santa, HO! HO! HO! I can't wait to hear that sound. Christmas is just around the corner I can't wait to hear your raindeer. I want to get a lot of toys from you because I have been a good girl. I think I want every

thing on my list because I have been nice to my siblings, been respectful to elders, helped someone in need, have very very good grades, and Love helping my parents if it is needed. I deserve all of these presents because I have all A's in all of my classes and once I got a B in reading class, and sometimes I don't clean when my mom tells me to. I will be waiting to hear your footsteps at the door and cant' wait to open my presents that you gave me. You are just wonderful and I can't wait till you give other people toys and when they wake up and see wonderful things full of joy. Warmly yours, Peyton Bailey

Dear Santa, HO! HO! HO! I can't wait to hear that sound. I have a short list this year. Only 5 things. I know some kids don't have everything that I have but I wold really like o have a drone, madden 18, hover bord, pokemon cards, and virtual reality googles. I deserve at leas 3 presents because I went to finals in UIL and some times I get good grades but not always. I will be waiting to hear your jolly HO! HO! HOS! Warmly yours, Wyatt

Dearest Santa, HO! HO! HO! I can't wait until it is Christmas Eve! I have a very short list only 4 things! I have Been very good this year! I think? I know you are busy but I really really want a hoverboard, neklases, chockers, and a baby doll. I deserve all the presents I ask for because I am nice to my siblings (sonetimes) Except one time I hid my cloths under my bed because I was to lazy to pick them up. I will be waiting for those presents. I am so thankful that you care for everyone in the world. Don't fill up on cookies. Warmly yours, Gentri

Dearest Santa, Jingle bells! Jingle bells! That is what I love to hear. I have a tiny list this year, and I think I've been good. I really hope. I know there is a lot of

kids that need a family, but I really want virtual reality googles and a basketball hoop. I think I deserve each of these presents because I have got all A's and haven't got a B or lower yet. I help my mom sometimes and I listen in school. Lastly, I came in 1st in 4th grade numbersense and I'm in 3rd grade! I will be waiting for the presents. I love what you do for me and kids around the world. Warmly Yours, Aaron

Dear Santa, Yee haw! I Love christmas, I have a small list this year. I know I have been mean, but I am sorry. Santa please get my dog a dogy bed. I don't think I diserve the 2 presents I asked for but please bring them to me. I will be happy to know you visited me this year! Warmly yours, Joslin

Dearest Santa, HO! HO! HO! is what I hear. I have a small list this year and I have been good. I have been very good and nice and I really really want a hoverboord, and a shopkins mall, and a tablat. I have earned these presents by cleaning and helping my mom and dad. I will be waiting for you and I left you some cookies and milk and I hope that you bring me my presents I want. Warmly yours, Layla

Dear Santa, Jinagle bells! jinagle! I can't wait to hear. I'll bet your elves are Really busy. I have a huge list for you. I know what I want for Christmas. an ameracan girl doll, baby doll, camra, and competer. I think I should get every thing because sometimes I get good grades. sometimes. I wish that Rhodofe can vist us on christmas eve. Merry christmas! I am thankful for all you do for kids around the world including me. Warmly yours, Milanni

Dear Santa, HO! HO! HO! I can't wait to hear that sound. I have a tiny list this year, and I have been

very good. I know there are a lot of other kids that need a whole lot more than I do, but I would really enjoy new pokemon coins. I desurve each of these prents because. I have made all A's in Mrs. Jones class this year. Well one time I did make a B. Warmly yours, Isa Flores

Dear Santa, I wish christmas was all year long. I have a tiny list this year but i have been really good! I think. I know kids who need toys, a family, water, food and clothes. For christmas i want happy people Because i have been wanting kids to be happy For one year. I will be waiting For you Santa! Warmly years, Mario

Dear Santa, HO! HO! HO! I can't wait for christmas eve and your milk and cookies are waiting! I have a gigantic List and I know I have grades and I hope you can get the things I want. I know that there are other kids that needs toys but I really want an X-box 360, a drone, dirt bike and pokemon. I deserve each of these thing's decause I am making A's and B's and and I trying to get all A's and I am also a good student and I also Listen in class. I will be waiting to hear your foot steps in to snow. Warmly Yours, Axel

Dearest Santa, Christmas is just around the corner I can't wait. I have quit a small list this year I have been a little mean. but i am sorry. I know there a lot of kids that more than me but I would really really enjoy a stuff animal, crafts, and a art set. I deserve these presents because I Listen in school and I help my mom. I will be waiting to hear your footsteps of joy and Love! appritiate all you do for the kids all around the world and for me. Warmly yours, Aliyah

HO! HO! HO! I can't wait to see you. I have quite a list this year. I think have been a good girl. I can't wait to

get Wifi for christmas I wait, shopkins, shose, toys, ball and shirts. chirstmas is anrod the corner I can't wat to hear that woneerful sound. I want a lot of toys because you can wake up and see presents full of joy. I deserve my toys because I have been a good girl, and hlep my mom clea the kitchen Wamly yours Arriara

Dearest Santa, HO! HO! HO! I can't wait to see you. I have milk and cookes waiting for you. I Have a lot of gifs But I Hope you can give me some more gifs I want a x box and drone. I deserve a Present because I have helped my parents and sisters, sometimes. and I hope you can come. I hope I have been good boy and I hope you can get my toys to my house. warmly yours Diego

HO! HO! HO! Merry christmas is around the corner I can't wait! I hope every kid gets what they want I want a cute cat, pokie mon and \$108 dollars. I also want a phone. one more thing... I want xbox Live, internet wifi and a peanoie. I have ben very good because I help my Grandma and I help the homeless and the poor. I can't wait to see you santa, warmly yours, Aidan

Dearest Santa, Jingle Bells! Jingle Bells Is my favorite song of all the song. I have a small list and I have 5 gifts. I wunt 5 gifts. I wunt madden 18, snippemrfgun new tadlit and I wunt a remotecontrol car. I have a's and B's in evry class and I helped my parents I will be waiting to hear your footsteps of joy and love I appreciate all you do for all the kids around the world including me. warmly yours, Gunner

Dear Santa, HO! HO! HO! I cant wait to hear that sound. I have quiet a list this year and I Have Been really good this year. I know there are a lot of other kids

SEE LETTERS ON PAGE 11

# Merry Christmas!

## From all of us

### Cauthorn and Griffin Ranch Insurance

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|---|---|--|--|





## Capital Highlights: Tax Payments

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

— By Jan. 31, pay 25 percent of your property tax bill and inform your local taxing unit that you intend to pay the balance in installments;

— March 31, the second 25 percent payment is due;

— May 31, the third 25 percent payment is due; and

— July 31, the final 25 percent payment is due.

**Abbott, DHS chief meet**  
Gov. Abbott on Dec. 12 met with U.S. Department of Homeland Security Sec. Kirstjen Nielsen at the state Capitol.

The two discussed the ongoing recovery efforts following Hurricane Harvey, border security and cyber security. Joining them were John Sharp, head of the Commission to Rebuild Texas, Land Commissioner George P. Bush, FEMA Region 6 Administrator Tony Robinson and Texas Division of Emergency Management Chief Nim Kidd.

"After today's productive meeting," Abbott said, "I am confident that we have a dedicated partner in Secretary Nielsen and this administration, and I look forward to

working closely with them on issues important to Texas and the United States."

### DSHS urges immunization

With flu-like illness on the rise, it's not too late for everyone 6 months old and older to get vaccinated, the Texas Department of State Health Services announced Dec. 15.

Texans can learn where flu shots are available at [texasflu.org](http://texasflu.org) or by contacting their health care provider. People can help stop the spread of flu by getting vaccinated,

washing hands frequently, covering coughs and sneezes and staying home when they're sick, the agency said.

Vaccination is especially important for older adults, infants, pregnant women and people with chronic health conditions because they are at greater risk of developing serious complications from the flu, said DSHS Infectious Disease Medical Officer Dr. Jennifer Shuford.

### Concern: Winter safety

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Dec. 5 encouraged Texans

in all regions of the state to make preparations for winter weather.

"While we've all heard the joke about Texas only having two seasons — hot and hotter — all Texans need to prepare now for the serious threats that the upcoming winter could bring," said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

A few among a long list of potentially lifesaving tips offered by the DPS are these: Winterize vehicles by checking the battery, windshield wipers, anti-freeze, tire pressure and tire tread, and by lubricating door and trunk

locks to prevent freezing.

### Work agency sets rates

The Texas Workforce Commission on Dec. 12 announced the average unemployment insurance tax rate for all employers would be 1.37 percent for calendar year 2018, dropping from 1.64 percent in calendar year 2017 to its lowest point since 2009.

Unemployment insurance taxes replenish the Texas Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, which provides temporary income for Texas workers who lose their jobs through no fault of their own.

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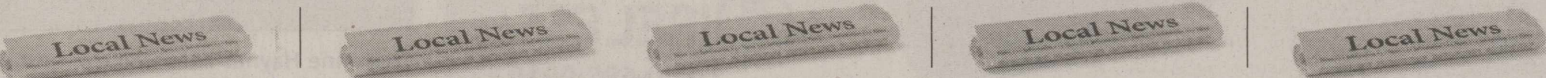
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## 4-H Snapshots around Town

Sutton County 4-H students participating in a special Photography Project have been busy this past semester taking photos for various contests and now their photos are being displayed in the Sutton County Library, The Bank & Trust, Sonora Bank, and LMH Hospital.

Under the direction of project leader, Pam Crenwelge, students have learned a variety of techniques including worm's eye view, bird's eye view, as well as ways to capture the perfect photo without using filters.

Student photographers include Ashton

Bryant, Johnathan Cardenas, Corbin Crenwelge, Madalyn Fisher, Sicily Gutierrez, Cinthia Huerta, Emily Nichols, Hollis Snyder and Jayla Williams.

Community residents are encouraged to view these photos while they are available.

The students deserve commendation for the hard work and talent.

For more information or to participate in the Photography Project, please call the Sutton County Extension Office at its 325-387-3604 to speak with Pam Crenwelge or Jessica Stapper CEA-FCH.



**SONORA**  
v.  
**OZONA**  
**38-58**

### LADY BRONCOS

Varsity  
December 15, 2017

**SONORA 17-04-11-06=38**  
**OZONA 08-16-13-11=58**

**SCORERS:** Aislin Nixon 4; Audrey Nolen 5; Angela Gonzales 2; Jackilyn Sykes 19; Zayda Gutierrez 4; Christina Garza 2; Aleasha Smith 2



Aleasha Smith takes the ball to the net for two points despite an attempted block by the Ozona defense during Friday's varsity game between the Lady Broncos and Lady Lions, December 15, 2017. Sonora fell to Ozona 38-58.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Evan Shannon catches some air as he takes the ball to the net during the varsity game between Sonora and Ozona Friday, December 15, 2017, in Sonora. The Broncos defeated the Lions 70-41.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



**SONORA**  
v.  
**OZONA**  
**70-41**

### BRONCOS

Varsity  
December 15, 2017

**SONORA 18-24-14-14=70**  
**OZONA 12-07-13-09=41**

**SCORERS:** Abel Cruz 7; Aldo De Luna 6; Blayze Sykes 8; Evan Shannon 20; Jalen Lopez 18; Kaden Cordell 8, Marcos Talamantes 3

## Devil's River News Weekly Rainfall Report

|                                |                  |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| December 1-19                  | 0.96 in.         | December 1-11                  | 0.90 in.         |
| November                       | 0.17 in.         | November                       | 0.13 in.         |
| October                        | 0.11 in.         | October                        | 0.07 in.         |
| September                      | 3.83 in.         | September                      | 3.05 in.         |
| August                         | 1.82 in.         | August                         | 3.66 in.         |
| July                           | 4.21 in.         | July                           | 3.79 in.         |
| June                           | 3.07 in.         | June                           | 0.41 in.         |
| May                            | 3.68 in.         | May                            | 2.92 in.         |
| April                          | 1.23 in.         | April                          | 2.48 in.         |
| March                          | 0.79 in.         | March                          | 1.00 in.         |
| February                       | 1.36 in.         | February                       | 1.48 in.         |
| January                        | 2.40 in.         | January                        | 1.68 in.         |
| <b>2017 Year-to-Date Total</b> | <b>23.64 in.</b> | <b>2017 Year-to-Date Total</b> | <b>21.57 in.</b> |
| 2016                           | 25.10 in.        | 2016                           | 29.22 in.        |
| 2015                           | 23.87 in.        | 2015                           | 25.31 in.        |
| 2014                           | 14.32 in.        | 2014                           | 12.72 in.        |

Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 14 miles southeast of Sonora. Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 17 miles east-northeast of Sonora.

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### SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 4

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- 10 BOND
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- 16 STOCK
- 17 PREMIUM

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
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| 8 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 5 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| 9 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 7 |
| 6 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| 4 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| 2 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 2 |



Michael Creek protects the ball while dribbling it past the Lions defense during the junior varsity match between the Broncos and Ozona Friday, December 15, 2017.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



**SONORA**  
v.  
**OZONA**  
**38-30**

### LADY BRONCOS

Junior Varsity  
December 15, 2017

**SONORA 05-08-07-18=38**  
**JUNCTION 05-07-12-06=30**

**SCORERS:** Shayanne Gamez 6; Fernanda Gonzalez 2; Dekota Morrow 10; Chayenne Haynes 7; Alyssa Martinez 6; Esmeralda Salazar 2; Clarissa Martinez 5



Chayenne Haynes keeps an eye on her opposition while dribbling the ball down center court during the junior varsity game between Sonora and Ozona Friday, December 15, 2017. The Lady Broncos celebrated a 38-30 victory over the Lady Lions.

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