

The Devil's River News

95 years of publishing in Sonora, Texas- "The Capitol of the Stockman's Paradise"

(155-920)

December 18, 1985

Sonora, Tx. 76950

Juniors do well on TEAMS testing

Of the 94 juniors who took the Texas Educational Assessment of Minimum Skills (TEAMS) test early in October, a resounding 94 percent passed the English Language Arts portion of the exit-level test, with 88 percent passing the math part.

According to an administrative spokesman, the math mastery is exactly at the the State-wide norm, and the English mastery of 94 percent reflects a full three-point mastery margin over the state-wide norm of 91 percent of students tested.

It was also pointed out that students classified as learning disabled in the two tested areas were given the examination here in Sonora. Based on the results of a field test given during the summer, state education officials had predicted a state-wide failure rate of 25

percent. The overall mastery rate of 91 percent here in Sonora is well-above the state overall norm of 84.6 percent mastery. The state-wide figure apparently reflects the fact that certain special education students throughout the state were exempted from taking the test, whereas in Sonora, all junior students were tested.

Beginning with the graduating class of 1987, all students must pass the TEAMS test in order to receive their coveted high school diploma. Any student who fails either part of the test will have at least three more opportunities to master the failed area. Juniors who fail will be tested again at the end of this school year, and, if necessary, at the beginning and ending of their senior year.



It's worth the wait

Commodities made available to local citizens

Donated government foods such as butter and cheese were made available to eligible low-income families of Sutton County by the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Texas Department of Human Services.

155 Families were served by the program at the Senior Citizens Center from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11.

Donated commodities will be made available the second Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizens Center. Persons who are residents of Sutton County and recipients of food stamps, medicaid, AFDC and SSI are automatically eligible for donated foods but must present verification such assistance is being received. Certification of eligibility of other applicants is based on family size and income.

All applicants must reapply for 1986 eligibility. Persons who would like to apply, may do so at the Senior Center or City Hall.

A special thanks should go out to the following ladies who volunteered their time to help with the program, Sandra Zapata, Aneida Noriega, Arcelia Carrasco, Juanita Herrera, Estella Lumbreras, Elvira Alvarez and Monica DuRussell.



Say cheese and bag it.

At A Glance

Devil's River News holiday deadlines

Because of the Holidays, the deadline at the Devil's River News will be 12, noon, Friday, December 20 for the issue of December 25 and 12, noon, Friday, December 27 for the issue of January 1, 1986.

Subscriptions will be mailed on December 23 and December 30 respectively.

We appreciate your cooperation and wish the best for you and yours during this most special season.

Santa's coming

Santa is on his way and he'll be here on Saturday, December 21 at 2:45.

He'll be arriving by fire-truck after the Kavern Kash Auction and before the Chamber of Commerce drawing, downtown between Gosneys and the Courthouse.

Rodeo finals

The Circuit Finals Rodeo held by Bad Company Rodeo will be held December 26-27-28-29 in Abilene, Texas.

Need a gift idea?

Still wondering what to get for Grandpa or Aunt Jane?

You can give the gift of life with an Emergency Response Unit. The unit can be activated by the person in case of emergency and life saving assistance can be on hand in a very short time.

The unit is ideal for Senior Citizens, persons living alone or persons with chronic illness.

For more information contact Ray Smith at 387-2593, Ruth Shurley or any member of the Hospital Auxiliary.

Donations being taken

The Church of The Good Shepherd's Mission Committee is taking donations for San Angelo State Hospital for Christmas. Anyone wanting to make a donation can call 387-2616 or 387-3111, or mail to Box 1015, Sonora, Tx. 76950.

Over 55's Yule Party

The Over 55's will be having their special Christmas program at the Senior Center on Friday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by Oscar Galindo and Sandra Brandon.

Also on hand will be Monkey George from Eldorado. Everyone loved Monkey George his first trip to Sonora and since that time Monkey George has found himself a wife, Georgette. Georgette will accompany Monkey George to the fun event.

Make plans now to attend-the only requirement is that you are over 55 years of age.

Christmas concert

The Sonora High School and Junior High Choirs will be performing their Christmas concert tomorrow night in the high school auditorium at 7 p.m.

Home delivered meals?

Are you 60 or over? Are you homebound? Would you be interested in a home delivered meal? If so please contact the Senior Center at 387-5657. This information must be in by January 15, 1986.

Couple due IRS refund

In information released this week from the Internal Revenue Service, Roberto and Maria Salazar of Sonora are entitled to a refund from IRS on their 84 tax return. To claim their refund, the Salazars may contact IRS at 1-800-424-1040.

Center Christmas dinner

The Sutton County Senior Center will be serving their special Christmas Dinner at noon, Monday, December 23 at the Senior Center.

Santa Claus will be there to help enjoy the festivities.

The Center will be open until noon, December 24, closed Christmas Day and will reopen on December 26 however no food will be served on December 24 or December 26.

Club needs clothes

Sonora Woman's Club is in need of any clothing or accessories such as gloves, hats, shoes, jewelry, etc. for men, women & children dating back to 1836, especially some which may have been worn during the Era of the Alamo which would be the Frontier look and would include the Spanish or Mexican Army Attire.

They also need clothing worn during the Western Era of Cattle Rustling and Texas Rangers, as well as Victorian Styled Clothing worn during the Civil War and Period of Reconstruction and on up through World War I and II.

The Sonora Woman's Club has undertaken a special Sesquicentennial project to be presented to Sutton County and surrounding area residents and would appreciate you contacting the Sutton County Library at 387-2111 or Michelle Anderson at 387-3881 if you have any of the clothing mentioned or know of someone we might contact. The clothing, if not wearable, could be used for display purposes.

Your assistance would be appreciated we want to make this a special Sesquicentennial Celebration and all proceeds of this project will be held at the Sutton County Library.

Lodge to meet

Dee Ora Lodge #715 is having a Christmas Dinner, December 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lodge Hall. All members and their families as are the members of Sonora Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star are cordially invited. We are having a traditional menu. We would love to have a good turn out. Please come and enjoy!

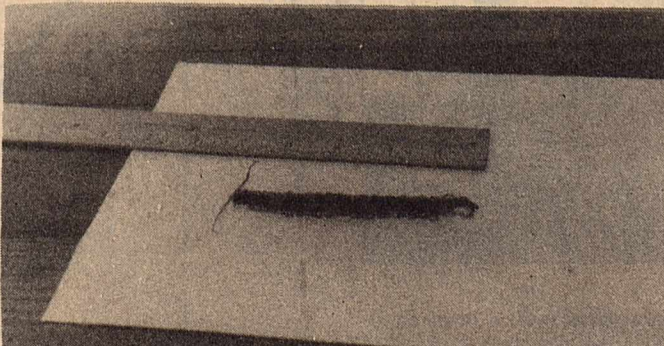
There will be a short regular meeting after the meal.



Home for the Holidays?

Ruth Espy had unexpected company drop in last week for the holidays.

Ruth housed Mr. "Santa-ped" in a "Jif Peanut Butter Motel" for the night and brought him into town the following day to meet and greet some of the townspeople.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

Santa visits nursing home



Santa came a little early to the Nursing Home as the Hospital Auxiliary hosted its combination Christmas/Birthday party.

Maria Rodriguez had the distinction of being the only one to have a birthday in December and wore a beautiful corsage presented by Petals.

Santa handed out the gifts to the residents from their "Secret Pal."

Lilia Gonzales, Activity Director of the Nursing Home, had once again done a lovely job of decorating. In addition to the beautiful Christmas Tree the door to each residents room was handsomely decorated.

Ruth Shurley, Jennie Driskall, Alice Jones, and Mrs. Edwin

Sawyer prepared all the taste-tempting treats.

You're never too old to believe

Paint Horse Club holds banquet

The Permian Basin Paint Horse Club members gathered for their annual Awards Banquet and the general membership elected the officers and directors for 1986 last Saturday evening at the Rodeway Inn in Odessa. The evening was the finale of the 1985 show season for the Permian Paint enthusiasts. The Club sponsored a Paint O Rama in May held in Odessa which consisted of four separate American Paint Horse Association approved shows and a show held during September at the West Texas Fair in Abilene. From these five events came the horses and owners honored at the banquet for accumulating more points than any other in the class.

Individual class winners were Diana Carmana, Midland; Bob Childress, Ozona; Delores Nash Davis, Monument, N.M.; Joe Tom Greer, Odessa; Melanie Gripp, Midland; Bill Jay, Abilene; Ralph

Patrick, Odessa; Donna Saul, Ft. Stockton; Bob Travis, Hart; Teresa Turner, Goldthwaite; and Kristi Williams, Odessa.

Multiple class winners were Krista Carter, Odessa; Mary Carter, Odessa; Merrell and Ann Daggett, Ft. Stockton; Bill Golliet, Hagerman, N.M.; and Misti Torbett, Monahans.

High Point Halter Stallion was won by Carl Brown, Amarillo. High Point Halter Mare was awarded to Debby Whittemore of Goldsmith. Earning the title of High Point Gelding was Mark Snowdy of Midland.

High Point Open, Amateur and Youth were awarded to Bill Golliet, Mary Carter, and Misti Torbett, respectively.

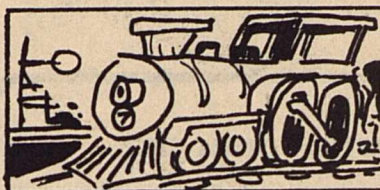
Special service awards were given to Don Vaughan, Midland, 1985 President; Linda Williams, Odessa, 1985 2nd Vice President;

Club chairpersons Mike Whittemore, Goldsmith; Marsha Greer, Odessa; and Merrell Daggett. Other service awards for special contributions were Jack Kerns, Odessa; Valera Snodgrass, Marble Falls; Tom Greer, Odessa; Diana Carmana, and Evelyn Kay Browning, Odessa, 1985 Club Sweetheart. Ruth Harrison, Big Spring was presented with a recognition award for her special contributions.

The business meeting, conducted by Don Vaughan, saw the election of the following to 1986 office: Doug Hardcastle, Odessa, President; Bob Childress, 1st Vice President; Linda Williams, 2nd Vice President; Ann Daggett, Secretary/Treasurer; Don Vaughan, Director; Clinton Harrison, Big Spring, Director; Ivan Weir, Sheffield, Director; Mike Whittemore, Director; Randy

Williams, Odessa, Director; Chris Merka, Odessa, Reporter and Club nominee for National Director; and Evelyn Kay Browning, Club Sweetheart.

Several shows, including a Zone O Rama and futurities are in planning stages for 1986. Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact secretary Ann Daggett, Rt. 1, Box E, Fort Stockton, Texas 79735 phone (915) 336-5490.



Interest in model railroading as a hobby began after the Chicago World's Fair of 1933-34. Model railroad exhibits at the fair spurred this interest.

Tedford Jewelry

BRIDAL GIFT REGISTRY

Nancy Womack, bride elect of Rex Surber
Lilia Samaniego bride-elect of Andres Hernandez

Downtown Sonora

387-3839

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Poinsettias & Fresh Christmas Wreaths

Flowers by Irene

308 Railroad
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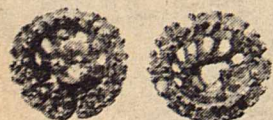
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Tedford Jewelry

Gifts for everyone
at remarkable savings

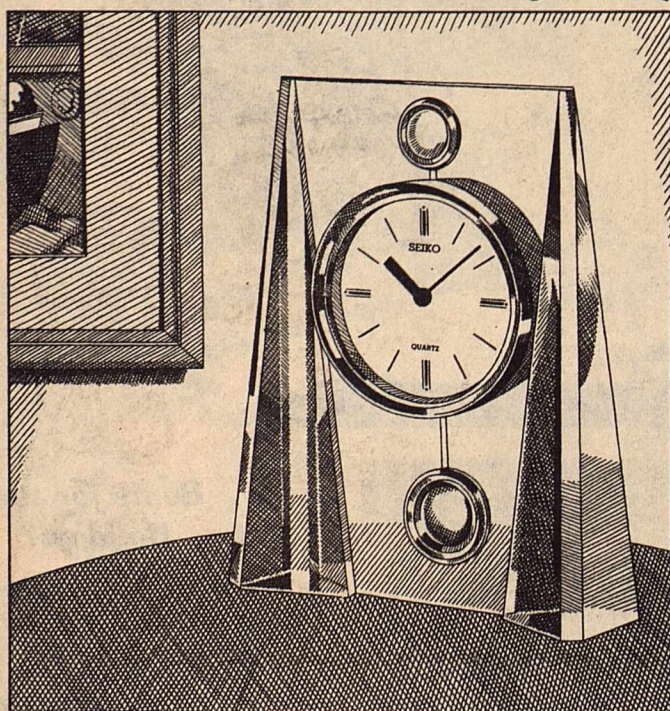
Magnificent Diamond Earring Attachments



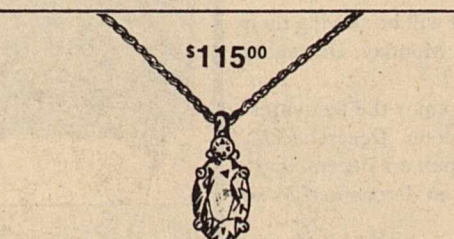
To wear with her diamond stud earrings, beautiful with pearl studs, too. 14 k., 1/2 ct. total diamond wt.

\$750.

SEIKO QUARTZ DESIGNER CLOCKS



Only Seiko could make time work so well. A brushed gilt dial and pendulum float beautifully in a bed of lucite. All this is surrounded by two prisms that refract the light enchantingly, making this an especially exciting modern clock. As a gift for someone special, or for your own home. Seiko makes many impressive quartz clocks. Come see our collection today. \$95.



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Colour your Christmas with our exciting selection of diamonds, semi-precious pendants and earring sets.

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Diamond
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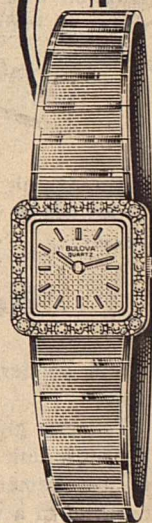
Holidays inspire feelings of love and friendship towards all. Why not give a little love this gift giving season?

BULOVA DIAMOND CARESSE COLLECTION



Give your lady love a Diamond Caresse, the most endearing and enduring of diamond watches. Creative in design, always on time and elegant on her wrist. See the complete Diamond Caresse Collection today.

All Quartz from \$175. to \$425.



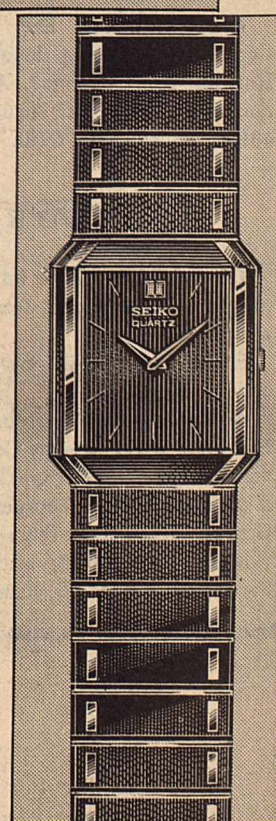
Seiko, modern architect of time.



The man who reaches for this new Seiko Quartz ultra-thin watch has a high sense of quality, a superb eye for clean structure. Succinct detail, marvelous precision inside and out, extraordinarily handsome in charcoal grey stainless with gold-tone and a black dial. All gold-tone; or silver-and-gold-tone with a grey dial.

\$295.

Lady Seiko Ultra-Thin Dress Quartz, baguette style gold-tone case and bracelet, gilt dial, HARDEX mar-resist crystal. \$275.



Tedford Jewelry

DOWNTOWN SONORA
387-3839



Hill's Jewelry Gifting Sale

*Total Diamond Weight
Jewelry Enlarged.
All Jewelry Pictured is
14 Karat Unless Otherwise Denoted.

Diamond Earrings

Sale \$129⁰⁰
REG. \$225.00
1385-9855

Sale \$189⁰⁰
REG. \$350.00
1385-9897

Sale \$249⁰⁰
REG. \$450.00
1385-9913

Sale \$499⁰⁰
REG. \$900.00
1385-9954

Sale \$899⁰⁰
REG. \$1500.00
1385-9970

1/6 CARAT*

1/4 CARAT*

1/3 CARAT*

1/2 CARAT*

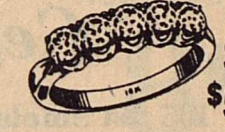
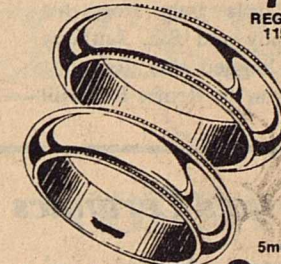
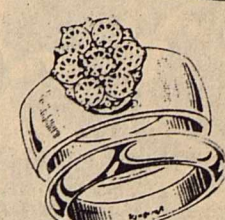
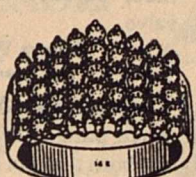
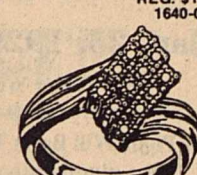
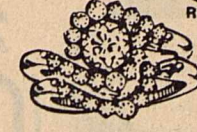
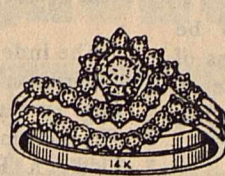
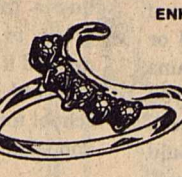
3/4 CARAT*

ENHANCE YOUR SOLITAIRE
5 DIAMOND
WRAP AROUND

Sale \$149⁰⁰
REG. \$295.00
1420-5090

Sale \$999⁰⁰
REG. \$1950.00
1740-0557

Sale \$599⁰⁰
REG. \$1050.00
1740-0637



Sale \$599⁰⁰
REG. \$1050.00
1640-0632

Sale \$399⁰⁰
REG. \$75.00
1154-0051

Sale \$299⁰⁰
REG. \$59.95
1154-5035

Sale \$899⁰⁰
REG. \$1500.00
1472-1054

Sale \$289⁰⁰
REG. \$495.00
1524-0096

Sale \$333⁰⁰
REG. \$595.00
1260-5036

Sale \$499⁰⁰
REG. \$112.50
1154-7072

Sale \$555⁰⁰
REG. \$895.00
1260-5010

CULTURED PEARL
& DIAMONDS
1/4 CARAT*
Sale \$299⁰⁰
REG. \$525.00
1082-3110

5-5 1/2mm
CULTURED PEARL
HEIRLOOM DOUBLE
A QUALITY
NECKLACE
19"
Sale \$549⁰⁰
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TRICOLOR
BASKET WEAVE
BRACELET
7"
Sale \$799⁰⁰
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1750-7013

TRICOLOR
BASKET WEAVE
NECKLACE
16"
Sale \$159⁰⁰
REG. \$295.00
1750-7039

TRICOLOR
BASKET WEAVE
RING
14K
Sale \$599⁰⁰
REG. \$120.00
1162-8013

9-DIAMOND CROSS
Sale \$199⁰⁰
REG. \$360.00
1146-3056

CULTURED PEARL
& DIAMONDS
1/3 CARAT*
Sale \$329⁰⁰
REG. \$595.00
1034-1030

5mm
CULTURED PEARL
EARRINGS
Sale \$249⁰⁰
REG. \$42.50
1288-5059

18" TRIPLE BEVELED
HERRINGBONE
CHAIN
Sale \$129⁰⁰
REG. \$270.00
1512-7319

Sale \$499⁰⁰
REG. \$105.00
1512-7210

7" TRIPLE BEVELED
HERRINGBONE
BRACELET
Sale \$99⁰⁰
REG. \$210.00
1548-1419

18" HAND CRAFTED
SOLID ROPE
CHAIN
Sale \$249⁰⁰
REG. \$495.00
1548-1518

7" HAND CRAFTED
SOLID ROPE
BRACELET
Sale \$99⁰⁰
REG. \$210.00
1548-1419

1/3 CARAT
Sale \$369⁰⁰
REG. \$595.00
1385-9798

Diamond Solitaires

1 CARAT
Sale \$1999⁰⁰
REG. \$3450.00
1385-9673

3/4 CARAT
Sale \$1299⁰⁰
REG. \$2250.00
1385-9832

1/2 CARAT
Sale \$699⁰⁰
REG. \$1200.00
1385-9590

1/3 CARAT
Sale \$369⁰⁰
REG. \$595.00
1385-9558

1/4 CARAT
Sale \$279⁰⁰
REG. \$450.00
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10K
AMETHYST
& DIAMONDS
Sale \$99⁰⁰
REG. \$195.00
1730-1177



1/5 CARAT*
Sale \$259⁰⁰
REG. \$475.00
1222-0117

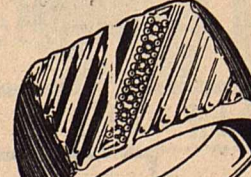


10K
Sale \$199⁰⁰
REG. \$375.00
1390-3018

GENUINE RUBY
& DIAMONDS
1/2 CARAT*
Sale \$699⁰⁰
REG. \$1350.00
1222-1032



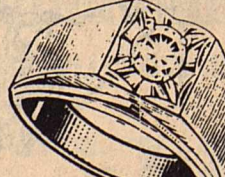
10K
Sale \$199⁰⁰
REG. \$345.00
1730-1052



10K
Sale \$149⁰⁰
REG. \$285.00
1142-0197

10K
Sale \$299⁰⁰
REG. \$585.00
1740-5135

1/5 CARAT*
Sale \$299⁰⁰
REG. \$585.00
1740-5135



10K
Sale \$349⁰⁰
REG. \$595.00
1385-9699

10K
Sale \$99⁰⁰
REG. \$210.00
1420-2634

DIAMOND
TIE TAC
Sale \$599⁰⁰
REG. \$112.50
1270-0032



CHATHAM EMERALD
& DIAMONDS
1/4 CARAT*
Sale \$399⁰⁰
REG. \$750.00
1222-0513

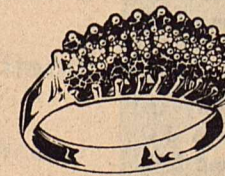


50 DIAMOND
1 CARAT*
Sale \$699⁰⁰
REG. \$1200.00
1442-1135

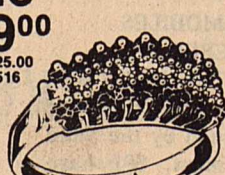
18"
Sale \$699⁰⁰
REG. \$150.00
1750-6312

TRIPLE BEVELED
HERRINGBONE
CHAINS
Sale \$299⁰⁰
REG. \$72.00
1750-6213

FRESHWATER
CULTURED PEARL
BRACELET
Sale \$159⁰⁰
REG. \$29.95
1288-8418



10K
18 RUBIES &
DIAMONDS
Sale \$119⁰⁰
REG. \$225.00
1388-5516



10K
18 SAPPHIRES &
DIAMONDS
Sale \$119⁰⁰
REG. \$225.00
1388-5532



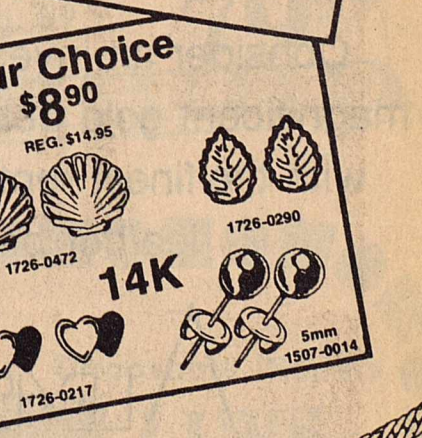
10K
18 EMERALDS &
DIAMONDS
Sale \$149⁰⁰
REG. \$270.00
1388-5537



10K
Sale \$499⁰⁰
REG. \$82.50
1388-4113

FRESHWATER
CULTURED PEARL
NECKLACE
16"
Sale \$349⁰⁰
REG. \$59.95
1288-8459

18"
1288-8475
Sale \$399⁰⁰
REG. \$69.95



Each of these items is guaranteed to fit any size stocking.

Gift wrapping available

204 NE Main

387-2755

HOMEMAKER UPDATE

by Gail Rucker

Opaque stains for home exteriors

Opaque stains are not a new product, but they seem to be gaining in popularity because they provide a natural, more subtle color than paint. Opaque stains are an alternative to painting, but may not be the best one for your home.

Because the solids in the stain remain on the surface after it's applied, opaque stains are more like paint than transparent stains. They can be especially successful on textured surfaces and panel products such as hardboard.

Opaque stains come in both oil-based and latex forms. The oil-based stains are supposed to penetrate wood, but paint experts disagree over that claim. Latex stains adhere to the surface, are

porous and more flexible.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Products Labs considers latex-especially acrylic latex-superior to oil-based stains.

You can use opaque stains on wood surfaces, primed metal and well-cured masonry. But if the wood surface was previously painted or stained, oil-based opaque stains aren't recommended. Even if you stripped and cleaned the wood, some of the old coating could remain and cause application problems.

Latex stain can be used on previously coated wood.

Opaque stain needs to be reapplied when it shows signs of fading or weathering. Manufacturers typically recommend reapplication every three years.



With a little help from his brothers Cody and Bill, Anthony Renfro, 5, bagged this deer last Wednesday on the Renfro Red Mill Ranch.

The deer, weighing in at 72 lbs., had nine points and a 16 inch spread.

Anthony is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Renfro.

Victoria's Ceramics has a variety of ceramic Christmas gifts.

Christmas tree, and much more.

Victoria's Ceramics

105 1st Sinola St.
387-3118



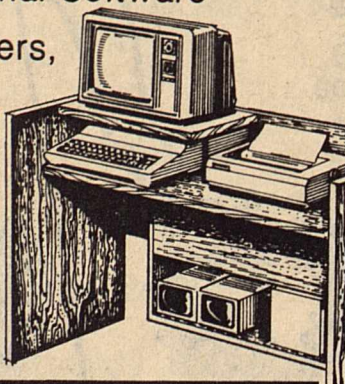
COMPUTERS at Competitive Prices

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Anyone can sell computers, its the service after the sale that counts!

Light Electronics

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Consider an investment in a magnificent gold belt buckle paired with the finest reptile skins and leather belting.

ALEXIS KIRK

A perfect Christmas gift.

The Old Shop



387-5323

410 S.E. Crockett

Sonora, Texas 76950

Ladies Auxiliary meets

The Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary met on Tuesday night, December 10, 1985. Discussed at the meeting was an annual Christmas Party and the preparations that needed to be made. The ladies also decided to buy a life monitor system to be given to someone in town who needed it. The Auxiliary is actively involved in donating money to the school for a needy family in Sonora and also in giving boxes of fruit

every week in December to the Senior Citizens Center. After the business meeting, the ladies enjoyed a game of Yahtzee. Members present were Trevlin Luttrell, Linda Odum, Jennie Wipff, Kay Prather, Patti Prather, Jean Humphreys, Donna Keese, Olinda Jimenez, and Benita Martinez. Olinda Jimenez was hostess for the December meeting serving fajitas, spanish rice, refried beans, peach and pear pies, and cokes.

I C A holds meeting

The Independent Cattlemen's Association held its monthly business meeting and breakfast, Thursday morning at 7 a.m. at the Fiddler's Restaurant, December 5th 1985.

A fund-raiser will be held in the near future-more details will be given after the next meeting. Each Chapter of I.C.A. holds at least one fund-raiser a year and all proceeds are sent to the home office in Austin. The proceeds are used to

help voice the problems and concerns of all involved in agriculture through the State office and on into the National Level. I.C.A. is in close contact with 40 other agricultural groups.

This organization continues working together to make "a better tomorrow for all of us," in and out of agriculture.

The next meeting will be held in January, 1986.

Devil's River News

Out of the Past

Jan. 25, 1929

Your Water Will Freeze AND

Pipes Will Burst This Winter

Call a plumber to dig up that old valve and put it in working order. Do not call the water company to work on valves or repair bursted pipes. Please do not use the valve at the meter as you are wasting time, because it is not a drain valve.

Sonora Water Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Davis are proud parents of a bouncing baby boy born to them at Houston on the 21st. Mr. Davis is a brother of Tom and Haney and Mrs. Harold Saunders of this city.

My yearling hens are from Drumm's egg-bred strain, mated to cockerels of the famous Border-Brook strain. These chickens were raised on open range, fed balanced ration, are full of pep and of strong vitality. I select and handle with care all eggs for hatching until April 1st. Will sell a setting of 15 for \$2.00, Mrs. E. C. Maddox. 4t. c.

Quite a few Sonora people went to San Angelo Thursday to attend the opening of the big airport there. Dozens of the largest planes made were there as well as some of nearly every make and type.

I am the sole owner and manager of the Sudden Service Lunch Stand and will appreciate the trade of my friends.-Newt Potect.

Mr. and Mrs. John Fields were in from the ranch this week visiting and shopping.

-Piano For Sale

I have a good upright piano in your vicinity. Rather than to go to the expense and trouble of shipping or trucking back to town will sell at a great bargain, if interested address.

Mr. Jackson, San Angelo, Texas Box 487.

Three Sonora Boys Are First-Class Scouts

At a Boy Scouts' Court of Honor held in the high school building here, John Hull and Lea Roy Aldwell became first class scouts. V.J. Glasscock received his Tenderfoot badge.

Fifteen boys re-registered in the troop here and a charter renewal is being sponsored by the Sonora Lions.

Troop committee: Roy E. Aldwell, Vernon F. Hamilton, J.C. Stephen, W.C. Gilmore and L.W. Elliott; Scout Master, John Eaton, and assistant Ted White.

591 AUTOMOBILES REGISTERED IN SUTTON TO DATE

Out of the 900 motor vehicle license plates issued by the State Highway Department, 591 have been used to date, states J.E. Gimland, deputy tax collector here. Four hundred and thirty of these were for automobiles while 161 were issued for commercial trucks, etc. Mr. Gimland believes that there will be approximately 700 registered at the Sheriff's office by the close of this month.

It is conceded that Sutton County has more motor vehicles than any

Christmas luncheon served

A beautiful Christmas luncheon was served for the Women's Club at the home of Marti McLain.

Her home was gleaming with many beautiful Christmas decorations. Several guests were introduced and a lovely meal was enjoyed following the Christmas theme.

Hostesses for the meal were

Allie Askew, Marti McLain, Carol Parker, Peggy Dover, Jeanne Jackson, Cynthia Keel, and Leona Bishop.

Joy Galbraith, Joe Lane, and Valerie Tedford gave a heart warming musical program of Christmas numbers that left the group spell bound in the Christmas spirit.

Hill's Bridal Registry

Nancy Womack, bride elect of Rex Surber

Hill's Jewelry

Downtown Sonora

387-2755

Patricia's Place Antiques

Pre-Holiday Sale

up to **50%** off selected items

Bring this ad for **10% off** any non-sale item.

304 S.E. Crockett
387-5334

Sharron's FRAME SHOP

1304 Mesquite Home Phone 387-2097
NOW OPEN

Ready Made Frames

Custom Framing

We will frame needlepoint

Holiday Hours 8:30 AM to 9:00 PM

Cecil Westerman would like to be your Pharmacist



Shop Sonora and Save

During the month of December,

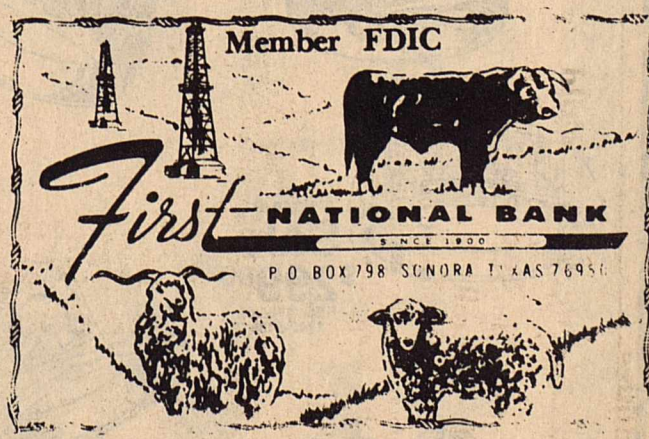
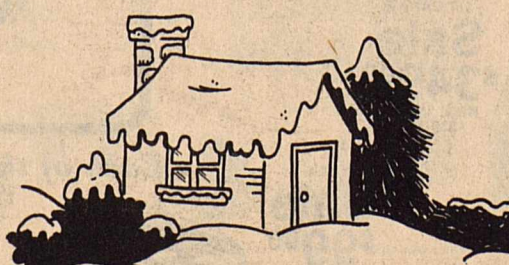
the First National Bank along with **Hill's Jewelry, Kerbow Furniture, Teaff Oil and Western Auto**

is offering a special Christmas financing percentage rate of **10% A.P.R.** for a term not to exceed twelve months.

Financing subject to credit approval

Another service sponsored by

First National Bank
387-3861



Around Town

by Hazel McClelland

The Ministreal Alliance still needs help. We have about 40 baskets to give to the needy for Christmas. Won't you please help. Send money to Mrs. Roberta James at First National Bank or Hazel McClelland 1005 Glasscock 76950. We need help bad. Thank you for the help in the past. Lets make this a happy Christmas for the needy.

Thanks Hazel!!

The Hudspeth Hospital Auxiliary met Dec. 9 at the Nursing Home. Mrs. Ruth Shurley, president, presided. Mrs. Wilma Jones read the minutes from last months meeting. Mrs. Metha Trainer gave a financial report. Mr. Terry McNutt made a talk on a monator the hospital wants to buy. It will be a real need for the hospital and if anyone wants to make a donation. Call Mrs. Shurley or Al Elliot.

Those present were: Mrs. Shurley, Mrs. Guila Vicars, Mrs. Pauline Thompson, Mrs. Hazel McClelland, Mrs. Avis Baney, Mrs. Don Jones, Mrs. Sandra Cooper, Mrs. Monte Yantis, Mrs. Harvey DuRussell, Mrs. Elizabeth Cusenbary, Mrs. Dorothy Cusenbary, Mrs. Greta Smith, Mrs. Metha Trainer, Mrs. Sue Smith, Mrs. Isle Grimmel, Mrs. W.A. Bishop, Mrs. Vera Jones, Mrs. Mary Barrow, and Mrs. Freda Cooper. Cookies and punch was served.

The Sonora Art Club held their Christmas party Dec. 9. They had a Christmas dinner at the Sutton Co. Steakhouse, then went to the Art Club had their Christmas tree and played bingo. Punch and Cookies was served.

Hostess were: Mrs. Clyde Hill, Mrs. Mary Lu Gilly and Hazel McClelland. Those present were: Mrs. Pauline Ringgold, Mrs. Carmen Adams, Mrs. Verna Raphael, Mrs. Ayako Manger, Mrs. Mary Lu Gilly, Mrs. Mary Guest, Mrs. Lorene Taliaferro, Mrs. Fern Wipff, Mrs. Clyde Hill, Mrs. Louise Snyers and Hazel McClelland.

Mrs. Ann and Jim Brummett of Georgetown, Texas. Visited Mr. & Mrs. Buster Jennings this past week.

Mrs. Dorothy Cusenbary entertained the Tuesday afternoon bridge club at her home Dec. 10. Cake and spiced tea was served to Mrs. Ada Wynn, Mrs. Elizabeth Cusenbary, Mrs. Guila Vicars, Mrs. Pauline Thompson, Mrs. Wilma Jones, Mrs. Emil Prugal, Mrs. Rip Ward and Mrs. Hazel McClelland. Mrs. Wynn won the high score prize. Mrs. Jones won second high and Mrs. McClelland won the bingo prize.

Mrs. Wanda Van Hoozer spent several days in San Angelo last week with her son, Mark and her mother, Mrs. McGagnes

The Hudspeth Hospital Auxiliary held their Christmas party at the Nursing Home on Dec. 12th. The house was Christmas decorated and had a beautiful Christmas tree. A gift was given to each resident in the nursing home by their secret pal. Westernman Drug and Tedford Jewelry each gave a gift to each patient. Eggnog, cookies and sandwiches were served. Santa Claus came and gave the presents to the residents. Mrs. Alice Hardy played Christmas music while the patients were being served. One resident

had a birthday that day and was given a birthday gift. Hostess were Mrs. Edwin Sawyer, Mrs. Alice Jones, Mrs. Guila Vicars, Mrs. Jennie Driskall, Mrs. Ruth Shurley and Mrs. Vivian Crites, Mrs. Donald Jones and Hazel McClelland helped serve the residents. Ann Cates took pictures of the party.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Adkins, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack David Wardlaw

honored Mr. and Mrs. Bill Finklea with a brunch Dec. 14th, at the Adkins home. The brunch was catered by the Seven Seas in San Angelo. About 75 guests were present. The house was Christmas decorated. Everyone enjoyed seeing Bill and Claudia again.

Dr. Gunn of Dallas was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Adkins.

The Sonora Methodist Church had a Christmas program at church Sunday Dec. 15th. The birth of Christ was narrated and sung. It was a beautiful Christmas story.

The Country Store held open

house Sunday Dec. 15th at the store. Punch and cookies were served. Gifts and items were on display. Dr. and Mrs. Lonnie Pollard and Mrs. Avis Baney were host and hostess.

ALL HOMES (SLASHED) MUST BE OFF OUR LOT BY END OF DECEMBER

PLEASE SHOP US HERE AT OAKWOOD HOMES BEFORE YOU BUY!

ASK FOR ALAN 915-563-4107

Nina's Beauty Salon

Christmas Special

December 5 - December 31

For appointment call 387-3597

or come by 114 W. Main

Specials

Haircuts	\$5.50
Haircut & Blowdry	\$12.50
Perms	\$19.50

GIBSON'S DISCOUNT CENTER

301 Highway 277-N. Sonora

Prices Good Wed. Dec. 18 thru Tues. Dec. 24



MY LITTLE PONY

Figures No. 4850

Reg. 5.97

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HUGGA BUNCH™ DOLLS OPEN YOUR ARMS TO THE MOST LOVABLE, HUGGABLE LITTLE FRIENDS EVER.



Kenner

29⁹⁷

MY LITTLE PONY WATERFALL

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921 Glo Friends™ Assortment

Ages: 1 1/2 and up

Soft, colorful, adorable little characters who play by day and glow by night.

Reg. \$3.19

2⁴⁹

HASBRO SMURF AROUND

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Reg. 21.49

19⁹⁹



REGENT OFFICIAL BASKETBALL

No. 71969

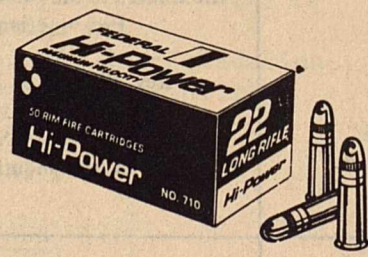
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Regent Teatherball

Set

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FEDERAL HI-POWER .22s



50-ct. Box

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WINCHESTER

MODEL 9422 XTR™ Lever Action Rim Fire Rifle

Authentic Western Carbine appearance and handling. • High-luster look of elegance.

Reg. 241.99

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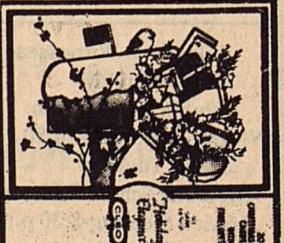
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CHRISTMAS CARDS

Religious & Traditional

At Discount Prices



Denture Cleanser

EFFERDENT

60 tablets

2²⁹

Disposable Diapers



Reg. 9.97

8⁹⁹



32-oz.

1²⁹



OXYDOL

Family Size 9-lbs. 3-oz.

6⁹⁷

CLOROX BLEACH

1 Qt.

3 FOR 1⁰⁰



WD-40



9-oz. can

1⁴⁹



Gift Certificate

This entitles to week/day child care

at: The SEE Center 387-5016

511 W. Cornell Available for 3 yr. olds & up

For information on purchasing gift certificate Contact Mona Simpler at The See Center.

From

Obituaries

George S. Schwiening

George Sutton Schwiening, 59, died suddenly at his ranch home Sunday, December 8th.

Funeral services were at 2:00 p.m. Monday in St. John's Episcopal Church with the Rev. Monte Jones officiating. Burial was in Sonora Cemetery under direction of Kerbow Funeral Home.

Mr. Schwiening was born March 3, 1926 in Sonora. He was the youngest son of pioneering ranch family, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Schwiening. He attended Sonora schools, and married Anita Storms. April 17, 1944 in San Angelo. He was a lifetime resident of Sonora; a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, the Masonic Lodge, and Shrine Club and was a World War II veteran.

Survivors include his wife of Sonora, two daughters, Georganne Smith of Junction and Betsy Schwiening of San Angelo, one grandson, Travis (El Toro) Smith of Junction, two brothers, Curt Schwiening of Camp Allison and Alfred Schwiening Jr., of San



Angelo, two sisters, Margaret Kring and Kathleen Moore of Sonora.

He was preceded in death by two children, George Sutton and Myrtle Ann, one brother, Harold Schwiening and one sister, Mary Wilson.

Pallbearers were: Byerl Dillard, Monte Dillard, Mike Dillard, Alfred Sykes and Nolan Gibbs of Sonora and Gary Walker of San Angelo.

Vera Parker Clark

Vera Parker Clark, 93, of El Paso, Texas, died Sunday, December 7, 1985 in an El Paso Hospital.

Graveside services were held Thursday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m. in Sonora in Sonora Cemetery with Rev. David Griffin officiating. Mrs. Clark was a Methodist.

Vera Parker was born to Agnes Adams Parker and Joseph Addison Parker in Sonora on March 20,

1892. She was married to John Clark in July 1917.

Survivors include her husband, John Clark of El Paso, a son John Parker Clark and a daughter Rosa

Mae Robbins, of El Paso, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Locally she is survived by a nephew, Pat Jungk.

Robert D. Wilson

Robert D. (Bob) Wilson, 81 died at Hudspeith Hospital Sunday morning at 1:04.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Kerbow Funeral Chapel with Rev. Jim Stephen officiating. Burial followed at Sonora Cemetery directed by Kerbow Funeral Home.

Mr. Wilson was born Nov. 12, 1904 at Sabinal, Tx. He was married to Hollie B. Guest of Menard April 2, 1925. A resident of

Sonora 58 years, he was a retired carpenter and a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife of Sonora, 2 sons; Robert and Emmett Wilson both of Sonora, 1 sister; Ruby Charlton of Baytown; 1 brother; Amy Wilson of Hondo, also 3 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Jim Marchbank, Tommy Valliant, Paul Rioux, Jack Hearn, Frank Nichols, and Phillip Cooper.

Jack L. Foxworth

Jack Lenoir Foxworth, 76-year-old chairman of the board of Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Co., died recently at his home in Dallas after a lengthy illness.

Foxworth, a native of El Paso, moved to Dallas in 1923. He was valedictorian of the class of 1926 at Terrill High School and received his bachelor's degree in business from the University of Texas at Austin in 1930.

Afterward, Foxworth returned to Dallas to work for his father at Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Co. He became the company's chairman of the board in 1980. Foxworth also founded Galbraith Steel & Supply Co., in Dallas in 1936, relatives said.

He was at one time president of

the Lumbermen's Association of Texas and was honored by the association in 1976 as Texas Lumberman of the Year. Foxworth also was a member of the Northwood Club and the Dallas Club.

Foxworth was a member and former chairman of the board of Northway Christian Church.

Survivors include his wife, Sarah Payne Foxworth, of Dallas; sons, Walter L. Foxworth and Warren H. Foxworth, both of Dallas; and John P. Foxworth of El Paso; and eight grandchildren.

Memorial services were held at Northway Christian Church. Memorials may be made to the Parkinsonism Society-Dallas, 9550 Forest Lane, Dallas, Texas 75244, to the Northway Christian Church, or to a charity of choice.

Letters

Editors Note: Joe Bacon dropped this letter by our office this past week.

Joe said the letter appealed to him, not because it sang his praises but, because, to him, it expresses the true meaning of Christmas so perfectly.

Dear Mr. Bacon:

Thank you so much for thinking of our boys by giving them the fine registered Quarter Horse Gelding, which Mr. Sam Hollenbeck delivered to the Ranch recently. Your help and friendship is greatly appreciated by everyone associated with the Ranch.

Christmas has a very special meaning for all of us and, I think back over years past, it is this season of the year that I particularly recall. These are the memories we want to make for our boys.

Memories of loving, caring and sharing...of practicing for the Christmas program, of making something special for a friend, licking the bowl, the beauty of the tree with lights, and the excitement and anticipation as the big day approaches.

If you were to look through the window of a home with me, you might find the houseparents busy wrapping gifts--something carefully selected for each of their boys (and when you have 24, and a budget, that isn't easy). In another

we might come up a small boy curled in the arm of a large man reading a story of the first Christmas, while in the kitchen some of the older boys help their "Mom" as the smell of goodies fills the air. Everywhere you looked, you would see boys with an extra bounce to their step and a sparkle in their eyes.

For young "Bobby" who recently came to live with us, it will probably be the first real Christmas he has ever known. Deprived, not only physically, but mentally and emotionally as well, Bobby is gradually accepting the love offered him by everyone he comes in contact with at the Ranch; and, through friends like you, he is learning that others care and what to share their good fortune with him and his friends.

May all the blessings of Christmas be yours as you share in a special way, and we hope that the new year will bring you by for a visit with us.

Sincerely yours,
Cal Farley's Boys Ranch
Virgil Patterson
President

**TIRED OF CALLING
ALL THE
DECEIVING ADS**

**IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE
MONEY AND WANT
HONEST ANSWERS
CALL US AT
OAKWOOD HOMES
WE WANT
YOUR BUSINESS
ASK FOR ALAN
915-563-4107**

Social Security News

A U.S. citizen who lives outside the United States can continue to receive his or her checks regardless of the length of time the person remains outside the country, Franklin H. Upp, Social Security manager in San Angelo, said recently.

However, Social Security checks may not be sent to people in Albania, Cuba, Democratic Kampuchea, East Berlin, East Germany, North Korea, or Vietnam.

In addition, checks cannot be sent to Iran or the U.S.S.R. "However," Upp said, "a U.S. citizen can receive all the checks that had been withheld once he or

she leaves that country and goes to a country to which checks can be sent."

"In general, a person who is not a U.S. citizen cannot receive any checks for months spent in one of these countries even though he or she leaves that country and satisfies all other requirements."

For more information about payment of benefits outside the U.S., ask for a free copy of the booklet **Your Social Security Checks While You Are Outside The United States** at the San Angelo Social Security Office located at 2214 Sherwood Way. The telephone number is 949-4608.

Hope Lutheran Church

417 E. 2nd St.
Sonora, Tx. Phone 387-5366

Sunday School for Juniors 10:00 a.m.
Worship Services 11:00 a.m.
Advent Services Wednesday's 7:00 p.m.

We teach the Good News that God through his Son, Jesus Christ, reconciled this world Himself. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the penalty for sin and to release His people from its power. The forgiveness and new life is offered to all and is received through faith as a free gift of God. Visitors are welcome to worship God with us.

Pastor: Charles Huffman

Joy in Salvation

Rev. K.R. Doyle

Sonora Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart; for I am called by Thy name O Lord God of Hosts." Jer. 15:16.

The world is filled with unhappy people. They are from all walks of life, rich, poor, comfortable. There are also unhappy Christians. They are those that worship a God of exacting displeasure. Who feel God is not worshipped unless with an awe inspiring silence, and a great amount of suffering. To have joy would be to do more than crack their face. Salvation must be endured, approached with a long face and solemn attitude. It doesn't sound much like life more abundantly does it? Paul said if we have hope in this life only we are of all men most miserable. Our hope however is in God. Our ultimate resting place is heaven. This gives us JOY. After all, we are the children of the King!

"Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of Salvation." Is. 12:3

Why is there joy? "Though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me." Is. 12:1

me." Is. 12:1

There was a time when God was angry with us. Man was not pleasing to God. Sin covered lives and captured hope. This was a time of sorrow. A day of distress. This was the time of brooding. Long faces and terror. It was a time of sin and God hates sin. Now is the time of turning from sin. God has become salvation for us. Isaiah says, I will trust and not be afraid for the Lord Jehovah is my strength, my song, and also has become my salvation. There is something to be happy about, to rejoice about. Once was lost, but now I am found, I once was blind but now I see. Now is the time of rejoicing. God is become my salvation.

It's hard to rejoice in a trial? Jeremiah faced persecution, discouragement, His prophecy was one of the captivity. No one wanted to hear him. No one wanted to obey the tender mercies offered by the Lord. His complaint?

"Remember me."

"Remember me, and visit me and revenge me of my persecutors. Take me not away in thy long suffering: know that for thy sake I

have suffered rebuke." Jer. 15:15

Well justified in his appeal, in his sorrow? Indeed, but he found the words of the Lord, He remembered who his hope was. His sorrow turned to joy in the midst of the trial, BECAUSE I AM CALLED BY THY NAME O LORD GOD OF HOSTS." David understood the trial, he understood how to rejoice in the trial.

For His anger endureth but a moment, in His favor is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Ps. 30:5

In the darkest night, the hardest trial, there is Joy! Joy in the knowledge that God is with you. Joy in the knowledge that it is in Him we place our trust and He never fails. David knew that God's anger is against them that will not serve Him, but that through repentance we can realize the joy salvation brings. It is sometimes hard to understand the circumstances we are called upon to bear. If we allow our minds to feed on persecution, temptation, negative things that surround us we will

begin to wonder where the joy has gone. Satan steals joy. Sorrow, trials, discouragement, these are his tools. God to the word. Feast on the word of God. Remember that the word of God is true.

He is a mindful of us. EVEN IN THE TRIAL. Find the joy of the Lord. Our reward in heaven is our final joy. We know where it is and all that we might sell to obtain it is worth it in our eyes. Jesus told the parable of the man who found a treasure in a field. With joy he sold all of his possessions to buy the field because of the treasure. To everyone around him he looked like a fool, but he knew where the treasure was. He knew that when it was his and he unveiled it for the world to see. They would no longer call him fool. We know where the treasure is. The joy of our salvation is the knowledge of the reward that awaits us. To be free from sin, free from fear, free from guilt, no matter the trial, trouble, temptation, grief of persecution, we remember that God has freed us from sin. Freed us from the punishment of sin. Therefore we have JOY IN SALVATION!

Church of Christ Minister-Don Jones Bible School-10 a.m. Worship-11 a.m. Sunday night-6:30 p.m. Wednesday night-6:30 p.m.	The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian USA Rev. William R. Jones Worship Service-10 a.m. Communion First Sunday of each month	First Assembly of God Church Rev. Louis Halford Adult Bible Hour-9:30 a.m. Super Son Bible Hour-9:30 a.m. What's Happening?-10:45 a.m. Morning Worship-11 a.m. L.I.F.E.-3:30 p.m. (ages 12-25) Evening Services-6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study-7 p.m. Fri. night Spanish service-7:30 p.m.	First Baptist Church Rev. Jim Stephen Sunday School-9:45 a.m. Morning Worship-11 a.m. Church Training-6 p.m. Evening Worship-7 p.m. Wednesday Service-7 p.m.
Primera Iglesia Bautista Pastor-Rev. Jorge Herrera Sunday School-9:45 a.m. Worship Service-11 a.m. Training Union-5 p.m. Evening Service-6 p.m. Wednesday Service-7 p.m. W.M.U.-Sunday-2 p.m. Between Santa Clara & Chestnut	First United Methodist Church David W. Griffin-Pastor Sunday School-9:45 a.m. Worship-10:55 a.m. KVRN 98 AM-11 a.m. Mon. Children's Choir-4 p.m. UMYP-6 p.m. Wed. Chancel Choir-7 p.m.	Hope Lutheran Church Charles Huffman-Lay Minister Sunday School-10 a.m. Worship Service-11 a.m. Wednesday Youth Classes-6 p.m. Adult Classes-7:30 p.m.	St. Ann's Catholic Church Rev. Bernard L. Gully Saturday Night Mass- 7 p.m. English Sunday Mass- 8 a.m. Spanish; 11 a.m. English Holy Day Mass-7 p.m.
Sonora Tabernacle United Pentecostal Rev. Kenneth Doyle, Pastor Sunday School-10 a.m. Worship-11 a.m. Evening Worship-7:30 p.m. Wednesday Services-7:30 p.m.	Live Oak Baptist Church Jon Bratton-Pastor Sunday Morning Worship-10:30 a.m. Evening Worship-7 p.m. Wednesday Evening Services	Jehovah's Witnesses Sunday Public Talk-10 a.m. Watchtower Study-10:50 a.m. Tuesday Theoretic School-7:30 p.m. Service Meeting-8:30 p.m. Thursday Bible Study-7:30 p.m.	St. John's Episcopal Church Sunday Holy Eucharist-8 a.m. Holy Eucharist-11 a.m. (2nd and 4th Sunday MP) Wednesday Holy Eucharist-7 p.m. Holy Days are announced Monte Jones, Rector

Chuck Wagon

387-2491

Hershel's Foodway

387-3708

Southwest Texas Electric Co-op

853-2544

Dicon Enterprises

387-3843

San Angelo Pipe & Supply

387-6561

Spain's Inc.

387-3131

Food Center

387-3438

Jimco Enterprises

387-3843

Westerman Drug

387-2541

According to Jesus by far the most important thing about prayer is to keep at it.

He uses comic images to explain, saying that God is like a friend you go to borrow bread from at midnight. The friend tells you to drop dead, but you go on knocking anyway until he finally gives you what you want so that he can go back to bed again.

Or God is like a crooked judge who refuses to hear the case of a certain poor widow, presumably because he knows there's nothing much in it for him. But she keeps on hounding him until finally he hears her case just to get her out of his hair.

Even a stinker, Jesus says, won't give his own child a black eye when he asks for peanut butter and jelly, so how all the more will God give when his children ask.

The presbyterians of Sonora gather every Lord's Day for prayer and praise. We invite you to join us.

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Sunday School

Church of the Good Shepherd

315 Mulberry

Sonora

For a fresh outlook

We ask the kids

Other than presents, what is your favorite thing about Christmas?

When are relatives come to visit us.

Cesar
My favorite part of Christmas is the caroling and song of Christmas.

by Becky Lumberras
My best thing of Christmas is the little light on the tree.

Cesar V.
My favorite thing of Christmas holiday is singing Christmas carols.

Claudio N. Luna
Will L. says, I like to decorate the Christmas tree.

Will L. Matthews
My favorite thing about Christmas is the spirit of Christmas. It is a tradition of getting together. I like Christmas of the food that we get and seeing relatives who like in other places. That is the reason I like Christmas.

Shawn Wallace
My favorite thing is my uncle. Because he buys me presents and he gets me candy on Christmas eve.

Faris Morgan
I like the Christmas trees and decorations. I like the candy canes Santa gives us too. I also like the feeling of Christmas that you get.

Kelly Kiowski
My favorite thing for Christmas is go out of town.

Chris Rojas
The feeling of it, and also its only a month away from the Super Bowl.

by Austin Sipes
P.S. I love football.

I like the decorations most. We always decorate up on the hill. Bill Keells lights up the windmill and decorations our hill is decoration real good before Christmas.

by Matt
Our family getting together and birth of Jesus.

Tabby Sanchez
My favorite thing at Christmas time is I get to see my relatives.

LeAnn Barnes
Decorating the trees and the decorations. And because Jesus was born on that day. And the colors.

Jacque
I like the Christmas tree because you can decorate it.

Dawn Beebe
My favorite thing is the goodies on the plates. Because they are good.

Erika Rangel
You get to go to neighbors houses a sing carols.

Rhett Johnson
My family and I get together and have fun together.

by Tammy L. McGinnis
My favorite thing about Christmas is that Jesus is born and I'm glad he's born.

Pamela
It is Jesus's birthday.

Bobby Mogbord
The thing that I like about Christmas is that my family loves me.

Rodney Conger

I think it is when I get to be with my family and friends. And when Jesus was born. And there is no school.

by Amber Beebe
Being together with my family, and the birth of Jesus Christ.

Elsa Lumberras
My favorite thing about Christmas is Jesus is born and my aunt's birthday is on Christmas, and I like to celebrate Christmas.

by Priscilla Dominguez

I think Christmas is happy because Jesus is born in Christmas and we sing songs to him and if Jesus was not born we would not have Christmas.

Alberto Contreras
My favorite thing about Christmas is the giving, carolling, the joy and I love to go looking at the Christmas lights too.

by Tessa Robertson
What I like about Christmas is that Jesus is born and there is joy everywhere.

by Rosario A.
The birth of Jesus. And Christmas lights all over. And my family comes to visit. Everywhere you see people rushing all about, to get their presents.

Jennifer James
My favorite thing about Christmas other than presents is putting up the Christmas tree.

Kimberly Owings
My favorite thing about Christmas other than presents is my cousins coming from out of town because I get to see them and play with them and have a good time.

Cindy J. Chavez
My favorite thing about Christmas other than presents is that people care about Christmas and like every thing about it.

Cherie Morrow
My favorite thing other than presents, is being with Amanda and Nicole and my family on Christmas.

Alma Sanchez
My favorite thing about Christmas is that you get out of school.

by Tina Kohutek
My favorite thing besides presents is when baby Jesus was born.

by Erica Lozano
My favorite thing about Christmas other than presents, is the dinner after words.

Adam Waggoner
Other than presents, I like to decorate the tree sing carols and get together. And the Christmas dinner with my whole family.

Anthony Brown
My favorite thing about Christmas is Christmas is church service at 12:00.

by Jody Trainer
The best thing about Christmas is I like to celebrate I like it because it is Jesus's birthday, like to go to my aunt Maria in Fredrickburt and I like Christmas I think it is very good Holiday.

by Charlene Rojas



Gifts of Love

Bruce Kerbow presents to Eva Perez and Irene Gomez, Nursing Home employees, gift bags from the Salvation Army.

Each resident at the Nursing Home will receive a gift bag which contains various toiletry articles. Kerbow, local head for the

Salvation Army, says they are in need of donations. Local banks are enclosing envelopes in bank statements this month for your convenience or you can take your contributions by Kerbow Furniture.

All donations are tax deductible.

New Arrivals

Luis Humberto Capuchina

Mr. and Mrs. Gilberto Capuchina of Arlington (formerly of Sonora) announce the arrival of their son Luis Humberto born December 3, 1985 at Arlington Memorial Hospital. He weighed 8 lbs. 6 1/2 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Welcoming him are his paternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Capuchina, Sr. of Sonora.

Maternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Santos Munoz of Brownwood, Texas. Also several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Jacob Kendall Adams

Stanley and Daphney Adams are the proud parents of a baby boy. Jacob Kendall Adams was born in San Angelo Community Hospital December 3, weighing 8 pounds 10 ounces.

Jacob was welcomed home by his sister Micah Adams.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Smith of Sonora and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Adams of Del Rio.

Great Grandparents are Gretta Smith of Sonora, and Mr. and Mrs. Jody Webster of Lewisville and Nina Adams of Comanche.



Seasons Greetings

The foundation of all business is friendship

And with this holiday season it gives us pleasure to extend our best wishes to those whose friendship we cherish.

With genuine appreciation to our pleasant relations we extend to you these seasons greetings.

Junction Stockyard, Inc.

Larry and Diane Crenwelge

NO SALE DATE

Dec. 23, 27, 30 and Jan. 3

FIRST SALE OF 1986

Monday, Jan. 6



Shop in Sonora

The Christmas drawings are back!

On Saturday, December 21, there will be at least four drawings for merchandise totaling over \$2,000.00. There will be a TV, a VCR, and other very nice prizes. You will get a ticket for money you spend with a participating Sonora merchant. You can also get a ticket for just going into a participating business. **You do not even have to buy anything!!** Drawings will take place in

Downtown Sonora between Gosney's and the Courthouse Saturday, December 21 at 3:00 p.m. You must be present to win. The number on your tickets is your key to winning. This is sponsored by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce and is **not to be confused with Kavern Kash**. Tickets will be given away from November 29 to December 21.

Remember, buy in Sonora. You could be a winner.

Participating merchants are:

Kerbow Furniture

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Chavarria Grocery

Food Center

Hill's Jewelry

Spain's Dept. Store

Gosney's Dept. Store

Patricia's Place Antiques

SONORA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Financial Statement for Publication
Year Ended August 31, 1985

	FUND				
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Total
REVENUES					
Ad valorem Tax	\$ 3,300,295	\$ -	\$ 1,221,703	\$ -	\$ 4,521,998
Revenues from Local Sources	283,311	-	22,599	561,012	866,922
Per Capita and Foundation	1,090,836	-	-	-	1,090,836
Other State Revenues	16,625	-	-	-	16,625
Elementary and Secondary Education Act	-	83,296	-	-	83,296
Vocational - Non-Foundation	3,215	-	-	-	3,215
Other State Distributed Federal Funds	89,200	-	-	-	89,200
Total Revenues	\$ 4,783,482	\$ 83,296	\$ 1,244,302	\$ 561,012	\$ 6,672,092
EXPENDITURES					
Instruction	\$ 2,406,282	\$ 81,993	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,488,275
Instructional Related Services	277,205	-	-	-	277,205
Pupil Services	785,226	-	-	-	785,226
Administration	445,866	1,303	-	-	447,169
Debt Services	-	-	1,325,341	-	1,325,341
Plant Services	431,715	-	-	-	431,715
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	52,299	-	-	1,642,369	1,694,668
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,398,593	\$ 83,296	\$ 1,325,341	\$ 1,642,369	\$ 7,449,599
Excess Revenues (Expenditures)	\$ 384,889	\$ -	\$ (81,039)	\$ (1,081,357)	\$ (777,507)
OTHER RESOURCES					
Flow-Through In Transfers In	\$ 31,759	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,759
	-	-	-	167,277	167,277
Total Other Resources	\$ 31,759	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 167,277	\$ 199,036
OTHER USES					
Flow-Through Out Transfers Out	\$ 40,641	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,641
	11,990	-	155,287	-	167,277
Total Other Uses	\$ 52,631	\$ -	\$ 155,287	\$ -	\$ 207,918
Total Other Resources and (Uses)	\$ (20,872)	\$ -	\$ (155,287)	\$ 167,277	\$ (8,882)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over Expenditures and Other Uses					
	\$ 364,017	\$ -	\$ (236,326)	\$ (914,080)	\$ (786,389)
Beginning Fund Balance	1,093,556	-	302,961	6,243,229	7,639,746
Increase (Decrease) In Fund Balance	(36,245)	-	-	-	(36,245)
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 1,421,328	\$ -	\$ 66,635	\$ 5,329,149	\$ 6,817,112



All facilities

will close

at 3 p.m.

including

drive-in window

December 24.

Closed all day December 25.

Bank will open regular hours Thursday, December 26.

First National Bank

Sutton County National Bank

Members FDIC

6 more days 'till Christmas

\$100 DEPOSIT WILL
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CALL 915-563-4107
ASK FOR BRIAN

Office offers publications

Publications available at Social Security offices

Many free publications are available at the San Angelo Social Security Office which give clear, simple explanations of all parts of the Social Security program, Franklin H. Upp, manager in San Angelo, said recently.

Among the available publications are:

Your Social Security--An overall explanation of the Social Security program, covering retirement, survivors, and disability benefits, Medicare highlights, program

financing, and appeal rights.

If You Become Disabled--A detailed look at the Social Security disability program.

Thinking about Retiring?--Information of interest to people nearing retirement.

Part of Your Benefit May Be Taxable--Explains when a person's Social Security benefits may be subject to Federal income tax.

A Woman's Guide to Social Security--A look at the Social Security program provisions of special interest to women.

A Brief Explanation of Medicare--Describes the major features of Medicare hospital insurance and

medical insurance.

SSI For Aged, Disabled, and Blind People--Explains briefly who can qualify for these Federal payments.

There are still more publication available, including those for farmers, self-employed people, and household employers. Most publication are available in Spanish as well as English.

To obtain free copies of any of these publications, call the San Angelo Social Security Office located at 2214 Sherwood Way. The telephone number is 949-4608. The people there will be glad to help.

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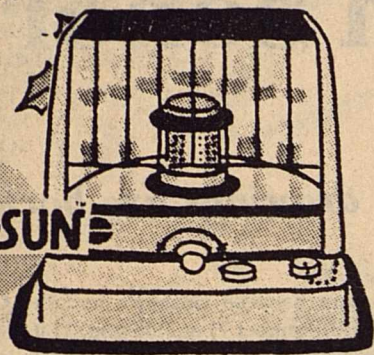
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TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

You are hereby notified of the opportunity for written public comment concerning the Special Permit Application No. S-1691 by All American Pipeline Company to construct a crude oil pumping station near Sonora, Sutton County, Texas. The proposed location is approximately 6 miles south of Sonora and on the south side of FM Highway 1961 in Block B of the H.E. & W.T.R.R. Co. Survey, Sutton County, Texas. This facility proposes to emit the following air contaminants: volatile organic compounds including but not limited to propane, butane, carbon monoxide, particulate matter and nitrogen oxides.

Additional information is contained in the public notice section of this publication.

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Broncos win Eldorado Tourney

The Sonora girls captured their second straight tournament championship in last weekend's Eldorado Lions Club Tournament.

First on their quest to victory was McCamey. Sonora easily defeated the Badgers 46-27. Sharing the scoring honors were Gina Heffernan and Carrie Sorenson each with 12 points. Other scorers were Michelle McCleery 6; Kate Mathews, 5; Kathy Richter, 5; Gayann Dobbs, 2; Lauri Sotelo, 2;

Rachel Stephen; and Anna Balch, 1.

The Broncos then faced the Mason Cowgirls. The game was very close at 37-36.

With three minutes left in the game the girls were losing by 14 points but with clutch shooting by senior Sorenson and Dobbs they were able to catch up and go ahead.

Sorenson led the Bronco scoring with 14. Dobbs had 7; McCleery

and Heffernan each had 6; Mathews added 4 points towards the victory.

In the championship game the Broncos beat Miles by the score of 52-44. Pressure defense and outside shooting helped the Broncos capture the first place trophy. Dobbs threw in 14 points with Sorenson contributing 12. McCleery was also in double figures with 10 points. Other scorers were Heffernan with 8;

Mathews with 4 and Balch and Richter with 2.

Heffernan, Sorenson and Dobbs were all selected to the All-Tournament Team at the conclusion of play.

The Broncos face Nueces Canyon and Eldorado this week.

Note: The games this Friday at Eldorado will start at 4 p.m. with the girls varsity followed at 5:30 with the boys varsity.

Broncos come up short by one

The Sonora boys basketball team lost in the third place game in last weekend's Eldorado Lions Club Tournament.

The game against Eldorado was very close as the score ended up 54-55. The Broncos had a 30-24 lead going into the second half but couldn't hold on.

Leading the scoring for the Broncos was Esau Ramirez with 19. The rest of the scoring looked like this: Glen Love, 12; Ismael Duenes, 11; Mickey Sharp, 6; John David Martinez, 4; and Mike

McBride 2.

In getting to this game, the Broncos first beat Eldorado's J.V. team by the score of 71-39. Love was this games leading scorer with 26 points for the senior post. McBride added 16. Ramirez was also in double figures with 12 points. Duenes contributed 7 with Junior Santiago Faz adding 6. Billy Collins also made 6 points in the winning effort.

Sonora next faced a very tough Wall team and came up short 70-82.

Love also led the game's scoring with 22 points. Three other Broncos were in double figures: McBride, 18; Ramirez, 12; and Duenes 10. Other scorers in this game were Sharp with 4; Collins with 2 and Martinez added 1 point.

At the end of the tournament Love was selected to the All-Tournament team for the second straight weekend.

The Broncos face Nueces Canyon and Eldorado this week.

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Caballo Diablo

Sonora High School

Sonora, Texas

Volume 11, Number 8

Seniors enjoy first party

The first senior class party this year was on December 8 at the Sonora Caverns' picnic area.

The fun started about 2:30 with a welcoming committee at the road entrance to the park. Soon after, everyone gathered on the volleyball court for an exciting event opening match.

Later, the net was taken down and the horseshoes brought out. Several exciting games were enjoyed by the other spectating seniors, while others enjoyed the food that had started to be served.

After a long break in the action of games, during which time most of the seniors enjoyed rides in the backs of trucks to soak up the warmth of the sun and to cool off in the breeze, the volleyball net was reset and several games followed until dark.

The area was then closed and things and people were packed into cars and everyone left, thus ending the first of several planned parties.

December 9

Band performs concert

The Mighty Bronco Band Concert was held on December 9. The MBB performed seven songs: "Yuletide Sketches," "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," "Here Comes Santa Claus," "Frosty the Snowman," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "White Christmas," and "Christmas Fantasia."

The Band Sweetheart and Beau were also announced. The sweetheart for the 1985-86 school year is Sidonna Ridgeway and the Beau is

Shannon Turner.

Gifts were given to the band directors for their hardwork and accomplishments. Band director Forrester Halamicek received an office chair with a plaque that has an inscription saying, "Presented to Forrester Halamicek, By Mighty Bronco Band, 1985-86." John Gibson, assistant director, received a red blazer. As he opened it his exact words were, "Now I can't wear my red T-shirt to football games."

Research papers due soon

The Junior and Senior classes are doing their research papers at this time.

The Junior class will have to do a 40 page rough draft double-spaced. The Junior's rough drafts are due December 20th. The final copy is due January 6-10.

The senior research papers are due January 6 in final copy form. No rough drafts are required; all they need to do is complete their papers by the 6th.

The final copy will consist of the cover sheet, outline, body of the paper (2000 words) and endnotes and bibliography pages.

School to dismiss for holidays

School dismisses for Christmas vacation on Friday December 20 and classes will resume on Thursday January 2.

It looks like the holidays are going to be cold this year. Most of the juniors and seniors are going to spending their holidays working their research papers.

Have a nice and safe holiday!

What's coming up

Thursday, December 19
Friday, December 20

Choir Concert-7 p.m.-Auditorium
Var. B&G vs. Eldorado There-6:30
JV B&G vs. Del Rio-Here-5:30

School dismisses at 3:50 on Friday, December 20 for the Christmas Holidays School resumes at 8:15 on Thursday, January 2

Friday, December 27
Saturday, December 28
Monday, December 30

Var B& vs. Ft Stockton-Ozona-3:30
Var B&G vs. Irion Co.-Ozona-3:30
JV & Var B&G vs. Junction-Here-4:00

Thursday, January 2
Friday, January 3

Var. Boys Tourney-Big Lake-Fri. too
JV & Var. girls vs. Coahoma-Here 6:30

Tuesday, January 7

JV & Var. Girls vs. Ozona-There-6:30

Thursday, January 9

M.M.S. Session on Testing-for High School Faculty-7-9-Snack Bar
JV & Var. B&G vs. C-City-Here-6:30

Friday, January 10

Senior invitations

The senior class of 1986 purchased their graduation invitations recently.

They chose a white invitation with the sketching of the high school building on the inside.

Invitations will be delivered in early April for distribution by graduation.

The date of graduation has been changed also. The original date was Friday, May 30, but because of final exams, Saturday May 31 will be the day of graduation.

Student Council prepares baskets

The Student Council has prepared Christmas baskets of food for people in need.

The Student Council members, with the help of their sponsor, Bob Snodgrass, fixed the baskets after school yesterday. There are thirty baskets being handed out today by the Student Council.

Choir concert

Tomorrow

The Sonora High choir will present a concert for the public tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

Don't be careless!

This holiday season many students will find themselves in situations where alcohol is present and easily available. It does really no good at all to tell anyone not to drink because if someone wants to drink they will regardless of what anyone says.

But if you do decide to drink, we urge you to take certain precautionary steps for the safety of yourself as well as others. Please don't drink and drive. There will most likely always be someone who has not had to much to drink to drive you home. At whatever cost don't let someone convince you that "they're fine", especially if you know different.

It has been said so many times before but drinking and driving don't mix. Let's not have a tragedy happen before we take action. Prevention is the best cure in this situation.

We at the Caballo Diablo do wish everyone a safe holiday and it is our hope that each and every one of you will have a safe and prosperous new year.

Merry Christmas from the staff

Mary Huckaby
Kirk Macon
Rene Ramirez
Dora Escalante
Rosa Trevino
Jennifer Ramirez
Brian Cascadden
Gina Heffernan

Caballo Diablo

Mary Huckaby Editor
Kirk Macon Advisor

Staff Rene Ramirez
Dora Escalante
Rosa Trevino
Jennifer Ramirez
Brian Cascadden
Gina Heffernan

Caballo Diablo is published every two weeks by West-Com, Inc., 220 N.E. Main St., Sonora, Texas 76950.

For correspondence, the address is Caballo Diablo, Sonora High School, 807 South Concho, Sonora, Texas 76950, and the phone number is (915) 387-3055.

Caballo Diablo is a member of the Interscholastic League Press Conference.

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Devil's River News 387-2507



Whata haul . . . They took home a array of wild game including deer, turkey, aoudad sheep and a couple of foxes. Marcus Watson, Rick Wise and Kathy Easley, of Austin in Flynn, faired well during hunting season.

Nuestro Pueblo

by Sharon Martinez

Oscar and Edna Rendon of Rocksprings are the proud parents of Oscar Rendon Jr. Oscar weighed in at 7 lb. 7 oz. and was 26 inches long at birth. Oscar Jr., was born at Sid Peters Memorial Hospital in Kerrville. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jose Reyes Sr., of Sonora, paternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Nicomedes Rendon of Rocksprings. Oscar Jr. was born Dec. 3rd. There are numerous happy relatives welcoming him home.

Ruben Brown Jr. 2, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Brown Sr., celebrated his birthday Dec. 1, 1985. A Garfield pinata full of treats, bingo, and pin the hamburger on Garfield, were some of the games app. 50 guests enjoyed hot dogs, chips, cookies, punch and birthday cake were enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

Elena Ybarra and Paulita Leal of Ozona along with Linda Lopez participated in "The More The Merrier" Christmas Bazaar. Elena made some colorful Christmas wreaths, pecan pies and various crafts. Paulita made some delicious tamales, and Linda made some decorative candy canes. Many local crafts persons, bakers, and all-around talented people had a wide assortment of crafts, goodies and everything needed for Christmas gift giving.

Lana Wheeler and Noemi Prieto traveled to Monterrey, Mexico last week. Noemi reports they went shopping and sight-seeing and they both enjoyed their trip. Menchaca who celebrated her birthday Dec. 7. Odilia Gonzales treated her to a birthday dinner. Olga says all her kids who live out of town called to wish her a very happy birthday.

Juanita Herrera, Chapo and Anabelia Samaniego, Nora Dominguez, Lydia Galindo, Benita

Martinez, Maria Elena Porras, Odelmira Flores, Sofie Penalver, Lazaro Dominguez, Maria Robles, Ramiro Perez, Eva Perez, Rita Lopez, Carmen Escobar, Noema Sanchez, Mike Solis and several other parishioners of St. Ann's Catholic Church sang Mananitas and Homage to Our Lady of Guadalupe Thursday, Dec. 12. After mass that evening a covered dish meal was served at the church hall.

John Paul Herrera son of Mr. and Mrs. Roberto Herrera escorted Cynthia Arispe of Eldorado at a Quincenera celebration in Eldorado Nov. 23, 1985.

Belated happy birthday to Chris Flores who celebrated her birthday Dec. 9. Chris baked her own birthday cake, because no one else volunteered to do so. Best Wishes Chris.

Estella Lumbreras, Aneida Noriega, Sandra Zapata, Juanita Herrera, Arcelia Carrasco, Mrs. Alvarez, and employees of the Sutton Co. Senior Citizen Center helped with distributing commodities Wednesday, December 11. Volunteers are great.

See You,
Sharon

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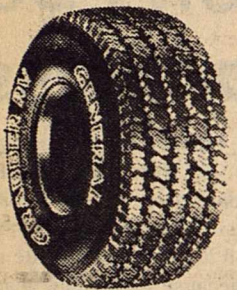
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LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) gives notice to its customers and to other affected parties that it has filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas an application for an increase in its rates for wholesale service, for retail service provided outside the limits of a city, and for retail service within the limits of the City of Ingram, Texas. The LCRA has also filed with the City Councils of the cities of Kerrville, San Marcos, San Saba and Austin applications to increase its retail rates for service within the city limits of those cities. The proposed rate change will affect approximately 28,000 retail and 41 wholesale customers and affects all rate classes.

The LCRA's system-wide rate increase is proposed to become effective January 1, 1986. For the period ending June 30, 1987, the Lower Colorado River Authority is seeking to increase its system-wide revenues by \$33.0 million annually, an increase of 13.93% compared to revenues for the period ending June 30, 1985. The LCRA's base rate revenue increase is \$51.9 million, an increase of 58.7% compared to base rate revenues for the period ending June 30, 1985. LCRA's fuel revenue decrease is \$18.9 million, a decrease of 12.7% compared to fuel revenues for the period ending June 30, 1985.

Persons who wish to intervene or otherwise participate in these proceedings should notify the Public Utility Commission as soon as possible. A request to intervene, participate, or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, 7800 Shoal Creek Boulevard, Suite 400N, Austin, Texas 78757. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission Consumer Affairs Division at (512) 458-0223 or (512) 458-0227 or (512) 458-0221 teletypewriter for the deaf.



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LEASES

PUBLIC NOTICE

You are hereby notified of the opportunity for written public comment concerning the Special Permit Application No. S-16828 by the All American Pipeline Company to construct a crude oil pumping station near Sonora, Sutton County, Texas. The proposed location is approximately 6

miles south of Sonora and on the south side of FM Highway 1691 in Block B of the H.E. & W.T.R.R. Co. Survey, Sutton County, Texas. This facility purposes to emit the following air contaminants; volatile organic compounds including but not limited to propane, butane, carbon monoxide, particulate matter and nitrogen oxides.

A copy of all the materials submitted by the applicant is available for public inspection at the Texas Air Control Board, Odessa Regional Office at 1901 East 37th Street, Suite 101, Odessa, Texas 79762, and at the Texas Air Control Board, 6330 Highway 290 East, Austin, Texas

78723. All interested persons may inspect these materials and submit written comments to the Executive Director of the Texas Air Control Board. All comments received in writing by January 24, 1986 shall be considered by the Board. Any

person who may be affected by emissions from the facility is entitled to request a hearing from the TACB. For further information contact the TACB Regional Office, 1901 East 37th Street, Suite 101, Odessa, Texas (915) 367-3871.

REAL ESTATE

Newly remodeled 1950 sq. ft. home with space for additions. 2 bdrm; 2 bath; 5 ceiling fans; 75X140 ft. lot; 2 car carport; cent. h/a; Buyers Delight!
4 year old home on corner lot 75X140; 4 bdrm.; 2 bath; fireplace; ceiling fans; Cent. H/A; fenced; 3 car carport.

3 bdrm; 2 bath; large den w/fireplace; ceiling fan; 8 1/2 miles from Sonora; 2 car garage. Owner will accept reasonable offer.

1100 plus acre Sutton Co. Ranch; 2 windmills, pens; house; minerals; 2 miles from I-10.

2 lots, 100X140 ft. total; excellent location; near new high school property; rented double-wide trailer and lot can be included as investment property.

For more information. All Shown by appointment only. Call 387-2110.

M.J. Evans
Assoc. of Lynn Meador
Real Estate

100 acres or more, \$149 per acre; whitetail deer, mule deer, javelina, and quail. 5% down payment. Owner finance. 20 years at 9 3/4 simple interest. 3-W Investment Co. 1-800-292-7420.

FOR RENT/LEASE

For Lease or Rent: Two large industrial buildings, one with office space. Also one small office building. 502 W. Crockett. Priced reasonably. Please call 387-6175.

Shurley Enterprises Mini-Storage, 8x12, \$20 monthly. Phone 387-3619 or 387-5409.

Check our reasonable rates at Casey's Korner. Call 387-2104.

HOUSE FOR SALE

For Sale: 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, 2 living areas, fireplace, utility room, garbage disposal, ceiling fans, central heat and air, storage building, fenced back yard, 20'x30' shop with 12x30 carport attached. Call 387-3335 after 5:30 p.m. and weekends by appointment only.

House For Sale: 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, paneled central heat and air conditioning, drapes, new carpet, utility room, ceiling fan, 3 carports, 1 1/2 lots, stove, refrigerator, fire place, dishwasher, garbage disposal, covered patio. Cheap \$38,000. Call 387-3658.

3 Bedroom, 2 bath Remodeled Kitchen, 309 East Plum, Call 387-2632.

Available now. 4 year old country home on eleven acres. Three bedroom, two full baths. All electric, stove, dishwasher, carpet, fireplace, 3 large storage sheds, and 2 water wells. Priced to sell. Call Jeanne Jackson at 387-2593 or 387-2375.

Brick home in the country with 10 acres all fenced. 6 miles on 277 N. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen with all built-ins, utility room and game room. 2 car garage. Phone 387-5032 or 409 291-8605.

5 yr. old 1800 sq. ft. 3 brm, 2 full baths, CH/A, car garage, fireplace, large wood storage shed, low utilities. Lots of extras. Equity or refinance. Call Polly at 387-3438 or after 5 p.m. 387-3641.

MOBILE HOMES

1973 Melody Mobile Home. 2 bdrm., 11/2 bath-Rent for \$240 per month or for sale-\$4,000. Unfurnished. Come by 454 Poplar or call after 5 p.m. 387-5505.

5% DOWN on new homes. This is good only on a few selected models. When they are gone it's over. For more information call Carolyn toll free 1-800-292-1345.

For Sale or Rent-1982 Titan Mobile Home 14x42, 2 bdrm., includes appliances and some furniture, 387-3755.

99 DOWN 225.77 PER MONTH Must sell, 1982 Melody, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, spacious living room and kitchen. Call now Don Hail. 915/694-6666.

Repo's-Trade-ins, many 2 & 3 bdrm. models to choose from. Down payment as low as \$195; payments starting at \$113 p/mnth, 60 months, 15 3/4 A.P.R. For more information call Rebecca toll free 1-800-292-1345.

1977, 14X72 Wayside Mobile Home. Call First National Bank at 387-3861 and ask for Mike Hale or JoAnn Jones.

MOBILE HOME MOVING

Eagle Mobile Home Moving and Installation. Insured, bonded reasonable rates. Call anytime 915 658-6011.

FOR SALE

Firewood for sale, Oak & Mesquite. Delivered & stacked. Call 387-3347.

For Sale-19 ft. yellow stone camper trailer. In very good condition, sleeps six. Excellent for hunting. Call 387-5910 days or 387-5172 after 5:00 p.m.

Oak Firewood for sale. Call 915/446-3145, ask for Angel.

Metal shipping containers. 40'X8'X8'-2,990.00 each, 20'X8'X8' \$1,990.00 each. Make great storage buildings or hunting cabins. Call 387-2524.

AUTO FOR SALE

For Sale-My mothers 1984 Custom Buick LeSabre 4-door 5,700 miles. AM-FM Stereo cassette, wire wheel covers, cruise, tilt, smells new \$9,695.00. Alvis Johnson 387-5921.

75 Chevrolet-4 wheel drive. Excellent mechanical condition, new tires. Call 387-5243 between 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Can be seen at 112 N. W. Concho.

AUTO REPAIR

General Auto Repair and LPG specialist, conversions on pickups, vans and trucks. Latest models of LPG equipment for computerized cars and pickups. Keeps fuel management systems intact.

Larsen Auto, Mertzon, Tx. 915/835-2007

LIVESTOCK

Angus yearling bulls. Ranch raised Good for heifers. Juno Ranch Company-Frank Fish, Box 1107, Sonora, Tx. 76950 915-387-6427.

CARPET CLEANING

Will Shampoo your carpets for as little as \$20 per room. 387-2814.

FARM & RANCH

General Auto Repair and LPG specialist, conversion on pickups, vans and trucks. Latest models of LPG equipment for computerized cars and pickups. Keeps fuel management systems intact.

Larsen Auto, Mertzon, Tx. 915/835-2007

IF YOU ARE BUYING A MOBILE HOME FROM ANOTHER DEALER IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CHANGE YOUR MIND. WE AT OAKWOOD WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY WITH THE HOME YOU CHOOSE. JUST STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND CHECK US OUT! ASK FOR ALAN 915-563-4107

Lindsey Carpentry

We Do Everything.

Painting Concrete Work
Remodeling Plumbing
Roofing Electrical
Additions
Also Trailer Houses.

387-2830 or 387-3908

LODGE MEETING

Dee Ora Lodge #715
A.F. & A.M.
3rd Thursday of
Each Month
Meal at 6:30
Meeting at 7:30

HELP WANTED

Looking for a tutor to teach a 12th grader in physics. Call 387-2531.

TEXAS OIL COMPANY needs mature person for short trips surrounding Sonora. Contact customers. We train. Write T.L. Dickerson, Pres., Southwestern Petroleum, Box 789, Ft. Worth, Tx. 76101.

BABY SITTING

Will babysit evenings. Call Clayann, 387-5682.

LIQUIDATING TOP QUALITY HOMES SOME AS LOW AS 5 DOWN. YES WE ARE ALIVE AND KICKING AROUND TO GIVE YOU THE BEST SERVICE IN TOWN. CALL 915-563-4107 AND SEE WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU. ASK FOR BRIAN

Don Sessom, Agent

387-5797

3-R Realty

Country living at its best with this large three bedroom home on 30 acres.
3 bedroom, 2 bath, two story home, with fireplace and fenced yard.
Three bedroom, 2 bath, with fireplace, and fenced back yard.
4 bedroom, 2 bath home, near hospital and school, high fenced back yard.

3-S Plumbing

Plumbing, heating, repair, remodel, Rotor Roter, Ditch Digger
New Construction
Residential-Commercial

LICENSED-BONDED-INSURED PLUMBER

Plumber Master License-Bob Williams

24 Hour Service

387-5322 105 1/2 E. Main After Hours 387-5294 Sonora, Texas

LUXURY AT ITS BEST NOW LEASING

"Reasonable Rates"

1-Bdrm. \$250.00
1-Bdrm. w/dining \$300.00
2-Bdrm. 2-Bath \$350.00
3-Bdrm. 2-Bath \$400.00

ALL ELECTRIC KITCHENS

Corner of Dollie & Tayloe Sonora

For Lease Agreements

and Information - Come by or Call

387-2104 Apt. B-4 Debbie 387-2214

One Day FREE Deer

Hunting on New '85 Leases

Oilfield Directory

The following companies support and appreciate your patronage in helping Sonora grow.

LIGHT ELECTRONICS TWO WAY RADIO SERVICE JOHN HENRY STRAUCH Telephone No. 608 S.E. Concho (915) 387-2273 Sonora, Tx 76950	Dresser Atlas 387-3531 302 East 5th St.	Oilfield Services San Angelo 658-5500  Sonora 387-3526 Acidizing-Producing-Cementing Sand Control Products-Tool Casing Hardware
Creek Swabbing Service P.O. Box 361 Fully Insured Radio Dispatch 387-3295 387-5938	MORRIS BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION CO. GENERAL OILFIELD CONTRACTOR 2-Way Radio Dispatched hwy. 277-S. P.O. Box 1211 Sonora 387-3846	Sonora-Ozona Oil Company Exxon Products (915) 387-2400
Jimmy Condra Jimmy Trainer Oilfield Water Hauling RRC Pipehauling  387-3843	Sonora Wool & Mohair 210 S.W. College Tools steel, pipe, fencing, welding supplies 387-2543	SAN ANGELO PIPE & SUPPLY Oilfield Supplies 'Serving the Sonora Oilfield' P.O. Box 1102 I-10 West 24 Hour Answering Service 387-6561
WESTEX COMMUNICATIONS DIRECT DIAL MOBILE PHONE LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM 387-3831	HENRY CHANDLER  Home 387-5679 Mob. No. 387-3964	Ken's Electric Oilfield-Residential-Commercial 24 Hour Service 387-5510
CARL J. CAHILL, INC. OILFIELD CONTRACTOR (915) 387-2524 Sonora, Tx. 76950	ELDORADO INSTRUMENT & CONTROL CO. Sales and Service on Oilfield and Industrial Instruments and Controls. Office 853-2506 Home 853-2624 Eldorado, Tx.	CHARLES HOWARD GENERAL OILFIELD CONTRACTOR 387-3093 387-2270 387-2551 216 Hudspeth Sonora, Tx.
TREY TRUCKS INC. 24 Hour Service 853-2186	JIMCO Complete Oilfield Services Jimmy Condra 387-3843 Jimmy Trainer 387-3179	For Sale 387-2507

Bobbie A. Smith
Real Estate
387-2728

Call for
Details

PRICES & INTEREST ARE DOWN,
NOW'S THE TIME TO BUY!

954 acrs. fenced, grassed, ranch land, wtr, wells, tanks, corrals, barn, large 3 br. 2 bath brick home, AC/CH, 1/4 min w/prop.

3 bdr., 2 3/4 baths, brick home w/eustom design kitchen, equipped with built-ins, ceiling fans, mini blinds, jacuzzi, privacy fenced.

3 bedroom, 2 bath, brick AC/CH, Carpeted, dbl. Car Garage.

3 bedroom, carpeted, ceiling fans. Reduced.

3 Bedroom, stucco, carpeted AC/CH, wood burning earth stove. Price reduced.

3 Restricted Residential Lots--Meadow Creek Addition. \$6,000, \$6,000 & \$4,000.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Round Steak \$1.99
Full Cut U.S.D.A. Beef Lb.

Round Steak \$2.09
Boneless U.S.D.A. Beef Lb.

Smoked Ham \$1.59
Whole Cured Bone-in Lb.

Smoked Ham \$1.79
Shank Half Lb.

Smoked Ham \$1.89
Butt Half Lb.

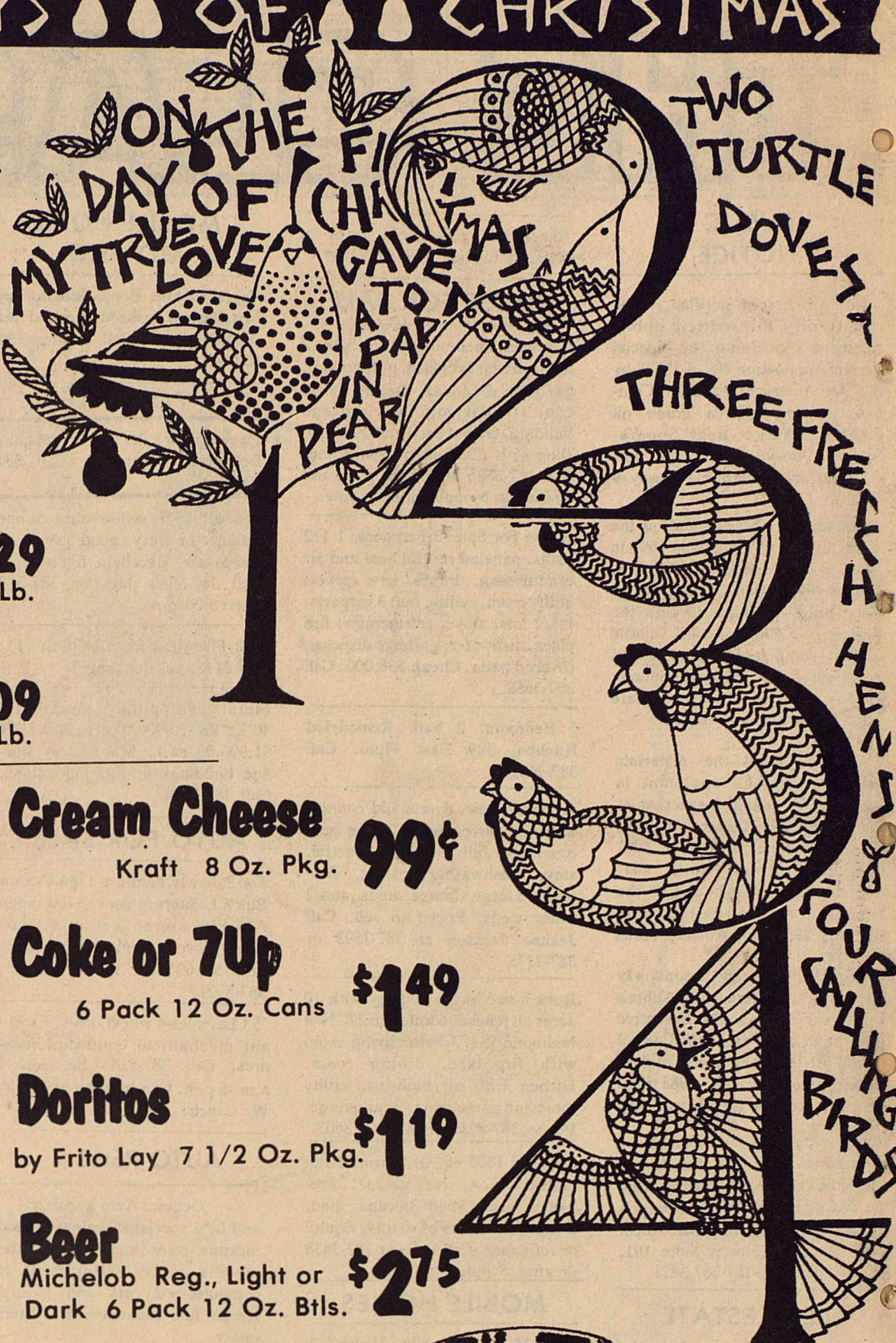
Menudo 59¢
Beef Tripe Lb.

Pork Feet 59¢
For Menudo Lb.

Cubed Steak \$3.09
U.S.D.A. Beef Lb.

Sirloin Tip Steak \$3.29
U.S.D.A. Beef Lb.

Rump Roast \$2.09
U.S.D.A. Beef Lb.



Coffee \$2.39
Folgers Reg., Auto Drip or Elec. Perc. 1 Lb. Can

Yams 69¢
Trappey's Whole 16 Oz. Can

Cranberry Sauce \$1
Ocean Spray 2 16 Oz. Cans

Oranges 69¢
Mandarin Parade 11 Oz. Can

Marshmallows 89¢
Kraft 10 1/2 Oz. Bags

Sugar 99¢
Imperial Powdered or Brown 2 Lb. Bag

Apples 49¢
Red or Golden Delicious Lb.

Yellow Onions 15¢
Medium Size Lb.

Yams 39¢
East Texas Lb.

Corn Meal \$1.19
Aunt Jemima Yellow 5 Lb. Bag

Cream \$1
Whipping or Sour 8 Oz. Ctn. Gandy's 2

Egg Nog 99¢
Gandy's 1 Qt. Ctn.

Buttermilk 89¢
Gandy's 1/2 Gal. Ctn.

Rolls \$1
Brown 'n Serve Tender Krust 12 Ct. Pkgs. 2

Pie Shells 99¢
Mrs. Smith's 9 5/8" Crust

Oranges 39¢
California Navel Lb.

Green Onions \$1
Small Pencil 4 Bunches For

Potatoes \$1.19
U.S. No.1 10 Lb. Bag

Cream Cheese 99¢
Kraft 8 Oz. Pkg.

Coke or 7Up \$1.49
6 Pack 12 Oz. Cans

Doritos \$1.19
by Frito Lay 7 1/2 Oz. Pkg.

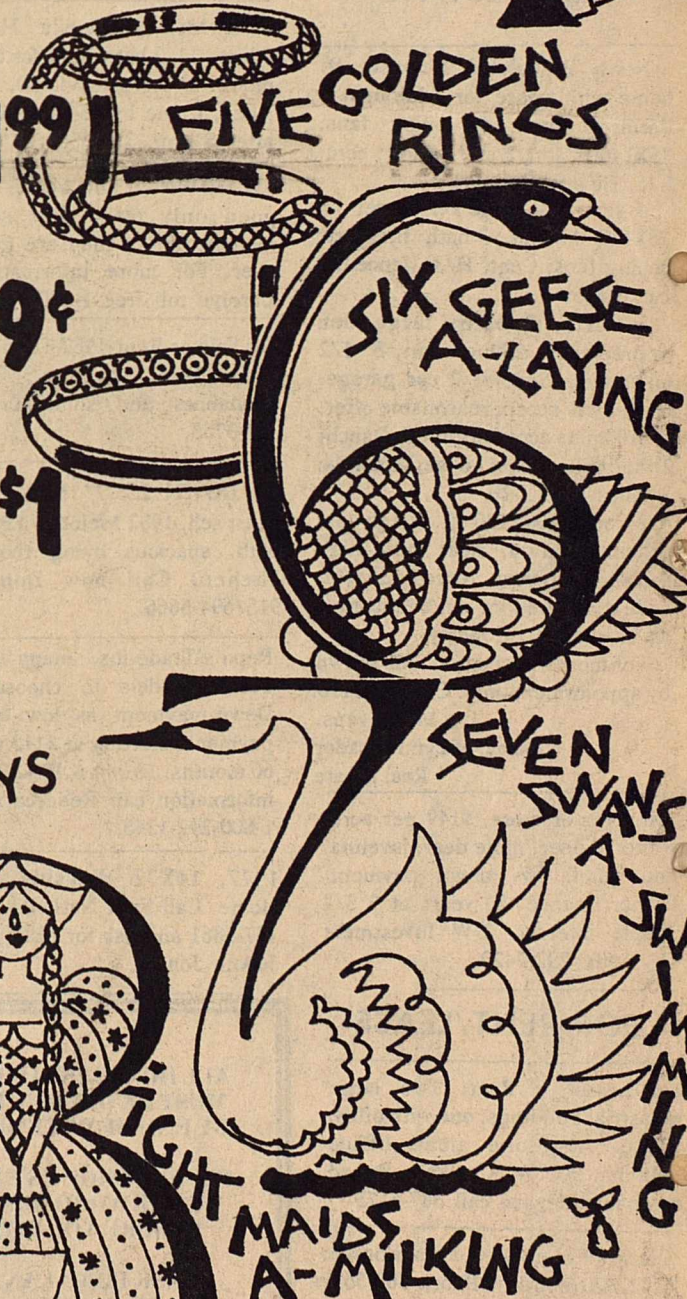
Beer \$2.75
Michelob Reg., Light or Dark 6 Pack 12 Oz. Btls.

Orange Juice \$1.99
Minute Maid 64 Oz. Ctn.

Pumpkin 69¢
Libby's Solid Pack 16 Oz. Can

Celery \$1
Green Pascal 3 Stalks For

WE WILL BE
CLOSED
CHRISTMAS DAY
HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Hershel's



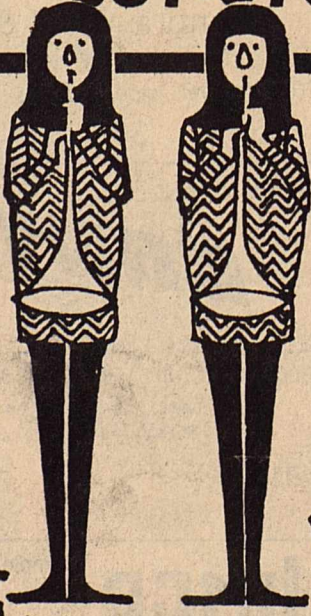
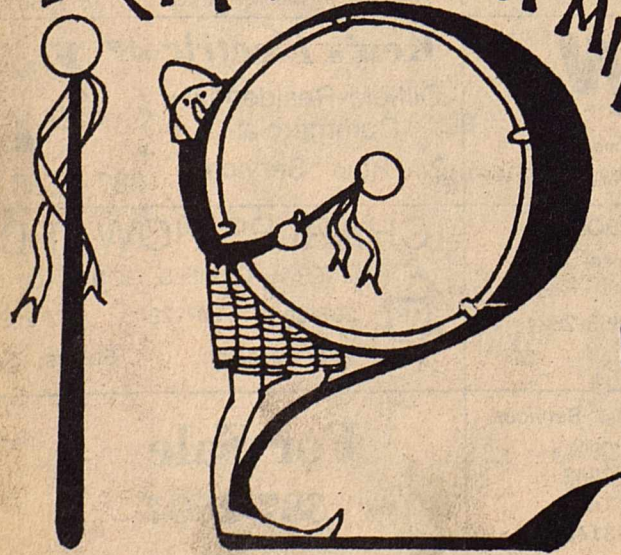
FOODWAY

Locally Owned and Operated
387-3708

We Accept
USDA
Food Stamps

TWELVE

DRUMMERS DRUMMING



TEN

LORDS A-LEADING



NINE LADIES DANCING

PERRYS

Hwy. 277 N. Sonora, Texas



Little Tike's
Vanity
\$12⁸⁸

Garfield
Bath Soap
\$2⁹⁹

Expert Effects
Eye Makeup
from Maybelline **\$8⁵⁰**
\$9.95 Value

Men's Plaid
Flannel Shirts
\$8⁸⁸

Child Guidance
Supersound
Driver
\$16⁸⁸

Amloid Lil' Cat
Construction
Hauler
\$5⁴⁷

The
Gift Collection
After Shave &
Deodorant Set **\$4⁹⁹**
from Mennen

Royal Dove
Perfume
2 For \$5

Powder Puff
Big Wheel
\$16⁸⁸

Circus Animals
Bubble Bath
2 For \$5

Brush Plus
Shaving System
Gillette **\$9⁹⁹**

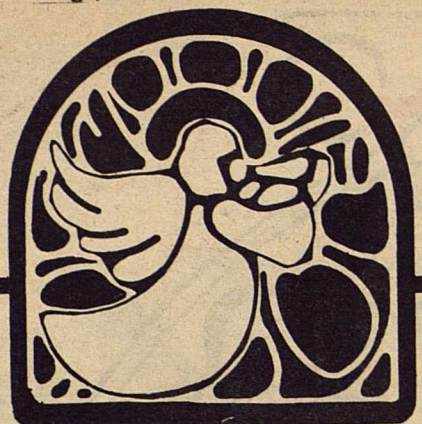
Old Spice
Travel Bag Set
\$16.95 Value **\$10⁵⁰**

Happy Holidays

from Everyone at Perry's

The Devil's River News





May the true, deep meaning of
Christmas fill the season with love
and joy for you and yours.
City of Sonora wishes you a
Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year.

City of Sonora
Public Utilities
201 N Main 387-2558



Peace On Earth
Goodwill To All Men.

With old-fashioned warmth, we'd like to
wish you and your families a very
Merry Christmas season,
filled with peace and joy.

West Side Lions Club

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a grmlk,
and megsprrm.

Love Zach

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a grmlk,
twmbtrr.

Love
Steven

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Dog. I
Am gd.

Ben Love.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a bed
tent. Ranboblrit, babe Pony,
macup, mraddol.

Love, Khristy

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a hgbzt
about.

Love, Kristina

I have bn a good goner
Dear Santa,

Please, bring me a diots,
biks, GIJO

Love David

Dear Santa
Please bring a biek. and
a dres. I have ben a good
gol.

Love
Nikkie

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a ptomst
and a bik. I have ben a good
boe.

Love
Chris

Dear Santa,
Please bring me Trans-
formors and dino bots. I am
a good boy.

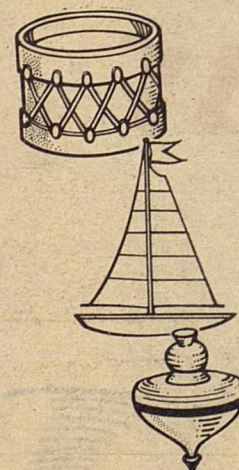
Love JR

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a mask
and a mgsprn, manfsa,
and a bat.

Love
Hector

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a biek
and a preeme I have ben
good

Love,
Christy



Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a hugabunch, a cabej
pach, and a dog.

Love Heather Floyd

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like my littl Pone Nesrsry.
Love.

Michele Busby

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a waitz set and a big
gun and a bed bugs.

Love, Robert Carl Teaff

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a big doll, a Bat and a
Ball, and shoes.

Love Kaymi Elder

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like remot control helicopt,
sled, boat and a bb gun

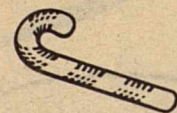
Love,

Tanner Edwards

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a bike and a sled and a
wait set and and hand kufs,
and a bed bug game.

Love,

John Paul Hudman



Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a BarBe swimming poll.

Love Kristy

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a fish-tank, and a bike,
a Trans-Fomrs and swich
blad.

Love

Raymond Rainer

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a hrse,
and a disc and a cat.

Love

Mandy

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a prrme
book, I have Ben a good
gaerl.

Love Erica

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a pup.
and a boae, cat, dog and a
bit, too.

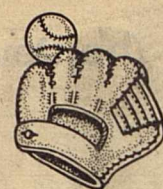
Love, Cherri

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a
Mogsopm I have Ben a
good boy.

Love

Chris C.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a
hgabnch and sum rolrskts,



and a cabijpach preme two
wins I am a good girol.

Love, Angela

Dear Santa,
Please bring my a SaSe
and a bik. I have bin a good
gil.

Love Wendy

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a biek
and mask. I Love Santa. I
have band good

Justin

Dear Santa Claus,
I want Q bert and Pitfall
mouse trap and burger time
and garfield pencil.

Your Friend,
Kristie Wallace

Dear Santa,
This year I want a Cabbge
Patch kid, Hello kitty Doll,
Barbie Doll House, Sticker
bok, picture of you.

Your friend,
Hannah Magdaleno

Dear Santa,
I what a warm up set and
a cabjgch kid and a bike for
Christmas.

Pan Jones

Dear Santa,
I want Truck or mask

Rusty

Dear Santa,
I hoppy you will like moi
lest ouv prases. I want
amodr Sikol and a cnpdr
and i want a for welr and I
want a rado.

Kevin Herod

Dear Santa,
I want a toy.

David Dewitt

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like Four whelr and a pen
set,

Love

Daniel

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like my letd pone and I will
like a Hug Bug.

Love Ariana Luna

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like Dolls and a cabchj
pach. this is all I what

Love Stacy Espinosa

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would
like a BiBye and a little
pony.

Love,

Lisa Valdez

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,
I want a stoller, I want a
Barbie doll roller skates,
house cote, house shoes,
play food, baby food and
everything baby clothos,
sleeping bag, care bear, my
little pony, tipeper writinge
casy cupuder, Barbie Cloes
glowbug house, get some-
thing for Mrs. Moore. I
may not get all this stufe
but I want it a wach.

Your Friend
Jessie Barton

Dear Santa,
I wont football, Sticrand
omie stuf and loc blocs. and
tins and spitr man stuf and
trasfomrands vetee games
and uttre and vobot and the
game and stry won stuf and
gi Joe stuf and GoBots stuf
and masen cors and cor
stuff and walk basne stuf
and Garfield.

Jor Friend
Joe Ed



thing Masters everthing. I
like you Satu Clas

from Kent

Dear Santa,
I want Rainbow brite and
a cabbage patch kid and a
Machine tha you can make
flowers, and you can make
stars, and a doll that takes a
bath, and baby brit and a
little pony that has a doll,
and a wazoll puppy brit and
prensens of Shila and the
casol of shila and a pusol of
the cabbage patch kids and
a play house I have not
been a bad girl I have been
a good girl, I Love you
santa clas, Merry Christ-
mas.

Your friend
Lili Trevino

Dear Santa Clous,
Zach and Jake have been
very good so I think you
should bring them Little bit
more than me. I wish I
could have a new bike and a
boy Premey cabbage Patch
Kid and a my little baby
pony.

Your Friend
Annalee Prentiss



May each
moment glisten
with hoilday cheer
and winter warmth sparkle the season.

Happy Holidays from all of us at
The Caverns of Sonora
387-3105

Cheer-filled greetings and gratitude
for the loyalty you have shown us.



1002 S.W. Crockett
387-2740

"HARK,
THE HERALD
ANGELS SING!"



Seasons Greetings

from all of us at

G & L Tool

509 SW Crockett 387-3177



Sincere thanks to our
many friends. Thank
you for your patronage.

from all of us at
Rudy's Bakery
1021 SE Crockett



Jim's Pest Control
Box 94
387-5313

Merry Christmas!

May this holiday be
picture perfect for
all our customers
and advertisers.

Devil's River News
and
Office Supply

220 NE Main
387-2407



Dear Zanta,

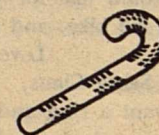
Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs.
Claws? Would you please
bring me a goatcart and a
pocketknife and a dinobot
named swoop.

Love,
Casey Fitzgerald
Dear Santa Claus,

How are you Santa and
Mrs. Santa Claus. I hope
you will have a nice
Christmas. wold you brig a
rasetrack.

Chad
Dear Santa Claus,
I would like anything
form you.

Love
T.J.H.



Dear Santa Claus,
For Christmas I want a
telephone for Christmas.
And how are Santa and
Mrs. Claus?

From
Anthony

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs.
Claus? Are you fine? I am
just fine. I would like a
sewing machine and pair of
boots. Are you ready for
Christmas? I have been
a good girl.

Love
Kelly McKnight
Dear Santa Claus,

How are you and Mrs.
Claus, I want a rell stuf
bear and a stuf renbr and a
hglo.

Love
Josie

Dear Santa Claus,
I been a good little girl so
please bring me a
computer.

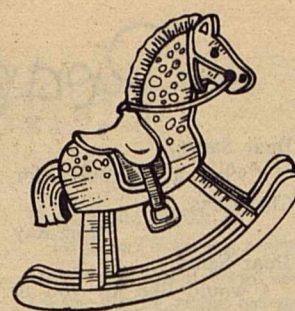
Love
Rachel

Dear Santa Claus,
I want a white rat.

Your Frind
Lori

Dear Santa,
I want a ring and a glitter
braslet. Pleser brega a
barbe an a swimmint pull.

Love,
Vanessa



Dear Santa,
I want a three-wheeler
and a two-wheeler and I
want a four-wheeler and I
want skyfire.

Your Frind
Jeremy Robles

Dear Santa,
I want a litle dog. I want
a litle mordersikole and a
ball.

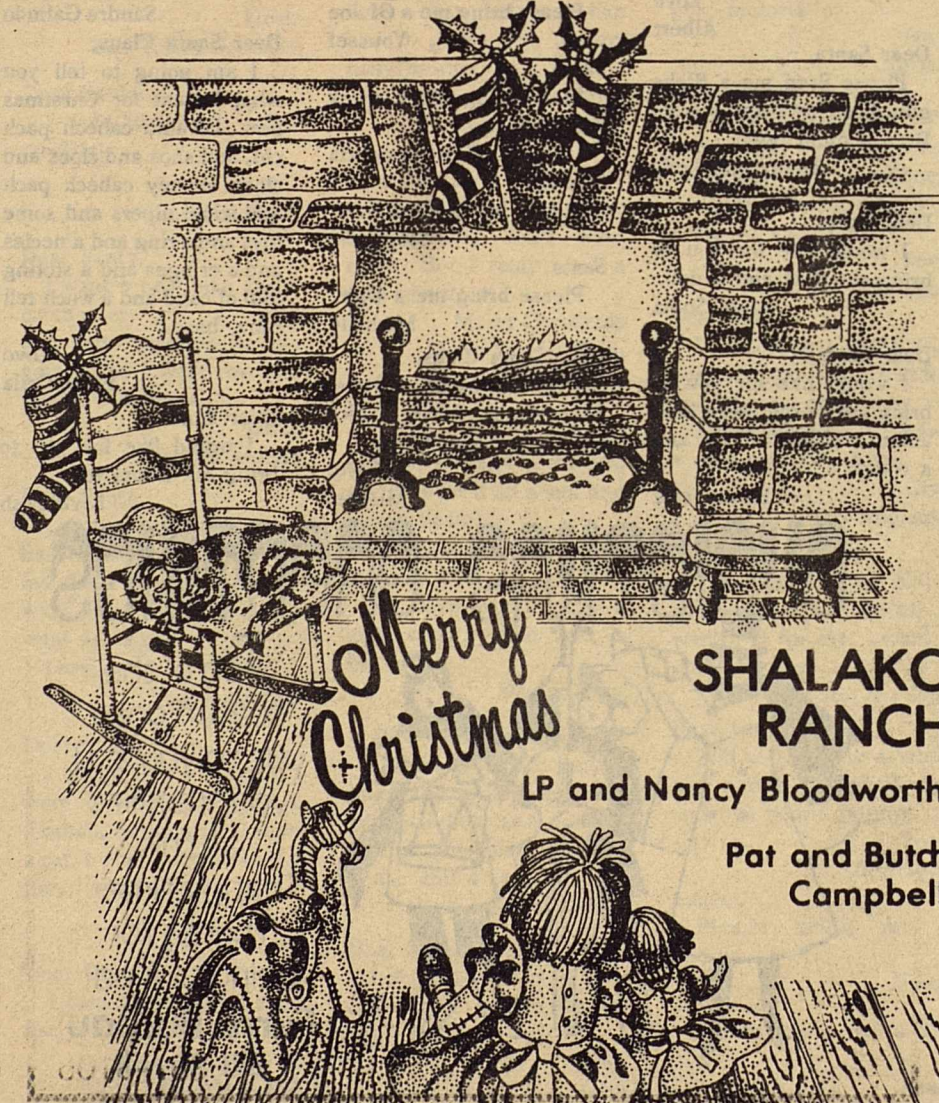
Love,
James C.

Dear Santa,
I want two cabech pat
onw with a tooth and onw
with a litle bottl. A sweet
secrat. And playboe. I have
bin good.

Love,
Lori Ann Galindo

Dear Santa,
I want a bb gun and a g'
joes I want a bike I want
bedbugs.

Love,
Juan Zurita



**SHALAKO
RANCH**

LP and Nancy Bloodworth

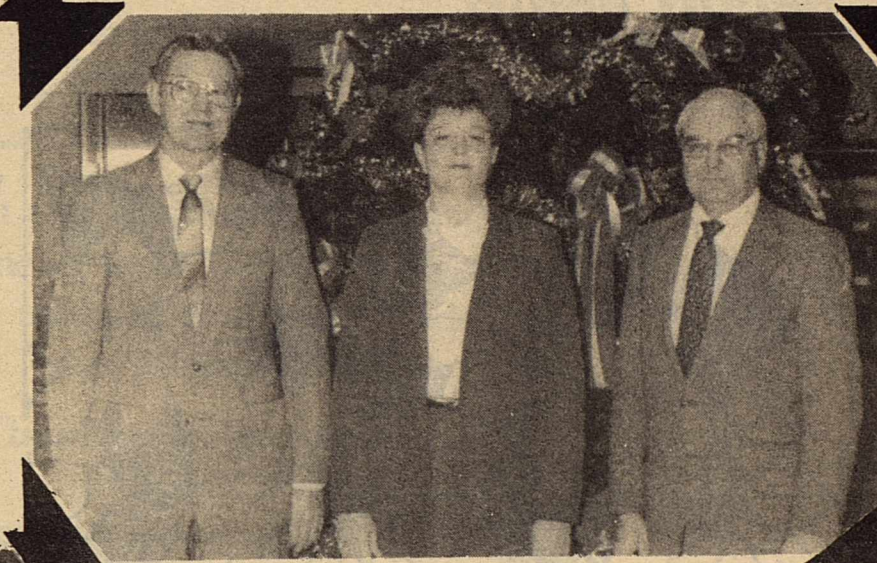
Pat and Butch
Campbell

Season's Greetings



DIRECTORS

Jerry Don Balch, Doyle V. Morgan,
W.B. McMillian, Randee Fawcett,
John R. Tedford, Jamie Parker,
S.W. Cauthorn, A.W. Bishop, and
and Ray Smith
(not pictured) Walter C. Pope, III



OFFICERS

Ray Smith, Vice President and Cashier
Jeanne Jackson, Assistant Cashier
A. W. Bishop, President



STAFF

Mary Lou Hudman, Kathy Hearn, Melba
Perez, Terry Duckworth, Tonya Brown,
and JoAnn Hernandez



Sutton County National Bank
207 Hwy. 277 N. 387-2593
A Member of Westex Bancorp, Inc.



Serenity. Peace.
 Tranquility. May
 these treasures
 be with you at
 this special
 time of year.
 Merry Christmas
 and thanks, all.

**Branding Iron
 Smokehouse**
 204 SE Water 387-2801



Here's wishing all our friends and customers
 all the hope, joy and wonder of Christmas.
 Thank you for your loyal patronage.

Spain's
 Downtown Sonora 387-3131

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would
 like to have a colecsn of
 mask.

Love Salvador Trinidad

Dear Santa,
 I want a mask.

Bobby McNutt
 Dear Santa
 From Adriana Cabezueta
 baby skate.

Dear Santa,
 I what a baby skate I
 have ben vere good Santa.

Love, Kenley Black

Dear Santa,
 I wot a transformr I wot a
 mask car to.

Hector Prieto

Dear Santa,
 I love you for the good
 toys that you give your toys
 for people. I hope you give
 me a rabbit.

Melissa Sanchez

Dear Santa,
 I have been vere good
 and I want a bear back pak

From Johnna Adams

Dear Santa,
 I would like you to bring
 me a kitty and I have been
 good and I want a basket
 for the kitty

Kristi Burge

Dear Santa,
 I have been a good girl. I
 want a rebbit I want a
 cabag patch kid baby.

from Debbie Buitron

Dear Santa,
 I want a mask for Christ-
 mas. And I want to see you

Javier Esquivel.

Dear Santa,
 I have been good. I want
 a Kuepetr. I will leve you
 sm cooce and milke

Makayla Galindo.

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me tcnds
 Dog Bdgdmphi

Thank you Santos

Dear Santa,
 Please I want a BiFoot.

Thank you Miguel

Dear Santa,
 Please bring a kar bear

Thank you Valerie

Santa,
 Please bring me a rado.

Cindy

Santa,
 Please bring me a doll.

Teresa

Santa,
 Please bring me a dog.

Lesia

Dear, Sant, Claus,
 I have bin good a little. I
 wanted some toys here they
 are. yellow truk, black truk,
 orange truk, red care, blue
 car, yellow car, green truk,
 blue truk, orange car,
 green car, black van, black
 car, green van, red truk,
 red van, blue van, purple
 van, purple car, purpl truk,
 black car, black van, black
 truck, brown truck, brow
 car, brown van.

your friend
 Gary

Dear Santa,
 I want night rider, I want
 gobots, I want a cabeje
 pach kid, I want bodle skip,
 I want new 8 crayoles, I
 want about Animals child-
 craft.

I Love Santa
 Caley Thompson

Love, Jason

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me bike, doll, VCR
 cputr.

Love, Lendy

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me a doll for christ-
 mas and A bear for christ-
 mas. And a Snowman, for
 christmas, merry christmas

Love, Jenny S.

Dear Santa Claus,
 I wat a pertty boll for
 Christmas and ony Doy.
 will you stae.

Love, Jenny S.

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me kit hat ball barn
 book top.

Love, Buster

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Cbg, Pach VCR.
 Brbe, get in sh girl, Care
 Bere.

Love, Rebecca

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Cbg, Pach VCR.
 Brbe, get in sh girl, Care
 Bere.

Love, Rebecca

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Cabpat pach and
 a wach and Sca.

Love, Michelle

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me a preme and a ball
 jump rap book rabbit and
 kitten.

Love, Shawna

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Mask, umggsa-
 prem, demastrater, Blastr,
 Haed, thudrcat, crakup
 cete, VCR, Pecot, thudr
 push He-Man, Mogpo Loc
 Shreprshashr. GI*JOE pet
 Rabbit, modo aplon, pet
 aofo.

Love, John B.

Dear Santa,
 I want a transformr his
 name is megatron.

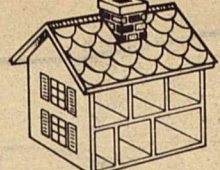
Scott Kasey Farrar

Dear Santa,
 I want a doll for Christ-
 mas.

from Michele Cramer.

Dear Santa,
 I have been good. I want
 baby angel face and hellga
 and mak it and bake it

From Carla



Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,
 I want a Computer for
 Christmas.

from Ray

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me a Gi Jo and a bird
 and a macs gastasn.

love John Sosa

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me a wosh

Love John

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring m-a Kar B mans KaB
 SleB

Love Brenda

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Cappto, scasl

Love Je

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me bike, VCR, Atre,
 Love, Armando

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me bike, gio, VCR,
 comeCPur, monkey mask.

Love, Jeffrey

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a bike and a big
 foot and a gobot whash and
 some toys.

Love Albert

Dear Santa,
 Please Bren me a Biebe
 gun. Bren my sistr a stereo.
 Bren a dimn reng.

Thank you, Kelly

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me seas and a doll.

Love, Sonia

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me a orgn and a sled
 and a cputr and a VCR and
 a coleqc

Love Elena Velez

Dear Santa,
 How is Mrss. Claus,
 Santa Claus, I want a bick
 fome you Santa Claus.

Love, Michael

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me a Fotbal

S.K. Steven

Dear Santa,
 Please bring, me a
 cunshus

Love Gaston Gamboa

Dear Santa,
 Please will you bring me
 a transformer, bike and a
 bb gun and a motorcycle I
 like you santa.

Love, Jorg

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me bike, and a doll.

Love Leyva

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a ring and some
 shoses and cloes. I want
 soem barins and barin cloes
 and a ball and a cabbeg
 pach kid and toy and
 dippers for my caggeg pach
 kid and woch so I can tell
 time.

Love Sandra Galindo

Dear Santa Claus,
 I am going to tell you
 what I want for Chrstmas
 now. I wanta cabech pach
 cid, and shos and cloes and
 cloes for my cabech pach
 and some dipers and some
 toys and a ring and a neclis
 and a eringes and a stoting
 foul of cand and a woch tell
 time, base.

Love Elane Ortiz

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Robat toq.

Love, Josh

Dear Santa,
 For Christmas I would
 like a Verbot, and a Quail
 one.

Love Gaston Gamboa

Dear Santa,
 Please bring, me a
 cunshus

Love, Jorg

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me bike, and a doll.

Love Leyva

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a ring and some
 shoses and cloes. I want
 soem barins and barin cloes
 and a ball and a cabbeg
 pach kid and toy and
 dippers for my caggeg pach
 kid and woch so I can tell
 time.

Love Sandra Galindo

Dear Santa Claus,
 I am going to tell you
 what I want for Chrstmas
 now. I wanta cabech pach
 cid, and shos and cloes and
 cloes for my cabech pach
 and some dipers and some
 toys and a ring and a neclis
 and a eringes and a stoting
 foul of cand and a woch tell
 time, base.

Love Elane Ortiz

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Robat toq.

Love, Josh

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a Tre
 Fomr.

Marty

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a mask.

Joey

Santa,
 Please bring me a slepeg
 bag.

Erica

Santa,
 Please bring me a dog.

Shane

Santa,
 Please bring me a GI Joe
 Youssef

Santa,
 Plese bring me a ewok
 Kuleshn

Keith Longoria

Santa,
 Please bring me a ball.

Stephanie

Santa,
 Please bring me a Dike.

Michelle

Dear Santa Claus,
 How is Mrss. Claus,
 Santa Claus, I want a bick
 fome you Santa Claus.

Love, Michael

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me Robat toq.

Love, Josh

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a Fotbal

S.K. Steven

Dear Santa,
 Please bring, me a
 cunshus

Love Gaston Gamboa

Dear Santa,
 Please will you bring me
 a transformer, bike and a
 bb gun and a motorcycle I
 like you santa.

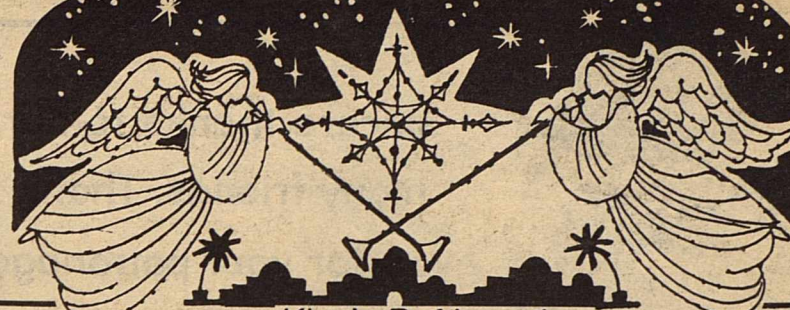
Love, Jorg

Dear Santa,
 I would like for you to
 bring me bike, and a doll.

Love Leyva

Dear Santa Claus,
 I want a ring and some
 shoses and cloes. I want
 soem barins and barin cloes
 and a ball and a cabbeg
 pach kid and toy and
 dippers for my caggeg pach
 kid and woch so I can tell
 time.

Love Sandra Galindo

King's Refrigeration
 wishes all our friends and customers
 all the hope, joy and wonder of Christmas.
 Thanks you for your loyal patronage

Bennie & Luan King & Larry Dryman

**Christmas means many
 things to many people.
 To us, it's time to express
 our thanks. Best wishes
 of the holiday season from**

Teaff Oil Company
 204 West 3rd 387-2770



**Holiday
 Greetings
 big as
 Texas**

**Vicky's
 Self Serve
 Gasoline**
 1008 NW Crockett
 387-5510

**Ken's
 Electric**
 1008 NW Cr.ckett
 387-5510

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



Top o' the
 season goes
 out to you and
 your families
 at this
 happy time.
 Thanks for
 being so kind!

**Farm Bureau
 Bill Sayell**

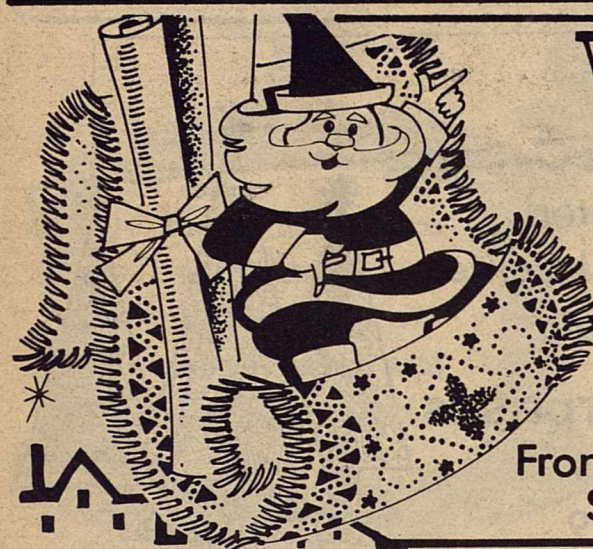


And we want to say thanks to all of you for your patronage through the year.

COUNTRY FRIED CHICKEN & FISH

212 Hwy 277

387-3748



We're flying our special carpet of holiday happiness, along with our gratitude to our many business acquaintances.

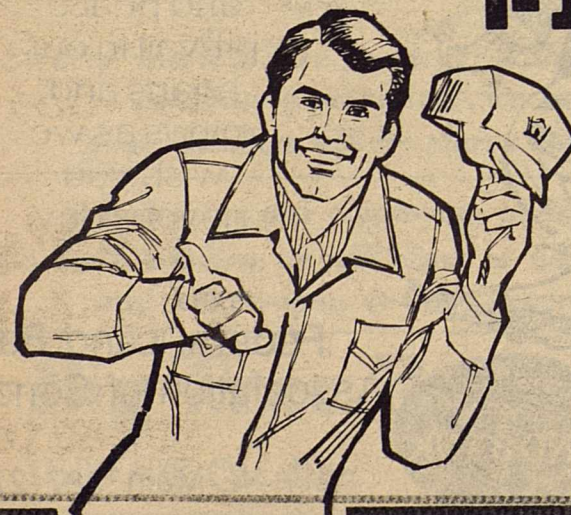
Frontier Petroleum Services, Inc.

Happy Hoildays!

It's our sincere pleasure to serve you, dear friends.

I-10 Exxon

I-10 and 277



Dear Santa,

Dear Santa, I want a 22 and a puppy. I want a otmis prime.

Love, Christopher James Crowder

Dear Santa, I want a paawnd puppy so dos my sister. If you can't find one I would like a football.

Love, Davis Hale

Dear Santa, I want to ask you if you will bring me my own bike. And will you bring me a cabege patch kid he twins? Goodbye.

Love, Adelaida Castilleja

Dear Santa, I want a new bike. Please bring me some new toys.

Love, Laura Purvis

Dear Santa, I want a pet bl dog. I want a toy.

Love, Chad Holmes

Dear Santa, I want a new bike. I want have a sirstr and would like have a gi joe set, for my baby brother.

Love, Shanna Youngblood

Dear Santa, I would like a play metal cat. I realy don't want much. But I realy want a play metal cat.

Merry Christmas I Love You So Much Gayla Frederickson

Dear Santa, I wonte the tranesformers and I wonte a bb gun and bb's for it an a suit and a new desser.

Love Jarrod Johnson

Dear Dearest, My favorite thing is a toys and a bike and a football.

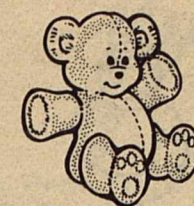
David Daran

Dear Saint Nicholas, I want a V.C.R. and a bike, and a barie car, and barie colthes, and a c.p.k. and a pet, and a barie house and a ear foines.

Love Jennifer Galvan

Dear Santa Claus, I want a v.c.r. and a tv and a bike and a electret key bowd.

Love John



Dear Santa,

Dear Santa Claus, How are you Santa I am fine do you now wate I want for Christmas. I want a football and a ring of wresoling men and a bike.

Love Arturo Lopez Jr.

Dear Santa Claus, I want a doll for Christmas and a bus too, to go with the doll and a baby and a play dog and cabeg pach kid too.

Love Shanna Morgan

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Claus, I would like 8 toys, a mouse, a ball, a book, a lion, a santa claus, a little Christmas tree, and Mrs. Claus, a kiss for you.

Love Levi Pool

Dear Santa, Please I want these toys, hight top rox shoes, octorus prime.

Chad Bruns

Dear Santa, Please bring me a teant, and some wakey talkey, and a ramok uatroll game.

Thank You From Benjamin Davis Taylor

Dear Santa, Please breme a barbie on a car bar. Tang You.

Maricela Hernandez

Dear Santa, Please bring me a baby doll, and please bring me a play makeup and please bring me a playhouse with dolls and beds and a living room.

Thak you very much Tracia Elder

Dear Santa, Please bring me a Kososa, please brine my sister a cabbage patch kid preme, and a camra for me and bedbugs and clathers. Please I love you Santa. Tank You very much.

Love Jennifer Gamez



Sounding Christmas wishes for faith, love, peace and goodwill.

from all of us at Sutton County Steak House

next to the Devil's River Motel

387-3833



At this wonderful and magical time of year, our thoughts turn to those who have made our progress possible.

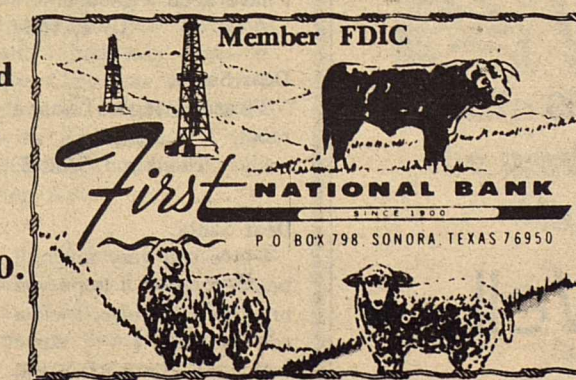
Thank you, dear and loyal friends for your continued patronage and goodwill.

Happy Holiday



Your Locally Owned Independent Bank Serving The Stockman's Paradise Since 1900.

387-3861



Merry Christmas

Wishing you and yours
all the joys of Noel.

Atlas Electric of West Texas
308 3rd 387-5696

happy holiday

It's been a pleasure
serving you...we
hope to serve
you again!

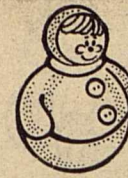
**Benson Repair
Service & Parts**

402 SE Water Ave
387-2966

May the spirit of Christmas
fill your hearts with joy!
Thanks for your patronage.

ADCO Water Well
387-2071

Dear Santa,



Dear Santa,
Please bring me mask.
Please bring my siter a doll.
Please bring me gi joe to
me. Please santa. I love you
santa.

Gabriel Ramirez
Dear Santa,
Please bring me the toys
I want. I want the Gi Joe
headquarters and I want
onegspem and the gi joe
carer.

Alex Gonzales Jr.
Dear Santa,
Please 1. anfredmikip, 2.
fin m h a l a k t o r, 3.
mshenkun, 4. gambbox, 5.
mask had quarters, 6. nif,
7. omagsuprem.

Ronald Kincheloe
Dear Santa,
Please I need some boots
and a pony and bubos, real
cat but small sweet sea too.
Margo Lee Carnchan
Thak you Santa

Please Santa,
Bring me sum skates and
bring me sume jacks, and
clothes and a boton gliter
and cabigg pach kids, and a
prime and brbe dolls.

Jill
Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy.
Woul you please bring me a
Computer for me!

Walker Wallace
Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs.
Santa, I want some barbies
for Christmas and I want
dolls.

Veronica

Dear Santa,
Please bring me omeger-
soprem. and a bebe gun
and bike and toys and mask
and a magike book. I love
santa.

Love Samuel
I am a good boy.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a gobot,
I have been a good boy.
Love, Andy

Dear Santa,
Please me legos. I want a
robot.

Thank you, Scott B.

Dear Santa,
I love you very much. I
ben very good. I hope you
brug me some toys. I wot a
cowboy hati, I wot some
cow booties, I wot a footboll,
I wot a Indian soot. Billy Fish

Dear Santa,
Please bring me some
ear phone and I want to tail
you that I am being go and
I want to now how you are.

Kali Rangel
Dear Santa,
Please bring me some
toys, I want for Christmas. I
want for Christmas the
hungry hippos and all so
the bedbugs and all so the
battleship.

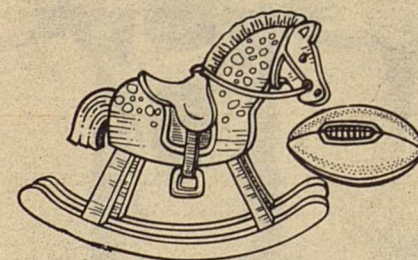
Leopoldo Regalado Jr.

Dear Santa,
I want barbie clos, Barbie
a barbie seimpool, barbies
car, a boy cabbage patch
kids, cabbage patch clos,
music al swing, care bears,
my little pony, speak spell,
poochie, play typewriter,
glow.

Marisol Faz
Dear Santa,
I what a madrsile and a
remot canchro cruks.

Charles Perry
Dear Santa Claus,
How are you? I am fine.
Here is a list of what all the
toys I want.

I would like to have
another hamster and a
gerbil. And I would like to
have some more stuff to my
trainset. And another
transformer, and a clock
radio like Nikki my cousin.
Love always,
David Davenport



Dear Satu Clas
Gi Joe Team, Gi Joe
driver beeps six, Gi Joe
evverting things, transform-
ers, everthing, star wars
ever things, Go Bots every-
thing, Masters everything.
I like you Satu Claus
from Kent

Santa,
Please bring me a mahn
Carlos

Dear Santa,
Please breeing me mask
headquarters and rineo
jackhamer, switsblaid
thunderhalk. Opdmsprime
megatron trepolchanser.
Brian Gordon

Dear Santa Claus,
I wish I had sete see,
hors, bike, my little pone.
Your frind
Lena

Dear Santa Claus,
Will you bring me a bike
and a doll and a bear with
babby bears. and a cat with
babby.

Sally

Santa,
Please bring me a bike.
Amalio

Santa,
Please bring me a boole.
Stacy

Dear Santa,
I want a go bot and a ji
Joe.

Love,
Junior Moreno

Dear Santa,
Please want bring I want
Rambo.

Thank you, Ivy

Dear Santa,
Please I want a kar bear.
Thank you, Inez

Dear Santa,
Please quiero escoba.
Thank you, Valde mar

Dear Santa,
Please bring me mask,
transformors, gi joe, bed-
bugs, candy.

Thank You very much
Jr. Odom

My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention

holly corsages, the joy of
that Christmas did not
come from material gifts,
but from the happiness of
being together. We took
time to enjoy our home, our
family, and our friends. We
did not worry so much
about what to give, but
rather about sharing with
someone else. For this is
truly what Christmas is
about--A gift that God
shared with the world.

Our Christmas clown is home

Carla Crites
"Ho! Ho! Ho! Jolly ol'
St. Nick is here!" Dennis
yelled as he struggled
through the door with a
trash bag full of gifts
thrown over his shoulder.
"What are you laughing
at...you wanna eat a bag of
boxes? Go outside and help
your grandmother get the
reindeer off her!"
"Dennis!" We all yelled.
"We thought you weren't
going to be able to make it
down by tonight."

"Well, I'm here..."
"Me too! Me too!" yel-
led my grandmother as she
pushed her way past
Dennis and through the
door." Go put those in the
kitchen," she said shoving
a box of food in my hands.
"Dennis, go tell your sister
to bring the food out; her
kids can help. You two go
out to my car and bring in
the big box from the back
seat. Pull that chair over
her so I can sit down."

While Grandmother was
working so hard getting
things together, Dennis
gathered us together and

told us something that
made this day my most
memorable Christmas
ever!

Dennis, my mom's little
brother, the clown of the
family, and our most favor-
ed uncle, was getting
married! Not only had he
found a wife, but also a
better job, and a close-by
place to live. Dennis is
moving back home!

Christmas of '83 was also
one of the most memorable
days of my life! Now, and
this time to stay, Dennis
was home.

The Night my sister came home

Lori Balas

Christmas is a special
time of the year. On this
special day, Christ was
born. This is a time for joy,
love, happiness and shar-
ing. One special Christmas
Eve, my only hope and
prayer was answered.

My younger sister was
born on November 21,
1977. She was born pre-
mature and in critical con-
dition. We were told she
might not live.

At this time, I was seven
years old. I was too young
to understand, but I still
prayed. My family and
friends came and prayed
with us for the recovery of
my sister. We went to visit
the hospital every day.
School was still in session
so I could not visit every
day. I was excited when
school let out so I could visit
my tiny sister.

The week before Christ-

mas, I became ill. I couldn't
see my sister, I was fur-
ious!

Christmas Eve came and
I was depressed. My
parents told me they were
going to the store for some
things. When they came
home, my mother was
carrying a small bundle in
her arms. When I saw that
it was my little sister, I was
overjoyed! My little sister
was home!

Today, my sickly little
sister is eight years old and
as healthy as an eight year
old could be.

All in all, it comes to
show that prayer will be
answered.

A memorable Christmas

Cindy Sosa

The most memorable
Christmas I've had was
about four years ago. My
family and I had just moved
here from Seguin, Texas.
The feeling about that
Christmas was totally dif-
ferent. My family was to-
gether and at last we were
settled. I loved the feeling
of security that was among
us. We all showed love and
affection for each other.
I've never felt so good
about such an occasion.

I loved the cold weather,
of knowing how warm and
safe I was in my home, the
feeling of the cold weather
outside, and of slipping into
those warm covers at night.
The feeling was almost
incredible to imagine, with
all beautiful Christmas
trees and lights around
town, and the town show-
ing off Christmas spirit.

It's Christmas



Can't bear to wait another
minute to wish you a
Merry Christmas
and to express our thanks to all.

THE COUNTRY STORE

Dr. L. M. Pollard
Hwy. 277N 387-6147

Greetings for a Christmas
decorated
with fun and laughter.
Thanks all.

Shurley Enterprises

Hwy. 277S
387-3619



A Child Is Born



Sing we now
of Christmas
in praise of all
our blessings.
May love, hope
and peace
prevail in our
hearts and
minds as we
wish you
a joyous day.

**Federal Land Bank
Association of Sonora**

217 NE Main 387-2777

MERRY CHRISTMAS

To all our friends, both old and
new, we thank you for being so sweet.

**Marilyn, Frank & Roy
Adkins**



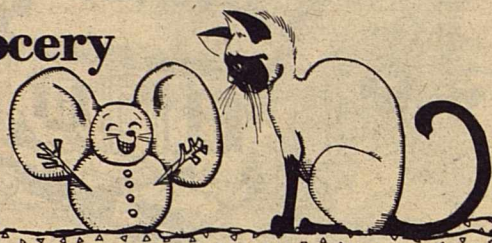
Greetings of the Season

To our special friends and customers,
we say "thanks for being there"

Chavarria Grocery

Hwy. 277S

387-2603



**Hanging in there
with wishes for
a Christmas of
unlimited fun and
pleasure... thanks too!**

from
**Grider
Trucking**

202 8th, Sonora
387-3460



*Serving you is a rare privilege. With thanks for your
continuing patronage, we hope all
your holidays will be merry and bright.*

**In order for our employees to enjoy Christmas
with their families, we will close at 6am December 24
and will re-open at 6am December 26**

Big Tree Restaurant

1009 SW Crockett

387-9923

My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention



too. I remember falling asleep thinking about little baby Jesus lying in a manger.

I awoke bright and early that Christmas morning. I looked out the window and snow was falling lightly over the blanketed ground. The sun cast a gorgeous glow.

I raced to wake everyone up. Merry Christmas, Jesus!

My most memorable Christmas

Kim Cooke

The morning of Christmas Day and I awoke to the pungent smells of a yule dinner being prepared. As I lay in my comfy bed, I relived the night before.

Receiving every gift I had asked for made my the happiest kid on the block. My most cherished gift, however, was the visitation of my grandparents. Due to the fact that my grandma had been sick, they weren't expected to arrive, but to much of our surprise, on Christmas Eve, they knocked on the door.

Christmas Eve, as I remember, had been beautiful. My parents and grandparents were like little kids again as we all ripped into our gifts. For once, grandma's face shone, and had coloring instead of its usual pale, prismatic color, and dad wasn't grouchy after his day at work.

As my family drank hot chocolate, I wanted to remember this scene of warmth, love, and the feeling of togetherness forever. Hoping every child had had a wonderful Christmas, I fell asleep in grandma's arms.

My grandparents left on New Year's Day and grandma said she was feeling fine.

The next day, however, grandpa called and said grandma was in the hospital. Dad rushed to Abilene and called home that night. Grandma had died. I cried and cried till I felt nothing.

Now every Christmas

miss my grandma more and more.

I can't help but think there is some kind of a connection. Christ was born on Christmas and my grandma died near Christmas.

My most memorable Christmas

Michael Benson

My most memorable Christmas took place when I was about five years old. At the time I was living on a ranch which was really big and there were about ten hunters that had come to the ranch to hunt. There were doctors, dentists, lawyers, and oilmen that had leases on the ranch. All of them were really nice and enjoyable to be around.

We had Christmas dinner and invited all of the hunters and their wives to come and join us. Most of these hunters were from big cities like Houston or El Paso and their wives had never seen a real cedar tree placed in the living room for a Christmas tree. Ours was about eight feet tall with a big rug around the bottom to cover the lower part of the trunk. It had lights, decorations, and candy canes on it with an angel on the top to really set off the Christmas spirit.

We had Christmas dinner with the hunters who had prepared some of the most exotic looking food I have ever seen. Their wives seemed to really enjoy everything and they helped clean up while all of the men went outside to the barn to look at the horses and just to get away for a little while.

It was about five o'clock when everyone got back together in one place so we could begin opening presents. Most of the hunters had brought presents for everyone and they were really expensive presents. After opening the presents we sat around and talked for awhile before anyone left. That night some of the hunters were going to go

varmit hunting and they came by and took me along, this made it my most enjoyable Christmas ever.

A very special Christmas

Anna Balch

Most Christmases now all seem the same. It is hard to remember one from the other. It appears that the worry and rush of Christmas buying has intruded on the real meaning of Christmas.

As I look back over my Christmases, the one I remember best and treasure the most had nothing to do with gifts exchanged. For that year, I learned another truth about the spirit of Christmas. The love and warmth of our homemade my eighth Christmas most memorable to me.

Remembering that Christmas, I cannot recall a single gift that was given or received. My memories are of our home and the very special feeling that it seemed to radiate. Because my family had restored an old Victorian home, we were asked to be a part of a Christmas home tour. For decorations, we used treasured items. The banister in our home was lined with our favorite dolls, which had been dressed to perfection. My sister and I helped washed and iron their dressed and comb their hair just so. We helped Mother clean out the old toy box, to use in the kitchen as a wood box by the stove. We dressed it with Christmas greens and our favorite "old Teddy Bear." A life-size Santa sat on a rocking chair to greet our guests during the holiday season. We had a large tree in the entry hall that was dressed with all the treasured ornaments, we had collected over the years. In the kitchen, a smaller tree stood that we decorated with dough ornaments, popcorn strings, and calico bows.

From the wreath and garlands of Christmas greens, to the dolls with

My most memorable Christmas

As always, we at the Devil's River News try to involved as many segments of the community as possible. Many of you have probably already noticed that we particularly fond of working with the students of the Sonora Independent School District.

We have found that our youngest citizens can bring a smile or a chuckle, usually when we need it most, give us an untarnished outlook on the world

around us and without fail, touch our hearts.

This issue marks another first—an essay contest for the high school students.

The essay theme "My most memorable Christmas" was approached in many ways, all of them good.

Judges for the contest were Loyce Campbell, Clayann Cates and Jeanne Davenport. The name on each entry was removed before they were read and

each was judged primarily on content opposed to grammar.

First place and winner of \$25 is Leila Bouhassiss, sophomore, Second place, winner of \$15 is Nelda Castaneda, sophomore and third place winner Erika Gremmel, junior will receive \$10.

Our thanks to each of the students who participated and to the judges who really had to make some hard choices.

1st Place A Time to realize

Leila Bouhassiss

"Christmas", in *Mac Millian Dictionary*, is defined as a yearly celebration commemorating Jesus' birth. In my eyes, Christmas used to be a yearly celebration of Jesus birthday along with presents and visiting of families and friends.

Last years' Christmas is one I could not blot out of my mind if I tried. It's one that had changed my attitude toward my outward look of Christmas. Now I see Christmas as a time to celebrate the birth of Christ, to give thanks, and to realize that the little we have is so much.

As I opened my gifts last Christmas, I thought, "I am really lucky," I wasn't getting a different colored Lamborgini each year, but

I knew I was fortunate compared to many others. For example, there are the unfortunate children who have to be satisfied with the repaired toys a community service group mends for them. No one sees them throwing hysterical fits because their parents don't fight with others over a Cabbage Patch Doll at the local Toy-R-Us store!

Then I thought, "This is Christmas. Why should I let this eat me up? I'm supposed to be having fun; those are just the breaks for them." But, as I stuffed myself with turkey, dressing, apple pie, and all the trimmings, that nagging feeling came back. I thought of all the Ethiopians who were starving as I listened to "Let Them Know It's Christmas Time" a song a group of well

known entertainers gathered to sing in a tribute to those starving in Africa. There I was as others—pigging out while some can't go to a McDonalds just to eat a "double-double-cheese-burger."

I also thought of my warm house and bed compared to places others had to spend their holiday. I was glad I wasn't sleeping on a park bench or in a bus station just to sleep in a place warmer than twenty degrees.

I also thanked God for my health and age, glad I wasn't a newborn baby dying on Christmas Day or the family of one.

Yes, last Christmas is definitely my most memorable. I know now to appreciate the fact that I have everything I need; some don't.

2nd Place Christmas with Grandma

Nelda Castaneda

The Christmas I treasured the most was when I spent it with my whole family and my mom's family. The one thing I treasured on this day was that I still had my Grandma Chona living.

We all gathered at my Grandma Beatrice's house. We sang Christmas carols and laughed together. We

were all opening our gifts, then I saw my Grandma Chong crying all by herself in the living room. I went over to her side. I was asking her why she was crying and why she was sitting all by herself. She then held my hand and told me how she wished she could go buy all of us a gift for being so kind and loving to her. I told her we did not need any gifts. It was just nice to have her with us.

alive and well. I thought that was the best Christmas gift I had ever received. The Christmas after that, she was not able to spend with us because Christ decided it was time to take her back.

I still think of her. I still love her, and I can understand how she felt. Christmas just is not Christmas if I do not have someone to love.

May you drive through the holidays
with our best wishes of the season,
and our thoughts of thanks to all!

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My most memorable . . . 3rd Place

The Christmas Santa came to visit

Ericka Gremmel

It was one week before Christmas. I was six years old. I remember sitting in front of the fire place, hoping that Santa Claus would hurry up and get here. I remember thinking about the fire. What if Santa came down the chimney and we had a fire going?! I started to panic. I ran to my mother and told her to make sure to put out the fire Christmas eve. I also told her to make sure she has the milk and chocolate cookies ready for him. "And don't forget his present, I wouldn't want him to leave without his present, OK, mom?," I said.

I ran up the stairs to my room. I dug through my closet, hastily searching for my crayons and construction paper. My box of crayons was in the very back, under a pile of clothes. I found my paper on the top shelf. After I found my sacred belongings, I sat down on the floor and went to work.

I pulled out a pretty pink

sheet of paper and my red and green crayons. I began my letter of greetings.

"Dear Mr. Claus, I hope everything is going well for you and the Mrs. Is she doing as good as she was last year? I watched you on T.V. last night. My congratulations on a fine performance.

I hope you find the cookies and milk to your liking. I also made sure that there wasn't a fire in the fireplace. This present is for you. It's a picture of me and my dog, Harold. Mother told me that I wasn't suppose to tell you, but I couldn't wait.

I hope you have a nice trip. All my best to the reindeer and the elves. Love Always, Erika"

I took the letter and the picture, wrapped in red and green, and put them in my drawer. I sat down and began my weeks wait for Christmas.

When Christmas eve finally arrived, I was as jumpy as a frog with the itch. I had my letter and present sitting on a table

near the fireplace. I ran to the kitchen and gathered a plate of cookies and a glass of grade 'A' vitamin D milk. I placed them next to the picture and letter. Mom then put out the fire. She took me upstairs and tucked me in.

I couldn't get to sleep at first. All I could think about was Santa. I finally dozed off while visions of sugar plums danced in my head.

I awoke bright and early Christmas morning. I ran down the stairs, losing one slipper. I headed straight for the table. My mouth fell to the floor as I gazed upon the sight.

The cookies were gone, the milk, the present, and the letter were also gone. In there place was a sheet of paper. "I enjoyed the cookies and your picture is fabulous. I hope you have a merry, merry Christmas. Love Santa Claus. P.S. Rudolf says Hello."

I couldn't believe that Santa was there. I will always remember that morning. Never again will I ever feel as much excitement as I did then.

Honorable Mention

Love is what counts

Greg Anderson

I have never had just one most memorable Christmas. Christmas around my house is always exciting, even if we don't get many presents. I think that this time of the year is more memorable because my brother comes down and the whole family can be together.

Christmas is fun because we receive presents; but love is the true essence of Christmas. Christmas is always fun if there is love. On Christmas my whole family is present—including my aunt, uncle, and two cousins. During Christmas, my brother and I receive one big present and many little presents. We usually receive what we have asked for and that makes every Christmas exciting. My family is not

rich, but with love and a little money we try and make every Christmas memorable.

Love in my family makes every Christmas most memorable.

A lamp for Grandma

Karen Shaffer

"Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas boys and girls! Have all you been good little boys and girls all year long?" bellowed the ugly fat man in one of those cheap, wrinkled, poor excuse for a Santa suit.

The group of children ranging from one month to ten years burst into a melody of squeals, shouts, and shrieks. Jeremy, who was standing farther back than rest of the children was still holding my hand. He didn't scream when "Santa" came front and

center, but I saw his eyes light up.

I squatted down so I could maybe recapture some of the magic by seeing the man from a shorter level. It didn't work. I was about to stand back up when Jeremy turned to me and asked why Santa Claus look like that. I told him Santa always wore a red suit and looked like that. Jeremy gave me his "don't treat me like I'm stupid" look, so I asked him what he meant. Jeremy proceeded to inform me that Santa Claus looked different. I'm pretty sure Jeremy was seeing the lack of warmth in the man. I got the feeling this man did this every year for hours on end and truthfully didn't enjoy his work.

I felt really bad that Jeremy didn't want to talk to "Santa", but I was secretly happy he saw thru the commercialism. I

My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention

uary. I'm glad my memories of him are so special.

My most memorable Christmas

Trey Taylor

my own, and these were the most wonderful shoes I had ever seen. Actually they were boots and the going thing in '71. One pair was plain white and zipped up the side. The second pair was white with red laces up the front. Those were my favorite! But since I couldn't talk mom into getting both pair, I settled for the plain white ones. For the rest of the day those red and white boots were on my mind. I really wanted those boots.

Christmas was getting closer and like every other kid, I had a list in my head of everything I wanted. Putting aside the boots, I had a vision of one of those miniature kitchen appliance sets. I had a great imagination and I could just picture myself cooking a meal for my family on my very own stove.

Well, it finally came--Christmas Eve. We've always opened gifts on Christmas Eve and I was eager. I was all dressed up in a cute little dress and my white boots. My hair was curled so tight I could have passed for Shirley Temple.

The time was drawing near for opening presents and Mom and Grandad decided they wanted to take me for an ice cream. The idea sounded good to me, because I was never one to turn down ice cream. When we return I found that Santa Claus had been there. There by the tree sat my kitchen set that I wanted. I was so surprised and beside myself. As we continued with the evening I received two other gifts that I remember well. One was a toy piano with bench and all. The second was that pair of boots that I had wanted so badly.

The Christmas I've just described is really the only one that stands out in my mind. Another reason this Christmas is labeled "my most memorable" one is because it was the last Christmas my grandfather shared with us. We were very close and he passed away the following Jan-

uary. I'm glad my memories of him are so special.

My most memorable Christmas

Trey Taylor

It was a usual Sunday afternoon during August. My grandparents from my mother's side of the family were staying with us. My grandfather and my brothers had just walked in after playing with the dogs outside.

We were all there, my grandparents, my parents, my two brothers, and me. Sitting in the living room. Sitting with each other, enjoying each other. I could feel the warmth among us just by being in the same room with them. It was a perfect picture that was shattered when my grandmother had a fatal heart attack that day. That day in August which appeared to be so usual.

When she died, I could feel a part of me dying with her. It was the most painful thing I have ever felt. I would have rather walked on hot coals or taken bamboo shoots under the finger nails than to feel what I felt that day.

What really hurt me was having Christmas without her.

My family decided it would be best to have Christmas at my aunt's house instead of my grandfather's house.

During the entire Christmas vacation something wasn't right, something was missing. Maybe it was the gingerbread men that my grandmother baked for us every Christmas we came to her house. Maybe it was the red-velvet cake with sweet white icing. Maybe it was her.

Things could never be the same without her. At this point I realize that she had lived every day as if it were her last. She was one of the best Christians I ever knew. She understood the Bible in a way I never will. Beyond a doubt, she had lived life to it's fullest and was one of the most caring,

helpful individuals I have ever known. Because of this, she was eternally rewarded. I learned a very important lesson that day. Life is not forever, so we should live every day, every hour even every minute as if it were our last.

My most memorable Christmas

Janet Barlemann

The Christmas tree lights were flickering on and off across the room. The tree was beautiful with our traditional ornaments hanging from every limb. Clustered underneath the tree were the brilliantly wrapped presents. Decorations were placed about the room. Our stockings were up just waiting to be filled. The beautiful Nativity scene was set just right on the coffee table.

Excitement seemed to bubble forth from this room for it was Christmas Eve. Everyone was in the living room remembering past Christmases. Mother read the Christmas story while Laura and I sat close to Daddy. It was such a warming story. The birth of Jesus has always touched my heart.

I went over to the piano and pulled out the Christmas music I had so diligently been trying to learn. As my fingers began to move over the keys they suddenly came alive. The music was sweeter than ever before. Soon everyone was behind me singing the carols. We were a united family. It was such a warm feeling. We sang until we couldn't any longer. I looked at the piano and it seemed to glow brilliantly; I haven't seen it since.

Mother made us some hot chocolate. It has never tasted to yummy. I felt so content.

As I lay in my bed I couldn't help but wonder if Santa would bring my heart's desires. I had been extra good. I hope that everyone else would get what they wanted most.



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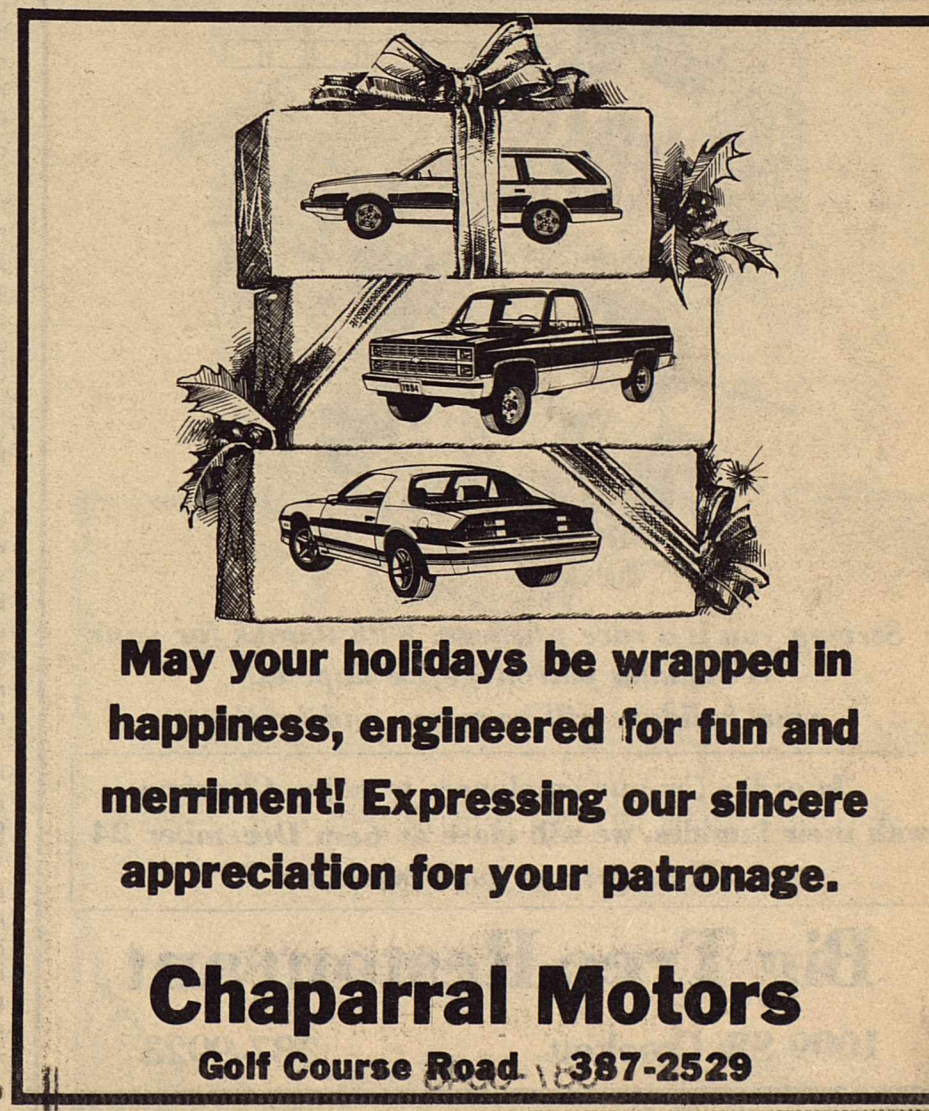
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My most memorable . . .

Honorable Mention

talked for hours. He was asking me if I liked it in Ft. Worth and things like that. I thought the time to open our presents would never come. The next morning finally came. As soon as I woke up I ran to the Christmas tree. The first one I opened was the one from my grandfather. It was the most beautiful doll. Her name was Chrissy. I had wanted the doll for a long time. I ran to give him a big hug and he told me there was more outside there was a bike next to the door. When I turned around to my grandfather there were tears in his eyes. I told him I loved him and his gift. He loved his gift though I don't remember what it was but I do know that his greatest gift to me was his love and him. Though I really miss his presents on Christmas I'll never forget my grandfather, the greatest gift of my life.

A day of remembrance

Mike Ramos

At the age of seven I spent Christmas with my family and maternal grandparents in far West Texas. Although many of us know that West Texas is not the best place for scenic views, it does have its good parts. The year was nineteen seventy nine and it had been a cold year at that. The past three years had gone by and snow had not fallen at all. My grandparents could not remember the last time that it had snowed on Christmas. Being as cold as it was, it looked like snow would come pouring down any second.

I remember preparing to attend church on Christmas Eve. We dressed warmly then left.

The mass had a sense of togetherness and made all of us happy. I remember the songs that were sung so beautifully and the way the people were so joyous.

After the mass, it was a time of rejoicing and exchanging gifts. Everybody

seemed happy with their gifts and all were thankful. But after it was all over, we looked out the window and saw that the snow was pouring down. Although it was a West Texas Christmas, it was the best I ever had!

My most memorable Christmas

Stacy Day

Families joining together to celebrate the birth of Christ, children waiting impatiently for Santa and mom in the kitchen constantly for a month is what Christmas is all about. Christmas is a happy time of the year with bright lights, mistletoe, and Christmas trees used to get into the holiday spirit. Each Christmas is a special one, but one always stands out as being the most memorable.

My most memorable Christmas was when I was almost four years old. I was young but I remember it very well. Daddy gave me a quarter for defining "Christmas" for him. I thought I was rich! We had good times and bad times that winter. In November we discovered that my five month old brother had cancer. I didn't understand much about it, but I knew that he might die. He was so tiny.

He was admitted to the hospital soon after his diagnosis. Our family was very upset. He had to have surgery right away and none of us were too sure that he would be with us for Christmas. We were very scared. My parents prepared my younger sister and me for the despair and hard times that were yet to come. The operation and follow-up therapy was going to cost a lot of money. We weren't going to have much of a Christmas that year--not even a tree.

I stayed with my grandparents during most of my brother's hospitalization. Through the very good work of the doctors, he pulled through the surgery although he still had to

have chemotherapy treatments. The doctors reluctantly allowed him to come home for Christmas. Our family was emotionally drained, but very happy that my brother was still alive.

We arrived home to a dark and lonely house not expecting much. We cried tears of joy when we opened the door and discovered that our friends and family had put up a Christmas tree--with presents under it! Our family was going to have a Christmas after all, and a good one at that. It is so nice to know that there are people around who really care about you. Things were bad for us, but they go much better.

We almost lost something very valuable that Christmas--something more valuable than a Barbie doll or a Christmas tree. We learned the true meaning of Christmas. We learned that there is more to Christmas than toys and decorations. I'm just happy that my family and friends pulled together and gave me a Christmas that I'll never forget.

My most memorable Christmas

Sidonna Ridgeway

My most memorable Christmas? Well, it took place in Breckenridge at my home. I had reached the age of 3 1/2 and acted like I was six or seven. Being around grown-ups all the time, I acted big for my age.

Our holiday fever began in Abilene. We went shopping at the mall and I thought it was the greatest place on earth. All of the people and all of the toys! I wanted a little bit of everything. We were strolling through the mall window shopping and enjoying the holiday spirit when something caught my eye. They were in the window at Austin Shoes and I just had to have them. I've been a shoe freak ever since I've been able to pick

My most memorable . . .

Honorable Mention

smiled at my nephew, very proud of him right then, and he asked if I would get him some popcorn.

We were walking along eating his peanut butter popcorn and talking about what we were going to buy Grandma. He wanted to get her a lamp with President Reagan's face on it and I wanted to get her a cameo. I took him to lunch with a massive feeling of pride. Not once had he showed me what he wanted for Christmas. We looked only at gifts to give, not to have. I'll never forget the love that was in mom's face when she opened her lamp.

My most memorable Christmas

Manisha Patel

A Christmas in England--what more could one ask for? I spent almost nine months in England. My trip to this country was a result of an early Christmas present.

I have many relatives in England and this was my only chance to visit them. Since we are Indians, we celebrate not Christmas, but Diwali. In our country, Diwali represents a new year.

Diwali means "cluster of lights." This is the time of the year when members of a family call for blessings to forgive one's misbehavior and lead them to the path of right conduct. During this time of year, brothers visit their sisters to strengthen family ties. The sister asks the Lord for her brother having long life, and the brother, in return, offers happy life in her marriage as well as offering presents.

In India, boys and girls of the same caste are spiritually considered as each other's brother and sister. Since my sister and I are the only children in our family, we consider our cousins to be our real brothers and experiencing sisterhood with them. It has my pleasure and happiness to spend that time with them.

During our Christmas,

we have dances call Raas Gorma. This dance is held in honor of our Goddess Shakti, god of energy. They use sticks in the dance, making a perfect circle surrounding a picture of our goddess. We have devotional singing to give strength to the goddess. This dance usually lasts for nine nights.

The time I spent in England with my relatives was wonderful. I will always remember this time of my life. I had a chance to meet my relatives after thirteen years. This Christmas resembled a family reunion.

I know now how people feel during Christmas. It gives everyone a chance to reunite and meet each other. If I was given a chance to relive any day of my life, I would choose my happiest day--my most memorable Christmas in England.

The Christmas screecher

Kelly Cahill

The horizon had just begun to glow with the breaking of a new day when I awoke. As soon as I became fully conscious, a surge of excitement ran through my body. It's Christmas!

I sat up in bed and listened. There wasn't a sound in the whole house. Why was I always the first one awake? That meant I had to wait the longest to see what Santa had brought. We weren't supposed to go into the living room before Mama and Daddy got up.

I couldn't stand it. I tip-toed down the hall towards my parents' room. They were still asleep. I peeked in my brother's room and he was asleep too. I had to do it now or never.

As quietly as I could I stole towards the living room. The only sound was the sound of my heart pounding madly. Finally, I was to the doorway. All I had to do was peek around the corner and I could see. I held my breath and glanced quickly

behind me--nothing. I could almost see as I leaned slowly around the corner, when a piercing screech broke the silence. Suddenly stealth was no longer of any consequence. Something in the living room was after me. I just knew it. Everything seemed to be a blur as I made a mad dash back to my bed and safety under the covers.

I lay in my bed with the covers over my head for several minutes. What could it have been? Was it one of those "spirits of Christmas Present" haunting me because I hadn't been able to contain my curiosity? What kind of creature was in our living room? I must have hidden well because whatever it was obviously hadn't found me yet.

I listened intently. There wasn't a sound. Slowly, I pulled the covers down so only my eyes showed. I glanced around the room. Nobody was there. I sat up and tried to look out my door to see if anything was in the hall. From my vantage point at the end of the bed, I couldn't see anything unusual so, very cautiously, I picked up the covers, and looked under the bed. Wheh! Nothing there either!

I had to know what it was. I could tell this was an assignment for the little brother, my security back up. There was no choice but to let him in on my scheme to peek.

I slipped silently into his room and shook his shoulder. He opened his eyes and I could tell by his expression when he remembered it was Christmas. His eyes sparkled and his mouth spread into a big grin when I asked him if he would go with me to look at the tree. Of course, I didn't tell him there was a frightening enigma in the living room.

We crept down the hall, me following, towards the living room. He peeked around the corner and nothing happened. When he stepped into the room, he "wasn't even eaten."

con't. next page

May all the joys of the season be yours.

Belle Steen

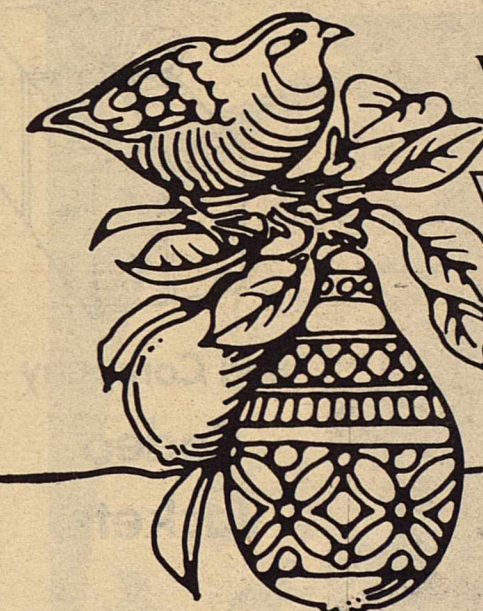


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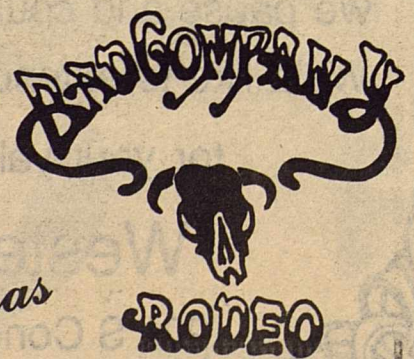
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Merry
Christmas



My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention

guessed it was safe to cautiously look, then.

I stepped into the room and stood in awe gazing at the lighted Christmas tree and bulging stockings. It was beautiful—so quiet and enchanting. The tree stood in the middle knowing all but telling nothing. How had our homely living room been so magically transformed into such a place of splendor and wonder? I was so spellbound I forgot for a moment about the Banshee. I remembered when I heard a scratching sound in the corner. My brother walked over to a square shaped object covered with a sheet and picking it up he revealed the screecher. It was a beautiful blue parakeet in a little metal cage.

My first true Christmas

Jennifer Ivy

I don't want you to get me wrong, I had had other Christmases before this one, but it's the first in many ways.

I remember it well, I was going to visit my grandmother and noticed a nativity scene. Then for the first time, my grandmother told me the Christmas Story. It's strange to think of someone as powerful as Jesus being born in a manger. I guess my favorite part of the Christmas Story is when the Angel appears to the shepherds and the Wisemen and told them of the Kings birth. I can imagine how afraid they must have been at first and the North Star must have shone with a great brilliance. Things must have seemed really beautiful when they reached the manger where the Baby Jesus lay.

That Christmas it didn't seem to matter if my brothers had more presents than I did, but, I must admit I still counted. I can't say that I stopped enjoying the commercial parts of Christmas because I still did and do. But for once, it didn't seem so useless, for once there was a real reason for the gift giving

and family members I hadn't seen in years appearing at the door. Don't get me wrong, it's kind of sad that we need a reason, but the thing is, I finally understood Christmas and of course that meant I enjoyed it even more.

A cold Christmas

Shaumarie Scoggins

Memorable Christmas, there were many, yet one stands out in my memory more than any others. It was two years ago and a very cold, icy Christmas. I'm sure many people remember that Christmas. My immediate family, my mother's father or my Granddaddy George, and some very close friends were there to share it with us. Our friends, Jack and Jeannie Lee and their daughter Geneva, arrived about two or three days before Christmas. The weather was getting colder and we spent most of the days by the fireplace. Yet when we ventured out it was for more firewood. About a day before Christmas our water lines to the house from the windmill froze up on the ranch. Jeannie developed a rather severe case of dysentery so we ended up hauling water from the stock tank to the house at regular intervals. It's funny now, but it sure wasn't funny when we had to go out in the cold to get water. Somehow we survived, though. Granddaddy got to the house Christmas morning and was recruited immediately to breaking ice in troughs. After busting ice in about 10 troughs around the ranch in the icy wind, Granddaddy bluntly told us that the next time he visited us he would make sure it was warm. After our ice-breaking session it was time to open presents. We could hardly wait! Geneva kept telling me that one of my presents had eight legs and you could sit on it. I had a vision of a table with eight legs but no idea what it would be used for. My little brother, Cody, and I

were getting a gift together. It would help us with dishes but wouldn't do them alone. We had no idea what this would be. Finally we got to find out. My parents sent me to the barn for my gift. I couldn't believe what was staring back at me through the open door. My dad's black and white paint mare. And she was pregnant. Now she belonged to me. I was so happy that I wanted to stay out in the cold with her. Now that's what I call happy. The gift to my brother and me was a dishwasher. We had wanted one for a long time so we finally got it. It sure is nice not having to hand-wash dishes now. Jeannie got over her dysentery the day she left and she was not in a good mood. I'll probably always remember that Christmas because it brought us all closer together. I love my family and friends for showing me how to laugh and have a good time even while I'm miserable and freezing.

Christmas and coming of age

Heather Bunkley

What is more fun at Christmas time, the anticipation or the actual day? When I was much younger, my Christmas list was started the day after Halloween and not finished until Christmas Eve. During the weeks between, I lived in constant anticipation of the big day. I counted and recounted the gifts with my name on them under the tree and reminded my mother daily of what I wanted.

The year that comes to mind most often when I think of Christmas was the year that I was seven. That Christmas I asked for a green machine, a doll, and a watch. I received all of them, but my favorite was the green machine, a vehicle similar to a big wheel. It was long and green and had two levers to turn the wheels with instead of a steering wheel. I remember vividly a couple of wrecks on Christmas morning in

My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention

up so I went to my older brother's room and woke him up. We woke up my other brother and sister, then we all went to the living room. We giggled so much, Mom and Dad were up in a few minutes. We all gathered around the tree while Dad told us the sweet story of baby Jesus. I don't remember the gifts I received that year. I just remembered the wonderful feeling I had inside, sitting around the tree, the fire popping, with the people I loved the most.

Ill Christmas

Brandy Ware

I have always loved Christmas. I think that it is one of the very best times of the year. We can sing Christmas carols, open presents, and celebrate the birth of Christ. I always

loved waiting for Santa and waking early in the morning to open presents, but one year, when I was about four, I had a very unusual Christmas. I was ill with the flu.

I had been in bed with a high fever for about three days, and I couldn't even walk. I was very pale and felt terrible, and I didn't get a chance to search for my presents. I had wanted a doll and a tricycle.

On Christmas morning Daddy carried me into the living room to open presents. There was a new tricycle and a doll from Santa, the exact one I wanted. My stocking was stuffed with clothes for my doll and candy canes. We sat and opened presents for an hour. I received lots and lots of presents. Of course you do, when you're little.

When it came time for Christmas dinner Mom told me to go to bed. I wanted to cry, the table was set

beautifully. There was turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, jello salad, rolls and lots of pie, but I couldn't eat. The doctor had said only liquids and I still had a high fever. I went to bed without playing with my toys. After a few days I was well. I got left-overs and got to play with my toys. I really didn't enjoy the Christmas but I do remember it. Since then I have had many Christmases, none of which is as memorable, but all of them are special.

Oh Christmas tree

Mary Huckaby

Everyone knows that one of the traditions of the holidays is the joy of picking out the Christmas Tree. One of my most memorable Christmases was highlighted by the acquisition of our tree.

My mother had decided that this particular year our family would get "back to the basics." To my mother this meant cutting our own tree. She had it all arranged. We would go to the tract of land on the Wednesday before Christmas to cut the tree.

Knowing little to nothing about Christmas trees one might have called us novices. Well none-the-less we trued out into the cold December air.

Saw in hand, we proceeded to find the perfect tree. They were all so big! We decided to take a portion of an extremely large pine tree with, of course, lots of pine cones.

We transported "the tree" to our car and gingerly placed it in the trunk. The trip home juggled the tree around quite a bit. To this day we still have tree needles in our car.

My dad took one look at the tree and almost fell

down laughing. He informed us that the tree we loved so much was nothing more than a branch off a real tree.

We made handmade decorations to adorn the tree that had become the major conversation piece of our home.

It was not really the idea of the mistake of chopping a branch but the thought of making this Christmas extra-special by doing things ourselves that leaves a warm place in my heart.

Christmas now is so artificial and manmade that this Christmas will always be etched in my mind.

My greatest gift

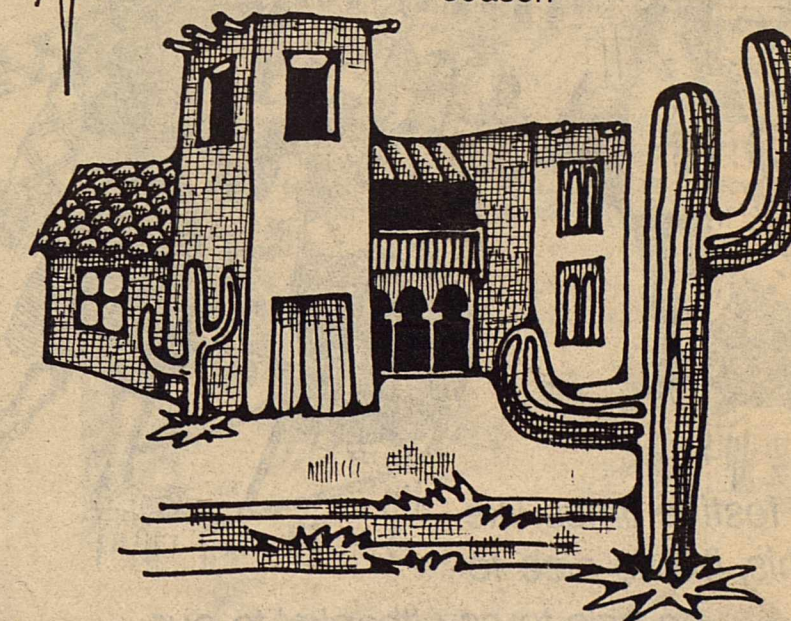
Angie Carrasco

I have had many memorable Christmases but the most memorable Christmas was the last one I spent with my grandfather. I was living in Ft. Worth at the

time. When I was out for the holidays we came to Sonora. It was a long, cold trip but it was worth it because I wanted to see my grandfather. My mom and I got to Sonora about one that afternoon. We went straight to my grandfather's house. When I walked in the house the first thing I saw was a big, tall Christmas tree. It was beautiful. It had ornaments I had made when I was in kindergarten through second grade. It had an assortment of light and of course candy canes. Under the tree there were lots of gifts. I ran to the car and brought in some more. I put the one to my grandfather right in front of all the others. I could smell hot chocolate so I ran to the kitchen. My grandfather was sitting at the end of the table with a big smile on his face. I ran up to him and gave him a big hug. We

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May your holidays be
furnished with all the joys of the
season

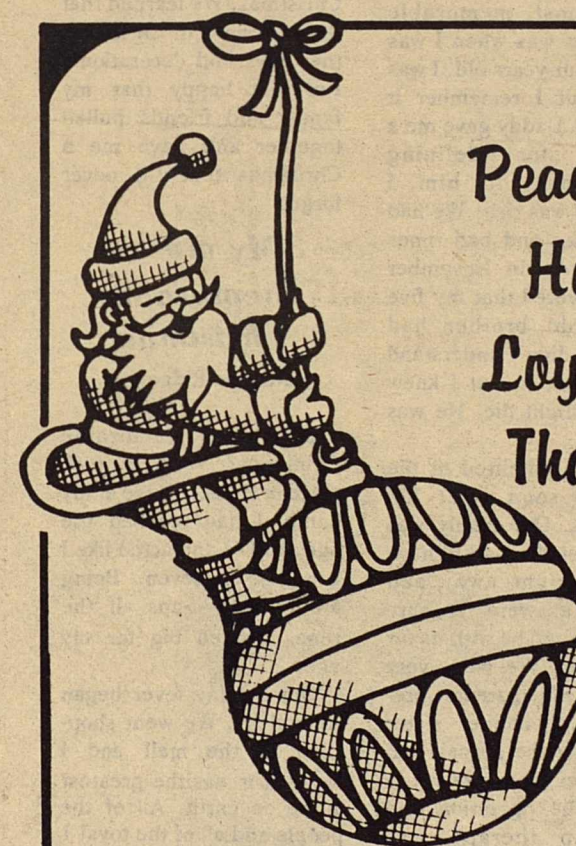


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My most memorable . . .
Honorable Mention

upwards saying "I know, I know" throughout the conversation.

The next few days were some of the most enjoyable I have ever spent, of course I could go on and tell about all the sights we saw and all the people we met but I'll leave that for another day. Before I sign off I would like to say thanks mom and dad for letting me have my most memorable Christmas to date.

A Christmas to remember
Gayann Dobbs

I was only seven at the time but I'll never forget that special Christmas. We lived in a house outside a small town in New Mexico. My younger brother and I had been praying for snow all week. It finally fell the night before Christmas Eve. We got out of our cozy beds excited at the white wonderland in our front yard.

We dashed outside as soon as we had gotten bundled up. My older brother and sister came out after laughing at our snowball fight. We finally got a snowman up and put on the carrot nose, black hat, and the button eyes. By the time Mom got us inside by the fire, our fingers and toes were frozen. She had made some delicious hot chocolate for us to drink.

While we were getting warm, we all started looking at the beautifully wrapped gifts under our tree. I didn't think I could stand waiting any longer. We all begged Mom and Dad to let us open just one gift but they wouldn't give in. They told us we were going to Grandma's and Grandpa's house for dinner and could open their gifts tonight. I was so excited when we all piled in the car. I wondered all the way to their house if they would like the gifts I had carefully picked out for them.

At Grandma's house, she had a feast cooked for us. After putting their gifts under the tree, we all tried to guess what our presents were. After our wonderful meal, my brothers and sister and I went out and played in the snow. When we finally got too tired and cold, we came in and my grandfather played his harmonica while we sang Christmas carols.

It was finally time to open our presents. Every Christmas, we let the younger ones open their presents first. I waited patiently while my younger brother opened his. As soon as his were out, I tore into mine. We played with our new toys until we fell asleep. Dad carried us to the car, still sleeping.

The next morning, I was the first one up. I tiptoed around the house. First, I went to the living room and peeked into my stocking. I was so excited, I couldn't wait for everyone to wake

My most memorable . . .
Honorable Mention

the neighbor's driveway. The doll and watch were hardly a match for my attention with the green machine, but I was excited about them all the same. The watch had three different bands—pink, white and pale blue. This was the perfect time to receive a watch because I had just learned to tell time, and I shared my knowledge with everyone.

At the time, I didn't realize this, but that Christmas was to be special because it was the last Christmas that we were together as a family before my parents divorced.

I've had many exciting Christmases since then, but that one comes to mind most often. I've realized that Christmases blend together after a certain age, maybe because people don't ask for green machines when they are sixteen, but whatever the reason, Christmas should be remembered as a time for sharing and giving and receiving love.

My most memorable Christmas
Chele McEwen

There is only one Christmas that really stands out. This one was the one which was my great grandmother's last Christmas, the last one she remembered who you were.

On every Christmas Eve we go to my grandparents house. We eat dinner, clean up the table, open

gifts, clean up and then go home. When you just set your foot in the door you can smell the sweet smells, pies, cakes, candy, and cookies. Then the tempting smell of the turkey in its last few minutes of cooking.

In the living room you could see a tall, brightly decorated tree. It's lights were lighting the room up with all different colors. The tree had many different shaped and colored ornaments on it, all had been through the years.

The tree had many different shaped and colored ornaments on it, all had been through the years. The tree was an old chair. Its cushions had been worn through many years of people relaxing on it. Sitting in this chair was an elderly woman. Her build was small, her weight looked very low, her face was wrinkled through time. Then her hair was gray and very thin. The only thing that stood out the most was the bright smile her worn face held. Then in her hands there was a small gift. The gift was wrapped in blue paper with a silver bow tied around it.

Soon the table was set with any kind of food one could think of. There was ham, turkey, gravy, hot rolls, corn, casseroles, pies, cakes, cookies, and candies. I noticed the whole time we sat there this one gift never left her lap.

Once our eyes could see no more, we left the table to go to the living room. Once there we all sat in the spacious room. While I, the youngest, passed out the gifts. There were small

ones, large ones, all different colors. Then, once they were all passed out, we all began to open them. Eyes, smiles, sighs of joy told that each surprise inside was unexpected but enjoyed.

Then just as I was reaching for my last gift a frail hand handed me that small gift that had puzzled me the whole night. I looked up slowly to see a warm smile that seemed to say, "This is my most precious gift to you." I opened it and it was a beautiful gold ring.

Then a few days later she had her first of many strokes. Now she is confined to the bed.

So for now on I will relive that warm smile that was her last one, for me.

Christmas in Sonora

Emily Gonzales

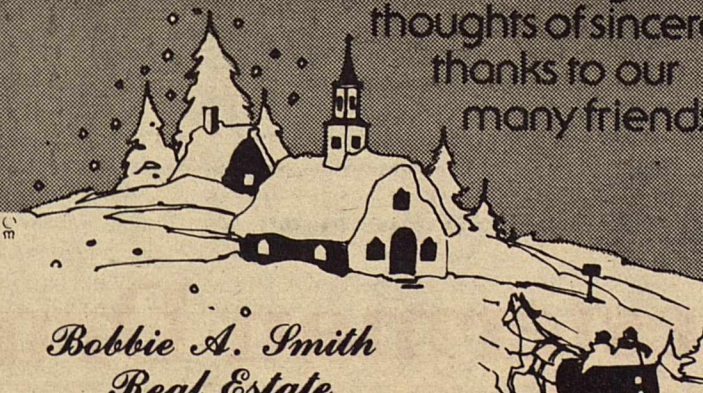
I experienced my most memorable Christmas as a child. My family had just moved to Sonora. I was eight years old, and my brother, John, was eight.

Our parents were born and raised here, and pride shined on their face as they described Sonora to us. Many memories were spent in this town by mom and dad and John and I listened to every detail.

I went last-minute Christmas shopping with Mimi, my grandmother on Dad's side. She showed me the lights on Sonora's

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As we celebrate His holy birth and peace on earth, we're offering our thoughts of sincere thanks to our many friends.



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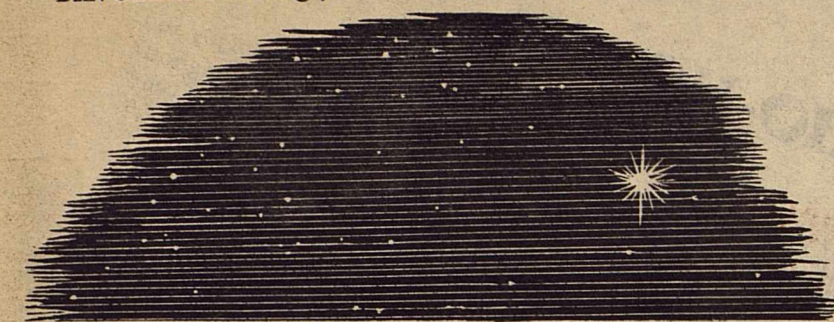
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Season's Greeting's



O, silent night,
O, holy night!
May the joy and wonder
of the shepherds as
they watched over their
flock live on
in us all. Rejoice!

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My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention

downtown, and surrounding streets.

We visited the moving Santa Claus at the one and only bank. The little stores displayed snow, tiny towns, and many other objects that represented Christmas spirit.

It seemed strange that Mimí knew everyone in Sonora. Friendly greetings were said with responses just as nice.

Christmas Eve my family attended mass at my mother's church. Nanny, my other grandmother, sat beside me, as we held hands. The mass was lovely, and happiness was spread from person to person.

We all returned to Nanny and Fata's, my grandfather, home. Everyone drank hot chocolate, so they ate home baked cake and cookies.

Fata began the Christmas singing with his superb voice, as "Silent Night" began.

Beside the window, a huge Christmas tree stood.

Lights shined all over and I thought they could last miles and miles. Seven stockings were hung over the chimney with each grandchild's name.

As Christmas Eve was ending, the sleeping children were carried to bed, as the rest of us walked.

Before I closed my heavy eyes, I prayed to the Lord and thanked him for my family and the best grandmothers ever.

I fell asleep, dreaming of Santa Claus sliding down the chimney with his bag full of toys—all for me!

A special gift

Juanita Robles

My most memorable Christmas was when I was eight years old. I remember I wanted so many gifts for Christmas that I would remind my parents about all the gifts I wanted. Christmas was getting closer and closer and I was

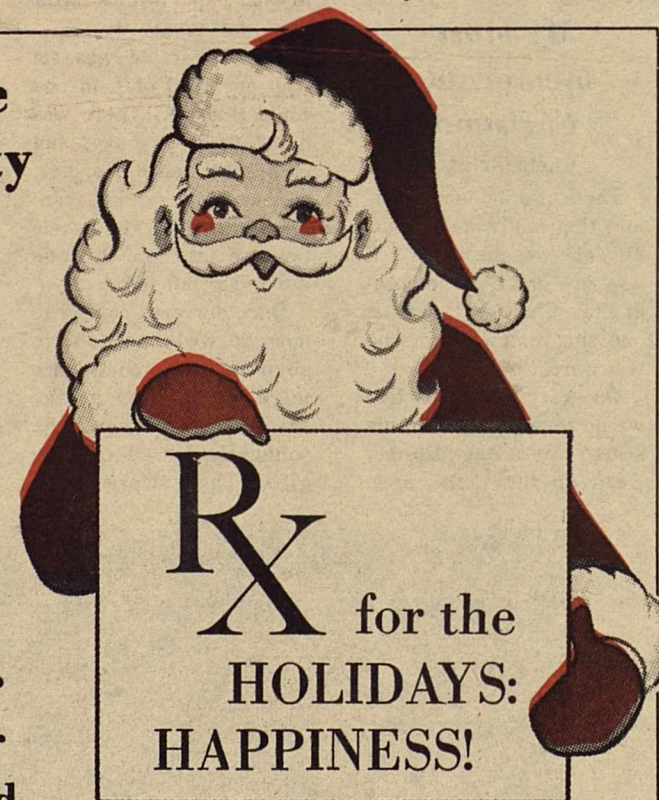
constantly reminding my parents about the gifts. I would imagine myself with all the toys I wanted. Finally the day had arrived and it was Christmas. I jumped out of bed and went running to the Christmas tree to gather my presents. When I got there it was to my surprise to find only four presents with my name on them so to make sure I wasn't dreaming I looked at all the other presents making sure I had not missed any other one that belonged to me and again I only found four presents. I started crying because at that moment I felt mad and sad at the same time. I was also very confused. As I looked up I saw my parents staring at me. I got up from my knees and started yelling at them asking them why, why I didn't get the rest of the things I had asked for. I reminded them that I had been a good girl. My dad sat me on his lap and my mother sat beside him. They told me that I did not

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My most memorable . . . Honorable Mention

get the rest of the gifts because I did not need all those things and that I should learn to accept things because in my lifetime I was not going to get everything I wanted. I understood and after that talk they told me that they had one special gift for me so I was excited and I stood up expecting something big and beautiful. They stood up and gave me a kiss and told me that their love for me was the greatest gift I could ever receive from them.

That Christmas was the best Christmas ever because that has been the best gift I have ever received....The gift of love that comes from the heart.

My most memorable Christmas

Joe Paul Solis

A few years ago it was decided by my parents that

we would take a trip to New York during our holidays. I was not very pleased with this decision because it meant I would not see my grandparents for the holidays. My parents told me it would be a grand experience to see New York City but frankly at that time I would rather have stayed in Texas.

A few days later my father showed up with three first class tickets from El Paso to Dallas and from there we would transfer planes and be on our way to New York City. The plane trip was comfortable and I loved every minute of it. My mother, on the other hand, did not share the same feelings toward flying.

Somewhere along the way it was decided that we would also visit Washington D.C. as long as we were in the neighborhood. As we arrived the plane was kept in a holding pattern for an unusual amount of time. I

soon discovered why. New York City was covered two to three feet of snow. The aircraft was finally given clearance and we landed. Soon we were in a nice warm hotel and we settled down for the night.

The next morning I was eager to see what this fair city had to offer. To my disappointment we found out we couldn't even leave our hotel because of the snow. The rest of the day was spent in our room watching TV.

By the next day the snow level had gone down to a bearable degree and the sun had managed to break through the ominous cloud layer above us. My father deemed it was safe to go out sightseeing but not before I got a boring lecture on being careful in the big city. Of course, I thought I knew everything there was to know about life at the tender age of twelve. I proceeded to roll my eyes

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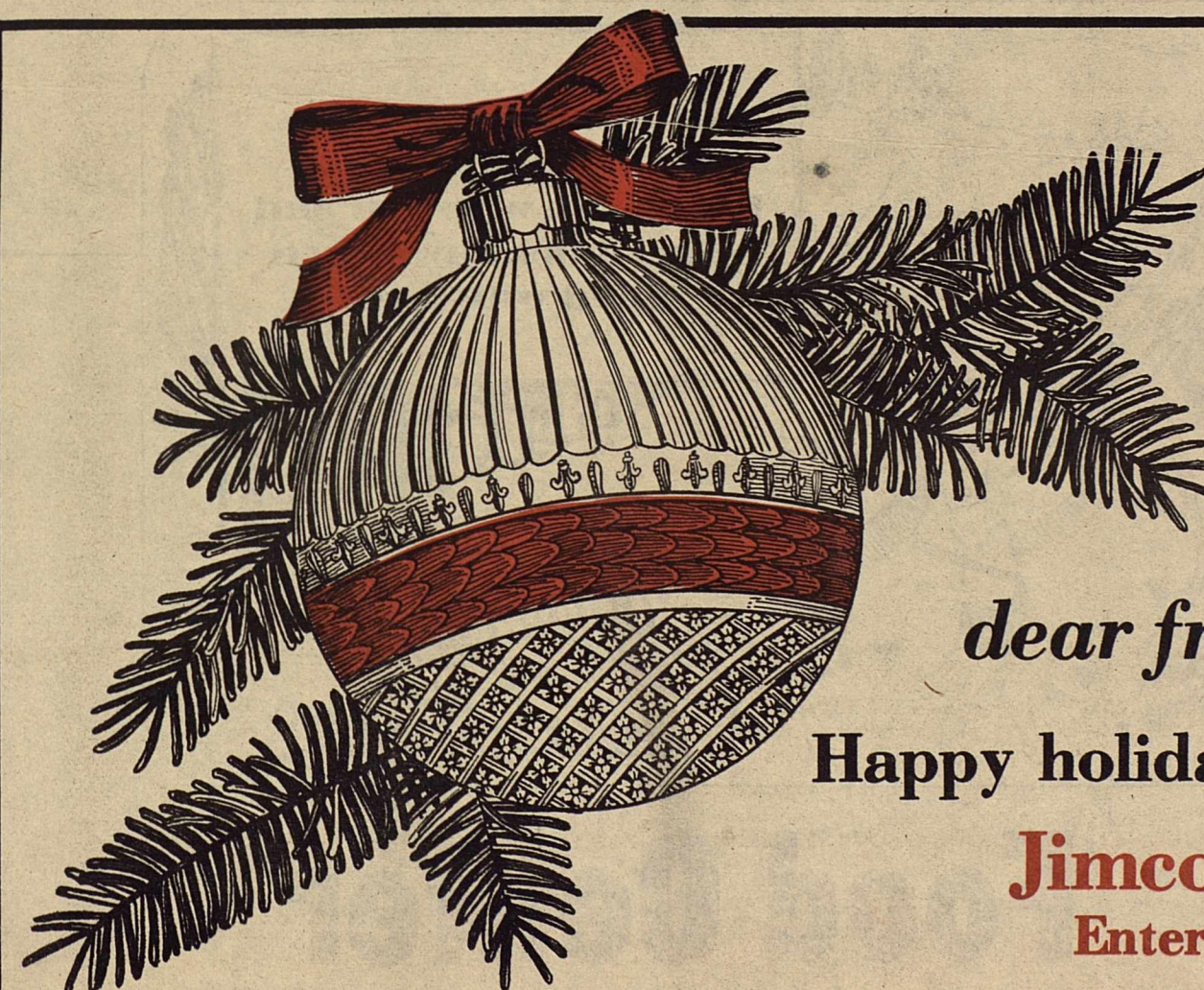
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