

Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 117 • Issue 47

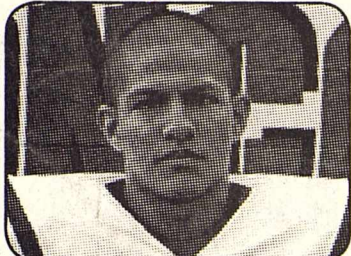
SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 1, 2005

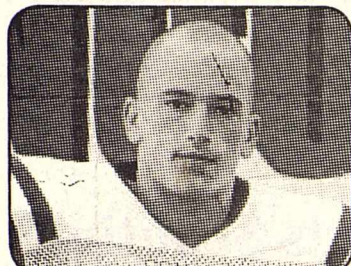
**2005 District 2-AA
All-District Football
Offensive MVP**



Anthony Longoria
Offense



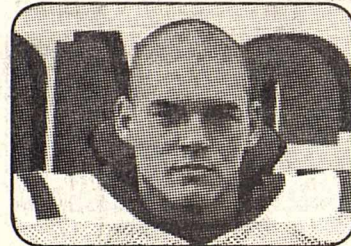
1st Team QB
Caleb Ramos



1st Team WR
Cameron Cox



1st Team Guard
Jesus Talamantes



1st Team Tackle
Dustin Duhon



2nd Team RB
Justin Northcott



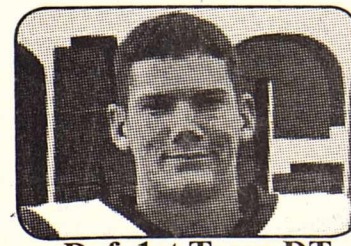
2nd Team Center
Mason Martinez



2nd Team Punter
Cullen Parker



Special Teams
Nash Traylor



Def. 1st Team DT
Off. 2nd Team Tackle
Embre Smith



Santa is headed to Sonora to see what all the little outlaws in Sutton County want for Christmas.

Celebrate an Old Fashioned Christmas on Main Street

by Ann Kay

On Wednesday, December 7, 2005, downtown Sonora is where you will want to be to jump start your holiday happenings and get you in Christmas state-of-mind.

The Friends of Historic Sonora is planning an Old Fashioned Christmas evening and will start the evening off at 5:00 p.m. with the arrival of the jolly old St. Nick and his sweetie Mrs. Santa who will be taking orders for Christmas wishes for special folks.

The evening will continue with entertainment provided by the dancers from "The Studio" and "The West Texas Cloggers."

If you get hungry there will be hot cocoa, hot dogs, and chicken on a stick, in addition to the traditional Christmas Cookies to make the evening complete.

You can visit our downtown shops that will be open to help you find the special person in your life a wonderful Christmas gift. The magic of Christmas will be in the air and holiday tunes will ring through the streets.

If you would like to have a booth and sell some of your special arts & crafts, call the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program at 325-387-2248 or just come on down Wednesday, December 7, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. and set up your booth.

Hope to see you at the "Christmas Downtown Celebration"!

National Fundraising Event Comes to West Texas "Ride to Provide" rolls into Sonora

"Ride To Provide" an eight day motorcycle fundraising event and Holiday gift drive for the displaced families affected by the horrendous 2005 hurricane season will be stopping in the small West Texas town of Sonora on Tuesday, December 6, 2005. Unlike most motorcycle rides, the "Ride To Provide" will include a convoy of trucks to transport donated items such as; household goods, holiday gifts & toys, hygiene necessities, water, athletic equipment, school supplies and anything else needed by the folks that still have no home.

This year's hurricane season devastated hundreds of thousands of families along America's gulf coast. Many of those that survived the storms are still homeless and displaced. In the immediate aftermath of these storms, millions of Americans were inspired to take action and send aid to the region. However, there are many that still remain destitute and need our help. Just because the memory is not as fresh on our minds, there are still many children and families that will not be able to go home for the Holidays, or have gifts to open, or food to eat.

The eight day motorcycle trek will kick off at the University of Southern California campus in Los Angeles on December 4th, and will end in Shreveport, Louisiana on December 11th. The Ride To Provide will end at the site where the homes are being built by the Fuller Center for Housing for needy displaced families. The ride will involve motorcyclists from all over the country, in a city-to-city 2034 mile relay ride. Along the route, the motorcycle convoy will stop at Arizona State University, University of Texas at El Paso, Sonora, Texas, University of Texas at Austin, and Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge picking up donated items and funds at each of the stops. All donated items and funds will be taken directly to the events final destination in Shreveport, Louisiana.

All funds raised by Ride To Provide will go directly to the Fuller Center for Housing. The

Fuller Center for Housing will use the donations from the Ride To Provide to rebuild 60 houses in Shreveport, Louisiana for displaced hurricane victims. For details on the Building on Higher Ground Campaign, please see www.fullercenter.org. Work will begin on the homes on December 12th, the very next day after the convoy of motorcycles and trucks arrive in Shreveport.

Sonora has been designated the collection point and sign up point for the Permian Basin and Big Country area. There will be Welcome to West Texas rally on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn in Sonora at about 6:00 pm, Tuesday, December 6, 2005. All donations collected through out West Texas will be presented to the Ride To Provide staff. To make a donation of funds mail to: Ride To Provide, Sonora Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 1172, Sonora, Texas 76950. To donate items for the holidays and the homes being built, mail your packages to: First National Bank of Sonora, 101 E. Main, Sonora, Texas 76950, Southwest Texas ACA, 221 E. Main, Sonora, Texas 76950, or Sonora Chamber of Commerce, 205 Hwy 277 North, Sonora, Texas 76950. For more information on the Ride To Provide please visit their website: www.ridetoprovide.com or the Sonora Chamber of Commerce website at: www.sonoratx-chamber.com.

For motorcycle enthusiasts that are interested in joining the ride in Sonora, please call the sign-up chairman, Jodie Luttrell at 325-387-6230 or 325-206-0036 or you may contact Sonora Chamber of Commerce, and we will fax or email a registration form to ride in the Ride To Provide event. For more information and Charitable Alliance information on the Ride To Provide please email your questions to: soncoc@sonoratx.net or call 325/387-2880.

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give!" If there was ever a time to give in America, now is that time!

City Council busy in November, meet twice

Sonora's City Council met in regular session on November 15, 2005. In addition to Mayor Gloria Lopez, all council members, Virgil Polocek, Smith Neal, Fred Perez, and Thomas Adkins, were present. Jim Polonis, City Manager; Beth Wallace, City Attorney; Patti Prather, City Secretary were also present, as well as Jim Cusenbary, Billy Lippman, Juanita Mesa, Ann Kay, Jimmy Cahill, Chief Edward M. House and Mallory Rousselot.

The minutes for the October 25, 2005 regular meeting were approved as written, as was the monthly report from the Sutton County Appraisal District.

The official ballot for the election of the 2006-2007 Sutton County Appraisal District Board of Directors was presented to the Council. A motion was made by Neal to cast the City's 130 votes for Brady Johnson. The motion was seconded by Polocek and carried unanimously.

Beth Wallace, City Attorney, explained to the Council that the SCAD collection contract presented was a standard annual contract with the SCAD to collect ad valorem taxes for the City of Sonora. Neal made a motion to approve the collection contract with SCAD, and with second by Polocek the motion was approved.

Polocek made a motion to accept a \$500.00 donation to the Senior Center from Marie Aldwell. The motion was seconded by Adkins and carried unanimously.

Mr. Cusenbary appeared before the board requesting a variance in order to build an open carport adjacent to the property line at Block 5, Lots 5 & 6, Castlehill Addition. He explained that the cover would be of cedar to match the storage building and a rain gutter would be installed to prevent drainage onto his neighbor's property. With a motion by Neal and a second by Polocek the variance was approved.

Jimmy Cahill, representing concerned property owners, requested that a portion of Orient Avenue located between Block 52A and Block 63A and a portion of Concho Street located between Block O and Block Q be permanently closed. He explained that these streets had not been used as open streets in many years, but had never been officially closed. A motion was made by Polocek to direct staff to begin procedures for the street closure. The motion was seconded by Neal and approved with all in favor.

Jim Polonis, City Manager, informed the Board of a new election law requiring the use of DRE systems for all elections beginning in 2006. Sutton County had purchased five machines with federal grants but due to City and other local elections being held on the same date, the County suggested the City and school each buy a unit in order for all entities to have enough machines for all polling places. The cost of one unit would be approximately \$8,500.00. A motion was made by Neal to approve the purchase of one (1) DRE unit. Polocek seconded the motion and the council approved the motion.

Ann Kay, Main Street Director, presented the City with the 2006 National Main Street City Award.

Kay also requested that a portion of Water Avenue, in front of the Courthouse, and one block of Main Street, in front of City Hall, be closed from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2005, for the Downtown Christmas Program.

Alvarez announces JP candidacy

Judge Adelita Smalling Alvarez has officially announced her 5th term for re-election candidacy for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 for Sutton County.

Judge Alvarez said "I have served this community with integrity and dedication for the past 14 years."

"My knowledge of the inner workings of the judicial system gives me the ability to implement procedures that will result in maintaining quality service to the community."

"As judges we have a responsibility in maintaining the community's trust in our judicial system. During my tenure I have upheld the conviction that an independent, fair and competent judiciary will govern us. As your judge I have and will continue to uphold these standards. I am privileged to serve as your justice of the peace and I am committed to leading with integrity and impartiality."

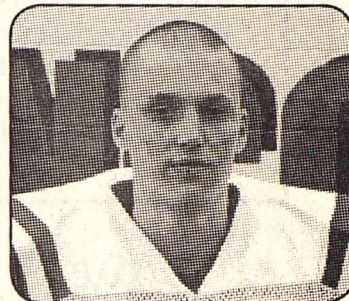
**2005 District 2-AA
All-District Football
Defensive MVP**



Steven Duhon
Defense



1st Team Outside LB
Chris Perez



1st Team Safety
Evan Gulley



2nd Team DE
Roland Solis

Honorable Mention



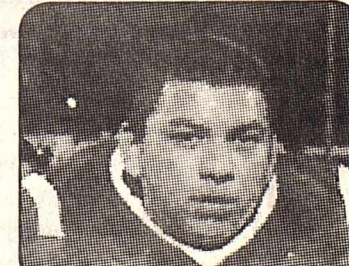
Uriel Santana - RB



Pedro Gloria - WR



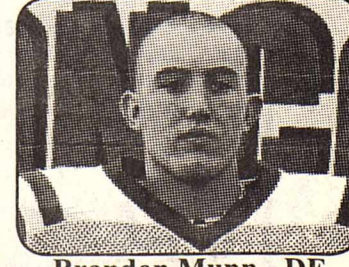
Craig Leonard - OLB



Aaron Gaytan - DT



Zadrian McGee - OL



Brandon Munn - DE

She explained that the downtown businesses would be open and activities were planned during this time. A motion was made by Perez to approve the closure of a portion of Water Avenue and Main Street for the program. With a second by Adkins the motion carried with all in favor.

Mallory Rousselot, representing "Keep Sonora Beautiful" informed the Council of a recycling event to be held at the Fairgrounds on November 30, 2005. All items will be disposed of through Goodwill and a recycler from San Angelo.

Ann Kay presented a rough draft of the application for the regional Texas Pecos Trail office and asked that the City consider approving a budget item expense of \$3,334.00 for office expenses.

At 6:34 p.m., Mayor Lopez announced that, in accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.074: (Personnel), the Council would convene into Executive Session to evaluate the City Manager. The executive session was adjourned at 6:54 p.m. and reconvened into open session.

A motion was made Neal, seconded by Polocek, to remove the City Manager from the new employee probation period. With all members voting in favor, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

The City Council met again, in a special meeting on November 22, 2005.

Present for this meeting were Mayor Lopez; Councilmembers Polocek, Neal, and Adkins; Beth Wallace, City Attorney; Jim Polonis, City Manager; and Patti Prather, City Secretary. Others present for all of part of the meeting were Billy Lippman, Max Horworth, Susan Hall, Summer Hall, Tim Griffiths and Ruthie Bounds.

Ruthie Bounds, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, informed the Council of a "Ride to Provide" group coming into Sonora on December 6, 2005. She explained that 75 to 400 motorcycle riders would be in Sonora for a fundraiser and the Chamber would like to close a portion of Water Avenue from Poplar to Oak Street from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. for the welcome, presentation of donations and motorcycle display. The council unanimously approved the closure of the street.

Bounds then presented the Council with a rough draft of the CVCOC Solid Waste Pass-Through Grant which included a resolution to appoint an authorizing agent and financial agent. A motion was made by Polocek to approve the resolution, appointing Ruthie Bounds as authorizing agent and Susan Hall as financial agent for the COG grant. The motion was seconded by Neal and passed with all in favor.

The Council conducted the first reading of a resolution authorizing the expenditure by the Sonora Industrial Development Board of 4B sales tax to MAC Oilfield Company in the amount of \$40,000.00 to promote new or expanded business development. They also held the first reading of a resolution authorizing the expenditure by the S.I.D.C. Board of 4B sales tax for special grant assistance in the amount of \$50,000.00 to promote new or expanded business development. No action was taken on either reading.

At 6:04 p.m., Mayor Lopez announced that in accordance with Texas Government Code,

See City Council page 5

**Lighthouse
Community Church**

A place for returning Prodigals
and recovering Pharisees

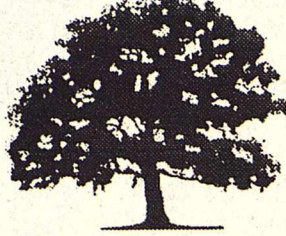
Sunday Services

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.
1705 N. Crockett

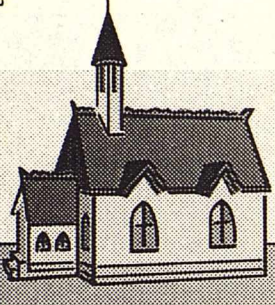
Taco Grill

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

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HEALTH FOUNDATION**

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


**Sonora
Church
Directory**

<p>Primera Iglesia Bautista 504 Santa Clara 387-2035</p> <p>The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616</p> <p>Lighthouse Community Church 1705 N. Crockett 387-9100</p> <p>Pentecostal Calvary Temple United 509 Amistad 387-5266</p> <p>St. Ann's Catholic Church 229 W. Plum 387-2278</p> <p>Jehovah's Witness 310 St. Ann's St. 387-5658/387-5518</p>	<p>Church of Christ 304 N. Water 387-3190</p> <p>First Baptist Church 111 E. Oak 387-2951</p> <p>St. John's Episcopal Church 404 E Poplar 387-2955</p> <p>First United Methodist Church 201 N. Water 387-2466</p> <p>Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713</p> <p>Hope Lutheran Church 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366</p>
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USPS (155-920)

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Owner: Cam Longley Campbell

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• \$25 per year out of county

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be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication.
The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of
the staff.

 **Member 2005**
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Obituary

Norbert McIntyre

Norbert McIntyre, 75, of Midland, passed away Tuesday, November 22, 2005, at Midland Memorial Hospital following a courageous battle with lung cancer.

Norbert was born May 12, 1930, to Norbert McIntyre and Mary Lucella Word McIntyre in San Angelo, Texas. He grew up in and around Sonora, Texas, where he graduated from high school. He was in the Army and later in the Reserves where he achieved the rank of First Lieutenant. Norbert completed a degree in Geology at Sul Ross University. In 1953, he married Rose Mary Ludlow in Clint, Texas. He worked as a geologist for the Boundary Commission, United Gas, Midwest Oil and then as an independent oil operator for many years.

From 1989 to the present, he raised cattle in Lincoln, New Mexico and later in Ft. McKavett, Texas. His life long joy was working with his animals.

Norbert is survived by his wife, Rose Mary McIntyre of Midland, Texas; his son Randall McIntyre, M.D. of Austin, Texas; uncle, J.V. Roberts and his wife, Mary, of Del Rio, Texas; and sister-in-law, Roberta Carson and her husband, Bill, and their family of Turkey, Texas.

Services were at 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 25, 2005, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel. Interment was at Ft. McKavett Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

The family suggests that memorials be directed to Hospice of Midland, PO Box 2621, Midland, Texas 79702.

In Memory of Rev. Ricky P. Sanchez, Jr.
July 4, 1965 - November 30, 2004

We had you in our lives a year ago, but God needed you to go home.

The time passes, the world changes.
It hurts to smile, because you are no longer here.
But you were there for so many people when no one was.
You were there to show so many people and their family the right road to God, because you had so much love for God and the world. You never rested, you wanted everyone to come to know God as you did before it was too late. You planted so many seeds in so many hearts, but God will do the rest in the years to come.

You were my son, my preacher, my friend.
Your talks, your laughter, your touch, are missed so very much. I hear your brothers and sisters cry for you when they enter your room.
You always told us "God has a plan for everyone find yours and do your very best."
I thank God for every second we had with you, but still it was too short.

Because of you churches were built, people you touched are working for the Lord. I know your work was done and you had to go home and be free from all the pain you had to so strongly endure. Never complained.

I must dust off all my sorrow and pick up where you left, for so much work still has to be done. We all say, "to God be the Glory forever, till we meet again."
Forever in my heart my son,
Mom (Nelda L. Yorba)

Senior Center Activities

Fri. Dec. 2 - Happy Birthday Olivia Longoria
Mon. Dec. 5 - Bingo after lunch - Happy Birthday Leroy Valiant
Tues. Dec. 6 - Happy Birthday Fred Adkins
Wed. Dec. 7 - Happy Birthday Nena Favila
Thurs. Dec. 8 - Crafts... anyone?

Senior Center Menu

Fri. Dec. 2 - Roast Beef w/gravy, mashed potatoes, brussel sprouts, wheat roll, carrot sticks, cake, milk
Mon. Dec. 5 - Meatballs w/spaghetti & tomato sauce, seasoned spinach, tossed salad, garlic bread, banana pudding, milk
Tues. Dec. 6 - Pork chops w/gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, roll, mixed fruit cup, milk
Wed. Dec. 7 - Chicken supreme, herb new potatoes, broccoli, roll, green salad, cherry cobbler, milk
Thurs. Dec. 8 - Ground beef w/vermicelli, pinto beans, tossed salad, tortilla, cake, milk

*Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older.
Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m.
Donations are accepted
(suggested donation for Seniors is \$1.50; \$4.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go)*

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Thank You Notes

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank the LADIES in the kitchen, the St. Ann's Catholic Church youth, the 4-H Cooking Class, the Boy Scouts; and Ann Kay for all their help at the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Also, a BIG thanks to the businesses for their generous donations of the turkeys, wood and food.

Thanks for another great year!
Knights of Columbus Council #10609

Sonora Students and Parents,

Thank you Sonora students and parents for becoming a part of our wonderful memories of teaching and coaching for the past thirty years.

Students, you have endeared yourselves to both of us, and we will be there for you any time and any place. Parents, thank you for giving us such fine young men and women to become a part of our lives. You should be very proud of what your children are becoming.

Thank you Sonora students and parents for two and a half years that we will never forget.

Judy and Howard McDaniel

Sonora Students, Parents, Teachers, and Community Members,

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me throughout my time at Sonora High School. You have all been great!

I would like to especially thank Ray and Nancy Glasscock and Patti Strauch for their undying support, in particular throughout my knee injury and rehabilitation process.

Thanks Sonora, for two and a half great years.

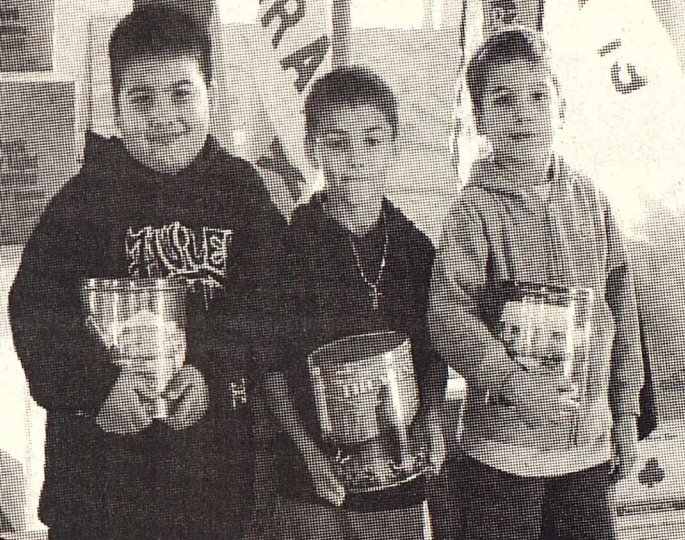
Brett McDaniel

To all my friends, co-workers, and family, Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, flowers and for coming to see me while I was in the hospital.

To the hospital staff, thank you for being so attentive; the kitchen staff for preparing such good meals. May God Bless You All.

Celia Gonzales

Sonora Supports Scouting





Pack 19 Cub Scout top popcorn sellers: Bryndon Robles, Carter Zook & Garrett Jaeger.

submitted

The good folks of Sonora graciously demonstrated their support for our local Pack 19 Cub Scouts in this years' popcorn sales fundraiser. The popcorn sale is the single annual fundraiser for the Cub Scouts, and Sonora was a close second in highest sales for the district. The boys put out a great effort with top seller honors going to the following: #1 Top Seller Carter Zook, #2 Christopher Amador, #3 Garrett Jaeger, #4 Julian Gallardo and #5 Bryndon Robles. Carter Zook was also the second highest seller in the district.


Congratulations to all the Cub Scouts on a job well done!

Julian Gallardo **Chris Perez**


COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<p>December 5 SIDC meeting SIDC office @ 11:30 a.m. City League Board Meeting Mercantile Bldg. @ 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>December 6 Ride to Provide Courthouse Lawn @ 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>December 7 Old Fashioned Christmas Main Street @ 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>December 8 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meeting Chamber office @ 12:00</p> <p>December 11 St. Ann's Guadalupe Festival</p>
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 **Member FDIC**

P.O. Box 798, Sonora, Texas 76950 (325) 387-3861

The Community Calendar is made possible by:

 **Member FDIC**
229 Hwy 277 N • 387-2593
229 Hwy 277 N

Letters to the Editor Policy

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Ask the Historical Society

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

Q. Where Did Alma Johnson die? She is buried in the Sonora Cemetery but they don't have a death certificate on file.

A. "The Devil's River News," January 24, 1920-Brought Here For Burial- Mrs. Alma Luckie Johnson, beloved wife of Howard Johnson, died at Dryden, Pecos County, Friday, January 16, 1920, in her 30th year. Deceased was born at Barksdale, October 18, 1890 and moved to Sutton County with her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Luckie when a child and practically all her life was spent here. Her death was due to a sudden attack of heart trouble. She is survived by her husband and four children as well as by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Luckie, her brothers Haynes and Max Luckie and her sisters, Mrs. M. C. Alley of Comanche, Mrs. W. J. Ford, Mrs. Frank Russell and Miss Eva Luckie of Sonora. The remains were brought here for interment and the funeral was held from the residence of her brother-in-law, W. J. Ford, Sunday afternoon. Rev. S. C. Dunn of the Methodist Church conducted the burial services at the Sonora Cemetery.

Max Luckie and wife of Dryden, Haynes Luckie and wife of San Angelo, J. V. Alley and sister Lucy May Alley of Comanche, nephew and niece of deceased, as well as the other members of the family attended the funeral.

In the same issue we find that Shannon Clarkson, who had been taking some special business courses at San Antonio had come home for the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. A.F. Clarkson. He stopped by with his parents and said he would be in town until the spring work on the ranch is finished. Note: Shannon Clarkson and his family donated the wicker baby carriage that is in the Miers Home Museum. Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson used to proudly stroll around town showing off baby Shannon in his fancy carriage.

Earl Owen of Karnes was in Sonora for a short visit this week. He had come out as far as San Angelo to meet his wife and decided to run down and see the country in its Sunday clothes. The rains were too much for his cotton in his country and instead of getting 800 bales, which at one time was a conservative estimate, he made 12 bales off the 800 acres. He will find it where he lost it and then come to the Sonora country and play with cows and calves.

W. B. Adams was in from his farm on the Llano and renewing old acquaintances while attending the Masonic school. Frank Turney, foreman of the Aldwell Brothers ranch was in town on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Terrell Nicks of San Angelo were visitors here Tuesday the guests of M. M. Nicks. Mrs. Terrell Nicks was Miss Lucille Holder before the wedding which took place at San Angelo about Christmas time.

Let's skip to December of 1920 and see what is happening in and around Sonora that time of the year. In the December 4 issue we find that every baby under 1 year of age will be given a solid gold ring if they are brought to the Morris-Gilmore Hardware Co.

A reprint from the Del Rio Herald stated that District Judge Joseph Jones in his charge to the Grand Jury of Val Verde Co., told them not to investigate liquor violations as the State laws have been held unconstitutional and prosecutions must be under the Volstead act in Federal Court. He then instructed them to investigate all betting on elections and that the violators should be punished. The Boye Babb case was set for December 15.

On December 11 the ladies of the Methodist Church held a bazaar at Miss Torah Smith's Style Shop.

Mrs. James A. Cauthorn spent Thanksgiving Day visiting her sister Mrs. Earl Wilson on the ranch near Juno. Mr. and Mrs. John L. Martin spent Thanksgiving Day in San Angelo the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Massie. Mrs. Martin is a niece of Mrs. Massie.

John C. Johnson of Austin and Denton, a prominent building contractor was here last week for a short visit to his cousin Miss Tora Smith.

Frank Eaton spent Thanksgiving with friends in Rock-springs. He had a pleasant visit and he was glad to see his old school chums.

The Baptist ladies would hold their Bazaar on December 4. The next notice is of a furniture sale: Having decided to soon leave Sonora I will sell my household furniture consisting of Hoosier Cabinet, Oil Stove, Heater, Dining Room furniture, Bed Room furniture and other necessary articles. Will sell cheap, R. D. Edens

In the December 11 issue we find the following: Born to Mr. and Mrs. O.W. Cardwell, Monday, November 29th, a 12 1/2 pound boy at Christoval.

The Baptist ladies wished to



Advertisement shows a carriage like Shannon Clarkson's only cost \$9.95 in 1900.

thank everyone for making their Bazaar such a decided success.

Mrs. Hunt and daughter, Miss Mamie Frank Hunt of Brackettville are here this week visiting their son and brother, Bryan Hunt.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Birtrong of Animas, N.M. are here on a visit to their daughter, Mrs. W. A. Miers. Mr. Birtrong was one of the first settlers of the Sonora country, having owned the well where the Ruby Davis (note: Tittle) ranch now is, in 1889. He was also one of the original owners of the Sonora Supply Co., and of the Townsite Co. that started Sonora. He has been living in Deming and Animas, N.M. country many years and this is his first visit here in a long time.

The Sonora Woman's Club met at a regular meeting Saturday Dec. 4th, 1920 in the Jackson Hall.

In the December 25 issue we found that Sonora was having its First Annual Cowboy Celebration and Round-Up. There were \$600 in prizes. Goat Roping was to be every afternoon at 2:30 with a first prize of \$250 and second of \$100. Broncho Busting for a purse of \$25 was held each day. There were football games and other entertainments during the week and dances every night at the club hall. The other events

were held at the Sonora Park Association new park. This was in the area of where the swimming pool is now located and some of the properties to the west/north-west of it.

A Christmas Tree for children under 15 years of age will be held at the School Auditorium on Friday evening at 7 o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend. A musical program will be rendered and the entertainment is under the direction of ladies of the various clubs and churches. A remembrance for every child in town under 15 will be given from the Tree in order to keep alive the Christmas spirit and Santa Claus. Mrs. Seward is the Executive in Charge.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton Co. history send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885. The office will be closed from Dec. 19 to Jan. 5. Rentals during that time will be handled by our treasurer, Jo-Ann Hernandez of The Bank and Trust. She will give out keys, check the buildings after rentals and handle all mail, rentals, etc. while the president, Rose Mary Jones and myself are out of town for the holidays. For rentals from December 19 - January 5 you can call her at The Bank & Trust 387-2953 or stop in to see her there.

Supreme Court sets June 1 deadline for school finance fix

State Capital Highlights

Texas Press Association

By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN - The Texas Supreme Court on Nov. 22 agreed that parts of Texas' school finance system are unconstitutional and gave lawmakers until June 1 to fix the funding woes.

In a 7-1 ruling the court agreed with the district court that the state's control of local taxation for education by placing a cap on taxes amounts to a state property tax in violation of the Texas Constitution.

But the Supreme Court reversed the lower court's ruling that found part of the school finance system inefficient.

The Supreme Court sent the issue of attorneys fee back to the trial court and postponed until June 1 the effective date of the trial court's injunction that would halt funding for public schools. "We remain convinced, however, as we were 16 years ago, that defects in the structure of the public school finance system expose the system to constitutional challenge," Justice Nathan Hecht wrote in the majority opinion. "Pouring more money into the system may forestall those challenges, but only for a time. They will repeat until the system is overhauled."

Justice Scott A. Brister was the lone dissenter.

New Justice Don R.

Willett, who was formally sworn in by Gov. Rick Perry that same day, did not sit on the case.

The plaintiffs, 47 districts led by West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District, contended that property taxes, though imposed locally, have become a state property tax prohibited by the Texas Constitution.

An additional 282 districts contended that funding for school operations and facilities is inefficient in violation of the Texas Constitution, because children in property-poor districts do not have substantially equal access to education revenue.

So the ball is now back in the Texas Legislature's hands. Lawmakers took up school finance during two special sessions this summer and the regular session but failed to reach a compromise. Perry said he would call another special session before the June 1 deadline. His Texas Tax Reform Commission, headed by John Sharp, currently is studying various tax issues and will make recommendations. "I am ready to resolve this issue. So are many legislators and so are the people of Texas," Perry said.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said he would appoint the Senate Select Committee on Education Excellence and Public School Finance Reform to respond to the Supreme Court's decision.

Dewhurst said a special

session on school finance should "address not only significantly lowering our local school property taxes, but reforming and improving our public education system."

Texas House speaker Tom Craddick said he looked forward to working with Perry and Dewhurst "to find a solution that will appropriately answer the court's ruling" by the deadline.

Audit finds faults at SOS

Significant weaknesses in the Office of the Secretary of State's controls over its revenue processes limit its ability to safeguard revenue that it collects from citizens and businesses for providing various services, the state auditor's office found in an October report. The audit found that the agency does not immediately log cash and checks upon receipt, its revenue process is decentralized and its staff's revenue processing duties are not properly segregated. Those factors contribute to an inadequate system of internal controls, the report cited.

In about 38 percent of cases that auditors tested, the agency did not deposit revenue into the State Treasury within three business days of receipt as required by state law.

Hang a state park on the tree

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is offering a commemorative 2006

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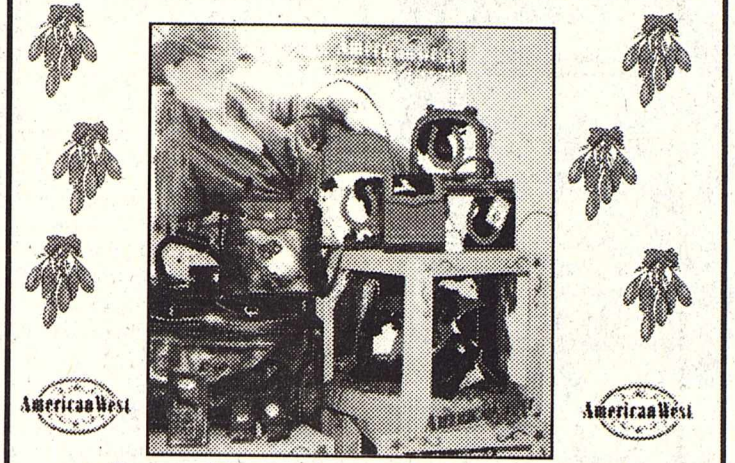
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Albert Valadez Announces His Candidacy for Judge of the 112th District Court

Ft. Stockton attorney Albert Valadez has announced his intention to seek election as judge of the 112th District court. Incumbent Judge Brock Jones announced his intent to retire and not seek re-election in the upcoming elections.

Valadez' career as an attorney spans the length of 22 years. He began his legal career in Houston, Texas in 1983 where his practice included criminal defense, family law, personal injury, workers compensation and civil litigation. He moved to Ft. Stockton in 1986 and served as Assistant District Attorney for the 112th District for eight years. In 1992 he was elected District Attorney for the 83rd District and was re-elected in 1996. In 2000 he did not seek re-election and returned to private practice.

He believes that his experience as a trial lawyer in more than 100 jury trials, over 500 non-jury trials, and his experience as an appeals lawyer for over 18 years, makes him a highly qualified and experienced candidate to serve as judge of the 112th District Court.

"My lengthy experience as a trial lawyer has taught me a lot about the role of a judge. If elected, I will use my legal experience in helping me to make the right decisions and to assure that justice is applied equally to all. I firmly believe that everyone is entitled to a fair trial."

Albert Valadez was born in San Angelo, Texas where he graduated from Central High School in 1975. He attended Angelo State University but transferred and graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Arts in History in 1980. He attended law school at Texas Southern University and graduated in 1983. Three months before graduation, Valadez took the Bar Examination. When he graduated from law school in May, he was sworn in the following Monday and within four days of graduating from law school, began practicing law in Houston, Texas. He remained there until he moved to Fort Stockton, Texas.

Mr. Valadez is married to Lulu Valadez. He has four children, Adrian, Victoria, Christiana and Victor Eduardo.



Chamber Chatter

Help welcome Ride to Provide to Sonora

SONORA
Chamber of Commerce
by Ruthie Bounds,
COC Executive Director

I know I have said this before, but it is definitely worth repeating, "People that say there isn't anything to do in a small town just haven't been to Sonora, or haven't read their paper or listened to their local radio station". There is always something going on in Sonora and the next week is going to be a very busy one for everyone.

With the Texas Recycle/Reuse Roundup on Wednesday, November 30th and the Ride To Provide fundraising & welcome rally on Tuesday, December 6th and the Downtown Christmas lights celebration on Wednesday, December 7th, there will not be a lack of activities around this small town.

The Ride To Provide is a nationally publicized fundraising event. Motorcycle riders will join together with a convoy of trucks as they leave Los Angeles on December 4th and will arrive in Sonora on Tuesday, December 6th. Everyone is encouraged to come to the rally on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn that evening at 6:00 p.m. to welcome the riders and crew, and to present the donations that have been gathered in Sonora and San Angelo.

(See page 1 Ride to Provide article for more information.)

The most important thing to do right now is to donate to this charitable organization to make sure that displaced hurricane families will have gifts for Christmas.

Jo Ann Jones, at the First National Bank of Sonora and Becky Allison, at the Southwest Texas ACA are the co-chairpersons for

the donations, and will be accepting donations at both of their places of employment. You may also bring your donations by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office & Welcome Center. Many of the local businesses have posted a list of needed items and that list may also be found on our website: www.sonoratx-chamber.com

Some of the information that was not in the official press release is still very interesting.

The Ride To Provide is the largest and longest motorcycle fundraising ride in the United States to date. The financial donations will go to the Fuller Center for Housing, founded by Millard Fuller. Mr. Fuller is the original founder of Habitat for Humanity in America. He and his wife both have been awarded the highest honor given by the Points of Light Foundation. The Fuller Center for Housing has purchased land for homes to build for hurricane victims that do not want to return to the coast. From this concept and his devotion to Christ, Mr. Fuller wanted this project to be called "Higher Ground" since the hymn by that name is one of his favorites. For more information on this amazing family and their projects log on to www.fuller-center.org.

One other item of interest is that we have been assured by the ride coordinators that at least three Hollywood celebrities will be participating in the Ride To Provide.

(Don't tell anyone, but I happen to know that Chris Judd, Lawrence Fishburne, and Tyson Beckford are supposed to be among the riders that will stay overnight in Sonora.)

The motorcycles will be parked in front of the Sutton County

Courthouse on Water Street for all the public to see and the celebrities have promised to sign a few autographs.

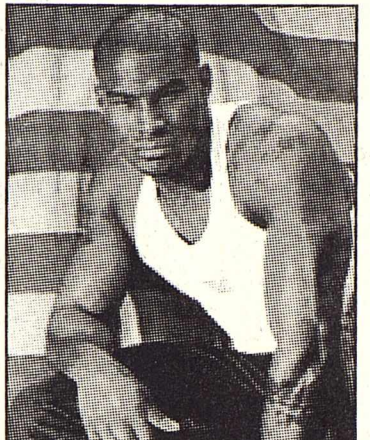
Several local bikers are planning to join the ride from Sonora to Austin.

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce and Creek Swabbing & Roustabout will be hosting a meal for the riders and other dignitaries at the Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Fellowship Hall immediately following the public Welcome Rally on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn.

The St. Ann's Catholic Youth Group will be serving our guests and the 4-H Food Program participants will be helping with desserts for the riders.

Sonora is an amazing community, giving so much to help with so many things. We all know that; being blessed enough to live here. Let's show people from other parts of the country how wonderful Sonora really is.

Come to the courthouse lawn to welcome this convoy to town, and don't forget to donate to this very worthy cause.



Supermodel Tyson Beckford scheduled to ride into town Tuesday.

Quail Quest



Cub Scouts learn about huntin' dogs with Warren Wallace.

submitted

Warren Wallace and his dog Tex, recently treated the Sonora Cub Scout Wolf Den to a little bird doggin' demonstration.

Tex is a not-quite-year-old English pointer with a gorgeous head and golden eyes that dance with intensity, intelligence and playfulness. The many hours Warren has spent training Tex was apparent as the two demonstrated the high level of communication developed for a single shared purpose: the quest for quail.

Over the summer, Warren attended the Texas Bobwhite Brigade Wildlife Leadership camp, which educates young people on wildlife conservation and management, in this case, for bobwhite quail. Part of the training includes public education, and Warren and Tex make an inspirational and effective team for the job.

Bird hunting with a well trained (and beloved) dog is an exhilarating adventure many never get to experience. Perhaps a few of our Cub Scouts will some day follow Warren Wallace down the trail of the bobwhite quail.



Cub Scouts learn about huntin' dogs with Warren Wallace.

Happy Birthday

December 1

Lelo Morales, Jake Percifull, Joe Percifull, Linda Wallace, Sue Moore, Manuel Tobias, Patsy Johnson, John Martin Hidalgo, Curry Campbell, Danny White, Miranda Villanueva, Marsha Patton

December 2

Cassie Krieg, Olivia Longoria, Bobby Lou Mayer, Glen Richardson, Kali Alyssis Mendez, Sophie Tijerina, Jessica Esquivel, April Flores, Whitney Keller, Elizabeth Elliott, Kenzie Herring, Tanya Luna, Megan Berry, Stetson Perez, Liliana Ramos

December 3

Jacob Adams, Adrianna Gamez, Sam Perez, Noah San Miguel, Angelo Vitela, Gus Ward, Frank Lopez, Marshall Heap, Lacey Bonner, Jerry Watkins, Austin Duenes, Adriana Trevino

December 4

Joe Schaeffer, Elsa Banda, Joe Fincher, Joell McGuffin, Noah San Miguel, Darla Lipham, Cora Seymour, George Arredondo, Gladys Noriega

December 5

Roy Luna, Gary Leonard, Dylan Smith, Erika Campbell, Sabrina Surber, Becki Harris, Joe Longoria, Jodie Finklea, Jason Chadwick

December 6

Logan Luttrell, Kaija Valkonen, Graciela Alvizo, Jesse Burnham, Wayne Tyler, Plat Glasscock

December 7

Micah Adams, Maria Favila, Preston Love, Tony Valkonen, Karina Trevino, Derinda Valkonen, Jordan McGuffin, Kyle Dover

Sonora Hosts



RIDE TO PROVIDE

An 8 Day National Fundraising Event & Holiday Drive for Displaced Hurricane Families

The Riders Will Arrive in Sonora on

December 6, 2005

Welcome the Riders to Sonora on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn

At About 6:00 PM

Join in the Presentation of Donations

FMI: Sonora Chamber of Commerce 325-387-2880 or www.sonoratx-chamber.com

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Deodorants • Lotions • Diapers & Wet Wipes

Household Items

Linens • Blankets • Paper Towels • Non Breakable Dinnerware • Flatware

Holiday Gift Items

All Holiday Items should be wrapped or placed in a gift bag with a tag for gender and age prominently displayed on the outside.

Children's Toys & Gifts

Please deliver all donations by noon on December 5, 2005 to:
Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office & Welcome Center, 205 Hwy 277 North;
First National Bank of Sonora, 102 E. Main; or Southwest Texas ACA, 211-E. Main

Financial support will also be greatly appreciated.

Please make checks payable to: "Ride to Provide"

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Sonora couple joins cast of Eldorado's "Sander's Family Christmas"

submitted

The Sanders family returning to stage in Eldorado with "Sander's Family Christmas"

Well folks, the Way Off Broadway Players have prepared to start your holiday season off with a bang!

The cast for "Sanders Family Christmas," the lively holiday musical sequel to "Smoke on the Mountain," includes many familiar faces from "Smoke," as well as some enthusiastic and fresh new talent.

The story is set in 1941 at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in North Carolina. Reverend Ogletorp, the fervent young minister has once again enlisted the help of the Sanders Family in his efforts to bring his tiny congregation into the modern world.

With the backdrop of the joyous Christmas season, tempered by America's inevitable involvement in World War II, the family witnesses and shares songs that relate to their trials of faith.

Between charming glimpses into the lives of this remarkable family you already know and love, you will be entertained with numerous old-time favorite Christmas carols along with enchanting medleys, haunting ballads, and rollicking bluegrass spirituals.

So, tell your friends and neighbors, buy your tickets early, and get ready to clap, stomp, laugh, cry and sing along with the Sanders this holiday season.

Members of the cast are Sonora couple Carl and Terry Weaver, Ozona musician Sandy Stokes, Eldorado performers: Maela Edmonson, Jim Chancellor, Marcus and Melissa Murr, Director Luann Shipman, Leonard Wideman, Jim Martin, Sherry Belk and Kathy Mankin.

Tickets will be on sale from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Monday-Friday. You may contact Kathy Mankin at 325-853-3125 to reserve your tickets or other information. Performance dates: November 18, 19 and 20; December 9, 10, 11 and 16, 17 and 18. Tickets must be prepaid.

City Council from page 1

Section 551.072: (Deliberations about Real Property), the Council would convene into Executive Session to consider the sale of a 4.95 acre tract of land out of Survey 86, Abstract No. 834, Block B.

The executive session was adjourned and the Council reconvened into open session. Polocsek made a motion to have the 4.95 acre tract of land out of Survey 86, Abstract No. 834, Block B reappraised for possible sale but stipulate that easements must be maintained by the City. With a second by Neal, the motion carried.

Jim Polonis, City Manager, informed the Council that he had met with the CPA and a financial advisor in San Antonio and discussed the possibilities for funding of a 6 to 7 million-dollar infrastructure project. He presented a map indicating the different types of lines currently in service and locations of major breaks in the past 4 years. Some suggestions were to raise property taxes 8 percent, raise base rates \$5.00 for water and sewer accounts and consider SIDC projects to pay over a 20-year period, revenue bonds and grants through such organizations as the Rural Development Board. A special meeting with Hibbs & Todd and the Rural Development Board was scheduled for December 6, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss the entire project and alternative financing. No action was taken.

Polonis then presented the Board with a proposal for installing an aerial line on City Hill to connect a generator to well and distribution pumps for emergency use. A motion was made by Adkins to waive the bid process and accept the estimates presented in the amount of \$12,569.00 provided the companies submitting the proposals carry workers compensation and other credentials required by the City. The motion was seconded by Polocsek and carried unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, the special meeting was adjourned.

Main Street Traffic Sonora in the Texas Tourism headlines

by Jennifer Esparza, FHSMS staff

Sonora has been all over the headlines this month, showing up in many different magazines. Downtown Sonora is the spot to be when it comes to tourism.

Historic downtown was featured in Texas Monthly (on page 233), along with many other towns that are a part of the Texas Downtown Association.

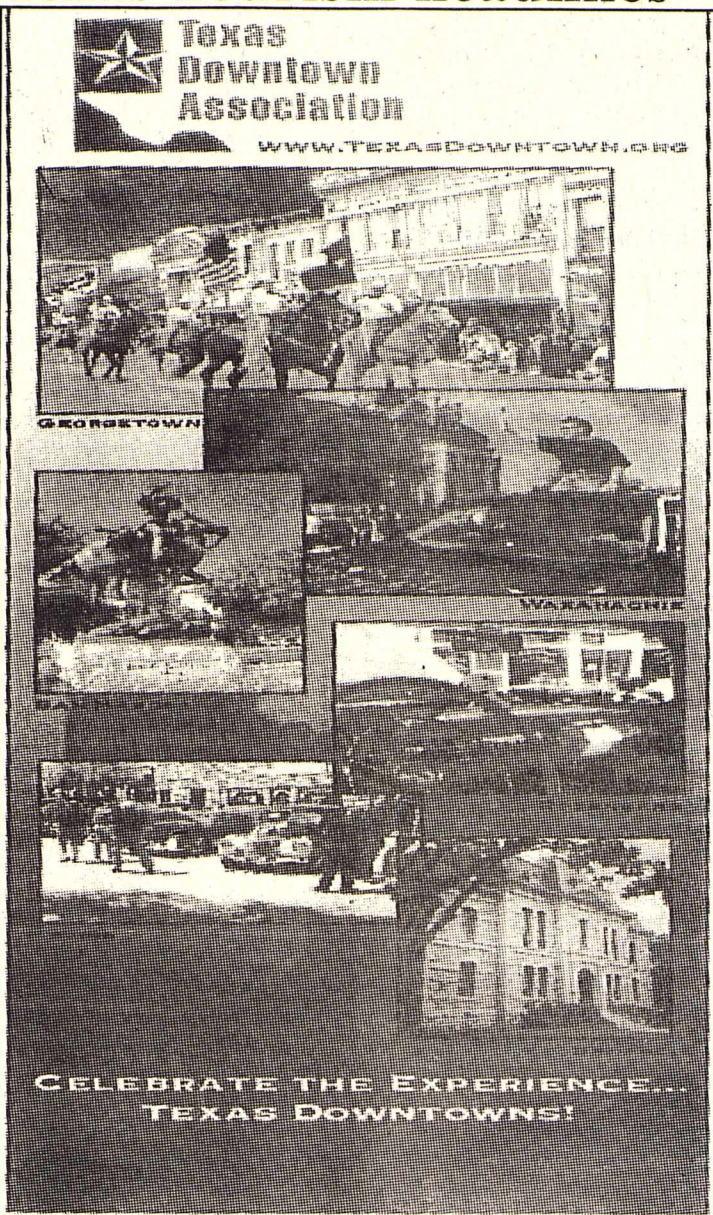
It seems that everywhere you go there is some kind of story that the downtown has to tell.

In the November issue of Southern Living, Sonora is listed in the "Texas Living" section (page 30). In Heritage Magazine Sonora is the featured article. You can find the Heritage Magazine all over Sonora, in the Hotels, Gifts Galore and More, and First National Bank and The Bank & Trust.

Anice Read, founder of the Main Street Program in Texas, heard about Sonora and decided to visit. Read took an immediate interest in the town and decided to kick off the Main Street Program in West Texas. So, in 1993, Sonora, with only 3000 residents, became an official Main Street Program town. One year later it was elevated to the graduate Program.

After 12 years of the Program this small town has had 39 restoration projects in the downtown area.

Heritage tourism is very important. Over 118 million Americans included a heritage activity in their travel plans just last year. Every day we get people from all over the world stopping in and taking great interest in Downtown Sonora. From the Courthouse (a past TDA award winner), to just



Special traveling banners for the Texas Downtown Association 2005 CO-OP Advertising programs include Sonora's Courthouse.

wanting to know the simple facts of downtown.

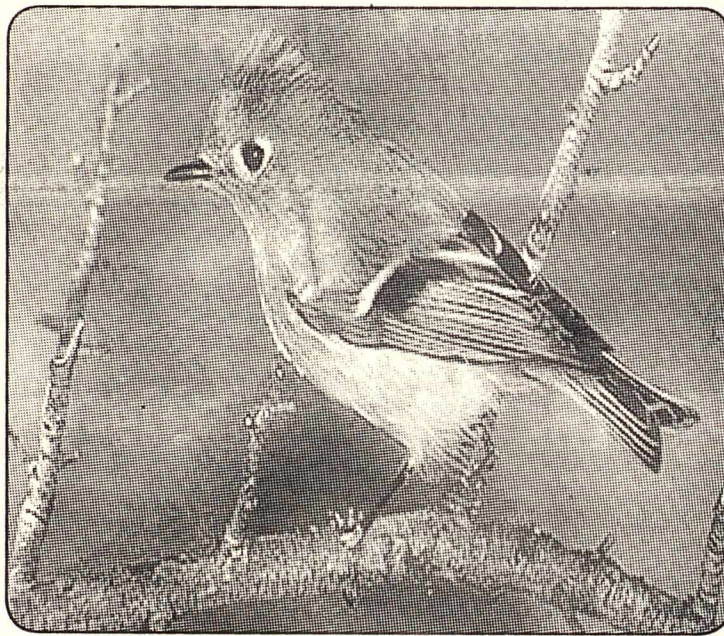
We are so lucky to live in a town where everyone takes pride in what they do. We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and thanks to you; you are why we are so successful.

All Hail the King...let!

Up On Eaton Hill

by Delyse Jaeger

It occurred to me recently that birding is similar to a treasure hunt. For the ladies, so is exploring the overflowing shelves of Tuesday Morning. I love a treasure hunt, and was recently informed by a visiting birder from Houston, that royalty is in residence on Eaton Hill. The blue blood I speak of is the oft overlooked Ruby-crowned kinglet. "Ruby" for the males' bejeweled red noggin, "let" for its diminutive size and "king", well, king could refer to a number of characteristics attributed to this wonderful little creature. Next to the hummingbird, Ruby-crowned kinglets are one of North America's tiniest birds, measuring only 4.25 inches. However, we all know what they say about the size of a package, and the kinglet is no exception. Firstly, consider the reproductive vigor of the royal red head. RC Kinglets lay one of the largest clutches in the kingdom, with an average of eight eggs per nest. Then there is his vocal aptitude, described in poetic phrases such as "faultless modulation", "exquisite vocalization" and "defies description" and with words including "resonance, power, and purity."



The Ruby-crowned kinglet is a diminutive delight to behold.

Seems many a bird lover has been captivated by the rich melody of the minute king, although the U.S. government pages do use the adjective "incessant" in describing the kinglet's song. Off with their heads!

RC Kinglets are an olive green with darker wings, two white wing bars, a light eye ring, yellow to white under parts and yellow edges on the flight and tail feathers. The tell-tale red crown of the male is usually not apparent unless the bird is agitated, or the viewing angle just right. Kinglets

royal diet consists primarily of insects and insect eggs. They can be seen hovering at the tips of branches hunting ants and other bugs. During winter months, some berries, including red cedar provide supplemental nourishment. Ah, so there is ONE notable thing that can be said for the maligned cedar tree. Certainly, the ruby-crowned kinglet is a worthwhile treasure to seek, so hit the trails and discover for yourself why the tiny ruby-crowned is king(let) of the hill.

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Contact Delyse Jaeger at 387-2615
Thanks Partner!

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**That's What I Like
About Texas.**

Colts start season with win over Eldorado

Submitted by Coach Dempsey

The Sonora 8th grade boys began their basketball season at home against Eldorado. The 8th grade Colts took an early lead-off, with a 9-2 score to end the first quarter.

Cash Jennings and A.K. Williams led the colts with four points each. Kris Agüero hit one of two free throws. The Colts played a tough full-court press to keep the Eagles at bay.

Caleb Gonzales, Will Anderson, A.K. Williams, Tyler Creek, and Cash Jennings kept the pressure on.

In the second quarter, Dustin Neff came into the game and scored nine, followed with Manuel Parades, A. K. Williams, Tyler Creek, and Cash Jennings scoring two each. The colts held the Eagles to four points.

The second half was very much like the first. The Colts second group, Manny Parades, Kris Agüero, Dustin Neff, Michael Stephens, and Haydon Chandler played excellent defense to hold Eldorado to 8 points. The highlight of the game was when A. K. Williams stole the ball and went coast to coast and finished with a dunk. The crowd went crazy.

Congratulations on your opening win.

A.K. Williams-13; Dustin Neff -11; Cash Jennings-10; Tyler Creek - 6; Kris Agüero - 5; Caleb Gonzales - 4; Will Anderson- 2 Manny Parades -2

Eighth grade boys leave the Lions in the dust

submitted by Coach Dempsey

The 8th grade Colts basketball team went to Ozona on Monday, November 21st and came home with a victory of 51-26.

We fell behind early at 2-0, but regained the lead with good defense. The first quarter was led by A.K. Williams, scoring 8 points, Will Anderson 4, and Cash Jennings hitting an outside jumper with 2.

The Lions broke the Colts press until adjustments were made and the pressure was kept on by the second unit.

In the second quarter Cash scored 4, Anderson 2, Caleb Gonzales 2, and A.K. Williams 2, to

finish out the half.

The second half the Colts blew the game open with their full-court press. In the third quarter, Williams scored 11, Anderson 2, and Jennings 4. The second group, Dustin Neff, Manny Parades, Tyler Creek, Haydon Chandler, and Josh Salazar hit the court to finish the game. Creek scored 5 pts., Will 3, and A.K. 2.

Great game Colts.

A.K. Williams 23; Cash Jennings 10; Will Anderson 9; Tyler Creek 5; Caleb Gonzales 2; Dustin Neff 2

Eighth grade Colts thrill fans with win against Big Lake

submitted by Coach Dempsey

The 8th grade Colts basketball team played Reagan Co. Monday, November 28, in Sonora. The Colts won 66-35.

The boys came out gunning the first quarter being led by A. K. Williams with 6 points and Will Anderson with 6. Caleb Gonzales and Dustin Neff each had 2 points, and Tyler Creek and Haydon Chandler each scored a free throw.

The Colts pressing defense was setting the pace for the team's offense. In the second quarter the Colts knocked down 14 more points, being led by Tyler Creek with 4, and A. K. Williams throwing in 4 more. Cash Jennings hit three free throws while Dustin Neff hit 2 pts. and Will Anderson made one.

The third period found the Colts being led defensively by Kris Agüero and Manny Parades who had lots of steals and re-

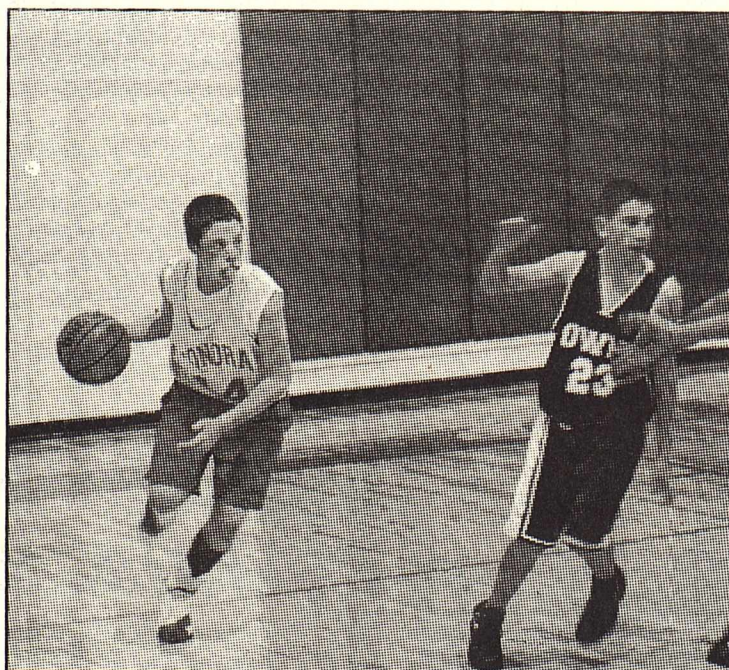
bounds.

Taking the ball coast to coast was A. K. Williams, scoring 8 points and Haydon Chandler with 5. Tyler Creek and Will Anderson layed in 2 points each.

The kids on the bench played almost the whole 4th. quarter. Scoring were Dustin Neff with 5, Tyler Creek and Haydon Chandler with 4 each, and Will Anderson with 3.

These kids are having lots of fun on the court and so are the fans in the stands. Come support your Colts on Monday, Dec. 5th, and have a fun filled evening.

Scoring: A. K. Williams 18; Tyler Creek 1; Will Anderson 10 Dustin Neff 10; Haydon Chandler 10; Cash Jennings 3; Caleb Gonzales 2



Tyler Creek takes the ball down the court against Big Lake.

School Lunch Menu • December 5-9

Breakfast

Mon.-Waffles w/syrup, asst. juice
Tues.- Cream of wheat, toast, asst. juice
Wed.- Breakfast burrito, asst. juice
Thurs.- Toast & jelly, asst. juice
Fri.- Pancake on a stick, asst. juice

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

Lunch

Mon.- Pizza, tossed salad, kernel corn, pudding/topping
Tues.- Spaghetti w/meat sauce, peas & carrots, Jell-O/fruit, wheat roll
Wed.- Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, hot roll
Thurs.- Hard beef tacos, cheese, salad, pinto beans, fruit cobbler
Fri.- Grilled chicken on a bun, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, tator tots, fruit

7th Grade Boys Basketball is off and Rolling

submitted by Coach Boxell

The 7th grade Sonora Colts started their season off with a bang as they hosted the Eldorado Eagles on November 17. The Colts wrapped up the football season with a win over Junction and carried that momentum into Thursday's game.

The "B" team, which consists of James Bean, Dustin Crittendon, Samule De La Rosa, Esteban Garcia, Jesus Garcia, Damian Lopez, Matthew Martinez, Jacob Perez, Bailey Pennington and Oscar Lopez, set the stakes high by winning the first game of the night.

The "A" team which consists of Rigoberto Rivera, Shane Patlan, Colyer Dermody, Preston Lopez, Ethan Morriss, AJ Ozuna, Osbaldo Castaneda, William Otwell, Refugio Sanchez and Kevin Barron, jumped off their season immediately following the "B" team game. Not to be out done, Ethan Morriss led the team in scoring with 8 points, followed by Refugio Sanchez with 5, Osbaldo Castaneda with 4 and Rigoberto Rivera, Colyer Dermody, William Otwell, and Kevin Barron each contributed 2 points. When the final buzzer sounded, the Colts found themselves with a 1-0 record defeating the Eagles 25-13.

7th Grade Boys Basketball Now 2-0

submitted by Coach Boxell

The 7th grade Colts traveled to Ozona on Monday, November 21, to take on the Lions. The Colts came out firing scoring 14 points in the 1st quarter to set the tempo for the game. With a 5 point lead going into half time, the Colts knew that they were in war. A slow start in the 3rd quarter and only 2 points scored, the Colts found themselves only leading by 1. In the 4th quarter the Colts came stomping back

and added 10 points to put the Lions away for good winning their second game of the season 32-27. Leading the way for the Colts was Ethan Morriss with 13, Refugio Sanchez added 8, Colyer Dermody put in 6, Osbaldo Castaneda and William Otwell contributed 2 points and Rigoberto Rivera also added 1 point.

Come out and support your Colts as they look to go 3-0 for the season!

7th Grade Colts Remain Unbeaten

submitted by Coach Boxell

The Sonora Colts boy's basketball team hosted the Big Lake Owls on Monday, November 29 in an attempt to remain undefeated for the season. The Colts soon found themselves in a hole, down 0-8 at the start of the second quarter. The holiday rust soon would rub off and the Colts started rolling. The score at halftime ended with the Colts in the lead 11-8. With momentum on their side, the Colts came out in the third quarter and added 17 points and another 15 points in the fourth quarter to win the game by a score of 43-16. Leading the scoring for the Colts was Ethan Morriss with 11 followed by Shane Patlan with 8, Rigoberto Rivera and Colyer Dermody each added 7, Preston Lopez and Osbaldo Castaneda contributed 4 points each and Refugio Sanchez tapped in 2 more points. The Colts will host the Mason Punchers next Monday December 5 in Sonora

8th Grade Lady Colts "A" Team Victorious

by Nancy Glascock

The 8th grade Lady Colts A team is now 2-0 for the season after winning a hard fought game at home Monday, November 21, against the visiting 8th grade Lady Lions. The final score, 32-17 doesn't indicate the constant battle on the hardwood during the entire game. Three players from Ozona and two from Sonora fouled out. All the points except for one Ozona three pointer late in the game, either came from in the paint or at the free throw line.

The game was a defensive struggle for the first two periods. Baskets were hard to come by due to the aggressiveness of most players. Starters Maraya Dunn, Meredith Earwood, Sara Gillit, Amy Hernandez, and Cassie Krieg had eleven points. Alyssa Vela substituted in when players started getting in foul trouble. She added a basket to give Sonora a 13-7 halftime lead. However two Lady Colts, Dunn and Krieg were in serious foul trouble.

Sonora tacked on seven more points in the third period. Amy Hernandez had two baskets and a free throw while Krieg had another two-pointer. Sonora defended well and only allowed Ozona to score two points.

Early in the fourth quarter, Ozona's main defender fouled out. This freed up the Lady Colt shooters to get more looks at the basket.

Sonora scored their most points in a period with twelve and put the game away.

Amy Hernandez was high scorer with nine points.

Scoring summary: Hernandez, A. 9; Krieg, C. 8; Dunn, M. 6; Gillit, S. 2; Hernandez, B. 2; Trevino, B. 2; Vela A. 2; Earwood, M. 1.

7th Grade Lady Colts lose by one basket against Reagan Co.

The 7th grade Lady Colts traveled to Big Lake on Monday, November 28, to take on the Reagan County Lady Owls. Giving it a hard try, the girls fell just one basket short, with a final score of 18-16 in favor of Reagan Co.

Scoring for the Lady Colts were: MACI ZUNIGA - 10; MORGAN SMITH - 4 and KASH MCGEE - 2

2nd Six Week A/B Honor Roll

Freshmen: Tanya Adams, Samantha Adkins, Michael Bernal, Nohemi Buitron, Rudy Charo, Reynaldo Gaytan, Michael Guevara, Amilkar Hernandez, Reggie Hernandez, Steely Ingham, Loren Isenhour, Maria Leos, Senida Martinez, Stephani Morriss, Mikael Samaniego-Lira, Yolanda Sanchez, Encida Silva, Monica Traylor, Derek Van Winkle, Azeneth Villanueva, Kody Word

Sophomores: Zenon Acosta, Kaci Chavarria, Michael Chavez, Casandra Contreras, Dalton Dover, Maritza Garcia, Spencer Hall, Shaylynn Kresta, Hunter Lawson, Jose Lugo, Zadrarian McGee, Whitney Perez, Anthony Sanchez, Kyla Turney, Kelsey Watkins

Juniors: Amanda Castilleja, Allyse Edmondson, Kayla Fields, Chasady Garcia, Pedro Gloria, Jennifer Gonzales, Martin Gonzalez, Marc Hernandez, Madeline Higdon, Jacob Ibarra, Meghan Krieg, Craig Leonard, Crystal Marshall, Justin Northcott, Alexi Ortiz, Cody Perez, Mackenzie Perez, Caleb Ramos, Kaija Valkonen, Travis Valliant, McKenzie Watkins

Seniors: Hilton Bloodworth, Desirae Boldt, Alisha Covey, Cameron Cox, Nikki Fierro, Lisa Frye, Boomer Galindo, Jesse Galvan, Jillian Gullely, Jose Hernandez, Hillary Lawson, Josh Lindsey, Anthony Longoria, Ty Love, Julia Lugo, Mason Martinez, Brett McDaniel, Maricela Moreno, Erin Newton, Anabel Perez, Chelsea Pruitt, Trent Reiner, Bryan Reyes, Vanessa Salazar, Uriel Santana, Angel Silva, Lauren Smith, Roland Solis, Jack Turney, Warren Wallace

Time To Exercise 4-H Lambs & Goats

EXTENSION
 submitted by Pascual Hernandez
 Sutton County Extension Agent-AG

Today we'll discuss 4-H livestock project progress. Youth have been busy feeding, gentling, training and managing their livestock. However, it is during this time of the year that we should begin to pay close attention to the degree of finish in our lamb and goat projects. With our county show about six weeks away, we still have time to get them in shape. So, let's talk about exercise.

Exercising your animals is a must. One of the best ways to exercise is with the assistance of a dog. If a dog is used, a circular or oval shaped track or a square track with rounded corners should be used. Sand, cedar shavings or fresh dirt should be kept in the path to provide a softer running surface. If you do not have a dog, you may exercise your lambs or goats using a bicycle or four-wheel, all-terrain vehicle. You may also chase them yourself, however, this is very tiring for you and the animals probably will not get enough exercise. Walking them with a halter does not give them enough exercise, but it is better than no exercise at all.

The biggest mistake in exercising is to exercise them before they have enough condition. Also the idea is to run hard, fast

SPRINTS, not a long-distance marathon. Exercising for too long a period will actually tear down muscle, rather than build muscle. A 350 to 450 yard sprint is usually plenty. The goal of an exercising program is to produce adrenaline and get the adrenaline running through the animal's body. Adrenaline production encourages the development of muscle. Likewise, failing to keep the animal replenished with fluid to allow for proper muscle development is a costly mistake. Muscle is made up of 70 to 80 percent water. So keep those water troughs clean.

Keep in mind that exercise and nutrition go hand in hand. Continually monitoring fat deposition will be essential in developing the ideal show animal. Knowing how your animal responds to a combination of feed and exercise will determine the outcome of this feeding and exercise regimen. If the condition of the animal is not continually monitored, they will either "wash out" or become over-conditioned. Not all lambs or goats respond to exercise and feeding programs in the same manner so each needs to be monitored individually on a daily basis.

Remember, the ultimate goal of a feeding and exercise program is to have your animal handling the best that it can on show day. Skill in determining correct condition is developed by practice and experience. For assistance, call your County Extension Agent or project leader. We'll be happy to make project visits.

Texas Farm Bureau to hold 72nd Annual Convention

WACO - A clouded future for agriculture awaits the delegates of the Texas Farm Bureau as they prepare for the organization's 72nd Annual Convention in Waco on December 3-5.

The state's largest organization of farm and ranch families expects about 1,200 delegates from 207 county Farm Bureau organizations.

Kenneth Dierschke, president of the Texas Farm Bureau, says that agriculture is facing uncertain times, primarily because of energy prices and new challenges to private property rights.

"Every farmer these days carefully calculates every trip across the field, every little bit of electricity or diesel needed to run an irrigation pump," he said. "Many farmers in Texas are telling me they can't work out a cash flow on paper, due to the high cost of energy."

Dierschke, a grain and cotton farmer from San Angelo, will address the convention on Sunday evening, December 4.

He says delegates at the convention will set the course for the organization, adopting state and national policies on a wide range of issues affecting agriculture.

"We are very concerned about property rights, which is very much a cornerstone of everything that happens in agriculture," he said. "The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the Kelo versus New London case has many of us deeply concerned over the right to own and use our land."

In the Kelo case, the Supreme Court ruled that private property may be taken, in some cases, for economic development. The Texas Farm Bureau has supported legislation in Austin and Washington to beef up property rights protections.

Both U.S. senators from Texas--Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn--will address the TFB convention. Cornyn will speak on Sunday afternoon and Hutchison on Monday morning.

The organization will recognize membership achievements by county Farm Bureaus, name an Outstanding Young Farmer/Rancher and choose a winner for the Excellence in Agriculture Award.

Farm Bureau will also conduct three contests for young Farm Bureau members that will result in scholarship awards for the winners of Miss TFB, Talent Find and the Free Enterprise Speech Contest competition.

The convention concludes on Monday, December 5, with the election of the TFB president, officers and board of directors.

Prescribed Burning workshop scheduled in Sonora

Writer: Edith A. Chenault,

Contact: Ray Hinnant, (979) 845-5580, ranchmanagement@yahoo.com

SONORA - A prescribed burning workshop will be held Jan. 19-21 and Feb. 16-18 at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in Sonora.

The workshop will be sponsored by the Academy for Ranch Management. Instructors will teach prescribed burn planning, fire characteristics, dangers and benefits, as well as pre- and post-burn grazing, and habitat manipulation. Participants will be able to see results of different types of burns, Hinnant said.

"We had a very successful burn this summer," said Alice Johansen Rahlfs of Carrollton, who participated in an earlier workshop. "We could not have planned our burn without the Academy for Ranch Management."

"The hands-on experience was very helpful - determining the right kind of equipment, the number of people, what was needed for pre-burn planning - it all came from this training. You can't get it anywhere else that I know of."

The course will provide the educational requirements for the Certified Prescribed Burn Manager certificate issued by Texas Department of Agriculture.

Instructors will be Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor, research station superintendent; Dr. Mort Kothmann, professor, Texas A&M University; Ray Hinnant, senior research associate, Experiment Station; and Kent Mills, nutritionist, Hi-Pro Feeds.

The cost for the workshop will be \$395 per person. Lodging and meals are included. Separate sleeping quarters for men and women and limited space for couples are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Oil & Agribusiness

Goin' Wild Hog Huntin'? Pack Gloves with Those Guns!

Texas is a sportsman's paradise for hunting wild hogs. With an estimated population of more than three million of the prolific feral (wild) animals roaming across the state, many ranchers welcome hunters to help with population control.

"Today, almost all feral hogs are actually domestic hogs that have escaped or were released from pens. With each generation in the wild, the pigs refine the traits needed to survive," explained Dr. Bob Hillman, Texas' state veterinarian. "The animals are alternatively praised for hunting, and hated for damaging crops and fences, gouging holes in pastures, and killing young lambs, goats or ground-nesting birds."

"Like any wild animals, feral swine can carry parasites or diseases, some of which could be transmitted to humans. One is swine brucellosis, a bacterial disease that has been detected in about one percent of wild hogs tested. When handling carcasses, hunters should take basic precautions to protect against disease and pest exposure, and most importantly, prevent blood-to-blood contact with the animals," said Dr. Hillman, who also heads the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock and poultry health regulatory agency.

- Dr. Hillman urged hunters to:
1. Avoid eating or drinking (or reaching for cigarettes or chewing tobacco) when field-dressing or handling carcasses. Don't risk putting "germs" directly in your mouth!
 2. Put on latex or rubber gloves before making the first cut.
 3. Wear long sleeves to avoid getting animal blood into scratches, open wounds or skin lesions.
 4. Wear a dusk mask and glasses or safety goggles to prevent blood or bodily fluids from splashing into eyes, nose or mouth.
 5. As much as possible, avoid contact with reproductive organs and fetuses.
 6. Wash hands thoroughly and disinfect knives when finished.
 7. Launder hunting clothes in hot water as soon as possible.
 8. Follow safe-handling procedures with the meat and cook it to at least 160 degrees F.

Although rarely seen today, swine brucellosis can be contracted by humans, with symptoms that can include night sweats, swollen joints, back pain and general illness. If a hunter is cut while field-dressing a feral hog, exposed to the animal's blood or bodily fluids, or develops symptoms comparable to those listed, a physician should be consulted, so appropriate diagnostic tests can be run. Medical care and antibiotic treatment are essential for recovery, said Dr. Hillman.

"Hunters should not be overly concerned, but they should practice good hygiene when handling carcasses of any animals," said Dr. Hillman. "These basic biosecurity measures are a good habit to develop; one that can protect your health."

Rig Locations as of November 24, 2005



Sutton
 Dominion; 13000' Shurley RR - 6 - #2, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 9750' Joe Friend Estate - A - #5025, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8950' LR Valliant #22, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8950' Mayer - 21 - #17, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8900' Bobbie H Fawcett #19, Patterson Drilling.

Dominion; 8650' Duke Wilson #177 - 5, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8400' Edwin S Mayer Jr #28, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8350' Shurley RR - 10 - #1, Patterson Drilling.
 New Dominion; 8300' Edwin S Mayer Jr - G - #14, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 7600' Shurley RR - 1E - #4X, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 6100' Cusenbary - 59 - #4, Patterson Drilling.
 New XOG Operating LLC; 5000' George Foreman #1, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett

Henry Petroleum; 10800' University Block 13-4 #1, Big Dog Drilling.
 New Harrison Interests; 9600' Joe Tom Davidson, Jr, F #42, Patterson Drilling.
 Approach Operating; 9000' Chandler - 44 - #4403, Nabors Drilling.
 Approach Operating; 9000' Addie Clayton #907, Nabors Drilling.
 New Orbit Crude, Inc.; 9000' Childress #2102, Patterson Drilling.
 Approach Operating; 9000' Childress #1603, Patterson Drilling.
 New Anadarko; 7500' Austin Millsbaugh - 14 - #8, Patterson Drilling.
 Bluegrass Energy; 7000' Simpson Canyon - 2044 - Unit #1, Adobe Drilling.
 Encore Operating; 7000' Vada Bean - #2, Patterson Drilling.
 New FIML Natural Res; 5000' Hudspeth #490D, Patterson Drilling.
 Momentum Energy; 1150' Chambers County - 4 - #1, Hinz Drilling.

Schleicher

Approach Operating; 9000' Rousselot #1305, Nabors Drilling.
 Halliburton Op; 6600' Pring - Allied #1, Heart Land Drilling.
 Dominion; 8750' Jeffers - 28B - #1, Patterson Drilling.

Terrell

ConocoPhillips; 12000' Creek Ranch - 15 - #3, Patterson UTI.
 BP America Prod; 16000' Banner Estate #28 H, Helmerich & Payne.
 Encana O&G; 11300' ACU - 48 - #8, Nabors Drilling.
 New Fasken Oil & Ranch; 7500' Geaslin SE - 204 - #60, Lariat Services/ODE.
 J. Cleo Thompson; 10300' Ingham - 22 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

Edwards

New Newfield; 10000' Five - C - Ranch #5801, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 7800' Canyon Ranch #1204E, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 7650' Canyon Ranch #2147E, Patterson Drilling.

Val Verde

Devon; 16000' Jarrett - Farmer - 4 - #1, Nabors Drilling.
 Newfield Exploration; 16000' Rio Diablo #1, Patterson Drilling.
 Gruy Petroleum; 15500' Phillip Arledge #8, Grey Wolf Drilling.
 New Patterson Petrol; 15000' Redd State #1, Patterson Drilling.
 Willo Oil & Gas Exp; 12500' Arledge #308, Patterson Drilling.

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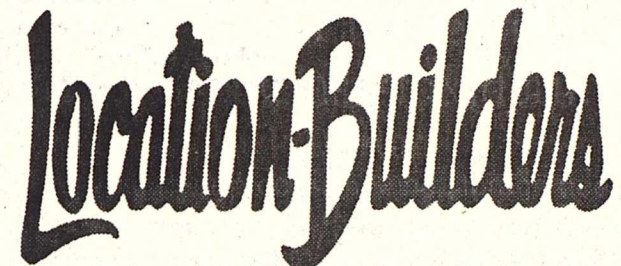
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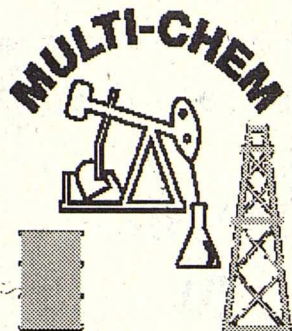
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News from the Neighbors

Tenth Annual Tour of Homes Scheduled in Kimble County

submitted

Kimble County Library will again host the Annual Tour of Homes December 4th, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. This year's hosts are Jean Blaylock, Dr. Joe and Jan King, Johnnie and Nancy Snow, and Bob and Shirley Winship. The tickets for this event are \$6 and can be purchased at the Kimble County Library, the Chamber of Commerce Office, or at the doors of the homes on the day of the tour.

Jean Chesser Blaylock (211 Cenizo) came to Junction with her parents, when her dad founded the First State Bank and served as its first president. He also practiced law with Coke Stevenson here in Junction. He was active in Lions Club and served as President of the chamber of Commerce. After graduating from Trinity University, Jean continued her career at Trinity, and in Austin and Houston. She returned to Junction in 1990 and in 1994 bought her current home.

This home was built in 1947 as an investment by Dr. H.E. Wright. Dr. Wright was a practicing chiropractor in Junction, and also served as mayor. Elgin Dechert owned this home for 40 years and after his death, it was purchased by Jean, from his estate.

Originally it was a typical styled post-war home, two bedrooms, one bath, and small kitchen and living-dining area. Jean remodeled and added a master bedroom and did a professional job landscaping the fenced in yard. Her home is open on this year's tour, and you will enjoy her creativity and admire her traditions as you view her Christmas preparations.

Dr. Joe and Jan McClelland King are in the process of relocating in Junction. They are moving, in stages, from El Paso. They purchased a home off Old Segovia Road that originally was enlarged and remodeled by Debbie Cooper. Debbie integrated old telegraph poles, lumber from her grandmother's home and her re-

markable sense of style, to create a beautiful home. Coincidentally, Jan and Debbie grew up in Sonora and were high school friends. The King home will be decorated for your pleasure by Jan and Debbie. You will surely be inspired to go home and get out your Christmas decorations after your visit to this home.

Johnnie and Nancy Snow came to Junction just over a year ago. They moved from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Johnnie retired from LSU and Nancy retired from teaching at St. Aloysius Catholic School. Linda Doyle and her children lived in this house before Trey Sullivan interested the Snow's in its purchase. Tandy Freeman, who had located here as an engineer with the I10 project, built the home in 1972. Tandy and Beth Freeman raised their three sons in this house on the hill before leaving Junction in the 1980's. Johnnie and Nancy have remodeled and redecorated the home and landscaped the backyard. Their home also reflects their enjoyment of family and friends and they welcome you for the holiday tour. It is located at 132 Bluebonnet. When you enter their decorated home, you will feel you have wandered upon a true country Christmas.

Bob Winship has a long relationship with Kimble County. His love of the area began as a little boy when he came with his mom and dad and baby brother to the "resort" area of Junction, Texas and enjoyed the river and fields and woods. They considered Kimble County the best place on the planet.

In 1931 Bob's dad, then a principal at Iraan High School, was able to buy a piece of his favorite county, and purchased 530 acres, from a rancher named Maxey. The ranch is located on Old Segovia Road. Bob's grandparents lived on this land during the depression and since the house was a bit worn out, hence the name "Rockpile"

Bob and Shirley lived all over the world as Bob was in the oil industry. Houston was their last home, but they retired in 1996 to the "Rockpile" which had stayed in the family and is now owned by Bob and his two brothers. Bob and Shirley consider Kimble County the best place to be. Bob says, "We don't go no mo, no mo."

Some interesting facts about the Rockpile are

During World War II, pilots training at Randolph Field, used a large field on the Rockpile for emergency landings.

The Kimble Library Board invites you to come and enjoy the afternoon as you visit in each home, and feel the excitement of the Christmas Season.

SWT ACA elects directors

Ann H. Patrie of Lytle, Edward W. Walker of Carrizo Springs and Lowell Woodward of Fort Stockton, were recently elected to serve three year terms on the Southwest Texas ACA board of directors. Also elected for three year terms were incumbent directors, James B. Carlson of LaVilla and Glen Richardson of Sonora who were unopposed in the director election.

Patrie, a pilot of the Army Reserves, with the rank of Lt. Colonel, is President/CEO of Shoe Box Tax Company, P.C. in Lytle, CFO of Janie Oil Company and an associate producer with Ponderous Film Productions. She is also President of Patrie and Patrie Company, engaged in real estate and oil production. Patrie's agricultural operation is located in Bexar County.

Walker is General Manager of Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District as well as General Manager of Southwest Texas Rain Enhancement Association. He is a member of Dimmit County Farm Bureau, Carrizo Springs Noon Lions Club and Treasurer of Dimmit County Livestock Association. Walker's agricultural operation is located in Dimmit County.

Woodward was elected to the position previously held by his father, Louis Woodward, who was a director for more than 40 years. His ranching operation is located in Pecos and Crockett counties. He holds an Associates Degree in Ranch Management from Texas Christian University and presently serves as director of Rio Grand Electric, director and committeeman of Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association and director of the Region F Water Planning Group. He is past director of Producers Marketing COOP and past director and President of Pecos-Reeves county Farm Bureau as well as past Vice President of the Alpine Montessori School Board.

Carlson, Richardson, Patrie, Walker and Woodward will join Paul Aelvoet of Hondo, Katherine Jane Crittendon of Valentine, Truman De Lux of Eldorado, Shelby Henke of Campbellton, Larry McBee of Del Rio, Victor John Niemeyer of Knippa, Danny Parker of Uvalde, Robert B. Nunley, Jr. of Sabinal, Gary L. Paloucek of Raymondville, Billy Savell of Sonora, Robert C. Surratt of Clint, Gene Walker of Aguilares, Mark Vanham of Uvalde and Roy Wheeler of Pleasanton on the board of directors.

Southwest Texas ACA is an agricultural credit cooperative owned by its borrowers and managed by the customer-elected board of director. It is a part of the Farm Credit System, one of the Nation's oldest sources of credit for rural America and provides financing for livestock, equipment, rural homes, farms, ranches and agri businesses in South and West Texas. Loans outstanding to farmers, ranchers, agri businesses and rural residents at June 30 were \$565,313,729. Southwest Texas ACA is headquartered in Devine, with branch offices in Edinburg, Hondo, Laredo, Marfa, Pleasanton, San Antonio, Sonora and Uvalde.

Wildfire threat continues as fires strike across state

Wind-driven wildfires scorched over 17,000 acres and claimed several homes in Texas over a five-day period spanning the Thanksgiving holiday, and the wildfire threat isn't over. Fire weather forecasters predict dry weather this week for most of the state, with particularly dangerous conditions expected to occur on Wednesday.

"West of Interstate 35 remains at very high to extreme risk of wildfires, but elevated risk also extends to the western side of the piney woods region in northeast Texas," said Spencer, state fire risk assessment coordinator with the Texas Forest Service. "Grasses and weeds across the northwestern two-thirds of the state are now dormant and fire-prone. This vegetation has the potential to fuel very dangerous, fast-moving wildfires any time dry, windy conditions occur and an ignition source is present. Large fires that occurred in Montague, Wilbarger, Parker, Eastland and Wise counties over the weekend attest to the

fire threat that exists."

From November 23-27, state and federal firefighters assisted local firefighting resources on 61 fires that scorched an estimated 16,929 acres. One of these fires, in Montague County, claimed six homes, five vehicles and a travel trailer and was still uncontrolled Monday morning. The largest fire during the period started Sunday in Wilbarger County. It had burned an estimated 10,000 acres and also remained uncontrolled as of Monday morning. Firefighters blame a propane popgun, of the type used to scare off crows, for igniting a blaze on which a Lee County firefighter received burns on his hands, arms and face.

Local fire departments battled numerous other blazes during the period, according to the Texas Forest Service, but accurate totals on fire numbers and acreage burned weren't readily available. Many of the wildfires across the state resulted from escaped debris burning, according to TFS regional fire coordinators.

Winds associated with the frontal passage fanned fires out of control through already fire-prone, freeze-dried grasses and weeds in north and north central Texas. Only southeast Texas counties received significant precipitation over the weekend, said Spencer.

Strict compliance with bans on outdoor burning and postponement of campfires and household trash and brush pile burning during dry, windy conditions are strongly recommended, says Gary Bennett, chief law enforcement officer with the Texas Forest Service.

Violation of an outdoor burning ban is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a possible fine of up to \$500, said Bennett. He also indicated that a burn ban doesn't have to be in effect for a person to be charged with a burning violation.

"Carelessly allowing your fire to escape and burn onto a neighbor's property is also a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$500, and arson is a felony offense," stated Bennett. "Arson is punishable by a prison term from two to 99 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Using proper outdoor fire safety practices can prevent unwelcome surprises like wildfires, senseless destruction and criminal violations.



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

Public Notice

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
City of Sonora
201 East Main St.
Sonora, TX 76950

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication the City of Sonora intends to request the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383), for Project No. 725811.

Exempt Activities
Administration
Engineering
Environmental Assessment Activities

Water - of this project is to repair and rehabilitate the City's 0.25 MG elevated water storage tank, located on Thompson Hill, to bring the tank into compliance with the current regulations of the TCEQ. The proposed repair and rehabilitation of the tank will extend the useful life a minimum of 15 years and can be accomplished at a fraction of the cost of tank replacement.

First-time sewer - project includes the installation of approximately 500 linear feet of six-inch (6") PVC sewer line, 1 manhole, one (1) lift station, six (6) service connections and yard lines. The project includes first-time sewer service to six (6) households. The construction activities, general administration, and project engineering shall be financed through \$94,500 of TDCP funds. All project funds will provide a FIRST-TIME sewer service. The proposed sewer improvements included in this application are the minimum necessary to correct the deficiencies in the sewer system.

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such a request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the above named City of Sonora has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190). The reason for such a decision not to prepare such Statement is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.

An Environmental Review Record for the proposed project has been made by the City of Sonora which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the office of the City Secretary, City of Sonora, 201 East Main St., and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Public Comments on Finding
All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the city to the address set forth above. Such written comments must be received at the address specified within sixteen (16) days after this publication. All such comments so received will be considered and the City will not request the release of funds or take any administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the proceeding sentence.

Release of Funds

The City of Sonora will undertake the project described above with Community Development Block Grant under Title I from its program year 2005 under grant numbered 725811 from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Sonora is certifying to ORCA that Gloria G. Lopez in her offi-

cial capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Sonora may use the Block Grant funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. ORCA will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the basis and the procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Office of Rural Community Affairs, P.O. Box 12877, Austin, Texas 78711. Objections to the release of funds on basis other than one of those stated above will not be considered by ORCA. No objections received later than thirty-three (33) days after this publication will be considered by ORCA. The Chief Executive Officer of the City of Sonora is Gloria G. Lopez.

For Sale

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

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

Motorcycle for sale: 2000 Valkyrie V-6, 33,000 miles. Can see at <http://web.scn2.net/bike>. Asking \$7,500.00. Call 650-9553.

FOR SALE

2000 CHEV. PICKUP, 3/4 TON-LOADED, CREW CAB, LEATHER, TOWING PACKAGE, \$7800.00 - PARKED AT SUTTON COUNTY STEAKHOUSE. CALL PRESTON 206-1739

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

2004 Chevy Duramax LS, 4-door, 4WD, Allison transmission, 36,000 miles, excellent condition, \$28,900.00. Call 830-719-0286.

9 ft. artificial Douglas Fir Christmas tree. Call 387-2253

Wanted

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

Wanted: Ranch Property

Individual looking for active, existing or former, ranching operations. Interested in keeping large property intact. No "recreational" properties. Please contact 800-340-1425, M-F 8-5 pm. or ranchingproperties@hotmail.com.

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Comfort Inn is now hiring **housekeeping and front desk clerks.** Apply in person @ 311 N. Hwy 277.

Operators needed: Maintainer, dozer, loader operators and dump truck driver. CDL required. Call **Mittel Dozing** 277-6883.

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

Lariat Services, Inc. is seeking an experienced **Air Driller.** Wage ranges between \$20.00 to \$24.00 an hour depending on experience. Will pay \$30.00 per diem and mileage reimbursement. Benefits include 401K Plan and Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 432-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 432-336-7821.

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

TANKER-LUBE DRIVER \$1000 SIGN-ON - BONUS

Seeking experienced oilfield driver for the Sonora/Ozona area. Position delivers diesel fuel to drilling locations with tanker and bulk lubes to locations with straight truck. Local position with no OTR. We offer competitive pay and full benefits to include health, dental, eyeglass, short term/long term disability and life insurance. We need class A CDL w/X, 3 years fuel tanker experience, clean MVR, drug-free and good work history. If you meet these qualifications, please call Simons Petroleum, 800-256-2056, Mon. - Fri., 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Make up to \$2,500.00 in 13 days. Looking for enthusiastic **adult to manage a fireworks stand** outside Sonora, December 20th thru January 1st. No investment required. Phone 10 a.m. thru 5 pm for more information. 830-429-3808 / 800-364-0136.

Weekend Retreat

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

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The Standard Times is seeking a **mature individual to deliver newspapers in Sonora.** Make approximately \$1400.00/month working early morning hours. Plus \$400.00/months gas allowance. Call 1-800-588-1884 X 8291

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

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

Sonora ISD is accepting applications for **two custodial positions.** One position will require some heavy lifting. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled and may be obtained by contacting the Superintendent's Office at 807 S. Concho. EOE

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The City of San Angelo is now accepting applications for the position of Police Recruit. Civil Service and Physical Agility test are scheduled for **Saturday, December 10, 2005.** Excellent Benefits & TMRs retirement. Starting Monthly Salary \$2,200. Applications are due by Friday, December 2, 2005 G.I. Bill Applicable.



For more information
Call 325-657-4331
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www.sanangelopolice.org

Estate Sale

David West Estate Sale - Savory Center, Friday, Dec. 2 @ 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 3 @ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec 4 @ 1-5 p.m., between the Dollar General and Crockett County Abstract on Avenue E. If you need a part for an older model computer, then you need to come to this sale. All parts for computers, several different computer programs, laser printers, DVD players, laser disk player with laser disks, furniture, lamps, gallery pictures, glassware, TV's and all kinds of misc. for more information, call Tonya at 325-392-2504 or Sonja at 325-392-2350.

Garage Sale

Garage Sale: 306 Edgemont Rd. Saturday, Dec. 3, 8:00 a.m. to ? Maternity clothes, kids' clothes, Christmas decorations, misc.

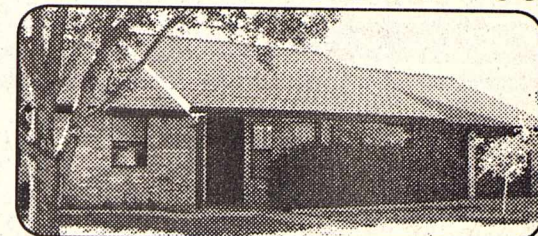
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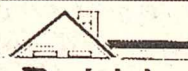
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212.64 acres of scenic ranch land located southwest of Sonora on Highway 189. The property consists of 76.23 acres in Sutton County and 136.41 acres in Val Verde County, and is located approximately 32 miles southwest of Sonora. The property offers a 720 sq. ft. hunting cabin with a wood deck that is wonderful for viewing the abundance of wildlife including White-tail Deer and Rio Grande Turkey. A new water well and a licensed septic system are added amenities to this tract of land. This unique property has approximately 1460 ft. of highway frontage and is being offered for \$800.00/acre



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Approximately 1465 sq. ft. on approx. .85' X 200' lot.
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Bob Caruthers

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◆ AEON FLUX (PG-13) 1:40 4:10 7:00 9:30	◆ HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) (12:20) 2:40 5:00 7:30 9:50
◆ YOURS, MINE, AND OURS (PG) 1:00 4:20 7:20 10:30	◆ HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) (12:45) 3:45 6:55 10:10
◆ RENT (PG-13) (12:30) 3:40 6:45 9:40	◆ WALK THE LINE (PG-13) 1:15 4:30 7:40 10:45
◆ PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) (12:25) 2:45 5:20 7:50 10:15	◆ ZATHURA (PG) 1:30 4:40
◆ JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) (11:50) 2:20 4:55 7:25 9:55	◆ DERAILED (R) 2:05 7:55
◆ IN THE MIX (PG-13)	◆ JARHEAD (R) 7:05 10:00
◆ THE ICE HARVEST (R) 4:45 10:35	◆ CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (12:10) 2:30 4:50 7:15 9:20
◆ HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) (11:45) 3:15 6:50 10:20	◆ SAW 2 (R) 7:35 10:05

Showtimes Valid 12/02 - 12/08/2005 () - Friday through Sunday only.

More good little boys and girls share Christmas wishes with Santa



F.Y.I.

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

The Sonora Ministerial Alliance is preparing for the Annual Christmas Food Basket program in Sonora. One hundred baskets of food will be packed and distributed to local families in need of assistance during the Christmas season. Anyone who would like to receive a food basket this Christmas may request one by calling the office of Adelita Alvarez, Justice of the Peace, 387-3322, or Rev. Lewis Allen, 387-2616. Contributions to the Food Basket Program may be made out to The Ministerial Alliance and mailed to Box 1015. Donations of canned goods or non-perishable items will be collected soon by Sonora's Cub Scouts; or may be taken to any of the churches in the Ministerial Alliance by December 14. Food baskets will be packed by members of Sonora's church youth groups at the First Methodist Church at 6:00 pm, December 14. The bulk of the food baskets will be delivered on Saturday morning, December 17, by high school aged volunteers from the churches. Some baskets, however, will be delivered by the Sonora High School Student Council, probably during the afternoon of December 15.

The ASU Small Business Development Center is presenting a FREE Business Planning Seminar on Thursday, December 8, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Rassman Building on the ASU Campus, Room 100. Participants will learn how to develop effective business plans for new and existing businesses. Receive quick and easy tips for writing your business plan and recommendations from an expert on how to use your plan to obtain financing, focus ideas, identify specific business objectives, and chart and manage growth. Presenter is Ms. Lisa Michalewicz. Lisa received a BBA in Management from ASU and has small business ownership experience. Lisa is a member of the Downtown Kiwanis club, the Chamber of Commerce's Business Showcase Committee, the Board of Directors for the Better Business Bureau and Leadership San Angelo Alumni Assn., and is a graduate of Leadership San Angelo 2005. Please call (325) 942-2098 to register.

Sonora City League Board is announcing a meeting to elect members to oversee Little Dribblers for our youth. Anyone interested in volunteering as a Coach or Assistant Coach is invited to attend December 5, 2005 @ 6:00 P.M. at The Mercantile Building, 222 Main St. Sonora, TX (Devon Energy, Inc.). Any inquires can be made to President, Tommy VanWinkle 387-5267 or Vice-President, Marty Parks 387-5759.

Anyone interested in meeting the Ride to Provide Caravan contact Jodi Luttrell at 387-6230 after 5:00 p.m. or leave a message - especially motorcycle riders!

Annual St. Ann Catholic Church Guadalupe Festival, Sunday, December 11, 2005; Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served in the Church Hall; music, food, game booths, silent auction, arts & crafts and more. For more information contact Jo Ann Hernandez, Belia Solis, Emily Castro, Elia Longoria or Terrie Alvarado.

BIG LAKE WINTER CLASSIC Men's Slow-pitch Softball Tournament, December 10th & 11th, 2005; RSVP by December 5, 2005 and entry fee must be received by December 7, 2005

Contact Brandi @ (325) 450-0211 or (325) 884-3626 (work) Or Alyson @ (325) 226-3558 or (325) 655-5441 (work) 1st and 2nd place teams will receive 15 long-sleeve t-shirts, 1 team bat and tournament MVP will be selected from both teams. Also, after every game the umpire will select a player from the winning team to be awarded a Game MVP prize. All USSSA rules will apply during this tournament. This includes the prohibition of certain bats and balls.

Women's Bible Study @ Lighthouse Community Church; Studying "The Patriarch" by Beth Moore; starting Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Please call the church at 387-9100 to enroll.

STORYTIME...come and join us every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. for Storytime at the Library for children 3 to 5 years of age. Stories are read, related crafts, songs and fingerplays... for more information call 387-2111.

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