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# The Devil's River News

Volume 121 • Issue 48

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 3, 2009

## Red Kettle Campaign



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## THE LIONS ROAR



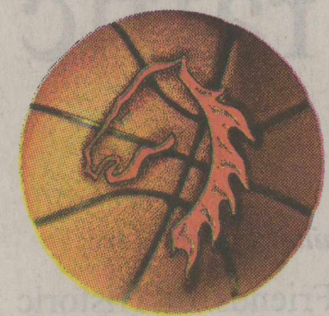
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## City Audited: Sonora in the Red

By Ben D. Taylor

In the November 17 regular meeting of the City Council, a representative of the accounting firm Sagebiel, Ravenburg, and Schuh presented their financial audit of the City of Sonora. This report was compiled for the Fiscal Year of 2009 and included analysis and comparison of key financial data such as: sales tax revenue, franchise tax revenue, hotel-motel tax revenue, total interest earned, property tax assessed valuation, etc.

Of the five major city funds discussed in the report, only two showed a decrease in revenue for FY 2009. The general fund revenue decreased by 15% and the airport fund decreased 54% (other funds showing an increase of revenue were: water 7%, sanitation 2%, and sewer 11%). The cumulative net income for all funds resulted in a loss of \$37,000. All five funds exhibited an increase in operating expenses (with the highest coming from the sanitation fund at 36%) with the total capital expenditure for all funds totaling over \$500,000. When compared to the previous 3 year average in terms of revenue and expenses (for all funds), 2009 reported a revenue source that was down by 9% while expenditures were

up by 258%. The decrease in revenue to the general fund was mostly impacted by a decrease in sales tax (down 30%), motel tax (down 26%) and franchise tax (down from 2008) all of which comprised over 50% of the revenue stream for this fund in 2008 and 2009. Other revenue sources for the general fund were down as well (federal and county, and street maintenance sales tax). Only the property taxes and the interest income off of investments were higher than 2008. This resulted in the general fund operating at a \$140,000 loss for FY 2009.

Both the sanitation and airport funds showed a trend where operating expenses were higher than revenue. The sanitation fund reported a negative net income of \$136,272 as the operating expenses of 2009 increased by 36%. The increase of this expense is attributed to: the landfill lease, Texas Commission of Environmental Quality fines, increase gas surcharge by the sanitation company, and land fill preparation. The airport fund's revenue source (the majority of which is aviation fuel sales) was down 56% for 2009. The airport sold 42% less fuel in 2009, at much lower profit which resulted in higher oper-

ating expenses than revenue. Fuel sales came in at over \$42,000 at a profit of \$297 (a less than 1% gross profit margin), compared to 2008 where fuel sales were over \$97,000 at a profit of \$20,000 (a 20% gross profit margin).

Both the water and sewer funds reported a higher revenue source than operating expenses. The water fund returned a profit of \$248,000 for FY 2009. The water fund also reported a 12% water loss (down from 24 percent in 2008). The sewer fund reported a net income of \$76,000 (an increase of 10% from 2008). When operating expenses are taken into account this fund reported a 10% gross profit. For these two funds in particular, maintaining a gross profit of over 13% is essential to pay back the 9 million dollar bond for the upgrades to our water and sewer infrastructure. If these funds report profits below 13% the city will have to further raise taxes to service that debt.

The figures presented in this article do not reflect any federal or state grants and only encompass a time frame for the FY 2009.

## Ministerial Alliance School Prayer Service



By Chris Roque

The Sonora Ministerial Alliance will be sponsoring a prayer service for our local schools. The service will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Old Train Depot. About two weeks ago at our local ministerial alliance lunch, the thought came up about praying for our schools. We talked about how important our students, faculty, staff and administrators are to this community.

Often our students and fac-

ulty are up against incredible odds that we overlook or take for granted. They deal with: peer pressure, societal struggles, academic learning, extra curricular achievement, grading, planning, administrative and budgetary issues on a daily basis.

Our churches, parents, and concerned community members should cover our school district with prayer. In the up

coming service on December 7th, a good day for prayer, we will ask God to bless, guide and protect all the endeavors of our students, faculty, staff and administrators. Our superintendent, Mr. Gibson, along with local clergy, student and faculty representatives of each campus will offer prayers during the service. Please come and join us in praying for our schools.



## The More the Merrier Christmas Bazaar

Submitted by: Donna Garrett

Friday, November 20th was an exciting day with The More the Merrier Christmas Bazaar. 34 vendors set up at the Civic Center showcasing their handcrafted items, jewelry, purses, knives, toys, baked goods, cookbooks, etc. It was a great day to shop early for the Christmas season and support our local merchants. Every year the Sonora Chamber of Commerce puts this event on for our local businesses free of charge, and a small fee for the out of town vendors to help offset the cost of the event. We would like to thank Judge Garner, the Sutton County Commissioners and Armando Martinez for your help to put on this event. Also, we would like to thank the West Side Lions Club for providing food throughout the day. A special thanks to Santa Claus who was wonderful with the children! Thank you Little Mr. Sutton County, Joseph Ivan Borrego, as usual, you kept us entertained, and Little Miss Sutton County Lexie Martin, you are a joy to have around. I would like to thank Tibba Edmondson and the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors - without you this event could not have been possible. Another thank you goes out to Tish Roque and Anna Johnson for bringing the youth choir to perform. The crowd really enjoyed listening to the beautiful music from the children. If you missed their performance, they will be performing their music and a play at the First Methodist Church December 11th at 6:00 P.M.

## Outreach Organization Seeks Donations

By Shelia Hemphill

I am a business consultant for Hormonal Balance Clinic in San Angelo, office of Dr. Steve Hines. Dr. Hines is affiliated with Hope International Clinic in Acuna, Mexico across from Del Rio, TX. On one side of the clinic is an orphanage, and the other side is a Christ Community Mana (Mana). On Thursday Nov. 5, Dr. Hines calls me to report that Mana's 800 member church is providing outreach services to Acuna's prostitute and homeless community of 2000+ people. The most requested item was for a coat or a blanket. Their hope is to develop a relationship with these desperate people in hopes of getting their children off the street. It's not uncommon for these children to be sold into the prostitute industry.

On Friday Nov. 6, I posted a request on Facebook to my local friends. I developed the business card with the picture of the little girl under the title of 'She should not be cold & She should not be sold'. By Monday, I have over 35 coats and other items in my living room. Dr. Hines commented that his organization needed 500 coats. I believed I could gather 1 used coat, 1 new or used blanket and \$10.00 for food purchases from 50 people, and in less than a week I am proud to say that Brady is half way to its \$500 goal and large number of coats and blankets.

There are two drop off locations in Sonora: Parker Lumber, and 1 Stop Gift Shop if you would like to make a donation. Money, blankets, and coats are welcome.

### Lighthouse Community Church

CAN A LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD  
**Be Real, Personal & Practical?**  
THE ANSWER IS YES!

1705 N. Crockett

### Senior Center Activities

- Thur. Dec. 3 - Happy Birthday Sam Perez  
AAA reports due
- Fri. Dec. 4 - Decorate for Christmas
- Mon. Dec. 7 - Bingo  
Pearl Harbor Day!
- Tues. Dec. 8 - Volunteer to deliver meals. Call 387-5657
- Wed. Dec. 9 - Trax van to San Angelo. Call 387-2509

### Senior Center Menu

- Thur. Dec. 3 - Pork chops w/gravy, green beans, rolls, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, fruit cocktail, milk
- Fri. Dec. 4- Catfish, hush puppies, corn/tomato casserole, season Spanish lemon pudding w/cookie, milk
- Mon. Dec. 7- Hamburger on a bun, tater tots, lettuce, tomato, carrot salad, pudding, and milk
- Tues. Dec. 8 - Fried chicken w/gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, peaches w/topping and milk
- Wed. Dec 9 - Meatloaf w/tomato sauce, macaroni and cheese, beans, wheat rolls, sugar cookies and 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 \$2.00; \$5.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go).



## Sonora Church Directory

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Primera Iglesia Bautista</b><br>504 Santa Clara<br>387-2035                     | <b>Church of Christ</b><br>304 N. Water<br>387-3190                   |
| <b>The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian</b><br>319 E. Mulberry<br>387-2616 | <b>First Baptist Church</b><br>11 E. Oak<br>387-2951                  |
| <b>Lighthouse Community Church</b><br>1705 N. Crockett<br>387-9100                 | <b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b><br>404 E. Poplar<br>387-2955       |
| <b>Pentecostal Calvary Temple United</b><br>509 Amistad<br>387-5266                | <b>First United Methodist Church</b><br>201 N. Water<br>387-2466      |
| <b>St. Ann's Catholic Church</b><br>229 W. Plum<br>387-2278                        | <b>Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios</b><br>306 W. 4th St<br>387-5713 |
| <b>Jehovah's Witness</b><br>310 St. Ann's St<br>387-5658/387-5518                  | <b>Hope Lutheran Church</b><br>417 E. 2nd St.<br>387-5366             |

Brought to you by:  
**Kerbow Funeral Home**  
387-2266

### Death Notice

## Tommy Thorp

Sonora- Tommy Thorp, 64, of Sonora died Monday, Nov. 30 in a local hospital. Memorial service will be Friday, Dec. 4, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in Kerbow Funeral Home Chapel. Survivors include mother Faye Thorp of Sonora, brother Jenky Thorp of Sonora, sister Carla Wilson of Sonora, and sons Robert Thorp, Skeeter Thorp, and T.J. Thorp.

### Thank You Notes

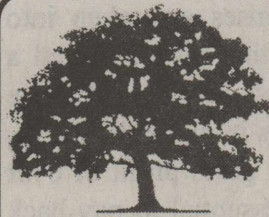
I would like to take this time to THANK everyone who volunteered their time, skills and hard work to make the 43rd annual Game Dinner a success. Each year I am overwhelmed by the continued generous support given by the community of Sonora and the surrounding area outside of Sonora. Thank you to each and everyone who donated raffle prizes. Our generous appreciation goes out to Steve Anderson of Anderson Energy of Denver, Co. To the COOKS the food was the BEST.

A special thanks to Lee Bloodworth for stepping up and being our Master of Ceremonies as Biscuits O'Bryan could not make it.

Without the support and hard work of the many volunteers such as the food runners, servers, set up crew, the ones who helped get the meat cut up and prize committee we would not have been able to achieve this feat. A big thank you to 4J Blades for keeping our knives sharp. I apologize in advance if I left anyone out. THANKS AGAIN!!!

Carl Johnson  
President of Sutton Co. Game Dinner Association

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program would like to express our appreciation to First National Bank of Sonora for donating their old office furniture to the FH Sonora Main Street office. It is a wonderful gift to the program. We are looking up town style now! I know that the tourists and visitors that come to our office and our town will enjoy the new look at the FH Sonora Main Street office. What a wonderful gift to start out the Christmas Season. Thank You!



### SUTTON COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION

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

### First United Methodist Church

201 NW Water Ave.  
(325) 387-2466  
Ray Wells, Pastor

**Sunday** Nursery available from 9:30 - 12:30

9:45 Sunday School  
10:55 Worship  
6:00 Bible Study

**Tuesday** 12:00 Lion's Club

#### Wednesday

5:00 Choir Practice  
6:00 Beth Moore Study - Fellowship Hall  
6:00 Jr. High Youth - St. John's Sunday House  
7:00 Sr. High Youth - St. John's Sunday House

### The Sonora Middle School Library to host a Scholastic Bookfair

The Sonora Middle School Library will be hosting a Scholastic Bookfair this year from December 7th - 11th, 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM DAILY.

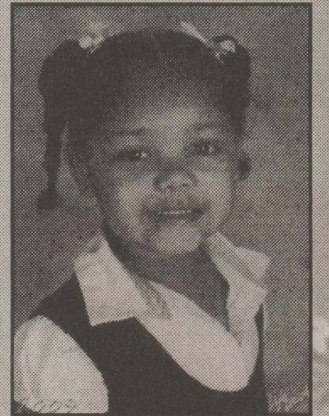
Family Night is December 10th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Plan on joining us for Hot Chocolate and Cookies and play Bookfair Bingo!

The money raised goes to support the Sonora Middle School Library!

## Happy 3rd Birthday Jayla

We love you!

Mommy, Daddy,  
Gigi, Uncle Harley,  
Uncle J, Aunt Armie,  
Tio Tony, Nana Stella  
&  
Papa Mando



## Happy Birthday!

### December 3

Jacob Adams, Addrianna Gamez, Sam Perez, Angelo Vitela, Gus Ward, Frank Lopez

### December 4

Joe Schaeffer, Elsa Banda, Joe Fincher, Noah San Miguel, Darla Lipham, Cora Seymour

### December 5

Roy Luna, Gary Leonard, Dylan Smith, Erika Campbell, Sabrina Surber, Becki Harris

### December 6

Logan Luttrell, Kaija Valkonen, Graciela Alvizo, Jesse Burnham

### December 7

Micah Adams, Maria Favila

### December 8

Louie Castro, Sr., Quincy Crain, Austin Slauch, Cameron Sims, Bobby Mogford, Mike Fay, Whitney Hooper, Willie Gutierrez

### December 9

Chris Flores, Amber Vasquez, Carrie Smith, Rose Hooper, Chris Lopez

# Main Street Traffic

Happy Holidays!

Submitted by Ann Kay

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program and the Downtown Businesses would like to invite you to the downtown Christmas Lighting Thursday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m.

There will be cowboys riding up Main Street, Christmas music, hot cocoa, and sweet goodies.

Come join us as we light the Sutton County Courthouse. ans share in the Christmas Joy.

## Catch the Christmas Spirit Sonora Tour of the Churches Thursday, December 17, 2009

Friends of Historic Main Street Program  
Presents  
Sonora Tour of the Churches  
Thunderbird Buses will be loading  
at 6:15 p.m. at the  
Sutton County Courthouse

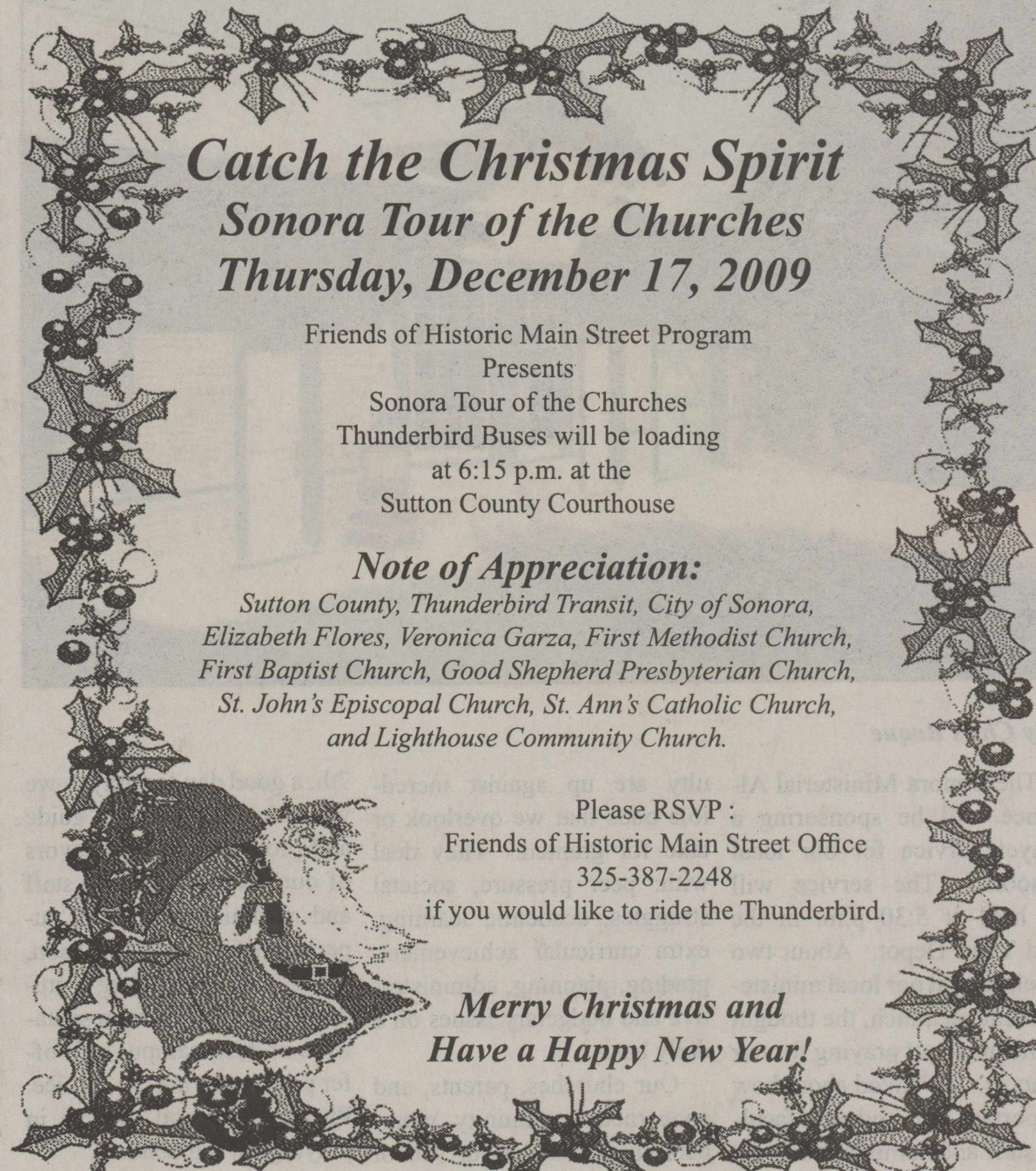
### Note of Appreciation:

Sutton County, Thunderbird Transit, City of Sonora, Elizabeth Flores, Veronica Garza, First Methodist Church, First Baptist Church, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, St. John's Episcopal Church, St. Ann's Catholic Church, and Lighthouse Community Church.

Please RSVP:

Friends of Historic Main Street Office  
325-387-2248  
if you would like to ride the Thunderbird.

Merry Christmas and  
Have a Happy New Year!



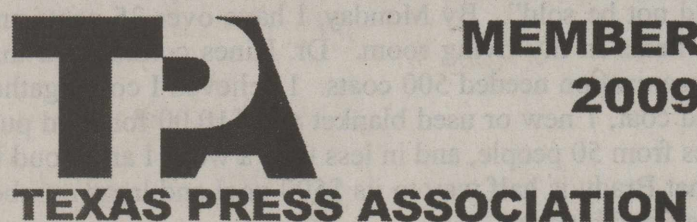
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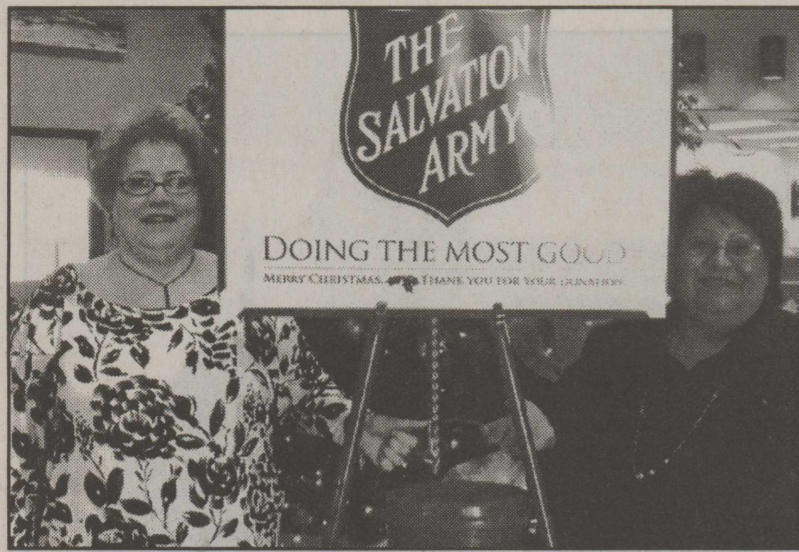
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## Doing The Most Good



Terry Duckworth and Juanita Estrada

Submitted:

Terry Duckworth and Juanita Estrada at The Bank and Trust are excited to announce that the sounds of the Salvation Army bell will soon be ringing throughout Sonora, reminding us that Christmas is right around the corner. All money collected from the Red Kettle Campaign will stay in Sonora and will be used to help those in need during the holidays and throughout the year.

The Salvation Army Service Unit of Sonora, Terry Duckworth, Chairperson and Juanita Estrada, Treasure.

## A Very Happy Thanksgiving



Back Row: Michelle & H.A. Belk, Barbara & Armer Earwood, Ryon West  
 3rd Row: Quincy Crain, Katy Harrell, Jonathan Fletcher, Allen & Elsie Belk, Keith Newland, Jesse Crain West, Heath & Staci Belk in front of Jesse & the Belks: Barbara Belk Newland Rebecca Crain, Meredith & Emily Earwood, Blair Crain Bryan, baby Jake Bryan, John Bryan holding unhappy Brody, Pam & Edward Earwood, J. Riley Crain, Melinda Earwood Crain, Harli Belk Front row: Maci Belk, Addison West, Reagan in Bolton's lap, Ashton Belk, Jaydon West, Jaylyn Crain in front of Jaydon & Jarrett Jackson. 34 in all! A very Happy Thanksgiving with all our family together!!

## Happy Birthday



Iris Bradley, Doris Rousselot, Martha Wallace, Linda Johnson, Gaile Cade, Jerry Wallace

Sonora ladies, dressed in their finest, descended upon Roosevelt recently. They surprised Doris Rousselot with a birthday luncheon at the Back Door Café which is housed in the Simon Mercantile Building. They enjoyed a scrumptious lunch, consisting of gigantic hamburgers and fried toothpicks. Doris was really surprised and all agreed they would certainly recommend the Back Door Café!

## Saying Goodbye Is Always Hard

Brenda and Terry are going out for the evening. The last thing they do is put their cat out.

The taxi arrives, and as the couple walk out of the house, the cat scoots back in.

Terry returns inside to chase it out. Brenda, not wanting it known that the house would be empty, explains to the taxi driver, 'My husband is just going upstairs to say goodbye to my mother.'

Several minutes later, an exhausted Terry arrives and climbs back into the taxi saying, 'Sorry I took so long, the stupid idiot was hiding under the bed and I had to poke her with a coat hanger several times before I could get her to come out!'

## Wild Tale



Josh Smith and Chestin Clark called this 39 pound bobcat up at Tommy Love's on the T Half Circle Ranch on Thursday, November 19, 2009. They called it up within 6 1/2 minutes and it was only 23 yards from the truck. Josh killed the bobcat with a 22 mag.

## Sutton County Buck



On November 7, 2009, opening day at 7:20 a.m., Chris Harrison of Lampasas shot this 20 point buck on Askew-Fisher Ranch. Chris has been hunting this buck since last season and finally the opportunity presented itself to bag the "Big One". The buck scored 160 2/8", 6 1/2" bases, and 4" at the end of the antlers. Congratulations Chris!!!!

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 325-632-2000

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 Great Candles and Gifts  
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 325-226-1901  
 Call or Order from my website!

## F.Y.I.

**Brushy Top Cowboy Church** will be having a Double Mugging on Saturday, December 5, 2009 on Hwy 277- between Eldorado and Sonora, County Line. Cash entry fee of \$100 per team. Books open at 10:00 a.m. Starts at 12:00 p.m. Negative Coggins Required. 4 or 5 hole 75% Cash Payback, Buckles/Prizes. Call Craig Nolen 325-650-0219 or James Babb 325-650-3504.

**Sonora Tiger Cubs** will be hosting a Bake Sale on Saturday December 5, 2009 from 7:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. in front of NAPA Auto Parts. We will have an assortment of baked goods and breakfast burritos. Please come and support our Tiger Cubs. Proceeds will be used to purchase uniforms. Thank you for your continued support!!

**Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary** is having a Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 1, 2010 at the Fire Hall. Your donations for clothing, household items and etc. are tax deductible and most welcome. Please contact Sandee Reese at 325-387-5368 or Christy Lippman at 325-206-1342 to arrange a donation drop-off today.

**Need a Dunking Booth for a party or fundraiser?** Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary has a dunking booth for rent. Call Tommie Sanchez at 226-8271 for availability and rates.

**The 144th Narcotics Anonymous Group** meets every Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in the Reception Hall of The Church of the Good Shepherd, 319 N.E. Mulberry, FMI, call 387-4941 or 450-8922.

**Rent the Depot or Icehouse Ranch Museum** for your Holiday parties. Call 325-387-5084 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

**Sonora High School Alumni** - Register at www.sonorahighalumni.com. For more information log on to sonoraaalum@aol.com.



Member FDIC  
 P.O. Box 798  
 Sonora, Texas 76950  
 325-387-3861



Member FDIC  
 229 Hwy 277 N  
 Sonora, Texas 76950  
 325-387-2593

**Happy Hour**  
 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Monday thru Friday  
 All drinks and Artic Rushes

# What Has American Cancer Society Done For You Lately?

By Stacy Fisher

I have heard the question asked repeatedly... What does the American Cancer Society do for Sutton County and where does that money go? It is about time we answer those questions.

Relay For Life is Sutton County's biggest American Cancer Society event and raises the most money. The money that American Cancer Society and Relay For Life raise each year saves lives by funding cutting-edge cancer research, early detection and prevention education, advocacy efforts, and life-affirming patient services.

Sutton County doesn't actually keep the money we raise each year but we see the benefits from the services that are provided to our community and its members. The American Cancer Society has helped fund researchers in discovering major advances in cancer treatments and medicines. For instance, in 2006 the FDA approved the new vaccine against the strains of the human papilloma virus (HPV) that causes most cases of cervical cancer, which is one of the most recognizable medications on the market due to the successful campaign. Since 2000 drugs like Mylotarg®, Gleevec®, Zevalin®, Velcade®, Alimta, and Avastin have become accessible to patients who battle a variety of cancers from leukemia, multiple myeloma, colorectal cancer, and lung cancer; and that only naming a handful research milestones from American Cancer Society. Those medicines may seem very foreign to us but to those who have benefited from the treatment they provided know their names by heart. There are currently 58 open grants in Texas as of July 1, 2008 totaling \$38,350,666 and the research will somehow or another benefit our great community.

Besides research, there are several other programs that current cancer patients and survivors have benefited from in Sutton County. There is a Guestroom service that provides either free or reduced rate rooms to patients traveling from Sonora to a treatment center by calling (800) ACS-2345. Reach to Recovery is a support system for woman who have had mastectomies and Road to Recovery provides transportation to patients to and from treatment and doctor's appointments. American Cancer Society provides cancer patients who are in need of wigs, hats, or turbans those items for free which can be picked up at one of their offices or shipped. Currently, plans are underway to build a Hope Lodge in Lubbock for patients and their families to stay while receiving treatment and also, provide a support system from other families that are going through similar situations. There are currently 26 Hope Lodge locations in the United States, and the Lubbock location should be completed by Spring 2011. The treatment a cancer patient receives can not only be hard physically but emotionally; therefore, in order to help the self esteem of those women who have lost their hair to chemo, the Look Good Feel Better program pairs hairdressers and patients so they can work on styling wigs and a skin care regime. Feeling good on the outside is beneficial to the overall treatment of cancer for both men and women.

There are other services and benefits our county receives but, I found it encouraging to know that our county made a special request of the American Cancer Society and we received an answer. It seemed that the ratio of people with cancer was high for our small community, so the Sutton County American Cancer Society board asked for them to look into our numbers. We did learn that we are not any different from the national average; it just seemed that way because our board strives to maintain increased awareness of who was battling this devastating disease so we can provide help.

If you or someone you know would like more information on the American Cancer Society please call the 24/7 toll free number (800) ACS-2345 or log onto [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) for an incredible amount of information for cancer patients, survivors and even their caregivers.

# Rail Road Commission Production Statistics and Allowables for December 2009

AUSTIN -- The Texas average rig count as of Nov. 13 was 429, representing about 41 percent of all active land rigs in the United States. In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 347 million barrels of oil and 7.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Texas natural gas production represents approximately 29 percent of total U.S. natural gas demand.

The Commission's estimated final production for September 2009 is 28,806,778 barrels of crude oil and 584,996,717 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary September 2009 production totals of 26,914,676 barrels of crude oil and 491,016,214 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.0703 for crude oil and 1.1914 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

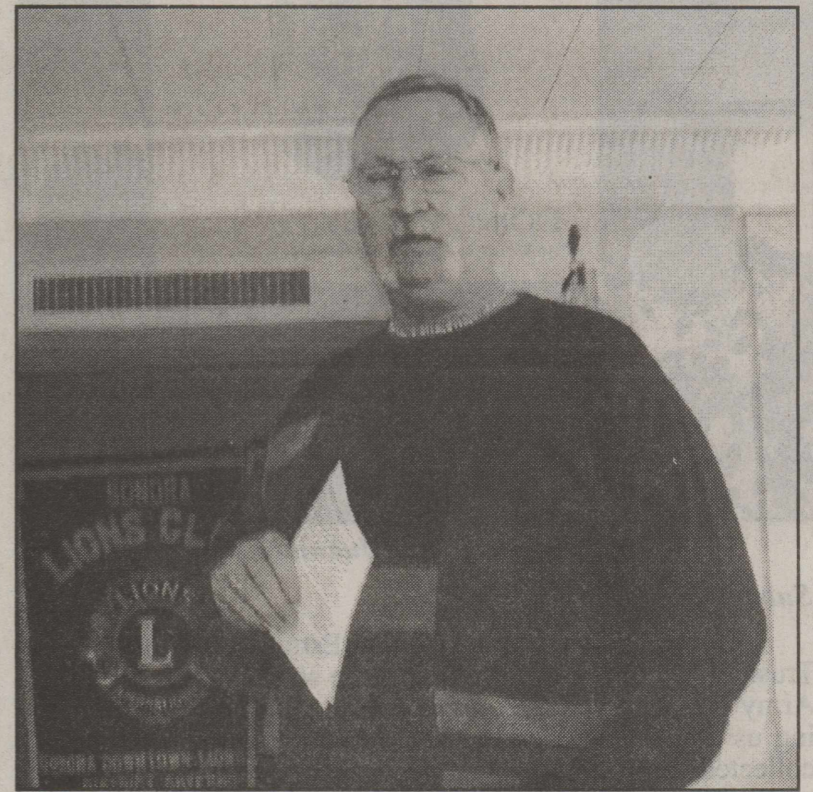
Texas natural gas storage reported to the Commission for October 2009 was 458,359,717 Mcf compared to 318,671,889 Mcf in October 2008. The November 2009 gas storage estimate is 470,229,859 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division set initial December 2009 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 16,126,289 Mcf (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial December 2009 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for December 2009 is reported.

A government big enough to give you everything you want is big enough to take everything you have.

Barry Goldwater

# LIONS ROAR



Submitted by: Frank Wamble

As Thanksgiving was the main event for the week, Reverend Ray Wells provided an interesting program about Thanksgiving. Many areas believe they had the first Thanksgiving from El Paso to Galveston to Massachusetts. While the general population supports the notion of the Pilgrims in Massachusetts, the issue of giving thanks to the Lord for what we have been provided here in our great country was the theme. We hope all had a wonderful and blessed day.

From the business standpoint eyeglass responsibility was given to Lion volunteers Tony Lane and Don Surridge. Bags of glasses donated by Sonorans will be shipped to a Lions recycling center in Midland for restoration and reissue to the needy. The Lions recycle glasses, hearing aids and cell phones. If you have anything to donate contact any Lion for pickup. GO BRONCOS!!!

# The Idle American

By Dr. Don Newberry

Uncle Mort, my 96-year-old kin down in the thicket, may have the largest "alibi collection" on the planet.

I felt yawns coming on as Mort rambled. My eyes widened, though, when he offered an alibi for the Dallas Cowboys' 7-6 football win over the Washington Redskins....

\*\*\*\*\*  
I had heard him offer alibis on thousands of subjects over the years, but this was the first time in memory that he'd made excuses for a win.

He blamed the Boys' poor offensive showing on oxygen deprivation.

"If they had lost, they could've blamed it on a bunch of school kids determined to make the Guinness Book of World Records," my uncle maintained....

\*\*\*\*\*  
My curiosity aroused, I was determined to hear him out.

He was happy to oblige, explaining that earlier in the week, a crowd of 4,626 Arlington eighth-graders gath-

ered 'round the giant screen to learn the techniques of administering CPR. Guinness officials have confirmed this to be the largest CPR training session ever held, topping the old record by almost a thousand.

"Those kids dang nigh pumped all the oxygen out of the place, causing the Boys' offense to be light-headed," Mort surmised. "I'm shore 'nuff glad that their defense sucked it up..."

\*\*\*\*\*  
I attended a high school football play-off game at the new Cowboys stadium. Add me to the list of people overwhelmed by this \$1.2 billion venue which is billed as the largest covered athletic facility in the world.

It is surreal. The huge screen had a \$40 million price tag, more than the total construction figure for the old Texas Stadium. It gets more attention than play on the field. Game action and ever-changing ads lighting up virtually all usable

space on stadium walls seem to compete for attention. People-watching, with glances at the big screen that provides frequent shots of smiling, hand-waving fans, is big, too. Some things never change, but even though the crowd shots shown on the big screen span but a few seconds, most of the "subjects" are eager to "ham it up" in what well may be their "15 seconds of fame."

The old claim is that you "can't know the players without a program;" at Cowboys' Stadium, you can't know the score without binoculars....

\*\*\*\*\*  
The stadium indeed has four scoreboards--one in each cor-

ner. Surely they sent the wrong ones; these seem better suited for a junior high school field. The long and the short of it is that they are tiny in a cavernous place where "big" reigns.

Eyes squint to locate the "boards marked as "home" and "away." And even the strongest squints fail to lock in on an American flag permanently displayed inside the stadium. Critics of the current "bring your own flag" policy are having a field day, protesting that "America's team should have America's flag."

Still, the impressive facility is alive with movement, color and excitement....

\*\*\*\*\*

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After graduating with a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University in College Station, Dr. Burger received his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine Affiliated Hospitals in Houston. He completed his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine Affiliated Hospitals as well as fellowships in Cardiovascular Disease and Interventional Cardiology. Dr. Burger is board certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Disease and Interventional Cardiology.

**Sabino D'Agostino, D.O.**  
*Neurosurgery*

**Second Thursday of each month  
Beginning December 10**

After graduating with a bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University in University Park, Pennsylvania, Dr. D'Agostino received his medical degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia. He completed his Residency in Neurological Surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina in Neurological Surgery in Charleston.

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## Oil & Agribusiness

### Keep Insects Out of Your Home This Winter

By Pascual Hernandez,  
Sutton County Agricultural  
Extension Agent



The weather has finally cooled off some and nights are also cooler. That means that insects will be looking for a place to spend the winter. Some clever insects, like the ladybug, survive by hibernating. Others, such as fleas and lice, survive by living close to people or animals. And sometimes they seek shelter in our homes for a peaceful winter sleep. Most of them do not present a great danger to the homeowner. However, these insects WILL be a nuisance. Here are a few tips to help reduce the chance of serving as a winter home for insects or other pests.

First, inspect your home for possible entry points. It is not uncommon for insects to enter attics or garages through cracks in the foundation, open windows or spaces around doors. Mechanical control is possible by caulking all cracks to prevent insect entry. Caulking also makes the structure more air-tight and should help lower heating costs.

Secondly, remember to store firewood away from the house to help eliminate hiding places for pests. Take only the amount of firewood needed for immediate use into the house. Firewood stacked beside the

house may be handy but as the wood warms, spiders, scorpions and other pests may leave the wood and escape to other areas of the house.

You can also help yourself by mowing any tall grassy or weedy areas to render less cover over the cool season. And though leaves provide insulation for lawns and serve as mulch, they also furnish shelter for insects, so keep the areas in close proximity to your house raked.

Finally, fix water drips (leaks) that supply moisture to insects. You should also take out the trash regularly and not leave pet food accessible as these are sources of food for pests. With just these simple practices, we can keep down the probability of involuntarily hosting insects over the winter.

Dealing with insects indoors involves a combination of diligence, observation and some sort of control strategy. Control options are many and vary in efficiency. Options include pesticides, repellants, attractants, and dessicants. For additional information, visit the Sutton County Extension website at <http://suttonco.tamu.edu>.

### TDA Market Recap Nov. 30, 2009

AUSTIN – (Nov. 30, 2009) For the week ending Nov. 28, 2009, feeder cattle prices at Texas auctions were steady to \$5 higher per hundredweight in very light holiday-week trade. Many locations were closed for the week so demand was somewhat higher for the limited offerings. Fed cattle prices also increased as processors began lining up supplies for after the holiday. Cotton prices ended the week higher as concerns about the crop in the southeastern U.S. and improved global demand continue to support the market. As for futures markets, corn and lumber were higher while feeder cattle, finished cattle, cotton and wheat were lower. Parts of South Central Texas and the Coastal Bend recorded up to two inches of rain during the week, but most other areas of the state received little or no rainfall. Topsoil moisture was rated mostly adequate to short statewide. Cotton harvest made good progress thanks to favorable weather on the Plains and now stands at 83 percent complete, well ahead of the 68 percent average. Grain sorghum harvest was slightly ahead of normal at 94 percent complete. Winter wheat planting progressed to 94 percent complete with 84 percent of the acreage emerged. The crop was reported in mostly good to fair condition. Pastures continue to decline with the shorter days and cooler temperatures.

Texas Cash Markets:	Week Ending Nov. 28, 2009	Previous Week	Previous Year
Feeder Steers (\$/cwt)	97.98	97.95	95.10
Fed Cattle (\$/cwt)	84.69	83.97	90.01
Slaughter Lambs (\$/cwt)	na	125.00	112.00
Slaughter Goats (\$/cwt)	na	140.00	113.00
Cotton (¢/lb)	67.63	66.50	42.25
Grain Sorghum (\$/bu) *	5.92	6.19	4.88
Wheat (\$/bu) *	4.59	4.78	4.82
Corn (\$/bu) *	3.75	3.92	3.59
Oranges (\$/carton)	12.15	12.30	9.63
Grapefruit (\$/carton)	14.15	14.15	11.65
Cabbage (\$/carton)	7.00	6.50	6.50

Futures Markets:	Week Ending Nov. 28, 2009	Previous Week	Previous Year
Feeder Cattle (\$/cwt)	92.50	92.67	91.70
Fed Cattle (\$/cwt)	83.20	83.95	87.37
Cotton (¢/lb)	69.74	70.41	45.75
Wheat (\$/bu)	5.43	5.57	5.63
Corn (\$/bu)	3.98	3.91	3.50
Lumber (\$/1000 bd ft)	236.20	222.20	193.50

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### Game Warden Field Notes

**Game warden finds lost child:** On Oct. 19, a Shackelford County game warden responded to a call about a missing two-year-old girl. The child had wandered away from her house accompanied by her two Doberman pinchers. While searching, the warden heard a dog barking in the distance and directed a volunteer fireman in a four-wheel-drive ATV to the area. The child was found about a half mile from her house beside a stock tank, with one of the dogs by her side. She had removed her wet and muddy clothing but was unharmed.

**Game wardens confront serial trespasser:** A Runnels County game warden received a call from a landowner who said her hunters had come in and checked their game cams to discover a picture of a man walking through the deer feeder area with a pistol strapped on. The warden met with the hunters and recognized the man as a neighbor. She had caught him trespassing in the mid-'80s and warned him about it then. The rancher had also caught him about five years ago. One felony and one misdemeanor warrant are pending.

**Caught in the act, part 2:** On Oct. 15 at 1:00 a.m., two Montgomery County game wardens were running a deer decoy operation near Montgomery when they apprehended three subjects night/road hunting deer. A vehicle passed the decoy, turned around and, on its way back, started shining a flashlight. As the vehicle approached the decoy, the passenger shot at it one time,

hitting it just below the head with a .17-caliber rifle. The wardens stopped the vehicle, and after identifying the occupants realized they had caught the shooter night/road hunting three years before. The subjects confessed to having done this many times before. The driver and the shooter were arrested.

**Thought he didn't need it:** On Oct. 18, while checking fishing licenses on the San Gabriel River, a Williamson County game warden came across a fisherman who thought he did not need a license unless he was fishing on the lake. While issuing a citation for no fishing license, it was found he had a warrant for his arrest for an unpaid ticket. He said he thought he did not have to pay for the ticket since he had moved and did not receive a notice. Williamson County was glad to clear a case off their books.

**Well, that didn't work:** On Oct. 25, a Trinity County game warden received a call that a local subject had killed a deer off of a county road. When the warden arrived, he found two subjects with one skinned buck deer head arguing over the proper way to measure the spread, along with a cooler full of meat on top of two hoop nets behind the barn. The suspect said that he was dropped off by his friend in the national forest to squirrel hunt but could not pass up the large buck. When the subject was asked why he had his friend drop him off to hunt, he stated, "So the game warden would not catch me."

**Water chase:** On Oct. 27, a Starr County game warden and a Zapata County game

warden patrolled the north end of Falcon Lake and the Rio Grande River in search of illegal commercial fishing activity. The wardens found and seized 11 sections of gill net (approximately 3,630 feet). With the net weighing down the bow of the boat, the wardens were about to call it a day and head back toward the lake when they saw a Mexican commercial fishing vessel traveling northbound, hugging the U.S. shoreline. The wardens went out to the halfway point of the river and were able to stop and board the boat. They arrested both subjects on board and seized another two sections of gill net (approximately 660 feet).

**Uncertified hunter accidentally shoots self:** On Oct. 24, an Upshur County game warden was notified of a subject who had been shot while hog hunting. While walking through the woods, the group of four had decided to shoot at some cans. The victim had

a piece of hot brass go down his shirt and, when he tried to remove it, he accidentally shot himself with a .45-caliber handgun. Nobody in the hunting party had hunter education or a hunting license. Charges pending for fail to show hunter education.

**Water rescue:** On Oct. 25, a Morris County game warden and a Bowie County game warden responded to a call regarding multiple shots coming from White Oak Creek Wildlife Management Area. A night hunting case quickly turned into a water rescue when the wardens were informed that four men in a flat-bottom boat were stranded and lost on White Oak Creek. The wardens used several techniques to locate the stranded vessel until finally hearing a shot that gave them a good location of the vessel. The stranded boaters' friends then braved the rain and wind and used their boat to tow in the stranded vessel.

**Rig Report**  
November 27, 2009

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## Gov. Perry: Education Standards Must Be Determined by Texas, Not Washington

From the Office of The Governor

AUSTIN – Gov. Perry, in a letter to Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott, has directed the commissioner not to commit the state to the adoption of national standards and assessments in its application for Race to the Top stimulus funding. The U.S. Department of Education has said it would give preference to states that adopt

national standards and assessments in awarding funding, although no national standards have been adopted.

“Texas is already ahead of most other states in setting college and career-ready standards in our schools,” Gov. Perry said. “The citizens of Texas, not the federal government, know what is best for our children. As the fed-

eral government continues its sweeping expansion of federal authority from the financial, energy and health care systems, it is now attempting to increase their intrusion into Texas classrooms.”

Texas’ curriculum standards, which determine what students are taught in Texas classrooms, are determined by the elected State Board of Education (SBOE). The SBOE recently adopted one of the nation’s first college- and career-ready curriculum standards in core subjects after receiving widespread input from Texas education and business leaders.

Through Race to the Top funding, the U.S. Department of Education seems to be attempting to coerce states like Texas to suddenly abandon their own locally established curriculum standards in favor of adopting national standards spearheaded by organizations in Washington, D.C. Texas is eligible for up to \$750 million in Race to the Top funding, however it would cost Texas taxpayers upwards of \$3 billion to realign our education system to conform to the U.S. Department of Education’s vision for public education.

“The federal government works best when it supports state-led efforts to improve our schools,” Commissioner Scott said. “This is not a state-led effort. States are being misled.”

The development of Texas’ workforce is imperative to maintaining our position as a national leader in job creation and our future prosperity. Texas was recently praised in Education Week magazine for its adoption of college- and career-ready standards and for holding schools accountable for ensuring students are college-ready. Additionally, last month the governor announced a \$160 million initiative to expand the number and scope of Texas Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (T-STEM) academies, an initiative he established in 2005, as well as fund STEM scholarships. Building on successful initiatives like T-STEM academies helps ensure future generations of Texans have the educational foundation necessary to compete and win in the increasingly competitive global economy.

## Laugh at the Recession: Eat the Landscape

CENTERVILLE – The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will host an “edible home landscape” seminar on Jan. 30 at the Hilltop Lakes Resort in Leon County.

“Laugh at the recession; eat the landscape,” said Tommy Neyland, AgriLife Extension agent for Leon County, and organizer for the event.

Neland is only partially joking. It’s possible to save “quite a bit” of money by growing one’s own vegetables and herbs, he said.

“There’s been a big increase in interest for home gardening the last couple of years, most likely because of the economy,” Neyland said.

Many people think The Southern Kitchen Garden is a cookbook, but they’re wrong, LeRoy said.

“Kitchen gardening is a practice that developed in France and other parts of Europe,” he said. “(It’s) where you would grow the things you used in the kitchen in a garden located where you could easily access it by the back door of the kitchen.”

“Because what you use in the kitchen is not just vegetables – it includes herbs, fruits and even cut flowers – we’ll talk about growing those too,” LeRoy said.

Though it is possible to save money growing your own vegetables, especially “staples” such as tomatoes and green chilies, not all homegrown vegetables will be cheaper

than grocery store produce.

“If you grow the right things, you can save money,” LeRoy said. “If you try to justify gardening by growing potatoes, it’s pretty hard to do. But if you grow tomatoes, it’s pretty easy to justify it.”

“The thing about Texas is that there are so many things we can grow here throughout the year,” LeRoy said. “For example, in the winter, we can grow all the salad greens that are essential to the table, everything from broccoli, to lettuces, and even leeks and onions.”

As far as fruits are concerned, blackberries and strawberries and some of the smaller fruits are a good fit for home land-

scapes with limited space, he said.

“It’s hard to fit in a big pecan tree into a small backyard garden, but you can always fit in a small orange tree or tub of strawberries or a couple of blackberry plants,” LeRoy said.

Registration for the event is \$75 per person. A catered lunch, break refreshments and handout materials will be included.

The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m.

To preregister and for more information, call the AgriLife Extension office in Leon County at 903-536-2531.

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**Public Notices**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dixie L. Genini, Deceased, were issued on November 16, 2009, in Docket No. 1355, pending in the County Court of Sutton County, Texas, to: Vernon L. Pruett. Claims may be presented in care of James Al Boyd, Jr., the attorney for the Independent Executor at the following address: c/o Carter, Boyd & Lissou 515 W. Harris, Suite 100 San Angelo, TX 76903 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 17 day of November, 2009.  
**CARTER, BOYD & LISSON**  
**A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION**  
515 W. Harris, Suite 100 San Angelo, Texas 76903 325/655-4889 FAX No. 325/657-2070 By: James A. Boyd, Jr., #00792368

**Misc.**

**Assume Note:** Owner in Jail. Make up two payments and move in. (RBI) 03190, 210-673-9025 or (800) 934-9644

**Special Government Programs:** Zero down, If you or your family owns land; applications accepted over the phone, (210) 673-9025 or (800) 934-9644.

**FREE SEMINAR** on how to recover rain for potable, irrigation, and agricultural use. Sat., Dec. 5th 10:00 a.m. at the First national bank Hospitality Room, 102 N. Main Sonora

**Handy Man for Hire:** No job to small, Prices are competitive, call 325-226-4804.

**The Voice of the Sonora Broncos**

**8:30 Morning Show**  
**with Eddy and Cindy**



**Mondays -** Agriculture  
**Tuesday -** Sonora ISD News & Sonora Bronco Coach's Corner  
**Wednesday -** Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital News with Dr. Kristy D. Edwards, M.D. & Devil's River Newspaper with Ben D. Taylor  
**Thursday -** Veterinary News with Dr. Gene Gibbens, DVM  
**Friday -** Voice Of The Sonora Bronco's Sports ... GO BRONCOS!!!

**Sutton County** - 976 acres located approximately 18 miles northeast of Sonora. Gently rolling with liveoak, cedar and mesquite. Barn and pens and two water wells, one with electricity. Deer and turkey hunting, county road frontage.

**Schleicher County** - 697 acres located approximately 28 miles northeast of Sonora. Gently rolling with liveoak and cedar. One water well with electricity. Deer and turkey hunting, county road frontage, minerals.

**Crockett County** - 1437 acres west of Ozona. Hilly terrain with scenic canyons, two water wells with electricity, whitetail and mule deer, quail, turkey and dove, call G.L. Bunger at 325-226-2107.

**LARRY BEHRENS REAL ESTATE**

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**Stephens Ranch Real Estate**

**Jay S. Garrett**

917 S. Bryant St. (432) 634-1801 Office: 325-942-0769 San Angelo, TX 76903 Fax: 325-942-0319  
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For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale



**3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath, Shed, Fenced Backyard, Hardwood Floors**

**\$60,000**

**For more information call 325-387-3932**

1105 Glasscock

For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale

**For Sale:**

Approx. 1097 Acres, Sutton County Ranch Land, 11 miles NE of Sonora, Approx. 1 1/2 miles of paved CR Frontage  
**Excellent Hunting Area**  
**REBD Ranch Sale**  
713 Water St.  
Kerville, TX 78028  
**Contact: 325-650-6867**

**MOTIVATED SELLER**

30 acres—great location 6 miles from Sonora, remodeled 3/3 house w/CH&A, attached carport, sprinkler system, well, outbuildings, fences, views, abundant wildlife, pictures on website;  
~~\$340,000~~ **Reduced To \$290,000**  
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1 year management exp. in a retail environment preferred.

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1 year retail mgmt. exp. preferred. Position begins at competitive hourly wage and with the opportunity to become Store Mgr.

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Drive a little, Save a lot

Sutton Co. acreage close to I-10 with highway frontage.

2300 ac. east of Sonora, large liveoaks, deep soil, very little cedar, abundant wildlife, white tailed deer and turkey, highway frontage, some minerals. Camp house, barn, pens, water wells, partial new low fence. \$1395/ac.

**Buffalo Well Division**

523 ac. Camp house, well, large liveoaks and white tailed deer and turkey. 15 miles east of Sonora on paved road. \$1495/ac.

650 ac. Highway frontage, deer, turkey, large liveoaks, very little cedar, electricity. \$1495/ac.

These properties are 15 minutes from I-10 on state highway less than 1 1/2 hr. from the Kerrville area.

**Bob Caruthers - Broker**

325-226-3003 Anytime

email: bobc@sonoratlx.net



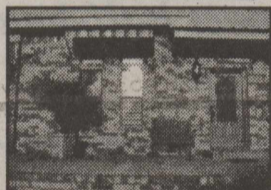
**Main Street Realty** Anita Hudson, Broker ~ Stacy Turney, Broker  
Sam David Hernandez ~ Realtor  
215 E. Main \* Sonora, TX 76950 325-387-6115  
www.SonoraTexasRealEstate.com

**New Listing**



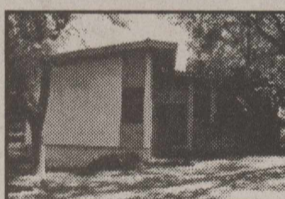
**1212 Glasscock Ave.**  
• 1706 s.f.(SCAD)  
• 3BR/2B w/Large Shop  
• \$115,000

**New Listing**



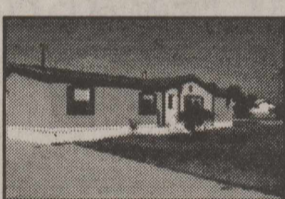
**111 Sonora Dr.**  
• 2254 s.f.(SCAD)  
• 3BR/2B 2-story Townhome  
• \$210,000

**Price Reduced**



**514 E. College St.**  
• 1816 s.f.(SCAD)  
• 3BR/2B w/extra lots  
• \$165,000 \$149,800

**New Listing**



**309 E. 3rd St.**  
• 1708 s.f.(SCAD)  
• 3BR/2B Doublewide  
• \$90,000

**Sonora Office Supply**

228 E. Main St.  
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**Office Hours:**  
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P.O. Box 295

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Sonora, TX 76950

sjacoby@dishmail.net



**Western Heritage Builders, LLC**

Craig L. Nolen  
325-650-0219

**102 Kings Court**  
(off 2nd Street)



2100 Liveable Square Feet  
3 Bedroom/1 Office & Bath  
LR/DR/Breakfast Room/Laundry Room  
Stone Fire Place  
Soaker Tub & Shower in Master Bath  
12' Ceilings w/ Crown Molding  
Granite Counter Top Pantry  
Crown Molding/Chimney Hood  
0.8 R. Vertical Water System  
Zone Heating and Cooling System  
Beautiful Lighting w/ Ceiling Fans  
Throughout  
Slate/Wood/Carpet Flooring

As you can see, this house has it all!  
~~\$304,000~~ **Price Reduced**  
**\$272,000**



# Its Basketball Season!!!

Photos by Bonnie Lou Campbell

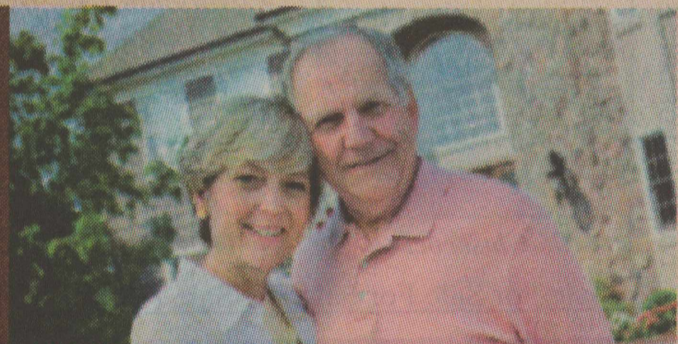


**Sonora Lady Bronco  
Basketball Schedule  
2009-2010**

Date:	Opponent:	Site:	JV White	JV Red	Varsity
Dec. 8	Mason	Away		5:00	6:30
Dec. 10-12	Iraan JV Tourn		TBA		
Dec. 10-12	Water Valley Tourn				TBA
Dec. 15	*Crane	Away	8:00	5:00	6:30
Dec. 18	*Kermit	Home	8:00	5:00	6:30
Dec. 28-30	Eula Tourn				TBA

*Sponsored by: Lady Bronco Parents*

*"I've always believed that if you put in the work,  
the results will come. I don't do things half-heartedly.  
Because I know if I do,  
then I can expect half-hearted results."  
--Michael Jordan*



## What I really want from my health plan is:

An affordable, comprehensive choice for Medicare coverage.

**SeniorCare (Cost)** Medical and Prescription Drug Plans. If you're shopping for a new Medicare enhancement plan, the choice is clear with SeniorCare<sup>1</sup> (Cost) from Scott & White Health Plan (SWHP). Best of all, it's easy to switch during Open Enrollment. Use this checklist to compare SeniorCare (Cost) with other plans:

**Affordability:**

- Low monthly premiums, not based on age or gender
- Co-payments as low as \$0 for doctor's office visits
- No cost for important preventive services (prostate screenings, immunizations, mammograms, etc.)

**Complete coverage:**

- Routine physical exams
- Hearing and dental options
- Urgent Care and Emergency coverage at home and worldwide
- Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage<sup>2</sup>

**Personal attention and service:**

- Talk to a real person when you call or have questions
- 24-Hour Nurse Advice Line
- Customized wellness programs (such as VitalCare)

	SWHP	Provider A	Provider B	Provider C
Affordability	✓	_____	_____	_____
Complete coverage	✓	_____	_____	_____
Personal attention and service	✓	_____	_____	_____

Make the easy switch to SeniorCare (Cost) from Scott & White Health Plan. Call (800) 782-5068 for your FREE information packet and FREE quote or TTY (800) 735-2989 for hearing-impaired assistance.

Monday - Friday • 8 am - 5 pm • [www.swhp.org](http://www.swhp.org)

<sup>1</sup> A state-certified and Medicare-approved Health Maintenance Organization. Anyone with Medicare may apply.

<sup>2</sup> SeniorCare Rx (Cost) is separate coverage available at an additional cost.

The benefit information provided is not comprehensive. Additional information should be requested before making a decision about your coverage.

H4564\_SCLISTOES\_2009



Shannon contracts with Scott & White Health Plan to bring you SeniorCare (Cost). Other Pharmacies/Physicians/Providers are available in our network.

H4564