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Merry Christmas

The Devil's River News

Volume 121 • Issue 51

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 24, 2009

The Monsters of Lake Tawakoni



Page 8

Best Western Sonora Inn Receives Directors Award for Quality



Page 6

The Lions Roar



Page 4

The Gift



Page 5

Main Street Traffic

Page 2

Page Index

Page 2...Church
Page 3...FYI
Page 4...Students of Week
Page 5. Oil and Ag
Page 6...County Elections
Page 7 .. Classifieds
Page 8. Adventuresome

JV Basketball Tournament Champions



By Coach Tuttle

On December 10th and 12th, the JV Red boys Basketball team traveled to Iraan for a JV tournament. With one game on Thursday against Forsan, the team pulled out a thrilling victory on a last second half court shot by Davis Jimenez, which made the final score 27-24 in favor of the Broncos. The tournament continued for the Broncos on Saturday with McCamey early in the morning. The Broncos' defense stepped up once again qualifying for the championship game, with a 33-24 victory over the Badgers. After a LONG day of sitting and watching other teams compete, the championship game had arrived, and the Broncos looked ready for action as they stepped on the floor against district opponent, Big Lake. The Broncos came out strong in the first quarter, gaining an early lead of 11-4. The Owls battled back in the second, tying the game at halftime 17-17. The third quarter saw an explosion by the Broncos offense as well as a lock down by the Bronco defense. The Broncos outscored the Owls 14-2 to take a 31-19 lead going into the final period of play. After a period of great defense by both teams, the final buzzer sounded and the Broncos were champions for the second year in row with a 33-25 victory over the Owls. Two members of the team were awarded all-tournament honors, Davis Jimenez and Robert Chavez. This championship was a complete team effort and could not have been won without every member of the team. They are as follows:

Damon Evans, Robert Hernandez, Sam Powers, Robert Chavez, John Lopez, Bryce Smith, Phillip Stephens, Christian Kenney, Davis Jimenez, Jorge Pena, Zach Badeaux, and Tommy Gomez.

Sonora Youth Brings in Silver at Food Show



Reagan O'Brien placed second at the District 4-H Food Show held at Texas State University in San Marcos. She was among over 200 4-Her's from 22 counties who competed at contests. Other local 4-Her's participants were Holly Sparks and Summer Hall. Both received Honorable Mention. Congratulations girls! All of you did a great job representing Sutton county 4-H

Fling Ding to Skip a Year

The 2010 Fling Ding dance is postponed until March 2011. The event will be held at the Sutton County Civic Center, all Fling Ding members will receive by mail specifics concerning next years event.



Youth Groups Spread Christmas Cheer

Above is a photo from last week's gathering of youth groups and 4-H members that helped our community during the Christmas Season in Sonora. These young men and women embody the giving nature of the Christmas Spirit in their work with the Food Basket Ministry.

Lady Broncos Start off District Play With A Win



Photo By Bonnie Lou Campbell

The Lady Bronco Defense held the Crane Golden Cranes to 12 points in first half.

Score by quarter	1	2	3	4	Final
Crane	6	6	7	11	30
Lady Broncos	15	19	8	14	56

Team	Sonora Lady Broncos
Points	56
Field goals	21-56 (37.5%)
3 point field goals	3-13 (23.1%)
Free throws	11-18 (61.1%)
Rebounds (Total-Off.)	48-18
Assists	17
Turnovers	16
Steals	11
Total fouls	20
Points in the paint	34
Bench points	6

	REB	AST	STL	BLK	TO	PF	PTS
#22 Krieg, C.	4	2	4	0	3	4	9
#20 Campbell, C.	13	4	3	0	2	2	8
#54 Casteneda, L.	2	0	0	0	0	4	4
#4 Smith, M.	6	9	3	1	5	2	3
#12 Jennings, H.	3	0	0	1	1	3	2
#5 Nolen, A.	0	1	0	0	1	2	2
#32 Hernandez, S.	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
#10 Trevino, K.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	48	17	11	5	16	20	56

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. 24- Christmas Eve Center Closed
 Fri. Dec. 25- Merry Christmas! Felis Navidad Center Closed
 Mon. Dec. 28- Bingo
 Tues. Dec. 29- Birthday party for December babies
 Wed. Dec. 30- Clean up for the New Year

Senior Center Menu

Thur. Dec. 24- Christmas Eve Center Closed
 Fri. Dec. 25 -Merry Christmas! Felis Navidad Center Closed
 Mon. Dec. 28 - Baked chicken, fried rice, rolls, milk zucchini sq. w/tomatoes, rice fruit salad
 Tues. Dec. 29 -Vermicelli w/beef, pinto beans, tossed salad, tortillas, cake and milk
 Wed. Dec. 30 - Pork chops w/gravy, mixed rice, broccoli, bread, coconut pie 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



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

Brought to you by:
Kerbow Funeral Home
 387-2266

The Devil's River News

Established 1890
 228 E. Main Street, Sonora, Texas 76950
 Phone: (325)387-2507 • Fax (325)387-5691
 Published every Thursday
 USPS (155-920)

Publishing Owners: Ben D. Taylor, Sam C. Taylor
Editor: Ben D. Taylor
Office Manager/Billing: Ben D. Taylor
Advertising/Classifieds: Lynn Wipff
Internet Technician: Sam Taylor
Reporting/Photography/Typesetting: Staff
Guest Columnists: Kelly Thorp, Ray & Nancy Glasscock
 Delyse Jaeger, Pascual Hernandez, Susan Hall, Mary Ann Kay
Email: General Information: editor@sonoratr.net
 Advertising: sales@sonoratr.net

Copy and Ad Deadline: Monday 4:00 p.m.

Subscriptions
 \$25 per year in county • \$32 per year out of Sutton County
 \$22 per year Senior Citizens (in and out of Sutton County)
 Second class postage paid at Sonora, Texas
 Attn. Postmaster: Send address change to the Devil's River News,
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will 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 Devil's River Newspaper.

MEMBER 2009

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Thank You Notes

After the recent Wool House fire the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank several businesses, departments and individuals. Thanks to El Torito Taqueria and the police Department for the breakfast burritos and the Steakhouse for the coffee. The First National Bank provided us with hamburgers and fries for lunch. Tamara Adkins brought us water and drinks as well as the neighbors which I apologize for not getting names. Thanks to our local police department and sheriff's office who provided us with countless hours of support and security. To our local EMS (which we became acquainted with up close and personal) whom we can always depend on for being there. A big thanks to our neighbors to the north who came running when we hollered. The Eldorado firemen and women were lifesavers. Thanks to our many employers who allow us the needed time to fight fires, especially of this magnitude. Most of all thanks to our volunteer men and women and their families who donate their precious time to serve our community in times of need. If you provided us with anything or even sent a silent prayer for our safety it is appreciated and we thank you all. Our department wishes everyone a safe and happy new year.

Thanks again,
 Sonora Fire Department

We, the family of Jesse "Coach" Martinez, would like to express our greatest appreciation to everyone for the phone calls, flowers, cards, visits, food and donations during the loss of our beloved father, grandpa, and brother. He will forever live in our hearts and will be truly missed.


The Martinez Family
 Nina and Ryan Martinez, Jesse Martinez Jr., Lupe Perez, Veronica "Betty" Acosta, Mary Jo Sepeda and Tony, David, Salvador, Carlos, and Linos Martinez

I would like to take this time to say how truly blessed I am to live in such a wonderful community, a community that has shown me so much love, support and generosity during one of the toughest times in my life. As many of you know, my dad, Jesse "Coach" Martinez, lost his battle with cancer after being diagnosed only a few short months ago. I want to thank everyone who took the time to visit my dad in the hospital and those who helped him while he was taking his chemo and radiation treatments. Thanks to the doctors and staff at Shannon Hospital who cared for him and to St. Johns along with The American Cancer Society for providing him with a place to stay while he took his treatments. Thanks to my dad's very close friends, I know you all were very special to him. Thanks to Lee Roy Valliant and Linda Neff for allowing me to have a bake sale at Mr. D's and to everyone who donated baked goods or just came out and bought some goodies. Thanks to all the girls at Mr. D's for all your help, you girls are great. Also, thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Luis Vasquez of El Torito along with their staff Carmen Castillo, Mary Barron, and Dora Trujillo for donating briskets and all the fixings and helped serve at the benefit lunch. Yaricxa Guerrero, Jesse Guerrero, Jesus Garcia, Estaban Garcia, Damian Lopez and April Castillo, thanks for taking time out of your day to help out. Thanks to everyone who purchased brisket plates, you all helped out tremendously. Thanks to Rene Abrego and La Mexicana for donating food after the funeral. Thank you to all my friends and family who supported me through this sorrowful time, whether you called, sent flowers, sent food, gave donations or just gave some words of comfort. I am truly grateful and blessed to have you in my life. To everyone at the Sheriff's office, thanks for being there for me, you guys are like my second family. I would like to extend a very Special Thank You to Robert Mittel, Sharon Mittel and everyone at Mittel dozing for your kind generosity. I appreciate all that you did for my dad. I hope I didn't leave any one out but if I did, please forgive me. Once again, I Thank You from the bottom of my heart and God Bless You All.

Sincerely,
 Nina Martinez



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	Tuesday 12:00 Lion's Club
10:55 Worship	
6:00 Bible Study	

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

Letter to the Editor

While in Sonora recently, my husband and I met Ben Taylor, Editor of the Devil's River News. The reason for this note is to tell Ben how much we enjoyed reading his recent editorial, The Face of Christmas. You write with such conviction and truth. We do have so very much to be thankful for and need to be reminded more often. Ben's message is more than reassuring, it reminds us of what Christmas is really about, especially in such troubled times. As Ben reminds us, may we never forget our brave men and women who are defending our freedoms and liberties on foreign soil. Thank you Ben for reminding us, it is not Happy Holidays--it IS Merry Christmas, it is Him, it is the birth of our Savior that makes this Friday so important.

Sandra and Sam Welsh La Grange, Texas

Main Street Traffic

Submitted by Ann Kay

The out of town judge came this week and judged the "Best Decorated for Christmas" businesses and homes and they are:

"Best Decorated for Christmas Businesses" winners:
 1. Nicholson's Meat Market
 2. The Rockhouse
 3. The Bank & Trust of Sonora
 4. Sonora Sage Apt.

"Best Decorated for Christmas Homes" winners are:
 1. The Creeks Family on the Hill
 2. 109 Oakwood Street
 3. 206 Loraine Street
 4. 908 St. Ann's Street

These businesses and homes are just beautiful and express to the community the spirit of Christmas. We would like to invite you to take a drive around town and see the beauty of Christmas as the bright lights shine to the heavens. The out of town judges will be driving around on Sunday and Monday night to make their choice of the winners for the last week.

Special note of appreciation to The Devil's River News and KHOS Radio for always supporting our community by keeping us informed. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The Candy Canes of Christmas

Candy cane sweet treats made primarily from boiled sugar seem to have first appeared in Europe in the late 1600's to early 1700's. They were made in many different colors (most often white) and shapes (most often straight sticks), evolving to the familiar cane or upside down J shape with the red and white stripes in the early 1900's.

The cane shape turned out to be a great way to hang the sugar treats on the Christmas tree that was also strongly associated with the Christmas season and the bright colors of red and white were a nice contrast with the green of the Christmas trees. This was during a time when many food items were hung on the Christmas trees from strings of popcorn to cookies and pastries.

The exact story of how and why the candy canes evolved into the red and white striped cane shapes we are so familiar with today is lost to history, but a reasonable explanation is that the cane shape was created to look like the staff of a shepherd (which fits in not only with the story of shepherds attending Jesus' birth, but also of the symbolism of Jesus as a shepherd of his flock). These treats were then given to small children to encourage them to behave at long church services during the Christmas season.

Happy Birthday!

December 24 Delia Samaniego, Lilia Samaniego, Holly Trevino, Marco Jimenez, Teri Foulds, Darlene Eaton
December 25 Cynthia Perez, Betty Longoria, Chris Vylvlecka, Curt Dempsey, Ty Love, Noah Chambers
December 26 Lisa Galindo, Celia Smith, Claire Jones, Rafael Alvizo, Cami Gonzales, Valerie Villanueva, Oscar Perez, Jr., Conny Deel, Larry Luckett, Claire Richards, Scott Gonzales
December 27 Melinda Crain, Jerry Don Balch, Danielle Hudson, Charlie Alewine, Al Elliott
December 28 Jeff Allen, Chelsea Gutierrez, Amy Gann
December 29 Ruth Ramos, Donna Benson, Dean Dermody
December 30 Blayze W. Sykes, Justin Northcott, Carol Pope, Rosalie Richardson, Mario Lira, Jr., Katelyn Trevino, Erica Olson, Jeb Hunt, Mary Jean Sims

Little Dribblers 2009-2010

Sonora City League would like to announce the beginning of Little Dribblers program for 2009-2010. The program will have two divisions: 3rd & 4th grade girls and boys; 5th & 6th grade girls and boys.

Any students interested in playing basketball SIGN UP ONLY at the little gym middle school campus on January 7, 2010 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The cost will be \$30.00 per player. Enrollment form & money must be turned in before your child may participate. Please accompany your child to the gym and fill out an enrollment form. We need a good turn out to have a successful program.

The only group practice will be held on Sunday, January 10th for both divisions.

Boys at 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.:

3rd and 4th grade group practice at Middle School little gym
5th and 6th grade group practice at Middle School big gym

Girls at 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.:

3rd and 4th grade group practice at Middle School little gym
5th and 6th grade group practice at Middle School big gym
Games are scheduled to start January 26, 2010.

Volunteers will need to have their forms in on 01/07/10 to be considered for any position working with the youth. Anyone interested in volunteering or if you have any questions, contact Manuel Tobias 206-0417 or Nelda Tobias 387-5390.

Women's Club Donates to Library



Florie Gonzales and Stacy Fisher

At the October 1, 2009 luncheon meeting of the Sonora Women's Club the members voted to give the Sutton County Library \$7000 to replace 9 of the existing computers, upgrade several components of the operating system and increase the internet speed.

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Vacancy Vacancy Vancancy Vacancy

"Sutton County Community Trust"

The First National Bank of Sonora has established a fund through the "Sutton County Community Trust" for Shanna Petty. If you would like to make a donation, you can take it by the bank at 102 E. Main or mail to First National Bank, P.O. Box 798, Sonora, TX 76950, attention Jo Ann Jones

Keep Sonora Beautiful Landscape for December:



Gabriel and Sandi Espinosa
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The Video Store

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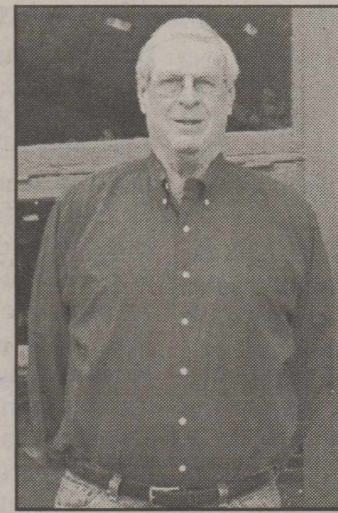
SONORA ISD ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sonora ISD has announced a change in the school calendar. Monday, January 4 and Tuesday, January 5, 2010 will be student holidays and teacher inservice days. Students will return to school on Wednesday, January 6, 2010.

Friday, January 8, 2010 (originally scheduled as a student holiday and teacher inservice day) will now be a school day for students and teachers.

Bill Keel

has announced
that he has filed for
Sutton County Commissioner, Precinct 2
in the March 2, 2010
Republican Primary



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Potitital ad paid for by Bill Keel

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Other speciality items for the
holidays: pecan pie, cream cheese
pecan pie, pumpkin cheese pecan
pie, fudge, magic bars, divinity etc

F.Y.I.

Keep Sonora Beautiful has hunting dumpsters available over by the Steakhouse -- (in the old Schlumberger parking lot) This is for all the out of town hunters to dispose of their garbage from their trip to Sonora. Please no animal wastes. Thank You! Keep Sonora Beautiful

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Junior Class Parents will meet to begin planning Project Graduation 2010 on Sunday, January 10 at 2:00 in the elementary library (corner of Concho and College). Please plan to attend.

Viva Sonora Cinco de Mayo - May 1, 2010 Featuring: United Freestyle Stunt Team-3 performances, www.unitedfreestyle.com

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.

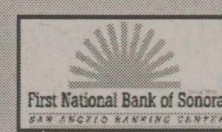
Need a Dunking Booth for a party or fundraiser? Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary has a dunking booth for rent. Call Tommie Sanchez at 226-8271 for availability and rates.

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 sonoraalum@aol.com.

The First National Bank of Sonora has established a fund through the "Sutton County Community Trust" for Shanna Petty. If you would like to make a donation, you can take it by the bank at 102 E. Main or mail to First National Bank, P.O. Box 798, Sonora, TX 76950, attention Jo Ann Jones



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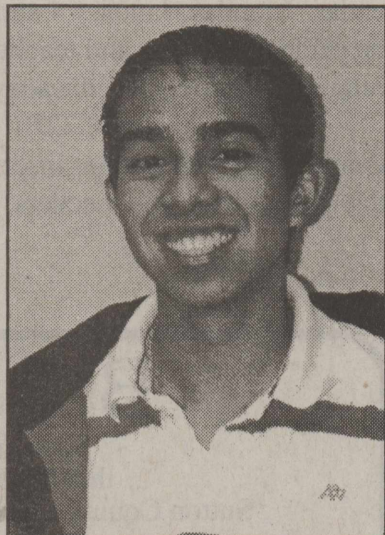


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Sonora, Texas 76950
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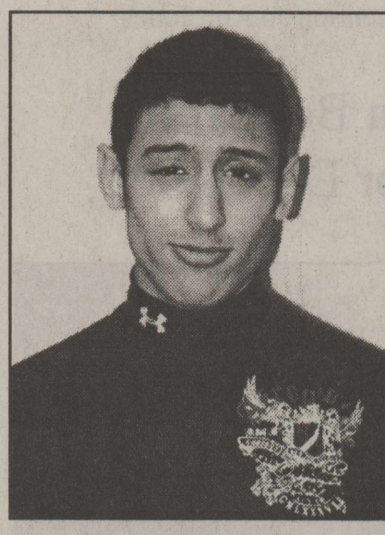
Students of the Week December 14th & 21st



Selena Mesa



Robert Chavez



Will Dunn

Submitted by Emilce Hernandez & Miles Sentena

Sophomores Selena Mesa and Robert Chavez and Junior Will Dunn were announced as Sonora High School's Students of the week for December 14.

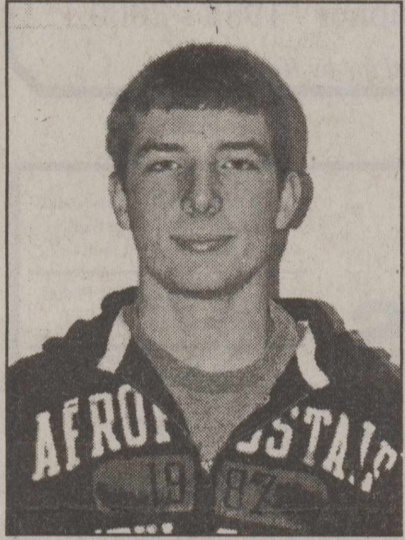
Selena is the daughter of Maria and Ruben Mesa. Her favorite teacher is Coach Tuttle, and her favorite classes are Algebra 2 and Art 1. She likes math and softball, but she hates English. She is in Youth Group. Selena has lived in Sonora all of her life. Her favorite thing about Sonora High is open campus lunch.

Selena plans to go to the University of San Marcos.

Robert is the son of Juan and Marley Chavez. His favorite teacher is Coach Tuttle and his favorite class is AP English. He likes to run but doesn't like coming to school so early. He is involved in the Spanish Club, 4-H and FFA. He contributes to the community by running track, Cross Country, and playing basketball. Robert moved to Sonora at the beginning of his 10th grade year from Eldorado. His favorite thing about Sonora

High is the people. When Robert graduates he plans to attend Harvard.

Will is the son of Rosemary Dunn. His favorite teacher is Mrs. Cummings and his favorite class is AP English. He is involved with the Peppermint committee and UIL. He contributes to the community by running track. Will moved to Sonora his 5th grade year from Abilene. His favorite thing about Sonora high is the diversity of the student body. Will plans to run track in college.



Ryan Garmon



Alicia Lowe

Submitted by Emilce Hernandez & Miles Sentena

Junior Ryan Garmon and senior Alicia Lowe were selected as Sonora High's Students of the week for December 21st.

Ryan Garmon is the son of Quincy and Loretta Garmon. His favorite teacher is Mr. Scroggins and his favorite class is History. Ryan likes sports and dislikes homework. He is in FFA. Ryan has lived in Sonora all his life and his favorite thing about high school is the people. He plans to attend the University of Texas

in Austin after graduation.

Alicia Lowe is the daughter of Joe and Glenda Lowe. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Scroggins and her favorite class is Tech Theater. Alicia likes hanging out with her friends, and she dislikes popcorn. She is in NHS. Alicia moved to Sonora from Ft. Worth in the fourth grade. Her favorite thing about high school is that she is about to get out of it. Alicia plans to attend ASU after graduation.

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

Calvin Coolidge

Christmas Blackmail

It was coming up to Christmas and Sammy asked his mom if he could have a new bike. She told him that the best idea would be to write to Santa Claus. But Sam, having just played a vital role in the school nativity play, said he would prefer to write to the baby Jesus. So his mom told him that would be fine.

Sam went to his room and wrote, 'Dear Jesus, I have been a very good boy and would like to have a bike for Christmas.'

But he wasn't very happy when he read it over. So he decided to try again and this time he wrote: 'Dear Jesus, I'm a good boy most of the time and would like a bike for Christmas.'

He read it back and wasn't happy with that one either. He tried a third version: 'Dear Jesus, I could be a good boy if I tried hard and especially if I had a new bike.'

He read that one too, but he still wasn't satisfied. So, he decided to go out for a walk while he thought about a better approach. After a short time he passed a house with a small statue of the Virgin Mary in the front garden. He crept in, stuffed the statue under his coat, hurried home and hid it under the bed. Then he wrote this letter.

'Dear Jesus, If you want to see your mother again, you'd better send me a new bike.'

Lions Roar



Front Row L to R: Chasity Braly, Megan Yourgalite, Sydney Dermody, Crystal Lopez, Ms. Samaniego. Back Row L to R Cody Barber, Shainah Jonson, Keeli Taylor



Linda Jackson, Rev Jerry Jackson, President Frank Wamble

Submitted By Frank Wamble

As we close out another wonderful year and usher in 2010, I would like to thank all you Lion supporters for your love and support throughout this year. Hopefully, we lived up to your expectations and our reputation of "Service to Sonora".

We ended our year with a bang earning the increased membership award from Lions International under the direction of past President Reverend Jerry Jackson. A ceremony was held and we presented Jerry with a lapel pin commemorating his leadership during his very successful Presidency. Jerry's boss and loving spouse, Linda, was also in attendance.

Ms. Sam (Delia Same-niego) brought the officers of the Middle School Honor Society to our last meeting. What

an outstanding group of future leaders our parents, teachers and their mentors and this community have produced. Ms. Sam briefed the club and each student introduced themselves to our membership. Currently, there are 22 eighth graders in the Honor Society. They earn the right of membership as they enter the eighth grade and must attain and maintain a grade average of 90%. In addition, as all Sonorans know, these youth also participate in extracurricular activities with meritorious results.

A special thanks to Norm Rousselot for his donation of coffee ice cream for dessert.

The City Fire Marshall and fellow Lion, Carl Teaff, briefed the Club on the outstanding performance of our fire department as always

and most recently during the Wool House fire. While the investigation is ongoing, Carl could only comment on how well the volunteers of our City performed in their timely response, limiting damage, and containing the fire. What a great group of professionals!

We look forward to an outstanding 2010 serving our citizens in events too numerous to mention here. But mark your calendars for a March Broom Sale, an October Auction and starting in June a Summer Camp excursion for children with physical disabilities.

May y'all have a Merry Christmas, a prosperous and healthy 2010 and GO BRON-COS. I almost forgot - "We Say Merry Christmas in Sonora!!"

SONORA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2009

EXHIBIT C-3

Data Control Codes		10 General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
5700	Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 18,301,649	\$ 1,168,328	\$ 19,469,977
5800	State Program Revenues	4,055,403	315,054	4,370,457
5900	Federal Program Revenues	22,235	781,675	803,910
5020	Total Revenues	22,379,287	2,265,057	24,644,344
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011	Instruction	5,659,371	743,679	6,403,050
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services	116,686	16,505	133,191
0013	Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	73,792	108,483	182,275
0021	Instructional Leadership	104,258	5,341	109,599
0023	School Leadership	462,393	-	462,393
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	377,856	7,846	385,702
0033	Health Services	57,765	5,878	63,643
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	452,318	-	452,318
0035	Food Services	14,396	442,691	457,087
0036	Extracurricular Activities	630,739	51,908	682,647
0041	General Administration	432,631	-	432,631
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,660,878	-	1,660,878
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	1,373	-	1,373
0053	Data Processing Services	210,654	-	210,654
Debt Service:				
0071	Debt Service - Principal on Long-Term Debt	68,471	700,000	768,471
0072	Debt Service - Interest on Long-Term Debt	4,958	121,519	126,477
0073	Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	460	460
Capital Outlay:				
0081	Facilities Acquisition and Construction	1,483,987	-	1,483,987
Intergovernmental:				
0091	Contracted Instructional Services Between Schools	10,161,489	-	10,161,489
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges	237,464	-	237,464
6030	Total Expenditures	22,211,479	2,204,310	24,415,789
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	167,808	60,747	228,555
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7915	Transfers In	-	66,615	66,615
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(66,615)	-	(66,615)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(66,615)	66,615	-
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances	101,193	127,362	228,555
0100	Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	15,442,574	844,445	16,287,019
1300	Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	(405,224)	74,526	(330,698)
3000	Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 15,138,543	\$ 1,046,333	\$ 16,184,876

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

La Mexicana Restaurant And Cantina

Would like to wish you all a
very Blessed Christmas and
a Happy New Year!

We will close at 3:00 p.m.
on Thursday, December 24th
and reopen at 11:00 a.m. on
Monday, December 28th.

Merry Christmas
from everyone at La Mexicana

Thank you,
Brenda, Tabitha, Rene and Joseph Ivan

Oil & Agribusiness

Energy Usage Reductions Make Great New Years Resolutions

SAN ANGELO, TX (December 15, 2009) – Old Mr. Scrooge may be a hit in movie theatres, but his miserly ways are having minimal impact on Texans' plans for holiday-related energy usage this year, according to a survey conducted on behalf of WTU Retail Energy.

Nearly 90 percent of Texas survey respondents have or will put up holiday lighting displays this year, and of those, less than one-third were scaling back on their displays from what they've done in previous years.

While these are encouraging signals about the health of the Texas economy and the power of the holiday season, WTU has identified numerous areas of opportunity for Texans to reduce energy usage – and thereby reduce their energy spend – as residents across the Lone Star State ponder their 2010 New Year's resolutions.

"In asking Texans about their holiday-related energy usage, we discovered that there are still many areas we can help consumers better understand their opportunities for energy savings – on usage, and costs," said Jim Steffes, Vice President and General Manager, WTU Retail Energy. "By implementing a few very easy changes, consumers can lower their energy usage not just around the holidays, but all year long. At the end of the day, your electricity bill is made up of the price you pay per kilowatt-hour multiplied by the number of kilowatt-hours you use. It's time to help our customers better understand the usage piece."

With a new year just around the corner, WTU is encouraging consumers to consider making one or two resolutions that are focused on using less energy around the house. Roughly a quarter of Texans have done this in the past, and most of those plan to do so again in 2010. For the other 76 percent, WTU offers the following resolution ideas for consumers looking to save a bit of green – both financial and environmentally – in the coming year:

- Shop the post-holiday sales for more efficient lighting – Of the large number of residents putting up lighting displays, most use 5-14 strings for their display, and almost 20 percent are using over 20 strings. Yet only 10 percent have switched to energy-efficient lighting. Consider using some of those gift cards towards purchasing LED (low-emitting diode) holiday lights when they go on sale in January; they run cooler, last longer, and use 10 percent of the energy an incandescent bulb does. Have money left on that gift card? Stock up on compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) for year-round use inside your home. They also last way longer, and use much, much less electricity for the same lighting as their incandescent counterparts.

- Use a programmable thermostat – Resolve to buy one and use it, or to actually set yours and not override it. Programmable thermostats allow consumers to cool or heat their homes only when it's needed, and avoid running the cooling or heating system for an empty house.

- Invest in a home energy audit – Make sure you're targeting energy efficiency improvements to the areas of the home that need it most. That's different for all homes. An online home energy audit can help identify the biggest bang for the buck when it comes to efficiency improvements. Visit www.wturetailenergy.com for an online home energy audit tool.

- Commit to preventative maintenance – This can be as easy as changing the filter on the cooling system once a month, as recommended, to avoid the build-up of particles that make the system work harder than it needs to and avoids unnecessary wear-and-tear on the system's components. To maximize the efficiency potential, resolve to have the system checked annually by a qualified technician who can help diagnose problems before they cause system down-time at the least convenient moment – like the next family gathering.

- Invest in timers and motion-sensor lighting, and resolve to use them – Leaving the front porch light on when away or through the night gives a certain sense of security; it also keeps the meter turning and racks up dollars throughout the year. Ditto for the living room lamp left on while the house is empty due to travel or vacation. A little here and there won't break the bank, but added up throughout the year, it's a significant waste of energy and money. Timers and motion-sensors can bring that same feeling of security while also avoiding unnecessary energy usage – but the survey showed less than a quarter of Texans ever use them. A fairly inexpensive investment requiring little change on the consumer's end, but can have a positive impact on those annual energy costs, while making the house look occupied even when it's not.

- Commit to small lifestyle changes – Turn off lamps, lights, and televisions when you leave the room. Unplug chargers that aren't being used. Safely power down computers and home electronics like gaming consoles when they aren't in use. These are small steps, but can mean shaving a month's equivalent of energy usage off annual costs.

"We don't have an energy problem in North America, we have an energy-waste problem," said Steffes. "We all can stand to use a little less energy without really impacting our comfort and lifestyle. At the end of the day, the less you use, the less you have to pay."

About the survey

The Holiday Energy Usage Survey, conducted by Polar Marketing Research on behalf of WTU Retail Energy, was conducted through online surveys of 2,438 consumers in both the United States and Canada using an online panel. Consumers were screened to ensure they were at least 18 years of age, lived in a single-family home, and were responsible for paying a monthly electric bill. Online interviews were completed in early November with at least 300 qualified respondents in Connecticut, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas in the United States, and Alberta and Ontario in Canada. The margin of error for n=300 at the 95 percent confidence

level is 5.7 percent.

About WTU Retail Energy

WTU Retail Energy is part of the Centrica group of companies, one of the largest multi-state providers of retail energy services in North America. The North American operations have grown to more than 5 million residential and commercial customer relationships. Through its Direct Energy, CPL and WTU brands, the company is the third largest retail energy provider in Texas, and owns three natural gas-fired power plants and a series of energy-related services companies. Globally, the Centrica group of companies is a leading provider of energy and other essential services with approximately 32 million customer relationships. For more information, visit www.wturetailenergy.com.

For further information, please contact:

Lisa Dorman
713.877.3925

The Gift

By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent



Youth assist Food Basket Ministry

This time of year, we see all kinds of "countdown" lists for some type of accomplishment or other. We usually recognize those that have excelled at some competitive event or received some kind of award. And we should, as those are admirable accomplishments. However, it's also necessary to appreciate those that give the gift.

It's not wrapped in shiny paper, nor tied with pretty bows or ribbons. It's not placed under a Christmas tree. This gift is simply giving of yourself.

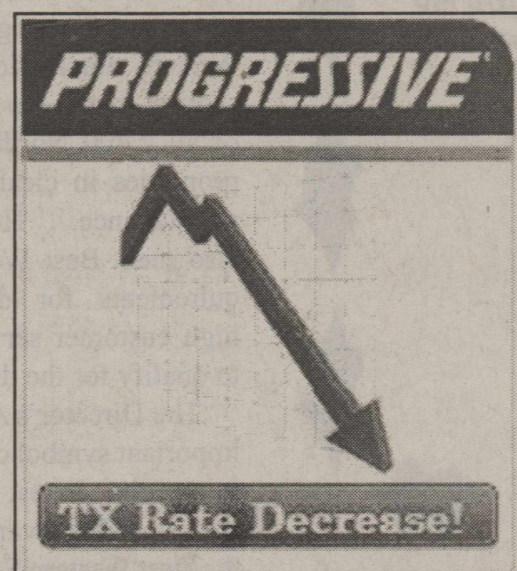
Every year, it is amazing to see how folks organize to do something worthy for others. It may be the "red kettle" drives, clothing drives, care packages for our service men and women, or benefit events for those in need. We are both grateful and proud to have all of you who are involved in such worthwhile efforts. Today, however, I'd like to recognize the Food Basket Ministry. Though it requires many adults, it focuses on involving youth.

Church youth groups and organizations such as 4-H, Cub Scouts, as well as Jr. High and High School, initiate food collection drives. Lewis Allen, pastor at the local Presbyterian church, will then meet at the Methodist Church with members of the various youth groups to coordinate the assembly of these food items into boxes. These boxes are then distributed by another volunteer group. It is encouraging to see these young men and women involved in this way. They will reach adulthood with a sense of community service.

The Christmas season is a time when a lot of people want to do good things for others. It is during Christmas that we are most generous. Volunteering is a great way to help others in their time of need. Just remember, however, that many organizations need volunteers year-round. And it is not always your money that may be needed, it could be your knowledge, skill, or ability - your gift.

So, again a word of gratitude to all of those who serve. And "Merry Christmas" from the Sutton County Extension Office.

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December 18, 2009

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NEW 2 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 7650' HOLMAN #2610 DW PATTERSON UTI/MIDLND 105 12/11/09 8 DRLG AHEAD 7096'

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THE GUN ROOM

Adding Health to Your Holiday Table

Submitted by Kelly Thorp

Supplement your holiday table with lots of fruits and vegetables to encourage healthier eating.

Perhaps the holidays aren't the best time to experiment with new ingredients, but try cooking with shallots, fresh parsley, white wine, and citrus zest with greens and other vegetables when sautéing as a low-calorie flavor booster. Adding fresh rosemary and balsamic vinegar to roasted vegetables is a wonderful, healthy side dish.

If fresh fruits and vegetables are hard to come by or expensive, don't forget about using frozen or canned fruits and vegetables. Be sure the canned fruits are packed in their own juices or water and rinse canned vegetables with water to reduce the sodium content.

For a great spread for whole grain bread, opt for roasted garlic rather than butter or margarine. Roast whole heads of garlic in aluminum foil at 375 for 30 minutes. The clove will pop out of the skin and the garlic develops a mellow flavor and is spreadable!

In certain regions of the country, this is a great time to use fresh herbs like thyme, sage, rosemary, and even lavender. When combined with olive oil, garlic, sage, salt and pepper, the ravioli sauce was

wonderful.

***Roasting Vegetables/Seasonal Produce**

To roast vegetables, spray with olive oil and sprinkle with garlic granules, tiny dehydrated bits of garlic, rather than garlic salt. Seasonal produce that is great for your holiday feast includes squash, sweet potato, pumpkin, mushrooms, pears, figs, beets, cauliflower, cabbage, carrots, winter citrus, broccoli, and potatoes.

OVEN - ROASTED VEGETABLES

- 1 lb. new potatoes
- 1 lb. sweet potatoes
- 3 lg. carrots
- 2 med. onions
- 1 lg. green pepper
- 1 med. red pepper
- 1 bunch radishes
- 2 tbsp. olive or vegetable oil
- 1 tsp. thyme
- 1 tsp. oregano

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cut potatoes into 1 inch pieces. Peel sweet potatoes, cut into 1 inch pieces. Cut carrots into 1 inch pieces. Cut onions into 1/2 inch wedges. Cut peppers into 1 inch pieces. Trim ends from radishes. In roasting pan, toss vegetables with oil and herbs. Roast 1 hour until tender, stirring occasionally.

The following job descriptions are not all-inclusive, but comprise most of the statutory duties of the positions.

County Judge:

Presiding officer of Commissioners Court, which sets County policy, approves expenditures and budgets, oversees certain department heads and sets tax rates; responsible for Probate Court, County Criminal Court, some Juvenile Court, and County Civil Court; Chief Budget Officer for the County, responsible for preparing a yearly County budget for consideration by Commissioners Court; statutory Emergency Management Director for Sutton County, which requires a number of State certifications in managing disasters, etc.

County Treasurer:

Chief Investment Officer for the County, which includes investing all monies and tracking and managing these accounts; depositing all funds received by every department; Chief Payroll Officer, which includes salary preparation, payroll deposits and all quarterly reports; review and sign off on accounts payable; monthly Treasurer's reports for Commissioners Court and quarterly Treasurer's reports for publication; quarterly State and Federal reports; manage County retirement.

County Commissioners, Precincts 2 and 4:

Represent their respective precinct constituents in Commissioners Court; set County policy; approve all department head reports; approve all expenditures; set an annual budget for each County Department; set tax rates, perform any other duties inherent in the management of the County as an entity.

Justice of the Peace:

Presiding officer of Justice Criminal Court for all traffic, wildlife and fine only misdemeanors, Justice Civil Court and Small Claims Court; acts as Coroner; conducts inquests; determines cause of death and

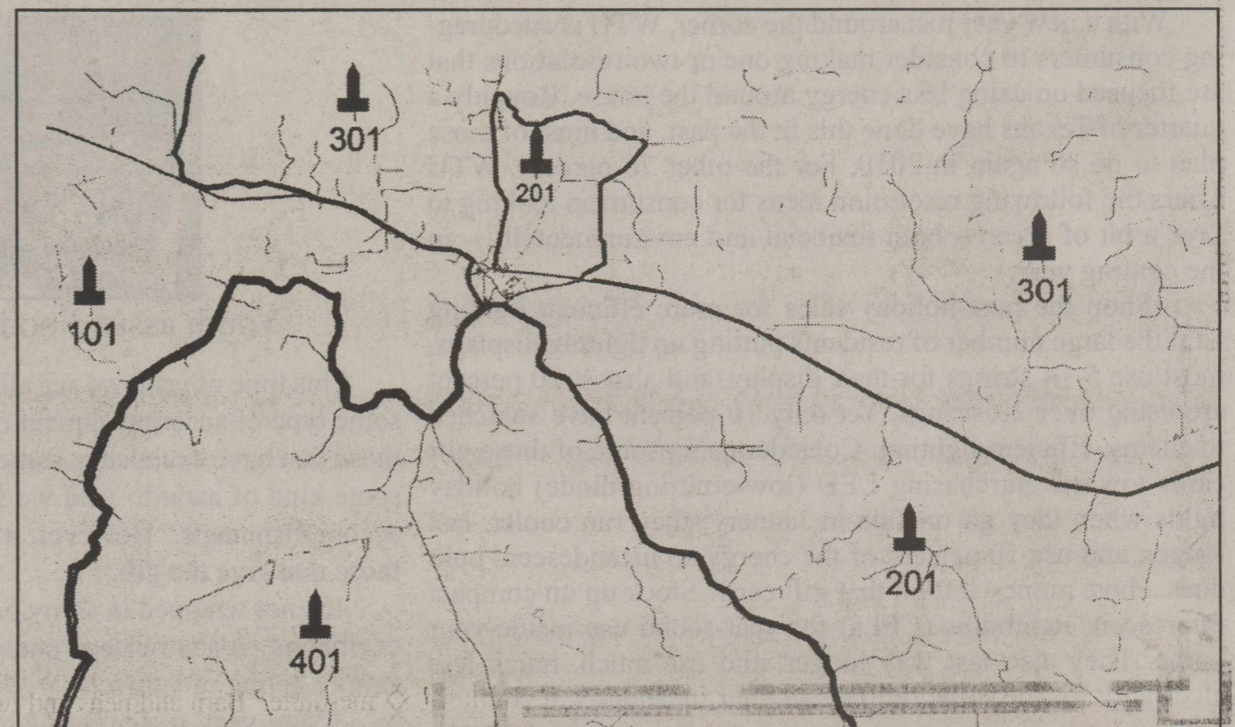
is the pronouncing official at deaths not attended by a physician; magistrates defendants; sets bonds; determines probable cause and issues search and arrest warrants; responsible for all fines and fees collected in JP Court and reporting requirements to Office of Court Administration, Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Department of Transportation.

County and District Clerk:

Custodian of all county records and district and county court records; Clerk of the Commissioners' Court, District Court, County Court, Probate Court, and Juvenile Court; prepare numerous judicial and month-

ly state reports for The Texas Dept. Of Public Safety and Office of Court Administration; accept passport applications; issue marriage licenses; issue certified copies of what is on file in the Clerk's office; ie. death, birth and Official Public Records; assist District Court judges and County Court Judges with impaneling a jury; issue citations, writs, subpoenas, precepts and warrants for all county and district court cases; notify attorneys and defendants of all county and district court hearings; register brands. The County Clerk is also the Elections Administrator and is in charge of all state and county elections.

County Precinct Locations Reference For County Elections



Best Western Sonora Inn Receives Directors Award for Quality



SONORA, TX 12/21/09 – The Best Western Sonora Inn in Sonora, TX has received the Best Western Director's Award for outstanding quality standards. This is the second consecutive time the Best Western Sonora Inn has received this award. The Director's Award recognizes Best Western International hotels scoring in the top 20 percent of all 2,400 North American properties in cleanliness and maintenance. Hotels must also meet Best Western's requirements for design and high customer service scores to qualify for the distinction. "The Director's Award is an important symbol of success," says John Jones, owner/operator. "This award confirms the Best Western Sonora Inn's

commitment to providing quality accommodations for our guests. Our housekeeping and maintenance departments have worked very hard to achieve this level of excellence." Located at 270 Hwy 277 N, the Best Western Sonora Inn features 54 rooms with free hot breakfast, free WiFi, exercise equipment and wonderful west Texas hospitality. Reservations at the Best Western Sonora Inn may be booked locally at 325-387-9111, through Best Western International's toll-free number (800) WESTERN, or online at www.bestwestern.com. ABOUT BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL Best Western International is THE WORLD'S LARGEST

HOTEL CHAIN®, providing marketing, reservations and operational support to 4,200* independently owned and operated member hotels in 80* countries and territories worldwide. Founded in 1946, this iconic brand is host to approximately 400,000 worldwide guests each night. A pioneer within the industry, Best Western is recognized for its distinctive member-owned business model and diverse hotel portfolio. The company continues to innovate and enhance both the business and leisure travel experience. Since 2004, Best Western has served as the Official Hotel of NASCAR®. For more information or to make a reservation, please visit www.bestwestern.com.

DEL RIO

Ford LINCOLN Mercury

Doug Humphreys



SEASON'S GREETINGS

Each year during the holiday seasons I take great pleasure in setting aside my regular work and sending a message to all my friends whom I have had the pleasure of working with over the last 10 years.

How joyful I am that this time has come again to extend to you my sincere gratitude because it is good friends like you that make my business possible.

May God bless you and your holidays be filled with joy and the coming year be overflowing with all the good things in life.

Sincerely,
Doug Humphreys

Come by 2700 Veterans Blvd or call 830-775-7481.
I Look Forward To Seeing You!

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.

The Devil's River News Classified Ads

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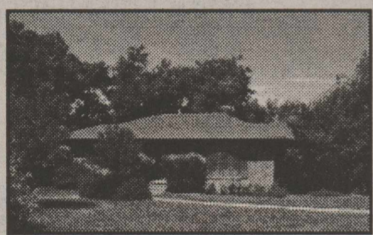
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For Sale
For Sale: 2002 27ft. 5th Wheel Coachmen travel trailer w/slide-out, \$14,000, 1996 Fleetwood double wide 30'x80' mobile home to be moved, \$45,000. FMI call 325-450-5300.

For Sale: 2000 Crest Ridge mobile home, 16x76, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, located in Sonora. **Must Be Moved.** No owner financing. Beautiful home, \$15,750. Call 432-694-7561 or 432-528-8495.

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Public Notices
PUBLIC NOTICE
The Board of Trustees of the Sonora Independent School District posts this notice in compliance with 28 C.F.R. 51.28(g) as follows:
On November 9, 2009, at a duly called and noticed session, the Sonora Independent School District Board of Trustees authorized a change in election-day polling places for its elections. Also, the District also changed the type of HAVA-compliant election machines it uses and reduced the number of HAVA-compliant elections machines it is required to use during its elections. As required, these changes were submitted on December 14, 2009, to the United States Attorney General for preclearance consideration. Copies of the preclearance submission are available for public review during business hours at the business office of the Sonora Independent School District located at 807 South Concho, Sonora, Texas. Any persons wishing to make comments for the consideration of the United States Attorney General may submit such comments to:
Chief Christopher Coates
Voting Section
Civil Rights Division
Room 7254-NWB
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Public Notices
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and the publicly read. **CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)**
Dist/Div: San Angelo
Contract 6197-29-001 for STRIP MOWING AND ROADSIDE MOWING in SUTTON County, etc will be received on January 13, 2010 until 1:00 PM and opened on January 13, 2010 at 1:15 PM at the District Office for an estimate of \$67, 505.00. All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference for Contract 6197-29-001 to be held on January 12, 2010 at 10:00 AM at the DISTRICT TRAINING CENTER, BLDG 5A, 4502 KNICKERBOCKER RD SAN ANGELO TX 76904.
Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's List, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 31690
State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
San Angelo District
District Engineer
4502 Knickerbocker Rd
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Phone: 325-944-1501
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

NOTIFICACIÓN PÚBLICA
La Junta Directiva del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Sonora publica esta notificación en cumplimiento con el 28 C.F.R. 51.28(g) de la siguiente manera: El 9 de noviembre, 2009, en una sesión debidamente convocada y notificada, la Junta Directiva de Distrito Escolar Independiente de Sonora autorizó un cambio en los lugares de votación del día de elección HAVA-compliant que éste utilice y redujo el número de máquinas de elección HAVA-compliant que es requerido para ser usadas durante sus elecciones. Como lo es exigido, estos cambios fueron presentados el 14 de diciembre, 2009, al Procurador General de los Estados Unidos para considerar su pre-autorización. Las copias de la presentación para la pre-autorización están disponibles para la revisión pública durante los horarios de oficina administrativa del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Sonora ubicada al 807 South Concho, Sonora, Texas. Cualquier persona que desee hacer algún comentario para ser considerado por el Procurador General de los Estados Unidos puede presentar tal comentario al:
Chief Christopher Coates
Voting Section
Civil Rights Division
Room 7254-NWB
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Best Western
Front Desk Help Wanted
Apply in person @ Best Western
270 Hwy 277 N.
Sonora, Texas

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

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.

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Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-2507
Office Hours:
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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San Angelo, TX 76903 Fax: 325-942-0319
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Caruthers Realty
"The Best of the Best"
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

Rio Diablo Realty
(325) 387-2537
www.riodiablorealty.com
Stacy Fisher--Broker/Owner

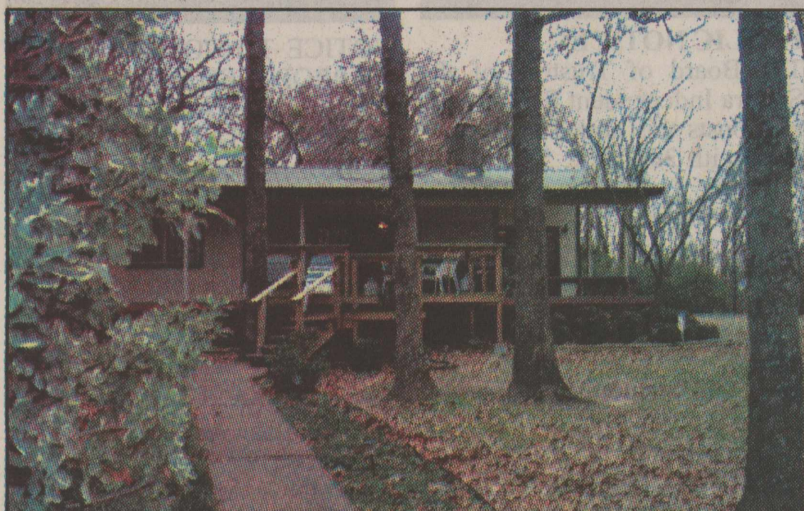
****New Listing****
508 Del Rio
2 mobile homes
1 office & shop
1.12 acre
\$69,000

Commercial Listing
232 E Main 4224 sq Call Agent
Residential
125 Edgemont 3/3/1 \$359,900
706 S Crockett 3/2 \$135,000
For Rent \$700 per month
***** Ranch Listing *****
1339 Ranch Road 864
300 acres OR 100 acre plots
5 miles from Sonora
\$2500 per acre

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;
\$310,000 Reduced To \$290,000
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102 Kings Court
(off 2nd Street)
2100 Liveable Square Feet
3 Bedroom/1 Office & Bath
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Crown Molding/Cat-Hood
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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

The Voice of the Sonora Broncos
8:30 Morning Show
with Eddy and Cindy
RBC CLASSIC COUNTRY
92.1 KHOS
Mondays - Agriculture
Tuesdays - Sonora ISD News & Sonora Bronco Coach's Corner
Wednesdays - Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital News with Dr. Kristy D. Edwards, M.D.
& Devil's River Newspaper with Ben D. Taylor
Thursdays - Veterinary News with Dr. Gene Gibbens, DVM
Fridays - Voice Of The Sonora Bronco's Sports ... GO BRONCOS!!!



The Cottage on Lake Tawakoni was reasonably priced and offered all the amenities of home along with beautiful vistas of the lake.

Adventuresome: daring-willing or eager to participate in exciting or risky activities (Encarta Dictionary). The Adventuresome is a special section added to the Devil's River News. We hope you will use it as a guide to help you get out and explore the treasures in Texas.

Lake Tawakoni

Travel Time: 6 hours
Distance: 400 miles from Sonora

Story and Photos
by Ben D. Taylor

Some months ago, I received a phone call from a buddy asking if I wanted to go on a guided catfishing trip on Lake Tawakoni in December. My first thought was that this was a joke (the fishing equivalent of a guided snipe hunting trip). I had never heard of this lake, the trip was scheduled for December, and the

concept of using a guide to fish for catfish had never even entered my mind. It only took about fifteen minutes of fishing (and our boat landing a 33 pound bluecat) to realize that my concepts on catfishing would have to change.

The official Catfish Lake of Texas, Lake Tawakoni is located northeast of Dallas. It's 40,000 acre feet of water is home of what our fishing guide called "Lake Tawakoni Tuna". After hooking one of these beasts on rod and reel I realized that call-



ing these fish "tuna" was like comparing a lion to a housecat. I quickly started calling them "The Monsters of Tawakoni".

After only four hours, we were able to fill two large ice chests with the bounty of our fishing efforts (3 of the fish topped 30 pounds, while the average weight of all the fish caught came to about 10 pounds per fish).

My boat was guided by Bob Dodson, the owner and operator of Anchor Inn Marina on Lake Tawakoni. Our partner boat was guided by George, the owner of George's Guide Service on Lake Tawakoni. Both fishing guides were extremely capable and fun fishing partners.

After a cold day on the water we all found refuge in the comforting hum of the central heating system of our cabin. The Cot-

tage On The Lake (owned and operated by Joe and Joanne Biggie) was set on the picturesque shores of the lake. The cabin's amenities included showers, tv, and full kitchen. The grounds of the Biggie's property also allowed access to a fire pit, deck, and a four slip boat dock.

If you want more information on Lake Tawakoni guides or lodging contact:

Bob Dodson
Anchor Inn Marina
Lake Tawakoni
anchorinnmarina.com
903-447-2256

George's Guide Service
Lake Tawakoni
trophycats.com
214-202-6641

Joe and Joanne Biggie
The Cottage on the Lake
cottageonlaketawakoni.com
903-560-0888



Left to right: Wes Brown, Matt Brown, Miles Mikeska, George (fishing guide), Lanis Mikeska, Bob Dodson(fishing guide), Wade Honaker, Mason Vaughan, and Ben Taylor.



Ben Taylor hauled in this monster early in the outing, thankfully his guide had a sense of humor.



The three biggest fish caught were over 30 lbs (left to right) Lanis Mikeska, Wade Honaker, and Mason Vaughan.

La Mexicana
Restaurant and Cantina

Come join us for NFL Games

Thursday, December 17 @ 7:30 p.m.
Colts vs Jaguars

Saturday, December 19 @ 7:30 p.m.
Cowboys vs Saints

Monday, December 21 @ 7:30 p.m.
Giants vs Redskins

99¢ Draft Beer
\$1.50 Long Necks
\$2.00 Mixed Drinks

Sonora Bronco Basketball Schedule 2009-2010

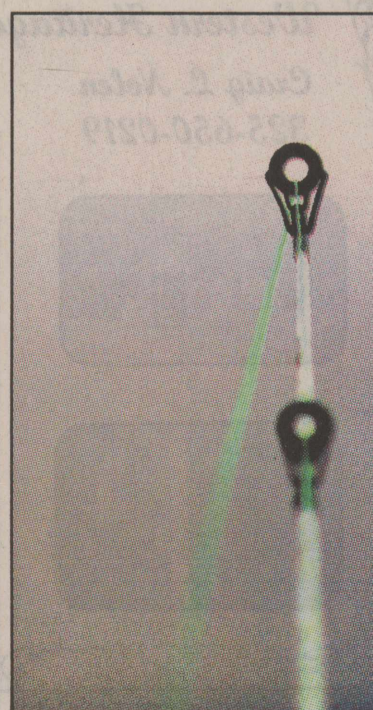
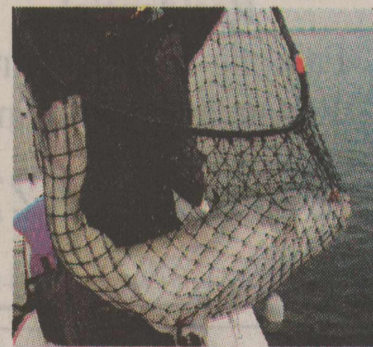
Date:	Opponent:	Site:	JV	Varsity
Dec. 28-30	Eula Tourn	Away	TBA	
Jan. 2	*Alpine	Away	5:00	8:00
Jan. 5	*Reagan Co	Home	5:00	8:00
Jan. 8	*Presidio	Away	5:00	8:00
Jan. 12	*Ozona	Home	5:00	8:00
Jan. 15	Open			

Sponsored by: Bronco Parents

Sonora Lady Bronco Basketball Schedule 2009-2010

Date:	Opponent:	Site:	JV White	JV Red	Varsity
Dec. 28-30	Eula Tourn	Away			TBA
Jan. 2	*Alpine	Away			11:00 12:30
Jan. 5	*Reagan Co	Home	8:00	5:00	6:30
Jan. 8	*Presidio	Away	8:00	5:00	6:30
Jan. 12	*Ozona	Home		5:00	6:30
Jan. 15	Open				

Sponsored by: Lady Bronco Parents



The end result of a 4 hour fishing trip on Lake Tawakoni, and the guides swore it was a slow day.