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## LILLIAN M. HUDSPETH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

### Affordable Care Act (ACA) Open Enrollment

Do you have the required healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act? If no, did you know there is a penalty? See article on page 3 for details on ACA open enrollment.



December 7, 2017

Volume 128

### **Annual Community Christmas Downtown Parade and Program Opens Holiday Season**

Hundreds of people gathered downtown for the annual Community Christmas Parade and downtown activities to open the holiday season Wednesday, November

Event organizer Debra Hobbs said this year's event was the best yet.

What began eight years ago out of her passion for the true meaning of the season and a way to unite the community has grown beyond what she ever imagined.

Hobbs said now her vision is to make it bigger and better while continuing the tradition.

"It was perfect," Hobbs said. "The best ever. The crowd was exceptional and it brought the entire community together. My favorite part of this event is seeing the community, families and neighbors visiting with neighbors. That is what this is really all about."

While enjoying S'mores Daylin, Wayden and Castyn Dillard were first in line to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while a long line of children stood waiting with excitement for their chance to sit on Santa's lap and whisper what they want for Christmas.

Wandering up and down Main Street people of all ages indulged themselves in a variety of holiday themed activities such as cookie decorating, ornament making and holiday themed games.

Patrons also enjoyed a variety of food and holiday music while visiting with friends and neighbors before the evening parade and program got underway.

For those who already had their holiday gift lists ready, businesses extended their hours for the evening to help them get started on shopping.

A miniature petting zoo was also available for those who wanted to interact with animals featured in the live nativity.

The entire event was free and open to the public due to the generous donations by local businesses, organizations and individuals.

Sonora Chamber of Commerce Director Donna Garrett said the earlier start this year was a good idea because it allowed more people including parade participants as well as vendors to enjoy the festivities.

"Starting at four o'clock was great," Garrett said. "It allowed more people to participate in everything prior to the parade and program. It also allowed vendors who had

booths and shops along Main Street to take time to enjoy the parade unlike in years past."

As night fell, the familiar and favorite tune of a drummer boy performed by Joe

Ivan Abrega and Jesus Chavez summoned the crowd's attention as they led a parade to the courthouse lawn.

More than 30 vehicles including lighted and decorated floats and emergency vehicles made their way along the route tossing out candy and treats to parade watchers.

Following the parade, folks turned their attention to a seasonal program of prayer, scripture and song by local clergy and talented members of the community.

Father Casey Berkhouse read aloud a biblical recount of Christ's birth followed by the singing of seasonal tunes including "Silent Night" performed by Scott Gaskill and Delaney Ramsdell, "Go Tell it on the Mountain" performed by Bonnie Lou Campbell and Carl Cloudt and "Away in a Manger" performed by Lizzie Chavez and Ben Taylor.

Father Brenon closed the program in prayer.

A live nativity also drew the attention of listeners. A true-life scene including a cast of local residents and a wide variety of live animals that unmistakably addresses the reasons for Jesus's time on

Depicting the scene on the night Jesus was born, Troy and Sandy Wellman gazed upon their own baby as Mary and Joseph did upon Jesus while Shepherds and Wisemen looked on.

Hobbs said she was pleased with the volunteers who helped with this year's event and its success. She said she is especially thankful for local Ministerial Alliance whose involvement also continues to

grow each year. Beaming with pride Hobbs said she is looking forward to expanding the event even more in the future. With a twinkle in her eyes, she said she already has a couple of new ideas for next year.

As a leader as well as member of the local community, Garrett said she recognizes the importance for events like this - not only during the holidays but throughout the year.

"Anytime you can pull a community together, it's a good thing," Garrett said.



Local residents Sandy and Troy Wellman and their daughter Jayden Grace, portray Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus in the Community Christmas live nativity on the courthouse lawn Wednesday, November 29, 2017. The annual event also included a seasonal program, food, activities and a parade to open the Christmas season.

### **Special Visit from Santa Inspires Girls and Boys to Read More**

Santa and his elf took time out of their busy holiday schedule to visit with girls and boys at the Sutton County Library Tuesday, December

Kids of all ages took their individuall turn telling Santa everything on their Christmas wish list.

While insisting that she wants a cat for Christmas, Destiny Escobedo told Santa that she also likes to read books about cats.

Marcos Onofre told Santa all he wanted for Christmas was "more legos so I can build cars, houses and more libraries," because he likes to read.

After settling in with their hot chocolate, cookies and other sweet treats, children and their parents alike listened while Santa's elf read aloud a favorite children's Christmas story titled "Olive."

The story written by Vivian Walsh and illustrated by J. Otto Seibold depicts the heroic efforts of a dog who joins Santa's team of reindeer to guide his sleigh on Christmas

The event, one of many new ideas by Debra Brown,



Boy's and girls of all ages spent the evening with Santa and his elf at the Sutton County Library Tuesday, December 5, 2017. Children and their parents alike enjoyed refreshments while listening to a reading of "Olive" a brave dog who helped Santa and his reindeer deliver gifts on Christmas night. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Librarian, was free and open to everyone.

Although designed to encourage reading and spending time at the library, Brown said she thought the idea was a good way to encourage reading as well as provide

an opportunity for anyone to participate.

"Something for everyone," Brown said. "We just wanted

to host an event that anyone regardless of their age or status could come out and take part."

### Highway Fund, Rainy Day Fund Receive Hefty Infusions

AUSTIN — State Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Nov. 29 announced the transfer of \$1.47 billion into the State Highway Fund and the Economic Stabilization Fund, with \$734 million going into each fund.

The transfer was enabled by Texas voters, who in the November 2014 constitutional amendment election passed a measure allocating at least half of the state's oil and gas production severance taxes to the "Rainy Day Fund" and the remainder to the State Highway Fund for use on non-toll highway construction, maintenance and right-of-way

The transfer brought the new balance of the Rainy Day Fund to \$10.98 billion. "The Rainy Day Fund is an important tool for our state because it allows us to maintain solid fiscal footing even during unforeseen circumstances, such as those our state encountered during Harvey," Hegar said.

The governor and Legislature will determine how best to use this important asset, but I think all Texans are glad this tool is in place. Similarly, the transfer into the State Highway Fund will continue to allow the state to

address growing transportation needs to keep our economic engine running smoothly," Hegar added.

Cognizant to open site

Gov. Greg Abbott on Nov. 30 announced Cognizant would open a new regional technology and service delivery center in Irving in early 2018.

Cognizant is a Fortune 500 multinational corporation providing information technology, consulting and business process services. The company has more than 3,600 employees in Texas.

The governor's office made a Texas Enterprise Fund grant offer of \$2.1 million to Cognizant and said the firm plans to create 1,090 new jobs based out of the new facility. The company made a capital investment of more than \$8 million, according to the governor's office.

By Ed Sterling

STATE CAPITAL **HIGHLIGHTS** 

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 7

### **A Sheep Drive** to Kent, Texas

In 1938 our family leased a ranch 65 miles north of Kent almost to the New Mexico line. This was a miserable place on all counts. The land was salt flats, no trees, grease wood flats and the water

It Happened Out West



was undrinkable-gypy almost salty. Every bush had either a rattlesnake or a coyote under it. We had to clear the rattlesnakes out of the house before we moved in. We

also had to haul drinking water twice a week. After a year we decided to find a better lease.

The horses and cattle were driven to Kent and put on the T-Q railroad to a place east of Alpine called BLNE Mt. Ranch. This left 2,000 head of sheep to be moved. It was decided that my brother and I and two Mexican ranch hands would drive the sheep to Kent to load on the railroad. A chuckwagon truck to carry water barrels, bedrolls, a chuckbox and supplies was put together. Mother would drive the truck with my small brother and sister from camp to camp around.

We would cover about 10 miles each day and camp at water wells or dirt tanks along the way. Everything was prepared and the sheep were gathered.

On a bright summer day we started down the county road that led to Kent. We moved slow but the sheep bunched and drove well but slow. My brother and I would throw rocks at the rabbits, snakes, lizards, and birds as we followed the herd along the road. This went on for six days with no accidents or interruptions.

Routinely mother would find a good camp spot at a tank to water the sheep. She would set a camp and cook supper and go to bed. We got up at daylight and ate breakfast then moved the herd on down the road. This was a period of no rainfall or thunderstorms so, all things considered, it was a pleasant move.

On the sixth day we came over a caliche hill and saw Kent across the valley. We could see the town, the railroad station and a large set of stock pens. We reached the pens about four o'clock and penned the herd in the railroad pens. Mother took us down to the general store and bought is each a big red soda water. They were ice cold and sweet. After the hot drive that was almost heaven to a poor country boy.

The sheep were loaded in the box cars and shipped to the new lease at Alpine. We went to Sanderson where mother owned a home so we could be enrolled and start school.

Many years later I happen to travel through Kent and was shocked at what I saw. Kent is now a ghost town with no railroad buildings, no shipping pens and the general store is a falling down vacant building.

So much for progress and the memories of a sheep drive to Kent, Texas

### Heard Around Town

Visitor: I like this town. It's warm and friendly and nobody has a bad word to say about anyone.

Local: Are you sure you're not thinking about some other town?

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### Number Conundrums

By Jill Pertler

Sometimes (oftentimes) numbers don't make sense – to me at least. Oh sure, two plus two equals four and numbers are unchangeable so they should follow logical standards. But they don't. Therein lies Slices of Life

the mystery. Let's start with gas of the gallon variety. Why is gas priced at a certain amount plus nine-tenths of a cent? Nothing else is priced this way. Not other things we buy by the gallon-like milk or water or whisky.

More decimal dilemmas: radio station numbers go one digit beyond the decimal point, but their radio jingle will round

up or down to get to a whole number so 94.9 becomes 95 and 92.3 becomes 92. While I recognize the importance of a catchy jingle, it seems like this could cause confusion for listeners looking for a certain station.

Having a pair of something means two items: a pair of dice, a pair of aces, a pair of socks and a pair of shoes for instance. But a pair of pants is just one piece of clothing. Would two pants be a pair of a pair of pants? How about a pair of twins: is that four people or

Races are measured in distance. but why is a 5-K measured in kilometers and a marathon measured in miles? The lack of consistency is offputting, and I'm not even a runner.

Thinking further, why is it 26.2 and 13.1? After running 26 or 13 miles is it really necessary to run another thousand feet in order to earn the window cling?

Why pick mile marker 13 as a benchmark at all? The number 13 is associated with bad karma - especially if the race is on a Friday. Hotels have been known to skip the entire thirteenth floor because the number is thought to be bad luck, which doesn't make sense because that just makes the fourteenth floor bad luck.

While we're skipping numbers (not rocks) let's look at the months of the year. Four of them have 30 days, seven have 31 and then there's February with the odd, albeit even, 28 - or every four years an equally odd 29. It doesn't make sense to have one month with 28 when it would be neater and more consistent to have seven months with 30 and five with 31, except for leap years, which would be an even more consistent six and six.

Then there are the numbers as related to shoe sizes. Here in the U.S. a man's size seven is equal to a woman's size nine. The European equivalent is 42, except in the UK, which has a

system all its own. (Of course it does.) None of the varying sizing options coordinates with inches or centimeters, which seems like the most logical option. Having a shoe size of 10 inches

> or 26 centimeters makes simple sense, but numbers are hardly ever simple.

This complex truth is demonstrated in sports scores. In basketball, a basket gets your team two points, unless it is a three pointer. Free throws earn one point each. A touchdown in football is worth six points, a field goal three and a safety two. An extra point is just

that, unless you go for two. In hockey three goals equals a hat trick. In baseball three strikes makes vou out. Four balls get vou to first base. A home run gets you anywhere from one to four runs. In tennis love is zero.

In soccer zero is zero. Beyond sports scores, there are four quarters in football and basketball, which is the equivalent to two halves in soccer. A game of hockey consists of three periods, while baseball has nine innings. A tennis match has two or three sets, which contain anywhere from six to a gazillion games each, depending. It's enough to make

my head spin. A rational person understands. numbers are a useful and necessary part of life. They help us calculate distance and tell us if we have enough money to pay the mortgage. They dictate ingredient amounts in recipes. They give us information about shoe and pant sizes. They fill calendars and scoreboards.

Despite their proliferation, numbers can be vexing and complicated, for some of us, at least. You'd think there'd be some comfort in knowing two plus two equals four - and there is. But beyond that sometimes things just don't add up.

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



### **Girl With a Trumpet**

Kelley Fletcher of Suphur Springs is a tall girl who plays trumpet. In junior high school, she liked the sound the band director produced when he played his trumpet. So she decided to learn how to play the instrument.

"I picked up that trumpet and



played a note and it came out immediately and the band director Mr. Wood told me I'd

be great on trumpet. Forty-two years later I'm still torturing people who hear me play."

Kelley says she is still trying to become a good trumpet player.

"I think most trumpet players will say they are always becoming, because you never feel like you master the instrument.'

In high school she made it to state playing a trumpet she got at a pawnshop. As a reward, her father gave her a professional instrument.

"He came in the house one day and he had bought me a Bach Stradivarius, one of the pro-line trumpets. To have one of those that I could call my own was real exciting."

She has some idols. Harry James tops the list.

"He's such a heart player. When I hear him play I feel something. He puts a lot of emotion in his playing and he's a master musician."

Kelley has played professionally thirty-one years and taught band on high school and college levels for twenty-eight of those years. Now she has her own band. Last July she got to perform at home with a full orchestra on the Sulphur Springs Square.

"I was blessed with the opportunity to actually have an arrangement written for me with orchestra. It was a medley of Harry James tunes. It had a big ending, then a bigger ending and it was so exciting and all the people on the square were very kind and applauded. I was on cloud nine because hearing a full orchestra behind me with strings and everything was a

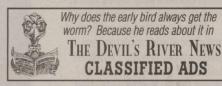
I met Kelley at the First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs. It's a large complex of buildings and when I started asking people about where to find the female trumpet player they all pointed me in the right direction. When I first saw her in a hallway she was holding her trumpet, which gave me the feeling it's never far away from her. We went to the choir room and didn't even bother to close the door. I recorded her playing and Kelley's trumpet sounded all over the church.

Kelley has a wonderful sense of humor and is always making jokes about her height. She's over six feet tall. When she was performing in the square with the orchestra the audience gave her a standing ovation. I complimented her on that.

"Well they didn't have chairs," said Kelley.

www.tumbleweedsmith.com







USPS 155-920

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THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS newspaper, U.S.P.S. 155-920, is published weekly except the weeks of Christmas and the 4th of July by Masked Rider Publishing, Inc., at 224 E. Main Street in Sonora, Texas. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS, 224 E. Main Street, Sonora,

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscriptions are \$29.95 per year in Sutton County and \$39.95 per year elsewhere in Texas. Out of state subscriptions are \$45.95. Periodical class postage paid at Sonora, Texas 76950. **DEADLINES:** News articles and photos are

due by Monday at 12:00 noon. Advertisements and

Classifieds are due by Monday at 5 p.m.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication only if they are signed and are accompanied with a day and night phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for length or offensive material. Anony mous letters will not be published.

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### **Broncos End Season with 16-19 Loss to Childress**

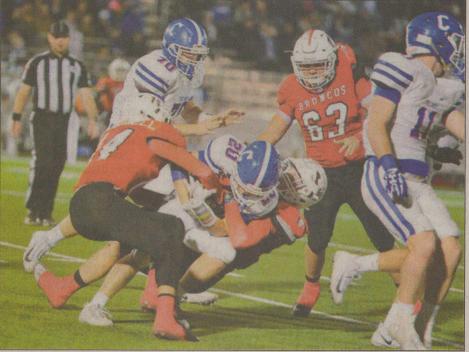
The Sonora Broncos fell to Childress 16-19 in an exciting playoff game rematch Friday, December 1, 2017, at Abilene Wylie's Bulldog Stadium.

Similar to last year, it was a close scoring battle to the end between the two top Class 3A Division II teams, however things didn't go as planned for the Broncos.

Head Coach Jeff
Cordell said he knew Friday's playoff match would be a challenge. And, it would all come down to which team could better execute to take the win. Although the loss meant the end of their season, Cordell said he is proud of his players and coaching staff and thankful to have been a part of their season.

"It was a slug-fest," Cordell said. "Two teams went toe to toe for 48 minutes and Childress just got the better of us in the end. We had our opportunities and couldn't capitalize. They made plays when they had to. Sad that we came up short but far from disappointed with the effort of the players and coaches. These players and this coaching staff poured their heart and soul into that game and this season. I couldn't be more proud of a group of young men. It was a blessing to get to coach them and get to work with a group of men that had a passion for the game of football. The Seniors were the catalyst of this team. Their leadership helped mold this team into a top 10 football program in the State of Texas. This is a feat each one of them should be extremely proud of."

Struggling from the starting gate, Sonora



Broncos Kaden Cordell, Wilson Johnson and Dominique Solis tackle Childress's Haggan Lott during Friday's playoff game December 1, 2017, at Wylie Bulldog Stadium in Abilene.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

trailed behind the Bobcats 9-12 at the half.

Childress managed two touchdowns to Sonora's 25-yard field goal by Kaden Cordell and one touchdown by Abel Cruz.

Sonora's defense didn't seem to be able to hold down the Bobcats and the offense couldn't get a break either.

The Broncos finally managed to gain their first lead, 16-12, over the Bobcats on a 24-yard touchdown run by Jarrett Jackson at the 11:06 mark in the fourth quarter. And things seemed to be looking up for Sonora.

The crowd roared so loud it muted the sounds of the announcer in the press box and the referee whistles on the field.

Then, Childress's Luke Latimer connected with Stephon Harris for a 38-yard touchdown pass with 6:45 left in the game giving the Bobcats



Sonora senior Mark Chavez comforts a teammate following the Broncos loss to Childress Friday, December 1, 2017. The loss, their first and only this season, marked the end of the Broncos playoff run.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

a three-point advantage over Sonora.

Unable to answer, the Broncos realized a threepoint loss to the Bobcats who were awarded the Class 3A Division II regional semifinal game win.

It was Sonora's

first and only loss of the season.

In last year's game, Sonora trailed by one point 28-27 at the half before pulling out a 40-36 victory over Childress.

However, points were a lot harder to come by in SEE BRONCOS ON PAGE 10

### Santa Is On His Way!

Meet him at The Bank & Trust for pictures and Christmas acodies

Thursday, December 7th The Bank & Trust 5 to 7:30 p.m.



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SONORA WEATHER FORECAST						
Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		
12/07	12/08	12/09	12/10	12/11		
45°/27°	56°/33°	66°/29°	65°/40°	63°/35°		
A Bit of Rain and Snow	Sunny and Warmer	Sunny and Warmer	Partly Sunny	Partial Sunshine		
Sunrise 7:27 a.m.	Sunrise 7:27 a.m.	Sunrise 7:28 a.m.	Sunrise 7:29 a.m.	Sunrise 7:29 a.m.		
Sunset 5:41 p.m.	Sunset 5:42 p.m.	Sunset 5:42 p.m.	Sunset 5:42 p.m.	Sunset 5:42 p.m.		

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Now, a word from LMH

### Affordable Care Act (ACA) Open Enrollment Begins November 1 and ends December 15, 2017

Do you have the required healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act? If no, did you know there is a penalty paid to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on behalf of the Federal Government? "The penalty for failing to maintain coverage is either a flat dollar amount or a specified percentage of household income, whichever is greater. For an individual with annual income of \$40,000 and no coverage during the year, the penalty would be \$741, according to a calculator on the IRS website. For a couple with annual income of \$90,000 and no insurance, the penalty would be \$1.732. (Pear. 2017)"

Avoid the penalty by accessing Healthcare.gov for finding and purchasing a plan best suited for individuals and families. Enrollment must be complete by December 15, 2017. Stages of enrollment and coverage are as follows.

November 1, 2017: Open Enrollment started — first day to enroll, re-enroll, or change a 2018 insurance plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace

December 15, 2017: Last day to enroll in or change plans for 2018 coverage. After this date, you can enroll or change plans only if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.

January 1, 2018: 2018 coverage starts, if premium paid.

Optional websites available are:

Texas Residents - http://www.individualhealthquotes.com

https://www.healthcare.gov

http://www.obamacare-plans.com.

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Sonora Medical Clinic B offers extended hours of operation to our community. Clinic B is open from 8 AM - 12 PM (noon) the first Saturday of every month.

We also offer extended hours the 3rd Thursday of every month until 7 PM.

"We take same day walk-ins"

### **Sonora Cemetery to Host Ceremony Honoring Veterans**

**Wreaths Across** America, a national organization, is hosting a wreath laying ceremony Saturday, December 16, 2017, at 11:00 a.m., at the Sonora cemetery.

The ceremony is taking place in conjunction with more then 1,200 other locations across the country also participating in the event as part of National Wreaths Across America Day.

Coordinated and led by local volunteers, the Sonora cemetery has raised a total of \$3,375 to place 320 wreaths on the headstones of our fallen service members.

This annual event seeks to further the WAA mission of Remember, Honor, Teach, ensuring that the memory of those who served our country

The event is free and open to the public.

Everyone is encouraged to participate, especially veterans, active service members and their families, in this special commemorative event.

For more information contact Desiree Gonzales at waasuttoncounty@ gmail.com or Amber Caron at pr@wreathsacrossamerica.org



Elementary School Students for the week of December 4th through December 8th. Camila Leos, Pre-K, Ian Robles, K, Adrialys Mata, 1st, Tres Garza, 2nd, Sydney Routh, 3rd, Bryan Vasquez, 4th and Corbin Crenwelge, 5th. | COURTESY PHOTO

### Sonora ISD Students of the Week



Sonora Middle School Students for the Week of December 4th through December 8th. Marcos Perez, 6th, Sofia Serrano, 7th, Fernando Mendez, 8th.

The family of Daniel Brown would like to express their appreciation for all of the calls, texts, cards, words of sympathy, and prayers during our time of sorrow. Dan will be greatly missed as his loss is already felt. Your many acts of kindness and sympathy continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of grieving.

The family of Daniel Brown

#### **Our Lady of Guadalupe** Celebration

**December 12, 2017** 

Join us at St. Ann's Catholic Church as we celebrate our feast day in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**Mananitas** Rosary **Mariachi Mass**  5:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.



Reception to follow at Parish Hall

54. Yes, in Rouen

cuds

When the cold weather season starts, we look for ways to keep our homes as warm as possi-

Following are a few rather inexpensive ways to get ready for the cold.

For starters, replace the filter for central heat and air unit. It's a must to change your furnace and air conditioning filter on a regular basis, at least every three months or more often. Clogged filters reduce heating and

8. Invigorating drink

9. Incompatible with

10. Topping a road

14. Turn at an angle

27. Ring wins: abbr.

29. Rah, for one

30. Dau. or bro.

37. Miss Gabor

39. Taking chase

40. Worked an old

41. Psychologists

43. Uncultivated

46. Tie together

49. Jersey corral

53. truck with:

59. Hebrew weight

47. Combat

50. Music

55. Say it

60. Fragrance

61. Terrace: abbr.

45. Penciller's helper

35. Onion

Singer

33. Within \_\_\_ of

life's pattern

surface

11. Lists of

candidates

13. Do lines

18. Elks' org.

25. \_\_\_ chard

cooling efficiency and can reduce the useful life of the appliance.

Use caulk to fill gaps in siding, windows, and doors. For drafty windows and doors, don't just fill the gaps on the outside. pull the molding off to fill the

insulation gaps around the window jamb. An interesting option

is a plastic film window insulating kit. It is transparent, which allows light in and is easily removed at the end of the cold season.

Door threshold/sweep strips are also a good way to fill air leaks beneath

Did you know you can reverse ceiling fans? Most of us don't know that we can use our fans during the winter to keep our house warm. On every ceiling fan there's a switch that allows you to reverse the direction of the blades. Switch it so the ceiling fan rotates clockwise. That will push warm air down and force it to re-circulate throughout the room. Don't forget to make the switch again when it starts to warm

Then, there's a few outside chores which will save money in the spring.

First, drain gasoline from mowers and power tools and run the engine until fuel in the carburetor is used up.

Drain and store garden hoses, but store watering equipment in a readily accessible location. The lawn and plants may need water during a prolonged dry spell.

Before freezing temperatures occur, water everything thoroughly. Water displaces the air in the soil interspaces and is much slower to cool than air. Moist ground stays warmer than dry ground.

saying-don't forget to

### **15 SMS Band Students Place at Regional Contest**

Twenty-eight members of the Sonora Middle School seventh and eighth grade Colts Band competed at the Region competition Friday, December 1, 2017, in Ballinger.

Sonora was one of 18 school districts from 1A through 3A, including Ballinger, Eden, Irion Co., Jim Ned, Menard, Wall, Ozona, Merkel, Clyde, Eldorado, Colorado City, Hawley, Grape Creek, Rotan, TLCA, Water Valley, and Christoval to participate in the competition.

With 15 All-Region members, Sonora was first in terms of largest representation.

Of those participating, 15 students placed high enough to win All-Region

This is the fourth consecutive year that Sonora has had the most students win region honors in their classification. **Individual Results:** Flute: (38 competed, top 10 selected) Kristina Zabecki, 20th Carolina Elizondo, 21st Madison Mayfield, 26th Alma Hernandez, 34th Clarinet: (30 competed, top 16 selected) Sophia Gutierrez, 5th, 2nd year qualifier Joselyn Rodriguez, 7th, 2nd year qualifier Abigail Mendoza, 12th, 2nd year qualifier Mia McGee, 21st Bass Clarinet: (4 competed, 4 selected)

October

Susie Levario, 2nd, 2nd year qualifier Montserrat De La Fuente,

Contra Bass Clarinet: (1 competed, 1 selected) Taryn Hamm, 1st, 2nd year qualifier

Alto Saxophone: (16 competed, top 6 selected) Austin Figueroa, 12th Trumpet: (30 competed, top 12 selected) Omar Gonzalez, 11th Joe Ivan Abrego, 23rd French Horn: (13 competed, 8 selected) Mariana Montoya, 3rd Jacob Perez, 7th Aidan Leamon, 10th Trombone: (13 competed, top 8 selected) Damian Martinez, 8th Grayson Beyers, 14th Baritone: (9 competed, top 4 selected) Alex Hernandez, 3rd Justin Prather, 4th

Tuba: (12 competed, top 5 selected) Tais Gaytan,1st, 2nd year qualifier David Adams, 2nd Lorena Reyes, 4th Jose Gutierrez, 7th Percussion: (25 competed, top 8 selected) Marcos Villalobos, 10th Amaris Jimenez, 13th

Rino Hernandez, 14th Students selected will return to Ballinger Saturday, January 27th, to perform a concert together beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Please congratulate all of the students as they deserve commendation for their continued hard work and accomplishments.

3.05 ir

3.66 ir

2.48 ir

1.48 in

1.68 in

### **Tips for Getting Ready** for Cold Weather

ble, but don't want the higher energy bills that accompany turning up the thermostats. Luckily, there are simple things we can do that help.



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**Devil's River News** 

Weekly Rainfall Report

1.82 in.

1.23 in.

November 1-30 October

Septembe

August

February

### **Monday December 11**

**Breakfast** Waffles/Bacon or Cereal/Crackers, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk Lunch

Country Fried Steak, Roll, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Okra, Fruit, Milk **After School Program** 

Muffin, Milk

### **Tuesday December 12**

**Breakfast** Chicken-n-Biscuit or Cereal/Toast, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk Lunch Chicken Spaghetti, Bread Stick, Garden Salad, Carrots, Fruit, Milk

**After School Program** Fruit, Ice Cream

### Wednesday December 13

**Breakfast** Breakfast Pizza or Cereal/Crackers, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk

Lunch Enchiladas, Salsa, Zesty Cucumbers, Refried Beans, Lettuce & Tomato, Fruit, Milk **After School Program** 

#### **Thursday December 14** Breakfast

Sausage, Egg, Ch. Sandwich or Cereal/Toast, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk Lunch

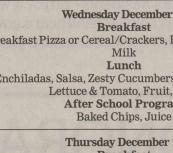
Chicken Tenders, Texas Toast Triangle, Gravy, Broccoli, Sweet Potato Fries, Fruit, Crispy Cereal Treat, Milk **After School Program** Turkey Stick, Juice

#### Friday December 15 **Breakfast**

Pita Pocket Breakfast or Cereal/Crackers, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk Lunch

BBQ on a Bun, Coleslaw, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk **After School Program** Half HC Sandwich, Juice

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#### 4. Fluent 56. My Gal name 57. Canadian prov. 8. Asparagus\_ 12. Podrida pots 58. Reverie 62. Uttered 15. Lacoste of tennis 16. Exam 63. Makes changes, as 17. Teacher's stand on prints 64. English school 19. \_\_\_ Scotia 20. Government 65. Hautboy 66. Belief report 21. What's \_\_\_\_for 67. Splitsville me? 22. Ben of Lew Wallace story 23. Was victorious 24. Songbird 26. Fake: abbr. 28. ln\_ \_: kept as a surety 31. Syst. of units 32. Kind of bean 34. Of blood 36. Work: physics 37. Fish delicacy 38. Membranous partitions 42. Ointment 44. Reject 45. Pitching stat. 48. Restrain 51. Vicinity

**ACROSS** 

1. Important

52. Cows do this to

"COLOR FULL"

Weekly Crossword Puzzle

68. Send an alert

69. Mdse.

DOWN

white

1. Small quail

3. Coating with egg

4. Unhappy sounds

2. Surliness

5. Giant step

6. Concerning

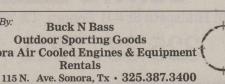
7. Chamber

See solution on Page 10

#### This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by Love Funeral Home

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Alyssa Martiniez takes the ball to the net during the varsity game between Sonora and Nueces Canyon, Tuesday, November 28, 2017. The Varsity Lady Broncos fell to Nueces KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Gutierrez 4

: (1

**SONORA Nueces** 22 - 72

#### **LADY BRONCOS** Varsity

November 28, 2017

**SONORA** 03-02-07-10=22 **NUECES** 21-20-08-23=72

SCORERS: Aleasha Smith 1; Karah Martinez 3; Gabby Zapata 3; Aislin Nixon 2; Audry Nolen 1; Angela Gonzalez 2; Jackilyn Sykes 6; Zayda

8th Grade Colts Win at TLCA The Sonora 8th grade Fernando Gonzales, 6, Colts defeated the TLCA

Eagles 30-26 in their second game this season Monday, November 27, in San Angelo.

Holidays and travel didn't seem to affect the Colts as they demonstrated skill and effectiveness on the court resulting in an impressive 19-9 score at the half.

The Colts survived a shaky third quarter to come out with the win to even their record at 1-1.

"Both of the Colts" games have been very exciting," Coach Larry Jennings said.

Scoring for the Colts A Team: Gavin Boggs, 9,

Sean Mungia, 5, Lane Taylor, 4, Ivan Fuentes, 4, and Alex Renteria, 2.

Playing good defense for the Colts was Christoval Lira.

The Colts B team fell to TLCA.

Scoring for the Colts B Team: Tyler Walther, 12,

Rino Hernandez, 4, and Marcos Villalobos, 2. Next, the Colts return to their home court for

a match against Grape Creek Thursday, December 7th. Game times are 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

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### 7th Grade Colts Open 2017 Season

The Sonora Middle School seventh grade Colts basketball team hosted the Wall Hawks for their season opener before taking on TLCA last week.

Unable to find their niche on the court, the Colts A Team fell 22-30 in their first game against the Hawks, Monday, November 20th.

Johnathan Lozano led the team in scoring with nine points.

The B Team also suffered a loss 36-14 against

Alex Hernandez led the team in scoring.

Next, the Colts traveled to San Angelo to play the TLCA Eagles Monday, November 27th, for their second game of

the season.

Again, the Colts A Team came up short in a 32-14 loss against the Eagles.

Leading the charge was Johnathan Galvan with six points.

However, the Colts B Team took a commanding victory 22-2 over the

TLCA Eagles. Showing team work, three Colts players, Alex Hernandez, Jeremiah Martin, and Omar Gonzales, led in scoring with

four points each. The 7th grade Colts are set to take on the Grape Creek Eagles this Thursday, December 7th, in Grape Creek.

Everyone is encouraged to make the trip to cheer for the team.

**Junior Varsity** November 28, 2017

8; Clarissa Rodriguez 10; Cheyenne

Haynes 4; Dekota Morrow 12; Adriana





**SONORA** 

46 - 25

**SONORA** 12-12-12-10=46 NUECES 03-05-06-12=25 SCORERS: Rivers Martinez 4; NUECES Esmeralda Salazar 6; Alyssa Martinez



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Lesli Ramirez looks for an open teammate to pass the ball while dribbling it up court during the junior varisty game between Sonora and Nueces Canyon, Tuesday, November 28, 2017. The JV Lady Broncos defeated Nueces 46-25.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

**LADY BRONCOS** 

**Junior Varsity Irion County Tournament** 

November 30, 2017

SONORA **GRAPE CREEK** 

**SONORA** 14-10-09-01=34 GRAPE CREEK 02-02-06-00=10

**SCORERS:** Rivers Martinez 2; Esmeralda Salazar 2; Alyssa Martinez 4; Clarissa Rodriguez 10; Cheyenne Haynes 4; Dekota Morrow 12

SONORA IRION CO.

11 - 35

34 - 10

00-03-01-07=11 SONORA IRION CO. 04-09-14-08=35

**SCORERS:** Rivers Martinez 1; Esmeralda Salazar; Clarissa Rodriguez 2; Cheyenne Haynes 7

December 1, 2017

**SONORA** WALL 15-39

**SONORA** 04-05-04-02=15 WALL 13-08-06-12=39

SCORERS: Rodriguez 9; Cheyenne Haynes 2; Dekota Morrow 4

**SONORA** 

SONORA 00-06-05-08=19 WATER VALLEY 04-10-03-08=25

WATER VALLEY 19-25

SCORERS: Esmeralda Salazar 4; Clarissa Rodriguez 6: Chevenne Haynes 5; Dekota Morrow 2; Christina Garza 2

SONORA **ELDORADO** 30-19

**SONORA ELDORADO** 

04-06-07-13=30 02-07-07-03=19

SCORERS: Rivers Martinez 3; Clarissa Rodriguez 15; Alyssa Martinez 2; Cheyenne Haynes 4; Dekota Morrow 4; Christina Garza 2



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### Scenes from the Annual Downtown Community Christmas



A photo booth with whimsical props added to the merriment of the annual Community Christmas event in downtown Sonora. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Daylin, Castyn and Wayden Dillard enjoyed 'S'mores and a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus during



Christmas themed floats made their way through downtown during the annual Christmas parade Wednesday, November 29th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



tal wh

be of ble

Ava Mantana enjoyed decorating a cookie with her mom Yvette while taking in the excitement of Christmas activities on Main Street.



Youngsters found delight at posing for a photo with the Grinch while participating in a variety Grace Moore enjoyed spending time with the animals while waiting for the live nativity to set of Christmas themed activities Wednesday, November 29th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



up Wednesday in downtown Sonora. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Local Boy Scouts participated in a variety of activities during the annual Community Christmas event Wednesday, November 29th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Hundreds of people gathered along Main Street to enjoy the annual Christmas parade Wednesday, November 29th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



A cast of local residents participated in the annual live Nativity on the court house lawn Wednesday night, November 29th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Decorating an ornament was just one of the fun activities enjoyed by Zachary Gonzales during Wednesday's annual Christmas event downtown. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Thirty decorated floats drew crowds of spectators during the annual Community Christmas parade in downtown Sonora. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Youngsters came out in festive costumes to take part in the annual community event to open the holiday season Wednesday, November 29th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS





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

#### **SONORA PD** ARRESTS

**DECEMBER 2 • Chad Turner** Evertt, 41-year-old male from San Angelo, arrested for Assault Causes Bodily Injury.

**INCIDENTS** 

**NOVEMBER 27 - 1:40 PM**  Caller reported Criminal Trespass at 100 block of Deerwood. Officer responded. **NOVEMBER 28 • NO CALLS NOVEMBER 29 - NO CALLS NOVEMBER 30 - 7:32 PM •** Caller requested to meet with officer at Sutton County Sheriff's office. Officer responded. **DECEMBER 1 - 12:24 PM •** Caller reported Criminal Mischief at Sonora High School. SRO responded.

**DECEMBER 2 - 10:16 AM** · Caller reported illegally parked vehicle 100 block of N. Crockett. Officer responded. 10:23 AM • 911 call 100 block of Calle Ueses. Officer responded.

3:54 PM • Caller requested a Welfare Check at 1900 block of Tayloe Ave. Officer responded.

8:14 PM • Caller requested to meet with officer at Sutton County Sheriff's office. Officer responded.

**DECEMBER 3 - 7:43 PM** • Caller reported shots fired near Sonora Elementary. Officer responded.

#### **SUTTON COUNTY** SHERIFF **NO ARRESTS** INCIDENTS

NOVEMBER 27 - 3:15 PM • Caller reported a one vehicle roll over on U.S. Hwy 277 S, 8 miles. Deputy, DPS, EMS, and SVFD responded.

6:55 PM • Caller reported a

reckless driver on U.S. Hwy 277 S. Deputy responded. 9:14 PM • Caller reported a crash on I-10 at 426 mm. Dep-

**NOVEMBER 28 - 6:44 AM •** Caller requested motorist assistance on I-10 at 427 mm.

reckless driver on I-10 at 433 mm. Deputy responded. 4:10 PM · Caller reported a reckless driver on I-10 at 425 mm. Deputy responded. 4:50 PM · Caller reported a reckless driver on U.S. Hwy

**NOVEMBER 29 - 5:41 PM •** Agency Assistance requested on U.S. Hwy 277 S. Deputy responded.

**NOVEMBER 30 - 11:20 AM**  Caller reported a reckless driver on I-10 at 425 mm. Deputy responded.

4:13 PM • Caller reported a reckless driver on I-10 at 416 mm. Deputy responded. 7:40 PM • Caller reported a crash on I-10 at 406 mm. Deputies responded.

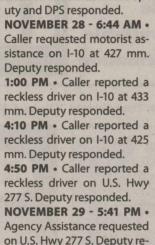
9:53 PM · Caller reported loud music on the corner on Santa Cruz and Nuevo Leon. Deputy responded.

**DECEMBER 1 - 12:35 PM •** Caller reported a crash on I-10 at 387 mm. Deputy and DPS responded.

**DECEMBER 3 - 8:12 AM •** Caller reported a possible smell of gas on U.S. Hwy 277 S. Deputy responded. 12:45 PM · Caller reported a theft on Saint Ann's St. Depu-

ty responded. 2:30 PM • Caller reported a tractor trailer roll over on I-10 at 428 mm. Deputy, DPS, and

EMS responded.



the center call

Crunchy Baked Fish, Potato Wedges, Tangy Coleslaw, Hush Puppies, Cinnamon Apples, Milk

Sonora

Senior Center

**Monday December 11** 

Baked Beans, Lettuce,

Tomato, Pickle, Onion,

**Tuesday December 12** 

Broccoli Florets, Garlic

Wednesday December 13

Grilled Chicken Sand.,

Beans, Lettuce, Tomato,

Pickle, Banana Pudding

**Thursday December 14** 

Turkey Dressing w/

Gravy, Green Beans,

Sweet Potatoes, Dinner

Roll, Cranberry Sauce,

Friday December 15

Mandarin Orange Fluff,

Hamburger on Bun,

Mustard, Orange

Italian Meatballs,

Spaghetti w/Sauce,

Toast, Peaches, Milk

Fiesta Corn. Pinto

w/Wafers, Milk

Wedges, Milk

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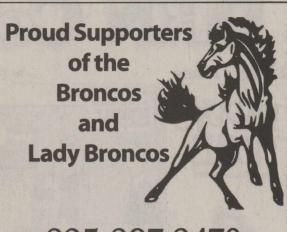


**DECEMBER** 

8th Mace Joy, Willie Gutierrez, Cameron Sims, Elise Downing 9th Dee Wagoner, Deborah Brown, Chris Flores, Martha Rogers 10th Tyler Edmondson, Melanie Smith, Steven Lozano 11th Stacey Campbell, Carl Weaver, Tomas Hernandez, Sr., Jansen Morris, Sam Taylor, Michael Mungia 12th Kenzie Perez, Dylan Taylor 13th Scottie Moore 14th Randy Mabry, Billie Renfro, Hollis Snyder, Lisa Price

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### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **CITY OF SONORA**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ZONE ANNEXATION PROPERTY CITY HALL 201 E. MAIN ST. SONORA, TEXAS 76950 **MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2017** 

6:00 P.M.

#### **OWNER LEGAL DESCRIPTION PHYSICAL ADDRESS** A-318, 1.726 Acres, **Town and Country Food** 1105 N. Crockett Ave. Sec.91, HE&WTRy Stores, Inc. 108 Kisselburg Rd. A-834, 3.72 Acres, Sec. Clay Cade 86, HE& WT Ry Co. **Dora Hilda Fuentez** 202 Wilson St. A-892, 1.21 Acres, Sec. Sim White Kyle A. Donaldson 125 E. Castlehill Rd Lomax, Sec. 85, HE&WT Ry Co., 0.25 Acres A-315, .24 Acres, Sec.85 Kyle A. Donaldson 125 E. Castlehill Rd HE&WT Ry & 0.191 Ac, A-1186=0.431 Ac Hulsey Roy L & Glenna 718 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St A-1186, 0.42 Acres, Sec. **Living Trust** 84 Steve J. Murphy 804 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St A-1186, 25.3.05 Acres, **Thompson Vaughn Trustee** Sec. 84 Steve J. Murphy Armando M. Castilleja 114 N. 3rd St. A-809, .757 Acres, Sec. 54 HE& WT Ry Southwest Subdivision, Julio Samaniego, Sr. 1102 Savell St. Lot 1 & 10, 0.56 Ac & 0.24 Ac A-809, 5.2382 Acres, **Tracy Crites** 1 ac facing Cornell St., Sec.54 6.35 ac lots 11-26 **CF Adams & Southwest** Division A-1186, 61.05 Acres, Sec. **Sutton County Hospital** 84 Steven J. Murphy District Survey A-1312, 14.18 Acres, Sec. Roserock Holdings, LLC 3880 Loop 467 76 **August Meckel**

### **CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS:** Holiday Safety

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2** 

Effort aims for safety The Texas Department of Transportation on Nov. 30 said that during last year's holiday season, about one in four deaths on Texas road-

ways was alcohol-related. From Dec. 1 through Jan. 1 this year, TxDOT's "Plan While You Can" campaign is reminding drivers to make planning a sober ride part of their holiday celebrations.

"Tragically, there are many families who experience the holidays without a loved one due to a drunk driver," said **TxDOT Executive Direc**tor James Bass. "We need to remember that each time someone dies or is seriously injured on our roadways, it affects a family and an entire community. Don't make a bad decision that could cause heartache for your family and others. Make a plan to get home safely. It could save lives."

In 2016, there were 2,321 alcohol-related crashes in Texas from Dec. 1 to Jan. 1. Those crashes killed 82 people and seriously injured another 199, TxDOT said.

Fund grows by billions The State Board of

Education on Nov. 30 announced that the Texas Permanent School Fund has reached a record high value of \$41.44 billion.

Already the nation's largest educational endowment, the Texas Permanent School Fund gained \$4.16 billion in value in fiscal year 2016-2017, which ended Aug. 31.

"During the 2018-2019 biennium, the Permanent School Fund is projected to distribute \$2.5 billion to Texas schools," said

State Board of Education member David Bradley, chair of the board's Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund. "This is the largest distribution in the Fund's 163-year history and is \$400 million higher than the distribution made in the 2016-2017 biennium," he added.

Paxton joins court briefs

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Dec. 1 announced that he has joined a 12-state effort led by West Virginia to defend the right of states to prohibit abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy. Paxton said Texas also joined a 20-state coalition led by Wisconsin to prevent discriminatory abortion based on disability, gender and race.

"States have a valid interest in protecting the dignity of human life and defending human life at all stages of development. No society should tolerate brutal abortion procedures or killing an unborn child based on discriminatory beliefs regarding disability, gender or race," Paxton said.

Trees go up in Capitol House Speaker Joe Straus's office on Nov. 27 announced the display of a 23-foot Christmas tree in the House Chamber. On Nov. 30, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announced the display of a 24-foot Christmas tree in the Senate

Ornaments from each of the state's 150 House districts were used to decorate the House tree. Decorations from the Senate's 31 districts were used for the Senate tree.

Chamber.

**Daddy's Home** 

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



**Dogs of C-Kennel** 

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni



**Strange Brew** 

by John Deering

**Strange Brew** by John Deering







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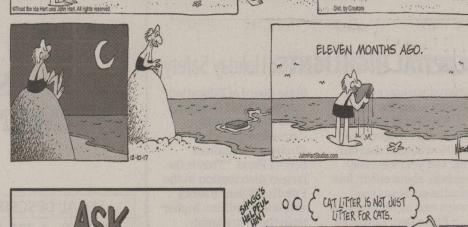
by Dave Coverly Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly











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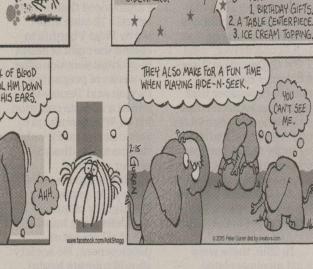
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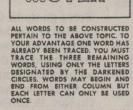
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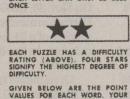
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SEE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 10

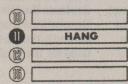


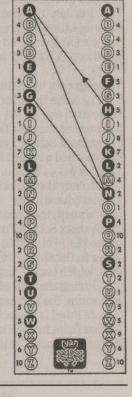
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### **AUCTION**

Cattleman Bull & Female Sale, Noon, Jan. 20, 2018, El Campo Livestock Auction, El Campo, TX – www. cattlemansale.com, Adrian Knight 903-452-7591 or Kelly Conley 903-857-2594.

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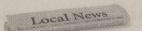
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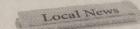
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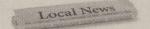


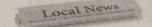
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### 1

### **BRONCOS:**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3 this year's rematch.

Evenly matched, the 12-0 Broncos and 11-1 Bobcats knew what they had to do to come away with the win. Quarterback Kaden Cordell said both team's defense and offense posed a challenge for the other.

"Both teams had really good defenses and had a really good game plan going in," said Cordell. "Childress was the better team tonight and they ended up with the win."
Cordell completed 15
of 35 passes for 242 yards
and one touchdown along
with one interception

during Friday's game.

Overall, Sonora completed 70 plays and Childress 71. The Broncos had 16 first downs compared to the Bobcats' 18 and rushed 119 yards, passed 119 yards and received 15-35 compared to Childress's 200 yards, 242 yards and 16-27 receptions.

An emotional Head

Grayden

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Coach Jeff Cordell applauded his team for their hard work and sportsmanship throughout their exceptional season in a heartfelt postgame talk.

"As I have told you all season, you are not defined by wins and losses", Cordell told his players. "It is what you do on and off of the field that determines who you are. We just played a better ball club tonight. We had a great season and above everything else, I

want you guys to know how much I love you."

Senior Mark Chavez wiped away his own tears as he took over and delivered a moving speech to his teammates.

"Being a part of
'Bronco Nation' is more
than just wins and losses
in football," Chavez said.
"It's a tradition and it's a
lifestyle and we all carry
the tradition. I know
the lower classmen and
everyone here is going
to keep carrying it. And
me, I'm not going to stop
supporting and loving
everybody here. You are
my best friends."

Reflecting over the season, Cordell said it

was an incredible run complete with the perks of having his team featured in a documentary, 12 consecutive wins and the opportunity to coach and work with an exceptional group of men.

"Many people did not think this year's team would have the same success as the 2016 team. We lost a lot of key players to graduation. However, these young men worked and came together and finished the season 12-1. Twelve straight wins is something to be extremely proud about. I feel that these young men 'Left No Doubt' they were one of the best teams in

Sonora's Football Tradition Rich program," Cordell said. "The values that we hopefully instilled in these young men are more important than what actually ended up on the scoreboard after a 48-minute ball game. They learned the value of teamwork, dedication, commitment and sacrifice. Ultimately, words will never be able to truly express the gratitude I have for these players and coaches. This group will always hold a special place in my heart. I was and am blessed beyond measure to get to lead this organization this past season."

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### 6th Grade Band



Members of the Sonora 6th grade band performed a demonstration including familiar holiday tunes Friday, December 1, 2017, at the Sonora Bank. The beats drew a crowd of listeners who gathered in front of the bank.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS





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JOIN US THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH FROM 9AM - 5PM FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE. THERE WILL BE COOKIES & WASSAIL, PLUS CHRISTMAS CAROLING BY SONORA'S CKINDERGARTEN (9AM).

18T GRADERS (10AM) AND 2ND GRADERS (11AM).



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