

THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 116 • Issue 49

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 9, 2004

Sonora Bronco Academic All-District Football 2004

Embre Smith, Austin Wagoner, Anthony Longoria, Hilton Bloodworth, Dustin Creek, Craig Leonard, Justin Northcott, Chris Perez, Cameron Cox, Nash Traylor, Brett McDaniel, Dustin Duhon, J.R. Solis, Brian Payton, Laramie Hall, Aaron Nitsch, Eloy Esquivel, Boomer Galindo, and Evan Gulley

Texas Pecos Trail Region Update

The Texas Pecos Trail Region application committee met in Big Lake on Thursday, December 2nd at the Reagan County Convention Center. Approximately 25 people from most of the 22 counties involved in the Texas Pecos Trail Region were in attendance. Ruth W. Bounds, Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce was in attendance to represent Sonora. Deadlines for submitting support resolutions, letters of support, and press releases were set. All support resolutions and letters of support are due by January 26, 2005, when the next meeting will be held in McCamey.

The Texas Heritage Trail Program provides technical, financial and marketing assistance to areas of Texas to preserve and promote historic resources. The Texas Pecos Trail Region is one of the areas applying to be accepted in the Texas Heritage Trails Program initiated and supported by the Texas Historical Commission. The Texas Heritage Trails Program creates sustainable partnerships among preservation and tourism professionals while marketing heritage driving trails as destinations for travelers. Since 1997, the program has revitalized local economies through increased visitation to cultural and historic sites, and raised the awareness of the importance of historic preservation to the tourism industry.

The Texas Pecos Trail region encompasses 22 counties in West Texas. The region is vast as with everything else in West Texas. There is a lot of information to gather for promoting this region and for completing our application. The Sonora Chamber will be gathering this information for the entire region. Representatives from Crockett County, Edwards County, Upton County, Ector County, Sutton County and Val Verde County will be serving on the application review and completion committee. This is a wonderful example of the partnership that the Heritage Trails Program encourages and promotes.

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce will be requesting local businesses and individuals to write letters of support for the Texas Pecos Trail Program, and will be contacting people immediately after the first of the year. If you should have any questions or suggestions about the Texas Pecos Trail Region you may contact Ruth W. Bounds, at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office and Welcome Center, 325/387-2880 or e-mail soncoc@sonoratx.net.

Sgt. Smith hand delivers memorial quilt to Sonora

by Storie Sharp

Sonora has once again proven that it is a great community full of caring people that have hearts as big as Texas.

On Wednesday, November 10, local citizen, John K. Wilson was watching Fox News when a story caught his attention. A young lady, Sgt. Nicole Smith, serving in Iraq with the 1st Infantry Division had made a quilt and was going to auction it off to assist the children of fallen soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division. This was no ordinary quilt, this was a piece of art made from her bed sheets and pieces of materials that are signed by senior ranking officers, NCOs, three of the top Generals of the division and the Command Sgt. Major, the Governor of Tikrit, the Governor of Dyala and many more. Many soldiers even donated the patches from their uniforms to be sewn into the quilt.

The auction was reported to be on E-bay and would end on November 11, 2004, Veteran's Day.

Quick thinking got Wilson to moving and he began contacting friends who might be interested in donating to such a cause. It only took 26 phone calls to get 24 people committed to bid. Lolabeth and Cleve T. Jones were among the group, and volunteered to commandeer the bidding portion of the project on Ebay. Lolabeth said it was right up to the last minute and someone placed a bid over Sonora's. Refusing to lose, Lolabeth took a leap of faith that she could get the additional funds and she placed the winning bid - \$9,500.

Lolabeth was correct in her assumption that the funds would be raised and soon she was in contact with Sgt. Smith, letting her know that a check was on the way.

Sgt. Smith was more than overwhelmed. She had thought the quilt might bring a \$1,000 or so, but she never dreamed it would bring almost \$10,000.

The Sonora donors were just as excited about obtaining the quilt and a friendship soon formed between Sgt. Smith, John K. and Lolabeth. As luck would have it, Sgt. Smith was going to be on leave in the United States during Thanksgiving and decided that she would personally deliver the special quilt to our little community.

Sgt. Smith and her mother left their home in Pennsylvania and arrived in Sonora on Friday, December 3. They made their grand entrance at "The More the Merrier" Christmas Bazaar, where she was greeted with news cameras and many curious and excited visitors. Carrying a large black duffel bag, Sgt. Smith limped into the center of the room, and slowly unpacked the piece of history.

Sgt. Smith and her mom had a whirlwind tour of our little community while they were here. After visiting with new friends at "The More the Merrier," they woke up early Saturday for interviews and a trip to a real Texas ranch.

A special welcome reception was held at The Church of the Good Shepherd on Saturday, for all the donors and interested parties to visit with Sgt. Smith and see the quilt. E.M. Hobbs quickly built a display rack to showcase the work of art, allowing both sides to be viewed without handling the precious piece. While here, Sgt. Smith signed some extra squares that weren't used for the final piece and gave them to the generous donors, James and Diane Benson, Buck and Susan Bloodworth, L.P. Bloodworth, Bob and Nancy Brockman, Keith and Rosie Butler, Cam and Erika Campbell, Jimmy and Diana Condra, Ronnie and Alice Cox, Nancy Davis, Monty and Sam Dillard, Edward and Carolyn Earwood, Jim and Margaret Garrett, Rusty and Carla Garner, Mike and Debra Hobbs, Max and Jimmie Howorth, Claire Jones, Cleve T and Lolabeth Jones, George and Donna Keese, Bruce and Jessie



Sgt. Nicole Smith personally delivers the historic memorial quilt.

Kerbow, Wanda Neville, Ben and Lenora Pool, Jim and Betty Stephen, Charlotte Wilson, and John and Karen Wilson.

With the quilt is a book which chronicles the process of the project and thoughts from Sgt. Smith as she worked on it. Very special letters explain some of the stories that go along with the quilt. Many of the pages are handwritten, making it even more special for those who get to look through it.

Sgt. Smith shares the following on the project:

"April 2004 was the birth of

See Memorial quilt page 8



Sgt. Smith sews pieces together for the quilt..

Adopt an "Angel" for Christmas

Christmas is not always a time of joy. For some there are no presents piling up under the tree and there is no real hope of Santa coming this year. The Sutton County Child Protective Service Board of Directors wants to make sure that it is a Merry Christmas for all the children in Sutton County. The Angel Tree Project was started many years ago and is a way for citizens of Sonora to provide gifts of new clothing to children in our community who need them.

Individuals, offices and businesses, clubs, Sunday school classes, school classes and families who want to teach their children the lessons of giving at Christmas time can support the Angel Tree project.

If you are interested in participating in the

Angel Tree Project you can pick up an "Angel" at the First National Bank and The Bank and The Bank and Trust. Purchase a gift of new clothing to fit the child described on your angel. The age, sex and clothing sizes are included for your "Angel," no toys please. Return your wrapped gift to the same place you picked up your "angel" by December 14.

Members of the Child Protective Service Board will arrange for families to pick up the gifts before Christmas. If you have any questions, you may contact any member of the board: Naomi Samaniego, Father Bill DuBuisson, Jeryl Fields, Sue Moore, Amy Davenport, Ben Solis, Becky Johnson, Jerry Jimenez, Kay Friess, Candy Davis, Rev. Lewis Allen or Kelly Thorp.



"All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth..."

Excited children were treated to a special visit from Santa Claus on Friday, December 3, 2004, at "The More the Merrier" Christmas Bazaar. Look for ALL the Santa pictures and Letters to Santa in next week's Devil's River News.

Missoula Children's Theatre brings The Frog Prince to Sonora stage

Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT), the national largest touring children's theatre, has been touring extensively for more than 30 years from Montana to Japan. They will visit nearly 1000 communities this year with 30 teams of Tour Actor/Directors. A tour team arrived in Sonora, Texas, on December 6, 2004, and will be here through December 11, 2004. The play this year is *The Frog Prince*.

The *Frog Prince* performance will be on December 11, 2004, at 3:00 p.m. and an evening performance at 7:00 p.m. at the Sonora High School Auditorium. Deep in the royal swamp, a selfish Princess makes a promise to befriend a lonely Frog after he retrieves her golden ball from a well. But what happens when the Princess tries every trick in the book to break her promise? Come and find out as Missoula Children's Theatre and over 50 local students present the enchanting musical *The Frog Prince* at the Sonora High School.

This production is part of Missoula Children's unique international touring project and is presented locally by SCAT, Tedford Jewelry, Radio Shack, The Bank & Trust, and First National Bank of Sonora, The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program, KHOS Radio, The Devil's River News, and Sonora Independent School District. Tickets for the production will be \$8 for adults, \$6 for Senior Citizens and \$4 for students.

For more information call the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program at 325-387-2248.

S.I.D.C presents check to Hudspeth Hospital

by Storie Sharp

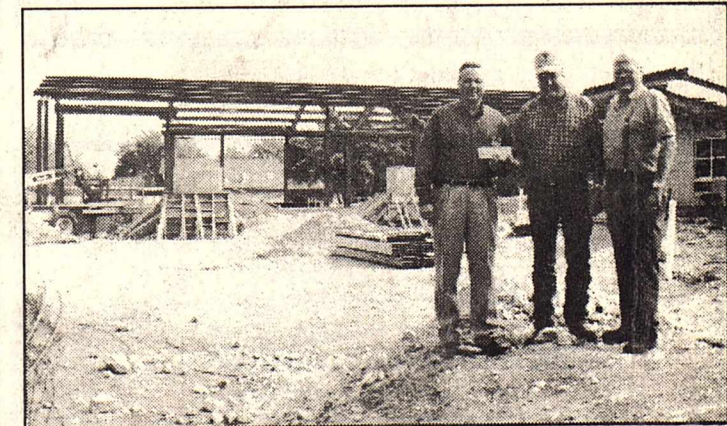
The Sonora Industrial Development Corporation elected new officers, among other business at the regular meeting on Monday, December 6, 2004.

By acclamation, Carl Teaff was re-elected president and John Tedford was re-elected vice president. Cam Campbell was elected as treasurer.

Final action on the SIDC Performance Agreement Contract with Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital was approved. A check for \$25,000 was presented to Keith Butler immediately after the meeting.

Max Howorth reported on the airport committee progress. He informed the board that they were in the process of distributing the surveys to potential airport users to assess what avenues to follow in future improvements.

Carl Teaff reported that the Chamber of Commerce had agreed to take over management of Eaton Hill, with the financial assistance of the SIDC as discussed at previous meetings. A contract will be submitted for both entities to sign and a committee consisting of members



In front of the building site of the new Wellness Center, S.I.D.C. President Carl Teaff (center) and Vice President John Tedford (right) present Keith Butler, Hudspeth Hospital CEO, with a check to assist with new ER equipment.

from both boards of directors and interested parties will be formed. The budget will be presented to the SIDC annually, with quarterly reports, for approval. The transfer will allow for more projects to be expanded on Eaton Hill since the Chamber has more leeway on how to spend tourism money than does the SIDC.

SIDC secretary, Nancy Glasscock, reported that the sales tax deposit was up. She

reported that several attempts to contact the owner of the building that was once a bakery on the edge of town have been unsuccessful. The Dollar General investors were in town recently and visited with Glasscock and Teaff and said that they will be returning soon and were very pleased with the location. Teaff reported that a man from San Antonio had con-

See S.I.D.C page 8

Ask the Historical Society

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer,
Secretary

Q. Do you have the words to "The Night Before Christmas"?

A. 'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hope that St. Nicholas soon would be there.
The Children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar plums danced in their heads.
And mamma in her 'kerchief and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,

Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow,
Gave a luster of midday to objects below,
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name:
"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!
On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, Donner and Blitzen!

To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away, all!

As the dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas, too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof,
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas



Christmas sale on Main Street c. late 1920's.

came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a pedlar just opening his pack.
His eyes - how they twinkled!
His dimples - how merry!
His cheeks were like roses and his nose like a cherry!
His 'droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad little face and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly.

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney

he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh,
To his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew
Like the down of a thistle.

But I heard him exclaim, Ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all,
And to all a good-night."

When this poem was written, the term St. Nick or St. Nicholas was used instead of Santa Claus. Now he has so many different names, St. Nick, Santa Claus, Kris Kringle, Pancho Claus and Father Christmas to name just a few. Thanks to this poem St. Nicholas' fame has spread around the world. Now we see Santa in Japan, China, Korea, the Philippines and all over Europe, Africa, South America and in many places in Europe.

He is cherished in the hearts of children, loved by the commercial world and known around the world.

So many people are concentrating on Santa that many forget to tell another story; that of a young babe, born in a manger. Christmas was named for Him! It is a day to celebrate the birth of Christ and to give thanks for all the blessings He has bestowed upon the Earth. We have a new addition to the Depot decorations this year, a small manger scene that is under

the Christmas Tree. A little reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. I know I'm not being politically correct by not catering to the atheist, agnostics etc. I apologize if any of you are offended. But I do hope that the rest of you will remember to keep the Christ in Christmas. Also don't run up the charge cards too much, and have a safe and happy holiday shopping season.

Rick and I are hoping that our daughter will be able to be with us this year. Her ship has arrived in Charleston after conducting some huge drug busts in the Caribbean. If the weather holds she hopes to be here about the 23rd and we plan on having fun with her whole family. She can only stay a few days as her duties on the ship will require her to leave here the morning of the 26th. I am still looking for someone with a horse, who will put my granddaughter in the saddle and walk the horse around a few times, so she can have her dream of riding a "real Texas horse" come true. Any volunteers out there?

If you have any questions send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950 or give us at call at the office 325-387-5084 Monday, Friday and Saturday mornings.

Available Now thru Noon December 23rd

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Helo and Cutter team coming up "Aces" on counter-drug patrol Made record 5th and 6th drug seizures in single patrol

MIAMI - The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Gallatin, from Charleston, S.C., and its embarked MH-68 Sting Ray crew from Helicopter Interdiction Squadron (HITRON) Jacksonville, Fla., set a new single-patrol record by making their fifth drug seizure Wednesday, then immediately upped the record with a sixth seizure today.

This makes them the first Coast Guard cutter/helicopter combination to achieve unofficial status as counter-drug "Aces" on a single patrol.

"Our incredibly successful patrol, as well as the record drug interdiction results achieved by the entire international counter-drug team, prove that combining the right resources, with the right partnerships, at the right time and place, generate righteous results," said Capt. Michael Parks, Commanding Officer of Gallatin.

The first case started (on a) Wednesday morning when a maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) flying for Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF), based in Key West, Fla., located a suspicious go-fast vessel approximately 140 miles north of Colombia. The Seventh Coast Guard District here was alerted and diverted the cutters Gallatin and Thetis and the Dutch navy vessel Van Der Zaan carrying a U.S. Coast

Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET).

The armed HITRON helicopter on Gallatin was launched to pursue and stop the suspect vessel. During the chase the helicopter observed the suspects throwing bales overboard. After giving visual and verbal orders to stop with no effect, the helicopter crew utilized warning shots and disabling fire to safely stop the vessel.

The Coast Guard LEDET from Van Der Zaan was the first surface asset to arrive and boarded the go-fast to determine its nationality, making this their second seizure in less than a week. The master of the vessel claimed the vessel was Colombian, but that claim could not be confirmed by the Colombian government and the vessel was determined to be without nationality and subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

Upon further inspection the vessel was found with 50 bales of contraband onboard, which was later determined to be cocaine. An additional 12 bales were located in the water and recovered by the crew of Van Der Zaan.

All of the contraband, weighing a total of 4,200 pounds, was removed by Van Der Zaan from the go-fast along with the five suspected smugglers. The contraband and detainees were transferred to

Gallatin and the vessel was destroyed as a danger to navigation.

The more recent case started last night when an MPA flying for JIATF again located a suspicious vessel. The MPA maintained surveillance of the vessel as Gallatin moved into position to pounce with its Sting Ray crew. The helicopter was launched early this morning and persuaded the suspect smugglers to stop after using warning shots after visual and verbal orders were ignored.

While stopped, the crew of the go-fast was observed dumping packages before a boarding team could arrive from Gallatin. Once on scene, the boarding team attempted to determine the nationality of the vessel, which was again determined to be without nationality based on the information available from the boat and its operators.

No contraband was found on the vessel, but five bales were located in the water immediately around the boat.

Meanwhile, Gallatin conducted a search along the go-fast's earlier path and found an additional 152 "bricks" of cocaine. In total, 380 pounds of cocaine and four suspected smugglers were taken into custody.

Since Oct. 2, Gallatin and its HITRON Jacksonville crew, working with U.S., U.K., and Dutch forces, has helped seize more than 24,000 pounds of cocaine with an import value of \$768 million and detained 27 suspected smugglers who face prosecution in the United States.

The U.S. Coast Guard is a military, maritime, multi-mission service within the Department of Homeland Security dedicated to protecting the safety and security of America.

Tina Viglietta, daughter of Rick and JoAnn Palmer, is part of the crew on board the Coast Guard Cutter Gallatin.

Christmas Shopping

I noticed that she had a pen and paper and as our family sat around talking she would jot down some notes on the paper. Later on that day I overheard my daughter-in-law asking my wife about different members of our family and what they needed or what would they like. The next day she asked if we would keep the children while she went Christmas shopping. As she left I realized that the people on her list were important and she loved and cared about them and she wanted to give them nice gifts. Observing that situation reminded me that God loves us very much and wants to give us good things but He is also faced with the problem of giving us what we want and what we need. Actually, God does both. First we needed a way for our sins to be forgiven and our relationship to God restored. He did that with a very special gift of His own son Jesus Christ (John 3:16 & 4:10). Not only does God give us spiritual gifts like the Holy Spirit, (Luke 11:13) and others but he also gives us food and provisions for living. (Matthew 6:25,26). This Holiday season remember that God loves us very much. Make sure you have received His gifts to you. See you in Church next Sunday.

Brother J

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Son, brother, husband, father.
Tall, windmill climber, wild bull rider.
Welder, driller, roper, farmer.
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Granddaddy, friend, improviser, inventor.
Student of life, teacher and mentor.
Join with us and celebrate with joy Number 80 in the journey of this still young cowboy.
A birthday gathering at "The Farm"
Sunday, December 12, 2004
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
610 County Road 107 ■ Eldorado, Texas
No gifts, please (other than your presence!)

Senior Center News
Dec. 13 - Bingo!
Dec. 14 - City Council Meeting. 2:00 p.m. CEAP energy assist. at 11:00 a.m.
Dec. 15 - Van to San Angelo! Medicals come first! Call 387-3941.
Dec. 17 - Birthday party for December. Noon. Blood pressure checks with Intrepid Home Health at 11:30 a.m.

Senior Center Menu
Dec. 13 - Beef stew with vegetables, sweet peas, crackers, peaches, chocolate pudding, milk.
Dec. 14 - Baked chicken, fried rice, zucchini squash with tomatoes, peach cobbler, juice, milk.
Dec. 15 - Steakfingers with gravy, baked potato, peas, biscuit, sliced tomato, hash cake, milk.
Dec. 16 - Pork chops with gravy, diced potatoes, sliced carrots, coleslaw, fruit cocktail, milk.
Dec. 17 - Cheese enchiladas, pinto beans, coleslaw, fruit salad with topping, milk.

NEW HOURS: Mon. - Fri 7:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon.
\$1.50 donation is suggested for those 60+ and \$4.00 for others. *Menu is subject to change.*

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Call today for an appointment.
Don't forget to purchase your Gift
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325-650-1058 or 325-387-5585

JOIN US TODAY! Open House

December 8, 2004

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

We will be serving refreshments.

After 1:00 p.m. enjoy our
hourly drawings for door prizes.

Come by and meet Jim Bob and Glynda

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and
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We would love to hear from you.

You can order now for your holiday needs whether
it be for yourself or as a gift. Gift baskets are available.

Just call 387-2888 to place your orders;

thank you for your purchase; enjoy.

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dishes at their best. Your friends and family will think
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Fruit Elegance "A Taste of Eden" - Heat and pour over
ham, pork roast, or chicken. Great with breakfast, too. A
real fruit treat. "Adam's favorite"\$7.95

**Dulce Caliente "A Taste of a South American Summer
Night"** - Just like it's name "Sweet & Hot". Not your usual
hot sauce. Great used as a dip or as a topping for most
everything. "Your tongue will love you"\$7.95

**Under the Sea "A Tangy taste for Your Catch from the
Deep"** - The ultimate seafood accompaniment whether it be
fried, boiled, broiled, grilled, baked, etc. My favorite is with
coconut shrimp. "Ahoi mate"\$6.95

Notes of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me since I was diagnosed with leukemia three weeks ago. So many family and friends have come together to support us.

Thank you for the bake sale in Sonora and the softball Tournament in Ozona held for my benefit to help with expenses. A special thanks to Harvey Sanchez and Tommy Van Winkle who put it all together so quickly. Keep us in your prayers. A special thanks from Mike Sanchez and family.

Thanks again, Fannie, Rick, Chris & Jon Sanchez from Ozona

Only our Lord God knows our hearts and how we feel for the loss of our loved one. There are no words to express our thanks to so many people who showed their love for the family with cards, flowers, food, money and prayers. The Rev. Don Longoria and Lighthouse Community Church went beyond their call for our family. Their love for God was truly expressed in every way and more. The service was so beautiful; we could feel God's presence.

Our thanks to Mrs. Nilda Hernandez, Rev. Tony Gonzalez, San Angelo; Pastor Zaragoza Esquivel; Mr. Ed Newton; Cekar Leija, Casa Grande, Arizona; First Baptist Church, Mrs. Brenda Sanchez and Patty Covarrubiaz. Our prayer is, May the Blessing's of our Lord God fall on each one of you.

God is Love,
The Family of Rev. Rick Sanchez

Dear Sonora,

We would like to express our gratitude for the wonderful way in which you received Kody and Clarissa into our community. The elementary school personnel and those at the Busy Bee Day Care were especially concerned and helpful with the children. A big thanks to those who have asked about them and supported us in many wonderful ways while they were in our home. These children have gone to Arizona to live with their respective fathers. We are very happy for the children and the prospects for their futures are very bright. We thank you for being a very friendly, loving, and caring community.

Sincerely, Jerry and Linda Jackson

Thanks to the children and parents of Sonora Elementary School, Operation Christmas Child 2004 was a huge success. Because of your generosity, we were able to fill 127 shoe boxes with new gift items to send to needy children in foreign countries. We would like to extend a special thank-you to Schlumberger Co., and Mrs. Nancy Davis for donating the money needed for shipping. We appreciate you allowing your child to share Christmas with less fortunate children around the world!

Thank you and Happy Holidays!
Sonora Elementary School

Note of thanks to the Sonora Chamber of Commerce

The Friends of the Historic Sonora Main Street Program would like to express our appreciation to the Sonora Chamber of Commerce for a successful "The More the Merrier." It was a great day for our businesses and other independent marketing folks. This success is due to all the hard work from Ruthie, Donna, and the Chamber directors. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Shop Sonora!

Words can not adequately express our gratitude for the overwhelming show of support that our family has received since Emily's birth and throughout her ongoing stay in the hospital. The phone calls, prayers, flowers and visits have been greatly appreciated and have meant a lot to us during this difficult time. Thank you so much to everyone who attended the brisket plate sale in Emily's honor; we were touched by the number of people who attended and those who just dropped off donations. We would like to say a very special thank you to those who organized, served or donated items for the sale and we would like to thank Carmen Garcia for donating a quilt that is to be raffled off.

We are truly blessed to be surrounded by so many caring individuals.

Protecting Your Family From Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Submitted by Kelly L Thorp
County Extension Agent-FCS
Texas Cooperative Extension

What is odorless, colorless and tasteless but can be very harmful to you if present in your home? Carbon monoxide (CO). Carbon monoxide poisoning occurs when you breathe in enough CO that it begins to replace the oxygen in your blood. This article contains some basic information about carbon monoxide and ways to detect and prevent high CO levels.

The incomplete burning of fuels that contain carbon, such as wood, fuel oil, natural gas and gasoline, produces carbon monoxide. In your home, the build-up of carbon monoxide may be a result of your gas-burning stove or water heater not being properly vented. It may also occur if you use non-electric space heaters for warmth. Another way CO may get into your home is from an automobile in your garage. If you allow your vehicle to run while enclosed in your garage, you are not only making your garage a dangerous place to be but also may be allowing CO to seep into your home.

Though you may not be able to see, taste or smell carbon monoxide, there are some common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning that you may experience. Symptoms of CO poisoning may include headaches, dizziness or nausea. If the exposure continues, you may lose consciousness and even die. A blood test is necessary to diagnose carbon monoxide poisoning.

CO poisoning can be hard to identify since the symptoms can also be caused by several other illnesses. If you think you have been exposed to carbon monoxide, your health professional can test you for poisoning. If you are suffering from

CO poisoning, treatment for the condition is available.

Preventing carbon monoxide build-up in your home involves making sure that all of your fuel burning equipment is properly vented to the outside. This may require your bringing a professional into your home to ensure that all vents are working properly. Also remember that your automobile, lawnmower and other gasoline-powered equipment should only be left running outside of your garage.

Several commercial carbon monoxide alarms are on the market and readily available at local retail stores. Make sure the alarm you select has the Consumer Product Safety Commission and Underwriters' Laboratory seals of approval. An alarm that has a digital read-out is recommended.

Also, be sure your alarm may be easily tested and reset. Alarms should be placed near all sleeping areas in the home. Alarms are now required to sound at CO levels of 70 parts per million (ppm) and are prohibited from sounding or indicating at levels below 30 ppm. When and if the alarm makes an audible sound, you should get out of the house immediately and leave a door open for ventilation. Go to a neighbor's house and call your local fire department to report it.

We all spend a lot of time in our homes, especially during the winter months. Your awareness of risk for carbon monoxide poisoning will ensure that your time in your home is safe and healthy. For more information, contact your County Extension Agent or go to <http://fcs.tamu.edu/housing/iaq/copoisoning.htm>.

"The More the Merrier" successfully starts shopping season; Santa Bucks Auction to offer more great gift buying opportunities

SONORA

Chamber of Commerce

by Ruthie Bounds, Sonora
Chamber of Commerce
Executive Director

The More the Merrier Christmas Bazaar was a great success, thanks to all of our wonderful vendors and volunteers. There are so many people whom we want to say thank you to: The Westside Lions Club, Virgil Polocek, Mattie Nix, Storie Sharp, Bens Solis, Rufugio Martinez, Miss Sutton County, Courtney Caruthers, Little Miss Sutton County, Felicia Farley, Diane Jacoby and Jarrod Percifull. A special Thank-you to T&C Village Market for donating the wonderful door prizes. They were absolutely great and all the lucky recipients were so excited. Also we send our appreciation to Jo Ann Palmer for the beautiful hand-crocheted doll that was donated for the benefit of the Sonora Senior Citizens Center. The Christmas Carolers were such a treat; it always moves my heart to hear these wonderful Christmas Carols sung in such a traditional manner. Our carolers were members of several different local church choirs who came together to sing for everyone during the lunch hour. I think they were instrumental in putting us all in the Christmas Spirit. What better gift could you give to your community?

We are busy at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office gathering up donations for the Santa Bucks Auction. We already have some wonderful gifts donated, such as: a beautiful Christmas wreath by Lisa's Flowers & Gifts valued at \$35.00, two beautiful statuette of horses by Red Horse Feeds each valued at \$70.00, a portable DVD player by The

Bank & Trust with the value of \$114.00, two 18-hole golf fees by the Sonora Golf Club valued at \$18.00 each, four (4) meals by the Sonora Dairy Queen each valued at \$12.00, and many more. The Santa Bucks Auction will be held at the Sutton County Civic Center on December 16, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. There will be a live auction as well as a silent auction. The live auction will feature two special sections; one for senior citizens and one for children. We look forward to seeing you all at the Santa Bucks Auction.

The Christmas lights in downtown Sonora look absolutely beautiful. The Sonora Chamber of Commerce and the Farmer's Daughter would like to apologize for the lights not being up sooner, but with all the wet weather it was a little difficult. We all know that electricity and water don't mix. Sonora Chamber of Commerce takes so much pride in our community and we are proud to help the community out by organizing the installation of the white lights outlining most of the downtown buildings and the Sutton County Courthouse lawn as well as the white Christmas trees on the courthouse lawn. We want everyone to enjoy the lights and hope that they give our community members some joy.

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce still has some poinsettias for sale after The More the Merrier Christmas Bazaar. The proceeds of the sale of the poinsettias will go to benefit the local programs that the Sonora Chamber of Commerce provides for Sonora. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, please contact the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office & Welcome Center at 325/387-2880, or come by the Welcome Center at 205 Hwy 277 North.



A "community choir" fills the Civic Center with holiday tunes at "The More the Merrier" Christmas Bazaar.



Shoppers browse through the many vendors at "The More the Merrier," searching for unique Christmas ideas.



Mrs. Claus and Miss Sutton County, Courtney Caruthers, enjoy a moment of holiday cheer at "The More the Merrier" Christmas Bazaar.

Sonora students awarded for Fire Prevention posters

The Sonora Volunteer Fire Department recognized lucky winners with ribbons and certificates for their entries in the Fire Prevention Poster Contest. All Sonora students were encouraged to participate. This year's winners were:

Pre-K/Kindergarten Division



1st - Juan Jimenez; 2nd - Victoria Del Real (not pictured); 3rd - Sky Jennings

First/Second Grade Division



1st - Richard Gomez; 2nd - Pedro Campa; 3rd - Kaitlyn Gibbens

Third/Fourth Grade Division



1st - Ashley Perales; 2nd - Logan Smith; 3rd - Valerie Ramirez

Fifth/Sixth Grade Division

1st - Kallie Humphrey; 2nd - Nicole Lipham; 3rd - Maria Arauja

Seventh Grade Division

1st - Kayla Webb

Happy Birthday

December 9

Chris Lopez, Rose Hooper, Amber Vasquez, Virgil Polocsek, Yolisma Cardona

December 10

David Lopez, Tommie Sanchez, Amberlie Kinder, Tyler Edmondson, Kristen Hardgrave Kaufman, Melanie Smith, Amy Hernandez, Steven Lozano

December 11

Carl Weaver, Sam Taylor, Genaro Perez III, Deyanira Alvizo

December 12

Tesa Joy, Emily Cory, Lupe Buitron, Richard Bernal, Kassaundra Tyler, Connie Castilleja, Mary Mauldin, Kenzie Perez, Jared Hinsley, Aaron Hinsley

December 13

Valerie Lopez, Laura Bedwell, Andres Chavez, Scottie Moore, Michael Harris, Bobby Dickenson, Dianne Luckie, T.J. Thorp, Isabel Salas, Charlotte Luna

December 14

Lisa Price, Tim Roberts, Shelby Randolph, Randy Mabry, Billie Renfro, Vicky Garza, Burnell Alexander, Gayle Smart

December 15

Dustin Neff, Chris Neal, Sean Matchus, Dawn Cahill

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7th Grade Lady Colts Rally to Win

by Nancy Glasscock

In the first half of the Lady Colts' basketball game against their counterparts from Mason, the gals from Sonora couldn't as the saying goes 'hardly buy a basket.' The first period score was only 5-2 in Mason's favor. The roundball just wasn't cooperating for the team in red and white. Coach Jennings also substituted early to try to find the right mix of ball handlers on the court. During the second half, Sonora started to show that while they were down, don't count them out. Cassie Krieg had eight points, Maraya Dunn, four points, and Amy Hernandez had two key free throws in the first half. Sonora started drawing closer at the break with a score of 11-8 in Mason's favor. At the beginning of the third quarter, the Lady Colts started an aggressive full court press. Sonora caught on fire in the third period with twelve points. Mason got the ball across mid-court only once during the quarter and that was on a blocking foul. Mason's only two points in the quarter came on two free throws. The Lady Colts pulled away and never looked back to defeat the 7th grade Mason team 32-21. Maraya Dunn led the scoring with 16 points and several key steals. Cassie Krieg had ten points plus eight assists.

The Lady Colts' next game will be in Wall next Monday. Individual Scoring: Maraya Dunn -16; Cassie Krieg - 10; Sara Gillit - 4; Bianca Trevino - 2

Bronco Basketball starts season with win over Christoval

by Maray Cearley

Sonora Bronco Basketball got under way with a big win over the Christoval Cougars on Tuesday, November 30, 2004. At the half, Sonora led only by two, but the second half proved to be all Sonora, as the final score was 78-46 in favor of Sonora.

There were five Broncos in double figures. Austin Wagoner and Clint Cearley each had 16, Embre Smith, Cullen Parker and Evan Gulley each added 10. Other scorers were Dustin Creek 7, Steven Duhon 3, Craig Leonard 2, Justin Northcott 2 and Pete Trujillo 2. Wagoner and Cearley each sunk four 3-pointers, while Gulley had two.

Leading rebounders were Duhon with nine and Creek with seven.

Ballinger Tournament proves tough for Broncos

by Maray Cearley

Sonora's first round action of the Ballinger Basketball Tournament found them matched against the hometown Bearcats. Sonora led several times during the game, but couldn't overcome costly turnovers. The final score was Ballinger 45 Sonora 30.

Leading the Broncos was senior Clint Cearley, with 16 points. Other scorers were Austin Wagoner and Steven Duhon each with 5, while Embre Smith and Evan Gulley each added two.

Defensively, Cearley and Duhon each had six rebounds, and Cearley had four steals.

The Broncos received a bye in the second round and automatically advanced.

On Friday, the Broncos faced Colorado City. Sonora led the entire game except the last six minutes when, once again, turnovers and fouls plagued them. The game was a lot closer than the first round. The Wolves went into a stall mode which forced the Broncos to foul. The final score: Colorado City 70, Sonora 58.

Cearley led with a season high 23 points and 15 rebounds. Smith finished with eight, S. Duhon and Gulley each had five and Wagoner and Craig Leonard each had four. Pete Trujillo scored three and Dustin Creek, Dustin Duhon and Justin Northcott all finished with two points each. The Broncos shot 12 of 19 for 63% from the Free-throw line. Trujillo and S. Duhon each had a 3-point basket.

On Saturday, the Broncos played a nemesis, the Grape Creek Eagles.

Sonora trailed the entire game, but never gave up, pulling within one and two points several times in the last two minutes.

Sonora seemed to have a lid on their basket, because nothing would fall in. They found out how important free throws are, making only 8 of 18.

Sophomore Gulley was the leading scorer with 9 points, followed by Cearley with six and Wagoner with five. Creek and S. Duhon each had three Trujillo and D. Duhon one. From the 3-point arc, Gulley had two and Wagoner one.

Cearley, Wagoner and S. Duhon were leading rebounders. Sonora lost 31-36, but they now know they can compete in district play.

After the game, Cearley received All-Tournament Team Honors. This week the Broncos play Menard and in the Ozona Tournament. Go Broncos!!!

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International / Global Missions Offering Day

Sunday, December 19 • 10:45 a.m.

Annual Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24 • 6:30 p.m.

Worship after Christmas

Sunday, December 26 • 10:45 a.m.

(only service on this day)

Regular Weekly Schedule

Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Bible Study • 10:45 a.m. Worship

5:00 p.m. Ladies' Bible Study • 6:30 p.m. Worship

Mondays: 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study • 8:00 p.m. Men's Emmaus Group

Wednesdays: 3:15 p.m. King's Kids (K-4th Gr.) • 5:00 p.m. Ladies' Emmaus Group

6:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

7:00 p.m. Team Kid - Preschoolers & Children

Youth Group at Youth Center

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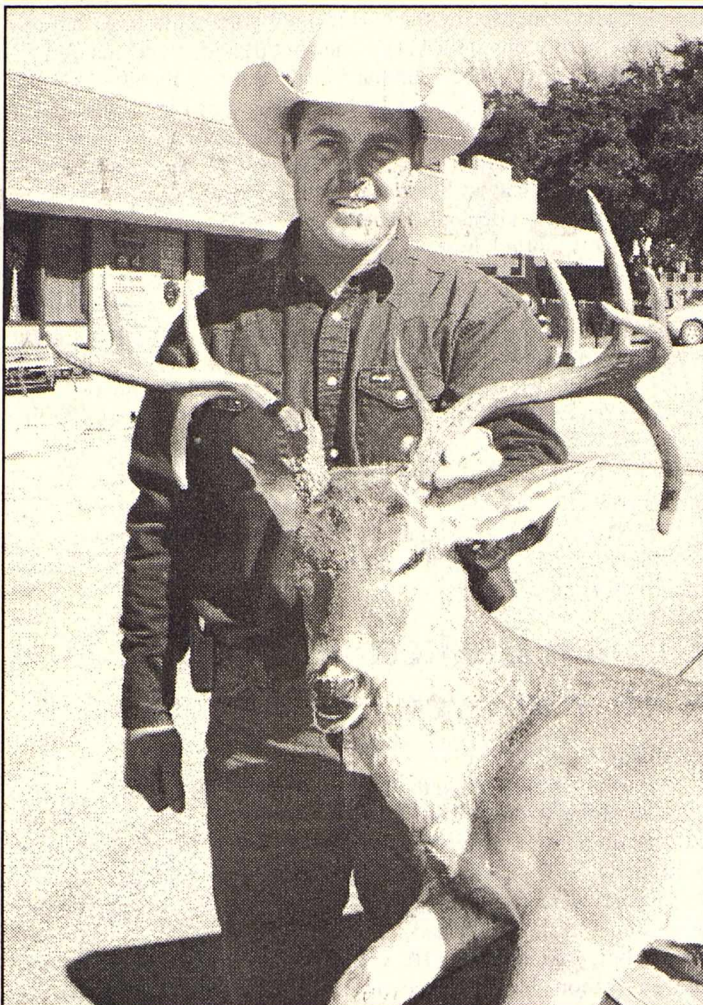
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Who's Baggin' the BIG BUCKS



Brian Blackbird shows off this 5 1/2 year old big buck that was killed by Milton Black of Sonora on Monday, November 29, 2004, while hunting on the Blackbird's "Rocky Ford" Ranch. The buck had 11 points, with double drop tines and a 22" inside spread.

Sutton County 4-H Forecast

Christmas Party & Dance

The 4-H party will be at the Civic Center on Tuesday, December 14, 2004 starting at 6:00 p.m. Club officers are each asked to bring two (2) dozen cookies. The club will furnish hot chocolate. Everyone is invited to bring your favorite CDs. Please bring a canned good as entry to the dance. These will be donated to the Ministerial Alliance Food Basket drive.

December 9, at 4:00 p.m. The third will be a showmanship clinic on December 16. More details will be available at a later date.

Rifle Project

The Rifle Project has begun meeting on Mondays and Tuesdays. For more details contact Randy Knight or Sherry Ingham. Participants must be 3rd grade or older.

Community Service for December

Sutton County 4-H club elected to participate in a community service project which assists the local Catholic church. It will consist of providing animals for a petting zoo on December 12th. Their event will be from 1-5 p.m. Our job is to assemble panels, deliver the animals, and pick them up. Please call if you have gentle animals which can be used that day.

Record Books

For those of you thinking about completing a Record Book, contact the Extension office. Record books are very useful, especially once you get ready to apply for scholarships because they contain all your involvements, learning experiences, leadership, community service and project growth.

District 10 Roundup Survey

The District 10 4-H Program Development Committee is interested in getting feedback from youth, volunteers, parents, and agents concerning the time of year of some of our District contests. A survey has been developed to obtain feedback. It basically asks for your input on whether to hold district judging contests and Roundup in the Spring or Fall; your thoughts on holding both Roundup and judging contests on the same day; and offering the events on week days.

Project Visits

Pascual Hernandez is trying to visit all of the livestock projects, but he may have missed some. If he has not been by, and you would like some help or input from him, please call the Extension office and set up a time.

Lamb and Goat Clinics

The second of a trio of clinics for December will be a "tracking demonstration" conducted by Mr. Russel Kott on

Prescribed Burning Workshop to be held in Eldorado

by: Steve Byrns, (325) 653-4576, s-byrns@tamu.edu

ELDORADO - Texas Cooperative Extension's Schleicher County office has scheduled a prescribed burning workshop from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Dec. 13 in Eldorado's Schleicher County Civic Center.

The civic center is located one mile south of Eldorado on Hwy 277.

Three Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be available for individuals with a pesticide applicators license.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor, superintendent of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in Sonora and coordinator of the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association.

Taylor will discuss topics that focus on planning and conducting a prescribed burn, giving attention to weather, vegetation management and legal requirements.

A hands-on field training session is scheduled after lunch, weather permitting.

There is no registration and no lunch provided. For more information, call Scott Edmonson at (325) 853-2132.

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Oil & Agribusiness

Boost Livestock With Nutrient Supplements in Winter



submitted by Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County

Livestock graze pastures all year long, but the nutrient composition changes with the seasons, and fall and winter diets are generally low in protein, minerals and vitamins, and thus usually inadequate for grazing animals. Once grass has stopped growing and loses its green lush appearance, it becomes coarse and fibrous. Crude protein content of grass falls, and the forage becomes harder to digest.

Animals consuming diets low in protein lose their appetite, develop a rough appearance, become weak and possess lowered resistance to disease. Additionally, their overall growth and reproduction may be reduced. Some people think animals can simply consume more to make up the needed nutrients. But, since the

grass is slowly digested, consumption is lowered and the animal receives even less nutrients. If protein is added to this type of diet, digestion will increase, and eventually the animal will eat more.

Protein supplements are available in many types and forms, such as cubes, cakes, and liquids. Each will vary in nutrient composition and concentration, and the producer should be aware of the protein amount. Since protein is required for growth and milk production, protein requirements for developing and lactating females are higher than for dry, pregnant ones.

Also, the amount of dry matter (energy), minerals, vitamins and protein should all be considered when a deficiency occurs. In years when energy is low, some grain should be fed as an energy supplement along with protein to make up the difference.

Rig Locations as of December 3, 2004

- Sutton**
 Dominion; 9700' Arco-Phillips #2306, Patterson Drilling.
 Range Production; 9500' Wess Hill #16, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8800' Winnie R Aldwell Trust - K - #3, Patterson Drilling.
 New Dominion; 8600' Mayfield - 34 - #17, Key Energy.
 New Dominion; 9000' Shurley RR - 2A - #4, Patterson Drilling.
 New Dominion; 8700' Tom Mitchell - 1 - #9, Patterson Drilling.
 Dominion; 8600' Mayfield - 34 - #19, Patterson Drilling.
 New Dominion; 7000' Canyon Ranch #1061X, Patterson Drilling.
 New Dominion; 6850' Canyon Ranch #1133S, Key Energy.
 New KCS Resources; 6700' Frank Reed - 117 - #17, Patterson Drilling.
 New Dominion; 6200' Meckel #82, Patterson Drilling.
Crockett
 Endeavor Energy Res.; 15000' Parker - 100 - #1 H, Big Dog Drilling.
 Bluegrass Energy; 7000' Simpson Canyon #1028, Adobe Drilling.
 New Devon Energy; 9200' Ruby Helbing - 25 - #6 RE, Patterson Drilling.
 New Approach; 9000' JR Bailey - A - #508, Nabors Drilling.
 New Approach; 9000' JR Bailey - A - #302, Nabors Drilling.
 New Anadarko E&P; 9000' Meybin - 4 - #18R, Patterson Drilling.
 New Encore; 8200' Jones Ranch - A - #2027, Patterson Drilling.
Terrell
 Riata Energy Inc; 19000' Mitchell #1201, Lariat Drilling.
 Riata Energy Inc; 12000' Mitchell #6301, Lariat Drilling.
 Newfield; 15000' Poulter #3502, Patterson Drilling.
 EOG Resources; 9500' Noelke - 31 - #1H, Nabors Drilling.
 New Nuevo Texas Inc; 11000' Mitchell - 8 - #9, Patterson Drilling.
Edwards
 New Devon Louisiana; 3600' Tom W. Epperson #4, Key Energy.
Val Verde
 Newfield; 13000' Whitehead - A - #7908, Patterson Drilling.
 Beeson Energy Inc.; 2450' Great Shaman #1, Hinz Drilling.
 New Chesapeake; 7000' Bunger - 30 - #8, Patterson Drilling.
Schleicher
 New TXP, Inc.; 7100' Meador - A - #5, Heart Land Drilling.
 New Pogo Producing Co.; 6900' West - 47 - #2, Heart Land Drilling.
 New Fuller Prod. Inc.; 6800' Brooks #2, Heart Land Drilling.

For more rig locations call 1-800-627-9785 or go online to www.rigdata.com.



Texas Cooperative Extension offers continuing education course in San Angelo

by: Steve Byrns,

SAN ANGELO - Private pesticide users can earn five continuing education units at an upcoming right-of-way-management course held here Dec. 7.

Hosted by Texas Cooperative Extension, the "Vegetation Management for Right-of-Way Applications Course" will be held at the Texas A&M University System Research and Extension Center. The center is located north of San Angelo on U.S. Hwy 87.

Course registration begins at 8 a.m. The program runs from 8:20 a.m. to 3 p.m.

John Begnaud, Extension horticulturist in Tom Green County and a course coordinator, said the training is open to anyone with a valid Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide applicators license.

"Anyone can attend who needs Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units, but we have specifically tailored this particular training for persons who con-

duct maintenance work along roadways," Begnaud said.

Educational topics, speakers and CEU values are:

- "Roadside/Right-of-way Mesquite Control," Dr. Darrell Ueckert, range researcher, San Angelo;

- "Right-of-way Plant Identification," Steve Nelle, range scientist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, San Angelo;

- "Vegetation Management Practices for Roadsides," Jim Crosby, BASF Corp., Georgetown;

- "Herbicides Mode of Action," Pascual Hernandez, Extension agent, Sutton County;


- "Non-Target Herbicide Damage," Begnaud; and

- "Laws and Regulations," Corey Pence, Texas Department of Agriculture, San Angelo.

The course is free as is the on-site noon meal. No reservations are necessary.

For more information contact Begnaud at (325) 659-6528.

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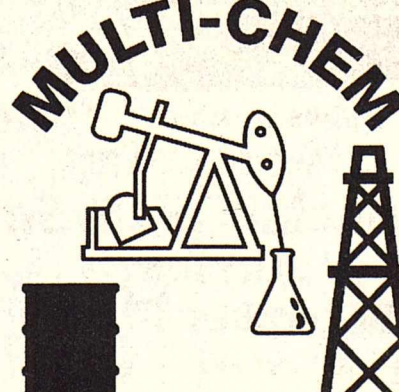
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