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AZ wrests school away from polygamous board

The State of Arizona will take over operation of the Colorado City Unified School District, located in the state's largest polygamous community, beginning January 1, 2006, following a settlement last week between the Arizona Attorney General's Office and CCUSD board of trustees. The agreement was ratified Monday by the Arizona State Board of Education.

The settlement was precisely what state lawmakers had in mind when, earlier this year, they crafted a bill allowing the state to seize control of mismanaged school districts. And, it was the CCUSD school system that prompted the debate in the first place.

The troubled school district came under increased scrutiny in the past couple of years after teacher paychecks began bouncing. It was soon learned that school trustees had purchased an airplane for themselves and school administrators, but could not find a way to pay the district's teachers.

A subsequent investigation into alleged corruption at the school found that the school's per pupil expenditures far exceeded the state average, with much of the spending coming in areas outside the classroom.

Compared to surrounding school systems, the spending was considered exorbitant. Fueling the claims was the fact that the school's personnel list included a superintendent, two accountants, a principal and vice principal, a psychologist and a chef.

Compared to Schleicher County ISD which has 600 students and a budget of \$5.15 million, CCUSD has an average daily attendance of 297 students, with

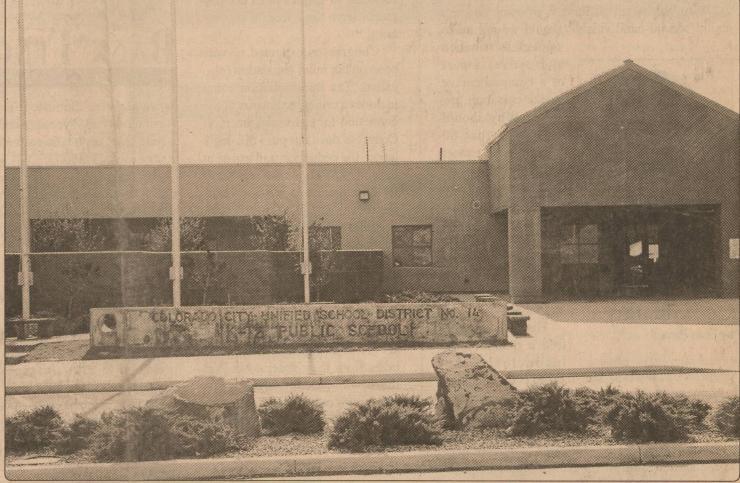
no athletic programs, and a budget of \$5,005,355.00.

The school's critics claimed the district was nothing more than a cash cow, a conduit through which taxpayer dollars could be funneled to the FLDS Church and its prophet Warren Jeffs. The entire school board and all the school's administrators are members of the fundamentalist Mormon sect that still practices polygamy as taught by the church's leaders. While most of the school's teachers are not members of the FLDS church, almost all of the support staff, many of whom earn more than the teachers, do follow the teachings of Warren Jeffs.

Allegations against the school and its administrators became so serious that armed law enforcement agents raided the facility on May 24, 2005. Representatives of the Arizona Attorney General's office seized thousands of documents and a number of school computers.

Shortly after the raid, school officials began fighting back. They took to the courts and opposed Arizona's takeover of the school district. But, when at least one school administrators made it clear he would invoke his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and refuse to testify, the school board had little choice but to capitulate.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction must now appoint a receiver to step in and administer the district. CCUSD Superintendent Alvin Barlow has agreed to retire by the end of the year and CCUSD business manager Jeffery Jessop will be required to resign prior



The district offices of the Colorado City Unified School District #14 in Colorado City, AZ where state officials take over after investigators found the school system to be "grossly mismanaged."

Cable TV rates heading higher in Eldorado

The price of cable TV is going up in Eldorado. That news came last week when Cebridge Connections notified Mayor John Nikolauk that the company will raise its rate for basic cable service by 11.14 percent.

Eldorado customers who subscribe to basic cable will see their bills go up from \$17.95 per month to \$19.95 beginning

The company cited increases in the cost of electricity and gasoline as contributing factors to the price hike, as well as the increasing cost of programming.

Robert Montalvo, who wrote to the mayor on behalf of Cebridge, noted that the company will not be increasing the rate of expanded basic service, which will hold steady at \$22.00 per month.

Cebridge Connections operates in Eldorado under a franchise agreement with the city. However, local officials have little control over the price of cable TV. The city's right to regulate cable services ended several years ago when Congress deregulated the telecommunications industry.

Court grants continuance on YFZ environmental hearing

A state administrative hearing judge granted a continuance on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2005, so that representatives of YFZ Land LLC might have more time to prepare for a hearing on environmental violations at the YFZ Ranch near Eldorado.

The company ran afoul of state environmental regulations in 2004, shortly after it was learned that a group of fundamentalist Mormons from the Utah/Arizona border area had purchased the 1,691-acre ranch and were building a polygamous community there.

Violations ranging from collapsed septic tanks, to operating a public water system without a permit and illegal burning of refuse, were filed against the ranch as TCEQ investigators uncovered more than a dozen individual infractions during a multi-month investigation.

Word reached Eldorado last week that YFZ officials were trying to reach

an agreement with state regulators prior to Thursday's scheduled hearing. The judge's continuance would seem to indicate that the two sides are close to an agreement.

The story of environmental problems began at the YFZ Ranch shortly after a man named David Allred purchased property near Eldorado. At the time Allred said he was planning to build a hunting retreat. It took locals a couple of months to figure out that Allred was fronting the purchase for the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, a sect of the Mormon church that continues to practice polygamy.

The church's leader, Prophet Warren Jeffs is a fugitive from justice. He is wanted in Arizona on charges of Sexual Conduct with a minor and by federal authorities for unlawful flight to avoid

State gearing up for possible winter wildfire siege

State fire control leaders continue to gear up for what could be a long winter wildfire siege for the state's firefighters.

Additional in-state and out-of-state personnel and equipment resources, including six dozers, six engines and a mechanic truck from Wisconsin, have been ordered and mobilized to strategic areas to bolster the state's firefighting arsenal. Critically dry fuels (vegetation) exist across much of the state, a fact evidenced by several large wildfires that have already occurred. With no significant change in the weather pattern in sight, fire control leaders are planning for the worst but

hoping for the best. Grasses, weeds and other vegetation in much of the state lie dead and dormant from a combination of drought and hard freezes, according to Mike Dunivan, fire behavior analyst with the Texas Forest Service. Areas hit by hard frosts earlier in the year are where the lion's share of the known large fires occurred, but essentially all of the state is now at risk, due to the presence of the dead vegetation, said

"Vegetation is critically dry in much of the state," said Dunivan. "Add winds and low humidity during the afternoon prime burning period, and you have a recipe for fast-spreading, dangerous wildfires. Most of the large wildfires that already occurred statewide resulted from this deadly combination of wildfire ingredients."

The fire analyst noted that the Texas Forest Service sent an advisory to fire departments in Texas warning of the possibility of dangerous fire behavior during periods of dry, windy

weather and the need for diligent use of fire safety practices and protective gear. Already this year, two volunteer firefighters suffered serious burns upon being overrun by wildfires, and another firefighter lost his life in an accident when the fire tanker he was driving rolled over.

"Now that most summer grasses and weeds have gone dormant, any wildfires that arise will have more fuel available to stoke the flames. Also, wherever dead grass, weeds and other fine-textured fuels are present, even short periods of dry, windy weather can cause a rapid escalation in wildfire risk and difficulty of control," Dunivan declared.

Unless the weather cooperates and brings significant moisture statewide and/or the public exercises greater safety with all outdoor fire use, firefighters fear that additional wildfires are likely. Many wildfires result from careless burning of household trash, leaves and brush piles. The following are suggestions from the Texas Forest

· Obey outdoor burning bans.

· Postpone all outdoor fires during periods of dry, windy weather.

· When outdoor fires are permitted, establish wide control lines down to bare soil before igniting your fire, and stay with your fire until it is cold to SEE WILDFIRE ON PAGE 5



Members of the Hospital Auxiliary met Thursday, Dec. 1, 2005, to decorate the Christmas tree in the lobby of Schleicher County Medical Center. Among the volunteers helping were (L-R) Francis Peters, Dana Owens and Mabel Freitag.



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Who is afraid of harm reduction?

by Sean Parnell, Vice-President Heartland Institute

At the National Conference on Tobacco or Health, held in Chicago earlier this year and attended by more than 5,000 tobacco control advocates and health education officials, an African American nonsmoker stood to ask a provocative question.

"Why," he asked, "if there is so much concern about 'second-hand smoke' should we not make



Commentary by Sean Parnell

smokeless tobacco alternatives a part of a comprehensive smoke cessation program? Why should we ignore that 80 percent of all cancer and heart disease is related to tars and ingesting smoke into lungs, when we could save lives and address addiction by encouraging smokers to switch to smokeless tobacco?"

His question elicited a meager and inconclusive response from panelists, though several

people in the audience indicated their agreement with him.

The conference was sponsored by government agencies and non-profit groups, including the American Cancer Society, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health (National Cancer Institute), Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, and American Medical Association.

Refusal by the anti-smoking establishment to take harm reduction seriously is leading it to oppose new products and marketing efforts that could save lives. Without education on less harmful alternatives, smokers won't get the message and we will continue to see smoking-related deaths rise.

The health data are compelling. Men who smoke increase their risk of death from lung cancer by more than 22 times and from bronchitis and emphysema by nearly 10 times, while women who smoke increase their risk of dying from lung cancer by nearly 12 times and the risk of dying from bronchitis and emphysema by more than 10 times.

Using smokeless tobacco is not "risk free," but research consistently confirms it poses substantially less risk to users than smoking does. Compared to non-smokers, those who smoke lose an average 6-7 years off their lives. Those who use smokeless tobacco lose only 15 days. Using smokeless tobacco does not increase the user's risk of lung cancer or heart disease.

When first confronted with these facts, many people ask about the increased risk of oral cancer that comes from using smokeless tobacco products. But here the research is also clear: Cigarettes pose a higher risk for oral cancer than does smokeless tobacco. It isn't the nicotine in tobacco that causes health problems, but the chemicals in burning

According to Dr. Brad Rodu, professor of medicine at the University of Louisville and a member of the university's James Graham Brown Cancer Center, smokeless tobacco is 98 percent safer than smoking.

Dr. Neal Benowitz, a professor of medicine at the University of California at San Francisco and director of its cancer center's Tobacco Control Program, told the Los Angeles Times in a 2004 interview, "If someone can't quit smoking, there is no question that smokeless is much safer. It doesn't cause heart or lung disease, and if it does cause cancer, it does so at a much lower rate."

In a February 2005 statement outlining his "Jobs for Kentucky" plan, Kentucky Gov. Ernie Fletcher (R) acknowledged that "some in the public health community recognize that tobacco harm reduction should be a complementary strategy to ... public health policy." Fletcher structured the state's tobacco taxes to reflect the differences and to discourage tobacco use of cigarettes, not smokeless tobacco.

"Taxing tobacco products according to relative risks is a rational tax policy and may well serve the public health goal of reducing smoking-related mortality and morbidity and lowering health care costs associated with tobacco-related disease," Fletcher stated.

The evidence is clear that smokeless tobacco is safer than cigarettes. Although smokeless tobacco isn't risk free, it's the safest alternative to quitting. The federal government's "quit or die" logic doesn't provide a reasonable alternative to people who simply won't or can't quit.

Why shouldn't these people have an opportunity to learn about a less dangerous tobacco product?

Texas sales tax deduction hangs in the balance

The United States House of Representatives will decide in the next two weeks if Texans, and the residents of six other states, may continue to deduct sales tax payments from their federal income tax.

Congress is expected to vote soon on tax relief legislation (also called "Tax Reconciliation") that includes a critical extension of the deduction for state sales taxes. If Congress does not pass this legislation, the deduction will expire at the end of 2005, and the result will be a tax increase for many Texas families.

Before the state sales tax deduction was enacted by Congress in 2004, states like Texas, without a state income tax, were unfairly treated by the federal tax code. That's because residents of states that are funded by a state income tax are permitted to deduct those taxes from their federal tax, but there was nothing similar for states with only a sales tax.

Seven states-Florida, Nevada,



South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wyoming-collect a state sales tax but do not collect a state income tax.

Passage in 2004 of the American Jobs Creation Act fixed the problem by creating an equivalent state sales tax deduction option. The option was available for the 2004 and 2005 tax years and for the first time Texas taxpayers found themselves on a level playing field.

Now the deduction is set to expire unless Congress can be prompted to treat all taxpayers fairly.

The best solution, in my humble opinion, would be to scrap the cur-

REPORT CARDS,

must resist making taxes any less to extend this measure.

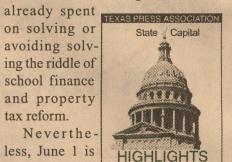
Think about it, if residents of states like New York, Connecticut and New Mexico are allowed to deduct the money they pay to operate their state governments when they calculate their federal income tax, shouldn't Texans have the same opportunity?

I think so, and so do most of the men and women who represent Texas in the U.S. Congress.

Not everyone sees it our way, though, especially the folks from states like New York and Connecticut, many of whom already want to punish Texas and Texans because of the high price of energy.

The vote to extend the sales tax deduction shouldn't be close, but I fear it will be. That's why we need to pay attention now before we find ourselves paying more than our fair share.

rent tax code and replace it with one that is fair, flat, and simple. Until then, however, Congress fair than they already are by failing



tax reform. Nevertheless, June 1 is the Texas Supreme Court-

by Ed Sterling

imposed deadline for the Legislature to retool the tax system, and it isn't that far away.

Lawmakers

focus on tax

relief following

court's ruling •

AUSTIN — Six months are not

much compared to the decades state

lawmakers, courts and governors have

Thanksgiving week, the high court upheld a lower court ruling that said the way hundreds of school districts are forced to set local property taxes at the cap of \$1.50 per \$100 valuation violates the state constitution by imposing, in effect, a statewide property tax.

Weeks earlier, Gov. Rick Perry named a tax reform commission composed mostly of business people to study taxes, with former state Comptroller John Sharp as chair.

And, after the high court spoke, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst named his own committee of senators to look for a solution.

House Speaker Tom Craddick, on the other hand, said he would not follow suit and appoint a similar committee, indicating that the Perry-Sharp effort will be enough to get the job

Perry, in sync with the high court, now says more money for education is not the answer. But to teachers and advocates for schoolchildren, no tax solution will be complete without addressing teacher pay and the need for more and better-equipped classrooms.

Regardless, the focus now shifts away from finding more money for teachers and classroom instruction and zeroes in on property tax relief.

Oddly, during this year's 79th Legislature (January through May) and the two 30-day special sessions that followed, there was general agreement at the Capitol that school finance could not be fixed without also fixing the state tax system.

The governor himself said he wanted a solution that would "give schoolchildren and teachers the resources they deserve and need."

Memo arouses Democrats On Dec. 2, a U.S Department of

Justice office memorandum surfaced in the Washington Post and stirred up Democrats who opposed the congressional redistricting plan passed by the Texas Legislature in 2003.

The memo reveals that the plan pushed by then-House Majority Leader Tom DeLay did not win the universal approval of the staff of the Department of Justice —then run by Attorney General John Ashcroft.

More than a half-dozen staff members said the plan violated the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by under-representing minorities and rural voters. But the plan was approved anyway, and in 2004, the Republican Party picked up six seats in the U.S. House.

The U.S. Supreme Court may hear arguments on the subject.

Another hat in the ring?

Add former Texas Supreme Court justice Bob Gammage of Llano to the list of possible candidates for governor.

Gammage could join fellow Democrats Chris Bell of Houston and Felix Alvarado of Fort Worth in the quest.

Laredo oil and gas tycoon Tony Sanchez, who ran against Republican Gov. Rick Perry four years ago, also is pondering the idea of running.

PLAYGROUND DUTY, APTITUDE TESTS, PARENT CONFERENCES, AND THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SO, WHAT ELSE CAN 1 DO 555 CAN ORGANIZE A FACULTY STRESS **WORKSHOP!**

John Merrill gets the golden spur

For the last 28 years the Ranching Heritage Center at Texas Tech has presented The Golden Spur Award to someone who has contributed significantly to the field of ranching. This year it went to John Merrill, who ranches near Crowley, just south of Fort Worth. He was head of TCU's Ranch Management Program for 33 years.

50th year. Students are interviewed cepted into it and must show a high degree of maturity and sincerity about making their living in the experience." ranching industry. The course is limited to 34 students. Once in, it is 6 hours of learning every day for sion is mandatory. In addition, the students travel close to 9 thousand miles in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas visiting successful ranches concerns and varied uses of the brand today. land such as leased hunting.



requires more different kinds of for several hours before being ac- edge and working with nature all day every day, I can't imagine a more gratifying and soul-fulfilling

> John has been in ranching all his ranch knowledge. life. His great grandfather came to Texas from Georgia in 1856. Durleft the academy he was attending to fight for the south. After the war he came back to Texas and became a trail driver, making six trips up

John Merrill is a big believer in ing program at TCU died in an that of providing food and fiber to education for ranchers. "Ranching auto crash. When John went to the a hungry world."

chancellor's office to urge the continuance of the program, the chancellor asked John to take it over. John said he couldn't do it, that the only thing he had ever taught was a Sunday school class. But the chancellor was an engaging fellow and made John consider taking the position. John said he would take knowledge than any other enter- the job if two conditions were met: That program is celebrating its prise that I'm aware of or have one, he would continue to ranch seen," he says. "With that knowl- and two, if a student missed one class he would be kicked out. The chancellor said, "It's a deal."

John taught honesty, integrity and self-discipline right along with

"It has been a joy," says John.

He was presented his Golden 9 months. Attendance at every ses- ing the Civil War his grandfather Spur award in Lubbock's Civic Center, which was filled with people who respect and appreciate his influence on ranching. A number of his former students were in atand feed lots. They are exposed to the trail. In 1872 he settled down tendance. I had the privilege of prototal resource management, involv- near Glen Rose and established ducing a video on Mr. Merrill that ing rotation grazing, environmental the XXX ranch. John still uses that was shown at the awards ceremony. In his acceptance speech, he said, The first director of the ranch- "I know of no higher calling than

SEE CAPITAL ON PAGE 5



Mr. and Mrs. John Gabriel Schooley

Biles/Schooley wedding

FORT WORTH — LeAnna, bodice, hem and train. She carried Starr Biles of Stephenville and a bouquet of roses in fall colors. John Gabriel Schooley of Menard were married in an double ring Lipscombe of Waco. Flower girl ceremony at Christ the King was Ariana Martinez of Mesquite. Episcopal Church in Fort Worth on Best man was Andy Raff of Eaton, Saturday, October 22, 2005. The Colo. Iris Noon was the organist. Episcopal Church of Stephenville, tered the guests. Texas officiated.

and Jerald Biles of Fort Worth, and Jered Waits of Fort Worth. and Cliff and Donna Schooley of Eldorado.

Births, Deaths, Weddings, Engagements are

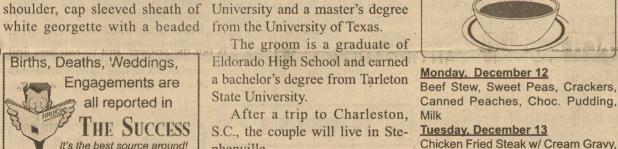
It's the best source around!

Matron of honor was Mrs. Todd Rev. Sam McClain of St. Luke's Katie Roberts of Cleburne regis-

Ushers were Todd Lipscombe of Parents of the couple are Sarah Waco, Kurt Kemp of San Angelo

The bride is a graduate of Castleberry High School. She earned The bride wore an off-the- a bachelor's degree from Baylor

> S.C., the couple will live in Stephenville.





Tickets for the Way Off Broadway production of the Sanders Family Christmas are now on sale. Tickets will be sold at the Eldorado Success, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. You can contact the office at 325/853-3125 or email for tickets at kathy@myeldorado.net.

> 7:00 PM•Fri: Dec. 9 or Dec. 16 7:00 PM- Sat. Dec. 10 or Dec. 17 3:00 PM - Sun. Dec. 11 or Dec.18

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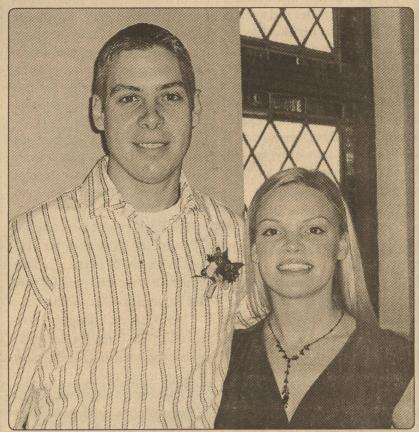
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Ag-Boosters club formed

Local families and businesses have come together to form an Ag-Boosters club. The purpose of this club is to support the youth of Eldorado who are involved in either 4-H or FFA ag-related activities. Meetings are the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the high school ag-science classroom. Membership is \$25.00 per family or business. Please join and support the youth of Eldorado as they learn leadership skills as members of their ag clubs.



Bryan Thomas Gray and Janet Catherine Mosk

Mosk/Gray to marry

Catherine Mosk are happy to an- Scott Barton of Alpine. Janet is nounce their engagement to be the daughter of Cathy Mosk of married on January 7, 2006. Bryan Houston. Bryan is a graduate of is the son of Tom and Branda Eldorado High School and ob-

Meals for

Friends Menu

Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegs., Dinner

Potatoes, Corn, Wheat Roll, Fruit

Baked Ham, Glazed Carrots, Summer Squash, Wheat Roll, Fresh Fruit Cup,

Fried Catfish, Corn Tomato Casserole,

Seasoned Spinach, Dinner Roll,

BIRTHDAY LIST

9th Chelsea Rojas, Rosario Sotio, Shanna Porter, Becky Saldivar, Nora Fuentes, Bobby Andrews,

Martha Spinks, Aaron Fuentes,

10th Rikki Bosmans, Travis Lloyd, Vanessa Gonzalez, Stevie Sykes

11th Patrick Porter, Phil Edmiston,

Lorenzo Herrera, James Avila,

Delbert Taylor, Phil McCormick,

Lupe Huichapa, Juanita

12th Damon Kelly, James Avila,

Adrienne Gamez, Linda Fuentes

Niblett Lloyd, Maggie Middleton

Newton, Matt Lloyd, Becky Lux

11th Heliodoro & Sylvia Sanchez

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ANNIVERSARIES

14th Eric McGinnes, Bobby

13th Karen Holley, Elizabeth

Amy Evans, Cherie Niblett

Huichapa

Roll, Fresh Orange, Milk Wednesday, December 14

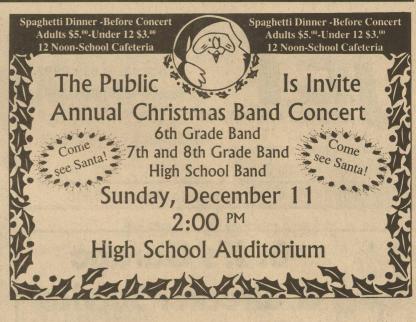
Cocktail, Sugar Cookie, Milk

Thursday, December 15

Friday, December 16

Fruited Gelatin, Milk

Bryan Thomas Gray and Janet Gray of Eldorado and Elaine and tained a Computer Science degree from Texas State University. He is currently working for Amerada Hess in Houston, while Janet is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Texas Women's University. The ceremony will be in Houston, where they will



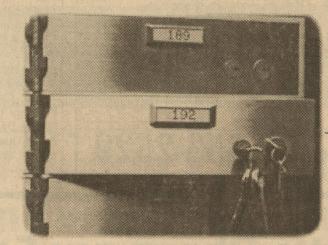


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Lady Eagles continue to improve with each game

The Lady Eagles traveled to Miles Tuesday, November 29, 2005 games to be played over the com- close behind with 13. ing week.

in Miles 57-36. Miles had a tough

basketball team," Lady Eagles ing 21 turnovers. Head Coach Brian Daniels said. "If be able to contend with anybody

School Lunch Menu



Milk & Bread Offered Menus Subject To Change 1/2 pt.Milk & 4 oz. Juice offered w/each

BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, December 12 Pig-n-a-Blanket, Choice of Juice, Pears, Milk Tuesday, December 13 Blueberry Muffins, Choice of Cereal,

Choice of Juice, Milk Wednesday, December 14 Cheese, Toast, Graham Crackers, Choice of Juice, Milk

Thursday, December 15 Waffle Stix/syrup, Peach Halves, Choice of Juice, Milk Friday, December 16 Buttered Toast/Jelly, Choice of

Cereal, Choice of Juice, Milk

BASKET LINE Monday, December 12 Steak Burger, Potato Wedges, |Sandwich, Salad, Cowboy| Cookies Tuesday, December 13

Mc Rib, Potato Chips, Pork-n-Beans, Peaches Wednesday, December 14

Vegetable Beef Stew, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Cornbread, Pineapple Slices Thursday, December 15

Chef Salad/Crackers, Diced Ham/ Cheese Cup, Sliced Peaches, Lemon Pudding/Topping Friday, December 16 Bar B Que on a Bun, Chips, Pickle | Spears, Ice Cream

CAFETERIA LINE Monday, December 12 Pork Chops/ Gravy, Creamed Potatos, Early June Peas, Hot Rolls,

Cowboy Cookies Tuesday, December 13 Chicken Burger, Tater Tots, Lettuce, I

Wednesday, December 14 Vegetable Beef Stew, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Cornbread,

Pineapple Slices Thursday, December 15 Cowboy Beans/ Cornbread, Potato Salad, Carrot Stix/Dip, Lemon Pudding/ Topping

Friday, December 16 Bar-B-Que on a Bun, Chips, Pickle Spears, Ice Cream

Cassaundra Buitron was high point for the night scoring 14 in what would be their first of five points. Chandra Wanoreck was

The Lady Eagles then played in The Ladies took the decision the first round of the Bronte Tournament on Thursday, December time dealing with the Eagles' 1, 2005. The girls faced the home defense turning the ball over 26 team in the opening round, scorching the Bronte Lady Longhorns "This group of girls are right 46-17. The Lady Eagles defense on the verge of being a very good was on its game once again caus-

The Lady Eagles leading scorwe can gain consistency, we will ers for the Bronte game were Taylor Baker with 11, and Chandra Wanoreck and Maxie Holley both

> The Eagles luck took a turn for the worse though as they traveled back to Bronte the next day to face Winters in the second round of play. The Eagles fell 41-32 to Winters.

> "We looked real sluggish," Daniels said. "We came out flat as far as shooting goes, and played below average on defense."

> The Lady Eagles headed back to Bronte once again on Saturday, December 3, 2005 and faced

> "We just seemed to pick up where we left off against Winters.' Daniels said. "We just flat out had a sub-par game."

> contest. Kirsten Stubbs was high point with 13 points. Taylor Baker

> The Lady Eagles played another game on Saturday. This one found the Eagles edging out Eden in a 53-43 victory

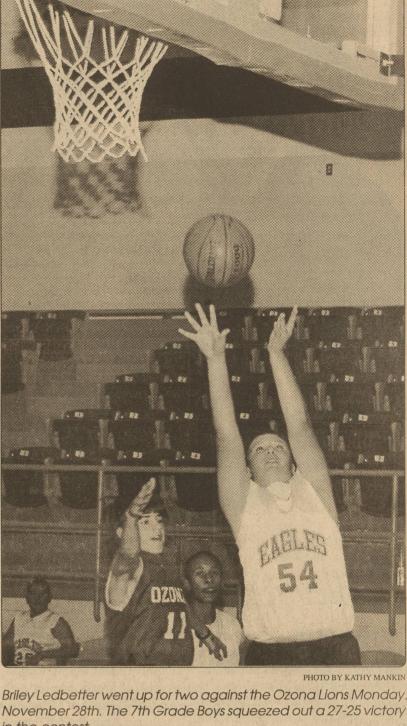
> "I thought we found ourselves out there on defense." Daniels said. "We made some changes and they just fell into place on the court."

> Taylor Baker led the scoring for the Eagles with 17 points. Kirsten Stubbs had 12.

Eldorado's girls met the Iraan Lady Braves Tuesday evening, Dec. 6, 2005, and came out on the short end of a lop-sided 68-18 score. Taylor Baker was the Lady Eagles top scorer with 7. Kirsten Stubbs had Eldorado 4, Haley Higgins 3, Chelsey Hill 2, and Cassandra Buitron and Maxie Holley each scored 1.

The Lady Eagles will travel to Water Valley today, Thursday December 8, 2005 for the Water Valley Tournament. The first game for the Ladies is slated for 3:30 p.m. against Forsan.

On Tuesday, December 13, 2005 the Lady Eagles will open district play in Sonora against the Lady Broncos. Everyone is encouraged to make the short trip down to Sonora and support the Eldorado Lady Eagles!



The Eagles fell 37-32 in the November 28th. The 7th Grade Boys squeezed out a 27-25 victory in the contest.

JV GIRLS A

November 29, 2005 JV GIRLS

05-06-08-05=24 Eldorado 04-07-02-06=19 Playing for the Lady Eagles: Katherine Johnson 9, Corie Williams 4, Kristin Mittle 3, Bridgett Mitchel 2, Tiffany Hernandez 2, Meg Griffin 2. Also playing were Ashley Lozano, Kassie Tyler, Amika Gonzalez, Veronica Belman.

JV GIRLS A

Eldorado JV Tourny 12-04-10-07=33

04-03-05-06=18 Playing for the Lady Eagles: Katherine Johnson 3, Kristin Mittle 2 Devanira Cruz 2, Bridgett Mitchel 1, Ashley Lozano 5, Tiffany Hernandez 4. Meg Griffin 1. Also playing were Amika Gonzalez, Corie Williams, Kassie Tyler, Veronica Belman

JV GIRLS A

Eldorado JV Tourny December 1-3

03-02-05-04=14 05-06-06-02=19 Playing for the Lady Eagles: Amika Gon- Eldorado zalez 2, Corie Williams 2, Kassie Tyler 2, Katherine Johnson 4, Kristin Mittle 2, Deyanira Cruz 2. Also playing were Bridgett Mitchel, Veronica Belman, Ashley Lozano, Tiffany Hernandez, Meg Griffin.

JV GIRLS A

Eldorado JV Tourny December 1-3

04-00-04-09=17 08-03-10-02=23 Playing for the Lady Eagles: Katherine Johnson 7, Corie Williams 6, Ashley Lozano 2, Kassie Tyler 2. Also playing were Tiffany Hernandez, Meg Griffin, Amika Gonzalez, Veronica Bel-

man, Kristin Mittle, Bridgett Mitchel.

7th GRADE BOYS

November 28, 2005 04-12-06-05=27 03-08-02-12=25 Playing for the Eagles: Miles Mikes-11, Briley Ledbetter 7, Ben Wipff 6, Joshua Jurecek 2, Jamie O"Harrow 1. Also playing were Aaron Parsley, Bailey Minor, Zack Brame, J.R. Martinez, Eloy Bustos...

7th GRADE BOYS

December 5, 2005 02-02-00-06=10 10-11-00-08=29 Wall Playing for the Eagles: Miles Mikeska 11, Briley Ledbetter 7, Ben Wipff 6, Joshua Jurecek 2, Eloy Bustos 2, Jamie O"Harrow 1. Also playing were Aaron Parsley, Bailey Minor, Zack Brame, J.R. Martinez...

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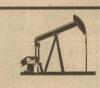
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JUST FRIENDS 12:00) 3:20 6:50 10:00 CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (12:25) 2:45 5 (11:55) 2:20 4:55 7:50 10:25 CHRONICLES OF NARNIA HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET (PG-13 (1:00) 4:20 7:40 10:50 ◆ SYRIANA 10 10:10 ♦ HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET (PG-13) AEON FLUX OF FIRE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

() - Friday through Sunday only.



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Milo Vallejo reached in for a steal Thursday as the Eldorado JV-B squad took on the Reagan County Owls 9th grade team. The Eagles lost the game 21-45.

IV BOYS A

00-10-10-15=35 Eldorado Midland 12 - 14 - 09 - 16 = 51 Playing for the Eagles: Roland Gonzalez 8, Rance Cathey 10,

November 21, 2005 13-05-08-12=38 Eldorado 17-12-09-10=48 Playing for the Eagles: Abel Montalvo 8, Clayton Sauer 4, Rolando Gonzalez 13, Rance Cathey 9, Dustin Gauna 4. Also playing were Leandry Alfaro, Clark Meyer and Jaaron Crawford.

November 29, 2005 Eldorado 09-04-06-08=27 10-07-15-14=46 Playing for the Eagles: Rolando Gonzalez 4, Jaaron Crawford 2, Rance Cathey 4, Abel Montalvo 4, Clayton Sauer 2, Dustin Gauna 11. Scoring 3 Point Goals: Gauna (1). Also playing were: Clark Meyers and Leandry Alfaro.

ELDORADO JV TOURNAMENT December 1, 2005

10-06-12-08=26 16-10-10-10=36 Playing for the Eagles: Abel Montalvo 5, Rance Cathey 7, Rolando Gonzalez 13, Jaaron Crawford 5, Dustin Gauna 4. 3 Point Goals: Cathey (1); Gonzalez (2) Montalvo (1). Also playing Clayton Sauer.

ELDORADO JV TOURNAMENT December 1-3, 2005

Eldorado 07-12-09-09=37 Christoval 07-07-04-02=20 Playing for the Eagles: Rolando Gonzalez 9, Jaaron Crawford 5, Rance Cathey 15, Dustin Gauna 8. 3 Point Goals: Cathey (1).

Grand jurors meet, indict 6

The Schleicher County Grand Jury met Monday, December 5, 2005 and handed up 6 indict-

These indictments will not been made public by authorities until the subjects involved are arrested or are served with papers.

District Court Report

51st District Court, Judge Barbara Walther held District Court, Monday, December 5th, 2005.

Carl Eugene Hart of Eldorado, age 43, pled guilty to the charge Driving While Intoxicated, 3rd or more. He was fined \$1,500.00, plus court costs and was given 7 years probation.



JV BOYS A

06-06-10-14=36 Eldorado 16-14-17-16=63 Wall Playing for the Eagles: Rolando Gonzalez 4, Jaaron Crawford 6, zalez 10, Rance Cathey 16, Abel Mon-Abel Montalvo 12, Clayton Sauer Rance Cathey 18, Dustin Gauna talvo 3, Dustin Gauna 8, Clayton Sauer 2, Clark Meyers 2. Scoring 3 Point 4, Leandry Alfaro 2, Clayton Sau- 2. 3 Point Goals: Cathey (2). Also play-

JV BOYS A

December 6, 2005 06-13-10-10=39 12-15-19-10=56 Playing for the Eagles: Rolando Gon-Goals: Gonzalez (1), Cathey (2), er 2. 3 Point Goals: Cathey (1). ing: Jaaron Crawfordf, Leandry Alfaro.

Capital Highlights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

On the Republican side, Compprimary come March. In the latest spat between incumbent Perry and are accusing each other of using his service in 1973. state office equipment to send out campaign information.

Kinky Friedman, the Hill Coun- D-Houston, is tied for third. try singer, writer and dog and primaries in March.

Laney to leave Legislature

Cotton-farming State Rep. troller Carole Keeton Strayhorn Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, anwill challenge Perry in the GOP nounced that he won't run for

Laney is tied for third on the challenger Strayhorn, their camps House seniority list, having begun

Only Rep. Paul Moreno, D-El Paso, and Craddick have served And last but not least, there is longer. Rep. Senfronia Thompson,

Laney was Craddick's predecat rescuer who plans to run as cessor as speaker, having served an independent after the partisan in that high post in the 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999 and 2001 sessions.

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Welcoming her home is big sister Candace, and big brother C.J. and JoJo, and grandparents Annette and Rooster Jackson of Eldorado and Sandy and the late Don Finch of Silver Springs, NV.

Wildfire season alert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 the touch.

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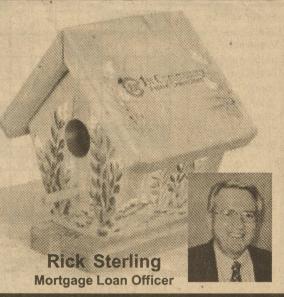


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6. Moon or sun.

10. "GoldenEye"

11. Kind of sax

12. Whodunit's

24. Civil wrong

13. "__ difference!"

18. Knight in shining

7. Support the team

poetically

Marv

actor

essence

armor

Wilhelm

DOWN

2. Leave

dumbfounded

4. Ball team in a

3. Beanery

dome, once

5. Neighbor of

Teddy, on Mount

handouts

72. T-bone, e.g.

73. Salt lick visitor

1. Kid-lit elephant

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49. Break off

52. Snooty one

54. A bunch of

61. Bad temper

63. In solitary

64. Nay sayer

68. Hollywood

(confidentially)

70. Home to most

71. Cooperstown's

headliner

69. nous

58. He says "nucular"

65. "Why, certainly!"



ACROSS

1. The Crimson

5. Line from the

10. Gullible sorts

15. Oven setting

16. Fist name in scat

17. Anti-nuke slogan

14. "Rag Mop"

19. Minuscule

20. Sky color

21. Start of a hole

23. Club Med and

28. True, in olden

30. Seismograph's

34. Battery type

37. Antique autos

39. Post-exercise

40. Ways into

44. Acted the

45. "Star Wars"

46. "That's a laugh!"

busybody

princess

hideouts, maybe

22. Post-it message

26. Thrash but good

Tide, to fans

heart

brothers

particle

others

days

pickup

relaxer

Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in

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a guilty verdict against a local crime." businessman accused of scheming other equipment.

reimbursement.

"I am pleased the jury convicted for reimbursement. this man for ripping off taxpayer-

25. Mill output

Dipper)

8. Under a stopwatch 29. Puts an edge on

9. "Yes!" sportscaster 31. "__ obliged!"

27. _ Major (the Big

32. Fit to be drafted

34. Nile slitherers

35. Prefix with space

36. Litmus reddener

41. Hold aside for a

42. Where Eve erred

43. Glowing review

48. Bang and zoom

50. Fashion brand

51. Put in fresh film

55. Stir from slumber

56. Actress Dickinson

53. Main impact

57. "The Merry

Franz

word

e.g.

58. Big do

Widow" composer

59. Golden Rule

60. Don't move

62. Art Deco name

66. Roaring Twenties

Picone

38. Sloppy digs

college athlete

33. Poison ivy

symptom

year, as a

SAN ANTONIO - Texas At- us," said Attorney General Abbott. torney General Greg Abbott's "My office will make every effort Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and in these cases to convince jurors federal prosecutors have obtained that the punishment must fit the

against Medicare and Medicaid ing scheme from December 2001 programs by fraudulently billing until June 2004. They unlawfully for expensive wheelchairs and billed Medicare nearly \$500,000 and Medicaid \$60,000 for powered Jason Guillen, the 30-year-old wheelchairs, gel mattress pads, co-owner of New Beginnings and alternating pressure mat-Durable Medical Equipment, was tresses that were not prescribed convicted on six counts of health by physicians or delivered to pa- sico, male age 46, serving 8 days, care fraud on Friday in federal tients. They accomplished this by arrested for Driving While License court. His sentencing is set for using patient information Roxane Feb. 24. His wife and co-owner, Guillen secretly obtained from a Roxanne Guillen, pleaded guilty medical equipment company with to similar charges in August. Both which she was formerly employed, were indicted in April 2005 for fil- and she also paid an employee of a ing more than 60 false claims for physician to provide other patient information which she used to bill

In his trial, Jason Guillen funded programs that are intended claimed his innocence, alleging for seniors and the needy among his wife concocted the schemes without his knowledge. The jury plainant requested to speak with disagreed, finding him guilty on all six counts for which he was indicted.

Agents with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General also worked this case. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Harris.

The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. For practical reasons of time The Guillens ran the illegal bill- and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the Sheriff's office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Incidents of major impact will be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ARRESTS

December 1 • Del Rio, Fran-

December 2 · Hernandez, Alicia, female age 29, Offense Driving Without License. Released time served.

in, Offense Warrant Val Verde Co., Theft By Check (more than \$20). Released on \$1,000 PR Bond.

INCIDENTS November 29 · 4:54 p.m. Coman officer. Officer responded.

• 6:20 p.m. Fire Chief requested fire trucks for a grass fire on County Road 339. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department responded.

· 6:31 p.m. Subject reported a vehicle hitting a deer on North US Hwy. 277. Officer responded.

· 7:05 p.m. Complainant re-

been reported killed by another child. Both parents unable to come December 5 • Taylor, Velton to an agreement on the matter. Of-Houston, male age 38, turn self ficers responded.

> • 5:16 p.m. Complainant reported driving around a neighborhood and a man made offensive ges-

ported debris on North US Hwy

• 9:18 p.m. Subject reported a

· 10:06 p.m. Complainant re-

ported that them and their spouse

had been threatened by a man and

requested to speak with an officer.

Caller reported one of their checks

being forged. Officer responded.

reckless driver on Olive Street.

plainant reported a neighbor had

attempted to do harm to them-

selves two days prior. Caller no-

ticed the same neighbor walking

away from their home with a knife.

conflict over a child pet that had

• 5:03 p.m. Parent reported

Officer and EMS dispatched.

December 1 • 10:00 a.m.

· 1:43 p.m. Caller reported a

December 2 · 4:39 p.m. Com-

black horse standing in the middle

of Nance Street. Dispatcher con-

277. TxDOT was notified.

November 30

tacted owner.

Officer responded.

Officer responded.

tures to them and their daughter while they drove by. December 3 · 6:48 p.m. 911 call came in reporting a possible intoxicated driver north bound on Hwy. 277 from Sutton Co. line. Ve-

hicle was a white Ford Expedition.

Officer notified. · 12.10 a.m. Caller reported a prowler was searching around convenience store. Seconded call was made and the caller reported that the officer might not be needed, because the subject in front of the store was carrying Christmas lights. Two officers responded and upon further investigation found the subject to be a relative of the store owner.

December 4 • 7:34 p.m. Caller called 911 and advised of a fight in progress next door at neighbors address. Caller ID a vehicle leaving the premises. Two officers responded.

• 8:38 p.m. Complainant reported a one vehicle accident on County Road 220. A pickup had been abandoned by occupant. Officer responded.

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Keeping Dry

See solution on Page 8

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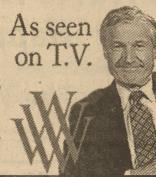
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Eldorado Spotlight



The Eldorado Spotlight shines this week on Johnnie Nance. When the Spotlight camera caught up with Johnnie she was helping decorate the Christmas tree in the dining room at the Schleicher County Nursing Home.

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December 11, 2005 SUNDAY, 12:00 Noon



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MISCELLANEOUS

Chainsaw for sale with extra chain and caring case; asking \$50FMI call 853-2672.48-49p

REAL ESTATE

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White metal trundle bed, chest of drawers, bar stools, like new blue/cream/wine floral couch with built-in recliners, hunter green swivel recliner/rocker, 2 baby high chairs, 1 girls like new bicycle, 2 boys Schwinn bicycles, treadmill, 2 sets Mahogany table and 6 chairs. Pentium computer w/printer & warranty (\$300), dining room sets, brown jenny lend baby bed, baby walker, stroller, cream print chair, antique fireplace mantel, teal leather loveseat, Great selection winter clothing for whole family. Lots more. Please call ahead before bringing in clothing or furniture. All must be in good condition. SECOND HAND

Brisket Sale to Support the Schleicher Co. Ag-Booster Club

The Ag-Booster Club is barbecuing briskets for a fund raiser for their newly formed group. Funds from this club will help local students participate in ag-activities through the 4-H and FFA clubs. 8-10 lb. briskets can be pre-ordered and paid for at either West Texas Feed and Mercantile or the high school ag classroom. Briskets are \$30 each and will be available for pick-up on Saturday, Dec. 17th from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the High School Ag building. For more information, please call Will Self at 853-2514, ext. 365. DEADLINE FOR ORDER 12/12/05

Lynn Meador Real Estate

5 N. Divide ~ Eldorado, Texas 76936 Lynn Meador, Broker 325-650-6324 Jo Ward, Agent/ 325-853-2339

ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE IN ELDORADO, TX ~NO RENTAL LISTING AVAILABLE • Old Mertzon Road: 4BR - 2 bath home on large lot. Hardwood floors, CH/CA, privacy fence, storage building. Excellent condition. \$96,000.00

• 105 W. Brooks: 2BR - 2 Bath, attic loft, large fenced yard, carport, storage building \$31,000.

• 603 North Street: Large corner lot (.4ac) 3BR - 2 Bath, covered front porch, fireplace, metal shop, fenced yard, large storage building. Excellent

• 809 N. Divide: 2BR - 2Bath home recently remodeled. New carpet, new paint, new central heat/ac, new fixtures, fenced vard, Ready for New Owner. PRICE REDUCED \$55,000. 100% financing available to qualified borrower*

• 708 Lee Ave: 4BR - 2Bath home with carpet, central heat/ac, large spacious lot, shade tree & fenced yard. \$55,000.

• 104 Cedarwood: 3BR - 2 Bath brick home with large open floorplan, 2 car garage, fenced yard with landscape, 20'X40' shop, 8 year old. PRICE

• 110 Dixie Drive: 3 BR - 2 bath. Carport, privacy fence, vinyl siding, lots storage, metal roof. In good condition with lots of living area, \$57,500

• 206 N. Divide: Fully remodeled 1 1/2 story; 4 BR-2 Bath home; new carpet, new paint, central heat/ac. Large back yard with 16'X10' storage/

• 111 Eldorado Drive: 3 BR - 2 bath home with native stone exterior, fire place, large yard with shade trees. \$50,000.

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY CALL TODAY! Eldorado, Texas Call 325-853-2808

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN Week of December 4, 2005

ADOPTION

Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption. PREGNANT? THINKING ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with loving families nationwide.

Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7. One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-921-0565.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ALL CASH CANDY Route. Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. 30 machines and candy. All for \$9,995. 1-888-625-5481, Multi

LOCAL VENDING ROUTE. All brands, soda, snacks, candies, water. Great equipment and service Financing available w/\$7500 down. 1-877-843-8726, VPAN, Inc. BO#2002-037

DRIVERS DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Excel-

lent pay and benefits for experienced drivers, O/O, solos, teams and graduate students. Bonuses avai able. Refrigerated now available. 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729)DRIVERS: HOME EVERY weekend. Average

\$40,000/year plus. Regional Flatbed Drivers run in TX, LA, OK. Owner/Operators welcome Great benefits and bonuses. 6 months Flatbed and Class A CDL required. W.V.T. of Texas,

DRIVERS - OTR. Road Warriors Only! 48 state refrigerated company. \$4,000 sign-on - experienced. \$1,000 sign-on - grads. CDL w/OTR. No Hazmat. Call FFE 1-800-569-9232.

DRIVERS! \$6,000 EXPERIENCED driver incentive bonus! Top pay and more home time No experience? No problem - low cost CDL and 100% tuition reimbursement, 1-800-796-9888, www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com

95 CPM!!! Service Craft Logistics - hiring Owner/Opertors. Steady work, lots of miles, teams encouraged to apply, local and long hauls, more miles, home time. 1-214-689-4077. O/O DRIVER - FFE. The F/S is higher here! \$1.11 average. \$2,000 sign-on, \$2,600 referral bonus. Base plate provided. No truck, no problem Low payment with short lease. 1-800-569-9298.

TEXAS OTR CARRIER needs owner-op and company teams, dedicated lanes West. Singles run Midwest. FSC all miles. 2 years OTR experience. Azle Logistics, 1-888-512-7900, Ext. 305.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

GET CASH NOW. We buy structured settlements and insurance Annuities. Call Structured Asset Fund-IMMEDIATE CASH!!! US Pension Funding pays

cash now for 8 years of your future pension pay ments. Call 1-800-586-1325 for a FREE, no-obliga-FOR SALE

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,795.00. Convert

your logs to valuable lumber with your Nor-

wood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwoodindustries.com - Free information: 1-800-578-1363, Ext. 300N. HELP WANTED

ATTENTION LIFE & HEALTH Agents!!! Unlimited leads. Paid on submission. If your're not making \$1,000 - \$2,000 per week call Jeff, The Assurance Group @ 1-336-442-8894 or 1-866-224-8450, Ext. 1213.

VEGAS BOUND!!! National company hiring 18-25 exceptional, motivated individuals to travel in "Road Rules" atmosphere. 2-weeks paid training. Return trip guaranteed. Call 1-866-532-1082, NSI.

YOUNGQUIST BROTHERS, INC. Excellent job opportunity in South Florida! Positions available: Drillers, Derricks, Floor Hands. Excellent benefits package available after 90 days. Fax resume - 1-239-489-4545 or contact Dan at 1-239-489-4444. Drug-free

JOB TRAINING NOW HIRING FOR Postal Positions.

\$18.50-\$59.00+/hr. Full benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience necessary. 1-800-584-1775. Public Announcement Reference #5401

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EARN DEGREE ONLINE from home Medical, Business, Paralegal, Computers Job placement assistance. Computer & financial aid if qualify. 1-866-858-2121. REAL ESTATE

A BARGAIN - 75 Acres - \$34,900. Rolling hills.

good brush, rock outcroppings. Trophy deer habi

tat. Good highway access. Easy terms. Perfect for hunting retreat. Texas Land & Ranches, AFFORDABLE HILL COUNTRY hunting property. Why lease when you can own? 1-800-876-9720. ranchenterprisesltd.com

BREWSTER COUNTY, 176+ acres at \$235 per acre, south of Sanderson, deep canyons and rough terrain, deer, quail, and javelina. Owner

NEW TO MARKET - 100 Acres - HUNTING RANCH. First chance to own hunting retreat. Big buck area, plus turkey, dove, quail and more. Very private with/EZ highway access. \$44,900 w/financing. 1-866-899-5263.

STEEL BUILDINGS STEEL BUILDINGS - FACTORY deals.

Save \$\$\$. 40'x60' to 100' x 200'. Example 50'x100'x12' = \$3.60/sq.ft. 1-888-467-4443.

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Statewide Ad......\$400 306 Newspapers, 1.1 Million Circulation North Region Only \$175 102 Newspapers, 381,000 Circulation South Region Only\$175 101 Newspapers, 462,000 Circulation West Region Only......\$175

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Display Advertising Network

Reach more than a half million Texas onsumers with affordable 2x2 advertisements

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Is Santa bringing you a horse this Christmas?

tious anemia (EIA).

Planning to put a horse, donkey, animals eight months of age or cases, the animal will die. mule or other domestic equine older have a negative blood test animal under the tree this year? for EIA, an incurable viral disease, in the U.S., so animals must positive equine animals to be Make certain you buy, trade for or within 12 months prior to a change be protected from exposure to euthanized, provided to a research are given an animal that has been of ownership. (Nursing foals, the virus. The disease is spread facility, sold only for slaughter, or tested negative for equine infec- transferred with their tested dams, through blood-to-blood contact, maintained under quarantine for Texas law requires that equine EIA test document, also known biting flies feed on an infected horses. Increased testing, move-

> others may become depressed, from infected to clean animals. 2005, as of early December, about exhausted, lose weight, or be unable to exercise or work. In acute Commission (TAHC), the state's had been detected.

mals to develop severe anemia. taminated needles or veterinary in Texas. Although some infected animals medical instruments also can exhibit no obvious clinical signs, mechanically carry the virus mals were detected in the state; in

livestock and poultry health reg-No EIA vaccine is approved ulatory agency, requires EIAare exempt from the test.) The an event that can occur when life, at least 200 yards from other as a VS 10-11, is sufficient proof equine animal, then move to ment controls for infected equine a nearby "clean" horse. Blood animals, and greater disease EIA can cause equine ani- transfusions or reusing con- awareness has helped control EIA

> In 1997, 750 EIA-infected ani-The Texas Animal Health 40 EIA infected equine animals

A distinctive "rotten egg" odor added to make odorless natural gas detectable

An unusual hissing, roaring or blowing sound near gas lines or appliances

Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants

The area immediately-do not smoke, use a cell phone, turn on or off any lights or appliances or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment that could cause sparks

Although natural gas leaks are rare, learn to recognize the signs. If you suspect a natural gas leak, play it safe: call Atmos Energy at 1-800-817-8090 from a safe distance.



Winter's Long Night Moon

Stargazer

Paul Derrick

The December full Moon, falling this year on the 15th, is called the Moon Before Yule and the Long Night Moon. Full Moon names derive from different cultures and there is no official list, but the origins of most are easy

being harvested.

The meaning of Moon Be- set around sunrise. fore Yule is clear enough--this is Christmas.

The meaning of Long Night part of the world, the Sun is up more are shortest and nights longest, so The Moon is just the opposite. the nearest full Moon would fall on one of the year's longest nights. the Moon orbits Earth, on nearly But the name might have meant the same plane, so the Sun, Moon minutes before sunrise. more to its originators.

Solution to puzzle on Page 6

and planets all roughly follow through the familiar constellations of the zodiac. Again owing to the

Earth's tilt, when the ecliptic is Guide to Learning the Night Sky high during the day, it is low dur- by Paul Derrick would make a ing the night, and vice versa. During the summer the ecliptic life. See his Website.

is highest during the day, so the Stargazer appears every other winter. The full Moon nearest stargazerpaul.com.

the winter solstice, the year's longest night, is up more than 14 hours, making for a very Long Night Moon.

• Naked-eye Planets. (The Sun, Moon and planets rise in the east and set in the west due to Earth's west-to-east

to understand--like fall's Harvest opposite side of Earth from the rotation.) "Evening star" Venus Moon which comes as crops are Sun. Thus full Moons always rise sets nearly 3 hours after sunset and around sunset, stay up all night and is at its brightest for the year Dec. 12. (Seen through a telescope, and Owing to Earth's tilt on its maybe even binoculars, Venus now the full Moon just before Yule, axis, the length of the day--that is, appears as a tiny crescent Moon.) originally a midwinter pagan fes- the time the Sun is up--changes Mars, high in the southeast, is tival but now usually referring to throughout the year. The day is lon-fading slightly each night, but gest at summer solstice when, in our still brighter than any star. Saturn rises by 10 p.m. and is high in the Moon is slightly less obvious. At than 14 hours, and shortest at winter southwest by morning. Jupiter is the Dec. 21 winter solstice, days solstice when it is up only 10 hours. up by 5 a.m. Mercury, now rising nearly an hour and a half before The planets orbit the Sun, and sunrise, will be at its best Dec. 12 low in the southeast about 45

· Astro Milestones: Dec. 14 is The Moon is full (fully illu- the same path across our sky. the 459th anniversary of the birth minated by the Sun) when it is on Called the ecliptic, this path passes of Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe (1546-1601).

• Stargazer Book: A Beginner's great gift for that stargazer in your

summer Sun climbs higher, and week. Paul Derrick is an amateur stays up longer, than the winter astronomer who lives in Waco. Sun. The full Moon, being at the Contact him at 918 N. 30th. opposite point on the ecliptic, is Waco, 76707, (254) 753-6920 just the opposite--it climbs higher, or paulderrickwaco@aol.com. and stays up longer, during the See the Stargazer Web site at

PUBLIC NOTICE INDIGENT HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

Schleicher County Medical Center, a Hospital District, provides healthcare services at no cost for persons who do not qualify for Medicaid or any other assistance program, including undocumented aliens (covering undocumented pregnant females up to labor and delivery), men who have no children, and women who are not pregnant and do not have children.

Eligibility

- 1. A person must be a resident of Schleicher County for six months. If an applicant cannot prove residency of Schleicher County, then his/her six months residency status will start from the date of his/her application as day one.
 - 2. Income below AFDC guidelines and total household resources less than \$2,000.
- 3. Unborn children are counted in determining eligibility when applicable.
- 4. A denial letter from Medicaid, Primary Health Care or any other assistance programs is required orior to making application.
- 5 Applicants/Participants must be registered with Job Services and in an active role of seeking employment.

For more information contact: Patti Castillo-Indigent Health Care Coordinator

Schleicher County Medical Center, 400 Murchinson, Eldorado, TX 76936 325-853-2507

NOTICIA PUBLICA

PROGRAMA INDIGENTE DE CUIDADO MEDICO

Schleicher County Medical Center, distrito del hospital, proporciona servicios medicos para las personas que no califican para Medicaid o algun otro programa de asistencia, incluiendo extranjeros que no estan documentados (cubriendo mujeres embarazadas que no estan documentadas hasta el dia de parto), hombres que no tienen ninos y mujeres que no estan embarazada y que no tienen hijos.

Elegibilidad

- 1. Residente de seis meses del condado de Schleicher. Si el aspirante no puede probar residencia de Schleicher, entonces su estado de seis meses de residencia empeza el dia de su aplicacion como el dia primero.
 - 2. Ingresos bajo AFDC directiva y recursos menos de \$2,000.
 - 3. Ninos sin nacer son contados en derminando elegibilidad cuando pertienente.
- 4. Una carta de negacion de Medicaid, Primary Health Care o algun otro programa de asistencia es necesario antes de aplicar.
- 5. Aspirantes/participantes deben de ser registrados con servicos de trabajo y buscando empleio. Para mas infomacion de ponerse en contacto con:

Patti Castillo

Indigent Health Care Coordinator Coordinadora del Programa Indigente de cuidado Medico Schleicher County Medical Center 400 W. Murchison Eldorado, Texas 76936

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