



WIN \$25



Football Contest

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Sutton County Ranch News

page 7

Escobar Picks 'Em Right

Roberto Escobar picked all four teams in last week's Devil's River News football contest and was the recipient of the \$25 in

prize money. Also picking all four winning teams but losing by point spread were Rhonda Blackman and Dora Mata.

Petroleum Edition Coming Next Month!

The Devil's River News

Eighty-Seventh Year, Eighteenth Week

Wednesday, December 28, 1977 The Devil's River News Sonora, Texas 76950

25c

State Highway's Development Plan Includes Sutton County

The State Highway and Public Transportation Commission has approved a 20 year Project Development and Control Plan for highway planning and construction.

A new realistic system-oriented program will be flexible and revisable while at the same time being controllable. The plan contains a five year construction schedule, a five year development schedule and a ten year advance planning schedule.

In general, projects will be selected to improve and optimize the total highway

system. Heavily travelled routes connecting the various metropolitan population centers and commercial and industrial areas will receive top consideration.

Commission approval for construction is restricted to projects in the first five years of the Plan. Projects in the second five years are approved for planning only and the last ten years of the Plan is composed of projects necessary to complete the statewide system but does not constitute any commitment by the Commission at this time.

The 20 year plan does

not include the following type of projects which will continue to be programmed periodically as needed:

A. Rehabilitation or Reconstruction projects on existing highways. These are programmed every two years based on priorities at that time.

B. New Farm to Market highways which are programmed each year after consultations with County Commissioners Courts.

C. Urban projects within the City of San Angelo. These projects are selected every two years from the overall Urban

Transportation Plan after consultation with City Officials.

D. Safety and Betterment projects which include seal coats, asphaltic concrete overlays, and structure widening. These projects are programmed each year based on needs at the time.

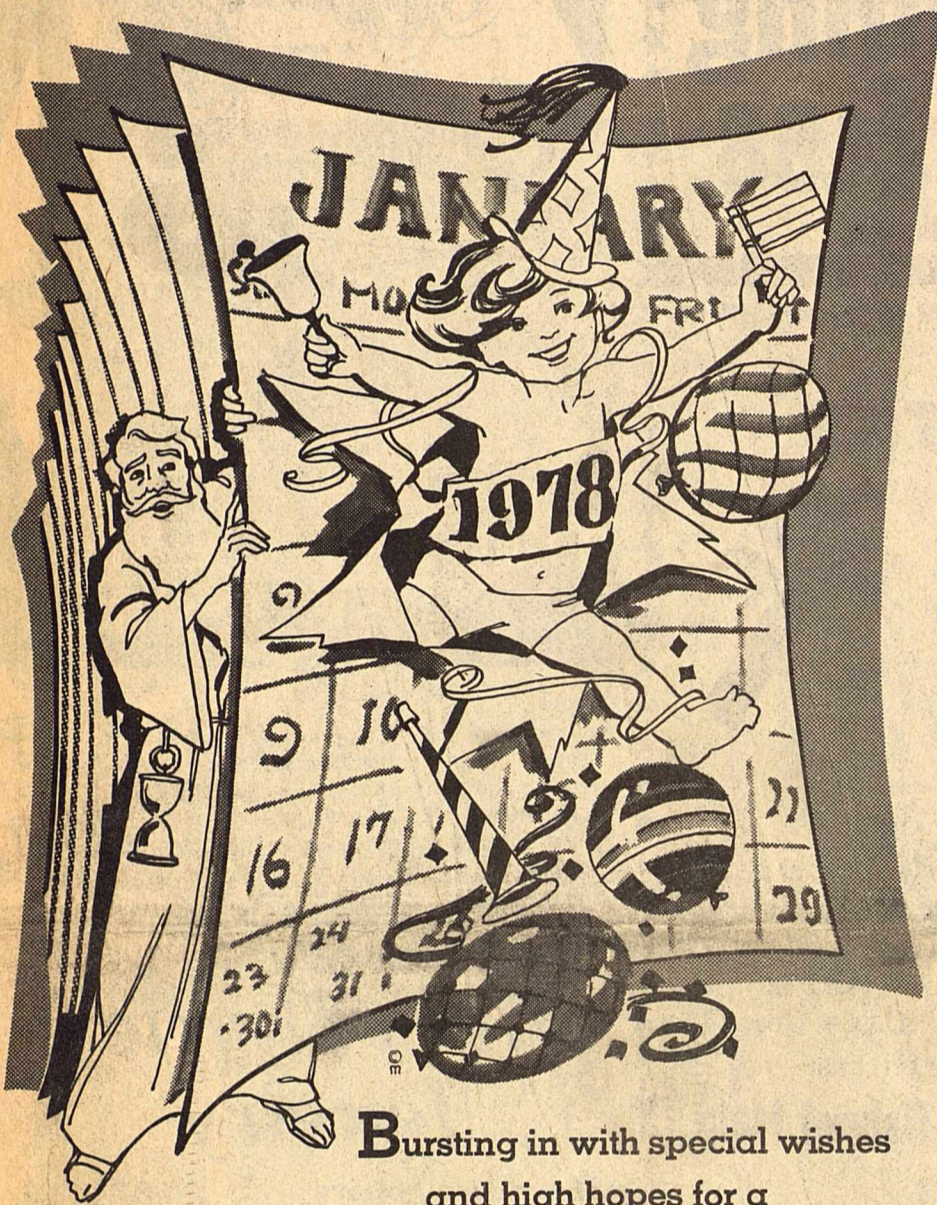
District Engineer D.R. Watson of the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (DHT) emphasized that the Plan will be reviewed and updated periodically as travel patterns and conditions necessitate needed changes the transportation system of this 13

County area of the State.

Projects in Sutton County on which construction will commence within the next five years include: I.H. 10 At 6 miles West of Sonora. Improve existing Rest Areas and construct Comfort Stations.

U.S. 277. From Sonora to the Edwards County Line. Widen culverts and bridges.

R.M. 2596. A new Farm to Market Road extending from R.M. 864 approximately 17 miles Northeast of Sonora, North to the Schleicher County Line.



Bursting in with special wishes and high hopes for a calendar year of happy days!

63 4-H'ers To Exhibit Their Livestock In Annual Show

Sixty-three 4-H members will exhibit 308 head of livestock in the 1978 Sutton County Livestock Show and Sale to be held January 14, 20 and 21 at the Sutton County 4-H Center.

Fifty-two lambs or lamb

carcasses and five pens of three rabbits will be sold in the auction sale. 4-H'ers will be awarded prize money for top animals and will be allowed to sell one lamb, one lamb carcass or a pen of three rabbits in the

auction.

Live judging of carcass lambs will be held Saturday January 14; with the show and results, in addition to a barbecue luncheon and presentation of awards, to be held Friday and Saturday, January 20 and 21.

In the auction sale, which is scheduled for January 21, buyers may bid as much as they desire but the 4-H member will receive a ceiling price of \$125 per head on lambs and \$35 per pen of three rabbits with all excess going into the 4-H fund. Champion lambs may bring more as well as champion rabbits.

achievement party, livestock judging, horse judging, wool and mohair judging, range and grass judging, 4-H dress revue, 4-H food shows, 4-H shooting sports program and other special activities.

Schedule of events is as follows: Saturday, January 14 - 1:15 p.m., live judging of carcass lambs; Friday, January 20 - 9 a.m., market lamb show; 2 p.m., Angora goat show; 3 p.m., rabbit show;

One lamb will be sold in the chinese auction to raise money for other 4-H activities to help maintain the 4-H Center during the year. This is the only fund raising activity of the club during the year.

Other 4-H activities supported by funds raised at the annual show and sale include a junior horse show, 4-H Ball, district and county camps, 4-H

Saturday, January 21 - 10:30 a.m., display lamb carcasses and results of carcass show; 11:30 a.m., barbecue luncheon; 12 noon, auction sale of lambs; 1 p.m., presentation of awards and drawing for handmade boots.

\$40.3 Million Gross Sales Reported For Second Qtr.

State Comptroller Bob Bullock said recently that Texas merchants and other sales tax permit holders reported gross sales totaling \$40.3 billion for the second quarter of this year.

\$40.3 billion for the second quarter of this year. This represents a \$6.3 billion or 18.8 percent increase over the same three-month period (April, May and June) last year.

Reported gross sales for the first three months of this year totaled just over \$36.8 billion, Bullock said. Gross sales in Sutton County amounted to 14,534,862 with 3,520,344 subject to tax.

The number of reporting outlets also jumped to 246,347 for the second quarter of this year, up from 228,571 for the second quarter of 1976.

Bullock's office released computer analysis breaking down the reported

gross sales by county and by Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA).

Harris County, the state's most populous, again led the state with reported gross sales totaling \$10.5 billion, up from \$8.1 billion for the second

quarter of \$976.

Sales tax permit holder reported sales totaling \$6.1 billion in Dallas County. Tarrant County registered the third highest gross sales with \$2.4 billion and Bexar County followed with \$1.8 billion.



Joe Bacon Kills 147 Lb. Buck Deer

Joe H. Bacon killed what is believed to be the largest buck killed thus far in Sutton County during this hunting season. Bacon's buck weighed 147 pounds, had an 18" spread and was killed on the Bacon Ranch December 22.

Buy It In Sonora Winners Win \$475

Mrs. Barbara Renfro and Larry Thompson were winners in the Christmas Eve "Buy It In Sonora" drawing. Both were awarded \$475 in gift certificates from participating Sonora merchants.



Barbara Renfro



Larry Thompson

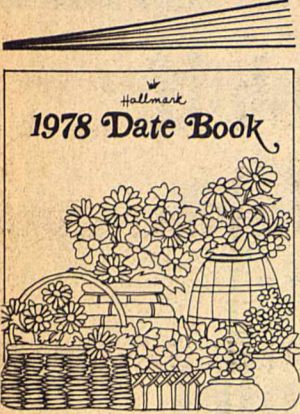
Simpler, Mounce..Band Favorites



Band director Ed Martinez [r] and assistant director Thom Lemmons [l] are pictured with this year's band sweetheart and beau, Terri Simpler and Robert

Mounce. Band favorites were named at the recent Christmas concert presented by the Sonora Band.

Happy Anniversary



Hallmark
Come Pick Up Your Free 1978 Hallmark Date Book

Christmas Items 1/2 Price

TEDFORD JEWELRY

387-2434

January 1
Mr. and Mrs. T.R. Coker
Mr. and Mrs. Monte Dillard

January 2
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wuest
Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Howell
Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Alexander

January 3
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Kerbow

January 5
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Richardson

January 6
Mr. and Mrs. Rip Ward
Mr. and Mrs. George Brockman
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sharp
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hann
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pope

January 7
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wharton, Jr.

January 9
Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Ortega

January 10
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Hill

January 11
Mr. and Mrs. Rex Taliaferro

January 14
Mr. and Mrs. John Butterfield

January 15
Mr. and Mrs. Alton J. Dupuy

January 17
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Cole

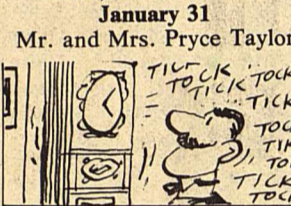
January 20
Mr. and Mrs. Juan Lozano

January 25
Mr. and Mrs. John Mittel

January 26
Mr. and Mrs. David Archer

January 28
Mr. and Mrs. Carl James Cahill, Jr.

January 31
Mr. and Mrs. Pryce Taylor



Until the 1880s "grandfather clocks" were known as "long-case clocks."

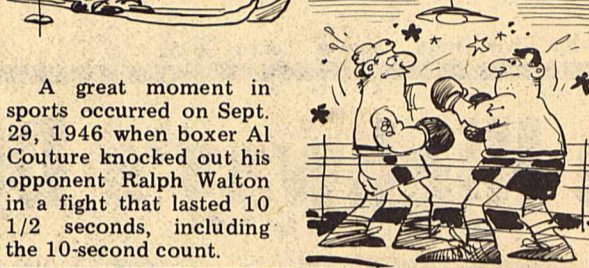
GREAT MOMENTS IN SPORTS IN A NUTSHELL

Brief Stories Of Long-Remembered Triumphs

A great moment in sports occurred in the tennis game between Howard Kinsey and Mrs. R. Roak. They managed to hit the ball back and forth 2,001 consecutive times during a volley that lasted one hour and 18 minutes.



A great moment in sports occurred in 1860 when the King of Norway awarded a trophy to the winner of the world's first known jumping contest. Today, small skiers can enjoy Planters® Peanuts which can help supply them with the vitamins, iron, protein and energy they need to get the jump on good skiing.



A great moment in sports occurred on Sept. 29, 1946 when boxer Al Couture knocked out his opponent Ralph Walton in a fight that lasted 10 1/2 seconds, including the 10-second count.

School Lunch Menu

Monday, January 2
School Closed

Tuesday, January 3
Chicken Loaf
Blackeye Peas
Broiled Peaches
Hot Rolls

Wednesday, January 4
Steak Fingers
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
English Peas
Hot Rolls
Chocolate Cake/Chocolate Icing
Milk

Thursday, January 5
Hamburgers with Cheese
French Fries
Lettuce/Tomatoes
Butterscotch Squares
Milk

Friday, January 6
Corn Dogs
Pear/Cheese Salad
Carrot Sticks
Ice Cream
Milk

Tedford Jewelry
Bridal Registry
Phone 387-2434

Miss Lovelyn Brown of Del Rio, bride-elect of David Wharton
Brenda Bartz, bride-elect of David Whitworth
Mrs. Richard Obenhaus, nee Keila Phillips
Mrs. Scott Jacoby, nee Diane Pfluger

Happy Birthday

Thursday, December 29
Adam Delrie
Charles West
David Wuest
Julie Friess
Eddie Kemp

Friday, December 30
Mrs. Ellen Ray
Mrs. John Butterfield
Janie Welch
Mrs. Glen Richardson
Nate Arredondo, Jr.

Saturday, December 31
Mrs. W.R. Cusenbary
Michael Richardson
Mrs. Nolan Johnson

Sunday, January 1
Ricky Hill
Mack Cauthorn
Mrs. Jack Drennan
Clay Cade

Monday, January 2
Mrs. George (Bud) Smith
Giles Hill
Roger Langford
Denise Neal
Carmen Galindo
Zane Dunnam

Tuesday, January 3
Nolan Johnson
Jan McClelland

Wednesday, January 4
Nedra Raye Hawkins
Lorie Olson
David Kingston

James Alexander
Chuck Paxton
Mike Hale

Need carpets cleaned? Upholstery? Floors or windows?

CALL
K & K Cleaning
387-2168

free estimates

Fireworks

Full Assortment Of Fireworks

2 LOCATIONS
St. Ann's St
across from the old Elliott Elementary School
and at Castle Courts on East 2nd St.
Gabriel Mata

A Bride-to-be's First Stop
Ruth Shurley Jewelry
The following brides and brides-to-be have made their selections with us...

Diane Pfluger, bride-elect of Scott Jacoby
Brenda Bartz, bride-elect of David Whitworth
Josie Lopez, bride-elect of Fernando Emiliano

STORE HOURS:
MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:00-5:00
Phone 387-2755

Gifts that make everybody a "Somebody"

Custom-made to order by **Anson**

A. Brooch 17.50
B. Pendant 15.00
C. Tie Tack 8.50
D. Tie Bar 12.50
E. Pinky Ring 16.50
F. Pinky Ring 27.50
G. Cuff Links 27.50
H. Tie Tack 10.00

There's a proud-prestige to these custom-made gifts that does credit to both wearer and giver. Choose any one for the "important" gifts on your list—but order soon—3 weeks for custom-crafting and delivery!

Prices shown are for Sterling Silver. All gifts available in Karatclad & 14K Gold.
Karatclad Heavy Gold Electroplate — Reg. TM Sel-Ser Corp.

Ruth Shurley Jewelry
Downtown Sonora 387-2755

Work Shoe Headquarters

Also available with safety toe
We Have YOUR Size

Comfort for HUNTING or on the JOB

RED WING
NEVILLE'S
Downtown Sonora 387-3131

IT'S HERE! 1978!

Firemen's New Year's Eve Dance

9 p.m. - 1 a.m.,
December 31
Door prizes
4-H Center
\$10 per couple
We'll furnish set ups

Happy NEW YEARS Start Here

so start your New Year's right with a visit to Tim's for all your party needs!

★ Ice ★ Cold Beer ★ Snacks

Use our convenient Drive-in window

Open Mon. - Sat., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Tim's Liquors
Keeping you in good spirits

Hwy 277 North
Next to Perry's
387-3351

Hershel's FOODWAY

Buy Travelers Express Co.
MONEY ORDERS
HERE

 We accept **FOOD STAMPS**

We will be **CLOSED** Monday,
January 2, 1978.
Effective Jan. 3, 1978 our new
store hours will be 7:30 a.m. to
6:30 p.m.

	Round Steak	lb	\$1.09		Rump Roast	lb	99¢
Round Steak Boneless	lb	\$1.29	Roast Piko's Peak	lb	\$1.09		
Round Steak Tenderized	lb	\$1.39	Ground Round	lb	\$1.09		
Round Steak Top	lb	\$1.49	Ground Chuck	lb	99¢		
Round Steak Bottom	lb	\$1.39	Sirloin Tip Roast	lb	\$1.39		

Salt Pork	lb	79¢
Sirloin Tip Steak	lb	\$1.49
Hot Links Dankworth	lb	79¢
Hog Heads	lb	39¢
Texas Chili	1 lb box	\$1.29
Stew Meat Boneless	lb	\$1.19


Festive Food Favorites FOR HOLIDAY MEALS

32 oz bottles
Coca-Cola
or
7-Up
6 bit cin plus dep
\$1.39

Morton's
Pot Pies
4 8 oz pies **\$1**
Totino's
Pizzas
3 13 oz **\$2**

Walco Brand
Blackeye Peas 4 16 oz cans **\$1**
Slices or halves
Del Monte
Peaches 2 No. 2 1/2 cans **\$1**
Hi-Dri
Towels Jumbo roll **49¢**
Hunt's
Ketchup 32 oz bit **79¢**
Hunt's Tomato
Sauce 6 8 oz cans **\$1**
Texsun
Grapefruit Juice 2 46 oz cans **\$1**

Kleenex
280 ct box **69¢**
Snowdrift
Shortening 3 lb can **\$1.29**
Corn Chips
Fritos
Just Right For Dips
12 oz pkg **73¢**

	Potatoes	20 lb bag	\$1.55	Cucumbers	8 for	\$1
Bananas	lb	19¢	Celery	Stalk ea	25¢	
Cabbage Green	lb	9¢	Lettuce	ea	35¢	

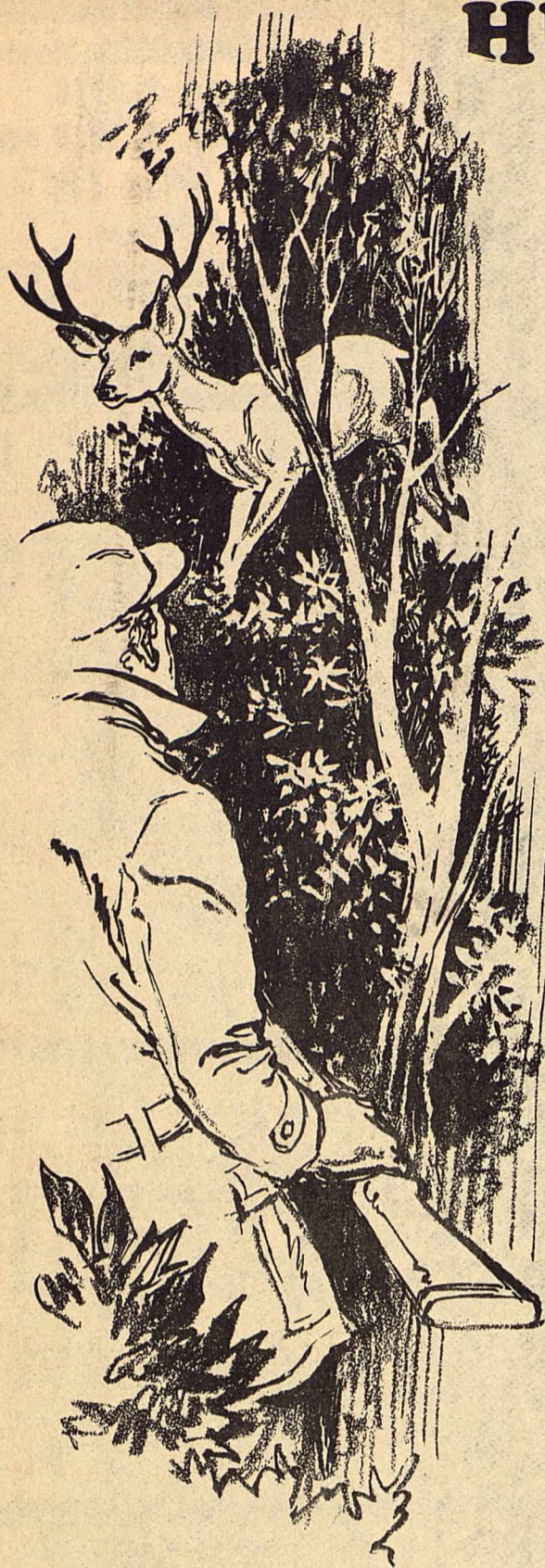
Alka Seltzer 25 ct **99¢**
Pepsodent
Toothbrush Adult size **49¢**
Close-up
Toothpaste 6.4 oz tube **99¢**

Hershel's FOODWAY

OPEN
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Prices Effective thru Dec. 24
Closed Monday Dec. 26

New Phone Number:
387-3708



HUNTERS' BIG CONTEST!!

Big Buck Contest

Heaviest field dressed male white tail deer, killed during the 1977 deer season. It must be certified by both the locker plant and the hunter, and must have been killed in Sutton, Schleicher, Crockett, Edwards, Kimble, Val Verde or Menard County.

Prize:
**Model 94
 Winchester 30-30**

SADDLE GUN. You need not be present to win, no purchase is necessary. The winner will be announced at the closing of deer hunting season.

Old Granddad Antlers

Largest set of White Tail Deer antlers, to be measured at the widest point on the outside to the outside. The deer must have been killed during the 1977 deer season from Sutton, Schelcher, Crockett, Edwards, Kimble, Val Verde or Menard County.

Prize:
Old Granddad

ONE CASE of the finest Whiskey - Old Granddad, a favorite of America. You need not be present to win, no purchase necessary. The winner will be announced at the closing of deer hunting season.

Forms Available at:

Branding Iron Smokehouse

Full service to the hunter . . .
 Storage, Butchering, Certifying.
 1 block east of Courthouse
 204 S.E. Water **387-2801**

Tim's Liquors

Convenient Drive-In Window
 Cold Beer - Ice - Snacks
 Open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Hwy 277 North **387-3351**

Big Tree Restaurant

Open
 24 Hours

Convenient, good food,
 excellent service.
 Hwy 290 West

Also Available at White's Auto

Forms must be returned to White's Auto

Hunter's Headquarters

for

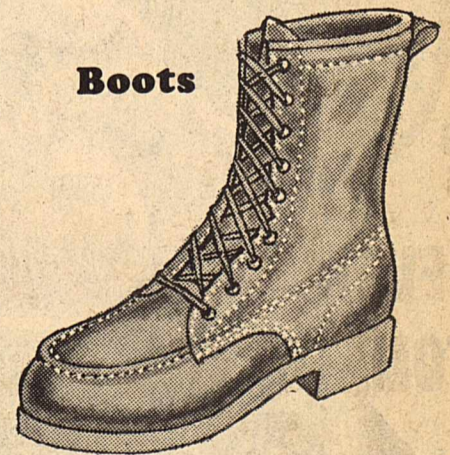
**Sutton, Schleicher, Crockett, Edwards,
 Kimble, Val Verde and Menard Counties**

- ★ Scopes and Binoculars
- ★ Archery Equipment
- ★ Camping Equipment
- ★ Lease Information
- ★ Hunting Licenses
- ★ Accessories
- ★ Ammunition
- ★ Guns

★ Hunting Apparel

Caps Jackets Vests Rain Gear Knives and Belts

Thermal Underwear



White's Auto

Downtown Sonora

387-3151

Happy New Year

FROM ALL YOUR FRIENDS AT
LIMIT RIGHTS RESERVED

FOOD CENTER

We will be OPEN Jan. 2nd from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.



WE WILL BE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY

FRESH LEAN GROUND BEEF \$1.09 LB

49¢ LB

ARMOUR STAR SLICED BACON \$1.09 12-OZ PKG

DRY SALT PORK WITH BLACK EYE PEAS A GOOD LUCK TRADITION \$1.29 LB

Wafer Sliced Meats GOOD VALUE ASSORTED 3-OZ PKG 39¢
Lunch Meats GOOD VALUE ASSORTED 1-LB PKG \$1.19
Armour Star Hot Dogs MEAT OR BEEF 12-OZ PKG 69¢
Flounder Fillets \$1.29 LB Turbot Fillets \$1.49 LB
Corned Beef Brisket Good Value \$1.49 Fryer Breasts \$1.09 LB
Danish Ham Good Value Sliced 4-OZ PKG 99¢ Legs & Thighs Small Fryer LB 89¢

Whole Catfish \$1.49 LB Fresh Gulf Oysters 10-OZ JAR \$1.69
Chopped Ham Oscar Mayer 8-OZ PKG \$1.49 Pork Sausage Oscar Mayer Link LB \$1.89
Ham & Cheese Oscar Mayer 8-OZ PKG \$1.19 Smokie Links Oscar Mayer 12-OZ PKG \$1.39

NEW YEAR Special RANCH STYLE BLACK EYE PEAS LIMIT 5 PLEASE \$5.15 15-OZ CAN

NEW YEAR Special HUNT'S WHOLE TOMATOES \$3.15 15-OZ CANS

NEW YEAR Special VIVA ASSORTED PAPER TOWELS \$4.99 JUMBO ROLL

BIG, BIG SAVINGS ON YOUR HOLIDAY FAVORITES

Libby's Vienna Sausage 3 5-OZ CANS \$1
Trash Mix Fixin's WHEAT CHEX, CORN CHEX, RICE CHEX 12-OZ BOX 69¢
Pace Picante Sauce "THE ORIGINAL" 16-OZ JAR 89¢
Crisco Oil PURE VEGETABLE 48-OZ BTL \$1.69
RoTel Tomatoes WITH GREEN CHILIES 3 10-OZ CANS \$1
First Pick Golden Corn WHOLE KERNEL, CREAM STYLE 4 16-OZ CANS \$1

RAINBOW PEACHES Irregular Yellow Cling 29-OZ CAN 49¢
SWEET PEAS First Pick 3 16-OZ CANS \$1
GRAPEFRUIT JUICE Texsun Unsweetened 46-OZ CAN 57¢
MARASCHINO CHERRIES Towie 6-OZ JAR 55¢
STUFFED OLIVES Towie Thrown 10-OZ JAR \$1.59
CHECK THESE VALUES!
Fabric Softener Plush Pink GAL JUG 89¢
Tomato Sauce Hunt's 8 oz can 4 for \$1
Paper Plates Easy Day PKG of 50 \$1.43
Cold Cups Easy Day 16-Oz PKG of 18 69¢

Bloody Mary Mix Libby's 6 6-OZ CANS \$1.29
ReaLemon Juice 32-OZ BTL 99¢
Snack Chips Planters Assorted 6-OZ CAN 69¢
Cocktail Nuts Planters 12-OZ CAN \$1.29
Ketchup Hunt's Tomato 32 oz jar 89¢
GROCERY SAVINGS
Assorted Candies 3 4-OZ PKGS \$1
Assorted Nuts 3 PKGS \$1
Pick-A-Portion Assorted Picnic & Lunch Box Items 3 PKGS \$1
Assorted Cookies Diane's or Sweettreat 3 PKGS \$1

25¢ OFF LABEL DYNAMO LIQUID 64 oz btl \$1.99
NEW CONCENTRATE FRESH START DETERGENT 21 oz btl 99¢

TROPHY-SLICED, FROZEN STRAWBERRIES 10-OZ CTNS 3 \$1
FROZEN-WHIPPED TOPPING 9-OZ TUB 49¢
RAINBOW SOLIDS MARGARINE 1-LB PKG 29¢

TEXAS RUBY RED Grapefruit 69¢ 5-LB BAG
TEXAS JUICE ORANGES 69¢ 5-LB BAG
VINE RIPE FLORIDA TOMATOES 49¢ LB
TEXAS GREEN CABBAGE 10¢ LB
CALIFORNIA HASS AVOCADOS 3 \$1 FOR

FRESH FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 12-OZ CAN 63¢
AMERICAN, PIMENTO, SWISS SLICED CHEESE 8-OZ PKG 69¢
Honey Buns Morton 9-OZ PKG 59¢
Totino's Pizzas Asst. Flavors 13 -OZ PKG 89¢
Coffee Creamer Rich's 16-OZ CTN 39¢
Broccoli Cuts 10-OZ PKG 42¢
Broccoli Spears 10-OZ PKG 49¢
Brussels Sprouts 8-OZ PKG 47¢
Potatoes Shoestring 20-OZ BAG 37¢
Margarine Imperial Quartered 1-LB CTN 49¢
Snack Dips Onion, Chive, Bacon/Horseradish 3 8-OZ CTNS \$1
Biscuits Buttermilk, Sweetmilk 3 8-OZ TUBES 39¢
Yogurt Swiss Style 4 8 oz ctn \$1
HEALTH & BEAUTY AIDS
Decorator Glasses Assorted 31-Oz Size EACH \$1.29
Ice Cube Tray Plastic 2 FOR 98¢
Super D Aspirin BTL of 100 31¢
NyQuil Nighttime Cold Medicine 8-OZ BTL \$1.79
Sure Roll-On Deodorant Assorted 30d Off 1.5-OZ BTL 79¢

FOR FAST PAIN RELIEF BAYER ASPIRIN BTL of 50 69¢
FOOD CENTER Happy New Year
Home Owned and Operated 600 Crockett

Delicious Apples WASHINGTON STATE RED OR GOLDEN EXTRA FANCY LB 39¢
California Carrots 1-LB BAG 29¢ Cauliflower Cello Wrapped EACH 98¢
Sunkist Lemons 10 FOR \$1 Leaf Lettuce Romaine, Green or Red Leaf 3 HEADS \$1

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL!**



We want to take this opportunity to thank all our customers for your confidence in us in 1977 and we look forward to serving you throughout 1978.

Ed Carasco and staff...Johnny Luna, Nacho Romero, Larry Scott and Adrian Cardenas

Live Oak Phillips 66

Mal Fitch Orchestra For Fling Dingers

The Mal Fitch Orchestra will provide dance music to the multitudes that come this year to Sonora's annual Fling Ding.

This orchestra was written up in the Texas Monthly Magazine as the best orchestra in the southwest stated officers

of the Fling Ding Club.

In addition to this orchestra, Fling Dingers will be entertained during intermission by the Levee Singers and Mrs. Olive Hays will entertain in the bar area at the piano.

This year's Fling Ding,

to be held in the 3,000 square foot warehouse of Sonora Wool and Mohair Company, will be held March 4 and is by invitation only.

At the annual meeting officers were elected with Harold Schwiening, Jr.,

named president. Other officers include Hershel Davenport, vice president and Mrs. Marie Aldwell, secretary and treasurer. New directors Herbert Fields, Ken Braden, Albert Ward, Davenport and Jodie Finklea, were also elected.

SS Representative To Visit

Garland Gregg, social security representative for the San Angelo Social Security Office, has scheduled his January visit to Sonora. He will be at the County Courthouse on Thursday, January 19th between 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Anyone who wants to file a claim for benefits,

get information, or transact other business with the Social Security Administration may contact him at this time. Persons who are unable to meet with him are encouraged to call the office in San Angelo. Residents of Sonora may call toll free by dialing "Operator" and asking for "Enterprise 2058".

Commercial License Test Available

Tests on commercial and non-commercial applicator's license will be given in the district office of Texas Department of Agriculture at 3652 North Dixie in Odessa every first Tuesday of each month beginning with January 3.

Sonora Churches

Primera Baptist Church
Rev. Guadalupe G. Pena
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Training Union 5:30 p.m.
Worship 7:00 p.m.
WMU Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Services 7:00 p.m.

St. Ann's Catholic Church
Rev. Louis B. Moeller
Sat. Vigil Mass 7 p.m.
Sunday Masses 8 a.m. 10 a.m.
Holy Day Mass 7 p.m.

Sonora Tabernacal United Pentacostal
Rev. Kenneth Doyle, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Eve. Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Services 7:30 p.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
Kenneth Cook, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Eve. 7:00 p.m.
Tues. Eve. 7:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
Rev. Paul Terry, Pastor
Church School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:45 a.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church
Rev. Ray Nations, Rector
Holy Com. 8 a.m. 11 a.m.
1st and 3rd Sundays
Morn. Prayer 11 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays

Hope Lutheran Church
John E. Hafermann, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian
The Rev. Jim Miles
Sunday: Church School 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship 10:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
(Communion on first Sunday of each month)
Inquirer's Class 7:30 p.m.
(Session and Diaconate meet at 7:30 on the 3rd Wed. of each month)

First Baptist Church
Rev. Clifton Hancock, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship 10:50 a.m.
Eve. Worship 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Services 7:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
Ralph Weinholt, Sr., Minister
Bible School 10:00 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Youth Group 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Eve. 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Eve. 7 p.m.

This message and information is brought to you by the following merchants:

The Ruth Shurley Jewelry

Kerbow Funeral Home

Neville's

Your Complete Department Store

Southwest Texas Electric Coop, Inc.

Owned By Those It Serves

Devil's River News Football Contest

Pick the winners of these games:

PLAYOFF GAMES

To win you must correctly pick the winning team and select the nearest point spread on the score.

_____ TEXAS A&M vs. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA _____

_____ NOTRE DAME vs. TEXAS _____

_____ OKLAHOMA vs. ARKANSAS _____

_____ MICHIGAN vs. WASHINGTON STATE _____

_____ OHIO STATE vs. ALABAMA _____

_____ OAKLAND vs. DENVER _____

_____ MINNESOTA vs. DALLAS _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

- Rules:
1. Entry forms must be mailed or delivered to the Devil's River News before 4 p.m. each Friday.
 2. There is no limit to the number of entry forms you may submit in any one week.
 3. In case of a tie, the person whose entry is closest to the actual score in the tie-breaker game will be declared the winner.
 4. All games that result in a tie score will be counted as a winning game for both teams.

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Sutton County Ranch News

Attempts Made To Clear Export On Pelts

Conditions have improved a bit since we last reported on the bobcat pelt export ban.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department officials have been working with representatives of the Endangered Species Scientific Authority in an attempt to clear export of bobcat skins from the state, and Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers' Association executive secretary Bill Sims says he's "Confident that suitable arrangements can be

made." ESSA is a relatively new federal authority charged with assuring that certain animal species are not endangered by export. The bobcat is one of the animals placed under ESSA's jurisdiction because of an international agreement seeking to protect, among other things, the entire cat family. The cat family was added to the worry list at the request of certain African nations whose exotic felines were being

decimated by poachers.

Without ESSA's approval, pelts of the bobcat, lynx and otter cannot be exported from a given state or shipped across state lines. Approval requires that the states show that export will not harm the species' survival in that state or in general. It's a case of guilty until proven innocent, and Texas officials are moving double-time to document the innocence of bobcat export from our state.

Sims is encouraging trappers not to panic and either cease taking bobcats or sell skins too rapidly on the currently depressed market.

Pelt prices of as much as \$75-\$100 a year ago dropped to \$25-\$30 recently, but some reports indicate that the market has shown some strength of late, possibly rising to the \$50 range.

Much of the blame for the price crash can be laid on fear of the export ban because the vast

majority of bobcat pelts are sold overseas, but some observers say that other factors have also been at work. Cat pelts have reportedly stacked up at port during the last year, a situation bound to change as many states are barred from the export market.

Assuming that Texas is allowed export status, and there is no sensible reason why it shouldn't be, Texas trappers may be called upon to fill gaps in the market left by

states unable to obtain clearance. Another important point is that there is so far no trapping season on bobcats in Texas -- they may be taken year-round.

In order to approve export, however, ESSA may dictate such a season, and trappers accustomed to year-round catches could find themselves barred from the field at some future time this year.

Annual Meeting of Mohair Council Scheduled

The annual meeting of the Mohair Council of America will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at the Holiday Inn Holiday in San Angelo. The one-day meeting will draw mohair growers and tradesmen from all over Southwest Texas. Highlighting the meeting will be a report on the Council's reorganization. The Council has

undergone extensive reorganization since November, including its administrative department. The Council's New York office was closed, but the closing did not signal any cutback in the organization's promotion activities. With the shift of all management responsibilities to the San Angelo general office, the Council employ-

ed Fred R. Campbell of Sonora as executive director. Campbell assumes full management of the Council on Jan. 1.

In addition to examining the reorganizational plans of the Council, members will vote on a by-law change which will realign the Council's previous 21 districts

into 11 districts that will reflect the collection area now covered by the Texas Mohair Producers Board. Directors approved submitting the by-law change to the membership when they met at Sonora in mid-August.

Other business to be brought before the Council's membership includes the election of directors

and new officers, reports on mohair marketing activities, mohair promotion and advertising programs, discussion of future budgets,

financial reports of both the Mohair Council and the Texas Mohair Producers Board, and plans for the biennial election of directors to the commodity board on Feb. 1.

Presiding over the business meeting will be Sid Harkins of Sanderson, president. He will be assisted by Bob Childress of Ozona, vice president, and Herman Moore of Brownwood, secretary-treasurer. "All mohair growers are invited to attend," Harkins said. "We need grower input and ideas for future program planning."

Eagle Controversary Hurting Sheep and Goat Producers

The dead lamb or kid you find in your pasture may well hold the answer to the eagle depredation controversy that is now going on, according to Bill Schneemann, president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association. We recognize that the lack of information as to the actual depredating habits of the golden

eagle is certainly hurting the sheep and goat producers at this time. The only way this information can be obtained is for an authority to have the opportunity to post mortem these baby animals and actually determine what caused their death.

The TS&GRA is proposing that all sheep and goat producers in the

State of Texas who have suspected golden eagle kills to put these small animals in a plastic bag and put them in the deep freeze. Regional centers will be designated where these frozen specimens can be taken.

Collection will be made from these centers, and the lambs and

kids will all be taken to San Angelo Research and Extension Center where the lambs will be posted by Dr. Bart O'Gara of the University of Montana. Dr. O'Gara is one of the few recognized authorities on golden eagles who has the ability to determine as to how the lamb or kid was killed and if it was killed by a golden eagle. Until such

information, it will be impossible to develop a very comprehensive program to correct eagle depredation.

To point out the seriousness of the problem, I quote from an editorial in the Austin American Statesman on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 1977, "Ranchers contend that golden eagles prey on lambs and

kid goats. But their efforts to get the Federal game authorities to believe them have been unsuccessful." This very vividly points out that we should and will develop information which will show that the golden eagle is a predator on our livelihood and a program should be developed to correct the problem.

Shin Oak Control Could Be Grazing Advantage

Few of the landowners whose farming or grazing land in the 3.5 million West Texas acres is covered by sand shin oak realize there are advantages in controlling rather than completely eliminating the oak.

Dr. Russell D. Pettit, professor in Texas Tech University's Range and Wildlife Management Department, says clearing out the oak may increase, rather than decrease, ranchers' problems.

Pettit listed eight reasons for maintaining sand shin oak stands.

The oak stands help minimize wind erosion, particularly in the spring months when high winds are prevalent, he said. The oaks are particularly helpful in preventing erosion of exposed hilltops.

Sand shin oak stands help provide emergency forage during droughts, when there is little if any grass available for cattle. The oak is the only plant that will put on any growth during droughts, and its carotene and protein content would enable livestock to sustain

themselves until other types of forage are available, providing care is taken with grazing schedules. During the spring months the oak is extremely toxic.

Shinnery oak has been found to be a valuable food source and cover for wildlife, who are apparently not affected by its toxicity during the spring, Pettit said. The oak is considered a necessity for the lesser prairie chicken, and pronghorn antelope would not be in this West Texas except for the shinnery oak stands.

The hybrid types of sand shin oak, which grow somewhat taller, provide shade for livestock, which is extremely important during the summer when soil temperatures can reach 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

The oak's shade also aids in microbial growth in the soil. The microbes are essential in decomposition, which is a major part of soil somewhat.

Pettit said because the shinnery oak is more deeply rooted than any

of the other plants in the area, it helps recycle soil nutrients to the topsoil. The oak brings the nutrients up to its leaves and, when the leaves fall in the autumn, they return the nutrients to the soil surface through decomposition. This recycling process has been determined by soil samples.

The oak stands aid in preventing livestock from grazing some grasses, especially when the stands are dense. This protects seed

sources which are need to re-seed the grass in the spring.

The Tech professor added that many people find the oak stands aesthetically pleasing because the stands break the monotony of the flat plains and because of the leaf coloration in the fall.

Because there are advantages to the sand shin oaks, Pettit suggested that controlling rather than eradicating the oak would be more beneficial in the long run.

He said if the oak were eliminated, a combination of overgrazing and wind erosion would probably result in making the West Texas a virtual desert within 10 years. Much the same thing happened in the Sahara Desert.

Pettit suggested partial clearing and thinning of the stands would result in improved grazing while at the same time preserving the advantages of the sand shin oak stands for the West Texas regions.

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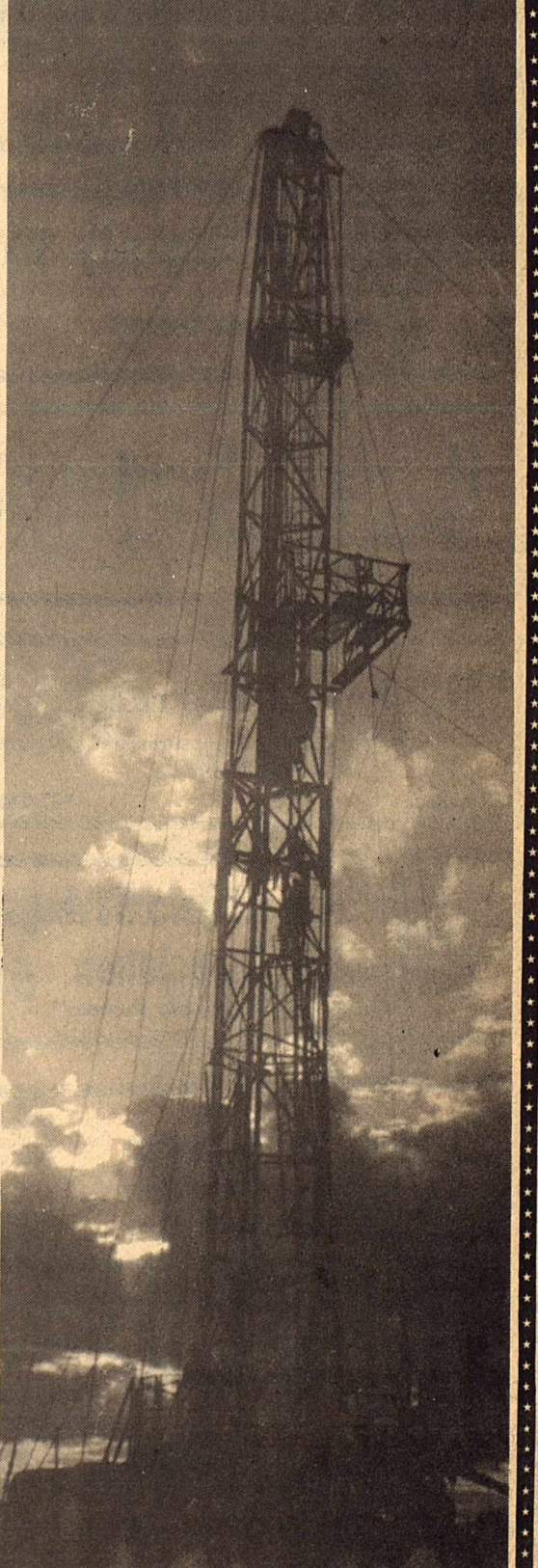
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We are offering a reward of \$100 to anyone with information leading to the arrest and prosecution of trespassers on any land operated by or in the name of W.L. Miers.

7p12

Firemen's News

By Jerald Zech
 Dec. 23-Firemen answered a call to the Harold Schwiening ranch at 3 p.m., Units 70, 60, 40 and 30 responded. Firemen attending were James Blackman, David Flores, Robert Stokes, Carl Teaff, Robert Taylor, Tim Thorp, Gene West, Jerold Zech and Everett Ogburn.
 Unit 20 responded to a fire at 12:30 a.m., when a car caught fire. David Flores, Frank Guerra and Tim Thorp answered the call.
 Dec. 24: At 10 a.m., unit 70 manned by Flores, Joe Luttrell and Gene West, responded to a grass fire. 4 p.m., An electrical transformer caught fire and units 20 and 30 answered the call. Firemen attending were Blackman, Donaldson, Flores, Guerra, Olenick, Teaff, Thorp and Zech.
 Dec. 25-A grass fire at the mile marker on 389 West was answered at 8 p.m. Blackman, Olenick, Stokes, Teaff, Zech, Flores, and Guerra were on hand.
 Dec. 26-Three units responded to a fire at 604 Allen Drive at 7:20 p.m. Firemen were Blackman, Donaldson, Guerra, Luttrell, McLaughlin, Olenick, Teaff, Thorp and West.

RRC Suspends WT Increase Proposal

The Railroad Commission has suspended a proposal of West Texas Gas, Inc., Midland which would increase the gas rates for rural residential customers in 38 counties in the panhandle and southwestern regions of the state.
 On Nov. 23, the utility filed with the Commission a statement of intent to increase a ten Mcf net bill by 12.5 percent. The proposed increase would affect approximately 490 customers.
 Chairman Mack Wallace and Commissioner Jon Newton suspended the proposed rate increase for 120 days from Dec. 28, or until a final order of the Commission.

The Commissioners acted on the recommendation of Hearing Examiner Michele Sanchez during their weekly conference on Gas Utilities Division matters.
 West Texas Gas proposes to increase rates in these counties are: Andrews, Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Crockett, Deaf Smith, Donley, Hale, Hall, Hockley, Gaines, Gray, Irion, Loving, Lubbock, Martin, Midland, Oldham, Parker, Pecos, Potter, Randall.
 Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Sutton, Swisher, Terry, Upton, Val Verde, Ward, Wheeler, Winkler, Yoakum.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City Council, City of Sonora, Sutton County, Texas will hold a public hearing Monday, January 9, 1978, at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the following:

Zone change request submitted by O.L. Richardson, Jr., for Lot 2, Block 15E, Original Townsite, from Single Family Residential (R-1) to Light Manufacturing (M-1)

Zone change request submitted by Duwane A. Genini for S/2 1/2, 20' of S/2-2, Block K, Original Townsite from Single Family Residential (R-1) to Commercial (C-1) 2c18

CLASSIFIED ADS
387-2507

NOTICE

Notice: The Sonora Independent School Tax Office will be closed December 23 and 26 and open again December 27. Also be closed January 2, 1978.

Notice

The Learn and Play Daycare Center will be open New Year's Eve from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Reservations would be appreciated. Please call 387-3941, 387-2234 or 387-3277. 3c16

Card of Thanks

Our most sincere thanks for your prayers, cards and flowers during our recent illness. Your friendship and thoughtfulness made our stay more durable. Happy Holidays. Lucy Mae and Thomas Morriss

Help Wanted

Wanted experienced truck drivers. Summit Gas Company, a crude oil and gas purchaser has immediate openings in Midland and Sonora areas. Many Company benefits. For interview and application call collect Chesley Thomas, 915/563-3343. IH20 West, Midland, Tex. 79701. (An equal opportunity employer). 3c16
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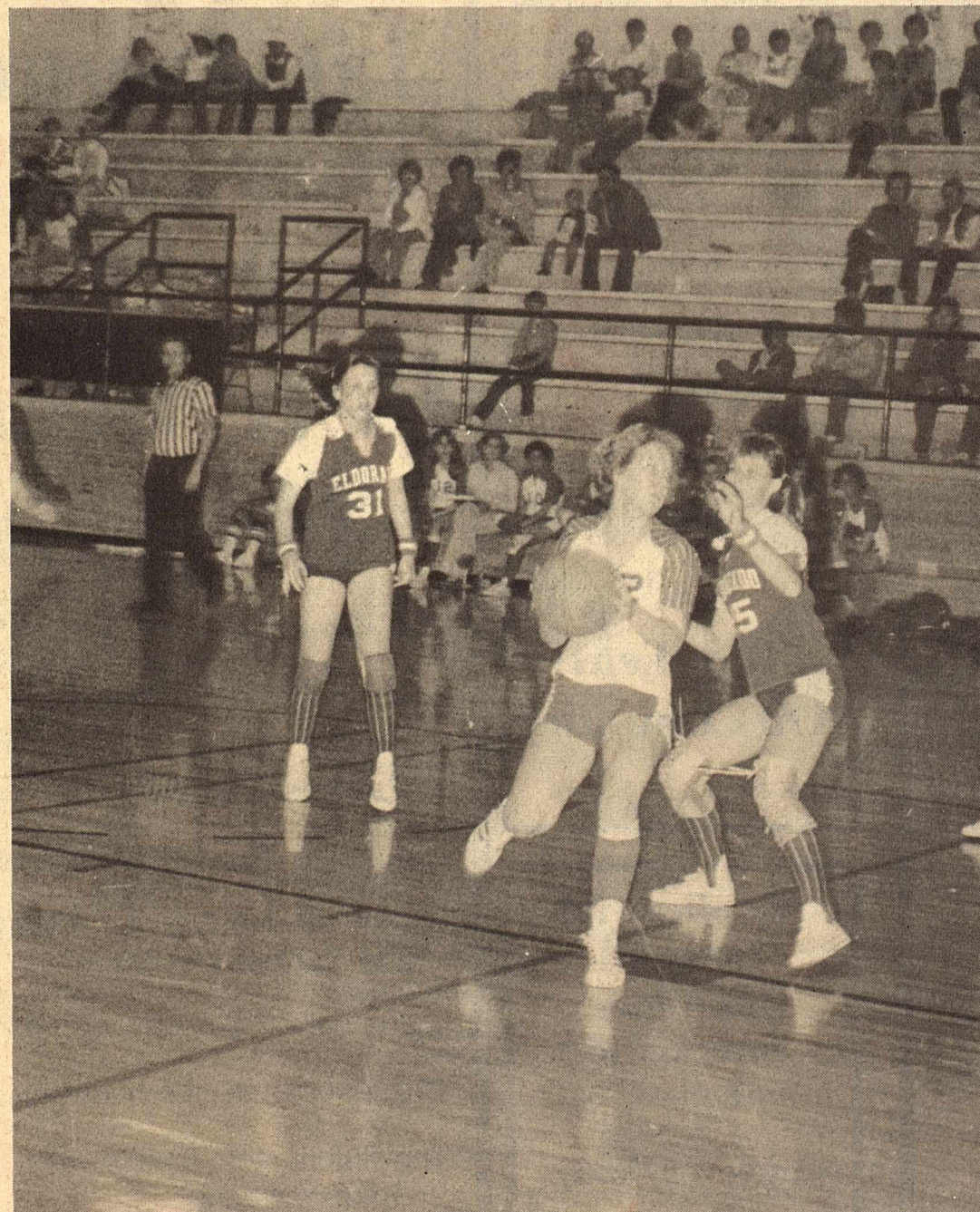


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Shipwrecked on Padre Island: 1846

At the outbreak of the Mexican War in May 1846, Dr. S. Compton Smith enlisted in Galveston as a volunteer soldier in Co. Joseph Bennett's company of riflemen. Enroute to Point Isabel and Brazos Island near the mouth of the Rio Grande

to join other volunteers, Smith and his companions were shipwrecked on Padre Island. No lives were lost and, after reconnoitering, the men discovered that they were near the island's southern tip.

This second segment of a three-part series taken from Dr. Smith's 1857 memoir, "Chili Con Carne", resumes the narrative of his adventures.

 "The second day after the wreck, Colonel Bennett, with the greater portion of the men, left for the southern end of the island; where they signaled across the bay, to Brazos Island, and were taken by lighters to the temporary encampment there. Some fifteen or twenty men were left with

me at the wreck, until wagons could be ferried across the bay, to remove our effects to the main land at Point Isabel, where the volunteer forces were assembling.

"In a few days the wagons arrived, having found a good road along the smooth beach. Providing myself with a haversack, containing a few biscuits of pilot-bread, a canteen of brackish water, and a single blanket, I concluded to walk ahead, and, when fatigued, to wait for the coming up wagons. A young Texan, named Roberts, who had been one of the unfortunate Sante Fe prisoners, and afterwards was taken at Mier, proposed to accompany me . . .

"The morning was excessively hot, with hardly a breath of air in motion. It was just such weather as, in that latitude, always precedes those cold northers, like the one that had driven us upon the island. As we did not intend to keep far ahead of the wagons, Roberts, accomodating his dress to the weather, had only hat, cotton shirt and drawers, and boots.

"We found the shore for many miles strewn with fragments of wrecks, and boxes, and bales of goods, which had been thrown into the sea from vessels which, perhaps, had been in the same storm that had driven us ashore. . . .

"Sea-shells and other marine objects, many of rare and beautiful varieties, were abundantly strewn along the water-line of the beach. Of these we would almost involuntarily load ourselves, and as often cast them from

us, for others of more beautiful coloring and texture, or of rarer species. Thus, we were led along, from one object to another, til, before we were aware of it, we had left the wagons far behind, and out of sight.

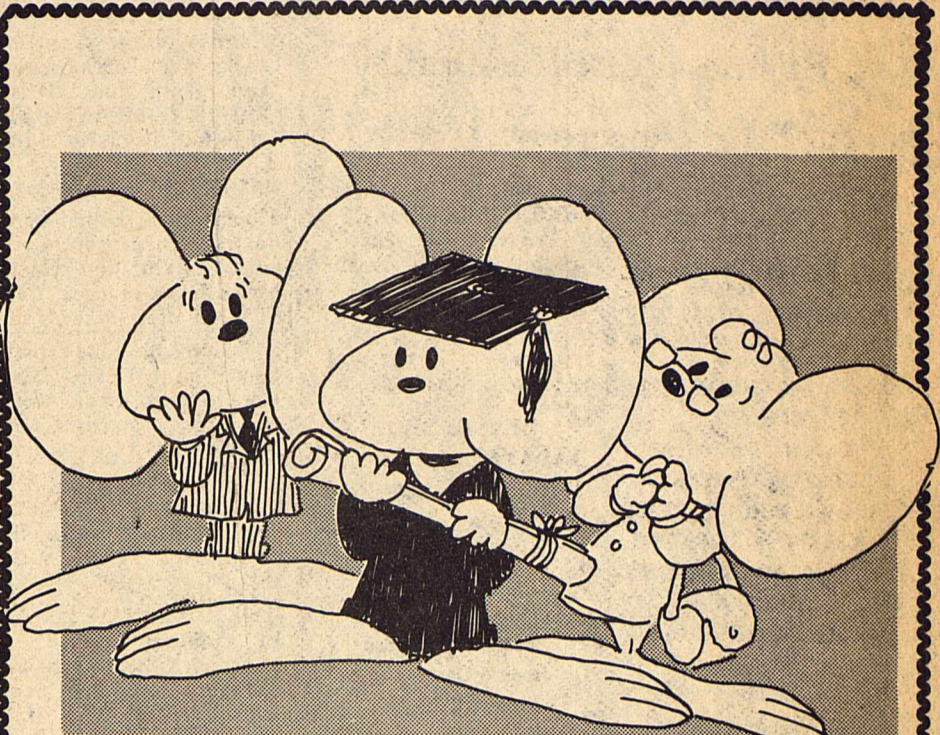
"The clouds, in the mean time, indicated the approach of a norther. Rapidly the dark scowling vapors crept up from the northern horizon; then a hissing sound came over the waters, followed immediately by a freezing wind that cut to the bone, whirling the sand about like drifting snow. The sharp crystals cut like needles, as they were blown with force against our persons. Roberts, being almost naked, suffered extremely: his shirt and thin cotton drawers were no protection to the stinging sand and cold wind.

"Then came the rain, accompanied with hail and sleet. It was fortunate for us that I had brought a blanket along. This we divided between us, by placing our arms around each other's shoulders, and each holding a corner in front. The storm being at our backs, we were able to scud before it. To stop now to wait the approach of the wagons was impossible, as the most rapid locomotion was necessary to keep the blood from congealing in our veins.

"We proceeded along in this way, the storm increasing in violence as the day advanced. The night, dark and gloomy, came upon us; and still we were obliged to move along, guided by the white line of surf that broke over our feet. Hour after hour we toiled before the pitiless storm, that goaded us onward, till at length, when nearly exhausted, we sought the shelter of the lee-side of the sand hills beyond the beach. Lying down, side by side, upon the sand, and drawing the blanket over us, we sought to snatch a

moment's repose. "Had we suffered ourselves to yield to the sleep our exhausted limbs demanded, it would have been the long last slumber to us. Scarcely had we congratulated ourselves upon the partial protection we found from the storm, when we found that we had another enemy to dread in the drifting sand, which would soon have buried us alive. We had, therefore, no other resource but to take to the beach again, and anxiously hope for the coming day."

***** describe his further adventures on Padre Island before he was able at last to reach the mainland and rejoin the other volunteers.



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December 21		56	22
December 22		58	12
December 23		77	43
December 24		61	32
December 25		68	33
December 26		68	32
Rainfall for the month, .06; rainfall for the year, 17.08.			

About one-fifth of Texas natural gas is being sold for more than \$1.75 per thousand cubic feet, which is the top price allowed under the Carter energy plan now before Congress.

Happy New Year

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