

THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

SINCE 1890

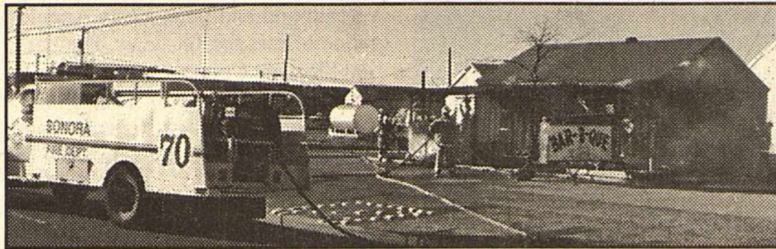
Volume 110 • Issue 17

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, April 29, 1999

3 Injured in Rafter L Fire

A three year old boy, his mother and one other victim were burned in the fire, believed to be caused by a butane bottle near a bar-b que pit outside of Rafter L Bar-B-Que Restaurant, late Monday. There were two other people inside the building at the time of the blaze, but they escaped unharmed. The small boy and his mother were both flown to the St. Mary's Hospital & Texas Tech Medical Center in Lubbock, to be treated for burns that are believed to cover from 60% to 70% of their bodies. At the time of this report the boy was in critical condition. An investigation is still pending.



Local Firemen fight to douse the flames that engulfed the Rafter L building.



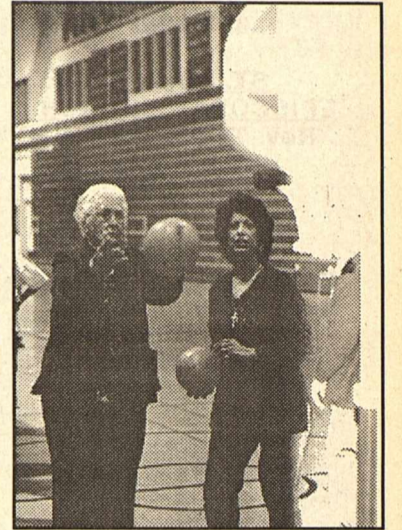
Rafter L is practically just a shell after burning Monday evening.

Lillian M. Hudspeth Nursing Home Residents Participated in the 3rd Midwest Play Day

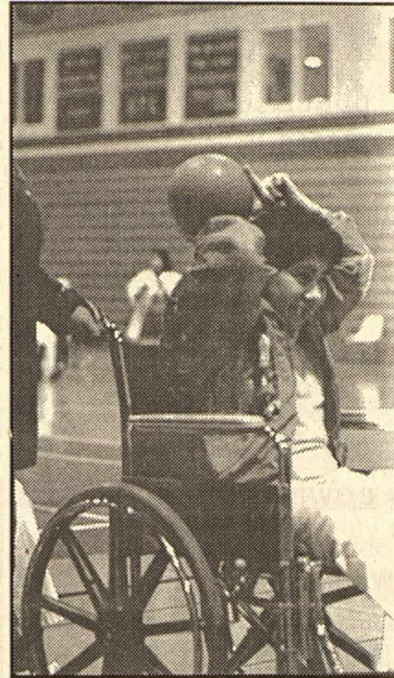
Submitted

On April 17, 1999 the 3rd Midwest Play Day was held at the A.S.U. gym. The Play Day is an Olympic style competition for Nursing Home residents. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were given for each event. Lillian M. Hudspeth Nursing Home was one of many nursing homes in this area that participated. This was a great opportunity for nursing home residents to have fun and get away from the facility for a day. Competing from Sonora were residents, Virgie Rowland and Oralia Galindo. Attending staff were Administrator, Joe Hendrus, Assistant Director of Nursing, Diane Clarkson, Activity Director, Terry Surridge and Nurse's Aide, Robin Vela. Mrs. Rowland cap-

tered a bronze medal for the basketball throw. Oralia Galindo and Mrs. Rowland also received medals for attending.



Above: Mrs. Virgie Rowland shoots for her bronze medal in the basketball throw.



Left: Oralia Galindo takes her best shot in the basketball throw competition.

PTA Elects New Board

PTA

Submitted

Sonora Elementary PTA held their quarterly meeting on April 19, 1999. Mayor JoAnn Hernandez opened the meeting with the invocation and Vice-president Martha Perez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Marissa Faz read the minutes from the last meeting. The Treasurer's report was given by Sherry Ingham. She announced there was presently 112 members. Ingham also stated that \$500.00 was made from the family portraits that were taken on March 27th.

Several fund-raisers were discussed and once they are decided on, they will be announced to the public.

The PTA members discussed and approved the sale of school supplies before the beginning of the next school year. More information will be given later in the year.

The Fundraising Committee is also in need of volunteers from the community. The more people that are involved, the less work each individual has to do. So if you can, please volunteer to help this committee by calling Mrs. Hirt at 387-5669 or Mrs. Dermody at 387-2414.

Rita Mesa, Hospitality Chairwoman, announced that there will be a breakfast held for the teachers on Tuesday, May 4th.

From the Membership Committee, Carla Crites spoke of the need for more PTA members. If you are interested, please contact the school. The membership fee is only \$3.00 per person. Please join for the children!

Old business was discussed and noted that the Wild West Day was very successful. Thanks go out to everyone who volunteered their time and to all who came out to enjoy the festivities. Bonnie Lou Campbell made a video of the event, which can be checked out of the Elementary School if you were unable to attend the days activities.

The election of officers for the

1999-2000 school year was held, with the results as follows: President - Bonnie Lou Campbell, Vice-president - Martha Perez, Secretary - Susan Burnham, Treasurer - Sherry Ingham. Congratulations to all that were elected.

It was then discussed and approved that \$300.00 would be allocated for Teacher Appreciation Week activities. (They deserve so much more!)

May 25th is designated "Splash Day" at Sonora Elementary. Call Mrs. Dermody if you can volunteer to help during this fun event.

There will be a Summer Leadership Seminar in Austin on July 16-18 for anyone interested in becoming an officer in the future. The cost will be \$75.00 per person, paid for by our organization.

Ram Perez & Texas Healthy Kids Corp. makes available insurance for people who may not be able to afford medical insurance for children. Applications are available at the Hospital in English and Spanish. For more information contact Ram Perez at the Lillian Hudspeth Hospital.

After the business meeting was held, the Sonora Pre-K - 2nd grade students performed for the audience. The Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes sang "Blue Bird" and "Jump it Jody, Jump It". The 1st grade students sang "Each of us is a Flower" and "Sunshine Melody", followed by the 2nd graders singing "Down, Down Baby" and "My Father's House". Everyone had a wonderful time, especially the children who performed! What makes a more enjoyable evening, than to watch your children having such a splendid time! So PLEASE, become a PTA member and support your kids and teachers. They ARE our future.



Ribbon Cutting Celebrates New Home For Post Office

We'll soon be checking our mail at a new address, but this isn't the first time the citizens of Sonora have found their mail at a different delivery spot. Following is a story from the 75th Anniversary Devil's River News that tell of all our Post Office locations.

The Devil's River News on August 19, 1965

One of the most mobile organizations in town has been the Post Office. It has moved ten times in its 76 year history.

In the early days the Post Office followed the Postmaster, and the Postmaster changed with each new administration in Washington.

The first postmaster was Robert W. Callahan, who operated the post office in his general store. He was appointed September 19, 1889, and served until February 15, 1890, when Pharis Hurst was named to the office.

While Mr. Hurst ran the Post Office, it was in its second location at his stage stand near the large oak tree still standing on the corner of Main and Water Streets. A picture of the old building is displayed in the current post office.

The first money orders were

issued here in April, 1891. For a number of years a record was made of money orders issued, listing each day the persons buying them and the places where they were sent. The Post Office today has one of these books 50 years old.

William C. Cusenbary became Postmaster July 2, 1891, and the office moved again, this time to Cusenbary and Briant's Drug Store. There it stayed through Mr. Cusenbary's term and the term of his successor, Elijah S. Briant (who held office from May 19, 1893 to June 10, 1897).

Then the Post Office went to the Devil's River News in 1897 for a nine-year stay while Mike Murphy was Postmaster. At that time the news office was located where Westernman Drug is now, and several old pictures show the building with its large sign on the roof saying "The Devil's Retreat" and a smaller sign below saying "Post Office."

Mr. Hurst became Postmaster again on October 27, 1906, and once again the Post Office found a new home. Mrs. Manila Trainer remem-

See Post Office - Page 6



Judy Phillips was sworn in as the new Postmaster on Wednesday, April 21, 1999 in front of the new Post Office.

Tim Thorp Named Firefighter of the Year

Submitted

Hill Country Fireman's Association wishes to nominate Tim Thorp for State Firefighter of the Year. Tim, winner of the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department's award for Firefighter of the Year in 1998-99, has been a member of the Fire Department since 1972, having completed 26 years of service on September 13, 1998. He is a second

generation fireman, as his father was a member of the Sonora department from 1947 until sometime in the 1960's.

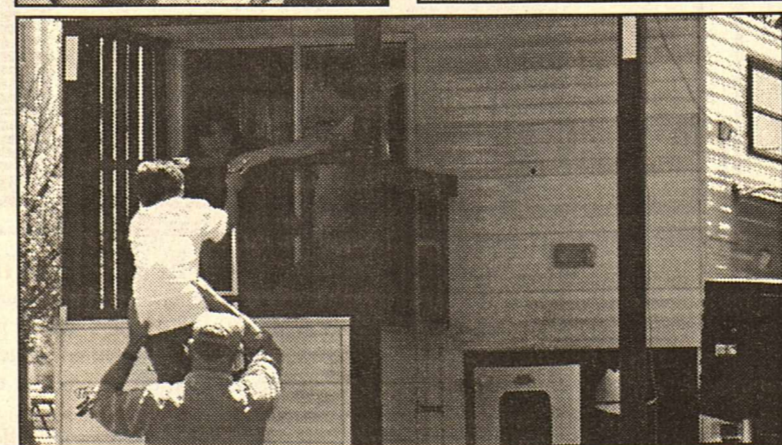
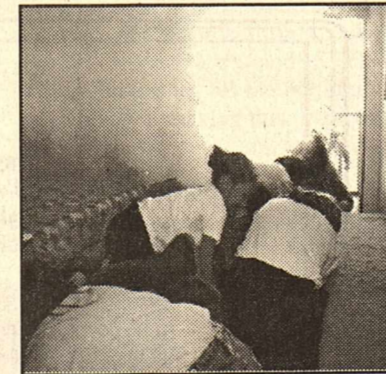
Tim has served the Sonora Fire Department in many capacities over the years, and has been a tireless worker. He has been a Trustee of the Pension Board for 5 years, has served as President and has served as Assistant Chief, providing innovative leadership to the Department for 10 years. He served on the Fire Station Expansion Committee in 1976 and headed the committee to upgrade the engines to carry 5" hoses in 1998. Tim was recognized as Sonora Fireman of the Year in 1973, 1988 and again in 1998. Sonora Volunteer Fire Department is a member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas and Tim is personally a member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Tim has served the Fire Department in many other ways during his 26 year tenure. He was instrumental in building and outfitting three grass rigs in the early 1980s, which are still in use today. He participated in building the Fire Station wing, digging out dirt for the extension foundation and welding. He has served as an Instructor at the San Angelo Fire Training School. Additionally, Tim is definitely the pump operator expert for the "Big Red Truck," the engine used primarily for structure fires.

Tim Thorp has served his community tirelessly in many ways in addition to his active membership in the Fire Department. He is a Senior Charter Member of the Sutton County E.M.S., having entered the E.M.S. in 1982 when it was still

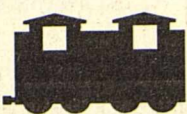
see Thorp page 6

Elementary Students Learn Fire Safety



The Sonora Volunteer Fire Department, joined by Gary Dodson, brought this model of a home to the Sonora Elementary School last week, to teach children about fire safety in the home.

Since June of 1996, when this display came into being, it has seen over 55,000 kids come through its little doors and tour the living area, kitchen and upstairs bedroom. In each area the volunteer fireman gives a lesson on safety and fire hazard in that area of the home. The program is free to the community and is a great learning tool. Some examples of what the children are taught include fireplace hazards, electrical outlets and cords that produce a danger, objects left on stairways that can cause injury when trying to get out of a burning home, and what to do when a smoke alarm goes off. At the end of the tour, in the mock upstairs bedroom, an actual smoke alarm begins to sound and smoke begins to fill the small room. The children are taught how to get on their knees and crawl to a safe exit, where they are helped down a ladder. Valuable lessons are learned while having fun.



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Ranch Women

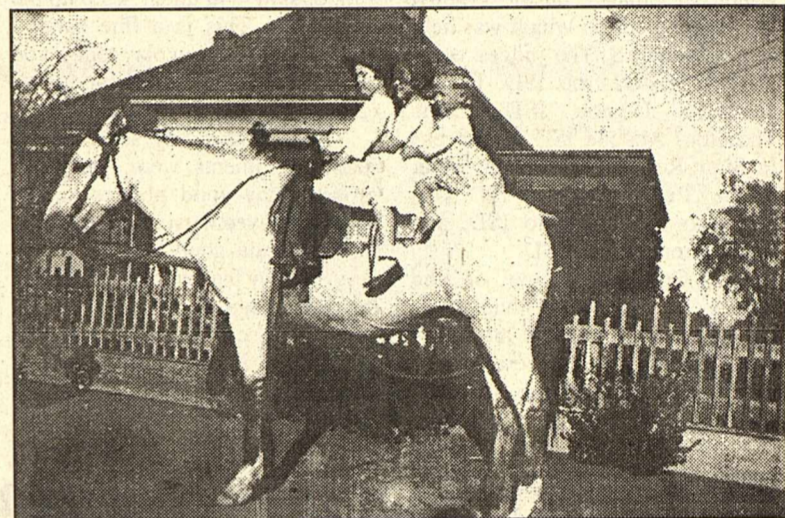
Mary Leontine Watson Espy

Submitted
Mary Leontine Watson Espy was born on November 13, 1916. Her parents were John Tully and Medora Fowler Watson of Van Horn, who had come as children with their families from Tennessee and Missouri, respectively to Wise County, Texas, where they were married in 1896. They moved West to Culberson County where they homesteaded and bought land, and lived there until their deaths. Leontine's early years in Van Horn were divided into regimented school months in town and the exciting and sometimes scary summertime spent on the ranch as her father's constant companion. Her father ran a cattle herd that roamed from high on the mountains to down in the gramma grass flats. When checking on the cows they usually had to spend several days camping out at night as it took much too long to ride back to the headquarters each evening. Leontine never forgot how thirsty she would get, "cotton-mouthed" she called it. She remembered the ground getting so dry that it cracked wide open into a deep ditch that was wide enough for a cow to fall into it, and it ran on for miles. She helped her father work his mules and wagon as he repaired his windmills and polled the pipe. Mr. Watson believed that he could do all the ranch tasks by himself, and he usually did just that! Leontine spent many anxious moments as she watched him "break" his horses. The broncs had to be at least four or five years old before they were ever touched. He would rope them, "snub" them up to a post set in the middle of the pen, get them saddled, crawl up on them and then reach over and turn them loose. Leontine would have to open the gate so they could get outside to run or back until the battle was over. Leontine would be by herself out in the middle of "nowhere" and sometimes it would be hours later before her father rode back to the pens. The chances of the horses falling into a gopher hole posed the greatest danger. Leontine loved horses, but

never really enjoyed watching the men riding the broncs in later years. When Leontine was fourteen, she and her mother moved to Abilene so that she could attend McMurry College. Finishing college at age eighteen, she taught school until her marriage to Howard Espy two years later. Familiar with ranch life in cow country, she had much to learn about sheep and goats- not to mention cooking and other household skills. She gave much credit to a patient husband very accomplished in "bachelor" housekeeping. Howard and Leontine had the perfect marriage for just twenty short years until his untimely death in 1958, at age fifty-four. Leontine continued to operate the ranches in Sutton and Culberson Counties for many years. Howard and Leontine had two daughters: Tom Elaine and husband, Walter Linn "Bud" Whitehead, of Sonora and Mary John and husband W. L. "Bill" Phinizy, of Gail. They were blessed with five grandchildren, Espy Whitehead of Sonora, Lea Whitehead Baze and husband, Arlis of Midland, Kelly Whitehead Waight and husband, Rob of Fredericksburg, William Espy Phinizy and wife, Michelle, of Dalhart and Mary Kate Phinizy of Agua Prieta, MX. In addition to her active interest in ranching and conservation, Leontine generously gave her time and wise guidance to community and school activities, always being supportive of many enriching and worthwhile programs. She was a member of the St. John's Women Auxiliary while in Sonora. After she moved to San Angelo, she was active in the Planned Parenthood Program and served on the Board of Directors of the Harvard House Condominium Association for many years. Her entire life was always deeply influenced by her love and deep appreciation of her ranching heritage. This legacy has been passed on through her family. Leontine Espy died October 8, 1995, in San Angelo at the age of 78.



Leontine Espy



Mary Leontine and friends

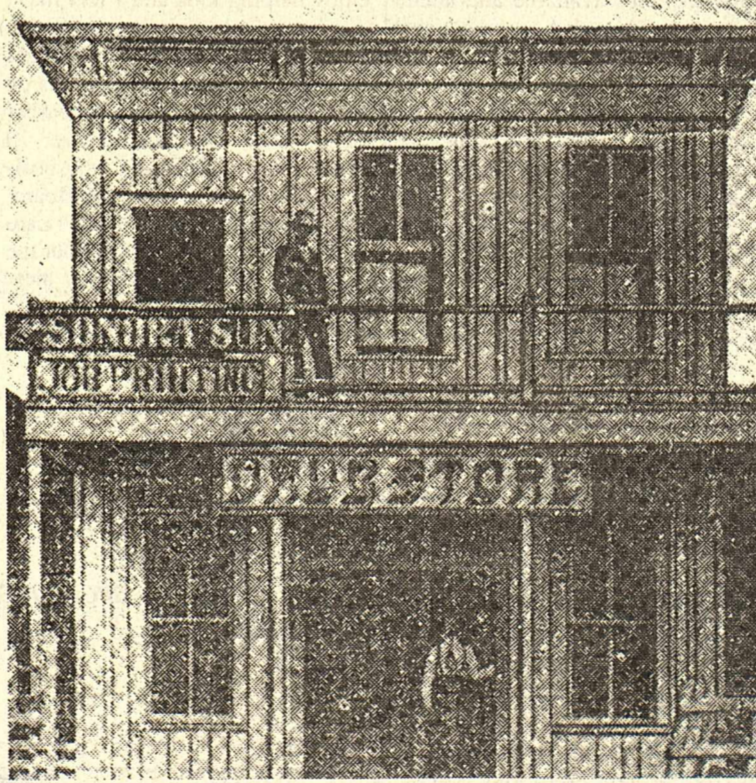
Thorp from page 1

Post Office from page 1

bers that building well. It was a two-story building located where C. G. Morrison Variety Store is now. The Post Office was on the ground floor, and Mrs. Trainer remembers that there were no postal boxes then. There were, she believes, two windows, one for stamps and the other a "call" window where people picked up their mail. Next Postmaster was Herman Thiers, appointed October 30, 1909, and it was about that time that the Post Office traveled across the street to what is now the vacant building next to Sonora Motor Company. On June 17, 1913, G. W. Smith, Mrs. Trainer's father, became Postmaster. It was during his term that the Postmaster for the first time had an assistant. Miss Torah Smith (Long) held that office.

Sonora's first woman Postmaster, Mrs. T. C. Murray, was appointed November 21, 1918. She served until her death, and her husband became Postmaster April 5, 1927. During this period employees in the Post Office included Mrs. Trainer and Mrs. Finis Hamby. George Barrow served as Postmaster from 1942 to 1944, when Dewitt Lancaster was appointed. James D. Trainer, the current Postmaster, took the office in April, 1946. Up the street came the Post Office in 1950, and Sonorans began picking up their mail in the building where 'Sonora Gas Company is now. Then in December, 1959, it made its tenth move, settling in the new red brick building on the

operated out of the Fire Department. He received his ECA certification in 1982; E.M.T.- Basic in 1984; E.M.T.- Intermediate in 1997; and most recently, E.M.T.-Paramedic in 1998. Tim Thorp's energy and industry do not stop with the Fire Department and E.M.S. He is the General Manager of Thorp's Laundry, a family owned laundry business started by Thomas B. Thorp after World War II, that has been in business for more than 50 years. He is President of Thorp Ranch, Inc., a ranching and hunting operation, and is active in St. John's Episcopal Church of Sonora. Tim also serves as a Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce. Tim Thorp has been married for 23 years to his wife, Leslie. They have two children of whom they are very proud-a son, T.J., age 21, who is an E.M.T.-Paramedic for Washington County E.M.S., and a daughter, Joni, age 19, who is a student at Angelo State University, majoring in Biology. Tim has had a long, distinguished career in the Fire Department, constantly striving to upgrade his abilities and knowledge. It began 26 years ago, and he participates in and works with the Department as much now as he did then. If anyone ever has a question, Tim is the one to ask. If fire trucks or the rescue unit are needed, Tim is there. He is willing to drop everything to come to the aid of his community. Tim leads by example, and has been the source of many innovative ideas that have furthered the professionalism and performance of the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department. Twenty-six years of pro-active volunteerism with the Fire Department, often under-staffed, fighting long, hard grass fires and large, dangerous oilfield fires, together with his activism and leadership in other community organizations, make Tim Thorp an ideal person to be named State Firefighter of the Year. He reaches out every day with his heart and his hand to help others, often at his own expense, and never out of thought for personal gain. No task is too big or too small if it benefits even one person. Tim is ready to help with whatever is needed, be it with ideas, time, funds or physical labor. He exemplifies the ideal of the Fireman devoted to his community and his fellow man, which is surely what Fireman of the Year is all about.



One of the first Post Office's in Sonora - early 1890s

Also about that time the Post Office made its seventh move. Up the street it went, back again to the corner near where Westerman Drug is now. The Post Office stayed there about three years, and then the stamps and letters were gathered up again, this time to go down the street a few steps for a comparatively long stay in a building located where Dr. J. F. Howell's office is now. George Barrow remembers when he came to Sonora in 1929 this was a frame building with about 50 boxes. It was remodeled and enlarged a number of times.

corner of Oak and Water streets, where it is located now. James D. Trainer, Reggie Trainer and Alfred Schwiennig Jr. all made the latest two moves with the Post Office, having started to work when it was located where Dr. Howell's office is now. Other postal employees now are Horace Hill and Larry Behrens, summer employee. Bo Trainer is mail contractor and Dick Hamrick is cleaning contractor. The Post Office is now getting settled in its new home on Main Street.

Carolyn Earwood's School of Dance

presents



May 2, 1999 at 3:30 at the Sonora High School

If you're looking for the latest movie releases, look no further than the VIDEO STORE!!

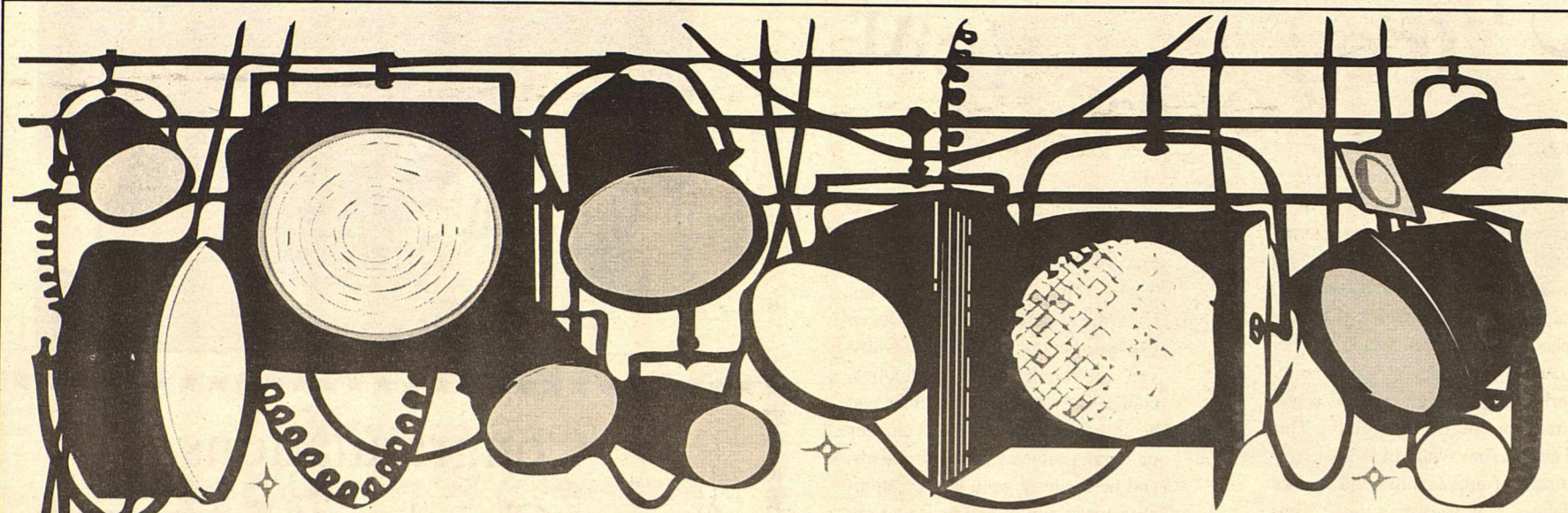
THE VIDEO STORE

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Mon.-Fri.
10:30-1:30 p.m.
&
2:30-9:00 p.m.
Sat.
10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Sun.
1:00-6:00 p.m.

NEW releases for this week are:

At First Sight
•
Elizabeth
•
Stepmom



New Directors

Pam Haynes
 Donnie Weaver
 Steve McCarn
 Tommy Arnwine

Directors

Kelly Owen
 Linda Love
 Gerry Ingham
 Yolanda Avila
 Hershel Davenport
 Brad Hughes
 Lise Miller
 Tim Thorp

Outgoing Directors

Tonya Brown
 Barry Limbocker
 Mary Adele Balch
 Lee Van Tucker

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PHONE _____

SIGNATURE _____

DUES: \$120.00 - BUSINESS OR RANCH MEMBERSHIP
 \$60.00 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP
 \$100 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

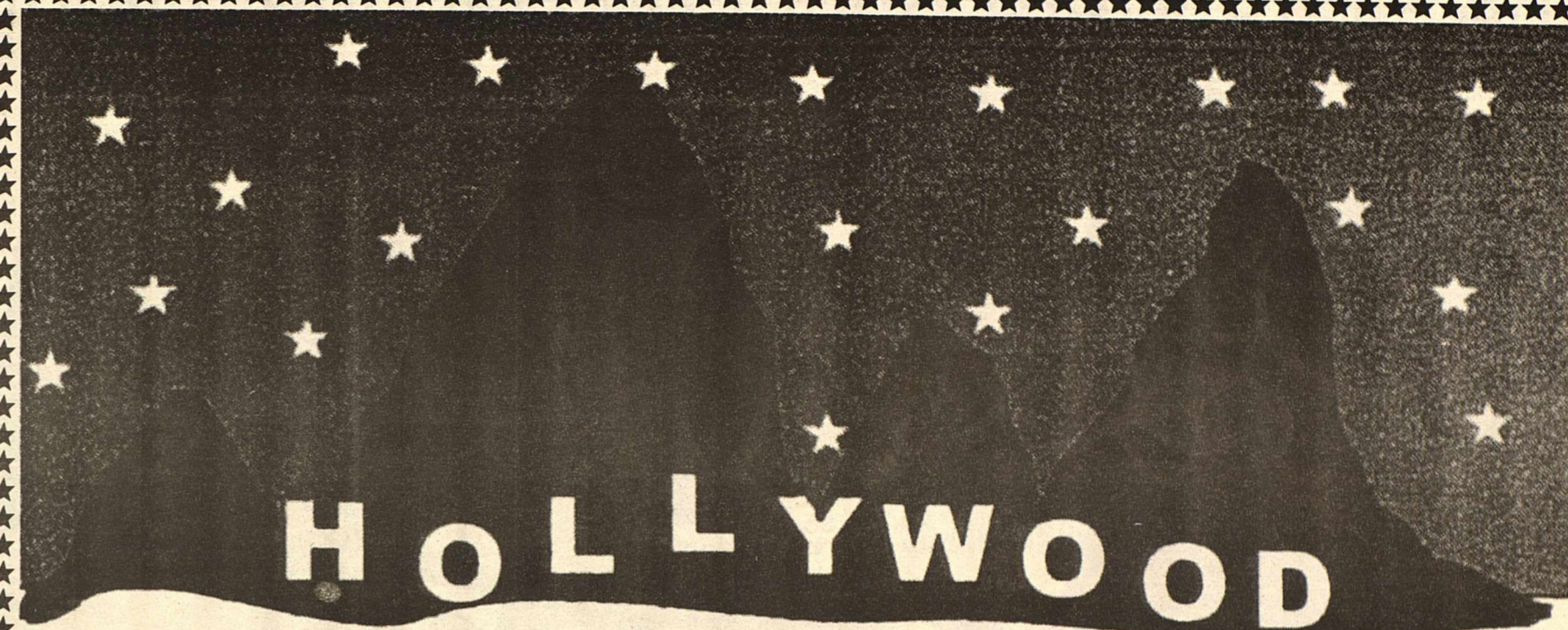
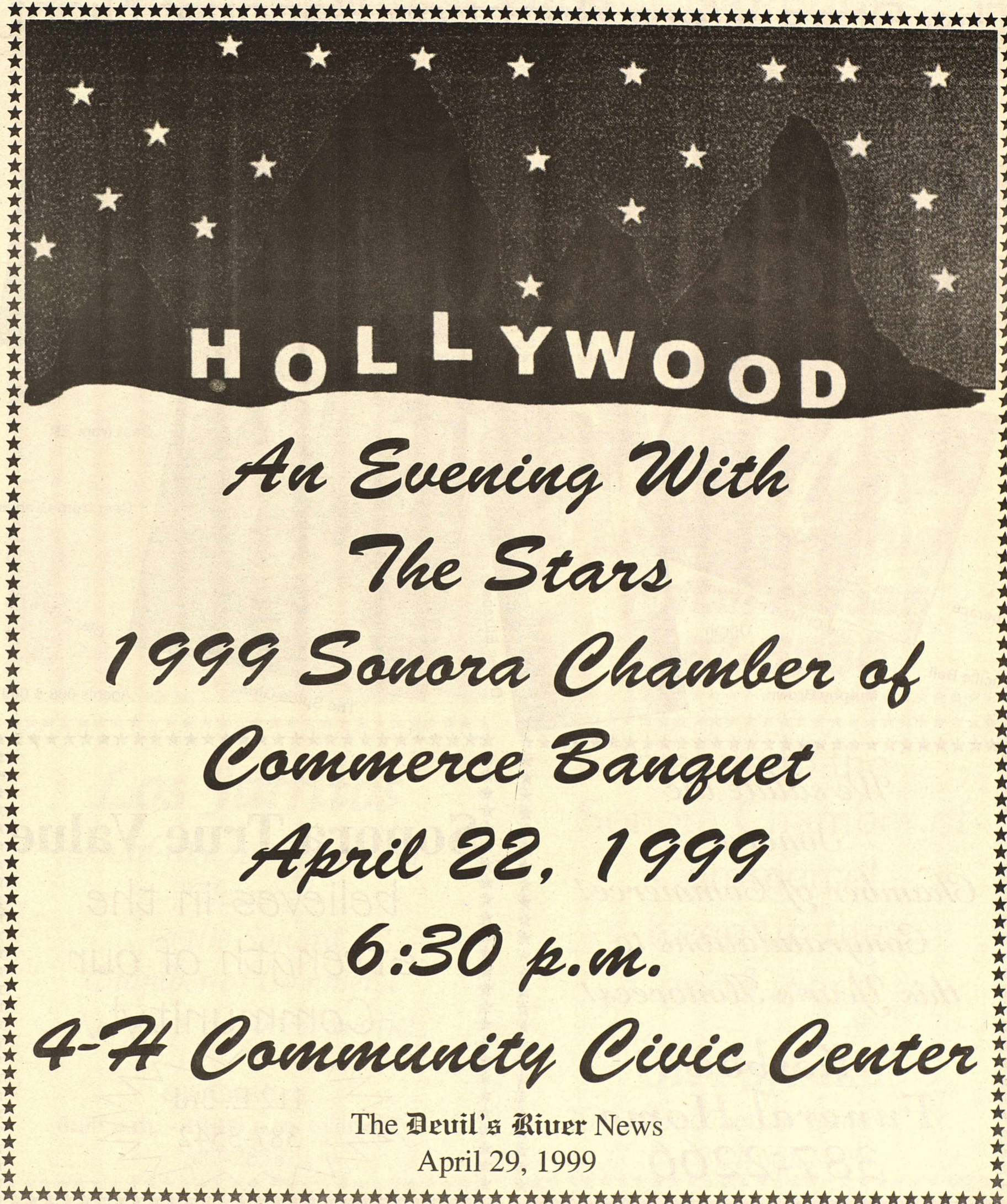
TO BE PAID:

BILL: _____ MONTHLY _____ QUARTERLY _____ SEMIANNUALLY _____
 ANNUALLY _____ BANK DRAFT _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SONORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAIL TO: SONORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, P.O. BOX 1172,
 SONORA, TEXAS 76950

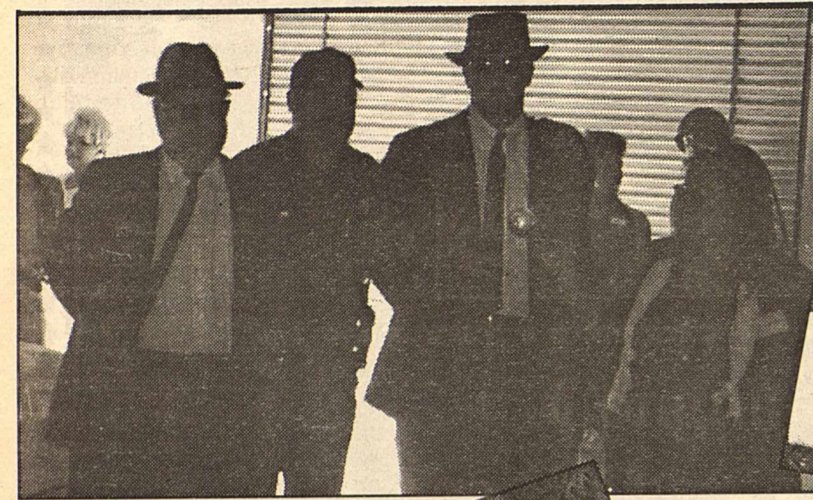
MEMBERSHIP BEGINS AS OF DATE OF APPLICATION AND
 WILL BE BILLED ACCORDINGLY.



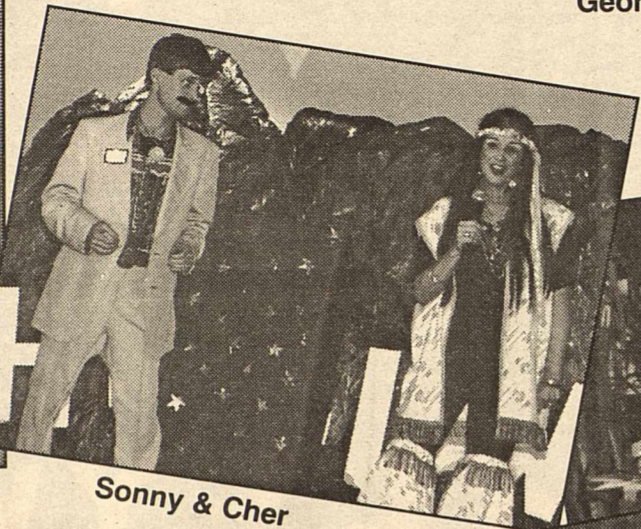
*An Evening With
 The Stars
 1999 Sonora Chamber of
 Commerce Banquet
 April 22, 1999
 6:30 p.m.
 4-H Community Civic Center*

The Devil's River News
 April 29, 1999

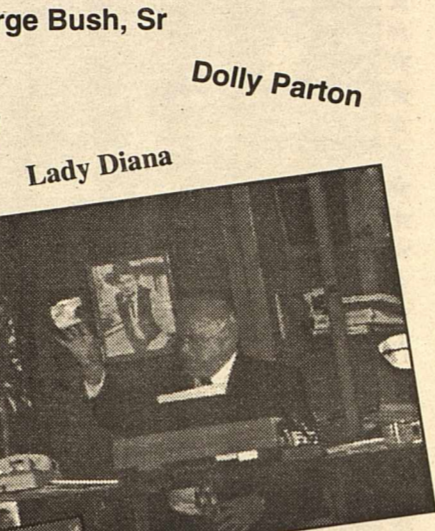
The Stars Were Bright on Banquet Night



The Blues Bros.



Sonny & Cher



George Bush, Sr

Dolly Parton

Lady Diana

Andy Rooney

Cast from ER

Cast from Grease

Diane Sawyer

Agents 008 & 009



Liberace

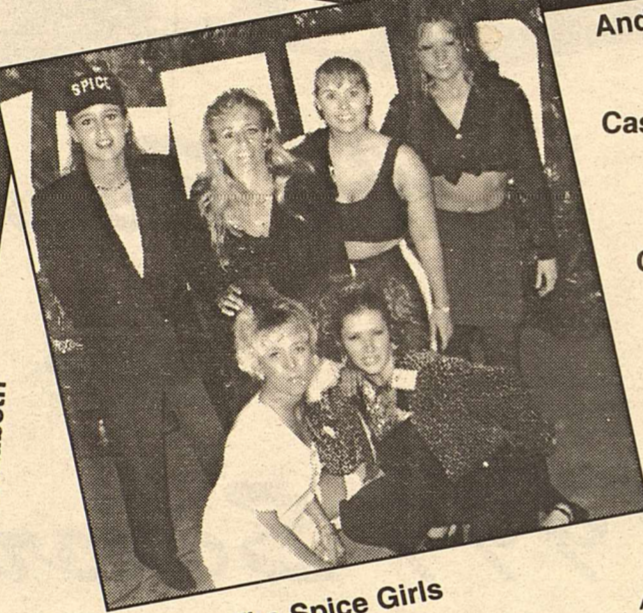
The Clinton's & Monica
Oprah

Lucille Ball

Murphy Brown



Queen Elizabeth



The Spice Girls

*We salute the
Sonora
Chamber of Commerce!
Congratulations to
this Year's Honorees!*

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strength of our
Community!

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Citizen of the Year

One of the most coveted awards in the entertainment industry is the Lifetime Achievement Award. This award, based on contributions to the industry is reserved for the very special. The Sonora/Sutton County Academy of Community Performing Services elected a real "star" for special recognition. This is not his first award in fact, the certificate of appreciation and service plaques could cover a wall. Thus the Academy considered the Lifetime Achievement.

Born in Sealy, Texas and some childhood years in Frio County turned his attention to agriculture. He tried Alpine- way out yonder and Alice- way down yonder before choosing to hand his star on the dressing room called Sonora. This was 1974. Some experience in Sunday School teaching and Methodist youth work in Alpine honed his service skills along with girl scout work, working to develop a City Park and presiding in the elementary school P.T.A. All these activities worked for the benefit of Sonora, Texas. When our "star" came to Sonora, he immediately fell into service planning and helping labor in our local park. Became a sponsor for Soil Conservation

Essay Contest. Original "Cast Member" of the Sonora Christmas in April. Pushed tourism with participation in the Wild Bunch. Chairman of local Lions Queen Contest. School extra-activities driver for bank, U.I.L., athletics, church activities, Booster clubs and he still finds time to advise citizens on range problems, water problems, and he is pretty good conversationalist over a cup of coffee, if you can catch him still long enough. Birthdays come every year- even to a "star" so this one retired recently from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. He leaves behind a special accomplishment- the annual sixth grade ranch field tour that he helped establish. He can't stay still- he is now associated with the Underground Water District- still a Sonora serving citizen. Virgil Polocek is the choice of the Academy tonight to receive an Oscar for his performance in Sonora and he's not through yet. A repeat performance if you will, but when you're outstanding in your service, the people want to recognize your achievement. A Lifetime Achievement award and an Oscar to Virgil Polocek as Citizen of the Year for 1999.



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&
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for the
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Sonora
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Spotlight On Sonora Award



Thank you
Sonora Chamber of Commerce
for all the hard work
you do in supporting
our community and local businesses!
SOUTHWEST TEXAS
SONORA BRANCH

 217 NE Main
 387-2777

If CBS, NBC, ABC had been notified I'm certain they would have been here to televise the celebrities and the "stars". The spotlight on Sonora focuses right here tonight. On a "star" and an Organization. If you think about it, in the movie industry, a production seldom gets only one Oscar for maybe best actor or best score or best direction. It's difficult to separate the Best from the Best so we've had difficulty separating the "star" from the Organization of 1999.

The spotlight on Sonora shines on the "star". The "star" is a native Texan- started really shining as Valedictorian of his high school class in Lorenzo, Texas. A B.S. in Agricultural Economics from Texas Tech polished him up and our star shined even brighter as husband and father. Family ties drew him from the extension service in Uvalde to Sonora to work on the Halbert Ranch. Management positions in the Wool and Mohair industry won our star accolades as an expert in the industry. A natural progression led to various responsible positions in the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association and being a delegate to the American Sheep Industry. Past chairman of the Methodist Administrative Board, Past President of Lions Club and this Chamber of Commerce. A member of the Soil and Water Conservation Board. Instrumental in the negotiation leading to the local Depot development. This guy we're talking about- this Glen Fisher is a "star" talent extends over to "Direction" of a cast and there is the "Rest of the Story" on the Spotlight on Sonora!

We're in this beautiful building tonight to honor many citizens but no one "star" out shined Glen in the fruition of this dream facility. His motto was "We'll get it done." He was the chief tour guide and an advocate for the citizens of Sonora in discussing the financing of this facility. This is truly a Sonora/Sutton County achievement. According to Henry Bonilla and Bob Turner, we're the only community in their districts that took on a project of this magnitude with out their hand out for governmental help. Glen Fisher was the guiding "star".


The spotlight on Sonora Award- an Oscar for Achievement- belongs to him.

Congratulations
Sonora Chamber of Commerce!
Twin Oaks Motel
 AAA Approved

Welcome "Your Home Away From Home"
 Free Morning Coffee, 55 Newly Renovated Rooms,
 All queen beds - king beds available, new wall to wall
 carpets, new draperies, bedspreads, air conditioned/heated,
 cable color TV with remote, D.D. phones, 24 hr. service,
 free local calls, non-smoking rooms available,
 restaurant adjacent to premises.

907 Crockett Ave.
 915/387-2551 • Fax 915/387-3670

Congratulations
Sonora Chamber of Commerce
Working to keep Sonora Great!

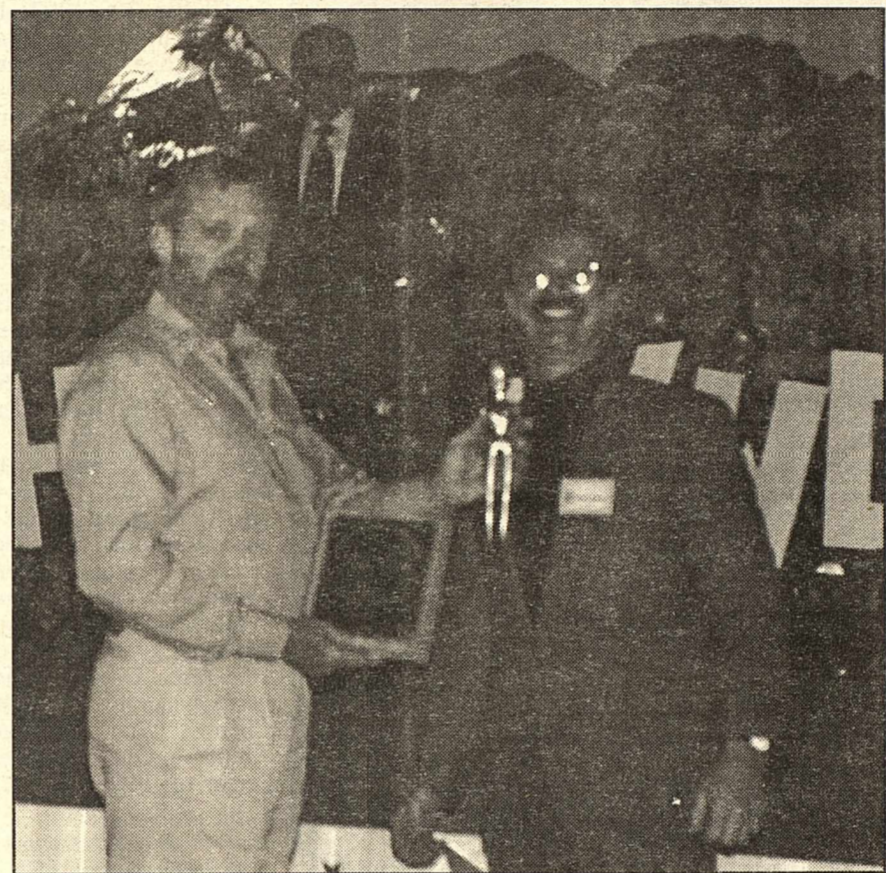

Business Basics
 112 North Concho
 387-6127

Outstanding Chamber Member

Three things necessary for success- location, location and location! In the context of our theme this Chamber member wins Honorable Mention for location- Right here in Sonora. Established in 1929 to provide a vital service to the area ranchers in acquiring supplies and marketing the world's finest wool and mohair. Local folks serving local needs. Only three men have held the Presidency of Sonora Wool and

Mohair in its 70 years. Mr. Ed Mayfield served from 1929 to 1959. That name is still a part of the Wool and Mohair family. Fred Earwood took the reins from Mr. Mayfield and held the position until 1968. The Earwood name remains a part of the unfolding Wool and Mohair business as Armer Earwood is currently serving as President. Presently, one million pounds of wool and mohair pass through the ware-

house annually. In 1938, that figure was 5 million. Wool grading became a part of the service in 1936. The war years 1942- 1946 saw a period of ungraded wool. If a filming company chose to film a documentary on location- it could be titled "Finally" or maybe "Rescue". The local lumber company decided Sonora's lumber/hardware business was not to their Corporate liking so they shut down a few months ago. "Finally" the same group that had rescued the community in 1929 came



Los Jarritos
would like to express our
"Thanks"
to the Sonora
Chamber of Commerce
Keep up the good work!

605 Crockett
 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. everyday
 387-2838

Wishing the Sonora
Chamber of Commerce
another year of
success!
Louis Dreyfus
Natural Gas
387-3588

 Salute to the
 Sonora Chamber of
 Commerce!
 Keep up the
 good work!
Dr. Pajestka
 301-A Hudspeth • Sonora, Tx.
 387-6557

Business Person of the Year

"Oil field"- "Black Gold", "Come and take it", "The Dream". This could be the title of a movie starring the 1999 Businessman of the Year as chosen by The Academy of Community Performing Services." A native Texan- born in the valley into an oil field family. He worked about 4 years in gas

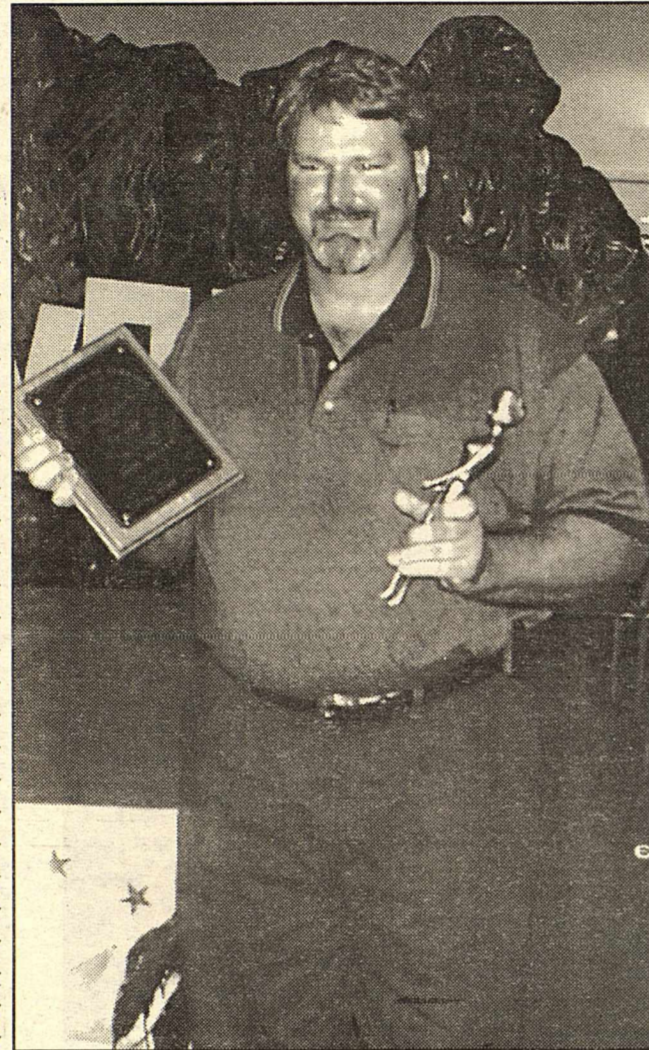
plants- extracting gas from "Black Gold" found far underground. He was educated at Victoria College, Midland College and U.T. of the Permian Basin, all the while, the bowels of West Texas urged him to "Come and Take it." Texans are Dreamers. Oil patch folks are really dreamers. Our "star" had a dream. A dream of his own busi-

ness in the chemical division. Even his oil field savvy father wondered why anyone would

want to go into the oil field chemical business. The recipient of this award starred in sales and

service of production treating chemicals- salesman, alliance analysis and audit team member. Then to district manager- 13 years "starring" in some one else's show. His dream was selling good products, giving good service and applying the Golden Rule to employees.

September 27, 1993, he cranked up his one car, pulling one trailer, and applying the Golden Rule to his one employee- himself. He was in business. He was starring in his own show as Headliner, Producer, Financier, Advertising Agent and chief head hunter. Night work in the garage, on the back porch and some sleepless nights in lonely motel rooms to realize his "Dream". He moved his family to Sonora and in March 1995, his Dream business really began to grow with stores in Texas and Oklahoma. Eighteen trucks, twenty trailers, twenty-two golden rule employees selling good products, giving good service. A real Oscar Winning Performance by the Multi-Chem "Star", James Archer- Our Business Person of 1999!



Thorp's Laundry
congratulates the
Chamber of Commerce
on a job well done!

107 W Plum
387-2666

FORD
Broncho Ford
115 NW Concho
Sonora, Tx 76950
(915) 387-2549

*Congratulations to this
year's Chamber Honorees!*



1304 Golf Course Rd.
387-2529

**Making Sonora
A Great Place To Be!
The Sonora
Chamber of Commerce**

●●●●●●●●●●
Rafter W Feed
201 Cedar St.
387-3042

Thank Your Lucky Stars!!

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce banquet committee would like to thank everyone who were in costume and who participated in this year's banquet. Without your willingness to participate, the banquet could not have been a success.

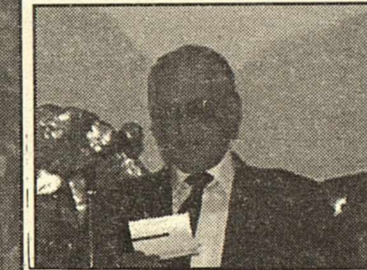
Sincerely,
Justin McGeath, and
The 1999 Banquet Committee



Thanks to Ann Kay & Mike House for all that they do for our community. Congratulations on receiving the Mayor's Award of Excellence



Thanks to Joe Lane for his continued support as the M.C.



**CONGRATULATIONS
SONORA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ON A JOB WELL DONE, AND
TO THIS YEAR'S HONOREES!**

Elliott Law Office
P.O. Box 586
Sonora, TX 76950
387-3529

A Brief Note of Thanks

I would like to thank each member who voted for me as Business Person of the year. All successful Businesses have key ingredients to make them work.
1.) I would like to thank my wife and partner for her support in both the good and bad times. Behind every successful man is a good woman like Lois Archer.
2.) Thanks to all the hard work and dedication of great employees who make things happen.
3.) Thanks to great customers for their support and trust in us to do a good job.
Once again, thanks for a wonderful honor of Business Person of the Year.

James B. Archer
Multi-Chem

**Sonora
Chamber of Commerce**
You are doing a
Fantastic Job!

Westerman Drug
101 N. Concho Ave
387-2541

*Our hats go
off to the
Sonora Chamber of
Commerce on
a job well done!*

Lisa's Flowers and Gifts
102 E. Chestnut
387-6105

Employee of the Year

"An Evening with the Stars" is filled with the Glamour and Glitz of Hollywood. Everyone who is anyone wants to be here to see and be seen. Our next recipient could "star" in a movie called "Take it to Bank" or "Energy". In 26 years of experience she has pretty well done it all at work, but has found time to serve and thus she is recognized tonight by the Academy of Community Performing Services, set aside for an Oscar past treasurer of Game Dinner Association, Treasurer of the Fling Ding Club. She is on the advisory board of the Samaritan Pastoral Counseling Center, the Relay for Life, Helping Hand Fund and Christmas in April all get assistance from this "star". Local citizens would agree that no one but a top "star" should be a part of the Dr. Howell Memorial Fund. She is a ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church- and a member of Hospice of San Angelo. Her peers and supervisors consider her a big hearted unselfish individual. She helps light our Christmas Tree for our community Christmas and she shines as a top star in this Community-Roberta James, Assistant Vice President of the First National Bank- our Employee of the Year for 1999.



Each year the Academy of Community Performing Services present those many awards- this year we're calling them Oscars. Our next recipient receives an award much more satisfying than an Oscar. He receives the thanks of a community, the admiration of former students, the respect of current students and thats bound to give one a warm fuzzy feeling inside. Born in Comanche in 1937, the eldest of four, receiving his high school education in Brownwood as the highest ranking boy. A Bachelor's Degree from Howard Payne in Chemistry launched him on a teaching career. He had a good supporting cast member in Barbara, his wife of 35 years. This star began performing in the Blanket School system in 1959 and developed an interest in coaching. Sonora was lucky to get this star in 1961. The community watched his two sons grow up and we were saddened by the passing of Barbara in 1992. How many lives has he touched? We can't figure that one, but in 40 years of teaching, the numbers would be staggering. Physics, Chemistry, Math, coaching, tutoring, counseling and scolding. He has done it all. This Community has entrusted him with our most prized possessions, our children, even a few "mulletts". We could star him in a movie called "Life with Grandpa" co-star his grandson Zedekiah. Maybe the other grandchildren, Elizabeth and Gunther could add something. Maybe most everyone here could contribute something to the story line. It boils down to this. This community wants to say thank you, Bob- and the way we'll do it is: On behalf of The



Sonora/Sutton County Academy of Community Performing Services we present you with this Oscar Bob Snodgrass, Educator of the Year for 1999.

Educator of the Year

Doyle Morgan Insurance
proudly salutes the
Sonora Chamber of Commerce
on all that they do for Sonora.



213 E. Main
Sonora, TX 76950
915/387-3912

Congratulations on a Super Chamber Banquet!

Multi-Chem / Multi-Weed
801 Tayloe Rd.
Sonora, TX
387-2585

Sutton County Steakhouse

IH-10 & Golf Course Road • 387-3833
(Next door to the Devil's River Inn)



Day's Inn Devil's River
IH-10 & Golf Course Road • 387-3516
(Next door to the Sutton County Steakhouse)



Proud Supporters of our Community and Sonora Chamber of Commerce!

The Devil's River News
The Devil's River Internet
228 E. Main
387-2507

Rodeo Wild
Welcomes the New Directors of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce!

912 S. Crockett Ave
387-6577

Organization of the Year

**PROUD MEMBERS OF
THE SONORA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE!**

West Texas Utilities
WTU
204 E.3rd
SONORA, TX 76950
387-3572

**We salute
all the individuals
and organizations
that make Sonora a
wonderful place
to call Home.**

First NATIONAL BANK
SINCE 1882
P.O. BOX 798 - SONORA, TEXAS 76950
Member FDIC
(915) 387-3861



MGM, Fox, RCA, Disney- all well known names of organizations in the film making business. All developed "stars" for their productions and success is measured by box office draw and Oscar nominations and awards. The Academy of Community Performing Services wants to follow this lead by recognizing an organization in this community. This organization is a little different than some. It's kind of a volunteer thing. When it became apparent that Sonora wanted a Civic Center-4-H Building to replace the old facility, the cream of the crop began to surface. A good basic plan had been developed through the efforts of many- notably Preston Faris and his "cronies". Glenn Fisher came forward to "Direct" the group in raising funds, finalizing plans and directing contributions. If a movie was shot about this, it could be titled "Center Realized." The supporting Cast includes: Claire Richards, the money-in, money-out, note taking, information gathering lady. George Wallace as always had a solid down to earth approach to all problems and decisions. Barry Limbocker, a real heavy weight in this movie business knew a few people already and met a few more that were willing to be persuaded to help out. I can look at Barry and imagine him starring as an "enforcer" in a good violent flick. Diana Condra best served as a "Director's" Director or Director's Dampener-occasionally Glen needed redirecting and Diana was there. A knowledgeable cast member about many building problems. Sarah Wade provided a degree of consideration for everyone's desire. Her past experiences in 4-H work served the community well. Bob Caruthers was there to tackle any project from locating and hauling rock to raising money. He did everything quite well. Oscar Galindo knew more about Sonora's needs and past history than you can imagine. He seemed to know what would work and what would not. Preston Love brought a wealth of information about food service requirements and crowd control. The Committee received help from County Officials and the County workmen. Preston Faris, Kelly Thorp, Janalyn Jones and the 4-H manager, Tom Payton. The committee sought advice from interested community leaders- put it together and here it is! Quite an organization- Quite a group of stars. A lot of time and effort went into this building. Unlike most organizations I suppose the Sutton County 4-H Building Committee will dissolve soon now that their job is about complete, but every time we gather here, we'll remember their work and dedication. The box office draw should be tremendous. Have you told them Thank You? The Sonora/Sutton County Academy of Community Performing Services say Thank You by awarding an Oscar to the 4-H Building Committee as the Organization of the Year for 1999.

**We salute the Chamber of
Commerce
and wish continued success.**

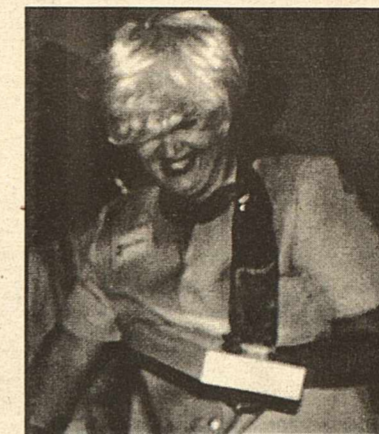


Store Hours:
Mon. - Sat. 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Sun. 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
600 South Crockett Ave
Sonora, TX 76950
387-3438 • 387-5616

Congratulations to all the Certificate of Appreciation Recipients!



LP Bloodworth



Tonya Brown



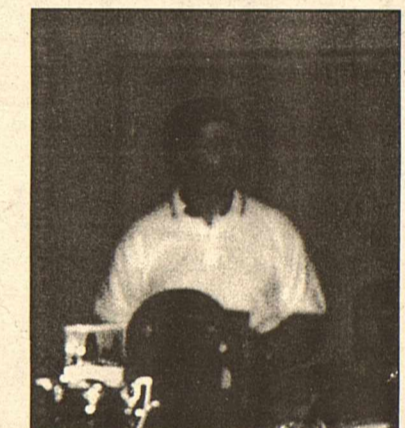
Suzanne Steves



Pam Haynes



Matt Young



Dr. Pajestka



Barry Limbocker



Vivian Miers & Storie Sharp

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