1 HE Devil's River NEWS

Since 1890

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SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, February 6, 2003



Eighth Grade Lady Colts Leave Behind Great Record

The 8th grade Lady Colts have had a remarkable 2-year season. As 7th graders, they were undefeated with a record of 15-0, winning both the Wall and Junction tournaments. This year, the Lady Colts won the Llano tournament, placed 2nd in the Wall tournament and had an overall record of 11-4. Pictured above are: Jena Teasley, Brandy Neff, Allyse Edmondson, Meghan Krieg, Madeline Higdon, Felicia Gamez, Amanda Berry, Taylor Liverman, Stacy Sanchez, Kayla Fields, Jamie Duran and Mackenzie Perez. Congratulations Lady Colts! We look forward to watching you as Lady Broncos.

Friends and Neighbors To Star In Dust and Denim

Dust and Denim - a musical salute to West Texas, benefiting the West Texas Rehabilitation Center will be Thursday, February 13, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sonora High School Auditorium. This musical review, starring your friends, neighbors and local merchants, is directed by Donna Trammell of Denton, Texas. Each song gives tribute, or tribulation, to life in West Texas.

Admission is \$15.00 per person and tickets are available at The Devil's River News, The Bank & Trust and The First National Bank. Don't miss this one-of-a-kind, made-for-Sonora show!

What You Need To Know **About Rabies**



This dog is quarantined to ensure he does not have rabies. submitted by Patti Strauch, way, call the local animal con-

With the abundance of skunks in Sutton County it is important that residents be aware of the threat of rabies, a disease often carried by the

You can be infected with the rabies virus if you are bitten by an animal that has the disease. You can also get rabies if the saliva from a rabid animal contacts your mucous membranes or any open wounds you might have. If you have such contact with a rabid animal, only a series of shots can keep you from getting the disease.

Signs of rabies include: · Animals that have a change in behavior.

· Wild animals which seem

to be friendly or tame. Wild animals - coyotes, foxes, bats, skunks, and raccoons - which you do not usual-

ly see in the daytime. · Animals that have a hard time walking, eating, or drink-

· Excitement or meanness

in animals. · Animals that bite or scratch at an old wound until it

If a pet is infected with the rabies virus, the way it acts may change. A friendly dog might want to be alone. A shy dog might want attention. Rabid dogs often become mean, roam, make strange noises and attack people and other animals. Rabid animals may drool, and they sometimes swallow stones,

sticks, or other things. Later, as the rabid animal gets even sicker, it might have trouble chewing, swallowing, drinking or walking. It may not be able to close its mouth, and may appear to be choking. Never try to clear the throat of an animal with these signs. If you see an animal acting this

trol agency right away. Rabies can be prevented by having a veterinarian vaccinate your dogs and cats against rabies. By law, you need to do this every year. Keeping your pets vaccinated protects you and them. Restrain your pets, do not allow them to roam. Avoid contact with wild animals and with dogs and cats you do not know. Do not approach strange dogs or cats. Do not try to hand-feed wild animals and do not keep them as pets. Do not touch sick or injured animals. Call and report them to an animal control

It is very important that everyone, especially children, know how to prevent rabies.

If an animal bites you, fol-

low these steps. They may save

Quickly and thoroughly wash the bite with soap and water. Rinse it well.

See a doctor as soon as possible. The doctor will decide if you need treatment to prevent

rabies. Describe the animal that bit you - the kind, size, and color to the doctor, local health authority, or animal control officer. Tell children to get help from a policeman, school guard, or other adult. Try to locate the animal or keep track of it if you know where it lives. Remember what it looked like.

The local health authority needs to have the biting dog or cat tested for rabies or quarantined for 10 days. If the quarantined dog or cat is alive 19 days after the bite, it could not have

given you rabies. Biting skunks, bats, foxes, coyotes, and raccoons must be tested for rabies. If you are bitten by another kind of animal, the local health will decide if it needs to be tested or observed

Glen Fisher Named To **National Sheep** Industry **Improvement Center Board**

Washington, DC, January 28, 2003 - Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced the appointment of Glen Fisher of Sonora, Texas, Chase Hibbard of Montana and Paul Lewis of California to serve as members of the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) Board of Directors. The HSIIC is managed by this Board of Directors that is appointed by, and reports to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Board of Directors consists of 7 voting members chosen from the sheep and goat industries and the respective Under Secretaries for Rural Development and Research, Education and Economics who serve as nonvoting members. Mr. Fisher will serve in a position reserved for active producers of sheep or goats in the United States and Mr. Hibbard and Mr. Lewis will serve in positions reserved for individuals with "expertise in finance and management." Their term of service will begin at the annual meeting on February 10, 2003.

The three Board members who are leaving the Board are Pierce Miller of Texas, Larry Becker of Wisconsin and Bill Bonde of California. Mr. Miller and Mr. Bonde have filled position reserved for individuals with finance and management expertise and Mr. Becker has served as an active producer. All three members have served two terms and are not eligible for

reappointment. Glen Fisher is the manager of Askew Ranch and owner operator of Fisher Ranching in Sonora, Texas. He has been actively ranching for 25 years and manages 1,800 ewes and 400 mother cows. He has a BS in Agricultural Economics from Texas Tech and a Masters in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State. He served as an Economist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service for 5 years and has 19 years experience managing wool and mohair marketing wool houses. He is the immediate past president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Assn. and is currently the Chairman of the American Sheep Industry Association Wool Council.

The National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC), or Sheep Center, was authorized in the 1996 Farm Bill to provide financial assistance through a variety of funding mechanisms for the enhancement and marketing of

See Fisher page 6

Shuttle Columbia Loss Hits Close To Home by: Robin Street

The Fort McKavett staff joins our country and the world in mourning the loss of the seven men and women who so bravely gave their lives in their quest for exploration of space frontier. These men and women were returning from a 16 day mission aboard the Shuttle Columbia, when tragedy struck over East Texas.

We are affected personally by the death of David M. Brown, Mission Specialist 1, who was returning from his first adventure into space. Dave is a longtime "Friend of Fort McKavett," and as a member of the Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society (JSCAS), spent many nights at Fort McKavett exploring space with a telescope. He had in his possession a Fort McKavett patch, bringing together the exploration of the 1850's frontier Fort McKavett is known for, and the exploration of today, sometimes known as the "final frontier."

Several of our JSCAS friends were on hand for the launch on January 16th. Becky Ramotowski snapped this photograph from 5 miles away. We were excited for them, and especially for Dave, as he began the Mission for which he trained so long and hard.

NASA, SPACEHAB, and members of the STARS Academy had been preparing for the STS-107 mission for over two years. With the debut of SPACEHAB's Research Double Module on this flight, over 100 experiments took place on board the U.S. Space Shuttle Columbia.

Seven talented astronauts flew this critical research mission. They included Mission Commander Rick Husband, Pilot William "Willie" McCool, Payload Commander Michael new day Anderson, Mission Specialist 1



Above: Photographer Becky Ramotowski was 5 miles from Cape Canaveral on Jan. 16, 2003, when she captured this picture of the Space Shuttle Columbia (STS - 107) leaving Earth. The Columbia and crew were lost during return entry, 16 minutes before landing Feb. 1, 2003. Right: David M. Brown,

Mission Specialist 1. Kalpana Chawla, Mission Specialist 1 David Brown, Mission Specialist 3 Laurel Clark, and Payload Specialist 1

Ilan Ramon. Their efforts will not be in vain, for once the grief subsides, it the exploration will continue. A new day will begin.

Essence of a New Day This is the beginning of a



day to use as you will You can waste it or use it

What you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for

When tomorrow comes this day will be gone forever In its place is something that you have left behind... Let it be something good.

Unknown

You have been given this **Volunteers Needed For 57th Annual Speech Meet**

On February 7th and 8th Sonora High School will host the 57th Annual Speech and Academic Practice Meet. This tournament requires a lot of assistance from the community to be the successful competition

for which it is currently known. This year's contest will be under the direction of Renee Casey, Theatre Arts teacher at the high school. Preparation has been underway since before

fact that there are many things to be done, help from the community is being requested. The main thing needed for the tournament will be judges in the speaking events. Anyone can qualify to judge these events and a workshop is being planned prior to the tournament to answer any questions and clarify the rules in each contest. A judge's packet will also be made available as a source of Thanksgiving but due to the reference in all speaking events.

However, we also need other helpers in the roles of: contest managers, timekeepers, hospitality workers, information workers and registration workers. We are strongly encouraging anyone who feels that they will be able to help in any way during the tournament to contact the office of Speech and Drama at 387-6533 ext. 313.

Sonora Middle School Chooses Sweetest **Hearts Candidates**



Sweetest Hearts candidates for 2003 were nominated by teachers for their endearing qualities. Winners will be chosen, one boy, one girl, by their peers and will be announced Thursday night at the SMS Valentine's Dance at 9:00 p.m.

The candidates are (in alphabetical order):

Amanda Berry, daughter of John and Kellie Berry

Emilly Butler, daughter of and Joe Perez Keith and Rosie Butler

Chealsey Daniels, daughter of Anna Daniels

Edmondson, Allyse daughter of James and Tibba

Edmondson

Jaimee Duran, daughter of Manuel and Rachel Duran Kayla Fields, daughter of

Tryon and Cindy Fields Taylor Liverman, daughter of Bobby and Shannon Liverman

Brandy Neff, daughter of

Scott and Linda Neff Mackenzie Perez, daughter of Zeke and Jana Martinez

Stacy Sanchez, daughter of David and Mari Sanchez

Kaija Valkonen, daughter of Tony and Melinda Valkonen Watkins, Mackenzie

daughter of Cindy Gilcrease

Jose Casillas, son of Joe and Irene Casillas

Marc Hernandez, son of George and JoAnn Hernandez Shane Love, son of Dave and Becca Love

Steven Lozano, son of Sesario and Sulema Lozano

Aric McGee, son of Martin and Geneva McGee Abraham Rivera, son of Lurdes Garcia

Nick Shurley, son of Marvin and Wanda Shurley



Directory

PRIMERA IGLESIA **BAUTISTA** Antonio F. Gonzales, Sr. 504 Santa Clara 387-2035

CHURCH OF CHRIST Jerry Jackson 304 N. Water 387-3190

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH T. Wayne Price **Pastor** 111 E Oak 387-2951

ST. JOHN'S **EPISCOPAL CHURCH** 404 E. Poplar 387-2955

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Conrad Archer, Pastor 201 N. Water 387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS Rev. Santos Beserra, Jr. 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Rev. Charles Huffman 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366

NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER Jerry & Joy Wood 205 E. Main 387-3241

LA IGLESIA HISPANA PENTECOSTAL DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC. 387-6072

IGLESIA PENTECOSTAL UNIDA HISPANA **Pastor Isai Oviedo** 509 Amistad 650-3121

Dairy Queen

134 Hwy. 277 N.

387-2118

La Mexicana

240 N. Hwy 277

387-3401

Pizza Hut

401 Hwy. 277 N.

387-3540

109 W. Main

387-0623

1306 N. Service Rd

387-3833

Taco Grill

232 Hwy. 277 N.

387-9127

Sonora Church

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD **PRESBYTERIAN** Lewis Allen, Pastor 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST **CHURCH** Don Longoria, Pastor 707 Glasscock 387-5886

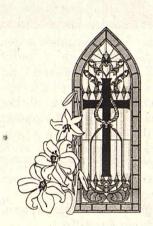
PENTECOSTAL CALVARY **TEMPLE UNITED** Randy Greenwood Pastor 509 Amistad

387-5266

ST. ANN'S **CATHOLIC CHURCH** Father William DuBuisson, O.M.I. 229 W. Plum 387-2278

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS 310 St. Ann's Street 387-5658 or 387-5518

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Mike Dixon 511 Cornell 387-5207



Kerbow **Funeral Home** 387-2266

Cards of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, phone calls, and help while Mandy went through her surgery. We knew when we moved here 15 years ago that this was a close community and in this last week we have really felt how close and loving all of you all are. Thank you seems so small compared to what you all gave us. Thank you Sonora and Sutton County.

> Cliff, Danine and Mandy Brister Tony and Mary Ellen Lane

Thank you for the prayers, flowers, cards, visits and the wonderful food during my stay at the hospital and after I got home. I am deeply grateful for such loving family and friends. Ruth Gibbs

We, the family of Luciana D. Virgen wish to extend our appreciation to all who helped in any way during the passing of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

We wish to send a special thank you to Kerbow Funeral Home for their services, the doctors and nurses at Columbia Medical Center, the pallbearers and the church choir.

We would also like to extend our thanks and appreciation to all that helped in catering the reception that followed the funeral service in the Parish Hall and Father Bill for the comforting messages.

For all who sent the beautiful floral arrangements, the abundance of food, the cards with expressions of sympathy, and those who visited the home, or called with words of condolence, and your prayers. God bless you.

Alfred Virgen, Sr. Letty and Ron Blanchard Freddy and Blanca Virgen and Family Tommie Sanchez and Family Lilia Virgen

Rooms for Let - For Owl-lets That Is



Elf Owl house on Eaton Hill.

The Elf Owl nesting boxes are up on Eaton Hill and we eagerly await the intended guests. Carol Love's 7th and 8th grade GT class will be monitoring the boxes, but we would love to hear from anyone who may catch a glimpse of this tiny bird of prey.

Elf Owls measure only 5 to 6 inches, have short tails, with spots above the shoulders, white eyebrows and yellow eyes. They lack ear tuffs and are most commonly seen at dusk when they



Elf Owl. Photo courtesy of The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds - western region.

emerge to hunt large insects and occasional lizards.

The call of the Elf Owl is rapid and high pitched, similar to a puppy yipping. If you are fortunate enough to spot an Elf Owl, please contact Delyse Jaeger at 387-2061.

Eaton Hill Wildlife t soon tadt Sanctuary is a project of the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation. Come on out and explore the hill!

Obituaries Martha Brown Keng

Martha Brown Keng, the mother of Dr. Jan Keng Warner of Karnes City, died at 7:20 a.m. Monday, January 27, 2003 at Morningside Ministries Nursing Care in San Antonio.

Mrs. Keng, 85, had been a resident of San Antonio for the past five years. Prior to that she had resided in Sonora for more than 50 years.

She was born to the late Loy and Bessie (Elam) Brown on June 4, 1917 in Lampasas County. Mrs. Keng was a graduate of Tarleton College. In 1937 she married Edward Burette (E.B.) Keng. They lived their first years together at College Station where Mr. Keng completed his education at Texas A & M University. In 1944 the couple moved to Sonora where they spent the rest of their lives together.

A member of the First Baptist Church in Sonora, Mrs, Keng was also an associate member of the Texas A & M University Ex-Students Association and a former member of the Sonora Woman's Club. She was also an accomplished seamstress and an avid bridge player.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband; a sister, Marie Kauitcsch; and a brother, Loy Gene Brown.



In addition to her daughter, Mrs. Keng is survived by a granddaughter, Beth Warner Hull and her husband, Stephen, of Kansas City, KS; a grandson, Rev. Gaston Warner and his wife, Dr. Laceye Warner, of Durham, NC; two great-grandchildren, Holly and Zach Hull; four nieces and a nephew.

Mrs. Keng's ashes will be interred at graveside services to be held at 10:30 a.m. on February 14 at the Sutton County Cemetery in Sonora with Rev. Gaston Warner offici-

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that memorial donations be made to the First Baptist Church of Sonora; Habitat for Humanity of Durham, 215 N. Church Street, Durham, N.C. 27701; or a charity of choice.

Mr. Kelly Kearney

Mr. Kelly Kearney, 82, of Odessa, Texas passed away February 2, 2003. Mr. Kearney was born October 6, 1920 in Mitchell County, Texas and was a resident of Odessa, Texas for the last 10 years.

Mr. Kearney was married to Billie Steele on November 8, 1992, in Odessa, Texas. He was a member of the Church of Christ, a WWII Veteran serving in the U.S. Army and a Rancher in Menard from 1969 - 1995.

He was preceded in death by his father Lem Kearney, June 5, 1982 and his mother Ludy Kearney, March 3, 1994.

He is survived by his wife,

Billie Steele of Odessa, Texas; daughter, Kay Kearney Trimble of Junction, Texas; son, Kent Kearney of Sonora, Texas; brother, L.C. Kearney, Jr. of Sundown, Texas and three grandchildren, Justin Trimble of Junction, Texas, Kasey Kearney and Kelly Kearney, both of Sonora, Texas; 3 step-daughters, Betty, Norma and Carol, numerous other relatives and friends.

Graveside services were Monday, February 3, 2003 at Palava Cemetery with Ed officiating. Houston Arrangements were by McCoy Funeral Home.

xoOnnie Cox Act Council 29701 each County being your

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THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

USPS (155-920) every Thursday at 228 East Main Street Sonora, Texas 76950 Phone: (915) 387-2507 FAX (915) 387-5691 Periodical postage paid at Sonora, Texas Storie Sharp, Publishing Editor Erica Morriss, Advertising • Danni Price, Financial

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\$20 per year in county • Seniors \$18.00 per year (in & out of county) \$25 per year out of county Attn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Devil's River News, 228 East Main St., Sonora, TX 76950

Copy and Ad deadline Monday, 5:00 p.m.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication. The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of the staff

Member 2002 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



Center News

Pharmacist

Feb. 10 - Beef stew with vegetables, sweet peas, cornbread,

citrus fruit cup.

Feb. 11 - BBQ chicken, blackeyed peas, beets, rolls, pears with pineapple, chocolate chip cookie.

Feb. 12 - Salisbury steak with gravy, beans, mustard greens, bread, peaches.

Feb. 13 - Fried fish, hominy, broccoli, corn muffin, bread pudding with raisins.

Feb. 14 - Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, roll, carrot cake.

Senior Menu

Feb. 13 - Start crafts for St. patrick Day and Easter. Need

volunteers and Ideas! Feb. 14 - Happy Valentine's Day!

Feb. 17 - Center closed for President's Day!

Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon. \$1.50 donation is suggested for those 60+ and \$4.00 for others.

Menu is subject to change.

Community

Feb. 7 SISD School Holiday Feb. 7 & 8 S.H.S. Speech Meet Feb. 11 Daddy/Daughter Date Night 7:00 p.m. • 4-H Civic Center

The Community Calendar

Member FDIC

Calendar

Feb. 13

West Texas Rehab "Dust & Denim" 7:00 p.m. • High School Auditorium Feb. 27

Mandatory coaches and volunteer Meeting for any coach, manager or volunteers for T-Ball through Pony League, Boys & Girls. 6:00 p.m. • Devon Energy Office

is made possible by :



Member FDIC 207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Letters To The Editor Policy

The Devil's River News encourages letters from its readers. Letters should be to the point, typed if at all possible and signed. Name, address and telephone number should be included for verification purposes. Letters will be printed on a space available basis. Letters should stick with issues, and not simply be personal attacks. Letters endorsing a particular position on issues of local interest will be accepted, however letters endorsing a candidate for political office will not be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit for length, content, and potentially libelous statements. Letters to the Editor published in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the position of this publication on any subject. Correspondence should be mailed to: The Devil's River News-Letters to the Editor, 228 East Main, Sonora TX. 76950. Email us at editor@sonoratx.net

Ask the Historical Society

E. Palmer, Jo-Ann Secretary County Historical Sutton Society

Jim Davenport continued: The next day Pink Taylor and I with 40 head of horses, including Jim's horse which belonged to Halff Ranch, started to the general round-up at Marathon, Texas. When we got within two or three miles of Marathon we were driving our horses after dark, when all at once several men threw their guns down on us and told us to halt. We asked them what was the big idea. They said they were guarding all roads for Jim Davenport. We laughed and told them Jim was in Mexico by that time; told them about the fight at Dobie Walls; first they had heard from Davenport. We told them that we had his horse with us. This verified our story so they all quit looking for him. Jim was afterwards captured by Bill Johnson in Mexico, brought back and sentenced in El Paso given only five years. Some wanted to acquit him, but compromised by giving him five years. The evidence showed that he did kill Mr. Hereford because he had been fired from the ranch. The Big Bend was wild and wooly "them" days.

The names of the cowboys in camp that night were: Pink Taylor, Jeff Davenport, Jack Duncan, John A. Ward, Henry Reynolds, Rozell Pulliam and myself and the two rangers, Bass Outlaw and Joe Meyers and Jim Davenport. Pink Taylor moved off to Louisiana; don't know where Jeff Davenport went; Jack (Dick) Duncan was hanged by the neck 'til dead,' at Eagle Pass for killing a family tying rocks to bodies and throwing them in the Rio Grande River; John Ward lives in Sonora, Texas, deals in fine Angora goats, has some of the finest stock in the country. Henry Reynolds had a stock ranch in the Alpine was buried there about 1929. Poor Rozell Pulliam was killed by Jim Gillespie in the Post Office at Outlaw was killed by John Selman about 1896 - Bass was deputy U. S. Marshall at the time, John Selman was constable of Precinct No. 1. In some ways the two officers clashed and shot it out. Don't know where Joe Meyers went to; Jim Davenport was killed at Cotulla, Texas by Ranger Captain Will Wright about 1899 while resisting arrest. And Old Man Hereford lies peacefully by the Pena Colorado.

Articles in one book and several papers had the following to say about John Allen Ward:

John Allen Ward, former livestock man of San Angelo, Texas, was an internationally known figure in the ranching world. He was engaged in the stock raising business in Sutton County, Texas for twenty-five years, operating mainly in this county, with another ranch north of San Angelo and a third near Kerrville. On these holdings he Hereford Rambouillet sheep, registered Angora goats, cow ponies, and hogs, specializing in goats. He was one of the first to export Angoras to South Africa, and was the first to show them at the San Angelo fair. He raised the highest-priced Angora bucks ever sold, the price of \$3,000 having never been equaled or excelled. (Note: At the time of this article.)

Mr. Ward operated a 15,000 acre ranch. He settled in this section permanently in 1893. He did much to improve goat breeding in West Texas and developed Angoras with long fleece, which won first place at all shows where they were exhibited. He was elected president of the American Angora Goat Breeders' Association in

John Allen Ward was born on October 20, 1869, in Gonzales County, Texas, to L. T. Ward, a stock farmer, and Ellen Lacklin Ward. His education was acquired in Gonzales County. His education was acquired in Gonzales County. As a boy he worked for Capt. J. Alpine about 1912. Bass B. Gillet, who became one of



Charles "C.T." Travis Turney, b. 1-5-1858 in Coryell Co. - d. 1930, buried in Las Cruses N.M., was a Sutton County rancher in the 1890's

West Texas' largest ranch operators. At that time Mr. Gillett was in charge of the G 4 Ranch. Mr. Ward went "up the trail" many times for this outfit. After that he ran a small store in the hill country. He then came to West Texas locating in the Big Bend area; after a short stay he returned to West Texas to remain perma-

Mr. Ward married Miss Virginia Putman, daughter of John Putman, a ranchman of Shackleford and Baylor Counties, Texas, on November 15, 1893, at Wrightsboro, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Ward became the parents of eight children: Blanche, Lloys, John Allen Jr., Rufus C., Edna, Roy P., and Rip Ward.

Mr. Ward was president of the American Angora Goat Breeders' Association; and belonged to the Woodsmen of the World. His pastime was the old-time fiddling, which he enjoyed and encouraged. Mr. Ward passed away at the age of 59, on January 6, 1929, at Junction, Texas, after being stricken suddenly with appendicitis. His passing was the occasion of genuine grief among the people who knew him and business. An eminently successful man in his line of work and in his business enterprises, his reputation for honesty and fair dealing was a byword. His companionable nature and genial disposition won him friendship wherever he went. His funeral services were attended by hundreds, and the memory he left is that of a good an universally loved man.

Mrs. Ward died at her home in San Angelo in 1953, at the age of 80. She had attended Mary Hardin-Baylor College at Belton, was a member of the First Baptist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star. She was buried beside her husband in Block 71, Lot 12 of the Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo, Texas.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton County history, send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or e-mail them schs@sonoratx.net. Monday, Tuesday morning and Friday you may reach me at the Sutton County Historical Society Office/Archive building, 307 Oak Street, at 915-387-5084. Other days of the week give me his associates in the livestock a call at home at 915-387-2855.

Tedford Jewelry Bridal Registry Christy O'Mealey bride elect of Levi Pool Sandra Elaine Fuentes bride elect of James Bradley Nicholls Leslie Ann Carrasco bride elect of James Daniel Kassahn Galore & More **Bridal Registry** Christy O'Mealey bride elect of Levi Pool www.giftsgaloreandmore-sonora.com 417 Hwy. 277 N. T-Saucer Ranch Country Retreat "A Family Reunion Favorite" Guest House and Lodge Accommodations Cleve T. & Lolabeth Jones 915-387-5577 TOLL FREE • 1-877-901-5577 Email: ctjones@sonoratx.net

Website: tsaucer.com P.O. Box 986 • Sonora, Texas 76950

Lighthouse Baptist Church Family Life Center 707 Glasscock • 387-5886 Listen to our Radio program on KHOS 92.1 every Sunday Morning at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study 10:00 a.m Worship 11:00 a.m.

Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program Information Available

Community Action Council has reach County once a month. If now received funds from the you would like to apply for this Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the CEAP Program. This program is handled by the Tom Green County Community Action Council in a ten (10) county area, which includes Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, and Sutton Counties. The goal of the CEAP Program is to make the Client more self-sufficient so that they will be able to pay their own utilities.

In order to qualify for the Program the Client's total annual gross income must be less than 125% of the current Federal Poverty Income Guidelines, with at least one U.S. Citizens or Legally-admitted Resident Alien. Households with Elderly, Handicapped and Children under the age of six (6) years with a Fuel Consumption of at least fifteen (15%) percent of their income will be given first priority.

The Tom Green County

The Tom Green County an Outreach Worker that goes to program please contact the Tom Green County Community Action Council at:

Guadalupe Neighborhood Center 1100 N. Martin Luther

King Dr. San Angelo, Texas 76903 Phone 915/653-1680

Not every client will qualify for the CEAP program. In order to be considered for the CEAP program the client must provide copies of the following to leave with the case worker.

1. 12 month billing history of heating and utility bills.

2. Current original bill.

3. Social Security Card for all family members and persons living in the households.

4. Income verification for everyone in the household, weekly - Last 4 ck. stubs, biweekly - last 2 check stubs. Monthly last check stub.

5. Identification card date of birth.

CEAP will be in Sonora at the Senior Center on April Community Action Council has 15th, starting at 11:00 a.m.

Hilderbran Named Chairman of State Cultural and Recreational **Resources Committee**

Austin - State Representative Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville was named Chairman of the House Committee on State Cultural and Recreational Resources by House Speaker Tom Craddick today. In addition to being named chairman, Hilderbran was also named to serve on the House Committee on Ways and Means.

As Chairman of the State Cultural and Recreational Resources Committee, Hilderbran will oversee matters ranging from the development and promotion of international and interstate tourism to the creation, operation and control of state parks, the preservation of wildlife and fish and the regulation and control of hunting and fishing to the promotion, development and regulation of the state's culural and historical resources, as well as Texas' image and heritage Hilderbran's committee will also have oversight of such state agencies as the Texas Historical Commission, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Commission on the Arts.

"I am eager to begin working on promoting the tourism and heritage of our great state," Hilderbran said. "This position will allow me to shine a spotlight on the already rich historical, cultural and recreational character of the Texas Hill Country and District

As a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, Hilderbran will oversee any legislation dealing with the state's rev-

"I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the Ways and Means Committee," Hilderbran said. "As a member of this committee, I will be working on issues that not only affect the citizens of my district, but also have an impact on the entire state."







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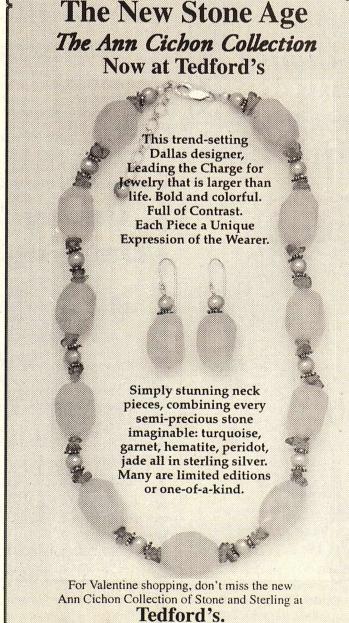
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New Plans For A Familiar Old Spot



The old movie theater will soon be the home of The Lighthouse

Over 60 volunteers, ranging in ages from 5 to 70 years old, were on hand last weekend cleaning out the old movie theater and the surrounding grounds. Over 12,000 pounds of debris were removed and hauled off. The building and land has been purchased from L.P. Bloodworth by The Lighthouse Baptist Church and will soon be turned into their House of Worship. Don Longoria, Pastor, stated that they are hoping to hold their first service in the new building Easter Sunday. The Sanctuary will eventually seat 300 people and a nursery and Sunday School classes will be put upstairs. The extensive remodeling job is being assisted by many generous donations of equipment and materials from local businesses and individuals. The new Church will replace an eye-sore at the west entrance of Sonora, giving a warmer welcome to travelers

A second phase of construction for the Lighthouse congregation will begin after the Church is completed, which will include a family life center. The center will have Basketball, Volleyball, Pool tables and many more games for the youth of the community to

The Lighthouse congregation is ever growing and welcomes anyone and everyone to join them in Worship on Wednesdays and Sundays. Pastor Longoria smilingly refers to the Lighthouse as a place for any and all denominations and encourages anyone that has been out for a while and is looking for a place to worship to give them a try. The Lighthouse is currently located at 707 Glasscock (across from Multi-Chem).



Lighthouse members volunteer their time and energy to gut and clean the old movie house to be turned into a Church. hourt

Happy Birthday

February 6 - Jose Casillas, Shirley Badgett, Jalys Mabry February 7 - Pamela Armke, Christopher Lindsey, Peter Young, Michelle Crites, Diane Keller, Preston Lopez February 8 - Ann Kay, Keith L. Butler

February 9 - JoAnn Palmer, Boomer Galindo, Dora Fuentez, John Lopez III, Katie Braly, Joyce Jimenez, Roberta James

February 10 Cam Campbell, Dana Young, Sarah Gutierrez, Garry Hull, Suzanne Steves, Prather, Lorena Lopez February 11 - Kim Lewis,

Ty Fincher, Maria Lopez, Jeanette Turner February 12 - Petie Lewis,

Jed Davenport, Eddie Favila, Scott Neff

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Air Force Airman Cervantez



The information received on Air Force Airman 1st Class Lionel Cervantez, Jr. last week was incomplete. Lionel, Jr. is the son of Lilia and Lionel Cervantez, Sr. of Sonora and the brother of Leanna Gutierrez of Round Rock, TX and Linda Vitela of Cedar Park, TX, valida Ashley i arker had

and Kara each had 4.

Prospective Students Invited to Sample ASU Life During "College Days" Feb. 15

will host "College Days" on tion will be available on aca-Saturday, Feb. 15, to provide demic programs, student organiprospective college students a view of the genuine education available to them at ASU.

In addition to sampling the various academic and extracurricular programs available at the university, students and their families will also be treated to a free lunch and will be offered complimentary tickets to the Rambelle and Ram basketball games that night against Texas A&M - Kingsville in the Junell Center/Stephens Arena.

Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with check-in at the C.J. "Red" Davidson Conference Center in the Houston Harte University Center at 1910 Rosemont. The program will begin at 10 a.m. in the Davidson Center with a welcome by ASU President James Hindman. Tours of the campus will then be conducted, including a stop at the Food Service Center for the complimentary lunch.

After lunch students and their families will return to the Davidson Conference Center for

Angelo State University the ASU Expo, where informazations, extracurricular activifinancial aid, Carr Academic Scholarships, residence halls and other areas of interest to prospective students and their parents.

Special information sessions also will be presented for students interested in ASU preprofessional programs, including nursing, physical therapy, pre-law and pre-health profes-

Throughout the even ASU faculty, staff and students will be available to welcome guests to campus and to answer their questions about all aspects of student life at ASU.

College Days Coordinator Bonnie Stennet said the event is an opportunity for prospective students to get acquainted with ASU, its faculty and the educational experience it offers. The school year's final College Days program is scheduled April 5.

For more information on College Days, contact the Office of Admissions at 915-942-2058.

F. Y.I.

GED classes are meeting at the Middle School building every Tuesday and Thursday rom 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you've come before, come on back any time! If you would like to register as a new student, please come on Tuesday! For more information, call Laura Bedwell at 387-7190.

The Scouts of Pack 19 will be hosting our annual BLUE & GOLĎ BANQUET February 17, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the 4-H Civic Center. For any further questions or information, please contact Jan Stephens at 387-5821.

Daisy Troop #215 will be meeting as follows: 2/6/03 from $5:\overline{1}5$ p.m. - 6:15 p.m at the Girl Scout Hut and 2/20/03 from 5:15 p.m. -6:15 p.m. at the Girl Scout Hut.

The 2003 Yearbooks are on sale for \$35. Come to the high school or send your payment to the following address: S.H.S. Yearbook Department, 807 SE Concho, Sonora, TX 76950. You can also call Kristin Keel at 387-6533 ext. 315 for more details.

The 2002 Varsity Football Highlight Tapes are now on sale for only \$15 from the S.H.S. Radio and T.V. Class. The tape contains all of the best plays edited to the best music We also have highlight tapes from the 96 - '01 seasons. Call Kristin Keel at 387-6533 ext 315 for more details.

Sonora Elementary is collecting Box Tops, used Cellular Telephones and used ink-cartridges. You may drop any of these items off at either elementary office.

The Sutton County Hospital District will not hold an election this year. There are no Directors with terms expiring in 2003. The next election for the Hospital District will be held in

Daddy/Daughter Date Night February 11, 2003 at the Sutton County Civic Center from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for girls K-8th grade and their fathers, grandfathers or guardians. \$6.00 per person in advance; \$8.00 per person at the loor. For more information call Sonora Chamber of Commerce at 387-2880.

It is time once again to plan for the Sutton County Senior Center's annual trip to HEB Camp. Dates for this year are Feb. 25th thru. Feb. 27th, 2003 We will be staying at Singing Hills near Leakey, Texas. The fee for camp will be \$45.00 This includes transportation meals, and insurance. Please RSVP by Feb. 15th. Also we will get sponsors to pay for camp for those who can't afford the cost of camp. Please let the Center know as soon as possible so we can make plans to attend. Come by the Center or call 387-5657 or 387-3941.

St. Ann's Catholic Church will be selling Krispy Kreme Donuts from Jan. 27 - Feb. 12 Orders can be picked up Feb. 15 at St. Ann's Parish Hall. Profits will benefit a new Parish Hall Orders may be placed with the 4th grade confirmation class, 6 9 communion class or the Friends of St. Ann's Hall Contact Annette Castro at 387-2278 or Delia Samaniego after 5 p.m. at 387-3029.

The next Grief Support Group will meet Tuesday, February 11th at 7:00 p.m. a The Bank & Trust Community Room. If you have experienced the death of someone close to you, you are urged to attend For more information contact Kathy Hearn at 387-2593 of 387-2096.

Free Tax Help Feb. 6, 2003 at the Sutton County Sr. Center from 11:00 a.m. until ? Please call FMI 387-5657 or 387-

A representative of the San Angelo Social Security Office will be in Sonora on Tuesday February 25, and March 25 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Call toll free by dialing 1-800-772-1213 Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Big Lake Bluegrass Festival -A Bluegrass Reunion, March 21-23, 2003, Big Lake, Texas. Reagan County Community Building Indoor Stage. Admission - Friday \$8, Saturday at 12:00 noon - \$12. FMI call 915/884-3650.



7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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Broncos Push Past Wall Hawks

hard and had a really close game against the Wall Hawks on Tuesday, January 28, 2003. The teams were evenly matched, with the only difference being that Sonora came out on top for the win, 43 to 39.

The first quarter started out good and bad, the Broncos led 15 to 10, but Justin Sims sprained his ankle and was taken out injured.

The Hawks pushed harder in the second quarter, narrowing the score but still trailing to the Broncos at the buzzer, 20 to 25.

The 2nd half found Wall with a new spurt of energy, pushing past Sonora at the end of the quarter, 34 to 32.

It was back and forth in the last period of the game, looking to be anyone's game. With 3 minutes and 16 seconds left in

The Sonora Broncos played the game, Chris Martin shoots and scores to tie the score. Playing smart and good ball handling kept the Broncos ahead to win the game, 43 to 39.

Chris Martin led the scoring with 10 points, followed by Dustin Martin and Scottie Moore with 8 points each. Caleb Gulley had 7, Trapper Valliant had 4 and Doug Yocham and Luis Segura each had 3. Three pointers were sunk by Segura and Moore, who had 2. The boys shot about a 50% free throw average, with Gulley and Yocham each being 1 for 2 and C. Martin was 2 for 4. Yocham, Gulley, and Martin were leading

Doug Yocham was named Defensive Player of the game and Chris Martin was Offensive

Last Home Game Honors Seniors and Ends With Victory

Lady Broncos Step Up For Win

• Lady Eagles Fall To Lady

The Lady Broncos defeated the Eldorado Lady Eagles 59 to 51

The Sonora girls jumped ahead early in the game and never

Morgan Hobbs was chosen as the Offensive Player of the

on January 24, 2003, putting them on a two game winning streak.

looked back. Another great team effort allowed this win, with

everyone giving it their all. Morgan Hobbs led the points with 22,

followed by Kara Hard with 17. Ashley Parker had 8, Tamika

Marshall 7, Paola Garcia 4 and Brea Hughes 1.

Game and Kara Hard was the Defensive Player.

the last home game for the Sonora Broncos and the Varsity Seniors were honored. Seniors, who were escorted on to the court by their parents, were Justin Sims escorted by Jimmy and Mary Jean Sims, Dustin Martin escorted by Kelly and Jerri Martin, Caleb Gulley escorted by Jim and Rhonda Gulley, Luis Segura escorted by Linda Segura and Doug Yocham escorted by Donnie and Kim Yocham.

The game against the Ozona Lions started good for the Broncos, with Sonora leading throughout most of the game. The first quarter ended with a large lead for the Broncos, 12 to 6.

The second quarter saw the

The Lady Broncos finished

the first half of District play 1

and 4. Their backs were against

the wall as hard as it could be

and they knew they had to turn

their season around if they were

going to have a chance at the

playoffs. They made a great first

step in the game against the

Reagan County Lady Owls on

January 21, 2003. The girls put

up a great team effort, defeating

the Lady Owls 36 to 35.

Broncos

by Kathy Marshall

by Kathy Marshall

Against Reagan County_

Friday, January 31st was Lions come back a bit harder, but still not catching the Broncos for a half-time score of 22 to 17.

Sonora came back to the court still pushing hard and the Lions were trying hard to catch up. If the court would have had grass on it, this game could have been called football instead of basketball.

The Broncos continued their lead in the fourth quarter, ending victorious against Ozona, 59 to 46.

Dustin Martin had a great game with one 3-pointer and a total of 25 points. Trapper Valliant led the rebounding and scored 12 points. Scottie Moore had 8, Doug Yocham 6, Chris Martin 5 and Caleb Gulley 4.

Kara Hard came off the

Morgan Hobbs led the scor-

The offensive player of the

bench with some big free-

throws in the fourth quarter,

ing with 12 points, followed by

Tamika Marshall with 9 points.

Ashley Parker had 7 and Brea

game was Kara Hard and the

Defensive player was Morgan

sinking 4 of 5.

and Kara each had 4.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition Held Sunday



The Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest was held on Sunday, February 2, 2003. The top two in each event will compete in District competition, with hopes of continuing on to State Competition in Austin, TX. Third place winners will act as alter-

In the girls competition the results were as follows:

10 year olds - Morgan Smith 1st, Bethany Berry 2nd, Dulce Maria Acosta 3rd.

11 year olds - Cassie Krieg 1st, Christy Perez 2nd, Jessica Snyder 3rd, Samantha Perez, Monica Traylor

12 year olds - Steely Ingham 1st, Kaitlyn Henderson 2nd 13 year olds - Amanda Berry 1st, Meghan Krieg 2nd, Bianca Sepeda 3rd

14 year olds - Daisy Perez 1st

The boys finished as follows:

10 year olds - Gerardo Ruben Mesa "Chacho" - 1st

11 year olds - John Duke Hudson 1st, Uvaldo Ramos III 2nd, Amikar Hernandez 3rd, Cody Peña 12 year olds - Mikee Sanchez 1st

13 year olds Austin Riley Sanchez 1st, Zenon Acosta 2nd

Wall Lady Hawks End Winning **Streak For Lady Broncos**

by Kathy Marshall

very aggressive Wall team on 7 points, followed by Tamika Tuesday, January 28, 2003, ending their winning streak. The Lady Hawks overpowered our girls in Red, keeping them from getting anything going. The final score was Wall Lady Hawks 60, Sonora Lady Broncos 26.

Leading the scoring for the The Lady Broncos faced a Ladies was Ashley Parker with Marshall with 6, Brea Hughes with 5 and Kara Hard and Morgan Hobbs each with 2.

Ashley Parker was named the Offensive Player of the game and the Defensive Player was Tamika Marshall

J.V. Broncos Shoot Past Wall; Fall To Ozona

by Maray Cearley

If you were able to travel to Wall last week and watch the Junior Varsity Broncos, you witnessed a very exciting game.

Sonora's biggest lead was by 8, which was at the half with a 19-11 score.

18-7 and taking a 3 point lead into the final period of play. With less than 2 minutes and 6 points behind, the J.V. Broncos had a tremendous rally.

and then, with the help of 2 defend the fast break. The final blocked shots by Austin score was Sonora 41, Ozona 58. Wagoner and Boomer Galindo, the Broncos took a 1 point lead.

Wall had six seconds to work with and were able to get two shots off, but both missed the mark, giving the Broncos the win, 36-35!

Leading the Red was Cearley with 17 points, 6 rebounds and 3 assists. Steven Duhon was leading rebounder with 7, while adding 9 points and 2 blocked shots. Dustin

Creek had 4 points and Lance Roberts was 3 for 4 from the free-throw line. Wagoner had 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 blocked shot and 2 points. Embre Smith also had 6 boards, scoring 1.

Sonora's second game of the week was against the Ozona The start of the second half Lions and it didn't have the found Wall outscoring Sonora same results on on mean in

At the half the score was knotted at 26, but once again the Broncos struggle in the third quarter. With several Broncos in

Clint Cearley hit a 3-pointer foul trouble, they were unable to

Cearley was leading scorer with 10. Smith followed closely with 8, while also having 8 rebounds. Others scoring were Creek with 6, Cameron Cox with 5, Galindo and Cullen Parker with 4 each. Duhon, Wagoner, and Chris Perez each had 1.

Sonora has 2 road trips this week, Grape Creek and Reagan County.

Kyle Donaldson

Sonora, TX

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Lady Broncos Stay In The Game With Win Over Ozona

by Kathy Marshall

The Lady Broncos played a great game from both ends of the floor against the Ozona Lady Lions on January 31, 2003. The Ladies knew they were going to have to step up to the plate if they wanted to get out of District play. They did just that, with the help of Morgan Hobbs fourth doubledouble for the season, the Lady Broncos defeated Ozona 55 to 35. Hobbs led the scoring with 14 points with Tamika Marshall right on her heels with 13 points. Ashley Parker had 10, Brea Hughes 8, Kara Hard 5, Cady Taylor 4 and Elizabeth Elliott 1.

The players of the game were Hobbs on Offensive and Hughes on Defensive. Way to go girls!

7th Grade Colts Finish BB Season in **Grape Creek**

by: Danni Price

The 7th Grade Colts traveled to Grape Creek to meet the Eagles on Monday, February 3, 2003 for their last game of this season. These Colts have not had the easiest of times this season and their "Win-Loss" Record certainly did not lean the way they would have liked. And, their hopes were dashed once more as they lost their season finale on Monday.

The Colts were down by 9 in the first period of play and stayed behind throughout the half. Grape Creek 21, Sonora 9. The second half went pretty much the same for the Colts as they trailed by 12 after the third quarter. The Colts did not have enough time in the final quarter to put up enough points to catch the Eagles. Final Score; Colts

19 and Eagles 43. Scoring and Rebounding for the Colts were: Zadrian McGee 6 points, 7 rebounds, Riley Sanchez 5 points, Morgan Martinez 4 points, 6 rebounds, Alonzo Pena 2 points, 12 rebounds, J.T. Downing 2 points, 5 rebounds, Dalton Dover 1 rebound, Hunter Lawson 1 rebound, Colton Moore 1 rebound, and Clayton Sahr with 4 rebounds.

The Colts Basketball record may not reflect the "wins" that we would have liked, but instead of dwelling on that, we will say that this group of 7th Grade athletes are nothing, if not quick, determined and aggressive and looking forward to next year. We now look forward to watching an eventful Track & Field season. Good Luck Colts! Run like the wind!

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Prayer to the Virgin Mary

Pray nine Hail Mary's during nine days with a lit candle and ask for three favors; one economic, two impossible and on the eight day publish. On the ninth, let the candle be consumed. Even with out faith they shall be fulfilled. Thank you Mother Mary

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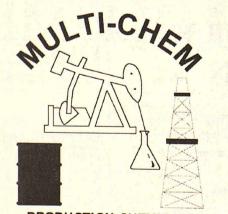
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Henry Bonilla More than thirty-three years America made reality out of a dream. We out a man on the

moon. We achieved a feat that many on Earth thought was

Those of us from the black and white TV generation remember where we were on that July day when Neil Armstrong lowered himself onto the moon's surface and uttered the words: "This is one small step for man and one giant

That monumental mission and the dozens that have followed it - remind us that dreams really can become reality. But with reality comes tragedy and sorrow. Sadly, on Saturday, February 1st, 2003 we were reminded of this fateful fact.

leap for mankind."

Seven brave and dedicated astronauts lost their lives while pursuing a national dream. Words cannot express the gratitude we owe to those courageous souls, their families and loved ones.

I think President Ronald Reagan said it best in 1986 when he expressed a national gratitude to the space program after learning that the Space Shuttle Challenger had been lost. I would like to leave you today a portion of his poignant

"Perhaps we've forgotten the courage it took for the crew of the shuttle. ...they were aware of the dangers, but overcame them and did their jobs brilliantly. We mourn seven heroes... We mourn their loss as a nation together... For the families of the seven, we cannot bear, as

Congressman you do, the full impact of this tragedy. But we feel the loss... Your loved ones were daring and brave, and they had that special grace, that special spirit that says, 'Give me a challenge, and I'll meet it with joy.'

"They had a hunger to explore the universe and discover its truths. They wished to serve, and they did. They served

"We've grown used to wonders in this century. It's hard to dazzle us. But for 25 years, the United States space program has been doing just that...We've grown used to the idea of space, and perhaps we forget that we've only just begun. We're still pioneers. They, the members of the Challenger crew, were pioneers.

"The future doesn't belong to the fainthearted; it belongs to the brave. The Challenger crew was pulling us into the future, and we'll continue to follow them...I've always had great faith in and respect for our space program. And what happened today does nothing to diminish it. We don't hide our space program. We don't keep secrets and cover things up. We do it all up front and in public. That's the way freedom is, and we wouldn't change it for a minute...We'll continue our quest in space. There will be more shuttle flights and more shuttle crews.... Nothing ends here; our hopes and our journeys continue.

"The crew of the space shuttle Challenger honored us by the manner in which they lived their lives. We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waved goodbye and "slipped the surly bonds of earth" to 'touch the face of God."

Fisher from page 1

sheep or goat products in the United States with and emphasis on infrastructure development. The NSIIC is a unique pilot program that currently has three major program areas that are up and going. The biggest effort is a low interest loan program with \$14 million in low interest loans to a diversity of projects targeting infrastructure development. This program is administered through an intermediary relending arrangement with the National Livestock Producers Association. Over 20 projects are currently funded

with more in the works as the lending cycle is ongoing, the interest rate is currently fixed at 5%. The second program was initiated by the Secretary of Agriculture to stimulate the lamb meat market and resulted in using \$5 million of NSIIC funds for 23 lamb industry programs. The final NSIIC a competitive grant program that is intended to fund a variety of small diverse projects that will benefit the U.S. sheep or goat industries. The competitive grant program is in its second year and has funded 17 projects.

News from the Neighbors

Eldorado Elgoatarod Festival and Truck, Tractor and Goat (GTO) Show

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Tom Brown Inc.; 20000' Muleskinner #1 H, Grey Wolf Drilling. Exxonmobile Dev.; 15000' Banner Estate #30 H, Patterson

New Nuevo Texas Inc.; 9000' Mitchell - 6 - #9, Nabors Drilling. New Fasken Oil & Ranch; 7500' Brown NW - 201 - #26, Patterson Drilling.

Val Verde Paramount Energy; 16800' Foote-Whitehead - S74 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

EEX E&P Co.; 14000' Leonard - 37 - #3, Patterson Drilling. Phillips Pet.; 9875' Cauthorn - B - #3 H, Patterson Drilling. **Edwards**



Williams Continues to Support **RRC Bonding Program**

Austin, Texas - The time for poor decision-making and delay is over.

Today, there are some 17,000 abandoned and non-producing oil and gas wells in the state. A non-bonded operator orphaned every one of those wells to the state.

That's why financial assurance was a major focus of the 77th legislative session in 2001. With estimates of potential plugging liability exceeding \$100 million just to plug the currently identified wells already left to the state, the Legislature, including every member from the oil and gas producing areas of the state, directed the Commission to develop rules to stem the tide of new unbonded inactive wells being left to the state.

To assure that taxpayers never have to pay to clean up drilling sites, plug wells, and protect our water and rivers long after production ceases, the Railroad Commission unanimously adopted rules requiring operators to get bonds or provide cash or letters of credit on their operations. Those rules went into effect March 2002.

As of January 23, 2003, the Commission shows that 5,057, or 82% of the registered, active operators have already obtained adequate financial assurance through a bond, letter of credit, or cash deposit. At the beginning of March 2002 when the current rules went into effect, only 28% of the active operators were bonded. On the other hand, only 184, or less than 3 %, of Texas operators currently have an active application contending an inability to get a bond or letter of credit.

The dirty little secret -- the truth the critics refuse to admit -- is their problem stems from their own bad choices, their own bad business decisions, not our rules. They acquired large numbers of low producing wells that will generate insufficient revenue to pay the cost of plugging when it becomes necessary to do so. They made no plans to handle future environmental problems. And for nearly two years they have failed to get their financial house in order. Their actions threaten the health of Texas waters and even the future viability of their very own oil and gas operations.

Our bonding and financial assurance rules are a great success. I will vigorously fight any attempt by a small band of irresponsible, high-risk polluters to frustrate the move toward universal bonding and put Texas lakes, rivers and aquifers at risk. Texas is the number 1 pro-

ducer of oil, natural gas and propane in the country. Continued production means cheap energy, jobs, and state and local tax contributions. I will work tirelessly to keep Texas energy first. Good, responsible operators have no better friend. Irresponsible operators no greater foe.

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Chamber of Commerce Welcomes the New and Treats the Old



The Sonora Chamber of Commerce pulled out the "Welcome Wagon" last week to greet new business and Chamber members, Parker Lumber Do-It-Best. Chamber of Commerce Manager, Ladonna Wardlaw, Senior Citizen Representative Jack Johnson, and Sonora Chamber of Commerce Board of Director, Mickey Schaefer (above) treated Parker Lumber manager, Elaine Kiser to a bag of goodies and written information about Sonora and Sutton County.

The Chamber of Commerce also held their quarterly "Business After Hours" last week, with Cox Drug, Gifts Galore and More, and Sutton County Steakhouse hosting (below). Guests were treated to scrumptious snacks provided by the Steakhouse while browsing through the gift shop. The drawing was held for \$450 for one local business that had a representative present. There was no winner this time, so the pot increases to \$550 for the next "Business After Hours". These quarterly get-togethers are hosted by two different businesses each quarter. All Chamber of Commerce members are invited and encouraged to attend these evening gatherings. Watch the Devil's River News for the next date.



Public Notices

Sutton County is hereby requesting bids for their group medical insurance. The effective date of the program will be April 1, 2003. Bids will be opened on March 10, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. at the County Commissioners Court regular meeting at the Sutton County Annex, Sonora, Texas. Bids should be marked "Sealed Bid" and can be delivered or mailed to Judge Carla Garner, Post Office Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For further information, please call or write Sutton County Auditor, Maura Weingart, Post Office Box 16, Sonora, Texas 76950, 915/387-5380.

2x-1/29-2/5

Sutton County is hereby requesting sealed bids on bulk oil and gas for all county departments. The grades of fuel needed are listed as follows: Taxable Diesel, Off Road Diesel, and Unleaded. Sealed bids will be opened on March 10, 2003 at 9:00 a.m., at the regular meeting of Commissioners Court. Please deliver or mail "Sealed Bids" to Judge Carla Garner, P.O. Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For further information, please contact county auditor, Maura Weingart, 915/387-5380.

2x-1/29-2/5

Sutton County is hereby requesting for sealed bids on the following: 1.) 150,000 gallons of AC/5

Asphalt 2.) 2,500 Tons of Grade #4B Rock Non-coated

3.) 3,000 Tons of Grade #3B Rock Non-coated

Sealed bids will be opened on March 10, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting of Commissioners Court at the Sutton County Annex. "Sealed Bids" must be delivered or mailed to Judge Carla Garner, Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For Specifications, please contact the County Road & Bridge Administrator, Oscar Jimenez, 915/387-3010 or County Auditor, Maura Weingart, 915/387-5380.

2x-1/29-2/5

For Sale: 1991 Ford Explorer, 100,000+ miles, needs transmission repair, otherwise good condition. See at 301 S. Crockett Ave. or call 387-2639. Submit sealed bid by February 10, 2003 to: Sutton County UWCD 301 S. Crockett Ave. Sonora, Texas 76950.

INVITATION FOR BIDS Notice is hereby given that the City of Sonora is now calling for bids for a new 2003 vehicle for the Police Department. Specifications may be obtained from the City Secretary's Office, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Texas 76950. All bids must be sealed and addressed to the City Secretary. The bid envelope must be clearly marked "BID -Police Vehicle" and returned to the City Secretary's office prior to February 18, 2003 at 10:00 a.m., at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read. The City of Sonora reserves the right to reject any and all bids. For further information contact Brent Gesch, City Manager, at 915 387-2558: 2x-2/6-2/13

Classifieds

Enoch Estate Sale - Houseful of good appliances, furniture, antique glassware, occ. Japan set China, desks, 4 dinettes, perfect Duncan Phyfe dining set with hutch, cowboy collectibles, yard & garden equipment, lg. green chest, fishing & hunting, too much to list. DON'T MISS THIS SALE 6 mi. west on Hwy 190 out of Eldorado, Feb. 7th -8th. 9 a.m. til 6 p.m. Farm & Ranch Auction - later.

WANTED: My youth back! Working with 5 women has made me old before my time if you see me on Monday, Feb. 10th, wish me a Happy Birthday!



\$100 REWARD for Return or Info. leading to her return.



Lost Jack Russell Terrier. Missing since December 26th. Last seen Davis Rd. 7 miles north of Sonora. Mostly white with brown head. PLEASE call 387-2947 or 387-3260

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As member-owned co-ops, we don't have the budgets for big Public Relations charity events - so we just take care of our communities and hope people notice. A lot of the time, we do the little things that Private Power Providers won't fool with because there's no PR value. Like putting up the main street Christmas decorations. Or using our bucket truck to repair lights at the little league field. Or lifting huge air conditioning units to the top of the local hospital. Or having our employees serve on the school board. Or... you get the idea. Often people come to us when their private power provider can't or won't help. They find we have a commitment to our communities. (We admit it; we're softies.)

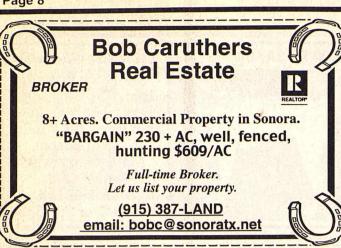
Public service like ours doesn't make the TV news. We don't mind. Our first priority is our communities. That's why Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative has decided not to opt in to deregulation, at least not until we're sure it's right for our members. The smart choice is to wait and see. Maybe that's not good PR, but we think it's the right thing. And we're pretty good at doing the right thing. Just ask the Eldorado baseball players. For more information, visit our web site or call your local Smart Choice Cooperative.



www.smartchoicecoops.com

Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Comanche Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc. Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.



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Office for Rent. 900 sq. ft. with Hwy. 277 N. frontage. Call Sharon or Jimmy Holman 915-387-7046 or 915-387-3122.

For Lease: The Stagecoach Grill & Cantina Building. Call Linda at 387-3351.

Office Space for Rent. 707 N. Crockett St. Approximately 550 sq. ft. Call 387-2880.

For Sale or Lease: 3400 sq. ft. Commercial building. 303 S.E. Crockett. 800-219-8306 days or 915-396-2647 nights.

Found

Pocket Knife found on Concho Ave. Call 387-2507 to identify.

Found large white dog during the week of January 16th. Call 387-2507 for more information.

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LIFE IS TOO SHORT for complicated skin care. Now you can get dramatic results in the time it takes to cleanse

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For Sale: 1995 Ford 350, 123,000 miles, grill guard, headache rack, running boards, good condition. 387-3625 or 277-3353.

For Sale: 1993 Ford F150. extended cab, 5 speed, 87,000 miles tool box and ladder racks. Call 387-3313.

For Sale: 1955 Chevy Bel Air, red and white, good interior, brand new 350 motor, under 300 miles on it, \$5,000 or best offer. For more details call Carlos at 915-387-2644.

For Sale: 1996 Chevy Cheyenne. 4 x 4, heavy duty, 5 speed, 1/2 ton extended cab pickup. Would make great ranch truck. \$10,750.00 Call 387-3996 after 5:00 p.m.

For Sale

For Sale: 1997 34ft. Dutchman Travel Trailer with 14 ft. slide out and warranty pkg. Excellent condition. \$12,500.00 call 387-3996 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: Bowflex XLT, like new. Call 387-5126 after 3:00 p.m. and weekends.

Garage Sale

Sale: Garage Saturday, February 8, 2003. 8:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. 905 East Second Street. Lots of good stuff - you just have to come and look.

Blue/tan sofa, 2 tan modern swivel chairs, color TV with remote; dressers, striped velvet couch, old dining room suite with 5 chairs and leaf, 2 gas heaters, lots more. Great selection 16 and plus sizes. No more winter clothing; accepting Spring in March.

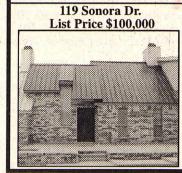
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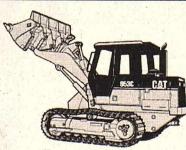
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