

# THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 115 • Issue 31

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, July 24, 2003

## Sonora Angora Goat Performance Test Field Day and Sale July 24

by Steve Byrns

SONORA - The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station's Annual Angora Goat Performance Test Field Day and Sale is set for July 24 at the Sonora Experiment Station. The station is located 28 miles south of Sonora on U.S. Highway 55, about halfway between Sonora

and Rocksprings.

The field day starts at 10 a.m. with Dr. Mike Keller, a veterinarian from Sonora, discussing strategies for parasite control in goats. Keller is followed by a speaker panel set to address issues facing the mohair industry. The remainder of the morning will focus on a live

goat evaluation exercise designed to help participants select individual animals based on mohair quality. One hour of continuing education units (CEU) is available in the morning program.

At 1 p.m., following a

See Performance Test page 7

## Comptroller Strayhorn Announces 2003 Sales Tax Holiday

(Austin)- Shoppers can stock up on clothes and shoes without paying sales tax August 1-3, Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn announced today.

"I love the Sales Tax Holiday. It's the one time where hard-working Texas families get to keep more of their dollars in their pockets for their families' priorities. The fifth annual Sales Tax Holiday will be held the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August," Strayhorn said. "During the Sales Tax Holiday most clothes and shoes priced under \$100 are exempt from state and local sales taxes."

Strayhorn estimates Texans will save \$43.8 million in sales tax, including \$34.6 million in state sales tax and \$9.2 million in local sales taxes.

Examples of items that can be purchased tax-free August 1-3 include kids' clothes and school uniforms, adults' clothes and work uniforms, shoes, tennis shoes, sleepwear and underclothes for the entire family, as long as the items are priced under \$100 each.

Strayhorn has repeatedly called on the Legislature to add backpacks, school supplies and safety gear for Texas children to the Tax Exempt list; they have failed to do so.

Items that cannot be purchased tax-free include handbags, wallets, jewelry, accessories, athletic shoes and sports apparel that are not normally street wear, backpacks and school supplies.

Since the first Sales Tax Holiday in 1999, the annual three-day event has saved Texans an estimated \$150.2 million in sales tax, including \$118.5 million in state sales tax and \$31.7 million in local sales tax.

"During these tough economic times, I believe Texas families will once again take full advantage of this well-deserved tax break to make their dollars go farther," Strayhorn said.

See the complete list of taxed and tax free items on page 5.

## "Mindy's Creations" Spruces Up Sonora With Flowers and Gifts

by Storie Sharp

Mindy's Creations, located at 105 W 4th Street is now open for business. To celebrate her opening, Mindy Castaneda and the Sonora Chamber of Commerce had a ribbon cutting on Wednesday, July 16, 2003. Friends, family, Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and soon-to-be customers joined Mindy for snacks and sweets in her freshly painted and decorated new shop (next to J.J.'s Automotive and behind Smitty's).

Mindy has been gaining experience in creativity, working with Irene at Flowers by Irene and attending classes in floral design.

Mindy's Creations will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be fresh flowers, silks,

## Sonora High School Students Should Prepare For Registration

Sonora High School will be having registration for the 2003-2004 school year August 4th through August 8th. At the time of registration, all students will be allowed to pick up their schedules and make arrangements for the school year. Students will also be assigned lockers, parking spaces, and provided all the necessary forms for the schools records. The schedule for registration is as follows;

Seniors	August 4 9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00
Juniors	August 5 9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00
Sophomores	August 6 9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00
Freshmen	August 7 9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00
All Students and New Students	August 8 9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00

For Important Information To Remember see page 5

## School Board Officially Informed of Chapter 41 Status

The Board of Trustees of the Sonora Independent School District met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2003. Board members present were Scott Jacoby, President, Jesse Bustamante, Tammy Favila, Tryon Fields, Barbara Jennings and Tom Payton. Brant Myers, Superintendent, Doug Bawcom, John Berry, Jason Herring, Diane Jacoby, Cynthia Keel and Mike McGee were also present for all or part of the meeting.

In the absence of the Chief Tax Appraiser, Superintendent Myers and the Business Manager reported that the collection rate stood at 99%.

Myers reviewed the cash position by bank account and stated that the district was in good shape. He then reviewed current bills in the amount of \$336,975.50.

The board unanimously approved the minutes from the June 9, June 18 and June 26 meetings.

In talking of the bond project, Myers said he had attended the bid opening in San Antonio on July 8 and that the numbers did not look good but that he had been assured by T.M. Davis Construction Company that they were reviewing the figures and working diligently to bring them into line.

Construction Superintendent Mike McGee stated that he was working hard

to bring the bid prices into line and that he hoped to have the bottom line figures by the first of the next week. He also stated that he was disappointed by the fact that local companies had not availed themselves of the opportunity to bid but that he was talking to various local companies in hopes that they would be able to perform some of the work. Mr. McGee concluded his remarks by stating that he was concentrating on the base bid and that he hoped to have a firm price within the week.

A motion was made and unanimously carried, to approve the revised wage rates for contractors. The revised wage rate supersedes the wage rate schedule adopted at the June 9, 2003 meeting.

A motion by Fields, seconded by Bustamante to designate another \$500,000 of fund balance to building construction/renovations, was approved.

In the Superintendent's report, Myers reported that the district was spending a great deal of time on staying up with all the lawn care for the district facilities and that there were lots of other projects being completed. The work at the band director's house is moving along quite well and should be completed within two weeks. Myers

See School Board page 5



## Deadline Approaches For Little Miss and Mr. Sutton County Entries

Little Miss Sutton County, Kaitlyn Lopez and Little Mr. Sutton County, Carter Zook want to remind everyone interested in competing in the 2003 Little Miss or Little Mr. Contest to please go by the Chamber of Commerce office at 205 Hwy. 277 North or The Devil's River News office to pick up an entry form. Pre-entry forms MUST be returned no later than Friday, August 1, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. to the Devil's River News office. A \$5 entry fee is required per contestant. No entries will be taken the day of the contest. You may submit a photo or one may be taken on the day you return the entry form. Judging will begin at 10:15 a.m. on the Main Stage on Saturday, August 16, 2003.

Contestants need to pick up their number that morning at the Chamber of Commerce/Information tent at the county park. Contestants entered in the contest must have turned 3 years of age and must not have turned 6 years of age prior to August 16, 2003. Contestants must be a resident of Sutton County. For more information call the Sonora Chamber of Commerce at 387-2880 or Trevlin Strong at 387-3968.

## Ross Honored At Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers' Association 88th Annual Convention

Submitted by Sandy Whittle

The Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers' Association presented awards to the following individuals at the 88th Annual Convention in Kerrville Friday, July 18, 2003.

Dr. Joe David Ross of Sonora, TX was the recipient of a Special Lifetime Achievement Award in appreciation for his outstanding contributions on behalf of the sheep and goat/wool and mohair industry.

The son of Lena Belle and Joe Brown Ross, Joe David was born and raised on the Ross Ranch. He graduated from Sonora High School and received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Texas A&M University in 1959. He established a large animal practice in Sonora and ranched with his father and mother. In order to spend more time with his family, he sold the veterinary practice in 1971 and began to ranch full-time, raising Angora goats, cattle, sheep, Boer and Cashmere goats and wildlife.

As Interstate 10 neared completion in 1972, the Rosses built the Devil's River Inn with the George Alexander family of San Angelo, and they are still involved with the Inn at present.

Joe David has served as president of the Mohair Council

See TSGRA Awards page 7



Dr. Joe David Ross proudly receives a special achievement award.

## Sutton County Historical Society Working On Ice House Museum

by Storie Sharp

"Thanks to some recent large donations, the Sutton County Historical Society is doing better this year," said Al Elliott, Sutton County Historical Society Treasurer, at the July 16th meeting. Elliott reported that the Historical Society has received about \$10,000 so far, some of which have come from memorials. There was also a \$3500 donation specified to be used to paint the Meyers home museum. Contributions have also been

specified by Mrs. Rosie Whitehead Jones for the new ice house museum renovations. Mrs. Jones, who was also present for the meeting, said she has great expectations for the museum and she looks forward to having some great things happen there. The Whiteheads have strong roots in Sutton County and want to see good things happen. She encouraged the Historical Society to "think big!"

See Historical Society page 3



It was a "red ribbon" day at Mindy's Creations Grand Opening.

piñatas, partyware, arches for wedding rentals, gift baskets, and more. There were some great gift ideas already filling the shelves, with more guaranteed to be on the way. Call Mindy's Creations at 387-6060

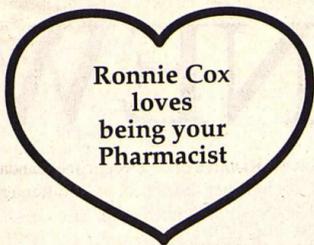
for all your special occasion needs.

Mindy dedicated her grand opening to the late Alfredo & Marcelena Sanchez.

Dee Ora  
Masonic Lodge  
Scholarship  
Fund  
Steak Dinner

Friday, August 15  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.  
Sutton Co. Civic  
Center

\$8.00 a plate  
Live Entertainment  
Choice of Sirloin Steak  
or Chicken Quarters, all  
the fixin's and Blue Bell  
ice cream for dessert.



**Lighthouse Community Church**  
 "A Church for people who don't like to go to Church!"  
**Sunday Services**  
 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
 Worship • 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.  
 1705 N. Crockett

The real things haven't changed. It is still best to be honest and truthful; to make the most of what we have; to be happy with simple pleasures."---Laura Ingalls Wilder

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. *Phillipians 4:12*  
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 English and Spanish Versions



**Sonora Church 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

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

**LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 Don Longoria, Pastor  
 1705 N. Crockett

**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



Brought to you by:  
**Kerbow Funeral Home**  
 387-2266

**THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS**

USPS (155-920)  
 every Thursday at 228 East Main Street Sonora, Texas 76950  
 Phone: (325) 387-2507 FAX (325) 387-5691  
 Periodical postage paid at Sonora, Texas  
 Storie Sharp, Publishing Editor  
 Erica Morriss, Advertising • Danni Price, Financial  
 Guest Columnist: Jo-Ann Palmer  
 Email: General Information: editor@sonoratx.net  
 Advertising: sales@sonoratx.net, Financial: danni@sonoratx.net,  
 Owner: Cam Longley Campbell.  
 \$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.**

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 The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of the staff.

**Member 2003**  
**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**Obituaries**

**Francisca Guajardo**

Francisca Guajardo, 91, passed away on Tuesday, July 15, 2003 at the Crockett County Care Center in Ozona. Funeral services were Thursday, July 17, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church with burial following at the Sonora Cemetery.

Francisca was born June 4, 1912 in Jimenez, Coahuila Mexico to Francisco and Feliz Morales. She was a longtime resident of Sonora, a homemaker and a Catholic.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Eduardo Guajardo, two sisters, Julia Garza and Irene Coronado, two brothers, Gregorio and Francisco Morales.

Survivors include two sons, Rodolfo Guajardo and wife Lucia of Eldorado, Nelson Guajardo and wife Noelia of Dallas, two daughters, Alicia Virgen and husband Pedro of

Sonora, Stella Carvajal and husband Carlos of Grandbury, two sisters Rosa Galindo of Sonora, Martha Maldonado of Del Rio, one brother Antonio Morales of Del Rio, nine grandchildren, Terri Perez, Viola Gonzales, Norma Gonzales, Lynn Marie Onofre, Ray Carvajal, Charlie Carvajal, Alby Carvajal, Nelson Guajardo Jr. and Melisa Aranda, 13 great-grandchildren, Edward (Eddie) Virgen, Marc Gonzales, Crystal Nicole Carr, Alex (AJ) and Desirée Gonzales, Shelby Lynn and Phillip Peter Onofre, Christian Carvajal, Forrest Carvajal, Natasha Angela Guajardo, Eric Gonzales, Abigail and Eduardo Ray Aranda. Three great-great grandchildren Breanne Danell, Yandell Carr and Davis Xavier Virgen. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren were pallbearers.

**Mary Bolt Swihart**

Mary Bolt Swihart was born May 18, 1921 and on July 18, 2003 went to be with the Lord in the Crockett County Care Center in Ozona.

Graveside services were on Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sonora Cemetery with the Rev. Charles Huffman officiating. Arrangements were by Kerbow Funeral Home.

She is survived by one son, Steve Bolt and wife Pam of Sonora, daughters, Geanette Skinner and husband Jim of Robert Lee, Gloria Bishop and husband Tite of Ozona, Ellen

Heinen and husband Bill of McCamey and Shirley Winger and husband Larry of Silsbee, one sister, Josie Ritter of Mason, 10 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Mary will be missed by many loving friends and her loving family.

Pallbearers were her grandsons, Jimmy Skinner, Michael Heinen, Pete Caddell, Edwin Brosh, Scott Badgett, Nathan Hubbard, Larry Lynn Winger and Jeffrey Winger.

**Card of Thanks**

The illness and recent death of our sister, Vivian Mears, reminds us how people bond together to help during a time of need. Your friendship and many expressions of love through prayers, telephone calls, visits, gifts, flowers, food and hugs were so appreciated. The love and support given to her and her family throughout this difficult journey certainly gave us the strength to meet the challenge of her illness and subsequent death.

We are especially grateful to Dr. Gregory Johnson, Keith Butler and the nursing staff at Hudspeth Memorial Hospital for their wonderful care of Vivian and the constant concern they expressed for the family. Sonora is indeed fortunate to have such a caring medical staff. You blessed Vivian's life, and you have blessed ours. We sincerely thank you for all that you have done during our time of sorrow.

The Family of Vivian Mears

We would like to thank everyone for all the love, concern and prayers during the illness and recent death of our loved one. The food, flowers and unending expressions of affection and friendship were deeply appreciated and will never be forgotten.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to our dear friend, Joyce Chalk. Vivian, as well as all of us, were truly blessed to have such a special friend in our life.

May God Bless You All,  
 Royce, Gloria and Danielle Mears

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who shared in our moment of sorrow. May God bless all of you who sent flowers, food and cards. Thanks also to the ladies who served the meal.

The Family of Francisca M. Guajardo  
 Rudy and Lucia Guajardo  
 Pedro and Alicia Virgen  
 Carlos and Estella Carvajal  
 Nelson and Noelia Guajardo  
 Her Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, telephone calls, gifts and personal visits while Mom was here and in San Angelo in the hospital. We want to thank the Knights of Columbus for the donations they gave us. Thanks to the people that have come by to visit her, The Church of Christ for the nice get well card and to all our family for all their help. Thank you Juanita Herrera for the food.

Chapo Samaniego  
 Rene Samaniego and Family  
 Elvia Samaniego and Family

I want to thank everyone for their help when I had surgery and after that when I was diagnosed with cancer. Thank God I am feeling a little better. Thank you all for your prayers, food, telephone calls and get well cards. Thank you to my cousins, Juanita Herrera and Irene Dominguez for being there for my surgery. Thanks to Noemi Samaniego for taking me to San Angelo for my treatments and check ups when I got very, very sick.

Elvia Dominguez

**Senior Center News**

July 28 - Bingo!  
 July 29 - Birthday party for July. "Seniors" at noon.  
 August 1 - Exercise with video.

**Senior Menu**

July 28 - Baked chicken, scalloped potatoes, sliced beets, roll, bread pudding with raisins, milk.  
 July 29 - BBQ pork ribette on bun, beans, tator tots, tossed salad, strawberry mix, milk.  
 July 30 - Oven fried chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed greens, cornbread, cantaloupe, jello with fruit.  
 July 31 - Tacos with cheese, pinto beans, lettuce, tomatoes, corn with green peppers, mixed fruit.  
 Aug. 1 - Hamburger on bun, chips, onions, tomatoes, lettuce, baby carrots, seafoam salad, milk.

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.\*

**Wilted Plants**

Recently while visiting some friends I noticed some beautiful (I should say were beautiful) tomato plants lying by the side of their house. They had been so big and beautiful and still had a few tomatoes on them. What happened? I inquired about the plants. They had them in the house and just quit watering them. As I looked at those once beautiful tomato plants I realized that many Christians are in that condition today. They may have once been living very beautiful Christian lives and very active in church and serving (living for) God. Today they have fallen by the wayside or just lying by the side of the house slowly wilting or dying spiritually little by little. Jesus said we were to abide in Him moment by moment, day by day (John 15:4-11) Our Christian well-being depends on our relationship and walk and constant abiding in the Lord Jesus (Psalms 91:1, Galations 5:25) God says if we don't abide in Him he will or may cast us away (Psalms 51:11&12, Jeremiah 7:15)

Yes, we did pick up those plants put them in a good place and watered them. Guess what? In a few days they were back looking as healthy as ever. If you have gotten separated from God, return today. He is just a prayer away. See you in Church on Sunday.

Brother J

**TEXAS TALES TOLD BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH**

**Treasure in Trash**

*Tumbleweed Smith*

John Nickle of Rusk had a flea market between Rusk and Alto and was always going to garage sales to buy leftover merchandise so he could replenish his inventory. Late one day he stopped at a garage sale way out in the country. A lady from Dallas was there. "Her mother had died ten years ago and she was trying to get rid of all the things in the garage that had been there the whole time since her mother died," says John. "When I got there she told me she had only two customers all day. One bought nothing, the other bought 50 cents worth so she was ready to give the stuff away. I asked her what she would take for all of it. She said a hundred dollars. I saw several tools and things that would net me at least 2 or 3 hundred dollars so I almost broke my wrist getting the money out to pay her."

There was one stipulation. John had to take ALL the merchandise because the people who were renting the house wanted to use the garage. The lady got in her car and went back to Dallas. Two and a half pickup loads later, John found an old box full of musty-smelling, moldy red velvet curtains. "I threw it on the tailgate of the truck and hoped it would blow off before I got back to my flea market. The first thing I did was to put that box under a table and forget about it."

Six months later John was talking to his wife about those curtains and she suggested he try to get rid of that musty smell because people were making stuffed animals out of that red velvet material and someone might want to buy it.

John says nine or ten times he was ready to go to the dump with that box of curtains, but didn't have room for it on the pickup. "Those curtains were worthless to me as far as I was concerned. I wonder how much stuff in the world happens like that. I could just imagine the old lady just before going to the hospital pinning those items to the curtains, thinking they would be safe until she returned. But she died in the hospital. Those things could easily have ended up in the dump just as easy as ending up in my hands." Contact Tumbleweed at www.tumbleweedsmith.com

vet material and someone might want to buy it.

"I was hanging those curtains over some partitions I had in there and my hand rubbed across something and I found an old Bull Durham tobacco sack pinned to those curtains. It contained a gold coin from Iran worth 350 dollars, a gold pin with a diamond in it worth about 400 dollars and a platinum ring with a big diamond."

John took the ring to a local jeweler who offered a couple of hundred dollars for it. John let his wife wear the ring.

"One day I was going to Tyler and decided to take the ring with me to get a good appraisal of it. The jeweler worked with it about twenty minutes and came out with a certificate. He told me the ring was worth ten thousand dollars. I was stunned. On the way home I saw that certificate lying on the seat and I stopped the car, got out and shouted expressions of joy at the top of my lungs. People seeing me do that must have thought I was crazy."

John says nine or ten times he was ready to go to the dump with that box of curtains, but didn't have room for it on the pickup. "Those curtains were worthless to me as far as I was concerned. I wonder how much stuff in the world happens like that. I could just imagine the old lady just before going to the hospital pinning those items to the curtains, thinking they would be safe until she returned. But she died in the hospital. Those things could easily have ended up in the dump just as easy as ending up in my hands." Contact Tumbleweed at www.tumbleweedsmith.com

**Community**

July 26  
 Historical Society Branding Party  
 The Depot • 8:00 a.m.  
 August 1  
 Kid's Mutton Bustin • 7:00 p.m.  
 County Team Roping • 8:00 p.m.  
 Sutton County Arena

The Community Calendar



**Calendar**

August 13-16  
 Outlaw Pro Rodeo & Sutton County Days  
 August 18  
 First Day of School - SISD

is made possible by:



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

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

**Q.** Tom Shepherd from Tomball, TX asks if we have any Burleson or Roberts family members buried in the Sonora Cemetery or info on file?

**A.** Mary Burleson was born on April 4, 1900 at Fort McKavett and married Henry C. Wyatt at Menard on March 28, 1920. She died on May 4, 1988 at San Antonio and was buried in the Sonora Cemetery.

Cemetery Records show the following Burleson burials or names on stones:

Amanda D. Burleson, wife of George C., 3-16-1899 no other date on stone. George C. Burleson, son of A. J. Burleson, was born December 5, 1899 and died March 15, 1987.

Hubert W. Burleson was born February 8, 1932 and died October 25, 1950 at Ft. Stockton along with his brother Jack C. Burleson (born 12-26-1923) in an auto truck crash. Mrs. Jack Burleson, her son Jerry, a six year old, and her mother, Mrs. J. A. Davis were injured in the accident.

Lida May Burleson was born on September 1, 1894 and married Marion C. "Dock" Burleson. She died May 24, 1977. Marion C. Burleson, her husband, was born on February 28, 1887 and died January 18, 1934 at Ft. Stockton in another accident. He failed to hear the approach of a Santa Fe train. During a horrific crash a splinter of glass from his windshield pierced his eye and penetrated his brain causing his death.

Alfred J. Burleson, was born on March 3, 1854, in Throckmorton Co., to John and Rebecca Bishop Burleson. He died on August 28, 1941 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. G. W. Archer in Sonora, following a long illness. He was survived by Luther and William Burleson of Center Point, Mrs. Milton Waters of London and a Mrs. Matthews as well as Mrs. Archer. His place of burial in the Sutton County Burial Park Block B131 grave 4. His wife, Henrietta Jane Burleson, daughter of William and Nancy Jane Harrison Williams, married him in 1878 at LaGrange and died on August 24, 1927 and is buried in Block B131 grave 5 next to her husband.

In our files we have obits for Troy Burleson who died November 9, 1994 at Ft. Stockton. J. R. Burleson 64 of London had his burial service conducted out of Aubrey Fife Funeral Home in Junction. Westlawn Cemetery, Del Rio, has Emma D. Burleson born August 9, 1889 died September 7, 1959 and James C. Burleson born September 1, 1884 and died December 16, 1959.

### Historical Society Meeting from page 1

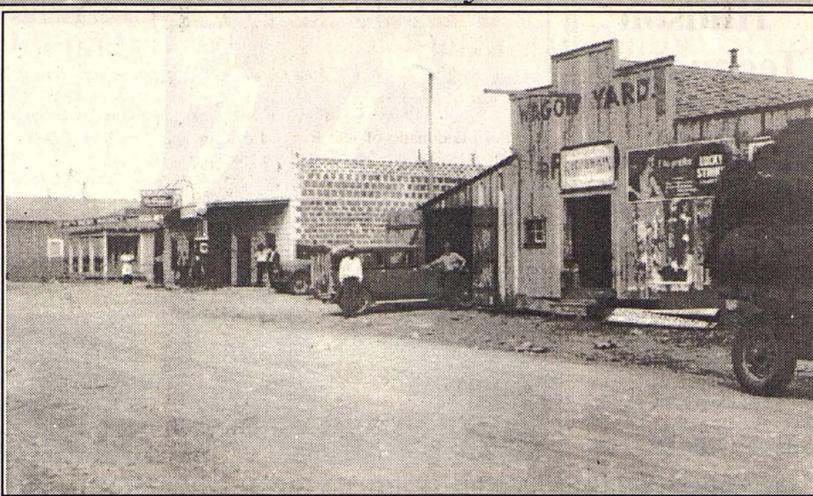
Rental for the Depot has also contributed this year. Elliott then reported on insurance costs for the Meyer's Home and the Ice House Museum.

Other S.C.H.S. members present for the meeting were: Eddie Sawyer, President, JoAnn Palmer, Secretary, Jim Garrett, Rosie Whitehead Jones, Rick Palmer, Ruthie Bounds, and Storie Sharp.

After tending to general business above and approving minutes from the prior meeting, JoAnn Palmer reported that volunteers and probationers could be used to work on the Ice House Museum. The next project on the renovation agenda is to replace the windows. Rick Palmer proposed that plexiglass be used instead of glass, so as to better resist vandalism. The panels will have to be removed to replace the windows. A motion was made and approved to use plexiglass.

It was discussed that there is a large meat storage locker in the Ice House that needs to be removed. All other items will be used as museum displays, to help explain the operations of the old ice house.

Sawyer reported that a request had been made to move the mounting block in front of the Meyer's Home Museum, so it will be moved to the Ice House. Sawyer also reported that Bill Stewart and Billy Green will be bringing some antique farm equipment to display in the yard at the museum.



The old wagon yard owned by G.W. Morris was a blacksmith shop. The gas station was next door, W. Main Street in Sonora.

ter of William and Nancy Jane Harrison Williams, married him in 1878 at LaGrange and died on August 24, 1927 and is buried in Block B131 grave 5 next to her husband.

We find mention of a Burleson living in Middle Valley in 1920 and notes in the August 13, 1943 Devil's River News on the death of J. B. Burleson of Fort McKavett. He was 83 years old and had been a resident of Fort McKavett for over 60 years. His daughters were Mrs. Sam Nance, Mrs. Henry Wyatt, Mrs. George Lane of Menard and his sons were Bert Burleson, J. L. Burleson, Albert and Willie Burleson. Records indicate he was buried in the Fort McKavett Cemetery and was born August 4, 1860 and died on August 8, 1943.

In "Adventures of the Trail: on the life of Charles Goodnight" by Haley there is mention of a Jim Burleson, owner of another herd who had driven out from Texas the fall before and crossed the Rio Grande country. He failed to dispose of his cattle and was coming back across the mountains on his way to Fort Stanton. It states, "Burleson was a gambler and a sport. He had with him a pack of hounds, two race horses, several baskets of gamecocks, plenty of good whiskey, and about the poorest cattle I have ever saw, handled principally by a lot of Mexicans on foot. I bought his cattle the next morning with him to deliver them at the crossing of the Pecos, some twenty miles below the Bosque, which he did."

We have notes on a Lois Burleson who died at the age of 69 in 1995 at Fort Stockton. Novella Jean Burleson Taylor who died at the age of 78 on September 22, 1998 in Fort Stockton and George Burleson attending the marriage of Dora Hearn and Frank McKee in East Sonora in 1920.

This is all the mention we have of the Burleson family in cemetery records and our Burleson files.

Under Roberts we have Elmo Dunbar Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Roberts born 1921 and died on June 14, 1936 from diphtheria. James Volney Roberts was born in Kimble Co. Texas on February 8, 1887, married in 1909 following the death of his first wife, and died December 8, 1953 in Brady, Texas. His wife Lillie May Henderson was born in 1891 and died in 1941. Martha R. Roberts was born in 1827 and died in 1916. James Volney Roberts' mother, Mrs. Charles A. Roberts was buried at Harper, Texas in 1937 following her death at the age of 69.

We have a note that W. C. Johnson married Miss Lula Bell

Roberts in San Angelo on April 8, 1896. Clarence H. Roberts died of consumption on June 4, 1899 at the Sonora Sanitarium and was buried in the Sonora Cemetery. Cloma Roberts died January 3, 1996 in Houston and was born February 12, 1919 in Sonora, he was brother to Elmo, Duard, Scott, Junior, Billy Jean Roberts and Mrs. Elkin Waddell. In notes written by John Eaton it says that Ben Roberts was married to Sista Flores at one time and killed a man in a fight over her on May 1, 1901. He states it is recorded in JP record No. 385.

B. C. Roberts died at the age of 67 from pneumonia at the George S. Allison ranch on April 6, 1912. He had worked in the Sonora area for over 20 years. He was buried in the Sonora Cemetery but the location of his grave is unknown. In 1996 Granvil Roberts, brother of J. W. Roberts Jr. of Sonora, died in Abilene.

Louella Word, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dee Word, was born August 28, 1909. She married Scott Roberts and died in Del Rio in 1963. O. C. Roberts ranched in Schleicher County according to the April 19, 1919 Devil's River News and J. V. Roberts was working at the Dunbar Ranch in 1920. This is all we have in our file on the Roberts family.

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 to schs@sonorax.net. You may call us at the office, 325-387-5084, Mondays 8-4, Tuesdays 8-lunch and Fridays 8-4 or give me a ring at home at 325-387-2855. Don't forget it's time to pay dues again. Mail your check for \$10 to the above address attention Al Elliott, Treasurer. Thanks!

We have a note that W. C. Johnson married Miss Lula Bell

### Happy Birthday

**July 24** - Dorothy Baker, Felicia Castillo, Robert Mayer, Becky Covington, Veronica Garcia

**July 25** - Clint Bowers, Karen Wilson, Cathy Parks, Carolyn Samaniego

**July 26** - Karl Stanton, Avis Joy

**July 27** - Arianna Zook, Daniel Ozuna, Blanca Virgen, Trent Wall, Demetrio Castro, Sr., W.A. Kinder, Bob Cramer, Lynn Onofre

**July 28** - Armando Noriega, Jr., Ronald Gonzales, Fernando Ramos, Tia Sadler

**July 29** - Ed Newton, Justin Eaton, Hunt Wagner,

**July 30** - Angelita Trevino, Susan Franks, Heather Felts, Doug Skolaut, Rebecca Castillo, Eddie Perez, Claudia Perez

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Lorena Hernandez bride elect of Rito Renteria Jr.  
Candice Baca bride elect of Eric Geske  
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387-2541

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*Bridal Registry*  
Lorena Hernandez bride elect of Rito Renteria, Jr.  
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## Important Information to Remember from page 1

- Students must have a valid drivers license and proof of liability insurance in order to receive a parking permit.
- Returning students will need to verify and update their student file. Please come prepared by knowing your
  - \* Social Security Number
  - \* Student ID Number
  - \* Mailing Address
  - \* Parents name and occupation (including phone number)
  - \* Doctor preferences
  - \* Emergency contact information (other than parent)
  - \* Names and phone numbers of people authorized to pick the student up from school (other than parent)
  - \* Medications and dosages
  - \* Other siblings enrolled in Sonora ISD and their grade level(s)
  - \* Vehicle information (license plate number, make and model, color)
- New students to the district, enrolling for the first time, will need;
  - \* Birth certificate
  - \* Social Security Card
  - \* Immunization record
  - \* Proof of residence (example - utility bill)
  - \* Past high school transcript
  - \* Last report card from previous school
  - \* All other information listed above for returning students

Some of the information and forms will need to be filled out and signed by parents at home. All forms must be returned to school, on the August 18th, the first day of classes. This information is extremely important and cooperation between the school, students, and parents is vital to make this process as efficient and effective as possible. Mrs. Friess will be available for any schedule changes or questions during these times and dates. All schedule changes will be done by August 10th and will be done by class size availability only. Therefore, taking care of any schedule changes during registration will work in your favor. Students will receive parking permits on a first-come/first-serve basis. It is critical that all students attend their registration in order to receive proper choice of parking and schedule changes. Thanks for your support in making this the first step

## School Board from page 1

said that the work on the rest-rooms at the football field is going well and the work at the Field House weight room is basically done. Only the flooring needs to be completed and the facility will be a much better building. Myers then returned to maintenance and reported on the asbestos removal project at the Elementary School. He said that Dura Kote would be on campus the week of June 21 to re-do the lockers, the air conditioning project was being done at the High School, tile was being laid in the Junior High gym and the painting project at the Primary School and the Elementary cafeteria are almost complete.

A budget workshop was conducted with the Superintendent presenting Chapter 41 costs, preliminary estimate of state aid, rollback information, Fund Function budget and line item budget. A lengthy discussion was held over the information contained in each document.

Myers informed the board that the district had recently been officially informed of its Chapter 41 status but that the Chapter 41 manual had not arrived until that day. The manual states that an election cannot be called until the district has entered into an Option 4 agreement with another school district. Therefore, on the advice of the election attorney, Myers stated that ordering the election would be postponed until an agreement is finalized. A motion was then made by Fields, seconded by Payton to schedule a budget workshop for Thursday, July 31 at 5:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

The board unanimously selected the August 11<sup>th</sup> regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. as the date for the public meeting on budget and proposed tax rate.

After a short recess the meeting continued with Myers informing the board that the Chevrolet Caprice being used as a driver's education vehicle no longer runs and the Buick was being moved into use as the driver's education car. He said that this would cause the district to be short one vehicle and no vehicles were budgeted for the coming year. Myers stated that another suburban could be purchased out of the current year budget which would keep the district's fleet at its present size. Member Fields stated that while he understood the need for another vehicle, he was hesitant to spend any more money at the

present time. The board President polled other members present and they were in agreement to take no action on the purchase of another vehicle.

Middle School Principal John Berry and High School Principal Doug Bawcom reviewed their respective student handbooks. Elementary Principal Louise Dermody was not present, but the Superintendent informed the board that they were welcome to contact her if they had any questions regarding the Elementary Handbook. Principal Bawcom reviewed the changes to the Student Code of Conduct as mandated by new legislation and the board unanimously approved it as presented.

Following a review of bids submitted for student and athletic insurance, Monarch Management was approved as the carrier for student and athletic insurance for 2003-2004.

The board unanimously approved the Teacher Appraisal Calendar for 2003-2004 after a motion and a motion was made to approve issuing activity passes to all employees and their spouses.

Myers stated that it was time once again to set the Superintendent Goals. He stated that setting these goals could qualify as this year's team building workshop. Following a discussion, it was agreed to set the goals by having a team building workshop presented by Region XV on August 5 from 6-9 p.m.

The Sonora ISD's Independent Accountants' Annual Dropout Records Report from Eckert, Ingram, Tinkler, Oliphant, Feathersen, and Barr, L.L.P. as presented was approved.

Board member Favila expressed her congratulations to the girls Softball Team and the boys Baseball Team for their advancement to the regional semi-finals.

The board then went into closed session to discuss personnel matters. After reconvening into open session, a motion was made and approved to employ Howard McDaniel as a World Geography Teacher/Coach and Judy McDaniel as an English/Journalism teacher.

## Representative Hilderbran Appointed To Public School Finance Committee

The process will likely abolish "Robin Hood", the existing method of funding schools...

Representative Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville, was appointed to serve on the Select Committee on Public School Finance.

The committee is studying the state's tax structure and its public school finance system with a goal of completely revamping the state's tax code and its method of funding schools.

The process will likely abolish "Robin Hood", the existing method of funding schools, which could be found unconstitutional after the Supreme Court has determined

that several school districts that have sued the state over the plan may pursue their lawsuits. Representative Hilderbran will serve on the Employee Benefits/Compensation Subcommittee. The subcommittee will examine and make recommendations pertaining to the state's role in providing compensation to school district employees, including health insurance and salary schedules.

"I am very pleased that Speaker Craddick chose to put me on this committee. Insurance and compensation for school district employees are issues that weigh heavily on the minds of many of my constituents," Hilderbran said. "Any change to the system must be evaluated on how it affects our teachers and school district employees."

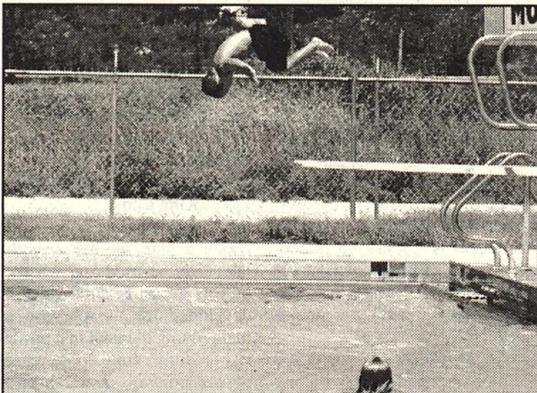
## Sales Tax Holiday List Of Tax-Free Items

Below is a selected list of items and their exemption status during the sales tax holiday.

- TAX-FREE**
- Baby clothes
  - Belts with attached buckles
  - Boots - cowboy, hiking
  - Caps/hats - baseball, fishing, golf, knitted
  - Coats and wraps
  - Diapers - adult and baby
  - Dresses
  - Gloves (generally)
  - Gym suits and uniforms
  - Hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts
  - Jackets
  - Jackets
  - Jeans
  - Jerseys - baseball and football
  - Jogging apparel
  - Neckwear and ties
  - Pajamas
  - Pants and trousers
  - Raincoats and ponchos
  - Robes
  - Shirts
  - Shoes - sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking
  - Socks (including athletic)
  - Shorts
  - Suits, slacks, and jackets
  - Sweatshirts
  - Sweat suits
  - Sweaters
  - Underclothes
  - Work clothes and uniforms

- TAXED**
- Accessories (generally) - barrettes, elastic ponytail holders, wallets, watches
  - Backpacks
  - Baseball cleats and pants
  - Belt buckles (without belt)
  - Boots - climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders
  - Buttons and zippers
  - Cloth and lace, knitting yarns, and other fabrics
  - Dry cleaning services
  - Football pants
  - Golf gloves
  - Handbags and purses
  - Handkerchiefs
  - Hard hats
  - Helmets - bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports
  - Ice skates
  - Jewelry
  - Laundry services
  - Leather goods - except belts with buckles and wearing apparel
  - Pads - football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder
  - Personal flotation devices
  - Rented clothing (including uniforms, formal wear, and costumes)
  - Roller blades and skates
  - Safety clothing, glasses
  - Shoes - bicycle (cleated), bowling, golf

## Keeping Cool In The Pool - Who's Thinking About School?



Sonora kids have found a way to beat the 100+ heat... hanging out at the City Pool. Kaden Kinder, a soon-to-be 1st grader at Sonora Elementary, is "sunny side up" here, showing off his front flip. I don't think shopping for school supplies is on his mind today?!

**2003 - 2004 Sutton County Queen Contestants**  
will be selling Frito Pies, Hot Dogs and Nachos at the Outlaw Pro Rodeo Team Roping Kids Mutton Bustin' Friday, August 1, 2003 • 6:00 p.m. at Sutton County Park Arena

Proceeds benefit Queen Candidates Style Show

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## Weather Conditions Ripe For Banner Grub Season

by Jennifer Paul

DALLAS -- It's July and the lawn's looking good. All that hard work mowing, watering, weeding and fertilizing is paying off at last. Nothing can stop you from having the perfect lawn now, right? Well, don't be too sure.

White grubs show up every year in nearly all Texas lawns. And while they often don't do any visible damage, given the right conditions they can transform any beautiful lawn into a sorry patch of grass and weeds.

"Timely rains this summer, combined with last year's high grub numbers, could mean a banner grub season," said Dr. Mike Merchant, Extension urban entomologist at Texas A&M-Dallas. "Anyone with grub damage last year should consider applying a grub-killing insecticide now."

According to Merchant, white grubs are the immature stage of the June beetle. They feed on and destroy root systems of warm-season grasses. Damage to lawns appears as irregular spots of dead grass in late summer.

Although not all lawns will show visible grub damage, Merchant cautions that lawns damaged last year will probably be infested again this year.

"It takes five to 10 white grubs per square foot of turf to cause visible damage," said Merchant. "But I don't know too many people who want to dig up their lawn to see if there are enough grubs to treat."

Two insecticides are available to prevent white grub

damage - imidacloprid (sold under the trade name Bayer Advanced Lawn Season Long Grub Control) and halofenozide (sold as Scott's Grub-Ex). Both products provide good control of grubs if applied early, before damage occurs, he said.

"Halofenozide is what's called an insect growth regulator," said Merchant. "It disrupts the grubs' molting process and is very safe and specific for white grubs. But to work effectively it must be applied during the early growth stages of the grub -- those stages that are just now hatching in the soil."

Timing of applications is not as critical with these products as with the older insecticides such as diazinon and Dursban, Merchant said. Both halofenozide and imidacloprid last a relatively long time in the soil, so early application is an option. But if you wait too long they may not do the job.

Watering after application is another key to good grub control.

"Whether you apply your grub control as a liquid or using a granular product, you should water at least 1/2 inch immediately after treatment to get the insecticide down to the root zone where grubs feed," said Merchant.

For more information about control of white grubs in Texas turfgrass, check out the publication of the same name at the online Texas Cooperative Extension bookstore at <http://tcebookstore.org>.

## Oil & Agribusiness

### Rig Locations as of July 18, 2003



**Sutton**  
New Dominion; 8950' Hudspeth - 53 - #8, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 8700' Duke Wilson #1738, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 8600' Duke Wilson #1866X, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 8550' Hudspeth - 51 - #3, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 8550' Simmons Ranch #51, Patterson Drilling.  
Falcon Bay Energy; 8500' FBE 13-10 #10, Key Energy.  
Falcon Bay Energy; 8500' FBE 8-9 #9, Patterson Drilling.  
Dominion; 8280' Simmons Ranch #61, Patterson Energy.  
New Dominion; 8000' Kirby - 1 - #11, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 6350' Collier Shurley #15, Capstar Drilling.  
New Dominion; 6250' Collier Shurley #14, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 6000' Meckel #71, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 5900' Steen #70, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 5450' Canyon Ranch #9315S, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; 5350' Canyon Ranch - 115 - #11S, Patterson Drilling.  
New Dominion; Cusenbary - 60 - #3, Key Energy.

**Crockett**  
New Anadarko; 10450' IRA Carson - 10 - #16, Patterson Drilling.  
Concho Oil & Gas; 10000' Jack Baggett - 2 - #1, Patterson Drilling.  
New Harrison Interests; 9500' Perry - 21 - #4, Patterson Drilling.  
New J. Cleo Thompson; 9000' Shannon - 39 - #1, Patterson Drilling.  
New Concho Oil & Gas; 7000' Montgomery - F - #108, Patterson Drilling.

**Terrell**  
Exxonmobile Dev.; 14500' Banner Estate #40 H, Patterson UTILV.  
Nuevo Texas Inc.; 12500' Mitchell - 4 - #8, Nabors Drilling.  
New Nuevo Texas Inc.; 19000' Mitchell - 7 - #5, Nabors Drilling.

**Edwards**  
New EEX E&P Co.; 10500' Newby - A - #6, Patterson Drilling.  
New Range Prod.; 6000' GW Stewart - 5 - #6, Patterson Drilling.

**Schleicher**  
Caraway Operating; 5400' O'Harrow - 55 - #1, Heart Land Drilling.

**Val Verde**  
Tema Oil & Gas; 6500' Meadows #1107, Lariat Drilling.

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OIL FIELD CONTRACTOR

## USDA Accepting Applications For Grassland Reserve Program

submitted

Financial assistance for the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is now available to eligible landowners. GRP is authorized for the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) administer the program, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. Funding for the GRP comes from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

According to Dr. Larry D. Butler, NRCS State Conservationist, "This voluntary program helps landowners and operators restore and protect grassland, including rangeland and pastureland, and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. The program emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland and land containing shrubs and forbs under the greatest threat of conversion to other land uses."

To participate in GRP, offers must be private land that includes at least 40 contiguous acres. Participants voluntarily

limit future use of the land while retaining the right to conduct common grazing practices; produce hay, mow, or harvest for seed production (subject to certain restrictions during the nesting season of bird species that are in significant decline or those that are protected under Federal or State law); conduct fire rehabilitation; and construct firebreaks and fences.

Applications for participation will be accepted on a continuous basis with the local office of NRCS or FSA. For the current funding cycle, an application must be received by August 1, 2003. All applications received by that date will be ranked on specific selection criteria to ensure only the highest priority areas (lands) are protected. Once funding has been exhausted, eligible applications will remain on file until additional funding becomes available. Applications accepted after August 1, 2003, will be held for ranking during the next funding cycle.

For more information about the GRP, contact your local NRCS field office. Additional information is available on the agency website at [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill).

The Sutton County Historical Society is having a branding party on Saturday, July 26, 2003 from 8:00 a.m. until afternoon. There will be branding in the Amphitheater at the Cauthorn Memorial Building (the depot). Come put your brand on a future part of history. Brands will be showcased on the front porch railing of the Sutton County Historical Society office and on boards to be displayed in The Ice House Museum when it opens. Refreshments will be provided. For more information call 387-5084 or 387-2855.

## Nature Conservancy Plans To Safeguard Headwaters of Devil's River

A ribbon of life-giving water nestled amid the sculpted canyons of arid West Texas, the Devils River is a crucial contributor to water for people and wildlife. On Thursday, The Nature Conservancy of Texas announced it has signed a contract to purchase 87,760 acres to protect the Devils River, considered the most pristine river in the state.

Comprising eight historic ranches in Val Verde County, the land surrounds the Devil's headwaters and includes eight miles of the 60-mile-long river.

The Conservancy plans to protect the property with conservation easements permanently restricting development and subdivision, and sell it to a buyer or buyers committed to conservation. The deal is believed to be the largest private conservation effort ever undertaken in Texas.

The Devil's River provides habitat for fish species found nowhere else on Earth. Its canyons support nesting endangered black-capped vireos and endangered Texas snowbells, and its wooded banks provide critical migration corridors for songbirds, raptors and monarch butterflies.

From its abundant springs, the river contributes more than 22,000 gallons a minute of water for human needs as it flows south to Lake Amistad on the Texas-Mexico border. The lake provides agricultural irrigation for the region.

"The Devils River is unpolluted and undammed, it's the benchmark of clean, natural water systems in the state of Texas," said James King, the Conservancy's West Texas program manager, who is spear-

heading the land deal.

"With this purchase, we're able to help protect not only the watershed for the headwaters of the river and a section of the river itself, but creeks and springs throughout the watershed that contribute to it."

Although the land to be acquired surrounds the headwaters of the river, the headwaters itself is located on an adjacent heritage ranch that is not part of the purchase.

The river and the land surrounding it are known by conservationists as a unique mixture of ecological systems that provide habitat for many different animals and plants.

"Situated at the junction of three distinct habitat types, the Devil's River and the land surrounding it are rich in the number and variety of species that live there," said Jim Sulentic, state director for The Nature Conservancy of Texas.

"This irreplaceable water resource has been a high priority in the Conservancy's efforts to protect important wildlife habitat for more than a decade."

At the crossroads of the Edward Plateau, the Chihuahuan Desert and the Tamaulipan Thornscrub ecological regions, the Devil's River and its environs support diverse species from all three habitat types.

A notable feature of the property is a massive sinkhole leading to a cave system known as Fern Cave. Because of the way it's sheltered from the elements, the 80- to 100-foot-deep sinkhole provides a micro-climate for plants, including a fern from Central America not found elsewhere in the United States. The site also provides a season-

al maternity cave for more than 1 million Mexican free-tailed bats, which can be seen emerging from the sinkhole in the evenings to feed and returning at dawn each day.

The area also is significant as an archeological record of human activity.

"At the same time we're protecting the river, we're conserving part of Texas, ranching history as well as the region's prehistory," King said. "The river and its surrounding lands are not only a remnant of the Old West, they abound with artifacts of ancient Native American people."

The historic site of several Texas ranches and early settlement efforts, including part of the Chihuahuan Trail, the region also includes numerous pictographs dating back 4,000 to 5,000 years, with other evidence of habitation that may be as much as 10,000 years old. The significance of the rock art of the Devil's River area is widely recognized by archeologists.

King added that while 100 or more acres of the land along the river will be retained by The Nature Conservancy of Texas as a nature preserve, the organization is actively seeking a buyer or buyers for the remaining land who will be dedicated to keeping it in its natural state. Called "conservation buyers," these individuals must possess a commitment to conservation that is

compatible with permanent restrictions on the land designed to maintain its habitat value.

"The Nature Conservancy's conservation buyer program allows us to permanently protect land in partnership with private landowners," said King.

"So, rather than having the Conservancy buy and continue to own all the ecologically important land that needs to be conserved, we're able to leverage our conservation dollars by keeping the land in private ownership.

"We use a legal instrument, called a conservation easement, that is similar to a deed restriction in that it creates development restrictions that remain with the land whether it is sold or is passed down through families," King said.

Conservation easements create a plan for the way the land may be used and whether or how it may be subdivided or developed for the purpose of maintaining the land in a primarily natural state. The easements convey ownership of these development rights to a qualified conservation organization, such as The Nature Conservancy or other land trust or a state conservation agency.

Depending on specific natural-resource needs, conservation easements may allow traditional ranching practices, managed hunting and fishing and

other recreational activities, and the building of a home site on a part of the land that is not ecologically sensitive. At the same time, easements may prohibit such activities as introduction of invasive exotic species and development that would negatively impact natural resources, and they restrict subdivision of the land.

The purchase announced today of more than 87,000 acres around the upper portion of the Devil's River contributes to a mosaic of lands along the river that previously were protected by the Conservancy.

In 1991, the conservation organization purchased 18,500 acres farther south along the river that includes the largest continuously flowing waterfall in Texas, Dolan Falls. The Conservancy retained 4,788 acres of that land to create the Centex Homes Dolan Falls Preserve and sold the remainder to a conservation buyer while retaining a conservation easement.

Directly adjacent to the Conservancy's preserve is the nearly 20,000-acre Devil's River State Natural Area, owned by the state of Texas. The Conservancy holds a conservation easement on the state natural area that ensures the land will remain protected in perpetuity.

In 2000, the Conservancy

purchased the nearly 22,000-acre Devil's River Ranch, a section on the southernmost portion of the river containing more than 13 miles of river frontage, and sold much of that land to a conservation buyer, also retaining a conservation easement. The group also intends to sell the remaining 5,000-plus acres of the Devil's River Ranch to a conservation buyer.

Altogether, lands conserved by The Nature Conservancy of Texas now protect about 25 miles of the Devil's River.

The Nature Conservancy is an international, nonprofit organization that preserves plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. In the Lone Star State, with 33 nature preserves and 38 additional conservation projects on private lands, The Nature Conservancy of Texas protects 250,000 acres of wild lands and, with partners, has conserved more than half a million acres for wildlife habitat across the state. Visit The Nature Conservancy of Texas on the Web at [nature.org/texas](http://nature.org/texas).

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# Performance Test from page 1

catered lunch, the program resumes with a Mohair Council of America update, performance test results, and awards presentations. The sale of performance-tested animals will begin about 2 p.m. and will conclude the day's activities.

Dr. Dan Waldron, San Angelo-based Texas Agricultural Experiment Station researcher and the test's coordinator, said the testing procedure gives buyers a chance to compare bucks from different breeders.

"The performance data, fleece quality, quantity, and the animal's growth rate are all compiled so buyers have everything they need to select a top buck to improve their goats," said Waldron.

"On July 24, goat producers will have the opportunity to take advantage of years of genetic selection by buying some of the most productive Angora goats available anywhere. The breeders involved with this test have been concentrating on genetic improvement for years -- even before the current renewed interest now being seen in Mohair production."

Waldron said complete performance data and photos of the bucks in-fleece are now available on the internet at: <http://sanangelo.tamu.edu/genetics/angoratest.htm>.

For further information, contact Drs. Frank Craddock, San Angelo-based Extension sheep and goat specialist, or Dan Waldron, at (325) 653-4576, or the Sonora Experiment Station at (325) 387-3168.

## DPS Needs More Recruits To Offset Retirements

Deadline only two weeks away!

With a fast-approaching application deadline of August 4, the DPS is stepping up efforts to attract trooper applicants to an October recruit school.

"The deadline is just around the corner, and we have an urgent need for trooper-trainees to offset retirements and to fill trooper openings associated with NAFTA," said DPS Director Col. Thomas Davis Jr. "We need an immediate influx of applicants to ensure a quality, diversified applicant pool to fill our next recruit school."

The six-month training academy will start October 13 in Austin. Application packets can be picked up at the nearest DPS office and extensive information is accessible on the DPS Web site, [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us).

Information also is available by calling a toll-free number, 1-866-TXTROOP (898-7667), that rings directly into the recruiting office at DPS Headquarters in Austin.

Graduates are initially assigned as uniformed officers in one of several services. After gaining experience, troopers can compete for a variety of assignments in the Traffic Law Enforcement, Criminal Law Enforcement, Driver License, Administration and Texas Ranger divisions.

An applicant must be a U.S. citizen, at least 20 years of age by the time they are accepted as trooper-trainees and have completed 90 hours of college credit. Law enforcement, jailer or military experience may be used toward fulfilling the college requirement.

An applicant's background will be carefully scrutinized, including prior criminal history. DPS is an equal opportunity employer.

# TSGRA from page 1

of America, the American Angora Goat Breeders Association, and the Cashmere America Co-Op. He served as chairman of the United Food Animal Association (IR-4 program for minor species drug approvals), as chairman of the TSGRA Animal Health Committee, as vice-president of the Angelo Community Hospital Board, and as a director of the Sutton County Underground Water District.

He has served on numerous research and industry boards and has freely shared knowledge gained therefrom for the benefit of all sheep and goat producers. A man of far-ranging interests, Joe David manages to stay current on water issues, improving mohair and cashmere preparation, marketing of goat meat and grass-fed beef, animal health issues relating to sheep and goats, holistic grazing, new high-tensile fencing materials and rural visibility and viability with emphasis on 4-H and FFA involvement for youth.

Joe David is married to the former Frances Koy Childress of Ozona, and they have two sons, Joe Will and David, and a daughter, Mary Ross Buchholz. They have three grandsons.

**The 2003 Winner of the Outstanding News Reporting Broadcast Media Award is Becky Sauder, USDA Market News Service, San Angelo, TX.**

Becky was born and raised in northeastern Nevada and graduated from Elko High School in Elko, Nevada. During that time she was active in 4-H and FFA, showing heifers, steers and horses. She began her involvement with livestock judging teams at that time. Her team won the district and state contests, which gave them the opportunity to judge at the National FFA Livestock Judging Contest.

Sauder attended Washington State University and judged on their livestock judging team. Upon graduation from WSU, she went to work for USDA Meat Grading in Iowa. She spent a year and half there before transferring to Livestock Market News in Amarillo, TX. She then transferred from Amarillo and currently heads up the Livestock Market News in San Angelo.

Becky and her sister own and operate Sisters II, where they raise Boer goats and have a fitting service. She is also an approved judge with the American Boer Goat Assn.

**Selected as the 2003 recipient of the Outstanding Agricultural Science Teacher**

**Award is Jay Waller of Ira High School.**

Waller was born and raised on a farm and ranch in Floyd County. He attended Floydada schools and graduated from Texas Tech University in 1984. He taught Vocational Agriculture at Lubbock Cooper ISD for five years, Slaton ISD for ten years and from 1999 to the present at the Ira Independent School District.

He served as Vocational Agriculture instructor at the Howard County Lamb Camp, and has received the 4-H Service Award, Lone Star Farmer Degree, Star Green Hand, Star Chapter Farmer Degree, Lone Star Farmer Degree and Texas State Horse Proficiency.

He has had six students place in the top ten in various sheep and goat categories across the state, and numerous students place in sheep and goat categories at major stock shows. He had the winner of the Finewool Cross Lamb at San Antonio and at San Angelo in 2003. He also had the State Horse Judging Team Winner for three years, State Livestock Judging Team Winner for one year and National Proficiency Winners in Fiber Crop and Specialty Crop.

Jay and his wife Karen have one daughter, Kaci.

**Selected as the 2003 recipient of the Outstanding County Extension Agent Agriculture Award is Scott Edmonson of Eldorado, TX.**

Scott was born and raised in Duncan, OK. After graduating from high school, he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma State University in 1989 and a Master of Science degree in Agricultural Education in 1991. He joined the Extension Service in 1991 and served in Irion and Guadalupe Counties prior to moving to Schleicher County in 1998.

He has received the County Extension Agent Achievement Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents and the Texas County Agricultural Agents Association, the Epsilon Sigma Phi Early Career Award, the Result Demonstration Handbook Award and the New Agent Award from the Texas County Agricultural Agents Association.

He has been active in the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo, Eldorado Woolen Mill Board, Masonic Lodge and various Extension organizations. He and his wife, Maela, have two sons.

**Selected as the 2003 recipient of the Outstanding County Extension Agent**

**Family & Consumer Sciences is Judy Gully of Nolan County.**

Judy was born in San Angelo and raised in Concho County. She graduated from Eola High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Southwest Texas State University. She is currently working on her Master's Degree in Family Studies at Texas Women's University in Denton.

Gully has been the Nolan County Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent since 1996. She coordinates efforts with the schools in the county to provide educational programs for the students on a variety of topics. The Nolan County Extension office sponsors a "Just 4 Kids" program which reaches all the 3rd grade students in the county. This program covers sheep and goats/wool and mohair, cotton, wildlife, forestry, farm products, etc.

Gully and a team of volunteers conducted the Walk Across Texas program. The Better Living for Texans program has enabled her to reach food stamp recipients and their families and provide them with nutrition education. She is also actively involved with leadership, clothing, food and nutrition and photography projects for the 4-H program in Nolan County. She has won numerous Extension honors and was named Woman of the Year in Sweetwater in 2002.

Judy and her husband Mark, have one son, Eric.

**Selected as the 2003 recipient of the Outstanding Trapper of the Year Award is Don Baker of Tom Green County.**

Don Baker was born in the small community of Okra, Texas and is the son of the late Carl and Dessie Baker. Trapping has been a family tradition with the Bakers. His grandfather, Joseph Andrew Baker, was one of the first nine men hired as trappers for the state. Six uncles and one cousin have been state trappers.

Carl, his dad, was a well-known trapper and assistant supervisor for the department for over 40 years. Carl often took Don along with him, and he taught him his trapping skills. Don graduated from Monterrey High School in Lubbock, Texas and married Jo Marie Booth in 1956. A year later, they moved to Carrizo Springs, where Don trapped in Dimmitt County under Calvin Johnson.

With four children to raise and put through college, Don

worked in a variety of positions, including Ford parts salesman, Lake Champion fishing camp owner, and pest control business owner. However, his love for trapping was always a part of him, so in May of 1991, he returned to it full-time, with assignments in Pecos County under Hoppy Turman and in Tom Green County under John Dorsett.

Don Baker received a Special Achievement Award in 1999 and a Distinguished Service Award in 2002 from the Texas Wildlife Damage Management Program. In nominating Baker for this award, his supervisor, John Dorsett, said, "Dedication, persistence and thorough attention to detail best describe his work ethic. His success is due in part to the meticulous care he takes in keeping his equipment in good working condition and having the skills to set his equipment in the most effective manner. Wherever Don has worked as a trapper, he has provided excellent predator management to the ranchers."

**Recipient of a Special Achievement Award for her efforts on behalf of the sheep and goat industry through her work with the Sheep & Goat Predator Management Board was Minnie Savage of San Angelo.**

Savage was born on a dairy farm in Hibbing, MN. She graduated from Knarbone High School in California and attended Harbor Junior College and UCLA. After her children were grown, she went back to college and obtained a Bachelor of Business with a Management Specialty from Angelo State University.

Minnie worked at Angelo State University for 22 years, two years for Senator Bill Sims, campaign office and 10 years for the Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers and Sheep & Goat Predator Management Board. After the TSGRA referendum passed in 1993 establishing a Board to provide supplemental funding for predator control, she helped get the Board organized and handled all contacts between Wildlife Services, the producers and the various control providers. She retired in September of 2002.

She has four children, 14 grand-children and 7 great-grandchildren.

**2003 recipient of a Special Achievement Award for her outstanding contributions in behalf of the wool and mohair industry was Kay King, chair of the Fashion and Interior Design Department of Houston Community College.**

Kay graduated from the

University of North Texas with a degree in fashion design and illustration. She earned her Master's degree in Liberal Arts from Houston Baptist University. She rose to prominence as a designer of ready-to-wear apparel, costumes and uniforms for over 20 years before arriving at Houston Community College in 1981.

As chair of the Fashion and Interior Design Department, she has used her experience and resources to establish and elevate the HCC fashion programs to international prominence while nurturing the emerging Houston apparel manufacturing industry created by HCC fashion design graduates. HCC's Interior Design program is the only associate degree program in the Southwest accredited by FIDER, the Foundation for Interior Design Education Research.

HCC fashion students consistently win when competing nationally and internationally with students from the most prestigious fashion schools in the world. In local, state, national and international competitions between January and August of 2003, fashion students won over \$10,000 in cash and scholarship awards, including awards from the TSGRA Auxiliary at Fashion Group International's Dallas Career Day.

Kay's students are encouraged to use natural fibers in their designs, and they have come up with some spectacular wool and mohair garments. Kay is grateful to Dolores Vernor of Dolores Unique Designs of Camp Wood, TX for making a broad selection of mohair fabrics available to the college at wholesale prices. Her fashion design students won the top two awards given in the state this year, all expense-paid scholarships to two fashion schools in Paris, France. Both students won with wool and mohair garments. Last December, one of her students represented the U.S. in Paris, competing with students from 17 countries in an international design competition judged by the world's top designers.

Working with Marie Lehnfeldt, Kay organized the first national college student fashion design competition for Make-It-Yourself With Wool 2002, and it was a big success. Kay King has been described as a "pioneer in fashion," but those who have worked with her in the Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers, Auxiliary would describe her as "Ms. Wool and Mohair".

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## Bank Repossessed, Lease & Rental Return Cars To Be Sold Directly To The Public

San Angelo Dealership Disposing of 90 Bank Repos and Other Used Vehicles for Only \$59 Then Start Making Payments\*

SAN ANGELO, TX - Bank Repossessed cars and trucks are among the most hunted-for bargains in the automotive industry. Unfortunately for the general public, they're also the hardest to come by.

Banks often unload repossessed vehicles to car dealers at rock-bottom prices - allowing dealers to re-sell them for retail value. But bargain-seekers can take heart: This week, Mitchell Toyota Kia is going to change that.

This Wednesday, July 23rd through Saturday, July 26th, Mitchell Toyota Kia will offer 90 bank repossessed, lease returns, fleet returns, auction vehicles and other clean used vehicles for thousands below normal values, and pass the savings on to their customers.

"These vehicles have been acquired at incredible savings from banks (repos), auctions, and other sources," Mike Griffin of Mitchell Toyota Kia said. "We have been asked to sacrifice this inventory immediately - regardless of loss or profit. And if that means selling these vehicles some for thousands below normal values,

then that's what we'll do."

Every bank repossessed and other pre-owned vehicles will be available for just a \$59 possession fee\* then start making payments. Some payments only \$99 per month.\*\* "It's that simple," said Mike Griffin. "To make these bargains even easier, we'll mark the payments right on the windshield. Just pick your payment and then

customers prompt, quality service and the best finance terms possible. Mr. Griffin said, "We'll have over \$4 million in financing available for this event, so chances are we can arrange financing for just about anyone who is employed, regardless of past credit history."

Trade-ins will be accepted, and customers should bring their title or payment book to expedite delivery.

"The opportunity San Angelo area bargain-hunters have been waiting for happens this Wednesday through Saturday at Mitchell

**"This is a Huge Sales Event! For 4 days the San Angelo area used car shopper will save like never before"**  
**MIKE GRIFFIN, MITCHELL TOYOTA KIA**

pick your vehicle. You won't find a faster, easier way to get a great deal on a pre-owned vehicle."

Almost every type of vehicle and price range will be available, from luxury 4x4s to basic transportation. Many are still under factory warranty. "With our pre-owned inventory near an all-time high, chances are we have what you're looking for in stock and ready to drive home," Mr. Griffin added.

Extra sales and finance staff will be on hand to assure

Toyota Kia. Every bank repo and other used vehicle is just \$59 then start making payments.\* Customers may never see savings like this again," said Mr. Griffin.

After the \$59 Super Sale ends at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 26th, many of these vehicles will be sent to auction. Any questions can be directed to (915) 653-2302. Mitchell Toyota Kia is located at 1500 Knickerbocker Road in San Angelo.

\*Bank Approval Required On All Credit Applications. \$59 Possession Fee plus tax, title and License fees. Negative trade equity will be added to amount financed. Amount of down payment may vary with credit worthiness. \*\* Example: '97 Olds 88 - Stk#X399A - \$2,995 selling price Plus TT&L - 12.9% APR thru Wells Fargo - \$99 per month for 36 months. Customer Responsible for taxes, title, tags. Vehicles subject to prior sale. Limit 2 vehicles per household. See dealer for details Mitchell Toyota KIA 2003.

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\*TERMINATOR 3 (R) 1:50 4:15  
\*BRUCE ALMIGHTY (PG-13) 2:15 4:25  
\*RUGRATS GO WILD dts (PG) 2:30 4:20  
\*2 FAST 2 FURIOUS (PG-13) 2:25 4:50  
\*ITALIAN JOB (PG-13) 2:10 4:35

Times good for the week of 7/25 thru 7/31  
\$3.00 Matinees before 6:00 p.m.

Friday-Thursday

\*J&K LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN 3 dts (PG-13) 7:00 9:30  
\*HOW TO DEAL (PG-13) 7:20 9:45  
\*TERMINATOR 3 dts (R) 7:05 9:35  
\*TERMINATOR 3 (R) 7:30 9:55  
\*BRUCE ALMIGHTY (PG-13) 7:15 9:20  
\*RUGRATS GO WILD dts (PG) 7:30 9:20  
\*2 FAST 2 FURIOUS (PG-13) 7:25 9:50  
\*ITALIAN JOB (PG-13) 7:10 9:40

\*No Passes or Discounts [www.pccmovies.com](http://www.pccmovies.com)

## Workforce Board Receives Grants to Enhance Employment Services for People With Disabilities

SAN ANGELO — The Concho Valley Workforce Development Board has been designated as one of four Workforce Boards to earn a Round 3 Department of Labor Work Incentive Grant to enhance employment strategies and services for people with disabilities. Grant funds of \$149,992 will be used to ensure people with disabilities will have access to quality job matching and supported employment strategies through the Texas Workforce Centers of the Concho Valley in partnership with Imagine Enterprises.

The mission of Imagine Enterprises is to create an abundance of opportunities, choices and resources for people with disabilities and others with employment challenges. Imagine Enterprises believes anyone can excel given the right system of supports. A Vocational Counselor will provide supported employment services to customers with disabilities.

The Texas Workforce Centers of the Concho Valley will increase services, skill training, employment outcomes, job retention, and career advancement throughout the Concho Valley for people with disabilities. A Disability Coordinator will coordinate and collaborate with Imagine Enterprises to develop and utilize assessment and planning tools for focused employment outcomes for people with disabilities through a variety of employment strategies and supports.

Both the Disability Coordinator and Vocational Counselor will be housed on-site at the Texas Workforce Center in San Angelo and provide services to Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, and Sutton through such means as toll-free phone numbers, electronic communications, TTY/TDY, and site visits.

The Concho Valley Workforce Development Board has partnered with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Texas Commission for the Blind, San Angelo Social Security Administration Office, Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Department of Human Services, Co-op 42 Adult Basic Education, Adult Literacy Council of the Concho Valley, Angelo State University's Small Business Development Center, Senior Texans Employment Program, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council for the Concho Valley, Imagine Enterprises, MHMR Services of the Concho Valley, Public Housing Authority, and City of San Angelo to provide coordinated programs and services for all persons, including people with disabilities. The collaboration and coordination among partners has also resulted in the Concho Valley Workforce Development Board receiving \$41,000 in funding from the Texas Workforce Commission to provide training on learning disabilities screening to nine regional Workforce Boards and their Workforce Center staff.

Additional funds of \$18,000 from the Texas Workforce Commission will support learning disability assessments and screening.

The Concho Valley Workforce Development Board is responsible for administering employment and training programs that promote the economic well being of all residents through the delivery of employer-driven and customer-centered services. For more information about the 2003 Work Incentive Grant, call (325) 655-2005.

For more information about employment and training services at the Texas Workforce Center in San Angelo, call (325) 653-2321 or for more information about employment and training services at the Texas Workforce Center in Brady, call (325) 597-7676.

## "The Idle American"

by Dr. Don Newbury

WHEN JOHNNY CARSON ruled television late shows, his "Amazing Carnack" vignettes were classic. You may remember his making quick changes into the swami outfit, wearing a turban big enough to have bees. Sidekick Ed McMahon would ask Johnny to provide answers before questions were posed. Then, after Carnack spewed them forth, Ed reached into the "hermetically sealed mayonnaise jar" (the one from Funk and Wagnalls' front porch) to extract questions, and that's when the laughs started...

Picture it: Carson, his hand against his forehead as he gleaned from the epicenter of mystic wisdom, might say, "sis, boom, bah." Then McMahon would ask, "Describe the sound of an exploding goat?" (Now you remember those vignettes, don't you? I told you I'm not that much older!) If Carson were on the TV scene today, he might provide an answer like, "Texas A&M and American Airlines." The question might be, Name two entities whose board meetings always begin with discussions of budget cut-backs?"

\*\*\*\*\*  
OH MY GOODNESS! The list includes the rest of our schools, most of our airlines and life in general, starting with our home budgets. If misery loves company, let us all rush in; payroll has been struck.

It is noted that two recent painful recommendations for Texas A&M University cut-backs were dictated by budgetary woes. Within weeks, Aggie leaders were dealing with eliminating both their dairy herd and their journalism program. Wow! Is nothing sacred?

In the "what if?" department, if a cow ever jumps over the moon, will there be Aggies there to write about it? Pity. If the J-school stayed intact, the news of that historic jump might read: "Everything I learned about jumping I learned

at A&M." Bossy said to members of the press corps. "When they eliminated the herd, we cows realized the importance of diversification. Failing my audition for a Chick-Fil-A ad, I was lucky that a bull friend named Ferdinand, (most of us called him "Ferdie") mentioned moon jumping. I thought if he can do it, so can I, and that's what I did... All that I am and ever hope to be, I owe to Texas A&M, Chick-Fil-A and Ferdie, but mostly to Texas A&M."

Sadly, if economic slides continue, there may be as many cows jumping over the moon as there are planes flying under it...

\*\*\*\*\*  
FROM COWS to Cowtown - Business will pick up in Fort Worth later this month when thousands of Texas high school coaches gather for their annual confab. Restaurants are doubling orders for napkins; they'll need tons for play-scribing...

It is a joyous time, signaling that the 2003 football season is close by. This is the very year that many coaches last November were urging bosses and boosters to "wait until." Further, it is joyous because coaches of all sports gather undefeated, most of them predicting good seasons-- "if the kids give 110% effort." (There is a margin of error of 10 percentage points either way.) Coaches know the classroom drills, that A's are excellent, B's good and C's acceptable. Not many figure they'll get promoted with a "C" for the season... Experienced ones know that most fans are with them all the way - win or tie...

\*\*\*\*\*  
SOME YEARS ago, I was asked to write a Code of Conduct for the American Southwest Athletic Conference. It emphasized good sportsmanship as goals for players, coaches and fans. Such is worth what ever acts of courage may be necessary to preserve it.\* (I'll touch on some of these things when I address the coaches in a general

session July 30 in Fort Worth.)

That reminds me of a story! (I'm afraid it is the kind I shared a while back when Marine Officer Brian Carter, a former student, called me from Okinawa. Upon hearing it, he said, "With all due respect, your jokes are NOT like old wine. They don't get better with age!")

Still, share I will, A football coach screamed on the sidelines after a 15-yard penalty. "That decision stinks," the coach yelled as the official stepped off 15 yards. Hearing the words clearly, the referee marked off 15 more yards, yelling back, "How does it smell from here?"

\*\*\*\*\*  
DID ANYONE notice that remarks at longtime Dallas Cowboy Tex Schramm's funeral were as frank and colorful as he was? One eulogist mentioned that Schramm's idea of compromise was when everyone else came around to his way of thinking. All agreed, however, that he was passionate about life and the work ethic. If our schools' coaches can somehow ignite this passion in our kids, we can look past some won-lost records...

Finally, I must share this "lawyer line." New York editor Judith Regan said, "Being the best divorce lawyer in New York is like being the best devil in hell..."

\*\*\*\*\*  
Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker/author/columnist in Burleson, Texas, a few miles south of senility. His book of humor, *When the Porch Light's On*, has received strong acclaim and is offered by mail. For more information on the book and speech bookings, he invites calls to 817-447-3872 or e-mail to newbury@speakerdoc.com \*Years ago, he hosted a syndicated radio sports show, ending each broadcast with, "If you can't play a sport, you can be one - and a good one." And he still believes it!

## Stargazer: Seeing Mercury and Friends

by Paul Derrick

If you're like most folks and have never seen planet Mercury, you can have a new life experience between now and mid-August.

As the innermost planet, Mercury never appears far from the Sun. Half the time it's too near the Sun to be seen, and when visible it can only be seen shortly after sunset or before sunrise.

Mercury is currently in our evening sky. Now setting almost an hour after the Sun, it will reach its maximum separation Aug. 14 when it sets a little over an hour after sunset.

Surprisingly bright-- brighter than any star now in our sky--Mercury is still a challenge to spot as it's always seen near the horizon and when the sky is not completely dark. But you can see it with your naked eyes. From a location with a view down to the western horizon, start looking just above the horizon 30 minutes after sunset. If you don't spot it pretty quickly, use binoculars to determine its location, then look again without them.

The evening of July 25 Mercury will be less than a moonwidth to the upper right of brighter Jupiter. Thirty minutes after sunset the pair will be 7 degrees above the horizon. (The width of your fist held at arm's length is 10 degrees.)

If you have a telescope-- even a modest one--use it for this show. Both planets, as well as Jupiter's four Galilean moons, will appear in the same field of view at low to moderate power.

The evenings of July 29 and 30 will provide additional treats. July 29 Mercury will be less than two moonwidths to the lower right of Leo's brightest star, Regulus, with Jupiter 6 degrees to their lower right.

The next night, Mercury will have moved to Regulus' upper left. And as a bonus, a tiny crescent Moon be within 4 degrees of their upper right. Most 7x binoculars will show all four objects--two planets, a bright star and a crescent Moon--in the same field of view. It should be an unforgettable sight, so go for it.

### SKY CALENDAR

July 21 Mon.: The Moon is at 3rd quarter, good for evening stargazing.

24 Thu. morning: A thick crescent Moon is between Taurus' bright red star, Aldebaran, and the Pleiades star cluster in the east.

26 Sat. mornings: A crescent Moon is above Saturn low in the east an hour before sunrise.

27/28 Sun/Mon. all night: The moderately good Delta Aquarid meteor shower peaks with no interfering moonlight; Aquarius, the constellation from which the meteors seem to come, is in the sky virtually all night, but more meteors will likely be seen between midnight and dawn.

29 Tue.: The Moon is new, good for stargazing all night.

Aug. 1 Fri.: Lammas, cross-quarter day celebrating the middle of summer.

3 Sun. evening: A crescent Moon is above Virgo's brightest star, Spica, in the southwest.

4 Mon.: Neptune is at opposition--in the sky all night--but seeing it requires optical aids.

5 Tue.: The Moon is at 1st quarter.

7 Thu. evening: A gibbous Moon is above Scorpius' brightest star, Antares.

PLANETS: (Like the Sun and Moon, all planets rise in the east and set in the west due to Earth's eastward rotation.) Early Evening: Mercury sets an hour after sunset. Jupiter, getting lower each night, sets at 10 p.m. and in two weeks will set at 9 p.m. Late Evening: All rising slightly earlier each night, Neptune rises just after 9 p.m., Uranus an hour later, and Mars at 11 p.m. Morning: Saturn rises an hour and a half before the Sun with Venus rising only a half hour before sunrise.

ASTRO MILESTONES: July 20 is the 34th anniversary of one of humanity's greatest: Neal Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first humans to land and walk on the Moon. (If you're at least 40-something, I'll bet you vividly remember watching it happen--probably on an old black and white TV.)

Stargazer appears every other week. Paul Derrick is an amateur astronomer who lives in Waco. Contact him at 918 N. 30th, Waco, 76707, (254) 753-6920 or pjderick@aol.com. See the Stargazer Web site at stargazerpaul.com.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SPECIAL ELECTION  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2003

### PROPOSITION 1 (HJR 68, Section 1)

HJR 68, Section 1 would authorize the Veterans' Land Board to use excess receipts in the Veterans' Land and Veterans' Housing Assistance funds for payment of revenue bonds, and use excess assets in those funds to provide veterans homes.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the Veterans' Land Board to use assets in certain veterans' land and veterans' housing assistance funds to provide veterans homes for the aged or infirm and to make principal, interest, and bond enhancement payments on revenue bonds."

### PROPOSITION 2 (HJR 51)

HJR 51 would expand from six months to two years the period in which the former owner of a mineral interest that was sold for unpaid property taxes may buy back the mineral interest.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to establish a two-year period for the redemption of a mineral interest sold for unpaid ad valorem taxes at a tax sale."

### PROPOSITION 3 (HJR 55)

HJR 55 would authorize the legislature to exempt from taxation land owned by a religious organization that is leased for use as a school or that will be used to expand or construct a place of religious worship that yields no revenue.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation property owned by a religious organization that is leased for use as a school or that is owned with the intent of expanding or constructing a religious facility."

### PROPOSITION 4 (SJR 30)

SJR 30 would authorize the legislature to allow conservation and reclamation districts to use taxes to develop and finance certain parks and recreation facilities. Also, the amendment would authorize the legislature to allow local elections for the issuance of bonds to improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities in the Tarrant Regional Water District or a conservation and reclamation district located in whole or in part in Bastrop, Bexar, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Montgomery, Tarrant, Travis, Waller or Williamson County.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the provision of parks and recreational facilities by certain conservation and reclamation districts."

### PROPOSITION 5 (SJR 25)

SJR 25 would authorize the legislature to exempt from all property taxes certain tangible personal property, which could include a travel trailer not substantially affixed to real estate and not used as a residential dwelling.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation travel trailers not held or used for the production of income."

### PROPOSITION 6 (HJR 23)

HJR 23 would authorize a qualified homeowner to refinance a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage loan.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment permitting refinancing of a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage."

### PROPOSITION 7 (HJR 44)

HJR 44 would reduce the number of persons who make up the jury in a district court criminal misdemeanor case from twelve to six.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to permit a six-person jury in a district court misdemeanor trial."

### PROPOSITION 8 (HJR 62)

HJR 62 would authorize the legislature to permit a person to assume office without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office and the election is required by the Texas Constitution. This proposition applies to state and local political subdivisions, whereas Proposition 18 applies only to local political subdivisions.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a person to take office without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office."

### PROPOSITION 9 (HJR 68, Section 2)

HJR 68, Section 2 would redefine the com-

position of the permanent and available school funds by requiring during the next two fiscal years, and authorizing thereafter, annual distributions to the available school fund of a percentage of any increase in the value of the permanent school fund's total investment assets.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the use of income and appreciation of the permanent school fund."

### PROPOSITION 10 (HJR 61)

HJR 61 would authorize municipalities to donate surplus fire-fighting equipment, supplies, or materials to the Texas Forest Service, which would be authorized to distribute based on need the equipment to rural volunteer fire departments.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing municipalities to donate surplus fire-fighting equipment or supplies for the benefit of rural volunteer fire departments."

### PROPOSITION 11 (HJR 85)

HJR 85 would authorize the legislature to regulate the operation of wineries in Texas, regardless of whether a winery is located in an area in which the sale of wine has been authorized by local option election.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "A constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to enact laws authorizing and governing the operation of wineries in this state."

### PROPOSITION 12 (HJR 3)

HJR 3 would immediately authorize the Legislature to limit non-economic damages assessed against a provider of medical or health care and, after January 1, 2005, to limit awards in all other types of cases.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment concerning civil lawsuits against doctors and health care providers, and other actions, authorizing the legislature to determine limitations on non-economic damages."

### PROPOSITION 13 (HJR 16)

HJR 16 would authorize a county, city, town, and junior college district to freeze property taxes on a residential homestead of a person who is disabled or aged 65 or older.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to permit counties, cities and towns, and junior college districts to establish an ad valorem tax freeze on residence homesteads of the disabled and of the elderly and their spouses."

### PROPOSITION 14 (HJR 28)

HJR 28 would authorize the Texas Department of Transportation to issue

notes or borrow money to fund highway improvement projects. The terms of the notes or loans may not exceed two years. The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for authorization of the issuing of notes or the borrowing of money on a short-term basis by a state transportation agency for transportation-related projects, and the issuance of bonds and other public securities secured by the state highway fund."

### PROPOSITION 15 (HJR 54)

HJR 54 would prohibit a local retirement system and the political subdivision that finances the retirement system from reducing or otherwise impairing certain accrued benefits under the local retirement system.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing that certain benefits under certain local public retirement systems may not be reduced or impaired."

### PROPOSITION 16 (SJR 42)

SJR 42 would amend the Texas Constitution to allow home equity lines of credit and allow refinancing of a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage loan.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing a home equity line of credit, providing for administrative interpretation of home equity lending law, and otherwise relating to the making, refinancing, repayment, and enforcement of home equity loans."

### PROPOSITION 17 (HJR 21)

HJR 21 would prohibit an increase in school property taxes on residence homesteads of disabled persons.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to prohibit an increase in the total amount of school district ad valorem taxes that may be imposed on the residence homestead of a disabled person."

### PROPOSITION 18 (HJR 59)

HJR 59 would authorize the legislature to permit a person to assume an office of a political subdivision without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office and the election is required by the Texas Constitution. This proposition applies only to local political subdivisions, whereas Proposition 8 applies to state and local political subdivisions.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a person to assume an office of a political subdivision without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office."

### PROPOSITION 19 (SJR 45)

SJR 45 would repeal the legislature's

authority to create rural fire prevention districts. Effective September 1, 2003, all existing rural fire prevention districts will convert to emergency services districts.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to repeal the authority of the legislature to provide for the creation of rural fire prevention districts."

### PROPOSITION 20 (SJR 55)

SJR 55 would authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds in a total amount not to exceed \$250 million that will be used to provide loans for economic development projects that benefit defense-related communities in Texas.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes not to exceed \$250 million payable from the general revenues of the state to provide loans to defense-related communities, that will be repaid by the defense-related community, for economic development projects, including projects that enhance the military value of military installations."

### PROPOSITION 21 (SJR 19)

SJR 19 would authorize current and retired faculty members of a public institution of higher education to receive compensation for service as a member of the governing body of a water district.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to permit a current or retired faculty member of a public college or university to receive compensation for service on the governing body of a water district."

### PROPOSITION 22 (HJR 84)

HJR 84 would authorize the appointment of a temporary replacement officer to serve on behalf of a state, district, or local public officer who is called into active military duty for longer than 30 days.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the appointment of a temporary replacement officer to fill a vacancy created when a public officer enters active duty in the United States armed forces."

Estos son los informes explicatorios sobre las enmiendas propuestas a la constitución que aparecerán en la boleta el 13 de septiembre de 2003. Si usted no ha recibido una copia de los informes en español, podrá obtener una gratis llamando al 1/800/252/8683 o escribiendo al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, TX 78711.

PUBLISHED BY SECRETARY OF STATE GWYN SHEA

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**Schleicher County Family Clinic** is accepting applications for Clinic Receptionist. Mon. - Fri. 8am-5pm. Interested applicants should possess computer knowledge, telephone skills, collection skills, and scheduling abilities. Bilingual preferred. Applications should be submitted to Cindy Daniels, R.N., Clinic Manager at (325) 853-3137, 400 W. Murchison Hwy., Eldorado, TX 76936.

**Schleicher County Family Clinic** is accepting applications for LVN. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Bilingual preferred. Must have good assessment skills, telephone etiquette, compassionate, self-motivated and flexible. Benefits include paid holidays, vacation, travel pay, insurance and child care available. Applications and/or resumes may be sent to Cindy Daniels, R.N., Clinic Manager, at P.O. Box V, Eldorado, TX 76936 or hand delivered to 400 W. Murchison Highway, Eldorado, Texas. Phone (325) 853-3137. Fax # (325) 853-3677.

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**Real Estate**

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**For Sale by Owner:** 117 Deerwood Dr., 4 bedroom, 2 bath, central heat and air, fireplace, 2 car garage. Call 325-387-5474.

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**Public Notices**

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED PROPOSALS FOR PROPERTY/CASUALTY INSURANCE COVERAGE** Sonora ISD is seeking sealed proposals for Property/Casualty Insurance Coverage for the 2003-04 school year. Sealed proposals will be accepted at the Admin. Office of the SISD at 807 S. Concho, Sonora, TX 76950 until August 7, 2003 at 2:00 PM. Proposals received after this time will be returned to the bidder unopened. Faxed proposals will not be accepted. Sonora ISD reserves the right to waive all formalities and award the contract in the best interest of the school district. For additional information and/or questions concerning this proposal please contact Diane Jacoby in writing or by fax at 325-387-5090.

**Competitive quotes will be obtained by Sonora ISD for the 2003-04 school year for purchases in the following categories:**

- Air Conditioning
  - Band Instruments
  - Band Supplies
  - Motor Fuel
  - Bus Supplies
  - Floor Wax/Finish Supplies
  - Athletic Supplies/Equipment
  - Library Books
  - Bread Products
  - Grounds Supplies/Equipment
- Submit in writing by Sept. 1, 2003 the name, address and phone/fax number(s) of person(s) authorized by your company to provide competitive price quotations to: Sonora ISD, Diane Jacoby, 807 S. Concho, Sonora, TX 76950. For more information call 325-387-2545.

**The Sonora ISD** offers career and technology education programs in DCP, BCIS, Agriculture Science, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Tech Prep. Admission to these programs is based on special needs and/or desire to participate.

It is the policy of Sonora High School not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Sonora High School will take steps to insure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, John Berry, at 807 S. Concho, (915) 387-3023 and the Section 504 Coordinator, Alice Cox, at 807 S. Concho, (915) 387-5944.

El distrito escolar de Sonora ofrece programas vocacionales en DCP, BCIS, la ciencia de la agricultura, las ciencias de la familia y el consumidor, y cursos preparativos de técnica. La admisión a estos programas se basa en caso de necesidad, deseo en participar, y en espacio necesario para conducir los programas.

Es norma de el distrito escolar de Sonora no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973 según enmienda.

El distrito escolar de Sonora tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales. Para informacion sobre sus derechos or procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo IX, John Berry, at 807 S. Concho, (915)387-3023 y el Coordinador de la Seccion 504, Alice Cox, at 807 S. Concho, (915) 387-5944.

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## F.Y.I.

Sonora Adult/Child Golf Tournament, Saturday, July 26, 2003, 9:00 a.m. Tee Time, \$20.00 per team, Call 387-3680 to enter.

If you would like to order a "Sonora Baseball Playoff" T-shirt, call Mary Jean at 387-5433 after 5 p.m. BEFORE Wednesday, July 23rd. If not at home, leave a message with your order. The cost per shirt is \$15.

The ASU Small Business Development Center is conducting a free seminar entitled, "Excellent Customer Service." This seminar will be held on Tuesday, August 5th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at ASU in the Rassman Building, Room 100. Please call 942-2098 to register.

**Tennis Anyone?** There is a gathering of tennis players from young to adult. Meeting on Tues. and Thur. around 6 pm at the Ozona courts. The matches are aimed at keeping tennis skills intact and, if you are interested, in good old fashion exercise. Call a friend and line up a carpool of interested players to show them how great Sonora is. More information call 392-2973.

**Attention All Ranchers!** The Sutton County Historical Society needs you and your branding irons. There will be a branding party on Saturday, July 26, 2003 from 8:00 a.m. until afternoon. There will be branding in the Amphitheater at the Cauthorn Memorial Building (the depot). Come put your brand on a future part of history. Brands will be showcased on the front porch railing of the Sutton County Historical Society office and on boards to be displayed in The Ice House Museum when it opens. Refreshments will be provided. For more information call 387-5084 or 387-2855.

The final 4-H Playday will be 7/29 at the Sutton County arena, at 6:00 p.m. There is a one time fee of \$25 to participate. A current negative coggins is required and will be checked with entry. Call the Sutton County Extension Office at 387-3101 for more information.

**Big Lake Bluegrass Festival** - September 5-7, 2003 at the Reagan County Community Bldg. Indoor Stage. Pot luck dinner Thursday. The Batten Family, Tennessee Valley Authority, The Duffin Family, Concho Grass, Star Canyon, and the Gore Bros. - FMI call the Big Lake Fire Dept. (325)884-3650

When you need Transportation, think about **Thunderbird Transit in Sonora.** Whether it is for Summer School, Vacation Bible School, Summer Reading Program at the public library, swimming lessons, whatever the reason, give us a call! 387-2509. Rate: Student - 50¢ one way/\$1.00 round-trip; In-town - 75¢ one way/\$1.50 round-trip; Senior Citizen (60+) - contribution only.

The Depot may be rented by calling the Sutton Co. Historical Society at 387-5084. Open Mondays, Tuesday until noon and Fridays.

## EMT-Basic Course Offered By Sutton County EMS

Sutton County EMS is sponsoring an EMT-Basic course that begins August 12, 2003 and ends November 8, 2003. The classes will be held at 211 East Third Street, in Sonora. Classes are on Tuesday and Thursday nights, starting at 6:00 p.m. and ending at 10:00 p.m. There will be two classes that will be held on a Saturday. Please contact the Sutton County EMS office at 387-5132 if interested.

## City Council Says Farewell To One Of Their Own

**by Storie Sharp**  
Council members were somber Tuesday, as a letter of resignation was read from fellow council member Vivian Miers. Miers, who was battling cancer, passed away before the meeting was held. It was with heavy hearts that the council had to accept the resignation. Mayor Jim Stephen said that it was with deep sorrow that they acknowledge her passing. He went on to say that her tireless efforts and all that she did for Sonora were deeply appreciated and she will be missed, as a council member and a friend. The council then decided to appoint a council member to fill the vacancy, but to table it until the next meeting.

Council members Gloria Lopez, James Blackman and Virgil Polocsek were all present. Also present for the meeting were City Manager Brent Gesch, City Attorney Beth Wallace, City Secretary Becky Covington, Chamber of Commerce Manager Ruthie Bounds, Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Manager Ann Kay, Michelle Weingart, Hospital Administrator Keith Butler, Airport Manager Tony Lane, Chief of Police Mike House, JoAnn Jones and Storie Sharp.

In regular business, the minutes from the regular meeting on June 9 and the special meeting on June 17 were approved as presented.

The Sutton County Appraisal District monthly tax collection report, the Quarterly Investment report and the Quarterly Fire Department reports were approved.

A resolution was approved to enter into an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for temporary closure of a segment of Hwy.

290 for the Sutton County Days parade on August 16, 2003, as requested by the Sutton County Days Parade Committee.

Planning and zoning case no. 357, a request by Jose Casillas at 127 Deerwood Dr., Block 1, lot 14 in the Live Oak Addition, to build a 24' x 24' storage building on his side property line and 2 1/2' from the alley was approved.

The quarterly financial report and the annual audit from the Friends of Historic Sonora, Inc. were approved.

The Chamber of Commerce quarterly financial and annual audit reports were also approved.

A motion was made and approved for the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation to expend \$20,891.18 of 4B sales tax for KD's Convenience Store project.

A request from St. Ann's Church to use Liberty Park on Sunday September 14, 2003 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to celebrate Diez y seis de septiembre was approved.

The council considered an ordinance to abandon/close the alley in Block 26A.

A public hearing was held to consider public participation concerning the drinking water quality report. The council reported that there were no problems with the drinking water, and having no other questions the hearing was closed.

The council then went into executive session to discuss personnel - the annual evaluation of the city manager, in accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.074.

After reconvening into open session, the council announced that no action was taken in closed session and began a budget workshop.

## I-10 Rollover Results In Single Fatality



Troopers Cody Cory and Rito Renteria observe the damage of a one vehicle rollover. DPS File Photo

Elisa Soto, 47, from Grant, New Mexico was pronounced dead at Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital from injuries sustained in an automobile accident on July 22, 2003. Soto was traveling east on I-10 and apparently fell asleep while driving. Her 2000 Ford Ranger left the road and entered the center median, causing her to overcorrect and enter back onto the roadway. Soto lost control and went back into the median sideways, causing the Ranger to roll four complete times before coming to a rest in the upright position, facing south. Soto, who was trapped inside the vehicle, sustained multiple chest wounds and a compound fracture to her left leg. Troopers on the scene had to use a cutting torch to remove the door in order to free the driver. Soto, who was reported to be traveling to her brother's funeral in Shiner, Texas, was transported by Sutton County EMS to Hudspeth Hospital with labored breathing.

Investigating Troopers were Rito Renteria, Cody Cory and Norbert Ortiz.

## Hospital Board Sets Date To Open Bids For Clinic Expansion

The regular meeting of the Sutton County Hospital District Board of Directors was held on Monday, July 14, 2003. The following directors were present: Lewis Allen, President, Maria Carrasco, Mike Healy, Virginia Epps, and Preston Faris. Others present for the meeting were Dr. and Mrs. Greg Johnson, Keith L. Butler, Administrator/CEO, Ben Epps, Sheila Richter, Carolyn Lara and Kathy Knight, Board Secretary.

Mr. Allen began the meeting by thanking Dr. Johnson and his wife, Becky, for attending the meeting. Dr. Johnson has started his practice in the Medical Clinic, and Mrs. Johnson will be on staff at the hospital for counseling services. The Board welcomed them to Sonora and wished them well.

The minutes from prior meetings were all approved.

Keith Butler advised that Rex Ann Friess, Sutton County Appraisal District, had given him a call that afternoon. Friess stated that there would probably be a \$25,000,000 reduction in appraised value this year. A discussion was held regarding the increase last year the approximate reduction in values this year.

Mike Healy made the motion to approve the Medical Staff's recommendation for the appointment of Dr. Greg Johnson to the active Medical Staff. Maria Carrasco seconded the motion, which was approved by all.

Butler advised that July 17th had been set for the opening of the bids for the Sonora Medical Clinic expansion. A motion was made and approved to have a special called meeting on the 17th of July at 2:00 p.m. Discussion and review of the bids were done at this meeting.

Butler then stated that the architect for the hospital construction would be here on Friday to do a walk through to begin the plans for the construction of the hospital.

Sheila Richter gave the Quarterly Quality Assurance report.

Carrasco advised that she had attended the Medical Staff meeting on June 24, 2003. She said discussion of the Sonora Medical Clinic expansion had been discussed, along with the plans for the relocation of the hospital to the annex.

Butler told the board that he has started working on the 2004 budget. He advised that he had 6 months of 2003 data to project the rest of 2003. The employee insurance is projected to increase by 20%; this will be an approximately \$30,000 increase from last year. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of the employee paying a portion of the premium each month. The insurance agent is going to shop for other insurance groups to consider for the District, with the possibility of more reasonable rates. There will be more information at the next meeting regarding the insurance rates, and if there are other companies interested in the hospital's group. There will be some additional capital expenses to be considered in the budget for next year.

Butler gave the accounts receivable report for June. There has been a significant decrease in the accounts receivable for June.

Kathy Knight gave the financial report for May. The total expenses are still under budget for the year. The hospital showed a loss from operations of \$7,210 and a net income of \$26,000.

The June expenditures were presented and approved.

Butler ended the meeting by handing out Sutton County Health Foundation information pamphlets to the board members.

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