

THE Devil's River NEWS

50¢

Since 1890

Volume 117 • Issue 8

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, February 24, 2005

Weingart honored with Purple Heart



Sgt. Javier Weingart, 5th from the right, was honored with a Purple Heart in Iraq. Photo by Steve Liewer. Reprinted with permission from the Stars and Stripes a DoD publication. © 2005 Stars and Stripes.

Nine soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment received Purple Hearts on Tuesday, November 9, 2004 at Forward Operating Base MacKenzie, Iraq, for injuries received last year during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Sgt. Javier Weingart, 27, of Sonora, was among the heroic servicemen that were honored. Sgt. Weingart is the son of Maura Weingart and Joe Weingart. Special thanks to the European publication Stars and Stripes for assistance with obtaining the photo and information.

Purple Ribbon added to the Old Oak Tree

The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program has added a special purple ribbon to the Old Oak Tree on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn, in honor of Sgt. Javier Weingart. The special ribbon shows the community's appreciation to Sgt.

Weingart and his family for all that he has done serving our country in Iraq. Thank You Javier, and we look forward to welcoming you home soon!

City Council hears Mosquito Management plan

by Storie Sharp

Mosquitoes were back in the City Council office last week, with a special presentation from Roy Burton of the Texas Health Department speaking about an integrated mosquito management program.

"Water Management!" That is where Burton said that managing of mosquitoes must begin.

"Any container that holds water is a mosquito breeding ground," stated Burton. He stressed this fact by having City employee Suzanne Whitworth display a jar with water collected from an establishment in Sonora just that same day, with live mosquitoes in it. Burton stressed that not all mosquitoes bite people and there is no way that a spray truck will kill all the mosquitoes in an area. In fact, he said that the spray must actually touch the mosquito, so the spray trucks aren't killing many, only about 30%. Burton said that the best place to start in treating the mosquito problem in Sutton County is to remove all standing water possible and treat any areas of consistent standing water. He said that public education on such



Sonora Mayor Gloria Lopez and the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street honor Boy Scout representatives, Jack Smith and Randall Ross and Girl Scout representative Rita Mendez with certificates of appreciation at the February 15, City Council meeting.

matters is very important, because the citizens need to help by ridding their private property from old tires or other containers that hold water. He also said that he and the City of Sonora would be working together to obtain necessary mosquitoes for testing, to ensure that no diseased mosquitoes are in the area. He went on to describe the different

kinds of mosquitoes and gave a very thorough explanation on the necessary steps on implementing an integrated mosquito management program in Sutton County.

In other business, Bill Hazelton thanked the council for their patience during his obtaining the old Atlas Building

See City Council page 10

Tiger Cubs visit newspaper



On Monday, February 21, 2005, Tiger Cubs Pack #19 visited The Devil's River News office. The special stop was to help fill requirements to earn their Communication bead. The group of 11 boys, Juan Gamez, Stratton Rushing, David Torres, Brian Brown, Trent Harris, Skyler Wood, Jay Telles, Julian Gallardo, Garrett Jaeger, Jay Hudson, and James Freeman, are led by Mrs. Delyse Jaeger and Mrs. Kathleen Freeman. The group learned about gathering news, how to send information, taking photos, the history of newspapers, and much more. The DRN welcomes visitors and enjoyed visiting with the Tiger Cubs.

SIDC transfers Eaton Hill operations to Chamber of Commerce

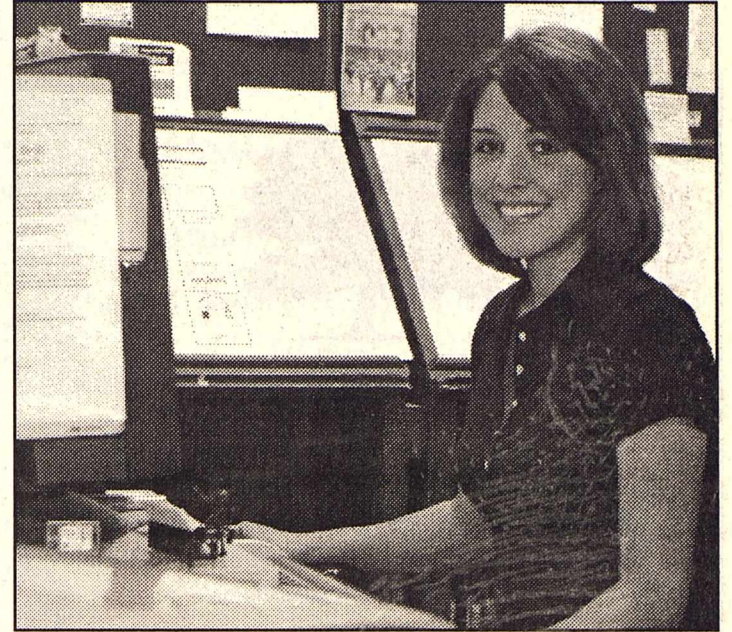
submitted

The Sonora Industrial Development Board met in regular session at the Sutton County Steakhouse on Monday, February 7, 2005. Directors present for the meeting were Cam Campbell, Carl Teaff, Max Howorth, Tommy Arnwine, Marty Parks, and John Tedford. Others present for the meeting were office manager, Nancy Glasscock, Beth Wallace, Brent Gesch, Ruthie Bounds, Delyse Jaeger, Melissa Teaf, Paul Ramsdell

SIDC President Carl Teaff called the meeting to order. After an invocation led by Melissa Teaff, the January 10, 2005 regular meeting minutes were approved as presented, as were the SIDC monthly bills and the financial statement prepared by Armstrong Backus

After a short discussion concerning the status of KD's Convenience, the dismissed bankruptcy case, and the grant

See SIDC page 7

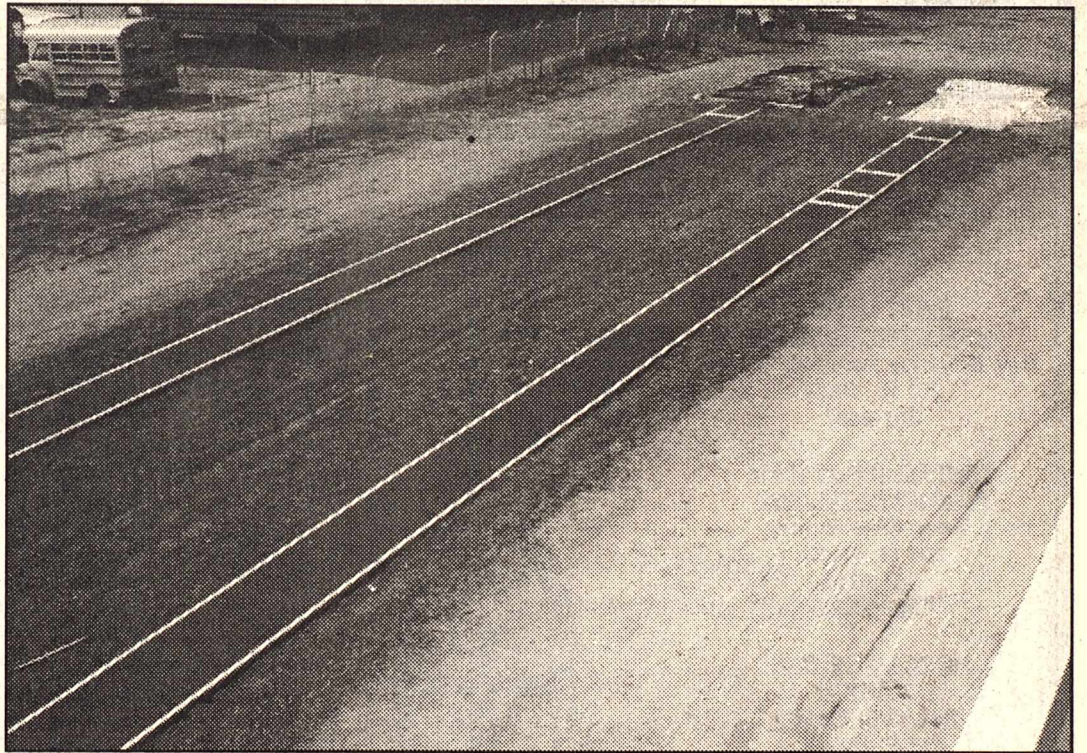


Amber Baird joins DRN staff

by Storie Sharp

The Devil's River News is proud to introduce our new Sales and Advertising Manager, Amber Baird. Prior to relocating to Sonora, Amber was a Director of Marketing in Boise, Idaho, where she acted as a liaison between the Heatherwood Retirement Community and media, vendors, and city organizations. She assisted in writing event advertising and promotional materials, as well as handling publicity. She graduated from Chugiak High School in Chugiak, Alaska and holds a Business Administration Associates Degree from Boise State University. Amber is the daughter of Rose and Tim Griffiths of Sonora and Brian and Cheri Baird of Santiago, Chile. The former "Miss Boise 2000" enjoys working with people and is looking forward to getting to know everyone in Sutton County. In addition to sales and advertising, Amber will be learning all aspects of the newspaper, so welcome her if she stops by to take your photo or sell you an ad.

School board tours track renovations, discuss administration contracts



Board members toured the new track facilities before the February meeting on February 14. These new runways and sand pits are located behind the visitor's bleachers at Bronco Stadium.

submitted

The Board of Trustees of the Sonora Independent School District met for a regular meeting at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, February 14, 2005 at the Sonora Football Field, and then continued on to the board room at the Administration Building. All board members, Tryon Fields, Jesse Bustamante, Dean Dermody, Tammy Favila, Scott Jacoby, Barbara Jennings and Tom Payton were present.

The meeting was called to order by Fields at the football field, where the board members, school officials and others present toured the newly renovated track facilities.

After returning to the board room, in the absence of the Chief Appraiser, Dr. Myers announced that January had been a good month for collections and he reviewed information concerning current and delinquent taxes.

The superintendent reviewed current bills in the amount of \$490,104.84, cash position by bank account, comparison of revenue to budget and comparison of expenditures and encumbrances to budget.

The minutes of January 10, 2005 were unanimously approved as written.

Architect John Williams and Construction Superintendent Mike McGee presented the monthly construction report and remarked that the project was going well, even

considering some unforeseen problems. Additionally, the board reviewed the cumulative list of change orders.

A discussion was held regarding two items that Mr. McGee had brought to the board's attention at the January meeting and it was the consensus of the board to place these items on the March board agenda for possible approval as follows: 1. change order for replacing windows at the Intermediate School; 2. sprinkler system for Elementary Playground.

Elementary Principal Louise Dermody and Reading Program teacher Lisa Herring gave a lengthy presentation over the newly implemented Universal Learning Program and the Passport Program, along with giving detailed information regarding the manner in which students are served.

As required by TEA, the Superintendent presented a detailed report over all the information contained in the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) Report for 2003-2004. The results of the report (Campus Report Card) will be disseminated to parents in the near future.

After a short break, President Fields stated that TASB requires that at the meeting where the May election is called, the board president is required by State Board of Education to announce the

name of each board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours of continuing education and who is deficient in the required continuing education.

Fields stated that the board had chosen not to do any team building this year, which would have satisfied the Tier 2 requirement but that all members had fulfilled the Tier 1 and Tier 3 required hours as follows: Jesse Bustamante 7.25; Dean Dermody 14.00 (12 + 2 Tier 1); Tammy Favila 12.00; Tryon Fields 12.00; Scott Jacoby 7.25; Barbara Jennings 12.00; and Tom Payton 7.25.

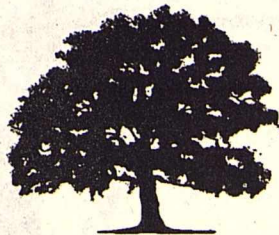
The board reviewed the bid received for upgrades to elevators and Dr. Myers emphasized that the bid was just for the mechanics of the elevators and did not include external shaft work which would come at a later date. The board unanimously approved the bid from Thyssen Krupp for \$64,643.00 for upgrades to the elevators.

President Fields announced that it was time to renew the 10 year Interlocal Agreement with Sutton County for the Baseball and Softball Fields and he gave information regarding the few changes to the new agreement. Additionally, Fields stated that if the school district could develop details regarding a new lighting system at the softball

See School Board page 8

Lighthouse Community Church

A Love Relationship
that is real, personal and practical
Sunday Services
Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Worship • 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.
1705 N. Crockett



SUTTON COUNTY
HEALTH FOUNDATION

Your memorial gift helps preserve access to quality healthcare for generations to come. Please consider the Sutton County Health Foundation, P.O. Box 18, Sonora, TX 76950. All contributions 100% tax deductible.



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
Rev. Milton Black
404 E. Poplar
387-2955

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Beverley Parsons, Pastor
201 N. Water
387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS
Enoc Elias Nunez
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713
387-3092

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Tom Baden
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

LA IGLESIA HISPANA UNIDA DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC.
Pastor Felipe Martinez
807 Orient

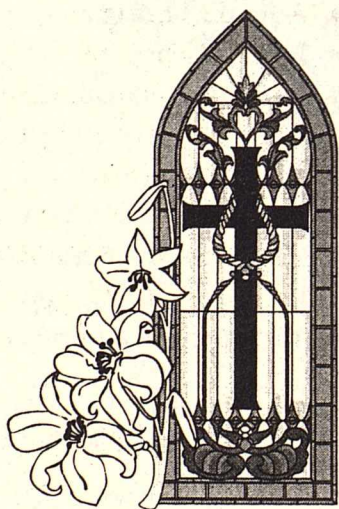
THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN
Lewis Allen, Pastor
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Don Longoria, Pastor
1705 N. Crockett

PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED
509 Amistad

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



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Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication.

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

Member 2005

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Obituaries

Vanessa Gayle Perez

Vanessa Gayle Perez, 41, passed away Sunday, Feb. 13, 2005 in a San Angelo Hospital. She was born April 24, 1963 to Isael and Rebecca Perez. Vanessa enjoyed life to the fullest and always had a smile on her face. She will be missed dearly by all who knew her. Vanessa was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church. She worked for Dominion.

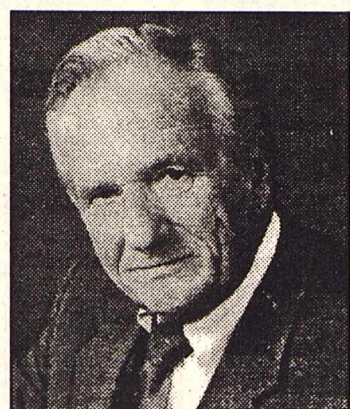
She is survived by her parents Isael and Rebecca Perez of Sonora; brother Hector and wife Norma Perez of Fort Worth; brother Marcos (Beaver) and wife Martha Perez of Sonora; nephews: Josh

Perez of Midland, Marcus Perez of Sonora and nieces Melissa and Monica Perez of Austin; aunts and uncles: Juan and Alma Silva of Laredo; Irma Flores of San Angelo; Ruben and Tina Minor of Eldorado; Ramiro and Maria Minor and Rudy and Kathy Minor of San Angelo and many cousins.

Funeral Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 15, 2005 at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Pallbearers included: Henry Ramos, George Hernandez, Alfredo Galindo, Ruben Garza, Zeke Gamez and Chris Castro.

Basil Halbert Taylor

Basil Halbert Taylor, son of Robert Eli Taylor and Mattie Altizer Taylor, was born at the family Ranch on the Texas/New Mexico border about 40 miles southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico, on September 27, 1922. Basil died in San Antonio on February 16, 2005. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Velma Dworaczyk Taylor. After a long drought in New Mexico, the Taylor family moved their ranching operations back to West Texas, leasing part of the Fort Terrett Ranch and establishing a house in Sonora for the children to attend school. Basil graduated from Sonora High School in 1939 and until two years ago attended the All-Class Reunions. Basil moved to San Antonio in 1947 after having enough of ranch work in West Texas and vowing never again to straddle a horse. After a business venture with one of his twelve siblings, he decided to learn more about the legal and accounting aspects of business. He graduated from Trinity University and St. Mary's University Law School. He did trial work during the majority of his 50 years practicing law in San Antonio. Basil served in the U.S. military during two wars. During WWII he served as part of the ground crew for a B-29 bomber squadron, eventually being stationed in Guam where he built a motor scooter to travel around the runway and check the planes for readiness. Basil was called to active duty again in 1950 during the Korean War. He eventually was stationed at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio and



Basil Halbert Taylor

continued his legal studies at night. Between the two tours of duty, Basil and Velma married in 1948. Basil and Velma had a long and enjoyable hobby training dogs in obedience, showing dogs, and instructing dog training classes. He also served as a dog show judge and was appointed by the AKC to the honorary position of Chairman of the South Central Trial Board, and chaired trials of people accused by the AKC or some individuals of violations of AKC rules and regulations from Texas and all States bordering it, plus New York to California, to Minnesota to Florida and many States in between. Other survivors include a sister, Sarah Taylor McKee of San Angelo, and numerous nieces and nephews. **GRAVESIDE SERVICES WITH FULL MILITARY HONORS WERE ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2005 9:45 A.M. AT FORT SAM HOUSTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.** In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Les Bausom

KERMIT — Les Bausom, a 40-year resident of Kermit, passed away Thursday, Feb. 17, 2005, at Regency Hospital of Odessa. He was born Jan. 20, 1932, in Ringling, Okla., to Omer Bausom, Sr. and Nell Hoffman Bausom. Les married Leta Duren in Ringling on Feb. 28, 1954. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Kermit. A few of his hobbies included gardening, his computer, and C.B. radios. He especially enjoyed his "coffee club" get-togethers. Les had been a tool pusher in the oil fields for many years. He is survived by his loving wife, Leta, of Kermit; one son, Leslie Bausom, Jr. and his wife, Margaret, of Monahans; two daughters, Pam Payton and her husband, Tommy, of Sonora, and Liz Ethridge and her husband, Mark, of Monahans; five brothers, J.L. Bausom and his wife, Lavon, of Andrews, O.E. Bausom of Lawton, Okla., Cecil Bausom and his wife, Mary Lou, of

Granbury, Texas, Earl Bausom and his wife, Myrna, of Hobbs, and Charles Bausom and his wife, Judy, of Bella Vista, Ark.; and three sisters, Sybil Nolen of Hobbs, Eva Jo Williams of Odessa, and Donnie Carrell and her husband, Floyd, also of Odessa. Les will also be missed by his grandchildren, Erin, Joshua and Brian Payton, Patrick Hawthorne, Calen and Megan Bausom, Amanda Locke and Amy Bowman; and two great-grandchildren, Madeleine and Marilyn Locke. Les was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Lee Bausom and Ashley Roberts; and by one sister, Jessie Ellison.

A celebration of Les' life was held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20, at the First Baptist Church in Kermit with the Rev. Dudley Mullins officiating.

Graveside service were at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, in Ringling Memorial Cemetery in Ringling, Okla.

Mary Joan Gardner

Mary Joan Gardner, 72, lost a courageous battle against cancer February 18, 2005. Joan was a true rancher and loved her Rocksprings home. She lived there most of her life and enjoyed raising Angora goats and her dogs. She was an avid dog lover and traveled to dog trials shows throughout many states. Joan had lived the last year at the Rotary House in Houston, Texas, receiving cancer treatments at M.D. Anderson. She returned home to Junction with Gary and Robin Gardner in January where she was able to see many friends and family members in her final days.

Joan was a member of the Church of Christ and is survived by a sister, Freddie Gardner of Winters and nieces

and nephews. She left behind many special people including Robin and Gary Gardner of Junction, Calvin Jones of Houston and Bob Leverett of San Angelo.

A graveside service was held in Rocksprings, Texas, under the direction of Gentry-Fife Funeral Home Junction, at 2 p.m., Monday, February, 21.

In lieu of flowers Joan requested memorials be made to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Research Center of Houston, Texas.

Pallbearers were Jesse Chavez, Tom Johnston, Phil Smith, Calvin Jones, Bob Leverett and Dr. Joe David Ross.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.gentryfifefuneralhome.com

L.P. Bloodworth

L.P. Bloodworth died Sunday, February 20, 2005 at his residence in New Mexico. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, at First United Methodist Church with burial in Sonora Cemetery. Arrangements are by Kerbow Funeral Home. Survivors include sons, Buck Bloodworth and Lee Bloodworth, both of Sonora and Bert Bloodworth of Midland; brother, Halbert Bloodworth of Ruidoso, N.M.; and sister Betty Jo Reinhardt of Fabens.

Senior Center News

- Feb. 28 - Bingo!!
- March 1 - Exercise with video, need seniors to sign up!
- March 2 - St. Patrick's crafts - TRAX Van to Angelo.
- March 4 - Lynne Alexander Benefits Counselor from AAA available for questions!

Senior Center Menu

- Feb. 28 - Chicken fried steak w/ gravy, baked potato, carrots, rolls, vanilla pudding and fruit, milk
- March 1 - Baked chicken, au gratin potatoes, Italian veggies, roll, fresh orange, milk
- March 2 - Baked ham, candied yams, green beans carrot/raisin salad, roll, Jell-O with fruit, milk
- March 3 - Beef liver with gravy & onion, potatoes, peas, roll, apple juice, pecan pie, milk
- March 4 - Catfish, butter beans, coleslaw, cornbread, peach cobbler, milk

NEW HOURS: Mon. - Fri 7:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
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.

School Lunch Menu • Feb. 28-March 4, 2005

Breakfast

- Mon. - Cheese toast, assorted juice.
- Tues. - Pigs in a blanket, orange juice.
- Wed. - Breakfast pizza, apple juice.
- Thurs. - French toast sticks, orange pineapple.
- Fri. - Cinnamon roll, apple juice.

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

Lunch

- Mon. - Chicken fajitas, flour tortillas, tossed salad, pinto beans, fruit.
- Tues. - Grilled cheese sandwich, chicken noodle soup, pickles, pears, trail mix cookie.
- Wed. - Steak fingers, whipped mashed potatoes/gravy, mixed fruit, hot roll.
- Thurs. - Hamburgers, lettuce/tomatoes, pickles, tots, chocolate pudding.
- Fri. - Cheese pizza, kernel corn, carrot sticks/dressing, peanut butter cookie

Community Calendar

Feb. 23
Lenten Luncheon • Noon - St. John's Episcopal Parish Hall
Devotional Speaker - Rev. Lewis Allen

Feb. 28
County Commissioners Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Sutton County Annex

The Community Calendar



Feb. 24
Relay for Life Team Captain Meeting - First National Bank
5:30 p.m.

Feb. 24
West Texas Championship Cook-off Meeting
Stagecoach Meat Market • 6:30 p.m.

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Letters To The Editor Policy

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Historical Society

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

Q. Do you have any information on Mary Frances Lowery Merck?

A. The photograph with this article is of Mary Frances in her later years. She was born on October 16, 1844 in Marion Co., Alabama and died on May 1, 1930 in Sutton County, Texas. She is buried in the Sutton County Burial Park near her husband Samuel Nelson Merck.

Q. Have you found any new information on Will Carver?

A. In Stalkin Kin Volume X, #2, we found a Coke County, Tax List that shows Will's uncle R. T. Carver residing in Coke County and the owner of one horse valued at \$25 for which he was taxed \$1.99. Will is not listed on this tax list.

In Stalking Kin, Vol. III #1 we found listed as Stilson Ranch Cowboys the following: J. Byler during July 1890; Jacob K. Byler October 3, 1883 to Nov 26, 1888; R. T. Carver June 1, 1887 thru 1887; W. R. (William Richard "Will") Carver June 1889 to January 1, 1891; Sam Ketchum June to December of 1885; B. L. (Bass) Outlaw June and July of 1889. Also listed is George G. Hamilton from Sept. 1889 to January 1892.

The Stilson Ranch was part of the Stilson, Case, Thorp, Ryburn and Company Ranch, located in Irion and Tom Green Counties. M. G. Vernon of Strawn, TX owned the book until about 1911 or 1912 when he sent it to Edgar Stilson of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Where it is now we don't know, but it is a true record of Will Carver and George Hamilton working together on a ranch at the same time and helps back up some of Hamilton's stories about Will.

While I'm thinking of it, the round stones on Will's grave were not stolen. I have taken them home to repaint the writing. It has faded with time and weather wear and I will redo all the lettering and seal it with a clean sealant.

Here are a couple of stories we found in Stalking Kin that I thought you might like to read.

The first proves that you shouldn't stick your hand in a hole in Texas or possibly don't drink too much whiskey: A shepherd, named P. Strong, who about three weeks ago was hired by Mr. Nordigg, a neighboring rancher to Shcauer & Dey, on Rocky, to look after his flock, while out herding Wednesday of last week, with the assistance of his shepherd dog, ran a rabbit into a dog hole, and thinking he had the rabbit captured, put in his hand, but receiving a sudden sting or bite, immediately withdrew it. Supposing that he had been snake bitten, he bathed his hand in cold water and drank a considerable amount of whiskey which he obtained at the house. This treatment appeared to be of no avail, and he died at 12 o'clock in the night the following Friday in great agony. Mr. Nordigg brought the body to the city last Saturday and the funeral took place the same evening. Deceased was 46 years old, claimed Huntsville, Alabama as his home, and was a confederate soldier during the late war. (reprint from the San Angelo Standard November 29, 1884.)

About three o'clock last Saturday afternoon, Brooks Blocker came to his death from the effects of a pistol shot in the left breast. He was engaged in removing a tent peg from the ground at the time, and had a six shooter in a scabbard thrown across his shoulder, and as he stooped to extricate the peg, the pistol fell out and the hammer struck the blade of an axe lying on the ground, discharging the weapon. Death was instantaneous. The accident occurred at Webb's camp on the Colorado near the line of Tom Green and Runnels counties. Funeral services were conducted by Elder Charles, assisted by Rev. A. J. Potter with burial in San Angelo. Deceased was born and raised in Austin, and died in the 21st year of his age. He was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. B. Blocker of Austin and brother to John, Jinks, William and Macon Blocker and was engaged in the cattle business. (reprint from San Angelo Standard May 14, 1884.)

Q. Do you have anything on the death of Manning

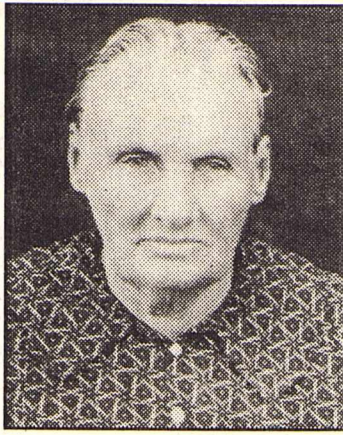
Clements?

A. The Ballinger Eagle, April 2, 1887 - Manning Clements Killed-A pistol shot was heard near night Tuesday afternoon in the Alamo saloon on 7th Street, and it was soon learned that the ever-present six-shooter had got in its deadly work on Manning Clements, a stockman of McCulloch County, who has been in Ballinger several weeks shipping stock. Clements was a first cousin of John Wesley Hardin, and like the noted John Wesley had sent more than one man to his long home. For the last several years he led a quieter life than in his younger days, having married and settled down.

Saturday's we have been doing a lot of work outside on the different buildings owned by the Sutton County Historical Society. The Miers Home Museum has been cleaned from top to bottom and exhibits moved and changed inside the building. There were just too many things in the room and it had caused a very cluttered effect. We will by hanging a great many more photographs on the walls of the museum over the next few weeks that deal with the 1890's and people who lived here at that time. We are also looking for photographs of anyone who lived in the Miers Home. We know that it had been rented out for many years and would like to make a list of all the old tenants and have some of their photographs on the walls. We have Mr. and Mrs. Wall and know they lived there with their family but would like some of the other people to come forward and help us out. I have a scanner and can scan photos at home and return your photo to you. Please help us with this project.

Also we are still looking for volunteers to help us scrub down the John & Mildred Cauthorn Memorial Trust Building-Old Depot on Saturday mornings. Bring a scrub brush and a bucket, we will supply soap and water and come on down and give us a hand. Many hands make short work of a task but with only 3 people it isn't easy to do all the work on the grounds and this project.

Rick is having a lot of back problems and possibly facing



Mary Frances Lowery, Born 16 Oct. 1844, Marion Co., Alabama; Died 12 May, 1930, Sutton Co., Texas, second wife of Samuel Nelson Merck.

surgery again and we could use some help from some other people in town that care about preserving the old buildings we own. We got tons of black dirt and caliche dust off the small area we have been able to complete but need your help to do the rest.

Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts could do a good deed or 4-H members could give their hands to service to their community. See, I belonged to both of these organizations when I was little and put in a lot of hours of community service with them. (I also learned never buy a new pair of shoes to march in a parade unless you want your feet to look like hamburger at end of a 5 mile hike and don't pick up a pretty colored stick at Girl Scout camp, it might be a snake and bite you.) A lot of you have teenagers who are always saying "I'm bored. I don't have anything to do in Sonora." Well here is a good chance to give them something to do and get them out of the house, into the fresh air for 4 hours on a Saturday morning.

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 us at schs@sonoratx.net. You can call us at the office Monday, Friday and Saturday mornings 325-387-5084 or call me at home 325-387-2855 the rest of the week to volunteer to help, ask a question or check on renting the complex!

Ol' Sonora Trading Co.
Bridal Registry
Pam Green bride-elect of Cole Crenwelge
Lauren Whiteside bride-elect of Anthony Renfro
Ashley Henson bride-elect of T.J. Harris

Rosey Bud Florist
MERLE NORMAN
COSMETIC STUDIOS
121 Hwy. 277 N • 387-5507

Tedford Jewelry
Bridal Registry
Pam Green bride-elect of Cole Crenwelge
Lauren Whiteside bride-elect of Anthony Renfro
Carla Weaver bride-elect of Bonner Walsh
107 NW Concho • 387-3839

Gifts Galore & More
Bridal Registry
Pam Green bride-elect of Cole Crenwelge
Lauren Whiteside bride-elect of Anthony Renfro
Ashley Henson bride-elect of T.J. Harris
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To find out more or reserve your membership, call: 387-2348

House speaker supports 'indexed' increase in gas tax

State Capital Highlights

Texas Press Association

By Mike Cox

AUSTIN - Until recently, the likelihood that most legislature-watchers would bank on the prospect of an increase in the state gasoline tax ranked right up there with the possibility of pigs learning to fly.

The gas tax has been 20 cents a gallon since 1991. But on Feb. 15, House Speaker Tom Craddick (R-Midland) endorsed a plan that, through what is called "indexing," would raise the gasoline tax without calling it a tax increase.

Since inflation has reduced the value of the 20-cent tax to slightly less than 15 cents, under the plan being discussed the tax would be indexed to grow with inflation. (At 3 percent inflation, that would amount to a penny a year.)

But those pennies add up. A one-cent increase in the tax via indexing would raise some \$100 million annually. Roughly three-fourths of that money would go to the Highway Fund, with the other 25 percent going to education.

No bill has been introduced yet, but with Craddick's support it's considered likely to hit the hopper.

Not today for Tomorrow Fund...

With per-semester costs up an average 23 percent since the Legislature gave state-operated institutions of higher learning the authority to set their own tuition, the Texas Tomorrow Fund will stay closed to new enrollment for another year, the Comptroller's office announced.

Started on Jan. 1, 1996 by the Legislature, the Texas Tomorrow program enables Texans to guarantee their child's college education by buying a prepaid contract.

The fund was closed to new enrollment in 2003, though the state continues to guarantee the tuition for those children already covered by the plan.

One race down...

Gov. Rick Perry still faces a contentious Republican primary next year, but he has one tough race behind him. The 54-year-old ran in a marathon in Austin on Feb. 13, finishing the 26.2-

mile race in four hours, six minutes and 54 seconds.

Mikhail Khobotov, a Russian, came in first with a time of 2:12:38.

Ride 'em, Dewhurst...

Many people living outside Texas think all Texans wear cowboy hats and ride horses. Well, in the case of Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, they're right, at least when he's not presiding over the Senate.

The lieutenant governor, wearing a black cowboy hat, competed in the National Cutting Horse Association World Finals in Amarillo on

Feb. 16.

He came out 23rd in the novice category, but fell to 33rd out of 50 the next day, which eliminated him from further competition in this year's finals.

Tired tires...

Every year for the last six years, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Texas Department of Transportation have issued a joint report that never gets much attention, but offers some amazing numbers.

Texas faces no shortage of challenges, including what to do with the millions of scrap tires it

produces yearly. Each year, Texans discard an estimated 24 million worn out tires, more than one tire per resident.

Used to be, old tires ended up in rat-infested, mosquito-breeding heaps.

Scrap tires continue to accumulate, but this year's report says progress is being made in tire recycling by using them for everything from pavement to fuel.

Even so, the report estimates Texas still has 43.4 million old tires lying around.

First Baptist Church announces March ministries....

March 2 • Host for Lenten Lunch • St. John's

March 20 • 9:30 a.m. Dedication
"Mae Ward Conference Room"

March 27 • 9:30 a.m. • Resurrection Sunday
Community Sunrise Service • 7:00 a.m.
Morning Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.

Ladies' Bible Study • 4:30 p.m. • Sundays
"Believing God" by Beth Moore (Amy Sykes-leader)

Experiencing God Study • 6:30 p.m. • Mondays
(T. Wayne Price-leader)

Ladies' Bible Study • 6:30 p.m. • Thursdays
"Believing God" by Beth Moore (Delyse Jaeger-leader)

Emmaus Groups • Men's Group • 8:00 p.m. • Mondays
• Women's Group • 5:00 p.m. • Wednesdays

Regular Weekly Schedule
Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Bible Study • 10:45 a.m. Worship • 6:30 p.m. Worship
Wednesdays: 3:15 p.m. King's Kids (K-4th Gr.) • 6:15 p.m. Family Night Meal
7:00 p.m. Team Kid - Preschoolers & Children
Youth Group at Youth Center
Adults - "Wednesday Spark!"

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Chamber Chatter

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Nominate year-end winners for annual Chamber banquet

by Ruthie Bounds, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

Sonora Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for our Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet. The banquet will be held at the Sutton County Civic Center on April 14th. All Sonora Chamber of Commerce regular and business members will be mailed nomination forms for the awards that will be presented at the Annual Chamber Banquet.

The awards presented at the Annual Sonora Chamber of Commerce Banquet are very important to our community. It is the only time many of these people are recognized for their contributions to Sonora. There is an award for "Citizen of the Year," "Organization of the Year," "Employee of the Year," "Educator of the Year", and "Business Person of the Year". A ballot containing all the information needed will be mailed out next week, the first week in March to give you plenty of time to return them to the Sonora Chamber of

Commerce Office & Welcome Center.

I cannot stress enough the importance of these awards. Please take the time to fill out the ballot and return it. There are so many deserving people in our community and we do not nominate these people. You do!!! Don't take a chance on leaving someone out who deserves recognition for service to our wonderful town. Let's get together and have a great time while recognizing the wonderful volunteers of Sonora. Watch for your ballot in the mail.

If you are not a member of Sonora Chamber of Commerce and would like to become a member, please call or come by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office & Welcome Center at 205 Hiway 277 North, 325/387-2880. You may also visit our website at www.sonoratr-chamber.com for more information about the Chamber and its membership.

Devotion to Saint Jude

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, loved, preserved & glorified throughout the world now and forever. The sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us.

St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, pray for us. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ for the help of your servant St. Jude in listening to my prayers. Say this prayer nine times for nine days. By the end of the eighth, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail.

Publication must be promised. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for prayers answered Baby Emily B.



Thank-you notes

The Family of Vanessa Gayle Perez would like to say "Thank-You" to all of our friends and family during our recent loss. We appreciate all of the prayers, calls, visits, food and flowers.

Isael, Rebecca, Hector, Norma, Marcos (Beaver), Martha and Marcus Perez

My wife, Irene, and I would like to thank my family and all the people in Sonora for their prayers, calls and cards during my illness. We would not have been able to get through this without all of you. I'm happy to report that I'm much better thanks to the Lord and your prayers.

Irene and Pete Gomez, Sr.
 Midland, Texas

Happy Birthday

February 24

Amanda Berry, Chris Castro, Brad Legan, Charlie Gandar

February 25

Abel Longoria, Ralph Gonzales, Jr., Gene Gibbens, Kari Bowers, Grayson Glidewell, Ebbie Sutton

February 26

Jerry Northcott, Trey Rushing, Rosemary Perez, Justin Sims, Scott Farley, Mike Sanchez, Valerie Rennels, Joe Flores

February 27

Matt Routh, Jack Smith, Yolanda Campos, Pat Pfluger, Israel Sanchez

February 28

Samantha Tidwell, Rose Butler, Kayla Fields, Tyler Smith, Brianah Creek, Marilyn Holman, Jose Buitron, Bill Doran

March 1

Westley Dutton, Dewitt Pope, Damion Tirado, Tot Gonzales, Barbara Jennings, Jessica Vargas

March 2

Richard Espinosa, Sr., Courtney Caruthers, Dixon Duke, Staci Espinosa, Paula Hernandez, Bryan Henson, Natlia Perez, Julia Hines

Relay for Life Team Captain Meeting Has Been Rescheduled
 Due to illness, the Relay for Life Team Captain Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2005 at the First National Bank of Sonora has been rescheduled for Monday, March 7, 2005 at 5:30 p.m., at the First National Bank. We apologize for the inconvenience and hope to see you there. Get ready for a "Fiesta, no Siesta" ACS style, as we raise funds for the American Cancer Society ALL NIGHT LONG on May 20-21, 2005. For more information on the meeting, contact Storie Sharp at 387-2507.

Main Street Traffic

Prepare for a hoppin' good time at annual Easter egg hunt

by Ann Kay, Friends of Historic Main Street Program Manager
 The Friends of Historic Main Street Program would like to invite you and your family to the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Eaton Hill treasure Hunt on Saturday, March 26, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn. The bunny has been contacted and the treasures will be hidden and ready to go early that morning. The annual hunts wouldn't be possible without the support of the many sponsors, Sonora merchants, City of Sonora, the Board of Directors of the FHSMS Program, Sutton County, Johnny Solis, Carlos Gallegos, Chamber of Commerce, Eaton Hill Committee, Lewis Allen, Delyse Jaeger, KHOS Radio, The Devil's River News, the Bank & Trust, First National Bank of Sonora and the parents who help make the FHSMS Easter Egg Hunt and Eaton Hill Treasure Hunt the best in Texas.

Honoring local scouts

The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program honored the local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts at the Tuesday, February 15, 2005 City Council meeting. Jack Smith and Randall Ross, Chairman of the Executive Board of Concho Valley Council of Boy Scouts, accepted certificates on behalf of the Sonora Boy Scouts and Rita Mendez accepted on behalf of the Girl Scouts. The appreciation certificates were just part of the honors being paid to the local scouting community this month. A special exhibit has been put together at the First National Bank of Sonora to give everyone a glimpse of all that the Scouts do for our community. Take a moment to stop by and see just how much our local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts do for our community. This is just a small way to say "thank-you" to the boys, girls, parents and leaders who volunteer their time. Volunteers are what make the programs, events, committees, and festivals possible in our town, making it a great place to live.

Letter to the Editor

Editor,
 Recently we spent the night in the Best Western Motel in your town. They serve a wonderful breakfast.
 When I arrived at home I realized I had left my pillow. I called back to tell them and they had found it and was waiting for someone to call. They mailed my pillow to me. I thought this was great, just wanted to let you know what nice people you have running the motel.
 Maxine Hinsley
 Cohoma, Texas

Concho Valley Home For Girls Advisory Board welcomes Iris Garza

Concho Valley Home for Girls/Children's Emergency Shelter is pleased to welcome Iris Garza as a member of the regional Advisory Board. She will serve as the local contact for those seeking information about the Home and Shelter.

Over the years, the Shelter and Home have been a safe haven for over 100 children from Sutton County. Two of the first residents at the Girls Home came from Sonora and lived at the Home until graduating from high school. Both still maintain contact and have said that the Home changed their lives.

Since 1973, Concho Valley Home for Girls has offered girls

from troubled homes an opportunity to overcome the hurts of the past. Through the years, many young women have found a home on Preusser St.

The Children's Emergency Shelter began operating in 1978. The Shelter provides short-term care for young boys and girls ages 0-17 removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect and for those whose families undergo periods of crisis.

If you are interested in having someone speak to your organization or would like to sponsor a fundraiser or other project, please call Iris at 325-387-3237. You may also call Sammye Ruppeck at 655-3821.

AAA Benefits Counselor to answer questions at Senior Center

Attention Senior Citizens!
 Lynne Alexander, a benefits counselor from the Area Agency on Aging will be at the Sutton County/Sonora Senior Center on Friday, March 4, 2005, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Alexander will be answering questions regarding benefits that may be available to you. Topics of discussion will include assistance with finding a Rx Assistance Program, Appealing Medicare-denied charges on your hospital/doctor bill, or advice on legal issues. Bring your Medicare summary notices, a list of your medications or other paperwork for a personal consultation. Call Juanita Mesa at 325-387-5657 or Lynne Alexander in San Angelo at 1-877-944-9666 with questions.

SONORA CLEAN-UP
 Saturday, February 26, 2005
 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The City of Sonora has designated Sonora Clean-up on Saturday, February 26, 2005 to allow customers to discard items otherwise difficult to dispose of in regular refuse service. Customers may deliver material to the Trash Collection Site located at the end of South 1st Street Sinaloa (old Landfill Site). Industrial Containers will be available for customers to dispose of their trash. Do not dump any trash on the ground.

Only on February 26, 2005

Fees will be WAIVED for three (3) trips to the trash collection site, for customers who pay a monthly trash collection bill to the City of Sonora. A current utility bill must be presented.

Customers who make more than three (3) trips or do not pay a monthly trash collection fee will be charged the following.

Minimum	\$5.00
Over 100 pounds	\$0.05 a pound

ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:

1. Oil Filters
2. Petroleum products and by-products
3. Explosive Materials
4. Medical Waste
5. Liquid Waste
6. Appliances that have not had freon removed

This project is being performed as part of the settlement of an enforcement action brought by TCEQ.

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Broncos Blow Out the Eagles

By Ray Glasscock

As strange as this may sound, the Broncos took the floor Tuesday night rooting for the Wall Hawks. In order to make the playoffs, the Broncos had to defeat the Eagles and Wall had to beat Mason. The Broncos easily took care of their part.

Three seniors, Clint Cearley, Austin Wagoner, and Dustin Creek, played their last high school basketball game. It quickly became apparent that Cearley was "feeling it." He hit the first eight points of the game and finished the first quarter with 11 of the Broncos' 14 points. Just like the previous Bronco game against Mason, the Broncos would never trail in the game. Craig Leonard hit a basket and Dustin Duhon made a free throw for the other first quarter points.

The scoring slowed down in the second quarter. Cearley hit a basket, Steven Duhon hit a free throw, and Brett McDaniel had two baskets and two free throws. The score at the half was 23 to 18 in favor of the Broncos.

The Eagles' defense in the third quarter kept the game exciting. One of the key plays involved McDaniel. Cearley and Evan Gulley. Cearley missed a lay up, McDaniel missed the put back, Cearley rebounded and passed to Gulley at the top of the key. Gulley buried a three. Most of the Broncos' points in the third quarter were made from the free throw line. The Broncos hit seven of eleven free throws. At the end of the third, the Eagles trailed 39 to 29.

The Broncos made the most of their last quarter of the 2005 season. The Broncos poured in 23 points. Cearley finished his high school basketball career with five field goals including one three pointer in the last quarter. Justin Northcott had a nice lay up. Leonard, Gulley, and Cullen Parker all scored from the free throw line. The Broncos won the game by a score of 62 to 40.

The Broncos finished their season undefeated on their home court. They also beat everyone in the district at least once.

SCORING:

Craig Leonard 2, 1-2, 5.
Evan Gulley 1, 2-2, 5.
Cullen Parker 0, 1-2, 1.
Clint Cearley 10, 6-7, 27.
Steven Duhon 0, 1-2, 1.
Justin Northcott 1, 0-0, 2.
Evan Smith 1, 1-2, 3.
Dustin Duhon 0, 1-2, 1.
Brett McDaniel 5, 5-7, 15.
Three-pointers: Gulley 1 and Cearley 1.

Adopt a Soldier Community Service Project

by Kelly Thorp, CEA-FC&S

The Sutton County Extension Office received great news this week. The young men whom the Sutton County 4-H group sent Christmas boxes to in Iraq are safe and sound and back in Germany. There is a new set of Army Ranger Scouts from Atlanta, Georgia who just arrived in Iraq and will be there at least a year. In fact, this is this group's second tour of duty. The community service project group has decided to do another collection drive to benefit these wonderful men and women. The group is going to collect disposable cameras and AT&T phone cards. These seemed to be luxury items and are really in short supply over there. We need 35 of each item. There will be a collection box at the Extension Office so that the items can be dropped off at

WANTED: Donations and Volunteers for Project Graduation all-night party

submitted

Project Graduation is an all-night, alcohol-free, drug-free party held for all Sonora High School juniors and seniors after graduation services. This year's Project Graduation 2005 will be held Friday night, May 27, 2005 from 10:30 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. at Sonora High School. Students "lock-in" at the high school for an evening of fun including a casino, music, food, carnival games and an auction for valuable prizes. A DJ will entertain all night, a store will be open for the purchase of prizes with Project Graduation "money" which the students can win during the night playing the games. In addition, some of the most valuable prizes will be awarded by random drawings. The kids must be present to win these prizes, which include computers, television sets, DVD players, dorm refrigerators, stereos, gift certificates, etc.

Our community has shown tremendous support for this



Project Graduation partyers count their money and get ready to SHOP!

project in the past years and we hope to make Project Graduation 2005 bigger and better than before. It takes a great deal of time, effort, money, prizes and hard work to make Project Graduation work. All contributions, whether large or small, are greatly appreciated. If you are contacted by a committee member, please make a donation to this great

cause. If you are not contacted and wish to donate, please send your donation to PROJECT GRADUATION, C/O BETH WALLACE, 105 SW MAIN, SONORA, TX 76950.

If you would like to join the fun or want more information, please contact Beth Wallace at 387-5786 or Jane Rushing at 387-3625.

Comptroller Strayhorn delivers School Start Date Task Force report to top state officials

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn has delivered to the state's top officials and members of the 79th Legislature the final report of the School Start Date Task Force she formed to further explore school start date issues presented in her special report, *Saving Summer: Lessons Learned*.

"As I stated in my original report, *Saving Summer: Lessons Learned*, the academic benefits of stretching the school year have not been proved; what we do know — it's costing Texans \$790 million annually," Strayhorn said. "My goal is to drive more of every education dollar directly into the classroom with the teachers and the students, where it belongs. Our schools are facing tremendous budget challenges and fiscal discipline is more important now than ever before."

Findings and recommendations in the report include: a school calendar with a start date the week of September 1 and ending the first week of June would benefit migrant students and working educators and teachers, as well as the state's economy; moving standardized tests from April to September, which would reduce the tendency of teachers to focus on teaching only test material and would serve as a diagnostic test to improve long-term learning; moving fall semester examinations from before the Christmas holidays to mid January, which would give students a one or two week period after the Christmas holidays to review coursework before final semester exams; and strengthening the school start date waiver process to give members of the community more opportunities to voice

their opinions.

"I applaud the outstanding work done by members of this task force, led by former University of Texas Chancellor Dr. William Cunningham," Strayhorn said. "I could not be more pleased with the wide range of opinions and suggestions presented in this report. State consulting dollars could not begin to pay for the collective brain trust that worked so diligently over the last three months on this important project."

The task force, made up of individuals representing parents, teachers, administrators and community and business leaders from across the state, held a public forum and conducted an online survey that drew more than 42,000 participants statewide. Many task force members also surveyed their respective organizations for feedback regarding issues put forth by Comptroller Strayhorn.

Strayhorn charged the School Start Date Task Force with exploring alternatives to early school start dates, laying out a plan that preserves the necessary instructional school days and examining the start-date waiver loophole process in the existing law.

"Although not all of the task force members could agree on every question I asked them to explore, I encouraged them to give their frank and honest opinions. It is through open discussion that great things can be accomplished," Strayhorn said. "I believe you will find that this group has done an outstanding job of addressing the issues."

Hardgrave makes U.T.S.A. Honor Roll

Ryan Hardgrave has been named to the University of Texas at San Antonio College of Business Student Honor Roll for the Fall 2004 semester. Ryan, a 2001 graduate of Sonora High School, is the son of Gary and Kathy Hardgrave. He is a senior at UTSA and plans to graduate this May.

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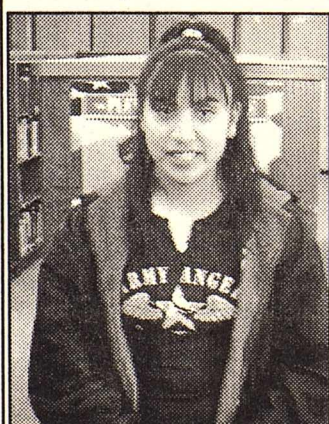
needed to participate in a research study.

Teens would do 2 tape recorded interviews to give information about being overweight and needs of overweight Latino teens. To participate you must be between the ages of 16 and 17 years. Compensation will be paid for each interview. Interviews last about 1 hour.

To learn more, call Wilma Powell Stuart, at (Home) 325-653-0519 or (Cell) 325-280-0012. Please leave a message and I will return your call!

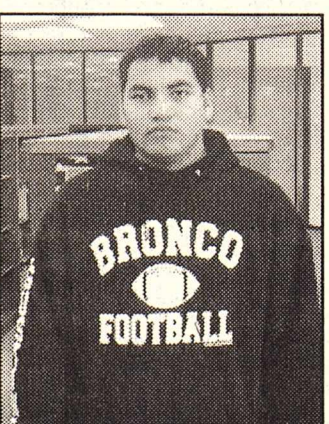
Students of the Week

Kayla Garcia



Kayla Denise Garcia is the 15-year-old daughter of Victor and Veronica Garcia. She is currently a 9th grader at Sonora High. Although born in San Angelo, Kayla has lived in Sonora all of her life. Kayla enjoys running track, talking on the phone, shopping and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite subjects are Geometry with Mr. Taylor and Parenting and Family Development with Mrs. Keller. After graduation she plans to attend college.

Agustin Vaquera



Agustin Vaquera is the 17-year-old son of Miguel and Martina Vaquera and is in the 10th grade. Agustin was born in Mexico and moved to Rocksprings. He then moved to Sonora to attend the 4th grade and has been here ever since. Agustin enjoys playing football and baseball and lists his favorite subject as math. After graduation Agustin plans to work.

The teachers and staff of Sonora High wish to congratulate our students of the week for all of their hard work and progress.

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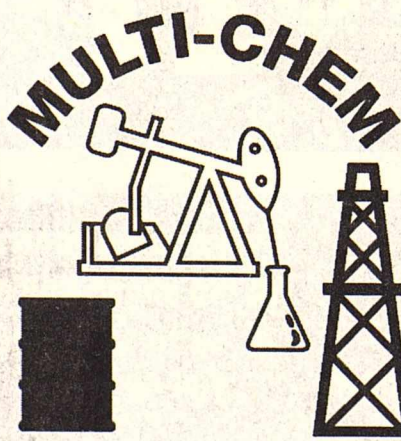
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Extension Office To Offer Quicken Workshop



submitted by Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County

So it's tax time again and you're wondering how to keep better records and make the tax preparation process easier. Or maybe you've been wanting to better manage your personal or business accounts. Well, the Sutton County Extension Office will offer a Quicken Workshop on March 10th at the Civic Center beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Participants will learn how this computer program allows you to keep better records for your business or personal accounts. Instructors will be Extension Information Technology Specialist, Jeffrey SoRelle and Extension Economist, Wade Polk. Topics will include Categorizing Expenses/Deposits; Facilitating The Tax Preparation process; How To Back Up Data; and Quicken Overview.

Instructors will discuss managing your personal and business finances with tools that help you do it all. Program

options covered will include taking control of your finances, monitoring your investments, managing your cash flow, running business reports, tracking taxes and more. Discussion will also include taking control of personal finances with tools that help you pay bills, increase your savings and simplify your taxes.

If you've already been using the program, a couple of features may be of interest to you. Now you can hide or filter categories and reduce scrolling with a feature that shows your most recently used categories first. You can also track payment of your scheduled transactions and see which bills have been paid and which are still pending, so you can forecast your cash flow. You'll learn to backup directly to a CD —no extra steps with popular CD-burning programs.

Only ten (10) participants will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Registration is \$10 by March 7th and will cover a meal, refreshments, and instructional material. Call 387-3101 for details or to register.

Texas Energy Planning Council's report available on website

AUSTIN - The Texas Energy Planning Council's final report, "Texas Energy Plan 2005 - Energy Security for a Bright Tomorrow," is available on Texas Railroad Commission website:

<http://www.rrc.state.tx.us>, RRC Chairman and Energy Planning Council Chair Victor Carrillo announced today.

The council - which along with Carrillo includes 21 other energy production legislative and industry leaders - has been developing 10 key recommendations found in the plan for more than a year. Gov. Rick Perry created the council through an executive order signed on Nov. 10, 2003.

"The Texas Energy Plan 2005 serves as a blueprint of energy issues and actions for the state's lawmakers to take under consideration during the 79th Regular Session," Carrillo said. "And I stand ready to work with the Texas Legislature to implement key provisions of this plan."

"The 10 recommendations found in this plan form the foundation for a safe, stable and secure energy future for our state - one that will help ensure that the Lone Star State remains the premier energy producing state in the nation, and that the Texas of 2025 and beyond will have the needed energy to fuel our continued growth and prosperity."

The 10 recommendations for the Texas Energy Plan 2005 are:

1. Texas Energy Planning Council Act - Establish and authorize an 11-member Texas Energy Planning Council as a standing entity to advise, coordinate and streamline energy-related initiatives and issues. Council membership will include representatives from the Texas Railroad Commission, the General Land Office, the Public Utility Commission, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Texas Department of Transportation as well as one state senator, one state House representative and four public members appointed by the governor.

2. Texas Energy Commission Consolidation Act - Consolidate various energy-related functions under the RRC including the State Energy Conservation Office, energy education, relations with the U.S. Department of Energy and oversight of in-situ uranium extraction (an underground injection activity used to recover uranium from subsurface deposits). The act also calls for the transfer of the remaining rail safety functions from the RRC to TxDOT and to rename the RRC the Texas Energy Commission.

3. Texas Energy Education Act - Establish an Energy Education Fund through a refundable assessment of 1/10th of 1 percent of oil and gas production revenues. Spending will be directed to K-12, post-secondary and public energy education and will be administered by the Texas Energy Planning Council with direct input from an advisory council consisting of energy-related industry and education members.

4. Resolution for Texas Leadership in Oil and Gas Research - Encourage aggressive state action, including funding from the Texas

Enterprise Fund or a newly proposed Texas Emerging Technology Fund, to help Texas entities win a major share of funding from a potential new \$2 billion federal energy program devoted to research for ultra-deepwater and unconventional natural gas and other petroleum resources.

5. Texas Increased Rig Count and Petroleum Production Act - Offset future severance tax liability for operators drilling exploratory wells in Fiscal Years 2006-09; make permanent the existing severance tax incentives available for Enhanced Oil Recovery and High-Cost Gas; and create a marginal well incentive.

6. Resolution for Development of Texas Liquefied Natural Gas Market - Encourage LNG development along the Texas Gulf Coast to establish Texas as the dominant entry point and activity hub for U.S. natural gas imports.

7. Texas Gasification Technology Act - Encourage the state to provide up to a 20 percent cost-share to commercial-scale projects that produce power, hydrogen and/or clean transportation fuels from lignite or various refinery streams, including petroleum coke and residual wastes, and provide incentives to encourage carbon sequestration and gasification technology development in Texas, subject to funding made available from various potential sources.

8. Texas Enhanced Renewable Portfolio Standard Act - Approve an enhanced Texas RPS that requires 5,000 megawatts of installed capacity by 2015 and sets a target that 10,000 MW (10 percent of Texas's power needs) be met from renewable power by 2025. The PUC also is directed to take steps to overcome transmission capacity obstacles by establishing a "Renew Texas Plan" that would create a dedicated fund for the PUC to spend on infrastructure and long-range planning for wind and other renewable energy.

9. Texas Energy Savings Act - Employ measures to improve energy efficiency, reduce air emissions and facilitate consumer education, including increasing the state energy efficiency goal to 15 percent of growth in demand; use System Benefit Funds (a set of state funds that help finance efforts including customer education and low-income assistance) for consumer education in energy savings; and restore Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (a comprehensive set of incentive programs aimed at improving air quality in Texas) funding for energy-efficiency and emission-reduction projects.

10. Recommendation for Advancement of Texas Smart Metering Technologies - Recommend the Texas Legislature review and facilitate progress toward modernization of the Texas electric grid and meter-data networks, specifically by clarifying responsibilities for various meter-related services within the competitive Texas framework.

For more information about the recommendations and the Texas Energy Plan 2005 go to: <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/tepc/index.html>.

Oil & Agribusiness

Rig Locations as of February 18, 2005

Sutton
Samson Lone Star; 10000' Kiser #12, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8850' Duke Wilson - 187 - #16, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8700' Randee Fawcett Trust #21, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8600' Mayfield - 34 - #18, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8565' Richardson - 135 - #9, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 9350' Duke Wilson #1747, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8800' Mayfield - 33 - #18, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8800' LR Valliant #305, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8550' Randee Fawcett Trust #19, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 7200' Cauthorn - 16 - #4, Patterson Drilling.
New KCS Resources; 7000' Genini #3711, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 6650' Shurley #130, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett
Endeavor Energy; 10500' Dudley - 26 - #2H, Big Dog Drilling.
Momentum Energy; 9150' Shannon Ranch - 5 - #1, Patterson UTI/TMBR.
EOG Resources; 5900' Shannon Hospital - 4 - #3, Nabors Drilling.
FIML Natural Res.; 5500' Baggett - BS - #1124C, Patterson Drilling.
New Devon Energy; 9500' Helbing - 23 - #7, Patterson Drilling.
New Approach Operating; 9000' JR Bailey - A - #703, Nabors Drilling.
New Approach Operating; 9000' Approach Bailey #106, Nabors Drilling.
New Approach Operating; 9000' Approach Bailey #215, Patterson Drilling.
New Anadarko E&P; 8900' Perry Gas Unit - 21 - #17, Patterson Drilling.
New Unit Petroleum; 7100' Roberston - 5A - #2, Patterson Drilling.
New Durango Pipeline; 5500' WS Riddle - 2 - #2, Patterson Drilling.
New Encore Operating; 1926' Jean Scheuber - A - #1926, Patterson Drilling.

Terrell
Newfield; 15000' Poulter #3802, Patterson Drilling.
ConocoPhillips; 11400' ACU - 46 - #2, Patterson UTI/LV.

Edwards
Newfield; 14000' Whitehead #7401, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 4700' Canyon Ranch #405S, Patterson Drilling.

Val Verde
Pure Resources; 4500' Mills Trust - 130 - #1, Nabors Drilling.
New Rimfire Land; 1000' West Ranch #2S, Latzel Drilling.
New Rimfire Land; 1000' West Ranch #3S, Latzel Drilling.
New Rimfire Land; 1000' West Ranch #1S, Latzel Drilling.

Schleicher
New Dominion; 7900' University 56-24 #1, Patterson Drilling.
New TXP, Inc; 7600' University - 17 - #1, Heart Land Drilling.
Taurus Minerals Inc., 7000' D Kyle Neill #2, Heart Land Drilling.

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Chairman Bonilla holds one-on-one meeting with U.S. Ag Secretary



Congressman Bonilla at the Agriculture hearing.

WASHINGTON D.C. - Shortly after President George W. Bush presented his budget to the Congress, Chairman Henry Bonilla held a one-on-one meeting with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns. The two met in Chairman Bonilla's Washington, D.C. office and discussed how the budget would affect farmers and ranchers throughout the 23rd district, the state of Texas and the nation.

"This was a productive meeting. I always appreciate having the Agriculture Secretary visit me on Capitol Hill," said Chairman Bonilla. "Secretary Johanns and I share several goals, most importantly how to keep the agriculture industry strong and productive."

At the meeting, Chairman Bonilla and Secretary Johanns discussed the president's Fiscal Year 2006 Budget. The two specifically discussed the Women Infants and Children and Food Stamp programs, which are nutrition assistance programs; the importance of the Farm Service Agency in Bonilla's district; border inspections; and the USDA's role in food security.

"I look forward to another successful year overseeing the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. With the Secretary's assistance, our agriculture industry will remain strong. Our food supply will

remain safe. And our nation will continue to be prosperous and prepared," said Chairman Bonilla.

The two met again later in the week when the Secretary testified before Chairman Bonilla's Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. Bonilla openly addressed cuts in the FY2006 USDA Budget. Specifically, Bonilla questioned Farm Service Agency reductions. "I think that the service centers have already sustained too many reductions in staffing. I want to ensure that the budget request includes enough funding to keep local and state service centers open throughout 2005."

Chairman Bonilla was appointed chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee in January of 2001. In addition to serving as chairman, Bonilla is also a senior member of the Defense Subcommittee. He has represented the 23rd Congressional District since his first election in 1992.

"Our nation is changing constantly. We have many new issues and concerns on the agenda," said Chairman Bonilla. "Rest assured that my subcommittee will not forgo their commitment to the farmers, ranchers and consumers of our great nation. We will continue to get the job done."

Colon Cancer Awareness: Nationwide Priority

American Cancer Society Encourages Both Men and Women Get Screened

What many Americans don't know is that colon cancer is one of the most preventable types of cancer. Studies show colon cancer early detection and treatment can reduce deaths from this disease, yet only 38 percent of colon cancers are detected in the earliest and most treatable stage.

Colorectal cancer (commonly referred to as colon cancer) is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States, claiming more lives than either breast or prostate cancer. In 2005, approximately 9,270 Texans will be diagnosed with colon cancer and 3,590 are expected to die. In the US, an estimated 145,290 new cases of colon cancer will occur with about 56,290 dying from the disease.

"Through media campaigns, local program activities and advocacy efforts we will encourage physicians to recommend screenings to their patients and encourage men and women 50 and older to talk to their physicians about a colon exam," says, Andrejs Avots-Avotins, M.D., Ph.D., American Cancer Society Colorectal Cancer Committee Chair, Texas Division.

According to the American Cancer Society, when colon cancers are found at an early stage the five-year survival rates are as high as 90 percent. For colon cancers found at a later, more advanced stage, the five-year survival rate drops to less than 10 percent.

Both men and women are

at risk for colon cancer. The American Cancer Society is using March's National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month as an opportunity to inform the public on the importance of prevention and early detection.

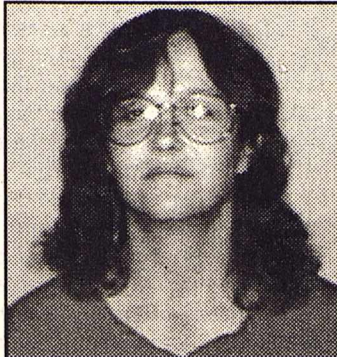
"The majority of colon cancers can be prevented or stopped through screening," says Dr. Avots-Avotins. "While many Americans resist the idea of getting screened for the disease, testing can find and remove pre-cancerous colon polyps before they develop into a cancer."

Personal risk for colon cancer varies, so your doctor can help you make informed decisions about when to begin testing and the most appropriate testing method for you. Factors associated with increased risk for colon cancer, as well as information on prevention, early detection, and treatment of the disease, can be found on the American Cancer Society's Web site at www.cancer.org or by calling the Society's National Cancer Information Center at 1-800-ACS-2345. For materials to download and distribute to employees, church congregations and in clinic settings visit www.cancer.org/coloncancerTX.

The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by saving lives, diminishing suffering and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

Texas Attorney General searching for child support evader Linda Carroll

Linda Carroll



Owes: \$54,757

Attorney General Greg Abbott needs your help to find Child Support Evader Linda Carroll, one of the most Wanted Child Support Evaders in Texas.

Carroll owes more than \$54,000 for the care of a 16-year-old daughter. She is hiding from authorities to avoid arrest on her child support case.

In 1994, a Sutton County judge ordered Carroll to make child support payments of \$130 per month, which she consistently failed to do. Early attempts to enforce the child support order were unsuccessful because Carroll moved frequently and ignored legal notices to come to court and resolve her child support debt.

By 1999, Carroll owed more than \$27,000. The only money ever paid was a \$250 cash bond Carroll posted after she was jailed for failing to appear at a child support hearing. In April 2001, Carroll was indicted by a Sutton County grand jury on a charge of felony criminal nonsupport for owing \$35,000 in back child support.

Due to missed payments and interest that accrues on unpaid balances, Carroll now owes \$54,757.

Law enforcement officials and investigators from the Attorney General's Child Support Division have searched the state for Carroll, who moves around to avoid apprehension on the child support matter. Carroll has ties to Stillwater, OK, and Hot Springs, AR, where friends and relatives may be hiding her. Contact the Attorney General's Office at 1-866-EVADERS (382-3377) to report information that may lead to the arrest of Linda Lee

Carroll. The Child Support Evaders are being singled out because they have the ability to take responsibility for their children, but refuse to do so. Incarceration is the only option for parents who flagrantly ignore a court's order to pay child support. The Attorney General's Office helps parents who lack the ability to pay child support by referring them to job training and employment services. Visit the Agency's Web site www.oag.state.tx.us to find out about other Child Support Evaders, and to obtain information about the Attorney General's Child Support Division.

Linda Lee Carroll
Last address:
Hot Springs, Arkansas
Occupation:
General Labor/Janitor
Born: 6/11/61
Height: 5'4"
Weight: 145
Brown Eyes, Brown Hair,
Caucasian

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SIDC from page 1

the SIDC had approved for \$20,891.18 in 2003, the SIDC directors took the following action: Marty Parks made a motion to instruct

Attorney Beth Wallace to begin legal action on behalf of the SIDC in the form of lien(s) or judgment(s) against the owners of KD's Convenience Store. Max Howorth seconded the motion. All directors present voted in favor with the exception of John Tedford who abstained.

The final draft of the contract transferring the day to day operations and maintenance of Eaton Hill from the SIDC to the Sonora Chamber of Commerce was discussed. Ruth Bounds and attorney Beth Wallace responded to directors' questions. Tommy Arnwine made a motion to accept the final draft and to forward it to City Council for Council's approval. Howorth seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Nancy Glasscock gave the final airport survey report. Twenty-five surveys were returned to the SIDC office. Sub-Committee chairman Howorth stated there would be an airport sub-committee meeting the following week. He

Show emergency workers you care – slow down or move over

Texas Highway Patrol troopers want drivers to show emergency workers they care everyday. Beginning last week, drivers pulled over by DPS troopers for traffic violations will receive a flyer that reminds them to slow down or move over for stopped emergency vehicles that have emergency lights activated.

This reminder packs an added punch because it's the law. Since the slow-down or move-over law took effect on Sept. 1, 2003, DPS has written 2,304 citations and 14,404 warnings to drivers who have violated the law. Although DPS has issued several press releases concerning this law, troopers continue to see drivers who do not slow down or move over for emergency vehicles with lights activated, including police, emergency medical service and fire vehicles.

The slow down/move over law requires drivers nearing stopped emergency vehicles with emergency lights activated to either slow down or change lanes. Specifically, the law

would be contacting the members.

The SIDC directors discussed past and future Ports-to-Plains Coalition membership. Glasscock distributed statewide coalition membership information. Howorth made a motion that the SIDC pay the 2005 Ports-to-Plains dues for the City of Sonora and Sutton County. Nancy Glasscock was directed to write letters for the SIDC President's signature to inform both the city and the county governments that the SIDC will not pay those governments' membership dues in the future and that they should consider it when discussing their 2006 budgets. Parks seconded the motion. All directors voted in favor with the exception of Tommy Arnwine.

The SIDC directors discussed the Sonora Stockpens property of Hwy 277 South. The directors discussed possible SIDC assistance for infrastructure improvements that could be available to any future owner and developer of the property.

The SIDC Office Manager's report is on file at the SIDC office, located at 120 N. Concho Ave, Sonora TX 76950, and with no further business the meeting was adjourned.

states a driver must either slow down 20 miles per hour below the speed limit or vacate the lane closest to the stopped emergency vehicle that has emergency lights activated, if the road has multiple lanes traveling in the same direction. (If the speed limit is below 25 mph, the driver must slow down to 5 mph.) Drivers should only move over if they can safely and legally do so; otherwise, they should slow down.

"Our Highway Patrol troopers spend a large part of their time working on highways and roads with vehicles speeding past," said DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. "Just the slightest slip of the wheel can endanger them. This law requires drivers to give them and other emergency vehicles the space they need to perform their duties safely."

A violation is punishable by a maximum fine of \$200. If the violation results in property damage, the maximum fine increases to \$500.

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DPS announces new application process for some CDLs

Beginning Jan. 31, anyone applying for a commercial driver license (CDL) with a hazardous materials endorsement must undergo a security threat assessment. Beginning May 31, drivers who already have a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement will be required to undergo the security threat assessment when they renew their license.

The security threat assessment is required by Section 1012 of the U.S.A. PATRIOT Act, the federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the U.S. Dept. of Transportation. The threat assessment includes the collection of the applicant's fingerprints and verification of the applicant's citizenship, immigration eligibility or permanent legal presence in the United States.

Applicants for hazardous materials endorsements will be required to meet all standard federal regulations for the class of license sought, complete all required forms and testing and pay the necessary fees. If these requirements are satisfied, DPS will issue the applicant a CDL without the hazardous materials endorsement until the TSA completes the threat assessment process.

DPS will provide the applicant with a fingerprint card to take to a local law enforcement agency to initiate the required background check. The local law enforcement agency will require the applicant to produce a valid Texas CDL for identification purposes, so applicants may not initiate the fingerprinting process before receiving the new license. Once fingerprinted, the applicant will mail the fingerprint card and a \$73 cashier's check or money order to DPS using the pre-addressed, postage-paid envelope they were given when they applied. (The local law enforcement agency may charge a fee for the fingerprinting service.)

The DPS will forward the applicant's fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for processing. The FBI will send any information about the applicant's criminal history to the TSA, which will make the final determination regarding eligibility for the hazardous materials endorsement. The applicant will be notified in writing whether the endorsement has been approved or disapproved.

If approved, DPS will mail a new CDL to the applicant. The endorsement is valid for five years. If disapproved, the applicant will receive information on how to appeal the denial through TSA.

For more detailed information regarding the Act, including the waiver and appeal process, is available at the TSA website at <http://www.tsa.gov>. CDL holders with additional questions regarding the Act's requirements should contact their local driver license office or the License Issuance Bureau - CDL Section at 512/424-2010.

The Moon hides Antares

In the wee hours of March 3 there will be an occultation and you're invited. But don't expect a secret gathering of astrologers or members of an Earth-centered religion. This event will be conducted by Mother Nature herself.

The 3rd quarter Moon will occult (pass in front of) Scorpius' brightest star, Antares, shortly before dawn. The star will disappear behind the Moon about 4:28 a.m. and reappear about 5:48 a.m. These times are for Central Texas, and will be later to the east and earlier to the west. For example, the events occur some 20 minutes earlier in far West Texas.

The Moon, which rises at 1:10 a.m., will be in the south southeast as the occultation begins and in the south as it ends. The disappearance will be hard to see as the star slips behind the Moon's bright illuminated side, meaning that binoculars or a telescope will be needed. You might even want to skip the disappearance for an extra hour of sleep.

But you won't want to miss the reappearance when the star emerges from the Moon's shadowed side, making it easier to see and more dramatic in appearance. The reappearance occurs an hour before sunrise so dawn may be starting to break, but this shouldn't interfere with viewing.

Stars are huge, and Antares is much larger than our Sun. Yet they are so far away they still

only look like points of light rather than tiny spheres. When Antares reappears it won't emerge gradually but rather will blink on instantly--as quickly as a light bulb when you flip a switch. So as the time approaches, keep watching constantly.

If you have a camcorder with a tripod it's easy to record so you can watch it again (and show it to sleepyheads who didn't get up for it). Zoom out to find the Moon, then zoom in all the way and start recording. The Moon and Earth slowly move so you'll need to re-center the Moon every few minutes to keep it in view.

There are other things to see while waiting for Antares' reappearance. Jupiter, to the Moon's upper right, is the brightest object high in the southwest, and Mars, to the Moon's lower left, is low in the southeast. While not as bright as Jupiter, Mars is still brighter than the surrounding stars and should be easy to identify.

Although it's still late winter, the early morning sky gives a preview of the constellations seen in the evening skies of late spring and early summer, such as Scorpius, Sagittarius, Libra and Ophiuchus. Unfortunately glare from the half-illuminated Moon will wash out all but the brighter stars, but it won't interfere with seeing the planets.

Sky Calendar.

* Mar. 6 Sun. morning: The crescent Moon is below Mars low in the southeast before dawn.

* Mar. 10 Thu.: The Moon is new.

* Mar. 11 Fri. evening: Thin crescent Moon is to the upper left of Mercury near the western horizon 45 minutes after sunset.

* Mar. 12 Sat. evening: Mercury is at its highest above the setting Sun with the crescent Moon above.

* Mar. 14 Mon. evening: The crescent Moon is below Taurus' Pleiades star cluster in the west.

* Mar. 15 Tue. evening: The crescent Moon is above the Pleiades and to the lower right of Taurus' brightest star, Aldebaran (the "red eye of the bull") and the V-shaped Hyades star cluster.

* Mar. 17 Thu.: The Moon is at 1st quarter.

Other Naked-eye Planets. (The Sun, Moon and planets rise in the east and set in the west due to Earth's west-to-east rotation on its axis.) Mercury, hidden in the glare of the setting Sun in early March, is at its best for 2005 the evening of Mar. 12. Saturn, high in the southeast in the evening, sets at 4 a.m.

Stargazer appears every other week. Paul Derrick is an amateur astronomer who lives in Waco. Contact him at 918 N.

School Board from page 1

field, Sutton County could apply for a grant on behalf of the district.

Fields further informed the board that two local contractors had donated work on batting cages and the warm-up area, and that electrical work had been donated by a local electrician. He stated that the contractor who did the batting cages also wanted to replace the fence. Fields remarked that he would supply the names of these contractors to the board members.

Following a lengthy discussion about respective responsibilities of Sonora ISD and Sutton County in regard to field usage and maintenance, a motion was made to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Sutton County for the fields.

The board members unanimously approved renewal of the TASB Legal Assistance Fund and the renewal of membership in the independent retainer program with Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Schulze, and Aldrige, P.c.

A budget amendment was approved as presented and the board unanimously approved the engagement letter for the 2004-2005 audit with Eckert, Ingram, Tinkler, Oliphant, Featherston and Barr, L.L.P.

The Order of Election for Precincts 1 and 3 was approved as presented, with the list of election officials as follows: Precinct 1: Juanita Mesa, judge; and Maria Alviso, alternate judge; Precinct 3: Trevlin Strong, judge; and Elida Guerra, alternate judge; Early Voting: Vallree Draper, clerk; Laurie Garza and Cynthia Keel, alternate clerks.

Superintendent Myers reviewed the proposed calendar for 2005-2006 and stated that it had been developed by the Campus Site Based Committees, after which it was finalized by the District Site Based Committee. Ann Kay, Manager of Friends of Historic Sonora, stated that her organization was proposing October 29, 2005 as the date of the annual Fall Festival.

Following a discussion, a motion was made by Tammy Favila to approve the school calendar for 2005 with the addition of October 29 for the Fall Festival. The motion was seconded by Jennings. Voting aye were Bustamante, Dermody, Favila, Jacoby, Jennings and Payton. Voting no was Tryon Fields. The motion carried.

Dr. Myers gave the Superintendent's report, stating that enrollment stood at 992 and that attendance was down .21 from the same time in 2004. He stated that the poor attendance rate seemed to be concentrated in High School and Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten, but that all staff members were being encouraged to stress the importance of attendance.

Dr. Myers reviewed maintenance projects in the following areas: Campus - the air controls project at the High School will be finalized as soon as the district receives answers from ESA; the exterior light work at the Middle School will soon begin; and the carpet has been replaced at the Administration Building.

Extra-Curricular - the project to remount controls for the water well is delayed while waiting on the electrician, field preparation has begun at the baseball and softball fields, replacement of tennis court nets will soon begin, and the track renovation project has been completed.

Housing - plumbing repairs at the Superintendent's house are pending, carpet is being replaced at one Mesquite Street apartment, a toilet has been

replaced at the house on Cornell Street, and another administrator house has been re-carpeted.

Dr. Myers asked board members to indicate if they were interested in attending the annual Summer Leadership Institute and all members stated that they were.

It was the consensus of the board, that because of conflicts with Spring Break, to set Monday, March 21, as the date for the next regular board meeting.

President Fields read a thank-you note from a staff member thanking the board for the December stipend, along with the help and support from both the board and the district during the recent move into the Rock Building.

Member Favila stated that she had been attending City Council meetings and had been instrumental not only in getting the crosswalks repainted but also in getting flashing crosswalk signs which would soon be installed. She said that she had worked very hard regarding the problem of students/pedestrians versus motorists and that she wanted it publicly known that when she is seen waving to motorists it is because she is asking them to stop or slow down and follow the traffic rules regarding the crosswalks, speed, etc.

President Fields commented that he would like clarification from the city regarding the "no left turn" signs and the times in effect for these signs. Fields was informed that the times were 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days and he stated that the signs needed to display the hours that no left turn was in effect.

Dr. Myers read a congratulatory note from Education Service Center Director David Smith regarding the district's attainment of Gold Performance Acknowledgement in attendance and Recommended High School Program.

Additionally, individual campuses were awarded Gold Performance Acknowledgment as follows: Elementary and Middle School - attendance rate; High School - attendance rate and Recommended High School Program.

Dr. Myers expressed his appreciation and pride in principals, teachers, students, and staff for all their fine efforts on behalf of the district.

The board then went into executive session to discuss personnel matters, including extension of contracts for Campus Principals, Special Education Director, and Athletic Director; discuss Assistant Band Director position and possible addition of Middle School Music position; and discuss the Superintendent's contract. Fields announced that no action would be taken in executive session.

The board reconvened in open session at 9:42 p.m., at which time a motion was made and approved unanimously to extend the contracts of Elementary School Principal Louise Dermody, Middle School Principal John Berry, High School Principal Raul Chavarria, Special Education Director Stefanie Taylor, and Athletic Director Jason Herring until June 30, 2007.

A separate motion was made and approved to add a Middle School Music position.

The final motion of the evening was to add an additional year to the Superintendent's contract, extending it to June 30, 2008. Voting aye were Bustamante, Dermody, Favila, Jacoby, Jennings and Payton. Voting no was Fields. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

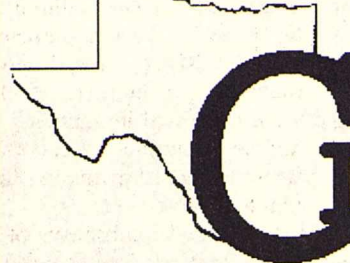
Texas Master Naturalists Study Water Issues at next meeting

Water will be the topic, Tuesday, February 22nd at the monthly meeting of Western Edwards Plateau (WEP) Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists. Caroline Runge, Manager Menard County Underground Water District, will present background information about aquifers of the area and the role of county underground water districts. She will also share ideas on water conservation management tools and techniques for conserving water.

The meeting will be at the dining hall of the Texas Tech University Center at Junction. A potluck supper will be served at 5:30 p.m., followed by a business meeting. Ms. Runge's presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The WEP Chapter is currently recruiting new members for the spring training class which will begin April 19. If you have an interest in learning more about the natural history of the area in which you live and would enjoy volunteering to help educate others and make positive changes to the land, perhaps you would like to become a member of Texas Master Naturalists. For further information, please call Rhandy Helton, WEP Chapter president, at (325) 446-2110

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387-2507

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 553

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 98: UTILITIES; SECTION 98-24 DEPOSITS REQUIRED; WAIVER OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF SONORA, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN THE DEPOSIT WAIVER POLICY. PRESENTED AND GIVEN FIRST READING ON the 21st day of December, 2004, at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora, Texas; and GIVEN SECOND READING, passed and approved on the 15th day of February, 2005, by a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora, Texas.

Gloria L. Lopez, Mayor
ATTEST:
Patti Prather, City Secretary
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:
Elizabeth Wallace, City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. 556

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ELECTION OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR WARD 1 AND WARD 2 PASSED AND APPROVED this the 15th day of February, 2005, after one reading upon suspension of rule requiring two separate readings.

Gloria Lopez, Mayor
ATTEST:
Patti Prather, City Secretary

ORDINANCE NO. 557

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ELECTION OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR WARD 2 TO FILL UNEXPIRED TERM DUE TO RESIGNATION OF COUNCILMEMBER.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 15th day of February, 2005, after one reading upon suspension of rule requiring two separate readings.

Gloria Lopez, Mayor
ATTEST:
Patti Prather, City Secretary

Public Notices

mum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Steve Towns, Agent, at 512-480-9600. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-6701. IF YOU REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY **March 29, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.** IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

Railroad Commission of Texas Oil and Gas Division District 7C - Rule 37/38 - Case No. 0238250 Date of Issuance: February 16, 2005 Notice of Application

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the DOMINION OKLAHOMA TEXAS E & P INC, 14000 QUAIL SPRINGS PKWY #600, OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73134 has made application for a spacing and density exception permit under the provisions of the Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 and 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code Section 3.37 and 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line, between well spacing and density of the subject field(s) requirement for the amended permit for Well No. 16, Shurley 141 Lease, 581.64 Acres, Sec. 141, Blk. C, HE & WT RR Co. Survey, A-450, Sawyer (Canyon) and Fawcett (Wolfcamp) Field(s), Sutton County, being 9 miles south southwest of Sonora, Texas. The location of this well is as follows:

320' from the north line and 2410' from the east line of the lease.
320' from the north line and 2410' from the east line of the survey.

Field rules for the Sawyer (Canyon) field are 500/1000, 320/40 acres.
Field rules for the Fawcett (Wolfcamp) field are 467/1200, 40 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 7050 feet.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Rule 37(h) (2) (A), and 38, this application may be granted without a hearing if no protest to the application is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Steve Towns, Agent, at 512-480-9600. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512)463-6701.

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Public Notices

Sealed Bids
Sutton County Road & Bridge is hereby requesting sealed bids on the following R&B Materials:
1) 100,000 gallons of AC/5 Asphalt
2) 5000 Tons of Grade #3B Rock Non-coated
Sealed bids will be opened on March 14, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting of the Commissioners Court at the Sutton County Annex. "Sealed Bids" must be delivered or mailed to Judge Carla Garner, Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For Specifications, please contact the County Road & Bridge Administrator, Oscar Jimenez, 325/387-3010 or County Auditor, Maura Weingart, 325/387-5380.

Pets

PET CARE SERVICE: Keep your pet at your home for \$5.00 a day for 1 pet & \$1.00 extra for additional. Can take pets to vet \$6.00 a trip to town only. Call 387-5649 for info. References available.

Two male Rat Terrier puppies, 3 months old, free to a good home. Call 325-277-2156.

For Sale

Captain's bed for sale. Twin size, wooden. \$250. Call 387-6065.

Employment

Best Western Sonora Inn
270 Hwy. 277 N.
Sonora, Texas 76950
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Requirements: Must be flexible, nights and weekends required, Part-time, Full-time
Competitive starting salary.
No phone calls please.
Come by to pick up an application. To schedule your interview speak with Starla Williams.

The new Comfort Inn of Sonora opening soon is now accepting applications for the following positions: Night Auditor, Front Desk Clerks, Housekeepers, Breakfast Attendants. Please apply in person at The Days Inn of Sonora at 1312 N. Service Rd.

Experienced Tanker Drivers needed for Sonora, Ozona and Sheffield areas. Call B & K Trucking at 432-836-4342.

Police Officer
The City of San Angelo is accepting applications for the position of Police Recruit. Test date 04/30/05. For Application call 325-657-4331. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Lariat Services, Inc. is seeking an experienced Air Driller. Wage ranges between \$20.00 to \$24.00 an hour depending on experience. Will pay \$30.00 per diem and mileage reimbursement. Benefits include 401K Plan and Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 325-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 325-336-7821.

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Sonora Area

An expanding oilfield service company seeks a service person to install and service specialized instrumentation on drilling rigs in the local area. Experience with drilling rigs and instrumentation is desirable but not essential. What is essential is an exceptional ability to work hard without direct supervision, work irregular and sometimes long hours, and a desire to have complete responsibility for one's work. Applicants must be a self-starter and highly self motivated. Many people say they are strong in these personal traits, but in fact very few are. Do not apply unless you are confident that you have the character we are seeking.

The company will provide a competitive salary, an extensive benefit package, field truck, tools and all necessary training to perform the required work. Interested parties are asked to send a resume by E-mail or Fax to: Pason Systems USA Corp., Attention: Hiring Manager, Fax: 720-880-0016, E-mail: usresumes@pason.com EOE

When submitting resumes, please reference the newspaper in which you saw the ad. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

Employment

Excellent Opportunity: Independent Oil and Gas Operator looking for **experienced swabbing unit operator.** Please contact Nick at 325-206-0270 or 325-387-3386.

Schleicher County Medical Center has Employment Opportunities
Licensed Vocational Nurse Part-Time Position
24-hour employee day care, state-of-the-art equipment, numerous education opportunities, flexible schedule, competitive salary, work with highly skilled team. **Current Texas License Required.** If interested please contact: Vicki Farmer BS, RN, Director of Nursing. (325) 853-2507 x129. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Parker Lumber is now hiring **Part-time and Full-time Yard Hands.** Please apply in person at 112 E. 3rd St., Sonora, TX.

Electricians Helper Needed
No experience necessary.
Call Victor 361-649-9587

Carrier Wanted: San Angelo Standard Times is seeking a mature individual to deliver newspapers in Sonora. Make approximate \$1600.00 per month, working early morning hours. 1-800-588-1884 Ext. 8291.

Schleicher County Medical Center Hospital has a Full-time **R.N.** position available 32-40 hours a week. Flexible schedule. ACLS, PALS and/or TNCC Certifications Preferred. Benefits available: Paid Time Off, Paid Holidays, Health Options, Childcare, Retirement Options.
Contact: Vicki Farmer, BS, DON. Resumes may be faxed to 325-853-3523 to the attention of Vicki.
Equal Opportunity Employer.

Location Builders now hiring **full-time mechanic.** Prefer you have your own tools. Apply in person 203 W. 3rd. For more information 387-3881.

EXPERIENCED DRIVERS NEEDED!
Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operating pump trucks & winch truck. Monthly performance & safety bonuses. Health insurance, annual profit sharing, driver's days off schedule. Please apply in person at Niblett's Oilfield Service, Inc. Hwy. 277 South, Eldorado. No phone calls please.

Help Wanted: Full-time employees & Part-time for weekends and holidays. Apply in person at **The Caverns of Sonora** or call 387-3105 for more information.

Taco Grill is now accepting applications for **dish washers and wait staff.** Please apply in person at 232 Hwy. 277 N.

Employment

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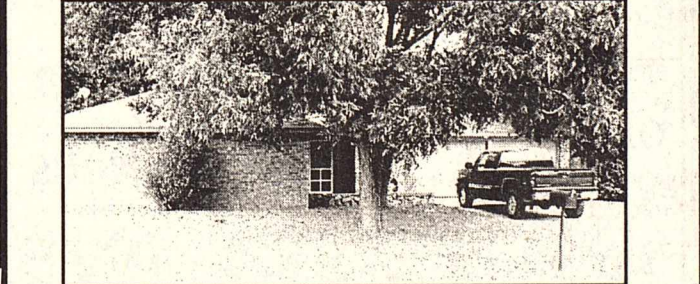
Hunting Lease

Hunting Lease available for 2005 Season. 2300 acres, 12 guns at \$1,800.00 a gun, 18 miles east of Sonora on Hwy. 864 (Ft. McKavett Rd.). Call 325-446-2198 or 830-997-7020.

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222 Sawyer Dr.
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Priced to sell at \$92,500!

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(325)387-2728

218 Sawyer Dr. - \$87,500.00. 3 BR, 2 BA, brick home, CH-AC, kitchen appliances, incl. dbl. car garage, privacy fenced, near school and hospital. Sellers moving.

1403 Glasscock - \$35,000.00, near I-10 mobile home with large dorm room, large tree-shaded yard with grass and shrubs. Carport and storage room.

2.07 Acres corner of Savell & Cornell Sts. Former church bldg, parking lot, basketball court and baseball field. Property includes 4 BR, 2 BA double-wide which can be sold separately.

1.208 acres, 612 Water Street near Hwy. 277 N. IH-10. Ideal commercial location, adjoins historic nature trail. Property includes historic bldg. containing large den/living/dining room, kitchen, 2 BR/Office space with attached apt. Large workshop/garage and pool area.

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F.Y.I.

Relay for Life Team Captain meeting rescheduled for Monday, March 7, 2005, 5:30 p.m. First National Bank. FMI call Storie at 387-2507.

Attention Senior Citizens! Lynne Alexander, a benefits counselor from the Area Agency on Aging will be at the Sutton County/Sonora Senior Center on Friday, March 4, 2005, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Sonora Downtown Lions Club, chartered in 1928, wants to remind the community that the annual Broom Sale will be held at City Hall and the U.S. Post Office on March 22, 2005. If you need a new broom or cleaning supplies make plans now to attend and pick up all your Spring Cleaning utensils, while supporting the Downtown Lions Club. The sale will be from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sutton County Critter Gitter Calling Contest - March 12-13. Each contest will have registration on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. at Stagecoach Barbeque (next to Rafter W). Turn in will be Sundays at 10:00 a.m. at same location. All team members must be present for check-in on Sunday - FMI call Paul Martinez at (325)650-0221 or (325)206-1722.

Big Lake Spring Bluegrass Festival, March 10-12, 2005, Batten Family, Star Canyon, Hickory Hill, Vern Young, Concho Grass. FMI call Alan at 325-650-1150.

The Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is selling tickets for a six month individual membership to the Health and Wellness Center scheduled to open in April 2005 (a \$180 value). The new facility will offer aquatic therapy, water and ground aerobics as well as a fully equipped exercise facility for both strength and cardiovascular conditioning. The drawing will be held at the March Auxiliary Luncheon. Tickets are \$1 each and available at the hospital, Sutton County Extension Office and the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office.

Transformation is a youth-focused event that is bringing the youth of Sonora, Eldorado and Ozona together as one body with one vision. Join together on the 2nd Sunday of each month at Lighthouse Community Church - Meal at 6:00 p.m. Praise and Worship at 7:00 p.m. FMI please contact Silas Polite FBC Eldorado 853-2662 or Lighthouse Community Church 387-9100.


A New Way Narcotics Anonymous will meet every Monday & Friday in the Chapel at Lillian M. Hudspeth Hospital from 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. FMI call 387-5656.

Up on Eaton Hill

Forecast: Blue

by Delyse Jaeger

The season of renewal is tapping at the topsoil and we are poised on the verge of another bluebonnet bonanza on Eaton Hill. These lupine plants are well out of the ground and presenting strong and healthy foundations for the sentry of Texas springtime, so get ready. It can be tricky business to try and catch bluebonnets at their peak. One year, just days before my mental calculation of the best bonnet day, the skies clouded over and brought the always welcome rain. Followed by a late cold blast. The lovely blue flowers survived, but lost a touch of their fresh look and the perfect moment had passed for yet another year. This spring, why not join me in the pursuit of the optimal bluebonnet photograph from Eaton Hill. The rocks along the trails provide perfect places for your children to perch among the blossoms. Migration will soon be fully underway also, bringing scores of birds through our area on their incredible journey north. February is a time of



Flowers will soon bloom on Eaton Hill, offering great photo opportunities!

anticipation, when we are often teased with spring-like days and lush new greenery rises from its winter slumber. Watch the season unfold along the trails of Eaton Hill. But for those few who might spoil for the majority what is freely offered on Eaton Hill: Be Warned! Surveillance is being considered and today's technology offers very discreet equipment. The hill is for all to enjoy. Please report vandalism to 387-2615. Hit the trails! Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary is a project of the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation.

City Council from page 1


asked who was responsible for ensuring that the employees were doing as directed and he stressed that tax payers lose when time is wasted. Duran also expressed concern as to the many potholes in the city streets and alleys that aren't being repaired. City Manager Brent Gesch assured Duran that the city was waiting on materials and would be attempting to rectify these problems as soon as possible. Gesch also assured Duran that safety regulations and policies are in place and if unsafe conditions are observed that they should be reported to the city manager.

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Manager, Ann Kay gave special certificates of appreciation to Jack Smith, Randall Ross and Rita Mendez for the Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts of Sonora. The special certificates were to acknowledge all that the organizations for the community (see story page 4).

The council reviewed a contract between the SIDC and the Chamber of Commerce for transfer of the Eaton Hill project management and operations. City Attorney Beth Wallace assured the council that the contract had been reviewed by the auditors and that Eaton Hill would still operate as a SIDC project, but that day to day operations would be managed by the Chamber of Commerce. The council approved the contract as presented.

The route for the Cinco de Mayo parade on April 20, 2005 and the "Sonic Cruise Night" route were approved as presented by the Chamber of

Dirt Construction, Roustabout and Conservation Work



Location-Builders


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John Lopez Jr. • Superintendent
 Elpidio Torres Jr. • Construction Foreman
 Rick Bounds • Construction Foreman
 Alfredo Hernandez • Construction Foreman
 Robert Sanchez • Roustabout Foreman

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 Sonora, Texas 76950

Sonora Animal Hospital

We are devoted to helping unite loving families with homeless animals. Please come in today and Adopt-A-PET. They would make a great addition to your family.

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\$6.00 Adult/\$3.00 Child/Senior
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 \$3.00 Bargain Wed. (RESTRICTED)

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 ID Required on R Rated Movies


All Shows Times Apply
FRIDAY-SUNDAY

- CONSTANTINE dts (R) 1:30 4:10 7:00 9:45
- CONSTANTINE (R) 1:50 4:30 7:20 10:00
- SON OF THE MASK (PG) 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:15
- HIDE AND SEEK dts (R) 2:00 4:20 7:15 9:35
- POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE (G) 1:40 3:40 5:20 7:10 9:00
- ARE WE THERE YET? (PG) 2:20 4:45 6:55 9:10
- AVIATOR (PG-13) 1:30 5:00 6:15 8:30
- * Mon-Tuesday

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