

The Devil's River News

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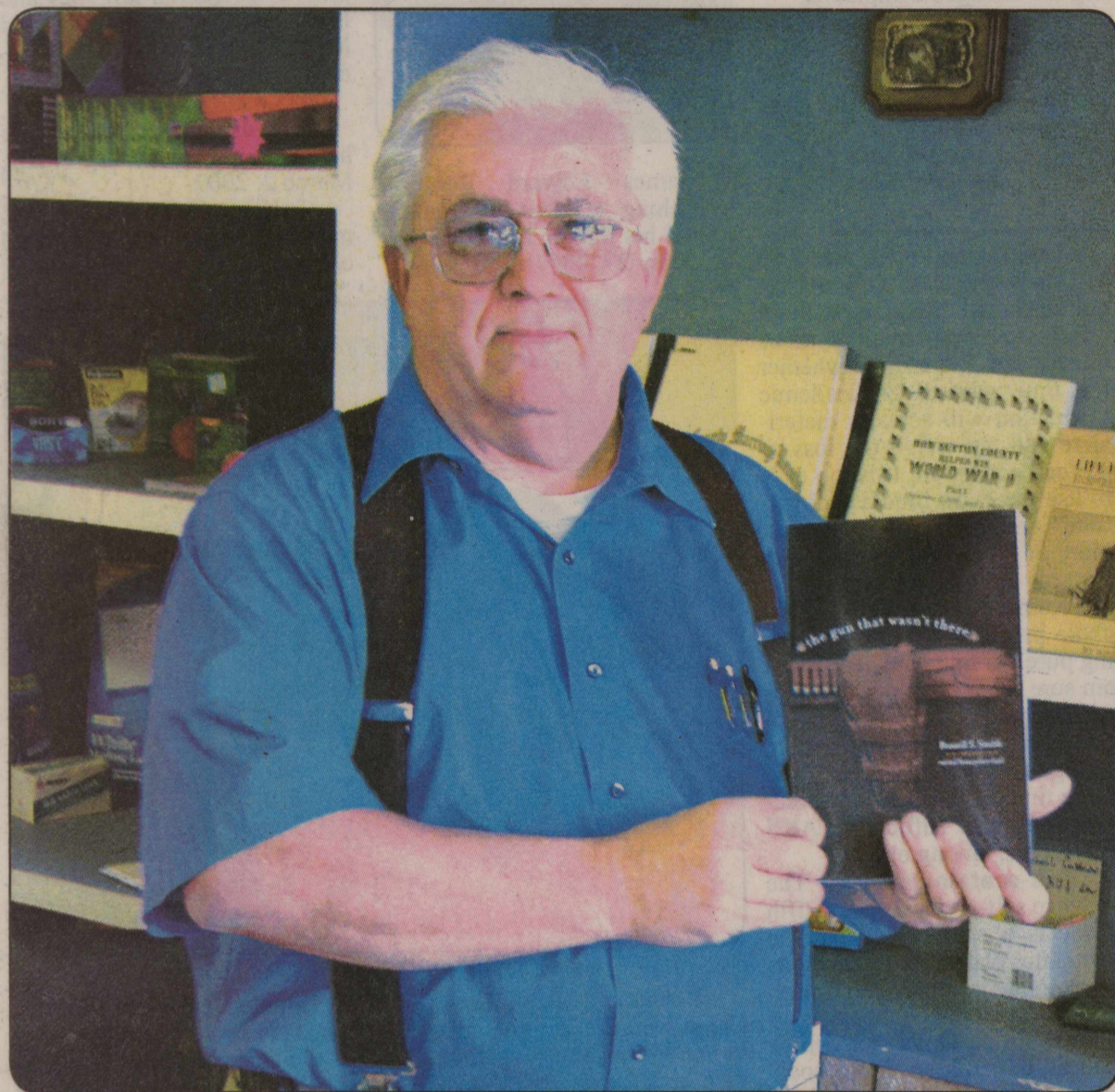
Serving Sutton County Since 1890

Volume 119 • Issue 10

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, March 8, 2007

Retired Lawman Authors Book About the "Caveman Bandit"



Retired San Angelo Police Chief Russell Smith

"The Gun That Wasn't There" is retired police chief Russell Smith's debut non-fiction book about the man who shot the Pumpville, Texas Postmaster, Pelham Bradford in July 1965.

The man kidnapped Bradford's wife, made her open the safe and then stole their car.

Four months later, he shot Terrell County Sheriff Bill Cooksey. The Sheriff survived, and Texas Ranger Alfred Allee Jr. and he capture the outlaw in a

hail of gunfire at Dryden in August 1966.

Early chapters detail how the man terrorized parts of Real and Uvalde counties near Happy Hollow, Garner Park and Concan, while later chapters detail the outlaw's movements into Val Verde and Terrell counties in the mid 60's.

Noted western writer Elmer Kelton penned in the introduction, "Russell did years of research on the Caveman and those who participated in the

massive manhunt that finally brought him to the ground in a frenzy of gunfire. He also found out much about the wily fugitive and the shadowy life he led. It is indeed the kind of story from which legends are born."

The 256 page book includes photos, endnotes and an index. It is available on Amazon.com as well as locations in Sonora including: Caverns of Sonora, Devil's River News, Everett's Pharmacy, Sutton County Steakhouse and Red Horse Feeds.

Wool Growers Creditors Given Chance to Vote on Bankruptcy Plan

By MELISSA PERNER
Editor and Publisher of the Ozona Stockman

Creditors in the Wool Growers Central Storage Co. will soon have a chance to vote on the bankruptcy plan.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert L. Jones approved a supplemented disclosure statement on Monday, after reviewing documents from a March 1 hearing, which stemmed from an objection filed to the original disclosure statement by a group of Sutton County Ranchers.

Now the plan will be prepared and sent out to the more than 100 creditors that have filed since Wool Growers filed for bankruptcy in April 2006.

Creditors can vote in favor, against or object to the plan. Standard bankruptcy policy calls for a 25-day review period, so it will be April before a ruling is made.

If a creditor objects, then the judge has to rule on that separately, said Byrnie Bass, attorney for Wool Growers.

For the plan to be approved, half in number of those voting and holding two-thirds of the dollar amount of claims of those voting must vote in favor of the plan.

The group of Jack David Wardlaw, Jesse Lem Wardlaw and Warlaw Brothers, which is composed of Jack David Wardlaw III, Mack Miers Wardlaw and William Chase Wardlaw objected to the original plan.

The Wardlaw Group was not part of the process in preparing the disclosure statement, and no one was shown an advance copy, said Richard Miller, attorney

for the Wardlaw Group.

The disclosure statement was put together by the creditors' committee, made up of Bill Pfluger, San Angelo, Duery Menzies, Fredericksburg and Beverly Ann Short, Pipe Creek, along with attorneys.

The Wardlaw Group stated that it did not contain enough information concerning the potential liability of the directors for the claims of unsecured creditors in the case.

By the March 1 hearing, an agreement had been reached on the directors' liability. However, the Wardlaw Group also requested for board of directors George Bungler Jr., Bill Black and John Allison to submit personal financial statements.

According to court documents, Bungler, Black and Allison have contributed \$2.625 million toward the reorganization plan that was filed in early January.

This money will go toward the payout of some of the \$3.5 million in claims to the more than 100 creditors that have filed since Wool Growers filed for bankruptcy in April 2006. This number does not include the estimated \$500,000 in claims filed belong to the board of directors, which will be subordinate to the claims of the other unsecured creditors.

The dividend to be paid to the holders of unsecured claims should equal about 60-70 cents on the dollar, depending on the total amount of claims by the court, documents stated.

Documents also stated that the payments from the Board of Directors shall be in forms of

loans to Wool Growers Central Storage Co.

Instead of the financial statements, the three men submitted affidavits that stated Bungler and Allison have the financial means to pay the \$3.5 million in all claims filed if a judgment was obtained to do this. In his affidavit, Black stated he has the financial means to pay at least one-third of all claims.

"The decision to not file a financial statement is not one taken lightly by these directors. All three directors come from old ranching families in Ozona, Sonora and Menard areas. They are known on a personal basis by 80-90 percent of the people who have filed claims. Their personal financial information spread across the Internet and in front of everyone is something these directors are not willing to do," said Morris Reese, attorney for Bungler, Black and Allison.

The Wardlaw Group also submitted an objection wanting to know what happen to the wool and mohair that was sold without the creditor's knowledge.

Attorney David Langston, who represents the creditor's committee that worked on the disclosure statement, said the files containing the information on the missing mohair are in the FBI office in Lubbock.

The files are handwritten, making them difficult to read, Langston said.

The FBI is investigating the cases against former manager Donnie Laughlin and former secretary Tonya Stalcup, were arrested and charged in May with misapplication of fiduciary

Business Drain or Boom?

Sutton County Transportation Committee and TxDOT to begin planning phase of reliever route.

Almost forty concerned citizens of Sonora and Sutton County crowded into the conference room at the Bank and Trust Thursday, March 1, 2007 to hear TxDOT officials explain upcoming progress surrounding the possibility of a reliever route around the city.

Walt McCullough, District Engineer for TxDOT out of San Angelo, brought forth facts and figures pertaining to the first phase of planning. Recent legislation has given the okay to begin the planning and study phase.

Phase one could begin this summer and take approximately 2 years to complete at a potential cost of \$2-3 million dollars.

Phase one would begin with joint planning between TxDOT and the Sutton County Transportation Committee consisting of initial planning, public input by means of open meetings and route selection.

McCullough also indicated that there was always the option of doing nothing. This could mean a continued growth pattern of traffic moving through Sonora as the Ports to Plains project continues to be developed.

Upon completion of Phase one, Phase two would follow with the process of purchasing the right of way for the reliever route. Phase three would follow with actual construction.

During the question and answer portion of the meeting, predictably, most questions posed

to McCullough were directed in the areas of economic impact to local businesses.

McCullough indicated that at this point in time, there is no way to make predictions regarding economic impact.

John DeWitt, Director, Transportation Planning & Development TxDOT of the San Angelo District outlined introductory notes of Phase one.

Through close contact and coordination with community leaders, TxDOT has recognized the growing need for a relief route at Sonora for years.

US 277 carries both Texas Trunk System and Ports-to-Plains corridor designations, providing further substantiation for the need to plan for its eventual expansion to meet growing traffic demands.

Funding constraints have prevented TxDOT from undertaking a formal planning process up to this point.

Through the community's proactive approach to this issue, TxDOT has now granted authority to commence the planning process for a US 277 relief route at Sonora that will fulfill both Texas Trunk System and Ports-to-Plains corridor objectives.

TxDOT's San Angelo District is authorized to proceed with the planning process and anticipates that it might take as long as two years to complete. It is important to note that this level of authorization carries no commitment of construction

funding; however, it does provide for the basic data gathering and alternative analysis process that will become the foundation for compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) requirements.

The planning process relies heavily on public involvement - the community is encouraged to take the opportunity to participate in order to make it a success. Emphasis will be placed on keeping the public informed and involved throughout the process.

The planning approach is highly interactive, utilizing state of the art mapping software that will help TxDOT and the community fully explore all possibilities and factor in multiple, disparate factors to reach consensus on the preferred alignment for the relief route.

TxDOT policy regarding this type of facility provides for the development of a four-lane roadway with no frontage roads for relief routes, providing for the integrity and security of established business interests in the city.

Basic information gathering will begin immediately, with formal public involvement opportunities commencing later this year.

The next Sutton County Transportation Committee is scheduled April 5, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Bank and Trust. The public is cordially invited to attend and voice questions and concerns.

Alexie Ortiz Sweeps 1600 and 3200 Meter Races in Ozona



Sonora High School Senior Alexie Ortiz swept both the 1600 and 3200 meter races held during the Ozona track meet. Her time for the 1600 meter (1 mile) was 5:57.7 and 13:20.9 for the 3200 meter run (2 miles). Later this spring, Alexie will sign a letter of intent with Abilene Christian University to run track. The Lady Broncos placed second overall in the meet.

Congratulations

More track and field coverage on page 5.

property over \$200,000, which is a first degree felony that is punishable up to life in prison and a fine up to \$10,000.

"The information is available, but it is a monumental task," he said.

Miller said his clients were going to have to decide whether

to go along with the plan, spend the money to object to the plan or asserting their state court lawsuit.

The Wardlaw Group filed a lawsuit against the board of directors, current manager Mike Edinburgh, Laughlin and Stalcup in district court in Tom

Green County.

"We got half of what we wanted. I think we are satisfied with that," said Richard Miller, attorney for the Wardlaw Group. "We wish they'd tell us what happened with the mohair."

St. Ann Catholic Church

Father Miguel Dinio, Pastor

311 W. Plum
P.O. Box 1397
Monday - Wednesday & Friday 1-4
Thursday - 10:30 - 12:30, 1:30 - 5:30
Phone: 325-387-2278
Fax: 325-387-2278
E-mail: stannsec@verizon.net
Confessions: Sat. 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

NEW MASS SCHEDULE!

Sunday - 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Monday - NO MASS
Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday - 7:00 a.m.
Thursday - 7:00 a.m.
Friday - 7:00 a.m.
Saturday - 6:00 p.m.

Lighthouse Community Church

A place for returning Prodigals and recovering Pharisees

Sunday Services

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.

1705 N. Crockett

Senior Center Activities

Fri. Mar. 9 - Happy Birthday Pancho Andrade! Crafts!

Mon. Mar. 12 -Bingo!

Tue. Mar. 13 -CEAP Energy Asst. 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

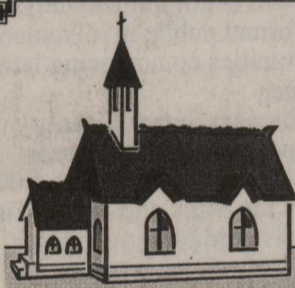
Wed. Mar. 14 -Answers on Aging w/AAA Bea & Dolly at noon!

Thur. Mar. 15 -Happy Birthday Barbra Urbanski

Senior Center Menu

- Fri. Mar. 9 - Salmon Croquettes, Macaroni & Cheese, turnip greens, coleslaw, rolls, peaches.
- Mon. Mar. 12 -Spanish meatballs, rice, green beans, sliced tomatoes, rolls, pineapple rings and milk.
- Tue. Mar. 13 -Beef burrito, pinto beans, spinach, coleslaw, Jell-O with pears and milk.
- Wed. Mar. 14 - Meatloaf with tomatoes, blackeyed peas, okra, milk, cornbread and banana pudding.
- Thur. Mar. 15 - Chicken supreme, herb new potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, green salad and cobbler.

Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older. Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m. Donations are accepted (suggested donation for Seniors is \$1.50; \$4.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go)



Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesia Bautista
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

Church of Christ
304 N. Water
387-3190

The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

First Baptist Church
111 E. Oak
387-2951

Lighthouse Community Church
1705 N. Crockett
387-9100

St. John's Episcopal Church
404 E Poplar
387-2955

Pentecostal Calvary Temple United
509 Amistad
387-5266

First United Methodist Church
201 N. Water
387-2466

St. Ann's Catholic Church
229 W. Plum
387-2278

Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713

Jehovah's Witness
310 St. Ann's St.
387-5658/387-5518

Hope Lutheran Church
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

Brought to you by:

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

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MEMBER 2006

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Letter to the Editor

It is against the policy of the Devil's River News to publish "Letters to the Editor" that are submitted un-signed.

The prosecution of Gilmer Hernandez can be back tracked all the way to the Mexican Government.

Ever since the Mexican Government's policy of getting every unemployed and unemployable Mexican out of Mexico and into the United States, several lawmen and a few private citizens have been jailed. Some private citizens have had to cough up huge sums of money in civil court, mostly ranchers in South Texas.

In every one of these cases, the Mexican Consuls demand prosecution to the alleged violators. They will cajole and intimidate our U.S. prosecutors, and at times, our own lawmen.

Dear Citizens of Sonora and Sutton County:

Below is the body of a letter I sent to each Sonora ISD board member. If you are concerned about proposed changes to the middle school curriculum, please let them know.

Susan McAlpine

Recent and proposed changes in the middle school appear to be weakening the program and not in the best interest of the students. The loss of the art class in 2005-06 and the proposed removal of choir this fall have devastated the fine arts program leaving students with no formal instruction in this area. Also, by creating a self-contained fifth grade, some students may lose skills developed in third and fourth grade that are important for academic success and beyond.

I urge you to carefully consider the following two items in your school board decisions over the next few months.

Fine arts: Students learn better when they use both sides of their brain, and as I am sure you know, learning music enhances bilateral brain usage, and thus, student performance. If choir is removed, fifth grade which does not participate in band, will lose all musical instruction as will those that do not participate in band in sixth, seventh and eighth grades. In addition, many students entering sixth grade band will have no musical experience that will negatively impact the middle school band and even the high school band. If building-up the Bronco Band is a goal of the school and community, a fifth grade music program is a necessary component.

Thank You

The family of Annabel Wuest would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy and love extended upon her death.

Special thanks are sent to our many friends who graciously shared their time and love with us. A sincere thank you to the skilled and caring doctors, nurses, and staff at the Shannon Hospital in San Angelo, Texas.

We would also like to thank the members of Hope Lutheran Church, Kerbow Funeral Home, and our many friends for the beautiful flowers, inspirational cards, calls, prayers, generous memorials, thoughtful offerings, and delicious food.

Annabel will be greatly missed by her husband of 59 years, Coach Wuest, her four sons and their families, and the city of Sonora. She was an awesome wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend!

We the family of James "Cotton" Renfroe, want to express our sincere appreciation to the caring community of Sonora for their comfort and sympathy in our time of sorrow.

Thank you so much for all the flowers, food, visits and most

of all, your prayers.

They do this of course to dilute and weaken our border enforcement. And it is working. Our border lawmen have become more passive and restrictive in their duties. At the same time, the illegals, smugglers, etc. are much more aggressive and confrontational. They have also learned to initiate complaints with no merit, causing money and time to be spent investigating the alleged complaints.

I urge you to write or call your representative.

Who would have guessed Mexico would control and make our border policy.

*C.E. Cunningham
Quemado, Texas*

I understand there are ways to satisfy the state fine arts requirements in fifth grade without a formal program in either art or music, but I question whether the time gained for academic instruction will actually materialize and out-weigh the loss of a broad education. It is too easy to use the extra time as "downtime" - something we all want more of - with videos and other rewards or entertainment.

Rumors on the loss of the choir program abound, including purely a financial decision (I am sure other positions and programs could be questioned), hidden agenda, personality conflict, hiring a new art teacher, and more time for academic instruction to ensure sufficient TAKS test scores, among others.

Self-containment: The move to self-containment in fifth grade is a step back from the switching classes these students have done in third and fourth grades. Students challenged by poor focusing skills - a condition all too common in our society - will not have the benefit of progressively changing classes (and getting to class with their materials and focused in time to start the lesson with the rest of the class). This is a concern that was first brought to my attention by a third grade teacher. We are doing a disservice to these students if we do not continue to build on the developing skill of getting focused and back to work after a disruption.

Thank you for your time and consideration on these important issues. I am sure an open discussion and a clear statement on the reasoning behind these proposed changes will help clarify things and reduce the animosity some parents feel.

Obituary

James "Cotton" Renfroe



James was born August 23, 1963 in Del Rio, Texas.

James loved his community and was always lending a helping hand to family and friends.

He is survived by a daughter, Rande, his parents Barbara and Joe Renfroe and step-mom, Gay Renfroe.

He has two surviving brothers, Lee and Willy; three sisters, Angela, Lori and Tammy; one half sister, Robyn; step-brother Shane; brothers-in-law Joey and Karl; sisters-in-law Paula and Melissa; numerous nieces, nephews, aunts and cousins.

He will be missed dearly. Graveside services were held at Sonora Cemetery Friday, March 2, 2007.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite charity.

James Edward Renfroe, a lifelong resident of Sonora, joined his Savior in Heaven on February 27, 2007.

Engagement Announcement



Caleb Taylor and Ginger Renee Hensley

Bobby and Candi Taylor of Christoval, Texas are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Caleb Taylor, to Ginger Renee Hensley, daughter of Mike and Twyla Hensley of Brookings, Oregon.

Caleb is the grandson of Truman and Wanda Bryant of Carbon, Texas and Frank and Frances Taylor of Cross Plains, Texas.

Ginger is the granddaughter of Leroy and Lorraine Sullivan of Willits, California and Jake

and Bonnie Hensley of Folsom, California.

Ginger is a 2003 graduate of Brookings-Harbor High School and attended Angelo State University.

Caleb is a 2000 graduate of Sonora High School and is self employed.

The couple will be united in marriage on Saturday, August 11, 2007 in Brookings, Oregon at the home of the bride-elect's parents.

Thank You

On behalf of the directors, committee members, management, volunteers and the many, many visitors who have enjoyed Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, I thank the community of Sonora for your concern and shared outrage over the vandalism that occurred on Eaton Hill.

In response to our loss, Multi-Chem Group LLC has donated \$1,000.00 towards replacement, repair, and improvement expenses. We are so very appreciative of your generosity!

Additionally, Pack 19 Cub Scouts held a bake sale to benefit Eaton Hill and raised \$218.00!

A heartfelt thank you to Debra Brown, Stacie Craig, the Cub Scouts and all who supported the bake sale!

*Delyse Jaeger, Manager
Eaton Hill
Wildlife Sanctuary*

Happy Birthday

March 8

Kellie Berry, Rosalba Chavez, Kindra Bounds

March 9

Jamayra Ramirez, Jason Alaman, Sydney Burnham

March 10

Kara Eaton, Lonnie Fox, Jane Rushing, Meghan Krieg, Jeannie Lozano, Dufonzo Villanueva, Haley Alewine, John Berry, Ruben Mesa, Marcus Morin, Kurly Martinez, Max Martin, Arely Ortiz, Cathy Baggett

March 11

Estevan Chavez, Bonnie Chavez, Word Hudson, Herbie Seaton, Nelda Tobias, Jesse Crain, Trudy Dell Williamson, John Wilson, Rosalinda Ramirez, Dick Taylor, Jesse West

March 12

Jennifer Surber, Dora Gonzalez, Dominique Aboud, Lesa Harris, Larry Hernandez, Don Sessom, Mario Avila, Kayla Ramirez, Tavia Valliant

March 13

Chris Badgett, Thelma Vasquez, Charlie Brown, Daniel Anderson, Mary Adele Balch, Ron Kinney, Danny Monk

March 14

Noemi Fay, Dickie Wood



SUTTON COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION

Your memorial gift helps preserve access to quality health care for generations to come. Please consider the Sutton County Health Foundation, PO Box 18, Sonora, TX 76950.

All contributions 100% tax deductible.

Letter to the Editor

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Historical Society

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

Q. Why do you wear that mask all the time?

A. I don't wear it all the time, just outside or in dusty areas. I am a severe asthmatic and my doctor and oxygen company say I must wear a mask at all times when outside. I ignore fashion and do as the allergist and pulmonary doctors say.

Q. Why does America have to do all the fighting. Why can't Canada or some other country send troops?

A. Canada has sent troops and are covering our back in Afghanistan. So far 13,500 troops have served from Canada in Afghanistan; 45 have been killed and 181 wounded in action. If you check back over the years you will find that Canada has helped us in many wars. In WWI from 1914-1918 Canada had 418,000 men serve overseas; 66,655 killed in action and 172,950. They had over 644,636 men in uniform during WWI on duty in their country and overseas.

During the war with North Russia 1918-1919 Canada had 600 men involved in the conflict and 7 killed. Same years they had 2,000 troops in Siberia of which 20 were killed.

During WWII from 1929 to 1945 Canada had 545,000 troops serve overseas of which 45,631 were killed and 54,414 wounded. Also during the Korean War 1950-53 26,792 served and 516 were killed with 1,558 wounded.

In the Cold War from 1951-1991 150,000 served overseas and 780 were killed. Next is the Vietnam War from 1965 - 1973 when 12,000 Canadians served and 126 were killed. After that the Persian Gulf War in 1991 in which 2,700 men served and none were killed.

A war erupted in the former Yugoslavia from 1992-2006 in which Canada sent 46,200 troops and had 24 killed and 116 wounded. In Somalia during 1992 there were 2,332 troops from Canada and 1 killed. In Kosovo from 1999-2000 Canada sent 2,821 troops and had 1 fatality.

In Afghanistan from 2002-2007 Canada sent 13,500 troops of which 45 were killed and 181 wounded.

Peacekeeping missions from 1947 to 2007 show 196,999 Canadians service and 120 wounded. These missions include 19 areas starting in 1950 and deaths in Somalia, Yugoslavia and Kosovo.

On August 9, 1974 Syrians shot down a plane carrying 9

Canadians.

A little known fact is that 40,000 Canadians joined 150 Union and 50 Confederate regiments during the Civil War. There were so many Nova Scotians in one Massachusetts regiment that it was nicknamed the "Highlanders." 30 Canadians were awarded the Medal of Honor and 14,000 died in the Civil War.

With all these facts you cannot say that the Canadians have not supported the USA in conflicts over the years. Especially their men in Afghanistan that free up more of our troops for Iraq.



NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER
Rear Adm. David G. Farragut

Now back to one of my heroes in history, David G. Farragut. One of you asked for more information on the gentleman. David G. Farragut was born James Glasgow Farragut in Tennessee in 1801. He grew up in New Orleans, where his family were friends with David Porter a local naval commander. Farragut suffered the loss of his mother in 1808 at the age of 9. Porter obtained a special appointment for Farragut as a midshipman. Not common for a 9 year old to receive this appointment so early in life and we assume Porter pulled a few strings to make it possible for Farragut to be with him.

In the War of 1812, Porter was a captain in the famous attacks on British whaling vessels in the Pacific. Farragut was with him and served as prize master on a captured ship and sailed it into Valparaiso, Chili. During a fight with the British warships Phoebe and Cherub, both Porter and Farragut were taken prisoner. After the war Porter praised young Farragut for his heroism and Farragut honored Porter by taking his first name.

Farragut continued his Navy career and served many assignments. He participated in Mediterranean actions against pirates and commanded the sloop Saratoga during the Mexican-American War.

During the Civil War Capt.

Farragut remained loyal to the Union, even though he was born and raised in New Orleans. In January of 1862 he commanded the West Gulf Blockading Squadron. He was assigned to capture New Orleans. Now New Orleans was the Confederates largest port. He planned to use his firepower to subdue the Confederate batteries that guarded New Orleans. This plan did not work. So on April 24, 1862 he ran his ships past the fort and his vessels sank 11 Confederate vessels.

When troops landed under command of Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, New Orleans surrendered without a shot being fired. These two actions gave the Union a strategic location on the Mississippi River from which they could launch later attacks. For his part in the battle Farragut was promoted to rear admiral in July of 1862. He was the first American naval officer to hold that rank.

Farragut captured Mobile, the last major Confederate port on the Gulf of Mexico. On August 6, 1864, going against gun batteries, tethered naval mines, and an ironclad, the CSS Nashville, Farragut led his four armored monitors and 14 wooden ships under Fort Morgan's guns. The monitor Tecumseh struck a mine and sank with great loss of life. Farragut was tied to the mast of the frigate Hartford to keep from being blown off the ship in battle, it was from this position he shouted his famous "Damn the torpedoes! Full steam ahead!"

Farragut's men were inspired by his actions and passed through the minefields, entered Mobile Bay and after a brief battle they captured the CSS ironclad Nashville. Mobile surrendered on August 23, 1864 and Farragut was promoted to the rank of vice

admiral in December of 1864. Once again he was the first officer to hold this rank.

July 25, 1866, a grateful Congress acknowledged Farragut's actions and promoted him to the rank of full admiral. Farragut would die in August 1870 in his 69th year of age, while still on active duty with the United States Navy.

I guess I will have to find a good story about the Marines in the next few months or Bill Stewart will be after me for telling Navy tales and not one Marine one.

If you have any questions, concerning Sutton County history, send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950. While I don't mind answering questions out of our area once in a while our purpose is to collect stories and teach people about the history of Sutton County. My readers seem to enjoy tales out of the county once in a while so I answer their questions from time to time in this column. But we really should write more articles on local history so that visitors can learn all the contributions we have made to Texas history.

Our offices are open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings and you may go through the archives, use Ancestry.com or rent the depot during these hours. The museum project is coming along fine but the John & Mildred Cauthorn Trust Building isn't doing so well. The harsh cold and high winds have removed a lot of paint and exposed many very old, rotten boards that the renovators should have replaced. The whole outside of the building is in bad shape a great deal of wood rot. It will not be repaired until we can raise a large sum to do the work properly this time.

Local Artist Honored

Barbara Earwood, local Watercolorist, has received word that her painting "Tommy, the Puppet" has been accepted to be exhibited in the Richardson Civic Art Society 41st Annual Regional Society Juried Art Show, to be held in the Charles W. Eisemann Center in Richardson, Texas.

The show opened March 1 and continues through April 1, 2007 and was juried by Ken Hosmer, S.W.S. Mr. Hosmer is a workshop instructor for over 70 art organizations across the U.S. and worldwide.

The awards reception will be held March 8, 2007.

She has also received word

that her watercolor painting "Beached II" has been accepted in the 26th Juried Art Exhibition of the Society of Watercolor Artists, Inc. to be held at the Fort Worth Central Library on April 2-29, 2007.

Sterling Edwards, from Hendersonville, North Carolina is the Juror. He is an exceptionally accomplished artist and workshop instructor.

The reception and awards presentation will be April 19, 2007.

Barbara has studied with Ken Hosmer and can also have S.W.S. (Southwestern Watercolor Society) after her name.

- Livestock Gathering
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-Mark Lilla, professor in the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago, writing in the New York Times

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
7:00 P.M.
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Thought of the Day

In case we find ourselves starting to believe all the anti-American sentiment and negativity, we should remember England's Prime Minister Tony Blair's words during a recent interview.

When asked by one of his Parliament members why he believes so much in America, he said:

"A simple way to take measure of a country is to look at how many want in... And how many want out."

Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you:

1. Jesus Christ
 2. The American G. I.
- One died for your soul, the other for your freedom.

Joke of the Day

A U.S. Marine squad was marching north of Falujiah when they came upon an Iraqi terrorist, badly injured and unconscious. On the opposite side of the road was an American Marine in a similar but less serious state.

The Marine was conscious and alert and as first aid was given to both men, the squad leader asked the injured Marine what had happened.

The Marine reported, "I was heavily armed and moving north along the highway here, and coming south was a heavily armed insurgent. We saw each other and both took cover in the ditches along the road.

"I yelled to him that Saddam Hussein is a miserable, lowlife scumbag, and he yelled back that Ted Kennedy is a good-for-nothing, fat, left wing liberal democrat drunk."

"So I said that Osama Bin Laden dresses and acts like a frigid, mean-spirited lesbian!"

He retaliated by yelling, "Oh yeah? Well, so does Hillary Clinton!"

"And, there we were, in the middle of the road, shaking hands, when a truck hit us"

All things good to know are difficult to learn.
-Greek Proverb

CHAMBER CHATTER

What Is All The Excitement About Team Roping?

By Becky Covington

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce respectively welcomes Team Roping events and appreciates all the hard work that the Vernon West Memorial Scholarship Committee has done to make this years annual event bigger and better than ever. The event is scheduled for March 30 thru April 1 at the Sutton County Arena. Come to Sonora Fairgrounds to witness some of the best ropers in the nation compete for over \$80,000.00 in cash and prizes.

Action begins Friday evening with a preliminary roping and continues Saturday at noon with the elite invitational roping. Sunday afternoon we'll wrap things up featuring some of the toughest bulls on earth with Bad Company Rodeo's Who's Your Daddy junior bull riding tour and an open drawpot roping.

I found this article that was written by John Findlay who writes for the USTRC and he has personally given me permission to share it with you.

Only God may know when it really started, probably on a ranch one day when a couple of cow hands challenged they could stretch a steer for branding quicker than their buddies; another checked with his watch and the sport was born. Team roping has pretty much always been what cowboys have enjoyed for recreation. Those who worked with livestock for a living (ranch hands, farriers, farmers, veterinarians) would go rope after work (and at times before they were off work!). It was what they did for fun instead of, or in addition to, golfing, skiing, or hitting softball.

Team Roping has been featured at amateur and professional rodeos for decades and jackpot roping have been held at county fairs, back-yard arenas, and Sunday dinners-on-the-ground since the invention of the picnic basket. And in 1962, it became the sixth standard event at the National Finals Rodeo.

While popular for many

years, team roping has seen phenomenal growth in the '90s (it is currently the fastest growing equine sport in the country). Now, everybody and their brother (and quite often their sister) that owns or is thinking of owning a horse - doctors, contractors, students, mechanics, school teachers - is climbing onto the team roping band wagon. What has suddenly made Team Roping the coming sport of a brand new century?

Fun: It's a rush - racing down the arena in a headlong chase after a fast moving steer. Be careful, the sensation is addictive! After you and your partner have shared a successful run, you could be hooked for life (and we do mean life - 70-year-old team ropers are common).

Family and Friends: More than an athletic event, roping are social gatherings where old friends re-connect and new friendships are born. It's a sport every member of the family can enjoy; husbands rope with wives, fathers with sons, and grand-dads with grand-daughters.

The Cowboy Way: A bunch of folks want to be cowboys (and cowgirls!). As the baby-boom generation matures, moves back to the country, and buys horses, they look to participate in something that helps them define who they are. The only rodeo sport unlimited by age and encompassing the essence of ridin', ropin', and cowboyin' is Team Roping.

Competition: Team roping draws those with the strong, healthy, American desire to compete and win. There are no questions about who won - it's a simple matter of being the mo-stest with the fastest. There are no judges (the time clock rules), and when the go-round is over you go get your check.

Big-Time Money and Prizes: Immense purses are being won by recreational team ropers (not just the pros); there's more than pride on the line when your team may win \$5,000, \$10,000, even

\$50,000 (or how about a brand new pick-up truck?). Never before has an equine sport offered this kind of reward for something most cowboys happily do for fun!

On Saturday, March 31, Jake Hooker and The Outsiders will perform at the dance and tickets are on sell at the Chamber Office for \$10.00 advance and \$12.00 at the door. Jake Hooker was born listening to the sounds of traditional country music through his father's west Texas country band. Jake began playing the bass at the age of seven and practiced diligently until he mastered the honky tonk sound. Jake formed his own band at the age of 14 and began performing. By the age of 18, Jake was playing bass and singing full time. He spent some time at South Plains College in Levelland, Texas, studying music and theory. Jake moved to the Fort Worth area in 1998 where he quickly became the local favorite. Jake signed with Southland Records that same year and began recording. Jake's popularity continues to grow. His love and passion for traditional country music never ceases. He feels it is necessary to relay that love to the fans who are so dedicated to it as well. There is no doubt that Jake is strongly influenced by the sounds of Ray Price, Johnny Bush, Farron Young, Curtis Potter, Leon Rausch and Darrell McCall. He spends much of his spare time studying these artists' music in depth. Jake is consumed by his dedication to the music and his hobbies include playing the drums and learning the steel guitar. Jake's graceful and professional image on the bandstand, along with his voice and talented band, make his show unbeatable.

An event such as this attract people/money, fill our motels and provides community activities for everyone to enjoy so make plans to attend the roping and dance and have a fun weekend.

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COLLEGE STATION, March 2, 2007 - Diplomas were awarded to 3,560 Texas A&M University graduates during mid-year commencement ceremonies.

Among those recognized were:

Byron Cole Williams
of Sonora
Bachelor of Science/Health

Chamber of Commerce Calendar of Events

School Holiday Break
March 5-9

Annual Chamber of Commerce Award Ballots
Due March 15, 2007

1st Annual "Dos Llano Longbeards" Banquet
Saturday, March 17, 2007
Backdoor Café - Roosevelt, Texas
6:00 p.m., FMI - 325 446-2604

Vernon West Memorial Invitational Team Roping
Sutton County Arena
March 30-31, 2007, FMI - 277-2156

Jake Hooker and the Outsiders
Sutton County Park
Saturday, March 31, 2007
Purchase Tickets at Sonora Chamber of Commerce
\$10.00 Advance, \$12.00, At Door

J.W. & Durwood Neville Memorial Golf Tournament
March 31 - April 1
Friday, March 30 - Shoot-out 5:00 p.m.
Sonora Golf Course, FMI - 325 387-3680

4th Annual Relay for Life Benefit Team Roping
Saturday, April 21, 2007
Consuelo Ranch, 325 387-3244 or 325 387-2272

Preventing Mosquito Breeding

Often, the most effective way to protect your family from being infected by disease-carrying mosquitoes is to get rid of them before they appear.

Follow these tips on how to prevent mosquito breeding around your home:

- * Do not allow standing water to accumulate for more than two days. Common areas to check: old tires, buckets, unused plastic swimming pools, the base of flower pots, pet dishes, plastic covers or any container that may collect water.

- * Change the water in bird-baths, fountains and wading pools at least once a week.

- * Clean debris from rain gutters and remove standing water under or around structures.

- * If you have a flat roof, check for standing water several days after a rain.

- * Check rain barrels for mosquito larvae. A tight cover will prevent egg laying. A thin layer of oil will kill mosquitoes already present.

- * Repair leaks or clear away puddles from around faucets and window air conditioner units.

- * Stock ornamental pools with minnows or goldfish (they will eat mosquito larvae on the water surface) or treat the pools with biological larvicides (chemicals or natural bacteria that can be used to kill mosquito larvae).

- * Be sure to keep swimming pools, saunas and hot tubs clean and chlorinated. If not in use, keep them empty and covered.

- * Empty accumulated water from boats and cargo trailers.

- * Fill or drain large puddles, ditches and swampy areas.

- * Remove, drain or fill tree holes and stumps with mortar.

- * Keep hedges and bushes trimmed to reduce shade.

- * Mow the lawn at least once a week. Mosquitoes can hide in the shade of tall grass.

- * Make sure windows, doors and porches are tightly screened and are free from holes.

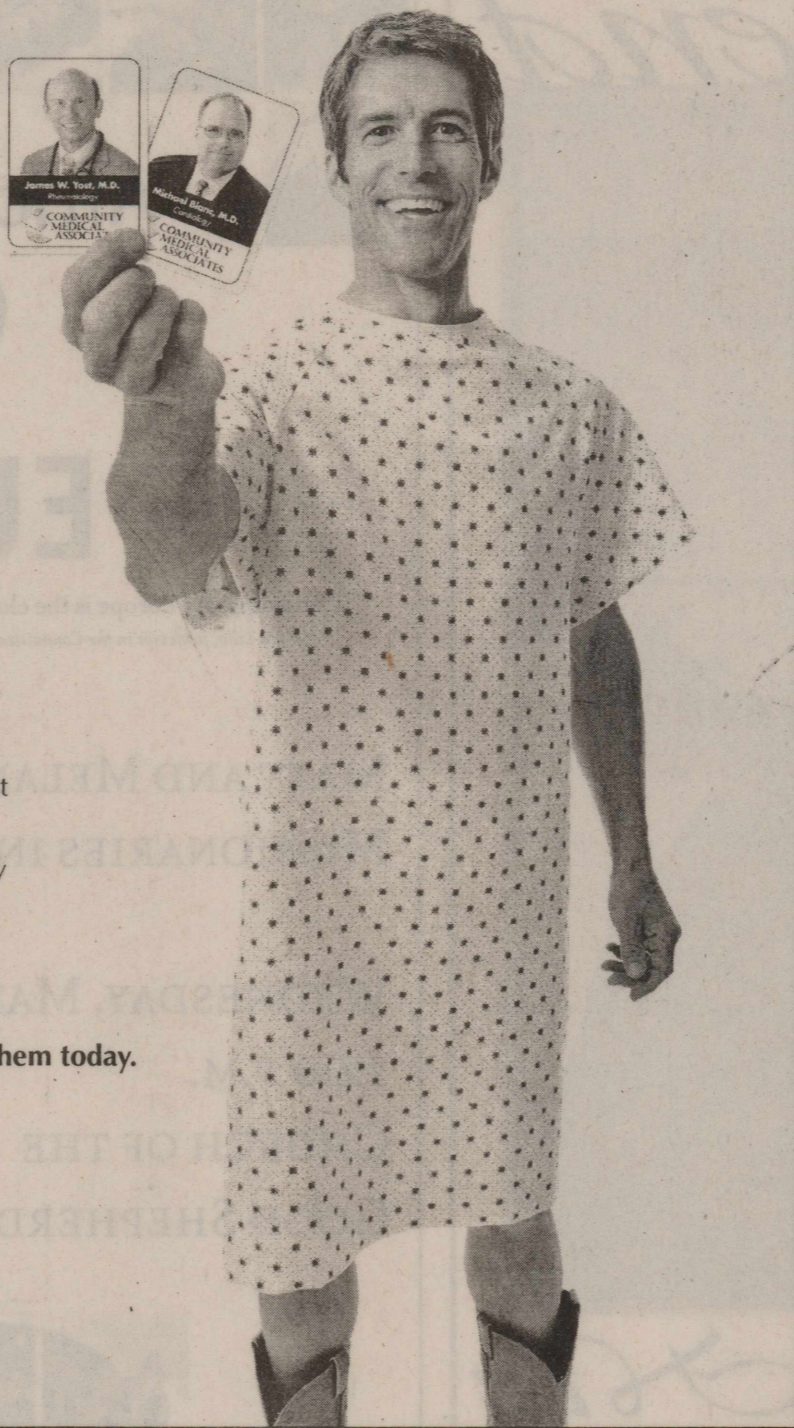
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Lady Broncos Take to the Diamond

By Tryon Fields

After the season opening tournament in Midland, the Sonora Lady Broncos entertained the San Angelo Central Lady Bobcats in their home opener.

The Lady Broncos picked up their third win of the season with a 5 to 0 win.

Lady Bronco ace, Meghan Krieg, pitched a near perfect game as she faced 26 batters, giving up only 1 hit and 3 walks in seven innings of play.

At the plate Sonora was led by Krieg with a home-run and a single, Kayla Fields with a triple and a single, Kimble Luna with two singles, and Heather Hughes with a single.

When the Lady Cats were able to put the ball in play, Sonora's defense of Krieg, Jaimee Duran, Heather Hughes, and Azeneth Villanueva squelched any hope of success by the team from San Angelo.

Final score: San Angelo Central 0 - Sonora 5

On Thursday, the Lady Broncos traveled to San Angelo to participate in the San Angelo Umpires Tournament.

Thursday consisted of three pool games and a bracket game.

In the pool games, the Lady Broncos won all three (Sonora 8 - Wall 1, Sonora 3 - Coahoma JV 0, and Sonora 4, Crane 3).

Their first bracket game would pit them against the team from Copperas Cove. Excellent team hitting, a total of 11 hits, generated 10 runs in 4 innings to defeat the Cove team by a score of 10 to 1.

At the plate Cassie Krieg led the Lady Broncos with a 3 for 3 day (a home run, a double, and a single), Kayla Fields, Kimble Luna, and Heather Hughes each had a 2 for 3 day. Steely Ingham and Jaimee Duran each added a single.

Defensively, only five balls were put into play, as Meghan Krieg dominated the Cove batters. Krieg faced 17 batters, giving up 1 run while striking out 11 and walking 1.

With this win, the Lady Broncos advanced to the second round to face the Lady Hawks from Wall.

It took 4 innings to make short work of the Lady Hawks on Friday. Twelve hits by the Lady Broncos generated 10 runs.

The pitching of Krieg and a solid defense would not allow the Lady Hawks a hit or a run.

Fields would lead Sonora at the plate with 3 singles and 3 RBI's. Azeneth Villanueva would have a 2 for 3 day (single and a double); and Jessica Snyder would also add 2 singles. Kimble Luna, Meghan Krieg, Cassie Krieg, and Steely Ingham would each add a hit.

Hudson Goes Low

John Duke Hudson shot a low round of 77 to earn low medalist honors at the Ingram Invitational Boys Golf Tournament hosted at the Hidden Springs Golf Course in Harper. The event was held Friday, March 2, 2007.

The Boys Varsity Golf team consists of Hudson, Morgan Marti-

City League Tryouts Scheduled

Sonora City League would like to announce the beginning of its BASE/SOFT/T-BALL & Pony League program for 2007. Any students interested in playing fill out an enrollment form at the following times.

The cost will be Tee ball & Minors=\$30, Majors=\$35 per player and \$40 for Pony. Enrollment form & money must be turned in before your child can participate. The following deadlines will be final for enrollment!

Pony registrations on 03/12/07 at 5:30 P.M. - Sutton County Park Center Field.

Major Baseball Try Outs are

Defensively, Krieg would get help from Jaimee Duran, Heather Hughes, and Brandy Neff to preserve the near perfect game.

On Saturday, Sonora would once again face the Lady Hawks to get into the championship game. Sixteen hits by Sonora would generate 20 runs in 5 innings of play. Wall would finally score a run in the top of the fourth to get on the scoreboard.

Meghan Krieg got the win working 3 of the 5 innings. Krieg faced 10 batters, striking out 8 and issuing 1 walk. Steely Ingham closed out the game facing 8 batters, giving up the run on 1 hit and recording 1 strike out. Heather Hughes, Brandy Neff, and Kayla Fields made short work of the balls that were actually put into play.

At the plate, the Lady Broncos were led by Meghan Krieg and Kayla Fields who each went 3 for 3. Krieg had 2 singles, a double, be hit by a pitch, and 4 RBI's. Fields produced 3 singles, a walk, and 3 RBI's. Cassie Krieg reached base all 4 times, that she stepped in the box (two singles, a walk, be hit by a pitch, and would drive in 3 RBI's). Heather Hughes would single, double, walk once, and drive in 2 RBI's. Kimble Luna, Azeneth Villanueva, Steely Ingham, and Brandy Neff would each add a hit to the total.

With this 20 to 1 trouncing of the Lady Hawks, Sonora advanced to the championship game to face the Lady Bulldogs from Coahoma. Coahoma gave the Lady Broncos a wake up call in this 10 to 1 Lady Bulldog victory.

Sonora was able to score 1 run off of the Lady Bulldog ace, Heather Newton. Newton gave up 1 run off of 6 hits and 1 walk. She would also strike out 8 Lady Bronco batters.

Meghan Krieg would get the loss giving up the 10 runs, allowing 6 hits, walking 3, and striking out 7. The error bug bit the Lady Broncos, as they would commit 5 errors in the loss. The six Lady Broncos hits came from four players. Kayla Fields had 2 (a single and a triple), Kimble Luna also had 2 (two singles), Meghan Krieg with a double, and Azeneth Villanueva with a single.

On Monday, March 5th, the Lady Broncos travel to Midland to play the perennial private school power house, Midland Christian, and on Wednesday, hit the road to Arlington to play in the Spring Performance 2007 Group Play Tournament.

Sonora will be guaranteed 3 pool games and 3 bracket games against 4A and 5A schools.

Wild Turkey Federation Event

March 17 in Roosevelt

The most recently organized chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf), the Dos Llanos Longbeards (including members from Menard, Sutton and Kimble counties) has scheduled its first event on March 17. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

A \$40 ticket admits an adult to an evening packed with food and fun and a boat load of prizes, starting at 6 p.m. at Simon Bros. Mercantile in Roosevelt, in Kimble County (Ticket price is \$15 for 16-year-olds and under). The food includes barbecued brisket and pork. One of the best cooks in the area is cooking a whole hog in a below-ground pit. Delicious side dishes and drinks are included in the ticket price. Thirty-plus guns will be awarded to lucky ticket holders. The NWTf also is supplying over forty other prizes including beautiful

western and wildlife sculptures and prints and giclees, a mule deer horn chandelier, an elk antler floor lamp, box calls, a stainless steel specialty knife, several watches, and limited edition bronze sculptures of mule and whitetail deer, elk and turkey. There are many more prizes.

The Dos Llanos Longbeards is offering business "tables-of-eight" packages. Each table is guaranteed to win at least one gun prize. Half of these have already been purchased, so anyone interested in purchasing a table package or individual tickets should contact Clay Simon at 325-446-2604.....sooner rather than later.

Local organizers describe the Dos Llanos Longbeards March 17 event as "a fun, family-oriented event, where everybody goes home with prizes and everybody has a real good time".

Track Teams Invade Ozona

Saturday, March 2, 2007 was not exactly a picture perfect, chamber of commerce day in Ozona. The weather was cold, windy and mostly cloudy throughout the day. Typical early season track meet conditions did not deter the Broncos and Lady Broncos from making respectable showings in all divisions.

In the girl's division, Sonora scored 102.5 team points and a 2nd place overall finish.

In the field events, Chelsea Martinez had a second place finish in the shot-put with 30'1" and a discus toss of 79'8", good for fourth place. Savannah Leonard cleared 4'6" in the high jump for third place. In the long jump, Chasady Garcia took first with a jump of 15'0.25". Not to be outdone, Emily Earwood also took first in the triple jump by sailing 33'4" and in the pole vault, Kelsie Watkins went 7'0 for a sixth place finish.

In the running events, Alexie Ortiz won both the 1600 and 3200 meter runs. Her times were 5:57.7 and 13:20.9, respectively. The 400M relay team consisting of Savannah Leonard, Chasady Garcia, Emily Earwood and Amy Hernandez took third with a time of 55.21. In the 800M run, Candace Chandler had a second place finish with a time of 2:46.3 and Kyla Turney's time of 19.16 in the 110M hurdles provided a sixth place finish. Meridith Earwood's time of 56.28 in the 300M hurdles was good for fifth place, while Amy Hernandez ran the 200M in a time of 29.46 for a fourth place showing. The 400M relay team joined together for the 800M relay and ran the half mile event in 1:59.5 good for fifth place. In the 1600M relay, Jessica Chavez and Candace Chandler joined Garcia and Leonard for a third place finish in the time of 4:47.7.

In the Varsity Boys division, the Broncos finished with 66 points and a third place team standing overall.

Individually in the field events, Ricardo Rodriguez competed in two events, the long jump and triple jump. In the long jump his distance of 20'2" placed fourth and a distance of 40'3.5" in the triple jump won the event by over a foot. Justin Northcott placed second in the pole vault with a height of 13'0".

In the running events, the 400M team of Riley Sanchez, Justin Northcott, Ricardo Rodriguez and A.K. Williams ran a time of 46.22 for a second place finish. In the 200M sprint, Rodriguez finished third with a time of 24.47 and Northcott finishing fifth in a time of 25.5. Domingo Reynosa and Will Anderson joined Northcott and Rodriguez in the 800M relay and ran a time of 1:39.3 and third place. In the 1600M relay, Pedro Gloria joined Sanchez, Williams and Reynosa for a fourth place finish in a time of 3:54.5.

In the JV Boys division, the Broncos finished fourth in the team standings with 60 points.

In the field events, Rudy Charro's distance of 33'10.5" in the shot-put finished fourth and Tyler Creek's discus throw of 101'7.25" was long enough for second. In the long jump, Victor Vaquera went 17'0.75" and placed fourth while Paul Faz in the triple jump went 33'5.5" for sixth. Manny Paderes' height of 9'6" in the pole vault garnered first place and Zac Rodriguez placed third with a height of 8'.

In the running events, the 400M relay team of Manny Paderes, Tyler Creek, Victor Vaquera and Zac Rodriguez placed fifth in a time of 51.49. In the 800M run, Angel Aguiro's time of 2:34.0 finished sixth, while Tyler Creek ran the 400M run in 1:07.9 and finished fifth. In the 300M hurdles, Paul Faz had a time of 53.24 for fifth, and in the 200M, Victor Vaquera placed third with a time of 25.54. Paul Faz joined Paderes, Vaquera and Rodriguez for a fourth place finish in the 800M relay in a time of 1:50.6.

Bronco Baseball

Last week the Broncos hosted the Eldorado Eagles and the Reagan County Owls.

The Broncos defeated Eldorado 18-9 on 2-27-07.

The Broncos scored 2 in the first, 2 in the second, and 9 in the third inning highlighted by Tyler Creek's grand slam, double in the fourth and triple in the sixth.

The Broncos beat the Rock-springs Angoras 10-0 on ten-run rule on March 2, 2007.

In JV action, on Friday, March 2nd, the JV Broncos baseball team played their 1st game of the year against Reagan County JV.

Bronco pitching stopped the Owls as Caleb Gonzales pitched 1 inning with strike-outs & Dillon Castillo pitched 4 innings striking out 6, allowing the Owls only 1 run & 1 hit.

Offensively the Broncos bats were held in check the first 2 innings, until Ubaldo Ramos & Caleb Gonzales crossed the plate in the 3rd inning. The Broncos scored 7 runs in the 4th inning as Will Anderson, Ubaldo Ramos, Dustin Neff, Tyler Creek, Jesus Limon, Dillon Castillo crossed the plate. Anderson & Gonzales scored in the 5th, as the Broncos beat Reagan County 11-1.

2007 Bronco Tennis Schedule

Date	Tournament
March 9-10	State Team Tennis (Austin Area)
March 16-17	San Saba
March 23 -24	Reagan Co. (Jv - 3/20)*
March 29-31	Mason*
April 9-10	District (Mason)*
4/25, 26	Regional (Abilene)
5/7-8	State (Austin)
*JV will Play	
Jr High Schedule	
March 31	Eldorado
April 7	TBA
April 14	TBA
April 21	Reagan Co.
April 28	Sonora
May 5	District (Comfort)

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State Capital Highlights
 Texas Press Association

Perry names special master to investigate Youth Commission
 By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN - Rather than place the troubled Texas Youth Commission in conservatorship at the urging of the lieutenant governor and a committee of lawmakers, Gov. Rick Perry appointed Jay Kimbrough as special master to get the agency back in line.

Kimbrough's job will be to investigate sexual abuse of detainees reported at facilities in Giddings, Brownwood and Pyote.

Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle, the state's ethics prosecutor, is conducting his own investigation into allegations that reports of sexual abuse in TYC facilities were altered by state officials.

A former assistant Texas attorney general, Kimbrough also is a former chief of staff for Perry and formerly served as the state's director of homeland security.

AG abates opinion on documents
 Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott took action to help prevent identity theft on Feb. 21 by issuing an opinion saying that county clerks should remove Social Security numbers from copies of documents on file before releasing them to the public.

Abbott's opinion said failure to comply would result in criminal charges. So clerks found themselves in a tough spot when citizens showed up the next day to get courthouse records needed to conduct routine business.

County clerks across Texas had to slow down or shut down all or part of their public information operations, because so many types of documents con-

tain Social Security numbers. Complaints from far and wide flew in, prompting Abbott to abate his opinion for 60 days - supposedly enough time for counties to adjust to the practice of redacting Social Security numbers.

House slows down Jessica's Law

The Texas House on Feb. 28 postponed further deliberation on House Bill 8, a "Jessica's Law" bill by Rep. Debbie Riddle, R-Houston.

After salty debate mainly over the bill's death penalty component and costs of implementation, the House voted 131-10 to wait until March 5 to continue consideration by the full House.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst on Feb. 14 announced the filing of SB 5, the Senate version of Jessica's Law.

Differences between the two bills would have to be reconciled in a final version, but as presently written, the legislation would do the following:

- Require mandatory 25 years to life sentences for a first-time violent sexual offense against a child under age 14;
- Require lifetime GPS monitoring for child sex offenders;
- Allow prosecutors to seek the death penalty for a second sexually violent offense against a child under age 14; and
- Double the statute of limitations on sexual crimes against children from 10 to 20 years.

Jessica's Law is named for 9-year-old Floridian Jessica Lunsford. In March 2005, the child was abducted from her Florida home, raped and murdered by a convicted sex offender.

Conaway Encouraged By New Pilot Program To Screen Illegal Immigrants

MIDLAND, TEXAS - Monday, U.S. Representative Mike Conaway (R-TX) toured Susie's South Forty, a Midland-based candy company, which is one of the first in the nation to participate in a national pilot government program to help eliminate the hiring of illegal immigrants. The owner of the company, Susie Hitchcock-Hall, began using the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agreement between Government and Employers (IMAGE) program in 2006.

"It is a terrific step by free enterprise to voluntarily comply with the laws of the land," said Conaway. "Given the demographic projections in this country, we're going to need immigrant labor as far as the eye can see. This key program will ensure that workers who are here illegally cannot have access to jobs."

According to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement website, IMAGE is a program whose goal is to assist employ-

ers in targeted sectors to develop a more secure and stable workforce and to enhance fraudulent document awareness through education and training. All IMAGE participants gain membership to the Department of Homeland Security Basic Pilot Employment Verification Program. Through this employee authorization verification program, employers can verify that newly hired employees are eligible to work in the United States. This Internet-based system is available in all 50 states and is currently free to employers.

Conaway went on to say, "We are a country of immigrants, but we are also a country of law abiding citizens. We have to craft good public policy that protects our taxpayers, but also recognizes that this country has been built by immigrants and that future immigration is going to be very important to our progress. This program is a good step in securing our nation."

Between saying and doing, many a pair of shoes is worn out.
 -Italian Proverb

Water District Offers Conservation Tips

By Greta Ramsdell

The Texas Water Development Board recently released "Water for Texas 2007", the State Water Plan required by the Texas Water Code.

Sixteen regional planning groups, with over 450 group members, completed plans for their particular regions which were then compiled into the State Water Plan.

The highlights of the plan include projections of water demands increasing by 27 percent as the current state population doubles by the year 2060. Existing water supplies are projected to decrease by approximately 18 percent, mainly due to depletion of aquifers and accumulation of sediments in water reservoirs.

The planning groups identified numerous water management strategies and projects to generate additional water supplies for the state, with estimated costs of \$30.7 billion. Without the completion of these projects, 85 percent of the population could be without adequate water by 2060 in drought conditions.

The Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District participated in the planning process in Region F, which is located in West Texas.

The 32-county region includes the major cities of Big Spring, Brownwood, Midland, Odessa and San Angelo and its major economic activities include service industries, oil and gas and agriculture.

The major water management strategies of Region F include subordination of downstream senior water rights, reuse of treated municipal wastewater, desalination of brackish groundwater and new well fields.

Another major tactic to provide new water supplies is conservation, and that is an area where Sutton County citizens can definitely do their part.

With the spring planting season upon us and summer not far behind, we should all do what we can to use water wisely.

The website www.texasextension.tamu.edu offers many water resources in the Family and Consumer Services section on efficient housing. A checklist is available to remind all water users of small, but critical methods to conserve water. Some of the methods include:

- Plan landscaping and gardening to minimize watering requirements.
- Use native and low water-use plants and turf.
- Vegetables requiring more water should be grouped together in the garden to make efficient use of water applications.
- Mulch shrubs and other plants to retain moisture in the soil longer. Spread leaves, lawn

clippings, chopped bark or cobs, or plastic around the plants. Mulching also controls weeds that compete with garden plants for water. Mulches should permit water to soak into the soil.

• Try trickle or drip irrigation systems in outdoor gardens. These methods use 25 to 50 percent less water than hose or sprinkler methods. The tube for the trickle system has many tiny holes to water closely-spaced plants. Drip system tubing contains holes or openings at strategic places for tomatoes and other plants that are more widely spaced.

• Irrigate with the proper amount and only when necessary.

• Understand different water requirements of "zones" in your landscape, and check automatic sprinkler or drip irrigation systems periodically to ensure plants are receiving the water they need without being over watered.

• If you are using a garden hose or sprinkler, water the garden thoroughly, but less frequently. Don't let water run down driveway or street.

• Lawns should be watered during hours when the water system experiences the least demand avoid watering when windy or in heat of the day and keep track of the time. Set an alarm clock or timer as a reminder. A sprinkler-left on overtime in one spot wastes water.

• Less frequent but heavier lawn watering encourages a deeper root system to withstand dry weather better.

• Collect rain water in a barrel and use it to water your garden.

• Avoid planting turf in areas that are difficult to irrigate properly such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways.

• Aerate clay soils at least once a year to help the soil absorb and retain moisture.

• Use porous materials for walkways and patios to keep water in your yard and prevent wasteful runoff.

If you need additional information on water conservation visit http://fcs.tamu.edu/housing/efficient_housing/water_management/water_conservation_checklist/index.php or call the Water District office at 325/387-2369.

Other activities at the Water District include the upcoming election for directors in precincts 2, 3 and at large. The election will be held on May 12, 2007 at City Hall. The filing deadline for those wishing to file for a position on the ballot is Monday, March 12, 2007 at 5:00 and the applications are available at 301 S. Crockett.

City Leagues Seeks Concessions and Umpires

Sonora City League is interested in contracting Concession Stand Services for the 2007 Baseball/Softball Season. Individual would need to be available to work from 3:30-5:30 on Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Friday. Season starts 04/02/07 and ends approximately on 05/18/07. Anyone interested in submitting an application please contact

Shelly Hughes at 325-387-5008 or nct@sonoratl.net

Also, Sonora City League is interested in contracting Umpire services for the 2007 Baseball/Softball Major League Season. Anyone interested in submitting an application please contact Tommy VanWinkle at 325-387-5267 or nct@sonoratl.net

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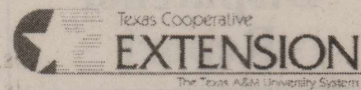
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Oil & Agribusiness

Lawn Fertilization for Spring



By Pascual Hernandez

Spring is right around the corner!! Warmer temperatures mean that the soil will soon warm to a level that our warm season turfgrasses (i.e. St. Augustinegrass, Bermudagrass, buffalograss, zoysiagrass, and centipedegrass) will begin to grow. This also means that one needs to plan their nutrient management program for the year. Taking a soil sample is a good first step in this process. It will provide useful information pertaining to the level of nutrients in your soil and can assist you in developing your yearlong environmentally sensitive approach to nutrient management.

Unfortunately, most people in Texas have never taken a soil sample. It's a very easy task and the information obtained from the analysis is vital in creating an environmentally safe nutrient management program for your turfgrass. Without an analysis of your soil, you could be applying nitrates, phosphates, and other constituents into your soil that are not required. Furthermore, you could be damaging both the turf and the environment if you use inorganic or organic fertilizers inappropriately.

So what's in fertilizer? Nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium (a.k.a. potash) - The three macronutrients are the three elements plants need most. Nitrogen helps plants with rapid growth, increasing seed and fruit production and improving the quality of leaf and forage crops. Phosphorus encourages blooming and root growth. Potassium helps in the building of protein, photosynthesis, fruit quality and reduction of diseases.

Sulfur, calcium, and magnesium are secondary nutrients. Boron, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum and zinc are micronutrients. These micronutrients are needed in smaller amounts.

In the spring, it is recommended to apply your first fertilizer application after your lawn has begun to grow. You may want to wait until after you have mowed your lawn 2 to 3 times. Applying fertilizer too early can cause undue stress to your turf if a late freeze occurs. Also, apply fertilizer in measured amounts to your lawn. This means you need to know the surface area (square feet) of your site and how much of a nutrient your particular turfgrass requires in a given application and in a given year. Remember, not all turfgrasses require the same level of fertility (i.e. nitrogen) in a year-

long program.

So, contact your local County Extension Agent and make the right choice for your turf and your environment—take a soil sample. A routine test will cost around \$10 and you'll have results in about two weeks. It is inexpensive and will pay dividends down the road!

Cattlemen's Capitol Concerns

OIE Panel May Upgrade BSE Rating for United States: A panel for the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) is expected to recommend the United States be designated as a "controlled risk" region for BSE, a classification that should help convince U.S. trading partners that barriers to U.S. beef are unjustified and should be dropped.

In March 2005, NCBA asked USDA to apply to the OIE for a new BSE classification. Since June 1, 2004, the United States tested more than 750,000 high-risk animals as part of its enhanced BSE surveillance program and found only two native cases of BSE. More importantly, the United States has exceeded all OIE requirements in implementing BSE safeguards to ensure the safety of U.S. beef and prevent the spread of BSE in the U.S. cattle herd. "There is no other country in the world that has done more than the United States to analyze the risks of BSE as early as 1986 and take preventive actions dating back to 1989," says NCBA Vice President of Government Affairs Jay Truitt.

A "controlled risk" status - the classification expected by U.S. government and industry officials - is considered favorable in the international community and should help pave the way for trade in all U.S. beef and beef products regardless of age as long as specified risk materials (SRMs) are removed. The OIE will meet in May for its annual general session where OIE's 167 member countries will vote to approve or disapprove of the classification proposed.

On Texas Independence Day, Consider Energy Independence

Railroad Commissioner makes changes, encourages others

AUSTIN, Texas - After three years of driving a flex fuel vehicle, Railroad Commissioner Michael L. Williams recently took his personal efforts towards U.S. energy independence to the next level: buying a hybrid. With over 240,000 hybrids sold last year according to the Electric Drive Transportation Association - an increase of about 20% from 2005 - it's a move that many American are making. Hybrids debuted on the U.S. market in 2000, and have grown in popularity since then.

Williams said, "Purchasing a hybrid was a commonsense choice for my family and can be for other families, too. The innovative technology is proven, so drivers can be confident in the vehicles' reliability. Lower emissions can reduce the suffering of family members with respiratory illnesses. A variety of vehicle models are available, so drivers can choose a design tailored to their specific needs. And the increased fuel economy is great for the family budget."

Hybrids purchased or placed into service after December 31, 2005 may be eligible for a federal income tax credit of up to \$3,400. Credits begin to phase out for a given manufacturer once it has sold over 60,000 eligible vehicles.

According to the IRS, over 44 different models of hybrid vehicles qualified for the tax credit in 2006. These models include the Chevrolet Silverado Hybrid, Ford Escape Hybrid, Honda Accord Hybrid, Honda Civic Hybrid, Honda Insight, Lexus RX 400h, Lexus GS 450h, Mercury Mariner Hybrid, Saturn Vue Green Line, Toyota Prius, Toyota Highlander Hybrid and Toyota Camry Hybrid.

Williams added, "Hybrid investment is a hands-on approach Texans can take in the war against terror and the movement toward energy security and independence. With every drop of foreign oil we don't use, we reduce payments to unfriendly foreign regimes and regain control of our energy future."

DaimlerChrysler is developing its first hybrid, while other manufacturers are working on adding even more hybrids to their lineups.

New hybrids that drivers can expect to see include:

Manufacturer	Model	Type	Estimated Date Available
Chevrolet	Equinox	SUV	2007
Chevrolet	Malibu	Midsize Car	2007
Chevrolet	Tahoe (AHS II)	SUV	2007
GMC	Yukon Hybrid (AHS II)	SUV	2007
Chevrolet	Silverado Hybrid (AHS II)	P/U	2008
Dodge	Duragon Two-Mode Hybrid	SUV	2008
Ford	Fusion	Midsize Car	2008
GMC	Sierra Hybrid (AHS II)	Fullsize Pickup	2008
Mercury	Milan Hybrid	Midsize Car	2008

RRC Production Statistics and Allowables for March 2007

AUSTIN -- The Texas average rig count as of Feb. 16 was 801, representing about 46 percent of all active land rigs in the United States. In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 342 million barrels of oil and 6.1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Texas natural gas production represents approximately 29 percent of total U.S. natural gas demand.

The Commissions estimated final production for December 2006 is 28,387,467 barrels of crude oil and 477,813,342 Mcf (thousand cubicfeet) of gas well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary December 2006 production totals of 26,790,739 barrels of crude oil and 413,404,864 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.0596 for crude oil and 1.1558 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage reported by the Commission for January 2007 is 311,741,855 Mcf compared to 280,470,199 Mcf in January 2006. The February 2007 gas storage estimate is 279,086,243 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Commissions Oil and Gas Division set initial March 2007 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 22,537,413 Mcf (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial March 2007 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for March 2007 is reported.

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Market Report

3/5/07

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Sheep:

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- #1 Spring Lambs 70-90 lbs. 1.10-1.18
- #1 Old Crop Lambs 50-70 lbs. .92-1.05
- #1 Old Crop Lambs 70-90 lbs. .80-.95
- Fat Ewes -.45-.55
- Thin Ewes -.25-.35
- Bucks -.30-.50

Goats:

- Baby Tooth Angora- no test
- Solid Mouth Angora
- Stocker Nannies -.40-.50
- Stocker Angora Muttons -.55-.65
- Angora Kids - 1.20-1.40
- Angora Kids Shorn .85-1.30
- Weighting Angoras-Shorn (Thin) -.15-.22
- Weighting Angoras-Shorn (Fat) Nannies -.35-.45
- Stocker Spanish Nannies .60-.85
- Fat Spanish Nannies .52-.68
- Fat Spanish Muttons & Billies .75-.85 mutt. .90-1.10
- Fat Yearlings - 1.10-1.25
- Fat Spanish Kids -1.35-1.50
- Small Kids- 1.20-1.40
- Thin Kids - 1.05-1.25
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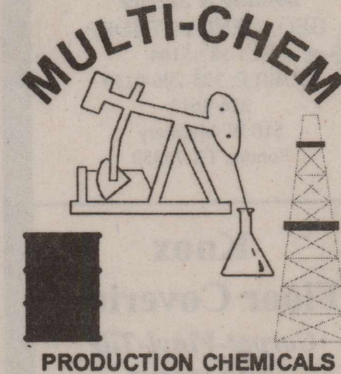
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Sutton

- New 1 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9175' Duke Wilson -189- #20 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 120 03/05/07 Assigned
- 2 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9150' Duke Wilson -172- #20 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 39 02/25/07 6 Drlg Ahead
- 3 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8975' Duke Wilson -189- #25 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 120 02/23/07 8 Drlg Ahead
- 4 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8750' Edwin S Hill-mayer Jr -gg- #5 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 108 02/25/07 6 Drlg Ahead
- 5 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8650' Richardson -6- #8 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 122 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- 6 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8550' Simmons Ranch #113 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 40 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- New 7 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 7350' Mittel #150-1 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 105 03/01/07 2 Drlg Ahead
- New 8 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 7050' Canyon Ranch #2153s Dw Patterson Drilling/a 161 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- New 9 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6950' Canyon Ranch -207- #9s Patterson Drilling/a 107 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- 10 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6900' Reed -116- #27 Dw Helmerich & Payne(A) 301 02/25/07 6 Drlg Ahead
- 11 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6825' Kelly -115- #24 Dw Helmerich & Payne(A) 302 02/22/07 9 Drlg Ahead
- 12 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6825' Kelly -115- #25 Dw Helmerich & Payne(A) 302 03/06/07 Assigned
- 13 O'ryan Oil & Gas 5000' Wilson #6 Apollo Drilling 1 02/13/07 18 Drlg Ahead
- New 14 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 4950' Canyon Ranch -2- #3s Dw Patterson Drilling/a 115 03/01/07 2 Drlg Ahead

Crockett

- 1 Bp America Prod/mid 13200' Brown Bassett Pecos Unit #1 H Dw Helmerich & Payne(A) 214 02/01/07 30 Drlg Ahead
- 2 Fiml Natural Res 11000' Ward #2116 Dw Grey Wolf Drilling/m 627 02/10/07 21 Drlg Ahead
- 3 Henry Petroleum 11000' Univ6 Nicole36 #6 Dw Patterson Uti/midlan 57 02/18/07 13 Drlg Ahead 9560'
- New 4 Anadarko E & P Co Lp 9000' Perry -21- #21 Patterson Drilling/a 109 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- 5 Winn Exploration Co 8990' Marley #1 Ft Heart Land Drilling 8 02/25/07 6 Drlg Ahead 1700'
- New 6 Chevron/midland 8500' Davidson -ab- L1 Unit -2- #1 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 353 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- New 7 Eog Resources/mid 6200' Shannon Hospital -2- #2 Dw Capstar Drilling 11 02/20/07 11 Drlg Ahead 5989'
- 8 Fiml Natural Res6200' Seahorn -h- #385c Dw Patterson Drilling/a 721 02/18/07 13 Drlg Ahead
- New 9 Oxy Permian/houston5800' South Cross Unit #242 Dw Capstar Drilling 27 02/26/07 5 Drlg Ahead 2169'
- New 10 Approach Operating #??? Dw Patterson Drilling/a 710 03/03/07 Moving On

Terrell

- 1 Exxonmobil Dev Co 15700' Bassett Goode #5 H Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 641 02/28/07 3 Drlg Ahead
- 2 Energico Production 13900' Slaughter -63- #1 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 420 11/23/06 100 Drlg Ahead
- New 3 Conocophillips/odes 11800' University -5- #3 Dw Patterson Uti/lv 481 03/03/07 Rigging Up
- 4 Fasken Oil & Ranch 7500' Brown Nw -213- #61 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 102 02/23/07 8 Drlg Ahead
- New 5 Encore Operating Lp6700' Brown Bassett #11 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 709 02/26/07 5 Drlg Ahead

Schleicher

- New 1 Dominion Ok Tx E&p#??? Dw Patterson Drilling/a742 03/03/07 Moving On

Edwards

- 1 Newfield 10000' Four Square Ranch #21 H Dw Patterson Drilling/a 118 02/05/07 26 Drlg Ahead
- 2 Newfield 10000' Shawn #7502 H Dw Patterson Drilling/a 471 01/26/07 36 Drlg Ahead

Val Verde

- New 1 Echo Production 13800' Bledsoe Dobbins Unit #1 Patterson Drilling/a 169 02/27/07 4 Drlg Ahead

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Are You Doomed to Gain Weight as You Get Older?

Submitted By: **Kelly L Thorp, MS**
County Extension Agent-FCS
Texas Cooperative Extension-Sutton County

While experts cannot agree how much to blame increasing age for weight gain, every middle aged or older person knows maintaining a healthy weight becomes harder every year. This weight gain occurs for many reasons. Weight tends to go up with age because metabolism slows down a little each year, but we eat the same amount of calories. Women seem to have more of a problem with weight gain than men, probably because a woman's body normally has more fat and less muscle than a man's. Muscle uses more calories than fat. People with more muscle tend to burn more calories.

Excess weight is hazardous to one's health. Weight gained in the abdominal area is considered to be the most dangerous.

While a tendency to gain weight is inevitable, weight loss is not. Key strategies for weight loss according to the 629 women in the National Weight Control Registry, average age 44 years, who successfully lost an average of 65 pounds and kept it off for 5.5 years are simple. Reduce calories, fat intake, and the size of food portions, avoid pig out foods, and increase physical activity levels.

Does controlling calories mean a starvation diet? No. In fact, losing weight slowly, about 2 pounds a week, by cutting calories and increasing physical activity produces better results than trying to starve. If the body senses it is being starved, metabolism decreases and cravings for sugar and fat increase. Women in the National Weight Control Registry ate an average of five meals a day, and they did not skip meals.

How can you increase your metabolism, increase muscle mass, and decrease abdominal fat? Two kinds of physical activity help. First, an aerobic activity like walking is important. Adding strength training is the second type.

Whether you try to lose weight by reducing calories or increasing physical activity or both, realize that both are easily given up if you go too fast. Slow and easy produces the best results. According to research spending enough time getting ready to make the change and learning about your options produces the best results. Having a partner or group to support your changes works best too.

If you would like the support of others wanting to get started on the road to better health and increasing physical activity, call your county Extension agent at 325-387-3101 or the Wellness Center at 387-BFIT for information about Walk Across Texas.

Walk Across Texas is an 8 week team walking activity you can do with friends, family, or coworkers.

This year, we have added "Healthy Habits for Life" that you can do at the same time. This "Lunch and Learn Series" will be held on Wednesdays from 12:00-1:00 PM at the Wellness Center. Whether you want to walk for fitness or to lose weight, you will find Walk Across Texas a great way to get started on the road to better health.

City Police Dispatcher Report

Arrest(s):

February 26, 2007

• 9:15 PM: Jose Antonio Ramirez, 56, from Sonora, Texas was arrested for Assault and Resisting Arrest.

February 27, 2007

• 9:20 PM: Richard Alan Miller, 32, from Eldorado, Texas was arrested for three Tom Green County warrants for Open Container, Unrestrained Child Under 2 years, and Violate Promise to Appear.

February 28, 2007

• 7:05 AM: Ricardo Fernando Steele, 54, from Sonora, Texas was arrested for two Schleicher County warrants for Terroristic Threat and Phone Harassment.

Incidents:

February 26, 2007

• 11:02 AM: Caller reported a minor traffic accident at Town & Country. Officer responded.
• 9:15 AM: Caller reported a family disturbance. Officer responded.

February 27, 2007

• 8:10 AM: Caller requested an officer at residence. Officer responded.
• 10:46 AM: Caller reported a cat in animal trap. Animal Control Officer responded.
• 11:17 AM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Deputy responded.
• 7:40 PM: Caller reported suspicious persons. Officer responded.

February 28, 2007

• 2:00 PM: Caller reported an 18-wheeler blocking drive way. Officer responded.
• 3:15 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
• 6:35 PM: Caller reported a minor traffic accident on Tayloe Avenue. Officer responded.
• 7:15 PM: Caller reported a minor accident at Best Western. Officer responded.

March 1, 2007

• 8:22 AM: Caller reported a possum behind a residence. Animal Control Officer responded.
• 9:50 AM: Caller reported a cat in animal trap. Animal Control Officer responded.
• 5:25 PM: Caller reported vandalism on vehicle. Officer responded.
• 6:10 PM: Caller reported a family disturbance. Officer responded.
• 10:10 PM: Caller reported loud music. Officer responded.

March 2, 2007

• 8:55 PM: Caller reported solicitors. Officer responded.

March 3, 2007

• 7:30 AM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
• 12:35 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.

March 4, 2007

• 3:33 AM: Caller reported a burglary. Officers responded.
• 10:35 AM: Caller requested welfare assistance. Officer responded.
• 1:00 PM: Caller reported 4-wheelers. Officer responded.

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Allison Well Service 325-446-2382 All your pump and windmill needs.	Community Rental & Supply 387-5577 Lolabeth Jones Party and Event Rental Tables, Chairs, Tablecloths, etc....
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CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

March Madness Comes to Texas

By Senator **Kay Bailey Hutchison**

Football has long been the essential sport for Texans. It has even been said that there are only two sports in Texas – football and spring football. Though football remains as popular today as ever, our state has also developed into a basketball hotbed. Some of the best basketball in America is played in the Lone Star State, and this month Texans will experience March Madness.

Each March, 65 men's and 64 women's college basketball teams from across the nation compete in three-week tournaments to crown national champions. These captivating tournaments are coined March Madness because of their unpredictable nature. This year's tournaments are sure to have a distinct Texas flavor.

One of the biggest stories of this season has been Texas Tech coach Bob Knight's ascension to the all-time winningest men's coach. Coach Knight surpassed former North Carolina coach Dean Smith with his 880th career victory on January 1, and since then has added to his record victory total.

University of Texas women's coach Jody Conradt, who ranks No. 2 all-time among women's coaches in victories, is closing in on her 900th career win. She ended the regular season with 899 career victories, and with one more win she will become just the second collegiate coach to ever reach the 900-win plateau.

Texas A&M has also achieved an unprecedented level

of success this season. For the first time, both the University of Texas and Texas A&M are vying for the Big 12 championship.

Under the leadership of coaches Billy Gillispie and Gary Blair, the A&M men's and women's basketball teams have each earned their highest rankings in school history. Coach Gillispie and the men's team earned a ranking as high as No. 6 in the nation this season, while Coach Blair and the Lady Aggies have climbed as high as No. 10. Texas A&M has a long and proud football tradition, and the Aggies are now making a mark in Big 12 basketball.

Other notable storylines this March will include the University of Texas men's basketball team and its star freshman Kevin Durant, who has appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated and is considered a candidate for national player of the year. Meanwhile, the Baylor women's basketball team is nationally ranked and in pursuit of its second national championship in three years. In 2005, Coach Kim Mulkey led the Lady Bears all the way to the national title, a victory that remains the only national basketball championship – men's or women's – in the history of the Big 12 conference. And she made history as the first woman to win a national championship as both a player and as a coach.

In Texas, March Madness is not limited to college basketball. High school boys and girls basketball teams will compete this month for University Interscholastic League state championships. Over back-to-back week-

ends, the final four high school teams of all classifications flock to Austin to compete for state titles. These teams, which represent small Class A schools with enrollments of less than 200 students to Class 5A schools with enrollments over 2,000 students, enjoy tremendous support from their communities, who make state tournament weekends some of our capital's busiest times of the year.

The winningest high school basketball coaches in the nation are also Texans. Former Fort Worth Dunbar coach Robert Hughes, who retired in 2005, holds the boys all-time record with 1,333 victories, while Granbury coach Leta Andrews, who became the all-time winningest girls coach last season, ended this season with 1,257 career victories.

In the NBA, the Dallas Mavericks, San Antonio Spurs and Houston Rockets are three of the top teams this season. After reaching their first NBA finals last season, the Mavericks are pursuing their first-ever championship behind Dirk Nowitzki, who is a leading candidate for NBA Most Valuable Player. They are sure to face tough competition from the Spurs, who have won three NBA championships (1999, 2003, 2005), and the Rockets, who have won two (1994 and 1995).

As our state's basketball teams continue to excel at all levels, Texans will look forward to the bloom of spring not only for warm weather but also for the annual arrival of March Madness.

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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.

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228 E. Main St.

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF CONVERSION Notice is hereby given that the sole proprietorship of Anita B. Hudson, d.b.a. MAIN STREET REALTY, whose business address is 215 E. Main Street, Sonora, Sutton County, Texas 76950, will be wound up and that the business will be continued as a Texas Limited Liability Company on January 30, 2007, under the name, MAIN STREET REALTY, LLC. DATED this 30th day of January, 2007.
Anita B. Hudson, Manager

Employment

EMT COORDINATOR WANTED: Ozona is seeking full-time EMS coordinator. Needs to be EMT certified. Applications may be picked up with Melissa Ybarra at the Crockett County Center business office job description is available with applications. No phone calls please. Crockett County EMS is an EOE.

CDL DRIVER NEEDED! Service company needs motivated CDL drivers and forklift drivers. Must have clean driving record and at least 3 years verifiable experience. Offers competitive pay with overtime and health insurance. Drug free, dependable and serious persons fax qualifications to 325.387-3813 or call 325.387.5648. All inquiries are kept confidential.

Employment

Help Wanted: Full time and part time. Apply at Mr. D's, 216 Hwy. 277 N. from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.

Local company seeks workers: Will train. Must be 18 years or older, have a current TX drivers license and a clean driving record. Call 325-387-3154 for more information or stop by 307 E. Chestnut St. for application.

Hiring Commercial Drivers: Current Class A CDL w/Haz Mat/Tanker. Want great pay and cash incentives? No 24-hour call. Established company looking to hire drivers. All applicants must pass drug/alcohol test. Please call Justin (432) 339-0540 or 800-523-5566 ext. 140.

The Glover Company is seeking qualified and experienced CDL applicants. For Trans-VAC Drivers, Winch Truck Drivers, Swabbing Unit operators, and Swabbing Unit helpers. We Provide: Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Paid Vacation, Uniforms and Christmas Bonus. Please apply in person to 2973 I-10 or phone at (325) 392-2561.

EXPERIENCED DRIVERS NEEDED! Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operation pump trucks & winch trucks. 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.

Caverns of Sonora hiring weekday and weekend guides. Please apply in person. 325-387-3105

Employment

The Sutton County Sheriff's Office is now accepting applications for the position of Jailer. A thorough background investigation will be conducted and the chosen applicant will be required to attend a two week long jailer's school and must pass a state certification test. The position will include shift work and working alone in the jail. This position also includes a basic working knowledge of computers. Sutton County provides employees paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance and retirement. Sutton County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications may be obtained at the Sutton County Sheriff's Office, 309 N. E. Oak Street, Sonora, Texas, or by calling (325) 387-2288, through March 20, 2007, from 8A to 5P.

For Sale

Bulls for Sale: Angus and polled Hereford approximately 18 months old. Call Glen Fisher at 325-387-3242 or 325-650-8275

2001 Silverado LS 1500 HD Crew Cab 43K miles, \$15,000. Call Hoot Hearn @ 325-949-9214

4x8 pool table, 3/4" slate, good felt, all accessories, \$500 you move it, call 387-3655

For Sale

Chest of Drawers (2), double dresser/mirror/night stand, mahogany gate-leg table and 6 chairs \$299, 2 built in dishwashers cream & gray sofa, several rockers, antique kidney shaped desk and chair, maple bar stools, shadow box table, maple dining table and 4 chairs w/leaf, cute red Broyhill desk, beautiful painted chest, must see round glass and brass coffee table, Yamaha Electric Keyboard w/seat \$99, Little Tyke Country Kitchen \$69.99, beautiful oval marble and wooden carved antique coffee table, Lots more. Please call ahead before bringing in clothing or furniture. All must be in good condition. **SECOND HAND ROSE** 853-3736.

Realty, Schleicher County, land for sale, 132.71 acres, Ranch Range land, Hwy. Frontage located on good hunting area. Midwest Realty, Johnny Mayo Jr. agent 650-6867

Pets

KRITTERS KOTTAGE BOARDING RESORT: In Ozona - Boarding 7 days a week; Grooming and Bathing by appointment Mon-Fri; Doggy Day-Care Mon-Fri; For more information call 325-392-2432 or 325-226-3618.

For Sale

Beautiful Rock and Cedar ranch home, steel framed construction, tile and wood floors, big porches, views, new lake, oak trees on 103.52 acres, fenced, electric gate entrance, rock patios, firepit, storage shed, boat storage, excellent hunting, Hwy. 277 frontage, up to 483 acres available, 45 minutes from Sonora. \$395,000. For appointment call 830-395-2366, Sage County Homes, visit at www.steelframedhomesofwesttexas.com

House for sale in Eldorado, manufactured home, 2180 sq. ft. on 4 lots. 3/2, 3 car carport, garage, metal fence, large kitchen, fireplace, metal storage building, 2 luminaries, located at 608 Nance, 325-853-2438 or 387-3436

Business for Sale: Chavarria's Grocery, 1200 Hwy. 277 South, Sonora, TX 76950. Call (325) 387-2603 or 387-3436

Wanted

Looking to buy 500 + acres in Sonora area. Call Ray @ 281-793-5133. No brokers please.

Looking for long term grass lease - for 50-100 Animal Units. Douglas D. Buchholz Call 325-853-2243 or 325-650-7572.

For Rent

Ruidoso, NM nightly Private cabins with nice hot tubs \$135 Antler & Echo 3/2.5 for 2-6 \$150 Beckham Hill 3/2.5 for 2-10 \$165 Beckham Cabin 4/2 sleeps 2-9 \$125 The Bare Bear 2/2 sleeps 2-6 Call 505-257-9171 or 505-257-7577

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, Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 432-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 432-336-7821.

Help Wanted: Opening for Pharmacy Technician. Certified preferred, but will train the right applicant. Please come by Everett's Pharmacy, 417 Hwy. 277 North, to pick up application.

C.N.A.'s Needed, Crockett County Care Center in Ozona, TX is looking for good C.N.A.'s that are willing to earn top dollar in long term care coupled with paid employee health insurance, personal time off and mileage allowance. CCCC is fresh off a deficiency free survey and is looking to repeat the same in 2007. Interested? Please call direct (no long distance), 392-2671 or drop by 103 N. Ave. H and ask for Vicki or Benny. CCCC is an EOE.

Schleicher County Nursing Home needing C.N.A.'s 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. shift and 6 p.m. - 6 a.m. shift. We pay weekend differential and night differential. Call 325-853-2507, Anita Jones ext. 138 or Sara Huge ext. 137 or call 325-853-3026.

Southwest Fabricators is hiring experienced welders. Full-time, part-time, second shift welders and weekend welder positions available. Call 800-815-4348 for details or come to our plant at 2169 E. Industrial Rd.



House For Sale

It is finally time to sell... This home is in the Castlehill Subdivision, 308 Edgemont. It has 3 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths, Sunroom, Study, Formal Dining Room, 2 Car Garage, Huge Kitchen, Completely Updated with many EXTRAS! 387-5553

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This income producing property is ideally located on a large 15,000 sq. ft. lot. Included with this sale are three separate homes which are currently being used as rental property. All three houses have fenced yards and are currently occupied with tenants. This property offers a great opportunity in an established income producing investment. Located on a major thoroughfare, this prime location is an added benefit to enhance the potential for commercial use.

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CONSERVATION WORK**



LaDonna Alaman of the First National Bank presents Juanita Mesa, Maggie Martinez and Victoria Romero of the Sutton County Senior Center a check from the Feb. popcorn sales.

F.Y.I.

Al-Anon Meetings - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesdays - L.M. Hudspeth (old part) cafeteria.

A Weight Watchers Meeting will be held every Monday evening at the LMH Wellness Center meeting room. Weigh-in at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 387-BFIT or 387-2521.

Reading Friends, a Sonora book club, meets quarterly at St. John's Episcopal Parish Hall. Our next meeting is on Monday, April 16 at 6:30 p.m. The book we will discuss is "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini. If you would like to participate, you may call Lewis Allen at 387-3948 or just show up at the meeting.

Attention all seniors! The deadline to apply for the Vernon West Memorial Scholarship is fast approaching. Scholarships will be given to numerous recipients. In honor of Vernon West, the committee would like to award students involved in ranching, rodeo, or 4-H and FFA with an opportunity to fulfill college dreams. The late Vernon West was involved in helping many youngsters reach their aspirations in rodeo and education. The scholarship application is available at all local high school counselor's offices. Hurry, the deadline is March 10, 2007 and should be mailed to: Vernon West Memorial Scholarship Committee P.O. Box 903 Sonora, Texas, 76950.

The Kick Off Meeting for Walk Across Texas will be held on Monday, March 12th at 6 pm at The Health and Wellness Center. Registration will begin at 5:30pm on Monday, March 12th at the Wellness Center (before the Kick Off Meeting). Bring individual and team registration forms along with the entry fee. There will be a short meeting and light refreshments will be served. Please wear comfortable shoes to kick off the program with a 1 mile walk. There will be a \$25 entry fee for each team. For more information call 387-BFIT.

\$1000 Reward for the information leading to the arrest of person or persons involved in the theft of a 2006 white Chevrolet extended cab 4x4 pickup, stolen Feb.12 from the Glover Co. in Ozona. All callers will remain anonymous. Contact Mike Glover at 325-650-2288 with any information.

Sonora High School Class of 1997 is having a 10 year reunion during the 2007 Sutton County Days. Michele Cramer Spillman is in need of addresses, phone numbers or email addresses to contact classmates for the upcoming reunion. Michele may be emailed at michelespillman@gardere.com or after 6 p.m. at 214-515-5593.

The Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District will have an election on Saturday, May 12, 2007 to elect directors from Precincts 2, 3 and at-large. Those wishing to file for a position on the ballot may do so at the Water District office at 301 S. Crockett. The filing deadline for a place on the May 12th ballot is Monday, March 12, 2007.

Order Grass & Wildflower Seed Now! The Edwards Plateau Soil & Water Conservation District can order native grass seed (for lawn or pasture) and wildflower seed at a great price and no shipping cost. We can customize your order from an extensive list of seeds, and we will be happy to give you an estimate. Usually, seed arrives within a week of the date ordered. This is the time to secure seed before supplies are limited, and now is the time to plant before the weather gets too hot. For more information, please come by our office at 301 Crockett in Sonora, or call 387-2730

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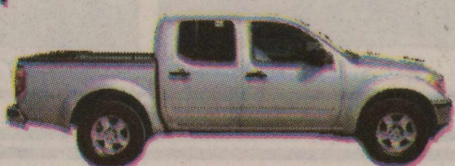
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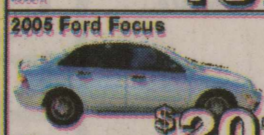


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