

The Devil's River News

Volume 122 • Issue 1

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, January 7, 2010

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New City Manager to Focus On The Future of Sonora



Judy Miller took over the city manager position vacated by interim Joe Pence on January 4, 2010.

By Ben D. Taylor

Our species' success has always depended on our ability to group together for a common goal, and ever since people have banded together there have been leaders. From villages to continent spanning governments, that success has depended on our leaders' ability to orchestrate the desires

of the people into successful action. That is the basic nature and need for any government no matter the size. Our city government has invested in a new leader to manage the goals and plans for the people of Sonora.

Judy Miller has taken the helm of City Manager (ef-

fective January 4, 2010) and brings a lifetime of experience with city management with her. Judy's latest post was in Marble Falls, where she spent 10 years as the acting city manager. In the ten years she spent in Marble Falls, the city was the center of an enormous growth of

population and industry. She retired from Marble Falls, "I just needed a break, but retirement was not all that it was cracked up to be. I am not meant for retirement, so I went to work for Texas First and went to Madisonville as an interim City Manager for four months". It was at Madisonville that she decided to get back into City Management full time, "I thought it was going to be exciting to work as an interim. To go from city to city would keep me on my toes, as every situation was different. When it was time for me to leave, I became sad with the prospect of leaving that community because I had to leave some of the projects I started. So, when I saw the Sonora job open up I jumped at it."

A native of San Angelo, Judy has roots founded in West Texas. Her grandfather (A.J. Adkins) was born in Moody, Texas and eventually settled in Eldorado where he served as the city Secretary. "I remember coming down here to visit my grandfather, and I have always loved this area." Her love of the Edwards Plateau compelled her to buy a retirement home south of Rocksprings. "I

wanted to get closer to my house in Rocksprings, and I have always loved Sonora so it was a perfect match."

When I asked her what thought our priorities as a community should be she responded, "I'm not going to answer that. I have to talk to the city council and figure out what their goals and priorities are, but I am currently working with the comprehensive plan Sonora put together some years ago. That will serve as a benchmark to our success as a community. I also want to add to this plan by meeting with citizens and implementing their ideas."

She sees her job as a coordination of the needs of the community through the mandate of the city council, "My job is to orchestrate all of the cities assets in concert in order to reach the desires of the community." Customer service was one thing that she spoke in length about. "Customer service is my number one priority. Working for any government, you have to understand where you are accountable, and it's vitally important to realize that we are all ultimately accountable to the citizens."

School Board Approves: Volleyball, Power Lifting, and Junior High Golf



Adapted from Official School Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Sonora School District Board of Trustees convened on December 14, 2009 at the vocational building. Athletic Director David Sine presented information regarding athletic activities, specifically the addition of Junior High and High School Volleyball, High School Power Lifting, and Junior High Golf. The board discussed the pros and cons of these additions, and after a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Jerry Jiminez to add the new sports with the stipulation that no new per-

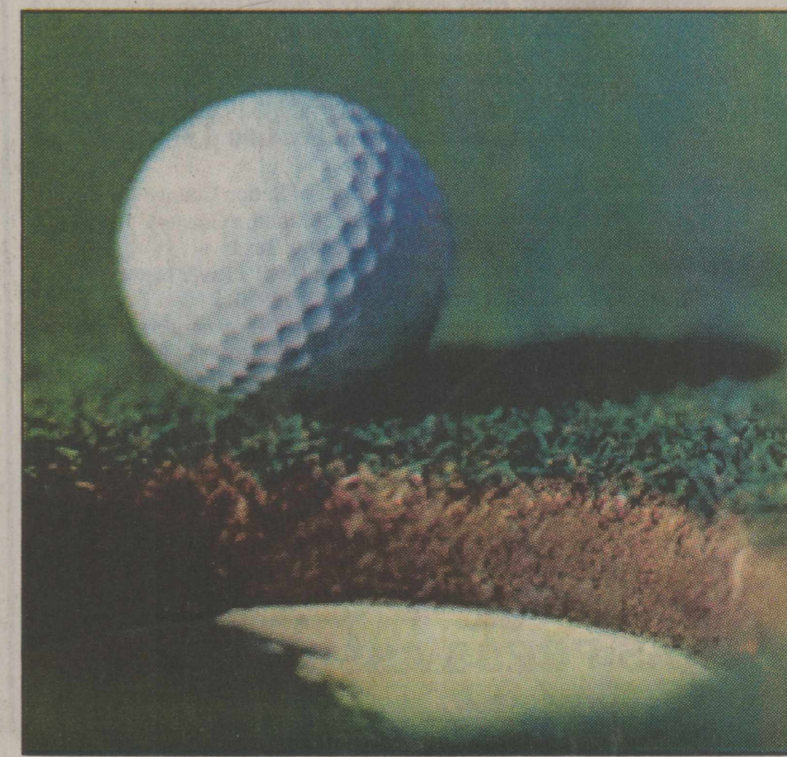
sonnel would be hired to coach these sports. The motion was seconded by Carol Pope, and was passed on a 6 to 1 margin (Jennings was the dissenting vote).

In other business, Jeff McComb and Scott Naab, TRANE Company representatives, presented proposals to upgrade and improve the heating and cooling system at the High School, Middle School, and Middle School Gym. Additionally, Mr. Gibson informed the Board that he and the Business manager had met with

both the President and the CEO of the Bank and Trust and had been informed that there was stimulus money available for the school districts to finance such items as this project.

Following a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Dawn Cahill to proceed with the project as presented, the motion was seconded by Jesse Bustamante and carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m. after a motion by Carol Pope and a second by Dawn Cahill.



Lighthouse Community Church

CAN A LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
Be Real, Personal & Practical?
THE ANSWER IS YES!

1705 N. Crockett

Senior Center Activities

Thur. Jan. 7- Crafts anyone?
Fri. Jan. 8- Elvis Presley birthday
Mon. Jan. 11- Bingo
Tues. Jan. 12- Exercise w/video
Wed. Jan. 13- Need volunteers to deliver meals 387-5657

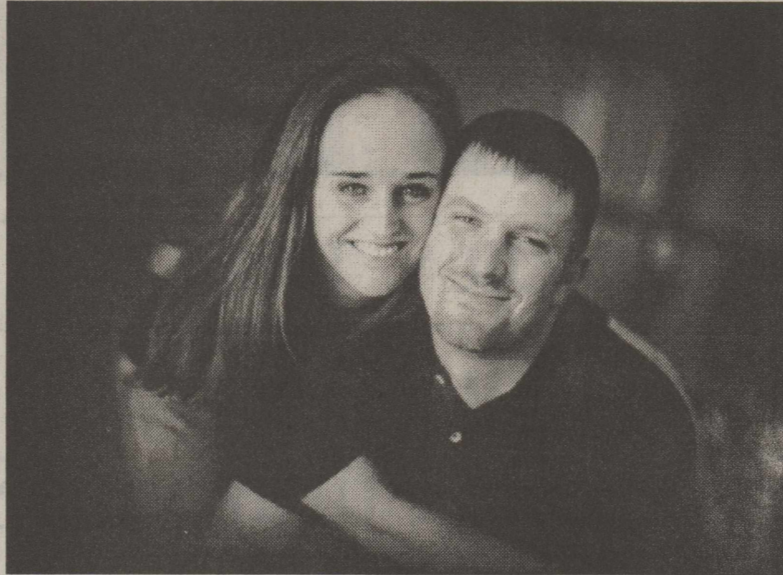
Senior Center Menu

Thur. Jan. 7 - Beef noodles w/gravy, peas, rolls, tossed salad, banana pudding, milk
Fri. Jan. 8 - Chicken fajitas w/onion, peppers, rice, milk fried beans w/cheese, salad, flour tortilla, pie
Mon. Jan. 11 - Spinich meatballs, rice, rolls, green beans, sliced pineapple rings, milk
Tues. Jan. 12 - Beef burrito, pinto beans, spinach, coleslaw, Jell-O w. fruit and milk
Wed. Dec. 13- Porkchop w/gravy, noodles, carrots, bread, tossed salad, applesauce, milk

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 \$2.00; \$5.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go).

Engagement

Day & Sims



Lauren Brooke Day and Justin Allan Sims

Lauren Brooke Day and Justin Allan Sims will be married June 5, 2010 at The Legacy in Lubbock, Texas at 6 p.m. The bride-elect is the daughter of Rick and Teressa Day of Lubbock, Texas. The prospective bridegroom is the son of Jimmy and Mary Jean Sims of Sonora, Texas.

Lauren is a 2003 graduate of Lubbock Monterrey High School and earned her B.S. in Biomedical Science from Texas A&M University in May of 2007. She is currently a third year dental student at UT Health Science Center San Antonio Dental School.

Justin is a 2003 graduate of Sonora High School and attended Texas A&M University. He is currently employed with Lee George Construction in Big Spring, TX.

The secret of happiness is to make others believe they are the cause of it.

— Batt, Al

Obituary

Marie "Nana" Barrera

Marie "Nana" Barrera went to be with our Lord on Thursday, December 31, 2009, at the age of 59 with her family by her side.

Marie was born on May 9, 1950 to Jose Guadalupe Espinosa, Sr. and Juanita Martinez Shurley. Marie is preceded in death by her father and sister, Maria Patricia Espinosa. She resided in Eldorado, Texas where she battled cancer for many years.

Marie was a cherished wife, mom, sister, nana, aunt, and friend. She touched so many lives. She was active in many local and state politics and was involved with the church. Her pride and joy were her sons and their accomplishments.

Marie is survived by her loving husband, Ernest Barrera of 36 years of Eldorado, Texas; her two sons Gerardo Barrera of San Angelo, Texas and Diego Barrera of College Station, Texas whom she loved and cherished. She is also survived by two brothers Guadalupe Espinosa, Jr. and wife Rosemary of San Angelo, Texas; Gabriel Espinosa and wife Sandi of Sonora, Texas; two sisters Betty E. Lopez and husband John Jr. of Sonora, Texas; Vivian E. Rodriguez and husband Johnny of San Angelo, Texas; two half brothers Robert L. Espinosa and fiancé Annette Siller of San Angelo, Texas; Ynes L. Espinosa and wife Rachael of San Angelo, Texas; three half-sisters Delia A. Espinosa and fiancé Danny Ramirez of San Angelo, Texas; Patricia G. Gray and husband Robert of San Angelo, Texas; Nora A. Espinosa and fiancé Jaime Trevino of San Angelo, Texas. Marie was also blessed with numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 2, 2010 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Sonora, Texas.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

Thank You Notes

We the family of Marie Barrera, wish to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to all our dear relatives, friends and neighbors for expressions of sympathy shown to us during the sad hours of our profound sorrow in the loss of our beloved wife, mom, daughter, sister, and aunt. We would also like to thank everyone for the lovely flowers and wonderful food. In addition, we would like to express a special thank you to Hospice who cared for her during her last days. Also, to a dear friend, Dora Bosmans, thank you for always being there during her illness.

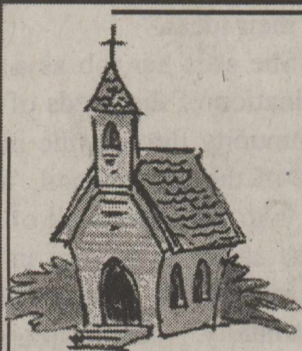
Sincerely,
The Barrera and Espinosa Families

We would like to thank the generous people of Sonora for helping us with the project "Mi juguete por tu sonrisa" (my toy for your smile). The project was a great success. We were very pleased to deliver the toys to children in need in our hometown Rio Bravo, Coahuila, Mexico. Words can't describe their smiling faces when they received their gifts. We felt a great satisfaction to help them during this time of season since we know that some of their parents will never be able to buy them a Christmas present. Thanks again for all your help and for making this project a wonderful experience for all the ones involved.

Sincerely,
Leticia Garcla y Lourdes López

Nos gustaría agradecer a la gente generosa de Sonora por ayudarnos con el proyecto "Mi juguete por tu sonrisa". El proyecto fue un gran suceso. Estuvimos muy contentos de entregar los juguetes a los niños necesitados en nuestra comunidad, Rio Bravo, Coahuila, México. Las palabras no pueden describir las caritas sonrientes de los niños al recibir sus regalos. Sentimos una gran satisfacción al ayudarlos durante esta temporada porque sabemos que algunos padres nunca podrán comprarles un regalo de navidad. Gracias nuevamente por ayudarnos a que este proyecto fuera una magnífica experiencia para todas las personas envueltas

Sinceramente,
Leticia Garcla y Lourdes López



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
11 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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Your memorial gift helps preserve access to quality health care for generations to come.
Please consider the Sutton County Health Foundation,
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All contributions are 100% tax deductible.

First United Methodist Church

201 NW Water Ave.
(325) 387-2466
Ray Wells, Pastor

- | | |
|--|--|
| Sunday | <i>Nursery available from 9:30 - 12:30</i> |
| 9:45 Sunday School | |
| 10:55 Worship | Tuesday |
| 6:00 Bible Study | 12:00 Lion's Club |
| | Wednesday |
| | 5:00 Choir Practice |
| 6:00 Beth Moore Study - Fellowship Hall | |
| 6:00 Jr. High Youth - <i>St. John's Sunday House</i> | |
| 7:00 Sr. High Youth - <i>St. John's Sunday House</i> | |

Happy Birthday!

January 7
Beth Wallace, Bethany Deel, Rosa Tamez, Bud McGinnis, Maci Zuniga, Martha Gonzalez

January 8
Whiskey Hill, Lisa Karnes, Kathy Marshall, Will Allen, Michelle Lipham, Barry Noriega, Kole Gann, Riley W. Byrne

January 9
Mark Holman, Sheryl Bawcom, Peter Perez, Mason Arispe, Anissa Reyes, Danny Ellison, Crispin Lira, Jr., Sue Smith, Leandro Alvizo, Dorothy Jimenez

January 10
Adam Mirike, Delma Chavez, Amy Davenport, Myrna Galindo, Jacob Lopez, Andrew Mata, Evangelina Martinez, Natalie Smith, Jenny Wipff

January 11
Barbara Urbanski, Nolan Kinder, Krystal Gibbens, Ty Fincher, Michelle Lopez, Debra Harris, Mary Hernandez, Brenda Johnson, Charles Pajestka, MD

January 12
Maria Zaragoza, Kaitlyn Leigh Lopez, Stephanie Hulsey, Marty Lipham, Felicia Farley, Hector Alcadio Mendez, Darian Lee Reyes

January 13
Tim Cole, Thomas Schenkel, Cheryl Lock, Amy Torres, Ralph Mayer, George Sanchez, Hayden Davenport, Genaro Martin, Mo'nica Traylor

The Devil's River News

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Little Dribblers

Sonora City League would like to announce the beginning of Little Dribblers program for 2009-2010. The program will have two divisions: 3rd & 4th grade girls and boys; 5th & 6th grade girls and boys.

Any students interested in playing basketball SIGN UP ONLY at the little gym middle school campus on January 7, 2010 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The cost will be \$30.00 per player. Enrollment form & money must be turned in before your child may participate. Please accompany your child to the gym and fill out an enrollment form. We need a good turn out to have a successful program.

The only group practice will be held on Sunday, January 10th for both divisions.

Boys at 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.:

3rd and 4th grade group practice at Middle School little gym
5th and 6th grade group practice at Middle School big gym
Girls at 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.:

3rd and 4th grade group practice at Middle School little gym
5th and 6th grade group practice at Middle School big gym
Games are scheduled to start January 26, 2010.

Volunteers will need to have their forms in on 01/07/10 to be considered for any position working with the youth. Anyone interested in volunteering or if you have any questions, contact Manuel Tobias 206-0417 or Nelda Tobias 387-5390.

America Grows In The New Year

Submitted

Do you know America's projected population as the New Year dawns?

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the nation's population is more than 308 million as the country rings in the New Year and new decade.

America first reached the 200 million population mark back in 1967, and hit the 300 million mark in 2006.

The Bureau is projecting a U.S. population of 439 million in 2050. So make room for all those new neighbors!

Ol' Sonora Trading Co.
121 Hwy 277 N. 325-387-5507

Huge going to Market Sale!
2010 Clearance Sale

Select Apparel 50% off
Select Merle Norman Cosmetics 50% off
Select Candles & Lotions 50% off
Huge Jewelry Sale 50% to 75% off

Great way to save in the New Year!

Bridal Selections

Irene Balderas & Anthony Hernandez

The Voice of the Sonora Broncos

8:30 Morning Show
with Eddy and Cindy



Mondays - Agriculture
Tuesdays -

Sonora ISD News & Sonora Bronco Coach's Corner

Wednesdays -

Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital News with Dr. Kristy D. Edwards, M.D.

& Devil's River Newspaper with Ben D. Taylor

Thursdays -

Veterinary News with Dr. Gene Gibbens, DVM

Fridays -

Voice Of The Sonora Bronco's Sports ... GO BRONCOS!!!

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~Final Destination - 4~

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Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
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Patrick and Butch Campbell

AMY IS 40

Come join us for some cake.
Saturday, January 9 at 4:00 p.m.
Baptist Fellowship Hall

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Don't risk getting the Flu.

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Sonora, TX 76950
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<p style="text-align: center;">B&H Catering Harold & Benita Martinez 207 W. Chestnut 387-2528 or 206-1268 Hrs. 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. BBQ Plates, Daily Specials, Breakfast Tacos and Catering. Dine-In or Carry-Out!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Goldline Mechanic Service Ronnie Wipff/Owner 325-277-1834</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Big C Automotive 501 S. Crockett Sonora, Texas 76950 325-387-5167</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Judy Edwards Licensed Massage Therapist The Cutting Edge 1001 St. Anns St. 325-234-5554 Submitted</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Brewer Refrigeration Lic. #TACLBO12114C Ice Machines Sales-Service-Rentals We sell & service Deer Coolers & Freezers 325-835-2141 Mobile 450-2793</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Knox Floor Covering Carpet-Vinyl-Tile 392-2180 201 Ave I Ozona, TX Now Offering Tanning! Main Street Salon 206 E. Main St. Sonora, Texas 325-387-2222</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Charles Howard Construction, Inc. Oilfield Contractor Asphalt & Concrete Construction email: chowardconst@sonoratax.net phone: (325) 387-3093 fax: (325) 387-5543 mobile: (325) 206-0497</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sonora Air Cooled Engines & Equipment Rentals 507 N. Crockett Ave. Sonora, TX 76950 325-387-3400 Skid Steers w/ Drill, Backhoe, Ditchwitch, Chain Saws, Trimmers/mowers</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Tom Davidson Attorney at Law Specializing in Criminal Law Free Advice & Referrals 325-632-2000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">First National Bank of Sonora SAN ANGELO BANKING CENTER Member FDIC P.O. Box 798 Sonora, Texas 76950 325-387-3861</p>

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Russell Family

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Other specialty items for the holidays: pecan pie, cream cheese pecan pie, pumpkin cheese pecan pie, fudge, magic bars, divinity etc

F.Y.I.

Census Jobs Apply Now- 1-866-861-2010. There will be a local application process and testing weekly. Please call for more information.

VIVA SONORA-Registration for Viva Sonora 2010 Miss Cinco de Mayo is underway. A chance to win a \$1000.00 scholarship. Please register with Michelle Faz at The Bank and Trust or call 387-2593.

Keep Sonora Beautiful has hunting dumpsters available over by the Steakhouse -- (in the old Schlumberger parking lot) This is for all the out of town hunters to dispose of their garbage from their trip to Sonora. Please no animal wastes. Thank You! Keep Sonora Beautiful

Sonora ISD has announced a change in the school calendar. Monday, January 4 and Tuesday, January 5, 2010 will be student holidays and teacher inservice days. Students will return to school on Wednesday, January 6, 2010. Friday, January 8, 2010 (originally scheduled as a student holiday and teacher inservice day) will now be a school day for students and teachers.

Mike Conaway to visit Sonora. Thursday, January 7, 2010 from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at The Bank and Trust.

Classes are beginning for anyone interested in Foster Care or Adoptive Parenting through Child Protective Services of Texas. The meetings will be held at Lighthouse Community Church starting on Jan. 9, 2010, and will continue on every Saturday for six weeks from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. For more information, please contact Yvonne Martinez at (325) 657-8833.

Junior Class Parents will meet to begin planning Project Graduation 2010 on Sunday, January 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the elementary library (corner of Concho and College). Please plan to attend.

Viva Sonora Cinco de Mayo - May 1, 2010 Featuring: United Freestyle Stunt Team-3 performances, www.unitedfreestyle.com

Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is having a Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 1, 2010 at the Fire Hall. Your donations for clothing, household items and etc. are tax deductible and most welcome. Please contact Sandee Reese at 325-387-5368 or Christy Lippman at 325-206-1342 to arrange a donation drop-off today.

Need a Dunking Booth for a party or fundraiser? Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary has a dunking booth for rent. Call Tommie Sanchez at 226-8271 for availability and rates.

The 144th Narcotics Anonymous Group meets every Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in the Reception Hall of The Church of the Good Shepherd, 319 N.E. Mulberry, FMI, call 387-4941 or 450-8922.

Rent the Depot or Icehouse Ranch Museum for your special party or event. Call 325-387-5084 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sonora High School Alumni - Register at www.sonorahighalumni.com. For more information log on to sonoraalum@aol.com.

The First National Bank of Sonora has established a fund through the "Sutton County Community Trust" for Shanna Petty. If you would like to make a donation, you can take it by the bank at 102 E. Main or mail to First National Bank, P.O. Box 798, Sonora, TX 76950, attention Jo Ann Jones

Member FDIC
P.O. Box 798
Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-3861

Member FDIC
229 Hwy 277 N
Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-2593

Sign Up For A Full Contact Alumni Football Game

Alumni Football USA, based out of Austin, TX are currently organizing alumni games in West Texas. This is a chance for former high school football players to get on the field one more time and play a full contact game with full gear, and regular high school game rules.

Right now, we are building rosters for teams from the following schools:

Alpine
Balmorhea
Christoval
Dell City
Junction
Marfa
Marathon
Mason
Menard
Sanderson
Sonora
Van Horn

Players can visit www.WestTexasB.com to sign up to play today!

Also from www.WestTexasB.com, fans and players can link to individual team Facebook pages to discuss and reminisce about rivalries, players and games.

This is a great way for schools to actively engage their alumni. The community can rally around their players and support their local school by purchasing pre-sale tickets. Half of the proceeds earned

through pre-sale tickets go back into the schools.

Here is some additional information on Alumni Football USA, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Bob Cazet, based in California is the founder and director of Alumni Football USA and has been organizing alumni games for the past 19 years. While the program has been started in other states, this is the first group of games organized in Texas. Tim Bishop is the Texas Regional Director and based in Austin, TX. As you know, football is huge in Texas, so the alumni football games here will be on a much grander scale than the rest of the country. As I mentioned before, this is a great opportunity for schools to raise money through pre-sale tickets when they collect half of the proceeds. So far, 1,200 players from Texas have signed up to play and we've only reached a tiny portion of the state.

This is a serious, spectacular, one time football game with community players representing their high schools! The players are more mature, bigger, stronger, thicker, wiser and maybe a step slower, but they still hit, tackle and score and the fans love them!

VERNON -- Switching from warm-season grasses to cool-season forages can give livestock a belly ache, in some cases a deadly one, according to Texas AgriLife Research scientists.

Dr. Bill Pinchak, Texas AgriLife Research animal nutritionist at Vernon, is leading a team of scientists who are using state-of-the-art technology -- metagenomics -- to determine how changes in diet affect microbial communities in the digestive tract of cattle and how these changes may increase risk of disease.

Metagenomics is a field of molecular microbiology where the presence of a microbe is determined by identifying its DNA in a sample rather than trying to grow the organism in culture, said Dr. Jason Osterstock, AgriLife Research ruminant animal health scientist in Amarillo and part of the team.

Pinchak, who is head of the Bloat Research Project, said they want to understand the role of rumen microbial communities in metabolic disease, specifically frothy bloat of cattle grazing winter wheat pastures. Bloat is a costly and sometimes fatal disease of cattle, with an estimated \$400 million negative impact on the beef cattle industry.

Their goal is to determine the interactions among rumen microbes that lead to the on-

Researchers Study Microbes in Cattle to Unlock Metabolic Disease Mysteries

set and duration of disease, he said.

Studying individual microbial genus or species in the rumen only provides part of the story, Osterstock said. In fact, the rumen is a complex microbial system comprised of bacteria, protozoa and fungi where the impact of a specific microbial species is dependent upon the activity of other microbes in the system.

Metagenomics is an ideal approach to studying these microbial communities because less than 10 percent of rumen microbes can be grown in culture using routine anaerobic methods, Osterstock said.

The team's current work has focused on bacterial populations in the rumen using sequencing methods and bioinformatics to classify which bacterial genera are present under different dietary conditions.

The bloat team recently completed the first genomics-based characterization of bacterial populations from steers associated with changing from a warm-season grass hay diet to a cool-season grazed forage diet. Their study included

14 steers sampled at two time points, the largest study of its kind to date, the scientists said.

During their research, the scientists found that the distribution of bacterial genera changes dramatically when stocker cattle transition from Bermuda grass hay to winter wheat forage diets, Pinchak said. In addition, analyses determined that bacterial communities were clearly different in the fiber, liquid and whole rumen fractions within the rumen, he said.

Overall, more groups of different bacteria occurred on Bermuda grass hay than wheat forage diets, which is consistent with the increased rumen retention time of the less digestible Bermuda grass hay, Pinchak said.

During the study, they found that specific bacterial groups would increase, decrease, appear or disappear from one diet to the other, highlighting the complexity, plasticity and specificity of rumen bacterial populations, he said.

These results point toward the potential to use deeper

metagenomic sequencing, including characterization of non-bacterial microbes, to gain better resolution and begin to unravel more complex relationships in future studies, Pinchak said.

Pinchak and Osterstock are joined on the research team by Dr. Dipti Pitta, an AgriLife Research post-doctoral research associate in Vernon; and Dr. Scot Dowd, director of the Research and Testing Laboratory in Lubbock.

The Bloat Research Project team recently formed a consortium with scientists at the Borlaug Institute at Texas A&M University; the J. Craig Venter Institute, a leader in genomic research in Rockville, Md.; and the University of Illinois.

Pinchak said metagenomics also can be used to study how cattle adapt to diets containing bioenergy co-products, discover novel enzymes for biofuel production, or to help understand how microbial community dynamics affect food safety pathogen prevalence, feed efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions.

Drought Was Top Conservation Story For 2009

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

The seven-year drought of the 1950s may be the longest on record for Texas, but the dry heat of 2009 garnered notoriety as arguably the most intense. Fueled by a combination of record-setting heat waves and record-low rainfall during spring and summer, the impacts from drought to the state's natural and cultural resources make it the top news story of the year for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In central and south Texas, the regions hit hardest, nearly 80 counties were considered

to be in "extreme" or "exceptional" drought condition. The U.S. Department of Agriculture in April designated 70 of those counties as primary disaster areas due to drought, associated wildfires and above-normal temperatures.

As aquifer and reservoir water levels shrank under a blistering sun, concerns from biologists grew. Stresses on wildlife populations, specifically wild turkey and deer, negatively affected health and reproduction. Low dissolved oxygen levels created by stratified water columns caused

fish die-offs and salinity levels in bays and estuaries rose dramatically. Salty bays and other poor habitat conditions caused by drought may have contributed to a bad year for the world's only wild flock of endangered whooping cranes. Flock numbers declined in 2009 for the first time since 2001.

State park sites with air conditioned cabins and water-based activities provided some relief from the heat, but the Texas AgriLife Extension Service estimated losses to land-based outdoor recreation opportunities, such as hiking and hunting, in excess of \$100 million.

The good news is that the drought finally broke in the fall, thanks to the El Nino weather pattern, and habitat conditions in Texas are recovering.

Academy for Ranch Management Announces 2010 Workshop Schedule

By: Blair Fannin

COLLEGE STATION -- The Academy for Ranch Management will host two prescribed-burn workshops in 2010 at the Texas AgriLife Research Station in Sonora.

The scheduled dates are Feb. 17-19 for the basic workshop and March 4-6 for the advanced workshop. Prescribed burning is a tool that can be used to manage rangeland vegetation for livestock and wildlife. The control method may be an effective tool to restore rangeland heading into the spring of 2010, said Ray Hinnant, one of the workshop instructors.

"Burning is nature's way of maintaining a grass, shrub and tree complex without the use of chemicals or mechanical control methods," Hinnant said.

The basic workshop will provide information on planning

and conducting a prescribed burn and equipment for fire suppression and weather monitoring. Participants will develop a prescribed burn plan and conduct a prescribed burn during the workshop, Hinnant said. The advanced course provides more detailed information and burn-boss instruction.

A comprehensive exam is administered following the advanced workshop for those interested in completing the educational requirement for either a commercial or private certified and insured prescribed burn manager, he said.

The fee for each workshop is \$395 and includes meals and on-site lodging. For more information and to register, call 979-820-1778 or 325-387-3168.

A Lesson in Civic Duty

An old man was sitting in the front row at a town meeting, heckling the mayor as he delivered a long speech. Finally the mayor could stand it no longer, so he pointed to the heckler and said, "will that gentleman please stand up and tell the audience what he has ever done for the good of the city?"

"Well Mr. Mayor," the man said in a firm voice. "I voted against you in the last election."

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Oil & Agribusiness

The Year in Agriculture

By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent

As one year ends and another begins, let's review some of the events that shaped our year in agriculture.

In March and April, wildfires swept across North Texas. Dr. David Anderson of Texas A&M University estimated pasture losses at \$2,221,230, fence replacement at \$31,891,200 and cattle and calves losses at \$329,700.

April provided a late freeze. Following shearing, the freezing temperatures caused the deaths of thousands of Angora goats in the Edwards Plateau. The same freeze damaged pecan orchards that meant no crop for the year.

In June, various proposals were introduced in Congress to control carbon emissions by using a system called cap-and-trade. Under this system, entities are issued a permit for a specific amount of carbon emission or cap. An emitter who exceeds the cap must purchase credits from an entity who emits less.

In July, rainfall in a large part of South Texas had been less than four inches since the start of the year. Drought in Texas scorched crops and rangelands, resulting in damages that may have exceeded \$4.1 billion.

Then in December, there



was news from Washington, D.C. that Senate leaders would delay action on the controversial climate change bill until at least next spring was welcomed by farmers all across America. This move offers a great opportunity for lawmakers to go back to the drawing board and reassess the need for this legislation and the impact it will have on all Americans.

Another item to keep watch on is the Clean Water Restoration Act- Right. Today, the law says that the Environmental Protection Agency is in charge of all navigable water. This bill removes the word 'navigable,' so for ranchers and farmers any form of water on their land -- all of that water will now come under the regulation of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. The legislation, introduced by Wisconsin Democratic Sen Russ Feingold, has the support of 24 senators. It passed the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in June but has not been scheduled for a floor vote, though it could be tacked onto other legislation as an amendment.

Quite an interesting year. We look forward to a good 2010.

Toyota ShareLunker 474 Comes From Falcon Reservoir

ATHENS, Texas — Ever since rains refilled Falcon International Reservoir, TPWD Inland Fisheries biologist Randy Myers has been holding his breath, waiting for the Rio Grande reservoir to start turning out big bass. Myers is now breathing again.

On Sunday, December 20, 2009 — a date that will live in Randy Myers' memory — Debbie Baker of Wartrace, Tennessee, pulled in Toyota ShareLunker 474 from Falcon. The fish weighed 13.26 pounds on the certified scale at Robert's Tackle in Zapata, an official ShareLunker receiving station. It was 25 inches long and 20.125 inches in girth.

Baker was fishing in 25 feet of water with a Brushhog shortly after noon.

According to Myers, Baker's feat is sure to be repeated a number of times in the next three years. "We had a major habitat improvement in 2003 and 2004 due to rains," Myers said. "It takes seven to 10 years for a bass to reach 13 pounds, and fish in that lake can do it in seven. Falcon is going to pump out a bunch of big ones in the next few years."

Anyone legally catching a 13-pound or bigger largemouth bass from Texas waters, public or private, be-

tween October 1 and April 30 may submit the fish to the Toyota ShareLunker program by calling program manager David Campbell at (903) 681-0550 or paging him at (888) 784-0600 and leaving a phone number including area code. Fish will be picked up by TPWD personnel within 12 hours.

ShareLunker entries are used in a selective breeding program at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens. Some of the offspring from these fish are stocked back into the water body from which they were caught. Other ShareLunker offspring are stocked in public waters around the state in an attempt to increase the overall size and growth rate of largemouth bass in Texas.

Anglers entering fish into the Toyota ShareLunker program will receive a free replica of their fish, a certificate and ShareLunker clothing and be recognized at a banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens on June 5, 2010. In addition, if a Texas angler catches the largest entry of the year, that person will receive a lifetime fishing license.

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The Ones That Got Away

After a Tuesday fishing on the River Test, near Southampton in Southern England, Trevor is walking from the pier carrying two brown trout in a bucket.

He is approached by a Water Conservation Officer who asks him for his fishing license.

Trevor replies to the environmentalist, 'I was not fishing and I did not catch these brown trout, they are my pets. Every day I come down to the water and put these fish into the water and take them for a walk to the end of the pier and back. When I'm ready to go I whistle and they jump

back into the bucket and we go home.

The officer, obviously, does not believe him and he reminds Trevor that it is illegal to fish without a license. The fisherman turns to the warden and says, 'If you don't believe me then watch, 'and he throws

the trout back into the water.

The warden says, 'Now whistle to your fish and show me that they will jump out of the water and into the bucket.'

The fisherman turns to the officer and says, 'What fish?'

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Gov. Perry: States Must Stand Up to Unprecedented Federal Intrusion

From the Office of Rick Perry

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry today sent a letter asking other governors to join him in ongoing efforts to assert the constitutional rights of states as guaranteed under the 10th Amendment with regard to the federal health care bill being forced through by Congress. He urged the governors to support and join efforts by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott and several other state attorneys general to determine the constitutionality of a compromise in the pending federal health care legislation exempting the state of Nebraska from increased Medicaid costs resulting from the bill's passage.

"As the chief executive officers of our individual sovereign states, we must stand up to this unprecedented intrusion in to our lives and the rights of our citizens. We must demonstrate resolve in the face of this infringement," Gov. Perry wrote in the letter. "Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott is joining with several other state attorneys general

to place this deal under proper scrutiny, to determine if such an exclusion is unconstitutional. His office, along with mine, will continue to explore all options available to us as we attempt to minimize the damages that can be caused to Texans by this ill-advised piece of legislation."

In Texas, this health care bill will cost up to \$21 billion over the next 10 years, adding an estimated 2 million more people to our Medicaid rolls.

In his letter the governor emphasized that this bill will impose unprecedented intrusion in to the lives and the rights of citizens by mandating that every American purchase health care coverage or face penalties. Additionally, taxpayers in Texas and in most other states will pay even more to effectively subsidize expanded Medicaid for Nebraska and select states that caught additional sweeteners on issues like rural health care and Medicare Advantage for some seniors in a few states.

Rodriguez: Votes to Protect Access to Healthcare for Seniors

From the Office of Ciro Rodriguez

Washington, DC — U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) voted Thursday to preserve access to health-care for America's seniors by changing the way Medicare pays physicians for their services.

H.R. 3961 — the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act — repeals a 21 percent cut in payments to doctors scheduled to go into effect in January. The bill, passed 243 to 183, will reform the way Medicare pays doctors, allowing them to better provide healthcare services to seniors.

"Our seniors deserve access to quality care, but that care is at risk when medical providers can't afford to continue seeing patients," Congressman Rodriguez said. "This bill fixes a broken system and allows doctors to keep providing necessary services to one of our most vulnerable populations."

The bill will make this change permanent, doing away with the yearly overrides that Congress has enacted six times before. Coupled with the recently passed Affordable Health Care for America

Act, H.R. 3961 will ensure that seniors pay lower premiums, get expanded primary and preventive care and don't fall through the drug coverage gap known as the "doughnut hole." Because physician payment rates for TRICARE are tied to Medicare rates, the bill will also benefit members of the military and their families.

"At a time when our families are suffering through a difficult economic time, this bill helps preserve the payment system for doctors and keep quality services available for our seniors and military families," Congressman Rodriguez said.

Conaway: Senate Health Care Plan Not What Americans

From the Office of Mike Conaway

Congressman Mike Conaway (R-TX-11) made the following statement after the United States Senate voted to proceed with debate on a government takeover of our nation's health care system:

"Last night, the Democrats in the US Senate moved one step closer to making their 2,700 page government-run health care plan a reality for Americans. Never in my time in Congress have I seen the people of West and Central Texas so emotional and passionate about an issue, and rightfully so. Over the past months, concerned citizens from across the country have voiced their concerns at town hall meetings, fought to pro-

test their rights on the steps of the Capitol, written to their local papers and news stations, and called their Representatives and Senators in Washington voicing their concerns about this bad legislation. Yet now, during the week of Christmas, the President, Nancy Pelosi, and Harry Reid are putting coal in the stockings of every single hard-working American in this country in the form of a costly, government-run plan that rises costs, funds abortion coverage, cuts Medicare and creates hundreds of billions in new taxes. This \$2.5 trillion bill is not what the American people want."

English Teacher's Novel Idea...

By Dr. Don Newbury

We are admonished to "dream big dreams" at various stages of life, but for at least one career educator, a nightmare of two decades ago may prove to be his springboard to international literary notoriety.

For Bill Holt, an English teacher at Tarrant County College's South Campus in Fort Worth, the nightmare spawned the plot for his first novel. It is entitled *Faust's Butterfly*—95,671 words of chilling fiction begun following the nightmare in 1990 and completed in October.

He heard about *authonomy.com*, a web site in England hosted by HarperCollins Publishers. Authors are invited to submit their works. He did so, uploading his novel on October 19, and the race was on....

Whosoever will may sign up, free of any charge. It takes about five minutes, and participants may then choose from thousands of titles submitted by aspiring writers worldwide.

It's something of a "publisher's slush pile" (in Holt's words), since authors and would-be authors upload their works for all to see.

Readers, then, are invited to offer critical comments, and to "sound off" on line. Their comments, in general, range from glowing salutes to salty comments like "don't quit your day job."...

When titles reach and hold "top five" status for an entire month, they are then considered for publication by HarperCollins editors.

Holt is in awe of responses to his first major literary effort.

More than 200 respondents from throughout the world have offered comments, and they are 100% positive. He's heard from readers "from just about everywhere except China."...

At this writing, *Faust's Butterfly* ranks #94 among all submissions and has been rising steadily since it was uploaded.

"*Authonomy* is like Facebook with purposes going far beyond the renewal of acquaintances, and it is most like a huge permanent literary convention," Holt explained.

A native of Illinois, he has been on the business end of a red pencil since he started teaching English at the collegiate level in 1967. He and his wife moved to Texas two years later, and he's been on the TCC faculty since 1969—two years after the South Campus opened....

Caleb Pirtle, another of my friends who remembers *Abсорbine Sr.*, has been writing books for 35 years, and now has 52 titles in print. He's tickled to learn of Holt's late-

in-life literary effort.

Pirtle believes that most people who threaten to write books rarely pull the trigger. He cites these sobering statistics: "Out of 100 people who think about writing a book, only one ever gets started. Out of the 100 who get started, only one ever finishes a manuscript. Out of the 100 manuscripts completed, only one ever gets published."

Thus, Holt may soon be in an extremely rare literary fraternity....

The soft-spoken educator doesn't come across as one who'd pen a blood-curdling novel. A mild-mannered guy, he holds a master's degree in English, has 45 hours of seminary training and enjoys playing the trombone and harmonica. If one guessed him to be an author, a work centered on the macabre would seem the least likely.

But, that's exactly what he's done with a plot that began with that nightmare about a killer butterfly two decades ago.

The book is not for the faint of heart, and Carol, his wife of 45 years, fully agrees. A retired decorated public school administrator, she has zero interest in reading horror material, husband-written or not. She hasn't read a single paragraph of the novel, and has no plans to do so....

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January is School Board Recognition Month

(Austin) — Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed January 2010 as School Board Recognition Month. Districts across the state will use this opportunity to show their appreciation of the critical role elected boards of education play in their local schools and communities.

"The biggest challenge of education is also one of its greatest strengths. During a time when state and national mandates rightly place more emphasis than ever on setting the bar high for education, it remains important for each community to retain control of its own educational sys-

tem," Governor Perry said.

"Balancing the need for local control with directives coming down from larger governmental bodies is neither an easy nor oftentimes appreciated task, but for over two centuries, school boards have risen to such challenges.

Complicating matters further are issues such as the rapidly expanding role of technology in the classroom, the challenge to keep our children both educated and physically active, and—as always—the difficulties inherent in dealing with budgetary priorities.

"The people who make up these boards are uncompen-

ed and, all too often, unsung for their efforts. These people volunteer their time because they care; they care about their communities, they care about their schools and, most importantly, they care about the children. Each year the Texas Association of School Boards designates January as School Board Recognition Month, to emphasize to all of us the importance of the services these dedicated men and women provide to the schools and children of Texas. At this time I urge all Texans to recognize the invaluable contributions realized through the work of our school boards," he said.

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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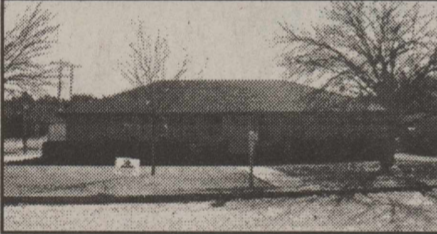
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Public Notices
REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS
On or about January 25, 2010 the City of Sonora will submit a request to the Texas Department of Rural Affairs for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Section 104(f) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, TXCDBG contract #729769, to undertake a project known as sewer improvements, for the purpose of addressing inflow and infiltration problems by replacing deteriorated sewer lines. Construction shall include installation of approximately 4,280 linear feet of 6-inch sewer line, 15 manholes, and related service reconstructions and appurtenances. Construction shall take place in the following locations:
STREET NAME FROM TO North Crockett Avenue from West Fourth Street to Pueblo Drive; West Fourth Street from North Crockett Avenue to Tom Green Avenue; Tom Green Avenue from West Fourth Street to West Second Street; West Second Street from Tom Green Avenue to End of Line NE; West Second Street from Menard Avenue to End of Line SW; West Third Street from Menard Avenue to End of Line SW; FINDING OF NO SIGNICANT IMPACT
The City of Sonora has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement

Sonora Office Supply
228 E. Main St.
Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-2507
Office Hours:
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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Et puede ayudarte en Espanol

Public Notices

under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at City Hall, 201 East Main Street, Sonora, Texas 76950 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the City of Sonora. All comments received by January 22, 2010 will be considered by the City prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS
The City of Sonora certifies to the Texas Department of Rural Affairs that J.E. Davenport in his capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities have been satisfied. The Department's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the City of Sonora to use Program funds.
OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS
The Texas Department of Rural Affairs will consider objections to is release of funds and the City of Sonora's certification received by February 10, 2010 or a period

Public Notices

of fifteen days from its receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on the one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer or other officer of the City of Sonora approved by the Department; (b) the (RE) has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the Department; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to the Texas Department of Rural Affairs at P.O. Box 12877, Austin, Texas 78711. Potential objectors should contact the Department to verify the actual last day of the objection period. The Honorable J.E. Davenport Mayor

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Sutton County - 976 acres located approximately 18 miles northeast of Sonora. Gently rolling with liveoak, cedar and mesquite. Barn and pens and two water wells, one with electricity. Deer and turkey hunting, county road frontage.
Schleicher County - 697 acres located approximately 28 miles northeast of Sonora. Gently rolling with liveoak and cedar. One water well with electricity. Deer and turkey hunting, county road frontage, minerals.
Crockett County - 1437 acres west of Ozona. Hilly terrain with scenic canyons, two water wells with electricity, whitetail and mule deer, quail, turkey and dove, call G.L. Bunger at 325-226-2107.
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Lady Broncos Defeat Alpine

Score by quarter	1	2	3	4	Final
Alpine	18	16	6	3	43
Sonora Lady Broncos	21	19	13	17	70



Sonora Lady Broncos	REB	AST	STL	BLK	TO	PF	PTS
* #34 Hernandez, A.	5	1	4	1	0	1	24
* #22 Krieg, C.	3	4	4	0	6	2	16
* #4 Smith, M.	1	7	2	0	2	3	10
#54 Casteneda, L.	5	0	1	0	0	2	6
#5 Nolen, A.	2	1	1	0	3	1	5
* #20 Campbell, C.	1	7	5	0	3	4	4
* #12 Jennings, H.	5	3	2	0	1	4	3
#32 Hernandez, S.	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
#10 Trevino, K.	1	1	0	0	1	3	0
Totals	24	24	19	1	17	20	70

Date:	Opponent:	Site:	JV White	JV Red	Varsity
Dec. 28-30	Eula Tourn	Away		TBA	
Jan. 2	*Alpine	Away		11:00	12:30
Jan. 5	*Reagan Co	Home	8:00	5:00	6:30
Jan. 8	*Presidio	Away	8:00	5:00	6:30
Jan. 12	*Ozona	Home		5:00	6:30
Jan. 15	Open				

Sponsored by: Lady Bronco Parents

Date:	Opponent:	Site:	JV	Varsity
Dec. 28-30	Eula Tourn	Away	TBA	
Jan. 2	*Alpine	Away	5:00	8:00
Jan. 5	*Reagan Co	Home	5:00	8:00
Jan. 8	*Presidio	Away	5:00	8:00
Jan. 12	*Ozona	Home	5:00	8:00
Jan. 15	Open			

Sponsored by: Bronco Parents



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	SWHP	Provider A	Provider B	Provider C
Affordability:				
• Low monthly premiums, not based on age or gender	✓	_____	_____	_____
• Co-payments as low as \$0 for doctor's office visits	✓	_____	_____	_____
• No cost for important preventive services (prostate screenings, immunizations, mammograms, etc.)	✓	_____	_____	_____
Complete coverage:				
• Routine physical exams	✓	_____	_____	_____
• Hearing and dental options	✓	_____	_____	_____
• Urgent Care and Emergency coverage at home and worldwide	✓	_____	_____	_____
• Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage ²	✓	_____	_____	_____
Personal attention and service:				
• Talk to a real person when you call or have questions	✓	_____	_____	_____
• 24-Hour Nurse Advice Line	✓	_____	_____	_____
• Customized wellness programs (such as VitalCare)	✓	_____	_____	_____

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¹ A state-certified and Medicare-approved Health Maintenance Organization. Anyone with Medicare may apply.

² SeniorCare Rx (Cost) is separate coverage available at an additional cost.

The benefit information provided is not comprehensive. Additional information should be requested before making a decision about your coverage.

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