

The Devil's River News

Volume 122 • Issue 13

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, April 1, 2010

Sonora UIL
Academic
District
Results
Featured
Next Week-
Here's a Tip,
Its Great
News!!

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April 2



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A Voice From Washington Is Heard In Sonora



Photo By Ben D. Taylor

Bob Malone, President of the First National Bank of Sonora (left) visits with Brent Bozell, founder of the Media Research Center (right) during Mr. Bozell's visit to Doris and Norm Rouselot's home in Sonora.

By Ben D. Taylor

America is a nation of voices. Each voice is an expression of our individual freedom, but it is when those voices conflict with each other that we truly discover what it means to be a free nation. On March 25th, I was invited to conduct an interview with Brent Bozell (one of the strongest voices in the conservative movement) at the home of Sonora residents, Norm and Doris Rouselot.

Mr. Bozell is a nationally syndicated columnist whose work has been published in the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, New York Post, Los Angeles Times, and the National Review (he has also been a regular guest on the Fox News Channel's Hannity and Colmes). In 1987, Bozell founded the Media Research Center (MRC), whose assets at that time included a black and white TV and a rented computer with an initial budget of \$300,000. That organization has grown to employ over 60 staff members and touts a \$10 million dollar annual budget. The original mission statement for the MRC was to establish, "through sound scientific research — that liberal bias in the media does exist and undermines traditional American values, but also to neutralize its impact on the American political scene".

When I asked Mr. Bozell what inspired him to form the MRC in 1987, he quickly corrected my math. The official

formation of the MRC may have occurred in 1987, but the inspiration came 5 years earlier.

"It was in 1982, I was in the Avis parking lot at the DFW airport. I was then working for the National Conservative Political Action Committee (at that time the largest PAC in the country). I was talking with my boss about the media, and I asked him if he felt like that Greek figure Sisyphus pushing a boulder up a mountain only to have it roll back on top of him.

That's how the conservative movement is. We make these strides and then it comes down back on top of us. The more I thought about it, I realized that at the end of the day, everything we had went through this prism of national news media before it got to the American people. It didn't matter that we could produce the most extraordinary top sirloin in the world, by the time it got through the prism of Dan Rather and came out the other end, it was chopped sausage. Everything came out twisted.

My argument, in the parking lot of Avis in 1982, was if we can't do something about the press, nothing else matters. The polls were showing that the public was becoming more conservative, but in 1982 there was no vehicle for us conservatives to connect with the general public. The closest we had was Paul Harvey's

commentary. Today that monopoly is broken.

Once upon a time, people called themselves reporters, and a reporter is someone who reports; very simple. They search for truth, and present the facts as he knows them and commits himself to balance in his coverage, and is fair to all parties. A reporter is someone who recognizes his own biases and recognizes that there is no such thing as an unbiased reporter. The problem is that no one calls themselves a reporter anymore, they are now all journalists.

As a journalist (like Andrea Mitchell) you report at night, and then the next day go on the same network and analyze the news by telling who is right and wrong."

I told Mr. Bozell that I considered the concept of truth in media as "fact put into context". I then asked him to use my definition to describe the role truth plays in media. His response was half observation and warning.

"You are supposed to seek truth as a reporter. Look at journalists today, and you tell me if Bryant Gumble is seeking truth; is Katy Courrick seeking truth? All they are doing is repeating talking points from the Obama administration and doing whatever they can to

Continued on Page 6

Never Back Down: Lady Bronco Softball Plays a Tough One

By Coach Kirkland

The Sonora Lady Bronco softball team played one great ball game against the Reagan County Owls as they defeated them 11-6. There is a saying in softball: "It all starts and ends on the mound." This is especially true in high school. Lady Bronco pitcher, Leandra Castaneda, pitched her most consistent game of the year; she had four strikeouts, one walk, with one earned run. She had her stick, as well as, she went three for four with one triple and a double. There is a formula to the game of softball. Your line-up is critical as for who you put in what position. The great thing about this Lady Bronco

team is that they really have it all. The Division one athlete Cassie Krieg, who is a true powerhouse at the plate, and can gun down anyone if you run to home. There are a few girls that have not played this game in awhile, and are really coming through for us. Many teams depend on one person to carry them through. I believe my girls have every dynamic of a true team. That being the bats, defense, speed, and most of in recent findings the 110% attitude and confidence. In the game against Reagan County the girls started off strong with three up and three down in the first. Following the great defense, the girls really hit well.

Came back to turn the bats on in the bottom of the first with Smith hitting a single, and Krieg following to hit Smith in RBI double for Krieg. It's as if the girls were trading places at second base every hit. With Castaneda, Carrillo, Velez, and Solis all trading places and Gilit hitting Solis in for a 6-0 lead in the first. Momentum in a game is everything. The second inning the Broncos got three up three down. Came back to hit strong once again in the bottom of the second. Hunter Jennings with a walk from Bradley. To lead the

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The high indexing ram of the 2009-2010 Annual Ram Performance test. The rams were consigned by Texas Sheep Company (Travis Jones) of Fredericksburg and sold to Bill Karnes of Sonora for \$2000. (Pictured from left to right) Nick Garza, Jr. with Texas AgriLife Research at Sonora, Travis Jones and Bill Karnes. (Photos taken by Steve Byrns, Texas AgriLife Extension Service)

AgriLife Research Ram Sale Prices Reflect Growing Optimism

By Steve Byrns

SONORA - Renewed confidence in the Rambouillet sheep industry was reflected in the prices paid for rams sold at auction following the completion of this year's Annual Ram Performance Test held at the Texas AgriLife Research Station at Sonora on March 19.

Twenty-five rams sold for an average of \$802 per head, surpassing last year's average of \$734.52 by a respectable margin," said test coordinator, Dr. Dan Waldron, AgriLife Research geneticist at San Angelo. "We are very pleased with this year's sale receipts," Waldron said. "I think this sale is a good indicator of good things to come in the sheep industry. This was the highest average price paid since the 2005 sale. We've just finished one of the wettest winters on record, and lamb prices are excellent. That's a great combination to have in sheep country."

The high-selling ram was T. Jones 119, from Texas Sheep Company (Travis Jones) of Fredericksburg. He sold to Hageman Sisters of Douglas, Wyo. for \$2,700. The ram was a son of T. Jones 448 who was the high indexing ram of the 2006-2007 test. T. Jones 448 also sired this year's high indexing ram that sold for \$2,000 to Bill Karnes of Sonora.

Volume buyers included the Sawyer Ranch of Sonora, which purchased five head totaling \$5,300 and Maggie Davis of

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Sonoran's Vote On Street Maintenance Tax In May



Improvements to streets like in above picture-curbs and gutters-to be added to streets as a result of maintenance tax.

By Ben D. Taylor

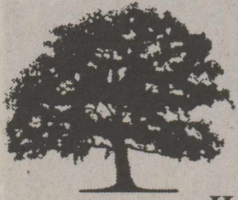
One of the issues facing the citizens of Sonora on the upcoming May elections will be whether or not to renew the option to continue the Street Maintenance Tax. Sonora City Manager, Judy Miller, commented that, "its important to note that this is not an additional tax. It only takes a portion of the sales tax we already send to the state comptroller's office, and instead of sending it to Austin keep it in Sonora to maintain and repair our streets"

"This tax-allowed by chapter 346 of the tax code-is wonderful. Not a lot of cities take advantage of this opportunity to get this passed in election. I was tickled to death to know Sonora had taken advantage of that."

The code is very specific and states that, "revenue for this tax imposed within this

chapter may be used only to repair and maintain municipal streets existing on the date of this election". This particular allocation of sales tax distribution comes up for renewal once every four years, and over the time span of Sonora's participation in the program the fund has accrued over \$200,000. With the decrease in sales tax revenue that fund will see a decrease in its monthly deposits. Last time it was up for consideration by voters the measure passed 84-34.

Miller assured me that progress will be made on the repair and maintenance on our streets, "I need to get our engineer in here to inventory what streets need improved. As soon as I get that information we will form a capital improvement plan to enact that mandate".



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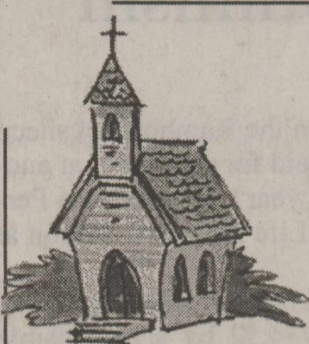
Senior Center Activities

- Thur. April 1 - Crafts anyone?
- Fri. April 2 - Center will be closed. Good Friday Holiday
- Mon. April 5 - Happy Birthday Lilia Flores Bingo
- Tues. April 6 - Happy Birthday Charlotte Wilson
- Wed. April 7 - Trax Van to San Angelo. Call 387-2509

Senior Center Menu

- Thur. April 1 - Baked fish, macaroni & cheese, rolls, milk mixed veggies, tossed salad, sugar cookies
- Fri. April 2 - Center Closed. Good Friday.
- Mon. April 5 - Polish sausage, sweet potato, milk cooked cabbage, cornbread, pears
- Tues. April 6 - Fried chicken, potato salad, zucchini squash, wheat bread, cobbler, milk
- Wed. April 7 - Beef liver w/onions, scalloped potatoes, milk green beans, rolls, apple juice, pecan pie

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).



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 |

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387-2266

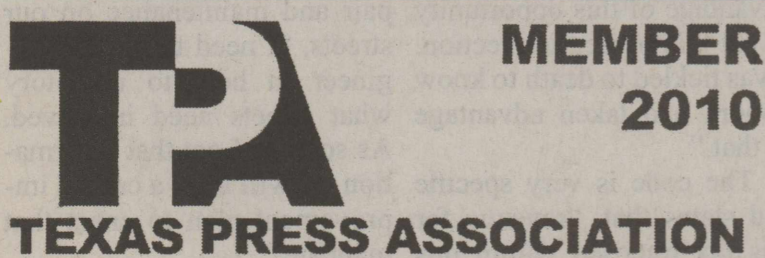
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Baggett and Edmondson Win Tournament



James Edmondson and Lannie Baggett

Lannie Baggett and James Edmondson fished the Chesapeake Bass Tournament held in Del Rio, Texas on Lake Amistad, March 27 and 28, 2010. They weighed in a total of 48.37 pounds making them the champions of the Tournament. This tournament is held every year with proceeds to benefit Show Of Support (SOS). Placing second in the tournament was John Casparis and Bob Byars weighing in a total of 47.66. Congratulations.

Show Of Support

It is truly an honor and a privilege to be involved with the Show of Support organization. As many of you know, CBT Charity represents Chesapeake Operating in an annual fishing tournament on Lake Amistad in Del Rio, Texas during the month of March. For the last four years we have donated the proceeds of our bass tournament to Show of Support (SOS). The efforts of Terry Johnson and his staff are very admirable and should be an inspiration to us all.

CBT Charity is very fortunate to be involved with such an organization that is trying so diligently to say "Thank You" to the men and women of our military. Saying "Thank You" is such a small effort that has such a huge effect on our American Heroes. Again, we are honored to help the SOS accomplish its goal of showing the love, appreciation, and thanks for those men and women who have sacrificed so much in order to ensure the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States.

CBT Charity truly understands the importance of thanking these men & women and have provided this tournament as a way of showing our unwavering support for this program. With the help of this bass tournament, our auction was able to raise \$75,000.

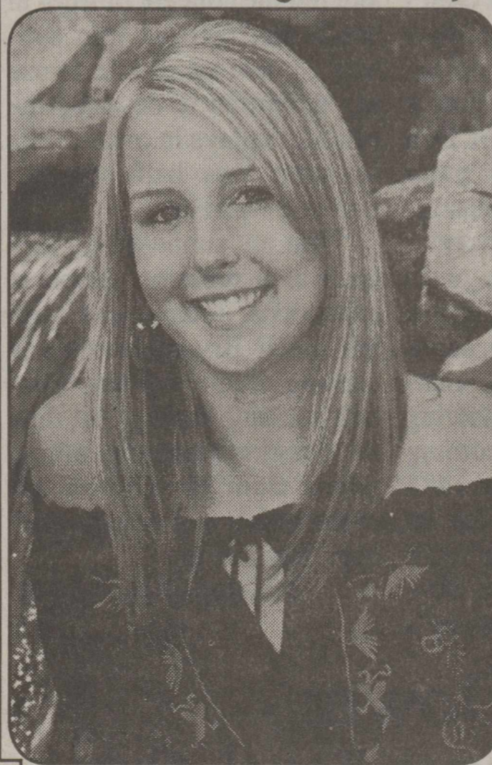
God Bless them all and God Bless America
Mark Mabe
Production Superintendent
Chesapeake Energy Corporation

Happy Anniversary!



Sparkle Images

by Janell Sparks



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Registration forms: www.junctiontexas.net
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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Regarding the proposal for a coal-fired electric plant near Sweetwater, I cannot understand why we need more electric production facilities when we cannot maximize the use of our wind farms because there are not enough power lines to take the energy to where it's needed.

When I drive by some of the major power lines, I notice that only one side of the power pole is being used. Why can't new lines be strung on the other side of the poles instead of building new power line corridors?

I also think it's crazy to transport coal from Wyoming to Texas, when Texas has major reserves of clean burning natural gas available. It would seem to me that you would want to use the resources that are readily at hand than to transport a commodity across the country adding to the pollution and increasing the final cost of electricity. If they want to build a coal fired plant then let them build one close to the coal reserves and save on cost.

Myron Maresch
Ozona, Texas

Memories by McBride



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First United Methodist Church

201 NW Water Ave.
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Ray Wells, Pastor

Sunday Nursery available from 9:30 - 12:30
9:45 Sunday School
10:55 Worship
6:00 Bible Study
Tuesday 12:00 Lion's Club

Wednesday

5:00 Choir Practice
6:00 Beth Moore Study - Fellowship Hall
6:00 Jr. High Youth - St. John's Sunday House
7:00 Sr. High Youth - St. John's Sunday House

Happy Birthday!

April 1

Menzi Spiller, Daisy Lira, Sheylene Webb, Michael Stephens, John Stergon, Tommy Arnwine, Tracey Hart

April 2

Janalyn Jones, Bianca Aboud, Daniel Galindo, Janell Sparks, Arrin Valadez

April 3

David Fisher, Fabian Guzman, Janie Mabry, Yvette Gamez, Jack David Johnson, Mauro Santana, Sr., Jenny Espinosa, Sonia Castro, Jon McNeill, Matthew Glasscock

April 4

Isaiah Lira, Brooke Wood, Isidora Ramirez, Sam Mata, Will Dutton

April 5

Alfredo Hernandez, Lilia Flores, Victoria Robles, Kayla Shurley, Fred Hernandez, James Zertuche, Nelson Black, George Villanueva

April 6

A. J. Hernandez, Richard Aguero

April 7

Dawson Guthrie, Justin Prather, Jessica Zapata

April 8

Sterling Love, Miranda Rodriguez, Marlyn Young, Yvonne Uriega, Bidy Ramirez

The Devil's River News and Sonora Office Supply will be closed Friday, April 2 for Good Friday!

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Candace Chandler~bride elect~Landry Matthies
Lauren Smith~bride elect~Colby Bates

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Lauren Smith~bride elect~Colby Bates

The Mercantile Garden

Bridal Selections Available
for

Kyla Turney ♥ Josh Bannon

Lauren Smith ♥ Colby Bates

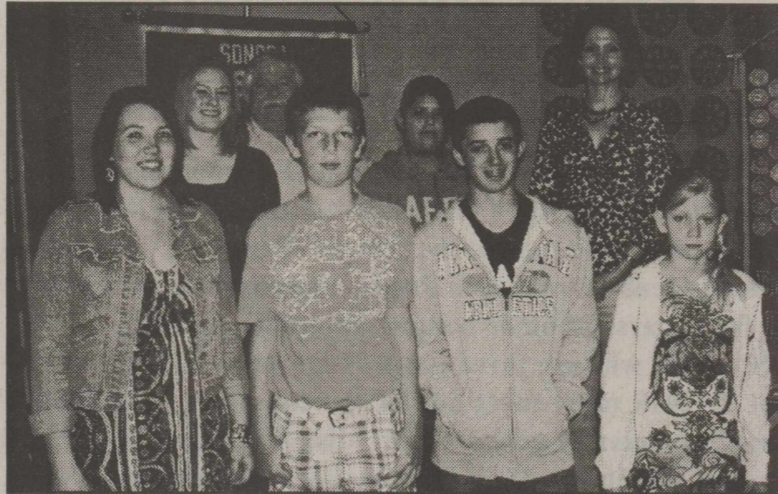
Thomas Bloodworth ♥ Brooklyn Woehl

Justin Sims ♥ Lauren Day

Wilson Stokes ♥ Erin Enke

232 E. Main • 325-387-9000

Lions Roar



Front row: Shainah Johnson, Justin Garman, Will Dutton, Kylie Reiner, Back Row: Keeli Taylor, Frank Wamble, Susana Robles, Mrs. Sean Leamon

Submitted by: Frank Wamble

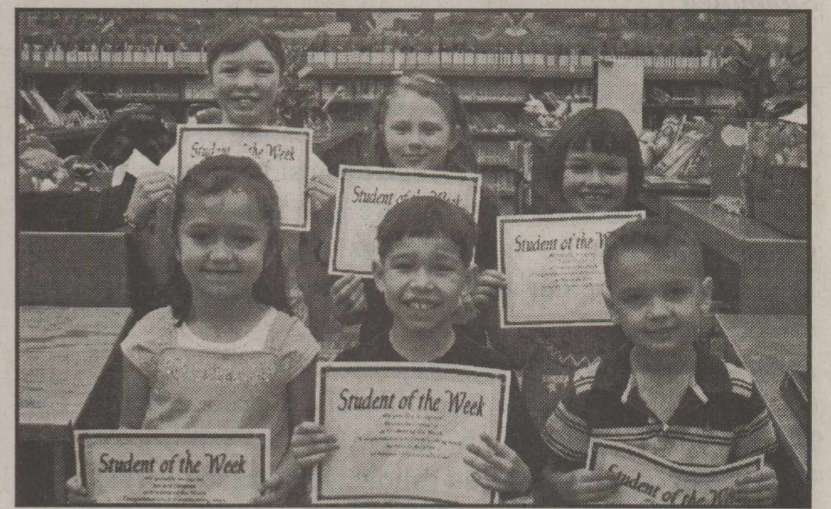
Spring break is over and your Lions were glad to see the return of our members, our students and teachers. During the break we certainly didn't slow down. We started planning for senior scholarships, heating and air conditioning of the Girl Scout house, planning for the Relay for Life and the after action report on our very successful Mop and Broom Sale.

For Senior students and parents, Kay Freiss at the High School has the information you will need to complete to apply for the Sonora Lions Club Scholarships. These will be cash scholarships. The number and amount will be announced soon. The date for submission is April 15, 2010.

Sonora Lions, we are creating an internet directory which includes cell phones and internet addresses. Please e-mail Col. Pete Bradley with your data to gr6@sonoratl.net.

Our students are back and were guests at the Lions Club last week. They were Kylie Reiner, 5th grade, Susana Robles, 6th grade, Justin Garmen, 7th grade Will Dutton, 8th grade, and Mrs. Leamon. Each had an opportunity to talk to the club and tell of their Spring Break adventures, as well as their background, likes and dislikes. Welcome home Students, Parents and Teachers! Great Job Track Team and UIL Competitors you all did Sonora proud, Go Broncos! Shop Sonora!

Sonora Elementary Students of the Week



PK-Grayson Beyers, K-Amaris Jimenez,
1- Fernando Gonzalez, 2-Traci Vickers,
3-Mattye Davenport, 4-Felicia Farley

F.Y.I.

PROJECT GRADUATION is just around the corner. ANY donations to support our seniors and juniors during this safe graduation-night-event would be greatly appreciated. Please call Bonnie Lou Campbell @ 325-650-2062 for donations of items or mail checks to: Project Graduation, P. O. Box 993, Sonora, Texas 76950. Thanks from the planning committee!

Please join HighMount's Heros for a Pancake Breakfast, Thursday, April 1st @ 6:30 a.m. at HighMount E & P-3rd floor Hwy 277 South, \$5.00 per plate, includes Pancakes, Sausage, and drink. All proceeds go to the Relay for Life.

HighMount E & P 3rd annual Volleyball Tournament to benefit Relay for Life, Sunday, April 11 at 4:00 p.m., Collins Arena-Bloodworth Road, Co-Ed Teams of 5 players to a team, entry fee: \$50.00/Team. BBQ brisket sandwiches, chips, and drink \$5.00, To register call Brandi Kuykendall, 387-3588 Ext. 7310

Keep Sonora Beautiful Tree Sale: Red and White Crape Myrtle-\$50, Live Oak, Red Oak, Burr Oak, Mexican Oak, and Red Bud-\$65. KSB is selling an assortment of summer and perennials bulbs. Contact the Chamber of Commerce 325-387-2880 or Juanita Gomez 325-206-0830 to place an order or for more information.

Looking for L. W. Elliott School (La Elliott) Alumni. Register on facebook or by emailing guschavez2000@yahoo.com or juanita@sonoratl.net or by calling 325-206-0830. Everyone is encouraged to submit names. A committee is being put together to organize LA ELLIOTT SCHOOL REUNION and also to place a historical marker where the school stood. If you have any information or questions please contact us.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ, PETER DURAN, ROWDY LEE BUELL HAVE BEEN BUSY WORKING ON THE CITY SOFTBALL FIELD by the swimming pool! They are in need of helpers willing to come join them!! They are removing stickers and attempting to reseed the field!! All for the sake of our GIRLS!!! Please lend a hand!! ALL HELP IS MUCH APPRECIATED!! ANY QUESTIONS, please contact Michael Ramirez 325.650.1454 or just stop by the field!!

The 2009 Sonora Bronco Football Season Highlight DVD is now available at the high school office! For more information contact Coach Sine at 325-387-6940 x3304. The cost is \$20!!!

Relay For Life asks that you e-mail photos of those who have battled cancer to relayforlife@sonoratl.net to be added to our slideshow that is displayed during the Luminaria Ceremony at Relay For Life.

Book Sale to be held: The Sutton County Library is getting ready for their Book Sale. You may donate your unwanted books, now thru March 17th. The book sale will run March 22 thru April 16.

Game Dinner Meeting- April 13, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at the firehall. All members and others interested are welcome.

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

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 Primary Purpose Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the St. John's Episcopal Church, 404 NE Poplar. FMI call 325-387-9765 or 325-206-1311.

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 sonorahighalumni.com.

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Snake-Proofing Clinic

Submitted

A snake-proofing clinic will be offered by the Lonesome Dove Hunting Retriever Club on April 3 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the San Angelo Clay Bird Association in San Angelo. This is another form of protection against venomous snakes. Yearly rattlesnake vaccinations are also recommended. This clinic is not just for hunting dogs! Help protect your best friend. Snakes are out already! \$40 per dog and multiple dog discount after first dog.

Directions to San Angelo Clay Bird Ass'n.

From the north Take loop 306, 67 South to Mertzson- Exit Mertzson 67 S. - Right on 67 past Wal-Mart/Sam's go 7 miles Turn Right on Duncan Road follow the signs to the range.

From East 87 or South 277 Take Loop 306 South to Big Lake- Exit Mertzson-Left on 67 S. 7 miles to the San Angelo Claybird range

From West 67 into San Angelo-Left on Duncan road

* Pre-registration is NOT required ALL -dogs - any breed are welcome over the age of 6 months, but please call to let us know you are coming - we need a headcount of dogs! Form must be completed with payment. Dogs will go through the clinic on first come first serve basis. For more information please call 325-234-9250, 325-642-4539 or you may also email GandGmitch@aol.com

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Sonora Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Registration Dates

Pre-registration for the 2010-2011 school year will be held on Tuesday, April 6th and Wednesday, April 7th from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School office. Students enrolling in Pre-Kindergarten must be three or four years old on or before September 1, 2010.

Students who are three years of age on or before September 1, 2010 must meet one of the following qualification requirements: 1) economically disadvantaged, 2) limited English proficient, 3) qualify for special education services, or 4) have a parent who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces or a parent who was injured or killed while serving on active duty.

Students four years of age on or before September 1, 2010 do not have to qualify for Pre-Kindergarten as our enrollment is open. Class size, however, will be limited and classes will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

You must provide a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization record. Your child will not be placed in a class until immunizations are current and proof is provided.

Please make every effort to register on these dates as this will help us plan for the 2010-2011 school year. Call 387-6951 if you have any questions.

Kindergarten Registration Dates

Kindergarten registration will be Tuesday, April 6th and Wednesday, April 7th from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School office. Students enrolling in Kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2010. You must provide a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization record. Your child will not be placed in a class until immunizations are current and proof is provided. Please make every effort to register on these dates as this will help us plan for the 2010-2011 school year. Call 387-6951 if you have any questions.

The Service

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church.

It was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it.

The seven-year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the boy, and said quietly, "Good morning, Alex."

"Good morning," replied the young man, still focused on the plaque.

"What is this?" Alex asked.

"Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women

who died in the service."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque.

Little Alex's voice was trembling and barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9:45 or the 11:15?"

Main Street Traffic

Submitted by Ann Kay

This Saturday, April 3, 2010, is the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Eaton Hill Treasure Hunt. The morning will start off at 8:30AM with Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. There will also be games and prizes that are exclusive to only the ones who attend the breakfast. Don't miss out on the fun! Stop by La Mexicana Restaurant this week to purchase your breakfast tickets for \$5.00 each. If you are unable to attend Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, come on up to the Sutton County Courthouse lawn, where the Easter Egg Hunt will follow. There are some wonderful prizes this year, along with money filled golden eggs. I look forward to seeing you Saturday morning!

Everyone had a great evening at the "Roast" this past Sunday for Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, Brenda Sanchez. Brenda is a strong supporter of our community and its citizens. She is an active member of her church with unshakable faith in God. Brenda has worked hard as a business owner to build a successful restaurant with a strong team of employees. It truly was an evening to remember, and if you missed it, you must try to attend next year when we honor another great volunteer. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Tabby & Rene for cooking the best tasting Mexican food in town. I would like to express appreciation to Little Mr. Sutton County, Joseph Ivy Abrego, for speaking at the roast, along with, Pete Bradley, Linda Love, George Hernandez, Cecilia Sanchez, Mayor Jed Davenport, Irene Dominguez, Gloria Lopez, Lydia Galindo, David (from KLDE Radio), Maria Hernandez, and Tabby Abrego.

We have new cookbooks available to purchase at the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Office located at 105 Concho St. A few of the titles available are The Texas Downtown Cookbook, West Texas Cook-Off, and The Quick and Easy Recipe Cookbook. The Texas Downtown Cookbook is a collector's item available for \$20. Please stop by and pick yours up today, and support the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program.

I would like to share this Easter recipe with you in honor of Easter Sunday, which is coming up.

Easter Season Recipe

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 3 Cups Kindness & Thoughtfulness | 1 cup Poise |
| 1 1/2 Cup Neatness | 2 cups Honestly |
| 1 cup Sense of Humor | 2 T. Tact |
| 6 cups of Laughter | 1 T. Wit |

Mix Honestly, Kindness, Thoughtfulness together until light and fluffy. Then fold in Tact, Wit, Neatness, and Poise. Laughter and again mix thoroughly. Add a sense of Humor and you should have a most satisfactory product. Take as part of your daily diet and you will be able to say, "I learned from Yesterday, I love today and I look forward to tomorrow." May God Bless you and your family. Always remember that next to the Savior's love is a Mother's Love! Happy Easter!

Happy Easter!

From
The Devil's River News

Amanda Word

has been chosen to study abroad for 4 weeks in New Zealand and Australia with Angelo State University's Education Department.

She will be having a Bake Sale on Good Friday April 2nd at the grocery store.

Anyone wishing to make a donation or bake goods please contact Kay or Larry Word at 387-2780.




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2010 Pre-Registration

The Concho Valley Council of Governments Rural Head Start program offers quality Early Childhood Education at *no cost*. Head Start provides individualized care and guidance to all eligible children, including those with disabilities. Each child in Head Start is considered a unique person with previous experiences, current needs, and potential for future growth. The Head Start approach is well suited to helping children with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities as well as children with severe disabilities.

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Ofelia Barron at 325-944-9666.



Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Eaton Hill Treasure Hunt

April 3, 2010

and

"Breakfast With the Easter Bunny"

at 8:30am

at the Apex Automotive & Collision Center at 115 Concho St. (Old Ford House)


Goodies, Prizes, Pancakes, Games, & photo with the Bunny at the Breakfast

Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Eaton Hill Treasure Hunt- starts at 11:00am at the Apex Automotive & Collision Center

Don't Forget the Golden Money Eggs!

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Oil & Agribusiness

Fertilizing Lawns in Spring

By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent

Our temperatures mean that the soil will soon warm enough for our warm-season turfgrasses (i.e. St. Augustinegrass, Bermudagrass, buffalograss, zoysiagrass, and centipedegrass) to begin to grow. This also means that we need 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 vegetation if you use fertilizers inappropriately. So what's in fertilizer? Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium (a.k.a. potash) - The three macronutrients and 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.

Other macronutrients, called secondary nutrients, are sulfur, calcium, and magnesium. The amount of calcium and magnesium in the soil is adequate for us. Boron, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum and zinc are called micronutrients or trace elements. These are needed in small 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 the County Extension Office 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!



Simple Routines Can Help Young Children Maintain a Healthy Weight

Adapted By: Kelly L Thorp, MS County Extension Agent-FCS Texas AgriLife Extension- Sutton County

Three simple routines can help young children maintain a healthy weight. Recent research published in the March 2010 issue of Pediatrics suggests that preschool children who eat their dinner meal as a family, get at least 10 1/2 hours of sleep each night, and limit screen-time to 2 hours or less per day were less likely to be obese than other children.

"Young children who eat meals prepared at home, in accordance to MyPyramid for Preschoolers, have a better diet quality and are more likely to eat sensible portion sizes when eating out," said Dr. Robinson, Registered Dietitian and Nutrition Specialist with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Family meals also allow for role modeling and parent child discussion time about the role of food in children's growth and health.

Both adults and children can benefit from a good night's sleep. Emerging research suggests that adequate sleep is important to not only maintaining health but optimal weight as well for both adults and children. While the relationship

between healthful weight and adequate sleep may remain elusive - getting a good night's sleep is a sound practice for everyone. The sleep recommendation for preschoolers is at least 10 1/2 hours each night.

Children who limit their screen time (time spent watching TV, DVD, computer and playing sedentary video games) are less likely to be overweight than other young children who get more screen time. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends

that young children limit their screen time to no more than 2 hours per day.

These three simple house rules can make a big difference to your child's health:

- enjoying dinner as a family affair,
- getting a good night's sleep, and
- limiting screen time.

To learn more about MyPyramid for Preschoolers visit <http://www.mypyramid.gov/preschoolers/index.html>.

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Ram Sale: Continued From Front Page



The high selling ram of the 2009-2010 Annual Ram Performance Test sale. Consigned by Texas Sheep Company (Travis Jones) of Fredericksburg and sold to Hageman Sisters of Douglas, Wyoming for \$2,700. (Pictured from left to right) are Tiffany Hageman, Travis Jones, Tracy Hageman Dilts and Nick Garza, Jr. with Texas AgriLife Research, Sonora.

Sonora, who bought seven supported this program both as buyers and consignors, but I'm pleased to see some core producers who have long new people participating in

the program and taking home these rams which can do nothing but improve the program and the industry as a whole," Waldron said.

The annual test has been conducted by the AgriLife Research Station at Sonora since 1947. Animals in the test represent some of the world's top flocks in terms of rate of gain and desirable fleece characteristics. The test lasts for 140 days and is traditionally followed by an educational field day and sale conducted in cooperation with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. For more information on the Annual Ram Performance Test, pictures of the top indexing and selling animals, and a complete listing of test and sale results go to: <http://safiles.tamu.edu/genetics/ramtest.htm>.

Any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.
-Arnold Bennett

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3 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 8675' EDWIN S MAYER JR - B38- #3 DW RINGO DRILLING I LP 16 02/17/10 10 DRLG AHEAD 8378'
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NEW 2 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 6750' CANYON RANCH -110- #5E DW RINGO DRILLING I LP 2 02/21/10 6 DRLG AHEAD 6521'
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A Voice From Washington: Continued From Front Page

promote it, and it's about to get worse. I keep telling conservatives, if you think 2008 was bad, you haven't seen anything yet. Truth is no longer a part of the discussion here."

Without question, the most popular subject being discussed over dinner tables across America has been the recent passing of the Health Care Reform Bill (returning over 30 million different results on a Google search at press time). It was that discussion that prompted my next question, where I asked Bozell about the current status of the Health Care Reform Bill. He described two different courses of action available for people that are against such legislation.

"There are a couple of options. The first one is the lawsuits being filed by attorney generals in different states (Even the democrat attorney general of Louisiana has joined the suit, which is very interesting). It is one that says that there is no justification in the constitution that gives Congress to mandate health-care.

On our cnsnews.com website we have a video that Sean Hannity aired on his TV show. We went to John Conyers, and he was asked where in the constitution he had the right to do this. It is just amazing what his answer was; and in that answer, he emphasized that he is the head of the judiciary committee. He said that you can find it [justification for government mandated health care] in the "Good and Something or Other Clause" in the constitution. The Good and Something Clause doesn't exist! He then went on to say, "My advisors tell me that it's constitutional, and if it wasn't we would just change it". Just change the constitution! That's their attitude.

The other option we have is to vote them out. That's the beauty of the constitution, and what a representative democracy is all about. You could vote them out before they do too much damage, but they are going to have to be voted out quickly. Sixteen thousand IRS agents will be hired to monitor you, if people knew about that before the bill, there would have been riots on the streets. Did you know the government was going to take over student loans, and what that has to do with health care I still haven't figured out. It was stuck in there and cost another 400 billion dollars."

Mr. Bozell feels that the next election in November is of pressing importance to the success of our nation.

"If the democrats are not defeated in November, and Obama is not voted out in 2012-the nation will very quickly become a third world power. You can already see it. Drive into your cities and see the potholes and trash, and the complete breakdown of services. In Washington D.C., the city sent out a fier advising home owners to put lights around their trash to keep the rat population down. This is our nation's capital.

There are now discussions taking place in Washington about prohibiting people from going directly to members of Congress offices-you're going to have to go to the visitor center to check in and get permission to visit your own congressmen. It's Animal Farm."*editors note-Animal Farm is a novel published by George Orwell in 1945 describing the events-through analogy- leading up to Stalin's era of power in Communistic Russia.

This should scare people, and it doesn't scare enough people. We laugh at the idea

that Fidel Castro would hold elections and announce that he had 98% of the vote, and Saddam Hussein would hold elections and announce that he had 99% of the vote. Do you know what the average re-election percentage is for the United States Congress? 98 % of the incumbents running for re-election (after their first term) get re-elected. Members of congress have been there for 30-40 years; that's not what the founding fathers said. It was citizen legislature. You were supposed to be doing your civil service and then go back to your real life. It makes no difference between Republicans or Democrats-how many of those people enter office as regular people and leave millionaires?"

In response to Doris Rousset's question, "Wouldn't this be a time for all the states to start looking at passing a constitutional amendment to limit term limits?", Mr. Bozell stated, "I used to be opposed to term limits for philosophical reasons, meaning that you shouldn't have a law to enforce the law. I felt the same about the balanced budget amendment, why should we have a law to say they [congress] have to do their jobs right. I now believe that the single most important thing we need is to set term limits.

Republicans have to be very careful, and I told Michael Steele [chairman of the Republican National Committee] this personally is not to assume for a moment that the tea party movement is on their side. They are not. I have seen the polling data, and their disdain for the Republicans is just one step less than the Democrats. The reason the Tea Party Movement is there is because the Republican Party broke their faith.

The Founders had a healthy disdain for government, and more than ever, I share in that disdain. It doesn't mean that government doesn't have a role. I go back to the issue of subsidiarity. It says that every issue should be handled at the most local level possible. If you can resolve something with your family, then you resolve it with your family. If your family can't resolve it, then you go to the community. If your community can't then

you go to the state. The federal government is the court of last resort. You go to the federal government when all other options are exhausted. You go to them for the national defense, and highways. I really don't have much more use for them than that."

A government that robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.

-George Bernard Shaw

Never Back Down: Continued from Front Page

broncos off. Krieg with another RBI hit to get Jennings in. following Castaneda with a single. Carrillo then hitting them in for the RBI'S. Velez hitting the ball really strong this year grabbed a double. Scoring four in the second to lead 10-0 in the second. I told the girls they can't slow down, and get comfortable in which everyone does. The next few innings it looked as though we were getting comfortable with a few errors happening in the 3rd inning, as well as the 4th. The Owls scored four runs in the 3rd, and one run in the 4th inning. The lady's did a really great job of coming back, and not letting the Owls on base the 5th and 6th inning. With high expectations from me the girls really satisfied me with their great attitudes and perseverance. The Broncos scored one more run in the 6th inning to hold the Owls 11-6 in the final score. The Lady Broncos will host the Alpine Lady Bucks Friday. Varsity starts at 5 and J.V. to follow.

Boys Bronco Track Team Holds Off Wall to Win the 52 San Angelo Relays

By Eddie Favila

The track team held off a great Wall team to win the big meet in San Angelo. With a total of thirteen teams vying for the team title the Bronco track team held strong to score 137 points to out point Wall by 20 points. The team was led by the distance runners this week, as they scored early and often during the meet.

The meet started with Manny Paredes winning the pole vault with a vault of 13 feet. Cash Jennings, competing in his first Angelo Relays, threw a 44'07" to place second in the shot put. Also competing in the Pole Vault, Daniel Lankford vaulted a personal best jump of 12'06" to get the bronze medal. Shane Patlan and Harvey Santana were the other two individuals competing in the field events.

Having a great day of competition, Robert Chavez ran a great race in the 3200 meter run to place second. Jesus Vasquez also running the 3200 meter run ran 11:15 to place fifth and Angel Aguayo placed sixth. The sprint relay team of team of Ryan Gorman, Jessie Guerrero, Zac Badeaux and Will Anderson ran a 44.77 to hold off Crane, Wall and a fast Munday team. Robert Chavez struck again but this time he was able to come away with the gold medal. His time of 2:05.28 won the 800 meters and teammates Cody Pena running a 2:08.24 placed third and Esteban Garcia running a 2:08.56 placed fourth. Will Dunn continued getting first places for team, he won the 110 hurdles with a time of 15.48 and collected the gold medal. Zac Badeaux picked-up the silver with a time of 15.51. The 100 meters had only one bronco running the event, Will Anderson ran a time of 11.54 to place fifth in his specialty. The next event was the 800-meter relay, and the team of Tyler Creek, Eric Santana, Ryan Gorman and Will Anderson ran a 1:36.18 to place in sixth place. Jesse Guerrero feeling great competition for the first time this year ran a 51.49 to win the 400 meter dash. Returning to the medal stand was Will Dunn, he got the silver in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 42.48. With Wall gaining ground after the 100 meter and 200 meters, the distance competitors put more distance between the teams by scoring valuable point in the 1600 meter run. Angel Aguayo ran a personal best time of 4:57 to place fifth in the event and Esteban Garcia ran a 5:01.63 to place sixth. Jesus Vasquez running also in the 1600 meter run placed seventh. With the excitement of the track meet coming to an end, the 1600 meter relay team of Dunn, Chavez, Pena, and Guerrero ran a great time of 3:28.66 to out run Goldthwaithe and Crane at the end. The team has been able to compete in the smaller meets and come out on top with wins, so the San Angelo Relays were a big test to see how the team would fare in a bigger arena with more teams and they rose to the competition. It was a tough and grueling weekend but the team was able to dig deep within themselves and preserve the win at the San Angelo Relays. Final Scores: Sonora 137, Wall 107, Munday 84, Golthwaithe 56, Crane 55, Tolar and Idalou 45, Seagraves 31, Bronte and Colorado City 17, McCamey 16, Grape Creek 6, and Coahoma 2

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Elderly or Disabled Homeowners May Defer Property Taxes. Texans who are 65 or older or who are disabled may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit at the Sutton County Appraisal District office. Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred — but not canceled — as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Taxes continue to add up, along with 8 percent interest per year. The law extends the tax deferral to the surviving spouse of the person who deferred taxes on the homestead if the surviving spouse was at least 55 years old when the deceased spouse died. If a tax deferral affidavit is on file, an older homeowner or one who is disabled cannot lose a homestead because of delinquent property taxes. A homeowner can halt a pending sale to foreclose on the homestead's tax lien. No taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes. There are no penalties on delinquent taxes during the deferral period; however, a tax deferral does not cancel penalties that were already due. All deferred taxes and interest become due when the homeowner or surviving spouse no longer own and live in the home. If the tax debt remains unpaid, penalties may be imposed and taxing units may take legal action to collect the past due amount. For further details about property tax deferral, contact Sutton County Appraisal District, 300 E Oak St., Ste 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. Further information is also available on the state Comptroller's Web site, www.window.state.tx.us, or by calling the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at (800)252-9121.

Baseball is a game where a curve is an optical illusion, a screwball can be a pitch or a person, stealing is legal and you can spit anywhere you like except in the umpire's eye or on the ball. -James Patrick Murray

When Nature Strikes! Jody's Roofing. 6601 Stokes Road San Angelo, Texas Phone 650-4500 Locally Owned

Kimble County Gun & Knife Show And Flea Market. April 10 & 11, 2010. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day. Coke Stevenson Center, Junction, Texas. Admission to gun show \$3.00. Children under 12 with a parent are free. Your admission gives you one free chance to win a 10 ft Wilderness Kayak. More chances available for \$1.00. Adjoining Flea Market FREE. Over 80 tables of guns, knives, ammo, hunting supplies, etc. Flea Market will offer jewelry, arts & crafts, candles, metal works and much more for everyone. Food Concession and Bake Sale. All proceeds to benefit Meals on Wheels. For More Information Contact 325-446-3621

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Sonora Alumni Football Team To Strap It on Against Cristoval April 2 in Menard



Submitted

Weekend Schedule Set for Alumni Football Games in Menard and Van Horn Mark your calendars now for these great matchups in West Texas, April 2nd & 3rd. Dates and locations have been set for games in your area! We have a great weekend on tap with games being played at Menard High School and Van Horn High School. On Friday, April 2, 2010 at Menard's Findlay Field there will be a doubleheader kicking off at 5:30 p.m. The first game will feature the Cristoval Cougars

Alumni Team and the Sonora Broncos Alumni Team. Friday night's main attraction will highlight the Junction Eagles and the home team the Menard Yellow Jackets alumni teams. Saturday's tripleheader, April 3rd, at Van Horn's Eagle Stadium will begin with two six-man games. At 2:30 p.m. the Sierra Blanca alumni team will kick-off against the Marathon alumni team. The Dell City Cougars Alumni Team will play against the Balmorhea Bears Alumni Team at 5:00 p.m. The second con-

test on Saturday will be an 11-man game with regular high school rules with kick-off slated for 7:30 p.m. The Alpine Bucks Alumni Team and the Van Horn Eagles Alumni Team will battle it out under the lights in Van Horn. Teams are currently practicing to gear up for the big game and put on a show for their friends, family and fans. Roster spots are still available if alumni from these schools are interested in playing football. Players can sign up at www.WestTexasB.com today!

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. Players can relive the glory days on the grid iron! No one will want to miss these exciting alumni football match-ups. Tickets will be available at the gate. Prices are as follows:
 Adults - \$8
 Senior 65+ - \$6
 Children 7-17 - \$6
 Children 6 & Under - Free

Broncos at the Next Level

Meghan Krieg-'07 Sonora graduate, Louisiana Tech, Jr., softball-Louisiana Tech opened conference play hosting Utah State in a 3 game series this past weekend. The Lady Techsters went 2/3 on the weekend. A 3 run, 2 out shot over the left field fence in the bottom of the 7th Friday night gave the Techsters the 6-4 victory. The Techsters found themselves trailing early with 4 errors and a couple of walks. Timely hits and Meghan holding USU to no runs the final 5 innings gave Tech the chance to come from behind. Meghan allowed 4 runs, 2 earned on 6 hits with 13 strike outs in the game. Techsters split with USU on Saturday 10-4, 3-4. Meghan picked up the win in game one allowing 3 runs 2 earned on 3 hits, walking 5 and striking out 4. After coming in relief in the 4th of game 2 with score tied 3-3, Meghan picked up the loss despite only allowing 1 run on 7 hits, no walks and striking out 9 in six innings of work. Meghan's performance again earned her a nomination for WAC pitcher of the week. Techsters travel to Shreveport for a single game and then travel to San Jose, Ca. for another 3 game conference series. April 6th the Techsters come to TEXAS for their only trip of the season for a noncon-

ference match up with UT of Arlington starting @ 6:00.
Kimble Luna-'08 Sonora graduate, Howard Payne, So., softball-The Lady Jack-ets of Howard Payne hosted Sul Ross University with double headers on Friday and Saturday. Friday, the Yellow Jackets won 8-0(6) and 3-1. Kimble, hitting .328 on the year, was 1/5 on Friday with a walk. On Saturday the two teams split 4-5, 7-1. Kimble hit 3/7 on the day with 3 singles and a walk and contributed 2 runs. The Yellow Jack-ets are 4-6 in the American Southwest Conference which places them in 4th with 4 more conference series to go. Next week the Lady Jackets travel to Seguin, Tx to take on 6th place Texas Lutheran.
John Duke Hudson-'09 Sonora graduate, College of Charleston, Fr., golf-The College of Charleston finds themselves in 15th after the 1st round in the Hootie at the Bulls Bay Golf Club in Awendaw, S.C. LSU, Duke and Wake Forest lead the tournament field of 15 of which 12 are ranked in the top 50 in the nation. John Duke with 3 birdies and 6 pars turned in a 79 for the day. The 2nd best score behind a 76 for the Cou-gars.

AWF-1
 Prescribed by Secretary of State Section
 127.096 Texas Election Code 3.07

PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the SONORA ISD SCHOOL TRUSTEE Election held on May 8, 2010 will be tested on April 8 at 3 PM at SISD Administration (date) (time) (location)

807 S. Concho to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Carthine A. Keel
 Signature of Officer

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección fiduciario de SISD que se llevará a cabo el 8 de mayo, 2010 se probará el 8 de abril a las 3 PM en el edificio de administración de Sonora ISD para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.

Carthine A. Keel
 Firmada por el Oficial

AWF-1
 Prescribed by Secretary of State Section
 127.096 Texas Election Code 3.07

PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the General Election held on May 8, 2010, will be tested on April 8, 2010 at 2:00 pm at City Hall, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Texas to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Patti Prather

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección General que se llevará a cabo el 8 de Mayo se probará el 8 de Abril a las 2:00 pm en City Hall, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Tejas, para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.

Patti Prather

If winning isn't everything, why do they keep score?

Vince Lombardi

Don't get hit with a penalty! "Render" your taxable property by April 15.

A "rendition" is a report to your county appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on Jan. 1 of this year.

Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business. If you render late, don't render or file an incomplete or false rendition, a 10 percent to 50 percent penalty may be imposed.

Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- You give your opinion of your property's value. The appraisal district must notify you in writing of any value change and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 2009. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2010.

What's the deadline?

The last day for filing 2010 renditions is April 15. You can get an automatic extension to May 15 (or the next business day if a weekend) if you ask for it in writing on or before the April 15 deadline. The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after May 15 for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

Where do you file?

File renditions with your local appraisal district at:

SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
 300 EAST OAK STREET, SUITE 2
 SONORA, TX 76950
 325-387-2507

Or contact:
 Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
 Property Tax Assistance Division
 P.O. Box 13528
 Austin, Texas 78711-3528
 or call: (800) 252-9121, Ext. 1

or on the Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/
 A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.

A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owns a home on Jan. 1 and uses it as a primary residence on that date is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption to lower school taxes this year...and it doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.

Are other exemptions available?

If you're disabled—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the 65 or older or disabled exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (The county, city or junior college may adopt a tax ceiling to lock in 2010 taxes as the highest amount for 65 and older or disabled homeowners.) The age 65 or older homeowners school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. The age 65 or older homeowners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home's school tax ceiling, to a new home.

If you're a disabled veteran who receives from the Veterans Affairs (VA)—(1) 100 percent disability compensation due to a service connected disability and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or a determination of individual unemployability, you are entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of your resident homestead. A surviving spouse does not qualify.

Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2009, you won't need to reapply for 2010 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 2010. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the age 65 or older exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.

When and where should I file?

File applications by April 30 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
 300 EAST OAK STREET, SUITE 2
 SONORA, TX 76950
 325-387-2507

Or contact:
 Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
 Property Tax Assistance Division
 P.O. Box 13528
 Austin, Texas 78711-3528
 or call: (800) 252-9121, Ext. 1

or on the Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/
 A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.

"Productivity appraisal" may lower the property taxes on your farm, ranch or timberland!

Texas law allows farmers, ranchers and timber growers to pay property taxes based upon the "productivity value" of their land rather than on market value. This means qualified land is taxed based on its ability to produce crops, livestock or timber—not on its value on the real estate market. And it can mean substantial property tax savings.

When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 2010 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

Do you need to reapply annually?

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to do so. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
 300 EAST OAK STREET, SUITE 2
 SONORA, TX 76950
 325-387-2507

Or contact:
 Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
 Property Tax Assistance Division
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