Devil's River - News

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

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Volume 123 • Issue 25

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Class of 1991 20th Reunion Saturday, June 25 2:00PM at the Spiller Ranch Potluck Picnic FMI Call 387-5266

Senior Center Celebrates Father's Day



Page 2



Page 4

Now's The Time To Consider 4-H Livestock Projects

Page 5

Page Index Page 2...Church Page 3...FYI Page 4...Students of the

Week Page 5...Oil and Ag

Page 6...Poster Winners Page 7...Landscape of month Page 8...Wildfires

Page 9...Classifieds Page 10...One Act Play

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Drought Deepens: Water Conservation is Paramount

U.S. Drought Monitor

June 7, 2011

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	Spirrous					

The Drought Monitor focusies on broad-scale conditions Local conditions may vary. See accom

http://drought.unl.edu/dm



By Jim Polonis

severity of this drought.

ary 2011 - 0.38", February capabilities. - 0.52", March - 0.00", April level – top graph and rainfall 2' per month depending on

Summer is here, Great! Yes, wells that are measured each but it is Hot, windy, and very month by automated sensors, dry. The outlook for July, Au- steel tape or electric (E) line. gust, and September, accord- The District also has 30 autoing to the meteorologists, is mated rain gauges distributed not optimistic. Unless there is across the county. These ina tropical storm or a hurricane struments and measurements coming our way, rain chances allow the District to monitor are slim to none. The drought the water levels in the aquifer map shown here illustrates the for a better understanding of its condition. More research The rain records at the needs to be done to increase Sutton County Underground our knowledge of the aquifer Water Conservation District so we can understand the flows (The District) show for Janu- of water, sources, and storage

The average rainfall for this - 1.18", and May - 0.18" for area is 22" per year, and that a total of 2.26". The District is borne out in the rainfall data collects and graphs (See figure that has been collected over below that shows well water the years. For example, we have rain data from the Texas - bottom graph) the informa- A&M Agricultural Sonora Extion from its automated water periment Station dating back level sensors and rain gauges to 1919. The data shows, from located across the county. The 1919 to the present, when the water level graphs and data average rainfall has been 22" show a slow decline of the or greater, this has occurred volume of water in the aqui- 57% of the time. During the fer (Edwards-Trinity Plateau) drought of the 50's the Exfor Sutton County. This de- periment Station recorded the cline ranges from 0.9' to about rainfall amounts shown in the graph below. Noting again, we the location of the well being have received 2.26" so far this measured. We have 28 water year, this means we are borrowing from our reserves.

A year ago, eight counties/water districts - Sutton, Schleicher, Menard, Crockett, Val Verde (Del Rio, TX), Kimble, Edwards, and Réal initiated a study of the water resources of the Edwards-Trinity Plateau aquifer. One of the findings stated if this area receives 17" of rain or less there is no recharge of the aquifer.

We have to be thankful for the aquifer we have, it is vast, supports the well being and economy of a number of communities, agriculture (ranches and irrigated farms), and the oil & gas industry. As you can see from the map it stretches over a large area of Texas, 34,000 square miles (see map on page 6).

Even though the aquifer is huge, it is not an infinite source of water. In order to sustain life, our well being, and economies we must be conservative in our use of this resource. This is especially true during this drought we are experiencing. It is the responsibility of everyone to conserve this precious

Continued on Page 6



BAND

The Texas Unlimited Band (aka TUB) was formed in the early 1980's in the small town of Dime Box, Texas. Texas Unlimited started out playing weddings, private parties and the local dance hall circuit. They soon developed a significant following and were requested at larger venues, fairs and festivals. Currently TUB is one of the most requested country and variety bands in Texas and has showcased their sound across the south west United States, making appearances on TV and radio talk shows.

Texas Unlimited has shared the stage with numerous major stars including: George Strait, NYNSYNC, Garth Brooks, Brooks and Dunn, Chris Ladoux, John Michael Montgomery, BlackHawk, George Jones, Restless Heart, Lori Morgan, Gary Allen, Tim Magraw, Diamond Rio, Steve Wariner, Clay Walker, Shenandoah, Toby Keith, Trace Adkins, Pat Green, among many others.

ROMALDO Y GRUPO **FUERZZO**

Romaldo Y Grupo Fuerzzo formed in april 2006 after Estilo Band from Ozona and Grupo Fuerzzo from San Angelo united to become one of the hottest tejano bands in West Texas.

With a musical background that each musician has brought, they have become one band to provide a variety of music to tejano, conjunto, country, norteno, and cumbias. They have opened for many great bands such as Grupo Vida, Los Garcia Bros, AT Boyz and many more!

The Sonora Academy of Arts: Young Artists Demonstrate Talent



By Ben D. Taylor

most common knowledge that to make art or you don't. This As spectators view art (from there are two different kinds of assumption of artistic ability oil paintings to ballet) they people, artists and non artists. only shows itself in the pres- see the graceful lines of danc-The underlying assumption is ence of spectators, because at ers and brush strokes alike

Photo By Sheyla Harkey Somewhere it became al- that you either have the ability that point it all looks so easy.

those first steps in the Sonora excuse." Academy of Arts' annual re-

Sonora there are a lot of plusport for finally es but one thing we are lacking in the arts. I was fortunate

moving in concert with rela- to have Mr. Conlin as a teachtive ease in order to paint a er in High school. He took picture. What the spectator us to the Opera, which really does not see is the amount of opened my eyes to what was time it took to create that art, out there. The passion and nor did a spectator ever see beauty of that moment tugged the artist's first attempt. Any at my heart. I realized that I art begins when with a person could enjoy this and could drawing a single line, or tak- be a part of this too. Yeah ing the first step with the beat I'm from Sonora but I can be of music. Over years of lines a part of this if I want too. I and steps an artist is made want my kids to have the same through hard work. On June kind of moment. I'm sick and 12th we got to see young art-tired of people saying "It's ok, ists on stage taking some of this is just Sonora"-that is no

The idea for the Sonora Academy of Arts is something Lizzie Chavez (owner of that has been in the forefront the Sonora Academy of Arts) of Lizzie's mind for years, but commented that, "living in she attributes her father's sup-

Continued on Page 6

Senior Center Activities

Thurs. June 23 - Happy Birthay Maria Quiroz June 24 - Happy Birthay Katy Wall Jenkins

June 27 - Bingo Mon.

June 28- Birthday Cake for June at Noon Tues. June 29 - Happy Birthay Pedro Virgen Wed.

Senior Center Menu

Thurs. June 23 - Meatloaf w/tomato sauce, blackeyed peas honey glazed carrots, bread, fruit salad, milk

June 24- Chicken fajitas, pinto beans, Spanish rice,

tossed salad, flour tortilla, peaches w/topping Mon. June 27 - Hamburger on bun, lettuce, onions, tomatoes oven French fries, carrot salad, applesauce

Tues. June 28 - Roasted chicken, pinto beans, spinach, milk

cornbread, cherry cobbler Wed. June 29 - Beef tips w/gravy, white rice, wheat bread Brussels sprouts, apple, Oreo cookie, 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).



Primera Iglesia Bautista 504 Santa Clara

387-2035

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

St. John's Episcopal Church

Lighthouse Community Church First United Methodist Church 1705 N. Crockett 387-9100

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

> Jehovah's Witness 310 St. Ann's St.

387-5658/387-5518

387-5713 Hope Lutheran Church 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366

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404 E. Poplar

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201 N. Water

387-2466

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www.suttoncountyhealthfoundation.org

The Devil's River News

Established 1890

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228 East Main Street, Sonora, TX 76950 Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication. The views expressed in submitted articles are no necessarily the views of The Devil's River Newspaper.



MEMBER

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Senior Center Celebrates Father's Day



Isael Perez, Frank Wamble & Pete Bradley enjoy lunch at the Senior Center in honor of Father's Day.

All Senior Dads were honored at Center on Friday 17th. at noon! Staff & Volunteers maded key-chain crosses for them and they enjoyed Cho. Cake & cookies maded by Maggie Mesa! Also had door prizes & winners were: Haircut donated by TC Barber Shop-Milton Cavaness, Sonic Meal-Julio Samaniego, Jr. Chamber of Commerce-goodie bag w/cap, mouse pad & koolzie for drinks, Sonic Meal-Isael Perez, Ronnie Cox w/drugstore (Candy)-Pete Bradley, Sonic Meal-Clay Cade, Juanita Berrera (Wallet)-Joe Brown, Sonic Meal-Frank Wamble, Maggie Mesa (Avon Basket)-Jim Stephen, Grandma's House (Cap/hat)-Pat Jungk

All of the homebound senior dads got a bag of candy-we didn't forget them! I would like to say "Thanks" to everyone who donated door prizes and to the staff for everything that they did to honor our Senior Dads. I know some of the ladies were jealous and said that we did more for guys than them on Mother's Day but we have to take care of the men-they're less men than women-sorry ladies! Everyone had a great time and enjoyed meal of BBQ brisket, potato salad, green beans, coleslaw, watermelon salad, bread & milk!

Thanks again for everything-hope I didn't forget anyone. Juanita Mesa

Chank You Notes

To the People of Sonora and Sutton County,

The Sonora Volunteer Fire Department thanks everyone who participated in its recent Fish Fry, as well as all who purchased raffle tickets, and all who contributed to the Department and continue to contribute in so many ways.

The Department appreciates the constant and generous support of the people of Sonora and Sutton County, and the men and women of the S.V.F.D. are deeply grateful.

> Most sincerely, Sonora Volunteer Fire Departmen

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7-8 YEARS 5-6 YEARS

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10:30-11:00AM

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10:30-11:00AM 11:00-11:30AM FITNESS CLASS

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lass of 199

20th Year Reunion

Saturday, June 25 2:00 PM (after the parade) at the Spiller Ranch

Join us for an Old-Fashioned Potluck Family Picnic

Directions:

From the Steakhouse, take the North access road about 5 miles, the 3 miles on SCR 108 and 106 left at Y. Gate is 2408 with Spiller on the fence. Take pasture road up the hill and down to the house.

FMI call Don or Anita at (325)387-5266.

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> Tuesdays Noon **Downtown Lions Club**



Justin Mathews (325) 277-5018

Email: jusmathews@yahoo.com

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Mailing Address P.O. Box 272 Sonora, TX 76950

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Bridal Selections

Mandy Brister & Cody Knott McKenzie Watkins & Embre Smith Tristan Bosak & Brittany Longoria Tessie Wagner & Nick Perez Katie Harrell & Quincy Crain

A flower for everyday...

Parker Lumber Has Grand Finale

Winner Shopping Giveaway; Takes Home \$1000 In Merchandise.



Sonora, Texas---Spring just got a little sunnier for Parker Lumber's customer Margaret Bernal.

On June 13, 2011, Margaret Bernal was chosen as the winner of the Parker Lumber \$1000 Shopping Giveaway. Bernal was selected at random from more than 1,500 entries submitted at the store from February 28 – May 31.

When Bernal was notified that she was Parker Lumber's Shopping Spree winner she was amazed. "Really, I won the shopping spree? Wow ok I'll be there." Bernal said that she would like to purchase a refrigerator for her kitchen, but isn't too sure yet on what she will be using the \$1000 shopping

Woody Crow said that Parker Lumber is delighted to provide one of its customers with the opportunity to make their spring projects a little more exciting. "Everyone has a few extra chores this time of year, and we're glad that Margaret will be able to choose whatever tools she wants to get the job done. We thank all those who entered the giveaway for their participation."

About Parker Lumber:

Parker Lumber is located at 104 E 3rd St., and has been serving customers in the Sonora area for 81 years. Parker Lumber offers a complete line of hardware, plumbing and lumber supplies for everyone from the do-it-yourself homeowner to professional. Crow has been a Do it Best Corp. member since 2007.

About Do it Best Corp:

Based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Do it Best Corp. is the only full-service U.S.-based, member-owned hardware, lumber and building materials buying cooperative in the home improvement industry. With annual sales of \$2.38 billion, Do it Best Corp. is the second largest co-op in the industry, serving 4000 member-owned stores in the United States and in 47 foreign countries.

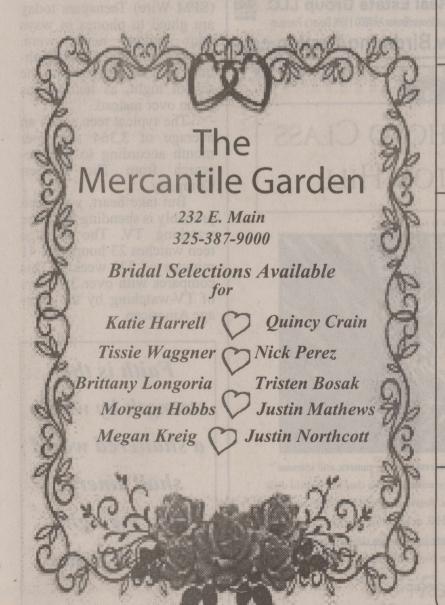


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Low Lakes Increasing Risk of Deadly Boat Crashes

The worsening Texas drought is also the most simple: pay is not only taking a toll on attention to where you're goyards, crops and wildlife - it ing and beware that with low can be deadly for boaters.

significant water level drops in below the surface. many Texas lakes and water- "As we are rapidly entering

very low lake levels across the respectful of these." state.

caused by grounding, hitting so many of our lakes way lowyond first aid."

Parrish said the most common a boat if you've been drinkfactor resulting in injury or ing."
death was the operator or pas
For more boating safety tips sengers being ejected from the see vessel upon impact.

The best precaution to take safety tips/.

water, dangerous rocks, tree Lack of rain and abnormal- stumps or other normally subly high, dry winds have led to merged objects could be right

ways. And shallow water can another year of low lake levmean trouble for recreational els, it is critically important for boaters to be aware of During the last protracted dry their surroundings," Parrish spell, Texas Parks and Wildlife said. "Some river authorities Department records show that will provide buoys marking Texas saw a high incidence of underwater hazards and danboating-related accidents. Most gerous obstacles, but this is of those accidents were due to not always the case. Low lake boaters grounding or hitting levels provide many inherent submerged objects because of dangers and boaters need to be

Other activities such as "Looking at the three-year pulling tubers and water skiers time frame (2007, 2008 and should also be undertaken with 2009) we responded to 148 the utmost care on lakes with boating accidents that were low lake levels, he said."With submerged objects, or hitting er than normal," Parrish confixed objects," said Jeff Par- tinued, "this summer it's even rish, TPWD's Assistant Chief more critical to have personal for Marine Law Enforcement. flotation devices for everyone "Of these 148 accidents, 15 re- on your boat and to make sure sulted in death and 123 caused all children under the age of injuries requiring treatment be- 13 are wearing one. And don't risk going to jail by operating

> http://www.tpwd.state. tx.us/fishboat/boat/safety/

FNB June Popcorn Contribution



Lisa Price presented the First National Bank's June Popcorn Contribution to Susan Hall of Keep Sonora Beautiful.

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Class of 1991 20th Reunion: Saturday, June 25, 2011 at the Spiller Ranch around 2:00PM after the parade. Join us for an old-fashioned potluck family picnic and fellowship. From the Steakhouse, take the north access road about five miles to SCR 108 and drive about 3 miles. At the Y take a left on SCR 106. Gate is 2408 with Spiller on the fence. Take the pasture road up hill and down to the house. For more information, call Don or Anita at 387-5266.

Volleyball Camp with ASU Head Volleyball Coach Chuck Waddington Join ASU Head Volleyball Coach Chuck Waddington for an all skills volleyball camp right here in Sonora on July 12th, 13th and 14th at Sonora High School Gym. Elementary/Middle School 9am—12 noon, High School 1pm—4pm. For more information contact Greta Ramsdell at 325/206-0142 or at gretaramsdell@hotmail.com.

Sutton County Friends of NRA Pre-event raffle is underway! Tickets are \$10 each with one winner taking home five firearms and a 14 gun fire resistant safe. Tickets may be purchased at Buck N Bass/Sonora Air Cooled Engines, by contacting Tonya @ 387-3861 or 206-0454 or by contacting any committee member. The winning ticket will be drawn during our 4th Annual Auction/ Banquet, Saturday, September 17, 2011. Your support is appreci-

LIONS CAMP AT KERRVILLE FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED is available on a first come basis and is free. This one week camp is for Diabetics children on insulin, Physically disabled children and Down Syndrome children. For additional information contact Col. Pete Bradley 325.387.6282 or go to Lions camp.com

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



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Watkins Graduates Top Honors From Texas A&M

Find Your Lost Highway Patrol Issued Ticket Online

Drivers who received tickets from the Texas Highway Patrol—and misplaced them before paying the ticket or making arrangements to contest it—can now look for the court information online, 24 hours a day, seven days a

Drivers can search for tickets issued by the Highway Patrol within the past 24 months from the current date. Drivers must provide their driver license or identification card number, their date of birth and their full name as listed on the driver license or ID to perform the search.

Once they perform the search, the driver will be proyided with the name, address and contact information for the court where the ticket was Sonora graduate, graduated gree in agricultural communi- student-led and professional filed.

The web address is https:// www.txdps.state.tx.us/HighwayPatrol/Citations/.



magna cum laude from Texas cations and journalism and a organizations. A&M University in College minor in human resources.

Archeologist uncovers

McKenzie Watkins, a 2007 2011, with a bachelor's de- enzie was active in several

McKenzie served as student director Station, Texas on May 13, While at Texas A&M, McK- for the Dr. Joe Townsend Leadership Fellows; community chair for Aggie Access Learning Communities; editor-in-chief for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences magazine, The the College of Agriculture and our Community. and Life Sciences Centennial Committee as a student representative, among other

> organizations. master's degree in leadership and serve lunch to attendees fall 2011, where she has acdent Council members cepted an assistantship offer.

Lions Roar



Baked chicken, Queens and Queen Candidates and our distinguished District Judge joined the Lions for our weekly program. Lion Judge Pete Gomez Jr. accompanied by his beautiful spouse, Pat, provided the Club members with some insight into the challenges Texas judges are faced with on a daily basis. The Judge presides over the 112th Judicial District of Texas, which includes five large West Texas Counties... Sutton, Crockett, Upton, Pecos and Reagan. Judge Peter is a "Son of Sonora" and a product of the Sonora School System. He graduated from Angelo State, received his law degree from Texas Tech Law School and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1989. Elected Judge of the 112th Judicial District in 2006 and re-elected in 2010. Imagine the challenges and responsibilities the Judge presides over, in this critically important job...Divorce, Child Custody, Child Abuse, Murder, Theft just to name a few. We are pleased to refer to the Judge as Lion Pete. A word of advise to all citizens...when you meet this pleasant gentleman in public, try not to discuss impending personal cases with him. Wait until he puts his robe on and the bailiff swears you in. Judge Pete, thanks for your service and judicial understanding while presiding over many "gut wrenching" decisions affecting citizens and our communities

Katy Harrell, a Sutton County Queen mentor and advisor, escorted the remaining two candidates, Adriana Faz and Whitly Hernandez to the Lions Club for lunch and an interview by the members. They were introduced to the Club by a super Lions supporter during her reign... Ms. Rose Karnes, Miss Sutton County. Each candidate had opening comments and then was questioned by the members. Adriana and Whitly left no doubt they are ready for "prime time" as Miss Sutton County contestants. Good luck ladies in your quest for the crown.

The Lions Cub welcomed our newest Lions - Suzette Geer and husband Tim. Tim is the Operations manager of EXTER-RAN Company and Suzette is a homemaker among other accounting and management talents. Welcome to Sonora! A warm welcome is in order for The Dozier Family who re-AgriLeader; and served on cently moved to Sonora and will join Sonora's School District

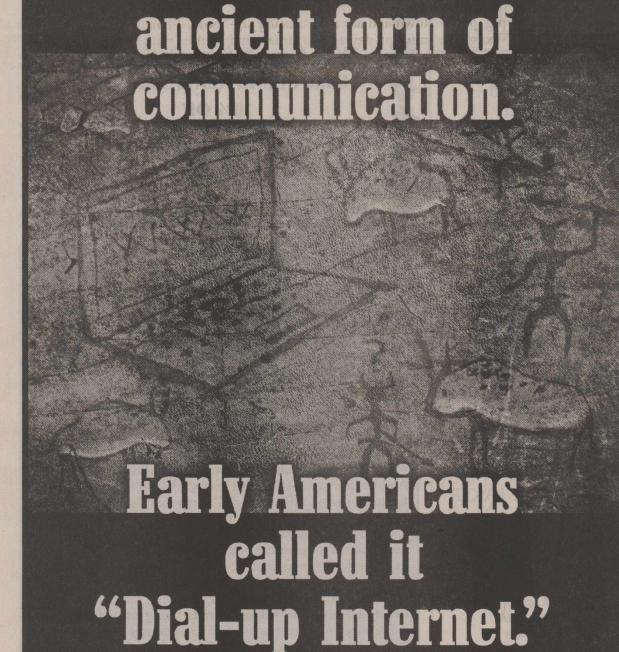
> Please continue your prayers for a rapid return after surgery for Janalyn Jones and Lee Bloodworth.

Upcoming Events

Go Broncos and SHOP SONORA

McKenzie will pursue her June 23 National Wool Show - Lions will fund awards, provide

and development at the Uni- June 22-23: Rodeo Slack, Lions concession will be open versity of Florida, beginning June 24-25; Sutton County Days and Rodeo Lions man Rodeo Concession Stand assisted by Pam Crenwelge and SISD Stu-



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DIGITAL PHOTO CLASS ON EATON HILL



Learn how to take better pictures, understand your camera, and increase your skills in a week-long photography workshop. The class will be held daily June 13th-17th with morning sessions. Registration is \$150.00 with sign-up at the Devil's River News office, Eaton Hill, or by calling directly. Class will be held at the Eaton Hill House. For more information contact James Ricks at 387-4454 or come by the Devil's River News office or Eaton Hill.

Photo Raphy

Does Your Teen Text Too Much?

(SPM Wire) Teenagers today are glued to phones in ways their parents never were. But it's no longer about gabbing with friends late into the school night, as texting has taken over instead.

The typical teen sends an average of 3,364 texts per month according to new research from The Nielsen Company.

But take heart, your teen probably is spending less time watching TV. The average teen watches 23 hours and 41 minutes of TV weekly. This compares with over 39 hours of TV-watching by the average American.

Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light.

- Helen Keller

Oil & Agribusiness

Now's The Time To Consider 4-H Livestock Projects

By Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County Agricultural Extension Agent



For 3rd -12th graders, now is a good time to be thinking about 4-H livestock projects. This part of summer is when exhibitors begin buying lambs and goats for the upcoming school year. Those who haven't showed livestock may won- the myths are estimates of the tion is doubling every year. der, "why show a 4-H lamb or goat project?"

Well, the main objective is the same as any other 4-H project: acquire leadership skills and work ethic; induce qualities such as commitment, determination, and patience; practice sportsmanship; and basically develop youth into responsible adults. However, record-keeping, time management and communication skills can also be acquired through participation. this estimate. Furthermore, the lamb or goat project can help educate kids and parents in the subjects of nutrition, health, marketing, eco- til Dr. Roel Lopez, associate average, a sow is about 13 simply observing the color pat- "In a 2006-07 study funded by nomics, genetics and numerous other topics.

4-H market lambs/goats make an ideal animal project. Some strong advantages include: low initial cost, it can be a short term project (3 to 5 months), it is usually very safe recently used geographic in- litters per year. This means types and individual hog falls via control efforts in just two for young children and little equipment is needed. Moreover, formation system procedures there is a significant poputhese activities promote family involvement.

It is also important to be aware of the large numbers of reliable estimates, said Hig- cry from the doubling-yearly opportunities the 4-H sheep/goat project presents. In addition to showing at jackpots, county or major shows, 4-H'ers can participate in record book competitions, public speaking, educational demonstrations, wool judging, and can develop breeding projects. The 4-H sheep/goat project, because of this simply called GIS, refers to flexibility, has much to offer.

Don't know much about animal husbandry? Not a problem...youth will receive help along the way. The County Extension Agent will help you find and select your lamb or goat and makes project visits to evaluate progress and make suggestions. Project leaders also provide management tips and information. Additionally, clinics are held regularly to provide help and information on feeding, training, grooming, that it's just a electronic map,"

Lambs and goats can be purchased between June and late September. Validation takes place sometime in October. This pez was able to quantify first permits issued for shooting damage includes the rooting of legal control methods to abate means that animals are identified to prove ownership, and no the extent of the feral hogs; the number of landscapes, parks, lawns, golf the damage by reducing feral more will be accepted to show after the validation date. So, if habitat in Texas. He estimates pigs processed in commer-courses, sports fields and even hog populations." you'd like involvement in an activity that's fun, challenging, that "approximately 134 mil- cial processing facilities; and cemeteries, as they search for and provides learning experiences....here's your chance!

Of course, 4-H has much more to offer. Possibilities in- state's 170 million acres, rep- available from U.S. Depart- a single hog can cause over Extension website, "Coping clude photography, poetry, comedy, drama, dance, outdoor resents feral hog habitat," said ment of Agriculture-Wildlife \$200 damage annually." education, clothing & textiles, shooting sports, horticulture, Higginbotham. entomology, and MUCH more! Want more details? Contact Sutton County Extension Agent Pascual Hernandez at 387- ral hog habitat and the species possible to identify the breed

Busting Feral Hog Myths

Texas, they were just blowing that the actual number could Higginbotham) wildlife biologist.

more about the pesky por-450 years."

actual number of feral hogs So what are the facts? in Texas, Higginbotham said. A common number that has of past studies done by his been bantered about for years graduate student, Janell Mel-

That is, there wasn't un-University Institute for Renewable Natural Resources, erage, mature sows have 1.5 to turn the guesstimates into lation growth rate, but a far ginbotham, who collaborated with Lopez on the study.

formation systems," usually a procedure that involves diverse data gathering means, from on-the-ground GPS referenced data to satellite to historical records, and organizes it geographically.

Lopez said.

By knowing the range of fepopulation density in various of a given feral hog by its types of Texas environments, color and markings. "Hog-Lopez also came up with a wash," said a Texas AgriLife

"When it comes to feral feral hog population-growth Higginbotham said." hogs in Texas, separating fact rates are a related myth. That because of feral hogs' annually." Highest ranking among high birth rates, their popula-

> A 2011 consolidation markings. 5.6 pigs, Lopez said.

first litter, and that also on avmyth, Lopez said.

"We estimated the populaly," Lopez said. "This means ing in scope and range. that it would take almost five ble in size if left unchecked."

Services.

A common myth is that it's

OVERTON — Until recently, population estimate that has Extension Service wildlife spe- ral hogs do as they compete if anyone tried to tell you how some meat to it, Higginbo- cialist. (Texas AgriLife Exten- with other wildlife species, many feral hogs there are in tham said. Lopez estimates sion Service photo by Dr. Billy such as whitetail deer, for

smoke, according to a Texas range from a low of 1.9 mil- Another common myth is that And some of the species chal-AgriLife Extension Service lion to a high of 3.4 million. recreational hunting alone can lenged by feral hog invasions Exaggerated claims of control feral hog populations, are endangered species.

from fiction is becoming a lit- Many of the population ducted across the nation, hunt- line is not an actual hog-head tle easier as research reveals guesstimates are based on a ingremoves between 8 percent count, but the damage they do purely arbitrary number of and 50 percent of a population, and how to develop ways to cines," said Dr. Billy Higgin- hogs in Texas being set at with an average of 24 percent reduce it. botham, AgriLife Extension 1 million in the 1970s. This across all studies," he said. wildlife specialist. "There re- number, which also had no "In order to hold a population actively engaged in deer manmains much we don't know research basis, is then often stable with no growth, 60 to 70 agement, their tolerance of feabout this exotic that has in- extrapolated on using an- percent of a feral hog popula- ral hogs should be very, very habited our state for the past other bit of misinformation: tion would have to be removed low," Higginbotham said.

possible to identify the breed through control efforts? The of a given feral hog by its color answer is 'absolutely yes.'

scended from domestic breeds, through education and outis 1 to 4 million. But there lish, the average litter size in Eurasian wild boars and, of reach and Wildlife Serviceswas just no data to support Texas and the Southeast is course, hybrids of the two," led control efforts, damage It is also known, that on spite claims to the contrary, by control efforts," he said. director of the Texas A&M months old when she has her terns, hair characteristics and the Texas Department of Agsize cannot let you definitive- riculture, agricultural damage

One thing about feral hogs is definitely not a myth — the studies done by AgriLife Exhuge amount of damage they tension and again funded by do to crops, wildlife habitat the state's department of agri-The term "geographic in- tion growth of feral hogs in and landscapes, Higginbotham culture confirmed that control Texas averages between 18 said. And from all indications, measures such as trapping and percent to 20 percent annual- the damage they do is expand- shooting "prevented millions

years for a population to dou- largely a rural or agricultural issue in Texas, inflicting over The study, which was \$52 million in damage annu- first line of defense since conducted by Lopez and ally," he said. "But the pork- Texas is 95 percent privately "A simpler way to put it is Mellish, used three methods ers have literally moved to owned land," Higginbotham to estimate feral pig popu- town and are now causing siglation growth in Texas: the nificant damage in urban and Using GIS techniques, Lo- statewide number of aerial suburban communities. This Practices and using various lion acres, or 79 percent of the feral hog control data made food. It has been estimated that feral hogs, visit the AgriLife

doesn't include the damage fe-

food and habitat, he noted.

It's important to keep in "Of the dozen studies con- perspective that the bottom

"For those landowners 'Can we (significantly) re-Another myth is that it's duce the damage feral hogs do

"Texas AgriLife Extension "Today's feral hogs are de- Service has demonstrated that Higginbotham said. "But de- can be significantly reduced ly identify which of the three was reduced by 66 percent

Since 2007, subsequent of dollars in damage by reduc-"Feral hogs were once ing feral hog populations," he

> "Landowners remain the said. "This means arming the public with Best Management

For more information on with Feral Hogs," at http://fe-The \$200-per-hog estimate ralhogs.tamu.edu.

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Drilling I Lp #17 1/19/11 3 2150' O/G Ver Od

9600' Burk Royalty Company Harris #1 Ringo Drilling I Lp

#19 1/15/11 7 2510' O/G Dir Od 6500' Eog Resources University 40-14 #4 H Cactus Drilling

#102 1/13/11 9 O/G Hor Od 9000' Approach Operating West #2315 Nabors Drilling #709 1/10/11 12 O/G Ver Od 9000' Approach Operating Cinco Terry -M- #901 H Nabors

Drilling #714 1/3/11 19 O/G Hor Od 9000' Walter O & G Corp M Smith -15- #1 H Patterson Uti #471 12/5/10 48 10585' O/G Hor Od

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Broncos 7 on 7 Take 2 of 3 in San Angelo

A Long Hot, Dry Summer – Conserve Water-contd. from front

Everyone in Sonora generally knows the rules of football however, let me go over the 7on7 basics so we can better understand this game. The field is 45 yards & you have 3 downs to make a first down which is 15 yards long., All passing, one hand touch is the same as a tackle, no blocking, two 20 minute halfs with a 10 minute half time and the game is over, no time outs and the clock once started doesn't stop, Offensive team has 25 seconds from the last play to start another play, They also retrieve all balls and spot the ball where the referee indicates. After the ball is snapped the quarterback must pass before 4 seconds expires or the play is over and down is lost. Touchdowns are 6 points and extra points are 1 or 2.

This fast paced game requires speedy, smart, skilled, conditioned and disciplined players.

Sonora kids have all of these characteristics as evidenced by our record 10 wins 1 loss as witnessed by this author.

Monday night Sonora played three games in Angelo State Stadium Complex against Brady, Central Varsity and Central JV. Once again we were shorthanded due to vacations however, we beat a good Brady team with Sonora scoring over 50 points in that game. A rematch against Central Varsity, a team we beat by about 6 touchdowns last week was next. Central rebounded and defeated Sonora by two scores. They were ready and we were a little flat. We failed to get our passes off in 4 seconds on numerous occasions resulting in two touchdown being called back coupled with the fact that our receivers did not always run their routes with Bronco intensity. The Bronco last game was a shutout against Central JV improving Sonora's record to 2-1 for the day.

Sonora's JV also fielded a team lead by Mr. Jock Dutton and is participating in Angelo each Monday like the Varsity. Games are 5,6 and 7pm as the Varsity prepares for the State Championship in College Station on July 14-15. Ya'll stop by

and see a great group of Sonora kids.

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Keeping Kids Busy This Summer

(StatePoint) Summer is a welcome respite from the hectic days of the school year. Yet no matter how peaceful the long, lazy days of summer can be, parents and teachers know that all play and no learning can make the transition back to school extremely difficult for children.

According to the National Campaign for Summer Learning, most students lose more than two months of math skills over the summer. But a break from the academic rigors of the school year doesn't have to mean a learning loss come fall.

Parents can take simple steps to encourage their child's learning throughout the summer months. This can be a simple as turning classic summer activities such as learning to swim, outdoor picnics, and family trips to museums into teachable moments. Another option is to enroll children in educational summer camps.

"When teachers test children's abilities after summer break, we often see the steepest decline in skills like reading and math," said Megan Riede, senior director of education programs for KinderCare Learning Centers. "Fun and engaging summer activities that encourage learning not only help combat summer learning loss, but can positively affect children's motivation, self-esteem, and confidence."

A vast majority of preschool parents (69 percent) choose to send their children to day camps according to the second annual national "Summer Fun" survey conducted by KinderCare Learning Centers, the nation's largest private provider of early childhood education.

Here are some other tips parents can use to keep kids' minds

• Turn a grocery store trip into a math lesson by having your

child compare prices and tell you the best deal.

• Change the classic road trip "Are we there yet?" question into a challenge by giving the vehicle's speed and remaining trip distance, and having your child estimate your arrival time. • Enroll your child in a program that balances interesting and educational content with group play. For example, Kinder-Care Learning Centers created 12 uniquely themed camps like "Scienteriffic" and "Wilderness 101" that offer a balanced approach to learning and fun.

• Make meal and snack preparation a chance to practice reading (recipes) and working with fractions (have older children double or halve a recipe).

• Develop a summer reading plan with your child. Make weekly trips to the library and help your child create a list of books to read based on their interests.

Parents can find more information about how to give their children a fun, educational summer at www.kindercare.com/

Learning doesn't have to be a solo activity. Have your child grab a friend or two and set them up for a summer of exploration. Come fall, they (and their parents and teachers) will thank you. Letting your child include their friends in their reading activities will make it seem less like school and more like fun!

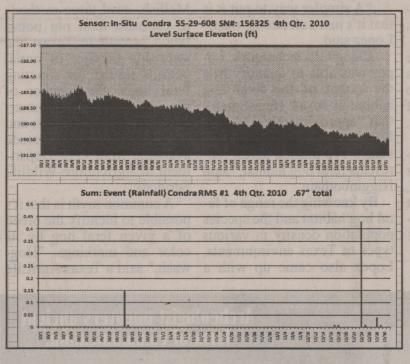
resource by using only as much water as required to sustain life and our well being. One way to save water is by reducing the amount one applies to their lawn. It is reported that 70% of the water consumed by homeowners goes to keeping the landscape watered. Remember: tomorrow you may need the water to drink that you put on your lawn today. Another way to save, is wash your vehicle once a month and not let the water run down the driveway and into the street. Wait until the dishwasher is full of dirty dishes before operating it. Divert the laundry wash water onto the lawn; the clothes are cleaned and the lawn is watered. Construct a rain harvest system, the benefits will amaze you.

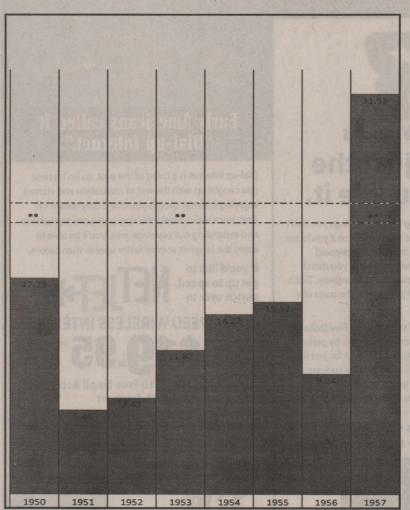
Check for leaks and fix those faucets that are dripping. If a faucet drips 100 drops/ minute in a month 350 gallons of water will be wasted. "Silent" leaks from a toilet, a cup a minute will waste 2700 gallons in a month. A "silent" leak can be easily detected by putting a dark food color into a full tank. After ten minutes, if the color appears in the toilet bowl, there is a "silent leak. By eliminating these leaks, you will save water and money. Your water bill and/or your electric bill for your well pump will be less.

Remember too; be careful when using pesticides, chemicals, and petroleum products. If they are used or disposed improperly today, you may be drinking them tomorrow. We have a karst aquifer, which means, there are underground channels that pick up pollutants quickly and carry them in the water td From Front we use to drink. Based on the laboratory analyses of the 20 wells sampled this year for contaminants everyone is doing a good job keeping our aquifer clean. Keep up the good work.

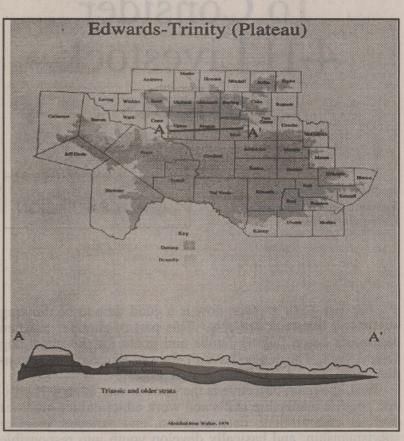
The drought we are experiencing has a tight grip on our area with no relief in the immediate future. We have data that indicates our aquifer is still healthy. What we do not know is how long it will provide us water without serious degradation. To avoid a serious shortfall of water under current conditions every effort should be taken to conserve our precious resource.

Today, our aquifer supports more people, communities, and activities than it did during the drought of the fifties. Therefore, it is more important today to save water so it will be available tomorrow. Conserving water begins with you; future reserves of water depend on our actions today.





Graph of rainfall during the Drought of the 50's -Source: Texas A&M Agricultural Sonora Experiment Station (** denotes line representing 22" average rainfall).



Sonora Academy of Arts: Con-

encouraging her to make it a reality, "my father had been telling me for years that I need to do this. I am proud that he was behind me. Her journey into the arts was not only inspired through the faith her father had in her, as her faith in God played a pivotal role in her journey. "God put this on my heart; I could not have done this unless I trusted His plan for me. I believe in my student's ability, and I saw my trust in God expressed in the improvement of these kids."

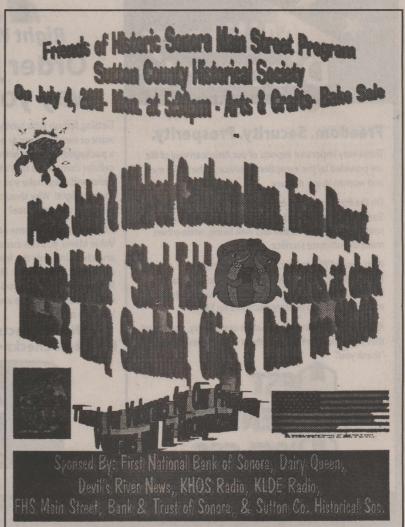
In its first year of operation the art academy currently offers classes in ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, and many other styles of dancing along with the Sonora youth choir and vocal lessons. Lizzie is also hoping to expand into other programs in the future.

When I asked her why she feels art is important for kids she responded by saying, "I tell the kids to let the strength come from inside you to dance. I try to teach them that it is an expression of their innermost being. It's precious. They learn confidence. For someone to go up and share their art with someone else takes great courage. I tell them that you aren't just showing them your work, you are showing them a deeper part of who you are."

In the course of my interview with Lizzie (supplemented by watching the recital) I was able to see her vision for the Sonora Academy of Arts. It became obvious that Lizzie was less interested in turning every child into a professional dancer, and more interested in making all of her students better people through art.

"My students are amazing, because they all have different personalities and backgrounds. Because of the arts it brings them all together. It's very refreshing to see all of these students, once strangers walk away as friends."

If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful at all. Michelangelo



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.

The Devil's River News

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08 W 1st St.	\$105,000	
02 E Poplar St.	\$112,000	
08 S. Concho Ave.	\$129,900	Sale Pending
15 Deerwood Dr.	\$140,000	
06 Brookside St.	\$150,000	
11 Sonora Dr.	\$165,000	Price Reduced
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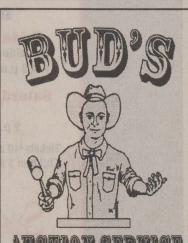








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Notify the pipeline opera or as soon as you reach a safe area. Call collect. Give your name, a description of the leak and its location. If you do not know who the pipeline operator is, call your local fire, or sheriff's department, or the state police. Advise them of the nature and location of the emergency.

If you see someone digging near a pipeline or doing other construction work...or if you plan to do such work near a pipeline yourself...please call the telephone number shown on the sign and let the pipeline company know so damage can be avoided. It's in your interest...and the nation's.

This notice provided by: Newfield Exploration Company 24 Hour Emergency Number: 24 HOUR PHONE: (800) 361-6000

America cuenta con mas de 300,000 miles de tuberia con gas natural y productos por todo Estados Unidos. Esta tuberia tiene un record de suguridad Segundo a ninguno en la insustria de la trans-portacion...y queremos ayudarnos a mantenernos de esa maera. Pero esta ahi, trabajando quientamente para proveer energia cara usted y otros consumindores de esta nacion. La lista de co-modamente transportadas en la tuberia, el hombre del operador, y el numero de telefono donde pondra encountrar al representante del operador a cualquier hora. Aungue la tuberia tiene un record ex-cepcional de Buena seguridad, de vez en cuando puede ocurrir una fuga. Las indicaciones de la fuga puede incluir:

Un olor extrano o inusual en el lugar donde hay tuberia

Un sonido como silbido o rugido (causado por el gas natural o producto excapando de la tuberia) Flamas originadas por una abertura en el suelo.

Si se da cuenta de la fuga en una tuberia...

ALEJESE DEL AREA INMEDIATAMENTE

Evite manejar cerca del gas que esta escapando

Evite un contacto directo con el gas o liquidos que escapan

Evite el crear chispas o algun tiop de calor que pudiera causar que el gas natural se incendiara, si se encuentra en un area sospechosa de gas, no encienda un cerillo, un motor, o un switch de electridad.

Notifuique al operador de la tuberia tan pronto que se encuentre en un area segura. Llame por cobrar. De su nombre, una descripcion de la fuga y la location. Si no sabe quen es el operador de la tu-beria, llame al departamento de bomberos de su localidad, la policia o el departamento del sheriff, o la policia estatal. Avise la naturaleza y locacion de la emergencia.

Si observa a alguien escarbando cerca de una tuberia o hacienda trabajo de construccion... o si tiene planes de hacer dicho trabajo cera de una tuberia...por favor llame al de telefono que aparece en el anuncio y deje que compania de tuberia concocida para evitar danos. Esta en su interes...y el de la nacion.

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Superman is a Jerk

A couple of strangers were drinking at a cliffside bar overlooking the ocean. Both of them look a little drunk, when one says to the other: "Hey, look at the wind whipping up the side of that cliff. It moves pretty fast. I'll bet I could jump off of the ledge, catch the wind in my coat, and get lifted right back up to the bar!"

"No way", says the other guy, "you'd fall to your death."

"Well, I'm going to try it!", says the first, and at that he walks over, stands on the ledge, and leaps off in a swan dive. Sure enough, he comes sailing back up in no time, and lands on his feet right in front of the bar.

"I can't believe it!" says the second guy, "that's impossible".

So the first drunk does it again: he jumps off the cliff, catches the wind in his coat, and comes sailing back to the bar.

"Go ahead", he says, "try it, it's great!"

"Well, OK, I'm just drunk enough to give it a go", says the second fellow. So he climbs the ledge and leaps off the cliff, only to fall screaming to his death on the rocks below.

The first guy walks back to the bar and sits down to his drink

The bartender steps over, looks him in the eye, and says to him:

"You know, you can be a real jerk sometimes when you've been drinking, Superman".



Chamber of Commerce

