# Devil's River

## **Serving Sutton County Since 1890**

Volume 124 • Issue 9

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, March 1, 2012

## Sonora Bronco Football Honors

Letters to the Editor

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Engagement Announcements



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Blake Esparza



2nd team All District Defense Hon. Mention All District Offense

Cadesman Pope

1st Team All District Offense

1st Team All District Defense

2A All West Texas TE

All West Texas Super Team TE

Padilla Poll 1st Team All State TE

Damon Evans

Braxton Snyder



2nd team All District Defense Academic All District



District Offensive MVP Honorable Men. AP All-State QB TheOldCoach.com All State 2nd Team OB All West Texas Super Team QB Padilla Poll 2nd Team All State QB

Davis Jimenez



Bryce Smith

1st Team All District Offense

Dallas Payne



1st Team All District Defense 2nd Team All District Offense Hon. Mention AP All-State DB

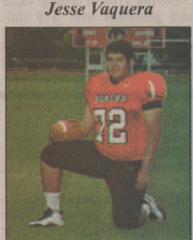
2A All West Texas MVP All West Texas Super Team DB Padilla Poll 1st Team All State DB Selected for FCA All Star Game

#### Edward Garza



2nd Team All District Offense

2nd Team All District Defense



1st Team All District Offense

### **Extension Office** To Offer Pesticide **Applicator** Training Course

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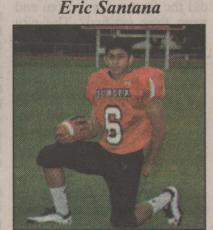




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1st Team All District Defense

Theoldcoach.com all West Texas Team

Theoldcoach.com All State Team

2A All West Texas DL Padilla Poll 2nd Team All State DL

2nd Team AP All State DL

2nd Team All District Defense 2nd Team All District Offense



2nd Team All District Offense

2nd Team All District Defense

District MVP Honorable Men. AP All State DB 2A All West Texas Super Team DB All West Texas Super Team DB Padilla Poll 2nd Team State Athlete Padilla Poll 1st Team All State Putn Returner Selected for FCA All Star Game

# Texas is the King of Exports

Page 3...FYI Pages 5 Oil & Ag Page 6...Sports Page 7...Classifieds THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Submitted

In 2002, America was still marketplace. waiting to find out if Ross would end up with Rachel worth of exports were shipped at the end of "Friends," the through Texas in 2011, with a first "Spider-Man" movie hit sizeable chunk of those origiscreens and an overpowering nating right here in the Lone center named Shaquille O'Neal Star State. The year's totals led the Lakers to a second represented a 20.7 percent instraight NBA title.

Star State assumed the coun- Texas in 2010, and bested by try's lead in exports; Ten years a wide margin the national inlater, we haven't given it up. crease of 15.8 percent. Our continued dominance in Texas' exporting performance exporting reflects a part of the was largely powered by, but in state's steady emergence as a no way limited to, industries

More than \$249.8 billion crease over the \$206.9 billion Here in Texas, the Lone worth of goods shipped from

national leader in the global producing petroleum and coal

products, chemicals, computer and electronic products, non-electrical machinery, and transportation equipment.

On a percentage basis, the United States as a whole. Nearly 19 percent of Texas' economic output was exported in 2011, while the United States exported just 9.8 percent of its total output.

At the rate Texas is going, port crown anytime soon.

## George Mcintyre Found Guilty,

Receives 75 Year Sentences

For Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child

A Pecos County jury of six men and six women convicted local rancher, George McIntyre, of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child (three counts), Indecency with a Child by Contact (two counts) and Attempted Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child (one count). McIntyre elected to have the Judge to assess punishment. Judge Pedro Gomez, Jr. assessed seventyfive (75) years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Institutional Division and a \$10,000 fine for each count of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child; twenty (20) years each count of Indecency with a Child by Contact; and twenty (20) years for the one count of Attempted Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child. Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child is a First Degree felony and the punishment range is 5-99 years or Life in the Institutional Division. Attempted Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child and Indecency with a Child by Contact is a Second Degree Felony and the punishment range is 2-10 years. Each felony offense is subject to a potential fine not to exceed \$10,000.

The victim, now 21 years old, gave graphic details of the sexual abuse she endured from McIntyre between ages four to eight. She testified that McIntyre threatened to kill her and her family if she told anyone of the sexual abuse.

Laurie English, 112th District Attorney, stated "A thorough investigation by the Pecos County Sheriff's Department and the Texas Rangers allowed us to successfully prosecute Mc-Intyre on a cold case. This young woman's courageous testimony allowed the jury to hear and understand the trauma and terror she experienced while McIntyre sexually assaulted her."

## A Victory For Texas Landowners

By Texas Comptroller Susan Combs

February 24, 2012, was an important day for Texas landowners, and for all Texans who care about property rights. On that day, the Supreme Court of Texas issued its opinion in a case called Edwards Aquifer Authority and the State of Texas v. Burrell Day and Joel McDaniel. The court spoke definitively to an issue of enormous importance to all landowners: their right to use the waters under their properties.

As a fourth-generation West Texas rancher myself, I know full well how important that water can be, and what it would feel like if a government agency told you that you couldn't use the water under your own land.

But too often, that's just what happens. Conservation goals that could be accomplished with open communication and negotiation between agricultural producers and Texas' water districts are pursued by administrative edict instead.

I've been concerned with this issue for a very a long time. As a legislator in 1995, with the late Senator Teel Bivins, I wrote and passed the Texas Private Real Property Rights Preservation Act, a law that has been called "a basic charter for the protection of private real property rights in Texas."

The act specifically defined real property as including groundwater rights — rights that shouldn't be taken away without just compensation.

When government regulations limit your ability to use your land as productively as you can, they've cut its value. And when they devalue your land, it's called a "taking." Article I of the Texas Constitution says it clearly:

"No person's property shall be taken, damaged, or destroyed for or applied to public use without adequate compensation being made."

It's a bedrock principle of our state.

It was the issue before the Supreme Court in the Day case: "Whether land ownership includes an interest in groundwater in place that cannot be taken for public use without adequate compensation" as guaranteed by the Constitution?

The Court looked at how the Edwards Aquifer Authority issues permits based on "the amount of beneficial use" a per-Texas exported more of its son's groundwater has been put to in the past. The Authority home-produced goods that was using a "use it or lose it" approach to groundwater ownership based on regulations that say, in effect, that landowners can be deprived of nearly all use of their groundwater simply because they hadn't used it before.

That's why I was pleased to file an amicus brief in the case, and even more pleased to learn that the court had supported the landowners involved, concluding "a landowner cannot be there's no reason to think the deprived of all beneficial use of the groundwater below his state will be giving up the ex- property merely because he did not use it during an historical

Continued on Page 5

Editors Note: Any opinions or information expressed in the Letters to the Editor are expressed by the author of that letter-NOT THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS.

#### **Senior Center Activities**

Thurs. March 1 - Work on Puzzle March 2 - Run Errands Fri. March 5 - Bingo Mon. March 6 - Work on Puzzle Tues. Wed. March 7 - Trax Van to San Angelo

#### Senior Center Menu

Thurs. March 1 - Herb roasted chicken, potato wedges, milk wheat roll, peas & carrots, strawberries March 2 - Beef soft taco, Spanish rice, broccoli, milk Fri.

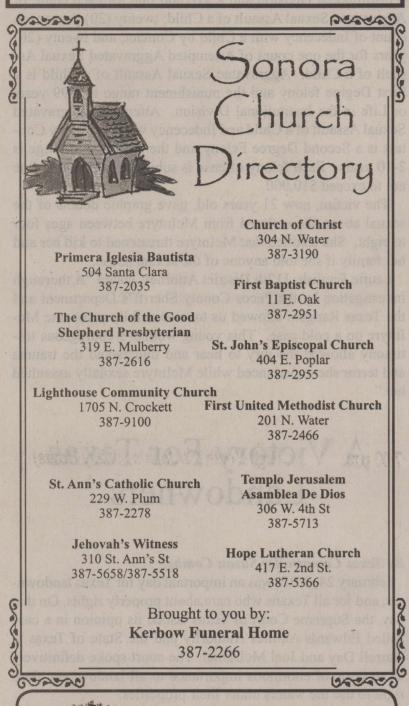
Mandarin oranges w/topping March 5 - Spaghetti w/meatballs, wheat roll, spinach Mon.

honey dew melon, milk March 6 - Chicken salad sandwich, tomato, lettuce

pickles, macaroni salad, carrot sticks, milk Wed. March 7 - Roast pork, sweet potatoes, succotash, milk wheat roll, banana pudding

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)



## SUTTON COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION

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www.suttoncountyhealthfoundation.org

#### The Devil's River News

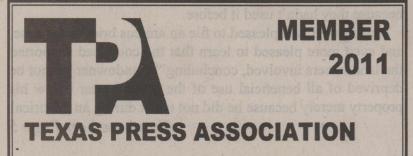
228 E. Main Street, Sonora, Texas 76950 Phone: (325)387-2507 • Fax (325)387-5691 Published every Thursday USPS (155-920) Publishing Owners: Ben D. Taylor, Sam C. Taylor Editor: Ben D. Taylor Billing: Rhonda Wilson Advertising/Classifieds: Rhonda Wilson Internet Technician: Dusty Padilla

Reporting/Photography/Typesetting: Staff Guest Columnists: Kelly Thorp, Ray & Nancy Glasscock Delyse Jaeger, Pascual Hernandez, Susan Hall Email: General Information: editor@sonoratx.net Advertising: sales@sonoratx.net

Copy and Ad Deadline: Monday 4:00 p.m. Subscriptions

\$25 per year in county • \$32 per year out of Sutton County \$22 per year Senior Citizens (in and out of Sutton County) Second class postage paid at Sonora, Texas Attn. Postmaster: Send address change to the Devil's River News, 228 East Main Street, Sonora, TX 76950

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#### Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is:

reality, I have thought about this over \$4 million. Simply put, that we have to pay back. By ever since I first heard that two Crockett County has more than law, the county cannot accept individuals were talking about 2.5 times the money to work the city's debt, so what hapof the City of Sonora and its op- Crockett County has higher tax paid off. How? The citizens of erations with the county. There values). are three things that bother me, lic's attention.

these two individuals were (You could have a chemical is paid. So are we really saving for supporting our community ing regulates what can and can- to make up for the added exwas, out of respect of the readers of this letter; I will not give Development the name of the club. They said would go away. This is funded the best for Sonora and they be abolished when the county most is: thought I would be a great asset consolidates or assumes the to it. At the time I thought they city. Main Street works under an active city council member were joking and laughed it off. a city ordinance (no city, no while distributing the petition. Well their current actions tell ordinance) and it gets fund- He was going around Sonora me they were serious and there ing through the Hotel/Motel pushing this petition to have the is NO way I would join them. Taxes, which can be collected city of Sonora disbanded and I do support Sonora. I do it through a county, but there are consolidated into the county through my community service many steps to go through to to "Save Money". (Would that and commitment to my home town. I have lived in Sonora since 1976. It is home to me and help fund it is questionable. to help the City of Sonora inmy family. I am very involved The Hotel/Motel Tax also pro- stead of shutting it down? in my community having been vides funding for the Ice House first term) and am currently on ist into our small community. the planning and zoning comcommunity but this "club" isn't them): Additions to the Sher-

this. I was able to confirm the the city is gone. The county tioned in that article. Let's look The county has to provide the fully question. at the facts that are not being state required entities (law enshared with the petition that is forcement and roads) and that community does not have a resources). Where is the county city government). Crockett County's Road and Bridge and \$400K or \$500K? Simply put, their General Fund Tax rate is the taxpayers of Sutton County. and generates over \$10 mil- ongoing upgrades to our city's and Bridge and General Fund tory TCEQ requirements. We

tax rate is .4295 per \$100 and had no choice but to spend generates \$3.4 million, while money on these upgrades. In the City of Sonora's tax rate order to pay for the work, the I have thought about writing is .5394 per \$100 and gener-this letter for quite a while. In ates \$671,000.00 for a total just some long term liability (loans)

etc. SEDC (Sonora Economic er because of the city's "mis-Corporation)

\$80K for annual sector main- the county is not the answer. 2) Let's save money? How? tenance (this is only a portion currently going around Sonora. is nearly \$400K, not to mention I have spoken with county of- the additional costs for the new ficials as well as officials in employee count (in order to Crockett County (the closest manage the now extinct city's going to come up with an extra lion to run Ozona and Crockett water and sewer infrastructure. County. Sutton County's Road These upgrades were manda-

them: Zoning - Property own- son appointed by the District enterprise. At the "Breast Cancer ers can put whatever they want Court and would extend for a Awareness Fun Run" last year, on property that sits next to you. number of years until the debt providing hamburgers for all manufacturing plant right next any money? NO, those that live that participated in the event door to you and there is nothinside the city limits will have (I would like to thank them ing you can do about it.) Zon- to pay an increased county tax as representatives of the local not be placed inside city limits penses as well as a separate tax Downtown Lions Club). After and in what parts of the city to pay off the water and sewer the event, I was asked by these they can be placed or operated. upgrades. The rates (water and individuals if I want to join a Ordinances would go away. No sewer) we are currently paying club that was concerned about animal ordinances, no noise or- are to pay off that infrastructure Sonora. I asked what club that dinances, leash laws, curfews, improvement, and are not high-

management".

get it passed and then whether not be a conflict of interest?) or not it could then be used to Shouldn't he have been trying

for over 15 years, served two Commerce. The Ice House is but we the citizens need to stick and served as president in my maintaining and bringing tour- stead of speaking behind closed Without the city the county tions, we need to be informed community. Go Big Red! mittee for the City of Sonora. faces these additional costs (if about the current status of our I do want what is best for my they can afford to administer community; we need to make Dear Editor, sure that our city representathe right thing to do. How long iff's Dept - \$300k, Senior Centives are looking out for us It is have these individuals been in ter - \$100K, Trax Van - \$7K, time for a change, but the dis-Sonora and what is their real City Streets - estimated to be banding and consolidation with

After reading the article in last of the additional costs that the hear or read, go find out for week's DRN I decided to look county would have to deal with yourself. If you are curious, I into the issue myself. I asked if the city and county become spoke with the Crockett Counthose that would know the truth consolidated). So let's add up ty Auditor, Crockett County and have an insight to the polithe "savings" that we the citi- Judge, Crockett County Road tics involved in something like zens of Sonora will save when and Bridge Department, Sutton County Judges office and information presented in last would take on almost \$500K looked at public records. All of week's article and I would like (remember this is only a por- this information is available for to expand on a few points men- tion of the city responsibilities). the public to look at and hope-

> Sincerely, Jody Luttrell

#### Dear Editor;

Good article on the movement to do away with city government. It is a complex issue rate (2011) \$2.26/\$100, (2008) that requires more study and a dispassionate dialogue.

As for your figures concern-.5298 per \$100 of taxable value Another issue to consider is the ing the city's finances, where did the figures come from and were they verified? The city must have an audit, as per Texas Local Government Code Title 4 Finances Chapter 103, 180 days after the last day of last years budget. That audit is public record and should provide a more realistic picture of city finances. Thank you.

#### Lemuel D. Lopez

#### Letter to the Editor:

I read Ben Taylor's informative article about the City of Sonora's finances with great interest in last week's issue. I would like to make one minor correction. The Old Ice House Ranch Museum and the Sonora Chamber of Commerce do not receive any money from the city sales tax revenue. The Sutton County Historical Society, which operates the Ranch Museum along with the Mier's Home Museum, The Depot, the Amphitheater and the Archives, receives 20% of the Hotel-Motel tax revenue, which is paid almost exclusively by visitors to our city, with 40% of that revenue going to the Friends of Historic Sonora/ Main Street organization and 40% to the Sonora Chamber of Commerce.

> Rex Ann Freiss Sutton County Historical Society President

Dear Editor,

I regret to inform you that I tendered my resignation from my position as Sonora City Councilman Ward 1 last Friday, February 24 2012. I sense a tremendous amount of pressure on City leadership due to the loss of experienced professionals and the economic downturn conthe disbanding or consolidating with than Sonora does (because pens to this debt? It must be tributing to budget woes. This loss of many well qualified staff Sonora (those who live in city coupled with five City manag-Here are some services that limits) would be taxed until the ers in five or six years and a few two of them are personal, but we would lose because the debt is paid off. The tax would mayors is not the recipe for a need to be brought to the pub- county cannot legally provide be set be determined by a per- successful multi- million dollar

For about the past two years, I have tried to reduce cost, slow the growth of government and voted against budgets that relied on savings. Our tax rate this year is the highest allowed by State law and I expect it to be increased next year.

I believe I have been quietly vilified by City leadership for attempting to bring some consolidation between City and County. In my view, this action would streamline our government, cut duplication and save money. Last week Devils River News My last concern and honest- reported about the consolidation it would be for those that want by city sales tax, which would ly the one that bothers me the effort. I concur, that the City is not yet in dire financial condi-3) One of the individuals was tion but many of our citizens are suffering. The article reported

..The City...."currently has \$13 million in revenue \$7 million expenses which means that it has \$6 million dollars after debt is serviced." I pray that these numbers are correct so our water/sewer rates can be lowered. Please follow up with your source and check the accuracy of these figures.

I regret leaving office pre-Like I said in the beginning, maturely but the stress level is a volunteer fireman and EMT Museum and the Chamber of the City has some problems, more than I wish to bear. I gave it my best and thanks for the conterms on the Chamber of Com- the caretaker of Sonora's histo- together and stand up for our fidence and support you gave to merce (currently the President ry while the Chamber is vital in rights. We need to be heard, in- me. One last thought...Please consider consolidation with the doors. We need to ask ques- County for the good of this great

#### Frank C. Wamble

Can the citizens of Sonora continue to financially support a City and County government? Currently, the City and County

are within 150 years of each Don't trust everything you other with many duplications in duties costing the City citizens, both City as well as County Taxes. Duplication exists in law enforcement, administration. maintenance, roads and grounds energy costs, recreational facilities, telecommunications, facilities, insurance, engineering and vehicle fleet.

Below you will find the 2011 property tax rate for our area as well as our neighbors in Ozona. have included our rates for 2008 as an illustration of the increased burden in addition to, the existing high water/utility rates on plaguing our citizens.

Sonora resident property tax \$180/\$100. Sutton County resident tax rate (2011)\$1.71/\$100, (2008) \$135/\$100. Ozona taxes (2011) \$1.58/100.

Sonora citizens pay property tax to the county but receive no funding from the County thus the difference in tax rates.

Water, sewer, trash is not included in any tax figures and is billed separately. Your utility bill funds can only be used to support water, sewer and trash operations and cannot be comingled with the 2 million dollar General Fund Budget.

Sources of City revenue for General fund use generally fall into three categories: sales tax, property tax, and franchise tax. (No minerals). Water, Sewer and Trash is an Enterprise Fund and used only to fund water, sewer and trash expenditure and infrastructure enhancements.

All Sonora/Sutton County taxes continue to rise and sales tax revenue continue to fall requiring a greater burden on the citizen particularly those in the City. When we look at the taxes we find the 3,000 city citizens pay an inordinate proportion of their income (\$2.5 million in property taxes) to live within in the city. While the 1000 county residents enjoy lower tax rate burden yet enjoy all city amenities without cost. For example the city funds the airport, golf course, parks, pool, Museums, Eaton Hill, Main Street, Chamber of Commerce, Sonora Economic Development, Street Lights, City streets and alleys and supplies water, sewer, and trash outside the city limits, and fire protection for the entire county.

What can be done to lower our tax burden?

Frank C Wamble

Dear Editor,

"Always be moving forward".... "Nowhere to go from here but up" these are phrases you norwhen we pick ourselves up and

taxes, in my opinion is far from capitalize and do the same. being a possibility. The serhigher price!

name from this petition.

I ask everyone to please educate yourself on this matter in order to make yourself a better citizen. "Government doesn't

create wealth it only knows how to take from it."

I have picked up my documents to file to run for a city mally hear in times when we council position. Right now have hit rock bottom. These I am still deciding on which are also phrases that you hear position, either council seat or mayor but I do know this ... refuse to let the times defeat us. Sonora is my home and this is Everyone around here knows where I hang my hat. As long about the current petition being as I am here I will do my best to passed around. I myself signed help those who need help and this petition just to be nice and improve our community. I will appease the person asking me not quit! The citizens of Sonora to sign it. Due to current events deserve better than that. I see and further investigation in our neighbors to the north filing to the subject matter, those for grants and making improve-"greener pastures" that the pe-ments to their city with the curtitioners promised are nowhere rent boost of income from their in sight (if this subject goes on recent boom and I ask myself the ballot). A promise for lower why does our council not try to

at what price ... I'll tell you.. a candidates and not ones that will be idle. Vote for candi-Taxes would eventually go dates that will stay the course up just to cover the man power and not quit when the going to provide the services. I am gets tough. I believe our city is drafting a letter to the mayor great and I take pride in being pro-temp to please remove my a part of it even in the worst of times

Michael Ramirez

My wish for this upcoming vices the city offers could be election is for the citizens of performed by the county but Sonora to vote for proactive

# Engagement



Mr. Oscar Galindo (Iraan, Tx.) and Ms. Bobbi Williams (Ozona, Tx) are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Brooke Ashley Kelly to Caleb Jamen Gulley the son of Mr. & Mrs. Jim Gulley (Sonora, TX).

Brooke and Caleb will marry April 7, 2012 in San Angelo, TX. Brooke graduated from Ozona High School in 2008 and completed her education at Howard College in San Angelo. of Sonora, Texas. Miss Pierce is a graduate of the University She is now employed at National-Oilwell Varco in San Angelo, of Texas at Austin and earned a Master of Business Adminis-TX. Caleb graduated from Sonora High School in 2003 and tration degree from Texas State University. Mr. Dempsey is a graduated from Angelo State University. He is employed by Family Power Sports in San Angelo, Tx.





#### **Bridal Selections**

Johnna Wade & Gary Gibson Steven Frazier & Brea Hughes Cash Jennings & Catherine Warren Shawna Faris & Justin Rogers Curt Dempsey & Jessica Pierce Emily Earwood & Carl Whitworth.



Zed & Ashley Snodgrass Candace & Landry Matthies Chance & Dani Dillard A flower for everyday...

# Everett's Pharmacy

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Baby Registry

Dani & Chance Dillard

\*\*\*

# Gulley ~ Kelly Dempsey ~ Pierce Engagement



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Arnold Pierce of Sour Lake, Texas are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Jessica Pierce, to Curt Dempsey, son of Ms. Claudia Dempsey graduate of Texas A&M University and is employed at DCS Engineering as a Civil Engineer in Austin, Texas. The happy couple plan to exchange vows this May in Austin at Central Christian Church.

## Sonora Service Directory

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Oilfield Contractor Asphalt & Concrete Construction

email:chowardconst@sonoratx.net phone: (325) 387-3093 fax: (325) 387-5543 mobile: (325) 206-0497

### **Everett's Pharmacy** Feature of the Month



Advertising Works! Call Rhonda at 387-2507

We, the family of Josephina (Jazie) M. Santos, would like to express our heart-felt appreciation to all our friends, neighbors, and relatives for the great amount of love and support shown to us during our sister's illness and at the time of her passing.

A very sincere thank you to all for the home visits, cards, food and the daily and weekly calls. Thank you to the Guadalupanos for all their help and for all of the prayers offered for her and for our family.

Thank you to Father Lionel and to the choir for the beautiful mass. A special thank you to Patsy Samaniego, Beatrice Artiega and Doris Fuentez who san as per my sister's request. Thank you to the ladies who helped with the rosary.

We are extremely grateful and appreciative of each and everyone. We ask for God's blessings and his peace for all.

> Sincerely, Santos Family

I would like to express my appreciation to Oscar Chavez of the Sonora Sheriff's Department and Jackie Thomas and Carl Johnson of the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department for their rapid response last Wednesday, when unfortunately, the pickup I was in caught fire. It is good to know that we have dedicated people willing to serve others when in need. The second part of this letter is to remind everyone how easy it is for the hot undercarriage on any vehicle to start a fire.

> Sincerely, Gary Hardgrave

#### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (325)387-2466 201 NW WATER REV. LEIGH LLOYD



Sundays 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:55 a.m. Worship

2:00 p.m. Bible Study (Nursery provided from 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.)

#### Wednesdays

5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

**Choir Practice** Community Bible Study

Jr. High Youth (St. John's Sunday House) Sr. High Youth (St. John's Sunday House)

#### Special Events

Potluck Lunch Ash Wednesday Service Sun., Feb 12 following worship Wed., Feb 22 @ 6:00 pm

You can hear our worship service each Sunday morning @ 11:00 am on KHOS 92.1FM Check us out @ faithbreaksonora.wordpress.com

Sutton County Friends of NRA Pre-event raffle is underway Tickets are \$10 each with one winner taking home five firearms and a 10 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 5th Annual Auction/ Banquet, Saturday, September 15, 2012. Your support is appreci-

Car Seat Available! Contact Araceli Perez at 325-387-2234 for more information.

Little Mr. & Miss Cinco de Mayo registration deadline is April 30, 2012. Contact Jo Ann Hernandez at The Bank & Trust for

Viva Sonora will be selling bricks to made into a sidewalk around the new city park located on Deerwood Drive. The money that is raised will be rotated back into community projects. If you would like to reserve a permanent brick you pick up a form at the Bank and Trust or call Juanita Gomez 206-2698 or JoAnn Hernandez 206-0366.

Are you interested in praying for our country, our city, our loved ones? You are most welcome to meet in the Prayer Garden every Tuesday morning at 10:00AM. Bring a chair please. All are welcome. FMI call 325-387-3246.

Sonora Lions are ready to sponsor our youth who are disabled or who have TYPE 1 diabetes to attend a 1 week camp. For more information contact Col. Pete Bradley @ 387.6282 or any Lion. Further information on all Lions Camps is online @ Texas Lions Camp. Camp dates are in June for disabled and July diabetes.

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.



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#### Comptroller's Office Encourages Homeowners to Take **Advantage of Homestead Exemptions**

Homeowners looking to reduce their property tax bills in 2012 may find some relief by filing a homestead exemption. Homestead exemptions are offered by counties, cities, school districts and other local taxing units.

A homestead is generally the house and land used as the owner's principal residence on January 1 of the tax year. Homestead exemptions reduce te appraised value of your home and, as a result, lower your property taxes. To apply for an exemption on your residence homestead, contact the Sutton County Appraisal District.

Available homestead exemptions include:

School taxes: All homeowners may receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption for school taxes

• County taxes: If a county collects a special tax for farm-to-market roads or flood control, a homeowner may receive a \$3,000 homestead ex-

• Age and disability exemptions: Individuals 65 or older or disabled as defined by law may qualify for a \$10,000 homestead exemption for school taxes, in addition to the \$15,000 exemption available to all homeowners. Also, any taxing unit may offer a local optional exemption of at least \$3,000 for taxpayers age 65 or older and/or disabled. Older or disabled homeowners do not need to own their homes on Jan. 1 to qualify for these special homestead exemptions. They qualify as soon as they turn 65 or become disabled.

• Taxing units may offer a local option exemption based on a percentage of a home's appraised value. Any taxing unit can exempt up to 20 percent of the value of each qualified homestead. No matter what percentage of value the taxing unit adopts, the dollar calue of the exemption must

•Partial disabled veteran exemptions: The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by veterans who are disabled, spouses and survivors of deceased disabled veterans and spouses and survivors of deceased disabled veterans and spouses and survivors of military personnel who died on active duty. The amount of exemption is determined according to the percentage of service-connected disability.

•100% Residence Homestead Exemption for Disabled Veterans: A disabled veteran who receives from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (1) 100 percent disability compensation due to a service-connected disability; and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or of individual

unemployability is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of the veteran's residence homestead. Beginning this year, this benefit has been extened to the surviving spouse upon the veteran's death with certain restrictions.

Recently passed legislation now requires homeowners to provide proof of residency for a new property tax exemption beginning Sept. 1, 2011. This new requirement does not apply to homeowners who already have homestead exemptions. For more details on homestead exemptions, contact the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E Oak St., Ste. 2, Sonora, Texas 76950 (325) 387-2809. Or contact the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at 1-800-252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and the press "1" to contact the Information Services Team. The homestead exemption application is available online at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/ taxforms/50-114.pdf.

#### Property Taxes Relief is Available to Elderly or Disabled Homeowners

Texans who are 65 or older or who are disabled as defined by law may postpone paying current and deliquent 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 cancelled, as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Taxes accumulate 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.

Filing a tax deferral affidavit keeps homeowners from losing their homestead because of delinquent property taxes. Filing a tax deferral affidavit will also halt a pending sale to foreclose on the homestead's tax lien. In addition, no taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes once an affidavit is filed. No penalties will be assessed 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 owns and lives in the home. If the tax debt remains unpaid at that time, 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 at 300 E. Oak St., Ste. 2, Sonora, Texas 76950 (325)387-2809. Further information is also available on the Comptriller's website, www.window.state. tx.ustaxinfo/proptax/ or by calling the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at 1-800-252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu, the press "1" to contact the Information Services Team.

#### Disabled Veterans May Qualify to Have Some of Their **Property Taxes Waived**

Veterans with a service-connected disability are encouraged to file an exemption form to have their 2012 property taxes lowered. Some veterans may qualify for a 100 percent exemption of their taxes under the law.

The law provides parial exemptions for any property owned by veterans who are disabled, spouses and survivors of deceased disabled veterans and spouses and survivors of military personnel who died on active duty. The amount of exemption is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability.

A veteran's percentage of service-connected disability determines the amount of the exemption -- frp, a \$5,000 to a \$12,000 deduction from the veteran's property value.

Any eligible person who has not received this exemption should apply before May 1, 2012. An applicant may claim the exemption on only one piece of property, such as a home or any other property the applicant owned on Jan. 1, 2012. The applicant must also be a Texas resident to qualify.

A disabled veteran who receives 100 percent disability compensation due to a service - connected disability and a rating of 100 percent disabled or of individual unemployability from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the appraised value of the veteran's residence homestead. Beginning this year, this benefit has been extended to the surviving spouse upon the veteran's death with certain restrictions. The residence homestead application must be filed if this exemption is claimed.

For more information about the property tax exemption for disabled veterans or to file an exemption, contact the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E Oak St., Ste. 2, Sonora, Texas 76950 (325) 387-2809. More information is also available from the state Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at 1-800-252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu, and then press "1" to contact the Information Services Team or visit the Comptroller's website at www.window.state. tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/.

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## Remember to "Render!" **Taxable property renditions** are due April 16.

#### Does this apply to you?

If you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income, such as the equipment or inventory owned by a business, it does.

#### What is a rendition?

A rendition is a report to your county appraisal district that lists all of the taxable property that you owned or controlled on Jan. 1 of this year. This often applies to furniture, fixtures, equipment or inventory owned by a business.

#### What are the advantages of filing?

- You give your opinion of your property's value.
- You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the
- If your property's value depreciated, you can file a report of decreased value.

#### What is the deadline?

- The last day for filing 2012 renditions is April 16.
- An automatic extension is available if requested in writing by the April
- The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after the deadline for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

#### **REMEMBER!!**

Filing is your responsibility. If you render late, don't render or file an incomplete or false rendition, you may face a 10 to 50 percent penalty.

File renditions with your local appraisal district at: LOCAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE GOES HERE

> **SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT** 300 E. OAK ST., SUITE 2 SONORA, TEXAS 76950 (325) 387-2809



Texas Comptroller Susan Combs **Property Tax Assistance Division** P.O. Box 13528 Austin, Texas 78711-3528

or call: 1-800-252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and then press "1" to contact the Information Service Team.

Or find us online at: http://window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax



A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.

#### Variedad de exenciones contributivas residenciales podrían reducir los impuestos de la propiedad

Una exención contributiva residencial reduce los impuestos de la propiedad al disminuir el valor de la misma. Si su residencia está valorada en \$50,000 y recibe una exención de \$15,000, la residencia pagará los impuestos de una residencia valorada en \$35,000.

#### ¿Quién cumple con los requisitos para las exenciones disponibles?

Cualquier persona que es el dueño de una propiedad el 1ero de enero y la utiliza como residencia principal en esa misma fecha tiene derecho a la exención contributiva residencial de \$15,000 para reducir los impuestos escolares a pagar. No importa si la residencia es una casa, un condominio o una casa movible. Los condados, ciudades y distritos imponibles especiales también pueden ofrecer exenciones contributivas residenciales.

#### ¿Existe alguna otra exención?

Si usted es discapacitado o tiene 65 o más tiene derecho a una exención contributiva escolar adicional de \$10,000 para la residencia. Y, si cumple con los requisitos para exención por la edad de 65 o más, o es discapacitado tiene derecho a una cifra de impuestos congelada al llegar a cierto punto específico y permanente de impuestos escolares por la propiedad. El condado, la ciudad o universidad comunitaria pueden también congelar el límite de impuestos a pagar para las personas de 65 años o más y los discapacitados. Los limites de los impuestos escolares para las personas de 65 años o más son transferidos al cónyuge sobreviviente si el sobreviviente tiene 55 años o más al momento del deceso, es el propietario y reside en la propiedad. Los propietarios residenciales de 65 o más, o el cónyuge sobreviviente, puede transferir a una nueva residencia el porcentaje del impuesto escolar pagado y basado en el impuesto congelado.

Si es usted un veterano discapacitado quien recibe de la Administración de Veteranos (VA, por sus siglas en inglés) (1) 100 por ciento del beneficio por discapacidad relacionado al servicio militar o (2) VA determinó que no puede desempeñar ningún oficio, tiene derecho a recibir una exención contributiva para la residencia del valor tasado total.

#### ¿Debo solicitar la exención anualmente?

No. Si usted recibió la exención residencial de la propiedad en 2011 no es necesario solicitar nuevamente a menos que el jefe de tasaciones así exige. Por otro lado, si usted no ha recibido la exención en la residencia actual o se mudó a una nueva residencia en 2011 debe solicitar la exención para 2012. En caso de cumplir 65 durante este año, tiene tiempo para solicitar la exención por edad de 65 o más hasta un año después de la fecha exacta de nacimiento. Y, si sufre de discapacidad puede solicitar la exención para personas con discapacidades.

¿Donde y cuándo debo solicitar la exención? Debe solicitar antes del 1ero de mayo en la oficina del distrito de tasaciones. De ser el caso de que necesita tiempo adicional, contáctenos en:

> SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT 300 E. OAK ST., SUITE 2 SONORA, TEXAS 76950 (325) 387-2809



Envie un e-mail a: ptad.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us Escriba a:

**Texas Comptroller Susan Combs** Property Tax Assistance Division Austin, Texas 78711-3528

llame al: 1-800-252-9121. Oprima el "2" para acceso al menú. Entonces oprima el "1" para contactar al equipo de información y servicio.



Visite: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/

### Oil & Agribusiness

Continued from Front Page: Victory for Landowners

## Extension Office To Offer Pesticide **Applicator Training** Course

By Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County Agricultural **Extension Agent** 



With Spring not far away, some of us begin thinking about ways to control unwanted vegetation. However, you should know that some chemicals are designated general-use pesticides and can be purchased "over-the-counter" while others are restricted-use pesticides and require a pesticide applicator license. So, if you've considered acquiring an applicator license, here are some things you should know.

Private applicator license are required in order to use or supervise the use of restricted or state-limited pesticides or regulated herbicides in the production of agricultural commodities. Applicators must obtain 15 continuing education units (C.E.U.s) every five years, including a minimum of two C.E.U.s in laws and regulations and two in integrated pest management (IPM).

Commercial licenses are required to use or supervise the use of restricted or state-limited pesticides or regulated herbicides, for hire or compensation, on the land of another person. An individual that is not a licensed commercial pesticide applicator, certified private applicator, or structural pest control applicator, but intends to apply restricted use pesticides in the performance of his or her job duties (e.g. government entities such as state, county, or city) must be licensed as a noncommercial pesticide applicator. Both commercial and non-commercial licensees must obtain five C.E.U.s annually, including at least one C.E.U. each in two of these three topics: laws and regulations, integrated pest management, and drift minimization.

With that in mind, if you are interested in acquiring a license, please contact your local County Extension Office at 387-3101. We will be offering a training course on March 26th at the Sutton County Civic Center. We will also provide take-home study material and have a "refresher" session on April 9th. Texas Department of Agriculture personnel will be on hand to administer testing that afternoon. Register by March 20th so that study manuals can be ordered for you. Cost is \$50 and includes manuals and training. Contact us at 387-3101 if you have need for additional details.

period."

have to pay you for it.

This opinion was critical Texas what it is. to ensuring the stability of land titles and market value of lands and to the continued sustainability of investments made by communities across the state in acquiring groundwater rights from landowners to support the water supply needs of their growing econ-

As Texas' population

growth continues its break-Now the Supreme Court neck pace, greater demands has set it in stone: you have inevitably will be placed on an ownership interest to the our precious water resources. you do oil or gas. And if state aged wisely and well through or local authorities want to a shared responsibility. But 10:30 am on Main Street. interfere with your constitu- if we ignore private property tionally protected rights, they rights, we've lost a fundamental part of what makes







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**Sutton County Sheriff** Political ad paid for by Earlie Williams Campaign Treasurer Jennifer Leal

## Main Street Traffic

By: Bill Hodges

The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program would water under your land, just as These will have to be man- like to invite everyone to bring their children to the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt on April 7, 2012. The hunt will be held at

Games and activities for the children will also be provided. There will be lunch served starting at 11:30 including hamburgers, hotdogs, etc., and also a raffle will be held. Tickets for the raffle are to be sold at \$5.00 a ticket or \$20.00 for five tickets.

Grand prize will be a dinner for four at Lake Amistad's Hookers One Stop, a half day guided fishing tour on Lake Amistad for two courtesy of Jensen's Guide Service, and a one night stay at Ruthie's Rentals on Lake Amistad.

Other prizes will be offered as well.



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Rig Report February 17, 2012

9450' Highmount E&P Tx Wilson Duke -173- #20X Ringo Drilling I Lp #21 1/4/11 18 4665' O/G Ver Od

Crockett

New 9000' Approach Operating Baker -A- #117 Nabors Drilling #709 1/28/11 O/G Ver Od

New 9000' Approach Operating University 42-13 #15 Ringo 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 Sponsored By:



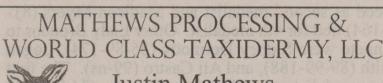
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Brush Work · Fire Guards Ranch Work A Rancher, Working for Ranchers 16 years experience

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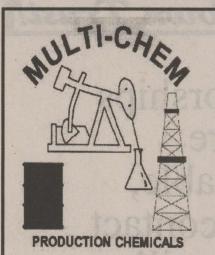
Justin Mathews (325) 277-5018

Email: jusmathews@yahoo.com

Physical Address 206 N. US Hwy 277 Sonora, TX 76950

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

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3G Plus from West Central has faster data speeds in West Central Texas than the "big guys". We've conducted speed tests comparing West Central's 3G Plus data speeds against service from AT&T, Verizon, and Sprint and our 3G Plus was the big winner! Not convinced? Come in to any participating West Central location and see the test for yourself, or bring your phone, even your 4G phone, and take part in our \*Double-Dog Dare Ya' Data Speed Challenge" 1 Every challenge participant, including current West Central customers, can receive a special "Double-Dog Dare Ya" Data Speed Challenge" t-shirt, or a donation can be made in your name to the Humane Society. Plus, you can check out the speedy Samsung Nexus S

smartphone available for only \$99. Our 3G Plus data rollout continues, so join the thousands of West Central customers already enjoying blazing new data speeds up to twenty times faster! Activate or upgrade with West Central Wireless today and get one month of free 3G Plus data service!





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At Right Wireless, we know times are tough, and we believe in family...your family...and, we want to save you lots of money with our brand new Family Rate Plan with unlimited rates as low as fifteen dollars per month! That small rate means big savings on up to five phones for your family. You can get unlimited long distance, unlimited texting, unlimited picture mail, plus unlimited

web, Facebook, and much more! You can also get a new phone for as low as \$10 with a trade-in at over thirty Right Wireless locations all over West Central Texas. It's a new year, so start saving your family money today with our exciting new Family Plan with unlimited rates





NetJet High-Speed Wireless Internet reaches way out into the country. How far out? Well, you'll find us in areas that no other service provider covers. And, we have an incredibly low starting price of only \$19.95 per month. That's only about 67¢ per day, so shouldn't you make NetJet your Internet provider? Well, heck yeah

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## Lady Bronco Golf Places In Ft. Stockton

## Lady Bronco Junction Relays

## Lady Broncos Basketball Excel in Classroom



team (334-352-687) could not overcome the experi-

ence of the Lady Mustangs from Andrews (334-330-

659) and brought home the 2nd place trophy. Plac-

ing third was Monahans (345-357-702). Other teams

playing were Pecos (707), Midland Christian (713),

Alpine (945), el Paso Riverside (962), Midland Lee

(803), Monahans B (845), Ft. Stockton (872), Odes-

sa Permian A (773), El Paso Ysleta (976), Permian

B (821), and Sierra Blanca (1030). Out of the 75

golfers, Sonora's' Elizabeth Chavarria (79-82-161)

placed as second medalist and Madison Myers (81-

83-164) tied for 4th medalist. Other Lady Broncos to

compete were Sidney Dermody (85-89-174), Logan

Smith (89-99-188), and Ali Castro (99-ns). The first

place medalist was Christian Curnutte (74-77-151)

from Midland Christian. A job very well done by the

Lady Bronco Golf team. Next action for the Sonora

Golf teams will be on Thursday, March 1, when the

boys travel to San Saba and the girls will play at the

Fredericksburg Invitational in Kerrville at the Sch-

Photo By Nancy Glasscock Finals Results: 4X100 Relay: On Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24-25, the Sonora 3rd Place- 52.81 High School Girls golf team traveled to Ft. Stockton Macie Friess, Abby Nolen, Gracie Dozier, Avery Nolen. to compete in their invitational golf tournament. Play 4X200 Relay: started bright and early on a cool morning, with the 3Rd Place- 1:55.1 girls playing on some of the fastest greens around. Macie Friess, Abby Nolen, Melissa Freeman, Gracie Dozier. At the completion of day one, the Lady Broncos had 4X400 Relay: thrown a scare into the defending State 3A Champion 4Th Place- 4:35 Andrews by trailing them by only 5 strokes. Satur-Abby Nolen, Melissa Freeman, Kelsey Favila, Avery Nolen. day the round was welcomed by some very heavy Jv 5Th Place- 5:07 wind gusts, thus the scores were not as good as they Valeria Ramirez, Abigail Garcia, Naomie Dozier, Jesi Telles. were on Friday. Never the less, the Lady Bronco golf

> 100 M Dash: Jv- 4Th Place- Selena Trevino- 14.4. 200 M Dash: 1St Place- Avery Nolen- 27.5 Jv 6Th Place-Selena Trevino- 32.2. 300 M Hurdles: 7Th Place-Kelsey Favila- 54.0.

> > 400M Dash:

100 M Hurldes:

2Nd Place- Kelsey Favila- 17.6.

2Nd Place- Jomayra Gutierrez- 1:06.2 Jv 4Th Place- Valeria Ramirez- 1:12.5. 1600 M Run: 7Th Place- Clarissa Hernandez- 6:17 Jv 7Th Place- Jesi Telles- 7:05.

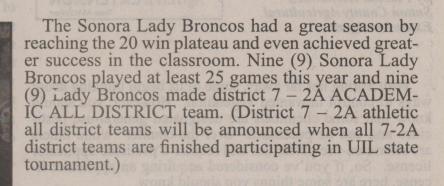
3200 M Run: 7Th Place- Clarissa Hernandez-8Th Place-Kory Humphrey 10Th Place- Megan Yourgalite. Pole Vault: 1St Place- Kelsey Favila- 9'6"

Triple Jump: Jv 3Rd Place- Selena Trevino- 28'1". Shot Put:

7Th Place- Logan Sine- 6'6".

Lady Broncos Placed 5Th As A Team!!!!

Jv 2Nd Place- Brandi Wright- 26'7".



2011-2012 Sonora Lady Bronco Basketball Academic All District Team

#1 - Sophomore Kylie Love#2 - Sophomore Macie Friess

#3 - Junior Paige Sykes #4 - Freshman Gracie Dozier

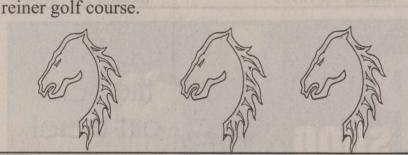
#5 - Junior Avery Nolen #10 - Junior Jaye Sanchez

#11 - Sophomore Logan Smith #22 - Senior Brianah Creek #23 - Junior Abby Creek

Senior Brianah Creek was also named to Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) Academic All State Honorable Mention Team.

## Tennis Team Competes at Fort Stockton

The Sonora High School Tennis Team competed in Fort Stockton on February 24 and 25. This was the first tournament of the year due to rain in Reagan County the week before. The Fort Stockton tournament is a flighted team tournament in which athletes play singles on Friday and then play doubles on Saturday. The tournament included teams from Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Hereford, Pecos, Ozona, and Reagan County. In flight number one of the girls doubles the Sonora doubles team of Brianah Creek and Hunter Jennings rebounded from a loss in the semifinals to defeat a tough team from Hereford 6-4, 6-1 to win the third place medals. Jennings playing in flight two on Friday also brought home a third place medal in singles. In boys' singles, Marcos Quiroz won consolation in flight two. Also competing were Davis Jimenez, Phillip Stephens, Christian Kenney, Lionel DeLeon, Luis Hernandez, Alex Solis, Tanner Esparza, Micaela Moore, Adrianna Faz, Gracie Dozier, Halle Samaniego, and Julissa Esquivel. The tennis team will next compete at regional team tennis in San Angelo on March 2nd and 3rd.





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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available or acceptant approximation. All real estate advertising in 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.

DRN **Now Closing** 3:00 p.m. every Friday!

#### For Rent

**Commercial Property** For Rent: Former site of Ol' Sonora Trading, next door to Sonic. FMI contact Tom Clifton at 972-415-8502

For Rent: Private trailer house lot for rent. FMI call 387-3154.

Storage Room Available at Dev-3516

Office Space for Rent: between Dairy Queen and the Bank and Trust, currently Mungia Southwest, will be avaiable in March. Call Sharon Holman 325-226-1973

#### **Employment**

Taco Grill is now hiring for all positions. Please stop by 232 Hwy 277 N to pick up an application. FMI Call 325-387-9127.

Help wanted: Front Desk Clerk and Housekeepers, Please apply in Person at the Day's Inn.

Contract Home Study Specialist Needed. Bachelor's in Human Services required. CPS or child placing experience preferred. Sutton, Schleicher, Crockett and surrounding counties. Fax resume 254-471-5909 or Email to mauneyandassociates@centex.

The deadline for classifieds and ads is Monday at 4:00PM. Any late ads that come in after the deadline will be charged an additional \$10 fee to run the ad in that week's addition.

(If Space Allows)



(325) 387-2507

228 E. Main St.

sales(a)sonoratx.net

#### **Employment**

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

Help Wanted: Looking for experienced roustabout hand to work in the Sonora & Ozona area. FMI call 325-387-4464.

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> Lorenzo Lasater (325) 949-3763.

#### Found

Found: a black hard case for eye glasses lying in the street at the corner of Water Ave and Poplar St. The brand on the hard case ils River Storage, 1312 N. Ser- is Innovative Technology. Call vice Road, 12x40 (large enough or come by the State Farm office to hold an RV & a boat, 325-387- and describe the contents of the case and pick it up

#### LOST

Lost, Reward Offered: Male cat, neutered, 3 years old, 18 lbs, domestic short hair, gray tiger. There is a S500 reward for the person that can find him and take to the Sonora Animal Hospital to confirm his chip number

#### Free

Free to a good home: Beautiful male yellow lab; great dog! FMI Call 361-701-0397.

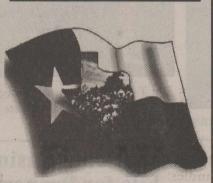
Place Your Ad Here!

Call Rhonda

(325)387-2507

#### 2 PREMIUM **PROPERITES NEAR ELDORADO**

108.5 acres & 1339 acres. Both with homes and great features. Laurence Lasater (325) 949-3763.



sure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, co-

lon). Call us for professional insight.

Ryan A. Krebs, M.D., J.D. Doctor-Lawyer in Full-time Law Practice Richard A. Dodd, L.C. Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.

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Lost, Reward Offered: Male cat, neutered, 3 years old, 18 lbs, domestic short hair, gray tiger. There is a \$500 reward for the person that can find him and take to the Sonora Animal Hospital to confirm his chip number

**PATTERSON PROPERTIES** 3017 Knickerbocker Rd. San Angelo, Texas 76904 325-944-9559 OFFICE cbpatterson.com

Irene Casillas, REALTOR® Sonora, Texas 76950 (325) 226-4475 irene@cbpatterson.com

#### **LISTINGS:**

110 Deerwood Drive - 4 BR/3BA 1039 Eaton St. - 80'x120' lot 1011 Eaton St. - 80'x120' lot 612 Orient - SOLD!! 214 Sawyer Dr. SOLD!! 302 W. 5<sup>th</sup> - SOLD!!

705 S. WATER AVE



Very nice 3 BR/2 BA, fireplace, formal dining room, privately fenced, 2 car garage, backyard concrete patio, inground swimming pool, lots of outdoor storage! Call for a showing



Anita Hudson, Broker Sam David Hernandez ~ Realtor Will M. Black ~ Realtor 215 E. Main \* Sonora, TX 76950

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**Great Deals on Commercial Properties** With Motivated Sellers

232 E. Main St., Sonora



- Mercantile Building Completely Remodeled 2007 • Historic Downtown Sonora
- \$395,000

208 S. Hwy 277, Sonora



- Income Producing • Corner Lot (approx. 1 acre) Restaurant/Office/Auto Bays

847 Merdian Dr., Sonora

R



- · Office Building • Fantastic View w/lg trees
- Paved Parking Lot
- \$260,000

606 Crockett Ave., Sonora



- Prime Location
- 3 City Lots Service Station/Wash Bay/Storage
- \$64,500



## MOTIVATED SELLER

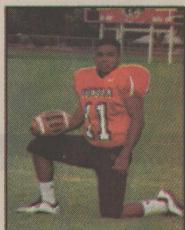
30 acres—great location 6 miles from Sonora, remodeled 3/3 house w/CH&A, attached carport, sprinkler system, well, outbuildings, fences, views, abundant wildlife, pictures on website

> \*Reduced\* \$262,000

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#### Jesus Vasquez



Honorable Mention All District Defense

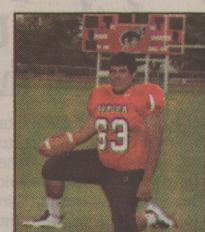
Lino Villanueva

2nd Team All District Offense

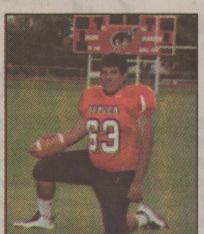
1st Team All District Defense 2A All West Texas LB Padilla Poll 2nd Team All State LB

Jorge Villanueva

#### Michael Sanchez



1st Team All District Offense Academic All District





1st Team All District Offense 1st Team All District Defense Academic All District Honorable Mention AP All-State WR 2A All West Texas WR All West Texas Super Team WR Padilla Poll 1st Team State WR Selected for FCA All Star Football Game



1st Team All District Defense

2A All West Texas Utility

All West Texas Super Team UB

Hagen Kennedy

2nd Team All District De-



March 16 & 17 2012

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Ft. McKavett Ranch For More Information Call: 325-226-2240

#### Kade Wimberbley



Academic All District District Special Teams MVP 2A All West Texas K Padilla Poll 2nd Team All State Kicker

Nathan Jarratt

Honorable Mention All

District Defense

2nd Team All Disrict Defense

Ryan San Miguel



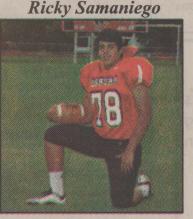
District Offense

Sam Powers

#### Kyle Patlan



1st Team All District Offense 1st Team All District Defense Hon. Mention AP All-State Off. Line 2A All West Texas OL All West Texas Super Team OL Padilla Poll 2nd Team All State OL



Honorable Mention All Honorable Mention All District Defense



1st Team All District Defense Padilla Poll 2nd Team All State DL

#### BASE/SOFT/T-BALL SIGN UP!

Sonora City League would like to announce the beginning of its BASE/SOFT/T-BALL League program for 2012. Any students interested in playing please fill out an enroll-ment form at the Sonora Middle School Big Gym on March 2 or March 5; 6:00—7:30 pm. BRING A COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE.

The cost will be Tee ball, Minors, Majors=\$45 per player. Enrollment form & money must be turned in before your child may participate. The following deadlines will be final for enrollment! LATE SIGN UP \$25.00 fee plus Player \$45 fee!!

March 8, 2012

Minor Baseball Try Outs at 6:00 P.M. - Sutton County Park Center Field.

Major Baseball Try Outs at 7:00 P.M. - Sutton County Park Center Field.

Minor Softball at the Sutton County Park Slab at 6:00 P.M. Major Softball at the Sutton County Park Slab at 7:00 P.M.

T-Ball registrations at the Sutton County Park Slab at 6:30 P.M.

Any questions please contact President, Jesse Garza at (325)226-3898 or Vice-President, Michael Ramirez at (325)650-1454

Baseball-Softball Age Groups T-ball & Baseball Age of player on April 30, 2012, MUST BE 4 years old by 04/30/2012

Tee Ball Baseball is for boys and girls 4-6 years old who want to learn the fundamentals of hitting and fielding. In Tee Ball, players hit a ball off a batting tee. Rules of the game may be varied to accommodate the need for teaching. The primary goals of Tee Ball are to instruct children in the fundamentals of baseball and to allow them to experience the value of teamwork. Rosters may be composed of between 10 and 12 players.

Minor League Baseball programs for boys-players with less experience. The minor league may be players ages 7-9. By local option, a player who is league age 6 for the current season and has played two years in Tee Ball may be "moved up" to minor division.

Major Division Baseball is for boys ages 10-12. Softball - Age of girl on January 1, 2012 Girls Minor League Softball programs may be operated within each division for younger players with less experience. The minor league may be players ages 7-10. A player

two years in Tee Ball may be "moved up" to Girls Minor League Softball. The Girls Major League Softball Division is a program for

who is league age 7 for the current season and has played

LATE SIGN UP \$25.00 fee plus Player \$45 fee!!

#### Non-Profits and Some Businesses Face April 30 Deadline to **File for Property Tax Exemptions**

For non-profit organizations to receive property tax exemptions, they must apply to the Sutton County Appraisal District no later than April 30.

The April 30 deadline also applies to businesses receiving tax abatements granted by taxing units, to firms shipping inventory out of Texas and may be eligible for the "freeport" exemption on certain goods in transit for certain property stored in warehouses having moved within 175 days, and to businesses acquiring pollution control property. If the last day for the performance of an act is a Saturday, Sunday or legal state or national holiday, the act is timely if performed on the next regular business day.

The non-profit organizations that are eligible for property tax exemptions include but are not limited to: certain charitable organizations, youth development organizations, religious organizations, non-profit private schools, cemeteries and veterans' organizations. If a non-profit organization meets property tax exemption qualifications, the exemption can be approved immediately after the organization buys or acquires new property during the year.

Non-profit organizatins must reapply if the property changes owners, if their qualifications for exemption change or if they acquire new property. In most cases, after non-profit organizations are granted a property tax exemption they do nat have to reapply annually unless the chief appraiser asks them to file again.

Property owners with mineral property or business person property worth less than \$500 are exempt from property taxes. No exemption application is required.

For more information about property tax exemptions that are available to businesses and non-profit organizations contact SUTTON COUNTY APPRÂISAL DISTRÎCT, 300 E. OAK ST., STE 2, SONORA, TEXÂS 76950 (325)387-2809 before April 30. Details are also available from the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division. Visit the Property Tax website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/protax/ or call (800) 252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and then press "1" to contact the Information Services Team.

#### **Productivity Appraisal Reduces Property Taxes on Farms** and Ranches

Texas farmers and ranchers can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to the Sutton County Appraisal District for agricultural productivity appraisal and for a lower appraisal of their land based on how much they produce, versus what their land would sell for in the open market.

The Texas Constitution authorizes two types of agricultural productivity appraisals, 1 -d - 1 and 1 -d, named after the section in which they were authorized. For 1 -d- 1 appraisal, property owners must use the land for agriculture or timber but the lands use must meet the degree of intensity generally accepted in the area. Owners must also show that the land is being used for at least five of the preceding seven years. 1 -d- 1 appraisal does not restrict ownership to individuals and does not require agriculture to be the owner's primary business. Most land owners apply for the 1 -d- 1 appraisal.

Penalties in the form of rollback tax, or the difference between the taxes paid under productivity appraisal and the taxes that would have been paid if the land had been put on the tax roll at market value, will be imposed if qualified land is taken out of agriculture or timber production.

A rollback tax occurs when a land owner switches the land's use to non-agricultural. These rollback taxes under 1 -d- 1 are based on the five tax years preceding the year of change.

Texas law also allows farmers and ranchers to use land for wildlife management and still receive the special appraisal, but the land must be qualified for agriculture use in the preceding year. Land under wildlife management must also meet acreage size requirements and special use qualifications.

The deadline to apply for productivity appraisal is April 30. If the last day for the performance of an act is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal state or national holiday, the act is timely if performed on the next regular business day. Owners of land qualified as 1 -d must file a new application every year. Owners of land qualified as 1 -d-1 need not file again in later years unless the chief appraiser requests a new application.

For more information about productivity appraisal and application forms, contact the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E. Oak St., Ste 2, Sonora, Texas 76950 (325)387-2809. Information is also available on the state Comptroller's website at <a href="https://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/protax/">www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/protax/</a> or by calling the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at (800) 252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and then press "1" to contact the Information Services Team.