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48435

The Devil's River News

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

75¢

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SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, February 21, 2013

Lady Bronco Basketball - Area Champs



The Lady Broncos get a large sendoff on their way to the Regional Quarter Finals game against Merkel.

The Lady Broncos used their 'hyper-tempo' & 'Run and Fun' basketball to beat the Nocona Lady Indians at Clyde High School to secure a victory in the UIL - Area Championship Game. The Lady Broncos won every quarter in a decisive 66-44 victory. Avery Nolen (7 rebounds and 5 steals) came out red hot with 15 first half points to spark a 33-24 half time lead. Then Gracie Dozier took over with 14 second half points (21 points total, 5 assists and 6 steals) to lead the offensive and defensive attack. Kylie Love (13 points / 13 rebounds / 5 assists / 4 steals), Jaye Sanchez (6 points / 5 assists / 5 steals) and Abby Creek (7 points / 6 rebounds) played spectacular ball while the 'super subs' Katie Hartman (3 steals), Zella Powers (2 points), Tyler Hampton (2 points) and JoJo Gutierrez (2 steals) added energy and excitement to the game. As a team, the Lady Broncos shot 46% from the field and made four deep 3s (Gracie, Avery, Jaye and Abby) while converting 21 of 29 free throws. Sonora's pressure defense frustrated the Lady Indians into 29 turnovers. The Lady Broncos continue adding "W's" to their stellar record at 32-3. Sonora has moved up in the TGCA state poll to #8. Next up is the Regional Quarterfinals vs. TABC #2 Merkel Lady Badger (34-1). The game was played in Sterling City, Tuesday 2/19 at 7:00.

Sonora High School Athletes Named To The 2013 All-Star Squad



FCA All-Stars: Damon Evans, Kelsey Favila, and Kade Wimberley

ABILENE - Sonora High School has three senior athletes selected to participate in the 14th annual Big Country Chevy Dealers Fellowship of Christian Athletes All-Star Festival. Kelsey Favila, daughter of Eddie and Tami Favila, has been selected as part of the South Cheerleading Squad. Damon Evans, son of Lamar and Karen Evans, and Kade Wimberley, son of Ken and Cindy Wimberley, have both been selected as part of the South football squad. These All-Stars are three of over 200 area student athletes selected for the games that benefit the Big Country

Area Office of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Representing approximately 50 area schools, the rosters for the North and South squads were announced at a Press Conference on Sunday, February 17, 2013 at Beltway Park Baptist Church in Abilene, Texas. The All-Stars were nominated by their head coach/sponsor for the games, which features schools from an approximate 100 mile radius of Abilene covering 36 counties. Representatives from Class 1A-5A make up the squads. The All-Stars will be honored at an Induction Banquet on April 21st at the Abilene Civic Center. The football players

and cheerleaders will report on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 to Abilene. There will be a lot of activities that they will be involved in during that week as well as practices. The All-Star Football game will be played at 7 pm on Saturday, June 8th at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene, Texas. The All-Star volleyball game will be at noon on June 8th in Moody Coliseum on the ACU campus. The All-Star basketball games will be held in Brownwood at the Brownwood Coliseum on Thursday, June 6th at 6pm for ladies and 8pm for men.

Drought Fuels Water War Between Texas and New Mexico

by Sandra Postel of National Geographic's Freshwater Initiative

In the Rio Grande Basin of the American Southwest, that future inevitability has arrived.

Last week Texas, suffering through a devastating drought, filed a lawsuit with the U.S. Supreme Court alleging that New Mexico is failing to live up to its water delivery commitments under the 1938 Rio Grande Compact.

The Rio Grande rises in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado and flows 1,900 miles before entering the Gulf of Mexico. Texas charges that New Mexico's pumping of groundwater in the region below Elephant Butte Dam to the New Mexico-Texas border is reducing Rio Grande flows into Texas, thereby depriving the state's farms and cities of water they are legally entitled to under the Compact.

Texas v. New Mexico is likely to be but one of a string of disputes that erupt as drought causes water supplies to dwindle and water-sharing pacts devised in wetter and less-populated times can no longer hold the peace.

Texas doesn't specify how much water it believes New Mexico is illegally withholding, but indicates it is sufficient to irrigate thousands of acres of farmland. The city of El Paso also relies on Rio Grande water for half of its supply.

New Mexico officials have consistently maintained that the state is sending to Texas all the Rio Grande water to which it is legally entitled. The state attorney general said in a recent statement that Texas is "trying to rustle New Mexico's water and using a lawsuit to extort an agreement that would only benefit Texas while destroying water resources for hundreds of thousands of New Mexicans."

Fighting words, to be sure. If the Supreme Court justices decide to take up the case, they would do well to first sign up for hydrology 101.

One of the great water myths is that rivers and underground aquifers are separate and distinct sources of water. In reality, rivers and groundwater are often intimately connected. Groundwater provides the "base" flow that keeps many rivers running during dry times. For their part, rivers and irrigation canals leak water into the subsurface, recharging the aquifers below.

In dry years, when surface supplies run low, farmers often turn to underground water to replace or supplement their irrigation supply. That's what New Mexico farmers downstream of Elephant Butte have done during years of drought and low river flows.

In the Mesilla Basin, for example, groundwater is the primary source of irrigation water for about 5,000 acres, but is a supplemental source of supply for more than 70,000 acres. So in dry times, groundwater withdrawals ratchet up.

According to an article on the impacts of groundwater pumping in the Rio Grande Basin published in this month's Ecosphere, a journal of the Ecological Society of America, during the 2004 drought, when federal officials curtailed releases from Elephant Butte Dam, pumping from the Messila Aquifer rose to twice the long-term average.

The drought of recent years has elicited a similar response from farmers, and groundwater pumping in the Rio Grande Valley has increased markedly. But how much this pumping has affected flows into Texas is in question.

The current bi-state conflict began in 2007 when Texas farmers complained that New Mexico was extracting too much groundwater. To avoid an escalating legal fight, the federal Bureau of Reclamation, which operates Elephant Butte, worked out an agreement with two irrigation districts in Texas and New Mexico to give Texas more river water to make up for New Mexico's groundwater use.

That agreement didn't sit well with New Mexico officials, however, and three years later the state filed suit against the Bureau, charging that the deal gave away too much of New Mexico's Rio Grande allotment to Texas and would cause \$183 million in damages to the state's agricultural economy. Texas shot back with the lawsuit filed last week.

Meanwhile, the drought persists. Elephant Butte is at 8 percent of its storage capacity, the same as when I visited the reservoir last August.

While the legal case may drag on for years, it is a wake-up call for all states and nations that share transboundary waters to proactively add resilience to their treaties and institutions before crises hit, and even more importantly, to develop workable governing structures over water where they are lacking.

It is also a lesson to invest now in water efficiency improvements so as to reduce pressures on both rivers and aquifers.

Because while the Supreme Court may ultimately decide this Texas-sized water dispute, even the highest court in the land can't dictate Mother Nature to deliver more water.

Sandra Postel is director of the Global Water Policy Project and Freshwater Fellow of the National Geographic Society. She is the author of several acclaimed books, including the award-winning Last Oasis, a Pew Scholar in Conservation and the Environment, and one of the "Scientific American 50."

Residential Landscape of the Month



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THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Senior Center Activities

Thurs. November 29 - Happy Birthday Richard Palmer
 Fri. November 30 - Run errands
 Mon. December 3 -
 Tues. December 4 -
 Wed. December 5 -

Senior Center Menu

Thurs. November 29 - Smothered steak, Mashed potato, Mix greens, Roll, Peach shortcake, milk
 Fri. November 30 - Chicken Fajitas, Spanish rice, Pinto beans, Flour tortilla, Fruit cocktail, milk
 Mon. December 3 -
 Tues. December 4 -
 Wed. December 5 -

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).

Obituaries

Sonora- Victoria G. Romero, 88 of Sonora died Monday, Feb. 18, 2013 in Eldorado. Funeral services will be Thursday, Feb. 21 at 10:00a.m. in St. Ann's Catholic Church.

Burial will follow in Sonora Cemetery. Survivors include son Pete Romero of Sonora and daughter Lidia Ogaz-White of Sonora.

Louis Olenick, Sr. passed away at his home February 8, 2013 at the age of 73. Louis was born August 12, 1939 in Cestohova, TX to Edmund and Frances Moy Olenick. Louis was one of ten children. Upon graduating high school from Falls City, TX in 1957, Louis enlisted in the United State Army where he was stationed in Germany for two years.

Louis moved to Sonora in 1961 and went to work for his brother, "Junior" at the Dairy Mart, where he met Nova Jean Crawford.

Louis and Nova married September 28, 1963. They had three children, Louis, Jr., Michelle and Lorna. Louis and Nova were married 29 years.

Louis retired from the Texas Highway Department after 32 years of dedicated service. He held many positions at the Texas Highway Department, but upon his retirement he was proud to be the area supervisor.

Louis was reacquainted with Marian "Tee" Glasscock and they married November 4, 1995. They were married 16 years.

Louis gave to his hometown through many different organizations. His tireless efforts included The Game Dinner Association, Christmas in April, The Lion's Club and 28 years of service to The Sonora Volunteer Fire Department. He held the position of fire chief from 1974-1976 and again from 1981-1984. Louis was also voted Fireman of the Year in 1986.

Louis never sat still. He enjoyed "tinkering" around the house which included his mechanic abilities and his carpentry skills. He took great pride in having a beautiful yard. He was always ready to lend a hand to anyone in need. Louis loved to garden and share his "crop". He also loved to

love the Dallas Cowboys, as well as he loved to "hate" them! But, his true passion was fishing, even though most of his fish were caught while he was napping on the boat. Frying fish was his specialty and no one else's could compare.

Louis is survived by his wife, "Tee", his children, Louis Olenick, Jr. and wife Mary of San Marcos, Michelle Lipham and husband, Clifton of Sonora, Lorna Olenick of Anchorage, AK, TJ Thompson and wife, Ora of Hobbs, NM and Tanna Thompson of Big Spring, his grandchildren, Ryan Thompson, John Thompson, Nova Nicole Lipham, Gregory Thompson, Alexandria Olenick, Katelyn Lipham and Jeremy Olenick and one great granddaughter, Valerie Thompson. He is also survived by two sisters, Carolyn Olenick and Mary Mocygamba and one brother, Eugene Olenick and numerous nieces and nephews.

Louis was preceded in death by his first wife, Nova, parents Edmund and Frances Olenick, brothers, Bron Olinick, Thomas Olenick, Edmund "Junior" Olenick, Alfonse Olenick and James Olenick and one sister, Theresa Morgan.

Services were held Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 2 pm at the Sonora First Baptist Church with graveside to follow. Arrangements were made by Kerbow Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department.

The family would like to thank his friends and family from the Sonora and Rough Canyon areas for their help, love and prayers. Also, a special thanks to the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department for preparing the family meal.

Residential Landscape of the Month



Efrain and Adrialys Mata pose in front of their hosue on 508 Del Rio St, Sonora, TX 76950.

Lion's Roar

The Sonora Downtown Lions met this week at the First Methodist Basement with a good crowd and a great meal. Visitors are always welcome. James Hartman officiated the meeting.

A memorial gift was announced in the name of Tony Land. The gift was given to honor a good Lion and add to the scholarship fund. The Bradley's made the donation.

The discussion was the coming Eighty Fifth Anniversary of the Sonora Downtown Lions Club. It was chartered on May 9, 1928 and the celebration will be on May 9th. Lions will soon be selling tickets to the meal that evening. There will be a Queen's Contest, a wonderful meal, music and fellowship that evening. The Lions are inviting the community to come and help us celebrate our history and a club that means so much to this community.

New Devils River Access Permit Process Takes Effect Feb. 1

AUSTIN – Beginning Feb. 1, any paddler planning to put in or take out of the Devils River on public lands managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Val Verde County must first obtain a permit from TPWD.

The new Devils River Access Permit is a key component of a pilot program designed to provide opportunities for responsible, resource-compatible public use of the Devils River, while respecting private landowner rights and protecting the ecological health of the river and its fragile ecosystem. Implementation of a permitting system was one of the key recommendations of the original Devils River Working Group that endeavored to strike a balance between private landowner rights and recreational river use by the public.

"We believe that with this new permitting process the department has done due diligence in following the recommendations of a diverse group of landowners, conservation organizations and paddling groups," TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith said. "The permit system helps strike a balance between private landowner rights and the rights of the public to access the river for recreation. We will monitor how this pilot works and can make adjustments if needed."

TPWD will issue up to 12 day-use launch permits and 12 overnight-use launch permits per day. Before launching a kayak or canoe on the Devils River, each paddler must obtain a permit, although the trip leader of a paddling group may obtain all permits for members of the group. Permits will cost \$10 per person and may be obtained 11 months in advance.

Permits will be needed by any paddler planning to access the river at either of the two Devils River State Natural Area units, as well as Baker's Crossing. The Baker's Crossing bridge area on State Highway 163 is being managed by TPWD under an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation. Most lands adjacent to the approximately 37 miles of Devils River from Baker's Crossing to Amistad Reservoir are privately owned and off limits to paddlers.

The Devils River State Natural Area consists of the original 20,000-acre state natural area that's now called the Del Norte unit, the newly acquired 17,000-acre lower river area that's been designated as the Big Satan unit and the Baker's Crossing unit. The primary purpose of the state natural area is to protect natural and cultural resources and provide opportunities for limited, resource-compatible use.

Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesia Bautista 504 Santa Clara 387-2035	Church of Christ 304 N. Water 387-3190
The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616	First Baptist Church 11 E. Oak 387-2951
Lighthouse Community Church 1705 N. Crockett 387-9100	St. John's Episcopal Church 404 E. Poplar 387-2955
St. Ann's Catholic Church 229 W. Plum 387-2278	First United Methodist Church 201 N. Water 387-2466
Jehovah's Witness 310 St. Ann's St 387-5658/387-5518	Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios 306 W. 4th St 387-5713
Faith Apostolic Church 120 N. Concho Ave. 206-0277	Hope Lutheran Church 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366

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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Main Street Traffic

The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program will be hosting the annual Easter Eggs Hunt on Saturday, March 30th. The hunt will begin at 10:30 am with everyone gathering on Main Street. Meal Deal consisting of burgers, drinks and chips will be available for \$5.00. We will be sure to post more information as it develops but if there are any questions or you would like to volunteer to help out, please give us a call at the office at (325)387-2248. **Bill Hodges**

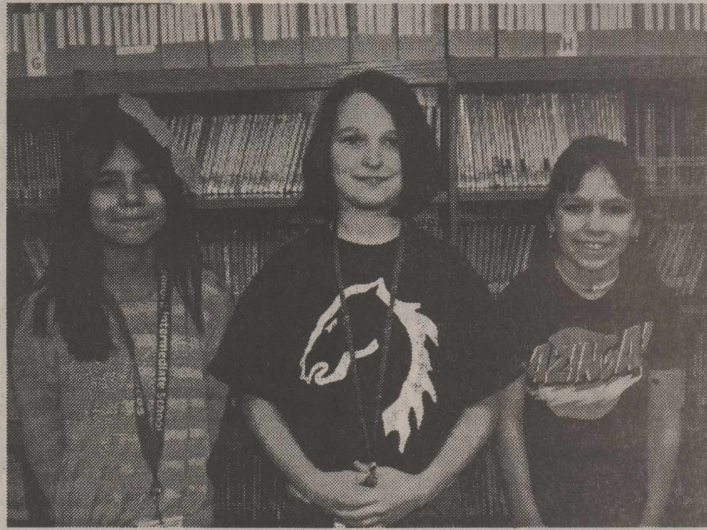


Students of the Week

February 18, 2013

Alyssa Martinez

Jessica Smith



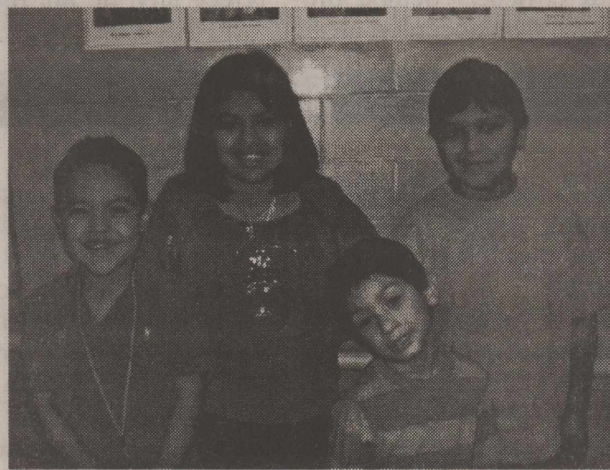
Ashley Zook

Students of the Week

February 18, 2013

Jose Guerra

Jose Meza



Lorena Reyes Sergio Garza

Texas School Finance System Ruled Unconstitutional

AUSTIN, Texas – State District Judge John Dietz ruled today that the Texas school finance system is unconstitutional by ruling in favor of the Calhoun County ISD plaintiffs on both of their claims. The Calhoun County ISD plaintiffs consist of a group of 89 school districts (many of them Texas School Coalition members) represented by Mark Trachtenberg and John Turner, attorneys with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Judge Dietz held that the school finance system has evolved into an unconstitutional state property tax and that the system fails to provide the plaintiff districts access to funding sufficient to provide a constitutionally adequate education.

Statement by Haynes and

Boone Partner Mark Trachtenberg

“Judge Dietz’s ruling is the first step in an important process. While we expect that the Texas Supreme Court will ultimately have its say, there is no reason why the Legislature has to wait on the appeals process before addressing the constitutional deficiencies in the system.

“Because of statutory mandates, rising academic standards and declining state funding, districts have lost meaningful discretion over their local property tax rates and have no opportunity to provide enrichment programming desired by their local communities. Judge Dietz correctly found that this situation results in a de facto state property tax, which is prohib-

ited under the Texas Constitution.

“Nearly one-quarter of all districts are taxing at the maximum \$1.17 rate. These districts cannot access any additional revenue. Even if all districts increased their tax rates to \$1.17, the amount of revenue raised would be roughly equivalent to the 2011 legislative budget cuts. This amount does not constitute meaningful discretion because it is insufficient even to provide an adequate education, much less local enrichment.”

Statement by Haynes and Boone Partner John Turner

“Judge Dietz’s ruling on adequacy confirms what school districts have known all along. State funding has dramatically declined at the same time that academic expectations have dramatically increased. The Constitution requires that districts have access to adequate resources to ensure that all of their students have a meaningful opportunity to meet state expectations and graduate college- or career-ready.

“Per student revenues for public education have declined from roughly \$7,100 in 2003-04 to \$6,293 in 2012-13, using constant 2004 dollars. This represents about a 12 percent reduction from 2004 levels – even though our student population has become even more challenging to educate and the expectations for student performance have risen.

“The Supreme Court has said before that the State must provide the resources necessary to meet its own standards. We believe that Judge Dietz correctly found, after 44 days of testimony, that the State is not providing those resources today.”

The Texas School Coalition represents school districts that return tax dollars raised from their local homeowners and businesses to the state. Since 1993, these revenue-contributing districts have given more than \$15 billion to the statewide system and they are now contributing more than \$1 billion annually.

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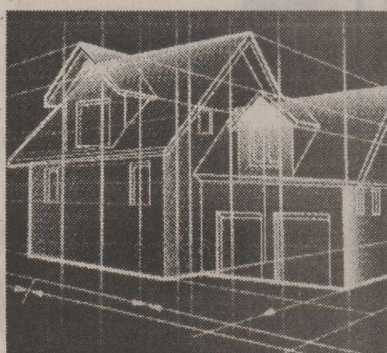
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F.Y.I

The Old Ice House Ranch Museum needs an old oak ice box to display in the Museum! Can you help?

Art Classes the 1st or 2nd Monday of each month from 8:00AM to 5:00PM. \$36.00 per class, lunch included. FMI call Ken Rowland 432-238-3121, Lori Stricklan 325-226-2526 or Anita Spiller 325-387-5266.

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



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Sonora, TX

Charles Howard Construction, Inc.


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Filaree Trying To Make It In Dry Winter



By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent

With little precipitation this winter, not much is growing on our rangelands. Texas wintergrass is starting to green up. Filaree is also trying to make it out there. Known by several names, filaree is common throughout our area.

Filaree is one of the first bloomers of the season. This perennial, cool-season annual is found on rocky or sandy calcareous soils of hillsides, disturbed areas, prairies and other open areas. Filaree is a member of the Geranium Family (Geraniaceae) and there are several species.

Redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*) is also called Storksbill and was native to Eurasia and introduced into the US by early Spanish settlers. It became naturalized in the Southwest. The stems are leafy and hairy. Red stems spread along the ground up to 20 inches and support flowers and tiny, sword-shaped fruits. Ripening seed pods twist into a spiral.

Each "stork's bill" actually is five seeds, each with the long tail tapering out to the end of the "bill". These tails are tightly bound and make the central, elongated "bill". At maturity, what becomes the corkscrew peels off the long "bill" and starts to curl, remaining attached to the seed. The familiar corkscrews then twist into the soil as they go through day-night cycles of wetting and drying. Each time, the spiral forces the sharp seed deeper into the soil. Eventually the seed breaks off, leaving hundreds of cork screws in any square meter.

The Texas Storksbill (*E. texanum*) has flowers twice the size and is as widely distributed. It is a low herb, branched from the base, and grows to 5 inches tall. The reddish-purple flowers of the Texas Filaree are 1 inch across. Leaves are long-stalked, deeply veined and appear wrinkled.

Texas Filaree is native to the South Texas Plains and Edwards Plateau areas. It blooms from February through April. Filaree's broad, flat leaves start life early in mid-winter. Large patches of filaree leaves can quickly smother other seedlings, including native grass seedlings.

Filaree furnishes excellent to good spring forage for cattle, sheep, and wildlife. Though it is a nutritious feed, it is only available for a few weeks each year. It can also provide winter forage if the seeds germinate following fall rains.

Some literature states that it can cause bloating. Filaree, however, is short-lived and quickly dries to a brown, crunchy layer of dead leaves and flowers.

Multiple Indictments Returned in State Game Warden Hostage Case

AUSTIN – An Upshur County grand jury has returned multiple felony indictments, including two first degree counts of aggravated assault on a police officer, naming a father and son accused of holding a state game warden at gunpoint last October.

All the indictments stem from an Oct. 6 incident in which Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Game Warden Shane Bailey was disarmed and detained by two armed men while the officer was making a routine check for hunting law violations on private property in Upshur County.

The warden used his cell phone to call for help, and soon numerous local and state officers came to his assistance and ended the situation with no shots fired.

Lloyd Allen Crabtree, 51, a former county commissioner in Upshur County, was named in five felony indictments, including three counts of aggravated assault on a peace officer (first degree felony); one count of taking a weapon from a peace officer (third degree felony) and one count of unlawful restraint with a deadly weapon (third degree felony).

Crabtree's son, Todd A. Crabtree, 28, was indicted on three felony charges: One count of aggravated assault on a peace officer (first degree felony); one count of taking a weapon from a peace officer (third degree felony); and one count of unlawful restraint with a deadly weapon (third degree felony).

The attorney for the two men notified them Friday afternoon that arrests warrants had been issued and they

turned themselves in at the Upshur County Jail a short time later. They remained in jail Friday night in lieu of \$1.5 million bond each. The incident last fall was investigated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Internal Affairs Unit and the Texas Rangers. "We really appreciate the hard work on the part of our Internal Affairs officers, the Texas Rangers and Upshur County District Attorney's Office that went into this investigation," said Col. Craig Hunter, TPWD's Law Enforcement Division director. "While this case still has to make its way through the judicial process, we hope these indictments will send a strong message that incidents such as this one will not be tolerated by law-abiding Texans."

Public Notice

Sonora ISD will accept sealed proposals for job order contracts based on time and material rates for minor construction, repair, painting, electrical, rehabilitation or alteration of a facility for a contract period of April 1, 2013 thru March 31, 2015. Proposal packets are available at the Admin Office. Sealed proposals will be accepted at the

Admin. Office at 807 S. Concho, Sonora, TX 76950 until March 7, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at which time said proposals will be opened and presented to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting of the Board at the Vocational Building, 805 Prospect, Sonora, TX. The District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Public Notice

Sutton County Road & Bridge is hereby requesting sealed bids on the following R&B Materials:

- R&B MATERIALS:
1) Approximately 90,000 Gallons of AC-5 or AC-1 0 asphalt
2) 3500 Tons of Aggregate Type B Grade #3

Sealed bids will be opened on February 25, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. at the special meeting of

Commissioners Court at the Sutton County Annex.

"Sealed Bids" must be delivered or mailed to Judge Carla Garner, Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For specifications, please contact the County Road & Bridge Superintendent, Oscar Jimenez, 325/206-1883 or County Auditor, Maura Weingart, 325/387-5380.

Mesothelioma

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may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure 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, colon). Call us for professional insight.

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The Sonora Police Department is hiring a TCLEOSE certified Police Officer. Call the Sonora Police Department at 325/387-3888.

Updated Property Tax Information Now Available For Texas Taxpayers

Sonora-New and Updated property tax information has just been compiled by Sutton County Appraisal District and is available now to assist with taxpayers. This property tax information is current and covers a wide range of topics, such as taxpayer remedies, exemptions, appraisals and is of value to select groups, such as disabled veterans and persons who are 65 years of age or older.

"Whether you are a homeowner, business manager, disabled veteran or a taxpayer, it's important you know your rights concerning the property tax laws." Said Mary Bustamante, Chief Appraiser of the Sutton County Appraisal District. "You can contact us about property tax issues with full confidence that we will provide you the most complete, accurate and up-to-date available information to assist you."

This includes information about the following programs.

Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans

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 military personnel who died on active duty. The amount of exemption is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability. The law also provides a 100% exemption for 100% disabled veterans and their surviving spouses, beginning in 2009.

Property Tax Exemptions-Non-profit organizations that meet statutory requirements may seek property tax exemptions and must apply to their county appraisal district by a specific date.

Businesses that receive tax abatements granted by taxing units, firms that ship inventory out of Texas, and businesses that acquire pollution control property may also be eligible for statutory exemptions.

Rendering Taxable Property

If a business owns tangible personal property that is used to produce income, the business must file a rendition with its local county appraisal district by a specific date. Personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property such as church property or an agriculture producers equipment used for farming.

Appraisal Notices

If a taxpayer's property value increased in the last year, the Texas taxpayer will receive a notice of appraised value from the appropriate local board (ARB) can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses

the option of taking a taxpayer's case to district court or entering into binding arbitration if the taxpayer is dissatisfied with the outcome of the ARB hearing.

Homestead Exemptions

A homestead is generally defined as the home and land used as the owner's principal residence on Jan. 1 of the tax year. A homestead exemption reduces the appraised value of the home and, as a result, lowers property taxes. Applications are submitted to the appropriate local county appraisal district.

Productivity Appraisal

Property owners who use land for timberland production, agricultural purposes, and wildlife management can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to their local county appraisal district for an agricultural appraisal which may result in a lower appraisal of the land based on how much the taxpayer produces, versus what the land would sell for in the open market.

Property Tax Deferral for Persons Age 65 or Older and Disabled Homeowners

Texas who are 65 years of age or older, or who are disabled as defined by law, may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit. 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. Interest continues to accrue on unpaid taxes. You may obtain a deferral affidavit at the appraisal district.

Notice of Availability of Electronic Communication

Chief appraisers of county appraisal districts and appraisal review boards my communicate electronically through email or other media with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and other documents to be delivered electronically in place of mailing.

Protesting Property Appraisal Values

Property owners who disagree with the appraisal district's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's appraisal review board.

For more information about these programs, contact the Sutton County Appraisal District at (325) 387-2809. More information is also available from the state Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/ or contact the Texas Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at (800) 252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu, and then press "1".

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www.SonoraTexasRealEstate.com

Residential Properties

Sonora

708 Mesquite	\$27,500.00	
502 Martin Street	\$29,500.00	
1004 St. Anns Ave.	\$45,000.00	Contract Pending
119 Kisselburg	\$45,500.00	
111 W College	\$64,500.00	Contract Pending
817 E 2nd St.	\$82,000.00	
712 S. Concho	\$95,000.00	New Listing
109 Draw Street	\$95,000.00	Price Reduced!
222 Sawyer Drive	\$129,500.00	New Listing
309 Hightower	\$139,500.00	Contract Pending
112 Oakwood	\$142,500.00	Contract Pending
111 Sonora Dr.	\$165,000.00	
105 Sawyer Court	\$169,500.00	
117 Edgemont Road	\$220,000.00	New Listing
412 E. 2nd St.	\$235,000.00	Price Reduced!
121 Edgemont Road	\$298,000.00	New Listing

Residential Properties

Ozona

1108 Ave. A, Ozona	\$150,000.00	New Listing
1106 Ave. C, Ozona	\$200,000.00	

Commercial Properties

404 Sutton Ave. - Lot - 1/2 Acre +	\$55,000.00	
606 Crockett Ave. - Vacant Gas Station	\$64,500.00	
201 N Ave E - Ozona	\$200,000.00	
208 Hwy 277 S - Commercial/Income Producing	\$225,000.00	
847 Meridian Drive - Large Office Bldg.	\$240,000.00	
232 E Main Street - Mercantile Building	\$298,500.00	Price Reduced!

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100 acres - Crockett County	\$70,000.00	
100 acres - Crockett County	\$75,000.00	
100 Acres Crockett County	\$80,000.00	
100 acres - Crockett County	\$95,000.00	
120 Acres - Crockett County	\$108,000.00	
100 acres - Crockett County	\$115,000.00	
110.47 acres - Crockett County	\$200,000.00	
300 Acres - Crockett County	\$255,000.00	
158.66 Acres - Kimble County	\$205,465.00	Contract Pending
946.66 acres - Sutton County - Bond Rd.	\$990,000.00	
Approx. 3300 Acres Val Verde County	\$2,475,000.00	
8357.9 acres - Terrell County	\$2,799,897.00	

View all other listings at www.SonoraTexasRealEstate.com



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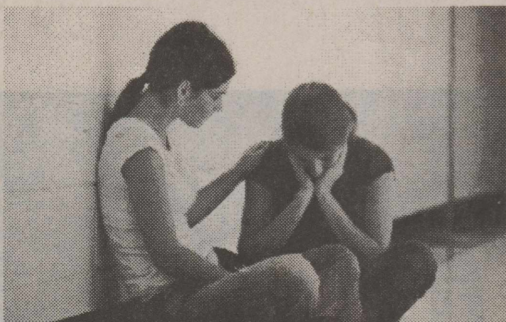
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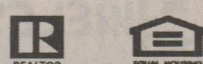
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