Devil's River - News

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

75¢

Volume 126 • Issue 5

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, January 30, 2014

24 Years Serving Sonora: Bryn Humphrey Retires



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A Packed Audience: An Emotional City Council Special Meeting



By Angie Bryant

was the discussion and pos- or to go swimming. sible action on funding of the the swimming pool and lastly the police department. This unanswered about the police meeting hoping for answers. Two people has the opportunity had to speak on he half of each department. Jeremy and that is "Why have we allowed our police department to diminish to only one full time patrolman at the end of

Sonora Golf Club, the airport, ing and standing with hands by how much is it short? The raised ready to ask questions, city's most recently posted however due to time and the budget, on its website, was mainly sue to all the concerns tendance, many of those ques- quired to request that informaand questions that still remain tions went unvoiced. A large tion in person at the City Hall. percentage of those questions When City Manager Charlie department. More than 100 centered around the future Graves was pressed on the isresidents showed up to this of the Sonora Police Depart- sue he assured the audience ment. City Manager Graves that the information does extried to put those questions ist but that, "I just don't have at ease by assuring those in them with me at this time". attendance that, "there have Dawson is one of the citizens been rumors that the city is ing the meeting were conwho voiced the main question planning to remove the police cerned about the state of the department, but he assured police department, but the city residents that this was not the council also heard

Many of those in attendance

On Monday January 27th the month?" He also added expressed frustration over the Sonora City Council that the safety of our children what they saw as a lack of inheld a Special Meeting at the and family outweigh the need formation regarding specific Civic Center. On this agenda to have a plane, to go golfing dollar amounts on the budget. Specifically, what is Sonora's Many people were sit- total FY 2013-14 budget, and

Most of the citizens attend-

Continued on Page 6

February Is National Cancer **Prevention Month in Sutton** County



meeting, Judge Carla Garner communities worldwide to of the proclamation. The relay signed a proclamation deem- host the American Cancer will take place on May 23 at ing February to be National Society's Relay for Life, an Bronco Stadium from 6pm -Cancer Prevention Month in event to celebrate cancer sur- 12am. If you have any ques-Sutton County. The procla- vivors and remember those tions you can contact Sarah mation was voted upon by who are no longer with us. at shteaff1@gmail.com or at Commissioner Carl Teaff, Funds raised by the citizens 206-1537. You can also con-Commissioner John Wade, of Sutton County in support tact Mary at mary.payton@ Commissioner Miguel Villan- of Relay for Life will create cancer.org or at 325-944ueva, and Commissioner Fred a world with less cancer and 2500. Perez. The proclamation, sub- more birthdays by helping mitted by the Sutton County Relay for Life Committee, cures, and fight back. brings awareness to the community of the various cancer mittee members, Sarah Teaff 5:30pm - 7:30pm. This will prevention tactics, education, (chair) and Katrina Cranford be a come and go event where and programs offered by the (fundraising American Cancer Society in along with Regional Relay for questions about Relay for Life Sutton County. The city of

people stay well, get well, find Kickoff event will take place ratt scored 10.

During their regu- Sonora and Sutton County Life Specialist, Mary Payton lar County Commissioners' are joining over 5,200 other were in attendance in support

> The Relay for Life on February 6 at the Sutton Relay for Life Com- County EMS Building from committee), citizens came come ask any and sign up teams.

Relay for Life Returns to Sonora - Event Scheduled for May 23rd

After a two year absence, Relay for Life will be coming back to Sonora. The event is scheduled for Friday, May 23rd from 6 PM until midnight at the Sonora High School Bronco Stadium. In addition to the relay, a 5k run will also take place for those wanting to participate. The National Relay for Life theme is "Finish the Fight'. The local theme for the Sutton County Relay is "Colors of Cancer".

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's nationwide signature event. This annual event involves teams that raise money through donations and fundraising to support cancer research, educational programs, patient services and advocacy. On the day of Relay, teams can campout and take turns walking or running around the track while enjoying hours of fun, food and entertainment! Inspirational moments include the Survivor's Reception, the Survivor's and Caregiver's Victory Laps, and the breath taking Luminary Ceremony meeting was very important fact that so many were in at- from 2011 so the public is re- where candles are lit in honor and in memory of those who have battled cancer.

> The 2014 Sutton County Relay for Life committee consists of: Sarah Teaff/Chair, Noemi Samaniego/Co-Chair, Teresa Harris/Registration & Accounts, Pat Gomez/Survivor Chair, Eddie Arteaga/Online Chair, Joe Marshall/Logistics Chair, Aliza Coronado/Sponsorship Chair, Robert Teaff/Logistics Committee, Hillary Lawson/Team Chair, Marissa Faz/ Luminaria Chair, Morgan Mathews/Youth Engagement Committee, Johnna Gibson/Publicity Chair, Cynthia Cardenas/ Entertainment & Activities Chair, Judy Holmes/Fundraising Chair and Katrina Cranford.

> The committee is currently looking for additional volunteers, committee members and sponsors. Help is needed in all areas and would be greatly appreciated. Those wishing to help sponsor the event can contact Aliza Coronado at 325.387.1150 or 830.683.7846. Deadline for sponsorship/underwriting opportunities is April 1st, 2014.

> A Relay for Life kickoff meeting will be held on February 6th from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the EMS building. Everyone who intends on participating in the event this year is encouraged to come.

> > For further information on the event please visit www.relayforlife.org/sut toncounty, https://www.facebook.com/ suttonrelay or call 325.387.1295.

Two more "W's" for the Lady Broncos

The Lady Broncos are in the middle of a massive road trip with wins at Alpine (52-32) and at Tornillo (60-50). Although the Lady Broncos are not playing their most inspired ball of the season - they still know how to win! Against Alpine Tuesday evening, Sonora found themselves down after the 1st quarter for the first time in district. Then Kylie Love took control. Kylie finished with 23 points, 15 rebounds, 7 steals and 5 assists. Gracie Dozier helped out with 18 points on 6 for 6 FTs and 4 steals. The duo scored 41 of the Lady Broncos 52 points.

On Friday night in Tornillo, The Lady Broncos were led by Zella Powers double-double. Zella posted 10 points and 10 rebounds in the victory. Kylie scored 21 and had 11 rebounds in limited minutes. Gracie had 14 points and 4 assists in the game. Katie Hartman, JoJo Gutierrez, Tyler Hampton, Gracie Dozier and Janelle Vasquez all hit 3s. Naomi Dozier (2 rebounds and 1 steal), Sky Jennings (3 rebounds and 1 steal) and Tyler (9 rebounds, 6 blocks and 3 steals) all had strong defensive games. In JV action, Sonora defeated Tornillo 43-42 in another exciting JV game! Jill Buitron supplied 11 points and Brianna Jar-

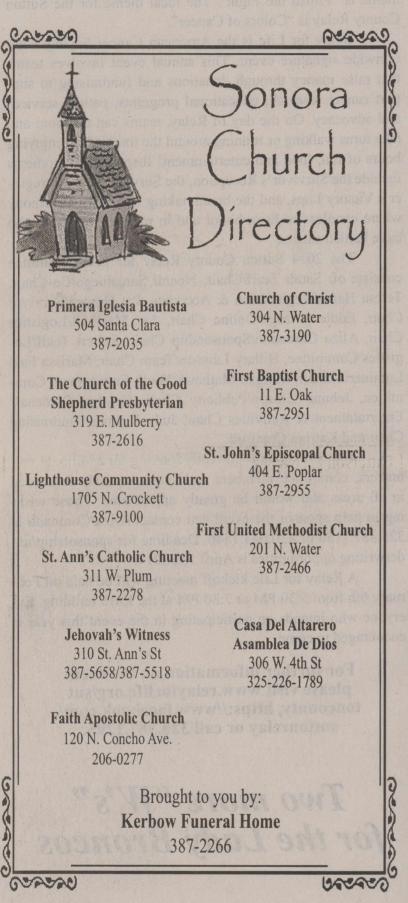
The winning bucket was converted on a fast break with Cip Tobias feeding BJ Jarratt with a long pass who found Jesi Telles open for the game winning shot with 14 seconds left. Then the solid Lady Bronco press kept Tornillo from getting a shot off. Both Lady Bronco teams are undefeated in district.

The Community Bible study will be studying

"Sacred Secrets" by Beth Moore

This will be a 5 week study beginning January 8, 2014 at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

ALL ARE WELCOME



The Devil's River News

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Anna Kathryn Kaufman arrived on November 20, 2013 in Allen, Texas, and was joyfully welcomed by her loving family. Baby Anna Kate was born at 8:08 pm, weighing 7 lbs. 8 oz. and measuring 19 inches long. Her parents are Sam and Kristen (Hardgrave) Kaufman. Helping take care of her (and kiss and hug her!) are her brother Ethan and sister Abby. Anna Kate's grandparents are Gary and Kathy Hardgrave of Sonora; Lynn and Mary Kaufman of Mason City, Iowa; and Deanna and Joe Kienast of Southlake, Texas. Great grandparents are Robert and Gloria Van Slaars of San Angelo, Texas, and Mary Kaufman of Mason City.

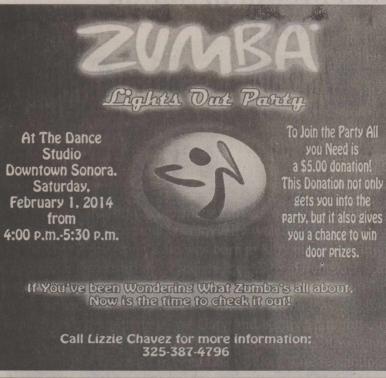
Sonora Graduate Makes Deans List at: The University of Texas

Ms. Abby Creek has the distinction of being named to the Dean's Honor List for the Fall 2013 Semester at the University of Texas at Austin.

The College of Communication Dean's Honor list includes students who have earned at least 45 grade points, have a grade-point average of at least 3.50, and have no incomplete classwork.

With this honor, Ms. Creek has earned a place among the top students in one of the most highly regarded communication schools in the country. This is truly an outstanding accomplishment.

The University of Texas at Austin congratulates Ms. Creek on this fine achievement and sends best wishes for continued success.



Public Notice

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRONIC COMMU-**NICATIONS**

Sonora- Under a new law, chief appraisers of county appraisal districts, appraisal districts, and appraisal review boards may communicate electronically through email or other methods with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and other documents to be delivered electronically in place of mailing.

How does it work? Certain guidelines must be followed for this local option communication:

Written agreements with the county appraisal district must be entered first, ensuring that electronic means of delivery are acceptable. If you are interested in receiving communications in eleccontact your local appraisal at: district.

Public notice regarding the SUTTON COUNTY APavailability of agreement PRAISAL DISTRICT forms authorizing electron-

ic communications may be city. published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district on or before Feb. 1 each year, or agreement forms may be delivered on or before Feb. 1 each year to property owners shown on the certified appraisal roll for the preceding tax year. The chief appraiser may determine the medium, format, content, and method to be used for electronic communications other than notices required by Section 25.19 of scribed by Comptroller rule. A decision by the chief appraiser not to enter into on Facebook. agreements may not be the subject of an appraisal review board protest, a lawsuit or a complaint to the Texas Department of Licensing

tronic format, you should For more information contact us

and Regulation

300 EAST OAK ST., STE. 2 **SONORA, TEXAS 76950**

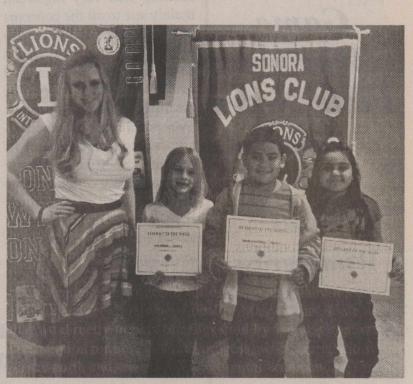
Wellness Ministry

People don't give much thought to digestion, unless they've experienced obvious problems like acid reflux or problematic stomach issues. But poor digestion can be a root cause of many health problems including skin conditions, anxiety, sleep disorders, sinuses, depression, and low immune function. Digestion is the process that allows the nutrients from food, our body's only fuel, to get to all of the places they need to be. Poor digestion equals poor health. Many of us don't realize that we directly impact our digestion by the way that we eat. Digestion is a north to south process, when things go wrong on the north end, they don't work on the south end. It's important to be seated and relaxed when eating so that your body is in a parasympathetic state, which it has to be for digestion to occur. Chew your food well, 30 chews per bite, to help really break down the food. But perhaps the most important step is to choose real food, the food God made and that our bodies easily recognize, as opposed to processed "frankenfood" with ingredients unfamiliar to our system.

Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? Matthew 15:17.

Chelsea Blackbird is a Certified Nutritional Therapist. For more information go to www.dailynutritionist.com or schedule a personalized nutritional assessment with Chelsea at chelsea@dailynutritionist.com or 512-815-3083.

Lions Roar: Second Grade Students of the Week, and Relay For Life



The second grade Students of the Week joined the Sonora Downtown Lions Club on January 21, 2014 for our weekly meal and meeting. Pictured above is our Lions Club Queen, Kaitlyn Gibbens, along with Elin Roepke, Elijah Samaniego, and Carolina Pimentel. Dakoda Borders was unable to join us, but did receive a certificate.

Our guest speakers were Sarah Teaff and Pat Gomez, representing this year's Relay for Life. Mrs. Teaff is the Chairperson for Relay for Life this year. Mrs. Gomez is the Survivor and Caregiver Chairperson. This year the Relay for Life event will be held on May 23, 2014 at Bronco Stadium. The six-hour event will begin at 6 pm and will run until 12 am. There will also be a 5K race, sponsored by the Health and Wellness Center, which will start and end at Bronco Stadium, and will begin at approximately 7pm, after the survivors lap, with the route running through the

The Kickoff event will be February 6th at the Sutton County EMS building parking lot from 5:30-7:30. This will give teams a chance to sign up or to have any questions answered. Marissa Faz is the Luminaries Chair and will have luminaries available at the kickoff, so that you can honor or remember a loved one who has or is fighting cancer. The Luminary bags will be filled with canned goods this year, instead of sand. The food will be donated to the needy. The theme this year is "Colors for Cancer" to build awarethe Tax Code, which are pre-ness of the various kinds of cancer.

You can contact Pat Gomez at the LMH Hospital or

Chris Roque joined us to report on the very active Boy Scout troop. The boy Scouts meet each Monday from 4:30-5:30 at the Boy Scout Building on Water

Also joining us was the Reverend Roy Smalling, the new Church of Christ minister, along with his wife, Brenda. We welcome them to Sonora.

Texas Wintergrass Deserves a Closer Look



ter we've had, vegetation is brown, dry, and dormant. The look. Texas wintergrass is a bunchgrass. Its leaves feel like sandpaper when pulled short stiff hairs. This native semblance the awns have to a spear (the seeds, which are very stiff, have long, bent and twisted awns). After the seeds have fallen, papery white Otherwise the only practical bracts (that resemble oats) remain. Texas wintergrass starts growth in the fall and continues to grow throughout the winter, hence the name tion wintergrass. This cool-season species generally goes dormant or semi-dormant by early to mid-summer depending on weather conditions. It

important cool-season grass for livestock. It provides palatable winter forage production, and is most productive in early spring. It can produce1000-2000 lbs. per acre and responds to moderate dis- Station. turbance such as heavy grazing. However, its palatability and quality rapidly decline with maturity. Texas wintergrass can be fair forage for livestock and wildlife. But, as With the dry win- with most things, it does have some strikes against it. Sheep and goat raisers are wary beonly green may be Texas win- cause seedheads in spring tergrass. Though the value can injure sheep and goats as of this grass is questioned well as contaminate wool and by some, this common plant mohair. By some accounts, of our area deserves a closer puncture wounds caused by a major cause of fly strike in weather, planning a burn, scribed burn manager through Texas sheep and goats before between your fingers from top eradication of screw-worm. to bottom due to numerous, However, because cattle seem not to be as affected, northern grass is also known as "spear Texas cattlemen like Texas grass" because of the close re- wintergrass for the winter grazing it offers.

Heavy, late winter grazing may reduce the number of seedheads produced. management is to remove animals when "spears" are shed-

For similar informaregarding rangeland plants of our area, visit the Sutton County Extension website at http://sutton.agril-

Training Offered For Prescribed Burn Managers In February And March At Sonora

flowers between March and June. Texas wintergrass is an vent wildfires, according to Hinnant said. Ray Hinnant, a Texas A&M

> ture Prescribed Burning Board said. approved courses in February Station located on State High- arrival. way 55 between Sonora and

years of drought, 2013 pro- equipment. This school also is riculture, Hinnant said. duced forage that, under the useful for those wanting more

and March at the Texas A&M \$395 for each school, plus a form mailed to them. AgriLife Research-Sonora \$45 facilities use fee due upon

A Prescribed Burning School grade on the exam will procedar, prickly pear and other search associate at Sonora. will be held Feb. 20-22. This vide the educational compo- noxious plants and to help basic prescribed burning nent to begin application for reduce hazardous fuel loads Hinnant at 979-820-1778. penetrating calluses of Texas workshop will provide inforeither a private, commercial that could lead to catastrophic hardy, cool- season, perennial wintergrass were credited as mation on the history of fire, or not-for-profit certified pre- wildfires," he said.

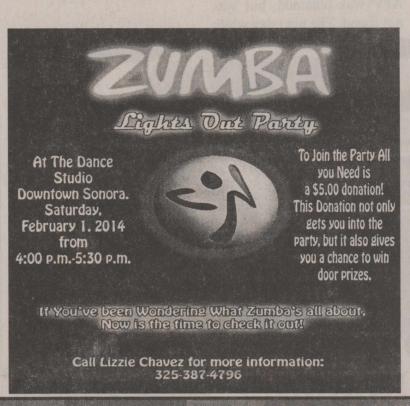
search associate in College builds on the previous school at Texas A&M University, rience. by providing more informa- Department of Ecosystem

The Academy for Ranch

SONORA - After several fuels and fuel moisture and the Texas Department of Ag- Management is a program of AgriLife Research and the Persons interested in attend- Texas A&M University deproper supervision, could about prescribed burning, but ing either school should go partment of ecosystems scifuel prescribed burns and pre- don't want to be certified, to http://www.ranchmanage- ence and management in ment.org/2014.pdf for a reg- College Station. The Sonora The Advanced Prescribed istration form, and mail it and facilities provide a teaching AgriLife Research senior re- Burning School on March 6-8 payment to Jeanne Andreski laboratory for hands-on expe-

Hinnant and Dr. Charles The Academy for Ranch tion on fire behavior, fire ef- Science and Management, "Butch" Taylor, superinten-Management will host two fects, and planning and con- 2138 TAMU, College Station, dent of the research station, Texas Department of Agricul- ducting a prescribed burn, he TX 77843-2138. She can be are prescribed-burning board reached at 979-862-2128 for instructors. Other speakers Individual registration is those needing a registration during the two courses include Dr. Mort Kothmann, Texas "If we continue to receive A&M University department precipitation, 2014 might be of ecosystems science and Successful completion of a good year for landowners management professor, and both courses and a passing to get back on track to control Nick Garza, an AgriLife Re-

For more information, call





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Game Warden Field Notes

•Over the Limit

soon heard the squawk of an McCulloch County Jail. injured rabbit, scanned the •Tag, You're It with sawed-off skullcaps, had said they had never harvested Humane Society. been killed. The man soon a deer before and that this . Wrong Time, Wrong Place the bucks the day before, his this year. The father said he was informed about an ATV The wardens were led back to cause both girls live with their a description of the missing felony. a nearby house, where mul- stepfather and mother. After ATV was obtained, but was the illegal buck and skullcap were seized. Criminal charges and civil restitution are pending.

• Joyride Leads to Trouble

A Titus County game warden received a call about riders of seven ATVs that were tearing up the road, throwing beer cans everywhere, and trespassing. The warden located the ATVs in a camp close to the area. Ten adults were found on the scene, two of whom were under 21. Citations were issued for minor in possession of alcohol, evading arrest, and operating an ATV on a public roadway. An investigation is pending on criminal trespass and burglary of a deer camp in the same area.

*Two Youths Earn Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt

A Dallas county game warden organized a once-in-a-lifetime red deer hunt on a local ranch for two youths. Working with the landowner, the TPWD Hunter Education office, and the Dallas Safari Club's Ecological/Education Foundation, the group developed criteria for this opportunity by developing prerequisites that not only educated each hunter, but showed the importance of hunting and conservation. To qualify for selection, each hunter was required to be currently enrolled in his/her high school's outdoor education program, complete a hunter education course, show firearm proficiency, and write a one-page essay on wildlife conservation. Both hunters were chosen from a competitive group and were accompanied by their fathers. Both were successful in taking two mature red deer stags, and one feral hog.

•Tossing up a White Flag

A McCulloch County game stepfather, citations were is- returning from a routine pacall off their patrol efforts for minutes, the passenger tossed Cases pending. the day because of heavy rains, an empty bottle out of the •Swimming to Safety Henry. The wardens gave the passenger had active arrest warden noticed something in the ATV was recovered. ATV a head start, then entered warrants for theft by check the water swimming towards •South Texas Peyote Bust the ranch and tracked the ve- in McCulloch, Mason, Llano, his patrol boat. After closer Two Starr County game warhicle's muddy prints. With and Burnet counties. Both inspection, the warden saw dens were notified about huntwindows down, the wardens individuals were booked into that it was a dog. He grabbed ers trespassing on a ranch.

A Lubbock District captain warden was staking out Brady sued for hunting under the li-trol, the warden noticed an and a Garza/Lynn County Lake when he saw an SUV cense of another and over the ATV that matched the degame warden were about to stop nearby. After several bag limit of white-tailed deer, scription of the one reported stolen the previous night. Contact was made and the when they saw the headlights window. After contacting the While checking a fisherman in ATV was identified as the one of an all-terrain vehicle going vehicle occupants, the war- a kayak in a fairly remote lo- that was stolen. The operator in to a ranch near Lake Alan den discovered the driver and cation, a Comal County game was placed under arrest and

the pup and brought it aboard. When the subjects returned The warden saw that the dog to their vehicle, the wardens, area, and saw two men hunt- While checking a father and had no collar, was in need of who were waiting on scene, ing coyotes and hogs over two his two daughters, who were a meal and since the water discovered that they were harwhite-tailed deer carcasses. hunting in Harris County, a was about 53 degrees, he of-vesting peyote on the prop-One of the wardens checked warden found both daugh- fered the pup a ride back to erty. The subjects were found the men's licenses and asked ters had multiple tags missing the shore. The dog was turned in possession of 32 pounds when the two bucks, both from their licenses. The girls over to the New Braunfels of peyote and admitted that they were harvesting the plant and were intending to delivconfessed to killing one of was their first time hunting A Starr County game warden er it. The two subjects were charged with possession of a second of the season in Garza knew nothing about the miss- theft that had occurred. When controlled substance with in-County, a one-buck county. ing tags on their licenses be- the warden arrived on scene, tent to deliver, a first-degree

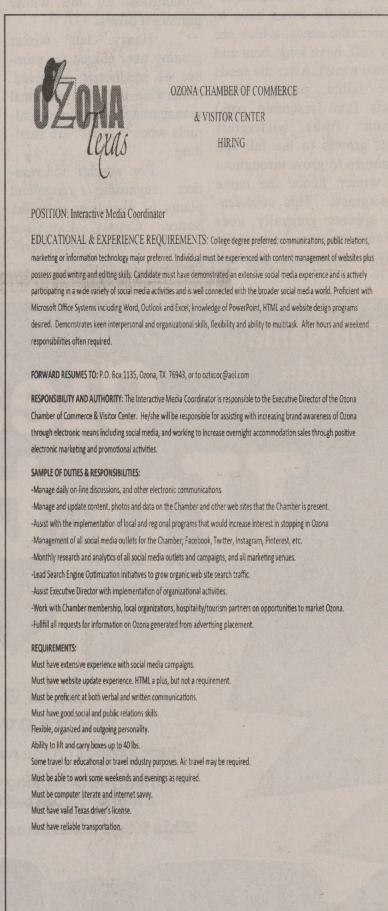


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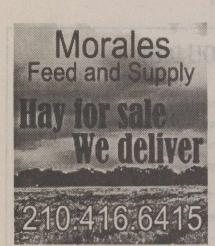


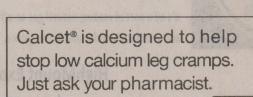


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Employment

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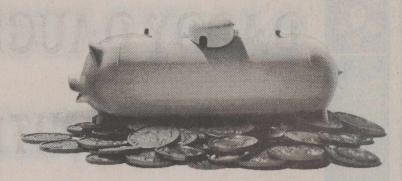
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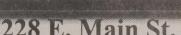
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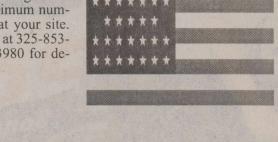
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Misc

Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative has used poles to give away on a first come, first serve basis. Recipients must sign a release and take a minimum number to be delivered at your site. Contact Dobs Lively at 325-853-2544 or 1-800-643-3980 for de-





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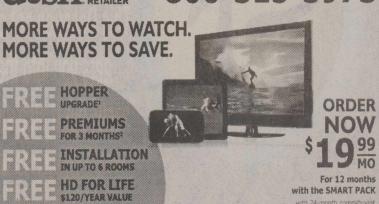
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24 Years Serving Sonora: Bryn Humphrey Retires



T. Humphrey became a po- ment and the Sutton County remarkable career with the lice officer for Sonora, Texas. Sheriff's Department will al- Sonora Police Department, Now he's going to turn off his ways hold special places in but he will still be a figure radio and hang up his gun belt his heart. He's also proud to in Sonora who everyone can and automatically become 15 have worked alongside the count on to be there for them pounds lighter! And he plans Schleicher County Sheriff's if they ever have need of his to enjoy as much hunting, fish- Department, Crockett County help. He has truly enjoyed ing, cutting firewood, and the Sheriff's Department, Reagan working with and for so many peace and quiet of the outdoors County Sheriff's Department, great friends and citizens in

cer, Bryn has been blessed life Department, Texas Rang- munity is cordially invited to to have worked with some ers, Texas State University attend a come-and-go retireof the finest officers, depart- Active Shooter Instructors, ment celebration in honor of ment staff, and agencies in U.S. Marshalls, officers with Bryn Humphrey at the City the state. Not only has he de- the Alcohol/Tobacco/Fire- of Sonora Volunteer Fire Hall veloped special relationships arms and Explosives, U.S. at 510 S. Concho between 12 with Deputy DuWayne Castro, Customs, U.S. Border Patrol, noon and 4 p.m. on Friday Crime Scene Investigator Judy and past and present Judges, February 7, 2014. Come help Gutierrez, Chief Matt Routh, and City, County and District him celebrate!! Officer Cody Gann and Of- Attorneys and their staffs. ficer Gabriel Arredondo; but

As a Sonora Police Offi- Safety, Texas Parks and Wild- call home. And so, the com-

Twenty-four years ago Bryn The Sonora Police Depart- He may be retiring from a Texas Department of Public this wonderful community we

Thank you For All Your Years Of Service Officer Humphrey! Fair Winds and Following Seas to you as vou enjoy a well deserved retirement!

Employment

Atlas Electric, LLC. No Experience necessary. 325-387-5555

Continued from Front Page: City Council Meeting

presentations on the bud- was due to needed repairs get situations for the General Fund. This fund is used to pay for the Police pool is in need of additional Department, Public Swimming Pool, Golf Course and Airport. Discussion on the Police Department was limited, however it was stated that the annual budget ran around \$450,000 to \$500,000. Both the Airport and Swimming Pool re- ing Council Member Sam ported net losses for 2013. The airport made \$40,000 but spent \$80,000 (most of which were due to repairs). The swimming pool also showed a loss of \$65,000 (most of the negative gain

and updating). It was also stated that the swimming repairs costing conservative estimate of \$54,000. Virgil Burge's presentation on the golf course stated that the only real expense that the city is responsible for is electricity for water pumps.

At the close of the meet-David Hernandez made the motion to hire a police chief and allow him to staff the department as he sees fit. The motion was seconded and passed.

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