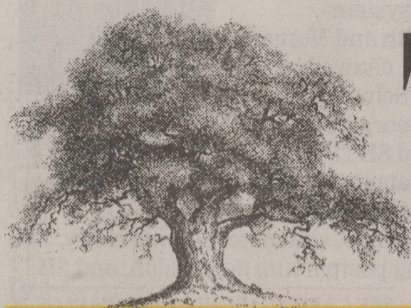


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ROBIN STREET
307 E OAK ST
SONORA TX 76950-2647

Visit our Patient Portal at www.mymedicalencounters.com

DO WE SUPPORT YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN?

If the answer is no, please call John Graves, CEO, at 387-1200. John's top priority is to ensure all health plans Sutton County residents participate in are accepted. We have already begun the application and credentialing process for Amerigroup and Humana, to include Humana's Medicare Advantage Plan.



The Devil's River News

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP & STRONG • COVERING THE NEWS IN SONORA AND SUTTON COUNTY SINCE 1890

July 27, 2017

\$1
Volume 128
Issue 29



Murr Files Legislation to Slash Property Taxes and End Robinhood School Finance

By Andrew Murr, State Representative House District 53

Last week, the Texas Legislature convened in Austin for a special session called by Governor Abbott to address a series of pressing issues facing the state, including property tax reform. Viewing this as an opportunity to press for groundbreaking changes to the way in which we fund public schools, Representative Andrew Murr (R-Junction)

filed a piece of legislation that, if passed, will fully and finally end the "Robin Hood" school finance system and accomplish real property tax relief by cutting the average homeowner's property tax bill by almost half.

House Bill 285 will eliminate the portion of a property owner's tax bill dedicated to the maintenance and operation (M&O) of school districts and replace it with an increase in the state

sales tax from 6.25% to 12%. On average across the state, the M&O school taxes accounts for roughly 43% of an owner's property taxes (varying depending on locality). It is also the part of our property taxes that are subject to recapture, otherwise known as "Robin Hood." While the legislation is intended to be revenue neutral, Rep. Murr said the economic impact of lifting the burden of financing schools off

the shoulders of property owners will be tremendous.

"While Texas is generally viewed as a low-tax state, the dirty little secret is that our property tax rates are among the highest in the nation," said Rep. Murr. "In fact, it's only places like New Jersey, Illinois and Connecticut who have higher rates than ours. Naturally this has an impact on the investment decisions made by everyone

from large corporations all the way down to your next door neighbors.

"Slashing the property tax will provide tangible incentives for out-of-state businesses to relocate to Texas and for existing businesses to expand and create new jobs. It will give families greater opportunities for home ownership, while also protecting existing homeowners,

SEE MURR ON PAGE 5



Kevin Litterell handles the daily details of managing a rural post office as the new postmaster for Sonora. Litterell greets customers with a smile while helping with everything from delivery to clerk when necessary.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sales Tax Payback Snares City of Sonora Revenue

No city wants to pay back sales tax revenues, but the City of Sonora finds itself in a cycle of having to reimburse the state of Texas for local taxes collected in error.

The most recent notification from the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, was received by City Secretary Belia Fay, in a letter dated June 15, 2017.

The letter stated, "The City of Sonora was overpaid \$38,582.84 in local sales and use taxes."

The error was discovered when "a taxpayer was audited and found to have incorrectly reported tax to Sonora on nontaxable items/services and they paid tax to their vendors in error," according to the letter.

During their July 17 regular meeting, city council members approved a motion to enter into a 65-month agreement where a monthly deduction in the amount of \$594.00 will be deducted for 64-months with a final payment of \$566.94.

This reimbursement was added to the amount currently in payback status.

In July of 2016 Fay received a letter notifying her of an overpayment in the amount of \$43,857.40 due to a taxpayer incorrectly reporting local tax for 47-months for a business location that was outside of the city limits rather than inside.

The letter also explained that the city was in payback arrangement due to a previous overpayment and there was an outstanding balance of \$15,251.84.

Considering their options, the city council approved a 47-month payback agreement to resolve the debt to the state comptroller.

The monthly payback amounts add up to \$2,034 each month.

This total is automatically retained by the state before submitting the monthly allocation to the city.

City Secretary Belia Fay said the noticeable decline in local sales tax revenue due to a slower than usual economy is already a big concern for the city's budget.

Further more, the additional loss from payback to the State Comptroller compounds the stress of managing the city's current expenses.

However, it is not uncommon for municipalities to find themselves in this situation according to Donna Bethke, Revenue Accounting Division Tax Allocation Section.

As a matter of fact, areas where oil and gas production ebbs and flows, such as in Sonora, it is common because of the turnover in businesses associated with manufacturing petroleum.

Of course, any business in any location can erroneously collect sales and use taxes.

In addition to the City of Sonora reimbursing the state, Bethke said businesses are also required to refund customers for the taxes collected in error if that information is available.

However common it may be, it is also a burden to cities who depend upon every dollar to meet their budget each year said Office Manager Betty Hernandez,

"We bank on that money," Hernandez said. "And, then it gets taken away and we have to find a way to compensate for the loss."

The dreary financial picture does not bode well for City of Sonora which reported a total of only \$381,239 in sales tax revenue benefits so far, this year.

City manager Ed Carrasco
SEE SALES TAX ON PAGE 7

76950 Welcomes New Postmaster

Handling the daily details of managing a rural post office is familiar to Kevin Litterell who is wasting no time settling into his position as Sonora's new postmaster.

"I appreciate the community in welcoming me and my family," Litterell said. "There are a lot of nice people in Sonora."

Litterell began his postal career eighteen years ago as a city carrier in Spearman, north of his hometown of Borger. He transferred to the Shallowater post office several years later where he worked as an acting manager for the past ten years.

Litterell and his wife Pennie plan on relocating to Sonora within the next few weeks, in time for their two children to start school. Their children, Brandon and Shae Lee are also

looking forward to making new friends while attending fifth and first grades.

Looking forward to settling into the community, Litterell said he hopes to continue to provide the kind of service area residents have come to expect.

As Sonora's postmaster, Litterell manages all operations at the Sonora post office which currently includes city and rural routes. He manages two carriers, one clerk and is expecting a new clerk who is transferring to Sonora soon.

Realizing that it takes a team to ensure good community service every day, Litterell commends his employees on their hard work.

"There is a good support system here and it is a family oriented workplace," Litterell

said. Veronica Coronado [clerk] has been very helpful to me, the community and to this office. She is very knowledgeable and that helps because I know that if I have to step out I have a great backup."

Acknowledging that every post office is a little different, he said the Sonora post office has a couple of advantages such as its designation as an Amazon drop center and offering passport services.

"The Sonora post office is a huge part of the community," Litterell said. "This is a small knit community. I think it needs a solid post office and I think this is one."

Litterell replaces Jose Chappa who transferred to Lubbock. Congratulations on his new posting.

AirMed Called to Rollover Crash on I-10 Friday Morning, Serious Injuries

Multiple agencies, including AirMed-1 responded to a rollover crash on Interstate 10 Friday July 21, 2017.

The crash, near mile marker 401, East of Sonora, occurred at approximately 7:55 a.m., according to a Department of Public Safety report.

Two people were transported to hospitals for incapacitating injuries sustained in the crash involving a truck tractor and a passenger vehicle.

The driver of a truck tractor and towed semi-trailer was traveling westbound on I-10 when the driver of a Toyota Scion, also traveling westbound on I-10, failed to control speed and struck the rear of the semi-trailer, according to a DPS report.

The Scion rolled and came to rest on its top partially in the roadway.

The truck tractor was occupied by one male driver who was not injured during the crash.

The Scion was occupied by a female driver and male passenger.

The female driver of the Scion was transported by AirMed-1 to Shannon Medical Center where she was listed in critical condition, according to DPS report.

The male passenger was transported to Lillian M. Hudspeth Hospital in Sonora where he was listed in stable condition.

No additional details are available, pending further investigation.



Multiple agencies including DPS and Sutton County Sheriff's Department investigate a rollover crash on I-10 East of Sonora Friday morning, July 21, 2017. Two people were transported, one by AirMed-1 the other by ambulance to area hospitals due to injuries sustained in the crash.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Senate Races Through Agenda to Get to Other-than-Sunset Bills

AUSTIN — The 85th Texas Legislature convened at the Capitol on July 18 for its first called session, the main purpose being for lawmakers to extend the life of certain state agencies scheduled for termination, and then to proceed to other matters.

At the urging of Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, the Senate moved quickly to pass legislation continuing the function of the Texas Medical Board and several other health-care related state oversight boards through 2019. The House, led by Speaker Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, tentatively passed similar legislation (House Bill 1) through its State Affairs committee, but 10 amendments to the bill have been pre-filed, and those, plus

the main bill, will be subject to a full-House floor debate scheduled for July 24. The 150-member House and 31-member Senate must agree on any legislation before it can be forwarded to the governor's desk for his consideration.

Patrick and the Senate appeared to be in more of a rush than Speaker Joe Straus and the House to get the Medical Board bill to the governor and then use the rest of the 30-day session to tackle the host of other items on the governor's legislative wish list.

Various Senate committees met in Friday and weekend hearings and did the following:

- Finance, chaired by Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, approved SB 9, relating

to the constitutional limit on the rate of growth of appropriations, and SB 19, relating to bonuses and salaries for public school classroom teachers and state assistance for the Texas Public School Employees Group Insurance Program;

- Business & Commerce, chaired by Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe, approved SB 8, relating to health plan and health benefit plan coverage for elective abortion;
- Government Reform, chaired by Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, approved SB 1, relating to ad valorem tax reform;
- Education, chaired by Larry Taylor, R-Galveston, approved SB 2, relating to public school finance, including the establishment of a tax credit scholarship and

educational expense assistance program, and SB 16, relating to the creation of a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system;

- Health and Human Services, chaired by Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, approved SB 17, relating to maternal health and safety, pregnancy-related deaths, and maternal morbidity, including postpartum depression, and SB

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 7

Growing Like a Weed

He is growing like a weed. But it's a weed we cultivate, a weed we help grow. We will never pull him up by the roots or attempt to eradicate his existence. He is growing like a weed and we wouldn't have it any other way.

Slices of Life



By Jill Pertler

Although he's the little brother, he's always measured taller than the other two were at the same age on our makeshift growth chart in the kitchen behind the basement door where dozens of pencil lines are marked with names and dates, growing higher on the wall as the years have passed. It won't be long before he surpasses the heights of his brothers, who have probably stopped growing.

He is growing like a weed. They all do, at this stage, at some point. The same thing happened with our other two sons. One day they were tender, green seedlings looking up into their mom's eyes and then the surge of adolescence hit.

It seems like they go to bed as little boys and wake up taller and ganglier than the night before. Their arms and legs stretch out first, with the rest of their body catching up soon thereafter. Their caloric intake at this point seems infinite (because it is). Their feet look too big for their bodies. Voices deepen. They tower over their mom who now finds herself looking up at them.

And then, just as soon, this gangly awkwardness turns into the confident swagger that nature intended. Muscles fill in the previously lanky spots. Jawlines become chiseled. Shoulders widen. Boys become men. Girls, in their own set of changes, become women, and things like prom and dating loom on the horizon. Sigh.

I've been through this before; I know some things are as inevitable as him growing taller than me. He's got his own ideas about the way the world works. Everything I do is embarrassing in his eyes. I'm ready for this and won't feel the sting of hurt so much this time. I think. I hope.

Oh my goodness, though, he is my last. Our last. The great final crescendo to our parenting symphony. It brings tears to my eyes: ending this portion of our lives, even though we are ready for the next. Most days.

I can't help but feel a lump in my throat, even when he is telling me I am embarrassing. Especially when he is telling me I am embarrassing.

Because I realize even this is a stage. Short-lived. Fleeting.

He is my baby. Always will be, although he'd probably deny it if asked now.

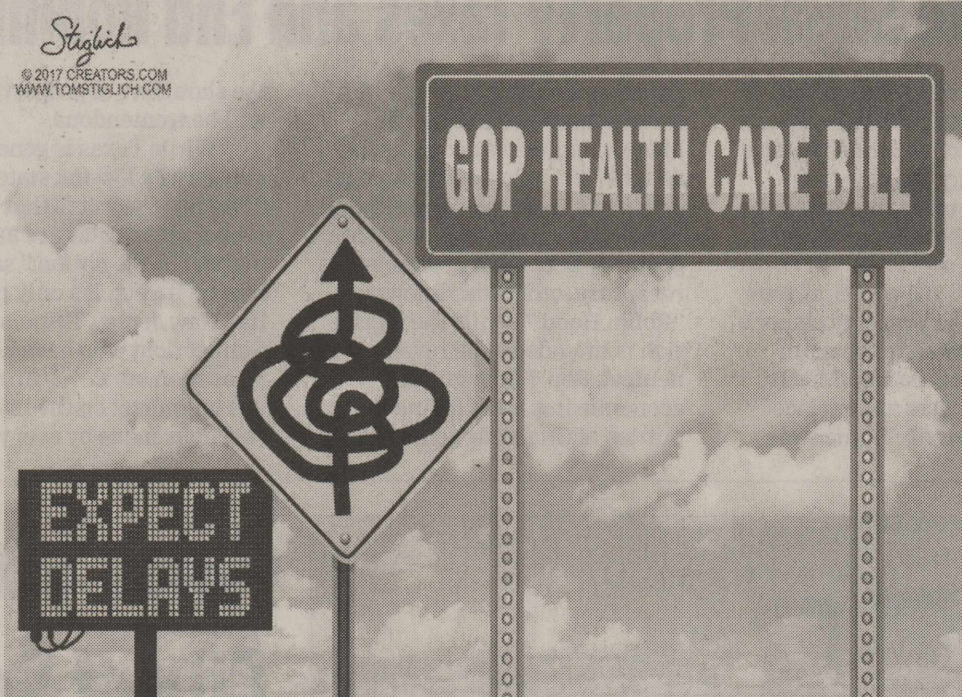
I told him the other day how happy I am we added him to our brood. Four seemed like a lot. It is a lot and my husband and I talked long and hard before deciding to go for one last caboose. He was the result. When I told him about my happiness regarding his being, he smiled and gave me a genuine hug.

"Thanks, Mom," was all he said. It was all he needed to say. Heck, the hug would have been sufficient to make me grab for the Kleenex.

He is growing like a weed, at a speed we can't comprehend. A metamorphosis is taking place before our eyes. He has ideas and goals for the future. I respect him for that, but it is another sign of his impending independence and eventual adulthood.

He is growing up and preparing to fly. We will blink and it will be over. Soon the growth spurts will be a thing of the past. He will tower over the rest of us. And if I've done this mom-thing right I will continue to look up to him — in more ways than one.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.



On the Road Again

My title is Representative, and I have the honor of representing the 23rd Congressional District of Texas. During my first term in office in 2015 and 2016, I hosted over 400 public meetings, called over 630,000 households for live telephone town hall meetings, responded to over

Hurd on the Hill



by U.S. Rep. Will Hurd

50,000 constituent letters, and put over 75,000 miles on my car crisscrossing the district. From our five district offices (in 2017, we added a sixth), Team Hurd hosted regular office hours and helped over 1,000 constituents solve complicated cases with federal agencies.

Each weekend before heading back to Washington to represent you, I try to meet with as many folks as I can. Whether it's hosting a public meeting, speaking with community leaders, or dropping in to a local business to visit with the owner and his or her customers, I am often in multiple towns over a weekend before flying back to our Capitol at the beginning of the week.

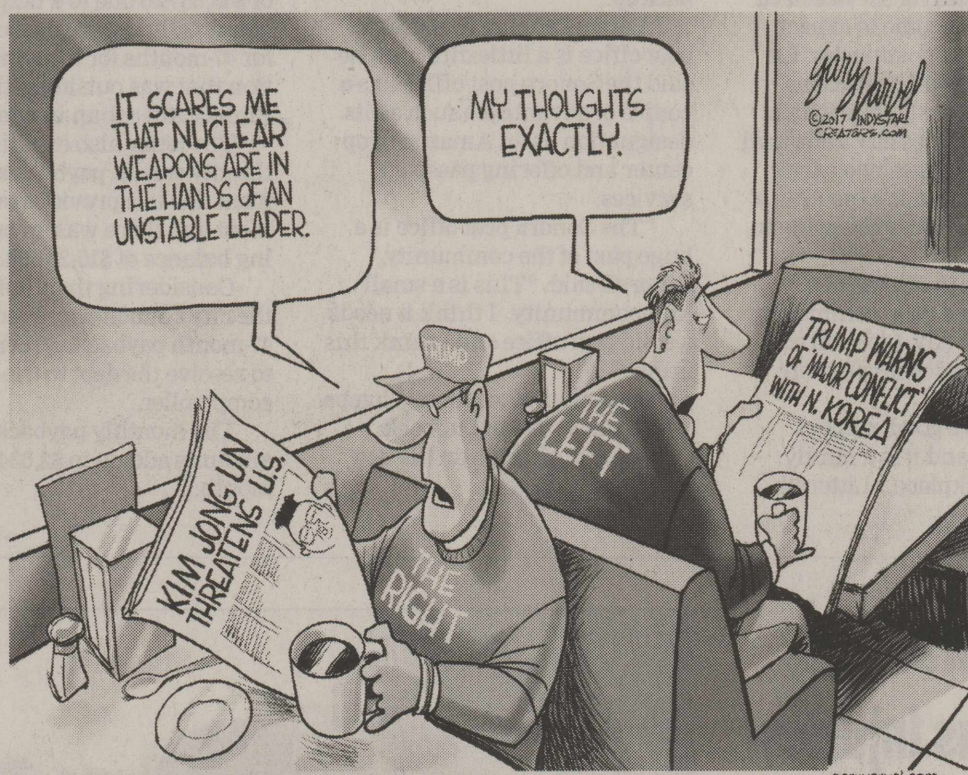
Why is this so important? I'm able to

stand tall as your Representative, because I've gotten to know what issues are most important to you and our community through these kinds of interactions. This is one of the reasons why every August, I do DC2DQ, where I host a series of town hall meetings at Dairy Queen restaurants

and local venues across the district. This year is no different — I'll be holding 20 town halls in six days between El Paso and San Antonio starting on August 6.

This is our third year hosting DC2DQ — and it's a great way to meet with constituents face-to-face, answer your questions and hear your concerns. Each meeting is open to the public, so I encourage you to bring your neighbors and friends to join us when we come to your town.

If you have questions, contact my office at 210-921-3130, or visit hurd.house.gov/dc2dq for updated details and to follow along on our interactive DC2DQ map. I look forward to sharing a cool treat with you.



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BB Guns and Rattlesnakes

When Jackie Mills took over the operation of Salado's Tablerock outdoor theater in 1992, there was \$1.34 in the bank account and some unpaid bills. "It was the first time I had done anything like this and I was an easy mark," she says. "I just thought it could be a great thing for Salado and surrounding communities."



Rolling Along

by Tumbleweed Smith

She wanted to present an extravaganza on the Tablerock stage featuring costumes, lights, singing, dancing and the early days of Salado, all performed by a cast of 50 people. Some of the original cast members are still playing their parts. "There's a story to it and a love story," says Jackie. "All the music is original." Jackie wrote the lyrics but had to get help with the music. She worked with a composer many late nights in a recording studio.

"It took me nine months to write the story. And I still didn't have the end of it written when we started rehearsals. Cast members would look at the script and wanted to know about how the play would end. I told them just to be patient, that it was coming. Finally I figured out how I was going to end it. The title is Salado Legends."

One scene is about the Civil War and has black powder rifles and a cannon. Jackie says it's very noisy. When Salado was first founded, it was a town of teetotalers. Residents were serious about that. When someone tried to open a saloon, it was a big flop. "All the women went to the building, brought chairs and their knitting and sat down in front of the door. Do you think a man would cross that threshold? Of course not. So the saloon moved to a nearby community."

When Jackie took on the job of running the theater, it had been abandoned and weeds had just about taken over the audience area. That had to be addressed first, then came building sets and getting the theater ready for a show. "There was no place to go but up, so we did." Jackie's husband is an engineer and helped design an overall layout of the theater. For those first performances, the audience either sat on grass or bought their lawn chairs. Now there are seats for 600.

"For those first performances I borrowed costumes from Baylor, lights from the Temple Community Center and all kinds of things from several people. Some were afraid to see me coming for fear I'd ask them for something. But we made money with the very first performance, enough to buy lights. And the next performance we made enough to get something else."

Apparently Tablerock is in good financial shape now (nobody working on the show gets paid). It just purchased a new sound system for \$5,000. About a thousand people attend the annual three-night run. "It always the last two Saturdays in July and the first Saturday in August. This year it'll be July 22, July 29 and August 5th."

Tablerock is named for a huge flat rock on a nearby creek. "Indians went there to sun and drink the water for medicinal purposes. It's loaded with minerals. Tablerock is a place of healing."

www.tumbleweedsmith.com

Heard Around Town

Some days it seems like life is a rodeo and I'm the clown in the middle, workin' without a barrel.

The Devil's River News
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MASKED RIDER PUBLISHING, INC.
224 E. Main Street
Sonora, Texas 76950
Ph: 325.387.2507
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THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS newspaper, U.S.P.S. 155-920, is published weekly except the weeks of Christmas and the 4th of July by Masked Rider Publishing, Inc., at 224 E. Main Street in Sonora, Texas.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS, 224 E. Main Street, Sonora, Texas 76950.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscriptions are \$29.95 per year in Sutton County and \$39.95 per year elsewhere in Texas. Out of state subscriptions are \$45.95. Periodical class postage paid at Sonora, Texas 76950.

DEADLINES: News articles and photos are due by Monday at 12:00 noon. Advertisements and

Classifieds are due by Monday at 5 p.m.

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THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors or any other unintentional errors that may occur other than to make a correction in the next issue. The Devil's River News reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.





Brigitte Rogers of Sonora, Wayne Merrill of San Angelo, and Dr. Sherry Hubbard of Junction were sworn in as members of the Texas Silver Haired Legislature Monday, July 17, 2017, in Austin.

— COURTESY PHOTO

Three Sworn in During 17th Texas Silver Haired Legislature Ceremony

Austin, Texas: The 17th Texas Silver Haired Legislature (TSHL) held its orientation this week, which included the swearing in ceremony at the State Capital, installation of officers, member training sessions, and an awards banquet.

On Monday, new and returning members gathered in the Texas House Chamber, where, following the call to order by Speaker Walter Graham, they took the

oath of office administered by State Sen. Dawn Buckingham. Later in the session, the body elected officers for the new term. These include Walter Graham, Speaker Mona Bailey, Speaker Pro Tem, Joe Henderson, Deputy Speaker Pro Tem Mary Collins, Secretary, and Rhonda Rogers, Comptroller.

Local TSHL members representing the Concho Valley AAA District

include Wayne Merrill of San Angelo, Brigitte Rogers of Sonora, and Dr. Sherry Hubbard of Junction.

Throughout the week legislative, administrative, and special committees were staffed, officers elected, and action plans formulated leading up to the TSHL's next legislative session, which will be held in April, 2018, in the House chamber. At that time,

SEE TSHL ON PAGE 5

Commissioners Hear Librarian's Letter of Resignation, Retirement Announcement

Moving through agenda items as usual, Sutton County Commissioners didn't expect to hear a letter of resignation from the county librarian as the final words of their regular meeting Monday, July 24, 2017.

Saving it until the last, Commissioner Mike Villanueva read aloud a three page, hand written letter, from Florie Gonzales marking her decision to retire from her position, effective September 29th, after 28-years of employment as librarian.

Gonzales was not present.

Further discussion is set for the next regular meeting of the court.

Pastor Bill Harris of the First United Methodist Church opened the meeting with prayer.

Unaware of the challenges and decisions before the commissioners, he asked for guidance and peaceful resolution in matters of the court and its members.

In regular business, the court approved the minutes of the June 26, 27, 28 and 29 special meetings as presented. They also approved the minutes of the July 5 special meeting and the July 10 regular meeting as presented.

Following a review and some discussion, commissioners approved the accounts payable as presented by Maura Weingart, County Auditor.

In other business, commissioners heard a presentation of a proposed contract for computer services by Snider Technology. The company proposes to provide and maintain software and services ensuring technology protection for computers supported by

the county. No action was taken.

Additionally, the court approved a contract for the District Clerk for computer service provided by Snider Technology.

Next, commissioners approved optional fees for TX DMV maintaining the same rate of \$10 as charged and collected in the past.

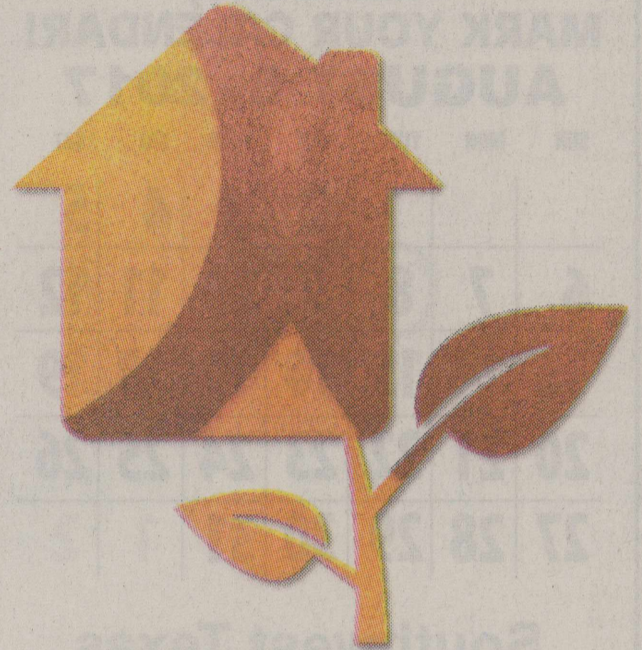
Hearing a request from Janalyn Jones, the court approved to waive the regular rental fee for the Civic Center for the Lions Club Auction set for October 17th.

Lastly, commissioners engaged in a brief discussion regarding the assistance of Chacho Cahill

SEE COMMISSIONERS ON PAGE 4

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Are your medications working for you?

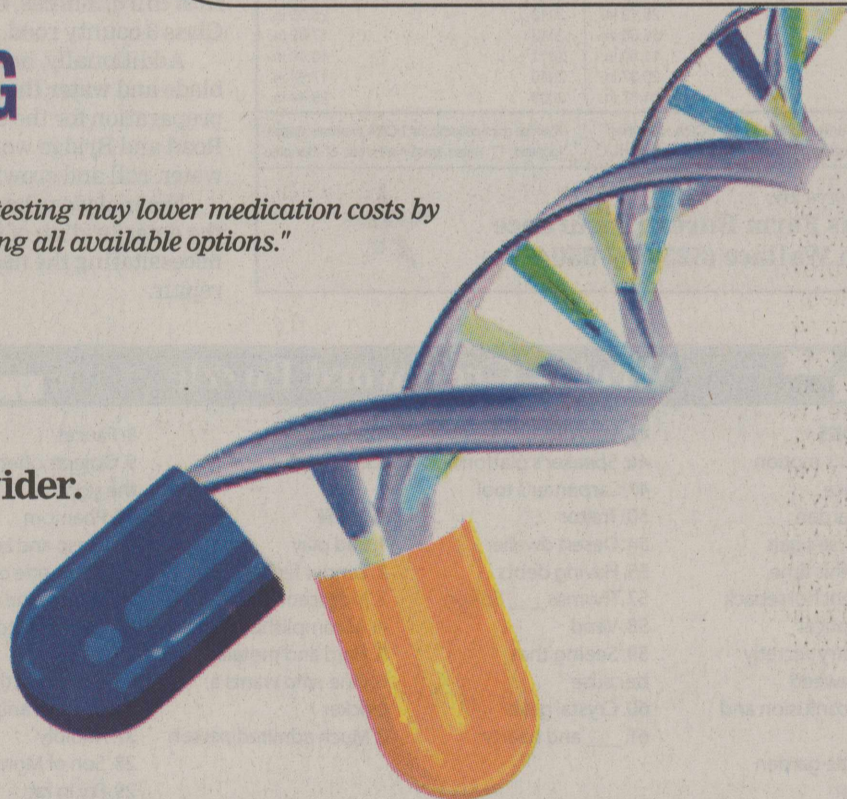
Do you have unexplained symptoms or wonder if all your medications work will together?

If the answer to one or more of these questions is yes, then Pharmacogenomics or PGx testing may be an option.

Call 387-7911 and ask to speak with a primary care provider.

The PGx process includes the use of the patient's DNA sample accompanied by the list of current medications. Based on the test results your primary care provider and pharmacist can work together and develop the appropriate regimen of drugs specific to your genotype. PGx testing is the most useful for disease treatments associated with cardiac, pain management, psychiatric, cancer, urological, neurological, and OB/GYN. Most health insurance plans cover this testing. Talk to your primary care provider and work with their business office to determine coverage.

"PGx testing may lower medication costs by knowing all available options."



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Amanda Lindo
MSN, RN, FNP-C
Nurse Practitioner



Rebecca "Beckie" Sullivan
MSN, RN, FNP-BC
Nurse Practitioner

Monday through Friday
from 8:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Sonora Medical Clinic B offers extended hours of operation to our community. Clinic B is open from 8 AM - 12 PM (noon) the first Saturday of every month. We also offer extended hours the 3rd Thursday of every month until 7 PM.

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"We take same day walk-ins"

SHS Registration, Aug. 7-11

Sonora High School registration is set for August 7-11 for all high school students.

Students will receive their schedules, pick up paperwork, and pay for parking stickers for the 2017-2018 academic school year.

Class schedule changes may also be made at this time.

Registration dates and times are listed below:

August 7th
Seniors, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Juniors, 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
August 8th
Sophomores, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Freshmen 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
August 9th - 11th
New Students,
8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

For more information please contact Sonora ISD at 325-387-6940 or visit www.sonoraisd.net.



Katelyn Lipham

| COURTESY PHOTO

Lipham Awarded WTPA Scholarship

Katelyn Lipham, a 2017 Sonora High School graduate was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship by the West Texas Press Association.

Lipham is the daughter of Clifton and Michelle Lipham, of Sonora.

Named for the former publisher of The Hamlin Herald who died in 1981, the Bob Craig Memorial Scholarship is given to two college students.

Applications are solicited from high schools and colleges in the membership area.

One scholarship is given to a graduating senior and the other to a college junior or senior who is pursuing a career in print media.

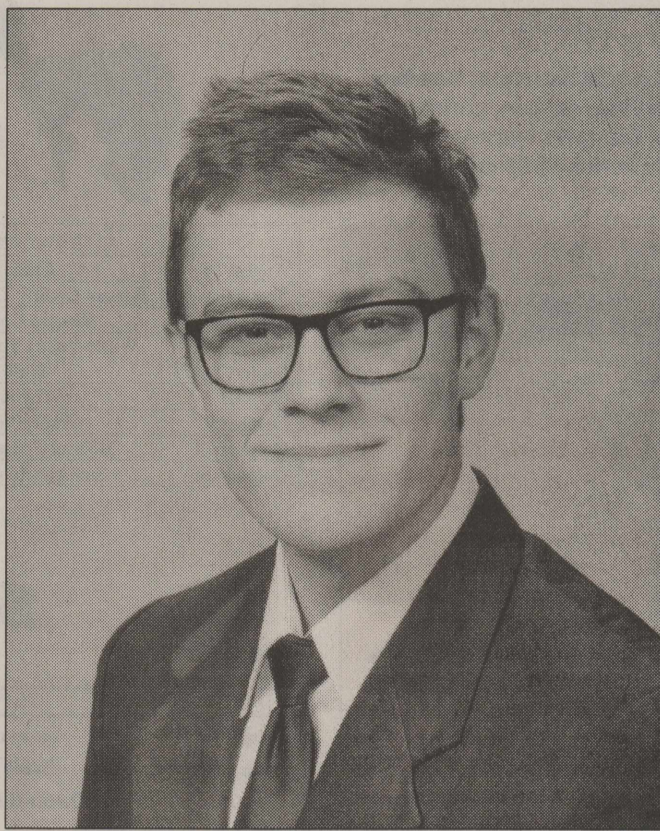
The WTPA scholarship

of \$1,000 per year, paid \$500 each semester, is matched by Texas Press Association, so that the students receive \$1,000 each semester that they are taking courses related to print journalism.

Deadline for scholarship applications is June 15 each year.

Lipham plans to attend Texas Tech University in the fall where she will study Journalism.

This news was announced during the annual WTPA conference held July 20-22, in Grandbury. Lipham was eligible for the scholarship due to the Devil's River News' membership in the WTPA. Congratulations Katelyn!



Tate Shannon

| COURTESY PHOTO

Tate Shannon Awarded West Texas Friends of NRA Scholarship

2017 Sonora High School graduate, Tate Shannon, was awarded a \$15,000 college scholarship by the West Texas Friends of NRA.

Shannon is the son of Savell and Shelly Shannon. He will be attending Rice University this fall.

A 2017 graduate of Sonora High School, Shannon was actively involved in FFA, 4-H, National Honor Society, Band, FCA, Student Council, UIL, etc.

Throughout his high school career, he received numerous awards and honors and was even featured on Tumbleweed Smith's The Sound of Texas radio show.

As a participant in the Friends of NRA scholarship application process, Shannon was required to write a 1,000 word essay on the topic: "Do you think former US Presidents should be provided Secret Service Security for life at the expense of taxpayers and why?"

A Scholarship Committee, made up of members from the West Texas area Friends of NRA committees reviewed each essay submitted and a blind ranking system was used to determine the winners.

Of the nine essays submitted this year, Shannon was awarded top honor. Two others were awarded \$10,000 each for their essay efforts.

Each year, the local Sutton County Friends of NRA committee collects money through donations and fundraisers to help educate and support local youth, law enforcement agencies, youth shooting programs and gun safety.

Fifty percent of funds raised in the West Texas area comes back to West Texas.

A portion of this fifty percent return is what makes this scholarship opportunity possible.

Without the support of the community these efforts would not be possible.

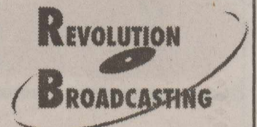
Continued support of the Friends of NRA program is easy.

Attend an annual event, purchase a sponsorship, donations and memorials accepted or become involved with the local committee.

For more information please contact local Committee Chairman, Tonya Brown at 325-206-0454.

KHOS Radio

VOICE OF THE SONORA BRONCOS III



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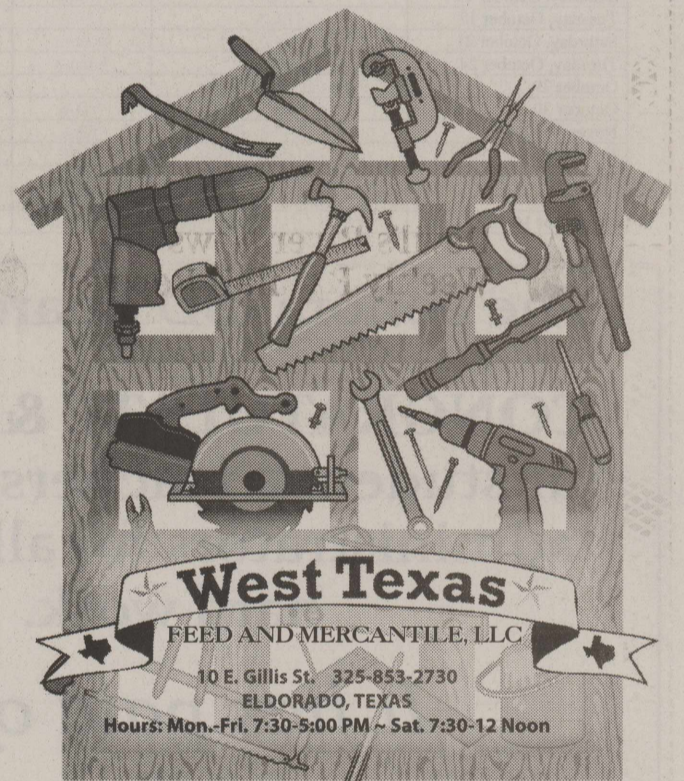


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Holmes Wrecker Service

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owner/operator



MURR:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

particularly those on fixed-incomes, from skyrocketing appraisals and crippling tax bills.

"I hear from constituents every day about their property tax concerns. They want real relief, and while the state does not collect any property tax directly, meaning only local governments do, the state has an obvious tool at its disposal to affect change. That is by changing the way the state funds its constitutional obligations to provide public education for our children."

One of the key features of HB 285 is that it will finally end the Robin Hood school finance system where local tax dollars from "property wealthy" school districts like Llano ISD, Hunt ISD, Crockett County CCD, and even Leakey ISD, are taken from their districts and redistributed across the state. Forty percent of the school districts in our Texas House district fall into this category, and last year over \$274 million of their local tax dollars were sent to Austin to comply with this antiquated system.

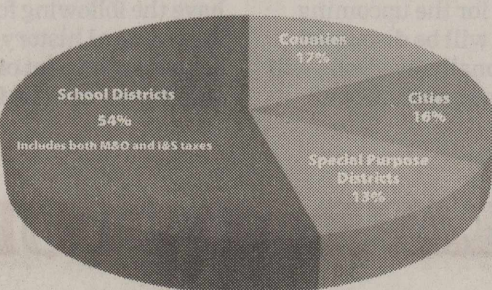
Rep. Murr continued, "People have been complaining about Robin Hood

for as long as I can remember, but it's actually quite an easy problem to solve. It just requires the political will to say that enough is enough, and that we will no longer saddle property owners with an unjust tax system that punishes them for owning their little piece of Texas. It's time to end the unfair practice of Obama-style "wealth re-distribution" to pay for public schools.

"At the end of the day, this legislation is about more than fixing school finance, lowering taxes or stimulating the economy. Fundamentally it is about the right to property. Coming from a family of ranchers, the right to own our land is one of the most sacred rights we have as Texans and Americans. Yet given the fact that property taxes are never-ending and that our land will be taken from us if we stop paying, regardless of our means or economic situation, the reality is that we are just renting from the government.

True private property rights will never be a reality in Texas as long as we have a property tax, and I believe HB 285 is a first, substantial step towards eliminating it for good."

Property Tax Collected in Texas, by Percentage (2015)



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City of Sonora



Senior Center

Monday July 31
Pinto Beans, Ham, Spinach, Corn Bread, Citrus Cup, Vanilla Wafers, Milk
Tuesday August 1
Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Coleslaw, Banana, Cookie, Milk
Wednesday August 2
Meat Balls, Brown Gravy, Oven Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Wheat Roll, Fruited Jell-O, Milk
Thursday August 3
Barbecue Pork On Bun, Potato Salad, Beans, Cinnamon Apples, Milk
Friday August 4
Tuna Salad, Pea Salad, Cucumbers, Tomato, Wheat Bread, Fruit Cup, Oranges, Milk

For transportation to and from the center call
325-387-5657

TSHL:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

members will propose, debate, and pass resolutions which will be presented to the State Legislature and Governor's office prior to the 2019 Texas Legislative session.

The TSHL will encourage lawmakers to draft and pass legislation that directly corresponds to the resolutions.

The next general session of the TSHL will be held in October, 2017, when additional training will be held, committees will report on action plans, and additional strategies will be formulated for their April Legislative session.

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2017 Volleyball Camp

The Lady Bronco Coaching Staff of Head Coach Kayla Perez, and Assistant Coaches Dana Tomesch, Don Brown, varsity and Sandy Wellmann and Hope Gibson, junior varsity hosted the 2017 Sonora Volleyball Camp July 17th-19th. Campers worked on polishing their skills of passing, setting, hitting and serving to better compete in the upcoming volleyball season.



(Front L-R) Ileana Baker, Liliana Gallegos and Ellie Edwards. (Second Row L-R) Dalissa Sanchez, Jessica Smith, Abby Bennie, Carson Cahill and Abigail Rodriguez. (Back L-R) Ava Worrell, Trinity Luna, Belle Arispe and Erika Infante. | COURTESY PHOTO



SONORA LADY BRONCOS VOLLEYBALL 2017 SCHEDULE



Date	Opponent	Site	Freshmen	JV	Varsity
Saturday, August 5	Sonora Scrimmage	Sonora	TBA	TBA	TBA
Tuesday, August 8	Dual Match-Llano & Ingram Moore	Llano	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 15	Dual Match-Center Point & Bronte	Sonora	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.
August 18 & 19	Central Tournament	San Angelo			TBA
Tuesday, August 22	Johnson City	Johnson City	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
August 25 & 26	Denver City Tournament	Denver City			TBA
Saturday, August 26th	Grape Creek Tournament	Grape Creek			TBA
Tuesday, August 29	Brackett	Sonora	4:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
August 31 & September 2	Sonora Tournament	Sonora	TBA	TBA	TBA
Tuesday, September 5	Miles	Miles	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 9	Water Valley	Sonora	11:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	
Tuesday, September 12	Fredericksburg	Fredericksburg	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 16	Crane	Crane	10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, September 19	Water Valley	Water Valley		5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 23	Utopia	Sonora		10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, September 26	Wall	Wall	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 30	TLCA	Sonora	10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3	Grape Creek	Grape Creek	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 7	Reagan County	Reagan County	10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 10	OPEN				
Saturday, October 14	Wall	Sonora	10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 17	TLCA	TLCA	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 21	Reagan County*	Sonora	10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 24	Grape Creek**	Sonora	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
October 29	District Certification				
October 30-31	Bi-District Playoffs	TBA			TBA
November 2-4	Aren Playoffs	TBA			TBA
November 6-7	Regional Quarterfinals	TBA			TBA
November 10 & 11	Region I Volleyball Tournament	Lubbock Coronado			TBA
November 15-18	STATE TOURNAMENT	Garland			TBA



SONORA LADY BRONCOS JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL 2017 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Site	7 th B	8 th B	7 th A	8 th A
August 28	Crane	Crane	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
September 9	Reagan County Tournament	Reagan County	TBA	TBA		
September 11	Reagan County	Sonora	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
September 16	Water Valley Tournament	Water Valley			TBA	TBA
September 25	Wall	Wall	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
October 2	TLCA	Sonora	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
October 9	Grape Creek	Grape Creek	6:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m.
October 14	District Tournament	Reagan County			TBA	TBA
October 16	San Angelo-Glenn	Sonora	4:30 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	5:45 p.m.	5:45 p.m.



SONORA BRONCO 2017 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES



DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Aug. 18	Mason (Scrimmage)	Home	TBA
Aug. 24	Brady (Scrimmage)	Home	TBA
Sept. 1	Ozona (Lil' Bronco Night)	Home	7:30
Sept. 8	Llano	Away	7:30
Sept. 15	Junction (Bronco Nation 7-on-7)	Home	7:30
Sept. 22	Jim Ned	Away	7:30
Sept. 29	Crane (Homecoming)	Home	7:30
Oct. 6	Iraan	Away	7:30
Oct. 13	Open		7:30
Oct. 20	*Alpine	Away	7:30
Oct. 27	*Reagan County	Home	7:30
Nov. 3	*Ballinger	Away	7:30
Nov. 10	*San Angelo TLCA (Senior Night)	Home	7:30

JUNIOR VARSITY SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Aug. 18	Mason (Scrimmage)	Home	TBA
Aug. 24	Brady (Scrimmage)	Home	TBA
Aug. 31	Ozona	Away	7:30
Sept. 7	Llano	Home	7:30
Sept. 14	Junction	Away	7:30
Sept. 21	Jim Ned	Home	7:30
Sept. 28	Crane	Away	7:30
Oct. 5	Iraan	Home	7:30
Oct. 12	Open		7:30
Oct. 19	*Alpine	Home	7:30
Oct. 26	*Reagan County	Away	7:30
Nov. 2	*Ballinger	Home	7:30
Nov. 9	*San Angelo TLCA	Away	7:30

Middle School Schedules

7th Grade				8th Grade		
Sept. 14	Junction	Away	4:30	Sept. 14	Junction	Away
Sept. 21	Jim Ned	Home	4:00	Sept. 21	Jim Ned	Home
Sept. 28	Crane	Away	5:00	Sept. 28	Crane	Away
Oct. 5	Iraan	Home	5:00	Oct. 5	Iraan	Home
Oct. 12	Open			Oct. 12	Open	
Oct. 19	*Alpine	Home	5:00	Oct. 19	*Alpine	Home
Oct. 26	*Reagan County	Away	5:00	Oct. 26	*Reagan County	Away
Nov. 2	*Ballinger	Home	5:00	Nov. 2	*Ballinger	Home
Nov. 9	*San Angelo TLCA	Away	5:00	Nov. 9	*San Angelo TLCA	Away

The Sonora ISD Board of Trustees wishes to **CONGRATULATE & THANK** our students, teachers, staff and administrators for all of their hard work.

It has paid off!



Math	Sonora	Region	State
3	84	70	76
4	100	70	75
5	98	83	81
6	100	72	75
7	88	65	68
8	75	80	74
Alg I	71	80	82
Reading			
3	75	66	72
4	94	66	70
5	89	77	71
6	88	64	67
7	83	67	72
8	93	80	76
Eng I	58	57	60
Eng II	73	63	62
Science			
5	94	69	73
8	84	69	78
Biology	83	84	85
Writing			
4	83	58	63
7	78	63	68
History			
8	75	53	62

THANKS SO MUCH & CONGRATULATIONS
for a job well done!

'Bronco Maker' Football Camp Set for July 31st

The Sonora "Bronco Maker" Football camp is set for July 31 through August 2nd.

Open registration begins at 8:30 a.m. on the 31st.

This camp is for students entering 1st through 9th grade.

Each age group will go through various drills and competitions over a 3 day period.

The goal of the camp is

to teach student-athletes the fundamentals of football and have fun.

Additionally, prizes will be given away at the end of the camp.

Moreover, campers will also be recognized during Little Bronco Night during the home opener game against Ozona, Friday September 1, 2017.

For more information contact Coach Jeff Cordell at 325-387-6940 ext. 3900.

Student-Athlete Information for 2017-2018 Sports Season

Ranked #6 in the State of Texas in Class 3A Division II, according to Dave Campbell's Texas Football, the Sonora Broncos are gearing up for another run at a sixth state championship.

The quest begins August 7, 2017 at 7:00 a.m., with two-a-day practice. Parents are welcome to attend all practices and schedules are subject to change as necessary.

A mandatory parent/player meeting is also scheduled August 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

All high school and middle school student-athletes as well as are encouraged to attend. Rules and expectations for the upcoming season will be discussed. Additionally, everyone will have an opportunity to

meet the coaching staff and ask questions.

Physicals are required of all participating athletes.

Physicals were offered during the school year this past spring. Students who completed physicals are ready for the upcoming sports season. Those who need a physical may pick up medical forms from Coach Jeff Cordell at his office located in the field house.

All incoming 7th, 9th and 11th graders are required to have a physical to participate in the 2017-2018 athletic season. Athletes who were injured last year are still required to complete a physical regardless of classification. All student-athletes should have the following forms on file, medical history form, acknowledgement of rules, steroid and cardiac forms.

LEAVE NO DOUBT

TAMU Aquaplant Website Useful for Pond Owners

Have weeds in a tank or pond? Who you gonna call? Well, if you're a do-it-yourselfer, you might find Texas AgriLife Extension's Aquaplant website useful.

The web address is <http://aquaplant.tamu.edu>.

Aquaplant is designed to help pond owners and their advisors in the identification and management of aquatic vegetation. Aquatic vegetation management can be a confusing problem. The first part of that problem is proper identification. Management of most aquatic plant species depends on properly identifying the desirable or nuisance plant.

You should know that pond weeds can be divided into categories. These are as follows:

Algae are very primitive plants. Some algae are microscopic (planktonic algae), others are thin and stringy or hair-like (filamentous algae), while still others are large and resemble higher plants but without true roots.

Floating Plants are not attached to the bottom. Floating plants come in sizes from very small (e.g. duckweed) to over a foot in diameter (e.g. water hyacinth). Most have roots that hang in the water from the floating green portions.

Submerged Plants are

rooted plants with most of their vegetative mass below the water surface, although some portions may stick above the water. One discerning characteristic of submerged plants is their flaccid or soft stems, which is why they do not usually rise above the water's surface.

Emergent Plants are rooted plants often along the shoreline that stand above the surface of the water (e.g. cattails). The stems of emergent plants are somewhat stiff or firm.

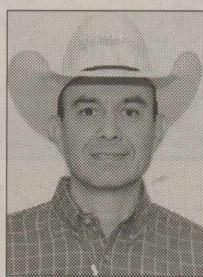
Many ponds have more than one type of aquatic plant, and care must be taken to identify all the aquatic plants inhabiting the pond. Some pond plants may be beneficial to local or migratory wildlife, and therefore, may want to be encouraged or at least not eliminated.

Management alternatives can include biological options such as diploid grass carp or some species of ducks. Be aware that the grass carp require permits from the Texas Department of Parks & Wildlife.

Sometimes it's necessary to use aquatic herbicides.

But again, the first step is proper identification of the weed.

So if you have a tank or pond, go ahead and spend a little time visiting <http://aquaplant.tamu.edu>



Pascual Hernandez

The Blotter



The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Sonora Police Department and the Sutton County Sheriff's Office. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the police department or Sheriff's Office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Accidents of major impact may be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SUTTON COUNTY SHERIFF ARRESTS

JULY 18 • Thomas Malbray, 32-year-old male of New Braunfels. Arrested for Possession of Controlled Substance.

JULY 20 • Charles Sanchez, 36-year-old male of San Antonio. Arrested for a warrant out of Ector County.

• Ian Owens, 26-year-old male of El Paso. Arrested for Possession of Controlled Substance.

• 2 Illegal Aliens were turned over to Border Patrol.

JULY 21 • Michael Williams, 27-year-old male of San Angelo. Arrested for No Drivers License, Fail to Maintain Financial Responsibility, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

INCIDENTS

JULY 18 - 6:54 PM • Caller reported a home fire alarm at PR 3130. Deputy and SVFD responded.

JULY 20 - 3:12 PM • Caller requested assistance for a stranded motorist on I-10 at 406-407 mm. Deputy responded.

JULY 21 - 8:00 AM • Caller requested assistance on a two vehicle accident on I-10 at 401 mm. Deputy, DPS, EMS, and SVFD all responded.

JULY 22 - 2:40 PM • Caller reported a one vehicle accident on I-10 at 429 mm. Deputy, DPS, and EMS responded.

JULY 23 - 5:22 PM • Caller requested assistance in reference to a child runaway on CR 106. Deputy responded.

SONORA PD INCIDENTS

JULY 17 - 8:41 AM • Caller reported theft at Sonora Wool House. Officer responded.

9:16 AM • Caller requested an officer at 600 block of Orient. Officer responded.

10:37 AM • Caller requested

agency assistance at 300 block of W 5th St. Officer responded.

8:18 PM • Caller requested Animal Control at S. Crockett and W. College. Officer responded.

9:34 PM • Caller reported Criminal Mischief at 600 block of Taylor. Officer responded.

JULY 19 - 9:51 AM • Caller reported Criminal Trespass at 400 block of Glasscock. Officer responded.

8:43 PM • Caller reported reckless conduct near Edgemont. Officer responded.

JULY 20 - 2:38 PM • Caller requested assistance at 200 block of US Hwy 277 N. Officer responded.

2:49 PM • Caller reported suspicious activity at 200 block of Menard. Officer responded.

4:50 PM • Caller requested assistance at Stripes Subway. Officer responded.

JULY 21 - 8:21 AM • Caller requested agency assistance for accident/wreck on I-10 mm 401. Officers responded.

9:05 AM • Caller requested agency assistance for Traffic Control at LMH. Officer responded.

8:56 PM • Caller requested Animal Control at 300 block of US Hwy 277 S. Officer responded.

JULY 22 - 1:21 AM • Officer assisted citizen with a flat tire at Pilot Fuel Station.

1:36 PM • Caller requested assistance at Maria's Kitchen parking lot. Officer responded.

JULY 23 - 2:18 PM • Officer requested at Comfort Inn regarding subject who kept calling 9-1-1 for a non-emergency issue. Subject educated on usage of 9-1-1 and warned to not utilize 9-1-1 emergency line for non-emergencies.

11:20 PM • Alarm call at 200 block of Murphy. Officer responded.

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS: Special Session

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

11, relating to general procedures and requirements for do-not-resuscitate orders; and

- State Affairs, chaired by Donna Campbell, R-New Braunfels, approved SB 3, relating to the regulation of certain facilities and activities of political subdivisions, including public school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools.

Abbott expresses thanks

Gov. Greg Abbott on July 17 announced Texas would receive funding from the federal government in support of Operation Secure Texas, a militarized effort launched in 2014 "to secure Texas' border with Mexico," he said.

Texas National Guard personnel currently serving in the operation will transition to federal orders beginning in late July.

"The taxpayers of Texas have funded border security, a federal responsibility, for far too long. I am grateful that the federal government and Congressional appropriators are stepping up and dedicating additional resources to provide for the safety and security of all Texans," Abbott added.

Paxton to appeal ruling

Attorney General Ken Paxton on July 19 announced his intention to appeal a federal judge's ruling siding with a group of Texas inmates who sued the Texas Department of Criminal Justice over summer heat conditions at the Wallace Pack Unit northwest of Houston.

U.S. District Judge Keith Ellison granted a preliminary injunction that orders the TDCJ to lower the temperatures in the Pack Unit's housing areas where heat-sensitive inmates reside to a heat index of no more

than 88 degrees or transfer them to other facilities, and take other actions.

Paxton said "Texas taxpayers shouldn't be on the hook for tens of millions of dollars to pay for expensive prison air conditioning systems, which are unnecessary and not constitutionally mandated."

Job growth continues

The Texas economy expanded in June for the 12th consecutive month with the addition of 40,200 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs, the Texas Workforce Commission announced July 21.

Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.6 percent, down from 4.8 percent in May. The state's annual employment growth outperformed the previous two years, with 319,300 jobs added over the year, bringing the state's annual growth rate up by 0.4 percentage points to 2.7 percent.

Education and Health Services recorded the largest private-industry gain over the month with 13,100 jobs added.

DSHS: Cyclospora on rise

The Texas Department of State Health Services on July 17 announced a spike in intestinal illnesses caused by the parasite Cyclospora.

With 68 cases having been reported in the last month in Texas, DSHS is asking health care providers to be watch for the illness, pursue testing and report cases to local health departments.

Texas has had multiple outbreaks linked to cilantro, DSHS said, and outbreaks also have been associated with the consumption of imported fresh produce, such as fresh pre-packaged salad mix, raspberries, basil and snow peas.

1-Vehicle Fatality Crash in Sutton County

One person died following a single vehicle crash Saturday, July 22, 2017, approximately 29 miles east of Sonora.

William Autry Sprinkle, age 72-years, of Huntsville was driving westbound on IH-10 when he lost control of his 2004 Harley Davidson Motorcycle at approximately 2:36 p.m., according to a report from the Department of Public Safety.

Sprinkle was attempting to pass a truck tractor semi-trailer also traveling west.

He veered off of the roadway into the center median, and rolled several times.

He was pronounced by Justice of the Peace Judge Phil Edmiston of Schleicher

County.

Sprinkle was wearing a helmet, according to the report.

The posted speed limit is 80 mph.

No other factors were listed in the report.

Trooper Valetin Cantu, DPS Sonora, investigated. Trooper Clayton Arredondo, DPS Sonora, Trooper Whitney Gardner, DPS Junction, Trooper Zulema Salazar, DPS Sonora and Sutton County Sheriff and deputies assisted.

Sutton County EMS and AirMed-1 were also called to assist.

No additional information is available.

SALES TAX:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said although there is no way to predict payback of sales tax, he and his staff considered less revenue overall when working on their budget. Preparation is the key to survival he said. And the city has been looking at areas to make cuts in order to save money.

"We are watching every dollar we spend," Carrasco said. "We have been preparing for the decline in revenue and doing things to help save money. We just have to watch the budget, cut where we can and do without things that we don't really need. I think we are going to be OK."

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SONORA WEATHER FORECAST

Thu 7/27	Fri 7/28	Sat 7/29	Sun 7/30	Mon 7/31
95/74 Mostly Sunny	99/74 Mostly Sunny	96/72 Mostly Sunny	96/75 Mostly Sunny	95/72 Partly Sunny
Sunrise 6:57 a.m. Sunset 8:41 p.m.	Sunrise 6:58 a.m. Sunset 8:41 p.m.	Sunrise 6:59 a.m. Sunset 8:40 p.m.	Sunrise 6:59 a.m. Sunset 8:39 p.m.	Sunrise 7:00 a.m. Sunset 8:38 p.m.

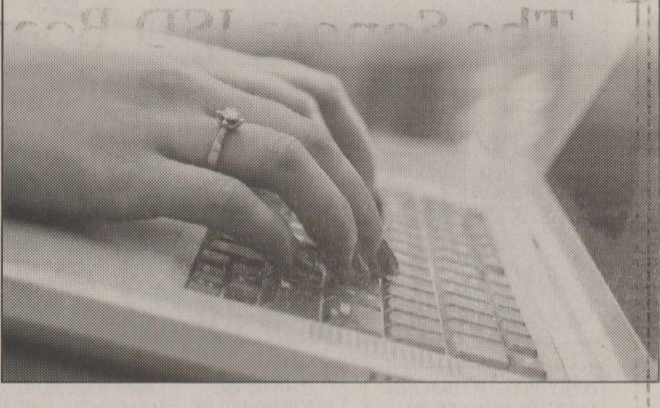
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DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

DRN Comics

Daddy's Home

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



Dogs of C-Kennel

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Strange Brew

by John Deering



Strange Brew

by John Deering



Nest Heads

by John Allen

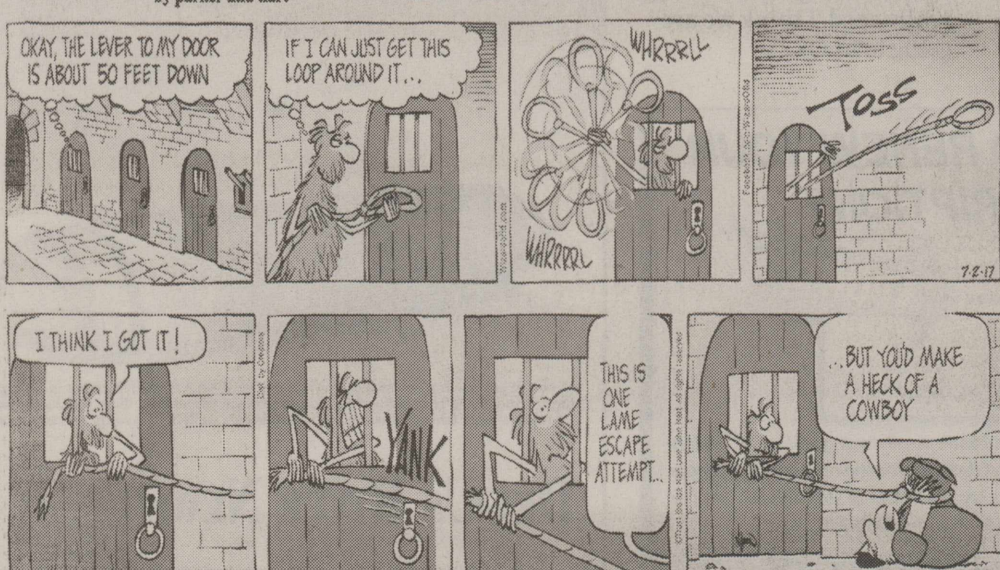


THE THREE STAGES OF TIME PERCEPTION



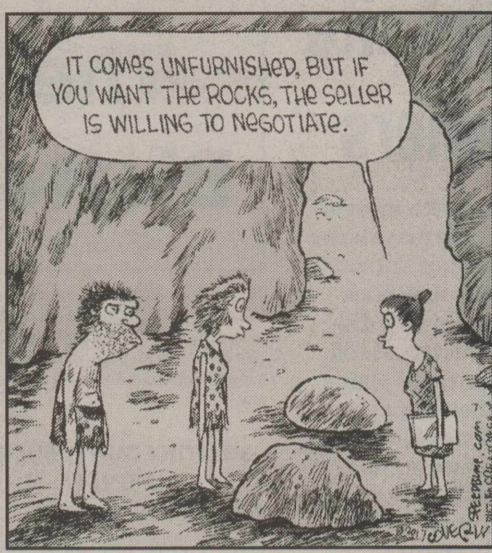
Wizard of ID

by Parker and Hart



Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

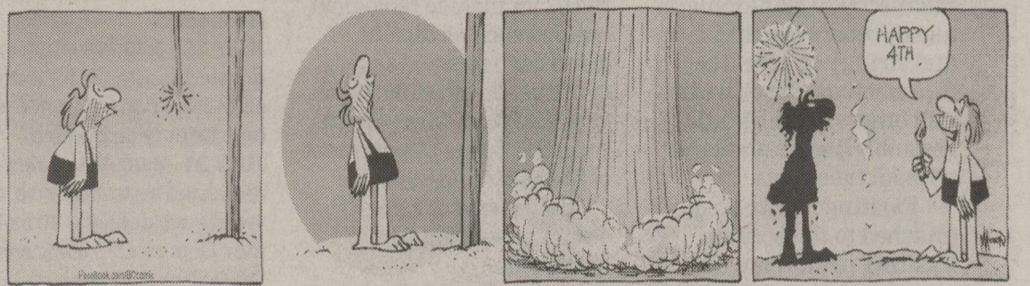
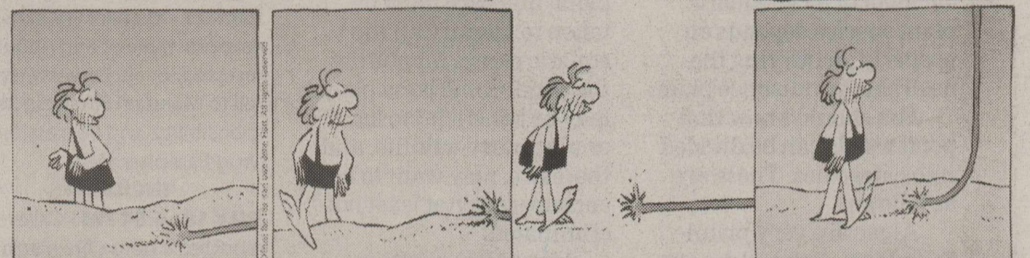


Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly



BY MASTROIANNI AND HART

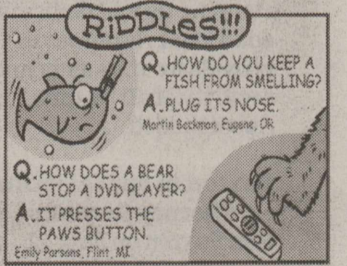
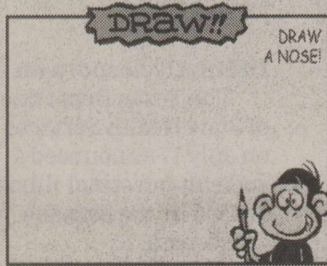
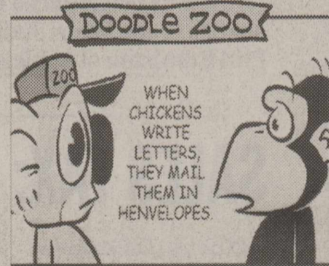


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By Peter Guren



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SEE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 10

ZIG-ZAG

THE ORIGINAL WORD MAZE PUZZLE

WORDS MEANING TO COMPLAIN

ALL WORDS TO BE CONSTRUCTED PERTAIN TO THE ABOVE TOPIC. TO YOUR ADVANTAGE ONE WORD HAS ALREADY BEEN TRACED. YOU MUST TRACE THE THREE REMAINING WORDS, USING ONLY THE LETTERS DESIGNATED BY THE DARKENED CIRCLES. WORDS MAY BEGIN AND END FROM EITHER COLUMN BUT EACH LETTER CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE.

★★★★

EACH PUZZLE HAS A DIFFICULTY RATING (ABOVE). FOUR STARS SIGNIFY THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY.

GIVEN BELOW ARE THE POINT VALUES FOR EACH WORD. YOUR WORDS MUST CORRECTLY MATCH THESE POINT VALUES.

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EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

The Permian Basin CSCD is now accepting applications for a Community Supervision Officer in Ozona, TX.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree conferred by an institution of higher education accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, Psychology or Sociology preferred.

Applicants must be able to pass a criminal background check.

Duties include supervising a case load of offenders placed under community supervision. Specific duties determined by the type of caseload assigned and may include, but not limited to the following: conduct pre/post sentence reports, enforce any orders to the court and monitor offender's compliance with conditions of community supervision, conduct routine office and field contacts on offenders, conduct urinalysis, provide referrals to offenders for services and programs to address criminogenic needs, conduct assessments and supervision plans, conduct intakes, report violations to the court, maintain case files and chronological reports/documentation, assist department staff, maintain current educational and training requirements, maintain a professional appearance, follow all personnel and departmental policies, plus any additional duties assigned by the Director.

Salary is negotiable, based on experience and education. Benefits included from ERS and TCDRS.

Position is open until filled.

Please mail a current resume, the most recent certified college transcript, and a sample of technical writing skills, such as a cover letter, to: Miguel A. Ureta, Jr., Permian Basin CSCD, P.O. Box 1706, Fort Stockton, Texas 79735.

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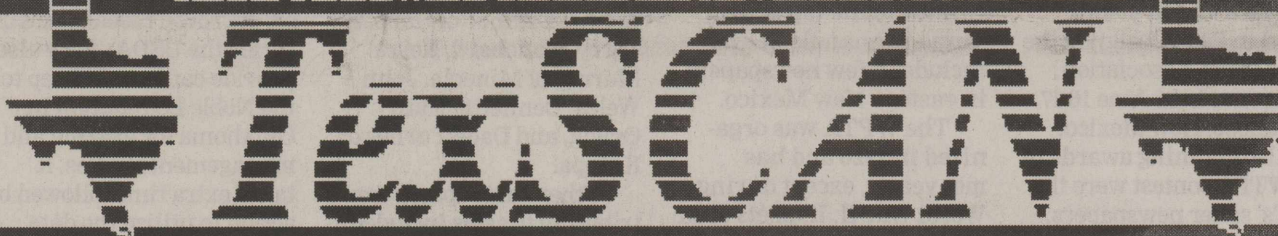
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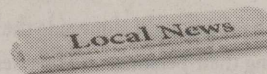
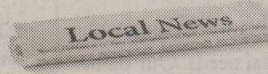
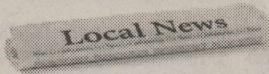
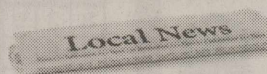
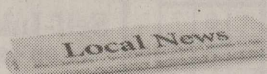
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Cowboy Poetry

Crossing the Jordan

When I reach the river Jordan,
On my way to the promised land.
Can I walk on water, or will I be left
Standing on the sand.

My Jesus walked on water at least,
Two times in the good book.
With him all things are possible,
So, I shouldn't have to look.

I have heard about crossing the other side,
When my time comes to go.
I'll reach Jordan Shore,
The good book tells me so.

Will I walk on water as my Jesus did,
Or will he carry me in his arms?
To that beautiful land above,
I'll know when the time comes by his love.

As I travel through this heathen land,
Someday, I will reach the Jordan's shore.
Will I be left standing on the sand,
Or will Jesus gather me up once more?

by Joe N. Brown

DRN Claims Awards at WTPA Summer Conference

The Devil's River News was among the newspapers honored during the 87th annual meeting of the West Texas Press Association in Granbury last weekend.

The DRN received awards in several categories of the Better Newspaper Contest. The awards were presented during a ceremony held Saturday morning, July 22nd.

The DRN received third place honors in Sports Coverage and fourth place awards in Photography, News Writing and Advertising.

The DRN previously claimed a fourth place award in Page Design at the Texas Press Association conference held June 16-17 in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Also claiming awards in the WTPA contest were the DRN's sister newspapers, The Eldorado Success and The Big Lake Wildcat.

Roger Estlack, publisher of the Clarendon Enterprise received the WTPA's top honor, the Harold Hudson Award, in recognition of his significant contributions to the newspaper industry and the West Texas Press Association.

Big Lake Wildcat editor J.L. Mankin completed his term as WTPA president at the conference and handed over the reins of the organization to Kim Ware of the Azle News.

Mankin, son of Devil's River News publisher Randy Mankin, will serve as chairman of the WTPA board of directors for the coming year.

The West Texas Press Association is the largest regional press association in the world. It covers the area west of Interstate Highway 35 and extends northward from the Rio Grande to the top of the Texas panhandle. It even includes a few newspapers in eastern New Mexico.

The WTPA was organized in 1926 and has met yearly, except during World War II. It meets each summer somewhere in West Texas. However, in 1993, the group held what many called its first "international" conference, when it met in Ruidoso, New Mexico. The group has returned to Ruidoso, twice and will meet next summer in Cloudcroft, New Mexico.

30th Annual Haby, Lockhart, Ross, Speck Angora Goat Production Sale Yields Sound Buyers and Top Dollars

Submitted by Fred L. Speck Jr. and Joe David Ross

The 30th Annual Haby, Lockhart, Ross, Speck Production sale was held Saturday, July 15, 2017 at the Hill Country Youth Exhibit Center in Kerrville.

Preston Faris of Sonora served as the auctioneer. This year the goats were offered by the Ross Ranch and Speck Ranch.

Eighty-two lots of yearling bucks and does grossed \$3,8425, averaging \$468.60. Forty does averaged \$503.13, and forty-two bucks averaged \$435.71.

The top doe was purchased for \$1,450 by Mecka Clarke of Gatesville. She also purchased the third high selling doe for \$775.

The second-high selling doe was purchased by Nancy Burton of Burnett for \$800.

The top buck was purchased by Leslie Orndorff of Glenville, Pennsylvania, for \$1600.00.

These top selling goats were offered by the Speck family.

New buyers were Grant Simon of Junction, Wade Foote of Gatesville, Joe Foote of Jonesboro, Terry Blanchard of Gatesville, and John Welps of Tulia.

Volume buyers included Nancy Burton who purchased fifteen head for \$7,950, Mecka Clarke of Gatesville, six head for \$3,975, Leslie & Ron Orndorff, four head for \$2,775.00, and Jerry Don Balch of Sonora who purchased seven head for \$2,550.

Additional volume buyers included, Allen Stieler of Rocksprings, Cal and Pam Hengst of San Angelo, Jim Cummings of Evant, Wayne Brown of Del Rio, Breelee Neel from Sabinal, Wade Foote, Joe Foote, Connie Dittmar of Harper, Terry Blanchard, Kerra Murray of Mineola, John Welps, Dennette Haby Orwig, and Dade Turner of Knippa.

Other participants contributing to sales included Kelby and Clay Kneese of Harper, John Sweeten of Rocksprings, David Ross, Grant Simon, Alan Messick of California, Herman & Wanda Rueffer of Art, and Bill Whitworth of Boerne.

The partnership sincerely appreciates the buyers' faith in the mohair industry and their faith

in the HLRS fine haired Angoras.

This year's catalog was dedicated to the Giles Family

Animal agriculture, range management, 4-H and FFA youth activities, research and extension programs, urban folks, legislators, international visitors and certainly our mohair Angora goat industry have greatly benefited from the hard work and passion of the Giles family of Comfort.

Robin's grandfather, an architect who practiced in San Antonio, arrived in the USA from England in the 1860's. He began purchasing land in 1885 and named it the Hillingdon Ranch.

Mr. Giles was one of the first to import Angus cattle to our region and he began exhibiting at San Antonio in 1904.

As most of us know, their ranch is a real business oriented working ranch. Another observation that stands out is that it is very unusual for a family to develop reputation herds of three species, commercial Angora goats, fine wool sheep and Black Angus cattle with economic traits that other producers want to purchase for their herds.

Robin and Carol were quick to thank our extension and research teams who have given assistance and encouragement over the many years.

Included are wool & mohair testing at TAMU San Angelo, rib eye measurements in yearling ewes and rams, fecal exams for parasite resistance, beginning to collect fecal samples for juniper eating Angora goats and continuing to participate in the pasture Angora billy goat test at Sonora.

The Hillingdon Ranch is an approved research facility for the USDA. They also provide cattle and sheep to the Noble Foundation in Oklahoma for grazing and management studies. It takes extra time followed by action to utilize the data.

Robin and Grant have mentioned that predator control can take up to twenty-five percent of their own time and skills. Now, they employ guard dogs as well.

At her ranch, Carol can be seen backing up the trailer to unload her saddle horse and two bulls before

loading up the horse again to get more

Somehow, Carol finds the time to be very active with the Texas Farm Bureau on both a district and state level.

Their home has been open many years to family, friends, 4-Hers, ranch tours and foreign producers.

Misty stays busy with Wade and West, bookwork and a regular newsletter to the cousins who are determined to help keep the ranch and heritage intact.

Grant will not let Robin and Carol slow down. He has been a leader in the Young Ranchers Group (more can join) which was organized by Dr. Redden.

Grant's older sisters and brother, Kim, Keely, Qwen and Kip, often return to the ranch to visit and help. Qwen now lives in lives in Pennsylvania, but her oldest daughter Elana is a student at Angelo State. Kip, whom we remember as an outstanding 4-H member with Justin Steiler, is now an attorney for San Antonio City Public Water Service.

Some of us old timers have fond memories of Robin's dad and mother.

Wait there is more to the truth. Some of the most

inspiring chapters include the utilization and management of the land - especially Angora goats being used to help control cedar, for over thirty-five years Robin has coached 4-H students in mohair, wool, livestock and range plants. He is so proud of Robert Haile and others in other counties who are coaches also.

His accomplishments include:

Entrepreneurship - marketing lamb meat in San Antonio with his cousin Dottie and working with others to make and sell wool and mohair products. Working with James Stott's family and processors to provide a special mohair, wool sock, judging livestock shows, developing a detailed weaned - calf program, developing the finest micron ewes that raise more lambs, famous for sorting mohair.

Although Robin no longer personally shears his own sheep and goats, he serves on numerous committees including the local school board, the Texas Predator Board and the Mohair Council.

The Giles Family are recognized for being true Ambassadors for all who are in Agriculture.

Reader Recipes

"Spaghetti Squash Noodle Casserole"

The Sonora Woman's Club meets on the first Thursday of the month, except during the summer and January.

Usually, meetings are held in a members home or a local venue such as one of the many church fellowship halls.

In addition to serving as the new club president, Chelsea Blackbird is also known for her delicious healthy recipe for "Spaghetti Squash Noodle Casserole" using squash as a low-carb alternative to standard pasta.

Spaghetti squash noodles is also a great way to incorporate vegetables into your child's diet.

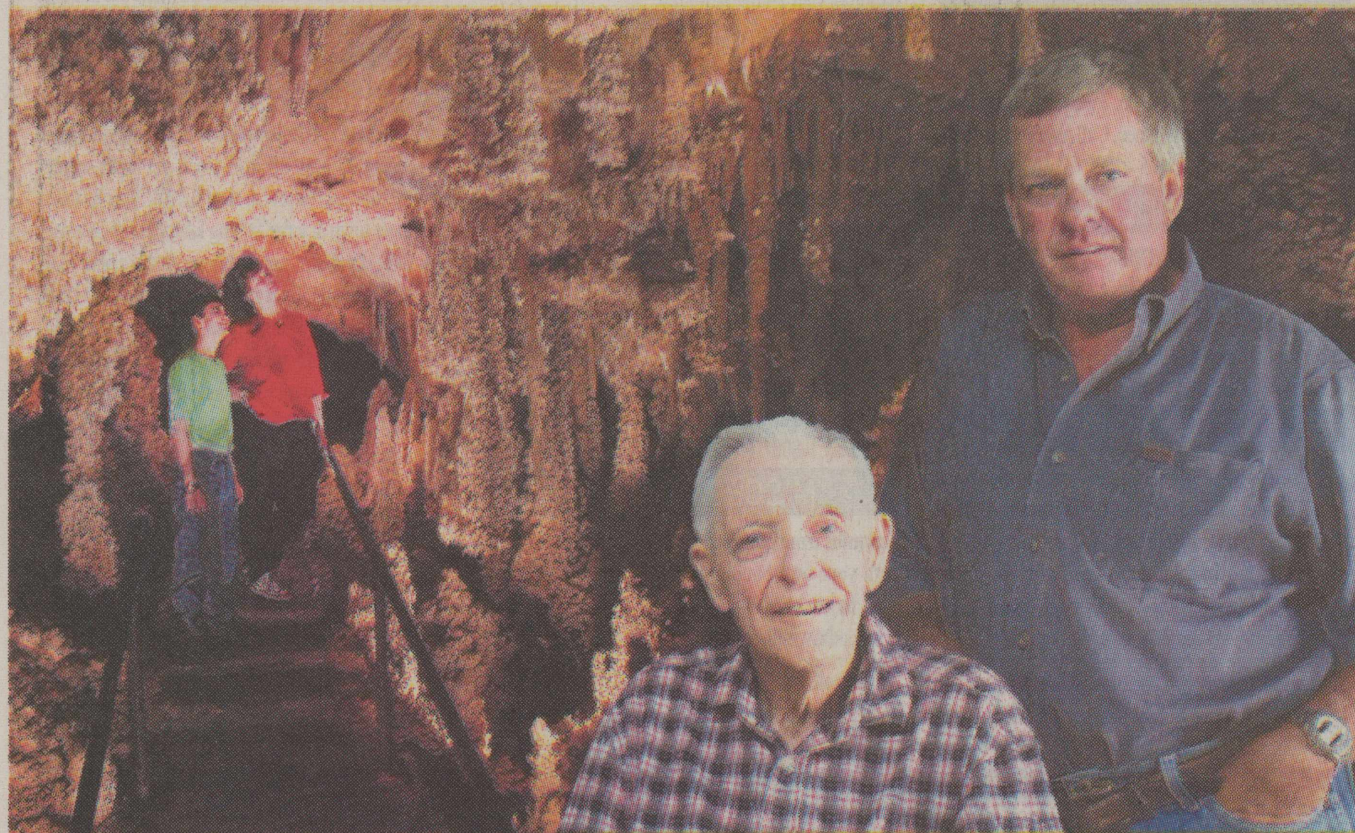
- 1 spaghetti squash
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 jar high quality marinara sauce
- 4 oz. cream cheese
- 2 cups (more or less) of favorite grated cheese
- Cocunut oil or melted butter

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare spaghetti "noodles". Cut spaghetti squash in half. *Careful it is tough to cut through.*

With a spoon, scoop out seeds and the stringy part from the center of each half. Rub each half (skin included) with coconut oil or melted butter.

Bake face down on a lined cookie sheet for about 30 - 40 minutes (outside skin should not feel totally hard or totally soft- somewhere in the middle.) Turn halves over and let them cool. Once they have cooled a bit use a fork to scrape the "noodles" out. While the spaghetti squash is cooking, brown the ground beef. Feel free to add your favorite spices. Once the beef is cooked, drain the fat. Mix together the meat, marinara and cream cheese. Stir until the cream cheese is melted thoroughly into the meat sauce mixture. *This is easier to do if your marinara is warm.* Mix your spaghetti squash noodles with the creamy sauce and pour into a greased baking dish.

Top with grated cheese and bake for 20 minutes or until heated through and cheese has melted. Enjoy!



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SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 4

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WORDS MEANING TO COMPLAIN

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- 20 SQUAWK

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