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SONORA TX 76950-2647

*** The Rural Health Clinic, Clinic B, will be closed on Saturday, December 2, 2017. ***

Affordable Care Act (ACA) Open Enrollment

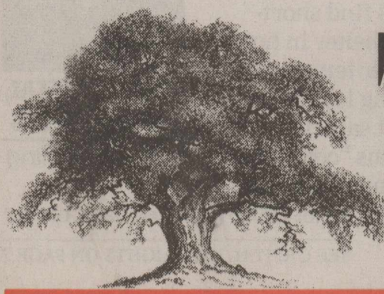
Do you have the required healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act? If no, did you know there is a penalty? See article on page 3 for details on ACA open enrollment.



November 30, 2017

\$1

Volume 128
Issue 47



The Devil's River News

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

TxDOT Recommends Interstate 27 Extension Feasibility Study

Rekindled Interest in Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coincides with Uptick in Nation's Economic Forecast

Efforts to extend Interstate 27 received a significant boost as the Texas Transportation Commission approved a plan that recommends feasibility study for extending I-27 from Lubbock to Laredo at their November 16 meeting.

"It is rewarding to see TxDOT recognize how important the Ports-to-Plains Corridor is to the state. This is the result of years of hard work from several dedicated people. We also recognize that there is still more to be done and we look forward to working with TxDOT to make sure they have the resources necessary to fully implement this plan," Ports-to-Plains Chairman John N. Bertsch said.

The Texas Freight Mobility Plan 2017 lists I-27 from Lubbock to Laredo as a Strategic Freight Project. The plan defined Strategic Freight and Initiative recommendations as "significant investments that will shape the state's future freight transportation demands as well as address current unmet needs. Some strategic projects rise to a higher level due to the potential impact they have on state-wide freight movements and economic competitiveness. The Texas Freight Advisory Committee played a key role in identifying priority strategic projects and initiatives based on current and future

"I am pleased the Texas Transportation Commission recognized the importance of the Ports-to-Plains corridor and the extension of I-27 in their Freight Mobility Plan."

— State Representative
Jodey Arrington
R-Lubbock

freight volumes, trends and economic opportunities."

The Texas Freight Mobility Plan states, "The Ports-to-Plains (I-27) corridor from Laredo to Denver was

designated as a high-priority corridor on the National Highway System in 1998, and in 2015, a TxDOT initial assessment report on the I-27 corridor found it to be critical to linking the energy and agricultural sectors to state, national and international trade. The I-27 extension would provide the only major north-south corridor in Texas west of I-35, and it would intersect three major east-west routes: I-10, I-20 and I-40. The I-27 extension would upgrade approximately 500 miles from Lubbock to Laredo at a conceptual cost estimate of \$5.2 billion. TxDOT has recommended more detailed study of the extension to determine

whether an incremental improvement approach or a complete interstate facility approach would meet safety and mobility needs."

"This is a big step forward for Ports-to-Plains and the extension of I-27," Ports-to-Plains President Michael Reeves said. "Our state legislators brought the issue to the forefront filing HB 869 and SB 1034 in the last legislative session and the recommendation for the feasibility study in the Freight Plan pushed it across the goal and brings us closer to extending Interstate 27."

"I am pleased the Texas Transportation Commission recognized the importance of the Ports-to-Plains corridor and the extension of I-27 in their Freight Mobility Plan. A major freight corridor in West Texas will not only improve the efficiency of moving our food, fuel, and fiber throughout the country, but would also enhance safety and alleviate dangerous congestion along I-35 for our freight haulers. I applaud the Ports-to-Plains Alliance for their efforts to make sure these critical corridor improvements are included in the plan," Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX), co-chairman of the Ports-to-Plains Congressional

SEE INTERSTATE 27 ON PAGE 3

Area Champions



Sonora's quarterback Kaden Cordell breaks through the Spearman defense to score a touchdown for the Broncos during the second quarter of Friday's Area playoff game November 24, 2017, in Abilene. Cordell threw 390 yards for 3 touchdowns and rushed a total of 94 yards scoring two TDs for the Broncos during Friday's game. Sonora defeated Spearman 56-8.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

San Angelo Area Foundation Awards Grants to Sonora

The San Angelo Area Foundation awarded over \$79,000 in grants to two Sonora organizations, according to a press release, Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

"We are grateful to those who make it possible for the Foundation to address important community needs through our grant making process and we are humbled to work with generous donors across the Concho Valley," Matt Lewis, President and CEO of the Foundation said.

Sonora endowments included Camp Good Sam in the amount of \$25,000 to assist with summer learning loss in Sonora and Sonora ISD in the amount of \$58,849 to support with new technology and implementation of zSpace 300, the release stated.

The San Angelo Area Foundation manages over 300 charitable funds benefiting a multitude of causes throughout the Concho Valley.

The 2017 spring and fall competitive grant program of the Foundation was able to award of \$480,000. Established in 2002, the San Angelo Area Foundation is a community foundation with assets over \$134 million and has granted over \$79 million since inception.

The San Angelo Area Foundation is also the power behind San Angelo Gives - a 24-hour online giving event connecting our community to local causes.

In three years, San Angelo Gives has pumped over \$3 million back into the community and the Foundation is gearing up for San Angelo Gives on May 1, 2018.

For more information about the Foundation, please visit www.saafound.org or call 325-947-7071.

Broncos Win Area with 56-8 Win Over Spearman, Ready for Childress

The Sonora Broncos (12-0) will travel to Abilene this Friday, December 1, 2017, for a rematch against the Childress Bobcats (11-1) for the Regional trophy in the third round of the 2017 playoffs.

Head Coach Jeff Cordell said although the Broncos will need to perform better than they have all season to pull off the win this Friday, he is confident that his team is ready.

"This will be the biggest challenge the Broncos have faced all season," Cordell said. "In fact, most experts will have the Bobcats picked to win this game. The Broncos will most likely be the underdog going into the game. This will be the first time all season the Broncos will enter the game as underdogs."

Both number 9 ranked Sonora and number 5 ranked Childress have had a successful season so far.

Sonora is averaging a total

506 yards, 87.7 tackles and 48.4 points compared to Childress's 400 yards, 69.7 tackles and 37.3 points.

Cordell said there is a reason why the Bobcats are 11-1 this season.

"They are loaded with size and talent," Cordell said. "They are physical and fast. This will be the biggest challenge our offense has faced all year."

The Bobcats' quarterback Luke Latimer, is the key to the Bobcat offense.

He is a dual threat quarterback and will be the best the Broncos defense has faced all year.

Cordell said the Broncos must keep him contained as well as put pressure on him to help ensure their chance of winning the game.

Defensively, the Bobcats are extremely sound and they have done a good job of keeping offenses in check so far,

this season.

Also, Childress will be looking to avenge their loss to Sonora during last year's Regional match. The Broncos defeated Childress 40-36 in a shoot out during last year's Regional match, ending the Bobcats' season.

"It's going to be an exciting match up at Bulldog Stadium in Abilene Friday night," Cordell said. "The Broncos are excited about the opportunity. Nothing better than getting the opportunity to play football in December."

Kickoff is set for 7:00 p.m. Friday, December 1, at Wylie Bulldog Stadium in Abilene.

Everyone is encouraged to make the trip, fill the stands and show their support for the team.

Sonora 56 - Spearman 8

The Sonora Broncos served notice to the Spearman Lynx in the second round of

the playoffs this past Friday, November 24, 2017, with a 56-8 victory over the Lynx and twelfth win overall this season for the Class 3A Division II Area Championship.

Aside from being happy to still be playing in the Texas high school football playoffs, Broncos Head Coach Jeff Cordell applauded his team for staying focused and bringing home the Area Championship trophy.

It wasn't the shutout they were going for, but Broncos put 56 points on the score board by the end of the fourth quarter and the defense held the Lynx to a shutout until the final seconds of the game.

With 28 seconds on the clock, the Lynx unhitched the wagon and sprinted 38 yards to find paydirt. An extra two pints gave them a total of eight for the night.

The final game score was 56-8.

SEE AREA ON PAGE 6

Disaster Declaration Extended as Hurricane Recovery Continues

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Nov. 20 extended the disaster declaration for counties affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Some 60 counties are included and they will continue to be eligible for assistance as they recover and rebuild.

"The most important message I want to send to the victims of this storm is that they are not alone as they continue to recover from this storm. While we still have a long way to go to return to a new normal, I have no doubt that Texas will eventually emerge from this disaster stronger than ever before," Abbott said.

Declarations must be renewed every 30 days for assistance to remain available. Gov. Abbott said he would continue to renew them as needed throughout the recovery process.

Counties covered in the disaster declaration include: Angelina, Aransas, Atascosa, Austin, Bastrop, Bee, Bexar, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Colorado, Comal, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kerr, Kleberg, Lavaca, Lee, Leon,

Liberty, Live Oak, Madison, Matagorda, Milam, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Patricio, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Trinity, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Wharton, Willacy and Wilson.

Aid request is granted

On Nov. 17 Abbott announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency granted his request to extend the deadline to Jan. 16 for Transitional Sheltering Assistance for victims of Hurricane Harvey. Nearly 17,000

families are receiving this form of assistance, which is intended to help those who have been unable to return to their homes find short-term shelter in hotels or other temporary housing locations.

Abbott said he remains "committed to doing everything possible to get these families back under



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 7

Ups and Downs of 2017

Let us consider bits and pieces of the year to date, sadly remembering that at its beginning, much of the country's tapestry was intact. Then, humankind got a hold of it. Much is now in shreds.

Struck by implosions and explosions around the globe, it's a wonder

The Idle American



By Dr. Don Newbury

our planet isn't woe-stricken by a worrisome wobble. Odds are no better than even on whether the ball falling in New York City's Times Square will be dropped or shot down....

The word "harassment" has been in heavy use, and in ways that would make Popeye blush. Tough talk abounds.

Squabbles continue concerning athletes' conduct during the playing of the National Anthem at NFL games. Team owners, meanwhile, may unravel to the point that their teams' inflated value sinks way below the air pressure of those footballs Tom Brady messed with. Owners are stewing about remuneration for Commissioner Roger Goodell, and whether his contract should be extended by a half-dozen years to 2024. Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones is screaming about paying Goodell's proposed \$50 million annually, \$5 million more than this year. Jones and Goodell's verbal missiles, hurled with abandon, dominate US sports conversations. Soon, we may know the difference between hissy, connoption and wall-eyed fits. We're bound to be witnesses to all three kinds....

We used to think ourselves--at certain junctures--to be "between rocks and hard places." Compared to the sharp-edged looming controversies we all face, abiding between stones and hard places may soon seem softer than the Pillsbury doughboy who always giggles on the TV commercials after a good rib-poking.

Folks toasting a new year will hoist glasses in a shabby manner at New Year's Eve parties, and sure-fire investments seem destined for the paint industry, where there's bound to be a shortage of black paint in the flurry of fresh paint for both pots and kettles....

On the business front, there hasn't been so much jockeying for position since the last photo finish at the Kentucky Derby. "Little box" stores and malls are pulling out all the stops (and a few of the "go's") trying to compete with the "big boxes, and all are going head-to-head with online commerce.

We've just experienced our first "black Friday" preliminary, this year springing to life with "can't miss" sales a full week ahead of the long-established fateful Friday after Thanksgiving.

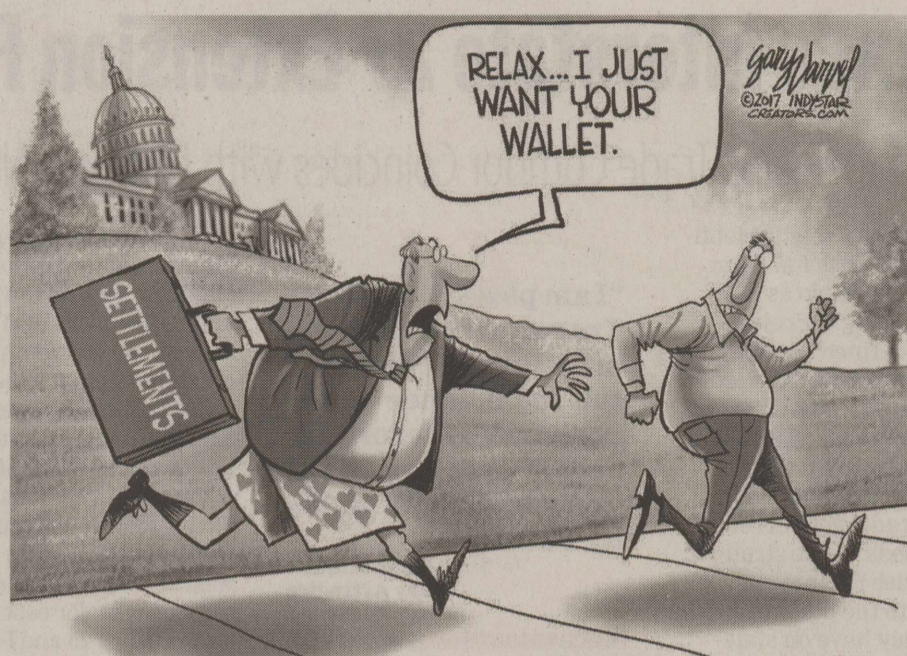
If they keep juggling the date signaling the beginning of serious Christmas shopping, they'll meet themselves coming back. Folks will be saddled with trying to determine "best buy" times during "50 shades of black Fridays"....

Can it be? Amazon is offering to leave packages inside our locked doors, and Fed-Ex is paying drivers \$18.50 an hour and 53 cents per mile for using their own vehicles during delivery crunch time, and an ingenious card-carrier at a major intersection "will work for cash."

To cross eyes even further, Sears will no longer sell Whirlpool products, but the latter will continue to manufacture Kenmore products, the brand name favored by Sears.

That's the condition my 105-year-old

SEE IDLE AMERICAN ON PAGE 10



Unleashing Innovation Curing a Plague That Has Hindered Our Government For Decades

Imagine the following hypothetical scenario: you could buy either one of the first cell phone models (the one that could basically double as a brick) for one price or the latest smartphone for a cheaper price. Which would you buy? In too many instances, our federal government has been systematically choosing the equivalent of the first option: to spend more money on outdated, unreliable products instead of the cheaper, more advanced tools.

The American people send a lot of money up to Washington each year, and it is outrageous that the federal government wastes billions of these hard-earned dollars each year maintaining IT systems that aren't just outdated, but also leave our digital information -- from employee records to government intelligence -- susceptible to cyberattacks. In fact, our federal government spends nearly 80 percent of more than \$80 billion on simply maintaining existing IT systems. The bulk of this funding is spent keeping outdated systems alive when some are nearly 60 years old! Not only are many of these systems insecure, they're becoming increasingly costly. It's the 21st Century; we should be taking advantage of 21st Century tools.

We have continued to use horse-and-buggy technology throughout every federal agency for decades and reform is long overdue. Imagine being able to renew your passport online. How about our military veterans not having to take hard-copies of their health records with them to the doctor? It's 2017. The American people deserve better from their government.

This is why I worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for the last two years to implement landmark IT Reform that will make our government smarter, more cost-effective and more efficient. I am pleased to announce that my smart government bill, the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act, was approved in the House and the Senate

as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and is expected to be signed into law by the President any day. The bill incentivizes federal agencies to transition their IT systems to more modern platforms like cloud

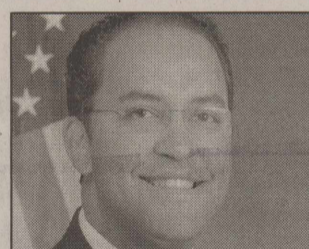
computing by eliminating the traditional use-it-or-lose-it approach that has plagued government spending for years. With this bill, agencies will be able to bank the savings obtained as a result of a transition to cheaper and more modern technological solutions. They can then use that money to modernize other systems, creating a virtuous cycle of modernization and ultimately, savings.

In the past, there has been no incentive for agencies to modernize because they have been unable to keep the savings as a result of modernization. This has kept our federal technology systems decades behind the private sector and has hindered our government's ability to provide quality and timely services to the American people.

Finally, we're curing this plague that has hindered our government for decades. Our technologies have evolved since the Stone Age, so should our federal agencies. This can happen now that MGT is a reality.

This will be my twelfth piece of legislation signed into law since taking office in 2015, and I'll continue working to fix problems and find solutions that help folks in the 23rd District of Texas. I'm here to represent you. As always, please continue to reach out to me with any questions and concerns, and I encourage you to subscribe to my e-newsletter at hurd.house.gov/contact/email and follow me on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat @HurdOnTheHill.

Hurd on the Hill



by U.S. Rep. Will Hurd

Heard Around Town

Be careful what you ask. I asked my mother once what giblets were. She told me and I haven't liked giblet gravy ever since.

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The Most Popular Guy in Langtry

Keith Bowden seldom argues with his wife Anna. Could be because he lives in Langtry, Texas and she lives



Rolling Along

by Tumbleweed Smith

in Santiago, Chile. It seems to be working out fine. They've been married more than 20

years. They met in Nova Scotia where Anna was a teacher and Keith was a student. He was born in Delaware.

Keith taught English at Laredo Community College, then retired to Langtry, a place where he was stranded years ago due to a railroad strike. At the time he was having adventures riding boxcars. He felt something for the town made famous by Judge Roy Bean and decided to settle down there.

Langtry is on the Rio Grande and Keith has taken numerous canoe or raft trips on the river, sometimes starting in El Paso and going all the way to the gulf. He says the river gives him a sense of peace and he is fascinated by the silence he experiences on his trips.

"Between now and April I'll be on the river a lot of the time, probably about ten weeks." He sleeps on the ground during his river trips. Not much different from when he's at his home in Langtry, where he sleeps on a pallet. He has no phone or TV.

When he settled in Langtry three years ago, he says the town looked like it had fallen into ruin, a far cry from the railroad days in the early part of the twentieth century when it was a thriving community.

"So I decided that I was going to clear the entire town and take away all the unwanted brush and weeds. I wanted to uncover and expose all these wonderful old crumbling buildings and re-plant everything I cleared with native plants that didn't need maintenance. I have to contend with all these invasive plants that don't belong here and want to take over. I'm constantly weed eating unwanted grasses to keep them from seeding. I'm replacing them primarily with candlelilla because it spreads."

He says Langtry looks like a small town but when you have to weed eat the entire town, it gets bigger.

"Every time it rains it's pretty much eight to ten hours a day running the weed eater. On the other hand, when we're in a dry spell like we've had for a couple of months, I'm pacing back and forth wishing I could weed eat eight minutes. I'm on my second machine. The string is eighty dollars a roll and I buy it in bulk. I changed the string three times yesterday, put in another twenty feet. Part of that is the way I do it. I'm really blasting the roots. I raise a lot of dust."

He does people's yards, vacant lots, anywhere there's a weed. He doesn't charge for his services.

"Sometimes I pay to have heavy equipment come in and take away all the prickly pear on a lot that's overgrown. I'd rather pay than do it by hand. I don't take any money for this and wouldn't, even if some wealthy person wanted to pay me. And if that ever does happen, I'll just give it to the church."

As a result of his efforts, Langtry is looking a lot better than it did three years ago. When I asked someone in town how to find Keith, I was told to follow the sound of the weed eater.

www.tumbleweedsmith.com

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INTERSTATE 27:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Caucus said.

"Extending Interstate 27 will have a significant impact on economic development throughout West Texas, and it will improve the flow of freight throughout North America," Reeves said. "About two thirds of US-Mexico trade by truck goes through Laredo, and much of that freight moves through some of Texas' largest metropolitan areas on the very congested Interstate 35. I-69 provides an alternative for some of those trucks heading to the northeast, and I-27 can provide a less congested alternative for freight heading northwest."

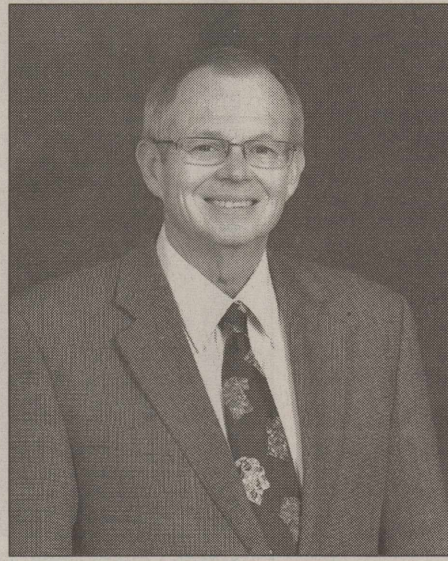
TxDOT has been working since August 2016 to develop the Texas Freight Mobility Plan (TFMP) 2017 that meets all Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act requirements. The first Texas Freight Mobility Plan was adopted by the Texas Transportation Commission in January 2016. In December 2015, MAP-21 (the former federal funding and authorization bill) was replaced by the FAST Act. The FAST Act provided a new freight focused funding program, the National Highway Freight Program (NHFP), and also created new requirements for state freight plans to have in place by December 2017 in order to qualify for the NHFP funding. These new requirements include: creation of Critical Rural Freight Corridors, creation of Critical Urban Freight Corridors, and development of a fiscally constrained freight investment plan.



The on again, off again discussion of the I-27/Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor heated up earlier this month when the Texas Transportation Commission recommended conducting a feasibility study for extending Interstate Highway 27 southward from Lubbock to Laredo. The preliminary course of the corridor follows U.S. 277 from San Angelo to Sonora and Del Rio before heading south and east to Eagle Pass and Laredo.

MAP COURTESY OF PORTS-TO-PLAINSTRIDE CORRIDOR

Steve Smith County Judge



Steve Smith filed on November 21 to be re-elected as County Judge of Sutton County. The Republican primary will be March 6, 2018.

Smith has been County Judge since November 2014. Previously Smith served 14 years as the First Assistant District Attorney of the 112th Judicial District which includes Sutton County. He also held an elected office as the 119th Judicial District Attorney for 16 years.

Smith attended Baylor University on an R.O.T.C. scholarship and graduated with a BA degree in Political Science. He then attended Baylor Law School where he attained his law degree in 1979. Following law school Smith served 5 years active duty in the United States Air Force. In 2006 Smith retired as a Lt. Colonel from the USAFR after serving as a reservist at Goodfellow Air Force Base for 21 years.

Smith married his high school sweetheart, Beverly in 1974. Steve and Beverly have 5 children and 6 grandchildren. They have been married 43 years. They attend First Baptist Church where Steve is a deacon and an adult Sunday School teacher. Beverly, a retired RN, serves as church secretary at FBC.

Smith has served on a number of public serve boards to include Southwest Council of Texas Boy Scouts, El Camino Council of Girl Scouts, Samaritan Counseling Board (President), and the Texas District and County Attorneys Association. Steve has also been active in the Concho Country Emmaus Community and the Concho Valley Council of Governments.

Preston Faris will again serve as the campaign treasurer for Smith's re-election campaign to remain the County Judge of Sutton County.

In announcing his re-election plans, Smith said, "I'm excited to be asking the folks of Sutton County for another opportunity to serve them as County Judge. The county employees are dedicated public servants and I look forward to working with them again. As it has been for the last 3 years, my door will remain open to everyone. Please give me your consideration to continue to serve as your Sutton County Judge."

Political Advertisement paid for by Preston Faris for Steve Smith

Health & Wellness

Now, a word from LMH

Visit our Patient Portal at www.mymedicalencounters.com



Affordable Care Act (ACA) Open Enrollment Begins November 1 and ends December 15, 2017

Do you have the required healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act? If no, did you know there is a penalty paid to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on behalf of the Federal Government? "The penalty for failing to maintain coverage is either a flat dollar amount or a specified percentage of household income, whichever is greater. For an individual with annual income of \$40,000 and no coverage during the year, the penalty would be \$741, according to a calculator on the IRS website. For a couple with annual income of \$90,000 and no insurance, the penalty would be \$1,732. (Pear, 2017)"

Avoid the penalty by accessing Healthcare.gov for finding and purchasing a plan best suited for individuals and families. Enrollment must be complete by December 15, 2017. Stages of enrollment and coverage are as follows.

November 1, 2017: Open Enrollment started — first day to enroll, re-enroll, or change a 2018 insurance plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace

December 15, 2017: Last day to enroll in or change plans for 2018 coverage. After this date, you can enroll or change plans only if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.

January 1, 2018: 2018 coverage starts, if premium paid.

Optional websites available are:

Texas Residents - <http://www.individualhealthquotes.com>

<https://www.healthcare.gov>

<http://www.obamacare-plans.com>.

*** The Rural Health Clinic, Clinic B, will be closed on Saturday, December 2, 2017. ***

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Tiene Medicare o Medicaid y necesita un proveedor de atención primaria? Llame 387-7911 y hacer una cita hoy. Usted no va a ser rechazado!



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.

"We take same day walk-ins"

Sonora ISD Menu

Elementary - Breakfast Free & Lunch \$2.60
Middle & High School - Breakfast \$2.10 & Lunch \$3.00
*Menu Subject to Change

Monday December 4
Breakfast
Pancakes and Sausage or Cereal and Crackers, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Nachos Grande, Refried Beans, Salsa, Lettuce and Tomato, Cucumber Slices, Fruit, Lime Sherbert, Milk
After School Program
Muffin, Milk

Tuesday December 5
Breakfast
Breakfast Burrito and Hash Browns or Cereal and Toast, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Ravioli, Seasoned Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk
After School Program
Fruit Yogurt

Wednesday December 6
Breakfast
Biscuit, Egg, Bacon or Cereal and Toast, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Chicken Sandwich, Oven Fries, Lettuce and Tomato, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruity Gelatin, Milk
After School Program
Baked Chips, Juice

Thursday December 7
Breakfast
Sausage Kolache and Yogurt or Cereal and Crackers, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Oven Roasted Chicken, Roll, Roasted Potatoes, Garden Salad, Fruit, Brownie, Milk
After School Program
Turkey Stick, Juice

Friday December 8
Breakfast
Breakfast Club or Cereal and Toast, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Pizza, Baby Carrots, Crunchy Broccoli, Salad, Fruit, Milk
After School Program
Chex Mix, Milk

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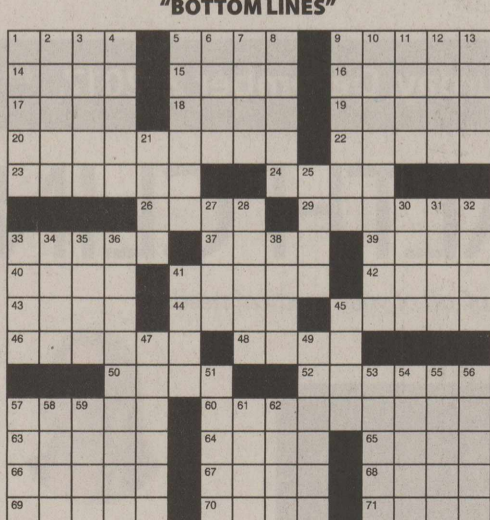
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1. RR terminals	50. Quick burst of energy	70. Air pollutant	11. Inner Hebrides island
5. High mil. decorations	52. Accrues: var.	71. Roof coatings	12. Source of venison
9. Await	57. Open to view		13. To be: L.
14. Broad geological basin	60. Healthy	DOWN	21. Nebraska-Oklahoma Indian
15. Willow genus	63. Automaton	1. Proscenium	25. Press earnestly
16. European spiny plums	64. Endured	2. Cabs	27. She: Fr.
17. Nerve-cell process	65. Persian poet: 1184-1291	3. Up	28. TV's Lonesome George
18. Raise crops	66. British guy	4. Old Kriss	30. And others: L. abbr.
19. Strengthens	67. Well-known pen name	5. Disagree	31. Gypsy lady
20. Garrulousness	68. ___ game: variety of fives	6. Smoker	32. Scatter
22. Watchful		7. Wax, in Roma	33. Chickpea, e.g.
23. Fourth ___: the press		8. Brazilian dance	34. Exquisite
24. Turkey buzzard		9. Gaping	35. Kind of test
26. Its cap. is Salem			36. Without funds
29. Alludes			38. Verne character
33. Degree of road inclination			41. Egyptian solar disk
37. Pine			45. Heredity factor
39. Its capital is Salt Lake City			47. Pertaining to the end
40. Newfoundland cape			49. Cook leftovers
41. Contemporary U.S. dramatist			51. Mocks
42. Lucid			53. Disquiet
43. More melodic than a recitative			54. Spanish-American lariat
44. Abound			55. Ancient village with a famous witch
45. Icy			56. Hides
46. Interfere without propriety			57. Circles
48. Particular body of			58. Electromotive force unit
			59. Central American tree: var.
			61. ___ contendere
			62. The Stooges, e.g.

"BOTTOM LINES"



See solution on Page 10

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by **Love Funeral Home**
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Sutton County Under Ground Water Conservation District Board of Directors. Pictured Joe David Ross, Max Howarth, Erika Campbell, Robert Sol Mayer and James Archer. | COURTESY PHOTO

SCUGWCD Board of Directors Welcomes New Member, Pct. 4

Erika Campbell was sworn in to serve as a member of the Sutton County Under Ground Water Conservation District Board of Directors this past October 2017.

Erika is looking forward to representing Precinct 4 on the Sutton County UGWCD board through out the next four years.

Originally from Massachusetts, Erika moved to Texas in 1990 after completing a degree in Animal Science at Cornell University. She also attended Texas A&M University and earned an MS in Rangeland Ecology and Management, and a PhD in Toxicology.

She's been in Sutton County since 1993 when

she moved to the AgriLife Research Station during graduate school to work as a technician, then continuing on as a scientist.

Erika's academic focus has been on improving grasslands through brush control with goats and fire, and she understands the impact grassland management has on improving aquifer recharge.

In 2009 she and her husband Cam moved to the family ranch, where they currently raise cattle, sheep, and goats.

They diversified their ranch by planting a vineyard, and sell grapes to Texas wineries.

Erika promotes conservation irrigation yet understands the

economic importance of a healthy crop yield.

Recently, Erika attended a leadership training class sponsored by Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, where she learned about current Texas water law

and recent legislative interim charges regarding private property rights.

She is welcomed by fellow SCUGWCD board members who are looking forward to her contributions to the district.

Santa to Visit Library

Santa is coming to the Sutton County Library Tuesday, December 5th, at 7:00 p.m.

He and his elf will read Christmas stories to all of the boys and girls while they enjoy hot chocolate and cookies.

The event is free, open to the public and everyone is welcome.

Other library news and events for the month of December include rescheduling of doll making classes moved to Friday mornings at 9:30 am.

Book club is reading Ruby by New York Times best selling author Cynthia Bond, and will meet Tuesday, December 12th at 10:00 a.m.

The library will be closed for Christmas on Monday, December 25th and will re-open on December 26th.

Don't forget, a book makes a great gift for everyone on your shopping list.

Wishing everyone a Very Merry and Happy Holiday!

American Legion Baseball Coming to West Texas

American Legion Post 572 in San Angelo is bringing American Legion baseball to West Texas in 2018.

Any town that has a legion post is eligible to field a team.

Closest to Sonora, American Legion Post 0257 is located 21 miles North in Eldorado.

American Legion Post 378 in Menard and Post 0237 in Junction are also nearby.

The teams will be composed of players ages 13 to 18 years and must have at least 9 players and

not more than 18.

In order for the league to form local commercial sponsors are needed. The cost per player is \$175 or \$2,800 per team.

Adult coaches are also required for the teams.

The opening tournament will be played from May 31st through June 2nd.

League play begins June 3rd and continues through July 10th with games on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Each team will play 12 regular games with local and possible state tournaments before going into the playoff schedule.

The season ends with the World Series in North Carolina.

If a league is organized locally in 2019, the state tournament will be held in San Angelo.

A representative from the state office will be available Saturday, December 9th, at 10:00 a.m. in San Angelo at the VFW Hall located at 125 S. Browning Street.

For more information contact Jim Cox at 325-763-2265 or email sanangelolegionbb@yahoo.com.

Commissioners Approve Purchase of Stove for Jail

Sutton County Commissioners took care of a variety of business details including approving multiple expenditures for the Sheriff's Office and jail during their regular meeting Monday, November 27, 2017.

Sheriff Oscar Chavez and Chief Deputy DuWayne Castro addressed the court explaining the need to replace the existing stove in the jail. The stove has become ineffective for cooking meals for inmates due to age and disrepair. A functional stove is required to meet current State Jail Commission standards.

The court unanimously approved the purchase of a new stove at a cost not to exceed \$8,000 from budgeted monies.

In addition, commissioners approved the purchase of one toilet for the jail as budgeted.

Further, the court approved the purchase of two radar units for Sheriff's vehicles.

In regular business, the court reviewed and approved the minutes of prior meetings, accounts payable and the Tax Assessor-Collector report.

No Auditor's report was available.

In other business, commissioners approved the 2017 tax roll for Sutton County.

Next, commissioners also approved a bond for the Librarian and a bond increase for Steve Smith, County Judge. The bond will increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year as necessary to meet current state requirements.

After reviewing information presented by County Treasurer Janalyn Jones, the court agreed to table salary schedule adjustments pending further review by an appointed committee. No action was taken.

Commissioners approved a one-year agreement for computer backup software for the District Clerk's office.

Finally, the court heard comments from County Attorney David Wallace regarding Hill Country Telephone Cooperative. Wallace said an agreement between HCTC and the county to lease easement property to house a utility cabinet could not be reached at this time.

In closing, Judge Smith shared information regarding upcoming events including the annual community Christmas event, caroling by law enforcement officers on December 4th and 5th to collect toys for children in need this holiday season and the county Christmas party set for Monday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Without further comments the meeting was adjourned.

Judge Steve Smith presided over the meeting.

Commissioners Carl Teaff, Mike Villanueva, Fred Perez and Bob Brockman were present.

The next regular meeting of the Sutton County Commissioners is set for Monday, December 11, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the County Annex Building.

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SCHD Board Approves Employment Agreement for Dr. William Griffin

Following executive session and consultation with the hospital district attorney Sutton County Hospital Board trustees unanimously approved two agreements regarding incoming physician William Griffin during their regular meeting Monday, November 27, 2017.

The board approved an agreement for physician employment and physician supervision for Dr. Griffin expected who is expected to begin working in late July 2018.

Board members took a break from the table for a tour of the hospital and Rural Health Clinic to view recent capital investment upgrades including floors, Telemetry and Radiology equipment.

In regular business, the board approved the minutes of October 23, 2017 meeting and the financial report and expenditures ending October 31, 2017.

In other business, trustees approved a revised Emergency

Operations Plan which includes an active shooter policy and procedure.

Finally, board members approved a joint 2018 SCHD Board of Directors Election.

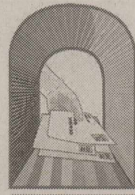
Without further discussion or visitor comments, the meeting was adjourned.

President Sharon Holman presided over the meeting.

Lenora Pool, Adelita Alvarez, Mary Humphrey, Don Longoria and John Henry Strauch were present. Edward Earwood was absent.

The annual joint meeting of the Sutton County Hospital Board of Directors and the Sutton County Health Foundation and Christmas dinner is set for Monday, December 11, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Wellness Center.

The next regular meeting of the Sutton County Hospital District Board of Directors is set for Monday, January 22, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Wellness Center.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their author. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the staff, management or ownership of the Devils River News.

Local Resident Says "Thank you"

Every time I pass by our courthouse and our cemetery, I am thankful that Sonora has employees who take great pride in their work.

Both are kept very well manicured at all times.

I inquired as to who these men were and would like to say, "job well done" to Johny Solis, Carlos Gallegos, Luis Lira, Pedro Ramirez and Pedro Munoz.

Thank you guys for going above and beyond.

Mike McGuffin

What's A Feed Tag Tell Us?

Our December 11th Range & Pasture Workshop will provide some insight on preparing for livestock feeding costs.

However, have you ever tried to read the tag on a feed sack?

The information there can be puzzling sometimes.

What does it mean?

A Guaranteed Analysis on the sack might vary somewhat depending to the state in which it was manufactured.

Minimum requirements are for statements of crude protein, crude fiber, and crude fat.

These are expressed as percentages.

An ingredient list might list every ingredient in the feed, but more often is deliberately vague.

One reason is that some feed formulas are designed to be variable, so that one ingredient (providing similar nutrition) can be substituted for another as grain market prices fluctuate.

Secondly, many manufacturers prefer not to disclose the exact formula for their grain rations, for fear of being copied by the competitors.

So, instead of specific ingredients like soybean meal or cottonseed meal, you might see "plant protein products."

Instead of brewer's yeast, wheat bran, or corn gluten feed, you might see a listing for "processed grain by-products."

The percentage of crude protein expressed on a feed label is calculated from the nitrogen content of the grain.

The word "crude" on the label is an indicator that not all of the protein included in the percentage listed will actually be digestible.

Crude fat also is expressed as a percentage on a feed tag; it refers to the total ratio of fats and oils contained in the product, including both saturated fats and

unsaturated oils.

Fat is energy-dense, providing almost 2 1/2 times as much energy, pound per pound, than do carbohydrates or protein; the higher the crude fat value, the higher the calories provided per pound of feed—so fewer pounds of grain might be needed for the same amount of energy and weight maintenance.

The crude fiber value of a feed plays a big part in determining the energy content of a feed.

Generally, as the fiber percentage decreases, the calories per pound go up; and as fiber levels increase, the calories go down.

Therefore, high-fiber feeds must be fed in larger quantities in order to maintain the same calorie intake per day.

The word "crude" in the case of fiber describes both the digestible and indigestible fiber in the feed.

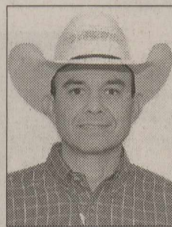
Digestible fiber such as beet pulp, is more easily absorbed, while indigestible fiber, such as oat hulls, wheat chaff, or soybean hulls, generally is tougher in texture.

Of course labels contain much more.

They can also include minimum and maximum percentages of calcium, and minimum values for phosphorus (expressed as %).

Other mineral components expressed in parts per million (ppm) include copper, zinc, selenium.

For more information on this or the Range and Pasture Workshop, contact the County Extension Office at 387-3101.



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.

SONORA PD NO ARRESTS INCIDENTS

NOVEMBER 20 - 1:36 PM • Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver at 300 block of U.S. Hwy 277 N. Officer responded.

6:32 PM • Caller requested to meet with officer at Sheriff's Office. Officer responded.

NOVEMBER 21 - 6:13 PM • Caller requested to meet with officer at Sheriff's Office regarding a Civil Matter. Officer responded.

6:37 PM • Caller requested to meet with officer at Sheriff's Office regarding disturbance. Officer responded.

NOVEMBER 22 - 7:58 AM • Caller reported an accident/wreck on Spur Road and N Service Rd. Officer responded.

10:27 AM • Caller requested to meet with officer regarding burglary/theft at 400 block of Santa Clara. Officer responded.

7:39 PM • Caller requested to meet with officer at Sheriff's Office regarding suspicious vehicle. Officer responded.

NOVEMBER 23 - 9:37 AM • Caller requested an officer at 300 block of W. 5th for civil matter. Officer responded.

11:30 AM • Agency assistance requested at Sheriff's Office. Officer responded.

7:03 PM • Caller requested Animal Control Officer at 500 block of Wardlaw. Officer responded.

NOVEMBER 24 - 10:16 AM • Caller reported criminal mischief at 400 block of S. Concho. Officer responded.

10:39 AM • Caller requested animal control Officer at 1500 block of Tayloe Ave. Officer responded.

NOVEMBER 25 - 11:36 AM • Caller reported accident/wreck at St. Ann's and Main. Officer responded.

NOVEMBER 26 - 2:57 PM • Caller reported disturbance at 7/11 store. Officer responded.

10:52 PM • Caller reported accident/wreck at 300 block of Mulberry. Officer responded.

11:20 PM • Caller requested to meet with officer at Sheriff's Office regarding a civil matter. Officer responded.

SUTTON COUNTY SHERIFF ARRESTS

NOVEMBER 20 • Ricardo Arreola, age 26 of San Antonio, arrested on an El Paso warrant.

NOVEMBER 21 • Andrew Roden, age 42 of Sonora, arrested on warrants out of Burnett County.

NOVEMBER 22 • Herman Perales, age 32 of San Antonio, arrested on a Bexar County warrant.

• Christopher Leon, age 23 of Lakewood WA, arrested for Possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

NOVEMBER 23 • Steven Black, age 49 of Lago Vista, arrested on a Lago Vista County warrant

• David Campos, age 23 of Rio Grand, arrested on a Nueces County warrant.

NOVEMBER 26 • Oscar Zuniga, age 21 of Houston, arrested on a Harris County warrant.

INCIDENTS

NOVEMBER 20 - 6:09 PM • Caller reported a dead deer on U.S. Hwy 864. Deputy responded.

NOVEMBER 22 - 11:06 AM • Caller reported an accident/wreck on I-10 at 388-89 mm. Deputy responded.

4:24 PM • Caller reported a two vehicle crash on I-10 at 383 mm. Deputy and DPS responded.

7:02 PM • Caller reported a call of suspicious activity on SCR 410. Deputy responded.

NOVEMBER 23 - 12:57 PM • Caller reported a stranded motorist on I-10 at 387 mm. Deputy responded.

NOVEMBER 24 - 3:42 AM • Caller reported an accident on I-10 at 391 mm. Deputy responded.

5:46 PM • Caller reported smoke coming from an tractor trailer on I-10 at 418-419 mm. Deputy responded.

6:46 PM • Caller reported a reckless driver on I-10 at 425 mm. Deputy responded.

NOVEMBER 25 - 7:39 PM • Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on I-10 at 381 mm. Deputy responded.

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Look for other Open Enrollment events between November 1, 2017 - December 15, 2017

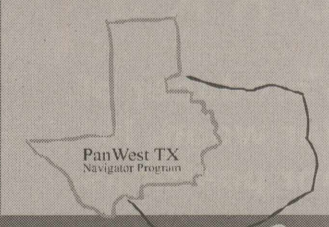
Busque otros eventos de Inscripción Abierta entre 1 de Noviembre, 2016 - Enero 31 de, 2017

Date: 12/06/2017
Time: 10 AM-3 PM
Sutton County Food Pantry
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Sonora, TX 76940

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AREA:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Despite breaking the shutout by the Broncos, Cordell said he is pleased with the victory.

"I am very pleased with the overall performance of our kids across the board," Cordell said. We did a lot of things good against a quality ball club. Anytime you can put 56 points on the board and hold an opponent basically scoreless all game long, you can't walk away from the game disappointed."

As usual the Broncos aggressive offense quickly put the Broncos on the scoreboard early and generated 35 points in the first half.

Sonora's offense had a total 576 yards with 440 passing compared to Spearman's 275 yards and 49 yards passing. The Broncos offense completed 18-24 compared to Spearman's 7-15.

The Broncos defense made a total of 98 tackles to keep the Lynx out of the box.

Quarterback Kaden Cordell threw for 390 yards and three touchdowns during Friday's Area game.

He was 16-21 passing and had nine carries for 94 yards and two touchdowns to add to his season record.

Jarrett Jackson was on fire catching six passes and sprinting 148 yards total and two touchdowns for the Broncos.

Wesley Dutton had four receptions for 91 yards and two touchdowns.

Abel Cruz ran 60 yards on three catches.

Igniting the charge, Willie Munoz ran a crowd pleasing 47 yards on a pass from Cordell to find paydirt just minutes into the first quarter and the momentum never stopped.

Wesley Dutton followed with a second Broncos 25 yard touchdown on a pass from Cordell.

And Sonora took off with a 14-0 lead over Spearman at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Cordell ran 6 yards and made the extra point with the kick. Minutes later fans saw a repeat from Cordell with a 4 yard run and extra point notching the score 28-0 over the Lynx.

Also in on the action, Jackson scores on a 3 yard run at the end of the second quarter and then find paydirt again on a 12 yard run at the top of the third quarter.

Dutton crossed the end zone for the second time mid-way through the third quarter notching a shutout score of 50-0 over Spearman.

Down for the final points Evan Shannon catches a pass and carries it across the goal. With the extra point by Brandon Martinez, the Broncos were cruising at 56-0.

Slipping through the Broncos defense a Lynx raced across the end zone breaking the shutout as the final buzzer sounded.

The final score was 56-8 with the Broncos celebrating their 12th win this season.

Spearman's loss ended their season at 6-6.

Sonora's win sets the Broncos in line for the 3A-II Regional playoff game against Childress this Friday, December 1st, at Wylie Bulldog Stadium in Abilene.

Sonora and Childress were opponents in last year's quarter finals as well when they rallied for a 42-7 victory over the last November 2016. Both teams will be looking for a win this year in hopes of moving on in their journey to state.

Childress beat Cisco 42-20 in the second round also this past Friday.

SCORE BY QUARTER

SONORA 14-21-15-06=56
SPEARMAN 00-00-00-08=08

FIRST QUARTER

SONORA — 10:55 WILLIE MUNOZ 47 yd run on pass from Kaden Cordell (Conversion Good)
SONORA — 5:45 WESLEY DUTTON 25 yd run (Conversion Good)

SECOND QUARTER

SONORA — 10:57 KADEN CORDELL 6 yd run (Kick Good)
SONORA — 6:29 KADEN CORDELL 4 yd run (Kick Good)
SONORA — 00:10 JARRETT JACKSON 3 yd run (Kick Good)

THIRD QUARTER

SONORA — 7:21 JARRETT JACKSON 12 yd run (Conversion Good)
SONORA — 5:00 WESLEY DUTTON 56 yd run on a pass from Kaden Cordell (Kick Good)

FOURTH QUARTER

SONORA — 5:12 EVAN SHANNON 12 yd run on pass from Brian Van Winkle (Kick Good)
SPEARMAN — 00:28 MILAN SALINAS 38 yd run (Conversion Good)

INDIVIDUAL STATS

RUSHING

SONORA — Kaden Cordell 9-94; Jarrett Jackson 4-20

PASSING

SONORA — Kaden Cordell 16-21-390 yds; Brian Van Winkle 2-3-50 yds

RECEIVING

SONORA — Jarrett Jackson 6-148; Willie Munoz 3-91; Marcos Talamantes 1-38; Abel Cruz 3-60; Wesley Dutton 4-91; Evan Shannon 1-12



Evan Shannon catches a touchdown pass from Brian Van Winkle in the fourth quarter of Friday's Area playoff game between Sonora and Spearman. The Broncos clinched the Area title with a 56-9 win over the Lynx. DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sonora vs. Childress

Friday, Dec. 1
7:00 p.m. Kickoff

Wylie Bulldog Stadium, Abilene, TX

Listen to the game at KHOS 92.1 FM



Members of the 2017 YMCA Heavy Weight team wave to fans following their Super Bowl Championship victory Sunday, November 12, 2017, in San Angelo. Players: Jorge Leija, Jaime Buitro, Dylan Ford, Edgar DeLuna, Justin Lozano, Corbin Crenwelge, Zane White, Caleb Sanchez, PJ Ramirez, Joshua Lozano, Dailen Luna, Adan Trevino, Julian Zaragoza, Brian Mendoza, Robert Rodriguez, Joey Telles, Owen Jones, Carmelo Alviso, Jason Alvarado, Isreal Garcia, Jacob Martinez and coaches James Martinez, Tiger Duran, Steven Rocha, and Jason Ford. | COURTESY PHOTO

Sonora YMCA Heavy Weight Team Competes in Super Bowl

By Pam Crenwelge

The Mighty Broncos of the YMCA Heavy Weight team consisting of 5th and 6th graders played in San Angelo Stadium on Sunday, November 12, 2017.

It was the most exciting game of the Super Bowl tournament.

Going into double overtime the Broncos took the win over the San Angelo Cowboys 14-13.

Dailen Luna was named Most Valuable Player of the game.

The Heavy Weight team's overall record this season was an impressive 6-1.

The young athletes, including Jorge Leija, Jaime Buitron, Dylan Ford, Edgar DeLuna, Justin Lozano, Corbin Crenwelge, Zane White, Caleb Sanchez, PJ Ramirez, Joshua Lozano,

Dailen Luna, Adan Trevino, Julian Zaragoza, Brian Mendoza, Robert Rodriguez, Joey Telles, Owen Jones, Carmelo Alviso, Jason Alvarado, Isreal Garcia, and Jacob Martinez, learned skills and worked together as a team throughout their season.

Most importantly, they showed the depth of Sonora pride and tradition.



Wide receivers Hunter Bunch and Brandon Martinez earned the turnover belt for Friday's game between Sonora and Spearman, November 24, 2017, in Abernathy. The Broncos held the Lynx to no pints until the last seconds of the Area playoff match. Sonora celebrated a 56-8 victory over Spearman. DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

8th Grade Colts Fall in Overtime Season Opener

The Sonora eighth grade Colts fell in overtime 33-37 this past Monday, November 20, 2017, when they hosted the Wall Hawks in an exciting season opener at Sonora Middle School.

Despite only a few days of practice to help them prepare, the Colts put up a fight for the win.

The Colts had a 3 point lead before a Wall player hit a 3 pointer at the buzzer to send it to overtime.

Sonora's Fernando Gonzales led his team in scoring with 13 points.

Alex Renteria and Gavin Boggs put up 6 points each.

Ivan Fuentes had 5 points and Sean Mungia added 3 points to the final score.

Playing great defense and getting some big rebounds for the Colts were Christoval Lira and Lane Taylor.

Also opening their season, the eighth grade

B team fell to the Hawks 13-36 this past Monday.

Leading his team, Sonora's Guillermo Garcia put up 6 points.

Tyler Walther followed close behind with 5 points and Rino Hernandez had 2 points.

Players Damian Martinez and Mario Fernandez assisted in the game.

Following the Holiday break, the Colts returned to the court Monday, November 27th, against TLCA in San Angelo.

Lady Colts Dominate the Court

The Sonora Middle School Lady Colts took on the TLCA Lady Eagles this past Monday, December 27, 2017, in Sonora.

With 29 girls participating at the 8th grade level the Lady Colts started games with a C team 5-on-5 red and white scrimmage that ended in a close battle of 8-10.

Scoring in the scrimmage was Lady Colts' Sinayyah Solis, Kristina Zabecki, and Brijida Garza.

With determination to take the win, the 7th grade Lady Colts basketball teams took the court against the TLCA Lady Eagles.

The 7th grade A team defeated TLCA 30-11 with the help of high scorers Montse with 12 points, Molly with 10, and Koda with eight.

The 7th grade B team beat TLCA 30-9 with the help of players Alma with 16 points and Alicia with eight.

Both teams did a great job working on transitioning into a press after scoring and working on perfecting their zone defense said Coach LaTisha Sheets.

"We still have plenty of season left to work on implementing our offense and getting more points on the board," Sheets

said. The 8th grade Lady Colts came out to get a win under their belts as well.

The 8th grade B team started out the night playing man to man defense and trying to press on the make from the beginning.

The girls transitioned into a 1-3-1 zone for the second half to improve on their trapping.

Eight out of the 11 players scored against the Eagles with the highest scores from Ariana Arispe and Alexandra Cadenas with 10 points each. Ellie Edwards, Mariah Talamantes,

SEE LADY COLTS ON PAGE 10



Grayden

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Rural Communities' Untapped Potential for Growth

By Don Macke

The primary focus of economic development across America in recent decades has been the attraction and retention of businesses. Create an office park or industrial district, offer tax and other incentives, and lure companies to the site. Yet for much of America, especially the rural communities in which I have spent much of my life, that approach no longer works. Companies are simply not returning at a sufficient rate.

Fortunately, there is a better way. It takes more time but produces business and job growth organically that is rooted in the assets and resources of the local community and therefore not likely to leave town.

The Startup World's Debt to the Public Sector Deep in the Desert, an Experiment in Economic Development How Cities Can Nurture an Industrial Renaissance Cities and the Lessons of the Great Amazon Hunt A Tool for Growth That Benefits Everyone

The solution is to create a locally defined environment or ecosystem of entrepreneurship -- a culture and structure that facilitates the flow of ideas, talent and resources to start and grow businesses that relate to a community's specific environment. Perhaps surprisingly, the very same communities that may not be able to attract existing companies provide fertile ground for startups. I've seen it happen repeatedly, and there's proof.

The key is for rural communities to recognize that they have valuable

assets, one of which is the very nature of rural life. In an increasingly congested and impersonal world, there is great appeal to a close-knit community. The qualities associated with rural life are particularly conducive to the creation of entrepreneurial ecosystems and the free flow of information, skills and resources.

The challenge is, first, to move away from the old approach, which is so comfortable for many government officials. But that approach takes time, energy and resources away from creating an entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Building such an ecosystem requires assessing local assets and resources, engaging people associated with them, and creating mechanisms for bringing those people and prospective entrepreneurs together, ensuring that the people involved are broadly diverse and building a collaborative vision with energetic buy-in.

While the two approaches to growth could theoretically coexist, and may at some level, most communities have limited resources and must choose one or the other. That choice is crucial but made easier in a digital age, when opportunities to create dynamic local environments exist to a remarkable degree.

Entrepreneurial ecosystems offer opportunity that any community can embrace and pursue, especially ones that have watched the old approach leave them empty-handed. Holt County, Nebraska, is a great example, and typical of rural communities

in the Great Plains. The underlying economy is rooted in agriculture and ranching with some related manufacturing. The county's population peaked in 1920, when it had 17,000 people; today there are 10,000.

I started working there in the 1990s, when the economy had reached a crisis point. We created a county wide economic-development group committed to an entrepreneurship-focused strategy. It took time for that strategy to have demonstrable impact, but between 2007 and 2015 82 businesses were created in the county, according to the Nebraska Community Foundation. They range from boutiques to a hydroponic vegetable grower to a copper mug manufacturer. Over the same period, 39 existing businesses expanded and 26 transitioned to new owners. The 30-year-old age cohort grew by 30 percent.

A recent analysis highlights the development further. Between 2000 and 2015, employment in Holt County grew by 1,272 full and part-time jobs. Personal income grew by \$166,427,000, and per-capita income grew by \$19,887.

Local entrepreneurial ecosystems like Holt County's needn't exist in isolation. NetWork Kansas, one of the nation's

most comprehensive statewide entrepreneurial ecosystems with more than 500 resource partners, is generating impressive results while serving primarily small communities. Between 2008 and 2016, NetWork Kansas had an impressive level of impact: 590 businesses supported with financing resources; \$300 million in deal flow for new business development; \$15 million in NetWork Kansas-related financing; \$285 million in other capital leveraged; and nearly 3,000 net jobs created or saved.

On an even broader scale, this June the Kauffman Foundation, which champions entrepreneurship and education, convened the first-ever ESHIP Summit, drawing more than 400 ecosystem builders from 48 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, plus nine other countries. That geographic breadth underscores the point that ecosystem building is relevant across the nation and beyond.

Every community has assets that are valuable to ecosystem building and has the potential to build a growing entrepreneurship-focused economy. It doesn't come quickly, but it's available to everyone. That's something that cannot be said of traditional business attraction.

SONORA WEATHER FORECAST

Thu 11/30	Fri 12/01	Sat 12/02	Sun 12/03	Mon 12/04
72/47	71/47	74/53	75/50	73/48
Full Day of Sunshine	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny/Mild	Passing Morning Shower	Clouds/Sun
Sunrise 7:21 a.m. Sunset 5:41 p.m.	Sunrise 7:22 a.m. Sunset 5:41 p.m.	Sunrise 7:23 a.m. Sunset 5:41 p.m.	Sunrise 7:23 a.m. Sunset 5:41 p.m.	Sunrise 7:24 a.m. Sunset 5:41 p.m.

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Devil's River News Weekly Rainfall Report

November 1-30	0.17 in.	November 1-30	0.13 in.
October	0.11 in.	October	0.07 in.
September	3.83 in.	September	3.05 in.
August	1.82 in.	August	3.66 in.
July	4.21 in.	July	3.79 in.
June	3.07 in.	June	0.41 in.
May	3.68 in.	May	2.92 in.
April	1.23 in.	April	2.48 in.
March	0.79 in.	March	1.00 in.
February	1.36 in.	February	1.48 in.
January	2.40 in.	January	1.68 in.
2017 Year-to-Date Total	22.67 in.	2017 Year-to-Date Total	20.67 in.
2016	25.10 in.	2016	29.22 in.
2015	23.87 in.	2015	25.31 in.
2014	14.32 in.	2014	12.72 in.
2013	25.12 in.	2013	25.00 in.
2012	16.06 in.	2012	17.82 in.
2011	11.50 in.	2011	10.49 in.
2010	20.37 in.	2010	17.94 in.
2009	21.67 in.	2009	28.44 in.

Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 14 miles southeast of Sonora. Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 17 miles east-northeast of Sonora.

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CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS: Hurricane Recovery

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2
their own roofs."

HUD funds committed

In other hurricane-recovery news, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Nov. 17 awarded \$5 billion through a community development block grant program supporting the repair of damaged homes, businesses and critical infrastructure.

HUD Secretary Ben Carson said the agency would work with Abbott and his staff "to do whatever is needed to rebuild damaged homes and to restore shuttered businesses in some of the hardest-hit areas of the State."

U.S. Sens. John Cornyn and Ted Cruz acknowledged the importance of federal disaster aid to Texans who are continuing to suffer as a result of Hurricane Harvey and expressed support for the programs.

In September, President Trump signed legislation securing \$7.4 billion in funding for Harvey and major disasters, such as Hurricane Irma (Florida), Hurricane Maria (Puerto Rico) and the California wildfires.

Court blocks new law

Austin U.S. District Judge Lee Yeakel, in a Nov. 22 ruling, granted permanent injunctive relief to abortion providers who have been trying to prevent enforcement of a law passed last spring by the Texas Legislature.

The law would require a provider to perform an additional procedure to ensure fetal demise before continuing a dilation and evacuation abortion. Yeakel, in finding for the plaintiffs, said the additional procedure, which involves a lethal injection to a fetus in the

second trimester, would be invasive, risky and medically unnecessary.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said the state would fight the injunction in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Job growth continues

The Texas Workforce Commission on Nov. 17 reported that the state's economy added 71,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in October while annual employment growth was 2.6 percent for the month, marking 90 consecutive months of annual growth.

The agency also touted Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, which fell to 3.9 percent and set a record for the lowest unemployment rate recorded in four decades.

Notably, the agency pointed out, the leisure and hospitality employment category rebounded by adding 34,700 jobs in October after experiencing its largest monthly decline in September due to hurricane-affected business closures. Also, in 2017 to date, leisure and hospitality has gained 41,000 jobs, while trade, transportation and utilities employment grew by 10,300 jobs, and professional and business services expanded by 6,300 jobs.

The Amarillo and Midland Metropolitan Statistical Areas recorded the month's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.4 percent, followed by the College Station-Bryan MSA with a rate of 2.5 percent. The Austin-Round Rock and Lubbock MSAs registered a rate of 2.6 percent for October, Texas Workforce Commission reported.

Reader Recipes

"Sweet Potato Yum Yum"

Debbi Murphy has always loved her grandmother's Sweet Potato Yum Yum dish. She and her family enjoy it every year at this time. Debbi is an active member of the Sonora Woman's Club and her recipe is featured in the Woman's Club cookbook. Enjoy and Happy Holidays!

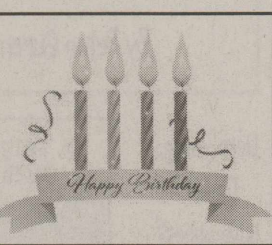
- 3 cups sweet potatoes, cooked & mashed
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2-4 TBSP butter, room temperature
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 TBSP vanilla

Preheat oven to 350° Mix ingredients and place in casserole dish.

Topping:

- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1/2 stick butter
- 1 cup chopped pecans

In small saucepan, melt butter. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Put on top of potatoes. Bake 20-30 minutes.



NOVEMBER

22nd Jim Brisbin

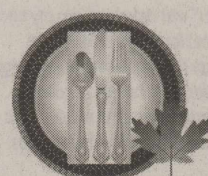
DECEMBER

- 1st Ruth Espy, Linda Wallace, Patsy Johnson, Jock Dutton, Irene Friess
- 2nd Barry Black, Olivia Longoria, Cassie Krieg, Glen Richardson, Kalle Mendez, Bobbie Lou Mayer
- 3rd Sam Perez, Kelly Holder, Gus Ward, Frank Lopez, Jacob Adams, Jayla Williams
- 4th Darla Lipham, Joe Fincher, Tabitha Sanchez-Abrego
- 5th Becki Harris, Gary Leonard, Erika Cambell, Jaylee Martin
- 6th Kaoja Valkonen
- 7th Micah Liggett

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Tuesday December 5

Beef Enchiladas, Pinto Beans, Salsa, Fiesta Corn, Tossed Salad, Brownie, Milk

Wednesday December 6

Baked Chicken, Au Gratin Potatoes, Gravy, Green Peas, Roll, Cake, Milk

Thursday December 7

Goulash, Mixed Vegetables, Wheat Roll, Mandarin Oranges, Milk

Friday December 8

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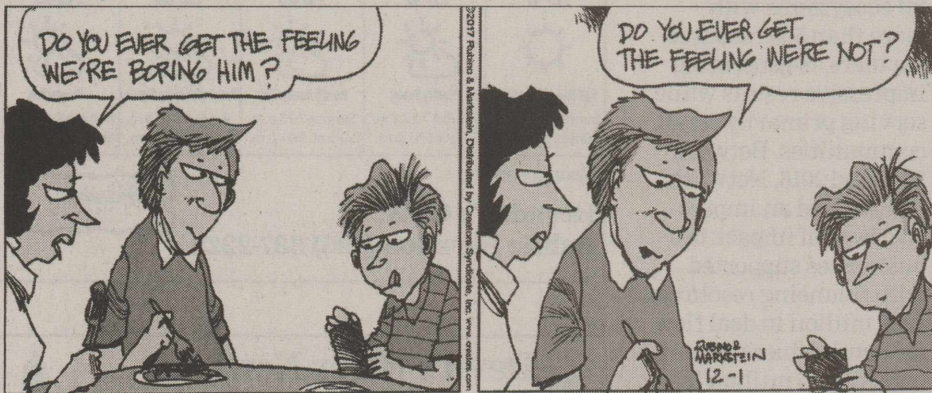
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DRN Comics

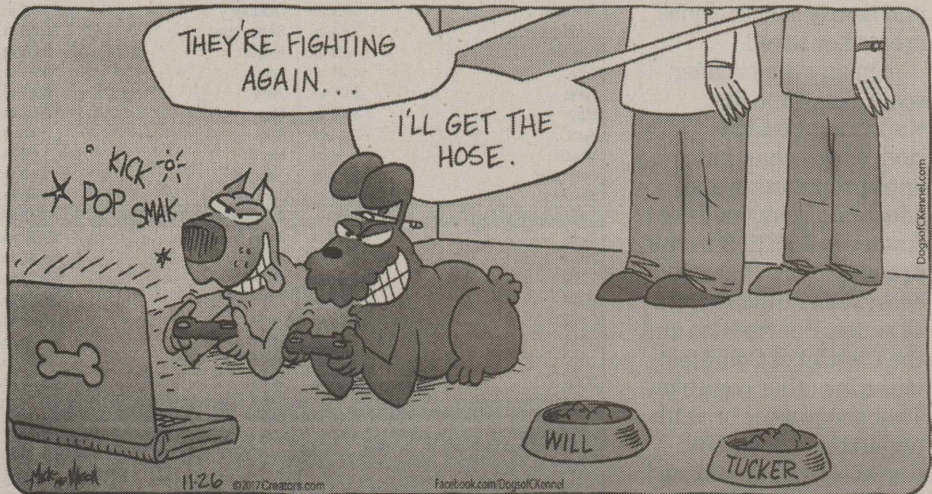
Daddy's Home

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



Dogs of C-Kennel

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni

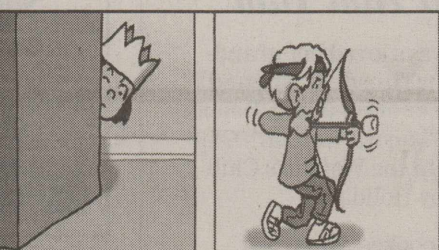
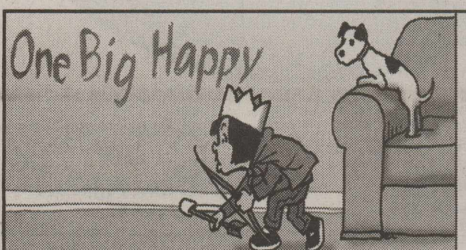


Strange Brew

by John Deering

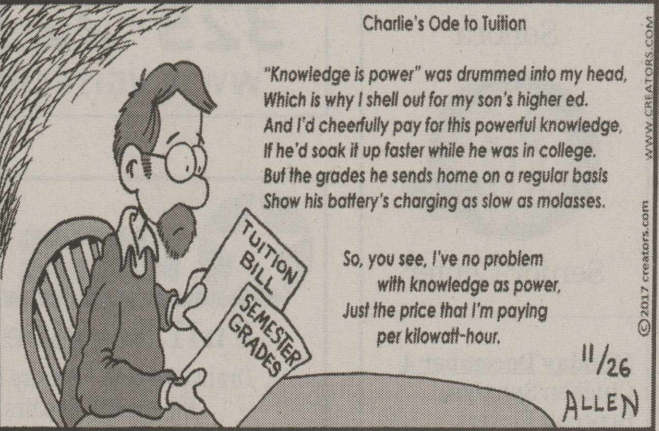
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Nest Heads

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Wizard of ID

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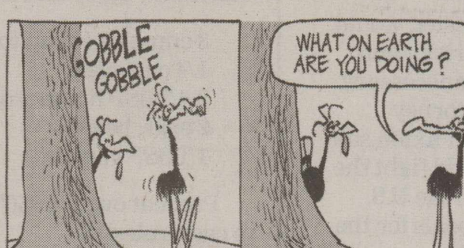
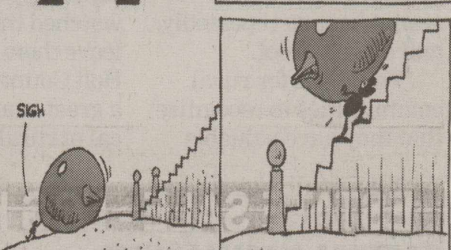
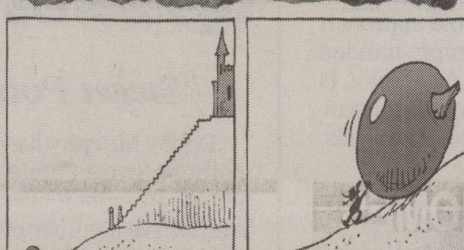
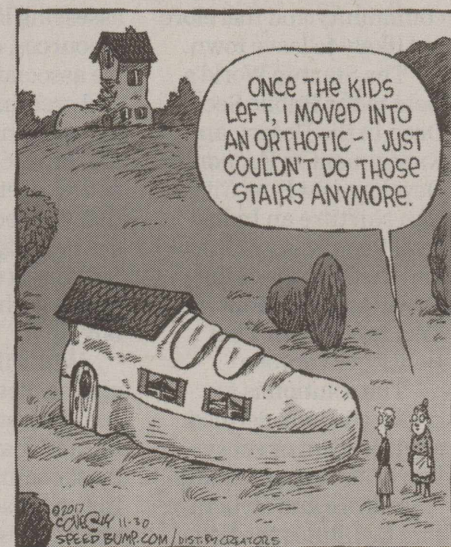


Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly



ASK SHAGG

By Peter Guren

SHAGG'S ANIMAL ANIMAL

THE INLAND TAIPAN IS PROBABLY THE MOST POISONOUS LAND SNAKE IN THE WORLD.

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Dear Shagg,
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Aydn Calhoun
Sioux Falls, SD

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★ ★

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

7

8

8 **KONG**

10

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State-funded Sensors Tracking Earthquakes in Texas

BY SHANNON NAJMABADI
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Three years ago, a series of quakes rattled North Texas — and some residents' nerves.

Larry Walden, a Parker County commissioner, remembers a public meeting at the time in which residents complained about cracked houses, damaged foundations and even a hen that had stopped laying eggs.

"They were minor earthquakes unless you're in an area affected by it," Walden said. "Then it's not minor."

So when a state-funded research team approached the county a year and a half ago about installing a sensor to track seismic activity on a piece of farmland, "we were more than happy," Walden said. Local officials were eager for "some outside agency to ... hopefully give us some feedback as to what was going on."

That sensor, installed last year, is just one node in a statewide network called TexNet that monitors quakes and tremors across Texas. Run out of the University of Texas at Austin's Bureau of Economic Geology, the program was created by the Legislature and Gov. Greg Abbott in 2015 after a series of temblors shook the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

Texas saw an uptick in quakes starting in 2008, and a growing body of research has linked fossil fuel activities — specifically the injection of oilfield wastewater into the ground — to the shaking. Industry representatives and state regulators have been wary of acknowledging a connection, arguing more detailed information is needed.

That's where the TexNet Seismic Monitoring program comes in. The goal is for the network of sensors, now collecting data across the state, to suss out the source of the tremors. "You have a very

complex issue, and a lot of people have tried to oversimplify it," said Steve Everley, a spokesman for the industry-funded group Texans for Natural Gas. "We need to get good data; we need to have good research. This is a program that obviously leads us toward that goal."

Peter Hennings, a research scientist with UT-Austin's Bureau of Economic Geology, said initial TexNet data shows "earthquakes happening in key areas in Texas that have really been known about for a few years" — mainly hubs of oil and gas production. As the program amasses more data, "we'll be able to start to look at the earthquake rate and ask the question, 'Is it increasing or decreasing in a given area?'" he said. "We're moving pretty swiftly in the direction of being able to provide answers."

A "vexed relationship"

Scientists have long established that injecting fluid deep underground — a technique used to dispose of oilfield wastewater — can trigger earthquakes. And in recent years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and researchers at Texas universities have pointed to the wastewater disposal process as a likely culprit behind shaking in the state.

Cliff Frohlich, a senior research scientist at the University of Texas at Austin who has studied seismicity for decades, said "some companies in [the] industry have been very forward-looking about getting some of their best people working on this," while "others have stuck their heads in the sand or been very secretive."

The Texas Railroad Commission, the state's oil and gas regulator, also has seemed to have a "vexed relationship" with the issue, Frohlich said. The commission has panned much of the research linking quakes to oil and gas activities. But in 2014, the agency approved regulations requiring disposal well operators to submit more geographical information and hired a staff seismologist.

"There's been, I'd say, a difference between

their sort of public face on that and their activities," Frohlich said.

The regulations allow for permits to be amended or wells shut down due to seismicity. Since they took effect, the commission has received 114 disposal well applications in "areas of historic seismicity," said Ramona Nye, a spokeswoman for the commission, in an emailed statement. Of those, 60 were issued with special conditions, including some related to injection volumes and pressure. Another 15 of the applications were returned or withdrawn.

"The commission has long recognized the possibility of induced seismicity related to fluid injection; that's why the [commission] has in place some of the most stringent rules in the nation to address the issue," she said.

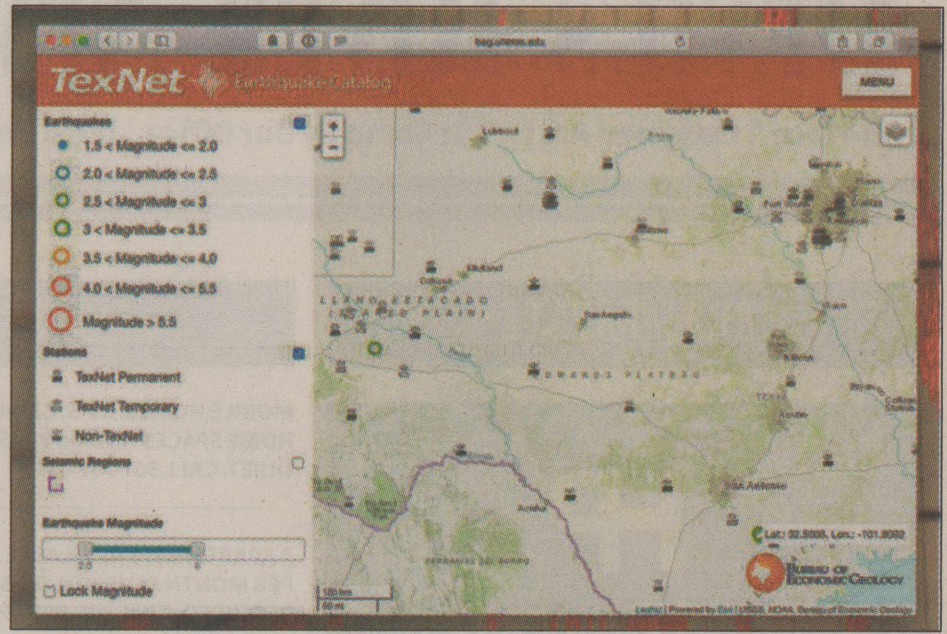
Everley, the Texans for Natural Gas spokesman, credited the Railroad Commission's regulatory overhaul with a subsequent decline in earthquakes in the state. In a risk assessment for 2017, the U.S. Geological Survey said the odds that a manmade earthquake would hit Texas this year had plummeted. The year before, the state was pegged as the third-most at-risk for them, behind only Oklahoma and Kansas.

But Luke Metzger, the director of the advocacy group Environment Texas, said that the oil and gas industry — backed by government regulators — continues to downplay the link between quakes and disposal wells. There's already a "body of science," he said; officials should now be taking steps to reduce the risk, such as recycling fracking water instead of injecting it into the ground.

"Better data, better information"

While the Railroad Commission oversees more than 8,000 deep disposal wells in Texas, Hennings said "just a tiny number of that 8,000" have been associated with earthquakes. TexNet's role is not "to try to pin individual wells as problems," he said. "We're looking at the process."

The TexNet program's creation in 2015 came with a \$4.5 million infusion from the state. With it, program leaders were able to buy dozens of seismometers — devices that monitor earthquakes — and bring on a team of



TexNet has placed sensors in seismic-sensitive areas across the state. The nearest sensor to Sonora is located just southeast of Junction. There is also a sensor about 32 miles west of Eldorado on the edge of Buckhorn Draw just north of U.S. 190, as well as others northeast of Del Rio, near Richland Springs, and northwest of Sterling City on the north side of U.S. 87.

ILLUSTRATION BY BUREAU OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY | UT/AUSTIN

researchers to wrangle the collected data into useable insight.

Two years later, the program has placed a grid of those sensors across the state. An interactive website that went live in October streams data from those monitoring stations to show every quake with a magnitude of 1.5 or greater.

Alexandros Savvaidis, a research scientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology, spent months meeting with landowners and scouting out possible sites for the sensors, which track when and how much the ground shakes.

"We had 18 stations before TexNet," Savvaidis said, referencing seismometers operated by Southern Methodist University researchers and the U.S. Geological Survey, a federal agency that generally tracks earthquakes with a magnitude

of 2.5 and greater.

"Now, in 2017, we have almost another 60" monitoring stations in the state, Savvaidis said. Permanent stations are spread evenly across the state like a backbone, Savvaidis said, while temporary stations have been deployed to places that reported seismic activity in recent years, including the oil-rich Permian Basin.

"The new network will give us the possibility to work more on the seismicity — to have better data, better information, that will help us understand this phenomenon," he said.

Todd Staples, president of the Texas Oil & Gas Association, an industry trade group, said the Legislature was smart to fund the TexNet program. Petroleum industry groups have also contributed more than \$1 million to related

research efforts.

"The data being produced is a good resource for academia and industry," Staples said in a statement. "All Texans benefit from good, science-based research."

Frohlich said seismicity research in Texas can be divided into two eras: pre- and post-TexNet. If the program continues to be funded, he said, it's "going to be a huge change in the way earthquake activity can be met, managed and analyzed."

"I can't say we've solved the induced earthquake problem," he said, "but we know a lot of things that we didn't know before."

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2017/11/24/website-tracks-tremors-across-state/>.

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 4

S	T	A	S	D	S	C	S	A	B	I	D	E	
T	A	L	A	I	T	E	A	S	L	O	E	S	
A	X	O	N	F	A	R	M	T	O	N	E	S	
G	I	F	T	O	F	G	A	B	A	W	A	R	E
E	S	T	A	T	E	A	U	R	A				
				O	R	E	G	R	E	F	E	R	S
G	R	A	D	E	L	O	N	G	U	T	A	H	
R	A	G	E	A	L	B	E	E	S	A	N	E	
A	R	I	A	T	E	E	M	G	E	L	I	D	
M	E	D	D	L	E								
				B	A	N	G	E	N	D	U	R	E
O	V	E	R	T	I	N	T	H	E	P	I	N	K
R	O	B	O	T	B	O	R	E	S	A	D	I	
B	L	O	K	E	E	L	I	A	E	T	O	N	
S	T	E	E	R	S	O	O	T	T	A	R	S	

Santa Is On His Way!

Meet him at The Bank & Trust for pictures and Christmas goodies

Thursday, December 7th
The Bank & Trust
5 to 7:30 p.m.



THE BANK & TRUST
Member FDIC
229 Hwy 277 North | 325.387.2593

Idle American

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Uncle Mort finds himself in as the holiday season begins. "I miss the good old days when conversations were about outcomes of football games rather than lawsuits or player fines," he moaned. "And customers leaving their latch strings out for Fed-Ex are liable to lose them in the same swoops they make to grab their outdoor Christmas lights..."

He believes Americans will continue to clamor for organic foods, no matter the cost. They may stop short, he claims, of buying a certain brand of turkey, purchase of which provides a written history of the bird from the egg to the processing plant.

"We are past saturation points, and now face daunting tasks of accepting less information. Currently, on every front I can think of, we've got way too much of it," Mort concluded....

LADY COLTS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Jarixa De Luna, Carolina Elizondo, Briana Espinosa, and Amaris Jimenez contributed points in the victory over the Eagles with a final score of 42-5.

Last to hit the floor for the night was the 8th grade A team.

The girls held the Eagles to a scoreless game until the fourth quarter.

Leading the scoring for the Lady Colts was Kodi Davis with 11 points. Jina Dooley, Jackie Torres, Abby Bennie, Abi Fuentes also added to the 29-4 victory over TLCA.

"The girls will continue to work on their knowledge of the game and skill set throughout the season. We will look to fine tune our offense and defenses and master the press before the end of

the season, Sheets said. Next, the Lady Colts play the Grape Creek Lady Eagles Thursday, December 7, 2017, in Grape Creek.

Games are set for 5:30 p.m. for 7th grade A and 8th grade B followed by the 8th grade A and 7th grade B at 6:30 p.m.

Everyone is encouraged to make the trip, fill the stands and cheer for the Lady Colts.

Tips to Avoid Holiday Hazards for Pets

By Julia Jones, Active Canines

It's that wonderful time of year once again, when yummy foods and festive décor can mean danger for your four-legged fur babies.

Items including turkey bones, holiday wrapping paper, ribbon for packages, tinsel for the tree and glass decorations low enough for a tail or a snout to reach are common hazards for pets.

We're talking about

- KING BLANK
- 7 PIN
- 12 COBRA
- 13 KONG
- 14 SIZE

9	4	1	2	8	3	6	7	5
7	6	3	9	1	5	2	4	8
5	2	8	7	6	4	1	9	3
4	5	2	1	3	8	9	6	7
3	7	6	5	4	9	8	1	2
1	8	9	6	2	7	3	5	4
8	3	7	4	9	6	5	2	1
2	9	4	8	5	1	7	3	6
6	1	5	3	7	2	4	8	9

turkey entrapment or ham bone hazards during the holiday season.

Remember the scene in A Christmas Story when the Bloodhounds come running through the house with a destroyed turkey dinner?

Oh, how your dog's eyes will glisten and beg for just one bite or a bone when the dinner is done.

But, do not give in to those sad and sorrowful looking eyes.

Turkey and chicken bones are small and can splinter into tiny shards when your dog is crunching and enjoying them resulting in an emergency trip to the vet. Bone shards can cause damage to a pet's tummy and intestine and surgery is sometime necessary.

Instead, a piece or two of bite-sized meat would be a perfect treat for your furry friend, assuming there are no food allergies to consider for your pet.

Make your pet work for that delicious morsel with a "Sit" or "Down" command, or any cue/trick, before giving it to him.

Your dog will enjoy the treat that much more.

Of course, don't forget about that swinging tail!

A dog's tail can knock off a fragile or glass ornament from your tree or table faster than you can catch.

This too can cause injury to pets.

Cats are just as vulnerable as dogs during the holiday season.

Thin ribbon, string and tinsel maybe fun for you to tease and play with your kitty, but you should use caution with these items.

Shiny tinsel can catch the eye of your cat and cause a serious choking hazard.

Thin ribbon, string or tinsel, if swallowed by a cat or dog, can bunch and twist in the stomach and intestines also sending your pet for an emergency trip to the vet.

As with dogs, a cat can also knock off a fragile or glass ornament thinking it's a fun toy.

With a little pet proofing, everyone can have a happy and merry holiday season.

Remember to consult your veterinarian for any questions or emergency involving your pet.