

School Supply List

...see Page 4

Handicap Accessibility Improves at Courthouse

...see details on Page 8



THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

JULY 29, 1999

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F.Y.I.

For Your Information

Space Shuttle Lights Up Sky

The Space Shuttle Columbia returned from orbit Tuesday night and was clearly visible from Eldorado as it re-entered the atmosphere almost directly overhead. The spacecraft appeared on the western horizon at 10:02 p.m. Tuesday night and left a glowing plasma trail in its wake as it streaked across the evening sky. Several local residents reported watching the event. Anyone interested in keeping tabs on future shuttle missions, including orbit and re-entry times may do so by checking the following website: <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/sighttext/index.html>

★★★★★

Consumer Fraud Hotline

Federal Trade Commission is making it easier-and cheaper- for consumers to report a fraud to the law enforcement agency through a toll-free Consumer Help Line, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357). The line is staffed by counselors from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Consumer fraud complaints to the FTC are entered into a database that is available to nearly 200 law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and Canada. They use it to spot fraudulent activity, trends and wrong-doers-and stop them.

★★★★★

Gone Fishing

The economic impact of fishing in Texas is more than \$6.3 billion. Over 2.6 million adult anglers spent \$2.8 billion in 1996 on various items including equipment and bait.

★★★★★

On This Date

On this date in 1754, the first international boxing match was held. Jack Slack of Great Britain KO'd Jean Petit of France. In 1773 the first schoolhouse west of the Allegheny Mountains was built in Schoenbrunn, OH. In 1786 "The Pittsburgh Gazette" became the first newspaper west of the Alleghenies. In 1958 the United States' space agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), was authorized by Congress. In 1981 England's Prince Charles married Lady Diana Spencer in a ceremony broadcast around the world.

Birthdays of note include: 1869 author Booth Tarkington; 1894 silent-screen actress Clara Bow; 1907 attorney Melvin Belli; 1924 actor Robert Horton; 1926 bowling champion Don Carter; 1934 actor Robert Fuller; and 1953 TV producer Ken Burns.

Eldorado Success collects more awards at WTPA convention

ABILENE — The Eldorado Success garnered four awards at the West Texas Press Association's (WTPA) annual convention, held in Abilene last weekend, including a 1st Place award in Editorial Writing. Other awards included 2nd Place in Photography, 2nd Place in Sports and 3rd Place in the Sweepstakes category. The Success also received Honorable Mention in the Advertising Composition, Column Writing, General Excellence, Newswriting and Special Section categories.

Kathy Mankin accepted the honors on behalf of the Success at an awards banquet held Saturday evening, July 24th at the Clarion Hotel in Abilene.

Randy Mankin, publisher of the Success, noted after the banquet that this year's WTPA Better Newspaper Contest was very competitive. By virtue of several 1st Place awards in the contest last year, the Success moved up to compete against larger newspapers this year.

"When a newspaper our size is

judged alongside papers like the Ft. Stockton Pioneer and the Fredericksburg Standard Radio-Post, it usually gets swamped by the competition," Randy Mankin said. "So, I was stunned when they announced that we won 1st Place in Editorial Writing."

Bob Dillard, publisher of the Martin County Messenger, Greenwood Ranger and Jeff Davis Mountain Dispatch presented the awards to the Success.

"Small towns are often judged by the strength of their local newspaper," Dillard stated. "Eldorado should be proud that the Success continues to be such an outstanding spokesman on behalf of its community."

Last month, the Success was honored by the statewide Texas Press Association at its convention in Galveston. At that meeting, the Success received the overall Sweepstakes Award after winning 1st Place awards in General Excellence, Page Design and Column Writing and 2nd Place awards in Editorial Writing and Photography.



photo by Kathy Mankin

Sweethearts of the Rodeo — This year's Rodeo Sweetheart candidates are (L-R): Britney Sellers and Corey Williams (junior candidates); and Whitney Edmiston and Nancy Cawley (senior candidates). A junior and senior Rodeo Sweetheart will be crowned during the 30th annual Eldorado Open Rodeo. The rodeo is slated for August 13th and 14th.

Administrator: It's business as usual at SCMC

Dr. Kingston's departure won't impact day-to-day operations

With Dr. Brian Kingston's departure from Schleicher County Medical Center scheduled for Friday, officials at the hospital announced this week that normal day-to-day operations at the facility will not be affected. Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook emphasized that the hospital district's contract with Shannon Medical Center is still in place and that Shannon is committed to providing emergency room coverage as well as continuing to operate the Schleicher County Family Clinic. She explained that Physician Assistant Ike Whitten will continue to see patients in the clinic. Whitten will be supervised by Dr. Marcus Sims of Ozona.

"Questions have been asked about who will be covering the ER in light of Dr. Kingston's resignation," Fagan-Cook said. "Nothing

has changed. We are still contracted with Shannon for ER coverage and they have indicated that they have physicians scheduled at least 6-weeks in advance."

Fagan-Cook continued by saying that she is working closely with Shannon Hospital officials in locating a full-time doctor for the hospital. "We began looking for a permanent physician three weeks ago, the instant we learned that Dr. Kingston would be leaving," Fagan-Cook said. "I'm committed and I'm sure Shannon is committed to finding us at least one good doctor."

Fagan-Cook's announcement came during the Schleicher County Hospital District's monthly board meeting. On hand for that meeting were trustees Ricky Fuessel, Delia Pina, Judy Christian, Randy Mankin Tom Enochs and Brian

Edmiston. Trustee Lanis Mikeska was absent.

The meeting began with the board meeting in executive session for the discussion contract negotiations. Joining the board behind closed doors was Linda Knightstep of Shannon Medical Center. When the board emerged into open session it was announced that contract negotiations with Shannon will continue to move forward.

In other business, the board heard a report from Ann Fagan-Cook that a new program designed to guarantee the survival of rural hospitals could be beneficial to the district. She explained that the "Critical Access Hospital Program" could generate additional revenue for the district.

Fagan-Cook told the board that if SCMC became a Critical Access

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



photo by Kathy Mankin

Congratulations — Skip Nichols (L), outgoing president of the West Texas Press Association, presented Success publisher Randy Mankin (R) with a 1st Place plaque in the Editorial Writing category at the WTPA's Better Newspaper Contest. The contest was held in conjunction with the WTPA's annual convention which was held in Abilene last weekend. The Success received a total of four awards in the contest.

Sales tax holiday slated Aug. 6-8

Summer is in full swing, but Texas families might want to start thinking about their back-to-school shopping. Why? Thanks to Senate Bill 441, which the Legislative passed and Governor Bush signed earlier this year, Texas families will enjoy 72 hours or tax-free shopping in early August.

On August 6th at 12:05 a.m. through August 8th ending at midnight, Texans will enjoy the first-ever Texas sales tax "holiday." Items of children's and adult clothing, and non-athletic shoes, costing less than \$100 will be completely exempt from state and local sales taxes. Texas leaders estimate this sales tax holiday will save Lone State State consumers \$69.2 million.

TAX FREE ITEMS: baby clothes; bathing suits; belts with attached buckles; boots-cowboy; hiking; bras; bridal apparel (not rentals); caps/hats-baseball; fishing, golf, knitted; choir robes;

coats and wraps; costumes; diapers-adult and baby; dresses, formal clothing, gloves (generally); gym suits and uniforms, hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts; hosiery, jackets, jeans, jerseys-baseball and football; jogging apparel, such as bras, suits and shorts; lingerie, neckwear and ties, pajamas, pants and trousers, raincoats and ponchos, robes, shirts, shoes-sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking; socks (including athletic); shorts; suits, slacks and jackets; sweat suits; sweatshirt, sweaters, swim suits and trucks; tuxedos (not rentals); underclothes, work clothes and uniforms.

TAXED ITEMS: accessories (generally-barrettes, elastic pony tail holders, wallets, watches; backpacks, baseball cleats and pants, belt buckles (without belt); boots-climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders; buttons

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

School trustees to discuss fate of Kids Kampus

Schleicher County ISD trustees will meet Monday evening, August 2, 1999, to discuss the future of the Pre-Kindergarten campus, commonly known as Kids Kampus. School Superintendent Hal Porter has been directed to present the trustees with information at that time regarding the possible expansion or closure of the facility.

In a meeting held last Monday evening, July 26th the board, for the third time, discussed how to fill the teaching position at the Kids Kampus, left vacant by the resignation of Shari Wink. Supt. Porter had previously recommended that the position be filled by transferring a teacher from the elementary school. That move would reduce the number of grade-level classroom teachers in elementary from 13 to 12, the same number employed before the 1997-98 school year, when an unusually large class entered 1st grade and an extra teacher was hired.

That proposal didn't set well with some of the trustees who twice offered motions to direct Supt. Porter to hire a teacher to fill the Kids Kampus position. The first motion came at a meeting on Friday, July 16th and the second came last Monday night. Both times, the motion failed to garner the needed votes.

However, this time discussion turned to whether the district even needs the Kids Kampus. It was explained that the federal government's Head Start program is designed to identify and address disadvantaged students who need an educational boost before entering kindergarten. In recent years, the school has only identified six such students.

"Years ago the board thought it would be best if the disadvantaged students could be pooled with the non-disadvantaged students, and that approach has proven successful here," stated Hal Porter.

He explained that 18 non-dis-

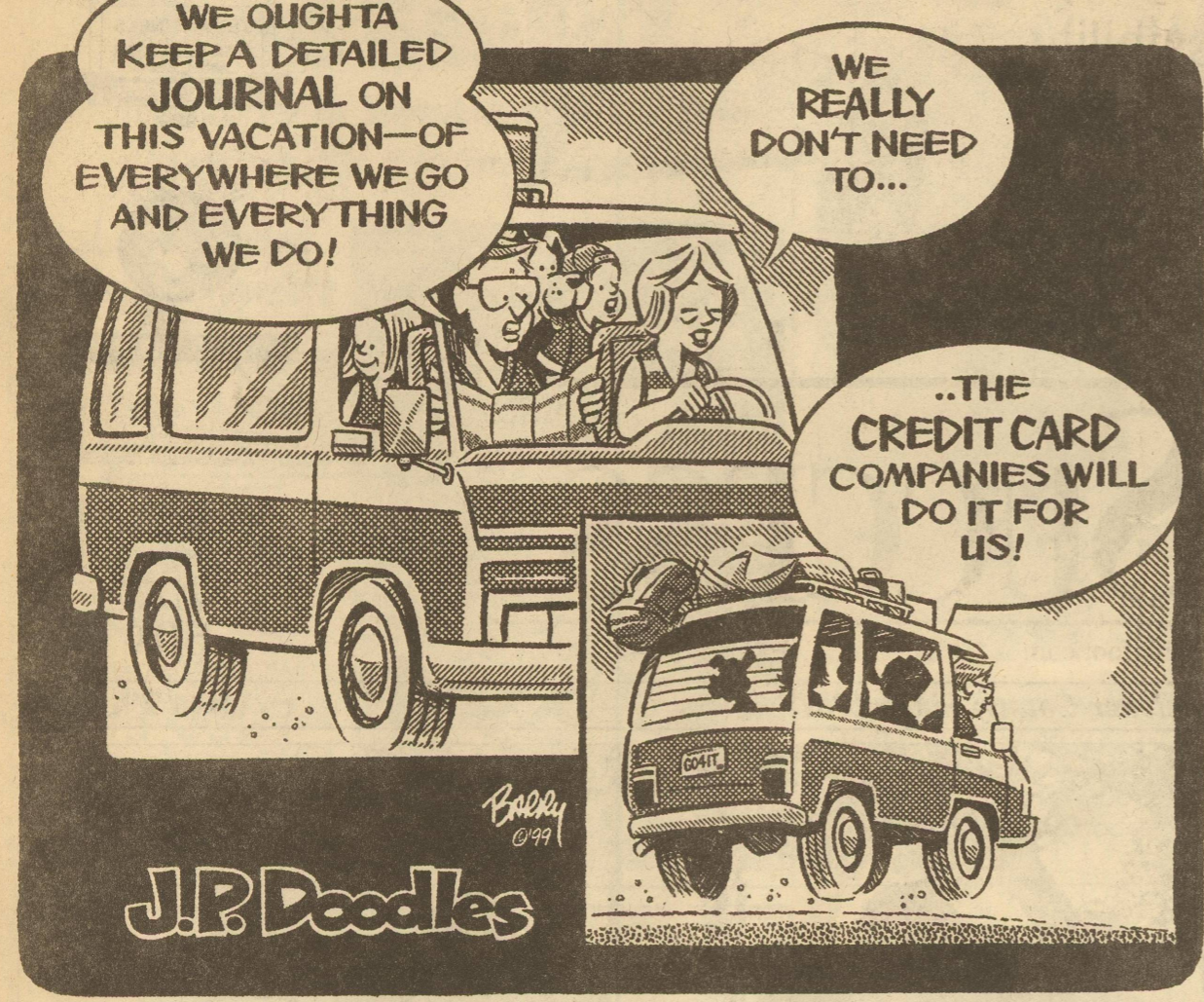
advantaged students have been integrated into the program. But, SCISD only receives government funding for the six disadvantaged students. The school district picks up the tab for the remaining 18 children.

That prompted discussion about whether there was a need for the school district to continue with the program when the Catholic Church is already operating a Head Start program. Trustee Berta Nicholson also questioned why the Kids Kampus was limited to 24 students when as many as 10 students per year are denied admission.

The board members directed Supt. Porter to provide them with information at the called meeting on Monday, August 2nd regarding possible expansion and possible closure of the Kids Kampus.

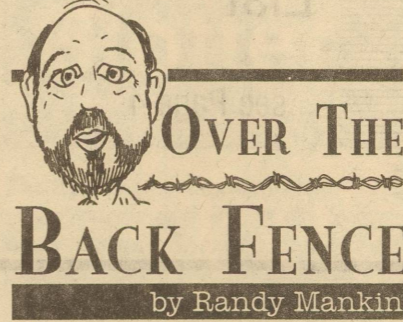
The board then learned that the school was having difficulty in locating a mathematics teacher to fill

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



J.P. Doodles

Otherwise, Mrs. Lincoln, how was the play?



OVER THE BACK FENCE
by Randy Mankin

Kathy and I went to Abilene last weekend for the West Texas Press Association's annual convention. It was a great meeting and we really enjoyed the various conferences and workshops. The only downside to the entire weekend was the hotel where the convention was held.

It seems that shortly after the arrangements for the convention were made the hotel changed ownership. My first hint that something was amiss came as we checked in. The young man, and I cannot emphasize enough the word "young", wasn't especially fluent in the English language. Hopes for a pleasant stay dimmed greatly when I later learned that this same fellow was also the hotel manager.

To begin with, the air conditioning in our room didn't work very well. But, before I complained, I learned from Rick Craig of the Hood County News that his AC wasn't working at all. To their cred-

its, the hotel management rushed to Rick's assistance...they gave him a box fan and told him to leave his door open.

We arrived in Abilene early Friday morning and attended two morning meetings before heading to a noon luncheon. The meal was served poolside in the hotel's atrium. There was a guest speaker from West Texas Utilities, but I didn't hear much of what he said since the noise of children playing in and around the pool reverberated through the cavernous room.

Then, there were crickets in our room. Not many crickets, mind you, but enough. We thought we had killed them all the first night we were there. But, at about 3 a.m., the survivors, no doubt grieving for their fallen comrades, began singing dirges in the dark.

The following day brought another round of morning workshops before a noon luncheon, where we gathered to pay tribute to the memory of O.G. "Speedy" Nieman, former publisher of the Hereford Brand. Several of Speedy's former colleagues spoke eloquently of their friend who had passed away this year. It was a solemn occasion and the hotel did hold the noise down by closing the swimming pool during the luncheon.

But, while we met, dozens of young children with inflated pool

toys sat glaring at us. I'm sure the hotel staff told the kids that we were the reason they couldn't swim.

After another round of meetings Saturday afternoon, the group gathered once again in the atrium for a reception to honor our outgoing president, Skip Nichols of the Wise County Messenger. But, the hotel management had forgotten that the reception was scheduled. In fact, the chairs and tables from our earlier luncheon still occupied the spot where the reception was to be held, as did the buffet, complete with leftover food from several hours before.

The reception was scrapped and the group headed to the banquet room for dinner and the presentation of awards to individual newspapers. I'm still not sure how they did it, but the hotel managed to pack all of us, our families and guests into one of the tiny rooms we had been using for workshops. Those sitting near the buffet line had it particularly bad as we all squeezed by their tables in hopes of reaching the food.

Then, after the meal was over, and awards were distributed to individual newspapers, the West Texas Press Association recognized Gene Dow, publisher of the Seminole Sentinel with the "Harold Hudson Award" in recognition of a lifetime of service to the newspaper industry in West Texas. Just as the presentation was being made, the public address system failed.

At precisely that moment, an auctioneer in an adjoining room began bellowing at the top of his lungs. I don't have a clue what the fellow was selling, but if it had been the Clarion Hotel I promise you he wouldn't have gotten any bidders in our room.

\$23,000 raise approved for criminal justice chief

AUSTIN — Wayne Scott, executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice since 1996, has been approved to receive a \$23,000 increase to his \$127,000 annual salary.

The new state budget, which takes effect Sept. 1, allows Scott and other agency chiefs to be paid as much as \$150,000 a year.

Allan Polunksy, chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice which oversees the criminal justice agency, said he will recommend the raise for Scott.

As head of the agency, Scott is responsible for a \$2 billion a year budget, 40,000 employees and 145,000 inmates.

Also approved by the state Legislature were raises for other agency chiefs, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported last week, including: the commissioner of the Texas Department of Human Services, from \$105,000 to \$150,000; the commissioner of Texas Health and Human Services Commission, from \$125,106 to \$150,000; the commissioner of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, from \$135,000 to \$140,000; the director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, from \$90,000 to \$102,000; and the executive director of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, from \$90,000 to \$115,000.

State Capital Highlights

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Compiled by Ed Sterling

This year, the Legislature also approved a \$100 a month pay raise for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's 23,755 guards.

The starting salary for a prison guard is \$17,000, and low pay is one reason the agency has more than 1,000 job openings in its system of 112 prisons and jails.

Education Chief Applies at Tech
Texas Education Commissioner Dr. Mike Moses has applied for the position of deputy chancellor for external affairs at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Moses, who has served as commissioner of education since 1995, submitted his application at the urging of Tech Chancellor John Montford, according to Debbie Graves Ratcliffe, senior director of the Texas Education Agency's division of communications and public information.

Moses and Montford's friendship goes back to Moses' term as superintendent of Lubbock Independent School District. Then, Montford was a state senator representing Texas Senate District 28, which includes Lubbock.

"It also gives them the resources available to prepare for the possibility that students today may act in a violent manner," Moses added.

"As the father of two public high school students, I'm encouraged by what I've heard today," Cornyn said. "The practical advice of these experts will give our schools the programs and strategies to make our schools safe."

Future meetings of the task force have been set for Sept. 7 in Lubbock, Nov. 8 in Houston and Feb. 3, 2000 in Dallas.

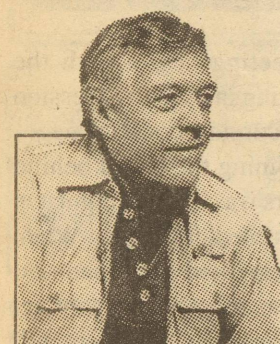
According to Texas Education Agency statistics, there were 200,000 assaults against students and 18,000 assaults against teachers reported in the last four academic years.

In the same period, more than 31,000 weapons were confiscated in schools and 85,000 acts of vandalism or criminal mischief against schools or student property were reported.

Other Highlights
• Nearly 90,000 items from abandoned safe deposit boxes will be sold to the highest bidder on Oct. 2, at the state's next unclaimed property auction in Austin. Jewelry, coins and currency, stamps, historical documents, and other collectibles and curiosities will go on the auction block, state Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander announced last week.

• Retailers and shoppers can get details about the Aug. 6-8 sales tax holiday from the Texas comptroller's easily accessible web site:

www.window.state.tx.us
Items listed — primarily school attire and supplies — will be exempt from state, city and county sales taxes.



ROLLING ALONG

WITH TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Some Hazards of Slow Driving

Jo Bird has been stopped for speeding in Rockdale. She lives three miles from the city limits and has a tendency to drive a little fast when she goes to town. Her husband, Jack, on the other hand, is a slow driver. "He's a real menace," says Jo. "He does not believe in turn signals."

One day Jo and Jack were in town in Jack's pickup. That's sort of a rare thing because Jo usually does not do pickups, especially those duellies, the ones that have four wheels in the rear and look like if they run over something in the street they'll turn around, come back and eat it. "Those things will run you right over," says Jo. One did and totaled her car.

Anyway, she and Jack were doing some errands and Jack was driving real slow in downtown Rockdale. Jo leaned over and asked her husband, "Hon, who we sneakin' up on?"

Jack sometimes gets irritated when Jo says things like that.

Another time they were creeping along and Jo was thinking that someone was going to crash into them from behind. "I was afraid one of those duellies was gonna cream us and knock us all the way to California." Jo said, "I think we've got a problem over here, Hon." Jack slowed down even more and asked Jo what she meant. Jo told him, "We've got a dog running along wettin' on the wheel."

When Jo was growing up, her dad used to call her Dude. She was the oldest of six children in the

family. "One time I was trying to tell three of the younger kids they would get hurt if they jumped off a chicken house on our property. That thing was about six feet tall, about as tall as my daddy, who built the thing."

"Those kids were just determined that they were gonna climb up on that chicken house and jump off. I kept telling them would get hurt if they did it, but they wouldn't believe me."

"I'm supposed to be Mom's smartest kid, see. I got up there and jumped off to show those three kids that it really would hurt them. And Boy, was I right. Next time I woke up I was looking up into three little bitty faces looking down at me, terrified because they thought they had killed me. That jump knocked me out colder than a cucumber."

She never had any trouble about that chicken house again.

Jo encourages visitors to call before they come to see her. If you drive out to see her without warning, she's liable to come to the door in her gown, robe, woolly socks and Big Bird T-shirt. "No make-up, no hair-do and no personality," says Jo. "I've even had people jump back, look startled and say, 'Jo, is that you?' Who do they expect? Liz Taylor?"

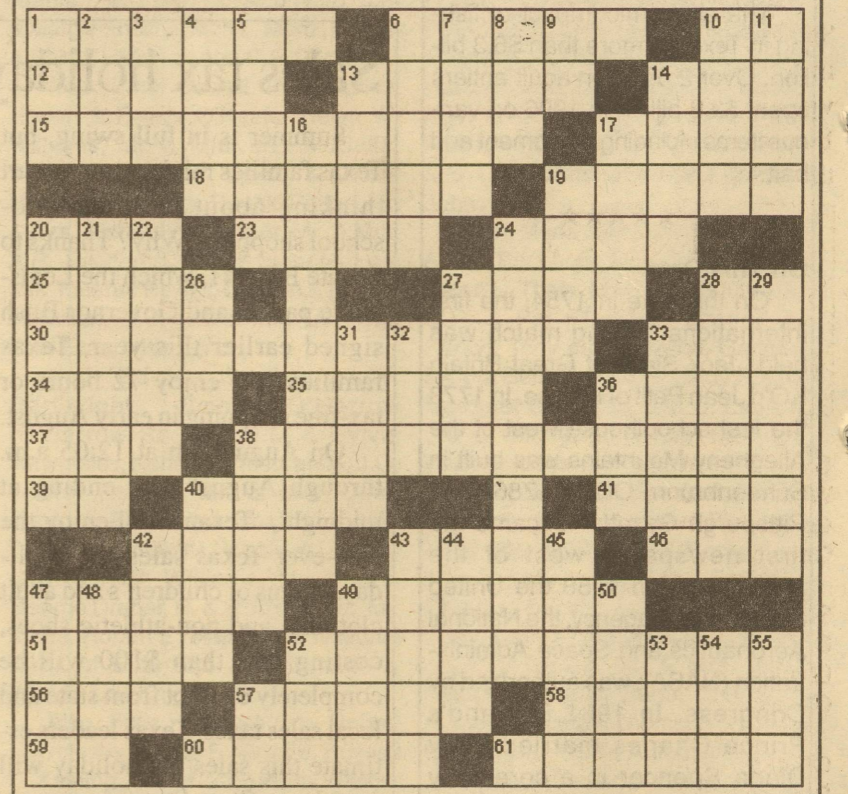
Jo is fun. She laughs a lot. Her sense of humor is world class. She is an excellent story-teller in describing her everyday experiences. She wants her tombstone to read "She had a good time." Seems fitting.

School Violence Topic of Meeting
Texas Attorney General John Cornyn and Texas Education Commissioner Moses were in San Antonio July 15 for the first meeting of the Attorney General's School Violence Task Force.

One of the goals of the task force is to ensure that every school district has a crisis management plan. Moses, co-chairman of the task force, said the effort brings parents, community leaders, teachers and principals together in a forum in which they can share ideas for solutions to campus violence.

HOMETOWN CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1. Elephant driver
 - 6. Body snatcher
 - 10. Degrees on the centigrade scale
 - 12. Particular geographical regions
 - 13. Occur as a consequence
 - 14. Misery
 - 15. 1901 founder of the Eldorado Success
 - 17. Unit of time onboard ship
 - 18. Hindu garments
 - 19. Primary
 - 20. Globe
 - 23. Fine ravellings of cotton or linen fibers
 - 24. Legal document issued by a court or judicial officer
 - 25. 500 sheets
 - 27. Complain bitterly
 - 28. Everest or Kilimanjaro
 - 30. Primary industry in Schleicher County
 - 33. Charge for professional services
 - 34. 1.3 ounces in Asia
 - 35. Gear projection
 - 36. Jamboree
 - 37. Ancient
 - 38. Treat with aromatic oil
 - 39. Hawk-headed sun god
 - 40. Drill
 - 41. Currency in Western Samoa
 - 42. Christopher Columbus
 - 43. Pioneer
 - 44. Breathe noisily
 - 45. A metric unit of volume or capacity
 - 47. Indulge one's impulses
 - 49. Far northern regions
 - 51. Perceive auditorily
 - 52. Merchant Marine petty officers
 - 56. Liturgical vestment
 - 57. Slang parent's sister
 - 58. Greek harps
 - 59. 300 to 3000 kilohertz abbr.
 - 60. Dark region on the surface of the moon
 - 61. Persian dialect spoken in Russia
- DOWN**
- 1. Slang raincoat made from rubberized fabric
 - 2. Macaws
 - 3. Not him
 - 4. Earliest propellers
 - 5. Common experience
 - 6. Recognize
 - 7. Not his
 - 8. 1948 league of nations in Western Hemisphere
 - 9. Great Britain
 - 10. Genus of African nut bearing trees
 - 11. Exchange for something of value
 - 13. Once
 - 14. Palmer ____; former Eldorado Fire Chief
 - 16. Branch of a main stream
 - 17. Money posted by a bondsman
 - 19. Soft creamy white cheese
 - 20. Public speaker
 - 21. Treat
 - 22. Stripped
 - 24. An experienced person with a long record of service
 - 26. 1/6400 of a complete revolution
 - 27. Sultan of Swat
 - 28. Indication of gastrointestinal bleeding
 - 29. Herbaceous plant
 - 31. Largest city of Togo
 - 32. Nickname of longtime Eldorado resident, E.H. Topliffe
 - 33. Destined
 - 36. Natural ____, clean burning Schleicher County product
 - 38. Shelter
 - 40. With 43D South African bloodlines recently introduced to Schleicher Co.
 - 42. Gloomy
 - 43. With 40D recent addition to Schleicher Co. ranches
 - 44. Imitative of art
 - 45. Ratchet mechanism
 - 47. Pillow cover
 - 48. Informal term for money
 - 49. Study intensively
 - 50. Places
 - 52. Small surgical bit
 - 53. Anger
 - 54. Profit
 - 55. Compass point
 - 57. Arts degree



This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:

Kerbow Funeral Home
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ELDORADO SUCCESS

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Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication only if they are signed and are accompanied with a day and night phone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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MEMBER 1999
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION 1999 AWARD WINNER

OBITUARIES

Clinton C. Luedecke

Clinton C. Luedecke, beloved husband of Beatrice Luedecke (nee Bauman), was received into the arms of his heavenly Father on Tuesday July 20, 1999, in Tacoma, Wash. He was born in Eldorado, Texas, to William and Margaret Luedecke on April 17, 1907. He is survived by his wife, Beatrice Luedecke, and their children Carol Helmuth, Margo Scott, and John Luedecke. He also is survived by his grandchildren, Jon and Karl Kuenn of Colorado, Travis Luedecke of California, and Nicole and Sam Luedecke of Texas. He leaves behind three

great-grandchildren. Brothers and sisters preceding him to Heaven were Woodrow, Garnet, Opal, Bruce and Orville. His only surviving sister is Mozelle Luedecke.

Clint served his country in the Army Air Corps in North Africa during World War II. He was a rancher and a member of the Lutheran Church.

Services for Clint were held at the First Baptist Church of Eldorado on Monday, July 26, with the Rev. Robert Sawall officiating. Interment followed in Eldorado Cemetery. Arrangements were by Johnson's Funeral Home.

Vernon Dale Phillips

February 9, 1933 - July 7, 1999

Vernon Dale Phillips was born February 9, 1933 on the family farm in Eastland County to Homer Secundus Sr. and Nora Melton Phillips. He attended Pioneer and Cross Plains schools. While at Cross Plains High School he was an outstanding athlete excelling in football lettering all four years, making the all district team and being chosen by the Abilene Reporter News as an All Star Player of West Central Texas.

After graduating in 1952 Vernon worked for the Telephone Company in Turkey, Texas. Later he moved to Cisco, Texas where he met Glenda Boyd, a student at Cisco Junior College. They married on January 2, 1955 at her family farm near Owens, Texas and then moved to West Texas where he worked in the oil fields of Brownfield, Rankin, and Plains. While living in Plains Vernon and Glenda were baptized into the church in 1957. The same year they came to Cross Plains, bought a farm, and Vernon worked for the Kizer Telephone Company. On the farm they raised peanuts, hay, cattle and goats.

Three son, Glen Dale, Allen, and Howard were born in the following years.

In the early sixties Vernon built

a cable tool drilling rig and spent the next several years farming and drilling water wells for the public. In the mid-seventies he and his sons built a rotary rig which they completed in 1978., Phillips and Sons Drilling Company drilled oil wells with this rig throughout Central Texas.

Vernon served on the Cross Plains school board for nine years and served as president for six years. He also served on the boards of A.S.C.S., Pioneer Co-op, Liberty and Pioneer Cemeteries.

Vernon was a dedicated Bible student, and truly loved the church. He served as an elder and Bible teacher in Cross Plains Church of Christ. He was currently a member of the Rising Star Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife Glenda, three sons, Glen Dale, and his wife Sonya, Allen and his wife Janice, and Howard, and seven adorable grandchildren: Blake, Kali, Kendall, Krista, Breana, Kosta and Logan. He also leaves two brothers, Homer Secundus Jr., and Bobby Phillips of Eldorado, two sisters, Minnie Roberts and Nancy Wolf and numerous nieces and nephews.

Vernon was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Bill and James Cloud.

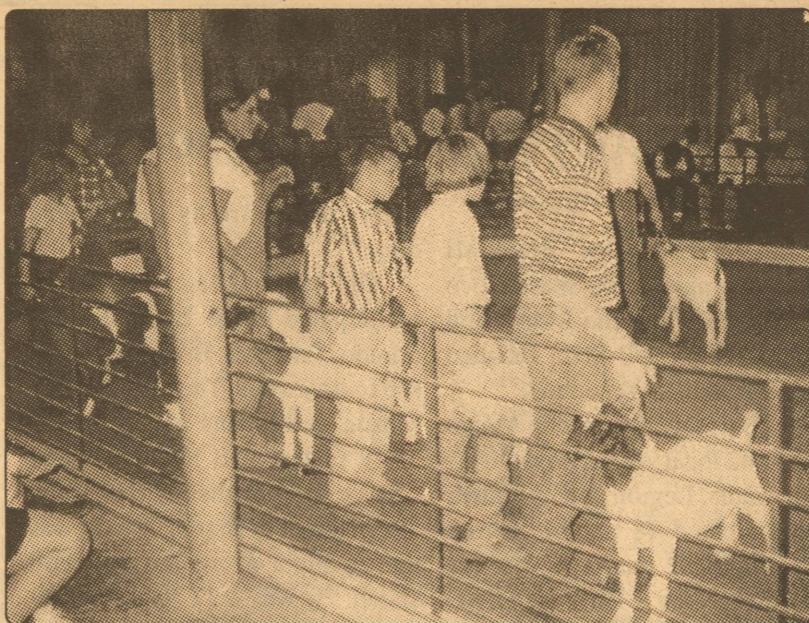


photo by Scott Edmondson

Line 'em up — Local youths participated in the 4-H Meat Goat Classic at the showbarn recently.

4-H holds Meat Goat Classic

by Scott Edmondson

On July 10th, 1999 over 250 people attended the annual Schleicher County 4-H Meat Goat Classic held here in Eldorado. Youth from as far away as Robstown came to exhibit their meat goat projects in the annual event. There were 89 exhibitors showing a total of 234 meat goats. Many local volunteers and supporters assisted with the show and/or donated prizes to be awarded to the youngsters. The event was started a few years back to give the youth of Texas an opportunity to exhibit their meat goat projects. This was a Junior Meat Goat Show Circuit sanctioned show and winners are awarded points that will accumulate over the year and the top point getters will receive additional prizes.

Grand Champion honors went to Zachary Andrade of Coleman and Reserve Champion Honors went to Laci Cornett of McCamey. There was also a showmanship

show divided into Peewee, Junior and Senior divisions. In the Peewee division, Haley Higgins was 4th, Wes Brown was 9th, Jaymie O'Harrow was 12th and Miles Mikeska was 14th. In the Junior division, Allison Reynolds was 11th and in the Senior division, Ben Edmiston was 9th.

Our local 4-Hers did an excellent job and the volunteers and supporters are greatly appreciated. They are what makes the show so successful. Congratulations to all the winners.

Local youth exhibiting in the show included: Frank Edmiston, Ben Edmiston, Neal Higgins, Miles Mikeska, Briley Leggett, Bryce Leggett, Jaymie O'Harrow, Kayla Kohls, Wes Brown, Haley Higgins, and Allison Reynolds. In class one, goat ranging from 43-56 pounds, Neal Higgins placed 3rd, Ben Edmiston placed 8th and Frank Edmiston placed 10th. In the 3rd Class, goats ranging from 62-66 pounds, Wes Brown placed 10th. In class 5, goats ranging from 72-76 pounds, Kayla Kohls placed 2nd. In class 6, goats ranging from 77-83 pounds, Miles Mikeska placed 14th.

Mankin elected to board of West Texas Press Association

ABILENE — Randy Mankin, publisher of the Eldorado Success, was elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the West Texas Press Association at the group's annual convention in Abilene last weekend. It is Mankin's first stint on the group's governing body.

The election of directors and officers was conducted Saturday morning, July 24th at the WTPA's annual business meeting. Joining Mankin on the board as first year directors is Roy Robinson, publisher of the Graham Leader, Mary Dudley, editor of the Perryton Herald and Derek Tidwell of Hood County News. Second year directors are Bob Dillard publisher of the Jeff Davis Mountain Dispatch, Greenwood Ranger and Martin County Messenger, Joe Warren,

editor of the Ft. Stockton Pioneer, Sherrie Geistweidt, editor of the Fredericksburg Standard Radio-Post, and Robert Burns of Sprint.

WTPA officers for the year are: President Jeff Berger, publisher, Hondo Anvil Herald; 1st Vice President Kari Collins, advertising director, Iowa Park Leader; 2nd Vice President Marshall Day, Gainesville Register; Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Kelley of Abilene; and Chairman of the Board Skip Nichols, editor, Wise County Messenger.


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County plans official welcome for Russian visitors today

Four Russian citizens will be officially welcomed to Schleicher County on Thursday, July 29, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom. Greeting the four will be County Judge Johnny Griffin, Justice of the Peace Jimmy Doyle, District Clerk Peggy Williams, County Attorney Marion Overstreet and County Treasurer Karen Henderson. The public is also invited to attend and meet the visitors.

Among the visitors will be Olga Sandoviknova, chief editor of the independent TV station "Novokuibyshevskoye TV", Igor Borisovich Abakumov, editor of the newspaper "Krestyanskie Ve-

domosty", Aleksander Molchun, a physician at the Karelia Republic Skin and Venerology Dispenser and translator Vera Kondratieva.

The group will be visiting Eldorado and surrounding areas for the next 10 days experiencing democracy in action. Everyone is encouraged to turn out and give these visitors a warm West Texas greeting!


Meals for Friends Menu



- Monday, August 2**
Oven Fried Chick Breast w/W.G., Whipped Potatoes, Seasoned Mixed Greens, Corn Bread, Cubed Canaloupe, Gelatin Parfait, Milk
- Tuesday, August 3**
Soft Tacos w/Cheese, Pinto Beans, Corn w/Sweet Pepper, Chopped Lettuce & Tomato, Mixed Fruit with Canaloupe
- Wednesday, August 4**
Chicken Strips w/Gravy, Baked Potato, Broccoli w/Cheese Sauce, Dinner Roll, Peach Cobbler, Milk
- Thursday, August 5**
Hot Dog w/Chili & Cheese, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Bun, Tapioca Pudding, Brownie, Milk
- Friday, August 6**
Fried Fish w/Tartar Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, Lima Beans, Corn Bread, Sliced Strawberries, Milk

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Co. Commissioners Court meets

The Schleicher County Commissioners Court met Monday, July 26th with Commissioners Johnny Mayo, Bill Clark and County Judge Johnny Griffin in attendance. Commissioners Ross Whitten and Steve Minor were absent.

After approving the minutes from the previous meeting, the court met with representatives of the Eldorado Golf Club, Curtis Griffin and Wayne McGinnes. The men inquired about the schedule for moving the airport runway and asked that the Golf Club be allowed to expand its course into the area where the current runway is located, once the facility is moved. They explained that the golf club wanted to lengthen some of its holes in order for the course to be certified as a regulation 9-hole course.

No action was taken on the item, however the court advised Griffin and McGinnes that the county had no other plans for the area, except for the possibility of relocating the airport hangars to the north end of the new runway.

In other business, the court okayed payment of County Clerk Peggy Williams' training expenses and accepted 8 ceiling fans which the Mias Amigas Club had donated to the county for use in the Memo-

Sales tax holiday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and zippers; cloth and lace, knitting yarns and other fabric; dry cleaning services, football pants, golf gloves, handbags and purses; handkerchiefs; hard hats; helmets-bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports; ice skates, jewelry, laundering services, leather goods-except belts and wearing apparel; pads-football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder; rented clothing(including uniforms, formal wear and costumes); roller blades and skates; safety clothing, glasses, shoes-bicycle (cleated), bowling, golf.

The Legislature also eliminated sales taxes on over-the-counter medications and up to \$25 per month in Internet access charges. Altogether, state leaders cut consumer, sales, business and property taxes by nearly \$2 billion this year allowing citizens to keep more of their hard-earned money.

School board considers closing Kids Kampus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a vacancy in the High School. It was explained that at least one teacher, without a math certification, had applied for the job. However, the board voted to fill the position only with a teacher certified in math.

In other business the trustees approved the SCISD Substitute Handbook which governs the way substitute teachers are hired and utilized by the district. They also decided not to adopt a proposal from Control System International for an energy management plan. Instead, the board opted to pursue an energy management and conservation plan using the district's maintenance personnel.

Before adjourning the board reviewed a rough draft of a proposed 1999-2000 budget and received copies of the staff development and campus meeting schedules.

Solution to puzzle on Page 2

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

SCMC looks to the future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Hospital it would completely change the way the hospital is reimbursed by Medicare. "We would go back to the old way billing Medicare on our cost report," she explained. "Provided we had one patient in the hospital, costs would pass-through and we would be reimbursed for maintaining a facility in a rural area."

One of the procedures for designating SCMC as a Critical Access Hospital is already in the works, a financial review audit to assure that SCMC meets the programs requirements is being conducted now. After completion of the audit the hospital would then be required to hold a public town hall meeting to gather public input on the change.

"It really wouldn't change the way we operate very much at all," Fagan-Cook explained. "It's a bookkeeping thing, Okay? But it's a bookkeeping thing that could mean a lot of money to the district."

After discussing the matter, the board directed Fagan-Cook to move ahead with the financial audit and application to the Critical Access Hospital Program.

In other business, the board reviewed and approved the district's financial reports. They also approved the reappointment of Physician Assistant Ike Whitten to medical staff, under the supervision of Dr. Marcus Sims of Ozona. Also, it was announced that Dr. Jim Bob Brame had agreed to serve as the hospital's Chief of Staff until a permanent physician could be recruited.

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Schleicher County Medical Center



Push button access — Handicap accessibility to the Schleicher County Courthouse improved last week with the installation of this automatic door on the building's south side. Two buttons, one inside (pictured above) and one outside attached to the handrail operate the door which can also be opened and closed manually.

The Blotter

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

ARRESTS

7/20/99 Harris, Stanly Jeff, Jr., male age 29, arrested by SC Officer, charged with Motion To Revoke/Driving While Intoxicated.

7/21/99 Jackson, Daniel Scott, male age 30, hold for Irion County, charged with Driving While Intoxicated.

7/22/99 Murillo, Hipolito, male age 21, Driving Without License. Released on Citation.

7/22/99 Schneider, Robert W., male age 32, hold for Irion County, charged with Driving While Intoxicated. Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.

7/24/99 Vela, Eulogio H., Jr., male age 34, charged with Driving While Intoxicated/3rd Offense. Released on \$5,000 Surety Bond.

7/24/99 Ramos, Glen, male age 44, hold for Irion County. Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.

REPORTS

7/22/99 Officer arrested one male for Driving Without License.

7/22/99 Complainant reported a possible drunk driver on Hwy 277 North. Officer unable to locate and informed Tom Green County S.O.

7/23/99 Complainant phoned about a suspicious person wandering about the nursing home. Requested that an officer investigate. Officer responded.

7/23/99 Complainant reported a white bull missing. It was 3 years old and had a Flying U branded on it. Officer responded.

7/23/99 Complainant phoned and stated that a neighbors house was supposed to be empty, but there was

someone in the back yard of this house. They requested an officer to respond. Officer responded.

7/24/99 Irion County Sheriff's Office informed dispatch that they were enroute with one white male for DWI. Subject was booked.

7/24/99 Complainant reported to Sheriff's Office that a blue pouch w/jewelry is missing from their residence on Lee Street. Subject first notice items missing on June 30, 1999. Subject delayed making a report to see if they had misplaced items. Items estimated value \$1,025.91. Missing: Blue Pouch; 10 KT 1/4 CP Diamond Ring; 10 KT Angel Figure Earrings; 10 KT Angel Figure Necklace; 1 PR Gold Angel Earrings; 10 KT Mans Rolex Ring; 10 KT 3 Diamond Melrose Man's Ring.

7/24/99 Complainant advised there are shots going off around their back yard. Complainant advised there were pellets flying around. Officer responded and made contact with subject.

7/24/99 Complainant stated they received a complaint about a reckless driver on Hall Street driving a gold 4 door Toyota. Officer responded and advised this subject have been warned.

7/24/99 Sutton County advised there was a possible drunk driver heading north toward Eldorado. Officer responded as well as DPS Trooper.

7/25/99 Burglary of a motor vehicle on E. Fields Street. Officer investigating.

7/25/99 Subject reported to Sheriff's Office that his company will be flaring a pipeline on Page Lane.

7/25/99 Complainant stated that a certain individual was beating his wife. Two officers responded to Eldorado Place Apts.

Local EMS volunteers receive trauma life support training

On July 24-25, 1999 an Advanced Trauma Life Support and a Basic Trauma Life Support Class was held at the Sutton County Training facility located at the Emergency Medical Services Building in Sonora.

Instructors from Texas Tech Health Science Center traveled to Sonora to instruct the class. The class was a 16 hour course de-

signed to teach the students the correct sequence of evaluation and the techniques of resuscitation and packaging of the trauma patient.

Attending the class were EMT Basics, EMT Intermediates, Paramedics, LVN's and RN's.

Students attending from Eldorado's EMS were Melissa Stanford, Bobby Andrews and Connie Andrews.

4Hers may pick up fair catalogs

by Scott Edmonson

This is to inform you that we have received several catalogs for upcoming fairs around the state. If you are interested in showing your livestock projects at one of these shows, please come by the office for details.

Also, please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 16 for lamb and goat validation and for Saturday, November 13 for swine validation. Both validations will take place at the showbarn. Additional information will be forthcoming.



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Eldorado Vol. Fire Dept's Associate Membership Drive lists donors

The Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department extends its appreciation to the following individuals and businesses for their generous donations during our Associate Membership Drive. Thank You, one and all!

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