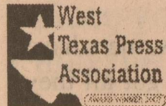


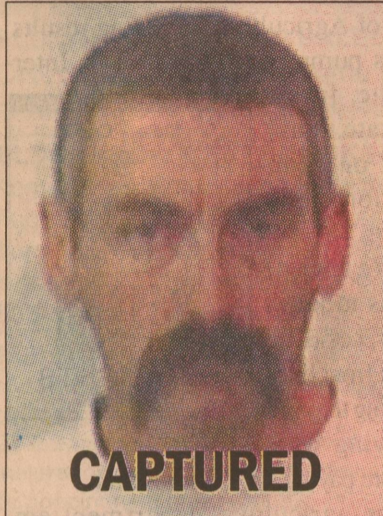
THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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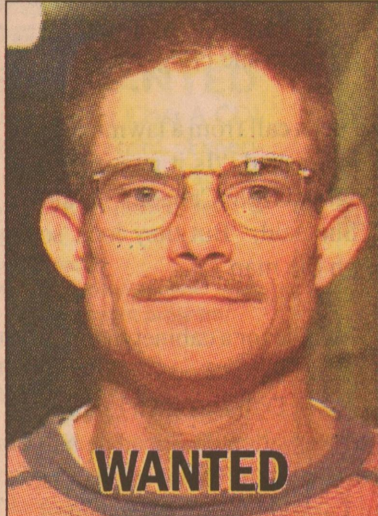
CAPTURED

John Swinford



CAPTURED

Rebecca Simmons



WANTED

Mark Franke

Locals implicated in Meth ring Two apprehended, one remains at large

Three Eldorado residents were included in a list of thirty-three suspects indicted by a Tom Green County grand jury on June 5th of this year.

The list remained sealed for several weeks as area lawmen rounded up many of the accused.

John Swinford, 37, of Eldorado was arrested on July 20th by Schleicher County officers and charged with Engaging in an Organized Criminal Activity, a first degree felony. He also faces a motion to revoke his previous probation of a conviction for theft. Bail was set for Swinford at \$150,000.00 but he is being held without bail on probation revocation.

The indictment against Swinford alleges that he and fellow defendants Billy Jack Horton and Rebecca Simmons conspired to deliver a controlled substance, methamphetamine in an amount more than 4 grams. The indictment continues by saying that Swinford possessed methamphetamine with intent to deliver.

Rebecca Simmons, 23, of Eldorado was arrested on July 30 by Schleicher County officers on a Tom Green County warrant for Engaging in an Organized Criminal Activity, a first degree felony. She was apprehended by Sheriff David Doran at a mobile home near Ft. McKavett.

Simmons was transferred to Tom Green County Jail on August 3, 2007 where she is being held in lieu of \$150,000.00 bond. She is also being

held on a criminal trespass charge, a theft charge and a charge of failure to identify as a witness.

The indictment against Simmons alleges that she conspired with fellow defendants Paula Gillit, Billy Jack Horton and Tammy Evans to deliver a controlled substance, methamphetamine in an amount more than 4 grams. The indictment continues by alleging that Simmons distributed methamphetamine.

Meanwhile, former Schleicher County Jail inmate and former Schleicher County employee Mark Patrick Franke, 42, of Eldorado remains at large following his indictment for Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity, a first degree felony enhanced to carry a 25-99 year or Life sentence.

Franke was convicted in 2002 in Tom Green County of attempting to manufacture a controlled substance, of 4 grams but less than 200 grams. He had been previously convicted in San Angelo in 1993 of possession of a controlled substance, of less than 28 grams. Both earlier convictions were second-degree felonies.

Franke was jailed on the 2002 charge and came to Eldorado as a jail trusty. While in jail he was employed by the Schleicher County Commissioners Court as a maintenance man. The job continued briefly after Franke was released but he soon left town.

The new indictment against

Franke accuses him of conspiring to deliver a controlled substance with fellow defendants Allen Patrick Norris, Melissa Garfias, Michael Trammell, Hermengildo Meza, Jr. and Robert Bledsoe. The indictment continues by saying that Franke obtained methamphetamine for distribution from fellow defendant Melissa Garfias.

At least twenty-nine of the thirty-three accused have been rounded up by press time. Included among those behind bars are:

- Gabriel Cervera, 26, Floydada
- Cory Doty, 28, San Angelo
- Melissa Garfias, 23, San Angelo
- Paula Gillit, 45, Sonora
- Christopher Henrickson, 23, Grape Creek
- Felicia Knight, 26, San Angelo
- Gabriel Lopez, 22, San Angelo
- Billy Lowery, 34, Odessa
- Shelia Lucich, 37, San Angelo
- Armando Marquez, 37, San Angelo
- Kyle McDonald, 31, San Angelo
- Joe Montelongo Perez, 30, San Angelo
- Libertio Perez, 30, San Angelo
- Raymond Ramirez, 41, San Angelo
- Verna Roop, 43, Christoval
- Rebecca Simmons, 23, Eldorado
- John Swinford, 37, Eldorado
- Jackie Trammell, 30, San Angelo
- Michael Trammell, 35, San Angelo
- Carol Warner, 47, Christoval
- Robert Blesoe, 41, San Angelo
- Jichard Jasso, 30, San Angelo
- Nicole Minton, 28, Water Valley
- Mark Anthony Sanchez, 38, San Angelo
- Gina Trammell, 28, San Angelo

Still at large are:

- Adam Victor Castillo, 42, San Angelo
- Norma Castillo, 38, San Angelo
- Mark Franke, 42, Eldorado
- Edward McCain, 45, San Angelo

SEE METH ON PAGE 5

Eldorado City Council, the meeting that wasn't...or was it?

The Eldorado City Council met Monday evening, August 6th, and conducted several items of business, even entering into a closed-door executive session, despite the fact the agenda for the meeting was improperly posted and city personnel were made aware of the mistake prior to the start of the meeting. Mayor John Nikolauk convened the session with council members Dora Bosmans, Dorothy Dacy, Dr. Pat Johnson, Richard Mendez and Stan Meador in attendance. Council member Stacy Haynes was not present for the meeting.

Mayor John Nikolauk acknowledged Tuesday that the meeting was held improperly. He explained that he was calling a special meeting for Monday, August 13, 2007 so that the council could meet again and problems with this week's meeting could be corrected.

The saga began Friday, August 3, 2007 when *The Eldorado Success* received an email copy of the City Council's agenda. Kathy Mankin read the email and noted that the agenda was dated July 9, 2007. She replied to the email suggesting that the date be checked and corrected.

The Texas Open Meetings Act requires that agendas for public meetings be posted 72 hours prior to the start of a meeting. Among the items required on the agenda are the date, time and location of the upcoming meeting.

On Sunday, August 5, 2007, Mankin stopped by City Hall to see if the agenda had been reposted. The agendas displayed near the building's front door and the door to the Council Chamber still bore the July 9th date.

The following morning Mrs. Mankin received an email from City Secretary Carolyn Mayo acknowledging the error. Mankin replied with an email asking to be advised when the meeting would be rescheduled.

That evening Kathy Mankin drove by and was surprised to see cars gathered at City Hall. She stopped and went in, arriving just as the council meeting began. New agendas with the proper date were provided for each

of the council members. Ms. Mayo advised them that the official agenda was posted at the front door and that it had been corrected and changed.

At one point, Antonio Contreras appeared to discuss zoning issues, particularly whether a mobile home his family owns can remain on property bordering North Street.

Contreras questioned why the meeting was being held without it being advertised in the newspaper. He was advised that the agenda for the City Council's meetings are posted by the building's front door and that the council is not required to further advertise a regular meeting.

The meeting progressed through several agenda items and ended with a closed-door executive session for the discussion of personnel. The meeting ended without any action on the matter.

The following day, Success publisher Randy Mankin met with Mayor Nikolauk concerning the agenda question and discussed the chain of events leading up to the meeting. He also met with City Council member Dorothy Dacy and telephoned Councilman Stan Meador concerning the issue. Mankin offered to show them a time-stamped photo his wife had taken early Sunday evening of the July 9th agenda still posted at the front door to City Hall.

Tuesday evening, Mayor Nikolauk notified *The Success* that he had concluded that Monday's meeting had been improperly conducted. He emphasized that none of the City Council members had been aware there was a problem and said the council will meet on Monday, August 13, 2007 to revisit the items on the previous night's agenda.

"We want to make sure we do this right," Nikolauk explained. "Citizens like Mr. Contreras need to know that they can rely on the officially posted agenda to be accurate."

The Mayor went on to say that anyone seeing the agenda dated July 9th would naturally assume it was an old agenda that had not been taken down.

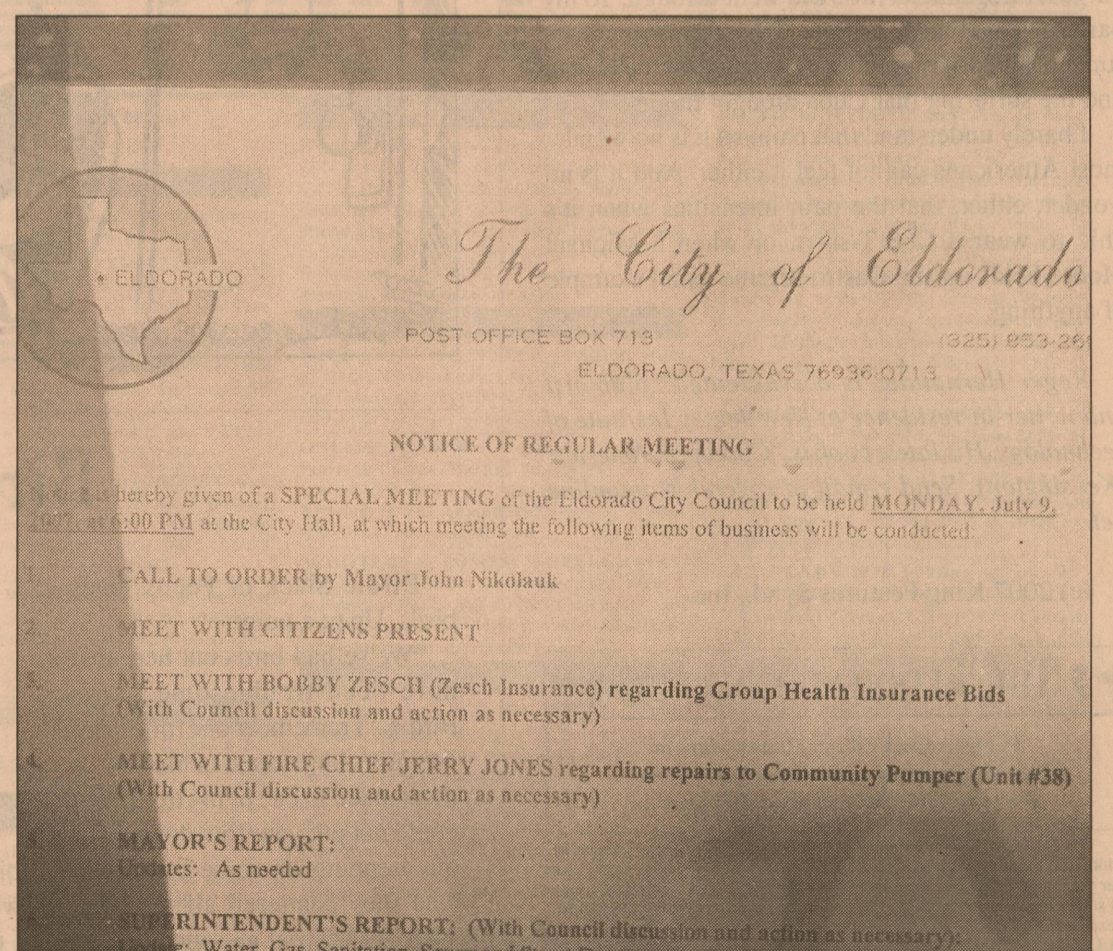


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

This improperly posted agenda prompted Mayor John Nikolauk to declare that all action taken during Monday night's City Council meeting was null and void. This photo taken at 7:36 p.m. Sunday night shows the agenda dated July 9, 2007. The agenda was changed some time Monday, prior to the now non-existent council meeting.

Flores new pastor at Primera Iglesia Bautista

Rev. Henry Flores is now the new pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista in Eldorado.

He graduated in 2002 from Hispanic Baptist Theological School now named Baptist University of the Americas in San Antonio.

Rev. Flores has a four year Diploma in Theology and Biblical Studies with a minor in Pastoral Ministries.

After graduation Rev. Flores and his family moved to Tarboro North Carolina as a church planner and pastor of two missions. After three years away from their hometown of San Angelo, Texas, they decided God wanted them closer by way of Brownwood and now Eldorado.

Pastor Flores is married to Isabel Flores who shares his love for the ministry. They have a daughter at home and two older sons living on their own.

Rev. Flores came to Christ after a three day drinking binge. That night he faced a choice between going to another keg party or giving

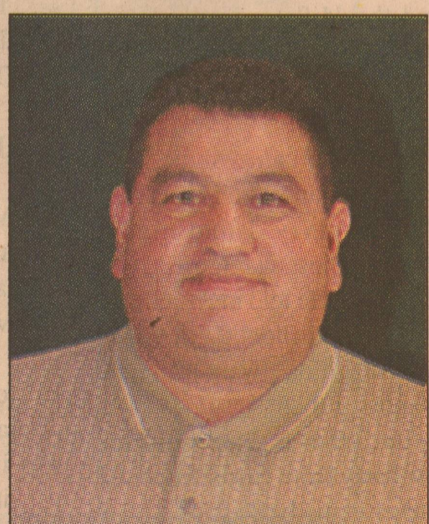


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Reverend Henry Flores is the new pastor at Primera Iglesia Bautista. He and his wife Isabel and their daughter come to Eldorado from Brownwood.

his brother-in-law a ride to a revival meeting at a Baptist church.

He arrived late for the revival meeting in Idalou that April night where he heard about Jesus and asked

Him into his life.

Rev. Flores went home and told his wife: "From this day, you will never see me drink again. You will never see me use drugs again."

The keg he carried in his truck was put away and he stopped drinking," he said. But after a month he fell back into smoking marijuana.

He went to his pastor for help.

"You've always been used to having your way," the pastor told him. "It's time to let God have his way." The urge to smoke marijuana came under control.

Rev. Flores became more comfortable turning his every day life over to Christ and began sharing his faith with others, in turn surrendering to preach.

Rev. Henry Flores preaches bilingual services on Sundays here in Eldorado and is passionate about multicultural ministries. His vision is to win as many people to Christ, build a new sanctuary and serve God to the best of his ability.

Ice Cream Social slated Wednesday

The Eldorado Ministerial Alliance announces its annual ice cream social to be held on Wednesday, August 15 at 7:00 P.M.

Delicious ice cream will be served for a donation to the Ministerial Alliance benevolence fund. Proceeds will be used for those in

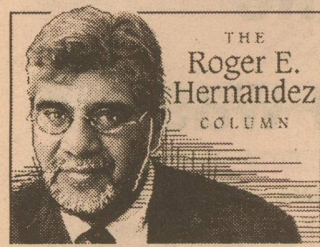
need in our community.

The Ice Cream Social will be held under the shade trees of the Schleicher County Court house lawn. In case of rain, we will serve in the Memorial Building. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

The Soldier and the Mango

There is a story about a bar owner in Miami who some years ago decided to attract Cuban customers, so he put out a sign announcing drink specials for a holiday he had heard about, July 26. He must have thought it was some sort of Cuban Cinco de Mayo.

What he got was angry exiles demanding the guy explain why he wanted to celebrate the anniversary of the start of Fidel Castro's revolution. "26 de Julio" is to Cuban Miami like fingernails on a blackboard, a date that will live in infamy.



THE Roger E. Hernandez COLUMN

The story might be apocryphal. Nobody I ever heard tell it, always with a chuckle, can actually

name the joint.

But like all good fiction, it contains in its heart a hard truth.

My parents' generation lives with a pain few outsiders understand. They had left Cuba behind because they found it impossible to live without basic liberties. But they loved their birthplace deeply.

I was 9 when I left, too young to feel the pain like my parents. But two childhood memories give me a hint of the bitter and the sweet that is part of the everyday lives of my parents' generation, elderly Cubans who are now Cuban-American and resigned to not ever seeing their old country free.

The bitter memory is of Cuban soldiers armed with submachine guns, going through each room in our home noting every item. We had recently applied for permission to leave the country, and one of the steps we had to endure was a government inventory of everything we owned. These inventories were to be followed by a second inventory the day of departure -- during which everything needed to be accounted for. It was Castro's way of making sure his political opposition left all their possessions behind.

Then there is my sweet memory, literally.

Across from that house ransacked by soldiers was a park, and on the far side of the street an orthopedics clinic. I was 7 or 8 years old and scared of the patients, their arm or leg in a cast. I stayed away.

But on a dare from my friend Euclides one Havana afternoon, I walked up to the clinic by myself. The place looked closed -- there was nobody around. With Euclides egging me on across the street, I walked behind the whitewashed building into a backyard with a mango tree. I grabbed a mango and sat down to eat.

I remember the fresh, ripe flavor bursting in my mouth. I have never, since then, tasted a more perfect piece of fruit.

The soldier and the mango are individual moments in my life -- fraught with symbolism, sure, but just things that a little kid went through. To my parents' generation, however, those two moments sum up a lifetime as adults, fully aware of the beauty and the suffering that Cuba brought them.

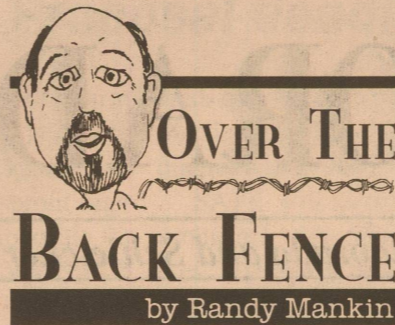
I barely understand that pain, so it is no wonder most Americans cannot feel it either. And it is no wonder, either, that the pain intensifies when it's chic to wear a Che T-shirt, or when a Michael Moore holds up the Castro regime as an example of anything.

Roger Hernandez is a syndicated columnist and writer-in-residence at New Jersey Institute of Technology. His latest book is "Cubans in America" (Kensington). Send e-mail to rogereh@optonline.net.

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Travel agent humor from my inbox

The following humorous thoughts were compiled by a travel agent in our nation's capital. They found their way into my email inbox recently. I found them funny. Hopefully, you will, too.



OVER THE BACK FENCE by Randy Mankin

1. I had a New Hampshire Congresswoman ask for an aisle seat so that her hair wouldn't get messed up by being near the window -- ON AN AIRPLANE!

2. I got a call from a candidate's staffer, who wanted to go to Capetown. I started to explain the length of the flight and the passport information. Then she interrupted me with, "I'm not trying to make you look stupid, but Capetown is in Massachusetts." Without trying to make her look stupid, I calmly explained, "Cape Cod is in Massachusetts, Capetown is in Africa." Her response - CLICK.

3. A senior Vermont Congressman called, furious about a Florida package we did. I asked what was wrong with the vacation in Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I tried to explain that's not possible, since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied, "Don't lie to me. I looked on the map and Florida is a very thin state!"

4. An Illinois Congresswoman called last week. She needed to know how it was possible that her flight from Detroit left at 8:30 am and got to Chicago at 8:33 am. I explained that Michigan was an hour

ahead of Illinois, but she couldn't understand the concept of time zones. Finally, I told her the plane went fast, and she bought that.

5. I got a call from a lawmaker's wife who asked, "Is it possible to see England from Canada?" I said, "No." She said, "But they look so close on the map."

6. An aide for a cabinet member once called and asked if he could rent a car in Dallas. When I pulled up the reservation, I noticed he had only a 1-hour layover in Dallas. When I asked him why he wanted to rent a car he said, "I heard Dallas was a big airport, and we will need a car to drive between gates to save time."

7. A Senator's aide called to inquire about a trip package to Hawaii. After going over all the cost info, she asked, "Would it be cheaper to fly to California, and then take the train to Hawaii?"

8. I just got off the phone with a freshman Congressman who asked, "How do I know which plane to get on?" I asked him what exactly he meant, to which he replied, "I was told my flight number is 823, but

none of these planes have numbers on them."

9. A lady Senator called and said, "I need to fly to Pepsi-Cola, Florida. Do I have to get on one of those little computer planes?" I asked if she meant fly to Pensacola, FL on a commuter plane. She said, "Yeah, whatever, smarty!"

10. A senior Senator called and had a question about the documents he needed in order to fly to China. After a lengthy discussion about passports, I reminded him that he needed a visa. "Oh, no I don't. I've been to China many times and never had to have one of those." I double checked and sure enough, his stay required a visa. When I told him this he said, "Look, I've been to China four times and every time they have accepted my American Express!"

11. A New Mexico Congresswoman called to make reservations, "I want to go from Chicago to Rhino, New York." I was at a loss for words.

Finally, I said, "Are you sure that's the name of the town?" "Yes, what flights do you have?" replied the lady. After some searching, I came back with, "I'm sorry, ma'am, I've looked up every airport code in the country and can't find a Rhino anywhere."

The lady retorted, "Oh, don't be silly! Everyone knows where it is. Check your map!" So I scoured a map of the state of New York and finally offered, "You don't mean Buffalo, do you?" The reply? "Whatever! I knew it was a big animal."

New Web site tracks consumer gas spending

by Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — Now consumers have a way to find out if they got all they paid for at the gasoline pump.

Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples on July 31 said the Texas Department of Agriculture is posting results of gas pump inspections on its Internet site, [www.tda.state.tx.us]. Click on "public information reports."

"We want Texans to know our inspectors are on the front lines, ensuring they are receiving what they are paying for," Staples said.

The agriculture department employs 72 weights and measures inspectors who check more than 65,000 gasoline pumps a year, according to an agency news release.

If an inspector places an "out of order" tag on a pump, the station owner or operator must have the pump repaired by an agriculture department-licensed service company before the pump can be used to sell fuel.

Tested, properly operating pumps get a new seal placed by an agriculture department inspector.

More action on funding veto

The idea of getting Gov. Perry to undo his veto of \$154 million, a sizeable yet thin slice from the \$151 billion state budget, for community colleges may be gaining momentum.

Forty-seven members of the Texas House of Representatives called on Perry to restore the funding that in 2008-2009 would have been used to pay for employee health insurance at public junior and community college campuses.

Rep. Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, one of the 47, went an extra step, asking House Speaker Tom Craddick to "join the call publicly and unequivocally to restore these critically needed funds and correct Gov. Perry's unwise decision."

No word yet from Perry or Craddick, but Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has already said he wants to get lawmakers and higher education people together and see what can be done to restore the funding.

Dewhurst said he wanted to head off the need for colleges to raise tuition or fees in order to make up for money lost to the veto.

Dewhurst and Craddick are joint chairs of the Legislative Budget Board, a 10-member entity that has budget execution authority and can restore the funding.

The other eight members of the board are Sens. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, John Whitmire, D-Houston, Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo; and Reps. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, Fred Hill, R-Richardson and Sylvester Turner, D-Houston.

Judge says programs do comply

Senior U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice of Austin ruled July 30 that public school bilingual programs, as currently delivered in Texas, comply with federal law.

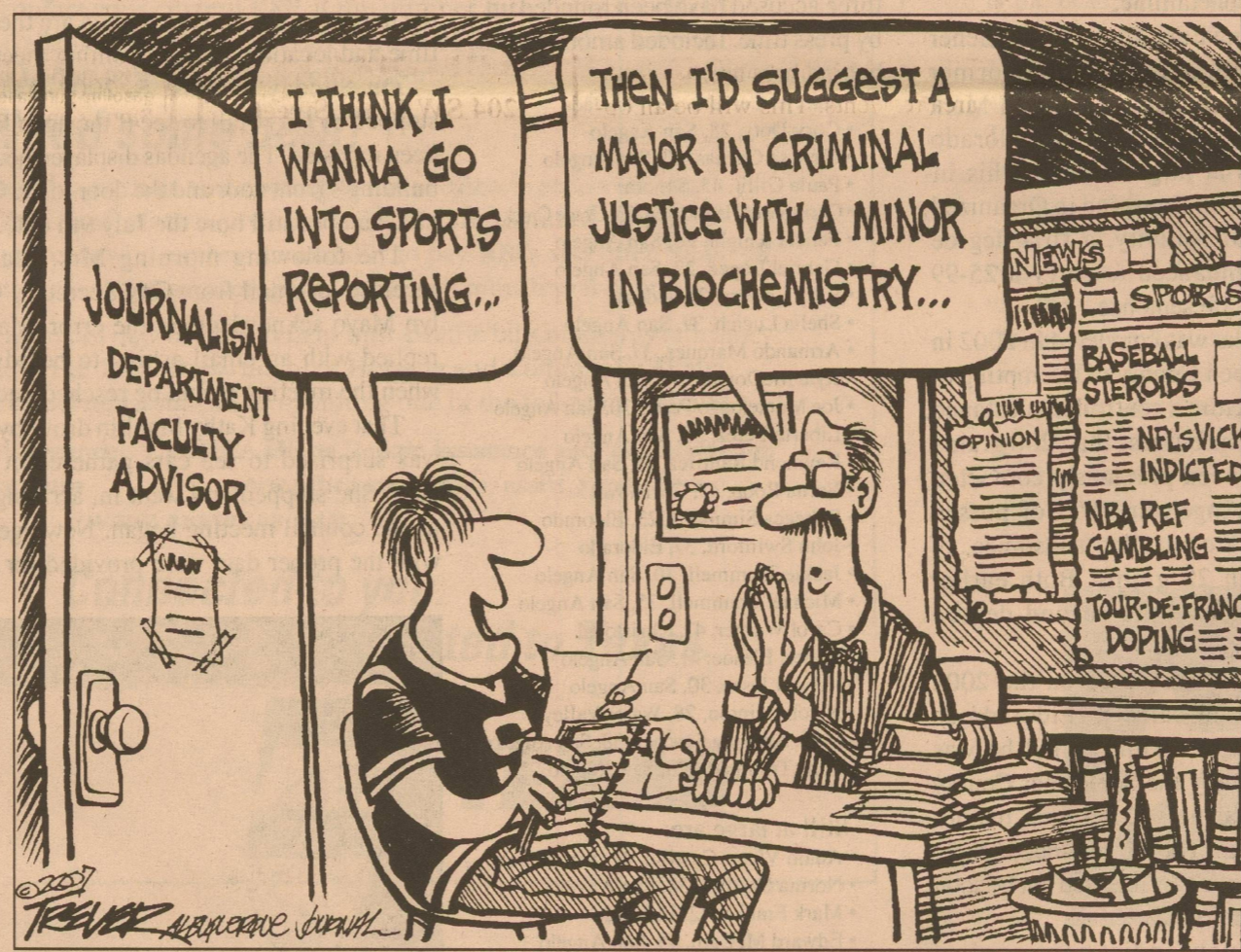
The League of United Latin American Citizens and GI Forum in 2006 asked the judge to force the state to improve education programs for limited-English students.

The ruling means those programs need not be upgraded.

Judge Justice also said low test scores and high dropout rates among Hispanics cannot be linked to the state's bilingual and English as a Second Language programs, the Associated Press reported.

Air passenger traffic sets record

The City of Austin reports that June



Birds of a Feather

Birdie Slack of Pecos loves birds. Up to a point.

"We've had birds out here that have been troublesome," says Birdie. "I remember one time there was just a huge cloud of blackbirds that landed in one of my trees. You could not put your foot down without stepping on some bird poop. And they chattered all the time. They were a real nuisance."

The birds were becoming a big problem, but she did not want her husband to get out his shotgun and start shooting the birds.

"I asked the lady who works for me if she could come out one evening to help me run the birds off. She was kind enough to say she would. She wanted to know how we were going to do it. I told her I had a special plan."

Birdie, an ex-teacher, had two whistles she once used to call school kids in from recess.

"I took one and I gave her one. Then I gave her a big pan and a



by Tumbleweed Smith

pan and they'd fly over to where she was."

They kept up the noise for about an hour and a half.

"My husband came home and noticed all the racket and he asked me if I was crazy. I told him I wasn't, that I just wanted to run these birds off. He told me he could get out there and shoot them and I told him no, I didn't want him out there shooting them."

The birds then rose up together and flew away from Birdie's house. They never came back.

"In just a little while after the birds left, my sister called and asked me if I knew where all the blackbirds went. I told her no. Then she told me they were at her house. She has lots of trees over there."

Birdie's sister told Birdie she knew of a sure way to get rid of the birds. It involved a shotgun.

Birdie is her real name. She was named for her grandmother's nickname.

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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Office Manager and Classifieds: Kathy Mankin
Reporter and Photographer: J.L. Mankin

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District 7 4H project development meeting slated



County Agent's Update

by Cory Stevens

This meeting will be held on August 25, 2007, and will be held at the Southland Baptist Church in San Angelo. This meeting will

be for 4H families interested in learning more about the following project areas: Sheep and Goats, Shooting Sports, Swine, Horse, Beef, Clothing and Textiles, Food and Nutrition, and Consumer Education. There will also be leadership activities for youth on this day as well. The deadline for registration is August 17th. If you would like more information, call the extension office at 853-2132.



COURTESY PHOTO
Atheris Ivy Vanacek

It's a Girl!

Ben and Cayla Vanacek would like to announce the birth of our precious daughter Atheris Ivy Vanacek.

She was born August 1st, 2007 and weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19.5 inches in length.

The proud grandparents are Doris Vanacek, David and Jeanette Jeffrey both of Eldorado and Greg and Patty Cole of Fluvanna Texas; uncles Mitchell and Dalton Cole of Synder and Roy Vanacek of Houston; aunt Hope Cole of Roby and great-grandmother Ives Swain of Eldorado.

Shooting Sports Workshop

There will be a training for shooting sports instructors held in Del Rio on August 24-25. As many of you know, a certified instructor must be on sight at all shooting sport practices. If you would like to attend the training, or have questions about it, contact the extension office at 853-2132.



The ALLEY BEHIND the HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME

Eldoradoans encouraged to "Ask Mike Anything"

Questions to be answered by the Congressman

MIDLAND — On Thursday, August 16, 2007, Congressman Mike Conaway (TX-11) will be on the campus of Angelo State University to meet and visit with area residents. This will be an opportunity for the Congressman to answer any questions or address any concerns citizens may have. The Congressman is visiting San Angelo as part of his August district tour.

What: San Angelo Town Hall
When: Thursday, August 16, 2007

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Angelo State University
University Center - C.J. Davidson Auditorium

BIRTHDAY LIST

AUGUST

9th Diana Hernandez, Buddy White, Randy Mitchel, Christy Taylor, Dan Pfluger, Johnny Griffin, Sonja Richards, John Ray Espinosa, Justin Paxton

10th Whitney Lloyd, Peggy Williams, Cory Lloyd, Amy Robinson, Cory Reeves, Sandra Garcia,

11th Laura Garcia, Jesse Estrada, Claire Powell, Kadie Niblett, Will Henry

12th Elisa Fuentes, Amanda Ballew, Diana Fritz, Morgan Gillespie, Creel Goodman, Sylvia Griffin, Mike Porter, Zuma Weddle, Virginia Davis, Karen Robertson, Raul Estaban Trevino, Morgan Gillespie, Ann McCormick, Liza Sanchez

13th Randall Goodrum, Kayli Daniels, Steven Trevino, Madeline Mittel

14th Lisa O'Harrow, Misty Williams, Sharon Lemons, Miles Mikeska, Kisty Adame, Kerry Rodgers

15th Jennifer Rojas, Kali Warnock, Tony Martinez Jr., Fran Robinson, Sonja Key, Helen Sanchez, Betsy Green, A.T. Turner, Tony Martinez, Jr., Lowe Irvine

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AUGUST

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14th Brian & Mary Doran

15th Jim & Linda Chancellor

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Meals for Friends Menu

Monday, August 13
King Ranch Chicken, Steamed Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Carrot Salad, Oatmeal Cookies, Milk

Tuesday, August 14
Roast Beef Sandwich, Baked French Fries, Lettuce Leaf, Tomato Slices, Pea Salad, Peach Halves, Milk

Wednesday, August 15
Chicken Fried Steak w/Gravy, Buttered Peas, Spinach, Cornbread, Sunshine Fruit Cup, Milk

Thursday, August 16
Chicken Fajita Salad, Cheese, Tomato Wedges & Lettuce, Macaroni Salad, Crackers, Cherry Perfection, Pumpkin Pie, Milk

Friday, August 17
Hamburger on a Bun, Whole Baby Carrots, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Bun, Seaform Salad, Fresh Grapes, Milk

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Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: **

* Moderate ** Challenging *** Hoo Boy!

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.
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See Solution on Page 8

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Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS CLASSIFIED ADS



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN
 Dustin Ramirez tucked the ball away after taking a handoff during two-a-day workouts Wednesday. Coach Johnny Burleson is preparing his Eldorado Eagles for the 2007 season. The first scrimmage is slated for Saturday, August 18th against Nueces Canyon, here in Eldorado. The Warbirds will travel to McCamey the following Friday to scrimmage the McCamey Badgers. The Eagles first game of the season will be on Friday, September 7th as they host the visiting Mason Punchers.

High School Registration
 The High School students will register on Wednesday, August 15th and Thursday, August 16th.
 Wednesday, August 15th The Freshmen will register at 9:00 am
 The Sophomores will register at 10:30 am
 The Juniors will register at 1:00 pm
 Thursday, August 16th ... The Seniors will register at 9:00 am

Water, water everywhere, but State Parks still going strong

AUSTIN, Texas — August is usually one of Texas' hottest months, parching the landscape and shrinking the state's lake and rivers. This year it is shaping up to be one of the best months for getting outdoors.

Despite continuing storms and some flooding that have wreaked havoc with a few state parks, such as Mother Neff near Waco and Palmetto near Gonzales, most Texas state parks are open for business and sporting an atypical lush look.

State park officials report, too, that flowing rivers and full lakes are bringing out legions of boaters and anglers. They caution, however, that visitors engaging in water sports should be ever-vigilant of floating hazards and other dangers brought on by high water. But the upside of summer's torrential rains outweighs the negatives in most parts of the state.

"Last year at this time, our state was experiencing terrible drought conditions almost everywhere," said Walt Dabney, director of Texas state parks. "While this year's rains have certainly reduced visitation on some weekends, Spring Break and recent holidays, when the rains resume a more normal pattern, the parks are going to be the greenest and the rivers and lakes the best they've been in many years. It should make for an outstanding park experience."

At Garner, one of the state's most popular parks, Superintendent Craig VanBaarle reports that despite periodic heavy rains and a little mud, campers have been enjoying swimming and tubing on the Frio River, which has been running four to six inches above normal most of the summer. The usual four-hour float trip is now taking only two hours, he said.

"Visitors are advised and pulled off the river during floods, but everything returns to normal within a couple of days," VanBaarle said. "This has been a good year for river activities, but a bad year for occasional heavy showers and a little mud in camping areas. All in all, our park visitors have been a bit inconvenienced, but they're having a whole lot of fun."

East Texas parks, too, have had their share of heavy rain, but it hasn't been all bad news for water recreation, according to Ellen Buchanan, regional director of Texas state parks in Tyler. "We are green and beautiful, and the fish are biting," she said, adding that all the East Texas lakes are at or above pool level.

Buchanan noted, for example, that Cooper Lake northeast of Dallas, which was down 18 feet in December, is full again. And, she said that Lake Bob Sandlin State Park's boat ramps, which had been closed all spring and half the summer due to low water levels, are operational.

Even in West Texas, which can be quite parched and hot this time of year, regional state park director Mike Hill reports cactus blossoms are the showiest in decades and grasslands are looking great.

"Images from the movie 'Giant' not withstanding," Hill said, "the grasslands in West Texas are green, green, green. Purple sage has already started blooming around Devils River State Natural Area and Seminole Canyon State Park and promises to put on a spectacular display for weeks to come."

Though stormy weather has caused temporary weather closures at Kickapoo Cavern State Park and Devil's River State Natural Area, cooler temperatures are making visits to Big Bend Ranch State Park near Presidio and Davis Mountains State Park, both of which sit at above 4,800 feet elevation, quite pleasant.

"West Texas parks are open for business," Hill said.

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Bailey Ranch School -Front (L-R) Lelah Spencer, holding Elnora Andrews, Etta Ruth McDonald, Elton Spencer, Delma Kemp, Pat Finley and Pete Finley; Second (L-R): Delaney Griffin, Marguerite Kent, Winnie Wilson, Cora Hughes, Otis Kent, Marion Owens; Third: Johnny Lee Griffin, Eddie Mae Finley, Lora McDonald, Miss Ellen Stroud, Alpha Spencer, Eugene Hughes, Truett Stanford and Jim Finley; Fourth (L-R) Joe Finley, Lena Parks, Bertie Spencer, Edgar Spencer; Back (L-R) Ervin Mund, Fay Finley, Elizabeth Griffin, Zelma Spencer, Ella Griffin, Ella Spencer and Bill Mund.

Touch of History

by Rene Calcote

Bailey Ranch School

During the years 1895 and 1925, many small schools, with only one or two teachers, were established in Schleicher County. Travel was difficult during this era, and most of the schools were built near large ranches. One of these small single room schools was Bailey Ranch School, created by an order of the Commissioners Court, June 12, 1907. It was a large structure that served as a Church as well as the school. It was named in honor of Bob Bailey, who originally owned the ranch on which it was built. The first teacher of the Bailey Ranch School was Susie Gibson.

Other teachers were Pearl Bailey, Clarence Womack, Ellen Stroud, Tom Murry, Rosa Canova Maggie Hogan and Lodice Putman. The land, where the first structure was built, was donated by Frank Spencer. It was located three miles south and six miles west of Eldorado. The people of Bailey Ranch Community built the one room building.

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Capital Highlights...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

2007 marked the highest number of passengers in a single month traveling through Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

The airport broke the 800,000 passenger barrier for the first time, reaching 801,185, a total that is 8 percent greater than the June 2006 passenger count. The previous single month passenger record 781,855, set in May of the current year.

GOP picks Heflin for top post

The Texas Republican Party appointed Talmadge Heflin its

executive director, replacing Jeff Fisher.

Heflin, 67, was a member of the Texas House for 22 years. He lost his Houston-area District 149 seat to Democrat Hubert Vo in 2004.

State to dedicate WWII memorial

The State of Texas will pay official tribute to its citizens who served in World War II with the dedication of the Texas World War II Memorial on the grounds of the Capitol.

The dedication is set for Aug. 15 at 10 a.m.

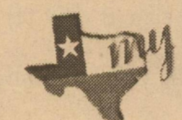
Alleged Meth ring busted...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DPS Troopers were assisted in the investigation and arrests by the San Angelo Police Department, the Tom Green County Sheriff's Department, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the District Attorney's Office in Clayton; as

well as the Crockett County, Schleicher, Sutton and Taylor County law enforcement officers.

Persons with information about Franke or the other three fugitive suspects, should contact Sheriff David Doran at 325-853-2737 or the DPS at 325-223-6900.

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SPREAD THE NEWS
Eldorado Middle School Registration
Thursday, August 16
Come and Go

5th & 8th Grade	9:00-9:45 a.m.
6th Grade	10:00-10:45 a.m.
7th Grade	11:00-11:45 a.m.


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62nd Annual Membership Meeting
Tuesday, August 14, 2007



Schleicher County Courthouse Lawn Eldorado, Texas

-PROGRAM-
7:00 p.m. Barbecue for members and their guests.
8:00 p.m. Business session begins.

YMCA FOOTBALL Registration
3rd to 6th Grade
6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 14, 2007
Elementary Gym

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- PRE-KINDERGARTEN**
- 2 #2 pencils
 - 1-Eraser
 - School box
 - Boys: 1 box sandwich size Ziploc bags
 - Girls: 1 box of gallon size Ziploc bags
 - 8 red folders (pockets & brads)
 - 8 blue folders (pockets & brads)
 - 2 70 pg. spiral notebooks (red and blue)
 - Fiskar scissors (round end metal blade)
 - Kleenex (large box)
 - 1 backpack
 - 1 box 12 pencil colors
 - 2-8 count box of crayons
 - 1 Water bottle (12 oz.)
 - \$5 for Pre-K Weekly Reader
 - 1-glue stick
 - 2 4oz. Elmer's White Glue
 - 1 pkg. Construction paper
 - 1 pkg. of white-letter size (8 1/2 by 11) copy paper
 - 1 set of clothes (shirt, pants/shorts, underwear, socks)

- KINDERGARTEN**
- Elmer's White School Glue-4 oz.
 - 2 No. 2 Pencils
 - Eraser (pink rubber)
 - Crayons-1 box of 8 (No Jumbo Crayons)
 - Fiskar For Kids Scissors (metal blade)
 - 1 large box Kleenex
 - 1 small school box
 - 2 vinyl (plastic) pocket folders
 - Boys 1 box sandwich size zip-lock bags
 - Girls 1 box gallon size zip-lock bags
 - 1 water bottle
 - Backpack THAT WILL HOLD FOLDERS
 - 1 regular size towel for napping (no mats, large towels, or blankets)
 - 1 pkg. of white-letter size (8 1/2 by 11) copy paper
 - \$5.00 for National Geographic Subscription

- FIRST GRADE**
- #2 Pencils,
 - Large Elmer's glue (white only)
 - School box
 - Metal inlaid scissors
 - Crayons-16 count
 - 1 pkg. Construction paper-9 x 12 assorted, loose
 - 1 box Kleenex
 - 4 pocket folders with bottom pocket
 - Pencil top erasers
 - 1 pkg. of white-letter size (8 1/2 by 11) copy paper
 - \$5.00 for National Geographic Subscription

- SECOND GRADE**
- 6 Pencils -- #2
 - Crayons - box of 24
 - Elmer's school glue

Back to School SUPPLIES

- Small plastic carry box
- 3 glue sticks
- Large eraser
- Fiskars scissors (no blunt tips)
- 4 Red marking pencils
- 6 pocket folders with bottom pockets
- Map colors
- 2 boxes Kleenex (200 count)
- 1 pkg. of white-letter size (8 1/2 by 11) copy paper
- \$5.00 for National Geographic Subscription

- THIRD GRADE**
- Crayons - box of 24
 - Six pencils #2
 - Kleenex (200 count) (2 boxes)
 - Scissors - sharp point (Fiskars only)
 - Zipper pouch for notebook
 - 4 red marking pencils
 - Large Elmer's glue
 - Loose leaf 3 ring notebook
 - 1 pkg. Dividers (do NOT write on these)
 - Map colors
 - 6 pocket folders w/bottom pockets
 - 1 70 pg spiral notebook
 - 1 pkg. of white-letter size (8 1/2 by 11) copy paper
 - \$5.00 for National Geographic Subscription

- FOURTH GRADE**
- Notebook paper (no college or narrow ruled)
 - Pencil Top Erasers
 - Map colors
 - Ruler - both metric and American standard; clear plastic

- Scissors - 6" or 7" sharp point
- 8 Red grading pencils
- Kleenex - 200 count - 2 boxes
- #2 Pencils
- Zipper pouch for notebook
- 1 Spiral notebook (70 pages)
- Composition notebook (not a spiral)
- Elmer's glue
- Set of 6 highlighters—fluorescent; not liquid
- 1 pkg. of white-letter size (8 1/2 by 11) copy paper
- \$5.00 for National Geographic Subscription
- 2 green pocket folders WITH brads
- 2 red pocket folders WITHOUT brads
- 2 yellow pocket folders WITHOUT brads
- 2 blue pocket folders WITHOUT brads
- NO 3-RING BINDERS OR TRAPPER

EVERY STUDENT MUST HAVE TENNIS SHOES FOR PE. ALL SUPPLIES SHOULD BE LABELED WITH CHILD'S NAME IN LARGE PRINT. TEACHERS MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL SCHOOLSUPPLIES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

- FIFTH GRADE**
- Zipper Notebook (large rings)
 - 1 Zipper Bag (cloth-no plastic) to fit inside notebook (if notebook does not have a place for pens/pencils)
 - 1 Large (Cloth-No Plastic) Zipper Bag (for colors and colored

- pencils)
- 2 Pkg. Notebook Paper (Wide Ruled)
- 1 Pkg. Plastic Dividers w/Pockets (8 1/2" x 11")
- 4 Pocket Folders w/BRADS
- 3 Composition Notebooks (No Wire)
- Pencils (Mechanical ones are acceptable)
- Red grading pens or pencils
- 1 Box of 24 count map colors or colored pencils
- 1 Box of 24 count crayons
- 4 Large glue sticks
- Scissors
- Stretch book covers (1 small & 2 large)
- 2 Large boxes of Kleenex
- 1 Pkg. multicolored pastel copy paper
- * 1 Pkg. white copy paper (1 ream 500 sheets 8 1/2" x 11")
- * This ream of paper will be used all year for your child's math papers instead of notebook paper.
- P.E. Supplies: Shorts, T-shirt, and Tennis Shoes
- Teachers may request additional supplies for their classroom at the beginning of the school year. We will have an updated supply list in your child's registration packet in August.

- SIXTH GRADE MATH SUPPLY LIST**
- 1 Ream white copier paper
 - 1 Pkg wide-ruled notebook paper
 - 1 Pkg index tabs
 - 2 One-subject spiral notebooks with holes (2 different colors)
 - 1 Two-inch 3 ring binder
 - Pencils
 - 1 Red pen or pencil
 - 1 Box Kleenex

- 8th Grade Supply List LANGUAGE ARTS**
(Please place your name on all materials.)
- 2 composition books
 - 4 folders with pockets and brads
 - 1 package of notebook paper
 - Markers
 - Map colors (one set will do if you are buying them for social studies)
 - Pens (dark ink)
 - 1 box of tissues
 - Small package of post-it notes

- MATH**
- 1 three subject notebook
 - 1 blue folder with brads
 - 1 package graph paper
 - 1 ruler with inches and centimeters
 - 1 ream of copier paper
 - 1 box of tissues
 - Notebook paper
 - Pencils
 - Red Pens

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Back to School Checklist

- School Supplies
- School Clothes
- Shoes
- Athletic physical
- Immunizations

Make sure your children are up to date on their immunizations before school starts. If you do not have insurance or your insurance does not cover immunizations, let us know and we can help! Call the Family Clinic today to schedule you appointment and plan to bring your shot record with you.

Remember, School Starts Monday, August 27th.

Schleicher County Medical Center & Family Clinic
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Hospital 325.853.2507 ~ Family Clinic 325.853.3137

Weekly Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Barn call
- Hit the mall
- La ___ (Milan opera house)
- Old U.S. gas brand
- Strauss of denim
- "Stormy Weather" composer Harold
- Line to Ben-Gurion
- Nest eggs, briefly
- Geared up
- HOLEY
- Like gridlocked traffic
- Apt. feature, in ads
- Run on TV
- Winter bug
- Piece of cake
- Much teen talk
- Pageant topper
- Actress Longoria
- HOLY
- "Exodus" hero
- Watergate evidence
- Crete's highest elev.
- Bog fuel
- New England catch
- Highlands denial

DOWN

- No-goodniks
- "Hold Me" Grammy winner
- K.T.
- Honshu port
- Broad-minded
- Deli machine
- Judean king
- Locket shape
- Pipe bends
- Lee or Grant
- WHOLLY
- Runway walker
- Oodles
- Lab gel
- Hoopster Shaq
- Game-stopping call
- Nor'easter
- About to sob
- Lawn starter
- Noted tower site
- Noted Big Apple restaurateur
- Small streams
- Banned apple spray
- Took the reins
- "___ takers?"
- Touch down
- Prefix with surgery or transmitter
- Accompanied a drum, perhaps
- Items on the books
- Radar's soda brand
- All fired up
- Nickname for Hemingway
- Give and take
- Handed-down tales
- Oratorio highlight
- "___ the mornin' to you!"
- Stylish label
- Marina sight
- Cheap way to travel
- Musical ineptitude
- Took home after taxes
- Inane
- Garden statuette
- Fit for a king
- "Any Time ___" (Beatles tune)
- Harps' cousins
- Light bulb, in comics
- Tests for srs.
- Nobelist Wiesel
- Bon ___ (witty saying)
- "___ if by land ..."

On Hold

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American Profile Homelown Content See solution on Page 8 070805

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A Test of Faith: Former Muslim who converted to Christianity takes his message across Texas and beyond

by Rebecca Hoeffner
Texan News Service

Earlier this year Afshin Ziafat strode up to the pulpit at First Baptist Church in Stephenville. His face was clean-shaven. He wore a sport coat and spoke English without an accent.

Ziafat knows the surprise that ripples through an audience whenever he speaks about his conversion from Islam to Christianity. He joked about the stereotypes he encounters -- and that he shatters -- whenever people hear his Middle Eastern name.

"Before September 11, people could walk right up to the gate at the airport with a sign that had my name on it," Ziafat told a crowd gathered for a college retreat. "When I said, 'I'm Afshin,' they're always amazed. They're like 'you're Afshin?' Well, you kinda look like us."

"Yes, I am human," the evangelist added with a laugh. "All right, let's work on my name. Think of the hair product 'Afro Sheen.' Take the 'r-o' out, and you've got my name."

Ziafat brought a message of hope and faith to Stephenville students and residents. Now he is taking his evangelic tour across Texas and beyond at a time when relations between Muslims and Christians remain strained due to conflict in the Middle East.

Ziafat knows those conflicts all too well. He rejected his Muslim upbringing and converted to Christianity, risking disownment from his father, retaliation from extremist members of the Muslim community and lingering prejudice about his heritage.

Born in Houston to Iranian parents, Ziafat's father, a doctor, was a devout Muslim and expected his children to be. When Ziafat was 2, the family moved back to Iran and lived there until the late 1970s. Then came the Islamic revolution. When Ayatollah Khomeini overthrew the Shah of Iran, Ziafat's father rushed the family out of the country before the Iranian hostage crisis.

Arriving back in Houston at age 6, Ziafat entered the first grade. Even though he was a native Houstonian, he spoke Farsi and very little English. Prejudice and persecution against Iranians made adjusting to American life even more difficult.

"When people found out we were Iranian, we had rocks thrown through our windows and our tires slashed," Ziafat recalled in a solemn tone of voice. "My brother and I were kicked off the soccer team. We were threatened to get beat up."

The only positive American influence in his life was a tutor who taught the boy English by reading him books every day after school. When Ziafat entered the second grade, she handed him a small New Testament Bible. "You won't understand this book now," she told him, "but I want you to hang on to it and read it later in your life."

Ziafat hid the Bible in his bedroom. He grew up a Muslim.

While in high school, though, Ziafat said he became "fascinated" by the story and teachings of Jesus Christ. "Every night I would read that Bible underneath the covers with a flashlight so my parents wouldn't figure out what I was

doing if they happened to walk in," Ziafat recalled. "Every day at school this annoying Christian kid would come and talk to me about Jesus. I'd debate with him on the side of Islam. At night I'd go home and read more about Jesus."

A few weeks later Ziafat was invited to attend a crusade. He still remembers that day when he converted to Christianity -- Sept. 28, 1989.

On the way home, though, what he'd done smacked him in the face. Ziafat's father was a prominent Muslim in Houston -- president of the Islamic Medical Society and chairman of the Iranian Islamic Center's board. Ziafat adored him and didn't want to disappoint his father. So he covered up his conversion for more than a year.

"I would hide my church

clothes in my car on Saturday night and go change at a restaurant on Sunday morning before I went to church," Ziafat said. "I would hide my Bible and intercept mail from the church I was attending."

Ziafat's father eventually spotted the Bible and confronted his son. When Ziafat confessed he had become a Christian, his father's word scalded him like

boiling water: "Then you can no longer be my son."

"Everything in me wanted to say, 'Forget it, I'm a Muslim,'" Ziafat said. Instead, he told him, "Dad, if I have to choose between you and Jesus, I choose Jesus. And if I have to choose between my earthly father and my heavenly Father, I choose my heavenly Father."

Ziafat went on to attend the University of Texas at Austin,

where he roomed with a Christian student who also was from a Muslim family and also had hidden his faith from his father. Ziafat and his father eventually reconciled on the condition that he become a doctor like his dad.

But Ziafat decided to go into the Christian ministry instead. He knew he had to break the news to his father. "My hand was shaking the whole time," he recalled. His father called Ziafat's decision the "biggest stain" on his life.

Ziafat received his masters of divinity degree from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth. His church paid for his first semester's tuition. When he got to seminary a check for \$100 was waiting for him from an anonymous donor and he was given a free place to live for four years.

After he graduated, Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano asked him to join the staff as the pastor's assistant. Ziafat preached at the church a few times to an audience of around 20,000 and discovered his calling to evangelism.

Now living in Houston again, Ziafat devotes himself to a nationwide speaking ministry and continues to be affiliated with Prestonwood as one of its missionary partners. This spring and summer he will address churches, retreats and evangelist events. He's also a regular speaker to groups in Huntsville and The Woodlands.

For Ziafat, life has come full circle. He travels to Iran several times a year to work with an organization called Elam Ministries that trains Iranians to strengthen

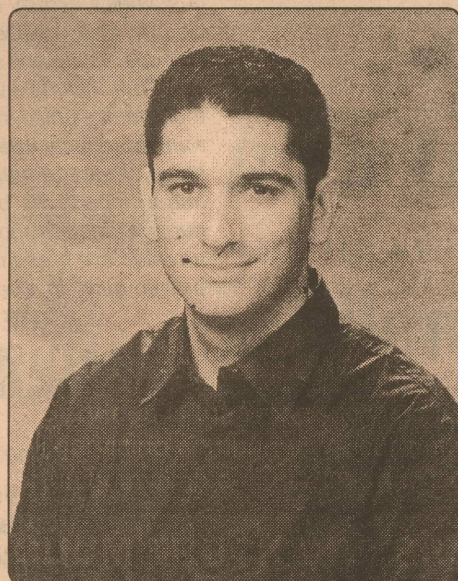
existing Christian churches and establish new ones in the Muslim country. He said he is convinced other Muslims like him will be drawn to Jesus and the Christian religion and its message of faith in the midst of persecution.

"My story is not about a man's faithfulness to God -- I went in

kicking and screaming," Ziafat said. "My story is about God's faithfulness to a man."

For Ziafat's speaking schedule, visit his website at www.afshinziafat.com.

The Texan News Service is a project of Tarleton State University's journalism program



COURTESY PHOTO
Afshin Ziafat

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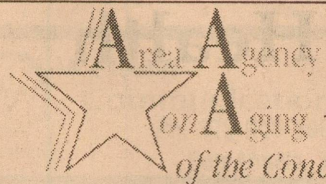
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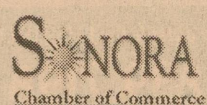
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AUGUST 10 - 11, 2007



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51st District Court Report



The 51st District Court of Schleicher County met Monday, July 30th, 2007 with the Honorable Barbara L. Walther presiding. The following judgement was handed down.

Armando Moreno of Eldorado plead true on two Motion's To Revoke on Probation. The first plea he received 6 years state jail time, \$750 fine and has to pay \$2,112.66 in restitution. On the second plea Moreno received 540 days state jail time, \$750 fine and \$953.00 in restitution.

Moreno also plead guilty to one combined count of Burglary of a Building. He received 540 days state jail time. All jail time to serve concurrently.

Addicted To Email? Here's How To Help

(SPM Wire) Are you constantly checking your email throughout the day - from your office, bedroom, car, when you're out to dinner, on vacation or even in the bathroom?

You're not alone. According to an "Email Addiction" survey conducted by AOL, more Americans than ever are using portable devices and computers to feed their email addictions round-the-clock. According to experts email addiction has less to do with curbing


an obsession than it does with proper time and email management.

Here are some tips from Regina Lewis, AOL Online Consumer Advisor, on curing your electronic urge:

- Organize: Use folders provided in most email services to file messages appropriately. Filing by category can help avoid repetitive communication.
- Use Your Away Message: If you feel compelled to answer every email as it comes in, use your away message to let people know you've stepped away from email for the day (or night), and will respond when you return.
- Follow the Rule of Three: If you've emailed back and forth with the same person on the same topic more than three times, it's time to pick up the phone and have a conversation.

Of course it also helps to realize that not every email is urgent and focus on more important things in life.

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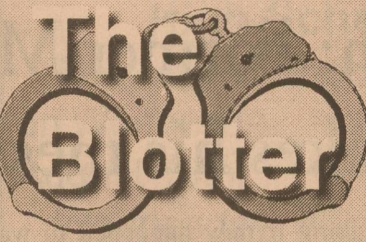
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The Blotter



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. Accidents 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

August 1 • Otis Layne Babb, male age 24, offense Parole Violation.

August 2 • Otero, Adam Anthony, male age 39, offense Failure To Appear. Released on \$2,000 Surety Bond.

August 4 • Garcia, Enrique, male age 28, Driving While License Invalid. Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.

August 6 • Gandar, Joe D., male age 25, Burglary of Habitat/Terroristic Threat.

INCIDENTS

July 31 • 3:02 a.m. Subject wanted to speak with an officer about neighbors dogs barking at night. Subject wanted to file a complaint, due to dogs keeping them awake for a week.

• 7:00 a.m. 30-40 Head of sheep out on Hwy. 277 North.

• 9:54 a.m. Caller reported theft of property from Eldorado TxDOT yard. Officer notified.

August 1 • 11:01 a.m. Complainant reported several broken security lights. Request officer to patrol area at night.

• 4:32 p.m. Hospital employee requested a deputy to handle a disturbance at the emergency room. Deputies responded.

• 5:32 p.m. Caller requested a deputy to handle a situation at the hospital. Deputies responded.

August 2 • 11:19 a.m. Complainant requested a criminal trespass notification.

• 6:01 p.m. Complainant reported pickup speeding on East Fields Street. Officers notified.

August 3 • 7:40 a.m. Caller reported two dogs chasing

Second Hand Rose Consignment

WE ARE FULL. CALL AHEAD BEFORE BRINGING ITEMS IN. GOOD SELECTION SCHOOL CLOTHING.

Hwy 277 South
 Open 10-6 pm
 Mon-Sat. 853-3736

people and being aggressive.

August 4 • No time Store requested a criminal trespass notification be served. Officer responded.

• 7:40 a.m. Caller reported they had caught a cat in a animal trap. City notified.

• 4:15 p.m. 911 Call. Caller reported a domestic disturbance at county park. Three officers responded.

• 7:49 a.m. • Complainant reported men in a vehicle harassing juveniles. Officer notified.

August 5 • 6:59 p.m. Caller reported they will be having a controlled burn near the landfill.

• 7:00 p.m. Caller reported a stolen vehicle a 2002 Gray Dodge Pickup. Complainant reported a male and female left the day before in work truck without permission. Officer spoke to female's family member and they stated that the girl and girl's boyfriend had left for Christoval to do some fishing. Deputy notified Tom Green Sheriff Office to check Christoval area for vehicle and occupants.

• 8:19 p.m. Caller requested an ambulance for his wife. EMS responded.

August 6 • 5:55 a.m. 911 Hang up from the Senior Apartments. Dispatcher tried to call back several times, then finally had officer go to address. Officer found everything OK.

• 6:08 p.m. Caller reported goats along the roadside on FM 2129. Deputy responded.

• 10:21 p.m. Caller reported a dark colored late model Ford pickup containing four men. The men were trying to come on property through a locked gate. The intruders had procured a key and the driver of the pickup said he was looking for a Hispanic man by the name of James. The owners requested a deputy, who responded.

August 7 • 4:28 a.m. 86 year old female requested medical assistance at home. EMS 2 and officer responded.

Answer to Sudoku on Page 3

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


Solution to puzzle on Page 6

On Hold

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

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Eldorado Spotlight



The Spotlight camera this week caught the Eldorado Eagles Travis Carter and Jess Gonzales preparing a cool drink for the teams as they practice two a days.

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Applications are available at the Administration Office, 205 Field Street, Eldorado, Texas 76936.

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 Pictures are scheduled to be taken next week!
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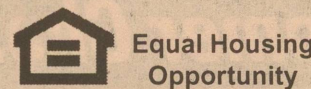
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New SW loveseat, dining table w/4 chairs, red print sofa, white iron bakers rack, antique rocker, good dryer, sewing machine cabinets w/machines, wooden rocker, recliner, pine double dresser and mirror, oak double dresser/mirror/night stand, Mahogany gate-leg table and 6 chairs \$299, cream & gray sofa, beautiful round glass & brass coffee table, several small desks, rug, baby bed, oriental nested tables (4); Lots more. Please call ahead before bringing in clothing or furniture. All must be in good condition. SECOND HAND ROSE 853-3736.

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Sealed bids addressed to the Schleicher County Commissioner's Court will be received by the County Clerk until **10:00 am August 13, 2007**, when such bids will be opened in the Commissioner's Courtroom for the following:

Paving of the entrance of the Schleicher County Cemetery and Cemetery Chapel Parking Lot
Paving of County Road #402
Paving of County Road #414
 (For Specifications, contact County Judge Johnny Griffin (325) 853-2766)

The Commissioner's Court has the right to accept or reject any and all bids submitted.

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◆ RUSH HOUR 3 (Showing on two screens) (PG-13) 10:40am 11:30am 1:15pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 4:40pm 7:00pm 7:45pm 9:45pm 10:15pm	◆ NO RESERVATIONS (PG) 10:15am 1:25pm 4:15pm 7:20pm 10:05pm
◆ STARDUST (PG-13) 12:15pm 4:20pm 7:30pm 10:35pm	◆ RATATOUILLE 10:05am 12:50pm 3:50pm (G) ◆ BOURNE ULTIMATUM (Showing on two screens) (PG-13) 10:20am 10:50am 1:10pm 1:45pm 4:05pm 4:55pm 7:10pm 7:55pm 10:00pm 10:45pm
◆ HAIRSPRAY (PG) 10:10am 12:55pm 3:55pm 7:25pm 10:40pm	◆ THE SIMPSONS MOVIE (PG-13) 10:25am 1:00pm 3:40pm 6:45pm 9:30pm
◆ HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) 12:30pm 3:35pm 7:05pm 10:25pm	◆ TRANSFORMERS 6:55pm 10:20pm (PG-13) ◆ UNDERDOG (PG) 10:35am 1:05pm 4:10pm 7:15pm 9:40pm
◆ HOT ROD (PG-13) 10:45am 1:35pm 4:25pm 7:40pm 10:10pm	

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FSA seeks proposals for new conservation initiative

Proposal deadline set for August 13, 2007

ELDORADO — Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA) is asking federal, state and local agencies as well as private or non-profit organizations to submit proposals for a new 500,000-acre Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) program to improve habitat for high-priority wildlife species nationwide. Nearly 40,000 acres has been allocated to Texas

“The State Areas for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative provides an opportunity to develop grassroots conservation projects to address high priority wildlife needs through habitat restoration,” said Jan Wanoreck, Executive Director for the Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde County FSA. “This initiative further extends the positive environmental impacts of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).” With more than 36 million acres enrolled, CRP is the nation’s largest, voluntary private-

lands conservation program. CRP practices improve water quality, air quality and wildlife habitat.

SAFE will enable the public, producers, state and federal agencies, non-profit conservation organizations and others to propose areas where new CRP acreage may be established to address the habitat needs of endangered, threatened or high-priority fish and other wildlife species. In addition, conservation practices currently offered under CRP can be fine-tuned under SAFE to improve, connect or create higher-quality habitat to promote healthier ecosystems in areas identified as essential to effective species management.

Proposed SAFE acreage located in counties that have reached the CRP acreage enrollment cap of 25 percent will not be considered. All proposed acreage for CRP enrollment under the SAFE program must have been cropped or meet

FSA’s definition of “farmable,” four of six years during the period 1996-2001. Proposals should include a thorough description of the proposed project, identify the targeted species and should outline project monitoring and evaluation plans.

Wanoreck emphasized that Individual landowners interested in proposing a SAFE plan should consider partnering with other landowners or special-interest groups in order to increase the number of acres proposed for enrollment because approved SAFE plans must, at a minimum, result in a county-wide impact on restoration of habitat for the target species.

“A good proposal will encompass a sizeable geographic area and include not only the target species, plantings and related details, but will offer a monitoring plan that indicates how success will be tracked; the plan will also provide a baseline for where we’re at today as well as a vision of where we want be in the future with regard to species restoration,” said Wanoreck.

Interested entities can submit a SAFE proposal to the local FSA Office or directly to the Texas FSA State Office attention: Sammy Orange, Conservation Chief; PO Box

2900, College Station, Texas 77841. The deadline for receipt of SAFE proposals is August 13, 2007

All SAFE proposals received by Texas FSA will go through a two-tier review process at the state level before being submitted to the national FSA office in Washington, D.C. on or before November 1.

If the proposed SAFE area is approved, eligible landowners within the SAFE area may enter into new CRP contracts with USDA’s Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Approved program participants will receive an annual CRP rental rate equivalent to soil rental rates for the county plus an annual maintenance payment.

Also, the producer is eligible for cost-share assistance of up to 50 percent of eligible practice installation costs. In addition, producers will be eligible for a one-time payment of \$100 per acre signing Incentive Payment. Producers may also receive a practice incentive payment equal to 40 percent of the eligible establishment costs of the practice.

For SAFE proposal details, format and protocol, contact the Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde County FSA at 325-853-3535 or visit the national web site at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on “Conservation Programs.”

Connect to Customer Choice

AS THE ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY that has been serving south and west Texas for over 90 years, AEP Texas knows a thing or two about energy conservation. While we no longer sell electricity or send out monthly electric bills, we recognize this is going to be a long, hot summer.

Since AEP Texas and its 1,700 employees are directly connected to the many communities we live in and serve, we’d like to share some information on how you can help manage your electric bills through active retail choice and where you can go for additional help if need be.

One of the best ways to lower higher electric bills is to shop around for a less expensive retail electric provider (REP). Finding different offers can be done quickly and efficiently.

- 1) Visit the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) electric choice website at www.powertochoose.org. If you don’t have access to a computer, you can call the PUC’s Electric Choice hotline at 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (797-4839).
- 2) Use the information you receive to contact different REPs to collect more information on various services and offers. Also contact your current REP at the number listed on your electric bill for other offers that may be available. Ask about contract terms and prices and be sure to look at the REPs’ Electricity Facts Labels to make a good comparison.

Need some help?

Customers having trouble paying their electric bills and wishing to avoid disconnection should discuss their concerns with their current retail electric provider. All REPs are required to offer deferred payment plans to eligible customers who express an inability to pay. REPs also offer balanced billing plans, which allow eligible customers to pay an average amount each month year-round.

Additionally, many community action agencies may be able to help with electric bills or energy efficiency programs. For more information, contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) at 1-800-525-0657, e-mail at info@tdhca.state.tx.us or visiting one of the following websites.

TDHCA Utility Bill Help and Other Assistance www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_energy.htm
TDHCA Home Repair Assistance and Weatherization www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_repair.htm
www.aeptexas.com

Connected to you.
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Deadline nears for Noninsured Crop Assistance Program

Monday, September 3, 2007, is the deadline to purchase small grain grazing Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 crop year through the Texas Farm Service Agency. The fee is \$100 per crop up to \$300 per county. Producers may continue 2008 NAP coverage on the same crop as 2007 if the applicable service fee is received in our office by the earliest application closing date (September 3rd) without having to file another application for coverage. Our office mailed continuous coverage letters to inform producers of NAP crops covered in the 2007 crop year and the deadline for sub-

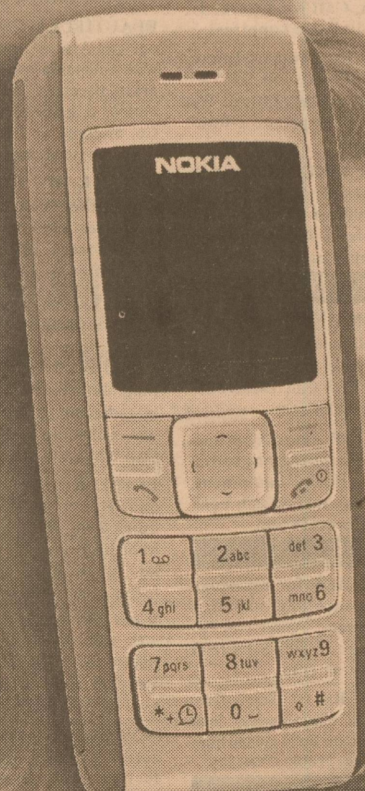
mitting the applicable service fees. Producers who wish to add or delete any crops on their 2008 application for coverage will be required to file and sign a new application. Any previous year’s production needs to be filed with our office prior to the subsequent crop year’s final acreage reporting date to be eligible to be used for Actual Production History (APH) purposes. Also keep in mind that sales closing dates are different for all crops.

More information may be obtained by calling the Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde FSA office at (325) 853-3535.

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