

See Sutton County Days Picture Spread Inside

Devil's River NEWS

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SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, August 24, 2000

Sutton County Days Winners

The dust has settled and the sun has set on another Sutton County Days and Sonora Outlaw Pro Rodeo. The week-end was full of fun, food and friends. There were new exhibits, record breaking sales and contests of all sorts.

The changing of Sutton County royalty began Saturday morning on the courthouse lawn, with the crowning of the new Little Miss and Mr. Sutton County. Leslie Levario was crowned Little Miss, after singing a sweet rendition of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star". First Runner up in the Little Miss contest was Kaci Lewis and second runner up was Macie Renee Friess.

The Little Mr. Sutton County title was given to a happy little Colton Reid Crowder. Runner up for Little Mr. was Lil' Sam Patterson and second runner up was Dusty Holmes.

All of the parents should be proud of such cute little cowboys and cowgirls.

The 2000 Miss Sutton County crowning took place Saturday night during the Outlaw Pro Rodeo performance. This year's contest was a bit different than years past, since there were only two girls competing. Kasey Kearney and Heather Felts broke individual sales records and impressed the crowds by selling over \$20,000.00 worth of rodeo and dance tickets this year. Both girls also made Miss Sutton County history by being the first to ride horseback in the introductions and the parade. The girls worked so hard and so well together, that when it came time for the crown to be passed, it was decided that both would receive one. Kasey Kearney was named as the 2000 Sutton County Princess and Heather Felts was named Miss Sutton County. The girls will go on to represent Sutton County together for the rest of the year and will receive scholarships to the school of their choice.

The Sutton County Days parade brought out characters of all types with the "It's a Small World" theme.

Cruella DeVille, The Cat in the Hat, Superman, Tweety Bird and more were all seen on Sonora's Main Street Saturday morning.

Awards were given for Best Organization/Group, Best Float, Out-of-Town Best of Show and the Grand Prize.

After the 54 entries had made their way to the courthouse, prizes were given as follows: Organization - 1st: Junction High School Band, 2nd: Busy Bee Day Care. Float - 1st: Devil's River Dancers, 2nd: Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas. Out of Town - Brady Chamber of Commerce.

The Grand Prize went to the Bank & Trust jungle float, who also represented the parade committee that did such a great job putting together the 2000 Sutton County Days parade.

The big winner in the Mutton Bustin' contest was Mr. Rusty Martin of Big Spring, TX. Rusty held on the longest and took home a nice buckle and the "Champ" title.

The Sonora Outlaw Pro Rodeo welcomed many hometown contestants this year, as well as some of the top P.R.C.A cowboys and cowgirls.

When the last calf was roped, the last steer turned and the last bull bucked the average winners were as follows:

Bareback Riding: 1. Bode Zietz

-Eastland, TX. 2. Jim Richards - Dublin, TX 3. Mike Outhier - Dublin, TX.

Saddle Bronc Riding: 1. Mike Outhier - Dublin, TX, 2. Cole Hardin - San Angelo, TX, 3. Scott Miller - Hillsboro, TX.

Bull Riding: 1. Kent Cox - Ranger, TX, 2. Ricky Harper - Andrews, TX, 3. Joshua Alford - Gardendale, TX.

Team Roping: 1. Scott Snedecor - Needville, TX/Randy Halbert - Guy, TX, 2. Matt Petrus - Skidmore, TX/Tom Wren - Ker-ville, TX, 3. Buzzy Bierschwale - Junction, TX/Will Brown - Fredericksburg, TX.

Steer Wrestling: 1. Jeff Corbello - Iowa, LA, 2/3. Joe Walker - Springtown, TX, 2/3. Bryan Hudson - Fort Worth, TX

Calf Roping: 1. Jason Evans - Huntsville, TX, 2. Trevor Brazile - Decatur, TX, 3. Speed Williams - Jacksonville, FL.

Steer Roping: 1. Trevor Brazile - Decatur, TX, 2. Kelly Casebolt - Newkirk, OK, 3. Jay Sellers - Buffalo, OK

Barrel Racing: 1. Janet Stover - Rusk, TX, 2. Mary Carter - Odessa, TX, 3. Kay Blandford - Sutherland Spgs, TX.

See *Sutton County Days* page 8



Heather Felts is escorted by Tommy Love and Kasey Kearney is escorted by Mickey Powers at the Miss Sutton County coronation.

Committee on Aging Bar-B-Que Benefits Seniors

The Sutton County Committee on Aging Annual BAR-B-Q was held on Friday, August 18, 2000 in the "Cool" Civic Center.

The Old Tyme Band put on a great show, along with some of their musician friends from the area. They donated their talents for this worthy cause. There was much "toe tapping" and moving to the music as people enjoyed the delicious bar-b-que meal.

Donations from this fun time event will be used only to benefit the Senior Citizens of Sutton County. Our primary concern is the LIFELINE. This is such an important aid to our Seniors and we have supported it since its inception. Thanks to the City, County, and WTU, the new system required by December 31 of this year will be purchased and in place. We shall have to replace some 14 units which cost \$700.00 each.



Currently we have 45 units in use. Ray Smith's vigilance has been priceless. Some citizens are able to pay for their unit or make a donation but most are not. The donations received at this event, or at anytime, are vital to keep the LIFELINE in force. We hope everyone that attended this event enjoyed a great meal and some good music and we look forward to doing it all again next year.

SonoraArt.com Invites You to Enjoy Their Gallery



Local artists, friends and family were on hand for the Grand Opening celebration of SonoraArt.com on Thursday, August 17, 2000. Sonora's first art gallery displays some of Sutton County's local talent, as well as pieces provided by artists from surrounding counties.

Sonora Schools Ranked Among Texas' Best by TEA

The ratings for the 1999-2000 school year are based on student performance on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills Test, attendance rates, and dropout rates. This is part of the evaluation TEA officials give Texas schools each year. Each campus and district gets a report card, with rankings of low performing, acceptable, recognized or exemplary.

"I'm very pleased, very proud of what our students have done and what our teachers have accomplished," Education Commissioner Jim Nelson said. "This is a good indicator of the quality of a campus and quality of a district."

An analysis of the 2000 Accountability Rating for the Sonora ISD is shown below for your review. You will notice that Sonora ISD is rated Recognized by the Texas Education Agency, the Primary School is rated Recognized, the Intermediate School is rated Recognized, the Middle School is rated Recognized, and the Sonora High School is rated Exemplary.

There were some changes in the ranking system this year, such as exempting fewer students from taking the TAAS Test. That's because state legislators last year passed a law requiring immigrant students to take state mandated tests in English after one year of schooling in the

United States. Before, they could wait until they had three years of U.S. schooling before they took the test.

"Despite the higher standards, our students excelled," Nelson said. Over the past three years in Sonora, our teachers and administrators under the orchestration of our school board have worked diligently to improve not only our accountability rating but our entire instructional program as well. All administrators and teachers analyze test data for every student on his/her campus and develop plans to help each student achieve success. Our students have made significant strides in achievement over the past three years and the district is planning for and expecting greater student achievement in the coming years. We have made notable progress in the Sonora ISD and our goal is to be rated an Exemplary school district.

We appreciate your interest in our district and its instructional program. Our entire staff is committed to providing the very best education possible for our students and we appreciated the opportunity to serve the students, parents, and community of the Sonora Independent School District.

TEA RATING CRITERIA
Exemplary: At least 90 percent of all students and each student group-

black, white, hispanic and economically disadvantaged - must pass each section of the TAAS test; a dropout rate of 1 percent or less for all students and student groups; and an attendance rate of 94 percent or more. This year, 1,291 school - an 167 districts - earned this tip rating, according to the TEA.

Recognized: At least 80 percent of all students and each student group must pass each section of TAAS; a dropout rate of 3.5 percent or less for all students and student group, and an attendance rate of 94 percent or more.

Acceptable: At least 50 percent of all students and each student group pass each section of TAAS; an attendance rate of 94 percent or more; and a dropout rate of 6 percent or less for all students and student groups.

Low-performing: Don't meet acceptable or accredited standards. There were 157 schools and five districts to earn this rating this year. The state began administering TAAS in the 1990-1991 school year. The current accountability rating was created in 1993 when state legislators wanted a system to measure school's performances and whether education reforms were working.

See *TAAS Table* page 5

City Council Approves Funding For Construction of Water Storage Facility

On the 15th day of August, 2000 the city council of Sonora, Texas met in Regular Session with the following present: JoAnn Hernandez, Mayor; James Blackman, Kyle Donaldson, Virgil Polocek, Gloria Lopez, Brent Gesch, City Manager; Elizabeth Wallace, City Attorney; Becky Covington, City Secretary.

Others attending all or part of the meeting were Chris Croy, Tony Lane, James McLaughlin, Ann Kay, Juanita Mesa, Don Sessom, Mike Hale, Justin McGeath, Rick Taylor, and Frank Wamble.

A motion was made by Councilmember Lopez to approve the minutes for the Special Meeting held on June 3, 2000, and the Regular Meeting held on July 18, 2000 as written. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilmember Polocek to approve an interlocal agreement between the Sonora Independent School District and the City of Sonora for the Sonora Police Department to provide security service at local football games and other local school events at which security services are necessary at a rate of \$25.00 per hour per officer. Councilmember Lopez made a second to the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The monthly tax collection report from Sutton County Appraisal District was presented for review. The report showed 93.5% or \$333,845.57 of taxes collected through July.

Rick Taylor, Manager of SIDC, presented the monthly SIDC activity report. He reported on prospective businesses and on Eco-Tourism and the start of a new State Wildlife Nature Trail. The council reviewed the financial statements and advised that it would be sufficient to present the reports on a quarterly basis. Councilmember Donaldson made a motion to accept the report. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion and all members voted in favor.

A motion was made by Councilmember Blackman to approve the 2000-2001 fiscal year budget for the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilmember Blackman to authorize the SIDC to only advertise for bids to do repairs on the Eaton Hill House. On the advise of legal coun-

sel, funds should not be expended on Eaton Hill until compliance with the 4B sales tax guidelines that require the SIDC to define the project and comply with the public hearing provisions are completed. A public hearing has been scheduled for September 19. Councilmember Donaldson made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

No activity report was received from the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Councilmember Polocek to accept the only bid received from Sonora Wool & Mohair for \$6,500 to equip and construct a bed on the new fire truck. Councilmember Lopez made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Hernandez opened the public hearing to hear comments on the 2000-2001 fiscal year budget. The council planned another budget workshop for September 12 at 5:30 p.m. No comments from the public were heard. There being no further discussion Mayor Hernandez closed the public hearing.

The substandard and unsafe building conditions at 413 Highway 277 S, Block 50A, Lot 9, South Heights Addition, was reported in compliance with the city code, therefore, no further action is needed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Polocek to approve a RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. The application is for \$174,999.00 of grant funds and the city will commit \$164,501.00 for a total project of \$339,500.00 for the construction of water storage facility improvements. Councilmember Lopez made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

The 1st reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 74: Personnel: Division 3. Volunteer Firefighters' Retirement Fund of the Code of Ordinances, City of Sonora, Texas, providing for changes in the city's contribution; disability benefits and death benefits. The city will contribute \$48.00 per month of active service for each firefighter.

Beth Wallace, City Attorney, advised the court has been busy with trials and regular court work.

Sue Mooie, Public Housing Director, reported 16 families housed with the Section 8 Voucher Program.

Chris Croy, Chief of Police, reported being busy working the school traffic and getting ready to do security at football games, Sutton County Days celebration, and investigating an assault. He also reported some of the officers were attending first aid classes.

James McLaughlin, Public Utilities, advised fixing water leaks, changing meters, repairing water line at airport, sewer stoppages, working on the animal control building and reported on the repairs of the sewer line on 2nd Street.

Tony Lane, Airport Manager, reported installing a 50' antenna at the airport and repairing a water line.

Juanita Mesa, Sr. Center Director, reported serving 1847 meals and 498 van trips for July. Other scheduled activities at the center were also discussed. Juanita reported that West Texas Utilities donated \$2,500 to be used towards the purchase of the Lifeline monitor.

Ann Kay, Main Street Director, reported on the 9 minute 21 second promotion, Queen Contestant Fashion Show, needlework exhibit, Sutton County Days celebration, Mexico trip, landscaping the Concho Street bridge, planter boxes on Main Street, Wildlife meetings with TxDOT, SCAT grant, Veterans Exhibit at depot, Eagle Scout project at the Miers Home, and the upcoming parade.

Becky Covington, City Secretary, reported on the status of the current budget.

Brent Gesch, City Manager, reported on the trash pickup, scheduling of the street crew, and sewer repairs. Brent reported that figures reflect a cost saving in contracting out fleet repairs compared to hiring a shop mechanic and paying wages and benefits. Concern over the local economy, Brent reported that he preferred to wait awhile to see what the economy was going to do before a Public Works Director was hired.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilmember Donaldson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Blackman, Mayor Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Petit Jury scheduled for August 28, 2000 has been cancelled.

Sonora Church Directory

PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA
Rick Sanchez
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

CHURCH OF CHRIST
304 N. Water
387-3190

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. T. Wayne Price
Pastor
404 E Oak
387-2951

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rev. Ted W. Harris
404 E. Poplar
387-2955

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Suzanne Steves, Pastor
201 N. Water
387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS
Rev. Santos Beserra, Jr.
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Charles Huffman
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER
Jerry & Joy Wood
204 E. Main
387-3241

LA IGLESIA HISPANA PENTECOSTAL DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC.
Pastor
Hector A. Portillo
807 Orient Ave.
387-6065

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN
Lewis Allen, Pastor
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH
Don Longoria, Pastor
Corner of Hwy. 277 S. and Glasscock

PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED
Randy Greenwood
Pastor
509 Amistad
387-5266

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father William DuBuisson,
O.M.I.
229 W. Plum
387-2278

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS
310 St. Ann's Street
387-5658 or 387-5518

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
Don Seigler
511 Cornell
387-3018

SONORA FAMILY FAITH CENTER
Sonora Stock Pens
Sunday 6:00 p.m.

FORD
BRONCHO FORD INC.
115 N CONCHO
SONORA, TX 76950
(915)387-2549

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

Engagement

Keese - Roubison

Dawn Keese and Marvin "Skeeter" Roubison, both of Fort Davis will be married September 9, 2000, at the Tisdale Ranch in Eldorado, Texas. The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Keese of Sonora. The prospective bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Roubison of Eldorado. Miss Keese is a 1992 graduate of Sonora High School and received a Bachelor of Science Degree, an Equine Degree and a Master of Agriculture Science Degree from Sul Ross University. Her fiance is a 1989 graduate of Eldorado High School and attended Sul Ross for an art degree.

Cards of Thanks

To the Sonora Volunteer Fire Fighters and, the Borderline Volunteer Fire Fighters, thank you, thank you for the endless hours you spent on the McMillan and the Espy Ranches putting out the "senseless" fire that kept breaking out. What would we do without all the wonderful neighbors, who came from far and near, to help fight the fire. To mention only a few, Bob and Landon Brockman, Mike Friess, Dennis Schubert, and Trey Rushing for doing the "night patrol". Thanks to Luther Creek and the other oilfield companies who sent their equipment and water trucks to put the fire out. A special thanks to all the volunteer fire fighters who used their own time to help preserve our pastures. A very special thanks to everyone who came out to help. We did not see all of you but we offer our deepest thanks. Everyone keep smiling, for God truly loves you and so do we. W.B. & Lucille, Ruth & Sister

It has been such a privilege to serve this community as Miss Sutton County for the past year. I would like to thank Storie Sharp and all the members of the Sonora Outlaw Pro Rodeo committee for being so generous and supportive, and for treating me like a queen every step of the way. Mostly of all, I want to thank the citizens of Sutton County for making this such a wonderful town to live in and represent. This truly is a one-in-a-million community.

Sincerely,
Andi Allen

Sonora Cross Country Teams would like to thank everyone who helped them in their Sutton County Days 5-K Run/Walk & Fun Run. Everyone's hard work made this event a great success. A very special thank you goes out to our local businesses that donated gifts for our top finishers. The Ross Family, Joe David, Joe Will, and Mary Ross Bucholz who donated cash awards, dinners were donated from Sutton County Steakhouse, La Mexicana, Sonic, and Pizza Hut. Dairy Queen donated ice cream cones to our Fun Run Kids, and the Video Store donated video rentals. KHOS radio station gave gift tickets to Schlitterbahn and Sonora Caverns treated a winner to a tour of the caverns. Sonora Outlaw Pro Rodeo donated tickets to the dance and rodeo. Rye Supply, we thank you for your donation of Gatorade and ice for all the runners. Without each of these sponsors our run would not have been the success it was. Thank you again to each of these sponsors and again to each and every individual for your part and contribution. Sonora Cross Country Teams

The Miss Sutton County Style Show was definitely an afternoon of beautiful smiles and great styles. Andi, Jamie, Chanel, Hunter, Heather and Kasey did a great job modeling all of Sonora's hottest outfits. I would like to thank B & C Dept. Store, Busy Bee Dept. Store, image and Ol' Sonora Trading Co. for providing the clothes for the girls to wear and the great centerpieces for the tables. I would also like to give a special thank you to Lisa's Flowers & Gifts, Flowers by Irene, and Poplar Street Greenhouse for providing the greenery that gave it just the touch we were looking for. Lola Beth Jones and the Sutton County Steakhouse also deserve a big thanks for their assistance, thank you so much.

Beverly and Tommy Arwine, Rick Stricklin, Patty and John Henry Strauch for providing such delightful music, at just the right volume, and thanks to our special out-of-town judges!

Of course, I could not have pulled off such a fantastic show without a very special group of friends and loved ones that helped with all the planning, set-up, serving, cleaning and moral support. Thank you Mickey and Steve (not that you had a choice!), Kim, Shanna, Candy, Tina, Tibba, Ladonna, Fran, Ann Kay, Shelly, Danni, Lacey, and last but not least because she helped put it all together, Erica! Storie Sharp

50th Wedding Anniversary



Charles and Beverly Howard celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 18, 2000. They were honored with a reception on Sunday afternoon at the Church

of Christ Fellowship Hall. Many friends and family were present to help them celebrate. We were so thankful to have Beverly's mother, Gretta Smith, with us on this special occasion.

Thank you to all who helped make this occasion a memorable one.

"Fifty years of marriage - just think of what that means,

Fifty years of talking, laughing, sharing hopes and dreams,

Fifty years of growing closer, understanding, trusting,

Working little problems out, changing and adjusting,

Fifty years of helping, caring, facing life together,

Standing by each other through the best and worst of weather,

Fifty years of proving what you knew right from the start-

That time can only deepen love you give with all your heart.

Obituary

George David Scott

George David Scott, 69, of San Angelo and formerly of Sweetwater, passed away Thursday, August 17, 2000 at his residence.

Services were held Sunday, August 20, 2000 in McCoy Chapel of Memories. The Rev. Charles McLaughlin officiated with interment at Ross Cemetery near Blackwell. Arrangements were by McCoy Funeral Home.

George David Scott was born Feb. 16, 1931, in Nolan County. He attended ADA school, Highland School and graduated from Sweetwater High School in 1948. He received his master's of education in 1972 from West Texas State University, which has since become West Texas A & M University and George was proud to be an Aggie by proclamation.

He served his country in the United States Navy during the Korean War and was aboard the USS Norfolk and the USS Miller. After various other occupations, he taught at Midland High School for 10 years and Hobbs Alternative School for Sweetwater Independent School District where he retired on May 31, 2000.

He was the grandson of one of Sweetwater's pioneers, William Tignor "Uncle Tig" Scott and was buried in the Ross Cemetery which is on the land donated by his great-grandfather, John Ross.

He was a member of First Baptist Church in Sweetwater until

his move to San Angelo where he became a member of Southland Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Lois June Scott of San Angelo; a son, Randy Scott of Houston; two daughters and sons-in-law, Cyndie and Kim Batchelor of Sonora and Debra and Robert Gibbons of Katy; two grandsons, Chris Scott and wife, Elisha, of San Angelo and Matthew Batchelor of Sonora. He was proud especially of his two great-granddaughters, Autumn Joy Scott and Hannah Noelle Scott, both of San Angelo. He is also survived by his mother Ila Couch-Scott of Sweetwater and a sister, Mary Leona Scott of Oklahoma City; two brothers, Elva "Scotty" Scott of Sweetwater and Robert Wesley Scott of Hesperus, Colo.

He preceded in death by two brothers and his father, Elva S. Scott, Sr.

He requested that memorials be made to VistaCare Hospice of San Angelo, American Cancer Society and Hendrick Cancer Center of Abilene.

Pallbearers were his grandsons Chris Scott and Matthew Batchelor, sons-in-law, Kim Batchelor and Robert Gibbons, brothers, E.S. Scott Jr. and Robert W. Scott, and his son, Randy Scott. Honorary pallbearers were Charles Haggard, Barry Bailey, A.J. Scott, Jim Cole, Norvel Holveck and Barry Brasher.

School Lunch Menu

School Lunch Menu August 28 - Sept. 1

Breakfast

- Mon. - French toast, syrup, juice or fruit.
- Tues. - Toast, peanut butter & jelly, juice or fruit.
- Wed. - Muffins, juice, fruit.
- Thurs. - Scrambled eggs, bacon, toast, juice or fruit.
- Fri. - Ham & egg burrito, juice or fruit.

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

Lunch

- Mon. - Pizza, celery & carrot sticks, Ranch dressing, cake.
- Tues. - Spaghetti with meat sauce, fried okra, Texas toast, fruit.
- Wed. - Chicken fajitas, flour tortilla, tossed salad, peppers, onions, rice, salsa, jello.
- Thurs. - Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, carrots, pudding.
- Fri. - Hamburger / Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, potato wedges, dessert.

Benefit

BENEFIT TEAM ROPING FOR THE KIMBLE COUNTY MEALS ON WHEELS FREE BAR-B-QUE FOR PAID ROPERS

September 2, 2000
Books Open at 6:00 p.m.
Rope at 7:00 p.m.
3 1/2 Jackpot Roping #2 Cap
Buckles awarded to top header and top healer
Hill Country Fair Association Arena - Junction, TX
For More Info. Contact Patricia Chenault at 915-446-3621

Dining Out Directory

El Torito #2
1005 N. Crockett
387-9525

La Mexicana
240 N. Hwy 277
387-3401

Los Jarritos
605 S. Crockett
387-2838

Pizza Hut
401 Hwy. 277 N.
387-3540

Rosie's Cafe
207 Glasscock Ave
387-5552

Sutton County Steakhouse
1306 N. Service Rd
387-3833

Town & Country Subway
610 S. Crockett
387-6181

Town & Country - Country Kitchen
903 N. Crockett Ave.
387-2169

Ronnie Cox would like to be your pharmacist.

Senior Center News

- August 28 - Bingo!
- August 30 - B-Day Party for August Babies! Noon.
- Sept. 1 - Ice Cream Social... Join us for cake & ice cream as we close the "summer" after lunch...
- Sept. 4 - Center will be closed for Labor Day!

Senior Menu

- August 28 - Oven fried chicken breast, gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed greens, cornbread, jello with fruit parfait.
- August 29 - Hot dogs with chili, cheese, candied sweet potatoes, buns, pineapple waldorf, brownie.
- August 30 - Soft tacos, meat & cheese, pinto beans, corn tortilla, lettuce, tomatoes, fruit cup, cantaloupe.
- August 31 - Chicken strips, baked potato, broccoli with cheese, peach cobbler, roll.
- Sept. 1 - Hamburger on bun, baked French fries, seafoam salad, fresh orange, lettuce, tomatoes, onions.

Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon.
\$1.50 donation is suggested for those 60+ and \$4.00 for others.

Community

- August 26
Vote Sutton County Hospital District Election
7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Sutton County Annex Bldg.
- August 28
County Commissioner's Meeting
9:00 a.m.

The Community Calendar

SUTTON COUNTY
THE BANK & TRUST
MEMBER FDIC

Calendar

- Al- Anon Meeting
Held every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church Basement
- Sept. 2 - 4
Labor Day Boer Goat Sales
- Sept. 4
School Holiday

is made possible by:

First NATIONAL BANK
P.O. BOX 716 - SONORA, TEXAS 76950
(915) 387-3861 Member FDIC

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

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\$25 per year out of county

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication.

The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of the staff.



Member 2000

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Letters To The Editor Policy

The Devil's River News encourages letters from its readers. Letters should be to the point, typed if at all possible and signed. Name, address and telephone number should be included for verification purposes. Letters will be printed on a space available basis. Letters should stick with issues, and not simply be personal attacks. Letters endorsing a particular position on issues of local interest will be accepted, however letters endorsing a candidate for political office will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit for length, content, and potentially libelous statements. Letters to the Editor published in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the position of this publication on any subject. Correspondence should be mailed to: The Devil's River News-Letters to the Editor, 228 East Main, Sonora TX. 76950. Email us at editor@sonorax.net

News from the Neighbors

Alpine Prepares For Balloon Rally

The hot air balloons are on their way back to Alpine with full force on Labor Day Weekend! Put together by the Alpine Chamber of Commerce, the annual Alpine Invitational Balloon Rally is set for September 2nd, 3rd, & 4th. With at least 30 balloons attending, Alpine's West Texas skies will be colorfully painted.

"Dr. Tim Brady, President of the Tri-County Balloon Association in central Texas, will be serving as this year's balloonmeister," says Chamber President Johnny Carpenter. "Tim is thoroughly versed in the safety aspects of hot air balloons and will be overlooking the entire event. As a pilot he has logged more than 1,000 hours of flying, and has flown and instructed all of the major type of balloons," he added. This year Tim also plans to hold a balloon glow and a community concert.

Launchings for the hot air balloons will continue to be held on the open field next to the Ramada Limited. Scheduled time for the balloon

launches will be Saturday, Sunday, and Monday at 7:00 a.m. Other activities including opening ceremonies will be held at 6:30 a.m. each morning.

The Friday night registration and reception party will kick off the schedule of events for pilots and crewmembers. Saturday will continue on with a morning competitive flight, an afternoon reception, an evening balloon glow, and a community concert. Sunday includes a post-flight basket competition among sponsors.

"It was a blast last year... and we are looking forward to bringing the balloons back to Alpine," said Guy Combs, Executive Director of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce. "What can be better than waking up in the morning to a beautiful sky full of color," he added. "We hope that this year the balloon burn will be remembered as one of the most interesting parts of the event."

For more information contact the Alpine Chamber of Commerce at (915) 837-2326.

40th Annual Alamo Village Labor Day Horse Races

Make plans now to attend the 40th Annual Alamo Village Labor Day Horse Races in Brackettville. Gates to the famed Southwest Texas Movie Set originally built by John Wayne for his epic movie The Alamo will open at 9:00 a.m. on Sept. 4, 2000 with entertainment scheduled all day.

Along with the always exciting horse races, music, games and a wide variety of food and beverages, Alamo Village will be offering 30-minute trailrides for the first time on Labor Day.

"A lot of people have never experienced the thrill of riding a horse and where better to have that thrill than the place where movie legends like John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart rode into the Sunset," said Alamo Village owner/operator Virginia Shahan.

Carolyn K and the Roadhouse Band will be performing as part of our music entertainment. We will also have Alamo Village's own Keith Magel, Scooter Bullard and Ben Padilla along with a special guest appearance by Brackettville's singing sensation 12 year old Jacqueline Conoly.

Special acts include famed Hollywood Stuntman Dean Smith and his wonder horse Sunday, Tommy Worrell with Sundance - the World's Smartest Steer, the Badland Rangers with their award winning gunfight and the Alamo Village Gunfighters.

There will also be children's races, gunfights, tortilla toss and educational demonstrations which include sheep shearing and cattle branding. Oh, and for those folks with a sweet tooth Alamo Village will also have an apple pie contest. Bring your favorite apple pie to enter and arrive by 11:00 a.m. to get free entry at the gate.

The main event, the Cowboy Horse Races will feature some of the fastest steeds around and this year the winner will be awarded with a beautiful Trophy Saddle made by Alamo Saddlery.

Alamo Village is located just 7 miles north of Brackettville on FM 674. For more information on any of the scheduled Labor Day events, call (830) 563-2580 or write P.O. Box 528 Brackettville, TX 78832. Check our website at www.alamovillage.com.

Kerrville to host Texas Heritage Living History Day

Kerrville--The annual Texas Heritage Living History Day will showcase over 35 performers and demonstrations on September 8, the birthday of Jimmie Rodgers, the Father of Country Music. Rodgers built his dream house at 617 West Main in Kerrville in 1929. "From 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in Louise Hays Park, stories and songs will provide another way of learning," says Kathleen Hudson, director of the Texas Heritage Music Foundation and English professor at Schreiner College.

The event is free and open to the public. Educational packages are available to any schools wishing to attend. Transportation grants are also available. Call 830-367-3750 to request financial help.

The event includes chuckwags, tepees, a WW II demonstration by the Nemitz Museum, cowboy songs and stories by Rusty Cox and Wilton Crider, a Native American learning story called "Who Speaks For Wolf," told by Skip Mahaffee tales of Jimmie Rodgers by Tony Navarra, KR Woods and the Fathers of Texas presentation; songs of the frontier by Dan Groat, songs of the West by Joe Heffing-

ton, healing songs by Frankie Enloe, an exhibition by John Carter from Last Chance Forever (an organization aimed at helping people become aware of the beauty of the Earth) character reenactment by Jim Runge (the Galveston Flood took place September 8; Jim has the story), armadillo lore with Sam Lewis, Texas rangers and cavalry with Henri Adams, Indian artifacts with Eric Marley, cowboy songs by Makin' Dust and the Cowboy Artists of America Museum, Mariachis at noon, demonstrations by the Institute of Texas Cultures, songs by Texas songwriters with Tim Steele, demonstrations by the Texian Heritage Society, an exhibit from the Pioneer Museum in Fredericksburg, songs of the West by Don Hedgpeth, stories and songs to inspire by Ron Moore, Indian tales with Ann Galland, Jimmie Rodgers' songs with Reuben Darnelle, Stephen Dyer and his adventure tales, Irish tales and music, traditional country music and more.

Contact the Kerrville Convention and Visitors Bureau at 830-792-3535 for information or check out the website at texasheritagemus.org.

Senior Forum on Fraud and Scams

The Office of the Attorney General - Elder Law and Public Health Division is hosting a free conference designed for senior Texans, law enforcement personnel, service providers who work with older adults, and other individuals committed to combating fraud and educating older consumers. This program will be held from 8:00 am to noon on Wednesday, August 30, 2000 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3536 YMCA Drive, San Angelo, TX 76904.

Topics will include: telemarketing fraud, mail and sweepstakes fraud, and resource information for seniors will be available from representatives of var-

ious local agencies. According to Lou Hargraves, Chair of the local TTIAD, "This is an open invitation to come and learn about the Attorney General's program, as well as a new program directed at seniors and safe driving."

Co-sponsoring this event are the Area Agency on Aging of the Concho Valley Council of Governments, Tom Green County Triad/S.A.L.T. Council, and Regional Adult Protective Services Advisory Board.

Interested persons please RSVP to Retired & Senior Volunteer Program at 915-223-6388.

WTU Files with PUCT for Fuel Surcharge and Fuel Factor Change

Abilene- Skyrocketing natural gas prices have forced American Electric Power's West Texas Utilities (AEP-WTU) to file a request with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to recover through a surcharge approximately \$19.6 million in uncollected fuel costs and interest from retail customers. At the same time, WTU requested permission to increase fuel factors used to calculate the fuel charge portion of customer bills in order to recover a projected increase of \$42.6 million in fuel costs that will be incurred to provide electric service in the future.

"The price of natural gas used to generate electricity at AEP-WTU's power plants has increased nearly 100 percent from January through August," said David Carpenter, AEP director of Texas regulatory services. "Since 60 percent of the electricity produced by AEP-WTU is generated using natural gas as a boiler fuel, these price increases have a tremendous impact on our cost of producing electricity."

"Fuel costs are an expense that AEP-WTU must pay to fuel suppliers," Carpenter continued. "It's important to remember that AEP-WTU does not earn any profit or return on fuel costs. In the past when fuel costs have declined, AEP-WTU made refunds to customers."

Investor-owned electric utilities in Texas, like AEP-WTU, are required by the PUCT to use fuel factors based on cost estimates to collect the projected cost of fuel used to generate electricity at their power plants. When actual cost of fuel significantly exceeds that which customers are paying in their monthly bills, PUCT rules require the utility request permission to surcharge the additional amount. When the actual costs of fuel are significantly lower than what customers are paying in fuel charges, the electric utility is required to issue a refund. And when the fuel costs are anticipated to change from their current levels for an extended period of time, the electric utility must request permission to adjust the monthly fuel factors used to determine the fuel charge portion of customers' bills.

Without the increase in fixed fuel factors, AEP-WTU projects that it would under recover fuel and purchased power costs by approxi-

mately \$42.6 million for the period from October 2000 through September 2001. Consequently, AEP-WTU is requesting permission to adjust the fuel factors used to calculate the fuel charge portion of customer bills.

Since fuel under-recoveries and interest already have totaled approximately \$19 million for the period from August 1999 through June 2000, AEP-WTU also has requested permission to implement a new fuel surcharge in November to collect the under-recovered balance through June 30, 2000.

The surcharges are designed to collect the under recoveries as of June 30, 2000, plus approximately \$600,000 in interest costs incurred over the collection period.

If approved as requested the new fuel factors would go into effect in October and the new surcharge would go into effect in November. The new fuel factor and surcharge would increase bills for typical residential customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month by \$20.53 per month for the period from November 2000 through April 2001 with the fuel factor equaling \$8.69 and the surcharge equaling \$11.84 of that amount.

AEP-WTU will publish notices of the filing in selected newspapers with general circulation throughout the company's service area. AEP-WTU also will provide individual notice to the governing bodies of all incorporated municipalities retaining original jurisdiction.

American Electric Power is a multinational energy company based in Columbus, Ohio. AEP is one of the United States' largest generators of electricity with more than 39,000 megawatts of generating capacity. AEP is also one of the nation's leading wholesale energy marketers and traders. AEP delivers electricity to more than 4.9 million customers in 11 states - Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. The company serves more than 4 million customers outside the U.S. through holdings in Australia, Brazil, China, Mexico and the United Kingdom. Wholly owned subsidiaries are involved in power engineering and construction services, energy management and telecommunications.

September 1st Bills Reflect July Weather, Fuel Cost Increases

Electric bills received on September 1st by Pedernales Electric Cooperative members will be markedly higher due to huge fuel costs increases by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), PEC's wholesale power provider, and unseasonably hot July weather.

The initial hike resulted in a \$3 per 1,000 kilowatt-hour (kwh) adjustment. Although LCRA officials had previously announced plans to review the fuel cost increase in the fall, they raised the fuel cost a second time. The second adjustment resulted in an additional \$8 per 1,000 kwh increase. Together, the two adjustments have caused a more than 30 percent escalation in total power costs to PEC.

PEC purchased 348,867,071 kwh of power during the month of July. This is the highest monthly use

in Cooperative history.

July's record setting hot weather is the primary reason for the increase in electricity use. The average high temperature in July at PEC's Johnson City headquarters was a blistering 100 degrees.

The fuel cost increased, combined with the unseasonably hot weather, will result in the extreme September bills. Although September bills will be higher for many members, PEC's base rates have remained constant since 1994. LCRA officials plan to review the fuel cost adjustments in the fall.

Until temperatures start to drop, PEC reminds all members that there are a number of ways to help reduce energy consumption. Brochures on energy-savings tips are available at all PEC offices.

Highest Intentions Choi's Tae Kwon Do

Director Grand Master Sin Il Choi
Chief Instructor Master Richard H. White
Starting Wednesday, September 6, 2000,
Choi's Tae Kwon Do will continue to offer Tae Kwon Do classes in Sonora for both children and adults. Please come join us for our 2nd year!

Registration: Sat., August 26th • 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Wed., August 30th • 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Classes Begin: Wed, September 6th (Orientation etc.)

Class Times: 3:30 - 4:30 Kids (ages 6-10)
5:00 - 6:00 Adults (11 and above)

Tuition: \$75.00 first month (includes uniform, T-shirt and student handbook)
\$40.00 ongoing classes & returning students
2nd family member \$20.00
3rd family member \$15.00

Location: Sonora Elementary School
Gymnasium/Cafeteria

For additional information or if you should have any questions, please feel free to call us toll free at 1-888-895-5577. Classes are ongoing and new students may start at any time. We look forward with Highest Intentions, Diane & Richard H. White

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Marisha Henson bride elect of Micheal Hodges

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Bridal Registry

Mrs. Tim Wolff nee Laura Hearn
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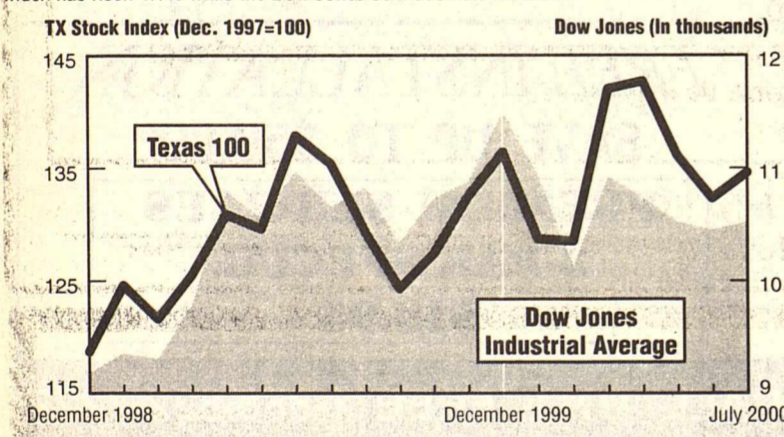
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100 TEXAS STOCK INDEX

The Largest Publicly Traded Employers in Texas

Texas 100 Stock Index
The Texas 100 Stock Index rose 1.8% in July to a level of 134.6. Over the last 12 months, the Index has risen 4.1% while the Dow Jones 30 Industrials fell 2.8%.



Ups & downs by sector
Largest percentage changes in company stock prices

Sector	Change
Energy	2.4%
Reliant Energy	+11.7%
Baker Hughes	+8.3
Dupont	+3.1
Lyondell	-16.4%
Diamond Shamrock	-7.8
BP	-7.6
Other Manufacturing	5.2%
Coca Cola Ent.	+18.8%
International Paper	+13.0
American Standard	+8.7
VF	-7.6%
General Motors	-1.8
Goodyear	-0.3
Entertainment & Travel	2.5%
American Airlines	+25.1%
Southwest Airlines	+24.8
Continental Airlines	+11.2
Sabre Group	-14.3%
Tricon Restaurants	-14.2
Bass	-9.2
Retail	9.6%
Radio Shack	+19.0%
Best Buy	+15.0
Gap	+14.6
Safeway	-13.9%
J.C. Penney	-12.5
Albertson's	-9.2
High Tech	3.1%
Raytheon	+20.8%
Boeing	+14.3
Lockheed	+11.8
Lucent Technologies	-34.3%
Worldcom	-17.4
Texas Instruments	-15.7
Service & Financial	2.6%
Sitel	+30.0%
Allstate	+23.9
Bank One	+19.8
Xerox	-25.8%
West Teleservices	-6.7
Adco	-3.7

NOTE: The index reflects how much an investment of one dollar in each company made in December 1997 would be worth today (\$134.64).
SOURCE: Carole Kayton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

F.Y.I.

Petit Jury scheduled for August 28th has been cancelled.

Bronco Football Season tickets are on sale now at the administration building. The cost is \$25.00 a book and they are available until September 1, 2000.

The S.H.S. Radio and T.V. Class is selling all varsity and junior varsity football games. The cost is only \$6 per game. All home 7th and 8th grades games are also available for only \$6 per game. Please call Kristin Keel at the high school at 387-6533 ext. 315 or go by Ronda's Styling Haus for more information.

The S.H.S. Newspaper class is selling newspaper subscriptions for "The Bronco Times" for the 2000-2001 school year. The cost is \$10. Please call Kristin Keel at the high school at 387-6533 ext. 3125 or go by Ronda's Styling Haus for more information.

It's not too late to order a 2000 yearbook. The cost is \$35. Please call Kristin Keel at 387-6533 ext. 315 to place an order.

The Knights of Columbus will be having a raffle for 16 de Septiembre Celebration (September 16, 2000). A \$1.00 donation can win you a 27 inch RCA Color Television with Remote Control. Contact any member or call 387-5300 for tickets.

Sonora Family Faith Center, formerly the Cowboy Church of the American West, meets every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. at the Sonora Livestock Auction. There will be a guest speaker every Sunday.

Sonora Football 2000

COLT

Aug. 31
Reagan County
Home • 5:00/6:30

Sept. 7
Ballinger
Home • 5:00/6:30

IV FOOTBALL

Aug. 24
Rocksprings Scrimmage
There • 6:00 p.m.

Aug. 31
Reagan County
There • 6:30

BRONCO FOOTBALL

Aug. 24
Rocksprings Scrimmage
There • 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 1
Reagan County
Home • 8:00

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Stroud Graduates With Honors



On August 14, 2000 Jennifer Stroud graduated AIT Tech School Training with Honors from Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi. She has been assigned to Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana reporting on August 31, 2000. Jennifer is the daughter of Barbara Stroud of San Angelo (formerly of Sonora) and was a 1997 Sonora High School graduate.

As of August 15, 2000 Jennifer will begin her 15 day furlow visiting with friends and family. She says one stop she will make is her hometown of Sonora. Her family would like to take this time to extend their congratulations to Jennifer and wish her the best in her future.

Business Tips

Pricing Strategies

Pricing goods and services is often a difficult task for entrepreneurs because of the various choices available to them. Pricing affects the profitability of your firm and the image customers have of your business. Knowing what you want to accomplish when you price your goods and services will help guide you in this process.

Understanding your firm's cost structure is one of the key factors in determining price. Remember not to assume that your competitors have the same cost structure as your firm. For this reason it is important to try to understand your competitors' cost structure as well as your own.

Here are just a few key pricing strategies that may be of help. Demand-Oriented Pricing is where you price your goods and services based on the quantity customers would demand at various price levels. This strategy takes into account the psychological factors that affect demand such as the association between price and quality. It also takes into account the sensitivity to price that many products and services have in the eyes of the consumer. A drawback to this method is it doesn't take into account the costs you have in the product or service.

Cost-Oriented Pricing is a strategy where you put a percentage markup on top of the costs associated with the product or service. Cost-oriented pricing is the easiest and the most common form of pricing strategy.

Competition-Oriented Pricing is a strategy where you use your competitors' prices as a guide, rather than demand or cost considerations when you price your products and services. Here you would raise or lower your prices in reaction to your competitors' pricing moves. This method also has the drawback of not taking into account the costs associated with the product or service.

In reality, using a combination of these and other pricing strategies is the most effective method in making pricing decisions. Some products or services have to be priced according to demand considerations. Other products or services have to be priced with your competitors' prices in mind. In most cases many of your products or services can be priced based solely on the costs associated with them. Using a combination of these methods will help you insure a profitable pricing strategy for your business.

Police Reports

8-11-00 Assault - Officer was dispatched to the 300 block of W. 7th in reference to an Assault. An investigation is being conducted and charges are pending.

8-12-00 Minors in Possession of Alcohol - Officer was on a routine traffic stop with a white Ford 2 door, which led Officer to issue two citations for Minor Possession of Alcohol. Both individuals were released to parents.

8-15-00 Theft of Service - Officer was dispatched to Shot's #6 in reference to a theft of service. Complainant advised that someone unknown to her in a white four-door car had pumped \$17.94 worth of fuel and driven away without paying. Attempts to locate vehicle were negative.

8-17-00 Disorderly Conduct - Officer was contacted by High School Principal in reference to fireworks smoking on school campus. After further investigation three juveniles were issued citations for Disorderly Conduct.

8-18-00 Public Intoxication - Officers were on traffic control in the 1100 block of NW Crockett Ave when they observed an unknown male subject to be intoxicated. Clay Wilson Graham of Lubbock, Texas was arrested for Public Intoxication and was transported to the Sutton County Jail.

8-18-00 Public Intoxication - Officers were dispatched to the 600 block of Tom Green in reference to a disturbance. Upon arrival officer contacted complainant. After further investigation Gabriel Alvarado, Jr. was arrested for Public Intoxication.

8-20-00 Disturbance - Officer was dispatched to the 100 block of Tres St. in reference to a "Man with a Gun". Upon arrival officer met with several subjects. Subjects advised that someone known to them had pulled out a gun during an argument. After a thorough search of the suspect and area no gun was found.

Athletic Fundraiser

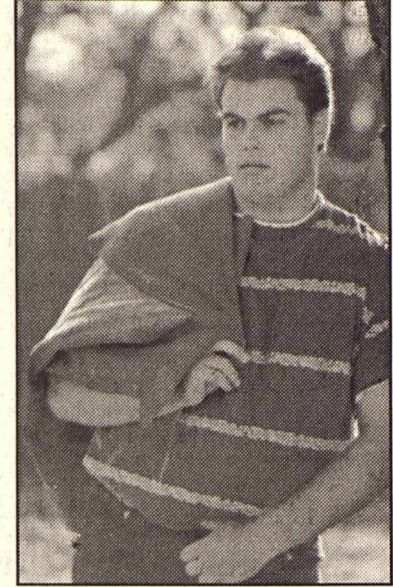
A brisket dinner fundraiser will be held on Friday, Sept. 1, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. to benefit the Sonora High School boys and girls athletic teams.

Join us in the high school commons for a delicious dinner before the Reagan Co. vs. Sonora football game!

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children, and are available in advance at Ronda's Styling Haus, 712 S. Crockett, or by calling Jane Rushing at 387-3625 or Kathy Hardgrave at 387-2227. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Take-out plates are available.

National Society of Collegiate Scholars Inducts Robert Powell Gallion

Texas Tech University - Robert Powell, son of Mr. & Mrs. Dell Gallion of Sonora, has accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and will be honored during a campus ceremony this fall at Texas Tech University.



Robert Powell

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is a highly selective, national, non-profit honors organization. Founded in 1994, NSCS recognizes first and second year undergraduate students who excel academically.

The Society was established on the principle that with scholarship comes a responsibility to develop leadership and a duty to perform service.

"NSCS provides the opportunity for students, like Robert, to be recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments early in their college experience", said Steve Loflin, NSCS Executive Director.

"Robert will also have the opportunity to join other high achieving college students in developing leadership skills and a sense

of civic responsibility."

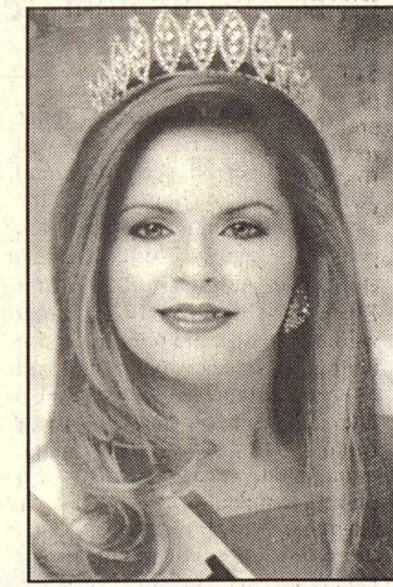
For additional information contact Robert Powell at home; the National Society of Collegiate Scholars in Washington, D.C. at 202-234-5295; or visit the Society's web page at www.nscs.org.

Happy Birthday

- August 24
- Christie Talley, Beau Hughes, Jason Freeman, Heather Lawson, Anna Munn, Vanessa Martinez, M.C. Tobias, Cassandra Torres
- August 25
- Abby Gesch, Javier Segura
- August 26
- Justin McGeath, Debra Hobbs, Kara Hard, Robin Downing, Cassi Cole, Adam Hadsall, Fran Pennington
- August 27
- Megan Fitzgerald, Lupe Duran, Errbey G. Moreno
- August 28
- Ginger Grawford, Diana Anderson, Mary Beth Luttrell, Abigail Garcia, Diana Anderson, Joshua Guardiola, Homer Jolley
- August 29
- Shaylynn Kresta, Arturo Lopez, Kathy Jones, Candie Sessom, Leandra Perez, Rodolfo Charo, Sheri Chatwell, Miranda E. Constance, Patty Fuentes, Keeli Taylor
- August 30
- Brad Holms, Frank McGee, Stacey Lea Sanchez

Contestants Sought For 2000 Miss Texas Teen All American® Pageant

Wheeling, WV--Marie Sweeney, President announced that Contestants are now being accepted for the 2000 Miss Texas Teen All American® Pageant to be staged Saturday and Sunday, December 2nd & 3rd, 2000 at the DFW Lakes Hilton in Grapevine. The 2000 event is the Official Preliminary to Miss Teen All American®, now in its 23rd year, staged annually under the magnificent Florida sun!



viewed by representatives from the TV/Film Industry and Modeling Agency Personnel. Miss Texas Teen All American® will also be awarded a host of prizes including \$1,000 Cash, Jewelry, Luggage and more! The reigning Miss Texas Teen All American is Jessica Long of Georgetown.

Contestants are judged in Swimsuit, Evening Gown and Personal Interview. There is no talent competition and no experience necessary. Young women who qualify must be ages 13 through 19 as of August 1, 2001; never married and a legal resident of the U.S. To apply, send a recent photo along with your name, address, telephone number, date of birth and a short bio by fax or mail to: Dept. B - Miss Texas Teen All American®, 603 Schrader Avenue, Wheeling, WV 26003-9619 or fax to 1-304-242-8341, phone: 1-304-242-4900, e-mail: teenallam@aol.com. Deadline to apply is August 28, 2000.

Among her many prizes, Miss Texas Teen All American® will receive an expense-paid trip to Florida where she will compete in the 23rd Annual Miss Teen All American® Pageant. She will compete for a prize package that includes a Personal Appearance Contract, \$5,000 Cash, Jewelry, Luggage, Designer Shoes, Fitness Programs and more!!! In Addition, each State Winner will be inter-

Unemployment Rate Hits 26-Year Low

Austin - Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 4.1 percent in July from 4.4 percent in June, the Texas Workforce Commission announced today.

"You'd have to go back 26 years - to the 3.9 percent rate in May of 1974," TWC Chair Diane Rath said, "to find a lower statewide unemployment rate than July's."

Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities added 3,000 jobs in July. "July's gain brings the overall annual job growth rate up to 4.3 percent - the strongest annual growth within the Service Producing Sector," said Commissioner Representing Labor T. P. O'Mahoney.

Nondurable Goods Manufacturing gained 2,000 jobs in July. "That's encouraging," said Commissioner Representing Employers Ron Lehman, "and reverses 12 months of job loss in the industry."

Nonagricultural jobs fell slightly by 22,600, due primarily to losses in Government.

The lowest unemployment rate among the Metropolitan Statistical Areas was 1.7 percent in Bryan-College Station. Austin-San Marcos was next at 2.1 percent, followed by Dallas at 3.3 percent, and Fort Worth-Arlington, Killeen-Temple, Lubbock and San Angelo each at 3.4 percent.

The highest unemployment rate was 13.6 percent in the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA., followed by Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito at 8.7 percent, Beaumont-Port Arthur at 8.5 percent, El Paso at 8.4 percent and Laredo at 7.3 percent.

The highest unemployment rate was 13.6 percent in the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA., followed by Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito at 8.7 percent, Beaumont-Port Arthur at 8.5 percent, El Paso at 8.4 percent and Laredo at 7.3 percent.

Teach Children After-School Rules for Propane Appliance Safety

(Austin) - Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Michael L. Williams, Commissioner Charles R. Matthews and Commissioner Tony Garza today urged parents to discuss propane gas appliance safety measures with their children if they are home alone after school.

"Teaching kids basic propane safety rules will help them if there is ever an emergency when an adult isn't home," said Williams. "We need to keep kids informed that if they smell gas, they should exit the home immediately and not use any electric switches or appliances."

"Teaching children propane appliance safety is a good lesson to learn," said Matthews. "Children should know to keep all objects away from gas furnaces, space heaters and fireplaces and stay away from tanks and valves. Propane appliances aren't toys and should

never be turned on without adult supervision."

"Teach children to use their heads and their noses when dealing with propane," added Garza. "They should learn to sniff out trouble by recognizing its distinct odor and should learn to recognize common noises made by propane appliances."

Propane gas has an odorant added to help identify any gas leak. Show your child how to identify that "rotten egg" smell by using a "scratch and sniff" brochure available from Texas propane suppliers.

The Railroad Commission of Texas' Alternative Fuels Research and Education Division (AFRED) can provide consumers with basic safety tips, as well as additional propane uses and rebates by calling toll-free, (800) 64-CLEAR (800-642-5327).

Propane safety tips can also be accessed via the Railroad Commission of Texas' Internet site at www.rrc.state.tx.us.

Created in 1991 by the Texas Legislature, the Alternative Fuels Research and Education Division of the Texas Railroad Commission is charged with researching and educating the public about propane and other environmentally beneficial fuels that can help reduce air pollution in Texas.

In addition to researching propane as a clean-air fuel, the division develops marketing, technical training, advertising, and information programs to increase public awareness about the fuel. Funding for the division comes from an industry fee paid on each gallon of propane sold in the state.

Calling All High School Juniors and Seniors

As school bells ring earlier in Texas than in many parts of the nation this August, Texans for a Traditional School Year (TTSY) is giving students the chance to speak out about the shortened summer. The TTSY essay contest offers high school juniors and seniors the chance to say how they will benefit from a longer summer vacation. The first place prize is a \$1,000 savings bond.

"By starting school in early August, many Texas students are losing up to three weeks of valuable work time," said Tina Bruno, the group's executive director. "Many students are working during the summer to put money away for college and personal expenses. Others don't have that luxury. We have a large population of teenagers who are working to help families put food on the table. Their income is not a luxury, it is a necessity and the bloated school calendar is doing nothing but hurting these Texas families."

The essay contest is open to high school juniors and seniors across the state. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place statewide winners as well as the first place winner in each Texas Education Regional Service Center. Students can call their local school district to find out what region they reside in. The first place statewide winner will receive a \$1,000 savings bond; the second place winner a \$750 savings bond and the third place winner will receive a \$500 savings bond. Each first place regional winner will receive a \$100 cash prize.

The essay topic is, "Benefits of a longer summer vacation," and should be limited to 700 words. Essays will be judged on content as well as spelling, grammar and punctuation. Essays may be hand-written or typed and must be postmarked no later than September 1, 2000. Essays must include the author's name, address and evening telephone number, as well as the Regional Service Center in which the author lives. Please note that all essays will become property of Texans for a Traditional School Year and will not be returned. Mail your entry to: Texans for a Traditional School Year, P. O. Box 5434, San Antonio, Texas, 78201, Attn: Essay Contest or send them via e-mail to ttsy@stic.net.

Winners will be announced September 18, 2000. Winners will be notified by mail. To view the winning essays, log on to the Texans for a Traditional School Year web site at www.traditionalschoolyear.org.

For more information call Texans for a Traditional School Year toll-free at 1-888-571-5311.

Back-to-School Bash



Sonora Middle School students enjoyed a Back-to-School dance last week in the Middle School Commons area. The dance was hosted by the Colt Cheerleaders to welcome everyone back and to meet all the students.



Governor Bush Launches New Initiative to Protect Children From Guns

Austin - Governor George W. Bush recently launched "Project ChildSafe," a five-year, \$5 million program to provide free child safety locks and firearm safety information to Texas parents. The innovative program will be funded through a grant from the Governor's Criminal Justice Division.

"Providing free child safety locks to parents is a common-sense, practical way that government can help parents improve safety in their homes," said Governor Bush. "Most trigger lock proposals focus on legislation requiring manufacturers to put safety locks on new guns, which I would sign, and this proposal goes even further by making trigger locks available to millions of people who already own guns," he said.

The Governor's Criminal Justice Division will provide materials that will be distributed through county sheriffs' and local police departments based on population data. The Governor's office will work with local law enforcement officials to distribute the kits in the most efficient way possible. The Governor's Criminal Justice Division will notify sheriffs and police chiefs during the next few weeks about ways to participate in Project ChildSafe.

Project ChildSafe is the latest action taken by the Governor to protect children from harm by firearms. Since 1995, the Governor has signed laws making it a criminal offense for an adult to allow a child access to a loaded firearm unless the child is under adult supervision. Under Governor Bush, Texas has also increased penalties for anyone selling, renting or giving a handgun to a child and requires automatic detention for juveniles caught illegally carrying a gun or committing a crime with a gun.

The Sonora Police Department has applied for a grant to become a part of this project. Distribution of the gun locks will begin in mid August. These gunlock giveaway programs have been established in more than 450 cities and counties in 47 states, this will result in the distribution of over 500,000 gun locks and safety information kits this year.

Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) Table from page 1

STUDENT GROUPS (Analysis Groups are those with an "X")	SPRING 2000 GRADES 3-8 & 10				SPRING 1999 ** GRADES 3-8 & 10				
	Number Passing	Number Taking	Credit for EOC*	Student Group Percent	Rating Percent Passing	Number Passing	Number Taking	Credit for EOC*	Rating Percent Passing
READING:									
X All Students	378	421	0	100.0%	89.3%	370	420	0	88.1%
X African American	1	1	0	0.2%	100.0%	1	1	0	100.0%
X Hispanic	206	242	0	57.5%	89.1%	198	242	0	82.2%
X White	169	178	0	42.3%	94.9%	170	177	0	96.0%
X Economically Disadvantaged	157	189	0	44.9%	83.1%	127	160	0	79.4%
MATHEMATICS:									
X All Students	381	428	0	100.0%	91.8%	393	433	0	90.8%
X African American	1	1	0	0.2%	100.0%	0	1	0	100.0%
X Hispanic	224	250	0	58.7%	89.6%	224	253	0	88.5%
X White	168	175	0	41.1%	94.9%	168	178	0	93.8%
X Economically Disadvantaged	177	195	0	45.8%	90.8%	155	170	0	91.2%
WRITING:									
X All Students	155	172	0	100.0%	90.1%	158	180	0	88.3%
X African American	1	1	0	0.8%	100.0%	0	0	0	0.0%
X Hispanic	81	95	0	55.2%	85.3%	84	103	0	81.6%
X White	73	78	0	44.2%	98.1%	75	77	0	97.4%
X Economically Disadvantaged	81	73	0	42.4%	83.8%	44	55	0	80.0%

* The number of students who met the testing requirement for graduation by passing end-of-course examinations and did not take any exit-level TAAS test in spring of the year shown. These numbers are included in the number passing and the number taking.

TREES & SHRUBS
TRIMMING
TOPPING REMOVAL



TREE
SERVICE

Discount for Cash
40 Years Experience

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M. Jackson

Carolyn Earwood's School of Dance
Classical Ballet & Pointe

Ages 3 - Adult
\$25/Month



Classes are on Tues. & Weds.

Starting Sept. 5th

Call now to register

(New & Old students)

387-2957

or Sign up on Studio Door

216 Main Street

17 - 4140 Notice of Election (2/92)
Prescribed by Secretary of State
Section 4.004, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007, V.T.C.A., Election Code

Hart Information Services, Inc. - Austin, Texas

NOTICE OF Sutton County Hospital District ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION) Sutton County Hospital District

To the Registered Voters of Sonora, Sutton County, Texas:

(A los votantes registrados del Sonora, Sutton County Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on August 26, 2000, for voting in a Proposition election to levy the 2000 annual tax at a rate not to exceed .35¢ on the \$100 valuation on all taxable property in the District.

(Nortifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sliados abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 26 de Agosto de 2000 para votar en la Eleccion para la cantidad del impuesto del 2000 por el distrito del Hospital del condado Sutton parapropósitos del hospital a un nivel no exceder .35 centavos en la valoracion de \$100 en toda la propiedad imponible en el distrito.

LOCATION(S) of POLLING PLACES
DIRRECCION (ES)
DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES

SUTTON COUNTY
ANNEX BUILDING
300 E. OAK
SONORA, TEXAS

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at (La votacion en adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en) Hudspeth Hospital, 308 Hudspeth, Sonora

(location) (sisto) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning on August 7, 2000 (entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 4:30 de la tarde empezando el Agosto 7, 2000) and ending on August 22, 2000 (y terminando el Agosto 22, 2000)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan eniarse a:)

Kathy Knight
P.O. Box 455
Sonora, Texas 76950

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on August 18, 2000.

(Los solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el) August 18, 2000

Issued this the 20th day of July, 2000
(Emliada este dia 20th de Julio, 2000)

Kathy Knight
Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)



"The history of Sonora is not only recorded in impressive structures and sites throughout town, but in every caring person who has donated time and effort to preserve our quality-of-life."

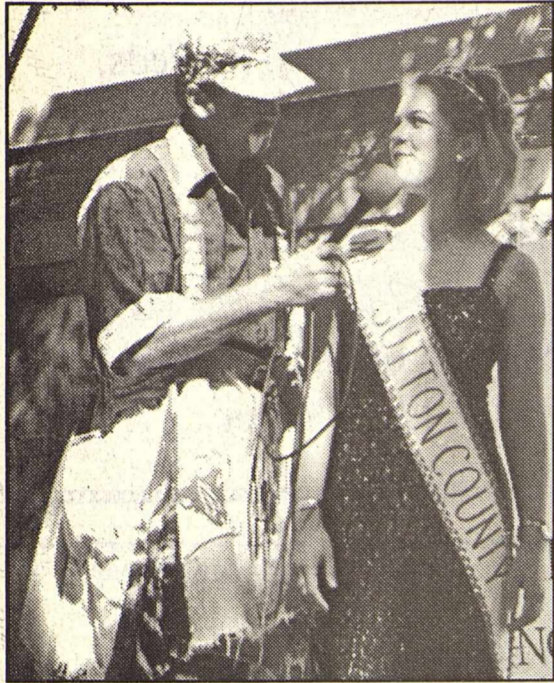
- Roy Jean Johnson
New Accounts Representative

Part of the spirit & community
of Sonora.



P.O. BOX 798, SONORA, TEXAS 76950 MEMBER F.D.I.C.

26TH ANNUAL SU



Miss Sutton County, Andi Allen is interviewed by Bad Co. Bullfighter, Mark Callihan



The Bank & Trust wins Grand Prize for this Jungle float.



Bed Racers Race up Main Street.

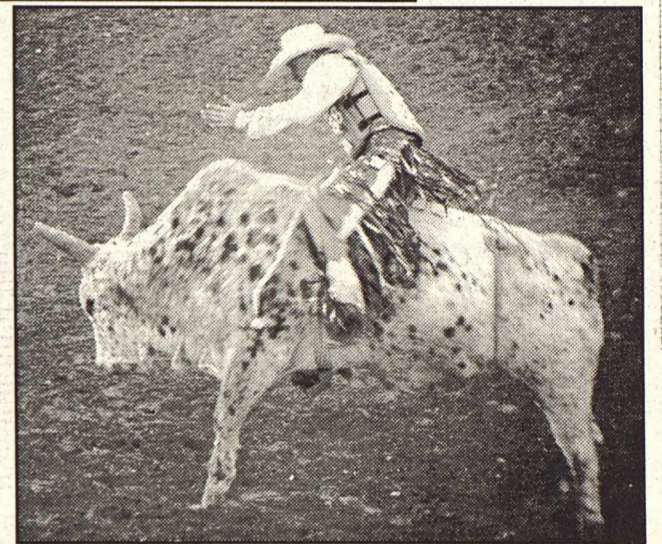


The NDC Mystery Band entertains the crowd on the Courthouse Lawn.

The Devil's River Dancers clog for the courthouse crowd.



Boyd Polhamus keeps the crowd informed.

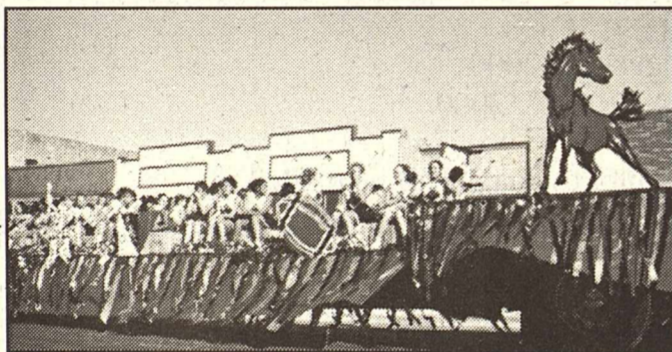


Mark, Eddie, Chad and Smurf visit Faye's Daycare



Bad Company Bullfighters to the Rescue!

The Colt Cheerleaders brighten up the parade.



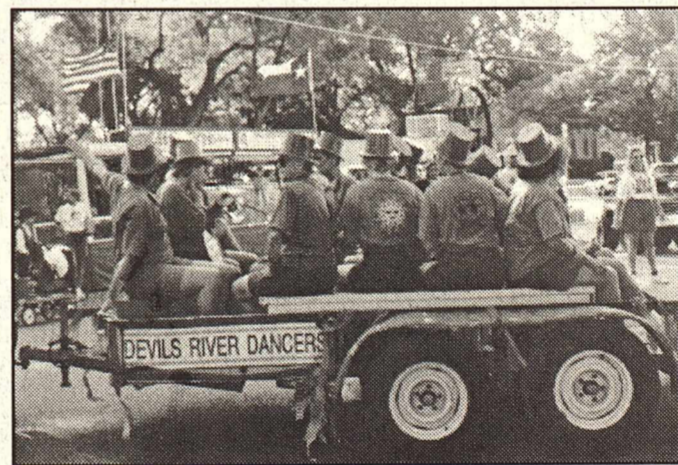
Bugs Bunny bounces down the parade route.



Miss Tammy's group poses with some Bad Company!



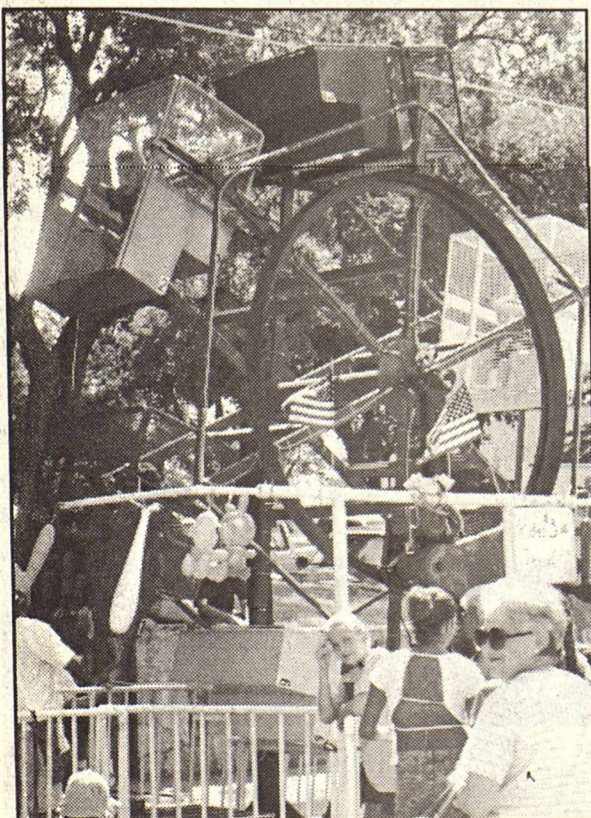
Cruella & Pongo pose for onlookers.



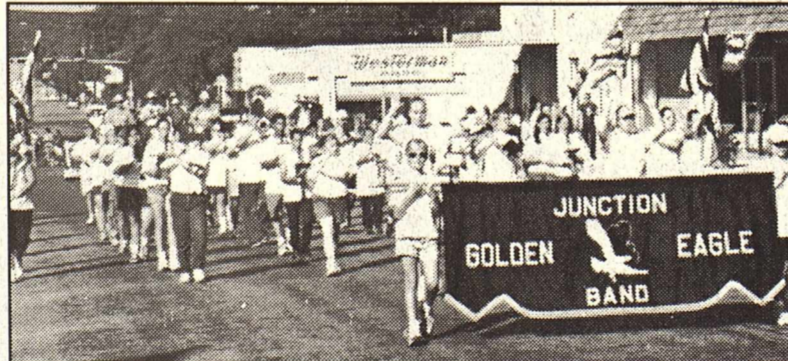
The Devil's River Dancers awarded Best Float!



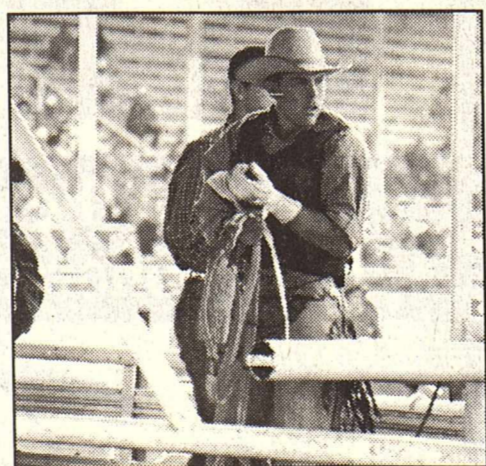
Ms. Pam's group held their own rodeo for the rodeo clowns!



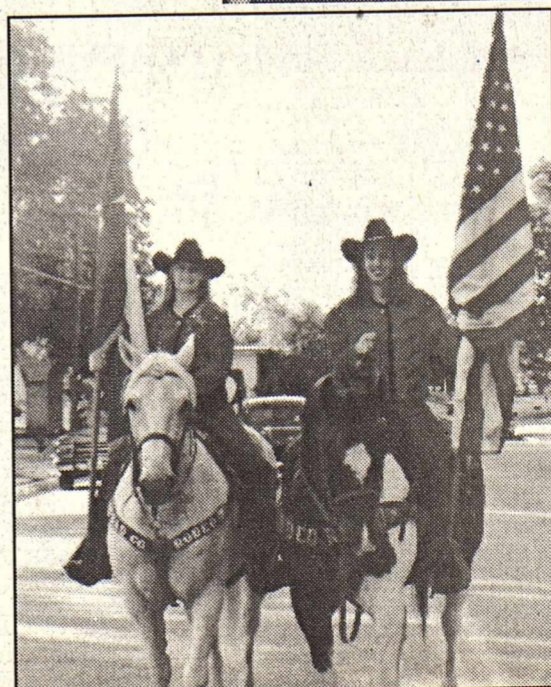
Every County Fair needs a Ferris Wheel!



The Junction Band took home first for Organization!



Bullriders get ready for the 8-second ride.



Miss Sutton County Queen Contestants, Kasey Kearney and Heather Felts led the parade by posting the colors!

SUTTON COUNTY DAYS



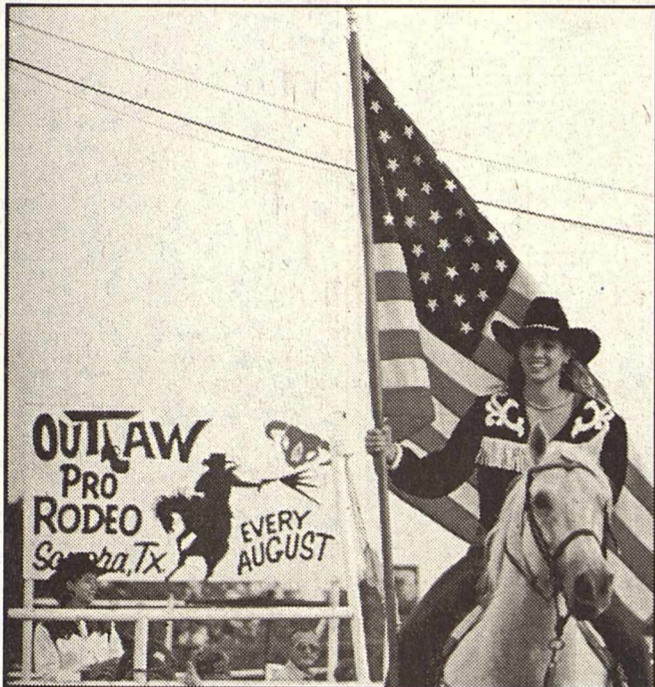
The Cowboy & Sponsor Golf Tournament.



The Bad Co. Crew wins the Golf Tournament.



Heather and Kasey get ready to ride into the arena.



Heather posts the colors during the National Anthem at the Outlaw Pro Rodeo.



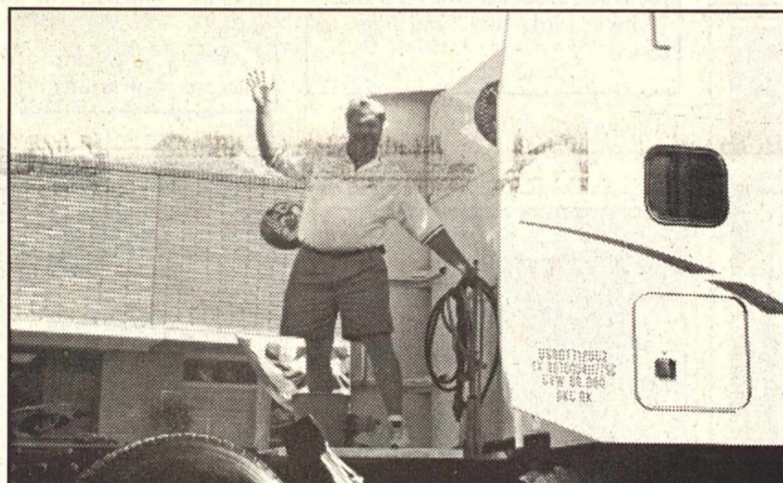
Little Miss Sutton Co. Leslie Levario is joined by Kaci Lewis and Macie Friess.



Kasey Kearney, escorted by Mickey Powers, crowned Sutton County Princess.



Little Mr. Sutton County, Colton Crowder, proudly shares the stage with Sam Patterson and Dusty Holmes.



James Archer rides high on the Multi-Chem Big Rig.



Trey Wardlaw gears up for the parade.



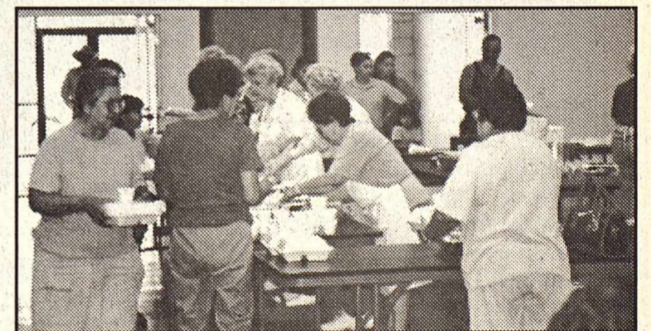
Heather gets a hug from Andi as she is crowned Miss Sutton County.



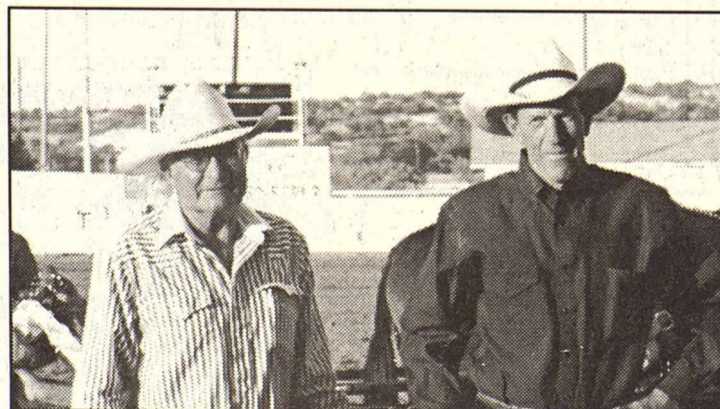
Ye Ole' Country Band entertains the crowd at the Senior Bar-B-Que.



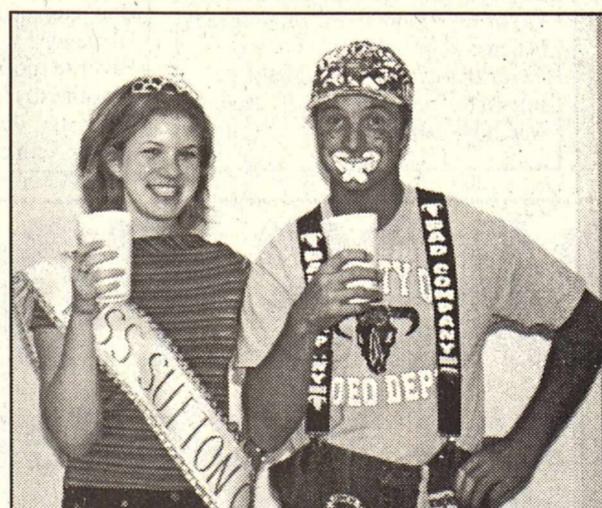
Everyone loves to ride the train!



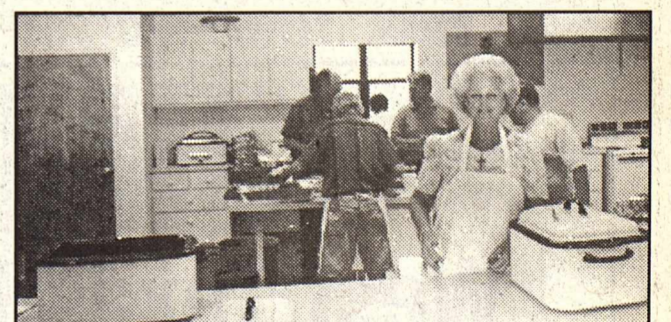
Volunteers make the Committee on Aging Bar-B-Que a feast for all to enjoy.



Tommy and Micky are awarded for years of service to the rodeo committee.



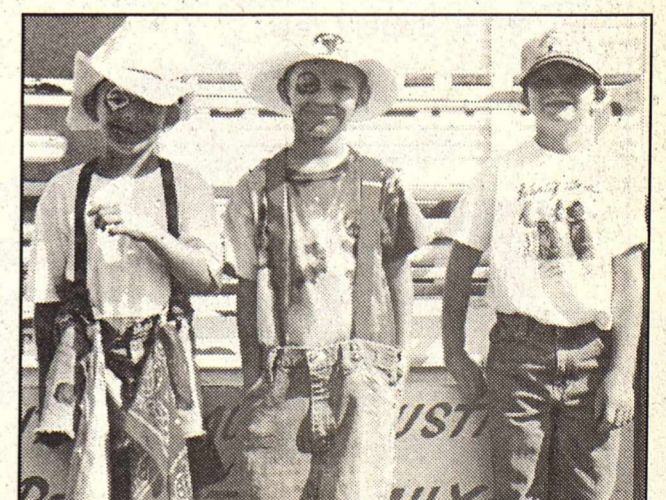
Andi and Chad enjoy a break at the Bar-B-Que.



Washers and horseshoes are a big draw during Sutton County Days.



Beth Wallace is ahead of David in the 5K race.



Bailey Joe, Cadesman, and Sam get ready for the Mut-ton Bustin'.

Sutton County Days from page 1

Breakaway Calf Roping: 1/2 Lindsay Johnson - El Dorado, TX, 1/2 Erin Kelly - Iraan, TX, 3/4 Donelle Kvenild- Paradise, TX.
The big winners of the County Team Roping Challenge were Sonora's own, Mickey Sharp and Jodie Hooten. These two will go on to

compete in Del Rio during the Bad Company "Shoot the Moon" tour Finals on October 21st.
Saturday didn't end the weekend or the winners for Sutton County Days this year.
The Talent Show was held Sunday afternoon with two divisions.

Winning Division I was Manuel Campos and Josh Everett of Sonora and second went to Ana Alicia Garza of San Angelo. In Division II, first place went to Marissa Castillo of San Angelo and second went to Brooke Galindo of Ozona.
New to Sutton County Days

was the Pie Baking Contest.
In the Jr. Fruit Division, Allison Freeman took top honors, while mom, Kathleen Freeman, took second place in the "Other" Division.
In the adult Fruit Division Lise Miller was the first place winner and daughter Jordan took first in the

Cream Pie Division.
Lise Miller also won first prize in the "Other" Division.
Many hours of volunteer work went into making the 26th Annual Sutton County Days and Sonora Outlaw Pro Rodeo the great time that it was and plans are already

being made to better next year's big event.
Thanks to everyone who was a part of this fun filled weekend! See ya' next year!

2000 LITTLE MISS AND MR. SUTTON COUNTY CONTESTANTS



Crosby "Tinkerbell" Liverman
Daughter of Bobby and Shannon Liverman
Favorite food: Hot Dogs,
Favorite toy: Peter Pan Movie, Tinkerbell doll, and rabbits
Interests: Soccer, trampoline, Dress-up with Taylor & Brandy



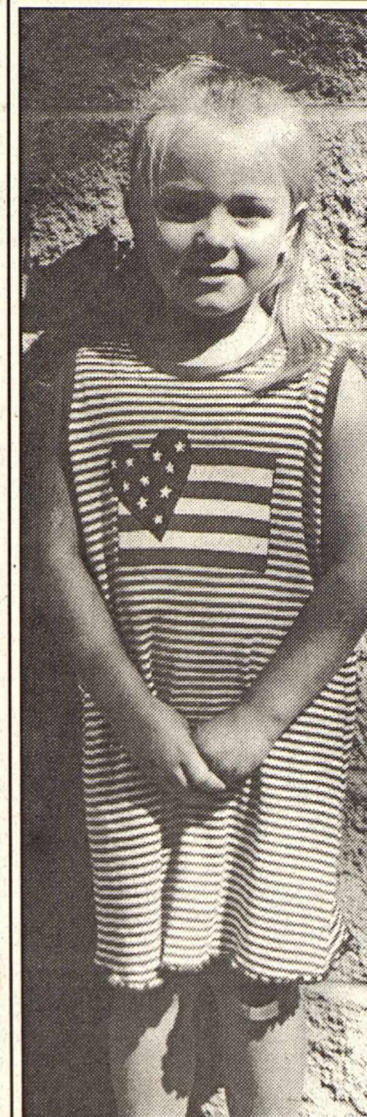
Kaci Lewis
Daughter of Kim and Petie Lewis
Interests: Loves to sing and dance



Leslie Levario
Daughter of Becky and Jimmy Levario
Favorite food: Pizza
Favorite toy: Blues Clues toy, trampoline
Interests: Likes to sing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" and likes to dance



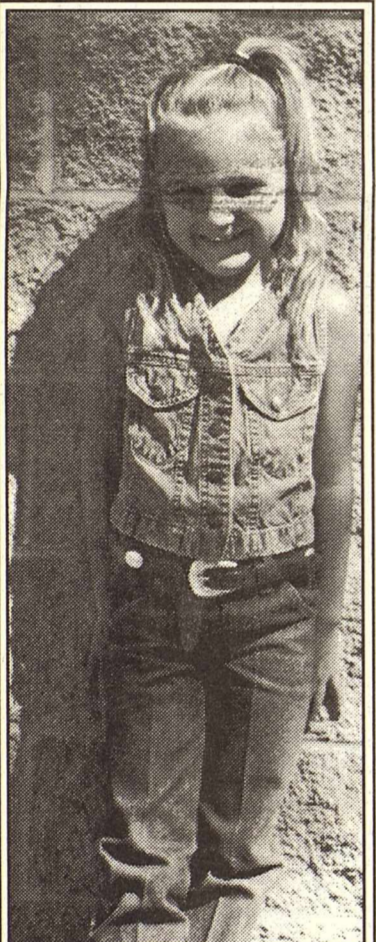
Lil' Sam Patterson
Son of Sam and Kacie Patterson; and Tammie Reed
Favorite food: Meatballs, "long noodles", applesauce, "Man sandwich"
Favorite toy: go-cart
Interests: 4-wheeling



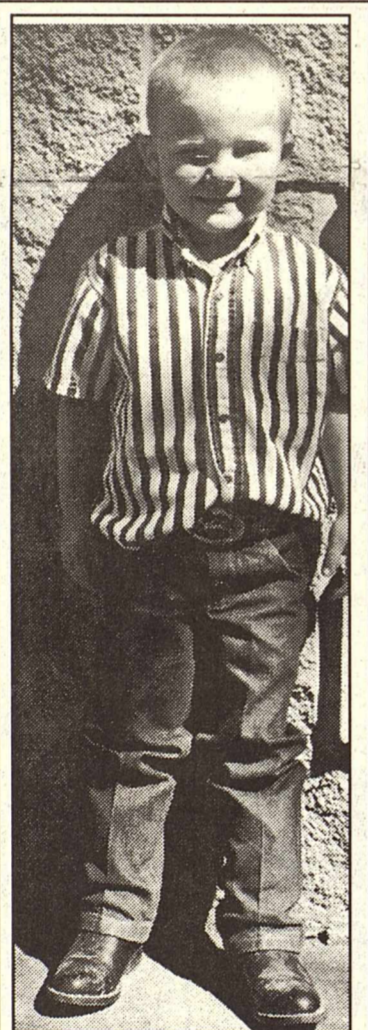
Macie Renee Friess
Daughter of Mike and Kay Friess
Favorite food: Pizza
Favorite toy: Barbies
Interests: Riding horses



Colton Reid Crowder
Son of Chris Crowder and Jennifer Arevalo
Favorite food: Pancakes, fried fish, hotdogs, peanut butter and jelly sandwich
Favorite toy: Cap guns, golf clubs, dinosaurs
Interests: Golf, swimming, baseball, fishing



Shea Holmes
Daughter of Judy and Stoney Holmes
Favorite food: Mac and cheese
Favorite toy: Barbies
Interests: Dressing up and modeling clothes



Dusty Holmes
Son of Stoney and Judy Holmes
Favorite food: Peanut butter and Jelly
Favorite toy: balls
Interests: Basketball, baseball



Francisco "Frank" Reyna
Son of Eugene and Delia Reyna
Favorite food: Pizza, cereal, bananas
Favorite toy: trucks, football
Interests: Playing with friends, watching cartoons



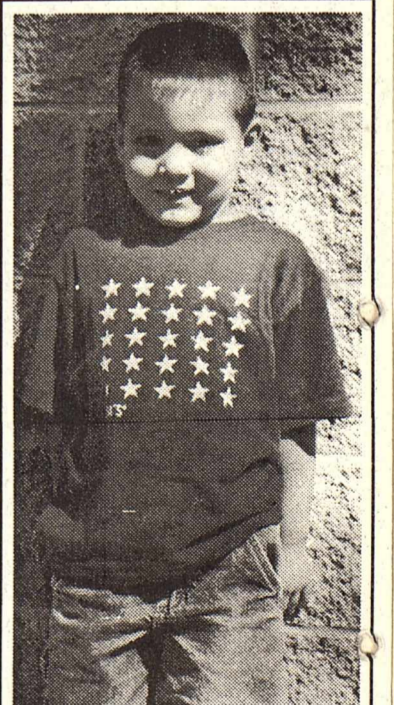
Meghan Blair Hernandez
Daughter of Arturo and Jennifer Hernandez
Favorite food: Chicken and gravy
Favorite toy: Baby dolls
Interests: Playing with friends and storytime at the library



Jesi Telles
Daughter of Robert and Shari Telles
Favorite food: French fries
Favorite toy: Barbies
Interests: Music



Kandyse Yessenia Rodriguez
Daughter of Abel Rodriguez and Amy Ramirez
Favorite food: Spaghetti
Favorite toy: CD player
Interests: Listening to music and playing with friends



Harley Johnson
Son of Nadine Sanchez and Charles Johnson
Favorite food: Ramen noodles-any flavor
Favorite toy: Big blue stuffed bear and ladybug pillow
Interests: Riding his bicycle, playing with friends and getting wet at the pool

JIM BASS FORD

West Texas Leading Truck Headquarters

F-150 Super Crew



2901 Sherwood Way
949-4621
San Angelo



F-250 Super Duty



2323 N. Bryant
658-8828
San Angelo

1-800-736-BASS

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sirs:

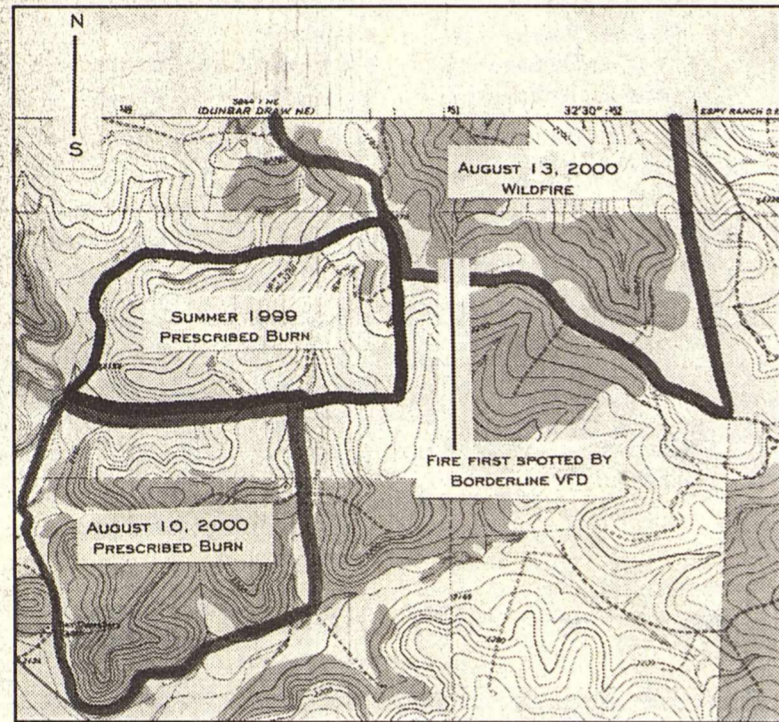
A fire started on the Charles Cusenbary ranch on Wednesday, August 9th. The Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association safely completed the fire on Thursday, August 10th. It has been rumored that the prescribed fire on the 10th caused a wildfire on Sunday, August 13th.

We believe that it is highly unlikely that the prescribed fire on Thursday caused the wildfire on Sunday. First of all, as members of the Borderline Volunteer Fire Department, we were the first fire suppression unit on the scene and from the position of the fire and the wind direction, it could not have been started by the prescribed fire (see map below). When we arrived on the scene the fire was approximately two miles from the prescribed burn and was being driven by an east wind. As the fire traveled in a easterly direction, it eventually crossed onto the Cusenbary Ranch and was stopped by a ranch road and an area that had been prescribed burned in the summer of 1999. This 1999 summer burn also helped stop a wildfire that occurred this past April.

We have conducted numerous prescribed fires over the past ten years and we have never known of a fire brand or fire whirlwind to travel more than 50 yards, especially against the wind. We do not know what started the wildfire on Sunday, but it was not the prescribed burn.

Sonora, Eldorado, Ozona, and Border Line Volunteer Fire Departments and members of the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association did a great job and worked long hours in controlling the wildfire. They should be congratulated for their efforts. It is unfortunate that unfounded rumors are always quick to surface before the facts are known.

Sincerely,
Charles Taylor and Nick Garza



Emergency Farm/Ranch Loan Applications Being Accepted

Applications for emergency farm/ranch loans for damages and losses caused by drought are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in San Angelo, FSA Farm Loan Manager, Fred J. Greenway stated.

McCulloch and Sutton are some of the counties in Texas recently named by Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman eligible for loans to cover part of actual physical and production losses and damages caused by drought that occurred from July 1, 1999, and continuing.

Fred J. Greenway said farmers/ranchers may be eligible for loans of up to 80 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business, whichever is less. For farmers/ranchers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer/rancher must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production and/or a qualifying physical loss to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan," Fred J. Greenway said. Farmers/ranchers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until September 12, 2000, for McCulloch County and December 4, 2000, for Sutton County, but farmers/ranchers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in apply-

ing could create backlogs in processing and possibly over into the new farming season, Greenway said.

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers/ranchers who work at and rely on farming/ranching for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers/ranchers who are U.S. citizens and to farming/ranching partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizens hold a majority interest.

The FSA office in San Angelo is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

USDA Announces Procedures, Dates for Referendum on Pork Checkoff

Sonora, Texas-- Jan G. Wanoreck, County Executive Director, today announced final procedures and dates for the upcoming referendum on continuation of the pork checkoff program. Secretary Dan Glickman authorized a vote on continuation of the checkoff program in February.

The congressionally mandated pork checkoff program is funded by assessments collected from producers when hogs are sold. The funds are used for pork promotion, research, and consumer information. Program funds cannot be used to affect the outcome of the referendum vote.

The final referendum rules provide for in-person voting September 19-21, 2000, at Sutton County FSA Office, 301 SE Crockett, Sonora, Texas.

Absentee ballots may be requested beginning August 1. However, absentee ballots for pro-

ducers will become available from the Sutton County FSA Office from August 18, 2000 through September 18, 2000.

The public is invited to observe the counting of the ballots at Sutton County FSA Office on November 29, 2000, at 1:30 p.m.

Producers who have owned and sold one or more pigs or hogs at any time from August 18, 1999, through August 17, 2000, are eligible to

AGRIBUSINESS

Rig Locations as of August 18, 2000

Crockett County
Texaco E & P; 8300' Scheuber-Wilkins #32, Cleere Drilling.

OXY Permian; 6500' M.K. Daniel - 111 - A#8, Cleere Drilling.
OXY Permian; 16000' Mitchell - B - #49, Nabors Drilling.
Tema Oil & Gas Co; 6100' M.K. Daniel - A - #24, UTI Drilling Lubbock.
New J. Cleo Thompson; 8200' Chambers - CSL - #2, Patterson Drilling.
New Union Pacific; 7500' Couch - 30 - #11, Patterson Drilling.

Sutton County
New Louis Dreyfus/OKC; 8350', Mayer #33, Patterson Drilling.
New Burlington Res/Mid; 6600', Deberry - A - #22, Cleere Drilling.
New Louis Dreyfus/OKC; 6350', Shurley - 94 - #7, Patterson Drilling.
KCS Medallion Res.; 5700', WB McMillan - #4, Patterson Drilling.
New Louis Dreyfus/OKC; 6100', Fields - 57 - #4, Patterson Drilling.
New EOG Resources; 9300' Granger Bluff #1201, Patterson Drilling.
New Louis Dreyfus/OKC; 8650' Hudspeth - 54 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

Val Verde
New EEX E & P Company; 14000' Walter H Wardlaw - A - #1, Cleere Drilling.

Terrell County
Conoco/Midland; 13700', Anna McClung - #14, Nabors Drilling.
New Athanor Texas; 9000', University - 31 - #8, Cleere Drilling.
Tom Brown Inc/Mid; 12000' ACU - 45 - #2, TMBR/Sharp Drilling.

Edwards
Sha-Jam Operating; 11000' - Bobby Lou #4801, Patterson Drilling.
For complete report contact: Scott Huggins,
Rig Location & Permit Report Service
(800) 627-9785



Devil's River Internet Service
915-387-2507

Internet Cattle Sales

COLLEGE STATION - Internet Web sites designed to buy and sell beef cattle could lead to a big change in the way livestock is marketed by producers, according to industry officials attending the recent Beef Cattle Short Course at Texas A&M University.

Beef producers heard representatives from cattle Internet Web sites say the future of marketing cattle may be as simple as the click of a mouse, and more cattle buyers will be turning to e-commerce because of convenience and transportation savings.

"We're just at the tip of the iceberg as far as selling cattle through the Internet," said Dr. Ernie Davis, a beef economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

"Already in the past few months, the volume of cattle being sold is 20,000 head per month. And we're continuing to see more and more being sold."

Short course participants learned about cattle marketing via the Internet and how e-commerce may reshape the way not only how cattle are sold, but how typical everyday farm and ranch supplies are purchased. Some companies are forming alliances with major retailers to sell everything from office supplies to western wear.

Though the Internet is far from replacing the traditional auction barn, Davis said the Internet "acts like the old terminal markets," where producers used to transport cattle to central locations.

"Basically, what we're doing with the Internet is it acts like a big stockyard," he said. "All it does is bring the description of the cattle into where the buyers are, and the buyers buy the cattle. All of this is done without having to move the cattle. That saves on transportation costs, and the overall stress of the animals when transporting them."

Jim Hartman, a partner with Internet site CowZone.com, said the firm first launched the Web site in 1999. Its cattleroundup.com site is a free cattle listing service for ranchers across the country.

"Our site is geared to people that want to buy and sell their cattle online period," Hartman said. "We don't charge any commission. This is strictly a service to the producer. When you go to the bottom of a listing, you'll see an e-mail listing and phone number. Once you've listed your cattle, and I'm a cattle person, I can read the description and visually imagine what that set of calves or whatever is listed there looks like. I can then pick up the phone and contact that seller that has listed those cattle."

Transactions are between the buyer and the seller only, with the Web site serving as a large bulletin board of cattle listings.

With the growth of Internet cattle marketing, Davis said even traditional auction sale barns are coming on board. For now, though, Internet cattle marketing is primarily limited to large truckloads of 100 head. Only about 6 percent of the ranches in Texas are big enough to access this market, he added.

"Right now, most of the systems set up on the Internet only accept truckload lots," Davis said. "They haven't made it easy for producers to co-mingle cattle to where they can sell them in those large truckload lots."

He noted 92 percent of the beef cattle farms and ranches in Texas have less than 100 head of cattle.

However, there are some producers who are marketing their cattle directly from the ranch through the Internet. Cattlesale.com, for example, includes a country cattle listing as part of their offering where buyers can place bids on everything from existing breeding stock to bulls.

Overall, the Internet is simply another way for producers to market their cattle and put more money in their pockets, Davis said.

"You're limiting the handling, the shipment of cattle and saving on transportation, not to mention saving on the stress and health of the animals," he said. "It's a win-win situation for most of the players there."

JORDAN CATTLE AUCTION

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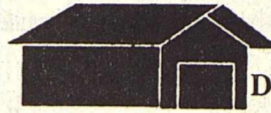
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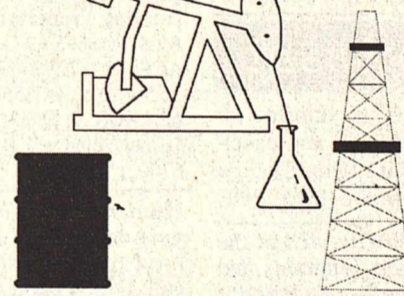
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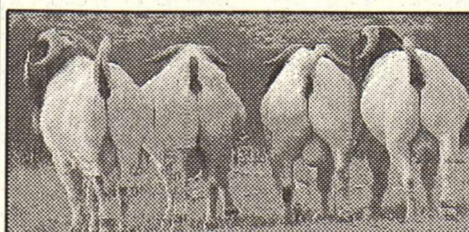
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 Alfred Sykes Agt. - 915-853-2386
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Public Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED BIDS
 The Sonora Industrial Development Corporation is requesting SEALED BIDS for a 5-year (monthly) note for the Eaton Hill Property. SEALED BIDS will be accepted at the business office of the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation office located at 103 Hwy. 277 North, Sonora, Texas 76950 on or before **3:00 PM September 1, 2000.** (Any and all bids received after the deadline will be returned to the submitter unopened.) All bids will be opened at the Regular SIDC Board Meeting on September 4th, 2000. Sonora Industrial Development Corporation reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. For additional information concerning this project call 915-387-6280 or come by the SIDC office.

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that the City of Sonora is now accepting applications for a Laborer. Applicant should have a valid Texas Driver's License, be able to maintain and repair property of the municipality. Applications can be picked up at City Hall, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Texas 76950 and should be returned to the City Secretary's Office. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The City of Sonora is an equal opportunity employer.

FOR SALE: Complete 10' Satellite Dish with upgraded electronics. IQ Prism with Video Cypher II Plus. 392-3256.

FOR SALE: 16 ft. Gooseneck Camper. Great for hunting or recreation in good shape--\$1,200 O.B.O. Call 915-277-3445

FOR SALE: 1995 model Ford F-350, real good condition, almost new tires, high mileage--\$7,500. Call 392-5879 or 392-5553.

3 FAMILY YARD SALE--Aug. 25-26 at 117 Buena Vista, 8:00 a.m. to ? Girl's 10-speed bike, boy's 10-speed bike. Lots of clothes, all sizes.

HALE'S 3 FAMILY YARD SALE--Saturday, August 26, 2000, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. 204 Hillcrest Ave. Furniture, plants, baby items, all kinds of sizes of clothing, plus misc. items.

YARD SALE--Saturday, Aug. 26, 8:00 a.m. Lots of little girls' clothes, adult and boys' sizes, also Super Nintendo with games, trumpet (great for beginners' band instrument).

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For Rent

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For Rent: 3 BR., 2 BA mobile home. Very nice. Located in Sonora. \$425.00 mth. - \$150.00 deposit. Call 387-3371 or 277-1267

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that the City of Sonora is now accepting applications for a part time Animal Control Officer. Applicant should have a valid Texas Driver's License, and be able to enforce city ordinances and State law governing the impounding, treatment, and disposal of animal and operation of animal facility. Applications can be picked up at City Hall, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Texas 76950 and should be returned to the City Secretary's Office. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The City of Sonora is an equal opportunity employer.

Eldorado

VIDEOS FOR SALE: Over 150 Titles \$5.00 or Less. Inventory changes weekly. Sam's Flea Market. S. Main.

Cowboy horseshoeing/Bud Arendt Call 915-835-7692 or 450-3856.

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Employment

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Help Wanted: Maid needed at the Holiday Host Motel. Reliability and transportation required. Experience preferred. Come by 127 Loop 467, Sonora, Texas.

La Mexicana Restaurant is now hiring fulltime/parttime morning and evening wait staff shifts. Please apply in person. 240 Hwy. 277N

A/C Service Technician needed in Sonora area. EPA certified. 2 years experience required. Call Cole Mechanical 1-888-897-8703.

BOOKKEEPING SERVICES AVAILABLE
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 387-5433 AFTER 5:30 PM

Duke Energy Field Services (DEFS) currently anticipates opportunities for the following: **Gas Plant/Compression Mechanic.** Opening anticipated at the Ozona/Sonora area. Individual should have at least 2 years of applicable experience as an industrial mechanic, preferably in the gas or petroleum-related industry. Performs repair work, preventive maintenance and overhauls on industrial 2 and 4 cycle engines (e.g., Cooper, White Superior, Waukesha & Caterpillar brand engines), pumps, hydraulic equipment and parts associated with these items. Strives for optimum performance and reliability of equipment. Must be willing to respond to off-hours, call-outs and work overtime as needed. Must have satisfactory safety record. Must live or relocate to within 35-40 miles of reporting location. Qualified applicants should mail resumes to: Duke Energy Field Services Human Resources Dept. P.O. Box 50020 Midland, Texas 79710-0020 or fax to (915) 620-4161. DEFS is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Hunters

Hunting Property: Duval Co. - 49.37 ACS. @ \$695 / AC. Edwards Co. 120.3 ACS. @ \$725 / AC. Val Verde Co. - 52.56 ACS. @ \$550 / AC. Zavala Co. 62.4 ACS. @ \$550/AC. More available. Owner financed. Ranch Ent. 210-340-6700.

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EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
 Sonora ISD is accepting applications for Middle School Special Education Aide. Computer and bilingual skills preferred. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled and may be obtained by contacting the Superintendent's Office at 807 S.

REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS
 The Sonora Industrial Development Corp. is requesting sealed bids for restoration and carpenter work to the Eaton Hill House. All bids need to be accompanied with proof of Workman Compensation Insurance. Contact Rick Taylor at 103 Hwy 277 North or call 915-387-6280 for specifications and information concerning the project. All sealed bids must be received by 10:00 a.m. September 4th, 2000. Sonora Industrial Development Corp. has the right to refuse any and all bids.

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 Richard Cooper
 Hm. 915-550-4218
 Mob. 915-277-3915
 Marty D. Lipham
 Hm. 915-387-3423
 Mob. 915-277-7030

Deadlines are always passing us by! So, please remember DRN deadline is Monday at 5:00

Employment

Help Wanted - Part time evenings. Apply at Mr. D's from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. @ 216 Hwy 277 N.

Pharmacy Technician: The training videos for becoming a pharmacy technician will be available on Sept. 29th. Contact Ronnie @ 387-2541 to schedule your time to use the videos.

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