



Sonora Church Directory

**PRIMERA IGLESIA
BAUTISTA**
Antonio F. Gonzales, Sr.
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Jerry Jackson
304 N. Water
387-3190

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

**ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
404 E. Poplar
387-2955

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Rev. Conrad Archer, 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

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205 E. Main
387-3241

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PENTECOSTAL
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387-6072

**IGLESIA PENTECOSTAL
UNIDA HISPANA**
Pastor Isai Oviedo
509 Amistad
650-3121

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

**LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Don Longoria, Pastor
707 Glasscock
387-5886

**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
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387-2266

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134 Hwy. 277 N.
387-2118

La Mexicana
240 N. Hwy 277
387-3401

Pizza Hut
401 Hwy. 277 N.
387-3540

Sutton County Steakhouse
1306 N. Service Rd
387-3833

Stagecoach Grill & Cantina
407 South Crockett
387-0623

Taco Grill
232 Hwy. 277 N.
387-9127

Town & Country Subway
610 S. Crockett
387-6181

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903 N. Crockett Ave.
387-2169

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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.

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Obituaries

Samuel Carrillo Sanchez

Samuel Carrillo Sanchez, 69, of Sonora died Tuesday, July 2, 2002, at his residence following a lengthy illness.

Funeral services were Friday, July 5, at Primera Iglesia Bautista. Burial followed in Sonora Cemetery.

Sam was born May 24, 1933, in Sonora. He was married to Lucia Mendez on April 29, 1959, in Sonora. He was a veteran of the United States Army, having served during the Korean Conflict.

He was preceded in death by his wife and one daughter, Ida.

Sam was a retired equip-

ment operator for Sutton County and a member of the Baptist Church.

He is survived by three sons, Samuel and wife, Carrie of Ranger, George and wife, Rosa, of Sonora and Abel and wife, Ramona, of Laredo; two brothers, Fortino and wife Tommy, and Joel and wife, Damacia, all of San Angelo; seven grandchildren, Ross, Austin, Jacinda, Samantha, Sabrina, Abel Jr. and Grady; and one great-grandchild, Jaden.

The family requests memorials be made to hospice of San Angelo or a favorite charity.

Camille Green



Camille Green of Sonora and Eldorado, Texas passed away on July 4, 2002, following a lengthy illness with cancer. She passed peacefully at home with her family and friends at her side.

Camille is survived by her husband of 35 years, Billy Green, daughter, Angela Crittendon and husband Arthur of Sonora and their two sons, Will and Dustin, brother Larry Luckett, sister Ann Feagin and niece Cindy Feagin, all of Sonora. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ruth and C.A. Luckett, maternal grandparents, Ruby and Jim Brotherton and paternal grandparents, Meryl and C.B. Luckett.

Camille is loved by her family and many wonderful and close friends. Each will miss her immensely in their lives. Her two stepsons, Bill Green and wife Debbie of San Antonio and Tom Green and wife Heidi of Austin and their five children will miss her equally, as Camille drew a special, loving bond with them as she did with the rest of her family.

Phyllis Camille Luckett was born on June 2, 1941 in Longview, Texas. She attended Pine Tree, Texas schools through her sophomore year of high school. The family moved to Sonora in 1957 and Camille graduated Sonora High School in 1959. Even after her cheerleader days at SHS were complete, she remained as loyal a Bronco fan as there ever could be. She supported the Broncos with her presence, cow bell and air horn and with high expectations of what they could accomplish as a team.

Camille loved, revered and honored family. She celebrated Christmas with exuberance. It was indeed her merriest of seasons. Camille studied the past and understood it in the present. She was a collector of things

authentic, of things of yesteryear. She was an accomplished artist with a keen eye for rustic worlds and scenes. She was a wealth of information from generations past and gave a good dose of common sense to her recipes of life.

Services were held at the First United Methodist Church of Sonora at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 7, 2002 with burial following in Eldorado Cemetery. Arrangements were with Kerbow Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were J.V. Cook, Jesso Cook, David Cook, Monte Dillard, Jerry Hopkins, Mickey Sharp, Ed Lee Renfro and Sam Whitten, Jr.

Honorary pallbearers were Clark Able, Robert Bryson, Glyn Burkhart, Leroy Goodson, Thomas Hernandez, Jack Johnson, Bennie King, Bill Lange, Bob Neely, Ed Martinez, John Rae Powell, David Walsh, Hal Whitten and Eddie Smith.

Memorials are requested for the Texas Groundwater Association Scholarship Fund, an organization for which Camille served on its auxiliary as a member and past president; The Sutton County Community Trust "Old Glory Fund" (First National Bank) or a church or charity of choice.

Senior Center News

July 15 - Bingo!

July 16 - City Council at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall.

July 17 - Van to San Angelo! Call 387-3941 or come by Center.

Senior Menu

July 15 - King Ranch chicken, broccoli, carrot raisin salad, roll, cookie.

July 16 - Hamburger on bun, chips, tomato, onions, lettuce, baby carrots, seafoam salad.

July 17 - Chicken fried steak with gravy, spinach, mixed vegetables, cornbread, sunshine fruit cup.

July 18 - Hot roast beef on bread, lettuce, tomato, pea salad, mashed potatoes, peaches.

July 19 - Chicken fajita salad with cheese, tomato, lettuce, macaroni salad, pumpkin pie.

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

Menu is subject to change.

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Community

July 15

S.I.S.D. School Board Meeting
6:30 p.m. Administration Bldg.

The Community Calendar

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Calendar

July 16

City Council Meeting
City Hall • 2:00 p.m.

July 22

Commissioners Meeting
9:00 a.m. • Annex Bldg.

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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@sonoratr.net

Hudspeth Ladies Auxiliary Learns About Osteoporosis

The Hudspeth Hospital Ladies Auxiliary met on Wednesday, June 12th at the Hospital Annex for their summer meeting. The ladies were treated to a special program, hosted by Tammy Gentry, Physical Therapist at Hudspeth. Tammy educated those present on Osteoporosis.

What is Osteoporosis? Osteoporosis, put simply, is a PREVENTABLE medical condition in which bones become fragile and more likely to break. If not prevented or if left untreated, osteoporosis can progress painlessly until a bone breaks. The most common sites for fractures are the spine, hip and wrist.

All ages are at risk, however, the risk increases with age. Females are four times greater at risk than males and the risk is greater among Caucasian and Asians. Thin, petite and small-muscled people are more likely to get osteoporosis.

Many factors play a part in obtaining osteoporosis, including exercise, smoking, alcohol consumption, caffeine, diet, family history and some medications, including: Steroids, Cortisone, Thyroid hormones, Aluminum-containing antacids and Heparin.

To find out if you have Osteoporosis you have to have a bone density test: DEXA or a bone resorption tests.

Bone mass usually peaks between the ages of 25 and 35. Nearly 40% of women in their 60s have osteoporosis and more than 75% of women over 80 have it. An estimated 1.5 million fractures are caused by osteoporosis each year and the one year mortality following a hip fracture is from 12% to 20%. Nearly half of the persons able to walk prior to hip frac-

ture subsequently do not regain functional ambulation.

Osteoporosis is preventable and treatable!

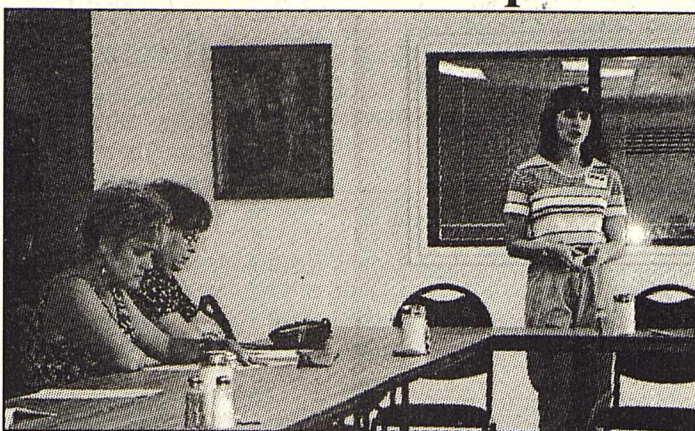
Prevention of the "Silent Disease" include Hormones (Estrogen) and Calcium.

Estrogen is important for the preservation of bone mass, reduction of menopausal symptoms and improves levels of cholesterol. Some risks and side effects include breast tenderness, fluid retention, increased risk of gallbladder disease (rare), increased risk of high blood pressure (rare) and you may resume having monthly menstrual periods.

Calcium is essential for many body functions, including regulation of the heartbeat, conduction of nerve impulses, stimulation of hormone secretions, and clotting of blood, as well as for building and maintaining healthy bones. If your body does not get enough calcium for these vital functions, it has to take it out of your bones. Since the body does not produce calcium, you must get it from your daily diet. The best source of calcium is food, but if you can't get enough from your diet, you can make up the rest with supplements. Check with your doctor on how much calcium you need for your age.

Many foods offer calcium and supplements (Citracal, Osteocal and Advacal are some examples) are available. Always check with your physician before taking supplements and check the labels. Some side effects from supplements includes indigestion and constipation. A major contraindication may include kidney stones.

To make the most of the calcium that you take, try to avoid a high protein diet, caffeine, alcohol, sodium, sugar and immobility.



Tammy Gentry, Physical Therapist at Hudspeth Hospital, teaches the Hudspeth Ladies Auxiliary about Osteoporosis.

ity. Vitamin D is also important because it is needed for the body to absorb calcium. Magnesium, Phosphorous and Zinc are also helpful to protect bones.

The best exercise for your bones is weight-bearing exercise such as walking, dancing, jogging, stair-climbing, racquet sports. Exercise helps to reduce incidence of falls and improves cardiovascular fitness. The Osteoporosis Prevention and Self Management Course recommends that an exercise program should contain a combination of weight-bearing, strengthening, flexibility and aerobic exercises. Results of exercise are reversible, if you stop, the results will diminish. It must be a long-term commitment. Exercises for women with osteoporosis can include swimming and activities in the pool, walking, and social dancing. Avoid exercises which involve bending, twisting, lifting or jolting.

Physical Therapy can help when combating Osteoporosis by providing education, posture correction, body mechanics, pain relief modalities and fall prevention.

Preventing fractures is the key to living with osteoporosis. For personal safety a person with Osteoporosis must avoid medication that dull your sense of balance, wear good shoes, use handrails and avoid walking in poorly-lighted areas. Use safety in everyday tasks! Don't lift heavy objects; don't do things that cause back strain, such as opening a stuck window; don't bend at the waist to pick things up - bend your knees and keep your back straight; and don't use stepping stools or chairs to reach high places. Ask for help!

Home safety is also important. Use good lighting, install railings and keep walkways free of obstacles, loose rugs and electrical cords. Always make sure that floors and stairways are in good repair.

Medication for treatment and prevention of osteoporosis include Estrogen replacement therapy or hormone replacement therapy, Alendronate, Raloxifene, Risedronate, and Clacitonin.

For more information on Osteoporosis contact your physician or you can talk to Tammy at Hudspeth Hospital.

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Rachel Bean and Rhett Johnson
15th Celebration
Felicia Castillo
Catherine Herrera
Casey Arredondo

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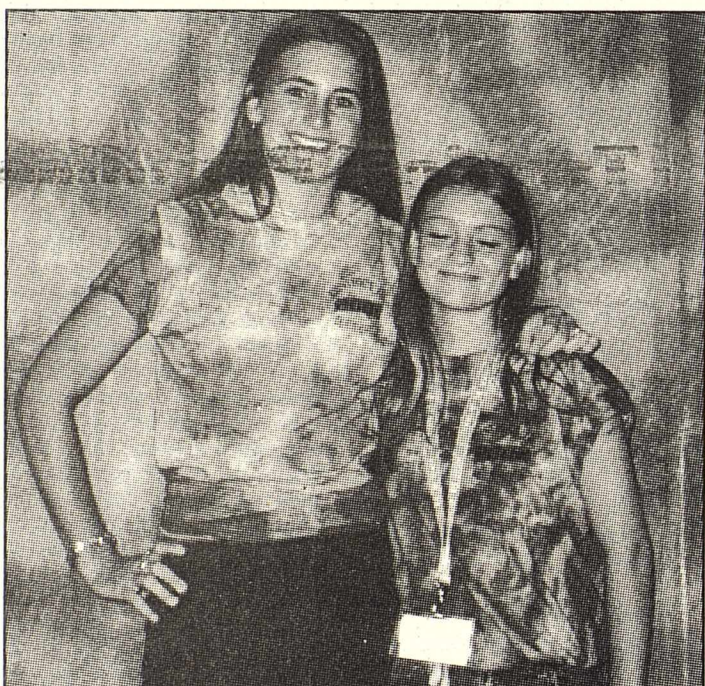
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Future Leaders



Sutton County 4-H members, Brea Hughes and Jena Teasley, attended Leadership Lab at Lake Brownwood's State 4-H Center. The workshop dates were June 17 - 19. With the new 4-H year starting this fall, Brea will serve as the local senior club's 3rd Vice President and Jena will hold that office in the junior club.

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Letter to Walk Across Texas Participants

Dear Walk Across Texas Participants,
As many of you know I will be home recovering from emergency surgery during the month of July. Unfortunately, my health scare happened right in the middle of our "Walk Across Texas" program. Just so you all know, things will still work out for our program. In the next week or so I will be sending you all a survey and a letter explaining how we will compile our mileage and determine winners. Participants need to keep all mileage logs because they will determine who did what so please don't trash them! We still have our celebration and awards ceremony too! We will do this in August instead of July. I really appreciate everyone's patience and I am truly sorry this put our program on hold. I know each of you worked hard "Walking Across Texas" and you all deserve recognition for a job well done.

Sincerely,
Kelly L. Thorp
Sutton County Extension Agent-FCS

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WTU Retail Energy Encourages Conservation

The combination of longer days, increasing temperatures and another hot summer will likely result in higher energy bills. As a help to its customers, WTU Retail Energy is encouraging residential and small commercial customers to conserve energy in order to manage their electricity consumption and reduce costs.

Stacy Noel, director of Texas retail marketing, says that although hot summers and increasing energy consumption are inevitable in South Texas, there are energy conservation measures that can help customers save money on their energy bills.

Beginning in June, WTU Retail Energy began providing "Energy Saving Tips" on all residential and small commercial bills. Bill messages offer simple, easy-to-apply energy conservation tips that can help customers manage and reduce their energy costs.

"We strongly recommend year-round energy conservation efforts, but it is especially important to practice them in the summer months when energy bills can rise dramatically along with temperatures," said Noel. "We strongly urge our customers to use these tips because they have been tested and proven to work."

A complete list of "Energy Saving Tips" is available free of charge on WTU Retail Energy's web site, www.wturetailenergy.com.

In cases where customers need help paying their electric bills this summer, WTU Retail Energy has various payment options available to residential customers to help them pay their energy bills more easily. Customers can contact a WTU Retail Energy customer service representative toll-free at 1-866-322-5563 to establish a Deferred Payment Plan and/or see if they qualify for an Equal Payment Plan.

"We want our customers to know that we will do whatever we can to work with them on payment arrangements," said Noel. "We strongly urge any of our customers, who have questions regarding their bill, or who anticipate that payment cannot be made on time to contact us as soon as possible."

Customers having any questions regarding their energy bill may call the WTU Retail Energy Customer Contact Center toll free by dialing 1-866-322-5563.

Lions Provide Free Summer Camp For Children With Physical Disabilities and Diabetes

Thanks to the Lions Clubs of Texas, many children with physical disabilities can look forward to an experience that all children dream about - going to summer camp! The Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville offers special camping programs that serve children who have physical disabilities and Type 1 diabetes.

This summer, Kylie Johnson of Sonora attended the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville; Kylie was sponsored by Virgil Poloczek of the Sonora Downtown Lions Club.

The Texas Lions Camp offers camping sessions to children ages seven through 16 who have visual, hearing, or physical disabilities. The camp offers a wide variety of activities for camper's enjoyment, including arts & crafts, field sports, riding horses, swimming, theater, and camping out overnight. The camp is a nonprofit organization, funded by the Lions of Texas and private donations. Children attend the camp at no cost to themselves or their families.



Kylie Johnson

Further information and camper applications may be obtained by contacting a Lions Club member in your area or by contacting the Texas Lions Camp at P.O. Box 290247, Kerrville, Texas 78029-0247; V/TDD (830)896-8500; fax (830)896-3666. The Texas Lions Camp can also be found on the Web at www.lionscamp.com.

Sonora Cookers Heat Up Junction



"Have Pit Will Travel" is the motto for cooker Kirk Joy who has his pit built in this trailer.

by Storie Sharp

Several Sonora cooking teams made a good showing at the Annual 4th of July Cook-Off in Junction, TX. Kirk Joy, owner and operator of Stagecoach Grill & Cantina, took First Place in Brisket and 3rd in Chicken.

The "Risky Rita's" Cooking Team, consisting of Rita, Lisa, Michelle and Darla Lipham, Annette Knox and Donna Shortridge won 1st place in Beans and 2nd in Guacamole.

The Flying Cabrito Brothers, made up of Curtis, Marty, Clifton and Fred Lipham (with help from Josh Hopkins and Shane Folmar) came in 2nd in the Beans category.

Other teams from Sutton County that made the trip to Junction include the "Just Me" Michael Kissire Cooking Team and the 7C's Cooking Team, made up of Steve and C.J. Harrison.

Happy Birthday

July 12 - Joseph Hopkins, Katrina Hernandez

July 13 - Aaron Holms, Nick Holms, Edith Stanton, Kooper Liverman, Rhonda Gulley, Debbie Geske, Mack Wardlaw, Sandra Zaragosa

July 14 - Jennifer Gamez, Cyndy Allen, Alfred Garza, Buster Fred, Ramon Estrada, Freddie Gandar

July 15 - Audra Smith, Rayonna Blackman

July 16 - Bryce Williams, Brenda Kearney, Jake Trainer, Kim Cole

July 17 - Jimmy Sims, Manuel Paredes III

July 18 - Nina Martinez, Anita Hudson, Morgan Vylecka, Caleb Barker, Anna Lisa Perez

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KCS Energy, Inc. Names Ernst & Young Independent Auditors For 2002

HOUSTON, TX, July 8, 2002 -- KCS Energy, Inc. (NYSE: KCS) today announced it has selected Ernst & Young LLP as its independent public accountants, replacing Arthur Andersen. The appointment, effective immediately, is for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2002.

KCS is an independent energy company engaged in the acquisition, exploration, development and production of natural gas and crude oil with operations in the Mid-Continent and Gulf Coast regions. For more information on KCS Energy, Inc., please visit the Company's web site at <http://www.kcsenergy.com>.

The Road To The Capitol

by Henry Bonilla

When I was attending South San Antonio High School, I never thought I would one day be representing you in Washington as a United States Congressman. It was something of a feat for a student there to graduate, let alone go on to college and beyond. Most people assume congressmen have worn suits their whole lives, and that a law or business degree is a required ticket of admission. However, Congress is full of self-made men and women who came from every background imaginable. Let me share a few examples with you.

At the young age of 20, Rep. Bob Riley of Alabama began selling eggs door to door with his brother. The small operation grew to become one of the largest totally integrated poultry and egg operations in the Southeast.

Rep. Ellen Tauscher of California was the youngest person to win a seat on the coveted New York Stock Exchange at age 25. She worked as a stock trader and investment banker. After moving to California she founded the ChildCare Registry, the first company to provide background information on child-care providers.

Congress has also attracted its share of athletes over the years. Rep. J.C. Watts of Oklahoma was a college All-American football player at the University of Oklahoma. He went on to play for the Canadian Football League, and after that became a youth minister. Rep. Steve Largent, also of Oklahoma, was also a professional athlete. He played for the Seattle Seahawks for 14 years and was inducted to the NFL Hall of Fame after retiring as the third all-time leader in pass receptions in 1989.

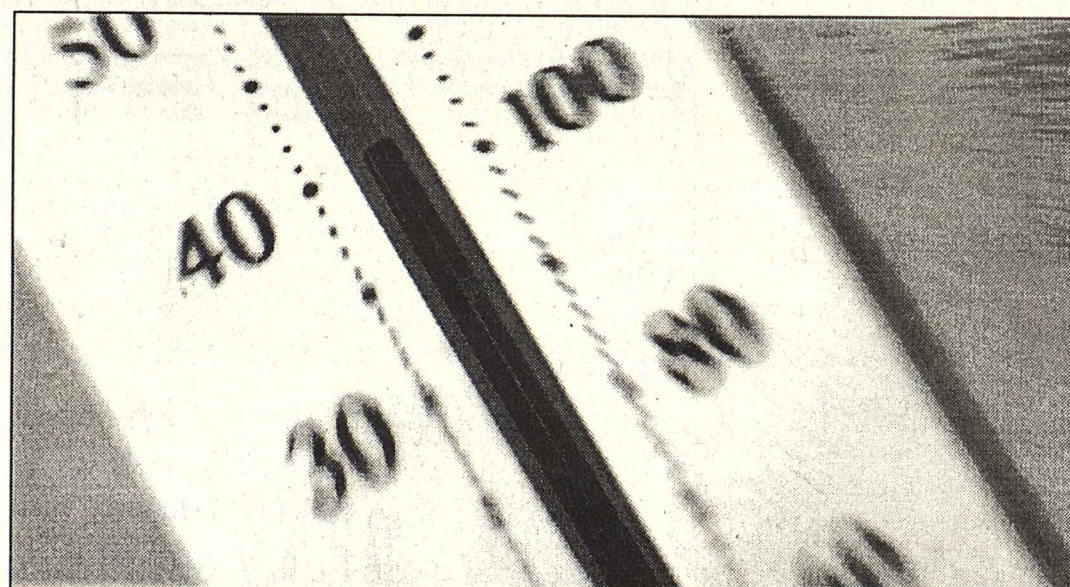
Congress is also honored by the service of true heroes, its war heroes. Senator Bob Kerry of Nebraska served his country in an elite Navy SEAL team in Vietnam and was awarded the Medal of Honor after losing part of his right leg in action. Rep. Sam Johnson of Plano, Texas, is a retired Air Force Colonel who endured nearly seven years of brutality - half of that period in solitary confinement - in a North Vietnamese prison camp.

Congress is full of people from all walks of life, many who never ran for office before coming to Washington. My colleagues have included a great songwriter (Sonny Bono), a winemaker, a restaurant manager and a self described "journeyman" carpenter, just to name a few.

As students across America graduate from high school and move-on to college and other ambitions, I'd like to remind them that America is still a country where the American Dream can become a reality. It's a country where a child living in a public housing project can grow up to become whatever he or she dreams of becoming.

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*CROCODILE HUNTER (PG).....	5:10 7:20 9:25
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Texas' Sees Its First Case of West Nile Virus (WNV) in a Horse

Preliminary tests on a sick horse that was euthanized Saturday, June 29, near Katy in far west Harris County, indicate that the animal was infected with West Nile Virus (WNV), a form of "sleeping sickness" first detected in Texas in two dead blue jays June 18 on the north-west side of Houston.

According to the Texas Department of Health (TDH), another 29 infected birds have since been found.

"We were notified July 3 that tests run on samples of the horse's blood and spinal fluid were positive for WNV. The tests were run both at the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in College Station, and at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa," said Dr. Linda Logan, Texas' state veterinarian and executive director for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

"The NVSL is running additional confirmation tests on the blood samples, but more than likely, we are seeing Texas' first case of West Nile Virus in a horse. Diagnosing WNV must be based on laboratory confirmation, as the signs of the disease, including staggering or the inability to rise, can mimic other diseases, including rabies, or other encephalitic diseases, such as Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)."

WNV was unheard of in North America until 1999, when it was detected in birds in New York. The virus, which can cause brain swelling and severe illness in horses, previously had been confined to Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. WNV has spread to 20 US states, following the migratory flight patterns of birds along the Eastern Seaboard and west as far as Texas. In 2001, 738 horses, donkeys or other members of the equine family were diagnosed with the disease in the U.S., and about 20 percent of the animals had to be euthanized, due to the severity of their illness.

"Blue jays, crows and more than 70 other species of birds can carry the virus, but it is the mosquito that puts the disease cycle in motion," explained Dr. Logan. "After feeding on infected birds, mosquitoes ingest the virus, and about one percent of the pests then become infected and capable of spreading the virus to horses or humans. There have been no documented cases of animals or humans spreading the disease. Dogs and cats appear to be resistant to the disease."

"Home and stable owners should take precautions to prevent mosquito bites," said Dr. Joe Garrett, a veterinarian with the TDH's Zoonosis Control Division. "Get rid of stagnant water, drain flowerpots, keep bird baths clean and cut weeds down to discourage mosquito breeding grounds. Apply insect repellents, and put up screens to protect your home or stable from being 'invaded' by mosquitoes. There is no vaccine for people, but fortunately, human cases of WNV are extremely rare. However, see your physician immediately if you develop signs of the disease, which include fever, headache, body aches and swollen lymph glands. More severe infection may be marked by headache, high fever, neck stiffness."

"We continue to work with other agencies to urge horse owners to have their animals

vaccinated against WNV, and with the diagnosis of this disease in the Houston area, all possible preventive efforts are import to stop the spread of this disease," said Dr. Richard Ferris, area-veterinarian-in-charge for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services in Texas. "We are investigating other potential cases in horses in Harris County and are awaiting test results. While a vaccine is available for horses, the animal must receive two doses of WNV vaccine three to six weeks apart, and full protection does not begin until at least four to six weeks after the second dose of vaccine is administered," he said. "I'd urge owners to take action now to get horses protected."

"If your horse becomes ill and goes off feed, sways, develops head tremors, muscle twitches or cannot rise, contact your veterinarian, so he or she can collect and send in samples to us for diagnostic testing," said Dr. Lelve Gayle, executive director of the TVMDL. Laboratory confirmation of cases is particularly important for tracking the movement of WNV within the state.

Dr. Garrett said the TDH is continuing its WNV disease surveillance statewide, which includes testing mosquitoes, dead crows, blue jays, hawks and sampling zoo birds. Dead crows, blue jays or hawks can be submitted for laboratory examination, by calling the nearest regional Texas Department of Health office or the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 1-512-458-7255.

"If you are picking up a dead bird, wear gloves and wash your hands afterward," explained Dr. Garrett. "The bird could have had parasites of other illnesses, and it's always advisable to keep a barrier--like gloves--between you and the dead bird."

Dr. Logan reminded livestock owners that, as always, the TAHC operates a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-550-8242 for taking reports of unusual signs in livestock, including:

1. staggering, falling, or inability to rise
2. illness affecting a large percentage of animals
3. sudden death loss
4. blistering around an animal's lips, teats or hooves
5. unusual ticks or maggots.

Wildlife Management Symposium Coming Up

AUSTIN, Texas -- The early registration deadline is approaching for a symposium put on by the Texas Organization of Wildlife Management Associations (TOWMA). It is being held in conjunction with the association's second statewide conference in Kerrville on Aug. 9-10 at the Y.O. Ranch Resort Hotel and Conference Center. Anyone interested in wildlife management is invited to attend and the early registration deadline is July 20.

The organization was formed in 1996 to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas

and information among a growing number of wildlife management cooperatives. The goal is to help sustain the growth and development of wildlife cooperatives statewide and to provide a collective voice on issues affecting its members. TOWMA is the parent organization of more than 60 wildlife management associations that represent more than 5,000 landowners.

Robert L. Cook, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director, is scheduled to give the keynote address. The morning session will include other highly recognized speakers covering topics such as

groundwater management, recreational pond development, riparian enhancement, financial assistance programs for habitat conservation, and fire ants. The afternoon session will continue and topics include law enforcement, hunting, quail, turkey, and white-winged doves.

On Aug. 10, Gary Graham, Ph.D., wildlife division director at TPWD will be the main speaker. Other notable speakers will follow covering topics including feral hogs, Chronic Wasting Disease, deer and antler regulations, genetic and environmental interaction in white-tailed deer, and the use of

remote-sensing cameras for deer census.

The Y.O. Ranch Resort Hotel and Conference Center has blocked a limited number of rooms at a group rate of \$73 each for a single or double room. Early registration for the conference is \$60 per person (\$110 with spouse), which includes the noon luncheon on Friday. After July 20, the registration cost jumps to \$90 per person. For additional information call Norman Schultz at 979-249-3958. To reserve a room, call the ranch at 877-967-3767.

State Park Operations Affected by Deluge

AUSTIN, Texas -- This week's torrential rains over south and central Texas have affected operations at some state parks, forcing the temporary closure of several parks, including Garner State Park near Concan. As of noon Friday, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reported that Landmark Inn State Historic Site in Castroville remained closed due to rising Medina River waters and noted that some campers were stranded by high waters in four Texas Hill Country state parks, but faced no imminent danger.

Rising floodwaters were keeping campers from leaving Colorado Bend State Park near Bend, Texas; Enchanted Rock near Fredericksburg; Hill Country State Natural Area near Bandera; and Lost Maples State Natural Area near Concan, said Laird Fowler of TPWD's State Parks Division. Guadalupe River State Park was forced to close Friday morning because sewer lift stations inundated by Guadalupe River floodwaters left the restrooms inoperable, he said.

In spite of the deluge, Texas State Parks officials said most of the more than 120 state parks were open for business during the busy July 4 weekend. Texas Parks and Wildlife officials are urging persons planning to visit parks in the rain-soaked central and south Texas regions to call the state park reservations center or individual parks for the latest information on flood effects.

Of all affected state parks, Garner was hit the hardest, suffering considerable damage from Frio River floodwaters that inundated campgrounds and restrooms, causing damage to electrical systems and park facilities, according to park manager Jim Wilson. The park will remain closed for cleanup and repairs at least through July 18.

The decision to temporarily close the park, state parks officials said, is based on damage to water-wastewater systems that leaves the park without potable water and without the ability to serve the public in a way that would comply with state rules.

"Our Central Reservation

Center agents have been doing an outstanding job of notifying visitors who have been calling in because folks still want to go camping," Bill Granberry, regional director of 13 Texas Hill Country state parks, said. "Right now, Garner State Park has suffered the most damage."

TPWD urges persons with camping reservations at state parks in flood-prone regions of central and south Texas to call the Texas State Parks Customer Contact Center (512) 389-8900 to re-confirm their reservations. The center, however, is open until 8 p.m. tonight and will be open from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. The CCC is closed Sunday.

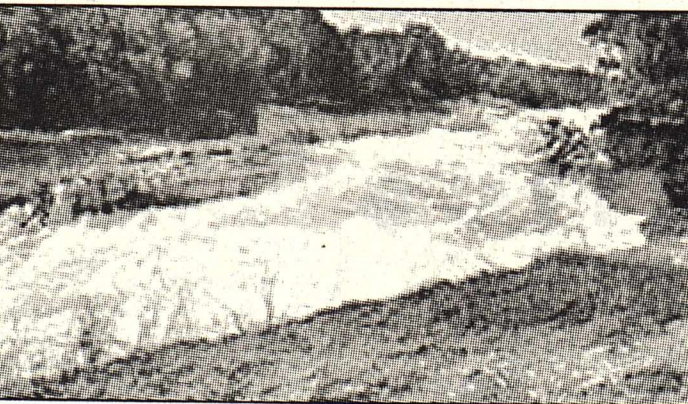
More than 18 inches of rain since June 29th in Stonewall has caused some minor damage to Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site, forcing tours to the LBJ Ranch to be curtailed until Sunday, when barring more flooding, the bus tours will be reinstated.

Park officials at Lake Brownwood State Park in Brown County Friday were keeping an eye on rising waters that could close access to the park. Six campsites already have been shut down, they said.

In south Texas, Palmetto State Park near Gonzales was closed and will remain so at least through the weekend because of an expected crest of the San Marcos River of at least 10 to 11 feet above flood stage, said assistant park manager David Allen.

San Antonio River floodwaters forced closure Tuesday of the day use and tent camping areas at Goliad State Park and those areas will remain closed through the weekend, according to south Texas regional parks director Russell Fishbeck. However, he noted that the park's historic site would remain open to visitors.

The tent camping area along the Atascosa River in the South Shore unit of Choke Canyon State Park near Three Rivers, Texas, was closed Tuesday, Fishbeck said, and will remain closed during the holiday weekend.



The Guadalupe River flows over its borders. AP Photo

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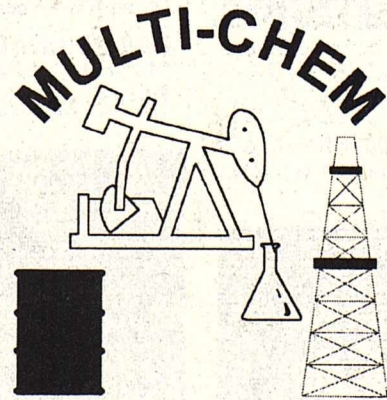
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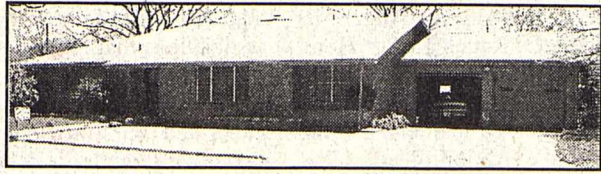
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 - (2) 1983 White Oldsmobile Cutlass 4/D VIN # 1G3AM69Y1DM452350. \$500.00 minimum bid.
 - (3) 1983 Yellow Mercury Marquis 4/D VIN#1MEBP95F4DZ639956. \$500.00 minimum bid.
 - (4) 1990 White Oldsmobile Eighty Eight VIN# 1G3HN54C2L1837997. \$500.00 minimum bid.
- Bids must be received no later than 5:00 P.M. Thursday, July 18, 2002. Bids will be opened at 10:00 A.M. Friday July 19, 2002 at the Schleicher County Sheriff's Department at 4 N. Divide, Eldorado, Texas 76936. Telephone (915) 853-2737. The Schleicher County Sheriff's Department reserves the right to accept or reject all bids. Vehicles may be viewed by appt. George M. Arispe, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Schleicher County, Texas

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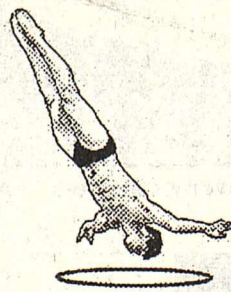
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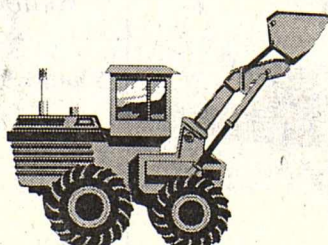
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