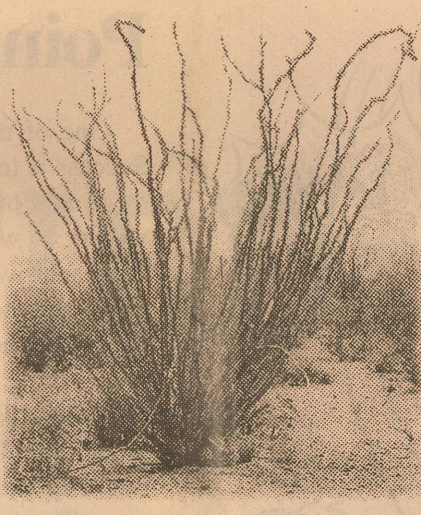


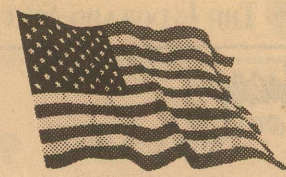
**Dumplings,
true heroes
of the Rodeo**

American Profile
supplement inside
this issue.



**Big Bend
National Park
wild, and remote**

...See Page 4



ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 102, ISSUE 28

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

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JULY 10, 2003



Here's the problem — Peggy Williams points out to the Eldorado City Council where her house is. Williams appeared before the council to discuss recent problems with the sewer system.

City Council holds monthly meeting

The Eldorado City Council met Monday night, July 7, 2003 and, among other business, discussed the need to relocate and upgrade sewer lines in the north part of town. Peggy Williams was on hand to meet with the council and asked that they consider upgrading the sewer lines in her neighborhood. Williams told of numerous problems she has experienced in recent years.

A map of the area revealed that Williams' home is located near the end of a long and winding section of sewer main. It was explained that the distance from the nearest lift station means that the line is very shallow in Williams' neighborhood.

After reviewing the map and discussing several options the council directed city staff to investigate the possibility of relocating the sewer main and to report back at a future meeting.

Another citizen, Raymon Espinosa, had asked to be on the agenda, but was not present for the meeting. It was explained that Mr. Espinosa had asked during a previous meeting that speed bumps be installed near his home on Bluebonnet Drive and that he is still wanting the city to do something about speeders in his neighborhood. The council discussed the issue briefly but decided not to install speed bumps.

The meeting was the council's regular monthly session. It was called to order by Mayor John Nikolauk at 6:05 p.m. Present for the meeting were council members Dora Bosmans, Toni Sudduth, Richard Mendez, Tommy Minor and Robert Bybee. Council member Juquin Rojas was absent. Also present were City Administrator Randy Mankin, City Secretary Carolyn Mayo and Utility Superintendent Floyd Fay.

The city's grant administrator, Kay Howard, was also in attendance and submitted a proposed contract for her services as administrator of a \$175,000 grant through which the city will install new water lines in portions of Orient Heights. Howard explained that Schleicher County applied for the grant twice but could not get it funded. This time the grant was applied for in the city's name and the state awarded the funds.

City Administrator Randy Mankin noted that Ms. Howard has served as the city's grant administrator for a number of years and recommended that the council hire her for the upcoming grant. The council agreed and voted unanimously to pay Howard \$17,500 for her services during the course of the grant. It was explained that the money will be paid out in portions, as certain milestones are achieved.

Next, the council recessed for a field trip to the city landfill where they toured the facility and heard updates from Randy Mankin and Floyd Fay on landfill operations.

Upon returning to City Hall the council listened as Floyd Fay explained work that his crews are carrying out around town. Fay oversees operations in the city's water, wastewater, natural gas, sanitation, streets, landfill and animal control departments. He currently has twelve employees working in those seven departments.

During his update, Fay explained that a water well was recently drilled at the landfill and that a drip irrigation system

is being installed around the perimeter of the facility so that trees may be planted. The trees will help serve as a wind-break as well as shielding the landfill from neighbors.

Randy Mankin then delivered his Administrator's Report. He advised that work to install handwheel gates at the wastewater treatment plant is nearly complete. However, the way state regulations are now being interpreted makes it highly unlikely that the plant will be able to stay in compliance, Mankin advised. He noted that engineer Steve Dennis is actively looking for a solution short of spending \$2 million on a wastewater plant.

Mankin also advised that Deana Brown had resigned as the city's Utility Billing Clerk. He said that employment applications are being taken and that a replacement is being sought. In the mean-

time, Cathy Kuykendall, who held the job previously, has agreed to help out.

Next, Mankin told the council about an inquiry from a county commissioner who asked if it would be possible for the city to place dumpsters on the courthouse square for the use of county residents, provided the county paid for the service.

The idea didn't get very far. Council member Toni Sudduth noted that city residents are also county residents and wondered if the county would be willing to pay for their monthly dumpster fees. Mayor Nikolauk offered an alternative idea, saying that county residents could place garbage receptacles at the road near their home and that a county dump truck could collect the garbage and haul it to the landfill.

The mayor went on to point out that the City of Eldorado allows any resident

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Redistricting could move county into new congressional district

The congressional redistricting plan that sent Texas House Democrats scurrying to Oklahoma two months ago, sailed through the State House on an 83-62 vote that split virtually along party lines. House Republicans, led by Speaker Tom Craddick of Midland, rolled over the objections of Democrats to pass the plan at 11:50 p.m. on Monday, July 7th and then again at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, July 8th. State House rules require major bills to pass on two separate days.

The plan now goes to the State Senate where it is likely to face a stiffer test. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, himself a Republican, has already expressed misgivings over the plan. So has former Lt. Gov. and current State Senator Bill Ratliff of Mt. Vernon. For the plan to become law, two-thirds of the state's 31 senators must vote to allow debate.

The plan threatens to unseat several veteran Democrat congressmen, including Charlie Stenholm, who would be moved into the 19th District with newly elected Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R) of Lubbock.

If the House plan prevails, Schleicher

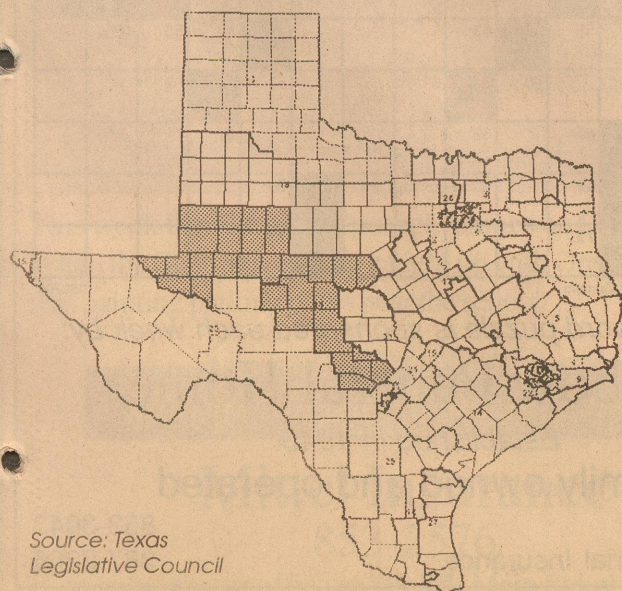
County will be moved out of Stenholm's district and into a newly created 11th District, that extends from the Hill County to the Permian Basin (see map below). In that case, a special election would be held to fill the seat.

Already, Mike Conaway and Bill Christian, both Republicans from Midland, are eyeing the race. Conaway recently lost a close runoff race to Neugebauer of Lubbock in a special election held to succeed Larry Combest who retired. Bill Christian has close ties to Eldorado and has already been seen in town making the round with his uncle, Gene McCalla.

Other candidates will likely enter the fray, if there is to one. Among those is State Rep. Harvey Hildebran (R) of Kerrville, who is rumored to be considering the race.

It is unclear, however, if the House plan will survive its brush with the Senate. With several senators already working on plans of their own, political pundits aligned with both parties are predicting at least some change in the plan. Either way, the courts are likely to have the final say in any redistricting plan.

Legislative Redraw —
A new congressional redistricting plan, as adopted by the State House of Representatives, would move Schleicher County out of U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm's 17th Dist. and into a newly created 11th District, stretching from the Hill County, through the Concho Valley to the Permian Basin



Source: Texas Legislative Council

Sheriff's Department unveils First Responder program

The Schleicher County Sheriff's Department will be working with the Schleicher County Volunteer EMS in order to speed up response time to calls for emergency medical assistance. Sheriff David Doran and Deputy David Olivan recently received their state certification through the Texas Department of Health as Medical First Responders.

As First Responders, officers out on regular patrol will respond directly to medical emergency calls and initiate emergency medical care until the ambulance crew arrives. As part of the new program, two trauma kits were purchased for the officers with a grant through the Regional Advisory Council on Trauma.

Sheriff Doran noted that many departments, especially in rural areas, are beginning similar programs. He said that First Responder officers are very often

the first person to reach the scene of a medical emergency. Their training allows them to initiate live saving procedures, greatly reducing the time that the EMS crew must spend on the scene. "This helps get the patient to the hospital more quickly," the Sheriff said.

The Schleicher County Volunteer EMS was instrumental in beginning the program here in Schleicher County by sponsoring the First Responder course. The EMS also purchased the trauma kits with their grant funds.

Sheriff Doran extended his appreciation to the EMS for their assistance with the First Responder program. He went on to note that the EMS is currently seeking a grant for the purchase of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). If and when the AEDs are received they can be placed in emergency vehicles and at other public sites around the community.



PHOTO BY LORI STRICKLAN

First Responders — Deputy David Olivan (L) and Sheriff David Doran (R) show off one of the medical trauma kits they received after completing First Responder training. The officers will carry the kits in their police units, allowing them to initiate life saving aide as soon as they reach the scene of a medical emergency.

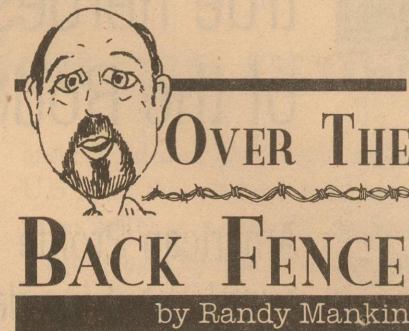


Points to ponder on a hot summer day

One of my duties here at the Success is to find something funny, sad, or otherwise thought provoking, to write about in this column each week. At first, it was easy. But now, more than nine years after beginning the column, just coming up with an idea can be a chore. So, I'm always on the prowl for ideas and when I find one I file it away for future reference. The following are some of the ideas that I've jotted down recently.

Why is it that a slight tax increase costs you two hundred dollars and a substantial tax cut saves you thirty cents?

How come certain cartoon characters, like Yogi Bear for example, don't wear clothes during the day but they wear pajamas at night?



A little girl sat in her grandfather's lap. As she rubbed her hand across his face she asked, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling his face again, and then hers, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

pany that sells refrigerators?

Why is it that a \$6.99 box of hair color comes with a toll-free number for questions, but a \$30,000 car doesn't?

How long would you be on hold if your call WASN'T important to them?

An Eldorado woman listed the five traits she looks for in men.

1. It is important that a man helps out around the house and has a steady job.

2. It is important that a man makes you laugh.

3. It is important to find a man you can count on and who doesn't lie to you.

4. It is important that a man be romantic, gentle and caring.

5. It is extremely important that these four men don't know each other.

If you owned a talking Chihuahua, I'll bet you could come up with a better gig than a Taco Bell commercial.

Aren't coupons just the manufacturer's confession that they are over charging you?

Why do Antique Shops have signs in their windows reading "New Items Arriving Daily"?

Martha Stewart announced this week that she will be updating most of her chicken recipes, particularly those involving boiled chicken. No longer will she be advising her readers to dump the stock.

On a Chips Ahoy bag it says the cookies are made with real chocolate chips but it doesn't say whether those same cookies are made with real dough.

Why is it that car commercials know which old songs were good but oldies radio stations don't?

While we're on that subject, why would you want to buy a car that's like a rock?

Which marketing genius at Trident thought that the Latin word for 'three teeth' would be a good name for a sugarless gum?

Who decided "Hotpoint" would be a good name for a com-

Lawmakers push power plays in special session

AUSTIN - The Fourth of July is all about independence. The first called special session of the 78th Legislature is mostly about power. Lawmakers convened in Austin on June 30 in a special session to begin considering congressional redistricting, the issue that caused the bolting of most House Democrats - the Killer Ds - in May. Deciding how congressional boundaries will be drawn is half the power issue.

The other half has to do with consolidation of power by Gov. Rick Perry.

Power-related aspects of Senate Bill 19 by Sen. Rodney Ellis (D-Houston) give the governor more say-so with boards and commissions and fold some operations into his office, including the state's Office of Federal-State relations.

Perry made consideration of

State Capital Highlights

by Mike Cox

that bill possible with expansion of his legislative call to include 28 additional issues from routine cleanup measures to abolishing some small state agencies such as the Aircraft Pooling Board. That board already had its budget zeroed-out by the governor via line-item veto.

Other aspects of the bill are changes seeking cost-savings and efficiency, such as abolishing the Commission on Private Security and giving its duties to the Department of Public Safety. DPS also would get new responsibilities in the areas of school bus safety and aircraft maintenance.

Two articles in the bill look ahead to possible big changes in

two areas where the state spends huge amounts of money - prisons and higher education.

Mostly overlooked so far is Article 13 of the bill, which would create a select committee to consider privatization of the state's prison system, the nation's largest or second-largest, depending on how you count. (Texas has the most units with 105, but California has more than Texas' current 148,619 inmates.)

Through contracts administered by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Texas already has 15 private prisons ranging from state jails to more traditional facilities. TDCJ oversees their operation, and presumably would continue that role if at some time in the future most or all units were privatized.

If the article creating the privatization committee passes, the body would be charged with reporting back to the Legislature by Nov. 1, 2004.

That's in time for the preparation and filing of legislation to make any of the document's recommendations a matter of law.

TDCJ had roughly 40,000 employees last summer, but has laid off about 1,300 workers with another 200 to go. Of the agency's work force, 28,500 are correctional officers, better known in the movies as guards.

The big difference between privatization and government, of course, is that government performs a function because it is necessary. A private contractor's motive is making a profit.

Also in SB 19 is language directing the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to do a study of the organization and operation of each of the state's university system offices.

The results of that study could have a significant impact on Texas colleges and universities after the next regular session. Not every measure introduced so far during the special session has to do with power.

Senate Resolution 2, filed by Sen. Jane Nelson (R-Flower Mound) concerns only Jewell Dodd Salmon of Sulphur Springs. Salmon turned 100 recently, and the senator thought she deserved a little recognition for surviving for 10 decades. Salmon, born when Theodore Roosevelt was President and Joseph D. Sayers was Texas' governor, has seen a lot of change.

In a matter of months, not decades, all Texans are going to be seeing plenty of change, particularly in their state government.



ROLLING ALONG

WITH TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Rothstein Didn't Believe In Work

I'm glad Rothstein doesn't have any more pain or breathing problems. I'm just sorry he had to die to stop hurting.

Bob Rothstein and I had lunch every Monday for 29 years. The last couple of years we officed together at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin, where I teach part-time and he was Professor Emeritus. Bob was the closest thing to being a family member. He came to our house three or four times a year (120 miles round trip) and we got together in Odessa a bunch. He saw both our boys grow up and helped them do so. He mentioned one of them in his book, "HOW TO RAISE A CHILD ON FIVE DOLLARS A DAY."

Rothstein was a funny man. He hung spoons off his nose at fancy dinner parties and had everyone else at the table trying to do it. He loved to help his Mass Communications students plan their schedules, their careers and their lives. He always had a joke. Every time I told him I needed a joke for a speech I was making, he gave me one instantly that was perfect for the occasion. I used them all and they got laughs.

I never saw Rothstein work. He said he was against it, that there was no honor or glory in it. He put gravel in his yard so he wouldn't have to mow it. Perhaps his attitude toward work came about because way back in his heritage was

some eastern European royalty. I truly think he lived a royal life

When he would come to our house we occasionally showed slides. In between trays there would be dark shapes on the screen. Rothstein was in front of the projector making the images appear using his hands, face and even feet.

One dining room trick he did was to pantomime sewing his fingers together then pulling an imaginary thread to make his arm go up and down. Our kids howled with laughter at all his antics.

Once I got him to do a commercial for a funeral home. It was one that reminded the viewers against the dangers of smoking. During the narration, Rothstein sat there smoking a cigarette and when he exhaled, the smoke appeared to be coming out his ears. That was another of Bob's tricks. You just don't see many funeral home commercials like that one.

If he didn't like to work, Rothstein certainly liked to talk. And he could talk about just about anything. One of his favorite topics was trying to locate the exact location of the mind. He was a great ponderer. In his office is a poster of an ape in a tree with the caption "Sometimes I sit and think. Other times I just sit."

Fits Rothstein to a T. I'm gonna miss him.

Damn cigarettes. Damn cancer.

SELF INKING STAMPS BUSINESS CARDS



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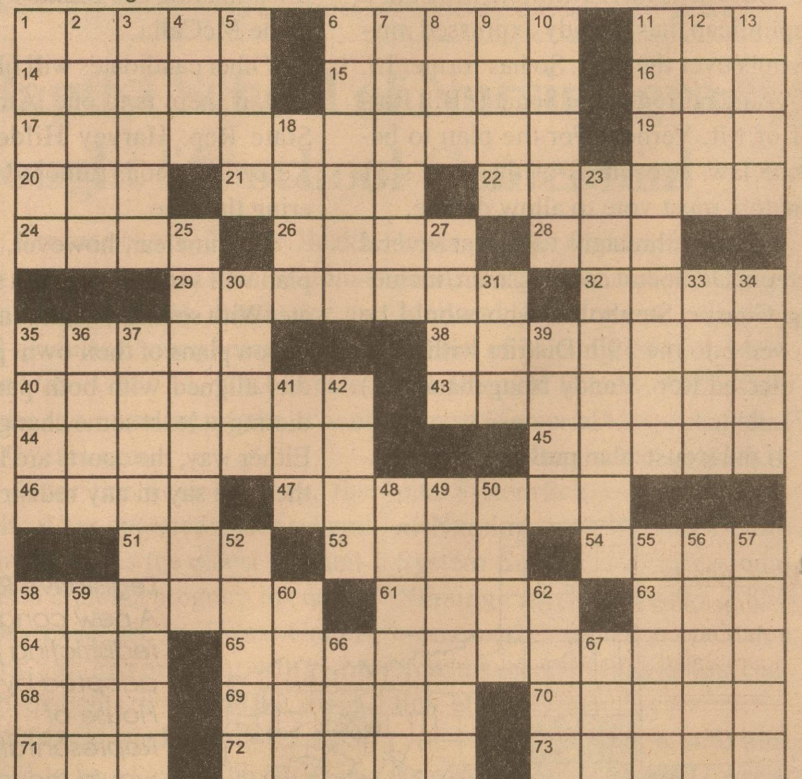
MEMBER 2003
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- It's a plus
 - "Haste makes waste," e.g.
 - Actor Ayres
 - Clean kind of energy
 - Sebastian Coe was one
 - Inventor Whitney
 - Local retailer, maybe
 - Badge material
 - Hellenic H
 - Generation (boomers' kids)
 - River-mouth formations
 - For a (cheaply)
 - Pastry prettifier
 - Conk out
 - Siren of Germanic legend
 - Lint collector
 - Cheap so-and-so
 - Problem with horns?
 - Send forth
 - Three-dimensional scene
 - Thumb-twiddler
 - Lord's house
 - Canyon effect
 - Archie's unflattering nickname
- DOWN**
- Obstinate equines
 - voce (softly)
 - Kettering Institute
 - Shucker's unit
 - Museum dinosaur, for short
 - Fine arbitrarily
 - Truck fuel
 - Yodeler's perch
 - Made a right turn, on a horse
 - Flubbed it
 - "Stupid Pet Tricks" talk show host
 - Film director Kazan
 - Takes the gold
 - Actor Dullea
 - Well-read folks
 - City near Los Angeles
 - Foxx of "Sanford and Son"
 - Exam sans pencils
 - Jr.'s jr.
 - Peas, to a prankster
 - Carson replaced him
 - Ancient Iranian
 - Colorful Apple
 - Carpenters' supports
 - Linda, Calif.
 - Slugger Williams
 - 2000 title role for Julia
 - More majestic
 - Marrons (candied chestnuts)
 - When doubled, a Polynesian island
 - Violinist Mischa
 - Backbone
 - Attach with a rope
 - British sorts
 - Ump's decision
 - Big Apple theater award
 - Wise one
 - With the bow, in music
 - Roth
 - Eminem's genre

Chain Gang



American Profile Hometown Content

030706

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:

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OBITUARIES

Van Douglas Baldwin

Van Douglas Baldwin, formerly of San Angelo, Texas, passed away on Friday, July 4, 2003, in Dallas Methodist Medical Center after a long battle with liver disease.

Van was born in San Angelo, Texas, June 7, 1950, to Douglas and Merle Baldwin. He spent the past 20 years as owner and operator of Executive Limousine Service at his home in Lewisville, Texas, until the time that he was forced to retire in 2001.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe M. Whitaker, paternal grandparents, Otis Baldwin of Paint Rock, Texas, Sally King of Miles, Joe Whitaker Jr., uncle, Evelyn M. Whitaker, aunt, and Randy Joe Whitaker, cousin, San Angelo, Texas. Carolyn survives

him at home. Daughters, Renaie Woody and husband, Jeff, their children, Zacharie, Colby and Caden. Michelle Pineda and husband, Albert, Ashley and Emily, all of Lubbock. Two sisters, Lisa Ann Baldwin of Robert Lee, Texas, and ReNeé and husband, Jeff Albritton, of Gouldbusk, Texas. Many aunts and uncles, Mr. and Mrs. Raul Quintana of Carlsbad, N.M., Mr. and Mrs. Leon Janek of Cotulla, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Walter O. Baldwin of San Angelo, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Gipson of Eldorado. And his "best friend" through all, Otis Harding of Robert Lee, Texas.

A memorial service was held at 3 p.m. Monday, July 7, in Robert Massie Chapel. Burial followed in Mereta Cemetery in Mereta.

EHS Class of '43 holds 60th reunion

by Frankie Davis

The Eldorado High School Class of 1943 recently celebrated their 60th class reunion during the 72nd Mias Amigas, June 27th and 28th, in Eldorado, Texas. Nine members of eleven still living attended. There were eighteen in the 1943 senior class.

They were: Ollie Alexander (deceased), Betty Sue Ashmore, Tom Bradley, Robert Bridgeman (Punk)(deceased), Melba Calcote (deceased), Otis L. Davis, Elizabeth Graves (deceased), J. C. Johnson, C. L. Martin (deceased), Ruth Mund (deceased), John L. Neill, Jr. (Jack), Mable Lee Parrent, Billy Jack Reynolds, T. P. Robinson (deceased), LaVarne Rodgers, Donald J. Royster, Frankie Russell and Jean Sproul.

The Class of 1943 were a class of survivors. During our childhood and youth, we had already survived the Great Depression. During our high school years the War Years were beginning for the Americans. All during the 1942-1943 school year, all the boys could think about was getting out of school to join the Navy. And, they all did as they were old enough, except C. L. Martin and he was in the Army. All the boys survived the War. Ollie Alexander caught Polio, however, he survived Polio which probably contributed to his early death.

The girls taking Secretarial Science classes from Miss Avis Deavers were encouraged to go to work for the war effort to help bring the boys home and I did. A month before we graduated I went to San Antonio and took the CAF exam and applied for a Government Job. By the time we graduated I had a job and went to work at Normoyle Ordinance Depot in San Antonio as a Clerk, the Monday morning after graduating on Friday night. Five months later, I moved to Baytown, Texas and worked for San Jacinto Ordinance Depot where bombs were and shipped throughout the war. I worked there through July 1946. The women were asked to give up their jobs so the men returning

home from the war could find jobs.

The Government was very good to the returning servicemen. The GI Bill of Rights was passed making it possible for the men to attend schools of higher learning to prepare themselves for better future lives. \$105.00 wasn't enough money to support a couple, so the women, again, joined the work force to help their husbands prepare for a better life. My first job on the A&M campus paid 40 cents an hour. My second paid 36 cents an hour, then I was able to get a job in Bryan at Travis Elementary School as the Principal's Secretary that paid \$95 a month. From then on we were on easy street. But a lot of GI wives were not as lucky as I.

The 40's were good years. And the 50's were good years. The Government allowed the former servicemen to borrow money to buy houses. We all had a car or cars. We had children. People were happy. Most mother's could stay home and raise the children. Life was good.

Then came the 60's and the worst blight, in my opinion, that ever happened to the young people of the United States: "The Hippy Generation" started. But we survived it. As far as I can tell, in spite of the frustration, we all raised a generation of very fine young people who have grown up to be unique, contributing members of our society, who are raising their children, our grandchildren, to be the same. We are very proud of them.

I'd like to tell the 'in town members' of Mias Amigas from the 'out of town members' of Mias Amigas how much we appreciate and thank you very much for the lovely picnic supper you prepare and serve on Friday nights during Mias Amigas each year.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



60 years later — The EHS Class of '43 gathered for their 60th reunion during Mias Amigas two weeks ago. They include: (Front L-R) Frankie Russell Davis, Jean Sproul Hunnicutt, Mabel Lee Parrent Stonehocker, Betty Sue Ashmore Norton, (Back L-R) Otis L. Davis, John L. (Jack) Neill, Jr., Tom Bradley, Billy Jack Reynolds and Donald J. Royster.

A&M awards diplomas

COLLEGE STATION - Diplomas were awarded to approximately 5,000 Texas A&M University graduates during spring commencement ceremonies.

Among those recognized were:

Jennifer Lee Stafford of Eldorado, Bachelor Of Science, Agribusiness - Distinguished

Preston Alan Page of Quanah, Bachelor Of Science, Electrical Engineering

A&M names honor students

COLLEGE STATION - Texas A&M University has named its honor students for the 2003 spring semester, recognizing students for outstanding academic performance. The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students taking at least 15 semes-

ter hours or first semester students taking least 12 semester hours who have maintained at least a 3.75 grade point ratio (GPR) out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period. A second designation, "Distinguished Student," recognizes students who earned a 3.25 to 3.75 GPR while taking at least 15 hours or 12 hours for first semester students.

Among those recognized were: Clay Alan Whitten, Bachelor Of Science, Agribusiness, Distinguished; Kayla Meryl Kohls, Bachelor Of Science, Agricultural Development, Dean's Honor Roll; Margaret Elizabeth Anderson, Bachelor Of Science, Health, Distinguished.

Letters to the Editor

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

Dear Friends,

Many of you remember Jewel Shelton who was the Eldorado High School librarian and English teacher. Jewell is in a nursing home in the Conore area; her niece, Marvella Finch, takes care of her; Jewell will be 101 on Tues, July 15th. Anyone interested in sending a card can send it to Jewell at 104 Dawns Edge Dr., Montgomery, TX 77356 and Marvella will deliver it to her.

Myrt Overby
Plentywood, MT

Meals for Friends Menu

- Monday, July 14**
King Ranch Chicken, Streamed Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Carrot Salad, Oatmeal Cookies, Milk
- Tuesday 15**
Roast Beef Sandwich, Baked French Fries, Lettuce Leaf, Tomato Slices, Pea Salad, Peach Halves, Milk
- Wednesday, July 16**
Chicken Fried Steak w/ Gravy, Buttered Peas, Spinach, Cornbread, Sunshine Fruit Cup, Milk
- Thursday, July 17**
Chicken Fajita Salad, Cheese, Tomato Wedges & Lettuce, Macaroni Salad, Crackers, Cherry perfection, Pumpkin Pie, Milk
- Friday, July 18**
Hamburger on a Bun, Whole Baby Carrots, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Bun, Seafoam Salad, Fresh Grapes, Milk

MONUMENTS & PRE-NEED FUNERAL PLANS
CALL
JOHN WILSON KERBOW FUNERAL HOME
853-3043

Eldorado Forecast

Thu 7/10	Fri 7/11	Sat 7/12	Sun 7/13	Mon 7/14
92/69	96/69	92/67	93/67	89/65
Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 92F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.

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TRI COUNTY ROPING QUALIFYING ROPING

LOCATION: SCHLEICHER CO. RODEO ARENA HWY. 277 SOUTH ELDORADO, TX

SAT-JULY 26-BOOKS OPEN AT 5:00 PM-ROPE 6:30 PM

TOP 20 TEAMS WILL ROPE

IN THE 34TH ANNUAL SCHLEICHER CO. RODEO PERFORMANCE, AUG. 1 & 2

10 TEAMS FRIDAY 10 TEAMS SATURDAY

\$75⁰⁰ A MAN (ENTER WITH 1 DRAW-2 PARTNERS)

3 HEAD PROGRESSIVE AFTER 1 SCHLEICHER, SUTTON AND CROCKETT CO. CALL TROY DANIELS AT 853-2202

34TH ANNUAL SCHLEICHER CO. RODEO AUGUST 1ST AND 2ND

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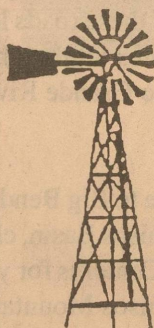
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- Don't send money -- cash, check, or money order -- by courier, overnight delivery, or wire to anyone who insists on immediate payment.
- Keep information about your bank accounts and credit cards to yourself -- unless you know who you're dealing with.
- Never share your Social Security number with a person you don't know.
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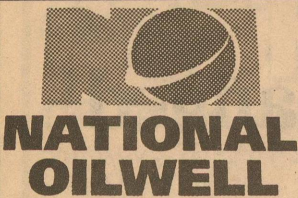


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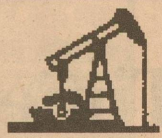
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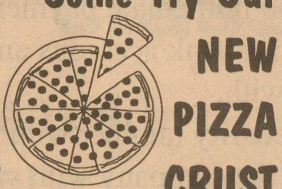
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Wow! It's a long way to Big Bend National Park

by Mark Campbell

They ain't kiddin' — it's a long way to Big Bend National Park.

And that's from just about anywhere. Even if you live "close" to the park (like the town of Marathon), you're still 40 miles away — and that's just to the entrance. Then it's 27 more miles inside the park to get to the headquarters.

You need to be in a West Texas travel mode to fully comprehend the massive park. The kind of thought process where you don't flinch to travel an hour just to get a Coke.

Getting there

Our 600-mile (one way) journey to Big Bend routed us to the eastern side of the park, down to Sanderson, still 94 miles from the park entrance. The dusty town calls itself "The Cactus Capital of Texas" and, indeed, it's in the midst of the Chihuahuan Desert (two-thirds of which is in Mexico). What hearty souls must live there! Except for all the frenzied action at a convenience store — one of the last stops before the park — Sanderson was *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly* barren.

Next came Marathon, a sliver of a town that boasts the historic Gage Hotel that was completely full and usually is. The good news about Marathon is that the marathon driving session is almost over — it's a straight shot through some stunning scenery to Big Bend.

There are just two entrances to the park. The one from the north, our choice, means more travel through scorching desert terrain with colorful mountains in the background. The western entrance is much closer to civilization, if you call Terlingua civilization; it's even more desolate than Sanderson.

The western entrance puts you 29 miles from the Visitor Center at park headquarters. So, either way you come in, you've got a ways to go unless you are Sanderson-hearty and are camping in the desert.

Three main jumping points

After paying \$15 for a week's entry into the park (the rates just went up from \$10 last February), all roads lead to the Visitor Center. There's plenty of generic information there as well as a brief nature walk.

Well-tended, paved roads lead to the three major visitation areas — Chisos Basin, Rio Grande Village, and Castolon.

Big Bend is not exactly RV-friendly. There's only one place for hook-ups (the Village) in 801,163 acres. It's so seldom used in the summer that the ranger station is closed. RVs can certainly travel over the main roads, but making the climb to the Chisos Basin in RVs over 24 feet long and trailers over 20 is not recommended. You probably won't make the hairpin curves.

The park is loaded with unpaved and primitive roads. Some require 4-wheel drive and/or a high clearance vehicle. On our way out, we managed to bounce through the perilously uneven, washboard surface of Old Maverick Road in our Ford F150. However, when we stopped in Terlingua afterward, we noticed our right headlight had completed vibrated out of its hole and was just hanging out like something out of a zombie movie.

Few visitors venture off the beaten path. So if you want some seclusion, taking one of the unimproved roads would certainly grant you that. Some of these roads lead to remote campsites while others go right to the Rio Grande River.

Chisos Basin

If you've come to Big Bend for the mountains, Chisos Basin, closest to the Visitor Center is for you. Set amidst the Chisos Mountains, the 6-mile drive seems like nothing

after all the miles you've already been. The road winds through scenery that will remind you of New Mexico or Colorado (being Rocky Mountains and all). In fact, one stretch is a near-replica of Garden of the Gods in Colorado.

The Chisos Mountain Lodge, complete with a motel, cottages, and campsites is nestled in at 5,400 feet, right in front of a towering rocky mass called Casa Grande (7,325 feet). We went over July 4th and just hoped some kind of spot was available — the thought of driving all the way back out of the park was worrisome. (We had bought a small tent but other camping sites in the desert [in July!] just weren't going to happen.)

Fortunately, a cottage was available. It cost around \$80; we could've camped for \$10 per night (also recently increased last February). Camping is first come, first served with no advance reservations. That means you could make the long trip and not get to stay where you'd like.

We got there just in time to see the sunset in The Window. The "window" where two mountains dip to make a V is directly west of the lodge. Many rooms have a straight shot to a mighty sunset through the gap, especially Cottage 103. Every evening, visitors gather to admire the view. The short, paved path makes it accessible to anyone.

Most of the hiking trails start at the Basin, including one that leads to Emory Peak, the tallest in the park at 7,825 feet. The trail we chose, however, was not in the Basin. The Lost Mine Trail was back up the stretch that led in, at mile marker 5.

It's 4.8 miles out-and-back and climbs 1,100 feet. There's an excellent view of Juniper Canyon; that's about one mile in and many people just venture this far in for that vista, replete with screeching (and protected) peregrine falcons that float back and forth across the chasm. The Juniper Canyon trail (and a few others) is closed from Feb. 1-July 15 for the birds.

The trail was a great one, offering terrific views while being well-kept. We made it up in two hours, stopping regularly to read each of the 32 interpretive trail stations. In the second half of the trip up, a series of switchbacks made the going tougher. Every day folk could make the climb, provided they take their time and have plenty of water. Coming down was about 75 minutes.

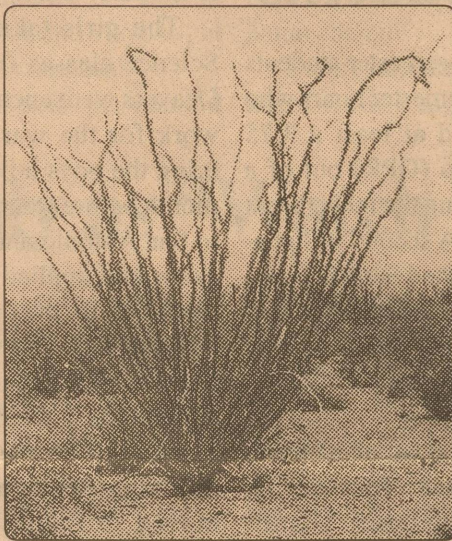


Rock Citadel — Casa Grande Mountain towers over the Chisos Basin at Big Bend National Park.

Rio Grande Valley

Driving out of the Chisos Basin back into the desert is startling. The trees fall away as do the mountains. Soon there are just miles and miles of desert brushland, filled with a variety of cactuses. (Cacti is not the preferred plural, at least in the park literature.)

Driving west, the Sierra Del Carmen mountain range is striking in the distance, glowing with afternoon sun. The spiny desert lies flat before the mountains and seems to go on and on. It's 20 miles to the Village and it was almost vacant.



Shade is shade — A rabbit takes any shade it can get in the Chihuahuan Desert, even under an ocotillo.

Driving west, the Sierra Del Carmen mountain range is striking in the distance, glowing with afternoon sun. The spiny desert lies flat before the mountains and seems to go on and on. It's 20 miles to the Village and it was almost vacant.

get out of the water well before they reach the Village. The river is flat-out ugly here, a putrid brown. You'd as soon fight a bear as get in that water, I assure you. Rangers warn about the hazards of the Rio Grande (i.e., bacteria, drop-offs, the fact that the state's largest freshwater fish [a 279-pound alligator gar] was hauled out of here in 1951, etc.).

This is the only official RV place in Big Bend. There are just 25 sites and no advance reservations are allowed. Despite being near the river and some green vegetation (including some gigantic cottonwood trees), this place was broiling hot at just 1,850 feet.

In March and April, however, the Valley is packed. That's prime bird watching season. Thousands of subtropical birds fly through Big Bend en route to northern nesting places. Springtime, Christmas

and Thanksgiving are the park's busiest.

But there are two reasons to go to the Valley, Boquillas Canyon and Hot Springs. A paved road leads to a trail to Boquillas Canyon. Here, the river has carved out a small niche between two sheer cliffs. You walk down to the river (it's one of the few places you can actually touch the Rio Grande if for some reason you want to) and the now sandy path leads through a tunnel of bamboo.

Finally you emerge near the canyon, shadowed by the soaring vertical rocks as ravens caw at you from high above. There's a huge sand slide to investigate. It's a great place to sit and admire the scope of nature.

Back up the main road is Hot Springs. You take a half-mile unpaved drive to it and the sign isn't kidding when it says it's not for RVs or even dualies. The road is narrow with no barrier to keep you from sliding off into a 15-foot rocky ravine.

A path leads along the river amid several abandoned buildings built by a guy who tried to start a spa there years ago. The 105-degree springs had been flooded by a recent rise in the Rio Grande; we weren't about to get into them. But they percolated up just the same.

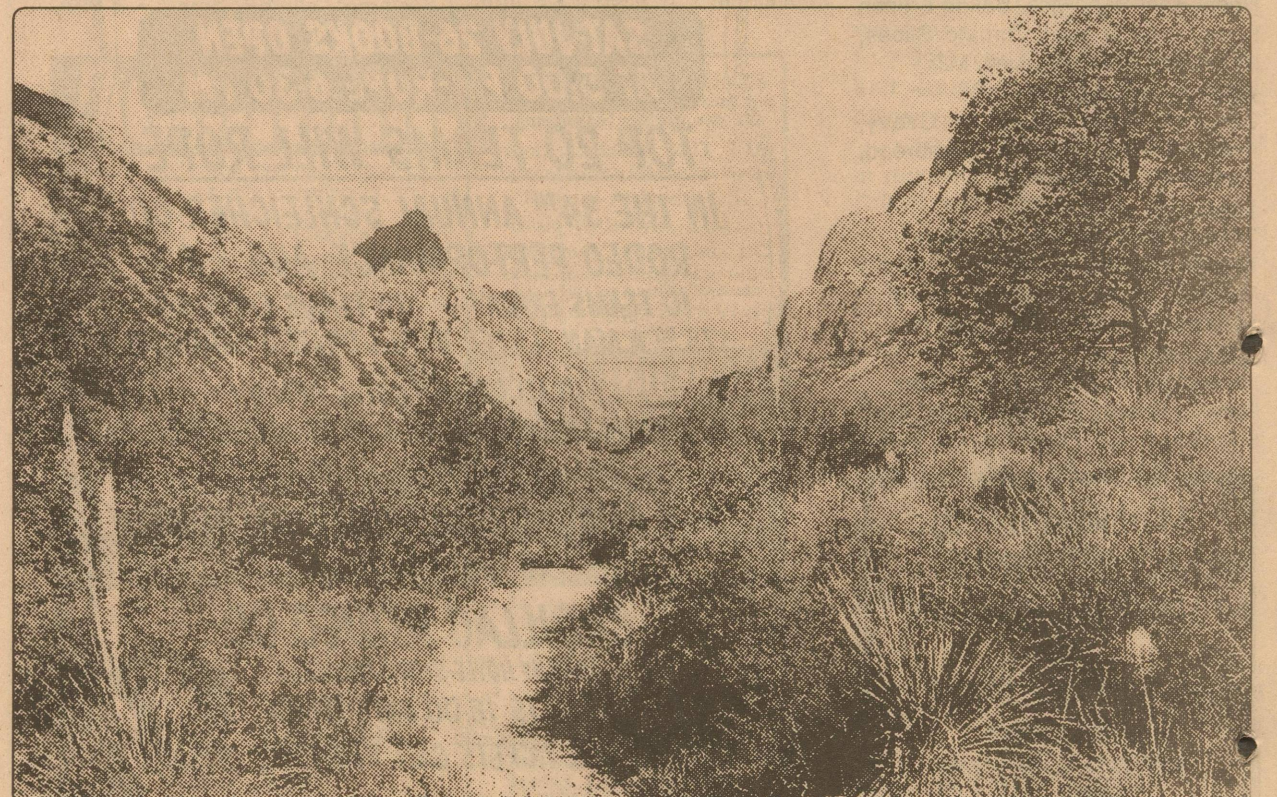
There are pictographs there (as well as petroglyphs and you'll learn the difference) and, most amazingly, a few humongous palm trees, jarringly out of place. Near the palms, we spied bear tracks in the river mud. Some black bears — 12, they think — live in the park. Also present, and signs at trails warn of them, are mountain lions. You're given instructions on how to survive an attack; three occurred in the 90's with no human deaths. Reported, anyway.

Castolon

The drive to this westernmost ranger station is 35 miles. It's broken up with several pull-outs where you can learn how some crazy guys tried to ranch in the barren land or actually just lived there.

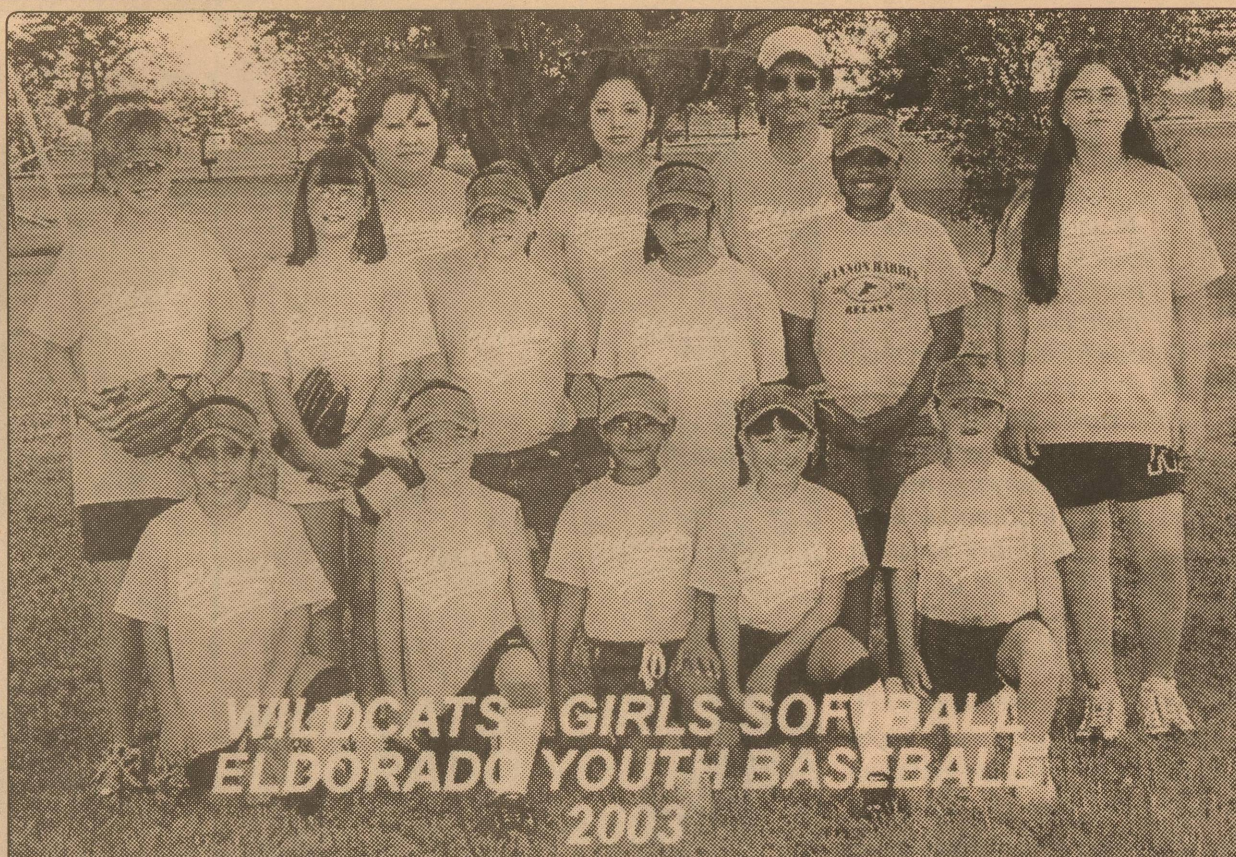
The road takes you to a place where a few rustic buildings stand, the remains of an old town called Castolon. The structures have been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Breathtaking view — At dusk, visitors view sterling sunsets through The Window at the Chisos Basin.

2003 Wildcats Softball Team: Front L-R: Kiki Rodriguez*, Maddi Bilbrey*, Abby Fuentes*, Brittany Arredondo, Ashley Bullard; Middle L-R: Ashley Paulson, Allyson Jarrett*, Melissa Bullard, Delsey Aranda*, Abigail Ussey, Patricia Hernandez*; Back L-R: Asst. Coach Solla Rojas, Asst. Coach Selina Rojas and Head Coach Juakin Rojas. *Denotes All-Stars.



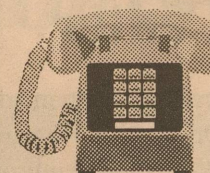
COURTESY PHOTO



2003 Eldorado Softball Team: Front L-R: Anna Fuentes*, Jesse Valero*, Darcie Graves*, Lindsay Pridemore, Alicia Corrales, Sam Rodriguez*; Back L-R: Coach Donnie Fuentes, Cassandra Buitron*, Jasmine Romero*, Kassie Tyler*, Chelsey Pridemore, Corie Williams*. *Denotes All-Stars.

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EHS Class of '43 holds 60th reunion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The Class of 1943 held its first reunion in August 1968 in Christoval. A picture of the 25th reunion is enclosed. Twelve members attended. Since 1968 several members come to Mias Amigas each year as they can work it into their schedule. Our next special reunion was held on the 50th year, June 1993. Nine members attended. (See photo at right)

This year, we made a special effort to get all members of the class of 1943 to come, however, alas two were too ill to come.

In attendance were: Betty Sue Ashmore Norton who lives in Junction; Tom Bradley and his wife who live part of the time in Del Rio, and part of the time in Silver Springs, Nevada; Otis Davis and Frankie Russell Davis who live in Brenham; John L. Neill, Jr. (Jack) and wife, Josephine, who live in Orange Park, Florida;

Mable Lee Parrent Stonehocker and husband, Leroy, who live in San Angelo; Billy Jack Reynolds and wife, Irene, who live near El-

dorado; Donald J. Royster, who lives near Eldorado; and Jean Sproul Hunnicutt and husband, Preston, who live in San Angelo.



COURTESY PHOTO

Looking back — The EHS Class of '43 as they appeared at their 25th reunion in 1968. They include (L-R) Norma Jean Sproul, Otis L. Davis, Betty Sue Ashmore, Frankie Russell, John L. (Jack) Neill, Jr., Ollie Alexander, T.P. Robinson, La Verne Rodgers, Billy Jack Reynolds, Elizabeth Graves, C.L. Martin and Robert (Punk) Bridgeman.

The responsibility of human organ donation

by: Becky Silva

It is fair to remind the community of the need for all organ and tissue donation opportunities. This need for human organs and tissues has touched all of us and as a healthcare provider, I personally feel an obligation to offer important information regarding such.

In our world today, people are living longer and, because of advances in medical practice, are being offered improved quality of life. This fact does not exclude our community as we have seen the results of successful human organ transplantation.

Here are some statistics of importance:

- There are 10,000 potential donors annually in the United States and only 4,000 of these become donors.
- 1954 saw the first successful kidney transplantation and overt the last 50 years, the success has developed rapidly.

SCMC NEWS



Rebecca L. Silva BSN, BSN, RN-C
Hospital Director of Nursing

- 1986 the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act was passed, this required hospitals to have written protocols addressing identification of potential donors and to offer the opportunity to accept or decline offering donation.
- Texas alone has more than 5,000 people awaiting transplant and the list grows by 10% annual-

ly. In the United States, the transplant list is greater than 76,000.

• A new patient is added to the transplant list every 14 minutes. Texas' organ procurement organization (OPO) is LifeGift. Texas is recognized as leading other states by their innovative efforts to place organ procurement specialists in our bigger hospitals. This effort began as a trial but has been such a success that other states are following suit.

There are many ethical, financial, and personal issues involved in such a decision but, they must be talked through and educated discussions need to occur to make positive decisions. As a nurse, I am available and excited to share such information to the community. If there are further questions please call me at:
Schleicher County Medical Center
Rebecca L. Silva BSN, RN-C,
Director of Nursing
325-853-2507 ext. 129.

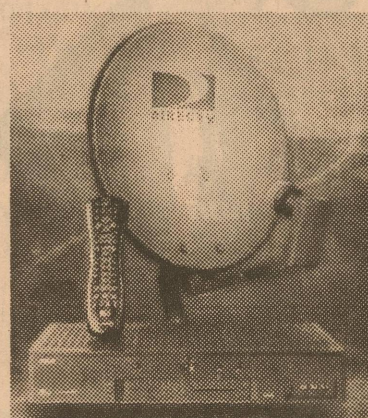


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Silver Spur Ball slated July 18 to benefit WT Rehab Center

Dance music by Southern Image of Fredericksburg, a smorgasbord of great food, and more than 150 auction items will be featured July 18 at the 13th annual Silver Spur Ball benefiting West Texas Rehabilitation Center. Additionally, there'll be a drawing for a handmade, queen size quilt.

Scheduled at the Knights of Columbus Hall in San Angelo, the event annually attracts approximately 500 participants from San Angelo and the Concho Valley.

In 12 years, the Silver Spur Ball has raised more than \$191,000 for the Center, thanks to the generous support for sponsors and those who attend each year.

Tickets are \$30 per couple and are available at the Rehab Center. Tables for ten are available on a first come, first served basis. Because seating is limited, advanced ticket/table purchases are encouraged.

Volunteer hosts from Eldorado for the event are our Bill and Mabel Frietag.

The hand-crafted quilt, made by the Jolly Quilters of Rowena and Paint Rock, features embroidered blocks of hearts and flowers on a off-white background with contrasting green border. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5 and are available at the Center and from volunteer hosts. The winner need not be present to win.

Southern Image features grass roots country, Top 40 and a mix of old-time rock 'n roll. The group blends the vocal harmonies of Sammy Geistweidt, Bill Pan and Rhome Hill for a variety of styles and sounds. Musicians in the band include Geistweidt, fiddle, mandolin and guitar; Pan, steel guitar; Hill, bass; Don Carson, piano and Shane Lively, drums.

A Central and West Texas favorite for more than 20 years, Southern Image has headlined the Texas Folklife Festival and Riverfest in San Antonio and has shared the stage with such notables as the original Texas Playboys and Asleep at the Wheel.

Getting a look at the landfill — The Eldorado City Council hears about the city landfill at every one of their meetings. But on Monday, they actually took time out to visit the facility. At right, council members stand atop a cell that has been filled with garbage. The council includes (L-R) Mayor John Nikolauk, Dora Bosmans, Tommy Minor, Richard Mendez and Toni Sudduth. (Present but not pictured) Robert Bybee. (Not present) Juaquin Rojas.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

City council meets, takes tour of landfill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of Schleicher County to use the landfill for free. "That's unheard of these days. Anywhere else you go they charge you," Nikolauk said. "And, that's if they even have a landfill."

Moving on to other business, Randy Mankin asked for permission to purchase another pickup for the utility department, noting that the money for the purchase was in the city budget. The council agreed to the request and Mankin told them that he would seek bids, but that since the purchase price would be below \$25,000 the city would not be required to ad-

vertise for sealed bids.

Next, the council reviewed and approved the minutes of June 9, 2003 meeting. They also reviewed the tax report and authorized a budget amendment recommended by City Secretary Carolyn Mayo before ordering the monthly bills to be paid.

Discussion then turned to the upcoming 2004 budget with Randy Mankin asking for input from the council. After discussing items ranging from a new garbage truck to sewer plant expenditures, the council authorized Mankin and Mayo to put together a budget proposal.

In other business the council

voted to hire the accounting firm of Eckert, Ingrum, Tinkler, Oliphant, Featherston & Barr to conduct the annual audit of the city's books. The firm has served as the city's auditor for several years.

Next, a resolution to rename Western Drive, the street that once passed through a trailer park used by the Western Company, passed unanimously. The street will now be called Sunrise. It was noted that lots along that street are currently being offered for sale and the owner of the subdivision asked for the name change.

Before adjourning, the council heard from Randy Mankin con-

cerning a hotel occupancy tax. He told the council that he had been approached by members of board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce regarding the issue. Mankin said he had been invited to attend a board meeting to discuss the possibility of enacting a hotel occupancy tax but that he had declined until he could discuss the issue with the council. Mankin said the Chamber is interested in a hotel occupancy tax in order to raise funds to promote tourism. The council was not enthusiastic about the idea, however, and told Mankin to convey that sentiment to the Chamber of Commerce.

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TxDOT names July as "Watch Your Car Month"

July's temperature isn't the only thing in Texas. Auto theft peaks during the state's sizzling summer months, while thieves choose the pickup truck as their hottest make to steal.

During July's watch Your Car Month, the Texas Automobile Theft Prevention authority (ATPA) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) warns Texans that even if they drive an old car instead of a shiny new cat, they need to actively protect themselves against auto theft.

Losses due to motor theft totaled \$805,364,428, with an average dollar loss per motor vehicle theft of \$7,886. The average stolen car is five years old and is targeted for used parts.

"Auto theft is an economic crime that follows economic trends," Director Susan Sampson said. "A poor economic time means higher theft losses."

On average, a car is stolen every five minutes in Texas. It only takes an expert auto thief as little as seven seconds and one screwdriver to break into a vehicle and less than a minute to drive away.

Texas low enforcement agencies arrested 9,377 men and women for motor vehicle theft in 2001. Teens between the ages of 15-19

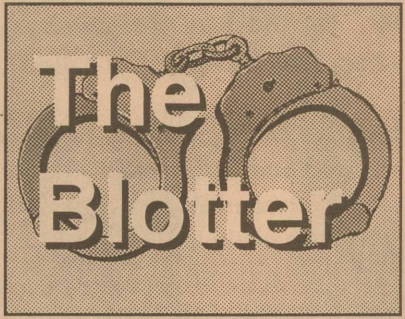
stole the most cars, while the 20-24 age group ranked second.

Automobile theft rates have fallen 51 percent since ATPA's inception in 1991. Vehicle owners can outsmart car thieves by making it tough to steal their cars. Experts recommend common-sense steps to help protect cars. So, chill out and keep your vehicle off the

hot list- Lock it or lose it.

ATPA encourages vehicle owners to protect their property by registering free of charge with the Watch Your Car H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft) Program. Registration is simple by mail order or online at:

www.records.txdps.state.tx.us/heat
For more info, call 888-447-5933.



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

ARRESTS

- July 2 • Hernandez, Michael Pena male age 22, Tom Green Co. Warrant Agg. Sex Assault Child. Transferred to Tom Green Co.
- July 2 • Whiddon, Sonia Su, female age 39, offense Agg. Assault with a Deadly Weapon.
- July 2 • Hart, Carl Eugene, male age 40, offense Assault Class A
- July 6 • Garza, Estella, female

- age 19, offense Theft by Check
- July 7 • Gura, Daniel Jr., male age 21, offense Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon. Released on \$2,000 Surety Bond.
- July 7 • Hernandez, Joey, male age 40, offense Felony DWI, Serving 10 Days.
- July 8 • Bonzo, Norma Jean, female age 29, offense Irion Co. Warrants

INCIDENT REPORTS

- July 1 • 3:12 p.m. Complainant on East Street requested to speak with an officer about something his kids found in a bag. Officer responded.
- 5:16 p.m. Complainant on Wheat Street called into report that they would be having a controlled burn.
- 6:14 p.m. Complainant called in to report that a white Chevy was going around their home throwing fireworks. Same call at 8:22 p.m. on 911, boys still out doing same thing. Officer responded.
- July 2 • 2:57 p.m. Complainant requested to speak with an officer about a subject treating them. Officer responded.
- 9:10 p.m. Complainant reported a couple had been fighting and one had a weapon. Officers responded.
- July 3 • 9:02 p.m. Complainant

requested a welfare check on local residents. Officer responded

- 10:27 p.m. Complainant reported an elderly female possibly needing assistance. Officer responded- unable to locate. Sheriff's office called complainant back and unable to make contact.
- 11:05 p.m. Complainant on Colorado Street reported their neighbors playing music too loud. Officer responded.
- July 3 • 1:28 a.m. Complainant on E. Hill Street requested an officer to speak to neighbors - music to loud. Officer responded.
- 11:27 p.m. Complainant on Lea Street reported loud music. Officer responded
- 11:58 p.m. Complainant called in to report that someone may have been shooting real bullets. Officer responded.
- 12:50 p.m. Complainant reported his solar light from his yard had been stolen. Estimated value \$200.00
- July 5 • 3:40 p.m. Complainant reported missing a black and white Border Collie with a red collar.
- 7:44 p.m. Complainant called in and requested to speak to an officer about a night deposit money bag that was missing. Officer responded. Bag was found.
- 9:08 p.m. Complainant called in and requested a Spanish speaking officer. Officer responded.
- 10:45 p.m. Complainant called in requested to speak to an officer. Officer responded.
- July 6 • 2:21 p.m. Complainant requested a criminal trespass be served on a male subject.
- 6:06 p.m. Officers responded to a civil matter.

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Solution to puzzle on Page 2

Chain Gang

A	S	S	E	T	A	D	A	G	E	L	E	W								
S	O	L	A	R	M	I	L	E	R	E	L	I								
S	T	O	R	E	K	E	E	P	E	R	T	I	N							
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L	I	E								A	G	R	E	E		C	A	N	O	E
L	E	S								N	E	A	R	S		O	P	E	N	S

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Employment

The Schleicher/Sutton/Val Verde County Farm Service Agency has an opening for a Temporary Program Technician. This person will be responsible for helping with assigned duties. An application can be picked up at the Schleicher FSA Office at 510 South Divide, Eldorado. Applications must reach the office by July 21, 2003. Equal Opportunity Employer.29p

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PICK UP AT NORTH SIDE OF COURT HOUSE
\$7.00 a plate (rice, beans, potato salad, bread, tea and desert).
July 13, 2003 please pickup between 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Funding goes towards Midland 3 day tournament for girls 14 & under.
Thank you for your contribution.

Card of Thanks

I want to thank you for your prayers, visits, phone calls, cards and all other act of kindness. During my 11 day stay in San Angelo Community Medical Center, and my recovery at home. May God Bless each and everyone of you, in the Name of Jesus. p
Thank you again,
Josh Hastings

A special thank you to the Hospital Auxiliary for their kindness and generosity by purchasing the diaper scale for the hospital.p

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Application Deadline: August 15, 2003

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Award Announcement: September 1, 2003.

Application Forms are available at Germania Insurance, 5 W. Gillis, Eldorado.

Following their application, top candidates may be asked for an interview.

Award recipient will receive check upon presenting proof of enrollment in a 2-yr or 4-yr college or trade school.

For further information or for application forms, contact Germania Farm Mutual Insurance Phyllis Sauer at (325)-853-3068

West Nile Virus (WNV) and Encephalitis a threat to Texas Horses; vaccination can provide protection

A few moments with your local veterinary practitioner in Schleicher County can help protect horses, mules and donkeys against mosquito-borne diseases, advises Dr. Terry Conger, veterinarian and state epidemiologist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. Vaccines are available to protect horses against three viral diseases that pose a risk to Texas horses: West Nile Virus (WNV), and Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and (WEE). The three diseases are forms of "sleeping sickness," that can cause infected horses to develop debilitating fever, swelling of the brain, muscle tremors, weakness and extreme fatigue, and in about a third or more of cases, death of the animal.

"As of July 1, 38 cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) have been reported this year by the Texas Department of Health's (TDH) Zoonosis Control Division, which maintains the state's statistical database for reporting laboratory-confirmed WNV cases in humans, mosquitoes, birds, and horses," said Dr. Conger. "According to the

TDH, the 38 cases have been confirmed in one horse each in Angelina, Calhoun and Tarrant counties, and two in Van Zandt County. WNV also has been detected in six birds and four mosquito pools in Harris County; one bird each in Hunt, Smith and Orange counties; three birds and four mosquito pools in Dallas County; five mosquito pools in Tarrant County, three mosquito pools in Jefferson, two in Nueces, and one in Travis County. An infected bird and mosquito pool has been detected in Brazos County."

"In June 2002, Texas had its first case of WNV, and by year's end, 1,699 equine cases had been reported. Denton County was hit hardest, with 69 equine cases," explained Dr. Terry Conger, TAHC's state epidemiologist. "More unreported cases undoubtedly occurred across the state, as owners may have been reluctant to ask their veterinarian or the TAHC for assistance. Only laboratory-confirmed cases are included in the state's database. Most private veterinary practitioners send blood or tissue samples for WNV testing to the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in College Station or Amarillo."

WNV infection was first detected in the U.S. in New York in 1999, and since then, the virus has swept across the country, spread by infected mosquitoes that have fed on birds carrying the disease. Only four states on the U.S. mainland have not reported cases: Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Utah. Dr. Conger said it is likely that these states also will eventually have cases of WNV.

"Sporadic outbreaks of WEE

and EEE also occur throughout the U.S., and this year we may have cases in Texas, as South Carolina, Florida and Georgia have already confirmed EEE in horses. Because Texas has a large mosquito population and history of infection in past years, it is prudent to have equine animals vaccinated against WEE and EEE every year," said Dr. Conger. "It is important to note that the vaccines for WNV, WEE and EEE do not provide cross-protection. For example, WNV vaccine protects only against WNV." As of late June, 14 horses in South Carolina have been diagnosed with EEE. In Florida, more than 110 EEE cases in equine animals have been confirmed, and in Georgia, a dog, three birds and 16 horses have tested positive for the disease.

"WNV, EEE and WEE are going to be with us always, as these diseases have become endemic in our country. Even if you try to reduce the mosquito population in your area, vaccinating against these mosquito-borne diseases still needs to be part of routine horse health maintenance," said Dr. Conger.

Dr. Conger explained that the WNV vaccine for horses vaccination requires a series of two shots, administered three to six weeks apart. After the second injection, several more weeks must pass before full immunity is developed. Equine animals vaccinated last year should receive a single WNV booster this year. In areas where mosquitoes are a continual problem year-round, animals should receive a WNV booster every six months. "Owners should take action now to get their equine animals vaccinated, before cases become more widespread," urged Dr. Conger.

"EEE and WEE vaccines are available in a combined product. To develop disease protection, the animal will need two injections, 30 days apart. A booster shot is then needed annually or biannually,"

said Dr. Conger. "In most cases, horses can be vaccinated for WNV, EEE/WEE at the same time." He said some veterinarians also employ the EEE/WEE vaccine in an off-label use to protect ratites (emus, rheas and ostriches) against the disease.

"While no vaccine can guarantee 100 percent protection, it's much better than no protection," commented Dr. Conger. "Last year, Colorado State University followed more than 500 equine animals infected with the WNV in Colorado and Nebraska. The death rate was greater than 36 percent in animals that had not received vaccine. The death loss dropped to around 20 percent for animals that had received at least one dose of WNV vaccine. Of the 13 animals properly vaccinated with two doses of vaccine, a dozen survived."

Dr. Conger said equine animals infected with WNV, EEE or WEE, may exhibit similar signs, including fever, irregular gait, teeth grinding, drowsiness, an inability to swallow. Affected animals may be paralyzed and be unable to rise. He said TAHC and public health officials advise owners to have sick animals tested to diagnose the disease that caused illness or death, because rabies always must be considered when an animal is disoriented or staggers. If an owner has been exposed to rabies while caring for a sick horse, appropriate preventive health measures must be taken immediately, he said.

"WNV, EEE and WEE impact a community's animals, and owners should take advantage of opportunities to protect their stock by reducing mosquito populations and vaccinating," said Dr. Conger. "Although these 'sleeping sicknesses' aren't regulatory diseases, veterinarians are required to report cases, so that disease trends or outbreaks can be followed and all preventive and educational measures can be taken."

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 GENTLEMEN dts (PG-13)..... 1:40 4:20
 • TERMINATOR 3 dts (R)..... 1:30 4:15
 • TERMINATOR 3 (R)..... 2:15 5:00
 • DADDY DAY CARE (PG-13)..... 2:00 4:30
 RUGRATS GO WILD dts (PG)..... 1:00 3:15
 BRUCE ALMIGHTY dts (PG-13)..... 1:45 4:10
 • WRONG TURN (R)..... 1:20 3:20

Times good for the week of 7/11 thru 7/17

\$3.00 Matinees before 6:00 p.m.
 Friday-Thursday

•LXG LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY
 GENTLEMEN dts (PG-13)..... 7:05:00
 • TERMINATOR 3 dts (R)..... 7:15 9:45
 • TERMINATOR 3 (R)..... 7:45:0:15
 • DADDY DAY CARE (PG-13)..... 7:10 9:25
 RUGRATS GO WILD dts (PG)..... 5:30:30 9:15
 BRUCE ALMIGHTY dts (PG-13)..... 7:00 9:30
 • WRONG TURN (R)..... 5:20:20 9:20

• No Passes or Discounts

Second Hand Rose Consignment

Accepting Fall (transitional) & back to school clothing. House full of furniture for sale-good buys.

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

BIRTHDAY LIST

JULY
 10th Peggy Ussery, Ray Louis Lozano, John David Meador, Dusty Nolen, Mike Mankin
 11th Garrett Warnock, Earl Caulder, Gertrude Robinson, Andy Mayfield, Bill Raddle
 12th Cynthia Sauer, Monroe Dacy, Julie Ann Hight, Mary Nolen, Paige Ragsdale, Quisto Gonzalez, Vanessa Ruiz, George Arispe, Oralia B. Trevino, Maranio Gonzalez
 13th Carlos P. Rios, Alyssa Halbert, Cody Reavis, Jessica Kirchharr, Jack Turner, Jason Beach
 14th Brian Jones, Steven Capps, Roxanne Adame, Taylor Pelzel, Brian Jones,
 15th Charlene Edmiston, Edna Crowder, Ty Martinez, Will Griffin
 16th Lula Mae Clark, Jackie Barrera, Luby Trevino, Lisa Wade, Farah Fennern, Landon Neal

ANNIVERSARIES

JULY
 11th Rudy & Gena Saldivar
 12th Robert & Jo Parker, Maranio & Eugenia Gonzalez
 14th Rojelio & Roxanne Adame, Janice & Charles Orr, Walter & Lorna Griggs



That dirty bird — Dodging a buzzard caused Ernesto S. Madrid, Jr., of Presidio to lose control of this 2003 Chevrolet pickup on Wednesday, July 2, 2003. The wreck happened some 7.5 miles east of Eldorado on U.S. 190 where the truck impacted with a rock wall on the north side of the roadway. Despite all the twisted metal, the driver...and buzzard...reportedly escaped serious injury.

Baptist School of Nursing grads sought for school Centennial

Graduates of the Baptist Health System School of Professional Nursing are being sought for an all-graduate reunion being planned for Oct. 10 and 11, 2003 to celebrate the founding of the school 100 years ago.

Over the past century, the school has operated under several names, and is the oldest hospital-based diploma program in continuous existence in Texas. Graduates, or anyone knowing the whereabouts of a graduate, are invited to contact Diane Tyler, CPS/CAP, to be added to the list of invitees. Tyler can be reached by mail at: Baptist Health System, School of Professional Nursing, 730 N. Main Ave., Suite 212, San Antonio, TX 78205; or e-mail at dt Tyler@baptisthealthsystem.com; or by phone at (210) 297-9100.

lowing names: Physicians and Surgeons Hospital School of Nursing, Medical & Surgical Hospital School of Nursing; M&S Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, Baptist Memorial Hospital System School of Professional Nursing, and Baptist Health System School of Professional Nursing. Approximately 2,800 women and men have graduated from the school during its first century of operation.

Centennial reunion activities held over the Oct. 10 and 11 weekend will include plenty of time for attendees to enjoy a collection of memorabilia and to reminisce with other alumni and instructors. Activities will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel, just blocks from Baptist Medical Center and the adjoining classrooms and the dormitory of the school.

More than just a Nursing Home



State inspectors have found Schleicher County Nursing Home to be Deficiency Free!

When the time comes that you or one of your loved ones require more care than family and friends can provide, consider the advantages offered by Schleicher County Nursing Home. Unlike some distant facility in a far off town, we're right here in Eldorado. You know us and we know you...and we know how to provide the specialized care you need.

Recognized for our commitment to long term care, Schleicher County Nursing Home attracts residents from throughout the area. Our staff of trained and dedicated professionals understand that each resident is an individual with unique needs. Unlike larger facilities, Schleicher County Nursing Home doesn't take a "cookie cutter" approach to delivery of care.

Many factors contribute to the choice of a long term care facility. Proximity to loved ones, planned activities and a homelike atmosphere are but three of the reasons many have chosen Schleicher County Nursing Home as their home away from home. We appreciate the trust that so many of our neighbors have placed in us. We work hard every day to make certain that trust is deserved.

Please feel free to call or come by. We'll be happy to visit with you about the long term care options at Schleicher County Nursing Home. We'll take as much time as necessary to answer all your questions. After all, we're more than a nursing home...we're your neighbor and we want you to feel comfortable and understand all your alternatives.



We have two beds open now!
 Call or come by while they are still available!

Schleicher County Nursing Home
 400 W. Murchison ~ Eldorado, Texas 76936 • (915) 853-2507

You're a part of our family...we'll be there for you!

GERMANIA SINCE 1896

THE GERMANIA COMPANIES
SAUER AGENCY
 5 W GILLIS, ELDORADO, TX
 915-853-3068
 TOLL FREE-1-800-657-9225