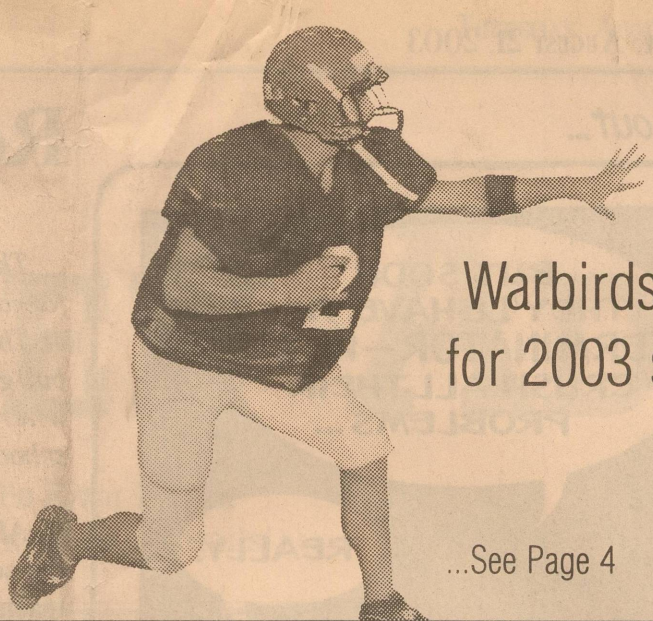


Get to know new SCISD staff members



Warbirds prepare for 2003 season

...See Page 4



THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 102, ISSUE 34

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

AUGUST 21, 2003

Tough choices

Easy answers prove to be elusive as school grapples with budget

"Turn out the lights, the party's over. They say that all good things must end."
— lyrics by Willie Nelson

On a similar Monday night, in another time and place, Dandy Don Meredith could have been heard singing, "The Party's Over." He wasn't there for the SCISD board meeting Monday, but he could have been, as school trustees sat grim-faced while campus principals and program directors explained exactly what budget cuts are going to mean to the school system.

No longer can the school afford to furnish caps and gowns to its graduates. Neither can it provide varsity letter jackets... or football shoes... or cheerleader uniforms. Library books are out, so are many of the school's field trips. No new buses, or new vans, or heating and air conditioning units.

"It will be a flat miracle if we get through the year without losing an AC unit," Maintenance Supervisor John Kotsch told the trustees as he reviewed the impact that budget cuts will have on his department. He noted that the school currently has 102 heating and air conditioning units, ranging upward of \$15,000 in cost...each. "If something happens we'll just have to wait until the board can meet and decide what to do," Kotsch added.

Faced with declining student enrollment and the need to repay more than \$273,000 to the Texas Education Agency, school trustees sent Supt. Mark Ge-

sch on a mission, find enough cuts to balance the books.

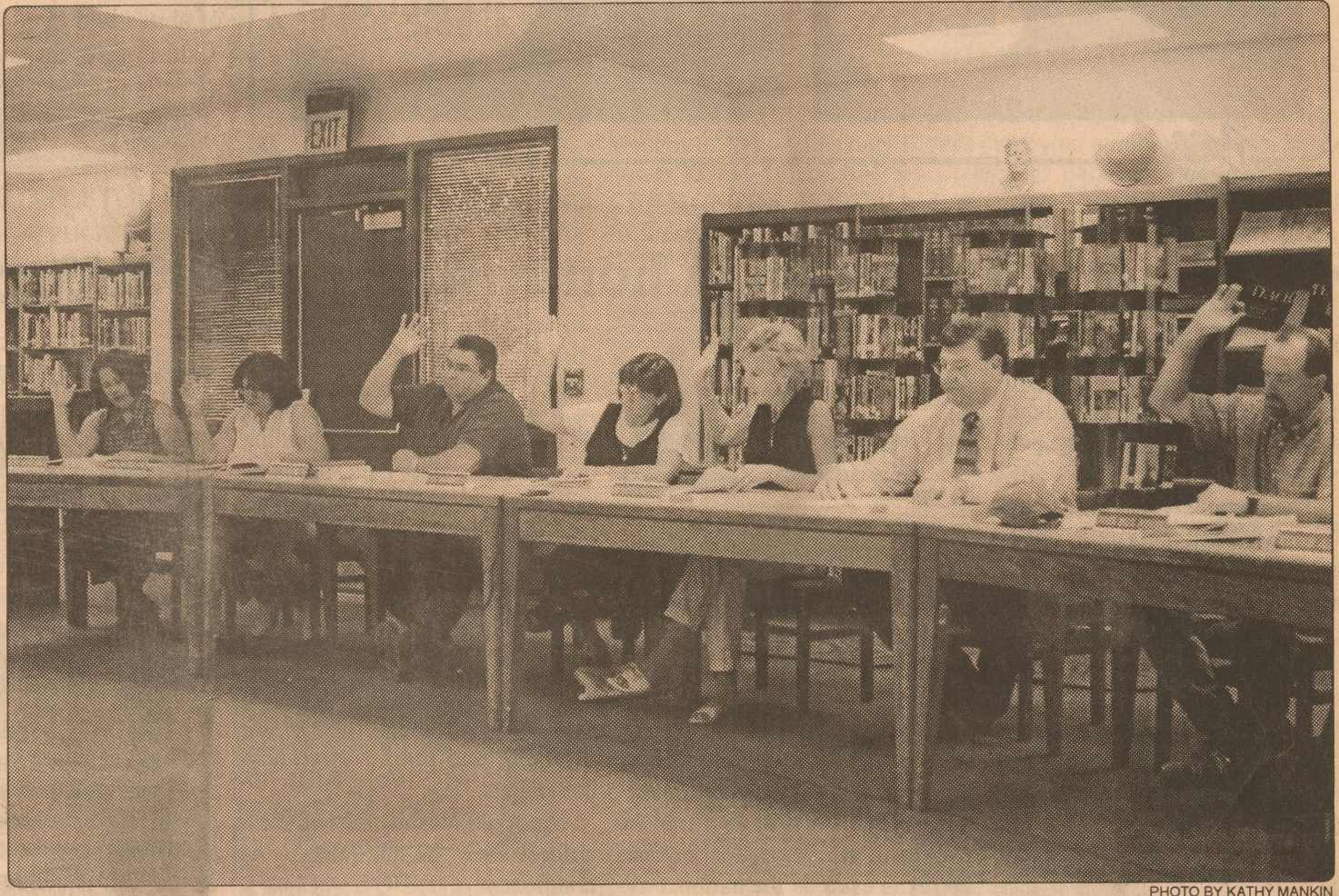
"When 88 percent of the budget goes for personnel there aren't many places to cut that don't directly affect the students," Gesch explained. "Those are the type of cuts that get people stirred up."

But, it isn't as though Gesch has totally avoided personnel cuts. Already seven jobs have been eliminated, all of them by not replacing someone who is retiring, transferring, or otherwise leaving the district's employ. Still, more cuts will be necessary to bring the budget into balance...more cuts and a higher tax rate.

The preliminary budget Gesch presented to the trustees Monday night was based on a tax rate of \$1.50 per \$100 valuation. That's as high as Texas law will allow the rate to go and is up significantly from \$1.4226 in the current year's budget. And still, the number's won't balance. Gesch pointed out that even with dramatic spending cuts and a hike in the tax rate a budget deficit of \$2,013 is expected.

As part of the process, Gesch asked each of his three campus principals, and three program directors to come and update the trustees on the cuts they are facing and how they will be implemented.

For her part, Librarian Debbie Griffin noted that children won't notice much difference in the number of new books in the Library when school starts since many books have been bought out of the current budget. But, that won't be the



The eyes have it — SCISD trustees voted Monday night to approve the revised school calendar for the 2002-03 school year. Most of the meeting was spent reviewing options for the upcoming school budget.

case for next year. She said she was also cutting back on reference materials and she will be canceling subscriptions to area newspapers, including The Success.

Other cuts in the Library, including cuts in the number of videos purchased, will help her continue to pay for technical support for a computer database that replaced the library's old card catalogue.

Technology Director J.D. Doyle, whose budget virtually disappeared, explained that the district's computers

are in good shape since most of them are new. He credited much of the good news to the fact that the community received a half million dollar networking grant that was used update the school's computer labs.

Other aspects of the technology department didn't fare so well, though. Distance learning will take a big hit, it was explained, especially since the Education Service Center has curtailed the money it can spend for items such as Electronic Field Trips.

Perhaps the campus that fared the best in all the cuts was Elementary, since very little of its budget involves extra-curricular activities. Field trips and transportation will impact the elementary, however, with the cost of drives for field trips being taken from the campus' instructional budget.

Supt. Gesch told the trustees that the big unknown in the whole budgeting equation is what the State Legislature is going to do to address school finance

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

FSA seeks nominations for County Committee members

The Farm Service Agency is currently accepting nominations County Committee Member in Schleicher, Sutton and Val Verde counties. Nominations for the positions will remain open until Sept. 5, 2003.

Eligible voters have the right to nominate candidates of their choice by petition. Blank nomination forms may be obtained at the addresses listed below. Each nomination form must be limited to one nominee and signed by the nominee. Persons nominated must reside in the Local Administrative Area they represent. This year's election is being held in LAAs #1 in Schleicher and Sutton County and in LAA #3 in Val Verde County. A map of the LAA areas is available at each of the County FSA Offices.

LAA #1 in Schleicher County is the eastern part of the county that follows Toe Nail Trail to Hwy 190 and down McIntosh Road.

LAA #1 in Sutton County is the western part of the county, which is west of Hwy 277. Curry Campbell is the incumbent for that area.

LAA #1 in Val Verde County is west of Howard Draw and the Pecos River

The County Committee is responsible for Farm Service Agency local administrative decisions concerning the many programs directed and managed through the local office. Please be reminded that the County Committee representative is elected by direct vote. The County Committees encourage all persons including all female, minorities, and member of under-represented groups to participate in the election process.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its entire program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status.

If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to visit the Schleicher FSA Office at 510 S. Divide, Eldorado, Texas 76936 Monday through Friday, Sutton FSA Office at 301 SE Crockett, Sonora, Texas 76950 Tuesday, or Val Verde FSA Office at 302 E 17th St., Del Rio, Texas 78840 on Wednesday. You may also call us at 915/853-3535.

Jesus Adame hospitalized following bee attack

Jesus Adame, 78, of Eldorado, was hospitalized Friday, Aug. 15, 2003, after being swarmed by bees near his home at 108 E. Warner Avenue. The attack came as volunteer firefighters worked to eradicate a hive of bees in a storage shed near Adame's residence.

Fire Chief Jerry Jones and Firefighter Jerry Felver responded to a "bee call" at the Adame home and were in the process of spraying the bees with foam when Adame reportedly entered his back yard. That's apparently when he was attacked by the agitated bees. Adame sought safety in his residence after being stung several times. His wife, Mary Adame, reportedly used a fly swatter to knock off many of the bees that covered Adame as he entered the home.

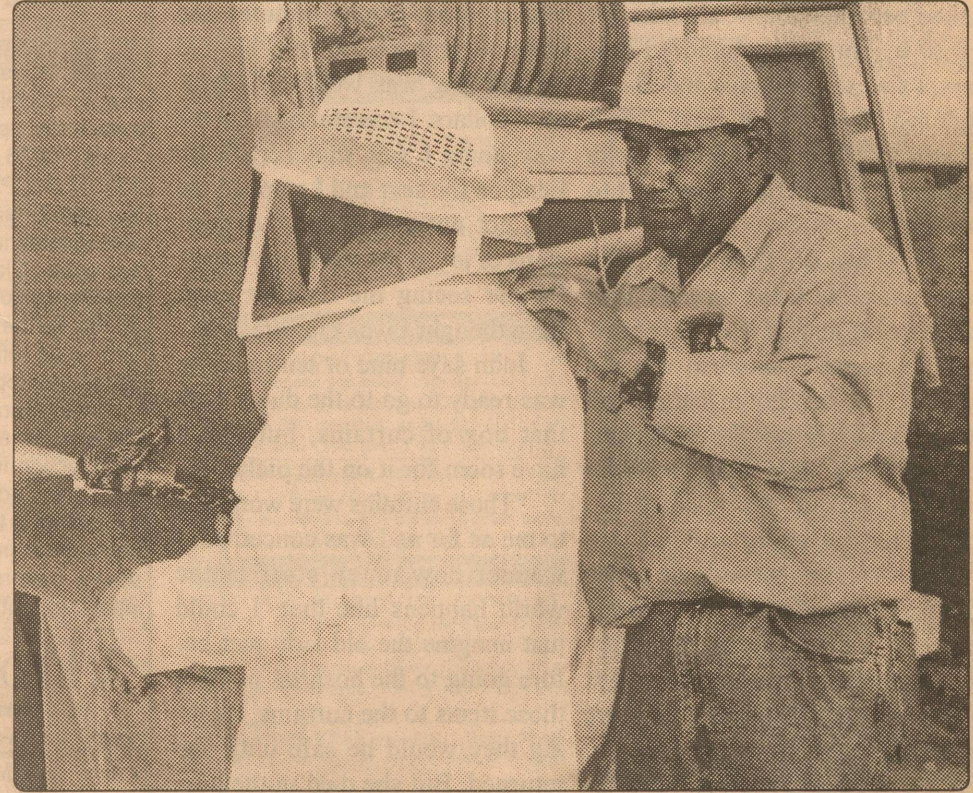
Adame was later taken to Schleicher County Medical Center where he was treated and hospitalized. Family members tell the Success that as many as 32 bee stingers were removed from Adame at the hospital, not counting the ones that were removed at home. Adame was released from the hospital on Sunday.

Chief Jones says that neither he nor Jerry Felver knew that Adame had entered the back yard and they were not aware he had been attacked until they were notified some time later. Jones says he cautioned Adame to stay in the house while the bees were being exterminated.

Jones says the bees were some of the most aggressive he has experienced. They

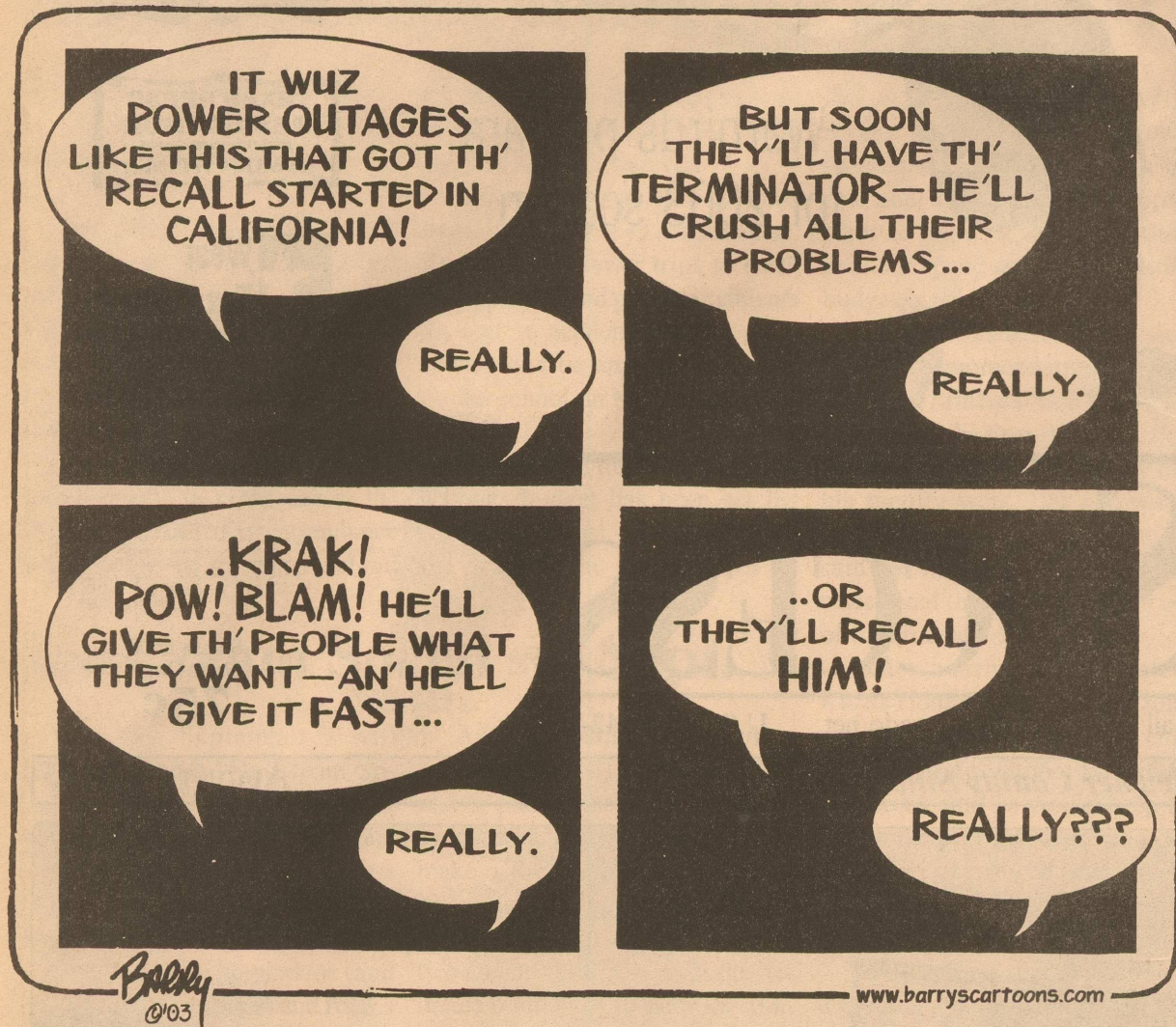
were so aggressive, in fact, that Jones and Felver were forced to walk back to the Fire Hall in their bee suits after making a preliminary inspection of the hive. The bees not only swarmed the firemen, they also filled the cab of their truck. After hooping it back to the Fire Hall, the men returned with the department's foam truck and used it to kill the bees.

Jones asks the public to stay away from suspected bee hives and to notify authorities if any suspicious swarms or hives are observed. The most recent attack comes just a week after another swarm of bees claimed the life of Bobby Daniels of Eldorado. Daniels was operating a bull dozer on a ranch South of town at the time of the attack.



Like a knight suiting up for battle — Volunteer Firefighter Oscar Martinez checked closely Tuesday evening to make sure a bee suit worn by Felipe Pina was properly fastened before Pina proceeded with foaming down a bee hive on the Mertz Ranch. The suit, and another just like it were put into service this week by the Fire Dept.

Meanwhile, during ANOTHER blackout...



Remember to pray for the teachers



by Randy Mankin

The following article was forwarded to us by a loyal reader. The author is unknown to me but given that students everywhere are headed back to school, the sentiment is timely.

After being interviewed by the school principal, the eager teaching prospect said, "Let me see if I've got this right. You want me to go into that room with all those kids and fill their every waking moment with a love for learning."

"Yes," replied the principal. "And, I'm supposed to instill a sense of pride in their ethnicity, modify their disruptive behavior, observe them for signs of abuse and even censor their T-shirt messages and dress habits," the teacher continued.

"Yes, that's correct," came

the reply.

"You want me to wage a war on drugs and sexually transmitted diseases, check their backpacks for weapons of mass destruction and raise their self-esteem," the new teacher continued. "I'm supposed to teach them patriotism, good citizenship, fair play, how to balance a checkbook and how to apply for a job."

"That's right," replied the administrator, who was by now more than a little amused.

"I am to check their heads for lice, maintain a safe environment, recognize signs of anti-social behavior, offer advice, write letters of recommendation for student employment and scholarships, encourage respect for the cultural diversity of others and, oh yeah; always make sure that I give the girls in my class exactly 50 percent of my attention."

"Something like that," the principal answered.

"My contract requires me to work on my own time after school and evenings grading papers. Also, I must spend my summer vacation, at my own expense, working toward advanced certification and a master's degree. And...on my own time you want me to attend committee and faculty meetings, PTA meetings, and participate in staff development." The young teacher was by now getting a little agitated.

"I am to make sure all my students pass the state mandatory exams, even those who don't come to school regularly or complete any of their assignments."

The principal only smiled and nodded.

"All of this I am to do with just a piece of chalk, a computer, a few books, a bulletin board and a big smile, AND on a starting salary that qualifies my family for stamps," the teacher challenged.

"Yes," replied the principal, "You're expected to do all that, and more."

It was all more than the befuddled young teacher could stand. "You want me to do all of this," the teacher asked, "and you expect me not to pray in the classroom?"

State orders reduction in homeowners insurance rates

AUSTIN — Many homeowners will see a reduction in home insurance rates at their next policy renewal date.

The Texas Department of Insurance ordered most of the top 32 insurance company groups writing homeowners insurance in Texas to lower their rates.

TDI estimates the reductions will save Texas consumers more than \$510 million. The 32 insurance company groups represent nearly 95 percent of the Texas homeowners market. Authorization

State Capital Highlights

by Mike Cox

for TDI to review rates and order reductions was part of Senate Bill 14, passed by the Legislature in June 2003.

Click It or Ticket

Nearing the end of a summer that has not seen much overwhelmingly good news from the Capitol, here's some: Seat belt use in Texas exceeds the national average by 15 percent.

The latest survey shows nearly 90 percent of Texans are buckling up, compared with a national rate of 75 percent. And the Texas number is up considerably from 80 percent last year.

Why? A big reason is money. A lot of federal dollars, funneled through the Texas Department of Transportation, have been thrown at the problem in the form of advertising and public awareness campaigns.

Another reason is tough law enforcement, the non-advertising component of TxDOT's "Click It or Ticket" campaign.

The best reason to wear a safety belt has to do with physics. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that out of each 100 traffic crashes severe enough to kill, a person wearing a safety belt would survive 50 percent of the crashes.

Anyone remember Atomic Fireballs?

A recent notice from the Texas Department of Agriculture to the state's school districts may bring back memories for Baby Boomer administrators, teachers and parents.

When most of them went to public school in Texas, the government had no role in what sweet and fat-filled, or salty and fat-filled products were available through vending machines on campus.

A new policy effective for this school year bans access to carbonated beverages, certain types of candy and chewing gum during lunch time for middle schoolers. For grades kindergarten through fifth, the ban is all day.

Middle schoolers (a scholastic range better known to Boomers as junior high) also can't have on-campus access to sodas larger than 12 ounces. (Twenty-ounce drinks are allowed at any school with an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



ROLLING ALONG

WITH TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Treasure in Trash

John Nickle of Rusk had a flea market between Rusk and Alto and was always going to garage sales to buy leftover merchandise so he could replenish his inventory. Late one day he stopped at a garage sale way out in the country. A lady from Dallas was there.

"Her mother had died ten years ago and she was trying to get rid of all the things in the garage that had been there the whole time since her mother died," says John. "When I got there she told me she had only two customers all day. One bought nothing, the other bought 50 cents worth so she was ready to give the stuff away. I asked her what she would take for all of it. She said a hundred dollars. I saw several tools and things that would net me at least 2 or 3 hundred dollars so I almost broke my wrist getting the money out to pay her."

There was one stipulation. John had to take ALL the merchandise because the people who were renting the house wanted to use the garage. The lady got in her car and went back to Dallas. Two and a half pickup loads later, John found an old box full of musty-smelling, moldy red velvet curtains.

"I threw it on the tailgate of the truck and hoped it would blow off before I got back to my flea market. The first thing I did was to put that box under a table and forget about it."

Six months later John was talking to his wife about those curtains and she suggested he try to get rid of that musty smell because people were making stuffed animals out of that red velvet material and

someone might want to buy it. "I was hanging those curtains over some partitions I had in there and my hand rubbed across something and I found an old Bull Durham tobacco sack pinned to those curtains. It contained a gold coin from Iran worth 350 dollars, a gold pin with a diamond in it worth about 400 dollars and a platinum ring with a big diamond."

John took the ring to a local jeweler who offered a couple of hundred dollars for it. John let his wife wear the ring "One day I was going to Tyler and decided to take the ring with me to get a good appraisal of it. The jeweler worked with it about twenty minutes and came out with a certificate. He told me the ring was worth ten thousand dollars. I was stunned. On the way home I saw that certificate lying on the seat and I stopped the car, got out and shouted expressions of joy at the top of my lungs. People seeing me do that must have thought I was crazy."

John says nine or ten times he was ready to go to the dump with that box of curtains, but didn't have room for it on the pickup.

"Those curtains were worthless to me as far as I was concerned. I wonder how much stuff in the world happens like that. I could just imagine the old lady just before going to the hospital pinning those items to the curtains, thinking they would be safe until she returned. But she died in the hospital. Those things could easily have ended up in the dump just as easy as ending up in my hands."

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10. ___ Seltzer	61. Calif. airport	26. Chaps
14. Hanna-Barbera Doggie	62. State openly	28. Fly high
15. Remove to a MASH, maybe	63. Like many waiting lines	30. Sagan of "Cosmos"
16. Good buy	66. Movie theater	31. Cleveland's lake
17. Oversimplified conception	67. Declare with certainty	32. Bank takeback
19. Barn topper	68. Really enjoy	33. "Just the facts, ___"
20. Directional suffix	69. Baltic Sea feeder	34. ___-European (language family)
21. Rapper Dr. ___	70. Antiprohibitionists	35. Not 'e'en once
22. Newborns	71. 16th-century council site	37. Vividly colored fish
24. More unheeding		40. Put back to 000, say
26. Refrigerant gas		45. Windshield sticker
27. Maya Angelou's "Still ___"	DOWN	48. Playground fixture
29. World Cup sport	1. Emitted coherent light	50. Bottommost
33. Neighbor of Wis.	2. Highly unconventional	52. PRNDL part
36. ___ contendere	3. Early rocket stage	54. Martini garnish
38. "The Wreck of the Mary ___"	4. Cone bearer	55. Hawk's gripper
39. Something to lend or bend	5. Farm gadget	56. Put forth
41. Swiss peak	6. Big bash	57. Snack in a shell
42. Temporary currency	7. Wrigley Field vegetation	58. "The Art of Love" poet
43. Fred's dancing sister	8. Fleshy-nouted beast	59. Top-notch
44. Rocky ___ ice cream	9. Parts of acts	60. A.L. or N.L. bosses
46. Pancake topper	10. It may precede a final document	64. Butterfly catcher
47. Marshy ground	11. Like good pastrami	65. Out of the way
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51. Can't do without	13. Pub orders	
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See solution on Page 6

Office Work

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OBITUARIES

Russell Turnbow

Russell Turnbow, longtime resident of Christoval, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003, at his home at the age of 79 years. He will be missed by his children, Harvey Turnbow and wife, Me'Lissa, of Christoval, Paula Boyer and husband, Danny, of Irving, and Danny Turnbow and wife, Sharon, of Big Lake.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 49 years, Lois Turnbow; his parents, W.E. and Pauline Turnbow; and brother, Audrey Turnbow.

He loved his grandchildren, Bo and Kari Turnbow of Helena, Mont., Buzzy Turnbow of Christoval, Shannon and Craig Hinkle of Garland, Texas, Sarah Boyer of Nashville, TN, and Walter Turnbow of Big Lake; and also his great-grandchildren, Matthew and Madelaine Turnbow of Helena, Mont., and Isabella Tissiere of Clovis, N.M.

Russell Everett Turnbow was born June 12, 1924, in Hico, Texas. He served in World War II in

the U.S. Navy from 1943-46, returning home to Sand Springs, where he married the love of his life, Lois Lackey. After marriage, they lived in Weed, NM and Andrews, Texas; and then moved to Barnhart, in 1950.

He retired as district foreman from the Barnhart Highway Department in 1980 after 30 years of service.

He and Lois then moved to Christoval to enjoy fishing, gardening and spoiling the grandchildren. He loved to garden and gave away lots of his produce to his special friends in Eldorado. He traveled to Eldorado every day, always enjoying his visits with the coffee drinkers at Shot's.

Services were held Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, at the Christoval Baptist Church, with the Rev. Buddy Trull officiating. Pallbearers were Craig Hinkle, Buzzy Turnbow, Walter Turnbow and Justin Henson. Interment followed in the Ivy Cemetery on U.S. Hwy 277 in Christoval.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

New man at the helm — Walter Reneau is the new Band Director at SCISD. His wife Kristi, is an elementary music teacher in Iraan.

Reneau set to lead Mighty Eagle Band into the future

When Walter Reneau got the call that the band director's job was open in Eldorado, he was driving a truck at Iraan. Having retired from the teaching profession, a couple of years before, Reneau was ready to get back in the business. His opportunity to do that came with a bonus, the chance to lead the Eldorado Mighty Eagle Band, one of the most successful band programs in West Texas.

Reneau notes that he arrived in Eldorado just in time for band to start and that he is already behind but he plans on catching up in time for band contest in Brady. The band began practicing recently and is already working on its second

song. The year will be a challenging one for Reneau. Budget cuts have forced the elimination of the Asst. Director's position. That puts the full weight of the band program, Middle School through High School, on his shoulders.

Reneau says he is a bit of a disciplinarian and expects the very best of his students. "I am very demanding with my standards," he says. "But on the other hand, I want the students to have a good time every day."

When asked about his musical teaching philosophy, Reneau replied, "I don't know about that. I just believe that every child in Texas deserves a qualified music teacher."

Reneau and his wife, Kristi, have two children, Casity, a graduate of Texas A&M and an engineer in Houston, and Audra, a Music Theory major at West Texas A&M in Canyon. Kristi Reneau teaches elementary music in Iraan.

Eldorado Forecast

Thu 8/21	Fri 8/22	Sat 8/23	Sun 8/24	Mon 8/25
95/67	95/68	93/70	91/67	91/67
Mainly sunny. High near 95F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.	Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.

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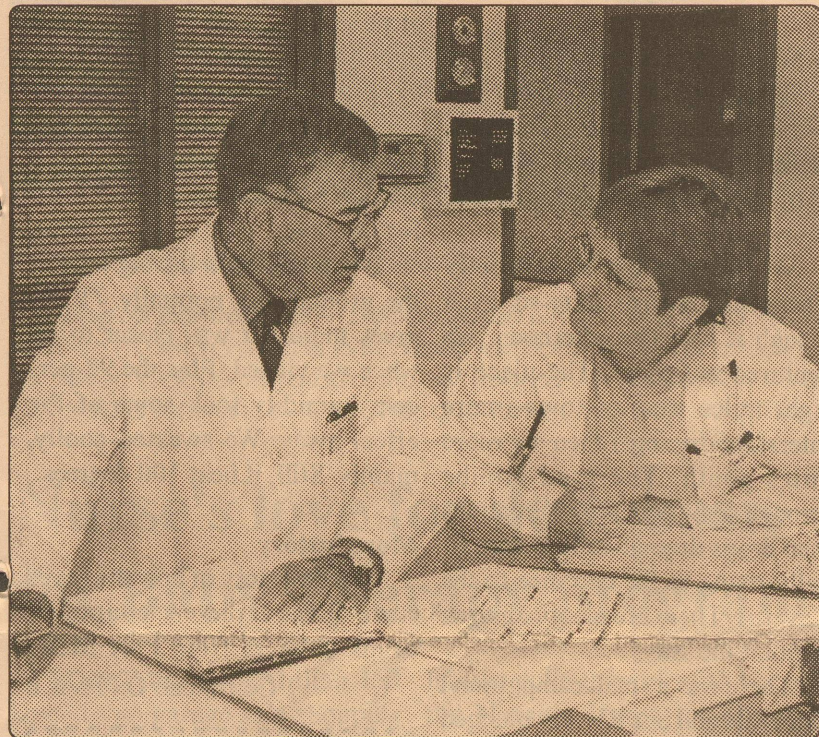


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

New doctors onboard at SCMC — Dr. Jim Lucas, and Dr. Lillian Perez joined the staff at Schleicher County Medical Center on Friday, August 15. The two doctors will each maintain a clinic practice at the Family Clinic. They will also serve on staff at the hospital and provide Emergency Room coverage.

Restricting candy & sodas on Texas school campuses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

existing contract for that size beverage until the contract expires.)

Schools violating this new policy will lose their federal meal reimbursements.

Prison board size may change...

Not only does Texas have one of the world's largest prison systems, the board that oversees it currently has 18 members.

As part of its efforts to streamline state government, the House has passed House Bill 23, a measure that would reduce the prison system board to seven members.

Only up to three of those members could be former Texas Department of Criminal Justice employees.

The Senate, of course, must concur, before the bill gets to the governor's desk.

Speaking of the prison system, Larry Todd, its longtime public information director, is returning to what the inmates refer to as the "free world." The Amarillo native, one of the pioneers in media relations in Texas, is retiring at the end of August.

You probably don't know...

One of Texas' least-known and most-ignored laws has to do with driver licenses and identification cards. If you move, the law says you have to change the address on your driver license or ID card within 30 days.

To make the process easier, the

State Capital Highlights

by Mike Cox

Department of Public Safety has developed an online service to update license and ID cards through www.TexasOnline.com, the state's official Web site. (Texans have been able to renew their licenses or ID cards online for two years and so far nearly a half-million people have done so.)

Cost of the address change is \$11. Renewing a license at the same time costs \$25.

Here's the fine print: Eligibility for making online address changes hinges on not having an expired license, not having a provisional driver license, being older than 18, and not being under suspension or revocation.

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AUGUST

21st Hal Porter, Juan Carlos Escobar

22nd Johnny Lozano, Rebecca Rodriguez, Milton Fitts, Amy Henderson, Wenona Isaacs, Linda Creel, Sonia Covarrubiaz

23rd Benita Fuentes, Charlotte Crain, B.J. Key, David Lloyd, Stoney Harriman, Gary Thomson Sr., Kasey Lynn Gonzales, Caleigh Buntyn, Douglas Ussery

24th Jessica Lozano, Steven Valero, W.H. Clifton, Jackson O'Harrow, Larry Smith

25th Marcy Glidden, Casey Kidd, Judy Jones, Bently Kennedy, Chris Phillips, John Isaac Lozano

26th Jewell Millers, Bob Bailey, Monica Nicole Estrada, J. Lynn Barajas, Randy Dehoyos, Ramiro Barajas Sr., Donice Jarrett, Kenny Covarrubiaz, Gregoria Lozano, Scott McCutcheon

27th Tiffany Case, John Edward Meador, Douglas Ward, Jody York, Lupe Fuentes, W.F. Edmiston, Mary Lou Covarrubiaz, Roxanne Arispe

ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST

24th Nicky & Fred Case, Gus & Jerrilyn Ward

25th James and Lee Gillaspay, Jack & Pat Moore

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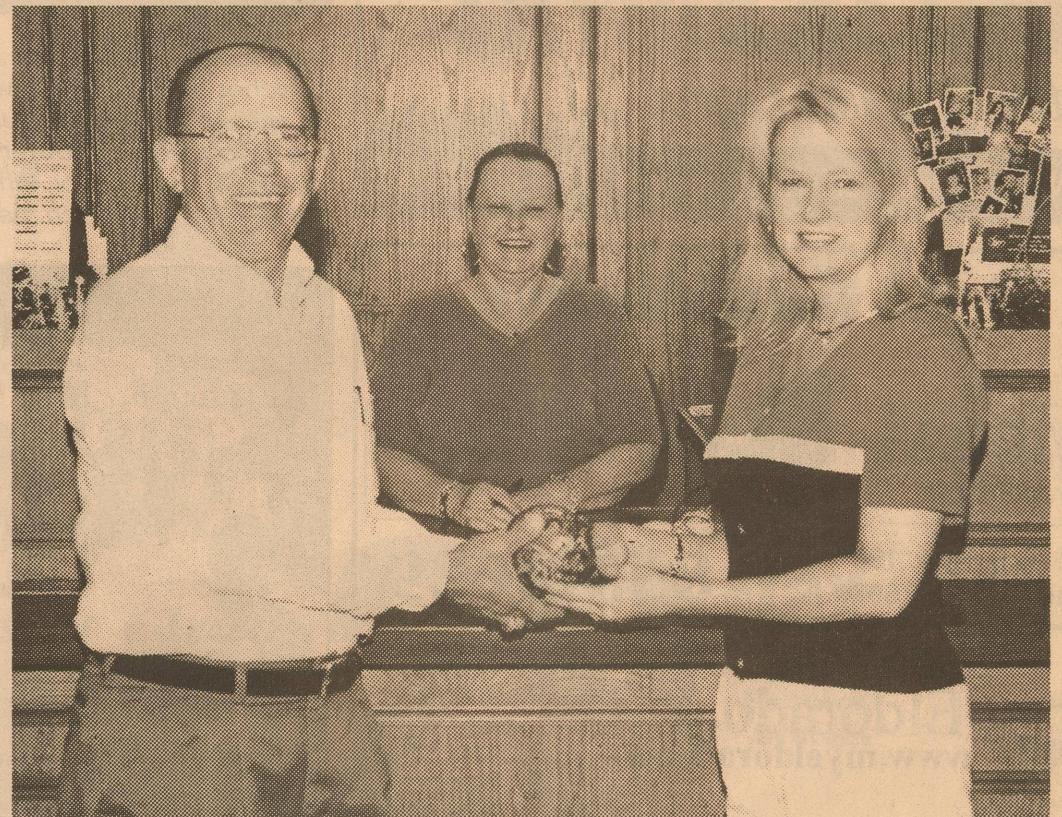
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 www.myeldorado.net

ELDORADO ONLINE ALL THE TIME

It's YMCA Football Time Organizational Meeting
 Grades 3-6
 August 21, Thursday
 6:00 PM
 Elementary Gym
 Parents need to be present.

The Eldorado Youth Football YMCA is seeking donors for YMCA players. For each \$25 donation your business name will be placed on a jersey of a YMCA player.

Eldorado Youth Football and the YMCA could not be possible without the support and contributions of the community. Your donations is truly appreciated. For more information contact Jay O'Harrow at 853-2385.

Eagles see first action in scrimmage with Irion Co.

by J.L. Mankin

The Warbirds hit the field last Saturday in their first action of the season as they scrimmaged the speedy Irion County Hornets in Mertzon.

Eagles Head Coach Gary Grubbs said the team got a good test in the scrimmage, especially the younger players. "We had several kids who hadn't played varsity football before," Grubbs explained. "You try to tell them that it is faster than J.V., but they don't realize it until they are out there."

The scrimmage began poorly for the Eagles with quarterback Trey Chavez going down with a sprained ankle on the very first play. Chavez would return to the lineup later on but Grubbs thought better of it and pulled the senior QB to avoid further injury.

"We started off slow," Grubbs said, "but as the scrimmage went on we got better and better." Sophomore QB Frank Edmiston came on in relief after Chavez's injury and ran the offense.

"Offensively we have everything in place," Grubbs said, "Now we can pretty much pick and choose our moves."

The coach noted the play of his offensive line. "They followed their assignments and played fairly well. I'd just like for them to hold their blocks longer. We're

going to work on that," Grubbs stated.

Defensively, the Warbirds were a pleasant surprise.

"We are a lot better on defense this year," Grubbs commented. "We really swarmed to the ball. All in all, I was very, very pleased."

Irion County managed one touchdown in the scrimmage, despite numerous fumbles on their offensive side of the line.

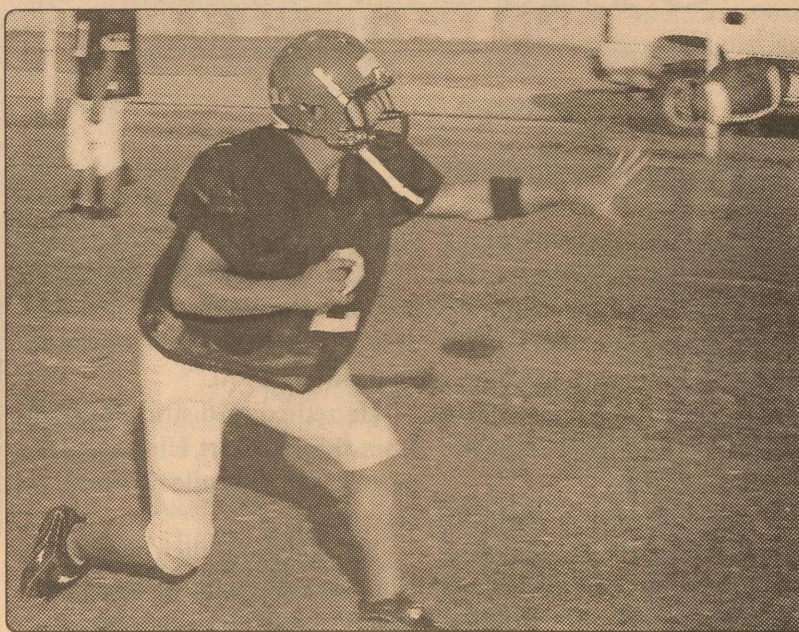
Coach Grubbs seemed more intent, however, on assessing the abilities of his young team than in driving to pay dirt.

"I'd have to say that we looked pretty good," Grubbs said after the scrimmage. "We're definitely ahead of where we were a year ago."

In JV action, the Eagles tallied two touchdowns. Once when Russell Cathey hauled in a pass from quarterback Ryan Cathey and again when running back Nestor Hernandez pounded the ball in on the ground.

They Eagles will take the field again this Friday for a three-way scrimmage in Eagle Stadium. The McCamey Badgers and the Marfa Shorthorns should provide the Eagles with yet another good test.

Meet the Eagles will be held during the scrimmage, giving local fans the opportunity to get to know the Warbirds and their coaches.



Quick pitch — Eagles quarterback Trey Chavez pitched out the ball during two-a-day action last week.

Caverns of Sonora enchant countless visitors

Editor's note: Mark Campbell recently wrote about touring Ft. McKavett State Historic Site. What follows is the second part of that story as he continued his journey to the Caverns of Sonora.

by Mark Campbell

We saw turkey and deer on the way from desolate Fort McKavett to the Caverns of Sonora. At least until we reached that raceway known as I-10.

We weren't too sure exactly where the Caverns were so, even though it was late afternoon, we ventured out there. The place is eight miles west of town (more Interstate driving!) then six more miles south. The road climbs through some cool rock formations then drops dramatically before finally rising to the entrance to the Caverns. There are plenty of signs to point the way.

There was a small campground at the site and one RV was plugged in. While this area is probably nice in the spring and fall, it was darned hot in the summertime.

The next day, we returned. We paid our \$20 each for the full trip, the 2-mile, 1 hour, 45-minute Crystal Palace walk. There's a shorter one, Horseshoe Lake, but you miss out on some stuff.

After you pay, you accumulate with a group of 15 or so others —

in the kind of freakish bonding only a vacation can offer — in the corner of the this wonderful tourist trap building, the Gift Shop. It's loaded with Texas-themed crapola, souvenir t-shirts, and every kind of polished rock ever made. Plus they have food and drink which, of course, is banned in the cave. So be prepared to chug that Coke in a hurry. And, tempting as it may be, don't save your monster burp for the cave.

It was cooler in the big hole in the ground. It's normally 71 degrees there but was closer to 80 when we visited. Plus the 98 percent humidity took some of the effect away. We sweated coolly, mainly. Still, it beat 100 degrees.

More history

The best story of how the caves were discovered: A couple of drunk soldiers from Fort McK-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

New faces — Brian and Kittle Gibson are new teachers and coaches at SCISD. Brian will teach High School Math and serve as an assistant coach. During the football season he will coach the offensive and defensive lines and serve as the team's offensive coordinator. Kittle will teach Social Studies in Middle School and will coach the Eagles Cross-Country Track squad.

MEET THE EAGLES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22 6:30 P.M. BETWEEN SCRIMMAGES

NASHVILLE STAR FINALISTS
LABOR DAY REUNION/PICNIC AT RIVERSTAGE
 San Angelo, TX • Saturday, Aug. 30, 2003
 Gates Open: 11:00 a.m. • Music Noon

NASHVILLE STAR FINALISTS
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 Under 18 - 1/2 Price • Under 6 - Free

TICKETS: Convention Center • Blair's Western Wear
 Saints Hockey Office • 658-6464

School Menu

Milk & Bread Offered
Menus Subject To Change
Cafeteria Line

Monday, August 25
 Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Cole Slaw, Pineapple Chunks

Tuesday, August 26
 Beef Tacos w/ Cheese, Pinto Beans, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Brownies

Wednesday, August 27
 Chicken Burger, French Fries, Lettuce, Mixed Fruit w/ Topping

Thursday, August 28
 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Hot Rolls, Peanut Butter Cookies

Friday, August 29
 Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Potato Chips, Sandwich Salad, Apples

Breakfast
 1/2 pt. Milk & 4 oz. Juice offered w/each breakfast

Monday, August 25
 Pig-N-Blanket, Apple Sauce Cups, Pineapple Juice, Milk

Tuesday, August 26
 Cinnamon Rolls, Orange Juice, Milk

Wednesday, August 27
 Scrambled Eggs, Toast w/ Jelly, Peach Cups, Choice of Juice, Milk

Thursday, August 28
 Biscuits w/ Sausage, Cereal, Grape Juice, Milk

Friday, August 29
 Breakfast Pizza, Orange Juice, Milk

Fast Food Line

Monday, August 25
 Burrito, Tater Tots, Cole Slaw, Pineapple Chunks

Tuesday, August 26
 Bar-B-Que on a Bun, French Fries, Pinto Beans, Brownies

Wednesday, August 27
 Pepperoni Pizza w/ Bread Stix, Tossed Salad, Mixed Fruit w/ Topping

Thursday, August 28
 Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Peach Cups, Hot Rolls, Peanut Butter Cookies

Friday, August 29
 Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Potato Chips, Sandwich Salad, Apples

Deputy wrestles Sonora man for eight ball packet of cocaine

Gabriel Alvarado, 50, of Sonora was arrested Saturday afternoon, Aug. 16, 2003, after a brief roadside encounter with Schleicher County Deputy Jason Chatham.

Chatham stopped Alvarado's 1987 Nissan 300 Z some eight miles South of Eldorado on Highway 277, reportedly for a minor traffic violation. Further investigation soon revealed, however, that Alvarado driver's license had expired. At that point, Chatham says he asked for and received permission to search the vehicle.

But, before beginning the search of the car, Chatham decided to pat down Alvarado, in order to ensure that he wasn't carrying a weapon. It was at that time that Chatham says he saw Alvarado place an unknown object in his mouth. Suspecting that Alvarado was trying to dispose of a packet of drugs, Chatham wrestled the man to the ground in order to prevent him from swallowing it. Dur-

ing the struggle, Alvarado reportedly expelled the object, which Chatham confiscated and later determined to be an "eight ball" packet of cocaine.

Once subdued, the subject was handcuffed and placed under arrest. A subsequent search of the area revealed a bag of marijuana that fell from the subject's pocket during the scuffle. Assisting with the search was Deputy Kevin Herbert.

Alvarado was booked into the Schleicher County Jail and charged with possession of a controlled substance, namely, 7 grams of cocaine, and tampering with evidence. Each of those charges represent a 2nd degree felony. He was also charged with Class B misdemeanor resisting arrest and possession of marijuana.

At press time, Alvarado remained in jail in lieu of bond. His car was confiscated by the officers during the arrest.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Looking for contraband — Deputy Jason Chatham (L) and Kevin Herbert (R) searched this 1987 Nissan last Saturday after arresting its driver, Gabriel Alvarado, 50, of Sonora for possession of a controlled substance - cocaine, and tampering with evidence.

Nurse's love for dolls basis for Baby Therapy program

When Laura McMillian left home to go garage sale shopping on Saturday morning, she thought she might find a few bargains. Little did she know that she would discover a treasure and return home an avid doll collector.

It all began when Laura stopped at a sale where a mother was selling her daughter's collection of Madame Alexander dolls. She loved the dolls and found that she couldn't pass them up. Hoping to interest her own daughter in the collection, Laura purchased it. She was soon disappointed though, when her daughter showed no interest in the dolls.

But by that point, Laura found that she had been smitten. From that day forward she would be a doll collector. Now, her collection numbers more than 200 and includes dolls of all shapes and sizes. Her collection of 50 large baby and toddler dolls is her special passion, especially her Lee Middleton dolls.

Laura, who works at Schleicher County Medical Center as an LVN, began bringing the large,

lifelike dolls to work with her for the Nursing Home residents to cuddle and hold. That's how the idea for Baby Therapy began at SCMC.

Now, with the assistance of Activity Director Annie Arispe and the Nursing Home staff, the residents have adopted several large baby and toddler dolls to hold and cuddle. Laura even went on the Internet to locate and purchase the facility's newest arrival, Emily.

Lee Middleton babies come in all sizes and ages. Emily is a newborn and is the favorite of the residents who each want the bundled up Emily to rest on their bed.

While the baby dolls have the weight and feel of a real baby, they neither cry nor need diaper changes.

Annie Arispe says she noticed that the dolls elicited a tenderness and caring from some residents who previously did not show their emotions. The dolls bring back memories for many of the residents. She says the therapy is very simple. Just offer a doll to a resident, and don't expect to get it back anytime soon.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Look at these wrinkled feet! Laura McMillian LVN shows off one of her special Lee Middleton dolls used in Baby Therapy at Schleicher County Nursing Home.

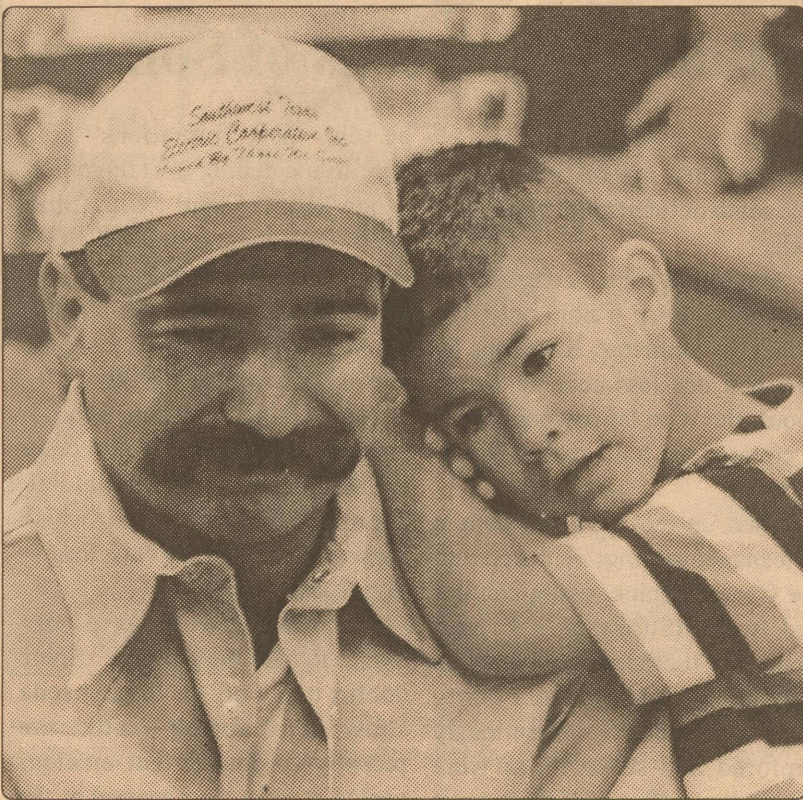


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Are you sure I can't go with you? Marcos Ramon clung to his father Monday as Amalio Ramon prepared to leave his son for his first day in Pre-School.

Robert Lee Quilt Show

The third annual Robert Lee Street Affair is sponsoring a quilt show in conjunction with the many events being scheduled for the upcoming October 4, 2003 event.

The Quilt Show will be held in the Ford Dealership showroom which is right in the middle of Robert Lee, Texas. The hours for the show are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information about exhibiting your quilt, or quilts, please contact Nita Duncan 325-453-2485 or e-mail: bobnita@msn.com.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

New on the job — Food Service Director Ima Bruce worked her way up to the job over the past 11 years, beginning her career in the cafeteria's steam room. She and her husband Bob have two grown children, son Zane Bruce and daughter Billie Paschall. The couple also has two grandchildren.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

New EMS teacher — Lavonne Espinosa joins the faculty of Eldorado Middle School. She has lived most of her life in Eldorado and is a graduate of Angelo State University. She and her husband, Ramon, have two children, Emily, a 6th grader, and Ryan, a 3rd grader. She says that she is excited to be part of the SCISD family.

EXTRA!
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Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, August 25

Ham w/ Pineapple Rings, Corn, Macaroni & Cheese, Dinner Roll, Peaches, Lemon Bar, Milk

Tuesday August 26

Bar-B-Que Chicken, Pinto Beans, Cornbread, Potato Salad, Apricot & Banana Medley, Milk

Wednesday, August 27

Roast Beef w/ Brown Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Sliced Strawberries, Angel Food Cake, Milk

Thursday, August 28

Frito Pie, Spinach, Wheat Bread, Tossed Salad w/ Croutons, Cinnamon Apple Sauce

Friday, August 29

Tuna Stuffed Tomato, Vegetable Beef Soup, Wheat Bread, Fresh Fruit Cup, German Chocolate Cake

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Family Practice



Lillian Perez, D.O.
Family Practice



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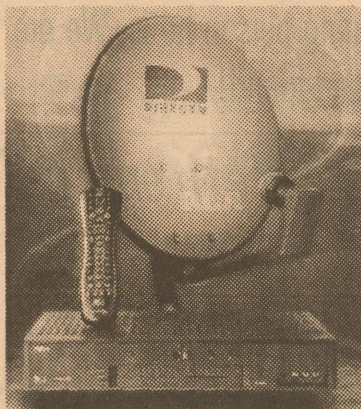


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Amazing rock formations lure visitors to Caverns of Sonora



Delicate butterfly set in stone — The final thing to see on the Crystal Palace tour, the Butterfly is supposed to be the most photographed cave formation on the planet.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

avett got lost and fell into a big hole south of Interstate 10. Ha! Not really!

Actually, a hunter's dog chased a raccoon down a hole only 15-inches in diameter. Knowing he now had one less coon to worry about, the wise landowner quickly covered the hole up and forgot about it.

Then, in the 1920's, a couple of teenaged siblings ventured into the Caverns some, using candles and twine. (Surely even flapper teens saw the potential danger in combining string and fire.) Thirty years later, the cave was seriously explored and seven miles were mapped out. (Some of the cave is still untouched.) Today, two miles are used on the tour.

The Caverns of Sonora were opened in 1960. Ninety percent of the Caverns are still alive and great care is taken to make sure that they stay that way. *Parade Magazine* voted the place the third best cave in America (and if you can't believe a free Sunday newspaper insert, what can you believe?).

A local girl led our tour. She asked if anyone was a geologist because on a prior tour she had a smarty-pants amateur who differed with everything she said. Her information comes from some pretty dependable sources so if you're one of those who thinks just because he took Geology 301 in college he knows everything, have the decency to keep your trap shut and let the poor teenage girl do her job! Thank you.

The tour

On our tour was a guy who making the journey for the 35th year in a row. Yes, 35! I know things can be a bit slow in that part of Texas, but 35 is a lot of anything.

You gather briefly in a level area inside a locked metal door before descending into the cave. Then it's two hours of ducking, bobbing, and weaving deep in the bowels of Texas!

You'll see things like "cave bacon" and "popcorn" and "the belly of the whale." Not to mention stalactites (remember, you'll

be told, these formations "hold tight to the ceiling"), stalagmites, "soda straws" and "Christmas trees." And "machetes," "fish tails," and "total darkness" (which didn't exactly work out for us since another tour had left a light on above but it was still pretty dark).

This Cavern is jammed full of amazing formations. It all comes together in the actual Crystal Palace near the end of the tour which supposedly has every cave formation in one place.

You really need to keep your hands to yourselves here. Some doofus broke off the longest soda straw — a five footer! — in the cave recently (probably that amateur geologist jerk). Just marvel at the constant dripping and the impossibly clear water that collects in pristine pools.

I thought the coolest thing was a formation underwater. At least it looked like that. I mean it *really* looked like a formation. But our guide turned a light on and the formation magically disappeared! It was actually a reflection of a growth above the pool of water. Way cool.

This tour requires a bit of walking. It's not exhausting, but you have to be able to climb some steps, duck, and dodge. The trail barely weaves around some formations. The toughest jaunt on the way back up a series of steps is countered with a nice place to rest afterward.

Cave things to know

It's really hard to get a good picture of a cave formation. Like photographing mountains, you think you've got something great then when you get your pictures back, they stink. You might want to pick up a few postcards on the way out, just to be safe.

The exception is the Butterfly which is close to the path. That's probably why it's the most photographed thing ever in a cave.

There are a few other things to do at the Caverns. You can "pan for gems" in the back of the Gift Shop (the bag you buy will have a few colorful stones in them, guaranteed).

There's a wild cave tour and a class that will teach you how to explore using a single rope and riggings.

Groups of 12 or more can get special prices by making reservations in advance.

This was as good an adventure as Carlsbad Caverns, just not as expansive. It was surely worth \$20 a head. (Now, I don't know if I'd go 35 times in a row, but...)

The Blotter

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

ARRESTS

August 9 • Holsey, Michael Brandon, male age 19, offense Motion To Revoke/Driving While Intoxicated.

August 16 • Alvarado, Gabriel, male age 50, offense Possession of Controlled Substance, Possession of Marijuana, Resisting Arrest and Tampering With Evidence.

August 16 • Morehouse, William Scott, male age 50, offense Public Intoxication, Enhanced. Released on P.R. bond.

August 19 • Sanchez, Alexander, male age 18, offense Assault Class A.

INCIDENT REPORTS

August 12 • 11:30 a.m. A large bag of marijuana was found in front of a resident on Dixie Street. The bag was submitted to Department of Public Safety for fingerprints.

August 13 • 3:20 p.m. Complainant requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.

• 7:05 p.m. Complainant on Hill Street reported a possible electrical floor fire. Officer and Eldorado Fire Chief responded. Found everything OK. Cause small male dog urinated on floor socket causing it to smoke.

• 11:13 p.m. Complainant reported loud music on Lea Street. Officer responded and was unable to locate.

August 15 • Complainant reported loud music on Old Sonora Road. Officer responded and music was turned down.

August 16 • 6:28 p.m. Complainant on Main reported someone laying in the alley. Two officers responded and arrested subject for Public Intoxication.

• 7:13 p.m. Complainant reported a gas drive off. Value \$50.71. Officer responded and was unable to locate vehicle.

August 17 • 1:44 a.m. Complainant on West Avenue call 911 and reported their father was complaining of chest pains. EMS 2 responded.

• 9:35 a.m. Complainant requested an ambulance for an ACLS transfer. EMS 1 responded.

August 17 • 4:55 p.m. Subject reported a U Haul was in the middle of the road one mile out on Hwy. 277 North. Officer responded.

• 6:23 p.m. Complainant at restaurant reported a male subject was not breathing. Officer and EMS 2 responded.

• 10:09 p.m. Complainant reported loud music on the East Hwy. 190. Two officers responded.

August 18 • 8:51 a.m. Subject on Highland called 911 to report parent was possibly having a heart attack. Two officers and EMS 2 responded.

August 19 • 8:50 p.m. Complainant reported that wheels were missing from a scaffold at the newly constructed stock pens south of town. Officers responded and will be patrolling.

• 7:17 p.m. Complainant reported two kids playing on the street with a riding lawn mower. Complainant also stated they almost ran over the kids. Officer responded.

• 8:15 p.m. Complainant reported a man drinking by the dumpster outside the hospital. Officer responded.

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Thank You, Dr. Brame!

The Board of Directors, Administration and Staff of Schleicher County Medical Center extend their heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Jim Bob Brame. His willingness to come out of retirement in order to keep the Family Clinic open during our recent change in personnel demonstrates what a warm and caring person he is. We are all fortunate to have him as a neighbor and friend!

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Solution to puzzle on Page 2

Office Work

L	O	A	F	S	F	I	L	T	S	A	L	K
A	U	G	I	E	E	V	A	C	D	E	A	L
S	T	E	R	E	O	T	Y	P	E	V	A	N
E	R	N	D	R	E	I	N	F	A	N	T	S
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 \$3.00 Matinees before 6:00 p.m.
 Friday-Thursday

• THE MEDALLION dts (PG-13).....	2:30	5:00
• MY BOSSES DAUGHTER (PG-13).....	2:00	4:15
• OPEN RANGE dts (R).....	1:45	4:45
• AMERICAN WEDDING (R).....	2:05	4:30
LXG LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN dts (PG-13).....	2:10	4:40
TERMINATOR 3 dts (R).....	1:50	4:15
LEGALLY BLONDE (PG-13).....	2:15	4:20

Times good for the week of 8/22 thru 8/28
 \$3.00 Matinees before 6:00 p.m.
 Friday-Thursday

THE MEDALLION dts (PG-13).....	7:30	9:50
MY BOSSES DAUGHTER (PG-13).....	7:00	9:15
OPEN RANGE dts (R).....	8:00	
AMERICAN WEDDING (R).....	7:05	9:30
LXG LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN dts (PG-13).....	7:15	9:40
TERMINATOR 3 dts (R).....	7:05	9:35
LEGALLY BLONDE (PG-13).....	7:10	9:20

No Passes or Discounts. www.pccmovies.com

New traffic laws take effect

Driving-related legislation taking effect September 1, 2003:

• SB 45 makes it a state jail felony to drive while intoxicated with a passenger younger than 15.

• SB 193 requires drivers nearing a stopped emergency vehicle that has lights activated, unless otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer, to:

Vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicle, if the highway has two or more lanes traveling the direction of the emergency vehicle; or slow to a speed not more than 20 miles per hour (mph) less than the posted speed limit when the posted speed limit is 25 mph or more; or slow to a speed not more than five mph when the posted speed limit is less than 25 mph.

A violation is punishable by a maximum fine of \$200. If the violation results in property damage, the maximum fine increases to \$500. If the violation results in bodily injury, the offense is enhanced to a Class B misdemeanor.

Having a video display that is visible from the driver's seat is illegal. SB 209 expands the definition of video receiving equipment to include digital videocassette players, videocassette players or similar equipment. This equipment may be used only if it is located so that the video display is not visible from the operator's seat.

HB 1326 automatically suspends for one year the driver license of anyone convicted of illegally racing on a public roadway. Before the license can be reinstated, the driver would have to complete 10 hours of community service.

The law increases the punishment for drivers who are racing drunk, who have open containers of alcohol in the vehicle when racing, who seriously injure someone during the race or who have been convicted multiple times of illegal racing. The offenses range from a state jail felony to a second-degree felony. The penalty for racing while intoxicated or having an open container of alcohol in the vehicle while racing is a Class A misdemeanor.

SB 439 makes it illegal to add reflective material, lights, emblems or anything else that changes the color of the license plate or makes it difficult to read the letters on the license plate. The name of the state where the vehicle is registered must be visible.

SB 613 suspends the driver license of anyone under the age of 21 who is convicted of the manufacture, delivery, possession, transportation or use

of an abusable volatile chemical.

HB 296 makes human trafficking a second-degree felony; if the person trafficked is younger than 14 years of age or the commission of the offense results in the death, the offense is a first-degree felony. The bill also makes it a Class B misdemeanor to transport a person in a trailer or semi-trailer.

HB 292 strengthens an existing law and allows a police officer to have a blood or breath alcohol sample taken from a driver involved in an alcohol-related crash that kills or seriously injures another person, either in a motor vehicle or a boat.

SB 895 requires that a parent or family member participating in the Parent-Taught Driver Education Program have a valid license for the previous three years. The license cannot have been suspended, revoked or forfeited during the past three years for traffic-related violations.

SB 1445 amends the current law to allow limited use of electronic information from the magnetic strip on the back of driver licenses by banks and Texas Parks and Wildlife and its vendors.

HB 148 makes it a Class A misdemeanor to manufacture, sell or possess a placard that is deceptively similar to a disabled parking placard without proper authorization. A person also commits a Class B misdemeanor if they knowingly park in a space designated for persons with disabilities using a counterfeit placard.

HB 1784 makes it an offense for a person to park their vehicle where it blocks a disabled access aisle that is designed to aid persons with disabilities.

HB 1330 allows an applicant to voluntarily list on their driver license or identification card any health condition that might impede communication with peace officers. The applicant must supply DPS with a written statement from a licensed physician. (NOTE: This law takes effect Jan. 1, 2004.)

HB 3588 increases the penalty for seriously injuring someone when illegally passing a school bus that is loading or unloading students to Class A misdemeanor.

NOTE: An erroneous email has been circulating the Internet, claiming that HB 281, which outlawed talking on a cell phone while driving or without using a hands-free device had passed and will take effect September 1. The bill did not pass and will not take effect.

The texts of these bills can be found at www.capitol.state.tx.us. Select the enrolled version.

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Place your non-commercial classified ad in the Eldorado Success, Devil's River News, Ozona Stockman and the Big Lake Wildcat for one low, low price. Call today for details!

853-3125

PIT BAR-BE-CUE Thursday
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
1002 South West Main
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Electrical by Deb
915-659-3901
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Debbie Clark
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Miscellaneous

ELDORADO-For Lease: Local Convenience Store. Call 450-4620.33-34p

For Sale: Silver Gemeinhart Flute good as new. Has been professionally cleaned and has all new pads. \$300.00 Call Charissa at 853-2173.33-35b

Seeking Vendors for Antiques Etc., a new market at Christoval. Please call 255-2309 or 656-9535. 33b

For Sale: 1996 Old's Cierra 7 Passenger Wagon. Excellent Condition. 30 mpg. \$3,000 Now Sacrificing for \$2495.00. Call 853-1125. 34p

\$12.95 per month unlimited dial-up Internet access for the first 3 months with West Central Net. Call 234-5678 and we'll come to you.34-36b

Second Hand Rose Consignment

We're full!
Please wait until 9-1 before bring clothing. After 9-1 we will only be receiving items
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Hwy 277 South
Open 10-6 pm
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Manufactured Homes

ELDORADO-For Sale: 16 X 80 mobile home. Large fenced yard, carport, storage building, new metal roof. Near school. Call 853-2459 or 277-6354. 33-36b

Real Estate

ELDORADO- HOUSE FOR RENT-306 Larado Street-3 Bedroom, 1 Bath. Fenced yard, refrigerator and stove, washer hookup. 1-830-896-4295.32-35p

ELDORADO-For Sale-Nice, Modern Home. Two bedroom, two baths, large walk-in closet in master bedroom. Corner white brick fireplace in large living room, dining room and kitchen area. Beautiful wood cabinets and butcher block top bar in kitchen. Corner lot, established yard. Call 853-3181.32-35b

ELDORADO- For Sale- 3 bdrm, 2 bath home on 10 acres - fenced landscaped yard, carport, barn, pens, storage buildings, pecan and fruit tree orchard w/ sprinkler system, cleared field, stock tank and water well. Call 325-853-1400.32-35P

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of Eldorado for Fiscal Year beginning 9/1/03 and ending 8/31/04. Hearing is set for Wednesday, August 27, 2003, at 6:00 PM at the City Hall, 6 S. Cottonwood St.

Said proposed budget reflects \$1,496,670 budgeted for the Utility/Sanitation/Street Funds and \$443,645 for the General Fund.

Interested citizens are encouraged to give and or written comment or ask questions at said hearing. A copy of the proposed budget and work figures are available for public review between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM weekdays.

GARAGE SALES, YARD SALES & BAKE SALES

ELDORADO-GARAGE SALE: 2 miles on left South Hwy. 277 (Williams) Saturday 23, 8:00 a.m. Clothes furniture, kitchen items, and antiques.34p

ELDORADO-THREE FAMILY GARAGE SALE: 401 Park Lane Saturday, August 23; Time 7:30? Miscellaneous, Furniture Clothes

Our Lady of Gradalupe Catholic Church will be holding a **TAMALE SALE & BAKE SALE** IN FRONT OF SUPER S. Thursday, August 21st from 8AM-?34b

Intel Pentium II loaded (computer and monitor) \$300, recliners, dining tables, maple double bed, antique iron bed, 5 antique oak high back chairs, lots more. Due to increased volume, we will be taking clothing Monday & Wednesday only. Please mark your number on shoes, misc. items. Great selection Plus Sizes and back to school clothing. **CONSIGNORS MUST CALL AHEAD BEFORE BRINGING IN CLOTHING AND/OR FURNITURE all must be in good condition.** Second Hand Rose, Eldorado 853-3736.

Card of Thanks

Dear Eldorado Friends,
A special thank you to Schleicher County Medical Center Staff, Schleicher County Emergency Medical Service and Sheriff Department for your kindnesses during my recent illness. I can not express enough how fortunate to be living in such a wonder community.
I also, want to thank the special individual who sent me mums while I was in the hospital in San Angelo. There was no card. God bless and thanks again,
Pat Cummings

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS

Schleicher County Hospital District
2004 Budget and Tax Rate
Schleicher County Hospital District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, August 25, 2003 in the Hospital Board Room.
The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Hospital-District's 2004 budget and tax rate.
Public participation in the discussion is invited.

Lynn Meador Real Estate

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★ *1 - 2 acre tracts in Edgefield Addition, City water available. Perfect for double wide locations. The 2 acre tract is priced at \$4,500. Call for details.
★ *2 lots Preston Heights Addition, restricted lots unimproved \$10,000.00.
COMMERCIAL: Intersection of Hwy 277 & 190 (Formerly Hayloft Liquor Store) Good location and visibility on 2 major highways. Improvements in good condition with large walk-in cooler. \$57,500.00.
Eldorado, Texas Call 325-853-2808

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED SCHLEICHER COUNTY 2004 BUDGET and TAX RATE

Schleicher County District will hold a Public Hearing at 10:00 AM, Monday, September 8, 2003 IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT ROOM.
The purpose of this meeting is to proposed and adopt 2004 Budget and Tax Rate for Schleicher County.

CITY OF ELDORADO TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CONTRACT NUMBER 722209 FINAL PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Eldorado will conduct a final public hearing on its 2002 Texas Community Development Program Water Improvements Grant on Wednesday, August 27, 2003 at 6:00 P.M. The meeting will be held at City hall, 6 S. Cottonwood Street, Eldorado, Texas. Topics to be discussed are completion of water improvements and expenditure of grant and local funds.
The City encourages recipients of the project as well as other interested citizens to participate in the hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and comments to Carolyn Mayo, City Secretary. Handicapped individuals that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If anyone interested in attending the public hearing requires a translator, please contact the City Hall office prior to the public hearing so arrangements may be made All written comments will be addressed in writing within fifteen days after public hearing.

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING

The City of Eldorado is accepting applications for a full-time position in the Public Works Department. Applicants must be High School graduates and hold a valid Commerical Driver's License. Salary shall be commensurate with experience and ability. The Benefits Package includes group health insurance and retirement benefits. Application forms may be obtained and returned to the City Hall during regular office hours.32TFN

Part-Time Position of District Manager/ Technician

The Eldorado-Divide Soil & Water Conservation District is looking for a person to fill the part-time position of District Manager/Technician. Position requires some knowledge in Bookkeeping, computer skills, and working with people. Apply at the USDA Service Center-510 S. Divide Street in Eldorado. 853-3535. The District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. Resume required. Position closes August 22, 2003. 34b

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Director of Nursing
Schleicher County Medical Center
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DRIVERS - LOW COST CDL Training available. Lodging and transportation provided. Tuition reimbursement. Ask about our experienced driver \$500 sign-on bonus. OTR, Dedicated and Regional Freight. Swift Transportation, 1-800-231-5209.
DRIVERS - START AT 34 cents/mile. Guaranteed home time. Pay on delivery. Dedicated available. Owner/Operators welcome. USA Truck, 1-800-237-4642.
DRIVERS - WE HAVE what you need! Fleets to fit your needs and experience level. Ask about our experienced driver \$500 sign-on bonus. CDL training available. Tuition reimbursement. 1-866-333-8801, www.swifttrans.com
DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED. Earn while you learn. CDL and job in 16 days. Up to \$900.00 weekly + benefits. Motel, meals and transportation provided. Train with the best. Call CDL Driver Training, 1-800-746-9520.

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ABSOLUTE STEAL! 5 Acres - \$19,900. Sacrifice price on beautiful North Texas hill country property. Perfect getaway, retirement or horse set-up. Access to 600 acre private park. Financing. Texas Land & Ranches. Call now, 1-866-516-4868.
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Eldorado Spotlight

This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on Elpidio Torres Jr. who caught this whopping 45 pound yellow cat on a trot line at Lake Nasworthy, early Sunday morning. When the Spotlight camera caught up with Elpidio he was showing the monster to his family, including Emelda Arispe, Brianda Torres, Lupe Pineda of San Antonio, and holding the catch of the day, Elpidio Torres Jr. and Miranda Arispe.



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Budget woes continue at SCISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

concerns, if and when the current stalemate over redistricting is broken.

One ray of hope that Gesch could give the trustees was the fact that he has taken a "very conservative" approach to calculating the district's revenue. By lowering the projected average daily attendance numbers, Gesch hopes to avoid the trap the district has fallen into in recent years. In those cases, the district overstated its attendance and found itself having to refund

money to the state. That's exactly how SCISD came to owe \$273,000 back to the state this year.

Other expected cuts will come in athletics and U.I.L. academics. There will be fewer trips to track meets, tennis and golf tournaments as well as academic meets. And, there won't be any meals bought by the school on the trips that are made.

A public hearing on the school's budget has been set for Monday, August 25th. Following the hearing, the trustees will be

free to adopt a budget if they so choose. By law, the budget must be adopted prior to setting a tax rate and if no budget is adopted prior to Sept. 1, then the school cannot expend any money until a budget is approved.

In other business, the trustees heard a recommendation from Elementary Principal Bob Wanoreck concerning the Free Breakfast Program. Wanoreck told the board that his faculty were 100 percent in favor of dropping the program. He said the man concern is that instructional time is being taken out of the students day.

After hearing from trustees Kurtis Homer and John Paul Joiner about concerns that some children might go without breakfast, Wanoreck said he would keep an eye on the problem and explained that a free or reduced price breakfast program will continue in the cafeteria before school begins.

"If I find out that kids are going hungry because their parents won't get up and bring them to school, I'll call CPS (Child Protective Services)," Wanoreck said. "As far as I see it, that's child abuse."

Wanoreck's answer seemed to satisfy the trustees and they let the issue drop.

They then approved six waiver days before approving the revised school calendar for 2003-04. It was noted that the six days will allow for early release on Sept. 10 & 24, Oct. 15, Dec. 10, Jan. 4 and Feb. 11. Once the students have left the teachers will stay for training in the afternoons. Each of the early release days falls on a Wednesday.

Next, the board took up discussion of allowing a tenured teacher who is losing the lease on their home to move into school housing until other arrangements can be made. The board approved of the arrangement provided the teacher pay a rental rate higher than beginning teachers are required to pay. The district uses its housing to recruit new personnel but encourage them to locate other housing by raising the rental rate each year.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Nursing Home Summer Volunteers Recognized — (L-R) Schleicher County Medical Center and the SCMC Hospital Auxiliary took the opportunity of a hamburger supper at the hospital last Friday night to honor (L-R) Victoria Garza, Erica Buitron, Micaela Gonzalez, Karina Gonzales and Brittany Jennings for their volunteer work during the summer. Mary Roden, (standing at right) presented each of the girls with a certificate of appreciation and a Thank You card. Erica Buitron served as coordinator for the girls who assisted with resident outings, arts and crafts, and many other activities. The girls helped Victoria Garza had the most volunteer hours with 122. Activity Director Annie Aripse noted that the girls gave of themselves with a smile and she hopes to see them back during the school year.

Ice Cream Social set Sept. 3

Tuesday, September 3 will mark the annual "Ice Cream Social and Sing-Along" benefiting the Eldorado Minister's Alliance. Bring your appetite, your ice cream, your friends, your voice, and your financial gifts! Everyone is invited to bring homemade (and store-bought) ice cream and fixin's to the courthouse lawn at 6:30 pm.

Anyone wishing to share their musical talent is invited to sing and/or play at the event. No sign-up necessary; just come ready to make a joyful noise to the Lord. An annual event, the Ice Cream Social and Sing-Along is one of two annual fundraisers for the Alliance's ministry to help those in need in Schleicher County.

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Choi's Tae Kwon Do

Director Grand Master Sin Il Choi
 Chief Instructor Master Richard H. White
 Instructor Paul Stephens 1st Degree Black Belt

Starting Wednesday, September 3, 2003, Choi's Tae Kwon Do will continue to offer Tae Kwon Do classes in Sonora for both children and adults. Please come join us for our 5th year!

Registration: Wed., August 27
 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Classes Begin: Wed, Sept. 3 (Orientation etc.)

Class Times: 5:30 - 6:30 Wednesdays

Tuition: \$100.00 first month (includes uniform, T-shirt, student handbook and video)
 \$30.00 each month thereafter.

Location: Sonora Elementary School
 Gymnasium/Cafeteria

For additional information or if you should have any questions, please feel free to call Paul Stephens at 387-5821. Classes are ongoing and new students may start at any time.

Senior Outreach Program to resume Aug. 27

The Senior Outreach Program will resume Wednesday, August 27, 2003 at its regularly scheduled time of 10:00-11:30 am. This valuable program, conducted by a nurse, allows for the screening of Weight, Blood Pressure, Pulse Rate, Medications, Health Care Concerns, Preventative Health Care Options, Education on Health Issues, and periodic special programs centered around diabetes, diet, and related disease processes.

This program is FREE to all seniors in the community and takes approximately 10 minutes per person on a first-come-first-serve basis. Held every Wednesday at the Resource Center (excluding every third Wednesday.)

The staff at Schleicher County

SCMC NEWS



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

Medical Center and Family Clinic want to thank Dr. Brame for his unyielding dedication to our facility and his knowledge and skill that allowed us to continue to function as the community health center.

We welcome our new physicians: Dr. Lucas and Dr. Perez. We are proud to have their expertise in our community.

Also, of note, Melissa Murr and Monica McGee was successful on passing their state board examinations.

Gary Turner RN, Monica McGee LVN, Ray Nell Lane LVN, and Teri Dominguez LVN on successfully completed their Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) course.

Also, completing their Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) course were Gary Turner RN, Cynthia Torres RN, Teri Dominguez LVN and Melissa Murr, LVN.

Rebecca Silva, Buddy Otto and Steven Minor attended an intensive 3-day specialized training conducted by Shannon Hospital and the Texas Department of Health on Bioterrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction. Schleicher County Medical Center is coordinating their efforts with the local fire department, law enforcement, and governing agencies for procedural effectiveness.

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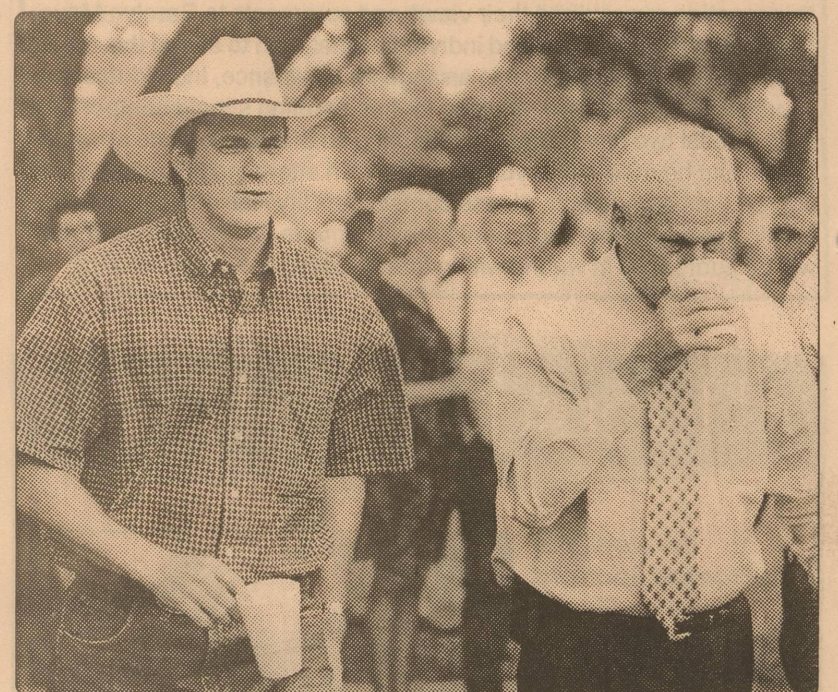


PHOTO BY RANDY MANKIN

Eldorado's representatives — State Rep. Harvey Hilderbran (L) and U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm (R) were in Eldorado last week for the Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative annual membership meeting and barbecue. Each of the men took the opportunity to address the crowd about issues that concern rural West Texas.

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