

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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Authorities don't believe trucker's kidnapping claim 18-wheeler found in local pasture

Shannon Dwindell, 34, of Ellinwood, Kansas walked up to Jeff Chancellor's home on County Road 110 about 8:30 p.m. last Friday, knocked on the door and asked for help. Dwindell told Chancellor that he was a truck driver and had been kidnapped by a militia group after stopping at a road side park on Interstate Hwy 10. The group hijacked his truck, Dwindell said, and must have knocked him out with chloroform.

Chancellor says he let Dwindell use his cell phone then gave him a ride into town and dropped him off at the Schleicher County Law Enforcement Center.

Deputy Kevin Herbert interviewed Dwindell in hopes of making sense of his story. He eventually arrested the trucker and held him over night on a charge of public intoxication. He was ultimately charged with Making a False Report to a Peace Officer, Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief and Reckless Driving.

The following morning, Justice of the Peace James C. Doyle took his airplane up to search for Dwindell's missing truck. He found it on the Martin Valis Ranch, where it apparently stalled out after running through numerous mesquite tickets and knocking down several large trees.

Officers on the ground followed Doyle's directions and located Dwindell's 2001 Peterbuilt Truck. The big rig's lowboy trailer was loaded with what appeared to be metal framework used to build bleachers. Deputy Herbert says the truck crashed through a two gates on the Chancellor Ranch before entering

the Valis Ranch.

It is unknown exactly when or how Dwindell found himself on County Road 110. He was reportedly hauling a load from Tempe, Arizona to San Antonio. He told authorities that had driven for CRST Malone Trucking, the company that owned the abandoned truck, for a month.

A passerby told The Success on condition of anonymity that he saw the truck in the Valis Ranch pasture Friday morning, nearly 12 hours before Dwindell wandered up to the Chancellor home.

Authorities surmise that Dwindell stopped his truck at the Circle Bar Truckstop near Ozona but failed to get back on Interstate 10 when he pulled out of the parking lot. Instead, they believe, he traveled eastbound on the north service road, also known as FM 1312, before turning north on FM 2129 and driving into Schleicher County. From there the truck made its way onto County Road 110 before tearing up the gate leading into the Jim Chancellor Ranch.

A number of officers scoured the scene Saturday morning after locating the truck stalled in a mesquite thicket. They reported finding no evidence of foul play, or any sign that a militia group had held Dwindell captive.

Home Motors in San Angelo was called to tow away the big rig, which was determined to be undriveable by investigators.

Dwindell was released Monday on four \$1,000 surety bonds. His mother, who drove down from Kansas, reportedly picked him up at the jail and took him back home with her.



COURTESY PHOTO

Hijacked or just high?

This truck, owned by CRST Malone Trucking of Birmingham, Alabama, was found abandoned Saturday in the middle of a pasture on the Valis Ranch, some 11 miles southwest of Eldorado. The truck's driver, Shannon Dwindell, 34, of Ellinwood, Kansas, claimed to have been kidnapped and drugged by a militia group that hijacked his rig. Authorities weren't convinced by the story, charging Dwindell instead with filing a false police report, criminal trespass, criminal mischief and reckless driving. He was released Monday on bail.

Jeffs accuser already suing him

Salt Lake City attorney Roger Hoole revealed Tuesday that his client, unidentified in court documents only as M.J., is the same woman the State of Utah refers to as Jane Doe in the criminal charges against FLDS Prophet Warren Jeffs.

Hoole appeared before Utah's 3rd District Judge Denise Lindberg on Tuesday to discuss matters related to the United Effort Plan Trust, the charitable trust that once acted as the financial arm of Jeffs' FLDS church. During the hearing Hoole commented that it might not be advantageous for his client to proceed with her civil case against Jeffs until after his criminal case is over. Hoole didn't say, but many who are following the case believe that if the woman's identity is revealed during the civil case, FLDS faithful might put pressure on her or her family members in order to prevent her testimony in the criminal trial.

Hoole filed the personal injury lawsuit on behalf of M.J. in 5th District Court in Iron County, Utah. Then in April of this year Washington County, Utah brought charges of rape as an accomplice against Jeffs in 5th District Court in St. George.

The allegations in M.J.'s civil lawsuit are similar to the criminal charges filed against Jeffs in which he is accused of forcing an under age Jane Doe to have sex with an older man as part of a celestial marriage within the FLDS church.

Warren Jeffs was on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List when he was apprehended on August 28, 2006 during a routine traffic stop six miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada on Interstate Highway 15. He was riding in a red Cadillac Escalade driven by his brother, Isaac Jeffs.

Warren Jeffs waived extradition proceedings and was transferred to the

Purgatory Correctional Facility in Hurricane, Utah where he awaits trial on two counts of rape as an accomplice.

In the meantime, a large sum of money found in the Cadillac at the time of Jeffs arrest has become an issue in court. Shem Fischer won a \$338,411 judgment against Jeffs and the FLDS church in May in a religious discrimination suit. Fischer alleged that in 2004 he lost his job at Forestwood Co., a wood products shop in Hildale, after he

abandoned his faith and protested the firing of another man for a similar reason. Fischer won a default judgement in the case when neither Jeffs nor representatives of the FLDS Church showed up to defend themselves in court.

Fischer is also asking to see documents seized when Jeffs was arrested. Documents filed with a Nevada court argue that the documents could provide information and help him settle his financial claim against Jeffs.

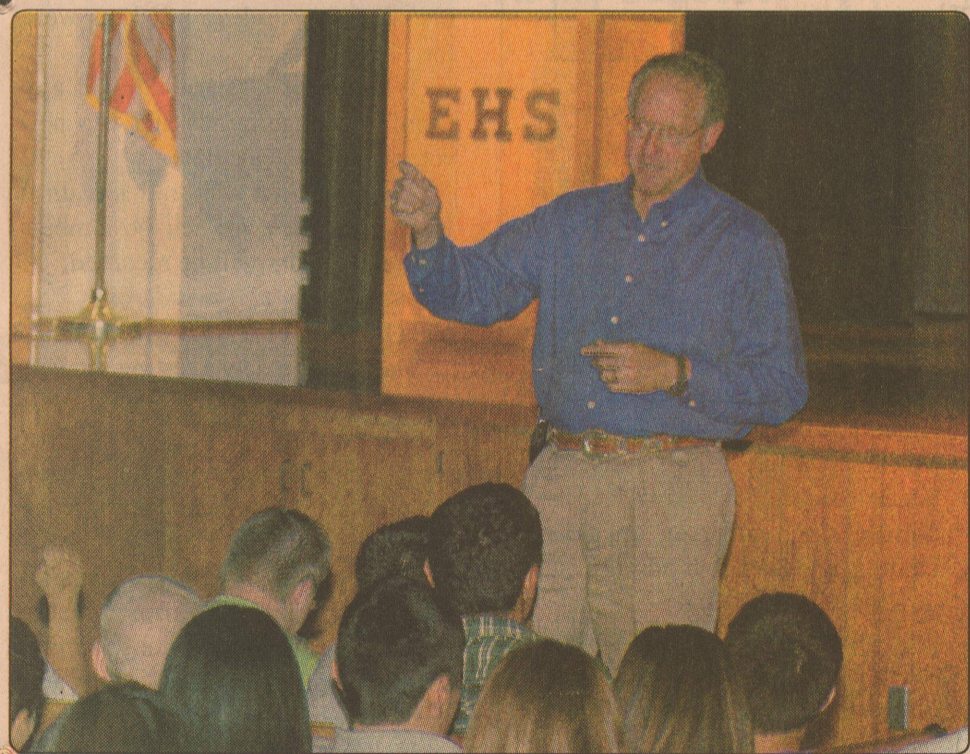


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Congressman Mike Conaway fielded questions from Eldorado High School students last Thursday. He later posed for a photo with the entire high school student body in Eagle Stadium.

1st Community Federal Credit Union acquires former Dairy Mart building

Bill Nikolauk, president of 1st Community Federal Credit Union, announced last Friday his company has purchased the vacant restaurant building in Eldorado known locally as the Dairy Mart and most recently operated under the name Amigo's Dream.

Nikolauk explained that renovation of the building will begin as soon as possible so that the local branch of the credit union, presently located at the corner of South Main and East Gillis, can move into the new building at the

earliest possible date.

Nikolauk says the credit union's plans include and expanded drive-thru with an ATM.

The move is prompted by the credit union's growth, Nikolauk said. "With over 900 members in Schleicher County, we are bursting at the seams providing service at our present location," Nikolauk said. "Not only will the new office provide expanded space, but should provide additional convenience being located in the heart of Eldorado."



PHOTO BY RANDY MANKIN

Zack Taylor sprinted up the middle last Thursday for a touchdown as the Eldorado Eagles Middle School team thumped Bronte by a score of 42-0. (See related story on Page 4)

Immigration Cave-In

You can look at it as cynical political manipulation. You can look at it purely in terms of policy effectiveness. Either way, the House's enforcement-only approach to immigration reform is not going to work.

Off the table, for now, is the Senate plan -- supported by the president -- that provides a guest-worker program and a path for illegal immigrants to legalize their status if they pay fines, learn English, have a job and stay out of trouble.

The enforcement-only provisions -- which include a \$2 billion, 700-mile fence along the Mexican border, and give state and local cops authority to arrest people for civil violations of immigration law -- would not be totally objectionable were they part of a more comprehensive bill.

Take the 700-mile fence. The border with Mexico is some 2,100 miles, and the border with Canada is about 5,500 miles, including land and water. The fence would cover about a third of the Mexican border and none of Canada's. Still, a fence would make it more difficult to enter the United States illegally. So, fine: A fence it is -- as part of a compromise that accepts the comprehensive Senate provisions.

Same for the plan to give state and local cops power over immigration law. Many law-enforcement agencies don't want such power, saying their job is to catch actual criminals and prevent actual crimes, not violators of civil statutes. They also say that illegal immigrants who often serve as sources to catch real criminals will be afraid to talk to police.

The legislation, however, does not force local cops into the immigration-enforcement business. It leaves that up to local authorities. So, again, it's an idea full of problems yet acceptable as a negotiated part of a larger solution.

But Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist has said he would support enforcement-only, and President Bush has said he would sign the bill as a "first step."

In terms of pure politics, it's a craven cave-in to the hard right. Republicans will reverse the gains Bush made among Hispanic voters since xenophobic waves of the mid-1990s. And they will lose the votes of moderates -- poll after poll has shown that a majority of Americans support a path to legality.

And in terms of policy effectiveness, the enforcement-only approach merely nibbles at the problem. Maybe a few more people will be unable to sneak in, but many more will continue to enter legally and stay beyond their allotted time.

Nothing will be done about the 11 million already here without papers. So they will remain in the shadows.

The Senate's plan for a guest-worker program combined with a path to legality would have addressed the problem. But the plan might be dead.

Sadly, it isn't just the xenophobic right that is killing it. It's also George Bush. Going back to his days as governor of Texas, he always understood that a sensible immigration policy needed to include more than walls, cops and ID cards. Now he is willing to accept those things as a "first step." If he does, it is hard to imagine the hard right will later accept a second.

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MEMBER 2006
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End is Near: Mel Gibson Says So

Well, in case you were wondering, it's official: We're going downhill.

Or as the Drudge Report subtly put it: MEL GIBSON BLASTS IRAQ WAR, SAYS AMERICAN CIVILIZATION ON DECLINE.

This was in BIG TYPE, the kind many journalists are reserving for your larger-than-average news events, such as the Second Coming.

And for good reason. When it comes to the decline of American civilization, "Mad Mel" probably knows what he's talking about.

Besides, if Gibson says anything, it's news. He's one of America's leading philosophers and teachers.

This past summer, for example, Gibson was stopped for drunk driving. Most people wouldn't see an arrest as a forum to instruct others, but Gibson immediately launched into a discussion of global politics, specifically who was responsible for all wars -- quite a useful thing to know.

And at a time when others might be cursing their bad luck, the big-hearted Gibson took the opportunity to comment in graphi-



Don Flood
 cally favorable terms on a female police officer's bosom, no doubt concerned about her poor body image.

When Gibson talks, we need to listen, and I'm sure the Drudge Report will keep us supplied with important news updates:

MEL GIBSON SAYS LITE BEER 'LESS FILLING.'

MEL GIBSON SAYS: 'TIME TO BEAM UP TO THE MOTHER SHIP.'

Actually, Gibson's comment on the decline of American civilization angle was the good news.

Speaking at an event to hype his new movie, Gibson also said, "I don't mean to be a doomsday guy, but the Mayan calendar does end in 2012, boys and girls."

(Note: Father Mel really did say that, including the "boys and girls" part.)

Gibson's right. The Mayan calendar does end in 2012. (On Dec. 21 -- no Christmas shopping that year, folks.) There are various theories about why, with

the most likely being they ran out of swimsuit models. (That's the downside to sacrificing all those young girls.)

But whatever the reason, it does mean the end of the world. I know this to be true because I was able to verify this information on the Internet.

This is a major bummer, especially if you've been putting away money in a 401(k).

But it's one thing to know the world's going to end in 2012, it's quite another to adjust your financial priorities.

Here's a sampler of tips from Mel Gibson's End Times Financial Planning Guide:

401(k) plans -- Who cares?

Annuities -- Yeah, right.

Saving for kids' college fund -- Take a vacation instead.

Fixing the roof -- It'll last a few more years.

Tires -- For now it still makes sense to buy good tires, but switch to a cheaper brands around 2010.

Don't blame me if the end comes and you've got lots of unneeded tread.

Truth in column-writing notice:
 SEE FLOOD ON PAGE 6

Gubernatorial candidates square-off in live debate

by Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — Four candidates for governor met in Dallas Oct. 6 for the only public debate in the race, but this column gets an Austin dateline because one of the four will occupy the governor's mansion come 2007.

While fans prepared for the Texas-OU football

game to be played the next day in the Cotton Bowl and millions of other Texans attended high school football games, others caught the broadcast of the evening debate.

Reporters asked questions. Among the topics were crime, border security and immigration control, toll roads, and health and education.

Democratic challenger Chris Bell, whose job it was to appear competent, trustworthy and in command of the facts, seemed to accomplish those things.

Kinky Friedman, whose hat and cigar set him apart from the other candidates in the eyes of the TV audience, needed to show that he offers an alternative to anyone who is or wants to be a career politician. That, he did.

State Comptroller Carol Keeton Strayhorn, who like Friedman is running as an independent, needed to convince the audience that she could do a better job at leading Texas than Gov. Rick Perry. She accused Perry of being too close to lobbyists and not delivering on promises.

The standard game plan for an incumbent (Gov. Perry) in a campaign debate is defend his record, talk about the future and maintain composure while under attack. He seemed to do that.

Libertarian candidate James Werner stayed at home in Austin and listened to the debate on the radio. He was not allowed to participate because his statewide polling numbers were too low.

Whether any candidate said anything to change minds and win new votes is hard to calculate.

There's about a month left until election day Nov. 7, when the numbers that really count will be recorded.

New hotline for TAKS problems

Data gathered by a testing security company show that nearly 700 Texas public schools had "unusual data patterns" or "testing irregularities" in the 2005 Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.

Testing irregularities include similar answers on scan forms, erasure marks on similar questions, similar response patterns and unusual gains in scores.

To deal with possible compromises to the exam, Education Commissioner Shirley Neeley created a five-member "task force on test integrity" and named an inspector general to lead the effort.

After reviewing findings in an initial round of on-site campus visits, the task force recommended actions such as:

- Allowing inspector general Michael Donley, a lawyer and former U.S. Air Force security officer, to refine questions asked in on-site interviews,
- Increasing the number of people interviewed on sites,
- Offering a hotline for teachers to anonymously report questionable practices or outright infractions.

Since the Texas Legislature adopted benchmarks for public education in the mid-1980s, alleged practices known as "teaching to the test" have placed a question mark on the validity of TAKS.

SEE CAPITAL ON PAGE 6



Every Texan should visit the King Ranch

King Ranch has 600 miles of paved roads, 27 hundred miles of fence. It has been called the most historic, the most legendary and the most famous ranch in Texas. The first American cattle breed, Santa Gertrudis, was developed at King Ranch. So was the first registered American quarter horse. The ranch's thoroughbred horse Assault won the Triple Crown and for a time was horseracing's all time money winner.

The dipping vat, to rid cattle of ticks, originated at king ranch...so did the root plow.

Much of the settlement of south Texas is due to King Ranch, which covers 825 thousand acres in parts of 6 counties.

Richard King, who owned a shipping enterprise on the Rio Grande, bought the first King ranch land for 2 and 3 cents an acre and started gathering a herd of cattle. On a buying trip to Mexico he went to the small village of Cruillas, where the people were having a tough time due to a severe drought. King bought their cattle and brought some of the residents back to his ranch. They became fiercely loyal and acquired the name Kinenos..Kings' men. They protected the ranch against cattle thieves, armies, Indians and bandits. The ranch was often



by Tumbleweed Smith

attacked, but never taken. Some Kinenos' descendants work for the ranch today.

King Ranch has always been a hospitable place. King's wife Henrietta made sure of that. She created a gracious atmosphere and made every effort to make everybody feel welcome. After king's death she hired attorney Robert Justus Kleberg to manage the ranch. Kleberg married king's daughter, Alice, the only one of king's 5 children to remain on the ranch. Kleberg descendants now own the ranch, which is in its 153rd year of operation. The ranch has expanded from cattle to include farming, gas and oil, retailing, tourism and hunting. The ranch's corporate offices are in Houston.

King Ranch donated Land for the city of Kingsville. The King Ranch Museum is in Kingsville and contains Toni Frissell's award winning photos taken on the ranch, saddles, guns, antique carriages

and vintage cars, including the custom designed Buick hunting car built for Congressman R. M. Kleberg, Sr. in 1949 by General Motors (the museum's number one attraction). The King Ranch Saddle shop, offering upscale clothing and leather goods, is also in Kingsville.

Lisa Neely efficiently oversees the ranch's extensive archives. She knows the exact location of every photo, map, book, ledger, recording, video, item of correspondence, legal record and other information about the ranch.

Justin Dodd, a historical tour guide, showed us King Ranch. The ranch now has 60 cowboys, 400 quarter horses and 60,000 head of cattle. The drilling and exploration for oil and natural gas helped King Ranch open up to other parts of the world. The ranch used to have 11 million acres worldwide and the majority of it, over 9 million acres, was in Australia. There was property in Northern Africa, Cuba, several countries in South America, Canada and Spain. Thoroughbred operations were in Kentucky and Pennsylvania.

The ranch's main house has 32,000 square feet, 17 bedrooms, 19 bathrooms, 23 fireplaces and a dining room that can seat 50 adults.

OBITUARIES

Ivy Jewel "Eunice" Redwine Sonnamaker



ABILENE — Ivy Jewel "Eunice" Redwine Sonnamaker, 94, life long Haskell County resident, died Thursday, October 5, 2006 in Abilene. A graveside service with Joe Welsh officiating was held in Willow Cemetery.

Mrs. Sonnamaker was born on March 16, 1912 in Haskell County the daughter of Samuel Jackson Redwine and Eunice Curtis Redwine. She married Virgil Ernest Sonnamaker on June 24, 1942 and they shared nearly 50 years of

marriage honoring, loving, sharing and working together side by side. She worked briefly as a telephone operator and had also worked at the Personality Shoppe but the majority of her life was spent as a dedicated and loving caregiver to her family many times sacrificing her own needs and desires for those of others. In later years she was a resident of the Schleicher County Nursing Center in Eldorado and most recently had lived at the Sears Methodist Nursing Center in Abilene. She was a faithful member of the Church of Christ in Haskell.

Survivors include her daughter, Peggy Middlebrook and husband Bill of Haskell; grandchildren, Bryan Middlebrook of McKinney and Gena Shadle of Abilene; 7 great grandchildren, Joshua, Hayley, Matthew, Dax, Geena-Leeza, Mychellya, Brody, Joshua, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Along with numerous siblings, she was preceded in death by her husband and a son, Jackie Virgil Sonnamaker.

Lee Roy Swope

SAN ANTONIO- Lee Roy Swope passed away on Sunday, October 1, 2006 in San Antonio, Texas.

Following his four years of service in the Air Force, he spent fifty years in the trucking industry. He was in partnership with Bee Trucking. He was an avid antique car enthusiast and enjoyed spending time with his family at their West Texas ranch.

He is survived by his wife Marinell; daughter, Kassie Hawkins and (Paul); granddaughter Holly Grace;

step-children, Janey Zimmer (Peter), Kerry Caves (Janine), Phil Caves (Cindy); several grandchildren; and niece and nephew, Jill Barringer and Michael Howard.

Service was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2006 at Porter Loring Mortuary North Chapel. The Rev. Kenneth James officiated.

Interment was at Eldorado Cemetery in Eldorado, Texas on October 5, 2006. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the hospice or charity of your choice.

Ethel Etheredge



ELDORADO — Ethel Etheredge, formerly of Eldorado, died Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the Hays Nursing Center in San Marcos. Funeral service were held Friday at the Schleicher County Cemetery Chapel.

Born in Eldorado on Jan. 5, 1912, Mrs. Etheredge spent most of her life in Schleicher County. The second of eight children born to Jeff and Myrtle Smith Enochs, Mrs. Etheredge began school in the Vermont community and later attended the Bailey Ranch School, finishing her education in Eldorado.

It was also in Eldorado that she met her husband Evans who had moved with his family from Central Texas to work at the Thad A. Thomson Ranch. As adults, she and Evans lived and worked on various ranches and farms in West Texas before his death in 1950, when she and her two sons moved back to Eldorado.

She then worked for Ratliff Insurance Agency in Eldorado for many years before working in other agencies in San Angelo and Sonora. She also worked for Haley Transports for a while.

Mrs. Etheredge was instrumental in the publication of the book "A History of Schleicher County" and did much of the writing for it. She was a good writer and enjoyed gathering stories of her family and of others. In addition to the his-

tory book, her publication credits include a story she wrote about her Aunt Chris and a mule named Becky. She won an award for it.

The Schleicher County Museum was another favorite project of hers.

Mrs. Etheredge is survived by her two sons and their wives, S.E. "Sonny" and Jerry Etheredge of Eldorado and Eddy and Mary Etheredge of Kyle. She is also survived by five grandchildren and their spouses Dawn and Buff Whitten of Eldorado, Evans and Lisa Etheredge of Midland, Laura and Dwight Sobczak of Rapid City, S.D., Jeff and Melissa Etheredge of San Marcos and Kathleen and Craig Nolen of Eldorado. Other survivors are her brothers, A.R. "Bus" and Tom Enochs; and her sister, Wenona Isaacs, all of Eldorado. There are 15 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Schleicher County Museum, Eldorado, TX 76936.



The West Texas Clogger performed Saturday, September 16, 2006 at the Schleicher County Annual Barbecue.

Nursing Home Chit Chat

by Activity Director Annie Arispe
Schleicher County Nursing Home had a very busy time the month of September. Buck Emmons celebrated his birthday with strawberry shortcake. The high school students helped serve cake and punch, plus sang Happy Birthday.

Our annual barbecue was held Saturday, September 16th and the volunteer Hospital Auxiliary helped serve 186 people. Entertainment this year was the West Texas Cloggers and the Old Time Band from Sonora Texas.

The staff celebrated Housekeeping Week with a covered dish on Friday. Much thanks to our great housekeeping staff.

Staff and some residents are exercising twice a week and everyone is getting in shape. To celebrate the fall season the staff and patients are painting boxes to decorate for Halloween.

With the help of the Auxiliary the residents play Bingo twice a week and a special prize for the first blackout. Before Bingo, music is

provided by Rita McWhorter, Jim Martin, and James Reese. Other volunteers assist with Bingo and we are always thankful for the help from our volunteers.

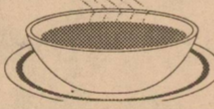
Some of the residents went on a shopping outing to see some the new construction and old construction being town down around town. Its always fun to get out and see what is happening around the City of Eldorado.

We appreciate all the support from the community for our events and we will keep you updated with our news weekly in the newspaper with Chit Chat.

Learning to live is a lesson of a lifetime.

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

Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, October 16
Beef Stew, Sweet Peas, Crackers, Canned Peaches, Chocolate Pudding, Milk

Tuesday, October 17
Baked Ham, Glazed Carrots, Summer Squash, Wheat Roll, Fresh Fruit Cup, Milk

Wednesday, October 18
Meat Loaf w/Tomato Sauce, Mased Potato, Corn, Wheat Roll, Fruit Cocktail, Sugar Cookie, Milk

Thursday, October 19
Chicken Fried Steak w/Cream Gravy, Mashed Potato, Mixed Vegetable, Dinner Roll, Fresh Orange, Milk

Friday, October 20
Fried Catfish, Corn Tomato Casserole, Seasoned Spinach, Dinner Roll, Fruited Gelatin, Milk

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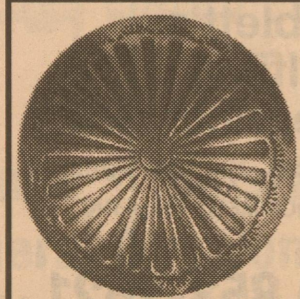
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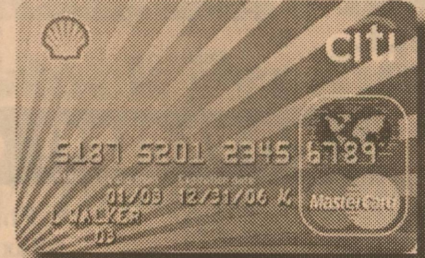
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Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ Hoo Boy!

See Solution on Page 8

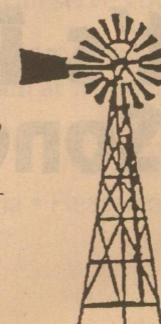
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◆ ONE NIGHT WITH THE KING (PG) 1:15 4:00 6:40 9:30	◆ THE DEPARTED (R) 12:55 4:05 7:05 10:05
◆ THE MARINE (PG-13) 1:45 4:10 6:30 9:45	◆ EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH (PG-13) 12:25 2:45 6:35 9:50
◆ THE GRUDGE 2 (PG-13) 12:40 3:50 6:50 9:25	◆ THE GUARDIAN (PG-13) 12:20 3:45 7:25 10:10
◆ THE GRUDGE 2 (PG-13) 1:20 4:30 7:35 10:30	◆ GRIDIRON GANG (PG-13) 1:30 4:50 7:55 10:35
◆ MAN OF THE YEAR (PG-13) 2:00 4:25 7:40 10:15	◆ OPEN SEASON (PG) 12:15 2:30 5:15 7:30 9:20
◆ TEXAS CHAINSAW: BEGINNING (R) 12:30 2:40 5:00 7:20 9:55	◆ SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS (PG-13) 2:10 5:10 8:00 10:20
◆ TEXAS CHAINSAW: BEGINNING (R) 1:00 4:15 7:00 10:25	◆ JACKASS: NUMBER 2 (R) 1:50 3:55 7:10 9:35

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Eagles fall 6-0 to Bronte

The Eldorado Eagles suffered a heartbreaking loss Friday night in Bronte as the Longhorns held onto a 6-0 lead to the final buzzer.

Bronte's lone score came late in the second quarter as Logan Rawls found Matthew Allen on a 12 yard pass for a touchdown. The extra point failed, but Bronte had all the points they needed to secure the victory.

The game seemed on paper, to be Eldorado's for the taking. The Warbirds out rushed the Longhorns 142 yards to 135 yards. But, the really dominant statistic was Eldorado's 121 passing yards to a mere 40 for Bronte.

Rance Cathey went 7 of 20 for a total of 91 yards and four interceptions in his varsity debut. Cathey

also ran nine times for 26 yards.

Cathey was brought up from the JV to take over at QB after David Hernandez was moved to tailback to replace Cathey's injured brother Russell.

Hernandez proved he could move the ball on the ground with 18 rushes for 109 yards.

Johnny Mejia had a good showing as a receiver catching the ball five times for 127 yards on the night.

Sterling City travels to Eldorado this week looking to improve their district record to 3-0. They are coming off a 28-0 victory over Forsan, and have yet to be challenged in district play.

The game is slated to begin at 7:30 pm at Eagle Stadium.



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Cash Lane received instructions from Coach Brian Daniels last Friday night as the Eldorado Eagles took the field in Bronte. The Warbirds suffered a 6-0 loss at the hands of the Longhorns.

School Lunch Menu



Milk & Bread Offered
Menus Subject To Change
 ½ pt. Milk & 4 oz.
 Juice offered w/each

BREAKFAST MENU
Monday, October 16
 Banana Nut Muffins, Choice of Cereal, Choice of Juice
Tuesday, October 17
 Waffle Stix, Syrup, Peaches, Choice of Juice, Milk
Wednesday, October 18
 Breakfast Sandwich, Choice of Juice, Milk
Thursday, October 19
 Pig-n-a-Blanket, Applesauce, Choice of Juice, Milk
Friday, October 20
 Cinnamon Toast, Choice of Cereal, Choice of Juice, Milk

BASKET LINE
Monday, October 16
 Corn Dogs, Corn-on the cob, Tossed Salad, Mixed Fruit
Tuesday, October 17
 Chicken Burger, Chips, Pork-n-Beans, Burger Salad, Pineapple/Orange Salad
Wednesday, October 18
 Soft Tacos, Refried Beans, Lettuce/Tomatoe Salad, Carrot Stix, Dip, Rosie Applesauce
Thursday, October 19
 Pep. Hot Pocket, Tator Tots, Carrot Stix, Dip, Cowboy Cookies
Friday, October 20
 Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Sandwich Salad, Apples

CAFETERIA LINE
Monday, October 16
 Pizza, Tossed Salad, Dressing, Carrot Stix, Dip, Mixed Fruit
Tuesday, October 17
 Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Carrot Stix, Broccoli Tops, Dip, Pineapple/Orange Salad
Wednesday, October 18
 Chicken Spaghetti, Tossed Green Salad, Early June Peas, Hot Rolls, Rosie Applesauce
Thursday, October 19
 Chicken Fajita/Flour Tortilla, Refried Beans, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Cowboy Cookies
Friday, October 20
 Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Sandwich Salad, Apples

Eagles JV brands Longhorns 46-0

The Eldorado Eagles' JV team took care of business Thursday night as they thumped Bronte 46-0.

Wes Brown found the endzone first for the Eagles on a 14 yard run. He rounded off his score with a two-point conversion.

Paul Martinez hauled in a 40

yard Garret Lux pass for the second score of the first quarter. David Tirado converted the two points to end the opening period 16-0.

Brown started things rolling again in the second quarter with an eight yard touchdown run. Ivany Sanchez converted the two points.

Garret Lux scored again, this

time with his legs, on a 15 yard scamper. Sanchez's second two point conversion of the night brought the score at the half to 32-0.

Tirado scored again in the third quarter on a 48 yard run. Sanchez converted the two.

Sanchez then scored the Eagles last points of the night on a 50 yard reception from Garret Lux to round the score out at 46-0.

The Eagles' JV will travel to Sterling City Thursday night in hopes of securing another district victory.



PHOTO BY RANDY MANKIN

Shane Young and Hugo Rios met in the backfield last Thursday night as they gobbled up this Longhorn runner. The defensive effort held Bronte scoreless as the junior Warbirds piled on 46 unanswered points to take the win.

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Middle School Eagles pound Bronte 42-0

The Eldorado Eagles' eighth grade squad continued rolling Thursday evening with a convincing 42-0 victory over the Bronte Longhorns.

The Eagles boast a 4-0 record on the season, 2-0 in district play.

Miles Mikeska led the Eagles scoring efforts with three touchdowns on the ground and a two point conversion.

Zach Taylor pounded out 50 yards on the ground and a touchdown. Eloy Bustos found the endzone on the ground as well.

Rudy Sanchez rushed for one touchdown and collected two points for the Eagles on a two point conversion.

Jaymie O'Harrow hit his only pass for 24 yards and rushed for eight more yards on a quarterback sneak.

Josh Jurecek caught the O'Harrow pass to lead the Eagles in receiving.

Defensively, J.R. Martinez had a great night with one pass interception.

Anthony Mata racked up one sack, and Ben Wipff had two tackles.

Zack Brame broke up two passes, and Bailey Minor and Josh Jurecek accounted for two more breakups.

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Starry, Starry Night... Eldorado Star Party slated for October 18-22

The X Bar Ranch will again host the Eldorado Star Party, an event created by a partnership of various amateur astronomy clubs from around the state and the X Bar Ranch. The Austin Astronomical Society is the sponsoring club for 2006. The event, now in its fourth year, has been created to attract serious amateur astronomers and will offer four nights of viewing of dark skies in a protected environment.

Over 125 participants have already signed up to attend. Guests from as far as the Philippines and Mexico are registered, while other participants will be coming from several other states and points all across Texas.

In an effort to expose area residents to this event and astronomy, organizers have designated next Thursday night, October 19, 2006, as public night. Anyone interested should come to the X Bar Ranch at

least half an hour before dark. The event entrance is about 1/4 mile west of the Live Oak Lodge entrance to the ranch on FM 2129, approximately 22 miles from Eldorado. There you will be able to watch participants ready their equipment

for night viewing, ask questions and after dark look through the telescopes. The public is invited to stay until 10:30 pm, and there will be no charge to anyone.

For more information contact the ranch at 853-2688.

School board meeting held

The Schleicher County School Board met Monday, October 10, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. taking care of most of the items on their agenda in 30 minutes.

The trustees began the meeting with a Public Hearing on the Financial Integrity System of Texas and Schleicher County ISD. No one from the public was present.

The trustees went into executive session at 6:30 p.m. and came out at 7:40 p.m. with personnel stated on the agenda. There was no action taken.

Trustees present for the meeting were President Jo Helen Kotsch, Leanne Higgins, Jan Wanoreck, Curtis Homer, Lupe Sanchez and Robert Jay. Berta Nicholson was not present. Superintendent Billy Collins, Financial Director Ray Ballew, Maintenance Director John Kotsch and Middle School Principal Kara Garlitz was also present.

The trustees approved the

Shared Service Agreement with the Menard Special Education Coop and math and science books chosen by the 2004-2005 SCISD Textbook Committee. The September 11, 2006 meeting minutes were approved with Lupe Sanchez abstaining.

The board also approved purchasing a Longhorn 47 passenger bus in the amount of \$70,063 from Texas Association of Schools Board (TASB) buying board. The school avoids the public bidding process by using the TASB purchasing system. The bus should be delivered in 90 days. The board also reviewed all of the transportation vehicles owned by the district.

Superintendent Collins told the board the enrollment rate was holding at 599 students and recognized Darlene Huckaby for no errors found in the Person Identification Database (PID) Error Rate. Mrs. Huckaby has had a perfect PID for several years.



Matthew Hill a junior at Frenship High School in Wolforth is starting Quarterback for the Tigers.

Hill leads Frenship Tigers

Matt Hill, formerly of Eldorado and grandson of Jo Ed and Mary Jo Hill will be leading the Frenship Tigers as quarterback this Friday night against the Lake View Chiefs at San Angelo Stadium. The game is the district 4-4A opener for both teams. The Tigers come into the game with 4 wins and 2 losses and the Chiefs have struggled at 0 and 6.

Hill took over QB duties for the Tigers against Hereford two weeks ago at the beginning of the second half and led the team to a 35 to 21

victory. Frenship fell the next week to Wylie 14 to 7 before getting back on the winning track against perennial power Gainesville, winning 40 to 7. Against Gainesville, Hill was 15 of 20 for 207 yards and touchdown passes of 62, 17, 16, and 5 yards with no interceptions and was selected Lubbock AVALANCE-Journal Class 4A-5A Player of the Week for his performance against Gainesville.

On the season Hill is 24 of 36 for 289 yards, 6 TD's and 0 interceptions. Hill is also handling the punting duties for the Tigers.

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Crowning of Mr. & Miss Fall Festival at 10:00 a.m.
Storybook Character Parade
Line up in front of the Sutton County Courthouse at 10:30-judging will follow. Prizes given in each category!!!!
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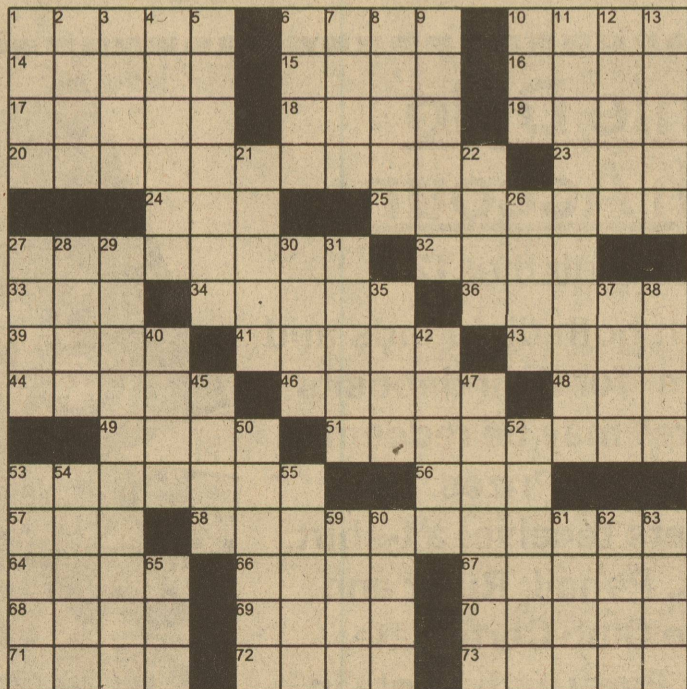
Weekly Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- Hocus—
 - Ranch vacationer
 - Poker ante, perhaps
 - garde
 - Non-written test
 - Tennis's Mandlikova
 - Analyze, grammatically
 - Folklore meanie
 - May race, in brief
 - Tool with a hexagonal shaft
 - Fizzle out
 - Have ___ at
 - First-rate
 - All-time greatest
 - Tart fruit
 - Tread the boards
 - Strung along
 - New Orleans sandwich
 - Nick Charles's wife
 - USNA part
 - California wine valley
 - Has down pat
 - Reason for a raise
 - Backboard attachment
 - 48-Across attachments
 - Brief outlines

- Bargain hunter's stop
- Clean air org.
- "___ alive!"
- Large companies, collectively
- Museum guide's offering
- Harvest haul
- Nitpick
- Pound or pint
- Lotto cousin
- Leave dumbfounded
- Match

- DOWN**
- One of the Three Bears
 - Cameo shape
 - Rob Reiner's dad
 - Topple from office
 - Casey, the Mets' first manager
 - Way in
 - Advise strongly
 - Mends, in a way
 - Awards a seat to
 - O'Hare locale: Abbr.
 - Bicycle part
 - Kind of rubber or ink
 - Remittance sender
 - Crafted on a loom
 - Butler, maid, etc.
 - Bird on a Canadian dollar
 - Paris's Left ___
 - Bus. school subject
 - What you're best at
 - Red-coated cheese
 - Gads about
 - ___ a soul (nobody)
 - Mayberry tyke
 - Starchy tubers
 - Leaves dumbfounded
 - Prompters' utterances
 - Wild guess
 - Like some anesthetics
 - Oil ___ (results of tanker mishaps)
 - Canal locale
 - "___ Andronicus" (Shakespearean tragedy)
 - Make amends
 - Plumed wader
 - ___ fide
 - Well-informed about
 - Politico Bayh
 - ___ up (appraise)
 - Iditarod vehicle
 - ACLU concern: Abbr.

Monkeying Around

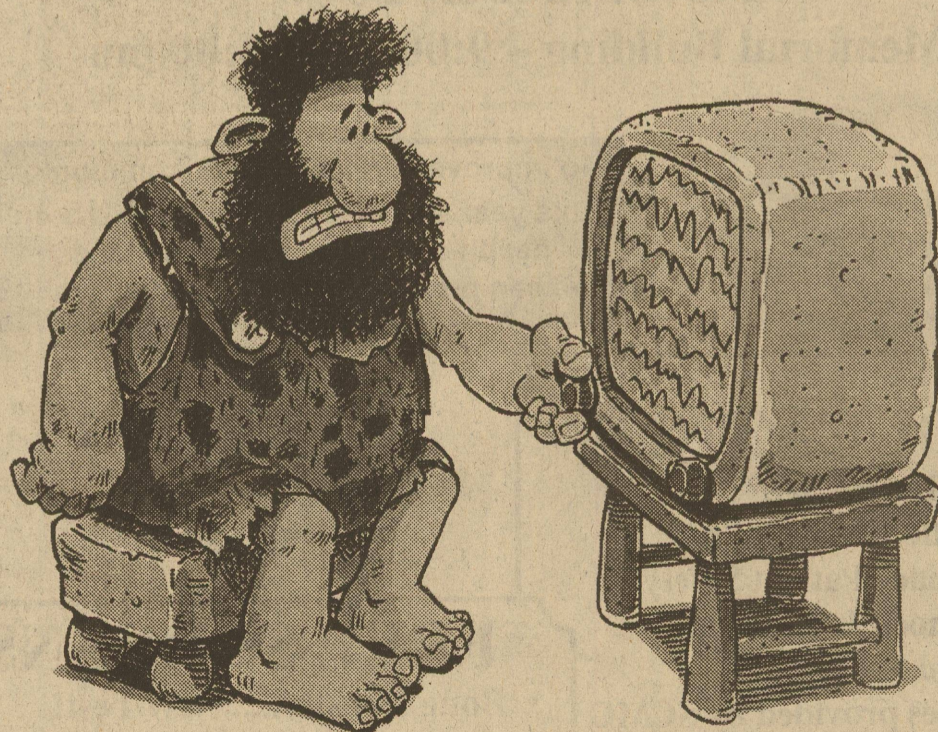


American Profile Hometown Content 060917

See solution on Page 8

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Majority of Texas wildfires are human-caused

National Fire Prevention Week reinforces need for awareness and action

More than ever before, Texans have reason to pause during the week of October 8-14, National Fire Prevention Week, to reflect on the need for wildfire safety. In less than one year, Texas wildfires have taken 19 lives and cost the state more than \$75 million to control, yet Texans have had to endure an

astounding \$555 million in property losses.

Texas is in the midst of a 25-30 year dry period, meaning even with rain, Texans can expect a long term situation with an increase in the number and severity of wildfires, unlike anything seen for 50 years, said Tom Spencer, fire risk assessment coordinator with the Texas Forest Service.

As the recent property losses in Texas demonstrate, wildfires are not just a rural problem, said James Hull, state forester and director Texas Forest Service director.

"Since January 1, 2005, 85 percent of the 28,000 wildfires have occurred less than two miles from a community, destroyed 713 homes and burned an estimated 1.9 million acres, Hull said.

"And, the majority of those wildfires were human-caused and

preventable. Every Texan needs to take responsibility for their safety and protection of their families and their homes," Hull said.

To adequately protect the state, Texas needs to resolve the increasing statewide deficiency in fire-fighting resources, Hull said. He indicated that Texas is in critical need of additional resources to meet the challenge of long-term statewide drought conditions.

"By making a moderate investment up front - instead of after Texas starts burning - to reduce the factors which cause wildfires, the lives and properties of Texans can be protected and saved from catastrophic loss," stated Hull.

The solution, according to Hull, is the Texas Wildfire Protection

Plan being proposed to the next session of the Texas legislature. The program is a proven, proactive wildfire response model emphasizing prevention and reduction of risk and hazardous conditions.

National Fire Prevention Week is a time for focusing on wildfire prevention and safety efforts that can prevent needless losses of lives, property and natural resources.

"One home destroyed by wildfire is one too many, one lost life is intolerable and an entire community burned out is unthinkable, Hull said. "Texas must build its capacity to prevent wildfires and the damage they cause, so we don't have a repeat of the wildfire destruction and losses we have experienced in this state over the last year.

BIRTHDAY LIST

October

- 12th Sam Jenkins, Adriane Jo Lozano, Sam A. Whitten, Jr., Rudy Montez, Maricela Estrada, Crytal Akin
- 13th Emily Nixon Key, Pedro Hernandez, Candi J. Saldivar, Jeremy Lemons, Nichole Johnson, Jose Martinez
- 14th Ryan Cathey, Macy Mikeska, Lori Steed (Jeffs), Kevan J. Covarrubiaz, Susan Casey, Richard Mendez, Rolando Gonzalez, Stuart Lux, Jack Elder, Joel Brazzel
- 15th Ty Politte, Gracie Rodriguez, Eric Noel Garcia, Shawn Bishop
- 16th Lance St. Germain, Gabby Guzman, Mayme Green, Monica Muniz, Fay Gibson, Sandy Wheeler, Ann Alicia Fuentes
- 17th Will Edmiston, Lorena Guzman, Sylvia Smith, Isabel Fuentes
- 18th Petra Chavez, Kirk Curtis, Adrian Arispe, Remy Angel, Casey Fields

ANNIVERSARIES

October

- 16th Bob & Jan Wanoreck
- 19th Ray & Debbie Ballew

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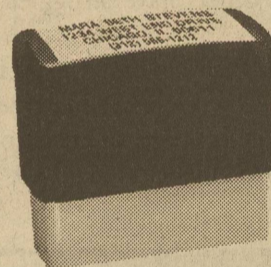
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Capital Highlights...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and its previous incarnations.

Smoking rules change in Austin

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks struck down part of Austin's 2005 indoor anti-smoking ordinance.

Pursuant to the ruling, it is no longer up to barkeepers and restaurant owners to enforce the ordinance.

Now, if Austin police happen to catch smokers lighting up indoors, those people will be ticketed.

Managers of some eating and

drinking spots that prefer to remain free of cigarette smoke are politely asking smokers to take it outside.

Record year for well plugging

The Texas Railroad Commission reports there are 362,950 known oil and gas wells in the state, and 11,287 of them have been declared abandoned.

In fiscal year 2006, which ended Aug. 31, the agency plugged 1,824 of the abandoned wells — a record. The previous high came in 2005, with 1,710 wells plugged.



Don Flood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Some folks say 2012 will instead be the beginning of a golden age, sort of the like the Age of Aquarius that the Fifth Dimension sang about, except better because now we have big screen TVs and iPods.

But, really, who are you going to believe, Mel Gibson or a bunch of nutballs?

Write to Don Flood in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mails to dflood287@comcast.net.

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Comptroller predicts surplus

An early estimate by the office of the state comptroller projects a \$4.3 billion revenue surplus when the current biennium ends in August 2007. A sharp increase in sales tax collections got credit for the surplus.

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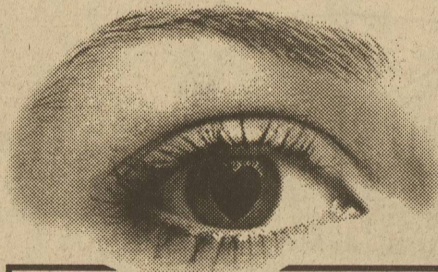


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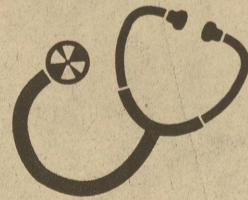
Memorial Building ~ 9:00 am—4:00 pm



To improve services to our community, this year's Health Fair will FOCUS on health care screens and services we can provide to you and your family.

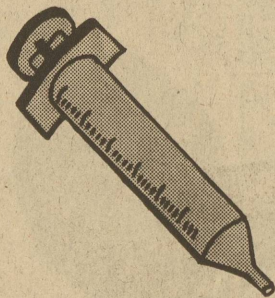
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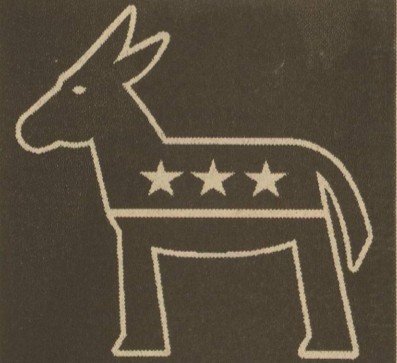
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Texas' Junior Miss seeks contestants and volunteers

Texas' Junior Miss is looking for high school senior women interested in earning money for college to participate in its 2007 program. Volunteers and sponsors are needed as well. The Texas' Junior Miss state program will take place on November 19, 2006 at Garland High School in Garland. The deadline for applications is November 6, 2006. The winner of this year's program will travel to Mobile, AL in June 2007 to compete for the title of America's Junior Miss (AJM) and a share of more than \$100,000 in scholarships. For additional information, please contact Barbara Taylor, Field Director for AJM, at 800-256-5435 or barbara@ajm.org. Interested parties may also

visit the Texas' Junior Miss website, www.ajm.org/texas or the AJM website, www.ajm.org.

Texas' Junior Miss is an official preliminary of America's Junior Miss. Founded in 1958, AJM is the oldest and largest scholarship program for high school senior girls. The nonprofit program's goal is to honor young women who excel and encourage them to obtain a college education and assume roles of leadership in their communities and professions. During the past 49 years, AJM has awarded cash scholarships totaling almost \$90 million to girls across the nation. More than 700,000 young college-bound young women have competed in the program, including Diane Sawyer, co-

host of ABC's "Good Morning America" and co-anchor of "Primetime Thursday;" Deborah Norville, host of "Inside Edition;" E.D. Hill, an anchor on Fox News Channel's "Fox and Friends;" and Debra Messing, co-star of NBC's "Will & Grace."

AJM's national sponsors are the City of Mobile, Mobile County, and the Mitchell Company. Category sponsors are Alabama Power, Encore Rehabilitation, Mobile Gas, Regions Bank, and Wintzell's Oyster House.

For more information about AJM, contact Mary Lee McCrory, Public Relations Director for America's Junior Miss, at (800) 256-5435 or marylee@ajm.org.

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Pub. Adv. Judge Jim Coronado campaign in accordance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act, Jan. Solter, Treasurer, P.O. Box 98481, Austin, TX 78798.



Eldorado.net

www.myeldorado.net

Eldorado's Internet Homepage

Eldorado City Council holds monthly meeting

Mayor John Nikolauk read a resignation letter addressed to the Eldorado City Council from Councilwoman Toni Sudduth. She recently moved to San Angelo to be closer to her employment. Her departure leaves a Precinct 2 seat vacant. It was noted that the council can make an appointment if someone is interested.

The council then voted to allow Robert Compton a representative from Pre-Paid Legal Services to speak with each employee about their program.

Syd Mabry with the Concho Valley Community Action Council then spoke about funds coming available for down payments for first time home buyers for the purchase of affordable single family housing. He explained that the Home buyers Assistance Program has allows homeowners to borrow up to \$10,000 in loans for a 2nd or 3rd lien, at 0% interest. The loan is 10-year deferred and is forgivable. The HOME funds are reserved

for people at or below 80 percent (80%) of average median family income for an area. Schleicher County area median income is \$44,400.

Council members present for the Tuesday, October 10 meeting were Bill McCutcheon, Dora Bosmans, Dr. Pat Johnson, Richard Mendez and Dorothy Dacy.

Mayor Nikolauk informed the council of a letter the city received from AEP North stating the company will file a wholesale transmission rate increase to the Utility Commission. Nikolauk also mentioned the \$200,000 Texas Community Grant Program for replacing the two 8 inch water mains has been finalized. The city will pay \$30,000 towards the installation if the grant is received.

Superintendent Floyd Fay reported no major problems in the water, gas or land field departments. Fay informed the council that patching of pot holes cannot be done at this time because the city

is short of man power. Fay also reported no news on the arrival date of the city's new trash truck.

The council then voted under recommendation of committee members Toni Sudduth, Dr. Pat Johnson and City Secretary Carolyn Mayo who reviewed Depository Agreements bids from First National Bank of Eldorado and 1st Community Federal Credit Union to continue using First National Bank of Eldorado for day-to-day city business.

The council, also on advisement of the committee, voted to allow the investment officer to negotiate the best rate between the two bidding institutions and place the city's investments at the institution offering the best rate. The last recommendation of the committee was to offer City utility customers an opportunity to draft their utility payments from 1st Community Federal Credit Union if they are a member. Currently the City offers this option for First National Bank

members. Council members Bill McCutcheon and Dorothy Dacy abstained from voting on the Depository Agreement decisions.

City Secretary Mayo reported the City of Sonora was interested in purchasing the recycling trailer owned by several local governments. Mayo told the council the trailer was purchased for \$9560.00 in June of 1995 and none of the other co-owners, school, county and hospital were interested in using the trailer. No other action was taken by the council. Mayo also reported illegal dumping of tires, pallets and other items prohibited in dumpsters was taking place in the Sunrise Addition.

The council approved the minutes of the September 11, 2006.

The council then tabled discussion on zoning options for mobile homes and manufactured housing. It was noted that the city now considering the a Condemnation Ordinance aimed at unsafe buildings, using examples from neighboring city governments.

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FALL FESTIVAL

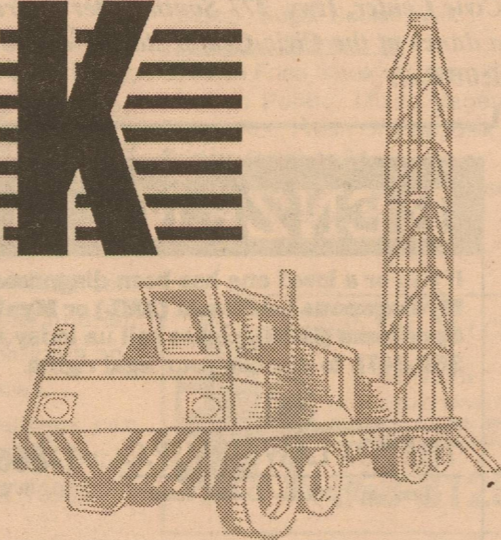
Saturday, October 28th
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Eldorado Elementary

Community Organizations and Individuals are invited to participate in this event that benefits our school and gives our students a safe fun event.

Contact Principal Maela Edmonson 853-2770, ext. 522 or email maela.edmonson@scisd.net

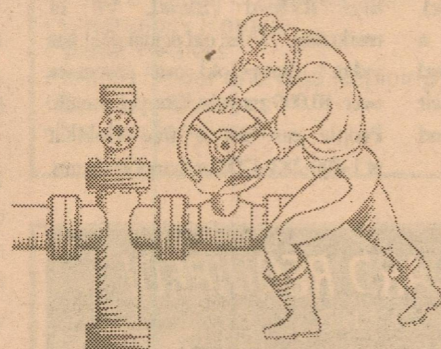
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ELDORADO EAGLES



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

U.S. Representative Mike Conaway (front row center) posed for this photo last Thursday with Eldorado High School students and faculty

The Blotter

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

ARRESTS

October 4 • Longoria, Ramon, male age 27, arresting officer SC deputy, offense FTA-Speeding. Released on Time Served.

October 5 • Arispe, Beatrice, female age 24, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Fictitious Registration and Fictitious Inspection. Released on 2 \$1,000.00 Surety Bonds.

October 6 • Dwindell, Shannon, male age 34, arresting officer SC deputy, offense False Report to a Peace Officer, Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief and Reckless Driving. Released on four \$1,000 Surety Bonds.

October 7 • Bennington, Craig, male age 24, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Possession of Marijuana and Possession of a Dangerous Drug. Released on \$1,000.00 Surety Bond.

• Coston, Ryan M., male age 24, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Possession of Marijuana and Possession of a Dangerous Drug. Released on 2 \$1,000.00 Surety Bonds.

• Woods, Kimberly S., female age 31, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Possession of Marijuana. Transferred Out.

INCIDENTS

October 4 • 1:18 p.m. Complainant reported loud music near their residence. Officer was dispatched.

• 2:12 p.m. Caller reported a red Chevy crew cab traveling on north Hwy 277 at a high rate of speed.

• 4:50 p.m. Probation officer called to inform S.O. that Tom Green County had subject in custody as of October 1, 2006. Wanted to verify subject was still incarcerated in the TGSO jail. Subject had been released on October 3, 2006. Subject is wanted by SCSO for felony motion to revoke.

• 9:58 p.m. Caller informed S.O. of cattle in the road on Toenail Trail off of 190 approximately ten miles north. The number of cattle was reported to be above twenty. Officer dispatched to the scene. Second officer assisted and cattle were put up by original caller.

October 5 • 7:20 a.m. Complainant called stating the spouse was becom-

ing violent and confrontational. Officer was dispatched to scene.

• 8:20 p.m. Caller reported a possible grass fire southwest of X-Bar Ranch. Officer responded and advised there was not a fire.

October 6 • 5:01 p.m. Caller requested a deputy check on their brother, advised that he might be intoxicated. No specific address was given. Office was later advised that contact had been made. Officer was advised.

• 6:41 p.m. Caller reported subjects had purchased alcohol from them and were attempting to consume it in the store and in the parking lot.

• 8:55 p.m. Off duty Sonora officer advised office of a suspicious vehicle traveling northbound on 277 approximate location was county line south. Officer responded.

• 8:56 p.m. Subject reported an unknown individual on his property who claimed his vehicle had been stolen. Officers responded.

• 9:46 p.m. Caller reported loud music. Officer was dispatched.

• 10:15 p.m. Caller reported loud music behind her residence. Officer responded.

October 7 • 7:10 a.m. Complainant called concerned about their brother. Caller still had not heard from him and had not been able to reach him since Thursday. Had called his cell phone several times a female answered along with one call being answered by a male subject. Called was told on one call he walked to the store by female and on one call he went to Ft. McKavett by male subject. Concerned his pick up was still at residence and pet as well but no sign of brother. May have had large amount of cash from selling property. 7:45 a.m. Complainant called back and advised brother was at a San Angelo motel.

• 3:25 p.m. Complainant requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.

• 8:39 p.m. Caller reported a maroon older model passenger car traveling at a high rate of speed. Officer responded.

• 9:35 p.m. Subject requested an officer check on their mother's house. Officer responded.

• 9:44 p.m. Caller reported a suspicious person walking in the roadway on Hwy 277 headed northbound. Officer was dispatched.

• 9:48 p.m. Caller reported a male subject walking on the roadway on hwy 277 northbound. Officer responded.

• 10:49 p.m. Mertzson unit contacted this agency in reference to 911 call received by their agency concerning a stranded motorist. Unit advised that caller was possibly intoxicated, stating they were on Hwy 190 west coming from Mertzson. Officers responded.

• 10:57 p.m. Reckless Driver.
October 8 • 1:27 p.m. Caller stated could hear a possible reckless driver. Officer responded.

• 7:00 p.m. Caller stated a child had fallen off bike and had a cut above the eye, requested an ambulance. EMS and Officer responded.

• 7:25 p.m. Complainant suspected neighbors of using drugs was afraid to let children play outside. Officers responded.

October 9 • 7:43 a.m. Security company called and reported an alarm going off. Officer responded and reported everything OK.

• 5:13 p.m. Caller requested a page out for an EMS meeting.

• 9:25 p.m. Complainant called to inform S.O. two skunks were in their yard. Wanted someone to come over. Officer responded.

Answer to Sudoku on Page 3

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

Solution to puzzle on Page 5

Monkeying Around

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF GAS RATE INCREASE REQUEST

On May 31, 2006, Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos" or "the Company"), filed a Statement of Intent with the Railroad Commission of Texas ("Commission") and each city within Atmos' service territory, to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders applicable to all customers in the Mid-Tex Division. The proposed revisions to the rates and riders will impact all classes of service, and each of Atmos' approximately 1,500,000 customers (1,371,625 residential, 121,643 commercial, 235 industrial, and 715 transportation customers).

The Company has requested a systemwide increase of its revenues to \$1,758.7 million, resulting in an increase in annual revenues of approximately \$60.9 million or 3.6%, including gas costs, or 14.1% excluding gas cost. In addition, the Company has requested that it recover its rate case expenses and any rate case expenses for cities that are ordered by the Commission. The proposed change in revenues constitutes a "major" change as that term is defined by state law.

The monthly bills of typical customers would be affected by the proposed changes as follows:

Customer Class	Current Bill	Proposed Bill	Difference	Percentage Increase With Gas Cost	Percentage Increase Without Gas Cost
Residential Customer (R)	\$75.00*	\$79.02*	\$4.02	5.36%	21.48%
Commercial Customer (C)	\$326.64*	\$344.80*	\$18.16	5.56%	40.53%
Industrial Customer (I)	\$3,360.85*	\$3,367.95*	\$7.10	0.21%	5.26%
Transportation Customer (T)	\$569.54	\$576.64	\$7.10	1.25%	5.26%

*Includes gas cost of \$8.6452 per Mcf (2005 average cost)

**The calculation of bill impacts assumes monthly consumption of 6 Mcf for residential, 30 Mcf for commercial, and 300 Mcf for industrial and transportation customers.

The Company is also requesting approval of its revised depreciation rates, a weather normalization adjustment rider based on 10-year normal weather, a revenue stabilization adjustment rider, the recovery of uncollectible gas cost as well as the cost of required odorant for natural gas through Rider GCR instead of through base rates, and updated upstream pipeline cost allocation factors. The Company is further requesting rate design changes to Rates R, C, I and T. In addition, the Company is seeking a determination that its interim rate adjustments for 2003, 2004, and 2005 are just and reasonable in accordance with Texas Utilities Code § 104.301; the impact of these interim rate adjustments is reflected in the table above.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-800-460-3030. Affected persons may view a copy of the Statement of Intent at Atmos' offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1800, Dallas, Texas 75240, or at the Commission's offices located at 1700 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78711. At any time within 30 days following the date on which Atmos' proposed rate changes would become effective, affected persons may file written comments or protests with the Commission at the following address:

Docket Services Section
Office of General Counsel (Re: Gas Utilities Docket No. 9670)
Railroad Commission of Texas
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, TX 78711-2967

Pursuant to an order entered by the Commission on May 16, 2006, the proceeding initiated by Atmos at the Commission is being consolidated with all appeals from all other municipal rate proceedings, including those initiated by the filing of the Statement of Intent. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is October 1, 2006. Rates in unincorporated areas will become effective when rates become effective within the nearest incorporated municipality. The Commission hearing on the merits of Atmos' request will begin on or after October 31, 2006.

Éste es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex División de Atmos Energy Corporation, (la "Compañía"), que la Compañía está solicitando un aumento en la tarifa del gas. Este aumento afecta a todos los clientes de la Compañía en el sistema de Mid-Tex. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-800-460-3030.

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Jose Angel Fuentes and Isabel Gonzales will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary on Saturday, October 14, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.
A reception will follow at 3:30 p.m. at the Schleicher County Civic Center, Hwy. 277 South. After the reception there will be a dance at the Civic Center starting at 8:00 p.m. and ending at 1:00 a.m.

BENZENE ALERT

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with **Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML)** or **Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS)**, please call us today toll free at 1-866-369-3476 to discuss your legal rights.

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Eldorado-House For Sale: 2/BR, 2/BA, 2 Car Carport, Central Heat, Metal Roof, Comes with Icebox, Washer, Dryer, Stove and 2 Window Units, Curtains In Living Room, Sitting on 2 1/2 lots. \$30,000. Call 325-226-2967 for more info.

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Gas Prices Going Up? FT - CNA's Needed at Schleicher County Nursing Home is taking applications for Full CNA's with Sign-On Bonus of \$150.00 after 6 months another \$100.00 after 12 mos. Day Care - Insurance - Vacation - Gas Mileage Reimbursement. For more information please contact Anita or Sarah at 325-853-3026. 40 EOE tfr

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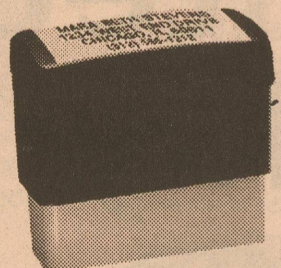
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Attn: Sharon Dietz
P.O. Box V
Eldorado, Texas 76936
Fax # 325-853-3166
Or e-mail to: sdietz@sccn2.net

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Schleicher County Medical Center is currently seeking an **Assistant Childcare Provider (Part-Time)**

Must be at least 18 yrs. old & have a GED or High School Diploma. Shifts will vary, including nights & weekends. Part-time benefits available
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Dana Shriver, Daycare Supervisor
853-4154
Schleicher County Medical Center is an EOE. 39tfr

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The SC Nursing Home is hosting a **Bean Cook-Off Saturday, October 28, 2006**
\$20.00 Entry Fee
Cooking will be done on site with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes.
Contact Annie Arispe and/or Anita Jones RN at 853-3026.

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Tan Suede Futon (like new) girls blue armoire, bookcase, chest and mirror, electric dryer, Sticklely oval side tables, black leather sofa, maple sewing cabinet and sewing machine, mahogany bookcase, gate-leg table and 6 chairs, electric stove (self cleaning), black & gold double dresser w/mirror, microwaves, baby beds and mattresses, refrigerator w/icemaker, oriental nested tables (4), Complete set duck dishes & canisters, 2 brass floor lamps, Guthy-Rinker fitness machine, 2 baby strollers, bicycles, coffee tables Lots more. Please call ahead before bringing in clothing or furniture. All must be in good condition. SECOND HAND ROSE 853-3736

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CHRIS McCRAVEY, Agent

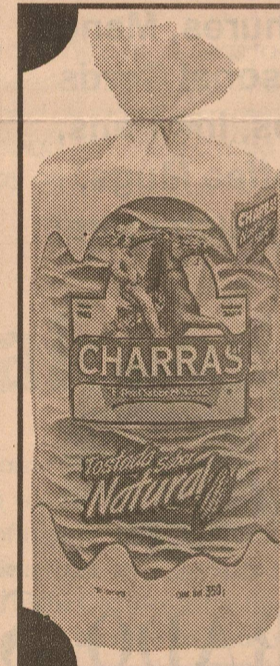
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Ted Taylor, Owner/Agent Ann Martin, Owner/Agent

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the adopted 2006-2007 City Budget is available for public inspection at the City Hall Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM.

Available are financial records showing intended uses of revenue receivable by the City during the Fiscal Year 9/1/2006 through 8/31/2007 in the General and Utility Funds.



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October 8, 2006

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Lynn Meador, Broker 325-650-6324
Jo Ward, Agent/ 325-853-2339

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• **508 North Street:** Extra nice 4-bedroom 2-bath manufactured home. Large living area with fireplace, formal dining area, lots of storage, built-ins in kitchen, central heat and air. Must see! \$69,500.

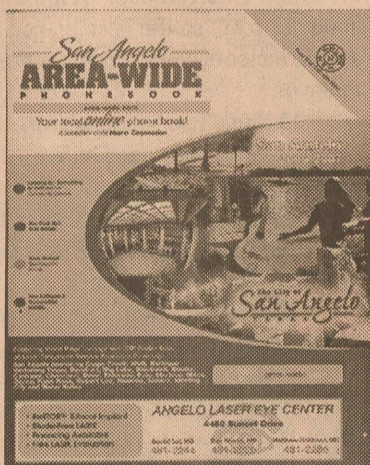
• **607 Hall St.:** Excellent condition 3BR/2Bath, Mfg. Double wide on corner lot. Central Heat/AC, fireplace, covered porch. 2 car carport, plenty of storage, metal privacy fence. **Price Reduced \$65,000.00.**

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Eldorado Spotlight



The Spotlight camera focused recently on Eldorado's YMCA Major football players Eric Estrada (front) and Bryan Parsley (back) as they lined up for a play during practice. Both players are 6th grade students at Eldorado Middle School.

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Capital Farm Credit and Southwest Texas ACA merge

BRYAN, TEXAS — Capital Farm Credit, ACA and Southwest Texas ACA merged October 1, forming the largest rural financing institution in Texas.

The resulting organization, known as Capital Farm Credit, ACA, has combined assets of \$2.5 billion and a portfolio of more than 14,000 loans to agricultural producers, country homeowners, agribusiness firms and other rural landowners across the state.

The merger of the two rural lending cooperatives, both established in 1917, was approved by a vote of their stockholder-customers in August. Their federal regulator, the Farm Credit Administration,

also approved the merger.

"The merger of these two strong financing institutions will be good for our borrowers and good for rural Texas," said Ben Novosad, Capital Farm Credit chief executive officer.

"It doubles our geographic territory, increases the diversification in our loan portfolio and combines the various strengths and specialized skills of our staff," Novosad said. "As a result, Capital Farm Credit is stronger than ever and better equipped to offer a broader range and greater depth of financial products."

Novosad said that customers will also benefit from Capital Farm

Credit's strengthened commitment to share its earnings with borrowers. "We have returned \$91.1 million in combined earnings to our customers since 1997, and we expect to implement an even more aggressive patronage distribution program in the years ahead," he said.

Headquartered in Bryan, Capital Farm Credit now serves a territory covering nearly half of Texas, including many of the state's fastest-growing economies. The association operates 36 branch offices throughout east, central, south and west Texas. Novosad, a 31-year veteran of Farm Credit, noted that customers are not likely to notice

any changes in the lending institution beyond the new name in the former Southwest Texas ACA territory.

The directors of both lending cooperatives will remain on the Capital Farm Credit Board of Directors until the next board elections in 2007. Lester Little of Hallettsville, Texas, is chairman of the board, and Danny Parker of Uvalde, Texas, is vice chairman. Eric "Rick" Rothe, former chief executive officer of Southwest Texas ACA, was named executive vice president.

The lending institution finances country homes, farmers, and ranches, agribusiness operations, agricultural production and rural recreational property. It also has a capital markets division, a residential lending division and a staff of certified rural appraisers.

Capital Farm Credit is part of the nationwide Farm Credit System, a network of rural financing cooperatives established 90 years ago. As a result of the merger, it is now the eighth largest Farm Credit financing institution in the nation.



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Stretch Jersey

David Hernandez battled for yardage Friday night in Bronte as the Eldorado Eagles took on the Bronte Longhorns. Hernandez gained 109 yards on the night in a 6-0 losing effort as both teams' defenses dominated.



Paul Derrick

SOFIA to leave Waco

Since 1999, Waco has been the temporary home for SOFIA, NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy. Under a contract with NASA, L-3 Corporation has been converting a 1977-model 747-SP (the "Clipper Lindbergh") into a flying observatory.

Originally scheduled for completion in 2002, budgetary and other hold-ups have slowed progress, but completion is now near. Early next year SOFIA will move to its permanent California home at Moffett Field, and after 2 more years of testing, will in 2009 finally begin an anticipated 20-years of astronomical research, filling a void which has existed since the smaller Kuiper Airborne Observatory was retired in 1995.

The conversion included cutting a large hole in the side for a 2.5 meter reflector telescope—larger than the first McDonald Observatory telescope—in the rear section. The hole has a sliding door which, when SOFIA reaches observing altitudes, will open so the telescope has an unobstructed view of the cosmos.

Since we have the Hubble Space Telescope orbiting Earth and many observatories on Earth, why, one might ask, do we need one that flies in an airplane? Answer: Neither HST nor the ground-based scopes can do infrared research as well as SOFIA will do.

Ground-based instruments observe through Earth's atmosphere which even on cloudless days contains water vapor as well as air—both of which distort and block part of what astronomers wish to study. Space telescopes avoid atmosphere problems but are more expensive and far less accessible for modernizations and repairs. SOFIA is a good cost-effective

compromise that flies beyond 40,000 feet to avoid over 99% of the water vapor, yet is easily accessible between flights.

SOFIA, as her name indicates, will focus on infrared radiation (heat rays), the part of the electromagnetic spectrum most blocked out by water vapor. The cosmos is full of activity across the entire range of this spectrum from radio and infrared at one end to ultraviolet, x-rays and gamma-rays at the other. Visible light which our eyes see is but a tiny slice in the middle of this spectrum, so our eyes miss much of what's going on.

Until modern times we were "blind" to these other parts of the spectrum, unaware they even existed as we lacked means for detecting them. Infrared radiation is also invisible to optical telescopes (like the HST) and human eyes, but SOFIA, with its infrared sensors, will enable astronomers to "see" this range as well. By studying the heat radiated by distant objects, we can learn more about galaxy, star and planet formation, black holes, and maybe even signs of other life.

Learn more about SOFIA at <http://www.sofia.usra.edu/>.

Sky Calendar.

* 13 Fri.: The Moon is at 3rd quar-

ter, and Friday the 13th is an unlucky day for the superstitious.

* 16 Mon. morning: The crescent Moon is just to the upper left of Saturn in the east.

* 16 Mon. evening: Mercury is at its best, but still barely above the southwestern horizon at dusk, below much brighter Jupiter.

* 17 Tue. morning: The crescent Moon is below Leo's brightest star Regulus with Saturn further up.

* 21 Sat. morning: The Orionid meteor shower peaks with virtually no Moon interference; Orion rises about 11 p.m., so the best chance for seeing meteors comes from midnight to dawn.

* 22 Sun.: The Moon is new.

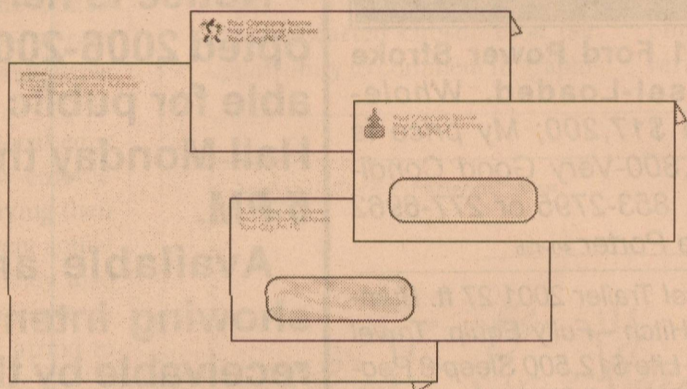
* 23 Wed. evening: The very thin crescent Moon is below Mercury which is below Jupiter, and then the next evening is to their left—all very low in the southwest at dusk.

* 25 Fri. evening: The crescent Moon is to the left of Antares.

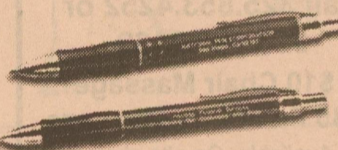
Stargazer appears every other week. Paul Derrick is an amateur astronomer who lives in Waco. Contact him at 918 N. 30th, Waco, 76707, (254) 753-6920 or paulderrickwaco@aol.com. See the Stargazer Web site at stargazerpaul.com.

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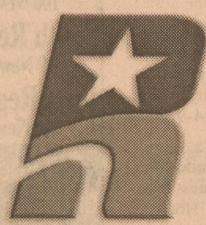
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