

Sonora Church Directory

<p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Rick Sanchez 504 Santa Clara 387-2035</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST 304 N. Water 387-3190</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH T. Wayne Price Pastor 404 E Oak 387-2951</p> <p>ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Rev. Ted W. Harris 404 E. Poplar 387-2955</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Suzanne Steves, Pastor 201 N. Water 387-2466</p> <p>TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS Rev. Santos Beserra, Jr. 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713</p> <p>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Rev. Charles Huffman 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366</p> <p>NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER Jerry & Joy Wood 204 E. Main 387-3241</p> <p>LA IGLESIA HISPANA PENTECOSTAL DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC. Pastor Hector A. Portillo 807 Orient Ave. 387-6065</p>	<p>THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN Lewis Allen, Pastor 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616</p> <p>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH Don Longoria, Pastor Corner of Hwy. 277 S. and Glasscock</p> <p>PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED Randy Greenwood Pastor 509 Amistad 387-5266</p> <p>ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Father William DuBuisson, O.M.I. 229 W. Plum 387-2278</p> <p>JEHOVAH'S WITNESS 310 St. Ann's Street 387-5658 or 387-5518</p> <p>NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH Don Seigler 511 Cornell 387-5207</p> <p>SONORA FAMILY FAITH CENTER Sonora Stock Pens Sunday 6:00 p.m.</p>
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FORD
BRONCHO FORD INC.
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SONORA, TX 76950
(915)387-2549

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

Cards of Thanks

The Sonora Broncos would like to thank the entire community of Sonora for the tremendous support you showed during our run to the Class AA State Championship. The support shown during the games, pep rallies, and post-season parade was overwhelming. It was truly a community effort and we couldn't have done it without you!!! Thanks Again!!!

Sincerely,
Coach Herring and the Sonora Broncos

We would like to express our gratitude for all the cards, plants and especially the prayers offered for our family. We want to thank everyone that supported us during the loss of our son-in-law, Shannon Alston.

Thank you and God bless,
Don and Carol Sessom

We would like to thank you with all our hearts for the many visits, prayers, cards, Elizabeth's original poem, the delicious meal at the Steakhouse, the beautiful singing, gifts, food at home, memorials, telephone calls, flowers and plants, the eulogy by Don Jones, and numerous ways you helped us. You truly are the most loved and appreciated people in the world. Kerbow Funeral Home has the sweetest people anywhere. Thank you Devil's River News.

We love you,
Hilda and Eddy Smith

Obituary

Elizabeth Cranford Mayfield

Elizabeth Cranford Mayfield, 81, passed away Thursday, January 18, 2001 at her home in Sonora.

Services were held on Saturday, January 20, 2001 at St. John's Episcopal Church with burial at Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo. The Reverend Ted Harris officiated and arrangements were by Kerbow Funeral Home.

Elizabeth was born January 31, 1919 in Miles to John and Molly Cranford and grew up and attended school in Miles and San Angelo where her dad was a pharmacist. She graduated college at Howard Payne University in 1941 and taught 3rd grade at Elliott School in Sonora.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, James Ury Cranford.

She is survived by a daughter, Gerry I. Ingham, a son, Stanley B. (Seco) Mayfield II; 5 grandchildren, Ben B. Ingham III and wife, Sherry and Zena Louise Moore, all of Sonora, Angela Norris and husband, Josh of Normangee, Cara Mayfield, and Ed Mayfield of Sonora; 4 great-grandchildren, James Colton Moore, Steely Jadeanne Ingham, Stella Jen Ingham all of Sonora, and Skyler Bray Norris of Normangee.

Pallbearers were Buck, Bert, and Lee Bloodworth, Johnny Fields, Reed Jennings, Rocky Jones, John Isaacks and Jim Isaacks.

The family wishes to express their Special Thanks to her caregivers, Elida Noriega, Juanita Duran, Cruz Herrera and Maggie Noriega, and especially Aneida Talamantez and for many tireless hours of love and attention.

90th Birthday

You're Invited

Marguerite Barker is 90 years old.

Please join us at the
Sutton County Steakhouse
in the Ross Room.

Tuesday, January 30, 2001
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

*No gifts please!
Just come by and visit.*



Hope Lutheran Church, 419 E. 2nd, observed "The Sanctity of Human Life" on Sunday, January 21st, 2001. The 40 crosses are in memory of the 40 Million babies aborted since January 22, 1973.

Ronnie Cox would like to be your pharmacist.

Lunch Menus

School Lunch Menu
Jan. 29 - Feb. 2

Breakfast

Mon. - Pancakes, fruit or juice.
Tues. - Scrambled eggs, toast, assorted juice.
Wed. - Cinnamon roll, fruit, assorted juice.
Thurs. - 2 Waffles, syrup, fruit or juice.
Fri. - Potato and egg burrito, assorted juice.

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

Lunch

Mon. - Pizza, vegetable salad, corn on cob, oatmeal cookie.
Tues. - Chili & beans, fried okra, jello with fruit, cornbread.
Wed. - Turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli and cheese, pears, hot roll.
Thurs. - Spaghetti with meat, tossed salad, fried okra, fruit, Texas toast.
Fri. - Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, French fries, sugar cookie.

God's Gift Of Children

"Behold, children are an inheritance from the LORD" - (Psalm 127:3)

As you may know, 2001 has been designated as 'The Year of The Child'. A few years ago the United Nations conducted research to identify the most significant and enduring satisfaction in life. After studying many societies, from the most primitive to the most advanced, the evidence revealed that the greatest satisfaction came from traditional family life. God created the family, ordained marriage, and has graciously shared with us the gift of procreation. Each and every Child is a miraculous masterpiece of God's work, as David writes in Psalm 139: "You created my inner being and wove me together in my mother's womb. I thank You for how marvelously and wonderfully I am made. What You do is wonderful, and I'm fully aware of it." (Ver. 13-14)

In the New Testament, the Greek word 'Brepchos' is used for both adolescents and the unborn. As the Gospel's testify, Jesus loved children - and at Christmas we celebrate the fact that God Himself came to earth as a Child, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin named Mary. In 1537 Dr. Martin Luther King wrote: 'Why do you not daily learn the article of divine creation by looking at your children and offspring who stand before you? Here you may behold the providence of God, who created them out of nothing. But we pass by these gifts.....'. Sadly, over 40 Million of these Gifts have been Passed By in the last 28 years through Abortion - since the Supreme Court ruling on January 22, 1973 in the 'Roe vs Wade' case.

Of course, just because something happens to be 'legal' doesn't make it Moral, Ethical, or Right. The crisis of an unplanned pregnancy presents a traumatic situation, especially for an unwed mother, her family, and her boyfriend. And in a society that is slow to make commitments, looks for instant solutions to problems, and upholds 'A Woman's Right To Choose'

Abortion appears to be a 'Quick Fix'. However, that is not true. Instead, it lays a crushing burden of guilt on the conscience - when the mother realizes that she has chosen death for her unborn Child. And this feeling doesn't just fade away, but is ongoing - because God, in His Word, calls this action Sin. Living in a state of unrepentance is a very serious situation, where people begin to wonder if there is any hope at all.

The Good News is that there IS Hope for those who feel guilt and sorrow. That Hope is in Jesus Christ, God's eternal and only-begotten Son - who alone can give divine healing through the forgiveness He won on Calvary's Cross. While His Church is to boldly speak the "Truth" of God's Law, it is to do so in "Love" - as St. Paul says in Ephesians 4:16. Christians can offer Understanding, because "ALL have sinned" (Romans 3:23). They can offer Comfort to those who have had an abortion, because the Grace and Love of God are stronger than any human weakness - and "the blood of Jesus, His Son, washes us clean from every sin" (1 John 1:7). And they can offer those dealing with a crisis pregnancy Encouragement - to make God-pleasing choices, such as raising the Child themselves - or planning for adoption to a married couple who will love and care for that child as their very own.

As you know, our society today lives with a Double Standard - where there is a movement to end the Death Penalty for criminals who murder others, and where we continue to end the life of an unborn Child every 22 seconds. And it is indeed a strange logic that would have us kill an innocent unborn baby for the crime of his father. As Christians, may we pray to God more diligently and speak the "truth in love" more boldly for His GIFT OF CHILDREN - that 2001 may truly be 'The Year of The Child'.

Rev. Charles Huffman, Pastor
Hope Lutheran Church, Sonora,

Dining Out Directory

<p>Dairy Queen 134 N. Hwy 277 387-2118</p> <p>Food Center Deli 600 S. Crockett Ave. 387-5616</p> <p>La Mexicana 240 N. Hwy 277 387-3401</p> <p>Los Jarritos 605 S. Crockett 387-2838</p> <p>Pizza Hut 401 Hwy. 277 N. 387-3540</p> <p>Rosie's Cafe 207 Glasscock Ave. 387-5552</p> <p>Sutton County Steakhouse 1306 N. Service Rd 387-3833</p> <p>Town & Country Subway 610 S. Crockett 387-6181</p> <p>Town & Country - Country Kitchen 903 N. Crockett Ave. 387-2169</p>	<p>THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS USPS (155-920) every Thursday at 228 East Main Street Sonora, Texas 76950 Phone: (915) 387-2507 FAX (915) 387-5691 Second class postage paid at Sonora, Texas Storie Sharp, Publishing Editor Erica Morriss, Advertising Guest Columnist: Jo-Ann Palmer Email: General Information: drn@sonorax.net, Accounting: billing@sonorax.net, Advertising: sales@sonorax.net, editor@sonorax.net Owner: Cam Longley Campbell. \$20 per year in county • Seniors \$18.00 per year (in & out of county) \$25 per year out of county Attn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Devil's River News, 228 East Main St., Sonora, TX 76950</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Copy and Ad deadline - Monday, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication. The views expressed in submitted articles are not necessarily the views of the staff.</p>
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Senior Center News

Jan. 26 - Party for January Babies!
Jan. 29 - Bingo!
Feb. 2 - Groundhog Day!

Senior Menu

Jan. 25 - Smothered steak with onions, whipped potatoes, green beans, roll, orange juice, apple crisp.
Jan. 26 - Chicken enchiladas, pinto beans, broccoli, crackers, tossed salad, fruit cup.
Jan. 29 - Beef stew with vegetables, sweet peas, cornbread, citrus, fruit cup.
Jan. 30 - Baked ham, candied yams, green beans, rolls, carrot raisin salad, jello with fruit.
Jan. 31 - Beef tips, rice, carrots, cornbread, fruit cup with strawberries & bananas, lemon pie.

Feb. 1 - Fried fish, butter beans, cornbread, coleslaw, peach cobbler.

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

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

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every Thursday at 228 East Main Street Sonora, Texas 76950
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Second class postage paid at Sonora, Texas
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Erica Morriss, Advertising
Guest Columnist: Jo-Ann Palmer
Email: General Information: drn@sonorax.net, Accounting: billing@sonorax.net, Advertising: sales@sonorax.net, editor@sonorax.net
Owner: Cam Longley Campbell.
\$20 per year in county • Seniors \$18.00 per year (in & out of county)
\$25 per year out of county
Attn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Devil's River News, 228 East Main St., Sonora, TX 76950

Copy and Ad deadline -
Monday, 5:00 p.m.

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

Member 2000
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Community

January 27
BSA Pinewood Derby
9:00 a.m. Sonora Civic Center
Jan. 27
Flng Ding
Feb. 20
Tri-County Discovery Tour
Contact Chamber of Commerce

The Community Calendar

207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Calendar

Feb. 24
Sonora Community Arts & Theater Presents
Kimberly Snauffer (Harp) & Marc Garvin (Guitar) Duo
Sonora High School Auditorium • 7:00 p.m.
Al-Anon Meeting
Held every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church Basement

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Letters To The Editor Policy

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

Historical Society

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer, Secretary

Q. When was the old Hunt house built?

A. On March 17, 1897 Theodore Savell married Alma Miers. Theodore, at that time, was one of the owners of the Sonora-San Angelo Mail and Express Line and was carefully and wisely investing his money for the future in several different enterprises in Sutton County.

In the March 15, 1919 Devil's River News it is reported that Theo Savell closed the contract with W. P. Caldwell of Sonora, Wednesday for the building of a two story, 12 room house to cost about \$8,000. The house will be erected on the Savell property on Concho Avenue and the work is to begin at once. It will be finished inside with Cornell board. Contractor Caldwell says it will be the most handsome home in Sonora. In an August 9, 1919 edition we find that the Theo Savell residence will be finished about September 1st. There has been delay in getting moldings. This handsome home on the corner of Concho and Oak cost \$10,000 without the lot. The March 27, 1920 issue stated that the handsome new home of Theo Savell is being very materially improved by the addition of a neat iron fence, cement walks and driveways. Trees have been planted and grass and flowers will soon add to the attractiveness of this modern home.

Theodore and Alma Savell had two children, Miers who married Bernice Stokes and Velma who married Bryan Hunt. Miers and Bernice Savell had two children Vicki Jo and Billy Bryan. Bryan and Velma Hunt had two children Nancy and James. Nancy married James L. Powell of Fort McKavett.

The house has had a few owners and renters over the years. It has been rocked, bricked, gutted and changed but still holds the same basic shape. Several beautiful houses such as the Lowrey and Allison house, had the top floors removed and were turned into ranch style homes or were made to imitate the great Frank Lloyd Wrights' style of building. Many other wooden houses had their porches and gingerbread moldings removed and were rocked from the 30's to the 50's. They barely resemble the graceful homes they once were. The Hunt house, even with the addition of brick, still retains the graceful beauty that was first put into it by W. P. Caldwell, the contractor who built it in 1919. If anyone has any photographs of the house, inside and out, over the years we would appreciate your sharing them with us for our building file.

With all the changes being made in buildings lately, I think it is very important that we document

Summer Camp Counselors Needed

(San Angelo, TX) -- The Muscular Dystrophy Association is seeking camp counselors for their local camp for children with muscle diseases. MDA is especially in need of male counselors to assist with the camping program. The MDA camp will be held at Ceta Canyon Camp near Happy, Texas, June 3-8, 2001.

At the MDA camp, counselors work one on one with campers to provide care, supervision, attention and friendship to children with limited mobility. Young men and women willing to spend a week at camp are needed to fill counselor positions for the camp. The volunteers must be at least 16 years of age and will be trained before camp.

As a summer camp counselor, young people are given the opportunity to perform a valuable community service, develop a greater understanding of individuals with disabilities and enjoy a very special week of summer camp.

Donations of supplies are also needed for MDA's summer camp. Arts & crafts items, carnival prizes and awards, life jackets, sporting equipment, snacks, medical supplies, and walkie talkies are among the donations being sought to help provide a memorable camp experience to approximately 60 youngsters.

MDA supports a nationwide network of summer camps offering a wide range of activities designed for youngsters who have limited mobility or use wheelchairs. Since 1955, MDA's extensive camp program has built bridges and knocked down barriers, fostering a sense of self-worth in young people with disabilities. For youngsters with neuromuscular disease, MDA camp is a magical place. At the more than 90 camp sessions nationwide, barriers simply do not exist. Skills are developed and taught for year-round use and a child with a disability can just be a child among friends.

MDA camp programs, although

what the homes of Sutton County have looked like through the years. The best place to start is with your own home. Go through photographs you have taken over the years and start a property scrapbook. Note all the changes that have or haven't been made over the years to the interior and exterior of the building or if a whole new building has been built. Include garages, carports, rooms added on and, if it is old enough, when indoor plumbing and wiring were added to the house. What a wonderful addition that would be to your personal files as well as the Sutton County Historical Society new archival storage room. Do not write on photographs, the ink will eat through them with the years. Mount the photos with archival safe materials.

Q. Do colored pictures last as long as black and white?

A. Most of the manufacturers I have spoken with say no. Colored pictures tend to fade just as black and white do over the years. The main difference is that colored pictures derive their sharpness from the different colors, so as they fade, they distort more. Black and white photos are so sharp to begin with that you keep most of the basic shape. They are also much, much easier to restore. I have found that many of my own color photos from years ago have faded or changed color. I also noted that some black and white pictures my parents had taken have very little fading or when copied could be darkened easily. Another problem I found in our semi-arid climate is cracking and separating of Polaroid pictures and old instant Kodak camera pictures. Colored photographs are very beautiful but if you want them to last for generations they will have to be stored in temperature and humidity controlled rooms and in acid free albums. More than one person in this area have gone to remove a picture from an album and found that it has become glued to the plastic page of the album. So go through those old albums, check on your photos and move them into good acid free storage albums before they are destroyed. They may cost a little more but are well worth it in the long run.

Just because a picture is torn or scratched doesn't mean you have to throw it out. Many pictures can be restored by scanning them on a computer and using the computer technology to repair them. If you have a special picture that has become torn or cracked you might want to consider doing this. I would also have a negative made of the repaired photo. I have not heard yet how long a computer generated photo will hold up.



Theodore Savell and Alma Miers on their wedding day on March 17, 1897.

Q. I found an old notation that said my house was built by McClelland and Scott, who were they?

A. J. T. McClelland and K. V. E. Scott were contractors and builders in Sonora. They built homes, did painting and paper hanging and remodeled homes here over the years. I found several of the advertisements in the 1919 and 1920 papers. The November 1, 1919 Devil's River News had the following article regarding J. T. McClelland: J. T. McClelland the builder has been putting in his extra time and has a most conveniently designed seven room bungalow ready for the finishing on his lot on Oak Street. This is the fifth house Mr. McClelland has built for himself and has the advantage of much experience with plans of others.

Q. Will you publish old articles on weddings in your column?

A. I will but you have to give me a couple of weeks notice. If the article is way too long I might have to edit it but will be glad to run a 25 year or more old wedding with

proper notice. I have seen some beautiful pictures of brides, in papers from about 1930 on, that we can scan and use with the article. If someone has lost their articles on their wedding or engagement we can look them up for you. The same goes for old family reunions and the pictures that go with them. Try to have the date of the reunion or year, I have searched for months trying to find several now. We request a small fee for this type of service.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton County history, send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or e-mail me at schs@sonoratx.net. You may call me at 915-387-2855. If I am not here there is a good chance I am up supervising the gutting of the building we are going to turn into the new offices and archival storage area of the Sutton County Historical Society. So if our van is parked up near the museum you will find me in the old rock house next door.

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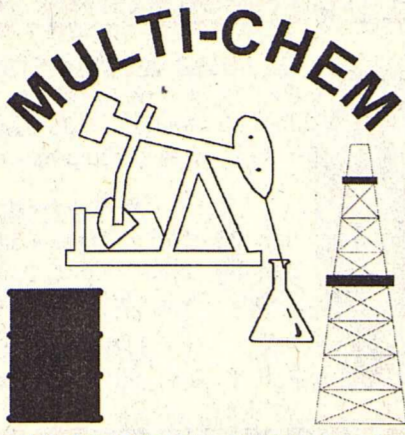
Happy Birthday to My Boys!
 1/27/2001
 11/27/2000
 From, Grandma Mary, Mom, and Family

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City Council from page 1



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Accountant, reviewed the management letter concerning areas of deficiencies in the operation of the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation. Also, Rick Taylor, Manager of SIDC, presented a letter outlining the corrective actions that were taken by the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation. The council asked that in the future the minutes of the SIDC Board Meeting be placed in the council's monthly agenda. A motion was made by Councilmember Blackman to direct Beth Wallace, City Attorney, to amend the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation Bylaws and establish the same policies that coincide with city laws and also, authorize the City Attorney to attend all their board meetings. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

Councilmember Polocek made a motion to approve the request from Sonora Industrial Development Corporation to amend the 1999-2000 fiscal year budget to include additional funds in the following accounts:

Travel and Education - \$4,696.00, Professional Fees-

\$2,643.00, Rent - \$2,400.00, Office Maintenance - \$1,434.00. Councilmember Blackman made a second to the motion and all members voted in favor.

Councilmember Polocek made a motion to call a public hearing on February 20 at 2:00 p.m., City Hall, concerning the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation expending \$1,442.00 in closing cost and \$1,228.95 in interim loan interest of the seller, of which is Section 4B sales tax, relevant to the purchase of the Eaton Hill property. Councilmember Lopez made a second to the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Blackman made a motion to accept the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation quarterly financial report as presented. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion. Motion carried.

The Council voted in favor to allow Beth Wallace, City Attorney, to request a state or county official to obtain an Attorney General's opinion concerning expending Section 4B sales tax in the development of Eaton Hill property.

Beth Wallace, City Attorney, reported that she received her annual twelve hours of prosecutor's training. Also, she advised that Judge Sessom and Laura West, Clerk, are attending Court training this week to get their hours.

A motion was made by Councilmember Polocek to start a campaign and enforcement of junked vehicles in the city. Councilmember Lopez made a second to the motion and the motion carried.

The Sutton County Appraisal District monthly tax collection report was presented for review. The report showed \$177,041.90 of taxes collected to date.

Councilmember Lopez made a motion to approve the Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Financial Statement of Hotel/Motel Tax expended. Councilmember Blackman made a second to the motion. Motion carried.

The Chamber of Commerce presented a proposed budget for the use of hotel/motel tax for next fiscal year. Discussion was held in regards to splitting the funds equally between the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Program. Currently the Chamber receives 4% and the Main Street Program receives 3% of the total 7% collected by the motels. Councilmember Blackman made a motion to call a public hearing on February 20, 2001 to hear comments on the proposed uses of the hotel/motel tax. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion and the following votes were cast:

The fire department quarterly activity report was approved. The report showed the following: Total Alarms - 22, Structure Fires - 6, Grass Fires - 3, Vehicle Fires - 4, Rescues - 6, Trash Fires - 1, False Alarms - 2, Total Man Hours - 486, County Man Hours - 80.5, County

Fires - 12, City Man Hours - 405.5 and City Fires - 10.

The Council also approved the quarterly investment report, given by Becky Covington, City Secretary. She advised that interest rates had increased a point from this time last year. She advised that one of the certificate of deposits was deposited into the general fund to help pay for the police department building.

A motion was made by Councilmember Blackman, seconded by Councilmember Polocek, to approve a Letter of Agreement with the Texas Main Street Program of the Texas Historical Commission representing the city's commitment to participate as a graduate Main Street City for 2001. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilmember Lopez to appoint Jim Stephen to serve as Councilmember in Ward 1, due to the resignation of Kyle Donaldson. Councilmember Blackman made a second to the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Lopez made a motion to appoint James Blackman to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilmember Polocek made a second to the motion and all members present voted in favor.

The council reviewed the Public Housing Authority monthly activity report. No comments were made and the meeting was then adjourned.

Dewhurst Announces Elimination Or Reduction Of Fees On State Loans For Texas Veterans

AUSTIN-Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst, Chairman of the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB), today announced the elimination or reduction of fees charged for various state veterans loans and services. Dewhurst said the goal is to make VLB loan programs less expensive for Texas veterans.

"We're always looking for ways to help our Texas veterans save their hard-earned money," Dewhurst said, "Our restructuring of VLB fees ensures each veteran will pay less when he or she applies and also over the life of the loan. It's one more reason to look at our home, land and home improvement loans."

Dewhurst said the fee change that affects the greatest number of veterans is elimination of a \$25 fee for determining each applicant's eligibility for VLB programs. Dewhurst said similar "qualification" fees are unusual in private industry and are not assessed in federal veterans programs.

"The abolition of this fee will benefit all participating Texas veterans," Dewhurst said. "Veterans should not have to pay to find out if they are eligible for VLB programs."

Dewhurst said a \$375 administrative fee charged for VLB land contracts was also eliminated. Dewhurst said that because most veterans amortized the fee over a 30-year period, the VLB's costs for collecting the small monthly payments exceeded the amount collected.

Dewhurst urges Texas veterans to call (800) 252-VETS for VLB loan details and eligibility requirements. Detailed information is also available at the Texas General Land Office Web site at www.glo.state.tx.us.

Ozona Hires New Chamber Director

Board members of the Ozona Chamber of Commerce have hired Shanon Biggerstaff as the Executive Director. Formerly with the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce, Shanon begins her new responsibilities in Ozona on January 22nd. She will oversee all aspects of the Chamber operations including tourism, economic development and member services.

As a military dependent, Shanon was born in Edinburg, Scotland. She lived in San Angelo 18 years and has been in Ozona for the past two years.

Shanon has worked as the Convention/Tour Coordinator in the Tourism Division at the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce for the past ten years. Her responsibilities included servicing conventions and event planning, motor coach tour marketing and servicing, staff to committee responsible for developing tourism related products or services, spoke to local businesses about tourism programs and services and administered all activities of an 85 member volunteer ambassadors group. Prior to the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce she served as the Director of Sales and Marketing for the San Angelo Holiday Inn Convention Center Hotel where she was responsible for all hotel marketing, sales and public relation activities. She also brings to Ozona an additional five years of marketing, merchandising and public relations experience while working for a national convenience store chain in both San Angelo and San Antonio.

Propane from page 1

natural gas to protect public safety falls within the jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission. Anyone who works with propane, liquefied or compressed natural gas must first qualify for a license by passing a written exam proving they know the laws and regulations.

There are approximately 3,000 licensed propane dealers, retailers, and wholesalers in Texas.

The Railroad Commission is also responsible for LP-gas training in Texas. Since Sept. 1, 1997, the Commission has trained more than 6,900 LP-gas company managers, employees, and fleet customers on topics related to LP-gas safety and compliance with applicable standards and rules.

For more information regarding NFPA rule changes, propane license holders can contact Byron Caffey in the Railroad Commission of Texas' LP-Gas section at (512) 463-6931.

For more information regarding the new continuing education requirements, contact Thomas Petru in the Railroad Commission of Texas' Alternative Fuels Research and Education Division (AFRED) at 1-800-64-CLEAR [1-800-642-5327] or (512) 463-6930.

To schedule a class, contact Carol Goodman in AFRED at 1-800-64-CLEAR [1-800-642-5327] or (512) 463-7306.

Ozona Hires New Chamber Director

Board members of the Ozona Chamber of Commerce have hired Shanon Biggerstaff as the Executive Director. Formerly with the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce, Shanon begins her new responsibilities in Ozona on January 22nd. She will oversee all aspects of the Chamber operations including tourism, economic development and member services.

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Where To Find Out About Taxpayer Rights

WASHINGTON - The Internal Revenue Service has created a special Web section for taxpayers seeking information about their rights when dealing with the nation's tax agency. The "Taxpayer Rights Corner" can be found at www.irs.gov under the "Tax Info for You" section.

The section brings a variety of issues involving taxpayer rights issues into one convenient place. The Taxpayer Rights Corner includes topics ranging from basic taxpayer information to detailed steps on how to get help from the IRS. Among the areas highlighted on the web page: "Know Your Rights" spells out basic taxpayer rights.

The notice section gives quick links to understanding IRS notices. For examination and collection issues, the Taxpayer Rights Corner connects to publications detailing step-by-step IRS processes. If taxpayers have a disagreement with the IRS, information is available in the Appeal Rights section. Taxpayers with difficulty solving their problems through normal IRS channels can contact the Taxpayer Advocate Service.

The site also has information on questions involving legal representation and confidentiality privileges. The page can be accessed at www.irs.gov/ind_info/txpyr_rights/index.html

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REPORT OF COUNTY TREASURER OF SUTTON COUNTY, TEXAS, OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM October 1, 2000 TO December 31, 2000

FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS	TRANSFER IN	DISBURSEMENTS	TRANSFERRED OUT	BALANCE
General	1,037,344.25	545,784.60		592,385.88		990,742.97
PNFC	360,988.16	111,430.08		111,662.31		360,755.93
Flood Control	7,981.40					7,981.40
Law Library	10,798.87	356.00		434.75		10,720.12
Lateral Road	-0-	13,241.98				13,241.98
State Trust Funds	59,551.11	46,648.79		60,012.72		46,187.18
State Arrest Fees	2,871.54	3,148.30		3,762.42		2,257.42
Employee Benefit Fund	246,291.66					246,291.66
Sutton County 911	6,891.86	44.92				6,936.78
Appellate Fund	152.32	205.36		567.92		150.36
Sheriff Seizure Fund	4,375.75	22.35				4,398.10
Courthouse Fund	25,578.83	65,838.51		25,714.98		65,692.36
					TOTAL	1,755,866.30
CHECKING ACCOUNTS						
State Arrest Fees	2,257.42	PNFC	77,012.10	General	77,247.84	
Appellate Fund	150.36	Sutton County	16,936.78	Sheriff Seizure	4,398.10	
Money Market Accounts	(General	637,907.47	(PNFC	283,743.83	CTNSE FUND	66,202.36
CD Accounts	(General	600,000.00	(PNFC			
						234,215.00
						921,651.30
						600,000.00
TOTAL						1,755,866.30

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