

THE Devil's River NEWS

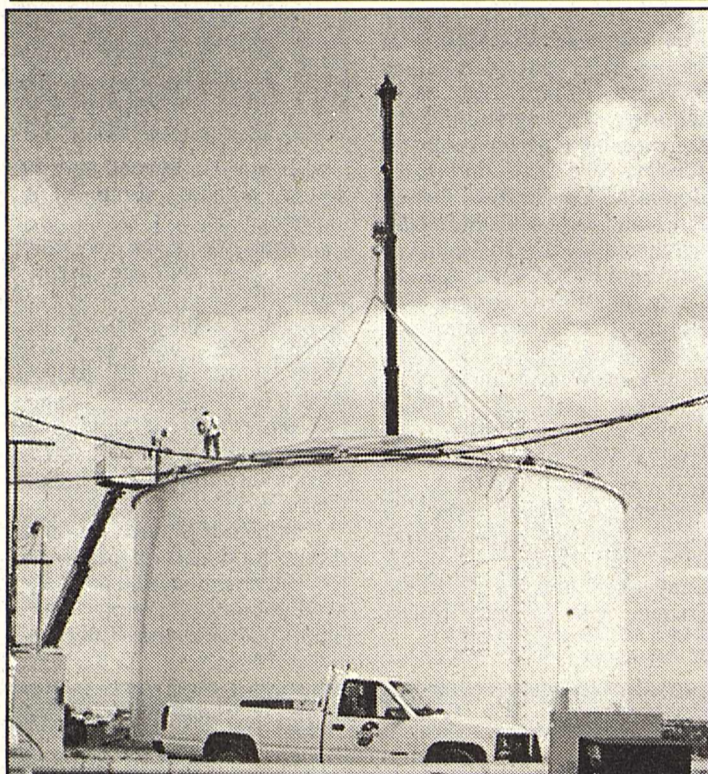
50¢

Since 1890

Volume 114 • Issue 41

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, October 17, 2002



Put A Lid On It...

The construction of the water tanks on Eaton Hill is almost complete, with the tops being put on as one of the last steps. These water storage tanks have been replaced due to violations of TNRCC regulations. The jobs are being done in phases and the construction, general administration and project engineering is being financed through \$174,999 of Texas Community Development Program funds and \$164,501 of City of Sonora funds. The proposed water improvements included in this application are the minimum necessary to correct the deficiencies in Sonora's water system.

The City Council of the City of Sonora is working to provide a water system that is more than adequate and safe for the citizens of Sonora.

Staff photo

School Board Addresses Maintenance Issues

by Storie Sharp

After touring the Castle Hill Apartments to inspect the renovations on Monday, October 14th, the Sonora I.S.D. Board of Trustees held their monthly meeting. Minutes from prior meetings were approved before Superintendent Brant Myers began his report. Myers reported that enrollment was similar to last year at this time, with a total of 905 students. September maintenance issues included roof and air conditioning problems, the horn and scoreboard at the football field and the washer and dryer at the field house both went out. Myers reported that the ramp had been completed at the Ag. shop and was very impressive. He also reported that Danny Hardin had reported some problems with boilers and were looking at possibly replacing them with the same hot water heaters that were installed

at the field house.

Myers told the Board of a gentleman he had met at a recent seminar that did aluminumizing of bleachers. The man had been in town last week and gave an estimate of replacing the wood bleachers. The cost included only the price of the materials and payment to inmates that would be brought in to complete the project. Myers stated that this is just something that the Board can consider at a later date, so as to avoid any dangerous situations that might occur in the bleachers.

Myers then proceeded to award the Campus principals, Doug Bawcom and John Berry with awards from the state regarding attendance rates and TAAS scores. Louise Dermody, not present, will also be awarded

See School Board page 7

Probation Department Receives "Best Annual Report" Award



Pictured left to right: 112th Judicial District Judge Brock Jones, Sutton County Judge Carla Garner, Director of Adult and Juvenile Probation for Sutton and Crockett Counties Jed Davenport, Crockett County Judge Johnny Jones (not pictured) - Sutton County Juvenile Prosecutor David Wallace and Crockett County Juvenile Prosecutor Bill Mason).

submitted

The Sutton & Crockett Counties Juvenile Probation Department was awarded the "Best Annual Report - Small Juvenile Departments" for FY 2001 at the annual Texas Probation Association Conference hosted in South Padre, September of 2002. The Texas Probation Association sponsors the annual report writing contest recognizing one best report from large departments and one best report from

small/medium size departments across Texas. The report highlights the need for services and the services provided by the Sutton and Crockett Counties Juvenile probation department. The award is a reflection of the Juvenile Courts and Probation staff commitment to provide quality service to the people residing in these two counties. A copy of the report will be available for review upon request at the probation office on 116 N. Concho Avenue.

National Focus on Breast Cancer During October

October marks the 17th annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This public focus has boosted screening mammograms, pushed for better treatments, and saved lives - but the battle isn't over. Some women still don't get routine mammograms. Cost is often a barrier and a recent survey found other surprising reasons women skip this lifesaving test.

Most Common Reasons Women Don't Get Mammograms

Does This Sound Like You? American women's use of mammograms increased dramatically in the 1990s, but almost a third of the women are still not having this test, which can find breast cancer at its earliest and most treatable stage. The top four barriers, in women's words, are:

* "My doctor has never recommended I have one."

* "I've never thought about it."

* "I have no breast problems, so mammography isn't necessary."

* "I don't have enough time."

The first three reasons above show that many women are still not getting up-to-date information that could literally save their lives. ACS guidelines call for women to begin yearly mammograms at age 40, as part of a three-step detection program that begins with breast self-exams at age 20. When breast cancer is found early in a localized stage and treated, most women will be cured.

Mammography screening is the single most effective method to find breast cancer early, sometimes years before a woman or her doctor would feel a lump. And this year all major medical and public health groups, including the American Medical Association and the

American Cancer Society, confirmed that mammograms are essential for saving lives.

Who are the women who don't realize they need mammograms? Research suggests they're our mothers and grandmothers (women 65 and over), Hispanic/Latino women, Native American and Alaska Native women, those below the poverty level, and those without health insurance.

Fortunately low-cost and free mammograms can be found in every state through a Centers for Disease Control program, and from Medicaid, Medicare, and private health insurance companies.

Unfortunately, there are no government programs that provide more time in each day (barrier 4: "I don't have enough time.") Women will have to handle that one themselves.

Five Important Facts About Breast Cancer

1. All women are at risk for breast cancer - even those who have no family history of the disease.

2. The two greatest risk factors for breast cancer are being a woman and growing older.

3. Survival rates are high for women diagnosed with early stage breast cancer, when the cancer is small and has not spread. Get annual mammograms beginning at age 40, and start regular breast exams by your doctor and monthly breast self-exams at age 20.

4. Smart strategies to reduce your risk of cancer include regular physical activity, maintaining a healthy weight, and limiting alcohol intake.

5. Through early detection and improved treatment, more women than ever are beating breast cancer.

Tell your friends, your family—any women you care about. You could save a life.

Sonora Hosts Hill Country Fireman's Convention

submitted

On October 5, 2002, the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary hosted the Hill Country Fireman's District Convention.

The morning session included Tara Green singing "America" and Mayor Jim Stephen with a welcoming address. Elections were conducted with Russell Green being elevated to 3rd Vice-President and Wayne Tyler as the newly inducted 4th Vice-President.

At the Ladies Luncheon, elections were also held, with Sonora being well represented. Terri Johnson will serve as President, Trevlin Strong as Secretary-Treasurer and Melissa Teaff as Historian.

After lunch, races were held with the Sonora Ladies doing very well! Being the host town you are only eligible for the traveling and/or the fast time trophy.

Darla and Michelle Lipham teamed up and won the Water

Polo Race. Christy Blackman, Kim Yocham, Mara Cearley, Michelle Lipham, Diana Green and Darla Lipham had the fast time in the 6-Lady Race while Cearley, D. Lipham and Beth Snyder won the 3-Lady. Cearley also had fast time in the 1-Lady, as well as retaining the trophy for the record time.

After the races were held and with time remaining before the trophy presentations, Sonora suggested having a 3-person race with an entry fee of \$5.00 per person. All proceeds would be donated to the Tom Homra Fund, who was seriously burned in a car accident. \$375.00 was raised, with the team of Cole Cearley, Douglas Yocham and Leonard Lloyd winning the honor of First Place.

The day concluded with trophy presentations, a fajita dinner and a dance followed, with music provided by Sonora's own "Border Trash".

The Sonora Fire Dept. and Aux. would like to thank everyone that helped make this a "blazing" success.



Sonora Volunteer Fireman Rick Cearley gets a high five from Darla Lipham after winning a water polo match at the Hill Country Fireman District Convention. staff photo

Hey Hunters!

It's almost that time of year again and The Devil's River News is preparing information for the 2002 Hunter's Guide. If you would like to showoff your big kill from last year we want to help. Bring your photos by, mail them in or email them to us at editor@sonorax.net. Be sure to provide all the important information, like when and where you got it, how much it weighed, how many points, the Boone & Crockett score, what you used to get it, etc. Thank you in advance and we look forward to hearing from you!

Commissioners Work To Restore TRAX Schedule

by Storie Sharp

Jeffery Sutton and Robert Stevens, representing the Concho Valley Council of Governments met with the Sutton County Commissioners Court on Tuesday, October 15, 2002 to discuss possible options for funding the TRAX Van (Thunderbird). Hours of operation for the Thunderbird were cut recently due to a cut in funding. The County and CVOCG have been working for quite some time to try and find a reasonable and cost efficient way to return the van to its original operation. Sutton and Stevens reported that one idea they had come up with was to contract with Schleicher County, who would share the costs and house the office. After looking at the proposal offered by CVOG and

Schleicher Co., County Judge Carla Garner and the Commissioners present, John Wade, Belia Castaneda and Mike Villanueva, agreed to look into the matter further and try to find a way to incur the costs within Sutton County. This may involve moving the TRAX van office to a county office and putting the drivers on as employees of the county. These changes and costs will have to be researched further, so it was decided to make no decision until the next meeting.

Other business discussed included the approval of prior meetings minutes and reports from the different departments of the County.

Justice of the Peace, Adelita Alvarez reported 320 criminal cases and 4 small cases claimed

in the month of September.

Sherriff Joe Fincher gave the jailers report, informing the court that there were 52 inmates in the month of September, with a total of 582 for the year. The Dispatcher answered 1413 calls in September.

Fincher also reported that the Sheriff's Office logged right at 7,500 miles for last month, with an average of 15.5 miles per gallon at 12¢ per mile.

Pat Campbell reported that the EMS had 31 runs in the month of September, with \$7,792.89 being collected.

Oscar Jimenez, Road and Bridge Department, informed the Court that he had found a dump truck owned by the City of Sonora that they were going

See Commissioners page 7

Team Graphics Celebrates Opening



Among friends, family and fellow merchants, Team Graphics held their Grand Opening on Friday, October 11, 2002. Owner and operator Marla Percifull offered 10% savings to customers who visited during the Grand Opening celebration, and treated them all to snacks such as chocolate covered strawberries, sandwiches, and sodas. Team Graphics offers custom ordered t-shirts and sports wear, Bronco gear and an assortment of gifts and jewelry. Visit Marla and Lidia at 208 E. Main or call them at 387-5017 to place an order today.

staff photo

A Proclamation By the President of the United States of America

National School Lunch Week 2002

The future success of our Nation depends on our children's healthy development. Since 1946, the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) has made important contributions to the well-being of our school children. As part of the NSLP, more than 96,000 schools and residential childcare institutions serve more than 27 million children each day. In addition to providing young people with nutritious meals, this program supports the academic mission of our schools and helps to ensure that all our Nation's children reach their full potential.

To avoid the formation of poor eating habits, which are generally established during childhood, we must encourage positive choices that fulfill dietary recommendations. It is critical that our children eat sufficient amounts of fruits and vegetables, reduce fat in their diets, and consume essential nutrients in an overall diet with appropriate calories. By making modest improvements to their diets and increasing physical activities, children can dramatically improve their overall health.

To help meet this goal, the Department of Agriculture launched the School Meals Initiative for Healthy Children. This plan empowers schools to serve "kid-friendly" meals that meet the recommendations defined in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the Food Guide Pyramid.

See School Lunch page 7



Sonora Church Directory

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

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

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

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Conrad Archer, Pastor
201 N. Water
387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS
Rev. Santos Beserra, Jr.
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Charles Huffman
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER
Jerry & Joy Wood
205 E. Main
387-3241

LA IGLESIA HISPANA PENTECOSTAL DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC.
387-6072

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

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

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

PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED
Randy Greenwood
Pastor
509 Amistad
387-5266

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father William DuBuisson,
O.M.I.
229 W. Plum
387-2278

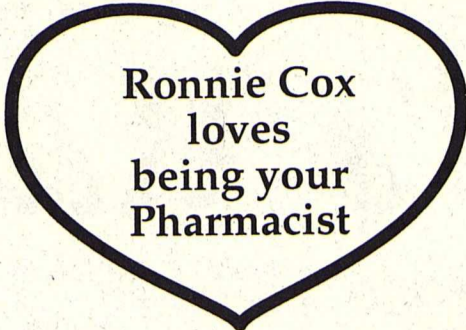
JEHOVAH'S WITNESS
310 St. Ann's Street
387-5658 or 387-5518

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
Interim Mike Dixon
511 Cornell
387-5207



FORD
BRONCHO
FORD INC.
115 N CONCHO
SONORA, TX 76950
(915)387-2549

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266



Ronnie Cox
loves
being your
Pharmacist

Lighthouse Baptist Church introduces "SONseekers"



Children Grades 1-5
Every Wednesday 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. • 707 Glasscock
Scripture, crafts, food & fellowship
FMI call Tamra Wolfe 387-3462

School Lunch Menu • October 21 - October 25, 2002

Breakfast

Mon. - Breakfast burrito, orange juice.
Tues. - Hot oatmeal, cinnamon roll, apple juice.
Wed. - Biscuit with ham slice, orange juice.
Thurs. - (4) French toast sticks, apple juice.
Fri. - Cheese toast, orange juice.

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

Lunch

Mon. - Spaghetti with meat sauce, mixed vegetables, fruit salad, hot roll.
Tues. - Chili dog, pork & beans, fried okra, rice Krispy treat.
Wed. - Chalupas with bean & cheese, vegetable salad, peach cobbler.
Thurs. - Baked chicken, egg noodles, green beans, jello with fruit, biscuits.
Fri. - Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomatoes, French fries, ice cream cup.

New Arrivals

Ladies & Men
Fossil Watches, Sunglasses
and Wallets

New Sterling and Turquoise Jewelry
Burt's Bee Products

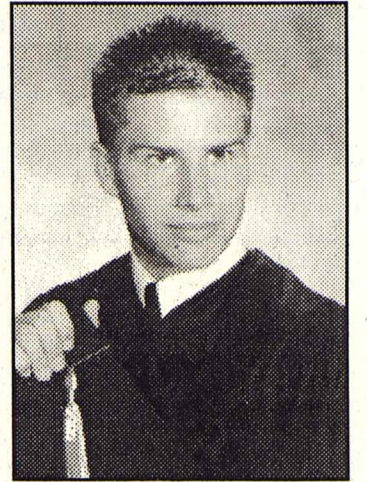
Lady Primrose Circle E Candles
Fragrances Apple Jack
Potpourri

Mau'i Jim Sunglasses
Gifts Galore & More

417 Hwy 277 N.
387-2541

Obituary

Tom Homra



Tom Homra, 18, of Sonora and formerly of West Minister, CO went to be with our Lord on Friday, October 11, 2002. He had been in an automobile accident and was at The University Medical Center Burn Trauma Unit in Lubbock, Texas.

Tom was a student at Howard College and was a recent 2002 graduate of Sonora High School. He was an employee of Sonora Chemical.

Surviving are his parents; Tom and Voni Van Veghel of Sonora, TX; and Robert and Barbara Homra of West Minister, CO, grandparents; Eugene and Barbara Lasky of Sonora, TX, Jack and Lucy Homra of Arvada, CO, Darrell and Joan Olson of Gallup, NM, Harry and Mary Van Veghel of Almagordo, NM, and Claudia Ligg of Wheat Ridge, CO. Siblings; Chris and wife, Lori Olson of Las Cruces, NM, Tyrel Homra of West Minister, CO, Rowdy of T or C, NM, Whitney Homra of West Minister, CO, Jessica Whitman of Denver, CO, Jennifer Whitman of Denver, CO, Robert Bear currently stationed at a Marine Base in Japan, a niece, Cheyenne and a nephew, Tristan, both of Las Cruces, NM.

Tom was preceded in death by a brother, Kenneth R. Homra.

Tom was loved by many people and will be greatly missed by all those whose lives he touched in his special way.

Services will be held Thursday, October 17, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. at the Lazy 2 Ranch (18 miles west of Sonora on North access road Hwy. 1312). The burial will follow at Sonora Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to: University Medical Center of Lubbock - Trauma Burn Unit, 602 Indiana, Lubbock, Texas 79415.

Cards of Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the prayers, visits, calls, cards, food and many other acts of kindness shown to us during this difficult time. Your concern and compassion have been of great comfort to the entire family.

The Family of James Murray Knox

The Health Science Technology Education Class would like to extend a sincere thanks to every one who participated in the blood drive held at the Sonora High School gym October 3, 2002. The blood drive was held to assist Tom Homra. Twenty six people were interviewed and twenty one units of blood were collected and two double red blood cell donations.

On behalf of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and those we serve, thank you. On Tuesday, October 8, MDA held its annual lock-up at the Sonora Bank & Trust and "volunteer jailbirds" did a terrific job of raising the "bail". The fine citizens and businesses in Sonora joined together and raised over \$7,424.00 for MDA. A special thank you goes out to the Sonora Bank & Trust for hosting this event; to Pizza Hut for providing the wonderful food for the "inmates" and to the Sonora Police Department for going out and "arresting" the participants. Again, on behalf of MDA and those we serve. Thank you for your continued support and dedication!

Subscribe to The Devil's River News

Call 387-2507

or email: sales@sonoratx.net

Dining Out Directory

Dairy Queen

134 Hwy. 277 N.
387-2118

La Mexicana

240 N. Hwy 277
387-3401

Pizza Hut

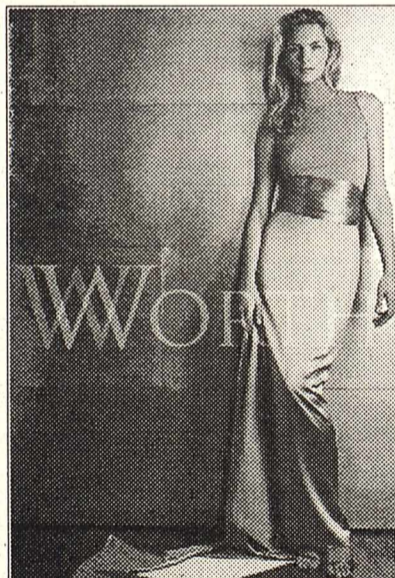
401 Hwy. 277 N.
387-3540

Sutton County Steakhouse

1306 N. Service Rd
387-3833

Taco Grill

232 Hwy. 277 N.
387-9127



You are cordially invited to see
THE WORTH COLLECTION
Holiday Showing

Monday,
October 21, 2002
through
Friday,
October 25, 2002

Sizes 2-20
Petites Available
Mary Adele Balch
387-2705

387-3278
301 Edgemont
Sonora, Texas

FOR THE YOUNGER WOMAN
OF ANY AGE
WORTHWHILE... WORTHSTYLE.

THE WORTH COLLECTION, LTD.
1-800-WORTH-OK or
online: http://www.worthmy.com/

By appointment
please.

Senior Center News

Oct. 21 - Bingo with Kindergarten classes after lunch.
Oct. 22 - Exercise with video after lunch.
Oct. 24 - Work on Holiday. Crafts after lunch.
Oct. 25 - Birthday party for October babies.

Senior Menu

Oct. 21 - Beef stew with vegetables, sweet peas, crackers, peaches, chocolate pudding.
Oct. 22 - Baked ham, sweet potato, summer squash, wheat rolls, fresh fruit cup.
Oct. 23 - Meatloaf with sauce, mashed potatoes, broccoli, wheat rolls, sugar cookie.
Oct. 24 - Chicken fried steak with gravy, potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, orange wedges.
Oct. 25 - Catfish, corn, tomato, casserole, seasoned spinach, rolls, jello with fruit.

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

Menu is subject to change.

Community

Oct. 22
City Council Meeting
City Hall • 2:00 p.m.

The Community Calendar

First NATIONAL BANK
P.O. BOX 776 - SONORA, TEXAS 76950
(915) 387-3861
Member FDIC

Calendar

Oct. 28
County Commissioners Meeting
Annex Building • 9:00 a.m.

is made possible by:

THE BANK & TRUST
Member FDIC
207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given to the Editor of this publication.

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

TPA Member 2002

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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@sonoratx.net

Ask the Historical Society

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer, Secretary
Sutton County Historical Society

Q. Do you have any information on Sam Merck?

A. Devil's River News, July 25, 1930 - Samuel L. Merck, 77, a former peace officer in Sonora and Sutton County who came to this section as one of the pioneers, working as a guide and scout for surveying parties and serving as a Texas Ranger, was buried here this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The Rev. F. M. Jackson officiated at the service with the Masonic Lodge in charge at the grave. Mr. Merck died at 4 o'clock Saturday morning, July 19, 1930, at a San Angelo hospital. The Robert Massie Co. was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Merck, who in later years became a successful goat rancher, was said to have been one of the two oldest residents of Sonora from point of continuous residence. The other is George Trainer, tax assessor. Mr. Merck had lived in the state 60 years and here 50 years.

Survivors include three sons, Lee of Sheffield; Jack of Barnhart and Earl of Eldorado and six daughters, Miss Ora Merck of Sonora; Mrs. John M. Logan of Menard; Mrs. Eldridge Coleman of Crystal City; Mrs. Harry Thiers of Roosevelt; Mrs. Ban Odom of Sonora and Mrs. E. B. Pool of San Antonio.

Mr. Merck was born in Birmingham, Alabama, July 16, 1853, he received his early schooling in Alabama. His entire time spent in getting an education could be summed up in a term of only a few months. In 1872 he left his native state for Texas, stopping first at McDade. He next stopped in Blanco Co. He proceeded into the interior until he arrived in Kimble Co., where he stayed a long period of years. He has spent his life since that time in Kimble and Sutton counties.

In Kimble Co. he was stationed as a scout for Company D of Texas Rangers in Captain Dan Roberts' company. He did this work from 1875, when he went to Kimble Co., until 1881. During this time he picked up trails and scouted the entire western country which today has over it a network of wolf proof fences. In 1879 and in 1882 he was a scout for a surveying party, working with them when they laid off the boundaries of Sutton Co. Will Barnell was the surveyor. This country was then known as the Bexar territory.

In September, 1882, he was

married to Miss Mattie A. Smith. Six years later, with his father-in-law, he came to Sutton Co. to begin drilling water wells. His wells were among the first in this section. He did this work for four years.

In 1883 he had a desperate conflict with a huge panther. At the Bell Hollow Spring, now a point on the Old Spanish Trail, he was watering sheep when the panther jumped on one of the animals. He knocked it off with a pole and then had a hand-to-hand fight with the beast, finally killing it. He bore large scars on his arms where the animal tore the flesh. His shirt was torn into threads during the struggle.

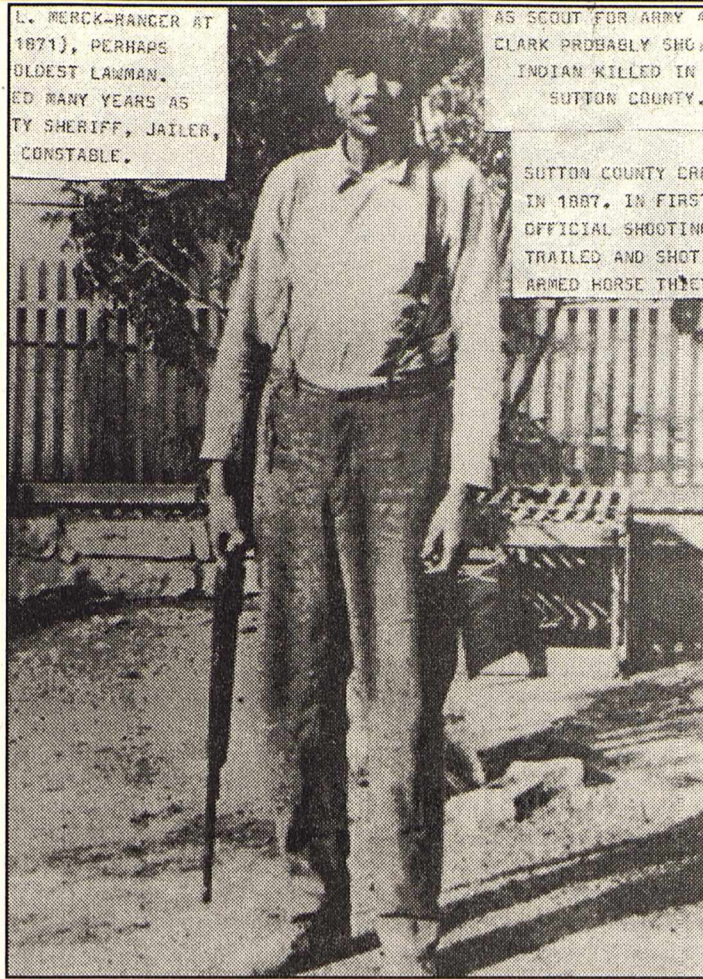
In 1898 he again started to drilling wells and passed into the twentieth century boring the earth for water wells. He did this through 1901. He then bought sheep and was engaged in the ranching business until 1908, when he opened a blacksmith shop in Sonora. While doing this work his health failed and he stopped this work.

In 1917 he served as deputy sheriff under Sheriff B. W. Hutcherson. He served in this capacity for five and a half years. He also served in 1923 as city marshal here.

Pall bearers were Joe F. Logan, Ed Glasscock, B. W. Hutcherson, Ed. C. Mayfield, J. D. Lowrey and Roy Hudspeth.

In checking county records we found that Sam L. Merck served as Sutton County as County Commissioner of Precinct 3 of Sutton County from 1904 to 1911.

John Eaton had the following in his notes on Merck that was written by Lorene Logan Flutsch from the memories of Mary Anna Merck Logan, "Sam Merck was the product of his day and time. In teen years and youth he felt the hardships of our Civil War, the oppression of Reconstruction years. In Texas his father drifted west and in the early 70's located on headwaters of N. Llano River in present Sutton County. Father and son both served as Indian scouts for the Army at Ft. Clark. Through his early years he saw the horror of Indian raids and massacres and by manhood, like the men before him, had nothing but fear and hate or the "noble red man." A few years before his passing he told of riding up a header, meeting two renegades, sort of cornered, then that unforgettable hatred crept out in the vehemence of his words, "I shot both of the s. o. b. s." But he did not abbreviate in his excitement of recalling this."



Sam Merck

John Eatons' notes from Flutsch further stated, " Many of us older ones remember "Uncle Sam." He was not a gunman. Tall, lean, with a leathery weather beaten face - he could have fitted into the role of an Indian fighter in any western movie. Far from handsome, but good natured, he chuckled when elected the ugliest man in this the county, whose boundaries he helped survey. Blacksmith and well work were his main occupations but in latter years he did, as a deputy, carry a gun, tho capable, he never fired that gun for any reason as deputy. He was the product of his day and time. Those were the days when folks had to get by with what they could as well as they knew how. Times were hard and men who enforced the law, or protected their own, had to be hard."

The old newspapers show us that Sam Merck ran for sheriff several times but was never elected to that office. Sam and Martha are buried in the Sutton County Burial Park in block E. There is not mention of his service to the county or state at his grave site. I think it would be great if some of the people here would get together and form a group to see that graves of former Texas Rangers in Sutton County were properly marked.

Men who did so much for this county and state should be properly recognized for their 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 them to schs@sonoratrax.net. You may call me Monday, Tuesday or Friday at the office 387-5084 if you need me another day call me at 387-2855.

Bundy, Young, Sims & Potter Announce New Associate Principals



In celebration of its twentieth (20th) anniversary, the Board of Directors of Bundy, Young, Sims & Potter, Inc. is pleased to announce the elevation of Galen Ensign, AIA, David Hartwell, AIA, and Ron Fox, AIA to Associate Principal in the firm. Ensign joined the firm 17 years ago and is noted for his design of the United Regional Health Care System's 8th Street Pediatric Unit as well as the Orthopaedic and Sports Therapy Center on Kell Boulevard at Lake Wellington. Hartwell has been with the firm for 13 years and was the key design architect on West Foundation Elementary School and a lead design architect on the MPEC Coliseum, now nearing completion. Fox joined the firm 9 years ago and was responsible for design of the Wichita Falls Public Library, the widely published Burk Burnett High School and the new URHCS Cardiac Institute, now under construction. Bundy, Young, Sims & Potter, Inc. is a General Practice architectural firm licensed to practice in ten (10) states with its main office in Wichita Falls and a small office in Fort Worth. The firm, a member of the Texas Society of Architects and the American Institute of Architects, was founded on October 12, 1982, by Dick Bundy, AIA, Tom Young, AIA, and Rick Sims, AIA and later joined by David Potter, AIA.

Dick Bundy is the son of Stanton Bundy, owner, photographer, writer and publisher of the DRN in the 1960's.

The Mud Hole

Praise the Lord! We had a real nice rain last week. It has been many years since we had a rain like that. We have a little problem on our place when it rains a lot. There is a spot on the ranch that is very innocent looking but if you aren't really watching for it you will get stuck and it is a long walk to the house. Many have gotten stuck there even though they were warned about it. The maddest and most frustrated I have ever seen my wife was the time she got stuck there and had to walk home. That mud hole reminds me of a problem we face in life, especially in our culture. It is called debt. Not watching your borrowing (debt) will be like being stuck in the mud hole, spinning your wheels and revving your motor and going nowhere (yes, I have been stuck there). The Bible warns us about borrowing. Proverbs 22:7 says the borrower becomes slave to the lender. Matthew 5:25 tells about a man about to go to prison for bad debts. Matthew 18:23-25 tells of a man about to lose everything (wife, children, etc) because of bad debts. Romans 13:8 tells us to owe no one anything except love. The question is how much should I borrow? As little as possible. See you in church on Sunday. Brother J

United Methodist From Sonora Honored

San Angelo District United Methodists honored a church member from Sonora Oct 12 for distinguished Christian discipleship.

Trevlin Strong received a certificate from Bishop Joel N. Martinez of San Antonio for outstanding service to Sonora United Methodist Church and the cause of Christ.

Martinez presented the honors at First United Methodist Church, San Angelo, during the annual San Angelo District Celebration. More than 200 people attended the event.

Eighty-two individuals and three groups received awards for Christian service during the celebrations

Payton Graduates From A&M

Diplomas were awarded to 2,133 Texas A&M University graduates during summer commencement ceremonies. Among those recognized was Sonora's own Erin Elizabeth Payton. Payton graduated with a Bachelor of Arts.

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Sutton County 4-H Prepares for Banquet and Sets Validation Dates

The annual Sutton County 4-H Achievement Banquet has been set for Monday evening, October 21, 2002 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The club will be providing the meat and the tea for the meal which will be served. Others who attend are asked to bring a side dish. Information on food type needed is available at the county extension office. The banquet will be the highlight of the 4-H year. Members and volunteers will be honored for their accomplishments and outstanding efforts. New county officers will be installed by Charla Bading, District 10 4-H and Youth Specialist and a speaker will be on hand to bring an inspiring message. Everyone is invited to attend. The activities for the evening should conclude around 8:00 p.m.

Sutton County 4-H Project Coordinators Trained

Volunteer leaders who will serve as the coordinators for the fourteen projects offered in Sutton County attended an in-depth training session conducted by County Extension agents Preston Faris and Kelly Thorp on Monday evening, October 14. The training will help all of the coordinators to understand what is expected of the mem-

bers who choose to participate in their subject matter area. Everyone received ideas for programs and the new project groups should begin to meet in the near future.

Market Lamb, Futurity Ewe and Market Goat Validation Set

Preston Faris has announced that the dates of October 22 & 23, 2002, have been set to validate all market lambs, meat goats and futurity ewe lambs in Sutton County. Any 4-H or FFA member who has one of these animals and who is planning to show either in the county show or at one of the major shows in Texas must go through the validation process. Certain dates have been assigned for each member. This information is provided in the 4-H newsletter which will be mailed to all 4-H members and which is posted on the Sutton County webpage at the following address: <http://suttonco.tamu.edu/>. If you have a conflict or need additional information, you are encouraged to contact the county extension office. You will not be able to show unless your animal is validated accordingly.

News From The Hill



by Delyse Jaeger

The diverse wildlife on Eaton Hill is fantastic: Pictured above, a Texas spiny lizard and a Rufous-crowned sparrow silently determine just whose branch they are resting on. The sparrow took flight immediately after the shutter of my camera snapped closed and I was delighted to have captured the moment on film. The Texas spiny lizard is a common resident of this area but can be difficult to spot because their rough scales camouflage so perfectly with the tree bark where they are usually found. Sometimes called Mountain Bombers for reasons unknown, the lizard feeds on insects - not

sparrows, and can often be heard scurrying up a tree as hikers pass by. If you would like to learn more about Texas reptiles, visit Rod Dearth at the San Angelo Nature Center (915)942-0121. The nature center has numerous snakes, lizards, birds and mammals and the experience is both entertaining and educational.

According to the Texas Monarch Watchline, the fall migration is delayed this season, but heavy reports are finally coming in. In Sonora, monarch were seen at the cemetery the week of September 30th and on Eaton Hill the following week. Groups of per-

See Eaton Hill page 7

S.M.S. Cross Country Runs Well At Wall

by Becca Emert

With the Sonora cross-country meet being canceled due to a conflict of schedules, the Sonora Middle School Cross Country team traveled to Wall to compete on Saturday, October 12th. Twenty-three racers were on hand, with many of them having personal bests for the season.

The 8th grade girls team and their placings were: Alexie Ortiz - 6th, Amanda Berry - 15th, Kayla Fields - 39th, Jena Teasley - 48th, Jaimee Duran - 53rd, Taylor Liverman - 67th, Emilly Bulter - 76th, McKenzie Watkins - 77th and Brandy Neff - 80th.

The 7th grade team had a strong showing, with the following placings: Emily Earwood - 10th, Kelsey Watkins - 14th, Kyla Turney - 15th, Heather Hughes - 22nd, Kimble Luna - 46th, Whitney Perez - 76th, Elbe Samaniego - 88th and Danielle Rodriguez - 113th.

The boys team consisted of six 7th graders, with Clayton Sahr pushing hard and finishing a strong 2nd place. Colton Moore also improved his time, finishing in the top 10 at 9th. Victor Vaquera was 24th, Hunt Wagner 27th, Hunter Lawson 35th and J.T. Downing 40th.

The Colts travel to San Angelo for District competition next week, good luck Colts and Lady Colts!

Cross Country Runners Advance At Wall

by Kathy Marshall

The Broncos and Lady Broncos were on the trail once again this weekend in Wall, Texas. The students continue to show improvement in their races. The Lady Broncos finished 8th. Running for the Lady Broncos this week was Courtney Caruthers 34th, Amanda Sanchez 42nd, Kenia Gutierrez 55th, Megan Berry 62nd, and Evangelina Martinez 66th out of a total of 103 girls running. This week we had only one Bronco running, Nick Favela, and he finished 18th out of 49 boys. Great job!

The next meet will be a District Meet which will be held in San Angelo on October 21, 2002.

Bereaved Parents Group Changes To Grief Support

The Bereaved Parents Support Group is changing to GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP. If you have experienced the death of a loved one, be it a family member or friend, please come. Let's help each other through these difficult times. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at The Bank & Trust Community Room.

The next Grief Support Group will meet Tuesday, November 12th. If you have experienced the death of someone close to you, you are urged to attend.

F.Y.I.

4-H Shooting Sports Project participants and parents are asked to meet on **Tuesday, October 22, 2002** at the Langford Barn at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will allow leaders to split participants into practice groups and set practice schedules. If you need more information, please call the Extension Office at 387-3101.

Concho Valley College Night, Monday, October 21, 2002, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Angelo State University in the University Center CJ "Red" Conference Room. Representatives from colleges and universities, technical schools, and the Armed Forces will be present to discuss YOUR future... Financial Aid Workshop Available.

The Scouts of Pack 19 will have their monthly pack meeting on October 21 at 7:00 P.M. For any further questions or information, please contact Jan Stephens at 387-5821.

The Girl Scouts are selling an assortment of nuts, peanut brittle and chocolate covered nuts. Your support will be greatly appreciated! The Nut sell ends on 10/25/02 and delivered on 11/14/02. If you would like to make a purchase, please feel free to contact our leaders as follows: Tammy Favila 387-3661; Amy Sykes 387-5019; Laurie Garza 387-2387; or Marris Fazz 387-2041.

Brownie Troops 104, 297, & 296 will have a meeting on Oct. 30 at 5:00 p.m. at Girl Scout Hut.

Sunday, Nov. 3 All Girl Scouts will have an Investiture Ceremony at 5:00 p.m. at the 4-H Civic Center.

Sonora PTO will be hosting a pre-game dinner Friday, October 25, 2002 (before the Sonora/Wall football game) at the Sonora High School Commons Area. Tickets will be \$5.00 a plate. You may purchase your tickets from The Bank & Trust, First National Bank, Team Graphics, image, The Devil's River News, and Sonora Office Supply. The dinner will consist of Sausage, your choice of potato salad or coleslaw, beans, bread, dessert, and tea. Serving time will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

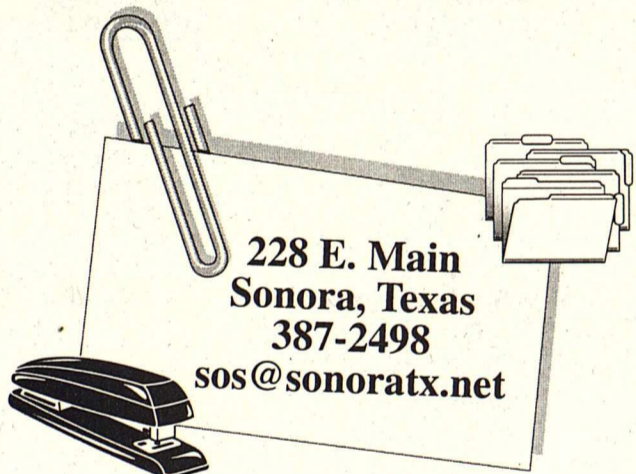
Early voting for General Elections by personal appearance at the County Clerk's Office Oct 21 - Nov 1 M-F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Parent information classes are being offered weekly at the elementary auditorium. Classes are on Tuesday afternoon from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Area agencies along with school staff will be presenting information on a wide range of topics such as positive behavior support, building self-esteem in your children, nutrition, and much more. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Refreshments and childcare will be provided.

The Depot may be rented by calling the Sutton Co. Historical Society at 387-5084. Open Mondays, Tuesday until noon and Fridays.

Social and Health Resources Coalition Seminar, appropriate for nurses, social workers and child care providers. Thursday, Nov. 7. CEUs provided. San Angelo Convention Center, \$45.00. For registration, call Sherrill Dooley at 657-4214.

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- October 18 - Peggy Sharp, David Gandar, Alice Cox, Mason McGeath, Dayton Armke
- October 19 - Dalila Ozuna, Sawyer Foulds, Barbara Holms, Valerie Ramirez
- October 20 - Preston Perez, Marvin Shurley, Brock Smith, Kalyn Villanueva, Angie Ramirez, Aric McGee
- October 21 - Joyce Ridgeway, Tina Tyler, Kari Purvis
- October 22 - Mickey Sharp, Tom Payton, Alex Castro, Mike Fisher, Chris Weingart, Shawn Wallace,
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Broncos Lose District Opener

by Tryon Fields

Last Friday night was the opening round of District 2-2A play. The Broncos would face district new-comer, the Reagan County Owls. The Owls, under the direction of second year head coach Joey McQueen, came into this game sporting a 4 and 1 record; while the Broncos trotted on the field with a 3 and 2 record. This game would be a good test for both teams and the winner possibly would have an inside track to the play-offs.

Three possessions and three turn overs in the first minute and a half of the first quarter would set the tone for this District 2-2A contest. On the first offensive play of the game, Bronco corner back Emmanuel Lopez would intercept the pass from Ross Brown and give the Broncos excellent field position at the Reagan County thirty-one. Twelve seconds later, Sonora would return the favor. However, it would be in the form of a fumble. Broncos tailback, Juan Rodriguez, would be separated from the pigskin with Reagan County's Jon Massey recovering the football at the Owl thirty. The Owls using the running attack of Allan Harrison, Michael Reyes, and Cody Strube; along with the pass catching abilities of Harrison would use the next two and a half minutes to move the ball to the Bronco thirty-four. Faced with a fourth and four at the thirty-four; the Owls once again went to the air. This time Bronco secondary back, Dustin Martin would intercept the Owl pass and return it to the Owl twenty-eight. A holding penalty and a tenacious Owl defense would force the Broncos to turn the ball over on downs after five plays. Reagan County would only need one play and thirteen seconds to break the scoreless tie. Allan Harrison would take the hand off from Ross Brown, split the Broncos defense and out run the Bronco secondary for the 71 yard touchdown flight. James Martinez would add the PAT to give the Owls a seven point lead. Sonora 0 - Reagan County 7. After the ensuing kick-off, the Broncos would start their next possession at their own twenty-six. Staying with the ground attack led by Juan Rodriguez, the Red Hosses began to grind out the yardage.

Using four and a half minutes the Broncos inched the ball to the Reagan County thirty-four.

At the thirty-four, the Owl defense would stiffen. Four plays would net the Broncos zero yardage and force Sonora to turn the ball over on downs for the second time. Reagan County responded to the Bronco drive with one of their own. However instead of grinding out yardage; the Owls gobbled up the yards. The slashing running style of Harrison, Reyes, and Strube moved the ball to the Bronco ten yard line. At the ten, Owl quarterback, Ross Brown would find his fullback, Cody Strube, in the corner of the end zone for the Owls second touchdown. Martinez would add the PAT to give the Owls a fourteen point advantage with nine minutes and thirty-four seconds left in the second quarter. Sonora 0 - Reagan County 14. The Broncos would use three minutes of the second quarter clock on their next drive. However, the drive would stall out at mid-field and the Broncos would be forced to turn the ball over on downs once again. Alternating between Harrison and Reyes, the Owls once again began to gobble up the yardage. Needing only four plays and a minute and a half; Reagan County would score their third touchdown on a two yard plunge by Allan Harrison. The PAT by Martinez would make the score: Sonora 0 - Reagan County 21.

After a short kick, Sonora would have excellent field position at their own forty. Sonora going to the shot gun formation met with stiff defensive pressure from the Owls. A coverage sack and a tremendous all out rush kept Scottie Moore off balance and forced the Broncos to punt for the first time. With a little over three minutes left in the

half, the Owls began to drive the ball again.

Defensive plays by Jared Parks, Israel Arevalo, Landon Brockman, Justin Sims, and Thomas Bloodworth would force the Owls to try a field goal from the Bronco fourteen. A high snap that the Owl holder could not handle would thwart the attempt. For the final nineteen seconds of the first half; The Broncos would keep the ball on the ground to close out the half. Sonora 0 Reagan County 21.

A defensive struggle ensued in the third quarter. Both teams would have three possessions each in this quarter. Three punts (two by Sonora, one by Reagan County), a fumble by the Owls with Bronco linebacker, Lance Roberts, recovering, and the Broncos turning the ball over on downs. Neither team could advance the ball across the mid-field stripe. Both teams began to pick up the pace in the fourth quarter. The Owls first possession of the fourth quarter would end in a twenty-three yard field-goal by James Martinez. With eight and a half minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Owls had a commanding 24 to 0 lead over Sonora. Needing points, the Broncos went to the air on their next possession. The pass from Scottie Moore would be intercepted by Reagan County's Ross Parker, who would return it to the Sonora four yard line. Power running by Allan Harrison would be all the Owls would need to notch their final touchdown of the game. Martinez would add the Owl's thirty-first point to put the icing on the cake. Broncos 0 - Owls 31.

Sonora, not throwing in the towel, responded with a three minute - fifty-three yard drive on their next possession. Runs by Diego Cardona, Chris Martin, Emmanuel Lopez, and Dustin Martin; along with pass receptions by Juan Rodriguez and Doug Yocham would advance the football to the Owl two yard line. A diving Juan Rodriguez would get the Broncos only touchdown of the game. Needing points, the Broncos went for two. Owl defenders, Michael Reyes and Cameron Lee would smelt out the attempt and stop Emmanuel Lopez just short of the goal line. With four minutes and fifty seconds left to play in the game, the score board now read: Sonora 6 - Reagan County 31.

An enthused Bronco defense picked up the pressure on the Owls next possession. Three plays and out. However, a forty-one yard punt that would be downed at the Bronco one. Ninety-nine yards and only three minutes left in the game. An overly aggressive Owl defense would limit the Broncos to thirty-six yards as the final buzzer would sound. Sonora 6 - Reagan County 31.

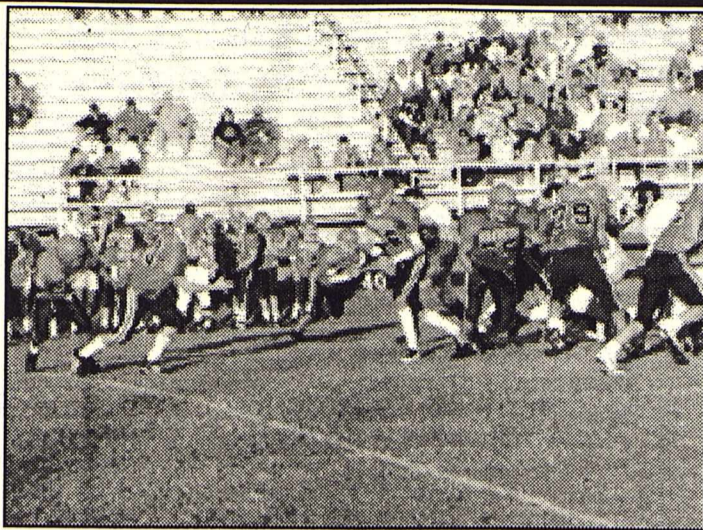
Friday the Bronco Express will try to get back on track against the Eldorado Eagles. Game time is at 7:30 p.m. at Eagle Stadium in Eldorado. We need to fill the stands on Friday and show the Broncos that you are still behind them. There are still four district games to be played and the Red Hosses still have a good chance at the play-offs; as well as a possible District Championship.

So drive up to Eldorado and cheer the Broncos on to victory!
GOOD LUCK BRONCOS!!!!
- BEAT ELDORADO!!

Colts Have Tough Games Against Reagan County

The 7th and 8th Grade Colts traveled to Big Lake to play the Reagan County Owls last Thursday. It must not have been Sonora's week. Neither one of the Colt teams were able to come out on top.

The 7th Grade Scores were: Sonora 8, Reagan Co. 14.
The 8th Grade Scores were: Sonora 0, Reagan Co. 16.



J.V. Quarterback Clint Cearley (#15) tosses the ball to #40 Cameron Cox to make a move against Big Lake.
Photo by Ray Glasscock

JV Broncos Lose Close One to JV Owls

by Ray Glasscock

Thursday night at Bronco Stadium the game between the Broncos JV team and the JV Owls was really decided in the last quarter of the game. Big Lake lined up for the point after their third touchdown when the right side of the Bronco line led by Embre Smith blocked the kick. This kept the game within reach for the Broncos to pull out a win.

This was a game of a blocked points, high deep snaps, partially blocked punts, long runs for touchdowns, long runs after passes for touchdowns, and three grinding drives down the field for touchdowns.

On the third play of the game, Stetson Perez took the pitch and ran for a 60-yard touchdown. Cameron Cox kicked the extra point to give the Broncos a 7 to 0 lead.

Big Lake started at the 29 after a good tackle on the kick-off by Hilton Bloodworth. Big Lake moved the chains three times mainly on the legs of Joey Garcia. The Broncos' Anthony Longoria stopped the drive when he intercepted an Owl pass. However, the Broncos were not able to capitalize on the turnover.

On the Owls' next possession, Adrian Carrasco rushed for a short touchdown and they also kicked the extra point to tie the game at 7.

The Broncos next drove the field using Stetson Perez, Uriel Santana, Chris Perez, and Cox to carry the ball. The Bronco drive ended when the Owls intercepted a Clint Cearley pass.

When the Owls took over, they started a long drive. The Bronco defense lead by Bloodworth, Cox, Stetson Perez and Roland Solis played tough but couldn't keep Carrasco out of the endzone. The half ended 14 to 7.

The second half began with District Preview: Next Up - Eldorado Eagles

by Nancy Glasscock

This Friday the Sonora Broncos take on the Eldorado Eagles in Eldorado. The Eagles were 3-7 last year and lost 15 senior lettermen with graduation.

The Eagles have a new head coach, Gary Grubbs who last coached the Pecos Eagles.

Eldorado is 1-0 in district after defeating Grape Creek last week. The Eagles were 2-3 in non-district play. They defeated 1A Rankin and 2A Mason. 1A Iraan, Christoval and Menard all defeated the Eagles.

Quisto Gonzalez, number 5 is the Eagles' starting running back and also plays linebacker. Number 12, Landon Nixon is the other running back for Eldorado. Trey Chavez is the quarterback. In the Iraan game, Chavez repeatedly tried to pass to number 8, Mike Adame the Eagles' tight end.

Defensively number 7, Ray Buitron, a linebacker, leads the team with tackles. Quisto Gonzalez plays outside linebacker and has had success coming off the edge in past games.

Philip Martinez, number

the Big Lake kick returner bobbling the ball at the two. The Broncos allowed one first down and then partially blocked the punt.

Again the Bronco offense could not capitalize on the good field position. Travis Heard made a long punt that was fumbled by the Owl receiver who had signaled for a fair catch. The Broncos were not to be denied on this opportunity. Embre Smith came in as quarterback. He and Stetson rushed the ball to the Bronco 18. Then Cearley came back in and hit Anthony Longoria in the endzone for the Bronco touchdown. The Broncos went for two but were stopped by the Owls making the score 14 to 13.

With eight minutes left in the game, the Owls struck quickly. Jonathan Gonzales hauled in a short pass and turned it into a 60-yard catch and run for the Owl touchdown. The Owls' kick was blocked by Embre Smith making the score 20 to 13.

The Broncos started their last drive late in the game with a chance to win or tie. Facing a fourth and long, Longoria made an NFL type catch (catching the ball right before going out of bounds dragging both toes to stay inbounds) for the first down. Two plays later, Cearley once again went to Longoria in the endzone for the win. This time, the pass fell incomplete, as it appeared that the Owl defender knocked the ball loose. Then the Broncos tried the option play to Cox who was tackled inbounds. With time running out, Cearley spiked the ball to stop the clock for one more play. His last pass of the game fell incomplete to end the exciting game.

The J.V. Broncos play Eldorado at home Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

21, the safety is second on the team in tackles.

District 2-2A standings:

Ozona	6 - 0	1 - 0
Reagan County	5 - 1	1 - 0
Eldorado	3 - 3	1 - 0
Sonora	3 - 3	0 - 1
Wall	2 - 4	0 - 1
Grape Creek	2 - 4	0 - 1

This week Reagan County travels to Ozona and Grape Creek travels to Wall. The game in Eldorado begins at 7:30. Come out early to support your Broncos.

2002 Bronco Football Schedule
COLT FOOTBALL
Oct. 17 • Eldorado There • 5:00/6:30 p.m.
Oct. 24 • Wall Home • 5:00/6:30
Oct. 31 • Ozona There • 5:00/6:30 p.m.
JV FOOTBALL
Oct. 17 • Eldorado Home 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 24 • Wall There • 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 31 • Ozona Home • 6:30 p.m.
VARSITY
Oct. 18 • *Eldorado There • 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 25 • *Wall Home • 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 1 • *Ozona There • 7:30 p.m.

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The Heart of San Antonio

Williams Rolls Out Plan to Increase Texas Production

Austin, Texas – Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Michael Williams today outlined an investment tax credit initiative to encourage exploratory drilling for new oil and gas reserves in Texas.

"As Texas grows, the demand for energy is increasing. Our search for new energy reserves must increase as well," said Williams. "Texas is the number one producer of oil and natural gas in the country and Texas consumers enjoy energy costs lower than the national average. According to Williams, "to keep Texas energy first, ensure reasonable energy costs for Texas consumers, protect thousands of Texas oilfield jobs and keep millions of energy dollars flowing into the Texas economy, we must find and produce more Texas energy."

A modest increase in exploratory drilling of 25% could, conservatively, generate the equivalent of 20,000,000 barrels of oil, \$400 million in new oil and gas revenue and \$34 million in new severance taxes, alone, to the state. Local communities and the state would also reap increased sales and ad valorem tax revenue with the increase in the state's reserves.

Reserves are the producible amounts of oil and gas that have been found but have not yet been taken out of the ground. The state has a reserve base of approximately 5 billion barrels of oil and 42 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. From this reserve base, over the past years, Texas operators have produced on average approximately 400 million barrels of oil and 5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas annual-

ly. Most of Texas production comes from developmental wells—those wells drilled in already established fields. In 2001, Texas operators drilled some 12,000 wells, but only 500 of them were the exploratory wells that grow the state's reserve base.

Under Chairman Williams' proposal an operator who drills an exploratory well would earn an investment tax credit against his future severance tax liability if the number of exploratory wells drilled statewide exceeded the statewide average by 5% or a total of 525 exploratory wells.

The amount of the tax credit would depend on the depth of the well—with deeper, more expensive wells receiving a greater tax credit. For the average exploratory well drilled in Texas approximately 8,000 feet, the tax credit would be \$74,000. That credit would save operators about 10% of the cost of drilling the well.

Williams concluded the Capitol press conference by stating, "We owe it to Texas and the Nation to do all we can to increase domestic oil and gas production and reduce our dependence on volatile foreign nations for our energy resources."

Oil & Agribusiness

Rig Locations as of October 11, 2002

RigDATA
 A Rig Location & Permit Report Service

Sutton County
New Dominion; 8700' Mayer - 3D - #3, Patterson Drilling.
Dominion; 8600' Hudspeth - 53 - #6, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 8550' Randee Hill - Fawcett, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 7250' Shurley - 165 - #4, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 6250' Meckel - A - #51, Patterson Drilling.
New Dominion; 6000' Wallace - 113 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett County
New Range Production; 9500' TE Glasscock #7, Patterson Drilling.
New Capataz Operating; 9300' S E Couch #2; Patterson Drilling.
New RME Petro, 7200' Bagget - 28 - #2, Patterson Drilling.
New Harrison Interests; 6800' University Land 19 - 30 #49, Patterson Drilling.

Terrell
ExxonMobil Dev. Co.; 16000' Banner Estate #25, Patterson UTI/LV.
Conoco; 15300' Culbertson - 16 - #3, H. Nabors Drilling.
Athamor Texas; 10000' Mitchell - 3 - #2, Nabors Drilling.
EOG Res; 12500' Noelke - 5 - #1 H, TMBR/Sharp Drilling.
New Fasken Oil & Ranch; 7500' Geaslin NW - 205 - #38, Patterson Drilling.

Edwards
Dominion; 4500' Wittenburg #1501, Patterson Drilling.

Val Verde
Marshall & Winston; 14500' B E Wilson - 11 - #1, Patterson Drilling.

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TFB President Urges Action in Mexico Water Controversy

WACO – The United States government has officially "reminded" the government of Mexico that it is now in violation of a 1944 water treaty, but Texas farmers and ranchers think stronger words are in order.

In a letter to President George W. Bush, the president of Texas' largest farm organization said Mexico should be officially declared "out of compliance" with the treaty.

Noting that the U.S. government's actions toward Mexico on the treaty issue have not amounted to more than a "slap on the wrist," Texas Farm Bureau President Donald

Listeria Outbreak Prompts Meat Recall

On Sunday, U.S. poultry producer Pilgrim's Pride recalled 27.4 million pounds of fresh and frozen ready-to-eat turkey and chicken products due to listeria concerns.

The company said the recall occurred after tests at its Franconia, PA, plant discovered a strain of listeria similar to the one identified in an outbreak in the U.S. Northeast, responsible for 23 deaths and 120 illnesses.

The company stopped pro-

Speaker Asks Bonilla To Preside Over Historic Iraq Debate

duction at that plant and recalled meat products made between May 1 and Oct. 11.

This recall exceeds the previously largest recall of 25 million pounds of ground beef by Hudson Foods in 1997.

Bonilla Votes in Favor of President's Resolution

by Henry Bonilla, R

At the request of Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, Rep. Henry Bonilla presided this week over the historic Iraq debate in the House of Representatives. Bonilla currently serves on the Defense and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittees and plays an active role in funding any defense and foreign related issues.

A resolution authorizing a possible U.S. strike on Iraq was the topic of the debate. Speaker Hastert requested Bonilla to serve as Speaker Pro Tempore during the debate, which gave Bonilla the authority to oversee debate, accept motions and recognize members who wish to speak. Most importantly, the Speaker requested that Bonilla ensure order and decorum were maintained during this "critical discussion."

In addition to presiding over the historic debate, Bonilla made remarks, which will appear in the Congressional Record. "Today, we are debating the most fundamental issues we face as a Congress and as a country. Today we are debating whether to send America's sons and daughters into harm's way, whether a threat exists to America's security and whether we need to act now or wait. We have no more grave responsibility as legislators than defending our nation and democratic way of life," said Bonilla.

"No one wants war, and it is my earnest hope that our actions... will convince Saddam Hussein that he must disarm and give up his goal of acquiring nuclear weapons," Bonilla said. "However, we can only succeed in avoiding war if Saddam Hussein is convinced that he risks war and the destruction of his regime if he continues to defy us."

At the conclusion of debate, Bonilla joined his colleagues in the House of Representatives and voted to uphold our national security by granting the president the authority to use force against Iraq, should the need arise.

"For more than a decade, Saddam Hussein has continued to deceive and defy the international community. Iraq has forbidden UN weapons inspectors and instead has continued to develop weapons of mass destruction. The world must hold Saddam Hussein responsible for his defiance, and we must do so before he unleashes one of these catastrophic weapons upon innocent civilians," said Bonilla.

"Now more than ever, we need to stand by the President and remain a unified nation. I encourage the people of America to follow the lead of Congress and give the Bush Administration our full backing and support," said Bonilla.

Bonilla has represented the 23rd Congressional District of Texas since his first election in 1992. He currently serves on three Appropriations committees including the Defense and Foreign Operations Subcommittees. Bonilla is chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee.

Patman wrote, "It is obvious that Mexico has no intention of honoring the treaty-even though ample water reserves are available."

The treaty's latest five-year cycle expired on October 2. Mexico is required under the treaty's terms to allow 350,000-acre feet of water flow to the Rio Grande River annually, while the U.S. allows 1.5-million acre-feet to flow into the Colorado. Mexico has not met obligations for the last two five-year cycles.

"Data clearly shows that Mexico has the ability to meet most, if not all, of its treaty obligations. However, it has purposely ignored the treaty and should be held accountable," said Patman, a grain, cotton and cattle producer from Waxahachie. Patman also said that Mexico has withheld the water for agricultural use in the Mexican state of Chihuahua.

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Commissioner's Court from page 1

to sell in their recent auction. Oscar proposed that the County agree to trade out labor during the seal coating project for the cost of the truck. The Court agreed that this was a good idea. Jimenez also reported that the roof at the Civic Center was leaking again after the recent rains. The new leak is on the West side of the building, opposite from the problems that had recently been repaired. Judge Garner stated that Glen Fisher was looking into this matter.

County Attorney David Wallace reported \$536.81 collected in hot check recovery.

The Clerks office reported \$12,890.57 collected from the county clerk and \$4933.87 collected from the district clerk.

Judge Garner reported to the court that Verizon will be burning some lines under county roads and a question of right-of-way had been posed. After much discussion on this issue, no action was taken.

The Court approved a bond of the Chief Tax Appraiser and the Deputy Clerk.

The court then approved for the Sonora I.S.D. to move the fence at the softball field to make it regulation size. This

change will also allow for another T-ball field. The school will be responsible for the cost.

County Clerk, Betty Hernandez informed the Court that the Alternate Judge for Pct. 2, Jean Davenport, moved, so a new Alt. Judge would have to be appointed. She said that she had spoken with Gail Cade, who agreed to take the position. The court approved Cade as the Alt. Judge for Pct. 2.

Upon a motion by Castaneda, seconded by Villanueva and approved by all it was agreed to allow Crockett County to enter in to the Concho Valley Housing Finance Program.

A request from a citizen regarding assistance with the burial of a past Sutton County resident was refused because it did not comply with the current policy for such matters.

Friends of Historic Sonora, mgr. Ann Kay informed the court that the Sutton County Courthouse had been nominated for the Best Restoration Project for the Texas Downtown Association. The meeting was then adjourned.

Eaton Hill from page 4

haps sixty to two hundred were seen nesting in trees north of town last week. Eastward, the Howorths reported hundreds of butterflies over the weekend as opposed to the thousands that typically cover the large oak branches in their yard. However, monarchs are still being sighted in Iowa and we may not have seen the last of this years travelers. Ten to fifteen thousand were reported from Abilene on October 7th and an observer in Hunt estimated up to 39,000 in the area October 13th. Sonora Middle School has been participating in the Monarch Watch for three years. Students of Shelly Shannon and Carol Love's science classes caught and tagged nineteen monarch on October 11th. Data collected and recorded by the students goes into a national study administered by the University of Kansas. Two of the previously tagged butterflies were captured again in Mexico and that information

was relayed back to students. Numbers appear to have decreased from last year, but the final analysis will take place after the migration is completed. Search the web with key words "monarch migration" to follow the developments.

Over homecoming weekend, Dan Eaton, from whose family the hill is named, visited the Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. Mr. Eaton said he was impressed with the development progress and that he and his family are very pleased to see the land used in a way that can be enjoyed by so many people. It is a wonderful family legacy. If you plan a special event or would like to relate an interesting experience you have on Eaton Hill, please call Delyse Jaeger at 387-2061. Our thanks to the community for all the support we have received. The trails can be slippery in places following the recent rains, so take advantage of the walking sticks provided. See

*****Stargazer*****

[To readers of The Devil's River News: Welcome to Stargazer, an every-other-week column for all who find beauty and wonder in the night sky. Hoping you'll find Stargazer informative and entertaining, I welcome your comments, questions and ideas for column topics, and look forward to hearing from you. --Paul Derrick]

The evenings of October are a good time to see most of the night sky's water world, a region in which all the constellations relate to water: a river, a person who carries water, a shore bird, and six critters who live in the sea. It's a huge region stretching from Capricornus, which is next to the summer sky's Sagittarius, to Eridanus which is next to winter's Orion.

Although one of the largest sky regions, it's also one of the faintest, composed mostly of stars that can be seen only under very dark skies. The entire region contains but one bright, 1st-magnitude star visible from our latitude.

At the western end of the water world is Capricornus the Sea Goat, seen 40 degrees above the southern horizon at 9 p.m. (The width of your fist held at arm's length is about 10 degrees.) Capricornus is shaped like a huge boomerang or fat banana.

Almost twice as far up in

the south is the small Delphinus the Dolphin. With a little imagination, its half dozen stars actually resemble a tiny dolphin. Just to its lower left is Equuleus the Horse (which I regard as a seahorse since he lives in the water world). Don't bother trying to find Equuleus -- he's small, faint and doesn't look like a horse.

Immediately above and left of Capricornus is the large Aquarius the Water Carrier, also composed of faint stars which really don't resemble anything recognizable.

Beneath Capricornus is Piscis Austrinus the Southern Fish. Most of its stars are faint, but it does host the water world's only 1st-magnitude star, Fomalhaut (pronounced "foam-a-lot"). Right now Fomalhaut is 20 degrees above the horizon in the south southeast in the early evening. As the only bright star in this part of the sky, it's easy to spot.

Just below Piscis Austrinus is Grus the Crane. Grus has a couple of moderately bright stars, but being near the horizon is rather difficult to see.

Coming up in the east are Pisces the Fish and Cetus the Sea Monster (Whale). Pisces contains no bright stars and is difficult to see even under dark skies. Cetus does have a few brighter stars but is now low in

the east. The water world's final constellation, Eridanus the River, is not yet above the horizon. Some of these constellations are probably unfamiliar -- had you heard of Equuleus or Eridanus? Three, however, are familiar -- Capricornus, Aquarius and Pisces. Since the Sun, Moon and planets pass through them, they are constellations of the zodiac (which astronomers call the ecliptic).

SKY CALENDAR
* Mercury is visible above the rising Sun low in the east shortly before sunrise with Mars just above it.

* The Oct. 21 full Moon, called Hunter's Moon, will all but wash out the Orionid meteor shower which peaks the same night.

* The Moon is at 3rd quarter Oct. 28.

* Venus, fast sinking into the setting Sun, reaches inferior conjunction Oct. 31 when it passes between Earth and Sun, after which it will move into the morning sky to become the "morning star."

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 pjderick@aol.com. See the Stargazer Web site at stargazerpaul.com.

School Lunch from page 1

Through Team Nutrition, a comprehensive, behavior-based plan, the USDA assists schools by supporting food service personnel with important training. New recipes are now created by teams of dietitians and chefs, and then taste-tested by children. As a result, more children are enjoying lunches that are lower in fat, saturated fat, and sodium.

To motivate children to make sound choices, Team Nutrition also educates them about the benefits of healthy eating. State and local governments are supplementing these programs through innovative partnerships with educators, school administrators, community organizations, the food industry, and others. Through these cooperative efforts we are addressing solutions to health problems, such as the increasing incidence of childhood obesity, and we are enhancing access to nutrition programs for needy children.

During National School Lunch Week, we recognize the hard work and dedication of the thousands of food service professionals who plan and prepare meals, and provide vital nutritional education to our young people.

In recognition of the contributions of the National School Lunch Program to the health, education, and well-being of our Nation's children, the Congress, by joint resolution of October 9, 1962 (Public Law 87-780), as amended, has designated the week beginning on the second Sunday in October of each year as "National School Lunch Week" and has requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 13 through October 19, 2002, as National School Lunch Week. I call upon all Americans to join the dedicated individuals who administer the National School Lunch Program at the State and local levels in appropriate activities and celebrations that promote all programs that support the health and well-being of our Nation's children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

GEORGE W. BUSH

School Board from page 1

ed a certificate for the Elementary campus.

Myers explained to the Board that he is trying to get a better handle on maintenance problems around the District. He has comprised a series of spreadsheets that are priority coded. The sheets will be updated for the Board on a monthly basis, so that everyone is aware of the necessary maintenance repairs and what has been taken care of. Myers completed the Superintendent's report by stating that the architects, surveyors, plumbers, electricians, etc. had all met in San Antonio and were getting closer to a final design.

Boardmember Jesse Bustamante asked if the light problem in the High School parking lot had been looked into and Myers reported that the State would have to do any repairs to the lights. Boardmember Barbara Jennings asked if the leaking roofs at the Middle School were in the plans for repair. Tryon Fields said that

this was not part of the Bond project and would have to be handled separately.

Alice Cox gave an update on the grants she had applied for that would be used for technology for students with disabilities. Cox informed the Board that the first request for 10% of the funds required from the District had been reduced to 5%. She said that the grant was delivered to Austin this week and a decision would be made by November 4th as to whether Sonora receives the grant. She concluded that it looks favorable that the grant will be received.

High School counselor Christy Bell gave an annual Performance Report for Safe and Drug Free Schools. Bell reported that Sonora I.S.D. had done well on the report, with a very limited use of alcohol, tobacco, drug or weapons being reported.

The Board approved to certify the Tax roll for 2002 with a tax levy of \$8,662,560.75. They

also approved a bond for Sutton County Appraisal District to collect taxes.

A budget amendment was made due to a donation of \$8500 from the Booster Club. The money will be used for all athletics, where needed.

Superintendent Brant Myers was approved as an additional Tex Pool Representative to deal with account issues.

Upon a motion by Bustamante, seconded by Jacoby, the Board approved a bid of \$24,431.14 from Genuine Chevrolet in Anson for a new Pick-up truck. They also approved a bid of \$26,529.55 from All-American in San Angelo for a Van.

Myers then presented a Resolution in Support of Legislative Action to Guarantee Adequacy and Equity in School Finance to be approved. He then showed a video explaining how important it is for education to be brought to the forefront of legislative issues.

A CLEAR CHOICE

PUBLIC SERVICE

ENDORSEMENTS:

- Texas Farm Bureau
- Veterans of Foreign Wars — PAC
- Texas Association of Business
- National Rifle Association

AWARDS:

- Guardian of Small Business (NFIB)
- Property Rights Champion (League of Private Property Voters)
- American Cancer Society Public Policy Leadership
- Friend of the Taxpayer Award (Americans for Tax Reform)
- Champion of Small Business (Small Business Survival Committee)
- Guardian of Seniors' Rights
- National Association of Community Health Centers Champion of the Year Award
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- Co-Chair Community Health Center Caucus
- Rural Health Care Coalition (Steering Committee Member)



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WHY did Henry Cuellar request *compensation pay*, expecting taxpayers to pay his salary as Secretary of State, *even after he left?*

WHY did Henry Cuellar suddenly *quit* the Texas Legislature, leaving his district without representation as *a critical legislative session* began?

WHY did Henry Cuellar pass *laws that benefitted his business?*

WHY did Henry Cuellar *give up* our seniority in the State House and now wants to take away our seniority in the US Congress?

WHY is Henry Cuellar supported by Hillary Clinton and Ted Kennedy?

HENRY CUELLAR TOO MANY QUESTIONS TOO LITTLE TRUST

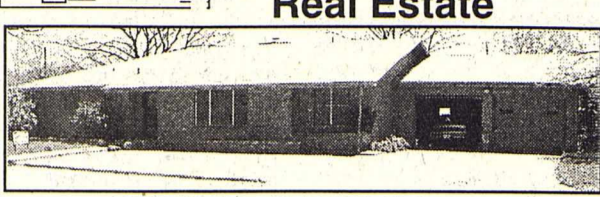


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 411 N. Poplar \$79,500 - Contract Pending
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 115 N. Concho \$108,000
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Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
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 Construction Division
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 Austin, Texas 78704
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District Office(s)
 San Angelo District
 District Engineer
 4502 Knickerbocker Rd
 San Angelo, Texas 76904
 Phone: 915-944-1501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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