

# THE Devil's River NEWS

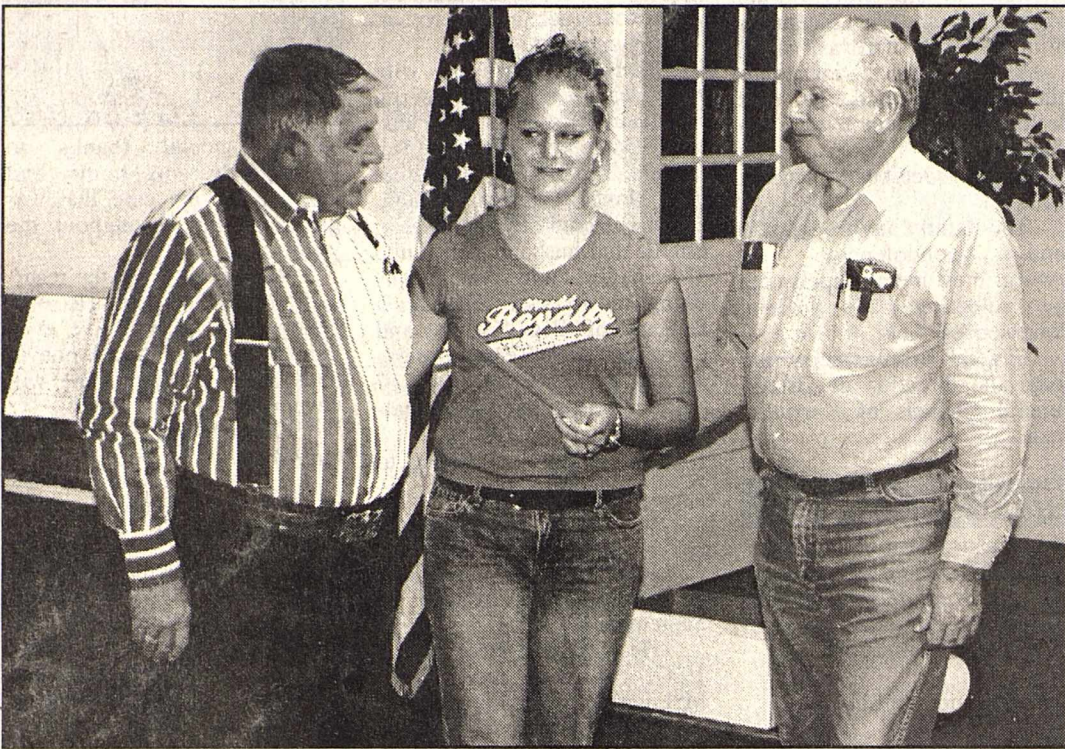
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Since 1890

Volume 115 • Issue 42

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, October 9, 2003



## Sonora Downtown Lions Club honors Student of the Month

by Storie Sharp

Amanda Word was chosen as the Sonora Downtown Lions Club "Student of the Month". The honor is awarded monthly to a student at Sonora High School, chosen by the faculty. Lions Club Queen, Brea Hughes introduced Amanda, a junior,

telling that she is active in basketball, cross-country, softball and tennis. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, FFA, Bronco Spirit Crew and the Spanish Club. Lions Club President Frank Wamble and District Governor Virgil Polocsek proudly presented Amanda with a certificate and extended an

invitation to lunch on Tuesdays for the rest of the month. A new student will be chosen each month. The Lions then held their regular meeting with a special program provided by Marlyn Young, who told about the reading program at the school.

## Ori White not seeking third term

Ft. Stockton - Ori White, 112th District Attorney, announced today that he will not seek a third term in office.

"It has been an honor to serve the citizens of the 112th District. I want to express my appreciation to the voters for allowing me to serve. I am truly grateful to God for being able to serve as D.A. During my tenure as D.A., I have had the privilege of working with some of the finest law officers in Texas. I am very thankful to have had the greatest staff I could have ever imagined. I want to thank the following members of our office: Shirley School, 112th D.A. Administrator, for always going the extra mile; my extraordinary legal assistants Gloria Waddell, Pam Rubio and Janet Pullen for always keeping us organized and ready for trial; Rebecca Ureta for truly caring for the victims and their families; My First Assistant District Attorney, Laurie English, and Assistant

D.A.'s Allison Palmer and Anthony Smith for your diligence and devotion to the cause of justice; and my investigator, James Quintana for excelling in every aspect of his duties. Together we seized and forfeited in excess of \$2,500,000 in drug money, successfully prosecuted four Capital Murders and, thus far, have won every single appeal because of our having a very wise trial judge, Brock Jones, Jr."

"In addition, I want to thank all those who supported and prayed for us during the last two terms. My staff and I are truly grateful. Finally, I want to thank Marianne for being such an awesome wife, and my great boys Tad, Matthew and Mitchell."

When asked what his future plans are, White stated, "My family and I have always wanted to live in the mountains where we can hunt, fish and ski and that is exactly what we are going to do."

## Keys left in vehicle results in theft

by Storie Sharp

Dropping off a video can be a costly errand if your car is stolen while you are in the store. This is exactly what happened to a Sonora resident on Wednesday, October 18, 2003, at approximately 5:45 p.m. She left her red, 4-door, 1995 Eagle Vision running while she ran in to return a video at The Video Store on Crockett Ave. When she came out, the car was gone. Sonora Police Officer Eric Byrne was dispatched to the scene to take the report of a stolen vehicle. The woman reported passing a bearded stranger on her way in, but didn't think anything of it. Officer Byrne dispatched the description of the vehicle and a search began. Sutton County Game Warden Will Allison contacted dispatch that he had seen the described stranger prior to the incident, crossing the street near The Video Store, and gave a detailed description. Attempts to locate the vehicle in the area were unsuccessful.

Descriptions were passed on to surrounding counties. At approximately 6:45 p.m. a vehicle matching the description of the stolen Vision was spotted in Kimble County. An attempt to stop the vehicle ended in a high speed pursuit through Kimble County to Menard County. Several vehicles were forced off the road and law enforcement vehicles were damaged in the pursuit. The driver was finally captured in Menard and refused to identify himself. He was later transported back to Sutton County where he was charged with Theft of a Vehicle.

Automobile theft is one of the fastest rising types of crime, and, while no car can be made completely theft-proof, there are some simple deterrents that can make the act of stealing a car much more difficult for the criminal.

The most common ways that thieves gain access to cars are through unlocked doors or windows and keys left in the ignition. Remember that the longer it takes to steal a car, the less the chances are that a thief will take the time. In many cases they will simply move on to an easier mark.

Insurance claims for car theft may also be turned down if you are careless when leaving your car unlocked or the keys in the ignition.

The Sonora Police Department reminds readers that it is a Class C Misdemeanor, Traffic Violation to leave your car running while unattended. It is also against the law to leave children unattended in a vehicle. Even the short time it takes to run in and grab a coke, or return a video, is long enough to lose your vehicle and/or your child.

Here are some suggestions to make a thief's job more difficult:

- Always park a car in a well-lit area, where it can be easily seen by others. A car parked in alleyway or other dark place is a prime target.

- When leaving a car with a valet or parking attendant, always remove other keys and leave only the ignition keys. Allowing attendants to have home and trunk keys puts your belongings in danger of unscrupulous parking personnel. After recording any key numbers etched into your keys, have those numbers removed by a locksmith. These numbers can be used to duplicate your keys and steal your car later. Also, do not leave car registration or titles in the glove compartment. These papers contain a great deal of personal information that could be used in burglaries or other crimes.

- If you have expensive custom wheels on your car,

invest in locking lug nuts to prevent wheel theft.

- If you store belongings or packages inside the car while you are away from it, put them out of sight or in the trunk. If you must be away from your car for an extended time, disconnect the battery cable before leaving. This will mean that a thief must open your hood and reconnect the cable before starting your car. Most thieves try to work quickly and this could make the thief move on.

- Use more than one anti-theft device and have them installed by a professional since some can damage a car if improperly used. Some effective devices are alarms. The Club, which rests across the steering wheel, and metal collars which cover the steering column and have key locks. Also invest in a locking gas cap. If your car runs out of gas, the thief is likely to abandon it if it cannot be refueled.

- Use an electric etcher to write your VIN number (vehicle identification number) on your fender and inside doors on the metal molding. Reselling a car with this identification attached can be difficult and thieves might bypass your car after seeing this.

- After affixing the registration sticker to the license plate, cut an "X" through it with a razor blade. This will make the sticker useless if stolen since it will fall apart when removed.

- If a car is parked in a driveway, park with the hood facing the street. If a thief tries to raise the hood, he runs the risk of being seen.

- Finally, when purchasing a car, check theft statistics for that model. Some cars are more likely to be stolen than others. This is definitely something to consider before a purchase as well as for insurance coverage.

## TCEQ to collect hazardous waste and recyclables

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is offering rural Texans the opportunity to dispose of banned or unwanted pesticides, household hazardous waste, properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers, used motor oil, oil filters, and lead acid batteries, free of charge. The TCEQ will also be exchanging (fever) mercury thermometers for non-mercury (fever) thermometers. The purpose of this collection campaign is to offer rural areas the same recycling opportunities as metropolitan areas.

This collection is from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. and will be held on Monday, October 20, 2003, at the Sutton County 4-H Civic Center in Sonora.

Household hazardous wastes that will be collected include automotive waste products, such as antifreeze, brake, and transmission fluids; oil painting supplies, such as old paint, solvents, varnishes, paint strippers, and wood preservatives; gardening supplies, such as pesticides, insecticides, fertilizers, weed killers, and rat poison; and old cleaning supplies, such as polishes, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, concentrated cleaners, moth balls, and cleaning concentrates.

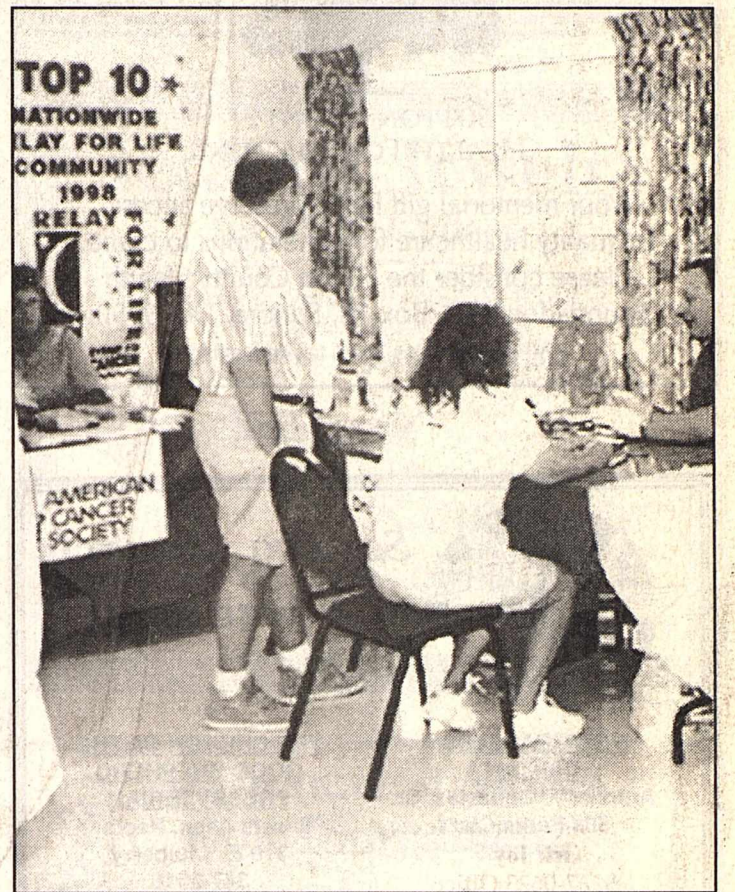
All agricultural chemicals will be accepted excluding pesticides or herbicides containing 2,4,5-T - Silvex (quantities less than 5-gallons will be accepted); explosives; compressed gas cylinders; fertilizers or nutrient materials that are neither hazardous nor contain pesticide admixtures; and pesticides or wood preservatives containing pentachlorophenol.

Empty plastic pesticide containers must be clean, triple-rinsed, or high-pressure rinsed to be accepted. There is a two-drum limit per participant on oil filter recycling, and filters will not be accepted from businesses that change oil for free.

Texas Country Cleanup is co-sponsored by the TCEQ's Small Business and Environmental Assistance Division, Texas Cooperative Extension Service, Texas Department of Agriculture, and USAg Recycling.

For more information about these collections, please contact your local county extension agent.

## Health fair to offer free screenings, bicycle safety and much more



Visitors to the Sutton County Health Fair get their blood sugar tested.

The Sutton County Health Fair will be held Wednesday, October 22, 2003, at Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Annex. The fair will include many health vendors providing a host of health information. Vendor tables will open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Many free screenings will be offered, including:

Cholesterol Screening (Lipid Profile), Blood Sugar, Prostate Specific Antigen or PSA, Blood Pressure, Diabetic Foot Screening, and Hearing Exams.

Blood Screening will begin at 7:30 a.m. and patients wishing free cholesterol and blood sugar screening must be fasting from midnight. Fasting is not required for PSA testing.

Other screenings and

exams will be offered at a small fee to include: Osteoporosis Screening and Flu Shots.

Many children's activities are planned in the Kids Tent, to include Safe Kids, Roll-Over Convincer, Sutton County EMS and AirMed 1, Safe Kids, Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital and the Sutton County EMS will host a bicycle helmet give-away and bike rodeo at 3:30. The give-away and rodeo will take place at the Hudspeth Hospital Annex. Helmets are available to the first 100 participants. Please bring your child and bicycle. Helmet sizing will begin at 3:30 p.m. and the bike rodeo will immediately follow.

For more information, please contact 387-2521.

## Traffic stop reveals hidden money

### \$164,863 found in hidden compartment under truck bed; one arrested for laundering



Trooper Norbert Ortiz finds hidden cash in truck bed.

by Storie Sharp

At approximately 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2003, Texas State Trooper, Norbert Ortiz was on routine patrol when he clocked a west bound 1996 Ford Ranger traveling at 79 mph in a 55 mph construction zone.

After the vehicle was stopped for the speeding violation, Trooper Ortiz noticed that the driver, Luis A. Rivera, 62, of Orlando, Florida, was extremely nervous and evasive to general questions. Verbal consent to

search the vehicle was obtained from Rivera. A search of the front passenger side disclosed that the passenger airbag had been removed and a natural void had been recently used to conceal some type of contraband.

Further investigation revealed a one inch discrepancy underneath the bed of the Ranger. After removing six bolts holding down the bed, it tilted back, revealing the suspected storage area.

Trooper Ortiz discovered several bundles of cellophane

and aluminum wrapped stacks of U.S. currency, in amounts of \$5,000 per stack.

A total of \$164,863 in cash was confiscated.

Rivera, who is reported to have been traveling from Florida to California, was charged with 1st Degree Money Laundering and 2nd Degree Criminal Instrument and remains in the Sutton County Jail with bonds totaling approximately \$80,000, set by Justice of the Peace, Adelita Alvarez.

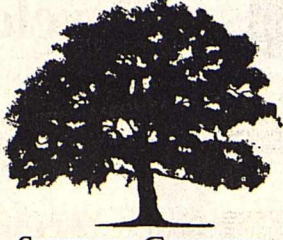


Obituaries


**Lighthouse  
Community Church**

*Knowing Him  
and making Him known.*

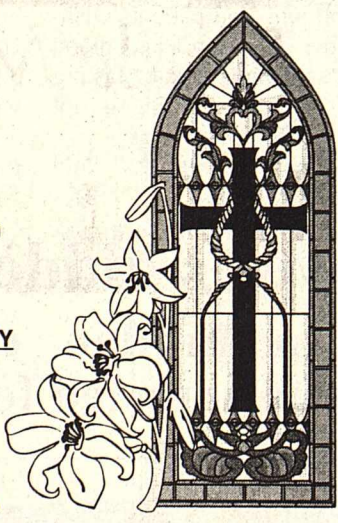
Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
Worship • 11:00 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.  
1705 N. Crockett

  
**SUTTON COUNTY  
HEALTH FOUNDATION**

Your memorial gift helps preserve access  
to quality healthcare for generations to come.  
Please consider the Sutton County Health  
Foundation, P.O. Box 18, Sonora, TX 76950.  
All contributions 100% tax deductible.

  
**Sonora Church  
Directory**

<p><b>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA</b> Antonio F. Gonzales, Sr. 504 Santa Clara 387-2035</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> Jerry Jackson 304 N. Water 387-3190</p> <p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</b> T. Wayne Price Pastor 111 E Oak 387-2951</p> <p><b>ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b> 404 E. Poplar 387-2955</p> <p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Rev. Conrad Archer, Pastor 201 N. Water 387-2466</p> <p><b>TEMPLO JERUSALEM ASAMBLEA DE DIOS</b> Enoc Elias Nunez 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713 387-3092</p> <p><b>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> Rev. Charles Huffman 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366</p> <p><b>NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER</b> Jerry &amp; Joy Wood 205 E. Main 387-3241</p> <p><b>LA IGLESIA HISPANA UNIDA DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC.</b> Pastor Felipe Martinez 807 Orient</p>	<p><b>THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN</b> Lewis Allen, Pastor 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616</p> <p><b>LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> Don Longoria, Pastor 1705 N. Crockett</p> <p><b>PENTECOSTAL CALVARY TEMPLE UNITED</b> 509 Amistad</p> <p><b>ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Father William DuBuisson, O.M.I. 229 W. Plum 387-2278</p> <p><b>JEHOVAH'S WITNESS</b> 310 St. Ann's Street 387-5658 or 387-5518</p>
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Brought to you by:  
**Kerbow Funeral Home**  
387-2266

**Jewel Louise Miller**  
August 24, 1914 - October 5, 2003

Jewel Louise Miller slipped the bonds of earth Sunday morning October 5, 2003, and returned home to her heavenly family.

Jewel was the first of five children born to Ida Mae Bricker and John Herbert West. She was born in Leesville, Texas, on August 24, 1914.

She retired to Kerrville, Texas, after the death of her husband in 1978.

She is preceded in death by her beloved parents, her loving husband Lenard and two brothers, Horace and Donald West.

She is survived by two sisters, June Spencer of Harper, Texas and Johni Mae Easterwood of Aransas Pass, Texas. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews and a host of loving friends and long ago students whose lives she touched very deeply.

Jewel knew all of her life that she would be a teacher and fulfilled that dream by teaching first graders for 47 years. She

began teaching at 18 years of age in Cheapside, Texas. She taught students in Cuero and Eldorado and then moved on to teach in Cloudcroft and Hobbs, New Mexico.

Jewel was a lifelong member of The Baptist Church and was very active in the Meals on Wheels program as well as Friends of the Library. She belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star and The Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

She was laid to rest alongside her husband at The Belleview Cemetery in Cheapside, Texas on Wednesday, October 8, 2003 at 1:00 p.m.

The family invites you to send condolences at [www.grimesfuneralchapels.com](http://www.grimesfuneralchapels.com) by selecting the "Send Condolences" link.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Grimes Funeral Chapels of Kerrville, Texas.

**Cards of Thanks**

The Lord and his angels were with Justin the morning of his accident and for this we are truly grateful. We would like to thank our friends and "Aggie" family for your prayers, telephone calls, visits, food, and kind expressions of concern during this time of recovery. May the Lord shower upon you his blessings.

Justin, Jimmy, Mary Jean and Cameron Sims

**Sonora will go NUTS for Girl Scouts**

Get ready Sonora residents, because the girls are coming to you soon with New selections on Girl Scout Nuts. Sales will begin on Friday, Oct. 10 and end on Sat. Oct. 25th. You must order some of the new flavors which are CAJUN MIX & PECAN SUPREMES. Don't worry we still have Honey Roasted Peanuts, Peanut Squares, Chocolate Covered Raisins & Almonds, plus Cashews, Mixed Nuts and the famous Peanut Brittle. PRE-PAID ORDERS ONLY. THANK YOU!!! You must place your order quickly so that you can enjoy your snacks during all those football games. Contact any Girl Scout Leader for more information: Tammy Favila, Marrisa Faz, Rita Mendez, Becky Levario, and Carrie Sinosic. Thanks for supporting Girl Scouts.

**School Lunch Menu • Oct. 13 -17, 2003**

**Breakfast**

**Mon.** - French toast sticks, syrup, assorted juice.  
**Tues.** - Scrambled eggs, toast, juice.  
**Wed.** - Oatmeal, assorted juice.  
**Thurs.** - Peanut butter toast, assorted juice.  
**Fri.** - Cinnamon roll, assorted juice.

**Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.**

**Lunch**

**Mon.** - Chicken nuggets, French fries, gravy, roll, strawberry cup.  
**Tues.** - Spaghetti with meat, mixed vegetables, roll, jello with fruit.  
**Wed.** - Soft taco (beef), cheese, salad, pinto beans, fruit crisp.  
**Thurs.** - Fish nuggets, macaroni & cheese, green beans, pineapple chunks.  
**Fri.** - BBQ on a bun, French fries, ketchup, carrot sticks, dressing, red jello with topping.

**Senior  
Center News**

- Oct. 13** - Columbus Day (Observed). Center Closed!
- Oct. 14** - Blood Pressure Checks with Intrepid USA Healthcare Service. 11:00 a.m.
- Oct. 15** - Van to San Angelo! Medicals come first - sign up now! Call 387-3941.
- Oct. 17** - Kooking with Kelly! Nutrition Education. Noon.

**Senior Menu**

- Oct. 13** - Columbus Day. Senior Center closed!
  - Oct. 14** - Meatballs & spaghetti with sauce, tossed salad, milk, spinach, French bread, banana pudding.
  - Oct. 15** - Pork chop with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, rolls, milk, fruit cocktail.
  - Oct. 16** - Ground beef & vermicelli, pinto beans, tossed salad, flour tortillas, mixed fruit cup, milk.
  - Oct. 17** - Pork roast with gravy, green beans, sweet potatoes, rolls, carrot cake, milk.
- 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.\**

**Zaragoza Beserra**

Zaragoza Beserra, age 85, of Sonora died October 3, 2003, at a San Angelo nursing home. Services were at 2:00 p.m. Monday, October 6, 2003 at St. Ann's Catholic Church with burial to follow in Sonora Cemetery.



He was born December 18, 1917, in Avoca, Iowa. He was preceded in death by his mom, Rafeala Tambunga, and sisters, Tamasa Duran, Elida Galindo, Petra Rodriguez, and a brother, Pedro Tambunga.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years Emelia V. Besserra, four daughter, Anna and husband Daniel Martinez of San Angelo, Guadalupe and husband Manuel Garcia of Sonora, Isabel Guzman of San Antonio, Emelia and husband Juan Lugo of Snyder and two sons Zaragosa Jr. and wife Irma Beserra of Big Spring, and David and wife Teresa Beserra of Sterling City. He had 17 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to

extend special thanks to Heritage Nursing home, and Hospice for the care that was given to him throughout the years.

Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." John 11:25:26  
We will miss you, Dad, Granddad.

**James McLaughlin**

James McLaughlin died in a San Angelo Hospital on September 22, 2003.

He was born December 1, 1937, to Jim and Della McLaughlin who preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis and son, Wayne of Sonora; two daughters Shawna, Christl and husband, Eddie, a special brother-in-law and wife Michael and Trish, all of San Angelo; a sister Patsy Valis of Houston; two nieces, JoAnna and Janet of San Antonio and a grandson, Jeremiah of Sonora.

James and Phyllis met in high school and were married October 5, 1958. James was a volunteer fireman for 27 years and was very proud to serve Sonora and to serve with the men of the department. He was chosen Firemen of the Year in 1992. He worked for the City of

Sonora 39 1/2 years and retired December 31, 2002. He enjoyed working for the city and with the employees. He saw many changes during these years and all of them for the benefit of Sonora.

Burial was in Sonora Cemetery with the City of Sonora employees and the Sonora Volunteer Fire Department. Serving as representatives for the City of Sonora were Jack Moore, Mickey Johnson, and Sesario Lozano. Serving as representatives for the Sonora Fire Department were Kyle Donaldson, Billy Wayne Lippman and James Blackman.

James was a kind, loving, generous, honorable and patient man. He will be missed more than words can say.

May he rest in God's arms. We love you, James.

**Ila Ruth Smith**

Ila Ruth "Nannie" Smith passed away on the morning of Wednesday, October 1, 2003. Burial services were at 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 3, in Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Mike Andress presiding.

Ruth was born in Fairy, Texas, on May 22, 1925, to E.C. and Myrtle Parks. She married the love of her life, Marvin Smith, in 1941. They lived, worked and played side by side for 62 wonderful years.

Whether you called her Ruth or Nannie, to know her was a privilege. Nannie was the picture of strength, friendship and family.

Her world revolved around her husband, Marvin; her daughter, Anna Munn; grandsons and their wives, Todd and Pam Munn, and Dean and Gina Munn; and great-grandchildren, Alicia, Shannon, Brandon, Bryan and Breanne.

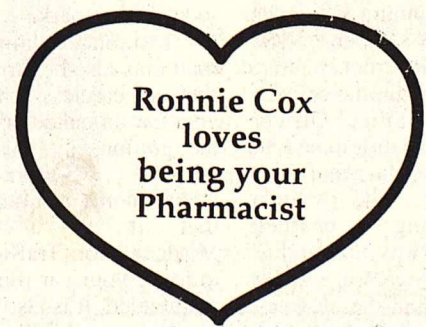
Our feelings of loss and emptiness are softened by the faith that Nannie is whole again, painless in the arms of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, E.C. and Myrtle Parks; her brother, Buck Parks; and sister, Lee Varnel.

She is survived by her husband, Marvin; daughter, Anna and her husband Wayne Munn; two grandsons and their wives, Todd and Pam, and Dean and Gina; five great-grandchildren; four sisters, Lou Totten, Cleo Ellington, Jo Olson and Johnnie Shirley; and several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to say a special thank you to Hospice of San Angelo, Regency House and all the friends and neighbors for their love and support, care and prayers.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to Hospice of San Angelo.



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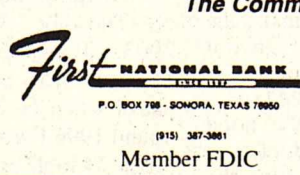
**Member 2003**  
**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**Community**

**Oct. 11-12**  
**Texas High School Rodeo**  
11th • 6:00 p.m. Rodeo  
12th • 9:00 a.m. Church Services  
11:00 a.m. • Rodeo

**Oct. 13**  
School Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m. • Admin. Bldg.  
**County Commissioners Meeting**  
9:00 a.m. • Annex Bldg.


*The Community Calendar*

  
Member FDIC

**Calendar**

**Oct. 17**  
Suez Shrine Circus • Rodeo Arena  
**Oct. 21**  
City Council • 2:00 p.m. • City Hall  
**Oct. 22**  
Health Fair • Hudspeth Annex  
**Oct. 25**  
Fall Festival  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Downtown Sonora

*is made possible by:*

  
Member FDIC  
207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Letters To The Editor Policy

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## Ask the Historical Society

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

**Q.** Why did they stop putting prisoners in the Old Jail?  
**A.** The Devil's River News, November 23, 1977, Jail Fails State Requirements

It is an historic site, and we take pride in its quaint appearance, but our jail is a disgrace as a security facility. A recent inspection by the Texas Jail Standards Commission found the Sutton County jail fails mandatory standards on 113 facility items.

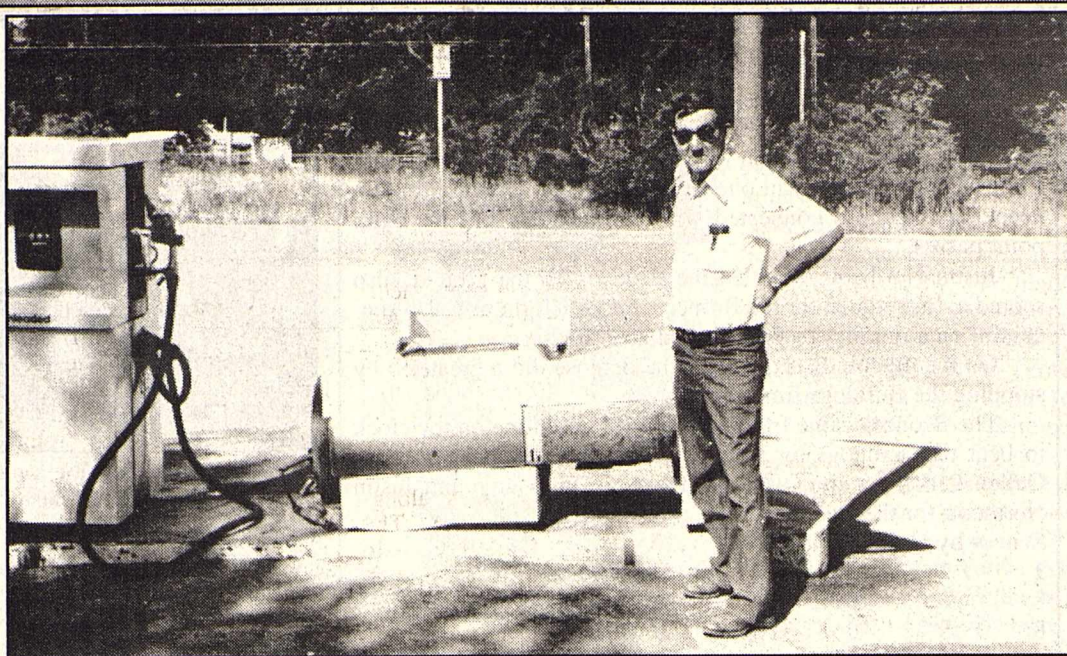
"Sooner or later the state or federal government will order us to close the jail," Sutton County Sheriff Bill Webster comments. "If we are to stay in jail operations, we will have to build a new jail, because our old jail is simply inadequate."

The jail is too small, too old and poorly designed to perform its function today. Constructed in the 1890's it was built to accommodate eight prisoners, and the jail now handles an average of 38 inmates a month. "Our prisoner population has doubled in the past two years," Sheriff Webster stated. The jail is totally unable to house juveniles or females and there is no shower and the only bathing facility is a crowded and aged bath tub downstairs. Also recent cancellation of liability insurance coverage due to a variety of improvements needed means no coverage since November 1, 1977, through the National Sheriff's Association.

Webster said, "One major lawsuit due to injury, and we could end up spending the same amount of money needed to build a new jail." Under state law, Sutton County's jail is also unable to house anyone considered maximum security. Webster said, "We spend a lot of time and money transporting prisoners to jail in San Angelo or Ozona." Another violation of the jail is the lack of a full time jailer.

Last week plans were presented to the Jail Standards Commission Board, which will meet November 29, for their approval. A bond issue is anticipated before actual construction begins.

In the same issue we found that Mrs. Fannie Gahagan was celebrating her 90th birthday on November 19, 1977. Born Francis Pearl Johnson November 18, 1887, at Fort McKavett, her parents were John Calvin and Eunice Berry Johnson. They came to Crockett Co. soon after their marriage in 1884. Since there was no doctor in Sonora yet, Eunice Johnson went to Ft. McKavett to await the arrival of her first child. Dr. Jones delivered Fannie.



Leroy Whitworth

Fannie Johnson married Roscoe Cawyer, from Mercury, McCullough Co., in Sonora on December 27, 1909. Roscoe and Fannie Cawyer were the parents of Gretta Cawyer Smith, Telefus Cawyer, Madolyn Cawyer Hassler, and Rhesa Cawyer Graves (died 1969). Fannie's husband Roscoe Cawyer died November 2, 1918.

Fannie remarried in April of 1925 in Brady to J. C. Gahagan. Two daughters were born to this union: Jamie, born 1926, died 1961, and Barbara Gahagan Garlitz.

At Perry's you could buy a 6 foot tru-fir pine Christmas tree for \$22.95; A Six Million Dollar Man or The Bionic Woman doll for \$7.88 or a Monopoly Game for \$4.99.

Four hundred eighty-three deer had been reported killed in the first two weeks of the 1977 deer hunting season. Fernando Trevino has been very busy preparing deer carcasses at the Branding Iron Smokehouse, a local storage facility.

At the Waterhole #9 at 1003 North Crockett you could get a Thanksgiving Dinner, with turkey, home-style cornbread dressing, candied yams, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad bar and ham for \$3.75.

There was a fire at the Shear Power Beauty Shop caused by overloaded electrical circuits which was responded to by Blackman, Carfoll, Donaldson, Flores, Huffstutler, Luttrell, McLaughlin, Odom, Olenick, Stokes, Teaff, Taylor, Thorp and Zech. The city police and county sheriff departments were also credited with helping.

Dale Etheridge was the Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach. His wife Jan taught freshman and junior English at the Sonora High School. Some players featured with him were: Pat Street, a one year letterman, Johnny Creek, a two year letterman, and Bruce Phillips.

The freshmen girls' team has a four game schedule and began with an 18-15 win over the Del Rio frosh. Judy York hit for 14 points and Beth Bartz and Carla Lee had two each. Defensively Debbie Kemp had an outstanding game.

At Food Center a 12 oz. package of sliced bacon was 99 cents, ground beef was 69 cents a pound and round steak was \$1.39 a pound. German sausage was 99 cents a 12 oz. package and a pork loin roast was \$1.29 a pound. Crisco oil was \$1.49 a 48 oz. bottle, a giant box of Tide was \$1.19 and Imperial Margarine was 39 cents for pound. Del Monte pineapple was 51 cents for a 15 1/2 oz can, Rainbow green beans 4 cans for \$1 and California avocados were 3 for \$1. At Tedford Jewelry you could save \$20 on Fostoria lead crystal. At Hershel's Foodway, Butter Krust Bread was 3 loaves for \$1; spare ribs were 69 cents a pound and club steaks were \$1.39 a pound.

Jack Kerbow, Sutton County Drive Chairman for the Salvation Army held a special meeting with his team of captains. Shown were Don Johnson, state executive director, Vicenta Cervantes and Irene Arredondo. They hoped to raise \$1,000 by December 1.

At Ken Braden Motors, Inc., you could buy a Chevrolet Impala for as low as \$5,574.95 or a Oldsmobile Tornado for \$8,697.12. Sonora Motor Co., Durwood Neville, owner, was selling the 1978 Ford LTD II.

Ted Naylor bagged an 80 lb. 18 point deer on the DD ranch in Sutton Co.

In November of 1977 the following are listed as serving as flag girls for the Bronco Band: Mary Gomez, Denise Neal, Loraine Creek, Paula Friess, Carol Brandon, Marche Lane, Mickey Mooney and Fran Friess. Twirlers were listed as:

Lucy Morriss, Tonia Mittel, ReeDine Hill and Hillary Hunt.

At Nevill's you could buy men's sweaters for \$9.90; western shirts for \$7.99, flannel shirts for \$5.99 and coats for \$10.88. Tony Lama ladies boots were \$49.90 and genuine lizard boots were \$89.90.

Jane Wallace is a three year letter girl playing basketball as a guard and Becky Cavaness has been the most valuable player in two tournaments and been All-District the past two years. Ten Sonora Broncos were named to the 7AA district football team: Bruce Phillips, first team offensive tight end and honorable mention defensive end; Manuel Lopez, first team running back and Mike Jones kicker for the first team. Dan Lawson was the only player named to the first team defense as defensive linebacker on the first team and honorable mention as offensive guard. Others given honorable mention were: Chase Snodgrass, offensive tackle; Johnny Creek, offensive running back and defensive linebacker; Kent Cagle, defensive end; Bobby Cook, defensive tackle; Ross Roberts, defensive guard; and Bunk Galbreath, defensive linebacker.

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@sonoratax.net. You may call me at 325-387-5084 on Monday 8-4, Tuesday 8-lunch and Friday 8-4 or at home at 325-387-2855. Don't forget the area code changed from 915 to 325 on the 4th.

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#### 1 Day Tournament

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Sonora Golf Course

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and Hole Prizes  
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by La Mexicana Restaurante

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
Joe Casillas  
(325) 650-6034 or  
Annette Castro  
(325) 387-2278  
from 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Breakfast Burritos catered by Rosie's Cafe

Entry Fees must be paid by  
Tuesday, October 7, 2003.  
No Refunds after this date  
for Cancellations.

## WTU Retail Energy to transfer call center operations to Texas

HOUSTON (September 17, 2003) - WTU Retail Energy L.P. announced today that by year-end the company will transfer its customer service call center from Florida to Dallas. The change is in response to customer feedback and demonstrates WTU Retail Energy's commitment to provide quality customer service.

"We value customer feedback and are transferring the call center to provide customers with the Texas-based service they want," said Don Whaley, WTU Retail Energy president. "The move will also give us greater oversight of call center activities so that customers can expect ongoing improvements while being served by fellow Texans."

The customer service phone number will remain 1-866-322-5563 and the hours of opera-

tion will continue to be Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. CST. The call center will be operated by Alliance Data Systems, a third-party vendor based in Dallas.

"Customers will not experience an interruption in call center availability or services during the transition," Whaley continued. "We are committed to making the change as seamless as possible for them."

For more than 75 years, WTU Retail Energy and its predecessors have provided electricity to residential and small business customers in West Texas, including Abilene, Alpine and San Angelo. WTU Retail Energy is part of the Centrica group of companies, a leading provider of retail energy and other essential services worldwide.

## Old Glory Fund helps keep flag flying on Eaton Hill

The Sutton County Community Trust "Old Glory Fund" was established to provide for the expenses related to the American flag flying on Eaton Hill. Residents and travelers alike have felt great pride at seeing Old Glory waving on the hill.

The electricity, repair, replacement of flags and light bulbs is an ongoing expense, supported only by donations. The committee would like to thank the following for their contribution:

Old Glory Fund Donors:

Lewis & Cyndy Allen  
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Jimmy & Jackie Harris  
Arthur & Angela Crittendon  
First National Bank of Sonora  
The Bank & Trust  
Rev. Monte & Virginia Jones  
Friends of Historic Sonora, Inc.

If you would like to make a donation, please send to: Old Glory Fund  
c/o First National Bank  
P.O. Box 798  
Sonora, Texas 76950

If your donation is made in memory or honor of someone, please give the name of the person(s) and the name and address to whom the acknowledgement is to be sent.

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- KILL BILL (R) ..... 2:30 5:00
- GOOD BOY (PG) (Sat-Mon only) (11) ..... 5:20 7:30
- THE RUNDOWN dts (PG-13) ..... 2:10 4:40
- FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS (PG-13) ..... 1:40 4:20
- JEEPERS CREEPERS 2 dts (R) ..... 2:20 4:50
- OPEN RANGE dts (R) ..... 1:45 4:45

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Times good for the week of 10/10-10/14  
\$3.00 Matinees before 6:00 p.m.

SHOWTIMES FOR TUESDAY ONLY

- KILL BILL dts (R) ..... 4:30 7:00
- KILL BILL (R) ..... 5:00 7:30
- GOOD BOY (PG) ..... 5:20 7:20
- THE RUNDOWN dts (PG-13) ..... 4:40 7:15
- FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS (PG-13) ..... 4:20 7:00
- JEEPERS CREEPERS 2 dts (R) ..... 4:50 7:25
- OPEN RANGE dts (R) ..... 4:45 7:45

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**HEARING CHECK-UPS ARE IMPORTANT**  
*New procedure being conducted in Sonora*  
**ONE DAY ONLY, October 16**



Research shows that 1 out of 10 people in Texas have some degree of hearing loss. One out of 3 over the age of 60 have hearing problems. "Everyone should have their hearing checked at least once a year," according to Randy Schoenborn of NewSound Hearing Aid Centers. "If you have a hearing problem of any kind, you owe it to yourself to have the new procedure using speech mapping to determine what can be done to help you," said Schoenborn. Many people with a hearing problem can hear o'okay, they simply have a problem understanding the words." The speech mapping procedure can now determine how well you understand words, especially in noisy situations. These tests are accurate and thorough, and will only take about 30 minutes to be completed. This new procedure can immediately tell if there is a solution for your hearing problem. The professional experience provided by NewSound assures you of personal understanding and expert help with a most important problem - hearing impairment. During this event, the public is invited to take advantage of the new procedures. NewSound is located at the Senior Citizens Center, 102 Wilson in Sonora. Call today. Appointments are limited: 1-888-297-1963

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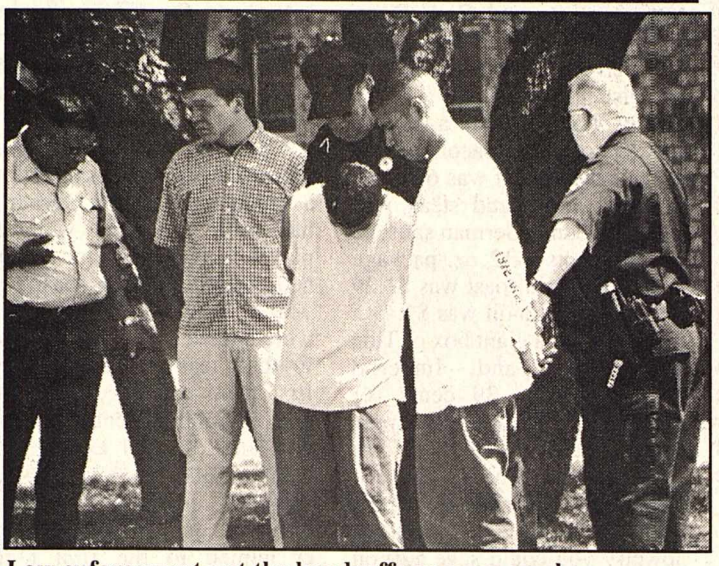
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**J.V. White Broncos prove to be too much for Brady Bulldogs**

by *Mason Martinez*  
 The J.V. White Broncos traveled to "the Heart of Texas" to play the Brady Bulldogs last Thursday. The Broncos got off to a good start on offense, which was led by sophomore quarterback, Cullen Parker. Parker had one rushing touchdown on an option keeper. Parker also connected with Evan Gully on two extra point passes. Justin Northcott, who led the Broncos on the ground, also scored a touchdown for the Broncos. Pedro Gloria was also successful on a run play to find the end zone for six. On the other side of the ball, the defense did a great job by stopping the Bulldogs from scoring. The Broncos came from behind with little time on the clock to beat the Bulldogs by a score of 23-15. The coaches chose Cullen Parker for the Offensive Player of the Game and Justin Northcott for the Defensive Player of the Game.

Scores by Quarter:				
1	2	3	4	Final Score
1	2	3	4	23 Sonora
8	7	0	8	16 Brady
8	8	0	0	

**Six Busted During Lunch Break**



Law enforcement put the handcuffs on noon smokers. Three adult males and three juveniles were arrested for possession of marijuana on Wednesday, October 18, 2003, during the lunch hour. Following up on an ongoing investigation, Sonora Police Officer Dick Dudley was patrolling the area around the Sonora High School when he spotted the students behind the Senior Citizen Apartments on Bond Road. The apartments are adjacent to the high school. Officer Dudley reported that they had received reports from citizens that students had been observed smoking and drinking during the lunch break. Zane Ross Porter, 17, Jose Angel Oliden, 18, and Christopher Martinez, 17, were arrested and taken to the Sutton County Jail, where they were charged with Possession of Marijuana. Two juveniles were transported to the Tom Green County Juvenile Justice Center in San Angelo, Texas. A third juvenile was released to the custody of a parent. Sutton County Deputy, Oscar Chavez, Drug Task Force Officer, Dwayne Castro, and Sonora Police Officer, Eric Byrn assisted with the arrests.

**Native grasses add decor to Eaton Hill**

by *Delyse Jaeger*  
 There are a jillion and four species of grasses in Texas, trust me I counted them. Actually, the luster of sunlit seed heads swaying in the breeze (often in time with the music playing in my vehicle) has been an unexpected delight over the past couple of weeks. I began to notice the variation of color, texture and shape of the different grasses and to appreciate their exceptional beauty. (... for amber waves of grain.) While hiking, I was amazed by the intense pinks and purples of one of our grasses, later identified as Purple Threeawn. Those of us not feeding livestock have little concern about native grasses outside the borders of our lawns, but what a diverse and beautiful world these grasses create! Fran Pennington, who does know grasses, shared her idea for the upcoming 4-H banquet decorations: a galvanized metal container lined with a red bandana and filled with different grasses. This arrangement was so attractive I was inspired to pursue a thought that had been knocking around in my head: a fall arrangement plucked from the roadside. The combination of thick golden seed heads of Showy Chloris, deep purple spindles of Johnsongrass, shimmering cascading Grandfathers Beard, and elongated Silver bluestem created a lovely arrangement. Add some bean pods and viola! Next project: use the rich color and texture of numerous beans and hard seed pods in an autumn wreath. So in addition to enhancing our trail sides and roadways, native grasses and plants provide excellent decorative opportunities for your home. Monarch butterflies are spilling into Texas in record numbers and it is reported that this may be one of the largest migrations in years. Heavy numbers should be arriving in our area very soon. The distance that monarchs migrate each day is influenced by wind



Sideoats Grama growing on Eaton Hill to watch for the monarch migration to arrive in Sonora. It is quite phenomenal to witness. Divine design, aided by consistent rainfall, has produced a fall season of extraordinary beauty and there is no place better than Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary to get an intimate look at the natural treasures of the season. While you are hiking the trails, look for Sideoats Grama (pictured above), the state grass of Texas. This grass, when going to seed is striking in both shape and color. To fully appreciate the beauty of our wild grasses, catch them in the golden evening or morning sun. Thank you to Virgil Poloczek for taking the time to identify the grasses mentioned above and numerous others. Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary is a project of the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation. Hit the trails!

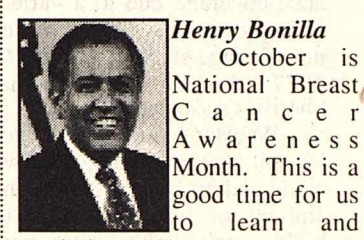
**Brownie Troop #104 visits Sutton County Courthouse**



Local Brownies become a part of the jury during a visit to the Sutton County Courthouse. submitted On Wed. Oct. 1, 2003 Betty Hernandez gave an excellent tour of the Sutton Co. Courthouse to the Brownies. She told the girls how the courthouse had been restored to its original look on the outside. She then showed them the new elevator and the various offices on the first floor. The Brownies then went up the stairs to the courtroom and sat in the jury

- Happy Birthday**
- October 9**  
Chela Ozuna, Stephen Young, John Lopez IV, Kelsey Taylor, Alexa Sykes, Belinda Robles, Tracy Taylor
  - October 10**  
Glenda Alvites, Adrian Gomez, Rae Ann Bible, Jena Teasley, Stacey Reiner, Marissa Faz, Joleta Traylor, Holly Sparks, Todd Munn
  - October 11**  
Garrett Sharp, Charlotte Higdon, Taylor Hill, Sharon Creek, Bubba Ramoz, Harley Jonson, Patrick Prieto, Refugio Martinez, Alesha Smith, Charlotte Higdon
  - October 12**  
Robert Perez, Bill Stanton, Tom Matchus, Laura Purvis
  - October 13**  
Bill Keel, Derek Ramos, Jalyn Mathews, Amanda Word, Jerod Dunn, Mark Chavez
  - October 14**  
Ronnie Wipff, Brian VanWinkle, Stacey Becknell, Leandra Lopez, Kelley Glidewell
  - October 15**  
Shane Deel, Bert Young, Robbi Harris, Walker Thompson, Olivia Samaniego, Adrian Segura, Spanky Taylor, Rick Bounds

**Bonilla reminds October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month**



Henry Bonilla October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This is a good time for us to learn and remind ourselves about the serious facts surrounding this disease and to look ahead to the promising news about breast cancer research. The widespread impact of breast cancer is staggering. Every year, almost 184,000 American women are diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 44,000 will die from the disease. These are not just faceless women. They are our wives, our mothers, our sisters and our daughters. Breast cancer has become the leading killer of women aged 35-44. Breast cancer is not just a war fought by the families directly affected by it. It is every American's war to win. Each year breast cancer costs this country \$6 billion in medical costs and lost productivity. When it comes to this disease, no one can afford to take a "that won't happen to me" attitude. It's unfortunate, but sometimes our federal government wastes time and money on trivial causes. But if there's one thing it should be dedicating time towards, it's searching for cures to deadly diseases - such as breast cancer. I am proud to sit on the House Appropriations Committee which funds breast cancer research. Cancer research is a national priority. That is why Congress has consistently provided necessary and ample funding to expand breast cancer research through the National Cancer Institute and the National Institutes of Health. The good news is that researchers are making exciting new strides in breast cancer research. Genes responsible for inheritable breast cancer have been isolated. New drugs like tamoxifen lower the risk of developing the disease in high risk women. And scientists are developing a better understanding of the cancer cell itself. We now have the armor and weapons needed for the fight against this disease. There's still a lot we don't know about breast cancer. But what we do know is that early detection and treatment is essential to winning the war against this terrible disease. The number of women dying each year from breast cancer is declining. The experts tell us that this is a direct reflection of the recent increase in early detection and treatment of breast cancer. Let's keep that trend going. I encourage everyone to learn more about breast cancer this month. Through education, research and sheer tenacity, we can work together to help the millions of women and their families whose lives are threatened by breast cancer.

The Sutton Unit of the American Cancer Society has pink ribbons available in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Stop by The Devil's River News to get yours today!





First Row: Scott Smith, Kevin Buitron, J.D. Garcia, Maddie Lang, Olivia Banda, Kylie Love. Second Row: Bryce Smith, Blake Esparza, Delilah Agüero, Ana-Lesa Samaniego, Chance Campbell, Mary Beth Parkinson. Third Row: Alex Lang, Zachary Leonard, Paige Sykes, Caitlin Garza, Emilce Hernandez, Jared Hinsley.

### Elementary School chooses Peer Mediators

Sonora Elementary School selected its Peer Mediation Team for 2003-2004. Eighteen students from the second, third, and fourth grades were selected based on application, interview, grades, teacher recommendation and peer nomination.

Peer Mediators attended a day long training to work on team building skills and to learn how to help resolve conflicts. Students at Sonora Elementary may receive mediation by turning in a referral form and by agreeing to work out the conflict with peer mediators.

Sponsors Amy Davenport, Chasey Duncan and Katy Meador look forward to their second year of working with student mediators.

### Local Teen Selected For Leadership Challenge In Nation's Capital

Washington, D.C. - Dustin Creek of Sonora has been selected to participate in the National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC) in Washington, D.C. from October 28 to November 2. NYLC is a unique leadership development program for high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit. Creek will be one of approximately 350 outstanding scholars from around the country at the Conference.

The theme of NYLC is The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today. Throughout six days, Creek will interact with key elected officials, political appointees and newsmakers in an exploration of the three branches of government, the news media and the international community.

While many students are reading about leadership in

books, students like Dustin Creek will interact with members of Congress, Washington's press corps and key political appointees to continue formulating their ideals and leadership skills," said Mike Lasday, executive director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the organization that sponsors the Conference. "The National Young Leaders Conference positions each of these students as colleagues in whose hands the future of our country rests."

Highlights of past conferences have included welcoming remarks from the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and a panel discussion with prominent journalists at the National Press Club, in addition to meeting with senators and representatives or appointed staff members to discuss important issues facing the nation.

To complement the schedule of special meetings and briefings, Creek will also participate in a number of leadership skill-building activities and simulations. In one role-play activity titled "If I Were President", students act as the president and cabinet members responding to an international crisis. Students also participate in "Testing the Constitution", in which they examine actual Supreme Court cases. The Conference culminates with the "Model Congress", in which scholars assume the roles of U.S. Representatives, and debate, amend and vote on proposed mock legislations.

CYLC is a nonprofit, non-partisan educational organization. Founded in 1985, the council is committed to fostering and inspiring young people to achieve their full leadership potential. More than 400 members of the U.S. Congress join this commitment by serving on the CYLC Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors.

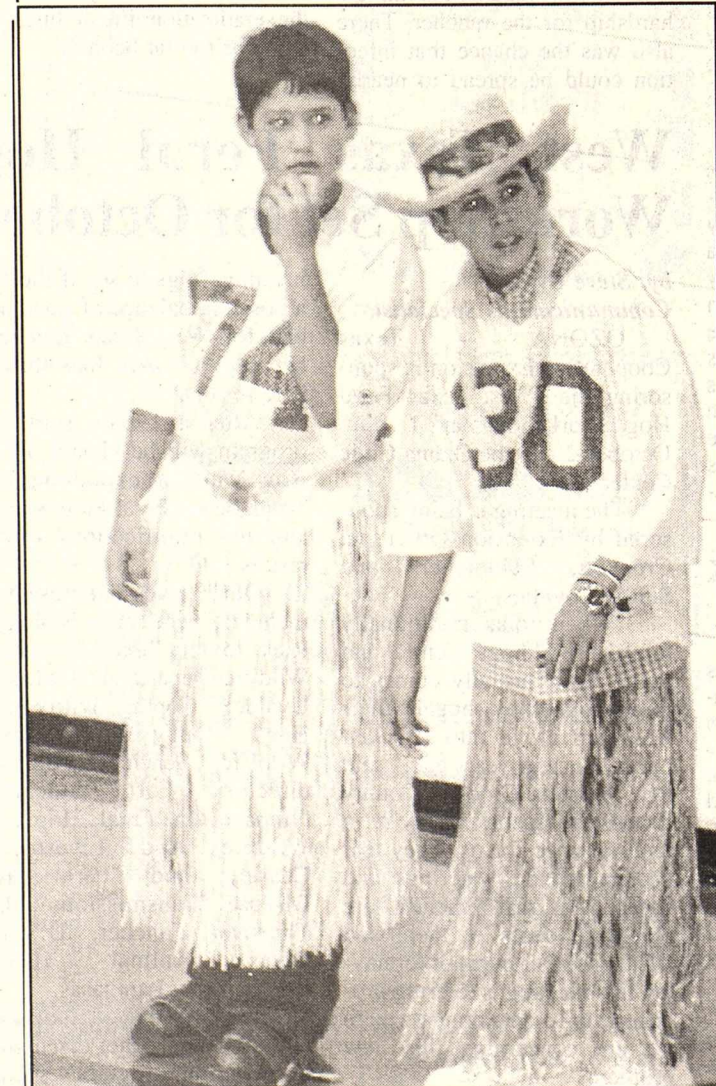
### Breg Hughes graduates from Army ROTC Leadership Camp

Breg A. Hughes has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) National Advanced Leadership Camp at Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash.

The camp provides the best possible professional training and evaluation for all cadets in the aspects of camp life, administration and logistical support. Although continued military training and leadership development is included in the curriculum, the primary focus at camp is to develop and evaluate each cadet's officer potential. The cadet command assesses each cadet's performance and progress in officer traits, qualities and professionalism while at camp.

Hughes is the son of Alan B. and Chandra D. Hughes, is a 1999 graduate of Sonora High School, and is currently a student at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

### A Colt Luau peps up 7th graders at S.M.S.



7th grade Colts, Andy Galindo and Reggie Hernandez were ready to hula at Thursday's Junior High Pep Rally. The Hawaiian theme had everyone dressed in grass skirts and flower leis and was a fun break from the everyday West Texas ways.

### Cross-Country Runs With Lions In Ozona

by Kellie Crain

The Sonora Cross-Country team was "Running with the Lions" at the Ozona meet on Saturday, October 4th.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades were combined to form one junior high girls division and one junior high boys division. Out of a total of 94 girls, Kyla Turney placed 16<sup>th</sup> with a time of 14:42.7. She was followed closely by Kaitlyn Henderson who placed 21<sup>st</sup> with a time of 15:00.7. Other runners were Savannah Leonard 52<sup>nd</sup>, Kayla Webb 61<sup>st</sup>, Vickie Torres 63<sup>rd</sup>, Tanya Adams 67<sup>th</sup>, and Stephani Morriss 70<sup>th</sup>. The girls placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of 11 teams.

The boys had a total of 65 runners. Clayton Sahr placed 6<sup>th</sup> with a time of 13:05.7, David Lane placed 10<sup>th</sup> with a time of 13:22.7 and J.T. Downing placed 11<sup>th</sup> with a time of 13:27.1. Other runners were Nick Peña 29<sup>th</sup>, Michael Chavez 40<sup>th</sup>, Spencer Hall 42<sup>nd</sup>, Pecos Roberts 43<sup>rd</sup>, Michael Luttrell 46<sup>th</sup>, Ricardo Rodriguez 54<sup>th</sup> and Mario Lira 56<sup>th</sup>. The boys placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 7 teams.

Out of 106 high school girls, Alexie Ortiz placed 22<sup>nd</sup> with a time of 14:05.8. Other runners were Mandy Brister 52<sup>nd</sup>, Amanda Berry 61<sup>st</sup>, Jennifer Gonzales 69<sup>th</sup>, Megan Berry 74<sup>th</sup>, Meghan Krieg 76<sup>th</sup>, Amanda Word 79<sup>th</sup>, Dee McGee 81<sup>st</sup> and Emily Butler 103<sup>rd</sup>. Nick Favela placed 29<sup>th</sup> out of 69 high school boys with a time of 20:33.3. He was followed closely by Ty Love who placed 32<sup>nd</sup> with a time of 20:36.3. Jesse Garza finished 36<sup>th</sup> and Toni Torres finished 41<sup>st</sup>.

The next meet is in Wall on October 11th. Also, be sure to make the following changes to the Cross-Country schedule: the district meet will be in Grape Creek on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, not Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Sonora High School Pep Rally will be at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 10th. Come cheer the Broncos on to Victory at their first District game!

### Sonora Football Broncos

- Oct. 10**  
\* Reagan County • Home 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 17**  
\* Eldorado • Home • 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 24**  
\* Wall • There • 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 31**  
\* Ozona • Home • 7:30 p.m.
- \* District 2-2A Game**  
**\*\* Homecoming**

### JV

- Oct. 9**  
*White*  
Crane • There • 5:00 p.m.
- Red*  
Reagan County • There 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 16**  
Eldorado • There  
*White* • 5:00 p.m.  
*Red* • 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 23**  
Wall • Home  
*White* • 5:00 p.m.  
*Red* • 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 30**  
Ozona • There  
*White* • 5:00 p.m.  
*Red* • 7:00 p.m.

### Colts

- Oct. 9**  
Reagan County  
Home • 5:00/6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 16**  
Eldorado • Home  
5:00/6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 23**  
Wall • There  
5:00/6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 30**  
Ozona • Home • 5:00/6:30 p.m.

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**Dominion; 8800' Winnie R Aldwell Trust #10, Patterson Drilling.**  
**Dominion; 6200' Meckel #74, Patterson Drilling.**  
**Dominion; 6200' Vanderstucken - 69 - #8, Patterson Drilling.**  
**New Dominion; 8600' Mayfield - 33 - #8, Key Energy.**  
**New Dominion; 7100' Duke Wilson State - 152 - #2, Patterson Drilling.**

**Crockett**

**New Concho Oil & Gas; 9720' Rigg - 5 - #4, Patterson Drilling.**  
**New WTG Exploration; 9000' University 30-16 #1, Patterson Drilling.**  
**Harrison Interests; 9000' University Land 30-30A, #54 Patterson Drilling.**  
**New Devon Energy; 7000' Vada Bean #9, Patterson Drilling.**  
**New Concho Oil & Gas; 7000' Montgomery - A - #1210, Patterson Drilling.**  
**Tristar Exploration; 1700' University #12-2, Hinz Drilling.**

**Terrell**

**Exxonmobile Dev.; 16000' Banner Estate #32, Patterson UTI/LV.**  
**Nuevo Texas Inc.; 19000' Mitchell - 7 - #5, Nabors Drilling.**  
**Nuevo Texas Inc.; 12500' Mitchell - 9 - #9, Nabors Drilling.**  
**New Fasken Oil & Ranch; 7500' Geaslin SE - 206 - #53, Patterson Drilling.**

**Edwards**

**Newfield Exploration; 11000' Newby - A - #8, Patterson Drilling.**  
**Par Minerals Corp; 8700' Ralston #1, Big Dog Drilling.**  
**Par Minerals Corp; 8000' Four Square Ranch #9, Key Energy.**


**Schleicher**

**New Ruwco Oil & Gas Corp; 5000' Pope #1, Heart Land Drilling.**

**Val Verde**

**J. Cleo Thompson; 10500' Cauthorn - 3 - #3, Patterson Drilling.**

For more rig locations call 1-800-627-9785 or go online to [www.rigdata.com](http://www.rigdata.com).



## Saving the Family Farm and Ranch through Conservation Easements

By Glen Webb

When I was growing up my favorite place in the world was my grandmother's ranch in Throckmorton County. I spent my youth and adolescence in search of West Texas quail, deer, turkey, coyotes, and bass. In fact, on several November nights my grandmother used to meet me at the ranch gate with her Cadillac head lights on high beam towards the pasture because I had stayed in my blind too long. No matter how mad she got, she always let me go back into the field the next day, the next week, the next month and the next year. To this day, I take these West Texas memories with me and I am thankful for them.

The reason I went to law school was because I wanted to help other families protect their own Texas memories and the ranches where such memories are created. One of my professional goals is to ensure tomorrow's Texans have ranches on which young Texans can experience God's magnificent creation. To that end, the best legal tool I have found to help ensure tomorrow's Texans will have the same memories I had is a conservation easement.

A conservation easement is a legal agreement that allows landowners to preserve their property's natural habitat in perpetuity while simultaneously receiving highly beneficial tax deductions. The easement basically works like this: a landowner and either a land trust or government organization enter into an easement, which is a legal contract signed, notarized and filed in the deed records at the local county court house. The easement spells out what commercial development activities are prohibited and what rights the landowner retains. The landowner usually retains all of their rights to the land, while only giving up the future right to commercially develop the land. That means my grandchildren can make their own West Texas memories through hunting and fishing, but they cannot sell the land in order to develop shopping malls

and condos. Furthermore, the only obligation to the landowners is that they allow their property to be inspected once a year in order to ensure the easement is not being violated. Landowners who donate a conservation easement receive an economic advantage through federal income tax deductions. The easement itself is valued through two fair market value appraisals: one before the easement and one after the easement. The value of the easement is the difference in the two appraisals. Landowners can deduct up to 30% of the value of the easement against their adjusted gross income each year for six years.

In addition to income tax benefits, conservation easements also carry estate tax benefits. The current estate tax exemption is \$1,000,000. A conservation easement discounts the ranch's value. In addition to the reduction in value because of the easement, a landowner's estate gets 40% of the land value excluded from the estate tax base.

Let me give you an example. Suppose a landowner has a ranch worth \$2,000,000. The landowner puts a conservation easement on the ranch and lowers the value to \$1,000,000 (giving the landowner a \$1,000,000 income tax deduction). Additionally, when the landowner dies the estate gets to exclude 40% of the land's value, or \$400,000 from the estate tax calculation. All of this means that the \$2,000,000 ranch only accounts for \$600,000 of the landowner's taxable estate. Translation: more ranches, fewer shopping malls.

My hope is that all Texas rural landowners will understand they have a responsibility to tomorrow's Texans. I am a better person because of my experiences in Throckmorton County and I owe my late grandmother a tremendous amount of gratitude. My hope is that other landowners ensure their lands remain places where young Texans can enjoy Texas habitat - and irritate their grandmothers!

Citizens urged to help track Monarch Butterfly migration

AUSTIN, Texas - Scientists say millions of monarch butterflies are beginning their annual journey south through Texas to overwintering sites deep in Mexico's fir forested mountains, and researchers are again urging the public to help track the monarch migration. Winds of last weekend's cold front have already brought the advance party of migrants into the state. Observers in and around Abilene and Graham, Texas, are seeing butterflies lingering in pecan and oak groves. The next three weeks will be active monarch weeks in Texas. Scientists expect the peak of passage to be around October 12, for Central Texas. But these predictions always seem to be befuddled by the weather and by the monarchs themselves, which is why researchers say they need public assistance. The public can help by volunteering to report butterfly sightings. Anyone can call the Texas Monarch Watch hotline at (800) 468-9719 to report observations. Or, observers can learn how to send observations by email and get butterfly migration information online (<http://home.satx.net/~txento/dplex.htm>), where anyone can also download a free Monarch Watch Monitoring Calendar for recording observations. Texas Monarch Watch is supported by the Wildlife Diversity Program of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

## Cattle Brucellosis Eradication in Texas; close, but not yet

Animal health officials were disappointed, but not surprised in September, when they detected a cattle herd infected with brucellosis in Henderson County, breaking a 13-month stretch during which no newly infected herds were detected in Texas. Texas and Missouri are the only states in the nation not free of this bacterial disease, which is detected through testing of blood, milk or tissue from cattle. Although some infected animals exhibit no signs of disease, brucellosis can cause cows to abort, deliver weak calves or produce less milk.

"We are closing in on the last infected herds in Texas, and after months of not finding infection, we were hopeful we might have finally eradicated the disease," commented Dr. Max Coats, deputy director for Animal Health Programs at the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. "With more than 153,000 cattle herds in Texas, finding the last infected herds is like looking for the proverbial 'needle in the haystack.' We still may find a few more infected herds in Texas before we join the ranks of the other brucellosis-free states in this national disease eradication program."

"Twice now, we've gone longer than a year without finding a brucellosis-infected herd in Texas," said Dr. Coats. "The first time was from July 2000 through December 2001, but soon after, we detected and depopulated four infected herds in Montgomery, Rusk, Henderson and Colorado Counties. Then, after a lull of more than a year, we detected the latest infected herd, in Henderson County, through our routine testing of adult breeding cattle being sold at livestock markets. We're in the process of testing neighboring herds and tracing cattle movement into and out of the Henderson County herd to determine if infection has spread."

Dr. Coats explained that, because cooked meat is safe for human consumption, the cows and bulls from the infected herd will be sent to slaughter. The owner will receive payment from the slaughter facility, and an indemnity from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and TAHC to help offset the loss of not only the adult cattle, but also nursing calves. Weaned steers and spayed heifers may be kept, because these animals cannot spread brucellosis, which is transmitted primarily by infected cows during abortion or calving.

"Years ago, Texas had thousands of infected herds, which often were quarantined for up to a year or longer, while we periodically tested the cattle, to ensure all infected animals were removed and slaughtered," said Dr. Coats. "During the quarantine period, animals could be sold only to slaughter, creating a hardship for the rancher. There also was the chance that infection could be spread to nearby

herds during the quarantine. Now, by depopulating infected herds as soon as possible, we can stop disease spread, and the producer can be in business with new, test-negative animals within weeks."

Dr. Coats said Texas continues to apply the "tried-and-true" formula for eradicating brucellosis, which involves vaccinating heifers, testing breeding cattle prior to change of ownership and collecting blood samples from cattle at slaughter. Vaccination is now voluntary in most instances, and ranchers may have their accredited veterinarian administer RB-51 vaccine to heifers four to 12 months of age. (Bull calves do not receive the vaccine, because it can make them sterile.) RB-51 provides heifers protection against brucellosis, but unlike earlier vaccines, it does not create confusion about test results.

"To ensure infected animals are not moved from herd to herd, breeding cattle 18 months or older, or younger cows that are bred or have calved, must have a negative blood test for brucellosis before changing hands at a livestock auction or through private treaty. This 'first-point' testing of cattle has been the most effective and efficient method of finding infection," he said.

At slaughter plants, blood samples and animal identification information, such as ear tag numbers or backtags, are collected from cows and bulls, he explained. When samples test positive for brucellosis, the TAHC or USDA field staff use the animal identification information to trace the herd of origin, so the remaining cattle in the pasture can be tested. If infection is confirmed, neighboring herds and other potentially exposed cattle are tested to determine the source of the infection, and to find out if the disease has spread to other herds.

Dr. Coats strongly urged ranchers to maintain young, purchased heifers separately from other cattle in their herd, until the purchased animals are tested after delivering their first calves. "There's always the possibility that these very young heifers may have been exposed to brucellosis and are incubating infection when they're bought. We strongly recommend that these young heifers be kept in a separate pasture, then tested as adults, just to ensure that disease isn't introduced into the main breeding herd," he said. "It's always better to be safe than sorry."

"Cattle brucellosis one day will be regarded as a foreign animal disease in the U.S.," said Dr. Coats. "In Texas, we've come so far since the days when 1,500 or 2,000 infected herds were quarantined, and we were testing entire counties to 'clean up' infection. We can eradicate this disease in Texas, and even though Missouri may beat us to the eradication finish line, we won't be too far behind."

## West Texas Feral Hog Workshop Set for October

by: Steve Byrns

Communications Specialist,

OZONA - Texas Cooperative Extension is sponsoring the "West Texas Feral Hog Workshop" at 1 p.m. October 21, in the Ozona Civic Center.

The meeting is being sponsored by Extension Offices in Crockett, Schleicher, and Sutton Counties.

"When folks traditionally think of feral hogs, Central and South Texas usually comes to mind, but they began their westward move into Crockett county several years ago," said Roy Walston, Crockett County Extension agent. "They're a real nuisance for us. They tear up fences and waterings and sheep and goat ranchers are scared to death of them and rightly so. Our purpose for having this meeting is to bring producers up-to-date on just where we are concerning this new problem."

"Feral hogs have been in West Texas for decades in some areas, but their range is rapidly expanding for several reasons. We plan to see how others are

handling hogs to see if there is a possible balance of good and bad for West Texas ranchers, because it looks like they're here to stay."

After a 1 p.m. start, the program will be kicked off by Roy Walston explaining the Trans-Pecos Feral Hog Survey and the ramifications of its results.

Other topics and presenters include: "Feral Hog Biology", Rick Taylor, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologist, Uvalde; "Coping With Feral Hogs", Hoppy Turman, Texas Wildlife Services regional director, Fort Stockton; "Impact On Feral Hogs To Wildlife And Livestock", Cearley; and "Feral Hog Disease Transmissions", Dr. Thurman Fancher, D.V.M., Texas Animal Health Commission, Lampasas.

The day will conclude with a 4:30-5 p.m. panel discussion featuring the program's speakers.

For further information contact the Texas Cooperative Extension Office in Crockett County at 325-392-2721.



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**Community News**

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**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, an amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil and Gas Division, RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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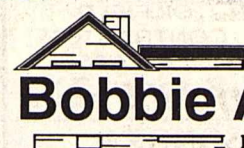
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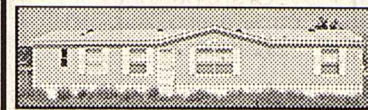
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**F.Y.I.**

Sutton County Health Fair will be at Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free blood screening will begin at 7:30 at the Hospital Annex. Persons must be fasting to qualify for Cholesterol and Blood Sugar screenings. PSA will also be available. There will be fun for all ages.

DAISY MEETINGS 10/23/03, THE GIRL SCOUT HUT (409 Water St.) FROM 5:30-6:30 - Thursday

Fall Festival, Saturday, October 25, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Storybook parade, crowning of royalty, music, dancing, games and food. To have a booth call Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program, 387-2248.

Pre-School Trick or Treat - Friday, October 31, 2003, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program and the Sonora Downtown Businesses will be giving out special treats to the Pre-school trick or treaters. Everyone is invited to dress up your special little princess or prince and join in the fun. For more information call 387-2248.

Emmaus gathering - 2nd Tuesday of every month at Lighthouse Community Church, 6:30 p.m. Babysitting provided.

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program now has the 2003 Christmas Ornaments. The 24K gold finish brass ornament is a windmill and a turkey on the Sutton County Courthouse Lawn. The cost is \$10. Visit the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street office on Main Street to get yours today, and add it to your Sonora ornament collection.

Library Story Time every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. For more information call the Sutton County Library at 387-2111. Ages 3 - Pre-K welcome.

Lighthouse Community Church, will host THRIVE! Simulcast for Sonora on November 15, 2003. Best-selling author, Dr. John C. Maxwell will lead the live training. FMI contact Jane Rushing at 325-

**Chamber Chatter**

**SONORA Chamber of Commerce**

by Ruthie Bounds, Manager  
 This week our Chamber Chatter Column will inform you about an unknown person or persons that have been calling some Chamber of Commerce members soliciting advertisement. We will also be letting you know about some upcoming events and promotions.

Three times in the last two weeks we have received phone calls from Chamber of Commerce members asking us about an advertising campaign that they had been contacted about. Each one had been contacted by telephone. The Sonora Chamber of Commerce is not soliciting advertising for any brochures, pamphlets or mail-outs of any kind, at this time. It seems that the person or persons who are calling our members are telling them that the advertising that they are selling is exclusively for Chamber of Commerce members; thus inferring that we, the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, are trying to sell ads for a brochure or pamphlet. We have not been able to determine who it is that is soliciting advertising from our Chamber members, but thought we should let everyone know that it is not an advertising campaign sponsored by our organization. When we are soliciting for advertisement or sponsorships you will be contacted by someone locally and not a telemarketer. Please let us know if you have any further information on this.

Sonora Chamber of Commerce is planning a couple of Holiday Promotions for all the local merchants. The "Santa Bucks" promotion will begin November 1st. All local businesses are invited to participate. If you are not interested in giving out the "Santa Bucks" at the point of sale at your place of business, then we would like to encourage you to donate at least one item to be auctioned off at the "Santa Bucks Auction" to be held the week before Christmas. If you would like more information please call the Sonora Chamber of Commerce office.

The other Holiday Promotion is also very exciting. On December 5, 2003, we will be having a "More the Merrier Christmas Bazaar" at the Sutton County Civic Center. All local merchants and crafters are encouraged to be a part of this Holiday Bazaar. There are a limited amount of booths available and Sonora businesses and residents will not be charged a booth fee. There will be some out of town booths and they will be charged a booth fee, so that we may cover the costs of hosting the "More the Merrier Christmas Bazaar".

These are just a few of the exciting things that are going on in Sonora over the next couple of months. If you would like to know more about these or other events, please call or come by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce office at 205 Hwy 277 North. Sonora Chamber of Commerce Phone: 325/387-2880 E-mail: soncoc@sonoratx.net www.sonoratx-chamber.com

**Meet Sonora Clergymen The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian**



Lewis Allen: A man of the land, a man of the people, a man of God. Did you know that he also placed 8th in the nation as an NAIA decathlete in 1974? Did you know that until recently he held the record at ASU in the javelin throw at 235'5"? Friends who knew him at ASU said he was always polite and quiet, but had somewhat of a wild "streak". Prior to college, Lewis grew up in Junction, and graduated as valedictorian in 1972. His love and dedication to the land began at an early age, and he spent an entire year at the family ranch cutting and selling cedar. It is well known in our congregation, that he hates cedar and, after a sermon on stewardship and conservation, offered to hand out chain saws at the door!

Lewis graduated from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1981, and began his ministry in Sanderson, Texas. He and his wife Cyndy, moved to Sonora in 1990.

As a man of the people, Lewis has been a County Commissioner in Terrell County, an EMT, president of the local Hospital Board, Treasurer of the Ministerial Alliance, President of the Eaton Hill Committee, Secretary of the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burn Association, and a board member of the Texas Rural Community Health System.

However, it is Lewis' work with youth that brings him the greatest satisfaction. He has served as Scout Master in Sonora since 1990, and during that time, an unbelievable 35 boys have obtained the rank of Eagle Scout...a record in the Concho Valley, and probably Texas! He has been an active youth leader and has inspired many young people during the past 23 years to become respectful, hard-working, mature adults. He is especially proud of his two children, Will (23 years old) and Andi (20 years old).

As a man of God, Lewis doesn't just preach God's word

**Lighthouse Community Church**

Donald R. Longoria was born February 3, 1959, in Houston, Texas. He attended Odessa High School, where he graduated with honors in 1977. He received the Graduate of Theology degree in 1981, a Bachelor of Arts - Religion, in 1987, Masters of Art - Religion in 1989, Master of Divinity in 1982, and is a candidate for Doctor of Ministry. He was licensed to preach August 23, 1981, and became an ordained minister March 3, 1984. He served as pastor for FBC in May, Texas from 1984 - 1991 and Eastside Baptist Church in Comanche from 1991-1999.

Brother Don was called to Lighthouse Baptist Church in February of 2000. He took a step of faith, accepting the call to a small congregation of about 60 people, in a rented building, in a small town. Since that time God has used him to make an impact in his church, his community and in the lives of each individual he comes in contact with. His life is not his own, as he is ready in a moment's notice, day or night, to meet the needs of individuals. His kind, loving spiritual guidance stretches far beyond the confines of Lighthouse.

During his time at



Lighthouse, the church has changed its name to Lighthouse Community Church. Under the guidance and direction of Brother Don, the church has transcended denominational barriers. Brother Don's vision is to reach all that desire a love relationship with our Savior, regardless of denominational status.

I Thessalonians 5:12-13 "Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work."

We at Lighthouse are so thankful for the man God has called to our church. He is so many things to so many different people. For the single mom or fatherless boy, he puts on his different hats and is all things to all men who glorify the Lord. He will stand beside you when it seems no one else will. That is what this pastor does for the flock God has placed in his care. He leads an exemplary life, witnessing his faith in all the people in his care. He is willing to defend the fatherless girl when injustice seems to come her way. He truly encourages all of the people in his care. He is patient, kind, loving and offers spiritual guidance and relates well with all. His compassion knows no bounds. It was a blessed day when God called Don Longoria to be a minister, to be a servant, to be a shepherd. For this we are thankful. Because of Don, we are blessed. Brother Don, "You are loved."

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