THE Devil's River NEWS

Since 1890

Volume 116 • Issue 6

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, February 5, 2004



Dusty Holmes (3rd), Harley Johnson (2nd) and Jason Olman (1st) proudly show off their winning

Sonora Scouts have fast and furious fun at 2004 Pinewood Derby

by Storie Sharp

The 2004 Pinewood Derby has raced into history, but it is doubtful if the dust has cleared in some Scout's memories.

The boys of Sonora's Tiger Cubs, Weeblos, Wolves and cars can not weigh more than 5

Residents

Invited to

Forum on

Community

Issues

What does our communi-

need? What could be improved? What would make life better for everyone who

All local residents who

are interested in a better future

for themselves, their families

and our community are invited

to participate in the Texas

Community Futures Forum at

7:00 on February 23, at the

statewide effort of Texas

Cooperative Extension, an

agency of The Texas A&M

University System, to bring

together a diverse group of

individuals, groups and organ-

izations to identify issues and

based input into this process

so that a plan can be devel-

oped for the future of each

county and for Texas as a whole," said Dr. Chester Fehlis of College Station,

Extension director. "We also want other local, state and federal agencies and organiza-

tions to participate. Many of

the needs and concerns of peo-

ple can best be addressed through cooperation and part-

nerships among the agencies

and organizations that serve

process will help Extension

develop its long-range plan for

the next four years, 2005

through 2008, Fehlis said.

However, he emphasized that

the true goal is to facilitate the

identification of common

needs and define a process for

addressing these needs to cre-

ate a better economic, environ-

mental and social situation in

communities across the state.

nership effort, all of us work-

ing together for the future of

to let their voices be heard in

the Sutton County Forum on

February 23," said Kelly

Thorp. "This is your opportu-

nity to speak to the future!"

Texas," Fehlis said.

'We view this as a part-

'We encourage everyone

The Futures Forum

"We want to get broad-

The Forum is being conducted in every county as a

by Kelly Thorp

lives here?

Civic Center.

concerns.

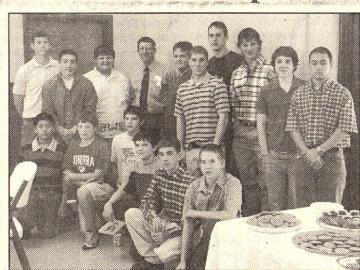
them.

Cub Scouts worked very hard ounces. All car parts and matewith their parents, grandparents or other adult "helpers" to build the pinewood cars. Small blocks of wood are carved into trucks, hummers, bullets and 2-3/4"x 7" vehicles. Finished sleek missile looking contrap-

rials must be firmly attached. The racers do not have to be traditional "cars", there were

See Pinewood Derby page 7

Scoutmaster Lewis Allen **Honored at Reception**



Scouts from Troop 19 joined Lewis Allen (back center) at a special ceremony honoring his years as Sonora Scout Master.

By Nancy Glasscock

On Sunday afternoon, February 1, in the Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall in Sonora, over 100 present and former scouts, along with friends, honored Reverend Lewis Allen. After serving as Scoutmaster of Troop 19 since 1990, Rev. Allen is retiring and

will serve as an advisor to local scouting efforts. Fellow Scouter Jim Stephen gave a brief tribute to Rev. Allen and his local scouting experiences. Many scouts and Troop 19 committee members wrote letters that were included in a

See Scoutmaster honored

Ann-n-Marie's, an upscale consignment shop, opens in Sonora



Ann-n-Marie's, the upscale consignment shop had their grand opening on Friday, January 23, 2004. Located at 305 S. Crockett, Ann-n-Marie's specializes in women's, men's and children's clothing, including plus sizes for women. They also carry accessories, home décor, handcrafted sterling jewelry & much more. The Sonora Chamber of Commerce had a "Red Ribbon Cutting" to celebrate the grand opening, and everyone enjoyed snacks and door prizes while browsing through the racks looking for great deals in their sizes. Ann-n-Marie's will soon be taking appointments for consignments in Sonora. Stop by Ann-n-Marie's today to outfit the whole family.

Johnson joins The Bank & Trust team

"The Bank & Trust is thrilled to have Brady Johnson join our team. With a twentytwo year background in banking, leadership qualities and friendly personality, Brady is a perfect fit for our organization. Brady has a solid background in lending, business development and administration. On his first day with us, there was an instant comradery with team members and board members. We welcome Brady and his family to our organization and look forward to a great future with him on board.'

Sid Cauthorn, President and C.E.O. of The Bank &

by Storie Sharp

Brady Johnson is elated to announce that he has taken the position of President at The Bank & Trust in Sonora. He brings 20-plus years banking experience with him from San Angelo, all of which have been management and lender posi-

"The Bank & Trust is an outstanding bank, blessed with wonderful customers and employees. The bank has developed a great reputation in our community, and it is my hope and goal to continue to build on the many relationships we have with the people and businesses in Sonora and Sutton County," Johnson said.

Having strong ties to San Angelo will be an added asset for Johnson in his new position, and he hopes to tap into those resources from Angelo, bringing more business to Sutton County.

Some changes that Johnson said he sees in the future for The Bank & Trust include a physical

Brady Johnson is pleased with new his position as President of The Bank & Trust in Sonora.

make-over. They are planning on re-locating the lobby and adjusting the drive-through teller area to better utilize the space and make a more customer friendly atmosphere.

He also plans to cultivate the existing customers and try to improve on making the community more aware of all the services The Bank & Trust can offer.

"I'm lucky to be joining such a fantastic existing staff," said Johnson, who has only been on the job for a week but already is busy building a strong working relationship with everyone in the bank. "Everyone has been so nice, and I look forward to working with each and every one one of them," he said.

Johnson said that his former employers, The First National Bank, have been very supportive in his move, and he looks forward to the two banks working together on projects in the community. He will also be looking at working with the Sonora Industrial Development Board, Chamber of Commerce, Hudspeth Hospital, the schools and other organizations that promote growth and improvements for Sonora and Sutton County.

Originally from San Saba, Texas, moving to the small town of Sonora is like "coming home" for Johnson.

"I have been involved with this community for 10 years as a senior officer in another bank. Now I am delighted to be able to live and work in Sonora and Sutton County on a full time basis," he said.

Brady is married to Anna Balch Johnson, originally from Sonora, and they have two children, Mary Kyle, 3, and Wilson, 2, who are all very excited to be moving closer to family and

Lionel Cervantez, Sonora returns remove his Yellow Ribbon



Mom, Dad and bride-to-be watch as Lionel Cervantez, Jr. takes down his yellow ribbon.

Lionel Cervantez, Jr., was the latest military personnel to come home to Sonora and take down his yellow ribbon from the Old Oak Tree on the courthouse lawn. Cervantez returns home from Nebraska, only one of many places he has been since he enlisted in the United States Air Force on June 10, 2002. He is part of the 55th Security Forces that defensively guard air bases.

Lionel was joined by his fiance, Amanda Rolston, who is also a member of the 55th Security Forces in the U.S. Air Force. The two plan to be married next year. Lionel will leave for Kuwait in March, where he will be stationed for six months before returning to Nebraska. Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program Manager, Ann Kay told him that we would put his ribbon back on the tree and remove it again when he safely returns for good. Kay then presented Cervantez with the Proclamation of Yellow Ribbon Day from the Mayor of Sonora and a certificate of appreciation from the City of Sonora and Sutton County for serving in the military and protecting our freedoms. JoAnna Wuest, manager of the Sonora Dairy Queen presented Lionel with a certificate for a meal during his visit home and Donna Garrett, with the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, gave him some tokens of appreciation from Sonora. The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street also gave Lionel an Old Rock School house Christmas ornament and expressed gratitude for all that he has done.

Lionel Cervantez, Jr., is the son of Lionel and Lilia Cervantez. He has two sisters, LeAnn and Linda, and many aunts, uncles and cousins who wish him well.

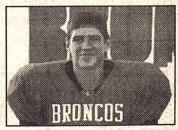
Daughters get ready for "Date Night" with Dad

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce is hosting an evening of sweets, treats and dancing feet on Tuesday, February 10, 2004, when the 2nd Annual Daddy/Daughter Date Night rocks into the Sutton County Civic Center.

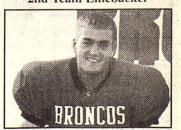
Young ladies in kindergarten through 8th grade will be treated to a traditional "Valentine Ball", with that special guy in their life - Dad. Grandpa's, uncles or guardians are also welcome to escort that special little sweetie in their

The fun will start at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 9:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce. For more information call 387-2880.

The 2003 Texas **Sports Writers Association All-State Football Team**



Steven Duhon 2nd Team Linebacker



Chris Martin Honorable Mention Receiver



Clint Cearley **Honorable Mention** Quarterback

Lighthouse Community Church

"Where Community is our Middle Name"

Sunday Services

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



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

THE CHURCH OF THE

GOOD SHEPHERD

PRESBYTERIAN

Lewis Allen, Pastor

319 E. Mulberry

387-2616

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY

CHURCH

Don Longoria, Pastor

1705 N. Crockett

PENTECOSTAL CALVARY

TEMPLE UNITED

509 Amistad

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

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** Rev. Milton Black 404 E. Poplar 387-2955

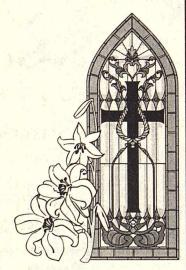
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Conrad Archer, Pastor 201 N. Water

387-2466

TEMPLO JERUSALEM **ASAMBLEA DE DIOS Enoc Elias Nunez** 306 W. 4th St. 387-5713 387-3092

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

LA IGLESIA HISPANA UNIDA DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS, INC. Pastor Felipe Martinez 807 Orient



Brought to you by:

Kerbow Funeral Home 387-2266

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notice given to the Editor of this publication.

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

TEXAS TALES TOLD BY Tumbleweed Smith

Those Radio and TV Public Service Announcements -



Smith had the privilege of addressing the Texas Association

umbleweed

of Broadcasters recently during the organization's 50th anniversary. Among the give away items at the meeting was a CD entitled TAB'S PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECT. It mentioned the \$500 million in public service time Texas radio and tele-

vision stations provided in the

past year. For more than 80 years, Texas radio and television stations have been helping their communities, planning food or clothing drives and working with organizations like the Red Cross and United Way. The PSA's concern issues like education, health care and protecting the environment. By airing more than 15,000 PSA's per day, Texas radio and television stations show their commitment to public service to the tune of half a billion dollars in just one year. This generosity by 429 of the 1,025 Texas radio and television stations set a record unmatched by any other industry. Examples of just what broadcasters do to help their communities can be found in most any station. In Big Spring, KBST Radio asks people to drop by sacks of dog and cat food for the humane soci-

Waco's News Talk 1230 morning host and program director Mack Watson says the TAB's annual research project includes information from 42% of stations in Texas about contributions to their communities. Data was analyzed by former UT communication professor Dr. August Grant.

ety. The lobby of the station is so

filled with the huge bags there's

hardly room to get in the front

His research showed that each station contributed an average of more than one million dollars in community service air time. To be exact, \$1,165,592. In addition, Texas stations gave cash donations worth \$18.7 million for scholarships, closed captioning services for the hearing impaired and staffing for public service projects. Broadcasters also raised millions of dollars for community efforts like re-stocking food banks, providing school supplies for children whose parents couldn't afford them and helping families with terminally ill children. An astonishing 15,968 public service messages aired daily, informing viewers and listeners

about such topics as new opportunities in education, availability of health care, flood relief efforts in San Antonio and programs to address family violence.

Texas stations broadcast 5,828,320 advertisements for an array of community service campaigns including annual efforts such as the children's miracle network, coats for kids and a food pantry drive in Waco that brought in more than 450 tons of food. Each station aired an average of 37 public service announcements a day. The 429 stations participating in the research project aired 1,270 political debates and forums during the reporting period. Some opportunities for debate were refused by political candidates. TAB's public service chair Jackie Rutledge summed up the effort like this: "From the smallest to the largest market, stations on a daily basis prove their commit--ment to serving local communities, the great state of Texas and our country by providing extraordinary leadership to help overcome adversity and build a brighter future for all.'

Ronnie Cox loves being your **Pharmacist**

Senior Center News

Feb. 9 - Bingo!

Feb. 10 - Get off your rocker. Exercise with video after lunch!

Feb. 11 - Work on puzzles.

Feb. 12 - Work on Valentine's Crafts. Feb. 13 - Valentine Party. Come eat with us!

Senior Center Menu

Feb. 9 - Chicken supreme, new potatoes, broccoli, green salad, roll, cherry cobbler, milk.

Feb. 10 - Beef burrito, pinto beans, spinach, coleslaw, Jell-O with pears, milk.

Feb. 11 - Meatloaf with tomatoes, blackeyed peas, okra,

cornbread, banana pudding, milk. Feb. 12 - Oven breaded pork chops with gravy, noodles,

carrots, tossed salad, bread, applesauce, milk. Feb. 13 - Spanish meatballs with rice, green beans, roll,

sliced tomatoes, pineapple rings, 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.*

Obituaries

Primitivo Gonzalez Sr.

Primitivo Gonzalez Sr., 97, passed away Wednesday, January 28, 2004, in the Eldorado Nursing Home. Services were at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 31, 2004, at St. Ann's Catholic Church and burial followed in Sonora Cemetery. Arrangements were by Kerbow Funeral Home.

He was born June 8, 1906, in Verjel, Durango, Mexico. He and his wife came to Texas and settled in Sutton County where he went to work on the Cusenbary Ranch. They moved to Sonora in 1928 and Primo

took up carpentry work. His wife preceded him in death.

Primitivio's greatest source of pride was his family. They are Eulalio and wife Rosatina, Ralph and wife Josie, Gloria and husband Lemuel Lopez, all of Sonora, Felipe and wife Thelma of San Jose, California, Eusebio and wife Celia of Gilroy, Augustina and husband, Filiberto Gonzales Bridgeport, Primo and wife Enedina of Ft. Stockton; 26 grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; and 6 great-great grandchildren.

Cards of Thanks

The family of Monte Cowsert would like to sat thank-you to the people of Sonora for their generosity during our time of loss.

A special thank you to Brother Don Longoria and Todd Munn for their memorial service, Tamra Wolfe and Ed Newton for the music, and the meal provided at the Karne's home by Kay Word, Rhonda Gulley, Pam Munn, Clara James, Tamra Wolfe, Charlotte Longoria, Sue Moore, Janis Black, Tissie Wagoner and Lisa Karnes.

A special thank-you to Linda Burkes, Officer Eric Byrne, Office Dudley, Officer Jodie Harris, Chief House, Sonora EMT, Justice of the Peace Adelita Alvarez and Kerbow Funeral home.

May God bless each and every one of you. I pray I have not left anyone out and apologize if I have. Your thoughtfullness is appre-

Bernice Cowsert and Family

The family of Gloria G. Guerra would like to thank every one who sent food, flowers, cards or called during our loss.

To Father Bill for the comforting words and Mass; to the ladies who helped with the meals, the servers and the choir; to Albert and Gus Ward for all they did and being there at such a difficult time, we extend a huge "thank you"! A special thanks to our nephews for being pallbearers: Johnny Luna, Arturo Galindo, Julio Galindo, Robert Noriega, Joey Guerra and Oscar Hernandez.

> Trinidad L. Guerra Trinie Jr. and Kathy and Grandchildren Guerra and Galindo

The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street would like to express our appreciation to all the artists who participated in the Community Art Show. If you were unable to visit The Bank & Trust, you missed seeing art at its best.

I would like to thank The Bank & Trust allowing us to share the beauty that was captured on canvas. We would also like to express a special note of thanks to Ken and Mary Rowland for their help in organizing the artist show, KHOS Radio, Eldorado Success, Channel 8 - KLST and The Devil's River News. The spotlight artists are Ken Rowland, Lucy Ward, Barbara Earwood, Diane Jacoby, Elvie Turney, Forest Ann Roubison, Ron Nicholas, Fae McClelland, Mary Lou Gilly, Melvin Stevenson, Delyse Jaeger, Wilma Schwiening, Pauline Ringold, Maria Schwiening Tisbel. Beverly Howard, Nora Dempsey, Sylvia Garcia, Frances Ross, Wayne Bryant, Mary Buchholz, Beverly Valliant, Nadine Eby and Ester Valliant, Darryl Eby. We would like to express appreciation to the three young ladies who played at the reception: MacKenzie Watkins, Susanna Street, and Connie Isenhour.

I would like to express my appreciation to all who helped with the Sonora Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby. Each year the Sonora Fire Department donates the kits to all the boys participating in the Pinewood Derby. We greatly appreciate your help! I would also like to thank James Jaeger and Billy Lippman for their efforts as our judges for the race. Each leader put in many hours of their time to help make this race a fun event. Thank you all so much.

> Sincerely, Jan Stephens Cubmaster, Pack 19

School Lunch Menu • Feb. 9 - 13, 2004

Breakfast

Mon. - Waffle sticks, syrup, assorted juice, milk.

Tues. - Cinnamon roll, apple juice, milk. Wed.- Cheese toast, orange juice, milk.

Thurs.- French toast, syrup, assorted juice, milk.

Fri.- Breakfast burrito, orange juice, milk.

Milk and cereal offered with all breakfasts.

Lunch

Mon. - Beef & bean burrito, tator tots, tossed salad, dressing, orange wedges.

Tues.-Spaghetti/meat sauce, peas, vegetable salad, fruit, roll. Wed.- Chicken fajitas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, flour tortilla,

Thurs. - Pepperoni pizza, kernel corn, vegetable salad, Rice

Krispie treat.

Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fries, lime Jell-O,

Community Calendar

Feb. 9 **County Commissioner's Meeting** 9:00 a.m. Annex Bldg. Feb. 10 Daddy/Daughter Date Night 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 4-H Civic Center

The Community Calendar



Member FDIC

Feb. 17 **City Council Meeting** 2:00 p.m. • City Hall Feb. 23 **County Commissioner's Meeting** 9:00 a.m. • Annex Bldg.

AI-Anon Family Meetings Every Monday at 7:00 p.m. • Hospital Dining Room Call 387-2521 ext. 170

is made possible by :



Member FDIC 207 N Hwy 277 N • 387-2593

Letters To The Editor Policy

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Member 2004

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Happy Birthday

February 5

Kobie Herring, Macie Friess, Chris Gonzales, Sianne Alvizo, Tute Lumbreras

February 6

Jalys Mabry, Jose Casillas, Shirley Badgett, Tina Viglietta, Tanner Cook, John Henry Strauch, Diego Cardona, Chacho

February 7

Diann Keller, Preston Lopez, Pamela Armke, Christopher Lindsey, Peter Young, Michelle Crites, Shane Love February 8

Ann Kay, Tres Campbell, Keith Butler, Jacinda Sanchez February 9

Joyce Jimenez, Boomer Galindo, Roberta James, Dora Fuentez, JoAnn Palmer, John Lopez III, Katie Braly, Tina

February 10

Cam Campbell, Cynthia Hillis, Lorena Lopez, Patti Prather, Dana Young, Sara Gutierrez, Garry Hull

February 11

Ty Fincher, Maria Lopez, Jeanette Turner, Kim Lewis, Adelaida Castilleja, Ruben Castilleja

San Angelo Symphony to feature Soloist, Motoi Takeda, in Sonora performance



Motoi Takeda

nsgoThes violSan Performance at Sonora/High relationally the pre-concent School on March 19, 2004, will Feature Soloist Motoi

Motoi Takeda began violin studies at the age of three with Professor Yamaguchi in Japan: At thirteen, now under the tutelage of the renowned Saburo Sumi, he won first place in the Japan National High School Competition and was heard that same year by Leonid Kogan, who invited him to the Moscow enter Conservatory.

After receiving the coveted music degree from the Moscow Conservatory at age 17, he was awarded a four year scholarship to the Juilliard School, where his teachers were Oscar Shumsky and Nathan Milstein. In 1973 he won the Juilliard Violin Concerto Competition and in 1980 made his professional debut with the Tokyo Vivaldi Ensemble. A year later he won the silver medal in the G. B. Dealey Competition in Dallas.

presently Associate Concertmaster of Dallas Symphony Orchestra. He performs regularly as a soloist with the Dallas Symphony as well as with other orchestras and gives recitals throughout the world. His playing brings the highest praises not only from his audience but also from critics.

In 1999 he was the featured performer in a "Three Concerto Evening" with the Japan Philharmonic, conducted by Dallas-based maestro Hector Guzman. The Japanese major musical press evaluated the event as one of the top ten concerts of the year."

His CD "Romantic Violin Favorites" contains some of the most beloved of the such Zigeunerweisen (Pablo de Saraste) and Ave Maria (Franz Schubert), "giving a dazzling display of virtuoso. fireworks" (Dallas Times Herald).

General admission to the concert, thanks to the overwhelming support of our sponsors, will be \$25. The pre-concert dinner for spon-

Angelow sors is calmost totally sold Orchestra out. If you are interested in dinner or the obtaining tickets for the concert we suggest you call The Sutton County Historical Society offices at 387-5084 Monday or Friday mornings or Saturday from 8-4 and speak to Mrs. Palmer. You may also call her at home at 387-2855. She has all the

table charts and seating

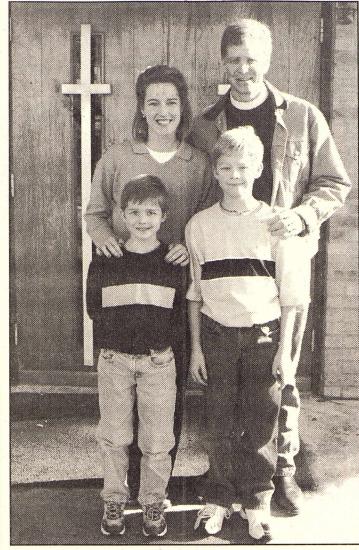
plans for the dinner and con-

cert. Reservations must be

made through her. The concert is a fund raising activity for the Sutton County Historical Society, a non-profit organization which has been dedicated to preserving the history of Sutton County for over 30 years. They operate the Miers Home Museum, The John & Mildred Cauthorn Memorial Trust Building (Old Depot) The Sutton County Historical Society offices on Oak St. and the Old WTU Ice House. The ice house is currently being gutted and will be used to make a much larger museum to cover events in Sutton County, and house donated articles we do not have room for in the

Miers Home Museum.

St. John's Episcopal Church welcomes Reverend Black



Reverend Milton Black and family, Elizabeth, Nelson (Lt.) and Milton, III (Rt.).

by Storie Sharp

St. John's Episcopal Church is proud to introduce the new Rector of their congregation, Reverend Milton Black, Jr.

Reverend Black comes to Sonora from the Trinity Church in Longview, Texas, where he has been since leaving the seminary in 2000. A graduate from the University of Texas in Austin, Rev. Black has an MBA and a BA. He was active in the oil trading business in Houston before answering his call to Ministry. He attended the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, and graduated in 2000, at which time began preaching Longview.

Rev. Black is joined in Sonora by his family, Elizabeth, Milton, III and Nelson. Milton is a fourth grader at Sonora Elementary and Nelson is a first grader. Elizabeth is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and is looking forward to being an County.

Rev. Black said that he is so glad that St. John's search comhim. When he visited Sonora he welcome them to our town. fell in love with this country, but

the most compelling reason for choosing to make Sonora his home was what he called "salt of the Earth" people in the com-

"Everyone has been so outstanding to us," said Rev. Black. "We are so happy to be in such a wonderful, welcoming community.'

"I look forward to being a meaningful paticipant in the community," he continued.

Rev. Black's philosophy is "hospitality in the Lord", and he wants to share that with everyone, regardless of religious

"I want to extend an invitation to everyone to come be a part of the mission of St. John's, and join us in sharing the good news and supporting one another," Rev. Black said.

Rev. Black is already becoming a vital part of our community, joining the Lions Club and the Ministerial Alliance, and he will be preaching the Sun Rise service on Easter Sunday in the amphithe-

Take time to stop by and mittee was put in touch with meet the Black family and help

Falling off the wagon

Many years ago, when I was just a youngster, my friends and I would try and hitch a short ride on one of my grandfather's wagons going to the cotton fields. Teams of mules pulled the wagons, and, if the drivers weren't in a hurry, they would slow down so we could run and jump on the back and ride for a short ways. We would be laughing and giggling so hard sometimes we couldn't get completely on, or we would fall off the wagon. It wasn't very far to the ground and the dirt was soft so no harm was done. Those events made me aware of some problems we face in our Christian lives. Many times we will make a personal promise or even a vow to God and fail (1 John 1:9). Maybe we wanted to stop drinking or cursing or smoking or lose weight. It might even be reading our Bibles daily or attending Church regularly. If we try and fail (fall off the wagon), no problem, just try to get back on and go on. For victory it takes our effort and a lot of help from God (Philippians 4:13). So start with prayer, continue in prayer and finish with a big thank-you to God (2 Timothy 4:18). See you in Church next Sunday.

Tedford Jewelry

Bridal Registry

Kristen Hardgrave bride elect of Sam Kaufman Regina Rosell bride elect of Chris Neal

107 NW Concho • 387-3839



Baby Registry

Clay and Tammy Gentry 417 Hwy. 277 N

Quilt & Needle Work Walk

February 12-27, 2004 Weaving & Spinning Demonstration by Patti Strauch & Nadine Eby February 12, 2004 • 2:30 p.m. The Bank & Trust

Participating Businesses:

The Bank & Trust of Sutton County First National Bank of Sonora Sutton County Courthouse Sonora City Hall Tedford Jewelry & Radio Shack Best Western Sonora Inn Days Inn Devil's River Ol' Sonora Trading Company Corner Drug & Gifts Galore Devil's River News KHOS Radio

image apparel Team Graphics Sam Dillard State Farm Insurance or the Bank & Trust. Dairy Queen of Sonora La Mexicana Restaurante

Sutton County Steakhouse Sonora Office Supply

in the participating businesses for all to enjoy. Sponsored by The Bank & Trust and Sonora Main Street Program

Drop Off Quilts & Needle Work February 9, 2004

at the

Main Street Office

We will display

Needlework & Quilts





SAVE 25% on ALL Silver **Replating During February!**

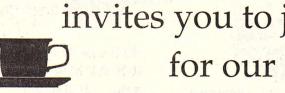


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Spinning and weaving demonstration to kick off "Quilt and Needle Work Walk"

by Ann Kay, Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program Manager

February is often referred to as "The Love Month". In celebration of this, The Friends of Historic Main Street Program (FHSMS) would like to invite everyone to a demonstration and reception at The Bank & Trust of Sutton County lobby on February 12, 2004, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Patty Strauch and Nadine Eby will be taking us back in time, demonstrating the art of spinning yard into wool and weaving turkey feathers and other materials together. Many of our grandmothers and mothers have done some type of needle work or quilting in the past, and now we want to share this lost art with new generations.

There will be refreshments at the reception on Thursday as these ladies spin and weave for our enjoyment.

This special demonstration will kick of the FHSMS Quilt and Needle Work walk, that will take place from February 12 through February 27, 2004. Local businesses will showcase quilts and needle work done by community members during the month. As you visit the different businesses on the "Quilt and Needle Work Walk" and enjoy the beautiful pieces, pick up a "Quilt card". Every time you visit a different sponsoring business, have an employee "autograph" your card. After you have collected all the signatures, take your "Quilt" card to the FHSMS office in the Mercantile Building, 232 Main Street, Suite 101, or the Chamber Sonora Commerce and Visitors Center at 205 Hwy. 277 N. to receive a small token of "Love".

You must have all the sponsoring businesses on the "Quilt and Needle Work Walk" and only adults qualify for the gifts.

We want to express our appreciation to KHOS Radio for helping us advertise this promotion.

If you are interested in sharing some of your quilts or needle work, please call the FHSMS office at 325-387-

Participating businesses for the Quilt and Needle Work Walk are: The Bank & Trust of Sutton County, First National Bank of Sonora, Sutton County Courthouse, City of Sonora - City Hall, Tedford Jewelry & Radio Shack, Best Western Sonora Inn, Devil's River Days Inn, Sutton County Steakhouse, image apparel, Team Graphics, Sam Dillard State Farm Insurance, Corner Drug Store and Gifts Galore and More, Dairy Queen of Sonora, La Mexicana Restaurante, The Devil's River News and Sonora Office Supply.

Chamber Chatter

Shop Sonora for Valentine's Day; tickets available for Daddy/Daughter Date Night and Devil's River Trail Ride Fund Raisers

SWNORA

by Ruthie Bounds, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

Are you ready for Valentine's Day? The businesses in Sonora are ready for you to come do your Valentine shopping. Most, if not all, the retail businesses in Sonora have ordered and stocked lots of special gifts for Valentine's Day. Don't forget your special Valentine, and remember that your local businesses have many wonderful things to offer, from greeting cards, flowers, plants, stuffed animals, candy, jewelry and all sorts of gifts to make February 14th a special

We want to let everyone know that there is an advertising sales campaign going on currently, by Liberty Marketing, to sell ads for the community map brochures. This brochure contains a city map as well as a county map and is distributed in many places. The Sonora Chamber of Commerce office and Welcome Center distributes these maps to visitors in our area, to persons inquiring about Sonora, to oilfield related industries, to persons considering relocation to Sonora, and everyone else that is in need of a county or city map. During deer hunting season we hand out or

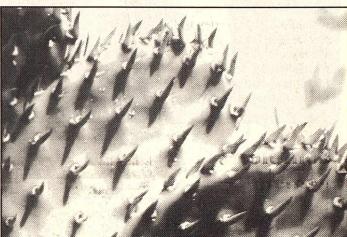
mail at least a thousand of these maps every year. The sales representative for our area should be contacting area businesses soon, if she has not already. Her name is Tammy and she is employed by Liberty Marketing. She will have all of the information needed to help you purchase an advertisement for the City and County Map brochure.

We have tickets for sale now for the Daddy Daughter Date Night "Valentine Ball" at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce office and Welcome Center. The dance will be held at the Sutton County Civic Center on Tuesday, February 10, 2004, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You may purchase your photograph package at the

We also have tickets for sale for the Devil's River Trail Ride Tuesday night Supper & Dance and for the Wednesday morning breakfast. The public is invited to attend both of these events to raise money West Texas The Championship Cook-Off, the Downtown Lions Club, and Sonora Chamber Commerce. The supper and dance will be Tuesday, February 17, from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m and the breakfast will be Wednesday, February 18, at 6:30 a.m. For more information on these and other events please call Sonora Chamber of

Pre-Spring on Eaton Hill

Commerce.



Signs of the season of renewal begin to emerge on Eaton Hill.

by Delyse Jaeger

After receiving a report on the forecast, I realize you may be reading this as the icicles drip from the rafters. Apparently that little groundhog knows his stuff. Regardless, spring will soon arrive and it appears as though the elements have been worked together to bring us another glorious wildflower season! A number of the algarita shrubs on Eaton Hill are already poised to bloom. The hardy bluebonnet plants, encouraged by recent moisture (however miniscule), evoke anticipation of the blue blanket to come. Eaton Hill's diversity of vegetation is truly a botanical wonder in our area. Owing to lack of grazing by livestock for many years, visitors can appreciate the range of native plants typically nibbled into extinction elsewhere. So even those who are quite intimate with our uniquely beautiful environment will enjoy the sights on the Hill.

For wildlife, the period just prior to spring can be difficult. Seeds are not plentiful, temperatures plummet and cover is

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scarce. This is an important time to consider our furred and feathered friends by providing consistent food sources. Birds can be particularly vulnerable. Woodpeckers and scrub jays have been enjoying a cat food buffet on my back porch so their natural food sources are probably limited. Mary Humphrey with Texas Parks and Wildlife reminds us to keep our bird feeders clean and full. One species of bird may carry a disease that can devastate another species, so it is important not to allow droppings to build up on and around your feeders. Rather than tossing inedible or unused fruit, consider putting it out for the birds. The high fat content of suet also provides excellent winter nutrition.

Migrations will soon begin and there are a number of related activities we can participate in. Journey North monitors orioles, monarch butterflies and hummingbirds. They are even asking for assistance in testing a migration theory proposing that the leafing-out of trees may be a primary trigger for migration. This theory is based on the fact that insect populations soar as the trees begin putting on their new greenery. The organization is easily accessed on the internet. Texas Parks and Wildlife conducts a bald eagle nest survey. Although rare, we do occasionally have bald eagles in our area. Please call me if you see one! TP&W also monitors sandhill cranes rookeries. A rookery is the term for a congregating site of these majestic creatures. Both Texas Parks and Wildlife and Journey North have excellent web pages where children and adults can discover the amazing world of nature.

Eaton Hill continues to provide refuge for visiting bird species and the flora remains incredible, even in the harshest days of winter. It's the perfect spot for a Valentine hike, so hit the trails!

Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary is a project of the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation.

Lady Colt **Basketball** 7th Grade

by Larry Jennings

The 7th grade Lady Colts were at home Monday, Februrary 2, 2004, hosting the 7th grade Ozona Lady Lions. The girls played a great game defeating Ozona, 30 to 22.

Scoring for the 7th grade Lady Colts were Azeneth Villanueva- 11, Savannah Leonard- 10, Loren Isenhour- 4, Steely Ingham- 3, and Kaitlyn Henderson- 2.

8th Grade

by Bill Dempsey

The 8th grade Lady Colts played the Ozona girls Monday, February 2, 2004. The girls took the shots to win, but the ball did not drop through. Scoring were Kimble Luna 4, Emily Earwood 6, Heather Hughes 9, Katrina Ramos 2. The difference was in free shots; the Lady Colts shot 4-12, and Ozona shot 12-17. The final score was Ozona 30-

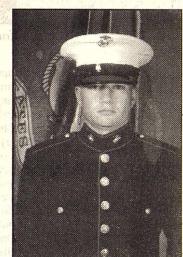
Reagan Co. pushes past **Broncos**

by Maray Cearley

With poor shooting in the third period and key turnovers, the Broncos watched a 12-point lead turn into a 52-55 loss against the Reagan County Owls on Tuesday, January 26, 2004.

Brett McDaniel led all the Broncos with 20 points, followed by Trapper Valliant with 10 points and 13 rebounds. Clint Cearley had a pair of 3-pointers, and Austin Wagoner made 4 points. Chris Martin shot 5 for 5 from the foul line, while as a team, the Broncos shot 7 of 14.

Shane Folmar, completes - Marine basic training



Pvt. Shane Folmar

(FHTNC)--Marine Corps Pvt. Timothy S. Folmar, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Folmar of Sonora, Texas, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Folmar and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a. m., by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program, Folmar spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, handto-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Folmar and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values-honor, courage and commitment, and what the words mean in guiding personal and profes-

sional conduct. Folmar and fellow recruits ended the training phase with The Crucible, a 54-hour, team evolution culminating in an emotional ceremony in which recruits are presented the Marine Corps Emblem, and addressed as "Marines" for the first time in their careers.

Folmar is a 2003 graduate of Sonora High School of Sonora, Texas.



Who will be the 2004 Sweetest Hearts?

Sweetest Hearts nominated at S.M.S.

have its annual Valentine's dance on Thursday, February 5, 2004, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30

"Sweetest Hearts" were nominated by teachers for their endearing qualities and achieve-

"Sweetest 2004 The Hearts" candidates are

Danielle Castro, daughter of Annette and John Castro,

Jessica Chavez, daughter of Jesus and Elizabeth Chavez, Emily Earwood, daughter Carolyn and Edward Earwood.

Nicky Escalante, daughter of Rachel and Luio Escalante, Maritza Garcia, daughter of Lurdes and Jesus Garcia, Heather Hughes, daughter Lou and Oscar Chavez,

of Shelly and Sam Hughes, Laura Martin, daughter of Julie Martin and David Martin, Kari Nicholas, daughter of

Susan and Ron Nicholas, Danielle Rodriguez, daughter of Rachel and Richard

Aguero. Felicia Rodriguez, daughof Maria and Jose

Rodriguez, Kyla Turney, daughter of Mary Beth and Jody Luttrell and

Stacy and Paul Turney, Kelsey Watkins, daughter of Tina and Jerry Watkins;

Zenon Acosta, son of Irma and Zenon Acosta,

Photo by Ray Glassed

Trapper Valliant goes up for a shot against Eldorado.

Lauren Smith goes up against the Lady Eagles.

Eagles

by Nancy Glasscock

On Friday night in

Sonora came out of the gate

Eldorado, Sonora's Lady

Broncos came from behind to

defeat the Lady Eagles 48 - 42.

slowly against the shorter, but

tough, team from Eldorado.

Meghan Krieg had a three point-

er with 50 seconds left in the

first quarter of play. Missy

Longoria played tough, aggres-

sive defense. At the end of first

Sonora came out stronger, and

Eldorado fouls sent Brea

Hughes and Tamika Marshall to

the free throw line. Sonora was

finally able to get within one

point of the Eagles with 58 sec-

the lead changed hands six

offensive rebound for a score

gave Sonora its first lead of the

Lady Broncos never lost their

Marshall drove the lane for a

In the third quarter of play,

Savannah Hedgecock's

In the fourth quarter, the

Hughes had a three pointer.

onds left in the half.

In the second quarter,

quarter, the Eagles led 12 - 8.

Lady Broncos defeat Lady

tough layup, was fouled, and

completed the three-point play

with 3:52 left, Amanda Word

and Chelsea Seaton each played

in her place. Seaton con-

tributed two key free throws in

the last 90 seconds of the game.

Lauren Smith rotated in to the

entire game, contributing good

defense for the Lady Broncos.

42. The Lady Broncos are now

Krieg 16, Longoria 2, Marshall

4 - 3 in district play.

11, Seaton 2.

The final score was 48 to

Hedgecock 11, Hughes 6,

When Longoria fouled out

at the free throw line.

Michael Chavez, son of

Juan Dominguez, son of Monica and Juan Dominguez, J.T. Downing, son of Robin

and John Downing, Edward Garcia, son of

Lidia and Hilario Garcia, Spencer Hall, son of Susan and Steve Hall.

Nick Peña, son of Chela and Alonzo Peña,

Marcus Perez, Martha and

Marcos Perez, Felipe Silva, son of

Minerva and Lucio Silva.

Students voted for their favorite boy and girl, and the winners will be announced at the dance at 9:00 p.m.

Broncos win nailbiter against Eldorado

by Ray Glasscock

The Broncos came out running at the start of the game and appeared to be on their way to a blowout. Using long passes, the Broncos ran up an 18 to 2 lead in the first half of the first quarter. The Eagles began to have some buckets fall toward the end of the first quarter.

The second quarter belonged to the Eagles as it appeared that they never missed. They went ahead at 29 to 27 until Trapper Valliant tied it at 29 with a nice dunk. From then until the end of the half, the Eagles finished with 13 - 0 run.

The Broncos came out in the second half and played inspired ball. The defense pretty much stopped the Eagle offense with Trapper blocking shot after shot.

The Broncos had come back to being 10 down at the start of the fourth quarter. Brett McDaniels and Chris Martin hit big three pointers and Trapper scored six points in the paint to even the score. In the last minute of play, Dustin Creek hit a free throw to give the Broncos a two-point lead with 16 seconds left in the game. After a time-out, Eldorado was playing to tie the game and force an overtime. Eldorado's Chavez drove the lane, and Clint Cearley blocked the layout. He also grabbed the rebound, and the Eagles had to foul him. He came to the free throw line and iced the game with two free throws.

Texas Tech announces

Over 5,000 Texas Tech University students made either the President's List or the Dean's List for the Fall 2003 semester. To be on the President's List or the Dean's List, a student must have taken 12 quality hours during the semester and maintained either a 4.0 or a 3.5-3.9 grade point average, respectively. Among those named to the Dean's List were, Jenna Leigh Baldwin and Tryon Robert Fields, both of Sonora.

2003 Dean's List



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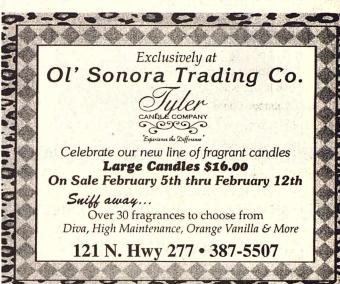


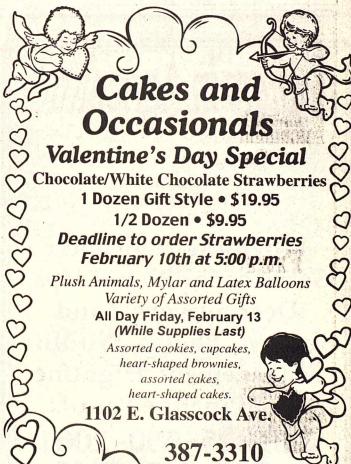


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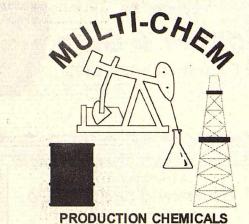




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Annual Angora Goat **Test dates set for Sonora**

by Steve Byrns

SONORA - Plans are being made for the 2004 Angora Goat Performance Test at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. Dan Waldron, Experiment Station geneticist at San Angelo and the test's coordinator, said as in years past, the test will only be conducted if at least 10 different breeders enter a minimum of 50 bucks altogether. Therefore, breeders must notify the Experiment Station of their intent to enter goats by calling (325) 387-3168.

If enough animals are entered, the test will proceed as scheduled starting with the delivery of animals to the station on March 1-2. The Station is 28 miles south of Sonora on Hwy. 55.

"The test has been held annually since it began in 1980," said Waldron, "But uncertainty in the Angora goat industry has prompted us to add the numbers stipulation in recent years. Thankfully, we have always had more than enough numbers to conduct a

"Even during the extremely tough times in the Angora goat industry, it has been gratifying to know that a nucleus of top breeders remains who value the test as a tool for making genetic improvement in their herds.

'Genetic improvement is the purpose of this test. The pro-

gram is designed to provide valid comparisons of mohair quality and production and growth rates of bucks from different breeders. The superior animals the test identifies will become stud animals for some of the best Angora goat herds in the world."

Waldron said the entry dates are fast approaching, but added there is still time to enter goats in this year's program. Individual breeders are limited to entering no more than 12 animals, except by special permission. A minimum of four animals per owner and sire group is suggested but is not required.

The bucks are set to be shorn March 9. The initial test weigh-in is set for March 10. The goats are to be weighed again on May 5 and weighed and sheared a final time on June 30 and July 1 respectively. The annual field day and potential sale is set for July 29.

The testing fee of \$150 per animal is due upon arrival of the goats to the station. The fee covers feed, shearing and laboratory work. Any unused funds will be refunded at the test's conclusion.

Enter animals by calling Trevlin Strong at the Sonora Experiment Station at (325) 387-3168. For more information contact Drs. Dan Waldron, Frank Craddock or Chris Lupton at (325) 653-4576.

Perry proposes education funding plan

State Capital Highlights Texas Press

Association

By Mike Cox

AUSTIN - Anyone who ever fantasized about how to spend the money if they won the lottery will understand recent developments in the Texas school finance issue.

Gov. Rick Perry dast-week laid out a proposed program to improve education in the state by offering various monetary incentives to schools, not school districts. The achievement bonuses would cost more than \$500 million, but Perry did not say how the state would pay for the plan he proposed.

The governor would say when or even if he would be calling a special session to come up with a new school finance system for the state, something to replace the current Robin Hood funding method currently under attack in the courts.

"If we have a special session this year," the governor told reporters, "it will be educational excellence. School finance will be an integral part of a session on educational excellence because how we finance education is the course to that destination.

The destination would offer cash to schools for working to reduce the number of high school drop outs, offering more advanced courses, raising test scores and rewarding excellent teachers.

Formally, the components Perry's plan are called the High School Advancement Incentive, the Distinguished Achievement Program

Initiative, Algebra the Incentive, the Limited English Proficiency Student Success Initiative, the Teacher Excellence Initiative, and the Student Progress Initiative.

nor's plan is a measure that would make possible more public scrutiny of school financial records.

al ranged from an "A-plus" from the Texas Association of Business to an "F" from Comptroller and possibly future political opponent, Carole Keeton Strayhorn. In public's grade book the package goes down as "Incomplete" since it is currently only an unfunded

That's a wrap...

in Hollywood.

Austin enjoyed the largest film and television production budget in 2003 for the fourth year in a row, accounting for 84 percent of the total film budget for Texas. The Dallas-Fort Worth area was second, with 16 percent of production budgets

the Austin area last year was 'The Alamo," set for release

Last year the Legislature designated March as Texas History Month. Plans already are well under way by a volunteer group called Celebrate Texas for the observance of Texas' Fourth of July, which comes on March 2. That's a state holiday in commemoration of the signing of Texas'

Hooking kids on fishing... The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is trying to interest Texas' small fry and their parents in fishing through a Family Fishing Celebration. To encourage parents to take their youngsters fishing, the department has waived the requirement that adults have a fishing license to angle in a state park. Size and catch limits remain unchanged, however.

A final piece of the gover-

Reaction to Perry's propos-

remains a work in progress, but the Texas Film Commission reports that 18 film and television projects shot in Austin last year are in the can, as they say

last year.

The biggest production in this spring.

Speaking of history...

Declaration of Independence.

Oil & Agribusiness



Rig Locations as of January 30, 2003

Dominion; 9500' Duke Wilson - 21 1/2 - #5, Patterson Drilling.

Range Production; 9500' Wess Hill #13, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 8750' Mayfield - 32 - #7, Key Energy. Dominion; 8700' JM Vanderstucken #10, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8700' JM Vanderstucken #12, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 8600' Reinhardt - 6 - #9, Patterson Drilling. Dominion; 8450' Mayer #606, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 8500' Richardson - 139 - #6, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8450' Simmons Ranch #49, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8350' Simmons Ranch #65, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8350' Mayer - 36 - #10, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8150' Mayer Ranch -Q - 15 #2, Patterson Drilling. New KCS Resources; 7275' Sawyer - 170 - #12, Patterson

New Dominion; 6300'Steen #75, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 5900' Cusenbary - 59 - #2, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett Anadarko; 12500' North Childress Ranch - 16 - #1, Patterson

Drilling. Chevron/Midland; 9500' AR Kincaid Trust - D - #26, Nabors Drilling.

Anadarko; 10200' Ira Carson - 10 - #17, Patterson Drilling. New Encore Operating; 7500' Bean #2703, Adobe Drilling

Bronco. New EOG Resources; 6500' Eagle Draw - 100 - #1, TMBR/Sharp Drilling.

Terrell

Riata Energy Inc.; 19000' Mitchell #1201, Lariat Drilling. Nuevo Texas Inc.; 19000' Mitchell - 7 - #6, Nabors Drilling. Exxonmobil; 15700' Bassett Goode #5 H, Patterson UTI. Nuevo Texas Inc.; 9000' Pakenham - 52 - #3, Patterson Drilling. Edwards

Ultra Resources Inc; 9800' Doran Ranch - 31- #1 H, Grey Wolf

Dominion; 9000' Four Square Ranch #62E, Patterson Drilling. Par Minerals Corp; 8000' Hunt #1, Key Energy.

Dominion; 7150' Canyon Ranch #2091E, Patterson Drilling. Val Verde

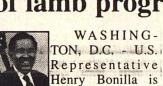
New Beeson Energy, Inc; 18000' Bell Estate - 3 - #1. Grey Wolf Willo Oil & Gas; 15500' Phillip Arledge #1 H, Grey Wolf

New Stallion Energy Inc; 5000' Hackberry Canyon 121 1/2 #2, Key Energy.

For more rig locations call 1-800-627-9785 or go online to www.rigdata.com.



Bonilla announces extension of lamb program



proud to announce a of the retained ewe-lamb pro-

for one final year and the continued recovery and stabilization of the sheep industry," said Bonilla.

The ewe-lamb program was part of the Lamb Meat Assistance Adjustment Program (LMAAP) that ended in 2003. To assist the sheep industry, USDA offered a program to encourage ewe-lamb replacement and retention. Unfortunately, extreme drought conditions that reduced pasture carrying capacity and the lack of availability of forage caused many producers to be reluctant or unable to participate in the program during the initial time

period. Bonilla recognized the need for a program-extension and utilized his role as Chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee to secure the necessary extension. At Bonilla's urging, language directing the department to continue the funding for this program for an additional year was included in the Fiscal Year 2004 Agriculture Appropriations Bill.

"This is yet another example of the dedication of Chairman Bonilla to the American Sheep and Goat

WASHING- Industry. Through his leader-TON, D.C. - U.S. ship in the appropriations' Representative process and his close interaction with the Department, the extension of this program was one-year extension made possible," said USDA Undersecretary Bill Hawks.

Bonilla also drafted a letter "An extension of the lamb to Ann Veneman, Secretary of Perry's school program program was sorely needed. the U.S. Department of This action means assistance Agriculture, urging her to approve the extension. "I urge you to extend the LMAAP for an additional year. The success of the sheep industry is of the utmost importance, and a final extension of the LMAAP would complete a substantial step in reaching that goal," wrote Bonilla in his letter to Veneman.

Producers will be notified about the particulars of the program by local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices when details are finalized and offices are prepared to accept and process applications.

In addition to serving as Chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, Bonilla also serves as a senior member of the Defense and **Operations** Foreign Subcommittees. His senior role on the Appropriations Committee gave him the opportunity to lobby for this important extension.

Members of Appropriations Committee oversee all of the nation's funding. Bonilla was the first freshman Member of Congress in 25 years to be given a seat on the powerful Appropriations Committee. He is now regarded as one of the two most influential lawmakers in Texas.

March 1 is deadline for builders to register with Commission

Dear Editor,

According to House Bill 730, which was passed during the 78th regular legislative session, all builders in the State of Texas are required to register with the Texas Residential Construction Commission (the "commission"), using a commission prescribed form, and remitting a filing fee of \$125 on or before March 1, 2004.

A builder is defined as any business entity or individual who for a fixed price, commis-

sion, fee, wage or other compensation constructs, supervises or manages the construction of a new home, a material improvement to a home, other than an improvement solely to replace or repair a roof of an existing home, or an improvement to the interior of an existing home when the cost of work exceeds \$20,000.

The builder registration form will collect information regarding the builder and whether the builder operates as an individual, a corporation, a partnership, sole proprietorship or other form of business. The form will also collect information that allows the commission to conduct a required criminal background check and to otherwise make the statutory determinations that the application is at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the U.S. or a lawfully-admitted alien, and that the applicant is honest, trustworthy and has

See Builders Deadline page 7



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James Archer and Multi-Chem honored for being a Friend of Scouting

submitted

Concho Council, Boy Scouts of America has been serving youth since 1926. It covers 41,000 square miles and spans from Robert Lee to Corrizo Springs and Junction to Fort Stockton. The CVC has a 2004 budget of \$650,000. This \$650,000 gives programs to 6,000 Scouts and over 16,000 in-school students and provides the council office, Scout Shop, two year-round camps and one weekend camp, programs, activities, adult and youth training, program market-Scoutreach Scholarships to Scouts that are financially disadvantaged.

Friends of Scouting, (FOS), is a way that the community can come together and help their local youth. Most people are unable to donate their time to Scouting, but they can help financially and still achieve the same goal, make an impact in our youths' lives through Scouting. It cost the council \$108.33 per youth to run the Scouting program. The Scouting program cannot support itself so the Scouts call on the local community to help their youth. Scouting has 3 Units in Sonora, Cub Scout Pack 19 (boy ages 7-11), Boy Scout Troop 19 (boys ages 11-18), and Venture Crew 19 (coed ages 14-21) that serve roughly 90 youths. Our FOS goal in Sonora is \$5500. Many people ask where the money goes, and we are proud to say that until we raise more than \$9000 (90 youth X \$100.00 ea), 100% comes back to our local youth.

We ask that everyone that. can, sponsor a youth and donate \$100.00 to Friends of Scouting. If you can financially do more,

There were 32 racers this

year, with the competition

starting at 9:30 a.m. in the

Sonora Middle School Snack

Bar area. The Scouts did such a

good job on their popcorn sales

this year that they were able to

purchase a new track, with

electric timers and rubber stop-

pers at the end. This is a long

way from using VCR's and

stopwatches to try to differenti-

ate between one thousandth of

craftsmanship displayed and

some special awards were pre-

sented for all the hard work that

was put into the derby cars:

There was some great

Best Paint Job - Ryan

Most Colorful - Timmy

Most Original Design -

Sportiest Looking

Best Workmanship

Most Unique - Blake

Most Creative - Ryan

Most Patriotic - James

Best Fuel Economy -

Best Vehicle "Not a Car"

The competition on the

track was fierce, with the Tiger

Cubs (the little guys) making a

really great showing this year! The races were a triple elimina-

tion, with three cars racing at a

time. The boys drew for each heat and also drew for lane position, making it fair all the

After many rounds of elimination, the numbers starting dwindling down, finally getting to the last 10 racers. The format changed to a double elimination and the race was on. The top ten results

> 10. Kaden Kinder, 9. Dominguez,

The Scout leaders worked very hard to make the Pinewood Derby a fun, learn-

ing adventure, that would be

remembered for a long time.

Candelario, 7. Dustin Covey, 6. Nolan Kinder, 5. Kianu Gomez, 4. Hunter Hughes, 3. Dustin Holmes, 2. Harley Johnson 1. Jason Olman

a second!

Garmon

Tyler Smith

Stanly Gaytan

Esparza

Bean

Contreras

Doug Otwell

way around.

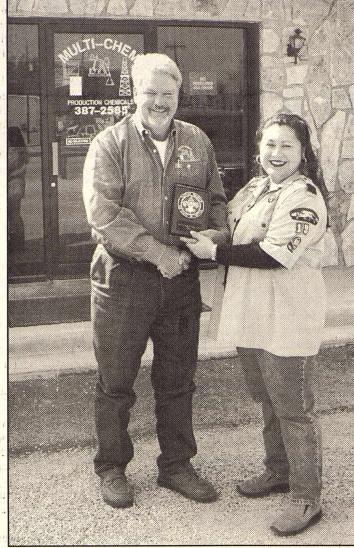
were as follows:

Steven

- Justin Garmon

Stephen Dominguez

Alger



Nelda Tobias presented James Archer with a plaque of appreciation for his support of Scouting.

we will certainly not turn you away. Most people cannot afford to pull \$100.00 out of their pocket all at the same time so the Concho Valley Council takes cash, checks, or pledges. When you make a pledge, the council will send you a bill monthly until your balance is paid. When you break it down, that makes less than \$10 per

Pinewood Derby from page 1

month in 2004 for a \$100.00 pledge.

If you would like more information or would like to make a pledge please call Nelda Tobias at (325) 387-6527 or our Local Unit-Serving Executive, Michael Mitchell at (800) 321-7107.

Scoutmaster honored from page 1

keepsake notebook given to the retiring Scoutmaster.

Rev. Allen began scouting in Kimble County in the 1960's. He was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout in 1970 while participating with the Boy Scout Troop in Junction. After graduating from Angelo State and seminary, the Rev. Allen was actively involved in Cub Scouting in Sanderson. He was Cubmaster of the local pack for five years prior to moving to Sonora.

During his stint as Troop 19's Scoutmaster, he scheduled and participated in fourteen Summer Camps and approximately fifty-six campouts all over West Texas. The campouts to the Llano River for canoeing and to Camp Faucett were among his favorite places to take the scouts. In 1995 he trekked 64 miles with a pack for eleven days in the Philmont Scout Reservation with six scouts from Troop 19.

Since becoming Troop 19's Scoutmaster shortly after moving to Sonora, Rev. Allen has guided and encouraged thirtysix local scouts to attain scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout. In 1998, he was named Permian Basin District's Scoutmaster of the Year. Rev. Allen is also a 2002 recipient of the Silver Beaver award. This award is the Boy Scouts of America's highest award given to registered Scouters for noteworthy service of exceptional character.

Builder's Deadline from page 6

integrity to the satisfaction of the

Each builder will be required to designate an individual as a "designated agent" and that designated agent will be required to register as a builder separately from the builder entity. A builder who is an individual may serve as both the registered builder and the designated agent. Contact information will be collected about the "designated agent" in addition to the builder. Builders who wish to do so may also designate secondary agents; however, each secondary agent will be required to provide the same information as the desig-

Within 15 days after the receipt of a completed registration form and the required \$125 free, the commission will issue to each builder that meets the requirements of the Act, a certificate of registration.

The commission, which was also created by House Bill 730, is responsible for registering new homes and home building and performance standard and limited statutory warranties, providing voluntary certification of arbitrators, providing for the filing of arbitration awards and managing three task force

Beginning February 1, website

Executive Director



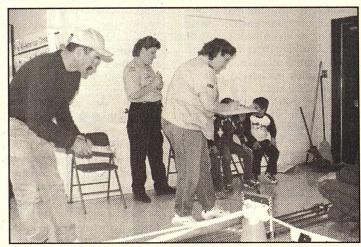
nated agent.

groups.

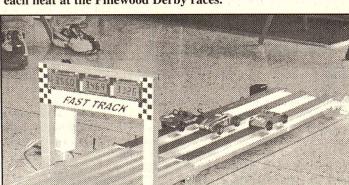
2004, builder registration forms became available on the commission's www.trcc.state.tx.us. Individuals not able to access the forms on the website may request a packet of information by calling the commission's toll-free consumer helpline at 1(877)651-TRCC. Stephen D. Thomas



Hours of work went into crafting the small Pinewood Derby



Volunteer judges and troop leaders call the official winners of each heat at the Pinewood Derby races.

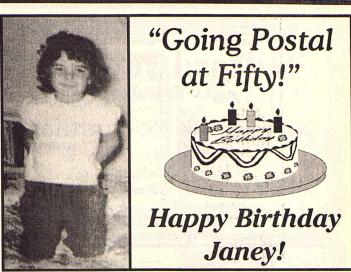


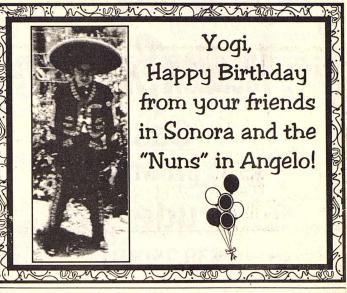
The new electronic track made "photo" finishes easier to call at the Pinewood Derby.



Proud Scouts show off certificates honoring the craftsmanship on their Pinewood Derby racers

(see list in article above).

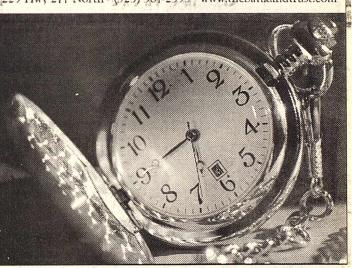




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ACS Relay for Life Committee plans kick off celebration lunch The battle against cancer will be fought on foot again this year

when the Relay for Life comes to Sonora on May 21-22. But before you turn to May on your calendar to mark those dates, mark Friday, February 13, as well.

That's when organizers of the annual fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society are holding a kick off party starting at 12:00 p.m. at the St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Survivors, participants, team captains and sponsors are invited to come enjoy a baked-potato lunch and sign up for the 2004 Relay for Life. The Sutton Co. Relay for Life Committee will provide all the toppings for a tasty spud, along with a cold drink and a sweet treat and will have helpful information available for interested Relay for

Many of us have been touched by cancer. The fight against cancer is everyone's battle. Our community has an outstanding opportunity to make an important contribution to this fight, and we appeal

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is the largest special event in the entire country held in over 3,000 communities nationwide. This is a celebration that brings together neighbors, friends, work associates, and families to celebrate those who have survived cancer and remember those who have not. On May 21 and 22, 2004, teams from Sonora families, companies and civic and religious organizations will challenge each other to raise the most money and travel the most miles around the Bronco Stadium track in a period of 18 hours. Each team member collects donations prior to the event. While Relay is going on, a community party atmosphere is created with team members camping out and enjoying entertainment, food, games, and camaraderie.

Today, Relays are held across the nation and in nine foreign countries and have brought in more than \$1 billion for the American Cancer Society.

Attorney General Abbott launches program to protect Texas seniors from multi-million dollar scams

AUSTIN - Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott today unveiled a statewide program to help bank employees protect unwary customers against scams that have already taken millions of dollars from consumers, espe-

cially the elderly.
At events held in Austin, Victoria and Corpus Christi, General Attorney Abbott announced the new initiative to educate bank employees about how they can play a pivotal role in the fight against a variety of fraudulent activities.

Abbott also presented certificates of appreciation to four bank tellers who took action when they suspected that account holders were being taken advantage of by scam artists.

'There is a growing number of schemes that seek to deplete a bank customer's account - from bogus sweepstakes that require a consumer to pay thousands of dollars up front to fraudulent contractors who rip off consumers without doing any work on their homes," said Attorney General Abbott.

"In most cases, the common denominator of these schemes is that consumers are pressured to go to their bank and withdraw large sums of money. I am confident that by enlisting the help of bank employees, we will be able to prevent many Texans from

losing their life savings." The Attorney General's office is taking the lead in the new initiative, with support from Adult Protective Services, the Texas Department of Banking, Independent Bankers Association of Texas, and the

Texas Bankers Association. The program will be centered on a fraud prevention online curriculum, available to bank employees and the general public through the Attorney General's homepage

www.oag.state.tx.us. The announcement was timed to coincide with National Consumer Protection Week, February 1-7, which this year

focuses on helping consumers make educated financial deci-

The following are some of the schemes outlined in the online course developed by the Office of the Attorney General:

 International Lotteries -Victims typically receive an unexpected mail or telephone solicitation telling them they have won millions in a foreign lottery – usually based in Canada, England, Australia, Spain, or Germany. However, they are also told that they must wire money to authorities in the country making the award before the prize can be received. Fees are presumably to cover "taxes" and other bogus expenses to transfer the money. Some Texas seniors have lost as much as \$100,000 each under this

 Contractor / Home Repair Scams - A traveling contractor shows up and says that he was doing some work in the neighborhood and, since he has left over materials, would be willing to re-pave a driveway or repair a roof at a bargain rate. He insists on being paid in advance, in cash, and ultimately performs substandard work or no work at all, disappearing with the money.

 Investments iors have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars each by participating in investment scams that were nothing more than "ponzi" or pyramid schemes. High pressure sales pitches to invest in products such as titanium futures or currency markets lure consumers with the promise of guaranteed returns. In reality, there is no real investment program and the scam artists do little more than create bogus quarterly statements to make the victim believe that his or her

money is growing dramatically. Anyone who suspects scams should contact their local authorities or the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-252-8011.



(L to R) Martha Wallace, Gail Cade, Pauline Ringold, Fannie Wade and Rosie Ovalle (standing) enjoy their Tuesday mornings

Cleaning up the streets...

...one penny at a time. That's what the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club is doing, picking up pennies, nickels, dimes, any small change they see lying around in the streets.

Martha Wallace, Gail Cade, Pauline Ringold, Fannie Wade and Sandy Schneider (not pictured) meet at Rosie's Cafe every Tuesday, enjoying breakfast and good company. The room was full of laughter and good natured ribbing as they enjoyed their morning coffee and catching up on the last week's happenings. Last month the ladies challenged each other to see who could find and collect the most money lying around.

"Martha cheats!" said Mrs, Ringold, laughing as she said it.

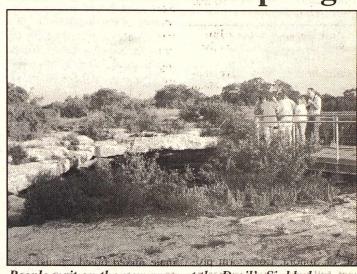
"We've been on a mission," said Mrs. Cade.

"Yes, we're cleaning up the streets," said Mrs. Wade. The ladies collected a whopping \$2.41 in one month, and gave the money to Rosie, because they love to eat there and she is always so nice to them.

The girls have already started a new challenge for this month, and Mrs. Cade is in the lead with 12¢.

So if you see a shiny penny lying on the sidewalk, watch out, you might get knocked over by one of these coin hunters!

Devil's Sinkhole Tours leave from Rocksprings



People wait on the new ramp at the Devil's Sinkhole.

submitted

The Devil's Sinkhole Society of Rocksprings, a support group for the Devil's Sinkhole State Natural Area has begun its Winter Tours. The tours are from the visitor's Center in Rocksprings to the great cavern owned and protected by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The Devil's Sinkhole, about eight miles east of Rocksprings, got its name from the first settler who stumbled upon its opening. in 1867. He thought he had found a hole that went all the way to hell. It soon became known as the Devil's Sinkhole. It is in fact an enormous cavern which has suffered a collapse of its central dome, creating a fiftyfoot opening at the surface. It is the largest single room cavern in Texas, being over three hundred and fifty feet from the surface to the bottom of the deepest of its three lakes. This makes it the third deepest cave in Texas,

Through the summer it is the home of millions of Mexican Free-tailed bats. The cavern was designated a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service in 1971.

The tour takes you on a inding road through Edwards County ranchland. The property has not been grazed for many years. TxDOT has just finished paving this beautiful drive. You soon arrive deep in ranchland at the edge of the Edwards Plateau. The Devil's Sinkhole is approximately in the center of the eighteen hundred acre Natural Area owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife. There is a viewing ramp on the edge of the opening that allows you to gaze into the abyss of the Cavern.

Tours are by reservation made by calling Rocksprings Visitors Center (830-683-2287). The Center is open seven days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., winter tour fee is \$6 per person.

Something to think about

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Reprinted with permission from and maintain. The men, women The Ozona Stockman's, and children of the congregation "Folktales of Crockett County" were all dressed in the finest and by John Fluth

One Sunday morning an old cowboy entered a church just before services were to begin. Although the old man and his clothes were spotlessly clean, he wore jeans, a denim shirt and boots that were very worn and ragged. In his hand, he carried a worn-out old hat and an equally worn-out old Bible. The church he entered was in a very upscale and exclusive part of the city. It was the largest and most beautiful church the old cowboy had ever seen. It had high cathedral ceilings, ornate statues, beautiful murals and stained glass windows, plush carpet and velvet like cushioned pews.

The building must have cost many millions of dollars to build

most expensive suits, dresses, shoes and jewelry the old cowboy

had ever witnessed. away from him. No one greeted one offered a handshake. No one spoke to him. They were all appalled at his appearance and did not attempt to hide the fact. directions as the others frowned selves about his shabby attire. A from some of the younger mem-

The preacher gave a long sermon about Hellfire and brimmuch money the church needed ragged jeans, shirt, boots and hat. never even been in here.

to do God's work. When the offering plate was passed, thousands of dollars came pouring forth. As soon as the service was

over, the congregation hurried out. Once again, no one spoke or As the poorly dressed cow- even nodded to the stranger in the boy took a seat, the others moved ragged clothes and boots. As the old cowboy was leaving the him. No one welcomed him. No church, the preacher approached him. Instead of welcoming him, do him a favor.

'Before you come back in There were many glances in his here again, have a talk with God boy. and ask him what He thinks and commented among them would be appropriate attire for worshipping in this church," the few chuckles and giggles came preacher said. The old cowboy assured the preacher he would do that and left.

the old cowboy showed back up

Once again the congregation was appalled at his appearance. He was completely shunned and ignored again. The preacher noticed the man still wearing his ragged clothes and boots, and instead of beginning his sermon, stepped down from the pulpit and walked over to where the man sat alone.

"I thought I asked you to speak to God before you came Q the preacher asked the cowboy to back to our church," the preacher

"I did," replied the old cow-

"If you spoke to God, what did He tell you the proper attire should be for worshipping in here?" asked the preacher.

Well, sir," said the old cow-boy. "God told me that He would-The next Sunday morning, n't have the slightest idea what was appropriate attire for worshipstone and a stern lecture on how for the services wearing the same ping in your church. He says He's

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Lariat Services, Inc. is seeking an experienced Air Driller. Wage ranges between \$20.00 to \$24.00 an hour depending on experience. Will pay \$30.00 per diem and mileage reimbursement. Benefits include 401K Plan and Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 325-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 325-336-7821.

I-10 Exxon is looking for reliable candidates to join our team. The following positions are available: Full and Part-Time cashiers. Retirees welcome. Come by the corner of I-10 and Hwy. 277 N. EOE.

Best Western Sonora Inn Now taking applications for

several positions: Maintenance: Must have reliable transportation and clean driving record. Requires flexible hours, weekends and must be available from 7 a.m. till 4 p.m. Housekeeping: Weekends and flexible hours with reliable transportation required.

Front Desk: P/T Floater. Requires Evening, Nights and Weekend flexibility.

General Home Repair and remodeling experience needed for a multi-home ranch 25 miles SE of Sonora. Long-term project full-time. Fax resumes to 281-495-9889.

Now Hiring OTR Flatbed Drivers for small company. 2 years experience required. Home on weekends. Late model Peterbilt. Call Rose Trucking 877-381-7123.

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The River News Classifieds I

Phone: 387-2507

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LSi a company of Teppco has immediate openings for truck drivers in Sonora, TX. The successful candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent. You must possess a current Class A CDL with Hazmat and two or more years oilfield hauling experience is a plus.

LSi is a rapidly growing company with a strong commitment to our employees. We offer competitive salaries, career growth opportunity, generous benefits and an excellent work environment.

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Real Estate

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House for Sale: 301 S. Water. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, hardwood floors. Nice yard. Must see! Call (325) 387-5801.

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For Sale: Great buy with ware-house, large shed, 2 houses in excess of 1 acre in city. 3 blks. from 277 S., zoned light industrial, needs repairs. Can finance. Call 972-296-3238.

Mobile Homes

For Sale: Mobile Home 16 x 76, 3 BR, 2 BA, central air & heat. Call 650-2089.

For Sale: 1403 Glasscock. Mobile Home with 1 and 1/2 lots. House has an add on family room, carport, storage building, large pecan trees. Must see to appreciate. Call after 7:00 p.m. Ask for Gloria 325-392-

Equipment

Skid Steer Loader for Sale. Mustang 2060. Low hours, new tires, ready to work. \$9,000.00 Call 325-387-3222.

Pets Lost during the week of January 20th near S. Crockett. Small male mixed breed spotted dog. If you have any information please call 387-9183.

Pet Care Service

Shaylynn Kresta, age 14 would like to take care of your pets. Call 325-387-5649 for more information. References provided.

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Mary Kay Cosmetics

Mary Kay Cosmetics available. Please contact Storie Sharp at 387-2507.

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For Sale: #1 Coastal Hay. Small, square bales. Can deliver or you can pick up. Hamilton, TX. Call 254-386-3862, leave message if no answer.

Large Round Bales of Hay Grazer, near Eldorado. \$35.00 per bale. Excellent quality. Call Martin Valis at 325-949-6541 daytime or 325-835-2199 after 7:30 p.m.

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Fresh Gulf Shrimp for Sale. Specials orders upon request. Call Frank Wamble 325-387-

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Tex-Rain Seamless Gutters Call Hugh Schoenewolf

830-285-5929 Gail Espy 325-396-2224 Jimmy Burrow 830-377-3532

Pizza Wagon

Texas Pizza Wagon will be here every Monday beginning December 8th from 4:30 p.m. -9:00 p.m. with fresh, hot, hand tossed pizza baked to your order. We are located at The Video Store 809 N. Crockett Ave. Order ahead 325-456-

Garage Sale

Glass dining table with 4 chairs, nice corner computer unit, 4 oak cane bar stools, exercise bike, color TV's, small dinette w/2 chairs, oil paintings, oak double dresser, chest and full headboard/rails, nurses uniforms, prom dresses, Western Print Sofa (\$69), antique chest, Queen hide a bed (\$199), white antique iron bed, etc. CON-SIGNORS MUST CALL AHEAD BEFORE BRINGING CLOTHING AND/OR FURNITURE all must be in good condition. Second Hand Rose, Eldorado 853-3736

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Public Notice **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Sonora ISD will accept sealed bids for foundation repair for 3 duplexes. Specs can be obtained at the Adm. Office or by calling 325-387-2545. Sealed bids will be accepted at the Admin. Office at 807 S. Concho, Sonora, TX 76950 until Feb. 19, 2004, at 3:00 p.m., at which time said bids will be opened and presented to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting of the Board at the above location. The District reserves the right to

PUBLIC NOTICE

reject any or all bids.

Sonora ISD will accept sealed bids for gym roof repair. Specs can be obtained at the Adm. Office or by calling 325-387-2545. Sealed bids will be accepted at the Admin. Office at 807 S. Concho, Sonora, TX 76950 until Feb. 19, 2004, at 3:00 p.m., at which time said bids will be opened and presented to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting of the Board at the above location. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Bids for Sutton County Medical Insurance

Sutton County is hereby requesting bids for their group medical insurance. The effective date of the program will be April 1, 2004. Bids will be opened on March 8, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., at the County Commissioners Court regular meeting at the Sutton County Annex, Sonora, Texas. Bids should be marked "Sealed Bid" and can be delivered or mailed to Judge Carla Garner, Post Office Box 1212, Sonora, Texas 76950. For further information, please call or write Sutton County Auditor, Maura Weingart, Post Office Box 16, Sonora, Texas 76950. 325-387-

For Sale: Legend Golf Cart. New batteries, tires and canopy. \$1,000.00 Call 392-8106 after 5:00 p.m.

Relidomofus

For Sale: 1999 Dodge 1500 Club Cab Pickup. Priced at \$6,000.00. Call 387-3843

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situated on a huge lot with abundant storage and an automatic sprinkler system in both front and back yards. Other amenities include an attached 2-car carport as wel as a detached 1-car garage

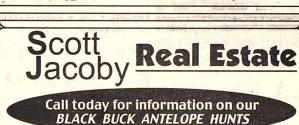


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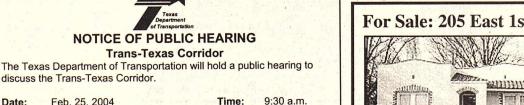
Job Title: Trans Maint. Tech I (for 2 positions) 708 North US 277, Sonora, TX 76950

Closing Date: 02/06/04 at 5:00 p.m. Salary: \$8.42 - 11.12 per hour.

A Completed Application is Required.

The above is not a complete list of requirements or qualifications). A Completed Application is Required. For additional information call Human Resources at 325-944-1501 or visit our web site at http://www.dot.state.tx.us/ An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for the above job may call Human Resources. You may also call the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at

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Location: Sonora Maintenance Section Job Vacancy Number: 005135

Minimum Requirements: ENTRY LEVEL POSITION. Must have or obtain within 60 calendar days from date of employment a Commercial Drivers License, Class A with an X endorsement. Must be able to report for duty within 30 minutes of notification on a 24-hr. basis.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **Trans-Texas Corridor**

Feb. 25, 2004 Sutton County Courthouse Annex Place: 300 E. Oak Street

Purpose: To provide the public an opportunity to submit comments on potential routes of the Trans-Texas Corridor.

Project Description: A new type of transportation network that includes roads, rail, and a utility zone designed to move people and goods faster and safer, keep hazardous material out of populated areas, and improve air quality.

For more information about the public hearing, contact Public

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325-392-2962 (fax) Attn: Jamey (Operations Superintendent) or Christy (Office Assistant) Pool Company Texas Limited An Equal Opportunity Employer (M/F/D/V)

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Gary P. Nunn to perform at Fling Ding

From what the weatherman says, it's going to take some pretty hot tunes to keep dancers warm this Saturday. Luckily, that's just what the music committee planned when they hired Gary P. Nunn to perform at the 2004 Fling Ding.

What began with 9 members and is now limited at 135, is a unique evening of formal gowns, visiting dignitaries and some great musicians all mingling in a building that regularly houses huge bags of wool and mohair. Sonora's favorite old dance, that started in the late thirties, will fill the Sonora Wool and Mohair warehouse on February 7, 2004.

Since 1954 many big name bands have had the experience of furnishing music for members and their guests. Blue Barron, Tex Beneke, Shep Fields, Glenn Miller, Bob Crosby, Gary Lee Archer, Ray Price, Gene Watson, Eddy Raven, Hank Thompson, Joe Stampley, Asleep at the Wheel, Johnny Dee and the Rockin' 88's and more have kept dancers spinning and dipping over the

Some one thousand couples enjoy the Fling Ding each year, many traveling from far away locations each year to take part in the evening of fun. This year will be no different.

Gary P. Nunn enjoys a near folk status in Texas as he continues to sing the praises of the state, its culture, and its colorful characters. He has the unique ability to appeal to all. His performances are lively and danceable, yet sensitive and image provoking. They are often humorous and always entertaining. Gary P. Nunn has been described as everything from "a pioneer of Texas country music" to "a part of the fabric of contemporary Texas culture" to "the mule that pulls the Texas country music wagon!" However, one chooses to describe him, there is no denying his contribution in the past and that he will be at the head of the herd in Texas music in the

Nunn began his musical

career as a 7th grader in a garage band in Brownfield, Texas. He attended Texas Tech University and South Plains College while pursuing music on weekends playing with "The Fabulous Sparkles," a take-noprisoners rock band that was the rage of West Texas during the sixties. In 1968 he transferred to the University of Texas at Austin immersing himself in the lively local music scene while studying pharmacy at UT. In 1972, Michael Martin Murphey, Jerry Jeff Walker, and Willie Nelson moved to Austin and a new Era in music was born. The movement was dubbed "Texas progressive," "outlaw music" among other monikers and Gary P. Nunn was right in the middle of it. At one time he was playing bass for Murphey, Walker and Nelson! For Murphy and Walker, he led The Lost Gonzo

Knights of Columbus honored at annual banquet

The Sonora Knights of Columbus played host to the 2004 Knights of Columbus Annual Banquet

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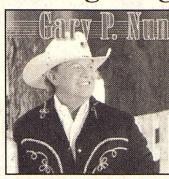
BLACKMON STEAMATIC

on Saturday, January 24, 2004. A special Mass was held at 4:00 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church, fol-

lowed by a social hour at the Sutton County Civic Center. A special reception and awards ceremony

was also held later in the evening. Knights from surrounding counties and communities were present

for the event. Romaldo y Grupo Estilo ended the evening with a dance for the Knights and their fami-



Band who backed them up on stage and in the studio, and helped propel them to national notoriety. It was during this time that Nunn honed his songwriting skills composing tunes that were recorded by Nelson, Walker and Murphey, as well as Rosanne Cash, David Allen Coe and others, earning him several gold and platinum records for writing, publishing and performing.

Gary P. Nunn and The Lost Gonzo Band parted company with Jerry Jeff Walker in 1977. He has appeared on countless programs such as Nashville Now, TNN's Texas Connection, music videos and special appearances on TNN, Austin City Limits, Texas Ranger's Baseball games (singing the National Anthem), and other appearances too numerous to mention.

The theme of this year's Fling Ding, "Stockman's Paradise" will make everyone feel right at home, enjoying some good country music, and an invitation to "Go Home with the Armadillo."

F.Y.I.

Sonora Speech Meet February 6-7, 2004. For more information call contact Renee Casey, in the Sonora High School Speech and Drama Department at 387-6533

Daddy/Daughter Date Night February 10, 2004, 7:00 p.m 9:00 p.m., Sutton County Civic Center - Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$9 at the door, photo packages will be offered for

The Friends of Historic Main Street Program (FHSMS) weaving and spinning demonstration and reception at The Bank & Trust of Sutton County lobby on February 12, 2004 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ACS Relay for Life Kick-off, Baked Potato Lunch February 13, 2004, 12:00 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

Devil's River Trail Ride Dinner and Dance, Tuesday, February 17, 2004, Sutton County Civic Center, 6:00 p.m. For more information contact the Sonora Chamber of Commerce at 387-2880.

AARP will do E-filing so you can get your refund much faster. Free tax help for tax payers with middle and low income, with special attention to those age 60 and older, will be in Sonora on Saturday, February 21, from 10 a.m - 3 p.m. at the Sutton County Sr. Center. We still need more people to sign up, or they can't come. Call ahead and make an appointment, please. 387-3941 or 387-5657.

The Foster Grandparent Program of the Concho Valley needs persons aged 60 and older throughout the Concho Valley region to serve as mentors and/or tutors to children in their communities. For more information call 325-223-5704 or toll free at 877-944-9666.

Response to the upcoming Symphony, being brought to Sonora by The Sutton County Historical Society, has been overwhelming! There are only two (2) tables left for the Sponsor Dinner before the Symphony. There are also only 200 tickets left for the Symphony, at \$25 each. Anyone interested in attending should contact JoAnn Palmer at 325-387-5084 on Monday, Friday or Saturday mornings or at 387-2855 to make reservations today!

Anyone with Bronco Playoff game videos or 16mm films please contact Ray Glasscock at 387-9333. We are trying to get a Bronco Hall of Fame

Al-Anon Family Group Meetings - Every Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Hospital Dining Room, Call 387-2521

Westside Lions Club meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Sutton County Library at 6:30 p.m.

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



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2:00 *4:50 *7:45 TORQUE dts (PG-13) 2:40 *4:45 *7:00 9:10 CALENDAR GIRLS dts (PG-13) 1:50 * 4:30 *7:10 9:35

* Show Times for Monday-Thursday Times good for the week of 2/06-2/12