IHE Devil's River NEWS Quitman MS

Since 1890

Volume 117 • Issue 26

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Public invited to Independence Day Celebration

Lighthouse Community Church is planning a star-spangled celebration for Sunday, July 3, and invites everyone to join them.

An old-time community gathering at the Sutton County Park and Slab is what is scheduled. Live music, children's rides and games, tricycle races, decorated motorcycles, tricyles, bikes and children's cars, family style softball, brisket supper and good-old-fashioned family fun.

There is no admission fee, so pack your lawn chairs and cold drinks and head out to the park at 4:00 p.m. to ensure a shady spot. In addition to local musicians entertaining throughout the afternoon, the Christian rock band, Broken, will take the stage in the evening.

To reserve your free supper ticket or for more information, call any Lighthouse Community Church member or 325-387-9100 for more information.

Ladies Golf Auxiliary plans to Rally for a Cure®

submitted

Ladies Golf Sonora Auxiliary is taking part in Rally For A Cure® presented by Golf For Women magazine, a breast cancer awareness campaign that is the nation's largest grassroots women's golf program. The club is an official site of "Celebrating 10 Years of Touching Lives"-Rally For A Cure® 2005. The organizer of this event is Ebbie Sutton.

A field of 40 players is expected for the Rally at Sonora on July 23rd. As part of the Rally For A Cure® activities, a closest-to-the-pin contest is held at a designated par-3 Rally hole. Titleist® golf balls bearing the pink ribbon breast cancer awareness symbol are awarded to every player who hits the green on the first swing and a prize is given to the player whose shot lands nearest to the hole. In 2005, we are proud to be working with two new prize suppliers, Adams Golf and Etonic Shoes. All players will receive important early detection information, an exclusive Rally pink ribbon golf pin, and are entitled to a one-year subscription to Golf For Women See Rally for a Cure page 7



Doug Winn (rt), a veteran from Sonora, joins traveling partners to make a "Run for the Wall."

Sonora veterans make a "Run for the Wall"

Run For The Wall (RFTW) was started in 1989 as an effort by a couple of Vietnam Veterans who traveled across the heartland of America on motorcycles, talking to local Radio, TV, and Newspapers about the fact that we have thousands of men and women still unaccounted for from all of our wars.

The mission statement of the RFTW is "To promote healing among all veterans and their families and friends, to call for an accounting of all Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action (POW/MIA), and to honor the memory of those Killed in Action (KIA)." The tradition is continued every May.

This year, two men from Sonora joined the group, traveling in different packs, but with the same destination.

Doug Winn joined friends and fellow veterans traveling through town on their way to the Odessa meeting point. This was the first year for Winn, who left excited and returned ready to go

Sonora Native and Vietnam Veteran Juan Carlos Gonzales (below) stopped to visit family on his way. Gonzales and his traveling buddy, Eddie Racliffe from Georgia, were both with the 11th pathfinder company 7th Calvary.

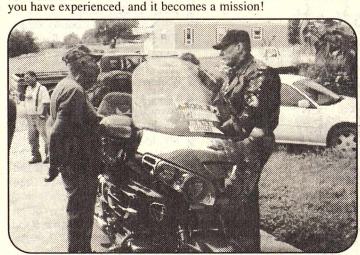
Generally, the bikers get a great deal of support from organizations and people along the way. Most nights dinners are provided free or for a small donation by concerned citizens, as well as some breakfasts and lunches. Generous groups and individuals even

provide gas and lodging as well. The trip takes ten days to reach the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, where the Run officially ends on the Friday evening before Memorial Day. Additionally, there are things scheduled for the weekend, ending with participation in the Rolling Thunder

Parade in Washington DC, on Sunday. It is quite a sight to behold 200,000 motorcycles all starting at once and parading through downtown Washington, ending at the Wall. Along the way across the U.S. the groups make stops at

Memorials, Veteran's Hospitals, and enjoy parades, escorts, and welcome home receptions from many of the patriotic towns. The ages of the participants range from eight to eighty, there are mothers, fathers, grandfathers, grandmothers (who ride their own bikes!), veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, active military, supporters, and family. Everyone is wel-

come. The only rule is NO ATTITUDES. Some people join Run For The Wall and think of it as just another vacation or motorcycle event. But after one or two days you realize this is something very special. It is unlike anything else



Sonora native, Juan Carlos Gonzales, visits with friends and family on his way to Washington.

Protecting the Stars and Stripes



by Henry Bonilla This symbol inspires our soldiers in the midst of battle and provides the direction and morale they need to protect

our freedom. It unifies our citizens in times of trouble and gives us reason to reflect on and celebrate our freedom. It is, of course, our American flag and it is perhaps the ultimate symbol of our freedom.

Throughout American history, our flag has always held the value and meaning of what it means to be an American. The Stars and Stripes continue to command respect and admiration around the world.

Freedom is America's greatest and most recognized attribute. Freedom is symbolized by our flag and the treatment of our flag is the ultimate expression of the honor we bestow upon this symbol. If we afford the flag our deepest respect, we are cherishing our freedom. When we fail to recognize the significance of our flag, we fail to recognize the signifi-

cance of our freedom...that it does not come without sacrifice. Many men and women have sacrificed themselves for our freedom.

Protecting the flag is imperative because it is our greatest symbol of the freedom for which we strive. That's why I'm supporting an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would prohibit the physical desecration of the Flag of the United States.

We cannot take our freedom for granted. We must teach our children and our future leaders the importance of our freedom and the American flag. We cannot forget the courage and sacrifice of those who have fought to guarantee our nation's freedom. They fought to strengthen and preserve the values that America holds and that

the flag represents. It is time for the value we hold in the American flag to be reflected in our laws. By doing so, we are formally addressing the significance of the flag. More importantly, we are formally addressing the significance of our freedom.

City Manager recommends budget preparations

by Storie Sharp

The Sonora City Council met began their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2005 by appointing Virgil Polocek as Mayor Pro-tem.

The minutes from three previous meetings approved as presented.

The Sonora Industrial velopment Corporation Development requested a public hearing date to discuss the approval of \$10,000 to be granted to the American Meat Association. Max Howorth, representing the SIDC, informed the council that Marvin Shurley, Chairman of the AMGA, provided requested information on the economic benefits to Sonora. The National organization chose Sonora as their headquarters because Sonora is the second largest are in the nation for meat goat production. The rapid growth of the market is also a plus for Sutton County, because of the increase of visitors that

Sutton County restricts outdoor burning and limits use of fireworks

In addition to regular business at the Monday, June 27 meeting of the Sutton County Commissioners court, orders restricting outdoor burning and restricted use of fireworks were approved.

Because of the continued hot and dry weather in and around West Texas, grass fires can escalate quickly. With the Fourth of July holiday upon us, it is important that celebrants observe firework safety and local regulation regarding the use of fireworks.

The orders are filed as

RESTRICTING ORDER **OUTDOOR BURNING** THE STATE OF TEXAS **COUNTY OF SUTTON**

On this 27th day of June, A.D. 2005, came on to be considered by the Sutton County Commissioners' Court the following:

WHEREAS, Commissioners Court finds that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioner' Court of Sutton County, Texas, that outdoor burning is restricted in the unincorporated area of the county for 90 days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by the Texas Forest Service or this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Government Code #352.081, and other applicable statutes. This order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and

Commission for: (1) firefighter training: (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or, (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code.

All burns shall be reported prior to commencing said burns to the Sutton County Sheriff's Office, (325) 387-2288, together with the name of the landowner, location involved and expert to be on hand.

All burns shall also be reported prior to commencing to the Sonora Fire Chief and upon completion, the Sutton County Sheriff's Office and Sonora Fire Chief shall be notified.

In accordance with the Local Government Code §352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

ADOPTED this the 27th day of June, A.D. 2005.

Carla Garner, County Judge, Sutton County, Texas; Miguel Villanueva, Commissioner, Pct.1, John Wade, Commissioner, Pct. 2; Cavaness, Commissioner, Pct. 3; and Belia Castaneda, Commissioner, Pct.

ORDER RESTRICTING **USE OF FIREWORKS IN** UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF SUTTON COUN-TY. TEXAS THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF SUTTON WHEREAS, on the 27th day of June, 2005, first having determined that the normal danger of fire in the unincorporated safety that are authorized by the areas of Sutton County is greatly See Tips on Choosing

conditions now existing, the Commissioners Court adopted the following Order effective immediately:

I. A. No person may sell, detonate, ignite, or in any way use certain restricted fireworks in any portion of the unincorporated area of Sutton County, Texas;

B. A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally violates a prohibition established by this Order. An offense under the order is a Class C Misdemeanor;

C. Certain restricted fireworks means only those items classified under 49 C.F.R. part. 173.100(r)(2)(10-1-86 edition), as "skyrockets with sticks" and "missiles with fins";

D. Fireworks not prohibited under this Order are: 1. Common fireworks, small in size classified as Class C explosives: 2. Large fireworks devices designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration or detonation and classified as Class B explosive by the U.S. Department of Transportation V.A.T.S. Insurance Code, Art. 5.43-4. Sec 1(2).

II. A. A person commits an offense if he or she sells or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly detonates, ignites or in any way uses fireworks on a county road or in the right-ofway on a county road.

B. An offense under this Order is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to

APPROVED THIS THE 27TH DAY OF JUNE, 2005, BY THE SUTTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT.

Natural Resources enhanced by the extremely dry Safe Fireworks page 7

Firearm safety stressed at hunter's camp



Game wardens, instructors, and campers complete hunting camp at McPherson Ranch.

Submitted by Will Allison, Texas Game Warden

Nineteen young ladies and one young man recently completed a four-day firearms training course at the McPherson Ranch located south of Sonora, Texas. The brainstorm of former Sutton County Game Warden Rodney Knight, this camp is considered one of the best of its kind and for fourteen years has trained area youth in the safe handling and firing of various kinds of rifles, pistols, and shotguns in use today. Additionally, students were given instruction in Texas game laws, basic first-aid and survival skills, hunter ethics, wildlife identification and conservation practices, as well as archery skills. Upon completion of instruction, the students were tested and certified as having met the state-mandated hunter education requirements needed by any person 17 years of age or older who desires to hunt in Texas.

Thanks to Doug and Sandy McPherson and their trusty employee, Maria, the students and their instructors were lodged in comfortable, air-conditioned rooms at the ranch, and were fed like royalty. The ranch's nice shooting range was the scene for most of the action with the students firing .22 open-sight rifles, .357 revolvers, .40 Glock semi-automatic pistols, 20 gauge shotguns, .45 Colt automatic pistols, and scoped .22 rifles. Copious amounts of ammunition was expended by each student during the course of instruction, and all came away with better appreciation of safe firearms usage and accuracy. The marksmanship ability of this particular group of youths was phenomenal and the instructors were bombarded with requests for even more time on the firing line; however, rapidly depleted ammunition supplies and exhausted instructors finally led to a cease-fire. Thanks to Marvin Shurley and Mary Humphrey, the archery range was yet another popular "hot-spot" for instruction in the proper usage of crossbows, long bows, compound and recurve bows. Robin Hood would have been proud.

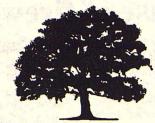
Just how much did such a camp cost the student, you ask? We are proud to say that all this was provided at a cost of \$10 per person, the cost of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department hunter

See Hunter safety page 6

Lighthouse **Community Church**

A place for returning Prodigals and recovering Pharisees

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



SUTTON COUNTY **HEALTH FOUNDATION**

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



Sonora Church Directory

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 Miguel Dinio

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

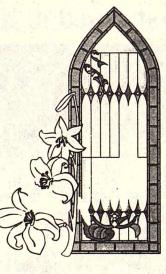
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Beverley Parsons, Pastor 201 N. Water

387-2466

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

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Rev. Tom Baden 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

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

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\$25 per year out of county Attn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Devil's River News, 228 East Main St., Sonora, TX 76950

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Notes of Appreciation

Boy Scout Troop 19 would like to THANK Dr. Gregory & Becky Johnson, Jack & Laurie Smith, Will & Becky Allison and Sandi Ainsworth for their generosity! Camp was a great success! Thank you for all your support!

HappyBirthday

June 30

Phil Miller, Riley Crain, Madeline Davis, Wil Trainer, Treka Vickers, Franchesca Gandar, Jana Dover, Maribel DeLuna, Frank Gallegos

Maria Mesa, Kenny Arnwine, Juanita Buntyn, Don Seigler,: Shanna Ranger, Steven Tackel, Jr.,

July 2

John Creek, Jimalee Dutton, Randy Fairall, Mary Beth Morgan, Rita Lipham, David Benson, Terri Johnson, Daniel Nicar, Eddie Smith, Eric Byrne

Harvey Santana, Carol Leonard, Johnny Jones, Serena Duran, Trey Taylor, Kim Geske, Cindy Chavez July 4

Canielle Matthews, Janie Marshall, Loraine Surber July 5

Janice Caruthers, Shirley Vickers, John Lopez, Jr., Joe Vela, Alice Vedoy,

July 6

Rosa Sanchez, Mark MacArthur, Mary Ortega, James: Talamantez, Sara Ball, Jinx Merry, Christine Sanchez, Cody: Schenkel, Juanita Herrera, Adan Capuchina

Senior Center News

July 4 - Happy 4th - Center will be closed! July 5 - Exercise w/ video.

July 6 - TRAX Van to San Angelo - call 387-2509.

July 8 - Bingo! after lunch

Senior Center Menu

July 4 - Center closed

July 5 - Chicken fried steak w/gravy, peas, potatoes, cornbread, sunshine fruit salad milk

July 6 - Hamburger on bun, chips, onions, tomatoes, lettuce, baby carrots, seafoam salad, milk

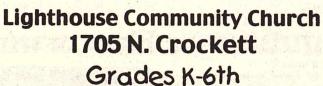
July 7 - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, spinach, garlic bread, fruit cocktail, pound cake, milk

July 8 - Chicken fajita salad w/ cheese, tossed salad, crackers, macaroni salad, pie, milk

Mon. - Fri 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. 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.*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 11-15th 9:00 a.m. to @ 12:00 p.m.







Obituary

Robert Leon Day

SONORA — Robert Leon Day, 65, of Sonora, Texas, went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, June 22, 2005.

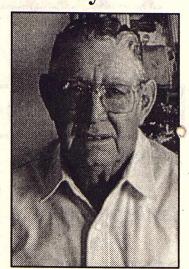
Robert was born in Silver Valley, Texas, on July 7, 1939. He married Pat, his soul mate, on Jan. 23, 1960. They moved to Sonora in 1973. He owned and operated an oil field service company.

Robert was a loving son, devoted husband, bigger-thanlife father and extraordinary G-Pa. Robert was a dedicated friend to many.

Robert was preceded in death by his father, Rufus Lee Day of Coleman, Texas.

He is survived by his mother, Jewel Day of Coleman; his wife, Pat Day of Sonora; son and daughter-in-law Ricky and Antoinette Day of San Angelo; daughter and son-in-law Tracy and Frank Konvicka of Pipe Creek, Texas; his grandchildren, Cody and Kaci Day of Katy, Texas, and Brian and Brandon Konvicka of Pipe Creek. He is also survived by his uncle and aunt, Mallie and Jeanette Turner of Sonora: brothers and sisters-in-law Harold and Inez Clifton of Midland, Shirley Hamlin of San Angelo, Donnie Clifton of Santa Anna, Texas, Bobby and Diana Clifton of Katy, Ted and Nelda Clifton of Lake Brownwood, Texas, John and Judy Tidwell of Dallas, and Kippy Clifton of Los Angeles, CA; and many nieces and nephews.

Robert loved the outdoors and all things associated with it.



He was in love with life itself and surrounded himself with the things he loved, whether it was being with his family, fishing, taking care of his horses or being with his friends. There are no words to express what Robert meant to each of us. All we can say is we are totally blessed to have had him in our hearts and in our lives. Robert's legacy of unconditional love will live on through his friends and family for eternity.

Services were at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 25, at the First Baptist Church in Sonora with Chaplain Donald Moon officiat-

Pallbearers were Mike Perciful, Steve Hinshaw, Wyline Norton, John Clark, Dickie Woods and Bill Wood. Honorary pallbearers were Tim Ponsetti, Wilbur Motley, Kenneth Martin, Gene Adams, Donnie Deel, James Dalby and Randy Turner.

Rape Crisis Center changes name, not mission

SAN ANGELO - Assault Victim Services, the rape crisis center which serves San Angelo and the 14 counties of the Concho Valley (Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, and Tom Green) officially changed its name to Concho Valley Rape Crisis Center.

"We saw the need for more clarity in our agency's name," says René Ramirez, Director of the Rape Crisis Center. "We had several instances in which people were confusing our agency with other agencies. Assault Victim Services was just too vague. We needed a more specific name."

The staff at Concho Valley Rape Crisis Center believe the name change will make a positive impact in the Concho Valley community. "Our name change is essentially better advertising," says Dawn Hunt, a Victim Service Specialist. "We are hoping that our new and improved name will make the mission of our agency clear and bring in more people who need and deserve our services."

Rebecca Talley, Education Specialist at the Rape Crisis Center, hopes that the recent name change will bring about awareness and healing. 'We know that one out of three

females and one out of five males will become victims of sexual assault," says Mrs. Talley. "Sexual assault is clearly a pervasive problem, and by changing our name, we will be more visible throughout the 14. counties we serve. We hope our new name will encourage the community to use our educational services and our victim services."

In addition to the name change, the Concho Valley Rape Crisis Center has also changed its office phone number to 655-

The mission and the services provided by the agency have not changed. The agency's mission is still to educate the Concho Valley about sexual assault, assist survivors of sexual assault, and prevent sexual assault. All services provided by the Concho Valley Rape Crisis Center are free, confidential, and available to all persons regardless of when a sexual assault may have occurred. The services include: a 24-hour Rape Crisis Hotline (658-8888 or 1-800-656-HOPE); counseling; medical/court accompaniment; technical assistance; information; referrals; and educational programs. Call the 655-2000 to schedule a confidential appointment or to have an Educational Specialist speak to your business or group.

Community Calendar

June 30

Team Roping • 5:00 pm. • Powers Arena Benefit Region II Rodeo Kids

July 3

Lighthouse Community Church 4th of July celebration Sutton County Park & Slab at 4:00 p.m.

The Community Calendar is made possible by :



July 11

School Board Meeting at Jr. High Snack Bar Public Meeting on Drug Testing 5:30 p.m.



Letters To The Editor Policy

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Ask the Historical Society

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

Q. When was Marilyn Mittel named Miss Mohair?

A. 1953 Miss Marilyn Mittel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Mittel, was crowned Miss Mohair Thursday night at the opening of the 24th annual show and sale of the Texas Angora Goat Raisers Association at Fredericksburg. Miss Mittel's escort was Billy Bryan Savell of

Lady in waiting to Miss Mittel was Miss Lois Lu Lomax of Evant, Duchesses of the Court of Angora included Miss Nancy Bryan Hunt, duchess of

Judging of 173 bucks and 39 does were held and sale of bucks and does were held on Saturday.

Judges included Bob Davis of Rio Frio, Fred T. Earwood and Armer Earwood of Sonora. P. E. Gulley of Uvalde reported that the classification committee traveled some 1,600 miles to select the sale animals from 2,000 head.

The annual business meeting was held with Rep. Dolph Briscoe of Uvalde as guest speaker at the Nimitz Hotel.

Bryan Hunt crowned Marilyn Mittel during the coroceremony nation Fredericksburg.

Q. Do you have a story on a tornado hitting the Experiment Station in the 1950's?

A. This one has set on the bulletin board for a while but we found it in the May 15, 1953 issue of "The Devil's River

Two separate tornadoes swept through parts of south and south-eastern Sutton County Monday morning, uprooting large trees, rolling up fences and killing and maiming livestock and wild game, but taking no human lives. No ranch buildings were harmed, although several were in the paths of the storms.

The first tornado evidently started on the John Cauthorn ranch about 5:30 a.m. Monday morning. It tore up fences there, damaged fences on the J.S. Holman ranch and hit on both sides of the house. It then struck the south-west corner of Mrs. Hattie B. Epps ranch, blew down a windmill, went almost due east down the fence for 1 1/4 miles, made a right angle turn into the Sonora Experiment Station property, tearing down 10 fences and another windmill while moving another mile. The storm then turned back east into another mile of country before

dissipating itself. The windmills at the Epps place and the station are about 1 1/2 miles apart.

The tornado must have hit the Experiment Station shortly after 5:45 Monday morning. T. E. "Hoot" Nix, lab technician at the station, said he had gone out at that time and it looked like hail. Nix returned to the house. The storm was about a half mile from the station buildings, and cut a swath about two acres wide. The area looked as if it had been bull dozed. What had been dense areas of brush now resembled a movie version of "no man's land." What few trees not yanked out by the roots were stripped of branches leaves and bark. Many clumps of turf had also been pulled up at the station. Trees measuring 2 1/2 and 3 feet in diameter had been pulled up and carried hundreds

Several dead sheep, rabbits and a doe were found. One doe with a mangled shoulder was found in the brush but escaped before it could be shot. A lamb was found dragging a broken

The second storm, or possibly a fresh outburst of the first one, hit in the vicinity of the ranches of Mrs. J.T. Sellman and the Sawyer Eagle Well Ranch. As in the case of the other storm, extensive damage was done to telephone poles and lines, fences, livestock and game. Salt troughs were blown away. This storm was reported to have hit about 7 a.m.

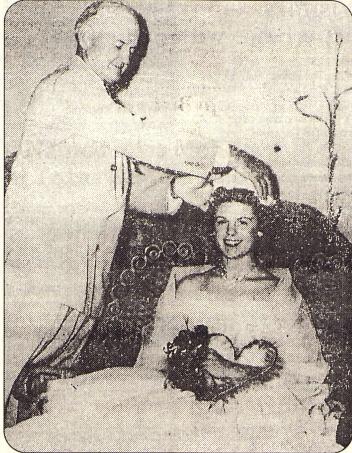
Mrs. E.E. Sawyer reported six cows injured by flying debris. Huge boulders were moved about. Nine large telephone posts were pulled up near Station B. Bill Wade rescued a goat which had been blown in a tree. The animal was not harmed, Mrs. Sellman said.

At the Sawyer and Sellman ranches approximately 2 miles of fence was destroyed. Total damages of both storms is about \$10,000. Hail damaged the roof of the Sellman house severely.

Q. When was the Lutheran Church built?

A. "The Devil's River News," April 12, 1967-Members of the Hope Lutheran Church held dedication services for their new church building Sunday afternoon, April 8, with the Rey. A.O. Rast, executive director of missions for the Texas District Missouri Synod, as speaker.

The congregation will have its first regularly scheduled worship services at 10 o'clock Sunday morning, April 15, at which time confirmation servic-



Crowned Queen - Bryan Hunt of Sonora places crown on Miss Marilyn Mittel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Mittel, as she is crowned queen of the Texas Angora Goat Raisers Ass'n, in a coronation ceremony in Fredericksburg.

Wuest and Douglas Schmidt. The Rev. William Petzke, pastor, invites the community to join them for worship.

In the same issue we found the following items of interest: Members of the Senior Class at the Sonora High School will operate the Mat Adams Service Station again this year all day Saturday, April 14. Car washes and all service will be handled by class members and income will go to the class's Senior Trip fund for a trip to Fort Clark Guest Ranch near Brackettville.

Adele Wilson, Mary Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Duke Wilson of Sonora has been named to the honor list of the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. A freshman student at SMU, Mary Adele also was initiated into Zeta Tau Alpha social sorority.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton County history send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or them schs@sonoratx.net. You may call us at the office at 307 Oak Street on Monday, Friday and Saturday mornings at 325-387-

Dues notices have been the Gus Wheat ranch and tore up es will be held for Michael mail out this week. If you didn't get one and would like to join

the Sutton County Historical Society, a non-profit organization that has existed since before Diamond Jubilee Celebration and is dedicated to preserving the history in writing as well as the Miers Complex which houses the Miers Home Museum, the John and Mildred Cauthorn Memorial Building (Old Depot) and amphitheater and our new acquisition the Old WTU Ice House that we are gutfing to turn into a new huge museum, and our office building at 307 Oak Street, send a check for \$10 per person to The Sutton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or a tax deductible donation to the same address. It takes a lot of money to run these buildings and we are totally dependent on dues and donations to support our society, except for one \$5,000 donation to the Ice House Museum we received from the Chamber of

Memorial Donations to County Historical Sutton

Donations made Lawrence and Jodie Finklea in

memory of: James Alexander **Bob Curtis**

Robert "Ruggie" Wilson

Hudson Technology Consulting, Inc. Business & Home Computer Networking, Web Page Design, PC Technical Support & Data Management Craig Hudson (325) 206-0713 /Joan Hudson (325) 206-0168



Ol' Sonora Trading Company Bridal Registry Juanita Smalling bride-elect of Robert Jalomo Mrs. Jesse Worley nee Becca Fields Mrs. Anthony Renfro nee Lauren Whiteside Mrs. T.J. Harris nee Ashley Henson **Rosey Bud Florist**

> **Tedford Jewelry Bridal Registry** Carrie Neely bride-elect of Charles Coke 107 NW Concho • 387-3839

387-5507 MERLE NORMAN 121 Hwy. 277 N

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TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS:

We will be closed for vacation from June 24th through July 7th. We will re-open on July 8th.

SUMMER HOURS:

Tues-Fri: 11-2 and 6-10 Sat: 8-2 and 6-10 Sun: 10-2 and 6-10

Thank You. Rosa's Casita and Staff 318 SW Main St. ~ Eldorado, Texas HAVE A SAFE VACATION!!!

Governor vetoes Texas military commission

State Capital Highlights Texas Press Association

By Mike Cox

AUSTIN - The Legislature convened in special session at noon on June 21 and a short time later adjourned for the

That's because neither chamber has anything to consider yet. In the near term, the real work on the school finance issue will be at the committee level, and those bodies began meeting right away last week.

The other vetoes... In addition to his \$35.3 billion line-item veto of education funding for the next biennium, the governor vetoed another \$1.7 billion from the budget.

One of the cuts, amounting to \$7 million, eliminated a small state agency - the Texas Military Facilities Commission. The commission's major reason for existence has been obtaining

land for Texas National Guard facilities and managing them. Those duties will be folded into General's Adjutant Department.

The governor took a bigger chunk out of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's budget, vetoing \$19.8 million earmarked for contracting inmate bed space in county

Troopers do more than write tickets...

In addition to booking drunk drivers and writing up speeders, Department of Public Safety troopers seized 38 tons of marijuana as the result of traffic stops in 2004, the DPS reported.

Thanks to our regular patrol activities," said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., "DPS took 90,000 pounds of drugs out of circulation and put thousands of drug smugglers behind bars."

Though marijuana made up the biggest percentage of the DPS' seizures last year, troopers also found 3,000 pounds of speed. The department estimates the total street value of the seizures to be \$156 million.

Want some PR? Make a

Every two years, Texas Monthly magazine gets a splash of ink by naming the men and women it considers the 10 best and 10 worst legislators.

The magazine's 10 worst. are: Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos (D-Austin); Rep. Dwayne Bohac (R-Houston); Rep. Mary Denny (D-Aubrey); Rep. Al (No Suggestive Cheerleaders) Edwards (D-Houston); Sen. Mario Gallegos Jr. (D-Houston); Rep. Kent Grusendorf (R-Arlington); Sen. Chris Harris (R-Arlington); Rep. Terry Keel. (R-Austin); Rep. Phil King (R-Weatherford) and Rep. Robert. Talton (R-Pasadena.)

Selected as the 10 best lawmakers: Rep. Dianne Delisi (R-Temple): Sen. Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock): Rep. Charlie Geren (R-Fort Worth): Rep. Dan Gattis (R-Georgetown); Rep. cocaine and 191 pounds of Fred Hill (R-Richardson); Sen.

Steve Ogden (R-Bryan); Rep. Jim Pitts (R-Waxahachie); Rep. (D-San Mike Villarreal Antonio); Sen. John Whitmire (D-Houston); and Sen. Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo.)

For the record, that's seven Democrats (four worst; three best) and 13 Republicans (six worst; seven best.)

Welcome Home To First Baptist Church

JULY CALENDAR

- 3 Patriotic Service, 10:45 a.m.
- 4 Independence Day Office closed
- 6 Ladies Bible Study, 11 a.m. noon each Wednesday (Call Amy Sykes for info. 387-5719) Church Fellowship - Spiller's Ranch, 6:30 p.m.

12 Sonora Emmaus Gathering at FBC, 7:00 p.m.

- 24-28 Paisano Encampment
- 31 Church Outreach

"Help your Fellowman

Golf Tournament" Huge Success!! Through June 27, \$4,365 received. All monies will be given to Ministerial Alliance Benevolence Fund. FBC is grateful for your support!

New Church Web Site: www.fbcsonora.org

Regular Weekly Schedule for Summer Sundays: 9:45 a.m. Bible Study Worship • 10:45 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Mondays: 8:00 p.m. Men's Emmaus Group Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m. Ladies' Emmaus Group 7:00 p.m. - Preschoolers & Children Groups Youth Group at Youth Center Adults - "Wednesday Spark!"

Be part of our family -- Welcome home! 111 E. Oak St. • 387-2951 • twp@sonoratx.net

T. Wayne Price - Pastor

"Christmas in July" Layaway Sale

10% off any purchase of \$300.00 or more placed on layaway now for Christmas

- 1/6 down, balance in 5 equal payments, due 15th of each month August thru December
- No statement sent if payments are received on time
- No finance charge.

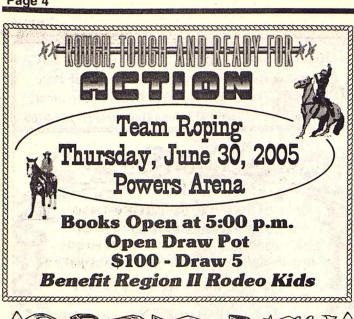
Smart Santas plan months ahead. Take advantage of this opportunity to buy at a saving, pay it out over 6 months, avoid finance charges, and have your Christmas shopping done early, too! During July only, so hurry!

Tedford Jewelry

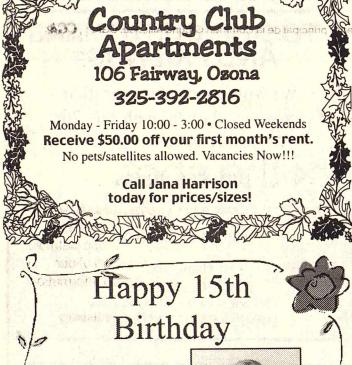
107 N. Concho

Downtown Sonora

325-387-3839

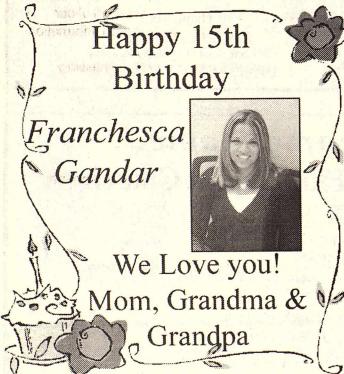






208 E. MAIN ST. 387-5017

SALE * SALE * SALE * SALE





Dance classes will be starting August 29, 2005. Pre-Registration Sunday, August 14, 2005 • 2:00-4:00 pm.

If you can't make it to pre-registration, don't worry, just call and I will be more than glad to meet you and sign up your dancer. The dance schedule for 2005-2006 will be posted soon in the window of The Studio. If you would like to sign up, you are welcome to fill out the following and mail it to P.O. Box 612, Sonora, Texas, 76950, or you can go on-line and fill out the registration form www.thestudioinsonora.com

Student Name:

Grade Level or age:

We will see you at pre-registration--- Marlyn Young

Chamber Chatter

Visitors enjoy area, share experience with Chamber

Chamber of Commerce

by Ruthie Bounds, COC

Executive Director This is the week that we celebrate our independence and freedom. Do you really celebrate the fact that you are free? Many of us don't, because we get so bogged down in our jobs, family, civic responsibilities, etc. Well I think that it is time for all of us to realize that the very fact that we are able to get bogged down in these things is an example of our freedom. We can choose what is important

to us and pursue those priorities accordingly. Many people in this world have never had the freedom to even make those basic choices. Many people in this world have their entire lives mapped out for them, by those who rule them. I have complained and hear other people complain about the long hard hours of work we put into our jobs, but instead we should be thankful for that job and realize that we won't be murdered or persecuted for not doing our jobs. There are so many people in the world that have never been allowed to have a job, or earn money for themselves. Let's embrace our freedom by con-

something to be thankful for. Lighthouse Community Church is sponsoring a wonderful Independence Day celebration in Sonora this Sunday, July 3rd, at the Sutton County Park. Beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, bring your lawn chairs and your cold drinks out to the Sutton County Park for an Outdoor Concert on the Slab. Decorate your bicycle, tricycle, motorcycle, or little children's car up for Independence Day and come to the celebration. There will be tricycle races, chil-

tinuing to be productive and

helpful to others. The very

fact that we are free to do so is

dren's games, music, brisket supper, and lots more for everyone to enjoy. For more information or to pick up your brisket supper tickets you may contact any Lighthouse Community Church member or call 325-387-9100.

We had some very nice visitors to Sonora this last weekend. I have attached a copy of their letter to us.

Ruth, Donna and Delyse, Thanks again for a great weekend in your county. You have some really great natural areas there. Our first event was to tour the Cavern. It was Vanessa's first time to guide a tour and she did a great job. Later that afternoon we made the trek out to the eastern end of the county to visit Camp Allison. My wife, Lisa, spotted a few birds there we had not seen, and I managed to catch (and release) some really nice fish from the river.

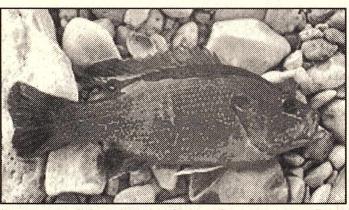
The next morning we went to the Eaton Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. Even though we were a little late and it was beginning to get a little warm, Lisa managed to spot a butterfly that appears to be a little out of its expected range.

We then took the Historical City Tour which was very interesting. Later that afternoon, we took a road trip to Baker's Crossing (obviously not in Sutton Co.) and back in time to relax a little and get a good night's sleep.

Please feel free to use any of these photos for your newsletter. If you have trouble copying the pictures, let me know and I'll send them as attachments. I took more photos of the Caverns, Eaton Hill, the jail and courthouse, but sadly didn't take any photos of Camp Allison itself.

Let me know if you have any questions.

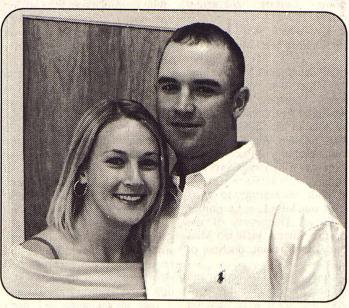
Thanks again for a great weekend! T. Dean and Lisa McInturff San Angelo, TX



green sunfish, taken by Sutton County visitor, Dean McInturff at Allison Park.

Engagement Announcement

Stroud and Mathews to wed



Tiffany Stroud and Justin Mathews

Will and Cindy Taylor are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Tiffany Stroud, to Justin Mathews of San Angelo. He is the son of Jan and Greg Moore and Cindy and J.J. Mathews both of Andrews. Justin is the grandson of Rosemary and Jim Mathews of Sonora.

The bride-elect attends Angelo State University and is employed with Crockett National Bank in San Angelo.

The prospective groom is a graduate of Angelo State University and is currently working for Patterson Drilling.

The couple plan a July 30th wedding at Grape Creek Baptist Church in Grape Creek.

Up on Eaton Hill

Debut: Petals and Wings



(un)Common wood nymph photographed and identified by Dean McInturff. the past 70 year more than

by Delyse Jaeger

Eaton Hill continues to offer up treasures to the observant eye. One recent discovery Krameria lanceolata, or rhatany. The inconspicuous plant trails along the ground and its elegant crimson flowers often go unnoticed beneath the taller vegetation. Krameria is valued for its medicinal qualities. Chemicals derived from the root of krameria are used in treating internal bleeding, diarrhea and bleeding in the mouth. More common in the Big Bend area and along the

coast, krameria is a delightful addition to our wildflower list for Eaton Hill.

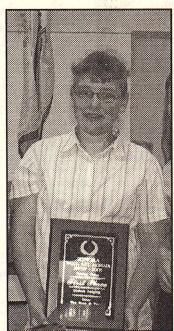
Another treat was discovmade by Cheri Kergald of the ered by Dean and Lisa ASU herbarium is the lovely lit- McInturff of San Angelo. On a tle flowering plant known as recent excursion to this area, the McInturffs hit the trails and were surprised to encounter a Common wood nymph butterfly. Not so common in this area, the wood nymph is an extraordinary butterfly often overlooked because of its mostly brown coloration. However, close inspecreveals remarkable tion camoflauge design along with fabulous eyespots. The striated brown underside of the wings blends perfectly with tree bark while the eyespots ringed in yellow are confusing to predators namely birds. This butterfly produces only a single brood per year and the caterpillars hibernate from late summer until the following spring. You can read the McInturffs' comments in this week's "Chamber Chatter."

Butterflies have been symbols of goodwill, spiritual rebirth, growth, and transformation in cultures all over the world and dating back thousands of years. Drawings of butterflies on the walls of concentration camps give silent testimony to their place in the human spirit. Today, many people have reported experiencing a communication comforting through an ethereal encounter with a butterfly following the loss off a loved one. However you wish to interpret their beauty, butterflies offer splashes of unparalleled artistry to anyone with an eye to behold them. Hit the trails and discover what treasure awaits!



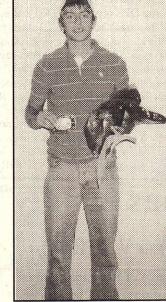
Krameria blooming on Eaton Hill. Photo by Delyse Jaeger

CONGRATULATIONS!



Stella Ingham Overall High Novice Individual in the judging events at the

Sonora Wool & Mohair Show.



Craig Leonard High Individual in mohair judging competition during State 4-H Round-Up at Texas A & M University.

Home Town Banking - Home Town Trust!

Word chosen for National Dean's List

Sonora graduate Laura Word, daughter of Larry and Kay Word, has been chosen for The National Dean's List 2004-2005. Since only 1% of the students from our nation's 3000 colleges and universities are honored on this list each year, this is a fine academic achieve-

This appointment automatically makes Laura eligible to compete for one of 50 scholarships of \$1,000 each which will be awarded this year. Over \$3,800,000 has been awarded through this program to date.

Congratulations to Laura Word for this accomplishment.

Laura Word

Garcia included in Who's Who

Leticia García of Sonora, is one of 61 students nominated

by Angelo State University for

inclusion in the 2005 edition of

Who's Who Among Students in

American Universities and

the American academic community, the Who's Who award is

conferred annually upon outstanding student leaders. Over the past 70 years, more than

2,000 colleges have adopted this program as part of their

Selections are made by campus

nominating committees and are based on decidedly above aver-

age academic standing, community service, leadership ability and potential for continued suc-

Leticia and her husband, Juan M. García, have two

daughters, Analí and Abigail.

honors.

annual campus

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4-H "DIVAS" enjoy trying on fun fashions on their "Girl's

4-H "girl's day out" turns fashion into fun

by Kelly L Thorp

County Extension Agent-FCS

Texas Cooperative Extension County Agents, Kelly Thorp and Roxanne Frentress, along with ten young ladies from Sutton and Schleicher counties recently traveled to San Angelo for a "Girl's Day Out'. The girls were a part of an educational tour in which fashion and interior design were the focus of the day's events.

Activities included jewelry making at Frendzies, interior design at Tabors, clothing and fabrics at JWilde, and accessories at Sassy Fox. The girls also enjoyed lunch at Johnny Carrino's and at the conclusion of the day an ice cream cone at an old fashion soda fountain located in historical downtown San Angelo.

Other tours are planned for late summer and early fall and will focus on the Food and Nutrition industry. For more information or to join 4-H call your local county extension office at 387-3101 or



Young 4-H girls make jewelry at Frendzies.

Local scouts enjoy fun in the sun at Camp Sol Mayer



Boy Scout Troop 19 attended Camp Sol Mayer June 19 through June 25. Those in attendance were Mik Samaniego, Damian Castro, Derek Stephen Moorehead, Dominguez, Cande Tobias, Paul Faz, Dr. Gregory Johnson, Jack Smith, and Will Allison. Sandi Ainsworth handled all the troop paperwork and badges earned!



Fishing at Camp Sol Mayer

Leticia García is honored at

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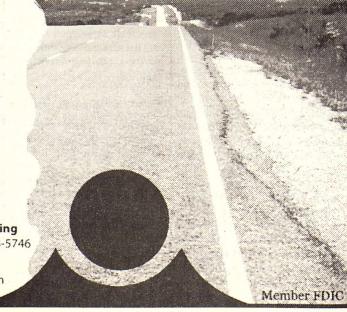
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Marcamos el lugar

En El Paso Natural Gas, una de las maneras en las que satisfacemos las necesidades energéticas es mediante la puesta en funcionamiento de gasoductos de licuados de gas natural y gas natural subterráneos en esta área. La compañía El Paso Natural Gas, como lider reconocido en seguridad y acatamiento de normas, está comprometida a llevar a cabo prácticas de seguridad preventiva. Marcamos todos nuestros gasoductos con señales de advertencia las cuales incluyen información de contacto para emergencias.

Hoy en dia, los gasoductos son el modo de transporte más seguro, sobrepasando incluso niveles de seguridad de carreteras, rieles, sistemas de aire y agua:

Si usted en cualquier momento:

- Percibe un olor a gas natural o petróleo
- Detecta erosión en el suelo o vegetación descolorida cerca del gasoducto
- Escucha un sonido de silbateo
- Ve polvo soplando desde el interior del suelo
- Ve una nube de vapor o una charca de liquidos
- Observa construcción u otra actividad cerca del gasoducto
- Observa burbujas en consistencias de líquidos.

Por favor llámenos inmediatamente al 1-800-344-8377, o llame al 911 para asistencia de emergencias.



Antes de que comience cualquier trabajo cerca de los gasoductos, por favor contacte a su centro de llamadas One Call de su estado. El servicio One Call nos informará de su actividad, y enviaremos un representante de la compañía para marcar el sitio del gasoducto en el área circundante sin costo alguno. Su seguridad es importante para El Paso Natural Gas.

El número telefónico One Call para New Mexico es el 1-800-321-ALERT. El número telefónico Dig Tess para Texas es el 1-800-344-8377.

El Paso es un patrocinador principal de la Common Ground Alliance, CGA. CGA.





We mark the spot.

At El Paso Natural Gas, one of the ways we serve energy needs is by operating underground natural gas and natural gas liquids pipelines in this area. A recognized leader in safety and compliance, El Paso Natural Gas is committed to preventative safety practices. We mark all of our pipelines with warning signs that include emergency contact information.

Pipelines are the safest mode of transportation today, surpassing highway, rail, air, and water.

At any time if you:

- Smell a natural gas or petroleum odor
- Detect soil erosion or discolored vegetation near the pipeline
- Hear a hissing sound
- See dust blowing up from the ground
- See a vapor cloud or pool of liquids
- Observe construction or other activity near the pipeline
- Observe bubbles in bodies of water

Please call us immediately at 1-800-334-8047, or call 911 for emergency services.





Before you begin work near the pipelines, please contact your state One Call center. One Call will inform us of your activity, and we will dispatch a company representative to mark the location of the pipeline in the vicinity at no charge. Your safety is important to El Paso Natural Gas.

The One Call number for New Mexico is 1-800-321-ALERT. The DigTess number for Texas is 1-800-344-8377

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T.O.W.A. BOARD MEMBER

Oil & Agribusiness

Lawns Suffering? Could Be Grubs or Iron Deficiency This Time of Year



by Pascual Hernandez, Sutton County Extension Agent-Ag

By the time summer comes around, our lawns begin to show some signs of stress, disease, or insect pressure. So, let's look at a couple of possibilities for this time of year.

Do you have areas in your lawn that die and turn strawcolored? Can these areas be lifted by hand or be rolled up from the ground like a carpet? If so, your lawn may have been damaged by white grubs.

White grubs are scarylooking creatures. While the beetle stage of their life cycle feed on ornamental plants, the larval stage that develops from the eggs laid in the soil is what causes the lawn damage. Larva is also referred to as the "white grub" stage of the May or June beetles. These rootfeeding "grubs" are creamywhite and C-shaped with three pairs of legs, and their damage normally occurs during the summer and fall time period. They feed on grass root systems, and damaged areas begin as weakened or dying grass in irregular shapes. Eventually, if the population and damage is severe, these areas in your lawn will die. To locate these creatures, dig into the infected sites with a spade or shovel to a depth of at least 4 inches. Finding white grubs in numbers of 3 to 5 per square foot suggests insecticide treatment is needed. Products of choice are insecticides containing imidacloprid or halofenozide. If grub damage already exists, use products such as carbaryl or trichlorfon.

Are the new leaves of your lawn grass turning yellow? If you look even closer, are the

veins on these new leaves remaining green? It could be that your grass is suffering from iron chlorosis. Iron chlorosis occurs on sites during wet and cool conditions, on compacted sites, in soils with extreme pH levels (high or low), as well as with soils having excessive phosphorus lev-

Foliar applications of iron sulfate at the recommended labeled rates usually will provide a quick recovery. Unfortunately, these are very short-lived and repeat applications may be needed. Soilapplied iron products may or may not provide a response due to the fact that this iron supplement could be tied up in the soil. For the best results, use a chelated iron (plant available) formulation. These may be more expensive, but will provide a longer lasting effect to your iron deficient turf. Always read the analysis on the label to find if iron (Fe) exists and what formulation it is in.

In addition to proper application of iron products to your lawn, always remember to avoid getting these products on sidewalks, patios, driveways, etc. Many of these products will leave stains that are difficult, if not impossible,

For additional related information, visit our website at http://sutton-co.tamu.edu.

Hunter safety from page 1

safety certification! The rest of the expenses are born by the generous support of the following individuals, companies and agencies: McPherson Ranch, food, lodging, cook, location; Concho Cartridge Co. of San Angelo, ammunition; United States Border Patrol (San Angelo Sector), ammunition: Texas Game Wardens (region 1), ammunition; Laborde Diagnostic of Lafayett, LA; financial donation; Dean Dermody, loan of 21 bales of hay for archery backstop; Marvin Shurley, bows and arrows; Abby and Brent Gesch, use of private gun collection, and Sutton County 4-H for the loan of their shooting mats.

Instruction was conducted by the following individuals: Rodney Knight, course introduction and head honcho; Marvin Shurley, archery; Brent Gesch, firearms history and .45 pistol instruction; T.P.W.D. Biologist Mary Humphrey, hunter ethics, conservation, archery; Sandy McPherson, shotgun; Game Warden Captains Doug Norman and Scott Davis, firearms instruction; Game Wardens Marco Alvizo, Chris Amthor, Matt Adams, and Will Allison, firearms and course instruction. And special recognition for duty above and beyond the call goes to Mary Humphrey for serving as "dorm mother" for the 19 young ladies.

The students and the ten communities that they represented are as follows: Amy Alvizo, Eldorado; Dalia Flores, Kate Larson, Del Rio; Jo Ann Davis, Garland; Mallory Leamon, Iowa Park; Catherine Brown, McKinney; Sara Criner, Mertzon; Jessica Motl, Megan Sartain, Aubrey and Jessica Sloan, Hanna and Joanna Steed, Gentry Whitehead, San Angelo; McPherson, Caleb Antonio; Serena Lee Allison, Cano, Daniela Betsy Edmondson, Kallie Humphrey, Sonora; and Jordan Dickins of Wall, Texas. These students arrived at camp ready to learn and represented their families and communities well. The staff was pleased to serve such outstanding young people and was proud of all that was accomplished by this bright and most courteous group of outdoorsmen. Such youngsters made all of the hard work well

worth the effort!

Rig Locations as of June 24, 2005



Sutton Dominion; 8700' Mayfield - 34 - #20, Patterson Drilling.

Dominion; 8300' Shurley RR - 4C - #1, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 9350' Duke Wilson #187-15, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 9000' Randee Hill- Fawcett Trust - A - #3, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 8900' Shurley RR - 2A - #5, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8900' LR Valliant #27, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 8850' Mayfield - 39 - #24, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8850' Mayfield - 33 - #20, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 8750' Mayfield - 34 - #22, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 8600' Edwin S Mayer Jr - C - #3-5, Patterson

New Dominion; 8100' Rip Ward - C - #3, Patterson Drilling. New Dominion; 7300' Pfluger #89-6, Patterson Drilling.

New Dominion; 7100' Canyon Ranch #972S, Patterson

New Dominion; 6300' Morriss - 64 - #10, Patterson Drilling. New Dominon; 8300' Mayer Ranch - M - #1204, Patterson Drilling.

Crockett

Endeavor Energy; 13000' Hudspeth - 74 - #1, Big Dog

Momentum Energy; 9900' Weatherly-Pryor #2, Patterson UTI/TMBR. Dominion; 9850' Hunt - 19 - #7, Patterson Drilling.

Approach Operating; 9000' Addie Clayton #806, Nabors

Bluegrass Energy; 7000' Simpson Canyon - 4045 - Unit #1.

Adobe Drilling. Oxy Permian; 5600' South Cross Unit #233, Patterson UTI. New Dominion; 9650' Joe Friend Estate - A - #6025, Patterson

Drilling. New Devon Energy; 9200' Ruby Helbing - 27 - #10, Patterson

New Approach Operating; 9000' Bailey #115, Nabors

New Approach Operating; 9000' PL Childress #602, Patterson

New Encana O&G; 8000' Shell-Clayton - 12 - #3, Patterson

New Anadarko E&P; 8900' McMullan - 3-#10, Patterson Drilling.

Schleicher

Approach Operating; 9000' Hemphill #2401, Nabors Drilling. Mulloy Operating; 7200' Lone Star Schleicher #1, Heart Land

New Unit Petroleum; 6800' Keeney - 80 - #2, Heart Land Drilling.

Terrell

Newfield; 15000' Pakenham Ranch #2601, Patterson Drilling.

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



Where There's Smoke, There's Wildlife

Writer: Steve Byrns, Contact: Dr. Dale Rollins, (325) 653-4576,

d-rollins@tamu.edu KERRVILLE - Where there's smoke, there's wildlife. Texas Cooperative Extension has scheduled the symposium "Fire as a Tool for Managing Wildlife Habitat in Texas" for Sept. 14-16 at the YO Ranch Hotel and Conference Center

Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo and the program's coordinator, said fire as a tool for managing wildlife habitats has never been more popular.

here.

"This symposium addresses issues and applications of prescribed burning to enhance wildlife habitat in Texas," Rollins said.

"The symposium is being dedicated to four individuals who have made special contributions to our knowledge base for using fire to improve wildlife habitat in Texas. These pioneers include the late Dr. Henry Wright, Texas Tech University; the late Dr. Charles Scifres of the Texas A&M University System; Bill Armstrong of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Kerrville; and Alan Heirman of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Albany."

Rollins praised the efforts of these men in making prescribed burning an important method for managing range-

"The adoption of fire as a tool for management purposes has made quite a turnaround from just 20 years ago," he noted.

"Our slate of speakers is a 'who's who' of 'pyro-managers' in Texas. Topics will include fire effects on various wildlife species and its impact throughout various eco-regions of Texas."

The symposium should interest landowners, hunters, wildlife managers, agency staff

and anyone else interested in learning more about the role of fire in wildlife management, Rollins said.

The symposium starts Sept. 14 at 1 p.m. at the hotel and ends with a tour of the Kerr Wildlife Management Area near Hunt on Sept. 16. Rollins said the management area showcases how fire can be used successfully to manage habitats for deer, endangered species and livestock simultaneously.

A total of nine Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be available for those holding private applicators licenses. Other continuing education credits are also being given by various professional societies.

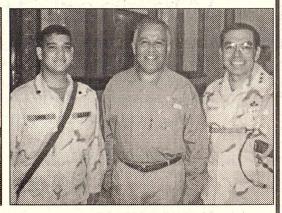
Symposium sponsors include Extension, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Center for Grazing Lands and Ranch Management, Texas A&M University - Kingsville, Texas Tech, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Conservation Resources Service, Noble Foundation, Welder Wildlife Foundation, Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Association, Texas Audubon Society, The Wildlife Society, Nature Conservancy of Texas, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Joe Skeen Institute for Rangeland Restoration, and Vulcan Materials Inc.

Individual pre-registration is \$50 until Sept. 1, and \$75 thereafter and at the door. Registration includes two meals, refreshments and a copy of the symposium proceedings.

For more information, see http://texnat.tamu.edu or email Rollins at rollins@tamu.edu or call him at (325) 653-4576.

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY From Congressman Henry Bonilla





The Fourth of July is a day of celebration. It is also a day of family reunions and loving tributes to the men and women who have created and defended our liberties.

On this July Fourth, as we stand on Main Street USA and watch the parades pass by, reflect on the hard earned freedom we cherish. Celebrate the Fourth of July not only as/a family holiday but a community holiday. This day commemorates our freedom and our bonding as a nation.

Pass the brisket, slice a watermelon and draw your hand close to your heart when you see the banner of red, white and blue. I hope you and your family truly enjoy the birthday of our nation.



Have a safe weekend and a Happy Fourth of July

Congressman Henry Bonilla

Paid for and authorized by Texans for Henry Bonilla, Jill DeYoung, Treasurer

Tips on Choosing Safe Fireworks

It is extremely important to know the difference between a legal consumer firework and a dangerous explosive device. Items such as M-80s, M-100s and blockbusters are not fireworks, they are federally banned explosives. They can cause serious injury or even death. Stay away from anything that isn't clearly labeled with the name of the item, the manufacturer's name and instructions for proper use. Here are some more

of July:
Fireworks are not toys.
Fireworks complying with strict regulations enacted by the U.S.
Consumer Product Safety
Commission in 1976 function primarily by burning to produce motion and visible or audible effects. They are burning at approximately the same temperature as a household match and

tips to help ensure a safe Fourth

can cause burn injuries and ignite clothing if used improperly.

NEVER give fireworks to young children. Close, adult supervision of all fireworks

activities is mandatory. Even

sparklers can be unsafe if used improperly.

Select and use only legal devices. If you choose to celebrate the Fourth of July with fireworks, check with your local police department to determine what fireworks can be legally discharged in your area.

Stay away from illegal explosives. Illegal explosive devices continue to cause serious injuries around the Fourth of July holiday. These devices are commonly known as M-80s, M-100s, blockbusters or quarterpounders. Federally banned since 1966, these items will not contain the manufacturer's name and are usually totally unlabeled. Don't purchase or use unlabeled fireworks. If you

It is extremely important to are aware of anyone selling with the difference between a such devices, contact your local police department.

Homemade fireworks are deadly. Never attempt to make your own devices and do not purchase or use any kits that are advertised for making fireworks. Mixing and loading chemical powders is very dangerous and can kill or seriously injure you. Leave the making of fireworks to the experts.

To help you celebrate safely this Fourth of July, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Council on Fireworks Safety offer the following safety tips:

* Always read and follow label directions.

* Have an adult present.

* Buy from reliable sellers.

* Use outdoors only.

* Always have water handy (a garden hose and a

* Never experiment or make your own fireworks.

* Light only one firework

* Never re-light a "dud" firework (wait 15 to 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water).

* Never give fireworks to

small children.

* If necessary, store fireworks in a cool, dry place.

* Dispose of fireworks properly by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in your trashcan.

* Never throw or point

fireworks at other people.

* Never carry fireworks in

your pocket.

* Never shoot fireworks in

* Never shoot fireworks metal or glass containers.

* The shooter should always wear eye protection and never have any part of the body over the firework.

* Stay away from illegal explosives.

Gov. Perry Proposes Historic Education Funding, Record Property Tax Relief

\$7 Billion Property Tax Cut, \$5 Billion More for Schools and a Net Tax Cut for Texans

AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry today unveiled his plan to improve education by increasing school funding while alleviating the tax burden on local property taxpayers.

"My plan offers \$7 billion in property tax relief, puts \$5 billion in new money into our schools, provides a \$1,500 teacher pay raise and includes significant education reforms," Perry said. "My plan is both reasonable and significant and it addresses the issues that this legislature left unfinished."

"The legislature has been working on this issue for over a year. Education reform and school finance has been studied enough and now it is time to act," Perry added. "My plan represents the middle ground between the House and Senate, utilizes good ideas from members of both parties, and most importantly, it sides with property taxpayers, teachers and schoolchildren."

In addition to an average salary increase of \$1,500 for teachers, Perry's compromise plan also invests in education technology and textbooks. It provides real education reform, such as strong provisions to shut down chronically failing schools while helping teachers and rewarding schools with large numbers of economically disadvantaged students that succeed. And it provides stronger accountability measures, so more money will go directly to the classroom and more taxpayers will know exactly what gets spent in the classroom. The plan involves the reforms included in the last version of House Bill 2 from the 79th Regular Session, as well as a detailed list of revenue options to offset a property tax cut.

"Rather than allowing textbooks to sit on loading docks, I propose funding those books and shipping them to schools all across Texas in time for the fall," Perry said. "Rather than doing things the same old way, I propose new incentives to reward teaching excellence and reduce administrative costs. And rather than raising taxes, I propose we cut taxes while protecting working families' jobs."

The Perry Plan will result in a net tax cut of \$300 million for the people of Texas, a record property tax decrease and a historic funding increase for schools. Perry said his plan is financed in part by savings he made available by vetoing unnecessary expenditures in the regular session, as well as changes to the tax structure. Key aspects include:

· A net tax cut of \$300 million for the people of Texas.

• \$7 billion in property tax relief – the largest property tax cut in Texas history – with a 20 percent school property tax cut in 2006, and a 23 percent reduction in 2007 that includes an increase in the homestead exemption of \$7,500.

· Closure of franchise tax loopholes without a new business tax to ensure businesses pay their fair share.

Proportion of taxes paid by businesses and consumers remains virtually the same.

A compromise between previous House and Senate plans that increases the sales tax rate by seven-tenths of a percent; expands the sales tax to include elective cosmetic surgery, car maintenance and repairs, computer repairs and programming.

· A dollar increase in the cigarette tax.

• Measures that will help eliminate fraud in auto sales, that double occupation fees and that repeal the timely filer's discount.

· A cap on local enrichment property tax increases at 2 cents a year, and a total of 12 cents, with voter approval.

Stronger taxpayer protections that provide a lower threshold for rollback elections and a lower signature requirement.

Mitigation of Robin Hood by capping recapture at 45 percent of a school district's tax revenues as long as funding is at least 92 percent equitable; current law places no limit on recapture.

"This plan increases the

homestead exemption by \$7,500, which will help homeowners on the lower end of the economic scale by providing greater relief than they would feel from a straight rate cut," Perry said. "And I firmly believe we must incorporate stronger taxpayer protections. If lawmakers last session thought fewer signatures was good enough for wet-dry elections, then I say it's good enough for Texans trying to stop skyrocketing property tax

Perry said that if legislative leaders have different ideas for education and tax reform, he would welcome other detailed plans.

increases.'

"But if folks want to just study this issue and kick the tires some more, they can get out of the way while the rest of us act," Perry said. "I haven't the inclination nor the patience to study this issue any longer, and neither do everyday Texans drowning in rising property tax bills."

Perry noted that lawmakers have had three weeks since the end of the regular session to hear the voice of everyday. Texans frustrated by failure of education and tax reform.

"I believe now, more than ever, lawmakers are poised to act," Perry said. "They want to resolve this great challenge, and the proposal I offer allows them to do that with historic property tax relief, funded pay raises for teachers, funded reforms in the classroom, and new technology and textbooks."

"Today the clock starts tick-

ing. Teachers are watching carefully, so are taxpayers and parents of schoolchildren," Perry said. "This special session, and the plan I offer today, give lawmakers the opportunity to succeed on behalf of the people of Texas."

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Experiment Station experts urge safety in Prescribed Burning

by Blair Fannin

SONORA – While prescribed burning is effective for controlling undesirable woody plants and cactus species, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station researchers say landowners also should learn safe and effective ways to use fire as a management tool.

Station researchers say landowners also should learn safe and effective ways to use fire as a management tool.

Dr. Butch Taylor, director of the Sonora Experiment Station, said many ranchers began to use fire as a tool for vegetation management after

vegetation management after joining the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association. Members are trained on safe and effective methods of prescribed burning.

"They also can benefit from the practice of neighbor helping neighbor to increase the safety and reduce the cost of prescribed burning," Taylor

Dr. Mort Kothmann, Experiment Station researcher, said when ranchers use fire without adequate training, experience, equipment and personnel, it "can be very dangerous to non-target property and to people."

"Before ranchers exercise their right to burn on their land, they also need to exercise their responsibility to become adequately informed and gain experience in the safe and effective use of fire as a management tool," he said. "A positive, proactive relationship between landowners and county governments is needed to allow the flexibility for landowners to conduct reclamation burns during the hot sum-

County governments should work with local landowners to develop "sound policies and procedures for the application of prescribed burning for vegetation management," Kothmann said.

"Landowners have a right to burn on their private lands in the absence of a 'burn ban' and counties have the right to establish a burn ban on all outdoor burning," he said.

These rights can come into conflict when optimal conditions for conducting a prescribed burn are the same conditions that trigger the county government to impose a burn ban on the county, Taylor said.

"The landowner-county government relationship has worked well in Sutton County," Taylor said.

For example, landowners can conduct prescribed burns during burn bans if they are members of and have a pre-

scribed burn plan approved by the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association.

"The ability to burn during burn bans is a function of the association's safety record," Taylor said. "If members of the association become careless in their application of prescribed fire, I'm sure the county government policy for burning during

Some individuals might view this landowner-county government relationship as too restrictive, Taylor said.

burn bans would be reviewed.

However, the prescribed burning standards of the association represent the minimum safety requirements for prescribed burns.

"These standards are established to ensure that every reasonable precaution is taken, preventing prescribed burns from escaping the perimeter of the burn area and to minimize the effects of smoke emissions as outlined in the burn plan,"

Taylor said.

A written prescribed burn plan must be completed before the prescribed burn, he said. This written plan also must meet the standards of the burn association and provide "reasonable assurance" that the prescribed to the prescribed to

burn will be confined to the predetermined area.

"And it must be conducted in a manner that will accomplish the land management objec-

Prescribed burning during any season of the year is serious business, Taylor said, especially during burn bans. In order to maintain the confidence of the general public regarding prescribed fire, "landowners must be responsible for their actions."

"To ensure that prescribed fire is a viable option in the future, landowners must work together and with county governments to ensure that prescribed fire meets landowner objectives and government rules

and regulations," he said.

A long-term, sustainable fire program requires an active training program for landowners, Kothmann said. Each landowner who expects to use fire should attend prescribed burn schools and gain experience from qualified prescribed burners.

"Working together, landowners can develop a 'fireculture' within their county that supports safe and effective application of prescribed fire," he said

For more information, contact Taylor at (325) 387-3168 or Kothmann at (979) 845-5575.

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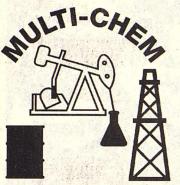
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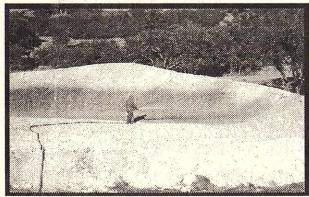
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Rally a Cure® from page 1

magazine. Administrative costs of Rally For A Cure® are covered by Golf For Women magazine. "We are proud to be a part of this vital, cause-oriented women's golf program. Together we are helping to get the critical life-saving message of early breast cancer detection out to golfers and the members of their communities," states Susan K. Reed, Editor-in-Chief, Golf For Women magazine. Nearly 1,000,000 golfers have taken to the nation's fairways to participate in a Rally For A Cure® event. Since its inception in 1996, the mission of Rally has been to emphasize the importance of early detection in the successful treatment of breast cancer, and to support the research goals of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. According to the Komen Foundation, each year breast cancer is the leading cause of death for women ages 35-54, and the disease also accounts for more than 75% of

all cancer deaths in women 55

All of the years of age and older.

In its first year of operation, 356 clubs participated in the Rally program. Last year, some 3,000 clubs—in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as Bermuda, Canada, Mexico and Saudi Arabia—registered to host a Rally For A Cure® campaign. In 2004, the Dallas-based Komen Foundation received nearly \$4 million from the Rally program, largely through the hard work and fundraising activities of our volunteer Rally Ambassadors, their committees and countless individuals. Since 1996, Komen has received \$16 mil-

Rally For A Cure® presented by Golf For Women magazine is based in Ridgefield, Connecticut. For further information about hosting a Rally golf event call 800.327.6811 or visit the website: www.rallyforacure.com.

Visits to water top activity for Summer 2005

Need for sun safety greater than ever

Seventy percent of surveyed Americans are planning to go to the beach, river or lake this summer. With the incidence of skin cancer continuing to rise and more than 90 percent of all skin cancers being caused by the sun, beach goers need take sun protectionmore seriously than ever.

"The intensity of sun exposure for beach or pool goers is certainly elevated. Water, sand and concrete reflect as much as 90 percent of the suns rays," said Perry Robins, MD, President of The Skin Cancer Foundation. "However, these activities can be enjoyed safely as long as people take some extra precautions."

The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends the following sun

- Apply sunscreen first. Use a generous amount (about a golf ball size) of water resistant sunscreen with a minimum SPF 15 all over before putting on your bathing suit. Not only will it protect the skin under the bathing suit, but you are less likely to miss spots and end up with a line of sunburn along the edges of your bathing suit. Don't forget the tops of your feet. The sunscreen should be applied 20 minutes before heading outside and reapplied every 90 minutes or after swimming or sweating excessively.

- Cover up with clothing. If you are not swimming, then keep your head and skin covered with a tightly woven wide brimmed hat, UV protective sunglasses and a beach cover-up. A tightly woven linen or cotton cover-up with long sleeves and pants are best. Many beach shops carry options that will keep you protected and stylish. Brightly colored long sarongs are another good option

- Sit under an umbrella. A beach umbrella will provide necessary shade. However, not all umbrellas are created equal. The most effective ones are made with a sun-protective fabric and will provide a minimum SPF 35.

- Watch the time. We all know the sun is strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Early birds should head to the water by 8 or 9 a.m. and plan to leave by noon. Later risers should arrive after 3 p.m. and can stay as long as they like. If you do spend the entire day at the beach, then be sure to take period "shade breaks" when eating

lunch or snacks. In Case of Sunburn

Even the most careful people can accidentally get burned. Sunburns are serious and should be avoided at all costs. Not only can they significantly increase your chances of getting skin cancer, but severe burns can make you ill. For severe burns you should see your doctor.

For milder burns, there are some steps you can take to relieve the discomfort:

- Drink water, juice or sports drinks to replace body fluids, especially if you are not urinating regularly.

- Take acetaminophen if you have a headache, slight fever or

- Take a cool bath in tepid water to soothe and cool the skin.

- Gently apply a light moisturizer to skin.

- Avoid going out in the sun until the burn fades.

- And, above all, the next time you are in the sun, be more careful!

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Tales by Tumbleweed Smith

An old theater in Stanton is now a residence

by Tumbleweed Smith

The Texas Theater in Stanton opened in the 40's and closed in the late 60's. During Stanton's Old Sorehead Trade Days recently I walked in front of the old theater and saw people sitting in the entryway. Come to find out those people live in the theater building. I asked if I could see inside and they were most accommodating.

"It's a little different," says Kitty McCarty, the woman of the house (or of the theater). "But it's a lot of fun. We have six kids from 9 to 20 and they all enjoy it. A lot of people are surprised that we live here. During Trade Days people walk by and think maybe we have a booth or something set up in here. Sometimes they just come on

Kitty and her family have lived in the old theater building eight years. Her parents turned the theater into a home.

"When they bought it, the screen was still up. Kids had broken in and shot bb guns and ripped holes in it and stuff. I think basically it was just an abandoned movie theater and they started from scratch making it into a townhouse."

Kitty's 18-year-old son Kyle has a room on the top floor of the theater building. He refers to it as the Penthouse and thinks it's the coolest room in Stanton.

"Yeah, we've got a fireplace in there. No windows, so you can sleep as long as you want to. It's pretty nice up there. I like that room. We can be pretty loud, turn our music up

and don't have to worry about any neighbors. It keeps everybody happy."

The building has three levels. The living and dining areas are where the lobby used to be. Bedrooms are upstairs where the balcony once was. The seating area of the theater, where audiences sat, is now a big playground. It's got a pool table, basketball court, swimming pool and hot tub.

"It's pretty neat living here, you know," says Kyle. "It's a good place for teenagers to hang out. We toss footballs around in that big open area and play baseball without worrying about breaking a window. It's kinda hard to play basketball sometimes because the floor is slanted." The swimming pool is on the stage. The screen frame is still up. The old projectors are still in place in the projection room along with old carbon rods, movie reels, tickets and popcorn bags. Names of people who worked in the theater are written on the walls. The walls of the former seating area also have some historical graffiti.

"When my parents lived here," says Kitty, "they started letting kids draw things and write things on the walls and we've continued to let them do it. Older people will come by and want to come in and look because they have so many memories of growing up here. You know, when cokes were a nickel and a ticket to the show was fifty cents. This is where they hung out. There's a lot of memories going on here."

Pvt. Gonzalez graduates from basic combat training

Army Pvt. Jennifer L. Gonzalez has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

Gonzalez is the daughter of Criselda Gonzalez, Sonora, Texas, and niece of Linda Benavides of San Angelo, Texas. She is a 2004 graduate of Sonora High School.

Highway Patrol troopers hitting the road for July 4 weekend

The Texas Department of Public Safety is asking the public to drive safe and sober during the three-day July 4 holiday weekend.

"Many motorists will be out on Texas roadways over the Fourth of July, and DPS troopers will be out in force to make sure that drivers are obeying the law" said DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. "Stay sober, slow down and make sure everyone in your vehicle is properly secured."

Texas is one of several states participating in Operation CARE (Combined Accident Reduction Effort)—a nationwide campaign by state police agencies to reduce fatalities during holiday periods. All available troopers will be patrolling Texas roadways targeting speeders, drunk drivers and seat belt violators during the Fourth of

July holiday weekend.

'The number of alcoholrelated fatalities in Texas tends to increase during the summer months," Davis "Designating a sober driver if you're planning to consume alcohol and practicing safe driving habits will help keep you and your loved ones safe."

During the July 4 weekend last year, DPS troopers arrested 923 drivers for driving while intoxicated. "We'll be just as aggressive this year in looking for people who should not be driving," Col. Davis said.

Here are some driving tips the DPS recommends for travelers during the extended holiday weekend:

Do not drink and drive; rather, find a designated driver.

Have everyone in the vehicle properly secured, either with a safety belt or in the appropriate car seat or booster.

Slow down, especially if weather and road conditions do not allow for the designated speed limit.

· Save your phone calls for home or find a safe place to pull over to place or answer mobile

Be polite and courteous while driving-do not practice road rage behavior.

For long trips, have the car checked to make sure it is roadworthy.

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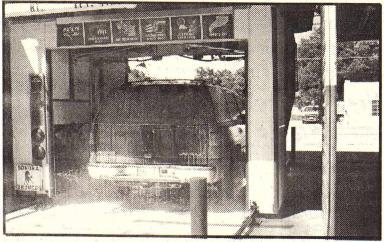
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Employment Notice

The Sutton County Sheriff's Office is now accepting applications for the position of Dispatcher. A thorough background investigation will be conducted and the chosen applicant will be required to attend a week long telecommunication school and must pass a state certification

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Sutton County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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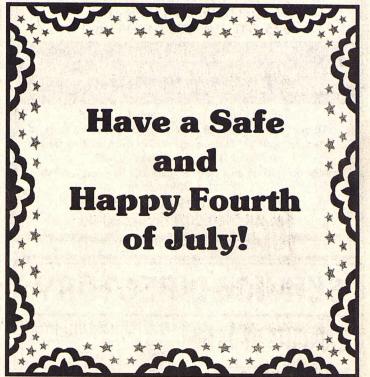
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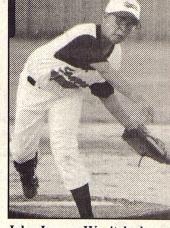
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10-year-old All-Stars finish second in Ozona



Golden Glove: Aaron Hinsley; All Tournament: Darien Lopez,



John Lopez, IV pitched great for the 10-year-old All-Stars.

John Lopez, IV, and Jared Hinsley.

Sonora's 10-year-old All-Stars took second place in the Ozona tournament on Saturday, June 18, 2005. Sonora beat Big Lake on Thrusday and came back on Saturday for a full day of games.

The first game was played at 11:00 a.m. against Ozona and the boys were successful. The Championship game was played at 6:30 p.m. The boys once again met up with Big Lake. Although Sonora was defeated 3 to 2, they had everything to be proud of as they demonstrated how a young group of athletes never give up. This group of boys represented Sonora well

and everyone is extremely proud of them. Congratulations to all our 10-year-old All-

Star players. Job well done! City council from page 1

will come to Sonora for performance testing, etc.

Howorth explained that presently, the AMGA will be leasing an office space and employing one person, with the possibility of hiring more at a later date. Having the AMGA headquarters located here also puts Sonora up for the possibility of hosting the National Conference, which is a three day event, thus resulting in more tax dollars for Sonora and Sutton County.

Howorth went on to explain that new requirements and guidelines from the SIDC called for such information to be provided when monetary assistance was being requested.

He showed the model used to calculate the dollar turn-over that having the AMGA would have for Sonora.

Mayor Gloria Lopez asked if a stipulation was in the contract that if the AMGA were to leave before the agreed upon 5 years, would they have to pay back the money. Howorth assured her that strict guidelines were specified in the contract regarding such issues, and they would have to pay back the granted money if the contract was broken. With no further questions, the council agreed to set a hearing for the next council meeting on July 12.

A request for a city sewer tap at 406 Central Ave. was approved.

After reviewing the only bid obtained for the police vehicle, the council moved to accept the bid and purchase the car from Jim Bass Ford.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the progress made on the Planning/Capacity Building Program. The representative explained that his company was ready to sit down and go over their findings with the council and interested parties. Many questions were fielded, and it was explained that basically this was a mapping program of the city, to prepare for any future zoning or subdividing. This program has been in preparation for several years and all agreed that it was time to move on with it. It was finally agreed that the council and representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, SIDC, and Main Street would sit down to discuss

the program. Susan Hall and Ruthie Bounds, with, the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, gave a power point presentation on the Keep Texas Beautiful program. Hall explained that having joined the program, certain criteria must be met and one of those included forming a committee consisting of local governing board members and interested parties.

informed the council that this and the request was approved by the council program would be beneficial to our community because of grant money that was given to Keep Texas Beautiful communities for improvements. Hall encouraged the council to get on board

the School Board. Councilman Smith Neal agreed to serve on the committee. A request from the Chamber to close a segment of Hwy. 290 West and Crockett Street for Sutton County Days parade was approved as present-

and show their support of the

program, as statistics show that

more tourism and less crime.

She told them that the County

Commissioners had appointed

John Wade to the committee and

they were waiting to hear from

cleaner community draws

A request from The Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street that their board be increased in size to nine members was approved, as was a request to be proclaimed and titled the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program and Downtown

Tourism Center for Sonora. Main Street manager Ann Kay reported on the success of the FHS Main Street Program with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and gave an update on the Texas Capital Fund Grant and workshop information. Kay explained that new sidewalks were only one project that could be obtained by trying for these matching grants.

for the Concho Valley Council of Governments was adopted.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan Interim City Manger Doyle Morgan reported that two months ago he had provided the council with his suggestions on handling the utility rates, having done research on similar municipalities and their rating system. Morgan proposed that rates be set based on water usage, not meter size. He reported that the City's water system is old, but if constant maintenance and upkeep is provided, it will be cheaper to keep right now than to replace. He asked that the council consider setting the new rates at budget time, after deciding on salaries schedules. Morgan reported that the council had previously decided on a set amount each budget period that the Fire Department and Senior Center has allotted to replace equipment, part, etc. If this money is not spent in that year, it shows money not spent and distorts how the budget looks. Morgan suggested that the money be put in a reserve account, with the specification that it be used for these departments only. He informed the council that he had spoke with the accountants on this matter.

Morgan continued with his report by informing the council that it is his opinion that the salary schedule needs to be reviewed and addressed because. someone should not get a raise just because it is time. Raises should be based on performance, and no one should expect a raise if they have not earned it. He did agree that a cost of living increase should be considered at the discretion of the council. The council agreed with Morgan's suggestions and voted to set raises on performance.

A discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of paying off the computer software and hardware now and saving on interest or continue makpayments. Morgan explained if the money is there, which it is right now, then it would be in the City's best interest to pay off now and be done. The council agreed and voted to do so.

Morgan advised that Mrs. Rogers will be giving up her position as Lifeline representative and that Juanita Mesa would be a good choice for this position. The council agreed and Mesa was appointed as Lifeline representative for communication between the people and the company.

Morgan ended his report by stating that he would like to keep the emotion out of his voice while finishing. He explained that he had been in the City Manager position for three months now and is pleased with some progress he has seen. He said he feels the employees are happy and more productive and have been very supportive. He said that he is proud of all that has been done, but there is a lot more to be done. Improvements are being made at the waste water plant and the city is currently completing their paving project, which they were able to more of than predicted because of good weather. Morgan thanked Oscar and the county and the local police for their assistance during these jobs. He finished by saying that he has been "so pleased by the support from all who have offered advice," but he expressed that he has found that there are some people that just can't be pleased no matter what and he is tired of trying to do so. "I'm just going to do the best job possible," and with that he ended his report. The council agreed that things were going good and commended Morgan on his job. The council then took a break before convening into executive session to discuss applicants for position of city manager and to consider payment of benefits to terminated employees.

Sonora ISD Board meeting July 11, 2005 - Sonora Middle School Snack Bar - 5:30 p.m. The Sonora School Board meet ing has been moved to accommodate more public seating as the possibility of drug testing in Sonora schools discussions con-

Lighthouse Community Church Independence Day Celebration, July 3, 2005, 4:00 p.m., Sutton County Park Slab. Brisket Supper, Live Music Children's Rides and Games. Tricycle Races, Family Softball; Bring your lawn chairs and cold drinks. FMI call 325-387-9100.

Narconon Arrowhead reminds you that during the summer months, our children are more apt to let boredom set in and drugs and alcohol can work into their lives. To help your child this summer, recognize the signs of drug and alcohol addiction and get the help they need.

If you or someone you know is struggling with an addiction, call Narconon Arrowhead, Narconon offers free addiction counseling, assessments, and referrals to rehabilitation centers nationwide and to your community by calling 1-800-468-6933 or logging onto www.stopaddiction.com. Help save a life. Call now!

The Angelo State University Small Business Development Center is conducting a free seminar entitled, "Excellent Customer Service." This seminar will be held on

Thursday, July 7th, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Rassman Building (2222 Dena Drive) on the ASU Campus, Room 100 (Conference Room), Hear the following techniques: Identifying customers

Customer needs

Causes of dissatisfaction Reasons people buy things Why customers leave

How customers evaluate serv-

Presenter is Ms. Lisa Michalewicz. Lisa joined the Angelo State University - Small Business Development Center n January 2003 as a Business Development Specialist and has ecently achieved the level of Certified Business Advisor II. She previously held the position of Training Coordinator at the SBDC where she planned and coordinated all training events. Please call 942-2098 to register. A Partnership Program with the Small Business Administration.

Comstock Rodeo Club - 42nd Annual, Saturday, July 9, 2005; Girls 12 & Under - Barrel Race. Pole Bending, Flag Race, Goat Tie Down; 13-19 Barrel Race, Pole Bending, Flag Race, Breakaway Roping; Boys 12 & Under - Barrel Race, Pole Bending, Flag Race, Breakaway Roping; Boys 13-19 - Tie-Down Roping, Ribbon roping, Breakaway Roping, Rescue Race; Little Britches Boot Scramble, Barrels and Poles - Free; Entry Fees - \$3 per event if entered and paid before 7/9/05; or \$5 per event if entering or paying on 7/9/05; Books close 9:00 a.m. on 7/9/05; Bar-b-Que lunch served on the ground, dance at 9 p.m in the 4-H barn. Entry information call Mary Dobbins (432)292-4526. All horses need proof of Coggins test to enter grounds. Team Roping and Open Roping following rodeo

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