

The Devil's River News

75¢

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

Volume 119 • Issue 2

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, January 11, 2007

Judge Gomez Sworn in as 112th District Judge



Judge Pete Gomez (center) with wife Pat and retiring Judge Brock Jones.
Photo courtesy of the Ozona Stockman

By MELISSA PERNER
Editor and Publisher of the
Ozona Stockman

After his wife Pat helped put on his new robe, Pedro (Pete) Gomez Jr. turned to his family and exclaimed "Mom, it fits."

The new 112th Judicial District Judge was sworn in during a ceremony on Monday in front of a packed courtroom at the Crockett County Courthouse. Gomez becomes the first Hispanic to be elected to this position.

Retiring Judge Brock Jones performed the ceremony.

"I took an oath to protect and defend the laws of the constitution, of this state and of the United States, so help me God. That is something that as judge should drive us," Gomez said "I

look forward to considering myself a brethren of a gentlemen of judges that I have admired."

Gomez spoke of Jones and other judges in his life that have become mentors throughout his career as an attorney.

He also thanked God and numerous family and friends for helping him through his election in 2006.

He said he was especially proud that his grandmother, Elena Tambunga from Ozona, was there at the ceremony.

"She could make refried beans and tortilla burritos taste like steak," Gomez said. "Friends of mine were some of the few fortunate souls to eat at 'Cafe Elena's'."

Gomez also said that during his term he will pray for wisdom,

knowledge and understanding when making decisions.

"I hope through my labor as a good judge to be put in the same paragraph as those judges who raised me," he said.

Gomez is a native of Sonora and Ozona. He graduated from Angelo State University and Texas Tech University. He is married to Pat and has two daughters, Emily and Catherine Gomez, and three stepdaughters Gina, Cynthia and Amanda Rubalcava.

He is the son of Pete and Irene Gomez and has three sisters, Gloria, Mary and Janice, all of whom were raised in Sonora.

The 112th Judicial District covers Crockett, Reagan, Pecos, Sutton and Upton counties.

60th Annual Sutton County Junior Stock Show and Sale This Week

Well, it's that time of year when 4-H and FFA youth get busy exhibiting the livestock they have been raising. It's important to have gentle animals. Halter-breaking, weighing, exercising, doctoring, feeding, and watering are just a few things that are necessary to prepare the animals for the show ring.

Even though, we have our Sutton County Stock Show January 12-13, our exhibitors have been busy getting ready. Participation in stock shows can help youngsters develop self-confidence through competition. They are given the opportunity to learn patience, commitment and work ethic, but can also learn to overcome obstacles and to deal with disappointment. Livestock exhibition is an excellent opportunity for family involvement in competitive events which reinforce

time and resource management skills, as well as determination and self-confidence.

We encourage families new to the program to seek help from their County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science teacher. We are happy to assist you and help make livestock exhibition a pleasant learning experience.

Make time to visit the Sutton County Civic Center on January 12-13 to help support our youth. Shows start at 8:30 a.m. on Friday and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. The auction begins at 6:45 on Saturday evening. Call the Extension office at 387-3101 for more details. There will be food, friends and fun. Hope to see you there.

Schedule of activities:

Thursday, January 11, 2007
7:00 p.m. Arrival and weigh-in deadline for Meat and Angora Goats, market lambs and swine.

Friday, January 12, 2007
8:30 a.m. Angora Goat show.
12:30 p.m. Market lamb show.
Meat goat show 30 minutes after the end of Market lamb show.

Saturday, January 13, 2007
10 a.m. Swine show.
Beef cattle exhibitions will follow swine show.
6:00 p.m. Buyer Appreciation Supper.
6:45 p.m. Premium sale.
8:00 p.m. Awards Presentation.

Sonora Vocational School

By Ray Glasscock

Cliff McMullan is now in charge of the vocational training offered to students at the Sonora Vocational School. I had the opportunity to interview and tour the classroom and shop.

McMullan instructs students how to use various wood working tools, including table saws, routers, planners, jig saws, and virtually every other tool that I would love to own. His students can build projects for themselves or for others in the community.

McMullan answered several questions for me. Schools no longer teach automotive classes since cars and trucks are so computerized these days. "A computer to analyze today's cars costs about \$50,000 and they become obsolete in just a few years. Wood working equipment may cost \$100,000, but it will last for 50 years." He said that Sonora may be able to offer advanced welding in the future if another workshop is built near the tennis courts by the high school.

His students will enter regional competition in April and state competition in May. "I have had students place first, second, and third in the state competition for the last 17 years and I intend for that streak to continue this year," McMullan said.

Armando Noriega, Elijah Lopez, and Evan Rousselot were working together to build a coffee table. "This is an outstanding course and I love it," said Noriega who plans to attend UTSA next year. Lopez, who intends to study at Angelo State, also felt he was learning skills that he will use for the rest of his life.



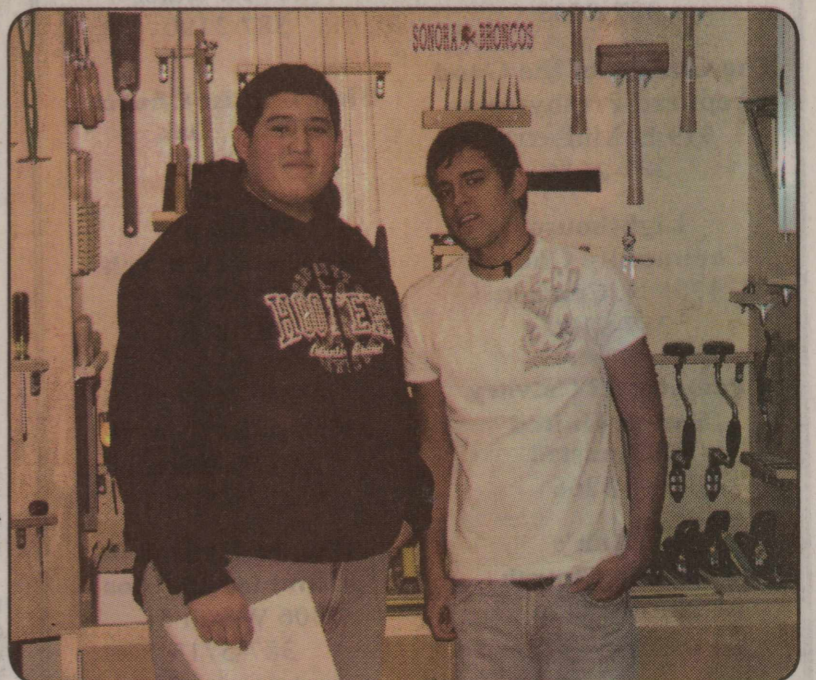
Justin Northcott was working on his "beverage serving piece of furniture" in this day of political correctness.

Evan Gulley and Dustin Duhon were adding laquer to piece of Oak cut from a very large tree. When the laquer is dry, they will sand it smooth and it will be a table top.

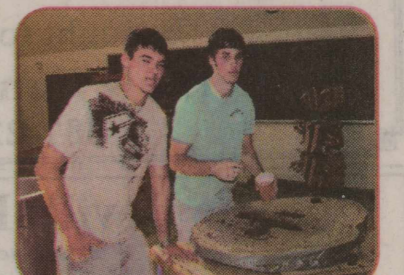
While there are other courses taught in public schools where there is debate over the usefulness of those courses, I doubt if anyone can say that learning to use wood working tools is not useful later in life. However, there are definite consequences of taking this course for both of the sexes. Women should know the pros and cons of marrying someone who has learned wood working. They will be excellent "honey doers" but don't expect to ever park any of your vehicles

in the garage. It will be filled with saws and other tools and will be covered with saw dust. If they are not as good at making furniture as they think they are, then expect problems with what to do with his latest piece of furniture.

For the men, expect an unending number of "honey do" projects. Also, your mortgage payment will be higher as you will need to buy a much larger piece of property for your house.



Armando Noriega and Elijah Lopez prepare to check out tools for their next project.



Dustin Duhon and Evan Gulley spreading laquer to finish an Oak table top.

Mailboxes Vandalized



There have been reports of six mailboxes damaged by vandals. The incidents began Sunday night. Chief of Police Mike House states that each box sustained approximately \$60.00 worth of damage.

It is a Federal crime to intentionally damage mail recep-

tacles. State law provides that damage in excess of \$750.00 mandates a felony charge. If a juvenile is responsible for the damage, the parents of the guilty party or parties are responsible for the monetary costs of repair or replacement.

A reward fund of \$100.00

has been established by the victims for any information leading to the arrest of the person or persons involved in these crimes.

If you have information or if your mailbox has been recently damaged you are asked to contact the police department.

11th Relay for Life Set for Spring 2007

On May 18, 2006 the 10th annual American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Sutton County was held. When it was all said and done, this community raised a total of \$82,822.28. This has placed Sonora number two in the region. This region consists of Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Hawaii and Guam. Not only is Sonora number two in the region, but also, Number Three in the nation.

The Relay For Life committee began working on the event many months before the actual day and spent numerous hours planning each detail of the twelve hour event. Without a dedicated committee of volunteers, team members/captains and businesses who care about fighting cancer and finding a cure, this would not have been possible.

Because of this hard work and dedication, there are programs and services available to people touched by cancer in every community in the U.S., an in-depth cancer resource center at www.

cancer.org, specially trained cancer information specialists available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-ACS-2345 and funded research from money raised at relays that has resulted in many of the major cancer research breakthroughs over the last ten years.

The 11th Relay For Life is slated for the Spring of '07. Currently, the committee is in the process of filling positions and will hold the first meeting on Monday, January 22 at noon at the Sutton County Steakhouse. Please come by and be a part of planning another successful relay. If you enjoy volunteering, have a passion for doing something for others and are interested in being a part of the committee, call Shanna Petty at 387-3861.



St. Ann Catholic Church

Father Miguel Dinio, Pastor

311 W. Plum
P.O. Box 1397
Monday - Wednesday & Friday 1-4
Thursday - 10:30 - 12:30, 1:30 - 5:30
Phone: 325-387-2278
Fax: 325-387-2278
E-mail: stannsec@verizon.net
Confessions: Sat. 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

NEW MASS SCHEDULE!

Sunday - 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Monday - NO MASS
Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday - 7:00 a.m.
Thursday - 7:00 a.m.
Friday - 7:00 a.m.
Saturday - 6:00 p.m.

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

Senior Center Activities

Fri. Jan. 12 - Attorney Beth Wallace will be at Center at noon to help those who need a Will so if you don't have one come see us!

Mon. Jan. 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Center Closed!

Tue. Jan. 16 - Happy Birthday Juanita Mesa!

City Council at 4:00 p.m.

Wed. Jan. 17 - Van to San Angelo, Medicals come first - Call 387-3941 For more information.

Thur. Jan. 18 - Happy Birthday Phillip Cooper!

Senior Center Menu

Fri. Jan. 12 - Beef tips with rice & gravy, carrots, milk, corn bread, bananas with strawberries & lemon pie.

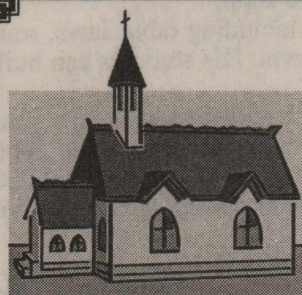
Mon. Jan. 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Center will be closed!

Tue. Jan. 16 - Chicken Supreme, herb new potatoes, broccoli, roll, green salad, cherry cobbler and milk.

Wed. Jan. 17 - Beef Burrito, pinto beans, spinach, coleslaw, Jell-O with pears and milk.

Thur. Jan. 18 - Oven broil pork chops with gravy, noodles, carrots, tossed salad, bread, milk and applesauce.

Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older. Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m. Donations are accepted (suggested donation for Seniors is \$1.50; \$4.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go)



Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesia Bautista
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

Church of Christ
304 N. Water
387-3190

The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

First Baptist Church
111 E. Oak
387-2951

Lighthouse Community Church
1705 N. Crockett
387-9100

St. John's Episcopal Church
404 E Poplar
387-2955

Pentecostal Calvary Temple United
509 Amistad
387-5266

First United Methodist Church
201 N. Water
387-2466

St. Ann's Catholic Church
229 W. Plum
387-2278

Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios
306 W. 4th St.
387-5713

Jehovah's Witness
310 St. Ann's St.
387-5658/387-5518

Hope Lutheran Church
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

Brought to you by:

Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

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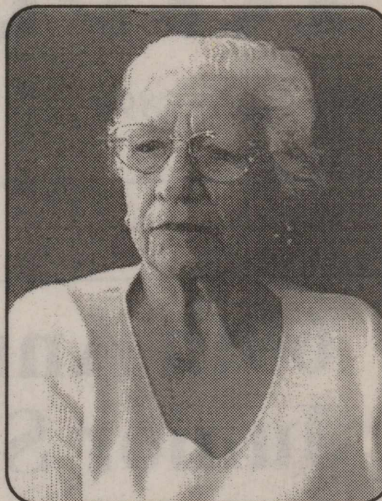
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MEMBER
2006

Obituaries

Romana R. Duran



Our beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother Romana R. Duran (Mona), 86 years of age peacefully passed away Saturday December 23rd, 2006 in Fort Worth, Texas and laid to rest at Sonora Cemetery on December 26th, 2006.

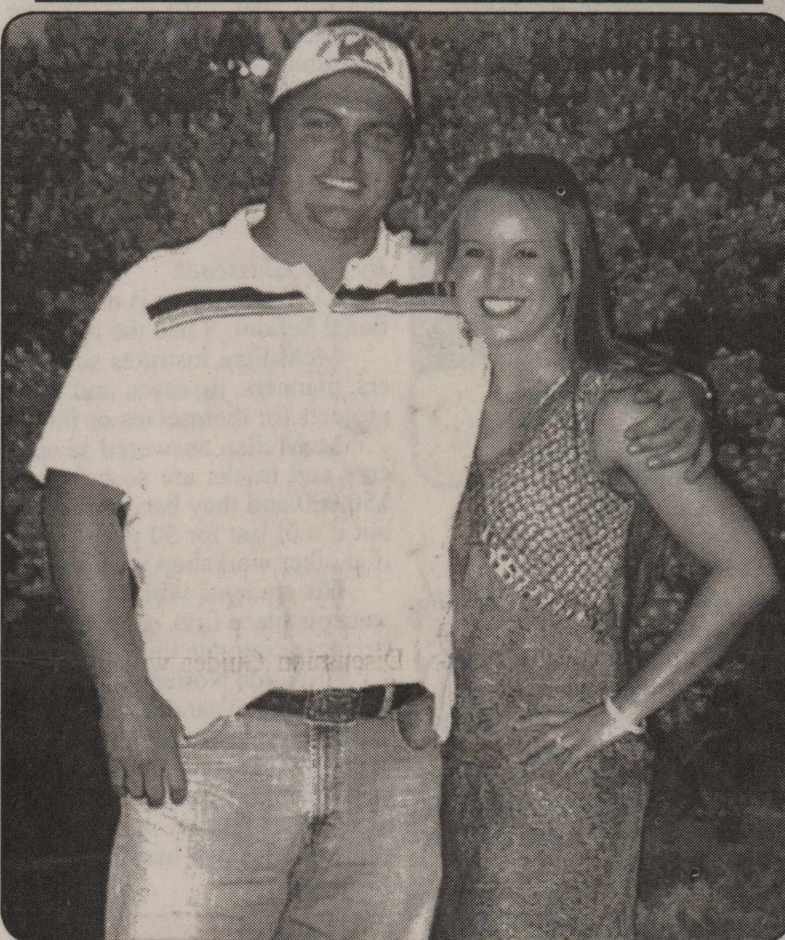
She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Miguel V. Duran, Sr., daughter Delia Esquivel and great grandson Ryan Sean Canales.

She is survived by son Mike R. Duran, Jr. and wife Irene. Daughters, Odelia Martinez and

husband Frank, Amanda Garza and husband Juan, and Toni Duran. Ten grand-children, Delma, Frank, Jr., and wife Kathryn Martinez, Jess David Esquivel and wife Patty, Lanette Carmichael and husband Melvin, Freddy Garza and wife Susie, Claudine Calton and husband Gary, Michael Richard Duran, Joanna Canales and husband Sean, Marisa Martinez, Valerie Lopez and husband David. Eight great grand-sons, Chon Miguel and Christian Deion Calton, John Miguel Carmichael, John William and Joe Anthony Franklin, Jase LaBryant Brown, Chase Patrick and Eric David Canales. Two brothers, Ignacio Romero and Manuel Garcia. Four sisters, Maria Martinez, Rosa Locke, Maria Galindo, and Louisa Cowart, plus numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers, Frank Martinez, Jr., Jess David Esquivel, Melvin Carmichael, David Lopez, Ernesto Salazar, and Hector Romero. Honorary Pallbearers, Michael Richard Duran, Freddy Garza, Frank Martinez, Sr., and Juan Garza.

Engagement Announcement



Cody DuPree and Stacey Patterson

Stacey Leigh Patterson and Cody Lane Renfro DuPree have announced their engagement. They will exchange vows on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

The ceremony will take place at 6:00 p.m. at The Cactus Hotel in San Angelo, TX with minister Don Sessom officiating.

Stacey Leigh Patterson is the daughter of Howard and Cathy Patterson of Odessa, TX. She is a 1999 honors graduate of Odessa High School and a 2003 magna cum laude graduate of Angelo State University with a

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Journalism with Minor in Graphic Art. She is employed as an executive creative director at Media Advantage in San Angelo, TX.

Cody Lane Renfro DuPree is the son of Tony and Billie Renfro of Sonora, TX and Gerry and Karen DuPree of Christoval, TX. He is a 1995 Graduate of Sonora High School and 2003 Graduate of Angelo State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing. He is the co-owner of DuPree Construction in Christoval, TX.

FELICITY'S FUND

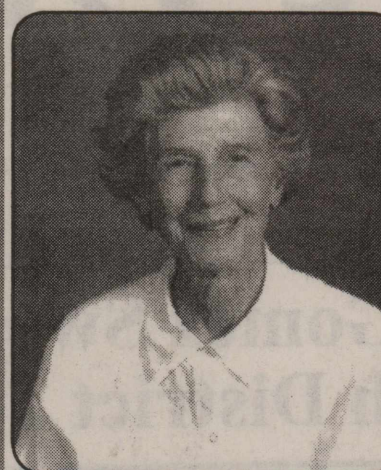
An educational fund has been established at First National Bank for Felicity, the nine month old daughter of Amanda Castilleja, the young lady who was involved in a fatal accident on her way to school in San Angelo. If you wish to make a donation, be sure to specify that the donation is for Felicity's Educational Fund. Your kindness will be appreciated.



SUTTON COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION

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

Lura Ward Sawyer



Longtime Sutton County resident Lura Ward Sawyer, 90, died at Hudspeth Memorial Hospital in Sonora on January 4, 2007.

A memorial service was held Monday, January 8, 2007 at the First United Methodist Church.

Lura was born in Cleveland, Texas on August 11, 1916 to Haynes and Evelyn Ward. She attended schools in Oakwood and Teague Texas, graduating from Teague High School in May, 1933. She attended Sullins College in Bristol, Virginia, graduating with a General Diploma in 1935. She then attended Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, graduating in 1938 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. While there, she was the Zeta Tau Alpha Beauty in 1937 and 1938.

Lura moved to Sonora after college graduation and taught at the L.W. Elliott Elementary School until her marriage to Edwin Sawyer on June 7, 1941. The lived on the Sawyer ranch outside of Sonora for ten years until they built their home on Castle Hill Road in 1951, where she lived until her death.

Always active in community affairs, Lura was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Sonora Women's Club, the Hospital Auxiliary, and an honorary director of the First National Bank in Sonora. She also served as a member of the Senior Center Board and delivered Meals on Wheels until she was 85 years old.

An avid reader, Lura took particular interest in the success of the Sonora Public Library and contributed many books to the

small library in Sebocis, Maine. She was also very active in three bridge clubs and enjoyed the many friends she had in those clubs.

Since 1981, she and Edwin, prior to his death, and then later with her son, Eddie, provided ranch facilities for the annual 6th grade field tour, providing hands-on learning to children about conservation of natural resources. Lura was the recipient of several conservation awards, including Conservation Rancher of the Year in 1993 and 2003 and the Texas Conservation Awards Program Resident Conservation Rancher in 2005. She was also chosen as Citizen of the Year by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce in 1996.

In addition to her many friends in Sonora, Lura was equally close to a number of friends and relatives in Maine, where she spent summers at the Sawyer family's lake house.

Lura is preceded in death by her husband, Edwin Sawyer, sister-in-law Alice Jones; and brother-in-law Wesley Sawyer.

Family members include her son Edwin Sawyer III; daughter and son-in-law Sarah and Preston Neely; daughter and son-in-law Jane and Carlos Davis; and daughter and son-in-law Lolly and Chip Campbell. Her grandchildren are Sawyer Neely and his wife Suzi, Joe Neely and his wife Amy, Carrie Coke and her husband Charles, Christin Davis, Eugene Davis and Allison Campbell. Great-grandchildren include Jack Neely, Jake Neely and Wesley Neely.

Lura is also survived by her nieces, Claire Jones and her nephew and his wife, Cleve T. and Lolabeth Jones and their families, whom she considered her children.

The Sawyer family would like to thank the doctors and staff at Hudspeth Memorial Hospital for the loving care of our mother and to Maria Espinosa, our mother's special caretaker and friend.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Sutton County Health Foundation, the First United Methodist Church, or the charity of your choice.

Virginia D. Ynostrosa

Virginia D. Ynostrosa, 69, died Tuesday, January 2, 2007.

Rosary was held Friday, January 5 in Johnson's Funeral Home chapel. Funeral service was held Saturday at the Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart with burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Survivors include her chil-

dren, Paul Ynostrosa Jr. of Refugio, Jimmy Ynostrosa, Ninfa Tavarez and Debra Strickland, all of San Angelo, and Daniel Ynostrosa and Carlos Ynostrosa, both of Flower Mound; sister Esperanza Valardez of Sonora; brothers Juan Duran of Sonora and Sammy Galindo of San Angelo.

Happy Birthday

January 11

Barbara Urbanski, Nolan Kinder, Krystal Gibbens, Laura West, Ty Fincher, Michelle Lopez, Debra Harris, Mary Hernandez, Brenda Johnson, Charles Pajestka, MD

January 12

Maria Zaragoza, Kaitlyn Leigh Lopez, Stephanie Hulsey, Marty Lipham, Felicia Farley, Col. Pete Bradley, Hector Alcadio Mendez, Darian Lee Reyes

January 13

Tim Cole, Thomas Schenkel, Cheryl Lock, Amy Torres, Ralph Mayer, George Sanchez, Hayden Davenport, Coach Patton

January 14

Japha Routh, Christian Kesinger, Jody Trainer, Olivia Banda

January 15

Trey Wardlaw, Gary Hardgrave, James Daubney, Danette Maddux, Bill Savell, Baby D. Davila

January 16

Glynn Dell Glasscock, Nancy McAngus, Austin Herd, Dana Young, Edward Mata, Jr., Karen Fincher, Joe Longoria, Bill Stewart, Joe Davis, Jacquelynn Castillo, Anthony Mata, Juanita Mesa

January 17

David Wallace, Felipe Estrada, Tina Watkins, Ruben Garza, Lisa Slaton, Antonio Lopez

Letter to the Editor

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Historical Society

ASK THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Jo-Ann E. Palmer Secretary

Q. Why do you have an exhibit of "Snowbabies" at The Bank & Trust? What do they have to do with Sutton County History?

A. Plenty! Since it was so long ago, most of you don't know that Admiral Robert E. Peary and his family visited Sutton County in 1917 when they were returning from a trip to California he had undertaken in the interest of Naval aviation. Peary was a great supporter of Naval aviation to protect the coast of the United States.

Why did he stop in Sutton County? Because his brother-in-law Henry H. Diebetsch lived nine miles west of Sonora. We don't have a paper telling about this visit, but we do have one from the February 28, 1920 "Devil's River News," which tells "Henry H. Diebetsch had just received word of the death of his brother-in-law, Admiral Robert E. Peary which occurred at his home in Washington, D. C., Friday, February 20."

So who was Henry H. Diebetsch's sister? Her name was Josephine Diebitsch Peary and she married Peary in 1888. She was the daughter of a linguist

at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D. C. In June of 1891, she accompanied her husband and the small crew of the "Kite" to northern Greenland. They wintered in McCormick Bay, an area roughly midway between the Arctic Circle and the North Pole. If you want to really learn about her time in the Arctic, read "My Arctic Journal" a narrative of the stress, and treacherous character of living in the severe northern climate. Her book was published in 1893 when she had again returned to the Far North with her husband on another expedition. While there, she gave birth to a daughter named Marie Ahnighito Peary, who was fondly called "The Snow Baby" by the press and locals.

They had never before seen a white baby. In her little white fur outfits, they thought, with her pure white face, that she looked like a snow baby. Josephine would write her next book "The Snow Baby," which was a true story with pictures.

After several years away from the Arctic, Josephine and her young daughter again journey north to meet her husband at Fort Conger. Unfortunately her vessel, the "Windward" was damaged by an iceberg and Josephine, Marie and the crew

wound up spending the winter in Greenland, about 300 miles south of Robert Peary's camp. During that winter, Josephine met Allaskasingwah, Peary's pregnant Inuit lover. Despite the pain caused by his infidelity, and long absences, she remained supportive of her husband.

After her husband returned from the North Pole in 1909 and retired in 1911, he and Josephine spend their summer with their two children, Marie and Robert Jr. on Eagle Island. In the winter, they resided in Washington, D.C. Josephine planted a garden and hundreds of trees on the island.

Some people tried to claim the Peary didn't reach the North Pole, but his wife staunchly supported his claim and presented evidence of his journals and photographs to support all his claims.

A man named Cook had perpetrated a hoax that he, not Peary, was the first to reach the North Pole. His stories were finally proved to be lies, but it took a lot of work. Without all the journals, photos and proof that Josephine had, he might have succeeded in his lies.

Josephine Diebitsch Peary was recognized for her personal accomplishments in 1955 by the National Geographic Society,

they awarded her their highest honor, the Medal of Achievement.

On December 19, 1955, Josephine died, at the age of 92, and was buried alongside her husband in Arlington National Cemetery.

Now that we have filled you in on the Diebetsch connection, we will tell you more about Snowbabies. When Marie Peary was born, the news traveled around the world. Inuit men and women and children from hundreds of miles around traveled on their sledges pulled by dogs to see the baby. They wanted to see if she was warm and not made of snow. She was so white, and they had to touch her and feel her warmth to make sure she was a real live child. They named her AH-POO-MIK-A-NINNY, which translates to "Snow Baby." They brought the baby many presents. In the book, Josephine Peary wrote called "Snow Baby," there are pictures of Marie lying on reindeer blankets in her fur outfit. Stories and pictures of the beautiful white baby born in the Arctic caught the attention of children the world wide. Some people in cold climates dressed their infants in fur outfits, imitating the outfit Marie had worn.

Now the term snow baby

had been around for many years. It was used to describe German delicacies made of sugar that hung on Christmas trees and adorned cakes for many years before the little "Snow Baby" was born. There were even some toys made in early days to resemble snow babies made of sugar, but with real faces on them. Over the years many different manufacturers had made the little snow babies but most of them were very fragile and didn't survive for long.

With the birth of Marie the Germans knew they had a market for the little dolls. They had to make them out of a more durable material, and thus started making bisque dolls. They came in many different poses and sizes, from as small as 12 inches, and were exported all over the world. Most of them are now prized items in thousands of private doll collections. Larger "Snow Babies" were made to be used as displays in the show stores, especially around Christmas time. Along with Santa Claus, the "Snow Babies" became kind of a symbol of Christmas. Some were bisque heads and cloth bodies and haven't survived well. But the "Snow Babies" are a highly prized collectible.

So if you get out and about, stop by "The Bank & Trust" and see the exhibit case we have filled with "Snow Babies" for your enjoyment. We appreciate the folks at "The Bank & Trust" allowing us to use their showcase for this exhibit. The Sutton County Historical Society has many things stored away for the new museum, when it is finished, and we like to get a chance to show them off to people once in a while. So stop by and see the "Snow Babies." Some are large, limited number, members only pieces that you will enjoy seeing.

If you have any questions concerning Sutton County history send them to "Ask the Historical Society," P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or e-mail them to schs@sonoratx.net. Our offices are open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings and our phone number is 325-387-5084. Usually Rick and I or David and Betty Smith are in



Admiral Robert E. Peary



Josephine Diebitsch Peary



Marie Ahnighito Peary
The Snow Baby

Main Street Traffic

By Mary Ann Kay

Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street saw this new release, and we decide to share this with our community. It is worth reading and will be food for thought.

Top 10 Reasons Rural Community Development Is So Hard to DO! For the past three years, this newsletter has carried a monthly column by Michael Holton focused on rural community revitalization. Some articles referred to community development successes, while others related various struggles that come with the territory in community development. This month, Michael takes his experiences and insights and defines the top 10 reasons rural community development is so difficult to accomplish.

1. People Don't Understand What Community Development Is

The definition of community development can be stated as, "The process of improving the social, economic, and cultural conditions of a village or small town." Even this definition may come up short, but at least it addresses other facets of what the community is all about.

2. Differences between Rural and Urban

Where do we separate the two so that we can all grasp the differences? Maybe we don't have to. This is an area of understanding and perception, so it all leads back to the fundamental, yet simple, conclusion that rural is anything urban is not.

While this is easy for some of us who live in smaller rural townships (less than 2,000 in population), it is not as easy for agencies addressing development and providing funding. Fair or not, this becomes one of the reasons why community development in rural areas is so difficult.

3. Understanding Community Gate Keepers

Rural communities are made up of a social group called the gate keepers. This may prove to be one of the most difficult

aspects of community development in small rural towns.

Gate keepers are usually people who have lived in the community for years, often clear back to the time when small rural communities were thriving. They made a living and prospered while raising their children. The community was and is still good to them. They do not want to see new community development come in and take away what they have acquired.

These people often resist big changes with statements like, "We don't need that!" or "It was good enough for me when I was growing up." The key to dealing with the gate keeper plight is to involve them from the beginning in the discussion and work.

4. Change Is Not Comfortable

Like the gate keeper mentality, change is also a barrier to community development. Comfort levels and routine are easier to understand for most community members. Large-scale change is uncomfortable and often hard work.

New business brings competition which communities may view as healthy, but to existing business that must now compete for the shrinking rural dollar, it is not. Communities are made up of people first and structures second. Change must be addressed in those terms.

5. Parochial Attitudes

Parochial attitudes in small rural communities address the ability for these areas to shut themselves off from the outside.

The problem with this attitude today is that small rural communities cannot do it on their own as we transition from a local to a global economy. This reflects change and upheaval in the traditional sense of economic and social development.

6. Lack of Resources and Capacity

Due to depopulation, the changing face of agriculture, and dwindling businesses in towns, the ability to find what we need locally has diminished.

We are forced to look to outside resource agencies for help and to find the resources we once found locally.

Choices become clearer when we understand the realities. We may still need to buy products out of town, and we may need to ask for help from outside agencies. But when we make our own community development choices, we can strengthen the local economy based upon the diversity our choices bring.

7. Negative Attitudes

It easier to be an art critic than it is to be an artist. In small rural community development, we all know what we will hear from many of the residents of a town. It is nearly always negative and destructive.

We need to focus on positive contributions of the community and its people to the world as we know it.

8. Lack of Participation across the Generations

Small communities talk about the crisis in the dwindling number of volunteers for special events and the burnout that occurs with the volunteers they do have. So why are the elderly and youth left out? Communication is a big key to crossing generations and finding a meaningful way to include all of the community rather than a few overworked individuals. An inclusive, open communication process benefits all.

9. Purpose of Existence

History plays a large role in establishing the purpose and ultimately the pride we feel towards our hometown. The key to survival is to not live in the past. The truth is that history is not static; it is dynamic.

We are making history in our communities everyday. History is the change we make to our communities to make them better. In the end these changes serve a purpose for the community's very existence.

10. Leadership Capacity

Of all of the factors and indicators of small town demise, I

see the lack of leadership as the biggest of all. We are changing, and leadership is needed to address these conditions. The very definition of change is the ability to bring people and ideas together without coercion or force.

I heard a leader in one of the rural communities I work with say to me, "Why should I take leadership training, I am already a leader!" What this said to the community was that he was unwilling to lead the town in a positive direction. There is untapped leadership in every community, and one of our goals should be looking for those resources.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO address these problem areas? Discussion Guides will prompt dialogue. From December and in 2007, the Center for Rural Affairs will be publishing discussion guides and helpful tools to use in working with your community in asking the right questions. These publications will be available on our website for you to download and begin working through the discussions with your community.

The publications will also be sent to anyone requesting them. The discussion guides consist of two parts. One is a list of questions on such subjects as volunteer recruitment, leadership, agricultural involvement, beautification, history, rural culture, schools, churches, hospitals, youth, and others. The other part is a facilitator's manual to empower community leaders to help with the discussions.

Once communication and dialogue begins, real change can occur. With a little help we can all be part of our community's development. Maybe then we can create a real chance for the vigorous, prosperous life we dream of in small rural communities across the country.

Contact: Michael L. Holton, michaellh@cfra.org or 402.687.2103 x 1015 for more information.

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Angel Food Ministries Offers Blessings by the Box

Angel Food Ministry, a nationwide non-profit, non-denominational organization is dedicated to provide grocery needs to communities throughout the United States.

In November 2006, the first local distribution of food orders was held in Eldorado. Volunteers from several local churches assisted with the distribution to over 140 people that had previously placed orders at discounted prices.

The ministry offers "Blessings in a Box". The medium-sized box will consist of groceries to feed a single person for a month, or a family of four for a week. The menu choices are different each month, consisting of fresh and frozen foods. Specials are also offered each month at an additional price. The cost of the basic box is \$25 per unit.

Beginning in 1994 with 34 families, the organization grew to a point in which 125,000 families were fed in 32 states in 2005.

There are no financial restrictions to order. The program is available to everyone. People in Sonora and Sutton County are encouraged to take advantage of this ministry.

For more information on placing orders or volunteering help, contact Jean Ann at 853-3241. Additional information and menu options may be obtained at www.angelfoodministries.com.

Lighthouse Community Church to Host Message by Beth Moore

On February 24, 2007, renowned author and Bible teacher Beth Moore will speak to tens of thousands of women across North America in a live satellite simulcast based on her new book *Get Out of That Pit*.

In a special message titled "Straight Talk About God's Deliverance," Moore will discuss the fact that deliverance is for everyone - no matter how long you've been down, whether you think you deserve it or not. From her own personal experience, Moore will share the healing to be found in Jesus and will present a message of hope.

Says Moore, "If God could lift me out of the pit and set my feet on sturdy ground, then He can get anyone out!"

Presented by Church Communications Network (CCN) and Integrity Publishers, the event will be broadcast live via satellite to hundreds of churches in the U.S. and Canada.

CCN Director of events Deborah Layman commented, "We are excited to have the opportunity to bring Beth Moore's powerful and personal message right into the local church. This will be a life-changing day for women all over North America."

Lighthouse Community Church is hosting this live international simulcast event.

For additional information or ticketing, contact our office at (325) 387-9100.

CHAMBER CHATTER

Submitted by: Becky Covington

Sonora is buzzing with anticipation and opportunity. We are at a time of increased economic activity. Some people are calling this a boom. The danger with referring to this as a boom time is that boom times usually end up with a bust. I would like to consider it to be planned and sustainable growth. Unemployment is low. The labor force continues to increase. The real estate market continues to appreciate and retail sales have increased. This is an excellent opportunity for small, medium, or large businesses or industries who want to expand or relocate to contact the Sonora Industrial Development Corporation and inquire about their assistance programs. The 4B sales tax can be used for a wide variety of projects including land, buildings, equipment, facilities expenditures and improvements related to projects and to promote and develop new and expanded business enterprises that create or retain primary jobs.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Sonora Chamber

Minutes from the Chamber

The December 2006 meeting of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce was held at the Chamber offices December 14.

After opening the meeting, committee reports were heard regarding membership status in which there are a total of 207 members. That number is unchanged from November. There were also reports from Susan Hall regarding Keep Sonora Beautiful. She reported that KSB would not be purchasing a recycle trailer from Eldorado, and that recycle bins will be distributed by hand to local businesses.

Chamber Director Becky Covington reported that the Game Dinner ticket sales were approximately 1300 and the "More the Merrier" Christmas Bazaar was a great success with over 30 vendors and over 300 registered. Christmas Downtown was also a success with about 475 meals served.

It was suggested by John Jones for Sonora to be marketed as a halfway point between Houston and El Paso. No action was taken and the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Sonora High School Students of the Week

By Senida Martinez

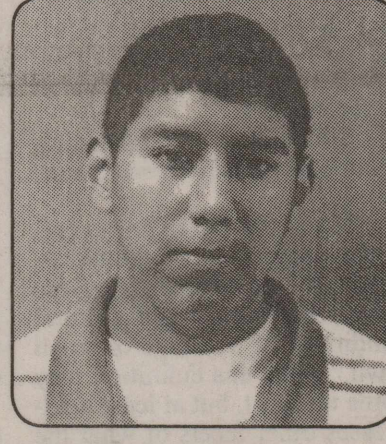
The Students of the Week for January 8, 2007 are Nick Pena, junior, Cindy Lopez, sophomore, and Reynaldo Gaytan, sophomore.



Nick Pena is the son of Alonzo and Chela Pena. He moved to Sonora from Dallas when he was 3 years old. He likes eating food, playing sports, lifting weights, and being with his girlfriend, Hillary. He is involved in an organization called Spanish Club. Football is Nick's favorite thing about Sonora High. After high school, Nick plans to attend college to become a coach so he can stay around football.



Cindy Lopez is the daughter of Edward and Maria Lopez. She moved here from Garden City in 5th grade. She enjoys eating, sleeping, playing softball, and going out with friends, and her dislikes are running. She participates in band and attends a youth group at St. Anne's Catholic Church. Her favorite thing about high school is the fact that she gets to see all her friends. When Cindy graduates high school, her plan is to attend college and become a pediatrician because she likes dealing with kids.



Reynaldo Gaytan is the son of Reynaldo and Martha Gaytan. He lived in Del Rio, moved to Houston, and then went back to Del Rio. When he was 6, he moved to Sonora. Reynaldo likes to play sports, hanging out with friends and family, and watching TV. His dislikes are homework. He's involved with athletics and goes to youth group at St. Anne's Catholic Church. After finishing high school, he wants to go to college, but he's still undecided about what he wants to study.

Link up with friends and family, and let the New Year Begin!



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Susan Frost, Vice President
 Call Susan at 947-2100 for additional details.



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Basketball Season is Here!

By Mark Rousselot

The hardwood season is in full sprint as the Sonora Bronco Basketball team played its first home game of the year after 12 straight road games. Last Friday, the Broncos lost to the Reagan County Owls 61-59 in a wild, exciting game! Down by 19 points at halftime, the Broncos would not fold as their pressuring defense kept them in the game. The first half was marred by what appeared to be a "lid" on the basket for the Bronco shooters. The Owls, a Regional Finalist last year, took advantage and raced to a 43-24 halftime lead.

The Broncos cut the lead to 51-34 after 3 quarters of play. And then the "jump up out of your seat" thriller began. Led by Evan Gulley and Craig Leonard's scoring and the tenacious defense of Rousselot and Valliant, the Broncos came roaring back to score 25 points in the 4th quarter. Caleb Ramos' 3 pointer with 4.3 seconds left in the game cut the Owl lead to 61-59. While the Broncos were

frantically trying to call time-out, the officials apparently did not acknowledge and the clock ticked to zero. WOW!

The Broncos are 6-7 for the year; however, 4 of their losses have come at the hands of the Owls and Grape Creek Eagles, both playoff teams of last year. New Bronco head coach Eli Boxell has the Bronco team playing a new style offense and a hustling/pressure defense. Unfortunately, the Broncos will be without the services of Dustin Duhon and J. T. Downing, both due to injury. Cash Jennings and A.K. Williams have been promoted from the JV. to fill their spots.

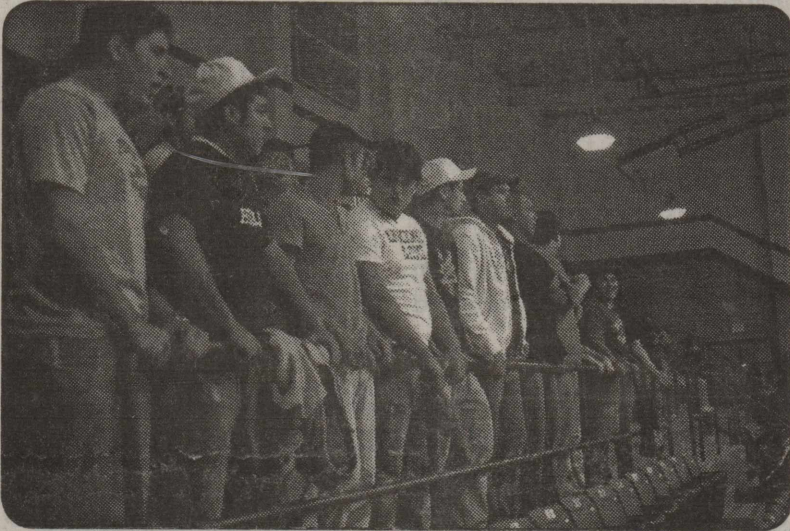
The Broncos begin their district play this Friday (1-12-07) at home against the Junction Eagles. JV start time is 5:00 p.m. Varsity at 8:00 p.m.

Box score: Reagan County 19 24 8 10 - 61; Sonora 11 13 10 25 -59

Scoring: Gulley 22, Leonard 18, Ramos 8, Williams 6, Rousselot 4, Valliant 1.



Dustin Neff shoots for points!



Haircut! Haircut! Bronco's sixth man

Middle School Girls Basketball

In 8th grade girls basketball action, the A-team defeated Junction 31-16. Scoring totals for Sonora were: Maci Zuniga 8 pts, Morgan Smith 6 pts, Kallie Humphrey 4 pts, Joell McGuffin 4 pts, Kash McGee 4 pts, Chelby Ramos 3 pts, Serena Allison 2 pts.

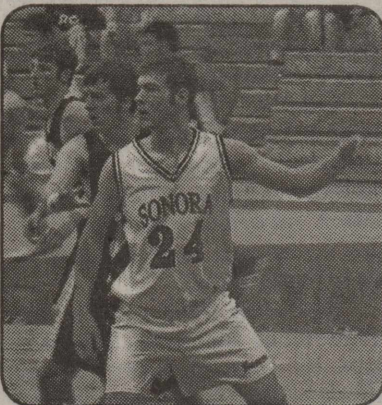
The B-team also defeated Junction by a score of 4-3. Le-

andra Castaneda accounted for all 4 points.

In the 7th grade girls game, the final score was Sonora 10 - Junction 4. Scoring for Sonora were: Sarah Carrillo 9 pts, Evelyn Solis 8 pts, Hunter Jennings 7 pts, Liz Chavarria 2 pts, Sandra Hernandez 2 pts and Delilah Agüero 2 pts.



Evan Gulley and AK Williams



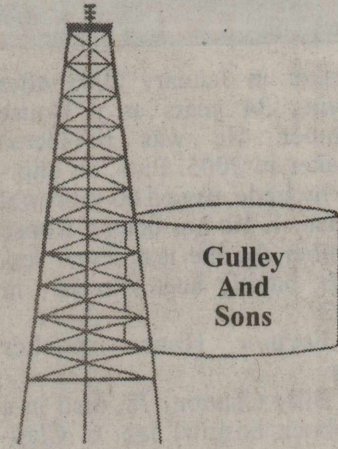
Michael Jenkins Posting down low



AK Williams - Freshman

Sonora Broncos Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	JV	Var
Jan 12	TBA			
Jan 16	Mason*	Away	5:00	8:00
Jan 19	Brady*	Home	5:00	8:00
Jan 23	Blanco*	Home	5:00	8:00
Jan 26	Comfort*	Away	5:00	8:00
Jan 30	Junction*	Away	5:00	8:00
Feb 2	Mason*	Home	5:00	8:00
Feb 6	Brady*	Away	5:00	8:00
Feb 9	Blanco*	Away	5:00	8:00
Feb 13	Comfort*	Home	5:00	8:00
Feb 16	Junction*	Home	5:00	8:00



Sonora Bronco Basketball Schedule

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Jim and Rhonda Gulley

Lady Broncos Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	JVG	VG
Jan 12	Junction*	Home	5:00	6:30
Jan 16	Mason*	Away	5:00	6:30
Jan 19	Brady*	Home	5:00	6:30
Jan 23	Blanco*	Home	5:00	6:30
Jan 26	Comfort*	Away	5:00	6:30
Jan 30	Junction*	Away	5:00	6:30
Feb 2	Mason*	Home	5:00	6:30
Feb 6	Brady*	Away	5:00	6:30



Lady Bronco Schedule
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Lady Broncos Fall to Blanco in District Opener

After traveling to Blanco, the Lady Broncos' shots wouldn't fall and the Lady Panthers won 65 to 36. Meghan Krieg was the offensive player of the game scoring 12 points and finishing with a double double. Savannah Leonard scored ten points, Kayla Fields had six points, Kimble Luna had four points, Jessica Snyder had two points, Emily Earwood and Cassie Krieg each scored one point. Leonard contributed six rebounds and two steals while Fields pulled down five rebounds and stole the ball once. Brandy Neff, Kaci Chavarria, and Loren Isenhour finish out this year's varsity. Their next game will be in Bronco Gym against Junction starting at 6:30.

The JV Lady Broncos won by a score of 45 to 31. Maraya Dunn scored 16 points, Amy Hernandez had nine points, Steely Ingram had eight points, Meredith Earwood had four points, Tanya Adams had four points, Christela Perez and Chealsy Daniels each had two points.

Amy Hernandez had a great game scoring nine points and pulling down eight rebounds. The team shot 61% from the free throw line making 11 out of 18 attempted.

The JV Lady Broncos have an 11 and 3 season record and are 1 and 0 in district play.

Kathy Marshall is coaching the varsity, and Tiffany Mathews is coaching the JV girls.

Sonora Colts Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Girls	Boys
01/11,12,13	Wall Tournament	Away	
01/18	Mason	Away	Home
01/20	Llano Tournament		
01/25	Brady	Home	Away
02/01	Blanco	Home	Away
02/08	Comfort		Home

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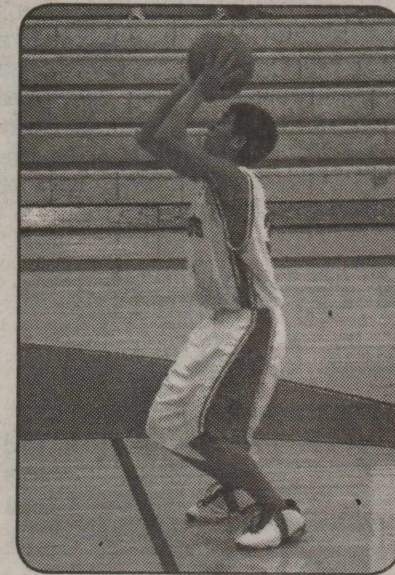
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	7							9
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9	3			7			4	5
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1		7	9		5			
6		8	7	4	3		1	5



Paul Faz at the line

Solution on page 8

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◆ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES (PG) (10:40) 1:00 3:45 6:45 9:20	NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) (10:20) 1:00 3:50 6:30 9:15
◆CHILDREN OF MEN (R) (11:30) 2:05 4:50 7:45 10:35	ROCKY BALBOA (PG) (11:50) 2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30
◆STOMP THE YARD (PG13) (10:25) 1:10 4:05 7:00 9:55	WE ARE MARSHALL (PG) (10:20) 1:15 4:10 7:05 10:05
◆FREEDOM WRITERS (PG13) (10:25) 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:15	THE GOOD SHEPHERD (R) (12:45) 4:45 8:30
◆ALPHA DOG (R) (10:35) 1:30 4:35 7:30 10:30	CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) (10:50) 1:25 4:00 6:55
◆PRIMEVAL (R) (11:40) 2:00 5:00 8:00 10:40	THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG13) (10:40) 1:35 4:20 7:10 10:10
◆HAPPILY NEVER AFTER (PG) (11:55) 2:10 4:30	ERAGON (10:30) 1:05 3:55 6:35 (PG13)
◆CODE NAME: THE CLEANER (PG13) (6:50 9:25	THE HOLIDAY 9:35 p.m. (PG13)
	APOCALYPTO 9:25 p.m. (R)
	HAPPY FEET (10:15) 1:20 (PG)

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Republican Tax-cutting Policies Continue To Spur Roaring Economy

U.S. economy posts record economic growth in 2006.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, Congressman Mike Conaway (TX-11) issued the following statement in response to the Department of Labor's announcement that 167,000 new jobs were created in December and that the unemployment rate held at a steady, and still historically low, 4.5 percent.

"Month after month, we continue to receive great news about our economy. Because of the Republican Congress' tax cut policies, today's announcement of record job growth in 2006 is no surprise, and is further proof that now is not the

time to raise taxes. Our current economic policies have led to exceptional economic growth, which has in turn led to record federal receipts. Our economy is strong and continues to benefit working Americans, feeding our thriving nation. We must continue our commitment to American taxpayers by continuing our pro-growth policies."

For all of 2006, the nation's unemployment rate dropped to a six-year low of 4.6 percent, and payroll employment increased by 1.8 million jobs, an average of 153,000 jobs a month. In 2005, the unemployment rate averaged 5.1 percent.

Cody Mason Graduates from Texas Tech University

Cody Mason graduated from Texas Tech University on December 16, 2006 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

He is employed by Johnson

Controls in Irving, Texas.

He is the son of Steve and Susan Mason. His grandparents are Weldon and Novella Mason of Meadow and Bill and Betty Stewart of Sonora.

Be careful with your guarantees!

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A State Of Innovation

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

Texans embrace competition, and the desire to be the best has made our state a national leader. Texas scientists share this spirit, and in recent years our brightest minds have embraced collaboration to advance our state and national interests. By combining their efforts, they have accelerated the pace of innovation in the Lone Star State.

When The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas, or TAMEST, convened this month in Austin for its fourth annual meeting, the top academic researchers from across the state came together in pursuit of a common goal — enhancing Texas' reputation as a scientific powerhouse.

The academy's 244 members heard presentations highlighting research in Texas, including our knowledge of the universe, cardiovascular engineering and the biology of inflammation. One of the conference's keynote speakers was Norman Augustine, chairman of the National Academies committee that produced the report "Rising Above the Gathering Storm" and retired chairman and CEO of Lockheed Martin.

The prosperity our nation has enjoyed for the past 50 years reflects our investment in science and technology. However, our lead in the hard sciences is eroding, and many scientists believe our efforts regarding science and innovation have stalled or are in decline. "Rising Above the Gathering Storm" offers 20 recommendations for federal policymakers to reverse this trend and help America maintain its competitive advantage.

Many of the report's findings are startling. Fewer than 30 percent of our fourth- and eighth-graders perform at a "proficient" level or higher in mathematics. Of the 20 nations assessed in advanced mathematics and physics, none scored significantly lower than did the United States in either subject. We rank 20th among all nations in the proportion of 24-year-olds with degrees in science or engineering. And barely 50 percent of our math and engineering degrees are awarded to U.S. citizens.

In response to "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," TAMEST formed an education committee chaired by Dr. William Brinkley, dean of the Baylor College of Medicine's Graduate School

of Biomedical Sciences. The panel has been studying ways to improve science and technology education in Texas, and it released its report during this year's conference.

Texas institutions of higher learning have long been on the cutting edge of scientific research. But I saw Texas was not in the top three states in federal research backing. Several years ago, I began working with the heads of Texas' top research universities to foster greater use of federal dollars. During one of these summits, Dr. Neil Lane, Rice University professor and past director of the National Science Foundation, suggested that Texas researchers could collaborate more if they were more familiar with the research being done outside their own institutions.

For many years, our best researchers independently pursued solutions to science's most vexing problems. Often the only time they would interact was during the annual meeting of the prestigious National Academies, which includes the Institute of Medicine, the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Sciences. We soon established

an advisory committee headed by two of Texas' Nobel laureates, Dr. Michael Brown and the late Dr. Richard Smalley, to form TAMEST, a Texas-version of the National Academies.

The academy continues to grow in size and stature, as more Texas scientists are recognized by their peers and elected to the National Academies. Part of the academy's mission is encouraging the next generation of Texas scientists. Each academy member can invite a young researcher to the group's annual meeting to learn from those nationally recognized as the best in their fields. This was also the second year the academy presented the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Awards, \$25,000 honorariums created to recognize a deserving young researcher in the fields of medicine, engineering and science.

Does it make a difference? Texas is now among the top three states in research and development expenditures at our universities and medical schools. Almost \$3 billion is added to the Texas economy each year. Our scientists collaborate more frequently and, as a result, their work is seen as among the finest in the world.

The Texas State of Mind

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

In the winter of 1846, the Republic of Texas, only a decade old, was absorbed into the United States of America as the 28th state. That act, as historian T. R. Fehrenbach once wrote, "merged the Lone Star into many."

President James Polk signed the Joint Resolution to Admit Texas as a State on Dec. 29, 1845, and annexation formalities were completed by February of 1846.

The Texas Legislature in 1874 declared two other key dates in state history as official holidays—Independence Day on March 2, and San Jacinto Day on April 21, but the anniversary of annexation is never mentioned. For some, our loss of independence is perhaps not a cause for celebration.

Texas enjoys an independent streak, stemming from our unique frontier history and the settlers who braved elements and enemies to forge a new life. The ambitions of early Texans were expansive from the beginning.

Land grants from the Spanish, Mexican and Republic of Texas governments initially attracted many to our state.

After the Mexican War of Independence in 1823, Mexican law offered heads of families—for a small fee—as much as 4,428 acres of grazing land and 177 acres of cropland.

The Republic of Texas also made land grants of varying sizes totaling nearly 37 million acres.

In his seminal history of Texas, "Lone Star," Fehrenbach wrote: "Texan patriotism was never based on concepts of government or on ideas. It grew out of the terrible struggle for land."

"The Texan's attitudes, his inherent chauvinism and the seeds of his belligerence, sprouted from his conscious effort to take and hold his land."

The annexation decision was a controversial one, with significant opposition at the time

both in Texas and elsewhere in the U.S.

Some Texans saw statehood as a logical step in a progression—from Mexican territory, to independence, to joining an expanding country with a "manifest destiny" to spread civilization from sea to sea.

Others, representing the most independent streak of frontier settlers, were happy running their own affairs as they carved a nation out of the wilderness, and saw no need to cede any authority to Washington.

But after a few years, the Republic of Texas was deeply in debt. Its currency lacked value. Mexico loomed as a danger, and Native American Indians were often unfriendly. The decision to become a state soon became obvious.

Extension of slavery was the overriding political and moral question of the time, and so annexation was widely opposed in the North.

But Mexico refused to recognize the Republic of Texas, and an independent Texas was considered vulnerable to attack and conquest by another country. Ultimately, annexation fit more closely into the Union's grand plan for westward expansion.

In its constitution of 1845, Texas was the first state in the nation to provide protections for property owners. Private homesteads of a certain size in the state of Texas were to be—and remain today—exempt from foreclosure.

Sen. Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, who opposed annexation on the grounds it would expand slavery westward, nonetheless called the Texas Constitution of 1845 the best of all state constitutions.

The annexation agreement allowed Texas to keep all of its public lands. After discovery of oil a century ago, this provision fueled the development of our excellent system of higher education.

Annexation documents also spelled out a provision allowing the new state of Texas to subdivide into no more than four additional states. That provision has been largely forgotten, but its spirit is periodically raised during contentious political conflicts.

To this day, the provision is occasionally misinterpreted to imply that Texas, the only state that was once an independent nation, can secede from the Union at will.

Fehrenbach said that with annexation Texas surrendered "nothing and gained much." Yet there is poignancy in the words of Dr. Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of Texas.

On Feb. 19, 1846, the day the Republic was turned over to the Union, Jones said: "The final act in this great drama is now performed; the Republic of Texas is no more."

In one sense, Dr. Jones was wrong. Something intangible, but very real, remains. The independent spirit—the sense of self-reliance that won freedom and built the Republic of Texas—lives on.

Conaway Introduces Fiscally Conservative Rule Change On First Day Of 110th Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Earlier this week, the House of Representatives convened to mark the beginning of the 110th Congress. The first order of legislative business was to consider H. Res. 6, which will adopt the House Rules for the 110th Congress. The House of Representatives is not a continuing body; it must reconstitute itself at the beginning of every new Congress, which requires the adoption of rules to govern the House.

Unfortunately, Democrats have not allowed amendments, nor any Republican input, to be brought to the floor as part of the House Rules package, therefore Rep. Mike Conaway (R-TX) introduced a "stand alone" rule changing resolution that, if enacted, would amend the House Rules.

"The Federal Government is spending money at an unsustainable rate," said Conaway, a CPA and small businessman entering his second term in Congress. "Congress must do a better job of setting priorities. Reducing the deficit and controlling spending should be a top priority and in order to do that, we need to

set up mechanisms that halt runaway government growth and spending."

Conaway's "No New Programs" resolution would change House rules on spending. The "No New Programs" rule change, which is co-sponsored by House Republican Whip Roy Blunt, would make it against House rules to create a new federal program without the elimination of an existing federal program of equal or greater cost. It would force Congress to make tough choices by only creating new programs if they are considered to be a higher priority than an existing program or programs.

Conaway concluded, "It is our responsibility to evaluate the spending process. This commonsense rule change proposal would be a step toward ensuring taxpayer money is being spent wisely. I am disappointed that this resolution was not included in the House Rules package today. Congress needs to get serious about healing Washington's spending disease and I will continue to work on reforming how the federal government spends taxpayer money."

State Capital Highlights

Texas Press Association

McCall backs Pitts in campaign to unseat current speaker

By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN - As stated in this column a week ago, when the Texas legislature convenes Jan. 9, the 150 members of the Texas House of Representatives will choose who among them will preside as speaker. Last week, it seemed state Rep. Brian McCall, R-Plano, was going to give incumbent Speaker Tom Craddick, R-Midland, a run for his money.

But Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, said he would challenge Craddick for the post. And then McCall, who claimed support from Republicans and Democrats, said he would support Pitts.

In effect, Pitts said he would preside over the House in a kinder,

gentler fashion than Craddick, whose strongarm tactics have been described in many journals.

Pitts also told reporters he guaranteed he would win, but he declined when asked to produce a list of members who pledged to support him.

But it is votes on the House floor, not pledge cards, that matter. Whoever wins will need 76 votes - 50 percent of 150 seats in the House, plus one.

Craddick, 63, was elected

speaker in January 2003 after serving 34 years as a House member. He was re-elected speaker in 2005. Pitts, an attorney by trade, turned 60 years old on Jan. 1. He has been a House member for the last seven sessions, having been elected in 1992.

Former House speaker dies

Billy Clayton, 78, died in a Lubbock hospital Jan. 6. Clayton, who served in the Texas Legislature for 20 years, was speaker of the Texas House of Representatives from 1975 to 1983. He had been working as a state capital lobbyist for many years before his death.

Texas mourns President Ford

On Dec. 27, Gov. Rick Perry ordered all flags to be flown at half-staff in memory of former President Gerald R. Ford, who died Dec. 26. State and national flags are to be flown at half-staff for 30 days. Perry declared Jan. 2 an official day of mourning, excusing most state offices from work that day.

Future library points toward SMU

The site selection committee for the George W. Bush presidential library is narrowing its focus to Southern Methodist University. SMU seems to be in preparation. It is tearing down a condominium built on land recently acquired that could serve as a site for the library.

Oil & Agribusiness

Texan Wins AFBF Farmer Idea Exchange Competition

(SALT LAKE CITY) — John "Pete" Gipson of Gilmer earned the grand prize in the Farmer Idea Exchange competition at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 88th Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. Gipson won a year's use of the New Holland TV-145 bidirectional tractor. New Holland has provided a year's free use of a tractor to the grand prize winner for 17 of the 18 years of the Farmer Idea Exchange program. Gipson's invention, the "Antifreeze Injector for Tractor Tires," puts antifreeze into tractor tires that are filled with water

to keep them from freezing in winter. The device is made primarily from PVC pipe and other readily available parts, and it takes less than an hour to assemble. The device saves money by eliminating antifreeze waste and not having to pay the tire service to add the antifreeze. Gipson has been a finalist in the program for three consecutive years. His first invention in 2005 was a specialized trailer hitch on a tractor drawbar. In 2006, he entered a t-post driver. Gipson is president of Upshur County Farm Bureau in East Texas.



By Pascual Hernandez

Well, as the show season is upon us, let's take up a stock show topic. We'll consider how animals respond to the show experience. As goats are our most popular 4-H livestock project, we'll discuss a goat topic. Transporting goats to a show can be a stressful experience. Not only is it a different environment, but their routine is broken. There are, however, some things we can do to minimize the negative effects of showing.

Let's begin with transporting. During hauling, protect animals from exposure to wind, rain, dust, excessive heat and cold. When traveling only a short distance to a show, place compatible animals of a similar size together and allow enough space so they can help support each other while the vehicle is in motion. For long hauls, there should be lots of bedding and enough room to permit the goats to lie down.

Several other practices may make showing less stressful. First of all, try to arrive at the show well ahead of time. Place animals in a clean, spacious pen and provide plenty of bedding. Make sure that animals have abundant rest and try to disturb them as little as possible. How-

ever, it is good to provide them with periods of exercise. Also, provide drinkable water - many goats refuse to drink chlorinated or other "strange" water at shows. Many who show goats bring water from home.

Goats vary in their ability to withstand the stress of being on the show circuit. Some goats appear to thrive on it and eat well, maintain production and manage to look good most of the time. These animals are very likely to be some of the most reliable performers at home as well.

A goat that is easily upset on the show circuit, and needs a lot of individual attention, will probably not show well.

In many ways, showing boils down to survival of the fittest. It is a sort of marathon, where animals that endure the stress the best, will usually also perform the best. That's why it's a good idea to expose your goats to a few shows. It will condition them to the show environment and help you identify how your animals respond to the experience. Thus, you will know ahead of time what your management will be for particular animals. This is something at which we all get better with experience.

For additional information, contact the County Extension Office or visit our website at <http://sutton-co.tamu.edu>.

Fast-Growing Multi-Chem Continues Growth in 2007

Liberal, KS-Based Cobra Chemicals Acquired

SAN ANGELO, Texas, Multi-Chem Group LLC, a global oilfield production chemical company, announced the purchase of Cobra Chemicals Inc. for an undisclosed amount. Headquartered in Liberal, Kansas, Cobra Chemicals serves independent oil and gas companies located in Kansas and northern Texas.

Multi-Chem grew more than 60 percent and added 115 new employees in 2006.

"Cobra Chemicals' staff, products and values dovetail perfectly with Multi-Chem," said James Archer, president and chief executive officer, Multi-Chem Group. "Our acquisition of Cobra is part of our continuing growth strategy; they're a great fit culturally and professionally."

Multi-Chem will maintain the current facility and staff. Over the next 18 months, Multi-Chem anticipates adding additional staff and strengthening its presence in surrounding areas.

A leading production chemi-

cal company, Multi-Chem has 37 locations worldwide and more than 310 employees. The company's line of production chemicals and application strategies includes solutions for stimulation stability, production uptime, gas enhancement, system integrity and flow assurance.

About Multi-Chem Group LLC

Multi-Chem, headquartered in San Angelo, Texas, is the premier global oilfield production chemicals company, providing unparalleled technical expertise and superior local service to its customers. Multi-Chem's production chemicals and technical expertise solve critical challenges from the perforations to the plant.

Multi-Chem is a values-based company that provides superior service based on its core operating values: ethics, commitment, excellence and innovation. For more information, visit <http://www.multi-chemgroup.com>.

Cattlemen's Capitol Concerns

NCBA Asks White House to Aid Cattlemen Hurt by Winter Storms:

In a January 3rd letter to President Bush, NCBA President and Missouri cattleman Mike John requested federal assistance for ranchers suffering from impacts of recent snow and ice storms.

"As a first step in providing assistance, we ask that all areas impacted by these storms immediately receive a Presidential Disaster Declaration, making cattle producers eligible for low-interest emergency (EM) loans via the Farm Service Agency," the letter says. "Furthermore, we ask that USDA allocate Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) funds to aid producers who have suffered significant livestock losses and damage to critical infrastructure."

Back-to-back winter storms have blanketed snow and ice across major portions of the High Plains. Many of the cattle, trapped by heavy snow and high drifts, have gone nearly a week without being fed. There is no estimate yet on how many cows have died, but many ranchers in the area are saying the recent storms are worse than the 1997 blizzard that killed 30,000 cattle and cost U.S. agriculture \$28 million.

NCBA to Debut Career Fair at 2007 Annual Convention & Tradeshow:

NCBA is coordinating a first-ever career fair to take place at a Cattle Industry Convention & Tradeshow, Saturday, February 3, 9:00am-2:00pm. The city of Nashville hosts one of our largest cattle industry shows, creating an opportunity for the industry to develop recruiting partnerships, and we're expecting a number of college students and future business leaders to attend! Employers of all types with open positions are encouraged to participate! Whether you want to target a handful of college students or you want to conduct a nationwide search, the 2007 Career Fair will simplify your recruiting efforts and help you find and hire the right people—fast! For more information, contact Erica Spiegle in NCBA's Washington office at 202-347-0228 or espiegle@beef.org.

6	8	9	6	2	7	1	3	4
4	1	3	5	9	8	7	6	2
2	7	6	4	3	1	5	8	9
7	5	2	1	6	4	3	9	8
9	3	1	8	7	2	4	5	6
8	6	4	3	5	9	2	7	1
1	4	7	9	8	5	6	2	3
6	2	8	7	4	3	9	1	5
3	9	5	2	1	6	8	4	7

Solution to puzzle from page 5

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Foundation Provides Low-interest Loans for Water Wells

Certain low- to moderate-income individuals or families may be eligible for money to construct, repair or improve household water well systems through 1 percent interest loans from the Foundation for Affordable Drinking Water.

The Foundation was established through the National Ground Water Association.

Qualified applicants can borrow up to \$8,000 at 1 percent interest for a term not to exceed 20 years. To qualify, households must:

* Own the home and use it

as the principal residence.

* Have as the primary drinking water source an individual household well system located on the property of the home.

* Must meet income eligibility requirements.

* Be located in a city, town or unincorporated area with a population of less than 50,000.

Currently, the program is available in Alabama, Colorado, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

The Foundation will not underwrite a loan once a project is underway or has been completed. Most new home construction projects are not eligible.

Another important aspect of the loan program is to educate loan recipients on the importance of regular well maintenance and annual testing of their well system.

Complete information, including application forms and requirements and income eligibility limits, can be accessed by going to www.ngwa.org and clicking on the link for Foundation for Affordable Drinking Water. Applications and additional information can also be obtained by contacting the Foundation at 800-551-7379, or email Paul Humes at phumes@fadw.org.

You also can learn more about the program by going to www.wellowner.org and clicking on "Financing."

"Water is essential, and the Foundation is committed to helping those in greatest need," said Humes, foundation director. "If you have a real need and meet the qualifications for this program, we encourage you to apply."

Junction Livestock Auction

Market Report 1/8/07

Sheep & Goats Market Report
Sold 1372 head of sheep and goats. Kids were steady.

Sheep:

#1 Spring Lambs 50-70 lbs

1.10-1.16

#1 Spring Lambs 70-90 lbs.

.95-1.10

#1 Old Crop Lambs 50-70 lbs.

.95-1.00

#1 Old Crop Lambs 70-90 lbs.

.65-.80

Fat Ewes -.45-.60

Thin Ewes -.25-.35

Bucks -.30-.50

Goats:

Baby Tooth Angora - no test

Solid Mouth Angora

Stocker Nannies -.40-.50

Stocker Angora Muttons -.55-.65

Angora Kids - 1.15-1.25

Angora Kids Shorn 1.00-1.15

Weighing Angoras-Shorn (Thin) .15-.25

Weighing Angoras-Shorn (Fat) Nannies -.30-.40

Stocker Spanish Nannies .65-.75

Fat Spanish Nannies .45-.60

Fat Spanish Muttons & Billies .75-.85 mutt. 90-1.10

Fat Yearlings - 1.00-1.05

Fat Spanish Kids - 1.15-1.20

Small Kids - 1.25-1.35

Thin Kids - 1.00-1.05

Spanish Nanny & Kid Pairs \$40-45 /hd.

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@ 11 a.m.

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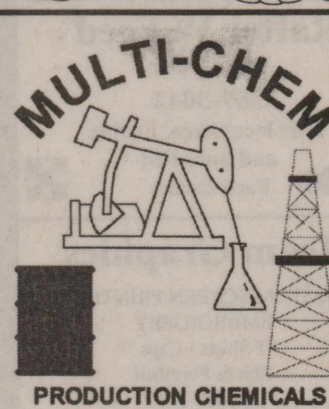
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Rig Report as of 1/5/07

Sutton

New 1 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9975' Thorp -30- #1 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 122 12/31/06 6 Drlg Ahead
New 2 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9850' Morriss Brothers Ranch -1147- Dw Patterson Drilling/a 39 01/09/07 Assigned
New 3 .Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9750' Morriss Brothers Ranch - b120-Dw Patterson Drilling/a 39 01/01/07 5 Drlg Ahead
4 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9450' Duke Wilson -21- #12 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 704 12/27/06 10 Drlg Ahead
New 5 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9300' Hudspeth -1017- #5 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 108 01/01/07 5 Drlg Ahead
New 6 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9250' Hudspeth -8- #1 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 108 01/10/07 Assigned
New 7 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 9150' Duke Wilson -21- #15 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 704 01/09/07 Assigned
New 8 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8950' Joe M Vanderstucken-b-#2 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 122 01/10/07 Assigned
9 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8950' H E Glasscock Et Al #29-9 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 742 12/31/06 6 Drlg Ahead
New 10 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 7800' J W Ward -118- #17 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 105 01/03/07 3 Drlg Ahead
New 11 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 7800' J W Ward -118- #24 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 115 01/09/07 Assigned
12 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 7150' J W Ward -118- #16 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 115 12/30/06 7 Drlg Ahead
New 13 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6900' H C Epps -38- #4 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 161 01/10/07 Assigned
14 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6800' A D Holman #26-3 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 161 12/31/06 6 Drlg Ahead
New 15 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6650' Reed -100- #17 Dw Helmerich & Payne(O) 301 01/07/07 Assigned
New 16 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6575' Reed -100- #28 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 40 01/05/07 1 Drlg Ahead
New 17 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6450' Davis #17 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 105 01/12/07 Assigned
New 18 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6336' Galbreath -65- #15 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 107 01/10/07 Assigned
New 19 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 6250' Fields -21- #10 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 107 01/02/07 4 Drlg Ahead

Crockett

1 Fiml Natural Res 13000' Kenley #3183 Dw Grey Wolf Drilling/ m 627 12/06/06 31 Drlg Ahead
2 Henry Petroleum 10800' Univ13 -fernl- #13 Dw Patterson Utimidian 57 12/22/06 15 Drlg Ahead 8540'
3 Dominion Ok Tx E&p9450' Joe Friend Estate #10-28 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 120 01/06/07 Moving On
New 4 Pogo Producing Co 9000' Conoco Powell -gms- Deep #11 Dw Capstar Drilling 9 01/01/07 5 Drlg Ahead 935'
New 5 Anadarko E & P Co Lp 9000' Perry -21- #19 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 109 01/05/07 1 Drlg Ahead
New 6 Chevron/midland 8500' J H Scheuber -b- #18 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 353 01/02/07 4 Drlg Ahead
New 7 Anadarko E & P Co Lp 8500' Laura Hoover Estate #5-52 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 38 12/31/06 6 Drlg Ahead
New 8 Fiml Natural Res 5500' Baggett -c- #5d Dw Patterson Drilling/a 721 01/02/07 4 Drlg Ahead
New 9 Approach Operating #??? Dw Patterson Drilling/a 710 01/06/07 Moving On

Schleicher

New 1 Dominion Ok Tx E&p 8900' Hill-rousselot -g- #4 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 742 01/09/07 Assigned
2 Halliburton Op Co 6000' Holly Beth #1 Ft Ringo Drilling I Lp 1 12/29/06 8 Drlg Ahead
New 3 Telesis Operating 4999' Mcgregor -5- #2a Sand Dollar Drilling 23 12/27/06 10 Drlg Ahead

Edwards

1 Newfield 15500' Whitehead #8501 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 471 11/14/06 53 Drlg Ahead
2 Newfield 9000' Mayfield -206- #1 H Dw Patterson Drilling/a 118 12/25/06 12 Drlg Ahead

Val Verde

1 Willo Oil & Gas Exp 15100' Mills -16- #2 Dw Patterson Utimidian 79 01/04/07 2 Drlg Ahead 500'

Terrell

1 Energico Production 13900' Slaughter -63- #1 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 420 11/19/06 48 Drlg Ahead
New 2 Encore Operating Lp 12900' Brown Bassett Goode Unit #5 H Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 641 12/24/06 13 Drlg Ahead
3 Conocophillips/odes 12500' Culbertson -16- #5 Dw Patterson Utiv 481 01/05/07 1 Drlg Ahead
4 Bp America Prod/mid 12000' Banner Estate #44 H Dw Helmerich & Payne(A) 214 11/14/06 53 Drlg Ahead
New 5 Fasken Oil & Ranch 7500' Brown Ne -220- #58 Dw Patterson Drilling/a 102 01/02/07 4 Drlg Ahead
New 6 Encore Operating Lp 6700' Goode Estate #13 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 709 01/01/07 5 Drlg Ahead

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Put Your Business Here 387-2507	Team Graphics CUSTOM SCREEN PRINTING EMBROIDERY T-Shirts • Caps Marla Percifull 325-387-5017 Sonora, TX
Todd's Hot Shot Service 1012 Tayloe 387-3731 206-1150 (Todd Munn) 206-0051 (Pam Munn) Fast, Dependable, Reliable!	



Kelly's KOPPER
Shingles
Submitted by:
Kelly L. Thorp, MS
County Extension Agent-FCS
Texas Cooperative Extension-Sutton County

The same virus that causes chickenpox causes shingles, a disease that affects nerves and causes pain and blisters in adults. After recovering from chickenpox, the virus does not leave your body, rather it continues to live in some nerve cells. For reasons that are not totally understood, the virus can become active instead of remaining inactive and cause shingles. Most adults live with the virus in their body and never get shingles. But about one in five people who have had chickenpox will get shingles later in life - usually after the age of 50.

When the activated virus travels along the path of a nerve to the surface of the skin, a rash will appear. It usually shows up as a band on one side of the face or body. Right now there is no way of knowing who will get the disease. However, the risk of getting shingles increases as you age due to increased difficulty fighting off infections with age.

While symptoms may vary, most people report some or all of the following:

- Burning, tingling or numbness of the skin
- Feeling sick, such as chills, fever, upset stomach or headache
- Fluid-filled blisters
- Skin that is sensitive to touch

Mild itching to strong pain
The rash usually happens on one side of the body. A few days after the tingling or burning feeling on the skin, a red rash will come out on your body, face or neck. In a few days, the rash will turn into fluid-filled blisters. The blisters dry up and crust over within several days. Most cases of shingles last from 3 to 5 weeks.

It is important to see your health provider no later than 3 days after the rash starts. He or she needs to see the rash to confirm what you have and make a treatment plan. Although there is no cure for shingles, early treatment with drugs that fight the virus may help. Medications are also available which may help lessen the pain. When started within 72 hours of getting the rash, anti-viral medications may help shorten the length of the infection and lower the risk of other problems.

After the rash goes away, some people may be left with long lasting pain called post-herpetic neuralgia or PHN. The pain is felt in the same area where the rash had been. Those who have had PHN say the pain is sharp, throbbing or stabbing. Their skin is so sensitive they cannot bear to wear even soft, light clothing. The older you are when you get shingles, the greater your chance of developing PHN. This pain can last for weeks, months or even years. Usually PHN will get better over time. Talk to your health provider if you think you might have developed PHN - there are medicines that may help.

In 2006, the Food and Drug Administration approved a shingles vaccine, Zostavax, for use in people 60 and older who have had chickenpox. Researchers found that giving older adults the vaccine reduced the expected number of shingles cases by half and, in people who still got the disease despite immunization, greatly reduced the severity and complications of shingles. The shingles vaccine is only a preventive therapy and is not a treatment for those who already have shingles. While the vaccine is currently approved only for those 60 and older, you may still wish to discuss this option with your health provider.

In some cases, blisters can become infected, resulting in scarring of the skin. Your health provider may prescribe an antibiotic treatment. Keep the area clean and try not to scratch. If blisters occur near or in the eye, lasting eye damage or blindness may result - see an eye doctor right away. Other problems may include hearing loss or a brief paralysis of the face. Shingles is not contagious. You cannot catch shingles from someone who has it; but, you can catch chickenpox from someone with shingles. If you have never had chickenpox, try to stay away from anyone who has shingles.

If you have shingles, here are some things that may make you feel better:

- Make sure you get enough rest, avoid stress as much as you can and eat well-balanced meals
- Dip a washcloth in cool water and apply it to your blisters to ease the pain and help dry the blisters
- Do things that take your mind off your pain: watch TV, read books, talk with friends or work on a hobby
- Try to relax. Stress can make the pain worse. Listen to music that helps you relax

For more information, contact your County Extension Agent at 387-3604. You may also find information through the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke: <http://www.ninds.nih.gov/>. Source: Andrew B. Crocker, Extension Program Specialist - Gerontology Health

DPS Marks Amber Alert Awareness Day

January 13 is National Amber Alert Awareness Day. The day, named by the U.S. Department of Justice, is meant to remind Americans that Amber Alerts are an important tool in recovering children who have been abducted.

The Amber Alert system was used successfully for several years in the Dallas/Fort Worth area before a state plan went into effect in August 2002. The state plan is meant to complement, not replace, local and regional plans.

Activation of the Texas Amber Alert Network is a massive cooperative effort involving:

- Texas Department of Public Safety;
 - Office of the Governor;
 - National Weather Service;
 - Texas Department of Transportation;
 - State and local law enforcement;
 - Media;
 - Texas Association of Broadcasters;
 - Independent Bankers Association of Texas;
 - Texas Lottery Commission;
 - U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
 - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement;
 - U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation; and
 - BeyondMissing.com.
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) was added as a state partner in 2005, providing notification to the public through

wireless carriers, content providers and major retailers.

The criteria to issue an alert involving State of Texas assets:

- The abducted child must be 17 years of age or younger.
- The local law enforcement agency must believe that the child has been abducted, that is, unwillingly taken from their environment without permission from the child's parent or legal guardian or by the child's parent or legal guardian who commits an act of murder or attempted murder during the time of the abduction.

The local law enforcement agency confirms that an investigation has taken place that verifies the abduction of the child and has eliminated alternative explanations for the missing child.

The child is believed to be in danger of serious bodily harm or death.

There is sufficient information available to give to the public about the child, the abductor or the suspect's vehicle.

If your child is missing: Immediately call your local law enforcement agency to file a missing persons report.

Be prepared to provide law enforcement with the most recent photo of the child, a detailed description of what the child was wearing and any other information that could help identify the child or the abductor, such as vehicle and license plate information.

City Police Dispatcher Report

Arrest(s):

December 26, 2006

- 3:45 PM: Fernando Guerra Ramos, 43, from Sonora, Texas was arrested for Assault.

December 29, 2006

- 10:23 PM: Brett Duane Gray, 44, from Conroe, Texas was arrested for Unlawful Possession of Firearm by a Felon and Criminal Mischief.

January 3, 2007

- 9:30 AM: Jose Luis Tenerio, 24, from Sonora, Texas was arrested for two out of jurisdiction warrants from Lubbock County for Probation Violation and Issuance of Bad Check/Hot Check.

- 2:24 PM: Andi Heather Trevizo, 17, from Sonora, Texas was arrested for Sonora Municipal Court warrants for Minor in Possession of Tobacco and for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

January 5, 2007

- 1:18 PM: Blas Michael Solis, 25, from Sonora, Texas was arrested for a Sutton County warrant for Criminal Mischief.

Incident(s):

December 25, 2006

- 8:00 AM: Caller reported vandalism on vehicle. Officer responded.
- 10:30 PM: Caller reported a family disturbance. Officer responded.
- 1:30 PM: Burglary Alarm. Officer responded.
- 2:45 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 3:00 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 6:40 PM: Caller reported a loose dog on roadway. Officer responded.
- 10:00 PM: Caller reported a disturbance. Officer responded.
- 10:35 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.

December 26, 2006

- 2:50 PM: Caller reported a family disturbance. Officer responded.
- 3:55 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.

December 27, 2006

- 11:23 AM: Caller reported loose goats on roadway. Animal Control Officer responded.
- 2:30 PM: Caller reported an assault. Officers responded.
- 5:10 PM: Caller requested an officer at a business. Officer responded.
- 10:10 PM: Caller requested an officer at residence. Officer responded.

December 28, 2006

- 9:49 AM: Caller reported a minor accident at the Town & Country. Officer responded.
- 6:30 PM: Caller requested an officer at business. Officer responded.
- 9:10 PM: Caller reported a reckless driver. Officer responded.

December 29, 2006

- 2:37 AM: Caller reported subject shooting at deer(s) in front of residence. Officer responded.
- 11:43 AM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 2:28 PM: Caller reported an assault. Officer and Deputy responded.
- 10:20 PM: Caller reported a disturbance at a business. Officer responded.

December 30, 2006

N/A

December 31, 2006

- 1:20 AM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 1:30 AM: Caller reported subjects throwing beer bottles at vehicle. Officer responded.
- 6:30 PM: Caller reported a lost wallet. Officer responded.

January 1, 2007

- 12:10 AM: Caller reported kids shooting fireworks. Officer responded.
- 1:40 AM: Caller reported loud music. Officer responded.
- 2:05 AM: Caller reported a fight. Officer responded.
- 5:00 PM: Caller reported a vehicle-blocking driveway. Officer responded.
- 9:45 PM: Caller requested welfare assistance. Officer responded.
- 11:30 PM: Caller requested an officer at hospital. Officer responded.

January 2, 2007

- 8:25 AM: Caller reported vandalism on vehicle. Officer responded.
- 9:25 AM: Caller reported a subject purchased alcohol for a minor. Officer responded.
- 3:50 PM: Caller reported two subjects arguing in front of business. Officer responded.
- 7:00 PM: Caller reported a family disturbance. Officer responded.

January 3, 2006

- 7:05 AM: Caller reported a missing juvenile. Officer responded.
- 11:00 AM: Caller reported an assault. Officer responded.
- 1:35 PM: Caller reported a minor accident on the intersection of Plum Street and Glasscock Avenue. Officer responded.
- 7:25 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.

January 4, 2007

- 8:00 AM: Caller reported a reckless driver. Officer responded.
- 9:28 AM: Caller reported gas drive off at Town & Country #267. Officer responded.
- 10:57 AM: Caller reported a loose dog on roadway. Officer responded.
- 11:20 AM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 2:23 PM: Caller requested an officer at business. Officer responded.
- 9:25 PM: Caller requested an officer at business. Officer responded.

January 5, 2007

- 4:30 AM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 4:45 AM: Caller reported a reckless driver. Officer responded.
- 8:55 AM: Caller reported a missing juvenile. Officer responded.
- 2:14 PM: Caller reported a reckless driver. Officer responded.
- 3:01 PM: Caller requested assistance with unlocking a vehicle. Officer responded.
- 6:10 PM: Caller reported a minor accident on the 600 block of Hwy 277 North.
- 7:25 PM: Caller reported a disturbance. Officer responded.
- 7:50 PM: Caller reported a hit and run. Officer responded.

January 6, 2007

- 6:35 PM: Caller reported a suspicious person. Officer responded.
- 10:35 PM: Caller reported a suspicious vehicle. Officer responded.

January 7, 2007

- 12:20 AM: Caller reported loud music. Officer responded.

Imagination is everything. It is the preview of life's coming attractions.
-Albert Einstein

The Devil's River News Classified Ads

(325) 387-2507

228 E. Main St.

sales@sonoratlx.net

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: El Paso
Contract 6157-27-001 for REST AREA TOTAL MAINTENANCE, OPERATION AND REPAIR in EL PASO County, etc will be opened on February 09, 2007 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$4,608,000.00. All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference for Contract 6157-27-001 to be held on January 30, 2007 at 2:00 pm at the 150 EAST RIVERSIDE DR, 1ST FLOOR, VTR BOARD MEETING ROOM.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at

the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 22285

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

El Paso District District Engineer
13301 Gateway Blvd. West
El Paso, Texas 79928-5410
Phone: 915-790-4200

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

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given to all interested persons, that the City of Sonora will conduct a public hearing regarding the possible use of hotel/motel occupancy tax on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall. All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Council with written or oral comments.

Employment

EXPERIENCED DRIVERS NEEDED! Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operation pump trucks & winch trucks. Monthly performance & safety bonuses. Health insurance, annual profit sharing, driver's days off schedule. Please apply in person at Niblett's Oilfield Service, Inc. Hwy 277 South, Eldorado. No phone calls please.

Employment Notice: Notice is hereby given that Sutton County is now accepting applications for (1) one full-time clerk in the Justice of Peace Office. Computer Experience Necessary. Applicants must have excellent clerical, phone communication and typing skills. Sutton County provides full-time employees with health/dental insurance, retirement benefits and paid vacation/sick leave. Applications may be obtained at the Justice of Peace Office at the Sutton County Courthouse, 102 N. Water, Sonora, TX 76950, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Deadline to remit applications will be Friday, January 19, 2007, 5:00 p.m. Sutton County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

C.N.A.'s Needed! Crockett County Care Center in Ozona, TX is looking for good C.N.A.'s that are willing to earn top dollar in long term care coupled with paid employee health insurance, personal time off and mileage allowance. CCCC is fresh off a deficiency free survey and is looking to repeat the same in 2007. Interested? Please call direct (no long distance), 392-2671 or drop by 103 N. Ave. H and ask for Vicki or Benny. C.C.C.C. is an E.O.E.

Help Wanted: Full time and part time. Apply at Mr. D's, 216 Hwy. 277 N. from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri.

Local company seeks workers: Will train. Must be 18 years or older, have a current TX drivers license and a clean driving record. Call 325-387-3154 for more information or stop by 307 E. Chestnut St. for application.

Schleicher County Nursing Home, in Eldorado, is looking for a CNA to fill a 6 PM to 6 AM, shift. This is a full time position with benefits. Contact Sarah Huge or Anita Jones for details. (325) 853-3026

Caverns of Sonora hiring weekday and weekend guides. Please apply in person. 325-387-3105

Comfort Inn is now hiring for housekeepers. Apply in person at 311 N. Hwy 277.

Employment

Lariat Services, Inc. is seeking an experienced **Air Driller.** Wage ranges between \$20.00 to \$24.00 an hour depending on experience. Will pay \$30.00 per diem and mileage reimbursement. Benefits include 401K Plan, Dental Plan and company paid Medical Insurance. Fax resume to 432-336-9339 or contact the Fort Stockton Office at 432-336-7821.

Kinder Hearts Home Health, PLLC A solid and strong company that continues to grow rapidly is looking to fill the following positions in Sonora, TX: Attendant/Nursing Assistant to assist with private in-home care. Does not require a certification, Part-time and PRN positions available, please call or come by: 5122 Knickerbocker Rd, San Angelo, TX 76904, 325-949-2700/1-877-430-2700

Hiring Commercial Drivers: Current Class A CDL w/Haz Mat/Tanker. Want great pay and cash incentives? No 24-hour call. Established Company looking to hire drivers. All applicants must pass drug/alcohol test. Please call Justin (432) 339-0540 or 800-523-5566 ext. 140.

The Glover Company is seeking qualified and experienced CDL applicants. For Trans-VAC Drivers, Winch Truck Drivers, Swabbing Unit operators, and Swabbing Unit helpers. We Provide: Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Paid Vacation, Uniforms and Christmas Bonus. Please apply in person to 2973 I-10 or phone at (325) 392-2561.

Tom Thorp Transport Inc. now hiring transport & vacuum truck drivers for the Ozona yard. Excellent benefits package including, profit sharing, health insurance, vacation pay and competitive wages. 6 on 2 off scheduling. Apply in person at Tom Thorp Transport 2407 US Hwy 67 N. Mertzon, TX

Your Business GETS ATTENTION In The Classifieds

ALCO
RETAIL
MAINTENANCE POSITION
Position is now open for:
Store Maintenance Associate
Benefit package including, but not limited to;
• Associate Discount
• Paid Vacation
• Paid Sick Leave
• 401K Plan
• Health Insurance Available
APPLY IN PERSON AT:
ALCO Discount Store
307 Hwy. 277 N.
An Equal Opportunity Employer
M/F

Employment

Help Wanted: Opening for Pharmacy Technician. Certified preferred, but will train the right applicant. Please come by Everett's Pharmacy, 417 Hwy. 277 North, to pick up application.

Estate Sale

Beautiful painted cedar chest, Electric Guitar in Case \$199, Keyboard w/seat \$99, play kitchen \$69.99, Black leather sofa and loveseat \$275, beautiful oval marble and wooden carved antique coffee table, youth bed, green recliner, beautiful round glass & brass coffee table, Futon (like new), desks, 4 pc girls blue bedroom set, gate-leg table, 4 leaves and 6 chairs (seats 8 to 12), microwaves, baby bed, Guthy-Rinker fitness machine, Lots more. Please call ahead before bringing in clothing or furniture. All must be in good condition. **SECOND HAND ROSE 853-3736.**

For Rent

Ruidoso, NM nightly
Private cabins with nice hot tubs \$135 Antler & Echo 3/2.5 for 2-6 \$150 Beckham Hill 3/2.5 for 2-10 \$165 Beckham Cabin 4/2 sleeps 2-9 \$125 The Bare Bear 2/2 sleeps 2-6 Call 505-257-9171 or 505-257-7577

For Sale

For Sale: 80 acres, limited access, contact Bruce Kerbow Administrator of James Whiddon Estate, (325) 387-2240.

FREE FISH
For Pond & Lake Stocking 10", 12", 14", 16" and larger size fish available for immediate delivery. Due to a late summer spawn in 2005, we are stuck with over 10 Million 10"-16" size fish that we must place somewhere, somehow, during the next 10 days, in order to make room for our smaller fish!!

OUR LOSS IS YOUR GAIN
We just have too many fish & we can't afford to feed them all until early summer, when the market is better!!! You may pick and choose from: Channel Catfish, Bass, Black Crappie, Hybrid Bluegill, Coppernose Bluegill, Redear or Triploid Grass Carp!!!

FREE DELIVERY TOO
All fish delivered direct to your pond or lake!!

ALL FISH GUARANTEED TO LIVE, THRIVE & REPRODUCE
NOW is the perfect time of year to stock for early spring fishing! All fish are big enough to catch & eat in 60 to 90 days.

Let us turn your pond or lake into a trophy fishing hole!!!

HELP US..... & HELP YOURSELF NO LIMIT..... NO MINIMUM
We'll stock any size, old & new, pond or lake,
CALL TODAY ARKANSAS FISH HATCHERY
LONOKE, ARKANSAS
PHONE #
1-501-538-0065

For Sale

For Sale by Owner: 6 month old 4 bed/3 bath home, 2,674 sq. ft. smoke free with many amenities, including a built in entertainment center, fireplace, solid oak cabinetry throughout, lush upgrade carpet, office with built in desk and bookcases, formal dining room, oversized master suite with parents retreat, outdoor storage and deck. Too many upgrades to list. Owners are moving, no renters, no owner financing available, call 325-226-4770 or 325-387-3634 for an appointment.

Advertise in the Classifieds! It works! You just proved it!

House for sale in Eldorado, manufactured home, 2180 sq. ft. on 4 lots. 3/2, 3 car carport, garage, metal fence, large kitchen, fireplace, metal storage building, 2 luminaries, located at 608 Nance, 325-853-2438

Pets

KRITTERS KOTTAGE BOARDING RESORT: In Ozona - Boarding 7 days a week; Grooming and Bathing by appointment Mon-Fri; Doggy Day-Care Mon-Fri; For more information call 325-392-2432 or 325-226-3618.

Scott Jacoby Real Estate
www.scottjacobyrealestate.com
New Listing!
•100 Acres S. Crockett Co., excellent hunting, priced to sell*
•350 Acres in Crockett County 19 miles S. of Ozona, Hwy. frontage, house, barns and 3 water wells*
P.O. Box 295
802 S. Concho
Sonora, TX 76950
387-9065 Office
387-2200 Fax
Email: sjacoby@sonoratlx.net

Bobbie A. Smith Real Estate
(325)387-2728
102 Sawyer Court
3 bedroom, 2 bath, Brick Home, Double Car Garage, Central Air & Heat, Great Landscaping, Swimming Pool, A Must See!!
Call for more information.

Caruthers Realty
•This home in the Castle Hills Addition is 3 bedroom, 3 bath with a sun room, large covered patio and greenhouse. Large lot with beautiful shade trees in the front and back. **Price reduction - \$189,900- \$180,000.**
•Small Acre Tracts west of Sonora on Bloodworth Road
•Terrell County 3820 Acres available now electric/water 8 miles south of Dryden
Bob Caruthers, Broker
325-387-5263 office
325-226-3003 anytime call
e-mail: bobc@sonoratlx.net

Main Street Realty
Anita Balch Hudson, Broker/Owner
Stacy J. Turney, Broker Associate
215 E. Main * Sonora, TX 76950 * 325-387-6115 * www.mainstreetrealt.com

Sutton County Estates
Country Living - Close to Town
Enjoy building your dream home on 10 to 20 acre tracts of land! This prime property offers beautiful building sites located approximately 6 miles NE of Sonora on Hwy. 864. This rural community features abundant wildlife and privacy within a secluded setting only a few minutes from Sonora.
10 Acre Tracts - \$4000/acre
20 Acre Tracts - \$3500/acre

Call Cyndy Allen at 206-1638 or 387-3948 for:
DOT Driver Qualifications
DOT Training
DOT Recordkeeping (Drivers & CMV)
OSHA Safety Meetings & Recordkeeping
Hazard Regulations & Drug Tester
TRANSPORT COMPLIANCE SERVICES
Can't Afford a Full-Time DOT or OSHA Compliance Officer?

SONIC America's Drive-In.
Wanted
Car Hops
Cooks
Fountain Help
Call Norma @ 387-5292

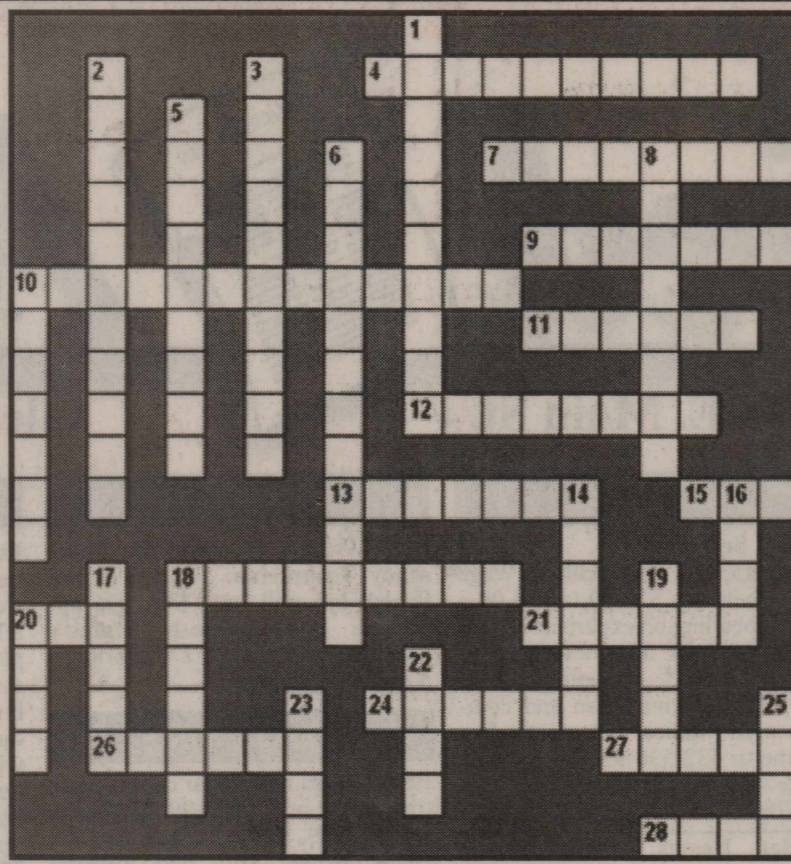
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Commercial Property includes...
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Location Builders

203 S. Hwy 277
Sonora, TX 76950
325-387-3881

Saul Hernandez
Construction Foreman
John Lopez Jr.
Superintendent
Robert Sanchez
Roustabout Foreman
Alfredo Hernandez
Construction Foreman
Rick Bounds
Construction Foreman
Martin Hernandez
Construction Foreman

**DIRT CONSTRUCTION,
ROUSTABOUT AND
CONSERVATION WORK**



Devil's River News Crossword Puzzle

The words in the puzzle are used locally or have been in the paper lately.

This puzzle should be fairly easy and the answers will be published in next week's paper.

ENJOY!

ACROSS

- 4. Causes lots of washing
- 7. Halfway between Eldorado and Christoval
- 9. Volunteer fireman
- 10. Future highway project
- 11. Requires license to use effective on cactus
- 12. Used to be cedar now mostly pipe
- 13. Served in Iraq or sang

DOWN

- 1. First article on page three
- 2. Where you find ram in a computer
- 3. Sheep and deer disease
- 5. Calcium Carbonate
- 6. French for sleeping burger
- 8. Stockman's
- 10. Edwards
- 14. Larger than Rhode Island
- 16. Frequent topic of conversation
- 17. 1960 line coach or type of modem
- 18. Two all beef patties
- 19. Di-hydrogen oxide
- 20. Descendent of Apple IIE
- 22. Sonora English teacher
- 23. Ruins your life
- 25. Iron woman or religious leader

F.Y.I.

Al-Anon Meetings - 7:00 p.m. Tuesdays - L.M. Hudspeth (old part) cafeteria.

Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes is an educational program for people with type 2 diabetes sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension and the Sutton County Senior Center. Classes began October 19 and will be held on Thursdays at the Senior Center from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. To register call Kelly Thorp at 387-3604 or Juanita Mesa at 387-5657. Transportation is available for senior citizens who qualify. The cost of the class is free.

Spring classes for ESL and GED began Thursday, January 4, 2007. These classes are offered free of charge on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6-9 p.m. at the Vocational Building. For more information on ESL, call Delia Samaniego at 387-3029. For more information on GED, call Kathleen Freeman at 387-3736.

Aim for Success is a nationally acclaimed educational organization promoting sexual abstinence until marriage. These programs cover the risk of teenage pregnancy, the epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases, the pain of emotional scars, and much more.

The parent preview will be held Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the Elementary School auditorium. Student programs for middle school age children will be the following day during school hours. This is a must see for anyone concerned about teenage sexual activity in our country.

Stock Show Time!! There will be a CLEAN UP session at the 4-H barn on Wed., January 10th at 5:00 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming Stock Show on Jan. 12-13. All 4-H and FFA stock show members need to come help clean up the barns, set up pens, and get ready for our stock show. If everyone comes, it won't take very long!!

A new **Beth Moore Bible Study** will start Wednesday, January 10, 2007 from 10: a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Lighthouse Community Church. For more information call Lighthouse at 387-9100.

Lynn Wipff, owner of "Tan Your Hide" would like for you to join her in celebrating one year in business with a customer appreciation day January 31, 2007 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. There will be finger foods, drinks and door prizes. Come and go as you please. "Tan Your Hide" is located at Stirrup Trouble Salon, 220 E. Main St.

First NATIONAL BANK
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P.O. Box 798, Sonora, Texas 76950
(325) 387-3861

THE BANK & TRUST
Member FDIC
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