

The Devil's River News

Volume 120 • Issue 12

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, March 27, 2008

Vote Clears Clog In Infrastructure Repair

By Becky McAngus

The Sonora City Council last Tuesday voted 3-1 to forward a preliminary engineering and feasibility report to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality – an important milestone in the rehabilitation of the city's crumbling water and sewer infrastructure. Fred Cornutt, vice president for engineering services with Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd (e-HT) of Lubbock, fielded numerous questions regarding the study and proposed improvements to the infrastructure.

The improvements, Cornutt noted, have been mandated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Meanwhile, TCEQ has offered the city a 10-year moratorium on enforcement, which it accepted; while the city repairs and replaces its water and wastewater infrastructure in accordance with state regulations.

"This moratorium is referred as The Sanitary Sewer Overflow Initiative or, simply, the SSO," explained Sonora City Manager Jim Polonis. "One of the requirements of the SSO is to identify the weaknesses in the wastewater collection system so that a plan of action can be developed to remedy them," Polonis added. During the spring and summer of 2007, he explained,

city crews and e-HT personnel conducted the tedious task of locating city lines, valves, and manholes. Using a technique called a "smoke test" the weaknesses, such as broken pipes and cleanouts were located and flagged. A report was written about these findings, which forms a part of the Preliminary Engineering Feasibility Report, the subject of last Tuesday's city council vote.

Last February, the city applied for and received \$9 million in low-interest loans from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to finance these projects. Subsequently, Polonis explained, the city, in September, approved a 13% increase in the fees for city water and wastewater services, to initiate the pay-back of the loans for the repairs and improvements.

Problems have plagued the City of Sonora's municipal system for a number of years, and a mechanical breakdown at the wastewater treatment plant last April brought state inspectors to town. A pump malfunction and the failure of the emergency generator resulted in wastewater flooding the pump station control room, causing the release of 290,000 gallons of raw and/or partially treated sewage into the Dry Devil's River. Polonis said the

result of the TCEQ investigation was the assessment of an administrative enforcement penalty. Initially, the fine was set at \$63,500; however, following a meeting with TCEQ and with the assistance of Congressman Carlos Uresti's office, the amount of the fine was reduced to \$8,950. As a result, TCEQ has agreed to allow the city to use this money to perform a special environmental project that will benefit our local environment.

In addition to mechanical problems, the wastewater collection system is composed of fragile clay pipe and old, cast iron pipe that is rapidly deteriorating. "Parts of the system are routed beneath private property, undersized and without sufficient slope to flow properly," Polonis said. "Our manholes are made of brick and mortar that is crumbling, while broken cleanouts and bad connections throughout the city allow massive amounts of storm water runoff to enter the system."

To make matters worse, the aging water delivery system has been plagued with a 22% water loss rate, an unacceptable loss to the city. Cornutt told the council and numerous concerned citizens at last week's meeting that the water delivery project will replace eight miles of water

lines and two miles of looping lines. "It is a state requirement that water lines are looped to allow water to flow in the system from either direction while maintaining constant pressure," Polonis later explained.

The project will include installation of 50 new valves, including 12 new flushing valves (formerly called fire hydrants), which, he told the gathering, would have a dual use for fire suppression and as system flushing valves.

The \$6 million wastewater project includes \$663,000 in necessary upgrades at the wastewater treatment facility. A hybridized waste collection system will combine the structurally sound areas of the municipality's gravity system with a vacuum system to replace dilapidated lines in the older sections of the city, correct poorly-sloped sewer lines, eliminate the above-ground sewer lines (including the one that traverses the draw at Tom Green Avenue) and eliminate inflow and infiltration.

Cornutt informed the gathering that the sewer mains in the downtown area of Sonora are fabricated from cast iron and were installed when the city established the sanitary sewer in the 1920's. The city and its engineers have evaluated several different types of

wastewater systems for the Sonora project and have determined that the city's 1,223 customers would be best served with the introduction of a vacuum system in the older sections of the city. Existing gravity mains serving 234 connections in the Sawyer Hill section, 94 connections along Deerwood Drive, 93 connections on West Mulberry Street, 96 connections in the area of the Sutton County Park and 3 connections at the municipal airport will continue to be served by the gravity system.

The remaining 703 wastewater connections will be provided service through a vacuum system. According to information provided by the system manufacturer, Airvac, a central vacuum station will maintain vacuum pressure within the sewer collection lines. Wastewater flows from homes or businesses through traditional gravity lines to a vacuum valve pit located nearby. Up to four homes may be connected to a single valve pit. As sewage collects in the sump, a valve will open and differential pressure will propel the contents in the vacuum main. Wastewater is expected to travel 15-to-18 feet per second in the vacuum main, and the series of pumps will cycle as needed to maintain a con-

stant level of vacuum on the entire collection system.

Cornutt explained that the system's proven technology will provide Sonora a viable solution to its wastewater problem. "This is a sealed system, so we there won't be any inflow from storm water runoff," he said. The fact that the vacuum lines can be placed in trenches as shallow as three feet is also a plus for Sonora, Cornutt said. "We're not going to have to trench 8 to 12 feet deep to place these lines," he added. The smaller lines can be installed with much less inconvenience to city residents, including less excavation of city streets and disruption of other buried utilities.

Previously, John Voller, another engineer with Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, had warned that if Sonora were to replace its traditional gravity system with new piping in the downtown area, the town would "look as if a bomb went off here."

Cornutt invited city residents with questions regarding the operation of the vacuum system to contact him at his office at (806) 794-1100.

Wool Judging Team Wins Big At Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo



Champion 4-H Wool Judging team at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Back row: Wheless Miller, coach, Emily Earwood, Steely Ingham, Savannah Leonard, Colton Moore, and Shawna Faris, coach. Front row: Zachary Leonard, Sterling Love, Stella Ingham, and Damon Evans.

By Shawna Faris

Most recently local 4-H members traveled to the esteemed Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo to participate in the Wool Judging Contest. The contest duration is two hours and is made up of four wool classes requiring one to complete an evaluation form for each class and a rail of twenty fleeces in which participants must determine each fleece's grade, length of staple, and percentage yield. Members have set quite a standard for themselves winning the 2008 Wool Judging Contest at both the San Antonio and San Angelo Livestock shows. Great success at Houston was certainly no surprise; however, the participants collectively did the best that they've ever done and I must express my sincerest congratulations! Eight local individuals participated among approximately 50 total contestants. Among all the achievements and pride that all the youth have brought to me in my years serving as team coach, I've never been more proud of a group of individuals than I was with those in Houston last week. It was an absolute

honor to be the only organization entered in the whole contest in which all of our local participants were recognized as winners! As if that wasn't enough, seven individuals were top winners at the prestigious Houston Livestock Show and that definitely holds high honors! Among those recognized seven finished in the top 20, five of those being in the top 10, and three of them being in the top five individuals. 2nd high individual was Savannah Leonard followed closely by 3rd high individual Emily Earwood, 5th high was Sterling Love, 7th went to Stella Ingham, 10th Colton Moore, 12th was Steely Ingham, and 13th was Zachary Leonard. Damon Evans, a first year participant and with Houston being his 3rd contest to compete in total, finished up quite well also displaying much improvement and growth and will continue to be a future contender of great success. Furthermore, attaining achievements that high almost always ensures winning the contest overall and the team of Savannah Leonard, Emily Earwood, Colton

Moore, and Steely Ingham did just that! The team is now the proud winner of a beautiful crystal traveling trophy on display at the Sutton County Extension office. The traveling trophy is awarded to the top team and is kept in their possession until the contest the following year. The trophy is given to the top team if and when the team wins the contest three consecutive years. These individuals have already established that keeping that trophy is definitely one of their top priorities and considering they were winners of the trophy last year, they are well on their way to attaining that goal. The team also received a wooden trophy and each member of the team as well as the coach received a belt buckle depicting their honor and achievement. In addition to that, the team of Sterling Love, Stella Ingham, Zachary Leonard, and Damon Evans finished up fourth overall in the contest which was an outstanding performance on their part as well. Despite their younger age and some having less experience of many of the contestants in the contest, these

individuals proved their worth and settled easily within the top. These same individuals continue to display great success at every event in which they participate and the most exciting thing is that the year is just beginning. I'm convinced that another year of great honors and achievements awaits each of them and I'm blessed to have the opportunity to share in these experiences. The FFA chapter will be competing at the state contest in late April while the 4-H club will be competing at district contest in early May and then hopefully on to state in June. Both organizations will compete in an effort to advance to the National Wool Judging Contest held here in Sonora each June. It is our goal to defend our current National Champion status at the contest this summer and fortunately we have the abilities and the best youth to make it happen! Best wishes to all members in the coming year and congratulations for a job well done thus far!

Tonya Brown Named Weatherford Employee of the Year



By Beth Burleson

Tonya has only had 4 jobs in her adult life. When she was in high school, she worked for Charlie Graves at his Chicken & Fish restaurant (which is now Taco Grill). After graduation from Sonora High School, she was then employed by the Bank & Trust for 17 years. She entered the oilfield workforce in October 2000. She joined the Weatherford team in March 2006.

Tonya began her employment with Weatherford Controlled Pressure Drilling in March - 2006. She has shown outstanding performance and has exemplified exceptional levels of work performance. She has displayed high regard and loyalty toward Weatherford and her job responsibilities.

The Weatherford location in Sonora, specializing in controlled pressure drilling, currently employs 78 people from Sonora, Ozona, Eldorado and the surrounding area. Art Velasquez, District Manager, stated "I truly believe that the success and growth of this Weatherford district office is due to the hard work, dedication and organizational skills of Tonya."

Tonya has had a significant and positive impact since joining the Weatherford team. In addition to having a special rapport with other employees, Tonya is known for her "can do" attitude. She is the Administrative Assistant and is characterized as extremely conscientious, well-mannered, good natured, professional and respectful. Tonya always has a smile on her face and a great sense of humor. She is a joy to work with.

Tonya and her husband Charlie live in Sonora. She has been involved and volunteered in many organizations in Sonora over the years, including Sonora Chamber of Commerce, Sutton County EMS, Friends of Historic Main Street and Downtown Lions Club, just to name a few. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and hunting.

Senior Center Activities

Thur. March 27- Happy B-Day Julia Reynoso, John Tedford
 Fri.- March 28- Cooking with Kelly @ Noon!
 Mon. March 31- Bingo!
 Tues. April 1- April Fool's day
 Wed. April 2- Exercise w/video Anyone?

Senior Center Menu

Thur. March 27- Beef tacos w/cheese, pinto beans, taco shells, tossed salad, cobbler and milk
 Fri. March 28- Oven pork chops w/gravy, zucchini/yellow squash, wheat rolls, tossed salad, cookie and milk
 Mon. March 31-Hamburger on a bun, French fries, lettuce, tomatoes, sliced onions, fruit cocktail and milk
 Tues. April 1- Swiss steak w/gravy, potatoes, broccoli, macaroni salad, bread, fruit cocktail and milk
 Wed. April 2- Baked chicken, scalloped potatoes, beets, rolls, strawberry banana mix, bread pudding w/raisins and milk

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).

Dr. Rico Forlano

Forlano Chiropractic
 Family Health Center

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Eldorado, Texas 76936

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Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesia Bautista
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 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
 11E. Oak
 387-3190

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

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Thank You Notes

Thank you Town and Country Village Market and Citizens of Sonora for making our Hospital Auxiliary Bake Sale so successful. All proceeds will be used for the new backyard landscape project at the Lillian Hudspeth Memorial Hospital.

Linda Johnson, President
 Hospital Auxiliary

Lola Beth Jones

The Sonora High School golf teams would like to thank all of the individuals who helped to make this year's high school invitational tournament a success. In particular, we would like to thank the golf course for allowing us to have a tournament. We would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Don Balch for furnishing the food that was served, James Barton and Mickey Powers for cooking the food, the Ladies' Golf Auxiliary for furnishing the deserts, and Mrs. Julia Hinds for helping serve the food.

Thank you,
 The Sonora High School Golf Team

A "Tip 'O the Hat" to Mr. Bill Hazelton - Atlas Electric, Messer's David Buiton and Fernando Hernandez of Eneritech; and Mr. Bobby Zuniga of AEP for volunteering to dismantle the old lights and poles at the Little League baseball park. They worked hard on Friday, March 14, 2008 to make this park safer for the little leaguers that use that baseball field. The City says Thank you for your time and effort on this project.

Baby Announcement



Clay and Raven Brown are proud to announce the birth of their precious miracle and gift from God; their daughter "Shanea Nicole Brown"

She was born on February 1, 2008 at 1:01 p.m. weighing 7 lbs, 2 oz. and 20 in. long.

Shanea is named in honor of her Uncle Shane Folmar."

The proud grandparents are Wendell and Ann Folmar and the proud uncle's are Brandon Folmar and Jacob Spivey.

St. Jude's Novena - "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved through out the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, Help of the Hopeless. Pray for us" Say this prayer 9 times a day for 9 days. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude for favors granted. B.D.L.

Lighthouse Community Church

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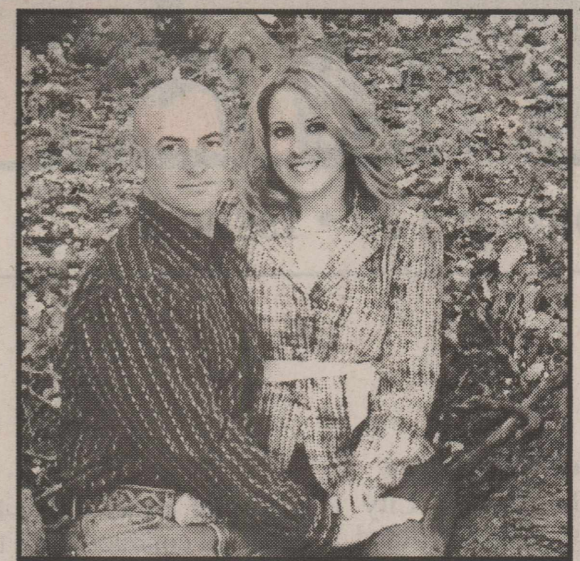
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Engagement Announcement



James and Dianne Benson of Sonora are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Allison to Richard Ramseyer, son of Myron and Mryna Ramseyer of Sterling, Ohio.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Sonora High School and a 2005 graduate of Angelo State University. She is employed by the Sonora Independent School District.

Richard is a 1995 graduate of Norwayne High School and is employed by Marvin and Wanda Shurley of Sonora.

The wedding will be held Saturday, June 7, 2008 at the Sutton County Depot.

Obituary

Glenn Ray Franklin

Glenn Ray Franklin passed away on March 17, 2008 at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa, TX.

Glenn was born on Aug. 15, 1950 in Roswell, NM to Elmer and Sarah Beth Mathews Franklin.

Glenn graduated from Dexter High School in N.M. where he played football and baseball. He then attended New Mexico State University.

He moved to Sonora, TX. where he worked for Dresser-Atlas for years, then moved to Odessa where he continued his career with Dresser-Atlas/Baker-Hughes for 30 years.

He was preceded in death by his father, Elmer Franklin.

He is survived by his son James Ray Franklin, his grand-son Tommy Ray Franklin and his mother Sarah Beth Franklin, his brother Bill Franklin and his wife Lesley of Perafra N.M.; his sister Rita Casuga of Ruidosa N.M. and uncle Jim Mathews and wife Rosemary of Sonora, TX, and many cousins, neices and nephews.

April 1. This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three hundred and sixty-four.

~Mark Twain

Happy Birthday

March 27
 Tara Green, Mike Foulds,
 Craig Hopper, Dolores Crocker,
 George Noriega, Jr.

March 28
 Marissa Prieto, Julie Coronado,
 Noe Chavez, Laura Sanchez,
 Stephani Galindo, Edward Henson,
 Robert Hard, Mike Hopper,
 Juan Garza, Rita Acevedo,
 John Mesa, Denis Brooks,
 Gene Hunt

March 29
 Oscar Trevino, Laticia Parker,
 Weldon Champion, Rigoberto Hernandez

March 30
 Tracy Klein, Matthew Perez,
 Carol Ann Hardec, Roy Luna,
 Andrew Head, Lisa Galindo, Lizette Lira

March 31
 Patricia Johnson, Kelsey Favila,
 Michael Sanchez, Shelly Hughes,
 Ramiro Acosta, Darian Lopez,
 Anna Garza, Simon Murrillo,
 Weston Fisher, Ryan Hill,

April 1
 Menzi Spiller, Daisy Lira,
 Shycene Webb, Michael Stephens,
 John Stergon, Tommy Arnwine,
 Tracey Hart

April 2
 Janalyn Jones, Bianca Aboud,
 Daniel Galindo, Janell Sparks,
 Arrin Valdez

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Sports

Bronco Basketball A Season Review



Left to right- Fidel Acevedo, Randy Garcia, J.T. Downing, Cash Jennings, Michael Jenkins, Tyler Creek, Reggie Hernandez, Uvaldo Ramos, Reynaldo Gaytan, Riley Sanchez, Dustin Neff (not shown), coaches Eli Boxell, and Chad Tuttle.

February 13th marked the end of the 2008 basketball season for the Sonora Bronco Varsity Boys. The team ended the season with 6 wins and 18 losses. Riley Sanchez and Cash Jennings received 2nd team All-District Honors; Randy Garcia, Reynaldo Gaytan, and J.T. Downing received honorable mention. Tyler Creek was awarded the Newcomer of the Year for District 8.



Fidel Acevedo



Reggie Hernandez



J.T. Downing



Tyler Creek

Golf: Mason Invitational



BOYS RESULTS

Sonora 316 First Place

John Duke Hudson	77	T1
Morgan Martinez	80	4
Manny Paredes	84	7
Caleb Gonzales	82	T5
Dylan Castillo	77	T1
Beau Dickens	100	21
RJ Torres	107	24
Osbaldo Castaneda	131	39

GIRLS RESULTS

Sonora 212 First Place

Kaci Chavarria	54	T5
Stephanie Hulsey	51	T2
Emily Newton	58	T9
Liz Newton	65	T15
Raeon Johnson	49	1
Kaitlyn Henderson	61	T11
Christina Robbins	61	T11

Bronco Relays Varsity Boys

Event	Name	Place	Distance/Time
Discus	Downing	4th	121' 3 1/2"
Triple Jump	Ramos	2nd	35' 10 1/2"
High Jump	Edmondson	4th	5' 2"
Pole Vault	Anderson	4th	10' 6"
Shot Put	Gaytan	3rd	44' 3 1/2"
	Martinez	5th	42' 6 1/2"
3200 M Run	Garcia	5th	11:19.12
400 M Relay	Sonora	4th	46.46
800 M Dash	Garcia	5th	2:13.28
110 M Hurdles	Dunn	3rd	17.62
	Creek	4th	17.68
100 M Dash	Anderson	4th	11:67
800 M Relay	Sonora	5th	1:36.15
400 M Dash	Guerrero	4th	51.69
300 M Hurdles	Creek	3rd	42.68
200 M Dash	Rodriguez	3rd	24.10
1600 M Relay	Sonora	4th	3:43.10
1600 M Run	Pena	4th	4:57.09

Team Standings 3rd 100 points

Bronco Relays Varsity Girls

Event	Name	Place	Distance/Time
Discus	Martinez	5th	88' 5"
	Castenda	6th	87' 7"
Pole Vault	Campbell	3rd	9' 6"
	Humphrey	5th	8' 6"
Shot Put	Martinez	3rd	31' 7"
	Castaneda	5th	30' 1/2"
3200 M Run	Favila	2nd	13:02.47
	Ramos	6th	13:41.43
400 M Relay	Sonora	4th	52.10
800 M Dash	Humphrey	2nd	2:31.15
110 M Hurdles	Henderson	3rd	17.62
100 M Dash	Snyder	4th	13.50
800 M Relay	Sonora	5th	1:53.25
300 M Hurdles	Campbell	3rd	48.80
200 M Dash	Hernandez	4th	24.43
1600 M Run	Favila	2nd	5:54.96
	Humphrey	5th	6:08.47

Team Standings 4th Place 78 Total Points

Bronco Relays JV Boys

Event	Name	Place	Distance/Time
Discus	Jennings	1st	105' 7 1/2"
	Charro	2nd	99' 1 1/2"
	Gaytan	6th	86' 10 1/2"
Triple Jump	Pennington	1st	36' 10"
High Jump	Ozuna	3rd	4' 10"
Long Jump	Ozuna	3rd	16' 7"
	Sanchez	4th	16' 2 1/4"
Shot Put	Charo	1st	36' 7"

Team Standings 1st Place 152 Total Points

Event	Name	Place	Distance/Time
3200 M Run	Oliden	3rd	13:23.27
400 M Relay	Sonora	2nd	48.86
800 M Relay	Sonora	1st	1:41.22
400 M Dash	Pennington	2nd	57.97
300 M Hurdles	Garmon	2nd	46.08
200 M Dash	Ozuna	3rd	25.15
1600 M Run	Oliden	4th	6:00.37

Softball: District Play Begins With Brady



Photo by Juanita McBride

Laura Martin helps to swing the Lady Broncos to victory against Brady.

By Beth Bureson

The Sonora Lady Bronco softball team opened district play at home on Friday, March 14th against the Brady Lady Bulldogs. At the top of the 5th inning, the Lady Broncos lead 5-0. Brady rallied to get on the score board scoring 3 runs and continued to battle it out with the Lady Broncos. After 8 innings of action, the Lady Broncos defeated the Lady Bulldogs 10-8.

Team members this year are Heather Hughes, Steely Ingham, Kimble Luna, Laura Martin, Stephani Morriss, Jessica Snyder, Azeneth Villanueva, Leandra Castaneda, Sara Gillit, Raven Johnson & Danielle Rodriguez. Cassie Krieg was injured during a pre-district tournament in San Angelo and will be out for the season. (Get well soon, Cassie!) The Lady Broncos are coached by Thomas Hanson & Kathy Marshall.

The Lady Broncos' next game will be Tuesday, March 25th in Sonora against Blanco at 6:00 p.m. On Friday, March 28th, they travel to Comfort for a 6:00 p.m. game. Come out and support these ladies as they work hard to represent Sonora on the softball field!



Sonora Broncos Baseball 2008 Schedule

Date	Place	Time
March 28*	Comfort	JV-4:30 V-7:00
April 1*	Sonora	JV-4:30 V-7:00
April 5*	Brady	JV-11:30 V-2:00
April 8*	Mason	V-5:00

Sponsored by:
Dean & Louise Dermody

Sonora Lady Broncos 2008 Track Schedule

Date	Place
Mar. 28*	Comfort
April 1*	Junction
April 5*	Brady
April 8*	Open

* indicates district games

Sonora Lady Broncos 2008 Softball Schedule

Date	Place
Mar. 28*	Comfort
April 1*	Junction
April 5*	Brady
April 8*	Open

Sponsored by:
Cody & Stehanie Bush

Sonora Broncos 2008 Track Schedule

Date	Place
Mar. 27	Mason
Mar. 28-29	Angelo
April 4	Junction

Sponsored by:
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2008 Bronco Golf Schedule

Date	Tournament
March 27	Comfort Boy's Invitational
March 31	District Tournament G & B
April 7	District Tournament G&B

Sponsored by:
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Callie Moore	bride-elect	Cindy Jones
Dani Barker	bride-elect	Rocky Rily
Chance Dillard		Brent Engelhardt
Pam Press	bride-elect	Daisha Henson
Jason Bounds		Jarrod Morrison
Allison Benson	bride-elect	Mrs. William Renfro
Richard Ramseyer		Tara Sterling

TPWD Fishing Report

LBJ: Water stained; 60 degrees; 0.32' low. Black bass are good on black/blue Curb's jigs and watermelon tubes on docks. Striped bass are slow. White bass are good on silver Pirk Minnows and Spoiler Shads near the power plant. Crappie are fair on minnows in brush piles. Channel catfish are fair on minnows and nightcrawlers. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

PROCTOR: Water stained; 57 degrees; 0.15' high. Black bass are slow. Striped bass are fair trolling crankbaits. White bass are fair trolling

crankbaits. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair on live shad and shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

AMISTAD: Water clear; 69 degrees; 6.90' low. Black bass are very good on Lucky Craft jerkbaits, Revenge spinnerbaits, Yamamoto Senkos, and deep running crankbaits and jigs. Striped bass are fair on slabs, minnows, and small crankbaits up the Rio Grande and Pecos rivers. White bass are fair on minnows up the Devil's River under hardwood trees. Catfish are good on cheesebait, shrimp, and nightcrawlers in 40 - 100 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on live perch around rockslides. Mexican fishing licenses are required to fish Mexican waters. Everyone in the boat must have a Mexican fishing license whether fishing or not. Mexican boat permits are no longer required.

FALCON: Water stained; 70 degrees. Black bass are fair on watermelon and chartreuse soft plastics, craw worms on 1/2oz. jigs, and Brush Hogs in 12 - 18 feet. Striped bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are good on frozen shrimp and cut bait. Yellow catfish are slow. Mexican fishing licenses are required to fish Mexican waters. Everyone in the boat must have a Mexican fishing license whether fishing or not. Mexican boat permits are no longer required.

Survivor Spotlight: Jean Redman



In 1953, Jean Redman paid a visit to her doctor for a cold and sore throat she had been suffering from. Little did she know when she made the appointment, the doctor would notice a lump on the left side of her neck and make an appointment for her to see a surgeon in San Angelo the very next day. Soon after, when the pathology report indicated the lump was cancer, Jean had her left thyroid and lymph glands removed, along with the removal of nodes and masses from her left shoulder and breast. This was followed with radiation; at that time, doctors did not have all the treatment options that are available today, therefore many with cancer did not make it through. Jean credits God's grace and the prayers of her friends and family for giving her strength during this time, along with good doctors. Her advice is to have regular check-ups and to know your body, as early detection is key. Jean has lived in Sonora for forty nine-years and has been an active member of the American Cancer Society nearly all of that time, holding offices in the organization and participating in various fundraisers. After all this time, Jean counts as blessings fifty-five years of marriage, three children, six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and a triumph over cancer!

SONORA SERVICE DIRECTORY

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F.Y.I.

The Sutton County Commissioners Court has enacted a Burn Ban and a Fireworks Ban, prohibiting all outdoor burning and all fireworks until further notice.

Interested in Emergency Medical Medicine? Sutton County EMS and BSA are looking for youths between 14 and 20 years of age to participate in a local Emergency Medical Exploring Post. Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults in a certain career. For more information, please contact: Roberta Tanguma 325-277-7189

Keep Sonora Beautiful fundraiser weekend get away at Ruidoso NM. Stay at the Best Western in Pine Springs. A day at the races and \$80.00 fuel donated from Macks, plus a basket of goodies. Opportunities are \$5.00 each. See a board member or go to the chamber office to pick up a ticket. This will be given away at the annual chamber banquet April 24, 2008.

The Mother-Son pictures taken by Memories by McBride are ready to be picked up at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Office.

1st Annual Cinco De Mayo Softball Tournament Sponsored by Los Unidos Club, Sonora, TX May 2-4 2008 \$150.00 entry fee per team. Great Prizes! Call Armando Robles for more info. 325-206-1103

Cinco De Mayo dance sponsored by Los Unidos Club May 3, 2008 Sutton County Civic Center, Sonora, TX Performances by Stampede and Carlos y Los Cachoros \$10.00 presale/\$15.00 at the door. For tickets call Mona Prieto 325-206-0348.

Spring Fling - Sunday, April 27th. Music, food booths, arts & crafts. B.Y.O.B. Noon-8:00 p.m. Sutton Co. Park

4-H Meeting - March 31st 6:30 p.m. Career Development discussion by Steve Smith, Assistant District Attorney 112th District. He will be sharing his experiences in the field of law.

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You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face.
 ~Eleanor Roosevelt

Sonora Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Registration Dates

Pre-registration for the 2008-2009 school year will be held on Tuesday, April 1st and Wednesday, April 2nd from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School office. Students enrolling in Pre-Kindergarten must be three or four years old on or before September 1, 2008.

Students who are three years of age on or before September 1, 2008 must meet one of the following qualification requirements: 1) economically disadvantaged, 2) limited English proficient, 3) qualify for special education services, or 4) have a parent who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces or a parent who was injured or killed while serving on active duty.

Students four years of age on or before September 1, 2008 do not have to qualify for Pre-Kindergarten as our enrollment is open. Class size, however, will be limited and classes will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

You must provide a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization record. Your child will not be placed in a class until immunizations are current and proof is provided.

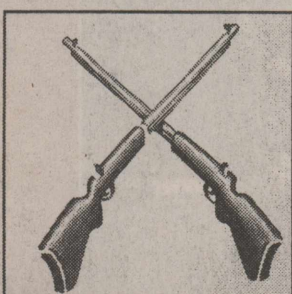
Please make every effort to register on these dates as this will help us plan for the 2008-2009 school year. Call 387-6951 if you have any questions.

Kindergarten Registration Dates

Kindergarten registration will be Tuesday, April 1st and Wednesday, April 2nd from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School office. Students enrolling in Kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2008. You must provide a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization record. Your child will not be placed in a class until immunizations are current and proof is provided. Please make every effort to register on these dates as this will help us plan for the 2008-2009 school year. Call 387-6951 if you have any questions.

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Historical Society

ASK THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Memorials
Lura Sawyer by Eddie Sawyer
Lura Sawyer by Mr. and Mrs. James L. Powell
Lura Sawyer by Susan and Buck Bloodworth
Allie & Vestal Askew by Mr. and Mrs. James L. Powell
Johnny & Myrtles Sellman by Fannie Wade
Gene, Midge & Scott Shurley by Doug & Suzanne Huddleston of the Consuelo Ranch

Q. Who put the Devil over The Devil's River News and why?

A. According to the April 25, 1957 issue of the paper, under a column called Odds and Ends, it was John Eaton who installed the Old Devil for Mr. Bundy. Here is the whole column: After 19 months of research, experimentation, etc., electrician par excellence, and vice-president in charge of not hiding your light under a bushel, this week installed "The Devil" on his perch over the door of the News Office. From this vantage point The Devil will keep watch over the vigorous, if somewhat unskilled journalistic efforts within.

Equal credit for The Devil's creation must be given to staff artist Tommie (Mrs. Bill) Lee. When, upon completion of the artwork involved, Mrs. Lee was asked to comment upon her undertaking she said, "Any success I may have achieved in this portrayal of The Devil is due to the untiring efforts of my husband who sat as a model-and sat-and sat-and sat."

Also to Jim Perry, that brave man and true, who took up his torch and burned The Devil out of a piece of sheet iron.

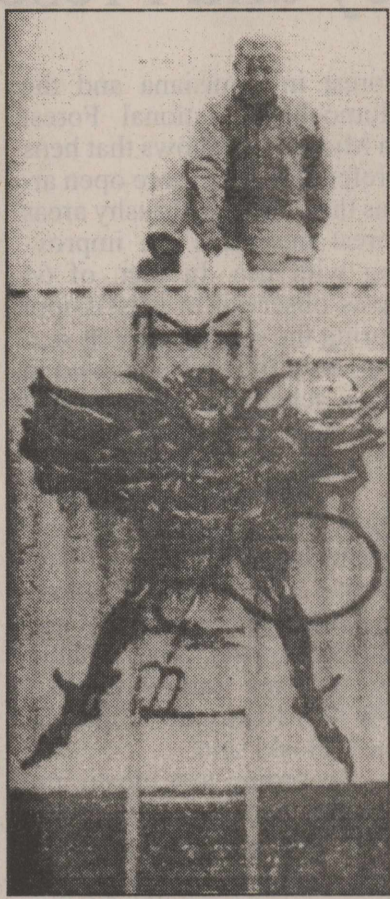
Cost of the project can never be accurately determined. We have just received Mr. Eaton's bill for his work and we feel compelled to submit, publicly, a counter-statement to him:

Item 1: 116 cups of coffee we were forced to provide for Mr. Eaton, at 10 cents per cup: \$11.60.

Item 2: One quart Grade A quality, Air Force Red Fluorescent paint which Mr. Eaton designated as essential to the project. (He didn't use it). \$12.45.

Item 3: Time lost holding wobbly ladder for Mr. Eaton: \$67.50.

Item 4: Shoe repair incurred by ourselves and friends in going to the old news office to pick up packages left there, \$6.00.



Pictured: John Eaton hangs the Devil at the Devil's River News office, 228 East Main.

Item 5: Tranquilizer pills taken by staff members to overcome nervous attacks brought on by wobbly ladder, \$5.00.

Item 6: One pair of trousers torn on "Devil" left in traffic aisle by Mr. Eaton, (100 percent wool naturally), \$15.95.

Item 7: Estimated loss of sales from hordes who would have thronged to our door if they could have found it, \$10,800.29.

Total: \$10,918.69 This is due and payable on the tenth of the following month.

From the sounds of this, Mr. Bundy and Mr. Eaton had "the Devil of a time" putting up the old Devil.

Now, why was the Devil put on the building? My best guess is it goes back to Mike and Steve Murphy. They had a sign over the old building at the corner of Main and

Concho that said "Devil's Retreat." It is a play on the old terms calling a printer and his helper the Devil and the Devil's apprentice.

These men worked long hours, with low pay, in heat of summer and cold of winter. They worked in a dark corner with lantern light at first, then bare bulbs glaring down on their work to write copy and set and proof the type for the paper. Then they had to print the paper by hand on the old Washington Press that was second hand from The Standard Times. They were often covered in ink and oil, which often made them break out in a rash, so they were blotchy red and black. They had to go to many affairs and smile and be nice so that he could cover the event; when they would really rather be home in bed and getting some rest or getting type set for the next issue. Of course Steve and Mike also might have preferred to be in the local saloon tipping a few with their friends. Lord help them if he left out even one name of the attendees.

The Old Devil's efforts were never appreciated. No matter what he wrote and printed someone always had a complaint, so he would be bedeviled by his readers. Many called him a Devil for printing some article they didn't like. Some told him to go to the Devil in no uncertain terms. Several times they even had a mysterious colorful Devil superimposed on the paper. Even this gave them the Devil of a time as they had to run the sheets through once to print the black lettering and another time to do the colorful Devil.

No, the Old Devil and the Devil's apprentice didn't have an easy time of it. I can just picture Mr. Eaton and Mr. Bundy with a devilish

gleam in their eyes as they plotted hanging their smiling red and black figure over the office in honor of all the poor devils that had worked for the paper 'since its' start in October of 1890. I'm sure they had the devil of a time putting it up; were bedeviled by the locals and just grinned all the way home when they were finished.

We do live on the banks of the Dry Devil's River, so of course our paper was called The Devil's River News.

These men weren't Devil worshippers, they were good Christians. They all helped many people through the years. They didn't curse the town when they hung the Old Devil, they just honored the newsmen who had been called devils and devils' apprentices since newspapers began. So don't be scared of that devil over the paper, just remember, he represents over 100 years of men and women devilishly working to report the local news for the people of Sonora. Long may The Devil's River News and the grinning old devil continue to preserve our local history in writing and pictures for the future generations enjoyment, as well as our own.

If you have any questions, concerning local history, send them to "Ask the Historical Society", P.O. Box 885, Sonora, TX 76950-0885 or e-mail them to schs@sonoratx.net. You may call us at the office at 307 Oak Street at 325-387-5084.

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Supplementation Strategies for Livestock

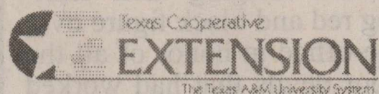
By: Pascual Hernandez
Sutton County Extension
Agent-Ag

Supplementing nutrients to livestock accounts for a significant portion of annual production costs. To optimize productivity of today's operations, some supplemental nutrients will be required at critical periods during the annual production cycle. However, producers need to avoid unnecessarily compounding this cost by feeding too much, too little, or using range and pasture forages inefficiently. A producer should provide supplemental nutrients with minimal feed inputs. A primary objective is to use forage efficiently.

An important aspect of selecting a supplement is knowing how it affects daily forage

intake. In many situations, the success or failure of a supplemental feeding program hinges on this factor. Three common situations occur.

The first is a situation where livestock performance fails to meet production goals. Perhaps animals are not regaining condition as needed, or replacement females are gaining weight too slowly. Forage availability is not limiting intake, but its quality (in many instances, its protein content) is limiting intake, and possibly forage digestion. As a result, daily energy and protein intake are below daily requirements. To improve performance, select a supplement that will stimulate for-



age intake and digestion.

The second scenario is again, where livestock performance falls short of production goals. Forage availability may or may not be limiting forage intake. Instead, production goals are simply higher than can be achieved from the forage resource. First, consider a supplement that will sustain forage intake and digestion at the present level (to assure efficient forage utilization) but provide the additional nutrients required to increase performance. If this approach does not improve performance as needed, it may be necessary to feed more supplement and sacrifice some efficiency of forage utilization.

In the third situation, forage and energy intake may be currently sufficient to meet production goals. However, due to climate or management needs, future forage supplies will be limited. A droughty period may limit forage supply for fall and winter. Or, because of purchasing opportunities, large numbers of animals may be bought in late summer and fall. Both can result in higher forage requirements than forage supply. A supplemental feeding program to reduce forage intake but maintain total energy intake may be desirable.

The key to success in these three situations is to stimulate, maintain, or reduce forage intake. The supplemental feeding strategy required for each is different. Such strategies will be discussed at the Range Animal Nutrition Workshop to be held at the Sutton County Civic Center on March 31st. Other topics include "Plant Response to Grazing & Browsing" and "Supplemental Nutrition For Deer". The program, which offers 3 CEUs, begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at noon. There is no cost to attend, but call the Extension Office at 387-3101 if you plan to attend.

Wild Turkey and Prescribed Fire

EDGEFIELD, S.C. — Wildlife managers know the use of prescribed fire as a land management tool is an excellent way to improve wildlife habitat.

However, each spring wildlife biologists hear the fears of concerned hunters who don't understand that prescribed burns in March and April -- months generally known as wild turkey nesting months -- are far more beneficial than harmful to wild turkey populations.

"A common misconception is that prescribed burns during March and April are detrimental to wild turkey populations because they burn lots of wild turkey nests," said Dr. James Earl Kennamer, the National Wild Turkey Federation's senior vice president for conservation programs.

However, the NWF's wildlife biologists have research showing the years of improved nesting and brood habitat created by a growing season prescribed fire is far more important to the turkey population than the loss of a few nests.

"Prescribed fire is a tool that historically was used only in winter months," said Kennamer. "However, research has shown that growing season burning during late March and April -- when shrubs and saplings start to bud -- can be much more effective at reducing brush and saplings and stimulating grass and forb growth than winter burning."

Prescribed fire is a land management tool that mimics a natural process. Introducing fire kills unwanted brush so natural grasses and plants that benefit wildlife are able to grow. Without prescribed fire, unwanted plants and trees will shade out beneficial plants on the forest floor and hazardous fuels will build up causing forests to become susceptible to devastating wildfires.

"While some nests are lost in spring burns, evidence shows that most hens will re-nest if they lose their first nest," said Kennamer. "Especially if the loss of the nest occurs early in the incubation cycle."

Research conducted separately on the Kisatchie National

Forest in Louisiana and the Homochitto National Forest in Mississippi shows that hens prefer to nest in more open areas than the thick brushy areas forest managers are improving with fire. In fact, of 64 nests observed in Mississippi during the spring burning season, only four were located in areas scheduled to be burned and only two were actually destroyed by the fire.

"Although the prescribed burns may destroy a few turkey nests, the lush new plant growth after the burn attracts a multitude of insects and provides food and shelter for growing turkey poults," NWF Regional Biologist Joe Koloski said.

According to Koloski, the benefits can last up to five years and will help improve local turkey populations. However, if prescribed burns were not used the result would be a loss in value of the habitat as it matures further and a gradual decrease of young poult survival, which in turn would cause a decline in the turkey population.

"The improvement to forest health more than makes up for any minor negative impacts on nesting," said Jeff Bien, U.S. Forest Service fire management officer for Homochitto National Forest.

Forest managers on Homochitto normally conduct a

third of each year's prescribed burns during the spring growing season while maintaining healthy turkey populations. In fact, burn areas are extremely popular with turkeys, and even with some turkey hunters.

"We see a lot of birds in recently burned areas," Bien said. "We've even had people who have harvested birds in areas that were still smoking."

Biologists also point toward evidence that spring is the historical time for cleansing fires in nature. Before humans interfered, spring lightning storms ignited fires that eliminated brush and opened forests up to new growth. This prevented devastating fires that can destroy forests and enhanced habitat for wildlife. Today's prescribed fire regimen simulates nature's original forest health plan.

"Turkeys, like many animals in the Southeast, have adapted to the natural cycles of fire that periodically renewed the forest," Kennamer said. "This has been happening for centuries. We are restoring an important component to an ecosystem that evolved around fire. It is common to see turkeys feeding on exposed acorns and insects within hours after a prescribed burn, even with brush and grass still smoldering around them."

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- 3 Harrison Interests 10500' John W Henderson Iii -B- #74 Ft Heart Land Drilling 8 03/04/08 18 Drlg Ahead 6450'
- New 4 Approach Operating 9000' University 42-22 #3 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 353 03/31/08 Assigned
- 5 Approach Operating 9000' West #2303 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 353 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- 6 Approach Operating 9000' Cinco Terry -F- #2001 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 709 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- 7 Approach Operating 9000' P L Childress Iii -17- #1702 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 710 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- 8 Stonegate Prod Co 8500' University -12- #2 H Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 442 02/29/08 22 Drlg Ahead
- 9 Anadarko E & P Co Lp 8400' Wilkins -A- #5 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 38 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- 10 Eog Resources/Mid 7500' Weatherly-Pryor -B4- #1 H Dw O'ryan Drilling Llc 4 02/21/08 30 Drlg Ahead 7693'
- 11 Finley Resources Inc 6500' Graham Ranch #1 Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 142 03/11/08 11 Drlg Ahead
- New 12 Fiml Natural Res 6200' Seahorn -H- #385a Dw Patterson Drilling/A 721 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- New 13 Oxy Permian/Houston 5800' South Cross Unit #248 Dw Patterson Uti/Midlan 607 03/28/08 Assigned

Sutton

- 1 Highmount E&P Tx 9650' Brown-Whitehead -41- #5 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 39 03/07/08 15 Drlg Ahead
- 2 Highmount E&P Tx 9250' Duke Wilson #189-28 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 120 03/13/08 9 Drlg Ahead
- New 3 Highmount E&P Tx 8750' Edwin S Mayer Jr -C- #3-6 Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 302 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- New 4 Highmount E&P Tx 8250' Mayer Ranch -Dd- #28-4 Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 301 03/15/08 7 Drlg Ahead
- New 5 Highmount E&P Tx 7800' Jones Ranch -156- #6 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 105 03/16/08 6 Drlg Ahead
- New 6 Highmount E&P Tx 6600' Jones -118- #33 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 40 03/17/08 5 Drlg Ahead
- New 7 Highmount E&P Tx 6350' Galbreath -66- #19 Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 304 03/25/08 Assigned
- New 8 Highmount E&P Tx 6300' Galbreath -66- #21 Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 304 03/16/08 6 Drlg Ahead
- New 9 Highmount E&P Tx 6225' Espy -57- #14 Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 303 03/14/08 8 Drlg Ahead
- New 10 Kcs Resources/Pb 6000' H T Espy -A- #4 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 161 03/22/08 Moving On

Terrell

- 1 Conocophillips/Odess 12700' Alex Mitchell -1- #11 Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 214 12/20/07 93 Drlg Ahead
- 2 Encore Operating Lp 12600' Banner Estate #49 H Dw Nabors Drilling (O) 641 01/13/08 69 Drlg Ahead
- 3 Encore Operating Lp 12200' Bassett Goode #7 H Dw Patterson Drilling/H 19 03/08/08 14 Drlg Ahead 7650'
- 4 Newfield Exploration 12000' Poulter -27- #4 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 118 02/15/08 36 Drlg Ahead
- 5 Fasken Oil & Ranch 7800' Browne Ne -184- #76 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 42 03/12/08 10 Drlg Ahead

Edwards

- 1 Newfield Exploration 14000' Whitehead #8504 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 471 03/12/08 10 Drlg Ahead
- New 2 Highmount E&P Tx 7250' Canyon Ranch #90-8e Dw Helmerich & Payne/S 305 03/18/08 4 Drlg Ahead
- New 3 Diamondback Oper 4000' Bowermaster -46- #6 Ft Hope Drilling 1 03/20/08 2 Drlg Ahead

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- 1 Dan A Hughes Co Lp 14750' Altizer -56- #2 Dw Patterson Drilling/A 79 03/01/08 21 Drlg Ahead

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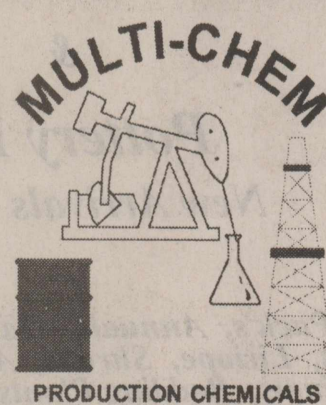
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Great Backyard Bird Count Sets New Records



This Hermit Thrush enjoys a drink on Eaton Hill. Photo By Delyse Jaeger

Submitted

New York, NY & Ithaca, NY, March 2008-Bird watchers outdid themselves during the 2008 Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society. Participants submitted more than 85,700 checklists during the four-day event, February 15-18, surpassing last year's all-time record by several thousand. Participants also identified a record 635 species and sent in thousands of stunning bird images from around the continent.

Birders who had heard about the massive seed production failure in trees across northern Canada were expecting a huge influx of north-

ern finches coming south to look for food. "As predicted, there were record numbers of GBBC reports for Pine Grosbeak," says Rob Fergus, Senior Scientist with the National Audubon Society. It was also a banner year for Common Redpolls and Evening Grosbeaks, reported in their highest numbers in several years.

In this year's GBBC, Yellow-billed Magpie numbers hit a new low. Magpies, crows, and jays are especially susceptible to the West Nile virus. For the past few years the population of Yellow-billed Magpies has declined following the spread of the virus to California, Nationwide, American Crow and

Blue Jay numbers appear to have stabilized somewhat, but bear continued monitoring as the populations of these birds continue to adapt to the presence of this new disease.

The GBBC charts the explosive geographic expansion of Eurasian Collared-Doves. The species has spread aggressively since it was introduced in Florida in 1980 and made new inroads this year. For the first time, GBBC records of this bird came from British Columbia, Manitoba, and Oregon.

Some species showed up in Great Backyard Bird Count reports for the very first time, including a Masked Duck in Texas a bird that is usually found in the tropics. An Arctic Loon, seldom seen outside Alaska, was spotted in California. An Ivory Gull wandered down from the high Arctic to show up on a checklist in South Dakota.

"Each year, awareness of the GBBC seems to spread," says Cornell Lab of Ornithology Citizen Science Director Janis Dickinson. "Committed individuals, nature centers, parks, and schools adopted the GBBC as their own in an unprecedented way this year. They held bird walks, ID workshops, and many other events tied to the count." Preschoolers built feeders out of milk jugs. An artist painted a mural of urban birds in Hollywood. One participant commented, "Participating in the bird count has given my children a little taste of what it is like to be a scientist."

For an even more detailed summary of this year's results, visit the GBBC web site at www.birdcount.org. You can explore maps, see beautiful photos, prize-drawing winners, and the list cities and towns that topped their state or province for the number

of checklists submitted our "checklist champs." The Great Backyard Bird Count returns February 13-16, 2009!

- Top 10 most-reported birds in the 2008 GBBC:
- 1) Northern Cardinal
 - 2) Mourning Dove
 - 3) Dark-eyed Junco
 - 4) Downy Woodpecker
 - 5) American Goldfinch
 - 6) Blue Jay
 - 7) House Finch
 - 8) Tufted Titmouse
 - 9) Black-capped Chickadee
 - 10) American Crow

Media Note: Visit the "Explore the Results" pages on the GBBC web site to find the list of Top 10 birds reported in your state or province. Stop by the Press Room for more information about the 2008 count: www.birdcount.org/press.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a nonprofit membership institution interpreting and conserving the earth's biological diversity through research, education, and citizen science focused on birds.

Audubon is dedicated to protecting birds and other wildlife and the habitat that supports them. Our national network of community-based nature centers and chapters, scientific and educational programs, and advocacy on behalf of areas sustaining important bird populations, engage millions of people of all ages and backgrounds in conservation. www.audubon.org

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- Champions Choice Buckle to the Average Winner
- Saturday 9:00 a.m.--All-Ladies Team Roping
- Saddles to Average Winners
- Saturday 1:00 p.m.--Invitational Team Roping
- Match Roping featuring defending match champs Kelly Kothmann and Sterling Price vs. Olie Smith and Cliff Davis
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- Sunday 8:30 a.m.--NBHA Barrel Race
- Sunday 2:00 p.m.--Open Draw Pot Roping

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West Texas Heritage Days At Fort McKavett State Historic Site

Submitted

Fort McKavett State Historic Site will come to life on March 29th, 2008, as Living Historians and Re-enactors from around the state gather to portray life as it would have been at the fort in the 1800s. Gates will open at 8:00 a.m. followed by a 10:00 a.m. flag raising ceremony.

Throughout the day, activities will include cavalry, artillery and infantry drills, Native American demonstrations, Buffalo Soldiers, Buffalo Hunters, Chuck Wagon demonstrations, the Texas Camel Corps, and rope-making to name a few. A special celebration will take place honoring one of our life time friend members. Ice House Brass Band will perform during a bar-b-que lunch offered to the public for a donation to Friends of Fort McKavett.

The day will conclude with the lowering of the flag scheduled for 4:30 p.m.

Fort McKavett State Historic Site consists of 17 restored buildings and several ruins. The restored buildings include the Post Hospital, Post Headquarters, Barracks and several Officers' Quarters. There is a historic trail that winds down to a lime kiln exhibit, rock quarry and the Government springs.

Fort McKavett SHS is located 23 miles west of Menard, 41 miles northeast of Sonora, 34 miles east of Eldorado and 15 miles west, then 26 miles north of Junction. For further information, please call us at (325) 396-2358 or via e-mail at mckavett@airmail.net.

Applications Being Taken for Game Warden Academy

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is taking applications for a game warden cadet class scheduled to start Nov. 1, 2008. Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2008.*

It is anticipated that up to 55 cadets will be accepted into the 54th Game Warden Academy, which will begin its seven-month training in October. More than 400 people applied for the 40 positions in the previous cadet class that will graduate in May.

Game warden recruiters say they are particularly interested in receiving applications from persons who are bilingual in Spanish and English. Bilingual game wardens receive additional pay of \$50 per month.

Applicants must be 21 years old on or before October 2008 and have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. The degree requirement must be met prior to Sept. 1, 2008.

To be accepted, applicants must meet the minimum eligibility requirements and successfully complete a regional interview, an extensive background investigation, and a physical agility test held in Austin. Applicants must successfully complete each step before advancing to the next step.

After graduation, the new game wardens will be assigned to vacant stations throughout Texas with the responsibility of protecting the state's natural resources. Game wardens also protect lives by enforcing the Water Safety Act and conducting standard peace officer duties.

Applications and more information on requirements and compensation may be obtained on the TPWD Web site or from TPWD Law Enforcement offices.

For additional information contact game warden recruiter Royce Wells at 1-877-229-2733.

Turkey Season Starts Off Good For Young Hunter



Otto Wofford, 7 years old, from Katy Texas killed this 10 in bearded gobbler on the Epps Ranch last Saturday (March 22). Otto came down to hunt with his grandfather, Dr. Mike Richey of Huntsville, for spring break.

Combat Pay Can Count Toward Economic Stimulus Payment Eligibility

WASHINGTON — Military personnel serving in combat zones have the option of including their nontaxable combat pay on their 2007 or 2008 income tax returns if it helps their eligibility for the 2008 economic stimulus payments.

To receive the stimulus payment this year, combat zone personnel or their spouses must file a 2007 income tax return by Oct. 15. Otherwise, they can claim the economic stimulus payment on next year's income tax return.

"The last thing we want our troops in Iraq or other war zones to worry about are their tax returns. But we do want the troops, and their families stateside, to know they may qualify for the economic stimulus payment," said Linda E. Stiff, Acting Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service.

Starting in May, the IRS will issue economic stimulus payments of up to \$600 (\$1,200 for married couples) plus a \$300 payment for each qualifying child younger than 17. The payments are based on 2007 income tax returns. The payments for individuals will begin to phase out starting at \$75,000 in adjusted gross income (\$150,000 for married couples).

Even individuals and families who normally do not file a tax return because they have no filing requirement may qualify for an economic stimulus payment. They may be eligible for the minimum payment of \$300 (\$600 for married couples) plus the \$300 for each qualifying child younger than 17.

People must have at least \$3,000 in qualifying income to get a payment. Qualifying income is defined as any combination of earned income (such as wages or taxable in-

come from self-employment), nontaxable combat pay and certain benefits from Social Security, Veterans Affairs and Railroad Retirement.

Military personnel who normally would not file an income tax return because their 2007 income is not taxable can file a simple Form 1040A with the IRS if they want to receive the economic stimulus payment. They should report their nontaxable combat pay on Line 40b of the Form 1040A to show at least \$3,000 in qualifying income. The Department of Defense lists the amount of excluded combat pay, along with the designation, "Code Q," in Box 12 of Forms W-2.

If a military person is serving in a combat zone, his or her normal tax filing requirement is extended until at least 180 days after leaving a combat zone. However, spouses or others with a power of attorney can prepare and file a 2007 income tax return on their behalf so that the stimulus payment is received this year.

The IRS has developed Package 1040A-3, an 8-page publication containing tax tips, a sample Form 1040A and a blank Form 1040A. The package, available at www.irs.gov, contains everything needed to file the return immediately.

To ensure that a stimulus payment will be received in 2008, the return must be filed by Oct. 15 to allow sufficient time for processing.

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

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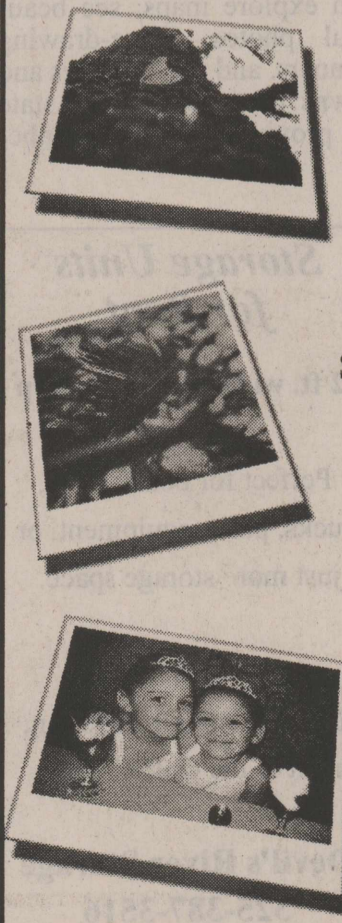
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AgriLife Research Station's Sonora Ram Sale Boasts Higher Average Than Past Years

by: Steve Bryns

SONORA – The average sale price for animals in the annual sale of Rambouillet rams participating in the Texas AgriLife Research ram performance test was higher than in the two previous years, said the test's

coordinator, Dr. Dan Waldron, Texas AgriLife Research geneticist at San Angelo, said prices were up though numbers of animals were down during the sale conducted at the conclu-

sion of testing at the Texas AgriLife Research Station at Sonora on March 14.

"Because of the higher cost of the test, which is mostly due to high grain costs associated with feeding the rams,

breeders were more selective about the quality and quantity of rams they brought to the test this year," Waldron said. "The rams that completed the test, though, were truly top individuals as was evidenced by the higher sale average."

The high-selling ram, TRSG 1512 from Texas Rambouillet Superior Genetics, a group of breeders dedicated to raising Rambouillet with top genetic traits, went to the Sawyer Ranch of Sonora for \$1,600. The ram was a son of the test's 2003-2004 high-indexing ram, TRSG 773, who also sired the top ram in last year's test.

This year's high-indexing ram, owned by Texas Rambouillet Superior Genetics, was not offered for sale. He was also a son of TRSG 773, as were the second and third high-selling rams. Those rams were bought by the Sawyer Ranch for \$1,100 and the Bob Pfluger Ranch of San Angelo for \$950, respectively.

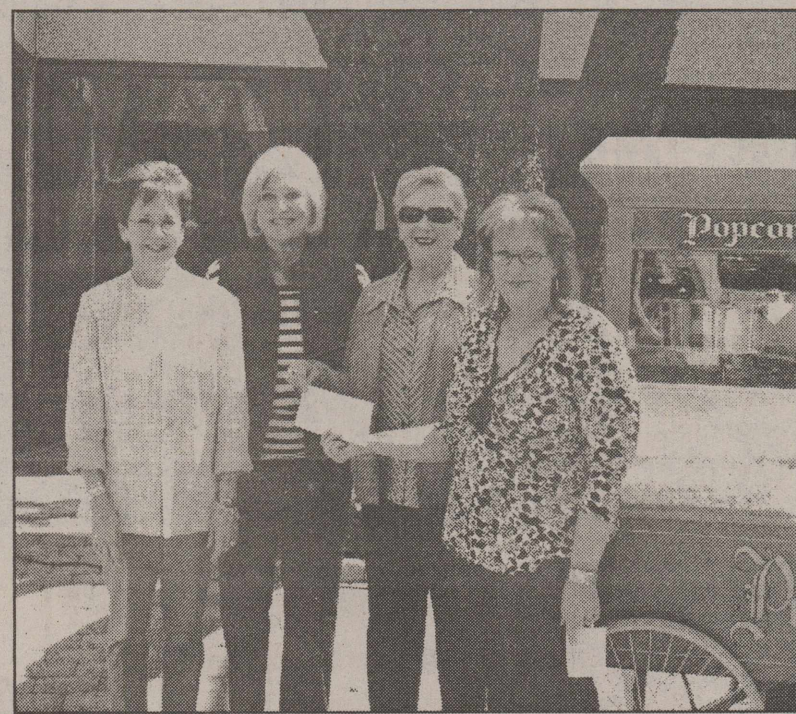
Eleven rams sold for an average price of \$764. The Sawyer Ranch was the volume buyer, purchasing five head for a total of \$4,700.

"Some breeders tested rams for their own replacement needs and for the performance information the test provides

rather than testing the rams they wanted to sell," Waldron said. "All the rams offered did sell at or well above the floor price of \$400 per head. It was a very good sale in terms of quality of animals offered."

The annual test has been conducted by the AgriLife Experiment Station at Sonora since 1947. Rambouillet rams from some of the world's top flocks are tested on rate of gain and desirable fleece characteristics during the 140-day

test. For more information on the Annual Ram Performance Test, pictures of the top indexing and selling animals, and a complete listing of test and sale results go to: <http://sanangelo.tamu.edu/genetics/ramtest.htm>



The First National Bank donates the proceeds of popcorn sales to the LMH Ladies Auxiliary (left to right) Carla Garner, Lolabeth Jones, Lenora Pool, and LaDonna Alaman.

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- 5) Proof of Medicaid, CHIP or Private insurance (if applicable)

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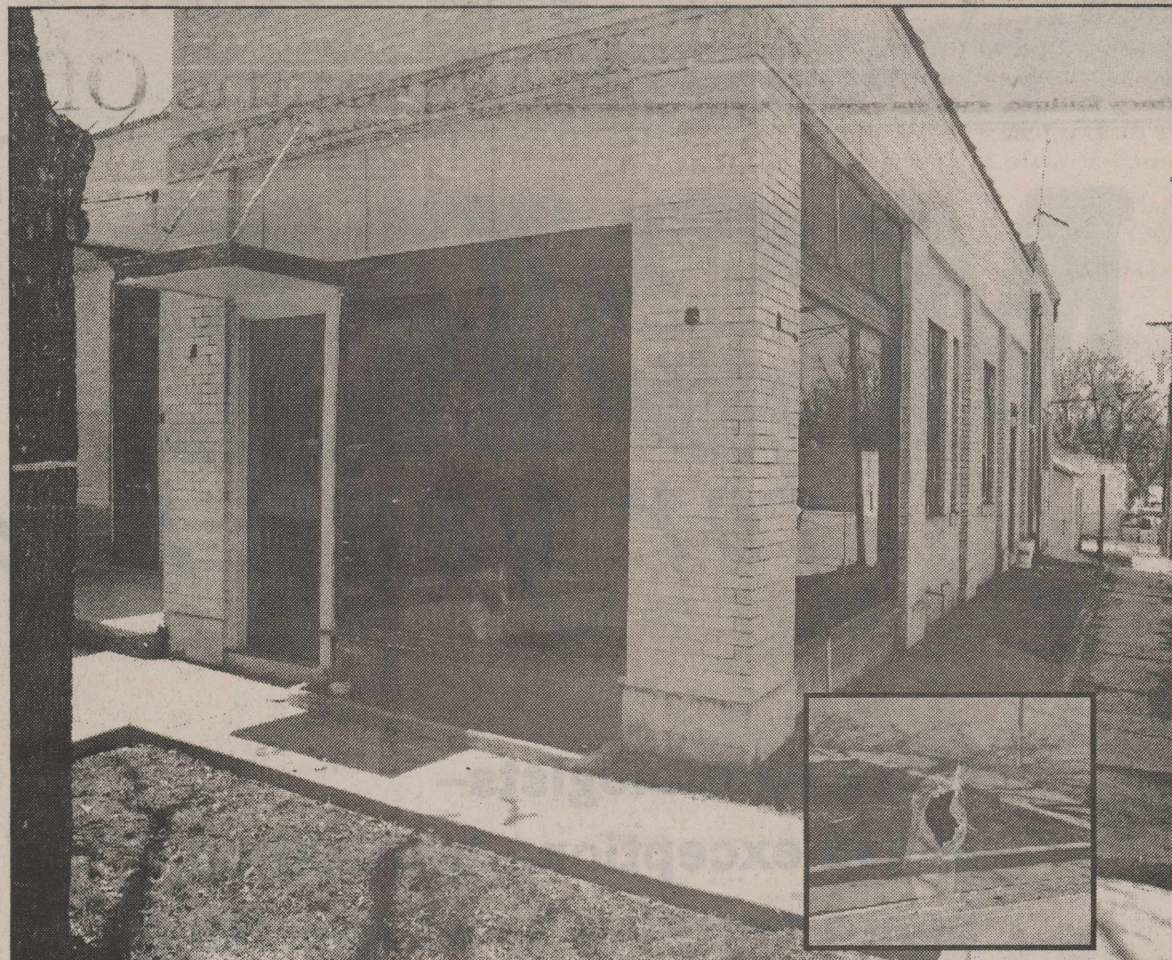
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Ranch Museum Vandalized



The front window of the Ranch Museum (the old ice house) was found vandalized on Friday, March 21. No suspects have been identified at press time. If you know any information regarding this incident please contact the Sonora Police Department at 387-3888.

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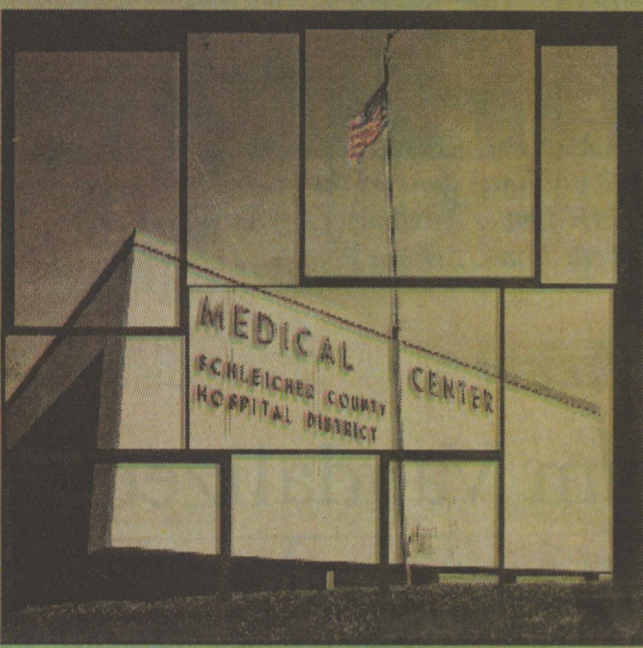
STEREO SURROUND SOUND IN ALL AUDITORIUMS	
◆21 (10:00pm) (1:00pm) 4:00pm 7:00pm 10:00pm (PG-13)	HORTON HEARS A WHO (G)
◆STOP LOSS (10:25pm) (1:25pm) 4:25pm 7:25pm 10:25pm (R)	NEVER BACK DOWN (PG-13)
◆SUPERHERO MOVIE (10:45pm) (1:45pm) 4:45pm 7:45pm 10:45pm (PG-13)	◆TYLER PERRY'S
10,000 B.C. (10:55am) (1:55pm) 4:55pm 7:55pm 10:55pm (PG-13)	◆SHUTTER (10:50pm) (1:50pm) 4:50pm 7:50pm 10:50pm (PG-13)
COLLEGE ROAD TRIP (10:30am) (1:30pm) 4:30pm 7:30pm 10:30pm (G)	◆THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL (PG-13)
◆DRILLBIT TAYLOR (10:15pm) (1:15pm) 4:15pm 7:15pm 10:35pm (PG-13)	◆TYLER PERRY'S
◆FOOL'S GOLD (10:35am) (1:35pm) 4:35pm 7:35pm 10:35pm (PG-13)	◆MEET THE BROWNS (PG-13)
	◆UNDER THE SAME MOON (PG-13)

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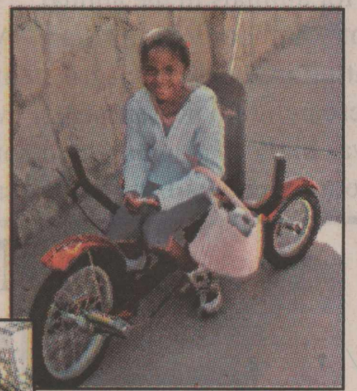
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Main Street Traffic

By Mary Ann Kay



Easter Fun In Sonora

Saturday morning the Easter bunny came to Sonora and many children arrived at Sutton County Courthouse lawn and Eaton Hill. We had children from San Antonio, San Angelo, Ozona, Junction, Houston, Austin, and Sonora. Many of the children were full of laughs and ready to hunt those Easter eggs. I would like to express my appreciation to some folks who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt & Eaton Hill Treasure Hunt. Lewis Allen hid the eggs on Eaton Hill for all the older children who wanted to hunt Easter Eggs.

Jim Kay, Patti Rainer, Joy Galbreath, Jennifer Esparza, Jo Ann Hernandez, and Reggie Hernandez hid the eggs on the Sutton County Courthouse lawn for the smaller children to find. First National Bank of Sonora and the Bank & Trust of Sonora donate silver dollars for the special money eggs and the children all loved hunting for the money eggs. Dairy Queen of Sonora ice creams, Sonic ice cream and drinks, Town & Country Subway sandwiches, and La Mexicana Restaurant donated food plates and we appreciated your donations to help make this a special day for our youth. Special stuff toys and bunnies from Sonora Answering Service and Xerox were donated for the children to win. Of course we also had some skate boards, basketballs, footballs, and other toys that were donated by the supporters of the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program. Friends of Historic Sonora would like to express our appreciation to Devil's River News and KHOS Radio for helping us advertise this wonderful event. A big thank you to the Mayor of Sonora, Gloria Lopez who helped with the event and the City of Sonora and the courthouse lawn was beautiful. Thanks to Johnny Solis and Carlos Gallegos for

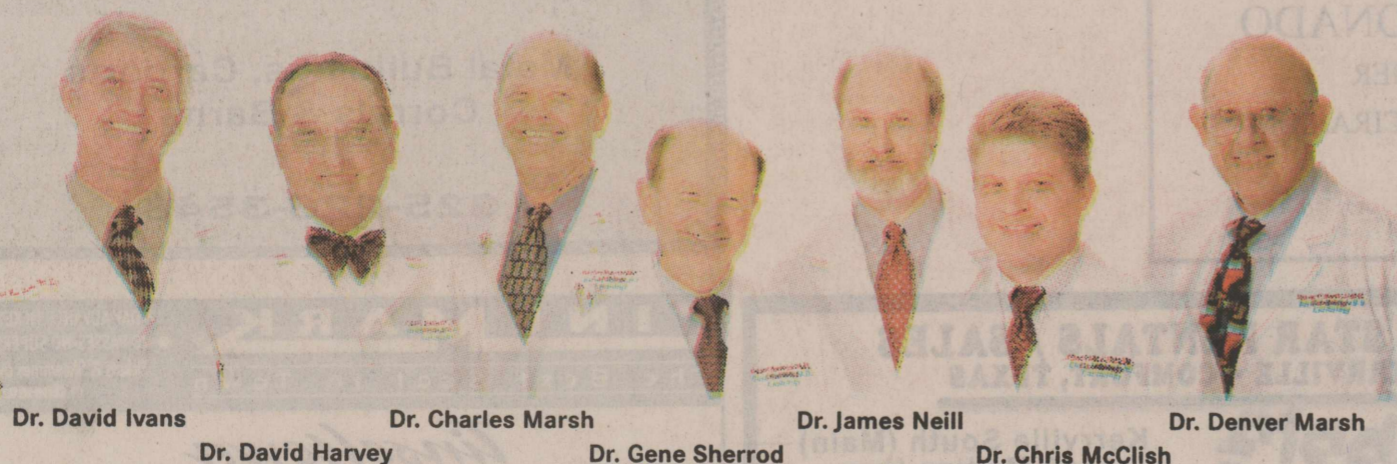
keeping our courthouse lawn so beautiful for all of us and our visitors to enjoy.

We are looking for quilts and needle work for the special Quilt and Needle Show at the Bank & Trust of Sonora and First National Bank of Sonora which will open in April 2008. If you would like to share your talent or your Grandmother talents with us during the month of April please call the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program at 325-387-2248. We would ask you to come visit the bank in April. Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Program will be selling chances to win a Country Living King Size Hugs & Kisses Quilt as a spring promotion for \$1.00 each. You don't have to be present to win the beautiful quilt which will be given away at the Bank & Trust of Sonora on May 1, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. You may purchase your winning ticket from the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Office or one of the directors on the Friends of Historic Sonora Main Street Board. The directors on the F.H. Sonora Main Street Board are Joy Galbreath, Patti Rainer, Terry Surridge, Tony Adkins, Bruce Kerbow, Maura Weingart, Rachel Duran, Tabby Sanchez-Abrego, Becky McAngus, Jennifer Esparza, and Ann Kay.

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The Devil's River News

Classified Ads

(325) 387-2507

228 E. Main St.

sales@sonoratrix.net

Employment

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.

Now hiring part-time and full time housekeeping. Apply in person. Days Inn 1312 N. Service Rd.

Employment

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.

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.

Immediate Opening, Carrier wanted! Sign-On Bonus San Angelo Standard times seeking someone to deliver newspapers to houses in Sonora. Makes approximately \$1,600 working mornings. hours. 1-800-588-1884 ext 8291.

Local Company seeking Service Technician must be able to pass drug test. CDL not required FMI call 387-3154 or come by 311 W. College St. for application.

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

Norma Figueroa Homeinteriors Decorating Consultant 325-226-2777 SHOP WITH ME ONLINE!!! homeinteriors.com/normafigueroa77 START YOU NEW CAREER TODAY!!! Openings in your area- Call me!

The City of Sonora, TX is seeking applicants for the position of City Secretary. Applicants must be self-motivated, able to communicate clearly orally and written, bondable, and have a valid driver's license. The ability to make decisions independently, manage tasks and personnel, maintain financial accounts, and interface with other governmental entities is required. Applicant must be able to use various computer programs such as Word and Excel as well as accounting and payroll programs. Education and/or experience requirements: Bachelor's Degree (B.A. or B.S.) from a four-year college or university; or one to two years' related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. If interested please send resume to:

City of Sonora, TX
Attn: Mr. James J. Polonis
201 E. Main St.
Sonora, TX 76950
The City of Sonora, TX Is an equal opportunity employer.

Field Superintendent
Small aggressive oil company looking for motivated local person to run daily operations in the Wardlaw field 22 miles NW of Rock-springs.

Past experience in operating oil wells is a prerequisite. Competitive remuneration with considerable upside. Please call Geoff at 1-403-519-8587.

Help wanted: Full-Time house keeper, Competitive pay. Great work atmosphere. Apply in person at Comfort Inn 311 N. Hwy 277.

STARTING AT \$8.00!
Interested applicants. DQ of 4 N. Hwy 277 now hiring for all shifts. Need shift leaders, day and night help, flexible hours. Need to love working with people, and meeting new faces. We are a drug and smoke free environment. Apply in person today with store manager, Teresa James.

Notice is hereby given that Sutton County is now accepting applications for one (1) full-time position for the Road & Bridge Department. **CDL required.** Applications may be obtained at the Auditor's Office and **must be returned** to the Auditor's Office. the deadline for applications is April 4, 2008. for additional information on positions, please contact the Auditors office. Sutton County is an equal opportunity employer.

Employment

The Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District is accepting resumes for the position of field technician. Applicants must have agricultural knowledge and computer experience is necessary. College degree preferred but not required. Resumes may be dropped off at 301 S. Crockett in Sonora, Texas. For more information please contact Greta S. Ramsdell, General Manager at 325/387-2369.

Heavy Duty Truck Mechanic Needed! Pay according to experience. Class A CDL w/ Hazmat & Tanker- a Huge Plus. If no Class A CDL w/ Hazmat & Tanker, it will be required within 6 months of employment. Heavy Duty Truck experience mandatory, pressure vessel experience a plus. Must have tools that represent experience level. Benefits include Insurance (Medical, Vision, Dental and Prescription), Vacation and 401K. Please send Resume to PO Box 69102, Odessa, TX 79769.

Help Wanted: Plumbers helper. Local/surrounding areas. Please call 325-853-2685 or 325-226-4726. Leave message.

Help wanted: Cook Please call 325-396-3100

For Rent

For Rent 2 months free Bronco Mobile Home Estates, 2nd & 3rd month free on single & double wides. 1305 N. Crockett, Sonora. Call 387-2934 or 830-313-1060.

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For Sale

For Sale: 16x76 Mobile Home in Bronco Mobile Home Estate, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, rented lot, \$27,500. Financing with \$3,000 down with good credit. 830-313-1060 or 387-2934.

For Sale: Mobile Home. 3 bedroom 1 bath 14x72 \$2,750.00. Must be moved. Good for ranch help or hunters. 830-313-1313 or 325-387-2934.

Cozy 3/2 DBL \$49,985, \$416 mthly P & J, 10% DP, 8.6 APR 240 mths W.A.C. 830-981-2432 RBI # 35920

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\$29,999 16' x 72' 1152 sq. ft. Vinyl ext. Shingle roof. All Appl. Del/Set, a/c, & skirting! Limit 2 per customer. Offer ends 3/31/08 830-981-2430 RBI # 35920

Owner In Jail- Make up backpayments. We also have zero down home packages if you own your own land. 1-800-934-9644 LUV Homes RBI 03190

For sale: Glider, excellent condition. Call 325-206-0830

Commercial Building and Yard for sale or lease at 216 S. Divide St. in Eldorado. (National Oilwell Building) great location. Suited well for oil and gas company or contractor. Call Clint at 325-853-2711.

FOR SALE: 4 BR/2BA/FP doublewide mobile home. Corner lot, lots of trees, covered carport, fenced yard. 309 E. Warner, Eldorado. Call 277-0472 or 325-853-2431. Asking \$78,000.

For Sale: 5 head of 2 yr old purebred Charolais Heifers, gentle, calving now, Stapper Ranch. (325) 396-4620 - Ralph and (432) 836-4679 - Carlon

Foreclosures & Used homes @ Deep Discounts! Several to choose from RBI 33557 210-834-1447

For Sale: Rockwood XL pop up trailer. Can be seen at 109 N. Sinaloa 3rd. In good condition.

For Sale: Completely remodeled 30 x 80 manufactured home. 4BR/2Ba/2 living rooms/rock fireplace. **Must be moved.** \$50,000 -negotiable. 830-234-7047

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505 Glasscock	\$27,500	New Listing
119 Kisselburg Rd.	\$35,000	
310 Glasscock Ave.	\$60,000	Price Reduced
1109 Glasscock	\$69,500	Sold
415 E. 2nd St.	\$78,500	
302 SE Water	\$85,000	
109 Draw St.	\$95,000	New Listing
407 E. College	\$85,000	New Listing
101 Sawyer Ct.	\$122,500	
106 Oakwood	\$129,500	New Listing
608 Allen Dr.	\$135,000	
410 S. Crockett	\$140,000	
126 E. Castlehill Rd.	\$154,900	
102 Oakwood	\$185,000	
112 Edgemont	\$210,000	Contract Pending
107 Draw St.	\$210,000	New Listing
121 Edgemont Rd.	\$275,000	New Listing
1893 S. Service Rd.	\$315,000	New Listing

Acreage and Lots

128 Deerwood Dr.	\$7,000
50 Acres--Sutton Co.	\$3,000/Acre
Sutton Co. Estates Lot 2-20 Ac.	\$3,500/Acre
Sutton Co. Estates Lot 5-20 Ac.	\$3,500/Acre
Sutton Co. Estates Lot 6-21.87 Ac.	\$3,500/Acre
1553 Ac. w/home Schleicher Co.	\$1,395/Acre
2235 Acres-Sutton Co.	\$1,450/Acre
320 Ac. w/home-Scheicher Co.	\$1,495/Acre
23.72 Acres-Gillespie Co.	\$175,000/Acre

Truck Driver I

2 + yrs. truck driving exp., valid CDL, good written & verbal communication skills, self motivated, safety conscious. Computer skills a plus. Knowledge of DOT rules & regulations. Local resident preferred.

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A Politically Correct Story Tale: Little Red Riding Hood

Submitted

There once was a young person named Little Red Riding Hood who lived on the edge of a large forest full of endangered owls and rare plants that would probably provide a cure for cancer if only someone took the time to study them.

One day her mother asked her to take a basket of organically grown fruit and mineral water to her grandmother's house.

Many people believed that the forest was a foreboding and dangerous place, but Red Riding Hood knew that this was an irrational fear based on cultural paradigms instilled by a patriarchal society that regarded the natural world as an exploitable resource, and hence believed that natural predators were in fact intolerable competitors.

Other people avoided the woods for fear of thieves and deviants, but Red Riding Hood felt that in a truly classless society all marginalized peoples would be able to "come out" of the woods and be accepted as valid lifestyle role models.

On her way to Grandma's house, Red Riding Hood passed a woodchopper, and wandered off the path, in order to examine some flowers. She was startled to find herself standing before a Wolf, who asked her what was in her basket.

She replied, "I am taking my Grandmother some healthy snacks in a gesture of solidarity."

The Wolf said, "You know, my dear, it isn't safe for a little girl to walk through these woods alone."

Red Riding Hood said, "I

find your sexist remark offensive in the extreme, but I will ignore it because of your traditional status as an outcast from society, the stress of which has caused you to develop an alternative and yet entirely valid world view. Now, if you'll excuse me, I would prefer to be on my way."

Red Riding Hood returned to the main path, and proceeded towards her Grandmother's house. But because his status outside society had freed him from slavish adherence to linear, Western-style thought, the Wolf knew of a quicker route to Grandma's house.

He burst into the house and ate Grandma, a course of action affirmative of his nature as a predator. Then, unhampered by rigid, traditionalist gender role notions, he put on Grandma's nightclothes,

crawled under the bedclothes, and awaited developments.

Red Riding Hood entered the cottage and said, "Grandma, I have brought you some cruelty-free snacks to salute you in your role of wise and nurturing matriarch."

The Wolf said softly, "Come closer, child, so that I might see you."

Red Riding Hood said, "Goodness Grandma, what big eyes you have!"

"You forget that I am optically challenged."

"And Grandma, what an enormous nose you have."

"Naturally, I could have had it fixed to help my acting career, but I didn't give in to such societal pressures, my child."

"And Grandma, what very big, sharp teeth you have!"

The Wolf could not take

any more of these slurs, and, in a reaction appropriate for his accustomed lifestyle, he leaped out of bed, grabbed Little Red Riding Hood, and opened his jaws so wide that she could see her poor Grandmother cowering in his belly.

"Aren't you forgetting something?" Red Riding Hood bravely shouted. "You must request my permission before proceeding to a new level of intimacy!"

The Wolf was so startled by this statement that he loosened his grasp on her. At the same time, the woodchopper burst into the cottage, brandishing an axe.

"Hands off!" cried the woodchopper.

"And what do you think you're doing?" cried Little Red Riding Hood. "If I let you help me now, I would be ex-

pressing a lack of confidence in my own abilities, which would lead to poor self-esteem and lower achievement scores on college entrance exams."

"Last chance, sister! Get your hands off that endangered species! This is an FBI sting!" screamed the woodchopper, and when Little Red Riding Hood nonetheless made a sudden motion, he swung the axe and sliced off her head.

"I've been dealing with my anger ever since I saw her picking those protected flowers earlier. And now I'm going to have such a trauma. Do you have any aspirin?" asked the woodchopper.

"Sure," said the Wolf.

"I feel your pain," said the Wolf, a "Do you have any Maalox?"

And they all lived Happily Ever After!



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