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The Devil's River News

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP & STRONG • COVERING THE NEWS IN SONORA AND SUTTON COUNTY SINCE 1890

May 5, 2016

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Volume 127
Issue 18



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Sonora golf team members Holly Sparks, Kylie Reiner, Darby Ramsdell, Elyssa Prieto, Marisol Capuchin and Coach Deborah Ramon show-off their trophy awarded for their State Championship win on April 28th. | COURTESY PHOTO

Three-peat

Lady Broncos are State Golf Champs for 3rd Consecutive Year

For the third consecutive year, the Lady Broncos Golf Team takes the UIL State Championship title with their win at the 2016 UIL State Tournament on Thursday, April 28th.

Additionally, Darby Ramsdell was awarded a silver for her individual talent.

This is Ramsdell's third time finishing in the top three.

Leading by 18 strokes at the end of round 1, the Lady Broncos acquired two additional strokes on the field on day two, securing the win.

Coach Deborah Ramon complimented the ladies on their

hard work and overall success explaining that they are a good example of what hard work and dedication can accomplish.

"This is such a great accomplishment," said Coach Deborah Ramon. "I am so thrilled for these young ladies."

The ladies finished their championship win improving 35 strokes over the 2015 win.

Team members include Darby Ramsdell, Holly Sparks, Kylie Reiner, Elyssa Prieto and Marisol Capuchin.

All of the athletes deserve commendation for their diligence and achievement.

Sonora Hosts 'Best of the West' Special Olympics

All geared up and ready to compete. Participants from area schools, as well as, Sonora came out to participate in the 2016 "Best of the West" 6th Annual Special Olympics Track and Field Athletics Meet, at Bronco Stadium on Wednesday, April 27th.

Sonora hosted the athletes, their families, and volunteers for the annual event.

About 90 youngsters from local and area schools including Ballinger, Brady, Crockett County CSD, Junction, Mason, Miles, Reagan County ISD, Rocksprings, Sonora ISD, Schleicher County ISD, Small Schools Cooperative and TLCA participated in the event.

Sonora High School cheerleaders gestured waves and cheers of encouragement as each participant made their way to the finish line.



Emily Banda picked up speed just before crossing the 50M finish line during the Special Olympics on Wednesday, April 27th at Bronco Stadium. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Stands were filled with family and friends who came out to show their support as well.

In addition to wheelchair races, 25 M, 50 M and 100 M walks and runs special athletes competed in field events.

Every competitor received recognition and medals for their hard work.

The mission of the Special Olympics is to provide beneficial sports training and friendly athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with disabilities.

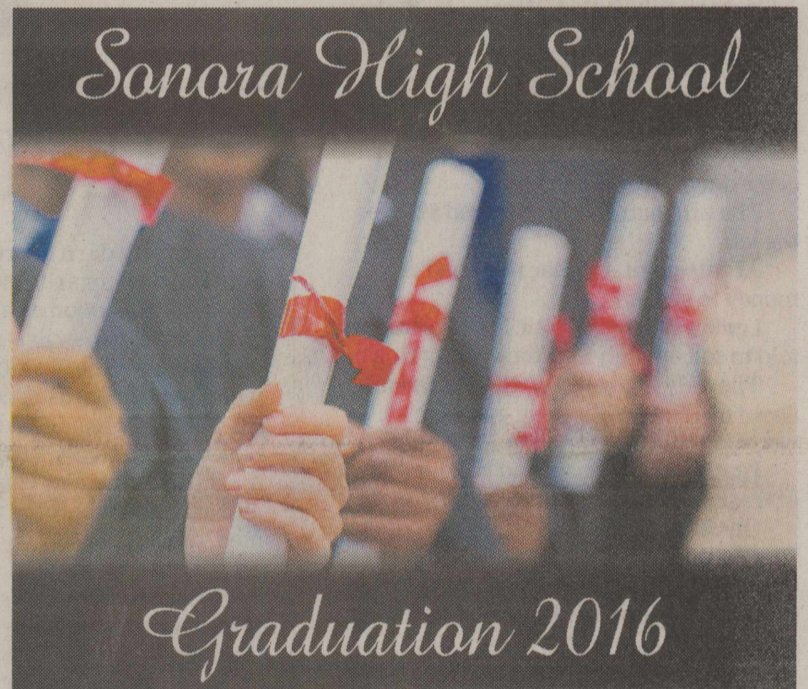
However, the real advantage is the fun and feeling of accomplishment of the participants.

Emily Banda, age 10, was all smiles as she crossed the finish line. Catching her breath, she said she has been training for the past three months.

Additionally, Sonora High School athletes worked to keep up with participants, walking and running alongside.



A burning torch stands mid-field at Bronco Stadium as participants competed in a variety of track and field events during the 6th Annual Special Olympics on Wednesday, April 27th. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



The Devil's River News Planning Annual Graduation Supplement

The Devil's River News is planning its annual graduation supplement as a way to recognizing the accomplishments of the 2016 SHS graduating class and to celebrate the end of another school year.

Each individual graduate will be featured along with their highlights and achievements during their school career.

Businesses and/or individuals wanting to sponsor one or more of the graduating seniors are encouraged to contact The Devil's River News office at 325-387-2507 as soon as possible.

Family and friends are also encouraged to place congratulatory messages or words of encouragement in the publication as the graduates of 2016 prepare for their final day at Sonora High School.

The annual graduation supplement will be published on May 27th and will be inserted in that week's edition of The Devil's River News.

SHS seniors include:
Joseph Taylor Absher
Victoria Nicole Acosta
Mckinsey Nikole Anderson
Rosa Eva Rebecca Araujo
John Andrew Arredondo
Shelby M'lynn Aschenbeck
Bryan Patrick Brown
Jillian Catrina Buitron
Joe Michael Campos II
Daniel Edward Castro
Louis Castro Jr
Daniel Ozuna Coronado
Kristen Noel Fierro
James Grady Freeman
Julian Dominic Gallardo

Juan Miguel Gamez
Arian Garcia
Alexis Selena Garza
Damian Alexander Garza
Juandavid Garza
Lisa Renee Garza
Kevin Alejandro Genera Castaneda
Felix Ray Guerra
Quealy Don Guerra-Shain
Tyler Lee Hampton
Trenton Heath Harris
Jonathan Hazelton
Edgar Martin Hernandez
Marlena Lupita Hernandez
Meghan Blair Hernandez
Oscar Jaime Herrada
Dionne Ashley Hinojosa
Dustin Ray Holmes
Garett Wells Jaeger
Sierra Cheyenne Kimbrell
Arturo Duran Lopez
Kaitlyn Leigh Lopez
Maggie Ann Macnaughton
Jonathan Andrew Martinez
Kevin Mathew Martinez
Ryan Matthew Martinez
Octavio Alejandro Mendez
Briana Nelly Palacios
Daniel Crane Pechacek
Julia Cloudt Pope
Darby Elizabeth Ramsdell
Paulo Rivas
Susana Robles
Straton George Rushing
Mauro Santana Jr
Misae Keeley Smith
Sergio Eric Solis
Maribel Cipriana Tobias
David Anthony Torres
Sylvia Janelle Vasquez
Zelenia Danielle Vasquez
Merritza Villanueva
Jerrad Mikael Willey
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Sonora News Online, All the Time

Supreme Court Sends Voter ID Case Back to Fifth Circuit

AUSTIN — Texas' voter identification law will remain in effect for now, but the U.S. Supreme Court has instructed a lower court to rule on its constitutionality before November's election.

On April 29 the Supreme Court temporarily upheld a stay granted by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Oct. 14. The stay has allowed the Texas law to remain in effect.

Justice Clarence Thomas, acting on behalf of the high court, ordered the New Orleans-based appellate court to decide *Veasey v. Abbott* by July 20, well in advance of the November 8 General Election.

The plaintiffs allege the state law's requirement — that in order to cast a ballot at an election poll a voter must present certain approved photographic identification — places a discriminatory and therefore unconstitutional burden on blacks and Hispanics.

Earlier decisions in lower courts found that the law did violate Section 2 of the U.S. Voting Rights Act, which prohibits voting practices or procedures that discriminate on the basis of race, color, or membership in one of certain language minority groups identified elsewhere in the act. Denial of a citizen's right to vote and intentional dilution of the voting strength of a community

of common interest are common tests courts use in determining whether an election law is discriminatory.

The Fifth Circuit set May 24 as the hearing date, the exact date of the state runoff election. Also of concern is that poll workers must be trained in time to oversee and assist voters in accordance with any court decisions come Election Day in November.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton commented after the Supreme Court issued the order: "Texas enacted a common-sense law to provide simple protections to the integrity of our elections and the democratic process in our state. We

appreciate the Supreme Court allowing the law to remain in effect at this time and look forward to defending the merits of our case in front of the entire Fifth Circuit next month."

Cascos reminds voters

Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos, the state's chief elections officer, on April 21 reminded voters that the law does not

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 5



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Cause No. 1188

This is a true story and I can vouch for it as it happened to me.

I think a plausible title to this story would be "Long Distance Law."

This took place during the 1950's out in Pecos County as is on the records at Ft. Stockton, Texas.

It Happened Out West



by Joe N. Brown

My mother was going through a divorce and title to the ranch was at stake as was several hundred head of livestock.

I was living in Alpine, attending Sul Ross on the GI Bill and receiving \$135 a month to

live on and survive.

I would go down on weekends and do the ranch work.

During this period, the windmill that furnished water to the ranch house blew down in a storm.

I hauled water most weekends to the ranch house.

I contacted an old windmill man to come out and repair the mill.

The problem was he charged \$250 for the job.

At this point, mother nor I had any money to spare.

I got in touch with our lawyers and was told to sell enough livestock to pay this bill.

The only thing left on the ranch was about 600 head of Spanish goats which were community property.

I gathered the goats and cut out 50 head of trash goats on a Saturday.

On Sunday, I took this load of goats to Uvalde to the nearest auction.

Sunday night I went back to Alpine to attend College thinking all was under control.

Wrong!

Monday morning I got notice that I had a call from Pete Teneyke, who was the sheriff of Pecos County and a friend of mine.

Now, we get to where I got the name of this story.

At noon, I called Pete and got him on the telephone.

His first statement was, "I have a warrant and you are under arrest."

I laughed as I thought this was some joke.

Pete stated this warrant was signed by a Texas Ranger and is no joke. The charge is "rustling livestock."

Do you want to come in or do you want me to send a deputy after you?

Quickly, I informed Pete that I would be in his office in 2 hours.

He agreed to this.

Now, I had been arrested long distance. Hence the name of this tale.

At this time, I called my lawyer in Ft. Stockton and he agreed to meet me at the court house. And, he did.

I was mugged, printed and put in a holding cell that was 8 feet by 12 feet.

I'm here to tell the world, the sound of that cell door locking is the most lonesome sound in this world.

Meanwhile, my lawyer and the sheriff got a judge to come down and set bail.

He did and my lawyer signed it getting me out of jail.

At that time, my lawyer informed me that there was no problem as my mother owned half interest in these goats and had authorized me to sell them.

Much relief on my part!!!

Later, we went to the district judge and he dismissed the charges against me.

I still have a copy of Cause #1188, "Texas vs. Joe Brown" for rustling livestock. It makes a strong memory.

It happened out west.

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The Lesser of the Evils?

It's pretty darn depressing when political writers are essentially writing off the 2016 election as a choice between the lesser of two evils -- seven months in advance of the election. It's one thing when, after months of negative ads, we shake our heads in disgust, but we haven't even really started yet.

If this is the way we begin, is there any question where we will end? Alienated, distrustful, angrier than we are now, having elected a president with no mandate at all.

We have to do better than this. If Donald Trump is going to be the nominee of the Republican Party for the most powerful job on the planet, then it's time for him, and us, to start taking his candidacy seriously. He needs to start doing his homework. Enough with the off-the-cuff

comments of a television talk show host playing for ratings. If Donald Trump wants to be the president of the United States, he ought to start trying to act the part, and see if he can pull it off. If not, fine. It will be clear.

As for Republican talkers, it's time for them to grow up, too, and stop blaming everyone and anyone for the fact that Republican voters are about to pick one of their competitors for a chance at the top job. To hear the chattering class complaining, you'd think Donald Trump was a three-headed monster who'd been foisted on an otherwise perfect party primed for victory. Not so. The Republicans didn't have a credible candidate who could connect with voters. That's a problem you can't blame on Donald Trump.

I watched some of the early debates with my students. I wanted them to get involved -- dare I say, get excited -- and the closest anyone ever came to inspiring that energy on the Republican side was Donald Trump. Blame the system all you want, but if you look at the candidates

and ask the questions voters always ask ("Does he understand people like me?" "Do I feel like he's on my side?"), it doesn't take rocket science to see why we've gotten Trump. He isn't an aberration; he is the logical conclusion of the anti-government gospel that Ted Cruz has been spouting since he got to the Senate.

And now Cruz is trying to stop him. Why? Because Cruz wants to do all the spouting off, and frankly, when it comes to spouting off -- if that's what the contest is -- Trump is just a better teapot. (How convenient.)

No one pretends the process is perfect, least of all those of us who had a hand in the compromises that the often inconsistent rules for selecting delegates reflect. But here's the thing: Hillary Clinton is going to be the Democratic nominee because she is the most popular Democrat running among Democrats. Donald Trump is going to be the Republican nominee because he's the candidate who most Republicans favor. Strange as it sounds, this is what we call democracy. It does not always produce the results that elites crave, which is actually one of its strong points.

But the results need to be taken seriously. I didn't think Donald Trump could be nominated. I was wrong. I didn't think he could be elected. I'm not saying that anymore. The anger is real. Trump is no joke. Sexism is alive and well, thank you, in both sexes. Democrats can learn a lesson from all those former GOP front-runners sitting on the sidelines while the candidate who could hardly be taken seriously continues his march to the nomination.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

IN MY OPINION



by Susan Estrich

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Classifieds are due by Monday at 5 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication only if they are signed and are accompanied with a day and night phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for length or offensive material. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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in advance unless the customer has an established account. A finance charge of 1.5% per month will be assessed to customers with balances over 30 days old. Any erroneous reflection upon the character or reputation of any person or firm will be promptly corrected when brought to the attention of the management.

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Member 2016





Edith Babcock Grinnell (center) visits with patrons of the Texas AgriLife Research Station during the centennial celebration on Saturday, April 23rd. Her daughter Peggy Kaplan (left) accompanied her during her visit to the station and other familiar places in Sonora. DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sonora Native Celebrates By-Gone Days of Research Station

At ninety years young Edith Babcock Grinnell wishes she could put on her swim suit and jump into the cattle watering trough for a swim, climb a tree or explore underground caverns as she did in her youth. She was born Edith Mae Babcock, in 1926, and grew up in Sonora where she and her friends spent their warm, carefree days playing and going to school. Sometimes they would get locked in the old rock school – just for fun, or get stuck atop the swing set during recess.

Once she almost died when she and her friend Peggy lit a fire inside of a cave they discovered, under Interstate 10, while pretending they were Tom Sayer. They had just seen the movie a short time before.

"It was fun," Grinnell said. "We played all day and every day I climbed the pecan tree in our yard to wave at the train making its way to the Wool House."

The best of friends since kindergarten, she and Peggy did everything together.

"Most girls our age had long ago put away their bicycles and roller skates, Grinnell said. "Some were wearing lipstick. Worse yet, others wore bras. We were both skinny and flat-chested, and relieved not to have to have one."

At the time, Sonora's population was 1900, a modest community so close that she could call the operator to locate her mother when she played bridge or quilted with friends.

And, the community cried together when her best friend Peggy was stricken with Polio, the

summer disease as some called it, and died during their thirteenth year. She died in May according to Grinnell.

"That was the saddest day of my life," The Old Ice House, where she and her friends would beg for ice chips, the house in town that her father built by hand and the experiment station where he worked are still some of her favorite places.

Just ten years before her birth, on June 22, 1916, Substation 14, located on the Sutton and Edwards County line, was purchased by area ranchers and the state to help improve the welfare of livestock.

Grinnell cherished traveling to the "Experiment Station" with her father, Orville Babcock, an entomologist who studied the screw worm fly.

She imagined living there year round with the Boughtain children whose father managed the station.

Although she thought he was very smart, Grinnell saw her dad as nothing more than a good man with a sense of adventure. He always made things interesting and educational. When the family went on vacations he would stop and look for fossils or other interesting sights.

"He made us all aware of nature, insects, animals, fossils, plants and anything to do with nature," Grinnell said. "I never knew he was important."

Life at the station located on State Highway 55 between Sonora and Rocksprings was no different than at home.

SEE SONORA NATIVE ON PAGE 5

ASU 'War Stories' History Harvest



The Department of History at Angelo State University will host a History Harvest event in Sonora on Wednesday, May 18, for the grant-funded project, "War Stories: West Texans from World War I to the Present."

The "War Stories" project is an effort to collect and preserve the stories and experiences of armed forces personnel and their families with a past or present West Texas connection. It is supported by a three-year grant (No. AC-226771-15) from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Anyone interested in contributing to the project can participate in a History Harvest event or complete an online form at www.angelo.edu/war-stories-submission-form.

The Sonora History Harvest will run from 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. May 18 in the Sutton County Library, 306 E. Mulberry St., Sonora.

Dr. Christine Lamberon and Dr. Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai of ASU's history faculty are the directors of the project. They are hosting the History Harvest event to make it easier for individuals to participate in interviews and to bring materials, such as family photos, letters, journals, home movies and videos, and other documents, for assessment. Items will be scanned on site, and originals will be returned to the owner, along with a digitized copy.

The scanned images and recorded interviews will be downloaded into a digital archive housed in ASU's Dr. Ralph R. Chase West Texas Collection to serve as a research resource for future generations and a memorial to those Americans who helped shape the course of the 20th and early 21st centuries.

For more information on the War Stories project, call the Department of History at 325-942-2324 or email warstories@angelo.edu.

Tips to Avoid Jury Service Scams

As Texas celebrates Jury Appreciation Week the first week in May, the State Bar of Texas Jury Service Committee wants to educate the public on how to avoid jury duty scams.

Jury Appreciation Week is dedicated to honoring those who give of their time to participate in our judicial system. The Jury Service Committee wants residents to be aware that, across the state, people are being targeted by phone calls and emails, threatening them with prosecution for failing to comply with jury service in federal or state courts. These calls and emails are fraudulent and not connected with U.S. or Texas state courts.

During a typical scam call, victims are told that a warrant was issued for their arrest because they failed to appear for jury duty. The caller then asks the victim to "verify" personal information, such as their date of birth and Social Security number. In other cases, scammers go further and ask that the victim pay a fine over the phone to avoid arrest. Victims are pressured to provide a credit card number or other payment information.

According to a recent notice from the Better Business Bureau of Southeast Texas, the jury duty scam is the latest in a series of identity theft schemes where criminals try to get people to reveal personal information over the phone.

Victims are often caught off guard and, given the nature of the call, provide the information, the Better Business Bureau reported.

To help protect Texas residents, the State Bar of Texas Jury Service Committee compiled the following tips from federal and state courts, the Better Business Bureau, and Consumer Reports. Remember that:

- Courts will not call you about jury duty. Legitimate jury notices will come by mail, even if you missed your assigned time to report to jury duty.
- Courts will not ask you for personal information over the phone or require you to provide sensitive information such as Social Security or credit card numbers by phone or email.
- Scammers can mask their identity. Be aware that criminals may use software to disguise their phone numbers and make it appear that their calls are originating from your local courthouse or police department. Don't trust your caller ID!
- Courts will not call you asking for money. If you receive a call from someone claiming to be a court official asking for money for missing jury duty, hang up and report the scam to your local police department.

If you receive a call or email of the type described above, report it to your local police department. Any questions about jury service should be directed to your local district clerk.

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Fincher
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Bi-District Playoff Schedule.

Game 1 vs Ballinger
Friday May 6th, 1 p.m. at Lakeview.

Game 2 vs Ballinger
May 7th, 11 a.m. at Lakeview.

Game 3 vs Ballinger
If Needed
May 7th 30 minutes after end of Game 2

ELECT



Born and raised in the area.
20 years experience in the oil field.
Common sense solutions to everyday problems.
Healthcare is essential to our community: Keep good physicians, nurses, and hospital workers in Sonora.
Keep taxes low!

PRECINCT ONE
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EXPERIENCED: Served on many boards with great success.
PREPARED: Training in Medical ethics and mediation.
RESPONSIBLE: Desires the best medical care possible, fiscal responsibility, and keeping taxes low for Sutton County.

AT LARGE
DON LONGORIA

Political advertising paid for by Don Longoria Campaign for Sutton County Hospital District Board of Directors, Charlotte Longoria, Treasurer

FOR HOSPITAL BOARD

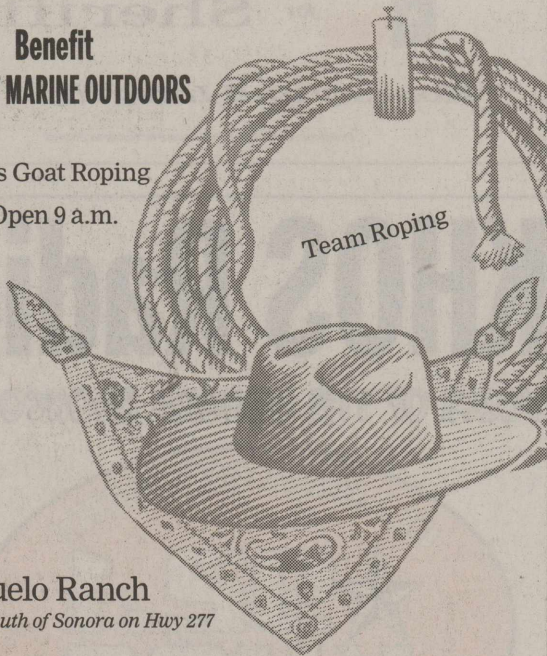
Early Voting is April 25th - 29th and May 2nd - 3rd at City Hall.
Election Day is Saturday, May 7, 2016, at the Sonora ISD Admin Building.

13th Annual
ROPE FOR THE WARRIORS

Saturday, May 7, 2016

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Early Voting at
Sonora City Hall
April 25th - May 3rd

Election Day, Saturday,
May 7, 2016 at the School
Administration Building

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DOG OBEDIENCE CLASS

Hands-on training for you and your dog!

Skills to be taught are:

Watch Me, Sit, Down, Come, Stay and more.

6 week course starting on Tuesday, June 7th from 6-7pm at the Sutton County Park, 1 hour once a week for six weeks
Proof of Rabies and current shot records required.

Beginner's Class \$75
(for any dog six months old or older)
Pre-register and pay by May 27th, 2016



Julia Jones
CPDT-KA, PTI 1443

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jsjones37@gmail.com
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**Sonora Track and Field
Athletes Advance to State**

Despite a hot and muggy start to the 2016 UIL Region I-3A Track and Field Meet, Sonora High School athletes pressed ahead of their competition finishing third in the region on Friday, April 29th and 30th, in Abilene.

Team Results:
Denver City 67, Wall 60, Sonora 49, Childress 46, Alpine 44, Cisco 40, Brady 36, Grape Creek 33, Kermit 30, Presidio 28, Shallowater 26, Merkel 24, Early 19, Idalou 16, Clyde 14, Spearman 12, Coleman 12, Ballinger 10, Brownfield 8, Bangs 8, Colorado City 8, Muleshoe 7, Dimmit 6, Tornillo 4 Breckenridge 4, Crane 4, Eastland 2, Coahoma 2.

Placing above their competitors, Ryan Martinez (Discus), Carter Zook, (300 M Hurdles), Wesley Dutton, Drew Buitron, Abel Cruz and Carter Zook, (1600 M Relay) will compete at the State Track Meet on May 12th and -13th.

Results: Boys
Long Jump: Drew Buitron, 11th, 20'00".
Triple Jump: Kaden Cordell, 6th, 41' 05.75".
Shot Put: Liam Yourgalite, 6th, 47'06.25".
Discus: Ryan Martinez, 1st, 155'02" and Edgar Hernandez, 12th, 42'10".
High Jump: Kaden Cordell *, 3rd, 6'02".
Pole Vault: Dusty

Holmes, 3rd, 13'06".
400 M: 8th, 44.11 (Michael Solis, Jarrett Jackson, Abel Cruz, Wesley Dutton).

110 Hurdles: Carter Zook, 4th, 15.09.
300 Hurdles: Carter Zook, 2nd, 39.19.

100 M: Jarrett Jackson, 6th, 11.56.
1600 M: Raully Ojeda, 8th, 4:50.45.

1600 M Relay: 3rd, 3:23.62 (Wesley Dutton, Drew Buitron, Abel Cruz, Carter Zook).

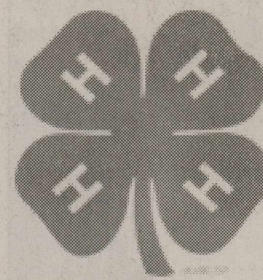
Results: Girls
Long Jump: Julia Pope, 6th, 16.05.25.
Triple Jump: Carly Brown, 16th, 30'08".

Pole Vault: Lane Cahill, 14th, 8'00".
Shot Put: Julia Pope, 15th, 31'08".

800 M: Mary Kyle Johnson, 11th, 2:34.03.
1600 M: Janelle Vasquez, 11th, 5:49.90.

3200 M: Janelle Vasquez, 12th, 13:29.67 and Kaitlyn Lopez, 13th, 13:34.21.

1600 M: 14th, 4:21.61 (Carly Brown, Briana Palacios, Mary Kyle Johnson, Julia Pope).



Sutton County 4-H'ers attend District Roundup

Submitted by Jessica Stapper

On April 30th, 2016 Sutton County 4-H'ers traveled to Lockhart, TX to compete at District Roundup. A total of three 4-H'ers attended this contest, in the Intermediate age division Catarina Hernandez gave an Educational Presentation on Liquid Gold, in the Senior age division Cara Hernandez gave an Educational Presentation on Desalination, and Delaney Ramsdell competed in both the Share-The-Fun Vocal and Solo/Band categories. Catarina Hernandez placed 1st and Delaney Ramsdell placed 5th in the Vocal category and 1st in the Solo/Band category. Delaney will be advancing to State this June at Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station, TX. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

**7th Annual
Rancher's Workshop**

Submitted by Iris Garza
The 7th annual Rancher's Workshop will be held May 13, 2016, in Sonora, Texas, at the Sutton County Civic Center from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The workshop was established to give the rancher an outlet to express what works and what does not, on their operation.

There will be an opportunity to learn about some of the latest research in the field of range and natural resource management and the changes facing agriculture in Texas.

Attendees will see demonstrations of new agricultural products with company representatives on site. In addition, participants will be able to receive three (3) CEUs.

Event sponsors are the Edwards Plateau SWCD, USDAS-NRCS, Texas Grazing Lands Coalition, Angelo State University, AgriLIFE Extension and Texas Section Society for Range Management.

Please RSVP to the Edwards Plateau SWCD by May 6, 2016. You can call 325-387-2730 or send an email to bismithgarza@gmail.com.

Miss Sutton County Sign up Begins

It is that time of year again!

The Sutton County Days Outlaw Pro Rodeo is approaching and along with that is the Miss Sutton County Contest.

This contest is open to incoming Sonora High School junior and senior girls.

Sign up for the contest is open at this time and girls can sign up at the Sonora High School office.

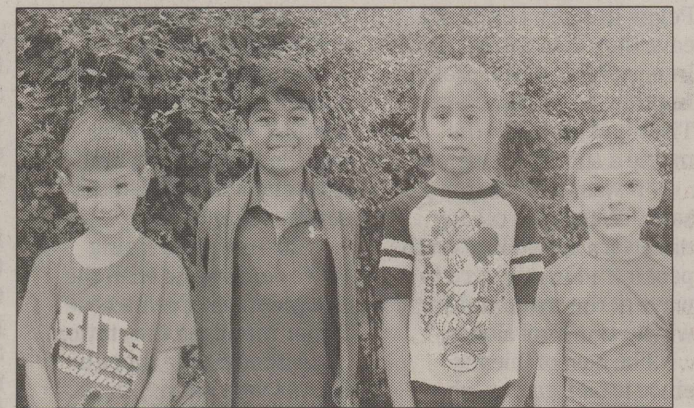
The deadline is May 19. Miss Sutton County contestants are required to sell tickets to the rodeo and Saturday night dance, which will be held on June 24 and 25.

Along with ticket sales, the contestants participate in a local style show and make numerous public appearances.

The winners are selected by dollar amount raised and also their scores in an interview.

Winners receive scholarships and various other prizes.

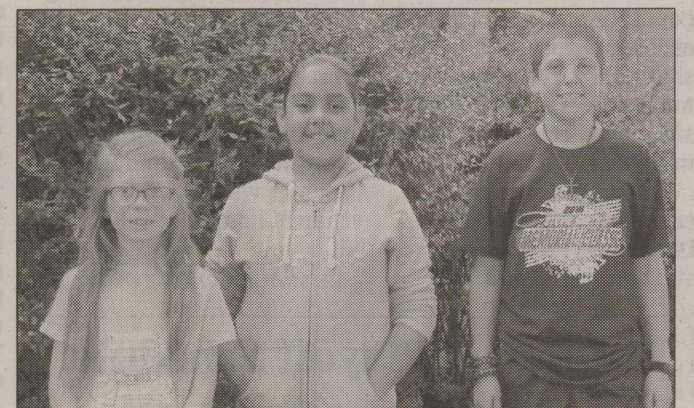
For more information, contact Ann Morriss at (830) 591-6969



Sonora Elementary Students of the Week - Rudley Bryan, Pre-K, Stride Wardlaw, K, Thomas Ramirez, 1st, Andrea Rios, 2nd.

COURTESY PHOTO

**Elementary and Intermediate
Students of the Week**



Sonora Intermediate School Students of the Week - Ashley Watts, 3rd, Carolina Pimentel, 4th, Gage Owen, 5th.

COURTESY PHOTO

Weekly Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS	announcement	60. Commercials	9. Discerning
1. Follow, as a tip	43. Strive	61. Torah holders	10. End-of-filming gala
6. Statutes	44. Exterior	62. Those in favor	11. "Try this!"
10. One of the five W's	45. Joints		12. Farm team
13. Astronomer Tycho	49. Guard	DOWN	14. TV steed
14. Nickname for Baryshnikov	51. Netman Nastase	1. Dislike, and then some	17. Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"
15. Alternative to bartender	52. "The Simpsons"	2. Kind of sole	22. Some appliances
16. Reverence for greatness	53. One of the Gabors	3. Small pastries	24. Hammer part
18. "The best things in life ___ free"	54. Fictional, but realistic	4. Cry of surprise	25. Actor Willis
19. Pick, with "for"	57. Nothing	5. Rhode Island city	27. Sharp-tasting
20. Pound, e.g.	58. People person?	6. Enumerate	28. 1960's-'70's Italian P.M.
21. Hog haven	59. Engine unit	7. Ember coating	29. Nile viper
23. Answer		8. Rear-ender injury	30. Feng ___ (art of placement)
25. Clean up, in a way			31. Partial sum, e.g.
26. The nineties, for one			32. Uproar
27. Classic muscle car			34. "___ rang?"
29. Source of strength			36. Namer
32. Gounod opera			37. "___ who?"
33. ___ Rogers (fast food chain)			39. Basis for a Puccini opera
35. Eschew			40. For just a moment
36. Meal where you might get this puzzle's theme answers			42. Big ___
37. Houston baseballer, for short			43. Small combo
38. Stop on a crawl			45. Commoner
39. Supersized			46. Strikes
40. Louisiana water			47. Bank enticement
41. Birth			48. Prophets
			49. Elizabeth of "La Bamba"
			50. Diehard
			51. Sews up
			55. Sort
			56. Trumped-up story

See solution on Page 8

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by
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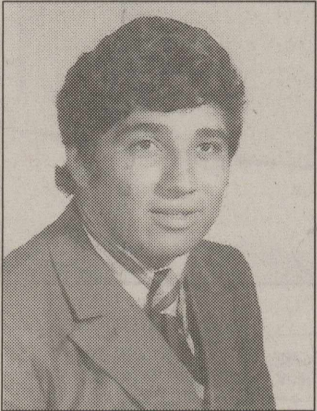
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OBITUARIES

Richard Vasquez Bernal December 12, 1952 - April 17, 2016



Richard Vasquez Bernal, 63, of Sonora went to be with Lord on Sunday, April 17, 2016.

Richard was born on December 12, 1952 to the late Felipe Bernal, Jr. and Aurora Vasquez Bernal in Sonora, Texas.

Richard attended Sonora High School and graduated in 1972.

He played football for Sonora High School and was a part of the 1970 and 1971 Sonora High School State Champion Football Teams.

Also, he was the recipient of the Nathan Award for football.

He was a huge fan of the Texas Longhorns and the University of Texas at Austin where his niece and nephew, Danielle Galindo and Boomer Galindo, attended school due to his encouragement.

He was preceded in death by his father Felipe Bernal, Jr.

He is survived by his mother, Aurora Vasquez Bernal, his sister, Lesa Bernal Galindo, his brother, Felipe Bernal III, and a dear great friend, Tencha Rodriguez.

He is also survived by nieces and nephews Makayla Snyder and husband Brian Snyder, Danielle Galindo, Boomer Galindo, Felipe Bernal IV, Belinda Bernal and Susie Bernal.

He also had two great-nephews, Hollis Richard Snyder and Luke Kenneth Snyder, and more great-nephews and a great-niece.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, April 24th at 1:00 PM at the St. John's Episcopal Church in Sonora, Texas.

SONORA NATIVE:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Grinnell said she felt so happy and free of care. She and her friends looked forward to playing and swimming in a tank out in the pasture.

"When we got there we took off our clothes and jumped into the cold water," Grinnell said with a smile. "It was absolute heaven."

Tanks like that one were constructed for watering livestock, according to Grinnell. The water was supplied by a windmill. Although it as a little mossy on the bottom the water was clean and great for swimming because no one owned private pools and Sonora didn't have a public pool.

Piano lessons were her least favorite. The school's music teacher boarded with the Babcock's and taught her piano while living with them.

Following her graduation from Sonora High School in 1943, Grinnell attended Texas Woman's University.

Later she married and her adventurous spirit led

she and her husband to Africa where they lived and worked for several years before returning home to Sonora.

"There's just something about being back in Sonora," Grinnell said. The years have passed and times have changed but her memories remain vivid.

Today, Grinnell lives with her husband, Bob, in their home outside of Austin. These days she moves about with help and her days of riding a bike, exploring a secret cave or climbing a tall tree are only a remembrance of her earlier days.

On April 23rd, Grinnell stepped back in time visiting some of her old hangouts in Sonora, including the Old Ice House – now a museum. Accompanied by her husband, daughter, Peggy Kaplan, she paid her respects to her parent's graves and participated in a full day of events at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station.

"I wouldn't have missed this for anything," Grinnell said.

High School Graduates Should Think About Careers In Ag

With high school graduation just weeks away, it reminded me that many youth sometimes are unsure about what's next. If you know a high school youth who may have an interest in agriculture, here are some career ideas. Successful Farming magazine recently surveyed career placement officers from agriculture programs at 12 universities to find "the hottest careers in agriculture."

Food Science. Food scientists have been in demand, and job growth is expected to continue going up. Food scientists improve food products and create new ones by researching and experimenting with combinations of raw ingredients, food sources, and food processing techniques.

Veterinarian. As long as there are farm animals, there will be a demand for veterinarians. The importance of veterinarians in agriculture goes far beyond the need to keep valuable livestock healthy; the health of animals is tied to human and environmental health.

Horticulturists. Horticulture and agriculture are related fields. Horticulturists focus their skills and experience on growing and selling highly marketable fruits and vegetables, flowers, and decorative plants. This area can also include landscape designers, nursery managers, florists, and forestry.

Agricultural Equipment Operators. These highly skilled agricultural workers drive, operate, and maintain the equipment used to plant and harvest crops, such as tractors, balers, conveyors, manure spreaders, mowers, shredders, harvesters, and power washers. The job outlook for agricultural equipment operators has been continuously good according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks. Every industry needs numbers people to count the money and keep track of expenses. In addition to working directly for farms and ranches, there are lots of companies and businesses that specialize in serving the agricultural industry's accounting and record-keeping needs.

Truck Drivers. Commercial agriculture on the massive scale it exists today would scarcely be possible without the ability to ship large quantities of meat, fruits, and vegetables vast distances without spoilage. The job outlook for heavy-load, tractor-trailer drivers is good.

Agricultural and Natural Resources Communications. Agricultural communications professionals work in print and broadcast journalism, on the staffs of magazines and newspapers, as press spokespersons, as public

relations, advertising, and marketing executives. According to Utah State University's undergraduate program in agricultural communication and journalism, such jobs are projected to increase by 24 percent between 2008 and 2018.

We don't have enough space to discuss all the possibilities, but we can also include farm/ranch labor, inspectors, Extension agents, Ag Science teachers, food packaging/processing, ag finance, ag business, and the list goes on. Each will have its own necessary education, training, or certification requirements. High school youth should visit with a counselor for discussing options.



Pascual Hernandez

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS: Primary Runoff

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

allow them to cross parties between the primary and the primary runoff election.

"If you voted in a party's primary or nominating convention, you must stick with that party for any runoff elections," Cascos said. However, he added, "Eligible Texans who did not vote in the primary or participate in a nominating convention are free to vote in either primary runoff election."

Early voting in runoff elections will begin May 16 and end on May 20. Election Day is May 24.

Obama grants disaster aid

President Obama on April 25 granted Gov. Greg Abbott's April 24 request for individual assistance to residents of the flood-stricken counties of Fayette, Grimes, Harris and Parker.

"I would like to thank the president and FEMA for quickly granting Texas' request for individual assistance following last week's severe weather," Abbott said. "The State of Texas will continue to work with our local and federal partners to aid Texans recovering and rebuilding from flood damages and ensure all those affected receive the assistance they need."

Citizens who reside in the affected counties now may apply for "individual assistance" grants of up to \$33,000 and low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Alcohol stings are planned

Last month, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission publicized its

stepped-up effort to curb underage drinking during the prom and graduation season.

Undercover operations are being focused on TABC's North Texas region and will target premises that sell alcohol for on- and off-premises consumption.

Undercover TABC agents will accompany minor-aged volunteers into selected retail establishments that sell alcoholic beverages. "The minor will attempt to purchase alcohol from the retailer, who could face TABC administrative action if a sale is made. Retailers who sell alcohol to a minor could face TABC administrative action," the agency stated in a news release.

Motorcycle campaign begins

The Texas Department of Transportation on April 27 promoted its "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" campaign and May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

On average, according to TxDOT, a motorcyclist dies in a crash on Texas roads every day. Motorcyclists are nearly five times more likely than car or truck occupants to be injured in a crash and 26 times more likely to be killed.

The agency's safety suggestions to motorists include:

- Look twice for motorcycles, especially at intersections;
- Use turn signals when changing lanes;
- Check mirrors before changing lanes;
- Don't follow a motorcycle too closely; and
- Always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear.

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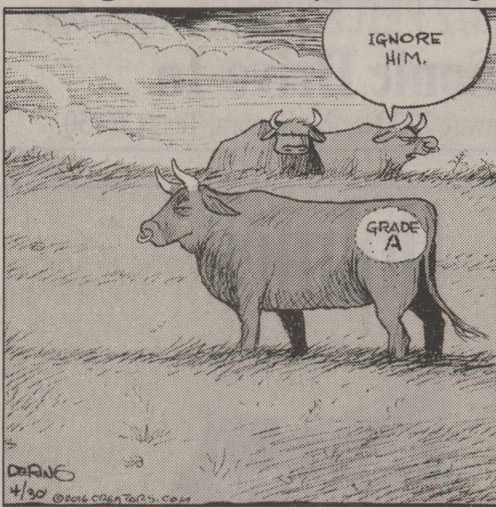
Dogs of C-Kennel

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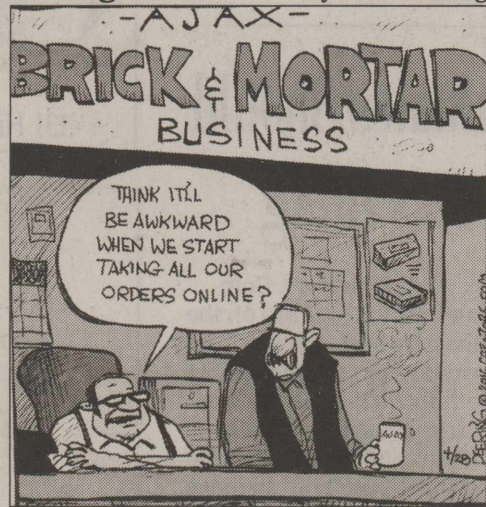
Strange Brew

by John Deering



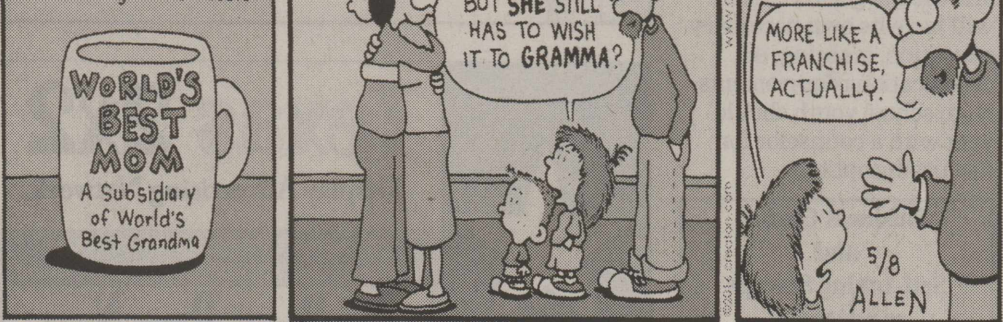
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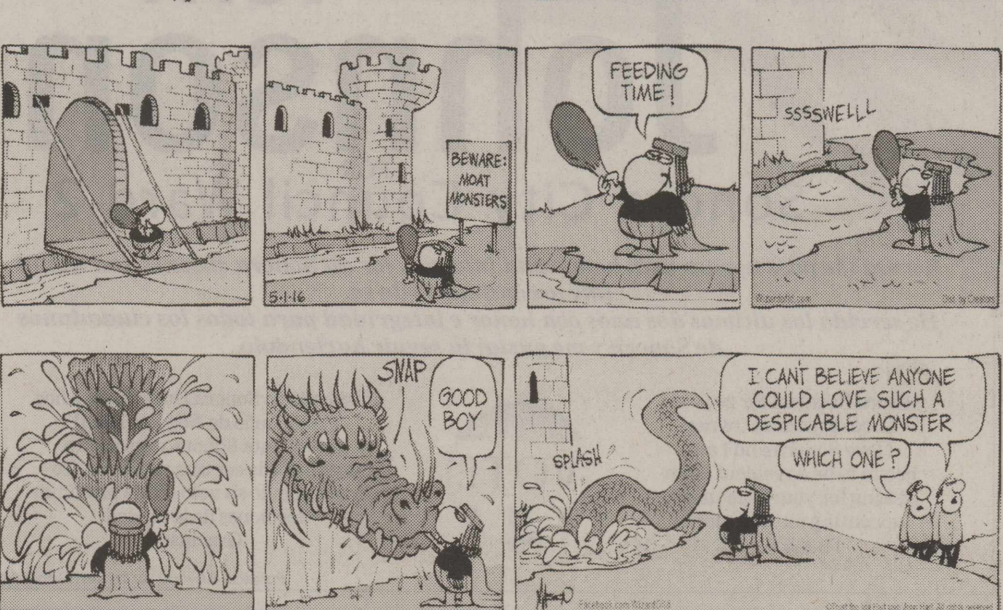
Nest Heads

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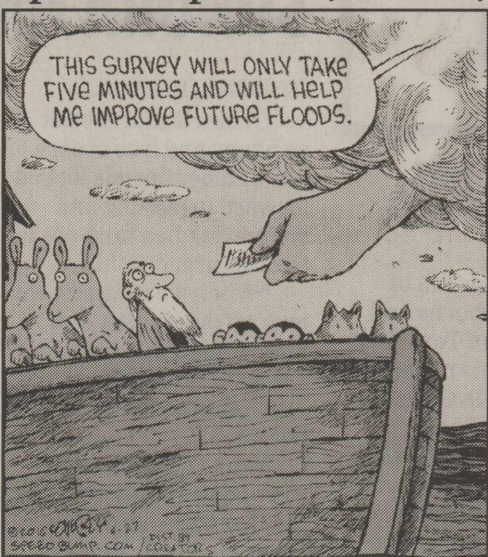
Wizard of ID

by parker and hart



Speed Bumps

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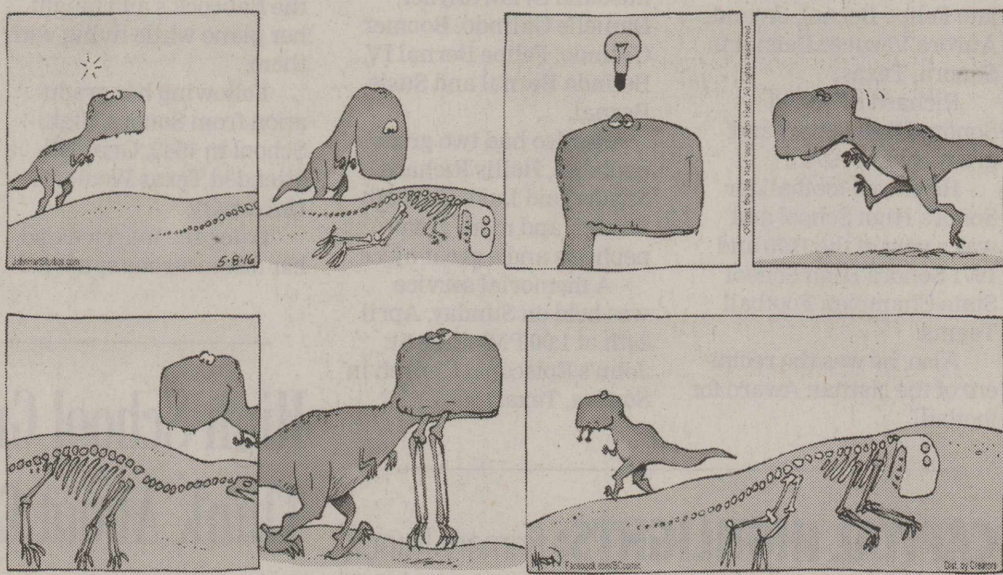


Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

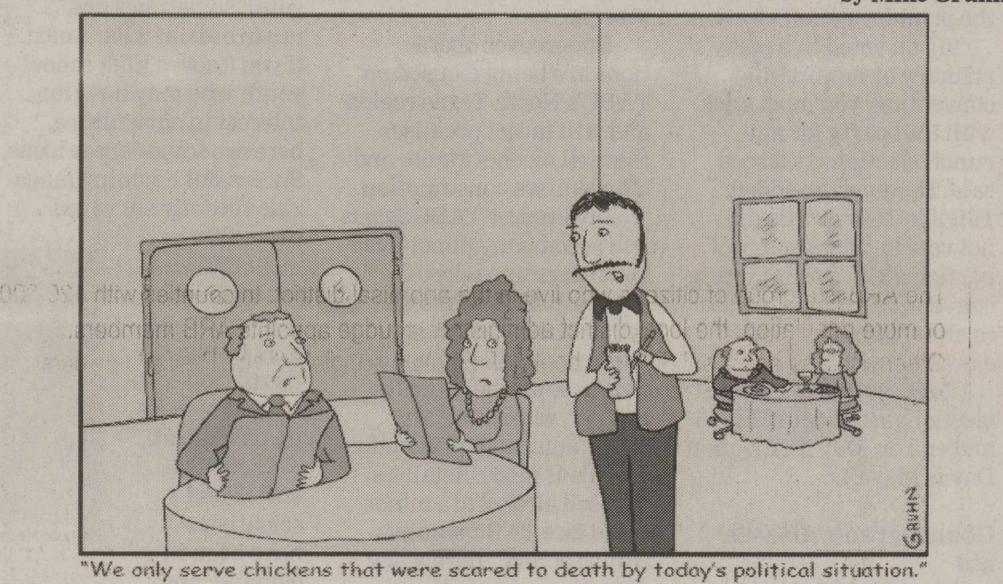


BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



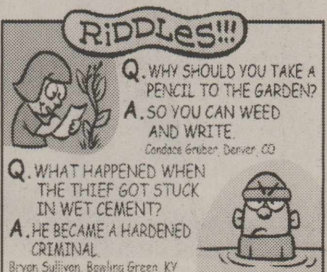
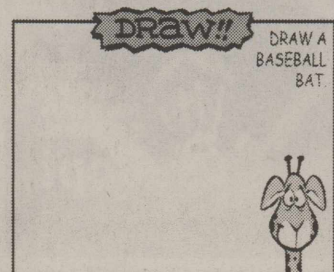
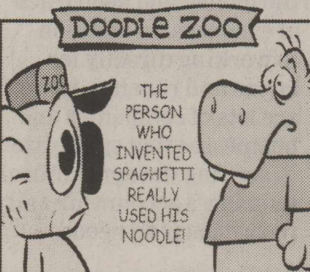
WebDonuts

by Mike Gruhn



ASK SHAGG

By Peter Guren



PUBLIC NOTICE

May 2016

Property Owners Should Soon Start Receiving Appraisal Notices for the 2016 Tax Year

You may soon receive an appraisal notice from the Sutton County Appraisal District. The appraisal district mailed about 1000 appraisal notices on April 28, 2016. Your city, county, school district and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set your 2016 property taxes.

Under Texas law, county appraisal districts are required to notify property owners about changes in their property's value. The notice contains important information about the property's location, ownership and property tax exemptions that apply to the property. It must also include an estimate of the taxes by local taxing units if your property value increased in the last year.

Property owners who disagree with the appraised value of their property, the exemptions or any other action by the appraisal district have the right to appeal to the Sutton County Appraisal Review Board (ARB). The ARB is an independent panel of citizens responsible for hearing and settling property owner protests. The notice of appraised value includes instructions on how and when to file a protest, a protest form and the Comptroller's *Property Taxpayer Remedies*. The deadline for filing a protest with the ARB is April 30 for single-family residences with homestead exemptions, May 31 for all other property or 30 days after the appraisal district mailed your notice of appraised value, whichever is later for your property type.

The Comptroller's publication, *Property Taxpayer Remedies*, explains in detail how to protest your property appraisal, what issues the ARB can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the options of taking your case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or binding arbitration if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your ARB hearing.

Property Taxpayer Remedies is available from the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E. Oak St., Suite 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/.

May 2016

Property Owners Can Protest Property Appraisal Values

Property owners who disagree with the Sutton County Appraisal District's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's Appraisal Review Board (ARB).

A property owner must file a written notice of protest before May 1 for a single-family residence with a homestead exemption; before June 1 for other property types; or within 30 days after the appraisal district mails the taxpayer a notice of appraised value, whichever is later for your property type. The ARB will begin hearing taxpayer protests on July 15, 2016.

After the ARB completes its hearings and approves final property tax appraisals, taxing units will use these appraisals to set property tax rates.

The ARB is a group of citizens who live in the appraisal district. In counties with 120,000 or more population, the local district administrative judge appoints ARB members. Otherwise, the appraisal district's board of directors appoints them. Property owners may protest any of the following issues to the ARB:

- the appraised or market value of the property;
- unequal appraisal of the owner's property;
- inclusion of the property on the appraisal records;
- denial of a partial exemption, such as a homestead exemption;
- denial of special appraisal, such as agricultural or timber productivity appraisal;
- determination that agricultural or timber land has had a change of use and is subject to a rollback tax;
- identification of the taxing unit or taxing units in which the property is located;
- determination that the taxpayer is the owner of the property; or
- any other action of the appraisal district office or ARB that adversely affects the owner.

The ARB schedules a hearing and sends the protesting property owner written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing. The law contains specific timelines and procedures for both the property owner and the ARB throughout the appraisal protest process. These are detailed in the Comptroller's publication, *Property Taxpayer Remedies*.

Copies are available from Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E. Oak St., Suite 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/.



MAY

- 6th Faith Knight, Pedro Munoz, John David Lozano, Matt Young
- 7th Kaelyn Crain, Scott Jacoby, Selena Trevino, Jerrad Solis, Kory Humphreys
- 8th Tommy Van Winkle
- 9th Aidan Crain, Ross Sanchez, John Brown, Avery Sanchez
- 10th Sam Powers
- 11th Carla Crites, Mike McBride, Dee McGee, Emillo Lazano, Garret Watkins
- 12th No Birthdays Listed

Send us your birthdays to production@devilsriver.news

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or appraised value of your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of the property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board (ARB) that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review

(Insert description of appraisal district's informal review process, if any, then give name and telephone number of person taxpayer should contact.)

Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You will receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any materials – whether in paper or electronic form – intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. (Multiple copies of these materials typically must be brought to the hearing so that each ARB member has a copy of all the materials to review.) To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative

will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office or from the Comptroller of Public Accounts at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/taxforms/50-132.pdf.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal. Appeals to district court, binding arbitration, or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

Tax Payment

You must pay the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute, the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken or the amount of taxes due in the previous year.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at (insert appraisal district name, address, telephone number).

SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
300 E OAK ST., SUITE 2
SONORA, TEXAS 76950
(325) 387-2809

You can get additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller's publication, *Property Tax Basics*, available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/pdf/96-1425.pdf.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

On or before April 30 for residence homesteads and May 31 for all other property (or within 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are not allowed after the ARB approves the appraisal records for the year.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was delivered to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the change was delivered to you.

(You may insert deadline for protests concerning omitted property if doing so would avoid taxpayer confusion.)

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or legal, state or national holiday.

May 2016

Texas Comptroller's Office Helps Property Taxpayers Stay Informed of their Rights with Updated Publication

The Texas Comptroller's office has released the publication *Property Taxpayer Remedies*, a reference guide for property taxpayers which addresses property tax basics, providing a step by step guide on preparing for a protest hearing and what they can do if they are dissatisfied with an appraisal review board's decision.

Property Taxpayer Remedies also provides key dates so property owners know what they must do and when they are required to act to exercise their right to protest.

Property Taxpayer Remedies is available from the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E. Oak St., Suite 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. The publication is also available from the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/.

Devil's River News Weekly Rainfall Report

May 1-3	0.00 in.	May 1-3	0.01 in.
April	2.58 in.	April	2.95 in.
March	3.39 in.	March	2.62 in.
February	0.77 in.	February	1.04 in.
January	0.36 in.	January	0.38 in.
2016 Year-to-Date TOTAL	7.10 in.	2016 Year-to-Date TOTAL	7.00 in.
2015	23.87 in.	2015	25.31 in.
2014	14.32 in.	2014	12.72 in.
2013	25.12 in.	2013	25.00 in.
2012	16.06 in.	2012	17.82 in.
2011	11.50 in.	2011	10.49 in.
2010	20.37 in.	2010	17.94 in.
2009	21.67 in.	2009	28.44 in.

Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 14 miles southeast of Sonora. | Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 17 miles east-northeast of Sonora.

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Ruth Wallace (325)387-6504

SONORA WEATHER FORECAST

Thu 5/5	Fri 5/6	Sat 5/7	Sun 5/8	Mon 5/9
87/59 Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	86/61 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	84/62 Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	87/61 Morning clouds followed by afternoon sun. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	87/59 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise: 6:55 AM Sunset: 8:24 PM	Sunrise: 6:54 AM Sunset: 8:24 PM	Sunrise: 6:53 AM Sunset: 8:25 PM	Sunrise: 6:52 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM	Sunrise: 6:51 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM

Lady Colts Golf Earns First Place

Despite the wind and cooler temperatures the Lady Colts' golf team played tough on the green earning first place in the Sonora Invitational Golf Tournament on Monday, May 2nd.

Team players Katy Jo Wardlaw, Haley Smith, Kadee Petty, Isabella Samaniego, and Danica Jimenez drove the team to their win.

As well, Brianna Ramirez and Jaci Dutton showed great improvement since the Mason tournament on Friday, April 29th.

The Colts' team of Slade Dermody, Thomas Talamantez, Brock Aschenbeck, Ty Perez, and Levi Garrett missed the gold medals by only 1 stroke to Mason.

Nonetheless, players Leo Alviso, Josh Barrera, Brady Vyvelecka, Caleb Nolen, Michael Creek, and Francisco Garza displayed better skill since their competition last Friday.

Individual results:
Katy Jo Wardlaw, 1st,
Brianna Ramirez, 2nd
Haley Smith, 3rd
Thomas Talamantez, 2nd

The Colts and Lady Colts are preparing for the upcoming Ingram Invitational, in Kerrville, on Monday, May 16th.

City of Sonora Senior Center

MONDAY May 9th
Steak Fingers w/Gravy, Parsley Potatoes, Carrots and Cabbage, Wheat Bread, Peach Halves, Milk.

TUESDAY May 10th
Chicken Salad, Crackers, Coleslaw, Cantaloupe, Banana Pudding, Milk.

WEDNESDAY May 11th
Steak and Mushroom Gravy, Baked Potato, w/ Sour Cream, Hominy, Roll, Apricots, Milk.

THURSDAY May 12th
Stuffed Bell Pepper, Mixed Veggies, Wheat Bread, Pears, Milk.

FRIDAY May 13th
Chicken Strips w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Okra and Tomato, Wheat Roll, Strawberry Fruit Jell-O, Milk.

Transportation to and from the center may call 325-387-3941.

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SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 4

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Sonora M S Tennis Advances to District

Sonora Middle School's Aldo Luna earned second place consolation following the teams loss in the first round of the Reagan County tournament on Saturday, April 30th in Reagan County.

All of the athletes deserve recognition for their hard work during the competition.

In 7th grade boys, Michael Creek was awarded second place and Preston Gonzales earned fourth place in boys singles.

Aislin Nixon was awarded fourth place in the 7th grade girls singles.

Blayze Sykes and Brock Aschenbeck were awarded third in 8th grade boys doubles.

Joe Angel Torres and Christine Garza also received consolation, as well as Leandro Alviso and Shyanne Gamez.

The Colts and Lady Colts advance to the District tournament in Sonora on Saturday, May 7th.

Coach Cash Jennings said he hopes for a good show of support by the community for their final season tournament.

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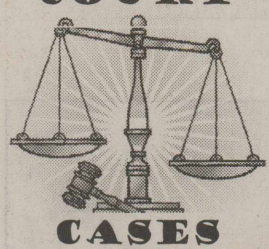
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COURT



The Court Cases are descriptions of the rulings for Hearings, Pre-Trials, Trials, and Pleas presented in the Sutton County Court and are subject to change.

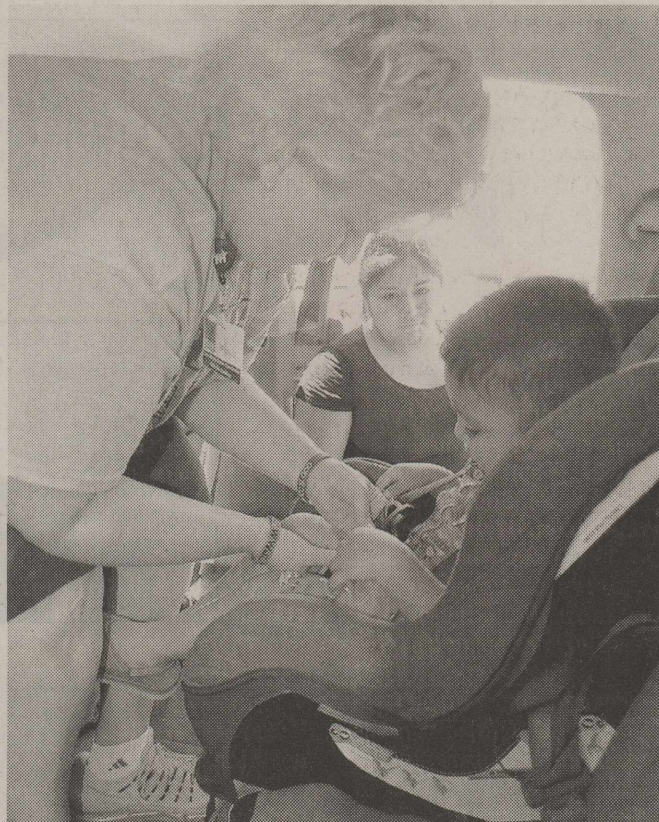
HEARINGS

May 9, 2016 at 1:00 P.M.

- SCHLEIN, ALEXANDER ERIK** • Offense: Possession of marijuana, bond set at \$2,000.00.
- SELLER, ALAN WAYNE** • Offense: (2) Traffic Violations, bond set at \$400.20 and \$600.10.
- AMAEFULE, L. CHUKWUMA** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$500.20.
- GANDAR, ARTURO** • Offense: Assault, bond set at \$5,000.00.
- TRUJILLO, CASTILLO SALVADOR** • Offense: Traffic Violation, Bond set at \$300.00.
- RESENDEZ JR., CESAR** • Offense: Possession of Marijuana and Driving While Operator's License Invalid, bonds set at \$5,000.00.
- RODRIGUEZ, ALEX** • Offense: Assault, bond set at \$4,000.00.
- PINALES-FLORES, JESSICA** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- LIRA-MARTINEZ, JASMINE** • Offense: Possession of Marijuana, bond set at \$2,000.00.
- CREEK, BRIAN DAVID** • Offense: Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Dangerous Drug, bond set at \$4,000.00.
- HAYES, L. BOB** • Offense: Traffic

- Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- HOVISH, ALEXIS ROBERT** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$620.00.
- CORMIER, DONYE COCHE** • Offense: (2) Traffic Violations, bonds set at \$734.00 and \$600.20.
- CHAPA, ISAIAS EDUARDO** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$500.20.
- LOPEZ, LEROY** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- JIMENEZ, JERRY** • Offense: Theft Prop.
- LADD, K. CHARLES** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- TAYLOR, NATHANIEL** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- ZARATE, ERIK** • Offense: (2) Traffic Violations, bonds set at \$600.20 and \$400.20.
- VASQUEZ, SALAZAR JOEL** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- GARCIA, CHRISTOPHER KEVIN** • Offense: (2) Traffic Violations, bonds set at \$600.20 and \$400.20.
- ARNOLD, PAULERIC** • Offense: (2) Traffic Violations, bonds set at \$500.20 and \$534.00.
- HERNANDEZ, U. DELMA** • Offense: Traffic Violations, bond set at \$600.20.
- LOPEZ, CARDONA F. DIEGO** • Offense: (2) Traffic Violations, bonds set at \$500.20 and \$400.20.
- ACKERMAN, JOSEPH ALEXANDER** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$600.20.
- RAY, LOWELL BRYAN** • Offense: Traffic Violation, bond set at \$2,910.00.
- MUGGLEBEE, WARREN MATTHEW** • Offense: Traffic Violations, bonds set at \$600.20, \$600.20 and \$400.20

Safe Kids



Catie Wiedenhofer, Coordinator for Safe Kids San Angelo, demonstrates how to properly install a car seat and safely restrain a small child during the Sake Kids San Angelo event in Sonora on Saturday, April 30th.

JUSTINE WORD | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sonora Kids Ride Safe

Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital and the Sutton County EMS partnered with Safe Kids San Angelo to provide car seat safety tips, installation and child safety seats at no cost to those in need on Saturday, April 30th in Sonora.

Residents came out to have their existing car seats inspected for safety by one of the Certified Safety Technicians. Safe Kids has been visiting communities like Sonora for the past twenty years, making sure kids

are riding safe.

Coordinator Catie Wiedenhofer said the number one cause of death in children ranging in age one to nineteen is improper car safety.

About thirty vehicles were inspected during the event.

Wiedenhofer said that not one car seat was installed correctly.

In addition to the car seat inspections, about thirty-five car seats were issued during the event to ensure every child's safety as they rode away.

LMH Partners to Offer R.A.D. Self Defense Classes in Sonora

Sutton County Hospital District is partnering with Community Medical Center and R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) Systems of Self-Defense to host a series of self-defense classes for the women of Sonora.

The hospital will also host a R.A.D.Kids course for the elementary kids on May 19th during their school day.

The R.A.D. Systems of Self Defense offers programs for women, children, men and seniors.

These offerings provide a truly holistic approach to self defense education, supporting the necessity of continuous learning in order to provide realistic options for each population as they go through life.

Each of these programs

includes educational components comprised of lecture, discussion, physical resistive strategies.

All of which are facilitated by certified R.A.D. Catie Weidenhofer from Community Medical Center will be leading the pilot classes starting May 9th, 11th, and the 19th, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Wellness Center.

The pilot classes are filling up quick, but if you are interested in this class or future classes, you can call Sarah Teaff at 325-387-1201 or email her at steaff@sonora-hospital.org.

The Blotter

The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Sonora Police Department. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the police department, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Accidents of major impact may be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ARRESTS

APRIL 26 - Hidalgo, John, 22 year old male from Sonora, arrested for warrant out of Schleicher County.

INCIDENTS

APRIL 25 - 6:38 PM • 9-1-1 call on the 100 block of Deerwood. Officer responded.

APRIL 26 - 3:38 PM • Caller reported a vehicle accident in the food pantry parking lot. Officer responded.

APRIL 27 - 8:50 AM • Caller requested Special Olympics escort. Officers responded.

11:00 AM • Caller requested officer regarding lost luggage. Officer responded.

8:32 PM • Caller reported a dog bite on the 100 block of South 3rd Sinaloa. Officer responded.

APRIL 28 - 2:42 AM • Caller reported suspicious circumstances on the 1000 block of S. Crockett. Officer responded.

7:54 PM • Caller reported possible sounds of gunfire in the area of Deerwood. Officer responded.

9:13 PM • Caller reported a

suspicious person behind the Lowe's grocery store. Officer responded.

APRIL 29 - 12:15 AM • Alarm call at Stripes 266. Officer responded.

12:48 AM • Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on the 300 block of Ben Juarez. Officer responded.

10:31 AM • Caller reported criminal trespassing at the Dollar General. Officer responded.

6:07 PM • Caller reported a dog running loose on Del Rio and Savel. Officer responded.

11:54 PM • Caller reported a disturbance on the 1000 block of S. Crockett. Officer responded.

APRIL 30 - 1:34 AM • Caller reported an animal on the 400 block of New Street. Officer responded.

2:21 AM • Caller reported intoxicated driver at the Comfort Inn. Officer responded.

2:02 PM • Caller reported a man with a gun on Wilson and W. Oak. Officer responded.

6:22 PM • Caller reported an animal on the 1100 block of Tayloe. Officer responded.

8:21 PM • Caller requested officer on the 100 block of Deerwood. Officer responded.

9:59 PM • Caller reported a disturbance on the 700 block of St. Ann's. Officer responded.

10:42 PM • Caller reported loud music on the 1200 block of Orient. Officer responded.

MAY 1 - 1:15 AM • Caller reported a reckless driver on I-10 at MM 407. Officer responded.

9:26 AM • Caller reported a disturbance at the Economy Inn. Officer responded.

12:15 PM • Caller reported a reckless driver on Glasscock and Del Rio. Officer responded.

Sonia Castro Awarded the TORCH Foundation Continuing Education Stipend

Sonia Castro, a Registered Nurse with Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital (LMH) was awarded the Texas Hospital Organization of Rural Community Hospital (TORCH) Foundation's 2015 Continuing Education Stipend Award at the TORCH Annual Conference held in Dallas.

This scholarship is awarded to healthcare professionals who aspire to improve job performance by participating in a healthcare related continuing education-related opportunity.

The individuals awarded demonstrate commitment to providing quality healthcare and values continuing education as a tool to achieve performance excellence in his/her

occupation.

Jon-Michael Parker, Chief Nursing Officer for the hospital district was honored to accept this award on Sonia's behalf.

When asked to comment on Sonia's accomplishment, he said: "Sonia is the kind of nurse I would want treating my family. She is a goal-oriented nurse who is expanding her knowledge through education. I am proud to work beside her."

Sonia also participated in the Angelo State University grant LVN-RN Program and completed her requirements in 20 weeks.

She passed her board exams the first time around; many nurses attempt this numerous times before they receive a passing score.

www.DEVILSRIVER.NEWS

Frontier Days



Troop 19 Scouts pictured, from left to right, Scout Leader Jerry Jimenez, Matthew Roque, Chris Castro, Ethan Roque, Juan Miguel Jimenez, Dakota Castro, Tyler Smith, and Scoutmaster Christopher Roque.

Submitted by Father Chris Roque

Sonora's own Boy Scout Troop 19 trekked to Camp Fawcett to participate in the 4th Annual Amistad Scout District "Frontier Days" on Saturday, April 30th, along with troops from San Antonio, Uvalde, Eagle Pass and Del Rio. Frontier Days give Scouts the experience of the rich mountain men heritage. Competition events included black powder .45 caliber rifle shooting, knife and tomahawk throwing, caber and cannonball tossing, flint and steel fire starting, and using a two man saw. The day culminated with the famous relay named for John Colter, a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The run was a combination of all events in a timed relay. All our Scouts performed a personal best in the relay enabling Troop 19 to win first place.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Brushy Top Cowboy Church: Playday Series May 14th: BO at 9 RIDE at 10; 5424 South Hwy 277 (between Sonora & Eldorado TX) 17-18P

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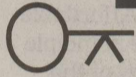
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EMPLOYMENT

The Sutton County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for the position of jailer. A drug screen, physical and background investigation will be conducted.

The position will include shift work and more than a basic working knowledge of computers. An eighty hour jail school must be completed followed by successfully passing a state test.

Applications will be taken until the position is filled and may be obtained at the Sutton County Sheriff's Office, 401 Oa Street, Sonora, Texas 76950 or by calling 325-387-2288. Sutton County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The annual report of the John and Mildred Cauthorn Charitable Trust will be available to the address noted below, for the inspection during regular business hours, by any citizen who so request within 180 days after May 16, 2016.

John and Mildred Cauthorn Charitable Trust
c/o Albert C. Elliott
213 East Main Street
Sonora, Texas 76950

The principle manager is: **Jo Ann Jones, Trustee**

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SONORA RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

202 Calle de Castillo - 2BR/1B	— UNDER CONTRACT —	\$59,500
601 S. Prospect - 2BR/2B	— PRICE REDUCED —	\$75,000
708 S. Concho - 4BR/2B	— PRICE REDUCED —	\$75,000
214 Hudspeth - 2BR/2B	— UNDER CONTRACT —	\$89,900
813 S. Prospect - 5BR/1B	— UNDER CONTRACT —	\$95,000
817 E. 2nd Street- 3BR/2B	— NEW LISTING —	\$97,900
1101 S. Concho - 2BR/1B		\$105,000
611 S. Prospect- 2BR/2B	— NEW LISTING —	\$115,000
803 S. Concho - 3BR/2B	— NEW LISTING —	\$118,000
216 Hudspeth - 2BR/2B	— PRICE REDUCED —	\$129,900
1103 Glasscock - 3BR/2B	— PRICE REDUCED —	\$134,900
2469 SCR 106 - 3BR/2B & 10 ac.		\$149,500
908 St. Ann's - 3BR/2B	— PRICE REDUCED —	\$159,500
904 E. Poplar - 4BR/2B		\$165,000
923 E. 2nd Street- 3BR/2B	— UNDER CONTRACT —	\$169,500
505 E. Poplar- 6BR/3B	— NEW LISTING —	\$175,000
702 S. Crockett - 4BR/2B	— PRICE REDUCED —	\$179,500
208 E. Main Street - 2BR/1.5B	— NEW LISTING —	\$180,000
164 PR 1115 - 3BR/2B & 16 ac.	— SOLD —	\$219,900
2529 SCR 106 - 3BR/2B & 9.291 ac.		\$295,000
1312 PR 2239 - 3BR/2B & 10 ac.		\$329,500
3435 Loop 467- 4BR/2B & 120 ac.	— NEW LISTING —	\$595,000
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Taylor Eyes Retirement, Hopes for Continued Involvement

Charles "Butch" Taylor has worked on the Texas A&M AgriLife research Station both as an employee and graduate student for the past 45 years - almost half of the station's existence.

So, it comes with some mixed emotions and anticipation that Taylor is closing this chapter of his life when he retires from the station on May 31st.

His journey began in 1971, following a tour in Vietnam while in the Army, and his arrival on the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station as a graduate student working on his Masters of Science degree.

Upon graduation from Texas A&M University, Taylor accepted a job on the research station as a research technician.

After only a year Taylor was promoted to Research Associate and then to Research Scientist.

Taking a break from his research work, he returned to Texas A&M University and began work on a Ph.D. in Range Science, returning to the station in 1983 at which time he accepted the job as assistant professor and superintendent of the research station.

Taylor said he and his wife, Cleone, will continue to live in Sutton County.

"Hopefully I will be able to participate at some level with future research station activities," Taylor said.

Taylor's three sons, Trey, Sam & Ben were raised on the research station and they attended public school in Sonora.

"The research station was more than a place to work, it was also home," Taylor said.

He explained that other families also lived and

raised their families on the station. The station was a unique, small community of its own where everyone enjoyed their lives together.

The Research Station marked its centennial with a celebration on the station with a full day of activities including talks, plant and wool judging, an auction and a presentation of Congressional Recognition by Congressman Will Hurd on April 23rd.

"The 100 year anniversary of the Research Station is a celebration of the far sightedness of people that pioneered this area and the triumph of technology over the challenges encountered producing food, fiber and recreational opportunities on the Edwards Plateau," Taylor said.

Through diligence, determination and faith, a group of ranchers built a

research facility to prove that science was and still is the solution to production issues. These ranchers invested their own money so that the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station (now Texas A&M AgriLife Research) could construct a facility designed to focus on their specific needs.

One hundred years later more than 30 professors and 80 graduate students have conducted research on the station.

Early research focused on livestock diseases. Then, the focus expanded to increasing animal production.

Today, present research is geared towards greater management and utilization of rangelands coupled with continued research on animal diseases and livestock production.

Water will likely be the

most important issue in the future and the study of rangeland watersheds began on this Station in the 1980's, according to Taylor.

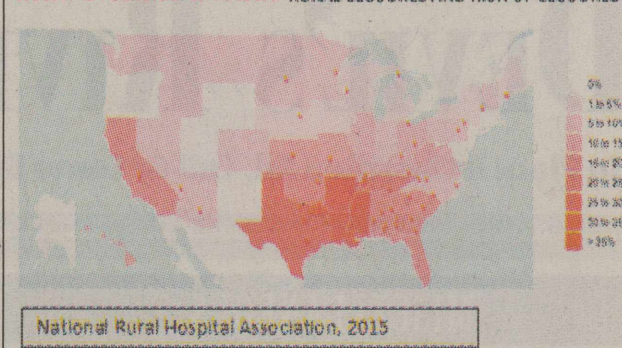
"The theme of this anniversary celebration is 'The Next 100 Years, You Be Involved,' Taylor said. "By this we mean that we expect this Station to continue to make discoveries that will enhance the management and utilization of rangelands for another 100 years and because we have always been customer driven we want you, whether you just moved here or you have lived here all of your life, to let us know how this station can best serve the needs of society."

The celebration also marks an endowment to ensure funding for future research to meet the ever-expanding needs of the Station's clientele.



Congressman Will Hurd shakes hands with Charles "Butch" Taylor following his presentation of a Congressional award of recognition to The Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station during the centennial celebration on Saturday, April 23rd. DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

HOSPITAL VULNERABILITY INDEX: RURAL CLOSURES AND RISK OF CLOSURES



Challenges Facing Rural Hospitals

Submitted by Sarah Teaff

Rural hospitals are closing at a rapid rate. Since 2010, 66 rural hospitals closed their doors; by 2015 the number of rural hospital closures had increased by 6 (National Rural Health Association, 2016).

In 2013, rural hospitals with fewer than 100 beds (LMH has 12) had an occupancy rate of only 37%, dropping 5.6% since 2006 according to the Medicare Advisory Commission (2010).

All over Texas, hospital administrators and their board of directors have sounded the alarm and are searching for ways to control expenses while finding sustainable revenue sources to keep their hospitals open for the long-term.

But, why is this happening? Why is it that just a few years ago rural hospitals were fine, even prosperous, and today are talking about avoiding closures?

The answer is complex. As a rural community, we face the same challenges other rural hospitals do: declining populations, a disproportionate number of elderly and uninsured patients, the frequent need to pay doctors better than top dollar to get them to work in rural communities, the cost of expensive equipment that is necessary and required by law, but frequently under used, and high volumes of unnecessary emergency room visits (which are chronic money-losers).

But, let's talk about some of the other culprits.

1. Medicaid Expansion: A large portion of the financial problems plaguing rural hospitals is due to the unwillingness of 21 states to expand Medicaid to low-income adults under the Affordable Care Act (also known as Obama care). Of the rural hospitals that are vulnerable to closure; 63% are located in states that have not expanded Medicaid (Ellison, 2016). Texas, a traditionally conservative state, overwhelmingly opposed Medicaid expansion; putting our hospital district at increased risk to vulnerability.

You can Google "Medicaid Expansion and Texas" and find a wealth of information concerning the impact that lack of Medicaid expansion has on hospitals.

2. The Oil and Gas Industry: In West Texas, we are acutely aware of the economic difficulties that stem from problems in the oil and gas industry.

In August of 2014 when oil was selling at \$96 a barrel the industry was unprepared for the plummet to \$43 a barrel by August of 2015 (Don McBeath, Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals, 2016). The fall in price was severe and has lasted much longer than analysts expected. Sutton County relies on the oil and gas industry as its main economic resource, therefore it plays a critical role in the economic sustainability of the hospital.

And the woes for the oil industry are far from over. The state's highest civil court has agreed to hear a case hinging on whether metal pipes, tubing and other equipment used in oil and gas production should

be exempt from sales tax.

The potential impact of this lawsuit for the state of Texas could be significant.

If the plaintiff (Midland-based Southwest Royalties, a subsidiary of Clayton Williams Energy) should win and it granted exemption, it could mean that Texas has to pay approximately \$4.5 billion dollars back to the oil and gas industry for collecting sales tax on the equipment. Either way, we lose.

3. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Obama care): The jury is still out on the definitive financial impact of the Affordable Care Act on rural hospitals. Preliminary numbers of slowly coming in from several years of empirical research.

Experts and practitioners cite declining federal reimbursement for hospitals under the Affordable Care Act as the principle reason for many of the recent rural hospital closures (Gugliotta, 2015).

Besides cutting back on Medicare, the law reduced payment to hospitals for the uninsured, a decision that was made with the assumption that states would expand their Medicaid programs (see problem #1).

Chris Traylor, Executive Commissioner for the office of Texas of Health and Human Services argues that rural hospital sustainability relies on three things:

1. Local Funding: This is generally what people do not want to hear, but many hospital districts are being forced to open lines of communication concerning tax-rates and other local funding opportunities.

2. Changing from a Fee-for-Service to Value-Based Purchasing: Under this purchasing model, employers and other large purchasers of health care would be expected to contract with health plans according to both quality and cost (Rosenthal, et al., 2007). Other aspect of this plan include promotion of negotiations based on patient outcomes.

3. Provider Compensation Models: Reimbursement changes (Solution #2) will require a restructuring of Provider Compensation Model in many cases. Much of this restructuring will include installing incentives for patient outcomes and quality improvement.

According to Peter Cebulka III, director of recruiting for Merritt Hawkins and Associates, compensation models are, "a very hot topic right now because of this growing trend toward employing physicians. Since 2006, we've seen a 43 percent drop in income guarantees" (New England Journal of Medicine Career Center, 2011).

Rural hospitals have a lot of work ahead. Changes in healthcare have come at a rapid pace and reverting back to the "old ways" has become a futile endeavor.

There are many ways to educate yourself on these changes and other challenges rural hospitals face.

The Texas Organization of Rural Community Hospitals is a great place to start. You can visit their website at www.torch.org or you can call them at (512) 873-0045.

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