

Eldorado Success

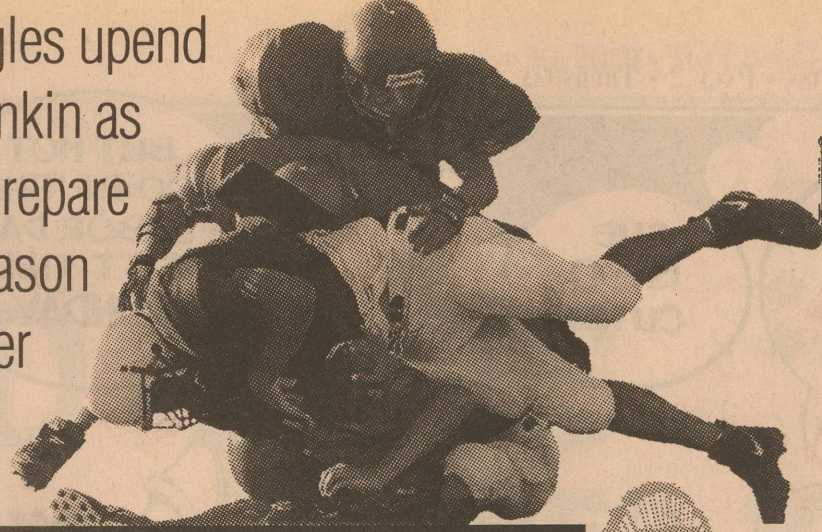
100th Year on Top of the Divide

Eagles upend Rankin as they prepare for season opener

...see Page 4

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
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THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

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VOLUME 100, ISSUE 35

"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"

AUGUST 30, 2001

Heavy rains blanket much of area

Tom Green and Irion Counties experience flooding

Two rains, a week apart, had already done much to lift the spirits of Schleicher County farmers and ranchers, then came another soaker on Tuesday and northern portions of the county tallied another 3-4 inches. FM 915 (Mertzon Highway) was closed briefly when rising water in Finnegan Draw made the road impassable. And FM 2129 (Bailey Ranch Road) was also closed for a time.

A few miles farther north, the story very different. Instead of the gentle soaking rain received here, residents in Christoval and Mertzon reported receiving 5 to 8 inches. U.S. 277 was closed north of Christoval after a downpour sent water thundering down hillsides and through pastures. FM 2084 (Toe Nail Trail) was also closed for a time, as was FM 2335 between Christoval and Knickerbocker and FM 853 (Arden Road). U.S. 67 between San Angelo and Mertzon was also closed for a time. So was FM 2469 (Ketchum Mountain Road.)

DPS Trooper Robert Bybee reported that flood waters washed away the pavement on FM 2335 and that several cars had been abandoned to the rising water in and around Christoval.

The South Concho River rose quickly at Christoval but it was the water pouring down the hillside on which the town is built that caused most of the flooding there. A cloudburst turned the community's streets into rivers and water cascaded through much of the town.

Twin Buttes Reservoir is likely to be the biggest beneficiary of rain since most of it fell across the

South and Middle Concho River watershed. Preliminary estimates placed the runoff reaching Twin Buttes at 5-10,000 acre feet. Later in the day, those estimates were being called conservative. Lake Nasworthy should benefit as well, since Pecan Creek, which flows into the lake, was reportedly running strong.

Interestingly, the U.S. Weather Service at Mathis Field in San Angelo recorded less than an inch from the storm.

Late Tuesday afternoon, more barricades were being erected on FM 915 near the Eldorado City Limits as Finnegan Draw again flowed over the roadway. A half hour later, however, the sky

cleared and a glorious double rainbow arched across the eastern horizon.

At press time, the National Weather Service forecast called for a likely storms and thunderstorms on Wednesday. Thursday's forecast called for mostly cloudy conditions with a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Locally, rainfall totals in excess of 2 inches were reported with two week totals topping 7 inches in some cases.

For the latest weather information log onto myeldorado.net and follow the weather link. There you will find the latest doppler radar and National Weather Service forecasts.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Better not try it — Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran cautioned an unidentified woman not to try crossing Finnegan Draw on FM 915 Tuesday afternoon after heavy rains flooded the roadway

Hospital district adopts \$4.25 million budget

39.2¢ tax rate required to service fiscal year 2000 budget

by Kathy Mankin

The Schleicher County Hospital District board of trustees met Monday night and authorized Board President Randy Mankin to act on behalf of the district in signing a contract with Dr. Patrick Taylor, the physician who has been staffing the hospital's emergency room in recent months. They also approved a \$4,252,657.00 budget for the 2002 fiscal year and approved a 39.20¢ tax rate.

The board convened at 6:08 p.m. and, received the hospital's Quality Assurance Report from Dietary Service Director Marion Porter. After reviewing the report, the board went into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, the ongoing search for a physician, and delib-

erations concerning real property and rental contracts. The board emerged into open session after about an hour and ten minutes. At that time the board voted unanimously to authorize Mankin to execute a contract with Dr. Taylor. They also voted to place all hospital district employees under the direction of Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook. The board took no action on the subject of real property or a rental contract.

Dr. Debbie Dorie was the only member of the public present for the regularly scheduled meeting. Also in attendance were Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook, Asst. Administrator Beverly Minor and Accounts Receivable Manager Philip Sharp. All board members were present. They include Delia

Pina, Judy Christian, Randy Mankin, Jim Martin, John Callison, Shirley Joiner and Ricky Fuessel.

Under old business, the board approved the minutes of the July 6 and July 23 meetings. They then took up discussion of the district's financial reports. It was noted hospital revenue increased by 51 percent in July. That, coupled with improved collections in the accounts receivable, as well as a 29 percent occupancy rate in the hospital, helped to push the district's bottom line into the black. Year to date, the district is ahead by \$16,334.00. Taxes received by the district, it was explained.

Ann Fagan-Cook reported that she was pleased with the outcome of a recent hospital survey by the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



PHOTO BY LORI STRICKLAN

Open container law gets tougher — Beginning Saturday, the Texas Open Container Law is expanding prohibit the possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages by any person in the passenger compartment of a vehicle. Formerly, the law applied only to drivers.

New open container law takes effect on Saturday

Speed limit & other traffic laws updated

A series of new traffic laws go into effect on Saturday, September 1, 2001. Chief among them is a change in the state's Open Container law. Under the threat of losing federal highway dollars, Texas legislators this year approved House Bill 5. The bill makes it a Class C misdemeanor to have open containers of alcohol in the passenger compartment of a motor vehicle.

Previously, the law applied only to drivers and did not restrict passengers from having open con-

tainers of alcohol in their possession. The old law was difficult, if not impossible to enforce, since law enforcement officers had to witness a driver in possession of an open container of alcohol. That was compounded by the ease with which a driver could pass an open container to a passenger during a traffic stop.

The new law is much more stringent. It prohibits the possession of an open container in the passenger compartment of a motor vehicle. And, the vehicle does not have to be in operation...it can be parked and along a public roadway. Violations under the new open container law will result in a citation, much the same as a traffic ticket.

House Bill 5 also increases penalties for repeat DWI offenders. If a second DWI conviction takes place within five years, there is an automatic one-year driver license suspension-and the driver must have an ignition interlock installed on their vehicle for the year following the suspension. During

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Child welfare board elects new officers

On Tuesday August 21, 2001, the Child Welfare Board of Schleicher County met in the Eldorado Elementary School kitchen for a regular meeting. One item on the agenda was the installation of new officers as well as new members. Dora Arispe, Connie Wells, and Billie Jean Mendoza have been accepted as new members. Martha Adame was elected vice-president/secretary and Katrina Gonzales was elected president.

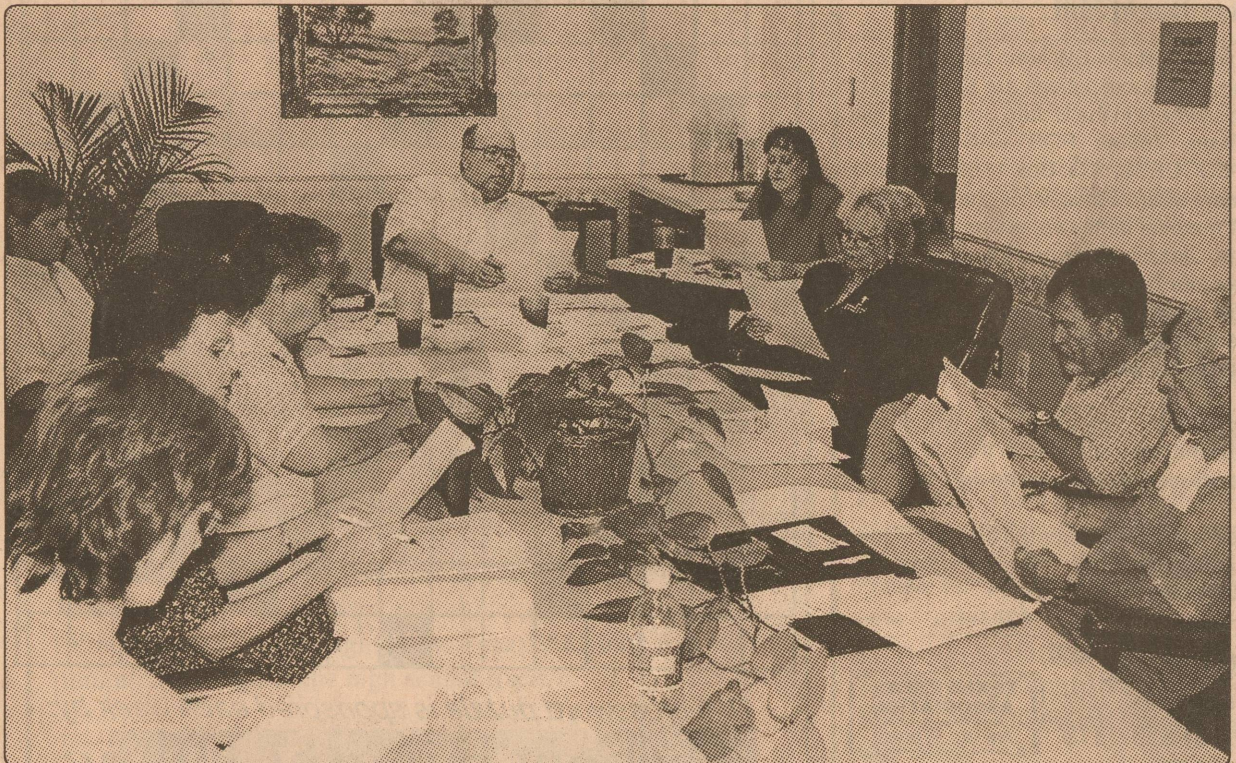


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Working the numbers — The Schleicher County Hospital District board of trustees met Monday night and adopted a \$4.25 million budget. Here the board reviews a proposal from the budget committee. Pictured are (clockwise from left) trustees Shirley Joiner, Judy Christian, Delia Pina, Ricky Fuessel, Randy Mankin, Asst. Administrator Beverly Minor, Hospital Administrator Ann Fagan-Cook, trustees Jim Martin and John Callison.

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Who would trust a company named Dewey, Cheatham and Howe?



en in by the con artist. Beginning in 1997, he used the nonexistent company and a series of assumed names to establish more than a hundred separate lines of credit. In all, Penker bilked his creditors out of more than a \$1 million.

Authorities only learned of Penker's scam after a Lubbock banker recognized the phoney name as being from the Three Stooges. John Reed, vice president of American State Bank in Lubbock, said he became suspicious when Penker telephoned him in June of 2000, asking that a cashier's check he had obtained from a branch bank in Abilene six months earlier, be reissued under different name.

Reed said that Dewey, Cheatham and Howe seemed a bit unusual for a company name and he contacted the FBI. Special Agent Mike Orndorff took up the investigation and soon learned that Penker had used the aliases Pat Pinker, Pat Pimker, Jon Bookout, Jon Bookout, Denman Moody and Paul Orez, in combination with Social Security numbers belonging to other people in order to fraudulently obtain credit.

With investigators closing in, Penker's scheme quickly unraveled. They were able to follow a trail of 197 cashier's checks and 443 money orders, purchased at banks and post offices in Texas and New Mexico. When the FBI caught up with Penker he was still running the scam, although he had revised the operation slightly. Penker's assumed name at the time of capture was Alvin Cheatham and his company was called DC&H, Inc., a company that he had fraudulently incorporated in Carson City, Nevada. The cashier's checks and money orders had all been issued to variations of the initials and names Dewey, Cheatham and Howe.

Penker reportedly cooperated with the FBI after his arrest and they were able to recover \$550,000.00 of the stolen money, about half the amount that is believed to have been taken. Interestingly, at the time of his capture, Penker was using the Social Security number of a real Alvin Cheatham from Georgia.

On Monday, Patrick Michael Penker entered a guilty plea in Federal District Court in Lubbock. Believe it or not, the law firm of Dewey, Cheatham and Howe failed to show up to represent the man.

The only thing that could possibly make this story better would be if three guys named Larry, Curly and Moe tried to smuggle a hacksaw into the Lubbock County jail, baked, of course, inside a birthday cake!

Those of us who remember the Three Stooges comedies, and that's just about everyone over the age of 30, will get a chuckle out of this story. Or, if not a chuckle, then at least a "nyuk nyuk nyuk nyuk!"

It seems an Arkansas man stumbled across a way to make some easy money. (Already it sounds like a Stooges script!) The man, Patrick Michael Penker, 54, of Bella Vista, Ark., formed a bogus company, then named it after the fictional law firm in the Three Stooges serial comedies...Dewey, Cheatham and Howe.

Amazingly, bankers, credit card companies and gambling casinos across the nation were tak-

ture.

Dove bag limits changed

For the first time in years, the Parks and Wildlife Commission has changed the bag limit for mourning dove in two of the state's three hunting zones.

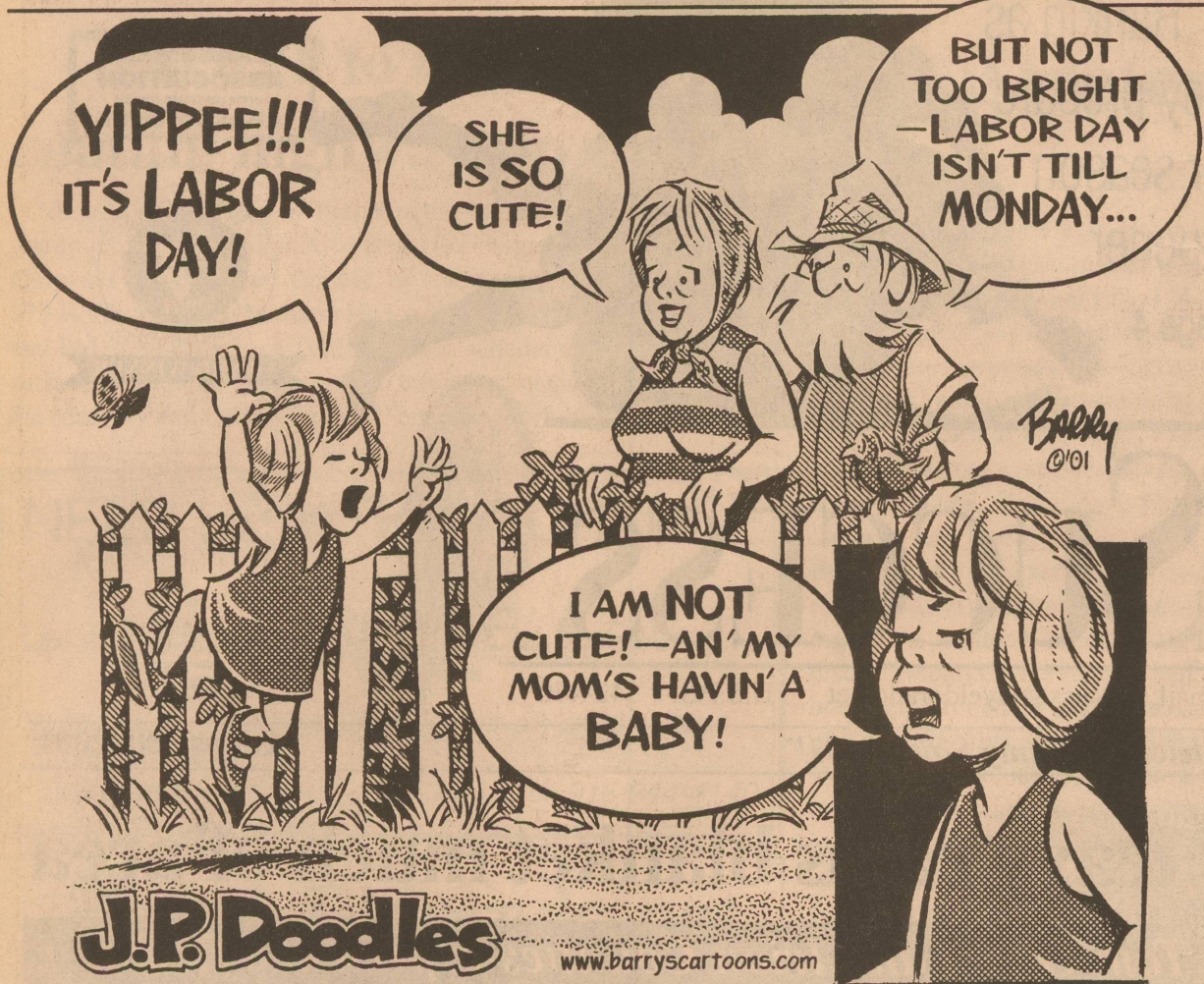
The central and south hunting zones will have a 12-bird bag limit, down from a 15-bird limit last season. But the hunting season in these two zones has been extended from 60 to 70 days.

The bag limit for the north zone remains at 15 birds, and the season stays at 60 days.

The zones are separated by Interstates 30, 20 and 10. Best bet is to make sure you know what zone you're in before you start shooting. If you have any doubt, check the Parks and Wildlife website at www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

Not knowing the correct bag limit can be costly. Fines for having too many birds range from \$25 to \$500, plus a restitution fee per bird that varies from \$25 to \$50.

Last year nearly 400,000 Texas dove hunters spent 1.2 million days in the field, taking an estimated 4.5 million birds.



Texas may surpass California in population by 2065

AUSTIN - Our children and grandchildren may be saddled someday with a Texas brag that will cut into their elbowroom.

Texas could be the most populous state in the nation by 2065, the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank reports in the latest edition of its publication Southwest Economics.

That would mean more people in Texas than California, the current largest state in population.

Texas' 3.9 million population growth in the 1990s pushed it past New York as the second most populated state in the country.

While being No. 1 in population is down the road, here's an interesting piece of reality: Of the state's 254 counties, 61 of them have six or fewer residents per

State Capital Highlights

by Mike Cox



square mile. In the 19th century, that low of a population density fit the federal definition of a frontier area.

Spelling police bust TxDOT

Given the usual traffic congestion, most motorists driving south on Interstate 35 in downtown Austin have other things on their mind than spelling.

But an observant motorist recently spotted a spelling boo-boo that resulted in some red faces in

the nearby headquarters of the state agency charged with maintaining and improving the movement of people and goods in Texas.

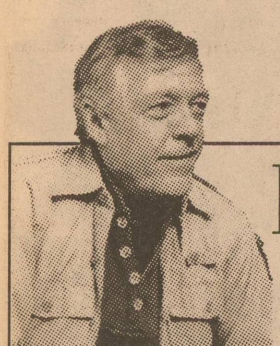
Approaching the 11th Street exit, the exit someone would take if they were going to work at Texas Department of Transportation's main office, a driver noted that the large white letters on the large green sign said "Capital Exit."

For most people that sign probably made perfect sense, but if they took it literally, it would mean that the exit led to the very seat of Texas government, not the building from which that government is run.

Certainly not a capital offense, but the sign was wrong. The large pink granite building at the head of Congress Avenue is the "capitol." Austin is the "capital" of the state.

Apprised of the spelling error, TxDOT changed the "a" on the sign to "o."

While the agency declined to name the engineer whose watch the spelling mistake occurred on, a spokesman did say that steps would be taken to make sure the agency's employees took more pains with their spelling in the fu-



ROLLING ALONG

WITH TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Artistry on the Lake

Well done. Uplifting. Family oriented. High quality. Standing ovations every night. A totally professional show. The comments are being made about LONE STAR RISING, the new outdoor musical drama being staged at the amphitheater on Lake Meredith just outside the panhandle city of Fritch. It has Broadway-quality costumes with lighting, sound, scenery and talent to match. There's everything from Indian dances to tap and ballet, along with a medicine show and cowboy poetry contest.

The play focuses on two love stories. One couple is old, the other young. Texas history is there, too. Everything from Sam Houston to Cynthia Ann Parker.

Neil Hess directed this fine piece of work. He's the same person who directed TEXAS in the Palo Duro Canyon 32 years.

"I woke up one morning and this lake was on my mind. I drove out and looked at the theater. It was kind of run-down but had a magnificent view. I started making phone calls and we got this put together in 8 weeks. I'm talking from ground zero. We wrote the script, provided the costumes, created the music, orchestrated the music, built the scenery, refurbished the theater, planned our opening night's festivities and everything else in eight weeks.

"Phil Price of Lubbock wrote the play in three weeks. We were rehearsing the first act while he was writing the second act."

The amphitheater is in one of the prettiest spots in the panhan-

dle. The audience can see both the stage and the lake. John Benjamin, superintendent of the Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, is thrilled with the play. "It's just what we were looking for," he says. The amphitheater was built back in 1982 by teen-agers working on a summer project. "We hope to have it renovated by next year," says John.

The play opened June 15th. On the 30th, there was a huge fireworks show over the lake after the play. There was standing room only in the 1250-seat facility.

Cody Duncan, house manager, says response has been overwhelming. "When the people are leaving after the show and I thank them for coming, they thank me for giving them some great entertainment."

He teaches high school drama and seven of his students are working with the show doing technical work. "They think it's real special that they are the very first crew to work the show. They're talking about when they're old and coming to see the show they can tell their kids about building that rock wall."

The panhandle's Lone Star Ballet put up front money, but it'll be paid back after the season ends on August 19. The play is on stage Wednesday through Sunday evenings. Starting time is 8:15. Neil Hess says when you see the colorful dancers, the moon over the water and the stars, it's great. "This is a superior experience for me."

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THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

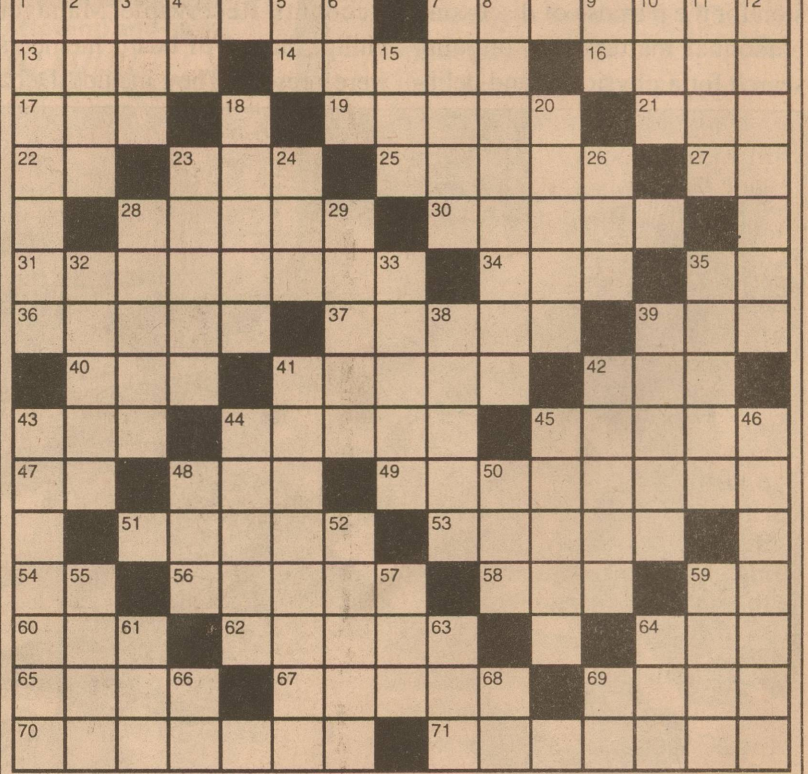
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MEMBER 2001
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS	56 Lucent	short
1 Drinkable	58 Bachelor of Navai	20 Pastureland
7 Religious hermit	Science (abbr.)	28 Forbidden
13 Hard wood trees	59 Ruthenium, periodically	29 Once more
14 Dodge	60 Fuss	32 Desert haven
16 Resound	62 Northeast African Republic	33 Sailing ship
17 RPM	64 Banish	35 Rope caulk
19 Construct	65 Endowment	38 Fear
21 Snake-like fish	67 Low-water mark	39 Jamborees
22 Preposition indicating the direction of	69 Elaborate solo	41 Widespread
23 Current unit	70 Environmental science	42 Football measurements
25 Electronic mail	71 Bhutan resident	43 Chest
27 Heart attack (abbr.)	DOWN	44 Rugged cliffs
28 Crown	1 Disquiet	45 Groans
30 High waterfall	2 Margarine	46 Japanese warrior
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34 Caffeine drink	4 Adverb indicating to the same degree	50 Essence
35 Goodness	5 French article	52 Now
36 Infants	6 Seth's mom	55 Bank deposit insurance (abbr.)
37 Rot resistant wood	7 Severe bruise	57 Bundle
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41 Fjord, alternatively	10 Hard water	63 Beak
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44 Small row boat	15 100 square meters	68 Blood group antigen
45 Apple genus	18 Housemaids	69 Preposition expressing a rate
47 Exists	20 Striped feline	
48 Slip	23 Assisted	
49 Scenic vista	24 Professional for	
51 Water or space vehicle		
53 Couples		
54 See also		

See solution on Page 6



This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by:

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OBITUARIES

Sherry Diane Yates Lux



ELDORADO — Sherry Diane Yates Lux, 51, of Eldorado passed away Friday, Aug. 24, 2001, at 2:45 a.m. in Houston at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. She was born Sept. 7, 1949, in San Angelo to Earl and Sarah Yates. She married De Lux on Oct. 19, 1968, and together they had three children and one grandchild.

Sherry was an agent for Germania Insurance Co. for more than 25 years. She was involved in many community activities, which

included the Chamber of Commerce Board, the Game Association Board, City Council Board and Democratic Party chairman. She sponsored the St. Jude's Children's Hospital Bike-A-Thon. Sherry was elected Woman of the Year in 1994. Sherry loved her work and was a devoted friend to everyone. Her untiring efforts will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Survivors include her husband, De Lux; three children, Teresa Thomas, Stuart Lux and wife, Lisa, and Mitzi Lux; her parents, Earl and Sarah Yates; three sisters, Tanya Shanklin, Randy Mitchel and Jill Smith; a brother, Jackie Yates; and one grandchild, Tevyn Thomas.

Services will be held at the First Baptist Church in Eldorado at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 31, 2001. Burial will follow in Eldorado Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Glen Richardson, Bill Savell, Ronnie Sauer, Ross Whitten, Bert Bruton, Sam Henderson and Steve Garrett.

Arrangements are by Kerbow Funeral Home.

Schleicher County Child Welfare Board defines itself

by Katrina Gonzales

When people ask me where I'm going on the second Tuesday of every month, I tell them, "A child welfare board meeting." Invariably, the next question is, "And what is that?"

Actually, the best definition of this entity can be found in the name itself—Child Welfare Board. It's a group of concerned local citizens who meet on a regular basis to stay in touch with the welfare of children in Schleicher County. We are teachers, principals, child-care providers, ministers, health-care workers, etc. whose purpose is based on providing for children in our community who are in crisis. Each meeting, we are assisted by a representative from the Texas Child Protective Agency who helps keep us updated on the needs Schleicher County children have had during that month.

We do deal with tough issues like child abuse, but we also have many projects that are uplifting and gratifying. Many of you have supported the Angel Tree at Christmas. For those of you new to Schleicher County, the Angel Tree provides gifts to children who may not receive anything at Christmas.

You'll have the opportunity to do so again this year, as well, among other projects that will promote the needs of children.

In the past, the CWB has had golf tournaments and other fundraisers to assist children in our community. The money collected from these fund-raisers goes directly to children in Schleicher County. For example, if a family is separated because of physical abuse by the parents, the children are often placed in foster care. When this happens, our local child welfare board will receive a phone call asking for money to assist the child in the transition. Many times children arrive at a foster home with only the clothes they have on their backs. Our local board then sends the child's caseworker a check, so the child can get the necessary items to get enrolled in school, etc.

Because of several cases that were handled over the summer, our fund has been depleted. Helping one child out in a difficult situation often takes \$200-300. If this happens to more than one child within a short period of time, the need can add up quickly.

If you are interested in helping us build our balance back up by making a donation, please call Katrina Gonzales at 853-2467 or Martha Adame at 853-3613. You can also send it to Schleicher County Child Welfare Board, Post Office box 536. We appreciate your help in supporting our children here in Schleicher County.

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Schleicher County
Medical Center



Davis to appear in Concho Valley concerts

Singer/songwriter and former Miss Alabama, Denise Davis will be singing and speaking at several area churches the weekend of September 14th.

On Friday, September 14th, Davis will be a live in-studio guest at KCRN radio.

On Saturday, September 15th, Christoval Baptist Church will be hosting an evening concert featuring Davis. Admission is free and the concert begins at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact Doug Hurt at 915-255-9214.

On Sunday, September 16th, Davis will sing during the 9:00 a.m. service at St. Luke United Methodist Church. She will then perform at Immanuel Baptist Church during their 11:00 a.m. service.

Denise Davis has led a life filled with more than enough experiences to script a movie. She went from singing in recording studios when she was still a teen

to winning the Miss Alabama Pageant before being diagnosed with a life changing illness. Focusing her musical skills on Christian music with the release of her first CD, "Eternally Grateful," she sings and writes from the heart and soul. Today Davis travels around the country speaking and performing at churches and women's conferences where she shares her heart through music and her life's

experiences. Her debut CD, "Eternally Grateful" has yielded four radio singles. The most recent single, "Take You At Your Work" is currently in the top twenty on the Inspirational chart.

For more information about the upcoming performances contact Tracey Collins at 615-279-5212 or visit Davis' website at www.denisedavis.com.

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30th Lucille McWhorter, Debbie Pina, Gary Warnock, Larry Sanchez, Justin Estrada
31st Pat Ragsdale, Dora Bosmans, Melvin Conner Sr., Mary Hoffman, Mark Bybee, Cindy Bybee, Robert O'Keefe
SEPTEMBER
1st Ronnie Sauer, Rene Dominguez
2nd Jeff Sellers, Carolyn Mayo, Franky Estrada, Oscar Rios Sr., Jesus Guadarrama
3rd Charlene Sudduth, Byron Guterrez, Mack Holley, Connie Martinez, Jeff Sellers, Shawn Hamilton, Tommy Pippen, Steve Whitten
4th Yadira Iglesias, Sandra Clark, Magdalena Martinez
ANNIVERSARIES
AUGUST
30th Matt & Christy Brown
31st Caroline & Kenneth Hight, Billy & Leanne Higgins, Robert & Candy Davis
SEPTEMBER
1st Ronnie & Sharon Mittel
2nd Mark & Elizabeth Lloyd
3rd Donnie & Donna Newton
4th Damien & GERALYN Beach, Fidel & Delia Herrera
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Eagles host Christoval tomorrow night in season opener

by David E. Hill

The Eldorado Eagles officially open their 2001 season tomorrow night at Eagle Stadium with an 8 p.m. kick-off against District 10-1A opponent Christoval. This game will mark the first time Christoval has ever played at Eagle Stadium and is the opener for both ball clubs. This is also the first time the Eagles will come on to the field with a new man at the helm, as Karl McCormack begins his mark on EHS football tomorrow night.

Eldorado will feature a new offense this year as the Eagles will be in the I-formation. EHS will have senior Johnny Herrera at QB. The backfield will have Quisto Gonzalez at tailback and Benji Gonzalez at fullback. Herrera's receivers will be Wesley Jones, Tony Fay, Ramon Barajas, and Andrew Anderson at wide outs, and David Elias at tight end. The men up front will be Cole Pina at right guard, Scott Homer at right tackle, Juan Guzman at center, Ray David Buitron at left guard, and Chris Martinez at left tackle.

Defensively, the Eagles will have Scott Homer at right tackle, Cole Pina at left tackle, David Elias at right defensive end, and Jordan Fay at left defensive end. Juan Guzman and Ray Buitron will start at inside linebackers and Quisto Gonzalez and Benji Gonzalez will be the outside linebackers. Wesley Jones, Andrew Anderson, and Ra-

mon Barajas will be in the defensive backfield.

The kicking game will see two new faces as well. Quisto Gonzalez will be the place kicker, while, Andrew Anderson will handle the punting duties for the Eagles.

Eldorado faces a much improved Christoval team tomorrow night.

Offensively, the Cougars run the veer which features the option. So far this year, Senior QB, Javier Rojas has carried much of the load as he runs the ball about 50% of the time. He has been very effective on the option and has quick feet. Senior 285 pound right tackle Josh Eubank, anchors the offensive line.

Defensively, Christoval runs the split 6 that features 8 men on the line of scrimmage. They have good size up front. They tend to blitz their linebackers to keep the offense guessing and disrupt their timing.

Coach McCormack commented on Christoval. "They are quick and move very well. They are a team that can sneak up on you if you don't watch out. We have to come out and play well fundamentally and stay after them. This should be a good test for us."

Everyone is encouraged to come out to Eagle Stadium tomorrow night and support the Eagles in their home opener. **WEAR YOUR GREEN AND BE LOUD!**

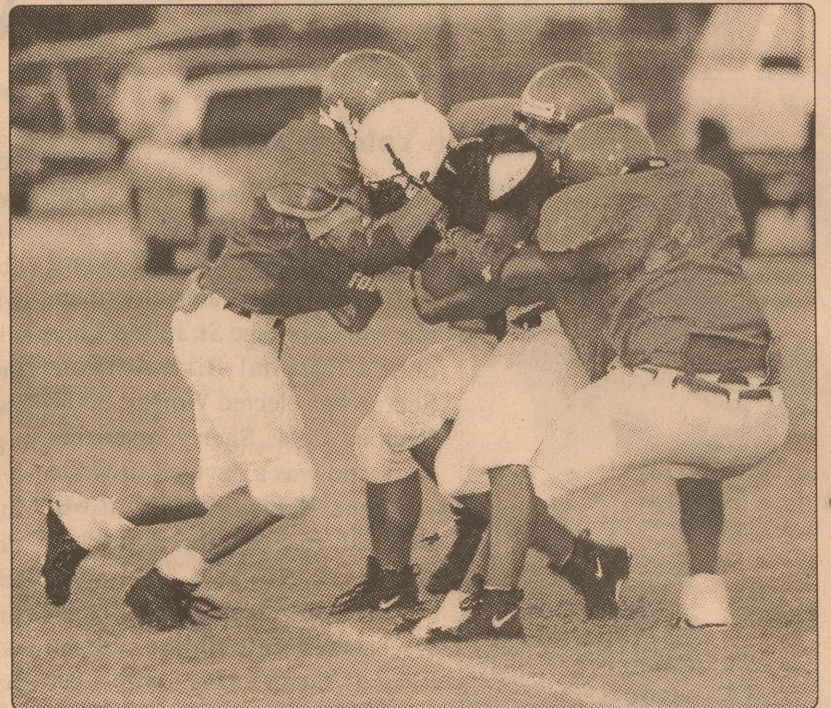


PHOTO BY RANDY MANKIN

Meet you at the quarterback — Eagles defenders converged on the Red Devil quarterback during a scrimmage in Rankin last Thursday. The War Birds will host the Christoval Cougars in Eagle Stadium tomorrow night.

Eldorado scrimmages Rankin, Eagles continue to improve

by David E. Hill

The Eldorado Eagles traveled to Rankin last Thursday for their final scrimmage of the season. The Eagles were the first test of the year for the state ranked Red Devils. Eldorado came out on top by a score of 1 to 0.

The Eagle offensive unit showed good improvement over the previous week as they sustained several good drives during the evening. The offensive line did a good job up holding their blocks and moving people off the line of scrimmage. Coach McCormack commented on the offense saying, "We had a great drive and moved the ball really well. We need to work on scoring when we get in

the 'red zone'. All in all we continue to improve offensively, our backs, receivers, and quarterbacks are starting to mesh."

The defensive unit again had a strong outing. They were in the Rankin backfield most of the evening and did not give them much of a chance to move the ball. Coach McCormack noted the defensive effort saying, "Our defense swarmed the ball real well and we are getting better with our techniques. It was a good defensive outing."

This was the last scrimmage of the year for the Eagles and the "real" season begins tomorrow night at Eagle Stadium versus Christoval.

Jack Hext Memorial Golf Tournament results listed

by Branda Gray

The Jack Hext Memorial Tournament was held Aug. 18-19, There were 58 teams entered.

Saturday Results - Championship Flight: 1st Place, Score 57 - McBride, Hughes; 2nd Place, Score 57 - Doan, Doan; 3rd Place, Score 59 - Olson, McCalib; 4th Place, Score 59 - Gray, Warnock.

Presidents Flight: 1st Place, Score 57 - Henderson, Nix; 2nd Place, Score 59 - Brown, Mitchell; 3rd Place, Score 60 - Martinez, Blair; 4th Place, Score 61 - Hernandez, Razzelle.

First Flight: 1st Place, Score 62 - Tackle, Martin; 2nd Place, Score 62 - Payne, Aguilar; 3rd Place, Score 62 - Griffin, Medanich; 4th Place, Score 63 - Halbert, McCormack.

Second Flight: 1st Place Score, 60 - Rathbone, Whitten; 2nd Place, Score 61 - Snelson, Snelson; 3rd Place, Score 62 - Freitag, Catron; 4th Place, Score 62 - Tanner, Decker.

Third Flight: 1st Place, Score 63 - McCravy, Newman; 2nd Place, Score 63 - Petty, Steenboch; 3rd Place, Score 65 - Wells, Thomas; 4th Place,

Score 66 - Ledbetter, Alexander.

Sunday Results - Championship Flight: 1st Place Score 57 - Bailey, Bailey; 2nd Place, Score 58 - McBride, Hughes; 3rd Place, Score 60 - Gibbs, Gonzales; 4th Place, Score 61 - Doan, Doan.

Presidents Flight: 1st Place, Score 57 - Hernandez, Razzelle; 2nd Place, Score 60 - Olson, Whitten; 3rd Place, Score 60 - Martinez, Blair; 4th Place, Score 61 - B. Whitten, K. Whitten.

First Flight: 1st Place, Score 58 - Rathbone, Whitten; 2nd Place, Score 59 - Cavazos, Gutierrez; 3rd Place, Score 60 - Pridemore, Pridemore; 4th Place, Score 62 - Nikolauk, Nikolauk.

Second Flight: 1st Place, Score 64 - Reeves, Hinojosa; 2nd Place, Score 64 - Wanoreck, Richters; 3rd Place Score 66 - Martinez, Guerrero; 4th Place Score 66 - Joy, Edmonson.

Third Flight: 1st Place, Score 67 - Carrell, Carrell; 2nd Place, Score 68 - R. Jones, J. Jones; 3rd Place, Score 68 - McCravy, Newman; 4th Place, Score 69 - McGinnes, McGinnes.

Closest to the pin was won by Jim Baily and Martin Steenboch.



PHOTO BY RANDY MANKIN

Touchdown bound — Eagles JV running back Landon Nixon rounded the left end of the line and sprinted to the end zone last Thursday as the Eagles JV scrimmaged the Rankin Red Devils JV. The Eagles JV won the scrimmage 2-0.

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Commissioners slate tax rate hearing for Sept. 10

by Pat Ragsdale

Schleicher County Commissioners chose Monday to adopt a tax rate of 75.25¢ per \$100 valuation, even though doing so will require that a public hearing be held before the rate becomes official. The 75.25¢ rate is more than 5¢ below last year's rate. However, due to a significant increase in appraised values, the rate necessary to raise the same amount of revenue as last year declined dramatically. Last year the commissioners adopted a tax rate of 80.42¢ and

raised \$1,353,980.00 in revenue. Due to the increase in appraised values, a 69.70¢ rate would raise the same amount as next year.

The commissioners seemed to view the improved economic conditions as an opportunity to boost county revenue, and possibly fund several projects that have been on the back burner for years, since most individual tax payers will see a decrease in the amount of taxes they are paying. By adopting a 75.25¢ rate the county will see a windfall of about \$107,000.00.

A public hearing on the tax rate will be held Monday Sept. 10, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Court Room on the first floor of the Schleicher County Courthouse.

On hand for Monday's meeting were County Judge Johnny Griffin and Commissioners Ross Whitten, Kirk Griffin and Johnny Mayo. Commissioner Bill Clark was absent. Judge Griffin called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. and minutes of the August 13 meeting were read by County Clerk Peggy Williams. After approving the minutes the men took up discussion of the tax rate.

In other business, the commissioners discussed damages to County Road 107, resulting from the Reese Albert Companies paving

project on U.S. Highway 190. The discussion was tabled until the work on the highway has been completed and final damages are assessed. The men then approved the redistricting map as prepared by the law firm of Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever and McDaniel.

A request to support funding of the Geographical Priority Area of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program was referred to the local Natural Resource Conservation Service office for their input and advice.

Before adjourning, the commissioners reviewed various reports. They then approved funding the county employee's retirement fund at a 7 percent rate in 2002. The county's bills were also reviewed and ordered paid.



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Supposed to yield — Despite flashing lights and slick streets, drivers showed little concern Tuesday afternoon for the safety of the children getting off this school bus at the intersection of East Murchison Avenue and Denney Street.

Keep safety in mind when driving near school buses

Question: Who is supposed to yield when the warning lights on a school bus are flashing? Answer: Everyone!

That question and others about traffic safety around school buses came to the front in recent days as Schleicher County children headed back to school.

While there are very specific rules governing traffic around the yellow school buses, one general rule always seems to apply. Err on the side of caution. If you can't do that, then please consider the following safety rules:

Undivided Roads and Highways

On undivided roads and highways (those without medians or barriers in the middle), the general rule is that if you are approaching a school bus that has stopped in the road, STOP! No matter which direction you are approaching the bus from, you MUST stop until at least one or more of the following things have occurred:

1. The school bus resumes motion; or
2. You are signaled by the school bus driver to proceed; or
3. The visual signal used by the bus (usually blinking lights) is turned off.

This rule applies to all roads that do not have driving medians or barriers. The rule applies to roads with turning lanes (these are

not considered to be medians or barriers), and the rule applies no matter how many lanes the road has.

Divided Roads and Highways

The general rule for divided roads is slightly different. Remember, a turning lane does not make the road a divided road. A divided road is one that has a barrier or median. On a divided road or highway, only traffic going in the same direction as the bus is required to stop, but all lanes going in the same direction as the bus must still stop.

Meals for Friends Menu



Monday, September 3

Closed For Labor Day

Tuesday, September 4

Hot Dogs w/Chilli & Cheese, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Bun, Pineapple Waldorf

Wednesday, September 5

Chicken Strip w/Gravy, Baked Potato, Broccoli w/Cheese Sauce, Dinner Rolls, Peach Cobbler, Milk

Thursday, September 6

Soft Tacos & Cheese, Pinto Beans, Corn w/Sweet Pepper, 2 Flour Tortillas, Chopped Lettuce & Tomato, Mixed Fresh Fruit w/Cantaloupe, Milk

Friday, September 7

Ital. Baked Fish, Lima Beans, Baked Tater Tots, Cornbread, Sliced Strawberries, Milk

Booster Club Update

by Bill Hodges

The Booster Club is currently at the 50% mark of our goal of raising \$3000.00 toward the purchase of Video equipment for the athletic dept. So far donations from: Dr. Steve Sessom, Cy Griffin, Jim Kosub, SWTEC, Halbert LPG, Dr. William Edmiston, Ken Phillips Pumping Services, H.G. Automotive, Eldorado Pharmacy, Dob Lively, 1st Community Federal Credit Union, have been received.

Booster Club T-Shirts are in and ready to be purchased and

worn proudly. For Middle School T-Shirts and buttons contact Tammy Dombroski at 853-2549 ext. 421. Coach Randy Mitchel is taking orders for the heavier Eagle-ware and you may contact any Booster Club member for other T-Shirts and buttons.

Our sale of ads for the football program is completed with great success. Thanks to those people for the hard work and thanks to all our supporters.

Meetings will be each Monday at 6 p.m. in the High School Gym lobby.

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\$18 Reg. 24.99

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- TV Cart. #144 / #145
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- Microwave Cart. #149

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- King. Reg. 23.00.....\$20

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The one day certification class will be offered on September 8, 2001 at 2 p.m. by Susan Lloyd. Leave name and phone number at lumber yard.

Watch for updates on time, location & band.

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Many factors contribute to the choice of a long term care facility. Proximity to loved ones, planned activities and a homelike atmosphere are but three of the reasons many have chosen Schleicher County Nursing Home as their home away from home. We appreciate the trust that so many of our neighbors have placed in us. We work hard every day to make certain that trust is deserved.

Please feel free to call or come by. We'll be happy to visit with you about the long term care options at Schleicher County Nursing Home. We'll take as much time as necessary to answer all your questions. After all, we're more than a nursing home...we're your neighbor and we want you to feel comfortable and understand all your alternatives.



Schleicher County Nursing Home

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Hospital board adopts 2002 budget, sets 39.2¢ tax rate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Texas Department of Health. She told the board that after a very stringent survey, only "four minor deficiencies" were noted. Among those was a "No Smoking" sign that had faded and needed painting. Two other deficiencies involved verifying that certain medical equipment is connected to the emergency electrical system. The fourth involved cracked weather stripping on two exterior corridor doors. Fagan-Cook explained that steps have already begun to correct the four problems and that a report would be filed with the TDH once the work was complete.

Next, the board appointed Shannon Wideman as a consulting pharmacist. They also approved a change to the 23 Hour Observation Policy and Procedure. And, Fagan-Cook was authorized to contract with the Texas Medical Foundation for "credentialing" services. Periodically, the credentials of hospital staff members must be reappraised. Also, new members of the medical staff will have their credentials investigated. The service

offered by the TMF will ensure that the credentialing process is thorough and complete, Fagan-Cook explained.

The board then took up discussion of the 2002 budget. A budget committee comprised of Randy Mankin, Jim Martin and Ricky Fuessel presented a proposed budget totaling, \$4,252,657.00. After a brief discussion the board unanimously adopted the budget.

Next, the board voted to set a tax rate of 39.20¢ per \$100 valuation. That's 4.52¢ cents lower than last year and is due primarily to a substantial increase in appraised values resulting from the improved oil and gas economy. The rate is still a tax increase, however, since it produces \$21,094.88 more in revenue than the district collected last year. Last year the district received \$750,032.12 from a tax rate of 43.72¢. This year the hospital district expects to receive 2.81 percent more, or \$771,127.00 in tax revenue, from the 39.20¢ rate.

The trustees then approved a reagent contract for the "Beckman" blood analyzer in the hospital's lab. They also discussed but took no action on leasing a digital copier for the hospital's business office. Before adjourning the board approved the purchase of a voice recognition dictation system for use by medical staff in the Schleicher County Family Clinic.

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Solution to puzzle on Page 2

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF REAL PROPERTY

Please be on notice that the Schleicher County Independent School District and Schleicher County, Texas, propose to exchange certain public property. More specifically, Schleicher County Independent School District proposes to convey approximately 28 acres of land, out of Survey No. 77 in Block "A" located by virtue of Certificate No. 41 issued to the H.E. & W.R.R. Co., and as recorded at Volume 32, page 539 of the Deed Records of Schleicher County, Texas to Schleicher County, Texas (the School District Agricultural Barn facility.) In exchange for this conveyance, Schleicher County, Texas proposes to convey Lots Two (2) and Three (3), Block 7, and all of Block 8, ORIGINAL CITY OF ELDORADO, as shown on the plat recorded in the County Clerk's Office of Schleicher County, Texas (the County baseball lands.)

All interested persons are invited to submit alternative sealed offers to purchase or exchange land to either the County or School District. Both Schleicher County and Schleicher County Independent School District will consider offers of cash, real estate and other considerations but retain the right to reject any and all offers. Sealed bids or proposals should be hand delivered or addressed to either of the following:

George Blanch
Superintendent of Schools
P.O. Box W
Eldorado, TX 76936

Johnny Griffin, County Judge
Schleicher County
P.O. Box 536
Eldorado, TX 76936

Sealed bids must be received before 5:00 p.m. September 7, 2001.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Amendment #8 to Utility Ordinance #104-96

The City of Eldorado will hold a Public Hearing on proposed Amendment #8 to Utility Ordinance #104-96. The proposed Amendment would raise the monthly minimum charge for 3000 gallons of water from \$7.00/month to \$8.00/month, effective upon approval.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:00 PM on Thursday, August 30, 2001, at the City Hall.

Citizens are invited to provide written or oral comment or ask questions at said hearing. For further information, please contact the City Hall at 853-2691 during regular working hours, Monday through Friday.

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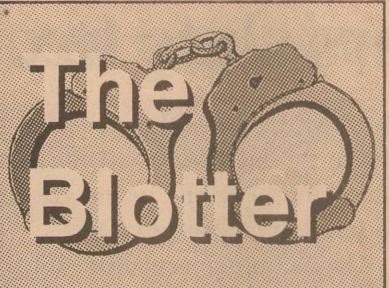
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The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity at the Schleicher County Sheriff's Dept. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the Sheriff's office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Incidents of major impact will be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ARRESTS

- August 22 • Trevino, Joe-ly Lupita, female age 26, arrested by SC Officer, charge Fictitious Registration.
- Cowsert, Bernice F., female age 59, arrested by SC Officer, charge Theft by Check. Released on \$1,500 Surety Bond.
- Pritchard, Michael D., male age 29, arrested by SC Officer, charge Jones Co. Warrant/Violation of Probation. Released on \$3,000 Surety Bond.
- Middleton, Lonnie M., male age 20, served 6 days for JP Court. Released on good time.
- August 24 • Hodge, Dennis Earl Jr., male age 21, arrested by SC Officer, charge Driving While License Suspended/Possession of Marijuana. Released on (2) \$1,000 Surety Bonds.
- August 25 • Clark, Joanna Marie, female age 19, arrested by SC Officer, charge Possession of Marijuana (less than 2 ounces). Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.
- Hargrove, Randy Duane, male age 42, arrested by SC Officer charge Possession of Marijuana (less than 2

ounces). Released on \$1,000 Surety Bond.

REPORTS

- August 19 • 4:25 a.m. Report of a party on S. Main and a possible fight. Officers responded.
- August 22 • 1:24 a.m. Complainant reported their green '97 diesel tractor w/flat bnd, with a backhoe had several flats and would return in the morning to get the vehicles. Officer notified.
- 10:25 a.m. Complainant reported that a male subject was at the apartments. They had a criminal trespass served on them about a week ago.
- 3:45 p.m. Complainant reported that cars were not stopping for the red lights on the school bus out on Hwy. 190 East in front of apartments.
- 4:30 p.m. Sutton County Sheriff Office relayed information about a truck driving at a high rate of speed. Officer unable to locate.
- 4:45 p.m. Complainant reported that their mother had been traveling to Alpine and was overdue.
- August 24 • 12:20 p.m. Restaurant requested the fire department to check fire extinguishers that had discharged.
- 8:35 p.m. Complainant at Kids Campus reported seeing some dogs chasing a bobcat. Officer responded.
- 8:52 p.m. Complainant on Hall Street reported some juveniles in the pasture trying to start a fire. Officer responded.
- August 25 • 2:10 a.m. Complainant on E. Brooks requested an officer to check the neighborhood. Subject stated that their dogs and some of the neighbors dogs were barking a lot. Officer responded.
- 6:22 p.m. Complainant reported a young girl running down the highway. Officer responded.
- 9:22 p.m. Complainant reported that the subjects in a near by apartment were being too loud. Officer responded.
- August 26 • 6:08 p.m. Complainant on Highland reported some juveniles either playing with fireworks or small bombs or explosives. Officer responded.
- August 27 • 2:00 p.m. Complainant reported a stolen bicycle. A light blue English racer, valued at \$100.00.
- 11:30 a.m. Complainant reported finding a CD case and headphones.
- 6:29 p.m. Complainant reported a gray and white dodge Dakota pickup mudding near a baseball field. Officer responded and was unable to locate.
- 8:15 p.m. Complainant reported a light brown pickup playing loud music. Officer responded.

School Menu

Milk & Bread Offered
Menus Subject To Change
Cafeteria Line

Monday, September 3
No School-Holiday

Tuesday, September 4
Pepperoni Pizza, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Peas & Carrots, Chocolate Chip Cookies

Wednesday, September 5
Chicker, Fried Steak/Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Chilled Fruit/Topping

Thursday, September 6
Corn Dogs, Tater Roundabouts, Whole Kernel Corn, Mixed Fruit, Brownies

Friday, September 7
Cheeseburger, Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Vanilla Pudding

Breakfast
½ pt. Milk & 4oz Juice Offered with each breakfast

Monday, September 3
No School-Holiday

Tuesday, September 4
Hot Oatmeal, Toast/Jelly, Orange Juice

Wednesday, September 5
Waffles/Syrup, Sliced Peaches

Thursday, September 6
Scrambled Eggs, Toast/Jelly, Crushed Pineapple

Friday, September 7
Choice of Cereal, Cinnamon Toast, Mixed Fruit

Fast Food Line

Monday, September 3
No School-Holiday

Tuesday, September 4
Chef Salad, Crackers (8), Crushed Pineapple, Chocolate Chip Cookies

Wednesday, September 5
Corn Chip Pie, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Pinto Beans, Chilled Fruit/Topping

Thursday, September 6
Chili Crisptos/Cheese Sauce, French Fries, Mixed Fruit, Brownies

Friday, September 7
Cheeseburger, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Vanilla Pudding

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853-3125

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids, addressed to the Schleicher County Commissioners Court will be received by the County Clerk, until 10:00 a.m. September 10, 2001, when such bids will be opened in the Commissioners Courtroom for the sale of:

- 1-1985 Chevrolet Suburban 1/2 Ton
- 1-1973 Ford 1/2 ton F-100 pickup
- 1-1982 Ford 1/2 ton F-150 pickup

The Commissioners Court reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Peggy Williams
County & District Clerk
P.O. Drawer 580
Eldorado, TX 76936
915-853-2833

35-36b

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Schleicher County Independent School District acting by and through its Governing Board, will accept sealed bids for the Purchase of:

One (1) Conventional School Bus

Specifications may be obtained from:

Schleicher County ISD
Loretta Edmiston
PO Box W
Eldorado, TX 76936
915-853-2514 Ext. 225

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EXPERIENCED DRIVERS WANTED

Must have current Class A CDL and a good driving record. Experience driving transports, vacuum trucks, operating pump trucks & winch truck.

- Competitive salary
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Please apply in person Niblett's Oilfield Service, Inc. Hwy. 277 South, Eldorado. No phone calls please. 9tfn

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32-35b

VOICE & GUITAR LESSONS

Tuesdays & Thursdays Only
Cost \$7.50 for 30 minute lesson or \$15 for an hour.
Fall lessons start 8/28-10/25
Winter lessons 11/13-12/13
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Contact Joella Parker at school at the Elementary Music Room or call 853-2770 ext. #569 or call 853-2022.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: **1995 Ford Taurus; 1996 Chevy S-10 Pickup; 1995 Dodge Ram Ex-Cab V10.** Call 853-2330. 35b

FOR SALE: **Walnut Dining Table with 2 leaves, 6 chairs.** 853-4800. 35b

For Sale: **Pecan Dining Table, 2 Leaves, 4 Chairs, Matching Side Serving Table.** Call 853-4800. 35b

FOR SALE: 3' x 6' Larson storm door, forest green with brass accents, beveled glass. Call 392-3028 \$150.00.

FOR SALE: 1998 Nissan Frontier pickup, AM/FM cassette, bed liner, 6 ply tires. Still has warranty. Call 392-5412 or 634-2984.

For Sale: 2001 Grand Jeep Cherokee Laredo. 7,000 miles. Take over payments. Call 830-775-8809.

DUNEBUGGY FOR SALE: Lannom built. Roof, racks, removable elevated rear hunting seat \$4,900.00. Call 915-392-4009

FOR SALE: Used beginners trumpet in good condition for \$200.00. Just checked out by Caldwell Music. Please call 387-3737 after 5:00 pm. Leave message.

FOR SALE: 110 Window unit air conditioners. Sharp 10,500 BTU \$200, Carrier 13,800 BTU \$225. Call 392-3150.

For Sale: 1995 Rockwood Pop-up Camper. AC/H, gas/electric, refrigerator. Good condition \$3600.00 387-2678.

For Sale: 1990 Polaris 4 x 6. Runs good. Call 387-3174 for more information.

Real Estate

ELDORADO-609 MURCHISON STREET: Price Reduced!!! 3/BR-2/BA, doublewide home. In excellent condition. Large living area and den with two-sided fireplace. Spacious kitchen. Large master bedroom/bath. Utility room. Over 1900 sq. ft. \$49,900. Call Lynn Meador Real Estate at 915-853-2808 or come by 5 N. Divide or Jo Ward, Agent at 853-2339. 35b

ELDORADO-House For Sale: 3/BR, 2/BA Home; Hardwood Floors, Central H/A, Fenced Yard and Carport; 217 Bluebonnet. \$50,000. Call for appointment 853-2693. 27-35b

ELDORADO-ACREAGE: 1084 acres NW part of Schleicher County. Deep soil divide, open county with good grazing potential. No minerals. Two water wells, pens and shed. Highway frontage on FM 1828. Price reduced to \$318/ac. Call Lynn Meador Real Estate at 915-853-2808 or come by 5 N. Divide or Jo Ward, Agent at 853-2339. 35b

ELDORADO - 702 OLD SONORA RD: Brand new 3/BR, 3/B doublewide home. 2000 sq. ft. plus, large spacious rooms, custom carpet, security system, vinyl siding, large landscaped corner lot. You can't buy a new doublewide this size and lots for this price. \$76,500. Call Lynn Meador Real Estate at 915-853-2808 or come by 5 N. Divide or Jo Ward, Agent at 853-2339. 35b

GARAGE SALES, YARD SALES & ESTATE SALES

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Card of Thanks

The Eldorado Fire Department would like to thank the following donors for their generous donations: James E. Hardy, E.S. Mayer & Sons LTD., Abbie & Peggy Ussery, Robert & Pansie Jay, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Lloyd, Bryan & Mary Doran, Rocking Chair Ranch.

Thank you for all the acts of kindness during my stay in the hospital. Thanks to the SCMC Hospital for its great care and efficiency. A special thanks to the crew of the EMS, Tim Vasquez, Lee Barajas and David Overstreet, also the "Harvest House" of San Angelo.

JD and Joyce Redwine and Family

Call 915-853-2808

214 BLUEBONNET DR.

Real nice 3/BR-3 1/2 home. This home has been remodeled and maintained-you can just move in and start living. Carpet, new central air/heat, large lot w/fenced yard. Quality property with lots of room. \$82,000.

216 BLUEBONNET DR.

Comfortable 3/BR-2BA Brick Home. Cent. Air/Heat, Spacious Kitchen & Den, Utility Room, Enclosed Porch, Carpet, Fenced Yard, Large Corner Lot, Good Condition and ready for new owner to move in. \$63,000.

202 DIXIE DRIVE

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Lynn Meador Real Estate

5 N. Divide Lynn Meador, Broker • Jo Ward, Agent/ 915-853-2339

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Plateau Underground Water Conservation & Supply District

The Plateau Underground Water Conservation & Supply District will hold a meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2001 at the Schleicher County Annex Building to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2001 - 2002. The proposed tax rate is .049 cents per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Plateau Underground Water Conservation & Supply District by 2.7%.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date (s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (S)

District: San Angelo

Contract 6071-63-001 for METAL BEAM GUARD FENCE UPGRADES in SCHLEICHER County will be received on September 20, 2001 until 11:00 a.m. and opened on September 20, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$166,322.00

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 4392

State Office

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

District Office (s)

San Angelo District
District Engineer
4502 Knickerbocker Rd
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Phone: 915-944-1501

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

Eldorado Spotlight



This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on Deputy Sheriff Kevin Herbert. When the Spotlight camera caught up with Kevin he was running a few laps at the high school track.

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or come by our office at 119 SW Main Street ~ Eldorado

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TexSCAN Week of August 26, 2001

ADOPTION

Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

A BABY DESIRED. We will do everything we can to help you. Pharmacist dad and full time mom (33) will give your baby loads of opportunities, an excellent education, and lots of love and family fun. Jan and Harry would love to talk. Call us anytime toll free, 1-866-752-8627.

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OUR PROMISE TO YOU! We promise to raise your child in a happy, loving home with a wonderful family and a bright future. Call Joan and Brad anytime at 1-800-866-6026.

YOUNG 20'S COUPLE, loves beaches, horses, having fun with family and friends and each other. We have such a wonderful life to share with your special baby. Jackie and James at 1-800-411-7324.

AUCTIONS

ABSOLUTE AUCTION - PAGOSA Springs, CO. Premier home, new barn on 47+ acres. 99 homesites, 18 selling absolute, Saturday, Oct. 6, 11:00 a.m. Call 1-800-558-5464. Jerry Craig King ER40019339. J.P. King Auction Co. EC40019340.

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A FUJI CAMERA/Harmony Greeting Card Route. Get ready for the holidays. Do you earn \$100K+? You could. 50 local sites. 1-888-401-1941.

A+ M&M MARS/NESTLE. Established vending route. Will sell by 9/10/01. Under \$9K minimum investment required. Excellent monthly profit potential. Finance available/good credit. 1-800-637-7444.

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SBIG MONEYS - N.T.S. Placement Company needs drivers. Inexperienced up to \$600. Experienced up to \$1000. Pay up to 42cpm. Paid training, if you qualify. 1-888-781-8556. Tractor Trailer Training.

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT now offering per diem pay for experienced teams, solos and trainers. O/O - Solos/Teams 83 cents plus fuel surcharge. No CDL? No problem. We school, no money down. Licensed by SBPCE. School located in Stuttgart, AR. Call 1-888-MORE-PAY (1-888-667-3729).

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DRIVERS: ALLIED VAN Lines has openings in electronics and trade shows. Class A CDL with one year OTR experience. Tractor purchase available. Call 1-800-634-2200, Dept. ATXS.

DRIVER-COMPANY-CONTRACTORS. No NYC - Super regional 10-14 days out. Pay for experience up to 33 cents/mile, company. 82 cents/mile, contractors. 1-800-454-2887, Arnold Transportation.

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KMM METAL BUILDINGS - 24x30x10 \$3100, 30x40x12 \$4500, 40x75x12 \$9,345, 50x100x14 \$13,150. Mini-warehouses: 20x120 with doors \$8300, 30x120 with doors \$10,800. Call for other sizes, 1-972-283-9300.

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TxDOT to begin seal coating highways in county

According to Sherry Williams, at the Texas Department of Transportation office in Sonora, road crews will begin seal coating several highways in Schleicher County, as weather conditions allow. U.S. 277 North, FM 915 (Mertzon Hwy.), FM 2129 (Bailey Ranch Road) and FM 2084 (Toe Nail Trail) are each scheduled to receive a new surface. Drivers are encouraged to watch out for crews on and around the roadway and for loose gravel, once the work begins.

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Local water district is product of 20-20 foresight

by Cindy Cawley, Plateau UWCSO

Some forty years ago, Schleicher County residents had the foresight of future water issues. A group of neighbors worked together to create a groundwater district for our County notwithstanding large obstacles in their way. The initial Directors were Mort Mertz, Jimmy Powell, Earl Lloyd, Ford Oglesby and Bobby Sykes. Bob Bradley, who later served as a director, was instrumental in working on the technical aspect of the district creation. It is evident when one reads through the past minutes of the District that serious thought was given to potential problems of our drinking water source. The initial directors worked on a number of issues ranging from potential pollution situations to protecting our drinking water from being consumptively used for other uses.

My appreciation for our early district creation elevated when I observed citizens throughout Texas who scrambled, pleaded and

coerced legislators to create a groundwater district to protect the water source in their respective counties during the last Legislative Session. You see, Texas is governed by the rule of capture which means ownership of groundwater belongs to the person who can bring the water to the surface. Groundwater districts have been stated by the Texas Legislature to be the "preferred method of groundwater management". Groundwater districts are authorized to promulgate rules to enforce proper management of the groundwater resource which modifies the rule of capture to a degree.

And in fact, thirty-five districts were formed this session. These newly created districts must still go through a confirmation election to be passed by the taxpayers agreeing to support a district. But truly, a large hurdle has already been achieved by passing through legislative maze.

The present directors of the district, Tom Enochs, Ronnie Sauer, De Lux, Sambo Henderson and

Lynn Griffin, continue to work on issues facing the district. Potential pollution was a worry then and is now. The district houses an in-house lab to detect problems and resolve them if need be. This service is provided free to landowners within the district. Also, a series of monitor wells have been established to follow the water quality over a period of years.

The district is concerned about the water table and water use. Water levels are monitored, conservation measures are promoted at every opportunity and waste is prohibited by rule of the district. The district participates in the rainfall enhancement program with six other groundwater districts in the area to promote recharge of the aquifer.

Rules of the district have been promulgated and amended to in-

sure fair and unbiased use of the groundwater. The district views all beneficial use of groundwater as equal. The district also participates on a state level working with other water entities to create regional planning, water policy for the state water plan and legislative issues involving groundwater. Better management of the entire Edwards-Trinity Aquifer is achieved through regional cooperation with other groundwater districts.

My appreciation and heart felt thank you goes out to those initial directors with "20-20 vision" who created the district and began this process, to those who have served through the years in a very necessary role and to the present directors who make hard decisions that affect our sole drinking water source.

New traffic laws take effect

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the suspension, the offender is not eligible for an occupational license.

Another major change is House Bill 299 which authorizes the Texas Transportation Commission to establish a daytime speed limit of 75 miles per hour on highways located in counties with a population density of less than 10 persons per square mile. Schleicher County falls well within that limit. The law applies to U.S. and State highways but does not apply to Farm-to-Market Roads or Ranch-to-Market roads. The Texas Department of Transportation will be in charge of determining which roadways re-

ceive the 75 mph speed limit.

Other new laws taking effect on Sept. 1 include:

- HB 63 increases the driver license suspension period for a person who refuses to take the breath test or fails the breath test—and requires the arresting officer to confiscate their driver license on the spot. The suspension periods and enhanced punishments for repeat offenders were also increased. For example, for a first offense, the suspension period for refusing a breath test will double from three months to six months. HB 63 also applies the Administrative License Revocation (ALR) laws to boating while intoxicated if the suspect refuses a breath test.

- SB 399 prohibits children under 18 from riding in the back of a pickup or flatbed truck. There are several notable exceptions, including if it is the only family vehicle or it is a government-sanctioned hayride. (The old law applied to children under 12 years of age, and only if the vehicle was traveling more than 35 miles per hour.

- SB 113 requires children under age 4, or less than 36 inches, to be restrained in an approved car seat. (The old law required car seats for children under 2 years of age.) It also requires all children ages 4 through 16 years old to use seat belts anywhere in the vehicle. (The old law only required seat belts for those 4 through 14 years old.) The law also specifies that all seat belt laws apply to trucks (including one-ton pickups).

- HB 1739 increases the minimum fines for violating the car seat law from \$25 to \$100. If a judge opts for probation, the offender would have to take a special Texas Education Agency-approved child seat and seat belt education course.

- SB 215 and HB 2798 both increase the penalties for fleeing and evading arrest in a motor vehicle. A first offense is now a state jail felony as opposed to a Class A misdemeanor. (SB 215 also outlines provisions for testing suspects for communicable diseases if an officer is exposed to bodily fluids during certain arrests.)

- SB 968 establishes a six-month driver license suspension for a second conviction of gas theft. A photo of DPS Trooper Darryle Sparks will be posted on gas pumps throughout Texas to remind motorists of the new law and act as a deterrent.
- SB 214 abolishes the statute of limitations for leaving the scene of a fatal wreck.

- HB 2134 creates a specific offense for operating a motor vehicle emitting excessive smoke, visible for at least 10 seconds.

- HB 1544 makes it a Class B misdemeanor to directly solicit business or employment based on information derived from accident records or related records.

- The legal driving age in Texas remains 16. However, a graduated licensing bill (SB 577) goes into effect January 1, 2002.

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• Bubble Boy (PG-13) 1:00 3:15 5:25 7:40 10:00
• American Outlaw (DTS) (PG-13) 12:10 2:35 5:00 7:30 9:50
The Others (DTS) (PG-13) 12:50 3:10 5:30 7:50 9:45
Jurassic Park 3 (PG-13) 12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:00
Dr. Dolittle 2 (PG) 12:20 2:45 5:10 7:45 9:55
The Fast and the Furious (PG-13) 12:40 2:50 5:05 7:10 9:15
Shrek (PG) 12:20 2:45 5:10 7:45 9:55

Times good for the week of 8/31-9/06 only!

Friday Times
• Bubble Boy (PG-13) 3:00 5:15 7:20 9:30
• American Outlaw (DTS) (PG-13) 3:15 5:25 7:40 10:00
The Others (DTS) (PG-13) 2:35 5:00 7:30 9:50
Jurassic Park 3 (PG-13) 3:10 5:30 7:50 9:45
Dr. Dolittle 2 (PG) 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:00
The Fast and the Furious (PG-13) 2:45 5:10 7:45 9:55
Shrek (PG) 2:50 5:05 7:10 9:15

Monday through Tuesday
• Bubble Boy (PG-13) 5:15 7:20 9:30
• American Outlaw (DTS) (PG-13) 5:25 7:40 10:00
The Others (DTS) (PG-13) 5:00 7:30 9:50
Jurassic Park 3 (PG-13) 5:30 7:50 9:45
Dr. Dolittle 2 (PG) 4:50 7:00 9:00
The Fast and the Furious (PG-13) 5:10 7:45 9:55
Shrek (PG) 5:05 7:10 9:15

• No Passes or Discounts

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR CITY OF ELDORADO

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of Eldorado for Fiscal Year beginning 9/1/01 and ending 8/31/02. Hearing is set for Thursday, August 30, 2001, at 6:00 PM at the City Hall, 6 S Cottonwood St.

Said proposed budget reflects \$1,436,228 budgeted for the Utility/Sanitation/Street Funds and \$490,127 for the General Fund.

Interested citizens are encouraged to give oral or written comment or ask questions at said hearing. A copy of the proposed budget and work figures are available for public review between the hours of 8AM and 5PM weekdays.

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Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The SCHLEICHER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS will hold a public hearing on a proposal to **increase total tax revenues** from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year **by 7.94 percent**. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on **SEPTEMBER 10, 2001 - 10:00 AM** at **SCHLEICHER CO. COURT HOUSE COMMISSIONER'S COURT ROOM.**

FOR the proposal: **JOHNNY MAYO, BILL CLARK, KIRK GRIFFIN, ROSS WHITTEN**

AGAINST the proposal: **NONE**

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT: NONE

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last year	This Year
Average residence homestead value....	\$26,360	\$26,860
General exemptions available (amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions).....	\$8,190	\$8,320
Average taxable value.....	\$18,170	\$18,540
Tax rate.....	0.8042/\$100	0.7525/\$100
Tax.....	\$146.12	\$139.51

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would DECREASE by \$6.61 or 4.5 percent compared with last year's taxes. Compared to last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value or 6.4 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.