

# The Eldorado Success



"Serving Eldorado and Schleicher County since 1901"

Volume 96 #13

Down Home Living at the Top of the Divide

March 27, 1997

## PAGE ONE

Headlines From Around the World

### Suit filed over welfare change

Advocates for the poor filed a class-action lawsuit in New York yesterday, seeking to overturn a new welfare law that cuts off federal nutrition and disability aid to legal immigrants. Public-interest law offices filed suit in federal district court on behalf of about 100,000 legal immigrants in New York, Vermont and Connecticut who face elimination of Food Stamps and Supplemental Security Income disability aid. They argue that the law violates the constitutional guarantee of equal protection. A second suit is expected to be filed in San Francisco.

### U.S. population aging

A new Census Bureau study says America's population will be older and with a greater number of Hispanics and Asians by the year 2050. The study predicted a slow growth to a population of 394 million through the middle of the next century — primarily because "baby boomers" will be moving out of their reproductive years and into retirement. That will make Americans over the age of 85 the fastest growing segment of the population. Currently there are some 265 million Americans, for whom the Census Bureau figures paint a rosy picture of declining poverty, relatively stable child care arrangements, higher levels of education and an overall increase in real household income.

### IRA suspected in bombings

Two bombs exploded in northwestern Britain yesterday and authorities say the Irish Republican Army is responsible. There are no reports of casualties or damage in the town of Wilmslow, where the explosions shook the railway and police stations. Wilmslow is south of the city of Manchester. The IRA has set off several bombs on the English mainland since ending a 17-month cease-fire in February 1996. The explosions come just days before Easter weekend, which marks an important anniversary in the Irish uprising against British rule.

### Sisters back at home

Two young sisters who were abducted in Michigan and driven to Florida in a four-day ordeal are back home with their family. Nine-year-old Teresa Hainer and her six-year-old sister, Jessica, stepped off a private jet in Kalamazoo with their father Tuesday night. "We were scared," Jessica said of the ordeal. The girls disappeared last Friday when they hopped off a school bus and got into a station wagon with three men. They were the subject of a nationwide search which ended yesterday in Daytona Beach. Police have arrested the three suspects who are acquaintances of the girls' father.



photo by Randy Mankin

**New Sergeant** — sheriff's deputy George Arispe was promoted this week to the rank of Sergeant. Here he is shown receiving his chevrons from Schleicher County Sheriff David Doran.

## Arispe promoted to Sergeant

There had never been a sergeant in Schleicher County Sheriff's Department before. At least not until Tuesday, April 25th. That was when county sheriff David Doran promoted his deputy, George Arispe, to the rank of sergeant and placed him in charge of the department's patrol division.

During a brief ceremony held in the county law enforcement center, Doran praised Arispe for his dedication to the department. Doran pinned the new chevron on Arispe's uniform and congratulated him.

"I have the utmost confidence in Sergeant Arispe and I know that he will continue to serve the citizens of this county well," stated Doran during the ceremony. "He is a professional officer and I trust his judgement."

Arispe thanked Doran for the opportunity and pledged to do the best job he could. "I'm just going to keep on doing my job," Arispe stated.

According to Doran, the appointment of a patrol sergeant came as one

of the final steps in streamlining the sheriff's department. "I'm moving away from the old system of having a chief deputy and instituting a new system," Doran stated. "But it's a system that's been tried and proven and other departments."

Doran told the Success that governmental regulations are forcing even small departments to handle increasing amounts of paperwork. He noted that his recent appointment of Kathy Faulk as jail administrator was a beginning step in dealing with the increased work load.

"She is in charge of the jail and the jailers report to her," Doran said. "Now Sergeant Arispe will be in charge of the patrol deputies and the new reserve program that we've just implemented."

Arispe's duties will include direct supervision of patrol deputies, serving as the department's training officer, overseeing officers reports and making sure those reports are timely and accurate.

## Andrews is new owner of Mittel Insurance

Connie Andrews and her husband Bobby are the new owners of Mittel Insurance Agency. Andrews has worked at the agency since 1982 when it was called the Ratliff Insurance Agency. After Raymond and Carolyn Mittel purchased the business, Andrews continued working as secretary/bookkeeper. In 1988, she received her solicitors license. Then, in May of 1994, she earned her license as a local recording agent.

Ownership of the agency officially changed on March 1st but wasn't publicly announced until last week.

Andrews told the Success that she looks forward to her new role. "It's something I've wanted for a long, long time," she stated.

"I'm not making a lot of changes," Andrews noted. "I want folks to know that they can still count on us for the same courteous service they've always received."

The Andrews have lived in Schleicher County since 1976. Bobby is employed in Sonora by Meridian Oil. They have two children. Cody, 19, is a student at Aus-



Connie Andrews

Success file photo

tin Community College and Melissa, 16, is a sophomore at Eldorado High School.

Connie currently serves as secretary/treasurer for the Schleicher County Chamber of Commerce. And, the Andrews are also active in the Schleicher County Game Dinner Association and the Schleicher County 4-H.

Recently, the couple have been involved with the Schleicher County

## Great Texas Trash Off - Thursday, April 3

by Nancy Lester

All Eldorado residents are being encouraged to participate in the Great Texas Trash Off sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation on Thursday, April 3. Local sponsors include Eldorado Pride and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Carrie Hill, Keep Texas Beautiful county chairman, has announced major changes in the cleanup process for this year. The biggest difference is that it will be held on a weekday instead of a Saturday! The Schleicher County Commissioner's Court made the initial supportive move for this effort with the commitment of the county road crew for the day to help beautify our community. The

Schleicher County ISD is working to involve every student in this service activity. Principals from all three campuses are targeting areas to be cleaned. City employees will also be assisting. Volunteers will be needed to help in all areas! A lunch will be served at 12 noon for all workers at the County Extension Office.

County Judge, Johnny Griffin, and County Road Superintendent, Clay Burleson, have stressed that the County will be happy to pick up any items in the alleys on April 3 but cannot go on private property.

If you have any large items that need to be picked up, please call the County Extension Office at 853-2132 and we will try to help

make arrangements for pickup. The 4-H Trailer will be on the Courthouse Square if you have tires that need disposal. Others involved in the Cleanup effort include the Schleicher County Sheriff's Office, the County Probation Office, Chamber Pride Committee, the First National Bank of Eldorado and the Eldorado Woman's Club.

All volunteers are asked to meet at the Extension Office at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 3, to sign up. Highway Cleanup Groups will be working on Saturday, April 5, to clean roadways. For more information on the Cleanup Effort, please call Carrie Hill at 853-3278 or the County Extension Office.

## New look for registration renewal notice

Texas motorists whose vehicle registrations expire in May will be among the first to see the state's new and improved registration renewal notice according to Lou Ann Turner, County Tax Assessor-Collector. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has dramatically changed the form to make it more customer friendly. Distribution of the new renewal notice begins the first week of April.

Gone is the multi-part card Texans have received since 1970. The new renewal notice is a standardized 8 1/2" x 11" document with information arranged in a format that is easier to read.

The new renewal notice simplifies registration. Key pieces of information are highlighted in red, including special instructions, fees and proof of insurance requirements. Space is available for TxDOT to print important messages if the need occurs. The name, address and phone number of the recipient's tax assessor-collector is printed on the form, providing a

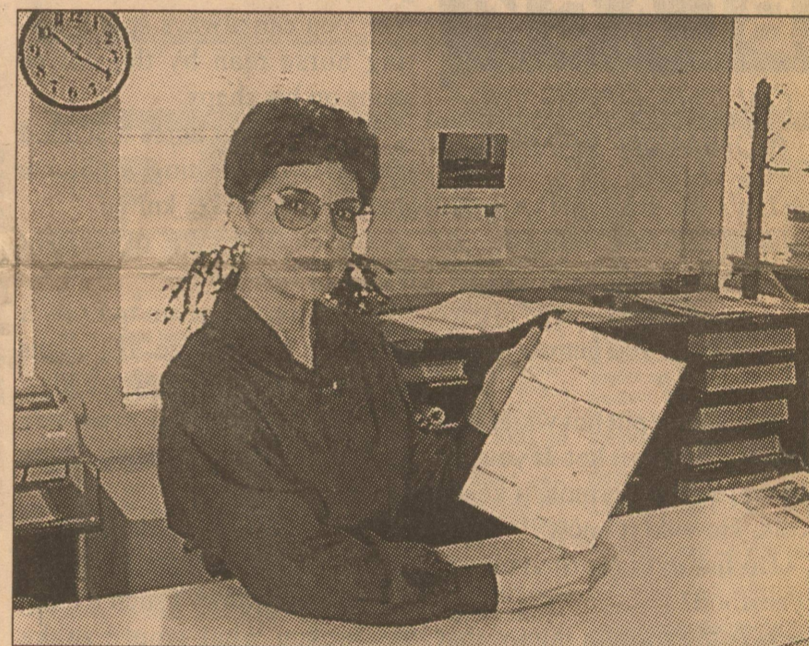


photo by Kathy Mankin

**Paperwork is changing** — Schleicher County Tax Assessor-Collector Lou Ann Turner displays the new vehicle registration renewal notice being introduced next month throughout Texas.

local contact for registration questions. For the first time, a payment envelope is enclosed for customers who wish to renew by mail. An insert with a graphical explanation of the new form will be included with each renewal notice.

TxDOT's Vehicle Titles and Registration Division mails out more than 1 million registration renewal notices each month. VTR registers 15 million vehicles per year and issues 4.5 million vehicle titles annually.

## SCISD asks for community involvement in Supt. search

The Schleicher County Independent School District board of trustees in conjunction with the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) is announcing the search process for a new Superintendent of Schools. The board has requested that the school personnel and the public be involved in developing the main characteristics for the new superintendent. The profile meetings will be held April 3, 1997 beginning at 1:00 p.m. at

the Administration Building multipurpose room. School employees will be profiled at 3:45 p.m. in the school cafeteria and the board of trustees will be profiled at 6:00 p.m. The general public will be profiled during a Town Hall Meeting at the memorial Building, beginning at 7:30 p.m. All members of the community are encouraged to attend and give the consultants their thoughts and insights.

## TDHS annual county report

The state spent a total of \$903,069 last year for major welfare programs in Schleicher County, according to David Maberry, regional administrator for the Texas Department of Human Services.

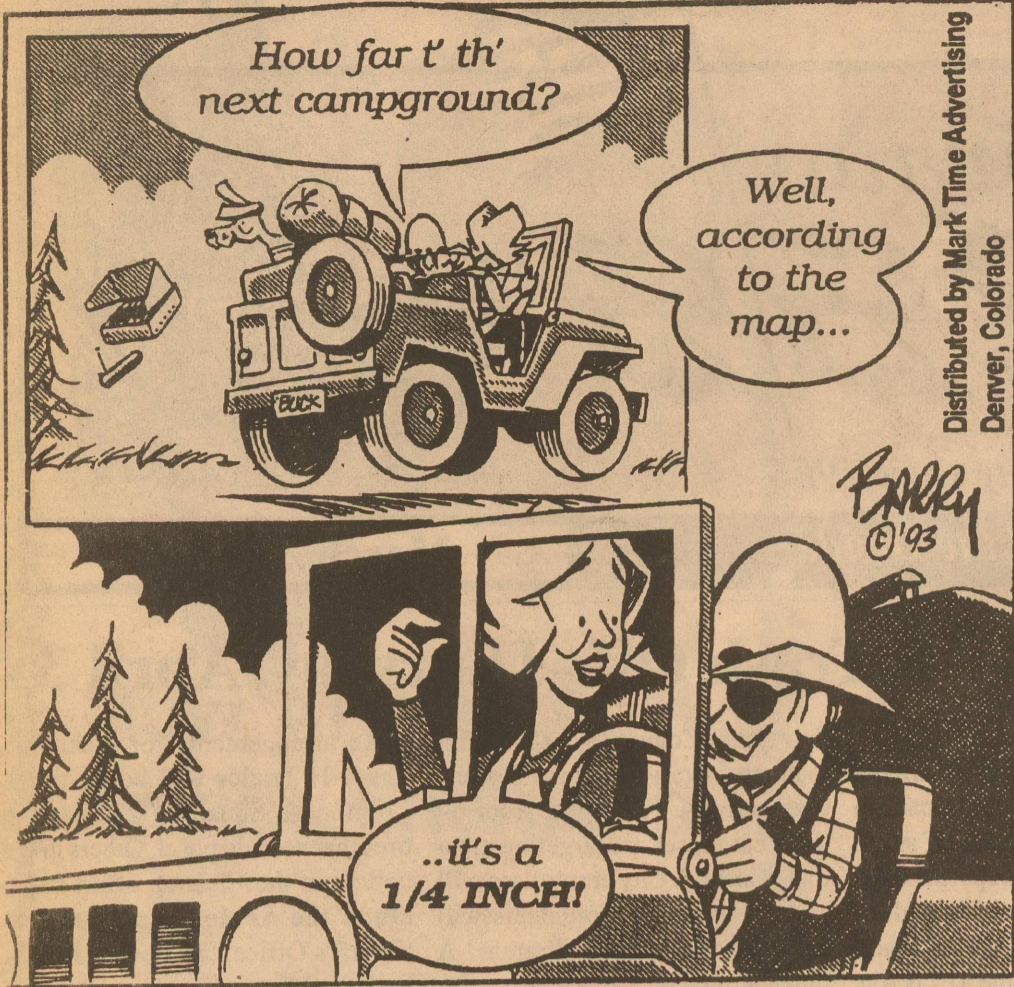
Food Stamps worth \$265,641 were issued for the fiscal year which ended August 31, 1997 while Aide to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) totaled \$44,426. Food stamps are funded entirely by the federal government, while the department determines eligibility of appli-

cants and issues the food coupons. The state and federal governments share in the cost of AFDC to families where needy children are deprived of support because of the absence or disability of one or both parents.

Nursing home cost of approximately \$401,583 were paid for aged and disabled residents. Community Care for Aged and Disabled spent \$160,328 for Medicaid related services and \$28,031 for non-Medicaid related services," Maberry said.

**BUCKSHOT**

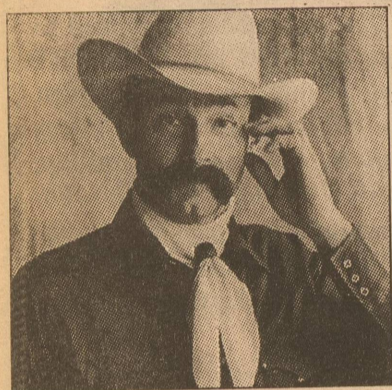
by Barry McWilliams



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**Unfinished Thoughts**



**BAXTER  
BLACK**  
ON THE EDGE OF  
COMMON SENSE

- Let's say you were an arctic explorer and you suddenly got cold feet.
- If you can get snowed in during winter can you get winded in during spring?
- When you put hot water in a thermos, it keeps it hot. If you put cold water in a thermos, it keeps it cold. How do it know?
- Do fish ever get tired of eating seafood?
- It is the truth in humor that makes it funny. That's why there's no science fiction jokes.
- I walked by a decorative chunk of petrified tree in a motel lawn. The sign beneath it said 180,000,000 years old. How do they know? Did they count the rings?
- I heard Mike Wallace of Sixty Minutes fame was asked to teach a course in ethics. Am I the only one that makes uncomfortable?
- I used to work like a horse and eat like a horse. Now I sweat

like a horse and trim my toe nails with hoof nippers.

- If you can see twice as far with binoculars, how much further can you see with trinoculars?
- When you tell your buddy, "Scuze me a minute, I'm gonna slip around behind this tree and relieve myself." How do you know it's the back of the tree?
- Mom: "You've got your shoes on the wrong feet." Kid: "But they're the only feet I've got."
- You can always spot a cutting horse man by the coffee stains on his chaps.
- Giving your horse to a good trainer is like letting a butcher sharpen yer pocket knife.
- I can't make myself at home... I live here!
- If a man gets run over by a bus, they sympathize. If he gets run over by a cow, they laugh.
- About his home town - If you've heard of it, that's where yer from.
- He's not a professional cowboy, he just does it for a living.
- If there weren't such a thing as chicken what would snake taste like?
- If pigs are outlawed only outlaws will have pigs.
- David Duke and Louis Farrakhan are heads and tails of the same bad penny.
- When a man says he's not that kind of a guy... he probably is.
- On medicating the water at the catfish farm, the receptionist asked, "How will they get the fish to drink it?"
- Suddenly, nothing happened!

*Over the Back Fence*

by Randy Mankin

My old friend D.W. stopped by the newspaper office last week. He had just returned from a trip and brought back lots of stories...and photographs.

On the two week journey, D.W. had traveled through parts of New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Utah, Nevada and California. I was jealous. While I had been stuck here pounding on this keyboard, he had been out seeing the world.

He told me tales of Arches National Park, the Painted Desert and Mesa Verde. Jeep trips through Monument Valley and the beauties of Brice Canyon. There was a raft trip down the mighty Colorado and a day spent at Dinosaur National Monument.

"But the damdest thing I've seen in weeks," he said as he continued

his story, "was that gigantic hole in the ground."

That's not fair, I thought to myself. Of all this country's natural treasures, the one I have most wanted to see is the Grand Canyon. So, as he sat there talking my mind drifted back to the trip my family had taken through that region more than a decade ago.

We had planned a trip to the canyon's north rim, which I've always heard is the favored side. But, we were short on time and chose to turn north without seeing it. We promised ourselves that we would return in a year or two but never did.

"You know, I've always wanted to see the Grand Canyon," I said, interrupting D.W.'s story.

"Aw, it ain't all that much," he answered. "You just walk up, look over

the side, ooh and aah a little then get back in your car and drive on."

"Wait a minute," I challenged, "I thought you said it was the damdest thing you had seen?"

D.W. just laughed. "Shoot, that wasn't the Grand Canyon I was talkin' about...it was that huge pot hole I hit this morning. I danged near ruined a wheel when I drove off in it...thought they wuz gonna have to send a rescue party out to find me."

It was obvious that D.W. was proud of himself. He had set me up and enjoyed doing it. But he did have a point about that pot hole.

"You know," D.W. added. "if the city ain't gonna fix any of them pot holes, they oughta at least consider openin' 'em up for tours. Heck, I'll bet some of them tourists from up north would pay a pretty penny to ride a burro down into one of 'em."

**Smoke On The Mountain**

*Rolling Across Texas*



Tumbleweed Smith

laugh at all the right places. The singing talents of those in the cast was of a very high caliber. Those attending the production joined in singing the old familiar songs. The applause was loud and long throughout the musical comedy.

The story is about a musical family making an appearance at a

rural Baptist church. The play was a natural for a small town like Eldorado.

Eldorado's theater group is called THE WAY OFF BROADWAY PLAYERS and does only a handful of productions a year. Jo Ann Sproul has the title of Drama Director and provides the strong hand that guides the theater through fund raisers, building maintenance, casting, directing, publicity and the hundred other things that go into running an active theater.

The theater is in an old movie house built in 1930. Then, maroon velvet curtains covered the stage, a chandelier hung from the domed ceiling and heat was provided by a wood burning stove. Audiences sat in wooden folding chairs.

The movie theater shut down in the 50's and was vacant for 40 years. In 1994, the theater was donated to the WAY OFF BROADWAY PLAYERS.

Restoration was done in stages. The first one was to air condition the building, rewire and paint it, rework the stage, acquire lighting and repair the marquee. The estimated cost of this stage was \$30,000. Other stages included restoring the lobby, installing carpet and a sound system, adding a kitchenette, updating the bathrooms and making everything in the theater handicap accessible.

The money was donated by citizens who gave in different levels. There are platinum, gold, silver and bronze sponsors, benefactors and supporters.

The theater is a nonprofit, tax exempt corporation. Donations come from Eldorado and surrounding communities.

The theater group had been in operation for sometime before moving into its theater building, doing everything from melodramas to musicals.

**Search continues for school tax alternatives**

AUSTIN --- State lawmakers last week continued with their search to find alternatives to the local school property tax that generates about \$10 billion in revenue each year.

Operating under a directive by Gov. George W. Bush, the House Select Committee on Revenue and Public Education Funding has been hearing from business people and individual taxpayers.

Bush wants to cut school property taxes by \$3 billion and make up for the lost revenue with a state sales tax hike and a new business activity tax. But he said some groups are voicing opposition to a new tax on business, while others are trying to protect their sales tax exemptions.

"The noise level is loud at the Capitol, because there are a lot of lobbyists who are paid a lot of money to protect the interests of those who pay no tax to the state of Texas, and that's not fair," the governor told the Texas Association of Home Builders, in a speech last week.

Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, chairman of the select committee, said he hopes the panel decides on a tax plan before the end of March.

**Senate OKs Managed-Care Bill**

Sen. David Sibley's bill that would hold managed health-care organizations liable for medical decisions was approved by the Senate last week.

The legislation, which moves to the House for consideration, would open up Texas managed-care orga-

**State Capital**



**HIGHLIGHTS**

By Lyndell Williams & Ed Sterling

nizations to malpractice lawsuits. If the legislation becomes law, Texas would be the first state in the nation to allow those providers to be sued for medical malpractice.

"What's so special that this industry should be treated differently from everybody else?" Sibley, R-Waco, asked during Senate debate.

This bill is for Texans who have to fight to get the health care they have paid for years," he said.

About 12 percent of Texans are enrolled in managed-care programs, Sibley said.

**Lotto Contract to Be Rebid**

The Texas Lottery Commission voted to accept new bids on the contract to operate the Texas Lottery.

Requests for bids will be submitted to potential bidders no later than June 30. Meanwhile, the state's contract with the current contractor, GTECH Holdings Corp. of New Jersey, remains in effect.

The Commission fired Lottery Director Nora Linares in January

after learning that GTECH had hired her boyfriend, Mike Moeller, as a \$5,000-a-month consultant in 1992. Harriet Miers, chairwoman of the three-member commission, proposed that the contract be rebid, after questions arose as to how GTECH conducts business.

Last spring, the commission voted to extend GTECH's contract for five years.

Marc Palazzo, a spokesman for GTECH, said the firm expects that the state "will act in good faith and honor the existing agreement."

Last week, the commission also decided to scrap a plan to consider using state employees to run the lottery. Miers said lawmakers told her they would not approve the hiring of additional employees that would be needed.

**Redistricting Issue Resurfaces**

Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin, chairman of the Senate Redistricting Committee, warned fellow lawmakers against spending too much time on redistricting during this legislative session.

During a hearing, a few of Barrientos' colleagues said they favor redrawing boundaries where cities and communities have been split into one or more districts.

Barrientos urged against wholesale changes in favor of minor, technical changes, as set forth in two bills he has filed that would keep the Senate and congressional districts the same for the next election.

districts after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that three of the districts were racially gerrymandered.

Lawmakers have until June 30 to draw new congressional boundaries or ratify the court-ordered plan.

**False-Lien Bill Passes**

Persons who use false court documents to harass others would face criminal penalties under a bill passed by the Texas Senate.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, would stop the use of fake court records and property liens by groups such as the "Republic of Texas" to intimidate their adversaries. "This targets anybody who engages in these practices," Bivins said.

Republic of Texas members have filed false liens against government officials as part of their campaign to take Texas out of the United States.

**Other Capital Highlights**

• The Senate passed legislation that would require doctors to inform a teenage girl's parents 48 hours before she could get an abortion. The bill by Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, assigns punishments of up to a year in jail and fines of up to \$4,000 to doctors who perform abortions without notifying parents.

• The Texas House passed a bill that would allow the University of Texas to add an additional upper deck to Royal-Memorial stadium, although the construction would violate a state law protecting views of the Capitol.

*The Eldorado Success*

"Serving Eldorado and Schleicher County since 1901"

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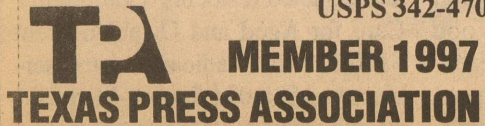
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MEMBER 1997



WEST TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER 1997

# Our Sympathy

## Evangelina "Vita" Cardona



13, 1925, in Sonora, Texas. As she is reunited with her parents, she leaves behind her sister, Mary C. Pina and her husband Santos of Eldorado and brother, Joe Cardona and wife Dora of Odessa, Texas. Vita is also survived by her many nieces and nephews and dear friend, Nina Sanchez.

Vita was blessed with a tremendous capacity to love. She was a warm, glowing candle in a world too often cloaked in darkness. Those who were fortunate enough to share in her life have been enriched. Vita had a special place in her heart for her sister and her brother; she loved them deeply.

Our dear Vita is now an angel watching over us. She is a new star in the heavens showering us all with her eternal light. Vita will be missed but she will forever live in our hearts reminding us to laugh and to love.

ELDORADO - Evangelina "Vita" Cardona passed from this life to eternal life in heaven on March 18, 1997. Services were held on Friday, March 21, 1997 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Fr. Michael Dwyer officiated. Burial was at Eldorado Cemetery. She was born to Jose and Juanita Cardona on October

## Johnson/Moore engaged



Elizabeth Ashley Johnson and Michael Brent Moore

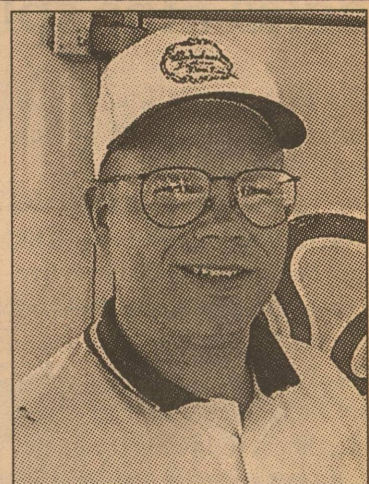
Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Johnson Jr. are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter Elizabeth Ashley Johnson to Michael Brent Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Moore of Eldorado. Ashley is a graduate of Eldorado High School. She re-

ceived a B.S. degree from Texas A & M University and her M.B.A. from Texas Tech University.

Brent is a graduate of Eldorado High School and received a BS from Texas A & M University.

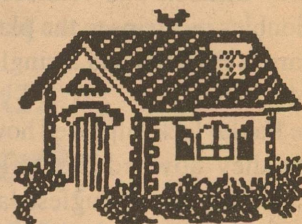
A late spring wedding is planned.

Hello, my name is Scott Britton. I'm the new Schwan's representative for Eldorado. If you need service at your home or office please, give me a call.



Scott Britton pager # 444-7354

Free Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar checks Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Just stop by our office at 418 S. Hwy. 277



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## Eldorado Woman's Club news

The Way Off Broadway Players are joining hands with the Woman's Club in a new exciting project in April, which will benefit the theater patrons. This project is being called the Yum Yum Shoppee.

The Woman's Club appreciates Isabel McCutcheon for her generosity, for the use of the 1907 Bank Building, which is next door to the theater. The Woman's Club is taking this opportunity to encourage patrons of the theater to indulge in Eldorado hospitality at two dollars a plate, in the 1907 Bank Building.

Dates for April are as follows: Saturday, April 5, 1997 at 6:30 PM Pie, Coffee and Tea; Sun-

day, April 6, 1997 at 4:30 PM-Cake and drinks; Sunday, April 20, 1997 at 4:30 PM Dessert and drinks.



Eagle Booster Club members are raffling away this smoker/bbq pit to benefit Eagles athletic programs. The smoker, built by Troy Daniels may be seen at Shots. Chances are \$1 each and may be purchased at Shots, the school office or from Booster Club members.

## Shop At Home!

Support Eldorado's merchants...they are the lifeblood of our community!



### Glidden Foods

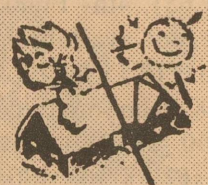
This month the Chamber of Commerce focuses on Glidden Foods. Jim and Sue Glidden invite everyone to stop by their store at 10 W. Gillis Avenue.

The Schleicher County Chamber of Commerce encourages everyone to support our local businesses. Together, they employ hundreds of our neighbors. They pay taxes here and support the local hospital and schools, too. The next time you're tempted to leave town to make a purchase, consider how much Eldorado's businesses contribute to our community.

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## STEP TO IT!

An introductory step aerobics class

Beginning Monday, April 7th  
5:15 p.m. — 6:15 p.m.

Watch for details in next week's paper

He is Risen!



## The families of Community Baptist Church of Eldorado

Invite you to worship the risen Savior with us  
Easter morning, Sunday March 30th.

Dr. R. Byron Orand's message is titled  
"He is not here for He is risen"

Sign interpretation for the hearing impaired by Laurenda MacWilliams

### Special Music Service

"The Holy City" solo by Pat Ragsdale  
Instrumental selections by Carol Orand and Sarah Mankin

### Special Invitation

Join us Sunday evening for a special  
Easter Communion Service

### Community Baptist Church

12 E. Warner  
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## Reaching A New Level In Communication ...



With Convenience ...

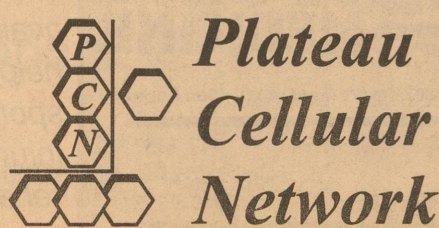


With Security ...



With Dependability

In today's world of instant communications, people on the go look for a cellular company that offers convenient, dependable, secure service. Plateau Cellular Network is that company. With an ever expanding, dependable coverage area and convenient, affordable pricing plans, Plateau Cellular Network is the cellular service provider of choice in the Southwest. From the oil fields of the Permian Basin to the dairy farms of the Llano Estacado, Plateau Cellular Network is "reaching a new level in communication."



To get the convenience, security and dependability of Plateau Cellular Network Service, see:

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## Dorothy's Movie Time by Dorothy Dacy

Action films seem to be plentiful this year, and I have a good one to tell you about with one of my favorite action heroes as the star.

We all know the rap against Jean-Claude Van Damme: He can't act. He has only two emotions-on an off. That if it weren't for his prowess as kick-boxing hero, he'd be washing dishes somewhere.

Thru enough, but at least give him credit for knowing his limits. You don't have to be Gielgud to scramble over rooftops, endure car chases and beatings. All things considered, it's better if you're not.

What Van Damme does better than almost any other action star is play to his strengths: rugged physical stunts and an innate sense of empathy. You want to like the character he plays in "Maximum Risk"- a French cop who goes in search of his twin brother's killer-which lets you forgive other idiocies.

Start with the plot; Sharpshooter Alain Moreau (played by Van Damme) discovers he has a twin only when said sibling winds up murdered in Paris. Turns out he was adopted as an infant and whisked off to America, where he's since grown to become a rogue in the Russian mob. When Alain goes looking for clues in New York, he's mistaken for Mikhail by everyone

up to and including the victims girlfriend (played by Natasha Henstridge). The problem is, she's just about the only one not trying to put a bullet in him.

A silly premise, but one that suits director Ringo Lam well. "Maximum Risk" isn't about family bonds; it about action. Lots of action. People are shoved, shot, stabbed, strangled and chased from one side of the Atlantic to the other. And all because of some incriminating evidence in a safety deposit box.

I confess, I really liked "Maximum Risk", if for no other reason than because it is relentless. You don't have a chance to get bored; you've preoccupied staying with Van Damme as he ducks for cover. And the villains-FBI agents and mobsters-are deliciously seedy. No subtext for these guys, only evil.

Don't expect "Maximum Risk" to touch your heart. It's far too busy leaving you breathless. This film, **rated R** due to violence, is locally available at Eagle Video.

Until next week: I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I can not conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say there is no God.

Happy Easter Everyone!



photo by Teri Deweber

**Hitting the books** — These EHS students were in Grape Creek Tuesday with several of their teammates competing in U.I.L. District competition. They are (L-R) Estella Guzman, Hannah Wolfe and Katey Lively.

## Greenhouse project underway!

Bill Sudduth, Agricultural Science teacher at Eldorado High School, announced this week that plans for the Greenhouse Project have gotten underway. With all of the planning stages completed, the Horticulture Class began curb construction and they plan to have the Greenhouse completed before school ends in May. The Greenhouse Project will enable students from Elementary, Middle School, and High School to utilize their knowledge with hands on experience. Propagating plants from stem cuttings and seedlings will be one of the first projects the students will

participate in. The community is invited to come by the Agricultural Science Building to see the ongoing progress of the Greenhouse project.

## Vasquez named to TSTC honor roll

The Admissions and Records Office at Texas State Technical College Sweetwater just released the President's Honor Roll for the Winter 1996 Quarter ending February 28, 1997.

Students must earn a 4.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale to be recognized on the President's Honor Roll. Tim Vasquez of Eldorado was recognized for his academic excellence. Tim is studying Emergency Medical Services.

## H.S. rodeo results reported

The first spring rodeo of the season was held in Sonora on March 15th for Region II. Local participants placing in the Saturday show were: Matt McCormick, 8th Calf Roping; Micah McKinney, 9th Calf Roping; Kristal Nelson, 4th Goat Tying.

Winners in the Sunday perfor-

mance were: Kristal Nelson, 5th Breakaway Roping; and Micah McKinney & Cory Lloyd, 10th Team Roping.

On March 22nd the team traveled to Andrews. Those placing on Saturday were: Matt McCormick, 3rd Calf Roping; Kristal Nelson, 3rd, Breakaway Roping; and Micah McKinney & Cory Lloyd, 7th Team Roping.

Winners in the Sunday show were: Matt McCormick, 2nd Calf Roping; Kristal Nelson, 6th Breakaway Roping; Micah McKinney, 10th Calf Roping.

## 15th annual Spring Chicken Affair slated

On Sunday, April 20, 1997 the 15 annual Spring Chicken Affair benefitting the West Texas Rehabilitation Center will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 3451 Knickerbocker Road (Behind Southwest Bank) in San Angelo.

A fried chicken dinner with all the trimmings and musical entertainment for all the family will be available for the low price of five dollars. Take-out cartons will be offered. 100 percent of the proceeds will to the Rehab Center, which will serve more than 17,000 disabled children and adults in 1997 without regard for their financial status.

### Birthdays

- March**  
27th Stuart Howell, Ross Howell, Drew Howell, Kirk Jones  
28th J.L. Mankin, Jeff Blaylock  
29th Megan Griffin  
30th Mitzi Kelley, B.J. Reynolds, Santos Pina, Sherry Belk, Sergio Garcia, Rachel Joiner, Buster Harris, Toby Harris
- April**  
1st Jim Holley, Stephanie Broome, Brandon Dresner, Tina Dresner, Courtney Mankin, Danette Dunagan, Reagan Bownds, Shylowe Middleton, Toni Whitten, Emily Newman  
2nd Little Joe Aguilar, Andy Spinks, Sandra Goodrum, Connie Andrews  
3rd Bryan Gray, Smokey Taylor, Mason Garner, Erin Meador, Bodie Gilstrap  
4th John Phippen, Ben Edmiston, Irene Tinney, Sarah McCravy  
5th Rita Reeves, Derek Stevenson

### Anniversaries

- March**  
30th Allen & Sharon Lemons
- April**  
2nd Bobby & Connie Andrews  
4th Mike & Glenda McCravy

## American Legion Post 257 sets up memorial fund

Bev. McCormick Post #257, American Legion has established a benevolent memorial fund so that anyone who wishes can memorialize a deceased person or honor a living one in a special way.

All net proceeds of this fund will be used for charitable and benevolent purposes only.

Address your memorials to: Bev McCormick Post #257 PO Box 179 Eldorado, TX 76936

## Grannynette's

- ☆ Wednesdays - 11am to 8pm - Delicious Barbecue & Burgers ☆
- ☆ Thursdays - 11am to 2pm - Home cookin' like Mama used to make ☆
- ☆ Fridays - 11am to 8pm - Mouthwatering Barbecue & Burgers ☆

Stop in and try our savory  
Pork Ribs • Briskets • Chicken • Sausage

Now Serving Smoked Ham Every Friday



DINE-IN OR TAKE OUT  
**853-3830**  
USE OUR CONVENIENT  
DRIVE THRU WINDOW

At Grannynette's  
"We're Always Home Cookin' For You."

Annette Jackson 502 South Divide (Hwy 277)  
Derek Engdahl Eldorado, Texas



## The Flower Basket

Your Friendly, Hometown Florist  
103 S. Divide, next to Eagle Dairy Mart  
P.O. Box 557 ~ Eldorado, Texas  
**(915) 853-2659**

Spring has sprung!!

Geraniums \$3<sup>99</sup> 6" pot  
Bedding Plants \$2<sup>25</sup> 6 pk

Tomato & Peppers \$1<sup>50</sup> 6 pk

Hanging Baskets starting at \$10<sup>00</sup>



Randy Young

1802 W. Beauregard (915) 655 2727 San Angelo, TX 76901

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You'll learn the kinds of protests the appraisal review board can hear—and what kind of evidence you need to bring to your hearing.

Key dates are listed, so you'll know what you must do and when you're required to act.

Remedies is free. And Spanish and large-type versions are also available. Ask for yours today at

Schleicher County Appraisal District

1 West Warner Ave.

P.O. Box 936 Eldorado, Texas 76936

(915) 853-2617

or write to

Comptroller's Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528

## OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP

### RIGHT HERE AT HOME

We love our hometown because we have been a part of it for so many years. Our one major interest is the betterment of our community and our roots run deep. Because we are an independent bank all decisions are made here at home, not at some distant location.

This means better banking service for you.

## The First National Bank of Eldorado

Main 853-2561 BKKG 853-2582  
TeleBank 853-2567 TeleTime 853-2569  
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## If yogurt is a meat, then ketchup is a vegetable

AUSTIN - Serving yogurt as a meat substitute in school food programs makes as much nutritional sense as serving ketchup as a vegetable, and yet that's what the United States Department of Agriculture has decided to do.

Because of a recently adopted rule, yogurt can be credited as a meat alternative for all meals regulated by the USDA, which includes the department's low-income and summer feeding programs. The rule also allows the 93,000 schools, participating in the lunch and breakfast programs, to be reimbursed by the federal government for the yogurt they purchase to use in free meal programs.

"If federal bureaucrats can change a dairy food like yogurt to a meat product with the stroke of a pen, perhaps they'll be interested in re-classifying sirloin as a vegetable and hamburger as a grain," Jim Selman, Independent Cattlemen's Association president, said. "No matter how you look at this decision, it flies in the face of historically accepted nutritional science."

In fact, Selman said, "the USDA includes yogurt with the dairy group in its Food Guide Pyramid, the most

recent national nutritional recommendations available".

Yogurt is classified this way because it provides nutrients associated with this food group, including protein, calcium, riboflavin and phosphorus. Foods from the meat group are expected to not only be a source of high quality protein, but also a good source of iron, zinc, thiamin and niacin. Yogurt doesn't fit this criteria.

And on three previous occasions, the USDA has agreed.

"In this case, the fourth time was the charm for the yogurt makers who have been pushing for this change since 1988," Selman said. "On three different occasions, the USDA had refused to accept yogurt as a meat substitute because of concerns about the dairy product's high sugar content and nutritional inadequacy, especially in iron content, when compared to meat."

Selman continued, "Some critics will dismiss our arguments by saying, 'The beef industry is just crying over spilled milk.' That's not true. We're crying over USDA's willingness to play Russian roulette - with our children's health."



photo by Randy Mankin

**Spring beauties** — (L-R) Nancy Lester and Carrie Hill made an appearance at a recent City Council meeting to plug next week's "Great Texas Trash Off". They encouraged everyone to turn out and help keep Eldorado beautiful.

## Hospital board considers 'Wellness Center'

Schleicher County Medical Center board members met Monday evening, March 24th, and among other items of business, discussed using some of the hospital's idle rooms to establish a Wellness Center.

Physical Therapist Christy Brown met with the board to discuss a trip she made recently to tour the wellness center at the hospital in Big Lake. Brown told the board that such a facility could easily fit in with a Orthopedic and Cardiac

Therapy unit, which, she told the board, could generate revenue for the hospital.

Administrator Jim Roddie told the board that a wellness center could easily be fitted in the hospital's existing building. But, construction would require decertifying four of the hospital's rooms, removing a few interior walls and purchasing some exercise equipment.

Roddie told the board that Big Lake's wellness center functions like a health club and is open to the public who purchase memberships. The money generated from the center could cover the day-to-day operating expenses of the entire facility, Roddie stated.

One downside to the plan would be that six of the hospital's current boarder patients would lose their rooms. However, that shortfall was addressed later in the meeting when the board discussed nursing home expansion.

It was noted at that time that the nursing home is currently full and that there is a waiting list for admission. The board heard Roddie's report that six additional rooms, a beauty shop for residents and a break room for staff could be added to the existing facility for \$250,000.00.

The board discussed the two

## FFA judging team competes

The Eldorado High School FFA Judging Team participated in the Nolan County Livestock Judging Contest on March 22, 1997. Members participating were Gary Gibson, Cary Gibson, Jess Martin, John Calcote, and Junior FFA member Dest Sudduth. Bill Sudduth, FFA advisor, said that his team is made up of an energetic group of Freshman, and he is looking forward to them participating in future livestock judging contests where they will gain experience and build their judging skills. They will attend other Livestock Judging Contests on April 4, at West Texas A&M, and April 5, at Clarendon College. District and Area Contests will be held in Lubbock on April 12, 1997, at Texas Tech University.

## School Lunch Menu

### Cafeteria Line

**Monday, March 31st**  
Meat & Macaroni, Whole Kernel Corn, Pear Halves, Cornbread, Cowboy Cookies

**Tuesday, April 1st**  
Supr Nachos, Lettuce & Tomato Salad, Pineapple Chunks, Cornbread, Strawberry Jello/Topping

**Wednesday, April 2nd**  
Sausage Pizza, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad, Vegetable Sticks/Dip, Yellow Cake/Icing.

**Thursday, April 3rd**  
Fish Strips, Blackeyed Peas, Macaroni and Cheese, Cole Slaw, Chocolate Cake/Icing

**Friday, April 4th**  
Barbecue-on-a-Bun, Tater Tots, Dill Pickles Slices, Raisins, Apple Crisp

### Breakfast

**Monday, March 31st**  
Peaches, French Toast Sticks/Syrup, Peanut Butter

**Tuesday, April 1st**  
Orange Juice, Hot Biscuits/Gravy, Steak Fingers

**Wednesday, April 2nd**  
Mixed Fruit, Cheese Toast

**Thursday, April 3rd**  
Pears, Cinnamon Toast/Cheese Stick

**Friday, April 4th**  
Applesauce, Bran Muffins, Choice of Cereal

### Fast Food Line

**Monday, March 31st**

**Tuesday, April 1st**  
Same as Cafeteria Line

**Wednesday, April 2nd**  
Turkey Sandwiches, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Peach Halves, Yellow Cake/Icing

**Thursday, March 27th**  
Steak Burgers, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Raisins, Chocolate Cake/Icing

**Friday, March 21st**  
Same as Cafeteria Line

erty 12 miles NW of city. 9:50 PM several caller reported a large blaze south west of Eldorado. Fire units and officer responded. Fire was reported in Sutton County and was reported that there was a well at the 390 marker on the Interstate west of Sonora.

3/21/97 2:45 PM caller reported a 6th Grade boy was driving to school and had several other small children in vehicle with him.


3/22/97 2:03 AM caller reported that they heard a loud bang and that two or three city blocks in their neighborhood is without electricity. SO called WTU. 8:04 AM assist motorist to unlock vehicle. 8:07 AM caller reported that a man was walking along Hwy 190 East 23 miles out. He was walking west and seemed intoxicated or dazed. Elderly man was wearing a long overcoat, grey beard and grey hat. Officer responded. 10:04 AM caller reported that neighbors animals were getting into their yard and wanted to talk with officer about their options to solve problem. 11:24 AM caller reported several juveniles were on top of the Elementary school roof. Officer responded. 6:26 PM assist motorist to unlock vehicle. 8:13 PM caller reported a unidentified flying object (UFO) having green, red and white lights traveling south at fast rate of speed. 10:26 PM complainant called to report a domestic disturbance.

3/23/97 1:17 AM subject called to report that spouse had fallen and requested assistance in helping them up. Caller reported spouse not injured. Officers responded. Everything was OK. 9:00 AM caller reported to Sheriff's Office that there will be a controlled burn 7 miles west on Big Lake Hwy. 11:30 AM caller reported 3 cows out on Toenal Trail. 2:35 PM unknown caller reported a goat with his head stuck in the fence. Officer responded and freed the goat. 6:43 AM caller needed assistance to help spouse get up after falling. Officer responded.

3/24/97 2:37 PM caller reported that subject had gotten gas at local convenience store, and had left the pump with the nozzle still inside their tank. Store employee requested the Sheriff's Office to contact subject and ask them to go back and to leave information on insurance.

**Wall Home Improvements**

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**Lots of brand names at**

**OL' SONORA**  
**TRADING CO.**

**June went to Market!**



**Come see what she brought back!!!**

*Spring Merchandise Arriving Daily*

**Store Hours:**  
10:00 a.m. — 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday  
10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. Saturday  
204 N. Hwy 277 in Sonora 387-5507  
June Whitten, Manager

## Schleicher County EMS news reported

Schleicher County Emergency Medical Service recently selected officers. They are President-Victor Belman; Vice-president-Bobby Andrews; Secretary-Connie Greer; Treasurer-Brenda Greer; Billing Officer-Shari Wink; Supply Officer-Sheila Prater; Maintenance Officer- Juanquin Rojas.

The EMS holds monthly training on the third Monday of each month and business meetings are on the first Monday of the month.

The EMT class that began in November will be finishing up this week. Good luck to everyone on the state exam.

The board discussed the two

**Grand Opening**

**ML's Salon**

- Nail Technican
- Hair Technican

*Men, Women and Children*

**DAY'S OPEN**  
Monday-Wednesday  
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday  
8:00 AM - 12 NOON

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Eldorado, Texas



*Margie Logan Black*

**SCHLEICHER COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER**  
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- Family Clinic — 853-3137
- Hrs. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- 24 hr. Emergency Services
- Fully staffed Acute Care Facility
- Lab and X-Ray
- Physical Therapy
- Boarder Care
- Medicare and Medicaid approved
- Nursing Home

**"Caring for our Community"**

## The Blotter

3/20/97 8:15 AM caller reported a pulling unit, pick-up/trailer speeding through the school zone. Caller was voicing their concern. 9:23 AM caller reported that their would be a control burn on Hwy 2129. 10:45 AM caller reported in person that a male subject had used their phone and had run up charges amounting to around \$950.00. Caller did not give permission for subject to use their Social Security number or their Drivers License number. 11:28 AM caller reported a strange vehicle. Caller stated that they had seen the vehicle the day before. Officer responded and was unable to locate vehicle. 2:27 PM caller reported that they would be conducting a control burn. 7:31 PM caller reported that they will be having a control burn on their prop-

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### CARD OF THANKS

The family of "Vita" would like to express their gratitude for the food, flowers, and visits made to our loved one during her illness and for your prayers and support since her death. Thank you and God Bless.

The family of Evangelina Cardona

Once in a lifetime you come to a cross road, and anyone who has children knows that this is true.

Recently my son Ventura had an unexpected emergency surgery done at Shannon Hospital. The hospital bill was more than anyone could bear. Thank God I have a family that comes together to help one another in time of need.

With this short note though I would like to thank the community for their support in buying barbecue brisket and chicken plates to raise funds for Ventura's benefit. May God bless and keep everyone who may have helped in any way!

Thank you,  
Mrs. Beatrice Aguilar and Family

### GARAGE SALES, YARD SALES & ESTATE SALES

3-Family Garage Sale - Where: 309 East Callendar; When: Saturday, March 29th; Time: 8:30 AM until ? Lots of nice clothes and items.

### Notice To Bidders

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
Sealed bids, addressed to the Schleicher County Commissioners Court will be received by the County Clerk, until 10:00 a.m. April 14, 1997 when such bids will be opened in the Commissioners Courtroom for:

**Schleicher County Courthouse**  
Work Area #1- All Stone Masonry Power Wash and Chemical Clean Tuckpoint Damage Mortar Joints Install Flexible Caulk-all joints between the coping and watertable units Patch Damage Stone Apply Transparent Waterproofing

**Work Area #2-All Stucco Surfaces**  
Surface Preparation Grout Hairline Fractures Apply Colorflex

**Work Area #3 All Cement Plaster Surfaces**  
Surface Preparation Apply Colorflex

**County Jail**  
Work Area #4-All Stone Masonry (including fascia surfaces of brick portion on building), Excluding Brick Masonry Power Wash Tuckpoint Damaged Mortar Joints Seal Movement Cracks Apply Transparent Waterproofing

**1920 Appraisal Office**  
Work Area #5-All Stone Masonry Vine Removal Power Wash Tuckpoint Damage Mortar Joints Seal Movement Cracks Install Flexible Caulk

-all joints where the window and door framework meets the surrounding masonry  
-all joints between the sill units  
Patch Damaged Stone  
Apply Transparent Waterproofing

The Commissioners Court has the right to accept or reject any and all bids submitted.

Peggy Williams  
County & District Clerk  
P.O. Drawer 580  
Eldorado, Texas 76936  
(915) 853-2833 13b

### MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale: 1 Lot on Warner Ave. and 1980 Model Ford Super Cab Pick up. 853-2166 after 5:00 p.m. 13b

**GOOD FRIDAY BAKE SALE** **HOPPY EASTER**  
BETA SIGMA PHI SORORITY  
MARCH 28 8:00-?  
EAGLE DAIRY MART

NICE SELECTION OF SPRING CLOTHES and lots of denim shorts, most sizes. Still have beautiful Christening Gowns-Med. Size. Lydia's, 222 S.W. Main. 14b

CLEAN FURNISHED SLEEPING ROOMS AND KITCHENETTE APARTMENTS FOR RENT ON DAILY, WEEKLY AND MONTHLY BASIS. CABLE COLOR TV'S, PHONE, NO DEPOSIT, NEW MANAGEMENT

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**IF YOUR LOCAL NURSING HOME IS FULL** - The Lillian M. Hudspeth Nursing Home of Sonora has openings available for long term care. For information please call Kathy Knight or Sarah Kennell, D.O.N. at 915-387-2521.46tfn

**SECOND HAND ROSE**  
Consignment

**NEW FORMALS**  
Values UP TO \$225  
on SALE  
**\$55**

HWY 277 SOUTH  
OPEN 10-6  
MON-SAT 853-9736

### Help Wanted

**TEXACO STAR STOP #5**  
APPLICATIONS are being accepted for full-time, part-time and weekends positions. Assistant Manager position is also available. Apply in person. Ask for Norma Figueroa. No phone calls please. 9tfn.

### Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is given of a Public Hearing on proposed Amendment #3 to Utility Ordinance #104-96. Said proposed Amendment allows for recalculation of the gas sale price when the actual purchase cost of gas and allowed delivery/handling charges exceed the standard rate. Both verbal and written comments may be given at said hearing with questions to be addressed. Said hearing is set for Monday, April 7, 1997, at 5:30 PM. 13b

### REAL ESTATE

2.9 Acres, 3Br/1Ba House, Cement Tank, Fruit Trees, Barn, Pens, Feed Shed, Water Well, Fences. 1/2 miles out of Eldorado. \$28,000. Call 853-2773. 14p

**WONDERFUL 3Br, 2Ba County Home** on 2 lots with shop. Custom oak kitchen with all appliances. Office/Utility with built-in cabinets. Quality throughout. Kay Keen, Scott Allison Real Estate 949-5575, 835-2320 16b

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**EASTER SPECIAL**  
3 Month Workout & 1 Month Tanning (1st Month)  
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**Beautiful 5 acres** of lake frontage on Ivey Lake. Owner will consider dividing.

**NEED A LOT IN MERTZON.** We can accommodate your needs.

**COUNTRYFIED:** Where the deer & bunny rabbits roam on 13 acres on Denny Road in Eldorado. 2 story, 3 brdm, & 2 bath home. Closed in porch & lots of extras. Come take a look for only \$80,000.

**Eldorado Spotlight**  
Mittel Insurance presents



This week the Eldorado Spotlight shines on Homer Minor. Homer is one of the jailers/dispatchers at the Schleicher County Jail. Homer says he is enjoying his new job.

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Eldorado, Texas 76936

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Jo Ward, Agent - 853-2339  
5 N. Divide Eldorado, Texas  
853-2808



**Hall Street PRICE REDUCED!!!**  
GREAT BUY! Price reduced on this 3 BR-2B manufactured home. Addition gives added comfort and more room. Large fenced yard (3 lots), metal carport and covered walkway. Two vehicle garage/shop. Everything in good condition. All for under \$30,000.

We have other homes & properties available at various prices. No rent property available. Call for information.

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A BABY WILL make our dreams come true. Caring warm couple wish to provide your precious newborn with a bright and love filled future. Vicki/Geoffrey 1-800-747-4937. It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

**ADOPTION: A BRITISH/AMERICAN** couple long to adopt newborn to share warm, loving and secure family in London, England. Call Jane and Neil's attorney at 1-800-440-9185. It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

**DRIVERS EXPERIENCED OR inexperienced** North American Van Lines has 0/0 openings in their relocation services and blanket wrap fleet. Tuition-free training! Tractor purchase programs, pay for service and safety plan and more! 1-800-348-2147 dept. A-36

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**ANTIQUE AUCTION - HUGE!** Civil War museum contents; furniture; guns; Indian artifacts; glassware; linens, trunks, jewelry, clothing. Outside Fredericksburg, Tivydale Rd. off Hwy. 16, April 5, 10A.M., viewing at 8 A.M. 210-792-5454.

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AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY. Real Coke/Pepsi equipment routes with 20 local & established sites. \$3,500 minimum investment, 1-800-321-7690.

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ARROW TRUCKING COMPANY \*flatbed and van operation \*regional or long haul \*four terminals in Texas \*assigned conventionals \*experienced drivers - owner operators. 1-888-277-6937, in-experienced training available. 817-246-3733. EOE.

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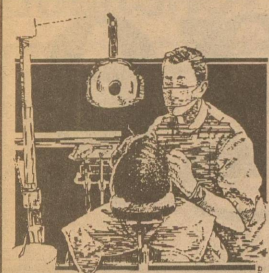
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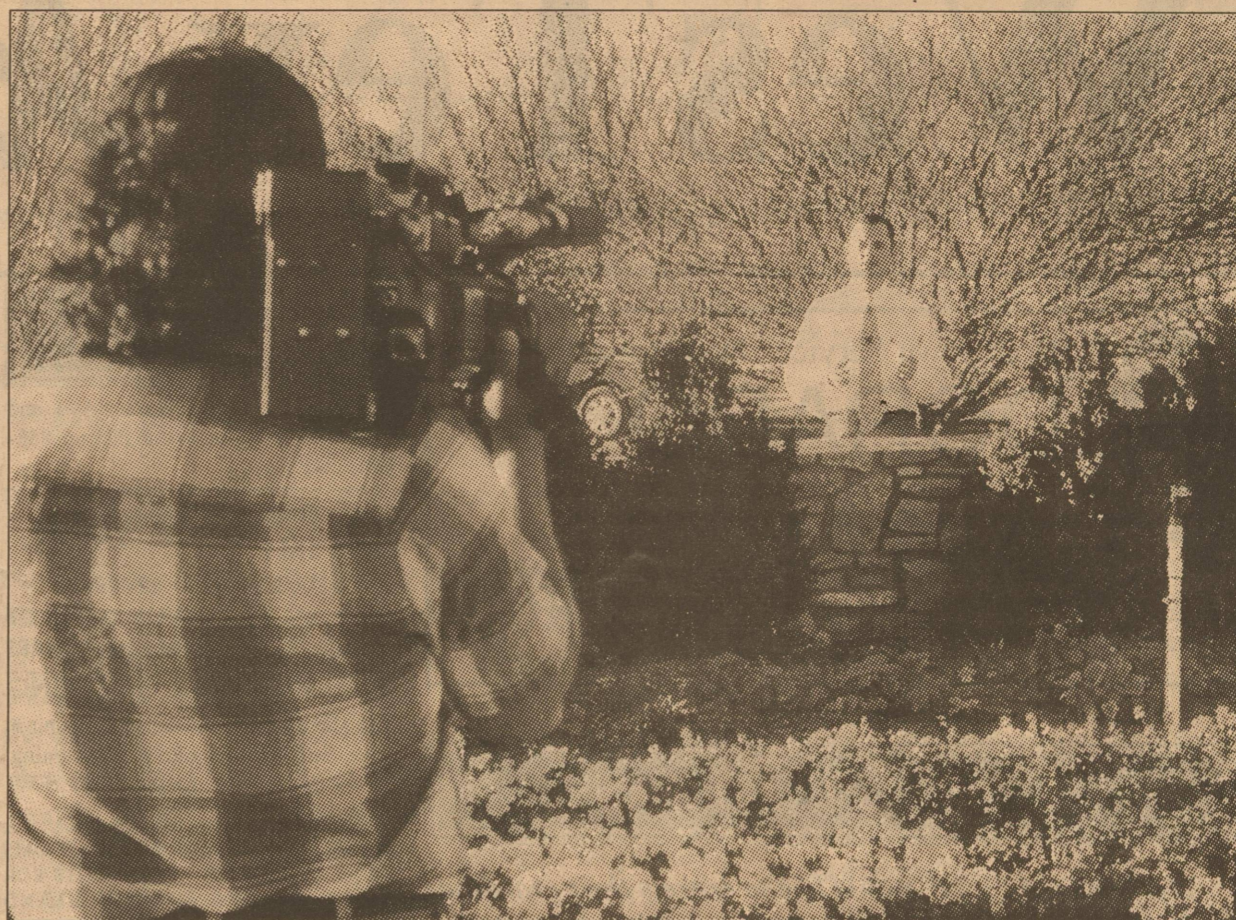


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**Lights, camera, action —**  
KLST TV anchorman Chris Walthall was in Eldorado last week taping a two-part story for an upcoming edition of "Walthall's Country Crossroads". The segment slated to air during the station's 10:00 p.m. newscasts on April 17th and 24th will focus on three aspects of civic development in our town: Beautification of the town, Restoration and development of the Tom Ratliff Civic Theater and the Eldorado Woolen Mill.



**Enforcement of equine regulations delayed until July 1**

Commissioners for the state's livestock health agency have put "on hold" until July 1 the compliance and enforcement activities for new regulations for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA), a viral disease of horses, asses, mules, donkeys, and zebras. The agency's executive director, veterinarian Terry Beals, said the dozen governor-appointed leaders for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) have appointed an ad hoc committee to ensure all options are explored for evenhandedly regulating this equine disease.

In January 1997, commissioners emphasized education, asking producers to voluntarily comply with the rules requiring equine to be tested for the virus, equine infectious anemia (EIA), within 12 months prior to being sold, or participating in trail rides, shows, fairs, rodeos or exhibitions. A provision also required dealers to keep records on equine bought and sold, so if the disease is detected, any potentially infected or exposed equine can be traced and tested. At

that time, the TAHC commissioners announced the regulations would not be enforced until after May 6.

"We've had hundreds of calls from trail ride clubs, playday groups and other equine organizations that want more information, brochures or presentations made to their groups," said Dr. Beals. "Disease awareness has been greatly heightened. Our efforts to share information with equine owners will continue. However, the TAHC commissioners want to ensure that the regulations are fair and do not cause undue hardship on any segment of the equine industry."

At their February meeting, the TAHC commissioners extended the "grace period" for compliance and enforcement activities until July 1. This will provide adequate time for the TAHC's ad hoc committee to assess and reconsider the regulations, particularly the rule requiring a test for equine being sold. The appointed team of equine industry representatives plan to begin deliberations at a

meeting tentatively scheduled for March 19 in Austin. Using the committee's conclusions and recommendations, the TAHC commissioners will make any needed regulation changes, according to the usual rule-making process.

The TAHC's equine committee will be cochaired by Mr. Rob Brown, TAHC chairman and the commission's equine industry representative, and Dr. Dick Sherron, a public member on the commission.

EIA, better known as "swamp fever" or "Coggins," is an incurable viral infection spread by blood-to-blood contact. Most often, disease transmission occurs when biting flies carry fresh blood on their mouth parts from an infected equine to a "clean" animal. Medical instruments and needles contaminated with the virus can also transmit the disease to clean animals.

EIA-infected equine can react in one of three ways. About a third to half of infected equine will develop clinical symptoms, and suffer from fever, dramatic weight loss, or swelling around the chest and legs. Some equine may die from the infection. Conversely, other infected equine will demonstrate no symptoms at all, and are

referred to as "inapparent carriers." In some cases, chronically infected equine display a variety of symptoms when subjected to work, stress or travel, but they may recover when allowed to rest. Most of these animals will be unable to regain or sustain their original performance levels, and diseased equine can be reservoirs of infection that threaten "clean" animals.

Because there is no vaccine, cure or effective treatment, the TAHC gives owners several options: keep the infected animal under permanent quarantine, away from all other equine; send the infected animal to slaughter, a research facility or approved clinic, or have the equine humanely euthanized.

In January 1997, 26,113 equine were blood-tested in Texas, which resulted in finding 74 infected equine. From September 1, 1996 (the start of the state's 1997 fiscal year) through February 18, 1997, 198 EIA-positive equine have been found in Texas.

Dr. Beals reminded producers that equine entering Texas from other states must have had a negative EIA test within the previous 12 months.

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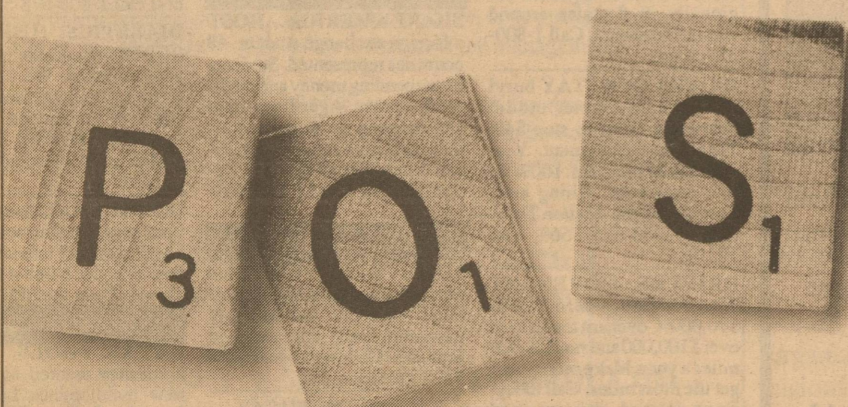
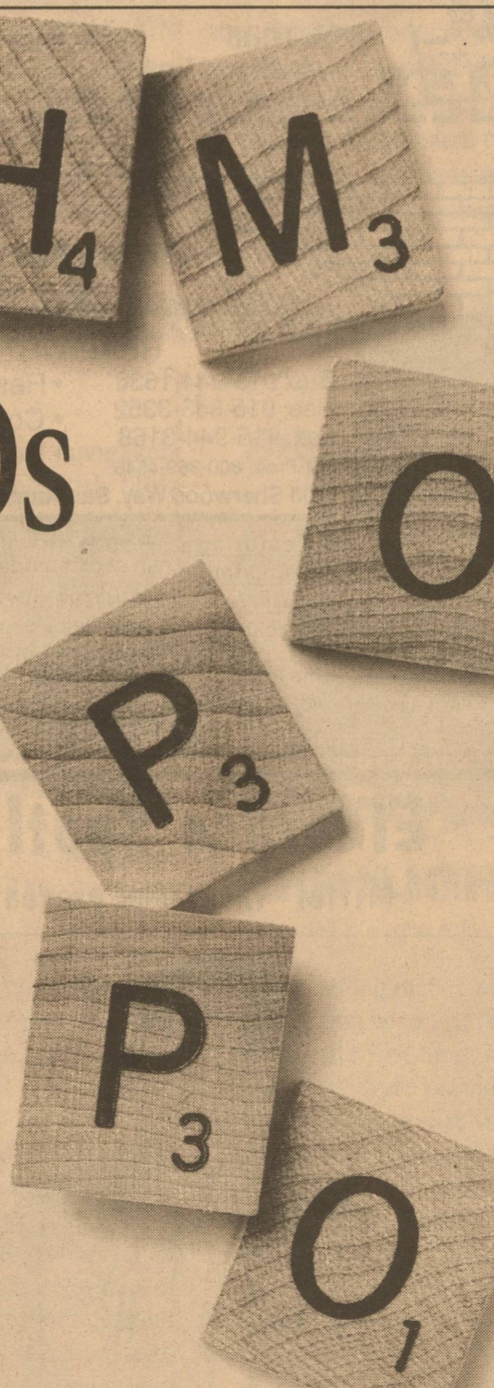
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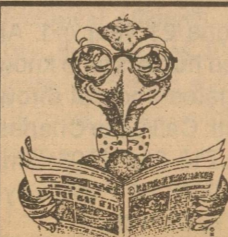
EMS members would like to thank all those who contribute to the service. For those wishing to send a memorial or a gift "in honor of someone, please send it to:

Schleicher Co. EMS  
c/o Susie Richters  
P.O. Box 78  
Eldorado, TX 76936

We gratefully acknowledge the following memorial gifts:  
In memory of Paul Page- from Pearl Enochs; Lois Etheredge  
In memory of J.B. Heflin- from Pearl Enochs  
In memory of Don Farrington- from Pearl Enochs  
In memory of Patton Enochs- from Ethel Etheredge; Mr. & Mrs. Ben Isaacs; Mr & Mrs. R.J. Alexander; George & Glenda Raven; Charles & Peggy Jones

In honor of Ray & Debbie Ballew- from Isabel McCutcheon  
We would also like to thank the following for their donations to the EMS: Glenda Leifeste, D-L Automotive, Wiley Bunton, Eldorado High School Rodeo, Janice Cummins, Schleicher Co. Rodeo Assc. and Conoco. We also want to thank the Eldorado H.S. FFA for building our backboards.

Please call 853-3456 or contact any EMS member if you have any questions or concerns.



**Why does the early bird  
always get the worm?  
Because he reads about it in  
The Eldorado Success  
Classifieds**