

Cubbyhole Sample Of Crowded Conditions

EDITOR'S NOTE — This is the first of a three-part series on the needs of the local school system and the upcoming bond election on April 7 for \$1.2 million. The bonds would go for three new buildings on the school campus.

It's what one teacher calls the "closet effect." It's a little storage room below the bleachers in the old gymnasium. But now, because of the increased enrollment in the local school, it is now being used for a classroom, too. Wedged in between cases of soft drinks, piles of paper and other school supplies are two students desks and one teacher's desk. This is where Mary Ruth Wallis teaches students who are having problems with their speech or hearing.

The small and dark room is an

example of what students and teachers alike are having to face with overcrowded conditions in the local school system.

Walter Wallis, elementary school principal, pointed out there is a lack of room for government programs that greatly help students who are having learning problems. There is only one room designated for special education, and it is used all day long by two teachers and one aid.

Remedial reading classes are in a corner of the teachers' workroom and the hearing and speech classes are in the cubbyhole under the bleachers. The migrant program is scattered all through the elementary school, as are all the audio-visual aids and learning centers. Any testing that needs to be done outside the regular classroom has to be done in the bookroom.

There is also a need for additional classroom space. "There are 27 students in each section of kindergarten," said Wallis, adding, "The maximum is 25 unless we have some aids, but the ideal figure is 18." This means the school needs another room for the kindergarten.

The largest class is the fourth grade, which has 26 students in one section and 27 in the other. On Monday, elementary enrollment peaked at 333 students.

High school students and faculty are facing the same sort of problems. "This building was built for 200 students but now we have 290 attending daily," said superintendent Guy Whitaker.

The main problem in the high school is the lack of classrooms, especially since the school began the quarter system, which Whitaker says

require more space than the semester system.

Many rooms are used by more than one teacher, pushing some teachers out of their classrooms during their conference periods. This means they have problems finding a place to confer with students or plan for the next class or the next day.

Study halls have to be held in the library, which Whitaker says should be used strictly for research and library classes. The science lab doubles for many other courses other than science, also.

Some classes are even being held in the dressing rooms off the stage in the auditorium and in the special education room when it is not being used by special education teachers.

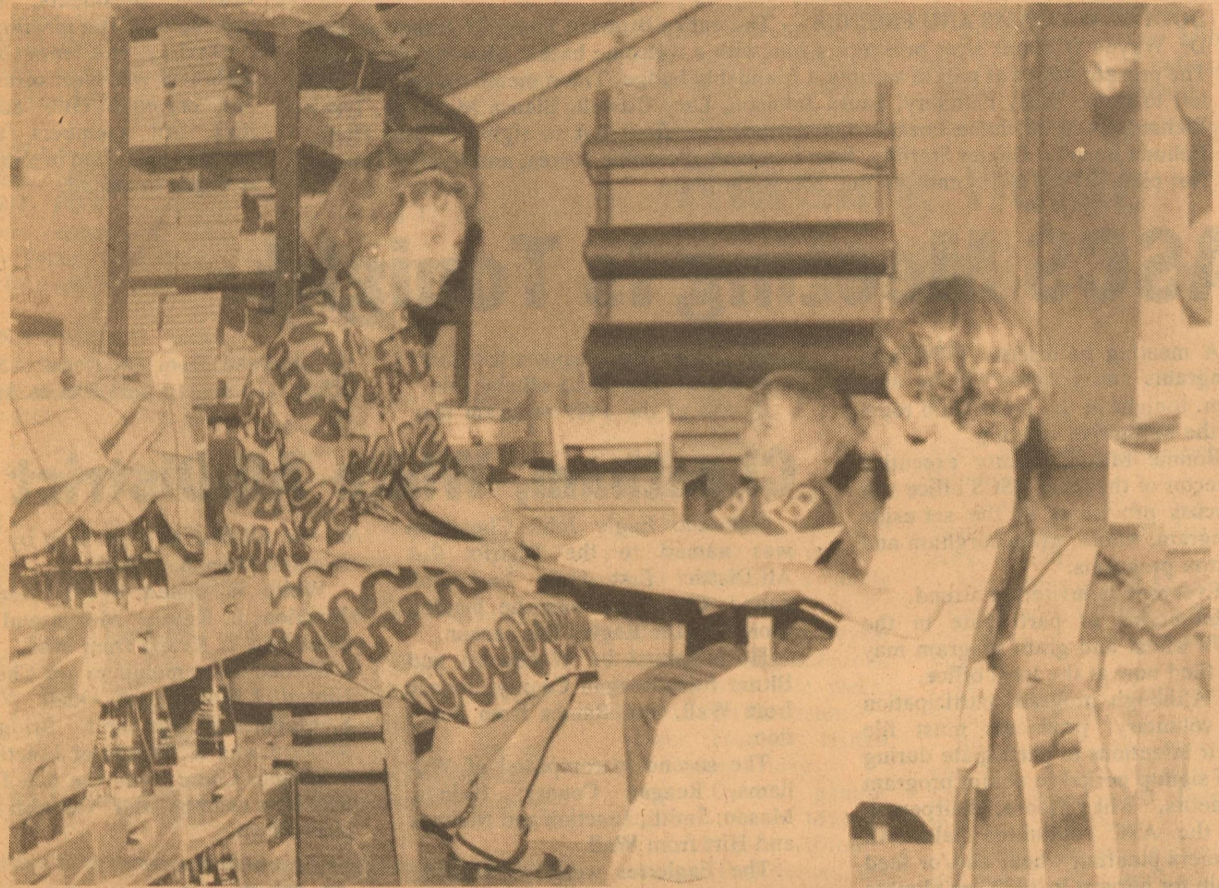
Even at that, there is not a room that can be set aside for art classes or for a third section of freshman

English or social studies which is needed for 62 freshmen.

Walking down the hall in the high school, one teacher glanced at a broom closet and commented, "I'm surprised someone isn't using that for a classroom."

There are also problems in the school cafeteria. The staff begins serving at 10:30 a.m. and finishes at noon. With one line of servers, that means only a little bit of time to serve almost 600 students. In fact, the seventh graders, who are the last to be served, have little time to eat before their next classes.

All of these problems will be solved if the upcoming bond election is passed on April 7. The election is for \$1.2 million to build a new cafeteria, nine elementary classrooms and a multi-media learning center.



ELEMENTARY CUBBYHOLE — Mary Ruth Wallis teaches a special class for Cady Engdahl and Mina Fimbres in a storage area under the bleachers in the old gymnasium. Because of overcrowded conditions in the elementary school, it was the last place to be found where Mrs. Wallis could teach children with speech and hearing problems.

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42 Teachers Rehired During Board Meeting

Forty-one teachers in the Eldorado School system were rehired during a lengthy session of the school board Tuesday night. They were all rehired after an executive session that lasted over an hour.

Rehired were Jo Callison, Janella Crippin, Janet Curtis, Nancy Doyle, Frances Edmiston, Imogene Edmiston, JoAnn Edmiston, Julie Griffin, Shannon Harber, Robert Helmers, Delia Herrera, Maureen Hodges, Lexie Hodnett, Fred Igo, Juanita Igo, Linda Ingle, Shirley Jackson, Robert Jay, Billie Jones, Jeneva Leifester, Winston Leifester and Wayne McDonald.

Others were Donna Mikeska, Larry Mitchel, Randy Mitchel, Becky Moore, Pat Moore, Melissa O'Harrow, Dana Owens, Pat Pitts, Jill Preston, Myrta Rathbone, Melonie Reynolds, Betty Robinson, Gloria Rodriguez, Vinita Su Scott, Joella Minter, Tim Terry, Ester Torres, Mary Ruth Wallis and Beth Whitaker.

After the executive session, the board voted to postpone the consideration of one teacher, Kenneth Thomas, until a later date. The board also voted to offer the position of football coach to James Williams of Wellington.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Williamson were released effective this week so they could move to Devine where he will be athletic director and head coach. They are leaving Friday.

Helen Pfluger was hired as a physical education aid for Mrs. Shannon Harber and Kichun Byrd

was hired as a kindergarten aid. Mike Callison was hired to finish the year teaching remedial reading under a federal program.

The board voted to keep teacher's salaries the same.

The board also decided to hold a town meeting at 7:30 p.m. April 2 in the high school library or auditorium, depending on the number of people present. The meeting will be to discuss and explain the bond election for constructing three new facilities for the school.

A bid from Johnnie Smith of Big Spring to refinish the floor on the gymnasium was accepted. The bid is for about \$4500.

Board members also discussed situations in which parents might question disciplinary action taken by

school administrators. They voted to add the following to their handbook, "That in the event extraordinary actions taken by any employee of the school district or by a student or citizen in regard to the district, then the president of the board should be notified of such actions as soon as possible." This is to alert the board of any problems they may not be aware of before they are referred to the board.

The board also accepted the recommendation of the textbook committee as to the textbooks to be used for the next school year.

Board members present were Mort Mertz, Dr. J.B. Brame, Billy Williams, Richard Kent, Lynn Meador, Delia Pina and Frankie Hardy.

County Court Discusses Wide Variety Of Items

A road contract, certificates of deposit, the city-county contract, and the shooting range were some of the topics that came up during the Commissioners Court meeting Monday morning.

A contract between the state of Texas and Jack Mann for a right of way on the new farm to market road east of Eldorado was returned by the state because of a paragraph at the end of the agreement. The paragraph stipulated that the state would

take the responsibility of maintaining water lines and construct water lines in the future for the landowner. The contract will be rewritten and returned to the state for its acceptance.

Commissioners also discussed the work agreement between the city of Eldorado and the county in which the county lets the city use its equipment for street repair in return for water. The court decided to meet with city officials to review the contract.

In other business, the court:

- Received a request from Judge Earl Smith of the 51st judicial district to increase the salary of the court reporter. The court agreed to pay its part of the requested increase, which is \$63.67 a month or \$767 a year for this county. Counties in the district pay a percentage according to their population.

- Decided to hold a \$16,000 certificate of deposit which had matured until August when several other CD's mature. At that time, the county will buy a treasurer's note with the money.

- Discussed cleaning up the shooting range, which has been used as a dumping ground, as has most of the land in that area. Commissioners took no action on the problem at this time.

- Heard a request by Thomas Y. Pickett and Co., Inc. which is the county's financial firm. The company is requesting the court to consider any tax raises it plans to make in May, before the board of equalization in June.

No one appeared for the hearing on the proposed salary increases for elected officials. Therefore, the proposal is automatic, and will become effective April 1.

Short Stuff

By ANGIE AWTRY

We have in our home one husband, one wife, one son, two daughters, one bathroom and a poodle who insists on going into above mentioned room with everyone.

We also have to be at work and school at 8 a.m. five days of the week. Poodle is supposed to go out earlier, but escapes under beds, couches and ends up in bathroom.

Needless to say our house is mass confusion every morning and we have had a never-ending war over the bathroom since long hair became the style for young men some years ago. Now that the middle child, a daughter, has reached the ancient age of fifteen we really have a problem.

In order to restore peace and quiet to the Awtrey household a schedule was worked out by yours truly. Tess has always been an early riser so she got the six o'clock shift. Robyn was to have her turn at six-thirty and Rod was supposed to have his turn at seven, me at seven-thirty and Joe was just going to take a chance. Poodle was to go outside at six.

The very first morning Robyn couldn't get Tess out of the bathroom at six-thirty. I didn't take into consideration that Tess is 15, has never had a bath in less than thirty minutes in her life and definitely can't do her hair in less than forty minutes. By the time that Robyn finally got into the room it was seven and here came Rod.

Now Rod doesn't get up at seven for anyone and considered this the supreme sacrifice of his life. However, with promises from Robyn that she would hurry and only take a few minutes he grumbled his way to his first love — breakfast.

Robyn did just what she said and was out in a matter of minutes and had to be sent back twice to bathe. By the time the kids got through they had just enough time to make the first bell at school if they hurried. I made a mad dash for the bathroom.

Now Joe had sat through the entire nightmare without saying a word, but I could tell that his patience had worn thin by the little white lines around his mouth so when he came in to take his bath I asked him to hand me the bottle of lotion and I would be on my way. See, SHORT STUFF, Page 2 ay.

Water, Equipment Are Topics During Meeting

Water, tanks and sales tax were topics discussed during the called meeting of the city council Tuesday night.

Mayor Pat Ragsdale read a letter from the office of state comptroller Bob Bullock which stated they had no record of the council retaining the one percent city sales tax last fall. At that time, cities had to option to drop the sales tax, but the local council voted to retain the tax on Aug. 29. The letter advised the council that an ordinance had to be passed retaining the tax and had to be recorded in their office by May 1.

The council then scheduled a called meeting for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday for the first reading of the proposed ordinance to retain the one percent city sales tax. The tax is on gas and utilities sold by the city.

Ragsdale also presented a letter from the Texas Health Department concerning the status of the city's water system. The department is asking that the city hire a person

with a license to supervise the water system and construct an additional 50,000 gallon water tank in the city.

The council authorized the mayor to write the department and advise them that the city's water is tested each month and is more than 98 percent pure; the city has five wells capable of pumping 2100 gallons of water a minute; one well is equipped with a gasoline engine that could supply the city with 435 gallons of water per minute in an emergency; and that the city has one storage tank holding one half million gallons of water and a second tank holding 150,000 gallons.

Purpose of having the system status approved is to put up signs at all entrances of the city saying the water system is approved.

The council also discussed the purchase of an asphalt pump, and a tank and sewer pump. The pump and asphalt tank would be used for street repair this summer. However, the council tabled any action on street equipment pending additional information about these items.

Election Filing Now Complete

Several persons have filed to run in the four elections on April 7.

Running for the two openings on the school board will be Paul Page Jr., Duwain Sauer, Ramon Mobley, Bill Gentry, Rick Sterling, Delia Pina, E.M. "Rooster" Jackson, Sam Henderson Jr. and Dan Griffin. Mrs. Pina is the only incumbent.

Running for aldermen on the city council will be David Vannett, Frank Williams, Domingo Pina and incumbents Billy McCravery and Bobby Sykes. No one has filed to run for mayor, so anyone whose name is written in during the election and accepts the job can become mayor.

Running for positions on the hospital district board of directors will be Pat Sykes, Becky Sterling and Reuben Minor. They will fill the three openings on the board.

The fourth election is for precinct directors to the board of directors of the Plateau Underground Water Conservation and Supply District. Steve Sykes filed to run for the position held by Bobby Sykes, but no one filed to run for the other position.



WELCOME, DOC — Blanca Martinez, right, presents Dr. Wayne Williams with a bouquet of flowers as Brownie Troop 72 welcomes him to Eldorado. Watching are Crystal Hyde, Niki Lenamon, Belinda Bowery and

Tracy Flannery. The girls presented him with a basket of gifts donated by local merchants as a welcome present.

Jaycees Announce Barbecue Burning And Hooten Holler

The Second Annual Sutton County Barbecue Burning and Hooten Holler will be held Saturday, April 21 at the Sonora Park according to an announcement by the Sonora Jaycees.

Sponsored by the Jaycees and Jayettes, the special goat barbecue will begin with check-in from 7 to 10 a.m., and features trophies to winners.

Dances have been scheduled by the Sonora-Sutton County Park Association, to be held at the park on the dance slab Friday night and Saturday night following the barbecue.

Trophies will be presented to first, second and third

place and a special Showmanship Trophy will also be awarded. Entry fee of \$10 per team plus a goat, wood and other essentials will be furnished by the competing teams. Judging will be held at 5 p.m.

Games with trophies for prizes have been scheduled for entertainment. The games are being conducted by the Sonora Softball Association.

Rules for the barbecue contest include:

1. Decision of the judges is final.
2. All cook fires must be in approved cooking containers. No ground fires allowed.
3. Contestants must

furnish their own cooking fuel.

4. Meat must be cooked on site.
5. Late registration accepted until 12 noon Saturday.
6. Cooking sites on first come, first served basis.
7. No person other than officials allowed in judging area.
8. 1/2 goat to be donated to Jaycees after judging to be distributed at the benefit dinner Saturday evening.

Interested participants should complete the entry form in this week's Schleicher County Leader and mail to Sonora Jaycees, Box 1036, Sonora along with their \$10 entry fee.

Barbecue and Hooten Holler

ENTRY FORM

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MENU

Monday March 19
Meat & macaroni Casserole
Buttered potatoes
Mixed greens
Sliced beets
Iced cupcakes

Tuesday March 20
Beef tacos with cheese
Pinto beans
Lettuce & tomato salad
Coconut pudding

Wednesday March 21
Hamburgers
Lettuce, tomatoes, pickles
Potato chips
Cheese strips
Ice cream

Thursday March 22
Roast beef & gravy
Buttered rice
English peas
Carrot, pineapple, raisin salad
Pineapple cobbler

Friday March 23
Corn dogs
French fries
Fruit cup
Chocolate peanut clusters

BREAKFAST
One-half pint of milk served with each breakfast.

Monday March 19
Applesauce
Muffins

Tuesday March 20
Orange juice
Hot biscuits-bacon-jelly

Wednesday March 21
Apple juice
Cinnamon toast

Thursday March 22
Grape juice
Hot oatmeal-toast

Friday March 23
Banana
Choice of ready-to-eat-cereal

Calendar Of Events

Today, March 15 — Clinic for pre-school children, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (noon to 1 p.m. for lunch), Methodist Church; Sorority bake sale for hospital, 10 a.m.; Parker's Foods; Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Meeting, 7 p.m.; Lions Club room of Memorial Building; Jaycees, 7:30 p.m., club house.

Sunday, March 18 — Sunday devotional at nursing home, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20 — TOPS, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Building; Kountry Cousins, 7 p.m., Memorial Building; Volunteer Firemen, 8 p.m., firehall.

Wednesday, March 21 — Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.; Lions Club, noon, Memorial Building; Golf Club bingo, 7 p.m., club house.

Thursday, March 22 — Social security representative, 1-2:30 p.m., firehall.

Friday, March 23 — Program on cars for women, 10 a.m., Lions Club room of Memorial Building.

Saturday, March 24 — Christoval Jamboree.

Sunday, March 25 — Mixed foursome at golf course; Sunday devotional at nursing home, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, March 26 — Program at school, 1:30 p.m., high school; County Commissioners Court, 9 a.m., courthouse; Beta Sigma Phi, 7:30 p.m., Memorial Building.

Tuesday, March 27 — TOPS, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Building; Firemen, 7:30 p.m., firehall; Kountry Cousins, 7 p.m., Memorial Building.

Wednesday, March 28 — Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.; Lions Club, Noon, Memorial Building.

Rojas Visits Here Sunday

Joaquin Rojas was in Eldorado Sunday afternoon before returning to a rehabilitation center in San Antonio. He is one of three men severely burned in an oil field accident in December.

He was in Sonora Friday and Saturday visiting

friends and relatives. Sammy Santellano, another man burned in the accident, remains in San Antonio. He is scheduled to have surgery on a finger and additional skin grafts as some grafts did not hold. He will be hospitalized for several more weeks.

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"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

The Church is God's appointed agency in this world for spreading the knowledge of His love for man and of His demand for man to respond to that love by loving his neighbor. Without this grounding in the love of God, no government or society or way of life will long persevere and the freedoms which we hold so dear will inevitably perish. Therefore, even from a selfish point of view, one should support the Church for the sake of the welfare of himself and his family. Beyond that, however, every person should uphold and participate in the Church because it tells the truth about man's life, death and destiny; the truth which alone will set him free to live as a child of God.

Coleman Adv. Serv.



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