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The Devil's River News

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

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SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, January 24, 2013

Road Construction Overview



By Karen Threlkeld

A new road surface on US 277 will be laid from the Dry Devils River Bridge on the north end of Sonora to the East Fork of the Dry Devils River Bridge on the south end of town, approximately 1.76 miles.

A public meeting was held in Sonora in August to discuss the project and TxDOT received valuable comments from the community and businesses. Work is scheduled to be complete by October 2013. Reece Albert plans to work a six day work week, with every other Saturday off. They plan to begin on the north end of town and work in small sections to allow less impact on businesses. A 10-foot width restriction will be enforced.

The road will be reduced to one travel lane in each direction within the active work zone.

The average daily traffic count in this area in 10,000 vehicles. The last time any improvements were made to US 277/ Loop 467 through Sonora was 1996.

Phase I & II

From IH 10 to LP 467/ Stripes North (Southbound lanes)

From Dry Devils River to US 277 South/Stripes South (Southbound lanes)

From LP 467 West end of project to approx. 340 feet East (Westbound lanes)

Phase III

From IH 10 NB Lanes to LP 467

From LP 467 Dry Devils River to US 277 South/Stripes South (Northbound lanes)

Phase IV

From LP 467 North/Stripes North to Dry Devils River (Northbound lanes)

From US 277 South/Stripes South to End of project Dry Devils River (Northbound lanes)

Phase V

US 277 & LP467 South intersection

Phase VI

From LP 467 West end to Dry Devils River (Southbound lanes)

From US 277 South/Stripes South to End of project Dry Devils River (Southbound lanes)

US 277 receives major safety improvements with addition of passing lanes

Drivers are seeing a lot of orange barrels and workers on a 52-mile stretch of US

277 from San Angelo to Sonora. Those orange barrels and workers typically mean construction and delays for drivers. This case is no exception. Three projects, that will appear seamless to the public, but were awarded to two separate contractors, will add passing lanes throughout the corridor.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) officials want to make motorists aware that these improvements will cause travel delays between San Angelo and Sonora. Motorists can expect to be stopped at flagger stations and to follow a pilot car for short distances through the work zone during some phases of construction.

Work will occur weekdays during daylight hours for the next nine months. During the evening hours and weekends, both travel lanes of US 277 will be open.

All total, 25 passing lanes will be added to the 52 miles of US 277 in Tom Green, Schleicher and Sutton Counties. This will give motorists the opportunity

Continued on Page 6

SCAM ALERT

Joe Fincher, Sutton County Sheriff, is warning the citizens of an ongoing scam. It involves someone receiving a phone call stating a relative has been involved in an accident or is in jail. The caller persuades the local relative to send a wire transfer to a third party, usually to Mexico. Sheriff Fincher is encouraging locals to get more information and try and contact the relative in question before sending money. Anyone asking for money through Western Union, Moneygram or other wire service is usually a scammer.

Sheriff Joe M. Fincher

Lady Broncos Enjoying Record Breaking Season

According to the trophies in the trophy case and from the legendary teacher/coach Clyde Dukes, the Lady Broncos broke the school record for wins in a season (previous 25 by the 2009-2010 team) with their 84-36 victory at Kermit. The 2012-2013 Lady Bronco sport a 26-2 overall record and have 5 more district games to play! The battle in Kermit was to secure the Bronco's 1st place in district and Sonora (5-0 in district) came out firing. The Lady Broncos shot 48% from the field and 75% from the FT line (Zella Powers 4/4, Gracie Dozier 2/2, Kylie Love 6/8 and Avery Nolen 6/10). Avery Nolen led the offensive attack with 21 points. Avery also had 7 rebounds and 5 steals to add to her complete game. Kylie Love provided 18 points, 7 rebounds and 6 steals to her impressive stat line. Zella Powers (4 points, 2 rebounds), Katie Hartman (2 points, 4 steals), Gracie Dozier (10 points, 7 assists), Jaye Sanchez (8 points, 6 assists), Tyler Hampton (5 points, 6 rebounds), Naomi Dozier (4 points, 2 rebounds) and Abby Creek (6 points, 7 rebounds) were all apart of the offense attack that saw all 10 Lady Broncos in the scoring category. Defensively the Sonora team again caused havoc by forcing 43 turnovers and contesting Kermit's shots (Kermit shot 25%). Coach Mathew's JV Sonora Lady Broncos finished the 1st round of district with an impressive 5-0 record defeating Kermit by 4 in a hard fought battle. The Lady Bronco's teams play at home Tuesday vs. Alpine and travel to Tornillo on Friday.

Lady Broncos Best Crane to Break 1st Place Tie in District

Crane Lady Birds' traveled to Sonora tied for first in district with both teams supporting a 3-0 record (Crane 18-5 overall). Crane left Sonora defeated 67-35. Sonora started strong with an 18-7 1st quarter lead and never let up. The Lady Broncos again shot well (44%) and passed incredible with 20 assists on 29 made shots. Jaye Sanchez (4/4 FTs) led the passing attack with 5 assists and six other players followed her lead with 2 assists each. Avery Nolen (7 steals) and Kylie Love (10 rebounds) each had 15 points and Gracie Dozier (14 points) shot 7 for 9 from the field. Abby Creek played awesome defense on Crane's "bigs" scoring 4 points and pulling down 6 rebounds. The "super subs" were again "super" with Katie Hartman supplying a remarkable and career high rebound total with 6, Zella Powers contributing 4 points, Tyler Hampton 4 steals, JoJo Guterrez 2 points and Naomi Dozier played some hard-nosed defense with 2 steals. The Sonora Lady Broncos are 25-2 overall and 4-0 in district. The JV Sonora Lady Broncos, coached by Morgan Mathews, are also 4-0 in district. The JVb team, coach by Amanda Rollert, defeated Crane to complete the sweep! Sonora travels to Kermit on Friday and plays Alpine in Sonora on Tuesday.

Polar Bear Thanks You

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Sonora ISD Robot Experts Advance to State



Juan Miguel Jimenez & Tate Shannon - Advance to State Robotics

• 1st place - Sonora ISD - i-- Hasselhoff & Po - Carly Ronic Atoms - Juan Miguel Brown & Hazel Kent Jimenez & Tate Shannon - • 48th place - Sonora ISD - Advance to State Robotics Combaticons - Dakota Castro Competition in Deer Park, TX & Dalton Morris - 4/13/2013

There were 56 teams representing 1A through 5A schools Robo-C.O.P.S. - Summer Hall competing against one another. quite a statement for this • 47th place - Sonora ISD being the 2nd year this program has been implemented @ Sonora ISD. Here are just a few things these students must do:

• They read the challenge and determine what parts of the challenge they want to execute to score points (I've attached a copy of this year's challenge so you will have a better idea of what the students are trying to accomplish.)

• They engineer, build and rebuild their robot from Lego parts to best address the needs of the challenge

• They program the robot to execute the demands of the challenge

• They have to master "conflict resolution" with one another (sometimes that is the biggest challenge)

• They have to understand the details of the challenge and exhibit proper etiquette while competing

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Senior Center Activities

Thurs. November 29 - Happy Birthday Richard Palmer

Fri. November 30 - Run errands

Mon. December 3 -
Tues. December 4 -
Wed. December 5 -

Senior Center Menu

Thurs. November 29 - Smothered steak, Mashed potato, Mix greens, Roll, Peach shortcake, milk

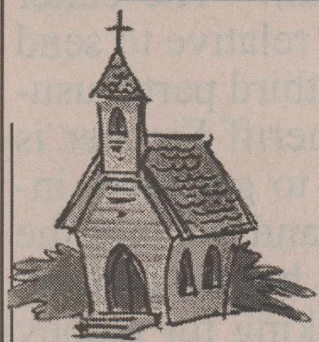
Fri. November 30 - Chicken Fajitas, Spanish rice, Pinto beans, Flour tortilla, Fruit cocktail, milk

Mon. December 3 -

Tues. December 4 -

Wed. December 5 -

Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older. Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m.
Donations are accepted
(suggested donation for Seniors is \$2.00; \$5.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go).



Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesia Bautista
504 Santa Clara
387-2035

Church of Christ
304 N. Water
387-3190

The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian
319 E. Mulberry
387-2616

First Baptist Church
11 E. Oak
387-2951

Lighthouse Community Church
1705 N. Crockett
387-9100

St. John's Episcopal Church
404 E. Poplar
387-2955

St. Ann's Catholic Church
229 W. Plum
387-2278

First United Methodist Church
201 N. Water
387-2466

Jehovah's Witness
310 St. Ann's St
387-5658/387-5518

Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios
306 W. 4th St
387-5713

Faith Apostolic Church
120 N. Concho Ave.
206-0277

Hope Lutheran Church
417 E. 2nd St.
387-5366

Brought to you by:
Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

Obituaries

Mike C. Lopez, Sr. of Sonora went to be with the Lord on January 15, 2013. Services were held Friday, January 18th, at St. Ann's Catholic Church and burial at Sonora Cemetery. Mike worked for many years as a machinery operator from which he retired. Mike enjoyed fishing and loved dancing, picking on his nieces and nephews, but most of all he enjoyed spending time with friends and family, making jokes to put a smile on everyone's face. He was preceded in death by his father John G. Lopez, Sr. He is survived by his loving family, who will cherish his memory, mother Rita Lopez, sons Enrique Flores, Mike Lopez, Jr. and daughter Abby Lopez. Brother and sisters, Mary Barron and husband Robert, John Lopez, Jr. and wife Betty, Josie Emiliano and husband Fernando, Arturo Lopez, Sr. and wife Louise, Pete Lopez, Jr. and Diana Tabarez numerous nieces and nephews and his aunt Mary Ortega. He was also survived by his special friend Dede Modesto. Pallbearers were John Lopez III, Fernie Emiliano, Arturo Lopez, Jr., John Hidalgo, Mike Lopez Jr. and Robert Barron.

Death is nothing at all.
I have only slipped away into the next room
I am I and you are you
Whatever we were to each other
That we are still
Call me by my old familiar name
Speak to me in the easy way which you always used
Put no difference in your tone
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow
Laugh as we always laughed
At the little jokes we always enjoyed together
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me
Let my name ever be the household word that it always was
Let it be spoken without effort
Without the ghost of shadow in it
Life means all that it ever meant
It is the same that it ever was
There is absolutely unbroken continuity
What is death but a negligible accident?
Why should I be out of mind
Because I am out of sight?
I am waiting for you, for an interval,
Somewhere very near, just around the corner
All is well.- Henry Scott Holland

Billy Mills passed away early Sunday morning, January 6 at the age of 80. Billy was born on March 11, 1932 in Sterling City, TX and he grew up in Alpine. He and his wife Mary K. Winder Mills were married on June 5, 1955, and they have lived in Ft. Stockton since 1958. Billy touched many lives during his years with the Fort Stockton School District. He taught science for over 35 years, first in the Fort Stockton Middle School, then at Fort Stockton High School and for more than a dozen years at the Williams RTTC. For many years he also drove a school bus for Fort Stockton ISD. He was a member of the Texas State Teachers Association, the American Legion, and a long time member of the First Christian Church of Fort Stockton.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents Herbert and Elva Jane Mills; by 4 brothers, Ott, Woodrow, Herb and George Mills, by 2 sisters Elva Roark and Joy Rogers. He is survived by his wife Mary K. Mills of Fort Stockton; 4 sons, Ron, Gary, Andy and Scott Mills; his daughter Sharilyn, and by 3 sisters, Nell Wallace, Jerry Wallace and Betty Bach. Billy is also survived by 13 Great-grandchildren.

The family will conduct a memorial service on Saturday, January 12 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Christian Church in Fort Stockton. 200S. Rio St. Officiating the service will be Chuck Fisher of Amarillo and First Christian Church Pastor Gary Raines.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the First Christian Church Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 1267 Fort Stockton, TX 78735.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.heritagefuneralhomeofthebigbend.com.

Jack Darryl Moore, 71, of Sonora, TX departed this earthly world on January 16, 2013. He left behind his wife of 52 years Frances (Bille) Moore, twin brother John D. Moore, sisters Patsy Johnson and Margaret Walton, and children Donna Butterworth, Darryl Moore, Debra Brewer, and DeAndrea (Dede) Maskill. He was also blessed with 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grand children.

He was preceded in death by his parents Frank Leslie, Sr. and Fay Moore (Daddy Michael and Mama Jack), his brother Frank Leslie Moore, Jr., and sisters Eva Emdy and Martha Hicks.

He will be missed.



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Texas Unemployment Rate Declines for Fourth Consecutive Month 2012 concludes with nearly 11 million jobs in Texas

AUSTIN — Texas' unemployment rate fell to 6.1 percent in December, down from 6.2 percent in November and from 7.4 percent a year ago. This marked the fourth straight month that the unemployment rate in Texas has declined. Texas employers added 4,100 total nonfarm jobs in December for a total of 260,800 jobs added over the year. In December 2012, Texas employers reported 10,904,000 total nonfarm jobs.

"In December, we saw annual growth in 10 major industries, for an overall annual growth of 2.5 percent in Texas," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Andres Alcantar. "With those positive strides and 11,800 private sector jobs added in the past month, 2012 was a strong year for Texas and my hope is that the Texas economy will build on that success in 2013."

Six out of 11 major industries in Texas added jobs in December, led by 13,300 jobs added in Professional and Business Services—the largest over-the-month expansion for this industry since January 2012.

"I'm glad to see the unemployment rate has dropped by more than a full point over the course of the year," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "Positive economic growth is good news for the workers of Texas, and TWC is committed to helping those still looking to get back to work."

Manufacturing added 3,000 jobs between November and December, while another goods-producing industry, Mining and Logging, expanded by 1,600 jobs during this time. Service-providing industries that also showed positive growth over the month included Education and Health Services, Other Services, and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities.

"Private sector employers in Texas added 257,400 jobs since December 2011 for an annual growth rate of 2.9 percent," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Tom Pauken. "Texas is leading the way in helping to make the United States energy independent. Our robust energy sector not only is creating good paying jobs for many Texans in that industry but also is spurring job growth in many other industries."

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest December unemployment rate in the state at 3.1 percent. The Odessa MSA came in second at 3.7 percent, and the Amarillo MSA third at 4.1 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

State Wide Teacher Salary Study Released

(Austin) — Budgets for teacher pay raises are slightly up for 2012-13 according to the Salaries and Wages in Texas Public Schools Report recently released by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) and Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA). Less than 20 percent of districts froze teacher salaries this year, compared to nearly half of participating districts last year.

While more Texas teachers received a raise this year, the average teacher salary remained relatively flat. Teachers earn an average salary of \$49,139, a change of about 1.6 percent over the average salary of \$48,375 in 2011-12.

District concerns about school funding shortfalls have been reflected in teacher pay raises for the past three years. The average pay raise for 2012-13 was 2.3 percent, up slightly from last year's average of 2 percent, which was the smallest raise in more than 10 years. In the past three years, pay raises averaged 2.2 percent, a significant drop from the nearly 4 percent average between 2000-01 and 2009-10.

Cindy Clegg, director of TASB HR Services, believes the lack of any noticeable change in average teacher salary reflects the fact that

more highly paid teachers are retiring and being replaced by less experienced teachers at lower salaries. Clegg states, "The average teacher salary actually dropped for the first time in history in 2011-12. Because teacher salaries are strongly correlated to years of service, the loss of so many experienced teachers keeps the state average from improving."

Other survey highlights:

- Differentiated teacher pay for critical shortage areas continues to grow. Seventy-four percent of districts pay critical shortage area stipends to teachers in at least one critical shortage area, up 2 percent from 2011-12.

- Of the shortage stipends surveyed, districts pay a math stipend most frequently. Similar to last year, the areas of math and bilingual education pay the highest stipends, \$2,441 and \$2,495 respectively.

The TASB/TASA teacher salary survey is the second in a series of four that is the most definitive study of compensation and benefits practices in Texas. This information is used by policymakers at the local and state levels to make decisions about educator pay and benefits.

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Lady Bronco Basketball

Defense, Defense, Defense - Lady Bronco Basketball

The Lady Bronco Basketball team was happy to play at home after winning 10 straight road games in December and January and it showed. Sonora came out Friday night with extra energy and shut down Tornillo. The halftime score was 41-0 which led to the final score of 79-14. The Lady Broncos are now 24-2 overall and 3-0 in district. The defensive domination was evident with some of Sonora's team stats... Sonora pressured Tornillo into 43 turnovers and contested every shot which held them to 14% shooting. On Sonora's side, the Lady Broncos shot a season high 60% and dished out 22 assists in their brand of unselfish basketball. Kylie Love (28 points and 10 steals), Zella Powers (2 points, 3 rebounds), Katie Hartman (3 points, 3 steals), Gracie Dozier (11 points, 5 steals), Avery Nolen (13 points, 8 steals), Jaye Sanchez (6 assists, 10 rebounds), Tyler Hampton (9 points, 4 steals), JoJo Guterrez (4 points, 1 rebound), Naomi Dozier (1 block, 3 rebounds) and Abby Creek (6 points, 5 rebounds) all saw significant playing time. (From the players: Thank you fans for standing and clapping the ENTIRE 1st quarter. The Lady Broncos love the support and energy this tradition brings to the games.)

Lady Broncos win 10 Straight Road Games

The Sonora Lady Broncos have not played a home game since The Bank & Trust Tournament on December 9th. One month with ten straight road games and 10 straight victories. The road 'good fortunes' continued at Reagan County Tuesday evening with at 51-34 victory. Kylie Love had a big game with 11 points, 15 rebounds and a career high 6 blocks. Avery Nolen dominated the 4th quarter with 10 points in the quarter (14 total points) including two 3s from downtown. Gracie Dozier supported the scoring cast with 10 points and Jaye Sanchez led the offense with 5 assists. The Lady Broncos shot 40% from the field and 44% from three point land. Katie Hartman provided a spark with 4 steals and one three pointer and JoJo Guterrez came off the bench firing with 5 1st quarter points. Abby Creek pulled down 8 rebounds, Naomi Dozier 4 boards, Tyler Hampton 4 boards and Zella Powers 2 boards to help with the 48 to 32 Sonora rebounding advantage. The Lady Broncos are 23-2 overall and 2-0 in district.

Sonora Lady Broncos end 2012 with a WIN over Sterling City

Abby Creek is the unsung hero for the Lady Broncos. She plays hard, does the dirty work and is consistent each and every game. New Year's Eve was no different. Sonora traveled to San Angelo to play the Sterling City Lady Eagles. The Sonora team came out on top 51-43 thanks to another workman's effort by Abby Creek. Abby had 15 rebounds, 2 steals, one block, 5 points and one assists to pace the defensive minded Broncos to a victory. Kylie Love was solid with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Avery Nolen turned in another nice all round game with 14 points, 4 assists and 3 steals. Gracie Dozier helped the offense out with 7 assists and Jaye Sanchez provided the defensive work with 6 steals. Naomi Dozier (2 points and 2 rebounds), Katie Hartman (2 clutch points late in the game), Zella Powers (4 points and 4 boards) were productive players off the bench. The Lady Broncos finish 2012 with a record of 21-2.

Polar Bear Thanks You

On Saturday, Jan. 12, the Sonora HS golf teams hosted their annual Polar Bear Classic at the Sonora Golf Course. The par 3 tournament is the yearly fundraiser for the golf program. This year 30 golfers endured cool north winds in support of the golf program. All golfers walked away with prizes that were donated by local individuals and businesses. Tournament prizes won for closest to the pin were: Jesse Paredes, Randy Sparks, Virgil Burge, and Steve Thorp. Prizes for longest putt made were won by: Daniel Robledo, Lee Jimenez and Jessie Paredes. Other participants were Roger Guerrero, Dylan Guerrero, Abel,

County Steakhouse, Jet Specialty, Renegade, Mike McBride, Mathews Taxidermy, Burnham/Burnham, Steve Thorp, Sonic, Family Dollar, Dollar General, Gray Wireline, Alco, Parker Lumber, and Bentwood Country Club. We want to thank all participants and those who made donations.

These donations greatly enhanced the success of our fundraiser. Thanks to everyone!!!!

Sonora High School Golf Teams

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS & PROPOSAL:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Education Code, Texas Government Code Chapter 2267, it is the intention of the Sonora ISD to select via a one-step Request for Qualification & Proposal process a Construction Manager at-Risk for the construction of the Addition & Renovations. The budget for this project is estimated at a range of \$750,000 - \$1,000,000. Proposals (5 copies) are to be submitted by hand delivery, common or contract carrier to Sonora ISD Superintendent's Office, 807 South Concho Avenue, Sonora 76950, no later than 2/7/2013 at 2:00PM. Queries about the projects and request for the RFQ/P document should be addressed to the school district's architect, Fromberg Associates, Ltd., 2406 Lake Austin Blvd., Austin, Texas 78703; or by email to randy@fromberg.com.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SONORA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

TxDOT CSJ 1207SONOR A Notice is issued for sealed proposals for the construction of airport improvements at the Sonora Municipal Airport. Proposals need to be addressed and delivered to Ms. Edie Stimach, Grant Manager, TxDOT Aviation, 150 E. Riverside Drive, 5th Floor, South Tower, Austin, TX 78704. Proposals will be received until 2:30 pm, February 21, 2013, then publicly opened and read. Any proposal received after closing time will be returned unopened.

In general, the work consists of: Install temporary erosion and sedimentation controls; repair apron pavement; construct airport drainage improvements; relocate and replace fuel station; and install concrete barrier wall; Replace and relocate airfield electrical services; replace and relocate existing wind cone with 12 foot LED wind cone; install 100 foot segmented circle; replace and relocate existing beacon with new rotating beacon and tower; Construct concrete pad; Replace existing REILS (constant voltage) with new L-849 LED REILS (constant current); and replace existing 4-kw constant current regulator with new 7.5kw 3-step CCR-ferroresonant regulator; and install metal barrier wall in lieu of concrete barrier wall. Please visit the TxDOT Aviation website or contact the engineer of record for a current EOPC.

Bidding documents may be examined at the area Clearing Houses; the office of O'Malley Engineers, 203 S. Jackson Street, Brenham, TX, 77833; the office of TxDOT Aviation, 150 E. Riverside Dr., 5th Floor, South Tower, Austin, TX 78704; and at

Sonora Municipal Airport, 1601 Airport road, Sonora, Texas 76950.

Bidders may view and obtain plan sets, free of charge, from Plans Online <http://www.txdot.gov/business/plansonline/plansonline.htm> on the TxDOT website. Or bidders may buy plan sets from the Reproduction companies that are listed on the website. Bidders are responsible for checking this website regularly for any changes to the bid documents, such as Addendums. TxDOT can only guarantee the accuracy of information on its Aviation Projects website, at <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/aviation/projects.html>. If another agency or construction data website references this project, please also refer to the TxDOT Aviation website mentioned above

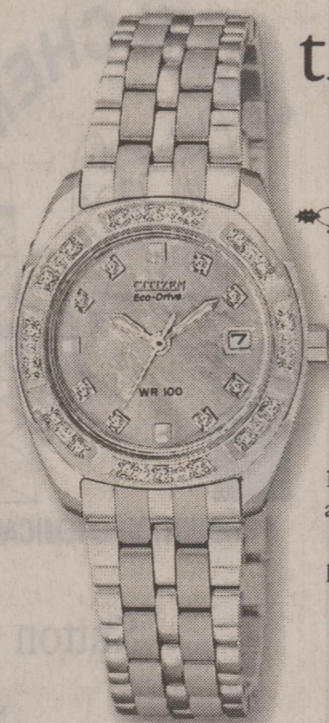
to verify the accuracy and completeness of the data.

To be placed on the Bidders List for this project please fax or email your company name, mailing address, and your phone & fax number to Edie Stimach at (512) 416-4510 or email AVNRFQ@txdot.gov.

Technical questions concerning the specifications and plans should be directed to Ed Addicks, O'Malley Engineers, LLP, at 979.836.7937 or eta@omalleyengineers.com. For questions concerning the bid document or other information please call Edie Stimach at 512-416-4518.

There will not be a pre-bid conference concerning this project. Site visits can be arranged by appointment only. Please contact Leonard Leinfelder, City of Sonora, at 325.387.2558.

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Legend Jewelers

F.Y.I

The Old Ice House Ranch Museum needs an old oak ice box to display in the Museum! Can you help?

Art Classes the 1st or 2nd Monday of each month from 8:00AM to 5:00PM. \$36.00 per class, lunch included. FMI call Ken Rowland 432-238-3121, Lori Stricklan 325-226-2526 or Anita Spiller 325-387-5266.

Rent the Depot or Amphitheatre for your special party or event. Call 325-387-5084 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

Member FDIC
P.O. Box 798
Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-3861

Member FDIC
229 Hwy 277 N
Sonora, Texas 76950
325-387-2593

Sonora Service Directory

Allison Well Service

325-446-2382
All your pump and windmill needs.

BRONCO HAIR SALON

MON- FRI
8:30am - 5:00PM
Saturday 9AM - 2PM
Tami Fitzgerald (325) 206-0982
Whitly Hernandez (325) 226-8480
Kim Fambro (325) 226-8122

Carl J. Cahill, Inc.

OILFIELD CONTRACTOR
(325) 387-2524
Sonora, TX

Charles Howard Construction, Inc.



Oilfield Contractor
Asphalt & Concrete Construction

email: chowardconst@sonoratx.net
phone: (325) 387-3093
fax: (325) 387-5543
mobile: (325) 206-0497

Circle Y Firearms
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504 N. Crockett Ave
Sonora, TX 76950
(325) 387-5746
(325) 206-0524

Fruit Trees Need To Chill



By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent

We've had some cold spells this winter. Though we usually think to protect our plants, some amount of cold is good and even required by our fruit trees. Most hardy fruit trees need a certain amount of cold winter weather to end their dormancy and to promote spring growth. When winters are too mild, spring growth is delayed, irregular and slow.

Why are chill hours important? During the fall season, decreasing day length and cooler temperatures induce a tree to produce growth inhibitor hormones that disrupt its growth. It is these hormones that maintain a tree in dormancy during winter. The dormant buds of many plants require cold weather to grow, flower, and develop properly, but requirements vary by species.

Dormancy is interrupted when sufficient cold temperatures break down the growth inhibitors within the tree. A precise number of cumulative hours of chill (temperatures lower than 45 F), are required to break dormancy. Once the appropriate number of chill hours has been achieved, and only after trees are exposed to longer daylight hours and warm enough temperatures for natural growth processes to begin, will active growth resume in the spring.

Extreme cold during winter dormancy, however, may kill the fruit buds. Winter weather rarely threatens apple, pear, and plum varieties. On the other hand, peach trees are very vulnerable to cold weather. The stone fruits--cherry, peach, plum and nectarine--can lose cold hardiness due to extended midwinter warm periods. Damage to the flower buds can be extensive, especially if the warm period is followed by a very cold period.

Selecting fruit tree varieties compatible with our chill hours is important. Some of the peach varieties recommended for this area by Texas A&M University Agrilife Extension are: Springgold, Juneprince, Junegold, TexRoyal, Sentinal, Harvester, Redglobe, Summergold, Fireprince, Bounty and Milam. For more information, contact the local County Extension Office.

Brush Control: Whats New Since 2002

A Brush Control Symposium will be held Thursday, April 25, 2013 in Abilene, Texas at the Taylor County Expo Center in the Big Country Expo Hall. For those pre-registered, cost of attending is \$10, which includes a luncheon and a copy of the symposium proceedings. Those planning on attending can pay by cash or check at the door. Late registration cost will be \$20 and includes the meal and symposium proceedings.

Symposium theme, "Brush Control: What's New Since 2002?" will showcase what ad-vancements have been made in the last decade. University representatives, Texas AgriLife Ex-tension Service and chemical companies will highlight new technology and innovations within the field.

Event hosts include: Dow AgroSciences, Dupont, Texas Section Society for Range Management (TSSRM), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Grazing Lands Con-servation Initiative (GLCI), Angelo State University and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Topics include new rangeland herbicides developed by both Dow Agrosiences and Du-pont. In addition, there will be presentations on drift control, new acid-based formulations, bio-logical control of unwanted brush, new regulations for herbicide use, prescribed burning, and new web-based/smart phone technology for rangeland planning.

Those interested in attending the meeting can contact Joe Franklin at (325) 944-0147 or Cody Scott at (325) 486-6744 for registration packets. In addition, registration forms will be available at your local USDA Service Centers in the NRCS office. CEU's for those with a Pri-vate Applicator's License will be offered.

Sponsorships and exhibitor spaces are still available. Those interested in sponsoring the meeting or reserving space for a commercial exhibit should contact Grant Teplicek at (325) 655-3521, ext. 3 or Cody Scott at (325) 486-6744. Booth spaces can be reserved for the one-day symposium for \$100. Additional sponsorships are also available for an additional charge, which includes a booth space and advertisement in the meeting proceedings.

Perry Responds to Gun Control

Gov. Rick Perry released the following statement regarding President Obama's executive actions:

"The Vice President's committee was appointed in response to the tragedy at Newtown, but very few of his recommendations have anything to do with what happened there.

"Guns require a finger to pull the trigger. The sad young man who did that in Newtown was clearly haunted by demons and no gun law could have saved the children in Sandy Hook Elementary from

his terror.

"There is evil prowling in the world - it shows up in our movies, video games and online fascinations, and finds its way into vulnerable hearts and minds. As a free people, let us choose what kind of people we will be. Laws, the only redoubt of secularism, will not suffice. Let us all return to our places of worship and pray for help. Above all, let us pray for our children.

"In fact, the piling on by the political left, and their cohorts in the media, to use the massacre of little children to advance a pre-existing political agenda that would not have saved those children, disgusts me, personally. The second amendment to the Constitution is a basic right of free people and cannot be nor will it be abridged by the executive power of this or any other president."

Texas' Water Demand to Explode

COLLEGE STATION – Experts at a conference addressing water and energy in Texas collectively agreed the state's water needs will grow exponentially over the next decade, fueled by a "business-friendly" environment attracting more people to the Lone Star state. But unsolved is how to fund the proposed \$53.1 billion state water plan going before the Texas Legislature in January. This issue, along with education, will be on the forefront of issues debated among lawmakers in Austin, according to conference speakers. "People want water and water security, but they don't want to pay for it," Dr. Robert Mace, Texas Water Development Board deputy executive administrator told conference attendees. The conference, "Growing Texas: Water and Energy in Texas", held at the College Station Hilton and Conference Center, featured experts from several Texas A&M University System agencies, including Texas A&M AgriLife Research, and university faculty in the areas of agriculture and engineering. Dr. Mark Hussey, vice chancellor and dean for agriculture and life sciences at Texas A&M University, told attendees that water and energy are part of "grand challenges many individuals are talking about across the country and the world." A historic drought in 2011 caused \$7.6 billion in Texas agriculture losses and stressed water supply systems statewide. Parts of Texas are still under drought and last year's parched conditions statewide is "what keeps water planners up at night," Mace said. Mace said Texas' projected population growth will lead to a shortfall of 8.3 million acre-feet of water by 2060. "All of these folks will want a glass of water," he said. Potential funding sources for the state's overall water plan could come in the form of a tax, water usage fees, sales of state bonds or other funding methods. State Rep. James Keffer, Texas House of Representatives energy resources committee chair, told attendees some conservatives will "not look ahead to the future" as the issue is debated and that other politics will weigh in on the state's water issues. Nevertheless, Keffer said education and water are two top priorities among Texas legislators in the upcoming legislative session. Meanwhile, efficient technologies, such as those in agricultural irrigation in the High Plains, will help temper demand, but won't be the sole solution to water efficiency.

Dr. Ari Michelsen, resident director of the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center at El Paso, said agriculture is a big player in water use to produce crops, livestock and other commodities. The value of water to farmers to grow crops varies by commodity, he said, but ranges from \$15 per acre-foot to \$70 per acre-foot. Those prices vary as the value of crop prices and inflation fluctuate from year to year. Municipalities and others looking for new sources of water could turn to farmers and agriculture as a whole in the future to buy water and transfer into industrial or municipal use, he said. On an economic scale, Michelsen said the cheapest and cleanest source of water is groundwater. Surface water costs range from 50 cents to \$1 per 1,000 gallons. Desalinated water costs are approximately \$1.60 per 1,000 gallons. Michelsen said scientists with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialists continue to look for more innovative efficiencies in water use as ongoing work is done in breeding new varieties and evaluating new irrigation technology. While agriculture has identified several efficiencies in irrigation, Mace said research funding is needed in water conservation to close the gap in municipal residential use and develop innovative water filtering technologies. This will help temper the length of time it takes to approve and build a new reservoir in Texas – 25 years or longer, he said. Hussey said the College Station conference served as a hub for academic, industry, municipal utility and government officials to "come together as there is an interface between water and energy." Conference sponsors were the Texas A&M Energy Institute and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service. Corporate sponsors were ConocoPhillips, Texas A&M University System and Choice Partners.

Kidney Dialysis Safety Warning

Reports of heart attack and death led the FDA to recall Granuflo Concentrate and Naturalyte Liquid, which are commonly used drugs during dialysis.

These products have been shown to increase levels of sodium bicarbonate in the blood which can lead to:

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If you or a loved one experienced any of the serious side effects above or died within 72 hours of kidney dialysis, call 1-800-598-5940.

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Dale Carnegie

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

The Devil's River News Classified Ads

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Sonora - Under a new law, chief appraisers of county appraisal districts, appraisal districts, and appraisal review boards may communicate electronically through email or other methods with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and other documents to be delivered electronically in place of mailing.

How does it work? Certain guidelines must be followed for this local option communication:

- Written agreements with the county appraisal district must be entered first, ensuring what electronic means of delivery are acceptable. If you are interested in receiving communications in electronic format, you should contact your local appraisal district.
- Public notice regarding the availability of agreement forms authorizing electronic communications may be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district on or before Feb. 1 each year, or

agreement forms may be delivered on or before Feb. 1 each year to property owners shown on the certified appraisal roll for the preceding tax year. The chief appraiser may determine the medium, format, content and method to be used for electronic communications other than notices required by Section 25.19 of the Tax Code, which are prescribed by Comptroller rule.

A decision by the chief appraiser not to enter into agreements may not be the subject of an appraisal review board protest, a lawsuit or a complaint to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. For More Information, contact us at:

Sutton County Appraisal District
300 East Oak St., STE. 2
Sonora, Texas 76950



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The Sonora Police Department is hiring a TCLEOSE certified Police Officer. Call the Sonora Police Department at 325/387-3888.

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Building for Rent: 40 x 40 building, has 2 office areas and one shop/work bay area, easy access. FMI call 387-3154

Private lot for Rent: large fenced in lot on a quiet street available. FMI call 387-3154

Mobile Homes

For Lease: RV lots, 3BR/2BA mobile homes and mobile home lots for lease. Mobile home for sale \$3000. FMI call 830-313-1060

For Lease

Ranch for lease: 6000 acres 20 miles west of Rocksprings, lots of dry grass. FMI call John at 830-683-5107

Employment

Help Wanted: I-10 Exxon. Please stop by for application.

Help Wanted: Need a transport driver with CDL to work Sonora & Ozona area. FMI call 325-387-4464.

Help Wanted: Best Western Sonora Inn is now hiring for Front Desk & Housekeeping. Apply in person @ 270 Hwy 277

For Sale

House for sale by owner: 604 Orient Ave. - 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, with connected shop and restroom facilities. Call 325-277-2216 or 325-949-7790.

For Sale: 13 Bred Charolais Heifers - Calving, Feb-March. Near Eldo. Lorenzo Lasater 325.656.9126

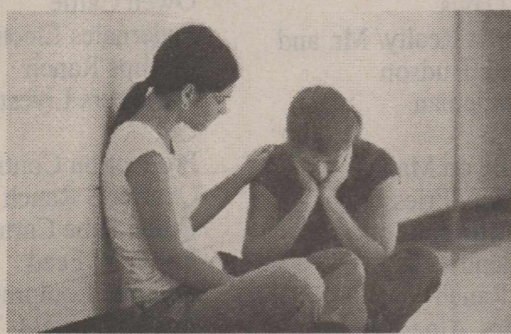
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REPORT OF COUNTY TREASURER OF SUTTON COUNTY, TEXAS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM December 1, 2012-December 31, 2012

FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS	TRANSFER IN	DISBURSEMENTS	TRANSFERRED OUT	BALANCE
General	\$ 4,260,896.03	\$ 292,353.85		\$ 344,891.50		\$ 4,208,358.38
FMFC	\$ 575,991.61	\$ 47,818.22		\$ 60,407.47		\$ 563,402.36
Flood Control	\$ 12,767.16					\$ 12,767.16
Law Library	\$ (2,148.13)					\$ (2,148.13)
Lateral Road	\$ 16,717.26					\$ 16,717.26
112th D A Hot Check Fund	\$ 562.84					\$ 562.84
State Bond Fees	\$ 285.00	\$ 75.00				\$ 360.00
Employee Benefit Fund	\$ 53,857.39			\$ 6,277.12		\$ 47,580.27
Sutton County 911	\$ 6,082.30	\$ 2.54				\$ 6,084.84
Appellate Fund	\$ 105.00	\$ 40.00				\$ 145.00
Sheriff Seizure Fund	\$ 335,347.92	\$ 242.03		\$ 2,548.33		\$ 333,041.62
					TOTAL	\$ 5,186,871.60
CHECKING ACCOUNTS						
General-B&T	\$ 104,819.57	FMFC	\$ 47,026.58	General-1st Natl	\$ 157.96	
Appellate Fund	\$ 145.00	Sutton County 911	\$ 6,084.84	Sheriff Seizure	\$ 63,041.62	
112th D A Hot Check Fund	\$ 562.84					\$ 221,838.41
MONEY MARKET ACCTS						
General	\$ 164,621.77	FMFC	\$ 116,375.78			\$ 280,997.55
C D ACCOUNTS						
General	\$ 4,014,035.64	FMFC	\$ 400,000.00			\$ 4,684,035.64
Sheriff Seizure	\$ 270,000.00					\$ 4,684,035.64
					TOTAL	\$ 5,186,871.60

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Attn: HR Manager
Fax: (325) 486-7887
Email: sheri.whitaker@halliburton.com

EOE

Continued from front Page: Road Repair

nity to pass slower moving vehicles and reduce the number of people crossing the centerline line to pass. Funding for the projects, totaling \$15.8 million, came from Proposition 12 bonds.

A variety of factors were taken into consideration when determining where the passing lanes would be constructed. These included terrain and existing structures, such as bridges.

US 277 has seen an increase in traffic in recent years. Most recent traffic count studies from 2011 show the average daily vehicle count at 5,600 between San Angelo and Sonora. Twenty-year traffic projections indicate a count of 7,900 vehicles per day.

In the Summer of 2011, the Texas Legislature authorized TxDOT to go to contract on approximately \$3 billion in general obligation bonds for highway improvements. Texas voters approved these Proposition 12 bonds, which are backed by the state's general revenue not by fuel tax revenues, by a vote of 63 percent in November 2007. Now, one year later, Schleicher, Sutton and Tom Green counties will receive roughly \$15.8 million dollars for safety improvements to 52 miles of US 277 between San Angelo and Sonora.

TxDOT contractor Reece Albert has been awarded road work starting one mile south of the US 87 (Bryant Boulevard)/ US 277 interchange to Christoval. This \$2.7 million project will add a one-mile passing lane approximately every four miles for 13 miles. Reece Albert was also awarded the 17-mile stretch from just north of the US 277/FM 2129 intersection in Eldorado to the city of Sonora. These improvements will cost \$6.9 million. Price Construction was awarded a 22-mile segment of US 277 from Allen Road south of Christoval to Eldorado. This \$6.2 million dollar project will also add passing lanes to US 277.

A variety of factors were taken into consideration when determining where the passing lanes would be constructed. These included terrain and existing structures, such as bridges.

The first two segments of the project are expected to begin by mid-November, and will have staggered start times. The third segment of the project from Eldorado to Sonora began October 15, 2012, with crews working on extending drainage structures.

Roadway construction will then continue in each segment with each project taking no longer than one year to complete.

New Permits Required on the Devil's River

AUSTIN – Beginning Feb. 1, any paddler planning to put in or take out of the Devils River on public lands managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Val Verde County must first obtain a permit from TPWD.

The new Devils River Access Permit is a key component of a pilot program designed to provide opportunities for responsible, resource-compatible public use of the Devils River, while respecting private landowner rights and protecting the ecological health of the river and its fragile ecosystem. Implementation of a permitting system was one of the key recommendations of the original Devils River Working Group that endeavored to strike a balance between private landowner rights and recreational river use by the public.

"We believe that with this new permitting process the department has done due diligence in following the recommendations of a diverse group of landowners, conservation organizations and paddling groups," TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith said. "The

permit system helps strike a balance between private landowner rights and the rights of the public to access the river for recreation. We will monitor how this pilot works and can make adjustments if needed."

TPWD will issue up to 12 day-use launch permits and 12 overnight-use launch permits per day. Before launching a kayak or canoe on the Devils River, each paddler must obtain a permit, although the trip leader of a paddling group may obtain all permits for members of the group. Permits will cost \$10 per person and may be obtained 11 months in advance.

Permits will be needed by any paddler planning to access the river at either of the two Devils River State Natural Area units, as well as Baker's Crossing. The Baker's Crossing bridge area on State Highway 163 is being managed by TPWD under an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation. Most lands adjacent to the approximately 37 miles of Devils River from Baker's Crossing to Amistad Reservoir are privately owned and off limits to paddlers.

The Devils River State Natural Area consists of the original 20,000-acre state natural area that's now called the Del Norte unit, the newly acquired 17,000-acre lower river area that's been designated as the Big Satan unit and the Baker's Crossing unit. The primary purpose of the state natural area is to protect natural and cultural resources and provide opportunities for limited, resource-compatible use.

To learn more about the permitting process, river etiquette and the unique challenges of a Devils River trip, paddlers should visit: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/devils-river>. Beginning Monday, Jan. 14, contact TPWD Devils River Reservations at (512) 389-8901 to apply for river access and camping permits and to learn about commercial outfitters. Camping fees apply at the Del Norte's San Pedro Point paddler camp and at the 29 Mile paddler camp. Reservations are required.

THE IDLE AMERICAN From Shaving Signs to Super Bowls...

When this column began in '02, half-hearted promises were made to provide occasional recipes and helpful hints. Alas, only one of each has been offered so far.

With Texas Motor Speedway's introduction of bacon-flavored cotton candy to its concession menu, I'm going to provide one of my mamma's favorite recipes—salmon patties with whipped cream. Now if I can just find it.

Today, I offer my second helpful hint: Make sure you have fresh batteries in your TV remotes. This is a "must" for the extraction of the powerful, engaging and memorable moments of Super Bowl XLVII....

Schedule practice runs to make sure all the buttons are functioning. After all, there will be frequent "pauses, fast forwards and back-ups" for an event that will be viewed—as well as recorded—in tens of millions of households.

I typically record most TV shows for later viewing—even if only 30 minutes later—to bypass commercials. (I realize, in the words of new friend Rick Dahlgren, "this is not 'rocket surgery'.")

For the Super Bowl, however, I flip-flop. The game's outcome is of little interest to me, but I don't want to miss a commercial. I'm already "up to hear" (up to "see," too) with pre-game stuff, including Ma and Pa Harbaugh's 100% certainty of their sons coaching both winning and losing teams, since brothers John and Jim Harbaugh are opposing head coaches....

Thank You!

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| Balch Ranch | Julie Martin | Mr. & Mrs. Tom Payton |
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| Fred Chandler | Mr. & Mrs. Lee Bloodworth | U4 Farms |
| Gillespie Livestock Auction | Mr. & Mrs. Luther Creek | Wallace Law Office |
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| Grider Trucking | Mr. & Mrs. Olie Smith | Walsh Welding |
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| Ice Storm Ice & Water | Mr. & Mrs. Patrick & Mona Prieto | Cookoff |
| Jacqueline Thomas | Mr. & Mrs. Paul Ramsdell | Wool Growers |
| Jet Specialty & Supply | Mr. & Mrs. Preston Faris | World Class Taxidermy |
| Jim Garrett | Mr. & Mrs. Rich & Anna Dozier | |
| JL Bar Ranch | | |
| JMC Transport | | |

Thank you to all 2013 Sutton County Junior Livestock Show Sponsors

We apologize if someone was left out erroneously.

Mother Son Date Nite

January 24, 2013

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sonora Middle School Cafeteria

Pre-K through 8th Grade

Registration Begins January 14, 2013

Bring Your Mom or Special Someone to Our:

"LIGHTS OUT"
GLOW PARTY

Tickets: \$7 in Advance \$10 at the Door

Advance Tickets Can Be Purchased at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce

Raffle Tickets: \$1.00
Spy Gear Long Range Walkie Talkies
Must be Present to Win!

Sponsored by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce

FMI 325-387-2880