

The Devil's River News

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

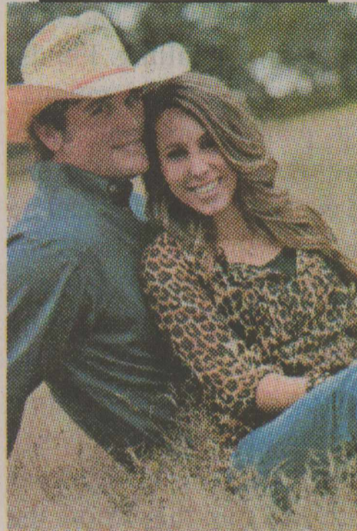
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Volume 125 • Issue 28

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Engagement



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7 on 7 Go To State



By Pete Bradley

Photo By Ray Glasscock



Charles Barber (Sonora) and Clay Hale (Ozona) put it on right with this run, placing 5th in the County Team Roping.



Charles Barber and Sterling Price lay this one down placing them 6th overall in the County Team

Help Prevent Fly Resistance to Livestock Insecticides



By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent

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Sonora Broncos head to State 7on7 in Round Rock on Wednesday July 10, 2013!

Sonora qualified at the 3rd Annual State Qualifying Tournament (SQT) here on June 15. They beat a determined Fredricksburg team 35-35 in the semi-finals of the Sonora SQT and beat Iraan for the championship title and a trip to the Texas State Championship. Bandera also competed in The Sonora SQT. In 2013 the Bulldogs will be lead by David Sine their new Athletic Director and formerly of Sonora. While, Bandera did not qualify for State in the Sonora tournament they did learn enough to qualify at a later qualifying site in San Antonio. In other SQT around

West Texas, familiar program from our district, namely Alpine & Crane also qualified. Other qualifiers from the West Texas area are Iraan, Coleman & San Angelo Central in the 4AAA & 5AAA competition. Sonora athletes, coaches fans will arrive on Wednesday evening at game venue site located in Southwest Williamson County Park for registration and uniform fitting by tournament sponsor "Adidas". The Bronco Nation headquarters will be at LaQuinta Inn & Suites in Cedar Park, Texas.

On July 11 Thursday they will play their first pool game against three 3AAA powerhouses at the park on field six. They will play at 2:00 p.m. against 3AAA La Grange fol-

lowed by 3AAA Gatesville at 4:00 p.m., and 3AAA Carthage at 6:00 p.m.. The top two pool record teams advance to the Championship round of 32 teams. The bottom two teams will compete in the Consolation round of the losing 32 teams. All games on Friday are single elimination. Lose and go home.

The funding for Sonora 7on7 comes from friends, fans, Sonora businesses and Civic organizations of the Bronco Nation. No funds are permitted from Sonora Independent School District. Checks to support this wonderful athletic program can be made to Bronco Nation 7on7 at The Bank and Trust or The Sonora Bank.

Perry Not Running for Re-Election as Texas Governor

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New Lions Sworn In



By Wanda Shurley

Lion James Hartman Texas. He also reported on called the meeting to order. the West Texas Eye Bank in San Angelo, Texas of the meeting began with the singing of "My Country which he is a director. He 'Tis of Thee", the pledge of stated that he will be retiring from that position and Lion Lewis offering the prayer. asked that someone from The meeting was well at- the membership consider tended and all in attendance filling his vacancy on that board. He also stressed provided by the Sutton the importance of informing your next of kin of your desire to be an organ donor.

Lion Pete Bradley reported on the upcoming "7 Lion Frank Wamble voiced on 7" Championship Tournament in Round Rock, New officers were sworn

in with Lion Lewis Allen officiating. Lion James Hartman was sworn in as President. Lion Gary Gruben is the new First Vice President. Lion Janalyn Jones is the Second Vice President. Directors are Lion Jim Garrett, Lion Don Spiller, Lion Scott Jordan, and Lion Archie Crenwelge. Lion San Kent will serve as Treasurer. Lion Janalyn Jones will also serve as Secretary. Lion Tamer is Lion Lewis Allen and Lion Don Surridge was sworn in as Tail Twister.

The Lions Club Mission Statement is: "To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs".

The Lions Club meets every Tuesday at 12 Noon at the First United Methodist Church located at 201 N.W. Water Ave. in Sonora. Guests are welcome; won't you come join us in serving our community!

Full County Team Roping Results

1. Abel Dennis & Casey Cordell-37.29 / on 4 head
2. Bob Bruce & Tracy Tracy Wiest-54.22 / on 4 head
3. Dayton Armke & Pete Trujillo-57.46 / on 4 head
4. Abel Dennis & Trey Hale-24.78 / on 3 head
5. Charles Barber & Clay Hale-26.12 / on 3 head
6. Charles Barber & Sterling Price-26.62 / on 3 head
7. Abel Dennis & Sterling Price-28.65 / on 3 head
8. Richmond Adame & Alan Marth-44.60 / on 3 head

Pro Rodeo Roping and Barrel Racing Results

Team roping leaders: 1. Gibbs Keeton/Seth Jones, 5.4 seconds; 2. Bubba Buckaloo/Cole Davison, 5.6; 3. Nick Sartain/Rich Skelton, 5.8; no other qualified runs.

Tie-down roping leaders: 1. Jacob Kelly, 9.4 seconds; 2. J.D. McCuistion, 10.1; 3. Michael Perry, 10.5; 4. John Driskill, 11.1; 5. Zane Waldrop, 11.4; 6. Cody Burney, 11.5.

Barrel racing leaders: 1. Martha Wright, 17.90 seconds; 2. (tie) Tammy Fischer, Lizzy Ehr and Andrea Cline, 17.97 each; 5. Callie Duperier, 18.09; 6. Alex Lang, 18.33.

Steer roping: First round: 1. Shane Suggs, 11.4 seconds, \$1,078; 2. Brad Prather, 11.7, \$892; 3. (tie) J. Paul Williams and Scott Snedecor, 12.0, \$613 each; 5. Garrett Hale, 12.5, \$334; 6. Brent Lewis, 12.6, \$186. Second round: 1. Rocky Patterson, 10.7 seconds, \$1,078; 2. J. Tom Fisher, 10.9, \$892; 3. Vin Fisher Jr., 11.9, \$706; 4. (tie) Cody Lee, Neal Wood and Joe Wells, 12.0, \$347 each. Third round: 1. J. Paul Williams, 9.2 seconds, \$1,078; 2. Troy Tillard, 9.8, \$892; 3. Joe Wells, 10.2, \$706; 4. Reo Lohse, 10.7, \$520; 5. Vin Fisher Jr., 10.8, \$334; 6. J. Tom Fisher, 10.9, \$186. Average: 1. Brodie Poppino, 37.2 seconds on three head, \$1,616; 2. Scott Snedecor, 39.1, \$1,338; 3. J. Paul Williams, 39.9, \$1,059; 4. J. Tom Fisher, 40.4, \$780; 5. Jim Locke, 42.8, \$502; 6. Howdy McGinn, 42.9, \$279.

Total payoff: \$48,480.

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- Page 5...Classifieds

THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



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Senior Center Activities

Thurs. July 11- Run errands and pay bills
 Fri. July 12- Work on puzzle
 Mon. July 15- BINGO w/ Concho Valley Home Health
 Happy Birthday Jean Humphrey
 Tues. July 16- Run errands and ay bills
 Wed. July 17- Work on puzzle

Senior Center Menu

Thurs. July 11- Swiss steak, white rice, scandivian veggie blend, pears, pudding & a roll
 Fri. July 12- Roast beef, baked potato, green beans, cobbler & wheat bread
 Mon.
 Tues.
 Wed.

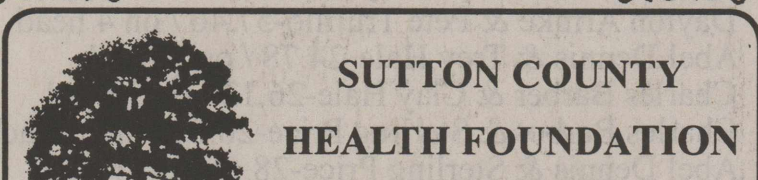
Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older. Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m.
Donations are accepted
 (suggested donation for Seniors is \$2.00; \$5.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go).



Sonora Church Directory

<p>Primera Iglesia Bautista 504 Santa Clara 387-2035</p> <p>The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616</p> <p>Lighthouse Community Church 1705 N. Crockett 387-9100</p> <p>St. Ann's Catholic Church 229 W. Plum 387-2278</p> <p>Jehovah's Witness 310 St. Ann's St 387-5658/387-5518</p> <p>Faith Apostolic Church 120 N. Concho Ave. 206-0277</p>	<p>Church of Christ 304 N. Water 387-3190</p> <p>First Baptist Church 11 E. Oak 387-2951</p> <p>St. John's Episcopal Church 404 E. Poplar 387-2955</p> <p>First United Methodist Church 201 N. Water 387-2466</p> <p>Casa Del Altarero Asamblea De Dios 306 W. 4th St 325-226-1789</p>
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The Devil's River News

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MEMBER 2012

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Increased Oil And Gas Drilling Demands More Land-Applied Fluid Disposal

COLLEGE STATION – Drilling fluids, including muds and liquids, can be applied to surrounding land, but landowners need to know what to do before and after the application to prevent major land damage, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Due to the increase in drilling in Texas from the different oil shale formations, the need to recycle drilling fluids through land application has increased, said Sam Feagley, AgriLife Extension state soil environmental specialist in College Station.

“There are numerous potential issues associated with land application of these materials,” Feagley said. “If done properly on soils that can accept these types of materials, no detrimental effects should occur, however, if not applied properly, then numerous detrimental effects can occur that can take many years to remediate.”

“I know money talks, and I’ve been told they will offer anywhere from \$10,000 to \$30,000 per acre to land-apply these materials in Texas,” he said. “But we have a legacy and responsibility for our soils.”

Land application can provide a beneficial use of the materials and not be detrimental to the soil, if done properly, Feagley said.

Drilling fluids and muds come from oil and gas exploration, and it is recycled until it cannot be used anymore, he said. But then it needs to be disposed of, and operators turn to landowners who will allow the “sludge” to be spread across their acreage.

No two muds are the same, as each operator has a “recipe” for each hole, Feagley said. But most muds will contain bentonite clay, barium sulfate, lime, soda ash, lignite and loss of circulation materials, which can be ground peanut shells, mica, cellophane, walnut shells, cottonseed hulls – things they can add to the sealing ability of the material.

Feagley outlined the pros and cons of land-applying the

drilling fluids and muds. The benefits of adding these materials can include: reduced compaction in pastures due to tilling will help renovate them; the addition of clay to sandy soils increases nutrient and water retention; and reusing a waste reduces the amount of materials going into landfills, which is beneficial from a global standpoint.

The negatives would be the addition of salts to the soil, the addition of clay to clay soils, any more than 3 inches applied will kill grass and the mixture contains very few plant nutrients, he said. It is better to apply only 1 inch to prevent plant kill.

“It can take years to regenerate an area if the material is applied improperly,” Feagley said. “Remediation takes time; it’s not a quick fix to get salts in the soils out.”

When considering the possibility of contracting for this service, he said landowners need to evaluate their soils and the drilling fluids – “before you ever say to put it out there.” Drilling companies have analyses, but their analyses are designed only to meet the regulations. Landowners will need more information.

“In Texas, sodium is the key,” Feagley said. “You need to determine if the soil will be changed due to salts and clays in a detrimental way.”

There are two types of oil-field materials: water-based and oil-based. Most of the time it is water-based that would be applied to the land, he said, and it will have dissolved solids and sodium in it.

“Sodium is the major problem we have with using this water,” Feagley said. “When we get a certain amount of sodium in the soil, it has a tendency to disperse the clay and organic particles then seal the pore space in the soil. Instead of having the ability to get water into and through the soil, that first increment of precipitation seals all the pore space and the water doesn’t have any place to go, so we get runoff and eventually erosion.”

Another concern is the chlo-

ride, which some plants can be sensitive to, he said. Also, the bentonite doesn’t have a lot of nutrients in it, but it adds clay to the soil, “which is good in a sandy soil, but not so much in a clay soil, where you don’t need any more clay.”

The typical contents of the oil-based materials are more petroleum hydrocarbons, not as many dissolved solids as the water-based, calcium carbonate equivalents, which means it has a limiting capability, Feagley said.

“So if you have acid soils and you need some limestone, this can help raise your pH a little bit,” he said.

The material also can be rich in calcium, magnesium and potassium, depending on the geologic material it is coming from and whatever soil/substrate is being drilled through, Feagley said.

If excess sodium and poor drainage are a problem, he said, one of the things to treat with is gypsum.

“Once you get the gypsum or calcium sulfate mixed in, it replaces the sodium and re-opens the pore space, allowing water to move through and the salts are pushed out,” Feagley said. “But you have

to do the gypsum first before you add the water.”

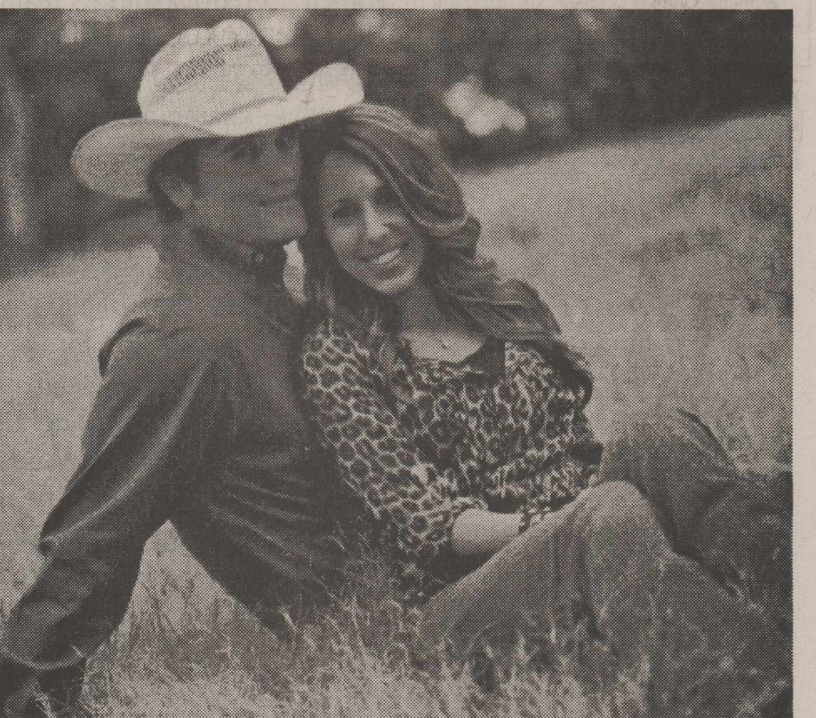
Slope, buffer zones, soil texture, electrical conductivity, exchangeable sodium percentage, depth to bedrock, water table and frequency of application are all parts of the rules and regulations which govern the application of both water-based and oil-based materials.

Feagley said “Land Application of Drilling Fluids: Landowner Considerations” is a publication that gives more details on regulations and considerations and can be found at <http://bit.ly/19kIUaA>.

Before considering any commitments, whether they are by handshake or contract, or on a single property or multiple properties, Feagley advised landowners to get a lawyer and make sure they know the contents of the material and their soil.

“And be sure to check out the company, because there are some that do a good job and some, not so good,” he said. “Good contractors will work with you from the beginning to the end – that’s from application to three or four years down the road when you can see how the crop responds. And ask questions, always ask questions.”

Engagement



Mr. Jerry Watkins and Mrs. Tina Traylor Coffey of Sonora are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kelsey Elizabeth Watkins, to Cody Tyler Adams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cody Adams of Palacios. Kelsey is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Watkins and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Traylor all of Port Lavaca. Tyler is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Adams of Victoria, Mrs. Ida Mae Franzen of Collegeport, and the late Mr. Gus “Goose” Franzen.

Kelsey is a 2008 graduate of Sonora High School and a 2012 graduate of University of Houston- Victoria with a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. She is employed as a teacher with Palacios ISD at Central Elementary. Tyler is a 2006 graduate of Palacios High School and a 2009 graduate of Wharton County Junior College with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Process Technology. He is the owner and operator of Adams Fencing Company.

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Help Prevent Fly Resistance to Livestock Insecticides



By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent

The stress and energy loss caused by flies and other external cattle parasites result in fewer pounds of beef production. External parasites can be controlled by a wide variety of products — ear tags, sprays, pour-ons, spot-ons, dusts, back rubbers and mineral additives.

Ear tags treated with organophosphate or synthetic pyrethroid insecticides to control flies and ticks have been around for over 20 years. There haven't been many new fly-control ear tags developed recently, so preventing resistance in the flies is important. Some reasons for resistance include: Using one fly tag per animal rather than a tag in each ear, not tagging calves, and applying tags too early in the spring.

However, the single-biggest contributor to ineffectiveness was failure to remove fly tags at the end of the fly season as recommended. Late-season flies in the fall, and early-season flies in the spring, are then subjected to sub-lethal doses of insecticide. As a result, they and subsequent generations of flies acquired resistance to the chemicals.

Things to keep in mind
Check for any limitations for use, such as animal age.

Keep records of which tags you use in any given year and use a different product the next year.

Look for the common name of the active ingredient (for example, permethrin). In some cases, different brands of tags contain the same active ingredient.

Consider the recommended number of tags/head. Some brands call for one tag/animal, but research generally shows two tags/animal systems provide better face fly control. For fly control, it's best to tag animals after horn fly numbers exceed 100 per animal. This reduces the chances of flies developing resistance to the active ingredient being used.

Normally, tags provide 12-15 weeks of fly control. Tagging too early in the season can mean the tags won't provide sufficient control in the fall to help control the over-wintering population.

Finally, be aware that the insecticide concentration in the ear tags varies from 8% to 36%, they should be handled with caution. The tags are manufactured so insecticide is rubbed off the surface and onto the animal. Any handling of the tags leaves some insecticide on the hands. If you don't wear plastic gloves when using these ear tags, the insecticide can be transferred easily to the mouth, eyes, face or other body areas.

Texas Game Warden's Efforts Didn't Go Unnoticed July 4th

AUSTIN — Case numbers coming in following the July 4th holiday weekend show concentrated enforcement efforts on the state's lakes and waterways had a significant safety impact.

Starting with Operation Dry Water the weekend prior to the holiday, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens focused on efforts to reduce the number of boat operators operating under the influence. From June 28 to June 30, game wardens arrested 15 subjects for operating under the influence of alcohol. During the weekend, more than 8,000 vessels were checked and roughly 28,000 boaters were contacted.

"The Operation Dry Water Weekend is a nationwide crackdown on boaters who choose to operate under the influence and it has proven to be a significant eye-opener to the public on the weekend just prior to the nation's largest boating weekend," said Asst. Comm. Cody Jones, TPWD Boating Law Administrator.

Over the 4th of July holiday weekend game wardens saw a significant increase in the number of boaters enjoying area lakes and waterways but also noted a rise in the number of designated drivers on the water. "An increased emphasis has been placed on the importance of having a des-

ignated driver for your boat," said Maj. Jeff Gillenwaters, supervisor for the 50-county Central Texas region of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Law Enforcement Division. "We are seeing that this emphasis has become a very effective tool in combating boating while intoxicated cases."

Texas boaters enjoying fireworks shows on area lakes saw large crowds and a high presence of game wardens patrolling to keep the area safe. Tragically one person did drown on Lake Possum Kingdom, prompting the cancelation of the scheduled fireworks display so that recovery operations could take place. Game wardens also responded to several stranded boaters during a fireworks show on Lake Waco when high winds carried several houseboats downstream; more than two dozen children and adults were transported to shore with no reported injuries.

In Houston, game wardens working with the Harris County District Attorney's Office conducted a saturation patrol on Clear Lake that netted four boating while intoxicated cases. Present during the operation was an assistant district attorney, a Houston Police Department drug recognition expert and a certified nurse to draw blood.

"Local area public safety initiatives seem to be paying off to create the safest environment possible for our boating public," said Game Warden Capt. Fred Ruiz, who is based in Harris County, "The numbers speak for themselves."

F.Y.I

Sutton County Friends of NRA Safe Full of Guns raffle is underway! Tickets are \$10 each with one winner taking home four firearms, to include an AR-15, and a 10 gun fire resistant safe. Tickets may be purchased at Buck N Bass/Sonora Air Cooled Engines, by contacting Tonya @ 325-206-0454 or by contacting any committee member. The winning ticket will be drawn during our 6th Annual Auction/Banquet, Saturday, September 21, 2013. Your support is appreciated!

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.



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Sonora Service Directory

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The best thing one can do when it's raining is to let it rain.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Public Notice

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

COMBINED NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN A WATER QUALITY PERMIT AND NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR A WATER QUALITY TPDES PERMIT FOR INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER

TPDES Permit No. WQ0005001000

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Multi-Chem Group, LLC, P.O. Box 718, Maurice, Louisiana, 70555, which operates the Multi-Chem Group Sonora Texas Facility, a chemical blending, storage, and distribution facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a new permit, Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0005001000, to authorize the discharge of stormwater on an intermittent and flow variable basis via Outfalls 001 and 002 and reverse osmosis reject water at a daily average flow not to exceed 15,000 gallons per day via Outfall 003. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on September 26, 2012. The Applicant is publishing

this combined notice because it has updated its contact information and requested an increase in the discharge of reverse osmosis reject water from a daily average flow not to exceed 3,000 gallons per day to a daily average flow not to exceed 15,000 gallons per day via Outfall 003.

The facility is located at 349 Private Road 4473, approximately 2.5 miles southwest of the City of Sonora and about 0.35 mile northwest of the intersection of Private Road 4473 and U.S. Highway 277 in Sutton County, Texas 76950. The effluent is discharged to an unnamed tributary; thence to the Dry Devils River; thence to the Devils River in Segment No. 2309 of the Rio Grande Basin. The unclassified receiving water bodies have the following use: unnamed tributary and Dry Devils River—minimal aquatic life use. The designated uses for Segment No. 2309 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and exceptional aquatic life use.

In accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §307.5 and the TCEQ implementation procedures (January 2003) for the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narra-

tive criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. This review has preliminarily determined that no water bodies with intermediate, high, or exceptional aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach assessed; therefore, no Tier 2 degradation determination is required. No significant degradation of water quality is expected in water bodies with intermediate, high, or exceptional aquatic life uses downstream, and existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Sutton County Annex Building, first floor, 300 East Oak, #3, Sonora, Texas. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=30.543333&lng=->

How Freedom is Harvested

An Editorail By Ben D. Taylor
First Published in 2012

Our nation began with an idea, that every person should be free to worship, live, and profit from their own abilities. That idea was planted, quite literally, in the fertile soil of the New World.

Some would attribute the success of our nation's system of government solely on the shoulders of the power of freedom, but I ask simply, "can freedom thrive in a country without food, clothes, lumber, or fuel?" Would our founding fathers have worried about rights such as "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" if there were no fields ready for harvest—and no incentive (other than hunger) for people to harvest them? I contend that our way of life depends directly on the management and the use of our natural resources.

Freedom may be a right that every American is entitled to, but it is the farmers, ranchers, roughnecks, and oilmen that give nourishment to the tree of liberty. They are producers, profiteers, and stewards of the greatest gift God bestowed upon this nation, and they are fighting a battle against the very system they support. It seems that our government is now in the business of handing out rights to some, at the expense of others: the right to "not fail" in business (if you are big enough), the right to universal health care (at the expense of doctors), and the right to entitlement (at the expense of the wealthy).

We still remain a nation of capitalists, but our capital is no longer built on the foundation of gold or greenbacks. Riches that once were measured in dollar amounts are now measured in votes. Opinion polls and approval ratings have become the benchmark of success—at the expense of sanity.

Where do we now stand? We stand about seven feet past the crossroads. On the road behind us stands capitalism, and we have just taken seven steps to the left. We are taking the road well traveled, leaving the one less traveled for those with the bravery to stay the course.

If it is true that freedom is not free, then it is also true that wealth is not cheap. Wealth is earned by sacrifice, ability, and ambition. There is a reason why some professions make more money than others. It takes a higher level of investment in education, time, and money to learn how to cure an illness than it does to learn how to dig a ditch.

Does that mean ditch diggers are not important? No, their profession is of vital importance; without them, none of our cities would have been built. But ask yourself this: would it be easier for a doctor to dig a ditch, or easier for a ditch digger to do brain surgery?

Doctors should get an appropriate return for their investment, as should ranchers, farmers, and oilmen. I say let them acquire wealth—it's not their right to do so...it's their

privilege. There is an idea flowing in the veins of our nation. This idea is a poison that slowly suffocates innovation, stifles action, and smothers success. This idea is the concept of entitlement. To feel that "you deserve" something that someone else has produced is entitlement, and it is a sin.

With universal health care, we feel that we deserve free health care produced by wealthy doctors. When it comes to fuel, we scream out loud at Exxon for making earnings off of record high oil prices. We recoil in terror when grocery store prices increase, blaming farmers and ranchers for an inability to feed us.

We do not see reality. We ignore facts, and we discount truth. The reality is that Exxon did make huge profits. The fact is that as a nation we saw record low un-employment, and our gross national product increased! The truth remains that as a nation we did not drive less. The reality is that the price for grain—most of which is used to feed livestock—skyrocketed when the government paid farmers incentives for their harvest in order to support ethanol, not food. The fact is that even if we converted every kernel of corn in the United States to ethanol it would not replace even 20% of our nation's fuel needs! The truth remains that we all had to pay more for food. I wonder what we will have to give up to "the right of entitlement" tomorrow.

We have become a nation of voices, where once we were a people of independence and action. The voices we hear in our news and in the speeches of our leaders are founded on a flawed principle.

Their thesis statement is that we as a "civilization" should live separately from our environment. To use its resources to profit is the ultimate sin, and they consider our efforts to harvest and drill the actions of "ignorant brutes".

I challenge anybody of that mindset to take a few minutes with a rancher and discuss the philosophy of land stewardship. They will discover that the acquisition profit from a natural resource requires the protection of that asset.

In order to eat we must raise livestock, in order to raise livestock we must be able to graze, in order to graze we must manage our environment, and in order to be able to afford proper management of our land we must make a profit. We are not separate from the environment; we are a vital part of it, and it is a vital part of us.

One of the most popular catch phrases in our culture is "all natural and organic". It has become the stamp for anything that is "untouched" by man's interference, and it is the new standard of quality.

That icon stands as a beacon of light against the stark contrast of industry and economics, things considered to be an inorganic side product of our advancement as a species. Economics is now considered

by some as the enemy of our ecological well-being, but what they don't realize is that economics, the "science that deals with the production and distribution and consumption of goods and services", is completely based on the principles of ecology.

In order to grow, our economy must evolve over time. Just as in a "natural" setting, our economy's evolution depends on natural selection. Entities that are not strong enough to sustain and compete cease to exist, making the system as a whole stronger.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to profit and energy. In ecology, the success and failure is dependent of an ecosystem's ability to produce more energy than it uses; if a rangeland is able to produce more grass than is grazed then it is successful. In economics, the success or failure of any industry is based on its ability to make more money than it spends.

Before human involvement through selective breeding and genetic manipulation, the "natural" tomato was extremely poisonous. Now—thanks to human intervention—you can find this "unnatural" tomato lining the shelves in the "organic" section of any grocery store. Ask yourself this: which is more organic, the tomato or economics?

Rights were not given to us; they were earned through the imagination and foresight of our forefathers. That vision is one based on the strength of a man's word, backed by the honesty of his conviction, and fortified by his willingness to fail for a principle. Our nation was built on the principle of profit.

To make a profit off of our natural resources does not define that action as "unnatural"; in fact, it lies in direct parallel to the natural laws of our environment. We harvest the bounty of our ecosystem to survive, just as a wolf or an eagle does.

Ecologically it is essential that we preserve our biodiversity, which is why we find it appalling if any action of humanity interferes with that animal's ability to compete and survive. If our economic world lives under the same principles found in nature, why does that same society turn a blind eye when government policies restrict the ability of business to survive and compete? (For example, the proposed energy bill that omits tax deductions from exploration and production companies?)

If any concept goes against every principle found in nature, it is entitlement. Is a wolf "entitled" to the kill of another pack? Is an eagle "entitled" to the fish from a river? No. They are only "entitled" to the freedom to profit from their own abilities, and so are humans.

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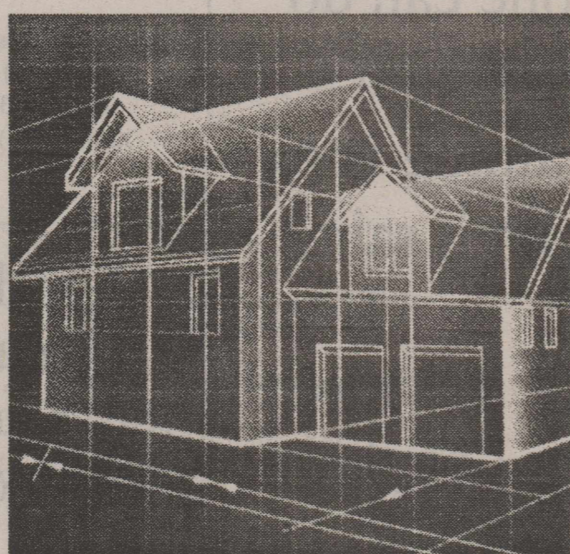
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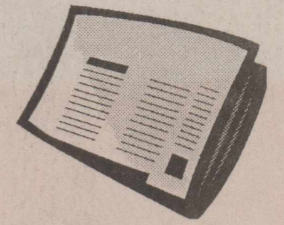
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The Devil's River News Classified



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PUBLIC HEARING FOR EXPENDING SECTION 4B TAX PROCEEDS

The City Council will hold public hearings concerning the Sonora Economic Development Corporation expending Section 4B sales tax funds for the following project:

1. Proposed community development project to provide assistance to Eaton Hill Nature Center for a portion of their expenses for fiscal year 2014. These expenses include, but are

not limited to, administrative, nature center displays, repair and maintenance and employee training.

The hearing will be held on Monday, July 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., City Hall, 201 E. Main, Sonora, Texas.

All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Council with written or oral comments.

Garage Sale

Garage Sale
Saturday, July 13, 2013
223 Sawyer Dr
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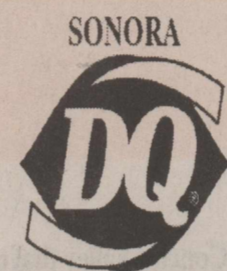
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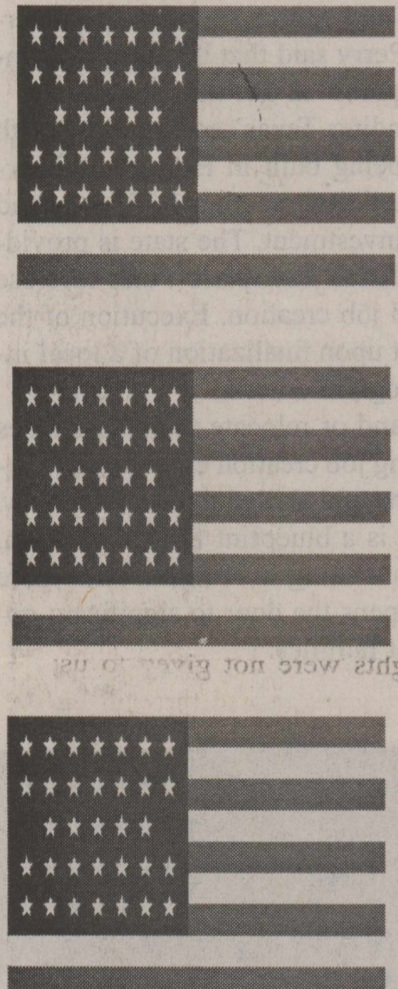
Notice is hereby given that Sutton Co. is now accepting applications for a part time or relief driver for Thunder Bird Van. Applicant must provide valid Tx. drivers license and must have a good driving record. Must have clerical and computer skills and must enjoy with young children and adults as well. Applications can be obtained and returned to the auditors office. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Sutton Co. is an equal opportunity employer.



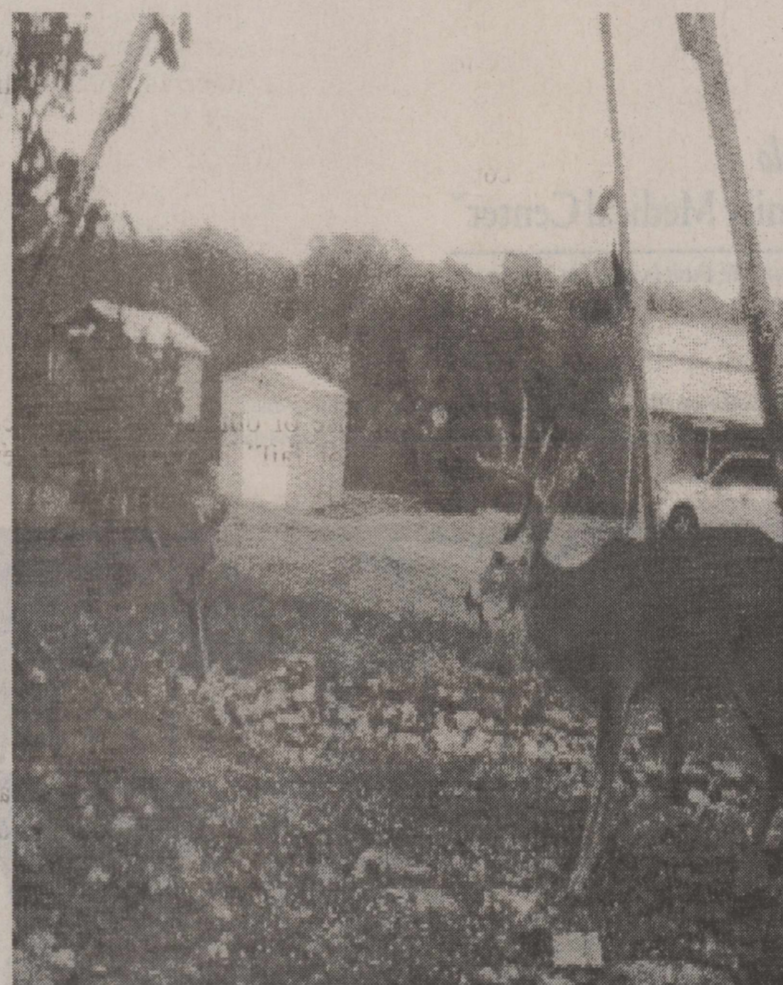
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Rope Rounds 1 & 2 - Saturday, July 20th
TOP 10 TEAMS COME BACK TO ROPE DURING RODEO FOR MONEY & BUCKLES
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Sonora & Sutton County Properties

Residential Properties	Price
708 Mesquite	\$27,500.00 Contract Pending
502 Martin Street	\$29,500.00
109 Draw Street	\$95,000.00
1107 S Concho	\$119,500.00
222 Sawyer Drive	\$129,500.00
213 Hudspeth	\$149,900.00 Contract Pending
504 E. 2nd St.	\$155,000.00
105 Sawyer Ct.	\$159,900.00 Contract Pending
111 Sonora Dr.	\$165,000.00
117 Edgemont Rd.	\$199,000.00
308 Edgemont Rd.	\$219,500.00 Contract Pending
121 Edgemont Rd.	\$298,000.00
125 Edgemont Rd.	\$475,000.00
1312 PR 2239 - Home w/ 10 acres	\$350,000.00

Commercial Properties	Price
404 Sutton Ave. - Lot - 1/2 Acre +	\$55,000.00
606 Crockett Ave. - Vacant Gas Station	\$64,500.00
411 S Concho - Office/Shop	\$75,000.00
208 Hwy 277 S - Commercial/Income Producing	\$225,000.00
847 Meridian Dr. - Large Office Bldg./Extra Land	\$240,000.00
232 E Main St. - Mercantile Building	\$298,500.00

Acreage	Price
112.7 acres - Sutton County - Juno Rd.	\$140,875.00
655 acres W/ House - Sutton County - Baker RD	\$1,111,000.00
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Perry Not Running for Re-Election as Texas Governor

Rick Perry, the longest-serving Texas governor, announced on Monday that he would not seek a fifth term as the state's chief executive.

"Today I am announcing I will not seek re-election as governor of Texas," Perry told supporters at a campaign-style rally in San Antonio.

Perry, who has been our governor since former President George W. Bush left the job for the White House in 2000, commented Monday that the "time has come" for him to step aside.

He added to his announcement a quote from the Bible, "in the book of Ecclesiastes, it teaches us, for everything there is a season. A time for every purpose under heaven. A time to be born, a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted. A time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance." Perry said that he will serve out the rest of his term until January 2015, but his work in the state is far from over.

A few weeks ago Perry commented on the tasks facing the legislature in the near future, "The Texas Legislature is poised to finish its history-making work this year by passing legislation to protect the unborn and women's health, invest in our transportation infrastructure and ensure our justice system is fair but firm. This work will build on the historic steps we took during the 83rd Legislative session, addressing our needs for water, cutting the tax burden on Texans and establishing a new university in South Texas. As we open the second special session, we must remember the people of Texas hired us to do our job, and that's what we must do."

Perry did not rule out a second run for the White House in 2016, saying he would "pray and reflect and work to determine" his "own future path." Perry said that he will make announcements about his future plans "in due time."

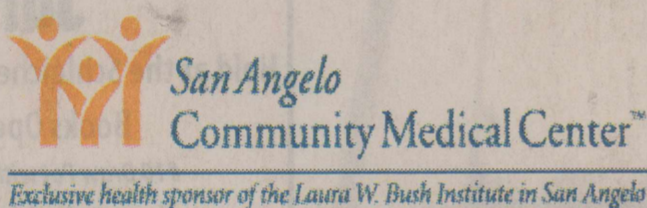
He also commented on expanding Texas' economic growth with a new Chevron facility being built in Houston, "Chevron will expand its Houston facilities, creating 1,752 jobs and a multi-million dollar capital investment. The state is providing \$12 million through the Texas Enterprise Fund to close the deal on this expansion and job creation. Execution of the state's agreement is contingent upon finalization of a local incentive offer as required by program criteria.

"Employers looking to expand or relocate their businesses continue to choose Texas' strong job creation climate, low taxes, smart regulations, fair courts and skilled workforce," Gov. Perry said. "The Texas model is a blueprint for job creation, and the investment Chevron is making in Houston with more than 1,700 high-paying jobs opens the door to significant opportunities for Texans and their families."

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