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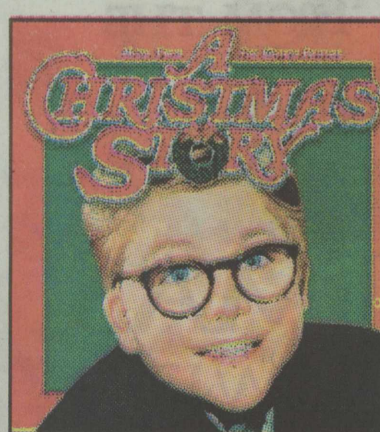
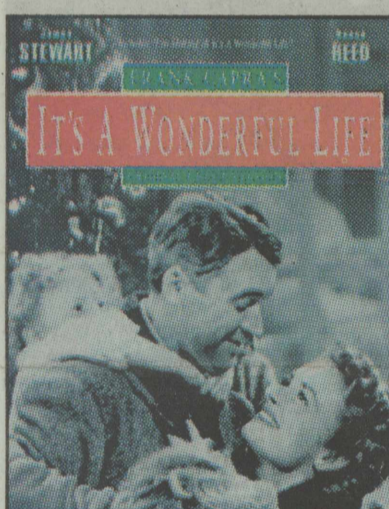


Volume 126 • Issue 52

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 25, 2014

Our Favorite Christmas Movies



OUR TOWN SHOWS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



Continued on Page 6

Lady Broncos Working Towards District

By Nancy Glasscock

The Lady Broncos Basketball team's motto this year is "Outwork." So far this basketball season, the team is doing a great job outworking the competition to the tune of 13-3. The Harper Lady Longhorns came to Sonora last Friday for a tune up non-district game for both teams.

The game was intense and close for three periods. Penalties were called in abundance, including a technical against the Sonora bench. At the end of three periods, the Broncos led by nine, 43-34. The penalties finally caught up with Lady Longhorns in the fourth period when two starters fouled out. Sonora went on a 26-2 run to finish the game.

Senior Gracie Dozier led all scoring with 35 points including six, three-pointers. She

and Junior Tyler Hampton each had five steals. Hampton led the way in blocked shots with five - two back to back that had the vocal crowd roaring. Sophomore Sky Jennings was the leading rebounder at seven.

Next up for the Lady Broncos is the annual Sands Tournament in Ackerly, Texas December 29 and 30th. The Lady Broncos will start play against the Tahoka Lady Bulldogs.

The Sonora JV Lady Broncos defeated the Harper JV 50-31.

Harper	10	13	11
2	34		
Sonora	18	12	13
26	69		

Dozier-35, Hampton-14, Guerro-9, Jennings-4, Vasquez-4, Umphress-3



Abby Fuentes, Diya Kumar, Abby Duncan, Joselyn Rodriguez, Yailin Dominguez, Abigail Mendoza, Justin Vasquez

SONORA YOUTH SPREADS CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Under direction of music teacher, Mrs. Duncan, these students traveled to the Eldorado nursing home and around to Sonora businesses singing Christmas carols.

LMH Welcomes New Clinic Manager



The staff at LMH welcomed Gayla H. Satterfield, RRT, RCP to the LMH Family on December 1st. Gayla will serve as the Director of the Sonora Medical Clinic and the Rocksprings Medical

and earned her Certified Respiratory Therapist credential in 1994 and her Registry in 1996.

Gayla lived in Del Rio for 25 years where she worked at the Val Verde Regional Medical Center for 21 years as a Respiratory Therapist, the Respiratory Therapy Director and the SR Director of Ancillary Services. In 2014, Gayla and her husband, Tim, moved to Rocksprings. The couple has one son and one granddaughter.

Gayla comes with a wealth of experience, is a natural go-getter, and has one of the best personalities you will come across. The staff at LMH is excited to be a part of her next adventure in Sonora and Rocksprings. She can be contacted at the Sonora Medical Clinic at 387-7911 or at the Rocksprings Medical Clinic at 830-683-3470.





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DECEMBER 24

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Mass at 12:00 a.m.
Menudo, Cake, Hot Chocolate
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6:00 p.m.
New Years Day
10:00 a.m.

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CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 6:00 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS
BEGINS WITH**

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Kickapoo Cavern State Park Hosts First Day Hikes

Kickapoo Cavern State Park, located 35 miles south of Rock-springs on FM 674, will host an America's First Day Hikes event. The event will consist of two hikes, easy and moderate. Both begin at 9 A.M. on New Year's Day.

America's First Day Hikes is an annual event started by the state parks directors of all fifty states.

Park staff recommend that hikers bring water, snacks, hiking sticks, and sturdy shoes.

The easy hike follows the Sargeant Memorial Trail. It is .8 miles long and includes a stop at the Sargeant Overlook. Topics covered by the hike guide include plants and area history.

The moderate hike follows the Barbado Ridge Trail up from the valley floor to some of the highest areas of the park. Flora, fauna, karst formations, and history will be topics covered by the guides.

This is a 3 mile hike lasting about two hours. For more information contact Kickapoo Cavern State Park at 830-563-2342. The program itself is free, but there is a three dollar park entry fee for adults.

The park can also be accessed from Brackettville, Texas.

-30-

For further information contact park superintendent Alan Crowe. alan.crowe@tpwd.state.tx.us



Intermediate: 3: Caitlynn Ramirez, 4: Monica Torres, 5: Sean Mungia



Elementary: PreK: Caleb Villarreal, K: Michael Martinez, 1: Angela Acevedo, 2: Corbin Crenwelge.

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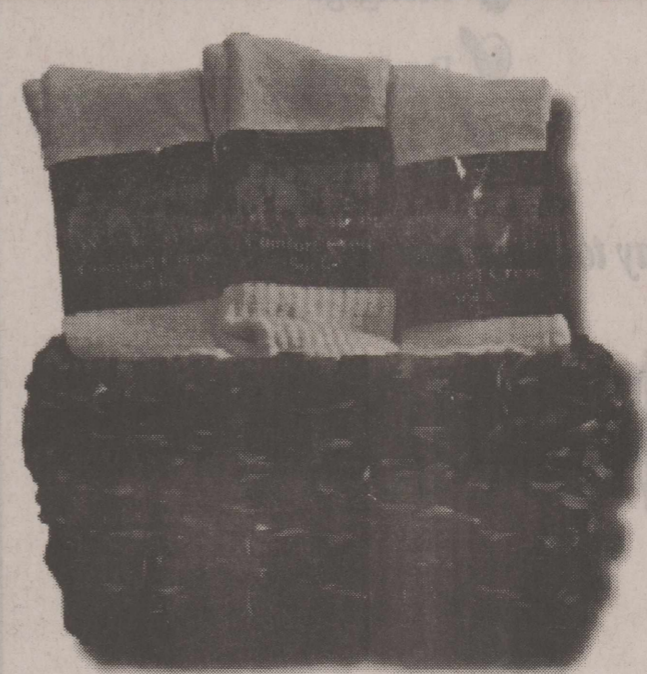
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Consequences Of Texas Drought Continue To Linger

BRYAN – Texas agriculture industry experts discussed the future of water and its impact on crop production before 287 attendees at the 26th Texas Plant Protection Association Conference held recently at the Brazos Center in Bryan

Dr. Bill Dugas, acting vice chancellor for agriculture and life sciences and acting dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for The Texas A&M University System, opened the conference with welcoming remarks.

“Your efforts are to be commended in bringing together everyone in this setting to discuss these important issues,” Dugas said. “Though we’ve received rain, drought is still an issue in Texas and will continue to be an issue in Texas as 35 percent of the state is still in extreme or exceptional drought status.”

“Looking at a 50-year horizon, by 2060 there will be 80 percent more Texans living here in the state,” said Carlos Rubinstein, chairman of the Texas Water Development Board and one of the general session speakers. “That’s more than 57 million people needing water here in Texas.” Rubinstein said by 2060, Texas will be short 8.3 million acre feet of water if current water plan goals are not met.

“We all remember 2009 and

how dry it was,” he said. “In 2011, Texas used 18 million acre feet of water. So, where is the water going to come from?”

Rubinstein said a state water plan, which serves as a model to others, aims to solve the challenges. He said about one-third of the water needed will be met by conservation and reuse.

“To me, that’s the cheapest water we can have because it’s water we already have,” he said.

Another third will come from proposed new water sources and infrastructure, such as incentivizing seawater and desalination.

Rubinstein said “there’s no magic bullet” to solving Texas’ future water needs, but the agency does have dedicated financing to fund local water projects, something that wasn’t available in the past. The funding is a result of Texas voters passing an amendment last year authorizing \$2 billion from the Rainy Day Fund to create the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas or SWIFT.

SWIFT funds will be used to leverage loans to develop approved water projects. The water development board is currently accepting applications until Feb. 3. Loans are not made to for-profit entities. Water districts will also play an important role, Rubinstein

said.

Not less than 20 percent of the funds will be used for conservation and not less than 10 percent will be used for agriculture and rural water, he noted.

“That’s a floor, not a ceiling, and I hope we can go above that.”

Dr. Travis Miller, interim director for state operations for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, College Station, discussed the historical and economic implications of drought to Texas.

“It’s very important that you are here and part of this dialogue, as this is a very important issue,” Miller said. “We’re not talking about water, but the lack of water.”

Miller said during the Dust-bowl of the 1930s, Texas and Oklahoma were hardest hit. More than 3.5 million people were displaced as result of the drought, relocating to California and other states, Miller said.

“The whole population was affected, not just agriculture,” he said.

During the 1950s drought, 25 percent of Texas’ rural population moved to urban areas.

Economic losses have been staggering to Texas agriculture, Miller said. The 2011 drought led to \$7.6 billion in agricultural losses, which were on top of \$3.6 billion in

losses in 2009 and \$4.1 billion in 2006. In 1998, drought losses were estimated at \$2.4 billion.

Hardest hit has been Texas’ beef cattle industry, Miller said. Texas beef cow numbers were 5.35 million head in 2005. In 2014, that number was cut to 3.91 million head.

“Beef cattle are our most valuable, marketable commodity in Texas,” Miller said. “That decline was due to loss of forage base, the resources to stock and restock cattle, and prices became too high to restock. We’ve seen a 27 percent decrease in the number of mother cows and statewide. That’s been a huge loss of resource as far as cattle are concerned.”

As a result of fewer mother cows and calves to market, it’s also led to closures of

packing plants. Miller noted the closure of San Angelo Packing Inc. in April 2013

and the Plainview Excel plant in February 2013, eliminating 2,000 jobs.

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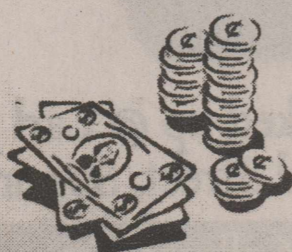
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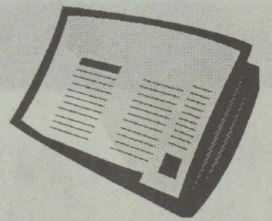
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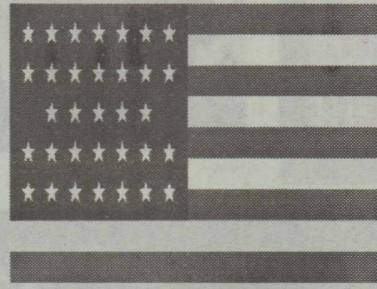
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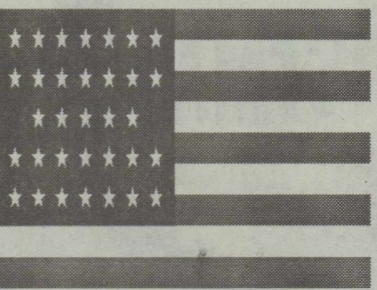
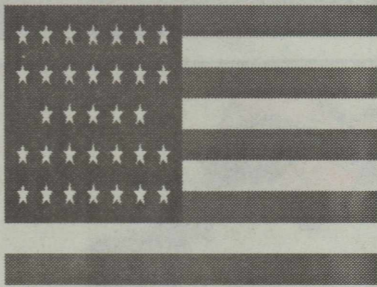
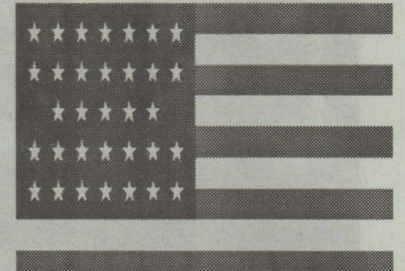
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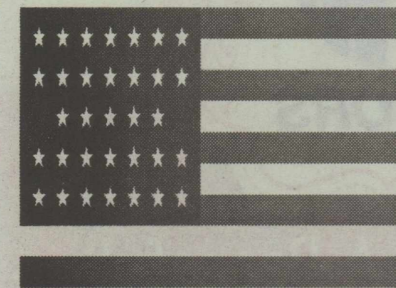
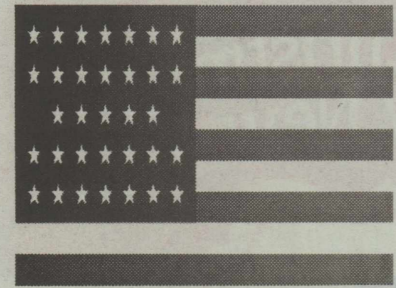
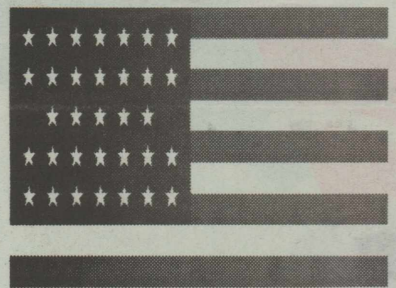
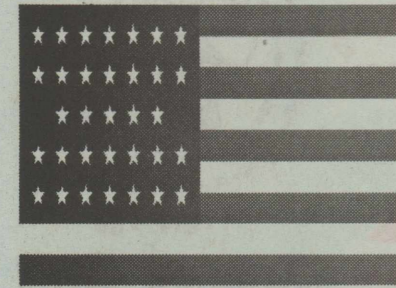
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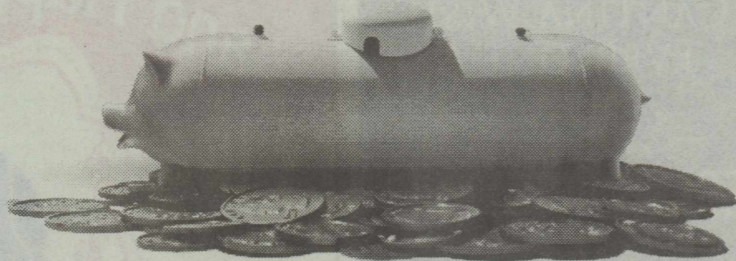


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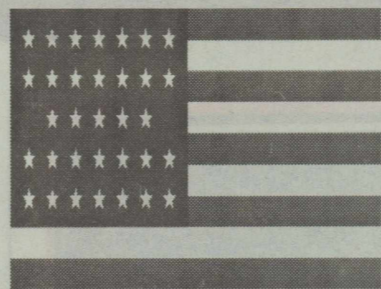
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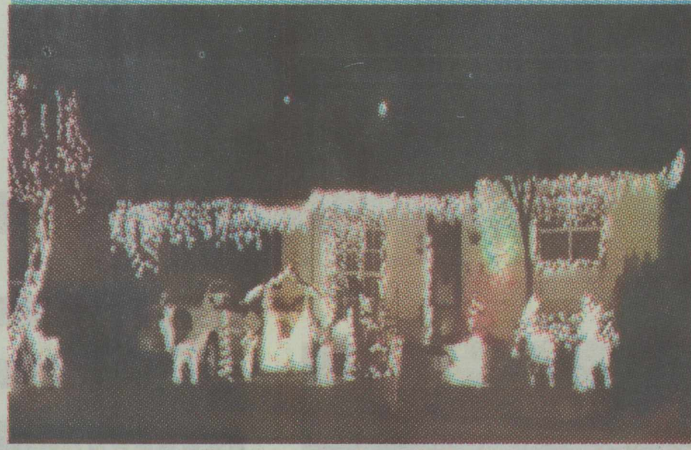
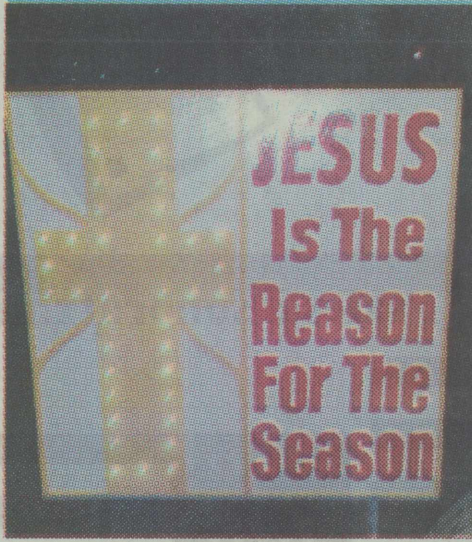
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