



# The Devil's River News

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP & STRONG • COVERING THE NEWS IN SONORA AND SUTTON COUNTY SINCE 1890

November 10, 2016

\$1

Volume 127  
Issue 44



## Sutton County Voters Weigh in on Historic Election

### Local Voters Prefer Donald Trump Over Hillary Clinton by Wide Margin



Donald J. Trump Hillary Clinton

Sutton County voters cast their ballots in the Election ballots on Tuesday, November 8th and voted overwhelmingly in favor of Donald Trump for President, mirroring the statewide trend. Texans by a wide margin also supported the boisterous billionaire over former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Trump received 1,075 votes

compared to 313 for Clinton.

There were 464 straight Republican Party votes cast while 179 voters cast a straight Democrat.

The national results were still coming in as this issue went to press and will be reported on our website at [www.devilsriver.news](http://www.devilsriver.news).

Nearer to home, the race between incumbent U.S. Congressman Will Hurd and former Representative Pete Gallego was a close one with Hurd leading by about five percentage points at press time. The results of that race will also be reported on our website when they become final.

Even as the national returns came trickling in, Sutton County

returns were in relatively early Tuesday night.

In all, 1,430 voters cast their ballots here with 1,065 of those coming during early voting. There are 2,536 registered voters in the county.

Sutton County voting broke down as follows:

#### STRAIGHT PARTY

Republican Party (REP)	464
Democratic Party (DEM)	179
Libertarian Party (LIB)	5
Green Party (GRN)	2

#### FEDERAL

##### President and Vice President

Donald J. Trump (REP)	1,075
Hilary Clinton (DEM)	313
Gary Johnson (LIB)	22

Jill Stein (GRN) 5

#### STATE

##### United States Representative, District 23

Will Hurd (REP)	1,047
Pete P. Gallego (DEM)	315
Ruben S. Corvalan (LIB)	30

##### Railroad Commissioner

Wayne Christian (REP)	1,007
Grady Yarbrough (DEM)	564
Mark Miller (LIB)	37
Martina Salinas (GRN)	56

##### Justice, Supreme Court, Place 3

Debra Lehmann (REP)	1,021
Mike Westergren (DEM)	256
Kathie Glass (LIB)	35
Rodolfo Rivera Munoz (GRN)	53

##### Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5

Paul Green (REP)	1,023
Dori Contreras Garza (DEM)	310

Tom Oxford (LIB) 22

Charles E. Waterbury (GRN) 5

##### Justice, Supreme Court, Place 9

Eva Guzman (REP)	1,055
Savannah Robinson (DEM)	257
Don Fulton (LIB)	30
Jim Chisholm (GRN)	18

##### Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2

Mary Lou Keel (REP)	1,033
Lawrence "Larry" Meyers (DEM)	285
Mark Ash (LIB)	23
Adam K. Blackwell Reposa (GRN)	11

##### Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5

Scott Walker (REP)	1,025
Betsy Johnson (DEM)	291
William Bryan Strange, III (LIB)	18
Judith Sanders-Castro (GRN)	27

##### Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6

Michael E. Keasler (REP)	1,024
Robert Burns (DEM)	284
Mark W. Bennett (LIB)	36

##### Member, State Board of Education, District 1

Georgina Perez (DEM)	509
Hugo Noyola Jr. (GRN)	184

##### State Senator, District 28

Charles Perry (REP)	1,137
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##### State Representative, District 53

Andrew S. Murr (REP)	1,088
Stephanie Lochte Ertel (DEM)	269
Brian Holk (LIB)	14

##### Justice, 4th Court of Appeals

Jason Pulliam (REP)	1,030
Irene Rios (DEM)	318

##### District Attorney, 112th Judicial District

Laurie K. English (REP)	1,128
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#### COUNTY

##### County Attorney

David W. Wallace (REP)	1,148
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##### Sheriff

Oscar G. Chavez Sr. (REP)	1,199
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##### County Tax Assessor-Collector

Kathy Sanchez Marshall (REP)	1,194
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##### County Commissioner, Pct 1

Miguel "Mike" Villanueva (REP)	213
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##### County Commissioner, Pct 2

Bob Brockman (Write-in)	198
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##### County Commissioner, Pct 3

Carl Teaff (REP)	411
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##### More Election Info Available on Our Website at [www.devilsriver.news](http://www.devilsriver.news)

## Lady Broncos Win Over Crane for Bi-District Title

The Sonora varsity volleyball team rolled into the District 3-3A championship with a 3-1-set win over Crane Tuesday night, November 1, at the Junell Center in San Angelo.

The Lady Broncos won the first set 25-22, but Crane stole the second set 25-19.

Sonora stepped up their offense, winning the third and fourth sets with scores of 25-18 for both.

The ladies claimed the Bi-district trophy.

Crane struggled through the last two sets and never gained momentum to put any pressure on Sonora.

The third set saw the Lady Broncos finally find a rhythm as they took advantage of a frustrated Crane team.

Sonora and Crane went back and forth in the fourth set. The Lady Broncos took the lead to blow the set open and coasted to the victory.

Leading her team, Mary Kyle Johnson served 2 aces and delivered 16 kills, 4 blocks, and 11 digs.

Sky Jennings added to the Lady Broncos success with 1 ace, 15 digs, and 39 assists.

Claire Thiebaud followed with 3 aces and 16 digs.

Staying ahead of the competition Carly Brown completed 10 kills, 2 blocks, and 10 digs and Savannah Castro had 5 kills, 1 block and 6 digs.

Riley Walker, Delaney Ramsdell and Bianca Fay contributed a combined 9 kills and kept the ball in play with a combined 34 digs, 1 block and 1 assist.

"I'm proud of the way the girls have played last Tuesday, against Crane," Coach Kayla Perez said. "Each girl was determined to beat Crane. They beat us at the beginning of the season in 5 games. Highland will be one of the better teams we have seen this year."

(Right) Delaney Ramsdell goes up for a kill during the Bi-District game between Sonora and Crane, Tuesday, November 1 at the Junell Center. Ramsdell completed 8 kills, 1 block, and 5 digs to help her team win the Bi-District match.

DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



## Volleyball Bi-District Champions



The Lady Broncos celebrated their Bi-District win over Crane Tuesday, November 1, at the Junell Center. (Back Row L-R) Coach Sandy Wellmann, Coach Larry Jennings, Bianca Fay, Delaney Ramsdell and Coach Kayla Perez. (Center Row L-R) Katy Jo Wardlaw, Noelia Tovar, Savannah Castro, Claire Thiebaud, Riley Walker, Sky Jennings, Karah Martinez. (Front Row L-R) Carly Brown, Lane Cahill and Mary Kyle Johnson.

## SCHB Moves Toward Legal Mediation

The Sutton County Hospital Board of Directors approved a motion to move forward with formal mediation during a special meeting Monday, November 5, in light of new developments regarding the doctors Mark and Kristy Edwards and their employee contracts with the hospital.

Immediately following the call to order, trustees went behind closed doors.

Following two consecutive executive sessions, the board made a motion in open session.

A motion was made to appoint Sharon Holman, board president and Edward Earwood, vice president to represent the board during legal mediation.

Without further discussion or public comments the meeting adjourned.

Board president Sharon Holman presided over the meeting.

Trustees Edward Earwood, don Longoria, John Henry Strauch, Lenora Pool, Adaleta Alvarez and Mary Humphrey were present. The Edwards nor their attorney were present.

The next regular meeting of the Sutton county hospital board of directors is slated for Monday, November 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the LHM Wellness Center.



# States, Lawmakers File Briefs in Support of Texas' Voter Id Law

AUSTIN — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Sept. 23 filed a petition on behalf of the State of Texas, asking the U.S. Supreme Court to reinstate the Texas voter ID law.

On Oct. 31, Paxton announced that a coalition of states and members of Congress had filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the United States Supreme Court, in support of Texas' voter identification law that passed in 2011 as Senate Bill 14.

"Our democracy does not work unless voters have confidence that election results are not skewed by fraud," Paxton said, alleging the existence of a nationwide voter-fraud problem.

The coalition in support of the Texas

voter ID law includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah and West Virginia. The states' brief concludes, "There is no reason to expect that Texas's Voter ID law will somehow cause substantial harm to voter participation, when nothing of the sort has happened in 10 years of Voter ID in Indiana." A like-minded amicus brief was submitted to the high court by U.S. Sens. John Cornyn and Ted Cruz, both R-Texas, and Sen. David Vitter R-Louisiana; U.S. Reps. John Culberson, Blake Farenthold, Joe Barton, Kevin Brady, Bill Flores, Louie Gohmert, Kay Granger, Michael Burgess, John Carter, Michael Conaway, Jeb Hensarling,

Will Hurd, Ted Poe, Sam Johnson, John Ratcliffe, Kenny Marchant, Pete Sessions, Michael McCaul, Lamar Smith, Randy Neugebauer, Mac Thornberry, Pete Olson, Randy Weber, Brian Babin, and Roger Williams, all R-Texas; U.S. Reps. John Fleming, Garrett Graves and Charles W. Boustany Jr., all R-Louisiana; and U.S. Rep. Steven Palazzo, R-Mississippi.

Like the Indiana law, the Texas law requires a citizen to present one of several forms of photo identification in addition to a voter registration certificate before casting a ballot in person. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit found that the law, while not discriminatory in intent, is discriminatory in effect. Last summer,

a federal district court relaxed voter identification requirements for the Nov. 8 general election.

## Tax Revenue Inches Higher

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Nov. 2 announced state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.29 billion in October, 0.2 percent more than the amount reported in October 2015.

"Opposing trends in consumer and

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 5



## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

## Hospital Trip

I don't remember the year but it must have been in the 1970s. I had leased a dry pasture from my neighbor over in Brewster County. This was a three-section pasture that I put 25 cows and one bull in. Plenty of grass and browse but no water. I hauled 600 gallons of water over there twice a week. It wasn't a bad arrangement as the lease was cheap and I only had to haul water about three miles over a good caliche road.

It Happened Out West



by Joe N. Brown

Now we have both the location and the situation so let's go to the main character of this tale. I had not slept well the night before so I got up early and drank a pot of black coffee. Loading the first tank of water I felt some pain in my right side but surely this would go away with time. I took this load of water to the lease and came back to the ranch house. While filling the water tank again I began to have some serious pain in my side again. First I cut off the water to my truck tank then went in the house and lay down on the rug in the living room. This was about 10:30 in the morning.

I must of passed out as it was 6 p.m. when I awoke with shooting pain in my right side. Knowing I was in trouble, I crawled to the kitchen and called my wife to come and get me. She and Ben, our youngest son, showed up in about an hour. They helped me to the car as I was still in terrible pain. We arrived at our house about 7 o'clock. I went to lay down on our bed as the pain had ceased on the trip to town. Meanwhile my wife called the local EMS boss who came over to check me out. His diagnosis was "get him to the Fort Stockton hospital ASAP as I think his appendix has already ruptured."

I told my wife the pain was gone so the problem was over. This was not acceptable to her so I agreed to go to Fort Stockton.

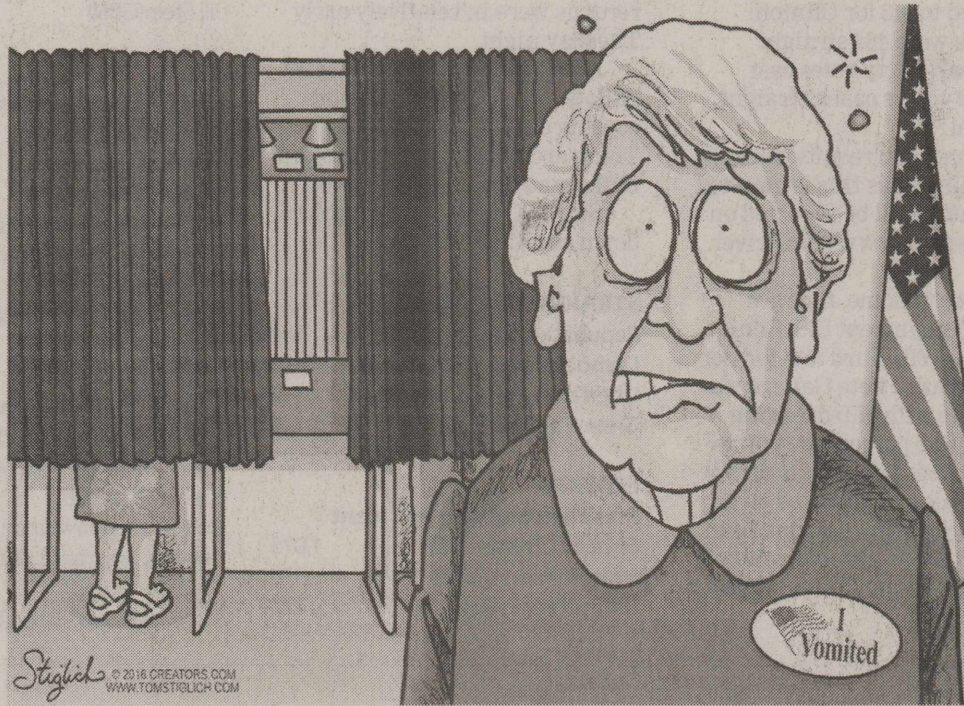
Second part of this story! We arrived at the hospital about 9 p.m. and apparently the EMS man had called as they were ready for me. They ran the usual vitals test and then called Dr. Jones. He came into the emergency room in his slippers and pajamas, not too impressive! He looked at the clip board and told the nurse to call the operating crew. I immediately informed him "you are not going to cut on me, as I am all right now!" About this time the head nurse hit me with a small needle in the back of my right arm. As I started to turn and cuss her for this, the whole world went away.

I woke the next afternoon, in a hospital bed, with only a gown on, and sore all over. I looked down at my belly and saw a row of staples on a cut about 6 inches long. Dr. Jones came in about this time and prepared to really give him a cussing for cutting on me without my permission. He told me in no uncertain terms to "shut up and listen." Which I obeyed.

Dr. Jones said, "when the pain quit your appendix ruptured, had you not come to the hospital, you would have died by morning, as peritonitis had already set in when you got here last night. I want to show you something" and left, then he came back with a bottle of liquid with what appeared to be a black flower in it and he said "this is your appendix after it ruptured and the black color is your blood." I very merely agreed and asked when can I go home as I have cows to feed and water? His answer was "in about a week as we have to clean up all the poison that the peritonitis has caused in your body!"

So I spent the next six days in the Fort Stockton hospital. I lived on ice-cream and fruit juice for a few days then I began to get soup. No steak and eggs! Was I ready to get out of there. When I checked out and got home I found out my sons had taken care of the cattle for that week. Then my wife made me sit on the porch in the rocking chair for a week.

This ended my trip and time in the Fort Stockton hospital.



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## Common Sense for the Common Good

Two successful football figures who seem "unperturbable" are TV sports analyst Tony Dungy and Kansas State University Coach Bill Snyder. At ages 61 and 77, respectively, they remain vibrant, respected and poised. (Someone said when common sense, values and fairness were handed out, these two men may have gone through the line twice.)

No argument here. They are great by any measure. At K-State-where Snyder has been head coach twice-- games are played in "Bill Snyder Family Stadium." (You can be sure he had a hand in the decision to add "family" to the name.)

Dungy, former pro player and longtime National Football League coach, is spokesman for a program to help fathers. It's called All Pro Dads' Day...

In short, in the essence of the old E. F. Hutton commercial, "when Dungy and Snyder talk, we listen." If we fail to do so, we probably should join Little Jack Horner in the corner, without a Christmas pie.

I thought of these men the other day upon hearing about Carolina Panthers' star quarterback threatening to speak to the commissioner about game officials' failure to protect quarterbacks. "I don't even feel safe anymore," Cam Newton said.

Without regard for whether he is right or wrong, upon learning of his frustration, I wondered: What would Snyder or Dungy do?...

I haven't heard whether Snyder has made a comment; he likely hasn't. Dungy, as expected, offered measured comments that soothed most fans.

He figures the issue is valid, but thinks the matter should be addressed in a different manner. He suggested it be taken up the ladder, including opinions not only of players, but also of coaches, general managers, game officials and team owners.

On the face of it, Cam has taken sides with a growing number of folks who want substantial changes RIGHT NOW. His proposal to go directly to the top won't be well received in Commissioner Roger Goodell's office. Cam can expect a fine for airing his grievances, but he won't need to get a bank loan to pay it....

Game officials are caught in the pinch

of an impatient world, where cameras and other types of surveillance reveal much, both on the field of the play as well as the world at large.

Refs, like our men and women in blue, deserve to be "cut some slack." Slack is something none of us cuts often enough.

In a culture which is so maddeningly off-kilter, caldrons of vitriol will continue to boil over....

I'm reminded of an old story of a football coach's verbal objection to an official's call.

"That decision stinks," he roared.

The official, easily hearing the comment, increased the penalty from 15 to 30 yards.

"How does it smell from here?" he asked....

Big in "real world" news are volleys of WikiLeaks emails spewed toward us, regularly if not daily.

Some say we may all drown in the sea of emails; others think the leaked emails are akin to airline seat cushions to which we may cling.

One sure thing is that mothers whose last name happens to be "Leaks" have another first name possibility to consider. Reckon some of 'em will be christened "Wiki?"...

Finally, this appeal we've heard for generations--"Vote as you please, but please vote." Perhaps we should suggest an addendum: But just ONE time.

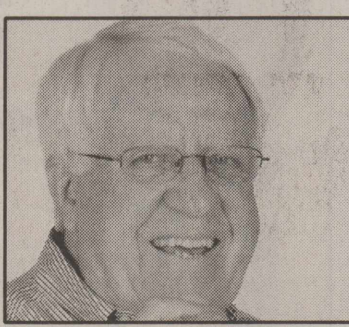
I'm amazed that some voters casting early ballots were upset by election officials forbidding their "selfie" photographs.

Threats abound.... And here's an old one; consider the source. My Uncle Mort, 104-year-old down in the thicket is confounded both by issues concerning oil wells and the election.

"At one place, they're considering a referendum about drilling rigs in town, and at another, they're up in the air about 'rigged' voting." He predicts there may be referenda--one for rig voting, and another for vote rigging.

Let us pray for common sense, patience and the common good....

## The Idle American



By Dr. Don Newbury



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Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

## The Robinson-West Plantation

Point Blank is a small place in San Jacinto County just west of Lake Livingston. It got its name from a French governor who was hired to teach children on the Robinson Plantation. She arrived when the cotton was high and the ground was covered in white. She exclaimed in her native language, "pointe blanche," which translates into the English words "white point." When it came time to establish a post office, the place took on the name Point Blank.



by Tumbleweed Smith

## Rolling Along

The Robinson family arrived in what is now Point Blank in 1846 when Texas was a brand new state. Land was cheap and fertile and the Robinson clan left Alabama to carve a future in the Lone Star State. They bought 3,500 acres and their 60 slaves built a beautiful home that looks like something from Gone With The Wind. Sam Houston used to spend the night with the Robinsons when he was traveling. He lived not too far away.

The Robinsons lived on the place one hundred and twenty years then sold it to Bill and Barbara West. The Wests have been in the house nearly forty years. Barbara died in 2014 but Bill carries on, giving lectures about the place, conducting tours of the grounds and entertaining his children and grandchildren.

Bill loves to look for artifacts with his metal detector and has found enough treasures to turn his barn into a museum. It contains tools, jewelry, coins, glassware, silverware and other items from the Robinson family. My favorite is a mop made of corn shucks, the creation of a slave. The Robinson-West River Plantation is a state archeological landmark.

Bill has interviewed several descendants of both the Robinsons and their slaves and has written two books about the place. Their titles are "To Live Again," and "Journey to the Robinson-West River Plantation."

Bill is an ex-coach and teacher. Huntsville ISD named him Teacher of the Year in 2000. He spent some years in Arizona where he had a scholarship to Grand Canyon University in Phoenix. He later taught and coached in Flagstaff, eventually settling in Sedona. During the summers he worked as a forest ranger in northern Arizona and wrote a book about the beauty of the Oak Creek-Sedona area. The Wests had a home in the middle of Oak Creek Canyon. They were a popular couple. Just before moving back to Texas, Bill and Barbara were named Sedona's Man and Woman of the year.

I had a great visit with Bill. I arrived at the plantation on a Sunday afternoon and immediately we got in his pickup and drove around the place. He showed me a special picnic area overlooking a creek where he and Barb went to solve all the problems of the world. We drove to Onalaska for supper and when we got back, I had one of the biggest thrills of my life. I got to sleep in the same room where Sam Houston slept. Although the plantation does not have overnight accommodations, Bill extended me a surprise invitation to spend the night. The next morning he prepared a breakfast we shared at the place where he and Barb solved all the problems of the world.

## Heard Around Town

The two candidates weren't racing to the finish line, they were limping all battered and bruised with blood trickling down and soaking through their shoes. Problem was...all of the wounds were self-inflicted.

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 224 E. Main Street  
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**Ph: 325.387.2507**  
**Fax: 325.853.3378**  
 Email: editor@devilsriver.news  
 Website: www.devilsriver.news  
 USPS 155-920

**Randy Mankin**  
 Publisher

**Kimberley Meyer**  
 Editor

**Kathy Mankin**  
 Business Manager

**Lauren Rubio**  
 Circulation & Production

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# Sonora Broncos Move on to Playoffs Following 81-0 Win over TLCA

The Sonora Broncos second string saw a good amount of playing time during the second half of Friday's final district game against the TLCA Eagles. The Broncos shut out the Eagles 81-0 setting some new records along the way. "Has off to the defensive coaching staff for pitching a shut out tonight, Coach David TSine said. "We set a record for the most points ever scored in a game. We now have a thousand-yard rusher in Jarrett Jackson and with the touchdown passes that Kaden Cordell had tonight, he set a new

school record for the most touchdown passes in a game." The Broncos began Friday's game in their usual fast scoring style. Just minutes into the first quarter Kade Creek sprinted down the field 57 yards to find paydirt on a pass from Kaden Cordell. By the end of the first quarter, Michael Solis, Drew Buitron, Noah San-Miguel and Jarrett Jackson carried the Broncos to a 34-0 lead over the Eagles. Again, early in the second quarter, the offense continued to score when

Carter Zook ran 45 yards to the end zone on a pass from Cordell. With nine minutes to go in the second stanza, Sonora intercepted the ball on the Eagles 1 yard line and Jose Hernandez crossed the goal notching the score to 47-0. Three minutes later, Jackson again found paydirt and Brandon Martinez made the kick. Before ending the first half, Sonora's Solis again crossed the goal line for a final tally of 61-0 at the half. While the offense was racking up points, the

defense held back TLCA through the second half of the game. "I feel like we have played well so far," Ray Kimbrell said. "We have a great coaching staff especially on defense. We are fast, explosive and we get the job done." Unable to catch a break, the Eagles watched their fate unfold play after play until the clock ran out leaving them scoreless at the end of the game. The Broncos set a new school record with 81 points - the most points scored in a game.

With the touchdown passes by Kaden Cordell in Friday's game, he also set a new school record with the most touchdown passes in game. Bryce Williams held the record for the most touchdown passes in 15 games and Cordell broke that record by completing the most passes in 10 games. Sine said that the most important part of wrapping up the district games is that everyone is healthy. He and his team are looking ahead to their next move. He added. "District championships are hard to come by but we have accomplished that goal," Sine said. "Now, we have new goals set." Moving forward, the Broncos will take on the Tolar Rattlers, Friday November 11, for the Region I Class 3A Division II Bi-district Championship.

SCORE BY QUARTER	
SONORA	34 - 27 - 07 - 13 = 81
TLCA	00 - 00 - 00 - 00 = 00

**FIRST QUARTER**  
SONORA — Kade Creek 57-yds pass from Kaden Cordell (PAT Good)  
SONORA — Michael Solis 46-yds on pass from Cordell (PAT Good)  
SONORA — Drew Buitron 48-yds (PAT Failed)  
SONORA — Jarrett Jackson 28-yds (PAT Good)

**SECOND QUARTER**  
SONORA — Carter Zook 45 yds on pass from Cordell (PAT Good)  
SONORA — Jose Hernandez 1-yd (PAT Failed)  
SONORA — Jackson 70 yds (PAT Good)  
SONORA — Raully Ojeda 6-yds on pass from Michael Solis (PAT Good)

**THIRD QUARTER**  
SONORA — Wilson Johnson 9-yds (PAT Good)

**FOURTH QUARTER**  
SONORA — Wesley Dutton 40-yds on pass from Walker Sine (PAT Failed)  
SONORA — Walker Sine 30-yds on pass from Wesley Dutton (PAT Failed)

**INDIVIDUAL STATS**  
**RUSHING**  
SONORA — Noah SanMiguel 1-8; Jarrett Jackson 7-122; Michael Solis 1-0; Drew Buitron 1-47; Wesley Dutton 2-33; Kaden Cordell 1-8; Brandon Martinez 1-8; Liam Yourgalite 1-8; Wilson Johnson 2-15; Jose Hernandez 2-15; Carlos Mendoza 1-(-3)  
**PASSING**  
SONORA — Kaden Cordell 15-5-159 yds; Michael Solis 5-9-88 yds; Wesley Dutton 2-6-25; Walker Sine 3-4-66  
**RECEIVING**  
SONORA — Walker Sine 3-57; Carter Zook 1-49; Kade Creek 1-57; Raulley ojeda 2-30; Michael Solis 2-54; Bryndon Martinez 1-31; Wesley Dutton 2-16; Liam Yourgalite 1-(-1); Wilson Johnson 2-45



Michael Solis sprints the ball 46 - yards to find paydirt on a pass from Kaden Cordell in the first quarter of Friday's game between Sonora and TLCA in San Angel. The Broncos wrapped up their regular season with an 81-0 win over the Eagles. Next, the Broncos play Tolar in the 3-3A Division II Bi-district playoff game. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Everyone is encouraged to come out and support the Broncos. But, for those who cannot make it to the game, the contest will be carried live on KHOS 92.1 FM with Virgil Burge and Craig Leonard calling the game from the press box.

**COMING UP NEXT**  
Sonora Broncos vs Tolar Rattlers

When: 7:00 p.m., Friday, Nov. 11  
Where: Marble Falls, TX  
LISTEN: KHOS 92.1 FM - Broadcasters Virgil Burge and Craig Leonard

Sonora is ranked 9-1 overall and 4-0 in District. Their only loss came at the hands of the Iraan Braves who placed ahead of them in district. The Broncos lost 37-27 to Iraan. Sonora's wins and losses this year are as follows  
SEE BRONCOS ON PAGE 8

## Lady Broncos Fall in Area Match Against Amarillo Highland

Sonora traveled to Lamesa to take on the Amarillo Highland Lady Hornets Saturday November 5. The Lady Broncos fell in three sets with scores of 25-16, 25-22 and 5-22. The loss ends the Lady Broncos' season as they needed to win the Area match to advance in the state playoffs. Coach Kayla Perez said she is proud of her team for staying focused throughout the season and rallying during the district schedule. The Lady Broncos varsity volleyball finished with an overall ranking of

24-11; League 6-2; National Rank 6910 and Texas Rank 577. "Amarillo Highland was one of the best teams we saw all season," Perez said. "They were a very athletic team and had big blocks. We fought hard throughout the whole match. It just wasn't our day. This season was very successful. We improved together as a team every game and we finished 24-11. I am very proud of my girls and everything they accomplished this season. The seniors will definitely be missed next year."



Coach Kayla Perez (far right) tries to rally her team during a time out Saturday, November 5. The Lady Broncos fell to the Amarillo Highland Hornets in their Bi-District matchup, closing out their 2016 season. RUSSELL SKILES | LAMESA PRESS REPORTER

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**VETERANS DAY Special!**

**Friday, November 11th**

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La Mexicana Restaurant honors our Veterans on this Veteran's Day

## Gettin' Rowdy



The Broncos mascot, Rowdy, has a little football fun with young Broncos fans while on the sidelines during Friday's game between Sonora and TLCA. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

## JV Lady Broncos Close Out 2016 Volleyball Season

By Sandy Wellmann  
Now that volleyball season has officially come to an end, I wanted to take the time to recognize our JV volleyball team. This team finished the year with an overall record of 24-2, only being defeated by Alpine and Wall. In district play, these young ladies accomplished their second goal of the season and finished with a 7-1 record, the best in district play. "This team did an amazing job throughout the year and never failed to get better day after day," Wellmann said. "When they came across a challenge, they fought together to conquer it. They were also able to accomplish their other goal of the season, which was winning the Sonora Volleyball Tournament.

They went undefeated throughout the tournament to take 1st place outright. No matter what this team was faced with, they overcame it together to make this season one to remember." Individual player stats are listed below in order of Aces, Pass Rating, Kills, Blocks and Digs:  
Keeley Moore - 80 -1.45 -11 -165 -0 -17  
Jackilyn Sykes - 74-2.14-38-237-1-39  
Sylvester Galvan - 0-1.15-0-0-0-5  
Noelia Tovar - 44-1.91-88-2-0-65  
Karah Martinez - 65-2.05-8-0-0-111  
Avery Leamon - 16-1.54-113-1-2-19  
Danysse Cantu - 30-1.19-89-1-4-16  
Kaitlyn Gann - 2-1-3-0-0-3  
Katy Jo Wardlaw - 54

## Darcy Weishuhn Joins The Bank & Trust

The Bank & Trust is proud to announce the addition of Darcy Weishuhn as Assistant Vice President of Commercial Lending in San Angelo. Darcy's roots are in West Texas. She was raised on a ranch outside of Sterling City, and earned a degree in Agribusiness and Finance from Angelo State University. "I've always enjoyed working with people, so I decided to go into banking after seeing the important role financing and a good bank relationship had on my parents and other ranchers trying to manage their business," Weishuhn says of her over seven years of banking experience. "We are very fortunate to be able to add an officer of Darcy's caliber and experience to our San Angelo banking family," noted Brady Johnson, President of The Bank & Trust. "Darcy brings a strong commitment of customer service and a solid business banking background to our team. This, along with her West Texas work ethic, creates a seamless fit with our bank's philosophy to go above and beyond to serve our Concho Valley customers." Please join us in welcoming Darcy to The Bank & Trust.

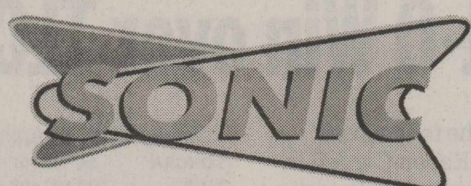
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**THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS**  
CLASSIFIED ADS

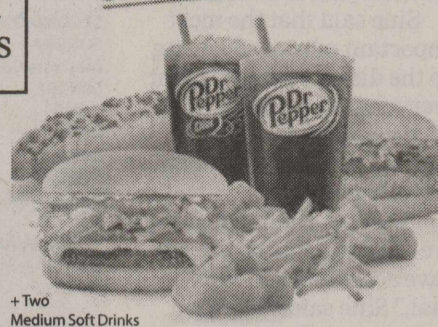




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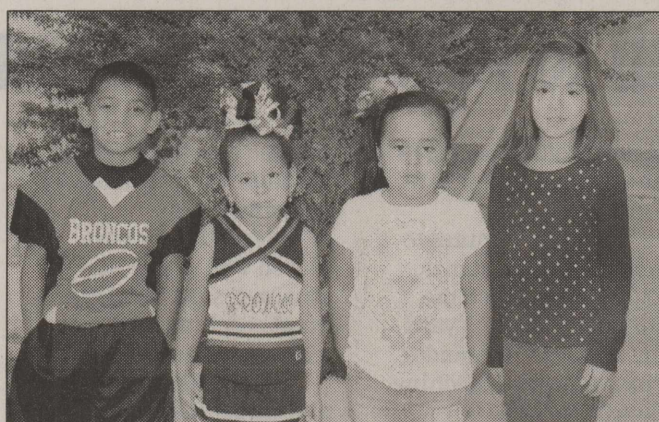
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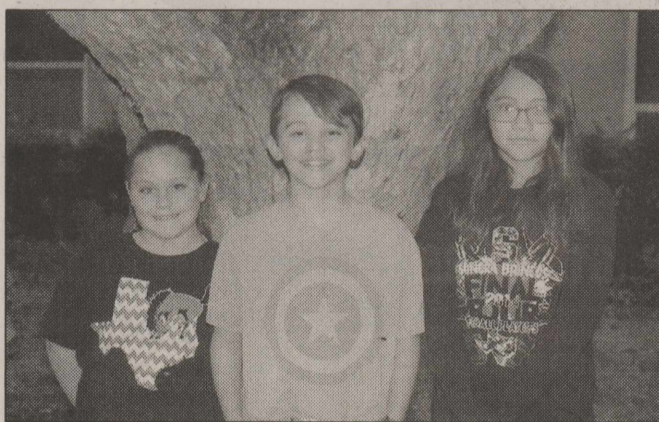


Elementary School Students for the week of November 7 - 11, Dulce Aguayo, Pre-K, Sophia Perez, K, Armani Coronado, 1st, Mia Escamilla, 2nd.

Sonora ISD  
Students of the Week

Brought to you by:

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NATURE CENTER & PRESERVE



Intermediate School Students for the week of November 7 - 11, Hope James, 3rd, Slade Phillips, 4th, Andrea Rodriguez, 5th.



Middle School Students For The Week of November 7 - 11, Ashley Castilleja, 6th, Mario De La Fuente, 7th, Victoria Salazar, 8th (not pictured)

Sonora Police Department Hosts  
ALERRT Training for Fellow Offices

The Sonora Police Department hosted a special Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT), Wednesday, October 26th, at the Arroyo Grande ranch.

The course, Plain Clothes Response Violent Encounters, was specifically designed to help bring further awareness to officers regarding the importance of understanding and preparing for encounters with an active shooter while not in uniform.

About fifteen officers from a variety of law enforcement agencies including Sonora, Sutton County as well as from the surrounding area participated in the event.

"This particular style of training is invaluable to officer as well as citizens in helping to keep everyone safe in all situations, Administrative Assistant Melissa Fuentes said. "We cannot thank everyone enough for their help to make this experience possible for our officers and the betterment of our community."

This is the first time that Sonora was able to host such an event thanks to the generosity of local businesses including Sonora Bank, The Bank and Trust, EnerVest Operating LLC,

Robert Mayer, St. John's Episcopal Church, Raffae W Feed and Stripes Sibway for their contributions to help make it possible

ALERRT Trainers also volunteered their time, knowledge and skills to help fellow officers become better informed and skilled at dealing with life threatening situations especially those occurring while officers are dressed in plain clothes.

Additionally, Sutton County EMS Director TJ Thorp was on site to provide medical assistance the event it was needed.

Finally, the Sutton County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Wardens, Winters Police Department, Reagan County Sheriff's Office and the City of San Angelo Municipal Court and City Marshall's Office generously allowed officers and deputies to participate in this valuable experience.

"Without the support of our community, we would not be able to host training events and invite surrounding agencies opportunities to enhance their abilities to serve and protect those as they have been sworn to do," Police Chief William Dudley said.



A variety of law enforcement officers participated in the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) on Wednesday, October 26, in Sonora.

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Recycle/Reuse Roundup Nov. 16

The annual Sonora Recycle/Reuse Roundup is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, as part of Texas Recycle Day.

The Sonora Chamber of Commerce, City of Sonora (Keep Sonora Beautiful), Texas AgriLife Extension, 4-H and the Texas Department of Transportation are partnering together to promote the importance of recycling and reusing.

Items may be dropped off at 307 N Hwy 277 N (Alco parking lot) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday. In the event of bad weather

drop off at 4-Barn (behind the Civic Center)

Recycled items to be accepted include: gently used coats and clothes, toys and sport equipment in good repair, electronics, TVs, microwaves, corregated cardboard and chipboard (e.g., cereal box material), magazines, catalogs, books, newspaper, newspaper flyer, office paper, junk mail aluminum cans, phone books, tin cans, # 1 and #2 plastics, oil cell phones and dry cell batteries.

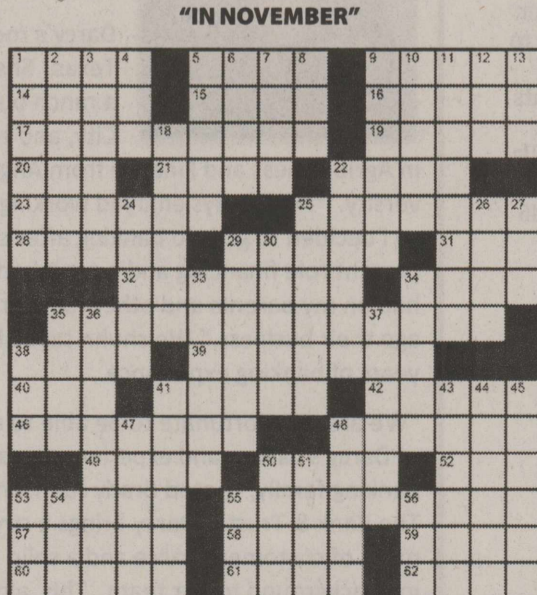
Weekly Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**  
1. Is inquisitive  
5. Gymnast's feat  
9. \_\_\_ Kea  
14. Locks in a barn?  
15. Ms. McEntire  
16. "Otherwise..."  
17. Passed, as storm clouds  
19. Gnatlike insect  
20. Depressed  
21. Send forth  
22. Bring on  
23. Einstein, e.g.  
25. Central Swiss city  
28. Back in  
29. Monroe's successor  
31. Bright light  
32. Antiquated  
34. Delight  
35. Statement about truth by Pliny the Elder  
38. "Garfield" dog  
39. Convenience  
40. Vet  
41. Bat an eye?  
42. Hot blood  
46. Melancholy

48. Everett of "Citizen Kane"  
49. Hop, skip or jump  
50. Rigatoni relative  
52. Circus lifesaver  
53. Spooks  
55. Motel sign  
57. To be specific  
58. Kind of column  
59. Afternoon show  
60. Coolidge's veep

61. Go well together  
62. Legal heading  
**DOWN**  
1. Spy novelist Eric  
2. Strauss opera  
3. Be positive  
4. Use a Singer  
5. "Ethan \_\_\_"  
6. \_\_\_ Strauss jeans  
7. "Yeah, sure"

8. Hole goal  
9. Makes like  
10. Burning  
11. Submarine  
12. Holiday quaff  
13. Gulped down  
18. Orange oil  
22. Arm bones  
24. Stand  
25. Keen  
26. Convent group  
27. Pull the plug on  
29. Minute  
30. Scuba user  
33. Forensic facility  
34. Foam prefix  
35. Favorite  
36. Good panorama  
37. Emphatic, in a way  
38. "To Spring," e.g.  
41. Breakthroughs  
43. Yogurt brand  
44. Like many garages  
45. Key in again  
47. Ninnies  
48. Hiding place  
50. Court defense  
51. Currier's partner  
53. "Ice Age" sloth  
54. Handheld  
55. Nancy, in Nancy



See solution on Page 8

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by  
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Texas Veterans Land Board Celebrates 70 Years

AUSTIN - On Monday, November 7, 2016, Commissioner George P. Bush congratulated the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB) on 70 years of service to Texas veterans.

The 70th anniversary was celebrated with a VLB Inception Day ceremony.

VLB Senior Deputy Director Col. (ret.) Matt Elledge and more than 100 employees and guests marked this special day by commemorating the history of the VLB and enjoying refreshments.

"One of the great privileges of serving as Texas Land Commissioner is chairing the Veterans Land Board," Commissioner Bush states. "The men and women of the VLB - many of whom are veterans themselves - continue to serve their fellow veterans through their work."

Whether they are manning the statewide Veterans Call Service Center, caring for an elderly veteran in one of our homes, planning an unaccompanied veteran burial or helping a veteran finance his or her first land purchase, these men and women continue to honor the sacrifices of those who

have served our country. Today we celebrate 70 years of serving veterans and look forward to the next 70."

Since the days of the Republic, Texas has supported its veterans in appreciation of their military service.

In the early days, land was awarded for military service in the Texas Revolution.

In 1946, Texas voters approved a constitutional amendment to establish the Texas Veterans Land Board, under the Texas General Land Office, to administer benefits exclusively for Texas veterans returning from World War II.

Since then, more than 200,000 VLB loans have been funded for veterans and military members in Texas.

Over the years the VLB has evolved to include seven programs that provide benefits and services for Texas veterans, military members and their families.

These programs include: low-interest land, home, and home improvement loans; skilled nursing care in eight Texas State Veterans

Homes - with a ninth home planned for Houston; burial services in four Texas State Veterans Cemeteries; the Voice of Veterans oral history program; and veterans benefit information and assistance services through the statewide Veterans Call Service Center, a collaboration between the VLB and the Texas Veterans Commission.

"In 193, the citizens of Texas chose to honor our veterans for the defense of the freedoms we enjoy here in the United States of America," said Matt Elledge. "We are proud to be a part of the state of Texas tradition that recognizes our veterans and military members for their service."

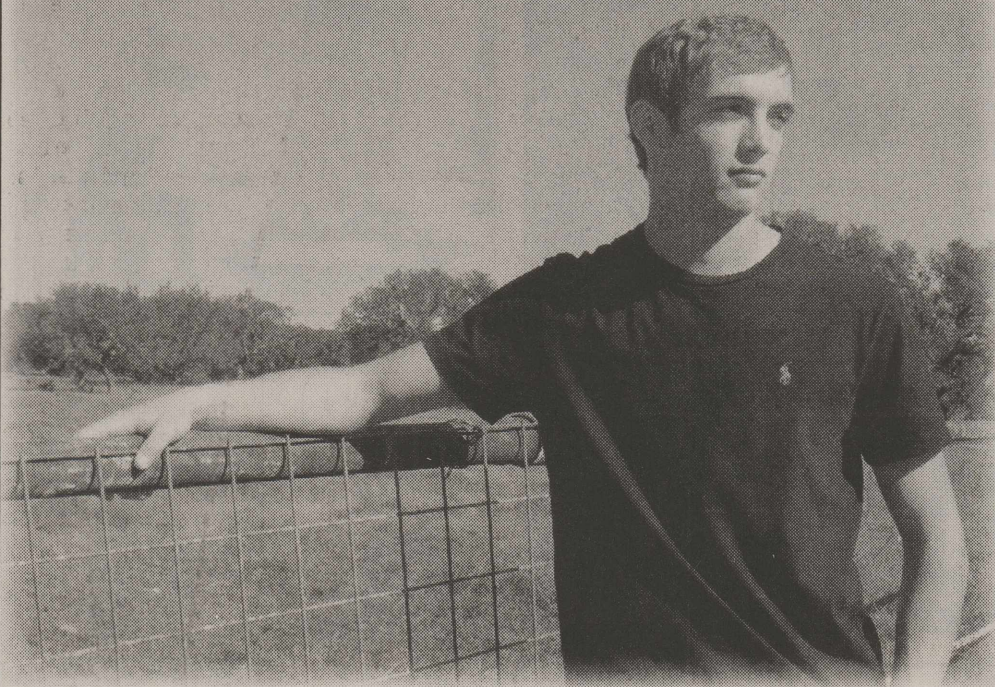
As the VLB moves into the future, we hope to inform and educate more veterans about the many benefits they earned while serving our great nation."

The mission of the VLB is to ensure that we offer the very best package of veterans benefits in the country, and those of us who work for the VLB strive to meet those goals every day.

For 70 years we have had the honor to serve  
SEE LAND BOARD PAGE 7



Card of Thanks



We want to thank the communities of Sonora and Eldorado for their prayers and support for our family during this most difficult time with the loss of our son Austin McCombs. Austin was loved by so many people. He enjoyed living life to his fullest. He will be greatly missed and will always be loved. We appreciate your continued support and prayers to help us get through each day.

Sincerely,

Cassandra and Larry Beach and extended family

Sonora ISD Menu

PK-5th : Free Breakfast & \$2.45 lunch  
Middle & High School: \$1.95 Breakfast & \$2.85 lunch  
Choice of 1 of 2 entrees or salad  
Menu Subject to Change

Monday- November 14th Breakfast

Sausage Kolache/Yogurt or Cereal/Toast, 100% Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk  
Lunch  
Country Fried Steak w/Gravy, Meatloaf, or Chicken Fajita Salad

Mashed Potatoes, Savory Green Beans, Strawberry Cup, Roll, Milk  
After School Program  
Chex, Strawberry, Milk

Tuesday- November 15th Breakfast

Cheese Omelet/ Wrap or Cereal/Toast, 100% Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk  
Lunch  
Meat and Cheese Tostada, Enchiladas, or Chef Salad

Wednesday- November 16th Breakfast

Cinnamon Roll/Bacon or Cereal/Toast, 100% Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk  
Lunch  
Chicken Spaghetti w/Breadstick, Pizza, Sante Fe Salad

Garden Salad, Vegetable Medley, Orange Smiles, Milk  
After School Program  
Baked Chips and Juice

Thursday- November 17th Breakfast

Waffles/Sausage or Cereal/Toast, 100% Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk  
Lunch  
Soft Tacos, Frito Pie, or Crispy Chicken Salad

Baby Carrots, Mexicali Corn, Salsa, Lettuce and Tomato Garnish, Peaches, Cookie, Milk  
After School Program  
Crackers, Cheddar Fish, Juice

Friday- November 18th Breakfast

Breakfast Pizza or Cereal/Toast, 100% Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk  
Lunch  
Chicken Strips w/ Texas Toast & Gravy, Hamburger/CH Burger w/HB Garnish, or Tuna Salad

Coleslaw, Sweet Potato Fries, Apple Slices, Milk  
After School Program  
PBJ Sandwich, Juice

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SONORA WEATHER FORECAST

Thu 11/10	Fri 11/11	Sat 11/12	Sun 11/13	Mon 11/14
69/51	69/51	71/51	72/53	71/55
Morning showers. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 50s.	Showers ending by midday. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 50s.	Chance of afternoon showers. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise: 7:05 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM	Sunrise: 7:05 AM Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:06 AM Sunset: 5:46 PM	Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 5:46 PM	Sunrise: 7:08 AM Sunset: 5:45 PM

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Devil's River News Weekly Rainfall Report

Month	Rainfall (in.)	Month	Rainfall (in.)
November 1-8	0.81 in.	November 1-8	1.56 in.
October	0.00 in.	October	0.00 in.
September	5.78 in.	September	4.31 in.
August	1.74 in.	August	4.82 in.
July	.19 in.	July	.00 in.
June	3.16 in.	June	3.97 in.
May	2.70 in.	May	5.31 in.
April	2.58 in.	April	2.95 in.
March	3.39 in.	March	2.62 in.
February	0.77 in.	February	1.04 in.
January	0.36 in.	January	0.38 in.
2016 Year-to-Date TOTAL	21.48 in.	2016 Year-to-Date TOTAL	26.96 in.
2015	23.87 in.	2015	25.31 in.
2014	14.32 in.	2014	12.72 in.
2013	25.12 in.	2013	25.00 in.
2012	16.06 in.	2012	17.82 in.
2011	11.50 in.	2011	10.49 in.
2010	20.37 in.	2010	17.94 in.
2009	21.87 in.	2009	28.44 in.

Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 14 miles southeast of Sonora. Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 17 miles east-northeast of Sonora.

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Paisley Sisters' Christmas Special at WOBP

Start with a White Christmas, mix in a mid-'60 Judy Garland television Christmas special, add a dash of Silkwood, and you have The Paisley Sister Christmas Special.

It is 1964, and America's Songbirds, the Paisley Sisters, are airing a brand-new color television holiday extravaganza landing themselves back in the Top 40. The results is a hilarious send-up of early television holiday specials full of backstage drama, sponsors, secret telephone calls, assumed identities and general mayhem.

The Paisley Sister Christmas Special music was written by Bret Silverman; Lyrics by Joel Benjamin, James Ansart and Bret Silverman. Book written by Joel Benjamin, James Ansart, Bret Silverman and Steve Silverman. The Way Off Broadway Players will be performing "The Paisley Sister



The Paisley Sisters (Back L-R) from Sonora Terry Weaver plays the part of Connie Paisley and Vickie Schwiening, from Eldorado, plays Lonnie Paisley. (Front L-R) from Sonora High School Student Delaney Ramsdell plays Abigail Paisley and Tammy Doan plays the part of Bonnie Paisley. | COURTESY PHOTO

Christmas Special" on November 18th, December 2nd at 7:00 pm; November 19-20 and December 3-4 at

3 pm. Tickets are \$12. To reserve your ticket call 325-277-0635. Check out our website www.wobp.us.

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS: Tax Revenue

Continued from page 2  
business spending resulted in slight overall growth in state sales tax revenue," Hegar said. He added that continued declines in collections from the mining, manufacturing and wholesale trade sectors, reflecting the subdued level of drilling for oil and natural gas production, were offset by significant gains from retail trade and restaurants. Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in October 2016 was down by 2.1 percent compared to the same period a year ago, Hegar said.

Sales tax revenue is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections. Motor vehicle sales and rental taxes, motor fuel taxes and oil and natural gas production taxes also are large revenue sources for the state, according to the comptroller's office.

Straus Lauds TEA Decision

Texas House Speaker Joe Straus on Nov. 2 welcomed the Texas Education Agency's announcement last week that it is halting the use of one indicator in a special education monitoring system.

Concerns had been raised that the 12-year-old indicator, which was designed to ensure that schools did not put students into special education when it wasn't warranted,

had actually been used by some school districts to keep students out of special education, according to the speaker's office.

In late October, Straus urged Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath to suspend use of the indicator so that the education agency and legislators could work together in the 2017 legislative session to make sure students get the services they need.

"This is good news for Texas families," Straus said in a news release. "TEA's decision will give the agency time to work with legislators and others to make sure students get the services they need."

Performance Data Posted

Texas Education Commissioner Morath on Nov. 3 announced the availability of preliminary 2015-2016 Texas Academic Performance Reports on tea.texas.gov, the Texas Education Agency website.

The reports, Morath said, provide a wide range of performance information for every public school and district in the state. The campus-level, district-level, regional and statewide reports combine details of academic performance with information about staff, programs and demographics.

The final version, following the resolution of district appeals of preliminary ratings, is scheduled for release by Dec. 2.

**BIRTHDAYS**  
Look Who's Celebrating!

**NOVEMBER**  
10th Michael Luttrell, Juan Jose Castillo  
11th Valrie Draper, Crystal Guerra  
12th Clay Friess, Bee Castaneda  
13th Steve Thorp, James Edmondson, Alexis Galindo, Tony Russell Adkins, Erica Berry, Jessica Barnett  
15th Tryon Fields, Jeremy Doran, Imoni Cross  
16th Lynn Barber  
17th Jennie Sue Trainer, Diane Reiner

Send us your birthdays to production@devilsriver.news

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Richard A. Dodd, L.C.  
Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C. Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law and Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
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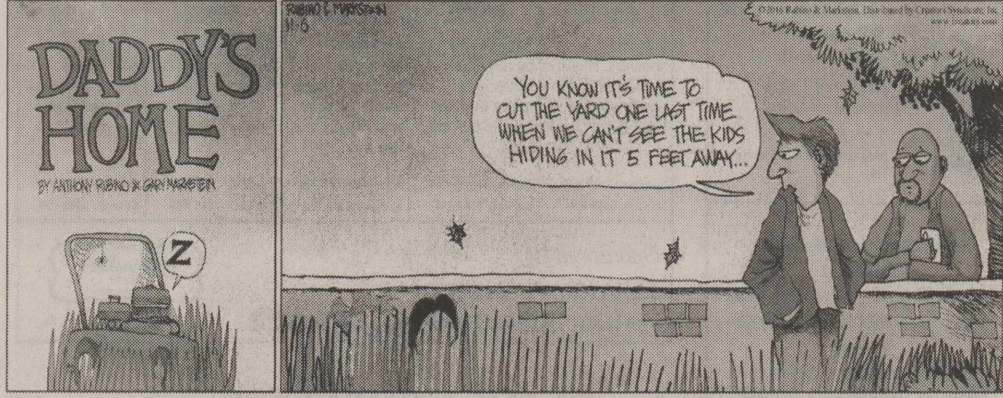
Home Health Services	Hospice Services
Home health services offered by Alvis F. Johnson Home Health & Hospice include medical services that must be provided by licensed medical professionals and additional services to improve your quality of life.	Hospice services offered by Alvis F. Johnson Home Health & Hospice include medical services provided under the guidance of the medical director, who is a licensed physician. Volunteers provide additional services.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skilled Nursing</li> <li>Wound Care</li> <li>Physical Therapy</li> <li>Speech Therapy</li> <li>Medication Reminders</li> <li>Rehabilitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Services provided under the guidance of the medical director:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palliative care</li> <li>Medication reminders</li> <li>Social services</li> <li>Family support and education</li> <li>Spiritual counseling and support services</li> <li>Family bereavement counseling</li> </ul> </li> <li>Services provided by volunteers:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grocery shopping/errands</li> <li>Transportation to doctor appointments</li> <li>Light housekeeping</li> <li>Grooming</li> <li>Maid preparation</li> <li>Laundry</li> <li>Conversation and Companionship</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Home health care services are covered by Medicare.	Hospice services are covered by Medicare.



# DRN Comics

## Daddy's Home

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



## Dogs of C-Kennel

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni



## Strange Brew

by John Deering



## Strange Brew

by John Deering



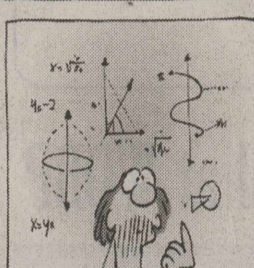
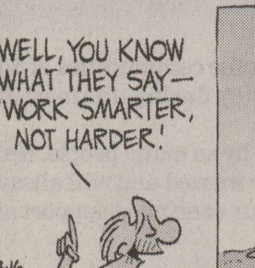
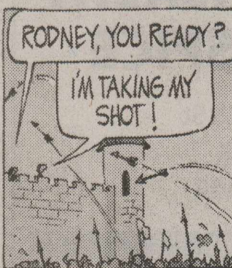
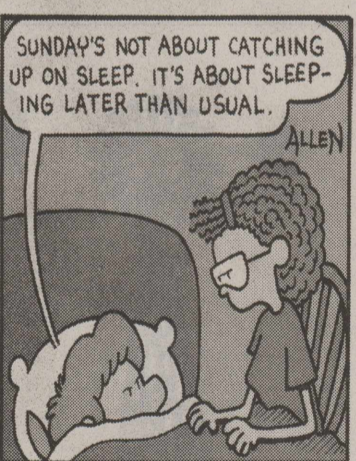
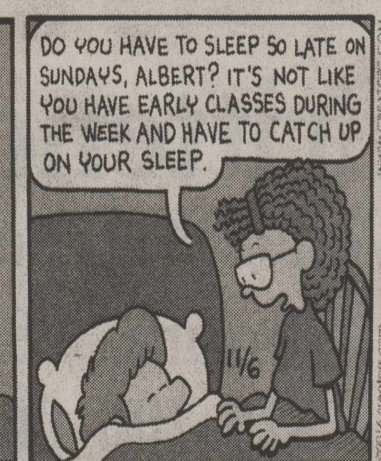
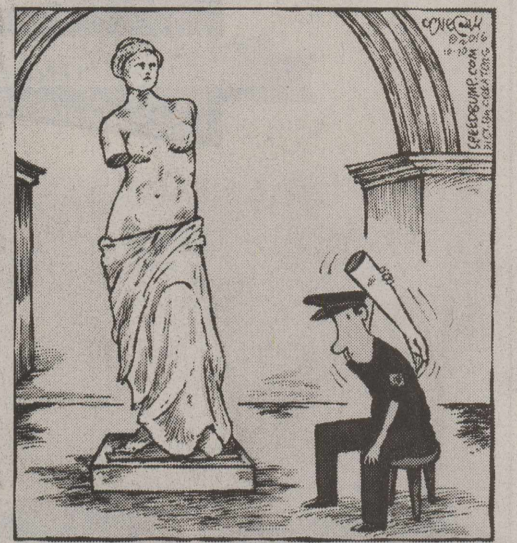
## Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly



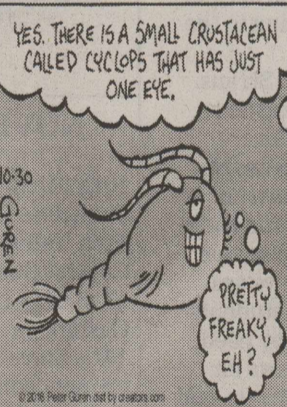
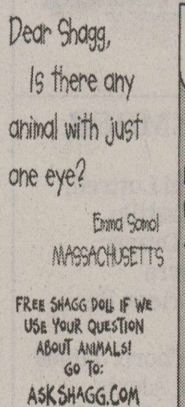
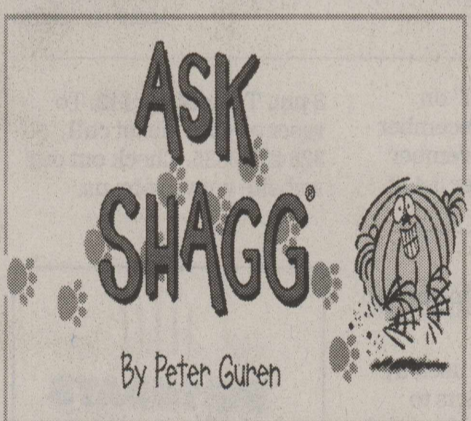
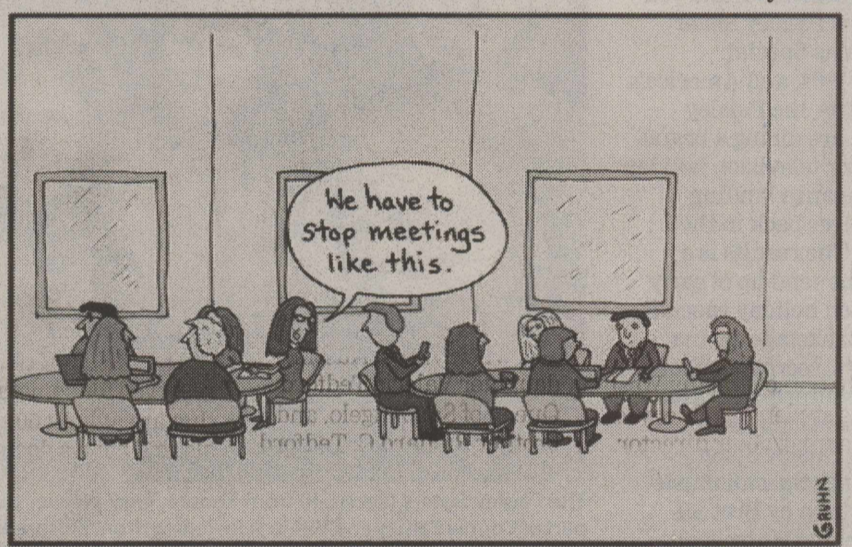
## Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly



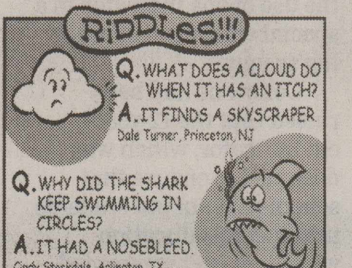
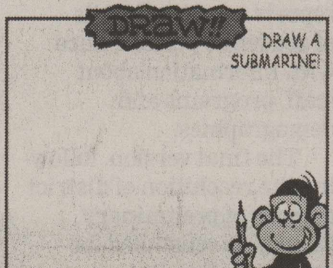
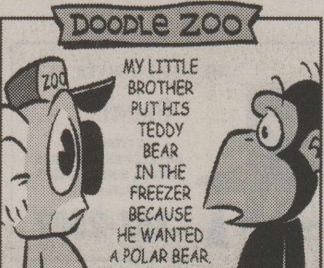
## WebDonuts

by Mike Gruhn



## Doodles

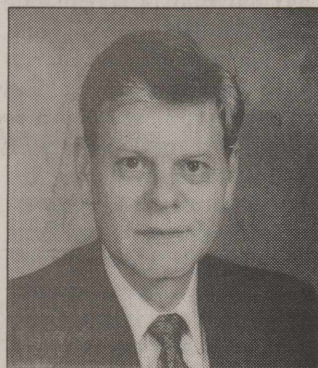
By Foote & Sacko





# OBITUARIES

## John Roy Tedford, Jr. March 27, 1936 - November 1, 2016



John Roy Tedford, Jr., 80, of Sonora, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2016.

John was born in Dallas March 27, 1936. He was gifted with exceptional talent in music and his early years were spent developing his performance abilities under excellent teachers. Being devoted to education and the arts, John valued his years at Highland Park High School. He became a lifelong serious student of piano and organ, receiving his degree from Southern Methodist University with a major in Music Theory and Composition.

John was on the organ staff of First United Methodist Church in Dallas for eight years. A noted accompanist, he was hired by the Dallas Summer Musicals where soon he became Musical Director and enjoyed an 11-year association with DSM. His conducting career took him on tours with shows throughout the U.S. and Canada.

While at SMU, John met Dell Davis of Sonora. They were married June 5, 1957. In 1959, he and Dell moved to Sonora where John became involved with the family's ranch. Between summers at Dallas Summer Musicals, he also taught piano to many West Texas students and served as organist/choir director for First United Methodist Church in Sonora.

John was an extremely versatile person, capable and knowledgeable in multiple areas of interest. He taught English, Speech and Drama at Sonora High School for three years. He earned a Master's degree from Angelo State University with a double major in Speech and English. His drama team's one-act play won state in its division.

In 1975, John and Dell purchased Barrow Jewelry in downtown Sonora. During the next 33 years, they found artistic expression in bringing fine jewelry, art and gifts to Sonora. They were rewarded with the cultivation of warm friendships and delighted customers. The Tedfords retired in 2008 to enjoy traveling to places of cultural interest.

During John's life in

Sonora he was involved in the community. He was a member of the original Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital Corporate Board prior to formation of the Hospital District. John remained on the Hospital Corporate (Ranch) Board, serving 30 years total.

He also helped organize Sonora Community Arts and Theatre and was involved with the Historical Society and Sonora Main Street Program.

In 1983 John, along with other business and civic leaders, was responsible for organizing and founding the Sutton County National Bank, which later became The Bank & Trust. He has served continuously on the bank's Board of Directors for 33 years.

John was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Sonora and he was serving on its Vestry at the time of his death.

John dearly loved his two children, Gregg and Valerie, to whom his fatherly love and guidance were sources of great inspiration. He treasured his relationships with people, whether helping a singer sound her best, visiting a nursing home patient, hosting a party or imparting the nuances of a piano solo to his children. John was loved deeply by his family. In recent years, his beloved dog Lusha has been a joyful and blessed companion.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Harriet C. and John R. Tedford, Sr. He is survived by his wife Dell, with whom he celebrated 59 years of marriage, son Gregg Tedford and wife Lynn of Austin, daughter Valerie Tedford Queen of San Angelo, and brother Richard C. Tedford of Deer Park, Texas.

The family expresses deep appreciation to those at Schleicher County Nursing Home and with Hospice of San Angelo for their special care of John during the end of his earthly life. We are grateful for the prayers and support of many caring friends.

A celebration of his life was held on Monday, November 7, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Sonora. The Rev. Milton Black officiated at the service with interment in St. John's Columbarium.

A reception followed in the Parish Hall. Arrangements were with Love Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made at [lovefuneralhome.net](http://lovefuneralhome.net). In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorials be made to St. John's Episcopal Church or any charity of choice.

## Jimmy R. Harris July 22, 1929 - October 30, 2016

Jimmy Harris passed this life to be with his Lord and Savior on October 30, 2016 after a short illness. He was 87.

Jimmy was born to Jeff and Emma Harris on July 22, 1929.

He was a long-time resident of Sonora and for the last 20 years lived with his wife at Rough Canyon on Lake Amistad.

For many years Jimmy provided windmill installation and repair services for ranchers in Sutton and surrounding counties.

He sold his water well business and started an independent pumping business that he operated until his retirement.

Jimmy was married to Jackie N. Pfeister, of San Angelo, for 57 years. They enjoyed many loving times together, providing for four children, traveling in their RV across the country on vacation, and fishing in the

Llano River and at Lake Amistad.

Jimmy is survived by his wife Jackie, daughter Julie Arrington and her husband Joe of Centerpoint TX, sons Bradley Harris and his wife Lisa of Kingfisher OK, Glen Harris and his wife Donna of Tyler TX, Mark Milliken and his wife Sheryl of Richmond TX.

He is also survived by six grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

He will be missed by all. A Memorial service is scheduled for November 11 at 11 a.m. at the Church of Christ in Sonora. A luncheon will follow for family and close friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Jimmy's memory to The Tyler Milliken Foundation ([www.tylermillikenfoundation.org](http://www.tylermillikenfoundation.org)), West Texas Boys Ranch or local charity of your choosing.

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## Fort McKavett Cemetery Receives Historic Texas Cemetery Designation

Fort McKavett, Texas-The Texas Historical Commission (THC) recently designated the Fort McKavett Cemetery as a Historic Texas Cemetery.

The distinction means the cemetery has been legally recorded through the THC's Cemetery Preservation Program, an important step in ensuring its integrity for future generations.

This designation is reserved for cemeteries that are at least 50 years old and have a documented historic association and significance.

The documentation process has taken years of research by sisters Jo Williamson Clark and Sarah Williamson Speck, local historian John Cobb, and Texas Historical Commission volunteer Tina DeLong, as well as members of the Fort McKavett Cemetery Association.

"This designation is a tool that will increase public awareness of these important cultural resources," said Mark Wolfe, executive director of the THC. "Knowledge and education are among the best ways to guarantee the preservation of a historic cemetery".

DeLong presented the certificate of designation to Fort McKavett Cemetery Association officers at the association's Fall Clean-up Work Day, on October 30, 2016.

With certificate in hand, the group can now apply for an Official Texas Historical

Marker for the cemetery.

Cemeteries hold the keys to valuable information about our past, including early settlements' historical events, religious beliefs, lifestyles, and genealogy.

Threats to historic cemeteries include urban expansion and development, vandalism, and long-term deterioration from weather and uncontrolled vegetation.

The THC developed the Historic Texas Cemetery designation to address the destruction of historic cemeteries, and the illegal removal of cemetery fixtures.

Any individual or organization is eligible to submit an application for this designation.

For additional information regarding Texas Historic Cemetery designation, or to receive an application, contact the THC's History Programs Division at (512) 463-5853 or [history@thc.state.tx.us](mailto:history@thc.state.tx.us).

To find out more about historic cemetery preservation, visit the THC's website at [www.thc.state.tx.us](http://www.thc.state.tx.us).

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## LAND BOARD:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

veterans, military members and their families in Texas, and we look forward to keeping that promise in the years to come.

For more information about the benefits and services available to veterans in Texas, visit [www.TexasVeterans.com](http://www.TexasVeterans.com) or call 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or listen to "The Dog Tag," a podcast for veterans by veterans, at [www.TexasVeteransBlog.com](http://www.TexasVeteransBlog.com).

[com/DogTag](http://www.DogTag.com).

If you would like to read more about the history of the Texas Veterans Land Board visit the [www.TexasVeteransBlog.com](http://www.TexasVeteransBlog.com).

You can also follow the VLB on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TXVLB](http://www.facebook.com/TXVLB), or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/TexasVLB](http://www.twitter.com/TexasVLB), or Instagram at [www.instagram.com/TexasVeterans](http://www.instagram.com/TexasVeterans), or YouTube at [www.youtube.com/user/TexasVLB](http://www.youtube.com/user/TexasVLB).

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<b>Their Price</b> Nexium™ \$926.49 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 40mg x 100</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Esomeprazole™ \$83.00 <small>Generic Price for 40mg x 100</small>	<b>Their Price</b> Actonel™ \$805.15 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 35mg x 12</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Risedronate™ \$49.00 <small>Generic Price for 35mg x 12</small>	<b>Their Price</b> Abilify™ \$2,964.49 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 15mg x 90</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Aripiprazole™ \$76.50 <small>Generic Price for 15mg x 90</small>
<b>Their Price</b> Flomax™ \$606.60 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 4mg x 90</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Tamsulosin™ \$52.20 <small>Generic Price for 4mg x 90</small>	<b>Their Price</b> Advail™ \$1,024.42 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 250-500mg x 180</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Salmeterol & Fluticasone Propionate™ \$147.00 <small>Generic Price for 250-500mg x 180</small>	<b>Their Price</b> Evista™ \$695.13 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 60mg x 100</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Raloxifene™ \$81.00 <small>Generic Price for 60mg x 100</small>
<b>Their Price</b> Lipitor™ \$966.03 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 20mg x 100</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Atorvastatin™ \$67.00 <small>Generic Price for 20mg x 100</small>	<b>Their Price</b> Flomax™ \$606.60 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 4mg x 90</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Tamsulosin™ \$52.20 <small>Generic Price for 4mg x 90</small>	<b>Their Price</b> Prevacid™ \$1131.14 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 30mg x 84</small>	<b>Our Price</b> Lansoprazole™ \$105.00 <small>Generic Price for 30mg x 84</small>

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# Irving Man Arrested on Federal Offense Related to IRS Impersonation/Money Soliciting Scam

### Victims Called and Told to "Pay Money Immediately to IRS or be Arrested in Hours" Defendant Then Wired Collected Money to India

DALLAS — An Irving, Texas, businessman, Narasimha Bhogavalli, 50, was arrested yesterday morning by special agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on a federal complaint charging him with engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity in connection with an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) impersonation scam that defrauded victims of money that Bhogavalli

then transferred between accounts and wired to India.

The announcement was made today by U.S. Attorney John Parker of the Northern District of Texas.

Bhogavalli made his initial appearance yesterday afternoon before U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul D. Stickney, who ordered him detained pending a detention hearing set for tomorrow, Friday, October 28, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., before U.S. Magistrate Judge Renée

Harris Toliver.

According to the complaint, victims from throughout the U.S. were contacted by individuals claiming to be IRS agents.

Victims were advised there were outstanding warrants for their arrest and they would be sent to jail unless they deposited money orders, and sometimes cash, into bank accounts controlled by Bhogavalli and other accounts used by co-conspirators in the scam.

Bhogavalli used at least two Bank of America accounts in the scam, one

in the name of Tekdynamics, Inc. and one in the name of Touchstone Commodities, Inc.

The investigation revealed that Bhogavalli also controlled additional accounts used in the money soliciting scam, including a Citibank account held in the name of Touchstone Commodities.

Between November 5, 2014, and February 2, 2015, approximately 242 deposits of cash and money orders, totaling approximately \$1,661,247, which includes at least 2,250 separate money orders totaling \$1,493,848

were made in one of the Bank of America accounts.

During the two-week period, between approximately January 16, 2015, and January 30, 2015, at least 60 money orders, totaling \$37,957 were deposited into the other Bank of America account.

Between November 4, 2014, and February 5, 2015, at least 128 money orders, totaling \$96,716 were deposited into the Citibank account.

A financial analysis of those accounts, according to the complaint, shows that immediately following the deposits made by the victims of the money soliciting scam, the proceeds were wire transferred to other accounts Bhogavalli controlled, where he either spent the funds or wired the funds to accounts in other countries, such as India. Numerous wire transfers were made in amounts greater than \$10,000.

Records indicate Bhogavalli was listed as the Director of Touchstone Commodities, located at 1425 Greenway Drive, Suite 650, in Irving.

In account opening documents, Bhogavalli characterized Touchstone Commodities as an "import-export" business. On its website, Touchstone Commodities is "experienced

in the global sourcing and supply of many valuable commodities," including iron ore, steel and wood chips. Bhogavalli is listed as Chairman of Touchstone Commodities on its website.

Records indicate Bhogavalli was listed as President of Tekdynamics. According to information on the Tekdynamics website, Tekdynamics is a provider of "technology, outsourcing and consulting needs" with established infrastructure in the U.S. and India. Tekdynamics address is listed as 1425 Greenway Drive, Suite 650, in Irving.

A federal criminal complaint is a written statement of the essential facts of the offense charged, and must be made under oath before a magistrate judge. A defendant is entitled to the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. The U.S. Attorney's office has 30 days to present the matter to a grand jury for indictment. The maximum statutory penalty for the charged offense is 10 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The investigation is being conducted by the FBI and the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Nicholas Bunch is in charge of the prosecution.

## BRONCOS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

- W 46-6 over Ozona
- W 28-14 over Llano
- W 48-28 over Junction
- W51-14 over Jim Ned
- W 68-7 over Crane
- L 37-27 to Iraan
- W 48-14 over Alpine
- W 47-14 over Reagan County
- W 58-10 over Ballinger
- W 81-0 over TLCA
- The Tolar Rattlers are ranked 7-3 overall.
- The Rattlers compete in District 4-3A Division II with Bangs, Cisco, Coleman, Dublin and Eastland.
- Their only losses came at the hands of the three teams that placed ahead of them in the district.
- They lost 56-20 to Eastland. They lost to Cisco 34-26 and to Coleman 28-6.
- Tolar's wins and losses this year are as follows.
- W 34-20 over Crawford Pirates
- W 47-13 over Hico Tigers
- W 36-14 over Boyd Yellowjackets
- W 27-0 over Early Longhorns
- W 60-47 over Reicher Catholic High Cougars
- L 56-20 to Eastland Mavericks
- W 60-18 over Bangs Dragons
- W 52-14 over Dublin Lions

- L 34-26 to Cisco Loboes
- L 28-6 to Coleman Bluecats
- Players of the Week vs TLCA include:**
  - Special Teams Player of the Week: Wilson Johnson Sponsored by Eddy Smith KHOS FM 92.1
  - Offensive Lineman of the Week: Josh Galindo (91) Sponsored by Kirk Joy
  - Hit of the Week: Brandon Martinez Sponsored by Leonard Livestock
  - Defensive Player of the Week: Michael Mungia Sponsored by Virgil Burge
  - Offensive Player of the Week: Kaden Cordell Sponsored by Sonora Knights of Columbus
  - Scout Team Player of the Week: Manuel "Chuy" Fuentes Sponsored by Just Bling It Rita Gonzales
  - Trainer of the Week: Marisol Capuchin Sponsored by Mungia Southwest Heating and AC
  - Coach of the Week: Coach Eddie Favila, Luke Sheets, Guy Barnett, and Caleb Perez Sponsored by Buck N Bass-Terry Johnson
  - 7th Grade POTW: Mario De La Fuente and Zach Hailey
  - 8th Grade POTW: Elias Perez and Preston Gonzales
  - JV: 2016 Sonora Bronco JV Season Record 8-2

**NOVEMBER 1 - 4:07 PM** • Motorist assist call 1200 block of Orient; Officer responded

**11:30 PM** • Ministerial Alliance call on 500 block of US 277. Officer responded.

**NOVEMBER 3 - 8:30 AM** • Burn ban reported on 100 block of Uno. Officer responded.

**1:39 PM** • Criminal trespass reported. Officer responded.

**11:34 PM** • Motorist requested assistance at Road Ranger. Officer responded.

**NOVEMBER 4 - 5:17 PM** • Alarm reported at Mr. D's. Officer responded.

**NOVEMBER 5 - 12:41 AM** • Loud music reported on 1900 block of N. Crockett. Officer responded

**11:36 AM** • Motorist requested assistance at Lowe's parking lot. Officer responded.

**6:53 PM** • Criminal trespass reported on 700 block of Calle Real. Officer responded.

**NOVEMBER 6 - 1:19 AM** • Loud music reported at Liberty Park. Officer responded.

**10:43 AM** • Accident/wreck reported at 400 exit off ramp. Officer responded.

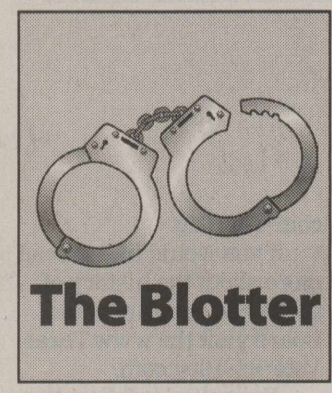
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**INCIDENTS**

**OCTOBER 31 - 10:00 PM** • Criminal mischief reported on 500 block of E. 2nd. Officer responded.

**10:20 PM** • Shots fired reported on 600 block of Menard. Officer responded.

**11:19 PM** • Suspicious circumstances reported at Days Inn. Officer responded.



### The Blotter

The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Sonora Police Department. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the police department, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Accidents of major impact may be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

## Oak & Acorn Toxicity

Fall is a beautiful time of year, but it can be dangerous for livestock. Though oaks provide valuable browse, most species of oak (Quercus spp) found in North America are considered toxic. All parts of the oak can be poisonous.

Clinical signs occur 3-7 days after consumption of large quantities of young oak leaves in the spring or green acorns in the fall. Typically, the fall is when we see problems in our area. Acorns are especially problematic during dry summers, when forages are scarce, or in very wet falls, when heavy rains dislodge them.

Animals affected by oak poisoning usually stop eating and become constipated with dark, mucus covered stools. Later they may have a bloody or very dark, tarry diarrhea. During this time, they get very thirsty, and are commonly found in or around water.

Affected animals may separate themselves from the rest of the herd. They typically lose body condition rapidly, and may get edema, such as bottle jaw.

Bloody noses have also been seen. This poisoning does not happen quickly; it may take one to two weeks before you notice changes in the animal.

The toxic compound in acorns is related to tannic acid. Tannic acid acts as an astringent, and thus contracts the tissues or canals of the body. These toxins can do severe damage to the gastrointestinal system, liver and kidneys.

Calves are the most severely affected, then adult cows, then sheep and goats. Deer are resistant to oak poisoning, which may be due their secretion of proline-rich salivary proteins (PRPs). PRPs bind tannins in the mouth and help render them inactive. Sheep and cattle have less PRPs than goats.

There isn't a specific treatment plan that can be followed nor is there an antidote to the poisoning. Prevention and supportive care are the best options when it comes to treatment. Supportive (veterinarian) care consists of getting as much of the toxin out of the animal's system as possible with IV fluids. Activated charcoal can also be used immediately after ingestion to help eliminate as much of the toxin as possible.

Interestingly, "tanning" (waterproofing and preserving) was the word used to describe the process of transforming animal hides into leather by using plant extracts. Plant parts containing tannins include bark, wood, fruit, fruit pods, leaves, roots, and plant galls.



Pascual Hernandez

### SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 4

ASKS	FLIP	MAUNA
MANE	REBA	IFNOT
BLOWNOVER	MIDGE	
LOW	EMIT	HIRE
EMIGRE	LUCERNE	
RETRO	ADAMS	SUN
	OLDTIME	SEND
INVINO	VERITAS	
ODIE	AMENITY	
DOC	FLIRT	ARDOR
ELEGIAC	SLOANE	
VERB	ZITI	NET
SPIES	NOVACANCY	
IDEST	ONES	SOAP
DAWES	MESH	INRE

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**Parkinson's Disease Dementia?**

**Suffer From Visual Hallucinations?**

**Been hearing or seeing things that are not actually present?**

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- You are aged 50 - 85 years with a diagnosis of Dementia with Lewy Bodies
- You suffer from visual hallucinations that occur on more days than not
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<p><b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b></p> <p>404 East Poplar St. (325) 387-2955 Sunday Services @ 10:30 am</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b></p> <p>Matt Killough, Pastor 111 East Oak Street (325) 387-2951 Sunday School @ 9:45 am Sunday Worship @ 10:45 am Wednesday @ 6:00</p>	<p><b>First United Methodist Church</b></p> <p>Bill Harris, Pastor 205 North Water Ave. (325) 387-2466 Sunday Worship @ 10:55 am</p>
<p><b>Prebyterian Church of the Good Shepherd</b></p> <p>Lewis Allen, Pastor 401 East Mulberry St. (325) 387-2616 Sunday Services @ 11:00 am and 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>St. Ann Catholic Church</b></p> <p>Rev. Terry Brenon 311 W. Plum St. (325) 387-2278 Saturday Mass 6:00 pm English Sunday Mass @ 8:00 am Spanish and 10:30 am English</p>	<p><b>Church of Christ</b></p> <p>Roy Smaling 304 North Water Ave. (325) 387-3190 Sunday Worship @ 11:00 am and @ 5:30 pm KHOS 92.1 Radio 8:00 Sundays</p>
<p><b>Hope Lutheran</b></p> <p>417 Southeast 2nd St. (325) 387-5366 Sunday Worship @ 4:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Lighthouse</b></p> <p>Don Longoria, Pastor 1705 North Crockett Ave. All Services Start @ 10:30 am (325) 387-9100</p>	

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#### Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Anna Laverne Christian, Deceased, were issued on September 28, 2016, in Cause No. PR 01449, pending in the County Court of Sutton County, Texas, to: Nellie Christian Adkins.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o Tammy T. Fisher  
Attorney at Law  
302 S. Water  
SONORA, TX 76950

DATED the 8th day of November, 2016

Tammy T. Fisher  
Attorney for Nellie Christian Adkins  
State Bar No.: 24068969  
302 S. Water  
SONORA, TX 76950  
Telephone: (325) 387-2244  
Facsimile: (325) 387-2245  
Email: lawyer@tammyfisherlaw.com

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901 E. Poplar St	3BR/1.5B	\$129,500
107 Draw St.	4BR/3B	\$150,000
904 E. Poplar St	4BR/2B	\$150,000
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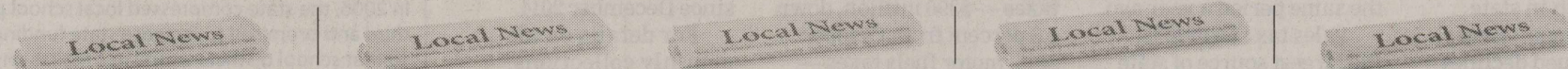
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# It's Time to Look at Your Health Care Coverage for 2017

By Bob Moos/Southwest public affairs officer/U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Now's the time to check your health care coverage for 2017 or sign up for the first time. Open enrollment through the Health Insurance Marketplace began on Nov. 1 and runs until Jan. 31.

Here are six key facts to know about this year's enrollment season.

Your actual premium costs probably aren't as high as you've heard.

More than seven in 10 Texans with coverage through the marketplace will be able to find a health plan for less than \$75 per month, thanks to financial assistance.

If your income falls below 400 percent of the federal poverty level — that's \$48,000 for one person or \$97,000 for a family of four — you'll qualify for federal tax credits that will help make your coverage affordable.

About eight in 10 marketplace consumers in Texas are eligible. Because the tax credits increase dollar for dollar with the cost of a benchmark health plan, most consumers are protected from rate increases.

Also, if you're buying an individual health plan but not through the marketplace, you'd be wise to visit [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) and recheck your eligibility for the tax credits. An estimated 252,000 Texans who purchased coverage outside the marketplace and paid full price for it last year have incomes low enough to qualify for assistance.

All consumers still have choices.

About eight in 10 marketplace customers will be able to choose from competing insurers for 2017. But even consumers served by a single insurer will select from a range of plans.

Texans can choose from an average of 26 health plans, though the exact

number will vary from county to county. Rural areas are likely to have fewer. You can view all of the plans for sale in your area at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov).

If you haven't purchased a health plan through the marketplace before, you should know that all plans cover a comprehensive set of benefits, including doctor visits, hospital stays, preventive care, pregnancy and prescription drugs. The plans must treat you fairly. Insurers can't deny you coverage because you have a medical issue, such as cancer or diabetes. Nor can they charge you more than they would someone who's in good health.

It pays to shop and check out your options.

If your health plan from this past year is continuing into 2017, you may be automatically re-enrolled. But you'll still want to review it to make sure it meets your needs.

Every year, insurers

adjust premiums, out-of-pocket costs and benefits. You should have received a letter from your insurance company explaining the changes for 2017.

Even if you're satisfied with your current coverage, it'll be smart to log into your marketplace account at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) and update your information on household income and family size.

Updating your personal information is important, because you may be eligible for lower costs than last year.

Comparing plans at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) is easier than ever.

The marketplace simplifies your shopping for coverage by letting you make convenient comparisons of health plans.

The process is faster and more streamlined this year. You can even shop and enroll from a smartphone or tablet.

[Healthcare.gov](http://Healthcare.gov) helps

you put together the full picture of your health care costs, including premiums, deductibles, copayments and coinsurance. An "out-of-pocket calculator" will give you an estimate of your total yearly costs for each health plan, based on factors like your age, gender, income, ZIP code and how much health care you expect to use.

You can also check out a plan's list of covered drugs and find out which doctors and hospitals participate in the plan you're considering.

Deductibles can often be made more manageable.

Most marketplace consumers qualify for financial assistance that lowers their deductibles — the median marketplace deductible is now \$850.

All plans cover some preventive services, such as cancer screenings, vaccines and well-child visits, without a deductible. And eight in 10 marketplace consumers select plans that cover

common health services, such as primary care visits, generic drugs and some specialist visits, before meeting the deductible. Instead of bearing the full cost of your doctor visit, you may have just a copayment.

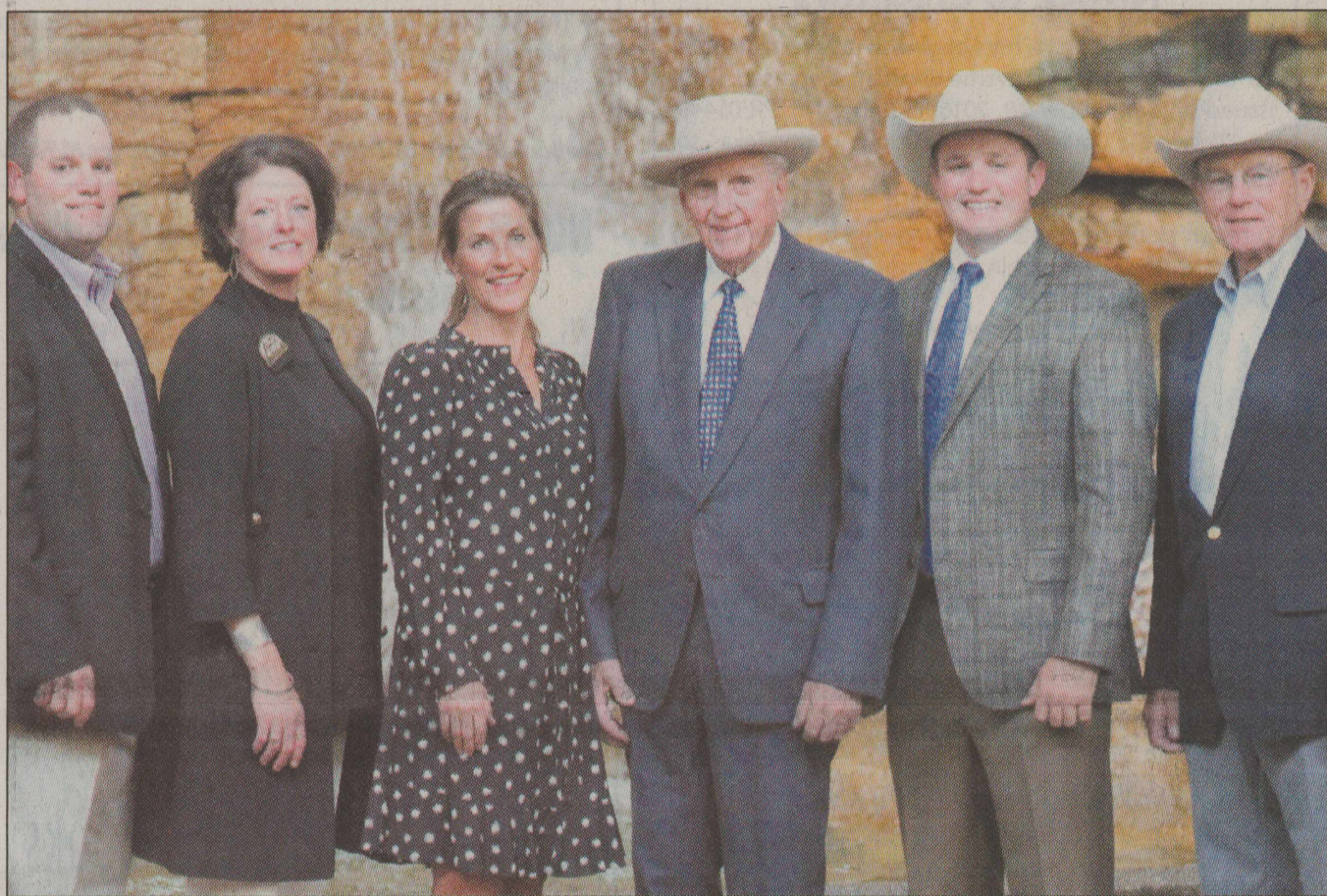
There are places to turn for help with signing up.

Besides relying on [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov), you can call 1-800-318-2596 and visit with a marketplace customer service representative.

You can also visit [localhelp.healthcare.gov](http://localhelp.healthcare.gov) to locate the organizations in your community that will assist you in signing up for coverage.

Open enrollment runs until Jan. 31. But you must act by Dec. 15 if you want any changes in your coverage to take effect on Jan. 1.

Don't risk paying a penalty of \$695 or more because you go uninsured next year. Check out your options at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov). Plans may be more affordable than you think.



Jimmy Powell of Fort McKavett was inducted to the Hereford Hall of Fame at the 2016 Hereford Honorees Reception during the AHA Annual Membership Meeting in Kansas City, Mo. Pictured (L-R) are Sam Shaw, 2016 AHA President; Terri Barber, 2017 AHA President; Lorrie Uhl, daughter; Jimmy Powell; James Uhl, grandson; and Bob Thompson, AHA Board of Directors member. | COURTESY PHOTO

## School Districts Ready for Devastating Blow When Additional State Aid for Tax Reduction (ASATR) Funding Ends

(Austin, TX) A little over ten years ago—in response to a court ruling that went a little differently than the most recent one pertaining to school finance—the Texas Legislature chose to respond to a system that even the Texas Supreme Court agreed had evolved into an unconstitutional statewide property tax by reducing property tax rates. School district property tax rates were reduced by one-third throughout the state in order to provide property tax relief to taxpayers and the capacity for individual school districts to exercise local control over rates, allowing for an increase up to \$1.17 with approval from local voters.

When the state legislature reduced tax rates, they did so in a manner that ensured that no school district would be harmed and lose funding as a result of this legislative action. They promised Additional State Aid for Tax Reduction (ASATR) in order to fill the void created by districts having access to less revenue from the local taxes they were able to collect at that lower rate. However, when faced with an economic shortfall in 2011, the Texas Legislature chose to break that promise and reduce ASATR funding. Further, the Legislature established a deadline of September 1, 2017 for ASATR. Once that date passes, no school will receive any further ASATR, regardless of their need for this funding.

Many districts have seen their property values increase so that they no longer require this ASATR funding. But to the less than 20 percent that still require this funding, its loss will deal a devastating blow. Some districts stand to lose 50 percent of their current funding, and they

will be forced to close their doors. The other districts that stand to lose funds are also the very ones that took the biggest brunt of the cuts to public education in 2011 and have never seen their funding fully restored. In other words, if there was a program or staff position those districts could cut and still provide a quality education to students, they have already done so. There are no further cuts they can make in order to absorb this further loss of funds.

The group of 175 school districts still requiring ASATR funding to make them whole is a diverse crowd. They can be found in every geographic region of the state, and have student enrollment ranging from 50,000 to less than 50. There are also districts in that group that are considered both "property wealthy" and "property poor" that stand to lose this funding. These are not districts that have mismanaged their funds in some way, and in many cases, even if these districts defied the intent of the property tax reduction intended in 2006 and raced up to the maximum rate allowed by law, the revenue would still not be enough to make up the difference.

Right now, there are hundreds of thousands of students aboard school buses that are headed toward a fiscal cliff. We can't even begin to imagine the damage that might be done if they are allowed to fall off that precipice. But unlike a physical cliff, this is a tragedy that can be prevented. For when the 85th Texas Legislature convenes in January, they will have the opportunity to make this right. Legislators will have the chance to teach Texas schoolchildren what it means to keep a promise.

## Hereford Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

Jimmy Powell, Fort McKavett, Texas, and Jack Turner, Oklahoma City, Okla., were inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame Oct. 28th in Kansas City during the American Hereford Association (AHA) Annual Membership Meeting.

The Hall of Fame honor annually recognizes breeders who have dynamically influenced the direction and advancement of the Hereford breed.

After serving as a lieutenant junior grade in the U.S. Navy, Powell returned to his family ranching operation and began his registered Hereford operation. For more than 50

years, Powell has selected for scale, composition, muscling and milking ability to produce cattle that perform in the feedlot.

Powell graduated with a bachelor's degree from Rice University. He was a member of the advisory committee for the Packers and Stockyards Administration for the United States Department of Agriculture and was named a member of the Secretary of Agriculture's technical advisory committee for multilateral trade negotiations.

Powell served on the National Cattlemen's Association tax committee and the National Livestock tax committee. He was

inducted into the International Stockmen's School Hall of Fame and the Texas State Fair Agriculture Hall of Honor.

Turner started his Hereford herd after graduating from the University of Oklahoma with the basic principals of keeping an eye on birth weight and keeping mature size in check while emphasizing as much end product as possible.

Turner bred the famed L617 bull that was used in the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) carcass merit project, which let to the first tenderness expected progeny difference (EPD) in the Hereford breed, and is still the

basis for the current genetic markers for tenderness.

Turner serves on the Hereford Research Foundation board and has helped guide the American Hereford Association by identifying the research projects the association should be involved with. He is very supportive of research projects going on within the AHA both financially and with genetics.

"We congratulate both of these men for the impact they have made on the Hereford breed," says Jack Ward, AHA chief executive officer. "Their dedication to the breed is inspiring and I am honored to induct them into the Hereford Hall of Fame."

## Texas State Sales Tax Revenue Totaled \$2.3 Billion in October

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said today that state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.29 billion in October, 0.2 percent more than in October 2015.

"Opposing trends in consumer and business spending resulted in slight overall growth in state sales tax revenue," Hegar said. "Continued declines in collections from the mining, manufacturing and wholesale trade sectors,

reflecting the subdued level of drilling for oil and natural gas production, were offset by significant gains from retail trade and restaurants."

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in October 2016 was down by 2.1 percent compared to the same period a year ago.

Sales tax revenue is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections.

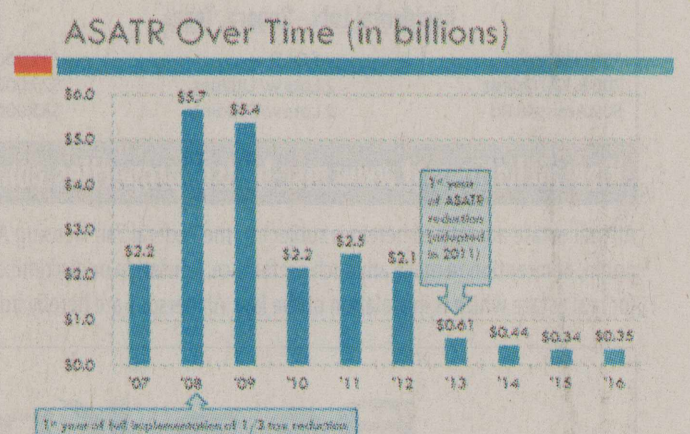
Motor vehicle sales and rental taxes, motor fuel taxes and oil and natural gas production taxes also are large revenue sources for the state.

In October 2016, Texas collected the following revenue from those taxes: motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$396 million, down 4.6 percent from October 2015; motor fuels taxes — \$299 million, up 2.1 percent from October 2015; and oil and natural gas production

taxes — \$224 million, down 6.9 percent from October 2015.

Note: On their own, natural gas production tax collections in October 2016 were 9.3 percent higher than in October 2015, representing the first year-over-year monthly increase since December 2014.

For details on all monthly collections, visit the Comptroller's Monthly State Revenue Watch.



In 2006, the state compressed local school property tax rates by a third and promised to increase state funding by the same amount so that school districts would not realize any reduction in funding as a result of the state's effort to provide property tax relief. This state broke its promise soon thereafter, as illustrated in this chart. If nothing changes, ASATR funding will disappear completely in 2017, leaving local schools with a third less funding than they had in 2006.