

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS



"The Voice of Eldorado and Schleicher County Since 1901"



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Elusive prophet remains at large despite dragnet

Utah police thought that maybe, just maybe they had managed to find Warren Jeffs last week when an anonymous tipster reported that the fugitive prophet of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was hiding in a house near Beryl, UT.

But when police pulled over two vans seen leaving the area, what they found was a number of young men and boys dressed in dark suits, a style favored by Jeffs' FLDS followers.

Jeffs, however, was not in either of the vans, but authorities did locate a police scanner in one of the vehicles.

According to investigators, an anonymous informant told police that Warren Jeffs was hiding at a place called Harker Farm, a small settlement of FLDS faithful near the southern Utah town of Beryl.

Officers soon spotted two vans leaving the area and followed them as they headed southward toward Colorado City/Hildale, the Arizona/Utah border communities that are home to some 10,000 fundamentalist Mormons, many of whom are devoted followers of Warren Jeffs.

When one of the vans made an illegal lane change, Utah lawmen pulled both of them over. The occupants of one of the vans were ordered out and were asked to identify themselves. They were said to all be young men and boys from Colorado City/Hildale, all of whom were wearing dark suits.

The occupants of the second van were not made to leave their vehicle, although a Utah policeman looked inside the van. He reportedly saw several more men and young boys, also dressed in dark suits. The officer said he was satisfied Warren Jeffs was not in the second van.

Despite a tip that Warren Jeffs was there, Utah authorities did not attempt to enter the house from which the vans came. Iron County, UT Sheriff Mark Gower told reporters that an anonymous tip about Jeffs' whereabouts was not probable cause to enter and search a dwelling even though an arrest warrant has been issued for the fugitive prophet.

The traffic stop came days after Jeffs' brother, Seth Jeffs and a male companion, Nathanael Steed, were arrested in Pueblo County, CO. The pair were allegedly transporting hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash, prepaid credit cards, long distance phone cards, and prepaid cellular telephones to FLDS church leaders in Texas, presumably at the YFZ Ranch where the group is building a massive temple some four miles north-northeast of Eldorado, TX.

Seth Jeffs was later charged with concealing a fugitive from prosecution in U.S. District Court in Denver, CO, after documents addressed to Warren Jeffs were found in his brother's automobile. Seth Jeffs reportedly told authorities he didn't know where his brother was, and even if he did he would not tell.

Lawmen are believed to have recovered a "treasure trove" of documents from Seth Jeffs' Ford Excursion and there was a great deal of speculation last week that Warren Jeffs capture was imminent. Consequently, the traffic stop near Beryl, UT caught the national media's attention, despite the fact that Warren Jeffs was nowhere to be found.

At press time Warren Jeffs remains at large and is wanted on a federal warrant for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution and Arizona state warrants for sexual conduct with a minor and conspiracy to commit sexual conduct with a minor.

School board won't overturn NHS suspensions

Trustees hire TASB to help find new superintendent

A number of EHS students and parents were disappointed Monday evening when the Schleicher County ISD board of trustees failed to overturn a ruling by school officials regarding the suspension of a group of high school students from membership in the National Honor Society.

The controversy stems from an Oct. 15, 2005 raid on a "keg party" by Schleicher County deputies and the subsequent arrest of a 20-year-old Arizona man on a charge of providing alcohol to a minor. More than 20 juveniles, the vast majority of them EHS students, were issued citations for Minor in Possession (MIP) and were released.

When school officials learned of the multiple MIP tickets the following Monday a number of disciplinary steps were taken. Included in those disciplinary steps was the dismissal of a number of current National Honor Society members and the disqualification of others who were being considered for membership. The action was reportedly approved by the NHS sponsor as well as the school administration and a faculty review committee.

School trustees went into a two hour and twenty minute executive session to discuss the matter. Several of the affected students and parents joined the board behind closed doors.

Following the executive session the trustees voted on the matter, but the vote split 3-3 with one member abstaining. Board members supporting the suspension were Jo Helen Kotsch, Eddie Albin and Berta Nicholson. Trustees Kurtis Homer, Lupe Sanchez

and Leanne Higgins voted against with trustee Jan Wanoreck, wife of EHS Principal Bob Wanoreck abstaining from the vote.

Board President Jo Helen Kotsch explained that the board's failure to act on the matter means the administration's earlier decision remains in place and the NHS suspensions are not revoked.

Supt. search begins

There was plenty of other business on the agenda Monday night, including the selection of a search firm to assist the school board in locating a new superintendent. The trustees interviewed three firms, including Education Consultants of Texas, University Associates, and the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), represented by former SCISD Superintendent Larry Blair.

Ultimately the board agreed to hire TASB, but not without disagreement. Trustee Leanne Higgins made her opinion known that the board could handle the recruitment task on their own and did not need to hire a search firm.

The final vote game with Kotsch, Wanoreck, Nicholson and Homer voting to hire Larry Blair and TASB for \$4,000.00 plus expenses. Higgins and Sanchez voted against the measure and Eddie Albin, who serves on TASB's board of directors, abstained from the vote.

A look at the books

In other business, the trustees met with the district's auditor, Don McKee, who reviewed the school's annual audit

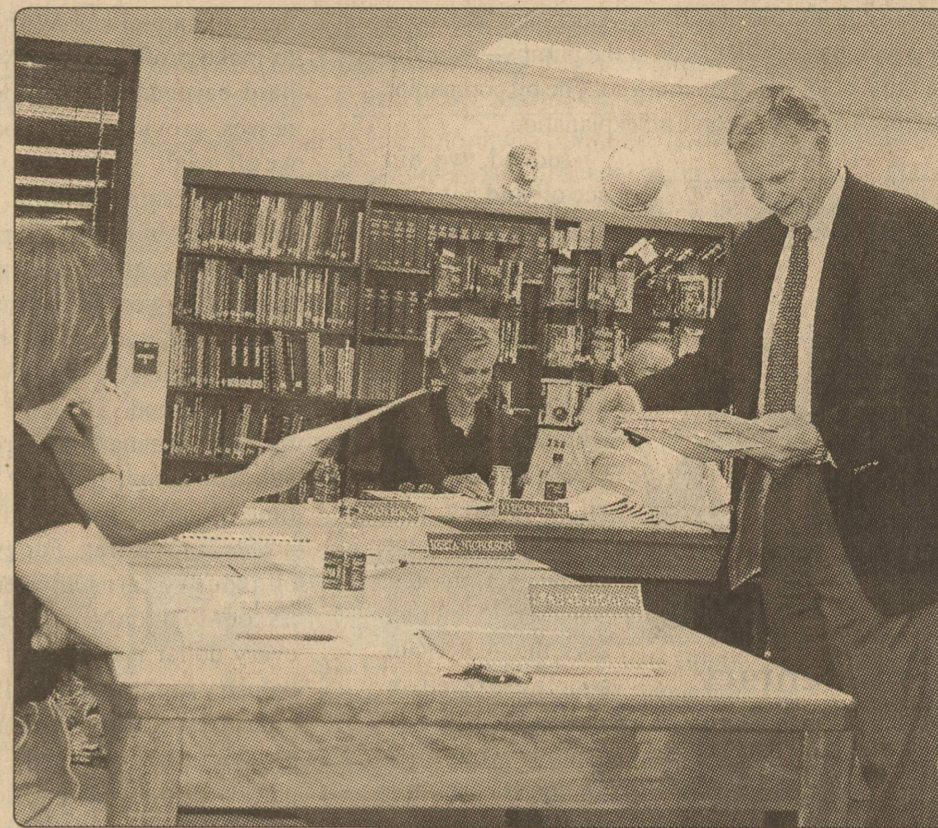


PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Former SCISD Supt. Larry Blair, who currently works as a consultant for TASB, distributed information Monday evening to school board members about TASB's superintendent search services. The board voted to hire Blair and TASB to help find the district's next superintendent.

report. McKee noted that the district realized an increase of \$268,115.00 in its fund balance over the year. Credit for the increase was given to increased tax receipts plus savings in several areas, including a reduction of personnel.

With there being no substantial concerns reflected in the audit, the board unanimously approved McKee's

report.

Odds and Ends

Among other items of business, the board authorized the payment of \$200 in yearly dues to join the TASB "Buyboard." The board then voted to purchase a 59-passenger school bus

SEE SCHOOL ON PAGE 6

County frustrated by TxDOT refusal to lower speed limit

Schleicher County Commissioners want the speed limit lowered on US 277 south of Eldorado near the Civic Center but can't seem to get the Texas Department of Transportation to go along. County Judge Johnny Griffin read aloud Monday a letter he received from TxDOT District Engineer Walter McCullough, P.E. stating that traffic studies did not indicate a need for a lower speed limit since most motorists are obeying the current limit.

The commissioners have long wanted a lower speed limit near the Civic Center as well as a center left turning lane, but neither idea has met with favor in the TxDOT offices.

Speed limits weren't the only

TxDOT issues the commissioners discussed Monday, the airport was also on their minds along with the need to come up with matching funds to qualify for a \$1 million TxDOT grant airport improvements.

Judge Griffin explained that he had notified the state that the county would not be able to come up with the needed cash. He asked the state to consider scaling down the runway paving project and put down a 30 ft. wide strip of hot mix on the existing runway to help cut the expenses and still provide a good runway. So far, at least, there has been no response from the TxDOT.

SEE COUNTY ON PAGE 6

Don't forget, Health Fair today!

The annual Schleicher County Medical Center Health Fair will be today, Thursday, November 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Memorial Building.

Flu shots will be available for \$20.00 each and pneumococcal shot will be \$25.00.

Cholesterol testing will cost \$5.00 and you must be fasting.

Tests available for no charge will be Glucose Testing, Flexibility Testing, Oxygen Saturation, Blood Pressure Checks and Medicaid information.

Information on Reflexology, Diabetes, Breast Cancer and Testicular Cancer will also be available.

Of course, the Hospital Auxiliary will have hot coffee, cold orange juice and trays full of cookies available.

Joiner signs with TCU

EHS senior and high jump star Rachel Joiner signed a national letter of intent with the women's track program at Texas Christian University on Tuesday, November 15, 2005. She is the daughter of Wayne and Shirley Joiner of Eldorado.

TCU is located in Ft. Worth and competes in the Division I Mountain West Conference where Joiner will undoubtedly continue to break women's high jump records.

While at EHS, she excelled in the sport, breaking district and regional records on the way to two State Meet appearances in the past two years.

And, her high school career is still not over with one more track season remaining.

TCU field events coach John Kenne-son told the Success he was impressed with Joiner's consistency and that he is pleased to have such a talented and dedicated athlete join the Horned Frog track program.

Joiner notes that it has been her long term goal to compete at the college level and she says she is very excited about the opportunity. She also expressed her appreciation to everyone, including her coaches and community members, for their support and encouragement.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rachel Joiner signed a national letter of intent Tuesday signifying her decision of join the TCU Horned Frogs women's track and field team. Joiner's has already made two trips to the State Track Meet in Austin and is looking forward to her third trip as she completes her EHS career in the Spring.

Must our Senators embarrass us so?

by Sheldon Richman

An open letter to the American people:

Like you, I was embarrassed by those senators holding the hearing on oil-company prices and profits the other day. Hard to believe that adults could act so childishly before television cameras.

Let's face it: those senators made such fools of themselves for one reason only — to impress you and me. Of course, we saw through their stunt.

Pete Domenici, the Republican senator from New Mexico, told the oil executives, "Americans have been experiencing painful prices at the pump — whether you think so or not, they think so. The oil companies owe the American people an explanation."

Indeed, we did see oil and gas prices rise, although they were already falling as the senators engaged in their tomfoolery. But you and I understand why they went up. World demand for oil has grown, and then hurricanes hit a key refining area. So when Domenici says the American people are owed an explanation, he is insulting your intelligence. He pretends that you don't know

that the explanation is available in any economics book. It's called supply and demand.

Byron L. Dorgan, the North Dakota Democratic senator, chimed in, "None of us knows much about pricing. But we see the pain of the consumers, and we see the gains of the companies." Now there was a refreshing confession of ignorance. That's rare in the U.S. Senate. He may not know how the price system works, but you and I do. We understand that when supply falls and demand increases, a process kicks in that encourages new production and reduced consumption. The pain is therefore temporary — if the market process is protected from meddling politicians who admit they know nothing about economics.

Want to hear something funny? When ExxonMobil chairman Lee Raymond explained the price system to the senators, Domenici said, "I don't think my constituents are going to understand your answer." See? The politicians think you're dummies. I suggest that Domenici speak for himself, and perhaps Byron Dorgan. The rest of us have heard of supply and demand.

Here's another laugh. House Speaker Dennis Hastert said he had a "very frank discussion" in which he told Raymond he should invest the company's profits in expanded production. Wow! I'll bet Raymond never thought of that! What would businessmen do without these guys? (Psst: the companies have been investing billions in new production.)

I'm curious: altogether how many gallons of gasoline have Hastert, Domenici, and Dorgan produced?

Apparently, the Bush administration didn't want to be left out of the silliness. Spokesman Scott McClellan contributed this gem: "Energy prices have been too high and energy companies have realized significant increases in profits. It's important that the private sector be good corporate citizens and invest in the energy infrastructure and support those who are in need." Thank goodness we have such wise people running the country. But is expanding production really a matter of good citizenship? I thought it was a way to make more money for the company owners, who might be you and me, since we could own stock through our 401(k)s. And what's this about supporting those in need? Isn't producing energy, which is increasingly cheaper in real terms, support enough?

The senators kept pointing out that ExxonMobil made nearly \$10 billion in the last quarter. But that was on \$100 billion in sales. In other words, the return during an extraordinarily profitable period amounted to less than 10 cents on the dollar. For years, the oil companies' profits were below the industrial average. You can look it up.

So here is my message to you, my fellow Americans. We can spare ourselves such foolishness in the future. How? Write your senators and representatives today and tell them you support the free market because it is the only way to have cheap, plentiful energy. And tell them you want no windfall-profits tax or regulations because they will only hurt us. Yes, take away any oil-company subsidies, but leave the producers alone.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) in Fairfax, VA.

Oil Profits, the Price of Gas, and the Future

As Texans made sacrifices to help our Louisiana neighbors and prepared to endure a hurricane of our own, we noticed the price of gasoline rising. Several weeks later, ExxonMobil posted its highest quarterly profits ever of almost \$10 billion. When the price of gasoline rises, it affects almost everyone's day-to-day life; and when the price rises substantially, it can have a serious effect on everyone's livelihood, from airlines to agriculture. With that in mind, the Senate wanted to take a closer look at the industry, so we invited some oil-company executives to speak on the matter at a Senate hearing.

Profits are a normal and important facet of capitalism. Without the incentive to make profits, people will not risk their hard-earned cash to open up new businesses, providing the goods and services we all need.

At the same time, it is disconcerting to hear about record oil profits at the very moment we are seeing prices rise at the pump. If it were found that prices were being set, not by the free market, but by secret agreements not to compete, then Congress would be sure those practices were punished.

However, many of us remember that it was not long ago that the oil industry was going through a tough time. A sober look behind the headlines of record profits is revealing. For every dollar they take in, the oil industry earns an average of less than \$.08. Even ExxonMobil only managed to earn just under \$.10 for every dollar it took in. The profit margins in the oil industry are actually well below those in many other industries. Contrast ExxonMobil's \$.10 per dollar margin with Microsoft and Citigroup, each of which had profits of over \$.33 per dollar. Other companies, like Merck, Cingular and IBM and all had profit margins

at least twice that of Exxon.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were major reasons prices rose this autumn. Oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico endured sustained winds of 175 mph, which caused substantial damage to much of our oil infrastructure: 35 platforms were destroyed and 16 more were badly damaged. By early October, over 90% of oil production in the Gulf of Mexico was shut down.

Even worse, much of the oil that we did have could not be turned into gasoline. With Rita bearing down on them, refineries from Lake Charles, Louisiana to Corpus Christi, Texas were forced to shut down. Combined, we lost the capacity to refine 20% of the oil consumed daily in the U.S. Before the hurricanes, oil refineries were operating at 97% of capacity, so the shutdowns caused a substantial disruption in the supply of gasoline, forcing prices higher.

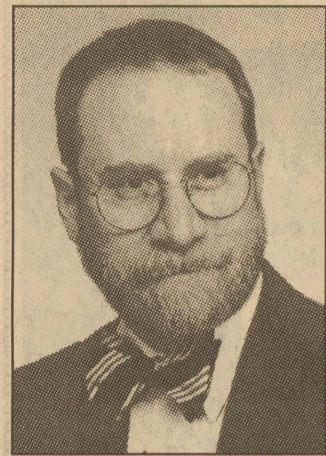
The supply of gasoline is vital to our economy and security. We need to have greater refining capacity so that when some plants are forced to shut down others can pick up the slack. However, right now extensive and arcane federal regulations discourage businesses from making additional investments in refineries. In fact, no new refinery has been built in the U.S. since 1976.

To open a new refinery now, a company has to follow expensive and time consuming permitting requirements, often fraught with lengthy regulatory delays. Businesses contemplating such a long-term investment must consider, not just the environmental regulations that exist today, but also the regulations Congress or state governments might decide to impose upon them in the future. The legal climate is so unpredictable that businesses have chosen not to build new plants.

SEE HUTCHISON ON PAGE 6



Commentary
by U.S. Senator
Kay Bailey Hutchison



Commentary
by Sheldon Richman



Bird eggs and butterflies

Franklin County has an active historical association. J. D. Baumgardner says his community of Mount Vernon puts a sign in front of all the historical homes.

"I and another member of our board of directors have maintained these signs for the last several years. The signs have a white four-by-four yardarm with a hanging plaque that gives the names of the original owners of the house, the year it was built and the current owners' names. We have somewhere between fifty and sixty of those in front of homes that have been beautifully restored."

One home that has been restored is that of Henry Clay Thruston, the tallest soldier in the Confederate Army. He stood seven feet, seven and a half inches tall. After the war he joined a carnival and was billed as the tallest man in the world.

The house was built in 1868. Thurston lived in it until he died in 1911. When Mr. Baumgardner's group learned of the house, it was literally on the ground.

"We restored it at a cost of nearly a quarter of a million dollars.



by
Tumbleweed
Smith

There's a lot of history here. We've tried to keep everything as original as we could."

When the house was dedicated a couple of years ago, J. D. staged a spectacular event, with civil war re-enactors in complete uniforms manning five confederate camps.

The population of Mount Vernon is 2,300. The county has 10,000 residents. The Franklin County Historical Association converted an old fire station and city administration building in Mount Vernon into a museum. It has one of the best butterfly collections in the country.

"I'd say within the top two or three. The exhibits show the bottom side, the top side and all sides of the butterflies."

The museum will soon have an important bird egg collection.

We're building quarters for a million dollar exhibit. We have three of the extinct bird eggs: the Carolina parakeet, the passenger pigeon and the Heath hen. We're one of the very few museums that have this type of exhibit."

The bird eggs are over a hundred years old. The collection was started by a family named Nations who passed it down to succeeding generations.

"Luckily it ended up in our historical association. A firm in California that specializes in bird eggs found out about our collection and wanted to see them. They wanted them very badly. The eggs were priceless to them. The directors of our group, including myself, thought that if it's worth that much to them it's worth more to us.

These have been stored in garages and old houses for more than a century and we thought it was time to really fix them to the point that they'll be preserved another century in the proper method."

The unique collection will be on display sometime next year.

Texans limit marriage to between a man and a woman

by Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — Nov. 8 election results are in and the most talked- and written-about item on the ballot passed.

Texans voted 3 to 1 in favor of Proposition 2, a constitutional amendment prohibiting the state from recognizing legal status similar to marriage for couples of the same sex.

The Texas vote matches what has happened in 18 other states, where voters banned legal recognition of gay and lesbian marriages.

Travis County, of course, stood out among the state's 254 counties as the only one in which voters rejected Prop. 2.

As former Gov. Ann Richards said recently, Travis County is an oasis of Blue in a Red state.

Secretary of State Roger Williams said about 18 percent of the state's registered voters cast ballots in the election, the highest percentage to participate in a constitutional amendment election since 1991.

Other propositions that passed:

- Prop. 1, authorizing the state to subsidize private and public rail transportation improvement.

- Prop. 3, allowing local governmental entities not to consider certain economic development investments as debt.

- Prop. 4, giving judges more authority to deny bail to people accused of felonies who are perceived as threats.

- Prop. 6, increasing the State Commission on Judicial Conduct by two members.

- Prop. 7, allowing homeowners age 62 or older to obtain a "reverse" mortgage on their home.

- Prop. 8, ending state claims on disputed land comprising about 4,600 acres in Upshur County and about 900 acres in Smith County.

Propositions that failed:

- Prop. 5, eliminating interest rate limits on certain state commercial loans.

- Prop. 9, extending the terms of appointed board members of regional mobility authorities to six years.

New commission to study taxes

Gov. Rick Perry named 24 people to the Texas Tax Reform Commission.

Their job will be to hold public hearings across the state and work out a way — such as a broad-based business tax — to fix the state's broken property tax system. The goal is to provide long-term property tax relief and improve the financing of public education.

State Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, voiced concern over the absence of wage-earners, consumers and educators on the commission.

Coleman said Perry and Sharp should consider adding them. "The Tax Reform Commission should refrain from recommending any increase in the state sales tax or other consumer tax unless consumers and workers have a seat at the table," he said.

In October, Perry named former Texas Comptroller John Sharp to chair the commission. Perry also chose his former communications director Robert Howden to be staff director for the commission.

Names and home cities of the appointees, most of whom are prominent business people:

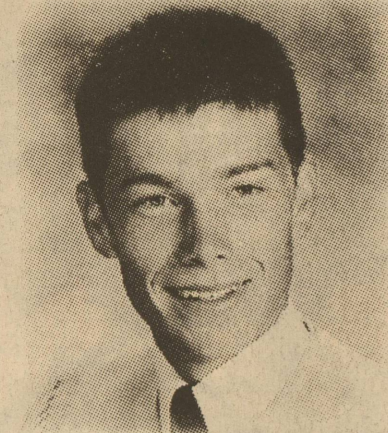
Kenneth M. Jastrow, Jan Newton and Howard Wolf of Austin; Dr. David

SEE CAPITAL ON PAGE 3



OBITUARIES

Thomas Ray Ballew



ELDORADO — Thomas Ray Ballew, 22, of Eldorado, Texas, died in a vehicle accident in Robertson County, Texas, on Nov. 11, 2005. He was born on Oct. 18, 1983, in San Angelo, Texas, to Ray and Debbie Ballew. He was a graduate of Eldorado High School and had just received an associate of science degree from Blinn. In August, he entered the radiology program at Blinn College. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Eldorado.

Thomas participated in basketball and tennis, and he loved the outdoors, working with sheep and cattle, and always taking time to hunt. Those who knew Thomas always expected the wry grin and the mischievous twinkle in his eyes. He never had very much to say, but he never missed anything that was said.

Mabel B. Montgomery

SAN ANGELO — Mabel B. "Sug" Montgomery passed away at the Robert Lee Care Center after an illness of four months. Sug was born in Eldorado, Texas, on Jan. 27, 1923, the last child of A.T. Wright and Mabel Beatrice Foley in Schleicher County, Texas.

Memorial services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2005, in Johnson's Funeral Home chapel.

Mabel was preceded in death by her beloved father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Wright of Eldorado, Texas. Mr. Wright was a founding father of the Methodist Church in Eldorado. He was a successful newspaper man (he owned and printed the Eldorado Success Newspaper for many years, as well as owning and running a downtown grocery store of his own). The Wrights were pioneers to Schleicher County and helped pass the petitions that established the county. Mabel was also preceded in death by a brother, A.T. Wright Jr. of Washington D.C.; and a sister, Eula "Sue" Barber. She was also preceded in death by a first cousin, Bobby L. Barber and his wife, Ebba Ann Finley Barber.

Mrs. Montgomery was divorced many years ago and had lived her life as a single, loving mother, grand-

mother, great-grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend for many years here in San Angelo. Mrs. Montgomery left behind many loving family members and friends that include her one surviving sister, Agnes W. Munn, 96, of San Angelo; one son, Chris Dooose of San Angelo; grandson Christopher A. Dooose of Austin; and granddaughter Nicole Wilson and husband Trey and great-granddaughter Cara Jade Wilson, all of San Angelo. She is also survived by a close cousin, Ray D. Hudgens, and many nieces and nephews who were all close to her heart.

Mabel graduated from Eldorado High School in 1940, when she left to Little Rock, Ark., to become a part of the war effort building munitions. After the war she became a flight attendant for Midwest Airlines out of Chicago. She later attended Texas Tech University to go on to work for Angelo State University and finally retire from GTE. Also, in her many endeavors she enjoyed many successes in real estate. In her retirement years, she enjoyed warm fays at the pool, bridge with her sisters and friends, and playing the lottery. She will be missed greatly and remembered fondly.

Services were held for Thomas Ray at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, 2005, at the First Presbyterian Church in Eldorado. Burial followed in the Eldorado Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Tanner Haynes, Jason Holley, Mack Holley, Scott Homer, Wesley Jones, Michael Ramirez, Will Whitten, Andrew Anderson, Seth Taylor and Terrell Boysaw.

The family requests that memorials in Thomas' name be made to the First Presbyterian Church or the charity of one's choice.

Albin reelected to TASB board

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) has reelected Eddie L. Albin of Schleicher County ISD to a three-year term on the TASB Board of Directors, representing TASB Region 15.

Albin joined the Schleicher County ISD board in 1993 and currently serves as vice-president. He joined the TASB Board in 1999. He is a Leadership TASB graduate and master trustee and has participated in the Association's Delegate Assembly and served on the TASB Legislative Advisory Council.

Albin is a consumer services manager for the Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative and is a licensed real estate agent and appraisal trainee. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Angelo State University. His civic involvement includes serving as president of the



PHOTO BY KATHY MANKIN

Eddie Albin

Schleicher County Rodeo Association and member of the Eldorado Lions Club and the Boy and Girl Scout Advisory Committee.

Capital Highlights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Teuscher of Beaumont; Victor E. Leal of Canyon; William Blaylock, Printice L. Gary, Hunter Hunt and Ronald G. Steinhart of Dallas; Ernest A. Morales of Devine; and Woody L. Hunt of El Paso.

Also, John V. Roach of Fort Worth; Wendy Lee Gramm of Helotes; James D. Dannenbaum, Jodie L. Jiles, Dennis Patillo and William A. McMinn of Houston; Robert Rowling of Irving; Alonzo Cantu of McAllen; A.J. Brune III of Midland; Randall Cain and Judith A. Lindquist of San Antonio; and Truman Arnold of Texarkana.

Lottery chief pay hike proposed

Oklahoma's lottery director gets \$175,000 a year in state pay, not including bonuses. The Texas lottery director gets \$115,000.

Texas Lottery Commission

Chair C. Thomas Clowe is asking state budgeteers to up the ante to \$139,140 — the pay cap for the head of a state agency. Clowe said Texas must pay more to compete with other state lotteries for a top candidate.

Former Texas lottery director Reagan Greer resigned in July after it was discovered and made public that inflated jackpots were advertised while he was in charge.

MONUMENTS & PRE-NEED FUNERAL PLANS CALL JOHN WILSON KERBOW FUNERAL HOME 853-3043

BIRTHDAY LIST

November

- 17th Andrew Anderson, Golla Pina, Beverly Minor, Billy McCravey, June Wheeler, Bradley Beach
- 18th Ramon Espinosa, Layna Murr, Michael Phillips, De Lux, Jimmy Aguilar Jr., Sarah Wolfe, Melinda Hunley, Verna Gene Johnson
- 19th Holley Martin, Jesus V. Martinez, Tracy Chancellor, Joseph Wade, Marsia A. Arispe, Victor A. Belman, Christian Martinez, Tracy Ford, Mia A. Ortiz, Veronica Fuentes
- 20th Leonard W. Lloyd, Mary Lozano, Lorain Hamilton, Lynn Meador, Milton Harris, Florence Moore, Ashley Bullard
- 21st Diana Gonzalez, Christopher Belman, Maria Belman, Tina Mulkey
- 22nd Shelly Phillips, Gary McKinney, Micah McKinney, Marisela Belman
- 23rd Carolyn Gilstrap
- 24th Darlene Hardesty, Tucker Clark, Sonia Mills, Chris Crowder, Lolly Saldivar, Rusty Goodrum, Chris Kuykendall, Michele McCravey, George Mata

ANNIVERSARIES

November

- 19th Joe & Linda King, James E. and Dora Mankin
- 20th Leroy & Dorrace Beach, Scott and Maela Edmonson
- 22nd Pedro and Marina Hernandez
- 21st Norman & Kathy Smith, Abbie & Peggy Ussery, Ken & Linda Thomas
- 23rd Tommy & Melinda Hunley

You're a part of our family...we'll be there for you!



THE GERMANIA COMPANIES SAUER AGENCY 5 W GILLIS, ELDORADO, TX 915-853-3068 TOLL FREE-1-800-657-9225

Senior Christmas Luncheon Schleicher County ISD cordially invites you to the 9th Annual Senior Citizen Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 7, 2005, 12 Noon at Eldorado High School Cafeteria. NO RSVP NEEDED-JUST COME! Music Provided by: Eldorado Elementary Freedom Singers

Piping Hot Pizzas Freshly Made!

PIZZA PRO

853-2504
Mon-Fri Lunch Hours 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

WEDNESDAY \$7.00 SPECIAL \$7.00 1 TOP-LARGE PIZZA

Daily Specials

Shell Star Stop
303 N. Divide

great meal deal

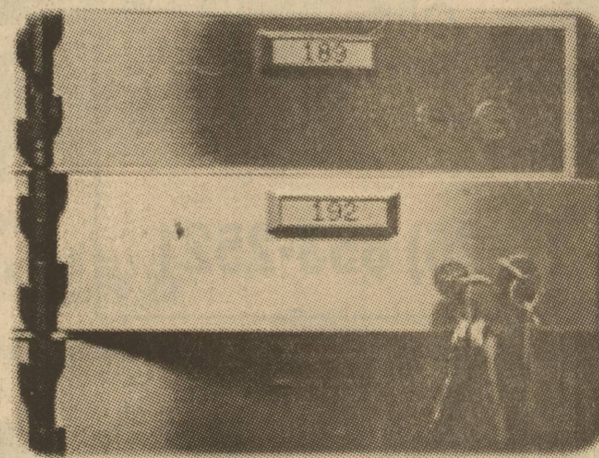
EVERY DAY #6 COMBO
100% Beef Double Meat Hamburger Burger, Fries, 44 oz. Drink only \$4.29+ tax

853-3474
Deli Hours 5am to 10pm
Store hours 5:00 AM to 11:00 PM — EVERYDAY!

Welcome Hunters! Check Out Our Deli Specials
Deli Hours 5am to 10pm

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Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication only if they are signed and are accompanied with a day and night phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for length or offensive material. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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Office: (325) 853-3125 Fax: (325) 853-3378
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Veteran's Day program honors our heroes

Honoring Our Heroes was the theme for the 16th annual Veteran's Day Program presented by the 3rd and 4th grade classes of Eldorado Elementary on Thursday, November 10, 2005.

The Special guest speaker this year was U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander F. Mitchell Bradley. The Eldorado native was introduced by Ray Lewis Ballew.

Mitchell was born and raised in Eldorado and was the son of Frank "Pancho" and Patsy Bradley.

Bradley began his military career when he entered the United States Naval Academy in June of 1987. While studying for his Bachelors of Science in Physics he competed on the Varsity Gymnastics Team for four years and served as the 2nd Class Brigade Commander of Midshipmen during his Junior Year. Mitchell was commissioned on May 29, 1991 and reported to Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S) training in Coronado, CA.

After graduation from BUD/S, Mitchell served at SEAL Team FOUR; working extensively in South America involved in Counter Narcotics Operations, and SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team TWO; deploying to Europe and the Mediterranean theater. In 1997, he was selected as a foreign exchange officer and served with the Incur-sori Maritimi (Italian SEALs) in La Spezia, Italy. Prior to coming to the Naval Postgraduate School, LCDR Bradley was a SEAL Squadron Commander fighting in the Global War on Terrorism in various locales around the world including Bosnia, Afghanistan, and greater Southwest Asia.

He is currently studying to obtain his Masters of Physics and conducting research into the carrier transport properties of various semiconductor materials with a specialization in non-invasive property measurement techniques.

In his off time, Bradley enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and four children in Monterey, CA.

Bradley spoke to the audience about patriotism and gave the Seals definition of a "hero" stating a hero is an ordinary person who acts with integrity in extra ordinary circumstances."

He related one story involving rescuing American and Australian hostages in Kabul, Afghanistan, the longest duration, deepest penetration hostage rescue mission conducted by military forces. Flying through 900 miles of enemy territory Bradley and thirteen other Seals and two MH 47 Helicopters rescued two American missionaries in 2001.

The program began with an Invocation given by Pastor Peter



Eldorado Elementary 3rd and 4th Grade Students performed during the annual Veteran's Day Program, held last Thursday evening in the EHS auditorium.

Thornton of Templo Getsemani. Oral Command & Presentation of the Colors by Commander Mr. Weldon Jenkins, Mr. Jerry Felver and Mr. Buff Whitten members of the American Legion Bev McCormick Post #257.

3rd and 4th graders choir sung the following patriotic songs: "Thank You, Our Heros," "George M. Cohna Medley," "George Washington and Abraham Lincoln," "The Branch Songs," "Taps," and the "Armed Forces Salute."

Mr. Robert Parker and Mrs. Edie Teel Niblett where the voices of Abraham Lincoln and Katherine Bates.

First Baptist Hand Bell Choir directed by Debbie Griffin performed "Songs of America" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Members of the choir performing were: Kim Johnson, Pearl Vinlove, Sharon Mittel, Becky Sterling, Linda Chancellor, Susie Richters, Marilyn Whitten, Chris

McCravey, Eva Jo Sessom and Randy Mitchel.

Daniel Guerra held the POW/MIA Flag during the Roll of Honor, and Memorial Wreath bearers were Lupe Pasillas, Marisa Espinosa, Roger Gehrels, and Juan Carlos Aranda.

Flag bearers for the "The Branch Songs" were Army Flag: Robert Martinez; Army Corp Flag: Tyler Martinez; Navy Flag: Colton Crowder; and Marine Flag: Jordan McCulloch.

Special speakers were: Colton Crowder, Sasha Rodriguez, Addye Chatham, Madison Albin, Michael Bilbrey, Ysenia Ramirez, Bailey Minor, Elizabeth Olivarez, Maria Reyes, Abriana Islas, Odette Barrientos, Obdulia Huerta, Junior Garcia, Tyler Martinez, Jordan McCulloch, Jose Aranda, Robert Martinez, Elizabeth Estrada, Daniel Guerra, Megan Reel and Kimberly Sanchez.

Benediction was given by Rev.

Leonard Wideman, First Presbyterian Church.

The program was directed by Elementary Music Teacher Joella Parker. Curtains were operated by Kimberly Sanchez and program distributors were: Guadalupe Pasillas, Roger Gebrels, Marisa Espinosa and Juan Carlos Aranda.

The program was dedicated to those who serve our country today.



Lt. Commander Mitchell Bradley returned to Eldorado last week and was the featured speaker at the annual Veteran's Day Program held last Thursday evening in the EHS auditorium.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MARTHA'S ANGELS BAKE SALE



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH CHURCH ANNEX
7 North Divide 8:00 a.m.

(Open House with coffee & wassail provided) Small gifts will be for sale

CACTUS CONTROL

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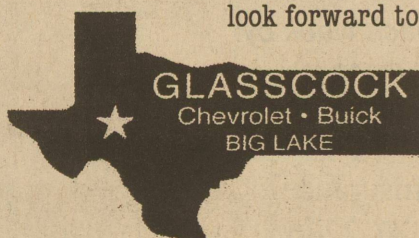
We would like to introduce our new employees,
Kenneth Roberson, Service Manager & Pablo Levario, our new service tech.



Kenneth Roberson

Pablo Levario

Many of you already know Pablo, an experienced GM tech and a Big Lake native. We are glad to have Kenneth & Pablo as part of our team and look forward to helping you with all your service needs!



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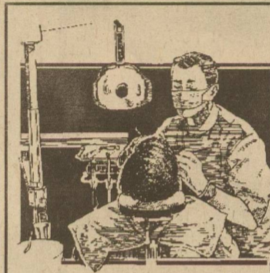
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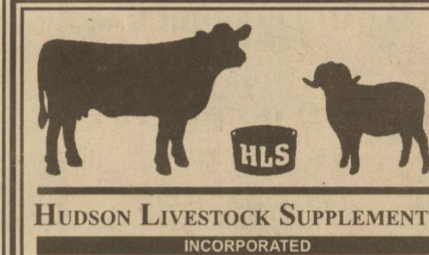
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New faces at the S.A. Civic Ballet's "Nutcracker 2005"

The San Angelo Civic Ballet (SACB) is pleased to announce the production of The Nutcracker 2005. This year's exciting production will be filled, not only with the color, beauty and humor that we love, but also with new faces and fresh perspectives. Over 75 local performers are diligently working under the guidance of our new SACB Artistic Team, as well as with several guest performers.

This new group includes Meghann Bridgeman, who danced most recently with Ballet Austin, and who has been hired as our Guest Director. Ms. Bridgeman has performed with many professional

companies, including the Alabama Ballet Company, American Ballet Theater, and Ballet Austin, and has provided instruction and choreography at a variety of locales. She will be staging the choreography of Susan Olson, the well loved former artistic director of the SACB.

Although Ms. Olson has had a long relationship with our community, she is known nationally from personal performances, including those at the Kennedy Center and on Broadway, from her choreography of numerous ballets and musicals, and her training of students who have been accepted to a variety of

professional ballet companies. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to reacquaint San Angelo with her incredible experience, and unique creativity.

San Angelo will also be treated to performances from several guest artists. Sarah Steele Cook, currently pursuing her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Dance Performance at SMU's Meadow's School of Art, will assume the signature role of Sugar Plum Fairy. Ms. Cook has had a variety of training and performing opportunities, including two summers with the American Ballet Theater. However, this opportunity in

The Nutcracker 2005, allows her to reunite with Susan Olson, with whom she originally trained at the Harrison School of the Arts in Lakeland FL.

Jay T. Howe, our Cavalier, originally hales from Alaska, and is currently a third year dance major at SMU, having received both academic and artistic scholarships to this highly ranked program. Although only 19 years old, his resume includes many lead roles, as well as work with Charles Rusell of Joffrey Ballet, and Jason Fowler of New York City Ballet. And Nicholas Hubert, currently an apprentice at Ballet Austin, will assume the popular role of the Nutcracker Prince. These artists, add a depth to our production, and provide a rich experience for both our local dancers, and our audience.

This year's Nutcracker promises to be an exciting Christmas celebration for the entire family. Please join us at the San Angelo City Auditorium, this December, in welcoming the holiday season with The Nutcracker 2005!

For more information call the San Angelo Civic Ballet at 655-8877.



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Conaway co-sponsors Right to Repair Act

BETHESDA, MD – November 15, 2005 – Rep. Michael Conaway (R-11th) of Texas has declared his support of the Motor Vehicle Owners Right to Repair Act (H.R. 2048); it was announced today by Kathleen Schmatz, President and CEO of the Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association (AAIA).

"We want to thank Rep. Conaway for supporting this very important piece of legislation," says Schmatz. "Passage of Right to Repair legislation is critical not

only to the thousands of small businesses that comprise the automotive repair industry, but also their customers who depend on local repair shops to keep their vehicles operating safely, cleanly and dependably."

The "Right to Repair Act" would require the car companies to make the same service information and tools capabilities available to independents that they provide their franchised dealer networks. Architects of the Right to Repair Act added

new language to clarify that car company trade secrets are protected unless that information is provided to the franchised new car dealer. The new language also clarifies the responsibilities of the Federal Trade Commission in enforcing the bill's requirements.

For more information about the "Right to Repair Act" visit www.RightToRepair.org.

Community Thanksgiving service slated for Sunday

The Eldorado Ministerial Alliance invites everyone to a Community Thanksgiving Service, Sunday, November 20, 2005 to be held in the Memorial Building at 7:00 p.m.

Guest speaker will be David Edgar, District Superintendent,

San Angelo Area, The United Methodist Church.

An offering will be taken to benefit benevolence projects of the Ministerial Alliance. Also, please bring canned goods to the service. Items will be distributed within the community by the Ministerial Alliance.

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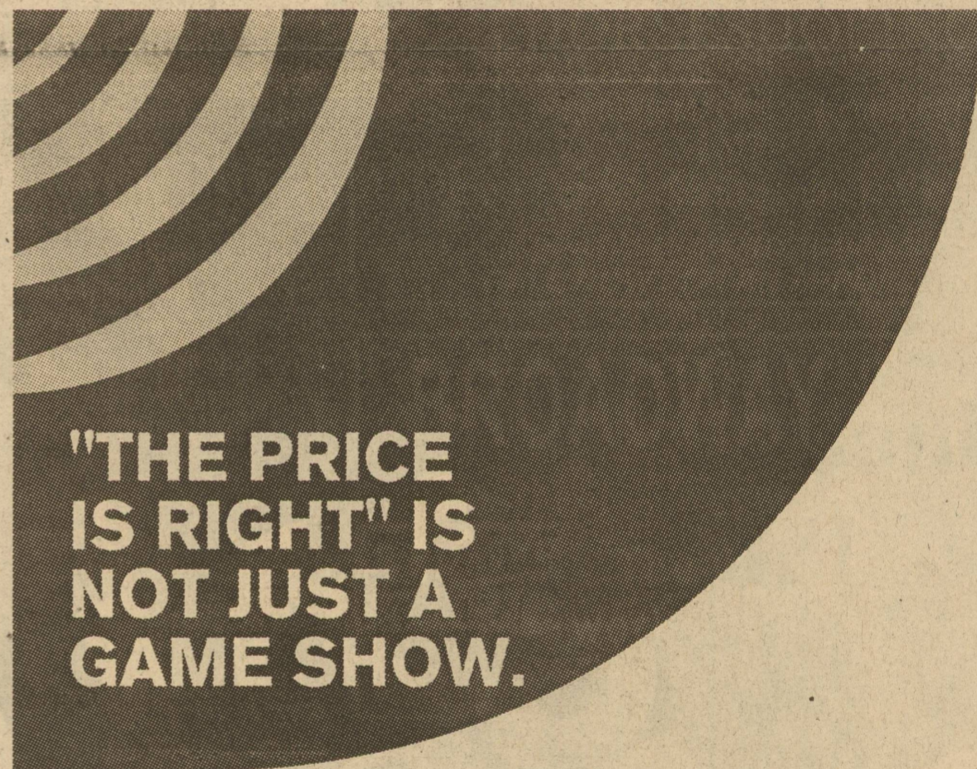
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Offer ends 1/31/06 and is available in the continental United States for new, first-time DISH Network residential customers. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Local and state sales taxes may apply. Where applicable, equipment rental fees and programming are taxed separately. All DISH Network programming, and any other services that are provided, are subject to the terms and conditions of the promotional agreement and Residential Customer Agreement, available at www.dishnetwork.com or upon request. Local Channels packages by satellite are only available to customers who reside in the specified local Designated Market Area (DMA). Local channels may require an additional dish antenna or a SuperDISH antenna from DISH Network, installed free of any charges with subscription to local channels at time of initial installation. Social Security Numbers are used to obtain credit scores and will not be released to third parties except for verification and collection purposes only or if required by governmental authorities. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Schleicher County will receive bids for 2005 Colonia - Sewer System Improvements until **10:00 a.m. Monday, December 12, 2005**, at **Schleicher County Courthouse, Eldorado, Texas**. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at **10:00 a.m.** at the **Schleicher County Courthouse Eldorado, Texas**.

Bids are invited upon the several items and quantities of work as follows:

This project consists of the installation of a packaged submersible duplex grinder pump lift station, 6" SDR - 35 PVC sewer line, 2" SDR - 21 PVC sewer force main, manholes, clean-outs, sewer service connections, yard service connections, pavement replacement (asphalt), horizontal boring, landscape restoration, and all related appurtenances.

Bid/Contract Documents including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at Hibbs & Todd, Inc., 402 Cedar Street, Abilene, Texas 79601.

Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$75.00 with Hibbs & Todd, Inc. for each set of documents obtained. The deposit is not refundable.

A bid bond in the amount of 5% of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to Schleicher County or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon) wage rate, as issued by the Office of Rural and Community Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

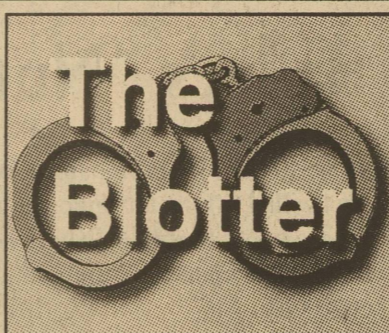
Schleicher County has the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any information in the bidding.

Bids may be held by Schleicher County for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidders qualifications prior to the contract award.

Schleicher County

Johnny F. Griffin, County Judge

All contractors/subcontractors which are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participations on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.



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

ARRESTS

November 8 • Arispe, Ernestina Lisamarie, female age 23, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Local Warrants.

November 9 • Robison, Joshua Bleu, male age 22, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Possession of Marijuana <2 oz. Released on \$1,000.00 Surety Bond, Concho Bail Bonds.

November 10 • Chadwick, Kevin Brice, male age 21, arresting officer SC deputy, offense FTA - DWLI.

November 13 • King, Carlton Wayne, male age 26, arresting officer SC deputy, offense Possession of Marijuana less than 2 oz.

INCIDENTS

November 8 • 10:43 p.m. Complainant reported a domestic disturbance on Del Rio Street. Officers responded.

November 9 • 9:30 a.m. Caller reported someone had hit her vehicle. Officer responded and a blue form was given.

November 10 • 8:23 p.m. Complainant reported loud music. Of-

ficer responded and was unable to locate.

• 4:27 p.m. Complainant reported a vehicle accident. Officers, EMS 2 and EVFD responded.

• 10:10 p.m. Complainant reported loud music on Dorris Street. Officer responded and a verbal warning was given.

November 11 • 4:22 p.m. Complainant requested to speak with an officer. Officer responded.

• 6:12 p.m. Complainant reported a lost cellphone Nokia 6015 estimated value \$150.

• 6:16 p.m. Complainant requested an ambulance. Officer and EMS 2 responded.

• 8:38 p.m. Complainant reported a skunk in her back yard. Officer responded.

November 12 • 12:43 a.m. Caller advised officer needed at East Street for assistance with four to five subjects throwing objects and other criminal mischief. Caller advised that subjects described above were a part of the primary party mentioned and started to disturb caller. Officer responded.

• 5:14 a.m. Caller requested an ambulance to residence. EMS responded.

• 2:42 p.m. Complainant reported a snake in her closet on Herman Street. Officer responded.

• 5:02 p.m. Complainant reported a female motorist needing assistance 15 miles south on Hwy 277. Officer

responded.

• 6:32 p.m. Complainant reported five males asking for rides. Officer responded.

• 7:20 p.m. Complainant reported two pickups drag racing on East Street. Officer responded.

• 11:49 p.m. Deer vehicle accident reported by caller 3-4 miles on north Hwy 277. Unknown injuries. Officers responded.

November 13 • 12:03 p.m. Complainant reported 30 goats on farm road 2596. Officer responded and SO left message for owner.

• 10:06 p.m. Complainant reported hearing voices outside. Officer responded.

• 11:33 p.m. Complainant reported a rattlesnake by her kitchen door. Officer responded.

November 14 • 8:30 a.m. Complainant reported he hit a cow on farm road 1828 and had contacted the owner and made arrangements.

• 11:23 a.m. Complainant reported a woman driving recklessly on the corner of Bud and Cottonwood. Officer responded.

• 10:08 p.m. Caller advised that an ambulance was needed at residence for a possible stroke. Officer and EMS 2 responded.

November 15 • 8:27 a.m. Reported an abandoned vehicle. Officer responded.

• 8:37 a.m. Reported a vehicle accident on CC Rd 300. Officer responded.

Solution to puzzle on Page 6

Stock Splits

S	T	A	P	H	A	L	S	O	P	C	A	P
I	N	D	I	A	C	A	L	V	E	A	C	E
S	T	A	G	S	D	R	I	E	R	J	A	R
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A	R	K	S	I	N	A	I	T	A	S	K	S
R	U	E	O	D	O	R	S	U	R	I	A	H
M	E	D	K	E	N	Y	A	P	A	T	T	Y



PHOTO BY J.L. MANKIN

Rozanna Sauer and her granddaughter, Holly Ford pose with a 5 ft. 3 inch rattlesnake killed last Friday night in the Sauer's backyard on McWhorter Street. After trying to kill the snake with a hoe, Mrs. Sauer called on her neighbor John Nikolauk to shoot the rattler.

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Applications will be taken and pre-employment testing conducted at the location listed below (please allow 2 hours for pre-employment tests + additional 2-3 hours for mechanic test):

10:00 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 17
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Looking up toward the camera is a more flattering angle and ensures you'll capture everyone's face.



MAKING A Memory

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

More than the elaborate table or painstakingly prepared food, it's the precious moments of love, laughter and shared life experience that make a seasonal gathering memorable. For many holiday hosts, the greatest compliment of all is a cherished memory of the event.

"Capturing those moments is easier than you think," says professional photographer Nick Kelsh. "All it takes is a camera, a little planning and a few basic tips." Just before you're ready to serve, ask everyone to take a seat at the table. Because looking up toward the camera is a more flattering angle and ensures you'll capture everyone's face, take the picture from a standing position or use a short stool. Make sure every wine glass is filled, and ask everyone to raise their glass — holding them below eye level, so no expressions are obscured. Take more than one photo to increase your chances of getting a "keeper." This may be the perfect moment to propose a toast: nothing too formal, just a few brief but sincere words of welcome.

Often the most natural shots are candid photos, when your subjects aren't

posing for the camera, but are simply caught in the act of enjoying themselves. And don't wait for a big smile to snap your picture — a serious expression or a dreamy gaze makes for compelling, and revealing, images.

A picture says a thousand words, the saying goes, and simple props can tell a whole story. A raised glass full of wine conveys one message, an empty one quite another.

Perhaps the most important tip for taking good portraits is to get close to your subject. "Really close," adds Kelsh. "Too much background can be a distraction and rob your photo of intimacy."

Even when you're photographing two or more people, arrange the image so that their faces fill the frame. The immediacy of the close-up can be the difference between a forgettable snapshot and a memorable moment.

Breaking Tradition

Here's a little-known wine fact: There is no "perfect" wine for the holiday meal. A single wine simply can't complement turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, candied yams and whatever cranberry salad your cousin brought, all at the same time. That doesn't mean you have to throw out your corkscrew. Instead, just ignore traditional wine matching rules and offer a selection of favorites at the table for your guests to choose from.

"Many people do not realize that the exact same wine can taste different to different people," said Matt Lane, director of wine education for Lindemans Wines. "So don't worry about any wine 'rules.' The most important thing is to drink wines you genuinely like."

Try a Shiraz, with its dark licorice and chocolate overtones, and a rich, cherry-berry Cabernet Sauvignon. For whites, a crisp Sauvignon Blanc and a fuller, creamier Chardonnay make nice options.

Don't worry about the price tag. The "best" wines aren't necessarily the most expensive, and New World regions like Australia are known for producing delicious wines for about \$6 to \$10 a bottle.

Capturing the Moment

Everyone loves photos, and everyone knows how hard it is to take good ones, especially during the holidays. How can you improve yours? By following these easy tips from professional photographer Nick Kelsh:

- Get close to your subject, and then get closer. Good close-ups have emotional impact — fill the entire frame with your subject.
- Keep pushing the button. Digital photography allows you to shoot more pictures with little added expense. Take dozens, pick a few good ones and delete the rest.
- Photograph things you've never photographed before, like a baby crying or Dad napping. People don't always have to be smiling and looking into the camera.
- Turn off your flash and use natural, existing light to create dramatic photos.
- Read your camera's instruction book. Being familiar with all of your camera's features will ensure you're ready for the unexpected.
- Plan group shots before you gather everyone together. Decide if you need to move furniture or stand on a chair or ladder to get a better angle. Everyone looks better (and five pounds lighter) when they're looking up.
- Shoot a test photo of the scene before everyone's in it so you'll know that your camera is ready to go.
- Most importantly, have fun — it will show in your photographs.



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Live, Love, Laugh

Show Lindemans how you live, love and laugh this season, and your special photo could be featured in a full-page ad on the pages of *Us Weekly* magazine. It's easy: Use the tips in the accompanying article to capture friends and family as they celebrate, and then go to www.lindemans.com for entry details and contest rules.

Children's Advocacy Center of T.G. County receives grant from Ronald McDonald House

On November 1st, The Children's Advocacy Center of Tom Green County, Inc., received a grant in the amount of \$9,577 from Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Big County and Concho Valley.

The mission of the local RMCH chapter is to support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children.

"We are so appreciative of Ronald McDonald's House Charities generosity and support," said Debra R. Brown, Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Center.

McDonalds has a strong tradition of giving back to the com-

munities where they do business and that commitment is reflected in the grant that was awarded to the Children's Advocacy Center for the Hope House program. The grant will be used to purchase a new DVD recording system to document the forensic interviews of children who have been abused or neglected.

The recorded interviews are later used in court during prosecution of the perpetrator.

"This is something we've need for a long time," Brown said.

For more information about the Children's Advocacy Center, please call 653-4673.

Hospice announces Help for the Holidays

The holiday season is full of sights, sounds and smells that surround us with emotion. But what if there has been a death in your family or you have lost a dear friend. How do you cope with your grief while everyone else is celebrating the season? Hospice of San Angelo is sponsoring a special seminar for any adult that is coping with a loss and fears the holidays will be unbearable. Ervilene Kuhlmann, licensed bereavement counselor will facilitate the free seminar and provide material to all the participants.

The seminar will be Saturday, Nov. 19 from 8:30 to 11:30 at the Shannon Women's and Children's center. The Center is located at the corner of Harris and Magdalen. The seminar is free but please call Jeanne Miller at 658-6524 to ensure your reservation.

The Hospice of San Angelo, in conjunction with other facilities, will also be initiating Operation Render Comfort effort and will host its second organized meeting involving 21 representatives from the Texas Non-Profit Hospice Alliance (TNPAA), the United States Army, the Department of Veterans Affairs, military families, and local

volunteers. Operation Render Comfort is a program offering continuing grief and bereavement support to military families throughout Texas. It exists as a tribute to the sacrifices made by the men and women of the Armed Forces and as a means to care for the families and friends they left behind.

Seventy-seven percent of Texas counties are classified as rural, and the ability for local rural hospices with existing community relationships to provide ongoing care is central to this effort. Because services will be provided at no charge for military families, operation: Render Comfort will be seeking support and volunteer assistance to provide the necessary care for these families.

"It is the goal of the group to have trained Operation Render Comfort support team in 35 Texas cities within 12 months and to offer specialized programs and services to children who have experienced the death of a military loved one," said David W. McBride, Executive Director of Hospice of San Angelo and a member of the training team.

Remember that there is help for your holidays.

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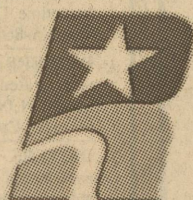
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They say the number one Christmas gift this year will be a cell phone, and this could be the **best Christmas gift ever** a parent or grandparent could give a young person between the ages of ten and twenty-five. There are plenty of cool picture phones with text messaging to choose from...the coverage area is growing by leaps and bounds...and there are no surprises on the bill. **Just one low price starting at \$29.95.** See store for details.

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