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The Devil's River News

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

May 4, 2017

\$1

Volume 128
Issue 18



Sonora Special Olympics



David T. Sine FILE PHOTO

SISD Board Bids Sine a Farewell

Sonora ISD trustees held a special meeting Monday, May 1, 2017, to accept the resignation of Head Coach and Athletic Director David T. Sine.

Although he requested to speak to the board one-one-one, he was denied the opportunity during this meeting.

Immediately following opening the meeting and establishing a quorum, the board went behind closed doors and mandated that everyone leave the building until such time that they resumed in open session. However, one SISD employee was allowed to remain in the building to work.

In open session, all but one of the trustees who were present voted yes to approve a motion to authorize the board president to execute the resignation agreement with the district's athletic director pursuant to the terms discussed in closed session.

Amber Killough, Shana Petty Castro, Jesse Bustamante and Brady Johnson voted yes. Jerry Jimenez was opposed.

The board did not welcome any visitor comments or further discussion.

Following the official meeting adjournment, Superintendent Ross Aschenbeck read aloud a statement wishing Sine and his family good luck in the future.

Despite taking his team to the Class 3A Division II state quarterfinals this past season, Sine was offered a reassignment

SEE SINE ON PAGE 8

Sonora Special Olympians made their way down the track in preparation for the 2017 Best of the West Special Olympics Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Some 15 Sonora students competed against athletes from surrounding schools in a variety of track and field events. DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sonora Hosts Best of the West 2017 Special Olympics

The sounds of cheering, excitement and joy from fans as well as competitors filled Bronco Stadium Wednesday, April 26, 2017, during the 2017 annual Best of the West Special Olympics.

Area school students ranging in age and skill level, came out to show off their best efforts while competing for first, second and third place medals.

Somet fifteen boys and girls from Sonora faced off against competitors from nearby schools including Schleicher County, Crockett County ISD, Junction, Miles, Rocksprings, Ballinger, TLCA, Reagan County and Miles.

Sonora participants included Future Stars Jackson Fitzgerald, Elias Hernandez, Andrea Huichapa Dason Granger and Stride Wardlaw. Elementary and Intermediate School students Manny Castaneda, David Pruneda, Sebastian Ramirez, Emily Banda, Sam Luke Lira, Sonora Middle School student Gabriel Valdez and Sonora High School students Carlos Ramon Vela, Tonya Bounds, Abby Lopez and Sydney Robles.

Sonora hosted the athletes, their families and volunteers for the annual event.

Sonora High School cheerleaders waved competitors on

to the finish line while others ran alongside them on the track ensuring them a successful race.

In addition to wheel chair races, 25 M, 50 M and 100 M walks and runs, athletes demonstrated skill and endurance while competing in a variety of field events including softball throw, shot put and tennis ball throw.

While contestants showed off their skill on the track and field, a throng of supporters filled the stands in a show of support. Some fans waved hand-made banners while others cheered and applauded special Olympians throughout the day long

activities.

The mission of the Special Olympics is to provide beneficial sports training and friendly athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with disabilities.

However, the real advantage is the fun and sense of accomplishment that these young people experience as a result of being part of the events.

All of the athletes earned recognition and applause for their months of training and contribution to another successful Best of the West Special Olympic games in Sonora.

Sonora Advances 7 to State Track Meet

Seven Sonora athletes earned the privilege of competing at the upcoming state track meet.

These competitors also recently claimed the Regional Track Championship for their effort during the Regional Track Meet April 28-29, 2017 in Abilene.

Sonora was awarded second place in the meet while competing against students from more than thirty area schools

Liam Yourgalite, Kaden Cordell, Willie Munoz, Jarrett Jackson, Michael Solis and Carter Zook advanced to the state competition.

Regional Results:

Shot Put:
Liam Yourgalite, 1st, 53'04"

(PR, Regional Champ and State Qualifier).

4 x 200 M Relay:
Kaden Cordell, Willie Munoz, Jarrett Jackson, Michael Solis, 2nd, 1:30.06 (PR, State Qualifiers).

300 M Hurdles:
Carter Zook, 2nd, 40.50 (State Qualifier).

1600 M Run:
Evan Shannon, 1st, 4:32.07 (PR, Regional Champ and State Qualifier).

The State Track Meet is set for Thursday through Saturday, May 11-13, 2017 in Austin.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and show their support for the students.

Good Luck!



(Front L-R) Weston Fisher, Corbin Crenwelge, Owen Jones and Cassia Hernandez. (Back L-R) Amber Freeman, Catarina Hernandez, Christina Hernandez, Cara Hernandez. KATHY MANKIN | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sonora 4-H Students Participate in Invitational Judging Contest

Cassia Hernandez, Owen Jones, Aidan Leamon, Tanner Flanagan, Christina Hernandez, Cara Hernandez, Amber Freeman, Catarina Hernandez, Weston Fisher, and Corbin Crenwelge spent their Saturday competing in Range Evaluation, Plant Identification and Wool &

Mohair Evaluation at the annual Schleicher County Invitational Contests, April 29, 2017.

Cassia Hernandez, Aidan Leamon and Christina Hernandez placed 3rd in Plant Identification. Cassia also placed 2nd in Junior-age Range Evaluation, Leamon earned High Individual

in Intermediate-age Range Evaluation and Weston Fisher placed 3rd in Junior-age Mohair.

Additionally, the Sutton County Sr. team won the range evaluation and pasture plant identification contests.

All of the students deserve commendation for their hard work.

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 8

GOP Pushes 'Sanctuary City' Bill to Passage in Texas House

AUSTIN — During his "State of the State" address on Jan. 31, Governor Greg Abbott declared legislation banning so-called "sanctuary cities" to be one of his top priorities and an emergency item, saying: "Elected officials don't get to pick and choose which laws they obey."

In 2011, when Rick Perry was governor, he made the original call for such a ban. Last week, after more than a dozen hours of spirited floor debate and parliamentary maneuvers, the Texas House approved legislation banning so-called sanctuary cities.

Senate Bill 4 passed the House on a party-line vote, with Republican members casting 93 votes in favor and Democratic members casting 54 votes in opposition.

Democrats collectively made numerous and largely unsuccessful attempts to amend the bill in ways to protect Texas' immigrant communities.

On Feb. 8, the Senate passed its own version of a ban on sanctuary cities, also on a party-line vote. Next, the Senate must decide whether to concur with the House's version of SB 4. If not, a conference committee of House and Senate members would meet and try to agree on a final version to be returned to their respective bodies for consideration. If both houses of the Legislature approve an identical bill, it will go to the governor's desk.

Under SB 4, a sheriff, police chief, constable or jailer who has custody of a person

subject to a federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainer request and who knowingly fails to comply with the detainer request could be charged with a Class A misdemeanor. A conviction for noncompliance would result in immediate removal from office.

Also, the bill would prevent governmental entities from adopting or enforcing an ordinance, order, rule, policy or other measure to prohibit the enforcement of immigration laws, or prohibiting enforcement of immigration laws as demonstrated by pattern or practice.

Another requirement of the bill would be for the state to establish a competitive grant program enabling the Criminal

Justice Division of the governor's office to provide financial assistance to cities to offset costs associated with immigration enforcement and fulfillment of immigration detainer requests.

Rep. John W. R-Lubbock, welcomed the passage of SB 4, saying, "After voting for this type of legislation numerous times since 2011 when I served on the House Committee on State

Right of Way

I've never claimed to be a great driver. Good, perhaps. Careful, for sure. My family would tell you I am cautious — sometimes to the point of being jumpy at the wheel.

By jumpy I mean on the lookout for surprises, aka accidents waiting to happen. Pedestrians who come out of nowhere. Squirrels darting across the street. Dogs without leashes. And cars. Mostly other cars. I have trust issues with other cars, or more specifically the drivers of those cars.

You can't count on them to see you or follow the rules of the road. Many are looking at phones. Everyone knows you shouldn't text and drive but I see it all the time. Hence my caution and predisposition to brake first and ask question later. Defensive driving 101 — I practically invented the topic.

This seasoned roadie has learned that not all driving is created equal. Some situations are worse than others. There are a few scenarios where a diligent driver (like me) is likely to be more road-leery and brake-ready than usual.

Uncontrolled intersections are risky business. When I encounter a cross street with another vehicle inching out onto my roadway, I slow down and prepare to avoid a collision should they attempt to come crashing into me.

Four-way stop signs are controlled intersections and as such should bring comfort to a control freak. Unfortunately this isn't the case. The concept of waiting your turn was mastered by most of us in kindergarten. All that good knowledge goes flying out the window when drivers encounter a four-way stop and leap into a me-first mentality. Some motorists even piggyback on the car in front of their own, so that both vehicles go through the intersection at the same time. Clearly illegal. So many things could go wrong at a four-way stop. So I am wary.

As I am with left turns. I go out of my way to avoid them. Left turns involve cross traffic, which could result in a T-bone that has nothing to do with a juicy steak. Besides, why make a left when three rights will get you the same outcome?

Making a left turn at a four-way stop is a double whammy. Enough said.

Not all hazards of driving occur on the roadways. Parking lots are the Wild, Wild West of the driving world. Anarchy rules and laws and logic are ignored. Drivers in parking lots pay no heed to stop signs. They cut across traffic and fail to yield to other vehicles. People drive up the down lane, clearly ignoring the directional arrows painted on the pavement. One must be ever-alert and attentive to avoid running into shopping carts and reckless drivers.

I wish I could avoid parking lots like I avoid left turns.

My son, who often rides shotgun in my vehicle, gets annoyed with my vigilant behind-the-wheel behaviors.

"You've got the right of way," he says with the smug authority of someone with a brand new permit in his wallet and a pocketful of knowledge gleaned from a recent stint in driver's training class. Clearly his nouveau insight far surpasses my decades of dependably cautious driving experience.

"If they come crashing into us it doesn't matter who has the right of way," I tell him with the authority of a driver who long ago graduated from training permit to full-fledged license.

And then I make a few right turns toward home. It's all in the name of safety.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

The Devil's River News logo and contact information: Masked Rider Publishing, Inc., 224 E. Main Street, Sonora, Texas 76950. Ph: 325.387.2507, Fax: 325.853.3378. Email: editor@devilsriver.news, Website: www.devilsriver.news, USPS 155-920



A Sector by Sector Approach to Border Security

One size does not fit all

The privilege of representing the 23rd Congressional District of Texas is something I do not take lightly, and I work hard each day to ensure that my votes in Washington reflect the views and best interests of my constituents. I represent more than 800 miles of U.S.-Mexico border, more than any other Member of Congress. La Frontera forms a unique social and economic connection throughout the district. From El Paso to Del Rio and on to Eagle Pass, each section of the border faces unique geographical, technological and cultural challenges that must be addressed separately.

My stance on the border wall has not changed, because the facts have not changed. There is no question that we must secure our border, but building a wall from sea to shining sea is the most expensive and least effective way to go about doing so. A one-size-fits-all solution won't address all of the border's complexities.

While physical barriers are one of many tools and may work well in urban areas, gaining operational control of the entire southern border will require a sector-by-sector approach that adequately empowers the men and women on the ground with technology, resources, and manpower. I am in favor of investing in technology and personnel, instead of a third century solution. We also must implement an intelligence-led border security approach to combat the 19 criminal organizations currently operating in Mexico. The reality is that these are problems for Mexico as well, and there are a number of units we can be working with to stop these problems before they arrive at our borders. This will keep people on both sides of the border safer.



Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS

I am often asked why I don't support a border wall, and one of the reasons is because it hasn't worked in the past. There are already almost 700 miles of fencing along the 2,000 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border. Much of it is in need of repairs from human smugglers and cartels repeatedly digging under, climbing over and cutting through it. On one

of my trips to the border, I saw a portion of the existing fencing that was used by drug traffickers as a ramp to drive a full-size tractor-trailer into the U.S.

Additionally, many of the areas along the Texas-Mexico border are so remote, that border agents measure response time in hours or days. In these places, a fence is not a deterrent. These areas need surveillance technology, infrastructure and most importantly, personnel. If there are not agents in place to respond to crossings or technology to monitor activity, a wall will do little to effectively secure our border.

Alternatively, we should be able to detect when someone illegally crosses the border, monitor them with a camera or unmanned aerial vehicle, and keep track of the threat until we are able to deploy our most important resources: the men and women in our border patrol.

There is no question that we must secure our border and enforce our nation's laws. But the last thing we should do is limit ourselves to only one tool in the toolbox. I hope that we can begin talking about strategies, rather than tactics, and measurable benchmarks. When we measure the effectiveness of border security, we shouldn't be measuring how many miles of fence or wall we have. We should instead measure whether we see a notable decrease in human trafficking, drug smuggling and illegal crossings.

These are lessons I have learned by proactively listening to the concerns of constituents, local law enforcement, landowners and Border Patrol. Until we get it right, this is the message I will carry to my colleagues in Washington and continue to fight for.

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Life After Jose Cuervo

Cindy Jordan wrote the song Jose Cuervo in 1979 while working as a cocktail waitress in Torrance, California. "I was sipping on a little Cuervo after work and wrote the song in about ten minutes," she says. "It was the first song I wrote. I've written others that some of my kinfolks say are better than Cuervo. I wrote Cuervo for a



Rolling Along by Tumbleweed Smith

man to sing, but changed the words so I could sing it. I recorded it in 1982 and it became the number one song in Los Angeles. When Shelly West sang it in 1983 the song jumped to number one on national charts. It boosted sales of Jose Cuervo tequila."

I first met Cindy in 1990 when she was living in the Panola County community of DeBerry with her husband and two young children. Cindy told me about her musical background. "When I was three years old I used to stand in front of the fireplace and sing songs while using a hair brush as a make believe microphone. My grandmother played honky-tonk piano and I loved that music."

Cindy is a classical pianist and has played piano since age 3. After the success of Jose Cuervo, she moved to Nashville and recorded 11 CD's of classical music that she composed herself. "Then I wrote a book called Butterfly Moments, which tells the story of my music."

A few years ago Cindy and her husband moved to San Angelo. "I said, OK, what am I supposed to be doing here? It seems like every time I move something new musically happens."

It came in a flood. Cindy (or Cynthia, as she calls herself on her classical albums) became fascinated with San Angelo's colorful past. A downtown landmark is a popular restaurant called Miss Hattie's, which used to be a brothel. "I bought myself a saloon outfit and started playing ragtime honky-tonk piano down at Miss Hattie's. The more I found out about the women who worked at Miss Hattie's, the more I thought I could write a musical about the girls of San Angelo. So I did. It's called Pearl and is being produced in San Antonio."

After that musical she wrote a book titled Diamonds, about the movie stars from the 1920's. She wrote another musical titled The Lady in Blue, based on a local legend. "We're putting it to a symphony score right now and the symphony orchestra is going to be playing my score, The Lady in Blue."

She then wrote another novel titled Ruby, about the wine industry. When she offered television the opportunity to do a mini-series about some of her work, she got a yes for an answer. "That has kind of gone dormant right now, but to get a yes once, as I learned a long time ago with Jose Cuervo, I'll get a yes again."

Cindy does a three-hour evening radio show and enjoys making public appearances. "I tell stories and play the songs that go along with the stories."

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Sonora Elementary School Students for the week of May 1-5, 2017, Rey Acevedo, Pre-K, Geneva Alvarado, K, Tres Garza, 1st, Leyla Gamez, 2nd.

[COURTESY PHOTO]

Sonora ISD Students of the Week

EATON HILL NATURE CENTER & PRESERVE



Sonora Intermediate School Students for the week of May 1-5, 2017, Leslie Hernandez, 3rd, PJ Ramirez, 4th, Chtlaly Delgado, 5th.

[COURTESY PHOTO]



Sonora Middle School Students for the week of May 1-5, 2017, Christopher Martinez, 6th, Amaris Jimenez, 7th, Juan Ruiz, 8th.

[COURTESY PHOTO]

OBITUARIES

Edwin Darrell Grissom July 5, 1938 – April 27, 2017



Edwin Darrell Grissom, 78, died at his home in Abilene on Thursday, April 27, 2017, after a lengthy illness.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m., Monday, May 1, 2017 at Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Chapel of Faith, 5701 Hwy 277 South, in Abilene, with burial following in Elliott-Hamil Garden of Memories Cemetery.

Visitation will be Sunday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Darrell was born July 5, 1938 in Cross Plains, TX to W.L. and Ina Grissom. As a young man, Darrell worked on drilling rigs for 10 years, then went to work as a policeman for the City of Anson for 10 years.

In 1972, he went to work for Wes-Tex Drilling in Abilene. In 1977, he was promoted to toolpusher. After Wes-Tex sold out, he worked for Patterson UTI. Darrell continued to work in that position until his retirement in September 2004.

In 1976, he married Maxine Smith in Lawton, OK. They lived in

Eldorado, TX for seven years. In 1983, they purchased a farm in Jones County, where they raised coastal hay and livestock. They sold the farm in 2000 and moved to Abilene.

Darrell was preceded in death by his parents, W. L. and Ina Grissom; his daughter, Kathleen (Beanie) Bolden; and a brother, Jimmie Grissom.

Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Maxine's two daughters, Misti Grant and husband, Terry of Abilene and Debbie Garner of Stith; four granddaughters, Megan Grant and Heather Bolden both of Abilene, and Samantha and Stephanie Graham of the Metroplex; son-in-law, Don Bolden of Abilene; three sisters, Dora Mankin of Eldorado, Jodi Kirk and husband, Kenneth of Truby, and Sharon Rister and husband, John of Hamlin; two brothers, Randall Grissom and wife, Mary of the Metroplex and Merle Grissom and wife, Christine of Lawn; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in his name be made to his favorite charities, Ben Richey's Boys Ranch and West Texas Rehab Center.

The family wants to issue a special thanks to Dr. Longley, Dr. Arora, Dr. Hudson, Kindred Health Care and Kindred Hospice for all of the support and care.

You may view and sign the guest book at www.elliottthamil.com

Tye Humphreys March 1, 1991 - April 15, 2017



Tye Humphreys was taken from us tragically on April 15, 2017.

Tye who was born on March 1, 1991 was only 26 years old and leaves behind his wife Angela and two beautiful daughters Saidee and Sydnee and his step-son Sklyer. Tye was also a son, grandson, and a brother.

He is survived by his father Johnny Humphreys and paternal grandmother Jean Humphreys of Sonora.

He is also survived by his mother and step father Diane Parker and JD Cranford, maternal grandparents Larry and Elaine Parker of San Simon, AZ, his two sisters Katrina Cranford and Misty Brown and their families also of San Simon, AZ as well as numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Tye was preceded in

death by his paternal grandfather Vernon Humphreys and his older brother Kerry Humphreys.

Tye was a people person who never met a stranger. He loved his family and friends and was a loyal and genuine person.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and entertaining others. Tye was a wonderful husband, father, son, grandson, nephew, brother, and cousin. He had a huge heart and an even bigger smile. Though he will be missed by all that knew him he will live on in our hearts and memories.

The Humphreys family will be hosting a memorial potluck bar-b-q in remembrance of Tye on Saturday, May 6, 2017, in their home located at 3779 S. Frontage Rd. in Sonora.

Everyone is welcome and invited to attend and share in the memory of him. The family will be there all day so come as early as you like.

If you want to contribute to the meal please bring a side dish or dessert. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be submitted online to the account set up to help Tye's wife Angela and their two girls at www.gofundme.com/ In Support of Tye & his Family.

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Weekly Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS	short	66. This: Sp.	7. Yellow or Red
1. Find fault	53. Withered	67. Lawmakers: abbr.	8. Souvenirs
5. Firmly fixed	54. Tacks on	DOWN	9. Disable
9. Scourge	56. Bombards	1. Nav. officer	10. Western U.S. Native Americans
13. James ____	59. Luster	2. Exchange premium	11. Ill will
14. Bread spread	60. ____ of: observes	3. Subdued	12. Harasser
15. Dismay	62. Inasmuch as	4. Mortar's partner	13. Castor's mother
17. Insignificant one	63. Shakespearean role	5. Petits ____: cakes	14. Busybody
19. Indian corn	64. Jog	6. In shelter	15. Dernier cri
20. Agony	65. Fait accompli		16. Tarnished
21. Chose			17. Soft drink
23. Region of Greece			18. Armadillo
24. Snow, in Scotland			19. Social insect
25. Olympian			20. Ropers
26. Boxed			21. Belgian port
28. Stir			22. Consequently
30. Wife of Saturn			23. Ireland
31. Carol			24. Highways: abbr.
33. Pacific island			25. Letter
37. New Guinea port			26. Intrinsic nature
38. Ineffectual			27. Snuggle
40. Wallop			28. Vouchsafes
41. Zealous			29. Young woman
43. Noun suffixes			30. Garden pest
44. Before			31. Express beliefs
45. Views			32. Metric measure
47. Monsters			33. Desideratum
49. Asian land			34. Card game
52. Man's name, for			35. English college
			36. Hardens
			37. Roman money

See solution on Page 8

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by

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- Friday May 5**
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For transportation to and from the center call 325-387-5657

Devil's River News Weekly Rainfall Report

May 1-2	0.00 in.	May 1-2	0.00 in.
April	1.23 in.	April	2.48 in.
March	0.07 in.	March	0.17 in.
February	1.36 in.	February	1.48 in.
January	2.40 in.	January	1.68 in.
2017 Year-to-Date Total	5.06 in.	2017 Year-to-Date Total	5.81 in.
2016	25.10 in.	2016	29.22 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	21.67 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.

Sponsored By:
Texas Farm Bureau Insurance
Ruth Wallace (325)387-6504



PUBLIC NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE
SUTTON COUNTY
APPRAISAL DISTRICT**

May 2017

Property Owners Should Soon Start Receiving Appraisal Notices for the 2017 Tax Year

You may soon receive an appraisal notice from the Sutton County Appraisal District. The appraisal district mailed about 4200 appraisal notices on May 2, 2017. Your city, county, school district and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set your 2017 property taxes.

Under Texas law, county appraisal districts are required to notify property owners about changes in their property's value. The notice contains important information about the property's location, ownership and property tax exemptions that apply to the property. It must also include an estimate of the taxes by local taxing units if your property value increased in the last year.

Property owners who disagree with the appraised value of their property, the exemptions or any other action by the appraisal district have the right to appeal to the Sutton County Appraisal Review Board (ARB). The ARB is an independent panel of citizens responsible for hearing and settling property owner protests. The notice of appraised value includes instructions on how and when to file a protest, a protest form and the Comptroller's Property Taxpayer Remedies. The deadline for filing a protest with the ARB is April 30 for single-family residences with homestead exemptions, May 31 for all other property or 30 days after the appraisal district mailed your notice of appraised value, whichever is later for your property type.

The Comptroller's publication, Property Taxpayer Remedies, explains in detail how to protest your property appraisal, what issues the ARB can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the options of taking your case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or binding arbitration if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your ARB hearing.

Property Taxpayer Remedies is available from the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E. Oak St. Ste. 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
SUTTON COUNTY
APPRAISAL DISTRICT**

May 2017

Property Owners Can Protest Property Appraisal Values

Property owners who disagree with the Sutton County Appraisal District's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's Appraisal Review Board (ARB).

A property owner must file a written notice of protest before May 1 for a single-family residence with a homestead exemption; before June 1 for other property types; or within 30 days after the appraisal district mails the taxpayer a notice of appraised value, whichever is later for your property type. The ARB will begin hearing taxpayer protests on July 10, 2017.

After the ARB completes its hearings and approves final property tax appraisals, taxing units will use these appraisals to set property tax rates.

The ARB is a group of citizens who live in the appraisal district. In counties with 120,000 or more population, the local district administrative judge appoints ARB members. Otherwise, the appraisal district's board of directors appoints them. Property owners may protest any of the following issues to the ARB:

- the appraised or market value of the property;
- unequal appraisal of the owner's property;
- inclusion of the property on the appraisal records;
- denial of a partial exemption, such as a homestead exemption;
- denial of special appraisal, such as agricultural or timber productivity appraisal;
- determination that agricultural or timber land has had a change of use and is subject to a rollback tax;
- identification of the taxing unit or taxing units in which the property is located;
- determination that the taxpayer is the owner of the property; or
- any other action of the appraisal district office or ARB that adversely affects the owner.

The ARB schedules a hearing and sends the protesting property owner written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing. The law contains specific timelines and procedures for both the property owner and the ARB throughout the appraisal protest process. These are detailed in the Comptroller's publication, Property Taxpayer Remedies.

Copies are available from Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E Oak St., Suite 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

What's for Lunch?
Sonora ISD Menu
PK-5th : Free Breakfast & \$2.45 lunch
Middle & High School: \$1.95 Breakfast & \$2.85 lunch
*Menu Subject to Change

Monday May 8
Breakfast
Waffles, Bacon, or Cereal, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Steak Fingers, Roll, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots Coins, Cinnamon Applesauce, Milk
After School Program
Muffin, Milk

Tuesday May 9
Breakfast
Breakfast Strudel, Cheese Sticks, or Cereal, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
French Bread Pizza, Broccoli Bites, Tiny Tomato Cup, Orange Smiles, Milk
After School Program
Crackers, Cheddar Fish, Juice

Wednesday May 10
Breakfast
Sausage, Egg, Biscuit or Cereal, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Mexican Combo Plate, Mexicali Corn, Charro Beans, Salsa, Lettuce, Tomato Garnish, Strawberries, Bananas, Milk
After School Program
Parfait Granola, Milk

Thursday May 11
Breakfast
Cinnamon Roll, or Cereal, Crackers, 100% Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Spaghetti Bowl, Breadsticks, Garden Salad, California Blend Vegetables, Peaches, Pudding, Milk
After School Program
Baked Chips, Juice

Friday May 12
Breakfast
Breakfast Burrito, or Cereal, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Lunch
Popcorn Chicken, Roll Oven Fries, Cucumber Dippers, Pears, Cookie, Milk
After School Program
Manager's Choice

Sponsored By:
Buck N Bass Outdoor Sporting Goods
& Sonora Air Cooled Engines & Equipment Rentals
325.387.3400
115 N. Concho Ave. Sonora, Tx

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bride elect of Jacob Kelly

Meredith Earwood
bride elect of Bill Allen

Taylor Narvaiz
bride elect of Tyler Creek

325-387-5507
410 S. Crockett, Sonora, TX 76950

Early Voting April 24 - May 2
Courthouse Annex Building

May 6
Sonora ISD Admin Bldg.

Brady JOHNSON
Sonora ISD School Board Member

3 Precinct

VOTE

"An effective advocate for your Kids, your Teachers, your District and your Taxes."

Political ad paid for by Brady Johnson

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The Devil's River News

FREE Community-Wide Shred Day Tuesday, May 9th 2 to 6 p.m. The Bank & Trust 229 Hwy. 277 North



**SUBSCRIBE TODAY
325-387-2507**

The Thistle That Isn't

Today we are going to use a plant to introduce an upcoming range and livestock workshop.

That plant is called Leavenworth's eryngo. It's fairly common in our area, and people ask about controlling it.

The plant is prickly, about 30 inches tall, with a leafy stem.

The flowers are small, purple, and intermingled with small, spiny bracts in a long, head-like cluster.

The leaves are edged and tipped with stiff spines.

A tuft of small, rigid, spiny leaves grows out of the top of the flower head which resembles a pineapple.

Almost the entire plant has some shade of purple.

Eryngo grows on dry, rocky prairies, roadsides, waste areas, and is most abundant on limestone soils. It flowers throughout the summer.

So why are we focusing on Leavenworth eryngo?

Named for its discoverer, Melines Conklin Leavenworth (1796-1862), this plant resembles a thistle, but it is actually a member of the parsley family.

Eryngo is confused with thistles, due to similarity in both appearance and habitat preference.

So a landowner might

see the plant flowering and determine to use a herbicidal treatment.

The problem is that eryngo is an annual, and if it is confused with a perennial such as Texas Thistle, a land manager would be wasting herbicidal use.

By the time eryngo's purple flower is seen, it is nearing the end of its life, so treatment would be pointless.

That's where the May 24th Ranchers Roundup may be useful.

The workshop which begins at 8:30 at the Sutton County Civic Center will address the control of range and livestock pests.

One of the topics will be "Matching The Right Herbicide To The Job". It centers on correctly identifying the pest, and will then offer help in selecting the most effective treatment approach.

Other workshop topics include: Avoiding Common Herbicide Application Mistakes; Sprayer Calibration Demonstration; Pros and Cons of Ranching Wool Sheep, Hair Sheep, and Meat Goats; and Managing Livestock Pests and Parasites.

Three continuing education units (CEUs) will be available for those with a valid pesticide applicator license.

Individual registration is \$15 by May 19 and \$20 thereafter. The fee includes the noon meal.

For more information and to register, call the Sutton County Extension office at 387-3101.



Pascual Hernandez



Sky Hernandez, of Sonora, is one of about 200 participants in the 1st annual Stevie Smith Memorial Roping event Saturday, April 22, 2017. Proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the annual Sonora Camp Good Samaritan.

MARIA CONTRERAS | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Sonora Strong - Pass it On Roping Event Draws Crowd

More than 200 people participated in the first annual Sonora Strong - Pass it On Roping Festival, Saturday, April 22, 2017, benefiting the Sonora Camp Good Sam.

All of the proceeds from the event, about \$2000, help pay for curriculum materials and educational field trips for local children participating in the summer program.

Participants from the surrounding area, many who compete in rodeos year round, teamed up to compete in a variety of roping events followed by a dance.

Sonora ISD teacher Christy Garza said Camp Good Sam is an essential educational element to keeping kids on track for learning.

Garza along with other Sonora ISD educators who teach in the summer program also helped with the roping fundraiser event.

Camp Good Sam is a

six week summer enrichment program that combats summer learning loss in youth living in Sutton County. It offers local youth a opportunities promoting health and education while keeping them learning in a rich, curriculum-based environment.

Services are delivered at Sonora Intermediate School to rising 1st through 8th graders.

The annual program depends upon funding through donations, foundations and fundraisers like the Stevie Smith Memorial Roping event, Sonora Strong-Pass it on to continue to provide educational enrichment to local youth.

"I think the roping event was a success," Garza said. "Profits from this event will go towards a lot of things that the Camp Good Sam program needs but we didn't know if we were able to have this year."

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT

May 2017

Texas Comptroller's Office Helps Property Taxpayers Stay Informed of their Rights with Updated Publication

The Texas Comptroller's office has released the publication Property Taxpayer Remedies, a reference guide for property taxpayers which addresses property tax basics, providing a step-by-step guide on preparing for a protest hearing and what they can do if they are dissatisfied with an appraisal review board's decision.

Property Taxpayer Remedies also provides key dates so property owners know what they must do and when they are required to act to exercise their right to protest.

Property Taxpayer Remedies is available from the Sutton County Appraisal District at 300 E Oak St., Suite 2, Sonora, Texas 76950. The publication is also available from the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT



50-105 (12-1618)
[41.41.41.70]

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or appraised value of your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of the property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board (ARB) that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review

(Insert description of appraisal district's informal review process, if any, then give name and telephone number of person taxpayer should contact.)

Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You will receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any materials - whether in paper or electronic form - intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. (Multiple copies of these materials typically must be brought to the hearing so that each ARB member has a copy of all the materials to review.) To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative

will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office or from the Comptroller of Public Accounts at comptroller.texas.gov/forms/50-132.pdf.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal. Appeals to district court, binding arbitration, or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

Tax Payment

You must pay the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute, the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken or the amount of taxes due in the previous year.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at (insert appraisal district name, address, telephone number).

SUTTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
300 E OAK ST., SUITE 2
SONORA, TEXAS 76950
(325) 387-2809

You can get additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller's publication, *Property Tax Basics*, available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/docs/96-1425.pdf.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

On or before April 30 for residence homesteads and May 31 for all other property (or within 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are not allowed after the ARB approves the appraisal records for the year.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was delivered to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the change was delivered to you.

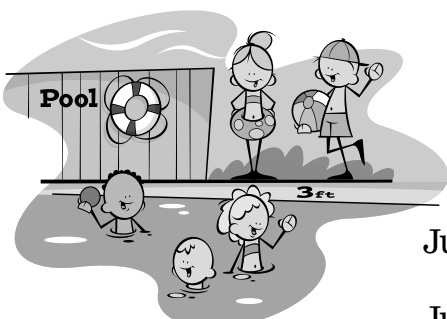
(You may insert deadline for protests concerning omitted property if doing so would avoid taxpayer confusion.)

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or legal, state or national holiday.

SWIMMING LESSONS 2017

at the CITY POOL



\$40 1st Child

\$30 2nd Child

June 5th_ 9th

June 12th-16th

July ---TBA

Parents Name: _____

Cell Phone#: _____

Child Name(s) _____

_____ Age _____

7YRS - 10 YRS @ 10:00 a.m.
5YRS - 6 YRS @ 10:30 a.m.
4YRS - 3YRS @ 11:00 a.m.
2YRS @ 11:30 a.m

*****30 minute lesson on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday*****
Lessons given by Tammy Favila & City Lifeguards
325-387-5377 or 325-206-0315

LESSONS INCLUDE A FREE SUMMER SWIM PASS!!!

DRN Comics

Daddy's Home

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein

WHY DID YOU BUY A CASE OF SPAM?
I BOUGHT TWO IT WAS BUY ONE GET ONE FREE.
I MAKE POOR CHOICES.

BY ANTHONY RUBINO & GARY MARKSTEIN

Dogs of C-Kennel

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni

DIG DIG DIG DIG DIG
CAUTION BURIED GAS LINE

FACEBOOK.COM/DOGSOFCKENNEL

Strange Brew

by John Deering

NO WAITING

4/8

Strange Brew

by John Deering

YOUR LIPSTICK IS CROOKED.

4/7

ONE BIG HAPPY!

JOE, HOW DID THE SEASONS GET THEIR NAMES?
YOU MEAN LIKE SALT, PEPPER, AND GARLIC?
NO!

HOW DID THE SEASONS OF THE YEAR GET THEIR NAMES, JOE?
WELL, FALL'S EASY! IT'S WHEN THE LEAVES CHANGE COLORS AND FALL.

IN SPRING, BUDS AND WEEDS AND TINY HEADS SPRING UP.
SUMMER IS TRICKIER. THAT'S WHEN PEOPLE GO SWIMMING, BUT SOME ARE AFRAID TO GO IN THE WATER. "SOME ARE" BECAME "SUMMER"

AND IN THE WINTER, IT'S COLD AND WINDY, AND YOU HAVE TO TURN AWAY FROM THE WIND.
"WIND TURN" BECAME "WINTER?"
GET IT?

WHERE'D YOU LEARN ALL THIS STUFF?
I DON'T HAVE TO LEARN STUFF, RUTHIE. I'M A NATURAL GENIUS.
GENIUS, AS IN "GEE, NUTS"??
YEAH, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

Nest Heads
by John Allen
TICK TICK! TICK TICK!
DOES YOUR PET SUFFER FROM TICKS?

IF PETER PAN IS COOLER THAN WENDY, HOW COME SHE HAS A CHAIN OF RESTAURANTS AND HE JUST PEDDLES PEANUT BUTTER?

ALLEN 4/30

Wizard of ID

I HAVE TO TAKE CONFESSION TODAY
GOOD LUCK WITH ALL THAT

BLESS ME, FATHER, FOR I HAVE SINNED
OH, NO
AREN'T YOU GOING TO ASK WHAT I'VE DONE?
*SIGH, I SUPPOSE...
PLEASE HOLD ON ONE SECOND

40 MINUTES LATER...
OKAY, SAY ONE OUR FATHER AND A HAIL MARY
NOW, GO... YOU... ARE... *SIGH FORGIVEN
I TAKE IT YOU RECOGNIZED THE KING'S VOICE

Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

YOU RUN AWAY WITH ME. YOU RUN AWAY WITH MY FAMILY.

Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

WHOA - STOOD UP TOO FAST.

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART

DID YOU BRING ENOUGH BAIT?
GOT IT COVERED.

READY FOR A JAMPACKED DAY OF FISHING EXCITEMENT?
OH, YEAH!

ASK SHAGG
By Peter Guren

A PIG PLAYS IN THE MUD BECAUSE MUD KEEPS HIM EIGHT TIMES COOLER THAN WATER. IT'S THE BEST WAY TO COOL OFF.
SHAGG'S HELPFUL HINT
GOOD LUCK CONVINCING YOUR MOTHER OF THAT.
OHK?

Dear Shagg,
How long can a sea turtle hold his breath?
A SWIMMING SEA TURTLE CAN HOLD HIS BREATH FOR ABOUT 2 HOURS.
A SLEEPING SEA TURTLE CAN HOLD HIS BREATH FOR 7 HOURS.
A SNORING SEA TURTLE... I'D GIVE HIM ABOUT 5 SECONDS.

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Find 7 'SOAP's!
S O S O A P S O A
A S P S O S A P S
P O S O A S O P O
S A P A P O A S A
O P A S O A P O P
S A O P S P O A P
S O A P S O P P A

WHEN IT'S TIME TO TAKE A SHOWER, I RELY ON ELEPHANT POWER!

Doodle Zoo
THE DRUM TOOK A NAP BECAUSE IT WAS BEAT.

DRAW!!
DRAW AN ELEPHANT!

RIDDLES!!!
Q. WHY DID THE GIRL TAKE A RULER TO BED?
A. TO SEE HOW LONG SHE SLEPT.
Jon Gleason, Maple Lake, MN
Q. WHAT DID TENNESSEE?
A. THE SAME THING ARKANSAS.
Tyler Edwards, Destin, FL

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3		2	9	5
9	3	5		4
	5	6		8
8		2		5
			4	9
3	8			
4		3	9	6
9	2	1		7

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

SEE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 8

ZIG-ZAG
THE ORIGINAL WORD MAZE PUZZLE
KINDS OF NUTS

ALL WORDS TO BE CONSTRUCTED PERTAIN TO THE ABOVE TOPIC. TO YOUR ADVANTAGE ONE WORD HAS ALREADY BEEN TRACED. YOU MUST TRACE THE THREE REMAINING WORDS, USING ONLY THE LETTERS DESIGNATED BY THE DARKENED CIRCLES. WORDS MAY BEGIN AND END FROM EITHER COLUMN BUT EACH LETTER CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE.

★★★
EACH PUZZLE HAS A DIFFICULTY RATING (ABOVE). FOUR STARS SIGNIFY THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY.

GIVEN BELOW ARE THE POINT VALUES FOR EACH WORD. YOUR WORDS MUST CORRECTLY MATCH THESE POINT VALUES.

11	
15	BEECH
16	
20	

1 A 1
2 B 4
3 C 4
4 D 3
5 E 5
6 F 5
7 G 3
8 H 5
9 I 8
10 J 7
11 K 2
12 L 4
13 M 2
14 N 1
15 O 1
16 P 4
17 Q 10
18 R 2
19 S 2
20 T 2
21 U 1
22 V 5
23 W 9
24 X 6
25 Y 6
26 Z 10

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387-2507

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FORD PU BED COVER, TANNEAU HARD FOR 6 1/2 FT BED CALL 325-650-8275 P17-20

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LARGE HOUSE, BARN AND ACREAGE FOR RENT. CLOSE TO SONORA. RECENTLY REMODELED. \$1000/MO. CALL 214-769-9229 OR CDJ325@SBCGLOBAL.NET P18-21

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Beverly Ann Valliant, Deceased, were issued on April 25, 2017, in Docket No. PR01461, pending in the County Court of Sutton County, Texas, to Tom Edward Valliant and Brenda Ruth Valliant, Independent Co-Executors.

Claims may be presented in care of James A. Boyd, Jr., the attorney for the Independent Executor at the following address:

Carter, Boyd, Lisson & Hohensee
515 W. Harris, Suite 100
San Angelo, Texas 76903

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

DATED the 26th day of April, 2017.

Carter Boyd, Lisson & Hohensee
A Professional Corporation
515 W. Harris, Suite 100
San Angelo, Texas 76903
Telephone (325) 655-4889
Fax No. (325) 657-2070




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Best of the West 2017 Special Olympics



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