

Letter to the Editor

Direction of school questioned

Editor:
I have lived in Riviera for over 41 years. In all of these years, I have seen many changes in our small town. Most of them have been good and for the benefit of our community.

I wish I could say the same about our school. For over thirty years at least, parents have been struggling to educate their children, fighting diligently to obtain good administrators and especially good, qualified teachers, who are the foundation that erects that educational building: Our children, Our future.

We, (the community) have had good and bad superintendents in the past. Some would listen and take action, some would listen with no response and then others would just ignore us.

For the last ten years, I thought I had seen and heard it all. Superintendents who come from cities and bigger towns than ours, who don't know the country life-community we live in, try to impose inner city laws and regulations, and fire or not renew contracts of well qualified teachers.

I thought nothing could shock me anymore when it came to superintendents that have come and gone into out school like swinging doors, but now we have a Nightmare on Seahawk Drive! We now have a controlling dictator who wants to control not only our school, but our whole community. The children were ordered to wear uniforms to school. Why?! But, they not only have to wear them to school, but home sports, out of town games and other functions as well, like a military school!

What this man doesn't know or doesn't care is that this is a poor community and some families have more than two or three students in school. These parents cannot afford to keep buying or replacing uniforms that could be stained or damaged at such games or outings. He should be focusing on the wellbeing and education of our children. He has lost a lot of good teachers and administrators because of his juggling (teachers) around.

Example: Why would any superintendent in his right mind switch an elementary principal who has been there for years to a high school, when she knows nothing of disciplining high school students? Or a teacher who has taught nothing but high school students for over twenty years as an elementary principal? It makes no sense! The only thing he is doing is hurting the students, because he has teachers who were teaching kinder and pre-kinder move to fourth and fifth grade, and don't know what to do. These are just a few examples of what's going on. He is messing everything up by trying to fix something that "ain't broke".

I know that a lot of you are thinking, "The school board is to blame," and you would be right. I am urging the school board members to take action because that's what they are elected to do.

I went online to inquire about UIL regulations and was told that this decision was a local school district decision. So board members, unite and take action and...

May God Bless You,
Zulema Longoria

OBAMA FINDS HIMSELF IN A "TEACHABLE MOMENT"...

WHEN YOU FIND YOURSELF IN A HOLE, MR. PRESIDENT, QUIT DIGGING.



Kleberg County now regulates towing fees

By Rey Sifuentes Jr.

Kleberg County Commissioners approved the regulation of towing fees in its jurisdiction during a meeting this past Monday.

"There are several different fees depending on the vehicle and the situation," County Judge Pete de la Garza said.

The judge said complaints about a Corpus Christi towing business that was charging high prices at the Padre Island National Seashore, which is in Kleberg County, prompted commissioners to get the ball rolling.

"What kicked off the whole thing was some guy who was charging an exorbitant amount of money and people were getting really upset,"

De la Garza said. "The county has the right to set those towing fees and that is exactly what we did."

De la Garza first requested Kleberg's towing companies to attend a get-together.

"We had a meeting a couple of months back and there was a lot of interest in it from people who represented the different towing companies in Kingsville and the surrounding area," De la Garza said.

"It was hard to come to an accord because they each knew their own fees, and we (commissioners court) did not. I told the companies to help us out by working out a schedule that we all could live with."

At the same time, De la Garza did some research.

"Meanwhile, I also got the schedule from Corpus Christi," De la Garza said. "I think ours is a little bit more liberal than Corpus and it covers any jurisdiction in Kleberg County including Padre Island."

Kleberg's towing companies worked up their numbers, brought them to De la Garza and the commissioners approved them. The county's new uniform towing fees have other counties looking to replicate them.

"Willacy County recently called us and they are probably going to end up doing what we are doing," De la Garza said.

"A lot of the other surrounding counties are going to copy what we are doing as well."

Homes

to building the homes.

"The developer says the infrastructure improvements should be completed by the end of the current calendar year, about the same time he runs out of lots for development in Phases I and II," Dick Messbarger, secretary of the KAIDF said.

"The Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit provided by the Kingsville Area Industrial Development Foundation was a critical factor in securing the residential development agreement from both the city and country," Messbarger said.

Kleberg Bank is providing financing for the residential development and was praised by KAIDF board members for "stepping up to the plate" to bring more single family homes to Kingsville at a time when many financial institutions are shying away from residential development during these economic hard times.

The developer has three years to complete the homes, which will be no less than 1,350 square feet but most will be about 1,600 square feet.

City and county officials note that once the homes are sold and put on the tax rolls, both the city and county should easily recover their infrastructure investment.

Paulson Falls is within the boundaries of the Kingsville Independent School district.

Correction

Michael Alvarez was a member of the Ride-a-long Program, not the Reserve Police Officer Program in Bishop, according to Police Chief Larry Lawrence.

KINGSVILLE RECORD AND BISHOP NEWS
P.O. Box 951
Kingsville, Texas 78364-0951
Phone (361) 592-4304
Second Class Postage Paid at Kingsville, Tx.
Published every Wednesday and Sunday in Kingsville, Texas, by the Kingsville Publishing Co., Inc., 105 S. Fifth St.
Office Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday

—Shuffle up and deal—

By Rey Sifuentes Jr.

Kingsville's Chamber of Commerce is providing numerous gambling tables when they host Hollywood Game Night from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday (September 26) at the Bishop Chemcel Club.

Participants will have the opportunity to compete in a Texas Hold'em Shootout tournament which will consist of six tables with six players each. In a shootout, players first have to win their table before moving onto the final table. The entry fee for the shootout is \$35 and players will receive \$2,400 in chips.

Players reaching the final table will compete for one of three prizes; a Nilgai Hunt provided by the King Ranch, a pair of gold access passes for Texas A&M University-Kingsville 2009-2010 athletic events and a pair of nine-hour fishing trips provided by All American Pest Control.

The chamber is also running seven Blackjack tables. Players will receive \$500 in chips for a fee of \$5 and winners will receive tickets to enter a prize giveaway at 10:30 p.m.

Blackjack prizes include a King Ranch Saddle Shop El Amigo brief-

case/overnight bag provided by Kleberg Bank, a weekend getaway bag from Coastal Bend College, a one-night stay at a luxurious suite from Comfort Inn, a drill bit set provided by McCoy's, a Turquoise cross necklace set from Salon-de-lis Spa and Boutique, a Kingsville basket donated by the Convention and Visitors Bureau, a box of cigars and/or a cigar lighter from Squirrely's Liquor, a wine cooler from the chamber and a Quizno's meal for four from Comfort Inn.

There will also be a chamber business loteria. The entry fee for the loteria is \$1 per card or \$5 for

six cards. Each session will be limited to 20 players. There will be three sessions (7:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.) each consisting of four loteria games.

Loteria prizes include a free rotation and balance on a passenger vehicle or light truck by Pueblo Tires and Service, a gift certificate for a 30 second commercial from King Channel 69, a Javelina fan goodies collection for two donated by TAMUK's communications department, a set of three knives donated by McCoys, a flashlight from Lowes, a gift basket from Coastal Community and Teacher's Credit Union and an assortment of gifts from the chamber.

Food and beverages - sponsored by Squirrely's Discount Liquor, L&F Distributors and Chili's - will also be available that night.

College Night Out Tuesday

By Jason Marton
Texas A&M-Kingsville

A lot of fields of study make up the College of Arts and Sciences at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Find out about them all at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 22, with College Night Out.

Join the professors, staff and students that make up the College of Arts and Sciences outside the fine arts buildings. They will be ready to answer questions about classes, degree requirements and the jobs available to an Arts and Sciences graduate. Attendees also can find out about student clubs to be a part of outside of the classroom.

Campus radio station KTAI-FM 91.1 will be broadcasting live from the event. There also will be door prizes, along with free food and drinks.

College Night Out is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and KTAI-FM 91.1. For more information, call 593-2761.

