

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

'Texas creates 1M jobs in travel industry'

Fourth Friday Luncheon features CEO of the travel industry assoc.

BY JOHN CLEVELAND
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A state travel official said during this week's Northcochiches County Chamber of Commerce Fourth Friday Luncheon the industry is responsible for creating 1 million jobs across the state.

"The travel industry is a job-costing machine," David Steel said. "We are expanding the rest of the economy is job creation, and jobs are the path to prosperity."

Steel, the award-winning speaker, is president and CEO of the Texas

Travel Industry Association, the said the travel industry is responsible for 1 million jobs in the state, and that most of those are at small business that pay double wages.

"We are not across a wide footprint," Steel said. "We have an issue problem. We are about travel rather than tourism. People think all the jobs we create are for tour operators, waitresses and hotel maintenance crews. There is nothing wrong with those jobs, but our industry means much more than that."

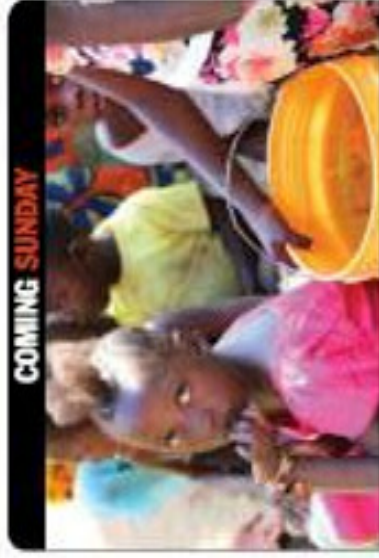
Steel also said that Texas has

Northcochiches represents the heart of the Texas travel industry workforce. "Sixty percent of the Texas Travel Industry workforce is in small businesses. The people are representative of the industry, not the Jerry Jones of the world."

Steel said bringing travelers into Northcochiches plays a big role in its economic recovery.

"Providers are partly occupied lanes of the lands in addition to the sales taxes they enjoy spending."

Chamber • 3A



COMING SUNDAY

Members of the Chen Episcopal Church speak about their 11-day stay in Tanzania where they built five wells, giving the people of Tanzania a place to get clean drinking water. Look for the story on Sunday's front page.

O'MALLEY PET CLINIC

WORKS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF EUTHANIZED ANIMALS



Gaylin Felsted, right, adds into Facebook as Andy McInerney gives the cat a rabies shot on Tuesday at O'Malley PET Clinic in Macajagahala.

BY CHRISTINE BRUNSSARD
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After spending months fundraising for a new facility, the O'Malley PET (Preventive Veterinary Together) Clinic of Northcochiches opened its doors in February at 611 North Providence.

"The amount of euthanasia in Northcochiches County is the highest in the nation, Michelle Sprague, O'Malley director said, so we're at 1,000 in the county are

paid to sleep each year.

"The number we are trying to get to is five per 1,000," she said. "Once we hit that, we begin to move to no-kill status. So our city shelter could legitimately be a no-kill facility."

She noted that it could take years before data starts showing any kind of impact on the numbers.

"We need to do about 1,200 surgeries a year that would not normally have been done, and we need to do that for a five-year period to see how many lives are significantly long."

Clinic: provides low-cost spay, neuter services for pet owners

Of all animals taken to by the Northcochiches County Shelter, over half are euthanized.

"Our total intake is about 1,200 a year of both dogs and cats," said Jenita Stokley, shelter supervisor. "Of those 1,200, roughly 1,000 are adopted, and about 200 are actually returned by their owners. So there are about 2,000 (animals) per year that are euthanized (at the shelter), plus or minus."

O'Malley • 3A

CRIME

Cherokee County files charges on alleged thief

Zacorian White accused of fuel thefts in county barn, Alto ISD bus barn

BY PAUL SERVICE
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The Cherokee County Sheriff's Office has charged Zacorian White with one instance of theft following his arrest a week ago.

"I... (Robert) Hartley, from Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, went to Northcochiches County jail on Saturday to interview White. During the interview, White accepted a detailed statement as to the involvement in the theft of diesel fuel from the Cherokee County Precinct 2 county barn and the Alto ISD bus barn during the night of July 4 last—only occurring on July 30," said Capt. John Befford of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office.

White was in the Northcochiches County jail on Friday on \$10,000 bond for counts of theft of a vehicle, four counts of theft and criminal mischief.

White, of Corrales, is a suspect in thefts of fuel at several locations in Northcochiches, Wadley, Chatham, Corrales and Alto, and elsewhere in Cherokee and Northcochiches counties over the last several months.

"I... Hartley obtained a state-aid library arrest warrant... for the theft of approximately 800 gallons of road diesel from the Cherokee County barn," Befford said. "Northcochiches County was notified of the outstanding warrant, and a hold has been placed on White, who will be transported to Cherokee County jail should he make bond on the charge(s)." *White • 3A*



About 1,000 animals per 1,000 in Northcochiches County are put to sleep each year.
 Of the 1,200 animals brought into the county shelter each year, 1,000 are euthanized.
 Call to help or volunteer at the O'Malley PET Clinic, contact Paul Service at 620-320-1111.
 For more information, call 620-320-3774, or visit www.omyalleyvet.com

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

Annual sales tax holiday moved up one week to Aug. 9-11

Items include clothes, school supplies, footwear and more

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BY CHRISTINE BRUNSSARD
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Two-armed Texas' spending plan on hold will be Aug. 9-11. The holiday, held just before

contains items priced under \$100. Certain items, such as school supplies, clothing, footwear and more, are exempt from sales tax during the state's annual sales tax holiday," said Susan Curry, spokeswoman for the state. "This year, the sales tax holiday is scheduled for Aug. 9-11, 2010."

"These items can also be purchased during the state's annual sales tax holiday," said Susan Curry, spokeswoman for the state. "This year, the sales tax holiday is scheduled for Aug. 9-11, 2010."

Items include clothes, school supplies, footwear and more