

# The Brackett News

"If a man had half as much hindsight, as he has insight, he would have twice as much foresight"

Vol. 1 No. 46

Brackettville, Fort Clark, Spofford, Kinney County, Texas

December 21, 1989



Photo by Lashawn Wardlaw

Actor James Arness of "Gunsmoke II" interviews with Entertainment Tonight's Jim Ruddy.

## "Gunsmoke II Filmed at Alamo Village"

by Penny Nixon

Like the smoking pistol of its namesake, Gunsmoke II: The Last Apache pointed their cameras at Happy Shahan's Alamo Village last Tuesday for a five-day shoot that ended well after midnight on Sat., Dec. 16.

The movie will feature a blend of older Hollywood western stars and faces new to the screen. Old favorites James Arness as Matt Dillon, Michael Learned, mother on "The Waltons," as Mike, Hugh O'Brien of "Wyatt Earp" fame as the Comandant, and Richard Kiley as Chalk, joined newcomers Amy Stock-Poynton as Beth, Kevin Sifuentes as Nachite and Jordace model Joe Lara as Wolf for the CBS TV movie scheduled to run in late February or early March next year.

The movie crew also featured a blend of silver-haired "Gunsmoke" veterans with shaggy-headed young

production assistants. Adding to the subtle touches of "Gunsmoke II" was the western wardrobe provided by Luster Bayless of American Costume from North Hollywood, California. Bayless, wearing a leather and burlap vest worn by John Wayne, said that many of the clothes used by cast and extras at Alamo Village were from pictures starring "The Duke." The coats worn by members of Gunsmoke II's Bodine Gang were used by the cast of John Wayne's "The Cowboys."

Warm coats were an important addition when cold winds blew the temperatures down to the 30's on the first and last days of the Alamo Village shoot. "That was something else! Freeze your buns off!" said Rosa Baker of Fort Clark Springs. Dressed as an Apache woman for five days, and as a Mexican matron for two, Rosa worked as an extra at both the Moody Ranch Evans Canyon location and at Alamo

Village. "It wasn't that bad, really. We had double clothes on and a fire or a heater. They had a good caterer too, and the food and snacks were good stuff. Everybody was really friendly."

While waiting for camera call on Saturday morning, the extras gathered in the Alamo Village Cantina and clapped, sang and danced to the Mariachi band cast to provide background music in the Border Cantina set being prepared on Back Street.

In addition to shooting several different scenes on Alamo Village's Front Street, the movie also revamped the set above the Trading Post for the Commodant's office, the "Jim Bowie House" for a motel lobby scene, and the front of the Johnny Rodriguez Museum for a Mexican villa. The movie also filmed scenes inside the Cantina and jail.

## Local Business Named in Attorney General's Suit

by Penny Nixon

A Brackettville business being sued by Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox continued to do business last week while staring into the jaws of laws which could fine them up to \$2000 per infraction.

Mary Schermerhorn, owner and general manager of World of Products Cooperative, was named in the 290th District Court in Bexar County on Tues., Dec. 12 where a \$20,000 bond was posted by her attorney after a plea of "not guilty" was entered on a felony charge of selling unregistered securities, according to Joyce McClay, coordinator for the 290th state District Court.

One day later, the Attorney General filed a suit claiming WPC, Mrs. Schermerhorn's membership mail-order catalog business was a front for a "pyramid or endless-chain type scheme." WPC offers members discounts on catalog items, and financial incentives for recruiting new members. For a first-time fee of \$150 dollars, WPC members received an information packet, a wholesale purchasing membership, and a year's subscription to the WPC marketing newsletter, each assigned a \$50 value. Mattox claimed in the lawsuit that once enough new members were recruited, a member could keep a portion of the first-time fees, while the remainder of the money was divided evenly between the defendant Mary Schermerhorn, and a member whose name appeared at the top of an "advisory board."

"After a member recruited two new members, their name would be placed on the bottom of the advisory board list," Ron Dusek, spokesman for the Attorney General's office

said. "As everybody works their way up the list, and you receive your money, your name is scratched off and the next person is moved up. But it's impossible for everyone who signs up to get at the top of the list. Ten times as many people need to sign up for the first 1000 to pay off," Dusek said.

"We've filed suit against them alleging that they're violating the law by operating an illegal pyramid scheme," Dusek said. "Many pyramid schemes have what is commonly called an advisory board. Pyramid schemes all work pretty much the same. They all try to get around the law and act like they're selling a product. If you look close, the program is designed to promote the pyramid, and not the product."

In the World of Products catalog, members are offered a selection of jewelry and household items at a 40 percent discount. WPC members receive free shipping for product orders to a destination of their choice, and are offered a free, 1-800-phone number for orders and questions, according to the Fall, 1989 WPC Network Marketing Newsletter.

Mrs. Schermerhorn's business is located three miles north of Brackettville off FM 2804 on the ranch she shares with her husband, Lee and their two teenage sons. Mr. Schermerhorn was the Brackett ISD High School Principal for four years until he resigned suddenly in May of 1989 to pursue other interests and assist Mary in her business, according to School Board President Jimmy Bader. Although he is listed as Office Manager and Manager of Member Services on the cover of WPC's

newsletter, Mr. Schermerhorn said he is not an equal partner in the business. The Schermerhorns have lived and ranched in Kinney County for 18 years. Mrs. Schermerhorn is a former Brackett High School guidance counselor.

For the Schermerhorns, business with WPC began in September of 1988. Mrs. Schermerhorn has been involved with multi-level marketing companies since 1979, according to the WPC newsletter. The business affects about 15 people in Kinney County, according to the office manager.

The Attorney General has filed for a temporary injunction to bar WPC from doing business. The hearing has been scheduled for March 12, 1990.

Mrs. Schermerhorn is being represented in San Antonio by Steve Nicholas of the law firm of Nicholas and Barrera. If she loses the case, the fines could be very high, Dusek said. "She'd have to pay civil penalties of \$2,000 per violation, court costs, investigative costs and attorney's fees," Dusek said.

While no legal paperwork currently bars WPC from continuing to operate, Dusek warned that continuing business while awaiting a court decision could mean additional penalties for each membership sold. "The longer they keep this up, the more they might suffer in penalties," he said. "They're taking an even greater risk now."

Although refusing direct comment on the situation, Mr. Schermerhorn indicated that he, his wife, and their attorneys will fight the Attorney General's suit.

## Lara Portrays "Wolf", an Apache Warrior

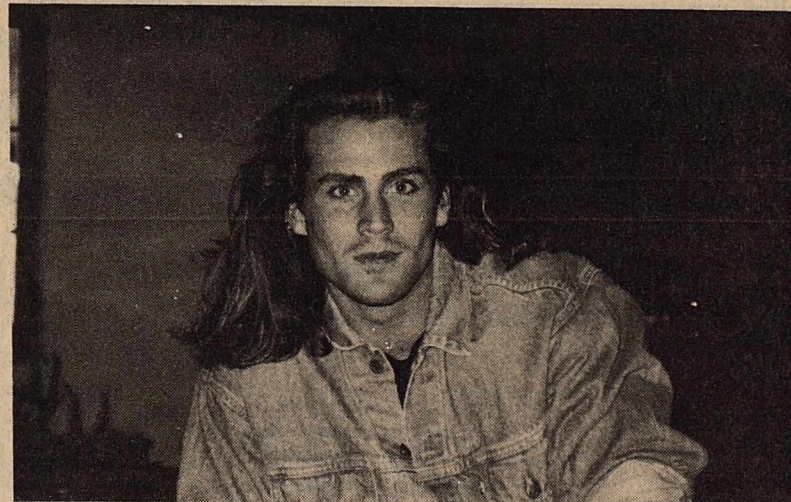
Modeling wasn't enough for actor, Joe Lara who plays Wolf in the upcoming television movie, "Gunsmoke II," which has been filmed in the Brackettville area. "It wasn't fulfilling, I wasn't able to really use myself," said Lara.

Born in San Diego, CA and growing up at Newport Beach, CA, Lara then decided to pursue a modeling career in Europe. Realizing that modeling didn't provide the challenge he was wanting, Lara moved to Los Angeles, CA.

"The best experience is my acting classes, it is important to stay in tune. Luck isn't everything, there is much work involved in making it," said Lara. I want to do good work, I want to have good substantial roles that make a difference.

What type of character is Wolf? "Wolf is a respected Apache warrior fighting for his culture, his homeland," said Lara. Wolf is Geronimo's top man. Lara said that he really didn't do anything different to prepare for his role, although he did have to grow his hair longer than he really wanted. "I really can't wait to get it cut," said Lara.

Off camera, Lara is extremely down to earth and wants others to realize



Joe Lara who plays the Apache warrior in "Gunsmoke II" at Alamo Village.

that he is on their level. He said, "It is easy to lose reality, I can't do that. It is most important to keep growing and never get sidetracked. I can't feel special, it's not reality."

What is James Arness really like? "He is great! He is truly a legend in the western scheme of things. I've loved working with him and I really like working in Texas," said Lara.

This was Lara's first trip to Texas, but he claims that it won't be the last.

"I love Texas. I really want to learn how to rope. At home all I have to rope is the fire hydrant," said Lara.

After Christmas, Lara will return to Los Angeles to continue acting classes and begin work on his new project.

## Benefit Concert Scheduled

A benefit organ concert is scheduled for this evening, Thursday, December 21, 7:00 p.m., in First UMC's sanctuary, 210 West St. James Street. Sponsored by the Worship Committee (Mr. P.M. Moore, Chairman), "Cathie Conrey and friends" will present approximately 45 minutes of all-Christmas music to glorify God, make a contribution to the community this season, inspire our hearts for Christmas, and to help raise money to pay for the church's ministries and bills. (A free will offering will be taken.)

Cathie Conrey, Senior Organist of First Methodist, has planned a wonderful evening of classical and traditional music (some with unusual arrangements) for the community. The concert primarily features her accomplished musicianship on the church's new Rogers electronic organ. The concert will also feature several of her friends. (Lorene Buckles, also church organist and church pianist, will join her in a special duet of "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Betty Jean Logan will join her in a duet, "Cradle Song" by William Kirkpatrick. Danny Potter will play a clarinet solo, "Panis Angelicus" by Cesar Franck, accompanied by Cathie.)

The pieces selected will be introduced with a brief comment or scripture by Cathie, Mrs. Bob Conrey. They include: several pieces by Bach, including "Jesus, Joy of Man's Desiring," "Noel, Noel" and one of his pastorales; "Greensleeves" by Richard Purvis; a Polish Carol, "Beautiful Jesus;" Brahm's "A Rose Tree Has Risen;" one number that features a harp set-up "that sounds amazingly similar to a real harp," etc. Come tonight for a warm and wonderful evening. (The church is one block West of the courthouse.)

The public is also invited to the Christmas Program Sunday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. The Christmas Eve service includes Christmas

hymns and carols, interspersed with the Christmas Story from Luke's gospel. It will conclude with a beautiful Candlelight Service.

The theme for the public worship

## BISD Elects Not to Offer Tax Exemption

Brackett Independent School District Board of Trustees, acting on the advise of Superintendent Bob McCall, voted unanimously to approve a resolution exempting Brackett Independent School District from the provision of the Texas Constitutional Amendment that

service Sunday, December 24, 11:00 p.m. is Joy, beginning with the Hymn of Praise, "Joy to the World." The public is especially invited to this service, also.

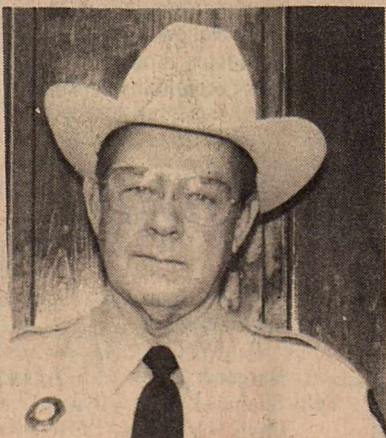
allowed tax exemptions for so called "Freeport" goods. The district does not currently have materials that qualify for the exemption, but as Mr. McCall pointed out, failure to adopt the resolution waives the right of the district to tax this type of property at any time in the future.

## Custer, Appointed Game Warden

Retired Captain Raymond Custer, with 32 years experience in the field of Game Warden and past District Supervisor for San Angelo, El Paso, Uvalde and Del Rio has come out of retirement to work as temporary Game Warden in Brackettville.

Custer is familiar with the Kinney County area as he was supervisor to past Game Warden, Bill Lindeman.

When asked if he had encountered any incidents since his job began Dec. 13, Custer stated "It's been extremely quiet up to this point," he went on to add "I think what is keeping down violators is the fines. The Judge has the right to fine up to \$500. I think that has deterred a lot of the hunters from considering illegal acts."



Raymond Custer

Custer asks that anyone who encounters a hunting problem should call the Sheriff's Office to get hold of him.





### SHERIFF'S CORNER

by Sheriff Norman Hooten

Two major accidents occurred in Kinney County within minutes of each other late Friday night, December 15th, and early Saturday morning, December 16th. Both accidents were one-car accidents, and both accidents were caused by the drivers falling asleep at the wheel. Ironically both accidents, though miles apart, also occurred at bridge crossings over creeks.

The first accident occurred at the Cow Creek bridge crossing on Hwy. 277 in southeast Kinney County. The driver of the vehicle, a 21 year old Kansas resident, fell asleep at the wheel causing his vehicle to veer across the roadway, travel approx. 150 yards along the grassy shoulder, then turn sideways and skid approx. 50 yards before striking the guardrail posts on the inside. The car clipped several of the posts and then turned over at least three times ending right-side-up at the bottom of the ravine in Cow Creek. Miraculously, the driver escaped injury, not even a bruise or a scratch!

While I was working the first accident another occurred at the Pinto Creek bridge crossing on Hwy. 90 west of Brackettville. This accident was similar in nature to the first in that the driver is believed to have fallen asleep at the wheel and the small pickup he was driving crossed the roadway and struck the Pinto Creek bridge abutment doing severe damage to the pickup and breaking the leg of the driver. He was pinned

inside the wrecked vehicle for awhile until local EMS personnel freed him with the use of the "Jaws of Life". Highway Patrol Sgt. Morgan from Del Rio worked the accident with the valuable assistance of local Border Patrol Agents, members of the Kinney County Volunteer Fire Department, and local EMS personnel. The injured driver was transported to Val Verde Memorial Hospital by our local ambulance.

It seems that the recent cold weather and short days that affect buck deer also affects some humans as a fight broke out between two rival male suitors in the Super S parking lot Sunday afternoon, December 17th. In the resulting battle a 48 year old man assaulted a 59 year old man, knocking him to the ground and inflicting injuries to his jaw and mouth. A witness at the scene was also allegedly assaulted by the first man as he attempted to break up the fight. He successfully restrained the man however and by the time I arrived at the scene the battle between the two rivals was over. All three men met with me at the Sheriff's Office where formal charges of Assault, a Class C misdemeanor, and Assault Causing Bodily Injury, a Class A misdemeanor, were filed against the original attacker, Albert Anthony "Buster" Jamail. Jamail posted bonds totalling \$1,500.00 and was released. He has indicated that he will contest the charges in the respective courts.

At one o'clock a.m. the morning of Wednesday, December 20, 1989 United States military personnel engaged in combat with forces of the Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega. This action was brought about by declarations of war against the United States made by the Panamanian dictator and resulting attacks against American servicemen and their dependants following that declaration. Noriega, a long time dictator, indicted drug dealer, and all around thug has long been an enemy of the free world and in particular the United States. In recent months he has become increasingly antagonistic towards the U.S. and military personnel stationed in Panama.

In the opinion of this writer the action by the United States in moving into Panama to protect American lives and interests and to capture and bring to justice the drug dealing thug Noriega is long overdue and we should strongly support our country and the brave men and women who are fighting and in some cases dying in support of freedom and against the tyranny, cruelty, drug dealing, and abuse of human rights that has been the policy of the thug Noriega. Let each of us support our country and our brave military personnel with our prayers and open public support of their efforts. Let us reserve our complaints and criticisms for the dictator Manuel Noriega and his thugs, hoodlums, and fellow drug dealers who are responsible for the cruel events that brought about the military intervention of the United States.

Thank God we are Americans, and Thank God we are a strong, free people!

That's All



### BETWEEN US



BY JOE TOWNSEND

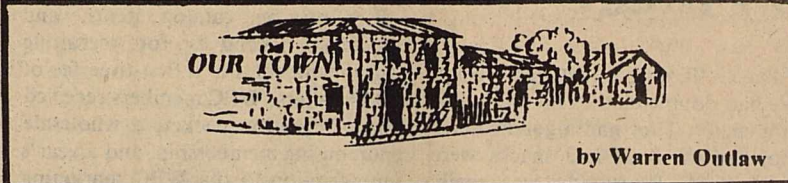
Word has just developed in regard to the action taken by the United States in Panama. Any clear thinking person must applaud this belated action. Of course the first fault regarding the situation in Panama was when Jimmy Carter engineered the giveaway of the Panama Canal. Where Sen. Benson said, "I know that ninety five percent of the people in my district oppose this action (giveaway of the canal) but I will still vote for it." He then cast the deciding vote. It all comes down to one man elected (and reelected) by Texans sowed the seeds of the dastardly regime of Noriega.

There has certainly been a stream of support for Noriega by the sanctimonious liberals and some "religious" arrogant. Finally the war torn killing of an American Military officer was the catalyst that forced the hand of the U.S. government.

We will get face a flood of criticism and invective from the same liberals and anti-American rabble. Regardless of what action the Executive department taken some monthly democrats will sound off their opposition. Headline seeking media will trumpet some nit-picking faults. The final count-down has led to an action that was necessitated by an

aberrant and fanatical ego-maniac. The sad days when Jimmy Carter and his blindness to reality led to the dark days of the hostages in Teheran have passed and the present action signals a new image and stature by the United States. The day when a national leader can defy his own nations elections and thumb his nose at Americans and the United States is demonstrably past. The President has given to himself a significant and meaningful Christmas present which carries over to a marvelous Christmas present to the United States, Panama, and the world.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** that we attempt to include something for everyone within the pages of our paper. We realize that that some folks enjoy finding fault and for those readers we thoughtfully include a socially acceptable number of errors within our publication.



by Warren Outlaw



BY GUS GARCIA

We are now mailing subscriptions. If you want to subscribe, please clip this application and mail to: *The Brackett News*, P.O. Box 1039, Brackettville, Texas 78832, or drop by our office at 507 S. Ann St. (by the bank). Our rate is \$15.00 per year. You will be billed when you receive your first mailed issue.

Thank you  
The Staff of *The Brackett News*

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Wally and Margaret Cooper had their son John in for a few days visit. John is in the Air Force and is on leave from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines where he is a dog handler locating bombs.

Syney Wade and wife Betty from San Augustine Texas were guest of Aciel and Eva Chapman at their ranch. Syney had a very successful

hunt bagging two eight point bucks.

Neal Conrey formerly of Fort Clark and now residing in Bogalusa La. visited with his mom and dad Cathy and Bob Conrey. Neal enjoyed visiting with his friend in Fort Clark and Brackettville.

Happy Birthday to Hazel Sullivan on the 23rd of December.

Merry Christmas! How you folks doin' out there?

Santa came to Jones Elementary to visit all the children of the school. The visit was sponsored by the Vol. Fire Dept. bags of fruit and other goodies were distributed.

The C.C.D. classes had a heck of a time at their Christmas Caroling hayride last Friday night. They had even more fun getting all sticky from

making smores.

Finally, 2 weeks vacation from school! School doesn't resume until Jan. 3 of 1990!

Have you made your New Year's Resolutions yet? I haven't either!

Well, Santa's workshop is calling for help. Better go! Have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

### Real Estate News

by Molly Ardrey

Lawn care is a must for the home owner. Whether or not you're a dedicated gardener, it's worthwhile to put effort and money into land scaping to make your property more attractive now and to prospective buyers in the future. According to studies, a well-planned, well maintained landscape can add 7 to 15

percent to resale value. You can improve your property at any time, of course, but it's smart to put in shrubs and trees early. Then, when it's time to sell, you've got the mature plantings and the well-established lawn that lead many prospective buyers to choose a resale home instead of a new one.

### Corrections

On the story that ran in the December 14 issue under City Council news; Permit holders for the Fort Clark sewage system is the City of Brackettville. Fort Clark are the owners. (It was printed the other way around.)

The pumps missing were actually "discarded pumps" laying in the yard.

The water pumps that are servicing the community are fine and intact.

Councilman not present at the meeting was Oscar McClure-not Alvin McClure.

We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused.

Correction: March 6, 1973, Betty Lamb was the first female to hit the first hole-in-one at the Par 3 golf course. Patti Barnett was the first woman to hit a hole-in-one during the Monday morning scrambles.

### Winter wind hazard

Moving cold air cools the human body more effectively than still air. Table shows the wind chill (cooling effect) at different wind speeds.

Wind speed mph	Temperatures °F											
	Calm	35°	30°	25°	20°	15°	10°	5°	0°	-5°	-10°	-15°
5	33	27	21	16	12	7	1	-6	-11	-15	-20	-20
10	21	16	9	2	-2	-9	-15	-22	-27	-31	-38	-38
15	16	11	1	-6	-11	-18	-25	-33	-40	-45	-51	-51
20	12	3	-4	-9	-17	-24	-32	-40	-46	-52	-60	-60
25	7	0	-7	-15	-22	-29	-37	-45	-52	-58	-67	-67
30	5	-2	-11	-18	-26	-33	-41	-49	-56	-63	-70	-70
35	3	-4	-13	-20	-27	-35	-43	-52	-60	-67	-72	-72
40	1	-4	-15	-22	-29	-36	-45	-54	-62	-69	-76	-76

Highlighted example shows that combination of 20-degree air and 20 mph wind produces a wind chill (cooling effect) of minus nine degrees.

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**Submission Deadlines:**  
News Deadline-Wednesday Noon  
Advertising-Wednesday Noon

Our quotation found under the Mast head on the front page is a copy from "The Rear Vision Mirror", a Fort Worth newspaper publisher Wednesday, March 8, 1961.

### Unsung Hero

There is a young man who was born here, went to school here and has stayed here to invest his life. His father died suddenly when he was quite small. His mother has done an outstanding job in rearing this young man and his brothers.

He is industrious, friendly, capable

and never loses his cool. He is gracious and quick to serve any customer where he is employed. He is anything but a blabbermouth. He is very devoted to his mother and an asset to our community. Surely Matthew Bland is an "Unsung Hero."

### Letter to the Editor

The coaches, students, and administration of Brackett Independent School District would like to thank the following merchants for their contribution toward the purchase of trophies for the 30th Annual Brackett Invitational Basketball Tournament:

Leo Frerich & Sons  
Casuals Plus  
Super S  
Jim McDaniel  
O'Rourke Realty  
First State Bank of Brackettville  
Gateway Cafe

Stop-N-Shop  
Brackett FFA  
Tim Ward  
Burger & Shake  
Tully Shahan-Law Practice  
Davis Hardware  
Southwestern Communication

Also, we would like to thank the Brackett Booster Club for their work in maintaining a hospitality room at the tournament for visiting coaches and officials.

May everyone have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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# Golf News by Les Roper

For the past few weeks, this writer has blamed all of the bad weather on Mother Nature. It seemed the proper thing to do and I could see no harm in it. However, I have done some "heavy duty meditating" and realized I am headed for a discrimination problem if I continue to point an accusing finger at Mother Nature and blame this great old lady for the extra cold weather that has been hampering the golf players from enjoying their favorite sport (golf). Ladies, I do hereby promise to allow M.N. to retire to the warmth of her winter abode and from this day forward place the blame on any bad weather on "Old Man Winter". He has been hanging around and making fun of me for not being able to spot him but his secret is out and he had better get ready. That old "sucker" is in for a lot of harassment until the trees start blooming in the spring of 1990.

Golf members, you missed the party of the year this past Saturday night at the club house. It was described as an "Overcoat" party and that is what it was. The weather was plenty frigid but it didn't discourage the hearty members who braved the cold to spend the evening with their friends. Vickie Nichols, Eileen Voracek, and Helen Miller knocked a "home run" with this little get together. They prepared the prettiest buffet you'll ever hope to see and made all of the necessary arrangements to assure the members of a good time. The 1989 Golf Committee was the sponsor of

the party and giving credit where credit is due is the name of the game. However, the shindig would still be in the planning stages if these three "gallopin' golfers" had not of grabbed the bull by the tail and started the ball rolling. The music went from George Strait singing, "All My Exes Live In Texas" back to Tommy Dorsey playing the "Bunny Hop." Nostalgia ran rampant throughout the evening and all because Vickie, Eileen, and Helen displayed some imagination combined with a lot of effort. These three will beat any four of a kind in the country.

The Golf Course Management Committee met this past Monday morning in the Bugle Room and interviewed applicants for positions to be filled following the finalization of the contract agreement between North American Towns of Texas, Inc. and Fort Clark Springs. At last report the attorneys for the two associations are working overtime in an effort to expedite the transaction that is now in progress. The G.C.M.C. has been working tirelessly to achieve all of the goals and assignments that have been handed over to them and the results of their efforts should be obvious in the very near future.

A bolt of lightning followed by an ear shattering clap of thunder this past Wednesday was none other than Ralph Viestenz and his team making their charge from second place to

first place in the third week of play in the men's Winter League. Following Ralph into battle was Charlie Deschmaecher, Lou Schlatterer, and Harold "Killer" Dauffman. Ralph has been very competitive this entire year and you would think he is trying to win the "Player of the Year" award (which ain't in existence). The Whitetails, making the biggest move of the day by earning eighteen points, moved from last place to a tie for second place. Howard Peck, Fay Gooch, Gordie Mathison, and Danny Isenberg make up the team of Whitetails and they have found the going pretty rough remaining in contention especially during the middle of deer hunting season. The Roadrunners moved from next to last to tie for second with a thirteen point performance by Bobby Miller, P.M. Moore, Dave Rullell, and Jack Taunt. From here on out play will become dead serious by many of the players and finishing first each week will become a top priority for the golfers.

The standings are now as such:  
1st place..Gobblers..31 pts.  
2nd place..Roadrunners..18 pts.  
3rd place..Whitetails..18 pts.  
4th place..Horned Toads..16 pts.  
5th place..Rattlesnakes..15 pts.  
6th place..Badgers..8 pts.  
7th place..Armadillos..5 pts.  
8th place..Javalinas..0 pts.

The weekly couple's tournament got off on schedule with some of the toughest golfers on the Fort compet-

ing against one another. It was supposed to be a four man and woman event but each team had five members on Friday. Escorting each team from hole to hole was "Old Man Winter" and believe you me, folks, he did his thing. He blew cold air down their collars, in their faces, up their pant's leg, and against their golf balls. Yet, these hearty hands just stuck their tongues out to him and kept on trudging. Everyone finished without any signs of frost bite and enjoyed a good meal together while lying to one another and saying "it wasn't too cold". Lawdy me, how fast they forget!!!

Tuesday, the ladies reported to the club for their day of golf but after checking the thermometer it was decided to do away with competitive play for the day. There were some teams teeing off together but just for the sheer fun and love of the game. Many of the ladies just sat around and admired the beautiful club house they decorated for Christmas. Anytime something pretty and beautiful shows up around the golf course it usually can be traced to the Ladies Golf Association.

On An Average Day: 3,477 abortions are performed.. of these, 769 are performed on women under the age of 20... 29 are performed on girls under the age of 15.

Words Of Wisdom: It is better to deserve honors and not have them than to have them and not deserve them.

**Happy Birthday**  
Pat Foster on December 26  
Carolyn Cortez December 20



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& a Happy New Year.

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## Sports... Tiger Tourney Turnout

by J.J. Guidry

**BRACKETT** - The Fightin' Tigers captured the men's championship this year with three hard fought victories.

Brackett faced the D'Hanis Cowboys in the first round. The game was close throughout as D'Hanis lead 25-23 at the half. The Tigers tied up the score as they went into the final period, where they outscored the Cowboys 8-6. The Tigers won 44-42.

Mitch Frerich was the high scorer with 19 points. Others who aided the Tigers in the scoring department were Armando Talamantez with 10 points, Eddie Garza had 5, Clay Hunt had 4, while David Flores and Steve Clementz had 3. Frerich, Clementz, Garza, and Flores each sank a three-pointer.

Kole Lovett and Billy Frieda lead the Cowboys with 16 points, while Ryan Rothe and J.P. Reinhart had 4, and David Gonzales added 2.

In other first round action, Del Rio J.V. defeated Brackett J.V. 66-59, Cotulla defeated Sabinal 80-57, and Rocksprings rolled over the Sabinal Junior Varsity 90-23.

David Perez lead Cotulla with 25 points as they beat Del Rio J.V. 75-58, while Brackett defeated Rocksprings 54-50.

Mitch Frerich and Steve Clementz lead the Tigers with 14 points each.

Brackett and Cotulla then went head to head for the men's championship. The game was evenly matched as the score was tied at 34-34 at the halfway mark. The Tigers came out of the lockerroom ready to go as they outscored the Cowboys by seven points in the third period. They held on to their lead and were victorious 61-57.

Armando Talamantez lead the Tigers with 18 points and 9 rebounds, while Mitch Frerich had 14 points and 11 boards.

David Perez had 18 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Cowboys. Eddie Reyna contributed with 16 points, while Noe Maldonado added 10.

In the third place game, the Del Rio J.V. defeated Rocksprings 56-50. Consolation honors went to D'Hanis as they defeated Brackett's Junior Varsity 62-42. Kole Lovett lead in the scoring department with 21 points, while Billy Frieda scored 20 for D'Hanis. Tevin Senne lead Brackett with 16 points, 11 of which came in the final period.

The boys all-Tournament team was composed of Steve Clementz and Mitch Frerich of Brackett, David Perez of Cotulla, Will Welch of Rocksprings, and Kole Lovett of D'Hanis.

by J.J. Guidry

The Rocksprings Lady Angoras won the women's championship of the Brackett Tournament in a double overtime thriller over the hometown Tigerettes.

Rocksprings made it to the finals by defeating the Brackett J.V. 61-15 and D'Hanis 45-33. The Tigerettes defeated Uvalde J.V. 59-42 in the first round and then Sabinal 50-39 in the semi-finals.

The Tigerettes were ahead 30-25 at halftime over the Lady Angoras, but Rocksprings rallied during the fourth period to tie the score up at 41-41 at the end of regulation time.

At the end of the first 3-minute overtime period, the score was tied 47-47.

The Lady Angoras won it in the second OT period on the free throw line where Julie Anderson and Brandy Sweeten sank 5 of 6 shots. The final was 52-49.

Anderson and Sweeten lead the Angoras with 20 points a piece. Lisa Arispe scored 6, Lydia Castillo had 4, and Rene Gallegos added 2.

Stephanie Ahrens paved the way for Brackett with 23 points and 23 rebounds. Yvonne Luna scored 16 points, while Dorothy Ward had 5, Wendy McDaniel had 3, and Vivian Luna made 2.

Sara Garcia scored 27 points to lead Sabinal over D'Hanis for third place. Consolation honors went to Carrizo Springs J.V. as they edged the Uvalde Junior Varsity 33-30.

Earning all-tournament honors were Yvonne Luna and Stephanie Ahrens of Brackettville, Julie Anderson and Brandy Sweeten of Rocksprings, and Sara Garcia of Sabinal.

### Frerich Leads Tigers

by J.J. Guidry

**BRACKETT** - The varsity Tigers dropped a close game to Pearsall last Tuesday night. The Tigers were only down by one point at one time in the final period but Pearsall rallied for a 52-45 victory.

Mitch Frerich lead the Tigers with 15 points and 17 rebounds, while Armando Talamantez scored 10.

Eddie Garza had 8, David Flores had 5, Clay Hunt had 4, and Steve Clementz had 3 points. Clementz also had 10 assists. Frerich and Garza sank 2 three-pointers each, while Clementz and Flores both added 1.

The Tigers are 13-3 on the season. They will start district action on January 2, against Sabinal.

### Tournament a Success

The 1989 Brackett Invitational High School Basketball Tournament was a roaring success. The thirteenth annual event took place last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The Brackett Coaching Staff would like to thank the following people and businesses for their donations for the trophies: Leo Frerich and sons, Jim McDaniel, Tully Shahan Attorney at Law, Tim Ward, Super S, O'Rourke Realty, Gateway Cafe, Stop-n-Shop, Casuals Plus, First State Bank, Brackett FFA, Burger & Shake, Davis Hardware, and Southwest Communications. They would also like to thank the community for its support, and the Tiger Booster Club for the hospitality room. Special thanks go to Dru Ann and Doug Spring, Don and Sue Sims, Frank Taylor, Steve Mills, and Susan Harrison, who worked as gatekeepers, Candy Bader and Rebecca Hubbard, who kept the books for the tourney, Stoney Burks and James Day, who worked the clock, and J.J. Guidry for keeping the tournament statistics.

### Tigerettes Outrally Bulldogs

by J.J. Guidry

**LA PRYOR** - The Tigerettes rallied to outscore LaPryor by 9 points to take their second straight district victory. The Lady Bulldogs were ahead 24-19 at halftime but the Tigerettes came back to win 52-48.

Yvonne Luna and Stephanie Ahrens lead Brackett with 21 points.

Dorothy Ward scored 6, while Theresa Terrazas and Vivian Luna added 2.

Jo Ann Bishop lead LaPryor with 22 points. She was 6 of 7 from the free-throw line. Brackett is now 2-0 in district, while LaPryor fell to 1-1.

### Tigers Maul Mavs

by J.J. Guidry

**BRACKETT** - The J.V. Tigers were victorious over the Pearsall Junior Varsity on Tuesday night. The final score was 51-45.

The Tigers lead by 17 at the half

way mark, but lessened the deficit in the second half.

W.T. Hunt was the high scorer for Brackett with 15 points including a three-pointer.

PLAYER	GAMES	POINTS	AVG.	REBOUNDS	AVG.	FTA	FTM	PERCENT
Ahrens, Stephanie*	17	234	13.7	258	15.2	65	34	52
Luna, Yvonne*	17	344	20.2	111	6.5	101	54	53
Luna, Vivian*	17	53	3.1	103	6.1	24	11	46
Terrazas, Theresa*	17	27	1.6	29	1.7	11	7	64
Ward, Dorothy*	17	130	7.6	146	8.6	73	36	49

\* = starter

FTA = Free Throws Attempted

FTM = Free Throws Made

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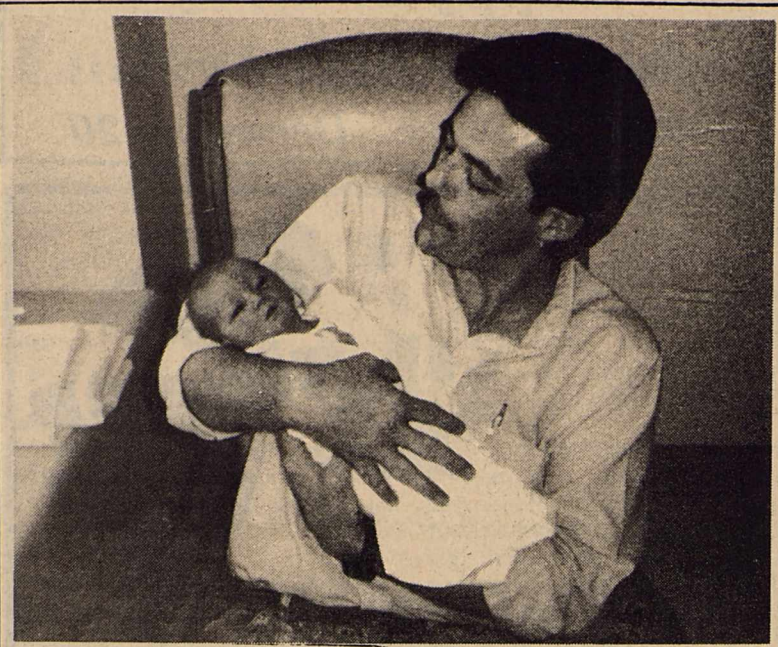
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### New Arrival

Alvin and Dolores Wilson proudly announce the arrival of their granddaughter, Lauren Michelle. Lauren weighed 7 lb. 1 oz. and was born December 1st. Her parents are Randel and Joyce Wilson of Dallas.

## 48 Indictments Served

### on City Employees

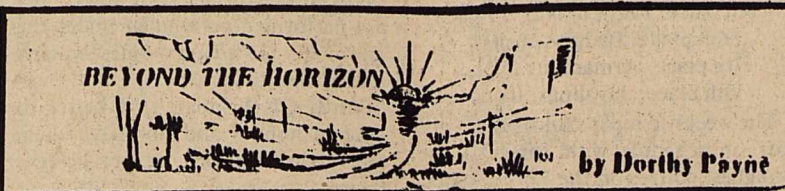
United States Attorney Timothy D. Leonard and United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Administrator Robert E. Layton Jr., announced today that a Federal Grand Jury in Oklahoma City returned a forty-eight count indictment charging 20 former city employees of Enid, Oklahoma with violations of the clean Water Act and making false statements to the government.

Raymond T. Brittain, former Superintendent of Public Utilities, and Robert C. Coble, former Water Pollution Control Plant Supervisor, have been charged with thirty counts of violation of the Federal Clean Water Act and eighteen counts of falsifying federal reporting forms. The indictment charges that the two men were responsible for the discharge of raw sewage from the Enid sewage treatment plant into Boggy Creek. Each count carries a possible prison sentence of up to one year and/or a fine of up to \$25,000 per day of violation.

The indictment further charges that Brittain and Coble falsified the discharge monitoring reports which provided documentation to EPA for determining the city's compliance with the limits set in the plant's wastewater discharge permit. These violations are punishable by a sentence of up to five years and/or a fine of up to \$10,000 per violation.

If convicted, the application of the Alternative Fines Act can collectively increase the total fines to \$7.5 million. In addition, each faces a total of 120 years in prison.

The indictment is the result of an investigation led by Special Agents of the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Criminal Investigation and was jointly investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with assistance from EPA Region 6 Water Management Division and Environmental Services Division, and attorneys from both the United States Attorney's Office and the EPA.



Fort Lancaster consisted of twenty-five buildings built of stone and adobe. This fort was not built in 1857 for protection but was a base for patrols who were sent out to pursue raiding Indians and was also a stage stop for the San Antonio, San Diego Mail Co. who had just begun operations. The road drops suddenly from the rim rock to the Pecos River Valley. This road was so steep the mules had to be unhitched and led down the long incline. Then the stage was lowered by block and tackle.

The location of the fort has always been a mystery because of the surrounding hills and located so far from the Pecos River. It was really located to have access to Live Oak Creek because Pecos River water is undrinkable.

At first the bldg's were flimsy and were blown over with every strong wind. The soldiers burned lime in a kiln built near the future parade ground and made bricks and soon the buildings could stand the winds, some ruins of the structures are easily seen.

There are two graves within the cemetery that are marked. One was the grave of a child probably of a soldier. The other was a Texas Ranger.

There are three graves outside the cemetery which were of three buffalo soldiers of Co. K, of the 9th Cavalry who were killed in a three hour battle with several Indians of several different tribes. The battle was fought on Dec. 26, 1868.

Twenty Indians were killed and several wounded. The three soldiers were guarding the horses when they were captured and killed. After the battle their bodies were so mutilated they were buried where they fell.

The last time I was at the Fort some parts of buildings had been restored and there is a visitors center.

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## Trustees Seek Adv. Bids on Air Conditioning

After hearing an energy management expert project relatively stable energy bills with the installation of an energy management system and air conditioning, the Board voted unanimously to advertise for bids to air condition all classrooms at Brackett Independent School District. Stanley Campbell of Tejas Engineering and Management Services told the Trustees that energy cost to the District would actually decrease after air conditioning was installed, if the District installed an energy management system and made several energy conservation changes to its building.

The Board then approved Tejas Engineering to draw up bid specifications and advertise for contractors. Bids will be presented to the Board in late January or early February.

## The Many Myths of Mysterious Mistletoe

In reality, mistletoe is nothing more than a parasitic shrub that grows in the crowns of broad-leaved trees. Yet, according to *National Wildlife* magazine, people often have invested the plant with supernatural powers—in addition to letting it provide an excuse for a holiday kiss. *National Wildlife* is a publication of the National Wildlife Federation.

For centuries, mistletoe was a source of wonder and an object of worship for humans. Because the shrub grows high in trees without apparent roots, many ancient civilizations attributed magical powers to it.

In some countries, people believed that barren women could conceive after eating mistletoe, and that crops would grow better if mistletoe adorned the fields. In other places, warriors attached sprigs of the plant to their weapons to help protect them from injury or to ward off demons.

The pleasant custom of kissing under mistletoe is thought to have originated in Norse mythology. Many Scandinavians have since believed that if two

people should embrace beneath a tree where mistletoe is growing, they would be blessed with good luck and a healthy life.

More than 1,000 species of mistletoe are found throughout the world, but only two principal kinds grow in this country: American, or leafy, mistletoe and dwarf mistletoe.

The latter, a diminutive, needle-leaved species, causes widespread damage to pines and other coniferous trees. Its sprigs are too small to be used as a decoration.

American mistletoe, on the other hand, is an important part of our Christmas tradition. It grows among the branches of deciduous trees from central New Jersey to Ohio, Indiana and Missouri, south to Florida, and west to Texas, New Mexico and some areas of California.

Mistletoe clumps often form globes five feet wide that weigh more than 50 pounds. In providing fluids for such a large parasite, the host tree sometimes weakens so severely that it dies. Generally, though, American mistletoe does little permanent damage to the tree.



Sea World Holiday Ice Star -- Former Olympic figure-skating medalist Rosalynn Summers will showcase her talents Dec. 16 - Jan. 1 at Sea World of Texas during the park's festive seasonal program "Sea World Holiday Magic." New to Sea World's holiday entertainment lineup, "Skating on an Icy Sea" will spotlight the grace and precision of world-class skaters in routines choreographed to the sounds of Christmas. In addition, "Sea World Holiday Magic" will feature performances by Sea World's popular costumed characters, daring exhibitions by professional freestyle snow skiers and a snow-covered recreational area offering wintery fun for the entire family. For more information on Sea World of Texas or "Sea World Holiday Magic," call (800) 422-SWIX or, in the San Antonio area, 523-3611.

## Black Bear Visits Park

DEL RIO-A yearling black bear apparently has retreated to Mexico after getting a close-up view of a posse of camera-waving campers at an Amistad Reservoir area RV park.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Game Warden Al Vielma said the animal was spotted wandering through the park's fish-cleaning area by one of the residents who ran to fetch a camera, alerting other park residents on the way.

Several curious campers returned to the fish-cleaning station, but the bear had already crossed a fence and disappeared. After a brief search, the party spotted the animal about six feet up in a wild persimmon tree.

After taking a few photographs, the group decided that leaving the bear alone was the best thing to do, Vielma said. No one saw the bear after that, Vielma said. He theorized that the bear probably came across the Rio Grande from Mexico, and returned there after being "treed" by the RVers.

Black bears are listed by the state as an endangered species, which means it is illegal to kill or harass them, Vielma said. "I would advise anyone seeing a bear or other endangered species to report the sighting, but not harass or attempt to catch it," he said. Reports of such sightings can be made toll-free at 1-800-792-1112.

## Paths

by Sandi Green

It seems like only yesterday  
That we met, our lives touched  
And for a brief moment  
We were one.  
Now tomorrow has become today  
And the path we  
Once traveled together  
Has gone separate ways.  
I have taken me; you'll take another  
An though we both know the  
Going will be rough  
Don't ever look back.  
Know I'll always be at your side  
Spiritually-if not physically-  
I'll endure  
I'll help you climb the  
Tallest mountain.  
Overcome the greatest obstacle,  
As we reach for our destiny.  
Just think of me--  
And I'll think of you--  
for someday our paths  
May cross once more  
And we will meet again.

## Thank You!!

Mary H. LaGioia, Casting Director for Galatea Productions would like to give special thanks to all the extras that were able to work on the filming of *Gunsmoke II*, *The Last Apache*, and all the people that applied.

The Christmas service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Brackettville, will begin at 11 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24. This traditional midnight service will be a choral Eucharist, according to the Rev. Bill Koons, vicar.

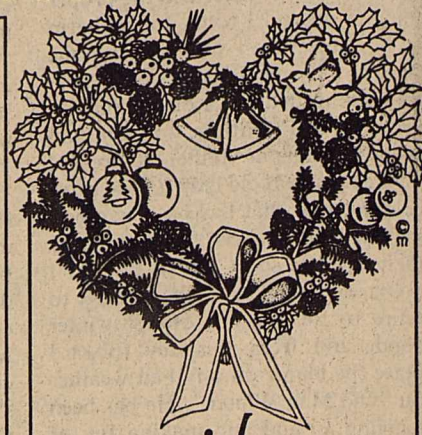
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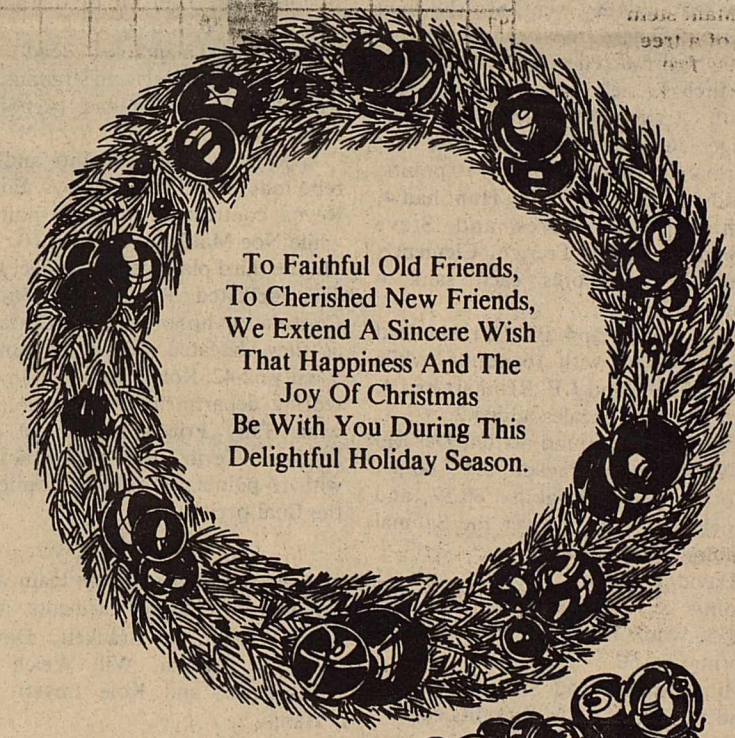
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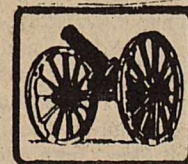
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"Batman"	11-13 *
"Bambi"	10.5
"Roger Rabbit"	8
"Cinderella"	7.2

\*Estimate based on advance orders  
SOURCES: Chicago Tribune, Variety, Walt Disney Home Video

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## College Information Hotline Available

The College Information Hotline (available to any Texas via a toll-free call) provides timely information concerning postsecondary educational opportunities to Texas students and families. One weekend in January is set aside for Hotline operation each year.

The toll-free number (1-800-253-8989) is publicized statewide through radio, television, newspapers, and every high school guidance office in the state. A hotline information packet is distributed in December and early January.

Teams of high school and college admission counselors will man ten incoming WATS phone lines. Each year, about 75 professional coun-

sors from schools across Texas volunteer to take calls. Spanish-speaking counselors will be available on each shift. The Hotline is operated from the Freshman Admission Center at the University of Texas at Austin. Volunteers taking the calls are members of the Texas Association of College Admission Counselors.

The Hotline is directed to anyone in the state who has questions about any aspect of college admission, financial aid, degree programs, housing, student activities, or special programs.

Callers are predominately high school students and their parents, but an increasing number of information

requests are coming from middle school students, current college students, adults who did not complete college or who have never attended college and veterans with questions about their educational benefits.

The 1990 Hotline is the fifth year the project has been in operation. Funding is provided by: First City, Texas. The College Information Hotline is the largest project of its type in the nation. Last year, over 1000 calls about college admission and financial aid were handled by the counselors.

Counselors spend much of the time during calls counseling students and their parents on planning for college

and careers. Callers may also request that catalogs and other materials from specific colleges and universities be mailed to them. If the counselors are unable to answer a caller's question, they will research the answer and provide the information within the week.

Admissions representatives from about 25 public and private Texas colleges will be on duty over the course of the weekend. Although it is impossible to guarantee that a counselor from a school in which you are interested will be present when you call, we are often able to let you talk directly to someone from that school.

Hotline operators also field questions about vocational and technical schools, and community colleges. Information available from the Hotline is not limited to Texas schools.

Counselors' sources of information include college publications, computerized information systems, and the collective experience of the 75 admissions professionals who are manning the phones. Members of the Texas Association of Students Financial Aid Administrators assist with some of the detailed financial aid questions.

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**POSITION VACANCY SCHOOL ATTORNEY**

The Brackett Independent School District Board of Trustees is soliciting proposals for the service of School District Attorney.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Licensed to practice law within the State of Texas. Demonstrated knowledge of school law and the Texas Education Code preferred.

**DUTIES:** Advise the superintendent and Board of Trustees in legal matters, review contracts, bid proposals, and local policies. Represent the District in local legal proceedings. Attend Board meetings at the request of the superintendent and/or the Board of Trustees.

Interested attorneys will contact Bob McCall, Superintendent, at the Brackett Independent School District Central Office before February 1, 1989 for an interview. Telephone: 512/563-2491.

**BRACKETT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

**A GOOD HOME**

A loving Southern California couple wants very much to be parents through adoption. Legal. Please call collect. (818) 703-1106

**CIVIL AIR PATROL**

Need adult leaders for Cadet program here in Brackettville. Contact Birdie at 563-9416 for information.

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**JOB OPENING**

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is accepting applications for the following position(s).

Position: Accounting/Payroll Clerk(s)

Requirements: High School graduate or GED, plus three (3) years experience in grant accounting and two (2) years in computer data entry required, use of 10-key calculator by touch. B.A. in accounting will substitute for experience.

Duties: Post transactions, prepare checks, enter data in computer, review invoices and timesheets, allocate expenditure worksheets, file, generate reports, and perform other related duties as required.

Location: Middle Rio Grande Development Council Central Office in Carrizo Springs, Texas.

How to Apply: Mail or deliver application and/or resume to Middle Rio Grande Development Council, c/o Personnel Department, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834. Applications and/or resume must be received by 5:00 P.M., December 27, 1989.

**MRGDC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

### The Voices, "Sing Noel"

Voices of Fort Clark presented "Sing Noel" by Joe Parks at Fort Clark Town Hall Monday Dec. 11th. Solo parts were sung by Harlan Hunter, Lynn McNew, and Betty Inman. Away in a Manger was a 3 part Ladies Chorus, done by Betty Tidwell, Virginia Nelson, Cubie Kurtz, Judy Burks, Martha Schmidt, Kandace LaMascus, Doris Eckenroth, and Eleanor Herron.

Then there were two songs soloed by Jo Lee Jones entitled: "Suzy Snowflakes and Thirty Two Feet and Eight little tails."

There was also a tribute to Irving Berlin entitled an "Irving Berlin Christmas" "Counting My Blessings", "White Christmas" and "Happy Holiday."

In ending the program a sing along was conducted by Harlan Hunter. Then in came Santa Claus.

Refreshments followed the program. Voices Director is Judy Burks and pianist is Mary Beth Mills.

### Just For The Fun Of It!

Place born - Piedras Negras Coah Mexico

Favorite food - Pizza

What's the best movie you've ever seen? After the promise

Best book you've read lately- Bible

Hobbies you enjoy- Swimming and track

Your friends say you're- Crazy and weird

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Hawaii

Secretly you've always wanted to be? Model

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Gabriela Flores

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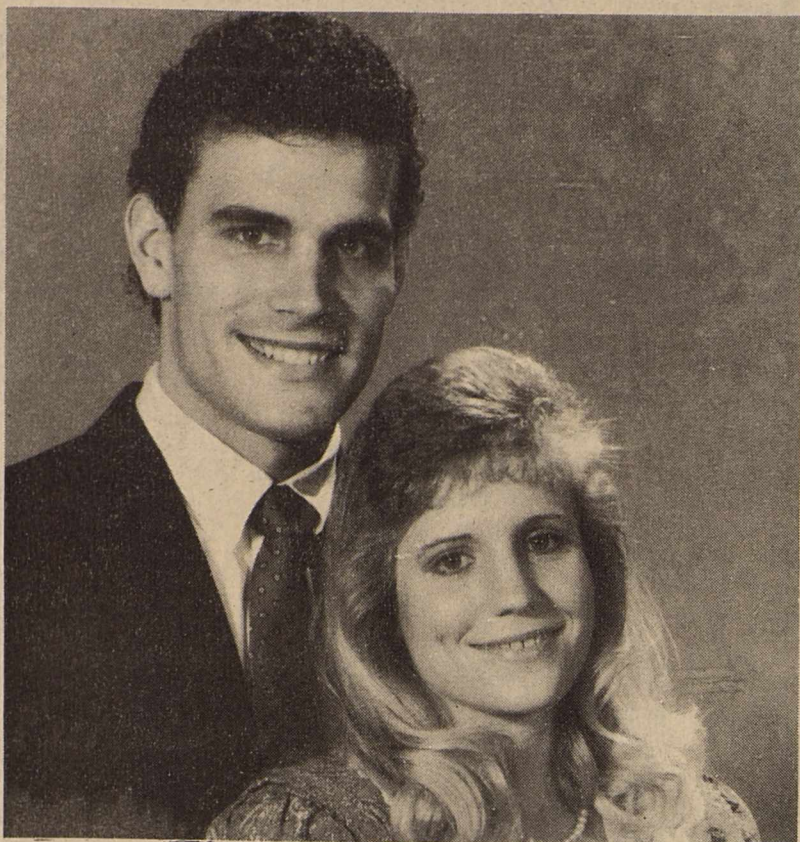
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**Warren William Voss  
and Karen Annette**

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Lehnert announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Karen Annette, to Warren William Voss, son of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Voss of Brackettville. Grandparents of the couple include Emma Breitschopf and Agnes Lehnert, both of Gonzales; Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Voss of San Marcos. The bride-elect is a graduate of

Gonzales High School and Texas Lutheran College of Seguin. She is presently teaching at Smith Elementary in Houston.

Mr. Voss graduated from Brackett High School and attended Texas Lutheran College. He is employed as a finance manager at Gunn Chevrolet in San Antonio.

A March 10 wedding is planned at First Lutheran Church of Gonzales.



**Carl Andrew Craig West  
and Tamara Lynn McNew**

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Cole McNew are proud to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter Tamara Lynn McNew to Carl Andrew Craig West.

The couple will marry December 27th at St. Mary Magediline Church at 1:30 p.m.

Carl Andrew Craig West a resident

of England owns a building maintenance business in England. Tamara Lynn presently serves in the Air Force.

After a honeymoon in San Antonio and Dallas the couple will make their home in England.

Tamara is the granddaughter of Harold and Betty Inman.

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Thanks, friends.

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**Low-Level Radiation Worse than Previously Thought**

RE-PRINT: Del Rio News-Herald  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Low-level exposures to X-rays and gamma rays pose a cancer risk three to four times greater than previously believed, the National Research Council reported in a study released today.

Based on new methods of estimating and assessing the health effects of radiation, the committee concluded that a 1980 study by another NRC committee significantly underestimated the cancer risk from the low level of X-rays and gamma rays.

The risk for solid tumor cancer is three times greater than the earlier estimate, and the risk for leukemia is four times greater, the committee concluded.

And the committee found a much greater danger for mental retardation among unborn babies exposed to low-level radiation from the eighth to 15th weeks after conception.

Women, the report said, are slightly more likely than men to develop cancer from low levels of radiation, and that in some types of cancer, children are more susceptible to radiation effects than are adults.

The report, called Biological Effects

of Ionizing Radiation, or BEIR 5, is part of a series of studies by the NRC assessing the health effects of the type of radiation produced in nuclear reactions, from natural uranium, and from the stars, such as the sun. The committee said its study updates risk estimates compiled in the BEIR 3 study released in 1980.

The study is based partly on the medical history of 76,000 survivors of the 1945 atomic bombings in Japan, health studies of workers at nuclear facilities and the records of patients who were treated with X-rays for certain medical conditions.

Part of the increased cancer danger seen from low-level radiation is based on a reduced estimate of the radiation received by Japanese survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bomb attacks.

Radiation levels and duration of exposure result in different amounts of health risk, the committee said.

In the United States, for instance, natural background radiation gives an exposure of 0.1 to 0.3 REMs a year. REM stands for Rad Equivalent in Man and is a unit of measure

used to describe a biological effect from a level of radiation exposure.

A routine chest X-ray gives an added exposure of 0.06 REM, and occupational standards limit nuclear workers to an annual exposure of no more than 5 REM.

The committee, using new mathematical calculations, estimated that a single burst of 10 REM radiation exposure will result in 790 excess cancer and leukemia deaths per 100,000 persons. For this same exposure, the BEIR 3 report estimated between 80 and 230 cancer deaths per 100,000.

For a lifetime radiation exposure of 0.1 REM a year, the committee estimated 520 male cancer deaths per 100,000 men, and 600 deaths per 100,000 women.

The committee said studies of children born to Japanese A-bomb survivors shows that those exposed during the first six months of gestation had lower intelligence test scores and poorer performance in school.

The NRC, which organized the committee study, is the research arm

of the National Academy of Sciences, a congressionally chartered organization that conducts special research at the request of the government.

**Furtakers May Encounter Low Fur Prices This Season**

AUSTIN-- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials said surveys indicate fur-bearing animals are fairly abundant, but fur prices are expected to remain low during the current December-January fur taking season in Texas.

Biologist Jose Cano of Clifton said a review of market reports indicates fur prices will be below average, continuing a downward trend in prices that started in the latter part of the 1988-89 fur season. Cano said a large carryover of pelts from the past two seasons, combined with uncertainty in the European and Japanese markets may be factors influencing the low price situation.

"The market for raccoon pelts, which has traditionally been a mainstay for Texas furtakers, apparently will be selective and mainly for the large, high-quality pelts," Cano said. "The coyote market is virtually nonexistent for Texas pelts, and even bobcat pelts which usually are high-priced are bringing only \$20 to \$25 each."

Biologist Sylvestre Sorola of Del Rio said spotlight surveys of furbearers are conducted concurrently with whitetailed deer census surveys each fall. Sorola said sightings of raccoons increased by 15 percent over the previous year's survey and ringtails increased 17 percent, while the gray fox population index increased by four percent. Red fox, coyote and badger index numbers were down slightly, Sorola said.

Raccoons were the most frequently-seen furbearer during the surveys, Sorola said, observed on 69 percent of the routes, followed by skunks, 38 percent, coyotes, 16 percent and ringtails, 15 percent.

The ecological region of the state showing the highest numbers of raccoons was the Blackland Prairies with 53 raccoons per 100 miles of survey route, followed by the Edwards Plateau with 40 per 100

miles. Raccoon numbers showed increases from last year in South Texas, the Edwards Plateau and the Blackland Prairies.

Ringtail numbers are up in the Post Oak Savannah, Blackland Prairies, Cross Timbers and the Edwards Plateau. The highest counts were recorded in the Edwards Plateau, Sorola said.

Gray fox numbers are up in the Edwards Plateau, South Texas and Cross Timbers while declining slightly in the remainder of the state. The Edwards Plateau had the highest percentage, seven per 100 miles of survey route.

The department advises furtakers to check local and state regulations before taking furbearers. Any person who takes furbearing animals is required to have a Trapper's License, regardless of legal method of harvest used. A hunting license is required for taking coyotes and bobcats since those species are not classified as fur-bearing animals.

Persons taking bobcats are reminded that pelts must be tagged by registered bobcat dealers prior to sale or transport out of this state. A furbearer regulations pamphlet is available from department offices across the state.

**Merry Christmas**

Our entire staff extends warm greetings and thanks to you and your family. We're banking on all of you having the most joyous holiday season ever!

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**All Aboard For A Merry Christmas!**

Your friendship and support lets us know we're on the right track. Many thanks and best wishes!

**Mayor LaGioia & Family**



## Community Works Together for a Merrier Christmas for All

New York has Donald Trump. San Antonio has Elf Louise. Brackettville has all of the Civic Organizations and Clubs working together to make this the best Christmas anyone could ask for. For the less fortunate it will mean a time for enjoying. And for the sponsors and providers of the Christmas baskets it is a time of sharing.

This year is a milestone for Brackettville. It is the first time that all of the Service Organizations and Clubs have joined forces, put all of their resources together to do a better job for the Christmas season. The results are outstanding. Each of the organizations involved have provided one or more designated people to work with the process and provide a steering committee. Food collection points were established at the First State Bank and at the Super S supermarket. They are barrels cover-

ed with the red, white and blue. Persons wishing to help sponsor a basket can place canned goods and packaged non-perishable foods in the collection barrels. For those that wish to make cash Contributions or just to help sponsor a basket, please call Mr. Quinn Roller at 563-2770.

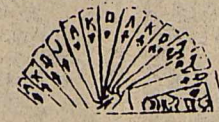
Community pride is showing all over. Show your appreciation to any and all members of the following organizations listed in alphabetical order.

- Brackettville Border Patrol - Women's Club.
- Brackettville Lions Club.
- Brackettville Rotary Club.
- Fort Clark Springs Art Club.
- Fort Clark Springs Community Council.
- Fort Clark Springs Historical Society.
- Fort Clark Springs Ladies Golf Assn.

Knights of Columbus.  
Masonic Lodges.  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8360.  
Veterans of Foreigns Ladies Aux., Post 8360.

Call Mr. Roller. Sponsor a basket. Become a part of this community effort and enjoy the spirit of giving during this festive Holiday time. And a very Merry Christmas to all!!!

Bridge,  
Anyone?



by Dot Burrow

Sunday, December 17, five tables of Duplicate bridge were on hand. First place in North-South position was taken by Joyce Bell of Del Rio with Martin Sheets. In second place were Rozetta Pingenot and Norma Gould. Anita Korbel of Del Rio and Trudy Harbor took first place in East West position. Gene and Mary Britton were second.

On Tuesday, December 19, five tables were again in play. First place at North-South went to Norma Gould and Rozetta Pingenot. Just behind in second were Helen Lynch and Flo Stafford. Fred and Nita Clayton of Del Rio took first place at East-West, followed by Anita Dorbel of Del Rio and Trudy Harbor.

### Spicy seasonal specialties...

## Gingerbread and cranberries combine to create a flavorful new Yuletide tradition everyone can enjoy

A holiday bread that can be served for breakfast, brunch or tea is what you get when you bake this Spiced Molasses Cranberry Gingerbread. It's moist and enriched with the full flavor of cranberries, raisins, peaches, molasses and spices.

What's more, you can bake this bread a couple of days in advance or even freeze it weeks in advance.

Serve the bread at a holiday breakfast or an open house with cream cheese and cranberry pear conserve. The conserve is also excellent as filling for baked squash or apples.

#### SPICED MOLASSES CRANBERRY GINGERBREAD (Serves 10-14)

- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup light molasses
- 4 eggs, room temperature and separated
- 1 teaspoon baking soda dissolved in 1 tablespoon hot water
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup fresh or frozen Ocean Spray cranberries
- Pinch of cream of tartar

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a three-quart (10") bundt pan very well with butter or shortening.

Cream butter with sugar until light and fluffy, using an electric mixer. Blend in the molasses, egg yolks and soda.

Combine the flour and spices. Mix into the butter alternately with buttermilk in three additions each. Fold in the pecans, raisins and cranberries.

In another bowl, beat the egg whites with the cream of tartar until stiff but not dry. Fold carefully into the batter.

Spoon the prepared batter into bundt pan (loaf pans or muffin tins), filling to approximately three-quarters full.

Bake until a tester inserted in the center comes out clean, about 20-25 minutes for muffins or 50-55 minutes for loaves and bundt pans.

Transfer to cooling racks and let cool for 10-15 minutes. Invert and remove from pan.

Serve warm.

#### CRANBERRY PEAR CONSERVE (Makes about 5 cups)

- 3 cups sugar
- 3/4 cup water
- 5 cups fresh or frozen Ocean Spray cranberries
- 2 large or 4 small fresh pears, peeled, cored and coarsely chopped
- 1 tablespoon grated orange peel
- 1/2 cup Ruby Port

Heat sugar and water in a heavy saucepan over low heat, swirling the pan occasionally, until the sugar dissolves.

Add the cranberries, pears and orange peel. Bring to a boil.

Reduce heat to medium and cook until the consistency of thick jam, stirring frequently, about 20-25 minutes. Stir in Port.

Cool completely before serving. The conserve can be stored in the refrigerator, well sealed, for one month.



FOR THE HOLIDAYS, make gingerbread studded with cranberries, pecans and raisins and serve with cream cheese and cranberry pear conserve.

## Cold Weather Tips Protect Valuables

**Protect your pets from cold weather.** The cold weather we have been experiencing puts us in the mood for the Christmas holidays. We do not need, however, to forget our pets and special care, such as shelter and adequate nutrition, should be given to protect family pets from winter-time hazards during the extremely cold months.

Winter temperatures in this area are not at such extremes that animals accustomed to staying outdoors will be hurt. If your pet can seek shelter that keeps out chilling winds and covers frozen ground, it should be adequately protected.

Animals that are very young or very old should probably not be kept outdoors. Healthy animals can tolerate cold weather. More food may be needed because pets need more calories to produce body heat. The daily water supply should also be checked to make sure it is clean and does not stay frozen for long periods of time.

Along with cold weather care, pets should be checked for internal and

blood parasites such as heartworms and vaccinations are up to date.

**Winterize your lawnmower.** Now is also a good time to winterize your lawnmower. Here are some winter maintenance tips for lawnmowers that may lead to more efficient operation this spring:

- Operate the engine until it runs out of fuel or drain the fuel tank and carburetor. Gasoline left in the tank or engine, will evaporate and leave varnish and gum which may clog small carburetor openings and lines.
- Drain and replace crankcase oil while the engine is warm. Use fresh oil as recommended in the owner's manual.
- Remove, clean, regap and replace the spark plug.
- Clean the entire mower, including the engine cooling fins.
- Clean or replace the air filter.
- If you store the lawnmower outside, it would be a good idea to cover it with a waterproof sheet.

If you need more information, please come by the Kinney County Extension office. Hope you and your family have a happy Holiday Season.

## Church Directory

<p><b>ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b> HENDERSON &amp; FORT HENDERSON &amp; FORT</p> <p>SUNDAY SHURCH SERVICES .....10:30 A.M. VICAR: REV. BILL KOONS .....563-2071</p> <p><b>ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 563-9551 WEST CROCKETT STREET REV. WALTER A. JOHNSON, PASTOR</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL .....10:00 A.M. SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP .....11:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE .....(to be announced) WED. PRAYER &amp; BIBLE STUDY .....7:00 P.M.</p> <p><b>FRONTIER BAPTIST CHURCH (A SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH)</b></p> <p>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP .....11:00 P.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE .....7:00 P.M. JOE TOWNSEND PASTOR</p> <p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (A SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH)</b> 307 N. ANN STREET</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL .....9:45 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE (SUN) .....11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE (WED) .....6:00 P.M. REV. PRESTON A. TAYLOR</p>	<p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b></p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE.....10:30 A.M. BIBLE STUDY (SUN)...6:30 P.M. BIBLE STUDY (WED)...7:00 P.M.</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> CORNER OF EL PASO AND GOVE STREETS</p> <p>COMMUNION SERVICES .....10:45 A.M. PRAISE AND WORSHIP .....11:00 A.M.</p> <p><b>ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> MASSES MONDAY &amp; FRIDAY .....7:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY &amp; SATURDAY .....6:30 P.M. SUNDAY 8:00 A.M. (spanish) .....10:30 A.M. CONFESSIONS WED. &amp; SAT. ....6:00 P.M. RELIGION CLASSES WED. ....7:00 P.M. RELIGION CLASSES SUN. ....9:15 A.M. PRAYER MEETING (SPANISH) WED. ....7:00 P.M. FATHER DAVID G. ZUMAYA, PASTOR</p> <p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> JAMES STREET 563-2823 REV. J. ROLAND COLE, PASTOR "CATCH THE SPIRIT"</p> <p>MORNING FELLOWSHIP .....9:30 A.M. CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES .....9:45 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP .....11:00 A.M. U.M. YOUTH FELLOWSHIP .....6:00 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL (THURS) .....7:00 P.M.</p>
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Mayor LaGioia, City Council  
& Employees

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

Our thanks for the many kindnesses you've shown us through the year. We join with you in praying for a world filled with peace and joy.

LEONA RANCH

## Win That Election!!

IT'S WINNER TAKE ALL IN 1990 ELECTIONS

**WHO WILL BE THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES?**

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The successful candidates will be the ones who promote their candidacy through effective and cost efficient media. Campaign consultants agree, the most powerful tool that a political candidate can use to get elected is creative and repetitive advertising.



## From around the world, spirited toasts to the holiday season

Around the world, Christmas is celebrated joyously. Festivities are planned at which family and friends gather together to share the holiday spirit—and, often, to raise a toast to each other, as they have for centuries past.

The spirits of Christmas—those festive beverages which are served traditionally during the holiday season—are many and varied. Some are mulled and spiced, to entrance the palate and warm cold bodies.

Eggnog, which can be served either hot or chilled, is perhaps the most famous of all Christmas drinks. It is a descendant of the old English Sack Posset.

Fragrant with grated nutmeg, it is a sweetened mixture of sherry (once known as "sack") with milk or cream, which has been further enriched by the addition of eggs.

Wassail, another perennial British favorite, was served warm to carolers (singing, it is to be presumed, "Here we come a Wassailing"), who roamed from house to house (often quite long distances in the age of isolated manors and farmhouses), in anticipation of being greeted with brimming Wassail cups.

The classic beverage for drinking toasts with, Wassail literally means "be well" or "be whole."

Often, toasted bread was put on top of the Wassail as a floating garnish (perhaps where the other meaning of the word "toast" originated?).

With toast on top, the spirited beverage which resulted was nicknamed Lamb's Wool, because of its appearance.

Among the other ingredients of both traditional Wassail and Lamb's Wool are ale, sugar, cinnamon and roasted apples, though additional spices were often used.

Athole Brose hails from Scotland. A concoction of Scotch whiskey, honey, cream and oatmeal water, it is customarily served to toast in the New Year, known to the Scots as "Hogmanay."

Mexican *Atole*, a distant relative of Athole Brose, substitutes cornmeal for the oatmeal—and eschews alcohol in favor of the tantalizing flavors of cinnamon and chocolate, especially seductive in combination.

*Atole* is served in Mexico throughout the holiday season, and is a standard accompaniment to King's Cake, the centerpiece of the Epiphany table.

*Glogg*, a Swedish treat, stands out for a special reason—in many recipes for it, the liqueur which is added (traditionally though not exclusively aquavit) is often ignited before serving, usually as part of a New Year's festivity, typical not only of Sweden, but of Scandinavia as a whole, and Germany as well.

Below are recipes for some of these time-tested Christmas beverages. Try one or more—and continue a long-standing tradition, while establishing a new tradition of your own! Here's to you and

yours!

The following two recipes, for Holiday Eggnog and Wassail, are reproduced from *John Clancy's Christmas Cookbook* (Hearst Books). From Mimi Sheraton's classic compendium of Yuletide recipes, *Visions of Sugarplums* (Harper & Row) come the recipes for Athole Brose and Mexican *Atole*. And, finally, from *Classic Scandinavian Cooking* (Charles Scribner's Sons) by Nika Hazelton, is culled the recipe for Swedish *Glogg*.

### HOLIDAY EGGNOG

Yield: Approximately 2 quarts

- 8 egg whites
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 8 egg yolks
- 3 cups heavy cream, chilled
- 4 teaspoons superfine sugar
- 2 1/2 cups blended whiskey
- 8 ounces Jamaica rum
- 1 1/2 cups cold milk
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons grated lemon rind
- 2 tablespoons grated orange rind

1. In a large bowl, beat the egg whites with a wire whisk or electric beater until frothy. Gradually add the 1/4 cup sugar, and continue beating until the egg whites form soft peaks when the beater is lifted.

2. In another large bowl, beat the egg yolks until they run off the beater in thick ribbons. With a large rubber spatula, fold the egg whites and yolks together thoroughly.

3. Beat the heavy cream with the 4 teaspoons superfine sugar until the cream holds soft peaks.

4. Gently pour the egg mixture and cream into a large punch bowl or storage container. Slowly add the whiskey, rum, and milk, beating gently all the while.

5. Grate about 1/2 teaspoon of the nutmeg over the top of the eggnog, then sprinkle with the lemon and orange rind. Chill for at least 2 hours before serving.

### WASSAIL

Yield: 8 to 10 servings

- 1/2 cup water
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- Pinch ground mace
- 4 whole cloves
- 2 allspice berries, crushed
- 1 stick cinnamon
- 6 eggs, separated
- 1 bottle sherry
- 1 cup brandy

1. In a medium-sized saucepan, combine the water and sugar and place over low heat until the sugar dissolves. Add the nutmeg, ginger, mace, cloves, allspice, and cinnamon. Bring the mixture to a boil and let it boil for 5 minutes. Remove from the heat and strain; discard the contents of the strainer.

2. Beat the egg whites until they hold soft peaks. Beat the egg yolks until they are a light lemon-yellow in color.

3. In a large saucepan, heat the sherry and brandy until very hot.

4. In a large bowl and using a rubber spatula, fold the egg whites and yolks together thoroughly. Then stir in the spiced syrup.

5. With a wire whisk, slowly beat in

the hot sherry and brandy and serve immediately.

### ATHOLE BROSE OR HOGMANAY

- 1 cup honey (preferably heather honey from Scotland)
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups heavy sweet cream
- 2 cups Scotch whiskey

Heat honey, and when it thins slightly, stir in cream. Heat together but do not boil. Remove from heat and slowly stir in whiskey. This may be served hot or thoroughly chilled. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Variation: If you feel that you must try the oatmeal version, soak 1 cup oatmeal in 2 cups water overnight. Strain and mix liquid with other ingredients, to taste.

### MEXICAN ATOLE OR CHAMPURRADO

- 1/2 cup masa flour (Mexican corn flour used for tamale dough and available packaged in Mexican neighborhoods and some supermarkets)
- 2 cups water
- 1 stick cinnamon
- 4 cups milk
- 2 cups brown sugar, firmly packed
- 3 ounces unsweetened chocolate

Stir masa into water, add cinnamon and cook over low heat, stirring frequently until thick. Add milk, sugar and chocolate and cook slowly, beating with a wire whisk until smooth and well blended. Bring to a boil once more and serve. To make a thicker, richer drink, beat 2 egg yolks with 3 tablespoons water and beat them into the hot chocolate just before serving. Heat, but do not boil after adding egg yolks.

Makes about 6 servings.

### SWEDISH GLOGG

About 2 quarts

- 3 whole cardamom pods
- 8 whole cloves
- 1 cinnamon stick
- One 4-inch strip of orange rind (yellow part only)
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1/4 cup blanched almonds
- 1/2 cup golden raisins
- 1 bottle Bordeaux wine
- 1 bottle port wine
- 1/2 bottle Cognac
- Sugar to taste

Tie cardamom pods, cloves, cinnamon, and orange rind in a cheesecloth bag. Place in the water and bring to a boil. Simmer, covered, 10 minutes. Add almonds and raisins and simmer 10 minutes longer. Add Bordeaux wine, port wine, and Cognac and bring to a quick boil. Remove from heat immediately. Cool and store, covered, overnight. At serving time, remove spice bag. Heat *Glogg* but do not boil. Add sugar to taste. Serve in heated mugs or glasses, with a few almonds and raisins in each glass.



HEARTY ELIZABETHANS raise a toast to each other, as they enjoy that traditional English Christmas spirit, Wassail. Illustration courtesy: The New York Public Library Picture Collection.

## Irrigation Conference Announced

The South Texas Irrigation Conference is Jan. 11 at the Lions Club Civic Center in Pearsall.

The Conference will present the latest information for South Texas agricultural producers and organizations on irrigation management, engineering, and economics.

The conference begins with registration at 8:15 a.m. The main body of the program begins at 9 a.m.

Topics to be covered include Texas water laws, the status and trends of the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, legal requirements for chemigation equipment, pumping costs and economics, and irrigation technology.

A panel of Texas producers will present the growers' perspective.

The conference is sponsored by the Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District, Atascosa Peanut

Growers Association, Wilco Peanut Co., and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

A trade show will feature displays by irrigation dealers, equipment and manufacturer representatives, and others servicing the South Texas irrigation industry.

Advance registration is \$5 and includes admission to the conference and trade show, meeting proceedings and refreshments. The registration fee at the door is \$6.

For further information or to register, contact Dr. Guy Fipps, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, 207C Ag. Engineering Building, Texas A & M University, College Station, TX 77843-2217, telephone (409) 845-7454. Registration will be accepted by mail through Jan. 8.



Jessica Villareal makes sure Santa knows exactly what she has on her Christmas list at the civic center Sunday during Santa's visit that was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. The beautiful chair that Santa is sitting on was designed and constructed by Charles Ingram and a special thanks to Charles for inviting Santa.

## Take this quiz to see how much you know about Christmas tradition

It's pretty difficult to imagine a Christmas without Santa Claus or a Christmas tree but, in many parts of the world, the appearance of Santa would puzzle people and a tree would be out of keeping with the Christmas spirit.

Roses, Inc., representing America's Rose Growers, devised a special quiz to test your knowledge on Christmas customs around the world. Read on and see how many correct answers you can score.

(1) There's a country where kids don't know about Santa Claus. On Christmas Eve they wait for an old woman on a broomstick to bring them presents. What is she called and from what country does she come?

(2) In Belgium and the Netherlands, people would gasp if they saw Santa Claus on a sleigh pulled by eight reindeer. How does St. Nicholas travel about in these countries?

(3) In another country, people would shudder if someone brought an evergreen tree into the house on Christmas. Instead of the tree, wild flowers are used as seasonal decorations. Why, and in what country?

(4) Christmas can be a solemn holiday as well as a joyful one, particularly for adults. Italy and Spain are two countries where some grown-ups don't think singing joyous Christmas carols is the only way to celebrate the holiday. How do they celebrate?

(5) For centuries, it has been a custom in the U.S. to have a symbol or token of Christmas spotlighted in a place of honor in your home. What are some of these symbols and where are they placed?

(6) The custom of giving gifts for Christmas is believed to have grown from a different holiday that was celebrated before Christ was born. What holiday was it and in what country did this celebration take place?

(7) It's pretty hard to imagine a Christmas tree that isn't decorated with lights. In one country, flowers are used to decorate the tree. What is the traditional flower of this country, and how is it used to decorate the tree and around the home?

(8) The generous spirit of Christmas is reflected in one country by Christmas dinner. Custom in this country dictates that you set one more place at the dinner table than the number of guests who are coming to dine. That way, even an unexpected guest will find a place and a meal for him or herself without trouble. In what country does this tradition exist?

(9) Where was the first Christmas tree used?

(10) St. Nicholas gives good children presents, but bad children get a whipping with a birch switch in one country. Where is this custom still practiced today?

These Christmas puzzlers all have relatively easy answers, so read on and see how well you did.

(1) Children from all around the world love the gifts and special plans associated with Christmas. In every nation children celebrate the holidays with traditional holiday customs. American children leave milk and cookies by the fire for Santa Claus.

Dutch children in Holland fill their wooden shoes with roses so as to please the old woman called "La Befina." "La Befina" makes her Christmas rides on a broomstick, leaving presents for good children and ashes in the shoes of bad ones.

(2) In Belgium and the Netherlands, St. Nicholas rides a white horse instead of traveling with reindeer and a sleigh.

(3) In Sweden, wild flowers were flowers grown in someone's garden. The most popular and colorful floral choice of most Swedes was roses. Oftentimes irises and fresh holly were also used.

Picking fresh roses and other flowers this December may be somewhat difficult, depending on where you live and the climate. By making a personal visit to your neighborhood florist, you can choose from a wide variety of fresh roses, and seasonal flowers and plants.

Whether you live in a small apartment or a large home, your florist can

design an arrangement of roses and holiday greenery to fit your living room, kitchen, bedroom or entry hallway. Remember, it is best to order early for top quality blooms at a reasonable price.

(4) Devout Catholics in Italy and Spain often observe a day-long fast which begins at sunset on December 23.

(5) Many families have a beloved Madonna and Child—a print, a painting, or perhaps an old icon or triptych—they bring out during the Christmas season. It's a happy custom that reflects the true meaning of Christmas.

A fitting way to accent such a Madonna and give it the prominence it deserves in your home is with an arrangement of fresh roses, long-needed pine or holly. To ensure a truly beautiful effect, take the Madonna to your florist and let him design an arrangement that will best complement it. He will know just the right number and color of roses fitting the piece.

(6) The custom of giving gifts for Christmas dates back to the ancient Roman Mid-Winter Festival.

(7) In the country of Austria, fresh roses placed in water tubes were used to decorate the tree. Roses, when placed on the tree, were felt to symbolize the birth of life and the rewards of a new year.

Roses in several vibrant colors and

the special water tubes you need to decorate your tree can be purchased at your local florist. Calling one to two weeks in advance of when you need them ensures you the best quality blooms available.

(8) The country where they place an extra place at the Christmas table for unexpected guests is Poland.

(9) There are numerous stories explaining the origin of the first Christmas tree, but the following is the most popular.

In the eighth century, St. Boniface, then a missionary to Germany, was attempting to stamp out the pagan custom of making human sacrifices to oak trees. At Yuletide, he led his followers to an evergreen tree and told them it pointed straight up to the Christ Child.

"Take this tree into your homes as a sign of your new worship," he told them. "Celebrate God's power no more with shameful rites, but in the sanctity of your home with laughter and love."

(10) The country is Germany. Santa arrives on December 6th, instead of Christmas Eve, and punishes bad children and rewards the good with special treats of candy, books and colorful clothing.

No matter what the tradition or country, Christmas is always a time to reflect and remember good days gone by and the promise of a bright future.

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

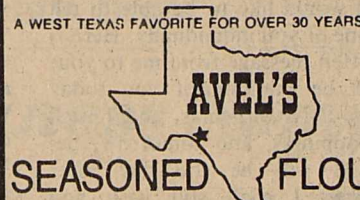


## FRIED CHICKEN LOVERS

How long has it been since you've had any of that delicious Fried Chicken & Onion Rings from MEME'S KLEEN KITCHENS?

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## Thank You

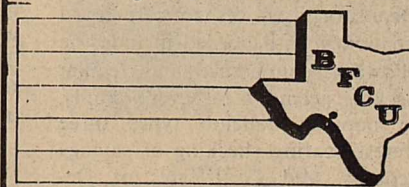
Santa and the Chamber of Commerce wish to thank the following people and merchants for making Santa's visit here Sunday afternoon such a success. Santa, with the help of Charles Ingram, built a beautiful chair, Archie Woodson from Sunshine Gardens, helped decorate with Christmas trees and poinsettias, Anna Bell Talamantez helped distribute tickets for gifts. Glen Seaver was the photographer. Santa arrived in a convertible on loan from Freddie Frerich.

The following merchants contributed gifts -- Stop N Shop, B & S Grocery, Fuentes Store, Gonzales Store, Casuals Plus, Rob's Mini Mart, Super S, Burger and Shake, Gateway Cafe, Sunshine Gardens, and Julie Fuentes, news carrier for Del Rio News Herald and San Antonio Express. Martin Garcia, Jr. was the winner of the \$100.00 gift certificate from the Chamber. The Chamber of Commerce wishes one and all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## HOLIDAY LOANS

Pay your holiday expenses with a Holiday Loan from Border Federal Credit Union:

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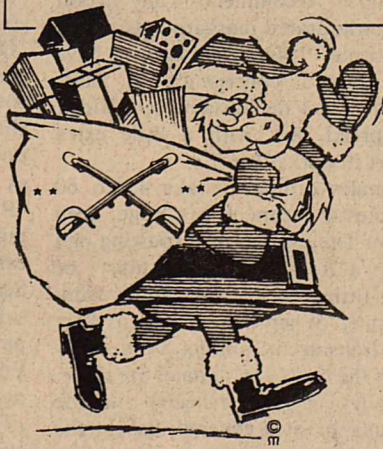


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Have the greatest Christmas ever!

Thanks for making ours a real treat!

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# Grandma's Kitchen



I'm going to take this week off from the regular collection of recipes and chit chat, ect. I want to give you something to think about when all the family has gone and you have time to sit down and rest your weary bodies and think for awhile. I, like many of you think, "What can one person alone and self-conscious do to change the order of events?"

I don't have much money to bark up anything I might want to do, nor do I have the time to spend trying to convince others of my viewpoint. Then I think about this, and remember once again that one person did.

### One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. He then became an itinerant preacher. He never held an office. He never had a family, or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He had no credentials but himself.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, and all the Navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that... One Solitary Life.

My second message has been creeping up in my mind since I've written this column, and expresses my feelings for you so well, and says what I would like to be able to tell each one of you individually. Here is a heartfelt message from me to you.

I will be thinking of you today because it is Christmas, and I wish you happiness, and tomorrow, because it will be the day after Christmas I shall still wish you happiness.

I may not be able to tell you about it every day, because I may be far away or we may be very busy, but that makes no difference. My thoughts and best wishes will be with you just

the same. Whatever joy or success comes to you will make me glad, clear through the year, I wish you the spirit of Christmas. I have tried hard to think of a Christmas gift I could send to all of you, but this would be an impossibility in itself. Instead, I want to send a wish to you. I wish for you a special Christmas tree. I hope for you that it will be a tall and straight tree with boughs outstretched to shelter you for the coming year. Trim it with love and surround it with faith. This Christmas tree that I want for each of you has a bright and shining star at the very top. It will shine through the darkness around you and bring hope to the world as it did so many years ago on Bethlehem. May it's radiance in the days ahead flood your heart.

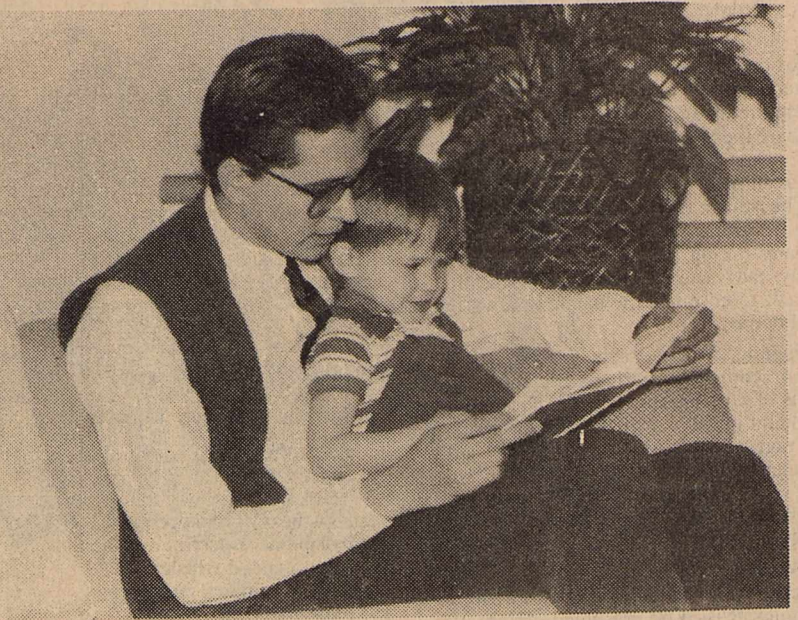
Under this tree there shall be presents for each of you. One is a package full of memories. These are not ordinary memories. These are of special people, of special times and of other Christmas seasons from the

past. And while memories may call for you to weep, it is a time for holding the head a little higher and for making yourself go on when you'd rather not. In this way you acquire the ability to give thanks for faith in the future and for the courage you didn't think you had.

There is yet another package under this tree for you. It is filled with peace. Share that one with the world. For to settle with less is to make a mockery of the words, "Peace on earth, good will toward men", and indeed, peace is the foundation upon which the tree I wish for you shall stand. Included in my wish for you is that this tree will be a part of all the good times that will be yours this season, helping to make this Christmas the merriest of all.

Last of all I wish for each of you a very happy Christmas Day.  
Special Love  
Grandma

## Reading brings families together



TURN OFF THE TELEVISION, snuggle up with a favorite book, and read aloud to your children, suggests Lane Nemeth, educator and founder of Discovery Toys, Inc. Listening requires children to use their imagination to visualize the action in the story.

## Tamales a Traditional Christmas Festivity

(AUSTIN)--When Cortes arrived in Mexico in 1519, he found native people who ate tamales to celebrate special occasions. Four hundred seventy years later the tradition lives on among families with roots in Mexico. During the Christmas holidays, many of these families gather in their kitchens to spread masa on corn husks, which are folded like carefully wrapped gifts.

"It's appropriate that tamales are served at Christmas. They're wrapped like a package and opened up," said Nell Veeder, a University of Texas graduate student specializing in culinary anthropology. Stuffing something inside of something else is a common way of cooking food all over the world," Veeder went on to say. "Human beings seem to delight in it."

Not only Hispanics, but Texans of many ethnic backgrounds identify tamales with Christmas festivities. Hungry guests snap them up at office parties and holiday buffets. Those who don't want to make them, often buy them. At Jimenez Food Products Inc., San Antonio, people come from 50 miles away to pick up tamales, sold fresh only during the holidays. The few days before Christmas are the busiest, said Lucy Balderas, company spokeswoman. On these days, 300 to 400 customers may line up daily for orders ranging from one to 100 dozen.

Eating store-bought tamales may taste good, but it's not the same as making them, Veeder says. Home preparation constitutes an important social ritual, calling people together to reestablish family ties.

"It's a cooperative effort. It can also be a time when mothers pass on a tradition to their daughters," Veeder said. "Making food together is part of the Christmas ritual in many cultures. In my family it was ravioli. One family I remember would pound the veal, and another would do something else. It's important in these rituals to use the food at hand (in that culture). Most festival foods are not exotic."

The traditional tamale filling is cabeza de puerco, ground meat from hog's heads that have been boiled and deboned. Meatier cuts of pork, beef, poultry and game are also used, as are beans, cheese and chiles and, occasionally, a sweet filling of nuts, sugar and spices.

To make masa, solid shortening is necessary to bind the cornmeal, meat stock to make it soft and pliable. "Lard is the typical shortening used in tamales," said Carol Guthrie, Texas Department of Agriculture home economist. "It adds flavor to the dough, but it's saturated animal fat, which is the kind to avoid if you're concerned about clogged arteries and high cholesterol. You have to use fat in tamales, but it doesn't have to be animal fat."

The Aztecs whom Cortes met, in fact, probably added less fat to their tamales than is used today. Their meat was mostly wild game, which contains little fat in comparison to domestic meat.

Guthrie recommends any good polyunsaturated margarine as a lard substitute. "Margarine doesn't have the smooth consistency of lard, which makes the masa more difficult to spread. But with a little extra effort it works fine."

Tamales ordinarily take 45 to 60 minutes to steam. Use a large, deep pot or Dutch oven or a roasting pan with a rack. The lid must be tight-fitting to prevent steam from escaping. When the masa turns firm and translucent, pulling away easily from the husk, the tamales are done. Tamales can be reheated in the steamer or in a covered dish in the oven or microwave.

### Tamales

2-3 dozen dried corn husks  
Pork filling:  
2 lb. Boston butt (pork)  
2 peeled garlic cloves  
1 T. salt, divided  
1/2-3/4 C. chili powder  
2-3 C. meat stock

Mesa:  
1 C. lard or soft margarine  
1 3/4 C. hot meat stock  
3 C. masa harina  
1 tsp. salt

Cover corn husks with hot water. Soak 3 hours to overnight. When ready to use, rinse husks in cold water. Leave in fresh water while making tamales.

Filling:  
Put pork, garlic, 1 1/2 teaspoons salt and enough water to cover in large pot. Simmer oven low heat 2 to 3 hours. When meat is tender enough to fall apart, remove from pot and set aside to cool slightly. Discard

garlic and reserve stock. Chop meat finely, discarding fat and bones. Combine chopped meat with remaining salt and chili powder to taste. Stir 2 to 3 cups stock into meat to moisten thoroughly. Heat mixture, simmering 30 minutes until thick enough to spread.

Mesa:  
Cream lard or margarine until light and fluffy. Heat 1 3/4 cups meat stock. Blend masa, salt and stock into lard. Beat mixture until dough holds together well.

Tamales:  
Spread bottom half of each husk with about 2 tablespoons masa. Make a 4 X 3-inch rectangle placed completely to one side, leaving a 1-inch margin on the other side. Masa should be 1/8 to 1/4-inch thick. Place strip of pork filling down the center third of masa. Fold the side with masa over filling, lapping 1-inch margin over back of tamale. Fold top toward center. Line

a 4-quart dutch oven with aluminum foil and scatter some corn husks on bottom of pot. A steamer or any large kettle or roasting pan with a rack and tight fitting lid can also be used.

Tamales must stand out of water. If using dutch oven or other large pot, stand tamales in with top fold down, using a cup in center of pot to keep tamales standing. Be sure there is plenty of space around tamales to let steam circulate. Add and keep adding water to maintain active steam.

In 45 to 60 minutes, masa will be translucent and will loosen easily from husk. Serve tamales warm. To reheat, resteam tamales or place in covered dish in conventional or microwave oven until just heated through. Steamed tamales can be frozen. Cool them first. Then place in plastic bag or wrap securely in aluminum foil and freeze.

## Chamber of Commerce Spotlight Review No. 10

### The First State Bank

Webster's Dictionary gives a half dozen different definitions for the word "bank". Perhaps the most meaningful to many of us is the one: "an institution for lending, borrowing, exchanging, issuing, or safeguarding money". Whose money? Yours and mine--and that is important to us, isn't it?

Bracketville and Kinney County is most fortunate to have a banking institution of long-standing stability and security for our dollars. The First State Bank was established in 1906, eighty-three years ago, and has provided reliable service without interruption since then. It has been around longer than most of us! It has withstood the tests of time and economic uncertainty. That is quite reassuring!

Depository services to safe-guard our money until needed include the following: commercial and regular checking accounts of several kinds, the popular Banclub type, three interest bearing checking or savings accounts, and Certificates of Deposit. For more convenience to us, the bank can provide A.T.M. cards that can be used at two locations in Del Rio and one in Sonora to withdraw funds from any account we have with FSB. Away from home service can be mighty helpful at times!

Under lending services, the bank provides: loans to-purchase new or used automobiles or trucks, furniture or appliances, livestock and farm equipment, and for home improvements. For time away from home, vacation loans are available. Commercial and residential real estate loans are big items. The business owner can obtain operating capital or special purpose financing; all types of business loans are available. If you need extra bucks, FSB is the place to go for help!

Other services include: safe deposit boxes of different sizes, cashiers checks, bank money orders, travelers checks, wire transfers, note collection, and fax machine service, as well as photocopies.

Retired folks, receiving monthly military or social security income, can benefit from the Direct Deposit Service provided by the bank. This safe-guard against loss of income payments is highly recommended. Employed persons on a government payroll may also use this service.

Those of us who have been customers of the bank for years can

testify, with many pleasant memories, that the bank staff does a great job of attending to our needs. They are friendly folks who know how to make a person feel at home at the bank. Get to know them better--and appreciate their valuable services, as listed:

- Donald R. Rolston, President
- Paco Perez, Head Cashier
- Nancy Forbes, Loan Secretary
- Ellen Pastor, New Accounts Clerk/Teller
- Elia Ward, Drive-in Teller
- Neelia Hetu, Window Teller

Julie Nowlin, Bookkeeper  
Proof operator

The Bank is housed in an attractive rock building at the intersection of Ann and Spring Streets. The lobby is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Drive-in Window opens at 9 a.m. but closes at different times--5 p.m. on Monday and Friday, 2 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Call 563-2451 for information. You will enjoy the friendly and courteous assistance you will receive! Seasons greeting one and all!

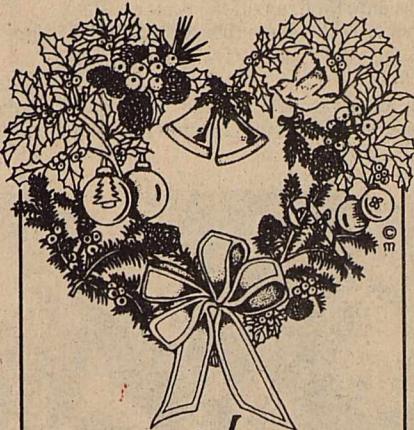
## Toll Free College Information Hotline

The Texas Association of College Admission Counselors (TACAC) and First City, Texas will co-sponsor a toll-free HOTLINE, available to all Texas residents, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 13 and Sunday, January 14.

People in Texas may telephone toll-free, 1-800-253-8989, with their questions about college selection, admission, testing and financial aid.

The most current information regarding the application process, college majors, entrance requirements, financial aid and meeting deadlines will be available.

College admission directors, high school guidance counselors and financial aid personnel will be answering the ten (10) phone lines. Spanish-speaking counselors will also be available.



We wish you a Christmas filled with love.

Thank you.

Hair By Diane

Diane, Mitch, and Brandi Wilson

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Thank You So Very Much.

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Don and Linda

Thank you Kinney County for 19 good years.

A special thanks to the people who made it possible.

Merry Christmas-Happy New Year & God Bless All

Bill & Rose Bizzell