

The Brackett News

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

Vol 2 No. 10

Brackettville, Fort Clark, Spofford, Kinney County, Texas

April 19, 1990

Celebrate Earth Day 1990

AUSTIN -- When pink and yellow primroses peek out of the woods and bluebonnets drape the meadows, it's time to experience April's love affair with Texas in a state park. This year there is more reason than ever to celebrate the parks and Earth's bounty. April 22 will commemorate the 20th anniversary of Earth Day.

"Lands have been set aside in state parks as a natural response to the beauty of Texas and a simple desire to preserve it for everyone to enjoy," said Wilson E. Dolman, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's parks director. For almost 75 years, in acts of public farsightedness and private generosity Texans have chosen to conserve canyons, beaches, prairies and woodlands in the state park system, he said.

On the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, more than 20 million Americans demonstrated their environmental concern giving rise to the modern environmental movement. But Texans' love of the land had inspired the preservation of special places long before that first Earth Day observance.

Park development today focuses on natural resource preservation. Campsites, hiking trails and picnic grounds are built in scenic areas, but do not intrude on the more fragile ecosystems of the park. So young visitors enjoying state parks on Earth Day 1990 may return with their grandchildren on future Earth Days to share these special places with the next generation.

In 1989 a record 21 million people visited Texas state parks for the second year in a row. Today the system preserves the natural and cultural heritage of Texas from

Panhandle canyons to Gulf Shore beaches, from Big Bend's desert wilderness to the woodlands of Deep East Texas. As the state park system moves into the 1990's, important new resource conservation goals are being assessed and met.

Pre - K Students to Celebrate Earth Day

The Pre-K students at Jones Elementary are celebrating Earth Week by picking up trash and debris from areas around their school and by continuing their recycling project.

For the past two years the Pre-K classes have collected and recycled aluminum cans. Through this ongoing project the children learn some important ideas about caring for our planet and generate some extra cash for trips, books, and other learning

"Our wilderness parks are more than simple museums of the outdoors," says Dolman. "Here there is clean air and clear water, here wildlife is unfettered, and here people can experience the great living wonder of Texas."

your aluminum cans for recycling until May 24th. You may drop them off at Jones Elementary School anytime during the school day.

activities and materials.

The Pre-K teacher, Dr. Pat Seawell, on behalf of the Pre-K class would like to thank those people in the community who have contributed aluminum cans to our recycling drives. We will continue to accept

Large Hail and Heavy Rains Pound Brackettville

Large hail, some reportedly the size of oranges, accompanied by heavy rains traveled through Kinney Co. last Tuesday evening.

Citizens from Brackettville reported massive amounts of hail ranging from the size of a pea to the larger orange size. Residents of Fort Clark Springs however said that they experienced only minor amounts of hail, some being the size of walnuts.

McDaniels Farm reported some damage to the newly planted cotton crop. And the newly planted gardens in the area also took a beating as did the foliage on some of the budding trees.

Just before the storm hit the warning siren went off from the Sheriff's dept. It could be heard on Fort Clark Springs as well as throughout Brackettville.

Fort Clark Shriners will be Collecting for Crippled Children

On Saturday, April 21st, the Fort Clark Shrine Club Shriners will be on the street dressed in their Red Hats and Hospital Aprons collecting for the Annual Shriner Crippled Childrens Hospitals and Burn Institutes benefit drive.

It is through contributions such as this that enables the Shriners to operate 19 Orthopedic Hospitals and 3 Burn Institutes, which provide free care to children under the age of 18 without regards to Race, Religion, or relationship to a Shriner. There is never a charge to the Patient, Parent

or any third party for any service or medical treatment received at the hospitals, and no State, Local or Federal funding of any kind is sought or accepted by Shriners Hospitals.

The 1989 operating budget for the hospitals was approximately \$197.1 million. This does not include the cost of transportation, food and lodging involved in transporting the children and their parents to and from the hospital. This expense is absorbed by individuals, Shrine Clubs, and Shrine Temples, and is not connected in any way with the

funds raised for the hospitals. The annual Transportation Budget for the San Antonio area alone, which includes Kinney County exceeds \$100,000.00 per year.

When you see us out on the street on the 21st, give freely and you can be assured that every cent you give will be used either to help a crippled child or in healing a burned victim. After all that is what we are all about. "The person never stood so tall as the one that stooped to help a crippled child." See you Saturday.



JUST HANGIN AROUND-Swarms of bees were sighted at the Sheriff's office Tuesday Afternoon. According to Sheriff Hooten bee's will travel in swarms like this when there is more

than one queen in the nest. Some of the bee's will leave to follow the ousted queen and seek a new "hive". Warren Martin, a bee keeper from Spofford, was called in and success-

fully captured one of the swarms. The swarm pictured above was to quick to be reckoned with and evaded capture with a quick departure.

photo by Warren Outlaw

City Addresses Planning Grant

BRACKETTVILLE - 4:00p.m. April 11, 1990. City Council held regular session upstairs at City Hall.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor La Gioia called the meeting to order at 4:01

ROLL CALL

All members were present with the exception of Louis Dimery.

MINUTES OF REGULAR AND SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Two minor clerical errors were correct on the previous minutes. On special Council Meeting Minutes 3 tons was corrected to 3/4 ton in reference to a pickup examined and purchased by Councilman Brodrick. Corrections to the roll call of Regular Session were made and Fuentes was taken off the roll. Mr. Saenz motioned to accept the special minutes. Mr. Brodrick motioned to accept the Regular minutes. Mr. Saenz seconded, all were in favor.

CITY AND UTILITY DEPT FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORTS

The Financial and Operational reports were reviewed by Council. Council accepted the Reports; all were in favor.

SWIMMING POOL / PEANNING GRANT STATUS

"We called Austin, they guaranteed us we're getting the loan for the swimming pool." Mayor LaGioia went on to say that, once the contract was received, reviewed, and signed, it would be an additional 45 days until the money was received. The pool site is being prepared now so when the loan is received, work can begin immediately.

The 5yr Planning will be received ahead of schedule. The grant will allow for the hiring of a City Engineer. "It will also help pay for the funding and development of drainage, streets, water, sewer, gas, fire hydrants, housing, and any economic developments," said the mayor. This grant will now make Brackettville eligible for other grants.

CITY PARK

The park is being cleaned and the concrete blocks removed. The barbecue pits will be repaired and a

half-court with a basketball net will be added. The trees will also be trimmed.

ANIMAL AND FOWL CONTROL

Questions were raised about a problem peacock. No citizens were at the meeting to complain so the issue was dropped. Fritter stated the birds were being moved out of town.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

A \$170. bill was received from a laboratory for a soil test. The mayor stated "I understand the insurance companies or the state fire marshal is responsible for that." It is unknown

who requested it or who authorized it. The \$170 will come out of the fire departments budget. A letter will be sent asking the fire department to get authorization before any future investigations.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

A tennant had complained that they were not receiving a monthly allowance check for electricity. Inadequate receipts or record were

produced to resolve the issue. The tennant who had the complaint did not attend the meeting. Because of this, the issue could not be resolved.

ENRICH-PLUS Classes

The next series of ENRICH - PLUS classes for the parents of Brackett I.S.D. children will be starting at the Kinney County Library on Thursday, April 26, 1990. The classes will meet each Thursday for three weeks and are approximately 1 1/2 hours long. Participants may attend either the 9:00 A.M. class or the 6:00 P.M. class. This will be the last ENRICH - PLUS session for the 1989-90 school year. Dr. Pat Seawell teaches the classes.

The classes are especially for parents of children who are infants through five years of age, but anyone who is interested in young children is welcome to attend.

Parents are a child's first and most important teachers, and the ENRICH - PLUS classes give suggestions for easy and enjoyable things to do at home that help children become successful at school. If you are interested in attending this session, please call Maria Sanchez at the Kinney County Library (563-

2884) and sign up. There is no charge for the classes. They are made possible through a grant from the Meadows Foundation.

Approximately \$5000 of the Meadows grant money has been used to purchase new children's books and book/cassette sets for the Kinney County Library. These books are for you and your children to read and enjoy, and are the "textbooks" for the ENRICH - PLUS parent program. Reading to your child is the single most important thing you can do to make him or her become a good reader. Please take the time to give you child this important support.

Leland Jacobs once wrote "...literature does not just happen in a child's life. It is in his days because an adult who cares about children and books gets them together." The ENRICH - PLUS parent program invites you to be that caring adult in a child's life. Please come.

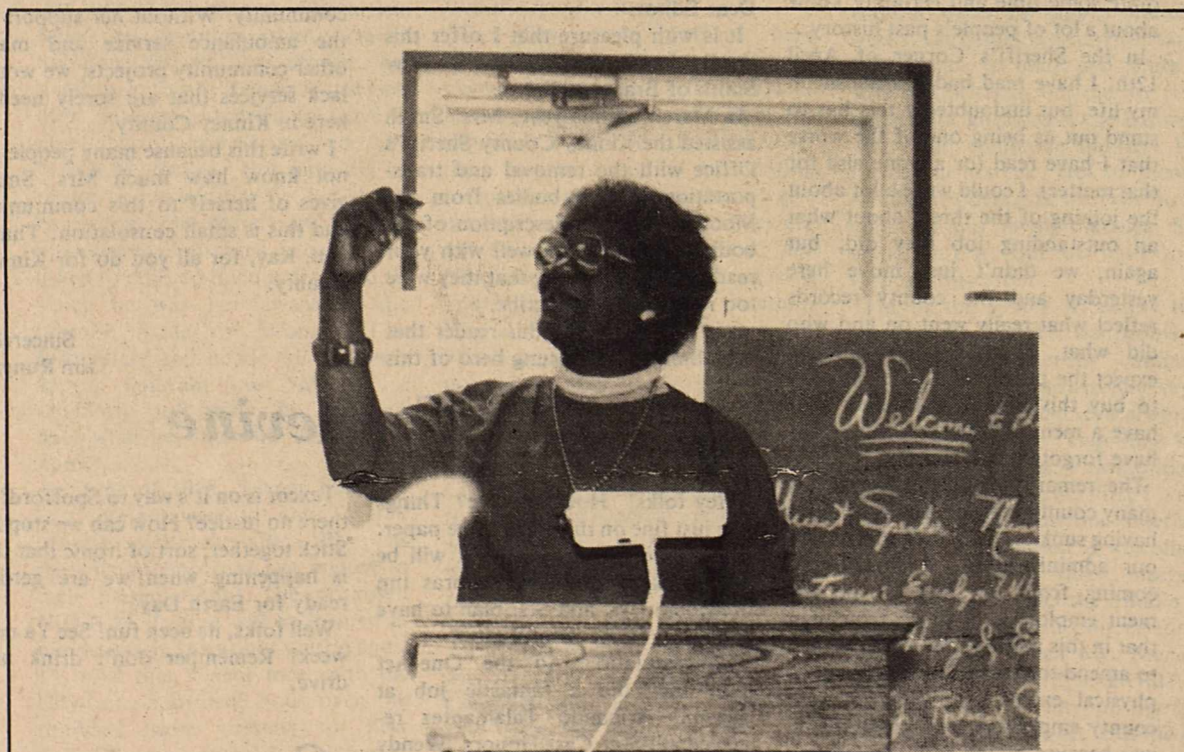
U.I.L. Student to Compete

The U.I.L. academic team will compete at regionals tomorrow. The students are leaving sometime today and are scheduled to return late Friday. The regional meet is being held in Victoria.

All three members of the accounting team qualified. Members include Bonnie Frerich, Fidel Hernandez, and Michelle Munoz. Frerich will also compete in two other events. Clay Hunt and Mary Duran will

represent Brackett in the speaking events. Hunt participates in informative speaking, while Duran is involved in persuasive speaking.

Selina Ramon is competing in typing. Alternates going are Scott Sims, and J.J. Guidry. Sims competes in calculator and Guidry is in the number sense. Mr. and Mrs. Sims along with Mrs. Kathy Adams will be taking the competitors.



Miss Charles Wilson entertained the ladies at the Methodist Church

Ladies Luncheon Wednesday at noon.

Wilson Guest Speaker at Luncheon

Miss Charles Wilson was the guest speaker at the Methodist Church ladies luncheon Wednesday afternoon.

She spoke of the plight of the Seminole Indians to gain recognition for their accomplishments. She also talked of a treaty between the government and the Seminole In-

dians that included land on Fort Clark Springs. She said that around 150 to 200 Seminoles were forced to leave the Fort after the treaty had already been established.

Miss Wilson was recently mentioned in an article that ran in the San Antonio Light April 8. A picture of her next to her grandfather's grave was also published. The article

stressed the importance the Seminole Indians played in the taming of the West and it also mentioned the 4 Medal of Honor winners that are buried in Kinney Co.

A light and tasty meal was prepared by Hazel Earwood and enjoyed by all in attendance.

Hostesses for the luncheon were Evelyn Whitely and Alice Seargent.



by Sheriff Norman Hooten

The "Letter to the Editor" by Don & Linda Woodson that appeared in last week's issue of this paper exemplifies the anger and frustration experienced by many U.S. citizens who live along the Texas-Mexico border and are constantly victimized by illegal aliens from Mexico as they pass through the countryside on their way to the interior of the U.S. to be swallowed up in the ghettos of our large cities.

Though Don & Linda's anger may be somewhat misdirected, I can well understand their frustration at being constantly victimized with costly thefts and damages with basically no recourse against those who steal from them and damage their property.

However, though understandable and excusable, there were a few misleading comments in their letter that I would like to clear up in the interest of accurate public knowledge.

First of all, the Sheriff's Department did not work this case, it was

handled by alert border Patrol Agents and a Highway Patrol Trooper doing a good job by becoming suspicious of the actions of the driver of the vehicle in question and subsequently apprehending and arresting him for Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle. Had they not been on the job, the Woodson's pickup may never have been recovered.

No report of the theft or damages to property was ever made to the Sheriff's Department so I was not aware of any of the details of the case until after reading the "Letter to the Editor".

The Kinney County Grand Jury was not called in to hear this one case. The Grand Jury panel was called in order to select a new Grand Jury to serve for the Spring term and it just so happened that the Woodson case was the only one on the books to be presented. But even if we had to call the Grand Jury in to hear just one case, that would be O.K. and is occasionally necessary in the interest

of justice.

Mr. Flores-Ruiz was, and will be called a "suspect" until he is either convicted or proven innocent at trial. Under our system of justice (the best in the world even though extremely frustrating at times) a man is considered innocent until PROVEN guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, even when caught red-handed as this one was.

Insofar as the towing charges and the orders for same are concerned, neither I nor any member of the Sheriff's Department was involved with that as we did not work the case and were not at the scene at the time of the arrest. I can only assume that any orders regarding towing or wrecker service were issued by the arresting officer, which certainly was not me or any member of the Sheriff's Department.

No, Don & Linda, you don't owe the taxpayers or anyone else an apology for wanting to see justice done. I, as Sheriff of this county, owe you an apology for not being able to better serve and protect you and your property and that of other rural citizens in this county from the depredations by illegal aliens passing through. The only excuse I can offer is that I have almost 1,000 square miles to patrol, serve, and protect with only myself and my Chief Deputy. Though we do have much needed and much appreciated assistance from Border Patrol Agents patrolling the rural areas and main roadways of our county searching for illegal aliens, and Highway Patrol Troopers patrolling the highways of our county, it seems that no amount of manpower or equipment, including the use of helicopters and airplanes, enables us to stop crimes being committed by illegal aliens.

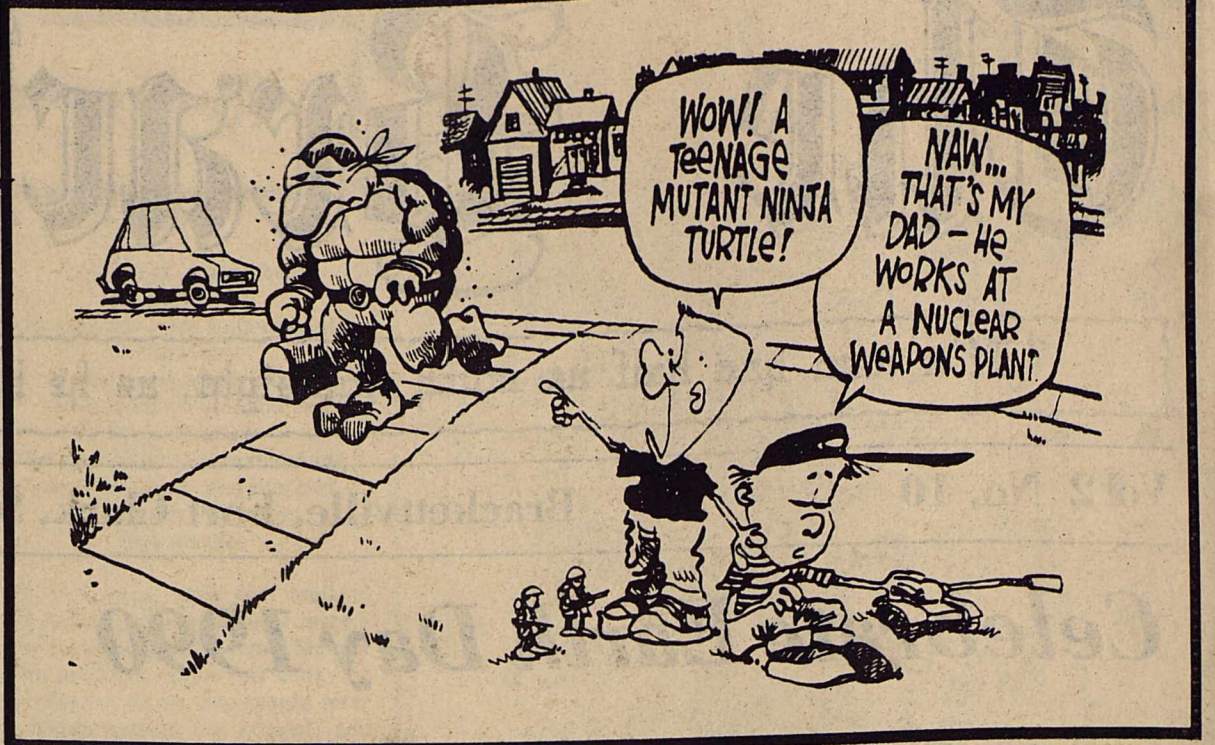
Perhaps this is because of the very nature of their activities, walking through the brush on foot and using stealth when approaching a habitation, especially when a criminal deed is planned.

Our county is not unique in regards to problems with property thefts, damage, and even physical harm perpetrated by illegal aliens, this problem exists all along the Texas-Mexico border and inland from the border to a lesser degree. Sheriffs and sheriff's departments all along the border are continually frustrated by the criminal acts of illusive illegal aliens who are not easily identified and are often apprehended only by chance. Even sophisticated criminal investigation techniques are more often than not at a loss in solving criminal cases involving illegal aliens and arrests are even less frequent.

And the losers are the victims and the taxpayers. The victims because of the loss or damage to property, and the taxpayers because of the hundreds of thousands of dollars needed for patrol, investigation, and occasional costs related to appointing a lawyer for an arrested illegal alien and subsequent costs of a trial.

I don't know what the answer is, neither do other law enforcement officials. So long as it is more attractive and more lucrative in the U.S. than in Mexico, and so long as the penalties for illegal entry are such that it is worth the risk to Mexican Nationals to enter this country illegally, this problem will exist, and will, in fact, get worse.

Don & Linda Woodson do not owe an apology to anyone for wanting justice served, that is the best they should expect. But perhaps they should direct their anger and frustration towards the problem instead of those of us who are trying our best to control it. However, I will understand that sometimes one has to take frustrations out on someone and if that happens to be me, well, that goes with the territory.



BETWEEN US
BY JOE TOWNSEND

Big Mama Sez: Nothing is as hard to do gracefully as getting off your high horse.

★ Please Vote for ★
Jim McDaniel
May 5th
For School Board Trustee

Pd. Pol. Ad. by Jim McDaniel, P.O. Box 1140, Brackettville, TX 78832.

TA MEMBER 1990

The Brackett News welcomes letters to the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and context.

Letters will be edited to avoid the use of profanity or libelous statements pertaining to the rights of citizens.

Letters published and columnists viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of this newspaper.

All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Thank You.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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. Please include check or money order with the order form.

Thank you
The Staff of The Brackett News

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

This is such a great time to be alive. When I was a high school student there were people who were berating life by dire predictions of gloom and destructions.

I well remember a book called "Our Movie Made Children." The media hyped it almost as a message from God. Many preachers used it for sermon fodder. The theme was that because children were watching westerns and slap-stick comedy, they would lead the world awry. No good could come from such a wayward generation. Yet as I see that generation it's difficult to imagine any generation that could accomplish more.

From barnstorming airplanes we now have an almost unbelievable network of air traffic. The world is now one of plastics. We have television. Communications are such as were not even dreamed of in those days.

One of the great accomplishments of those early days was the clearing of air pollution in our industrial cities. Cities now do not approach the pollution caused by the burning of coal. A great step forward was taken when St. Louis passed an ordinance that only "smokeless" coal could be used. Immediately most major cities followed suit and clean air was the topic of the day. It's amazing the "pollution" fighters of today act as though they have just found a new idea. People on the average live much longer today. People work less, retire and play more. Seems those "Movie Made Children" didn't do so bad. If people would ignore all the doomsday hype of today and go about accomplishing gainful things this generation will accomplish things undreamed of. Everything hasn't been discovered or

invented yet. Every improvement hasn't been made.

If we don't fall into the trap of the negativists and dissipate our assets and energy fighting straw men set up by single-minded agitators, accomplishments of stupendous dimensions await tomorrow. America is the greatest nation in the world because people refused to waste time and energy fighting "bogey" ideas. The "Ralph Nadir" phobia will only hold back a nation. Accomplishments of today simply high-light the fact that forward movement unfettered by footdragging people seeking head lines, is the norm for the people of America.

All those phony phobias so highly hyped will crumble into dust of what used to be, and America will trod underfoot these phony fears and climb even higher on the ladder of development.

Letter To The Editor

Actually this is a two part letter with reference to the "Sheriff's Corner" of March 29 and the same column of April 12, 1990.

I have a dog, just a simple little mutt of questionable breeding, certainly unlike a Pit Bull that is raised for profit, raised so they can kill and maim, also at a profit; I won't say my little dog worships me but I believe him to be loyal and a true friend. My two cats, well they can ignore me at times.

Unfortunately, I cannot ignore the remarks made by the sheriff in his local column on both the dates mentioned. Here is a quote from the March 29th, "Nor do the people elect us to set up our own little dictatorships to benefit a select few at the expense of the majority,"; and yet the sheriff has stated to more than one person, that he is a "political power" to be reckoned with. Another famous quote, "We need honest, compassionate public servants who desire to serve the people, and not those who seek public office to satisfy their selfish desire or inflated egos and personal gain." Sheriff, who are you trying to kid? Most of us have lived here for quite some time and certainly know about a lot of people's past history...

In the Sheriff's Corner of April 12th, I have read bad journalism in my life, but undoubtedly this has to stand out as being one of the worse that I have read (or anyone else for that matter). I could write a lot about the joining of the three, about what an outstanding job they did, but again, we didn't just move here yesterday and the county records reflect what really went on and who did what. Sheriff, do you really expect the people of Kinney County to buy this? Don't you think they have a memory? Do you think they have forgotten this soon?

The remark about the morale of many county officials and employees having sunk to an all time low during our administration. Could this be coming from the sheriff's department employees. You do remember that in this month's meeting, we had to amend the budget to cover cost of physical exams for hiring of new county employees; you know that it was because of the turn-over in your department that made this necessary. I'm sure this also will be blamed on the Commissioner's Court even though everyone in the county realizes that each elected official hires and fires their own people. Sheriff, do you realize that you have had 15 employees since I was sworn into office three years ago. I really can't understand why you would bring up the subject of morale; that statement just won't float...

The most appropriate statement that I have read in years was placed immediately under your column; **Big Mama Sez** - "Don't believe anything you hear and only half of what you see!" How fitting!....

LATE BREAK: Prior to the deadline for this column, Mr. Flores-Ruiz was tried and convicted in District Court for Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle. He received a 7 year probated sentence (Mexico probation) and orders for deportation issued by District Judge George Thurmond. He will most likely have been released to the Border Patrol and deported by the time you read this. And, regrettably, the victims (Don & Linda Woodson) will receive no restitution for damages incurred on their property during the commission of the criminal act.

THAT'S ALL!

Elect **Julie Fuentes** May 5th
City Council
Place 4

Pd. Pol Ad by Julie Fuentes,
Box 267, Brackettville, TX 78832

Letter To The Editor

I realize the elections are not over but in case some of you might be elected to your respective offices a word of caution and advice; be careful what chair you sit in and be very careful that you don't vote against someone's wishes, for if you do you can well believe that you will make headlines in the local paper or papers...

The other subject to be covered is to Jennifer - we did not take a commissioner's court action on the request by Mr. Jim Runyon for the Drug Awareness Program. The action taken was that I said if the county did not have this money in it's budget and we were unable to come up with

Letter To The Editor

This is to thank your paper for the regular feature, "Sheriff's Corner." It is well written and informative. I am sure the opinions expressed do not always please all your readers, but that is usually the case when ideas are strongly held and honestly set forth. Unfortunately, candor has

Don Parks

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

It is with pleasure that I offer this small token in gratitude to Mrs. Kay Smith of Brackettville.

In March of this year, Mrs. Smith assisted the Kinney County Sheriff's Office with the removal and transportation of two bodies from the Moody Ranch. A description of the bodies would not set well with your readers, so I'll just say that they were too repugnant to describe.

It is the opinion of this reader that Mrs. Smith is an unsung hero of this

community. Without her support of the ambulance service and many other community projects, we would lack services that are sorely needed here in Kinney County.

I write this because many people do not know how much Mrs. Smith gives of herself to this community, and this is small consolation. Thank you, Kay, for all you do for Kinney County.

Sincerely,
Jim Runyan

The Grapevine

Hey folks! How ya'll are? Things are just fine on this side of the paper.

Well, the Jr., Sr., Banquet will be this weekend at the Las Moras Inn Redroom. Jrs. and Srs. plan to have a great time, be careful guys!

Congratulations to the One-Act play they did a fantastic job at Mason! Armando Talamantez received All-Star Cast Honors. Wendy and Shelley McDaniel received Honorable Mention.

Did you have a great Spring Break '90? I did, I guess, (between you, me, and this sheet of paper, I think it was too darn short!)

Did everyone get through Easter eggs?

The F.H.A. is having a month long bake sale. The F.H.A. is taking orders for any kind of cake and we'll bake it for ya, just contact any F.H.A. member and it'll get done.

Only 5 weeks left of school, Seniors have started to get Senioritis, its very contagious among high school Seniors.

Correction

In the commissioner's court story that ran last week there were two errors. TAC Smallwood had the line item moved to purchase a computer copier, not a computer.

Commissioners did not motion to donate the needed \$600 towards the Summer Youth Program. They did say they would see if they could find the money in the budget. Comm. Bizzell offered to pay the \$600 regardless, and told Mr. Runyan to count on getting the money.

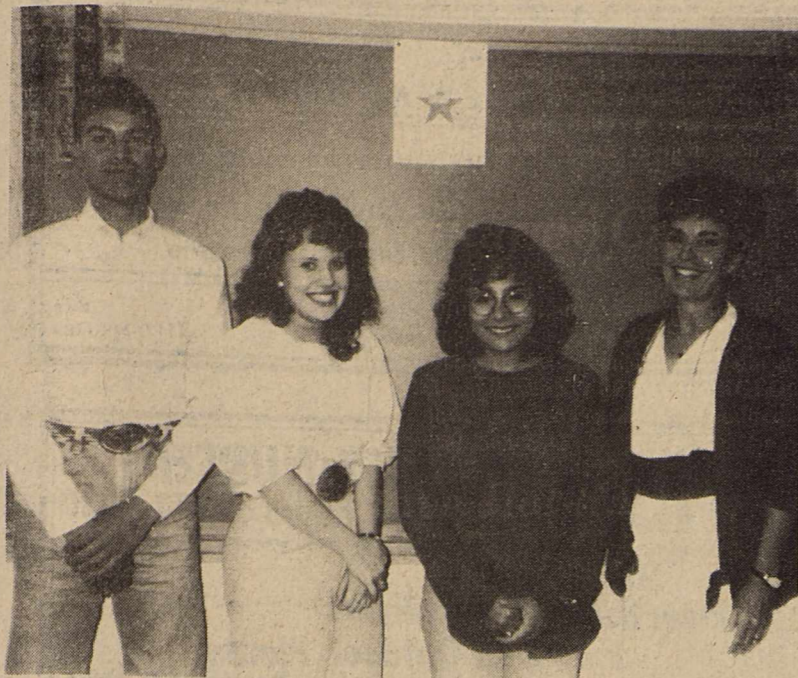
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Pictured above are (L to R) Fidel Hernandez, Bonnie Frerich, Michelle Munoz, and Mrs. Kathy Adams. The Brackett Accounting team left this afternoon to Victoria for regional U.I.L.

Kolb Hired as Athletic Director and Head Coach

As most of the community already knows, Steve Kolb has been hired to fulfill the job as the high school athletic director and head coach.

He quickly found an available trailer at Fort Clark Springs and moved in on Good Friday. On Monday, he introduced himself to the high school athletes. He has a strong discipline plan for all of the athletes. During the day he has been getting acquainted with the rest of the Tiger coaching staff.

Kolb was a three year letterman in football at Andrews high school. As a defensive lineman, he earned all-district and All-South Plains three years and All-West Texas and All-State one year. From there he went to college at TCU (Texas Christian University) and played four years of football. He has past coaching experience at Paschal, Trinity Valley, Farly, Levelland, and Lubbock-Cooper High School. During the Spring of 1985, offensive line coach during spring training on a

volunteer status.

Mr. Kolb has a B.S. degree in Liberal Arts and a M.E.D. in Sports Administration. He can teach a broad field of social studies along with Driver's Education. His wife, Staci, is elementary certified. The couple have two children, Jase and Blake.

While at Lubbock Cooper, Kolb increased participation in sports along with victories. Before he took over the reigns, the Lubbock-Cooper football team was 0-10. In four years, he improved their record almost 40%.

"I believe that athletics is an integral part of the educational process," stated Kolb. "A strong solid athletic program unites the students, faculty, and community, while generating civic pride and school spirit."

Both the athletes and coaches are excited and are looking forward to next year, but meanwhile they must start working right away!

Athletes Prepare for Regionals

Brackettville athletes are gearing up for regionals next week.

Beginning on Monday, the golf competition will begin. Doug Spring coaches Brackett's team of Mike

Cervantez, Mitch Frerich, Scott Sims, Peter Perez, and Tevin Senne. On Wednesday; Frank Taylor's

tennis team will take the courts. Shelley McDaniel will play girls singles, while Senne and Clay Hunt play doubles. J.J. Guidry, Vivian Luna, and Kasey Hall are alternates.

Armando Talamantez, Adrian pena, Juan Dominguez, and Refugio Martinez will represent Brackett at the regional track meet.

New Species Recorded

San Antonio - Richard Alejandre of San Antonio established a new species category in the state fish record book by catching a 14-pound, eight-ounce orangemouth corvina at Lake Victor Braung at San Antonio on March 15.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists said the fish was one of 3,150 of the species stocked in the suburban power plant lake in 1985. The fish had been part of a study at the Palacios Research Station to determine if the corvinas would hybridize with Texas native spotted seatrout. The tests showed that

hybridization in the wild was theoretically possible, according to biologist Britt Bumgardner. "The threat of possible hybridization, plus the fact that corvinas proved to be even more susceptible to cold weather mortality than native seatrout, prevented the fish from being a beneficial introduction to Texas' salt water."

Braung received only the single stocking of corvinas, and nearby Calaveras Lake was stocked with pure corvinas and some of the hybrids produced in the experiments.

Alajandre's fish was caught with a downrigger. It was 32 inches long.

Earth Day at Kickapoo Caves

Celebrate Earth Day at: KICKAPOO CAVERN STATE PARK. Sunday, April 22, 5-8pm. Located on Ranch Road 674, 1/2 mi. N. of Kinney/Edwards County Line. Join us for a park tour highlighting

natural features and pre-development activities. We will conclude the tour with the spectacular bat flight at Green Cave. **NO FEES CHARGED;** however, preregistration is required. Call: 563-2342.

Toll-Free Legislative Hot-line

AUSTIN--The Texas Chamber of Commerce has reactivated its toll-free Legislative Hot-line for the special session of the Legislature now under way.

Business leaders and other interested citizens are invited to call 1-800-635-1407 to receive a recorded

daily update on legislative activity of importance to communities across the state.

Executives of the Texas Chamber provide the recorded message each morning for this no charge service supported by the Texas Chamber of Commerce and its members throughout Texas.

Brackett High School Band to Perform Spring Concert

The Brackett H.S. Bands and Recorder class will present their Annual Spring Concert on Friday evening, April 27, at 7:00pm in the High School Auditorium.

This year's concert will be presented in the style of the famous John Phillip Sousa band concerts of the turn of the century. The program will include marches and other light pieces of music played as encores. The encores will not appear in our printed program and will be played in response to applause.

Another feature of these famous turn of the century band concerts was the appearance of virtuoso performers as soloists.

The Brackett H.S. Band will feature the brilliant young euphonium soloist, Ken C. Wood. Mr. Wood is a

native of Rochester, New York. He played his first public solo at the age of 8. During his high school years, he was a member of the All-State Band and the National High School Honors Band. Mr. Wood has studied at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. Mr. Wood was a bandsman in the United States Army and has recorded a selection of his solos with members of the United States Marine Band in Washington D.C. His active repertoire includes over 80 major solos for the euphonium and he has made more than 100 solo appearances with high school, college, and military bands.

To help cover the cost of Friday night's concert, a small admission fee will be charged. Admission will be \$1.00 for adults and .50 cents for students and Senior Citizens.

Emergency Meeting

In a called emergency meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 1990 the Brackett ISD Board of trustees met to hear an appeal of a suspension of a student from the track team by track coach Jesse Rodriguez. The appeal was heard in executive session. Both Mr. Rodriguez and the parents of the student were given a chance to express their views of the incident.

After hearing both sides, the Board asked the parties to leave the board room so that the board could

deliberate the issues.

The Board reconvened in open session. Mr. James Bader, Board President, told the audience that the Board recognized there were some inconsistencies in the past with the administration of athletic rules. However, Mr. Bader stated that the Board would not lift the suspension assessed by Mr. Rodriguez on the grounds of insubordination.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Letter To The Editor.....

This letter is in regards to the article on the County Commissioners meeting on April 9, 1990 that appeared in last week's newspaper. The article failed to mention that Charles Salsman refused to answer my question as to why Texcor is still here after Salsman promised to leave if meet with opposition to the N.O.R.M. facility. Not only did he refuse to answer but he exited the courtroom immediately and left me unanswered. Salsman's attorney was asked to reply to my question and he stated he was not aware of the promise made by Salsman. Unfortunately this made his attorney appear ignorant but Salsman is obviously informing his attorney only what he wants his attorney to know.

In June of 1988, Texcor made its first presentation to the County officials of Brackettville. Why was the City of Spofford not invited to their presentations? The proposed N.O.R.M. facility will be located at our doorstep. It was not until August 17, 1988 that Texcor meet with the City of Spofford and over 40 residents were present to hear Texcor's presentation. Salsman stated to all present that he would leave if meet with any opposition. The residents voted at that meeting and were in total opposition to the N.O.R.M. facility; Texcor is still here - Salsman lied to us all!

After the Commissioners meeting on Monday April 9, Salsman was asked to respond to my question. According to the newspaper he stated that it wasn't until Texcor had already invested time and money into the area that they started hearing negative comments about the project, by then it was not financially feasible to just pack up and leave. Another lie! An article that appeared in the Del Rio newspaper after our Spofford meeting in August states

Charles Salsman as saying that a final site has not yet been selected. How many lies have we been told? Will the lying ever stop?

The City of Spofford feels alienated from the rest of Kinney County because our County officials have done nothing to help fight the proposed N.O.R.M. facility other than pass a resolution prohibiting radioactive and or hazardous waste material in Kinney County. They are not enforcing this resolution! nor have our County Officials assisted Spofford with our water situation. We pay county and school taxes just like everyone else and believe it or not, we are part of the county. We deserve to be recognized as residents of Kinney County! Only one ex-county Commissioner fought for the City of Spofford. Plunker Sheedy recognized the needs of Spofford and wanted to help us but he was met with opposition by Commissioners, Joe York, Joe Garza and Tim Ward. I would like to thank Plunker Sheedy for his efforts and concern. Plunker was recently elected as County Commissioner for Precinct 2 for the 1991 term. He not only represents Precinct 2 but all of Kinney County as a whole.

How come the City of Spofford is always overlooked when grant money is available to the County to be used for special needs? There are people living in Spofford. We can vote in elections. We will remember the actions of our County Officials.

I feel like I am living in the 1800's. I cannot count how many times I have been without water. Our water is contaminated and is not suitable for drinking. We have to buy bottled water for drinking. When our water level drops in our well, we have no water at all. I have to haul water from Brackettville in buckets so I will have water to bathe, wash dishes, flush commodes. Try going without

water for extended periods of time so you will know what it is like. At Christmas last year Spofford was without water for approximately 2 weeks. Christmas is a time for family and friends to unite and share the joys of Christmas but the joy is lost when your guests visit the bathroom where the commode has not been flushed in a week. Not to mention family members sick with the flu and vomiting and having diarrhea. Sickening isn't it! But we have to go through this often.

This is the 1990's. It seems there would be a solution to our problem. I have heard numerous comments from people of Brackettville saying that Spofford has had several options to obtaining water. That they have no pity for us at all. I would like to set the record straight. First I would like to say that anyone interested in our water situation is welcome to attend Spofford water meetings. Also you can contact the Middle Rio Grande Development Council for the facts as well. When Mr. Mendeke was mayor of Brackettville he worked with the City of Spofford and obtained a contract with the City of Brackettville to furnish water to Spofford for 50 years. This contract was approved by all the aldermen. But now Mayor Vito LaGioia and the aldermen declared the contract null and void. The City of Spofford was not informed of this action until I read it in the local newspaper. Why was this done? As desperately as we need water why is the mayor working against us. At one time, Vito LaGioia was willing to furnish Texcor with water but not the residents of Spofford. Texcor would use tremendous amounts of water daily. How much water can 60 people living in Spofford use? Because of Mayor LaGioia's actions the future of Spofford looks dim.

Texcor offered to pay for the

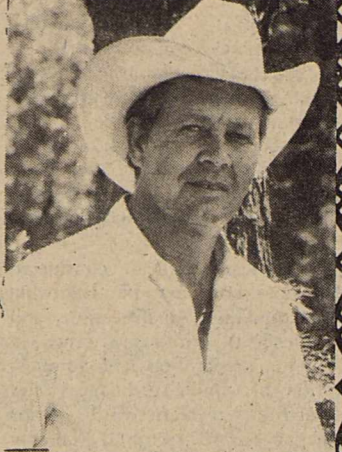
waterline from Brackettville to Spofford provided Spofford would allow them water for the N.O.R.M. facility. By accepting their offer, we would be approving of their facility. So Spofford said no to their offer.

According to the M.R.G.D.C. the City of Spofford is due to get the grant money for 1990 allocated to Kinney County which is approximately \$89,000.00. This is not enough money to cover the costs of the transmission line so we have applied for a loan from Farmers Home Association to cover the difference in costs of laying the transmission line. Now Farmers Home is refusing to give Spofford the loan unless we furnish Texcor with water then we will be accepting the waste dump. This is what we are fighting so desperately to keep out of our town and county. There is a saying that goes "Be damned if you do and be damned if you don't." What are Spofford's options?

Mayor J.B. Herndon of Spofford, Alvin McClure and myself met with the Municipal Utility District of Fort Clark Springs and ask that they furnish water to Spofford. The M.U.D. Board refused and said they have to look after the interests of Fort Clark residents. We understood. The M.U.D. Board is currently furnishing water to the Air Force for construction of an airstrip approximately 5 miles south of Spofford. The water is being hauled by water trucks and no line has been laid. The M.U.D. Board suggested that since we had a 50 year contract with the City of Brackettville that we obtain our water from them. But Mayor LaGioia refuses to give us water. Spofford is willing to pay for all water usage and we are willing to pay a higher rate than Brackettville customers, but Mayor Vito LaGioia says NO!

Just For The Fun Of It!

Place Born: Lampassas
 Favorite Food: Red Beans and Corn Bread
 Best Movie: Jeremiah Johnson
 Best Book: The Yearling
 Hobbies: Pistol Shooting and working on my 1955 Chevrolet
 You're friends describe you as: Understanding, Hard but fair.
 If you could go anywhere, where would it be: Australia (The mountain portion)
 Describe yourself: Serious but friendly
 Secretly you've always wanted to be: A pilot
 If you could change one thing about Brackettville, what would it be: I would have everyone pulling together for the good of the whole.



Norman Hooten

Sponsored by The Mayor
VITO LA GIOIA

Arnie armadillo



Dear Arnie,
 My sister always wants to borrow my things. Do I have to share all the time?
 Dear Arnie,
 Did you know armadillos are always born four at a time? Quadruplets. Did we ever learn to share! A family's best protection is a loving, generous relationship.

Arnie

© 1990 Arnie Armadillo

★ THANK YOU ★

To all my friends, supporters, and the voters of Precinct 2 for all the help, financial support, and votes that carried me through to victory in the Democratic run-off election for County Commissioner Pct. 2.

I pledge dedicated, honest, public service to the taxpayers of Precinct 2 and Kinney County. Let's all pull together for a better, happier community and County!

Plunker Sheedy

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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86 Ford Ranger XL 4X4 P/U	\$7494	\$6739
86 Ford Ranger XL P/U	SOLD \$5995	\$4962
85 Chevy Caprice Classic 4 Dr.	\$7695	\$6983
85 Chevy Celebrity 4 dr.	\$4975	\$3971
85 Chevy Cavalier Type-10	\$3595	\$2939
84 Ford Custom P/U	\$5995	\$4437
84 Thunderbird Coupe	SOLD \$4995	\$3998
84 Chevy Camaro Z-28	\$6295	\$5284
84 Chevy Chevette CS 4 dr.	\$2495	\$1972
83 Mazda 626 Deluxe 2 dr.	\$3495	\$2600
83 Olds Delta 88 Royale Broughm	\$5495	\$3972
82 Olds Delta 88 Royale 4 dr.	\$3495	\$2943
80 Toyota 4X4 P/U	SOLD \$3495	\$2996

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Request for Proposals Professional Planning Services

The City of Brackettville is requesting proposals from professional urban planning consultants for the preparation of a series of planning and preliminary engineering studies and plans to be accomplished under a planning grant provided by the Texas Department of Commerce.

The scope of the work to be accomplished is available upon written request by writing to Mayor Vito LaGioia, Box 526 Brackettville, Texas 78832.

No applicant shall be considered that does not have the following stated minimum qualifications and experience: a) Prior experience in both the preparation and administration of zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations; b) Prior experience as a Director of Planning for a city of equal or larger size than Brackettville; c) The preparation and publication of not less than three comprehensive city plans for cities in Texas, at least one of which shall have been prepared under the Texas Community Development Program; d) A Masters Degree from a recognized university in City planning; e) Prior experience in the

preparation of economic development programs and strategies; and f) a registered professional engineer as a member or associate of the planning consulting organization or entity making the proposal.

As a part of the selection process, applicants shall be rated by a point system which is as follows:

Urban planning education and experience--35 points.
Planning administration experience--20 points.
Capacity to perform and produce a professional product--20 points.
Urban land use and development investment analysis experience--15 points.
Potential of a compatible working relationship--25 points.
Familiarity with local area and economy--25 points.
Total--135 points.

Applications or proposals shall be received in the office of the Mayor no later than 4:00 P.M. on May 4, 1990. They may either be delivered to the City Hall or transmitted by mail or carrier to the following address: Box 526 Brackettville, Texas 78832.



Nancy Forbes

Forbes Promoted

Nancy Forbes was promoted to Assistant Cashier of the First State Bank of Brackettville.

Nancy began working at the bank in 1985 she took off work for one year to take care of her nieces and nephews, when they no longer needed her care, she assumed her duties at the bank.

Banking experience for Nancy

includes working as an Armored Car Teller at the Bank of Hawaii.

Nancy has two children, Jennifer and Duncan. She is employed at U.T.S.A. where she also attends classes. Duncan enlisted in the Army and is stationed in West Berlin.

Vernon Miears, owner of S.W. Communications, was elected to the Board of Directors at the First State Bank.

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Bridge, Anyone?

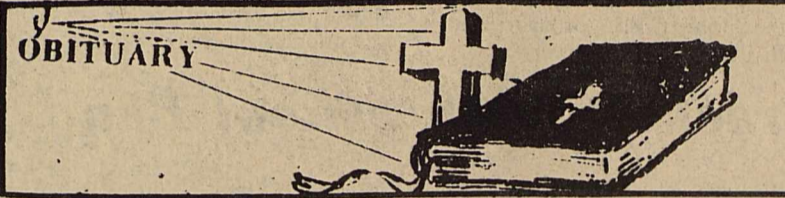


by Dot Burrow

On Tuesday evening, April 10, Duplicate Bridge was played at Fort Clark's Sabre Room, using the Mitchell movement. North-South was won by Ann Hibler and Betty Inman. Trudy Harber and Helen Lynch were in second place. At East-West Anita Korbel of Del Rio

and Tina Bauguess were high, with Gene and Mary Britton as runners-up.

A very small group, with only 2½ tables played on Easter Sunday. Winners were Helen Lynch and Ben Pingnot. Close behind were Norma Gould and Ann Hibler.



OBITUARY

Col. Mebane Graves Stafford died April 12, 1990 at the age of 61. He resided at 206 Flether Drive here in Del Rio. Born September 29, 1928 in San Antonio, Texas. A 1950 graduate of Texas A&M University, and later served under the United States Army. During his enlistment he earned the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritoriousacts in Flight Metal, the Legion of Merit and the Army Commendation Medal. He is survived by a daughter - Johnna M. Stafford of Winston Salem, NC. Sons - William M. Stafford of Winston Salem, Steven G. Stafford of Brackettville, Mebane G. Stafford Jr. of Winston Salem. Sister - Marian Sinclair of San Antonio. Grandchildren - Samuel A.

Stafford of Winston Salem and Lindsey P. Stafford of Brackettville. Funeral Services are set for Tuesday at 1:15 PM at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio with full military honors.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Ted Bennet, Joe Rembla, Ed Oldsmith, General Rattan, General Pete Lewis, Col. Pete Haines, Al Jennings, Lee Holder, John Woodhull, Jimmy Page, Sheedy Strickland, Ralph Beard, Ben Pingnot, Charles Downing. Funeral Services are under the direction of Humphreys-Doran Funeral Home, Inc. Family asks that any memorials in Stafford's name to be sent to the San Antonio Lupus Foundation.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DEL RIO

FT. CLARK

Kinney County Kickers:
 Every 2nd & 4th Thurs.--7:30pm

Lions Club:
 Every 1st & 3rd Thurs.--6:30pm

Duplicate Bridge:
 Every Sun.--1:30pm; every Tues. 7:00pm

AA Meeting
 Every Mon.--8:00pm

Al-Anon
 Every Mon.--8:00pm

Commissioners Court:
 Every 2nd Mon.--9:00am

Masonic Lodge:
 Every 2nd Tues.--7:00pm

Shriners:
 Every 4th Tues.--6:30pm

VFW & Ladies Aux.:
 Every 4th Wed.--7:00pm

Rotary Club:
 Every Thurs.--12:00pm

Chamber of Commerce:
 Every 1st Thurs.--7:00pm

Drivers License:
 Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Fri.--9:00am to 4:00pm

Bass Club:
 Every last Thurs.--7:00pm

Border Federal Credit Unions 36th Annual Meeting:
 Eagle Room, Del Rio--April 26, 1990--7:15pm

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Quemado Our Neighboring Community

by Jennifer Pasanski

Have you ever dropped a leaf in the Las Moras creek and wondered where its travels would take it? One of the first stops it might make would be in a sparsely populated valley directly south of us to a town called Quemado.

Quemado habitants date back as much as 4,000 years ago. Traces of Pre-historic artifacts have been found along the banks of the Las Moras creek near Quemado.

Present day residents also rely on the areas natural and environmental resources for survival as ranching and agriculture are the predominate business in the community.

One of the more popular crops grown is pecans. It is rumored that over 1,000 acre of pecan trees can be found in Quemado. You won't have to look far to see the orchards as they line the Hwy. leading into town.

Speculation throughout the years on how Quemado got its name, (which in Spanish means "Burned"), has added a bit of nostalgia to the area as many entertaining tales have sprung up in honor of this quest. One of them being that the creek developed a film of oil on the surface and when it was struck by lightning it ignited into a blazing inferno.

The manmade canal that runs through Quemado is another interesting addition to the community.

Developed in 1926, the canal was established to better utilize the water from the Rio Grande for irrigational purposes. It became one of the largest irrigation canals of its kind in the state of Texas.

During the construction of the canal Quemado experienced a brief but prosperous economical boost. At one time the community included a movie theater and a newspaper along with other businesses.

Today the community consists of two grocery stores, a post office, elementary school, gas station, an equipment company, five churches and two restaurants.

One of the restaurants, "MacNapps" is part owned and operated by Brackettville's own Manuel Flores. The menu at MacNapps closely resembles the delicious menu offered at the Gateway Cafe which is also owned by Manuel. A complete line of Mexican foods and American foods are offered homemade and at a reasonable price. The business is opened from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday. When visiting Quemado be sure and stop by and say hello to Manuel.

One of the larger business in the community is Alta Verde Industries, Inc. This company benefits mostly from cattle production.

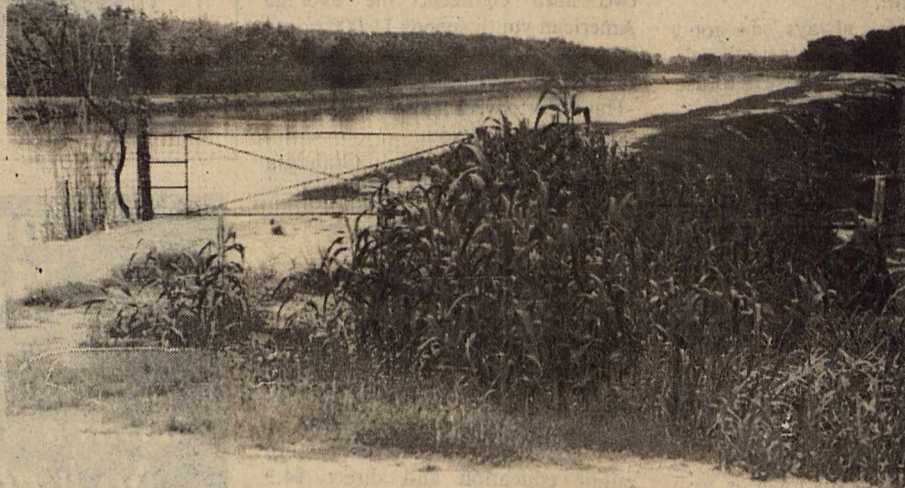
Oil companies have recently added a boost to the economy and many citizens have reported that they are leasing their property for oil development, several rigs are already operating in the area.

Politics in the community are usually settled in the Community Hall. If a problem arises, notices are posted and the community gathers together to discuss the problem and vote on it. There are no Commissioners, County Judges, Mayors or Councilmen to be found in the city of Quemado. There is however a Deputy Sheriff, Constable and Justice of the Peace.

If you find yourself with a little time on your hands why not follow the leaf down to the valley of Quemado and stop off at MacNapps for a delicious meal.



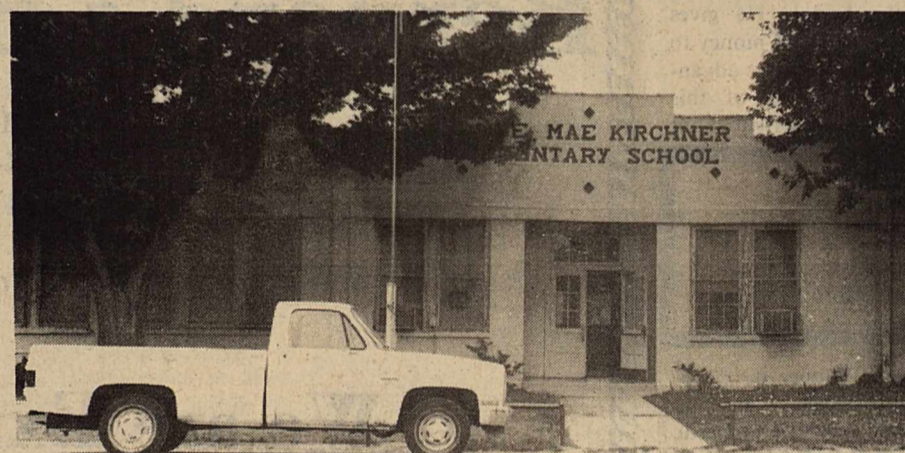
Pictured from left to right are: Donna Goodson, Maria Knapp and Manuel Flores in front of MacNapps Mexican/American restaurant in Quemado. Maria and Manuel are partners in the restaurant that serves up some good homemade meals.



Pictured above in the manmade farm land. It was built in the 1920's. Panama canal was used to build this canal in Quemado used to irrigate the. The same steam shovel that built the canal.



Pecan trees are in abundance in Quemado and can be seen lining the Highway on the way into town.



The Mae Kirchner Elementary School in Quemado is the only school in the area. Older children ride the bus to attend school in Eagle Pass.

Cattlemen are Restocking after Drought

UVALDE--Cattlemen in Southwest Texas are restocking after several years of drought. Precautions should be taken to avoid undue stress on these stockers, according to a livestock specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Producers should begin preparations well in advance of the arrival of the cattle, said Dr. Tom Troxel, who is headquartered at the Texas A&M Agricultural Research and Extension Center here.

"Clean, fresh water is essential for cattle that have just been weaned or have been shipped long distances," Troxel said.

Water troughs and tanks may need to be drained, scrubbed and refilled with clean, fresh water. Foul-smelling water troughs will result in dehydration and subsequent reduction in feed intake, he said.

Faucets and floats may need adjustment. Temporary troughs placed against the fence may insure that cattle find water as young cattle generally tend to walk the fence, the livestock specialist said.

"For stocker cattle, starting a feeding program should alleviate stress, restore rumen function, regain purchase weight, and promote weight gain," Troxel said.

Cattle in transit 24 to 48 hours have lost a lot of their rumen fermentation capacity upon arrival. Therefore, good quality hay and perhaps a

limited amount of commercial receiving ration may be necessary, he said. Vaccination programs will vary according to where cattle are coming from and where they are going, he said. A clostridial vaccine (4- or 7-way) and IBR are generally recommended.

Calves may also need to be wormed and treated for lice and grubs, Troxel said. "A vitamin A injection is good insurance," he added.

Horns may need to be tipped and bull calves castrated. Growth implants may produce and additional 10 to 15 percent increase in gain, he said.

Respiratory disease is the main health problem encountered in a stocker cattle program, Troxel said. To ease the problem, several steps should be taken, he added.

Additionally, proper antibiotics should be used. Veterinarians should be consulted in order to test cultures; Troxel said.

Contact Dr. Tom Troxel Extension Livestock Specialist (512) 278-9151

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Bobbie Schafer - April 20th

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To: All citizens of Brackettville
What: A Morning Reception - To meet with Mr. "Bo" Hatch, candidate for Mayor.
Where: 202 East 1st Street - (The home of Miss Elsie Sauer).
Time: 10am to 12pm
Refreshments will be served!!!
Every citizen of Brackettville will have the opportunity to meet with Mr. Hatch and discuss the issues.
SEE YOU THERE!!!
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Vote For "Bo"
Paid for by Louis B. Hatch Jr. (Bo), P.O. Box 41, Brackettville, Tx. 78832.

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Ole Distributers. 8:30 a.m.
It's going to be a few years before Carly can join in WalkAmerica. But you can start this year. Sign up for WalkAmerica. Help give every baby a healthy start in life.
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Grandma's Kitchen



Hamburger Stroganoff

As you read, this Grandma will have reached another milestone in life, another year gone by. I quit counting the years, long ago, now I'm so busy learning all I can about holistic health. I don't have the time to add them all up, so lets just forget it. If you happen to run into me, give me that big hug, that, will make my day!

Everybody that knows us, knows that this house couldn't exist without T.V., but the more I watch the more disgusted I get with the commercials. Now there was a time when I enjoyed these more than some of the shows. When my children were little, they'd drop whatever they were doing and fly to the television when they heard the Valleydale Pigs singing and dancing.

Now-a-days the car commercials are plentiful, and they always show the autos "Spreading rubber," digging off, speeding down a wet, stormy road at break-neck speed. Then the next car commercial will have two or three scantily clad young women showing off the - car. Since when do we need sex to sell cars?

Back in my day, the best test for

how good a car was: if it could pull the ole-hill down the street without changing gears, and I for one, am not really interested in what the chickens I buy are fed, for after what I've seen on T.V. about processing chickens, I'd rather be assured that the chickens I buy have been properly bled, cleaned, washed and packaged so that they are at least safe to use.

Television is a great entertainment medium, but it is also a brain-washer. There are people around who swear by tide, the advertisements tell them over and over that it's the only one that will get their clothes clean.

There are others who think only Sinutab II will relieve their sinus headaches. By checking the list of ingredients, there are at least four or five others that are much less expensive and contain the same medicines in exactly the same dosage that will also promote sinus drainage and relieve pain satisfactorily.

So, if you're interested in saving a few bucks, read the labels carefully and compare.

Egg Noodle and Cheese

1/2 of 16 oz. package of egg noodles

2 Tbs flour
3 Tbs margarine
1/2 tea salt and dash of pepper
2 1/2 cups milk
1 1/2 cups shredded sharp cheese
1/2 cup buttered bread crumbs
a sprinkle of paprika

Cook egg noodles according to package directions. Put a teaspoonful of vegetable oil in the water to prevent noodles from sticking together. (This works with any pasta or rice you may be cooking.) Drain and set aside. While noodles are cooking, melt margarine and blend in flour and seasonings. Add milk and cook stirring constantly, until thickened. Add 1 cup of the cheese and stir until it melts. Combine cooked noodles with sauce in greased baking dish. Top with remaining cheese combined with buttered bread crumbs, sprinkle lightly with paprika and bake uncovered, in 375 degree oven for 25 min.

Hamburger is always a good stand-by and thank goodness there's about a million different ways to use it, aren't we lucky?

Hamburger Stroganoff

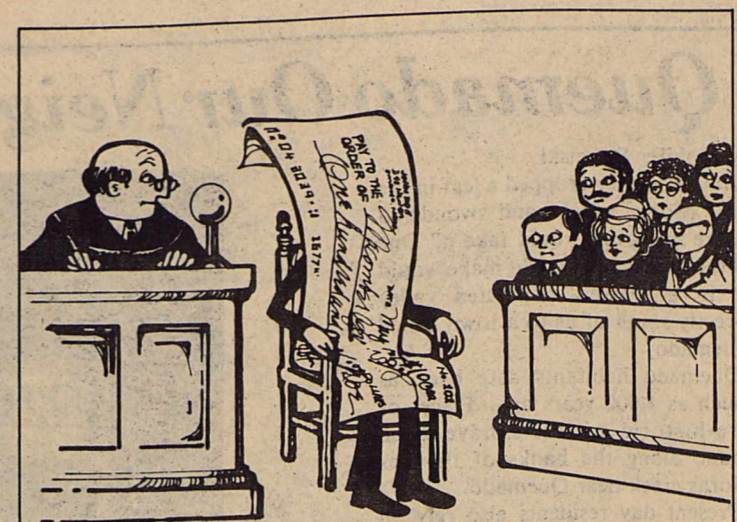
1 1/2 to 2 lbs. ground beef
1 tea garlic salt
1 can-creamy onion soup-undiluted
1 tea salt
1 can-cream of chicken or mushroom soup-undiluted
Dash of pepper
1-4 oz. can mushroom stems and pieces undrained and chopped
2 cups dairy sour cream
Hot noodles

In large skillet, cook beef until no red shows. Stir in remaining ingredients, except sour cream. Simmer over low heat while you cook the noodles. (A 12 oz. bag should serve 6) When noodles are cooked, add sour cream to hamburger mixture and heat to serving temperature, but do not allow to boil. Serve over hot noodles.

Thought for this week: From age two until eighteen, the average American youth spends 11,000 hours in school and 20,000 hours in front of the television.

Have a safe week, get your hug and remember I love you.

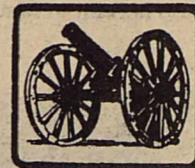
Grandma



Star Witness!

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Texas Faces Public School Reform

by Governor Bill Clements

Texans have always been a tenacious and resourceful people. Whatever the test, we have risen to the occasion. As Sam Houston once said, "We are equal to our destiny." Today, as our state faces one of its toughest challenges ever, that of reforming our public school system, I believe we will remain true to our nature. Texans will summon the courage and unity of purpose needed to get the job done.

But the task before us is neither simple nor one-dimensional. It demands a multi-faceted response, one that calls for increased spending for our poorer schools and dramatically reforms a system that the Texas Supreme Court has declared inefficient. Truly, Texas children must not bear the burden of an ineffective education. They will not be denied a promising future because their school districts are below average in property wealth.

To that end, the Task Force on Public Education, appointed by Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, Speaker of the House Gib Lewis and myself, has proposed a \$4.3 billion plan-of-action. This blueprint would address the needs of our poor districts by equalizing education spending and, thereby, meet the requirements of the Supreme Court.

Under the plan, which I have endorsed, funding in the next year alone would rise by \$234 million, which would be in addition to the \$450 million the Legislature already has set aside in equalization aid for this biennium. This means that public education spending would increase by nearly \$700 million in the state's current budget cycle. I have already put forth a series of budget options to fund the first full year of the task force plan without increasing taxes or cutting services.

Still, money alone will not fix what's broken in public education. The fact is, since House Bill 72 was passed in 1984, public school spending has climbed 50 percent. Yet, SAT scores have remained flat and drop-out rates continue to soar. Taxpayers are not getting a return on their investment.

Clearly, wholesale reform is in order. Indeed, to improve Texas schools, we must shift our focus away from mandates and toward deregulation, giving educators the freedom to achieve results and to be held accountable for what they produce. In fact, as the Task Force on Public Education has recommended, we must get government off the backs of the local independent school districts. Let's cut the red tape that restricts our educators and let them do what they do best -- teach our young people.

It's time we also gave principals the authority to hire and fire and allowed them the flexibility to concentrate on results and not procedures. But with greater authority must come greater responsibility. Principals must be held accountable for student achievement, which mean their job appraisals should be based primarily on how well pupils are performing.

Rewards should be financial as well.

School districts should receive monetary incentives for gains achieved in combating drug abuse and cutting drop-out rates. To further encourage educators to keep children in class, we must modify the way we count youngsters for state funding. Instead of only counting students early in the year, let's record the number later in the year as well. That way, the motivation to keep pupils from dropping out will be enhanced.

Accountability must be a factor at every level, starting at the top. That's

Texas Chamber Offers Videos of Policymakers Views

AUSTIN--Videos of presentations by notables such as former Secretary of Education Terrel Bell and former

White House adviser Walt Rostow are available in a collection of taped sessions of the Texas Chamber of

Commerce's 1990 annual meeting in Austin.

The taped sessions include presentations on the developing scenarios in

the Texas economy and cover a wide range of subjects including taxation, education and infrastructure. These tapes would be very useful for

business or education groups wanting a well-informed overview of the policies and strategies that will play pivotal roles in Texas over the next

why I believe the commissioner of education should be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. Under our current system, accountability is eroded as the commissioner is torn between two policy-making bodies, the Legislature and the State Board of Education. This must change.

With these reforms and others now being considered by the Legislature, Texas can build an efficient school system that prepares our young people for the future.

few years.

Austin's Miles of Media, Inc., produced the video packages and

Unsung Hero

Several years ago a man and his wife retired and moved to Ft. Clark Springs. They built a very nice home and became active in the community. As time passed, this man lost his wife. Before long he found another fine lady to be his wife. He has been active in Rotary, serving as president of the local club. He has been active in his Lodge and spends many days in activities of the Lodge. He gives generously of his time and money to help "crippled" children take advantage of the opportunities of this Lodge. He is always concerned about

So my message to the Legislature is this: the time for political games is over. The time for bickering has passed. We have put forth a well-balanced plan to restructure public education and direct \$4.3 billion dollars to our schools. We have identified budget options to fully fund our programs next year without new taxes and without reducing services.

It's time to adopt this plan, to move forward and do what's right for Texas.

should be contacted for details and prices at Box 14263, Austin, 78761, or by calling 512-459-0903.



In early history people have assumed that the Pilgrims were the first to introduce the turkey. It is also assumed that the wild turkey of the new world was taken to Europe for domestication.

The Spaniards brought the turkey to Europe and our modern turkey was descended from turkeys of the market places of the Aztec Empire.

In the Pueblo Indian culture of the Rio Grande Valley the turkey was a major food. Their feathers were used in religious ceremonies and were woven into beautiful blankets. The turkey mating dance is a part of Aztec Mythology.

When Francisco Vaquez de Coronado came to New Mexico in 1540 they were offered wild and domestic turkey as a token of friendship by the natives.

The Spaniards had many terms to describe the turkey meaning "Chicken of the Earth," "rooster with Wattles," But the most interesting description was the Spanish term - "Gran Mozo", meaning in English; "Great Handsome One."

So when you see our fat flock of turkeys of Fort Clark Springs, remember the term, "talking turkey" is an old native custom.

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presents

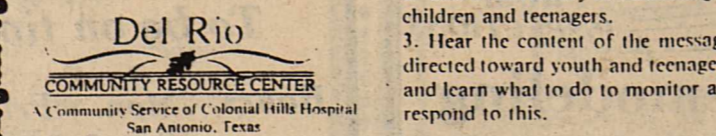
"The Media's Influence On Adolescents"

by Neale Martin and Alcen Lessor, Assistant Administrators, Colonial Hills Hospital, Thursday, April 26, 1990, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Del Rio Freshman Campus Cafeteria, 90 Memorial Drive

There is NO FEE for the program! but reservations are preferred. Please RSVP by April 25, to 775-9282. Certificates of Attendance will be awarded as requested.

Contact Roxanne Renner, Director, 417 Cantu Rd. 775-9282



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Upon completion of this workshop participants will be able to:
1. Understand the goals and objectives of advertisers.
 2. Learn the History of Marketing to children and teenagers.
 3. Hear the content of the messages directed toward youth and teenagers, and learn what to do to monitor and respond to this.

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