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The Brackett News

Vol. 7 No. 1

Brackettville, Fort Clark, Spofford, and Kinney County, Texas

February 16, 1995

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

Congratulations To

BRACKETT TIGERETTES

VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

1994-1995

UNDEFEATED IN DISTRICT PLAY

DISTRICT 29-AA

CHAMPS

LET
THE
TIGERETTES
DO
IT

WE
TRY
HARDER

Coach Gregg Nowlin
Lolly Hernandez
Jennifer Terrazas
Denice Frerich
Debra Frerich
Courtney Harrison
Lindy LaMascus
Amanda Meek
Francisca Garza
Sandra Hernandez
Windy Goodloe
Reccia Jobe
Christina Meek
Katy Hagler

WE
LOVE
YOU
TEAM

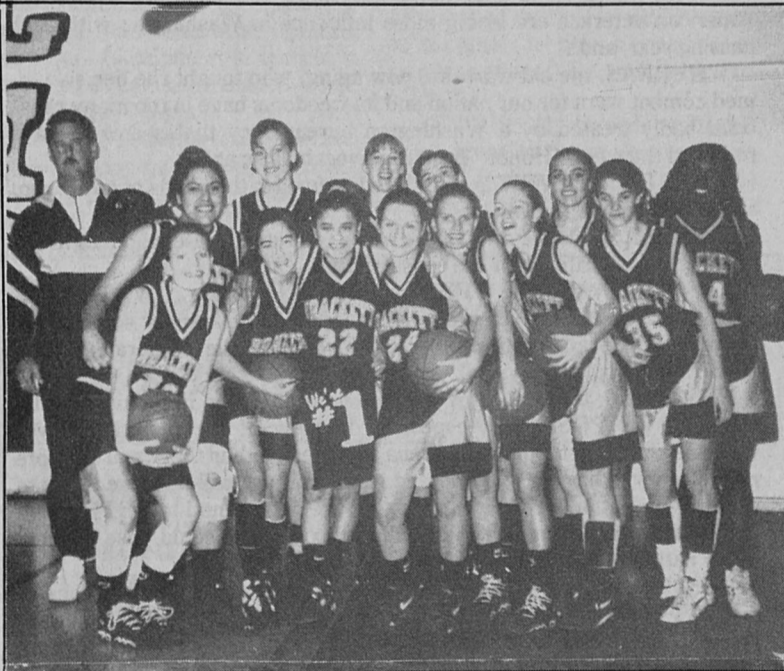
BI-DISTRICT GAME

Saturday, February 18, 3:00 P.M.

vs

Karnes City

Palo Alto College San Antonio Off South 410



Champion Tigerettes

Left to right top row, Coach Gregg Nowlin, Lolly Hernandez, Amanda Meek, Tina Meek, Courtney Harrison, Katy Hagler, Windy Goodloe. Bottom row left to right, Denice Frerich, Chica Garza, Jennifer Terrazas, Sandra Hernandez, Debra Frerich, Lindy LaMascus, Reccia Jobe.

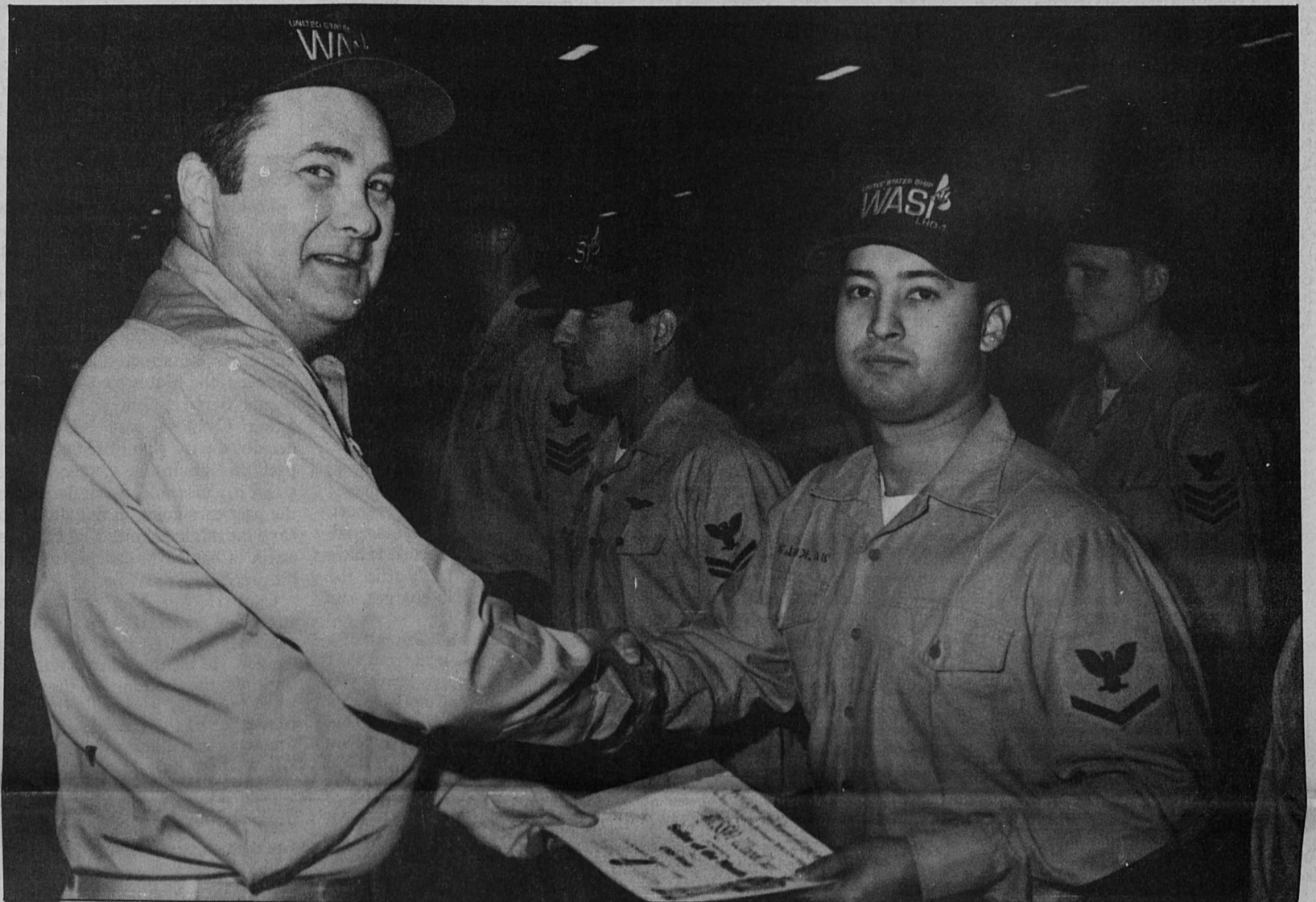


Softball Field Nears Completion

The finishing touches to the new girls softball field should be completed this week. The first game for the Tigerettes is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, and that game will be played at 4:00 p.m.

unless the Tigerette Basketball team is still in the play-offs. In that event, the opening game will be the next Tuesday, February 28.

(Continued on page 5)



Wardlaw Advances In Navy

Geovanni Wardlaw, right, is shown as he accepted a promotion from Captain Duffy aboard the U.S.S. Wasp. Wardlaw is now a Noncommissioned Officer and has also received "Sailor of the Month" Award for his ship with a crew of 2,000 sailors. Wardlaw also holds a Letter of Com-

mendation from Rear Admiral Wright for participation in "Operation Restore Democracy" in Haiti.

A graduate of Brackett High School, Geovanni is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Wardlaw who are justifiably proud of their son's accomplishments.

Wardlaw's wife is the former Bonnie Salmon and they have a 6-month old daughter, Ashley.

Staff Interpreter Martinez

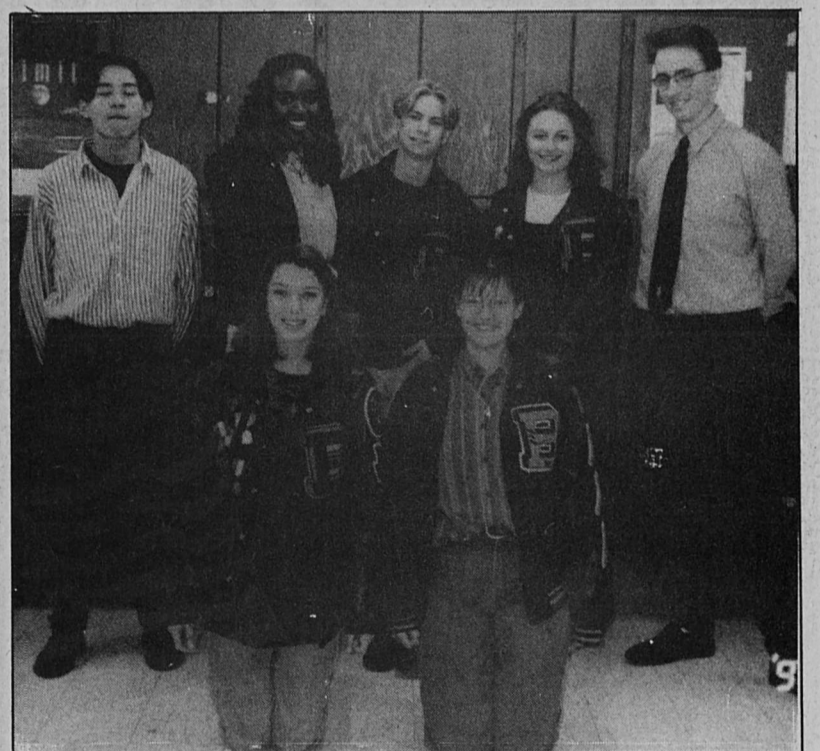
On January 27, 1995, Maria E. Martinez, was formally notified that she had met the Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Institutional Division's standards qualifying her as a Staff Interpreter for the Language Assistance to Monolingual Inmates Program.

To meet the standards, employees must earn either a Level IV or Level V on the Spanish version of the Language Assessment Scales. Ms. Martinez scored at Level IV.

In this particular series of testing, five people took the exams and three qualified.

A life long Kinney County resident, Ms. Martinez entered into the JTPA GED program, earned her Certificate of Equivalency, trained for and received appointment as a Correctional Officer and is employed at Ruben M. Torres Unit, Texas Department of Criminal Justice Institutional Division, Hondo, Texas.

She has continued to take advantage of each opportunity available to her. Through her efforts and dedication to excellence she proves that "JTPA does work," as proclaimed by JTPA Field Specialist Joy Ralson who assisted Maria when she enrolled in the JTPA programs months ago.



Tiger Band Chalks Up Superior

On Saturday, February 4, 1995, six students from the Brackett High School "Tiger Band" received superior ratings at the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest which was held at Eagle Pass High School. Some of the best band directors in Texas served as judges.

Shown above are the students who earned the ratings: top row from left, Alfred Rodriguez - Bass Clarinet; Windy Goodloe - Tenor Saxophone; Matthew Foster - Trumpet; Brandy Meeks - Flute; Chris Cantrell - Director. Bottom row are Valerie Jimenez - Clarinet; and Jo Lee Jones - Trumpet.

Foster earned the privilege of performing in the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition at the end of May. Locally, music lovers will have an opportunity to hear him perform his solo at the Spring Band Concert on May 11th, 7:00 p.m., at the BISD Auditorium.

At the UIL contest all students were accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Merry Beth Mills.

Little League Meeting

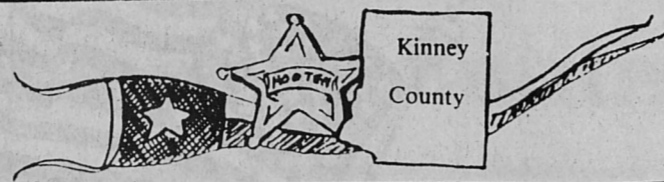
For the election of Board Members (need 11 people)

Thursday, February 23, 1995, 6:30 p.m.
Kinney County Courthouse

Sign up for managers, coaches, umpires, scorekeepers
volunteers needed!

Sheriff's Corner

By Sheriff Norman H. Hooten



This week's column will be a summarized, thumb-nail report of some of the activities that the Sheriff's Department has been involved with, responded to, or investigated over the past couple of weeks, as well as a report on officers killed during the month of January 1995.

02-01-95 - 7:23 pm - The Sheriff's Office was contacted by National Guardian Alarm Co. to report that the alarm system at Jones Elementary had been triggered. School officials were contacted and took care of the situation - no unauthorized intrusion made.

02-01-95 - 8:20 pm - Report received by Sheriff's Office of another alarm report - this one at a local ranch in Kinney County. Ranch manager's wife contacted - reported no unauthorized intrusion - false alarm.

02-01-95 - 8:27 pm - Report of a domestic dispute on East 1st Street

in Brackettville. S.O. Deputy responded - problem resolved - no charges filed.

02-01-95 - 8:40 pm - Report received by Sheriff's Office from local business owner of two male subjects possibly smoking marijuana. Responding deputy made further investigation of subjects resulting in the arrests of two white males on charges of Possession of Marijuana - charges filed, cases pending in County Court. The two subjects posted bonds the following morning and were released.

02-01-95 - 8:41 pm - Another alarm report received from Jones Elementary - Sheriff's Office deputy responded and school officials contacted - further investigation determined that no unauthorized intrusion had been made. Alarm secured.

02-01-95 - 11:55 pm - Reported received by Sheriff's Office of a fire

along rail road right-of-way just west of Pinto Creek. The Volunteer Fire Department was contacted by the S.O. dispatcher and responded.

02-02-95 - 6:45 pm - Report received at S.O. of a disturbance at a local bar. Deputy responded, situation resolved. No charges filed.

02-02-95 - 7:00 pm - A disturbance inside the County Jail West cellblock between jail inmates. Handled and resolved by on-duty Jailers.

02-02-95 - 3:30 pm (out of sequence) - Report of stray calf loose on Hwy. 693 approximately three miles south of town received by Sheriff's Office. Person believed to be owner contacted and advised of situation. Was correct owner and calf was put back in pasture.

02-02-95 - 11:24 pm - Report of alarm going off at Jones Elementary received at Sheriff's Office - Determined by school officials that no unauthorized intrusion made - alarm evidently malfunctioning.

02-03-95 - 11:30 pm - Report of two vehicles speeding in town throwing beer bottles. Responding deputy unable to locate vehicles. Short time later report received by Sheriff's Office of harassment, assault, criminal mischief from one of the suspects of the previous report. Responding deputy investigated and suspects identified and contacted - told to report to J.P.'s office the following morning.

02-04-95 - 12:05 am - Sheriff's Department received call reporting a disabled, abandoned vehicle on West Spring St. in Brackettville. Responding deputy determined that the vehicle was one of the suspect vehicles from previous report. Suspect owner contacted and advised to remove and secure vehicle and told to report to J.P.'s office the following morning. No charges - no arrests.

02-04-95 - 1:00 am - Report of a "Peeping Tom" received from Fort Clark resident. Deputy responded and investigated - no one located a suspect but indications were that "victim" knew possible suspect - no charges - no arrests.

02-04-95 - 8:28 pm - Report received by Sheriff's Office of disturbance involving a "fight" between two juveniles, one a girl, the other a boy. Investigating S.O. deputy advised parents to contact J.P. if further action was desired. No arrests - no charges.

02-05-95 - 8:59 pm - Report of disturbance outside local bar - Sheriff's deputy responded, subjects had left area before he arrived.

02-07-95 - 10:35 am - Motorist assistance call received by Sheriff's Office - keys locked inside vehicle. Deputy responded and unlocked car.

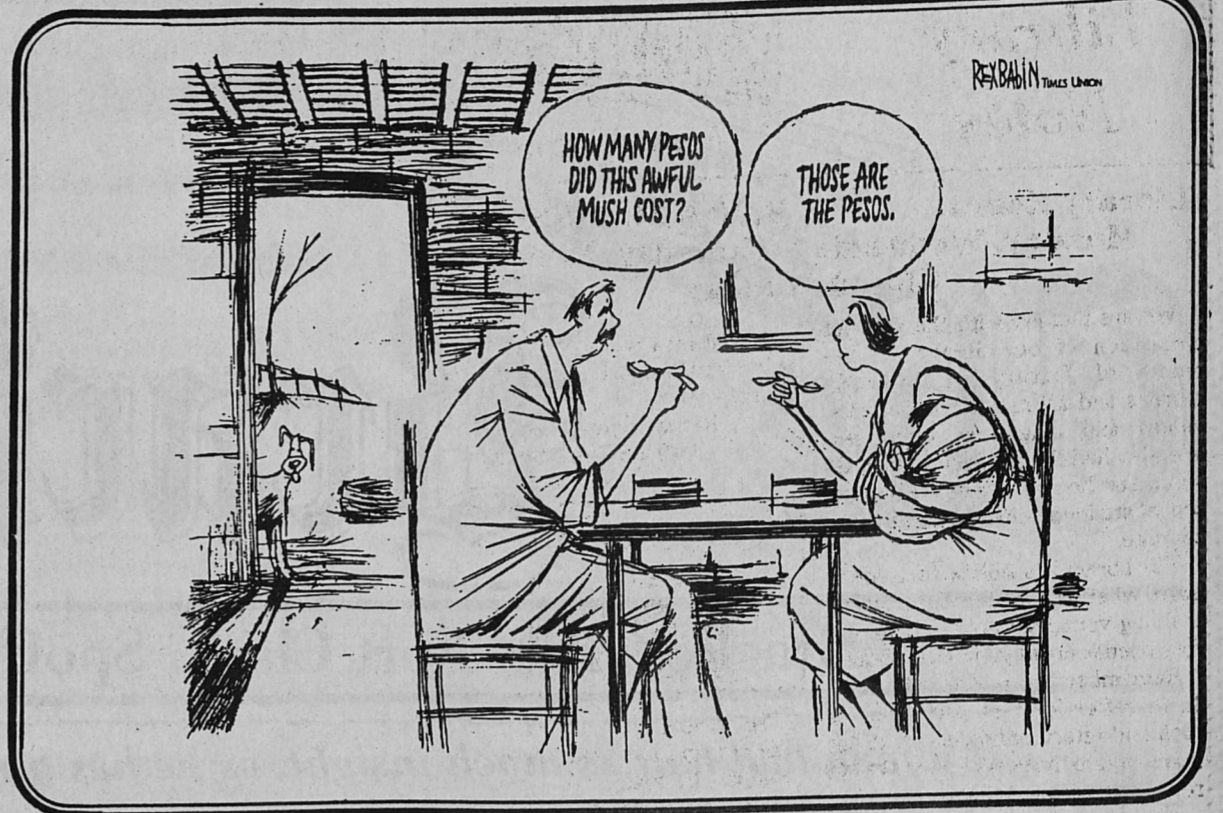
02-07-95 - 12:35 pm - Report of location of possible stolen property - S.O. deputy responded and recovered three horn cases taken in unreported theft from school. Horns had been removed. No suspects in case at this point.

02-07-95 - 11:00 pm - Report of alarm at local ranch - manager contacted - determined that ranch employee had failed to disengage alarm system and had set off the alarm upon entering ranch house. Alarm secured.

02-08-95 - 6:10 pm - Local parent reported the recovery of several "syringes" from group of juveniles because they were "poking" each other with them. Syringes were turned in to Sheriff's Department. Further investigation determined that the syringes were "insulin" syringes used by a relative of one of the juveniles. Usual precautions were advised.

This is just an example of routine calls and cases received and responded to by the Sheriff's Office daily. Most calls are simple, routine calls, but they are important to the caller or the victim, and after all, that's what we're here for.

According to information received by the FBI, 2 city, county, and state law enforcement officers were killed due to criminal action in January 1995. Six officers were slain during the same period in 1994. This year one (1) officer was slain in the Southern states and one (1) in the Mid-West states. One of the officers killed was investigating a suspicious person, and the other was attempting to apprehend a burglary suspect. Handguns were used in both the killings. One of the officers was wearing a protective vest. Two other officers were killed in accidental situations during January 1995. That's All!



Between Us

By Joe Townsend



Crockett Street is the street that runs east in front of St. John's Baptist Church, across Ann Street behind the Stop and Shop and continues east behind the Gateway and the Sunshine Garden Center. Driving east on Crockett Street as you cross the street running north between the Gateway and Thompson's Service Center. When entering Crockett east there is a decided dip for water drainage. Just past the dip in the center of the street is a manhole. Several times in the past cars going in this direction have hit this manhole. The city has at times hauled in caliche to cover the protruding manhole.

Clint Hooker was driving this street one night. At night it was impossible to see this protruding danger. He hit this obstruction and tore off the bottom of the transmission. He stopped and the remainder of the transmission fluid drained out making a wide puddle. His mother, Judy Hooker, went to the city hall where she was told the Texas Municipal League would send an "investigator" sometime late the next week.

Judy asked the city secretary, David Luna, what she could use for a car. Mr. Luna said, "Drive your mothers."

I called Mr. Luna to urge him to authorize renting a car for Judy. His first words were, "You don't have any business calling me, you were not driving the car." At least once and probably twice he repeated this.

To show his mind set and inferiority complex he said, "This had better not cause my daughter any trouble." I asked what he was talking about and he told me she worked at school and I'd better not cause her any trouble.

A man lacking in ethics and moral principles puts everyone in his class. I do not know the girl and because her father was miscreant is no reason for me to take it out on her. To think that authorities at school would be a party to such shows the contempt this man has for other people.

The so-called "Independent Ad-juster" came. The Secretary didn't bother to visit the scene. He sent the mayor who did not utter a word. The man measured the width of the side street, the cross street, the width of the manhole, etc. He told me since the city was not told about the hazard 24 hours in advance, the city was clear under the "Exclusionary" rule.

This so-called "Independent" ad-juster told me several times he was working for the Texas Municipal League. He refused even to look at the car. I asked for a copy of the report over his signature. He said a curt "No." I asked why to which he replied, "I don't work for you. I work for Texas Municipal League."

May I point out what the Texas Municipal League is? It is a bureaucratic organization paid by money from the taxpayers to defend member municipalities. I heard a mayor one time tell a large audience "You can sue if you want to but you better have a lot of money. We've got 17 lawyers to protect us."

This gives freedom to unscrupulous city officials to run

roughshod over people knowing they cannot be touched and TML will pay all costs.

When I told the "investigator" I guess I'd write a report, his whole concern was "Be sure and spell my name right."

Judy had the issue placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the city council. The secretary, the true master of chicanery that he

is, talked to the members of the council privately and individually. He said when Joe Townsend rises to speak the mayor will declare him "out of order" and refuse to let him speak.

They feel comfortable running roughshod over a single mother but were cowards when facing a man. Mr. Luna went on to say "the city attorney" will be present and he will declare the city is not liable.

He then said I want you to vote against any liability of the city.

Do you sense any violation of law, such as conspiracy and violation of the open meetings act, etc.?

Mr. Luna's balloon was punctured when Mrs. hooker notified him "on the advice of counsel" to remove her name and the issue from the agenda; that in return, Mr. Luna would be hearing from her attorney.

Another noteworthy comment the "investigator" was hardly out of town until the city hauled in caliche and covered the manhole and removed the area where the transmission fluid stained the ground. That in itself amply demonstrates the acknowledgement of liability.

It's amazing how stupid and guilty people think their prey are stupid. When this comes to trial, Mr. Luna will be easily shown how wrong and stupid he is.

Dist. 11 VFW Adopts Voting Resolution

The District 11 Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) meeting Sunday, February 12, 1995, in LaCoste, Texas.

The Resolution will now go to the VFW State Convention in June in Houston for further action. Inquiries concerning the resolution may be directed to George E. Foster, 563-2133.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR VFW TO ORGANIZE A "Veterans Voting Association"

WHEREAS, each year we are seeing a steady decline of American veterans in our U.S. Senate, our House of Representatives, and the White House Cabinet positions; and...

WHEREAS, as a consequence of this decline of people who have served in the military and understand its complexities and necessities, the American veterans are losing more influence in Washington with each passing year; and...

WHEREAS, the old warriors, now aging, who fought the decisive armed combat wars for our nation and its freedoms have in too many cases been badly treated by a Washington bureaucracy that seems to have removed the word "Honor" from their vocabulary; and...

WHEREAS, the VFW is committed to further the ideals of patriotism and Americanism; and...

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the VFW to protect those who fought oppression and sacrificed for the cause of democracy; be it...

RESOLVED; that the VFW immediately organize a "VETERANS VOTING ASSOCIATION" to be formed in such a manner so as to encourage all veterans groups to become involved in the "Veterans Voting Association"; and be it...

RESOLVED; that the VFW become more involved in politics, with a HANDS-ON POSITION; especially in view of the fact that fewer veterans will be in the political arena each year - thus there will be more politicians who having never served in the military will be more likely to conduct our nation's affairs in ways that are detrimental to VETERANS CAUSES, and with their lack of military experience could pose a threat to our nation's security; be it...

RESOLVED; that the above be included in the recommendations of every VFW Post and delegates attending Department and National Conventions, in our efforts to stand ready to promote the morale and welfare of its Armed Forces.

Proposed by: George Foster, November 8, 1994
Approved by: James Parrer, December 23, 1994
Commander, VFW Post #8552, Del Rio

RABIES CLINIC

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1995
9:00 - 12 NOON

BRACKETTVILLE CITY HALL

\$6.00 PER SHOT \$1.00 ANNUAL PERMIT

PET OWNERS - IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP RABIES VACCINATIONS CURRENT FOR PETS

Overseas Veterans Association Tour

A Nostalgic Eleven Day Reunion Tour of Southern England (London, Bristol, Salisbury, Portsmouth, Southampton) and France (Cherbourg, The Normandy Beaches, Military Cemeteries, Caen, Paris) is scheduled to depart New York May 15th to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Allied Victory in 1945.

Those who served in European Theater of Operations and elsewhere are urged to call Sy Canton at 800-314-4499 or write to Overseas Veterans Association, Suite 7P, 465 Shore Road, Long Beach NY 11561.

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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.

TA MEMBER 1995

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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 columnist's viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of this newspaper. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Thank You!

The Brackett News.

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Editor - Jean Faulkenberry

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The Brackett News (U.S.P.S. 003987) is published weekly on Thursday by The Brackett News, Inc. P.O. Box 1039, Brackettville Tx 78832 Single copies are 50¢. Subscription rates are \$20.00 in Kinney County, \$25.00 outside K.C. in Texas; \$27.50 outside Texas.

Second class postage rates are paid in Brackettville, Texas.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Brackett News, Inc. P.O. Box 1039 Brackettville TX 78832-1039
Submission Deadlines: News Items - Tuesday Noon Advertising - Tuesday Noon
The quotation found under the Mast Head on the front page is a copy from "The Rear Vision Mirror," a Fort Worth Newspaper published Wednesday, March 8, 1961.

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Library Notes



By Sara Terrazas

Library Hours 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Closed Tuesday

We are pleased with the use and circulation of our library. In the month of January we had 763 patrons and a total of 5,216 books, videos and magazines circulated. We also had 9 volunteers put in 84 volunteer hours. Three were high school students which we highly encourage.

The library is a wonderful place to learn, whether it be through reading or doing volunteer work. Please tell your friends about your local library. Remember this is Amnesty Month, therefore look up your overdue book and return at no charge. A big thank you to those who have already returned overdue books.

We have received many new books, too many to mention, however some of the books are by: Tony Hillerman, Dean Koontz, Judith Michael, Barbara Block, Elliott Roosevelt, Ed McBain, Michael Crichton, and many more.

REWARD

Lost: one Calaway Big Bertha Driver. Reward. Call 563-2746.

As always we invite you to visit the friendliest little library in Kinney County.
 Kinney County Library
 Staff and Volunteers

Unsung Hero

by Joe Townsend



Some time ago a man came to our community to be a part of our school system. In many ways he has a unique opportunity to directly impact the lives of those with whom he works.

His responsibilities call for much time and effort beyond the regular school day. He is respected and loved by his students and the faculty.

He is a friendly individual. He is a good family man of high principles. He is well liked far beyond the scope of his profession.

Surely John Paul Schuster is an "Unsung Hero."

Around the Fort

Ladies Exercise

Activity Center. Monday, 10 a.m. Wednesday 9:30 a.m. Friday 10 a.m.

Ceramics & Crafts Hours

Monday, 1:00 - 10:00 p.m.; Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon.

Garden Club Met

The Mountain Laurel Garden Club met February 9 at the Adult Center, FCS, with 20 members and 5 guests present.

After the regular meeting, the program, "Texas Wild Flowers," was presented by Elizabeth Armijo of Amistad Park and Recreation. It was most interesting and educational.

Mary Williams won the door prize.

The next meeting will be March 9, 9:30 a.m., at Town Hall, FCS, with TV Personality Jerry Parson bringing the program "Who Known? Jerry Knows!" Everyone is invited to attend.

Bridge Anyone

By NORMA GOULD



The Fort Clark Springs Duplicate Bridge Club met Tuesday, February 7, with 7 1/2 tables playing the Mitchell Movement.

Lamont and Marie McCandless won first place in the N/S direction. Fred and Nita Clayton won second place with Norma Gould and Tina Bauguess winning third.

Peg Woolston and Mylo Unruh won first place in the E/W direction. Walt Geeze and Mary Edgar took second place with Evelyn Whitley and Ray Kurtz a very close third.

Join us at Shafter Hall each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

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ANNOUNCES

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NEW SATURDAY HOURS AT BORDER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
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—Billy Rose

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 ALBA AQA GUASH KOO
 GONTENWITHEIR JOHN
 DISRAELI ARTEL MURAL
 SITS AVANT CANARY
 MOJAVE MOJAVE DPHONE
 ALBES MOJAVE SOIL
 FRANZ TART STIVIBIS
 ARTE LOTIFITWAINPALM
 RVE BUTTS RIG ACOT
 QUINOTE SPIM BAWINEM
 ARDEN VINE OJEM BAW
 TAE SPRINGSORACAPULCO
 ANG ORION TBAR DNTING
 ROT NOLLY GINK DATED

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Takes STP Off Watch List

Houston Lighting & Power Company (HL&P) officials were notified on February 3 that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has determined that the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station (STP) no longer warrants an enhanced level of regulatory monitoring.

The notice came in a briefing held before the three NRC commissioners. In that meeting, senior NRC managers reported on the status of their reviews of the performance of nuclear facilities around the country.

STP was placed on the list of plants requiring closer NRC monitoring in June of 1993, after HL&P shut the plant's two nuclear units down and a Diagnostic Inspection was conducted by the NRC. Following an extensive improvement program and NRC review of the facility, STP Unit 1 was restarted in February 1994, and Unit 2 in May.

The NRC based its decision to remove STP from the "Watch List" on five key areas: 1) STP's sustained improvement throughout 1994; 2) high standards of performance exhibited by the plant; 3) upgraded and enhanced general condition of equipment at the plant; 4) effective maintenance and engineering support of plant operations resulting in reduced equipment repair backlogs and improved plant reliability; and 5) the open and positive working environ-

ment at the plant, which encourages employees to raise safety concerns.

Since returning to service, STP has generated 16 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, and every month since last May, one or the other of the plant's two generating units has been the number one producer in the country.

"We are very pleased about the plant's outlook for the future," said Gerald Vaughn, CPL Vice President of Nuclear. "By removing the plant from the 'Watch List' the NRC has indicated that STP is exhibiting improvements in all performance areas."

Following the NRC briefing, Bill Cottle, HL&P's Group Vice President - Nuclear, said, "We are extremely grateful that the NRC has chosen to recognize the fine work and improvements that have been made at South Texas by our employees and our managers."

We are also grateful to our three co-owners who have supported us through this trying period. We are dedicated to sustaining the improvements that we are making, both to assure that we maintain the confidence of the NRC, our customers, and our neighbors, and to become the type of world-class power producer that is our vision for STP."

STP is jointly owned by HL&P, who serves as the project manager, Central Power & Light Co. (CPL), and the cities of San Antonio and Austin.

Gracie's Gifts & Flowers

FRESH FLOWERS As Of February 1

Valentine Orders Accepted Now Until Valentine's Day

MUGS

Highway 90 CANDY STUFFED 210-563-2450
 (Next to B&S) BALLOONS ANIMALS Brackettville
 Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

In Loving Memory Of Nick Nixon

Honey, you were so many things to me...
 A spin around the dance hall, an understanding touch...
 A glance across a crowded room that somehow said so much...

You were the faith and confidence I needed day by day.
 The purpose, Hon, behind my dreams and every plan I made...
 You were home and comfort, and a smile to cheer me, too...
 And Honey, love and happiness were mine for so many years...
 Because of you.

My Valentine Day message to you, my love forever and always... Genie

TxDOT Fulfills Record Number Travel Inquiries

Nationwide interest in Texas travel information continued to grow steadily and break records in 1994. For a second year in a row, more than one million people requested travel publications from the Texas Department of Transportation's Travel and Information Division.

"We were excited last year because - for the first time - we received an historic one million inquiries for travel information. But this year we filled 1,111,386 requests for travel literature. That's an 8% increase over last year's record-breaking benchmark," said J. Don Clark, director of TxDOT's Travel and Information Division. "With this kind of resounding interest in travel literature, it's no wonder that tourism ranks as the third greatest money-producing industry in Texas."

Texas Comptroller John Sharp agrees: "Tourism has become a vital ingredient in the state's overall economic development recipe. In the years ahead, visitors to the Lone Star State, as well as Texans who choose to explore the expanse of the state they call home, will help the Texas tourism industry outpace the state's overall economic growth. That's how important it is."

"TxDOT plays an important role by promoting the 'Texas mystique' in their travel literature," Sharp added.

People who call TxDOT's toll-free phone number receive a standard packet of information that includes the Texas State Travel Guide, Texas Official Highway Travel Map, and the Texas Accommodations Guide. The packets are sent within 24 hours through a fulfillment contract with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

TxDOT also distributes Texas travel literature through their 12 Travel Information Center located along the state's borders and in Austin. Overall, the department annually distributes more than 14.6 million pieces of travel literature through their mail fulfillment operation and the Travel Information Centers - which hosted more than 2.7 million visitors in 1994.

Callers in all 50 states and Canada can request information by phoning TxDOT's toll-free number:

800-452-9292.

Community Calendar



- Fort Clark Gun Club, 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Adult Center.
- Altar Society: 1st Monday, 5:30 pm, Parish Hall.
- ESD School Board: 2nd Monday, 6:30 pm, School Board Room.
- Beta Sigma Phi
- R of J Beta Epitola Omicron (Sept-May) 2nd & 4th Monday, 7 pm
- Proceptor Theta Sigma (Sept-May) 1st & 3rd Monday, 7 pm.
- Laureate Iota Epitola (All year) 3rd Monday, 7 pm.
- Mountain Laurel Garden Club: 2nd Thursday, (Sept-May) 10 am
- Chamber of Commerce: 2nd Thursday, 7:30 pm, Cavalry Room.
- City Council, Brackettville: 1st Tuesday after 2nd Monday, 6 pm, City Hall.
- City Council, Spofford: 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm, Spofford City Hall.
- Commissioners Court: 2nd Monday, 9 am, Court House.
- Del Rio Christian Women's Club: 1st Wednesday, 12 Noon, San Felipe Country Club, Reservations required.
- FCS Pot Luck Supper: 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Service Club. Bring covered dish, plates and utensils.
- Duplicate Bridge: Tuesday, 7 pm, Shafter Hall.
- FCS Art Club: Work days Monday and Saturday 11 am, meeting 1st Monday, 1 pm, Art Studio.
- FCS Community Council: 2nd Saturday, 10 am, Shafter Hall.
- FCS Board of Directors: 3rd Saturday, 9 am, Board Room.
- FCS Historical Society: 4th Saturday, 10 am, Shafter Hall.
- FCS Museum/Buttons Store: Saturday & Sunday, 1-4 pm.
- FCS Ladies Luncheon: 2nd Wednesday, Noon, Las Moras Restaurant. Make reservation at Adult Center.
- FCS VFW #8380 & Auxiliary: 4th Monday, 6 pm Pot Luck Dinner, 7 pm Meetings, Service Club.
- FCS Elgus: Friday, 7 pm, Shafter Hall.
- FCS Old Quarry Society: 1st Monday, 7:00 pm.
- KC Historical Preservation Society: 4th Thursday, 7 pm, Court House.
- KC Kickers: 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7:30 pm, Service Club.
- Knights of Columbus: 1st Sunday, 12 noon, Parish Hall.
- Lions Club: 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6:30 pm, Las Moras Restaurant.
- Masonic Lodge #444: 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm, Lodge Hall, Ann St.
- Order of Eastern Star #204: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Masonic Hall, 407 Bedell St., Del Rio.
- Shrimers: 4th Tuesday, 6:30 pm, Las Moras Restaurant.
- Rotary Club: Every Thursday, 12 noon, Las Moras Restaurant.
- Methodist Ladies Luncheon: 3rd Wednesday, noon, Slaton Hall. Please make reservations.
- Creative Writing Group: Fridays, 9:30 am, Golf Club Snack Bar.

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NOMAWIC - NOWTHEN

We got out of jail about 8:00 the night after the Kortman County Campaign Crisis.

Garlan, Karl, Juan, Arlo and myself got off pretty lucky. The judge seemed to think we were just doing what we had a right to do in the first place and when Arlo finally came back to a semi-conscious mode he was justified for busting that old gal (that was whupping him over the head with a sign) in the mouth.

The judge called it self defense. The judge was a woman.

Ben Machow, the president of the local chapter of NOMAWIC (National Organization of Men Against Women In Charge) paid for his group's bail and assured me that his organization was behind old Arlo and me 100%.

Yahoo!!! That's just what we needed, a group of men (that's as goofy as the women that's against us) for us.

I mean we can use the support but we can't stand the physical stress.

I think the NOWTHEN (National Organization of Women That Hates Everything Normal) bunch would have gotten off a lot cheaper if one of them goofy old bats hadn't 'ave lipped off.

Yep, it was a typical woman thing.

When the judge had all of us lined up in front of her and she was chewing us all out for being so childish, this old bat was heard saying, "Virginia said we wouldn't get arrested if we did just like she said."

Boy! Talk about the possibility of some negative press.

Here was the classical political attempt to stop a group of well meaning candidates with promises of judicial safety. And it sounded like the lead hen of the legal system was the one making the promises.

Juan whispered to Garlan, Karl, Arlo and me "we better be glad there was more of them deputies meen than weemens or we

would probably be heer by our selves."

Juan had a point. The ring leader for the NOWTHEN bunch, Alice Sara Swiftalker (whose name will be used instead of her initials), jumped in immediately trying to right the wrong that had just been done by one of her faithful but stupid followers.

"Your Honor, if I might have a moment of your time to explain what my Sargent (used to be lieutenant) meant by that statement, I'm sure you will see how such a person could make such a mistake."

Judge, "We don't need a moment, we need an investigation by the State Police into just how a bunch of women can think they can start a riot and not expect to be punished for it."

The Judge then set bail for old Sara and her front line fighterettes about \$500.00 higher than she did for the members of the NOMAWIC."

The judge let all of us in the INDEPENDENTS ARE US group go but not till we promised to try and figure a way to get our point across in a more diplomatic way.

We assured her that was of the utmost of importance at our next strategy meeting. We didn't tell her the meeting was fixing to take place down at the "Bull Barn Bar and Bar-B-Que Place."

As we were walking out, the Judge let everyone else go except Ben Machow and Alice Sara Swiftalker as well as Virginia Sities and three of her arresting officers.

The Judge instructed the freed members of both NOWTHEN and NOMAWIC to go down to the court house and get all those onions picked up and hauled off.

We'll just have to wait and see what she did with the leaders of both rather radical groups as well as the head radical in charge of security.

Moncus' Musings



MIKE MONCUS



Park Ranger, Interpreter
Bastrop State Park

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Keys

All along the bank where I could see the bottom I began to think of the VII Corps Artillery in Stuttgart, West Germany. Not that I had ever rowed a boat there but something in the water and the way the rowing felt reminded me of where I was a young man. I had written notes of that time and those places, figuring, and felt confident that if a time ever came I would write a serious commentary about those times.

Something more came as I rowed the canoe. The bottom was hard to see, being unclear to the point of looking as though you had to imagine most of what might be there. In a way that was how Stuttgart, West Germany was to me now only I knew it wasn't really my imagination. I truly remembered the place. I had been there and it had been a long, long time ago. So long that everything that happened in between that time and this seemed like three life times ago.

Rowing the canoe was an action that had nothing to do with remembering and had nothing to do with writing but was the same as those things all the same. It was almost precious so I did it backwards some and came to rest up against a dead tree lying sideways off the bank and into the lake. There the late evening reflections told me that whether remembering or imagining it was the light and the truth of that light that made the bottom of the lake clear or things of my youth clear.

Another time I was with my father in a canoe fishing an estuary between Brownsville and Port Isabel and the rowing was good until the tide began to flow outward so fast we were nearly helpless to get back to where we had first set out. I had forgotten that time until this day with the water and rowing reminding me of past times. Rowing had been a key. I've never understood keys and though I use a computer all the time I hadn't realized that certain keys can be so meaningful. A key can cause a thought flow that might never have come and can be necessary much more than just convenient.

Rowing was simply a key whose usefulness turned out to be thoughts of West Germany and my father. Something for which I was instantly grateful. It was a key that made me go and call my father and when I asked him if he remembered that time in the canoe he said with such a lift in his voice like only he can have, "Why sure, I remember!"

POSTMASTER'S COLUMN



BY FELIX HERNANDEZ

Bar Code Technology Not Just For Grocers

Remember the first time you watched a supermarket cashier drag those vertical lines on your canned peas or box of breakfast cereal over a red beam of light to register the price? It seemed like science fiction, didn't it?

Technology enables many businesses to improve efficiency. The Postal Service is using modern scanning technology to expedite mail delivery.

No doubt you are familiar with the vertical lines that appear on the bottom of some of your mail. Those lines are POSTNET (Postal Numeric Encoding Technique) bar codes. When sprayed on an envelope by postal equipment, or printed on an envelope by a mailer, bar codes allow other postal equipment to sort a good part of your mail directly to your doorstep.

Using a simple formula, you too can read a bar code.

Take a look at a letter that has a bar code in the address block area or on the lower right bottom. After skipping the first and last bar (these are called frame bars), write the numerals 7,4,2,1, and 0 directly underneath each set of five bars. The first five bars represent the first number of your ZIP Code. Add up the numerals that you have written underneath the long bars (the lone exception when adding is 7 plus 4 always equals a zero (7 plus 4 equals 0); or if the first bar is long, the next two are short, the next is long, and the last is short, the ZIP Code number would be eight (7 plus 1 equals 8).

Deliver Point Barcoding is an automated program designed to sort mail in carrier walk sequence greatly reducing handling costs. The bar code consists of 62 bars. If you continue to use the formula to interpret the bar code, you would find your ZIP + 4 Code plus two extra digits (generally, the last two digits of your house number, post office box number, etc.). At the end of each bar code is a correction digit that, when added to the sum of the other digits, rounds out the total to a multiple of 10.

Barcoding technology will eventually give the Postal Service the opportunity to automatically sort virtually all mail entering a post office into delivery order for letter carriers.

The end result will be letter carriers spending less time sorting mail in the office and more time delivering mail to customers - helping to hold down costs and allowing the Postal Service to continue offering reasonable rates. Other benefits are consistent delivery times with fewer misdeliveries.

To learn more about postal automation, proper addressing, barcoding, and rate incentives available to large volume mailers, contact your local post office, customer service representative, or Postal Business Center.

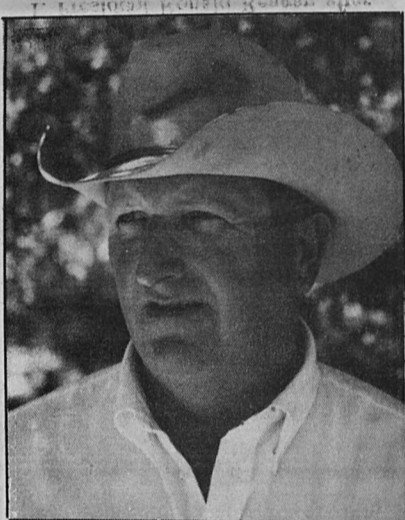


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Texas Coastal Programs Lets Texans Run Texas

By GARRY MAURO
Texas Land Commissioner

For generations, Texans have flocked to our beaches and coastal resorts for family vacations, business conferences and an occasional break from college life.

What parent can forget the eyes of a child seeing the Gulf of Mexico for the first time? Or the smell of Gulf shrimp boiling after a day of surf and sun? In fact, almost 100 million pounds of fish from the Texas Gulf Coast finds its way to markets across the country each year.

The Texas coast means something to Texans that federal bureaucrats will never understand. It's one of the chief economic engines of this state, and its beaches are a family institution.

That's why it's important that Texans - not federal bureaucrats - make decisions that will allow our coast to be developed in a way that also preserves it for our children.

That's why the Texas Coastal Management Program is important. It lets Texans run Texas.

It is exactly what Sen. John Tower had in mind in 1972 when he passed federal legislation that lets states with their own coastal management programs have authority over federal bureaucrats in matters that affect their coasts.

In his recent inaugural address, Gov. George W. Bush pledged to stand for that principle. "I will use every resource at my disposal to make the federal government in Washington heed this simple truth: Texans can run Texas," he said, standing on the south steps of the Texas Capitol.

It was a great moment. And I couldn't agree more, because that's exactly what the Texas Coastal Management Program does.

So there is no confusion, here are the facts.

The Texas Coastal Management Program does one thing: It streamlines existing government by establishing one set of policies for agencies that already have jurisdiction along the coast.

It means a shorter permitting process for businesses that want to develop the region and create jobs in a way that minimizes coastal erosion, protects the environment and ensures access to public beaches.

That's it. The program creates no new agency or law. It applies only to parts of 18 coastal counties. It has no new jurisdiction over agriculture - and it protects the rights of property owners.

In fact, the Texas Coastal Management Program is the first governmental program in Texas history that specifically requires bureaucrats to fully respect private property in any and all actions they take. Its clear and simple language about private property rights was drafted by the Texas Farm Bureau.

After nearly five years of study

and hundreds of meetings between state and local officials, coastal businesses and Texans who live and work on the coast - the folks who know firsthand how the uncoordinated, confusing and sometimes contradictory maze of regulations hurts their local economies - the program is ready for federal approval.

That is the final step.

After the Legislature has the opportunity to review it, the program is scheduled to start in June. Once it does, coastal communities will be eligible to share \$2.2 million in funding for projects that protect their coastlines and stimulate their local economies.

In the same inaugural speech, Gov. Bush said, "If we trust Texans to make the best decisions for Texas - and we do - we must also trust Texans to make the best decisions for their local communities."

The Texas Coastal Management Program is right for Texas. It's the best tool we have for keeping federal bureaucracy in checking and ensuring that Texans control our coastal region.

The Brackett News. FAX IT FAST!

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SPONSORS NEEDED

THE FIFTH UNITED STATES ARMY BAND WILL CHRISTEN THE BANDSTAND AT FORT CLARK WITH A PERFORMANCE OF MILITARY, POPULAR AND COUNTRY & WESTERN MUSIC ON SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1995, AT 2 P.M.

THE FORT CLARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS SEEKING SPONSORS TO HELP PAY FOR THE LODGING OF THESE SOLDIERS!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP BY PLEDGING THE COST OF A MOTEL ROOM, PLEASE CONTACT DOROTHY FRANK AT 563-2090 OR HARRELL FLOYD AT 563-2024 TO SIGN-UP.

Rambling Around Kinney County

By THE K.C. RAMBLER



The Texas Country Reporter spent two full days in Brackettville interviewing our own Mary Gonzalez and filming her historic store. Sunday, February 19, is the anticipated date of airing on Channel 5 at 9:30 in the morning. Don't miss it - everyone in Kinney County knows Mary and her establishment. Mary always graciously shows people through her store pointing out the variety of artifacts remaining from days gone by.

If you can take a stroll or a ride along the creek toward the Red Bridge on Fort Clark, buzzards are congregating each evening on all those dead, moss draped trees where the Las Moras was damned up. It's an awesome sight to see hundreds of vultures literally wing to wing roosting on the gray limbs. once you view it, you'll never forget it.

At 2:00 in the afternoon of March 11th, the 5th Army Band will be in concert at the band stand on the parade grounds of Fort Clark. The Fort Historical Society has invited the group here for the enjoyment of all the community. Further details will be available later. Be sure to put this date on your calendar. If you would like to help sponsor this concert, call 563-2990.

Remember that fresh produce is delivered to Super S on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Any of

these mornings you can find fresh, firm fruits and vegetables. In this climate, keeping produce fresh is difficult so make your selections bright and early on these days. Fresh fruits and vegetables are very important in daily diets.

The redbud trees are already in bloom. Even saw a fruit tree in flower. Spring must be here even if we have had a couple of pretty cold days. Hear we are due for some rain this week. Have also noticed many trees are budding and will leaf out soon. The trees given in memory of past members of FCS have been planted. The selection of red oaks will guarantee survival - this species is drought resistant, disease resistant, and bug resistant. They will always be a living tribute to those we miss.

Have you been experiencing TV Cable black-outs recently? You should call Falcon Cable TV at 800-292-4502 at the time you have no reception. They will check into it immediately (according to their spokesman) and send a technician if necessary. There are times when a fuse will blow out at the communications equipment on Las Moras Mountain. If this occurs, REA immediately jumps into action to correct the problem.

DO SOMETHING NICE FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR

County Agent News

by Alan L. McWilliams



Fruit and Nut Trees Need Dormant Oil

The prime time to apply dormant oil to fruit trees, nut trees and various landscape trees is now, according to a horticulturist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Scale insects are a primary target of the oil spray. They are tiny sucking insects that can severely injure or kill branches or entire trees.

They attach themselves to twigs, limbs, and major branches with smooth bark. Each insect seals itself under a protective covering, visible as scaly crusts. Crusts that are a dull, grayish white indicate San Jose scale, the most common scale on fruit trees. Snow white crusts indicate peach scale, while those that are dull brown indicate other types of scale.

Scale insects are especially serious on peaches, plums and other stone fruits, as well as apples and pears. Numerous ornamental trees and shrubs are also attacked. Serious scale infestations also have been noted on silver maple.

Dormant oil sprays also are applied to kill overwintering eggs of various insects and mites.

Phylloxera eggs are a primary target on pecan trees. The dormant oil spray can be applied anytime when the tree is fully dormant and before it has leafed out or begun to bloom.

Late winter is better because the insects weaken through the cold months and become more vulnerable.

Trees should be sprayed when the temperature is between 50 and 80 degrees and when no hard freezes are expected within the next few days, he said. The dormant oil shocks the tree's system and a freeze is a further upset.

For the best results, an insecticide should be mixed with the oil, following label directions.

Good spray coverage is important since it's the oil film that suffocates the scale.

Air sprayers and other low volume sprayers are not as good as hand gun applicators, although air sprayers will do the job if care is taken to ensure good coverage.

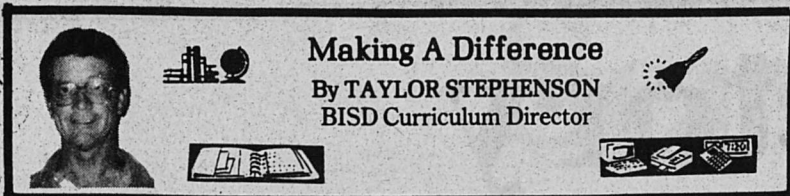
Do not overapply dormant oil because that could injure a tree.

Heavy scale infestations may require more than one dormant oil application for eradication. If a second oil spray is applied, wait at least three weeks after the first spray or until after heavy rains have fallen.

Oil-related tree injuries sometimes occur because of poor mixing in the spray tank. The spray tank should be agitated well immediately before and during spraying.

DOING DRUGS... THE BIGGEST MISTAKE YOU'LL EVER MAKE





Making A Difference
By TAYLOR STEPHENSON
BISD Curriculum Director

It Was Stock Show & Rodeo Time

Early Monday morning, Chuck Hall hit the office door with an idea for a news article. I'm always looking for good stories. Usually, Chuck can tell one. So, I listened!

For seven years, Chuck has helped chaperone the FFA & 4-H trip to the San Antonio Stock Show. He was effusive as he credited our young folks for being responsive and well behaved. It was one of those rare days when a teacher knew 100% why he has stayed on teaching at BHS. Chuck thinks, and I agree, that Brackettville has set high standards for its young people. Because of these standards, lots of folks in Kinney County help us as volunteers with the education of our young. Think about it another way, maybe we have so many volunteers because of high standards among our young. Chuck has been going to the SA Show since he was a kid. His suggestion was that we needed a story about volunteers being a cut above in KC and about our high quality kids. Volunteers like Tommy Castillo who drove the bus and like his wife, Susanna, who helped chaperone. Every kid on the bus thanked Tommy!

Along with Chuck's story, Mary Lee Haby gave me a story that will be my guest editorial this week entitled:

"It Was Stock Show and Rodeo Time" by Mary Lee Haby.

Saturday, February 11, about 7:00 a.m., fifteen sleepy students and seven sponsors left for the San Antonio Livestock Show Rodeo and the NOTORIOUS CARNOVAL. Upon arrival at Joe Freeman Coliseum, rodeo tickets were given to our kids with instructions as to who, what, when and where by Mr. Schuster.

Our students not only attended the carnival, but they were able to see modern agriculture and the newest in home economics products. They viewed animals and pets of all kinds while seeing their peers show livestock.

The students and sponsors enjoyed the rodeo and the concert by Hal Ketchum. After the performance, students were released to continue to enjoy the shows. Fiesta Texas had a great show with performances by Sergio Salinas and Tejana Music sponsored by one of the San Antonio radio stations. There were also many fine food booths.

Promptly at 5:00 p.m. all of Brackettville's students were on the bus, tired but happy and ready for dinner at Sammy's in Castroville.

Future Farmers of America and Future Homemakers of America attending were: David Mann, Lety

Rivas, Zoila Herrera, Robert Aguirre, Mary Alice Martinez, Jessica Payne, James Parker, David Melancon, Amy Bader, Charlie Hall, Katy Hall, Joey Pena, Rena Miller, Becky Payne, and Raymond Talamantez.

Sponsors were John Paul Schuster, Chuck Hall, Connie Hall, Tommy Castillo, Susanna Castillo, Blackie Haby and Mary Lee Haby.

Mrs. Haby continued, "Very rarely can one who has taught for 40 years say that our students were so exceptional. These kids were on time leaving and coming home. They were, at all times, courteous and well-mannered. In fact, both Mr. Haby and I agree that they were and are the best group that we have ever sponsored. We could take them anywhere - anytime!"

Thanks Mrs. Haby for a great story. John Paul Schuster provided a list of official entries from Kinney County. These students showed under the FFA Banner. This list is the animal they sold and their highest placing:

- Amy Bader - Champion Angora Buck
- Amber Davis - 1st place hog, heavyweight
- Charlie Hall - 4th place Hog - Medium weight
- Katie Hall - 2nd place Hog - Heavyweight
- Charlotte Rose - 3rd place Rabbit - Buck
- Jared Shahan - Grand Champion Finewood Lamb
- Wil Shahan - Grand Champion Crossbred Lamb
- Jackie Smith - 3rd place Hog - Heavyweight

A Brackett salute this week to Chuck and Connie, Blackie and Mary Lee, Tommy and Susanna, and John Paul. Because of you, our kids are better. Volunteers are making a difference in Kinney County. Take a look at the softball field and the efforts that are going on. Kathy and Jimmy Bader have spearheaded the improvement giving unselfishly of their time and resources for our kids. There are many others who have helped. Kathy Bader has supplied a list of volunteers on the project that is published elsewhere in this issue of *The Brackett News*.

Thanks to our FFA & 4-H for making a headline about young people doing things well. Thanks to the good kids everywhere that are building a nation that will be better tomorrow than it is today. Thanks to adults who volunteer and make things happen. In Kinney County, Texas, we believe in you! We'll do what is needed to help you. Good story! Keep up the good work Kinney County!

Natasha's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A cycle in which you'll be reassessing the recent past begins this week. Be sure to take advantage of social opportunities which come your way now. Later in the week, you're in a reflective mood.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You'll be re-evaluating the role friendships and club activities play in your life in the coming months. However, this particular week doesn't especially favor any social interests.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A turning point will soon be reached in your attitude about your career in general. Get things straight in your own mind before presenting new ideas to others. Some things need polishing.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) In coming months, you could feel the need for furthering your education. One field of interest in particular appeals to you. A small difference could occur about a financial concern now.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You will soon have a new attitude about the best way to insure long-range financial security. It's a good idea to make plans to restructure your debt. However, after you consolidate everything, don't run up those charge cards again.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You could be exaggerating the importance of a small slip-up on your part. Don't be so hard on yourself. It's not exactly an earth-shattering event. The coming months will bring major relationship decisions.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You soon could be asked to assume greater responsibilities in connection with work. Make sure, however, that you are compensated for this. Later in the week, get some chores out of the way before inviting people over.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A casual relationship could turn into something more serious during the next few months for the single folks among you.

Much is on your mind now and you're not exactly in the mood for much weekend socializing.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your attention will be turning to home improvements and repairs in the coming months. Your powers of communication suffer now and it's not the best time for getting others interested in your ideas.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A desire for self-improvement could send you back to school in the coming months. You are champing at the bit to master a new skill. A travel plan could be put on hold this weekend.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You'll soon begin a systematic savings plan and could institute some budgeting as part of your financial planning. Allow yourself some flexibility in this. A rigid, unrealistic plan could cause problems rather than solve them.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The world will be seeing a more serious and practical you in the coming months. You'll be taking steps to insure the realization of your dreams and goals. Loved ones approve.

Happy Birthday

- Feb. 16 Dorothy Wood
- Feb. 16 Roxie Brown
- Feb. 16 Shirley Holloway
- Feb. 16 Debra Hale
- Feb. 17 Renae Marie Pena
- Feb. 17 Carol Dimery
- Feb. 17 Elton Goodloe
- Feb. 18 Annie Barrow
- Feb. 19 Reggie Pena
- Feb. 19 Sophia Gomez (93)
- Feb. 20 Henry Yeackle
- Feb. 21 Ricky Sandoval
- Feb. 21 Lester A. Meredith
- Feb. 22 Francisco Arellano

Softball Field Nears Completion

(Continued from page 1)

The project, begun in October, is the culmination of a cooperative effort on the part of the City, the School, and the Little League. It has been a very positive and exciting project with many people working together to meet the proposed February 21st deadline. There have been people from all over the Community who came by to offer help.

A special "thank you" goes out to City Manager David Luna, Mayor Carmen Berlanga, and the City Council for their use of the lots and their total commitment to the project. To Superintendent Steve Mills and the Brackett Independent School District Board of Trustees for their financial support and their vision of a first class facility for our children - not only the girls softball team but for all children in the community throughout the year, thank you. To Athletic Director Carroll Petrosky for his commitment to our athletes and for his work done on the field, thank you.

A special thank you to Booster Club President Allen McCord who did all the Field plans, blue prints and engineering, and grant.

Thanks to Richard Terrazas for his volunteer hours on the maintainer leveling the field, and to Jimmy Bader and the Lazy J Livestock crew for the actual construction of the field.

Special thanks to Tom Gomez, Jr. for building the gates and a hundred other things.

To the Bud and Stan Conoly families for donating the beautiful black dirt for the field. Also thanks to Doug Davis for the use of a dump truck, and Juquin Davis, W.T. Hunt, and Black Dog as drivers. To Bizzell Construction for the use of a dump truck to haul dirt. To David Seargeant who donated his well truck to help dig holes for the backstop. To Pete Bland who spent his time operating the loader at Mr. Conolys.

To Shirley Holloway and HUD for their donations and involvement.

A special thanks to Frank Garza and Ray Falcon for their help on the dugouts and the fencing, and all throughout the project. Frank and his crew was very involved in every step of the construction... Bebo Morin, Manuel Garza, B.B. Reschman were some who helped.

Thanks to Freddie Frerich for taking charge of having the holes dug for the field. To Mr. and Mrs. Joe York, Jr. for the use of their air compressor and jack-hammer to dig the holes.

To Frank Gomez who came by and volunteered his help on the construction of the fencing. To Ray Smallwood, Manny Pena, Joey Pena and Manny Pena, Jr. who helped build fence. To Henry Lozano for donating pipe, and for his time when needed.

To Chuck Hall and his Ag classes for building and painting the benches for the dugouts.

Our community should be very proud of this project. It truly was a "Community Effort."

There is a brief opening ceremony planned for the first home game (depending on the Tigerettes' Basketball playoffs - Go Tigerettes!).

Everyone is invited to come out and watch the Tigerettes and to take a look at OUR new park. **PLAY BALL!**

Trivia Test

by Linda Luckhurst

1. **Quotes:** Who said, "I hope you doctors are all Republicans"?
2. **Nancy Drew:** What color is Nancy Drew's hair?
3. **Science:** What do you call the physical disintegration of a nuclear reactor's core?
4. **Art:** What city houses almost half of Michelangelo's statues?
5. **Folk Songs:** What did "My Darling Clementine" wear as sandals?
6. **Calling Cries:** What war's patriotic call to arms was, "Remember the Maine"?
7. **The Next Millennium:** On what day of the week will January 1, 2001 fall?
8. **Geography:** In what city do you find a gold-domed state house, originally covered in copper by Paul Revere?

1. President Ronald Reagan after the assassination attempt
2. blonde
3. melon
4. Florence
5. "Her-tying boxes without tops"
6. the
7. Monday
8. Boston

Trivia Test Answers

MagicMaze

A WALK IN THE PARK

Puzzle Answers On Page 3

R S U R P M J G D A X V S Q N
K I R F D A X F V T S S Q O M
J H S E K A L L F F G D C S A
Y S W W L U R O P N N R K R L
J H R F I L U W D B I I Z E X
S V T E R N O E S A D B Q G O
L L M K T I G R H S D H F G D
I B L A Z L Y S T R E C N O C
D W I I V T E R A S W Q O J N
E N L K R R I H P H F D C A Z
S X W V F G U S S E U T A T S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Birds
- Concerts
- Flowers
- Fountains
- Fresh air
- Grills
- Joggers
- Lakes
- Paths
- Shelters
- Slides
- Statues
- Strollers
- Swings
- Weddings

Vision Teaser



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Pot is added. 2. Glass is removed. 3. Glass is taller. 4. Cupboard door is open. 5. Sweater is shorter. 6. Hat is added.

BRACKETT ISD
February 1995

- 16 4/5 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS
- 17 5:00pm HSBB JVB/VB DILLEY T
- 5/5 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS
- 18 3:00pm GIRLS BASK'L BI-DISTRICT - KARNES CITY
- 20 BEGIN FIFTH SIX WEEKS 33 DAYS HS BOYS GOLF - BOERNE President's Day
- 21 4:30pm SOFTBALL - NATALIA - H
- 22 Washington's Birthday
- 23 BRACKETT SCIENCE FAIR
- 24 PAYDATE SOFTBALL - NATALIA TOURNEY HS TENNIS - SWTJC TOURNEY
- 25 SOFTBALL - NATALIA TOURNEY BASEBALL - EAGLE PASS - T HS TENNIS - SWTJC TOURNEY BAND WINTER GUARD - S.A. JOHN JAY HS

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LUNCH
Milk Served At All Meals
Salad Bar Available Everyday
"B" Line Everyday

MONDAY
Rotini w/Meat Sauce & Cheese
Seasoned Green Beans
Vegetable Salad - Garlic Bread

TUESDAY
Chicken Nuggets/Cream Gravy
Whipped Potatoes - Choice of Veg. Roll

WEDNESDAY
Hamburger w/Cheese
Burger Salad - French Fries
Fruit Mix

THURSDAY
Burritos
Spanish Rice - Pinto Beans
Fruit

FRIDAY
Turkey ala King w/Green Peas
Veg. Salad/Dressing
Fruit Roll

Super Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Salami type
- 6 Marchetti football
- 10 Blunders
- 15 Smidgen
- 18 Like Corn Belt soil
- 20 "Woe is me!"
- 21 Shining
- 22 Cola cooler
- 23 Start of a remark by W.E. Morgan
- 26 Appreciated, '50s-style
- 27 Turf
- 28 Mahler's "Das Lied von der..."
- 29 Helper
- 30 He went through hell
- 32 Ipanema's locale
- 33 Park up
- 35 Jazz combo, often
- 37 Bermuda rental
- 41 Rooney or Griffith
- 42 Hard to please
- 43 Soprano
- 44 Nabokov heroine
- 45 Cymbals' sound
- 46 Actress Stark
- 49 Part 2 of remark
- 55 Dear fellow?
- 56 Gladstone's opponent
- 57 Sharon of Israel
- 58 Diego Rivera work
- 59 Tends a tot
- 60 -- garde
- 61 Twenty Pie, e.g.
- 62 Western desert
- 65 Propeller part
- 66 Queen Anne chair?
- 67 Turn water into seltzer
- 68 "Indecent Proposal"
- 69 Dirty
- 70 Liszt or Schubert
- 71 Deck of destiny
- 72 Wave makers?
- 76 Comic
- 77 Part 3 of remark
- 80 Dell loaf
- 81 Uses one's head?
- 82 Fix a light
- 83 -- above (somewhat superior)
- 84 Schwarz-enegger, to pals
- 85 Twirl
- 87 Like an olla
- 90 Cervantes character
- 93 Scandinavian work
- 94 Letter from Athens?
- 95 Eve of "The Mothers-in-Law"
- 96 Tarzan's transport
- 97 Carpe --
- 98 Shorten a stat
- 101 -- kwon do
- 102 End of remark
- 108 RSVP request
- 109 Heavenly hunter
- 110 Ski lift
- 111 "Raging Bull" star
- 112 "Baloney!"
- 113 With dignity
- 114 Porky's proclamation
- 115 Outmoded
- 1 Pins
- 2 Slangy suffix
- 3 Biblical ointment
- 4 UK honor man
- 5 Tijuana Brass
- 6 Rubberneck
- 7 Under the weather
- 8 Dundee denial
- 9 Disney rabbit
- 10 Loud
- 11 Make eyes at
- 12 Of long standing
- 13 Watch pocket
- 14 Hailing from Halmstad
- 15 -- We Almost Have It All!
- 16 Intense
- 17 Sire
- 19 Kind of creepy
- 24 What the nose knows
- 25 Greasy
- 31 Non-choosy choice
- 33 Spokes
- 34 Gross subj.?
- 35 Get cold feet
- 36 Forerunner of CIS
- 37 Cul-de --
- 38 Blockhead
- 39 Word form for "all"
- 40 Scout munchies?
- 42 Sweeney Todd's street
- 44 Hole punchers
- 45 Crepe de --
- 46 Islamic holy
- 47 Midwestern airport
- 48 "For Your Eyes --"
- 50 Mock actor
- 51 Born yesterday
- 52 French bean?
- 53 Cheeseboard choice
- 54 Swap
- 55 Mrs. Jupiter
- 58 Swordfish kin
- 60 Above the crowd
- 61 Oxymoron vegetable?
- 62 Cheerful
- 63 Spout like Cicero
- 64 Maureen O'Sullivan role
- 65 Godunov or Badenov
- 66 Robin Williams film
- 67 Out of range
- 68 Photo finish
- 69 Forest fenne
- 71 Comedienne Fields
- 72 Pen pals?
- 73 Mini-understanding
- 74 Rpm indicator
- 75 Turri about
- 77 Theater great
- 78 Hall of Famer Speaker
- 79 Part of MST
- 81 "Death Wish" actor
- 84 Firefighter's tool
- 85 Ballad or barcarole
- 86 Rapidly, to Rachman-inoff
- 87 Colorful Viking?
- 88 In the lead
- 89 Cavorted
- 90 Saudi Arabia neighbor
- 91 Word form meaning "heavens"
- 92 What I.e. stands for
- 93 Brother of 38 Down?
- 96 Old fiddle
- 97 Gloomy
- 98 Skirt feature
- 99 Square measure
- 100 Spoon or baffle
- 103 In favor of
- 104 Celery stalk
- 105 Sapporo sash
- 106 Sought office
- 107 Ms. Merkel

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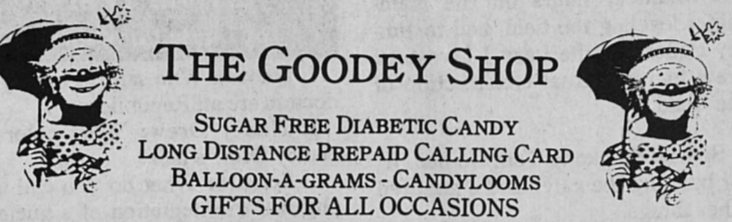
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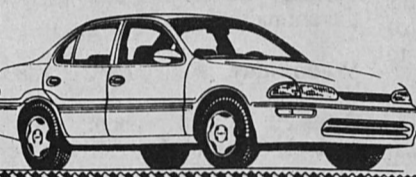


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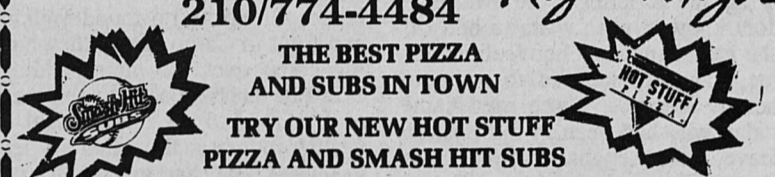
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Francis Henry French was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on September 27, 1857. Deeply impressed from his youth by the stirring deeds and stories told by veterans of the Civil War, he realized his ambition for a military career by entering the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York where he graduated twelfth from the Class of 1879. He was assigned as 2nd Lieut of "E" Company 19th Infantry and came West. Following service at Fort Garland, Colorado Territory and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the regiment moved to Fort Brown at Brownsville, Texas where Lt French was detailed as the Regimental Adjutant. In December of 1882 the 19th Infantry was posted to Fort Clark.

At Fort Clark, on January 1, 1883, Lt French began diaries which he faithfully maintained for the next thirty years.

Lt French has been in camp, as commander of the Seminole Scouts, at Mayer's Spring (now Meyer's Spring) near present day Dryden. He is struggling through his infatuation with Marie and slowly developing a bond with the Scouts. He is also witnessing the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad. He returns by rail briefly to Fort Clark.

Thursday February 15, 1883

Sent some official mail to the Post today by Corp'l. Perryman, and sent him with a pack mule to bring out a box of cartridges. Did not practice today. The mail carriers are due tomorrow; hope they will bring me a letter from Marie. I don't know how to write to her. If she has changed in her feelings for me, I would not like to write to her as before. Three men came today who had been in the Post on leave, but brought no news with them. Decided to start on Saturday morning on a scout towards the Rio Grande. Want to wait for the mail tomorrow.

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FOOTSTEPS ECHO

The Fort Clark Diaries and Letters of Maj Gen Francis Henry French Old Fort Clark Guardhouse Museum

Courtesy of Bill Haenn Curator, Guardhouse Museum

Friday, February 16, 1883

The couriers arrived today, but to my great disappointment only one personal letter came for me and this was from Crowder. He writes a pleasant letter of the affairs at Brown. Wish we could exchange Chaplain Blaine for Chaplain McWatty. Sgt. July went to the Post in this evening's train. Sent a letter by him to Marie, one to Vedder and one to Luff. Sent my saddle to be exchanged as it is too small for Harvey, and raised a lump on his back. Doctor and I

rode over to Thurston with the Sgt. and were very much pleased to learn that a telegraph operator had arrived in the evening train to be stationed there. His operating car will be placed in position tomorrow. A pen and a shoot for loading cattle are to be built there soon; the lumber is already there. Wrote a letter to Department Headquarters informing them of this and also a letter home in the evening. They have having great floods in the North, and this may account for no letters coming from

home. On returning found Wilkins and Flint in Camp again, they having come over for their bedding. Was not much pleased to see them as I wanted to do a good deal of writing tonight and wanted my tent to myself; but had to give it up to them. The wind is freshening; hope it wont grow any colder during the night.

Saturday, February 17 1883

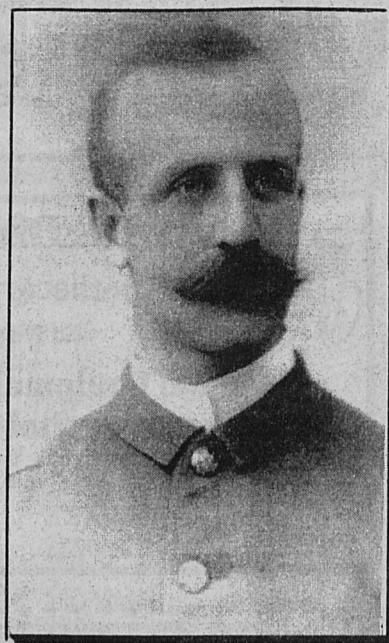
Wind was blowing pretty cold, this morning, so that I felt uncertain about starting. Flint and Wilkins started this morning, but I could not help them any as I was busy packing my own stuff. Borrowed Blairco's horse, as Harvey's back is still sore. Made a camp about 15 miles from Mayers Spring's. The men captured three horses and a stallion mule running wild. The ride was a pretty cold one, but plenty of wood and shelter was found at the camping place. Got one shot at some running deer today, but missed.

Sunday, February 18, 1883

Most of the trip today was through a canon until in the vicinity of the river. Camped in a very nice place, well sheltered, plenty of wood and grass and near the water. The Rio Grande is much smaller and has much finer scenery where we were then in the vicinity of Brown. The water is clear and pleasant to the taste. After reaching camp took my carbine and went out with one of the scouts but saw no game. Walked for about two hours and felt glad to get back to camp. This was certainly, a Christianly way to spend the day. It is about ten years since I joined the church and how well have I kept those solemn vows I made then. I never read the Bible now, my prayers when I do pray, are mere words without any meaning and, if I had courage enough, I would not pray at all for alas, my prayers are said, as though some harm would come to me if I did not say a certain lot of words every night before retiring. I have often thought if it would not be best for me to resign and try to either help my Father or to build up some business in civil life. Surely there would be more pleasure in earning my living, than in this state of dependence and idleness. The men killed two deer and one wild turkey today.

Monday, February 19, 1883

Remained in camp today but spent most of the day reading as I feel I am not intended for a Nimrod. The men killed two more deer and another turkey. Allowed one of the men to cross the river to hunt and felt uneasy until he returned. Expect to start back tomorrow over a different trail from the one we came on. Read a book of anecdotes of members of the Irish Bar.



2nd Lieut Francis Henry French (USMA, 79)

Tuesday, February 20, 1883

Started this morning to return by way of Lozier, and felt well pleased when we left the trail for the wagon road. The railroad and a train excited a great deal of interest among my men. It must be strange for the older men who were all through this country before a railroad was ever even thought of, to see regular daily trains passing. Camped at Hog Wallow, an ugly name for a pretty tinaja (?), one mile this side of Lozier. Could have made Mayers Springs, but did not care to work the animals so much.

Wednesday, February 21, 1883

Reached camp about eleven o'clock this morning and was very pleased to get back. Found everything going along smoothly. Plenty of forage was on hand. Sgt. July returned yesterday bringing a nice black saddle for me and a very kind letter from Vedder. Two men came back from leave but brought no mail. Doctor and I went over to Thurston to send Sgt. Daniels to the Post Hospital on account of his frozen feet. Was very tired and sleepy in the evening and glad to go to bed once more. Poor Dr. Harmer is becoming "blue", I am afraid. It is an outrage to keep him out here so long. Sent some venison to Col. Lyster and to Capt. Hall. Wish I could have sent some to Capt. Nance, but there was none to spare. Wrote a letter home, & to Vedder.

(To be continued next week)

S.A. Symphony To Play In Eagle Pass

The Arts Council of Eagle Pass will present the San Antonio Symphony in their return engagement to Eagle Pass on February 24 at the Eagle Pass Junior Auditorium on the Del Rio Highway at 7:30 p.m.



David Mairs, Resident Conductor, now in his seventh year with the San Antonio Symphony has become increasingly in demand as guest conductor for major orchestras across the country.



Marilyn Rife is Principal Percussionist/Assistant Timpanist with the San Antonio Orchestra. She periodically serves as an extra percussionist with the Chicago Symphony.



Cynthia Barbier, mezzo-soprano, is currently Director of the Chamber Singers and a member of the voice faculty at San Antonio College. Ms. Barbier also serves as clinical and adjudicator for San Antonio schools and churches.

Tickets are now on sale at a presale price of \$12.00 per adult and \$5.00 per student at the Eagle Pass Public Library or the Eagle Pass Chamber of Commerce or by calling 210-773-8570. Tickets at the door will be \$15.00 per adult and \$7.00 per student.

(Paid in part by the Texas Commission On The Arts and the City of Eagle Pass Room Tax Committee).

Thanks From J.B. and Tootsie Herndon

We would like to thank each and everyone who made J.B.'s party a huge success. Thanks for the gifts, money, cards, and food. The cooks in this area are great. The food was delicious.

..To Debbie Smith who donated the Western Attire for the band, and to all of the people for helping decorate and clean up. There are so many we can't name everyone.

..Thanks go to our own family, Guy Billings, Lis Billings, Mary Hal Spurger, Tina Smith, Kelson Smith, Jenifer and Danny Billings, Amanda Smith, Joyce Herndon, Anita Herndon, J.R. Smith, Judy and Dan Edwards, Helen Smith, Paulita Solis, Sarah Terrazas, Esther Cruz, Mary Cruz, Teddy Luna, Antonia Pena. Thanks, Joey, for the delicious margaritas.

Special thanks to the City of Spofford and citizens who added this honor to our birthday party making February 15, 1995, J.B. Herndon Day. Thanks, Margaret Martin for reading the Proclamation and to Joe Cruz for presenting the beautiful plaque, and to Lucille Fuentes and Cordelia Mendeke for the giant banner and table cover. Your kindnesses overwhelmed us. This is a day never to be forgotten.

..To the band - Bob Champion, W.W. Martin, Margaret Martin, Tim Santos, Blake Lewis, Clyde Hepline, Mike McGonogill, John Hellom, Andy Perez for the outstanding dance music.

Last, but not least, Tim Ward who served as Master of Ceremonies and Tom Faulkenberry for praying the invocation, guest speaker Jim Saunders - attorney for CARE; Ana Hernandez - MRGDC; Bret Trant - CARE; Manuel Pena - City of Spofford; Carmen Berlanga - Mayor of Brackettville; Tommy Seargeant - Kinney County Judge.

To all our dear friends who are too many to name. Thanks for everything you did to make J.B.'s 83rd birthday a part of all of your lives, we love you dearly.

KINNEY COUNTY

KICKERS

17TH ANNIVERSARY SQUARE DANCE

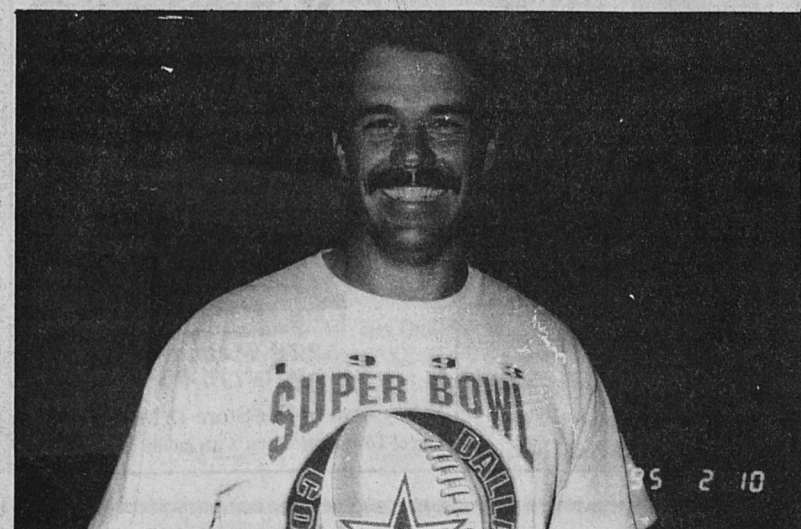
FORT CLARK SPRINGS

SERVICE (NCO) CLUB

FEBRUARY 18, 1995, 8 TO 10:30 P.M.

CHET MILES, AUSTIN, CALLER

\$5.00 PER PERSON AT THE DOOR



"Streets Of Laredo"

Lashawn Wardlaw, kneeling, was at the Kinney County Civic Center, Friday, February 10, signing up "wannabe-stars" for "The Streets Of Laredo," a sequel of "Lonesome Dove."

Assisting her were Tulisha Wardlaw, seated; standing from left, James Ham of Uvalde, Patrick Saunders of Alamo Village, Iola Jones, Fort Clark Springs who applied to be an "extra," and Clark Nash who will assume the role of the Tomahawk Man in the movie.

Also in Kinney County during casting was Rick McIvor, rancher from Fort Davis, and former football stand out at Fort Stockton High School, The University of Texas, and St. Louis Cardinals.

Shooting will start at Alamo Village February 23.

Alamo Village Movie Location Will Be Open To The Public While "Streets Of Laredo" Is Being Filmed. The Gate Opens Each Morning At 9:00 a.m. Regular Admission Charge Applies.

This Is Your Opportunity To Nominate Kinney County's Outstanding Citizen

Make your nomination for Kinney County's Outstanding Citizen. Use this form (or plain white paper) complete, and mail to Kinney County Chamber of Commerce, Box 386 Brackettville TX 78832

NOMINATION FOR OUTSTANDING CITIZEN

Nominee's Name _____

Nominee's Address _____

Nominee's Phone _____

Reason for nomination: _____

(Attach additional sheet if needed)

Nomination submitted by: _____

Deadline for entries March 17, 1995
The Outstanding Citizen will be announced at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Barbecue Saturday, April 1, 1995

563-2852

Only \$3.00 for 10 words or less and only 20¢ per word thereafter.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE 563-2852

All Classified Ads placed in The Brackett News must be paid in advance.

REAL ESTATE

O'Rourke Realty
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
Licensed Brokers
210-563-2713
FCS Memberships And Rentals Available

For Sale
Developed RV lot. Apartment attached with exciting roof over slab. Membership included. Very reasonable.

For Sale
"Round House" in Spofford. Circular house of cement and red brick, cement roof, gas and electric, 3 lots, all fenced with pens. Large brick storage shed, RV hookups. \$20,000.

For Sale
Picture perfect 2 bedroom, 2 bath Town House w/cozy patio and fountain. Corner location, newly decorated, plush carpeting, completely furnished including freezer, washer/dryer. Membership. Carport optional.

FENCE BUILDING CUSTOM WELDING

Lucas Chapman, 210-988-2120
Scott Saunders, 210-591-3896

CATTLE SALE

1000 head of Pairs, bred cows, and heifers. Saturday, February 25, 12:00 p.m. at Southwest Livestock Exchange, Uvalde, Texas.

For information call
Joe Hargrove 210-278-5621
Glen Urban 210-569-6070

WANTED TO RENT

A garage or storage for small car until Fall '95", 563-2893, ask for Ray.

MUST SELL

Must sell 3/2 Mobile. Call for directions and details, (210) 673-7711.

SAVE THOUSANDS

Repos, double wide, and single wide. Mobile homes, like new. Save thousands. Low down.
(210) 673-7711

PUPS FOR SALE

Border Collie Pups. Excellent working dogs. Great pets. 6 males, 7 weeks old. 563-9070 evenings.

GOOD SHOPPING

Sutler's Store
Fort Clark Springs
Books, Post Cards, Honey Jewelry, Bolo Ties, Belt Buckles T-Shirts, Caps, Dolls, Knives
Open Sat.-Sun., 1-4 p.m.

Driving Tests License Renewal

An officer from the Texas Department of Public Safety will be at the County Courtroom, Kinney County Court House, each 1st and 3rd Thursday and each 5th Thursday during the normal working hours of county offices.

The officer will be available to give driving tests or to renew drivers licenses.

Hearing Screening Free

Each Wednesday
9 am - noon; 1 - 4 pm
Front Lobby
Val Verde Memorial Hospital
801 Bedell, Del Rio
No Appointment Necessary.

R. L. Banks Co.

Roofing & Remodeling
"An approved Greentree Dealer"

Add a room or install new vinyl siding for as low as \$75/month. Ask me how. Free construction estimates.

Call Randy in Eagle Pass
1-800-850-3829

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Call 210-563-2028 or 563-2572
Town House on Las Moras Creek, 2 story, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Master bedroom down stairs. Screened Porch. Upstairs - 2 bedrooms, bath. Walk-in closet. Glassed in porch.

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Townhouse, 2 bedroom 2 bath. Mexican Tile covered patio area. Kitchen appliances, washer-dryer included. Call 563-2028 or 563-2572.

DEBBIE TRANT Janita Hinds Real Estate

210-563-2997; 210-563-2007 Hwy 90 (Next to Stop N Shop)
Brackettville - 2 mobile homes situated on 3 lots with carports, fenced yard & sheds. Both mobiles rented out. Make Offer!
FORT CLARK
Immaculate 2 bed, 2 bath home offering custom features, spacious kitchen, 14'x24' garage/workshop, carport, satellite. Maintenance free yard.
I have 3 mobile homes listed for sale that are in estates and all reasonable offers will be considered. Good rental properties.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is looking for qualified applicants interested in the position of JTPA Instructor. The preferred requirements for this position are as follows:

- *Bachelors degree from an accredited college or university;
- *Valid TEA teaching certificate;
- *Experience in adult educational programs or other professional experience in lieu of teaching certificate;
- *Must be computer literate;
- *Two (2) years teaching experience in a classroom setting with the ability to clearly communicate ideas and concepts.

This position will require some in and out-of-region traveling and will office at the Carrizo Springs JTPA Office and Education Center. Instructor may be required to attend workshops and training sessions that will require overnight lodging and car-pooling; must have valid Texas drivers license and proof of insurance for vehicle used in traveling.

All qualified persons interested in applying for this position should mail resume and file an application with the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs TX 78834, attention Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Director of Administration.

Application deadline for this position is 5:00 p.m. Friday, February 24, 1995.
Entry level salary for this position is \$18,141 negotiable based on experience and credentials.

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For information please contact our VOICE or TDD telephone 210-876-3533.
#4354

REWARD FOR DOG

Chihuahua dog, black with brown markings, has been missing since Saturday. He answers to "Chico" and when last seen was wearing brown harness.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Chico please call 563-9300 days or 563-2165 after 6.

Nau THC Chairman

At its recent quarterly meeting, members of the Texas Historical Commission selected Houston businessman John L. Nau III to lead the Commission as chairman. Nau, a member of the Commission since 1993, replaces outgoing chairman Karl A. Komatsu of Fort Worth.

"Mr. Nau's political and business expertise will ensure that historic preservation in Texas is in good hands," said Curtis Tunnell, executive director of the THC.

In addition to leading the agency through the 1996-97 legislative process, Nau also will represent the THC as it completes the Sunset review process, which will reauthorize the agency through 2007. He also will participate in preservation events around the state, including Preservation Day and the Annual Historic Preservation Conference.

"As Texans, we are blessed with a rich history," said Nau, who is president and C.E.O. of Silver Eagle Distributors, Inc. "It is my responsibility - and the responsibility of all Texans - to make sure that future generations understand and appreciate the countless struggles and sacrifices that have made this state great."

Joining Nau in the agency's leadership are Dr. Archie McDonald of Nacogdoches, who will serve as vice-chairman, and Virginia Long of Kilgore, who will serve as secretary.

These officers and 15 other Commission members are charged with overseeing a broad range of preservation activities, including the historical marker, National Register, and Texas Main Street programs.

The THC is the state agency for historic preservation. It administers a variety of programs to protect the state's architectural, archeological, and cultural heritage.



"That'll be \$375... plus a nickel deposit on the bottle."

TEXAS HOUSING

2603 E. Main St. next to LaQuinta, Eagle Pass TX

LIST HOMES FOR SALE

- 1995 CAVALIER, 2 bd. Honeymoon pkg. \$22,900...\$248.18 per month
- 1995 Masterpiece by Palm Harbor \$34,900...only \$409.24 per month
- 1995 16' wide, 2 spacious bedrooms come by and check this one out!!
- 1995 16' wide 3 bedroom, 2 bath "You'll fall in love with this one!"
- 1994 Doublewide, 4 bedroom, very spacious...priced to sell at \$42,800
- 1983 Used Home, 2 bed, 1 bath, affordable at \$12,995...only \$266 month
- 1978 Refurbished used home only \$253.63 per month (owner financed)
- ...1994 REPO LIKE NEW 16'...

TRADE INS WILL BE ACCEPTED SATURDAY & SUNDAY
All applicants on Saturday will be approved in 1 hour!

*Saturday only
Credit approved in 1 hour



210-757-6611

RENT TO OWN

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO.
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville TX 78832
210-563-2446 210-563-2447
Reduced price on Palm Harbor home, Unit 35, FCS, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, fireplace, den, mini-blinds, ceiling fans, kitchen appliances, A-1 condition. Now only \$55,000.

Ideal winter home. Park Model Merrimac RV with lovely additions. Sunporch, large kitchen, extra bdrm & bath, util. room, workshop. Will look at reasonable offer.

93 ac. with hunting cabin, stands, good well. Very scenic, 20 mi. north of Brackett. Ideal family hunting camp.
3 bdrm, 2 bath custom home, 4th St., Brackett (3 yrs. old). Double pane windows, extra insulation, fenced yard. Workshop/1/2 bath. \$54,900.

VA ANNOUNCES PAYMENT OF 1995 INSURANCE DIVIDENDS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced it will pay more than \$928 million in dividends in 1995 to veterans holding active veterans' life insurance policies.

The dividends are made possible because veterans are living longer than originally predicted, and the insurance trust funds are earning high yields from investment in long-term U.S. government securities.

"VA life insurance programs continue to prove themselves as outstanding investments for many of our veterans, and a large dividend distribution such as this provides a welcome boost to our economy," said VA Secretary Jesse Brown.

The \$928.2 million payout will be credited automatically to some 2.4 million policyholders on the anniversary date of their policies. Policyholders may choose to receive a dividend check or select one of nine alternate payment options. VA is cautioning veterans that only those policies that have been kept in force receive annual dividend distributions.

The amount of the dividend will vary according to age, type of insurance and duration of the policy. No application from individual policyholders is necessary.

Government life insurance policies were issued to veterans of World War I and II and the Korean Conflict serving between 1917 and 1956.

The largest group receiving 1995 payments will be two million World War II veterans with National Service Life Insurance ("V") policies. They will receive an average payment of \$397, with total payments expected to reach \$788.9 million.

Dividends totaling \$6 million for an average payment of \$230 will be paid to 26,143 World War I veterans holding U.S. Government Life Insurance ("K") policies.

The 250,370 veterans with active Veterans Special Life Insurance ("RS" and "W") policies will receive dividends averaging \$409 for a total of \$102.3 million.

A group of 91,137 veterans with active Veterans Reopened Insurance policies will share a \$31 million dividend. Average payments to "J" policyholders will be \$305; to "JR" policyholders, \$581; and to "JS" policyholders, \$529.

While VA also administers a special life insurance program for disabled veterans and a program of deferring mortgage life insurance coverage, neither pays dividends. For active-duty service members and reservists, VA supervises a contract with a private carrier to underwrite Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI). No dividends are paid on SGLI.

In Texas, 122,132 veterans are scheduled to receive dividends.

Veterans who have questions about their policy may call the VA Insurance toll-free number: 800-669-8477.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

A Veterans Service Officer is in Brackettville on the first Thursday of each month at the County Judge's office.

Q. I have received monthly compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for a 30% disability for the past 15 years. Will I receive a cost-of-living increase in my compensation for 1995?

A. Yes. Congress approved a cost-of-living increase in compensation rates for veterans and dependency and indemnity compensation rates for surviving spouses and eligible dependents. Rates were increased by 2.8%, which is the same percentage as the cost-of-living adjustment for Social Security benefits. The increase was effective December 1 and was included in January 1 compensation checks.

Q. What is the difference between VA disability compensation and pension?

A. Compensation is paid to a veteran with a disability that is related to military service. While the disability need not be a result of performance of duty, it must have occurred or have been aggravated during military service. Pension eligibility is determined by a veteran's family income and the number of his or her dependents. To qualify for a pension, a veteran must have served during a period of war (although combat service is not required) and must be permanently and totally disabled, as determined by VA.

Q. I am a retired Army captain and have applied for disability compensation from VA. Will my grade entitle me to an increase in compensation?

A. No. Military pay grade is not a factor in determining the degree of disability attributed to military service.

Q. Who is eligible for burial benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and what are those benefits?

Q. What benefits are available to veterans and their eligible dependents who may not choose to be buried in a national cemetery?

A. VA will furnish a headstone or grave marker for a veteran's unmarked grave anywhere in the world and a memorial marker to recognize a veteran whose remains were not recovered or for other reasons were not buried. The grave of an eligible dependent may receive a government marker in a national or state veterans' cemetery. Under certain circumstances, VA will pay a burial allowance for veterans buried in cemeteries not under U.S. government jurisdiction.

Tex SCAN

Statewide Classified Advertising Network
More than 300 Texas newspapers for \$250. Call this newspaper for details.

BUCHANAN'S ANTIQUE FLEA Market - Feb. 28-29, Dallas Fair Park Tower Building, Sat & Sun, 9AM-5PM. *Buy *Sell *Show *Trade. Antiques, collectibles, jewelry, furniture, glassware, toys, advertising, 405-330-1330.

TRAIN TO BE a certified aircraft mechanic. Day and evening classes available. Rice Aviation, call now! 1-800-776-7423 - North Houston Campus, 1-800-823-3540 - South Houston Campus.

BECOME A MEDICAL Transcriptionist. Opportunity to work in an office typing for doctors. Home study. Free literature. P.C.D.L., Atlanta, Georgia. 1-800-362-7070, Dept. YB722.

BECOME A PARALEGAL - accredited, attorney instructed diploma and degree home-study. Up to 50% credit awarded for academic and life/work experience. SCI-NIPAS free catalog 1-800-669-2555.

HOME-SCHOOL! 6-12TH! Private school at home! No class attendance! Receive student kits U.P.S.I. Diplomas! Report cards! Payment plans! Meets state requirements. SYkes Academy. 1-800-767-7171.

NOTICE TO PACEMAKER patients: Information is being sought relating to a potential class action lawsuit which may be filed on behalf of persons who received pacemaker leads manufactured by Intermedics, Teletronics, and Medtronic because of problems with the leads. If you have received one of these pacemaker leads and are interested in consulting and/or participating in this class action, contact: Whittington*, Pfeiffer* & Vacek**, 2600 S. Gessner, Suite 600, Houston, TX 77063, 713-789-8850, call collect. No fee for preliminary consultations. *Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. **Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer - Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

BREAST IMPLANTS, FREE registration forms and free consultation. Call 1-800-833-9121, women and post-implant children. Carl Waldman, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer, Texas since 1978.

NORPLANT BIRTH CONTROL implants. Complications from those silicone implants? Call for free legal consultation, 1-800-833-9121. Carl Waldman, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer 1957.

GM TRUCK FIRES, Bronco II, Jeep, ATV, Minivan & pickup rollovers. Serious injuries & death. Free consultation 1-800-883-9858 David P. Willis, Houston, Texas **** Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer.

STEEL BUILDINGS, WINTER sale. Save \$1,000's, engineer certified. 30x40x10, \$4,671; 30x60x14, \$7,024; 40x60x14, \$8,423; 50x60x14, \$9,773; 60x80x16, \$14,126; 60x100x16, \$16,733; factory direct, free brochures, 1-800-327-0790.

SINGLETON SUPPLY METAL Buildings: 24x30x10, \$3,050; 30x40x10, \$4,200;

30x60x12, \$5,995; 40x75x12, \$8,150; 50x100x14, \$12,550. Call for other sizes. Mini-warehouse systems. Competitive pricing. Fast delivery. 1-800-299-6464.

50 ACRES ROCKSPRINGS area, good hill country, cover and hunting. \$400/acre, \$1,000 down payment, \$216/month (11%-15yrs) or Texas Vet. 1-800-876-9720.

SILVERLEAF RESORTS TIMESHARE Villages, Holly Lake, Ozark Mnt., Holiday Hills, Hill Country, Dogwood Shores. All seasons. Save thousands. Golf & Resale Mart 1-800-844-0776. Real Estate Brokers.

GETAWAY TO BRANSON - vacation package includes two adult accommodations, 2 showtickets, breakfast, discounts on attractions, dining. Special limited offer \$89. 1-800-875-6009. 4 days/3 nights. Some conditions apply.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS: Information superhighway of telecommunications is coming. Build your own tollbooth now with seven year public utility company. \$195 investment. Immediate cash. 1-800-871-7436.

CLEANING FRANCHISE, BUILD a family business. Let the ServiceMaster family help your family start your own residential or commercial cleaning franchise for as little as \$5,955 down. Fortune service 500 company offering unique training and marketing support. Financing available. Call for free brochure: 1-800-230-2360.

HAROLD IVES TRUCKING hiring drivers. Free driver training ... if you qualify. Students welcome. Experience pay up to 28¢ per mile. Excellent benefits: 1-800-842-0853.

DRIVERS3TOP opportunities! North American Van Lines has owner operator openings in relocation services, high value products and blanketwrap divisions. Tuition-free training for inexperienced drivers, outstanding tractor purchase plan available. Ask about our RSD performance compensation -- earn up to 6% over already top compensation! 1-800-348-2147, Dept. A-36.

DRIVERS: FLATBED 48 state OTR. Assigned new conventional competitive pay, benefits. \$1,000 sign on bonus, rider program, flexible time off. Call Roadrunner Trucking 1-800-876-7784.

DRIVER/OWNER OPERATORS/small fleet owners - respect is real at Burlington! Paid license/permits, fuel taxes, tolls, benefits ... and the pickup that shows it pays to drive with the best. Burlington Motor Carriers: 1-800-JOIN-BMC.EOE.

CALL TODAY - START tomorrow, ECK Miller expanding! Need flatbed drivers. All miles paid (new scale). Life/health, rider/bonus program. 1-800-395-3510. Owner/operators also welcomed!

ATTENTION DRIVER TEAMS, \$15,000 in bonus, paid monthly, quarterly & yearly, plus top mileage pay, 401(K) plan, \$500 sign-on bonus. Other paid benefits: *vacation

The primary office of a newspaper is the gathering of news... comment is free, but facts are sacred.
—Charles Prestwick Scott



First Baptist Church
Rev. Gil Ash, Pastor

"The Pastor's Pen"

A few weeks ago my wife and I watched a video movie that was really quite surprising. As many are aware, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to find something produced for television that is suitable for the entire family using strict Christian standards. This opened with scenes of a family, a typical family that was dealing with the loss of a loved-one. They had lost a child through an unfortunate, tragic accident. They had lost hope. Their lives had begun to be in constant turmoil as the husband and wife were fighting with each other and there also were conflicts with a teenage son.

As a friend of their teenage daughter shared some of the teachings of Jesus Christ the family started searching for answers about the purpose of life. That family found something very unexpected as they experienced a change by a simple prayer that set them on a journey in life that promised hope for the future, and a happiness they never thought was possible.

"Oh, but that is just a movie," you say. Yes, it was just a movie, however I have witnessed those same things time and time again. A life committed to Jesus Christ makes a difference. It makes a difference in the quality of life now. It also makes a difference in the quality of life for eternity. You see, every person's spirit is going to live forever. It is just the difference in the quality of life one will lead in the spirit world. Those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ and lived by his teachings will experience eternity in Heaven. Those who do not have only Hell to look forward to. That obviously is a very ambiguous statement, for how could anyone look forward to hell?

Understand this. God will send no one to Hell. Neither will He drag anyone into Heaven. Each person makes his own choice.

I am here, First Baptist Church is here, and many others are here to help you to make the right decision, the best decision, what I feel is the only decision. Call on me for help and we will call on God together. He is the one who makes it possible.

Hispanic Worship Services

Each Friday Night At 6:00 P.M.
Spanish Service By Rev. Israel Rodriguez
First Baptist Church, Ann & Veltman Streets
Everyone Welcome!

Sunday School and Worship
Each Sunday beginning at 9:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall, First Baptist Church



St. John's Baptist Church

Rev. W. P. Adams, Sr., Pastor

PRAISE THE LORD.
COME GROW WITH US IN THE LORD
Services each night at 6:00 p.m. Everyone invited.

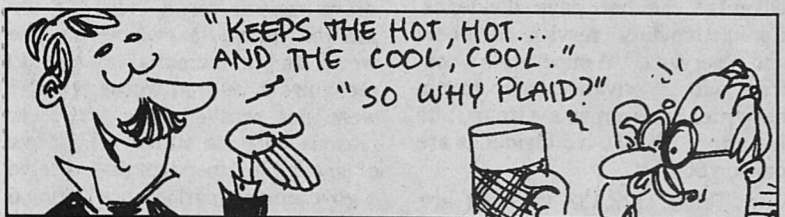
SUNDAY SERVICES
9:45 am Sunday School; 11:00 am Worship Service; 6:00 pm Bible Study

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you, richly, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing (warning) one another, in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

And whatever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. Colossians 3:15-17

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Quality Drinking Water Without The Bottle
1008 S. MAIN DOWNTOWN DEL RIO 1-800-607-3044



The thermos bottle was invented by Sir James Dewar, a British chemist, in 1892.

Church Directory

- St. Andrews Episcopal Church:** Henderson & Fort, Sunday Church Service 10:30 a.m. Vicar: Rev. Bill Koons, 563-2071.
- Frontier Baptist Church (A Southern Baptist Church):** Sunday Services 11:00 am, 6:00 pm, Joe Townsend, Pastor, 563-2158.
- First Baptist Church (A Southern Baptist Church):** 307 N. Ann St., Sunday School 9:45 am, Sunday Worship 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm, Gil Ash, Pastor, 563-2245.
- Baptist Hispanic Mission,** 307 N. Ann Street, Friday, 6:00 pm, Rev. Israel Rodriguez, Pastor.
- Church of Christ:** N. Ann St., Sunday School 9:30 am, Worship Service 10:30 am, Bible Study Sunday 6:30 pm, Wednesday 7:00 pm.
- St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church:** Masses Monday and Friday 7:00 am, Wednesday and Saturday 6:30 pm, Sunday (Spanish) 8:00 am, Regular 10:30 am, Confession Wednesday and Saturday 6:00 pm, Religion Classes Wednesday 6:00 pm Sunday 9:00 am. Prayer Meeting (Spanish) Wednesday 7:00 pm, Dr. David G. Zumaya, Pastor.
- First United Methodist Church:** "Celebrate and Witness" Fellowship 9:30 am, Church School Classes 9:45 am, Service of Worship 11:00 am, Choir Rehearsal Wednesday 5:00 pm, Gordon Miller, Pastor.
- St. John's Baptist Church:** Crockett at Keene St., Sunday School 10:00 am, Worship 11:00 am, Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm, Worship Service Thursday 7:00 pm, William P. Adams, Sr., Pastor, 563-9175.
- Lutheran Congregation:** 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 6 p.m., Shafter Hall, FCS, 563-2047.
- Templo Elim Asamblea de Dios:** North Street, Sunday 10:00 am and 6:00 pm, Wednesday and Friday, 7:00 pm, Rev. Abundio Mancha, Pastor, 563-9237.
- Jerusalem Temple,** 514 East Louis St., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.
- Gateway Ministries (Non-Denominational)** 301 E. Spring St. (across from post office), Praise & Worship Fellowship Sunday 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Robert W. Corey, Pastor, Charolette Corey, Associate Pastor, 563-9331



Frontier Baptist Church
Rev. Joe Townsend, Pastor

Christianity is by far superior to any religion the world has ever known. Every religion that lives and impacts the world has a book.

Those religions without a book have arisen, surged and died. A casual reading of the books of the religions of the world immediately shows the superiority of the book and its teachings.

The Bible is certainly the greatest because the one and only God, Jehovah, chose and inspired men to put in writing His word.

It is a book with a resurrection at its core. It is not a state of "Nirvana" or total insensitivity as the Buddists look forward to nor a reincarnation in some other form. It is not a sensual orgasmic time for men as the Koran teaches Muslims. It is not a time for each man to be the god of his own planet as the Book of Mormon teaches.

It is a life free from care and sorrow because it is life in the very presence of God and eternal fellowship with all who have trusted in Jesus for all eternity.

This book, the Bible, gives guidance, direction, strength, wisdom, elation, and vitality because it is backed by God himself.

It is a book that includes all who choose to accept it. It is not limited to race, cline, or nationality.

It is a book which defines sin and its punishment. It is a book which points to redemption and forgiveness of sin. It is a book that tells me about Jesus Christ, my Savior, and Great High Priest.

It's a book that tells about heaven and how to attain it. It is a book that tells about hell and how to avoid. It's a book that tells me how best to enjoy life.

It's a book that has stood solid for centuries. It's the book that has out-sold every book for every year for decades.

Small wonder that Christianity is the greatest religion in the world, it is based on the greatest book in the world.

There will be another message from God's Word at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday morning at 11:00. Come and see.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church



Shrove Tuesday

The traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be held again this year at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Brackettville, according to The Rev. Bill Koons, priest-in-charge. Serving of pancakes and sausage in quantities commensurate with diners appetites will be from 5 p.m. till 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 28, in the parish hall of the church at Fort and Henderson Streets. Fare will be \$3.50 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12. Tickets may be purchased from local Episcopalians prior to Shrove Tuesday.

Pancake suppers on the night before Ash Wednesday are traditional meals in the Anglican Communion, having roots in early England. The day gets its name

from the old requirement that one confess his or her sins on this date in order to be "shriven" before Lent. Pancakes became popular on this day as cooks used up fats in their houses before the rigorous fast days of Lent.

St. Andrew's Church for a number of years has used its annual pancake supper as a means of sharing this tradition with others, as an opportunity for community fellowship, and as a fund-raising effort for its building and improvement fund.

Ash Wednesday service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church this year will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, and will be an Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes, according to Koons.

The first day of the Church's 40-day penitential Lenten Season, Ash Wednesday traditionally has been a time when Christians are reminded of their morality as the priest places ashes on their foreheads and repeats, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

LETTER TO EDITOR

I find it reprehensible that certain elected public officials would do away with our drug task force for political gain and personal satisfaction.

Again, I feel secure in the fact that Norman Hooten, Sheriff, and his very competent department, along with our drug task force is out there to protect my rights (if the courts and do gooders will let them).

I guess what I'm trying to say is "Keep Tootin' for Hooten."

Sincerely,
/s/ V. Ross Smith

LETTER TO EDITOR

I am writing this to the *Brackett News* because sending it to San Antonio's *Express-News* (E-N) is apparently a waste of my time. I have written two letters to the E-N, the first one was altered to change the point made, the second was ignored.

My first letter made two points: 1) how well I liked Thomas Sowell's editorial column, and 2) liberal editorial writers Anna Quindlen and Ellen Goodman would do well to take a vacation and reflect on Mr. Sowell's column. I wrote this letter after Quindlen and Goodman called (ex) governors Cuomo (NY) and Richards (TX) "Two Class Acts", and the recent Republican dominated election "a lesson in anticivics". A letter was published with my name that read only an appreciation to the E-N for publishing Thomas Sowell's column. The second point was not published.

The second letter was written about a Molly Ivins column. Mrs. Ivins editorial comments were unprofessional, and contained even more than her usual name-calling hate phrases.

I expressed surprise the E-N would publish such an editorial. I never heard back from the E-N on this letter.

From my viewpoint, the E-N letters are edited for political reasons, and not "edited for length, taste and legal reasons."

If our local carrier ever delivers a daily paper other than the E-N, please let me be the first to sign up.

Regards,
/s/ Rick Bacon

Happiness is beneficial for the body but it is grief that develops the powers of the mind.

—Marcel Proust

The Brackett News.

Brackettville Funeral Home
(Formerly Humphreys)
114 North Street Brackettville
210/563-9600
New Name - New Lower Prices

Del Rio Monument Company
QUALITY MEMORIALS
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Riggs
Owners
210-775-8596 606 E. 5th Street
Del Rio TX 78840

At The St. Andrew's Episcopal Parish Hall
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday February 28
Adults \$3.50
Children \$2.00
Sausage & Pancakes will be served

"NANDUTI."
The fine lace for which Paraguay is justly famous is called *nanduti*, the Guarani Indian word for "spider web."

Fabulous February Sale

1-YEAR FREE INTEREST

THURSDAY-12 BIG HOURS!!

9AM-9PM HURRY IN NOW... 4 DAYS ONLY...

save 20% to 60% store-wide!

5 Piece Table and 4 Chairs in Hunter Green with Cherry Finished Top	\$299	Glider Rockers Solid Wood with Cushioned Seat and Back 3 Fabrics to Choose From	\$188
Broyhill Bedroom Set Dresser, Mirror, Full Queen HB & Nt. Stand 1/2 price	\$650	Wicker Bedroom Dresser, Mirror, Full Queen HB & Nt. Stand 1/2 price	\$798 <small>Now</small>
Single Pedestal Desk with File Drawer and Center Drawer	\$199	6 Foot Ficus Trees Closeout Hurry These Won't Last Values to \$199.95	\$25
Serta Inner Spring Sleepers Your Choice Twin, Full, or Queen Size	\$499	Traditional Style Sofa in Wine Stripe Fabric 1 Only at 1/2 Price	\$399
2 Colors to Choose From Level Loop Carpet sq. yd.	\$595	Black Velvet Sofa with Black Lacquer and Brass Trim 1 only at 1/2 price	\$399
All Thomsville Bedroom, Dining Room, Occasional Tables	1/3 Off	Set of Three Occasional Tables, 1 Cocktail and 2 End Tables Oak All 3 Pcs.	\$149

THURSDAY 9-9 MONDAY-SATURDAY 9-6 Del Rio, Texas Avenue F at 10th 775-1508

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MRGDC Celebrates 25th Anniversary

"Celebrating 25 years of service to business, industry, education and government" is the theme of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council's silver anniversary, slated for Thursday, February 16, 6 p.m., at the Del Rio Civic Center. "We chose Del Rio as the site for the event as it was the original main office of the MRGDC," noted Leodoro Martinez, Jr., Executive Director of MRGDC.

MRGDC is a multi-facet community development and economic development organization. It is a one of twenty-four voluntary associations of local governments formed under state law. These associations deal with the problems and planning needs that cross the boundaries of individual local governments or that require regional attention. These associations have no regulatory powers or taxing authorities possessed by cities, counties, or local governments; they have no power of eminent domain. Members of the MRGDC include the municipal and county governments of Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, LaSalle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala, economic development organizations, and special districts.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Founded in 1970 by the local governments of the nine county Middle Rio Grande Region, designated as a State Planning Region by Governor Preston Smith, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council has grown into one of the most important governmental institutions in South and Southwest Texas. In the 25 years of its existence, the Council has made a signal contribution to the life of the region, the structure and substance of its economy, and the lives of its residents. Its history can be divided into three distinct periods that roughly coincide with the three decades in which it has existed.

THE SEVENTIES

The Seventies can be said to have been the decade of organization and formation. This was the period in which the Council was first established, and began to sort out the scope of its mission and the role it would play in the region. The impulse that led to its formation arose from two parallel sets of concerns on the part of the region's governmental officials: 1) the need to attract public resources to meet local service needs, and 2) the desire to more effectively impact the operation of the state and federally funded programs that were already in existence and operating within the region.

The Council's first efforts focused on the proper planning and coordination of local public services, and governmental programs. Economic development, criminal justice, and transportation were among the first areas in which the Council took a concern. The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee was the first of the many advisory committees and councils created by the Council to assure the widest possible local input into the region's law enforcement and criminal justice efforts. In 1973, three years after its founding, the Council was designated as an Economic Development District by the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and embarked upon a 20 year economic development effort. Other, more focused and transient planning efforts were conducted in the areas of transportation and water resource development.

In the mid-1970s, with the advent of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act and the Older Americans Act, the Council entered the arena of human resources and human services programs for the first time. It was designated as the regional sponsor and administrative overseer of the CETA program, and as the Area Agency on Aging, responsible for the delivery of Older American Act programs and services in the entire area.

THE EIGHTIES

In general, the Eighties can be characterized as a period of survival, consolidation, and dramatic growth. The late 1970s and early 1980s was a transition period in the life of the Council, and a period of con-

siderable political and economic turmoil in the region in general, and within the Council in particular. It featured the only significant rupture in the structure of the Council, with the withdrawal of two of its most important local government members, and the transfer of its headquarters from Del Rio to Carrizo Springs. By 1981, the very existence of the Council and its designation as a Council of Governments under the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code were at grave risk.

1982-1983 represented the turning point in the life of the Council. The 1982 elections saw a turnover in a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, as seven of the nine counties and a majority of the region's municipalities elected new chief elected officials. 1983 saw the return of the City of Del Rio to full membership status.

Working closely and cooperatively with each other and with Council staff, the new Board of Directors developed and implemented a new approach based on competition to one based on cooperation. The region's communities worked together to establish a series of cooperative formulas through which available resources could be allocated throughout the region on an equitable basis, eliminating the previous annual funding fights.

In 1983 this formula allocation approach was applied to the Elderly Services programs, and for the first time these services were made available uniformly in eight of the region's nine counties. In 1984, this principal was applied to the Community Development Block Grant program, and the "Gentlemen's Agreement" that has governed CD-BG allocations since, was executed.

1984 also saw the establishment of the Middle Rio Grande Private Industry Council to oversee the implementation of the Jobs Training Partnership Act in the region, and for the first time local private sector was brought into the Council's deliberations in a substantive way. The Council was designated as Grant Recipient and Administrative Entity for the JTPA program, roles it has maintained to the present day. The available resources were allocated throughout the region by the same type of formula approach previously applied to the Aging and CDBG programs, and the JTPA program was implemented in the region with a minimum of turmoil.

The latter half of the Eighties was devoted to the growth of the Council's available service mix, and the expansion of its service offerings. GED preparation and adult and youth educational remediation were added to the JTPA service menu, and direct economic and industrial development services were incorporated into the planning and economic development efforts. JTPA Service and Education Centers were established in every county in the region. Finally, in 1988-1989, the Council entered the fields of solid waste management planning and 911 emergency response services.

By the end of this eventful decade, the Council's staff had grown to ninety, and its aggregate contract resource base had increased to almost \$7,000,000. It had operations and offices in each of the nine counties, its headquarters remained in Carrizo Springs, and it had developed a large and sophisticated planning and program development effort in Uvalde.

THE NINETIES

If the theme of the Eighties can be defined as turmoil and growth, that of the Nineties, thus far, can be said to be consolidation and diversification. The general cooperative approach to decision making remains the same, but the last five years have been a concentrated effort on the Council's part to diversify its resource base, and to broaden the range of programs it manages and services it delivers to the governments and citizens of the region.

It has entered the direct business service arena, establishing a Small Business Development Center with operations in Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde. It has extended its 911 efforts into the mapping and addressing of every residence, government, and business location in the region. It has extended its solid waste planning program into the design and attempted construction of a Middle Rio Grande Waste Management District. It has created the Middle Rio Grande Development Foundation and employed it to provide vehicles to all of the region's elderly service centers and to its only Indian Tribe.

In the area of JTPA, the Nineties saw the development of an extensive network of partnerships with local school districts for the provision of remedial education and GED preparation services to the region's "at risk" youth. We have also seen

the creation of mobile education and driver training labs, and cooperative efforts to train new business entrepreneurs and commercial truck drivers with Southwest Texas Junior College.

In a larger sense, the Council has come to be one of the primary representatives of the region and its interests in state and national administrative, regulatory, and legislative forums. It joined others in the region, including many local governments in successful efforts to oppose the state licensing of commercial facilities in the region for the disposal of hazardous, toxic, and radioactive materials. It consistently and effectively represents the region in Legislative and Congressional sessions, aggressively pursuing the adoption of legislation that relates to the needs and interests of the region's communities and citizens, particularly in the fields of transportation, health, and education.

THE FUTURE

The future of the Council, like that of the region, is fraught with uncertainty at this midpoint of the Nineties. The political and governmental revolutions that are currently underway in Austin and Washington, the economic revolution, associated with the North American Free Trade Agreement, that is currently under way in all of North America, and particularly here along the Mexican Border, represent challenges that pose both problems and opportunities for the region and for the Council.

The future of both reside, as they have since the Council's inception in 1970, in the continuing wisdom and leadership of the region's elected officials, acting through the MRGDC Board of Directors, and the vision and the efforts of the Council's staff, under the direction of the Executive Director. If we can continue to apply the cooperative approach to our endeavors, we can be even more successful in the new environment than we were in the old. The answer, as always, is in our hands.

(Compiled by Leodoro Martinez and Paul Edward).



Valentine King and Queen

By popular vote, Art Ray and Nina Batson were chosen Valentine King and Queen at the Kinney County Aging Center. They were recognized at a festive luncheon on February 14. The lovely roses were presented to Mrs. Batson by Mr. Ray.

Gov. Bush Proclaims February School Board Appreciation Month

Governor George W. Bush has proclaimed February as School Board Recognition Month.

"Public education in this nation is a beacon to the world in its commitment to meeting the needs of all children without regard to race, wealth or disability. A superior public education system is vital to the quality of life of all Texas citizens and communities and is basic to the future economic strength of our country," the governor said. "The local board of education is a uniquely American institution that has made the public schools both flexible and responsive to the needs of communities, the state, and the nation, while keeping alive the fundamental ideal of representative government," he said.

"School board members work with community leaders, families, and educators to develop sound educational policies in their districts. They help us to set high standards in the educational system and encourage us to strive to reach those goals. The results of this cooperative effort are reflected in a generation of Texas children who are more prepared to be our nation's leaders. They carry with them the proper tools with which to forge their bright futures," he said.

"School board members serve as advocates for our children first and foremost, protecting each child's opportunity to develop his or her potential. They offer vision, knowledge, leadership and time, and work purely for the common good. It is important to recognize the many contributions made by our

BASKETBALL

Tigerettes Blow Past Lady Mustangs

Friday, February 10, the Tigerettes suited up to face the Lady Mustangs of Natalia. The Lady Mustangs gave a small amount of effort against the Tigerettes losing 68-44 for another Tigerette victory.

Leading the way in the Tigerette 10th district win was Lolly Hernandez with 27 points. Just behind her was Amanda Meek with 25 points. Windy Goodloe had 4 as well as Jennifer Terrazas.

Denice Frerich, Courtney Harrison, Sandra Hernandez and Lindy LaMascus each chipped in two points.

Tigerettes Fall to Devine

Tuesday, February 14, the Tigerettes traveled to AAA District Champ Devine to play the Arabians in a play-off warmup game.

Although the Tigerettes fell by a score of 59-38, they got a good practice. Amanda Meek scored 13 points.

Lolly Hernandez had 12, points, Lindy LaMascus and Denice Frerich each had 4 points, Reccia Jobe scored 3, and Courtney Harrison added 2.

JV Tigerette's Season

BRACKETT 38-LAPRYOR 5

In a recap of the JV Tigerette season, I'll attempt to give you Everything!

To open district, the JV Tigerettes blew the Lady Bulldogs of LaPryor away in a 38-5 victory. The Lady Bulldogs had nothing to offer for the Tigerettes.

In the blowout, Katy Hagler and Tina Meek each scored 6 points. Next was Reccia Jobe and Melissa Terrazas with 5 points each.

Suzie Hernandez, Casey Tipps, and Jackie Smith each scored 4 points. Samantha Perez and Terry Esparza each chipped in 2 points.

This victory gave the JV Tigerettes a district record of 1-0.

JV Tigerettes Win District

Varsity Tigerettes Win District

On November 15, the Brackett Tigerettes opened their season in a 50-51 loss against Comstock. From there, they lost their next four games to give them an 0-5 record.

Their first win came on December 1 in a 72-9 win over the Nueces Canyon JV Lady Panthers. From there it was all up hill.

They suffered two more losses along the way - both to Knippa in 50-33 and 42-27 games.

They finished their season with a record of 22-7 and a district record of 10-0.

These undefeated in district play champs scored 1,491 points as a team while giving up only 1,131, that's outscoring their combined opponents by 360 points.

They grabbed 1,466 rebounds, had 113 blocks, 251 assists, and 245 steals. From the free throw line the

Tigerettes were .497% shooting 412 freethrows and hitting 205.

Head Coach Gregg Nowlin has been in Brackettville for seven years. He has won five district championships, four of those went undefeated in district. He said, "It feels great to win another undefeated district championship. We came out 0-5, that kind of worried me but we pulled through and only lost two more games all year. I'm really proud of the Tigerettes of 1994-95. They put out an outstanding effort and gave themselves, me, and Brackettville another District Championship!"

The Tigerettes play at 3:00 Saturday vs Karnes City at Palo Alto College, San Antonio, for Bi-District. Your support is needed and your attendance will be appreciated!

District Champs Stats

NAME	GAMES PLAYED	POINTS	FREE THROW %
Lolly Hernandez	27	522	48%
Jennifer Terrazas	27	170	50%
Denice Frerich	27	107	54%
Amanda Meek	24	317	47%
Sandra Hernandez	24	75	22%
Lindy LaMascus	27	75	55%
Chica Garza	25	55	45%
Courtney Harrison	27	88	71%
Windy Goodloe	22	58	48%
Debra Frerich	11	8	33%
Reccia Jobe	4	5	50%



Amanda Meek (#31) shows action that helped make the Brackett Tigerettes undefeated district champs.

JV Tigerettes Continued

BRACKETT 39 - DILLEY 34

BH

In the Tigerettes quest for the undefeated district championship, they suited up to face the Lady Wolves of Dilley. They grabbed their second district win in a row defeating the Lady Wolves 39-34.

Leading the way was Tena Meek with 14 points. Next was Reccia Jobe with 13 pints. Debra Frerich scored 6 points. Katy Hagler, Melissa Terrazas and Jackie Smith each chipped in 2 points.

This victory gave the Tigerettes a 2-0 record in district play.

DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP CLINCHED

BH

On January 31st, the JV Tigerette clinched the district championship of District 29-AA. The victory that clinched it for the Tigerettes was a 34-22 win over San Antonio Cole.

Leading the way for the Tigerettes was Tina Meek with 11 points, next was Reccia Jobe with 8, Katy Hagler had 7, Suzie Hernandez had 4 points. Liz Aguirre and Jackie Smith each chipped in 2 points.

BRACKETT 32-PIRATES 30

BH

The JV Tigerettes skimmed past the Lady Pirates on their way to the district championship in a 32-30 victory.

In the Tigettes' third district win in a row, Katy Hagler led the way with 9 points. Next was Tina Meek with 7 points.

Reccia Jobe had 5, Jackie Smith had 4, Casey Tipps, Terry Esparza and Crystal Juarez each had 2 points. Melissa Terrazas added one.

JV SEASON STATS

Reccia Jobe - total points	144
Katy Hagler	85
Wendy Goodloe	25
Melissa Terrazas	52
Terry Esparza	16
Susie Hernandez	21
Samantha Perez	26
Liz Aguirre	5
Jackie Smith	17
Casey Tipps	17
Tina Meek	114
Debra Frerich	14
Crystal Juarez	6

Local Governmental Entities Meet

Uniform Office Hours Suggested

With Commissioners Freddie Frerich, Joe Montalvo, Cordelia Mendeke, and Paul O'Rourke present, Judge Tommy Seargeant called the regular meeting of the Kinney County Commissioners Court to order at 9:00 a.m. Monday, February 13, 1995.

After clarification of intent, minutes from January 9, 13, and 31 were approved. Bills were examined and approved for payment.

(On action items, unless otherwise noted, the judge exercised his right not to vote, and all commissioners voted for passage of the motion).

The First State Bank of Brackettville was selected as the county depository.

Several agenda items were deferred because of insufficient information or a significant person was not present: selling a piece of property below appraisal price; Historical Tax Exemptions; Personnel Policy; Texas Historical Commission review of court house; Kinney County subdivision rules; interlocal agreement with Spofford.

AANTF Project Manager Steve Woolen reviewed activities for the past month and asked the court to approve an application for a supplement to the 1994-95 grant to replace items that Val Verde County and the City of Del Rio received in the dissolution settlement; cover cost of relocating to Brackettville; and to build a storage compound. The motion was made by Frerich, seconded by Montalvo and carried.

On a motion made by Frerich, seconded by Montalvo, the court approved extending the TDHS lease of a county-owned building as per agreement.

Commissioner Mendeke indicated that the county could apply for a grant for operating the swimming pool and indicated the EMS and BVFD were interested in contracting the concession stand. On a motion by Frerich, seconded by O'Rourke, the court voted to award the concessions agreement subject to being able to open it. Motion passed.

Bea Kuntz reported that the patient who had an outstanding medical bill of \$24,000 had been assisted in applying for SSI. She also reported on EMS activity for January - \$2,042 had been billed for ambulance runs and \$1,411 collected.

Commissioner Mendeke reported on the recent grant seminar she and others had attended and expressed amazement at awesome billions of dollars of possible grants available. She said in the near future applications would be prepared in a number of areas.

Librarian Sarah Terrazas reported that library usage had increased and alternations need to meet ADA requirements. She said Charlie Trost had advised that Friends of the Library should contact the architect about the cracks in the Fritter Building.

A representative from Montgomery Elevator Co. explained inspection processes and alterations needed to bring the court house elevator into compliance with ADA. On a motion by Mendeke, seconded by Montalvo, the court voted to have the inspection done.

Sheriff Hooten was present to discuss the status of the jail operation, budget, and federal prisoner contract. He stated at present the jail housed four federal prisoners and up to fifteen additional prisoners were expected within the month. He also stated he could ask for a staffing analysis from the state jail standards.

The county clerk was authorized to proceed with having blinds installed in her office after she reported the sizes needed were not available "over the counter."

Road Administrator Cliff Fritter submitted both a written and oral report showing activity at Mudd Creek, Gaebler, and Anachaco, as well as completing installations for EMS to get to the diesel gasoline.

In reference to establishing a policy as to hours for court house offices to be open. Tax Collector Martha Hooten reminded the court they had no jurisdiction over the operation of an elected officials office. The court did pass a resolution requesting all department heads to so far as possible keep their offices open Monday through Friday, 8 am to noon, 1 to 5 pm.

The court also passed a resolution to distribute a memo to department heads requesting them to be conservative in expenditures and to adhere to budgets. Motions came from Mendeke and were seconded by O'Rourke.

Requests for budget line items transfers were explained and approved.

BISD Principal Contracts Extended

With vice president Gloria Garcia presiding the BISD Board of Trustees met in regular session at 6:40 p.m. Monday, February 13, 1995. Present were Jewel Robinson, Stan Conoly, Jim McDaniels, Darlene Shahan and Gloria Garcia. Absent: Jimmy Bader and Rose Mary Slubar.

Minutes of January 16 were approved as printed. The only old business on the agenda was Historical Tax Exemptions. A very positive response had been received from property owners to an inquiry as to maintenance of their property. All who responded to the questionnaire were granted exemptions.

An election for three board member positions was called for Saturday, May 6. Terms expire for Jewel Robinson, Gloria Garcia and Darlene Shahan. Jean Faulkenberry was appointed election judge with Gloria Benacci BISD election official. Beth Ann Smith, Cindy Brandt, Susan Harrison and Maria Juarez will serve as early voting clerks.

The CED annual audit report, as prepared by Card and Co. of Fort Stockton, was accepted. The board approved adding an agricultural course, "Range Management/Ecology," to the curriculum.

Summer project needs were discussed with the "old" high school reported as needing major work. Superintendent Mills was authorized to contact Architect Marrs for consultation.

Board training update reports were distributed to individual members for information and verification.

The Kinney County Appraisal District Audit Report was approved.

Supt. Mills presented the timeline schedule for developing the 1995-96 school budget and a draft of a possible 1995-96 school calendar.

The board was advised that ESC Region 20 Board of Election was coming up soon and that BISD board members are eligible to become candidates.

Re-arrangement of budget line items were approved as was the financial report.

Jones Elementary Principal Carl Glass reported 315 students enrolled and announced "Open House" on March 9 with the administrator's pancake supper 5 to 7 pm and classroom visitation 6 to 7 pm.

Secondary Principal Don Sims reported 297 students enrolled. He said suggestions and input for the scheduling was being asked from teachers. Report cards will go out March 1.

Assistant Principal Stoney Burks reported that the Middle School Valentine Dance was a success and that selected students had recently attended two Community Concerts in Del Rio. Each time students were highly complimented on their very favorable behavior and appearance. He also thanked the board for their support in a discipline matter that had been resolved in a very satisfactory manner.

Curriculum Director Taylor Stephenson reported additional teachers were being trained to use the Abacus computer system of management and he was working on staff development days.

An announcement was made that the Hillcrest Foundation (Harold Byrd) had awarded a grant of \$51,200 to the school for computers, printers, and necessary wiring for a computer files server.

The board entered into executive session to evaluate the principals. Re-convening, contracts were extended for High School Principal Don Sims and Elementary Principal Carl Glass.

CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Strengthening America's Savings Habit

It is time for Congress to stop talking about the American dream and begin paying attention to the dreams of Americans.

I'm talking about dreams government should encourage: home ownership, a college education for the next generation, a comfortable and secure old age.

One way to achieve this is through encouraging Americans to save; another is to not penalize them when they do.

Saving for the future, making a prudent provision for realizing one's dreams, is an American tradition. But the habit of thrift has become less prevalent in recent years. Personal savings rates have declined dramatically from 8 percent of U.S. disposable income in 1970 to less than 4 percent in 1994 — and are now at their lowest level since World War II.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan calls this reluctance to save "the key domestic economic policy problem of this country." And he considers the United States' heavy reliance on foreign savings to meet its capital needs as unsatisfactory and unsustainable.

Realizing this, the 104th Congress is considering various proposals to increase national savings by revamping the Individual Retirement Account, several of which I support.

The first step in this direction is to enact the Homemaker IRA Bill I introduced last month. This measure would allow non-wage earning spouses to make equal, fully deductible contributions to IRAs. Currently, non-wage-earning spouses (the majority of whom are women) are allowed to contribute only \$250 annually to an IRA. Wage-earning spouses are allowed to set aside \$2,000 annually exempt from income tax.

This is an issue of equity — and sound public policy as well.

Along with my proposal, another suggestion for improving current IRA provisions would offer Americans an IRA choice: between making tax deductible contributions to traditional IRA, or contributing to a new, "back-loaded" IRA. Contributions to the second option would not be deductible, but its earnings would not be taxed when they are withdrawn.

In addition — and getting back to those dreams — a related proposal would allow penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for families who want to buy a new home for the first time or to meet college expenses. This could be broadened to allow withdrawals for catastrophic medical expenses or during periods of prolonged unemployment.

We know the availability and deductibility of IRAs increase household savings. Higher levels of savings will provide the level of private investment necessary for our country's long-term economic growth, make us more competitive and, in the long run, raise our standard of living.

Best of all, by enhancing IRA opportunities and making them more flexible, we can encourage Americans to become more self-reliant, and prepare to meet their own financial needs.

Americans have always been able to make their dreams come true, and still can, if their government will stand aside and let them get on with it.

Farm Loans Require Crop Insurance

SBA Seminar Feb. 22

The Middle Rio Grande Development Center's Small Business Development Center is presenting "SBA Loan Programs," at the Middle Rio Grande Development Council Small Business Development Center's Conference Room, 209 N. Getty, Uvalde, Texas, on February 22, 1995, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

This Seminar is free and open to the public.

There are new developments in the SBA's loan programs and a growing interest in international trade and export financing in this region," said Brenda Blackwood, SBDC Director, "so this seminar is of interest to our area."

Mr. Rodney Martin, District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration will discuss the SBA's loan and loan guaranty programs, highlighting the New Low Documentation Small Loan Pilot program which he originated. Ms. Mary Peters, South Texas Border Regional SBDC-SBA Liaison along with Ms. Sara Jackson, Director of the UTSA International Trade Center; and Ms. Judith Ingalls, Director of the SBDC Technology Center will be present to explain how the SBDC can help.

The MRGDC SBDC under cooperative agreement is partially funded and is in a partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

All SBDC programs are non-discriminatory and open to the public. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested in advance. Contact MRDGC/SBDC by calling 210-278-2527 or 278-4151.

Any producer who anticipates applying for a farm loan from USDA must obtain at least Catastrophic (CAT) crop insurance coverage on all crops of economic significance. This coverage must be obtained before the sales closing date for the producer's particular crop. The requirement applies to both direct and guaranteed farm ownership, operating, or emergency loans administered by the former Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) offices, now using the working name Rural Economic and Community Development (RECD).

This change is required by the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994. The Act also authorized the reorganization of USDA, which combined the programs of the former ASCS and FCIC with the farm loan programs of FmHA, under the newly created Consolidated Farm Services Agency (CFSA).

The sales closing dates are approaching quickly. It is crucial for applicants to contact their local CFSA office because once the deadline has passed and the loan applicant has crops without CAT coverage, they will likely have to wait until the following crop year to be eligible for loan assistance.

Further information about the coverage can be obtained from any local crop insurance agent or the CFSA (formerly ASCS) office. Questions regarding the loan requirement can be answered by the local RECD (formerly FmHA) office.

Contact J. Annet Wilke, County Supervisor, USDA, Rural Economic Community Development, 1022 Garner Field Rd., Uvalde TX 78801, 210-278-4571.

CONGRESSMAN

HENRY BONILLA

202/225-4511

23rd District, Texas
1529 Longworth House Office Building, Washington DC 20515

Combat Juvenile Crime With Adult Solutions

It's truly upsetting to see the way juvenile crime is soaring out of control throughout our country. Every day, we hear about or are directly affected by serious violent crimes committed by young people. An enormous number of children are committing adult crimes such as robbery, rape, and murder, yet they do not receive adult punishment for their crimes. However, we all know that when a 13-year-old kid carjacks or kills someone the damage to the victims is the same as it would be if an adult had committed the crime.

We must start down the path of reform and help states and communities crack down on young troublemakers. For far too long, Congress has passed broad crime bills with only minimum provisions to deal with juvenile criminals. A generation ago, detaining juvenile criminals in youth centers for a couple of years or issuing sharp warnings from law enforcement officials might have worked to set young criminals straight. Today, though, these solutions aren't doing much to stop juvenile crime.

One reason is that juvenile crime itself has changed. Not too many years ago, common juvenile crime problems involved breaking car windows and stealing candy or cigarettes. While these crimes are certainly not excusable, they pale in comparison to the shocking, violent crimes young people are committing today. Much of those crimes involve gangs. Despite their pervasiveness and characteristically violent nature, however, gangs have received very little attention from federal crime prevention and control agencies.

Gangs are often involved in sophisticated drug-trafficking operations and should be treated as adult crime organizations like the mafia. We should use federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) laws, which

were originally designed to combat organized crime and to crack down on juvenile gangs. RICO laws have been used effectively in New York City to put teenage gang members behind bars and dramatically cut local crime rates.

The federal government should also encourage states to reform their sentencing laws so that juveniles do real time for their crimes. Boot camps and alternative sentencing should replace early release and probation for young criminals. If states adopt these guidelines, they should be offered federal assistance to build detention facilities and fund juvenile law enforcement programs.

I've written a bipartisan letter to the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Henry Hyde, urging him to push a "state-friendly" juvenile crime bill. So far, more than 50 other representatives have joined me in this effort to combat juvenile crime.

As a parent, I constantly worry about the safety of my children. They shouldn't have to be scared to walk down the street, ride their bikes or play out in the yard because a gang or young thugs is terrorizing the neighborhood. We must take back our streets and regain a sense of security. By cracking down on juvenile crime, we'll restore the law and order that has been lost in communities across America.

City Names Morelli Fire Marshall

At 6 p.m. Tuesday, February 14, 1995, Mayor Carmen Berlanga called the Brackettville City Council into regular session. Answering roll call were council members Ralph Gonzalez, Rudy Goodloe, Jean Seargeant, Charles Bushart, and Mary Flores.

The mayor immediately announced that the council would enter into executive session with the city's attorney, Patrick Dodson, to discuss a claim from Judy Hooker.

At 6:20, the council reconvened in open session. Ms. Hooker was not present to speak to the council although she was listed in the agenda.

Minutes of the previous meeting and the financial reports were reviewed and accepted as printed.

Fulfilling a long-standing need, on the recommendation of City Manager David Luna, Debra Morelli was appointed as Fire Marshall. Her appointment meets the city's ordinance as revised by Attorney Dodson.

A resolution drafted, signed, and read by the mayor was adopted calling a city election for May 6, 1995, to elect two council members. David Luna was named early voting clerk with Ginger Dodson, Debra Bland, and Elia Garcia as deputies. Rosie Garcia was named to serve as election judge. Candidates may sign up for a place on the ballot between February 21 and March 22 at the city hall.

Tax exemption on the Las Moras Masonic Lodge building was granted.

The council authorized City Manager Luna to negotiate and lease/purchase a Caterpillar backhoe.

A detailed report was given by Attorney Dodson on a meeting he, Luna, Mayor Berlanga, David Martinez, Elia Garcia, and Larry Sofaly attended in Austin with Farmers Home Administration, archeologists, engineers, and Texas Historical Commission in regard to guaranteeing a percent of grant and commitment to provide funds for the Wastewater Project. Luna and Berlanga added their comments and a brief of the report will be printed next week in this paper.

The city had contracted with Hicks & Co. for the balance of the necessary archeological work for the wastewater project. Since that time, Michael Davis, who developed the proposal for Hicks, has left the firm. Again the city is forced into limbo as they investigate the legality of transferring the work to Davis' new firm who did not enter a bid or seeking new arrangements.

City Manager Luna reported he has asked Engineer Roy Rosin for a release of contract of the Water Improvement contract thus putting the project on hold until the wastewater project issues are taken care of.

The city's new animal shelter has been state inspected and received a high rating with compliments as to structure and amazement at its minimal cost. It is now being used as an example for other communities. Randy Castilla reported it had been certified as a quarantine facility.

Matt Sandoval reported on the 118 calls the city had made the past month in response to citizen needs and requests for service.

Mr. Luna reported on street improvements; new bay doors at the fire station; upcoming replacement of a water line on Crockett Street; training seminars city staff members would be attending in the next few months. He also displayed his own recently earned certificate in Personnel Administration.

Councilman Ralph Gonzalez drew the name for Random Drug Testing.



"Let me know when you can tell the hamburgers from the steaks from the chicken. I'm hungry."

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