



"School is out for the holidays watch for the children" Hope your Holidays Season is a Happy One!



50¢

The Brackett News

Vol. 7 No. 45 Brackettville, Fort Clark, Spofford, and Kinney County, Texas December 21, 1995

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

Notice

Saturday, Dec. 23, 1995 Packages May Be Picked-Up At The Post Office Between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



Thank-you Postmaster Felix Hernandez



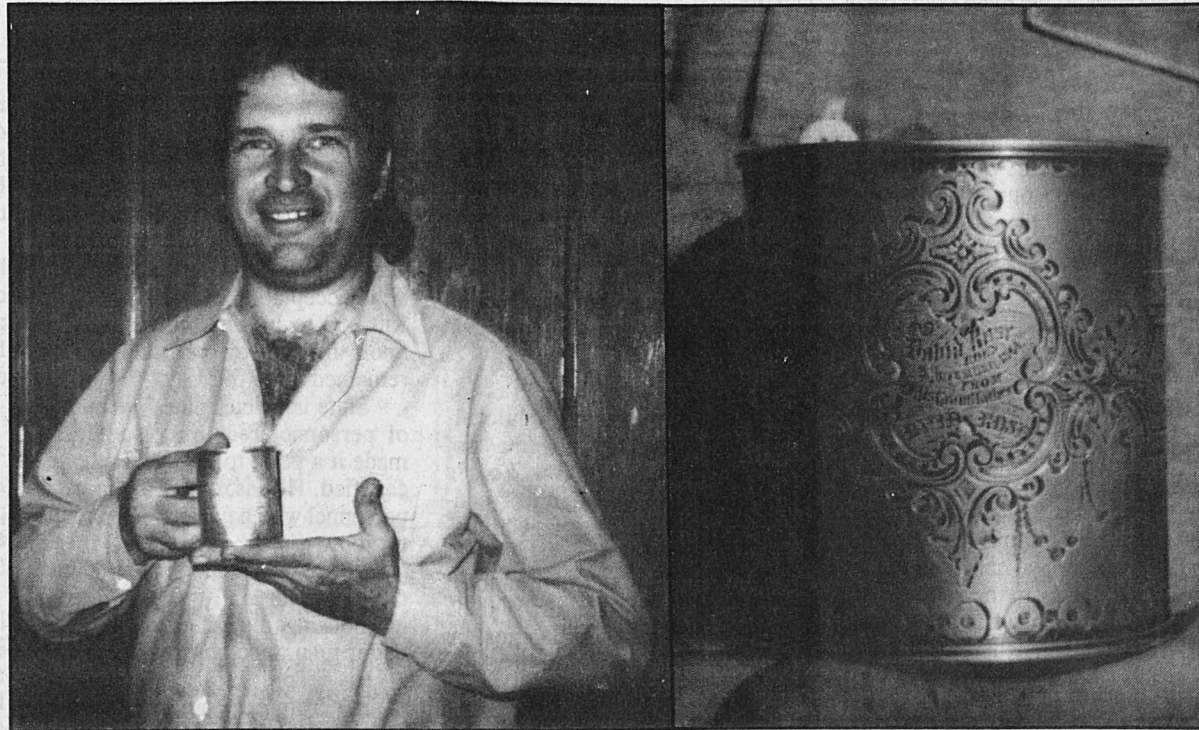
US Border Patrol Nets 9,146 Pounds Of Marijuana

Del Rio, TX - The US Border Patrol, Del Rio Sector, announced the confiscation of over 9,146 pounds of marijuana during the past 14 days. The seizures have been valued at an estimated \$7,317,230.

Agents from the US Border Patrol, Del Rio Sector, reported that during the past four days alone they have made nine separate seizures totaling over four tons of marijuana. The largest seizures occurred on Thursday, December 14th. On that day, over 5,200 pounds of marijuana with an estimated value of \$4,161,280 were seized during four separate incidents.

Historically, December has not been a heavy month for marijuana seizures but as of today, Del Rio Sector records indicate that the December totals for this year have already eclipsed all previous seizures for any month of any year.

The Del Rio Sector is made up of 41 counties stretching from the Del Rio-Eagle Pass border area North to, and including the San Angelo and Abilene areas. Palo Pinto county is the farthest point North in the Del Rio Sector. Sector headquarters are located in Del Rio with 10 stations spread over the 41 county area. The reported seizures occurred in the Brackettville, Carrizo Springs, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, San Angelo and Uvalde sections.



A Wonderful Christmas Gift

Last week David Rose a local rancher came in *The Brackett News* office with a silver cup in his hand and an incredible story.

The cup is inscribed "To David Rose born 3 November 1864 from his Grandfather David Rose."

David received the cup in the mail along with the following letter of explanation.

Dear Mr. Rose

I am so glad to finally find you so I can send you this cup. It means a lot to me, since I have had it for over thirty years, but I am sure it will mean a lot more to you and your family. This is definitely something you cannot replace and I would want someone to return it to me if at all possible. My son and myself drove out to Uvalde several years ago to try and find a place to hunt and I brought the cup with me in hopes of finding the right person to return it to. We spent one day getting directions from people and trying to find the right David Rose, but as you know we were not successful.

About thirty years ago my father and I went hunting with a friend of

his, Dr. Randy Minitra, on the Rose Ranch. We went west out of Uvalde towards Brackettville. Before getting to Brackettville we turned to the right on a dirt road, I think it was Rose Road, and went to a gate at the end of the road. I remember a house on the right and a couple of smaller ones on the left before we got to the corals. We went through the corals to some bump gates and ended up at a house near the back of the ranch. One day while I was kicking around in a sack and threw it in my dad's station wagon. About a year later I found the sack in some hunting gear and cleaned it up. I have always wanted to return it to the right person but as the years past I never did anything about it until a couple of years ago.

Again, I am so glad I talked to you the other day and can't wait for you to get this cup. I hope you and your family are as excited as I am about this. Would you please call

me and let me know that you got it so I won't worry about it, I would surely appreciate it.

Sincerely, Chip Stivers

After talking to his aunt Grace Rose of Uvalde, David was able to give us a little history about the cup. David Rose "the owner of the cup" came from Scotland to America at the age of 18. The cup was given to him by his grandfather and was probably made in Scotland. Upon his death the cup was handed down to Dave Rose of Brackettville, the next David Rose in the line.

Dave Rose had no children and the cup was somehow misplaced. The Rose family did not know what had happened to it.

Enter Chip Stivers, and at long last this beautiful cup is in the hands of its rightful owner James David Rose, Jr.

What a wonderful Christmas present to the Rose family. It's relatively amazing Mr. Stivers was thoughtful enough to return a 130 year old heirloom which had been lost for the last 30 years.

Burgess Appointed Sheriff

In special meeting of Commissioners Court Friday, December 15, Buddy Burgess was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Kinney County Sheriff.

Burgess a former Department of Public Safety officer had retired after 30 years with the department. His wife Carol is a school teacher. They live in Brackettville.

When asked earlier Burgess stated "there are no plans for personnel changes in the sheriff's department."

Christmas Baskets For The Needy

Over 100 families will receive Christmas baskets on 23 December. Baskets will be loaded with food items and toys for the young. Filling the baskets and preparing them for delivery will be on 21 and 22 December, at the Fort Clark Service Club. Everyone in the community is invited to help with this preparation. Delivery of the baskets will be on Saturday, December 23, starting at 9 AM and everyone is welcome to help with the deliveries.

The Brackettville Lions Club will host an open house at the Fort Clark Service Club on 22 December 7 to 9 PM. This open house will honor all the organizations, individuals, churches, business and friends that have helped with the Community's Christmas Basket Program. Everyone in the community is invited to see the baskets that will be delivered on 23 December. There will be refreshments and Voices of Tabernacle Choir of Del Rio will have a Christmas program and of course the singing of Christmas songs. Come and enjoy an evening with the friends and sponsors of the Christmas Baskets.



Pictured above Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Dimery Jr. of Kileen, Texas.



Pictured above Sgt. Clark Dimery and wife Jeanette of Fort Hood, Texas.

Papa Wallace is Proud

Wallace Dimery Sr. of Brackettville, recently spent a week with his two sons and their families who live in Kileen, Texas.

Wallace Jr. has retired from the Army after 20 years and chose to continue to make his home in Kileen.

Clark is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas and is getting close to retirement from the Army. Clark also plans to remain in Kileen with his family.

Remember Our Troops At Christmas

By Henry Bonilla U.S. Congressman, 23rd District

Despite congressional opposition to the President's plan to send 20,000 American troops to Bosnia, the deployment has begun. This is especially heartbreaking during the holiday season. While we cannot change the fact that the troops are headed to a war-torn region, we should stand united behind and take time to appreciate the sacrifices they are making.

As we sit down to enjoy Christmas dinner with our families, I know we will all remember the men and women in our armed forces who have been sent to Bosnia. While we share the holidays with family, our troops are living a cold, bleak existence in a devastated region. It is incredible to witness these people so bravely executing their duties.

The most difficult part about this deployment is that families are being separated during the holidays. Mothers, fathers, husbands and wives must leave home to serve in a dangerous region. While we enjoy the warm company of our loved ones during the holiday season, our men and women

are experiencing loneliness and uncertainty in a foreign land. Many of these men and women have children at home who will be spending Christmas without a parent.

Here in Texas, it is rare to have a white Christmas. But our troops in Bosnia will be battling cold winds and deep snow all winter long. We should appreciate the great physical and emotional challenges that these men and women face in carrying out this mission.

Although many of us do not agree with the mission set out by President Clinton, we cannot turn our backs on the loyal men and women who are on their way to Bosnia. They have answered the call of their commander in chief and are simply performing the job they were trained to do.

In the Christmas spirit of "peace on earth, good will to men," I hope that members of Congress and the people they represent will make every effort to stand unified in our support of our peacekeeping forces in Bosnia. Finally, I hope our troops will stay safe and warm during this holiday season, and that they all return home safely before next Christmas.

Special Commissioners Court Meeting

Special meeting of Commissioners Court Friday, December 15, 1995. Judge Tommy Seargeant called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m. in the district court room with all four Commissioners present.

Commissioner Freddie Frerich motioned to accept all reports from the various departments Paul O'Rourke seconded - motion passed.

Judge Seargeant recessed the regular session to enter into Executive session to review and interview the applicants for sheriff.

At 2:02 p.m. the court returned to regular session. Judge Seargeant motioned to appoint L.K. "Buddy" Burgess to fill the unexpired term of sheriff until the General Election in November of 1996. Commissioner Joe Montalvo seconded - and the vote was unanimous.



Smith Goes To Copper Bowl

Dale Smith will be spending a special and exciting Christmas season this year. He travels to the Copper Bowl in Tuscon, Arizona, with the Texas Tech Red Raiders football team. The Raiders will be playing Air Force on December 27.

Dale graduated from Brackett High School last May and was Red Shirted for his freshman year of football. Like the majority of freshmen athletes, Dale is saving his eligibility for the next four years and is using this year to become accustomed to the college football program. He practices daily against the first team var-

sity, while also participating in the Tech weight training program. He is currently majoring in Physical Therapy.

Dale returned to Lubbock for bowl game practice on the 19th. The team will then fly to Tuscon for Christmas, and practice sessions in the stadium where the bowl game will be held on Dec. 27. He will then return to Brackettville for the remainder of his college break. Dale's family includes parents Richard and Beth Ann Smith, and his young brother and sister, Brent and Ashley.

Big Mama Sez!



Success depends upon your backbone, not your wishbone.

Rambling Around Kinney County

By THE K.C. RAMBLER



The lights of the county are ablaze with Christmas cheer. Do ride around the area if you can to enjoy the very artistic creation in many, many yards. Also, drive by the judges home to admire the poinsettia tree. It is in full bloom and beautiful. Said to be blooming for over 50 years.

Another great evening of Community Unity last Sunday night. Santa Claus had a gift for every child. Local merchants and organization served food to everyone, groups sang Christmas carols. There were big smiles on everyone's faces and all was well with Kinney County. This is such a successful function - surely it will become a tradition. Over looking the entire evening was a lovely Nativity scene.

Winter begins on Friday the 22nd of December. Our daylight will be extended a few seconds each day. There will be a new moon this night. You will feel you can reach up and touch the stars. If the night sky is clear it will be good time for star gazing.

December 29th one hundred fifty years ago Texas was declared a state and joined the United States of America. Prior to this, Texas had been a republic of its own. Six flags have flown over our state: Spain, Mexico, France, the Lone Star the Confederate and Old Glory.

Have a wonderful week - soon the New Year will be here and we will each have passed one more milestone in our lives.

The Best Gift is Love.

January 4 Deadline For Disaster Loans

SAN ANTONIO, December 8 — Business in Frio, Dimmit, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Medina, Uvalde and Zavala Counties have until January 4, 1996 to file applications for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses from excessive rain, drought and hail which occurred January 1 through November 21, 1994. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these SBA loans. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply. Applications and further information can be obtained by calling the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired.

These loans are intended to assist businesses in offsetting working capital losses which they suffered as a result of the excessive rain, drought and hail reducing the crop income of the area farmers and ranchers. Small businesses claiming to have been physically injured by the weather are not eligible.

If there is anything that we wish to change in the child, we should first examine it and see whether it is not something that could better be changed in ourselves.

—Carl Gustav Jung

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.

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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To subscribe to The Brackett News, please clip this application and mail to: The Brackett News, P. O. Box 1039, Brackettville TX 78832, or drop by our office at 507 S. Ann St. (next to the bank). Rate: In Kinney County \$20.00; Outside K.C. in Texas \$25.00; outside Texas \$27.50. Please include check or money order. NAME _____

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Subscribe to The Brackett News.

New Year's Weekend In San Antonio

San Antonio rings in the new year with a weekend full of football excitement, musical entertainment along the River Walk, seasonal activities at Fiesta, Texas, a medieval holiday pageant and symphony concerts.

The festivities begin on Thursday, December 28, with the 3rd Annual Builders Square Alamo Bowl Football Classic. Football fans will be provided with major college football excitement as two of the country's premier schools go head to head at 7:00 p.m. in the Alamodome.

HemisFair Park downtown will be the site of the Alamo Bowl pregame Party. Pep bands and cheerleaders are sure to get you ready for the hard hitting, fast action of college football. The Alamo Bowl tailgate party starts at 4:00 p.m. and concludes with the bowl's 7:00 p.m. kickoff.

San Antonio's River Walk will come alive with bands on floating stages, strolling entertainers and fixed concert venues during "Bands Across the River," December 27, 28 and 31. The River Walk's 60,000 holiday lights will remain aglow through December 31.

The symphony will also offer two exciting programs for music lovers. "Big Bend 3" on December 29-31 will feature resident conductor David Mairs in a "sentimental journey" to the great hits of the swing era. For those who enjoy a more traditional, Viennese ambience, you won't want to miss the annual "New Year's Eve-A Night in Old Vienna," conducted by music director Christopher Wilkens on December 31.

On December 30, the traditional Spanish play "Los Pastores" will be performed at Mission San Jose at 6:00 p.m. This colorful pageant which dates back to the 16th Century, is performed in Spanish with English narration. It vividly depicts the age-old struggle of good and evil through song and animated characters.

To round out your weekend of entertainment in San Antonio, Fiesta, Texas will present "A Lone Star Christmas," December 26-30. With over 16 miles of Christmas lights, a 110-foot tall "Tree of Lights," an elaborate banquet, and two merry musical shows, Fiesta, Texas is a great stop for holiday fun when visiting San Antonio.

New Year's weekend in San Antonio promises a full array of football, music and holiday fun. For more information on planning your New Year's weekend in San Antonio, call 1-800-447-3372 and ask for your free San Antonio visitor packet and Alamo Bowl information.

Awards Offered To Young Wheat Farmers

Young Texas wheat farmers are eligible to enter an essay contest to compete for two leadership development awards of which 40 will be awarded nationally. The program of the Texas Wheat Producers Association and National Association of Wheat Growers is sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Products Company and the Production Credit Associations of Texas. The awards are designed to acquaint young wheat farmers with the wheat association's organizational structure, leadership development, policy development, and the education aspects of attending wheat organizational meetings, according to Jack Norman, President of the Texas Wheat Producers Association.

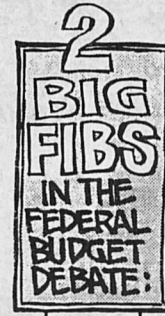
The awards which total more than \$1000 each are to defray the cost for the winners to participate in their choice of either the National Association of Wheat Growers 1996 Annual Convention, held February 7-10, 1996, Reno, Nevada; or the NAWG summer Leadership Conference, July 28-31, 1996, Sun Valley, Idaho.

Any Texas wheat farmer between the age of 20 and 35 years, who has not previously participated in either of the NAWG meetings mentioned above is eligible to enter. The winners are selected based upon completion of a short questionnaire relative to their perception of the current greatest needs of wheat farmers, how they are or would be utilizing their leadership abilities, along with a brief 50-word essay, explaining why they would like to receive the educational grant.

Entry forms may be obtained by either writing or calling Rodney Mosier of the Texas Wheat Producers Association, 2201 Civic Circle, #803, Amarillo, TX 79109 - PH# 806/352-2282.

The deadline for receiving the completed form is November 30, 1995.

Merry Christmas



WE'RE JUST TRYING TO PROTECT MEDICARE!

...AND SCARE THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF LITTLE OLD LADIES SO THEY'LL VOTE FOR US!

WE'RE JUST TRYING TO BALANCE THE BUDGET!

WE'RE JUST TRYING TO PROTECT MEDICARE!

...AND GIVE THE POOR TO THE STATES AND THE REST OF AMERICA TO BIG CORPORATIONS!

Between Us

By Joe Townsend



We can now write "finish" to the Norman Hooten saga.

When Hooten was elected he found a new jail. Built during the administration of the present County Judge, the commission on jail standards found the jail so deficient as to be unacceptable. It cost upwards of \$50,000 to bring it up to usability. Soon the jail was certified and has remained so to this day.

State law determines the number of personnel required. Hooten has made it a point to have all personnel certified. He has trained a number of personnel who have moved on to better jobs.

He has made the cost to Kinney County of the jail to be meager by his housing federal prisoners for a better than good housing fee.

His record in largely freeing the county from rampant marijuana activities to a relatively clean state. His work implementing the task force on drugs in the area is highly praised by his compadres.

It's as old as the devil himself, the fact that when you can't find a flaw in a man doing his job, the way out is to destroy the character of the

man. Hooten had never been a part of the "poker playing crowd" or the beer drinkers. Because he raised Pit Bull dogs, his detractors decided to use this to destroy him.

A local D.P.S. agent did surveillance for at least a year. With the help of a D.P.S. agent in Bastrop he finally led the D.P.S. to zero in on Hooten. It was as neat a set up as could be nefariously conceived.

Drawn into the siege net were Texas Rangers, FBI, IRS, Narc Agents, 24 of them for search of a public office and a house. A total of approximately \$1,000,000 was spent to drive Hooten out of office.

For an agency charged with public safety this shows their mind set. To in any way equate the actions of the D.P.S. with "Public Safety" is ludicrous. The tragedy is that such arbitrarily actions by "law enforcement" agencies is happening frequently. Small wonder the public has lost respect for such agencies. The mistake was made when the D.P.S. was given authority beyond traffic safety on the highways. How many dopesters, murderers, rapists, drunk

drivers and violent criminals could be taken off the streets with \$1,000,000?

For the county judge to say there were several applicants for sheriff but the one appointed was the most experienced is to reveal the mind set. When a man's experience is largely giving speeding tickets on the highway is counted as the most experienced of the applicants just won't fly. The "good old boy" actions of the county judge and his cohorts made a point.

The good side is election day is coming. The court knew what the people wanted and didn't want but they could not care less. Hooten beat their cronies in every election. If the people will countenance such usurping of power, they deserve to suffer the consequences. If such chicanery is as reprehensible as it should be election will clear the mud and restore clarity and respect for legal institutions and law enforcement agencies. Though some of the miscreants couldn't care less, God is still God. He will see to it that any who defy right and honor will be repaid in the coin they spend.

From The Desk Of Your Local Game Warden

By Henry J. Lutz
Kinney County, Game Warden

Last week, I ran an article on how you will be able to buy your next year's hunting and fishing licenses by using a new automated system which will be located at the same places you currently purchase your licenses. In addition to those regular places, you will have the option to purchase your licenses by phone using a credit card.

This week, we will take a look at what those licenses are going to cost you and the new package combos that will be available at discounted prices. There are many changes in the prices and licenses and how they are offered. For instance, there is a new 3 day fishing license that will be available, along with many other changes.

AUSTIN—Taking steps to develop "user pay/user benefit" equity among Texas' outdoor resource users, while addressing the fiscal demands for ensuring the future of those resources, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved across-the-board increases, as well as new discounted special packages, involving licenses and fees.

The Commission approved several new license and fee "packages" which offer savings for the avid outdoorsperson. The "Super Combo" will include a resident combination hunting and fishing license plus all seven state hunting and fishing stamps for \$49. Sold separately, the package is valued at \$82. The "Texan" will include the above-mentioned licenses and stamps, plus a Texas Gold Conservation Passport allowing access to state parks, state-owned wildlife management areas and special tours and additional preferred customer opportunities, for \$100.

Beginning Sept. 1, 1996, resident hunting and fishing licenses will increase from \$13 to \$19 apiece and a combination resident hunting/fishing will cost \$32 (currently \$25).

The Commission also approved a move to shift to per-person pricing for state park entrance fees, scheduled to be implemented May 1, 1996. Individual entrance fees at state parks will range between \$.50 and \$5.00. The Texas Gold Conservation Passport is another new product which offers the avid park visitor a poten-

tial annual savings. The \$50 Gold Conservation Passport will serve as an annual vehicle pass to all state parks, state-owned wildlife management areas and special tours.

In addition to licenses, boat title and registration fees will be increased beginning March 1, 1996 in order to generate revenue to launch a major boating safety awareness and education program by the summer of 1996. The Commission's action is the culmination of several months of research and assessments into the budgetary needs of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) through the end of the century. In reaching its decision, the Commission agreed the increases are a necessary step for TPWD to meet requirements in capital and operational funding.

"The State Auditor's report told us we have a system that's falling apart," said Commission Finance Committee chairman Richard Heath, citing a \$186 million backlog in TPWD infrastructure repairs and improvements needed by the year 2000. "This agency is currently operating on a lean budget with increased customer demands. And, while these increases won't solve that problem overnight, it's an important first step."

In addition to much-needed capital improvements, Heath noted the operational revenue requirements of new programs and facilities scheduled to come on line soon, including the Athens Freshwater Fisheries Center, Sea Center Texas, and several new state parks.

Heath noted the increases reflect a trend toward a "user pay/user benefit" approach to funding the agency. "Our intent is to take a hard shot at achieving parity over the next four years. We can't solve the problem solely with user fees — they'd go through the roof. We'll also be seeking assistance from the legislature to charge users who are not currently paying, look at possibly using our remaining bond authority and review the sporting goods sales tax."

In addressing the current TPWD "user pay/user benefit" status among its various constituency groups, Heath revealed that the traditional resource users are already getting a high return on their direct investment. Fishermen, for example, contributed

\$27.3 million to TPWD in license fees and required stamps during FY 1995. Based on expenditures by the agency, Texas anglers received \$30.3 million in benefits.

A look at other user groups revealed similar results. Hunters contributed \$22.8 million in license fees in FY 95 and received \$34.4 million in benefits; boaters paid in \$11.5 million and got back \$16.8 million and park users directly paid in \$21.9 million and received \$40.9 million worth of benefits.

Expenditures by TPWD on each user group were calculated from resources each division of the agency spent to provide products and services directly beneficial to a specific user.

"This approach appears to be the fairest assessment of user pay/user benefit for this agency," said Heath. "Historically, the approach has been to look at how much a user group pays in and how much the division of the agency most responsible for their resource spends. You can't look at the administrative structure of this agency and draw those conclusions. Nobody wants to pay directly for law enforcement, for example, but without it we probably wouldn't have any resources left to enjoy. Each division of this agency contributes important elements for the benefit of other user groups."

The Commission also adopted increases for lifetime hunting and fishing licenses, with a lifetime "Super Combo" to go from \$800 to \$1,000 and lifetime hunting or fishing licenses to increase to \$600. All stamps will be included in the purchase of a lifetime license. The Commission also approved a new temporary 3-day resident fishing license for \$10.

Commission Chairman Lee M. Bass reiterated his mandate for youth outreach by TPWD. "We're going to do everything we can to make it economical for young people to enjoy the outdoors. As a result of per-person pricing at state parks, kids under 13 will be admitted free of charge. We will continue to exempt young people under 17 from having to purchase a fishing license. In addition, today's action exempted youth from purchasing required hunting stamps. And, this agency is looking into several exciting new programs designed to put kids in the outdoors."

The only way to make a man trustworthy is to trust him; and the surest way to make him untrustworthy is to distrust him and show your distrust.

—Henry Lewis Stimson

Some people are so fond of ill luck that they run half-way to meet it.

—Douglas Jerrold

County Agent News

by Alan L. McWilliams



Christmas Poinsettias The Perfect Gift

The poinsettia is one of the most popular gifts of the Yuletide season. It shows bracts or modified leaves give it a distinctive appearance which has become a traditional Christmas symbol. These plants are grown in 4-inch and 6-inch pots but trees and hanging baskets are also available. The poinsettia can provide long lasting beauty in the home or office if you follow some basics in selection and care.

When purchasing a poinsettia, examine the plant carefully. Avoid one which has dropped the yellow flowers at the end of each branch. Select plants which have only three to five fully opened flowers in a tight cluster. Also, avoid plants which have brown or moldy bracts. Look for strong upright plants that are well-rounded.

Once in its new environment a poinsettia can easily last for more than a month if given proper care:

1) Remove or punch holes through any decorative foil or wrapping on the pot. Although it may be attractive, foil wrapping prevents drainage and holds water. This can cause the roots to rot and the plants will deteriorate quickly.

2) Keep the plants out of hot or cold drafts. Excessively hot, dry air from heating ducts and appliances will reduce the quality of the plant.

3) Poinsettias cannot tolerate cold or rapidly changing temperatures. Keep the plant where temperatures remain above 60 degrees F, between 65 and 70 degrees F is ideal.

4) Place the plant in good light, but not in direct sun.

5) Poinsettias use a moderate amount of water and should be checked daily. Make sure the soil remains moist but be careful not to over-water. When adding water, allow some to run through the root mass and allow some to drain out of the pot.

To be sure to receive a quality poinsettia, ask for a Texas product. You can be fairly assured of a locally-grown plant at its peak freshness.

On the subject of flowers, the bluebonnet, we all know is the state flower of Texas. In Oklahoma, mistletoe is the state flower. However, mistletoe is not actually a flower at all. It is a parasite. Its roots reach deep into a tree branch and suck out water and nutrients and eventually kill the tree. People have been trimming and cutting mistletoe out of mesquite trees for a long time with short term results. It fixes the immediate problem but you still have a mistletoe problem. Just short of lopping off the entire branch, the mistletoe will grow back. Chemicals strong enough to kill the mistletoe will also kill the tree limb it is growing on. Researchers in California have had some success by cutting off the mistletoe then covering the area of the limb with black wound paint. The paint blocks out sunlight to the mistletoe roots and they will not grow back.

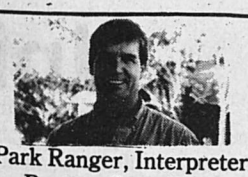
As for the holiday tradition of kissing under the mistletoe, which originated in Europe, it should still be treated indoors with a little caution because it is poisonous. It is poisonous and should be kept away from children and pets.

The Kinney County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service will be closed Thursday afternoon December 21st, Friday, December 22nd and Monday, December 25th for the Christmas holidays. Hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas.

Moncus Meditations



MIKE MONCUS



Park Ranger, Interpreter Bastrop State Park

Mother's Kiss

Now the really good days have come. Lately I've let my mouth get me into serious stress. You know the kind. Where you try to say things to maybe help someone who has a hard time speaking up for themselves. As it turns, the people I've spoken to have been able to take it as though I'm minding their business or critical of their performance. Really I'm not and I respect their position and care for them as individuals. Funny though how I've meant to do one thing and have drawn fire instead of achieving anything. I hope I can remain a little more cautious and yet continue to speak up for those who need help speaking.

As the days lull me with their almost perfect beauty and I wonder about nature and stuff sometimes I forget that I'm poor and live in a travel trailer. Sometimes I think of it as a hogan or a tent and I'm comfortable believing I'm like a Mongol or a Comanche and what I have is all that anyone ever needs.

People trust me, I'm a leader, but sometimes I step into places, running

my mouth, pushing for things and I abuse those who could do me and others the most good. How I do this is I say things like, "How long?", "When will?", "Is there any reason that?", and other similar questions. It is these kinds of questions that belittle and challenge authority that respond by answers like, "Don't you trust us?", "Haven't we always?", and "If we've failed you, why haven't you talked with us?"

We get all bogged down with these things and I get frustrated while all I can think is "We're talking now, we're asking now, we've needed a long time" and "Don't get sensitive on us." "It's just a cry in the wilderness and we know you'll do what you can, we just needed to cry."

Even when the lake is calm and the acorns are plenty and walking out is pure and magical if there's hurt left unaddressed there is no peace, but there is beauty to look to and that soothes like a mother's kiss on the forehead.

/s/Michael R. Moncus

Library Notes



Sara Terrazas

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We want to wish each and everyone of you a very joyful Christmas. You still have a few shopping days left and we might be able to help. We still have a few new John Grisham books for sale as well as the book "Texas" by James Michener. These books will make a wonderful Christmas present for someone. We also have some real nice

Christmas video's for children that can be checked out over the Holidays. Thanks to Robert and Vicki Padgett who made the donation.

The Library will be closing at 3:00 p.m. on December 21st and remain closed until Dec. 27th.

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

Bowlin gives Overview of Movie Business in Kinney County

Mike Bowlin, publicity director for Alamo Village, spoke to the Rotary Club on December 14th about the financial impact of movie making on the local economy. He first reminded us of the state of the economy in this area after Fort Clark Springs was closed by the Army. Brackettville had thrived on the revenue generated by the Fort. After the closure, it fell into economic doldrums. Six years after closure, the population had dropped from 4,800 to 1,400. Businesses had either closed or were struggling to survive.

A group of concerned men in the area got together to discuss possibilities of revitalizing the economy in some way. When Happy Shahan suggested bringing the movie industry here, no one took him very seriously. Undaunted, Happy ended up going to Hollywood with a picture book of the Fort and of surrounding areas which he felt would serve as perfect settings for the many westerns being made at the time.

For days, he canvassed the major studios with no luck. On the morning of the 10th day of his planned 10 day visit, Happy said a prayer and left to visit the Disney studios. That day the regular secretary was not at her desk. The woman in her place listened a few minutes to Happy, looked at the book, then picked up the telephone. She made one call which resulted in the movie "Arrowhead" being filmed at Fort Clark. The company was here for 36 shooting days, and the budget

for the movie was 1.6 million dollars. It starred Charlton Heston, Jack Palance and Katy Jurado and was filmed in the spring of 1951.

As a result, nearly a half million was left in this area. Many businesses that were on the verge of closing were saved and others were invigorated, thanks to Hollywood. Mike added that the money spent in an area turns over 7 times before it leaves the community.

In 1957, John Wayne was convinced by Happy to come to Brackettville to make the epic film "The Alamo". The outdoor sets for the film, including the full scale replica of the Alamo Mission, were built on Happy's ranch north of town. When the cast and crew finished filming on December 20, 1959, the cost of the movie totaled 12 million dollars. It was the most expensive movie ever made in the United States at that time. More than a quarter of the money spent on that film stayed in Brackettville.

Since that time, more than 60 major feature films, TV movies, mini series, commercials and music videos have used the authentic sets built for "The Alamo". Changes may be made to fit each movie. Literally millions of dollars have come to Kinney County and the surrounding area because of these films.

Since 1990, 7 major projects have used the famed Alamo Village movie set spending 1990's dollars in this area. Many residents of Brackettville

and the Fort have worked as extras in these films. "Gunsmoke II: The Last Apache" spent a week shooting here in the fall of 1989. More than 80 local extras were used in the TV movie. The majority of the cast and crew stayed at Fort Clark. They ate in the restaurant, played the golf course, and bought items at many of the Brackettville stores, leaving behind thousands of Hollywood dollars.

When scenes were to be shot at the Village for "Lonesome Dove", a construction crew came in ahead of time and built an \$80,000 courthouse for the set. All the materials were bought in Brackettville and Del Rio.

"Rio Diablo" filmed here for 21 days in the fall of 1992. The TV movie starred Kenny Rogers, Travis Tritt, and Naomi Judd. It employed more than 90 extras, each making \$60.00 a day. Of the 110 member cast and crew, 96 of them stayed at Fort Clark, ate at the restaurant, and frequented the many businesses in Brackettville, spending approximately \$100,000.

In 1993, 20th Century Fox, filmed the 30 million dollar "Bad Girls" here for 11 weeks. A quarter of the budget was left in the area. Kenny Rogers starred in "Gambler V" which was shot at Alamo Village. When the cast and crew left, Brackettville, Del Rio and Uvalde were several hundred thousands richer. The \$20 million dollar mini series of James Michener's "Texas" spent 15 days here and left estimated \$160,000 in

the local coffers. Tommy Lee Jones filmed major scenes for "Good Old Boys" here in 1994 and spent thousands in the area. Earlier in the year, the 124 member cast and crew of "Streets of Laredo" spent nearly 3 weeks here getting the Alamo Village sets ready for filming and then another two weeks making the movie. The 22 million dollar mini series in Brackettville and Del Rio. Again boosted the local and area economy by dropping several hundred thousand dollars.

This is just a part of the work done at the village. Those of us who live here tend to grow used to the movie people as they come and go. We may even get annoyed if their numbers cause us any inconvenience. When you listen to Mike Bowlin speak of the financial rewards of attracting this industry, you realize how blessed we are. This area has benefited enormously from the movies. Each of us enjoys, directly or indirectly, the prosperity derived from its presence. We are also blessed by having Happy Shahan here -- the man who's "wild idea" of going after the movie business actually worked. In fact, it not only worked initially, it has flourished.

We thank Happy Shahan for being a man of vision. We also thank Mike Bowlin for sharing his thoughts and these figures with us and Frank Cheaney, Program Chairman for December.

9 Homeowners Will Get \$1,047 Cash Before The Christmas Season

Which is when we all need it the most.

By LIZZ RAMIREZ

Once again in Brackettville, Dan Peterson has created a program that will allow 9 homeowners to get \$1,047 cash right now before the Christmas Season. Plus, get a new heating and air conditioning system without taking one penny out of their pockets.

My question when talking to Dan Peterson was...

Why Would He Make This Offer?

His answer made sense. He said "At this time of year I'm faced with a devastating problem and I know this can solve my problem. You see, during this Christmas season I already have two strikes against me:

1. The really cold weather hasn't hit us, so we don't get a lot of repair calls.

2. People have to spend so much for Christmas that they will do whatever they can to put off spending money on anything else.

Now I know many homeowners are faced with their own problems... They have all these things that they want to do this Christmas, but many of them don't know where all the money will come from. Well, this creative plan will take care of their problem and mine.

I believe that by giving homeowners this tremendous opportunity, these 9 systems will keep all of my employees busy until Christmas. I realize we don't have the profit in these jobs that we normally do, but it's worth it just to keep all our people working instead of having to send them home."

After discussing the advantage to the homeowner I believe Mr. Peterson will wish he had enough employees to put in more than 9 systems, and I'm sure many homeowners will too.

Here Is How The Homeowners Benefit

They can finance a new premium heating and air conditioning system with

taking one cent out of their pocket. Then Mr. Peterson will give them a check for \$1,047.

For homeowner that decide to pay cash, instead of financing, Mr. Peterson will reduce their price by \$1,047.

Either way the homeowner can save \$1,047.

Just imagine, When Christmas is here many of these homeowners can enjoy it like they never have before. That's because these homeowners will have \$1,047 cash to pay their Christmas bills.

Here Is Another Part Of This Concept That Impresses Me

The homeowners that are replacing an old system will get a guaranteed energy savings of 25% during the first year or Mr. Peterson will pay them the difference. Plus, he will take care of any repairs on the new system FREE for the next 10 years. And get this! Mr. Peterson said "Many of our customers have found that the money they save on their energy bills is more than their monthly payment."

My hat goes off to Mr. Peterson for creating a remarkable program. Just look at everything the homeowner gets:

A new system without taking one cent out of their pocket.

\$1,047 cash at the time of year that they need it the most.

A \$1,047 discount if they decide to pay cash instead of finance.

A system that could cut their energy and repair bills by more than their monthly payment.

The Only Way Homeowners Can Lose Is If Their Call Comes In Too Late

Because according to Mr. Peterson, once the 9 systems are sold this program will have to end.

Homeowners can request more information (or schedule a free survey) by calling COMFORT TECH at 774-6542 OR 1-800-825-6694.

Here is my advice if you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity... Do not delay calling.

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Check Managed Care Deals Carefully

AUSTIN — Medicare and Medicaid patients in Texas need to be careful when enrolling in managed care programs to understand what health care services are covered and how accessible they will be to the patients.

Dr. Dale White, DC, president of the Texas Chiropractic Association said his group has had numerous complaints to their members from patients who say they were recruited into a managed care program and are finding it difficult if not impossible to get referrals to covered providers such as chiropractors.

"We've had a significant number of complaints from a round the state in which managed care companies recruit these patients, often from nursing homes, and then drag their feet or refuse to cover health care provided for under Medicare and Medicaid programs," Dr. White said.

He noted that the bulk of the complaints have come from the Dallas/Fort Worth area, but that the situation is occurring all over Texas. In one case Dr. White cited, a Medicare patient had to seek the help of her state representative to get her managed care company to fulfill their care contract.

"Folks need to get a clear expla-

nation of not only what a managed care company will provide but also what their system for the patient gaining access to care will be," Dr. White said, adding, "For many of these older Texans their treatment by chiropractors, and other non-medical professionals, is pivotal to maintaining mobility, independence and the highest quality of life. Those are goals we should be striving for not just for the well being of patients, but also because a mobile, independent Medicare consumer is a less costly patient to treat."

Dr. White said Medicare and Medicaid patients who are having trouble getting their managed care provider to allow access to chiropractic care can contact the Texas Chiropractic Association in Austin at 1-512-477-9292.

"It is a terrible injustice for any patient needing non-medical care to be denied that because of the bureaucratic or profit driven aspects of managed care. I hope any Texans who want chiropractic and other types of covered care will demand that managed care providers meet the conditions of accepting Medicare and Medicaid patients," Dr. White said.

A Cameo From The Past

By J. Lee Ballantyne

When I was just a little girl someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. Without any hesitation I answered, "just a plain lady with a baby".

That wish has been answered. The "plain lady" has been around for many years and is still going strong and the "baby" is now a grandmother herself.

I have been teased many times about that answer but look at the results. When the family gathers around the Christmas table this year we will represent four generations - twelve people.

Not bad results from that answer many years ago.

Here it is - Christmas Season again. I woke up this morning with

such happy expectations! If I had just known what was ahead for me on this bright and sunny day! I would have pulled the covers up over my head and just skipped the whole thing!

First, I made the Christmas candy I always give to my friends - this year the candy refused to harden right and that made it look sloppy.

Then I tried the cookies (never a failure). They spread out too much and looked sloppy and burnt around the edges. Oh well! I'll just send cards this year. After a search of the sun-porch closet, heaven forbid I remembered I didn't buy any cards this year.

It looks like I've been thwarted on all sides so I'll just say -- Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year! (Maybe next year will be better!)

Mankind, by the perverse depravity of their nature, esteem that which they have most desired as of no value, the moment it is possessed, and torment themselves with fruitless wishes for that which is beyond their reach.

—Francois De Salignae De La Mothe Fenel

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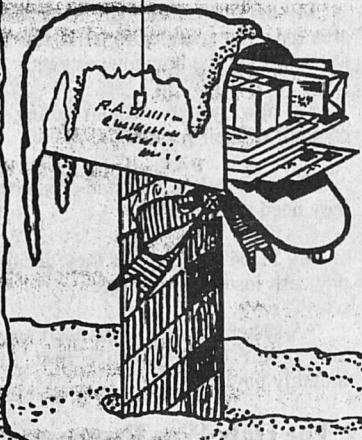


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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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United States Air Force

47th Flying Training Wing
Office of Public Affairs
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Laughlin Instructors Experience Navy Pilot Training

As part of an exchange program between Laughlin and Kingsville Naval Air Station, Fla., six Laughlin instructor pilots were given the opportunity to experience Navy pilot training aboard an aircraft carrier Nov. 13-15.

Lt. Col. Carl A. Steel, 85th Flying Training Squadron commander; 1st Lt. Samuel B. Urso, 85th FTS; Capt. Mark Hall and Capt. Shane M. Brotherton, 87th Flying Training Squadron; Capt. Robert S. Rick and Capt. Max Tipton, 86th Flying Training Squadron, flew to Cecil Field NAS, Fla., Nov. 13 to experience the aircraft carrier landing phase of Navy pilot training.

"This was a 'good neighbor' program -- it helps our Air Force officers become smarter on how the Navy does business and vice-versa," said Col. Jim McClure, 47th Operations Group commander. "This type of exchange will ultimately help the U.S. military operate together better."

Laughlin IPs were invited to the USS John F. Kennedy aircraft carrier by Navy Capt. Charles W. Nesby, Air Wing Two commandant, Kingsville, for the exchange visit. Nesby, along with several Kingsville instructor pilots, came to Laughlin Oct. 26 to see Air Force pilot training first-hand and take T-38 orientation flights.

"It makes good sense to combine our training so we can speak the same language and ultimately operate as a joint team," said Nesby. "I was extremely impressed by the professionalism of everyone at Laughlin and look forward to training and working together."

Returning the favor, Nesby invited Laughlin to observe his wing's carrier operations.

The 47th FTW's pilots were able to observe final preflight briefings that precede a Navy student's first attempt

at landing on an aircraft carrier. Additionally, Laughlin IPs were given the opportunity to experience a carrier landing in the back seat of a Navy T-45. "The thing I was most impressed with was the accuracy with which the pilots had to land on the carrier," said Tipton. "I didn't understand a lot of the terminology before this experience, but now I can use this knowledge in my training to give students an idea of what they can expect when dealing with the Navy."

"I was very impressed with their training program," said Steel. "I was given the opportunity to see how the Navy operates, their philosophy and just how differently their operations are from ours -- this is very important for our people to understand."

The phase of Navy pilot training observed prepares students for positions in carrier-based aircraft such as F-14s, F-18s and A-6s. "We spend a lot of time emphasizing the landing pattern; the techniques for making a safe landing on the carrier," said Navy instructor pilot Lt. Chuck Hagan, Fixed Wing Training Squadron 22, Kingsville NAS. "We go through a series of flights back at our home station, that from the beginning teaches the students how to fly the carrier landing pattern. Then we take them out to the carrier and let them put their training to the test."

Navy student pilots often get their first view of an aircraft carrier from behind the stick of their T-45 aircraft on the way to making their first carrier landing attempt. All prior training is done on an airstrip or in simulators.

"While the students are trying to land we talk to them on the radio, coaching them and giving them some pointers to help them to relax and make good landings," Hagan said.

"We guide them through the first few landings and then give them the chance to prove to us they can do it on their own."

Students who attend this portion of training have already accumulated at least 80 hours of flight time and have a firm grasp of the basics of flight, he said.

"The reason we invited Laughlin to see this phase of training was because what we do on a carrier is so much different than any kind of flying done in the Air Force. You really need to see it to be able to sit down and talk about joint training," said Hagan.

With the development and acquiring of the joint primary aircraft training system (the replacement aircraft for the Air Force's T-37 and the Navy's T-34), joint pilot training in the initial or primary phase will soon become the standard at some Navy and Air Force pilot training wings.

Reese Air Force Base, Texas, has had a joint training program for more than a year that is producing quality pilots for both the Navy and Air Force. With military cutbacks and limited funding, joint pilot training is expected to become the norm throughout the services.

Currently, the Air Force has pilots in primary pilot training in the T-34 at Whiting NAS, Fla., and advanced pilot training in the T-44 for C-130 pilots of Corpus Christi NAS, Texas.

"Our pilots came home with a better understanding of how the Navy trains pilots and why it trains the way it does," said Col. Tim Peppe, 47th FTW commander. "Joint training between the Navy and Air Force is not only a feasible idea, it's a proven one. I thank Captain Nesby and his wing for providing such a unique insight into Navy training."

Laughlin Brings Air Force To Potential Recruits

In keeping with the program "We are all recruiters" Laughlin sent a team of volunteers from various Air Force specialty codes to show Laredo, Texas, high school students an idea of what it's like to "Aim High."

Meeting with recruiters from the 341st Recruiting Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Team XL presented various career opportunities available in the Air Force to nearly 400 local students November 30.

Capt. Chris Gawlik, 47th FTW project officer for the program, arranged for pilots to fly a T-37 from the 85th Flying Training Squadron, a T-38 from the 87th Flying Training Squadron and two T-1s from the 86th Flying Training Squadron, to Laredo International Airport to show high school students what the Air Force is all about.

"The purpose of this program was twofold: to create an awareness that the Air Force is still hiring and to look for people interested in a career in the Air Force," said Tech. Sgt. Hugo Martinez, Del Rio and Laredo area recruiter.

This particular program was created Jan. 17-18 under the vision of Col. Tim Peppe, 47th FTW commander.

"Col. Peppe approached me with the idea of doing the program again to motivate students beginning the school year," said Martinez. "Since we don't have a recruiter solely dedicated to this area, we really appreciate the interest the program generates."

The program included a presentation by recruiters explaining the benefits of an Air Force career. "We talked to them about educational benefits like the G.I. Bill, that offer money for college and the technical

training they would receive. We also talked about pay and benefits available in the Air Force," said Martinez.

Laughlin members talked about their Air Force experience and why they joined. Many Laughlin people are fairly new to the Air Force and were able to more closely identify with the students.

A wide variety of jobs were represented by the group of airmen on hand to give the students an idea of the kinds of jobs available to them. The airmen answered questions ranging from family and housing concerns to technical questions about specific career fields.

The static display aircraft flown in gave students the opportunity to see first hand the reason the Air Force exists. Laughlin instructor pilots were on hand to answer questions about flying and career opportunities.

"Teenagers are somewhat shy at first, but once you get them interested they relax and start asking questions," said Capt. Drew Gonzalez, 85th FTS instructor pilot. "They were interested in the airplanes and how to get into flying. I used my personal experience to explain that no matter what your background is, you can accomplish whatever you set your mind to do."

Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps groups attended from several high schools. JROTC gives students and idea of what being in the military is like.

"We try to prepare them to be better citizens, develop leadership skills and develop self discipline," said Maj. George Gray, United High School Air Force JROTC instructor. "We take the kids out on field trips like this one to give them an idea of what's going on in the military."

"I think the program was excel-

lent. There were some very motivated airmen who, in turn, motivated the students with their enthusiasm," Gray said.

Students enjoyed the opportunity to interact with Air Force members and get a taste of military life.

"We were very impressed with the information," said Cadet Lt. Col. James Hale, United High School JROTC member. "We received a lot of information and advice about scholarships and what the Air Force lifestyle is like. I think a lot of people will use that advice to consider a career in the Air Force. It was inspirational to see people who have been where we are and have made their dreams come true."

"This program primarily targets high school students to give them an idea of what the Air Force has to offer to help them decide if they are interested in a career in the Air Force," said Lt. Col. Brett D. White, 341st Recruiting Squadron commander. "An activity like this may produce as many as 15 to 20 percent of the recruits we need in a given month."

"The Air Force is working toward meeting its recruiting goals and activities like this one help to dispel the misconception that the Air Force isn't hiring," White said.

The United High School Air Force JROTC visits Laughlin Sunday and Monday to experience and see what the Air Force has to offer and to learn about the 47th FTW mission.

"The recruiting program needs all the help we can give to ensure the future of the Air Force," said Peppe. "The JROTC cadet today may very well be tomorrow's airman. My thanks to everyone involved in the trip for their dedication and enthusiasm -- they made it a success."

Wherever we are, it is but a stage on the way to somewhere else, and whatever we do, however well we do it, it is only a preparation to do something else that shall be different.
—Robert Louis Stevenson

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost, that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.
—Henry David Thoreau

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Man lives by affirmation even more than he does by bread.
—Victor Hugo



The Puritans did not believe in bathing, since undressing, even to take a bath might lead to sinful behavior.

Try A Little UNITY For The Holidays

(NAPS)—The list of things that "must be done" during the holidays goes on and on. Unity School of Christianity offers these suggestions on how to minimize stress and maximize your peace and joy.



Relax—Take time for yourself. Be quiet and release the outer world of activity even if just for a few minutes.

Look for the good in your life—Be specific. Review all that you have to be thankful for.

Give thanks—To your family, co-workers, friends and to God for being part of your life.

Seek agreement—Rather than focusing on differences.

Accept change—Growth can come out of life's difficulties.

Give of yourself—Share the love and joy of the holiday spirit with someone else. It can be as simple as a smile or some of your time. Listen to the lonely, visit the sick, play with children.

Receive gracefully—Allow others to give to you.

Affirm a healthy joyous holiday season—Think about the way you would like things to be in your life and the world.

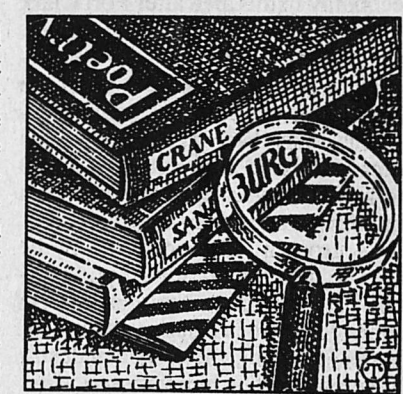
Let go and let God—By quieting our thoughts and calming our emotions we can turn our problems over to God so that a divine solution can take place.

Pray—Seek to know God through prayer and meditation.

If you are feeling overwhelmed or just want to celebrate the season through prayer, Silent Unity, the 106-year-old prayer ministry of Unity School, is available for confidential free prayer support twenty-four hours a day by calling 816-246-5400. If you have an urgent need and have no means of paying for the call, you may call Silent Unity toll-free at 1-800-NOW-PRAY (1-800-669-7729).

Tips for Analyzing Poetry

(NAPS)—Analyzing poetry can be a difficult assignment for students of all ages. Cliffs Notes, Inc., publisher of the famous Cliffs Notes literary study guides, offers the following tips to help students make rhyme and reason out of the poems they examine.



1. Know the background of the poem. Who wrote it? When and where was it written? In what language?
2. Read through the poem several times, at least once aloud. Note words, phrases or verses that are repeated. Try to pin down the time frame and the speaker in the poem.
3. Concentrate on the title and the opening and closing lines. Is there important information or emotion in these places?
4. Examine the words from different perspectives such as rhythm, sound, meaning and implication.
5. Try to determine the theme or dominant idea.
6. After thoroughly reviewing the poem, try to paraphrase or restate it in everyday words. Summarize the information. Look for a pattern.
7. Before reaching a conclusion, consider your personal response. Do words and phrases stick in your memory? How has the poem affected you, and most importantly, why?

For more tips on analyzing a poem, write to Cliffs Notes for a free booklet. The address is Cliffs Notes, Inc., P.O. Box 80728, Lincoln, NE 68501.

Did You Know?

(NAPS)—Eastman Kodak continues to be in the forefront when it comes to the ever-smaller products craved by consumers. The new "Cameo" camera paves the way for exciting new photography products to come.

To protect your skin, use a mild, non-soap cleanser such as Dove Beauty Bar, experts advise. Blankets made with Spunnaire are light, warm, machine washable and available at local stores.

Choosing a real Christmas tree over an artificial one is the environmentally sound choice, says the National Christmas Tree Association.

Killing Direct Lending Would Hurt Students, Colleges

Jeannette Galanis, a senior at the University of Colorado, Boulder, faced a difficult dilemma upon graduation in the spring of 1994. She was offered the job of her dreams as president of the U.S. Student Association, a national non-profit association representing college students. But, as with many non-profit organizations, the pay was low -- and Jeannette faced a whopping \$345 monthly student loan payment.

"I was in a tough predicament," Galanis said, "of either giving up a job I had prepared for and wanted for so long, or facing the very real possibility of defaulting on my students loans. Either way I would lose."

Fortunately, Jeannette didn't have to choose between her dream job and her loan obligations. She was able to do both thanks to a new repayment option offered under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, which bases monthly payments on borrowers' income and is adjusted annually as their income level changes.

Designed to give borrowers more control over their finances and career choices, income contingent repayment plans can be especially helpful right after graduation when salaries tend to be lower. This is just one benefit of President Clinton's direct lending initiative that would be lost to millions of students nationwide if Congress prevails in its attempt to cap

direct loans at 10 percent of total student loan volume.

If the Congressional majority succeeds, direct loans would be available only to those students who attend the 104 schools that have been in the program since 1994. Some 2.2 million college students attending more than 1,200 additional postsecondary schools currently participating in direct lending would be kicked out of the program within the year. And some 6,000 more schools -- including 450 already approved for next year -- would be denied the chance to choose direct lending.

Under direct lending, loans are issued from the federal government to students through their campus financial aid office, bypassing thousands of banks and dozens of guaranty agencies and secondary markets -- the special interests and middlemen -- that comprise the old guaranteed loan system.

In a letter last month to Secretary Riley, President Clinton wrote:

"Those who propose to end Direct Lending are putting the interest of middlemen and special interests above the interests of students. The best solution to the current dispute is for us in Washington to give schools across the nation the freedom to choose the student lending program that works best for them. We should let the market work by letting the consumer decide."

The schools apparently agree. Last month, more than 400 college and university presidents and chancellors, representing schools that participate in both the direct and guaranteed loan programs, signed a letter to Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole to voice their support for current law -- which allows schools to choose which program works best for them -- and their opposition to any efforts to limit direct lending.

The letter said that "schools' ability to join either of the two programs has improved the student loan process for all students and schools, regardless of whether or not they participate in direct lending."

Those representing schools in direct lending cited several benefits for students, including:

"Simplicity of application, the speed of delivery of funds, the disappearance of lines of students waiting to endorse their checks at registration time, the precipitous drop in the number of emergency loans issued to students waiting to hear about their loans from banks and guarantors; students often borrow less under direct lending because they know they can adjust their loan amounts without repeating the entire application process; and the benefits of the income-contingent repayment option, which is only possible through direct lending."

The letter goes on to cite additional

benefits for schools:

"Direct lending has eliminated redundant paperwork, reduced staff time allocated to dealing with thousands of lenders and dozens of guarantors and other intermediaries, and vastly improved our overall aid delivery processes because it seamlessly integrates with other federal aid programs."

Those representing institutions satisfied with the guaranteed student loan program also support the continued availability of direct loans:

"The competition created by the direct lending program has induced banks and guarantors to improve the efficiency of their delivery process, and has for the first time provided the student loan industry with market-based incentives to provide better service. The guaranteed student loan system has improved more since the phase-in of direct lending two years ago than it did over the more than two decades of its existence prior to 1993. Capping or otherwise limiting the direct loan program would undermine the market-based incentives that have so dramatically improved the guaranteed student loan system."

President Clinton is presently negotiating with Congress for a 7-year balanced budget plan that assures continued access to higher education through direct lending.

Fort Clark Springs Golf News

Ladies League
A-B-C-D Foursome/No Handicap
Tuesday November 28, 1995
1st Place--Joyce Williamson & Melba Turner with a 52
2nd Place--Nel Darling & Lavon McLane with a 53
3rd Place--Juanita Pratt & Fern Dyer with a 55
4th Place--Betty Schlatterer and Fern Dyer with a 56

Men's League
Two Best Balls
Wednesday November 29, 1995
1st Place--Choppy Ambler, Lee Herron, Don Bell & Harold Kauffman with 143
2nd Place--A THREE WAY TIE between the teams of Stan Sterling, Charles Deschmaker, Jack Schram & Dave Yates with 151

Robert Kurz, Ruben Martinez, Ken Bell & Dick Wolters with 151

Carlos Garza, Ray Darling, Don Herron & Rick Searle with 151

Thursday Couples Scramble
2 Person Scramble
Thursday November 30, 1995
1st Place--A TIE between Jan and Karl Chism & Ken and Lorna Frost
2nd Place--ANOTHER TIE between Jack and Jo Workman & Wayne and Jackie Marrs.
3rd Place--THREE WAY TIE between Charlie Smith and Mary Stephenson, Bob and Betty Lee & Lee and Eleanor Herron

Ladies League
Throw Out Three Worst Holes
Tuesday December 12, 1995
First Flight Winners
1st Place--Betty Lee
2nd Place--Gwen Ladd
3rd Place--Marge Maderich
Second Flight Winners

1st Place--Nel Darling
2nd Place--Joann Mayberry
3rd Place--THREE WAY TIE between Leslie Houk, Norma Reivitt & Betty Mathinson
Third Flight Winners
1st Place--Margo Kendrick
2nd Place--Edith Zipperer

Wednesday Men's League
December 13, 1995
1st Place--Choppy Ambler, Ken Frost, Charlie Deschmaker & Dick Reivitt at 148
2nd Place--Roger Kurz, Don Herron, Don Bell & Vern Ebert at 151

3rd Place--TIED FOR THIRD AND FOURTH were Bob Gaston, Ray Kurtz, Ken Bell and G.B. Armstrong at 154, Bob Houk, P.M. Moore, Lyle Niel & Phil Fordhal at 154

Ladies Tee On Even Holes/Men On Odd
December 14, 1995
A-Flight Winners

1st Place--Charlie Smith, Mary Stephenson, Bob & Joyce Williamson-9
2nd Place--Hoagy Nelson, Barb Miller, Tom Beatty and Kelly Dennis-7

3rd Place--Bob Lee, Betty Lee, Louis & Edith Zipperer-5
B-Flight Winners
1st Place--Ken Frost, Lorna Frost, Clem & Pat McKelvey-5
2nd Place--Lyle Niel, Camille Niel, Dave Yates & Betty Schlatterer-1

3rd Place--TIE AT EVEN PAR were Bill Mills, Helen Miller, Vern Ebert and Molly Schroder also Jim Pratt, Juanita Pratt, Ray Darling & Nel Darling

The Annual Duracell/NSTA Scholarship Competition

(Washington, DC).... With prizes now totaling over \$100,000 in savings bonds, the Duracell/NSTA Scholarship Competition is challenging all ninth through twelfth graders to create and build battery-powered devices for its 14th annual competition.

Recognized as the nation's leading high school invention contest, 100 students will receive awards and personalized certificates in the 1996 Duracell/NSTA Scholarship Competition. The first place winner will receive a \$20,000 U.S. Series EE savings bond, five second place winners will receive \$10,000 bonds, ten third place winners will receive \$1,000 bonds, twenty-five fourth place winners will receive \$500 bonds, and up to 59 finalists will each receive \$200 bonds.

The top six winners, their parents and sponsoring teachers will be guests of Duracell at awards festivities held in St. Louis in March during the National Science Teachers Association's annual convention, where the students will present their inventions to teachers and scientists.

Past winners personify the best of what American students have to offer in creativity and ingenuity. A new survey of all past winners and their sponsors shows that the competition is a major source of personal

and professional growth for students. Past entrants report that they are pursuing a wide variety of degrees and careers. Many past winners have further developed their devices, some as commercial products.

Nick Frankovits, an Akron, Ohio high school science teacher and sponsor of 30 entrants over the last 14 years, says the Duracell/NSTA Scholarship Competition is "one of the grandest platforms from which students can launch their inventiveness." Frankovits tells his students, "You don't become an inventor by trying to think of something that doesn't exist. Identify a problem and the solution is your inventive idea." Frankovits and other teachers report that the Duracell competition helps students with varying interests and talents learn more electronics, science and technology as they develop solutions.

Annette Piepenhagen, a second place winner in 1993, who is now a junior in electrical engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, says her winning device helped her get an industry internship last summer. Jason Cole, a second place winner in 1989 who is now in graduate school, says, "This is a tremendous opportunity for young people to display their innovative genius in ways that they, themselves, would never have envisioned without a competi-

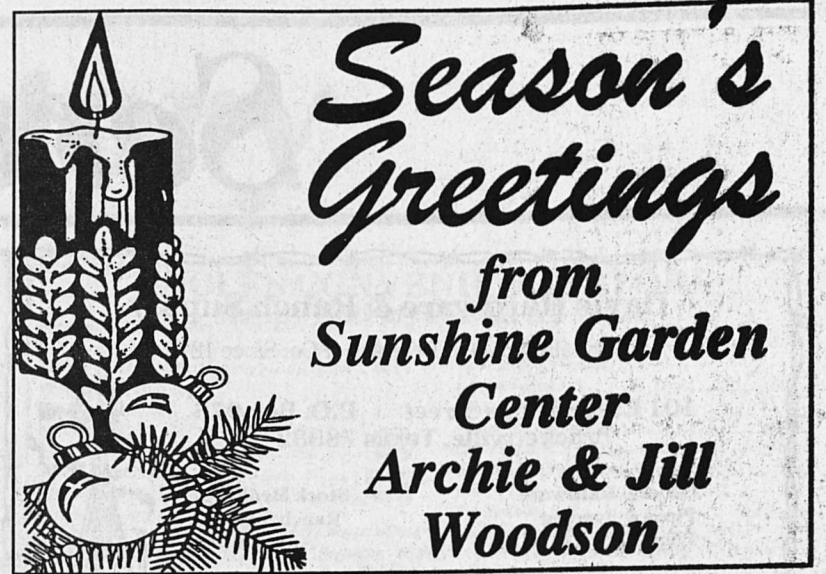
tion such as this to spur them on towards great accomplishments."

Entries are judged on creativity, practicality, and energy efficiency of the battery-powered device, and on clarity of the essay. Winners are selected in a two step process by judges who are distinguished scientists and science educators selected by the NSTA.

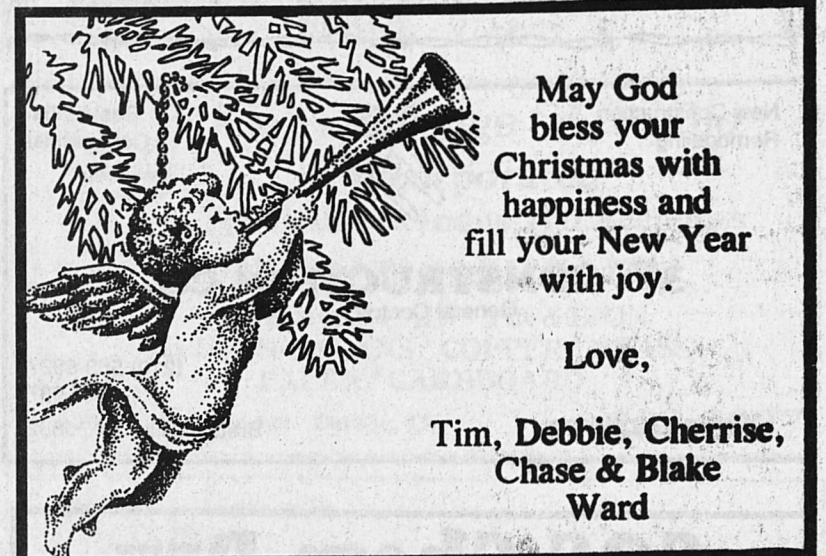
Teachers of the first and second place winners receive personal computers and all teacher sponsors of the 100 finalists receive gifts. Every student who completes an entry receives a certificate of recognition and entry gift.

Sponsored by Duracell USA and administered by the National Science Teachers Association, since 1983 the Duracell/NSTA Scholarship Competition has awarded \$500,000 in scholarships, bonds and cash to over 650 students nationwide and stimulated the creativity of some 5,000 young inventors who have submitted entries.

The deadline for receipt of entries is January 12, 1996. For complete rules and an entry form contact the NSTA, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA 22201-3000 * 703-243-7100 * Email: <ecrossley@nsta.org >. Student inventors retain all rights to their devices.



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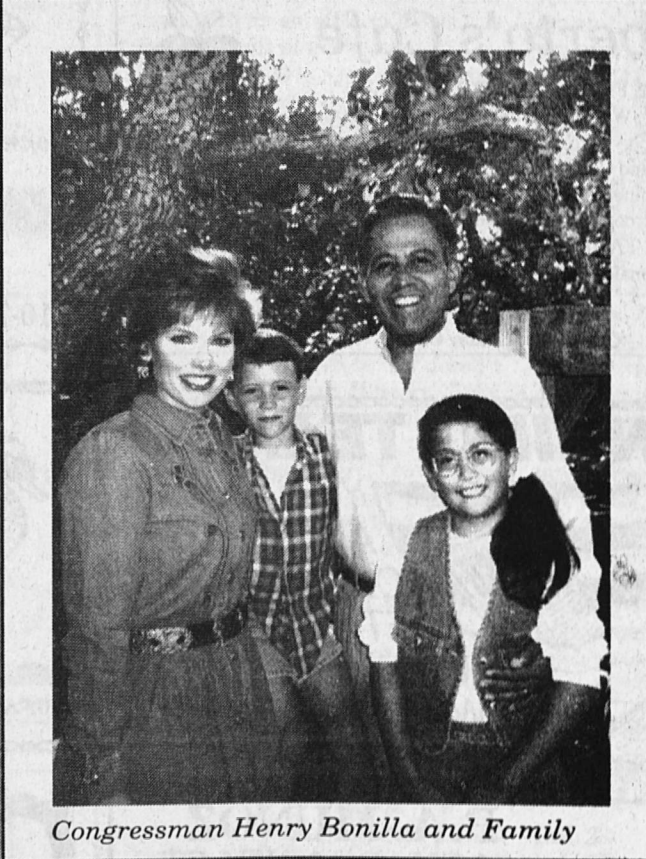
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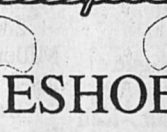


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Super Crossword

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | 53 Submarine funder | 94 Morning scrape? | 2 Ready for business | 36 Off-the-wall Mecca men | 82 Porthos' pal |
| 1 Jupiter's alias | 55 In front | 95 Took in a taco | 3 Apt anagram of "vote" | 37 Pallid | 84 Unsel'd of basketball |
| 5 Ontario, for one | 58 Mature | 96 "Islands in the" (83 hit) | 4 Narcissus' nymph | 39 Boat bottom | 85 Granola or oatmeal |
| 9 Rope fiber | 59 Shaped like Humpty | 99 Immoral | 5 Summer refreshment | 41 Zhigavo's portrayer | 87 "People" (92 film) |
| 13 Stowe sight | 61 Part 2 of remark | 101 Sign of the future | 6 Supplied with Stens | 42 Forum fashions | 88 Irene Cara hit |
| 19 Crude cartel | 63 Sought office | 102 Push a product | 7 Ukraine's capital | 44 Like some stockings | 89 Pizzeria fixture |
| 20 Author | 64 Offend | 104 Hair dye | 8 To be, to Trajan | 45 Second largest planet | 90 Flat rate |
| 21 Skater | 65 React to Frankie? | 105 Poem of praise | 9 Emperor Selassie | 46 Addison's partner | 97 Delights |
| 22 Plain | 66 Desert refuge | 106 Give in | 10 Runs out | 49 Synthetic fabric | 98 Art subject |
| 23 One of the Marches | 68 Actress Linda | 108 Atmosphere | 11 Pigsty | 51 Chop (off) | 100 Acted like Hercules |
| 24 Fr. matrons | 69 Super, for short | 112 Justice Fortas | 12 Agatha Christie's forte | 54 Gets a galley going | 103 Permissible |
| 25 - facto | 72 Heir, often | 113 End of remark | 13 Kind of cuisine | 55 United | 105 Animated Olive |
| 26 Persians, at present | 73 Part 3 of remark | 121 Courageous | 14 Actor Buchholz | 57 Sharpshooter | 107 Emulate Betsy Ross |
| 27 Start of a remark by John Yeck | 74 Half a cocktail | 123 Oodles | 15 Explosive | 60 Hotshot | 109 Robert Ruark novel |
| 31 Paw part | 77 Benz chaser? | 124 - about (approximately) | 16 Jocular Jay | 62 "Da - Ron Ron" (song) | 111 Tricks |
| 32 - Freischütz | 78 Devour Dostoyevsky | 125 Flicka's foot | 17 Elm City collegian | 67 Farm buildings | 112 Battery part |
| 33 Apollo's mom | 80 Prepare to propose | 127 Go limp | 18 Cobb and Hardin | 69 Scrap | 113 Noun suffix |
| 34 Boxer Charles | 81 Latin dance | 128 "Rule Britannia" composer | 28 Educ. network | 70 Fill with fizz | 114 Handy bit of Latin |
| 35 - poster acronym | 83 Tell's missile | 129 Big vein | 29 Vitamin bottle | 71 Monkey house? | 115 Time past |
| 40 Senator Kefauver | 85 Heel | 130 Memo start | 30 Junior size | 73 Like a llama | 116 Ms. Montez |
| 43 A bad figure? | 86 Part 4 of remark | 131 Scribe's tool | 31 Maxwell or Martinelli | 74 Ghost-singer | 117 Handle |
| 47 Inventive sort? | 91 Chill con - | 132 Meadowlands | 34 Utah National Park | 75 Singer Grant | 118 Carnival ride |
| 48 Celtic | 92 Poetic | 133 Confined to a cot | 35 Utah National Park | 76 Wading bird | 119 Sharpen a skill |
| 50 Make a pile | 93 German steel center | 134 Pedigreed pup | | 77 Oxford bigwig | 120 English city |
| 52 Singer Benatar | | DOWN | | 78 Ms. Silkwood | 121 Greek consonants |
| | | 1 Chore | | 81 Actor Guttenberg | 122 Tiny colonist |
| | | | | | 126 Charge |

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

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

Coal	Fuel	Mineral	Salad
Coconut	Lamp	Motor	Shale
Corn	Linseed	Olive	Snake
Crude	Midnight	Peanut	

Natasha's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a good time for you to seek that financial backing you need for a special project. You also need to do some last-minute shopping since Christmas will be upon you before you know it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Spend some time this week wrapping up last-minute holiday preparations. Make sure you check your pantry and refrigerator and have all the necessary vittles to entertain the holiday guests you've invited over.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Before you think about all those holiday parties, there is work to attend to. Co-workers and family alike are more than willing to come to your aid, so take advantage of this. Try to keep children's excitement to a manageable level.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're going over everyone's wish list and making sure you're filling it to the best of your ability. However, remember that not everything good has to be expensive. A gift of your time, such as an offer to babysit, is more of a gift of the heart.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Someone surprises you this week with an early holiday gift. Don't feel bad if you haven't yet put this person on your list. You still have time before the big day and will be able to come up with something reciprocal.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) It's not even Christmas yet, but your holiday spirit has gone into super high gear. There isn't a nook or cranny in your house that doesn't sport some holiday frippery. Take time, though, to relax and enjoy good times with family.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Thanks to your early planning, you are able now to just tend to daily tasks without worrying about last-minute shopping, baking or cooking. When the big day finally arrives, you can feel free to sit back and enjoy.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You're filled with the

sights and sounds of the holiday season. However, don't get so caught up with the commercial aspect that you ignore the true meaning of this religious holiday. Make sure family members participate as well.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The beginning of the week finds you in a less than festive mood. Perhaps this is because you're missing those people who live far away and whom you won't see for the holiday. Cheer yourself up and get on the phone for the assurance you need.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Stop being such a Scrooge and start enjoying this magical time of the year. Children in particular are looking to you so don't disappoint them. A very special loved one can get you out of your doldrums.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This is your favorite time of year - filled with parties, friends, family and lots of socializing. You flit from one party to another with a seemingly endless supply of energy. However, get enough rest.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The shopping is done, the goodies are baked, the gifts are wrapped. There's nothing left to do but sit by the tree and wait for Santa. Take some special time to read a holiday story to the kiddies.
 ©1995 by King Features Synd.



Vision Teaser

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Happy Birthday

Dec. 21	Shelley McDaniel	Dec. 23	Elena Molinar
Dec. 22	Al Bacon	Dec. 23	Elidia Molinar
Dec. 22	Evelyn Estes	Dec. 24	Tom Beatty
Dec. 22	Richard Pena	Dec. 24	Sam Ferguson
Dec. 22	Don Hood	Dec. 25	Michael Gass
Dec. 22	Arabala Abrego	Dec. 26	Pam Melancon
Dec. 22	Victoria Abrego	Dec. 26	Dorothy Clark
Dec. 23	Johnie L. Beard	Dec. 26	Pat Foster
Dec. 23	Diana C. Flores	Dec. 27	Margarita Pena
Dec. 23	Sergio T. Cardenas	Dec. 27	Taylor Stephenson
Dec. 23	Hazel Sullivan	Dec. 27	Christina Smith
Dec. 23	Daniel Molinar	Dec. 27	J.J. Smith

May your holidays be filled with Joy... and may the coming year bring you health & happiness



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WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

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Global Communities Workshop Scheduled For Del Rio

AUSTIN, TX — In an effort to assist Texas communities understand the changing nature of market competition, the Texas Department of Commerce has developed a multi-level community training initiative called *Global Communities*. Designed to help communities prepare and support their businesses for global opportunities such as exporting, foreign direct investment, and tourism, the *Global Communities* workshop series is slated across Texas.

The first level workshop, "Regional Cooperation: Economic Development Strategies for Success," will be held in Del Rio on January 4, 1996. The workshop will demonstrate how forming economic regions can help communities strengthen resources and succeed in a global economy. Workshop topics will cover global trends such as industry clustering, marketing communities via the Internet, travel and tourism, bench marking, and comparative advantages. During the training, participants will learn how to translate concepts into realistic economic development strategies and projects that will strengthen and diversify their local economies.

"Healthy local economies and community survival are dependent on the success of existing business expansion and growth of new business," says Kevin Walker, director of Commerce's Office of Community Assistance and Small Business. "By demonstrating how working together benefits all communities involved, we hope to create regional partnerships statewide that can build the necessary infrastructure, provide first-class assistance to businesses, and market Texas' communities to sustain development in the global marketplace," he adds.

Hosted by the Middle Rio Grande Development Council and Small Business Development Center, the workshop will begin at 9 a.m. at the Ramada Inn Conference Room, located at 2101 Avenue F. There is no charge for attendance; however, participants will be required to pay for their own lunch served on site. Economic development professionals, city and county leaders, chamber of commerce members, convention and visitors bureau members, and utility company personnel are encouraged to attend. The second and third level workshops will begin in March 1996. For more information, please call the Texas Department of Commerce at 512/936-0296

Kinney County Livestock Show January 19-20, 1996

1. Any youth 19 and under, residing in Kinney County and/or attending Brackettville Schools is eligible to enter the Kinney County Project Show in the Youth Division. The ages are divided in the following manner:

- Under School Age
- Pre-K & Kinder
- Grades 1 & 2
- Grades 3, 4, & 5
- Grades 6, 7, & 8
- Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12
- Adult

2. Any adult over 19 years of age, residing in Kinney County is eligible to enter the project show.

3. Exhibitors in the youth division must be under the direct supervision of the vocational agricultural teacher, vocational home economics teacher, county extension agent, a classroom teacher or parent. The exhibitors entry form must be signed by the respective supervisor.

4. Exhibitors in the adult division may pick up entry forms at the Adult Center, Library, Jean's. Entry forms should accompany project when submitted.

5. Youth Divisions - Entries in writing must be submitted to the county extension agent - 563-2442, classroom teacher, vocational agricultural teacher, vocational home economics teacher.

6. There will be a limit of 5 entries for all exhibitors.

7. Youth exhibitors will receive either a blue, red or white ribbon, based on judges opinion. Adult exhibitors will receive 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbons in each class. There will also be a best of show plaque in the Adult Division.

8. The project show will be at the Kinney County Civic Center on January 19. Only school entries will be accepted Thursday, January 19, after 3:30 p.m.

9. Food and adult entries should be brought on Friday, January 19, before 9:00 a.m.

10. Judging will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.

11. Viewing of exhibits will be at 11:00 a.m.

12. Exhibits will remain on display under supervision on the 19th. Exhibits MUST be removed from the building between the hours of 5 and 6 p.m. on the 19th. The area must be cleared for the barbecue the next day. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Division I Foods

Classes:

- 1. cakes
- 2. decorated cakes
- 3. yeast breads
- 4. quick breads
- 5. 1 crust pies
- 6. 2 crust pies
- 7. jellies
- 8. jams & marmalades
- 9. pickles & relishes
- 10. candy
- 11. cookies
- 12. meat dishes

Division II Needle Work

Classes:

- 1. crocheting
- 2. hand embroidery
- 3. knitting
- 4. needlepoint
- 5. hand quilting
- 6. machine used needlework
- 7. weaving
- 8. crewel
- 9. counted cross stitch
- 10. miscellaneous

Division III Clothing

(One or more garments constructed by sewing as a unit of wearing apparel)

Classes:

- 1. tailored
- 2. non-tailored
- 3. evening

Division IV Clay, Glass & Wood Sculpture

Classes:

- 1. pottery
- 2. ceramics
- 3. stained glass
- 4. glass etching
- 5. sculpturing-any medium

Division V Paintings

Classes:

- 1. oil
- 2. acrylic
- 3. water color
- 4. pastels
- 5. miscellaneous

Division VI Drawings

Classes:

- 1. ink
- 2. charcoal
- 3. crayola
- 4. pencil
- 5. miscellaneous

Division VII Flower Arrangements

Classes:

- 1. live material
- 2. artificial material

Division VIII Photography

Classes:

- 1. color
- 2. black & white

Division IX Leathercraft

Division X Metal Work

Division XI Educational Exhibits - All Divisions

Classes:

- 1. poster
- 2. displays
- 3. charts
- 4. science exhibits

Division XII Miscellaneous (anything not covered above)

Mrs. Gutierrez Guest Reader

Mrs. Gutierrez, 1st grade teacher at Jones Elementary, has started a Guest Reader program in her class. Different role models from our community are invited to visit her class, share a story with the students, and encourage them to stay in school and read in order to succeed.

This week's Guest Reader: Fire Department Volunteer - Tom Kuhns & Andrea Garcia.

Thank you Tom Kuhns and Andrea Garcia for your encouragement!!!!

Mrs. Gutierrez's Class

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Making A Difference
By TAYLOR STEPHENSON
BISD Curriculum Director



"I'll be home for Christmas, you can count on me." Of all the songs for this grand season, this one lingers in my mind the most. I feel the song's spirit at Fort Clark Springs, where many of our residents spend the winter. Some of those folks have already begun driving to their homes. The rest of us wait for our loved ones to come or dream about those that have shared Christmas with us in our past. This week, I'll talk about "Home for Christmas".

My mom always wanted me home for Christmas. She would tell me on the phone and in her letters "Don't come see me this summer just come for Christmas". In her mind, she wanted the family close by for Christmas. She believed that if I drove the 350 miles from Clayton, NM to Midland that I might not get back on Christmas. Sometimes I didn't because of family traditions of spending every other Christmas at my wife's home. Driving from school to school in Clayton at Christmas time, I would feel lots of emotion as the radio played. "I'll be Home..."

In the Yule Season of 1995, what's it like for those of us who stayed home? At the FCS RV Park, the folks who stayed behind will have dinner as they band together for friendship. Our college young folks are coming home. I have seen them from College Station, San Angelo, Alpine, Uvalde and Lubbock. Their eyes twinkle as they talk about the college work and the fun that they are having. There are young folk coming in from the military. I have talked with the moms of two of our service men — Michael Pena and Chris Hale. I know Willie Allemier's mom is hoping that her son will come though he could be involved in Bosnia. I hope he'll be here too. My daughter Traci will be home as she prepares for her marriage on January 6. Son, Mike, will be home from the University of Kentucky. He has not seen our new home. It will be a great homecoming for all.

At Brackett ISD, we have just concluded our first semester of school. The 36th Annual Brackett High School Invitational Basketball Tourney saw the Tigers claim second place while the Tigerettes won the championship. The Elementary Christmas Program featured children dressed in colors of red and green while performing to a packed auditorium.

Kindergarten "I'm a Little Teapot"
First Grade "Christmas Day is Coming"
Second Grade "32 Feet & Little Tales"
Third Grade "Mr. Santa, We've Been So Good"

Fourth and Fifth Grade — Recorder Classes playing Christmas songs.

I am so proud of the elementary teachers for their hard work. Judy Burks plays and helps with songs. Chris Cantrell works the recorders. Lots of other teachers work to teach words and music to kids as well as turn them into angels with beautiful

robes adorned with Christmas decorations. Teachers perform with the children like the 2nd grade teachers - Bonner, Jones & Melancon as they played in the rhythm band. The kinder teachers — Hagler, Hoyle and Wallace performed with their kids. First grade teachers — Gutierrez, Naylor and York — and 3rd grade teachers... Burks, LaMascus and Oliver were there singing and supporting their children. The fourth grade teachers — Hobbs, Hooker and McNew and fifth grade teachers Jimenez and Wardlaw had supported their children as they worked on the concert faire. In the afternoon, every teacher assisted by room parents had a great party for the young people of Brackettville. Every room was decorated beautifully as smiling faces played games, had tasty refreshments and exchanged gifts. Thanks teachers and parents.

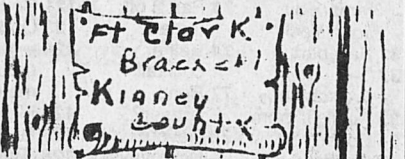
The ESL classes taught by Kristi Swaim did a rendition of Las Posadas as they reenacted in the hall the Mexican tradition of the search for an Inn for the baby Jesus 9 days before Christmas. The children sang led by Mrs. Lopez playing her guitar as they celebrated the Christmas season in a way that their culture values. There were 58 children involved in Las Posadas. After the procession, parents joined the children for a pinata party, hot chocolate and traditional Mexican food treats. The other children stood at the doors of their classrooms to watch Las Posadas. Thanks ESL, parents, Mrs. Swaim and Mrs. Lopez for a Christmas treat.

I loved the "Community Unity" celebration. There were choirs singing, food, smiles, and beautiful lights. Folks of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs and all of Kinney County joined in really grand program. Each child received a nice toy for Christmas. It was a program that accomplished its goal of building community unity. Thanks City Hall Staff and volunteers for a great job.

The Christmas Tour of Homes presented by the Kinney County Arts Council was a huge success. Some 125 folks toured the homes and enjoyed every minute of it. The tour included Colony Row Homes built in the 1800's and homes that represented the modern era. All of the homes were beautiful and the tour was really special. Thanks KC Arts Council and home owners for a special day.

Well, that's the way it is in Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs and in all of Kinney County, Texas, at Christmas, 1995. It's such a neat place to live and call home. We have so much good happening. This week, we say a special prayer for the safe traveling of those going out of town to their homes for the holidays. To those who come to Brackettville, we look out the window each day and dream of the moment that you will drive in with a tear in your eye and a smile on your face as your heart tells you that you are "Home for Christmas!" May this be a special time for you.

Community Calendar



Las Moras Masonic Lodge 444: 2nd Tue. 7 p.m., Lodge Hall, Ann St.
Altar Society: 1st Monday, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
Band Booster Club: 1st Tuesday, 7 p.m., High School Band Hall
BISD School Board: 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., School Board Room
Beta Sigma Phi

R of J Beta Epsilon Omicron (Sept-May) 2nd & 4th Monday, 7 p.m.
Preceptor Theta Sigma (Sept-May) 1st & 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.
Laureate Iota Epsilon (all year) 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.
Creative Writing Group: Fridays, 9:30 a.m., Golf Club Snack Bar
Mountain Laurel Garden Club: 2nd Thursday, 10 a.m. Adult Center
Kinney Co. Chamber of Commerce Board: 2nd Thu. 6:30 p.m.
FC Restaurant

City Council: 1st Tuesday after 2nd Monday, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
K.C. Commissioners Court: 2nd Monday, 9 a.m., 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 p.m. Service Club. Bring covered dish, plates and utensils.

FC Duplicate Bridge: Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Golf Club.

FCS Art Club: Work days Monday and Saturday a.m., Meeting 1st Monday, 1 p.m., Art Studio

FCS Community Council: 2nd Saturday, 10 a.m., Shafter Hall.

FCS Board of Directors: 3rd Saturday, 10:00 a.m., Board Room

FCS Historical Society: 4th Saturday, 9:30 a.m., Palisado Building.

FCS Museum/Sutler's Store: Saturday & Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

FCS Ladies Luncheon: 2nd Wednesday, Noon, Las Moras Restaurant.
Make reservations at Adult Center.

FCS VFW #8360 & Auxiliary: 4th Monday, 6 p.m.
Pot Luck, 7:00 p.m.
Meetings, Service Center.

FCS Old Quarry Society: 1st Monday, 7 p.m., Adult Center.

Friends of Library: No regular schedule. Call library for info.

K.C. Historical Preservation Society: 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Court House.

KC Kickers: 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Service Club.

Knights of Columbus: 1st Sunday, 12 Noon, Parish Hall.

Lions Club: 1st and 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Las Moras Restaurant.

Order of Eastern Star 204: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 407 Bedell, Del Rio.

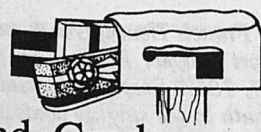
FC Shrine Club: 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Las Moras Restaurant.

Rotary Club: Every Thursday, 12 Noon, Las Moras Restaurant.

Methodist Ladies Luncheon: 3rd Wednesday, Noon, Slaton Hall.
Please make reservations.

Kinney County Heritage Museum: 2nd and 4th Saturday, 1-4 p.m., Filippone Building.

Letters To Santa Claus



Mrs. Melancon's 2nd Grade

Mrs. Jones 2nd Grade

December 25, 1995
Dear Santa
I want this Christmas Bay Watch Barbie, a dog and a watch. I would also like to have a pair of roller blades. I want Santa to bring my brother, s and sisters many gifts for Christmas. I hope Santacan bring food and nice presents to poor families. I wish that our family and relatives could be together for the holidays. I want Santa Claus to bring me a Susie Stretch doll and pretty clothes. Bring to my mom and dad love for me and my brothers and sisters.

Dear Santaclaus
Please bring me a sega and a 32X and roller bla I've been good can you elves did the sega I believe in you and the 32X

Dear Santa Claus
I want roller blades I want roller blades for Christmad I have beebing goud I have Santa Claus I believe in you I wish I can see your reindeerers I Lave Santa Claus forom Maria

Love Tanya Molinar
P.S. I am going to leave some cookies and Milk by the Chirstmas tree.

Dear Santa,
I believe in you! We and my sisters Bih goot I wont a dog and a Bicke and a Gun and a Bazooka and a car and a Yarback but

Dear Santa Clous
I wont pensels and gloue and scool box I want a puppy

Dear Santa
I believe in you! I've been good Please bring meYak Bok Bike

I Love Santa Clous
Dear Santa Claus,
I believe in you! I've been good Please bring me Rose the Duddle Bear Barbie Leep Baby Tumble Monopoly Buble gum shop roller blades yak back girl talk bike Dream phone Ask Zondare a bell a Diory My size Princes Barbie I prichere of Santa or a elf.

Dear Santa Claus,
I believe in you I've been good please bring me

Love Ashley Castillo
Dear Santa Claus,
How are your reindeer. I been good. Howa re you and Mrs. Claus. I wont a bell from the harness of the reindeer. And a girltalk and a barbie and Ash Zandae and dream phone. And a pitcure of you.

I want Barbie jeep please. I want buble gum shop please. I want yakbak please. I want my size Barbie

Love Mandy
Dear Santa
I wont a G.I. jae geg with a set belt with a wocetore in it.

Dear Santa Claus
I wont weights. and I wont a yack back.

Dear Santa
I've been good. Please give me a Bazooka, Boxerdog, go-car, roller blades weights.

Love Clyde From Clyde To Santa

Love Miles

Dear Santa Claws
I believe in you! Ive beengood. please bring me bubblegum mshen

Mrs. Bonner's Second Grade

Dear Santa Claus
How are you? I am fine so is My family. How is Mrs Claus. Santa can you bring me 3 presents because I've been good. I want a roll blades and purse and a bike. I will leave you some chocodate cookies on top of the table. I Live in Brackettwell Texas.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I hope fine I'm doing fine in School. Could you please bring me these 3 thigs, I would like a barbie a pollypocket and a dollhouse. I was very good this year. I will leave you some fresh baked cookies and milk incase you get hungry.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs Clause doing? Are your raindeer ready? How's rodoff? I am fine and I have been a good boy. I wood like a super nintendo and game to go with it. And a bike. I will leave you peanut Butter cookies with cholit milk for you to snack on.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you doing? I hop you are doing fine? I am doing fine. I live in Brackettwill Texas. You can't miss my house. I live on E. Edwards Street. I live in a peach tralor house. I want a doll house and a pollypocket and a computer. I will Leave sum chocolate. cookies.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing at the Northpole? Im doing very good in school Santa Claus. Could you please bring me 3 things, a barbie, PollyPocket, and a doll house. I was very good this year. I Live on Veltman Street in a Light yellow house. See you soon!

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you Santa? My family is doing just fine. I live in a trailor. It is brown and white. I live in Brackettville, Texas. I have been very good. Can you bring me a doll house, a Super Nintendo and a Power Ranger toy. I will leave cookies and milk for you to eat when you get hungry

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs. Clause doing? Are the reendeer doing good. Are the elves good too. I have been good in school. I live on a ranch in Brackettville. Please bring me a Super Nintendo and a Segd Genius and a football.

Dear Sants Claus,
How are you and mrs. Claus doing? My family is fine. Could you bring me a walkman and batteries. I would also like a Sega. I will leave some cookies and milk incase you get hungry. I live in Bracitville, Texas on a ranch in a brick house.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you and Mrs. Claus? I live in Brackettville, Texas. My house is green and white. I want a Barbie and a Barbie Mini Van and a pretty doll. Cookies and milk will be on the coffe table.

Dear Santa Claus
How are youdoing Santa Claus? How is Mrs. Claus? I'm feeling good here. in Brackettville. I Live on Spring street in a big green house. You can't miss it. I wood like a football and roller blades and computer.

Cassandra Gomez 3
Dear Santa Claus.
How are you? I am fine. I want a Sega Genisue, videogames and roller blades. I am a good girl I will Levavepeanut butter cookies in the Living room by the tree. I live in Brackettwill TX.

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you doing Santa?
How is Mrs. Claus? a reallt he elves doing good too sure hope so Im fine. I can't wait tll Chnmas. Please bring me a bike and a computer I would also like a doll house. I live in a yellow trailorhouse.

Dear Santa Clause
I believe in you I've been good please bring me some roller blades
How are the reindeer , doing and How is Mrs. Claus and How are the elves doing
Please bring some cookies

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you? I am doing good. I would like you to bring me a super Nintendo, a bike and some Video game. I liv in a pink house.

p.o. Box 584
Brackettville,tx
December 6, 1995

Dear Santa Claus
I think my Mom wnts the same as my sistr the neow Gorg Strate tape and my Dad wonts hmmm I think my famiys Love.

BrackettvilleTX
Decmeber, 6 1995

Dear Santa
I have Been a good girl. will you give my Brother a Buzz light

Love Jacquelyn
P.O. Box 462
BrackettwillTX

Dear Santa
I have been good this year
Please send my sister a doll
Thank you Santa

Love Walter - Mencias-8
Brackettwill TX
December 12,1995

Dear Santa
I have been good
I want a TV a VCR and remote a bebe gun.

Love Roger Flores
Brackettville, TX
December.11,1995

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year.
pleas send my brother a trainsete. Mydad wold like a hunting gun. My Mom wold like a aprin. I wold like a barbey.

Love Jessica Luna
Brackettville, TX
December,11,1995

Dear Santa Claus
I want a matovcycle and a toy horse. I have bin good this yer

Love Rigo Cono #3
Braekettvill, TX December 7, 1995

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl.
I want a bike for Christmas I want a bear far christmas I want a pigey banke for christmas I want a cou set player for chistmas.

Love Victoria.
P.O. Box 1254
Brackettville, TX
December61995

Dear Santa,
Just in and I have been good thi year

I want roll blades. My brother wanted a bracelet. My dad wanted a ring and a truck. My mom wanted a stove.

Love Kaylynn Perez

P.O. Box 298
Brackette ville TX
December.6 1995

Dear Santa
Raul and I have been good thes year. My brother want a bike. I want baby slip n' slurp. My dad wants a hat. My Mom wants a bracelet.

Love Isabel Rivas

BrackeettvillTx
December 6, 1995

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want a bebegun and a football and a car truck and a tran and a remotecontrol car and a nintendo and that's all.

Love Justin Ward

Brackettville, Texas
December 11, 1995

Dear Santa Claus,
How is Mrs. Santa Claus?
I would like some roller skates, if it is not to much trouble. I would like a song book with a tape please. I would please like some crayons.

I have been good.
Thank you, have a nice day!

Love Megan Ashley Reinhold
Brackettville,tx
December 7, 1995

Dear Santa
I have Been good this year. Please send my sister a dall. and my bruther a trane and my mom a bune.

Love Sam Waddell

P.O. Box 788
Brackettville TX.
December 6, 1995

Dear Santa.
I have been good this year. and I think I should get some gifts. I want a 49ER football and a flash screen.

Love Travis Nowlin
P.O. Box 462
Brackettville, TX
Decembe 7, 1995

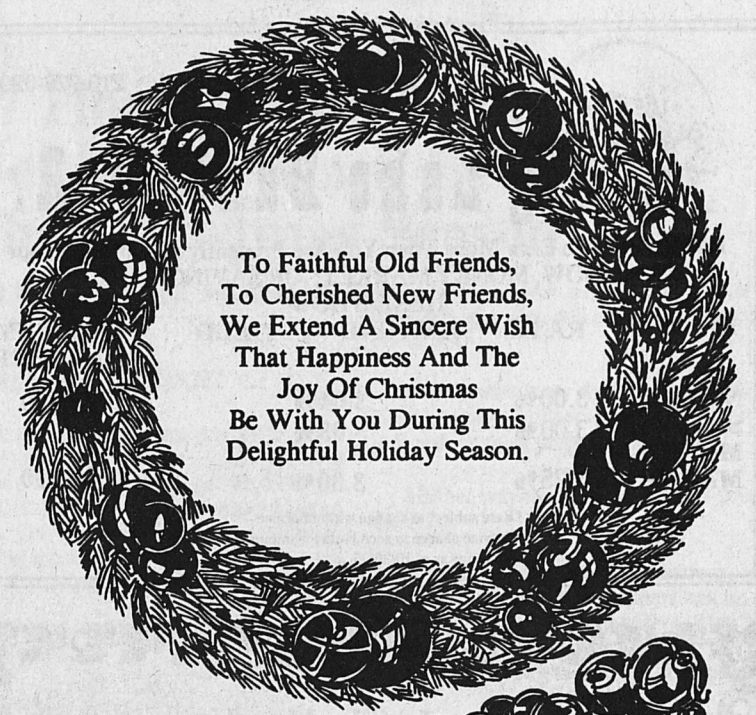
Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. My brother would like a Playschool toy truck. I would like baby slip n'slurp. Thank you Mr. Clause.

Love Dana Bonner

Brackettville, Tx
December 7, 1995

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want more than one ting but I can only get one ting from you I want a Barbie.

Thanke you.
Love Soraida Talamantes



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Warmest Wishes!
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Fort Clark Springs Association

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Councilman Charles Bushart and children

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K-Mart 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
December 24
JCPenney - Bealls - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
K-Mart - 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Small Shops - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Christmas Day - Mall Closed

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From the Brackettville PCI Staff

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It's The Season: Have a Safe & Happy Holiday! May the New Year bring you much Joy and Peace. From Dr. Casson, Dianne and the Staff --- Pat, Xyan, Denise and Sandra

WAYNE A. CASSON
D.D.S., M.S.D., INC.
Orthodontic Specialist
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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.

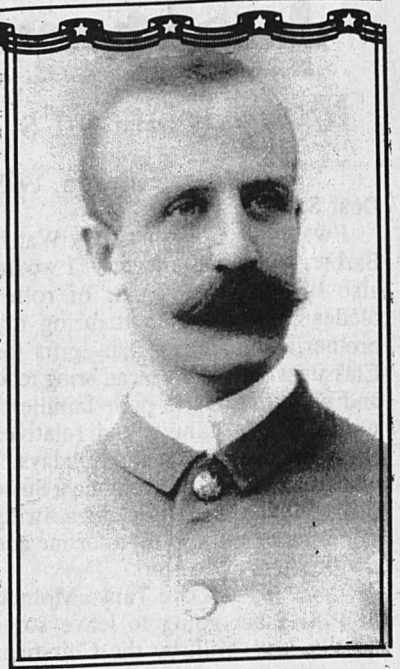
December 1883: Lt French is in the field close to the line of the Southern Pacific at Mayers Spring (near present Dryden) in command of the Seminole-Negro Indian Scout Detachment. Time is spent maintaining the detachments records, dealing with O.B.s (official business correspondence), staying one step ahead of a crafty government contractor who is supplying the detachment with hay, socializing with local homesteaders, and hunting. Early in the month the weather turns cold enough to freeze water in French's canteen and his bond with the scouts is strengthened as he notes, "...Was very glad to find the men laughing & joking instead of growling at the cold weather as white soldiers would have done." French pledges to fight a decision by the Secretary of the Interior which denies the Seminole's request to be moved to the Indian Territory. Hunting keeps the detachment in fresh meat, but there is no Christmas turkey. French is liberal with passes to the post for scouts who reenlist and for a scout with a sick child. After Christmas he allows himself a brief trip back to Fort Clark to retrieve his Christmas package (which of course includes a fruit cake). The arrival of Captain Boyd of the 8th Cavalry (his wife, Frances, wrote "Cavalry Life in Tent and Field") forces yet another move for the bachelor lieutenant. As the year ends he notes with pride that he has kept the diary for a year.

Monday, December 17 1883

Mattie's eighteenth birthday; may she see many more, happy and prosperous ones. Was awakened by Capt. Simonds coming to get two scouts to go out on this trip with him. After breakfast, Sgt. Kibbets & five men started out for a hunt. Hope they will be back soon with plenty of deer. Ward then came to my tent and had a long talk. His time is out on the 19th and he wants a pass after reenlistment. Promised to think about the matter. He told me that he knew where a mine was located. Think I shall go out there after New Year's. Only official mail this morning. Took a stroll out with the Doctor's gun but had no chance to use it. In the afternoon Torres completed the stack. After measuring it, C. Torres came into my tent leaving his brother out. The former is much better to get along with than the latter, and I was glad that M. Torres was not in the tent. I estimated 50 tons, which was not satisfactory to Torres. So I receipted to him for a stack of the dimensions measured, and made a copy of the receipt and sent it with a letter to Vedder who is to decide the amount. After dinner went over to see Lougee and he came back and we played poker for fun until nearly ten o'clock. Gave one of the men a pass to go to Clark until the 26th to see his sick child, & sent the letter to Vedder and a note to Doctor by him. Sent \$1 to the Service Institution to pay fees for next year, having already paid \$1. Practiced over an hour on the violin today, and studied phonography. Lined my bed room with sacks this morning and think it will

FOOTSTEPS ECHO

The Fort Clark Diaries and Letters of Major General Francis Henry French
Courtesy of his descendants



be much warmer now. Ordered the light wagon to go over to Thurston in the morning to get some potatoes & onions.

Tuesday, December 18 1883

After breakfast went over to Thurston in the light wagon with some men to get the potatoes and onions. Had to wait a short time for the train, Conductor Rogers was aboard. No letter from the Doctor nor any other mail to my disappointment. Brought a barrel of beer and some whiskey over for the Doctor and some potatoes for Lougee. Practiced hard on the violin and studied shorthand. Torres brought up some hay to commence a new pile. In the evening played on the violin a while and read history until Lougee & Schultz came over. They sat a short time and took some measurements, as Schultz is going to make me a sort of cupboard to keep the blanks and books out of the dust. After they went read the history called "The 19th Century" until I fell asleep in the chair. Went out to see the tank and found some of the Seminoles at work, which I had permitted them to do, Lougee hiring them. But they had four mules and the wagon and were working the mules without saying anything to me. Told Lougee the mules could not work any more.

Wednesday, December 19 1883

After breakfast rode over to Thurston on the pony, stopping to talk to Lougee en route. Had to ride rapidly to get there before the train. Roberts was conductor and Tracy was aboard also. Received a letter from the Doctor and one from home. After returning attended to the hay and then wrote my usual letter home and sent it to Thurston. Then practiced faithfully over an hour and enjoyed it too and studied phonography until time to weigh out the forage for the animals. After dinner went over to the house to see how the chimney was progressing. Lougee came over later and we played cards and talked until after nine o'clock. Afterwards wrote a letter to Maj. Bash about my pay. Discharged one man today. One of the men who went out Monday came in today saying that he became lost from the others yesterday. He killed 5 deer. Made arrangements to send him out tomorrow with two pack mules for the deer and two men to help. Made out the reenlistment papers for the man discharged today

Thursday, December 20 1883

Had breakfast earlier than usual and after it reenlisted Ward and let him, Washington, Bill Williams & Wm. Wilson go into Clark until the end of the month. Then got Lougee and went over to Thurston. Saw McGeary for the first time. Nothing but official mail. After returning made out ration return for next month and requisition for fuel & forage and sent them to Clark. Wrote to wish Grandmother a Merry Christmas and to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to Miss Della Granger's in Grand Rapids. Then practiced on the violin. Went out to shoot some quail but missed them. Weighed out the hay and afterwards studied shorthand. Sgt. Kibbets & party came in while I was at dinner, bringing one deer. Spent most of

the time hunting for Payne who came in yesterday but went out today with two men & two pack mules. After dinner went over to the house to see a very nice desk Schultz is making there for me. He will have it completed tomorrow. Returned to make plans to go out for Christmas turkeys. Afterwards went to sleep trying to read history.

Friday, December 21 1883

A mist was over everything and remained so all day. Left camp about eight-thirty this morning with four men for Gedde's Spring. Hope to get turkeys for Christmas. Fog prevented hunting on the way. Reached the Spring about two o'clock but nobody was at home at Parenham's where I expected to find Flint. Camped on the side of the mountain to give the animals good grazing. After dinner walked over to a pastor, in camp with his herd about a mile from camp and learned that Flint's camp was near the Pecos. Too late to go there before dark. Was much pleased at being able to converse so easily with this Mexican.

Saturday, December 22 1883

The shortest day in the year. Just after breakfast tried to shoot some ducks in the water but they saw me too quick and got away. Took Luce & went on horseback down to the Pecos to Flint's camp, stopping to shoot at some deer, and frightening a duck en route. Found the camp with difficulty. It is a pretty place completely concealed by trees, near two large springs, the brooks flowing from which nearly surround the camp with water. Flint was looking well. A lovely life. Goes out every day or two to see that the pastors do their duty. Think he will succeed & hope so too. While he went out across the Pecos to see a pastor & Luce to hunt, read the papers. Saw a turkey but did not shoot at him for fear they would not return at night. About four o'clock Frank Wilkins came in and soon afterwards Luce came without any deer. Like Wilkins better every time I see him. He is a courageous dashing young man, but has none of the poorer traits of a cowboy. After supper went out for turkeys, but it was too dark. Heard several fly out of the trees but could not get a shot at them. Was disgusted because I did not fire during daylight. Had to ride about an hour to reach camp, the mist making the night quite dark. None of the men had killed any game and we have to go to camp empty. No Christmas turkey this year.

Sunday, December 23 1883

Left camp in a mist which cleared off about half way over to Mayers Springs. Reached the latter place at three o'clock and was right glad to be back. Found some official mail, a letter from home & one from George. The Doctor came back this morning & had to walk over from Thurston. Everything is torn up at Clark. Gen. MacKenzie has gone crazy and Gen Schofield has assumed command of the Department and ordered all changes of troops stopped. This makes everybody unsettled. Boyd & Shunk have arrived at Clark, but have not taken quarters on account of the uncertainty. Capt. Simonds

came over after dinner bringing the Doctor's bundles, in which was a box of cigars for me. Lougee went to Austin today; expects to return next Saturday with his wife if they can find a servant to come with her. They are going to put up a house near camp; will have part of it up by Saturday for Mrs. L. Took a bath before dinner. In the evening wrote a letter home.

Monday, December 24 1883

After breakfast called over Sgt. Kibbets and Sgt. July and talked over the mess arrangements with them. Then walked over to the house and came back with the Captain. Sold him some onions which were in excess of the wants of the Detachment and would have spoiled. Afterwards wrote some official letters and a private letter to Godwin enclosing check to pay for the potatoes and onions. Luce went to Clark today to see his mother-in-law, on pass until the 31st. Practiced on the violin, cleaning it afterwards, and studied short hand until time to weigh the forage. After noon sent the wagon over to Thurston to get some chickens and a pig Torres sent up from Langtry. After dinner went over to the house to invite Captain to dinner tomorrow. Had a short talk with him about buying some land near Dallas and going in with him & Nason to raising pigs. Must borrow the money from Capt. Vance. Think \$400 can carry me through. The Captain thinks it an excellent speculation. Received in the mail a splendid photograph of Henry & a bundle of papers from home. In the evening made out my pay accounts to send to Maj. Bash tomorrow. Have asked him to send me a check to complete the payment of the insurance and some little bills at home. Read the papers, played my violin and made out some clothing accounts also in the evening. The night before Christmas.

Tuesday, December 25 1883

This Christmas day has been a beautiful mild day, but I much prefer cold weather. Sent pay accounts to Maj. Bash this morning, asking him to make payment as soon as possible after the 1st prox. No mail of consequence today. Worked on the clothing book a while this morning. Then walked over to the house. Invited Schultz to dinner as all the other whites from the house were invited out, but he declined to come. He seems to be too diffident. Practiced on the violin and studied shorthand a while. After weighing out the forage, put on my best clothes, not very good, and sat down to dinner with the Doctor & Captain. The menu included roast pig, potatoes, squash, peas, apple sauce, peach pie & coffee, cigars being served afterwards in the Doctor's tent, where we had a long talk. The Captain left about nine o'clock. Worked until midnight making out discharge and reenlistment papers of some men.

Gearing Up For Holiday Avalanche

(NAPS)—If you've ever wondered how many letters and cards the post office delivers each day, the answer is about 88 million. During the holiday mailing season, which runs November 24 through December 30, that number increases by 50 percent to 139 million cards and letters every day—which is why the Postal Service gears up for the avalanche of greeting cards and parcels that adds so much joy to the holidays nearly a year in advance.

"We're ready to help you handle the holidays," said Postmaster General Marvin Runyon. "Our service is already the best it's ever been. Now we are focusing on maintaining this new high throughout the holidays, when our customers count on us the most."

Here's some information about the Postal Service that will help you handle the holidays a bit better:

- Many post offices will be open extended hours and extra days.
- Lobby directors will work with customers to help keep lines moving quickly.
- Many customers will be able to avoid any wait at all by using vending equipment to buy stamps.
- More than 3,000 post offices now accept credit and debit cards.
- A brochure full of mailing tips is available at every post office.



Extended hours, extra days and added employees will greet you at the post office when you mail your greeting cards.

- 2.3 billion self-adhesive holiday stamps have been printed. These stamps are available in several different holiday designs, and offer the convenience of not having to be torn apart or licked before use.
- Additional air transportation is added during the holiday season to handle the extra volume of Priority Mail and Express Mail packages.
- "The holidays are a critical time for us in terms of making sure that service levels are at their absolute peak," added Runyon. "We have added the resources necessary to assure that this is the smoothest holiday season ever."

Avoid Christmas Crisis Stress

(NAPS)—To most of us, the holidays mean family and friends—office parties, shopping and long journeys home. But the holidays can be tiring, too, bringing hectic schedules and the stress of Christmas crowds at the malls and airports.

And for a lot of Americans that can mean aggravated acne. While many think of acne as a teenager's problem; it's not; people in their 30's and 40's suffer from acne, particularly cystic acne. And cystic acne is no temporary teenage affliction. It can be a severe and disfiguring skin disease. Sebaceous glands near the base of hair follicles, deep in the skin, secrete an oily mixture called sebum. Cystic acne occurs when sebum's normal route to the skin surface is blocked. The sebum builds up in the gland, mixes with dead cells and eventually forms inflamed cysts under the skin.

For a common disease, though, acne is surprisingly surrounded by myth, misconception and misinformation. Chocolate doesn't cause acne. Neither do oily foods like peanuts. Nor does dirt. Factors that may aggravate acne include emotional stress and fatigue—all part of the upcoming holiday routine for most Americans.

Men, though they may not know it, are particularly at risk. Statistically, more adult men than women are likely to get a case of severe acne. According to Harvard Medical School, Department of Dermatology, over 1.3 million men between the ages of 15 to 44, suffer from acne which produces cysts and scarring.

And men, unlike women, often don't take the time to learn the basic facts of skin care. Women, in particular, can help men by passing on basic tips about how to care for their skin and avoid eruptions—both during the holidays and for a lifetime.

If you already have a case of severe acne, avoid stress. Get your rest. Not easily done during the holiday season, but an essential step in reducing and possibly avoiding skin eruptions.

And if you haven't already consulted a physician, do so. For men and women who suffer from severe acne, effective prescription treatments are available. Retinoids represent a breakthrough class of prescription drugs which have been highly successful in treating acne. See your primary care physician or dermatologist to determine the best treatment for you.



First Baptist Church
Rev. Gil Ash, Pastor

"The Pastor's Pen"

Last week's column was not here! It did not appear. Some of you noticed the omission and I thank you for your comments and interest. I have to tell you it was through no fault of *The Brackett News*. The column was missing because I was missing from town and had failed to turn in the copy in time for the printers. There is no one to blame but me. But one of these days it will happen again!

That's right! I'll be gone and will never submit another column to *The Brackett News*. Do I have plans to leave? I confess, "I do". When am I leaving? I am not exactly sure because I do not have any control over the date or time of departure? But it could be any day now. Who makes the decision as to when I leave? Does Brackettville First Baptist church make that decision? No! Then how will I know I am supposed to go? I won't I'll just be gone!

Let me briefly state the facts of what I do know concerning my leaving. #1 It will be sudden. #2 There will be a great noise and a shout from

Heaven when it happens. #3 That great shout will be enough to wake the dead and cause them to rise first. #4 Following the shout Jesus will appear in the clouds. #5 Jesus is coming for me. #6 When I leave I am going to be with the Lord forever. #7 Because of that great event, *The Brackett News* column will be the furthest thing from my mind.

There are a lot of other details, important details that could be added to this list but one thing of great importance is that not everyone will meet with Jesus forever. There is a gift that God has for every person that on acceptance makes that meeting possible. Without receiving that gift, which is eternal life, the meeting place will be Hell; the person met will be Satan. As you give and receive gifts this Christmas why not look into the gift that God has to offer and accept it today. Call 563-2245 for help in opening God's Word (the Bible) to find that gift. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



Frontier Baptist Church
Rev. Joe Townsend, Pastor

By order of the Emperor at Rome, Mary and Joseph were forced to make the 70 mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. It was apparent that Mary would soon give birth. A great number of people had to likewise journey to Bethlehem.

There was only an "inn". It was generally used by cavemen on the way to Egypt, some two hundred miles away. It was no posh hostelry. There was a walled compound with but a few rooms and places for camping. It was basically a protection area from robbers, animals and the weather. When Mary and Joseph arrived, "There was no room for them at the Inn."

This raises the question, "Why Mary and Joseph." They doubtless had come with a large group. A couple would never make such a trip alone. They were crowded out by previous commitments. Others had already engaged the space.

Jesus is crowded out of lives today by previous commitments. Many people have committed their time, energies and minds to such a hodgepodge of living. They have no time or place for Jesus in their busy schedule.

Mary and Joseph were doubtlessly crowded out because of Mary's condition. Though people recognized that a child was a gift from God and welcome, it would have caused confusion and problems in such a crowded and festive occasion.

Today many people crowd Jesus out of their lives because they feel He would cause confusion in their lives. They feel to follow Him would cause the side tracking of some of their illicit actions which they want to hold on to. They feel that He might lead them to do things they don't want to do.

Perhaps the biggest reason He was crowded out was ignorance. Had they known that the coming baby was the Son of God, the Messiah they would have welcomed Him. The inn would have been heralded as a renowned spot for all eternity. By crowding Him out, the inn became anathema, known for all time as the place which had no compassion or concern but rather contempt for a woman about to give birth.

Anyone who crowds Jesus out of their life today is simply ignorant of what Jesus can and will do for them if He is welcomed into their life.

Welcoming Jesus into heart and life is the greatest thing anyone can do for himself. He holds the key to all the blessings of God. He holds the key to forgiveness of sin. He holds the key to a victorians and happy life. He holds the key to heaven. How foolish our actions when we hang on our hearts and lives the sign, "No Room".

There will be another message of Christmas at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday morning at 11:00. Come and See!

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CHRISTMAS BUFFET
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- TURKEY & DRESSING**
- &**
- GLAZED HAM**
with pineapple sauce
- Giblet Gravy, Sweet Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, & Rolls*
- Cranberry Sauce, Fruit Salad, Pumpkin Pie*
- Soup & Salad Bar**
- Tea or Coffee*
- \$8.95 + tax**



St. John's Baptist Church
Rev. W. P. Adams, Sr., Pastor

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she (Mary) should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is

Christ the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

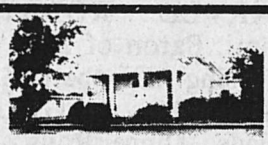
St. Luke 2: 6, 7, 11, 14

It is good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O most high.

Psalms 92:1

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!

First United Methodist Church



Rev. Sheree Harris, Pastor

In 1843, in London, England, artist John Colcott Horsley illustrated the first Christmas card designed for sale. Horsley created a triptych (a card that opens from the center out to either side). The side panels featured people feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. The centerpiece displayed a family celebrating Christmas.

What a wonderful (and true!) message that cards send. God bids us to gather in our churches and our homes to celebrate the coming of the Christ Child, the incarnation of God's own love for all humankind. So we do our best and bring our best to provide a celebration that befits the One who is

to come. At the same time, we are reminded that this is the very One who calls us to go out and serve, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked. Service in Christ's name is a celebration of the coming of Christ. In fact, it is in our service that the incarnation of God's own love for humankind happens all over again.

During this holy season, I pray that you will "Come and worship, worship Christ, the new born King" and that you will reach out and feed, and clothe, and ...I pray that God's love will be incarnated in your life and in the lives of those you touch.

Bill, William, Lincoln, and I wish you a most blessed Christmas.

It's A Girl



Brenda Clark and Rene Rodriguez would like to announce the birth of their daughter Ayssa Rene Rodriguez, born December 11, 1995, at 6:22 p.m. in Val Verde Memorial Hospital, she weighed 5 lb 20 oz., 18 inches long. Grandparents Richard & Blanca Ortega and Frank & Maria Rodriguez of Brackettville. Great Grandparents Orfelio & Eneledia Escamilla of Roma, Texas and Antonia Falcon of Brackettville, Texas.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

On behalf of the people of our Redeemer Lutheran Church I would like to invite people in the community of Fort Clark Springs and Brackettville to our Candle Light Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m. on December 24 at Shafter Hall.

After singing the hymn "Joy To The World" at her first Christmas Eve service, a young woman confided to her friend that she had no idea of the religious significance of the lyrics. She told her friend, "I thought the song was merely 'mall music'". How tragic that most Americans have such a lack of familiarity with the words, "Joy To The World, Our Lord Has Come. Let Earth Receive Her King." What power and majesty are conveyed into those few words of what so many perceive to be merely 'mall music'. Yes, indeed our Lord has come. Into the darkness and despair of our world light and hope has been born. In a lonely lowly manger, the King of King, Emmanuel has entered into the human experience.

What a tremendous love our Heavenly Father has for us; that He could send His Son into our world. Emmanuel means, God with us. Is that not the meaning of Christmas, that no matter the situation, no matter the place or time, God is present with us, accompanying us through the

struggles of the human experience. For God is no stranger to the human experience. In that lonely lowly manger, in that dusty little town of Bethlehem, the king of kings entered into the human condition.

As the day of our Lord's birth fast approaches, let us prepare for his coming with repentance. Instead of worrying so much whether our homes are prepared for the visits of family and friends, let us spend more time examining our lives, reflecting on where we could do some house cleaning in our hearts. As we recognize how we have sinned against our king with our thoughts, words, and deeds, let us repent and beg forgiveness. The star in the night is calling us to repent and expect the coming of our Lord to that lonely lowly manger.

Come all Ye Faithful, let us worship and adore Him at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church on Sunday evening December 24. All are welcome to come and celebrate God with us, Emmanuel of Shafter Hall during our Candle Light service at 7:00 p.m. There will be a pot luck dinner prior to the service at 5:30 p.m. at Shafter Hall, all are invited and welcome. All food will be furnished by members of the congregation.

Rev. Nathan J. Lafrenz

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

The Christmas Eve service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church will begin Sunday, December 24, at 6 p.m. with singing of carols, followed by the Holy Eucharist. Members of the community whose churches have no service at this time are invited to attend, according to the Rev. Bill Koons, priest in charge.

There will be no other services at the church Sunday or Monday, December 24 or 25.

For Pete's Sake

"Are your pa and ma in?" asked the visiting minister of little Tommy.

"They was in," he answered, "but they is out just now."

"They was in." He answered, "but they is out just now."

"They was in. They was out. Shame on you Tommy, where's your grammar?"

"She's went to the store for some grits."

Those art exhibits at our largest bank sometimes get a lot of attention. During one recent show, a fine old gentleman who has been a customer of long, long standing but who very seldom gets to town from his backwoods mountain farm, came in to transact some business. He gazed intently at the many paintings on display.

"Wuz these here pictures took or drawn?" he asked one of the girls in the back.

After being assured that they were drawn, he shook his head in wonder.

"I'll be danged," he exclaimed.

"They look just like they wuz took!"

Bridge Anyone



Eight tables played bridge and enjoyed delicious food and drinks on December 12th. The Christmas party was resounding success.

Tina Bauguess and Norma Gould won 1st place in the N/S direction. Ann Hibler and Betty Inman were a close 2nd. Lu and Roy Gibbens, members from Camp Wood, won 3rd place.

Flo Stafford and Helen Lynch won 1st place in the E/W direction. Ruth Wilks and Ann Legg won 2nd place with Mona Miller and Dena Scott taking 3rd place.

Merry Christmas to all!

Unsung Hero



Several years ago a very fine family moved to Fort Clark Springs from Eagle Pass to spend their remaining years in enjoyment of Fort Clark Springs. They soon came to be active in varied activities. They were leaders in their church. They participated in many activities both in Brackettville and Fort Clark. They made many friends and became widely known and respected.

Finally the years took their toll and the husband was felled by a stroke. The wife was faced with monumental responsibilities. It has become a point of wisdom to move back to Eagle Pass where they have a son living. Though it is a necessity, they are heart broken by having to leave Fort Clark. They are of the finest and well loved by all who know them. They will be sorely missed.

Surely Mr. and Mrs. Charles Downing are Unsung Heroes.

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 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Joe Townsend, Pastor, 563-2158.
- First Baptist Church** (A Southern Baptist Church): 307 N. Ann St., Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m., Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m., Gil Ash, Pastor, 563-2245.
- Baptist Hispanic Mission:** 307 N. Ann Street, Friday, 6:00 p.m., Rev. Israel Rodriguez, Pastor.
- Church of Christ:** N. Ann St., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study Sunday 6:30 p.m., Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
- St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church:** Masses Monday and Friday 7:00 a.m., Wednesday and Saturday 6:30 p.m., Sunday (Spanish) 8:00 a.m., Regular 10:30 a.m., Confession Wednesday and Saturday 6:00 p.m., Religion Classes Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting (Spanish) Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Father Donald La Vell.
- First United Methodist Church:** "Celebrate and Witness" Fellowship 9:30 a.m., Church School Classes 9:45 a.m., Service of Worship 11:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Wednesday 5:00 p.m., Sheree Harris, Pastor.
- St. John's Baptist Church:** Crockett at Keene St., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Worship Service Thursday 7:00 p.m., William P. Adams, Sr., Pastor, 563-9175.
- Our Redeemer Lutheran Congregation E.L.C.A.:** Shafter Hall, F.C.S. Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship, Bible Study every other Sunday 10:00 a.m., Rev. Nathan La Frenz, 563-2047.
- Templo Elim Asamblea de Dios:** North Street, Sunday 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Wednesday and Friday, 7:00 p.m., Rev. Abundio Mancha, Pastor, 563-9237.
- Apostolic New Jerusalem:** 514 E. Louise St., Sunday School 10:45 a.m. and morning worship 11:30 A.M., Missionary Meeting every 3rd Thursday of the month. Everyone Welcome! Pastor, Rudy Goodloe
- 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.

Brackettville Funeral Home

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

DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO UNTO YOU!

GREAT CUTS For Back to School



\$1 OFF
KIDS CUTS
Reg. \$6.95 (12 and under)
Sorry, no double discounts. Present coupon.
MasterCuts

Plaza Del Sol Mall
Del Rio, TX
Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sun. 12 noon - 5 p.m.
MasterCuts
family haircutters

Our Christmas Gift To You!

25% OFF

All Christmas Merchandise
Gift wrap * Box cards * Greeting cards
Stationary * Decorations * Stickers
Herald Printing
and Office Supplies, Inc.

106 W. Greenwood 775-9411

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 - Elegant, spacious, 3 bed 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room that can be converted to family room. Great location, great price. Two memberships included.

For Sale - Overlooking the wilderness and creek, 2 bed, 1 bath, fully furnished, all appliances including washer and dryer, tile patio for easy maintenance, corner lot. \$36,000.00

For Sale - On RV lot, clean & comfortable cottage with room left for RV. With membership - \$19,000.00

RANCHITO FOR SALE

Ranchito - 20 - acres, cross fenced, barn with pens, Double wide mobile home 3 bedrooms 2 1/4 baths, sun room, tool shed and much more. \$65,000.00 - 563-2211

Last Minute Avon Inventory Reduction Sale

Now In Progress, Corner of Shafter & Warrior, Ft. Clark, Cora Proctor 563-9536.

DEBBIE TRANT Janita Hinds Real Estate
Hwy 90 (Next to Stop N Shop)
210-563-2997; 210-563-2007

*Merry Christmas, Feliz Navidad
May This Beautiful Season Hold Very
Special Meaning For You*

MOBILE HOME

MOBIL HOME LIQUIDATION SALE, All 95 models drastically reduced this month only 1-800-756-7711.

FOR SALE Christmas Gifts!

Electric guitar with case - \$175.00,
Acoustic guitar with added mike with case - \$265.00, Propane Ventless 28,000 BTU Heater - \$240.00, Propane - 8 gallon tank with regulator and propane - \$45.00
410 E. Springs St
563-9364

HOUSES & LOTS FOR SALE

Houses and Lots for sale. \$27,000. Cash, on Henderson & Gove street (210) 278-5279

PRONTO TV, VCR & SATELLITE

Free estimates, pickup & delivery available.
563-9010
Greg Sandoval

WINDOW CLEANING

(210) 775-6857

15% Off Sale!
Parts, Accessories, Tires,
New & Rebuilt Bicycles
CT'S Bike Parts
410 E. Spring St.
Brackettville

FOR SALE

Used Golf Cart. Needs work. \$300 OBO. Call evings 563-3055

Pre-Christmas Dance

Potenzia Band
Saturday, December 23, 1995
Brackettville Civic Center
9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
For More Info. Call 563-9486
Door Prizes - La Charraga Contest & More

Car Talk from the Pros Choosing a Mechanic

(DM)-Perhaps years ago, any shade-tree mechanic would do; after all, vehicles were much simpler. But today, the margin for error is less. So it makes sense to protect your automotive investment through regular maintenance and service performed by professional automotive technicians.

One increasingly popular measure of professionalism and competence is certification by the nonprofit, independent National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence, better known as ASE.

Consumers benefit from ASE's certification program since it eliminates some of the guesswork in finding a competent technician.

Twice a year at over 600 national locations, thousands of mechanics sit for ASE certification exams. Mechanics who pass at least one exam and fulfill the work experience requirement become certified. Those who pass a battery of exams become ASE-certified Master Technicians. All technicians must re-test every five years to remain certified.

ASE-certified technicians can be found at every type of repair facility: new car dealerships, independent garages, service stations, etc. There are about 375,000 ASE technicians at work nationally.

Repair facilities employing ASE-certified technicians usually display the distinctive blue and white ASE sign on the premises and post their technicians' credentials in the customer service area. The technicians are issued pocket-sized credentials cards listing their exact areas of certification.

Because ASE offers certification in all major areas of automotive repair and service (25 tests in all), officials with ASE remind consumers to ask the shop owner or service manager specifically for a technician who is certified in the appropriate area, say, brakes or engine repair.

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LOST

Lost a white fluffy kitten, 6 months old her name is Blanket. Last seen Saturday night, Dec. 16, 1995. She is white with grey strips, has a purple flea collar and she is very chubby. If found please call Emily Petroskey 563-2096.
REWARD

VACUUM

Central Vacuum (Built In) Systems Intercom and Surround Sound Systems call Rio Grande Vacu maid (210) 775-6857.

MOBILE HOMES

New 18X80 Mobil Home payments under \$300 month (210) 675-0168.

HANDGUN CLASS

Concealed Handgun Class, \$75.00, Jan. 6-7, 1996, Brackettville, TX. For Info. 563-2223

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The Brackettville Lions Club and the Lions Thrift Shop wishes everyone Happy Holidays and thanks for your support and participation.

Thank You!

I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation to the City Staff, numerous individuals, organizations and merchants who donated monies, food items and toys and service to our Community Unity project. I am especially thankful to those of you who donated your time and organizational skills in order that this annual event be the great success that it was.

May each of you have a joyous Holiday Season and I wish for you all the best throughout the New Year.
Sincerely,
/s/David G. Luna, City Manager

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO 3 bedroom and 1 1/2 bth home. Good location in Brackett. Corner lot, storage, metal roof. \$31,000. Possible owner financing with reasonable d.p.
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
210-563-2446 210-563-2447

Merry Christmas
Lovely 2 bedroom townhouse - Benito Juarez Plaza. Central air and heat, double pane windows. Awnings. \$43,500.

500 + ac. Excellent well, dirt tanks, good cover. Prime for livestock and wildlife.

1.7 ac. prime commercial property. Highway frontage. Great location station, motel etc.

ROBERT R. MARTINEZ M.D.

UROLOGIST

PROSTATE SPECIALIST

775-9525

710 BEDELL

Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department

One of our firefighters lost a pager. It was believed lost in front of the Post office earlier this week. If any one found a dark blue pager please call Richard Wills at 563-2332 or after 5 P.M. at 563-2382.

Here's our recipe for the ultimate Christmas buffet.

HOLIDAY RECIPE

CARVED ROAST TURKEY...Baked Ham...Baron of Beef...Traditional Cornbread Dressing...Cranberry Sauce...Whipped Potatoes with Gravy...Green Beans...Assorted Salads...Dinner Rolls...Holiday Pies...and Much More!

Summerfield's Restaurant has all of the ingredients for a perfect Christmas meal. It's just \$7.95 per person plus tax. So come to Summerfield's on Christmas Day from 11:30 am to 9:30 pm and see what's cooking.

For reservations, call 775-1511

RAMADA INN

2101 Ave. F, Del Rio, TX

Good cheer to each and everyone at this Yultide season!
NOEL
Southwest Service Co.
Bob & Virginia Yastic

Val Verde Home Nurses, Inc.
"Offering Skilled And Therapeutic Services"
"Quality Home Health Care"
2116 Ave F, Del Rio TX 1-800-446-0655

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

ADOPTION
ADOPTION: PEDIATRIC NURSE and businessman long to adopt infant. We promise love, security, fun, values, bright future. Let's help each other. Call Ann & Charlie 1-800-556-8460, access code 4-4. It's illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

DRIVERS WANTED
DRIVER - HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Get the best overall package around. \$600+/week average, high miles, excellent benefits, generous bonus programs. Regular hometime. Burlington Motor Carriers: 1-800-JOIN-BMC. BOE.

DRIVERS EXPERIENCED OR inexperienced: North American Van Lines currently has owner operator openings (single-op & double-op) in relocation services, high value products & blanket wrap divisions. Tuition-free training! Tractor purchase programs, no trailer maintenance expenses, pay for performance plans and much more! 1-800-348-2147 Dept. A-36.

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

DRIVERS - SOLO & teams, \$2,000.00 sign on. Top teams earn \$103,000+ major benefits/motel & deadhead pay. Driving school grads welcome. Covenant Transport 1-800-441-4394. Students call 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVERS WANTED. E.L. Powell & Sons, Tulsa, OK. We offer late model equipment, good insurance. 22%. One year verifiable flat bed experience. 918-446-4447. 1-800-444-3777.

DRIVERS...WE PAY for experience! Great bonuses, top benefits, excellent get-home and time-off policy plus paid flatbed training! Minimum 23, 1 year recent OTR experience. Melton Truck Lines, Inc. 1-800-635-8669. M/F/EOE.

NEW IMPROVED PAY package offered by Beech Trucking for regional drivers. Home every weekend. Start at 26¢ with monthly bonuses & benefits. Call 1-800-521-0649. EOE.

EMPLOYMENT
BENEFITS - INCOME - STABILITY Are these important to you? Ready for job satisfaction and financial security? Sports minded and ready for a career opportunity? Then call 1-800-228-4252.

FINANCIAL SERVICES
FREE DEBT CONSOLIDATION. Immediate relief! Too many debts? Overdue bills? Reduce monthly payments 30%-50%. Eliminate interest. Stop collection callers. Restore credit. NCCS, nonprofit. 1-800-955-0412.

NOTES, ANNUITIES, LOTTERIES. Receiving payments? Get cash now! Colonial Financial, the nationwide leader since 1984. 1-800-969-1200.

RECEIVING PAYMENTS ON property sold? We pay cash for real estate notes, deeds of trust, and land contracts... nationwide!! Highest prices paid. Texas based. 1-800-446-3690.

FOR SALE
IT'S TRUE! GENSCO guarantees 20/24-ply aircraft tires against mesquite flats on ag equipment. Money-back guarantee for 6 months, but tires last years. Tires sent "open account - pay after receipt." Free brochure. Toll-free 1-800-NO FLATS (800-663-5287). GENSCO, Houston.

SUNQUEST WOLFF TANNING beds. Commercial-home units from \$199. Buy factory direct and save! Call today for new free color catalog 1-800-462-9197.

HEALTH
DIABETICS! FOR THOSE who qualify. Medicare/insurance billed direct for test strips, insulin, glucometers. Satisfaction guaranteed. Liberty Medical Supply 1-800-762-8026 Mention #2070.

PSORIASIS? ELIMINATE RED skin, itching, flakes! New approved spray restores your skin to normal or 100% money back. No side effects. Call now! 1-800-61-SPRAY.

RAPID WEIGHT LOSS. "Only \$17.95" burns fat, calories, and stops hunger. Lose 3-5 pounds/week. Money back guaranteed. Call for information: United Pharmaceutical 1-800-733-3288 (C.O.D.'s accepted).

LEGAL
DOW AND OTHER breast implant cases may be accepted. Free consultation. 1-800-833-9121. Carl Waldman, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law. Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Principal office Beaumont. May associate other attorneys.

REAL ESTATE
TEXAS VETERANS: 37-100 acres. Beautiful hill country, hunting/recreational land. Water and/or electricity, \$1,000-\$2,200 down, \$140-\$328/month (30 years-7.64% to 9.8%). 1-800-876-9720.

Merry Christmas And Happy New Year
From Pampered Pups Salon
563-9115

James J. Fernandez
Sales Manager

Patrick J. Collins
Sales Manager

Sam Guerra, Jr.
Dealer Representative

Joe Bernard
F & I Manager

Alan Alexander
Sales Representative

Angelo Gonzalez
Sales Representative

Shane Quinn
Sales Representative

Remigio Rojo
"Remi"
Sales Representative

May we chime in with an expression of thanks for your patronage in the past...and all the best in 1996!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

CHEVROLET HOWARD
2300 HWY 90 WEST DEL RIO, TX
210/775-0566

GM QUALITY SERVICE PARTS