

The Brackett News



Brackett competes in SWTJC Tourney
See story, Page 4

8th year, No. 44

Serving the communities of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs, Spofford and Kinney County

1 Section, 8 Pages

Briefs ...

Brackettville gets new area code next year

Brackettville is among cities that will be assigned a new area code next year.

Implementation of the new area codes is scheduled for midsummer 1997.

Brackettville and other cities in the northern portion of the 210 area code will be assigned the 830 prefix. Cities in the southern portion will be assigned the 956 prefix. The Greater San Antonio Area will retain the 210 area code.

The new 830 area code will serve all or part of 34 counties, including the cities of Del Rio, Uvalde, New Braunfels, Fredericksburg and Kerrville. The southern portion, including Laredo, McAllen and Brownsville, will be assigned 956.

Christmas musical is coming to town

There will be two performances of the Christmas musical "Dr. Newheart's Christmas Care" for Kinney County residents.

The first performance will be on Friday, at Fort Clark Springs Town Hall. The musical will begin at 7 p.m.

The final performance will be on Sunday at Brackettville's First Baptist Church at 11 a.m.

The Christmas musical, directed by Dana Antoine, features leading characters Annie Ash as Dr. Newheart, Stephanie Wallace, as Nurse Philpot, and many children with prominent roles as patients.

Voices to perform

The Voices of Fort Clark Springs will present Handel's "Christmas Messiah" in concert on Sunday.

Under the direction of Lynn McNew, and accompanied by Cathi Conrey, the concert will be held at Town Hall on Fort Clark Springs beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Handel's Messiah is probably the most famous oratorio ever written. James Dasher's arrangement includes the most familiar and appropriate numbers for Christmas: "And the Glory of the Lord," "For Unto Us a Child Is Born," and the "Hallelujah" chorus to mention a few.

Soloists for the production are McNew, Hector Jimenez, Lee Herron, Pat Strother and Jan Nelson.

Cookies and punch will be served after the concert. No admission will be charged, however, a free-will offering will be taken.



George Corral, who works with Holloman Construction out of Odessa, works on the city's new sewer system Wednesday on Ann Street.

County severs ties with area narcotics task force

Officials have original salaries reinstated

Kinney County will no longer be involved with the Allied Area Narcotics Task Force.

Officials unanimously voted not to participate in the program at the commissioners court's monthly meeting on Monday morning.

Kinney County is currently serving as the grantee to the task force, which will retain its central base in Brackettville until May 31.

The commissioners also agreed to sell the property rented by the task force, with a price to be negotiated and approved at a later date.

The county's elected officials will have their original salaries reinstated, County Attorney Tully Shahan said at Monday's meeting.

The elected officials had their salaries cut at the beginning of the fiscal year because of financial problems. Officials said the county's economy has improved, allowing room for the original salaries.

Shahan said the county's grievance committee voted unanimously to reinstate the salaries. Because it was a unanimous vote, the commissioners didn't have to take action on the item. Had it not been a unanimous vote, Shahan said the issue would have been placed on the commissioners agenda.

Also at Monday's meeting, the commissioners voted to change the county's retirement plan. Employees now can receive benefits after eight years of service rather than 10.

"The counties around us have the same plan and I think this will be good for our employees," County Judge Tommy Seargeant said.

Wayne Beyer presented the county audit for the 1995-1996 fiscal year.

The court voted to promote Diana Gutierrez from deputy treasurer to chief deputy treasurer, to move the EMS Office above the jail, to pay the bills and to amend the budget.

The commissioners discussed comp time and leave status for all departments, and the appointment of an EMS director, but took no action.

A request by Cyndee Kendrick to use county property for dog obedience classes was denied.

Items on the agenda that were not discussed included the county auditor's and county treasurer's monthly reports, appointments to the Historical Commission, and a request from the justice of the peace for a secretary's salary adjustment.

The court will meet again Friday at 3.

Trustees discuss school district's parking problem

The Brackett School Board discussed the parking problem at the district's main campus Monday night at the trustees monthly meeting.

The board discussed negotiations to purchase land for parking in closed session.

"We have limited parking here," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "It's really hard for our visitors to find a parking space. It's even harder for the people that work here and go to school here.

"We've grown and there's more cars. It's just a situation where we've outgrown the lot and there is no room to expand. Safety has also become a factor.

"We hope to establish a student parking lot close to the school before the year is up," he said. "We hope to finalize the process by our January board meeting.

The trustees also discussed the progress in the purchase of land for the new alternative school while in closed session.

Board President Jimmy Bader, a member of the Texas Association of School Boards, recently at-

"It's just a situation where we've outgrown the lot and there is no room to expand."
Taylor Stephenson

tended a legislative workshop in Austin. He informed the trustees that legislators are attempting to lower property taxes and replace those lost revenues with a value added tax or with an increase in gross receipts tax.

The trustees discussed a sick leave pool for district employees. The board endorsed the study of the sick leave pool.

Employees have five sick days a year. Under the proposed plan, an employee could donate one or two days to the pool. The days in the pool would be used for employees who had exhausted their sick leave and who had a catastrophic, life-threatening illness.

The trustees approved a land transfer for the rodeo arena from the Future farmers Association to

the school district.

The board discussed appointments to the appraisal board. Present members representing the district are Bader, Henry Fuentes and Sam Heninger. The item will be discussed at next month's meeting.

High School Principal Don Sims informed the board during administrative reports that 82 percent of those taking the TAAS Exit Test passed. These students include those that are new to the district and those who had to take retakes.

Also on Monday, the board decided to use Coleman, Horton and Co. as the district's auditor.



Marvin Davis and Judy Burks perform at supper with Santa last week.

City Council OKs \$103,686 contract for project

The Brackettville City Council approved a \$103,686 contract for a community development project at its monthly meeting Tuesday evening.

The contract is with Middle Rio Grande Development Council for the replacement of the city's wa-

ter pump with a new hydro-pneumatic booster station.

Alderwoman Mary V. Flores made the motion to approve the contract, and her motion was seconded by councilman Ralph Gonzalez. Also voting for the contract were council members

Tenchu Pena and Felix Gonzales.

The council also adopted a new utility ordinance and approved the financial reports.

The city council also heard reports from Fire Marshal Faustino "Lingo" Sandoval and City Manager David Luna.

Brackett splits with Rocksprings

Brackett split a double-header with Rocksprings Tuesday night in high school basketball action at Tiger gym.

The Tigers topped the Angoras, 58-47, in the boys game, while Rocksprings won the girls contest, 50-42.

"It was a good win," Tigers coach Gary Grubbs said. "I think this is a good momentum builder going into the Junior College tournament."

Moses Hernandez recorded a double-double with 14 points and 13 rebounds to pace the Tigers, who improve to 7-2 on the season. The loss drops the Angoras to 4-1.

Brackett broke the contest open in the second quarter. Beau Smallwood scored eight-straight points, including back-to-back treys, to give the Tigers a 22-12 advantage with 4:44 left in the first half.

Smallwood led Brackett with 16 points, sinking 3 of 5 shots from beyond the three-point arc. He also had eight assists, five rebounds and four blocked shots.

The Tigers took their biggest lead of the contest at 47-32 with 6:04 remaining as Ramon De Leon hit a jump shot in the paint. The senior guard finished the contest with 11 points.

Luis Guajardo scored six points for Brackett, while Brian Flores had five, and Josh and Caleb Crumley and Rene Luna all added two.

Will Harrell was Rocksprings' high scorer with 16 points. Aaron Sales had 12.

The Tigerettes tried to hand the Lady Angoras

"I think this is a good momentum builder going into the Junior College tournament."
Tigers coach Gary Grubbs

their first loss of the season, but came up on the short end, falling 50-42.

Rocksprings is 11-0, while Brackett is 5-5.

The two teams were tied at 4-all in the opening stanza before the Lady Angoras rallied for a seven-point run.

Anna Cerda's three-pointer capped the spurt at the 3:40 mark, giving Rocksprings an 11-4 advantage. Cerda finished with 18 points and the Lady Angoras never trailed the rest of the game.

Rocksprings never led by more than eight in the contest. Jamie Davis, who finished with 12 points, hit a turn-around jumper with two seconds left in the first period to give the Lady Angoras an early 20-12 lead.

Brackett opened the second quarter with a 9-3 run. Amanda Meek scored all nine of those points, as the Tigerettes pulled within two at 23-21 on her jump shot with 4:01 in the first half.

Rocksprings led 28-23 at halftime. Both teams scored 11 points in the third period and the Lady Angoras outscored the Tigerettes 11-8 in the fourth.

Amanda Meek led the Tigerettes' scoring attack with a season-high 32 points. Lindy La Mascus chipped in eight points and Tina Meek had two.



Brian Flores and the Brackett Tigers picked up a 58-47 victory over Rocksprings Tuesday. Brackett News Photos by J.J. Guidry

INSIDE

■ Sheriff gets grant

The Kinney County Sheriff's Department will receive \$14,753 in federal funds to help pay the costs of incarcerating illegal aliens who have committed serious crimes in the United States.
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■ Taylor Stephenson

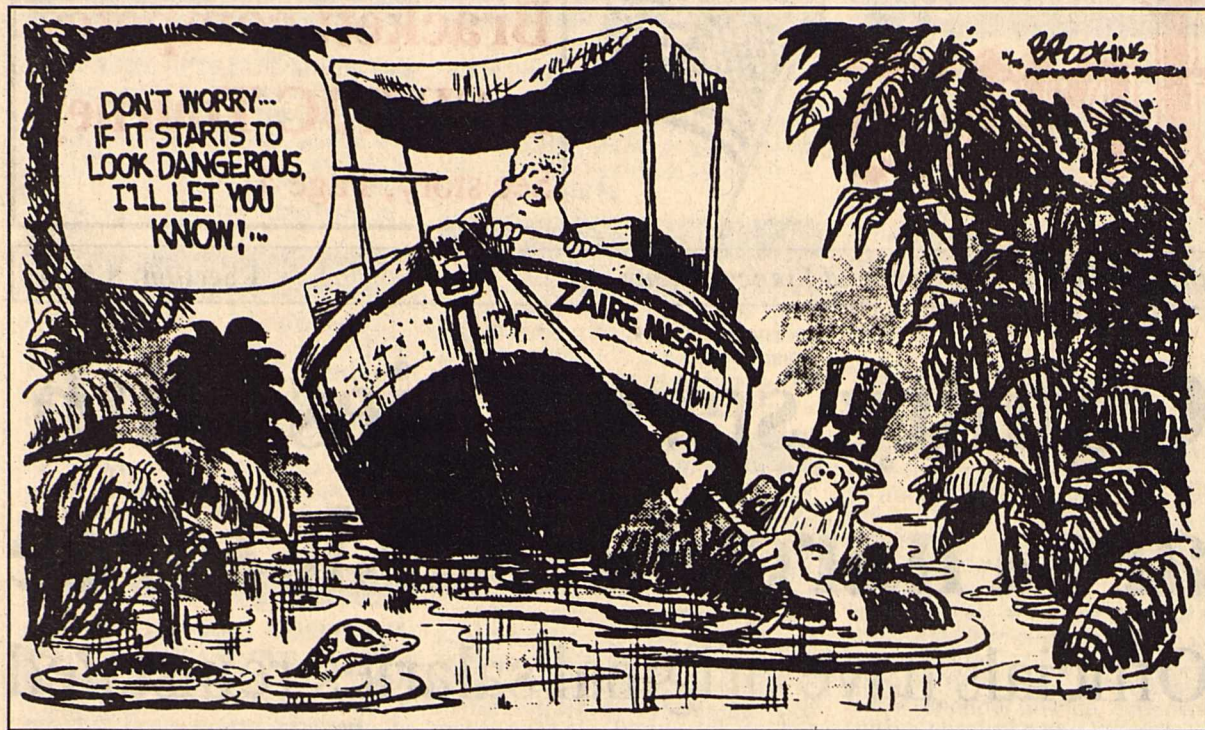
When Bob Slate learned that he needed a kidney transplant, he had no idea that his adopted daughter Tracy would eventually be the donor.
Lifestyles/Page 4

■ New restaurant

A new restaurant is coming to Kinney County in 1997 when Barbara Simmons opens Barbara's Table in downtown Brackettville.
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Small business has more reasons to smile

Small business is the workhorse and job creator of the Texas economy. More than 97 percent of the 400,000 businesses in Texas employ fewer than 100 people.

Anything Congress can do to get out of the way of small businesses and let them get on with their jobs is a plus for our entire country.

The 104th was described recently as "one of the most productive Congresses for small business" by Jack Faris, president of

the National Federal of Independent Business.

Among the major changes the 104th Congress made in laws affecting small business are:

- A provision raising the amount small business owners may deduct immediately for the cost of items such as computers and equipment from \$17,500 to \$25,000.

- A provision allowing small business owners to set up pension plans for themselves and their



Capitol Comment

U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison

employees that is simpler, less costly and free of burdensome regulations.

- A provision allowing businesses with 50 or fewer employees to set up interest free medical savings accounts for health care expenses. This provision also increases, incrementally, the amount of health insurance costs that self-employed individuals may deduct from 40 percent in 1997 to 80 percent in 2006.

- The Paperwork Reduction Act, which set a government wide paperwork reduction goal of 10 percent per year through the year 2001. This will make a tremendous difference in the way the government approaches business.

In March, 1995, the Office of Management and Budget estimated that Americans spend more than 6.4 billion hours a year filling out forms and compiling records to accommodate the federal government.

- The Taxpayers Bill of Rights has been enacted into law. If a business owner becomes involved in a dispute with the IRS, this law shifts the burden of proof from the taxpayer (who groans under this burden now) to the IRS. It also allows the IRS to remove a lien or levy in some situations other than when the taxpayer has made full payment, and makes it easier for those who win their cases to collect attorney's fees from the IRS.

- Some 1.2 billion small businesses have been given a six month reprieve on electronic filing of their federal tax deposits. This affects businesses that deposited more than \$50,000 in employment taxes in 1995.

The previous deadline was January 1, 1997. Owners now have until July 1, 1997, to comply.

But much remains to be done before all bureaucratic stumbling blocks to small business are removed.

Among the areas I would like to see the 105th Congress address come January include a broadening of the home office deduction, enactment of legislation to make government regulation more flexible, 100 percent deductibility of health care coverage costs, regulatory reform and, the biggest of all, reform of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

It should be made easier not more difficult to do business in Texas and in America. Come the 105th Congress, I intend to see that reform efforts continue to focus on reducing the burdens we place on small business.

Between Us

By Joe Townsend



Judge shows contempt for common sense with decision

America will survive in spite of laws and judges. Just when I feel the bottom of the barrel has been reached, some new unconscionable decision cries loudly from a judicial bench.

In San Antonio, a single mother of six, barely eking out an existence for her family, will spend from last week until after Christmas in jail.

In my opinion, the judge responsible should have to sit these days in company with the criminal. If she was right by the law, the law needs to be changed.

You see, some of the children had not been going to school. They were young children and the mother apparently thought they were going to school.

In adjudicating the case, the judge assessed a fine of \$1,000. How she expected a single woman with six children living on pov-

erty row to fork out \$1,000 shows contempt for common sense.

Not being able to pay the fine, the mother was put in jail to "lay it out."

Anytime is a bad time for such onerous action, but to take a mother away from her children through the Christmas season is despicable. Any judge who has a degree of arbitrary decision and a small dose of common sense would have led to a more compassionate and acceptable decision.

The only surcease is to be found in the fact that wearing a judicial robe and sitting in a place of authority will in no way deter God from his consideration of the matter.

Everything that goes around comes around and God is the final judge and arbiter. This applies to the convicted mother and the judge.

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Letters to the Editor

What a difference a year makes on Fort Clark

Seems like only yesterday since approximately 35 to 40 RVers met in the office/lounge at Camper's World and spent an entire evening decorating a big Christmas tree while feasting on cookies, candies, pies, and other high calorie pastries.

The Christmas spirit reached an all time high as good voices, not so good voices, and terrible voices joined together singing Christmas carols that made Santa Claus choke up just a tad. Love, laughter, Christmas spirit, and brotherly love ran rampant in that area of the old army post just a year ago.

Lorraine Watson and many of her buddies who occasionally enjoy the pleasure of a good cigarette gave up the habit that night for fear they would miss some of the entertainment and fun that was taking place inside the office/lounge.

Yep, it was a night to remember.

I recently visited the old post and to my sorrow, as told to me by my many friends who reside in Unit 35, Unit 36, and Unit 37, the Christmas Tree Decorating Party has been discontinued due to the closure of the members lounge.

Kaput! Zapped! Disappeared! A thing of the past!

What a tragedy. How heart breaking. What a needless waste of good Christmas spirit. A missed opportunity never to surface again which would allow residents in the RV park an opportunity to show

their love for one another during the holiday season.

The discontinuance of the tree decorating party automatically destroyed another family get-together for the RVers, one even bigger and better than the Christmas bash. This would have been the party that evolved immediately after Christmas attracting more participants than the first for the purpose of taking the Christmas tree down and storing it away for the year.

This crowd was bigger, the singing was louder, and the food was richer and more fattening than ever. Another great evening for RVers who chose Fort Clark Springs' own recreational park, Camper's World, as their home for six months out of every year.

According to reports "East of the Las Moras," long-time residents of the RV park are scratching their heads in bewilderment while attempting to unravel the mystery concerning the discontinuance of the Christmas parties that produced such a warm spot in their hearts during the holiday seasons.

I no longer reside on Fort Clark Springs. However, I still own property there and have a very special place in my heart for the old army post. It is a great place to retire and enjoy a very unruffled way of life.

The old military facility offers an incredible opportunity to express our love for life by making new friends from all reaches of the world.

I didn't move from FCS because I had become disenchanted with the operations of the facility. Quite the contrary.

I relocated in Uvalde for the purpose of managing a brand new RV park. The position extended to me the opportunity to meet and develop new relationships with RVers and travelers. It provided me the opportunity to share my experiences with people who "spoke the same language" as I.

Being friendly and making travelers feel genuinely welcome is a "sure-fire" way of attaining an instant friendship. The old cliché "a kind word and a friendly smile" continues to be an RVers motto.

When God created RVers, He was very careful to only choose the best. He knew the close-quartered recreational vehicles in which they had chosen to live would require patience with one another, a very loving spirit, an exceptionally special spirit of forgiveness, and the desire to travel and admire His beautiful creations. I think He handled the job well.

RVers are fun-loving free spirits, the perfect description for couples who have decided to hold hands and skip through their Golden Years while exploring North America on wheels. They're the greatest!

Maybe you should try loving them more, FCS, before you lose them altogether!!!

Les Roper

Great things are hapenning at Fort Clark Springs

We arrived at our winter home, the RV Park at the Fort, about a month ago and have thoroughly enjoyed reestablishing old friendships and making new friends.

I also found a group of unhappy campers. After listening to a few comments, reading a letter to the editor in this newspaper, and visiting with a few members of the board, it seems to me a great deal of this turmoil is nearing the point of silliness.

Any rational person would quickly understand most of the problems are largely due to misunderstandings and misconceptions on the part of those who wail the loudest.

On our arrival, we were pleased to enter a professional park office complete with a friendly and courteous manager, and a fledgling array of RV supplies; the start of a new profit center for the Fort.

This, in our judgement, was a

marked improvement over what we've seen in that building during past visits.

The card and game tables were moved to the little used dining room, giving those who wish to use those facilities a great deal more space. Soon the TV cable will service this area.

Other great things are hapenning, if the complainers would only open their eyes.

Unit 37 is nearly complete and makes a very nice addition to the Fort's environs.

The new general manager has proven to be a farsighted, dynamic leader. Evidence of his ability is easy to find, new sewer system installation is seen everywhere one looks and new lots are going to become available in the near future.

The Fort is clean and grounds neatly manicured. I'm sure there are many more examples of his leadership, but I'll mention only

the above.

Clearly, more good progressive activity has taken place around here in the last few months than in the past several years.

Nothing is ever perfect, and the RV Park has a lot of improvements to make. But improvements cost money. The more things our board does to generate cash flow, things like the RV store, the longer we can enjoy the exceptional value available to us Winter Texans.

There are no free rides in this world, we have to pay for what we get. Take a look around all of South Texas and compare prices. This RV Park is the best bargain we've found and we love coming here.

Growing old ain't for sissies! The aches and pains come more often and stay longer. Let's all enjoy what time we have left and try to be good neighbors and happy campers.

Charles Overstreet

Isn't the majority a ruling factory anymore?

I read the comments of Tom and Shirley Baldwin and of Kathi Warm in Letters to the Editor about the conditions of Camper's World.

Can you believe they want to change the name to Camp Bivouac?

Yes, I must comment. I have been coming to Camper's World for nine years and enjoyed each year until last winter when we got a new manager at the R.V. Park and changes came we couldn't understand.

How can the general manager and the Board of Directors go along with these changes when 50 members signed a letter to the general manager, and 35 members

had a meeting with the general manager asking that no changes be made?

Our card-coffee-recreation room and meeting place is now closed and locked except for a few hours a day, and even when it's open we are not welcome.

They now have R.V. supplies for sale, and if they are lucky they'll sell \$100 a winter. The last time supplies were sold in there, they ended up giving them away to get rid of them.

Isn't a majority a ruling factor anymore? All we are saying is that everything in the R.V. Park was fine and should have been left alone.

I think it is time for the Board of Directors to open their eyes and give the majority of R.V. Park residents their wishes.

Last year at this time, we were using the overflow portion of the Park. This year, we still have many vacancies. This is costing \$165 per space, per month, plus golf and Las Moras revenues.

We invite all FCS members to come and talk to Campers' World residents and find out what the dissatisfaction is all about, and then write letters to the Board of Directors to see if the necessary changes can be made to satisfy the R.V. Park residents and increase income.

Chuck Titus

The Brackett News

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Band performs at Christmas concert

The Brackett High School Band will perform at its annual Christmas Concert Monday.

This year's concert is at Fort Clark Springs' Town Hall and begins at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

"Arrangements will be made at the Fort gate for all public who do not have passes to enter the Fort for the concert," said Brackett Band Director Michael Smellie.

"Come and join us for an evening of Christmas music," he said. "It will be a fun and exciting night of music."

The Jones Elementary third, fourth and fifth grade classes will present a short Christmas concert of their own on Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the school.

Sheriff's Department to receive \$14,753 grant

WASHINGTON - The Kinney County Sheriff's Department will receive \$14,753 in federal funds from the U.S. Justice Department to help pay the costs of incarcerating illegal aliens who have committed serious crimes in the United States, U.S. Senator Phil Gramm announced.

Specifically, the senator said, the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAPP) provides financial assistance to states and, for the first time, localities in paying the costs of illegal criminal aliens incarcerated in their correctional facilities.

"This is good because we will get paid for holding illegal aliens," Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess said. "I think you will see more illegals being placed in jail and charged with serious crimes because now counties can compensate for the expenses of holding them."

Texas will receive approximately \$53.5 million in state and local awards.

"This funding represents a long-term commitment by the U.S. government to help Kinney County

bear the costs of incarcerating criminal aliens," Gramm said.

"It should give local law enforcement officials the tangible support they need to deal with this financial burden."

In fiscal year 1996, Congress appropriated \$500 million for the SCAPP program. Another \$500 million has been appropriated for fiscal year 1997. The 1994 Crime Act authorized \$1.8 billion over six years.

"Back in June or July, we received an application which asked us to send in the number of illegal aliens that we held on state charges," Burgess said. "We did a background check to see how many we held, then we had to get it documented by the Border Patrol."

"It mainly took a lot of legwork on the deputy's part. Then, we just sat around and waited. We actually received more money than we anticipated."

The funds will be administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.



Mary Jane Meek, Honey Bee Gomez, Toni Pena and Martha Pena Hooten served at last week's Supper with Santa.



Cody Blankenship, 4, of Knippa, sits with Santa Claus during last week's Supper with Santa. Cody is the grandson of Judy Blankenship, the special education director of the Brackett school district.

Regina V. Rubino honored in Who's Who

Regina V. Rubino, of Brackettville, is one of 80 students honored in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" from Texas A&M University-Kingsville who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

They will join an elite group of students from more than 1,900 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

Juniors, seniors and graduate students are nominated by representatives of the faculty, administration and student body. They are endorsed by the university's administration and are selected based on scholarship, participation and leadership in their academic

college and in the university, as well as potential for future achievement.

"Being named to 'Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges' is truly an honor. Only 1.3 percent of the entire student body (80 out of 6,100) is selected to receive this recognition," said Dr. Kay Clayton, Vice President for Student Affairs and Special Services. "We are very proud of the students, and we are delighted to have the opportunity to recognize their achievements."

A&M-Kingsville President Dr. Manuel Ibanez and Clayton presented certificates to each of the students at a program and reception in their honor on Monday, November 25.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
By TAYLOR STEPHENSON, BISD Superintendent

It was another great week at BISD

I'll talk about some good stuff this week. Ready, here we go!

Eighty-two percent of the students who took the TAAS Exit math, reading and writing test at BISD passed. This report is for students who retook the test because they did not pass the first time.

That's superb! Some grand teaching is going on here. Proud of the efforts of teachers and students.

Kandace LaMascus writes: "The neurosurgeon came by, he is astounded at my recovery, scared I wouldn't walk, he's super!"

Folks, Kandace is scheduled to be moved to Uvalde to continue her therapy today! She's a magnificent elementary teacher. KL needs our prayers. Keep them going!

Our basketball teams are doing fine. Boys and girls both won third place recently in the Nueces Canyon Tournament.

We have a tournament scheduled for boys in Brackettville on Friday and Saturday of next week. Get a schedule and support these fine teams.

I'm really excited about the improvement to the lighting systems at the ball fields. We will be able to play night games in softball and baseball in the spring. Next year, the football field will be awesome! Proud of the investment in improved facilities!

The volunteers at Jones Elementary School are doing a tremendous job. They are there doing lots of work for teachers and for the children. Thanks for a job well done!

Special thanks to Gracie Mata and Norma Sandoval, elementary parent volunteer coordinators. Thanks to Patty Parker as the number one parent volunteer with 70 to 80 hours.

The Middle school will hold a student-parent lunch on the Friday, Dec. 20, at lunchtime in the cafeteria.

We are trying to have more activities for parents and students. Hope you can come. A good idea, hope the attendance is good.

Brackett ISD was the program highlight at Region 20 with its curriculum management system called Abacus. We are the only school in Region 20 to use Abacus. It is world class. It is making

a difference for our children.

Our technology committee is working on a T1 phone line. We are trying to implement in some fashion the much needed academic component of research by computer. It's the basic research tool used today in graduate schools. Our children need to know how to use the WWW. So, more later. We have lots to do before we can get this one done.

Our Board of Education spends hours studying and trying to improve our school system. They are looking at setting goals for the next year.

If you have suggestions, please let a member of the Board know what you like and what you would like to see improved. We have a fine board. I am proud to work with them.

The Tiger Band Concert will be held Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. Hope you can come!

Don't forget two big events on Sunday:

The 1996 Christmas Tour of Homes Sunday afternoon from 2 till 5. Make sure you find out more and come support the Kinney County Arts Council.

The Voices of Fort Clark will present a fine concert Sunday night at 7:30 at the Town Hall. This will be an outstanding program.

So, that's about it this week! We're getting closer to Christmas. Harder for me to concentrate. I haven't changed much since childhood. Know what, I really didn't want to! It's kind of nice to once and a while view the world through the eyes of a child.

This week, hang an ornament, sing a carol, check out the lights in your neighborhood, go to a concert, and above all attend church. Have a good one!

Sheriff's Report

Wednesday, December 4
10:00 a.m., Two illegal aliens were apprehended by Border Patrol officials who were making a routine check at the train stop in Spofford. Zeferino Hernandez Garcia, 26, and Angle Orderana Juarez, 19, were arrested and charged with interference with railroad property, a felony. They were magisterated by Judge Tommy Seargeant and each are being held on \$2,500 bond.

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Frances McMaster, right, Rotary Club program chairman, welcomes Wayne Hyde, left, president of the Del Rio Community Concerts, and Judy Burks, elementary school teacher and award recipient, to last week's meeting. Photo by Eric McMaster

Burks addresses Rotary Club

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

Brackettville is honored to have a couple of teachers who are dedicated to giving local children a chance to experience the best of music.

For several years, Judy and George "Stoney" Burks have been taking students to performances sponsored by Del Rio Community Concerts.

Last Thursday, Judy Burks spoke to the Rotary Club about a recent trip to New York the couple shared as an award given by the National Community Concerts Organization.

The Rotary meeting was also attended by Wayne Hyde, Tax Assessor and Collector for Val Verde County, who is the president of the Del Rio Community Concerts organization. George Burks is vice president and will serve as president in the 1997-98 series.

Judy Burks described the growth of participants each year. More and more youngsters wanted to attend the concerts, and people who learned about the trips began donating tickets.

Former superintendent Steve Mills was so impressed with the project that he arranged for a bus, which George Burks drives. This past year the bus was filled to capacity.

The program Judy Burks presented to the Rotary Club was a detailed account of all of the marvelous treats she and her husband enjoyed during their stay in New York. Performances were given at Carnegie Hall, which was an exciting experience in itself.

Judy teaches third grade and George is a science teacher and assistant principal of the Brackett Middle School. Both of them are from Brackettville originally.

The Burks have two sons. The youngest, James, is a freshman in high school here, and Sean attends Texas A&M. He is a member of the Singing Cadets, and this group had the honor of singing in Carnegie Hall last spring.

There are 450 Community Concerts organizations across the United States and many were recommended for the honor the Burks received. Out of all these applications, the Burks were selected. Since the couple did not know that their names had been submitted, they were surprised, indeed, to find they had won.

The Burks were honored but this is also an honor for Brackettville. In fact, Brackettville will receive its own award.

One of the programs scheduled by Community Concerts this coming year will be performed here, especially for the Brackettville students.

LEARNING WHAT LOVE IS ALL ABOUT

Kidney transplant a success for Slate

Bob Slate now knows what love is all about.

When the Fort Clark Springs resident learned that he needed a kidney transplant, he had no idea that his adopted daughter Tracy would eventually be the donor.

In the spring of 1987, Slate became critically ill with a rare kidney disease, Wegeners Granulomatosis. After losing 50 percent of his kidney function, the medical treatments brought the disease under control.

From 1991 to 1995, Slate appeared to be disease free. After managing golf courses in northern Nevada, the opportunity to move to South Texas, where the Slates had wintered for a number of years, was available when Fort Clark Springs offered Bob the job as golf course manager.

During the summer of 1995, at a routine checkup by Dr. David Player of the Uvalde Kidney Disease clinic, disease activity was found. For six months, various medical treatments were tried. By December, Slate's kidneys had failed and he began dialysis.

After attending training to perform home hemodialysis, Bob and his wife, Gene, began the three and a half hour, three times a week regime of dialysis.

This summer, the Slates were thrilled when Tracy decided she would move to South Texas. They were happy to have her move into the spare bedroom of their newly built home on Fort Clark.

Slate had been evaluated for a kidney transplant and determined to be a good candidate for a transplant. His sisters from California were both tested, but neither was a match.

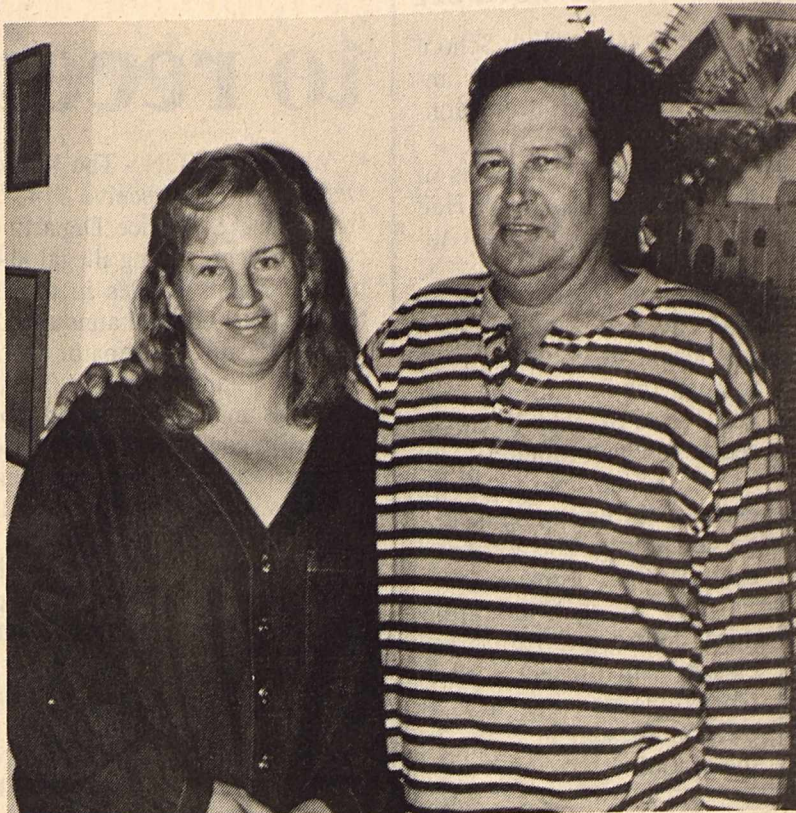
When Tracy arrived, she expressed her desire to be tested as a donor. The doctor was hesitant, since Tracy was adopted, adding that the chances were very slim that she would match.

To everyone's surprise, she was a better match than if she had been a biological daughter.

"That's a one-in-a-million chance," Bob said. "I tested my sisters and my children and none of them matched. She was the only one that matched and she was the last chance."

On Nov. 20, Tracy donated a perfect kidney to her father in an operation at San Antonio Community Hospital. The kidney began working immediately.

Even though Bob and his daughter have always been close, they now have an even closer



Bob Slate, right, is recovering from a successful kidney transplant from his adopted daughter Tracy.

bond.

"It takes a lot of love for anyone to give parts of their body to someone else," he said.

Bob and Tracy are now both back at home and are recovering from the surgery.

"We're both sore and healing," he said. "It usually takes about 30 days for the recipient and three

weeks for the donor (to recover)."

Bob said his family has received a lot of support from their friends during this hard time.

"A lot of our friends on the Fort have given us great support," he said. "You don't know how much people love you until something like this happens."

The Master of Wanting to Do Nothing

At first I thought this was a criticism, a slam so to speak. I was disturbed but, as usual, continued in the conversation.

I had made a snap decision to not go with some friends after lunch to visit a crafts show and that decision was made using some words that I can now, in retrospect, see were as easily misunderstood as the calling of me "The Master of Wanting to Do Nothing."

Moncus' Meditations



MIKE MONCUS
Park Ranger, Interpreter
Bastrop State Park

I had been wrong though. I had little "add in" words in my request that we stay home. Words that implied that it was things she did or the children did that were directed specifically at keeping me from doing what I like to do regularly. Big mistake and potentially hurtful use of words at people I love and need.

I, at a fairly young age, really did become sort of a master of wanting to do nothing. I received

great things in learning to sit and empty out and meditate and suppose that is an exercise of not exercising anything to include body, mind, or spirit. I don't do it as successfully as I use to and in many ways have grown to be a little more "faithful" by going along with all of the world's activities and remain fairly still or untouched inside myself, but after avoiding the practice for a good many days I desire solitude. I don't

have to be alone to know solitude but I do require less activity and less noise or distractions.

This is what she meant and she meant it half in criticism and half in praise. The critical part was that it was good that I find such peace in the activity of "Doing Nothing" but it is non-inclusive. The praise was she was glad it helps me be the me I am.

I wished understanding came as fast for everyone as it does for her and I. There'd be only little short hurts.

Now a WARNING: Be careful of mastering anything because you could become the master of doing nothing at the wrong time.

Lions Club installs three new members

By Peter Pohl
Contributing Writer

The Brackettville Lions Club was the host for a visit from District 2-A2 Governor Hugh Scott and his wife, Billie, during the Club's annual Christmas party and meeting last Thursday.

Scott was born and raised in Port Arthur. He attended and graduated from Texas A&M University in 1951, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

He worked as an engineer for General Dynamics Aircraft Corporation in Fort Worth. He was called into active duty with the Air Force during the Korean War.

Upon his return from active duty, Scott returned to General Dynamics and later went to work for NASA where he worked in the Apollo and Apollo/Soyuz Shuttle

program until his retirement in 1983.

Upon retirement, he moved to Leakey, where he has served his Lions Club in every capacity, including president, board of director, zone chairman, deputy district governor, region chairman, and vice district governor.

Scott installed three new members into the Brackettville Lions Club, Marshall and Norma Conner, and James Strothers. He then talked about the activities of District 2-A2 and its future goals.

Scott commended the Brackettville Lions Club for their support to their community and the club's active participation both locally and at the District level.

Lions Club President Ruben Martinez presided over the meeting and Betty Inman led everyone in traditional Christmas songs.

Smoke From Nakai

By Nakai Breen

Readers, This sunrise I will tell you all about some of the beliefs the Cherokee's had. I will tell you some of the birds, what they were used for and what their names are.

The Owl (uku or U'guku) is believed to be embodied ghosts and when one hoots or cries near the house it means death is near either relatives or friends. If a child is bathing in the river where an owl feather was found it meant that the child would be awake all night and cry. If a child is bathed where the Blue Jays drink, the child will be an early riser. The scissor tail was called the fork and water finder. The feathers were carried when in search of water. The turkey feather was used to prevent man from getting the goiter growth. The ruffled grouse was taboo to pregnant women because this pheasant lays a dozen eggs and she loses her brood before maturity. The mocking bird was always revered as something special with supernatural powers because he can use the song of any bird and is a great imitator. Its heart was given to the children to eat so they could learn to imitate any bird. The wren is regarded as bringer of news of travelers or relatives that have been gone for some time. The wood pecker, the red headed one, when in a tree in your yard, prepare for guest. If the spot on it's head is black, prepare to hear of someone's death.

So with sound mind and good medicine

Nakai

Pete's sake

The little country church back in the hills was having financial trouble.

A lay off at the local mill had cut into the offering collection, and a new roof had to be put on the building.

On top of that, the fellow who had been hired to keep the grass mowed and trimmed in the cemetery had demanded a raise, which was more than could be afforded, and he resigned in a huff.

Another gardener had been hired, but took the job on hourly rates and was so slow that the cost rose even higher than before.

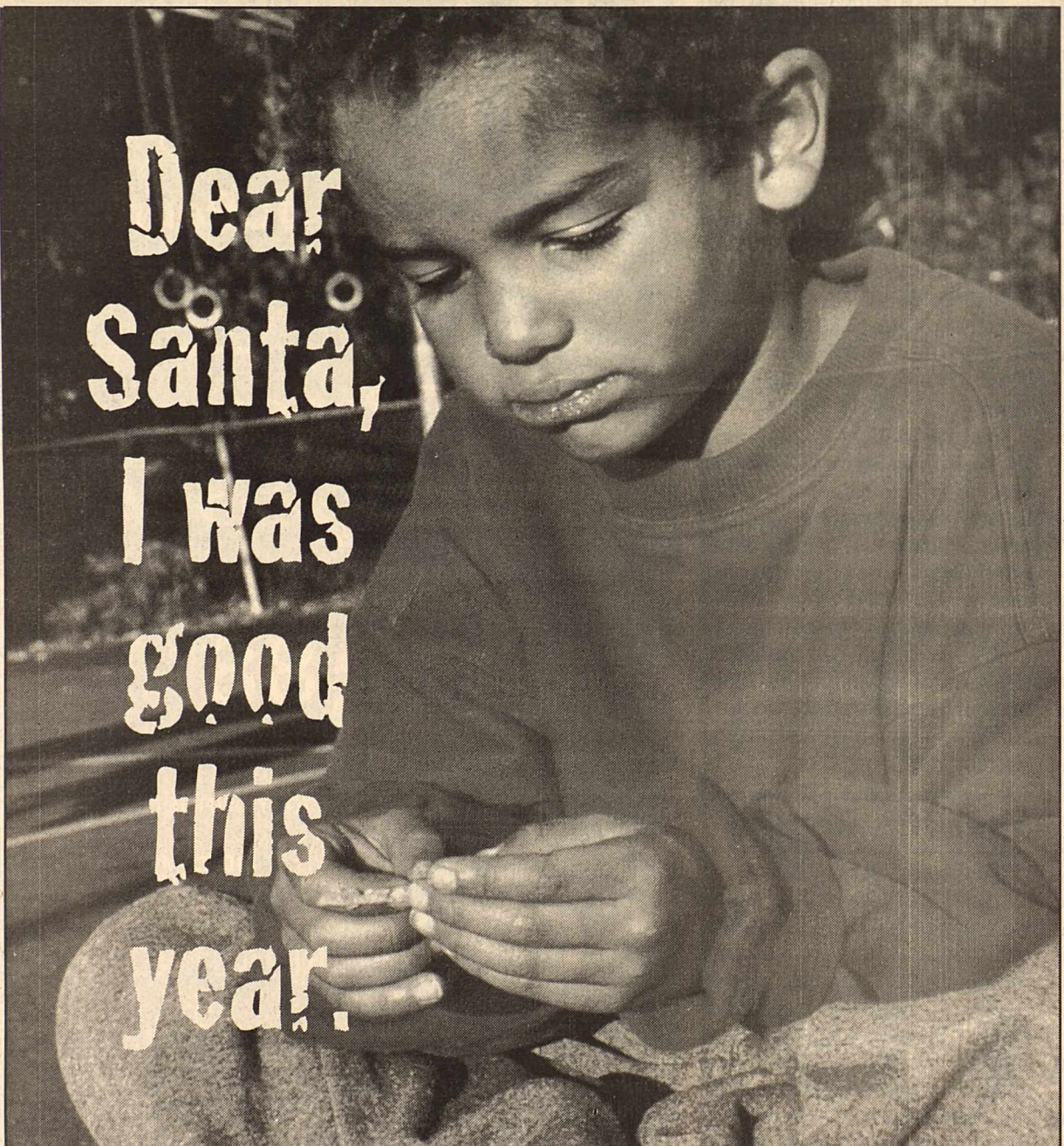
In desperation, the preacher had a sign painted and erected.

"Due to the high cost of maintaining our cemetery, we ask that those of you who can, mow the grass around your own graves."

Sorority meets

The Preceptor Theta Sigma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met last Monday.

Husbands joined members to clean the highway prior to having dinner. The social committee, headed by Pat Callnan, prepared a spaghetti dinner. Others helping cook were hostess Alicia Raymer, Ann Hibler, Clara McCord and Marge Geize.



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Barbara's Table to open in '97

By J.J. Guidry
News Editor

A new restaurant is coming to Kinney County in 1997 when Barbara Simmons opens Barbara's Table on North Street in downtown Brackettville.

The restaurant will be located in one of the buildings being renovated by Jay Johnson. He bought the property from Eloise Davis this summer. This particular building has served in several capacities over the years.

"It has been a lot of things," Johnson said. "Some people might remember it as the local cleaners, but it was originally the Fritter Saloon back in the 1800s. You can tell by the architecture that it's quite vintage."

Johnson has been busy with the renovations as Simmons said she hopes to have the restaurant open by Jan. 1.

"We're having to redo the water line," Johnson said. "We're putting in a heat-pump system, which it never had. We've had custom-built French doors, windows and shutters that are going in now."

"The building had a sheet-rock ceiling, but under the sheet-rock we discovered the old beaded border, tongue and groove, which is quite old. Even though it is old and rustic and some of it's mismatched, we think it lends more character and charm to the building than the sheet-rock, so we're

going to uncover it and work with that."

"It's going to be quite quaint," he said. "Eventually, we'll have some awnings for the two public entrances to the building."

Simmons and her family live on the Berryman Ranch, located 20 miles from Brackettville on F.M. 674.

"We feel like a part of the community and want to be a part of the community," Simmons said. "We've been in the area for about three years."

"A lot of individuals in the community know Barbara's cooking," Johnson said. "When I've mentioned that we have a restaurant coming in there and I tell them who, they say, 'Oh boy, she really cooks good.' So she already has a reputation."

Simmons is no stranger to the restaurant business. She most recently had a gourmet restaurant called Barbara's Backporch on her family's ranch in Louisiana and she has written two cookbooks.

"I have previously been involved with gourmet food, but you can be a gourmet cook if you season things properly. Sometimes, if you say gourmet, you frighten people off a little bit, so we're just going to serve 'good' food."

"This restaurant won't be quite as fancy as Barbara's Back Porch, but we'll have food just as good and nice service," she said. "I think everybody is looking for something a little upscale and

something quaint."

Johnson said that Simmons' restaurant will add some variety to the food scene in Kinney County.

"There are very few people around here that won't tell you that they look forward to a different kind of restaurant with some really wholesome food," he said. "As far as the downtown area, things are going to change."

"Barbara's going to put in the kind of restaurant that's going to appeal to more than the Kinney County residents. She's going to have a restaurant that's going to appeal to some who reside in Uvalde and some who reside in Del Rio. It would be real easy for the base people to hop over here and have a nice meal. And that's going to bring more interest to the area."

"There's a big market for hamburgers and tacos, and we have plenty of places now to go to, to get that here. But if you do have interest in variety and cuisine, then Barbara's Table is going to be it."

Simmons said she plans on serving lunch Tuesday through Saturday, and supper on Friday and Saturday evenings. She said the restaurant will be a specialty shop with a limited menu.

Barbara's Table will be the first of the businesses to be housed in the renovated buildings owned by Johnson. He also purchased buildings on Ann Street this summer.

"As the owner of the property, I couldn't have asked for a better usage," Johnson said. "And for its location, on the little park which is basically right in the center of town, it's going to generate a lot of activity versus if it were an office or a clinic."

"It will be a place with some positive experiences, so it's going to be good, and I think it will add to when we start to do the restoration on the buildings on Ann Street."

"My being pretty well entrenched in Del Rio as far as property ownership, I have a little bit of a pulse about the market there. Del Rio is really becoming a lot more solid, especially with all of the military base closures and Laughlin being beefed up. And then we know that the Border Patrol forces are being beefed up."

"There's a supposed housing shortage in Del Rio," he said. "Brackettville is becoming a little bit more of, perhaps they don't want to be recognized as, a bedroom community. It is for my family. We reside here, but we're back and forth to Del Rio constantly every week."



Barbara Simmons, left, will open Barbara's Table in a local building renovated by Jay Johnson. Photo by J.J. Guidry

Simmons said she is excited about the possibilities of Barbara's Table and the expected growth of the community.

"I think Brackettville is on the verge of discovering itself, actually. I hope everybody rallies around what Jay is doing with the buildings and what I am doing with the community as far as food service."

"There are a lot of other things that can come into these other buildings. It just takes somebody

with a little bit of vision, looking into the future to come in. I think it will encourage more interest in the downtown area."

Nonetheless, Simmons said she hopes to open a restaurant that the whole community will be proud of.

"There are a lot of places in the world to eat, but there are very few places to dine," she said. "And when you come to Barbara's Table in the evening, you are going to dine."

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51	B	A	R	G	E	L	L	O						
68	C	O	L	L	I	N	D	A	N	C	E			
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Nueces Canyon CISD	(210) 234-3514
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Brackett teams eye SWTJC titles

Tigers, Tigerettes open play today against Leakey

By J.J. Guidry Sports Editor

The Brackett Tigers and Tigerettes will open play in the Southwest Texas Junior College Invitational basketball tournament today.

The Tigerettes face the Leakey Lady Eagles in the tournament opener at 8:30 this morning.

"Leakey will be strong," coach Gregg Nowlin said. "They have some tall girls inside and they have some good outside shooters. It's going to be a good game."

The Tigerettes will face either Knippa or D'Hanis today in the second round. If they win, they will play at 6:30 this evening. If they lose, they will play at 3:30.

The Tigers also open tourney action against Leakey. They will battle the Eagles at 10.

The Tigers will face either Knippa or D'Hanis today in the second round. If they win, they will play at 8:00 this evening. If they lose, they will play at 5.

Southwest Texas Junior College Basketball Tournament
 Dec. 12-14, 1996

	Brackett Thursday 8:30, Girls 10:00, Boys	
	Leakey Thursday 6:30, Girls 8:00, Boys	
Thursday 3:30, Girls 5:00, Boys	Knippa Thursday 11:30, Girls 1:00, Boys	Thursday 6:30, Girls 8:00, Boys
	D'Hanis Friday 8:30, Girls 10:00, Boys	
Saturday 11:30, Girls 1:00, Boys	La Pryor Friday 8:30, Girls 10:00, Boys	Saturday 3:30, Girls 5:00, Boys
	Nueces Canyon Friday 3:30, Girls 5:00, Boys	
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Brackett teams finish third at Nueces Canyon tourney

BARKSDALE - The Brackett Tigers and Tigerettes both took third place honors at the Nueces Canyon Invitational basketball tournament last weekend.

Amanda Meek scored 44 points in three games to pace the Tigerettes. The 6-foot-1 senior center was named to the all-tournament team.

"Amanda had a good tournament," Tigerettes coach Gregg Nowlin said. "She was well deserving."

Brackett opened the tournament with a 77-43 victory over Sabinal Lady Yellowjackets. The Tigerettes fell to

Rocksprings, 59-56, in the semi-finals before defeating Nueces Canyon, 54-47, in the third place final.

Earning all-tournament for the Tigers was senior Moses Hernandez. He finished the tourney with 56 points and 33 rebounds.

"Moses had an outstanding tournament," Tigers coach Gary Grubbs said. "He did a good job."

The Tigers defeated Sabinal, 73-69, in their opener before falling to the eventual champions from Knippa, 60-52.

Brackett defeated Utopia, 67-60, in the third place contest.

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Briefs ...

JV routs Rocksprings
 The Brackett Tigers' notched a 51-41 win over the Rocksprings Angoras in junior varsity basketball action Tuesday.
 Brackett jumped out to a 10-4 lead after the opening stanza. The Angoras then outscored the Tigers 14-5 in the second period to go up 18-15 at the break.
 The junior varsity Tigers took control of the contest in the second half, outscoring the Angoras 12-6 and 24-17, respectively, in the last two quarters.
 Tommy Sandoval paced Brackett with a 15-point performance.
 Jacob Puda scored nine points, Eric Segovia had eight, Coty Williams finished with six, Moses Villarreal scored four, Justin Turner and Eric Allen had three apiece and Daniel Hernandez added two.

Cubs beat Panthers for third win of year
 The Brackett Cubs jumped out to a 21-point first quarter lead and never looked back Monday night as they defeated Comstock 57-23 in junior high basketball action.
 With the win, the Cubs improve to 3-1 overall.
 Schiller Hill had the hot hand for Brackett, scoring 19 points. Damion Toms, Jesse Hidalgo, Tony Rubio and Fabian Farias all had six.
 Isaac Finkenbinder finished with four points, and Sam Hunt, Jarrett Harrison, Tanner Jobe, Jamie Montalvo and Manuel Madrid all added two apiece.

Cubettes pick up win
 The Brackett Cubettes improved to 3-2 on the season after defeating Comstock 34-6 Monday in junior high basketball action.
 Queta Garza scored a game-high 10 points for Brackett, while Susannah Davis, Savannah Massingill and MaryAnn Rivas had four points apiece.
 Duquesa Hunt, Erika Garcia, Marty Payne and Ira Sandoval all added two points for the Cubettes.

Memorial honors Game Wardens killed in the line of duty

Athens-Each day, nearly 500 Texas game wardens dedicate themselves to protecting the state's natural resources.

It's a legacy they've carried on since game laws were first introduced in the Lone Star State at the turn of the century. For 13 wardens, that dedication cost them their lives.

A memorial honoring the 13 Texas game wardens who lost their lives in the line of duty has been erected at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens.

The Texas Game Warden Memorial, sponsored by the Texas Game Warden Association (TGWA) in cooperation with the Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas, Inc. and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will be part of the \$18 million TFCC complex, consisting of an educational facility, research laboratory and fish hatchery.

The Texas Game Warden Memorial Plaza features a bronze life-sized Game Warden statue accompanied by the Texas and American flags.

"One of the original goals of

From The Desk Of Your Local Game Warden

the Texas Game Warden Association was to build a memorial for the game wardens who have died in the line of duty," said Stanley Brooks, TGWA founding member. "Choosing the site for the memorial was a very difficult task. The decision to place it with the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens was based upon the hundreds of thousands of visitors that are expected there each year."

Artist and sculptor Pamela Gilbreth Watkins of Abilene was commissioned to create the statue, which has been placed on a granite base inscribed with the names and dates of the 13 officers who died in the line of duty.

"Personally, I am extremely pleased to have the memorial as part of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center," said TPWD game warden regional commander Larry Williford. "I think it is a very appropriate and honorable

place for a memorial to be placed. This will bring the public's attention to the sacrifices that game wardens have made for the people of Texas."

Following is a list of Texas game wardens who died in the line of duty, and the circumstances surrounding their deaths.

Joe Williams and Harry Raymond-Both officers were washed away in a hurricane in 1919 while trying to reach their boat RELIANCE in Aransas Bay to put out more anchors.

Dawson R. Murchinson-While patrolling for poaching activities on the King Ranch in 1938, was murdered by a poacher near the site currently known as Murchinson Lake.

The lake is near the county line between Kleberg and Jim Wells counties. The murderer fled into Mexico and was never brought to trial.

R.M. Wynne- Was killed in a car accident near Amarillo in 1948.

Gus Engeling- A warden and biologist, Engeling was murdered by a duck poacher in Anderson County in 1951 near the current site of the Wildlife Management Area which bears his name. The poacher was apprehended, convicted of murder and executed in the electric chair.

Claude Keller-Was killed in a plane crash in 1956 while patrolling the Laguna Madre for illegal netting activities.

J.D. Murphree- Was murdered by a duck poacher in Jasper County in 1963. The murderer was apprehended, convicted of manslaughter and given a prison term.

Joe Evans- Was killed in a car accident while patrolling on icy roads in Young County in 1965.

Lloyd Gustin-Drowned on

Emergency farm loans

Applications for emergency farm/ranch loans for damages and losses caused by drought, which occurred from October 1, 1995, through May 29, 1996, and continuing, are accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Uvalde, FSA Ag Credit Manager Sara Webb said today.

Bandera, Edwards, Frio, Kinney, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala are ten of sixty counties in Texas recently named by Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman eligible for loans to cover part of actual production and physical losses resulting from drought which occurred from October 1, 1995 through May 29, 1996 and continuing.

Sara Webb said farmers/ranchers may be eligible for loans of up to 80 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business, whichever is less. For farmers/ranchers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer/rancher must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan," Webb said. Farmers/ranchers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until June 23, 1997 but farmers/ranchers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possible over into the new farming season," Webb said.

The FSA office in Uvalde is open from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Farm Service Agency is an Equal Opportunity Lender. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Kody Carson is Texas Farm Bureau's Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher

San Antonio- Kody Carson of Olton in Lamb County was named winner of the Texas Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher Contest here today at the state's largest general farm organization's annual convention.

Carson, 35, was chosen over two other finalists and a number of district winners for the annual award, which recognizes the hard work and determination needed to succeed when starting out in the challenging business of farming and ranching. Carson, who farms irrigated cotton, corn, wheat, and milo, says he's never had a doubt about his life's occupation. "It's something that I grew up with and I've known from the time I was

old enough to walk that farming was what I wanted to do," he said. Carson and his wife, Kimbra, have two daughters, Kaymi and Kiva, and one son, Kylan.

As winner, Carson will receive one year use of a 1997 3/4 ton extended cab Ford 4x4 Power Stroke Diesel Pickup; 150 hours use of a Case IH tractor (40 PTO to 180 PTO HP), two wheel drive or MFD front wheel drive assist, compliments of Case IH; a one year basic subscription to DTN's basic service; a Montana Silver-smith custom made belt buckle and an expense paid trip to the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention in Nashville, Tenn. Also, for the first time, the

state winner will represent Texas at the national level in the American Farm Bureau Federation Achievement Award Contest, where he will be eligible to win a Dodge Ram 3500 4x4 Supercab pickup with a 5.9 Liter Cummins turbodiesel engine and SLT Premium Package Trim.

The two runners up in the state contest each will receive one year's use of a 1997 Ford F-150 Series Pickup, compliments of Bird Kultgen of Waco.

In addition, all three will be awarded transportation, lodging and meals to the Texas Farm Bureau convention; belt buckles sponsored by Allen Samuels Chevrolet GEO; and a plaque.

Keys to good pruning

1. Prune early in the life of the tree so pruning wounds are small and so growth goes where you want it.
2. Begin your visual inspection at the top of the tree and work downward.
3. Identify the best leader and lateral branches (scaffold limbs) before you begin pruning and remove defective parts before pruning for form.
4. Don't worry about protecting pruning cuts. For aesthetics, you may feel better painting larger wounds with a neutral color tree paint, but the evidence is that it does not prevent or reduce decay.
5. Keep your tools sharp.
6. Make safety a number one priority. For high branches use a pole pruner. Some, have both a saw and shears on the same tool.

7. When you prune back to the trunk or a larger limb, branches too small to have formed a collar (swollen area at base) should be cut close.

Otherwise, follow the rules of good pruning of larger limbs by cutting just outside the branch ridge and collar and at a slight down and outward angle (so as not to injure the collar). Do not leave a protruding stub.

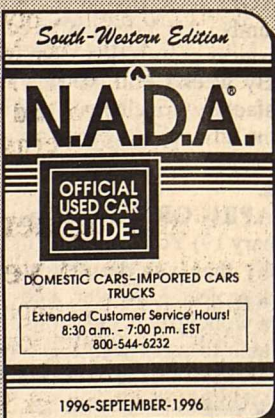
8. When simply shortening a small branch, make the cut at a lateral bud of another lateral branch (referred to as "head" or "headback pruning").

Favor a bud that will produce a branch that will grow in a desired direction (usually outward). The cut should be sharp and clean, and made at a slight angle about 1/4 inch beyond the bud.

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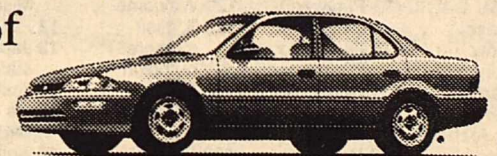
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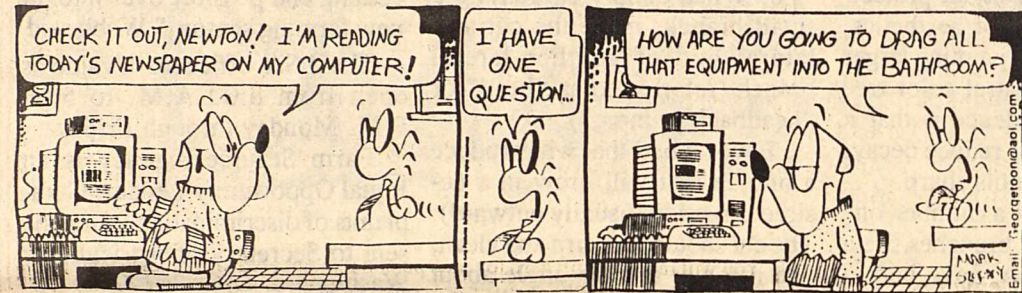
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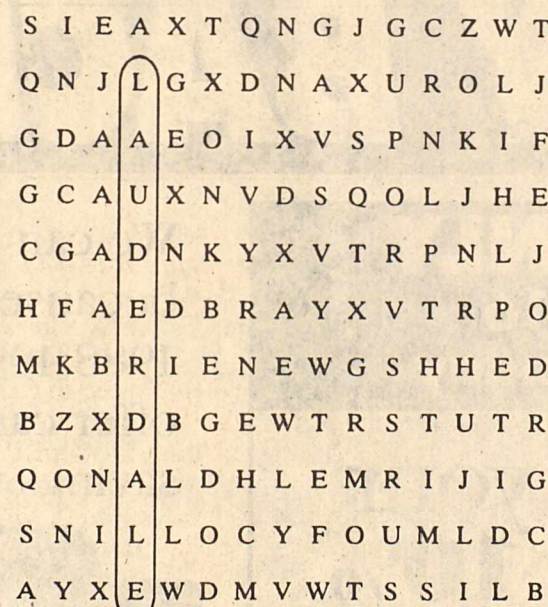


Super Crossword

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 52 Inventor Otis | 104 '87 Peace Prize winner | 2 Literary pseudonym | 46 Gleaned | LaPlaca |
| 1 Word before set or stream | 54 Help | 106 Curve | 47 Cornfield cry | 49 Conclusion | 94 Conclude |
| 4 Indistinct | 55 Blanc or Ott | 107 Actor Howard | 50 Pirate's quaff | 96 Frozen capital? | 97 A sweeping success? |
| 7 It's good to have around the house | 56 Kinsey | 109 Brother Cadfael's creator | 51 Supply new weapons | 97 A sweeping success? | 98 Garden tool |
| 12 Gecko or iguana | 58 Door decoration | 112 Less conventional | 53 Artist Warhol | 57 Dirt | 100 Cartographer's creation |
| 18 British beer | 62 Place of refuge | 115 See 68 Down | 59 Total | 60 Furniture wood | 104 Matterhorn, e.g. |
| 19 Northwestern sl. | 65 Damage | 116 "The truth at last!" | 61 Diner lare | 63 Beer ingredient | 105 More sordid |
| 20 Memorial | 66 Ward (off) | 117 Peepers, to Pope | 64 Accumulated, with "up" | 66 Gentle Ben or Baloo | 106 Gentle Ben or Baloo |
| 22 Milano's locale | 67 Unpleasant | 121 Playwright Elmer | 68 With 115 | 108 Uplight | 110 Triangular sail |
| 23 Actress Farrow | 74 Fernando of "The French Connection" | 123 L'elisir d'amore" | 69 Across, Tibetan pooch | 111 Difficult | 113 Highlands tongue |
| 24 Stephen of "Ready to Wear" | 75 Sam Spade's creator | 128 Peter Wimsey's creator | 70 New York stadium | 114 Domain | 117 Horace's output |
| 25 Lew Archer's creator | 79 Religious abbr. | 133 Rock's — Supply | 72 Canadian coin | 117 Horace's output | 118 Downey of "Touched by an Angel" |
| 27 Needlepoint design | 82 Aga — | 134 Malamute medic | 73 Decorate glass | 119 Derby part | 120 Go it alone |
| 30 Formal headgear | 83 Swarm (with) | 135 Designer Pucci | 76 Motionless | 122 Rochester's love | 124 Orient |
| 31 Lea ladies | 84 Repeat performance | 136 Oklahoma city | 77 Aida's rival | 124 Orient | 125 Currier's partner |
| 32 "I — Flock" ('66 song) | 87 Faction | 137 Member of Cong. | 78 Anderson's "High —" | 126 Around the corner | 127 Palindromic name |
| 33 Rind | 89 Swell place? | 138 Tuck into a taco | 79 "It Romantic?" | 86 Edith of "Tom Jones" | 88 TV's "Family —" |
| 36 Novocaine target | 91 Comic Carvey | 139 Mead subject | 80 German philosopher | 89 Mississippi or Missouri | 89 Mississippi or Missouri |
| 39 Morse's creator | 95 Roderick Alleyn's creator | 140 — work (road sign) | 81 Cow, in a way | 90 Request | 92 Lurie or |
| 43 Corinthian consonants | 99 Shady character? | 141 Attempt | 82 TV's "Family —" | 92 Lurie or | 132 Tippler |
| 47 Composer Orff | 101 Pianist Cibur | 142 Broadway letters | 88 TV's "Family —" | 90 Request | 131 Genetic info |
| 48 Monkey or minuet | 102 Soprano Stich-Randall | DOWN | 89 Mississippi or Missouri | 92 Lurie or | 132 Tippler |
| 49 Be human | 103 Ring stat | 1 Door part | 90 Request | 92 Lurie or | 132 Tippler |

MagicMaze

FORT —



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

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Benning Bliss | Dix Dodge Knox | Lee McHenry Myers | Smith Sumter Wayne |
| Collins | Lauderdale | Sill | |

Natasha's Stars



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You need to be more patient since something you thought was at hand this week is delayed yet again. Any work of a mental nature is favored, particularly as the week wanes. Take time this weekend to tend to banking matters.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Meetings are productive early in the week and agreements are easily reached, much to your satisfaction. If out shopping, exercise discretion and be wary of defective merchandise. The weekend is the best time for quiet activities and relaxing with the family.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You need extra discipline this week to stay on top of things on the work front, particularly when all seems to be falling apart. Communicative skills are also not at their best. Thus, you find it difficult to get your meaning across to a loved one.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Distractions and interruptions rule the early part of the week. Nevertheless, you are still able to get a lot accomplished. Your thoughts about money and business are right on the mark. Follow through on these and make new plans this weekend.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You come up with a solution to a problem that has been eating at you for quite a while. Later in the week, the accent is on work interests rather than socializing. Progress at work is assured.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Feedback from a friend is valuable concerning a business project you've been laboring on. A machine is a source of problems later in the week when it suddenly breaks down at an inopportune time. Be sure to get more than one estimate for its repairs.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You find that others are quite demanding of your time as the week begins. However, they do appreciate your input. Later in the week, try to get in touch with a friend you've

been neglecting or avoiding for some reason.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Instead of indulging in outside entertainments this week, it's best to stick close to home. Pay attention to what's being said by a bigwig concerning a work matter. There's more going on behind the scenes than you're aware. The weekend finds you in an introspective mood.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You want to consider a business proposition more carefully. By week's end, you come to a satisfactory conclusion, spurred on by the advice of a good friend. The weekend is good for educational pursuits.

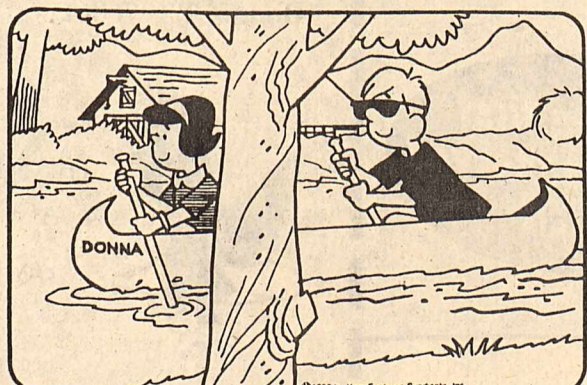
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You encounter more difficulty than you'd anticipated on a work project. However, a co-worker has a wonderful suggestion, and you are able to work well together. Follow through on the suggestion.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) In-depth thinking leads to the answers you're seeking on the job. Your significant other doesn't agree with you concerning a proposed purchase. Listen carefully to any objections.

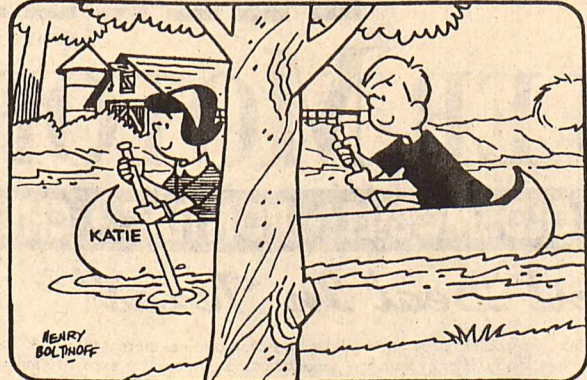
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You're right to feel that there are too many strings attached to a friend's proposal. This person has proven to be manipulative in the past. Listen to your instincts.

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Vision Teaser



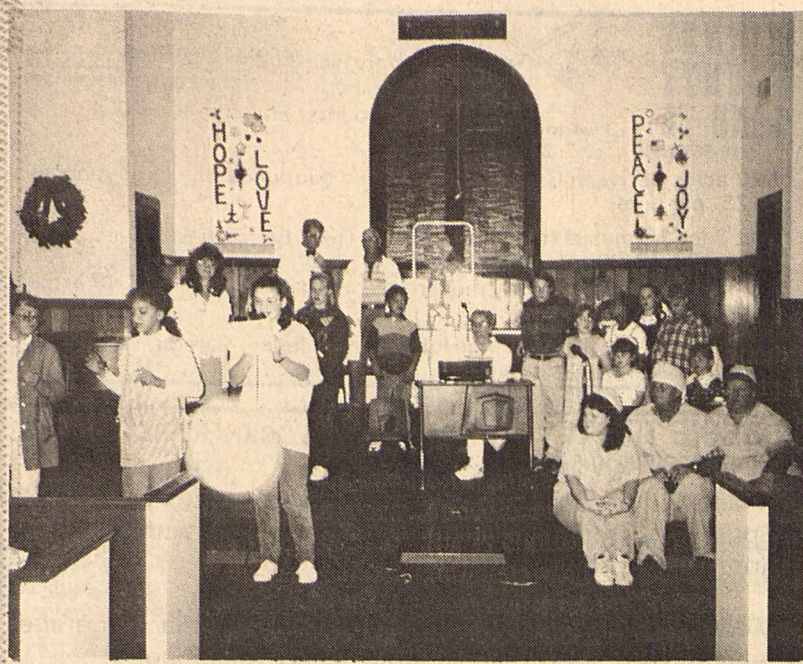
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



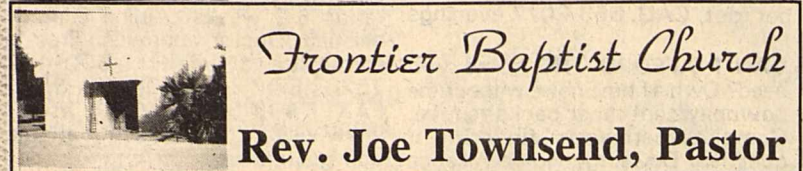
Differences: 1. Mountain is missing. 2. Silt is added. 3. Headband is wider. 4. Name is changed. 5. Canoe is shorter. 6. Sunglasses are removed.

Happy Birthday

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dec. 14 Jackie Williams | Dec. 16 John E. Flores | Dec. 17 Greg Sandoval |
| Dec. 14 Felix Gonzales | Dec. 17 Diane Wilson | Dec. 17 Josefina Estrada |
| Dec. 15 Teodoro Avila | Dec. 17 Lorraine Osborne | Dec. 17 Diane Wilson |
| Dec. 15 Plunker Sheedy | Dec. 17 Amber Carrow | Dec. 17 Lorraine Osborne |
| Dec. 15 Rickie Espinosa | Dec. 17 Jack Frerich | Dec. 17 Amber Carrow |
| Dec. 15 Ethel Hawkins | Dec. 17 Gracie Mata | Dec. 17 Jack Frerich |
| Dec. 15 Mary Sandoval | Dec. 17 Josie Aguirre | Dec. 17 Gracie Mata |
| Dec. 16 Mary Allen | Dec. 18 Carol Benefield | Dec. 17 Josie Aguirre |
| Dec. 16 Jodi Ann Cowan | Dec. 18 Joe Sandoval | Dec. 18 Carol Benefield |
| Dec. 16 Laura Tovar | Dec. 18 Darwin Crane | Dec. 18 Joe Sandoval |
| Dec. 16 Allen Kreiger Jr. | Dec. 18 Jessica Taylor | Dec. 18 Darwin Crane |
| | | Dec. 18 Darla Fuller |



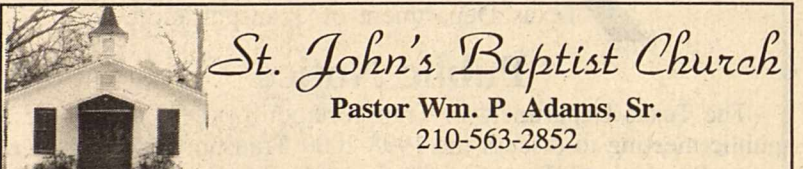
There will be two performances of the Christmas musical "Dr. Newheart's Christmas Care" for Kinney County residents. The first performance will be tomorrow at Fort Clark Springs Town Hall, beginning at 7 p.m. The final performance will be Sunday at Brackettville's First Baptist Church at 11 a.m. The Christmas musical, directed by Dana Antoine, features leading characters Annie Ash, Stephanie Wallace, and many children.



Frontier Baptist Church
Rev. Joe Townsend, Pastor

What a price tag, the cost of Christmas. It cost Mary and Joseph a journey of about 76 miles on foot with Mary riding on a donkey. It was an inconvenient time, since Mary was at the point of giving birth. It cost the inconvenience of giving birth in a cave in the side of a hill where animals went for protection from the weather and wild animals. It cost using a manger used to hold food for animals as a cradle for the baby. It cost shepherds their complacency. The quiet life of living with their sheep was interrupted by a chorus of angels announcing the birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem, wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Leaving their flocks unattended they hurried to the side of the infant and went forth to spread the news to an unbelieving and scornful people. It cost Mary & Joseph a journey of more than 200 miles to Egypt taking the young child to safety. It cost three wise men almost two years of travel following a star to the side of the young child. It cost them valuable gifts,

gold, frankincense and Myrrh. It cost them a flight as fugitives to avoid the King. It cost the mothers of small children the agony of death of their offspring by orders of the King. It cost Jesus a life of persecution, false accusations, flogging and death on a cross. It cost God his only son. This is too high a price if all Christmas means is tinsel and mistletoe. It's too high if all it means is travel, visiting, vacationing. It is not too high if every gift presented carries with it a heart of love from the giver. In reality the price was not too high because it means salvation from sin for all who put their faith in Jesus. It means all who will can have an eternal home in Heaven. The knowledge of the fact that through Jesus we can know life in this world is but a preparation for eternity in heaven. Yes, the cost was tremendous. The dividends however far out weigh the cost. There will be another seasonal message from the Bible at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday morning at 11:00. Come and see.



St. John's Baptist Church
Pastor Wm. P. Adams, Sr.
210-563-2852

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof, Selah. There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the City of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the MOST HIGH. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved. God shall help her, and that right early. The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; he uttered his voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is your refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot of the fire. Be still, and know that I am GOD; I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Psalms 46. Praise the Lord. Come feast with us the table is set in the Lord. Everyone is invited to Praise God with us.

'Light up a Life' now underway

Hospice Uvalde Area, an organization that gives comfort and care to terminally ill people and their families, invites you to light up a life. Give a donation of \$10 or more to remember a loved one or someone who lights up your life. Your donation will be used to light up a life of a hospice patient if Brackettville. "The Holiday Season is the time when we remember loved ones and friends and what better way than by honoring them with a gift that will help others," said Patsy Sasek, volunteer coordinator. Hospice Uvalde Area, with a staff of specially trained nurses, certified nurses aides, social worker, bereavement and pastoral services coordinator and trained volunteers enables loved ones to remain at home in their family surroundings and enjoy life and

special occasions with family. With the family, the patient's own doctor and the hospice staff, the patient is given the dignity of dying at home and at the same time having symptoms and pain under control so that remaining life is comfortable and meaningful. As a not-for-profit organization, Hospice Uvalde Area relies on donations to care for all patients, even those without insurance or other funding. Serving the Uvalde area and all the communities within a 70 mile radius, Hospice Uvalde Area has cared for folks in the area for over five years. Look for the ad in this paper to fill out with names of loved ones and mail to Hospice Uvalde Area, P.O. Box 5280, Uvalde, Texas 78801. For more information, please call Sasek, at 1-800-339-6691.

Obituaries

John E. Wickham

John E. Wickham, age 79, of Carrizo Springs, died Thursday Dec. 5, 1996 at 7:17 P.M. at the Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital in San Antonio. He was born in Hondo, Texas on August 29, 1917 and was a Rancher and Realtor in Dimmit County where he had lived for over 30 years. He was a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran of World War II and spent nearly 4 years as a Japanese Prisoner of War. He was a member of the Winter Garden Detachment of the Marine Corps League. He is survived by: 1 Son- John E. Wickham II of Carrizo Springs; 3 Daughters- Sarah Jones of San Antonio, Carolyn Wickham of Corpus Christi and Jerry

Wickham of Carrizo Springs; 1 Brother Alex Wickham of Carrizo Springs; 3 Sisters- Christine Morris of Sonora, Frances Hammond of Sunrise Beach, and Mazie Barker of Carrizo Springs. He is also survived by 6 Grandchildren. Funeral Services were held on Monday, December 9, 1996 at the First Baptist Church in Carrizo Springs with the Pastor Robert D. Krause officiating. Graveside Services were held at the Kinney County Cemetery in Brackettville with R.L. Montgomery of Uvalde officiating. A.C. Deck & Jaime Ledesma of the Winter Garden Detachment of the Marine Corps League served as Honor Guard.

Andrew Paul Malinovsky Sr.

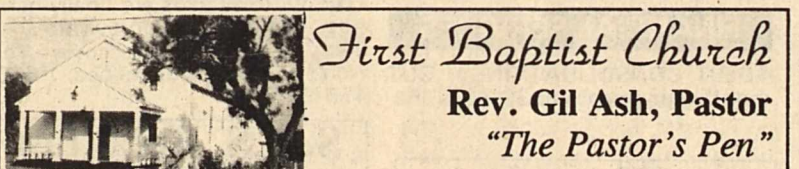
Andrew Paul Malinovsky Sr., age 82, died December 4, 1996 in Del Rio, Texas. Born January 5, 1914 in Pennsylvania. Preceded in death by his wife Louise Malinovsky October 1994. United States Army Veteran of World War II, and retired Civil Service Engineer. He was a resident of Brackettville. Survived by his son: Andrew Paul Malinovsky Jr. and wife Lavonne of Kingsland, Georgia. Daughters: Terry Lesley and husband Cameron of Leakey, Texas, Roinell Owen and husband

Dusty of Brookshire, Texas and Susan Newton and husband Bob of Big Fork, Montana. Grandchildren: Teshara and Cameron Andrew Lesley. Sister: Theresa Pennel of Boston, Mass. Numerous cousins from Brackettville including the McClure Family. Graveside services will be held privately at a later date. In lieu of flowers family request memorials be made to the Gideons. Funeral arrangements under the direction of the Del Rio Funeral Home 200 East Garfield.

Jose T. Garcia

Jose T. Garcia, age 75, died December 6, 1996 in Del Rio at his residence. He was born February 22, 1921 in Zaragosa, Mexico. He was a long time resident of Del Rio, Texas. He is survived by his Son and Daughter-in-law: Martin and Gloria Garcia of Brackettville, Texas. Daughter's and Sons-in-laws: Guadalupe and Reynaldo Saucedo; Oralia and Israel Uriegas of Del Rio, Texas. Brothers: Julio T. Garcia of Del Rio, Texas and Nieves T.

Garcia of San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Garcia is also survived by 9 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Mass was Monday, December 9, 1996 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Rev. Jose Caracoza, MNM officiating. Burial followed at Del Rio Memorial Park Cemetery. Arrangements under the direction of the Del Rio Funeral Home, 200 E. Garfield St.



First Baptist Church
Rev. Gil Ash, Pastor
"The Pastor's Pen"

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Christmas is a time of receiving, and receiving feels good. While giving is at the heart of what we call Christmas spirit, we have to be on the receiving end before we become good givers. It is hard to give when we have not received. Receiving the Christmas gift of God's love in His Son Jesus meets some of our most basic needs. It meets our need to be noticed. We

all want to be recognized and to know we are of value. Christmas reminds us that we are children of the father and has special significance. Christmas meets our need to be nurtured. We are not made to go it alone. We need to know there is strength and support other than our own when we need it. Finally Christmas recognized, our need to be needed. Since God has made us receivers, we need to go out and give to others. We are needed to fulfill His plan. We have received, now we are to give and use our talents in His service.



Gateway Ministries
Pastor Charolette Corey

JOY TO THE WORLD THE LORD IS COME!
"Be filled with Joy and the Holy Ghost" (Acts 13:52) "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness and peace, and Joy in the Holy Ghost. (Romans 4:17) "Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another." (Romans 4:19)
"Now the God of hope fill you with all Joy and peace in believing that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. (Romans 15:13)
"Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting Joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and Joy and sorrow and mourning shall flee away." (Isaiah 51:11)
"For ye shall go out with Joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing and all the trees of the field shall clap

their hands." (Isaiah 55:12)
"And the angel said unto them 'Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great Joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.'" (Luke 2:10)
"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the Joy set before him endured the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2)
"My brethren, count it all Joy when ye fall into divers temptations, knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. (James 1:2-3)
So then, Be filled with joy, obtain joy, go out with joy, receive tidings of joy, keep joy set before you, count it all joy. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.
P.S. Donations towards a new church facility may be made payable to Gateway Ministries, Inc. "New Building Fund," P.O. Box 1449, Brackettville, Tx. 78832.

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"Quality Home Health Care"
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BENEFIT CAKE WALK
FOR
JOHNNY JOE RESCHMAN
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1996
CASUALS PLUS PARKING LOT
3:00 P.M.
ALL DONATIONS APPRECIATED

HOSPICE Uvalde Area
invites you to **Light Up A Life**
Give...in loving memory of a friend, loved one, or in honor of someone who lights up your life with a gift of \$10.00 or more. Your gift will help light up the life of a terminally ill person in our local area.
THESE CARING PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES ARE 1996 SPONSORS AND INVITE YOU TO LIGHT UP A LIFE!
Jerry & Diana Baker • Beasley & McNelly Insurance • Crystal Drug Co. • Uvalde Rexall • Drs. Steven Cox & Virginia Sosa • John & Mary Buchanan • Dulin & Tarski • O.V. Casey Plumbing, Inc. • Southwest Tx. Fed Land Bank • Union Site Bank • Beltone Hearing Aid Center • Central Pharmacy Inc. Horizon Pharmacy • Lacks Furniture • The Cottage Art & Frame • David R. White, Jr. & Family
Yes, I want to Light Up A Life!
I am enclosing \$ _____ each for these names:
In Memory of: _____ In Honor of: _____
You will receive a gift card for each person remembered to announce your gift. Make checks payable to Hospice Uvalde Area and mail with your name and address to: P.O. Box 5280 Uvalde, TX. 78802.
Your Name: _____
Address/City/State/Zip: _____
All donations are tax deductible and will benefit Hospice Uvalde Area, a non profit organization serving terminally ill patients and their families.

First United Methodist Church
Rev. Sheree Harris, Pastor

Last Saturday evening members and friends of our church gathered for fun, fellowship and preparation for the coming of our Savior. We began by feasting on a delicious and bountiful pot luck dinner, each bringing their best dish to share with others. From the fellowship hall, we moved to the sanctuary where we decorated. While singing Christmas carols, we hung the holly high and the children carefully hung the Christmas on the tree. There was a warm glow on each face and twinkle in every eye. As we were completing the decorating, a bearded fellow in a red suit showed up and the children shouted out with glee! They danced and pranced as he gave them each a stocking chocked full of goodies and sat on his knee while parents snapped pictures. How eager they were to receive gifts from him and to tell him their wish lists. They were equally ea-

Unsung Hero
By Joe Townsend

One of the most enterprising and all around fine woman I've ever known is Virginia Shahan. Virginia is a product of Kinney County and Brackettville. She met her husband to be while in Baylor University. She and Happy were married and moved to Brackettville. Happy went to work on her father's ranch as a ranch hand. As the years past these two greatly expanded their parameters. As Happy spread his efforts Virginia always supported him completely. Now that Happy has gone home to the Lord, Virginia has blossomed into full bloom of her potential. While she has ex-

hibited great expertise for years through her stores in Alamo Village, she now shows even greater versatility in handling her stores, the ranch, Alamo Village and all enterprises she and Happy have been involved in for years. Virginia is truly a lovely person. She is warm hearted and caring. She is wonderful as a mother as she was as a wife. She amazes one by her ability to handle so many things so effectively. She is outstanding as a Christian and strongly supportive of her church. She is overly generous in helping in many cases of need. Surely Virginia Shahan is an Unsung Hero.

ADOPTION

ADOPTION: ATHLETIC CHRISTIAN professional couple yearn for infant to share beautiful New England home. Love of outdoors, sports and each other. Call Lori/Jim 1-800-417-1101. It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY, Coke, Frito Lay, Nabisco. Great local routes - excellent earning potential. For free info call 1-800-321-7690, investment required \$3,500.

BE YOUR OWN boss Coke, Pepsi-vending high income available, min. investment \$4,700. 1-800-752-2759, hablemos espanol.

DRIVERS WANTED

ARROW TRUCKING COMPANY* flat bed and van operation * regional or longhaul * four terminals in Texas * assigned conventional * experienced drivers - owner operators. 1-800-444-6116, inexperienced training available. 817-246-3733.

DRIVER \$\$\$1,000\$\$ SIGN ON bonus. Starting \$26,27. Paid benefits/bonus/more. Need: 1 year OTR experience-age 23. CX/Roberson needs OTR drivers for dry vans/flatbeds for PFT/Roberson. Call 1-800-473-5581.EOE/MF.

DRIVERS ARTIC EXPRESS, a reefer carrier running 48 and Canada is in search of lease purchase/no \$ down. Owner operators/company drivers. Call now! 1-800-927-0431. EOE.

DRIVERS - QUALIFIED FOR, glass/heavy haul? Make \$34-40,000+/year! More exp = more pay! 3 years OTR with 1 year flatbed, req'd. Combined Transport: 1-800-637-4407 Ron.

DRIVERS * RUN WITH the best * great benefits * miles * rider program * you need 1 year OTR experience and CDL-A * Call 1-800-727-4374 * Dallas Carriers * E.O.E.

DRIVERS! SRT - NOW has openings for good OTR drivers, good benefits, conv. tractors. Accepting some CDL school grads. Call toll free 1-888-778-8185.

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

HAROLD IVES TRUCKING needs motivated individuals to enter our training program. Call 1-888-270-1676 for complete information. Experienced drivers call: 1-800-842-0853.

OTR DRIVERS WANTED! Experienced & non experienced. Free driver training, call 1-800-333-8595, 24 hrs., Stevens Transport.

RAPID FREIGHT OF Texas, a Texas based carrier seeking OTR teams & singles. 95 or newer conventionals. Call Chuck at 1-800-607-5695.

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EDUCATION

MTA SCHOOLS NEEDS motivated individuals for our truck driver training program. Offering high salaries and benefits. Job placement assistance available. For more information call 1-800-391-0777.

EMPLOYMENT

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is seeking applicants for the position of Program Planner III. The position will report directly to the Director of Employment and Training. Position will be responsible for the development of the necessary program plans and/or funding requests as may be made available to the Middle Rio Grande Development Council and the Middle Rio Grande Local Workforce Board. Position will be directly responsible for generating the local workforce plan for the region working with the planning committees of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council Board of Directors and the Middle Rio Grande Workforce Development Board. Responsibilities of the position involve coordination of efforts between the Middle Rio Grande Workforce Board and other state agencies. Position will be housed in the Middle Rio Grande Development Council's office located in Carrizo Springs, Texas. In and out of region travel will be required. Position requires a minimum of a college degree and 2-4 years experience in employment and training programs or other workforce programs. Salary range for this position is \$24,195. - \$34,044. Actual salary shall be negotiable based upon qualifications. Interested parties should send a letter of application accompanied by a resume to Ramon Johnston, Deputy Director for Administration at P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834. Deadline for applications is December 13, 1996, 5:00 p.m. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For information please contact our VOICE or TDD telephone (210) 876-3533.

BULLDOZER OPERATOR to chain brush with D7E for 3 months in West Uvalde County. Apply in writing with salary requirement and references to 2143 Zercher Rd., San Antonio, TX 78209 or fax to (210) 824-7587.

HOLIDAY HELPER Creative, Energetic, teenager will wrap gifts (your supplies or mine) decorate trees, houses & yards. Call for info 563-9944.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL of Southwest Texas, Inc., Head Start is accepting applications for a Nutrition Coordinator and Transition Coordinator in Uvalde. Applications must

EMPLOYMENT

be submitted by December 16, 1996 to : Jorge Botello, Executive Director Community Council of Southwest Texas, Inc. P.O. Drawer 1709, 713 E. Main Uvalde, Texas 78802-1709

For more information call Texas Workforce Commission at 210-278-4507. The Community Council of Southwest Texas, Inc., is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (MRGDC) is accepting applications from qualified applicants for the position of Small Business Development Specialist to be housed in the Uvalde Operations office. The preferred requirements for this position include: Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with specialization in finance, accounting or economics, and three years of related professional experience in any combination of the following areas: consultant to small businesses in management or finance; experience in a business/economic development organization, manager or proprietor of a successful small business, or banking, with commercial lending preferred. Other desirable qualifications include: computer literacy in Quarto Pro (or similar spreadsheet program) and Word Perfect (or similar word processor), bilingual in Spanish/English, knowledge of Small Business Administration activities, and knowledge of economic conditions in the MRGDC nine county region. Duties will include: recruiting potential small business clients, providing technical assistance to these clients in expanding their operations managing, operating, budgeting, and accounting processes, identifying new markets/products, and in starting new businesses, assisting in identifying sources of financing, including packaging loan application, and organizing and coordinating workshops and seminars on topics of interest to small business owners. The position will primarily serve Uvalde, Real, Zavala, Dimmit and La Salle counties, but could include service in the other four counties in the MRGDC area. Salary for this position will be negotiated depending upon qualifications and experience from a base rate of \$21,946. All interested persons should submit a resume and letter of intent to: Ramon S. Johnston Deputy Director of Administration, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, TX 78834. Deadline for submission of applications is December 20, 1996. MRGDC is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For information please contact our Voice or TDD telephone, (210) 876-3533.

JET AIRCRAFT MECHANICS: We are seeking no-nonsense H.S. diploma graduates, anxious to expand their career opportunities. To age 34. Training, travel, in addition to good salary with benefits. Call 1-800-292-5547.

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Of special interest to RVer's small 2 bed, 1 bath home with covered carport, ample space for an R.V.

Lot on choice area of golf course \$12,000.00.

Price reduced on 3 bed, 2 baths, rock home. Fireplace, fully carpeted, all appliances, carport.

One mobile home lot with all utilities in Unit 15. \$4,500.00

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duce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy free confidential help NCCS non-profit, licensed/bonded. 1-800-955-0412.

MONEY TO LOAN Homeowners - we can help you when others will not. Purchases, refinance, home improvement, more! Call AAA Mortgage & Financial Corporation. 1-800-652-1757.

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2 15" PRO PLUS Sub-woofers in carpeted box with grills and Quick connects. \$180.00. 2 15"x12" aluminum mag wheels for Ford. \$35.00 each. Refrigerators 17 Cu. ft. frost free \$125.00. 22 cu. ft. side by side, ice/water in door, 1 yr. warranty on new compressor \$385.00. 20 gal, 115 volt, LoBoy water heater, like new \$60.00. Guns Ruger 9mm, P85, w/case, Holster, 3-15rd. mags, ammo. \$300. 1897 Winchester 12 ga. pump. 1896 Marlin 16 ga. pump. 563-9493 Leave message.

2 FCS MEMBERSHIPS O'Rourke Realty 210-563-2713

PICK UP CAMPER 8', Queen bed, water, septic tank, thermostat heat, gas/electric refrigerator. \$5,200.00 563-9663

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FOR SALE 16 X 80 93' Palm Harbor, 3 bedroom, 2 baths. 775-6765.

1996 REDMAN mobile homes. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 16 x 80's only 3 left. Must sell. Call 775-6765.

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Place: Service Club
Date: Dec. 14, 1996
Time: 7:00 A.M. till ?
Price: \$2.50 a plate
Also
Bake Sale
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Washington, D.C. 20500
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U.S. Senator
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370 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. Senator
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
283 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman 23rd District
The Honorable Henry Bonilla
1529 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4323
Washington: 1-202-225-4511
San Antonio: 1-210-697-9055
Fax: 1-210-697-9185

Governor
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Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711
1-800-252-9600, 1-512-463-2000
Fax: 1-512-463-7397

State Senator District 19
The Honorable Frank Madla
Texas Senate
P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
1-512-463-0121

State Representative District 74
The Honorable Pete P. Gallego
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210-563-2446 or 210-563-2447

Very nice 3 bdrm, 2 bath home in Unit 31, Fort Clark. Many extra amenities. Two lots. Priced in the 70's.

520 acres between Brackett and Del Rio surrounded by large ranches. \$425. per acre.

Unit 3 lot 15 mobile home with jacuzzi, tiled bath, guest house, many extras \$27,700.00 Priced to sell.

Historic District large newly modernized on the inside. Lies on .49 acres. Rare. \$135,000.

Nice home in Brackett on large lot with new fence. Garage, work shop, \$60,000.00 Neg.

DEBBIE TRANT LOCKHART REAL ESTATE
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Ready for business: 12 commercial lots with Hwy 90 & Spring St. frontage + large metal garage with concrete floor & carport.

Modern 3 bed, 2 bath rock home with fireplace, garage, fenced yard. Centrally located close to school!

New Listing: 3 bed, 2 bath brick home + detached garage/carport with office & bath, fenced yard. \$41,000.

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OAK PELLET STOVES, push button start, auto feed vacuum clean, heat 2,000+ . 2 free delivery setup hottest item since microwave. \$2,000 investment, free video! 1-800-886-4019.

STEEL BUILDINGS: 5,000+ sizes. 30x40x10, \$4,603; 40x60x14, \$8,336; 50x60x14, \$9,657; 50x100x16, \$14,756; 60x80x14, \$13,455; 60x100x16, \$16,785. Quality-service. Free brochures. Sentinel Buildings, 1-800-327-0790, Extension 79.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE? READ about it in Republic of Texas Magazine. Credit card orders 1-800-360-6557. Get the real story about independence! \$30 a year in Texas.

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DIABETIC? ARE YOU still paying for supplies? Why? For information on how you can receive supplies at little or no cost call 1-800-678-5733.

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GUARANTEED STUD SERVICE, tricolor paint, good disposition. Thrown 4 out of 5 paint colts. \$400. Call 563-2077.

BOER GOAT stud service. Copper fur, full blood ABGA registered, \$50. call 563-2077 evenings.

REAL ESTATE

3 HOUSES, 1 STORE BUILDING, good location. For more information call 563-2961 after 6 p.m. call 563-2077

***BARGAIN HOMES* THOUSANDS** of government foreclosed and repossessed properties being liquidated this month! Government financing. Low/no down. Call for local listings! 1-800-338-0020 ext.299.

WILD WEST RANCH So. Colorado Rockies 83 AC - \$42,900 high meadows w/spectacular views of surrounding mtns. Loaded w/wildlife . Yr. round access, power & phone. Excellent financing . Call now 719-742-5207 Majors Ranch.

Texas Department of Transportation
Public Notice

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will hold a public meeting to discuss the 1998-2000 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) encompassing Val Verde, Maverick, and Kinney Counties.

TxDOT is proposing the three year TIP and is requesting input from the public on these roadway improvement projects. This public meeting will be held at the Texas Department of Transportation-Del Rio Area Office located at 319 E. Gibbs St. at 6:30 p.m. on December 12, 1996.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Robert D. Austin, P.E., Director of Transportation Planning & Development for the Laredo District at (210) 712-7442.

WHY LEASE?

Own your own part of the Texas Hill Country for as little as \$695.00 down and \$125.25 per month at 9.75 % financing. Based on 20 acre tract with minimum down payment.

The Leona Ranch, located 15 miles north of Brackettville, Texas, in Kinney County, on FM 674, has an abundance of whitetail deer, javelina, trukey, quail, dove, rabbits and squirrels. Other non-game species include feral hogs, wild Spanish goats, racoons, ringtails, fox, bobcats and a few mountain lions.

The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.

For information call (210) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (210) 563-2077 evenings.

Do UNTO OTHERS
As You Would Have THEM
Do UNTO You!

Fort Clark Springs Art Club
presents
Gen Davis's
"Wildlife and Cactus" **Beginners Art Class**
January 10th & 11th 9A.M. to 4 P.M.
Make reservations on or before Jan. 3rd.
Call Francis McMasters at (210) 563-9452
NON MEMBERS ARE WELCOME LIMITED TO 15 STUDENTS
You will need a 16x20 canvas Cost is only \$25.00 for both days

Wanted
Volunteers to assist seniors in preparing their income tax returns in Kinney County.

The AARP program will provide training material from the IRS to qualify you in income tax preparation. To get more information call Loyde Alvis Phone 563-9063.

SOLID GOLD Jewelers
Clearance Sale
Everything Must Go
40% to 50% off
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