

# The Brackett News



Monthly sales tax rebates down in Kinney County

See story, Page 3

9th year, No. 19

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

## Juneteenth celebration this weekend



Charles Wilson, left, and William Warrior make final preparations for this weekend's Juneteenth celebration.

### Seminole Indian Scout Association commemorates Emancipation Day

By J.J. Guidry  
News Editor

The Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery Association will commemorate Emancipation Day at this weekend's annual Juneteenth celebration at the Carver School grounds.

The two-day event will feature a parade, music, a disco dance, booths and exhibits.

Kinney County Commissioner Joe "Boy" Williams will serve as the grand marshal for this year's parade, which will begin at 9:30 Saturday morning. The parade will start at the old PCI Communication office building and end at the Carver School parking lot.

Parade awards will be presented during an 11:00 program, which will feature guest speaker Veronica Warrior of Houston.

"I think the parade is going to be a suc-

cess," said Augusta Pines, the parade coordinator. "The event has continued to grow each year."

A barbecue lunch will be served at 11:30. Donations of \$4 will be accepted.

Tours to the Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery will begin at 2:30. The tour costs \$1 per person.

At 4:00, there will be a cake and prize walk. The cost will be 25 cents per walk, and cakes and prizes will be accepted as donations for this event.

Following the cake walk will be a talent show. Anyone interested in the talent show is welcomed to participate.

The celebration continues on Sunday with a pot luck dinner at 11 a.m. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued

his Emancipation Proclamation, declaring freedom for all slaves, but it was not until June 19, 1865, that slaves in Texas heard the news; thus Juneteenth became a holiday for Texas African-Americans.

"Not only is this a big holiday here in Brackettville, but all over this area because that is when the Seminoles were free," said Sterling "Smiley" Goodloe, a member of the Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery Association. "Some of them fled to Mexico and some fled to Florida."

The Juneteenth celebration has become an annual event in Brackettville for the Seminole Indian Scout Association.

"We would like for everyone to come out and celebrate with us," Goodloe said. "The celebration is not just for the Seminoles, it's for everyone."

#### Communication system damaged

The Kinney County Commissioners Court agreed to replace the communication system for the Sheriff's Department at an emergency meeting Monday afternoon.

The system, and possibly the tower, were damaged during a thunderstorm last week.

The new system will be purchased from Communication Professionals of Eagle Pass and will cost \$7,447.52. It includes an E.F. Johnson repeater/duplexer, a Motorola mobile, a base antenna, a power supply, and labor.

### Brackettville man drowns

A Brackettville man drowned in the Nueces River Sunday afternoon where he had been fishing and swimming with a family member.

Robert Villarreal, 24, was caught in a deep part of the river, about 300 yards south of the 19-mile crossing on Highway 55.

"The water level was a little higher than normal, but it wasn't anything you would consider dangerous," Uvalde County Deputy Sheriff Bob Price said.

Villarreal was fishing in the river when he started splashing around and calling for help from his cousin, Michael Villarreal.

"The water was swift," said Price, who was dispatched to the scene at 4:20. "That particular area had quite a bit of weeds in it. Michael tried to get him out but didn't have any luck."

Department of Public Safety Troopers Wayne

*"The water level was a little higher than normal, but it wasn't anything you would consider dangerous."*

**Deputy Sheriff Bob Price**

Whitaker and Tony Salis were the first to arrive at the scene.

Villarreal was under water about eight to 10 minutes before officials were able to pull him out.

The DPS troopers administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until medical personnel arrived, but the attempts were unsuccessful.

Villarreal was transported to Uvalde Memorial Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead.

### Three juveniles confess to Fort Clark burglaries

Three Fort Clark Springs juveniles confessed to committing six burglaries, Kinney County Sheriff's Department officials said.

The three 14-year-old juveniles admitted to burglarizing the Duck Inn, the swim tag shack, Seminole Hall, three coin-operated machines, a recreational vehicle at Campers' World, and a residence during the last month.

The estimated value of the recovered property is \$1,148. A complete damage and repair estimate was not available at press-time.

The local teens will be processed through a juvenile facility and will appear before District Judge George Thurman.

"I would like to thank Smith Security personnel and the parents for their complete cooperation with the Sheriff's Office," said Chief Deputy Sheriff Johnny Fritter.

## Medical Center receives 'great' results from review program

By Margie Allen  
Staff Writer

Midwest Texas GBU Medical Director Al Thaddeous, M.D., notified Dr. Agustin Luz and the staff of the United Medical Center in Brackettville that the local clinic had received "great results" from the Physician Office Review Program.

This review program is an integral part of the recertification process allowing medical centers to maintain their participation in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Network.

The United Medical Center scored 96 percent in office safety and environment, compared to the 1996 state average of 93 percent.

In medical record documentation, U.M.C. received 91 percent. The state average was 86 percent.

In laboratory and radiology services, the center received 100 percent.

Luz was also informed by Bob Kirk, manager of special accounts for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, that Kinney County has been designated a Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSAs).

Kinney County has also been designated a Medically Underserved Area (MUA).

With these designations, several programs are available to the county and to health professionals providing services here.

Programs available to HPSAs are:  
■ The Community Scholarship Program, a federal, state and community partnership which supports students who are planning to returning to Kinney County to practice primary health care.  
■ National Health Service Corps-Scholarship and Loan Repayment Pro-

grams, which is for areas with a severe shortage of physicians. This program will provide placement of National Health Service Corps personnel if they are needed.

■ The Physician Education Loan Repayment Program. This program will pay Physicians up to \$18,000 in loan repayments per year for up to five years for service in a HPSA or with one of four state agencies.

MUAs are eligible for the Community State Matching Incentive Program. Physicians providing care services in MUAs may apply for \$15,000 to \$25,000 to

cover certain start-up costs to establish practices.

Some other programs available are:  
■ The Extended Prescriptive Authority, which gives limited prescriptive authority for advanced nurse practitioners and physician assistants practicing in HPSAs or MUAs.

■ Medicare and Medicaid Bonus Payments. Physicians practicing in HPSAs or MUAs can qualify for Medicare bonus payments. Rural Health Clinics receive enhanced Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements.

■ See UMC/Page 3

#### INSIDE

##### ■ Joe Townsend

Again a government bureaucracy wants to get into our pocketbooks. The MRGDC wants to sell telephone service.

Opinion/Page 2

##### ■ Taylor Stephenson

Brackett's test results from the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills have arrived. Stephenson offers a brief report.

Community/Page 3

##### ■ New sport added

The Brackett School Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to adding cross country as a sport earlier this month.

Sports/Page 5

#### INDEX

Classifieds .....	8
Community .....	3
Deaths .....	7
Health .....	7
Lifestyles .....	4
Opinion .....	2
Outdoors .....	5
Religion .....	7
Sports .....	5

9th year, No. 19  
8 pages

## Laughlin's population expected to grow

By Frances McMaster  
Contributing Writer

Col. Gary A. Winterberger, Commander of the 47th Flying Training Wing at Laughlin Air Force Base, was the guest speaker at the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting last Thursday.

Winterberger was accompanied by his wife, Carolyn, and Capt. Tonia Daniels assisted him with his presentation. He was introduced by retired Col. Frank Cheaney. Ruby Cheaney acted as hostess to Mrs. Winterberger.

"The Changing Face of Laughlin" was the topic of Winterberger's talk. Laughlin is always changing in the sense that a tour of duty for Air Force personnel is just a couple of years; they are not here permanently.

A larger movement is the growth pattern Winterberger described in his overview of the base. To illustrate this, he compared various factors using data from the first quarter of 1997 to what is ex-

pected in September of this year and in September of 1999. These figures reflect the plans for the base.

The population for the first quarter was 2,094. By September, it should be 3,021. In September of 1999, it is expected to be 3,169.

There were 647 officers at Laughlin in April of this year, 727 will be assigned there by September, while 1,871 will be stationed at Laughlin by September, 1999.

There were 320 student pilots at the base in April of this year, 357 will be here by this September, and 453 are expected in September of '99.

In April there were 552 enlisted personnel, while 591 should be here by September of this year and 593 are expected by '99.

Officers and student pilots constitute those whose numbers will be increasing. Other personnel, such as enlisted and civilians, including Civil Service, and contract workers are expected to stay at about the same level.

A few pilots from foreign countries are trained at Laughlin. Their training is always paid by the country which sponsors them. The base can also provide training for Navy pilots, but at present none are there.

The base presently is flying as many sorties, or training missions, as is possible at the moment, but facilities such as hangars and runways will be increased to accommodate additional planes.

Although T-37s, Tweets, are expected to stay at 104, a few more T-38s, Talons, will be housed here as well as T-1A, Jayhawks.

In July of last year a total of 216 aircraft were on ramp, while 265 will be housed here by September of 1998.

In 1996, the sorties were flown per day were 270. A long range increase is expected to 450 sorties in 2002. That would amount to 120,000 flying hours.

Recently, engines for planes from other bases have been rebuilt at Laughlin. An announcement was made that this was to change.



Col. Gary A. Winterberger is welcomed to the Rotary Club meeting by retired Col. Frank Cheaney, June's program chairman.

They were to be repaired by contract workers in regions where they are now located. However, awarding of contracts is being appealed so the notice to proceed has been delayed. Congress is involved in these plans, and the outcome at this time is unknown.

One security problem has ex-

isted at Laughlin and appears to be in the process of being solved. The detention of illegal aliens has been increasing drastically in the last few years because of the base being wide open and located on the border.

■ See LAUGHLIN AFB/Page 8

# Who will teach the children?

By John Cole  
Texas Federation of Teachers

A national study by Education Week gave Texas a "C" in the area of the teaching force because of the large number of uncertified and unqualified teachers in Texas classrooms.

A recent publication by the Texas Association of School Boards bemoans the fact that school districts are finding it tougher and tougher to staff their classrooms with qualified teachers.

A recent study found that 12 percent of the teaching positions in Texas are filled by persons who lack the proper credentials for the courses they have been assigned to teach.

These signs of a teacher shortage are surprising because there are plenty of people qualified to teach in Texas.

Former education commissioner Lionel Meno reported that 500,000 Texans below retirement age are presently holding valid teaching certificates, about twice the number needed to fill our classroom needs.

Clearly we do not have a shortage of qualified teachers. The problem is that we have a shortage of people willing to teach for the salaries and benefits being offered and under the conditions which they would have to work.

Are our state's political leaders worried about this? Apparently not.

The budget which Governor Bush submitted to the legislature did nothing to improve teacher's salaries. Instead, Bush proposed a continuation of the \$400 million diversion of retirement system funds passed by legislators in 1995, and he even upped the ante by calling for an additional \$47 million in cuts in teacher retirement funding.

Most legislators seem to think teachers are living the life of Riley already. The big emphasis in the last legislative session was on making it easier to fire teachers while the state raided Teacher Retirement System funds.

In the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, our state's leaders act as though they believe that teaching has become so attractive that thousands of top-quality, highly-qualified people are lining up to apply for teaching positions. These elected officials seem to think they will improve education by making life tougher for teachers and by making the profession less rewarding.

In the real world, people do have a choice. If the public schools will not pay good salaries to teach-

ers and treat teachers with dignity and respect, then teachers can choose to leave the profession and do something else for a living.

The evidence is that increasing numbers of good teachers are choosing to "vote with their feet," forcing school districts to ever more desperate measures in an attempt to put a warm body into every classroom.

In recent years it has been fashionable to compare achievement of American students with students from Japan, Germany, and other industrialized nations.

I recently attended a conference where representatives of the education systems of nations that outscore Americans on achievement tests came to meet with American teacher union leaders.

The other nations' schools differ in many ways, but they all have one thing in common: teachers in the countries with successful educational systems are valued, respected, and well rewarded for their work.

In the countries that are outsourcing us on student achievement tests, teachers are among the highest paid government employees in the nation.

If our state officials really want to improve education, I recommend some simple steps as a beginning.

1. Quit bashing teachers and start treating them with respect. We do not need another appraisal system for teachers. We do not need more accountability for teachers. We do not need to give teachers more authority over what goes on in schools, and total authority over what goes on inside an individual classroom.

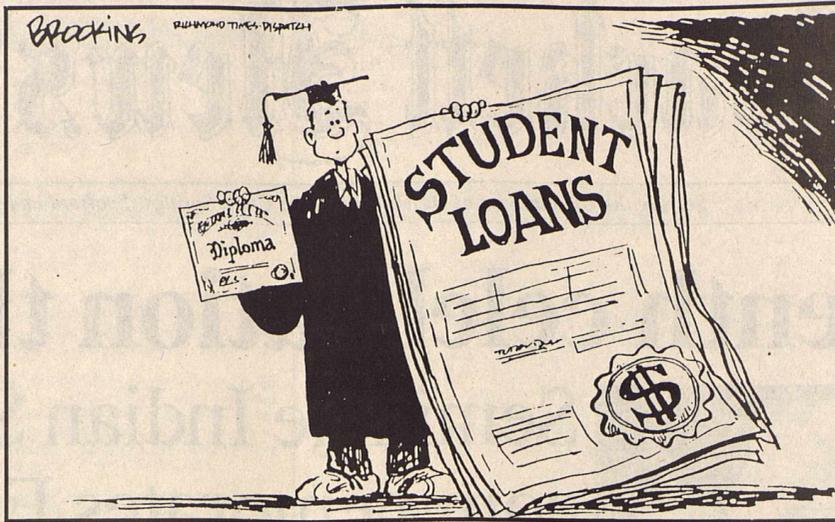
2. Raise teachers' salaries and improve their benefit package. When people from other professions quit those jobs to become teachers because teaching is more lucrative, we won't have to fill more classrooms with unqualified people.

If we cannot get enough qualified people to teach in our schools at the present levels of compensation and under the present working conditions, then we must improve things until we get them.

People can rationalize the reason for paying low wages all they want, but those rationalizations do not put good people into classrooms.

Until the job of teaching becomes attractive enough to fill every classroom with a qualified, competent professional teacher, we obviously are not doing enough.

And if qualified, competent people choose to opt out of the profession, what kind of people will teach the children?



## Extended local calling may not benefit everyone

Again a government bureaucracy wants to get into our pocketbooks.

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC) wants to sell telephone service.

It should be against the law for this agency and others like it to operate any type of business for gain.

This bureaucracy muscled its way into our pocketbooks via 911. Everyone who has a telephone is charged for 911 service with charges going to MRGDC. Now they want to force every telephone user to pay \$3.50 to \$7 for "extended local calling."

Few people in Brackettville make enough calls to Del Rio and Uvalde to cost \$3.50 to \$7 per month.

To those who do not make this many calls, they simply will "feed the monkey."

Time and negotiations will make calling to Del Rio and Uvalde to be as local calls through

Between Us  
By Joe Townsend



Southwestern Bell.

If we get hornswoggled into this deal of the MRGDC, we will be saddled with an exorbitant cost.

"Officials said the long distance charges far exceed the minimum cost of the expanded local calling fees," is a statement where every person needs to read the fine print.

In the first place, it is patently false. In no month do my calls to Del Rio and Uvalde for me and the Frontier Baptist Church cost \$7 a month.

When the term "minimum cost" of expanded local calling fees is used, it raises a lot of questions.

What is the minimum usage? What will be the cost after the minimum is passed?

If this "expanded local calling" is so badly needed, the proper approach would be for the city council and the commissioners court to intercede with Southwestern Bell and thus cut out the rip off by MRGDC. These scam artists say it will include all in the 563 prefix area.

If people will simply check their telephone bills, they will see what a rip-off this scheme really is.

We have been sucked into charges for 911 by this MRGDC. We certainly should not let this happen again.

An adaptation of an Indian saying is true: You can me once, shame on you; you can me twice, shame on me.

## Social Security reform? Just follow the money

By Horace B. Deets  
AARP Executive Director

While the success of the film "Jerry Maguire" had fans rallying around the cry "show me the money," it's clear that advocates of privatizing Social Security on Wall Street are already seeing the money, and are making every effort to get their hands on it. So, for us to fully understand the motives behind these privatization efforts, we must follow the money.

The money, of course, is the more than \$560 billion currently in the Social Security trust funds (which ironically, many of these same people claim do not exist) and the roughly \$70 billion over and above the amount paid to beneficiaries that will be added to those funds this year.

Why is Wall Street so interested? The Wall Street Journal reports that even moderate privatization plans would bring almost \$60 billion a year into mutual funds managed by Wall Street. To get their hands on this windfall, Wall Street has mounted an elaborate and extensive campaign to promote privatization by providing millions of dollars to politicians, think tanks and grass-roots organizations.

The leaders of this effort are the Investment Company Institute (ICI), the trade association for the mutual funds industry, and State Bank and Trust, a

\$1.5 billion money management firm located in Boston, Mass.

ICI was a major contributor during the last election, giving almost a quarter of a million dollars to candidates for federal office. Additionally, many of ICI's members like Merrill Lynch, Fidelity Investments and others, are beginning to flex their financial muscles in support of Social Security privatization.

Working in concert with ICI is State Street Bank and Trust. In addition to their lobbying and political contributions, State Street is behind a number of efforts to replace the current Social Security system with private accounts. Perhaps most notable is their support for the Cato Institute, a Washington, D.C. based think tank that has initiated a three year, \$2 million campaign for Social Security privatization. And, Cato's Social Security advisory board is co-chaired by the principal of State Street's investment branch.

Other groups, also supported by Wall Street, are joining Cato in efforts to privatize Social Security, groups with unassuming names like Citizens for a Sound Economy and Economic Security 2000.

The debate over Social Security's future should be about financial security for all Americans, not financial windfalls for Wall Street.

That's why, as the debate continues, we must all follow the money.



Capitol Comment

U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison

## We've got to stick to the border plan

Three years ago, Congress and the Immigration and Naturalization Service put a simple but profound question to the chief of each Border Patrol sector along the Mexico-U.S. border: What resources do you need to get control of the border in your area?

Each field location came up with a model of the staff and equipment necessary to get the job done. From these models were formulated a strategy to secure the U.S. border by the year 2005.

A key element of the plan was to hire and deploy an additional 1,000 Border Patrol agents annually for five years.

But, as the poet Robert Burns pointed out, the "...best laid schemes o' mice and men..." often go awry. Sometimes this occurs because of unforeseen circumstances; more often it happens because the mice or men don't stick to their plan.

A text book example: Last year Congress passed a law requiring the Attorney General to hire an additional 1,000 Border Patrol agents during fiscal year 1998. But the Justice Department's proposed 1998 budget asks for funds for only 500 agents.

How can we expect to meet the goal of securing our border if we cut in half the number of additional Border Patrol agents to be deployed, the linchpin of our strategy?

Exacerbating the situation is the fact that, during the past two years, a lion's share of the additional Border Patrol resources provided by Congress went West, to the West Coast, that is. There are now 2,200 Border Patrol agents arrayed along California's 150 mile southern border, almost the same number assigned to Texas' 1,200 mile border with Mexico. Worse, the indications are that California will receive most of the agents to be deployed over the remainder of this year.

But you can't beef up the border one segment at a time and achieve control. Illegal aliens and drugs can move much faster to weak spots on the border than the government can move resources. The entire line must be bolstered, or it will continue to leak.

Those "missing" 500 additional Border Patrol agents could make a significant and important difference.

Let's look at the Del Rio Border Patrol Sector. The detention of illegal aliens has reached maximum capacity. I am told the Del Rio Sector has the resources to apprehend and handle a maximum of 600 illegals a day.

Alarming, in February of this year, the sector apprehended 18,000 illegals roughly its 600 a day. Even an insignificant increase in crossing would push Del Rio past its breaking point.

The model prepared for the master plan determined Del Rio needs 808 agents, not the 600 it has now, to handle the growing numbers of illegals that cross its 205 mile section of the border.

Making matters even more grave is the fact that the illegal alien problem is inextricably bound up with the menace of drug smuggling. The same people who smuggle aliens smuggle drugs. They use the same paths of entry. And it's no secret they're getting bolder and better armed.

We must not renege on the commitment we have made to secure the border.

I have asked Attorney General Janet Reno to reconsider and to request funding for the full complement of an additional 1,000 Border Patrol agents to be added next year. That's our plan and we should be sticking to it.

**Big Mama Sez!**

**We could never learn to be brave and patient, if there were only joy in the world.**

To subscribe to **The Brackett News** please clip this application and mail to:

**The Brackett News**  
P.O. Box 1039  
Brackettville, TX 78832  
or drop by our office at 507 South Ann Street (next to the bank)

**Rates:**  
In County \$20.00;  
Out of County \$25.00;  
Out of State \$27.50.

Please include check or money order.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/ST/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

New Subscription  Renewal  Change of Address

## American flag is symbol of freedom

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

Our flag means many different things to many different people. For all of us, however, it's a symbol of the democracy and freedom that has stood the test of time in a nation tried and true.

Wrapped up in its flowing red, white and blue fabric, it's a symbol of our country's past, present, and future. It's been carried into battle, it's been on the moon, it's greeted immigrants and it's draped the coffins of our fallen heroes.

Each year on Flag Day, June 14, Americans honor our national symbol and the freedom it represents. Simple in design, yet powerful in effect, our flag's stars and stripes have long stood for the

legacy of freedom, equality and opportunity that is uniquely America.

Worldwide, the American flag is a symbol of America's dedication to democracy and freedom. At home, the flag has been the guiding force for our soldiers and other heroes who have laid their lives on the line to give us the America we know and love today.

Last week, Congress overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment to allow Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag.

While its passage coincided with Flag Day, this resolution draws attention to the honor and respect we should give our American flag every day of the year.

This amendment received bi-

partisan support in Congress as well as solid support from 49 state legislatures.

Just as we value the flag, we also value the constitutional right to free speech. Prohibiting the physical desecration of the flag does not prevent any American from freely expressing their ideas.

The First Amendment will remain as strong as ever. This is simply a matter of giving a national treasure the respect it deserves.

There is no greater symbol of American unity, freedom and liberty than the American flag.

For this reason, it should be honored and protected, just as we honor and protect what it stands for, our founding principles and values, and the hopes and dreams of every American.

UMC qualifies for programs

Continued from Page 1

Rural Physician Assistant Loan Reimbursement Program. Physician assistants who practice in HPSAs or MUAs and are graduates of an accredited Texas PA program within the last 10 years may qualify for up to \$5,000 in loan repayments per year up to four years.

Clearinghouse for Health Professionals. Physicians, physician assistants, and nurses seeking collaborative practice can join the Texas Department of Health Community Oriented Primary Care-Health Professions Resource Center.

HealthFind/ProFind, a yearly recruitment event which works with rural Texas counties to assist them in their recruitment of physicians, advanced practice nurses and physician assistants.

Outstanding Rural Scholar Recognition Program. This program aids community sponsors in growing their own health care professionals by matching the sponsor's funds with state funds, to support a student of the sponsor's choice in a health professional education program in Texas.

TAAS scores indicate writing as a strength

There are some indicators that all Texas schools use to determine success of the school year.

Some folks don't care for the assessment that has been selected by the Commissioner and by the State Board of Education.

Nevertheless, it's a requirement written into law called the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS).

Our TAAS scores have just arrived. Here's a brief report:

Grade 3: Reading 73, Math 65, Writing not tested.

Grade 4: Reading 83, Math 69, Writing 89.

Grade 5: Reading 68, Math 78, Writing not tested.

Grade 6: Reading 74, Math 71, Writing not tested.

Grade 7: Reading 91, Math 83, Writing not tested.

Grade 8: Reading 93, Math 83, Writing 86.

Grade 9: Reading 79, Math 57, Writing 97.

Grade 8: Science 86, Social Studies 83.

There they are, test results for 1997!

The strengths are definitely in the field of writing at all tested levels, grades 4,8 and 10.

Fourth grade writing skills went



from 59 percent last year to 89 this year. That's a gain of 30 points. This is one of the higher order skills, and it's the one we do the best!

In writing, we have an articulated curriculum where the folks teach the process that will show up on the writing tests.

We don't teach the test. We teach the skills; that's what TAAS tests.

You are given a copy of the targets at least a year in advance. One of the keys to good scores is to focus instruction so that the students learn the subject matter content in the same context in which they will be tested.

Another strength is in seventh and eighth grade. The reading scores are outstanding and the math scores are very good.

The eighth grade test scores in science and social studies are also very good.

We have begun to work to try to articulate the curriculum better

in kindergarten and first and second grades so that when they first TAAS test in the third grade, it won't come as such a shock.

It takes lots of cooperation and hard work to make curriculum work. So, high scores are the product of the focus of the curriculum. The curriculum needs begin several years before the children are tested in TAAS.

That's about it. Our results as a district will be better next year.

My job as curriculum director helped focus the curriculum. Principals have that responsibility in our current system.

I want to thank all for trying.

No one goes in the TAAS test expecting to make low grades. Our teachers work hard to try to give every child a shot at making good scores.

Our students are serious about the work. We will continue to try to improve.

Thanks for believing in us! Have a good week.

Monthly sales tax rebates down in Kinney County

AUSTIN - State Comptroller of Public Accounts John Sharp delivered a total of \$161.6 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,089 Texas cities and 177 counties last week.

"So far this year, Texas allocations are running 5.5 percent ahead of those for the first six months of last year, once again indicating that the Texas economy is continuing its strong, steady climb," Sharp said.

Sharp delivered sales tax rebates totaling \$147.7 million to Texas cities, 4.8 percent higher than last June's payments of \$140.9 million. Rebates of \$13.9 million to Texas counties were 2 percent higher than allocations of \$13.6 million to counties in June 1996. Another \$185.2 million went to the state's eight transit authorities; 26 special purpose districts around the state were delivered \$4.4 million.

This month's sales tax rebates include local taxes collected on April sales and reported to the comptroller in May by businesses filing monthly returns.

The city of Brackettville received a sales tax rebate of \$2,997.14, 18.26 percent lower than last year's \$3,667.10 pay-

*The sales tax allocation to Kinney County for June reflects a 2.81 percent decrease from last year.*

ment for the month. Year-to-date payments to the city are up by 7.26 percent, from 1996's six-month total of \$24,517.62 to \$26,297.69 for this year.

The \$2,229.93 local sales tax allocation to Kinney County for June reflects a 2.81 percent decrease from the \$2,294.41 in sales tax rebate for the same month last year. Year-to-date payments to the county, \$16,938.24, are running 8.52 percent ahead of those for the first six months of 1996, which totaled \$15,608.34.

The Kinney County Health Services sales tax allocation for June was \$2,167.44, which is 4.90 percent lower than the June 1996 payment of \$2,279.15. Year-to-date, Kinney County Health Services has received \$16,740.53, a 10.16 percent increase in local sales tax payments of \$15,195.22 from 1996.

The comptroller's next sales tax allocation is scheduled for July 11.

Efforts under way to create Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program in Val Verde County

By Lisa Maggoffin and Diana E. Gonzales  
Contributing Writers

Mary wants to hide because she feels guilty about what happened to her. Someone broke into her house and sexually assaulted her in her own bedroom. She cried throughout the whole ordeal. He left her there, weeping, while he calmly got dressed and walked away with a smirk on his face. Later, an hysterical Mary calls the police to report what happened.

What will transpire from the time Mary's report is filed until the time the suspect is taken into custody is very crucial.

Personnel from the police department, the hospital, the Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center, the district attorney's office, and those representing the defense and the prosecution will play an important role in Mary's case.

Coordinated efforts on the part of the above players are vital in guaranteeing that Mary's tormentor be held accountable for his crime. One mistake somewhere along the line may lose the case.

In Val Verde County, in 1990, exactly 102,555 rapes were reported. Out of that number, only 18,024 resulted in conviction.

The Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center wants to build a collaborative network that will assist the victims in our community in their paths to becoming survivors.

The Center and the Office of the Attorney General Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services Division in Austin are discussing the possibility of creating a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program in Val Verde County.

A comprehensive certification program, SANE provides registered medical personnel the much needed education to follow a sexual assault case from start to finish.

Nurses in the program are schooled in collection of forensic evidence documentation, survivors symptomatology, and courtroom testimony. Training is free of charge.

SANE's mission is to prevent further trauma to victims of sexual assault within the health care environment. In addition to improved medical assistance, a nurse trained in the program can give the sexual assault survivor a stronger case in the legal system.

Implementation of a SANE program involves the entire community. First, the local hospital and its medical personnel are the key elements.

They provide the staff and medical resources needed to operate the program.

The police and district attorney will work closely in this collaborative effort to provide legal education and information for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.

Finally, the Amistad Family Violence and Rape

Crisis Center staff members will provide services to the victims, and will be liaisons for SANE program participants and the Office of the Attorney General.

SANE originated in Tulsa, Okla., after law enforcement officials there sought a way to collect forensic evidence in a timely and accurate manner.

After a rape, the scene that follows at most hospitals can be almost as traumatic as the assault itself.

Police take the victim to an emergency room where she waits to be examined by physicians who first have to tend to gunshot wounds, heart attacks, and other life-threatening conditions.

As a solution, Tulsa Police and Call Rape, a local victim's advocacy organization, with a research grant from United Way, came up with the idea of using trained nurses to conduct forensic exams away from emergency rooms in a central more private setting.

The program was christened SANE, a unique, community-based team approach that has become a national model for the dignified and compassionate treatment of sexual assault victims.

Today when a rape is reported in Tulsa, a police officer goes to the scene to pick up the victim.

At the same time, Call Rape volunteers and a SANE nurse report to a quiet comfortable suite in a local medical center. When the victim arrives, she

is immediately examined. A Call Rape volunteer remains with her during the exam; meanwhile, a second volunteer, often a male, helps the victims family deal with the assault's emotional effect on the victim.

SANE is not the only program nationally that relies on nurses to perform after rape exams. But it is the only one coordinated through the police department and the only one that uses a community-based team approach.

Tulsa Police officials note substantial improvement in the quality of forensic evidence since the program began and higher rate of convictions due to rape victims' increased willingness to submit to exams.

The Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center believes implementing a SANE program in Val Verde County will provide a compassionate and sensitive approach to victims of sexual assault and timely medical and forensic examinations that will include complete evidence collection.

Staff members from the Amistad Center and the Attorney General's office have met with local law enforcement and hospital personnel to discuss the SANE program.

The public will be invited to subsequent meetings. Advance notice of these meetings will be made available to this newspaper. Interested persons may call 775-9612 for more information.

Community Calendar

- Thursday, June 19**  
12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets at the Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.  
6:30 p.m., The Brackettville Lions Club meets at the Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.
- Saturday, June 21**  
10:00 a.m., The Fort Clark Springs Board of Directors meets at the Board Room on Fort Clark Springs.
- Monday, June 23**  
6:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Springs VFW meets at the Service Club on Fort Clark Springs.
- Tuesday, June 24**  
7:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.
- Thursday, June 26**  
12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets at the Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.
- Tuesday, July 1**  
7:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.
- Wednesday, July 2**  
7:00 p.m., The Brackett Band Booster Club meets at the Band Hall.

- Thursday, July 3**  
12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets at the Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.  
6:30 p.m., The Brackettville Lions Club meets at the Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.
- Sunday, July 6**  
12:00 p.m., The Knights of Columbus meet at Parish Hall.
- Monday, July 7**  
1:00 p.m., The Fort Springs Art Club meets at the Art Studio on Fort Clark Springs.  
6:15 p.m., The Fort Clark Springs Old Quarry Society meets at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.
- Tuesday, July 8**  
7:00 p.m., The Las Moras Masonic Lodge No. 444 meets at Lodge Hall on Ann Street.  
7:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.
- Thursday, July 10**  
12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets at the Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.  
6:30 p.m., The Kinney County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets at Las Moras Inn on Fort Clark Springs.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

- Wednesday, June 11**  
9:24 a.m., Loose cows were reported on Standard Lane. The owner of the livestock was notified.  
6:00 p.m., Deputy Sheriff Adrian Pena was dispatched to Ora's Drive-Inn in reference to a disturbance. Lulu T. Reyes, 46, of Brackettville was arrested for public intoxication and booked into the Kinney County Jail. She was released the next day.
- Saturday, June 14**  
5:23 a.m., A Brackettville woman reported a possible burglary on E. Spring Street. The complainant said she would call later in the morning if anything was missing.  
10:30 p.m., Raul Mata, 25, of Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Pena on outstanding DPS warrants for speeding and failure to appear. Mata was released the same day after paying a \$303 fine.
- Sunday, June 15**  
12:05 a.m., Deputy Sheriff Vito La Gioia reported that the ice machine at Letty's was turned over. The owner of the restaurant was notified.  
7:47 a.m., A Brackettville man reported a television cable wire hanging down on E. Fulton Street. Falcon Cable officials were notified.  
5:47 p.m., Deputy Pena was on routine patrol when he discovered a stranded motorist and a broken down car at Pinto Creek Bridge. Sheriff's Department officials called a tow truck for the owner of the vehicle.
- 8:17 p.m., A Kinney County man said there was a vehicle parked on his property and he wanted to press charges against the owner of the vehicle. Officials advised the man to speak to Justice of the Peace Alvin Hall or County Judge Tommy Seargeant.  
9:56 p.m., A Brackettville man reported that his wife had destroyed their house. Deputy Pena searched the residence, noting that clothes had been cut, there was writing on the wall, and windows were broken. The man said that his wife had taken the window units, a television and a video cassette recorder, along with other items. The man's vehicle also had a broken front windshield. Pena advised the man to speak with Judge Seargeant about a protective order.

**GREAT CUTS! GREAT PRICES!**

**\$1 OFF ANY CUT**

Adult Cuts reg. \$9.95  
Kids Cuts reg. \$7.95 (12 and under)

**MasterCuts**

Piazza Del Sol Mall 775-1122  
**MasterCuts** family haircutters

The Brackett News

The Brackett News (USPS 003987) is an entirely locally owned, independent newspaper published weekly on Thursday for \$20 per year in Kinney County, \$25 outside of county but in Texas, and \$27.50 outside of Texas, by The Brackett News, Inc., 507 S. Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas, 78832, (telephone: 210-563-2852, fax: 210-563-9538) and entered as second class matter at the U.S. Post Office at Brackettville, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1878.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Brackett News, P.O. Box 1039, Brackettville, Texas, 78832.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the pages of The Brackett News will gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Summer programs underway at library

The summer programs at the Kinney County Library are in full swing and will continue through July 10. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, there is a phonics class from 10 to 11 a.m., happy hour from 11 a.m. to noon, and an art class from 1 to 2. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, there is a creative writing class from 2 to 3. On Wednesdays, there is a craft class from 10 to 11 and puppet time from 2 to 3. There are fun and games on Thursdays from 2 to 3.

McDaniel graduates from Tech  
Brackettville residents make Dean's List

LUBBOCK - Wendy Denise McDaniel graduated from Texas Tech University in the 1997 spring semester.

McDaniel, a 1993 graduate of Brackett High School, has earned a Bachelor of Science degree. She is one of 2,000 students at Texas Tech University who received degrees during the 1997 spring commencement exercises.

In San Angelo, three Brackettville area students attending San Angelo University are listed on the Dean's List for the spring semester.

Brackettville residents earning honors include Bernie L. Allemeier, a computer science major; Charles M. Frerich, a communications major; and Corey Lee Ash, a kinesiology major.

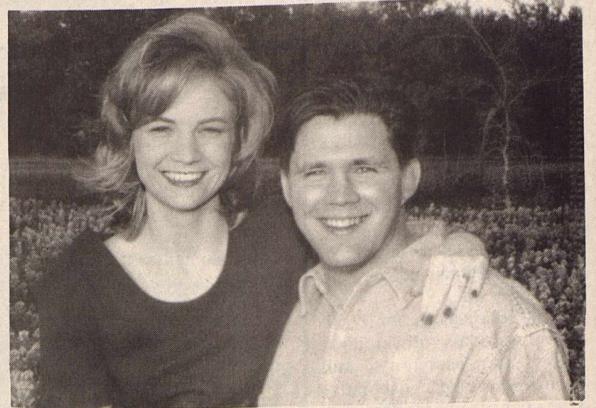
On campus

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled as a full time student and have at least a 3.25 grade point average.

In Abilene, McMurray University announced that sophomore James Tullis Shahan III made the Dean's List for the 1997 spring semester.

To be selected for the Dean's List at McMurray, a student must take 12 or more credit hours and have a 3.5 or better grade point average.

Engagement



Shelley Anne McDaniel and Gerald Wayne Jost

McDaniel and Jost to exchange vows

Mr. and Mrs. James August 9 at the First Baptist Church of Brackettville. Shelley and Gerald are both graduates of Texas Tech University. Shelley is employed with Texas Farm Bureau and Gerald will be teaching in Waco in the fall.

GRAF & BARTON FORD LINC. MERC. INC.

<p><b>1997 ASPIRE</b></p> <p>F4698</p> <p>MSRP.....\$11,415 FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$500&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$916&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$9,999*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$1,416</b></p>	<p><b>1997 ESCORT</b></p> <p>F4269</p> <p>MSRP.....\$12,225 FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$1,000&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$749&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$10,476*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$1,749</b></p>	<p><b>1997 CONTOUR</b></p> <p>F4428</p> <p>MSRP.....\$16,630 FACTORY DISC.PKG...&lt;\$795&gt; FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$500&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,336&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$13,999*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$2,631</b></p>
<p><b>1996 MUSTANG GT</b></p> <p>F4341</p> <p>MSRP.....\$20,010 FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$390&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$2,625&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$16,995*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$3,015</b></p>	<p><b>1996 TAURUS WGN</b></p> <p>F4606</p> <p>MSRP.....\$21,990 FACTORY DISC.PKG...&lt;\$750&gt; FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$1,500&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,676&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$18,064*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$3,926</b></p>	<p><b>1996 TAURUS 4DR</b></p> <p>F4604</p> <p>MSRP.....\$20,625 FACTORY DISC.PKG...&lt;\$750&gt; FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$1,500&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,626&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$16,749*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$3,876</b></p>
<p><b>1997 RANGER</b></p> <p>T4413</p> <p>MSRP.....\$15,030 FACTORY DISC.PKG...&lt;\$1,625&gt; FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$1,000&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,160&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$11,245*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$3,785</b></p>	<p><b>1997 AEROSTAR</b></p> <p>T454</p> <p>MSRP.....\$18,999 FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$1,000&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,709&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$16,271*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$2,709</b></p>	<p><b>1998 WINDSTAR</b></p> <p>T4726</p> <p>MSRP.....\$25,640 FACTORY DISC.PKG...&lt;\$1,330&gt; FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$1,000&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$2,330&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$20,980*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$4,660</b></p>
<p><b>1996 PROBE</b></p> <p>F4379</p> <p>MSRP.....\$17,555 FACTORY REBATE...&lt;\$700&gt; G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,995&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$14,860*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$2,695</b></p>	<p><b>1997 EXPLORER</b></p> <p>T4574</p> <p>MSRP.....\$20,610 G &amp; B DISC.....&lt;\$1,615&gt;</p> <p><b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>\$18,995*</b></p> <p><b>YOU SAVE</b> <b>\$1,615</b></p>	<p><b>GET \$500 CASH BACK ON ALL F350 &amp; F250 PICKUPS (OVER 8500 LB. gw) GASOLINE ENGINES IN STOCK. INCLUDES 4X4'S T4663-T4667-T4669-T4626</b></p>

\*Plus TTL w/approved credit. Sale Ends 6/30/97 \*\*\* QUANTUM LEAP PROMOTION IN CONJUNCTION W/DIAMOND SHAMROCK. SEE US FOR DETAILS

<p><b>96 MYSTIQUE</b></p> <p>#PC15611 #PC15635</p> <p><b>\$249<sup>99</sup> PER MO. &amp; \$0 DOWN*</b></p> <p><small>*0 DOWN PLUS TTL W/APP. CREDIT. SALE PRICE \$12,461.30 PLUS TTL 7.55% APR. 60 MONTHS FINANCING. TOTAL PAYMENTS \$14,999.40 FINANCE CHARGES \$2,538.10</small></p>	<p><b>1997 TRACER</b></p> <p>PC# 15638 PC# 15636</p> <p><b>\$228.70 per mo.</b></p> <p>60 Months*and only <b>\$499 Down Plus TTL</b></p> <p><small>*W/approved credit. Sale Price \$11,899 plus TTL. Amt. Financed \$11,400. 60 Months. 9.90% APR. Total Payments \$13,722. Total Finance Charge \$2,322.</small></p>	<p><b>96 SABLE</b></p> <p>4 TO CHOOSE FROM #PC15626 #PC15614 #PC15604 #PC15581</p> <p><b>\$297 PER MO. &amp; \$0 DOWN*</b></p> <p><small>*0 DOWN PLUS TTL W/APP. CREDIT. SALE PRICE \$13,995. PLUS TTL 9.95% APR. 60 MONTHS FINANCING. TOTAL PAYMENTS \$17,820. FINANCE CHARGES \$3,825.</small></p>
---	---	--

<p><b>79 FORD T-BIRD</b></p> <p>#C15625A <b>\$695</b></p>	<p><b>79 TOYOTA CORONA</b></p> <p>#C4649A <b>\$1,295</b></p>	<p><b>86 CHEVY CAPRICE</b></p> <p>#C4644A <b>\$2,850</b></p>	<p><b>86 OLDS DELTA 88</b></p> <p>#NC15158 <b>\$2,250</b></p>	<p><b>89 OLDS CUTLASS</b></p> <p>#C4655A <b>\$2,850</b></p>
<p><b>83 Ford Mustang</b></p> <p>#C15424B <b>\$1,495</b></p>	<p><b>83 TOYOTA CELICA GT</b></p> <p>#C15640-A <b>\$1,295</b></p>	<p><b>90 MAZDA 323</b></p> <p>#C15358-B <b>\$2,750</b></p>	<p><b>84 LINCOLN TOWN CAR</b></p> <p>#C4762B <b>\$2,950</b></p>	<p><b>89 FORD ESCORT</b></p> <p>#C15594A <b>\$2,500</b></p>

\*All Prices Plus TTL Sale Ends 6-30-97

GRAF & BARTON FORD LINCOLN / MERCURY, INC.

2700 Hwy 90 West

(210) 775-7481

Fax 774-2027

But, I could be wrong!

By: Chuck Hall

Keep up the good work

I can't tell you how many people have stopped me to tell me how much they have enjoyed my little piece in the paper. (I can't tell you because I'm embarrassed by how few it has actually been.) But for those of you who have gone out of your way to express your good wishes, let me say how much I have enjoyed hearing you say so.

Everyone likes to hear pleasant things about themselves. I relish those moments when a neighbor shares his thoughts of

admiration for my handiwork. Small though they may be, my talents are still a unique, personal part of me.

So, let's keep telling our friends how much we appreciate their efforts.

Let's let them know that we did notice when they went out of their way to try to do something worthwhile. Maybe they'll keep doing nice things.

And maybe, just maybe, someday I might write something worth reading. Probably not. But I could be wrong.

Courtney Harrison receives Super S Foods Scholarship

Super S Foods, a Texas owned and operated chain of supermarkets, has awarded over \$48,000 in academic scholarships this year to high school graduates throughout Central and South Texas. These scholarships will be used by the recipients to continue their education in various colleges and universities this fall.

Courtney B. Harrison, a 1997 graduate of Brackett High School, is a recipient of the Super S Foods \$1,000 scholarship.

All recipients of the scholarship were chosen by their school principal and the selection was based on the students outstanding scholastic achievements.

"This is an exciting time of year," said John Dieterle, president of Super S Foods. "The scholarship awards is just one of many ways we help support the communities we serve, and I can think of no better way to reinvest our funds than by helping further the education of our youth."

Crumley, Herndon win contest

The American Sheep Industry Women's Auxiliary sponsored a national letter writing contest.

This contest is to encourage young people to take an interest in writing members of the U.S. Congress.

The subject addressed was how the Endangered species Act affects agriculture and private property rights.

Caleb Crumley and Mistie Herndon were winners of \$100 U.S. Bonds.

Crumley will be a senior this fall at Brackett High School and is an active member in the sheep industry. Herndon will be a junior at Brackett High School. The two students were among 100 entries in the contest. The judging of the original entries were an ASI executive board member and a state auxiliary president.

The final 10 entries were placed by a former ASI officer. They were judged on factual content, persuasiveness and form.

Pete's Sake

A friend of mine, J.D., has always had a problem with stuttering. Since childhood, the embarrassing speech difficulty has caused him much grief.

At long last, J. D., decided to go to a speech therapist for help. After ten long and difficult weeks, J.D. was able to distinctly say: "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers."

He came by the office to show me.

"That's great, J.D.," I congratulated him. "I'm truly proud of you."

"Thanks," he said doubtfully.

"B-but it is s-s-sure a d-difficult remark to w-w-wwork into an ordinary c-c-conversation, d-don't you know?"

The young parents who live just down our street have been worried about the language used in their children's hearing. They decided to spell out any vulgarity or profanity to keep such words from their little darlings tender ears.

After one of those hectic days any mother of small fry can tell you about, the father came home from work and greeted his family with a cheery "How's everything?"

"Oh, John," the little woman wailed, "I've had a hell of a D-A-Y!"

**Editor's Note: If you enjoy these stories and comments, send for a free sample of Post Story Book. Write Pete, Box 717, Kingsport, TN 37662.**

# Cross country added as a sport

By J.J. Guidry  
Sports Editor

Brackett has added cross country as a sport in its high school athletic program.

The Brackett School Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to the additional sport at a special meeting earlier this month.

"In the past three track seasons, we have developed some outstanding distance runners," Brackett Athletic Director Roy Rokovich said. "As a coaching staff, we feel that running cross country will help our athletes improve their

endurance, which will help their performance in track and other sports.

"I feel that running is an essential part of all athletics," Rokovich said. "As we improve our athletes' ability to run, this will increase our chances to be more competitive."

The 30-2A executive committee approved adding Brackett to its conference, which will allow this year's team to participate in district.

A cross country team is made up of seven runners. The event is a two-mile run for girls and a three-mile run for boys on an off-road course.

As Brackett's head track coach, Julie Bruce will also be the head cross country coach. She will continue to assist in volleyball during the fall.

"I think Julie is an outstanding coach," Rokovich said. "She works extremely hard with our athletes, and the kids love her. I know she will do an outstanding job with our cross country and track programs."

"I'm excited about cross country and a lot of the kids are excited about it," Bruce said. "I think it's going to be a great addition to our athletic program."

**LAS MORAS LODGE #444**  
A.F.&A.M.

Invites you to an open dinner meeting, Tuesday June 24th, 1997, 6:00 P.M. at Slator Hall across from the Methodist Church. We will celebrate Saint John's Day, commemorate the 280th anniversary of the first Grand Lodge and install officers for the 97-98 Masonic Year.

# Lees, Harrisons take top honors at special event

The Lees and the Harrisons came out on top in a multiple generations golf event Saturday at Fort Clark Springs.

Saturday's scramble featured a parent or grandparent playing with a child or grandchild. There were two divisions. Division I had very young children while Division II had older children.

Bob Lee and his grandson, Casey, took top honors in Division I with a score of 73. Stan and Stanford Conoly finished second after shooting a 78.

Sonny and Jarrett Harrison won first place in Division II. The father-son duo combined for a score of 73. Grover and Chad Neuman tied Allen McCord and his daughter, Kathy Bader, for second place. Both teams finished with 75s.

Other teams included Jack and Brian Collier, Betty Lee and granddaughter Ashley, Pete and "Repeat" Perez, and Clara McCord and Jimmy Bader.

Bob and Gene Slate hosted a luncheon at the club house following the competition.

### Couples Scramble

Charley Smith, Dee Curry, Bob Moore and Verda McGahen took first place in last Thursday's four-person scramble.

Each foursome was given a target score to shoot. The team with the highest number of strokes under their target was the winner.

Smith's team finished eight strokes under target. Bob Lee, Betty Lee, Clem McKelvy and Lou Green took second after finishing three strokes under.

### Men's Golf Association

The three-man team of Carlos Garza, Ernest Hall and Gordy Mathison won top honors in the Men's Golf Association's Wednesday play, where the game was for the total number of team's putts for 18 holes.

Garza, Hall and Mathison finished with 80 putts. Wayne Schwartz, Jack Schram and Harold Kauffman took second with 89 putts, George Clark, Alfred Pena and John Osborn finished third with 92 putts.

## OUTDOORS

# Drownings involve victims who were not wearing a life jacket

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reminds boaters to: Always wear a personal flotation device (life jacket); obey boating while intoxicated laws (BWI); and be especially careful on personal watercraft.

Nearly nine out of 10 boating-related drownings involve victims who were not wearing a life jacket, according to the U.S. Coast Guard.

"The goal is to educate the public that a life jacket can save their life," said Jim Robertson, TPWD law enforcement director.

Robertson noted that life jackets are essential because contrary to popular belief, most boating accidents are not fiery collisions. Most accidents occur when someone falls overboard or capsizes their boat. Even experienced swimmers lose coordination and drown.

Heavy clothing, boating under the influence or cold water can also be factors in drownings.

Buy your own personal life

jacket and use it. One size does not fit all. There may not be one available that fits to rent or borrow.

Look at the label. It will provide weight, size and use information.

Try it on to check the fit. Once the straps and buckles are secured, it should not slip over your head or come above your ears.

Never use water toys in place of an U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket.

Wear a life jacket to set an example for younger children while you increase your chances for survival.

On motorboats under 26 feet long, a child passenger under 13 years of age must wear a life jacket

at all times that the boat is underway or moving. This lifejacket must be one that fits the child, not an adult size.

There must be one wearable type lifejacket on board your boat for every person on the boat.

These lifejackets must be readily accessible and in good condition, not stored under a bunch of items still in the plastic wrapper or bag from the store.

When riding on or being pulled by a personal watercraft (jetski or waverunner) everyone must be wearing a lifejacket.

For a complete listing of Texas boating laws or information on free safe-boating courses, call TPWD Headquarters at 1-800-792-1112 or 512-389-4800, or your local Game Warden.



## On The Wildlife Side

By Henry Lutz  
Kinney County Game Warden



**Stop moping around!**  
Get rid of those unwanted items.

Place your ad in *The Brackett News Classifieds*, And get results fast!!!  
Call 563-2852

**We've Got \$300 MILLION**  
TO LOAN TO PEOPLE WITH BAD CREDIT PROBLEMS

ALL YOU NEED: ★ 1 YEAR AT JOB ★ \$1200 MONTHLY INCOME  
★★★★★ 1 YEAR AT RESIDENCE ★★★★★

'96 CHEVY SUBURBAN • '95 CHEVY Z-71 X-CAB 4X4  
'92 CHEVY X-CAB SILVERADO • '95 FORD F-150 • '95 CHEVY LUMINA  
'96 CHEVY CORSIKA • '93 OLDS CUTLASS CIERA • '95 BUICK SKYLARK

Drive Today! CALL FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION 1-800-263-CREDIT

**FUN IN THE SUN**

We're having the most fun on the Border!  
Save money on your car loan with BFCU!  
Spin the Wheel of Savings for discounts!

BORDER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
Call 774-Loan Today!

600 E. Gibbs Building 336  
Del Rio, TX Laughlin AFB, TX

# Frame your masterpiece

Even if you have picture perfect lawn mowing technique, you might think that creating a lawn masterpiece is out of reach.

Not so, Michaelangelo. The answer is in the details, the beautifully trimmed areas, the perfectly edged sidewalks and driveways with nary a grass clipping in sight. Attention to the framing sets off your lawn masterpiece.

A dependable, easy to use trimmer can work miracles on your lawn. A trimmer will cut down tufts of grass in even the tightest spaces around trees and bushes for a neater appearance.

Many trimmers now on the market are versatile with expandable shafts that can easily be changed to a blower, edger, brushcutter or cultivator.

When shopping for a trimmer, the number one thing to look for is a product that's easy to use and easy to start. Gas-powered trimmers provide added maneuverability with extension cord-free operation.

The product should be comfortable and user-friendly. Designed

**Green and Growing**  
By Dr. Ellen Henke John Deere Lawn & Garden Expert

with the user in mind. One thing to examine is the size and shape of the handle. The handle should fit comfortably in your hand and minimize vibration. The texture of the handle is important to ensure that the trimmer doesn't slip. A vertical, translucent fuel tank will make filling easier and will reduce spillage.

Also look for products that are environmentally friendly. Many manufacturers are now using new cleaner-running engines that result in lower emissions and feature quieter mufflers.

Once you've found the right product, take time to read your operator's manual before using it the first time.

Trim your lawn by positioning the cutting head at a 30 degree angle to the cutting area. Be sure

to let the tip of the cutting line do the work. Never force the line into the turf; this can scalp your lawn. And as you trim, be careful not to damage the base of tree trunks.

Pay close attention to safety instructions and warning labels. Always wear eye and hearing protection and protective clothing: long pants; sturdy, close-toe shoes with traction soles; shirttails tucked in; and gloves.

String trimmers should be used for weeds and grass only. They are not designed for shrubbery or other greenery at ground level.

Keep firm footing and balance and take special precautions not to overreach.

Just as a beautiful frame sets off even the greatest masterpiece, with these tips and the right trimmer, you can frame your lawn in the same beautiful way.

# Amistad contributes over \$15 million to local economy

"According to the Money Generation Model (MGM), we estimate that Amistad National Recreation Area contributed more than \$15 million to the local economy in 1996," announced Acting Superintendent Dennis Vasquez.

The National Park Service's Statistical Office in Denver developed this economic model to illustrate

how local economies benefit from National Park Service areas.

"This model allows parks throughout the nation to use a consistent approach to determine what financial benefits National Park Service units have on local communities," explained Superintendent Vasquez.

**Ricks FURNITURE COMPANY**

504 E. 10th St. IN STORE WAREHOUSE

# Moonlight Madness

THURSDAY June 19th 12 Noon • 9 P.M. save Up to 50% off!

Once upon a Blue Moon Savings on **Ricks FURNITURE COMPANY** quality furniture fashions. Thursday From 12 noon until 9 p.m. at 504 East 10th in Del Rio Fri. - Sat. - Mon. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

This is the "GOOD STUFF," with prices so low they'll give you goosebumps. Once upon a Blue Moonlight Savings up to 50% off the regular price of EVERY PIECE OF FURNITURE, AND DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES IN STOCK. But you must act now, this event is for a limited time only.

**NEW MERCHANDISE ARRIVING DAILY**

Every SOFA AND LOVESEAT	SAVE ON FAMOUS BRANDS SUCH AS:
Every MODULAR PIT GROUP	• THOMASVILLE
Every CHAIR AND RECLINER	• KINCAID
Every BEDROOM GROUP	• BASSETT
Every DINING ROOM GROUP	• BROYHILL
Every DINETTE	• RIVERSIDE
Every OCCASIONAL TABLE	• SEALY
Every WALL UNIT & WALL SYSTEM	• BENCHCRAFT
Every MATTRESS & BOX SPRING	• LA Z BOY
Every PATIO SET	• PULASKI
Every WATERBED	

**NO PAYMENTS, NO DOWN PAYMENTS TIL September 1997**

\* FREE DELIVERY TO BRACKETTVILLE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: Ricks Furniture Co. will be closed Thursday, June 19th till 12 noon marking prices down on our huge inventory of name brand furniture, bedding, carpets & more. Promptly at 12 noon the doors will swing open for 9 gigantic hours! OPEN THURSDAY 12 NOON - 9 P.M. FRI. - SAT. 9 A.M. - 6 P.M. DON'T MISS IT!

504 E. 10th Del Rio, Texas

**Ricks FURNITURE COMPANY**

**50**  
1947 - Years - 1997  
(210) 775-1508





**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**GOLFERS WANTED!!!** TURN your passion into profit! Call 813-842-9495. Distributors wanted. Pre-launched opportunity. Min. investment \$49.50. Obtain brand name golf equipment/vacations at wholesale.

**LOCAL CANDY ROUTE.** 30 vending machines. Earn apx. \$800/day. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND.

**DRIVERS WANTED**

**\$500 SIGN ON bonus \*\*** OTR drivers. We offer security, steady miles, good wages & a place to call home. CDLA. 6 months' experience. DCC 1-800-727-4374. E.O.E.

**DRIVER WE'RE LEADING** the way. Join the leader in miles for the last four years. Earn \$70,000 to \$128,000 a year. Covenant Transport experienced drivers/owner operator teams toll-free 1-888-MORE-PAY, graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

**DRIVER - DALLAS/FORT WORTH** area. More experience means more money with our new pay scale, and new grads get tuition reimbursement! Call Gaine Transportation Services now! 1-800-376-4144.

**DRIVERS ARTIC EXPRESS** an Ohio based company is seeking company/regional & OTR tractor-trailer drivers. Pay up to 35 CPM plus benefits package. Must have class A CDL w/ hazmat. Call Dave or Lisa at 1-800-927-0431. E.O.E.

**DRIVERS: OWNER OPERATOR &** company driver, the world's out. Dalworth/Arnold is looking for top qualified drivers in your area. Great package! Call 1-800-333-3064.

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

**DRIVERS: WE PAY more\$\$\$!** Sammons Trucking's Houston operation is now hiring experienced OTR flatbed, O/O & drivers. Call now for regional & long haul. 1-800-457-2349.

**HAROLD IVES TRUCKING** needs motivated individuals to enter our training program. Call 1-800-270-1676 for complete information. Now taking owner operators \$80 empty/loaded call: 1-888-367-4837.

**OTR TRUCK DRIVERS** wanted! Experienced or non-experienced - free training and 1st year income \$30K Stevens Transport 1-800-333-8595 EOE.

**RAPID FREIGHT IS** currently hiring OTR drivers. Minimum 1 yr. verifiable experience class A CDL with hazmat. Call recruiting 1-800-607-5695.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**SALES PERSON NEEDED!** No experience necessary! Will train! THE BRACKETT NEWS is accepting applications for the position of Advertising Salesperson. Must be self motivated, people person with good communication skills and have own vehicle. Come by the Brackett News office to apply.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT** The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is accepting job applications for the position of Career Case Manager II for the Uvalde Career Center. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED certificate and have prior experience in workforce development programs such as JTPA or other federal/state program requiring a high degree of interpersonal skills and ability to prepare program participants for the workforce or self-sufficiency. Preference will be given to applicants who have an associate degree or a minimum of 30 academic college hours. Two years of direct work experience may be substituted for each 30 college hours or two years of related work experience may be substituted for each year of direct experience. All applicants are required to be computer literate and be able to use a word processor effectively. Applicants must have proof of liability insurance and should be able to travel in and out of the nine county region when requested. Some overnight travel may also be required. Salary range for this position is \$16,767 - \$20,379 negotiable based on experience. Persons interested in applying must send a resume and/or file an application with MRGDC and send copies of transcripts to: Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Director of Administration, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs Texas 78834. A copy of the job description and application for employment are available upon request. Applications and/or resumes will be accepted for this position until 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 20, 1997. 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 and TDD telephone number (210) 876-3533.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**CASH FOR YOUR** real estate note. If you receive mortgage payments, call us for best price. Residential, commercial, land. Nationwide buyer. First Capital Mortgage. 1-800-289-4687.

**CASH NOW! WE'RE** Weaver & Associates. We buy owner-financed real estate notes and other cash flows. We will treat you fair. Free quotes. Call 1-800-992-2615.

**\$DEBT CONSOLIDATIONS. CUT** monthly payments up to 30-50%. Reduce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy FREE confidential help NCCS non-profit, licensed/bonded. 1-800-955-0412.

**FOR SALE**

**BUILDING SALE...** "ROCK bottom prices." Go direct. Ends included. 21x30: \$2,788.00. 32x40: \$4,766.00. 40x60: \$7,444.00. 46 x 70 : \$ 9 , 9 8 8 . 0 0 : 54x100: \$15,466.00. 64x120: \$23,644.00. Many others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422.

**BUYING A HOUSE?** No extra cost. We find right real estate property anywhere to represent you. All database, including FSBO. Call Buyer's Homefinding Network. 1-800-500-3569 or www.finderhome.com

**COLLOIDAL MINERALS** of the type described on "Dead Doctors Don't Lie" tape. Directly from the Clark Mine. No membership. \$11.95/ quart, sold in gallons. 1-800-470-8638.

**FOR SALE**

**HONDA PRESSURE CLEANER:** 3500 PSI- \$899. Like new warranty. Hose, soap-injection, dual adjustable wand, heat & oil sensor, loaded. Contractor duty. Tax free. Call 24 hours! 1-800-886-6486.

**MAJOR NATIONAL LENDER** has 2, 3, & 4 BR homes single and multi-section, bank repos, easy qualified & transfer of payments terms negotiable or make cash offer. Call 1-800-651-4625 ext. 911.

**MONTHLY FLEA PROGRAM** need help? Kill fleas & ticks on contact with the Happy Jack 3-x flea collar. Available O-T-C at County Co-ops.

**OWN FOR THE** price of renting! Build your home now, without the downpayment banks demand. Complete construction & permanent financing if qualified. DeGeorge Home Alliance, 1-800-343-2884.

**PRESSURE CLEANERS-FACTORY** direct! New 2000 - PSI \$379, Honda 2500-PSI \$699, 3200-PSI \$999, 4000-PSI \$1,099 complete ready to use. All attachments included. Call 24 hrs. Toll-Free 1-888-867-7729.

**WOLFF TANNING BEDS,** tan at home. Buy direct and save! Commercial/home units from \$199.00. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today 1-800-842-1310.

**GARAGE SALE**

**GARAGE SALE** June 21, 8:00 till 3:00. Unit 15 lot 89.

**GARAGE SALE** Saturday, June 21st. 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Hector Jimenez residence, 313 E. Fulton St.

**HEALTH**

**DIABETICS! STILL PAYING** for supplies? Why? You may be able to receive supplies at little or no cost. Call 1-800-678-5733 for a free consultation.

**DIABETICS! (USING INSULIN)** Medicare pays for your supplies. Will bill them, ship to you. Save money. Satisfaction guaranteed. Liberty Medical. 1-800-748-1662. No HMO members. Mention AF-AA01.

**LEASE OR RENT**

**1 BR. COTTAGE** 1st St. \$275.00 includes all utilities. 2 bedroom home; Gove St. \$300.00 per month. Jerry 210-563-2967.

**2 HOUSES** for rent. 563-2224.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

**POOL CITY'S KAYAK** Pools, demo homesites wanted to display new maintenance free pool. Save thousands w/this unique opportunity! 100% financing...call 1-800-338-9919.

**MOBILE HOMES**

**1ST TIME HOMEBUYERS,** If you have no credit or very little credit & 2 years on the job. We can get you in a new home. Single or doublewide. Call 1-800-760-7711.

**TRANSFERRED TO KENTUCKY,** must sell, 2BR/2BA, owner to co-sign and make your 1st pmt. 654-7999.

**NEW MOBILE HOME WITH LOT** on River. Beautiful scenery. 210-768-0299.

**CASA MOVIL, NUNCA HABITADA,** con solar en El Rio, vista hermosa. 210-768-0299.

**BEING TRANSFERRED TO** California. Must sell my mobile home, very reasonable. 210-775-6765.

**TRANSLADADO A CALIFORNIA.** Tengo que vender mi casa movil a precio muy barata. 210-775-6765.

**1ST. TIME HOMEBUYER** financing now available for a limited time. Qualify by phone 1-800-760-7711

**2ND CHANCE FINANCING!** Buy a repo single or doublewide, just like new, mobile homes. Reestablish your credit. For details call 1-800-760-7711.

**BANK MUST SELL** Repo's, like new, low down payment's, low monthly payments. Easy qualifying. Call 1-800-760-7711.

**ABANDONED** 3 brm - 2 bth DBL-WIDE Make up back payments. 210-591-2727.

**SLIGHT DAMAGE** 3 brm - 2 bth. Loaded. Possible work for down payment. Hurry! 210-591-2727.

**MOBILE HOME** For Sale. In park. Ask for John. Financing available. 210-591-2727.

**Q & S HOMES SALES OF UVALDE** Special built Schult Factory Purchase. Loaded! 97 3 brm - 2 bth 16x80 Vinyl siding, Shingle roof, Plywood floors, Dishwasher, 5 year warranty, 2 months free park rent! Only 265.27 a mo. 11% APR 360 Mo. 10% down. 210-591-2727.

**WHY RENT.** New 3 br. 2 bath mobile home. Fully loaded with island kitchen, dishwasher, stove, frig., sliding door, bay window, glamour bath, plywood floors, washer and dryer. Only \$500.00 down, \$392.00 mo. for 240 mo. 12.25% APR. 1-800-756-7711.

**NO PAYMENTS UNTIL SEPT..** New 3 bedroom, 2 bath, mobile home with free washer and dryer, only \$187.00 mo. 10% down, 360 mo. loan, 9.0% APR Subject to increase. 1-800-756-7711.

**REAL ESTATE**

**O'Rourke Realty**  
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke  
210-563-2713  
F C S Memberships  
& Rentals Available

2 bed, 1 bath, large fenced yard, shade trees, 2 storage buildings.

On golf course, 2 bed, 2 baths, long & wide screened porch with glass shutters overlooks creek. This house could be easily converted into 3 bedrooms.

3 bed., 2 baths, mobile home in Unit 15 of Fort Clark. Carport, Morgan Building. Good quality furniture and appliances including washer & dryer. Membership included. Asking price \$25,000.00.

Several RV lots for sale with and without buildings.

**PETS**

**FREE ADORABLE, HUGABLE** puppies. Part Collie. Call 563-9191.

**ROTTWEILER PUPPIES,** shots, ready to wean. \$150.00 each. 563-9570, Herb Senne.

**PROPOSALS**

**THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AREA AGENCY** ON AGING, hereby solicits proposals to provide the following services: Nutritional and Supportive services (Transportation), and Legal Assistance Services under the Older American Act of 1965, Title III, as amended, to Senior Citizens of the Middle Rio Grande region. Services are to be provided in Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala counties. Proposal period will be from October 1, 1997 through September 30, 1998. To obtain a complete copy of the request for proposal packet, please contact: Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Director, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834, (210)876-3533. Proposal Packets will be available on or after June 20, 1997. A bidders conference will be held June 24, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the MRGDC Central Office - Conference Room at 307 W. Nopal, Carrizo Springs, Texas. All proposals must be clearly marked "Sealed Bid-Do Not Open." Attention: Ramon S. Johnston. The deadline for submission of proposal is July 31, 1997, 5:00 p.m. at the Middle Rio Grande Development Council (Central Office), 307 W. Nopal, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834. Proposals may not be submitted through the use of facsimile machines. 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. The MRGDC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. Changes in state or federal legislation may result in a requirement to renegotiate contracts at any time (before or during the contracted period.)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO BANKING INSTITUTIONS REGARDING A DEPOSITORY CONTRACT FOR THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given that the Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC), subject to the provisions of Article 2559 to Article 2566A, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, will receive proposals from selected banking institutions to serve as prime depository for the Council to maintain custody of its funds and provide certain other banking services for a period of two (2) years beginning September 1, 1997 and ending August 31, 1999. In order to qualify, the banking institution or bank branch must be located within the region of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, Central offices located at 307 West Nopal, Carrizo Springs, Texas. Request for proposals packets may be obtained by contacting Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Executive Director of Administration, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, 307 West Nopal, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834. Proposals must be received by no later than 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 11, 1997 and must be clearly marked "RFP # 06-10-97-014, Council Depository," to ensure that proposals will not be opened until the appointed hour. The award of contract for depository services will be based on: 1. Ability to perform requested services (55 points). 2. Costs for services (if any) specified (30 points). 3. Location of a bank branch within the Middle Rio Grande Development Council region (15 points). 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. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. For more information regarding this RFP, contact Elizabeth Sifuentes, Comptroller at voice/TDD number (210) 876-3533.

**REAL ESTATE**

**HOUSE FOR SALE.** 703 Ellen St. Just off 334. Large Home over 1900 S.F. \$37,500. Winn Rohde Realty. 774-4848. Buster Schwandner house.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** Fireplace-jacuzzi-shop-R.V. shelter. #8 Bowlegs F.C.S. 563-2047.

**KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO**  
P.O. Box 1035  
Brackettville, TX 78832  
210-563-2446  
Molly Ardrey - Broker

Historic home has all modern conveniences while historic charm has been preserved. Truly a showplace. 1780 sq. ft. on 80x140 lot. Only \$70,000.

1.7 acres on the west end of town. Great business site.

Unit 35, lot 17,18. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Reduced for quick sale.

Unit 31, beautifully landscaped brick home. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$73,900.

Ranch properties large and small acreage.

**DEBBIE TRANT** LOCKHART REAL ESTATE  
210-563-2997/210-563-2007

Fort: 2 bed, 2 bath, rock home priced \$14,000 below appraised value. Wood stove, saltillo tile, carport, storage, sprinkler system. Private location. \$63,000.

Modern 3 bed, 2 bath, rock home with fireplace, garage, fenced yard. Close to school & store. Call for details!

Several commercial and residential lots for sale in town.

**Art Workshop-Oils**

**June 26 - 27 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.**  
Place: Fort Clark Art Center to enroll  
Fee: \$25.00 - 2 days - Limit 15 students  
Subject: Oak Tree and Blue Bonnets  
12 X 16 Canvas  
Instructor: Gen Davis (210) 757-1401

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT SPECIAL ELECTION AUGUST 9, 1997**

**PROPOSITION NO. 1 ON THE BALLOT**

House Joint Resolution 4 proposes a constitutional amendment which would increase the school property tax residence homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$15,000. The amendment would also authorize the Legislature to limit all or part of the exemption to political subdivisions that are the principal providers of elementary and secondary education within their boundaries.

In addition, the amendment would authorize the Legislature to allow the transfer of all or part of the age 65-and-over tax freeze to another homestead. Specifically, the Legislature would be authorized to provide that the current limitation against increasing school property taxes on the residence homesteads of persons age 65 or older, or their surviving spouse who is eligible to receive the exemption, may be transferred if the person establishes a different residence homestead.

The amendment would also allow the \$10,000 additional amount for the standard exemption to be used to lower the tax rate of persons cur-

rently receiving the 65-and-over tax freeze. Specifically, for a homestead affected by this limitation in 1996 or in an earlier tax year, the Legislature must provide for a reduction in the school property tax limitation in the 1997 tax year and subsequent tax years in an amount equal to \$10,000 multiplied by the 1997 school property tax rate.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment providing school property tax relief by increasing the residence homestead exemption by \$10,000 and providing for the transfer of the tax limitation to another qualified homestead for persons over 65 and a reduction in taxes subject to the limitation."

*Este es el informe explicatorio sobre la enmienda propuesta a la constitución que aparecerá en la boleta el día 9 de agosto de 1997. Si usted no ha recibido una copia del informe en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llamar al 1/800/252/8683 a por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711*

Published by Secretary of State  
Tony Garza

**Laughlin AFB battles illegal alien problem**

**Continued from Page 1**

There were 397 illegal aliens detained at the base in 1995. In 1996, almost 1,200 were detained.

A fence is being constructed at present, and although it is not completed, the numbers are already going down, Winterberger said.

One other large change has been instituted; the way medical care is provided. The same care is now available through the Val Verde Regional Medical Center.

Some things will still be handled

at the base, but the Air Force physicians are now licensed to practice in the civilian hospital.

The change means a reduction in medical staff and an annual savings of \$1.8 million.

Laughlin has pared down expenses and will be training many more pilots. Additional accommodations required for pilots in training and the officers who will train them will mean increased work opportunities for people in this area.

This bodes well for the local community.

**The Brackett News**  
**FAX IT FAST!!!**  
**\$2 for the first page, \$1 for each page thereafter.**  
507 South Ann Street Phone: (210) 563-2852  
Brackettville, Texas 78832 Fax: (210) 563-9538

**ATTENTION TEXAS TEAM TRACTOR TRAILER DRIVERS**  
You could become part of the fastest growing carrier in Southwest Texas!  
**...WE OFFER EXCELLENT...**  
Income  
Home time  
Fantastic benefits and bonuses  
If you're a quality driver with 1 yr. OTR exp. and CDL-A then apply with Salem Carriers in Eagle Pass, Tx., Hwy 57  
1-800-394-7414 or N.C. office 1-800-709-2536  
**"YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID"**

**NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST**

Notice is hereby given that Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the "Utility") intends to change rates for electric service effective August 28, 1997, or as soon thereafter as may be permitted by law. Based upon the test year ending December 31, 1995, the proposed rate changes result in a decrease of \$329 or 0.0% compared to adjusted test year revenues. The changes are applicable to all areas, all customer classes, and all customers served by the Utility.

Information concerning the proposed rate changes, including the proposed customer, demand, and energy charges applicable to each class of service, the estimated effect on revenue by customer class, and a brief description of the applicability and type of service for any new class of service which is proposed by the Utility is available at the general office of the Utility, located at Highway 90 at FM 131, Brackettville, Texas 78832, or will be provided upon request to any customer by mail without charge. Inquires should be made to Mr. Daniel G. Laws, the Utility's President/Chief Executive Officer, at (210) 563-2444.

The Utility has filed a copy of this Notice of Rate Change Request with the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission's Public Information Office at (512) 936-7140. The deadline for intervening will be July 14, 1997 (45 days after filing the notice with the Commission.)