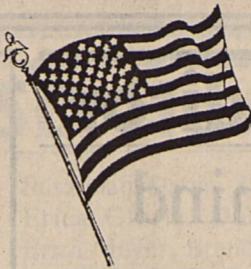


# The Brackett News



Rokovich accepts position in Donna  
See story, Page 5

9th year, No. 51

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

## Briefs ...

### Kinney Chamber seeks nominations

The Kinney County Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for Citizen of the Year and nominations for four positions on the Board of Directors.

Director terms run for four years and the nominations for those positions must be current members of the Chamber of Commerce.

For Citizen of the Year and director nominations, Chamber of Commerce officials need the nominee's name and the reason for the nomination.

Nominations should be sent to the Kinney County Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 386, Brackettville, Texas, 78832, by Feb. 11 to be considered.

### Free income tax assistance offered

The AARP Tax Aide help will be at the Brackettville Aging Services location each Friday from 9 a.m. to noon to offer free income tax assistance beginning Feb. 5.

Interested persons should bring their tax package, a copy of their 1996 tax return, forms W-2 and 1099 showing 1997 income, social security numbers for dependents, and other documents showing income or expense.

For an appointment, call 563-2015.

### Community health fair set in Del Rio

DEL RIO — A community health fair is set for Saturday, Feb. 14, at Plaza Del Sol Mall from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

There will be a variety of healthcare agencies participating, offering educational literature, health screenings or health services to promote healthy living.

Any healthcare agencies interested in participating should call Dava Cloude at Val Verde Regional Medical Center at (830) 775-8566, Ext. 250.

### Three workshops set

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council Small Business Center will present the workshop "Business Feasibility: to do or not to do" at three area cities.

The workshop will be from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Del Rio National Bank in Del Rio on Tuesday, the Conference Room in Uvalde on Wednesday, and the Chamber of Commerce Board Room in Eagle Pass on Thursday.

To register for the seminar, call (830) 775-5468.



Thomas Smith of Humble, Texas, took top honors in this year's Kinney County Chamber of Commerce Big Whitetail Buck Contest. See related story and pictures on Page 5.

# Jury deadlocks in Montalvo case

## Second trial likely to be conducted in adjoining county

After a full day of deliberation and a hung jury Thursday, District Judge George M. Thurmond declared a mistrial in the case against Joe Montalvo.

The Precinct 4 Kinney County commissioner was facing charges dealing with theft and misappropriation of highway guard rails.

"My client has always contended that he didn't do anything wrong," said Rogelio Munoz, Montalvo's attorney.

"It was up to the jury to decide what the facts were and they couldn't agree on the facts. Mr. Montalvo still contends that he didn't violate the law in any respect," he added.

Thurmond said that a second trial would likely be conducted in an adjoining county. He did not indicate a time frame for another proceeding.

"I can't say a whole lot because it's not over yet," District Attorney Tom Lee said after the trial. "Until it is over, I guess we can't really comment. We just have to figure out what the jury did here,

*"It was up to the jury to decide what the facts were and they couldn't agree on the facts. Mr. Montalvo still contends that he didn't violate the law in any respect." Attorney Rogelio Munoz*

talk to them, and then we'll just figure out where we go from this point."

Thurmond ruled last week that three of the five charges Montalvo faces dealing with abuse of official capacity would not be considered by the jury because the charges were included on an amended indictment. He has not determined whether those charges would be included in a second trial.

"It is a legal question that has to be answered because of a double-jeopardy issue," Munoz said.

# Accident claims life, sends three to hospital

A 77-year-old Brackettville woman was killed and three others were injured Saturday morning after a two-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 90, just one mile east of Brackettville.

Betty Cole Inman died just before noon on Saturday, according to Texas Department of Public Safety officials.

Inman was driving a 1992 Dodge Caravan. According to reports, she made a U-turn and her vehicle was struck on the driver's side door by a 1993 GMC pickup truck travelling east.

The three occupants of the pickup truck — Alfredo Arellano Jr., 24, and Rosie Escareno, 23, both of Eagle Pass, and 51-year-old Jose Escareno of Del Rio —

were transported to Val Verde Regional Medical Center by Kinney County EMS personnel.

Inman was pronounced dead by Val Verde County Justice of the Peace Fred Brockwell.

Investigating officers were DPS Troopers Richard Slubar of Brackettville and J.E. Lozano of Del Rio.



A local woman lost her life and three area residents were hospitalized following a two-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 90 on Saturday. Brackett News Photo by Jewel Robinson

## Stock Show raises over \$28,000

By J.J. Guidry  
News Editor

The premium sale at the 43rd Annual Kinney County FFA and 4-H Livestock Show collected over \$28,000 for the 56 animals that were sold. Last year's sale netted \$19,325. A total of 127 animals were shown at the weekend show at the Kinney County Civic Center.

"The sale was excellent," County Agent Robert Elledge said. "We had a lot of new buyers this year. The animals were super. They were all in excellent shape."

■ See BALLEW/Page 4

### Livestock Show Grand Champions

The following is a list of grand champions from the 43rd Annual County Livestock Show:

Exhibitor	Breed
Megan McWilliams	Meat Goat
Tillman Davis	Angora Goat Kid
Laura Lee Ballew	Crossbred Lamb
Laura Lee Ballew	Finewool Lamb
Patrick Rose	Ewe Lamb
Jarritt Meeks	Rabbit Meat Pen
Michelle Melancon	Rabbit Doe
Michelle Melancon	Rabbit Buck
Sharon Moore	Market Hog

## Stafford announces candidacy for justice of the peace position

Cynthia Stafford has announced her candidacy for Kinney County justice of the peace.

Stafford moved to Kinney County three years ago when she married her husband, Steven. She gave birth to her son, Jonathon, on Oct. 15.

Stafford said she has addressed concerns of being a working mother.

"I would do the same as any other working mom, I would take



CYNTHIA STAFFORD

my baby to the baby sitter if my husband was at work."

Stafford comes from a law enforcement family.

"My father, brothers, and my husband are currently in the law enforcement field," she said.

Stafford works as a legal assistant and administrator in the Kinney County Attorney's Office.

"I have an extensive work history in the field of both criminal and civil law," she said. "I have had prior law experience working for a private law firm specializing in civil, criminal and business law."

"I am a certified EMT and have worked in the EMS field in Lubbock, Texas."

Stafford is currently taking classes to obtain a paralegal license.

"I strongly believe I can use my experience in criminal and civil law to be a fair and impartial justice of the peace," she said.

If elected, Stafford said one of her focuses would be to work with teens in trouble.

"This is not just a job," she said. "I want to make a difference. My objectivity will not be clouded by politics."

"I would appreciate your consideration in electing me for justice of the peace. Your support would be greatly appreciated."

## INSIDE

### Joe Townsend

The Junior Livestock Show is one of the great highlights of the year. It encourages our youth in productive activities.  
Opinion/Page 2

### Taylor Stephenson

Everyone knows by now that the Rokoviches are leaving. For the past three years, Roy has guided our athletic program.  
Community/Page 3

### Tigerettes victorious

The Tigerettes jumped out to 14-4 lead and never looked back Tuesday as they topped the Natalia Lady Mustangs 59-35.  
Sports/Page 5

## INDEX

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

9th year, No. 51  
8 pages

# HELPING OTHERS

## Lattimer spends winter days volunteering at county library

By Sonja Shell  
Staff Writer

Albert Lattimer is one of the soon-to-be leaders of the community. He is civic minded and people oriented, and spends most of his free time helping others.

The 15-year-old is active in FFA, 4-H cooking and nutrition, Boy Scouts, and is a volunteer at the Kinney County Library.

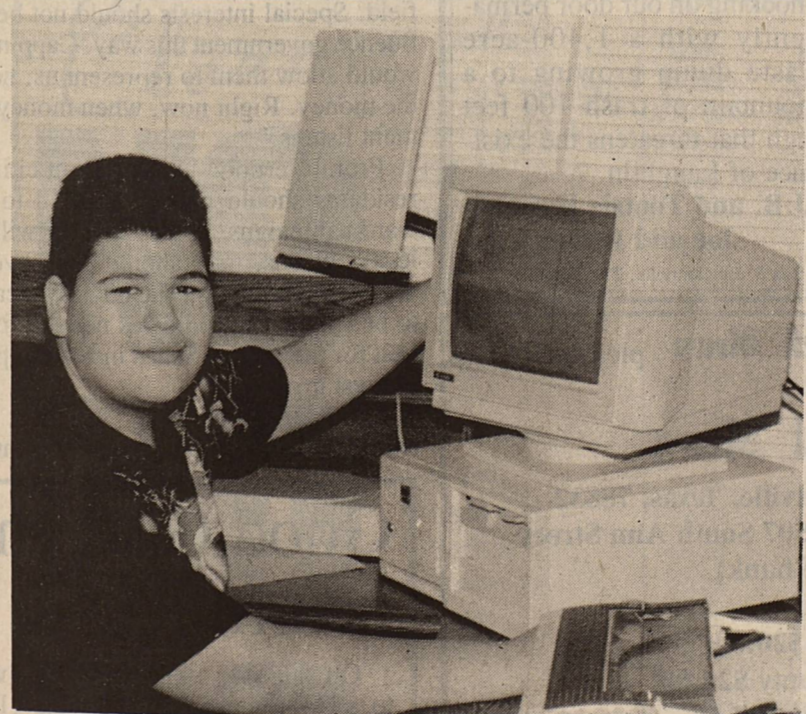
As a matter of fact, during these winter days, Lattimer spends most of his free time at the library. He is a computer whiz and is able to help youngsters, and even adults, learn how to 'surf the net.'

*"Albert has been a great help teaching others how to use the computer. He is patient and very accommodating."*

Sara Terrazas

is patient and very accommodating."

Lattimer is a member of Boy Scout Troop 257. He is a star scout and a senior patrol leader. When asked what he enjoyed



Albert Lattimer, 15, spends most of his free time at the Kinney County Library, helping others, young and old, learn how to 'surf the net.'

The troop gets to spend a week at camp. He said that many scout members would not get to go if it were not for the generous sponsorship of the Brackettville Lions Club. To help collect money for the trip, the troop holds fund raising car washes.

Lattimer is a member of Judy Blankenship's special education class. He enjoys school and does very well in his classes. He shares his home with his mother, Rachael, brother, David Joe (D.J.), sister, Betty Rose, and two cats, Patches and Silly.

## Kinney County Closeup

"Albert has been a great help teaching others how to use the computer," Kinney County Librarian Sara Terrazas said. "He

the most about Boy Scouts, he grinned and said, "The trip to Camp Faucett during the summer."

## Letters to the Editor

### Vicious letters remind reader of Three Stooges

Time passes and the ridiculous poison pen campaign continues against Fort Clark Springs, the Board of Directors, the acting manager, the new manager, the Maintenance Department, the Accounting Department, the Good Government Group, and any other target that pops up in the fevered imaginations of the writers and their puppet master. As it drones on, I am reminded of other situations.

It seems to me there is a real similarity to the Three Stooges. Because of their ignorance, Larry and Curly and Moe constantly stumble into trouble.

Larry provides his disastrous advice, and Curly and Moe hasten to carry it out with predictable consequences. Generations of TV viewers and moviegoers have roared at their antics.

When you think about it, the letter campaign is much like a Stooge comedy — predictable, ignorant, ridiculous and pretty funny.

Next time you read one of the poison pen letters, forget about the vicious attack and just think about those paragons of stupidity, our old friends the Three Stooges.

On the other hand, the final scenes of the "Wizard of Oz"

come to mind.

Remember when Toto violates the rule and pulls aside the curtain?

Instead of a powerful and dreadful giant we see a pitiful faker, madly manipulating levers and shouting into an amplifier and otherwise deceiving everyone except himself by his antics.

Next time one of the vicious letters appears, just look behind it and you will see the "all-powerful" Wizard trying desperately to conceal himself.

He's there, and it's pretty funny when you think about all the effort he puts into his ridiculous curtain of deception. C'mon out, Wizard. We know you're in there.

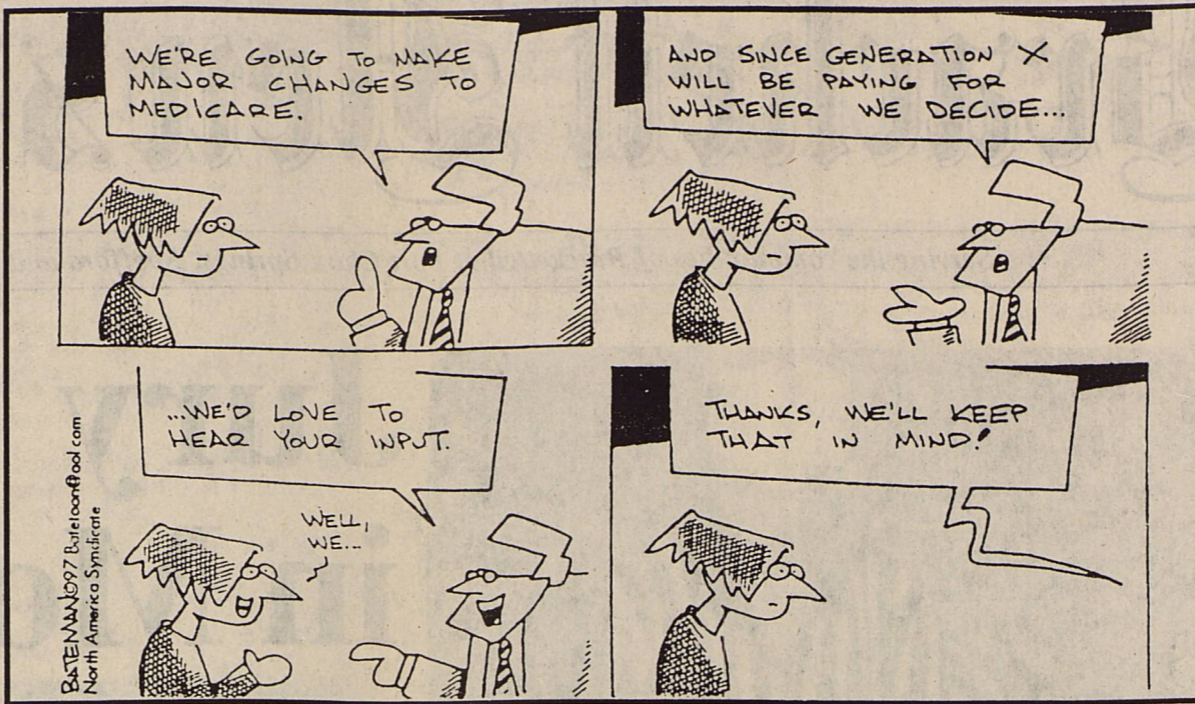
If you are angry or disgusted at their shameless insinuations, snide allegations and lying accusations, think about the Stooges and the Wizard.

If their vicious attacks begin to raise your blood pressure, just consider how absolutely silly they have proven themselves to be.

A proverb says, "It is only a step from the hypercritical to the hypocritical."

The Stooges and the Wizard have taken that step.

Don Parks



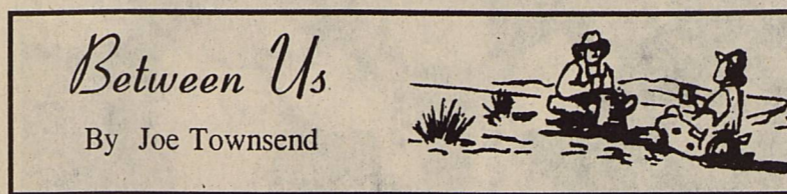
## Livestock Show a success

Another Junior Livestock Show has gone into history. This is one of the great highlights of the year. Anything that encourages our youth in productive activities is certainly a worthy endeavor.

This activity calls for weeks of stringent actions by many of our finest youth. It calls for concern and oversight by parents.

It calls for a desire to accomplish aims pointed to competition with a desire to produce the best. It calls for learning conversant with many phases of life.

It calls forth the leaders and counselors to lead the youth in all



the ramifications of a particular facet of life and development.

It calls forth many hours by many people in the logistics of the show itself. It calls for concern and support from many people who buy the animals shown.

It gives the youth the thrill of showing their animals and to some the added thrill of winning. It of-

fers the challenge to do it all again.

All of these factors come together to make this year's show an outstanding success. Congratulations are in order to all who had any part in making this success.

Surely, every dollar invested could hardly find a better effort to assist in the development of the youth of Brackettville.

## Whose opinions are being represented in letters?

Mr. Don Parks, your letter to the editor last weeks sounds as though you are a paid spokesman of the Good Government Group.

Mrs. Miller, did the letter you wrote to the editor last week represent the official position of the Board of Directors, the Good Government Group, or your own?

Don't you remember our agenda for the Fort Clark Springs Association? It was published Sept. 11, 1997, in this paper. Again, I will submit it for your perusal:

"The purpose of actions being pursued against the Board of Directors of the Fort Clark Springs Association, Inc. by concerned members in good standing of the Association are solely intended to

restore integrity and ethical conduct to the Board of Directors as the governing body of the Association; to put a stop to individual director behavior which is characterized by influence peddling, meddling in the daily business of the Association, and intimidation of Association employees; to end the control of the Board of Directors by any special interest group; and to reestablish sound management of the day to day affairs of the Association by a general manager, without obstruction of his or her efforts by the Board of Directors."

Members, please obtain a copy of the association by-laws and declaration from Member Services and study them thoroughly.

Art Baker

## Texans strongly support campaign finance reform

In large margins, Texans strongly support reforming federal campaign finance laws by imposing limits on a broad range of contributions.

My annual questionnaire, which The Brackett News published last August, asked Texans to tell me how they feel about the ongoing campaign finance reform debate.

Of those who responded, 87 percent favor stricter limits on contributions from non-citizen permanent U.S. residents, 86 percent favor stricter limits on labor unions' contributions, and 71 percent said they support imposing stricter limits on contributions by individuals.

Asked if you think there should be limits on the amount of money individuals or organizations can spend to support or oppose candidates or specific issues, 74 percent of Texans answered yes. But only 22 percent of you favor government funding on campaigns.

Here are some of your comments on this perplexing issue:

From Arcadia: "Individual contributions should be unlimited because restricting them would be a limit on free speech. I am against government funding of any campaigns."

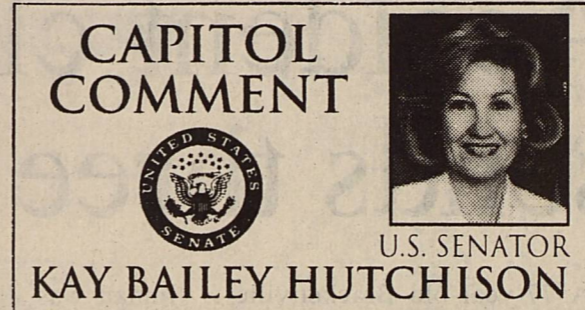
From Lake Jackson: "No contributions should be allowed by any entity except a (singular) qualified voter. Contributions should only be acceptable from an individual's current personal earnings or savings. Corporations, foreign countries, labor unions, trade associations, etc. are not voters and should be prohibited from giving financial support to anyone or any party. The U.S. Constitution is clear about qualifications to vote, and the same should apply to contributors to political campaigns."

From Aledo: "We are not even enforcing our current laws. Deregulate individual contributions, but require full, immediate disclosure. Forbid business and political action committee (PAC) contributions, including unions."

From Port Isabel: "There should be a clear-cut cap on campaign contributions to level the playing field. Special interests should not be allowed to influence government this way. Capping contributions would allow them to represent us, not whoever has the money. Right now, when money talks, government listens."

From Vernon: "I think non-citizen permanent residents should not be allowed to contribute toward campaigns. If they are not willing to become legal citizens, they should not have a say in any area of government. The buying of candidates needs to be stopped. Candidates need to focus on what is best for the United States instead of pleasing special interest groups."

From San Antonio: "The cost of campaigns should be borne by the candidate entirely, but with



free TV and radio time. That way the candidates would not be influenced by corporate interests."

From Hurst: "There shouldn't be any limits on spending or donations, but we should require contributions and expenditures to be reported within three days on a web site, so everyone will know where support comes from."

From Blanco: "Public campaign finance is a misuse of tax dollars. If you're not a U.S. citizen, you have no right to participate. The whole system is out of control."

From Garland: "It's simple. Increase the limit on what an individual can donate (either individually or through a PAC or corporation) to \$5,000 for any legitimate candidate or party. All congressional candidates should be required to raise 75 percent of their funds within their home state. On the income tax returns, people could select \$10, \$25 or write in up to \$100 for support of presidential and senatorial races."

From El Paso: "I believe in total freedom for all people. Anyone from any country should be able to donate or vote."

Congress will take up campaign finance reform next spring. I have introduced a bill designed to remedy the most significant shortcomings in federal campaign finance laws.

These new rules would help return control of federal campaigns and elections to individual voters. My bill:

- Limits to \$250,000 the amount a Senate campaign may reimburse a candidate for loans the candidate makes to his or her own campaign.

- Requires at least 60 percent of a Senate candidate's campaign funds to come from individual residents of his or her home state.

- Curtails the congressional franking privilege for mass mailings during election years.

- Limits PAC contributions to the same level as allowed for individuals; indexes this uniform limit to the rate of inflation.

- Prohibits contributions from non-U.S. citizens.

These are clear, workable reforms designed to encourage greater political participation while curbing the abuses that are undermining public confidence.

## Remember Adobe Eco when voting March 10

Voters of Kinney County, it is once again time to cast your vote. We would urge all voters to support our commissioners, Paul O'Rourke and Joe Montalvo, who represented the citizens with a resolution opposing Adobe Eco Systems Ltd.

Please cast your vote on March 10 for Herb "Butch" Senne, who helped acquire party status in the Adobe Eco hearing.

Despite an 800-signature petition opposing Adobe's dump, overwhelming public

opposition and risks to the community, Judge Tommy Seargeant appears to support the dump by writing letters to the TNRC in support of Adobe.

Remember, without strong voices in our local government, Adobe Eco will be knocking on our door permanently with a 1,400-acre waste dump growing to a mountain of trash 100 feet high that threatens the existence of Laughlin.

J.B. and Tootsie Herndon  
Joe and Esther Cruz

Paid Political Adv. by Jessie Herndon, Box 8, Brackettville, Tx., 78832

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

**The Brackett News**

P.O. Box 1039, Brackettville, Texas, 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

## Good Government Group controlled by Fort's board

On Jan. 14, 1998, we went to a Good Government Group meeting. This meeting was to elect three candidates that they would endorse for the Board of Directors.

All but one of the board members were at this meeting. Some of the directors wives are members of this group.

They told us we had to vote for three candidates or our vote would not be counted. This is illegal. They told everyone there

who to vote for. This is also illegal.

They counted the votes and were over 40 votes short. This is the same group that endorsed one of the present board members who falsified his resume.

This group should be ashamed of themselves. I think they should be called the Corrupt Government Group.

Telling it like it is...  
Roger Perez



Big Mama  
Sez!

I can alter my life  
by altering my  
attitude of mind.

## Moving America forward in 1998

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

Last year Congress passed the first major tax relief law in 16 years as well as the first balanced budget plan in a generation. This was just a beginning.

As we start up the second session of the 105th Congress, the House of Representatives needs to look at other ways to restore power to hard-working Americans.

Most importantly, the current tax code needs to be completely replaced with a simple, fair tax structure. In the meantime, we can still make some major improvements to the existing law.

The current tax system punishes families at the beginning and at the end. For example, the federal government's idea of a wedding gift for newly married couples is a bigger tax bill.

That's right, just because a couple gets married, they could see their taxes go up. This marriage penalty has got to go.

The government should not be doing anything that weakens the family. The law should show some heart and not punish people for getting married and starting a family. The Marriage Tax Elimination Act will get rid of this unfair situation. Hopefully, we will pass this measure quickly.

Last year, we saw the beginning of the end of another anti-family tax provision, the estate, or "death" tax.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 made it a lot easier for families to keep small businesses, ranches and farms in the family. Congress finally recognized that it is not right for the government to get a share of a family's business just because the head of the family dies. Again, we reformed an uncaring law.

We're on the right track toward increasing freedom and opportunity for American families.

As we head into the new session of Congress, we must keep this ball rolling by working to completely eliminate the death tax and the marriage penalty.

Congress and the tax committees also need to keep a close watch to see how well the reforms that we passed are working. We must be sure that the changes we make really do make it easier for families to keep what they have worked for.

## Unsung Hero

By Joe Townsend

It's sad that sometimes it takes tragedy to call our attention to the fine characteristics of people.

Betty Inman has been a shining light in our community for a number of years.

Her occupation was one few people would dare to attempt and she did a superb job in an almost impossible endeavor.

Betty was a lovely person. She was outgoing and a friendly person with a ready smile. She was jovial and always upbeat towards others. Betty will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Seeking to be helpful to make our community a neater and more presentable place cost her, her life. Surely, Betty Inman was an Unsung Hero.

## NOTICE, FORT CLARK MEMBERS:

Residential assessments have increased 100 % in 2 years. Lets put a stop to these illegal increases. Lets return F.C.S. to the members. Vote only for Bill Kelly. Thank you.

## Thank You

The family of Ursula Beloz wishes to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the prayers, food, cards, flowers and your kind expressions of sympathy.

# Rokovich family will be missed by community, school district

Everyone knows by now that the Rokovichs are leaving Brackettville.

For the past three years, Roy has guided our athletic program as head football coach and athletic director.

Roy has worked hard to improve our sports facilities and to help athletes with a weight and fitness program.

Roy never stopped trying to solve problems. He always thought that tomorrow would be better than today.

The BISD Board of Trustees recently adopted goals for the school district. The main "thrust" or purpose of our athletic program (all sports and extracurricular activities) is to serve as a good, responsible "character builder" for our young people.

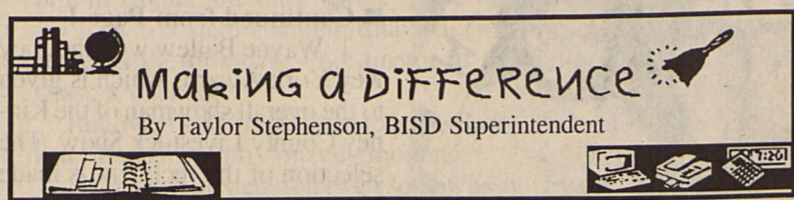
We want a fine program in athletics, but believe that teaching those positive character traits is the function of athletics in the educational program of a school.

This article isn't about Roy Rokovich. I appreciate his hard work and leadership. He has been in the spotlight for three years, so I want to talk about the other two Rokoviches - Jay and Kay. Let's do just that.

Kay has been our curriculum secretary (Abacus secretary) for three years.

In her first year, my job was curriculum director. I worked with Kay to train her to use the most advanced curriculum monitoring system - Abacus - that I have ever found anywhere in any school (And it still is the best!).

Kay learned the system well, and for the past year and a half



has been running the system herself. She has been an outstanding curriculum secretary.

Above all, she had that niceness in her personality and character that made her even more valuable. Kay always smiled, even in difficult times. She always had a kind word and a compassionate thought for the other person.

She loved her job in Abacus. Everyday she would rush to work, wouldn't quit until the job was done, and always had the testing information ready for the teacher at just the right time.

Then there is Jay. He is in the fourth grade this year. Jay has progressed beyond belief. He works every day to learn and is doing just that.

Everyone in our school loves Jay! He sings and dances at our school music programs. He participates in every function of our school life, including pep-rallies. He has come so far.

Jay knows my family as well as anyone in Brackettville. He always asks about Michael, my son, and his wife, Della. Jay knows and tells me that they live in Kentucky. He knows that Della is expecting a boy and that his name will be Taylor.

Jay knows my daughter, Traci, and her husband, Nathan. He knows that she lives in Lubbock and that Nathan and Traci are moving to California.

He never forgets, has a phenomenal memory, and has the best smile in the United States. Jay has special gifts.

That's about it. On Saturday morning, as I write about these fine folks, I feel a tear welling up in my eye because I won't get to see this nice family every day of the year. They have chosen to leave Brackettville to move to Donna, Texas.

Just about the time the tear hits, I feel a warmth in my heart for having known these good guys who make things better wherever they are.

So, thanks for stopping our way, Roy, Kay and Jay. We hope that you will come see us many times in the future.

**Betty Inman**  
I had completed the article on the Rokoviches when I learned of Betty Inman's death Saturday afternoon.

Betty was so involved in our community as the choir director at her church, Lions Club officer, golf club member, and she headed ticket sales for many of our most successful functions. She did lots of things to make this a better community.

She did a fine job as speech therapist at school. Betty loved the kids, loved living here, and especially was devoted to her family.

We'll miss her happy face, but we're better for knowing Betty. Vaya con Dios!

# Brackett ISD Honor Roll

The following is the Brackett ISD Honor Roll for the third six weeks grading period as provided by district officials:

## High School

### A Honor Roll

Seniors: J. Wayne Ballew, Caleb Crumley, Windy Goodloe, Katy Hagler, Christina Meek, Samantha Perez, Alfredo Rodriguez.

Juniors: Lindsey Brotherton, Amanda Petrosky, Graciela Terrazas.

Sophomores: Jamie Bader, Laura Lee Ballew, James Burks, Zachry Davis, Jania Finkenbinder, Jerritt Meeks.

### A-B Honor Roll

Seniors: Jose Gonzalez, Susana Hernandez, JoLee Jones, Melanie Koenig, Michael Meyer, Amanda Mulvaine, Jessica Rodefer, Beatrice Smith, Baron Toms, Cherrise Ward.

Juniors: Hilda Aguirre, Angela Childress, Colby Crosby, Mistie Herndon, David Honstein, Jessica Jaso, Jacob Mann, Jose Perez, Luis Rivas, Aaron Taylor, Stephanie Terrazas, Imelda Vela.

Sophomores: Alexandra Arreola, Tiffany Eckenrod, Geoffrey Flores, Helen Flores, Daniel Hernandez, Jacob Hughes, Cindy Jennings, Sonni Jones, Michelle Melancon, Joshua Mulvaine, Donald Page, Samantha Payne, Tricia Robinson, Theresa Ryan.

Freshmen: Christopher Campos, April Crumley, Kayla Cruz, Carissa De Los Santos, Vanessa Garcia, Schiller Hill, Samuel Hunt, Lindsey Koenig, Christina Luna, Heather Martin, Laura Martinez, Savannah Massingill, Martina Payne, Christopher Petrosky, Mariana Rivas, Brittany Shewbart, John Wylie.

## Middle School

### A Honor Roll

Eighth grade: Michelle Bizzell, Lloyd Lee Davis,

Susannah Davis, Levi Duncan, Erica Gloria, Duquesa Hunt, Erica Meyer, Brandi Wilson.

Seventh grade: Maria Martinez, Megan McWilliams, Coshena Meyer, Laura Negrete.

Sixth grade: Elizabeth Ballew, Amanda Davis, Deitrich Davis, Emily Petrosky.

### A-B Honor Roll

Eighth grade: David Campos, Fabian Farias, Isaac Finkenbinder, Christina Flores, Gavin Flores, Stephanie Gomez, Migdalia Gonzalez, Matthew Holloway, Michelle Kiser, Guillermo Molinar, Jaime Montalvo, Rodolfo Ramirez, Isela Ramon, Juan Rivas, Ira Sandoval, Ana Talamantez, Amanda Ward.

Seventh grade: Ashley Antoine, Celina Cano, Amanda Cruz, Jared Hobbs, Nicole Mata, Brittany Moore, Pedro Pacheco, Jose Pineda.

Sixth grade: Stacey Castilla, Stephanie Coronado, Nancy Hill, Tony Jamail, Allison LaMascus, David Lattimer, Nancy Martinez, Arnold Pinales, Stacy Terrazas.

## Elementary School

### A Honor Roll

Fifth grade: Juliann Ashabanner, Tillman Davis, Sara Farias, Jared Grubbs, Whitney Hobbs, Whitney Massingill, Anthony Munoz, Divina Pena, Oscar Sierra, Charlie Slaughter.

Fourth grade: Tommy Garcia, Mandy Harris, Liliana Hernandez, Megan Reinhold, Yasmin Pena.

Third grade: Adan Aguirre, Dolores Cano, Joey Castillo, Stanford Conoly, Clint Conrad, Robert Davis, Cesar DeLeon, Allison Delbosque, Cullen Duncan, Albaro Duran, Roy Estrada, Seth Frerich, Joaquin Fernandez, Arnie Garcia, Diana Hernandez, Lorena Mendoza, Sharon Moore, Sabrina Morin, Israel Muniz, Cesar Ortiz, Justin Perez, Ivan Pinales, Johnny Rivas, Anthony Sanchez, Adam Sandoval, Austin Shewbart, Jes-

sica Siegel, Natasha Smith, Michael Stephenson, Abel Talamantes, Marisela Talamantes, Nadine Terrazas, Emily Valenzuela.

Second grade: Bailee Allen, Colter Barajas, Jesus Balderas, Isaac Benites, Kevin Bonner, Travis Bonner, Kody Bostick, Julie Castillo, Meghan Davis, Dolie Fernandez, Savannah Fernandez, Albert Flores, Elva Garcia, Marlene Gloria, Cathy Herman, Daphne Hun, Lanc Nowlin, F.J. Pena, Gustavo Resendez, Jessica Rodriguez, Evelyn Rojas, Manny Rosas, Stephanie Schuster, Chris Seargeant, Ashley Stephenson, Bianca Stewart, Bellalynra Talamantes, Hector Villarreal, Roland Zamora.

### A-B Honor Roll

Fifth grade: Clarissa Aguirre, Christina Benites, Stephanie Bonner, Jaclynn Duncan, Raul Escamilla, Courtney Frerich, Monica Gonzales, Stevie Juarez, Robbie Looney, Johnathon Martinez, Kristine Meyer, Joey Montalvo, Valerie Terrazas, Vanessa Williams.

Fourth grade: Selina Armendariz, Miles Brasicke, Ashley Castillo, Paul Carrion, Joe Chacon, Jacquelyn Conoly, Shaddine Gum, Tanya Molinar, Travis Nowlin, Kaylynn Perez, Miguel Ramos, Isabel Rivas, Jay Rokovich, Robert Sanchez, Soraida Talamantes.

Third grade: Joaquin Flores, James Gass, Casey Harris, Betty Lattimer, Benjamin Maldonado, Normando Martinez, Lisa Morgan, Amanda Rosas, Monica Talamantes.

Second grade: Amber Castilla, Israel Dehoyos, Anita Deleon, Marcos Duran, Jessica Garza, Josh Garcia, Vanessa Garcia, Lisa Gass, Alex Gonzalez, Amie Jalomo, Alvin Jenning, Jaime Jimenez, Mari Juarez, Fernando Mata, Erica Rodriguez, Maria Sanchez, Gabriela Talamantes, Jolisa Wright.

# New ambulance is now operational

Kinney County's new ambulance is now operational. Lee Sweeten of the Texas Department of Health inspected and approved the state-of-the-art vehicle last Thursday.

The new ambulance was given to Kinney County by the Texas Department of Health at this year's EMS Conference in Austin. The official presentation to the EMS Department was held on Dec. 22.

Before the new ambulance was allowed to be put on the road, there were a few obstacles that we had to overcome.

One of those obstacles was getting new license plates, which was taken care of shortly after the December presentation.

Another was getting the following lines of detail placed on both sides of the unit, "Kinney County EMS" and "Donated by the Texas

# Kinney County EMS Pulse

By Ruby Meyer, EMT

Dept. of Health 1997."

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. John Ford, this detail work was done for free.

Lozano Welding is making a brush guard for the front of the unit. This is not a necessity, but will help avoid costly damage from bumper gates and deer.

The final obstacle involved two-way communication. For the time being, we will be allowed to use a cellular phone in order to communicate with the Sheriff's Office and the hospitals that we transport to. However, this will be time consuming when it comes to the initial dialing.

Unfortunately, radio's are not cheap and funds are limited. Even though we are applying for grants to purchase the communication system that will be more beneficial to us and our patients, we would appreciate any donations and support that you the members of our community can give.

The full-time EMS personnel are sporting a new professional look with the purchase of uniform tops.

We would like to thank Mrs. Sylvia Canty who donated her time in sewing the EMT patches onto the sleeves.

# Kinney County Sheriff's Report

**Saturday, January 17**  
9:30 p.m., John James McAllister-Evans, 31, of Del Rio was arrested for possession of marijuana by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie. He is still being held in the Kinney County Jail.

**Monday, January 19**  
7:45 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported a two-vehicle accident on W. Thomas Street. She said there were no injuries.

**Tuesday, January 20**  
9:30 p.m., A Fort Clark woman reported that a juvenile had called her residence and threatened to beat up her son. She said the boys were arguing over a girl. Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry spoke with the mothers of the two boys and they said the matter was taken care of at 10:30. The boy called the woman's residence a second time from another person's residence and threatened to kill her son. Deputy Guidry met with the second child's mother and all of the parties involved agreed to discuss the situation the next day at the Sheriff's Office.

**Wednesday, January 21**  
12:08 p.m., A Piedras Negras man reported a dead body in Quemado.

**Thursday, January 22**  
7:50 a.m., A Fort Clark man

reported that a window on his vehicle had been broken at his residence on Ward Street.

10:30 a.m., Rebecca Resendez, 37, of Brackettville was arrested for theft by check by Deputy Guidry. She was released the same day on a \$750 personal recognizance bond.

4:55 p.m., A Kinney County woman reported a grass fire on Highway 131.

**Friday, January 23**  
9:38 a.m., An employee at Shorty's restaurant reported a found wallet. Later that day, the wallet was returned to the owner.

10:44 p.m., A Brackettville woman said that there was going to be a fight at her residence on E. Fourth Street. Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism was dispatched to the scene. He said the matter was

taken care of.

**Saturday, January 24**  
3:00 a.m., Dolores Ledezma Torres, 24, of Seville, Fla., was arrested for possession of marijuana by Kinney County Deputy Sheriff Adrian Pena. Torres is still being held in the Kinney County Jail.

11:47 a.m., An anonymous man reported a two-vehicle accident on Highway 90, two miles east of Brackettville. Deputy Guidry, Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter, and DPS Trooper Richard Slubar were dispatched to the scene, along with Kinney County EMS officials.

3:23 p.m., A Brackettville man reported a grass fire on Sunset Lane at Fort Clark. The Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department was notified.

**LAS MORAS MASONIC LODGE**  
meets the 2nd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.  
School of Instruction meets the 1st, and 3rd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.  
Visiting Brothers are Welcome

**When We Say Clearance We Mean NOTHING HELD BACK**

**FINAL 3 DAYS! Starts Thursday 9-9 Sale ends Saturday Jan. 31st**

**IT'S A BIG, BIG SELECTION!!**

EVERY ITEM IN OUR \$1,500,000.00 INVENTORY IS ON SALE

**YOU DON'T PAY A DIME TIL SUMMER TIME**

**PAY NOTHING TIL JULY 1998**

Walk out without paying...that's right during Ricks January Clearance you can afford all the furniture, bedding and more without paying anything for 6 months. You make no down payment. We'll defer your monthly payment for six months, plus give you free delivery now. You won't pay a finance charge for six months, then you can spread your payments out with our low monthly payments starting July 1, 1998. See chart below

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS**

Your Payments Starts July 1, 1998

AMOUNT PURCHASED FROM \$100 TO	NO DOWN PAYMENT	NO PAYMENT TIL JULY 1998	NO INTEREST TIL JULY 1998	MINIMUM MONTHLY PAYMENT AFTER JULY 1, 1998
\$825	0	0	0	\$25
975	0	0	0	30
1125	0	0	0	35
1275	0	0	0	40
1425	0	0	0	45
1575	0	0	0	50
1725	0	0	0	55
1875	0	0	0	60
2025	0	0	0	65
2175	0	0	0	70
2325	0	0	0	75
2475	0	0	0	80
2625	0	0	0	85
2775	0	0	0	90
2925	0	0	0	95
3075	0	0	0	100

Subject to credit approval, available with any total purchase of \$199 or more. Payments shown are minimums. 18% APR interest starts after July 1, 1998. This offer does not apply to prior purchases.

**\*FREE DELIVERY TO BRACKETTVILLE**

**PROMPT FREE DELIVERY**

**MONDAY-SATURDAY 9AM-6PM EVERY THURSDAY 9AM-9PM**

**775-1508**

**AVE. F AT 10TH**

Obituaries

Betty Cole Inman

Betty Lou Cole Inman, born on May 30, 1920, died Saturday, Jan. 24, 1998, in Brackettville.

Inman was born in Jefferson City, Mo., the daughter of Thomas Jefferson and Jaley Stone Cole.

On July 24, 1952, she married Harold A. Inman, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by a brother, Thomas J. Cole Jr., a member of the Flying Tigers.

Inman received her bachelor's degree and master's degree in education from Texas Tech University and served many years as an educational diagnostician and speech therapist. At the time of her death, she was the speech therapist for the Brackett Independent School District.

A resident of Fort Clark Springs for 12 years, Inman was a member of United Methodist Church, where she served as choir director. She was also active in the Brackettville Lions Club, a member of the Voices of Fort Clark, Ladies' Golf Association, Beta Sigma Phi, Del Rio Music Club, and The Old Quarry Society.

She is survived by a brother: John J. Cole of Ladue, Mo.; four

sons: Harold Inman Jr. and wife Barbara of Jacksboro, Texas, Gerald McNew Jr. and wife Claire of Princeton, N.J., Richard Inman and wife Jill of Detroit, and Thomas McNew and wife Lynn of Brackettville; two daughters: Judy Gleissen and husband Jerry of Kyle, Texas, and Sharon Covington of Nagadoches, Texas; ten grandchildren: David Inman and wife Debbie, John McNew, Ryan McNew, Thomas McNew and wife Jill, Tamara Clardy and husband Jerry, Timothy McNew and wife Jenny, Heather Covington, Joshua Covington, Caylee Covington, and Carlee Covington; six great-grandchildren: David Jr., Derek and Dayton Inman, and Caleb, Caitlyn and Emma McNew; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31, at 11 a.m. at United Methodist Church in Brackettville, with interment at Oak Hills Cemetery in Kirkwood, Mo.

The family requests that memorials be made to Brackett ISD Library, Kinney County Library, American Heart Association, or the charity of your choice.

Dr. Rufus A. Moore Jr.

Dr. Rufus A. Moore Jr., age 74, of Brackettville passed away Saturday, Jan. 24, 1998. He was born to Rufus and Katherine Filippone Moore.

He served in the United States Army during World War II. He attended Brackett High School, the University of Texas and St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

Moore was a physics professor at State University College in Oswego, N.Y., until his retirement, then he returned to Brackettville in 1980. He was a member of St. Mary Magdalene

Church.

Moore is survived by a brother: Harold Moore of Illinois.

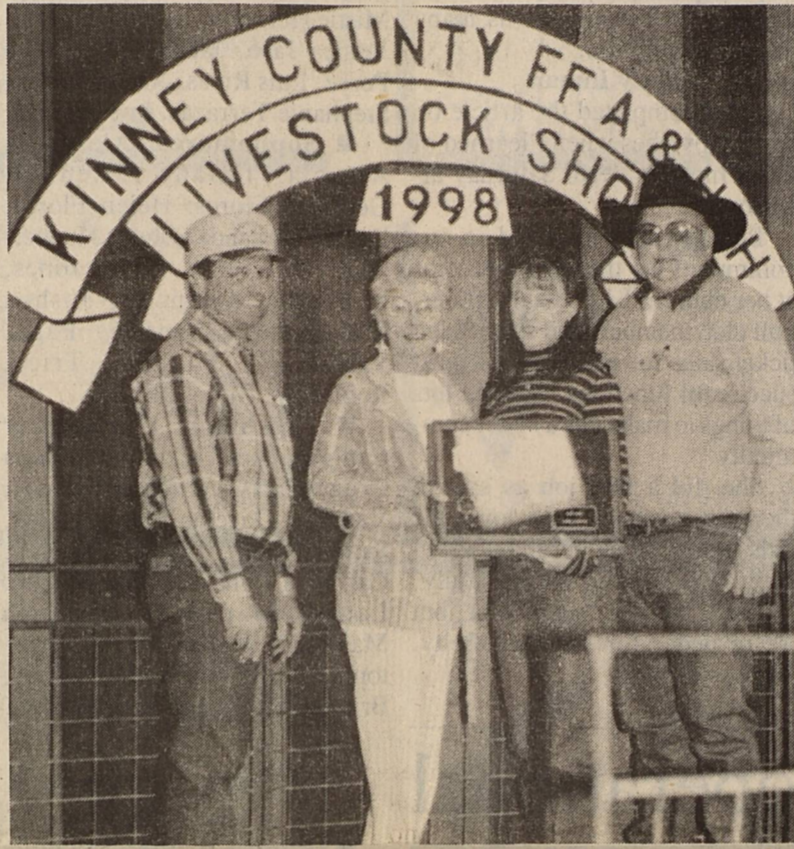
Visitation was Tuesday at the Brackettville Funeral Home.

Funeral Mass was celebrated on Wednesday at St. Mary Magdalene Church with Father Cashin officiating. Interment followed at the St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Cemetery. Full military honors were conducted by the San Felipe Del Rio Honor Guard.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Del Rio Funeral Home, dba Brackettville Funeral Home, 114 North Street.



J. Wayne Ballew, second from right, was awarded the Joey Key York Award. Ballew is shown with Extension Agent Robert Elledge (from left), Joe York Jr. and FFA Sponsor John Paul Schuster.



Laura Lee Ballew, second from right, was the recipient of the Silver Shears Award. She is pictured with Robert Elledge, Molly Ardrey and John Paul Schuster.



John Paul Schuster (from left) presents Carlos Gomez the Most Improved Feeder Award as Stan Conoly and Robert Elledge look on at the livestock show. Photos Special to The Brackett News

Ballew receives 1998 Joey Key York Award

Continued from Page 1

J. Wayne Ballew won the Joey Key York Award, which is given to the overall showman of the Kinney County Livestock Show. The selection of the recipient is made by an unknown, out-of-town judge. Ballew also had the reserve champion crossbred lamb.

Laura Lee Ballew won the Silver Shears Award, which is based on the three highest placing lambs in the Kinney County show. She had the grand champion finewool and crossbred lambs.

Beth Ballew won the showmanship award for market lambs. She had the reserve champion finewool lamb.

Carlos Gomez was the recipient of the Most Improved Feeder Award.

Patrick Rose had the grand champion ewe lamb and Sarah Rose won reserve champion honors. Dusty Rose won the showmanship award for ewe lambs.

Megan McWilliams showed the grand champion meat goat. She also won the meat goat showmanship award. Miles Braesicke had the reserve champion meat goat.

Tillman Davis had the grand champion angora kid and his brother, Robert, won reserve champion honors. Susannah Davis won the showmanship award for angora kids.

Michelle Melancon showed the grand champion rabbit doe and rabbit buck. She also won the showmanship award for the rabbit division.

Duquesa Hunt showed the reserve champion rabbit doe and Jerrit Meeks had the reserve champion rabbit buck.

Joey Key York Award

The following is a list of winners of the Joey Key York Award, presented at the Kinney County Livestock Show:

1972	Minot Pratt III
1973	Bill Ballew
1974	Candy Smallwood
1975	Kaye York
1976	Marcelino Valdez Jr.
1977	Mark A. Baxter
1978	Brenda Foust
1979	Joel J. Voss
1980	Doug McCarty
1981	Tana McCarty
1982	Seth A. Kaplan
1983	Lashawn Wardlaw
1984	Westley White
1985	Toby Frerich
1986	Tammy Frerich
1987	Kasey Lee Hall
1988	J.T. Wil Shahan III
1989	Jesus Aguirre
1990	Stephanie Ahrens
1991	Jennifer Shahan
1992	Kimberley Ahrens
1993	Justin Coates
1994	Charlotte Rose
1995	Susannah Davis
1996	Amber N. Davis
1997	Savanah Massingill
1998	J. Wayne Ballew

Meeks also had the grand champion meat pen, while Johnathan Martinez had the reserve champion meat pen.

Elledge said the 4-H Club's raffle raised \$1,340. Martin Curiel won the Remington rifle that was raffled.

Zack Davis Jr., the 4-H Club president, presented certificates of appreciation to Zack and Kayla Davis of Davis Hardware and Tony and Nancy Frerich of Kinney County Wool and Mohair for their efforts in helping sell the raffle tickets.

HEALTH

Over half of county's 1996 deaths resulted from cardiovascular disease

AUSTIN - Over half of the deaths in Kinney County in 1996 were from cardiovascular diseases, according to data released by the Texas Affiliate of the American Heart Association (AHA).

Of the 50 deaths in Kinney County in 1996, 26 (52 percent) were caused by cardiovascular diseases. In 1995, 13 of 28 deaths (46.4 percent) were from cardiovascular disease, as were 13 of 32 (40.6 percent) in 1994.

Cardiovascular disease remains the number one killer in Texas, claiming the lives of 55,500 people in 1996 (39.7 percent of the 139,678 Texas residents that died). That translates into two of every five deaths.

As a comparison, in the same year cancer was the state's second leading cause of death, claiming 31,959 lives.

Accidents accounted for 7,217 deaths and 2,061 people died of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection in 1996.

Nationally, statistics show that from 1985 to 1995 the number of deaths from cardiovascular disease has declined only 2.8 percent.

One reason for this small decline is that the total U.S. population, and particularly the population of middle-aged and older people, is increasing.

Another reason is that recent advances in medical treatment have allowed more people to survive previously fatal cardiovascular events, and now these people are dying of subsequent cardiovascular illnesses.

Nationally, statistics show that from 1985 to 1995 the number of deaths from cardiovascular disease has declined only 2.8 percent.

The mission of the AHA is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

To accomplish this, the association concentrates its efforts in four areas: education, community service programs, research and revenue generation.

Last year, the Texas Affiliate reached over four million people in Texas with interactive programs and awarded over \$7 million in research funding in Texas.

To reduce your risk of heart attack and stroke, the AHA recommends having your blood pressure checked regularly, not smoking, eating nutritious foods in moderate amounts, having regular medical checkups, and exercising.

A non-profit health organization funded by individual and corporate donations, the AHA Texas Affiliate is the state's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to reducing disability and death from heart and blood vessel diseases.

Editor's note: For more information about the American Heart Association, call 1-800-AHA-USA1.

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

Use your scissors here.

<b>\$7.95</b> Save \$2.00 Adult Cut \$9.95 <b>MasterCuts</b> Great Haircuts. Great Prices. Guaranteed.	<b>\$5.95</b> Save \$2.00 Kids Cut \$7.95 (12 years and under) <b>MasterCuts</b> Great Haircuts. Great Prices. Guaranteed.	<b>\$1.00 OFF</b> Any Product <b>MasterCuts</b> Great Haircuts. Great Prices. Guaranteed.
--	--	--

And we'll use ours here.

**MasterCuts family haircutters**  
 Great Haircuts. Great Prices. Guaranteed.  
 Plaza Del Sol Mall 775-1122

**BISD Cafeteria Menu**  
 Parents welcome to join their children at breakfast or lunch.  
 There are three choices for breakfast every day.  
 1. The printed menu.  
 2. Cereal, toast and juice.  
 3. Two toasts and juice.  
 Milk offered with every meal.

<b>Breakfast Menu</b> Friday, Jan. 30 Taquitos Picante Fruit or Juice	<b>Lunch Menu</b> Friday, Jan. 30 Pepperoni Pizza Garden Salad Mixed Fresh Fruit
<b>Monday, Feb. 2</b> Breakfast Pizza Fruit or Juice	<b>Monday, Feb. 2</b> Chili Con Carne with Beans Cheese Cup, Mexicali Corn Fruit, Cornbread
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 3</b> Scrambled Eggs Grilled Ham Toast and Jelly Fruit or Juice	<b>Tuesday, Feb. 3</b> Turkey ala King Buttered Noodles, Seasoned Peas Fruit, Fresh Baked Roll
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 4</b> Biscuits and Sausage Gravy Fruit or Juice	<b>Wednesday, Feb. 4</b> Chalupas with Beans and Cheese Spanish Rice, Fruit Lettuce and Tomato Salad
<b>Thursday, Feb. 5</b> Tiger Toast Fruit or Juice	<b>Thursday, Feb. 5</b> Hamburger, Burger Salad Oven Fries, Apple Sauce

**Eugenio Bricio, M.D.**  
 Cardiology  
 Board Certified in Internal Medicine  
 612 Bedell Ave. Suite E. Del Rio, Texas 78840  
 Tel: (830)-768-0267  
 Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
 Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Briefs ...

Rokovich accepts coaching position in Donna

Knights to host free throw contest today

The Knights of Columbus Council 8223 will host its annual free throw competition today at 6:30 at the high school gym.

The competition is open to boys and girls from 10 to 14 years old.

Realignment date set

The magic date has been set. The University Interscholastic League will release reclassification and realignment information for the 1998-99 and 1999-2000 school years on Monday.

Tigers fair well in first golf tourney

SPRING BRANCH, Texas — The Tigers' golf team beat four Class 5A teams and tied two more as they finished 16th overall Friday at the San Antonio Lee Invitational at Rebecca Creek Golf Club.

Senior Chad Neuman led the Brackett golfers with an 81, and freshman Jarrett Harrison posted an 82.

Nat Terrazas shot a 97, Aaron Taylor posted a 101, and Brian Collier had a 121.

The Tigers will compete in the Del Rio Invitational on Feb 6-7. The Tigerettes open their season at Del Rio on Feb. 10.

Lady Eagles edge J.V.

EAGLE PASS — The Eagle Pass Lady Eagles edged the Brackett Tigerettes 32-31 Tuesday in junior varsity basketball action.

Erika Garcia scored six points to lead the Tigerettes (5-11), while Jamie Bader, Tiffany Eckenrod and Queta Garza all had five.

Marty Payne scored four points, and April Crumley, Jessica DeLeon and Gracie Terrazas each had two apiece.

Last Friday, Brackett fell to Dilley 25-22.

Bader had eight points in the contest, Crumley and Garza each scored four, and Eckenrod, Payne and Terrazas all had two.

The Tigerettes resume action tomorrow as they host Center Point at 5 p.m.

J.V. Tigers fall short

The Tigers' junior varsity dropped a 38-27 decision to the Natalia Mustangs Tuesday.

Jacob Mann was the leading scorer for Brackett (6-8). He finished with seven points.

Daniel Hernandez scored six, Jarrett Harrison had five, Damion Toms chipped in four, Steven Hagler had three, and Jacob Hughes added two.

The Tigers took third place at the Rocksprings tourney Saturday after topping Sabinal, 52-40.

Hughes scored 14 points to pace the J.V. and Mann scored 11.

Hagler finished with nine points, Hernandez scored seven, Toms had six, Tony Rubio scored four, and Harrison had one.

Brackett opened the tourney with a 56-47 loss to Junction.

Toms led the way with 12 points, and Hernandez and Mann both scored 10.

Hughes pitched in eight points, Hagler scored three, Brian Collier had two, and Harrison and Tony Rubio added one apiece.

The Tigers will host Comfort in a 5:00 contest on Tuesday.

Cubs, Cubettes split doubleheader

Brackett split a doubleheader with Sacred Heart on Monday in junior high basketball action.

Susannah Davis scored nine points to lead the Cubettes to a 20-16 victory.

Duquesa Hunt and Migdalia Gonzalez both scored six points, Christina Flores had two, and Anna Talamantes added one.

Sacred Heart posted a 52-38 win over the Cubs, who evened their season record at 4-4.

Juan Flores led Brackett with 13 points, while Tony Molinar scored 11 and Juan Rivas had 11.

David Campos and Carlos Gomez added two points apiece. The seventh grade teams will travel to Del Rio today to face Sacred Heart.

All four junior high teams will compete in the Rocksprings tourney on Saturday.

Roy Rokovich has resigned as Brackett's athletic director to take a coaching position in Donna, the only school in the valley to win a state championship. He will serve as the offensive coordinator at the Class 5A school.

Rokovich said his decision to leave Brackettville came with "mixed emotions."

"It was a hard decision to go somewhere else and leave a community that has been tremendously supportive of our program and our kids," he said. "I will miss Brackettville very much."

At Donna, Rokovich will be reunited with head coach Dave Evans. Rokovich was Evans' assistant head coach in Del Rio for five years. In 1993, the duo helped the Rams to a perfect 10-0 season.

"Dave and I have been friends for a long time," Rokovich said. "We've always had a great working relationship together. I'm excited to go to Donna and work with him again. It's going to be a great opportunity."

Evans is in his first year as Donna's athletic director and head football coach. He

guided the Redskins to a 4-6 record, and the team was one win away from making the playoffs.

Donna was denied a post-season berth after losing a 28-27 decision to Harlingen South in the closing minutes of the regular season finale.

"I'm very ecstatic about the situation," Evans said. "I'm just real tickled to get back into a working situation with Coach Rok. I think he's an outstanding coach. It's definitely Brackett's loss and our gain."

Evans is optimistic about next season, adding that the Redskins will be ready to "Rok and roll."

"We knew we were rolling, we just needed some Rok to go with it," he said.

Rokovich has served as Brackett's athletic director for three years.

"I think Roy Rokovich is a fine man and has been a very positive force in our community and in our schools," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said.

"I have regrets that he's leaving. He is a good coach and a good man. He has al-

ways tried to do the right thing, and sometimes it's not the most popular thing, but it's the right thing."

Tomorrow is Rokovich's last day at Brackett. He will leave for Donna this weekend and begin preparing for spring workouts.

"I've enjoyed the last three years," Rokovich said. "I love the community and I love the kids. I have tremendous respect for Mr. Stephenson for what he is doing in Brackettville."

"I will dearly miss some great friends that I have made here. I'll take great memories with me away from Brackettville. I want to thank the community and the parents for believing in me."

Rokovich said he is pleased with the things that the athletic department has accomplished during his tenure.

"I feel that we have been able to accomplish a lot in three years," he said.

"There are some great changes occurring. There were some great accomplishments made in working towards a great program.

I commend the school board, principals and coaches that have worked in this program."

Assistant Athletic Director Gregg Nowlin will take over Rokovich's duties until a new athletic director is hired.

"Gregg has the experience to deal with the A.D.'s duties," Stephenson said.

The school district will have a selection committee that will oversee the hiring of the new athletic director.

"The selection committee, I hope, will be small," Stephenson said. "I would like to be able to visit the top two or three applicant's home schools to look personally and see what has gone on there and visit with the folks on-sight."

"It's our hope and our goal to have someone on staff in the early part of the spring, as soon as we can make sure that we've advertised the position widely and that we have some quality applicants."

Stephenson said some coaches may be reassigned in order to accommodate the spring sports.

Tigerettes keep on rolling in district

The Tigerettes jumped out to 14-4 lead and never looked back Tuesday as Brackett topped the Natalia Lady Mustangs 59-35 in District 30-2A basketball action.

After a strong first quarter, Brackett outscored Natalia 18-4 in the second period to take a commanding 32-8 lead at halftime.

Jennifer Ashabranner poured in 14 points, including a pair of treys, to pace the Tigerettes, who improve to 14-7 overall.

In other District 30-2A games on Tuesday, Comfort routed Center Point, 51-34, and Dilley topped Charlotte, 37-27.

Comfort is leading the league with a 5-0 record and Brackett is in second place at 4-1. Center Point, Charlotte and Dilley are tied for third with 2-3 conference marks and Natalia is 0-5.

The Tigerettes host Center Point tomorrow night and Comfort on Tuesday. Tipoff for both games is set for 6:30.

Lindsey Brotherton and La Toya Wright both scored 10 points



Lindsey Brotherton (40) scored 10 points Tuesday as Brackett topped Natalia. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

for the Tigerettes in Tuesday's contest.

Stephanie Terrazas finished with nine points, Patty Lopez scored seven, Hilda Aguirre had four, Laura Lee Ballew and Samantha Payne scored two each, and Tricia Robinson made a free

throw.

Brackett sank nine three-pointers last Friday as they topped Dilley, 47-39, on the road.

Lopez and Ashabranner had three treys apiece. They finished with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

Ladies Golf Association plans Spring Fling tourney

The Ladies Golf Association planned the annual Spring Fling Invitational golf tournament, scheduled for Tuesday, March 31, at its monthly business meeting last week.

Tournament Chairman Gwen Ladd presented a format which would allow members and guests to bring their own teams, rather than having teams formed by blind draw. She said it was done to encourage more participation.

The executive committee decided the total handicap of each four-person team needed to total a minimum of 95. By doing this the high handicap player would be in more demand.

**Ladies 18 Hole League:** Carol Benfield and Joy Hinkleman tied for first place in a game of low gross. Both finished with scores of 84. Betty Mathison took top hon-

Golf Roundup

ors in the low net competition with a 58, and Ruth Spencer finished second with a 61.

Chip-ins were won by Barbara Miller, Camille Niel, Arlys Simpson, and Joyce Williamson.

Niel and Sheri White both won three skins, and Pat Nelson and Kay Roberts had one apiece.

**Nine Hole League:** Jeanette Hinton, Mary Hermanson, Betty Schlatterer, and Mary Butler combined for a 43 to take top honors in a game of team low ball.

Peg Woolston, Jean Land and LaVon McLane took second place honors with a 44.

Schlatterer and Ambler tied for low putts. Each finished with 16 putts.

Woelke's tree-pointer lifts Tigers to OT victory over Mustangs

Brent Woelke nailed a three-pointer with 11 seconds left in overtime Tuesday as Brackett edged the Natalia Mustangs 54-52 for the Tigers' first district basketball win.

Woelke hit three treys in the contest for nine points. The latter put Brackett up 53-52. Luis Guajardo iced the win with a free throw with three ticks remaining on the clock in OT.

Guajardo and Rene Luna both

scored 13 points to pace the Tigers, who improve to 8-13 on the season.

In other District 30-2A games on Tuesday, Comfort blew out Center Point, 51-34, and Dilley edged Charlotte, 60-56.

Comfort and Dilley are leading the conference race with 3-0 marks, while Brackett, Charlotte and Natalia are tied for third with 1-2 records. Center Point is 0-3.

The Mustangs went up by four

points over Brackett at the 1:56 mark in OT when Eric Perez hit a three-pointer to put Natalia up 51-47.

Coty Williams grabbed a steal and scored a lay-up, and then Guajardo sank a free throw as the Tigers pulled within one at 51-50 with 1:11 remaining.

Brackett was forced to foul and Perez made the first of two free throws with 21 seconds left for a two-point advantage. Guajardo

grabbed the rebound on the second free throw and dished the ball to Woelke, who then hit the go-ahead trey.

David Stamenov scored a game-high 16 points to lead the Mustangs.

Natalia had a three point lead with 20 seconds left in regulation, but Williams nailed a three off the glass at the buzzer to tie up the contest at 46-all.

Coty and Demitrus Williams

and Schiller Hill all had five points, and Caleb Crumley and Phillip Juarez added two apiece.

The Mustangs built a six point lead in the fourth period, but the Tigers rallied for a 10-4 spurt to tie the game at 41-41 on Luna's three-pointer with 2:34 remaining.

Brackett has two games remaining in a three game homestand. The Tigers host Center Point tomorrow and Comfort Tuesday. Both games begin at 8.

OUTDOORS

Big Buck Whitetail Contest has record year

By Kathryn Letsinger  
Contributing Writer

This year's Kinney County Chamber of Commerce Big Whitetail Buck Contest was another one for the record books -- 20 entries were registered at Chuy's and Freddie's Deer Processing.

Every single entry was exceptional. No wonder Kinney County stands out among deer hunters as one of the best counties in Texas.

Many comments were received on the possibility of having separate north-side and south-side contests next year.

What do you think? If you have an opinion on that subject, call the Chamber phone (563-2466) and leave a message.

The Chamber measures the circumference of the base on the main beams, the length of the main beams, the number of tines over a half-inch long, and the width of the inside spread to compile a score to be used in the judging of our Big Whitetail Buck Contest.

All entries must be taken in Kinney County and be registered at Chuy's or Freddie's Deer Processing plants.

This year's first place winner was Thomas Smith of Humble, Texas. He bagged his hefty deer on the North Pinto Ranch and it



J.G. GONZALEZ

was registered with Chuy Munoz. Smith's deer had 12 points and an inside width of 21 inches. The length of his deer's main beams and its impressive inside width won the contest for him.

He received a \$300 cash pot, put together by local businesses. Special thanks to the offices of Sterling Evans, Steve Price of M&S Price Company, Buster Jamail, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Second place went to J.G. Gonzalez of Houston. His deer was shot at the Patrucha Ranch and was also registered with Munoz.

Gonzalez' entry had 16 points and an inside spread of 19 inches. He won a \$150 cash pot donated by Chuy's Deer Processing,

Burger and Shake, J.D. Cox, River Bend Ranch, David Mann, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Third place went to a local man, Mert Miller, with a deer from the Eagle Nest Ranch.

Miller's deer had 17 tines, the most tines in the contest, and an inside spread of 16 3/4 inches.

He was given a knife, compliments of Davis Hardware, for third place and a \$25 cash pot from the Chamber of Commerce.

All contestants were charged a \$5 entry fee and all monies were paid back out in prize money.

Many thanks for the support given from our local businesses. The contest would not be possible without your contributions!

The Chamber of Commerce purchased a barbecue pit to raffle during the season. Daniel Foreman was the lucky winner drawn on Jan. 19!

Congratulations to the winners of the Buck Contest and the raffle. Social thanks to all the other entrants in the contests for their participation. See you next year!

The winner of the Chamber's local merchant only Christmas gift certificates were Wayne Meyer and Linda McClure.

Cheyenne Smith won the gift certificate from C.T.'s Bike Shop donated by individual directors on the Chamber of Commerce Board.



Mert Miller took third place in the big buck contest with a deer from the Eagle Nest Ranch. Photos Special to The Brackett News

**\$6 PER WEEK - 3 MONTH MINIMUM**

**(830) 563-2852**

**LAWN MAINTENANCE**

Experienced - Professional  
Free Estimates  
Let us solve your Lawn & Garden problems  
**Sunshine Garden Center**  
207 E. Spring Street  
563-2610  
Archie and Jill Woodson

**Value Housing Inc.**

Del Rio's Leader in  
Manufactured Housing  
We take trade ins!  
Hwy 90E  
Del Rio L.A.F.B.  
Value Housing  
Financing Available  
Hwy 90 E. Del Rio, TX,  
Toll Free 1-888-611-7711.  
low monthly payments  
OUR PRIORITY IS SERVICE AFTER THE SALE!

**LEONA RANCH**

OWN PART OF THE  
TEXAS HILL COUNTRY  
\$695.00 down,  
\$125.00 per mo.  
(20 AC Tract)  
P.O. Box 1039  
Brackettville, TX 78832  
507 S. Ann  
(830) 563-2961

**Bruce Drilling and Services**  
Water Wells Water Systems  
Pumps • Tanks • Windmills  
Installation • Maintenance • Repair  
Complete sales, service, renovations and  
upgrades of your residential system or stock  
well. Get the most for your money. Call Gordon  
today and have your system fine-tuned.  
Texas Water Well Lic. # 2444WPKL  
830-563-9916

**Kinney County Wool & Mohair**  
The Rancher's Shopping Center  
Since 1962 - Shaker Feed Store  
\*Livestock Feed \* Game Feed \*  
\* Hardware \* Lumber \*  
Check And Compare Our Competitive Prices  
Brackettville, TX  
830-563-2471  
Mon.-Fri.  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sat. 8 a.m.-12 Noon  
P.O. Box 1010  
W. Spring St.

**PAT FRITZ INSURANCE** • HOME  
• MOBILE HOME  
• AUTO  
BOAT • MOTORCYCLE  
LIFE & HEALTH INSURANCE  
YOUR AUTHORIZED AGENT  
HOCHHEIM PRAIRIE  
4703 Hwy 90 W Del Rio 774-6760  
Fax Line 774-6711

**CASEY SALES & SERVICE**  
AIR CONDITIONING  
AND PLUMBING SERVICE  
TACL012486C  
David L. Casey 830-278-6555  
830-563-2613 Pager 1-800-725-2976

**HOMWORKS**  
REMODELING, ROOFING & REPAIRS  
Room Additions • Sheet Metal • Roofing  
Decks • Fences • Carports • Floor Tile  
SheetRock • Texture • Painting • Siding  
Free Estimates (830) 563-3148

**Payless Beverages**  
Liquor / Beer / Wine / Premium Cigars  
Wholesale - Retail  
Grover & Martha Lemarr  
Owners  
2010 Ave. F  
Del Rio, TX 78840  
PH: (830) 774-4660

**Old Arbor Saloon Restaurant**  
Family Owned and Operated  
112 North Street, Brackettville  
For Reservations (830) 563-3460  
Private Parties & Catering  
Services Available!

CALL WOODY 563-9594 LP GAS  
BUTANE PROPANE  
SALES SERVICE MOTOR FUEL TANK RENTALS BOTTLE FILLING HOME DELIVERIES  
"A LOCAL COMPANY" 1-800-543-2630  
**ROADRUNNER ENERGY**

**ATTENTION ALL BINGO PLAYERS..**  
The Del Rio Elks would like to invite everyone to come  
out, enjoy a pleasant afternoon, and win Big Bucks  
playing Bingo. Bingo is played each Saturday starting at  
2:00 P.M. at the Lodge, Hwy. 90 E, San Felipe Spring,  
RD. and is open to the public.  
For more information, call 775-2133, after 4:00 P.M. Tues. - Sun..  
License #1-74-060584

**AAA CONSTRUCTION**  
Home Repairs & Remodeling  
• Painting • Hardwood Floors  
• Floor Tiles • Cabinets  
• Roofing • Room additions  
Free Estimates  
Pete Perez 563-9128  
Brackettville

**Davis Hardware & Ranch Supply**  
Originally a part of Petersen & Co. Since 1876  
101 East Spring Street P.O. Box 976  
Brackettville, TX 78832  
General Hardware Stock Medicines  
Pipes & Fencing Ranch Supplies  
Paint Ammunition  
Phone 830-563-2528

**Calderton Electronics**  
TV/VCR Service  
Home Theater  
Custom Car Stereo  
Window Tint  
610 Margarita  
PH. (830) 775-5359 Del Rio, TX

Repair Inspection Sticker  
Parts - Towing - Vehicle Storage  
**SOUTHWEST SERVICE Co.**  
830-563-9256  
Visa, Discover, HWY 90E / P.O. Box 1380  
Mastercard Brackettville, TX 78832

**THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING**



**MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT**



**Super Crossword**

**ACROSS**  
1 Investigative  
5 Sticky  
10 Fast mover  
15 Horner's fruit  
19 Ferris-wheel part  
20 Bruiser  
21 Lose one's tall?  
22 Superior  
23 Lost Judy  
27 Wrap up  
28 "Love Her" ('64 tune)  
29 Green land  
30 A la King?  
31 Lady Bird's lass  
32 Distort  
34 Mil. citation  
36 Charlot terminus  
37 Make reference (to)  
40 A little night music?  
41 Apollo's Isle  
43 Decorative stamp  
44 Byzantine art form  
45 Stubbs or Strauss  
46 Part of QED  
50 Lost Eddie Murphy film?  
55 Golden Rule word  
56 Big business expense  
57 "Evita" name  
58 Like 20 Across  
59 Impressed  
60 "Johnny B. Goode"  
61 Alley cat?  
62 Steamy sites  
65 Burst into flames  
66 Pageant figure  
67 Playground toy  
68 Off-the-wall  
69 "Breck-enridge"  
70 Presences  
71 Stick one's neck out  
72 Caustic  
76 "... us - is given"  
77 Lost Cary Grant film?  
81 Durban dough  
82 Fleeca  
83 Have a propensity  
84 Mighty mite  
85 It gets squirreled away  
87 Thread bearer  
89 The man from Gdansk  
91 Youth org.  
94 Soap  
95 Comic Myron  
96 Scads  
97 Tillstrom  
98 Storm or Sayers  
100 Bud of "Harold and Maude"  
101 Decide on, with "or"  
104 Lost Don Ameche film?  
110 Homer's field  
111 Turn of phrase  
112 Pound the podium  
113 Sty cry  
114 Paradoxical philosopher  
115 Off the plate  
116 Infernal guy  
117 Make too much of  
**DOWN**  
1 June, but not July  
2 The yoke's on them  
3 "Citizen Kane" prop  
4 Even so  
5 From there  
6 Swiss miss?  
7 Hawks' home  
8 "A Passage to India" subject  
9 Vane dir.  
10 Enhance  
11 On the ball  
12 Banish bacteria  
13 Wynn and Sullivan  
14 "Speed-wagon"  
15 Wear out the carpet  
16 Chateau valley  
17 Remove an ascot  
18 Lawless  
19 Lanky  
24 Actress Adams  
25 Cold feet  
26 Megalomaniacal captain  
31 French opera composer  
32 Social climber  
33 Anderson of "Nurses"  
34 English county  
35 Lingerie item  
37 No Einstein  
38 Arrive at a conclusion?  
39 Actress Turner  
40 Nag-ative one?  
41 Sitting duck?  
42 Fowl sound  
44 Tropical spots  
45 "M" man  
47 "I give up!"  
48 Tryon novel, with "The"  
49 It's in a jamb  
51 Seventh planet  
52 Herbert Hoover, for one  
53 Head of the House  
54 Designer: Ellis Peat's place  
58 Chardonnay color  
61 House of Lords member  
62 "The March King"  
63 Prudhomme's protector  
64 Kampala's country  
65 Brandy bottle  
66 English Romantic  
67 Talk-show pioneer  
68 Refrigerant  
69 Tough element  
71 Junior's job  
73 Lasagna land  
74 Pick a pol  
75 Desire defied  
77 Hector's home  
78 Lotion additive  
79 Light material  
80 Singer Sumac  
86 "The People's Choice" basket  
87 Grave  
88 "That was a close one!"  
89 "Watership Down" home  
90 Opposed to  
91 Morticia's man  
92 Stowe sight  
93 Crazy as  
95 Rapid runner?  
96 Saw  
98 Not many words  
99 Pluck  
100 Learn last?  
101 Columbus' locale  
102 Shut up  
103 Ankle-biter  
105 Complete  
106 Author  
107 Place for two peas  
108 Mine find  
109 Fare for a fry

**MAGIC MAZE**

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

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

- |       |             |          |          |
|-------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Ayers | Hard        | Moon     | Sham     |
| Bed   | Igneous     | Plutonic | Sheet    |
| Flat  | Metamorphic | Plymouth | Volcanic |
| Folk  | Molten      | Punk     |          |



**HOCUS-FOCUS**  
FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.  
4. Collar is different. 5. Arm is moved. 6. Window is smaller.  
Differences: 1. Fence is shorter. 2. Scarf is shorter. 3. Cap is different.

**Your Horoscope by Natasha**

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) It's a great week for visiting with friends. Though you're in top form in presenting your ideas, some you deal with may be evasive or guarded in their opinions.  
**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You'll want time for some private concerns. In fact, time by yourself leads to insightful thinking. It's a good time to shop, but you may be a tad critical over the weekend.  
**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) There's a decided accent on leisure interests. You may take up a new hobby; others will meet with a new romance. Guard against careless spending over the weekend.  
**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) The early part of the week will bring welcome career developments, but later, you may run into a few snags. Details need special tending. Accent family life this weekend.  
**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Though it's a great week for couples to go out somewhere together, you could spoil things. You're too fixed in your way of thinking and perhaps overly critical of others.  
**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) It's a good time to meet with bankers and deal with residential concerns. Work interests should also go well. Try to avoid frivolous spending over the weekend.  
**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) It's a good week to meet with a child's teachers. Partners work well as a team, but at work, you may get bogged down with details. Don't dally over inconsequential.  
**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Things will progress nicely for you in business this week.



but a partner or relative may feel you're not paying them enough attention. Try to save time this weekend for close ties.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) You and a partner think alike this week. However, mixed trends affect your social picture this weekend. A minor difference may arise with a friend or you meet with envy.  
**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Research about investment matters leads to good insights this week. Behind-the-scenes moves are favored in business, but guard against flippancy speech this weekend.  
**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A new cultural interest may intrigue you this week. Treat higher-ups with the proper respect. Social life is fun, but be sure to meet a partner halfway this weekend.  
**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) An early start this week puts you ahead of the competition. Be alert for new opportunities. You shouldn't discuss your financial affairs with a friend who talks too much.  
© 1998 King Features Synd., Inc.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Jan. 29	Judith Adams	Jan. 31	Don Sims
Jan. 29	Valerie Davis	Jan. 31	Cherrise Ward
Jan. 29	Bill Tom Ferguson	Feb. 2	Baltazar Espinosa
Jan. 29	Marge Love	Feb. 3	Margaret Lenz
Jan. 29	Preston Taylor	Feb. 3	Oscar Sierra III
Jan. 31	Lisa Gass	Feb. 4	Julie Ann Castillo
Jan. 31	Tully Shahan	Feb. 4	Ester Lamborn
Feb. 4	Dorothy Roberts		

# Collins discusses benefits of prearranged funerals

By Frances McMaster  
Contributing Writer

Frances Ortiz Collins discussed

the services offered by the Del Rio and Brackettville Funeral Homes at last Thursday's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting.



President John Ford, center, welcomes Frances Ortiz Collins, left, director of the Del Rio Funeral Home, and Jan Saunders, representing the Brackettville Funeral Home, to last week's Rotary Club meeting. Photo by Eric McMaster

Collins works for the funeral home in Del Rio and has been a licensed embalmer for 14 years. With her was Jan Saunders, representing the Brackettville Funeral Home.

Collins said that prearranged funerals are featured by funeral homes today as the wisest selection a family can make. Although the subject is one people avoid, everyone has to eventually deal with the death of a loved one.

Planning funerals ahead of time saves the family from having to make important decisions at a time of crisis. This prevents this burden from being left to others.

The decision about what type of service and the expense involved needs to be made with a cool head. When a loved one has just died, it's easy to make more extravagant choices than are necessary. Since costs are always increasing, prearrangement most likely will save money.

Different types of services are popular in different parts of the

country. People in Texas usually choose a traditional service while in New York and California cremation is preferred. Both of these are offered by the funeral homes in this area.

The average funeral service costs \$4,800. This can be higher if a more expensive casket is chosen.

The usual plan is to have visitation at the funeral home ahead of the service, which may be performed in a church or in the parlor of the funeral home. Variations include visitation or none at all and only a grave-side ceremony, or none at all.

When cremation is used, the body can go directly to the funeral parlor with no visitation or service.

A memorial service may be held at the funeral parlor or church. Rental caskets are available for services at the church or funeral home. There may be no casket or ashes present.

The important thing is that some kind of service provides closure for family and friends. Time and experience is given to absorb the fact that this person no longer is living.

In the past, someone could donate their body to a medical school. This has evidently become so popular that the bodies were outnumbering the medical students' needs.

On Jan. 1 of this year, the University of Texas Medical School has adopted strict guidelines; 150 applications are issued and no more. The body cannot have died from a communicable disease or have been arthritic.

The cost of caskets vary from \$995 to several thousand dollars. One service the funeral home provides is an education in regard to how caskets are made and why they are priced as they are.

In small towns, the selection is often very limited. The homes are required, however, to carry at least five in stock.

Families in Brackettville are encouraged to go to Del Rio to make their selection since many more are available there.

To those who ask to be buried in a pine box, Collins said they have them in stock. The price, however, is \$2,995.

Collins also said that those in Brackettville are fortunate to be in a small town versus a city. There is no charge for the police escort for the procession to the cemetery. There is no charge to open and close the grave site, and the cost of space is minimal.

In Del Rio, it is \$450 for space, \$250 to open and close the burial site, and \$100 for the police escort.

After the discussion, Rev. Joe Townsend said that he has handled many funerals and Collins was the most helpful director he had ever seen.

Collins and her husband, Pat, have two children. She is a Rotarian and is active in the Del Rio club.

## But, I could be wrong!

By: Chuck Hall



## Who's been feeling down?

Somebody asked me the other day why I was so down on myself. (Did I steal your job?) I really didn't think that I was.

I may poke fun at myself, and anyone else within range of my keyboard. (Wow! That was cute. I liked that phrase!)

If anyone seriously thinks I don't like myself, just come by and we'll sit and visit. I promise you that before you leave, you'll be convinced.

I don't write things to dampen your spirits. I write in hopes of lifting you higher! So lighten up! Live a little.

If you let my poor part of this world depress you, how in the world do you cope with the IRS? And if this column is a downer, then don't read it. Don't even buy a paper. (I can say that because

It really is better to light one candle than curse the darkness. And don't cuss the matches when the candle won't light either.

And if you think I need to be put down, then take your best shot. And give everyone else a break. But, I could be wrong.

Editor's note: Wes read this one!

## Briefs ...

### Duplicate Bridge Club meets at Fort Clark

The Duplicate Bridge Club met last Tuesday in the Gorgas Room at Fort Clark Springs and played, using the Mitchell movement, with nine and a half tables playing.

Fred and Nita Clayton were the winners on the north-south side. Ben and Rosetta Pingnot took second place honors, and Betty and Ken TeGrotenhuis finished third.

Winners on the east-west were Mona Miller and Dena Scott. Mary Edgar and Jerry O'Brien were second, and third place went to Choppy and Joyce Ambler.

### County library accepting pattern donations

The Kinney County Library is now accepting pattern donations to add to our collection.

"We will accept patterns of any kind," Kinney County Librarian Sara Terrazas said. "Costumes, crafts, home decor, or clothing will be most welcome."

### Sorority to host Valentine social on Feb. 13

Beta Epsilon Omicron finalized plans for the sorority's Feb 13 Valentine social when the group met Monday at the Fort Clark Adult Center.

The Valentine social will begin at 6 p.m. at the Los Moras Inn. The cost is \$10. All members are invited. Help is needed with the decorations, which will be put up at 1 p.m. on Feb. 13.

Suggestions were made for secret sister exchange to be theme charms and that all members give the Valentine Sweetheart a gift in the shape of a heart. A vote was taken by secret ballot for the chapter sweetheart.

Members discussed changing the day and time for meetings, but no change was entered. Minutes were read and approved and the treasurer's report was given by Marla Madrid. Beta reader was Barbara Brisette.

The Service Committee, represented by Barbara Miller, discussed the Bosom Buddy project and encouraged everyone to send in their forms.

Invitations for the senior tea were shown to all. The cultural program was given by Opal Groce, which was an autobiography including many interesting pictures. The closing ritual was led by Dee Curry.

Francis Henry French was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on September 27, 1857. Deeply impressed from his youth by the stirring deeds and stories told by veterans of the Civil War, he realized his ambition for a military career by entering the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, where he graduated 12th from the Class of 1879. He was assigned as 2nd Lt. of "E" Company 19th Infantry and came West. Following service at Fort Garland, Colorado Territory and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the regiment moved to Fort Brown at Brownsville, Texas, where Lt. French was detailed as the Regimental Adjutant. In December of 1882, the 19th Infantry was posted to Fort Clark.

At Fort Clark, on January 1, 1883, Lt. French began diaries, which he faithfully maintained for the next 30 years.

### Friday, January 29, 1886

Went over to the hospital for usual treatment but Dr. Black was absent, some friends of his having arrived last night; and the treatment had to be postponed. Mail was very late. While waiting for it went down to the store and played billiards with Cunningham and Geary. Mail brought a letter and bundle of papers from home. After mail came sat for a while on Mrs. Feche's porch talking to Miss Folsom and Hewitt and then went to lunch. Received a note from Mrs. Gillmore for a card party at her house this evening and sent her an acceptance after lunch. Read a while in home papers and then took a walk over to town with Cunningham and a long walk by myself out on Del Rio road. This exercise is good for my digestion. Sat in Hewitt's a while, went to Capt. Vance's a minute and then read. There was no dress parade this evening. After dinner got Capt. Vance to take tattoo for me and then put on my swallow tail suit and escorted Mrs. Feche while Hewitt did the same for Miss Folsom, to Mrs. Gillmore's where we spent a pleasant evening at cards and talking with excellent refreshments.

### Saturday, January 30, 1886

Hewitt went hunting today very early starting before breakfast. Marched on guard this morning relieving Eckerson. After guard mounting went up to get mail which had only an O.B. for me. Paid Commissary bill in the morning and went to Q.M. office to ascertain bill there. After lunch started over to hospital for treatment but was told Black was not there. Brought money down and settled Q.M. bill and loaned Sgt. Phillip of "E" Co. \$20 until Monday evening when he is to return it. Did not care to make this loan, but he was so persistent that I could not well avoid it. Lemay called for the mess bill as he had to settle his commissary account and had not enough money. Returned to quarters for this. Have only the house bills and then everything is settled for the month. Read papers from home and a little in Draper today. Commented a letter to Lizzie Hoagland in afternoon and completed it in the evening. Hewitt was a little late for dinner but did not wait for him. Officer of the Day inspected about 12:30, after which I turned in.

### Sunday, January 31, 1886

Geary relieved me after inspec-

## FOOTSTEPS ECHO

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

Courtesy of his descendants

tion this morning. Mail brought nothing for me. After marching off guard went over to hospital and had usual treatment for my ears. Spent a short time in the office and then took a bath and commenced letter home. No news came today about the move. Wet the ground for the grass until dinner which was served at 4 o'clock as usual on Sundays. Prepared pay accounts and sent them to San Antonio for payment asking for a check for \$15 to send home. Attended chapel as usual, escorting Mrs. Hall home afterwards and then sat in Mrs. Feche's talking to Miss Folsom, and stopped a minute at Capt. Vance's. After tattoo called on Mrs. Lyster and then read and dozed until bed time.

February 1886: This is a month dominated by the distaff side of Fort Clark and without a program it is indeed difficult to keep track of the many ladies. Lt. French escorts, calls on, or just spends time with. One lady is described as "a Western girl and I have noticed that they are much freer than those from the East."

He learns not to lend money to soldiers and that his company will remain at Fort Clark and not march to Fort Ringgold as thought. The new stone kitchens behind barracks row are inspected.

Victorian social blunders result in an "unlucky evening," while uncharacteristic social behavior perplexes the usually temperate lieutenant.

The infantry changes its branch color from sky blue to white, calling for new trouser stripes and shoulder boards. Days are filled with court-martials, guard duty, hospital visits, and playing the organ at the post hall.

### Monday, February 1, 1886

One month of the new year gone. Wonder if we will be at Ringgold when this month ends. Mail brought a letter from home and one from Farber. Went to office after guard mounting but no news about the move was received. Then went to store with Geary to see if Friedlander had returned. He went down to San Antonio to see about the property but did not get back today as we expected. Played billiards there with Geary. After lunch went into Mrs. Hall's and arranged for a whist meeting this evening, and to company quarters to meet Capt. Vance and notify him. Then straightened out account, went over to town to pay subscription for paper and read the French lesson and a little in Draper. Dress parade occurred as usual. After dinner called on Black's friends, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley from St Louis and found them quite agreeable, Hewitt and Geary calling at the same time. Then went to Hall's where we spent the usual pleasant evening at whist.

### Tuesday, February 2, 1886

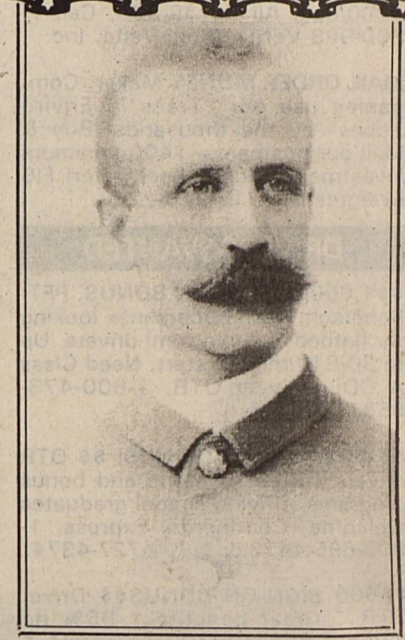
The mail had nothing for me this morning. Looked for my pay for January and was disappointed in not getting it. After guard mounting waited at the office un-

til the mail came and then went over to the hospital to have my ears treated. Went into Mrs. Feche's a moment and then to Mrs. Gillmore's to arrange to escort her to the promenade concert this evening. Looked over papers in Library. After lunch went down to store and learned from Mr. Friedlander that the deed transferring the land to Geary and me was already sent to Shunk for signature. Am to go down tomorrow to settle with Friedlander. Went up for Miss Folsom to escort her to Capt. Vance's to sing but could not get in at Mrs. Feche's. Then commenced a letter to Marie Gorgas. Capt. Vance being Officer of the Day, I did not attend the calls. In the evening escorted Mrs. Gillmore to the concert which came off this evening instead of tomorrow on account of Hammond who is to leave for Langtry tomorrow. There was a larger attendance than usual and the hop was very enjoyable. Read Draper after returning.

### Wednesday, February 3, 1886

Received pay for January this morning. Said good bye to Hammond after guard mounting, he leaving for Langtry to relieve Steele. This will probably be the last time we serve together for some time if "E" Co. is ordered to Ringgold. Tried a man at 10 o'clock at the guard house before the garrison court and then went down to the store to arrange with Mr. Friedlander about paying my

share for the land. Went to company quarters to notify two men who owe me to come up with the money and then waited some time in quarters for them. They did not come and finally I had to borrow more money from Geary. Am determined to never lend money to the men again. Then returned to the store paid part cash and gave note for \$400 12% int. three months time for remainder. Capt. Vance has promised me \$500 by the first of April as long as I want it with 10% interest. Shall be very glad to wipe out Friedlander's note. At breakfast Hewitt informed me that Jake Smith was dismissed. I don't know how he heard it but he seemed confident about the matter. Wrote up proceedings of court and then went for Miss Folsom to escort her to Capt. Vance's to sing. She was rather chilly at first on account of her misunderstanding about the engagement we made last night. But she soon recognized her error and then was quite pleasant. The engagement was first made for 11 o'clock and then changed to the afternoon. Mrs. Feche accompanied us and Capt. Hall came in soon. Capt. Vance had gone hunting. What a shame for Capt. Hall to carry on such an open flirtation with Mrs. Feche's.



Capt. Vance, Hewitt and I have noticed how much it hurts Mrs. Hall. Miss Folsom has a sweet soprano, and under good cultivation and sang several pieces, one of them Judith being especially pleasing to me. Promised to learn some duets with her. After the music went up to tell Hewitt of my engagement to dine at Mrs. Hammond's. Met Mr. Stanley, returning, who came up to play several games of cribbage. Had to write rapidly to get usual home letter written before five o'clock, the time set for the dinner. Sent a small check home to pay the hired girl and for a birthday present for Mother. Had a very pleasant family dinner at Mrs. Hammond's and enjoyed it thoroughly too, sitting a short time afterwards to chat. Then mailed letter, carried proceedings of court to Maj. Morris for signature and called on Col. and Mrs. Bliss until after eight o'clock when went to Mrs. Gillmore's for the Cercle Francais. Dr. Town was the only one there until after tattoo when Geary came in with me. Read a while and had quite a pleasant evening. Geary reads well. Missed retreat this evening and must explain to the General tomorrow.

### Thursday, February 4, 1886

Mail had nothing for me this morning. Explained absence to Gen. Smith who accepted the explanation as soon as it was made. He has always been very obliging to me in this respect. Had ears treated as usual and think the treatment is beneficial. Went into Capt. Vance's a short time. On the way to lunch had a chat with him about the Hall affair. He gave me a letter he received from Mrs. Gardener, to read in which she writes some pleasant things about myself. After lunch went over to hall to play on the organ awhile and then read the papers in the Library. Completed letter to Marie Gorgas and read Draper until retreat. In the evening called with Hewitt at Friedlander's and were entertained by Mrs. F. Miss Jacobs being absent. Came near missing tattoo and had to run. After the call we went in to see Vernou a while as he is sick. Read Draper afterwards. Hewitt was hunting this afternoon and late for dinner. While waiting for him sat on Mrs. Feche's porch talking to Miss Folsom.

# 1040ASAP.

The faster way of getting your income tax refund . . .  
Rapid Refund electronic filing from H&R Block.

You worked for it, why wait longer than you need to?  
You owe it to yourself to get the highest refund possible, as quick as possible. So ask about Rapid Refund at a convenient location near you.

**H&R BLOCK**

Del Rio  
2400 AVE F SUITE 18-B • 775-2284 • LA VILLITA

Mon-Fri 9-9  
Sat 9-5

