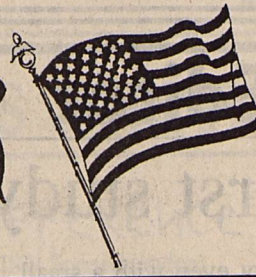


The Brackett News



Tigerettes clinch post-season berth
See story, Page 5

10th year, No. 1

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Briefs ...

DEA officials discover drugs, 38 illegal aliens

EAGLE PASS — A 31-year-old man from Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico, was arrested last Tuesday following the seizure of approximately 151 kilograms of marijuana and the discovery of 38 illegal aliens at a residence, located in the Rosita Valley subdivision.

Zenaïdo Vargas-Navarro is being held without bond at the Val Verde County Detention Facility on federal drug charges.

The illegal aliens were turned over to the U.S. Border Patrol.

The arrest and seizure resulted from an ongoing investigation initiated by the Drug Enforcement Agency Eagle Pass Multi-Agency Task Force.

BISD orders election

The Brackett School Board of Trustees ordered an election at its regular meeting Monday night.

Board members will be elected to fill three expiring three-year terms and one unexpired term with one year remaining at the May 2 election.

Interested candidates may pick up applications and file for a place on the ballot at the school district's Central Office, located at 400 Ann Street, beginning Monday. The last day to file is March 18.

Meteorologist to speak at Courthouse

National Weather Service Meteorologist Larry Eblen will speak at the Kinney County Courthouse on Thursday, Feb. 19, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Eblen will discuss thunderstorm structure and types, tornado and severe weather spotting, and tornado, flooding and lightning safety.

Descendants sought for 100th anniversary

Members of the Rocksprings First Baptist Church are continuing to plan for the church's 100th anniversary celebration on June 21.

Officials are still searching for descendants of J.C. Fields, B.S. Haliburton, B.H. Chandler, Dora Bartley and Mrs. John Bartley, Mrs. Roy Thompson, J.H. Jackson, T.W. Patrick, and W.T. Jefferies, along with former pastors and descendants.

Any descendant is encouraged to contact Helen Fred in care of Rocksprings First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 438, Rocksprings, Texas, 78880.



Brackett News Publisher Jewel Robinson, left, and Fort Clark Springs President Mona Miller, right, welcome James Heath to Kinney County. Heath took over as Fort Clark's general manager last week.

Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

City forced to use emergency water supply

By Sonja Shell
Staff Writer

The city of Brackettville has been forced to operate with its emergency water supply, causing low water pressure.

City Manager David Luna addressed the City Council with a report about the city's water supply at Tuesday night's meeting.

During the past three weeks, the motor on the major well has burned out three times.

Electrical engineers and pump repairmen have addressed the issue and the final decision was to pull the pump from the 300-foot well.

The submersible pump was pulled and it was determined that the motor was badly worn and would be too costly to repair, according to Luna.

The repair cost would be \$10,835, and the cost of a new pump is somewhere over \$9,000.

Luna said it was more cost effective to purchase a new pump, rather than repair the old one.

The city manager told officials he expected the new pump to be in place by the first of next week.

Luna added that there has been around-the-clock supervision of the standby unit and any drop in water pressure is due to the emergency situation.

Gomez resigns as councilman

By Sonja Shell
Staff Writer

Alderman Florentino Gomez tendered his resignation at Tuesday's Brackettville City Council meeting.

"Business obligations demand my being away from the city on numerous occasions, and I feel it is not fair to the city for me to be absent from my community responsibilities for extended periods of time," Gomez said in his letter of resignation.

Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry made his first police report to the council since he has come on board under an interlocal agreement between the county and the city.

Guidry said during his first 18 days he has given several verbal warnings due to excessive speed in the school zone. He has investigated the death of an illegal alien, been involved in two juvenile cases, and was first on the scene at a fatal accident on Highway 90 East.

He said there is not an alley or street that he has not cruised by

on a nightly basis since coming on board.

The city has built a partition in the new Brackettville City Annex building to create an office for Guidry.

Mayor Carmen Berlanga read an order for the annual city election. This year's election is on May 2, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at City Hall. The mayor and three aldermen are up for election.

An early voting resolution was approved. For one week prior to the May 2 election, persons unable to vote during the scheduled voting day will be able to come to City Hall and cast their ballots with the oversight of an appointed judge.

City workers have spent quite a bit of time repairing damage and building a pipe fence across one property line at the City Cemetery. The swim park and playground have been cleaned up. There will be more changes in the future to upgrade the area.

The fireworks ordinance was discussed and it was determined that the Council would take up the matter at next month's meeting.

Commissioners vote to raise ambulance rates

By Sonja Shell
Staff Writer

The Kinney County Commissioners agreed to raise the ambulance rates during Monday morning's regular meeting.

The base rate has jumped from \$85 to \$225. The mileage fee has increased from \$2 to \$3 per mile, and the non-transport fee has dropped from \$60 to \$50.

EMS Director Michelle Rosas requested additional help. She is in need of drivers for the ambulance.

Rosas reported that the new ambulance is up and running and that the old ambulance has been retired.

Peter Pohl said that the Kinney County Historical Society has new stairs at the museum and that they would be painted when the wood cures. They will repair the chimney in the future.

New DPS Trooper Tony Ashley was introduced to the court. Trooper Richard Slubar reported that arrests were up since Ashley has come on board.

Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess stated that the new deputy, Bobby Guidry, is doing well and that Ron Ring has been appointed reserve deputy.

School officials making progress with proposed academic building

J.J. Guidry
News Editor

Brackett school officials are progressing with plans for the district's new academic building.

David Trent of Del Rio will be in Brackettville today to survey the property, Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said at Monday night's School Board meeting.

"After the survey, we will be able to look at what will fit on the property," Stephenson said.

"There is a lot of concern with the huge pecan trees. We're going to spot those in the survey, and save all that can be saved," he added.

The building proposals, created by a committee appointed by the School Board, have been turned

over to the district's architect, Kerry Andrews of Hesson, Andrews and Sotomayor of San Antonio.

"He is reviewing the drawings," Stephenson said. "He will reconcile the site with the committee recommendations, and will meet with our staff to get additional information on room requirements."

INSIDE

Joe Townsend

When we simply scan recent presidents, we can see the benefit of refusing office to professional politicians.
Opinion/Page 2

Taylor Stephenson

We have had lots of interest in the athletic director and head football coach's position. We have had about 100 inquiries.
Community/Page 3

Chuck Hall

Valentine's Day brings thoughts of love to us all. I'm no exception. But it has a special significance to me.
Lifestyles/Page 4

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CAVALRY EXPERT

Erickson and his horse find way to big screen

By Sonja Shell
Staff Writer

Bob Erickson and his black horse Buddy, have charged up and down more hills than Teddy Roosevelt. As a matter of fact, Bob and Buddy were at San Juan Hill. That is, they were in the cavalry charge at San Juan Hill, portrayed in the movie, *Rough Riders*.

No doubt you saw Erickson and Buddy when they came to the rescue of Kevin Costner in *Dances With Wolves*. Maybe you saw them in *Buffalo Soldiers* or *Two For Texas*, and you will see them in Kevin Costner's futuristic new film, *The Postman*. During this past year, Erickson and Buddy have charged through eight movies. They have worked in Texas, Arizona, Utah, Montana and Oregon.

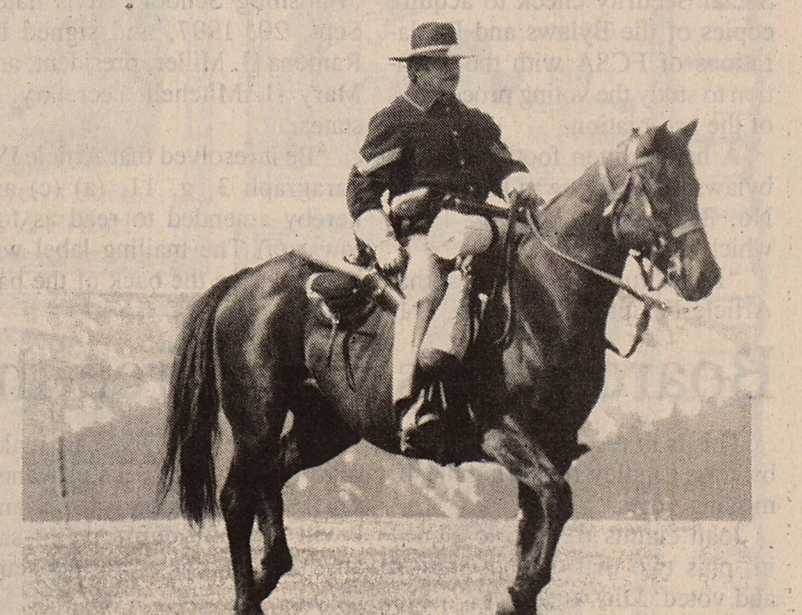
As you television western buffs know, a cowboy is only complete

Kinney County Closeup

when he has a trusty steed to see him through the rough times. But, as you cowboys know, usually, a horse is just a horse. Once in a while, though, a cowboy will find a horse that bonds with him. Buddy has turned out to be that special horse for Erickson. He bought Buddy as an unbroken, actually unbreakable, 5 year old. Buddy had been through the mill with trainers before Erickson bought him. The verdict was in. Buddy could never be broken. Buddy was considered a risk for any rider. Two weeks before Erickson bought Buddy, and after Buddy had just returned from another round with a different trainer, Buddy caused serious injury to a rider. Erickson bought Buddy anyway. To start with, he tried to break Buddy in the old

fashioned, time honored way. It wasn't long before he realized that it would never work. Erickson turned Buddy into the pasture and left him there for quite a while. The only contact was at feeding time. Erickson used that time to quietly approach the horse and yet made no demands on him. After a time, with gentle persuasion and a quiet manner, Erickson was able to saddle and then ride Buddy. Now, as Erickson will happily tell you, "Buddy has turned into a great war horse, and there have been years when the horse has made more money than I have."

The quiet, purposeful manner in which Erickson has trained his horse, is the same manner he uses to organize the men, uniforms (each period in history is different) and tack required to repre-



BOB ERICKSON and BUDDY

sent a particular time in history.

During his career, Erickson has become an expert tailor (he makes his own clothing), leather worker (he makes his own bridles, reins and other leather items of tack), silver smith (he makes his own silver and pewter buttons), and has mastered other skills that are needed to re-enact the life of a cavalry soldier representing America's frontier army.

Erickson's lovely wife Diane, is supportive and proud of her

husband's second career. But Erickson's talents don't end with the frontier scene. He and Diane built their beautiful permanent home in Montana, and they recently purchased a shell of a home on Fort Clark. They have completely gutted the building and are in the process of refinishing it.

The Erickson's would like to finish their new home as soon as possible. Bob and Buddy have an appointment to be on a battlefield in March.

Letters to the Editor

Accuser should first study mail fraud

I will accept congratulations! I have been "perez-ed." I join the favored group of good folk who are targets of attacks by a tiresome bully who apparently considers it his right to smear in print anyone with whom he disagrees. He seldom allows facts to interfere with his windy tirades.

Fact No. 1: I am a writer. I was a writer when employed as a postal inspector, reporting on my investigations of crimes and on audits.

I often help people express in writing materials they wish to record or to submit for various purposes. This is part of what writers do.

I do not, as alleged, alter facts or commit fraud. I would suggest that my accuser study more carefully the elements of mail fraud.

His poorly conceived threat of postal investigation is without substance, and a good indication that his self-designation as "the Wizard" is questionable.

I do not know exactly what kind of -izard he may be, but wizard

he is not. Not even with a small "w."

Fact No. 2: Whenever the mails are used in commission of a crime or misdemeanor, postal laws are violated. Such use begins when even one copy of a publication is placed in the mails.

To submit for printing any material that is libelous is to "skate on thin ice."

My dictionary defines libel as: "1. a. A false publication in writing, printing, or typewriting or in signs or pictures that maliciously damages a person's reputation. b. The act or instance of presenting such a statement to the public."

Utterances that may be made in private, whether justified or not, become a matter of legal concern when distributed for publication.

I have officially investigated false accusations of complicity in fraud, and have seen defamatory violations prosecuted successfully.

I have little hope that the -izard will cease his poison-pen campaign, but I suggest that he more carefully evaluate his accusations — and his targets.

Fact No. 3: I am sorry indeed when any mind becomes so filled with hatred that it must be vented in endless diatribes. This serves no purpose, except to identify the source as a seething cauldron of poisonous vengeance.

I resent slander directed at myself or others, but I also pity the slanderer because of the terrible pool of venom he has created, in which he condemns himself to dwell. That condition must really be hell on earth.

Lord Chesterfield suggested: "People hate those who make them feel their own inferiority."

Hatred has been variously defined as: self punishment (Hosea Ballou), darkness (Bible, John II, 11), madness of the heart (Lord Byron), a prolonged form of suicide (Douglas V. Steere), the anger of the weak (Alphonse Daudet), the coward's revenge for being intimidated (George Bernard Shaw), and that most hideous festering of the soul (anonymous).

What a terrible burden to carry. How sad.

Don Parks

Is criteria required for endorsements?

Last week, we received our letter of message and endorsement from the Good Government Group.

I was totally amazed that in the opening paragraph they stated, "A vote of 5-2 of the Board of Directors to terminate the G.M."

I realize that the Good Government Group doesn't have any influence with the Board of Directors, as written in The Brackett News.

Please tell me how they had information that was not privileged to anyone outside of the executive meetings of the Board of Directors?

I truly enjoyed the part of their letter that described their purpose: "to help non-resident members to make an informed decision when casting ballots."

You don't think this is another way of controlling the vote?

We were asked to vote for three more of their stooges who fully meet their criteria of demonstrated business experience. Lets take a

look at the resumes of their candidates.

One says he is now serving on the Board of Directors and has experience in road construction. Why hasn't this director used some of his expertise on the road construction on Fort Clark Springs' streets and roads?

Why is this gentleman using our airport facility to build a home project (airplane), our power and insurance? Is this abuse of our bylaws?

The other candidate says he has 17 years experience at Fort Clark Springs — doing what? Carrying mail? Civil defense director? Is this a joke or part of the criteria of the Good Government Group?

Now we have the third, a maintenance manager and janitor for a 21-story building. Is this a criteria for Fort Clark Springs Association? Do we have any 21-story buildings?

I am sure that all of these candidates mean well, and are honest and respectable folks. Have they

been led to slaughter by the Good Government Group?

Do you honestly think that these people can bring anything to the table? Do we need a highway contractor, or a mail carrier, or maybe a maintenance manager?

For some reason, I thought we needed candidates with something more than a warm body. We have a bunch of these already!

I am sure the Good Government Group and the Nominating Committee feels very proud of their selection, taking into consideration the stringent commitment to criteria of their candidates.

I hope, if elected, they serve the membership of this association to the best of their ability.

Please don't forget the two other candidates that are not endorsed by the Good Government Group. Please study their resumes and cast the vote for the candidate you feel best qualified to serve on your Board of Directors.

Robert Moore

What is the GGG really promoting?

The weekly barrages of accusations, pleas, denials, protestations, and lame excuses by members, the Board of Directors of Fort Clark Springs Association (FCSA) and the Good Government Group (GGG) in the letters to the editor of The Brackett News have whetted my curiosity.

I was especially intrigued by the efforts of Joan Lindley, president of GGG, to rationalize the "interesting" voting methods of the GGG.

Reluctantly, I spent \$10 of my Social Security check to acquire copies of the Bylaws and Declarations of FCSA with the intention to study the voting procedures of the association.

A handwritten footnote in the bylaws directed me to Resolusion No. 85-1, dated Jan. 19, 1985, which reads:

"Be it further resolved that Article IV, paragraph 3, g, (11)

is hereby amended to read as follows: (a) the mailing label will be placed on the back of the return envelope to the auditor to insure a secret ballot."

I was impressed by the fairness and the adherence to the principles of a democratic way of government of the then Board of Directors.

Then I discovered Amendment to the Bylaws No. 97-9, promulgated by the present Board of Directors, all graduates of the GGG "Finishing School." It is dated Sept. 20, 1997, and signed by Ramona H. Miller, president, and Mary H. Mitchell, secretary. It states:

"Be it resolved that Article IV, paragraph 3, g, 11, (a) (c) are hereby amended to read as follows: (a) The mailing label will be placed on the back of the ballot."

Whoa! What happened to the secrecy of the ballot? Is this government by intimidation? Will the fear of possible reprisals prevent some members from voting for a candidate "unacceptable" to the board or the GGG?

Last summer, I witnessed the shraude of a "secret ballot" by the Board of Directors via squares of paper shuffled across the conference table, past the highly polished brass nameplates of the members of the board, to certify an indubitably precluded decision.

This same board, operating mostly in secrecy, now denies the membership of FCSA the privilege of a secret ballot!

To paraphrase a famous utterance: "Damn the membership! Full speed ahead!"

Is this the good government the GGG pretends to promote? I shall keep on digging.

Rudy Brenk

Board needs more free-thinking people

This is in response to the letter by Joan Lindley regarding the 40 missing votes.

Joan claims 61 people signed in, plus two that did not sign in and voted. Did we all vote?

As Joan stated, you must vote for three or we will throw your votes out.

If my math is correct, 3 times 63 equals 189 total votes. Notice how Joan did not tell us her total count for all five candidates? Why?

Why must we vote for three? Possibly, some did not think there were three free-thinking candidates on the short list. I have my answer, what is yours?

To me, this has a little too much crimson color to it, definitely not the principles upon which this country was founded.

It is true that you can make rules to suit your needs or wants. This is a free country for such and I will defend your right to say anything, as long as it is not slanderous.

You state that the Good Government Group has members on the board and most, if not all, other committees on the fort.

Are these free-thinking people or just puppets that take orders from your group?

I do not understand why, with all your power, you have not reduced the board members to three

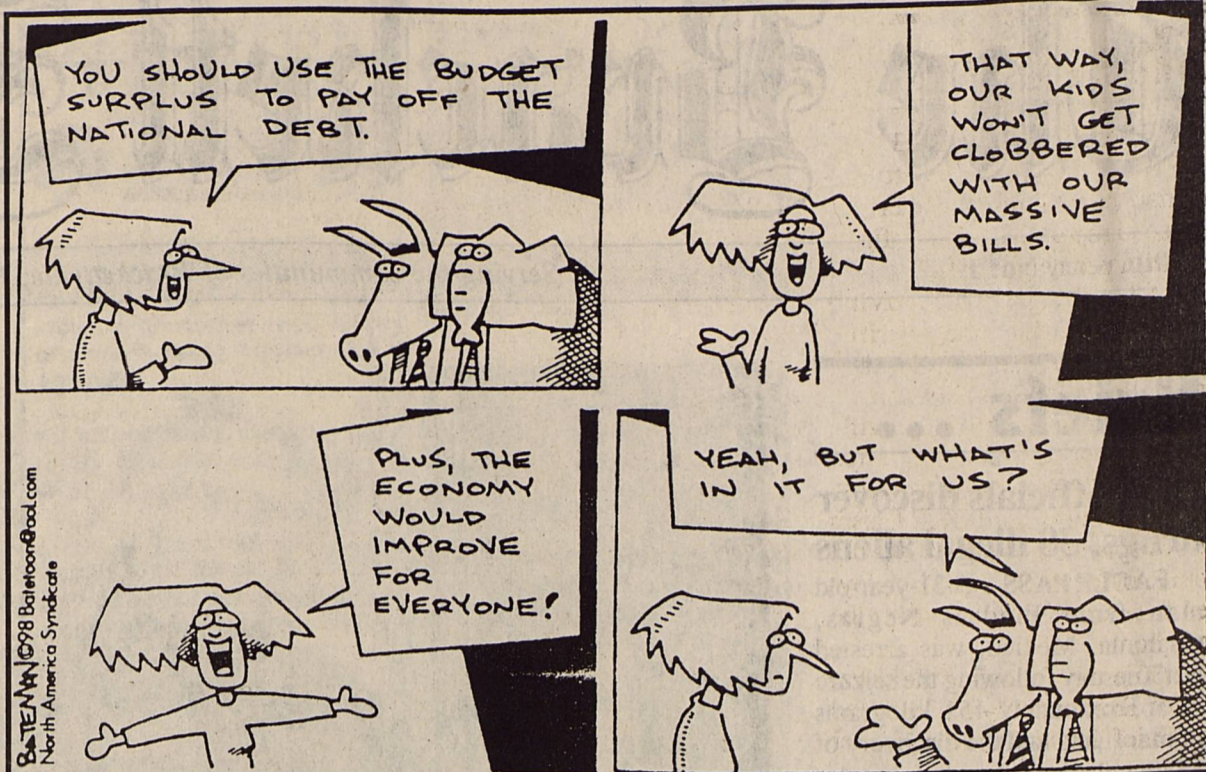
— one as chairperson, one to make the motion, and the third to second it.

Does the board claim that they are unanimous in all their dealings?

Now you know why we will elect Bill Kelly to the Board of Directors. Some things will not be unanimous during his term of office.

We need more free-thinking people to step forward and get the board back to reality and serve all the people of the fort.

Glenn G. Heesacker



Professional politicians make poor presidents

The death of Sonny Bono sets the stage for serious thinking about politicians.

Sonny started his career as a song writer. He was quite successful when he married Cher, and they became famous as entertainers. When they split up, he went into business and again was successful.

He felt he could help his hometown, so he ran for mayor and, when elected, did a super job.

He decided to try Congress and was elected to represent his congressional district in the House of Representatives.

He quickly became accepted as a thinking and effective representative. As long as he was there, he was highly respected.

His voting record revealed a man who was not a partisan politician. He mentally weighed each decision and voted the way he felt was right. He bowed to no pressure from partisan politicians.

When we simply scan recent presidents, we can see the benefit of refusing office to professional politicians.

Great presidents of recent times have not been professional politicians and concomitant with that, professional politicians have made poor presidents.

Ronald Reagan was unques-

Between Us

By Joe Townsend



tionably the greatest president of recent times and he was an entertainer by profession.

George Bush will be counted in history as a fine president and he was a business man.

Dwight Eisenhower was a good president and he was a military man.

On the other hand, by objective analysis, Bill Clinton will go down in history as a charlatan and political washout.

All his bragging about the great accomplishments of his tenure, when carefully studied, come from a Congress led by Republicans. He has yet to accomplish a single thing that redounds to the betterment of our nation.

Lyndon B. Johnson, saddled with one vote, brought about by his arm-twisting the "Great Society" with its destructive welfare program.

Jimmy Carter, by the one marginal vote of Benson, paid Panama millions of taxpayers' dollars to take the Panama Canal.

Both Carter and L.B.J. saddled

America with the appointment of many federal judges who threw the Constitution in the trash and made decisions on the basis of personal bias, Justice of East Texas being a classic example.

John Kennedy was made a martyr by assassination. His actions regarding Cuba created a despotic danger 90 miles from Florida shores.

I have yet to see an outstanding contribution by professional politicians, except Richard Nixon, who brought American troops home from Vietnam.

It was not intended nor expected that America be led by professional politicians. The design of government was that government be made up of men from all walks of life, obsessed with a desire to make government a viable and honorable institution.

America would be better served by men interested in the betterment of our nation rather than political ambitions. We would do well to fill Congress with more Sonny Bonos.

Letters to the Editor

Number of votes still does not add up

To Joan Lindley: Congratulations, your letter writing has improved 100 percent and you are no longer insulting people by calling them idiots and nincompoops.

You, like everyone else, have a right to express your opinions. The Constitution gives you that right, it is called the freedom of speech. You do have an obligation to tell the truth.

In your letter, you said there were 63 people at the meeting, correct? Each person had to vote for three candidates, correct?

Then, 63 people times 3 votes is 189 votes.

This is the total vote for each candidate: Cowart, 61 votes; Gonzalez, 36 votes; Parks, 23 votes; Spencer, 18 votes; Kelly, 12 votes.

Now, if you add these votes, they equal 150 votes. Now, if you take 150 from 189, you get 39 votes not accounted for.

You also wrote that you needed to know the three people best deemed to serve on the Board of Directors.

One of the candidates never answered the questions he was asked. On the first question, he answered, "I pass on that one." On the second, he answered, "same," meaning the same as the man before him.

Is this false, Joan?

This man wrote on his resume, "I have an associate degree in

applied science, high school level."

I did not know you could get a degree in high school level.

I hope you people know how serious it is to falsify your resume and use the United States mail to commit fraud.

The Good Government Group is asking the members to elect a janitor and a mail carrier to run a million dollar corporation.

Now, more than ever, they should be called the Corrupt Government Group.

The Wizard, telling it like it is:

Roger Perez

Hall is an 'Unsung Hero'

You may read Joe Townsend's "Unsung Hero" column. By no means am I trying to take his column. It's a great column to write and I think he does an excellent job. I just personally believe that another person should be recognized as an Unsung Hero this week.

The man I will tell you about has been a part of this community for many years. He has been a great inspiration in my life as well as others. He is well known for his job as a teacher and a writer.

Many students have passed in and out of his classrooms for about 27 years, hoping to become better at giving speeches.

He must be doing something right for the school to keep him around this long.

He also taught math too for many years. Not only has this man taught for many years, he has also

wrote 52 issues of the "But, I Could be Wrong" columns for The Brackett News.

You probably know that the man I'm talking about is Mr. Chuck Hall.

Mr. Hall is also having a very special day coming up for him very soon. He will be celebrating the big 5-0 on Feb. 10.

For 50 years, the world has had the pleasure of having Chuck Hall. I just hope that he will be around another 50 years. Well, maybe just for another 49 years.

I would like to thank Mr. Hall for having him in my life and to thank him for the inspiration, laughs, and joy that he brings me everyday. To me, Mr. Hall, is an Unsung Hero.

Have a wonderful 'Over the Hill' day. And I wish you and your family the best. Thank you, Mr. Hall.

Mistie Herndon

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters published and columnist's viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Sheriff's Report

Tuesday, February 3
 5:45 a.m., A Brackettville woman came into the Sheriff's Office to report that she was fighting with her neighbor.
 5:53 a.m., A Brackettville woman came into the Sheriff's Office to report that a juvenile boy had pulled a knife on her son.
 10:07 a.m., A Brackettville woman reported an intoxicated man in a wheel chair on Ross Street. Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism was dispatched to the scene but could not locate the man. Employees at Mario's Bar had taken the man home.
 1:30 p.m., Ricardo Rodriguez, 27, of Brackettville was arrested by Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter for assault causing bodily harm. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Rodriguez was released the same day on a \$1,000 personal recognizance bond.
 1:30 p.m., Louis Edward Waddell, 33, of Brackettville was arrested by Chief Deputy Fritter for assault by threat. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Waddell was released the same day on a \$1,000 personal recognizance bond.
 4:00 p.m., An employee at Brackett Independent School District reported a fight between two juvenile boys. Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene. He met with the boys, and the guardian of one of the boys, who said she would keep her son away from the other juvenile.
 7:10 p.m., Glen Rex Morgan, 43, of Brackettville was arrested for Class C assault by Chief Deputy Fritter. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Morgan was released the same day on a \$1,000 personal recognizance bond.
 8:15 p.m., Manuel Fernandez, 17, of Brackettville was arrested by Chief Deputy Fritter on a Class B misdemeanor charge of terroristic threat. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.
 8:15 p.m., Tommy Ward, 17, of Brackettville was arrested for public intoxication by Deputy Guidry. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Ward was released on Feb. 5 for time served.
 8:38 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported that her husband was drunk and was causing problems. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene. The woman said her husband had left and was probably at a friend's house. Deputy Guidry tried to locate the man to talk to him but was unable to.
Wednesday, February 4
 2:42 a.m., A Brackettville woman called 911 to report that her brother had hit her and was going to fight with his father at a residence on W. Spring Street. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene. He turned the boy over to his stepfather.
 1:35 p.m., Dionisio Negrete, 57, of San Antonio was arrested by DPS Trooper Richard Fernandez for driving while intoxicated, first offense. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Negrete was released the next day after posting a \$1,750 bail bond.
 11:15 p.m., A Border Patrol agent said that he had heard that a body was found on the railroad tracks at the Anacacho Siting. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene. After Justice of the Peace Alvin Hall could not be located, County Judge Tommy Seargeant was asked to pronounce the death. Officials asked the Brackett Funeral Home to pick up the body.
Friday, February 6
 4:45 a.m., Erby Salazar Martinez, 27, of Brackettville was

arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley for driving while intoxicated, third offense. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Martinez was released the same day after posting a \$1,000 cash bond.
 12:47 p.m., Border Patrol agents from the Cline Checkpoint reported two donkeys loose on Highway 90 next to the weather station. After efforts to contact the owners proved unsuccessful, the agents put the two donkeys back inside the fence.
 2:10 p.m., An employee at Brackett Independent School District reported that a seventh grader had been alone for a week, and was not sure if the child was checked on by his mother. She also indicated that the child's parent was on probation. The case was turned over to the Child Protection Service.
 4:30 p.m., Pedro Arnulfo Arredondo, 18, of Crystal City was arrested by Trooper Ashley for credit card abuse. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.
 4:30 p.m., Benjamin Cazares, 20, of Austin was arrested by Trooper Ashley for credit card abuse. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.
 7:12 p.m., A Brackettville man reported that a man with a lot of dogs kept walking through his yard at his residence on S. Sweeney Street. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene and met with the complainant. He advised him to ask the man not to walk through the yard any more, and if he continued, to file charges on him in the justice of the peace's court.
 10:28 p.m., A Brackettville woman requested a deputy at W. Thorn Street because a man was choking his girlfriend. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene.
 10:45 p.m., Mark Andrew Hernandez, 39, of San Antonio was arrested by Deputy Chism on an outstanding warrant out of Bexar County for failure to identify. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.
Saturday, February 7
 12:56 a.m., A Kinney County woman reported loud music on Farm Road 2804. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene. He said the matter had been "taken care of."
 1:01 a.m., A Brackettville woman said that someone was trying to break into her house, on Ann Street, through the front door. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene. He was unable to locate any suspects.
 2:46 a.m., A Uvalde Police Department official notified the Sheriff's Office of a report of a vehicle speeding west-bound on Highway 90. Deputy Chism was dispatched, located the vehicle, and stopped the individual at 3:07 a.m. at Fritter Park.
 3:08 a.m., Martin Vananueva, 23, of Von Ormy, Texas, was arrested by Deputy Chism for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.
Sunday, February 8
 4:55 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported that there was an intoxicated man in a wheel chair at her business. Chief Deputy Fritter was dispatched to the scene. He met with the woman who said the man was causing a disturbance and would not leave.
 5:00 p.m., Edwin Ray Titt, 43, of Brackettville was arrested for public intoxication by Chief Deputy Fritter. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.

AD's position draws attention Obituary

We have had lots of interest in the athletic director and head football coach's position in Brackett. We have had about 100 inquiries. Most of these have completed resumes and many of these have completed an application. Some very positive things are being said about our schools and athletic program by area coaches. These, sometimes, are passed back to me. Our students participate in extracurricular activities to help build character that can withstand being a winner or even losing. That's a stressful test of character. I know lots of winners who have lost it because of their success. By the same token, I know players and coaches who have lost it when losing a game became apparent. We're there to compete hard, but that's not the foundation of extracurricular programs. It's to build on positive values like sportsmanship, team work, honesty, setting and achieving goals, physical and mental conditioning, and loyalty. There are many other positive values that our students receive from participation. We believe that if we can exemplify these values we can have a competitive

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
 By Taylor Stephenson, BISD Superintendent

sports program. We've come a long way. Let's keep up the good work.
Community Internet Access
 I hope we can find a way to help the community get on the internet. There's such a great need for folks who want to access the web to be able to do so. In Lubbock, I noticed one of the churches was using its web page for access to church program opportunities - what's going on at church. This church also had support information for folks who needed help with particular types of programs. I'm sure there were readings and counseling suggestions for those in need. The computer age is here. It has nothing to do with the age of the person. At the present time, our folks are locked out of the world outside of Brackettville because there is not an internet service provider in Brackettville. In other words, you have to pay a long distance call rate to access what the folks

in larger towns get with their \$20 monthly membership.
 So, the School Board appointed a committee headed by Don Ralston to help brainstorm solutions to this problem. We'll have technology support from Frank Taylor and Michael Schooler on the committee. More on this one later.
Musical Performances
 We're excited about a couple of music opportunities coming to Brackettville. On Friday, Feb. 27, we have blue grass music coming to the Kinney County Civic Center. Joe Carr and Alan Munde pick some fun tunes. For \$5, you can come to the concert and hear some fine entertainment. That's 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Center. The duo will play a concert for all school children earlier in the afternoon. Thanks to the Kinney County Arts Council and to the Texas Commission of the Arts for sponsoring this one. ■ See MUSICAL/Page 7

Leo E. Ertle

Leo E. Ertle passed away Saturday, Feb. 7, 1998, in Kansas City, Mo. He was a 50-year member of Raytown Masonic Lodge No. 391, Raytown, Mo. He resided in Independence, Mo. Ertle was preceded in death by his wife, Nadine. Survivors include: two sons, Thomas (Tom) L. Ertle and wife Anita of Brackettville, and David Ertle and wife Linda of Independence, Mo.; one daughter, Norma Jobe and husband Steve of Independence, Mo.; and numerous grandchildren. Burial was Tuesday in Independence, Mo., with a Masonic Graveside Ceremony under the auspicious of Raytown Masonic Lodge No. 391. The family requests memorials be made to the Las Moras Masonic Lodge No. 444, P.O. Box 392, Brackettville, Texas, 78832, or to the charity of your choice.

Correction

Jerry Strother's name was misspelled in last week's newspaper. We regret this mistake.

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The Brackett News

The Brackett News (USPS 003987) is an entirely locally owned, independent newspaper published weekly on Thursday for \$20 per year in Kinney County, \$25 outside of county but in Texas, and \$27.50 outside of Texas, by The Brackett News, Inc., 507 S. Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas, 78832, (telephone: 830-563-2852, fax: 830-563-9538) and entered as second class matter at the U.S. Post Office at Brackettville, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1878.
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 Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in The Brackett News will gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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For more information, call Middle Rio Grande Development Council Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-224-4262 or 830-8760-1281.

Hair By Diane

Welcomes Mary Martin as a new stylist. Mary has 33 years experience as a hair dresser. Until moving to Fort Clark, she operated her own beauty shop. She offers complete hairstyling for the whole family. Because Mary has been substitute teaching at BISD, we will offer a:

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Conrey hosts sorority

The Beta Epsilon Omicron Chapter met last Monday at the Adult Center with Cathy Conrey as hostess. She presented the cultural program.

Forms for the participation of the new cook book, "Women of Good Taste," were passed around and everyone was encouraged to send in a recipe.

Pam Melancon read a letter from the International Office outlining the requirements of a Career Chapter. After much discussion, the sorority voted to become a Career Chapter next year.

Melancon announced that the group needed to plan the Exemplar Ritual for Conrey, Lynn McNew, and Dorothy Frank. Pat McKelvy, from a sister chapter, announced the memorial ritual for Betty Inman would be in March.

Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets

Duplicate Bridge Club met last Tuesday in the Gorgas Room at Fort Clark Springs with six and one-half tables playing the Mitchell Movement.

The winners on the north-south were Fred and Nita Clayton, first; Mac and Marie McCandless, second; and Arnie and Gertie Trautwein, third.

Winners on the east-west were Dena Scott and Mona Miller, first; Joyce Bell and Alice Seargent, second; and Kay Roberts and Dianna Daniels, third.



Dr. Charles Schmidt, center, presented the program at last week's Rotary Club meeting, and James Heath, left, and Herb Senne were inducted as new members. Photo by Eric McMaster

Heath, Senne join local Rotary Club

By Frances McMaster Contributing Writer

The Brackettville Rotary Club has welcomed two new members - James Heath and Herb Senne.

Heath is the newly appointed general manager of Fort Clark Springs. He has been a Rotarian in the past and reactivated his membership here. Heath came here from Irving.

Senne spoke to the club recently, and must have been favorably impressed.

The men were inducted in a ceremony performed by Rev. Joe Townsend. He presented them

with membership pins and booklets on the goals and accomplishments of Rotary International. They also received certificates of membership.

Dr. Charles Schmidt, program chairman, introduced a film with scenes from three different International Conventions at last Thursday's meeting.

Every year, an international meeting is held somewhere in the world. In the year 2001, San Antonio will be the site, and Rotarians there are already making plans for this occasion. Every club in Texas will be helping with this occasion.

But, I could be wrong

By Chuck Hall



Valentine's has a special significance

Valentine's Day brings thoughts of love to us all. I'm no exception. But it has a special significance to me.

It was on that day, long ago, that my oldest daughter was in a near fatal automobile accident. We held our breath for nine long days while she was in a coma at Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio.

An old college roommate called to ask what he could do. I still remember his words: "If you need money, I'll raise it. If you need blood, I'll get donors. And if you need me, I'll come."

Powerful words that came from the heart. I wish I could be a friend like that.

In the 25 years that have past, I have not forgotten the love and compassion that was shown by the people in this community. The cards, letters, phone calls, and personal visits helped my family very much in our time of distress.

We needed you and you responded. I couldn't ask for more. And I could be right.

FOOTSTEPS ECHO

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

Courtesy of his descendants



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, February 12, 1886

Today is Mother's birthday; may God grant her many happy returns. A letter and bundle of papers came from home today. After guard mounting went over to office and to Capt. Vance's a moment. Ought to have marched on guard today but Geary went on for me on account of the party tonight. Read the papers after lunch and then Mr. Stanley and Maj. Wilcox beat Vernou & self one game, 4 to 3, at whist. Had a very pleasant afternoon. Steele came in this morning looking hale and fat. Played cribbage with Capt. Weeks before lunch and was badly beaten. Had usual parade in the evening. After dinner took a short stroll with Hewitt and then escorted Miss Folsom down to Friedlander's to a commerce party. Had a rather pleasant evening but did not win anything. This game tries one's patience. Lost my temper but don't think anybody noticed it.

Saturday, February 13, 1886

No mail for me this morning. Had my ears treated as usual this morning and then was measured for some shirts and a new suit of cit clothes and gave order for new cuffs. There was a runner for a San Antonio house with a line of goods in a room in the new building, to whom I gave these orders but the goods are not to be delivered until next summer when I want to take my leave. This reminded me of West Point when cadets were preparing for furlough. After lunch played on the organ in the post hall and then wrote a letter to Harry Rhoades in which asked him to let my account remain open until the end of March. Was ashamed to do this but had to on account of buying that land. After dinner took a short stroll with Geary and stopped at the hall to see the children's masquerade. A little child was frightened and came home with her and her aunt Mrs. Hammond. Escorted Mrs. Cunningham to Mrs. Hall's where spent a pleasant evening playing newmarket. Won a booby prize. Was somewhat vexed because Hewitt and Steele

were seated next to Miss Folsom while I was put at the other end. It was childish in me. Must learn to have better control over my temper.

Sunday, February 14, 1886

Col. Heyl, the Department Inspector, inspected us in full dress this morning. Maj. Wilcox commanded the review and made a botch of it. It was very warm work. After "E" Co. was inspected sat on Mrs. Lyster's porch to watch the others and then had a short chat with Miss Folsom in Mrs. Feche's. Guard mounting was very late. I did not get down to the guard house until near noon. The inspector came around soon afterwards. Then returned to quarters to change clothes and had a short talk with Capt. Randlett in Geary's house. Wrote letter home and read Draper until dinner. After retreat wrote letters to Capt. Hennisee and Capt. Simonds. A norther sprung up this evening and the air grew so cold that had to have a fire started. Read Draper and dozed until midnight when Officer of the Day inspected and then turned in. No mail for me today.

Monday, February 15, 1886

Steele relieved me at guard mounting. Received a letter from Lula today in which she announced her engagement. Hope that she is doing well, but Mother has made me feel somewhat anxious about the matter. After marching off guard went to the office a while and then took a short ride with Mr. Stanley in Black's new cart. After lunch bathed and shaved. Went up with Geary to bid Vernou good-bye. Shortly after two o'clock "D" Co. pulled out. Was sorry to see them go, but would have felt worse were it "E" Co. Then went to the tailor to have stripes and field of straps changed to white, the order for this change having been received this morning. It will make the uniform brighter but will be hard to keep clean. Commenced letter to Lula to congratulate her, but could not finish it before parade. After dinner called on Col. Heyl at Gen. Smith's but he was out. Practiced some vocal duets with Miss Saunders and then called on Mrs. Hall. After tattoo called on Mrs. Gillmore and was notified that the French class would meet on Thursday on account of the card party tomorrow night at Mrs. Kauffman's to which I am invited.

Called at Mrs. Feche's also but Miss Folsom was out walking with Hewitt and did not return until after I left. This evening after dinner Hewitt offered to let me have \$500 at 10% as long as I wanted it; he expected to get in \$1000 about the first of March. This will enable me to take up the note to Friedlander, pay off Harry and one note of my insurance.

Tuesday, February 16, 1886

No mail for me this morning. Tried two cases before the garrison court this morning. Then completed letter to Lula and went over to Library to look over papers after lunch. Went down with Geary to the tailor shop to see how the white stripes would look but the clothes were not completed. Spent the rest of the afternoon playing whist at my quarters, Mr. Stanley and Maj. Wilcox against Col. Bliss and self. They beat us one game but the points were even. Enjoyed the afternoon very much. Wrote up proceedings of court after playing. The tailor brought over a pair of trousers with white stripes and a blouse which he had cleaned and put white fields in the straps. Made quite a good job of it. Did not have assurance enough to wear the trousers but wore the coat to retreat. Spent the evening at a card party at Mrs. Kauffman's where escorted Mrs. Feche't. Played newmarket and did not win. Lost my temper, confound it; am determined to do better the next time we play. Capt. Vance took tattoo. Sat next to Mrs. Gillmore and had a very pleasant talk with her. What a contrast between her and Mrs. Feche't.

Wednesday, February 17, 1886

Another day without mail. Before breakfast went over to Gen. Smith's to say good-bye to Mrs. Vernou who left this morning by ambulance expecting to camp with "D" Co. near Eagle Pass tonight. Looked over the papers in the Library and then went down to the store and played a game or two of billiards with Geary. Wrote usual letter home after lunch, Mr. Stanley coming in to make a p.p.c. call. (?) Am sorry to see the Stanleys go as they are bright, intelligent persons. Went over to the hall to play on the organ after finishing letter. Intended to make a number of calls this evening, but Geary and Ed. Storer came in and sat until tattoo. Went over to Col.

Bliss' then to bid the Stanleys good-bye and called at Cunningham's. Knocked at Mrs. Feche't's intending to make a short call there, but there was so much talking that the rap was not heard. Geary came in and sat until after 11 o'clock.

Thursday, February 18, 1886

A letter came this morning from Marie Gorgas, bringing word of her recovery. Spent a short time in the office and then went down to the Commissary to get a small box. Packed some chevrons in this and took them to the Q.M. office to be registered to the Q.M. at Brown, they having been sent here to me. Also wrote him a letter in regard to the matter. Sent a note to Miss Jacobs to invite her to go to the promenade concert this evening and went to the company to see how work was progressing with galley range. Went up to Mrs. Lyster's to tell her about the letter from Marie. After lunch stopped a moment to see Mrs. Feche't who has had bad news from her husband and is contemplating a trip out to New Mexico. Engaged to go out to the railroad with her. Then stopped to see Capt. Vance a minute. Read Draper in the afternoon. Capt. Hall at my request has sent for the two copies of this book for me, which will be exchanged for Capt. Remington's as I have worn his book a good deal. Took a bath before retreat. After dinner, a telegram came for Mrs. Feche't to come at once. So she started tonight. Capt. Kauffman insisted on accompanying her to the railroad, so I did not go. The promenade concert occurred this evening and was slimly attended. Miss Folsom was not there. It was a rather stupid affair. Escorted Miss Jacobs. After seeing her home went to Mrs. Feche't's and sat there until after 11 when the ambulance came for her. Miss Folsom entertained Hewitt & me while Capt. Hall was with Mrs. Feche't. He acts like a man deep in love; what a pity.

Tigerettes clinch post-season bid

By J.J. Guidry
Sports Editor

The Brackett Tigerettes clinched a berth in the state high school basketball playoffs after they defeated Dilley, 43-34, and Comfort topped Charlotte.

The top two teams in each district advance to the playoffs. Comfort is leading the District 30-2A race with a 9-0 mark, Brackett is 6-3, Center Point is 5-4, and Charlotte is 4-5.

On Friday, Brackett will travel to Natalia and Comfort hosts Center Point. If Brackett loses and Center Point wins, the two teams

would be tied for second, but Brackett would advance because of two head-to-head wins.

The Tigerettes rallied for a 10-point run late in the fourth quarter Tuesday night to put away the Lady Wolves. Brackett was leading 33-32 midway through the final stanza before scoring 10 straight points, including six from La Toya Wright who capped the spurt with a three-point play for a 43-32 lead with 51 seconds left.

Tricia Robinson scored a career-high 13 points to pace Brackett (16-9), and Wright finished with 10.

Lindsey Brotherton pitched in eight points

for the Tigerettes, Patty Lopez scored six, Laura Lee Ballew had three, Jennifer Ashabraner scored three, and Stephanie Terrazas made a free throw.

Wolves 73, Tigers 34

Dilley exploded for a 22-point run in the fourth quarter to improve to 6-1 in district play. Brackett is 2-5 in league action.

Schiller Hill and Brent Woelke both had seven points for the Tigers, Crumley, Luis Guajardo and Rene Luna all scored four, Phillip Juarez chipped in three, Demitrus Williams and Coty Williams each had two, and Xavier Tomes added one.

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Couples League has record turnout

A record of 46 couples turned out to play a flighted Florida Scramble Thursday in Couples Golf League action.

The team of Nell and Ray Darling and Fern and Roy Dyer tied the team of Jack and Joy Hinkleman and Clem and Pat McKelvy for first place in the A Flight. Both teams finished with 60s. Joe and Rosemary Johnson and Roger and Teresa Stephens claimed third place with a 61.

In the B Flight, Harold and Kay Roberts and Eva and Walt Salyer took top honors with a 60. The team of Janet Christenson, Dick and Lynn Ebert and Gil Raymer tied the team of Dilly and Elizabeth Dillahunt and Dale and Mylo Unruh for second place. Each had a 63.

Bob Barnette, Evie and Phil Fordall and Betty Schlatterer won first in the C Flight with a score of 65. Carol Benfield, Frank Eckenroth, Verda McDowan and Bob Moore were second with a 66, and Jane and Ray Devine and Dell and Margo Kendrick finished third with a 67.

Two teams tied for first place in Monday's

Golf Roundup

scramble at the Par 3 course. The teams of Carol Benfield, Carl Dyerson, Norm Martin, and Jack Workman, and Chuck Endress, Rosemary Johnson, Dick Walton, and Bill Woolston both posted 23s.

Martin's team won the chip-off for closest to the pin, and Woolston's team was second.

■ **Ladies Golf League:** Betty Lee took top honors in a game of low puts with 28 during 18 Hole Group action.

Pat McKelvy, Pat Nelson and Eva Salyer tied for second place. Each had 29 putts.

Carol Benfield finished with three skins, Nelson, Betty Lee and Kay Roberts each had two, and Mary Stephenson had one. Benfield had a chip-in on No. 11, Nelson on No. 17, and Jean Petaja on No. 1.

Joyce Ambler, Mary Hermanson, Jeanette Hinton and Peg Woolston took top honors in a game of low score on each hole during the 9 Hole Group's play. Jonnie Fullenwider won low putts with 15.

OUTDOORS

Game wardens sweep poaching ring

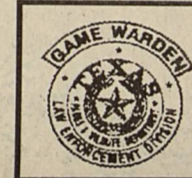
LAREDO - Texas Parks and Wildlife game wardens apprehended 13 suspects in several South Texas counties on Feb. 5-6, as the largest undercover trophy deer poaching investigation ever undertaken in Texas came to a head.

Beginning before dawn on Feb. 5, 40 state game wardens simultaneously began attempting to serve arrest warrants against 14 individuals on more than 100 charges ranging from one third degree felony, eight state jail felonies, 68 class B and 47 Class C Parks and Wildlife code misdemeanors in roundups covering several South Texas counties. One suspect was still at large Feb. 6.

Most of the violations occurred in Webb County on well-known ranches, such as the Junco Ranch and Killiam Ranch, where undercover game wardens accompanied poachers on illegal trophy deer hunts. Other violations were documented in La Salle, McMullen and Duval counties.

The undercover sting, called Operation Venado Macho, was initiated over a year ago in a cooperative effort between the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) law enforcement division and private landowners, whose intensively managed ranches have been prime targets for serious trophy deer poachers. In Spanish, venado macho means "big deer".

"Not only are these crimes against the resource and those of us who enjoy them responsibly,



A Little On The Wildlife Side

By Henry Lutz
Kinney County Game Warden



but it's an insult to everybody who hunts," said Andrew Sansom, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director.

Legal deer hunts on these ranches can range from \$2,500 upwards of \$10,000. A steady stream of area poachers paid TPWD undercover agents as little as \$125 in cash and marijuana for access to night hunting or hunt-

ing from a public road on these ranches.

In all, undercover agents facilitated some 20 illegal poaching trips, which resulted in the killing of 14 deer.

From evidence gathered regarding the poached deer, suspects could face civil restitution of between \$526.50 to \$20,000 for each animal.

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| 180 DAYS | 5.00% | 5.09% |
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (Southwestern Bell) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) to charge an additional 26 cents per month per line to recover costs for providing Expanded Local Calling service (ELC) to certain Texas Customers.

The 26 cents per month surcharge would not be billed to customers who receive ELC. However, customers who receive ELC and pay less than the maximum \$3.50 a month residential ELC charge or less than the maximum \$7 business ELC charge will have to pay the additional 26 cents per month charge.

Expanded Local Calling was created in 1993 by Texas legislation that requires telephone companies to provide toll-free calling between small towns that share a community of interest such as a school or hospital district. The legislation allows telephone companies to recover costs not paid through customer charges by applying a surcharge to all other customers in the state who do not receive the ELC service or who do not pay the maximum ELC rate. The maximum monthly ELC rate allowed under state law is \$3.50 per line for residential customers and \$7 per line for business customers.

Southwestern Bell estimates that the 26 cents per month per line charge will recover the \$27 million annual cost of providing ELC service that is not recovered from ELC rates.

If approved by the PUC, the monthly statewide surcharge of 26 cents per line per month will begin with the April, 1998 billing cycles, with an agreement to refund all or part of the charge if the PUC does not approve it.

For questions about the reasons for the charge, please call the Southwestern Bell Business Office listed in your directory.

The PUC assigned Docket Number 18513 to this proceeding. The deadline for intervention in this matter is March 31, 1998. Persons who wish to intervene or comment in these proceedings should notify the PUC by March 31, 1998. All requests to intervene should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX, 78711-3326. For information intervening, please call the PUC at 1-888-782-8477 or at 512-936-7120.

AVISO PUBLICO

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (Southwestern Bell) presentó una solicitud ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (PUC) para cobrar 26 centavos más al mes por línea para recuperar los costos por el servicio de Llamadas Locales Ampliadas (ELC) a ciertos clientes en Texas.

El cargo de 26 centavos al mes no se cobrará a los clientes que reciben ELC. Sin embargo, los clientes que reciben ELC y pagan menos del máximo de \$3.50 al mes por el servicio ELC residencial o menos del máximo de \$7 por el servicio ELC comercial, tendrán que pagar 26 centavos adicionales a su pago mensual.

El servicio de Llamadas Locales Ampliadas (ELC) fue establecido en 1993 por la legislación del estado de Texas y requiere que las compañías prestadoras de servicios telefónicos ofrezcan llamadas de larga distancia gratuitas entre pequeñas poblaciones que comparten un interés común tales como distritos escolares y de hospitales. Esta ley permite que las compañías telefónicas recuperen los costos no pagados mediante cargos a clientes, a través de un cargo a todos los demás clientes en el estado que no reciben el servicio ELC o que no pagan la tarifa máxima del servicio ELC. La tarifa máxima mensual permitida por la ley estatal es \$3.50 por línea para clientes con servicio residencial y \$7 por línea para clientes con servicio comercial.

Southwestern Bell calcula que los 26 centavos al mes por línea cubrirán los \$27 millones del costo anual del servicio ELC que no está cubierto por las tarifas de ELC.

Si la PUC autoriza el cargo mensual estatal de 26 centavos al mes por línea éste comenzará a partir de los ciclos de facturación de abril 1998, con el acuerdo de reembolsar todo o parte del cargo si la PUC no lo autoriza.

Para preguntas relacionadas con este cargo, por favor llame a la Oficina Local de Southwestern Bell listada en su directorio telefónico.

La PUC asignó el número de registro de 18513 a este procedimiento. El plazo de intervención sobre este asunto terminará el 31 de marzo de 1998. Las personas que deseen intervenir o hacer comentarios sobre este procedimiento deberán notificar a la PUC antes del 31 de marzo de 1998. Todas las solicitudes de intervención deberán enviarse por correo a Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. Para mayor información sobre la intervención, por favor comuníquese con la PUC al 1-888-782-8477 o al 512-936-7120.



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Super Crossword

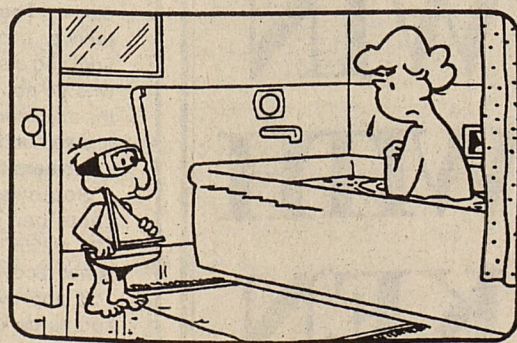
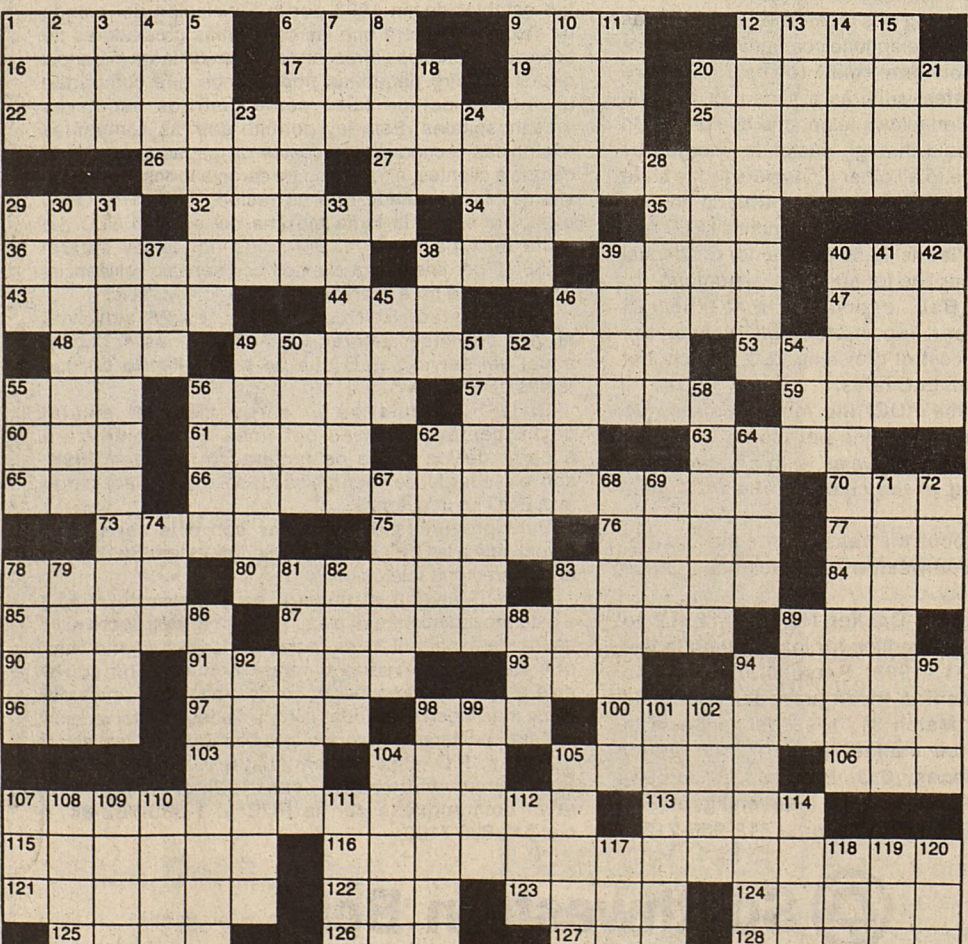
MAGIC MAZE

Your Horoscope by Natasha

ACROSS
1 Unbending
6 Haggard
9 Church bench
12 Unsophisticated
16 Attract 126
17 Levin or Gershwin
19 Patriot Hale
20 Ann Southern sitcom
25 California town
26 Plumbing problem
27 Mitochondria
29 PD alert
32 Fancy flapjack
34 Haberdashery item
35 -Magnon
36 Prophecy
38 Cul-de-
39 Friend's pronoun
40 Passing fashion
43 Moves like a Morgan
44 Request
46 Barely there
47 "We - the World"
48 Canonized
Mile.
49 Rosalind Russell
53 Composer Erik
55 Cologne cry
56 Kirstie of "Cheers"
57 Fast movers
59 Make-believe
60 Mr. Guevara
61 - du jour (cocktail)
62 Novelist
63 Facility
65 Poetic contraction
66 D.H. Lawrence
70 Presidential initials
73 Plunder
75 Skywalker's sis
76 Prefix meaning "both"
77 Competitor
78 "New Look" designer
80 Ruined
83 The sky, at times?
84 Passport abbr.
85 Seize
87 Chekhov play
89 -foo yong
90 Clay, later Mosey along
93 Copycat
94 Drink noisily
96 Pinky or Bruce
97 Depend (on)
98 Welcome item?
100 In the clear
103 Mai -
104 Author Kaufman
105 Pelt with pebbles
106 Yalie
107 1976 French comedy
113 Suburban lot size
115 Multinied
116 Fluth
118 McKenney best seller
121 Early TV partner
122 Born
123 Shortens a speech
124 Jessica of "Tootsie"
125 Low-fat
126 Taxing org.
127 Raven maven?
128 Bestow
DOWN
1 Sleep stage:
2 College growth?
3 Actress Rita
4 Rock star Billy
5 Acts like Columbo
6 Israeli coin
7 "Ben-"
8 - nous (confidentially)
9 Lunch on the lawn
10 Work on a crossword?
11 Beaver's dad on TV
12 Pool halls, e.g.
13 Yen
14 Voucher
15 Carol of "Taxi" to speak
18 Bashful
20 Actor's locale
21 Neither's partner
23 Jack rabbit, for one
24 "I could - horse!"
28 More painful
29 Sternward
30 Fancy car
31 No.1 hit by the Stories
33 Mars and Venus
37 When the
38 Aspen item
39 Domesticated
40 No.1 George Michael song
41 Domingo solo
42 Consider
45 Hog heaven?
46 Ipso -
49 Divvies up
50 - Bator
51 Learned
52 Gibbs of "The Jeffersons"
54 Balaam's beast
55 Mr. Lucky's card
56 Lhasa -
58 Yugoslavian republic
62 Mournful sound
64 - were (so to speak)
67 Writer Walker
68 Most self-absorbed
69 Award for 15 Down
71 AKC reject
72 It came between Gabriella and Steffi
74 Legendary Bruin
78 Twofold
79 Man or Wight
81 Out in the open
82 Just
83 Peke's perch
86 Supporter
88 Napa vessel
99 Seasonal worker?
92 Less benevolent
94 Cleaner than clean
95 I.M. the architect
98 Kids' creations?
99 Et - (list ender)
101 Unrefined
102 Way back when
104 Store employee
105 Frame
107 Elsie's chew
108 Autumn birthstone
109 Coax
110 Body, in biology
111 Atlanta arena
112 White House grp.
114 Verve Steffi
117 WWII area
118 Final point
119 Conceit
120 Revolutionary

FRESH -

A A X U R P M J G D S A X V S
Q N K I H V F D P P A X V T
Q O M S J E H R O F A C A B Y
W U I R A G P O U N I L A J H
F I N G E R P R I N T S D B
Z X V T R T D Q O S T A R T M
K I H F D A B I Z E Y W E V D
T R Q O E B K N R E T A W O O
L K I R R L H I F D C A O Z O
X W B V I E E U S R Q L L O F
N M K M A S J I H F B E F D B
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Air Batteries Blood Bread
Fingerprints Fish Flowers Food
Fruit Ideas Milk Start
Troops Vegetables Water



HOCUS-FOCUS
FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Mirror is smaller. 2. Tube is shorter. 3. Man is different. 4. Bowl is different. 5. Soap dish is missing. 6. Curtain is shorter.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Advice you receive may be off the mark. Guests could drop by at an inappropriate time or someone you're expecting later in the week may be delayed in arriving. Be flexible this weekend.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
You may be talking to someone this week who has a big line. Remain properly skeptical. Keep business aims realistic. Weekend social plans may be subject to change.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
In your pursuit of good times, remember to honor prior commitments and stay on top of responsibilities. It's not the best week for a do-it-yourself project.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
You're in a pleasure-seeking mood this week and may be inclined to take foolish risks. Stay away from long-shot gambles. This weekend, you're a bit impulsive in matters of the heart.
LEO (July 23 to August 22)
Money owed you may be late in arriving. Don't part with joint funds until you check with your mate first. This weekend, have enjoyable times without being overly indulgent in food or drink.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
A family member may be unable to attend a planned get-together this week. It's best to be sure of a person's taste before purchasing a gift. This weekend, watch your wallet.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
Someone could keep you waiting early in the week. Be leery of those who promise more than they can deliver. Business and pleasure do not combine favorably over the weekend.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
Though there'll be time for socializing this week, you'll also want to devote some time to a work-related project. Try not to go overboard on spending on the home this weekend.
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
The pleasures of food and drink may be alluring at this time. Be careful not to abuse your health. Keep the lines of communication open this weekend with those close to you.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
You have some difficulty making up your mind about a possible purchase. Moderation should be your keyword this week since you have a tendency to go to extremes.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
You should be discriminating about which social invitations you accept. Some are more fruitful than others and more enjoyable. Travelers meet with unexpected expenses this weekend.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
You have innovative business ideas this week, but it's not the time to push them. When shopping over the weekend, be careful not to overspend on a luxury item. Be sure you know your prices.
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|---------|------------------|
| Feb. 12 | Versie Burnes | Feb. 14 | Frances Testman |
| Feb. 12 | Joaquin Davis | Feb. 15 | J.B. Herndon |
| Feb. 12 | Earl Love | Feb. 15 | Virginia Shahan |
| Feb. 12 | Regina Pena | Feb. 16 | Roxie Brown |
| Feb. 12 | Ricky Sandoval | Feb. 16 | Shirley Holloway |
| Feb. 13 | Tino Cervantes | Feb. 16 | Dedra Hale |
| Feb. 13 | Alfred Pena Jr. | Feb. 16 | Dorothy Wood |
| Feb. 14 | Kathy Berset | Feb. 17 | Carol Dimery |
| Feb. 14 | Cerilla Daniels | Feb. 17 | Elton Goodloe |
| Feb. 14 | Dora Goodloe | Feb. 17 | Basilio Pacheco |
| Feb. 14 | Dolores Jones | Feb. 17 | Wyatt Guidry |
| Feb. 14 | Hector Luna | Feb. 17 | Renae M. Pena |
| Feb. 14 | Tina Smith | Feb. 17 | Ernesto Ortiz |
| Feb. 14 | Shirley Stephenson | Feb. 18 | Annie Barrow |
| Feb. 18 | Irene Braun | | |

Church honors O'Briens

Jerry and Nancy O'Brien were honored last month as the Our Redeemer Lutheran Church hosted its annual meeting and elected new officers for the coming year.

Jerry O'Brien is Our Redeemer's first and outgoing president. Ken Spencer presented an award to the couple for their dedicated efforts and leadership in the organization of the church as

it is known today. In the officers' election, Phil Fordahl advanced from vice presidency to president. Cynthia Anderson was elected vice president. Barbara Williams, secretary, and Amie Skelton, treasurer, will continue their previously elected terms of office.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church began in 1994. The church began holding worship

services in the Green Room of the Fort Clark Golf Course and later moved to Shafter Hall. Services were only held every other Saturday evening during the months of November through March.

Although this was a fine beginning, O'Brien was not satisfied with the limited facilities and services.

O'Brien pursued other avenues and, with consent from other worshippers, contacted the church's current pastor, Nathan Lafrenz, who resides with his family in Eagle Pass.

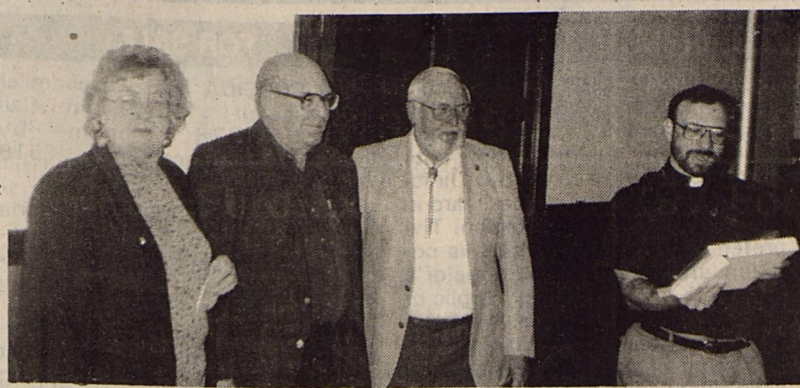
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church now holds services every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. throughout the year at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. A bible study is conducted every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. at the church.

The public is invited to worship and join the fellowship gathering immediately following Sunday morning worship in the Parish Hall.

For more information, contact Fordahl at 563-9120.



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church elected its officers last month. The new slate includes, from left: Phil Fordahl, president; Amie Skelton, treasurer; Cynthia Anderson, vice president; and Barbara Williams, secretary. Photos Special to The Brackett News



Nancy and Jerry O'Brien (from left) were honored by Ken Spencer and Pastor Nathan Lafrenz last month.

St. John Church to host drama Friday

St. John Baptist Church invites the public to a drama presented by Jesus Loves You Park Ministry and Drama Team on Friday at 7 p.m.

"The Love of God" is a drama for all ages, and is free to the public.

St. John Baptist Church is located at 116 W. Crockett St. in Brackettville.

Christian love is a way of life

By Rev. Sheree Harris
First United Methodist Church

'Tis the season of hearts and flowers, cards and candy. Valentine's Day is this Saturday and love is in the air. It will be celebrated from school rooms with cupcakes to candlelight dinners, and we shall have a grand time of it.

Although the commercial sector (Hallmark, etc.) has cashed in on it, there's really nothing new about the season of love.

For Christians, all seasons are to be lived in love. Christian love is not so much a feeling as it is a way of living.

For the manual of love, see I Cor. 13 - it says it all, simple and straight. For a good love story, read any of the Gospels.

For Christians, all occasions are occasions

to celebrate love. Sometimes we celebrate by helping someone, other times by praising or praying, or studying, or sharing a meal.

There are countless ways to celebrate love when we remember that we have love because God first loved us and it is God's love that we are celebrating.

Even Christians are human (surprise! surprise!) and sometimes we forget to celebrate God's love just like we may forget to tell our sweethearts that we love them. That's one reason God gave us the sabbath.

Every Sunday morning at 11:00 at First Methodist Church, we are very intentional about celebrating God's love in a variety of ways.

We hope you have a great Valentine's Day Saturday and we invite you to celebrate with us Sunday morning.

Christians shine naturally

By Rev. Joe Townsend
Frontier Baptist Church

"Whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God," says God as he speaks through his word, the Bible.

The greatest asset and responsibility of man is his influence. One's influence not only is critical in this life, but lasts on through eternity after one is no longer in this life.

Jesus said of his children, "Ye are the light of the world." This means that Christians should illuminate.

It is natural that Christians should "shine." Christians shine through their union with Christ. They shine as they reflect Christ in their lives.

They shine through their relation to the church as their light combines with the light of others to illuminate the way of life to others.

Christians shine through good works. One channel is through righteous works, through beneficial works, through constant and consistent works done for glory to God. Christians shine through noble motives.

A light that does not illuminate is no light at all. Many times we

do not shine because of apathy, sometimes because of cowardice, often because materialistic worldliness, sometimes because covetousness, and finally, often because of vanity.

If one keeps in mind to do all to the "glory of God," the result is peace of mind and joys beyond measure.

God wants us to do all to his glory because he knows this is the way of true happiness and victorious life.

There will be another message from the word of God in worship Sunday morning at 11 a.m. at the Frontier Baptist Church. Come and be blessed.

Jesus has enough love for everyone

By Pastor Charolette Corey
Gateway Ministries

A heart is the most common symbol given to the one you love on Valentine's Day. Yet, the largest heart ever given was by Jesus Christ to each one of us.

Jesus gives it to the lonely whose heart he hears crying out, "Does anyone know I'm alive? Does anyone care? I have needs to! Does God love me?"

Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus gives it to the ones who have lost their spouse, whose hearts he hears crying out, "I feel so alone now. I'm afraid to go on! Who's going to take care of me? Help me God!"

Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus gives it to the one who had a child out of wedlock, when he hears her heart crying, "What am I going to do now? I'll be shunned and no one can possibly

love me now! Help me God!"

Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus gives it to the abused as he hears the heart crying out, "I must be bad. No one can possibly love me now! I'm scared to live and scared to die! I'm ashamed for anyone to know. Please love me!"

Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus gives it to those whose hearts cry out, "I need these drugs! I need this alcohol! I need this food! I need this sex! I need this, because without it, the darkness and the pain creeps in. Help me God!"

Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus gives it to those whose hearts cry out, "I'm so evil. I've committed crimes that even God can't forgive me! I deserve to die! I'm sorry! Help me God!"

Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus gives it to those whose hearts cry out, "Everyone expects me to be perfect! The pressure of people's expectations are more than I can bear! I feel like I'm going to explode! God will help me!"

He was, is, and ever will be there with his love.

Jesus' heart is big enough for anyone's need. Just reach out for it. You are not alone! Jesus was, is, and ever will be there with his heart of love for you. Just receive it!

Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

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.

Paid Political Adv. by Roger Perez

Musical opportunities come to Brackettville

Continued from Page 3

Tex-Mex conjunto music is coming to Brackettville the week of March 15.

We were one of only 20 cities in Texas to be selected for an artist in residence named Santiago Jimenez Jr. He is an accordionist who started playing in 1957.

Santiago will be at school and in our community for a week, playing and doing concerts for all of us. This is quite an honor.

The Texas Commission of the Arts, Kinney County Arts Council, and the National Council of the Arts is sponsoring this event.

We're proud to be one of the 20 cities in Texas that is making a difference for its community.

Garage Sale

The big garage sale will be held on Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. until all is gone. It's worth checking out.

Your support and encouragement make it easier for our school to keep improving. We have great kids and the nurturing help from a great community.

Have a great week!

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FEBRUARY IS SALE MONTH!

| | |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">'98 Ford Ranger</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>XL, V6 Automatic, Air, Stereo</p> </div>  </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">STK #T3140 & T3193</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">2 LEFT AT THIS PRICE</p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">MSRP..... \$15,160 G&B Disc..... <761> Factory Rebate..... <1,000> SALE PRICE \$13,399.00 <small>PLUS TTL</small></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">'98 Ford F150</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;">  </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">STK #T3214</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">LAST ONE LEFT IN STOCK</p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Total Before Disc.. \$17,320 Factory Disc..... <1,100> MSRP..... 16,220 G&B Disc..... <1,621> SALE PRICE \$14,599.00 <small>PLUS TTL</small></p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">'98 Ford Expedition</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>RR Air, 3rd Seat, 685A Pkg, Running Boards, CD Changer</p> </div>  </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">STK #T3247</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">ONE AT THIS PRICE ... SIX TOTAL IN STOCK</p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Total Before Disc.. \$32,890 Factory Disc..... <720> MSRP..... 32,170 G&B Disc..... <3,175> SALE PRICE \$28,995.00 <small>PLUS TTL</small></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">'97 Ford Crown Victoria</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;">  </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">STK #F3117 & #F3139</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">TWO LEFT AT THIS PRICE</p> </div> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Total Before Disc.. \$23,405 Factory Disc..... <1,800> MSRP..... 21,605 G&B Disc..... <1,610> Factory Rebate..... <1,000> SALE PRICE 18,995.00 <small>PLUS TTL</small></p> |

ENDS 2-28-98 * ALL PRICES PLUS TTL.

Graf & Barton Ford Lincoln Mercury

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