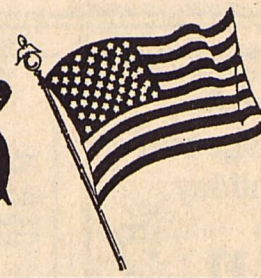


The Brackett News



Merry Christmas

10th year, No. 46

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

1 Section, 8 Pages



Santa Claus was on hand Sunday to give presents to Kinney County children during the Community Unity celebration at City Hall in Brackettville. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

Sheriff dismisses rumors from Fort Clark Springs

By J.J. Guidry
News Editor

Kinney County Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess dismissed rumors last week that his deputies were about to assume security responsibilities at Fort Clark Springs.

The association currently receives security services from Smith Security. But rumors were circulating that the security services would be cut by up to 50 percent as soon as next month.

"There have been rumors going around that we're going to send a mass influx of deputy sheriffs into Fort Clark Springs," Burgess said. "This is totally false. They have talked to me about putting deputy sheriffs up there to offset Smith Security."

Fort Clark Springs General Manager Jim Heath acknowledged that he was looking for ways to increase traffic safety.

"We're just getting our facts together as to what can be done, and this has been going on for several months," Heath said. "Nothing tangible has been done.

Director calls political flier 'bologna'

A member of the Fort Clark Springs Board of Directors called a political flier distributed to members of the association "bologna."

"It's strictly rumor," said Don Parks, secretary of the Board of Directors, during last week's Commissioners Court meeting.

The flier addresses rumors circulating that have the Kinney County Sheriff's Department assuming responsibilities currently held by Smith Security - rumors that Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess has denied.

The flier said: "The general manager/board has directed the security provider to give them a proposal to cut security service by 50 percent. The security provider gave the general manager/board the requested proposal, which could possibly take effect January, 1999."

"Security is an expensive operation," Parks said. "We spend over \$200,000 a year on secu-

ry and have no enforcement in the process. There's no income and it is a large expense item.

"We're trying to come up with some feasible ideas that would make traffic a safer operation. Talking about it doesn't mean we've done anything. We're simply looking for ideas," he said.

The flier also asked: "Do you see what's happening to your community? Were you asked about this?"

"I'll tell you what our board is doing to our community," Parks said. "We are trying to save money wherever we can. We are examining all operations, trying to make economies where they are reasonable and just.

"We don't feel it is our obligation to ask every member on the fort about every question that comes out. We're elected to do the people's business and to guard people's interests. That's what we're trying to do," the director added.

School district hires new special education teacher

By J.J. Guidry
News Editor

Brackett ISD has hired a new special education teacher at Jones Elementary School.

Greg Voyles from Tomball, Texas was hired by the School Board during last week's regular meeting. He graduated from Sul Ross State University this month with a double major in special education and physical education.

"Greg has an outstanding background in physical education," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "He did his student teaching in Fort Stockton and did a good job there. I have a lot of confidence in his abilities."

Voyles replaces Diann Schooler, who was hired for a semester because a full-time teacher could not be found.

"From the beginning we knew that she was going to be leaving

at the end of the semester," Stephenson said. "She wanted to spend time with her daughter, Mary. She did an outstanding job for us. We will miss her, but we certainly understand her position."

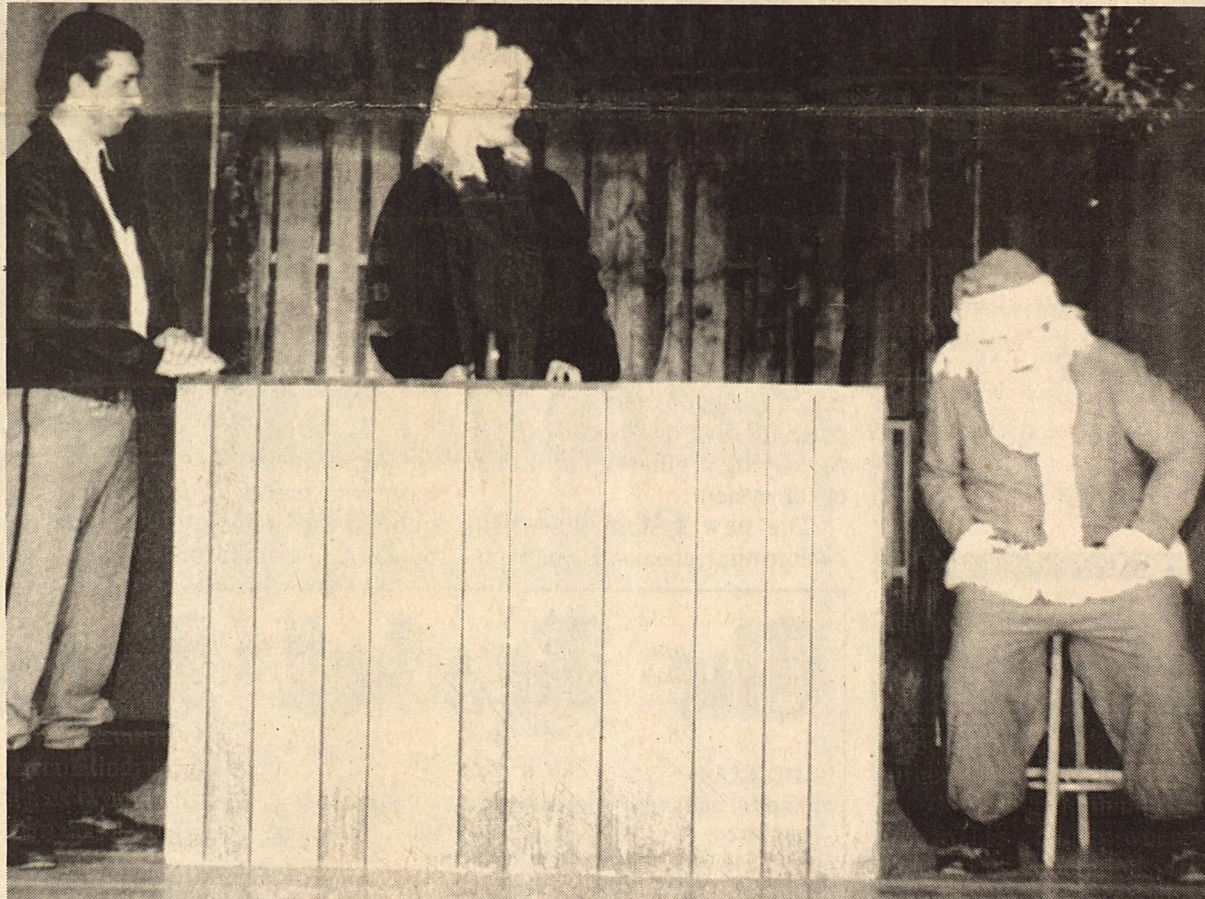
Voyles was coached by Brackett Athletic Director David Yeager while in middle school.

"He drove through Brackettville and stopped to visit Coach Yeager," Stephenson said. "When we found out his major was special education, we began to talk about the opening."

Voyles was also hired as an assistant coach for baseball and football.

"We have been a coach short all year," Stephenson said. "This will help fill that void."

With Voyles assisting Ricky Creel in baseball, Dave Wilkins will take over as the boys' head golf coach.



Clyde Hepline (from left), Barbara Hunter and Mike Bowlin were among the local actors performing in the Old Quarry Society's production of "Christmas Attitudes" Saturday evening at Post Theater on Fort Clark Springs. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

Officials designate area for fireworks

The Brackett ISD track stadium will be available for those wishing to use fireworks during the holiday season, Brackettville city officials announced this week.

Because fireworks are illegal within the city limits without supervision from the Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department, the school district has agreed to allow the use of the track stadium.

Fire Department officials will be on hand today from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and on Thursday, Dec. 31, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The events are being coordinated by Grover Neuman, who asked the Brackettville City Council to designate a location during last week's regular meeting.

"There needs to be a place for kids to pop fireworks during the holidays," Neuman said.

Anyone participating in the event must sign a release. Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

INSIDE

Joe Townsend

Talk about asininity! If you buy an automobile, thanks to big brother tyranny, you have to have air bags.

Opinion/Page 2

Taylor Stephenson

Christmas is here! The shopping for last minute gifts is over, and our kitchens are graced with the aroma of the Christmas fair.

Community/Page 3

Henry Lutz

Successful deer hunters this season are reminded to follow a new law that specifies where the animals must be tagged.

Outdoors/Page 5

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Planning for the future of agriculture

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

County Extension Agent Robert Elledge discussed change and planning for the future Thursday as he addressed the Brackettville Rotary Club at its weekly meeting.

Elledge said agriculture is suffering from many different problems. In this area, the sheep and goat industry is struggling to stay

alive.

Change can be positive or negative, and because the outcome is uncertain, it raises anxiety.

The one thing that is certain about agriculture is the inevitability of massive change. Making a decision to confront this and become a key player in finding solutions brings a measure of security, he said.

Elledge said 4-H groups will be making plans that will encom-

pass the next four years.

First, the groups will consider the direction in which agriculture is headed and plan for positive changes. Groups will be formed in each county and statewide in order to let the people decide in open forums what is best for their future.

The task at hand will be discussed and goals set. The objectives will be examined and strategic plans formed. Resources will be considered. Each county will set a goal and it will be of major importance.

Elledge said one of the problems the groups will address is imports. Not enough government regulations exist that protect American agriculture.

Another big issue is rainfall enhancement and the need to recapture water for reserves.

The extension agency wants to bond with other agencies in order to be of help to one another, he said.

Elledge and his wife, Sherri, came from Uvalde. Both attended junior college there and Robert graduated from Texas A&M University.



Herb Senne (right) introduced Robert Elledge at last Thursday's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting. Photo by Eric McMaster



Brackettville's Jacquelyn Conoly (from left) and Len and Carolyn Prevatt of Del Rio performed Christmas carols Sunday at St. John's Missionary Church. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

CHRISTMAS JOY TO ALL
 With special thanks for your patronage and good will, we wish you a happy holiday.

Ora's Drive In
 From The Five Angels
 Roger Cordy Celina Rene Johnathan

Merry Christmas and have a Prosperous New Year!

Kinney County Chamber of Commerce

Christmas Greetings We're glad to have an opportunity to greet you!

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 830-563-9783

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Alamo Village
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Texas Mohair Products
 High Quality and Low Prices

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 ○ Rugs Caps ○
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 Plus More ○

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Kinney County Wool & Mohair
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Bureaucracy at its best

Talk about asininity! If you buy an automobile, thanks to big brother tyranny, you have to have air bags.

If you have a small child you have to have a special seat with the child strapped in.

Some children were killed by air bags, so big brother bureaucrat decided some could buy and have installed a very expensive switch for the air bag.

Now comes a man who bought a new vehicle with air bags. He bought a child's seat and placed his baby in the seat with his back to the front as the "safety experts"

Between Us
 By Joe Townsend



He had a collision and the air bag was inflated and killed the baby.

Because the man had installed a cutoff switch but did not cut off the air bag, he was sentenced by the power hungry judge to jail. This sort of idiocy is entirely too common.

It's past time for such individuals as this judge to be defrocked and bureaucrats and legislators who do such stupid stunts be relegated to the rock pile to make little rocks out of big ones.

For the safety of mankind, such people need to be put where they cannot exalt themselves and dehumanize humanity.

Is the FBI watching you?

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

A new federal regulation that took effect Dec. 1 has gun buyers in Texas irate - and rightfully so.

It's a regulation that lets the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) keep a file on every person that buys a gun. Under this regulation, the FBI is allowed to maintain a national database with the name of every person who purchases a gun in the United States.

As you might imagine, this invasion of privacy has gotten the attention of Texans. The regulation was tagged onto a plan to replace the five-day waiting period for buying a gun with an instant check system.

The new system will make background checks virtually in-

stantaneous. But some policy makers in the FBI seem to be more interested in collecting information on law-abiding citizens instead of deterring criminals.

This time our individual privacy is on the line. When law-abiding citizens go to buy shotguns, rifles or handguns, the gun dealer makes a quick call to the FBI for a criminal background check.

The FBI runs your name through its computer system. Once you've been cleared, you can have your gun and be on your way. But your name, address, birth date, sex and race all stay in the FBI's database.

Why does the FBI need a database with names of law-abiding gun owners? It doesn't. It needs a database of criminals with guns.

The FBI isn't the only one keeping a close eye on things. Congress passed a law that prohibits the FBI from creating a long-term database from the names it runs through the instant checking system. The FBI is required by law to delete names after six months from the date the gun was purchased.

The Second Amendment guarantees our constitutional right to bear arms. The rights set forth by the founders of our great country have worked for America for 210 years.

The framers of our Constitution struck a fine balance between the rights of the people and the powers of the government. We cannot afford to let that delicate balance be skewed in the slightest.

Letters

An obvious message
 Here is a cryptogram:
 I - improper; immoral; is "is" is; impede; implode.
 M - misled; misuse; manipulate; misdemeanor; media; Morris; Monica.
 P - power; prey; poll; prevaricate; privilege; pars; politicize; polarize; pray; perjury.
 E - egregious; exasperate; exacerbate; evasive; empty.
 A - abuse; attack; annihilate; apologize; amoral; adulterer; apologize; apologize.
 C - character; cheat; coward; coach; control; Currie; conspiracy; censure.
 H - hedonism; happening; "Handsome"; Hillary; handlers; hedge; herd.
 The hidden message is obvious - it's Clinton.
 Brenda Blackwood

Tax Tips
 By Roland Boysen

Medical savings accounts
 Taxpayers with no employer medical insurance or employer medical insurance permitted by the plan can set up a medical savings plan to pay deductible portions of a "high deductible insurance." This plan must meet IRS guidelines for such a plan.

Contributions are limited to 65 percent of individual deductible amount or 75 percent of a family's deductible amount.

The contribution is deductible from page 1 without itemizing. You must be self-employed or have employee income. Distributions are tax-free when used to pay qualified medical expenses.

Not new this year, but deductible from page 1 is moving expenses.

This should be great for new teachers and employees moving into the area for work on or in the new detention center. The move must be at least 50 miles and you must stay at least 39 weeks.

Home office rules are relaxed once again beginning in 1999. No longer have to be only place of work, just exclusive use.

Unsung Hero
 By Joe Townsend

There is a young man here who was born here and has spent his life here. He was well liked as a student all the way through school.

He has worked hard and has equipped himself to be proficient in his trade.

Except for a few weeks of observation when he took time to team up with his family, he has been an integral part of the crew of the restaurant at Fort Clark.

As manager, he turned the situation around from a debacle to an asset. He is outstanding as a cook and as an administrator of the restaurant. He is hard-working, efficient and capable.

He is a most likable individual and warmhearted and friendly. It is once again a treat to eat at the Fort Clark restaurant largely because of him. Surely, Ralph Fuentes is an Unsung Hero.

Letters Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. 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.

The Brackett News Member of **TA** Texas Press Association

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DEADLINES: Display advertising deadline is noon Tuesday for advertising to be composed for the current publication.

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Open Late For All You Santas!

Plaza del Sol

Extended Holiday Hours
 Dec. 23, Wednesday, 10AM-10PM
 Dec. 24, Thursday, 8AM-6PM

Big Mama Sez!
 Wishes can never fill a sack

The holiday season is in the air

Christmas is here! The shopping for last minute gifts is over, and our kitchens are graced with the aroma of the Christmas fair.

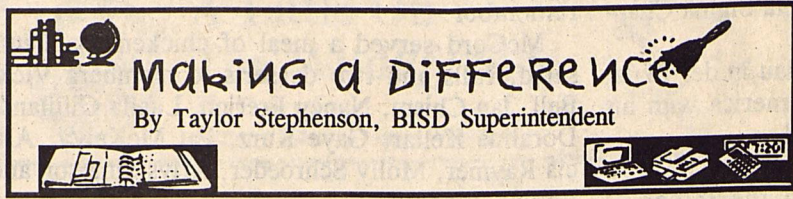
After the phones have stopped ringing and the children's and the toys' batteries have gone to sleep for the evening, say a prayer for our nation. I can't remember when we have had such bitter political turmoil in our nation.

I believe in the political process that our Constitution established for the USA.

The strength of our nation is families. What a grand time of year to focus on the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.

This Christmas, I pray that our nation's leaders will stop calling each other names, stop telling lies, and stop blaming "the other" political party for our country's failures.

It's nice to see the huge pine tree at the Kinney County Courthouse lighted and decorated with Christmas ribbons. City



Residents and visitors have enjoyed the decorations since Thanksgiving.

The wonderland at City Hall added to our Christmas season. At Fort Clark, Colony Row is better lighted than ever before. There are light displays in every part of town.

I love the poinsettias that some of Brackettville's citizens have growing outside. Some look to be eight feet tall with gorgeous red blooms. We have a climate that supports this unusual winter display!

Our school Christmas parties were symbolic of the love and unity of which I speak. As I walked through the rooms, I saw children with the wonderment of Christmas in their eyes.

There was no division between the poor and the wealthy - they played with each other. There was no division between ethnic groups or boys and girls. They too played with each other.

Can't we let our children show us a way to get along with each other?

I believe that's what Christmas is about - a child who showed us the way. Our nation needs to step back and watch the children, and then follow their lead.

Speaking of watching elementary school children, I watched some of the Christmas celebrations. A highlight was the giving of a special gift to each teacher and to each child.

Most teacher gifts had a spe-

cial Christmas meaning. The children eagerly watched as each teacher unwrapped the child's gift. Teachers thanked each child for the gift which added meaning to the teacher's life.

We have such fine teachers in Brackettville. I hope the adults of the community will say encouraging words to our fine teachers this Christmas season.

Each child received a special gift. Then the wonderful room parents came to bring food, games and love for the children. It was a special treat to watch Santa come in on the fire truck.

Santa had a great bunch of helpers. So, you see in our town, everyone helps and works together to add special meaning for our children.

I hope that you are enjoying your family and friends this holiday season. I'm home talking to our children and to our grandson. What a neat way to spend a holiday! Have a great week!

Obituary

Pablo M. Leos

Pablo M. Leos, 70, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1998 in Del Rio, Texas.

Leos was born Jan. 15, 1928 in Villa Union, Mexico. He was a longtime resident of Brackettville.

Leos is survived by his wife: Carolina V. Leos of Brackettville; sons: Johnny Leos and wife Gladys of Houston, and Guillermo Leos and wife Mirella of Brackettville; brothers: Rumaldo Leos, Jesus Leos and Juan Leos, all of Villa Union, Mexico; sister: Guadalupe Leos of Villa Union, Mexico; and grandchildren: Josuha Leos and Johnny Leos Jr.

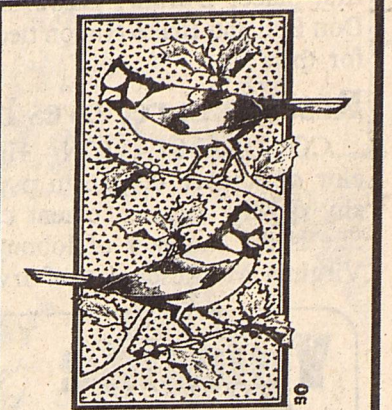
Visitation was held Dec. 16 at the Brackettville Funeral Home. Rosary was recited in the chapel in Brackettville.

Mass was held on Dec. 17 at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. Burial followed at the Catholic Cemetery in Brackettville.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Brackettville Funeral Home, 114 North Street, Brackettville.

I want to wish each and every one of you a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Love,
Chapo & Henry*



*Joy
To The World
Have a beautiful
Christmas.
From
Fort Clark
Springs Association*

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Tuesday, Dec. 15

10:50 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs woman reported an attempted break-in at her brother-in-law's residence. She said that a screen was removed from a window. Nothing was reported missing from the residence.

11:18 p.m., A motorist reported a truck in a ditch on Highway 90, 12 miles east of Brackettville. Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism was dispatched to the scene. He spoke to the driver of the vehicle who said that he fell asleep. He lost control of the vehicle and rolled it. Chism requested assistance from the Department of Public Safety and Kinney County EMS.

Wednesday, Dec. 16

9:15 a.m., Timothy Blake Hemphill, 41, of Houston was arrested by DPS Trooper Juan Lozano for driving while intoxicated. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Hemphill was released the same day after posting a \$1,500 bail bond.

2:08 p.m., A motorist reported

that a gray Dodge dually pulling a horse trailer was weaving all over the road approximately 10 miles east of Brackettville on Highway 90. DPS Trooper Richard Slubar was informed of the situation.

9:58 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported a suspicious looking vehicle. Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene. He spoke to the driver of the vehicle who said he was waiting for some friends.

Thursday, Dec. 17

3:45 p.m., Broderick B. Brakefield, 26, of San Marcos was arrested by Trooper Slubar and charged with driving while intoxicated, second offense, and possession of marijuana under two ounces. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Brakefield was released the same day after posting a \$3,000 bail bond.

9:45 p.m., An employee at the Fort Clark bar reported that he had refused service to a woman because she was getting too intoxicated. He said the woman wanted

to talk to a law enforcement officer. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene. He explained to the woman that the bartender had the right to refuse service to anyone at any time. A friend took the woman home. Deputy Guidry explained to the friend that he would have to arrest the woman for public intoxication if she returned to the bar.

Friday, Dec. 18

2:50 p.m., A Rio Grande Electric employee reported that someone had hit a sign and a fence. Chief of Police Ron Ring was dispatched to the scene and filed a report.

4:31 p.m., A motorist reported a one-vehicle accident on Highway 277. He said the vehicle went through a fence. No injuries were reported. Trooper Slubar was dispatched to the scene. The owner of the damaged fence was notified of the situation.

10:00 p.m., Marcos Martinez, 42, of Valenzuela, Coahuila Mexico was arrested by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie for operat-

ing a motor vehicle without a driver's license and liability insurance. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Martinez was released the following day after paying a \$200 fine and credited with time served.

Saturday, Dec. 19

12:30 a.m., A Brackettville woman requested an escort home. She said that she went to a Christmas party with her live-in companion, and he got drunk and started saying things. She took him to his sister's residence and told him to make arrangements with law enforcement officials to remove his things from her home. She said he became more angry and began to chase her, banging on the car window, so she went to the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Chism escorted the woman to her residence, where he found the man. Chism then escorted the man to his sister's residence.

12:05 p.m., Officials reported that a vehicle bought gas in Del Rio and did not pay for it. Officials could not locate the vehicle.

*Happy Holidays to Our Members
from Border Federal Credit Union.*

*We will be closed from
Noon December 24th through
Friday December 26th.*

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Texas Department of Transportation

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will hold a public hearing meeting to discuss the 2000-2002 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) encompassing Val Verde, Maverick, and Kinney Counties.

TxDot is proposing the three year TIP and is requesting input from the public on these roadway improvement projects. This public meeting will be held at the Eagle Pass Multi Purpose Center located at 100 South Monroe St. at 6:30 p.m. on January 27, 1999.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Robert D. Austin, P.E., Director of Transportation Planning & Development for the Laredo District at (956) 712-7440.

HUGE YEAR END SAVINGS

NEW 1999 FORD ESCORT

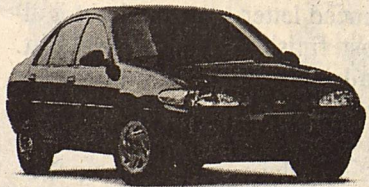
4DR, LX, AIR, 4 CYL, #F3730

\$215.00

per month
for 60 mos.

AND
0 down,
plus TTL*

Sale price \$11,995. \$0 down plus TTL. 2.90% APR. 60 month. Financing charge, \$905. Total of payments, \$12,900.



2.9%
APR for
60 mos.*

NEW 1999 FORD CONTOUR

4DR, LX, AIR, AUTO, CRUISE, CASSETTE, #F3644

\$249.10

per month*

Sale price \$14,707 after \$500 rebate. \$400 down plus TTL. 35 payments of \$249.10. 5.25% APR. Total of payments, \$8,718.50, plus final payment of \$7,301.25 or return to dealer with normal wear and tear and \$250 termination fee. 12,000 miles per year.



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OPTION
Balloon financing**

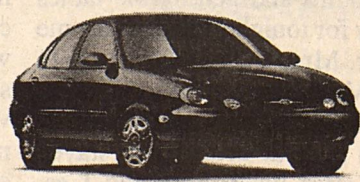
NEW 1999 FORD TAURUS

V-6, 4DR, LX, AIR, AUTO, CRUISE, CASSETTE, #F3698

\$249.57

per month*

Sale price \$16,826 after \$500 rebate. \$700 down plus TTL. 35 payments of \$249.57. 1.25% APR. Total of payments, \$8,734.95, plus final payment of \$7,841.40 or return to dealer with normal wear and tear and \$250 termination fee. 12,000 miles per year.



**36 month
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OPTION
Balloon financing**

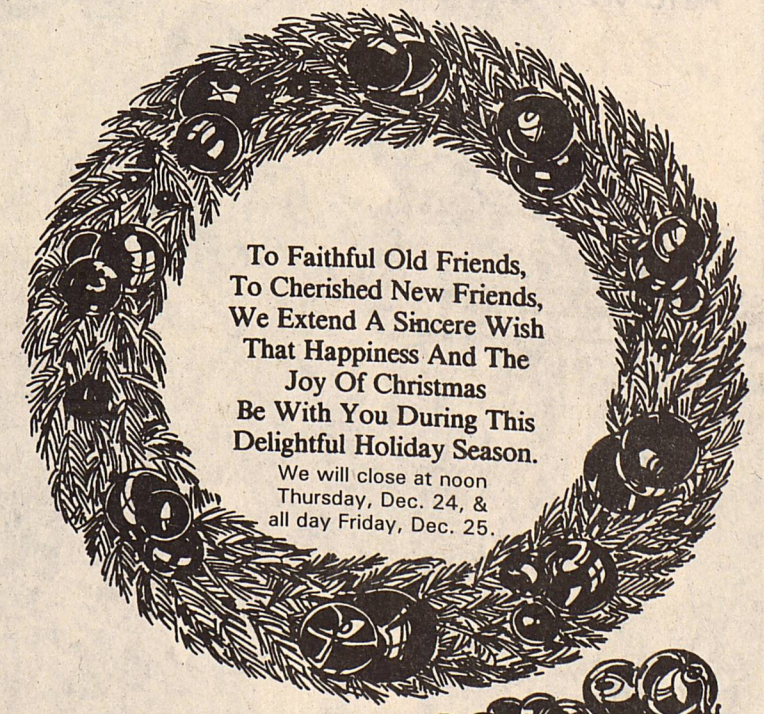
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	MSRP	SALE
1998 Taurus SE Sport #F3582	\$20130	\$16995**
1998 Crown Victoria #F3577	\$24180	\$21995**
1998 Contour LX #F3512	\$15995	\$13995**
1998 Ranger SIC #T3604	\$18985	\$15995**
1998 Windstar #T3400	\$24815	\$20995**
1998 Villager #M3491	\$25900	\$21995**
1998 Sable #M3174	\$20570	\$17995**
1999 Cougar #M3543	\$17350	\$15995**
1999 Navigator #L3661	\$42150	\$37963**

**All prices plus TTL.

*Ends Dec. 31, 1998. As low as 2.90% APR financing on 99 Escort thru Ford Credit with approved credit as determined by Ford Credit. Some customers will not qualify. Residency restrictions apply. All Red Carpet Option financing with approved credit thru Ford Credit. All artwork for illustration purposes only.

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To Faithful Old Friends,
To Cherished New Friends,
We Extend A Sincere Wish
That Happiness And The
Joy Of Christmas
Be With You During This
Delightful Holiday Season.

We will close at noon
Thursday, Dec. 24, &
all day Friday, Dec. 25.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Motor Bank Hours

Monday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lobby Hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bank & Trust

Brackettville, Texas 78832

Phone (830) 563-2451

Member F.D.I.C.

Briefs ...

Bridge Club attracts eight and a half tables

The Fort Clark Springs Duplicate Bridge Club met Tuesday at the Adult Center with eight and a half tables playing the Mitchell Movement.

Fred and Nina Clayton won first place in the north-south division, while Mary Edgar and Nancy O'Brien were second, and Bob Barnett and Doc Harber finished third.

In the east-west division, Joyce Bell and Alice Seargeant claimed first place, Dorothy Edwards and Ruth Wilks took second, and Don Bell and Blake Hinton tied Carol Benfield and Molly Schroeder for third.

Reschman receives bachelor of science degree

COLLEGE STATION - Hannah M. Reschman received a bachelor of science degree in psychology from Texas A&M University during commencement ceremonies Saturday at Reed Arena. She is the daughter of Johnny Joe Reschman of Brackettville and Virginia M. Reschman of Irving, Texas.

McCord discusses Santa's origins

Clara McCord discussed the origin of Santa Claus Monday as she hosted a Theta Sigma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi meeting.

Thomas Nast was born in Landau in der Pfalz, Germany in 1840. He came to America with his family when he was six years old.

Nast is rightfully considered the father of American political cartooning, since there was no political cartoonist worthy of the name in America before him.

Nast's Santa Claus, patterned after St. Nicholas described in Clement Moore's "Night before Christmas" poem, is the personification of the "jolly old elf" that we recognize today.

After the program, each sorority member told

of their first present from Santa - if they could remember.

McCord served a meal of chicken spaghetti, salad, rolls and two desserts to members Vicki Bell, Jan Chism, Nancy Frerich, Luella Gilliland, Doraline Kellar, Gaye Kurz, Pat McKelvy, Alicia Raymer, Molly Schroeder, Arlys Simpson and Bobbie Waddill.

After the meal, Bell and Kurz were honored during a special ceremony. They have advanced to exemplar degree.

During a short business meeting, the group voted to donate money toward the Kinney County Community Christmas Basket Program. It was also noted that Arlys Simpson would be joining our chapter.

But I could be wrong

By Chuck Hall



Have a merry Christmas

I hope this week finds you in the best of health and holiday spirit. I hope you will be able to spend a lot of quality time with someone you love. Of all of the gifts, love is the best. May you find it abundantly.

Keep the true meaning of Christmas in your heart. Try to find more joy in giving than receiving. Do something wonderful for those less fortunate than yourself. And if you want to feel really good, don't tell anyone about your random act of kindness. You'll be amazed at the feeling. Call up old friends, especially one who has drifted away for some reason.

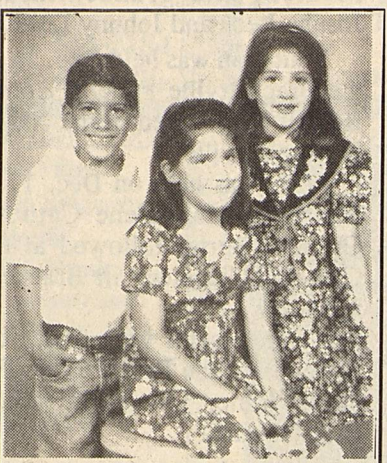
If you have wronged anyone, now is the time to right it. Do whatever it takes to make it right.

And when you lay your head down on Christmas Eve, you will sleep well. And then wake up Christmas day to find a whole lot better world than it was the day before. But I could be wrong.

Yuletide Cheer

We hope you and your family receive all the best at Christmas time!

From all of us at Kinney County Land



Happy Birthday Danny, Elidia & Elena Molinar 7 yrs. old, Dec. 23 brother Tony, sister Tanya, & parents Tony & Elena Molinar

Thanks to everyone in Kinney County for your help and support and every act of kindness to us in the year of 98, especially when I had the fire in July! May your Christmas be happy and your New Year be bright! Jonnie Salmon & family

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Citizens show support for Arts Council

The citizens of this area are definitely for projects that broadens the school childrens' cultural horizons.

The support for the Kinney County Arts Council's Annual Christmas Tour of Homes on Dec. 13 exceeded the members expectations.

The main contributing factor was the cooperation of various groups.

The honor students from the high school volunteered as home guides and added greatly to the

Around Town

By Woodie Hornburg

pleasure of the tour.

The homeowners were gracious in sharing their abodes and premiss.

The Fort Clark Adult Center staff displayed the raffle Christmas tree and sold donation tickets.

Nora E. Estrada from Asherton, Texas won a deco-

rated tree valued at over \$200.

The "Sweet Shop" loaded with homemade cakes and cookies, managed by Helen Peck, was a sellout.

To mention all of the entities responsible for the tour's success would be longer than Santa's list.

So, all of the supporters of this project prove the fact of sure success when the outcome will benefit the area's greatest asset - the citizens of our community and our children.

FOOTSTEPS ECHO

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

Courtesy of his decendants



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, Dec. 24, 1886

Marched on guard this morning relieving Ives. Mail brought letter and papers from home and a letter from Henry Freeman. The expressman drove up to the guard house this morning with my Christmas basket. Sent it up to the house without opening it and intend to keep it intact until tomorrow. Wrote to Grandmother this morning. After lunch Hewitt came to the guard house and we had the French lesson there. Capt. Vance had not yet returned from his hunting trip. Read in "England under Gladstone," an exceedingly interesting historical book. On going up to quarters to dress for dinner Dr. Schwartzkopf came upstairs and presented me with a silk purse worked by his wife as a souvenir of their wedding last Summer, Hammond and I being witnesses to its contract. It is a very handsome affair. After dinner stopped in to thank Mrs. S. and to wish them both a Merry Christmas. Spent the evening in reading "England under Gladstone" and in dozing. The Officer of the day inspected soon after midnight. A beautiful clear, peaceful night, tonight is eminently appropriate for Christmas eve.

Saturday, Dec. 25, 1886

Christmas day has been a warm, bright day; not like they are having up home with snow and ice but warm enough to sit outdoors without discomfort. My first pleasure of the day was in marching off guard. Found a handsome satchet in my room this morning, a gift from Mrs. Guard. It was very kind in her. She also sent a fine large cake to each couple of bachelors. After marching off guard unpacked my basket the first thing and found many kind remembrances from home. A pair of shoes, six handkerchiefs, several neckties, a scarf pin, a blacking box set in a leather case, a decorated blotter, some silk socks and a scent bag, with a big fruit cake, smaller cakes and plenty of candy made up the contents. All these things are extremely satisfactory many of them being needed now. Went over after my mail after opening the basket and then up to Capt. Vance's with Hewitt where we got our copies of "La Tulipe Noire" a book that we intend to read now. Took a bath and shaved before lunch. After lunch

worked all afternoon on the favors for our party next Thursday evening. Put on swallowtail suit after retreat and went up to Gen. Smith's for dinner. Several others were invited and most of the gentlemen appeared in evening suit. Enjoyed the meal exceedingly. All spent the evening there and had a very pleasant time with music. Miss Coleman's voice is a magnificent one, especially in her lower register. Missed tattoo but the General will not say anything about this. On the way home several of us stopped in at Col. Jordan's where they lighted up their Christmas tree and gave us an idea of its beauty. His is a model family as each one seems to think everything of the others.

Sunday, Dec. 26, 1886

Slept through reveille this morning but the General accepted my explanation very graciously. Wrote a letter today to the Post Adjutant asking him to have put up in the halls of our building double lamps and we will furnish the oil and other materials for burning. Mail brought a letter from John who writes that Lula & he were to be in Fort Wayne last Friday and would remain there until Lula's birthday next week. Was very much pleased to learn that they would be able to make such a long stay as it will be so much enjoyed by all. Capt. Vance being Officer of the Day gave me an opportunity to wear cit clothes and display my new scarf pin and shoes. Sat for a short time in his house and then got Miss Jordan, Miss Coleman and Mamie Smith and went over to the chapel to practice for tonight. Hammond was on guard. Completed the practicing too late for lunch. Wrote usual letter home in the afternoon including Lula and John in it and did not write one especially to them. Dr. Harris came in and sat for some time chatting just before retreat. Geary came in after dinner. Attended service as usual in the evening and afterwards escorted Miss Coleman home. Miss Jordan has taken Mrs. Leefe's place in the choir, a change for the better. Sat with Capt. Vance until tattoo and then read and dozed until bedtime.

Monday, Dec. 27, 1886

Did not have to get up for reveille this morning. After breakfast worked until lunch steadily on the favors for Thursday evening. Mail brought a letter from Lula and receipts for money sent to pay for sword knot and overcoat. Had usual successful French lesson this afternoon but Hewitt felt sick and did not attend. Practiced some music on the organ at the post hall

after the lesson, and then worked on the favors until retreat. No dress parade this evening as the band went up to Del Rio today to open an opera house there. After dinner completed work on the favors and then played piquet with Hammond. Ives & Dr. Schwartzkopf came in later and we played whist until tattoo in order to teach the Doctor the game so that he may play Thursday. He learned very rapidly. Read "England under Gladstone" after tattoo.

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1886

Was disappointed in not getting a letter from home this morning. Commenced to clean out my rooms today and had them washed and prepared for decorating. After lunch played tennis and enjoyed the games very much as I needed the exercise. Called at Dr. Harris' a while in the evening after dinner and then spent rest of evening at Mrs. Guard's helping to decorate the programmes for the ladies' reception on New Year's. Escorted Miss Coleman and Mrs. Lester to their homes. Today is George's birthday.

Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1886

Spent the past night in Ives' house as my house is all cleared out for tomorrow night. Commenced letter home and got it almost finished before breakfast. Mail brought the delayed letter from Sue. Spent the day working for the entertainment. In the morning laid the carpets, put up curtains, and in the afternoon worked at Mrs. Guard's helping to decorate and fix the favors and prizes. The latter are very beautiful being paintings by Ives handsomely decorated with ribbons by the ladies and some made up into blotters & calendars. In the evening attended a children's party at the hop room given by Mamie Smith and had quite an enjoyable evening. Escorted Miss Ella Jordan home. Finished letter & mailed it after retreat.

Thursday, Dec. 30, 1886

Worked all morning fixing up the rooms and getting the tables ready for tonight. No mail for me today. Mrs. Guard came up with old Mrs. Kinney and arranged things for us and beautified the room a great deal. They stayed until after lunch time and I escorted them home and had to miss lunch. At one o'clock escorted Nellie Kauffman to the post hall and danced a german with her as a partner. Hewitt gave it for the girls inviting us bachelors to dance with them. He brought the favors over from Paris and they were very pretty and added a great deal to the pleasure of the affair. He is to be congratulated on his com-

plete success. Fared quite well but gave all my favors to my partner. Took a bath afterwards. Mrs. Guard and Mrs. Kinney came up later when Mrs. Guard completed the decoration of the rooms. They looked very pretty indeed. After dinner put on swallow tail suit as did Ives. George had a swallow tail also and white gloves and stood at the lower hall door to show the ladies in Dr. Schwartzkopf's room and the gentlemen into Walcutt's, to leave their wraps. These rooms were kindly placed at our disposal. The guests began to come at eight o'clock and soon after the playing commenced. There were just enough to fill nine tables, and Ives & self did not have to play. This permitted us to circulate around, put on the pasters {?} and distribute the favors. These consisted of small bells on ribbons given to the winners at the head table, and gun wads marked "Booby" on ribbon to the losers at the booby table. The tables were round ones covered with unbleached muslin which Corp'l Smith tacked on tight and thus made splendid tables for playing. Each was marked with the ace, deuce &c, of hearts according to its number, except the last which was marked "4 Boobies." The prize winners were: Mrs. Williams 1st gold star prize, Mrs. Guard 2nd, Mrs. Kinney 1st green star, Mrs. Kauffman 2nd, Mrs. Smith bell prize, Mrs. Feche't booby; Taylor 1st gold star, Maj. Wilcox 2nd, Lester 1st green star, Dr. Harris 2nd, Gen Smith bell, and Williams booby. Mrs. Kinney got up the refreshments consisting of chicken salad, ham and tongue sandwiches, rolls, celery, kisses and coffee and the whole was splendid. In addition served my fruit cake which was very much enjoyed, and received many compliments. The playing stopped at midnight, refreshments being served at ten. There were a number of ties to be settled, in one of which helped Mrs. Guard to win by playing a game as her partner. All left soon after the prizes were announced, and we received many compliments. Altogether it is the affair of the season here, both in style, pretty rooms and pleasant time, and we feel thoroughly satisfied.

Deer tags remain with meat under new law

Successful deer hunters this season are reminded to follow a new law that specifies where the animals must be tagged.

If the head of a deer is severed and no longer accompanies the carcass, the appropriate hunting license tag must remain with the venison until it reaches a final destination.

Final destination is defined as the residence of the hunter, the residence of a person receiving a resource from a hunter, or a meat processing facility.

"Previously, there was some confusion as to where the animal should be tagged," said David Sinclair, law enforcement director of hunting for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). "This law states very clearly, for both hunters and taxidermists, the tagging and paperwork necessary to accompany any part of the animal."

TPWD law enforcement officials encourage commercial hunting operations to have hunters complete the wildlife resource documents before they leave the site.

"If there is any intent to sever



**A Little On
The Wildlife Side**
By Henry Lutz
Kinney County Game Warden



the head, we hope the landowners or their agents will have the forethought to have documents completed before hunters leave camp," Sinclair said.

A wildlife resource document (shown on page 102 of the TPWD "Outdoor Annual" of hunting and fishing regulations) must stay with the severed head until the owner retrieves the head from the taxidermist. An exception to this would be if the hunter takes the deer home to be processed, then takes the head to a taxidermist.

"In that case, the tag from the hunting license no longer needs

to remain with the meat and can be used to take the head to the taxidermist instead of using a wildlife resource document," Sinclair said. "Turkey tagging and antelope permits are administered the same as deer tagging."

Last year, 508 citations were issued to hunters who did not have their deer properly tagged.

Proof-of-sex validation must accompany any headless deer or antelope carcass, Sinclair added as a reminder to hunters. Anyone

in possession of a headless deer or antelope must have a proof-of-sex receipt, which can be obtained from a taxidermist, landowner, or a landowner's agent.

"This chain of paperwork serves to cover the hunter if he's checked by a game warden," Sinclair said. "The purpose of the tagging, documentation and proof-of-sex verification is to make sure a hunter complies with annual bag limits."

If anyone has any questions on the proper tagging method or any other questions, please contact me.

I would like to take this time to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

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The Brackett News

Dimple ☆ Jewel ☆ J.J. ☆ Rick



*Season's
Greetings*
from
**Sunshine Garden
Center**
**Archie & Jill
Woodson**

*Happy
Holidays!*

We wish to you and yours
the best of the season...
thanks for your
patronage!



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&
Happy New Year*

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Christmas Memories

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of this festive season, may all that
is Christmas embrace you and yours.

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trons, for letting us serve
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& Staff**

Season's Greetings



Dr. Gloria Box, Rene, Amy, Ti, Santa Bear, Margaret, Liza, Martha, Sonia, Lela, Gilbert, and Marc



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LET'S SEE, I'M EIGHTY NOW... SO ONE JAR WOULD MAKE ME FEEL SIXTY...
...TWO JARS I'D BE FORTY AND THREE JARS I'D BE TWENTY...
SO WHAT WOULD I BE IF I BOUGHT FOUR JARS???

MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT
Sigh!... NEXT YEAR I'M DOING MY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN AUGUST!

Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 Each
5 "Turandot"
10 Prejudice
14 Delhi dignitary
19 Lurid Lugosi
20 Maine town
21 Bound bundle
22 Manage to miss
23 Sociopath's stationery?
25 Chilly powder?
26 Committee
27 Robbed
28 Lauren of "The Love Boat"
30 Rob Roy's refusal
32 Spigot
33 Fall behind
35 Dinky Olympic award?
40 Grand
45 Actor Jacques
46 Ration, with "out"
47 Tennis term
48 Tackle a bone
50 Snoozes
52 Bolivian capital
56 Disney film about a big-time butcher?
60 Rule out
63 "Salome"

character
64 Nationality
65 Lac —, N.M.
66 Charged atom
67 Work over?
70 Cuban
72 Clear (ol)
73 Word before Domini
74 Roth character goes with the flow?
78 They may needle you
80 Knock
81 Like a garage floor
82 Chinese principle
83 Past
84 Seoul man?
86 Finish
88 Make one's hair stand on end?
92 Nader's beneficiaries
94 Intellectual Beach Boy?
97 Style
98 Dermatological problem
100 Mrs. Zeus
101 — Lanka
102 Illinois neighbor

105 — No Sunshine" (71 hit)
107 Ingenious
110 Sci-fi real estate show?
113 Zsa Zsa's
114 Unsold or Craven
115 Martini ingredient
116 "Steppenwolf" author
120 Dodge
124 "Here You Come —"
127 Actress
130 Really dull conflict?
132 Tenor
133 Benjamin
134 Pays attention to
135 Dictates
136 Make tea
137 — majesty
138 St. — fire
139 Last word of the year?
DOWN
1 Basics
2 Saucy
3 Spread in a tub
4 Spanish specialty

5 Cagney or Lacey
6 Smell — (be suspicious)
7 Easy stride
8 From the top
9 Sherwood or Arden
10 Small shot
11 Publisher
12 Solitary
13 Alaska
14 Agt.
15 Pie — mode
16 Government group
17 TV's "Let's Make —"
18 '65 Beatles film
24 — moss
29 Colorful language
31 Funnyman
34 Leslie Caron role
36 "Make — double!"
37 Copperhead or cotton-mouth
38 Designer
39 Cain or Rusk
40 Walkway
41 Flu symptom

42 Wolf's expression
43 — Margaret
44 "Indian" — ('68 song)
45 Like some hair
51 Drink noisily
53 Canvas cover?
54 Like — of bricks
55 Greek philosopher
57 Rock's Los —
58 Smell
59 "Schindler's List" star
61 Sans emotion
62 Radio and TV
65 Picnic need
68 Senator
69 Thurmond
71 Part of B.S.
73 "Johnny —" ('62 hit)
74 Inclined
75 Where divas dominate
76 Sociable stalling
77 Pro foe
78 Truth
79 Frankenstein's helper
84 Acclaim

85 Music org.
87 Spare fare
89 Guy Fri.
90 Paintful
91 Geraint's better half
93 Tizzy
94 Park feature
95 Pro-gun grp.
96 Corduroy ridge
99 Long or Peeples
103 Assumed mane?
104 Gonna or groundhog
106 Cut canines
108 Always
109 Orange features
110 Valid
111 Missouri feeder
112 Marsh bird
114 Witty ones
117 Cartoonist
118 Line of clothing?
119 Spanish river
121 Out of town
122 Time to crowd?
123 Gaelic
125 — de France
126 Puppy bite
128 Legal matter
129 Firefighter's tool
131 WWII agcy.

MAGIC MAZE

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

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

Beach ball Darts Puppets Slinky
Beanbag Hula-Hoop Puzzles Tricycle
Cap gun Kites Rattle Wagon
Crayons Pinwheel Seesaw

Your Horoscope by Natasha

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Insincerity plagues you early in the week, dampening your holiday spirits. However, it soon passes. When things calm down, make plans for an early-in-the-year vacation.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
A pressing business project remains on your mind, but since it's the holidays, don't press matters. Higher-ups appreciate your efforts. A delightful holiday surprise awaits you over the weekend.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Don't let this special time get to you and make you stressed out. Instead, enjoy this festive time with friends and family. Children especially are a delight.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Judgment in business matters is a bit off. Read between the lines for the real truth. Self-employed people could have a setback, but the future is brighter.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
You are a quick study and excellent judge of character. As a result, someone close seeks your advice. Later in the week, enjoy having company over for the holidays.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
While you feel you're not on track on a business matter, don't underestimate your creativity. You have an exceptional mind. In romance, singles could be close to making a commitment.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
Don't be so preoccupied with making big money fast. Deals that sound too good to be true are just that. Later in the week, you're right in the spirit of the holiday season.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
Don't be shocked if a surprising financial or business opportunity comes your way. The stars are aligned for financial success.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
Don't be disappointed if a loved one doesn't get you what you want for Christmas. If honest, you have to acknowledge it's a bit frivolous and expensive. However, you do enjoy yourself this week.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
Home events remain uppermost in your mind this holiday season. However, there's no need to worry. The shopping's done and the house is ready for that special company.
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HOCUS-FOCUS

Find at least 6 differences between panels.

4 Panels are different; 5 Hair is added; 6 Necktie is removed; Differences: 1. Table is moved; 2. Ball is missing; 3. Glasses are added.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 24Tom Beatty
Dec. 24Sam Ferguson
Dec. 25Michael Gass
Dec. 26Dorothy Clark
Dec. 26Pat Foster
Dec. 26Pam Melancon
Dec. 27Margarita Pena
Dec. 27Christina Smith
Dec. 27J.J. Smith
Dec. 27Taylor Stephenson
Dec. 28Kerry Barry
Dec. 28Hortencia Castro
Dec. 28Tiny Castro
Dec. 28Patricia Garberich
Dec. 28Jessie Garcia
Dec. 29Clarisia Aguirre
Dec. 29Joan Boutwell
Dec. 29Myrna Gonzalez
Dec. 29Judy Hooker
Dec. 30Jason Kelly
Dec. 30William D. Thornton

Readings from the book of St. Luke

By Rev. William Adams Sr.
St. John's Missionary Church

"And, Lo, an Angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

"And the Angel said unto them, Fear not; behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord," St. Luke 2:9-11.

Praise the Lord!
Services will be held on Christmas Day at 10 a.m. at St. John's Missionary Church. Everyone is invited.
Merry Christmas.

Treat every day like Christmas

By Rev. Joe Townsend
Frontier Baptist Church

A small child sat by a Christmas tree with paper that had wrapped all the presents and playing with his new toys said, "I wish every day was Christmas."

As I mulled this over in my mind, it occurred to me that it wouldn't be a bad idea.

Certainly we'd not want a decorated and lighted tree every day, nor would we want a Santa Claus every day. Certainly a feast such as we have on Christmas day would be out of order. However, the major emphasis on Christmas is the children.

The greatest concern is gifts for children. In any store, while there are presents for all ages, the greatest displays are of toys for children. I think this is as it should be. My only question is, "Why not this depth of concern for children everyday?"

Christmas means special interest in the family. The first concern in giving gifts is gifts for the family. The elaborate Christmas dinner is for the family. One of the main concerns of the season is concern for the family. My question is, "Why not this

active concern every day?"

Christmas is a time of giving. Surely giving should begin with birthday presents for Jesus Christ, but it spreads to family and loved ones, to friends, to associates and many others. Why not this spirit of giving to prevail every day?

Christmas means celebration of the birth of Christ child. This was God in human flesh coming into the world to "minister" to all mankind and to "give himself a ransom for many" by dying on a cross to atone for sin. Why not celebrate every day through our lives that Jesus is alive today to serve as our great High Priest?

Christmas points to eternal life. Why not recall and live with the knowledge that this life is but a preparation for our eternity with God and Jesus Christ and the eternal joys of heaven.

The childish wish that every day could be Christmas should work itself out by making the basic tenets of Christmas an integral part of every hour of every day.

There will be another message from the Bible as people worship at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday at 11 a.m. Come and see.

METHODIST CHURCH

Invites you to
Worship at 10:45 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
FOR ALL AGES
Nursery provided
201 James Street

Welcome!

Church of Christ

808 N. Ann 563-2616
Sunday A.M., 9:30 Classes - 10:30 Worship
Sunday P.M. 1:30
Wednesday P.M. 6:30 Classes
Minister: Ray Melton

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman

Sunday Schedule:
Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - nursery provided 11 a.m.
Youth Choir grades 6-12, 4:45 p.m.
Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesdays 7 p.m.
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
Mission Kids grade K-5
Youth grades 6-12

Bus and Church information call church office at 563-2245
Pastor: R. D. Holloway

Jesus is the answer

By Pastor Charolette Corey
Gateway Ministries

Where there are wars and rumors of wars, where people cry peace when there is no peace, there can only be rest in the peace of God. That peace can only come to those who cease to do what is right in their minds, cease from their own works, trusting in the sovereignty of God.

God laughs at the "wisdom of the world" even as "the world" laughs at the wisdom of God. Too often there are spiritual forces around us that try to get our focus off of what is truly real, that is that the plan of God is being, and will be worked out until the final fulfillment of his promises. Nothing can stop it, including misguided people. (Pray for them.)

Through the victory of Jesus Christ, those who believe have already won. The final victory is his. His enemies have been placed under his feet as his footstool.

During this time of turmoil our place should be as was Martha's in the home of Lazarus, that is at the feet of Jesus, keeping our eyes on him in awe, joy and love, knowing that our peace is in him and our place is with him.

Jesus is the answer. He is the beginning and the end. Everything will be made clear through him. Those who seek him will find him. Those who seek his peace will be filled with it. Those who seek his wisdom will be given it.

Wise men still seek him, won't you?

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

A friend once won, need never be lost if we will only be trusty, true ourselves

Submitted by
St. Mary Magdalene Church

Jesus said, "Greater love hath no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command," John 15:13-14.

A blessed thing it is for any man or woman to have a friend - one human soul that we can trust utterly, who knows the best and the worst of us, and who loves us in spite of our faults. One who will speak the honest truth to us, while the world flatters us to our faces and laughs behind our backs.

One who will give us counsel and reproof in the day of prosperity and self conceit, but who again will comfort and en-

courage us in the day of sorrow when the world leaves us alone to fight our own battles as best we can.

If we have had the good fortune to win such a friend, let us do anything rather than lose him. If our friends have faults, we must bear with them.

We must hope all things, endure all things rather than lose that most precious of all earthly possession - a trusty friend. And a friend once won, need never be lost if we will only be trusty and true ourselves.

May the love of the Christmas season surround us with joy and peace.

You are invited to worship with us at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church.

Warm Springs Rehabilitation Brackettville Outpatient Clinic

Physical therapy services are now available for Kinney County area residents.

Warm Springs Rehabilitation, in keeping with our 61 year history, is focused on providing Brackettville and Ft. Clark with quality Rehab Care.

The Warm Springs Rehab. Clinic is located at 201 James St. (United Medical Center Bldg.). To access our services, come by the Clinic, or call us at 830-563-2434 or 830-774-0997 (Del Rio).

Disciplines Available:

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy (as needed)
- Speech Therapy (as needed)

Schedule:

Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Diagnosis Served:

- Stroke
- Neurological Disorders
- Orthopedic Conditions
- Sports Injuries
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Developmental Disorders

Funding:

- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Workman's Compensation
- Insurance
- TRC
- Champus



JOYOUS TIDINGS
A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All
From
The City of Brackettville Housing Authority

HOLIDAY CHEER
From
The Crazy Chicken

Mr. & Mrs. Juan M. Flores,
Family and Employees
Would like to thank you for your Business.

May God Bless You.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
From the Service Center

Open 7:00 A.M. Road Service
Matt Bland

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

May that jolly old gent bring you the most wonderful holiday season ever! Warmest Greetings from:

Parts Plus
Kenneth and B.J. Hale & Family



THE SPIRIT OF Christmas

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Lozano's Welding
Henry & Carmen Lozano



Season's Greetings
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
SOUTHWEST SERVICE COMPANY

Tom & Anita Ertle



Eugenio Bricio, M.D.
Board Certified in Cardiology
Board Certified in Internal Medicine

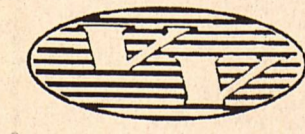
612 Bedell Ave. Suite E.
Del Rio, Texas 78840
Tel. (830) 768-0267

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Val Verde Home Nurses, Inc.

"Offering Skilled and Therapeutic Services"
"Quality Home Health Care"

2116 Ave. F in Del Rio 1-800-446-0655



Have a Wonderful Christmas

It's our pleasure to say "thanks" and to wish you all the best!

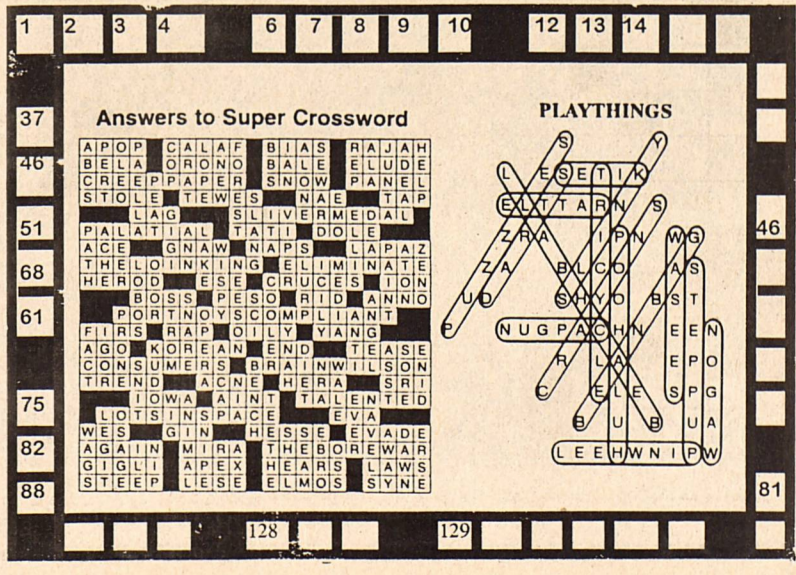
Employees and Directors
Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, INC.



Answers to Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
37	AIPO	GALAF	BIAS	RIJAH									
46	BELA	ORONO	BALLE	ELUDE									
	GREEP	PAPER	SNOW	PIANEL									
	SITOLE	TWEVES	NARE	TIAP									
	LAIG	MEIDAU											
51	PALLATIAL	TIATTI	DOLE										
	ACE	GNAW	NAPIS	LAPAZ									
68	THELO	LINKING	ELIMINATE										
	HEIRO	ESSE	CRUCIGES	ITON									
	BOSIS	PESIO	RID	ANNIO									
61	PORTINO	YSCOMPLIANT											
	FEIRS	RIAP	OTILE	VIANGI									
	RIQOS	GORI	AN	END	TIASSE								
	CONSUMERS	BIRAI	NWILSON										
	TREND	ACNE	HIERA	SRI									
75	IOWA	ALINT	TIALENTED										
	LIOTSTINS	PIAGE	EVYA										
	WEIS	GIN	HESISE	EVAIDE									
82	AGAIN	MIRIA	THEBOR	REWAR									
	GITILLI	APIEX	HEARS	LAWS									
88	STIEEP	LESIE	ELMOIS	SYINE									

PLAYTHINGS



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AVON PRODUCTS - START your own business. Work flexible hours. Enjoy unlimited earnings. Call toll free 1-888-942-4053. \$20 start-up.

LOCAL CANDY ROUTE. 30 vending machines. Earn approximately \$800/day. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND. Multi-Vend, Inc.

WE'LL SHOW YOU the money! (Call any of our clients) 5hrs/week. "Talking" Phone Card Machines. \$10,880 required. Free sample! CardMart of America, Inc. 1-800-876-3326.

DRIVERS WANTED

CONTINENTAL EXPRESSES NEEDS OTR & Regional drivers. Voted among the top 10 small carriers. Paid benefits. 90-95% no-touch freight. 1-800-727-4374. EOE. 1-800-695-4473.

DRIVER COVENANT TRANSPORT *Coast to coast runs* Teams start 35c-37c. * \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers and owner operators. 1-800-441-4394. Graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVER/OTR - A NEW approach to OW/OP Program! \$700 sign-on. Paid: tolls, permits, cargo & liab., Worker's Comp., payroll taxes, holidays, vacation! Health insurance available. Sitton Motor Lines. 1-800-533-4765.

DRIVERS - O/O'S SMITHWAY Motor Express. New Pay package, weekly pay. Great home time. Your choice flatbed or van. New conventional equipment. Charles Malone, 1-800-952-8091.

OWNER-OPERATORS: MEMPHIS regional runs. Mid south, Oklahoma, East Texas. Home most weekends - Top earnings - steady refrigerated runs - low cost complete insurance - late model truck. Sunco Carriers, Inc. 1-800-816-3775. Mike.

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVERS - START AT 34c/mile! *2,500-3,000 miles/week. *100% conventional sleepers. *Benefits & Bonus program. *Mostly no touch/ Drop & Hook. Call OTRX today! 1-800-423-6939.

RAPID FREIGHT OF Texas is seeking OTR drivers. Minimum 1 year experience. Class A CDL with HazMat required. Call recruiting 1-800-299-7274, ext. 21 or ext. 41.

EDUCATIONAL/TRAINING

COMPANY SPONSORED TRAINING & First year income \$30K - Stevens Transport - OTR truck drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced, 1-800-333-8595. EOE.

FREE TRUCK DRIVER Training with no contracts or paybacks. Call now 1-800-865-7284.

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE: INTERNATIONAL Organization seeking representatives to assist/supervise high school exchange students and their host families. Representatives receive free training, reimbursement for expenses, and the opportunity to make friendships of a lifetime. Call 903-963-8889 or 1-800-473-0696.

EMPLOYMENT

HOBART CORPORATION: SERVICE Technicians, immediate openings for candidates with experience repairing food service equipment. Excellent compensation and benefit package with vehicle. 1-800-356-3942.

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NEED CASH? IMMEDIATE cash paid for future settlement payments, lottery winnings, and insurance. Call Singer Asset 1-800-605-5007. www.singerasset.com.

OVER YOUR HEAD in debt? Credit cards/ bills? *Cut payments up to 60%!!! *Maintain good credit. *Free consultation 1-800-556-1548. www.anewhorizon.org. Licensed, bonded, non-profit, National Co.

FOR RENT

TOWN HOUSE #178, Unit 1, Juarez St. on creek. \$350. Furnished. Call 563-2188 or come by.

FOR SALE

FORT CLARK MEMBERSHIP, \$500 plus transfer, 210-661-3977.

FORT CLARK SPRINGS 2 memberships, \$500. each + transfer. Some options avail. Call (831) 484-6634 or (830) 563-9418.

MARY KAY COSMETICS, Alana Flurry, 563-9435. Evenings/Weekends, Complimentary facials, products, etc.

PORTABLE DISHWASHER \$300. Microwave w/solid oak tower stand \$150. Clothes dryer \$50. 563-9556 after 3:30 p.m.

STEEL BUILDINGS SALE: 5,000+ sizes. 40x60x14, \$7,821; 50x75x14, \$10,324; 50x100x16, \$13,663; 60x100x16, \$15,236. Mini-storage buildings, 40x180, 36 units, \$17,818. Free brochures. Sentinel Buildings, www.sentinelbuildings.com. 1-800-327-0790, ext 79.

WORLD'S BEST PURPLE Martin bird houses. \$29.95 + S.H. Telescopic poles/ accessories available. Great gift idea!! Free catalog. Order today! Call 1 - 8 0 0 - 7 6 4 - 8 6 8 8 . www.purplemartin.net

REAL ESTATE

O'Rourke Realty
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
830-563-2713
F C S Memberships
& Rentals Available

1 bed, 1 bath home in Ft. Clark. Modern, western style living room design with cathedral ceiling. Stackable washer/dryer hook ups. Small room with all necessary plumbing already installed for second bathroom. Covered patio. Asking price \$43,000.

3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, large den, workshop. Beautiful location. \$65,000.

RV lots with all utilities. With or without RV. Prices vary.

2 bed, 2 baths mobile home, screened porch, large workshop - storage building. Good condition. \$25,000.

FOR SALE

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

HEALTH

MEDICARE FOLKS! TIRED of paying for expensive inhalers for asthma/emphysema? Save your money today by calling Alliance Medical. Toll Free, 1-800-854-9223. No HMO's accepted.

MOBILE HOMES

5 BEDROOM, 2 bath, A/C, all kitchen appliances, with 5 acres. Choice land. Well, pump, electricity. Call 1-888-611-7711.

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

Large home in the Oaks. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, workshop, storage, jacuzzi, rock patio, lovely yard.

2 bedroom in 49ers in excellent shape. Covered carport, fenced yard. Priced in the 20's.

For rent: Very nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home on Ft. Clark. All good appliances. No pets.

Cute 1 bedroom townhouse. Enclosed patio.

Small apt. in historic district.

**DEBBIE TRANT
MELISSA DAVIS
LOCKHART REAL ESTATE**



830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

One of the real joys of the season is the opportunity to say Thank You and to wish you a special Christmas and the very best for the New Year.

MOBILE HOMES

CITY LOTS PERFECT for mobile homes. All utilities available, owner financed. For information regarding land and new mobile home, call 1-888-611-7711.

"FIRST TIME BUYERS Program." No credit, no problem! Qualify by phone, 1-800-756-7711.

NEW 16 WIDE, must sell, 3 bed, 2 bath, lots of extras. 219 per. mo. 1200 dn. 10.49 apr - 240 mo. Call 1-800-611-5866.

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THE HUD HOME is here. Call 1-888-611-7711.

MOBILE HOMES

"RELOCATING" TAKE OVER payments on 5 bedroom, 3 bath home, 1-800-756-7711.

"SUPER SALE" ALL 1998s must go. "Free" washer, dryer, skirting, 60" color TV with purchase of new home, 1-800-756-7711.

"TAKE OVER PAYMENTS" on 1999 18X80, 1-800-756-7711.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE: THE FOLLOWING person has registered with the Kinney County Sheriff's Department as convicted sex offender: 69 year old male - Walnut - Fort Clark Springs, Brackettville, TX 78834, convicted of "incest with a child." Victim was a male child.

NOTIFICATION: LA SIGUENTE persona se a registrado con el departamento de el sherife de el condado de Kinney, y fue convicido de una ofensa sexual: un hombre de 69 anos de edad - Walnut - Fort Clark Springs, Brackettville, TX 78832, fue convicido de "incestencia con un nino" - la victima fue un nino.

SERVICES

HILCONET INC. INTERNET Access, serving Brackettville. Get connected! Sign up with the best! Call (888) 251-3784.

TRAVEL/VACATIONS

PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA - 200 vacation rentals, weekly, monthly. 1-4 bedrooms, golf, tennis, pools, casinos. Call now, 1-800-248-2529.

In the Spirit of the Holiday Season

We Wish Everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

The Giftbox

SEASON'S BEST TO YOU!

Time to greet our many good friends and to say we hope you have the merriest Christmas of all!

Alamo Lumber

Del Rio

For many Texans, 1998 was a year that tested our spirit,

our resilience and our compassion to reach out to others in need. Whether it was flood or drought, neighbor stood by neighbor in ways that should make us all proud to be Texans.

This holiday season, may we all pause and reflect on the many good things in our lives: family, friends and the promise of a new, exciting year.

Happy Holidays,

Henry Bonilla

Henry Bonilla
United States Congress
Texas

Paid for by Texans for Henry Bonilla, Jill LaHaye, Treasurer

We're probably not on your Christmas list.

Most people prefer not to think of a hospital during the holidays. But, some will have to. There will be injuries and illnesses...and babies will be born.

At Uvalde Memorial Hospital, over the 24 hours of both Christmas Day and New Year's Day, 350 dedicated people will be doing just what we do every day, just in case you need us! Some of us will celebrate early with our own families, and some late, so we will be here should the need arise. Some of you won't think about us at all because you'll just know we're here.

And that makes us very happy!

Service is Our Mission

"Well" wishes from the Board of Directors, Medical Staff, Auxiliary and Employees of Uvalde Memorial Hospital.

"May you and your loved ones be blessed with happiness and good health the whole year through!"

UVALDE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Garner Field Road • Uvalde, Texas • (830) 278-6251