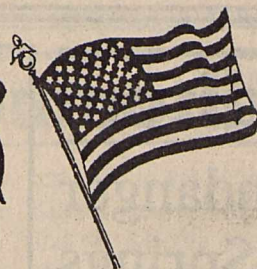


The Brackett News



VA officials to meet with public
See story, Page 3

11th year, No. 2

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Briefs ...

Filing underway for city, school elections

Filing is underway for the May 1 elections for the Brackettville City Council and the Brackett ISD School Board of Trustees.

As of noon Wednesday, no candidates had filed for the two local elections.

March 17 is the deadline to file for a place on the ballot for the City Council and School Board elections. The deadline for write-in candidates to file is March 22.

Two members of the Brackettville City Council are up for reelection - Aldermen J.J. Guidry and Wes Robinson. Each position has a two-year term.

Two at-large positions on the School Board of Trustees will be on the ballot. Each position has a three-year term. Incumbents are Steve LaMascio and Jim McDaniel.

The city's election judge and alternate election judge will be appointed at the council's March 9 meeting.

Sandra Meil is the election judge for the School Board election, and Connie Coronado is the alternate judge.

Police investigate local animal poisonings

Brackettville Police Chief Ron Ring is investigating numerous cases of animal poisonings in the city.

"There have been a rash of poisonings over the last couple of weeks," the police chief said.

Ring said the city's animal control officer had picked up 15 dead dogs and cats in one day.

"The majority of the animals were found near the housing projects on Fulton and Brown streets, but one was on Henderson Street," he said.

School district to sell surplus pianos by bids

Brackett ISD are seeking sealed bids for three surplus upright pianos.

The School Board of Trustees agreed to dispose of the pianos during last week's meeting.

"They have no value to the district," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "They've been over there for years. They're just taking up room over there."

"We have a grand piano over there that works very well. These are the large old uprights."

Bids will be accepted through March 5. For more information, contact the school district at (830) 563-2491.



Brackett High School's Brent Smith signed a letter of intent to play football at Angelo State University this fall. See related story, Page 5.
Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

Property values may cost BISD \$116,000

By J.J. Guidry
News Editor

A difference in property appraisals and sale values in Kinney County may cost Brackett ISD \$116,000 in state funds, according to school district officials.

In Texas, property tax values must be within 95 percent of their sale values. The Property Texas Division and the comptroller of public accounts are charged with evaluating the appraisals around the state annually.

"Every year they go in and they sample the sales and look at appraisal values of appraisal district properties in every appraisal district in Texas," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "The appraisal district is expected to have those at 95 percent or above."

"In our case, our single family residences came out around 94 percent and rural real property came out right at 93 percent. So we're close, we're just off percentage points as a group."

Officials estimate that the low appraisal percentages could cost the school district \$116,000 for the upcoming fiscal year.

"That's matching state moneys, it's not moneys we lose on local property taxes," Stephenson said. "There is very little loss on local property tax. It looks as if on paper the district is making less tax effort with a higher valuation of district property."

"This is something we've been through before. We're working with our own business office and with the appraisal district trying to find if there are sales that we can challenge."

"When you sell property for more than the appraised value of the property, the state picks it up as a problem. The person who made the sale is very happy. But the state views it differently: If it was worth that much to the buyer, why wasn't it appraised for that much? To some extent they're right and to some extent they're not."

Stephenson is working with the district's business office and Chief Appraiser Joyce Fuentes to solve the problem.

"We will be working together to see if there's any type of way to challenge any of the data. If there is, we'll go and do it ourselves. We'll go to Austin and file the protests that need to be filed. We've been analyzing the data for a couple of weeks," the superintendent added.

'Bullfighter' begins filming in Kinney County

Filming of the movie "Bullfighter" began last week in Kinney County, according to officials associated with the film.

Scenes were shot in Kinney County on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. After two days in Del Rio, crews were expected to

begin filming at Alamo Village today.

Construction crews have been working at Alamo Village to prepare for scenes that will be shot at the famed movie location.

According to sources, the comedy stars Domenica Cameron-Scorsese, Michael

Parks and Willem Dafoe.

Cameron-Scorsese most recently starred in "Midsummer (Midsummer Night's Dream)" on USA. Other movie credits include "The Age of Innocence," "Straight Talk," and "Cape Fear."

Parks' movie credits include "Wicked," "Deceiver," "From Dusk Till Dawn," and "Death Wish V: The Face of Death."

He has appeared in various television series, including "Walker, Texas Ranger," "The Equalizer," and "Wagon Train."

Accident hospitalizes San Antonio man

A 17-year-old San Antonio man was hospitalized Friday night following a one-vehicle accident in Kinney County.

Duke Devin Walker was transported to Val Verde Regional Medical Center Friday by Kinney County EMS. He was airlifted to San Antonio later that night.

Walker was travelling east on U.S. Highway 90 in a 1988 blue Honda Accord when he drove across the roadway and ran into an oak tree on the north side of the highway, along the west-bound lane.

The accident occurred at approximately 9:15 p.m. on Friday, three miles west of Brackettville.

The vehicle was towed from the scene by ABC Wrecker Service of Brackettville.

Officials believe the accident was caused by a combination of fatigue and the use of illegal drugs.



Duke Devine Walker was hospitalized after wrecking his 1988 blue Honda Accord.
Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

A blood test taken at the hospital revealed that Walker had marijuana, cocaine and amphetamines in his system.

Walker has been charged with

driving while intoxicated, first offense.

DPS Trooper Tony Ashley is the investigating officer in the case.

Agents seize 1,578.75 pounds of marijuana

DEL RIO - U.S. Border Patrol agents seized 1,578.75 pounds of marijuana valued at \$1,262,202 on Thursday and Friday.

Last Thursday, agents from the Del Rio sector special response team seized 1,186.95 pounds of marijuana along the Rio Grande River east of Eagle Pass.

The agents also seized a 1991 Plymouth Voyager being used to haul the marijuana, and arrested Martin Mendoza, 34, of Eagle Pass for possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute. The marijuana was valued at \$949,562.

Shortly after midnight on Friday, agents from the Eagle Pass

station seized 121 pounds of marijuana on Highway 57, approximately 15 miles north of the Eagle Pass Port of Entry.

The agents also seized a 1988 Chevrolet Spectrum being used to haul the marijuana, which was valued at \$96,000. A 15-year-old permanent resident from Eagle Pass was arrested.

Friday evening, agents from the Eagle Pass station seized 270.8 pounds of marijuana, valued at \$216,640, along the Rio Grande River, approximately 27 miles west of the Eagle Pass Port of Entry.

Arrested for possession of a controlled substance was Valeriano Esquivel-Herrera, 22, of Mexico.

INSIDE

- Joe Townsend
A current finding of a jury against gun manufacturers shows how the current madness of some politicians and lawyers will go. *Opinion/Page 2*
- Society presents play
The Old Quarry Society for the Performing Arts will present its next production on Feb. 26 and 27 at the Post Theater at 8 p.m. *Lifestyles/Page 4*
- Tigers fall short
Jourdanon clinched a playoff berth Tuesday with a 62-41 victory over Brackett in the regular season finale for both teams. *Sports/Page 5*

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Indian advocate focuses attention on children

By Patsy Callnan
Contributing Writer

Nakai Breen, a well known Native American advocate, addressed the Brackettville Rotary Club last week.

Breen has worked with the Kickapoo for 45 years. At first she could not speak their language, Spanish or English, so she spoke to them in the language of sign. During those years, she was their eyes, their ears and their mouths in the state of Texas and in Washington D.C.

Breen has now turned her talents to working with troubled children. She has opened a restaurant and museum in Brackettville to raise money for the children.

She hopes to build a camp here where youngsters can come and learn about the native American and the cowboy cultures of this area.

Breen wishes to help children resist the drugs of alcohol and narcotics. The newest threat to the children today is the sniffing of inhalants, paint and glue and cleaning solvents.

She has learned through numerous workshops that heroin and cocaine, while very damaging to the minds and bodies of the users, if caught in time most of the damage can be reversed. She says this is not true of "sniffing."

"It is a death sentence and it is not a passing fad," Breen said. "It causes severe brain damage and birth defects if continued."

Breen closed with the Indian "Legend of the Mirror." It is a story of the time that jealousy and strife came into the tribe.

There was a young Indian who fell in love with a beautiful young maiden. It was in the autumn, a time of the big hunts and the gathering of food for the winter months. Instead of hunting for the meat and furs that could be sold for winter supplies, he spent most of his time courting and eventually marrying the maiden.

After the honeymoon, the young wife suddenly realized that love was not going to be enough to live on during the winter months. She told her husband that he must gather the few furs that he did have and take them to the

trading post and trade them for supplies to get them through the winter.

The young husband did as he was told and had started out with his bundle of furs when he met a traveling fur trader who said, "Hey Indian, what have you got there in your bundle and where are you going?"

The Indian replied, "I have furs and I am going to the trading post to trade them for food to get me through the winter."

"Oh, don't go there, I'll trade you something right here that is better than food," said the crafty trader.

"What can you give me that is better than food?" questioned the brave. "It is in this box and it is a spirit catcher," bragged the fur trader.

Now Indians know that the source of all good things come from the spirits and if you can catch one, there is no limit to the good things that will happen to you. So the brave traded all of his furs for the wonderful box containing the "spirit catcher".

The trader told him not to open



Nakai Breen (left) is welcomed to last week's Rotary Club meeting by Jim Heath, program chairman. Photo by Eric McMaster

the box until he could turn around and see the trader as a small spot on the horizon. Otherwise it would not work.

The brave did as he was instructed and the minute the trader became a small spot on the hori-

zon, he opened the box and shouted, "I have already captured a spirit and it is a man!"

He quickly closed the box and rode home with his wonderful

See LEGEND/Page 3

Letters to the Editor

Irresponsible drivers endanger residents at Fort Clark Springs

After three years in FCS, I've seen many irresponsible drivers. I've seen pedestrians nearly run down by chronic speeders of all ages.

I've seen chronic speeders, through careless calculation, force other drivers to yield and drive off the road to compensate for their irresponsible driving.

I've seen these chronic speeders speed through one-ways - the wrong way - two feet from where kids were playing.

I've seen numerous members run stop signs and totally ignore other traffic signs, apparently having a total disregard for the rules, restrictions and the law. They are the lawless ones, and it will likely get worse before it gets better.

I asked board members and administration for speed bumps on my street. My daughter walks and bikes on the streets amongst the chronic speeders.

Now, after years of lawless behavior, two speed bumps were installed in dangerous one-way locations where children and adults reported nearly being run down by lawless speeders taking illegal shortcuts.

A few chronic speeders are sniveling that they can't drive at their usual high speed because the bumps will wreck their suspen-

sion. Unbelievably, these speeders think that's a legitimate complaint - go figure.

I didn't get speed bumps on my street, but two dangerous areas did. That, along with installation of safety signs, is a responsible effort by FCS to contain the lawless ones, for the benefit of all members.

Although it seems that some in FCS would prefer anarchy and lawlessness, members should support administration and the board, and not buy into the illusion of the "blame game," denouncing past and present GM's and board members.

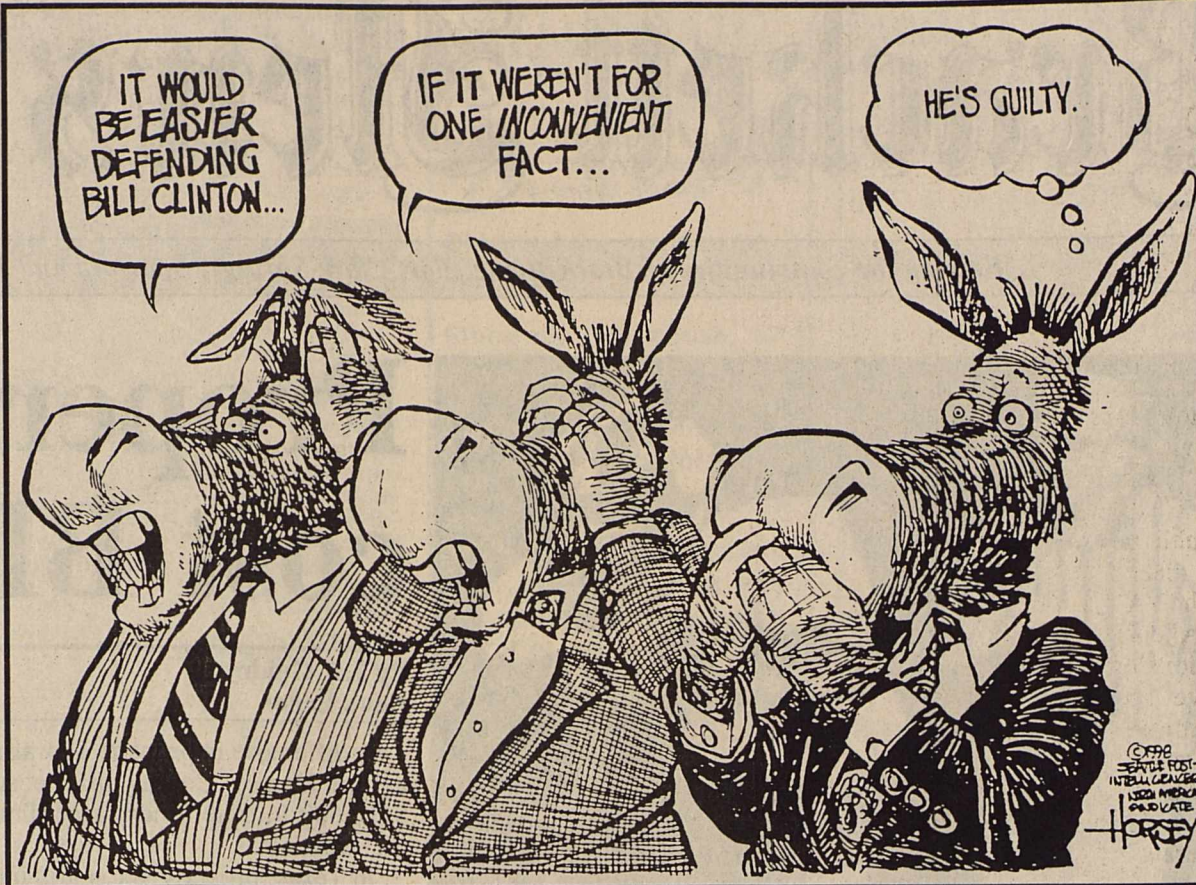
That kind of negative gossip has persisted for years, by small groups, making a lot of noise about distorted facts to shore-up support for their click, and it's accomplished nothing.

We'll never have a perfect system, but for the most part, we have a good and conscientious administration and board.

Lets lend support, ideas and constructive criticism - when needed - to the people currently doing a good job.

And as for the lawless and chronic snivelers - throw them enough rope and they'll hang themselves, and each other.

David Reinhold



Society pays high price for anti-gun chicanery

Between Us

By Joe Townsend



A current finding of a jury against gun manufacturers shows how the current madness of some politicians and lawyers will go and how gullible some juries can be.

A suit against more than half a dozen gun manufacturers for production of guns that eventually were used by thugs to shoot people was as asinine as one can imagine.

The fact that all the plaintiffs were found at fault except one African-American who was not killed was awarded half a million dollars shows the persuasive power of a slick talking attorney.

The huge settlement given by the tobacco companies to feed the maw of slick amoral politicians led to this snide attempt to bilk millions of dollars from a legitimate and necessary segment of the business world.

The same greedy and characterless lawyers were the perpetra-

tors of this fraud.

Mayor Daley of Chicago heads a group of mayors across the land seeking to do the same thing. Showing his inability to control crime in his city, he seeks a scapegoat and targets gun manufacturers.

Because these politicians can't control drinking and driving will they next sue the alcoholic beverage companies? Because they can't control speeding and people are killed will they next sue the auto manufacturers?

Because what people eat cannot be controlled and people over-eat for years, bringing death as a result will they then sue the farm-

ers and ranchers for producing the food?

The inanity that reigns in the minds of so many anti-gun non-thinkers needs to be rewarded by forcing them to pay the cost of specious and capricious actions to feed their bias and need for publicity.

From the president on down, this flaming anti-gun faction needs to be fed with a liberal dose of learning to think and an advanced course in intellectual integrity.

Until they have intelligence enough to know that guns don't kill people, people kill people, all society pays a high price for their chicanery.

Decay of the family unit is directly responsible for many of the ills prevalent in modern society

By Steven R. LaMascus
Contributing Writer

This is a subject I have been hesitant to address, because there are so many variables and so many exceptions it would require a book instead of a newspaper piece to really do it justice. But it is also a subject that desperately needs to be addressed.

When I began writing this series of articles, I made a promise to myself and to God to go where he led. Therefore, I wish to say that the statements here are controversial and that there are some glaring exceptions. That is, however, no reason to avoid the fact that by and large this is the pure, unvarnished truth.

In my day job as a federal law enforcement officer, I have occasion to meet and interview a large number of people. Many of these are criminals of some form or another, but I also speak to a fair number of ordinary citizens. Over the last 20 years or so, I have noticed a few things that cause me grave concern.

When I have a person come to my office for an interview, I ask certain questions that are intended to determine the financial status of the family. I ask if the person is married. Do they have any kids? Where do they live? Where do they work? Do they live with their parents? And any other questions that may be applicable to the specific situation.

After so many years, I find that I can almost answer the questions before they do. The majority of the people that I interview who are, in any way, involved in a crime are:

From a broken home, living with a person to whom they are not married, single parents who have never been married and who have children from more than one father (in the case of a woman, obviously), poorly education, and practically incapable of telling me the truth even when it would serve their best.

I am stunned at the number of times I ask, "Are you married?" and am told, "No, we're just living together."

Usually this is not the first time. Often there are children. Sometimes one or both of the individuals are married to someone else and not divorced. Maybe I'm prude, but this seems terribly wrong to me!

Contrary to popular belief, the basic form of government in the United States is not the federal democracy but the family unit. This is what makes us into the type of citizens we become.

Our basic outlook on life, the morals we obey, the respect we give to others, our personal hygiene, the way we talk, the things we like and dislike, and so on almost to infinity are directly affected by our

family life.

If our family is not a strong unit, we are often lacking a major factor in our developmental environment.

The father has historically been the strong but loving disciplinary figure. He made sure the rules and tenets of society and the family were learned and obeyed. He provided for the family and taught the lessons needed to survive in life.

The mother was the nurturing figure. She taught the intricacies of the same basic lessons, offered solace when feelings were hurt, and nursed when health was poor. Together they were the parental team and neither was or is complete without the other.

Today we have a situation where the percentage of single parent families is rising at an astronomical rate. Divorce is at an all-time high. Marriage in many circles is thought of as a passe idea that merely serves to enforce outdated patriarchal ideas and female servitude. Nothing could be farther from reality.

The Bible states categorically that divorce is not an option. The only legitimate reason for a person to seek a divorce is for marital unfaithfulness on the part of the spouse.

Translation: You shouldn't split up just because you have a fight. The reason for this has, I think, more to do with child rearing than anything else.

A child needs two parents. Obviously there are circumstances where this is not a possibility. Sometimes life just doesn't seem fair. But then, God never said it was easy. In these situations, if there was a history of strong familial ties, the extended family would help in the child rearing process and the child would still have the nurturing environment.

A family provides support, education, guidance, companionship, love, security, and a sense of belonging.

I have heard it said that one of the main reasons teen gangs are so appealing is that they give kids a place to belong. This is a tremendous temptation to a child who has no solid, loving home life.

Children need love, they need discipline, they need security, they need rules to follow just like everyone else. (I don't know anyone who thinks anarchy is a good form of government) And everyone needs to belong somewhere. If they can't belong to a family, they will belong to a gang. Simple, huh?

As a society, we are becoming not more civilized, but more savage, more paganistic. We are confusing technology with culture. They are not mutually exclusive, but neither is one indicative of the other.

See DECA/ Page 7

IRS plan threatens Americans

By Henry Bonilla
U.S. Congressman, District 23

Americans put up with a lot from the federal government. Despite the efforts of tax cutters in Congress, we still pay more in taxes now than at any time in our peacetime history.

Small businesses tackle big agencies and their never-ending regulations. Property owners endlessly battle bureaucrats who, in the name of protecting insects and plants, push to control private land.

It seems that government agencies continuously overstep their bounds and infringe on our rights.

The latest example is not only outrageous, it's downright dangerous. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is claiming they don't have enough money or space to house the nearly 16,000 foreign criminals in detention. So how are they dealing with this lack of space? They're planning to release up to 1500 of these criminals from jail.

Yes, you read right. Washington bureaucrats are preparing to jeopardize the safety of innocent Americans by setting free hundreds of criminals who are waiting to be deported.

This step is inexcusable and reckless. The INS has known for years space in its detention centers was getting tight. In fact, back in 1996 Congress was so concerned with the INS' lack of attention to detaining illegal aliens, the House Appropriations Committee provided an extra \$70 million for more detention space. The INS has had ample time and money to address the problem.

What has happened? Simple. The INS consistently mismanages its budget. This bungling now threatens the safety of American citizens.

The INS consistently mismanages its budget.

This shocking plan comes on the heels of recent reports that the INS plans a virtual shutdown of some Border Patrol field operations, with some offices facing budget cuts of up to 90 percent. This in spite of a \$198 million increase over last year's budget.

We don't fund the government so it can release dangerous criminals to prey on us.

The Justice Department can and must find the dollars within its \$18 billion budget to keep criminal aliens behind bars and send them home. The INS alone has a \$3.9 billion budget.

This mismanagement must stop. It's time for the INS to be held accountable for its poor performance, and to be reminded that their first duty is our safety.

Unsung Hero

By Joe Townsend

Recently, a long-time friend a member of a family whom I hold dear to my heart passed away.

The man lived in our community for many years. He is a brother to Jewel Robinson, Dimple Henry, Bobby Schafer and Roy Max Hensley, and a son of "Big Mama."

He retired from the Fire Department in Houston several years ago. He was an avid outdoorsman, fisherman and hunter. As is typical with this type of an individual, he was friendly and outgoing.

He was a man of his word and treated everyone with respect.

Recently, he suffered a great deal until finally the Lord mercifully took him out of his pain and anguish to the mansion God had prepared for him in heaven.

He will be deeply missed but no right-thinking person would want to bring him back from the peace and joy in heaven, even to enjoy his family and his hunting and fishing.

Surely, Dan Foreman is an Unsung Hero.

Letters to the Editor 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.

Big Mama Sez!



Whatever you give your attention to is the thing that governs your life.

The Brackett News

ADDRESS:
Editorial and publication offices are located at 507 S. Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Telephone: 830-563-2852. Fax: 830-563-9538.

PERSONNEL:
Jewel Robinson, Publisher; J.J. Guidry, News Editor; Dimple Henry, Office Manager; Rick Bacon, Advertising; Paige Johnson, Advertising.

SUBSCRIPTION:
Subscriptions and change of address should be sent to: The Brackett News, P.O. Box 1039, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Be sure to give both old and new address when requesting change. Annual subscription rates are \$20 in Kinney County, \$25 outside of county but in Texas, and \$27.50 outside of Texas.

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



Member of
USPS 003987
Published weekly on Thursday by The Brackett News. Entered as Second Class Matter at the U.S. Post Office at Brackettville, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1878.

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

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VA officials to meet with public Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Veterans circulate petition to save Kerrville hospital

Area veterans will soon have an opportunity to ask Veterans Health Administration officials questions about recent and proposed restructuring at the Kerrville VA medical center.

Congressman Lamar Smith announced last week that he will chair a public meeting Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Kerrville Municipal Auditorium from 9 a.m. to noon.

Attending the meeting will be "the two Veterans Administration officials most responsible for the proposed restructuring of the Kerrville hospital," Jose Coronado, director of the South Texas Veterans Health Care System, and Dr. Vernon Chong, director of the Veterans Integrated Service Network 17.

"I look forward to meeting with Dr. Chong and Mr. Coronado in a public session," Smith said. "A full and honest public accounting of the VA's services is necessary."

Allen Kay, a spokesman for Smith's office, said veterans will have an opportunity to ask Coronado and Chong questions "directly."

The congressman said the Kerrville meeting will "provide veterans with a direct input into VA decisions that affect them."

Decisions are being made to down-size the care and services provided at the Kerrville hospital to area veterans. Many of these services are being transferred to Audie Murphy.

"A full and honest public accounting of the VA's services is necessary."

Lamar Smith

The medical center is expected to be phased out by May and would only accommodate patients in the intensive care unit for 24 hours until they can be transferred to Audie Murphy.

The VA hospital in Kerrville serves over 19,000 veterans in 14 counties, including Kinney County.

The Hill Country Veterans Council has started a petition and letter-writing campaign to halt the changes. Brackettville resident Billy Joe Walker has circulated a petition locally.

Walker asked that anybody interested in attending the public meeting in Kerrville later this month - who could provide or who needed transportation - to call (830) 563-2747.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

2:30 p.m., An employee with the Kinney County Maintenance Department reported vandalism and theft. A battery was missing from a county-owned caterpillar loader tractor at the Pinto Creek bridge on Standard Lane. A fan belt had been cut in two. The automatic transmission dipstick had been taken and dirt had been put in the transmission filler tube. Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene. The county's maintenance supervisor said the last time he was at the scene was on Jan. 27. The case is still under investigation.

6:25 p.m., Virginia Sue Straub, 31, of North Zulch, Texas, was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley on an outstanding warrant out of La Grange County for a writing a check with insufficient funds. She was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Straub was released the same day on a \$600 personal recognizance bond.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

12:50 a.m., An employee of the Val Verde Sheriff's Department reported that a Maverick County sheriff's deputy was in pursuit of two Mustangs, one black and one dark green, and possibly a Camero. The deputy lost the vehicles in Quemado. Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism was dispatched to the scene but could not locate the vehicles.

Thursday, Feb. 11

2:55 p.m., Smith Security officers reported a trespasser at Fort Clark Springs. A white male had jumped the west fence and entered Las Moras Road. Chief of Police Ron Ring was dispatched to the scene. Upon his arrival, the subject had re-entered Fort Clark property and was hiding in the brush. Ring advised the man to exit the property and he did. The subject said that he was drawing disability for loss of memory and attention deficit. Ring escorted the subject to the county line.

Friday, Feb. 12

5:15 a.m., A Brackettville man reported that a window was shattered at the Kinney County Public Library. Later, BB holes were

reported in the glass doors of the Kinney County Appraisal District and the Middle Rio Grande Career Development Center. Chief Ring was dispatched to the various crime scenes. The cases are still under investigation.

2:35 p.m., Chief Ring was patrolling Ann Street when a passing motorist informed him of a couple of illegal aliens two to three miles north of town on Highway 674. He found eight illegal aliens at the location. He detained the subjects and notified the U.S. Border Patrol. The subjects were picked up about 15 minutes later.

4:39 p.m., A motorist reported a reckless driver in a white Dodge. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene but could not locate the vehicle.

6:40 p.m., Uvalde Police Department officials reported a stranded vehicle with two women and children on Highway 90, three miles west of the Cline checkpoint. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene but could not locate the vehicle.

Saturday, Feb. 13

1:30 a.m., Richardo E. Chavez Jr., 31, of San Antonio was arrested by Trooper Ashley on outstanding DPS warrants and charged with assault. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. He was released the same day after posting a \$3,500 bail bond.

1:05 p.m., Smith Security officers reported criminal mischief at Fort Clark Springs. Chief Ring was dispatched to the scene in reference to a paint ball gun incident. A security officer said that a member witnessed a grey Suburban drive by a yellow warning sign on Scales Road and shoot it with a

red paint ball. Security officers said they wanted to press charges against the person that did it, adding that the witness had the vehicle's license plate number. The case is still under investigation.

4:20 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported a disturbance on E. Edwards Street. She said that someone was yelling and screaming and that a lady had fallen or was knocked down. Chief Ring and Deputy Guidry were dispatched to the scene. They met with the woman, who said she was arguing with her boyfriend and had fallen down. She said the man had already gone back to Oklahoma and that she did not want to file charges.

7:25 p.m., A Brackettville man said that his neighbor was out of town and mentioned that nobody was supposed to be at his residence. The man said that someone had taken one of his neighbor's pickups. Deputy Guidry was notified of the situation.

9:29 p.m., John A. Doege, 21, of New Braunfels and Christopher Philip Fass, 22, of Boerne were arrested by Trooper Ashley and charged with furnishing alcohol to a minor. Both men were booked into the Kinney County Jail and later released the same day. Doege posted a \$1,500 bail bond and Fass was released on a \$1,500 personal recognizance bond.

10:03 p.m., A Brackettville woman requested assistance at her residence on W. Spring Street because her brother was drunk and causing problems. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene. He said the problem was settled.

Obituary Schmidt

Michal Claire Schmidt, 19, died Friday, Feb. 12, 1999. She was born Nov. 12, 1979 in McAllen, Texas.

Schmidt, a freshman student at Abilene Christian University, was lovingly known as "Mikey" to her family and friends.

She is survived by her parents, Robert and Martha Schmidt of San Antonio; her brother, Eric James Schmidt of Abilene Christian University; her grandparents, Julius and Gladys Schmidt of D'Hanis, and Elmer and Patsy Haller of Brackettville; her great-grandmother, Clara Laman of Brackettville; her uncle and aunt, David and Kathy Sprott of Sabinal; and numerous other aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Dover Doyle Sprott.

Services were held Monday at the Church of Christ in Brackettville with Ray Melton officiating. Burial followed at the Kinney County Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Tom Dorrell, Steve LaMascus, John Jones, David Sprott, Marcus Tidwell, Dean Throckmorton, Don Locke and Darrell Martin.

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

Legend of the Mirror

Continued from Page 1

trade. The minute he got there, he dug a hole behind the teepee for safe keeping. He found his bride and told her that he had traded for a wonderful secret and that the next morning food would be provided for them.

Sure enough, the next morning a stray buffalo appeared and he shot it and they had plenty of food for the next few days.

The wife asked, "How did you do that?" He didn't tell, he only smiled.

After the buffalo meat was gone, the wife asked what they were going to eat the next day and he said, "Wait and see." He dug up the box and looked at the spirit and said, "We need more food." The next day, a flock of geese

flew over and he shot many geese and they had food to last a while.

The bride told her mother what had happened and told her that she saw fresh dirt behind the teepee and thought he had something buried there. So they went and dug up the box and opened it.

When she looked into the box, she cried, "My husband doesn't love me anymore. He has found a beautiful woman and is keeping her in the box!"

The mother rushed over and pushed the daughter aside and looked in and screamed, "She is not beautiful! She is an old hag!"

The two started arguing and the husband came and told them that they were both wrong, that the box contained a handsome man spirit.

And that is when the Indians no longer got along peacefully with each other and jealousy came into the tribe.

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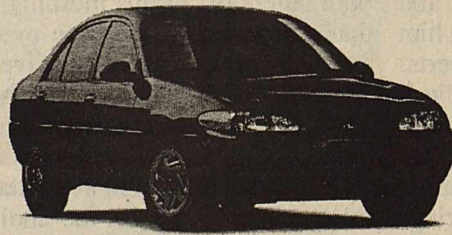
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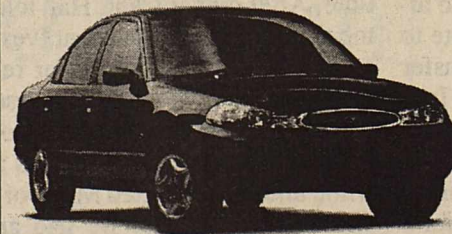
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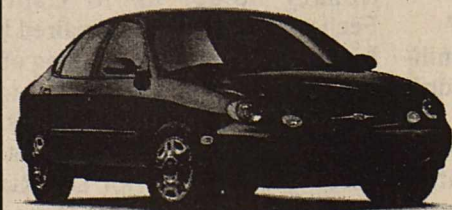


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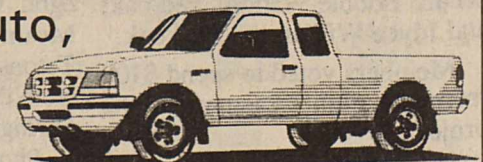
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But I could be wrong!

By: Chuck Hall



What's love got to do with it?

I have a joke for you. Knock, knock. Your line: "Who's there?" Olive. Yours again: "Olive who?" Olive you. 1 Corinthians 13: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as a sounding brass or a tinkling symbol. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I can remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing."

I'm going to go back to my first column idea: We don't say I love you enough. Or perhaps we say it too much.

Maybe by holding it in, and not talking about it, it somehow magically increases. Possibly love grows in silence. Dark, cold, silence. Somewhat like a

mushroom. Or perhaps not. "Uva uvam vivendo veria fit." It's from the book, "Lonesome Dove" by Larry McMurty. He gives the meaning as "a grape matures by looking at another grape."

People love us because they see love in us.

Sunday was St. Valentine's Day. This is a time for being in love, falling in love, remembering old love, renewing love or perhaps just verbalizing love. Love is no good unless you give it away. Give it away by the heartful.

So go tell someone you love 'em. And mean it. Feel it from the bottom of your heart. Unselfish, unconditional love. Love without expecting anything in return. Even if your love is unanswered, unrequited, you'll be glad you did. But I could be wrong.

Old Quarry Society to present comedy

The Old Quarry Society for the Performing Arts will present its next production on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 26 and 27, at the Post Theater at 8 p.m.

The play is entitled "The Cemetery Club" by Ivan Menchell. A comedy in two acts, the story tells of the antics of three Jewish women as they go through their lives as friends, playing canasta, becoming bridesmaids in a fourth friend's wedding, visiting their husbands in the cemetery and meeting men.

The very talented cast includes some familiar faces, as well as some new to the Old Quarry Society's stage.

Jewel Robinson plays the part of Ida. Robinson has been seen in numerous Old Quarry productions, including every production of "Glory Road," "Blythe Spirit" and most recently "Christmas Attitudes."

Playing the roll of Doris is Rosie Mattingly. First seen on the Old Quarry Society's stage in "Christmas Attitudes," Mattingly has been a mainstay in backstage help for many pro-

ductions.

Another newcomer to the theater group is Barbara Hunter who plays the part of Lucille. Hunter joined the group for "Christmas Attitudes."

Woodie Frances Trotter plays Mildred. A familiar face to local audiences, Trotter has been seen as the heroine in several of the group's melodramas, most recently in "Christmas Attitudes," and is probably best remembered for her beautiful ballet in "Glory Road."

Joe Goebel plays the one-and-only male role in this delightful production. Goebel has also been seen in several Old Quarry productions, including "Glory Road" and "Christmas Attitudes."

Directed by Lynn McNew, "The Cemetery Club" is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

Tickets for the production are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door, and are available at the Adult Center or from cast and crew members.

Local garden club meets

The Mountain Laurel Garden Club's meeting Thursday in the Gorgas Room attracted 15 members and guest Jan Swarm from Canyon City.

President Clara McCord, Ruby Cheaney and Marge Geeze reported that two pecan trees would be planted in front of the museum in memory of Walt Geeze and Esther Kestlelot.

McCord and Patsy Callnan met with Fort Clark General Manager Jim Heath to plan the club's beautification project and found that it would be an ongoing job. Maintenance will haul dirt for the yard and Heath will water as needed.

McCord invited members to donate trees for the project. Those responding were Rosie Mattingly, fig; McCord, pine; Hazel Ivey, pecan; Bobbie Waddill, red oak; and Joyce Williamson, red oak.

Members voted to spend \$100 from the club treasury for the project. McKelvy reported that the roses in the rose garden had been trimmed. McCord reminded maintenance to keep the wildflower bed at the museum watered. Callnan volunteered to water and trim the plants at the restaurant in March.

Charlene Simmons distributed

Duplicate Bridge Club attracts seven tables

The Fort Clark Springs Duplicate Bridge Club attracted seven tables at its meeting Tuesday night at the Adult Center.

Ella Chambers and Sara Richhart won the north-south division, while Mac McCandles and Dena Scott were second, and Fred and Nita Clayton finished third. In the east-west division, Joyce Bell and Alice Seargeant claimed first place, Mary Edgar and Nancy O'Brien were second, and Joan Strothers and Gertie Trautwein took third.

Wreck saddens community

Brackettville was saddened this week at the news of the terrible wreck that took the lives of some nice folks.

Among those was a young lady that many in our community knew well, named Mikey Schmidt.

Those who knew Mikey have told me stories about what a nice, beautiful young lady that she was. Her family is a large one and includes folks that have been around Brackettville for many years named Burks, Jones and Laman.

Mikey's life has helped me focus on what is important in life. Though I didn't know this young lady, hearing stories about her left an impression on my life. I hope that you too, take time to think about all of those gripes and complaints and try to gain a new perspective on life. Some of us are missing out on a beautiful life. Mikey, thanks for being so special to so many.

Lent Season

As I write this column, I note that Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday are on this week's calendar. We officially enter the Lent Season on Ash Wednesday.

The traditional pancake supper given by our Episcopal friends was a big success. Those who have lived here for a while look forward to the good food and hospitality of the Shrove Tuesday Supper.

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.

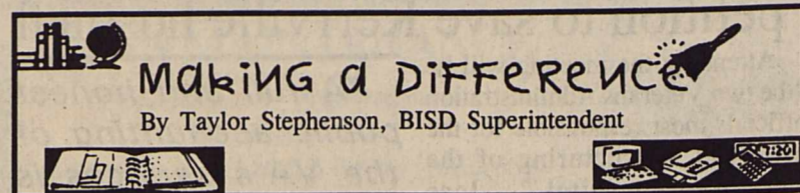
At Fort Clark, on January 1, 1883, Lt. French began diaries, which he faithfully maintained for the next 30 years.

Friday, Feb. 18, 1887

Battalion drill was more successful than usual this morning as it was in the simpler movements and fewer mistakes were made. Spent a short time at Capt. Vance's after guard mounting. Wrote a letter to Walcutt and mailed it this morning asking him to get some cigars for Roberts. Flynn left for Langtry to relieve Walcutt this morning as latter's troop is to go to Del Rio soon. Had usual French lesson after lunch. Mail came in later bringing me the flannel for a tennis suit, a letter and bundle of papers from home. The St. Louis paper brings word of the retirement of three Cavalry captains. Think this fills up the retired list and so Spencer will not get out of the way just yet much to my disgust. Mr. Edgerton has been too busy to attend to this for me. Ives wrote to Spencer to arrange for a transfer but the latter declined. Think Ives is entirely too selfish in asking this as I have a right to take Spencer's place in "A" Co. if he is retired; if Ives could make the transfer I would have to go to "D" Co. Read the papers from home until dinner time. No parade this evening. Mamie and Charlie Smith had a german this evening at the hall for the young school girls only and the bachelor officers. Danced with Betty Jordan and had a very enjoyable evening.

Saturday, Feb. 19, 1887

The General seems very military lately as he requires us to drill Saturdays. This morning we had a bayonet exercise drill. Went up to Capt. Vance's a while after guard mounting. Had to take reveille this morning as Guard was on guard. Read until lunch time. Spent a short time at Capt. Vance's after lunch and then read until mail time. It brought a short note acknowledging a wedding gift from Mollie Rowan Harper. Looked over the papers in the Library and played on the organ a while and then took a bath. In the evening put on swallow tail suit and escorted Miss Coleman to the hop room where we had a very



As we work our way through Lent to Easter, I hope that you (and I) take time to reflect and to redirect your life toward a more meaningful life.

BHS Athletics

Basketball season has ended! We've officially started baseball, softball, tennis, track and golf.

The athletic calendar includes enough activity for any high school and middle school student who wants to be a member of a team.

I hope that our students take advantage of the fine sports program that they have at BISD.

Preparing for Spring

The trees have begun to leaf out around the school. The huge ash tree by the band room and home economics building has begun to turn green.

Richard and the maintenance staff are adding dirt to the fields that need some tender loving care.

We're trying to grow some grass in front of the School Administration Building (Central Office).

It's time for all of us to take inventory outside and get ready for Spring.

School Election

The school election is an important one. Any resident of Kinney County who is registered to vote can vote in the election. I urge you to take the time to register to vote. We have a fine school system in Brackettville. Let's keep it that way!

Computer Class

Computer class turnout was awesome! Frank Taylor and his high school helpers taught about 70 adult students the basics of computers and of the Internet.

It's impressive to see so many adults that want to learn about computers. Our young folks are computer literate. The world constantly changes so that the need to know computer skills has become almost a necessity rather than a luxury.

We're fortunate to have an Internet service provider in Brackettville - Hillconet.

I hope this week is one of your best. It's nice to live in a community that so many folks are looking to find. We're here already, and I'm happy about it. We're a growing and healthy community!

Have a great week.

Haby announces contest winners

Doris Haby of Brackettville, the Texas Make It Yourself With Wool or Mohair director, has announced the winners of the 1998 Texas Photo Contest.

Junior and senior winners received expense paid trips to Denver for the national competition at the ASI Convention.

Winners were: Adriana M. Brenes of Houston Community College, adult division; Stacy Wells ofourdantion, senior division; Marijon Benham of Childress, junior division; and Sarah Ernestes of Schulenburg, pre-teen division.

Gift certificates for senior and junior mohair incentive winners were provided by Mr. and Mrs. James Wittenburg of Rocksprings, Pfluger Ranch Company of San Angelo, and Sterling C. Evans of Brackettville.

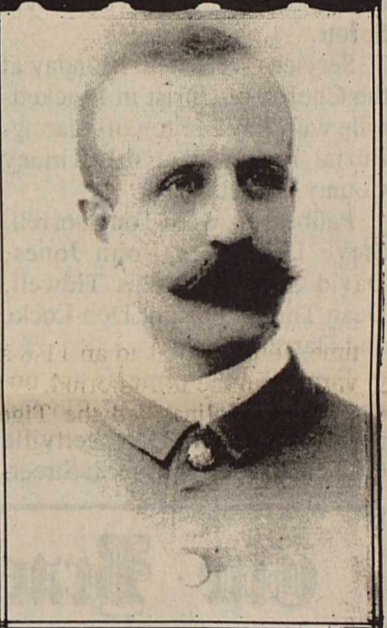
There were 21 entries in the contest. All received a two-and-a-half yard length of Pendleton wool provided by the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Auxiliary.

Haby sponsored the junior and senior winner at the Denver contest. She was elected ASI women's ways and means chairman by the national auxiliary.

FOOTSTEPS ECHO

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

Courtesy of his descendants



enjoyable german. Received a number of favors and gave all but one to my partner. She fared very well indeed much to my satisfaction as it is much better to have one's partner well favored than to be so served yourself. Sandwiches, biscuits, cake and coffee were served and much appreciated too. Commenced letter home and almost finished it before retreat.

Sunday, Feb. 20, 1887

Attended inspection as usual. Afterwards completed letter home and wrote to Lula so as to send both letters off in this morning's mail. Capt. Hall called me over to the office this morning as Ives put in an official application to be transferred with Spencer. Asked him to speak to the General and let him know how I felt about the matter. Practiced with the choir at 10 o'clock in the chapel and then walked home with Miss Coleman, declining her invitation to lunch. Took a long walk with Roberts out on the target range and down by the spring. Mail had nothing for me today. Read in the Century magazine until dinner time. After dinner Capt. Hall told me that the general had sent Ives' application to Maj. Smith for remark who will probably endorse it unfavorably. Hope it will not be made. Sat in Capt. Vance's a while and then escorted Miss Jordan to chapel where we had an excellent sermon. After taking her home sat there until tattoo and after the roll call went up to call on Hewitt and Hall for a time.

Monday, Feb. 21, 1887

The usual bayonet exercise took place this morning. After guard mounting took part of dictionary holder up to Capt. Fechet's and he kindly repaired it for me. While he was working on this went over to the hospital to get a prescription filled by Mrs. Fechet who is somewhat ill. Capt. Spole started today for Del Rio with his Troop and "D" Troop ought to be in soon. Read until lunch time. Had usual French lesson in afternoon. Hewitt was absent as he had to change quarters today. Mail brought a short letter from Lucy McConomy now Lucy Malone, acknowledging a wedding present and invitations to the wedding of Richards, 4th Cav'y. which takes place next month at Springfield Mo. Must send him congratulations. Read the papers in the Library later on. After re-

treat Guard came up to play cards a while and then I put on swallow tail suit and attended a very pleasant reception to Mrs. Stanley at the hall given by the Hammonds and Dr. Black. It was very much enjoyed by all. Walked home with Mrs. Guard after it was over.

Tuesday, Feb. 22, 1887

Washington's birthday being a holiday drill was suspended for today. So could sleep later this morning. After guard mounting took Miss Coleman's fan up to Capt. Fechet's and helped him to repair it. Then sat on our porch chatting with Miss Jordan and Mrs. Stanley while former was having her eyes treated by Black. Took her home just before lunch. After lunch went to Mrs. Guard's to return some silk handkerchiefs and found her and Ives preparing for a pancake party tonight. Was invited to help them and did so. Went down to store, commissary and quartermaster's and then put up a hook at Mrs. Guard's and did a little work there for tonight. Made an engagement to escort Miss Kauffman. Mail brought a letter from home, one from Young and Arnold at San Antonio and an advertisement. Father writes that my insurance rebate is only \$40. Confound this company, I wish I had never gone into the insurance for the money could have been much better invested. Read the papers in the Library. Guard was detailed as Commissary today relieving Lester. Was glad he got it. Capt. Vance being on guard took the calls. Had a right jolly evening at Mrs. Kauffman's where escorted Miss Kauffman, with games and singing. Got one of the rings in the pancake.

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 1887

Had charge of the drill this morning as Capt. Vance was on guard and Guard absent. Wrote usual letter home after guard mounting and mailed it so as to leave today. Filed letters and receipts before lunch. After lunch had a right pleasant ride with Steele out to the Pinto. Mail brought me nothing but an advertisement. Read the papers in Geary's house after mail came. In the evening went to Capt. Fechet's for Miss Coleman's fan and then to Capt. Vance's to arrange about taking calls while Guard is Commissary. Guard's detail takes effect the last of this month after

which I am to take reveille and retreat and the Captain takes tattoo. Walked up and down the line a while with Mrs. Guard and then Roberts and I called at Gen. Smith's, Col. Jordan's and at Hammond's finding nobody at home at the latter place. Then we went into Mrs. Guard's where she, and Roberts sang several pieces together. Enjoyed the music very much. Returned Miss Coleman's fan and gave her a pair of marksman's buttons.

Thursday, Feb. 24, 1887

Had our last bayonet drill this morning as battalion drills are set for tomorrow and Saturday. Guard was absent from drill this morning; he ought to have been there as his duty as Commissary does not begin until the 28th. From the way the Captain talked this morning, he evidently does not like Guard's acting in this way, thinks he is taking advantage of his detail. After breakfast went out to fire at 200 and 300 yds. so as to study my gun before practice season, which commences next Tuesday. Guard was up to the house after I returned and played cards a while. Told him about taking duty until the 28th but think he has a wrong idea about this. He is foolish to act like he does and might have his detail taken away if Gen. Smith heard of it. After lunch took a long walk with Miss Kauffman and enjoyed it. Mail brought nothing but an advertisement. Read the papers in Geary's & Steele's and then went over to the Library for a book and got the address of the publishers of the Scientific American and wrote to them for information & hints about studying architecture. Guard came up to play cards in the evening and then Roberts & I called on Mrs. Fowler, Mrs. Merrill, Mrs. Weeks, at Maj. Morris' finding nobody at home there, and after tattoo on Mrs. Lester. "D" Troop, Capt. Godwin came in from Del Rio today to take station.

Smith signs letter of intent to play football at Angelo State

By J.J. Guidry
Sports Editor

Brackett High School senior Brent Smith has signed a letter of intent to play football at Angelo State University.

"I've always wanted to play college football," Smith said. "I've been lifting weights and trying to get prepared for the fall."

"Angelo State really impressed me a lot. The coaches have all been there for at least 20 years. The campus was a lot nicer than some of the others I've been to."

Smith was a two-way starter for the Tigers, who finished 8-3 and advanced to the playoffs. He was a first team all-district selection at running back and linebacker.

"I'm very happy for Brent and his family," Tigers coach David Yeager said. "It's very exciting for Brent to be able to go and play at the next level. I think this is a good opportunity for him."

As a senior, Smith rushed for 1,268 yards and 18 touchdowns on 183 carries, averaging 6.9 yards per carry. Defensively, he led the team with 106 tackles, along with six sacks and nine tack-

les behind the line of scrimmage. "Brent was a big part of our success. He contributed in a lot of ways - leadership, along with his athletic ability. He was a two-way starter and he hardly came off of the football field."

Smith is expected to be red-shirted as a freshman. He will play either running back or in the defensive secondary for ASU.

"They're going to have to see what their needs are and where Brent can help them the most at," Yeager said. "They know he has speed and athletic ability, so you can make a place for an athlete."

"I think Brent can succeed there. Brent knows how to work hard. If he has the desire, I think there's no doubt that he can play football at the next level."

Yeager said Smith going on to play at the collegiate level should be a boost for Brackett's athletic program.

"I'm excited for Brent, I'm excited for Angelo State, and I'm excited for our athletic program because I hope it gives kids the hope in knowing that if they work hard in the classroom and work hard on the athletic field, that there



Brent Smith (seated, left) signs a letter of intent to play football at Angelo State University. Looking on are Brackett Athletic Director David Yeager (seated, right) and Smith's parents, Richard and Beth Ann (standing). Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

are opportunities out there for them to go and get a college education through athletics.

"I think it's a tremendous boost for our athletic program," the athletic director added.

Briefs ... Indians scalp Tigers, 62-41

J.V. Tigers fall short to Jourdanton, 35-31

The Jourdanton Indians edged the Brackett Tigers 35-31 Tuesday night in junior varsity basketball action as both teams finished their seasons.

Brackett led 6-5 after the opening stanza, but the Indians outscored the Tigers 9-6 in the second quarter to go up 14-12 at half-time. Jourdanton had an 11-8 advantage in the third period.

Tony Molinar led the Tigers with eight points, Tony Rubio scored six, Eric Allen and Daniel Hernandez each had five, Alex DeLeon scored four, Raymond Gomez had two and Sam Hunt added one.

Johnson finishes first in ladies' golf action

Rosemary Johnson won first place in the first flight and Mary Stephenson was second in a Crier's match Tuesday in Ladies' Golf League action at Fort Clark.

Lynn Ebert won the second flight and Nel Darling finished second. Camille Niel and Ann Malin were first and second in the third flight. Eva Saylor and Ruth Spencer tied for first in the fourth flight. Orlene Alvis won the fifth flight and Marion Hamill tied Edie Zipperer for second place.

By J.J. Guidry
Sports Editor

Tracy Smith poured in 34 points Tuesday night to pace the Jourdanton Indians who clinched a playoff berth with a 62-41 victory over the Brackett Tigers in the regular season finale for both teams.

The Tigers finished the regular season with a 7-16 overall record.

"We hustled real well," Brackett coach Jimmy Thomas said after Tuesday's contest. "We

had a lot of kids diving on the floor for loose balls and getting physical down low."

In other District 30-2A games on Tuesday, Dilley upset Comfort 46-41 and Center Point edged Natalia 53-49.

Comfort won the conference title with a 9-1 district record. The Bobcats will advance to the playoffs along with Dilley (7-3) and Jourdanton (6-4).

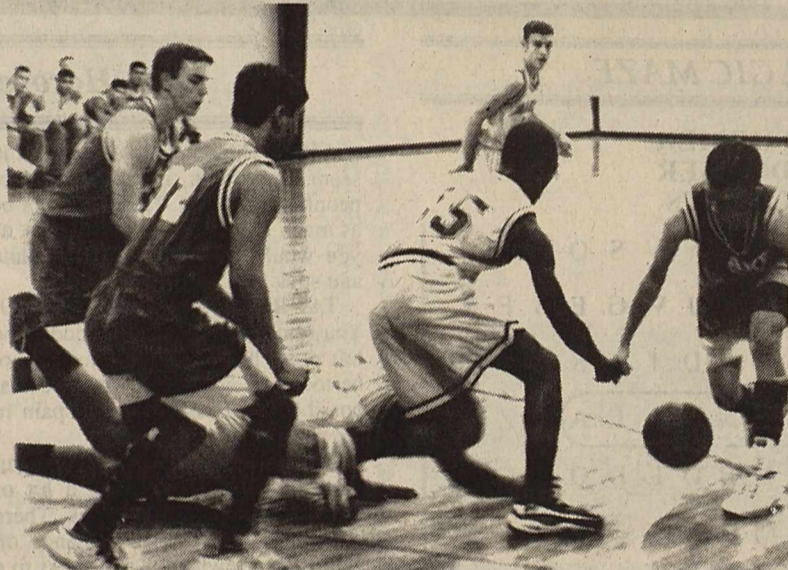
The Indians were up by four Tuesday night before Smith, a 6-foot-5 junior center, scored seven-straight to put Jourdanton up 27-

16 with 3:10 left in the first half.

"To me, Smith is the MVP of the district without a doubt," Thomas said. "Offensively, he played really well underneath. He is also a good shot blocker."

Schiller Hill and Matthew Smallwood each scored 13 to lead the Tigers.

Damian Toms had eight points for Brackett, Alex DeLeon, Steven Hagler and Phillip Juarez all had two, and Jacob Hughes added one.



Damian Toms (15) scored eight points Tuesday night as the Tigers lost to Jourdanton, 62-41. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

OUTDOORS

TPW awards \$500,000 in outdoor outreach grants

AUSTIN - Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) has announced \$500,000 in grants for 30 local groups throughout the state to increase outdoor opportunities for youth and minorities.

This is the first year that half a million dollars in grant money has been distributed - twice the amount of previous funding cycles.

The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) was created by the department in 1996 to assist and provide grants to non-profit organizations whose programs introduce young people, minorities and adults to outdoor services, programs and facilities.

CO-OP grants range from \$2,000 to a maximum of \$20,000. The total dollar amount of grants awarded has now reached \$1.25 million to 81 organizations.

"The Community Outdoor Outreach Program is our flagship outreach program," said Andrew Sansom, TPW executive director. "The success of this program is

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

measured in the quality outdoor experiences provided for a large number of children."

Organizations eligible to participate include local non-profit groups, non-political groups representing under-served populations, local governments and TPW-related programs.

The types of programs eligible for grants include outdoor education, recreation, wildlife/nature/environmental education, recreation safety, and other initiatives related to the mission of Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Projects providing service to participants such as ethnic minorities, youths, rural populations, women, low income, or persons with physical or mental disabilities are encouraged to apply.

"The goal of this program is to assist local groups who are already reaching out to young people and getting them involved in outdoor activities," said Darlene Lewis, CO-OP coordinator for TPW. "These groups are usually working on shoe-string budgets and these grants make a huge difference in terms of equipment and additional field trips."

The next CO-OP grant application deadline is Dec. 1, 1999. Grant applications are available by mail or through the TPW website. Write to Texas Parks and Wildlife, Attention: Darlene Lewis, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas, 78744, or call Lewis at (512) 912-7145. You can also visit the TPW website at www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

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ACROSS	you"	72 Biblical name	108 Stormed
1 "My Way"	42 Meal or work	73 Greek	109 Italian epic
6 Canter and	43 "...thou hast	74 Intoxicating	DOWN
11 Punctuation	a name that	75 Congrega-	1 Challing
16 Spanish-	thou —	lion's head	2 Band on a
speaking	(Rev. 3:1)	78 Young male	shield
district	45 Narrow slit	46 Herd	3 Head of
17 Range of	47 The south of	79 Reduce lens	Benjamin's
activity	France	aperture	clan
18 Cylindrical	48 John Jacob	83 River Islands	4 Ship of 1492
and tapered	and Mary	84 Degrees in	5 Share
20 "Norma"	51 Impure type	development	6 Recreation
composer	of sodium	86 "Lady Be —"	vehicle
21 Instrument	carbonate	(old movie)	7 Sharp
for Casals	52 Railroad	87 Wild ox	mountain
22 Largest living	handcars	88 Altar phrase	crest
bird	56 Schemes	89 Summer	8 Gull or leg
24 Auk ganus	57 Owlish	refreshers	follower
25 Handled	sounds	90 Ram down	9 Sesame
27 Small,	58 Dove	91 High, craggy	10 Regulating
sudden	shelters	92 Palm leaf	11 Drop by
explosions	59 Tourist's	need	12 Hardy
29 Fencing	60 Confessed to	a crime	13 Table scrap
30 — pollut	61 Acts servily	62 Philippine	14 Pierre's
31 Down to the	(to the	very end)	95 Most arid
32 Start of the	play	63 Frog genus	97 Lean-to
33 Greek letter	64 Chang's	brother	98 Etch designs on
34 Japanese	65 Rescued	aborigine	100 City on the
36 River	67 Aged beer	68 Night's	102 Legal
37 Sings like	Bing	69 Part or break	off
39 Boxer and	calph	70 Appraised	104 Stupid or silly
40 — show	71 Branching	105 Related on	23 Robbery
		106 Opens	26 Rural
		107 Steno groups	28 Indian

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E N I K S R E K L A W F Z K R

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

Campanella	Furillo	Newcombe	Sutton
Cey	Garvey	Reese	Walker
Drysdale	Hodges	Reiser	Wills
Erskine	Koufax	Robinson	

Your Horoscope by Natasha

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You seem to be quite involved in other people's lives now. There may not be as much time for family this week as you would prefer. Make a schedule and stick to it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're not exactly in the mood to be left alone, but then again you may not be too keen about this week's social possibilities. One friend is a pain in the neck.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Put aside any plans of getting a lot of work accomplished this week. There will be just too many demands on your time elsewhere. Keep stress to a minimum and relax.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) There's no point in stating a criticism and then withdrawing into yourself. Keep the lines of communication open and give others the benefit of the doubt.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) It may be a small issue that arises in connection with money. Try not to let yourself get unduly upset. Keep things in perspective. Clamp a tight lid on credit.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Strain could exist between an in-law and a family member this week. Home demands still press on you and may delay plans for travel. Not everyone agrees with you at the moment.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Some work developments from last week are still on your mind, but it's best now to devote your time and energy to non-material concerns. Don't be critical of others.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) There seems to be a lot of loose ends to tackle now and you may not have as much time for socializing as you'd like to have. A friend

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SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A partner's self-preoccupation could leave you feeling left out in the cold this week. Too much concern about little things could frustrate your nerves. Seek relaxing pursuits over the weekend.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your offhanded manner could be so casual that others are left with the impression you don't care. Keep a safeguard on credit.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) There's a need to watch expenditures now. A little bit here, a little bit there, and before you know it, you may have spent quite a sum. Meet close ties halfway this weekend.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) This is just not the time to get your thoughts across to others. Misunderstandings could easily arise over both career and financial concerns. A friend too is tickle.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

HOCUS-FOCUS

FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Arm is added. 2. Birdhouse is higher. 3. Sign is moved. 4. Downspout is added. 5. Fence is removed. 6. Fence is broken.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb. 18Irene Braun	Feb. 21Lester Meredith
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Feb. 21Jimmy A. Lutrell	Feb. 24Lorraine Coffin
Feb. 24Court Trotter		

God guarantees eternity in heaven for Christians

By Rev. Joe Townsend
Frontier Baptist Church

"If God be for us, who can be against us?" Thus speaks God in the Scripture. The answer is simple and varied.

Pain is against us. Sickness is against us. Immoral and unchristian people are against us. Sometimes the weather is against us. Many times, politicians and the government and its bureaucracies are against us.

The most potent enemy is Satan, who is always aggressively against us. So, why would God ask, "Who can be against us?"

Read the entire context. His meaning is simply that God is for us, so who can be successfully and victoriously against us. The answer screams from heaven, "No one or thing."

God can protect us. God can walk with us in every trauma, every sorrow, every sin, every attack by Satan and bring us through victorious. The mere fact that when we've waded neck deep in problems, troubles and care, he will make the end to be blessings verifies his promise.

When he says we are "more than conquerors through Jesus Christ," he adds assurance and encouragement. After every battle with

adversity, when we see God's hand bringing victory we are stronger and better for the trial.

Satan and the world can do their utmost, God's reward of an eternity in heaven proves how victorious we are.

Sin and the world and its woes can harass and pummel the body and mind, but even Satan cannot touch the soul that has been committed to Christ. That soul is eternal and God guarantees the eternity will be spent with him in the heaven prepared for him.

"Indeed if God be for us who can be against us? No one nor thing because we are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus."

It takes courage to serve the Lord

Submitted by
St. Mary Magdalene Church

"The Beautitudes" are found in the gospel of Matthew 5:3-12. Please read those passages before you pray today.

In the Psalms, David was continually trying to discover ways to please the Lord. He found that God grants favor and blessings when men come to him in humility.

Fasting and prayer demonstrate our humility. Praise and

worship demonstrate our gratitude. These things honor God and call upon his mercies.

In the sermon of the mount, Jesus describes these same virtues: humility, meekness, mercy, purity, peace, a hunger for righteousness.

They're not signs of weakness. They're not whimpy. It takes courage and character to serve the Lord.

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

Jesus has prepared your way

By Pastor Charolette Corey
Gateway Ministries

A word to the wise for those worried about the end of the millennium and the return of Jesus Christ.

God has a word for us in Isaiah 30:15, "For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength."

This word was given to the people of Israel when the

Assyrians were threatening to overtake the Israelites, and the Israelites put their trust in Egypt. Egypt is a symbol of the material things of this world, thus the Israelites were putting their hopes, trust and salvation in the things of the world.

Instead of this, God was telling them to return to him and his living word - read it, believe it and just do it!

Rest in the hope of his word, cease from your own works (trying to fix things yourself). Cease

from trying to save yourself (You are already saved as you rest in the righteousness of Jesus Christ and his redemption).

Show the strength of a quiet and confident spirit through trusting in your Heavenly Father.

When you truly understand who your Heavenly Father is - El Shaddai, Jehovah Jireh, Lord God of Hosts, just to name a few of his names that describe his character - you can cease from running and face anything the world can attack you with because he loves you

unconditionally.

Jesus, the only begotten son of God, the gate, the way, the truth, the light, the good shepherd, has prepared your way.

He is the head of the army of God. That army includes the believers who are filled with peace and confidence, rested and quiet, having ceased from their own works, and entering into the presence of God as he works out his historic plan.

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

Readings from the book of Psalms

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

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.

"Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

"Know ye that the Lord, he is God; it is he who hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his

people, and the sheep of his pasture.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

"For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth to all generations," Psalms 100.

Praise the Lord!

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Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesdays 7 p.m.

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Box attends orthopaedic surgeons' conference

Uvalde orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Gloria Gonzalez Box attended the 65th Annual American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Conference in Anaheim, Calif., Feb. 3-7.

The conference is the largest annual meeting of orthopaedic surgeons in the world. Box has attended the annual event for the past four years.

Over 500 lectures, demonstrations and presentations of scientific data were given during the five-day conference.

Orthopaedic surgeons from over 80 countries came to share new ideas and exchange the latest information about problems with the musculoskeletal system.

While there were around 4,000 orthopaedic surgeons from the United States who attended, there were almost twice that many who came from abroad.

Additionally, there were around 23,000 representatives and researchers from companies unveiling the latest state-of-the-art equipment, technology and techniques related to the practice of orthopaedics.

The entire Anaheim Convention Center was filled with hundreds of exhibitors displaying and demonstrating the latest braces, casting materials, surgical instrumentation, and other orthopaedic medical devices.

"One of the most exciting developments continues to be in the area of electrothermal arthroscopy," Dr. Box said.

This new technology, first introduced at last year's conference in New Orleans, has been refined and its uses expanded.

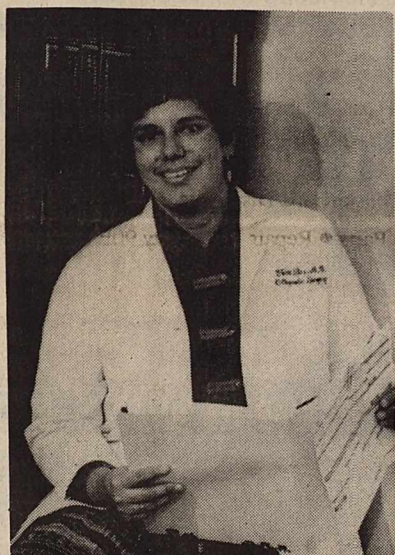
It actually uses sound waves during arthroscopy to heat the affected tissues to the precise tem-

perature needed to perform various surgical procedures. It is now being used in shoulder surgery, knee surgery and in spinal surgery.

"We actually began utilizing this state-of-the-art equipment and technology in Uvalde earlier this year and have had very promising results so far," Box said.

"Another interesting area brought up at the conference was in the treatment of arthritis. There are several new arthritis medications that have just been approved by the FDA within the past few weeks, and at least one other that is scheduled to be released later this year.

"These new medications help control the inflammation - and pain - associated with arthritis while at the same time they have fewer side effects, and can be taken by patients with gastrointes-



DR. GLORIA BOX

tinal problems," she added.

Box owns and operates Uvalde Bone and Joint Clinic, which is located in Uvalde Memorial Hospital, 1025 Garner Field Road.

HIV, homicide deaths decline in 1997 for Texans

While heart disease, cancer and stroke remained the leading causes of death for Texas residents in 1997 as they have been for nearly two decades, the number of lives claimed by human immunodeficiency virus infection (HIV) and homicide decreased.

The mortality figures for 1997, the last year for which statistics are complete, from the Bureau of Vital Statistics at the Texas Department of Health (TDH) show similarities with past years as well as new trends.

Since 1950, heart disease and cancer have been the two leading causes of death in Texas, and the two accounted for more than half of all deaths of Texas residents in 1997.

Deaths from HIV, however, decreased for a second year (a 42 percent drop in 1997), moving it from ninth in 1996 to 12th the next year.

"In 1997, deaths due to homicide, which demonstrated an increase from 1987 to 1991,

Leading causes of death

The 10 leading causes of death for Texas residents in 1997 were:

Cause	Number of Deaths
1. Heart disease	43,569
2. Cancer (malignant neoplasms)	32,144
3. Stroke (cerebrovascular diseases)	10,137
4. Accidents	7,150
5. Chronic lung diseases	6,696
6. Diabetes mellitus	4,753
7. Pneumonia and influenza	4,614
8. Suicide	2,137
9. Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	2,024
10. Septicemia	1,493

continued the decline that began in 1992," said Tom Pollard, director of the bureau's statistical services division.

"As a result, homicide is no longer one of the 10 leading causes of death for all Texas

residents. It is, however, the seventh and eighth leading cause among African-American and Hispanics respectively," he added.

Deaths due to chronic liver disease and cirrhosis increased 4.3 percent in 1997, moving from 10th in 1996 to the ninth leading cause of death. Also increasing were deaths due to diabetes mellitus and pneumonia and influenza. New in the 10th spot is septicemia.

The majority of deaths (28.4 percent) in 1997 to people ages 1 to 44 were due to accidents. Cancer was responsible for 12.9 percent of all deaths in this age group, and HIV claimed the lives of another 5.4 percent.

"The infant mortality rate of 6.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births is very near the all-time low for the state, which occurred in 1996," Pollard said. "However, the African-American infant mortality rate at 10.9 continues to be considerably greater than the rate of Anglos at 5.6 and Hispanics at 6.0."

Decay of families responsible for ills of modern society

Continued from Page 1

Despite our advanced technology, we are reverting to conditions that were probably prevalent before the dawn of history. The close-knit family is not just a group of people related by blood. It, not technology, is the core of civilization.

Sometimes broken homes are unavoidable. Sometimes marriages are so wrong that they are unsalvageable. This is sad. This is, however, something that should have been addressed before the vows were taken.

Marriage is something that is so important that it should never

be entered into in a moment of flashy passion and heated lust.

Marriage should be entered into after a period of prayer for guidance, and cold, calculated consideration as to whether your intended partner is someone you want to live with, love, and be totally committed and faithful to for the rest of your life.

Considering that the usual couple are married when they are in their 20s, and that the average life expectancy these days is approaching 80, that is a very long time.

It is obvious to me that the decay of the family unit is directly responsible for many of the ills

prevalent in modern society.

I just read that one California city is contemplating making it illegal to use corporal punishment. This absolutely astounds me! Good grief folks, is this shades of Orwell's "1984"? Is Big Brother becoming so all-pervasive that he is deciding how we should raise our children?

If you read the Bible, you will find that corporal punishment is mandated by God. Such legislation would only serve to weaken the already tottering nation.

I have no solution to our present problem. I can talk, but I can't make people listen. The only solution is found in the Holy Bible.

If you know a young couple contemplating marriage, you owe it to them, yourself and to God to share this with them.

I heard the other day that an obviously sage individual once said: "We have millions of laws to enforce just Ten Commandments."

One of those commandments is: "Honor your father and mother." It seems that if that was worthy of mention by God, it must be important to his plan for us.

That is the basis of the family - love, honor and respect. If we teach that in our family, it will carry on into society and the healing process will have begun.

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SUNSET TRANSPORTATION - FORT WORTH based carrier is currently leasing owner-operators to haul sand, rock, etc. year around in end-dumps. Trailers available. 100K+ potential. Call Wilma 1-888-215-HAUL.

WANTED, OTR DRIVERS. *Average miles 2800/ week. *4-10 day dispatch. *2 years verifiable experience required. * Call 1-888-512-7900.

FIND A DRIVING job right here!

EDUCATIONAL/TRAINING

AIR FORCE. GREAT career opportunities available for high school grads, ages 17-27. Plus up to \$9,000 enlistment bonus if you qualify! For an information packet call 1-800-423-USAFA or visit www.airforce.com.

EMPLOYMENT

THE MIDDLE RIO Grande Development Council is accepting applications for the position of Planner II. This position is primarily responsible for advanced work in organizing and delivering a process for the development and execution of a range of community development, community planning, and solid waste management planning functions. Provides technical assistance in the development of local applications for state and federal programs aimed at improving the region's infrastructure, including environmental management. Works directly with cities and counties to assist in determining and prioritizing their community development needs and environmental management needs. Is responsible for the preparation and administration of CDBG grant projects. Acts as solid waste management planner and assists in research, collection and compilation of data and presentation of environmental management issues and projects. Must be able to deliver presentations on proposed project applications to the Middle Rio Grande Development Council Board of Directors, Regional Review Committee and the Solid Waste Task Force. Minimum requirements for this position are a Bachelor of Arts Degree with two years of related work experience. This position requires in-region and out-of-region travel as well as some overnight travel. Person accepting this position will be required to maintain an insured vehicle at all times. The salary range for this position depending on experience is \$25,470 - \$29,485. This position will be housed at Carrizo Springs. All qualified persons interested in applying for this position may submit a resume, an application, and copies of transcripts to Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834, attention Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Director of Administration. Deadline for this position will be Wednesday, February 24, 1999 at 5:00 P.M. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

REAL ESTATE

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

Old barracks apartment. 2 bed, 1 bath.

Efficiency townhouse, furnished. \$20,000.00.

Lot in Brackettville with hook-ups. Ready for mobile home.

49er duplex. Will sell half or both sides. Good as inexpensive vacation home, rental or starter. Each side has 2 bed, 1 bath. Good size yard if need to expand. \$30,000 for both sides.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

A DEBT-FREE LIFE! Confidential help. Cut monthly payments. Reduce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy. Nation's largest non-profit: Genus Credit Management. 24 hours, 1-800-317-9971.

****AVOID BANKRUPTCY**** DEBT consolidation. Stop collection calls. Cut monthly payments to 50%. Eliminate finance charges. Fast approval. National Consolidators. 1-800-270-9894.

BOARDWALK MORTGAGE CORPORATION. Fast cash for notes. Residential & Commercial are receiving payment? Boardwalk wants to buy them from you. Free call 1-888-265-4082. see www.dallastimes.com.

\$\$\$OVERDUE BILLS!!! CREDIT Problems? Consolidate debts! Same day approval. Cut monthly payments up to 50%! Call Debt Management: 1-800-863-9006 ext. 883. www.help-pay-bills.com. Only 2% administration fee!

\$\$\$WE BUY \$\$\$SELLER financed notes *Insurance settlements *Land note portfolios. Colonial Financial. 1-800-969-1200, ext. 42.

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

Lovely 4 bedroom, 3 bath Palm Harbor home. Beautifully landscaped yard. Fireplace. All appliances including washer and dryer. Double enclosed garage. Workshop. Mulberry Street on Fort Clark.

25 acres with good well. Fenced. \$40,000.

Cute historic home near Phillipone building. \$18,000.

Very nice 2 bedroom mobile home with good metal roof cover. Washer, dryer, stove and refrigerator. Has 3 good lots in excellent location in Brackett. Only \$24,000.

DEBBIE TRANT MELISSA DAVIS LOCKHART REAL ESTATE



830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

Lovely 3 bd, 2 bath home, approx. 2,000 sq.ft., lg den, spacious kitchen, fenced yard. \$78,000.

Nice small furnished home, remodeled throughout, covered RV parking, just \$37,900.

Good selection of golf course lots, some in choice location with big oaks.

Stop in & see the good selection of dolls, children's books & gifts at **LET'S PLAY**, for the Young & Young at Heart!

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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.

1988 FORD P/U F-250, 4x4, 3/4 ton, heavy duty, AM/FM cassette, A/C, excellent condition. Call 563-9655.

2 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, 14x60 mobile home with washer, dryer, central AC/H, carport, fenced yard, FCS membership included. \$13,600. 563-9128.

3 LOTS IN Brackettville, \$4800. Call 830-591-0098.

FORT CLARK MEMBERSHIP, \$500. 915-672-9213.

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

PONTOON - \$5,000. GOLF cart - \$500. Ft. Clark membership - \$500. 830-775-9991.

PURPLE MARTIN BIRD Houses, 12-family: \$29.95 & S/H. Telescopic poles/ accessories available, Martins eat 2000 flying insect per day! Free catalog. Order today! Call 1-800-764-8688. www.purplemartin.net.

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.

LEGAL SERVICES

NURSING HOME ABUSE - Neglect, bedsores, burns, assaults, malnutrition, falls, deaths. Call for free confidential consultation, David P. Willis, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer. Houston, Tx, principal office, 1-800-883-9858.

MOBILE HOMES

3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath only \$500.00 dn. \$99.00 mo. for 180 mos. @ 12.99% APR fixed. Apply by phone, 1-800-760-7711.

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

BIGGEST DOUBLEWIDE IN Texas, 32 x 84 feet. Now showing at 1-800-760-7711.

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

HONEYMOON SPECIAL: 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$500.00 dn \$99.00 mo. for 180 mos. @ 12.75% fixed APR, 1-800-760-7711.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCE # 1999-02-09: An ordinance establishing prima facie maximum reasonable and prudent speed limits on RM 334 within the City of Brackettville, and repealing all ordinances and sections of ordinances in conflict herewith. Passed and approved this 9th day of February by City Council. This ordinance can be seen in its entirety at City Hall.

RESOLUTION, EARLY VOTING: Resolution by the City of Brackettville concerning early voting ballot board for the May 01, 1999 City Council Election. Be it resolved that on May 01, 1999 the City of Brackettville will hold their 1999 City Election to elect two (2) Alderman for the period of two years. Whereas, the Mayor of the City of Brackettville has ordered election and given all information required by law; and whereas, the Council will appoint on March 09, 1999 at the Regular City Council meeting, an election Judge and Alternate Presiding Judge for the City Council election to be held May 01, 1999; and whereas, the City Council needs to create an early voting ballot board. Now therefore, be it resolved that: The City Council of the City of Brackettville does direct the elections officers for the May 01, 1999 City Election to serve as the early voting ballot board for the early voted ballots. Adopted this 9th day of February, 1999. Carmen M. Berlanga, Mayor. Attest: David G. Luna, City Manager.

REAL ESTATE

NO DOWN PAYMENT? Problem Credit? Own the home you need now, without a big down payment. Complete financing if qualified. DeGeorge Home Alliance, 1-800-343-2884.

SOUTHERN COLORADO RANCH Sale! 54 acres - \$34,900. Bring your horses & ride out to one of the last great ranches in Colorado. Nice fields with outstanding Rocky Mountain Views. Year round access, telephone/ electricity. Excellent financing. Call now 1-719-676-6367, Hatchet Ranch.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

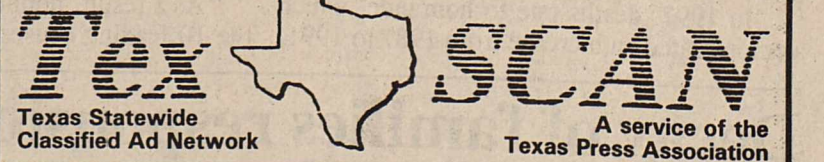
BRACKETT ISD INVITATION to bid: Brackett Independent School District is selling by sealed bid three upright pianos. Information can be obtained by contacting Brackett Independent School District, Attn: Taylor Stephenson, Superintendent, PO Box 586, Brackettville, TX 78832, 830/563-2491. All bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope with the words "Bid on Upright Piano" printed clearly on the outside of the envelope. Bids due into the Central Office by 10:00 a.m. March 5, 1999. Brackett ISD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

SERVICES

COMPUTER REPAIR, SERVICE and support. Y2k compliance analysis \$55/machine. Internet configuration. Network specialists. Wholesale plus 10% pricing. Doctor Computer. 563-3443.

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ASTORS TRICINA GOREWILLS
PLAINS HOOTS COTES MAP
61 SANG PAWNS MOROS RANA
ENG GAVED SEVER LAGER
STOPPOVER RAITERE AMOISE
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ATTS STAGES GOOD ANORA
TDO ADES TAMP TOLS
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