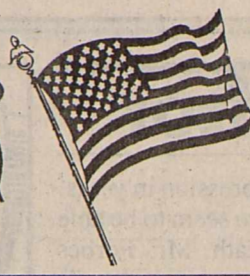


The Brackett News



School Holiday's
December 17, 1999
- January 4, 2000!

11th year, No. 45

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

1 Section, 8 Pages



Pictured above: Consumer Accounting Specialist, Rebecca Munoz, who received a twenty-five year service award from Rio Grande Electric Co-op. Photo by RGEC

RGEC 9th Annual Employee Service Awards

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc. held their 9th Annual Employee Service Awards Luncheon on Monday, December 6, 1999, in the Brackettville warehouse and on Tuesday, December 7, 1999, at the Swiss Clock Inn in Ft. Stockton.

Twenty-five Year Service Award went to Rebecca Munoz, Consumer Accounting Specialist III, of Brackettville.

Receiving 10 Year Service Awards were Patricia Taylor, Manager of Human Resources, David Meyer, Line Foreman, Jaime Muniz, Second Class Lineman, Debra Massingill, Plant Ac-

counting Supervisor, all of Brackettville, Ernesto Mata, Second Class Lineman of Carrizo Springs, Charles Ortiz, First Class Lineman, Eddie Mediano, Second Class Lineman, both of Marfa.

Receiving a Five-Year Service Award was Karen Bizzell, Administrative Supervisor, Richard Tenery, Mechanic, Frank Rodriguez, Electrical Technician, all of Brackettville, and Florida Perez, Groundman, of Carrizo Springs.

Rio Grande ECI and their employees extend a "Big Congratulations" to the mentioned honorees.

County signs contract for new EMS building

By Dottie Cruz
Staff Writer

Last Monday three Commissioners voted to approve the contract with Jack Hill Construction Company for the construction of the new EMS building. Commissioner Joe Boy Williams abstained.

"They stated the monies was here, it's not here, not until that letter gets here." - Joe Boy Williams

When asked why he abstained, Williams explained, "They stated the monies was here, it's not here, not until that letter (of confirmation) gets here. Plus, I'm the one

who got the grant for this thing to start anyway and when I got it, (it) wasn't this big."

"We went into all these monies, plus the time I wasn't here, (Public Hearing transferring grant funds) that is when they took that money and started this," added Williams.

Hill Construction will begin construction as soon as they receive a Notice to Proceed from the county. The project will be completed within 180 days after construction begins.

"In this case we are having the county do the base development of the pad for the construction. So, for the contractor, we would not issue this (notice to proceed), until that pad is ready to go," said Architect Carlos Flores.

After the pad has been completed and all tests have met the

Continued on page 3

New library policy adopted

By Dottie Cruz
Staff Writer

County Commissioners approved a policy concerning library visitors' behavior at last Monday's meeting.

The policy will allow County Librarian Sara Terrazas and her staff to put anyone that visits the library on notice if their behavior is inappropriate.

A Notice of Misconduct may be given to any library visitor for being too loud, foul smelling, offensive to others, refusing to vacate the computer after one hour, arguing with staff and use of profanity. Terrazas was also empowered to add to the list if any other problems arise that cause her and her staff trouble.

Terrazas reported her and her staff have been tolerating terrible behavior. Which on occasion has resulted in calls to the Sheriff's Department.

"We have a policy on the computers that they (the public)

can use it for one hour, then get off and come back after an hour's time and get back on for another hour, with a two hour per day limit," explained Terrazas. "They would get on and stay on for four

"They would get on and stay on for four or five hours, when we would ask them to get off they didn't want to get off." - Sara Terrazas.

to five hours, when we would ask them to get off they didn't want to get off. Sometimes it would be closing time and they didn't want to leave."

"Layla stays and works to six. Well, she had an incident with this one gentleman, where he refused to leave at the end of the day. He got really ugly with her so she called me, very upset, and said

Local citizens lose over 3 weeks of services because of holidays

by Wes Robinson
Contributing Writer

Local citizens will lose over 3 weeks of government services, during the upcoming year, due to the number of holidays observed by Kinney County and the City of Brackettville.

The city and county both adopted the same schedule of 17 holidays.

"We prepared two alternatives for you all to look at and we took a poll within the county," said Judge Herb Senne. The poll was to determine which schedule was preferred by county employees.

Both proposals included 17 holidays, one gave more days at Thanksgiving and Christmas while the other had the holidays distributed more evenly throughout the year.

According to the poll, county employees preferred the holidays distributed throughout the year, 21 to 18.

"The preference of the county employees by this poll is to basically do what we've been doing. That's giving a holiday more or less every month," said Senne.

"The week of Thanksgiving, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, which I realize Thursday is a holiday. That's quiet a bit, that's three of the five days we're shut down," said Commissioner Freddy Frerich.

"I would think half a day on that Wednesday. Seems to me that we're shutting down quiet a bit on one holiday," added Frerich.

"Why don't somebody put a motion on the floor, so we can discuss it. Anybody want to make a motion of any kind?" asked Senne.

Commissioner Joe Boy Williams motioned to

Government Holidays

Holidays observed by Kinney County and the City of Brackettville for 2000:

- 1. Jan. 17 Martin Luther King Day
- 2. Feb. 21 Presidents Day
- 3. March 3 Texas Independence Day
- 4. April 17 San Jacinto Day
- 5. April 21 Good Friday
- 6. May 29 Memorial Day
- 7. June 19 Juneteenth
- 8. July 4 Independence Day
- 9. Sept. 4 Labor Day
- 10. Oct. 9 Columbus Day
- 11. Nov. 10 Veterans Day
- 12. Nov. 22 Day before Thanksgiving
- 13. Nov. 23 Thanksgiving
- 14. Nov. 24 Day after Thanksgiving
- 15. Dec. 25 Christmas Day
- 16. Dec. 26 Day after Christmas
- 17. Dec. 30 New Year's Day

adopt the plan preferred by the county employees and was seconded by Commissioner Joe Montalvo.

Senne was the deciding vote to approve the motion, Williams and Montalvo voted for, Melancon and Frerich opposed.

The city adopted the same schedule after it being recommendation by City Manager David Luna.

Alderman Martha McDonald moved to approve with a second by Alderman Ralph Gonzales. McDonald, Gonzales, Alderman Mary Flores, and Alderman Tomas Gomez voted for, Alderman Tencha Pena abstained.

PUC to determine SWBT fees

by Wes Robinson
Contributing Writer

The City of Brackettville has discovered, thanks to a new Texas Law, they will no longer determine their own fate regarding franchise fees paid by Southwestern Bell Telephone.

House Bill 1777, which went into effect September 1, 1999, states that the Public Utility Commission shall now determine the access line rates by category for municipalities, applicable to telecommunications providers.

In short, PUC will determine what amount of monies are paid to Texas cities by phone companies.

"This is in reference to gross receipts, and money coming in. Southwestern Bell is one of our franchise people. People that pay us for the right-of-way in the City of Brackettville, to be able to use their telephone lines. For years, and certainly since I've been here, and even before me, the percentage was set (by the city)," said City Manager David Luna.

"We no longer have any say so, on whether we want in or out and how much we want," said

Luna. "How much money are we going to lose? At this point it doesn't seem that we're going to lose anything. We may not be able to gain as much as we had anticipated in the future," added Luna.

Luna advised the council that he had been contacted by the

"It's going to cost us approximately two to three thousand dollars, because we have approximately that many tires." - David Luna

Texas Natural Resource and Conservation Commission concerning the tires located at the citizens collection site.

"In your folders you have a letter from the Texas Department of Health advising us that someone had reported to them that we were in violation with our tires.

"I advised the man from TNRCC that was no problem, we had the money to move them.

"He was kind enough to give

me a list of people that we could get a hold of and we're going to deal with the same people Eagle Pass does," said Luna.

Luna had been unable to contact the company prior to the city council meeting.

"It's going to cost us approximately two to three thousand dollars, because we have approximately that many tires. According to TNRCC, anything over 500 tires you need to get rid of, so we're allowed to store up to 499 tires.

"Believe me, I'll count them from this point on, to make sure that we won't pay for 'em, until there is 499 and then we'll call 'em," added Luna.

The money to pay for the tire disposal will come from excess funds collected from citizens for garbage collection. These funds were also used to pay for the collection site property.

Las Moras Masonic Lodge's request for a 25 percent tax exemption was tabled.

"We have kept the building up, it's a historical building, we spent about \$2,200 dollars last year on repairs to this building. We feel

Continued on page 3

Briefs ...

Christmas basket deliveries on Tuesday

The Brackettville Lions Club will deliver Christmas Baskets on Tuesday, December 21, 1999.

Dead line to enter Livestock Show

Livestock Show participants! Dead line for entering the Kinney County Livestock Show is the end of this week. Get your entries in so that you may participate!! Call 830-563-2442 if you have any questions.

Youth group collects for Christmas baskets

The Catholic Youth Ministry will set up a stand to receive donations for food baskets and toys, at "Escamilla's Taco Express", Saturday 10-4pm and Sunday 12-5pm. Help us bring joy of Christ's birth from you to others.

An old fashioned Christmas

The Old Quarry Society will be offering a Christmas gift to the community on Saturday, December 18, 1999, with a play entitled "An Old Fashioned Christmas." This year's offering will be presented in slightly different fashion as theater in the round at the Service Club at 7:30 p.m.

The play is under the direction of Joe Goebel and the cast includes Barbara Hunter, Rosie Mattingly, Ida Holley, Nona Hoeller, Fern Amo, Lynn McNew, Mike Holley Ken Sellers, and Rick Bacon.

Production is through special arrangement with I.E. Clark, Inc. Schulenburg, TX.

Mark your calendar now for Saturday, Dec. 18, 7:30 PM Service Club for the Old Quarry production of "An Old Fashioned Christmas." No admission will be charged.

Christmas basket deliveries on Saturday

The Las Moras Hispanic Organization: will be delivering the Christmas Baskets for the elderly and needy on Saturday, December 18th from 9:00 - ?

Anyone wanting to help deliver these baskets be at the Library Annex by 8:30 a.m.

Duplicate club winners

Ft. Clark duplicate met Dec. 7th, 6 1/2 tables. The winners were: N/S 1. Rozetta Pingnot and Ruth Potter, 2. Choppy and Joyce Ambler, 3. Blake and Jeanette Hinton. E/W 1. Joyce Bell and Alice Seargeant, 2. Mary Edgar and Rusty Richhart, 3. Ruth Wilks and Laverne Schaffer.

INSIDE

Get in Shape

I'm determined to get the old body in shape one more time. I am going to start back on my diet. Opinion/Page 2

Care of Firearms

If you shoot a Remington Model 1100 shotgun you should know that it is a semi-auto and is gas operated, as opposed to recoil operated. Outdoors/Page 4

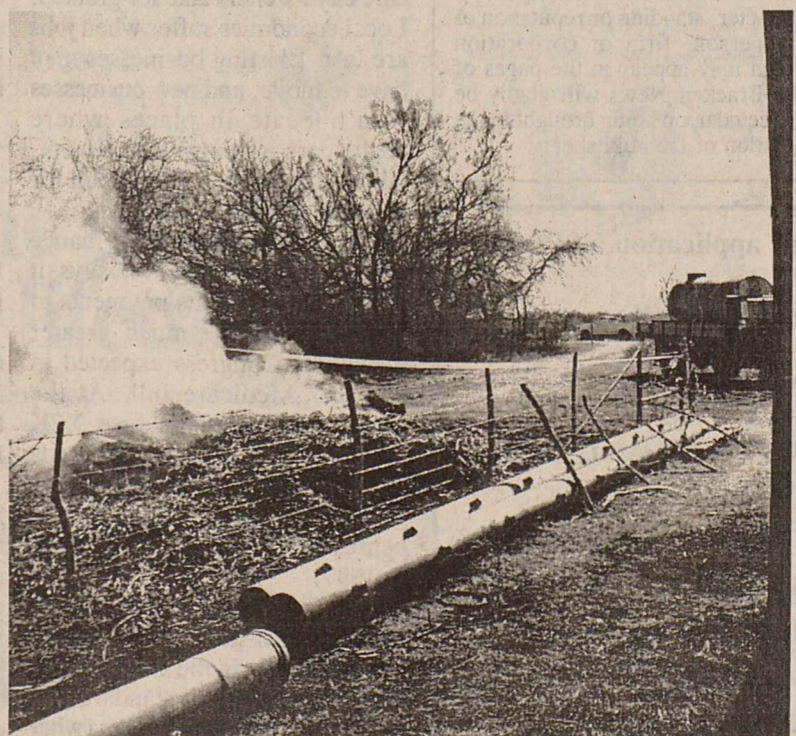
Making a difference

Time has gone by fast; sometimes, too fast. We're half way through the school year of 1999-2000! School/Page 5

INDEX

Classifieds	8
Community	3
Crime	2
Opinion	4
Outdoors	4
Religion	7
School	5

Fire destroys hay at Jones Ranch



Pictured above: The remains of several bales of hay that burned on the Jones ranch last Monday afternoon. At this time, the cause of the fire has yet to be determined. John Jones was injured while attempting to move part of the hay away from the fire. Jones was held overnight at the Val Verde hospital for observation and was released the following day.

Letter to the Editor

What in the world is Steve Forbes thinking?

Earlier this week, Mr. Forbes suggested that we should drain the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to drive down the price of crude oil and gasoline. He also indicated that as president he would take action against Arab oil producing countries to reduce petroleum prices. This obviously clumsy effort to pander to New Hampshire voters is bad for the country and every worker, family and schoolchild in the oil patch.

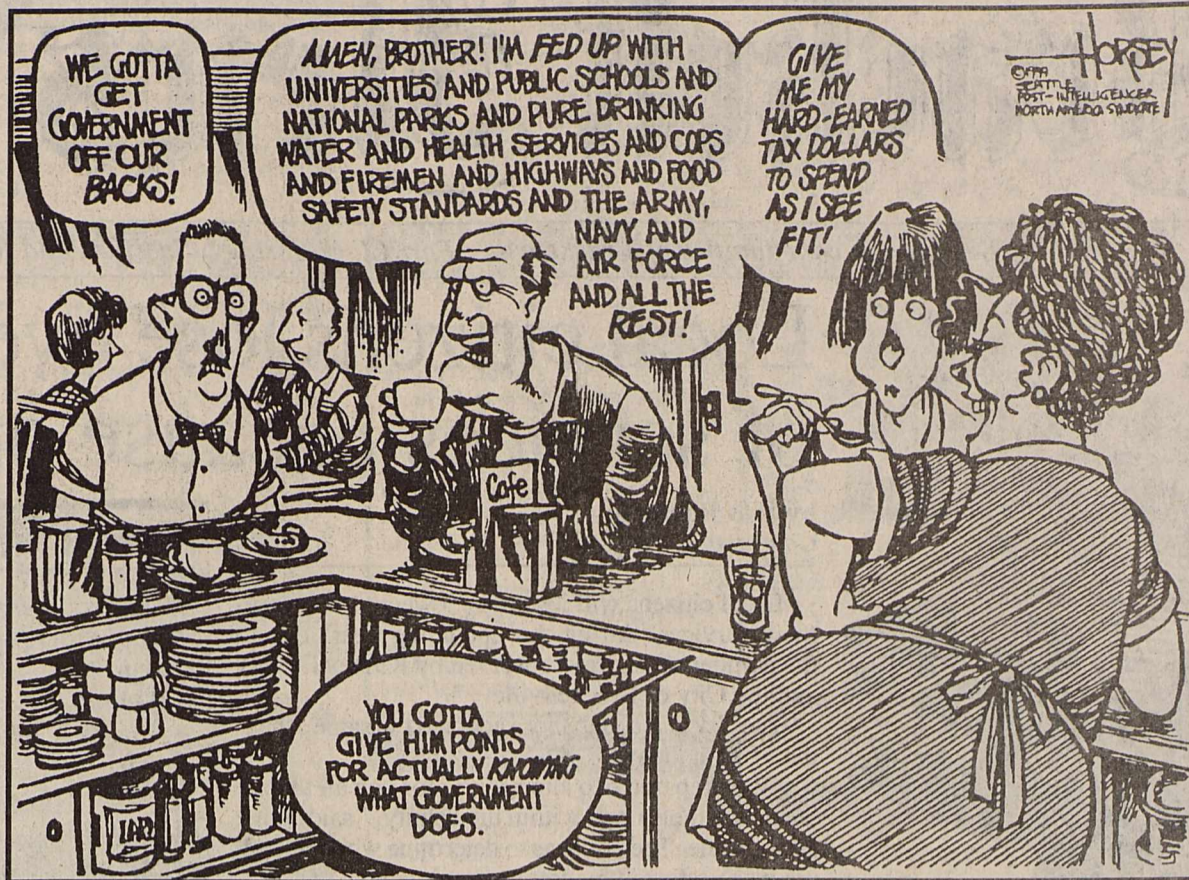
The Strategic Petroleum Reserve is America's energy savings account. Depleting the reserve would jeopardize our national security and put American families and factories in unnecessary risk.

It could also be devastating to Texas. Texas producers have just gone through the longest and

deepest price depression in years. And just when we seem to be able to catch our breath, Mr. Forbes wants to use the government's power to push crude prices, and accordingly, national security downward.

If Mr. Forbes is genuinely interested in a healthy national economy, he'd be better off articulating a real national energy policy. At its core, it should provide for a tax, regulatory and litigation environment to encourage domestic production * an environment that would advance our national interest, reduce our over reliance on foreign crude and provide real benefits to American consumers.

Mr. Forbes should know this.
Michael L. Williams
Chairman, Texas Railroad
Commission



Suing for fun and profit

Submitted by
U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

Last year, juries made some trial lawyers in our country very happy. The top ten verdicts awarded in 1998 totaled \$2.8 billion. But of course, this is America, where we can always aim higher. Thus, some lawyers are now going after bigger and better awards. Their target? Gun manufacturers.

More than two dozen cities are suing gun makers, blaming the businessmen for the criminals who manage to get firearms illegally. Last week, the Administration announced it might try for a piece of this pie as well. The government has threatened the companies, saying that if they don't hurry up and settle the suits, the Department of Housing and Urban Development will file a lawsuit against them. HUD says it would be filing it on behalf of people who live in public housing projects.

If the government gets its way, the firearms manufacturers will have to shell out billions of dollars to the cities, agree to stricter rules such as limiting the number of guns a person can buy, or both. For the past seven years, the Administration's been looking for a way to chip away at the second amendment. Congress didn't let it happen. Now the Administration's found a way around the Constitution. The lawsuit HUD's threatening would cost companies millions of dollars, win or lose, leaving them little choice but to compromise.

When I first heard about this idea last week, the idea of suing a company for selling and advertising a legal product seemed preposterous. The argument goes something like this: if someone misuses a product, we should blame the person who made it. But perhaps President Clinton's on to something. Next he might want to sue the car makers. After all, more people die in the United States every year in auto accidents than from gun injuries. But let's not stop there. Someone should tell the Administration what McDonald's has been up to. Day after day, they entice you to the golden arches with promises of piping hot, juicy hamburgers and fatty fries. Everyone knows a bad diet causes heart disease. Heart disease kills more than seven times the number of people of firearms and cars combined.

Admittedly, the idea sounds ridiculous. But it's the "pass the blame" argument that these massive gun lawsuits are based on. Gun manufacturers may lose. Some may go bankrupt fighting these cases in court, or fighting to keep them from ever getting there. But after the last check's been written, and the last lawyer's been paid, criminals will still exist. They will still find victims, and they will still find guns. Until we agree to lay the blame at their feet, and not those of law abiding citizens, we will not be able to launch the kind of nation-wide law enforcement effort needed to truly fight gun violence.

Walk a mile in your shoes

I could be wrong!
by Chuck Hall

I helped my son-in-law put up some fence one weekend. I was down in my back for 3 days. I think I am as out of shape as I have ever been in my entire life. I fuss at other people to exercise, and yet I don't follow my own advice.

So this week's words of wisdom are about exercise.

I want us all to get out and do something to stimulate blood circulation. Walk, hike, run, jog, lift weights, climb mountains, do whatever you feel like doing, but do something.

If you think you don't need physical activity, then you're right where I am. Or where I was. I'm determined to get the old body in

shape one more time. I am going to start back on my diet. I will be working on fence at least three times a week, either after school or at least half a day on Saturday. The next time you see me you will marvel at how young and fit I seem to be. And you'll be right. I'm going to labor and toil, sweat, and exercising just for the fun of exercising.

I really am going to do these things. And right away too. I know if I put it off, even for a little while, I'll never do it. I'll find a convenient excuse and not actually perform the tasks I have planned.

I have to stop now because all of this writing about work and exercise has tuckered me plum out. But I could be wrong.

No one cares about apathy

The way I see it!
by Steven R. LaMascus

I once read that the problem with the world today is that no one cares about apathy anymore. Get it? No one cares? Apathy? Oh, never mind!

We have become a nation of pacifists. We don't want to get involved. We are afraid that if we do anything, even if it is right and wholesome, that makes somebody angry, they will do something mean and evil to us in retaliation. Consequently, we just sit around on our duffs, watching the world go downhill like a moose on roller-skates.

Our apathy extends into our communities. Have you ever noticed that it is always the same people who are involved in all the activities? Be it Little League, Booster Clubs, 4-H, or whatever, the same faces are always there. It isn't because they want to be in the limelight and have the thanks and adoration of the public. In fact, if you have been involved in these things like I have, you will understand that the frustration and

aggravation far outweighs any possible personal benefits. No matter what you do there is going to be someone who hates it. Usually it is someone who has never been to a meeting in their lives -- until you do something that makes them mad. And after the problem is resolved they probably won't ever show up again. No, the reason these folks give their time and endure the ridicule is because they understand that if they don't care enough to do the job, it just won't get done. So they do it, for the welfare of the community, for the benefit of the children of other parents who don't care enough to make time to help, but instead use that organization as a way to get away from the kids. Hey, just drop Junior off at Little League and there are all those adults there to watch him while you go home and drink beer and watch television. What could be better?

So every day those adults who do care enough to be involved, leave their own families and drag themselves out to do the job you are "too busy" to do. They neglect their homes, families, jobs

for the benefit of people who simply don't appreciate what they do. They babysit other people's children, make hard decisions based on their own principals, put in untold hours of unpaid, unappreciated work, and in return are degraded and ostracized for being "too political." In all the years I have put in with Little League, 4-H and other organizations I can count on my fingers, and still have some left, the times I have had a parent tell me "thank you." On the other hand I have lost count of the number of complaints I have handled.

So here is to those unsung, unappreciated, over-worked, caring individuals who donate their time and efforts to the children of the community:

Thank You! You know who you are.

And to those of you who do not want to get involved: If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem. If you are not involved, you have no right to gripe. If you can't say thanks, at least have the common decency to say nothing!

Big Mama Sez!

A depression is a period when people do without the things their parents never had.

The Brackett News

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

First aid for rural hospitals

Submitted by
Kay Bailey Hutchison

Texas' rural hospitals operate on very slim margins yet manage to bring cutting-edge medical care to the communities they serve. But changes in Medicare payments to hospitals have put many institutions in a bind.

Rural communities across Texas have felt the impact of hospital closures for more than a decade now. When a rural hospital closes, local residents lose access to routine, preventative care, not to mention emergency services that can save life and limb. Doctors and other highly trained professionals move away. Then people must drive a hundred miles or more in some cases to get the care city dwellers take for granted. Local economies suffer when jobs are lost. Existing businesses may have to move, and new businesses won't locate in places where health care is unavailable. Hospital closure can be a deathknell for struggling towns.

Now the Health Care Finance Administration (HCFA) says it will make cuts in its payments to hospitals that are much greater than what Congress expected in its 1997 Medicare bill. At the same time, hospitals face Y2K costs, higher blood supply costs and higher prescription drugs prices - increases in operating expenses that were not anticipated in 1997.

The biggest single dollar issue facing these institutions is a scheduled reduction in the annual inflation adjustments for standard, inpatient Medicare payments (what hospitals are paid for treating Medicare patients diagnosed with specific illnesses). Until now, Medicare has provided annual increases in payments to make up for increased hospital costs due to inflation. But hospitals are no

longer going to receive that annual inflation adjustment.

To address this looming crisis, I am introducing legislation to restore some of the planned roll-backs in Medicare payments to health-care facilities.

This will provide a temporary shot in the arm to hospitals already hard hit by overall Medicare provider reimbursements cuts, and particularly cuts in outpatient services. As hospitals learn to adjust to the new reimbursement system for outpatient services, continuing to receive inflation adjustments might just mean the difference between disaster and survival.

Other rescue efforts for hospitals are underway, as well, and I am cosponsoring a number of bills that have been introduced to strengthen hospitals' financial position. One would limit hospitals' losses under the new outpatient re-

imbursement system; another would increase the reimbursements made to rural hospitals for seniors in Medicare Choice-Plus (managed care) plans.

Finally, my successful effort to ensure that Texas' tobacco settlement funds stay in our state and out of the clutches of the federal government has meant that many rural hospital districts are receiving a financial boost. My bill keeping the federal government's hand out of the tobacco settlement cookie jar passed into law as part of a larger emergency spending bill signed by the President in May. As a result, Texas counties are in line to receive more than \$2 billion, including a lump sum payment of \$300 million from the fund this year. A \$1.8 billion permanent trust account also has been established by the state so that each county will get its share, every year, in perpetuity.

RRC establishes office of Public Assistance

(Austin) - Chairman Michael L. Williams, Commissioner Charles R. Matthews, and Commissioner Tony Garza announced today that the Railroad Commission of Texas is among the first state agencies to formally establish an Office of Public Assistance (OPA).

As part of SB 1563 passed during the 76th Legislative Session, the newly created OPA will serve as an agency ombudsman and is charged with assisting with inquiries from the general public, other governmental agencies and representatives from industry or their organizations in a knowledgeable, courteous and expedient manner.

"Customer service has always been a priority at the Railroad Commission," Williams said. "The Office of Public Assistance simply provides Texans with another tool to ensure accessibility

and responsiveness."

"It's no secret that anyone calling the Railroad Commission for information gets a response in a timely fashion," Matthews said. "The Office of Public Assistance is just another resource for the public to contact us for information."

Williams, Matthews and Garza named Bobby Heith to carry out the day-to-day responsibilities of the Office of Public Assistance. Heith, a 29-year veteran of the oil and gas industry, has been with the Railroad Commission for the past three years. Most recently, Heith had served as head of the Commission's Texas Experimental Research and Recovery Activity (TERRA) program.

"The experience and knowledge Bobby Heith brings to this

position truly benefits those seeking assistance from the Railroad Commission," Garza added. "The establishment of the Office of Public Assistance confirms this agency's ongoing commitment to being accessible to the public we serve."

A toll-free telephone number and public e-mail address have been set up to ease the accessibility to information and assistance by the OPA staff. OPA welcomes all inquiries, requests, ideas and concerns relating to the Railroad Commission of Texas and how it conducts business.

Those seeking help through the Railroad Commission of Texas' Office of Public Assistance can call toll-free (877) 228-5740 or e-mail OPA staff at publicassist@rrc.state.tx.us.

To subscribe to please clip this application and mail to:

The Brackett News
P.O. Box 1039
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New Subscription Renewal Change of Address

Christmas tour of homes a large success

The Kinney County Art Council's "Annual Christmas Tour of Homes" could not have been the "Bell Ringer" that it was without the cooperation and generosity of the home owners. The Cecil Hale Family, Retired Col. William Haenn, Elmer and Patsy Haller, Robert and Joyce Williamson.

On December 5th, visitors from Del Rio, Eagle Pass and Uvalde as well as our local citi-

zens enjoyed the tour.

Gertrude Trautwein won the Christmas Wreath raffle with a ticket that was drawn by a high school student.

Brackett High School's "Honor Society" students also served as host and hostess guides.

All contributed to the worthy cause and assures that the Kinney County children will continue to benefit from the enlightening cultural events.



Pictured Tino Guzman (left) introduced Marshall Conner, Paragon Security supervisor (right)

Marshall Conner speaks to Rotary

by Ella Chambers
Contributing Writer

Marshall Conner, Paragon Security supervisor at Ft. Clark Springs, was the speaker at the December 9, Rotary luncheon held at Las Moras Restaurant.

Tino Guzman introduced Conner a long time security officer who has spent the last twenty seven years at Ft. Clark Springs.

Conner explained that the first responsibility of Paragon Security was to protect the residents first and then the property. The supervisors have 12 hour shifts for three days and three days off. There is one supervisor on duty in addition to two other officers. One is

on at the gate and the other is on patrol.

One of the duties of Paragon Security is to make sure that all the buildings are secure on a regular basis. If a building is not secure, then the sheriff will be called and accompany Paragon personnel in order to secure the building. This applies to all buildings and residences at Fort Clark Springs. Homeowners who are on vacation are able to request that their homes be checked on a regular routine schedule the length of time they are gone. Application forms for this vacation service are available at the gate for those who wish to fill them out.

Sheriffs department employees to receive double pay for holidays

Continued from page 1

ment it enough and we have to file charges on them two or three times then I think we can definitely do it, say you can't come here because you don't follow policy," said Shahan.

"Set these guidelines up, then I would suggest you call other libraries and see what they do with problem people that come in, see how they bar them," Shahan added.

Commissioner Joe Montalvo asked Carl Esser, of Middle Rio Grande Development Council, for an update on the engineering plans for the low water crossings.

"The surveying crew have come out and done the surveys, and all it involves; surveying and elevations and all of it, in order to development plans and specs for that," explained Esser. "Plans and specs for those two water crossings are being developed."

"We're looking after the first of the year probably getting those advertised for bids, this has already been authorized by the court to do this," added Esser.

Commissioners approved a request from the sheriffs department

for employees to receive double pay while working on county holidays.

Presently employees who work holidays are paid time and a half.

"The person that caught this for us was Mary Ann Saenz. Mary Ann said this is wrong, what you guys are doing, it's legal but it's not really ethical and the decision you are making is not a statutory decision," said Judge Herb Senne.

The department's budget has funds to cover the requested holiday pay. The plan is to use the money leftover from the Law Enforcement Liability Premium line item, which was less expensive than expected.

The commissioners established the rate of pay at \$6 per hour for a water truck driver for the County Road Department.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) allows \$24 per hour for the rental of the water truck itself. The county will rent a water truck from Jimmy Bader.

"I talked with him this morning, as long as we end up with \$30 total, he is perfectly comfortable with it," said Senne.

Senne received a Texas Forest Service memorandum regarding upcoming fireworks restrictions for the holiday season.

The court authorized the Judge to enforce any recommendations received from the Texas Forest Service, since this was the last court meeting of the year. The restrictions will only apply to unincorporated areas, outside the

EMS building contract lowered by \$52,850

Continued from page 1

architect's specifications, the clock will begin to run for Hill Construction.

"There are certain things that may extend that, being real bad weather. Also, the way materials are right now, they are kind of scarce, anything beyond their control," said Flores.

Hill will provide documentation for any extension needed beyond 180 days.

"The soil samples have already been taken, but we haven't got the results in. We have also

city limits.

"I think we may have to rely on the county residents common sense in this situation," said Commissioner Freddy Frerich.

"It will be at my discretion whether, we as a court can issue that restriction and we can consider the local people's common sense," explained Senne.

done the compaction test by Geo-Tech that was asked, so just stay tuned" said Judge Herb Senne.

A Change Order was signed simultaneously with the contract, bringing the cost down from \$333,850 to \$281,000.

The change order was necessary to account for items removed in order to save cost. Some of the changes included reducing the building size by 5'-0" x 19' x 8" on the northwest corner, plumbing with PVC piping instead of iron, and a smaller generator.

City tables tax exemption for Las Moras Masonic Lodge

Continued from page 1

we should be able to get this exemption for this coming year," said Howard Wakefield, lodge member.

"The Kinney County Tax Appraisal office informed me that there were certain laws that had to be abided by and with in order to be able to grant these different exemptions and that the city, like the county and the school were in violation of exemptions because of state law," said Luna.

"The only way that a property could be granted the exemption was that it would be recorded as a Texas Historical Landmark.

"He informed me that we should have an abatement exemption," added Luna.

"I would just like to mention to the council, in case you might not know it, the recent constitutional election had proposition 4 that entailed any entity primarily engaged in public charitable works

be entitled to a total tax exemption," Wes Robinson.

"I don't know when that law will come into effect, but you'll probably need to check into that as well," added Robinson.

Luna plans to contact other cities who have abatements and see what the process would be to established one.

Discussion, approval or disapproval of Gene Nixon's proposal concerning the City Annex property line was tabled because Nixon was unable to attend the meeting.

The tax abatement for the Jay Johnson property was table for a like reason.

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"All I Want For Christmas Is..."

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MSRP.....20465
Rebate.....1000
Brown Disc.....1670



APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8137

\$17,795*

1999 Oldsmobile Intrigue

MSRP.....22380
Rebate.....2500
Brown Disc.....1885



APR AS LOW AS 0.0% #7778

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MSRP.....27883
Rebate.....500
Brown Disc.....3388



APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8390

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MSRP.....44995
Brown Disc.....10000



#7969

\$34,995*

1999 Pontiac Sunfire SE Coupe

MSRP.....16495
Rebate.....1500
Brown Disc.....1100



APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #7910

\$13,895*

2000 Pontiac Firebird

MSRP.....19840
Rebate.....750
Brown Disc.....1145



APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8311

\$17,945*

2000 Buick Century Custom Sedan

MSRP.....21472
Rebate.....750
Brown Disc.....977

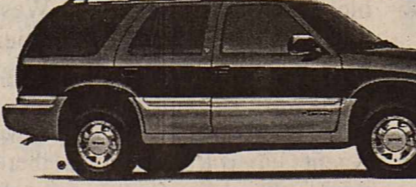


APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8404

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2000 GMC Jimmy SLT

MSRP.....28645
Rebate.....1500
Brown Disc.....2250



APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8421

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2000 Cadillac Escalade

MSRP.....46900
Brown Disc.....3905



#8425

\$42,995*

2000 Pontiac Grand AM SE Sedan

MSRP.....17880
Rebate.....500
Brown Disc.....885

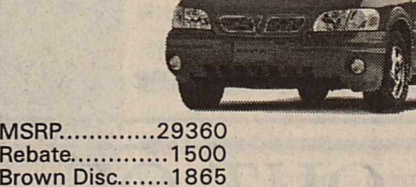


APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8447

\$16,495*

2000 Pontiac Montana Ext. 4Dr

MSRP.....29360
Rebate.....1500
Brown Disc.....1865



APR AS LOW AS 2.9% #8417

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2000 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab SLE

MSRP.....25546
Brown Disc.....3051



5.9% APR For 60 mos. #8471

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Rebate.....500
Brown Disc.....5383



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1998 Texas hunting accidents 2nd lowest on record

A little on the Wildlife side
by Henry Lutz

Austin—Although still room for improvement, last year Texas experienced its second safest hunting season on record, dating back to 1966. There were a total of 40 accidents including three that resulted in fatalities. The record low of 31 accidents, including two fatalities, occurred in 1996.

While hunting is generally considered to be one of the safest outdoor activities, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) strives to make it even safer. According to Steve Hall, education director, "Virtually every hunting accident could be avoided if hunters would always point the muzzle of their firearms in a safe direction and be sure of their targets: the two primary rules of shooting and hunting safety."

Hall continued, "While we can't possibly eliminate all hunting accidents, they would be greatly reduced if Texas hunters would follow three strategies. First, attend a hunter education course to learn about causes and prevention of hunting accidents. Second, never carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle. Third, always be aware of your surroundings and only take a shot from within your 'safe zone-of-fire.'"

The 1998 Texas hunting accident statistics support these actions. A total of only nine shooters involved in hunting accidents were graduates of the state's mandatory hunter education course. Even though hunter education is required in 49 of the 50 states and is required of Texas hunters born on or after September 2, 1971, most accidents are caused by people in violation of the law or who are not required to pass the course to legally hunt here. Certain exemptions in the law, such as a minor being able to hunt under adult supervision through age 16, weaken the assurance that every hunter will attend a hunter education course early enough in the learning process. Everyone is

encouraged to take the course regardless of age or requirements.

The primary purpose of hunter education is to present techniques by which hunters can handle firearms safely and competently. A total of 15 (37%) of the 1998 hunting accidents involved careless handling and dropped firearms. "We stress how to safely load, unload, carry and handle sporting arms so that the hunter has muzzle control and knows where the muzzle is pointed at all times," said Hall.

One quarter of accidents occurred in or around a vehicle. Even though it may be legal to carry loaded firearms in or hunt from a vehicle on private land in Texas, statistics show it to be an unsafe practice. "Cramped quarters, careless handling, failing to check if a firearm is loaded and entering/exiting a vehicle while pointing the firearm in an unsafe direction all played a contributing role," according to Hall.

Being aware of one's surroundings is a key to reducing many of the accidents in the Lone Star State. A total of six accidents in 1998 were caused by shooters "swinging on dove, quail or pheasant" outside of their safe zones-of-fire. Shooters who failed to see another person beyond their line-of-fire (background) caused three additional accidents. "Hunter or blaze orange vests and caps have reduced hunter judgement mistakes by over 50% in states requiring it to be worn," according to Hall. "In Texas, hunter orange requirements affect only hunters on public lands, and they do not show up in this data," he added. "Hunters and guides on private land, especially those hunt-

ing quail or pheasant, have an obligation to be seen by their companions. It is a simple courtesy to other hunters to wear blaze orange afield, especially when the bird's actions are quick, low-flying and unpredictable."

Beyond these common problems associated with erroneous judgement, aptitude and/or safety violations, statistics showed data typical from year to year. Rifles were involved in 15 (37%) of the accidents; shotguns in 18 (45%); handguns in 6 (15%); and there was 1 (3%) archery related incident.

Shooters age 10-19 years were involved in a quarter (25%) of the accidents, as was the same (25%) for shooters age 30-39. Hunters

age 20-29 and 40-49 caused 6 (15%) accidents in each category. Those between the ages of 50-59 were involved in one (3%) accident; 60 and over in 4 (10%); and "unknown" shooters accounted for 3 (7%) of the accidents.

The primary species being hunted at the time of the accident was white-tailed deer with 12 (30%). Following this total were dove with 7 (18%), wild hogs with 6 (15%), quail and pheasant with 6 (15%), rabbits with 3 (7%), and squirrel, turkey and coyotes with 2 (5%) each.

A total of 5 accidents involved people who were violating a hunting regulation at the time of the incident. One person was involved in an alcohol-related accident. A

total of 23 (57%) accidents were self-inflicted.

A total of three hunters died of heart attacks while hunting in 1998. While not considered in the "hunting accident" statistics involving sporting arms, the hunter education course stresses outdoor safety, physical fitness, wilderness survival and first aid in parts of the curricula. Hall summarized what hunters should do to prevent being a statistic in a game warden-generated hunting accident report. "If hunters acted carefully, capably, considerately and courteously - the four C's of hunting - they would experience only the good things associated with hunting and sustain the privilege and heritage for years to come."

How to care for your firearms

Gunsmoke and Campfires
by Steven R. LaMascus

Many years ago I ran the sporting goods department of a large retail store. We sold a tremendous number of guns of various kinds. It was not unusual for a customer to bring in a gun and say that it wasn't working properly. Almost invariably the only thing wrong with the gun was that it was filthy. This is more prevalent with a self-loader (semi-auto) than with a manually operated gun, but any gun can fail to function if it is too dirty. Shooting a gun involves the combustion of propellant, which then expands, forcing a projectile down the barrel. This produces a residue that must be removed. The passage of the bullet or shot charge down the barrel also leaves a residue that must be removed for optimum performance. Also, a gun is almost always used in the outdoors where it is exposed to dirt, leaves, and all manner of crud that causes it to function less reliably. Some of this matter is attracted to the very substance that aids in the function of the gun - the lubricant. It almost seems like a no-win situation.

The first thing to do is find out how your gun works. For instance, if you shoot a Remington Model 1100 shotgun you should know that it is a semi-auto and is gas operated, as opposed to recoil operated. This means that part of the gas caused by the combustion of the powder charge is bled off and used to operate the action. In this type of gun there are several parts that must be regularly and fairly meticulously cleaned or the gun will fail to function. You must know how to take the gun apart to the point where those parts - gas ports, rings and seals - can be properly cleaned. Either that or have a gunsmith on retainer to clean it for you.

The most important part of

keeping a gun in optimum working order for the longest possible length of time is cleaning the inside of the barrel (bore) and the outside metal parts. If a gun is left uncleaned for an extended period of time, the inside of the barrel, and the chamber, will rust. This is especially troublesome in shotguns, because the plastic shell casings seem to cause the chambers to rust more quickly. Twice I have forgotten to clean the barrel and chambers of expensive over and under shotguns and have had the misfortune of rust-coated chambers. When you have paid the equivalent of a couple of house payments for a shotgun, rusted chambers are terribly depressing.

So, here's the short version. Always, always, clean your barrel every time you shoot the gun. If you are on a hunting trip and simply can't, then do so at the first opportunity. I personally carry a collapsible cleaning rod, patches and oil and clean the gun whenever it is needed.

With an oily cloth wipe down all the metal surfaces. Do not, I repeat, do not put petroleum based products on your stock. It will soak in, damage the finish, and soften the wood. When oil gets on the stock during the normal cleaning operation, wipe it off.

The working parts of the gun need to be lightly lubricated to work properly. Do not over lubricate. An excess amount of oil does not work any better and only serves to gather dirt and debris that increases the amount of wear and tear on the gun. It also soaks into the wood, causes dark spots and weakens the stock.

Do not put excess oil in the chamber of the gun. This causes increased back thrust and increases the pressure placed on the bolt or action. Just clean it well with a powder solvent/lubricant and then dry the bore with a clean patch. I use a brass brush in the

bore of all my guns, to remove lead, plastic, powder residue, or other contaminants.

Last, but very important; do not store your guns in fleece or fabric cases. These are meant to protect guns during transportation. They can and do collect moisture and

cause guns to rust.

If you just take a few pains to keep your guns cleaned, lubricated, and properly stored your great, great grandchildren can enjoy using them just as much as you do today. Good hunting.

Happy Birthday Robert



Lordy, Lordy
Look who's Forty

We build our dreams for tomorrow
upon our hopes for today,
that our children may forever live...
...with a song of peace in their hearts.
May all the joys of the season be yours!

Merry Christmas and A Happy New year!
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Kinney County Sheriff's Report ...

Monday, December 6
3:25 p.m., Fort Clark Security called and reported a local man that had been restricted from the Fort had gained access. At 3:28 p.m., Fort Clark Security called and reported the man left.

4:15 p.m., Danny Terry Weddel, 39, from San Antonio was arrested by Trooper Ashley for outstanding DPS warrants. Released after time served on Thursday, December 9, 1999.

5:55 p.m., A Fort Clark resident called and reported his son was bitten by the neighbor's dog. Asked if EMS was needed and advised to report the incident to Fort Clark Security.

Wednesday, December 8
10:00 a.m., A local woman reported in person, items were missing from the storage space she rents at Storage Units on Hwy 90 East. Chief Deputy Fritter wrote down the items missing. The woman reported she had been there a month or month and a half ago and did not notice anything missing until today. There were no signs of forced entry or damage to the storage unit.

11:33 a.m., A Fort Clark resident called and reported that he had been told the day before that

someone had seen a lion dragging a turkey. Deputy Manuel Pena went to check out the tracks and reported he found dog and Bobcat tracks.

Thursday, December 9
9:15 a.m., A local resident came in and reported he had hit a horse. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter was advised of the situation. A possible owner of the horse was called and asked to come and identify the horse.

Friday, December 10
9:18 a.m., Employee of the Texas Department of Transportation called and reported a two vehicle accident on Hwy 90 West just east of Hwy 693. Trooper Ashley was sent to investigate and there were no injuries.

9:53 a.m., U.S. Border Patrol Agent Gilbert Rueda radioed there was a '99 white, Cadillac traveling at a high rate of speed. Chief of Police Ron Ring was advised of the vehicle.

4:14 p.m., Jonathan Lee Whitfield, 19 from San Antonio was arrested by Sheriff Buddy Burgess for failure to appear on a D.W.I. charge. Whitfield was released the same day after posting bond.

Saturday, December 11
1:10 p.m., A local man called and requested a city employee be sent to his residence. David Martinez was notified.

4:00 p.m., Martin R. Hernandez, 28 from San Antonio was arrested by DPS Trooper Ashley for D.W.I. and no insurance. As of Tuesday morning, Hernandez was still being held in Kinney County Jail.

4:05 p.m., An unidentified caller reported that a person was littering behind the Border Patrol Station on the Windus Street side. Chief Ron Ring was sent to check it out.

9:40 p.m., A local resident called and reported rocks were being thrown into his yard by someone driving a beige colored truck. Deputy Chism went to investigate.

Sunday, December 12
3:22 p.m., Trooper Ashley requested a U.S. Border patrol be sent to his location. Unit 220 responded.

6:57 p.m., Fort Clark Security called and reported a small red sports car was driving dangerously going East on Hwy 90. DPS was notified

8:00 p.m., U.S. Border Patrol radioed in there was a fight at a local ranch. Deputy Chism responded and the individual causing the problem was taken into custody.

10:34 p.m., A local resident reported his truck parked at the corner of Thorn and Beaumont Streets had been hit by a relative that didn't bother to stop. Police Chief Ron Ring was dispatched to the scene to gather information.

10:35 p.m., A local young woman called and reported an argument in progress between two individuals, at the corner of Thorn and Beaumont Streets over a hit and run accident. Police Chief Ron Ring was already en route to the location.

11:15 p.m., Kenneth S. Ford, 36 from Houston was arrested by Deputy Chism for public intoxication. As of Tuesday morning, Ford was still in custody at the Kinney County Jail.

■ **Editors note - Joe Daniel Sammaniego, Jr. and Graciano Ramirez were not held in the Kinney County Jail as reported in last weeks Sheriff's Report. Both were released on PR bonds the same day.**

Briefs ...

Theta Sigma Meets

Members of Theta Sigma met Monday, December 6, 1999 at the beautifully decorated home of Shirley Hadsell. Shirley's theme depicted Christmas throughout the evening. She served a lovely buffet of holiday foods, after which she presented a program about the traditions of Christmas, and gave members an opportunity to tell of their favorite traditions of Christmas. It was interesting to note the changes throughout the years. We continue to celebrate the birthday of Jesus!

Members attending were B. J. Eckenrod, Luella Gilliland, Doraline Kellar, Clara McCord, Pat McKelvy, Alicia Raymer, Molly Schroeder, Arlys Simpson and Shirley Hadsell.

Ladies golf club champion

Thirty women competed Monday and Tuesday in the Ladies Club Championship Golf Tournament. Fern Dyer was the medalist on Monday with a low score of 78.

The club champion for the two day event was Rosemary Johnson, who scored a low gross score of 160.

Runner-up score of 166 in Championship Flight was posted by Cyndi Shaw. First flight was won by Teresa Stephens whose low gross score was 174 and 133

was low net score shot by Ruth Spencer. Jo Workman placed first in Second Flight with a score of 177 and Joyce Ambler had the low net score of 121. Third flight winner was Jo Ann Mayberry, who shot 190 and Jeanette Hinton claimed low net with 133.

There will be a Christmas Breakfast served prior to golf on Tuesday, December 21st at the snack bar restaurant. The awards from the tournament will be awarded at the breakfast. All lady golfers are invited to attend the breakfast and awards ceremony.

Border Patrol seize 469.6 lbs of marijuana

Del Rio-U.S. Border Patrol Agents from Carrizo Springs seized 469.6 pounds of marijuana Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1999.

While performing linewatch duties around 6 a.m. Tuesday, agents from the Carrizo Springs Station encountered tracks of several individuals headed west toward the Rio Grande River.

While backtracking the shoe prints, agents located 16 onion sacks hidden in an irrigation ditch on a ranch approximately six miles south of El Indio, Texas, on FM 1021. The sacks contained bricks of marijuana.

The marijuana, valued at \$375,680 was turned over to the Multi-Agency Drug Task Force in Eagle Pass.

Christmas Concert

By Dottie Cruz
Staff Writer

Brackett Independent School District presented the Brackett Middle and High School Bands in a Christmas Concert last Thursday night in the Brackett High School Auditorium.

Many of the parents, family and friends were taking pictures and recording the moment on film.

"The crowd I'd estimate was about seventy-five performers and an estimate of three hundred and fifty to four hundred people attended the concert," said Superintendent Taylor Srephenson.

First the Brackett Middle School Band under the direction of assistant band director, Roxanne Gonzalez, had two special features.

A flute duet by Tabitha Silver and Yasmin Pena played the song "My Favorite Things" from the Broadway show "The Sound of Music".

"Jingle Bells Around The World", featured James Burks, Drum Major for Brackett High

School Band introduced how the Christmas song, "Jingle Bells" may have sounded in another country, such as China, Mexico or Russia.

When the band played the song, the way it may have sounded in Russia, at the end of each series of chords the entire band shouted "Hey!" as if they were doing the Russian Dance.

Brackett High School Band, under the direction of Hector Jimenez presented selections such as "Santa at the Symphony" songs played to the beat of Bach and Beethoven.

Excerpts from the Christmas play "The Nutcracker" and "Silent Night, Holy Night".

There were two solo features. First chair Amanda Cruz played the song "Cantique De Noel", also known as "O Holy Night", on Alto Saxophone. When she had finished the first 14 bars, the band joined in section by section as the song progressed.

Later in the program, First Chair Trumpet player, Candice Ingram played "A Christmas Song" also known as "Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire".

The evening concluded with Mr. Jimenez thanking everyone in attendance and asking parents to continue encouraging their children to play and practice their band music because there was talent in both bands.



Pictured above the Brackett Middle School Band at the Christmas Concert given last Thursday Night.
Brackett News Photo by Dottie Cruz

Christmas holiday events planned around the community

Making A Difference
by Taylor Stephenson

Christmas is one week away! This Friday, December 17, we will complete the first semester of school. The time has gone by fast, sometimes, too fast. We're half way through the school year of 1999-2000!

The community Christmas programs have been excellent this year. The School Band program directed by Roxana Gonzales and Hector Jimenez was exceptionally good. The auditorium was filled for this fine concert. Lynn McNew directed the Voices of Fort Clark in a cantata entitled "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Cathy Conrey is the fine accompanist for the Voices. The cantata was one of their best renditions in many years. Monday night, Jones

Elementary students gave us a look at what Christmas is all about. The happy voices of children make the best sound in the entire universe.

This Sunday night, we'll get to experience the City of Brackettville's Community Unity program. It's one of my favorite nights of the year. Folks come together from all over the county to have a great time. The key to the celebration is "community unity." Every child gets a toy or present. I'm sure that David Luna and his fine staff would be pleased if you have a small donation to make in this effort.

Watch for the Christmas Eve services in Brackettville. There are usually about three services at local churches. I'm hesitant to mention which churches, but a church service is the place to be

on Christmas Eve.

Can you believe that the rain did not come this past weekend? I heard the same reports that you heard-an 80% chance for Saturday night and Sunday. Right! We didn't have a drop of rain. Our day is coming soon. It's dry and the need for moisture is great. So, include this on your prayer list.

The lights of Brackettville and Fort Clark are going up each day. I'm impressed as usual. Folks have given Brackettville and Fort Clark Springs a festive look. So, drive around and take a look at the beauty of Christmas in our own city.

My mother wanted her family home on Christmas. She's been gone since 1987, but I feel the same about Christmas. It's the one time of the year when it's just great to be home for Christmas. My wife and I have become the older generation, and now we wait excitedly for our family to come home. Have a great week!



Pictured above Alto Saxophone Soloist Amanda Cruz.



Pictured above Trumpet Soloist Candice Ingram.

106th United Daughters of the Confederacy Convention held

Approximately 400 members and guests from all over the United States converged on the Doubletree Hotel Downtown in Tulsa, Oklahoma where the United Daughters of the Confederacy hosted their 106th Annual General Convention November 4-9.

Joining the Texas delegation and representing the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter #2060 of San Antonio was Pat McKelvy of Brackettville.

The Granddaughters, Great Granddaughters and Great-Great Granddaughters clubs of General also had their annual meetings at this time. The membership of these clubs donated over \$4,000

for scholarships and other selected projects.

Besides giving recognition and awards in many categories, most of the business was devoted to revising the by-laws of the organization. Any woman, 18 years or older, who can prove her ancestor fought for the Confederacy is eligible for membership.

The Texas Daughters presented a patriotic skit "It's A Grand Old Flag" and received a standing ovation. This production was so well received that the group gave an unscheduled second performance.

A Memorial Service was held at The Boston Avenue United Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon.

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

The Carrizo Springs members of the Caddell-Smith Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, hosted the November meeting at the Episcopal Parish Hall on Hwy 277W in Carrizo Springs.

The program was presented by Jack Kingsbury who gave a review of his recently published book "Cowboy Wrecks and Rattlesnakes." Although the stories that he told seemed funny now, at the time

the events had rather serious consequences.

Following the luncheon a short business meeting was conducted. Registrar Pat McKelvy read letters of recommendation for two prospective members, one from Cline and one from Devine, which were accepted. Raffle tickets were sold to benefit the French Legation Building in Austin that the Daughters sponsor.

Children of The American Revolution

The colors were posted by Seth Frerich of Brackettville and Duncan Karthaus of Kerrville for the November meeting of the Elijah Holcombe Chapter, Children of the American Revolution.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America the group sang the National Anthem. They recited the American's Creed, pledged allegiance to the Texas flag and read C.A.R. Creed.

Ryan Frerich of Brackettville, chairman of the Governmental Studies Committee, and James

Karthaus of Kerrville, chapter president, presented a very informative panel discussion on the requirements needed to become President of the United States or Governor of Texas. They also discussed the Electoral College and how it functions in electing a President of the United States.

Fort Clark Springs was presented as an interesting and historical site by Courtney Frerich of Brackettville, chairman of Historic Places Committee. She displayed a large 5' X 4' panel with photographs of some buildings on

the Fort, showing their historic medallions as she described their use then and now.

Her panel is on display in the lobby of the Fort Clark Member Services Building.

Following the business meeting refreshments were served on fall decorated tables. Others from Brackettville attending were seniors advisors Liz Frerich and Pat McKelvy.

Any youth under the age of 18 who can prove they had an ancestor that fought in the American Revolution are welcome to join.

Daughters of the American Revolution

State Chairman of the DAR Schools Committee Sissy Kipp presented the program for the Uvalde de las Encinas Chapter, at their November meeting. DAR totally funds 2 schools and gives a lot of support to 4 others.

One of the things emphasized by DAR is respect the flag. The flag of the United States of

America is a living thing that calls to our spirit, reminding us of the greatness of America.

We view the flag with devotion, for it represents our national heritage of noble deeds, splendid accomplishments, and untold sacrifices which combined to establish the moral character of our national foundation. Our flag is the

symbol that makes our past one with the present.

It signifies a people dedicated to liberty, justice and freedom for all.

Of the 28 persons present, 6 were from Brackettville: Judith Douglas, Jan Chism, Woodie Hornburg, Agnes Vondy, Hawkins Huey and Pat McKelvy.



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Gordan, Julie & Kelsey

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Super Crossword

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Your Horoscope by Natasha

ACROSS

1	Winning	51	Schoenberg's "Moses und —"	93	Neighbor of Saudi Arabia	7	Pallid	42	Freighter front	79	Botswana bigwig
6	In the know	52	—Magnon	94	Rubble or File	8	Cunning	43	Pitchfork part	82	List tender
11	Ingot	53	Benjamin of The Cars	97	Bobbin	9	Stadium	44	Spoken for	85	Asian title
14	Nursery furniture	54	"Salome" character	99	Kyoto companion	10	Nice	45	Stress	87	Duds
18	Hook's male	101	Jai —	102	Thought-provoking	11	Where to find romance	46	Author	88	Crow's-nest cry
20	Carday's prey	56	Elbows	103	Our omega	12	Easy as falling off —	47	— creature	89	pollio
21	Flamenco dancer's shout	58	Implied	104	Sacred image	13	Part	48	was stirring ...	90	Printer's measures
22	Mandilkova of tennis	60	Like a bairn	105	Air-quality org.	14	'66	49	Prepares ...	94	Cantata composer
23	"Sunrise musical"	61	Persia, today	108	Hasty	15	Glossy	50	Grain husk	95	Fugard's "A Lesson from —"
26	Writer Hunter	64	Hitchcock opus	109	Old folk song	16	Pointless	55	Part of O.E.D.	96	Liberation
27	Southern constellation	69	Newspaper circular	115	Kitchen addition?	17	Simple ring	56	Emulated Elle	97	Cold-war assn.
28	New Mexico resort	71	Deride	116	Clay, later on purple	18	Domain	57	Scent	98	Ersatz emerald
29	Med. test	72	Starting at	117	Pale purple	19	Downey of "Touched by an Angel"	58	— up (united)	100	Cartoon cry
30	Statistical focus	73	Gumshoe	118	Combat mission	24	Downey of "Touched by an Angel"	59	"Exodus" protagonist	102	Hoarse horse?
31	Unruffe	76	Dirties	119	Carries out, e.g.	25	Agt.	63	Walked	103	South African native
32	Reposess part	77	Impose	120	Regret	30	Lauder powder	65	— Aviv	104	Craving
36	Michael of "Little Voice"	80	Actress	121	Grind one's teeth	31	Promontory	66	VCR button	105	"Harper's Bazaar" artist
37	Noxious atmosphere	81	Part of USNA	DOWN	1 — Romeo	32	Cutliefish kin	67	Black piano	106	Brace holder
39	Deck	82	Small businessman?	1	It grows on you	33	Velez of "Mexican Spitfire"	69	"It — Right" ("56 song)	107	Blows away
40	Unburdens oneself	83	Fluctuate	2	Snorri's stories place	34	"Annabel Lee" monogram	70	First	109	Gob
42	Ostentation	84	Dais	3	Count up	35	Pupils' stories	74	TV's — Nest"	110	Acress Taina
43	Alistair MacLean bestseller	85	Kiddie-lit covering classic	4	Corinthian consonants	36	Tribe	75	Columnist	112	Stevadores' grp.
48	On the — (defenseless)	86	Envelope abbr.	5	Andrew* ("93 film)	37	Opera's Grace	77	Geometry term	113	Advisory org.
50	Soft cheese	92	— apso	6	—	38	Striking Cain's nephew	78	Williams' was glass	114	Goo for it

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

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

Basket	Carton	Jar	Shaker
Box	Cask	Luggage	Tank
Can	Dumpster	Pitcher	Thermos
Capsule	Flask	Pouch	

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Meditation puts you in touch with the philosophy of your feelings. You realize that your imagination is based on the great ideas that people have pondered in the past.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You feel as if you are dragging more than your fair share of baggage around with you everywhere you go. Learn to maximize your capacity rather than passing it all off onto an unsuspecting person.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your power is most strongly based on your ability to draw from within yourself. A challenge brings your skills to a new level, and you leave the field of competition with respect from all who are involved.

CANCER (June 21 July 22) You may feel a sense of shyness that makes you want to be alone. Know that being alone and being lonely are two separate things. Use the silence to soothe your emotions.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) An energy is being exuded from you in wavelengths of incredible frequency. Perhaps you are able to convert the sunlight in your favor. Share your spirit with those around you.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) The generosity that you contain within could come head-to-head with a certain stinginess. The battle that ensues is enough to knock anyone out.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) The ability to analyze the unseen allows you to read into the actions of others. The stories you are able to accumulate make for a novel that could hit the best-seller list.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Watch for those who may be plotting and planning against you when you are looking the other way. Do your best not to stoop to their level when you discover their antics.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Creativity bubbles up from the depths of your soul to surprise you in weird and wonderful ways. Go with the flow that is led by your childish and imaginative intuitions.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Probing the unknown leaves you with a bad taste in your mouth. Even the known can be a bit unsettling. Make sure that the light is adequate enough for the job you've undertaken.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) The intensity with which you find yourself going through your week almost amazes you. There are extremes in many different areas that are vying for you to apply it toward them.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) If you are standing by the sidelines, people may assume that you are not an active part of the game when that couldn't be further from the truth. The team captain does not necessarily have to be the best player.

YOU BORN THIS WEEK: Your ability to steady the ship even when the sea throws up a storm makes you an extremely desirable shipmate. You have the potential to shine whether you are a deckhand or the captain. The equality with which you treat people is the envy of others.

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Mom's hair is different. 2. Doll on left has ruffe. 3. Sale sign is added. 4. Girl's shirt has half bow. 5. Doll is different. 6. Girl has half bow.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 16.....Mary Allen	Dec. 19.....Antonio Cruz
Dec. 16.....Jodie Ann Cowan	Dec. 19.....Charles Endris
Dec. 16.....Allen Kreiger, Jr.	Dec. 19.....Lois Endris
Dec. 16.....Greg Sandoval	Dec. 19.....Enemencia Starzel
Dec. 16.....Laura Tovar	Dec. 19.....Roger Workman
Dec. 17.....Josie Aguirre	Dec. 20.....Jean Hood
Dec. 17.....Amber Carrow	Dec. 20.....Juan Reyes
Dec. 17.....Josefina Estrada	Dec. 20.....Darlene Shahan
Dec. 17.....Jack Frerich	Dec. 20.....Julia Terrazas
Dec. 17.....Gracie Mata	Dec. 21.....Armando Cruz
Dec. 17.....Lorraine Osborne	Dec. 21.....Clay Hunt, III
Dec. 17.....Diane Wilson	Dec. 21.....Shelly M. Jost
Dec. 18.....Carol Benefield	Dec. 22.....Arabala Abrego
Dec. 18.....Darla Fuller	Dec. 22.....Robert Elledge
Dec. 18.....Wayne Meyer	Dec. 22.....Evelyn Estes
Dec. 18.....Joe Sandoval	Dec. 22.....Don Hood
Dec. 18.....Jessica Taylor	Dec. 22.....Richard Pena

Make room, for the King is coming!!! The Glory of Christmas

Gateway Ministries
Pastor Charolette Corey

Make room for the King, for the King is coming!!!

Just as there was no room in the inn when Jesus was born, there is no room in many peoples hearts today. Jesus will not force his way into a place that has no room for him. He will accept whatever humble abode is prepared for him.

Just as Jesus came into this world in a humble stable, you must prepare your heart to be humble to receive him today. You must put aside the cares of this world, because nothing else matters except Jesus.

Jesus was born into a wealthy family. His earthly father was a carpenter and made good money,

but he was willing to put aside his "status" to be born in a stable and have a manger for a bed, surrounded by animals.

Many taboos were broken on the night of Jesus' birth. It was not the custom of the husband to deliver the baby. It would be considered an "unclean thing" for him to touch his wife during birth and get any of her blood on him. ...yet He had the privilege of helping to deliver his foster son, Jesus. The birth took place in less than sterile conditions, yet Jesus managed just fine. The shepherds who had been staying out in the fields watching their sheep (and weren't necessarily smelling sweet as roses) were allowed to come in and worship baby Jesus. These strangers, probably Jewish, also

had taboos about women and blood. Yet, here they were, giving honor to the new born baby...Jesus.

Joseph and Mary were humble in heart and allowed these people to come in and worship their newborn son. They were a family that did not walk in fear, but walked in faith. Any place prepared for Jesus today, must be a place without fear, for there is no fear in perfect love. Joseph and Mary knew that God was with them and was watching over them through all circumstances, thus, they had no fear.

God will see you through your

circumstances too.

Humble your heart, and just as God lifted up the status of the shepherds, "He will lift you up" (James 4:10). Prepare ye the way for the King!!! Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Believe in him

St. John's Missionary Church
by Rev. William P. Adams

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. St. John 3:16

Tell others about Jesus

by Pat Sitzes
Contributing Writer

How would you feel if you knew someone who needed to know about Jesus and you never told that person, and they died?

How would you feel if you knew about the greatest gift that God has given to mankind and you didn't share it?

Life can be fleeting, and we need to be aware of opportunities to share Jesus and His plan of salvation for each one of us.

The saddest testimony and words I ever heard were "Nobody ever told me about Jesus". Yes, someone might have told them about Jesus and their ears were shut to hearing the message, but more often than not, it is that we have failed as Christians to share Jesus with them.

Why is it that we have the most important message ever and we

are afraid to share it with others?

Sometimes, we are afraid that they might think we are different and yet, we are different if we have accepted Christ as our Saviour. Often, we are afraid that they will not want to be our friend anymore if we talk to them about our faith in Christ. However, if we are truly their friends, we will want to tell them about our Friend Jesus.

This Christmas season and the following year 2000, let's make it a point to share Jesus with our coworkers, with our friends, with our family, and with a stranger who may be struggling in this world.

Please, share this free gift that does not require having enough money to buy it since Christ paid the price for this gift by dying on the cross.

Tell Others About Jesus.

Mary Magdalene Catholic Church
by Lynn McNew

Recently I saw a television production entitled "The Glory of Christmas." In fact, I have watched it several times in the last week. If you have a satellite dish, turn to channel 103 and be delighted.

This production is absolutely awesome. The music, costumes, scenery and special effects are incredible. From live camels draped in satin and jewels to singing angels flying ninety feet in the air, it is a spellbinding experience. The production comes from the Crystal Cathedral in California, which seats 3000 people. Three performances a day still do not accommodate the crowds.

I know the story of Christmas. I've read and heard the bible accounts many times. So why has this particular program had such an effect on me?

Several answers come to mind. I have been prevented this holiday season from spending hours

decorating, baking and shopping. Instead I have been given time to pray, reflect, listen, watch and think. How much more relaxing it is!

Secondly, the comments made by people who are interviewed after attending this spectacular event are very interesting. People are touched by what they have seen and heard. This can have a lasting effect on their lives, which in turn can have an effect on our world.

Finally, a young boy sings a song that moves me to tears each time I hear it.

"What can I give Him?"
Poor as I am
If I were a shepherd
I'd give Him a lamb.
If I were a wise man
I'd do my part
What can I give Him?
I give Him my heart
This is what this Christmas season is all about! You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. God Bless You

A Christmas wish

Dear Father in Heaven, everyday you bring people into your holy and beautiful kingdom. We say "they have died, or they have gone home to you". Many were previously sick, many died suddenly, old or young. Many had become old and tired. We pray to you for them all. Let them find an eternal home and eternal peace with you.

We pray to you also for those who have remained behind. For the children who no longer have a mother or father. For a parent who lost a child. For a mother who no longer has a husband. For the father who had to remain behind as a widower. You love them too. Remain with them and help them.

We ask for forgiveness. You see everything that we do. You hear everything that we say. You know everything that we think. We are often so forgetful. In the evening we no longer remember what we have said during the day and what was wrong in your eyes. Help us so that we may not be separated from you.

We are facing a New Year. Help us to remember that you were born for the world to guide and inspire us. You gave your life to obtain forgiveness for our sins. We ask God for your pardon, and help us to strive to do better in the future. Therefore: Thank Him and really trust to put your hope in Him
Amen.

Texas Children's help parents bridge the gap between hospital and home

Houston-Leaving a newborn baby at the hospital is extremely difficult for parents and family members. However, it can be equally difficult to provide the necessary care once the baby comes home.

The Newborn Center at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston recognizes the importance of preparing parents for the transition of bringing home their infant after a prolonged hospital stay.

"We have three basic goals," said Carol Turnage Carrier, clinical nurse specialist at Texas Children's. "We want parents to be knowledgeable about their babies' needs and competent in caring for them without help. We also want to provide parents with enough opportunities to care for

their baby to strengthen the bond between them. Learning their own baby's unique way of communicating by movement and expression will help parents read their infant's cues and respond appropriately."

Parents start the process by touching and getting to know their baby and then by providing routine care. If needed, they gradually progress to specialized care and learn about specific procedures and equipment such as feeding tubes and ventilators. To decrease their anxiety when learning complex care, parents can practice on a doll before they apply the skills to their infant.

"The training will vary depending on what the parent needs to learn," Carrier said. "We want to

ensure that the parents can perform tasks without prompting or assistance. This will enable them to become self-sufficient in caring for their baby's needs."

Once parents are comfortable in their care-giving roles, they have an opportunity to perform their new tasks in a homelike setting, without leaving the hospital. Rooming-in rooms at Texas Children's Newborn Center allow parents with special-needs to stay in hotel-like rooms and care for their babies before discharge.

"Rooming-in rooms give par-

ents the opportunity to have the baby in the room with them and assume total care," said Carrier. "They use the equipment they will have at home, spend the night and still have a nurse checking on them to see how things are going. With hospital staff nearby, parents can determine their own readiness for discharge or request a review of any training they think they need before going home."

For those families who require additional assistance, discharge facilitators can set up home-care arrangements.

Obituaries

Harley Elbert Pugh

Harley Elbert Pugh, age 93, passed away December 11, 1999 in Del Rio, Texas. He was born November 19, 1906 in Waterville, Kansas. He served in the U. S. Coast Guard and was a veteran of World War II. He worked for U. S. Bureau of prisons for 26 years. He was a Mason for over 50 years and belonged to Lodge #392 of Grandbury, Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife Gladys W. Pugh.

He is survived by daughters: Carol A. Burgess and husband Leland "Buddy" Burgess of Brack-

kettville, TX., Judy Elizabeth Lewis and husband Frank W. Lewis of Des Peres, Missouri. Sister: Marqueritte Kilian of Larkspur, CA. Also survived by 5 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, December 14, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. at Holly Hills Memorial Park Cemetery. He also had Masonic graveside rites.

Services were under the direction of the Del Rio Funeral Home 200 East Garfield, Del Rio, Tx.

Gerald A. Wipff

Gerald A. Wipff 86, of Del Rio, passed away Wednesday, November 17, 1999 at the Methodist Hospital in San Antonio.

He was born October 29, 1913, in Del Rio. Survivors are his wife of 66 years, Opal Wipff of Del Rio; daughter, Janet Wipff Burns and husband Frank of Del Rio; son, Danny Wipff and wife Myrna of Houston, Texas; sister, June Hubbard of Belvidere, IL., grandchildren, Deborah Hall and husband Michael of Dallas, Texas; Douglas Wipff and wife Debbie of Houston, Texas, Tammy Reed

and husband Harold, of Del Rio, Kimberly Hill and husband Cliff of Del Rio. Seven great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Wipff was the owner of Wipff's Furniture and Appliance Store on South Main Street for 56 years.

Funeral services were held 11 a.m. November 20, at the First Presbyterian Church with Pastor Brian Spangler officiating. Burial followed at Del Rio Memorial Park.

Keep Christ in Christmas
On the Night Before Christmas....
You are invited to join with friends and family as they gather at 6:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church on James Street for a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and a Candlelight Benediction.

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Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
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EMPLOYMENT

RECEPTIONIST/CLERK-Heavy phone use, typing & computer experience a must. Pick up application at J.P. Office, 602 E. Military Hwy, Brackettville. Deadline for resumes & applications is Jan. 7, 2000.

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CREDIT CARD DEBT? Avoid bankruptcy. *Stop collection calls. *Cut finance charges. *Cut payments up to 50% debt consolidation. Fast approval. No credit check. National Consolidators, 1-800-270-9894.

OVER YOUR HEAD in debt? Do you need more breathing room? Debt consolidation, no qualifying. *Free consultation, 1-800-556-1548. www.anewhorizon.org. Licensed, bonded, nonprofit/national company.

REAL ESTATE

O'Rourke Realty
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
830-563-2713
Rentals Available

Unit 37 RV lot, 28X40 metal cover, pull-through drive, extra RV hook-up. Living Area, washer, dryer, refrigerator with ice-maker. \$39,500 Negotiable.

In Fort Clark 3 bed. 2 1/2 baths, large den, workshop, beautiful bright kitchen overlooking the creek. Unbeatable scenery from almost every room of the house. Only \$65,000.00.

In Spofford 20X35 Telephone Remote building. Many possibilities. 50X60 lot. Only \$8,000.

1 bed 1 bath townhouse - All Plumbing ready for second bath. High ceiling in L.R. with western style design. Enclosed patio Low Maintenance - \$39,000.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

IN DEBT? GET help. No credit check. No bankruptcy. One low payment. Call ADC, leading consolidation firm for free quote. No up front fees. One low payment. 1-888-806-DEBT.

NEED CASH? IMMEDIATE cash paid for lottery winnings and legal settlements for medical malpractice, personal injury and wrongful death. Call Singer Asset at 1-800-605-5007. www.singerasset.com.

FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT in town. Water, gas and trash paid. \$250.00 mo. 563-9161.

FOR SALE

RECONDITIONED GOLF CART batteries. Guaranteed \$150 set plus exchange. 563-9970

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18" DIRECTV SATELLITE Systems. Single system only \$59. Two box systems available. Ask about free programming. Authorized dealer. www.integratedsatellite.com, 1-800-325-7836.

AMAZINGLY LOW PRICES - Wolff Tanning Beds. Buy factory direct. Excellent service, flexible financing available. Home/commercial units. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-800-842-1310.

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P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
Molly Ardrey - Broker

Must see 3 bedroom, 2 bath Berber carpet and Tile throughout Home on Fort Clark overlooking the 10th hole, backyard, Large Oaks!

Unit 34, RV pad & cover with living quarters \$22,500.00.

Must sell 1,435 sq. ft. Home, 3 bedroom, 2 baths.

Townhouse #178 1 Bed, 1 Bath overlooking Las Moras Creek.

DEBBIE TRANT
LOCKHART REAL ESTATE

2,000 acres for sale \$295.00 per acre.
1 bedroom Townhouse very nice \$18,000.00.

830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

New Listing in town: nice 3/2 brick home with new CHA, screened porch, garage, fenced yard. Choice location!

The Oaks: lovely 3/2 stone home, large isolated master bed, den/gameroom, FP, 2,400 sq.ft., remodeled kitchen, storage, sprinkler system, new carpet/paint!

unit 3; 2 mobile homes, rock skirting, CHA, owner finance-make offer!

Stop in & see the good selection of dolls, children's books & gifts at LET'S PLAY

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KISS YOUR CABLE Goodbye! Only \$69. Includes 18" Little Dish System. 40 channels: \$19.99/mo. Toll-Free 1-888-292-4836. Won't be undersold! Money-back guarantee. FedEx Delivery!

BUILDINGS SALE ... NO Salesman. Go direct and save. Final clearance. 20x26, \$2,600; 25x30, \$3,145; 30x40, \$4,750; 35x50, \$6,100; 40x60, \$7,800; 48x90, \$12,000. Others. Pioneer, 1-800-668-5422.

GATEWAY COMPUTERS..FACTORY direct. \$0 down. Low monthly payment. Pentium-III 600 available. Resolved credit problems okay. Call by Dec. 17, for free scanner. OMC, 1-800-477-9016. Code A08.

MOBILE HOMES

NEW 4 BEDROOM 2 bath Danville A/C Shingle Roof, Hardboard Siding, Dishwasher, Stove and Refrigerator. Free Delivery, Setup a Tie Downs and Skirting. 260.13 per mo 10% D.P. 9.5 APR VAR WAC for 360 months. Call 774-7711 or 888 611-7711.

LARGE WOODED LOT with NEW Doublewide Ready For Quick move in. EZ Qualifying. Only \$543.00 mo. (7.25% APR, 360 mo. 10% dn Subject to Increase) 800-580-2920.

\$199.00 MO. NEW 3 Br - 2 Bath. Free Washer and Dryer. (5% dn, 360 mo, 10.75 APR Subject to Increase) 800-580-2920.

\$299.00 MO. NEW Doublewide Free Color TV. (8.50% APR, 360 mo., 10% dn. Subject to increase) 800-580-2920

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVORCE \$155, covers child support, custody, visitation, missing spouses, property, debts, military, name change. One signature required. *Excludes government fees, uncontested. 1-800-462-2000 (8 a.m. - 8 p.m.). Legal Tech, Inc.

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

MOBILE HOMES

1999 3 BEDROOM 2 bath, A/C Plywood Floors, All Major Appliances, Shipped to us by mistake. Price Reduced - The Factory is paying for freight! Save now, call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711 toll free.

NEW 3 BEDROOM 1 bath AC, Plywood Floors, Stove and Refrigerator. 180.66 per mo for 240 months. 10% DP 8.75 APR VAR WAC Call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711.

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WE BUY ALUMINUM cans 30c LB. Batteries \$1.00 ea. Copper 35-40c. Other types of metals. 563-9970. 601 South Beaumont.

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Answers to Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
37	AHEAD	AWARE	BAR	CRIB									
45	LADDER	WARAT	OLIE	MANA									
	FIDDLER	ON THE	ROOF	EVAN									
	ARA	TADS	EXG	TREND									
	CALM	SLEEPS	CAINE										
51	MIASMA	QUAY	TELLS										
	POMPE	PUPPER	ONACHAIN										
	ROPES	BRIE	ARON	CRD									
68	ORR	HEROD	POKES	TACIT									
	WEE	IRAN	BODE	TERESA									
61	STRANGERS	SON	TRAIN										
	INSERT	DEER	FROM	TEC									
	SOILS	MAINE	BLADE	UMA									
	NAV	EXEC	SWAY	DRAPPE									
	THECAT	INTHEHAT	ATTN										
75	LHASA	OMAR	BARNEY										
	SPOOL	GETISHA	ALAT										
	MEATY	ZIEE	LCOR	SEPA									
82	RASH	TURKEY	INTHES	TRAW									
	ETTE	ALL	LILAC	SOATIE									
88	DOES	RUE	GNASH	MYERS									

WHY LEASE?

Own your own part of the Texas Hill Country for as little as \$695.00 down and \$125.25 per month at 9.75 % financing. Based on 20 acre tract with minimum down payment.

The Leona Ranch, located 15 miles north of Brackettville, Texas, in Kinney County, on FM 674, has an abundance of whitetail deer, javelina, turkey, quail, dove, rabbits and squirrels. Other non-game species include feral hogs, wild Spanish goats, racoons, ringtails, fox, bobcats and a few mountain lions.

The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.

For information call (830) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (830) 563-2077 evenings.

The Brackett News
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PUBLIC AUCTION ABC WRECKER SERVICE

1984 LINC 4D 1LNBP96F8FY617575 FL K45102
1982 CHEV PK 1GCGC24W5CJ160261 TX NN8213
1987 CHEV LL 1GNCS18R8H8103915 TX D01ZGC
1989 DODG 4D 1B3BC46K6KD624771 OK WT0396

A public auction will be held at ABC Wrecker Service
520 East Spring St. Brackettville, TX
at 2:00 p.m. on Friday December 17, 1999.

Don't miss this 5 day Shopping Spree
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Alamo Village
FREE Entrance with this ad
Gifts for all ages: Alamo and John Wayne items,
Jewelry, Indian Headdresses, Moccasins, Toy Guns
and much more
Don't miss this 5 day Shopping Spree
Good thru December 20, 1999

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December 18, Hours 9-2
Last Minute Christmas
Decorations and Gifts
Merry Christmas!!

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

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