

The Brackett News



Sanchez indicted for the murder of Alfonzo Gomez, Jr.

12th year, No. 9

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

Department of Interior High School golfers qualify for Regional meets in Brackettville

By Woodie Hornburg
Contributing Writer

Washington, D.C. discovers Brackettville and is contributing to an important upcoming event on April 11th and 12th. Once every four months the U.S. Department of Interior's sixteen regional representatives meet to explore and research the historical significance of a chosen area.

The focus is the "Underground Railroad" that was active before and during the "Civil War." The researchers hope to establish a cultural link between Brackettville (Seminole Indian Scouts) and certain well known and recognized areas. The U.S. Department of Interior with its National Park Service is attempting to document trails and sites to place on the

National Registry.

Coordinating the visitors agenda are Clarence Ward, president of the Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery Association; Ailene Reid, president of the Kinney County Historical Commission; Frank Cheaney Jr., president of the Ft. Clark Historical Society; and Bill Haenn, Ft. Clark historian. On April 11th, Clarence Ward and SISCA members are hosting a barbeque in Seminole Park at noon; Ailene Reid will conduct a tour of the Kinney County Heritage Museum; Frank Cheaney will guide the group through the Ft. Clark Museum; Bill Haenn will be the commentator of Ft. Clark's historical sites. A reception is planned from 7:00-8:00 in the Wainwright House and

Continued on Page X

The final round of the District 30AA golf tournament was played at the Fort Clark Springs Golf Course this past Monday.

The girls' team placed second overall with final score of 876 for 36 holes. The girls' team consists of Laura Lee Ballew, Tiffany Eckenrod, Debora Cortes, Erica Meyer, and Susannah Davis. Laura Lee Ballew was the silver medalist in the individual competition with a 314 score for 54 holes.

The boys' team placed third overall in the team scorings with Jarrett Harrison placing as the first medalist with a final score of 81.

The girls' team and Jarrett Harrison will be travelling to San Marcos on April 24-25 for the Regional Tournament. The girls' competition will take place at the Southwest Texas Golf Course and the boys competition will take place at the Quail Creek Country Club.



The girls' team placed second overall in the District 30AA golf tournament this week at Fort Clark Springs Golf Course. The team will compete in regionals April 24-25 in San Marcos. Pictured, front row from left are Kim Wilkins, coach; Deborah Cortes; Tiffany Eckenrod; Jarrett Harrison and Dave Wilkins, coach. Middle row, from left, Leslie Meyer and Laura Lee Ballew, silver medalist. Back row, from left, Erica Meyer and Susannah Davis.

Briefs ...

Kinney County Heritage Museum

The Kinney County Heritage Museum will be open Saturday February 26, from 1 to 4 PM.

Rubino seeks Doctorate

Rosemary Rubino will be entering the Joint University Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership starting June 5. She will be going to school full-time for a two-year course period. Within that time frame, all her doctoral coursework will be completed.

Rubino is a graduate of Brackett High School and a first grade teacher at Jones Elementary School. She will be moving to Corpus Christi this June to start her studies.

Junior Volunteers

It's almost that time! Time for the summer Junior Volunteer Program at Val Verde Regional Medical Center. This year's program will run June 12 - August 4th. There will be an initial meeting Tuesday, April 11, 7 P.M., in the Administrative Conference Room at the Hospital. Any young person 14-17 years of age is eligible to participate and at least one parent must accompany the prospective volunteer to the initial meeting. For additional information please call (830) 778-3650.

Last chance for Mrs. Brackettville

The Mrs. Texas America Pageant has issued a last call for Brackettville to find a candidate to compete for the title of Mrs. Texas 2000.

The Mrs. Texas America Pageant is a statewide event that honors the state's loveliest married women and sends a Texas representative to the nationally televised Mrs. America Pageant which will take place in Hawaii in August. According to Tana Herrington, director. "We have had a number of inquiries from women in the area, but as of today, none has followed through." There is still time for a contestant to step forward, but she will have to act quickly. Says Herrington, "I must have the completed application by April 20, 1999." Contestants will have a few more weeks to prepare as the pageant will take place May 26-28 at the Sheraton Brookhollow Hotel in Houston.

Married women interested are urged to contact Tara Herrington at (480) 563-4216 or check out the website, www.mrstexasamerica.net.

BISD students perform well at UIL competition



Elementary and secondary students in the Brackett Independent School District competed in the District 30AA University Interscholastic League District Academic Competition Thursday, March 30 in Comfort. District 30AA is comprised of students in Brackettville, Jourdan, Centerpoint, Comfort, Natalia and Dilley. Students who either won or placed in the various contests were:
Ready Writing - Fourth Grade - Bianca Stewart, third place.
Spelling - Third Grade - Brooke Bowlin, third place; Serenity Gammil, tied for fourth place.
Oral Reading - Fourth Grade - Bailee Allen, first place.
Music Memory - 5th & 6th Grade - Kaylynn Perez, Kailani Glass, Josh O'Neil, Lilianna Hernandez, Adon Santellano, first place.
Oral Reading, 8th Grade - Emily Petrosky, third place.
Ready Writing - 8th Grade - Ashley Smith, second place; Beth Ballew, sixth place.
Math - 8th Grade, Tillman Davis fourth place, Math, 5th

Uvalde Job Fair Exemplary Migrant Student scheduled April 15

The Uvalde Area Job Fair Committee is making plans to make this year's fair bigger and better than last year. The fair will be Saturday, April 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Uvalde's Willie De Leon Civic Center, 300 E. Main St.

Committee Chair Janie Sosa of the Texas Department of Human Resources and the future of the annual event is looking bright. "We had more than 250 participants last year and we are hoping to double that number this year," she said. She added that the committee is also expecting a larger number of businesses to participate in the fair this year.

Free transportation will be available from all of the nine counties making up the Middle Rio Grande Service Area. Counties included in the area are Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde and Zavala. Transportation arrangements may be made by calling 1-800-499-1617 or 830-278-4145. Free refreshments and door prizes will also be available at the fair.

Besides the Middle Rio Grande Workforce Board, other agencies involved in organizing the event include the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, Lockheed Martin Welfare Reform Services, the Community Council of Southwest Texas, Southwest Texas Junior College, the college's Tech

Prep program, the Texas Department of Human Services, the Texas Works program and the Texas Workforce Commission.

Approximately 50 companies are expected to participate in the fair. Some of these companies include both the U.S. Army and Navy recruiting offices, Wal-Mart and the San Antonio Fire Department.

Anyone with any questions about the fair can call committee chair Janie Sosa at 830-591-4301.

By Chuck Hall
Contributing Writer

Efrain Talamantes, a senior at Brackett High School, migrates every year with his family to Montana, where he works in the fields hoeing beets.

Efrain's dedication to his schoolwork is impressive. While he was in Montana last summer, he worked in the fields from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. and attended night school until 10 p.m. If rainy weather or lack of work prevented Efrain from working in the fields, he would go in early to work on

his UT Government course.

Worried that his family might have to migrate back to Texas before he had finished his course, Efrain asked his teachers if he could come in and work after class. His reward for such dedication was the successful completion of the credit he needed in U.S. Government.

"The life of a migrant student is hard, but with the encouragement of my parents, the help of my Montana teacher, and the credit I earned in the UT course, I will reach my goal of graduating from high school. Now I can



Efrain Talamantes start my adult life as a high school graduate," said Talamantes.

Local emergency services receive training

By Carolyn Rutherford
Contributing Writer

Kinney County EMS, Sheriff's Office personnel and Fire Department participated in a "spur of the moment" Landing Zone training opportunity March 23.

Critical Air, keeping their promise to make up a cancelled training session in February, flew into Rendezvous Park on Fort Clark around 6:10 p.m.

Although most members of the Brackettville Fire Department, Sheriff's Office and Kinney County EMS had previous training, the review was helpful and the orientation to a different helicopter transportation company was very informative.

The weather conditions kept the session on hold during the day,

with a last minute decision to try it. The "chopper" crew had a tail wind inbound which cut the travel time from their base at Pearsall considerably.

The first session reviewed Landing Zone procedures and safety considerations. Critical Air crew, consisting of Flight Nurse Eric Weed, Flight Paramedic Roy Garza, and Pilot Mike Mullinez continued orienting the emergency personnel to specific information about their helicopter.

Later, while the pilot continued with the Fire Department and Sheriff's personnel, the EMS crew was given continuing education in Patient Assessment. Kinney County Emergency personnel believe this training was well worth the wait!



Critical Air crew members Eric Weed, flight nurse, Roy Garza, flight paramedic and Mike Mullinez, pilot, oriented Kinney County emergency personnel on specific information about their helicopter.

INSIDE

The way I see it!

Parents Television Council conducted a study, which compared television fare in 1989 with that shown in 1999. They determined exactly what the rest of us have been saying all along. Television today is obscene.

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Band going to UIL

This week, the school band goes to the UIL concert and sight-reading contest. It's the first time that I have directed a band in competition since 1970.

Community/Page 3

Empowering Families

Some of the most important elements of family life are family traditions.

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Letters to the Editor

Taking home good memories

Whew, once again, you people of Brackettville have shown my husband and I that little towns are not drab, quiet, illiterate, or way behind in the times. We have been fortunate to spend three months down here and have really tried to partake in all the activities. But once in awhile, you have to sleep and that can prove to be very difficult down here when there is so much to do and so many activities are offered. We had good meals at the Wagon Wheel, Barbara's Table and Crazy Chicken. It's off to Ora's for a good cold beer and always a beautiful smile from her. We had a great barbecue lunch at the annual livestock show. What a tremendous support y'all give to them. 'Til this day, we are amazed at how you Texans can cook a great brisket. Up north, we corn it. It is the main meal for St. Pat's Day and we call it corned beef.

The local art brought in a talented German Band to play at the civic center. I think it was almost filled to capacity and people of all ages were there either to dance or just plain listen and watch others dance. Please keep this program going. It is good to bring in dif-

ferent talent and expose everyone to the varied programs. Don't lose a good thing: support the arts. The high school once again performed flawlessly in its one act play, "Teach Me How to Cry." There is a tremendous amount of talent in this small town. Trust me, we have a lot of isolated, small towns in Alaska that do not have television, telephones or other modern conveniences. The families that live there are of the same caliber of you town folk. It is the friendliness, honesty and principles of each and everyone that make a town one to be proud of.

It is a real pleasure to be around young people that say "yes, sir" or "yes, ma'am" and are so confident and self-assured. They are young adults that will grow up to be good, honest citizens that will represent the town well.

As we go back to work, we will take back good memories again and tell others that there are some very good people in Brackettville. Now we are going to catch as many fish as we can. So, as the old saying goes, "Gone Fishin'"

Kathi Warm
Fishing Vessel, Restless Wind
Sitka, AK

We authorized the lawsuit

Because the moral and financial integrity of five members of Fort Clark Springs was impugned by Arvel Baker in your edition of March 30, 2000, I am submitting this response.

The Board of Directors (minus two who quit) authorized the lawsuit in question. We did so pursuant to our sworn duty to protect the best interests of the entire membership.

Mr. Burkpile and Mr. Workman displayed a desire to disassociate themselves from the board of directors. Any attempt to include them in recognition at the annual meeting with a group they had so emphatically rejected, would have been unkind, unwise, and contrary to their demonstrated preference.

Once more, Baker, you have cast gratuitous aspersions on the moral and financial integrity of others. Well, sir, none of those you smeared have:

A. Refused or neglected to pay assessments or been defiantly delinquent in financial obligations to the FCSSA.

B. Walked away from sworn duties to the members when they did not get their way.

C. Inflicted thousands of dollars in costs on all the members by pursuing frivolous, pointless and fruitless court actions against FCSSA and by wasting countless hours of staff time with incessant witch hunts.

D. Spent years spewing venomous screeds against FCSSA management, staff, employees and directors.

E. Stolen political advantage by flooding non-resident (hence uninformed and vulnerable) members with insinuations, exaggerations, character assassinations, deceptions and lies.

F. Sneaked around at dusk to subvert a trusted employee and then tried to obtain that employee's silence about the attempt.

G. Interfered with management, pursued personal agenda goals or carried on vendettas against members, staff or employees.

Conclusion: I am certain, Baker, that the lifelong moral and financial integrity of those you have attacked is superior to what you may have at your disposal.

Don Parks

What Luna didn't mention

I read with interest Mr. Luna's news article in your paper. In Mr. Luna's article, it was stated that the Citizens' Collection site was clean; he did, however fail to mention the violations that were in the TNRC report (copy attached). One such violation is commercial and household waste collected by route operators. One such collection route is being done by a city alderman. One violation, (according to State Health officials, it was a health hazard to the entire community) has been cleared, the hundreds of tires have

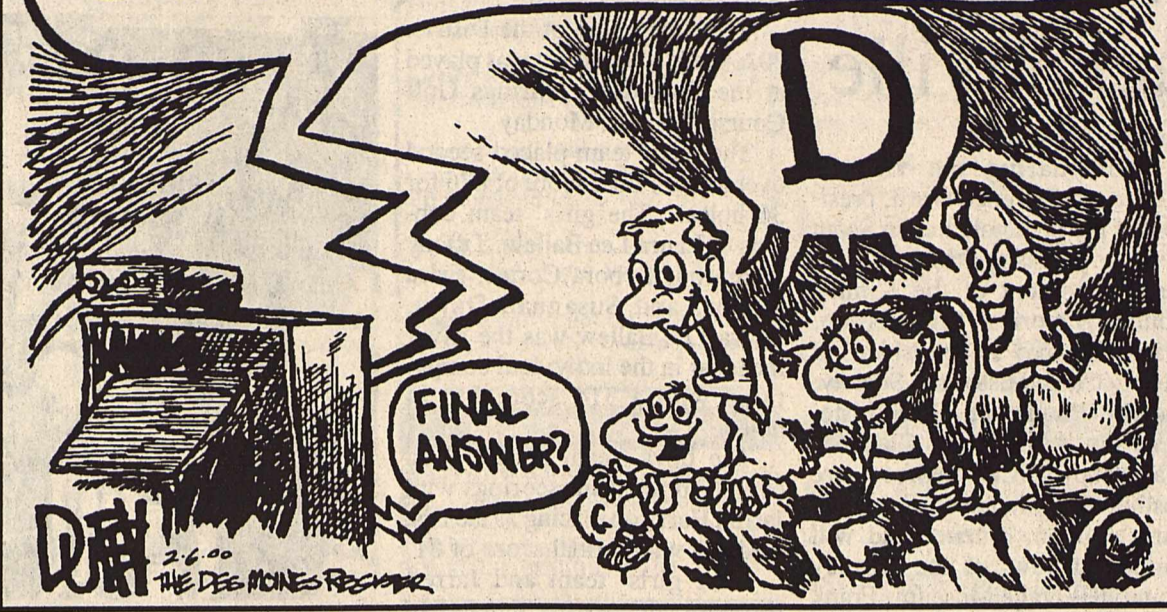
been moved. I commend Mr. Luna for having this done.

This site has operated without a proper license as required by TNRC. I am now concerned about waste liquids from the garbage gobbler - could this possibly contain hazardous material? Do we have an environmentalist who can conduct tests? Do we even have licensed people to check the quality of our drinking water? Does the city have money on deposit to reclaim this site if they ever move to another location?

Genie Nixon

CURE FOR CABIN FEVER

- (A) WATCHING CANDIDATE DEBATES
- (B) REARRANGING SOCK DRAWER
- (C) WATCH WORLD ICE CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP ON 24 HOUR SPORTS CHANNEL
- (D) WATCHING WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?



Decade of Decline

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

For those of us who have been yelling that television has become the home of obscenity, profanity, and perversion, here are the figures.

Parents Television Council conducted a study, which compared television fare in 1989 with that shown in 1999. They determined exactly what the rest of us have been saying all along. Television today is obscene. They compared a four-week period in the fall from each year and found that:

Sexual material was more than three times as frequent in 1999 as it was in 1989.

Homosexual references, which were seldom heard in '89 had increased more than 24 times. Yep, that's right, twenty-four hundred percent.

References to genitalia were more than 7 times more frequent.

Foul language increased more than five and a half times.

Over all sexual content, profanity, and violence combined tripled.

Amazing isn't it? A single decade has passed since there really was a family hour. Have we changed so much in a mere ten years?

No! What has happened, however, is that the networks, mostly run by liberal zombies, have increasingly included in their programming all their heretofore hidden agendas. We have not changed. It is simply that all the vile and perverse of the entertainment elite are coming out of hiding. They have found that there is no longer a stigma attached to such things and are doing their dead-level best to persuade the run-of-mine American that such things as extra-marital sex, homosexu-

ality, pedophilia, profanity, abortion, lying, cheating, stealing, witchcraft, Satan worship, violence, and who knows what else are just normal, everyday occurrences. However, Christianity, patriotism, monogamy, sexual purity, honesty, family values, high moral standards, the belief that humanity is a higher form of life than rats and cockroaches, belief in the Constitution of The United States of America, honor, and the other standards which made this nation the only remaining "Super Power" in the world, are antiquated, superannuated, unneeded, intolerant ideas of a misguided and unenlightened age.

They are trying to convince you that all those moral lessons that were learned by trial and error, and all those freedoms that were purchased by rivers of blood, sweat, and tears should be voluntarily renounced. We should, in fact, allow this nation to become a new, enlightened, socialist nation. The only reason that communism and socialism have never been successful in the past is that the geniuses of the United States entertainment industry, and the enlightened mentors of the liberal segment of society have never had the opportunity to show us how it should be done. They are convinced that they can make it work -- the USSR, East Germany, Communist China, North Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, Nazi Germany, and Fascist Italy notwithstanding, of course.

They want you to believe that showing children an uninterrupted flow of sex and violence on television and in movies does not promote those acts in real life, but that your owning a gun to protect your family causes rampant crime. They are in reality frightened of your ability to protect yourself, because if you are armed they can-

not control you.

They must persuade you that all the perverse behavior they are promoting is normal so that they can justify their own warped and sickening actions. They must convince you that "animals are people too" so that they can cheapen human life and justify abortion and euthanasia. As long as human life is sacred, and we have dominion over the lower animals, they cannot justify their own murdering perversity. As long as homosexuality is unnatural they cannot justify their own perverse actions. They are not trying to build us up; they are trying desperately to tear us down!

When you hear these people on television, arguing that they are the more enlightened and that our moral standards are intolerant and antiquated, just remember this: The words enlightened and liberal are interchangeable with the words evil and socialist; and the words intolerant and unreasonable are interchangeable with the words Christian and responsible. If you are a Christian you are diametrically opposed to the wicked behavior that they are promoting. If you are reasonable you are diametrically opposed to their liberal, socialist agendas.

Friends, I am proud to be intolerant and unreasonable. That means I am doing something right! Praise the Lord!

"The Lord examines the righteous, but the wicked and those who love violence his soul hates. On the wicked he will rain fiery coals and burning sulfur; a scorching wind will be their lot. For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; upright men will see his face." Psalms 11:5,6,7

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Paying off the debt

Submitted By
U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

Last month, our government did something it hasn't done since before the television was invented — it paid off some of the national debt.

In one swoop, a billion dollars was knocked right off the top, and another billion was trimmed off a week later.

Although this event went pretty much unnoticed, it was a momentous occasion for we Americans who fought long and hard to slow government spending, erase the deficit and put our country on sounder financial footing.

But before fiscally conservative lawmakers began overseeing the federal budget in 1995, you would have been laughed straight out of Washington for believing such a thing could happen. Well, it did, and here's how we're going to keep the ball rolling:

The debt — at \$5.7 trillion today — will continue to be reduced by following a simple mathematical process. Keeping the brakes on government overspending allows the economy to grow, helping to increase our federal budget surplus.

By reforming and reducing high taxes, we can help put even more money into the economy, and increase the surplus even more. That surplus can be used to further pay off the debt. It can also be used to address national emergencies, like the terrible situation our military is in.

That's what we've done by keeping government spending anchored to a conservative, smart rate of growth. The bureaucracy is still too big, but we have made progress in trimming dead-weight and useless programs from the budget. However, we still have a long row to hoe.

A couple of weeks ago, the Washington Times reported that more than half of federal employees perform work that "is not inherently governmental in nature." In other words, they're doing work that could and should be done by private citizens and not financed with your tax dollars.

The sun needs to set on such things. Recently, the House laid out the federal government's financial blueprint for the next several years. It makes sure that Social Security contributions go only to Social Security. It also increases defense funding, cuts more wasteful spending, and uses the savings to pay down \$3.6 trillion of the national debt.

What does that mean to you? It means you'll pay lower interest rates for your next car, house or personal loan. At the same time, our budget will eliminate the marriage penalty tax and eliminate the death tax, which hurts so many family-owned small businesses, farms, and ranches. Our plan also makes it easier for parents to put aside extra savings for their children's education.

You see, the federal budget is more than just numbers. It's even more than our taxes and spending. Every page of that document relates to how much of our own money we can keep. That means it affects our future and the what the future will look like for our children. Hopefully, if we stay the course, that future will arrive without the burden of our growing debt.

Mary Kay

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The Brackett News

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New Subscription Renewal Change of Address

Tiger Band competes at UIL this week Local Red Cross offers a CPR class in Spanish

Making a Difference By Taylor Stephenson

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) results for academic competition are in, and they're very good. We have rededicated our efforts in UIL academics this year, and it's paying dividends.

There will be a listing of district winners in the paper (this

week or next, depending on available space). Good job!

How about the tennis teams? First place winners in Boys and Girls contests makes the building of the tennis courts worthwhile. This information will also be in "The Brackett News."

Softball and Baseball are still winning and are very competitive. We're proud of the efforts that both of these fine teams are mak-

ing this year.

The time change is something that I like and appreciate. Having a little daylight when I finish work about 6 PM is a nice upbeat finish to the day. I don't care to come to school in the dark, but it's nice to have a good finish to the day. This week, the school band goes to the UIL concert and sight-reading contest. It's the first time that I have directed a band in competi-

tion since 1970. The students have worked hard, and we're doing the best job that we possibly can do right now. I'm proud of our band and the help that all students parents and Mr. Jimenez have given this year. That's about it for now. The clouds this past weekend were something to behold, but they couldn't give us much rain. Our day is coming soon. Have a great week!

State climatologists: 60 percent chance drought will continue

Some old timers are already saying the current drought is worse than the drought of 1955. But according to historical records, it's not quite that bad. Texas Climatologist John Nielsen-Gammon says the current drought will only be comparable if it does not rain for another two months. He says there is a 60 percent chance the drought will continue, based on the strength of La Nina. Extension Forage Specialist Larry Redmon says producers should prepare for a very long drought. He says they should reduce stocking rates and inputs, and consider drilling wells. By definition, droughts last a decade or more. Current data suggest this is the early middle of a drought.

Game species affected

Dry weather, Texans have seen plenty, and there more to come. Extension Wildlife Specialist Dale Rollins says the drought is affecting even the hardest wildlife. He says quail are the hardest hit. The drought has limited food and nesting habitat in more areas. Quail must search for food longer, increasing their exposure to predators. Rollins says that turkeys are faring somewhat better. Nesting cover for turkeys is not affected as much. He says if it rains soon, the upcoming spring turkeys, season could be satisfactory. Rollins says the drought facilitated deer hunting by making corn feeders a big attraction during the dry season. This left them more exposed to hunters. Rollins urges ranchers to remember the wildlife when

times get tough. If livestock are being fed in a dry lot, he recommends confining them and letting the wildlife have what is left in larger pastures. And as ranchers reduce their stocking rates, they can leave watering areas for wildlife to use.

Key to survival

With Texas ranchers enduring a third drought season in 4 years, Extension Range Specialist Larry White says it's a critical time for evaluating pasture management practices. He says the current dry cycle may last for up to 10 years, so protecting forage resources through reduced stocking rates is essential. However, the amount of reduction necessary depends on the producer's current situation. A healthy pasture may have some bare ground. But the majority should have stubble three to six inches high. White says there should be even more if producers are continuing to graze livestock, because pasture growth is not expected until April or May. Producers who have already made stocking rate adjustments may be able to maintain the reduced herd size, if they receive rainfall soon. However, White says even reduced stocking rates may be too high for producers that are already in trouble. He says those producers should eliminate their entire herd. The danger of overgrazing is losing important resources like rainfall and soil. A higher percentage of rainfall runs off overgrazed pastures, and with excess runoff comes excess soil erosion. White

says pasture management decisions should always take drought into account. He recommends a regular forage monitoring system, where forage supply is evaluated three times a year.

Third drought

The Texas Agriculture industry is facing a crisis situation. Texas farmers and ranchers are enduring their third drought in four years. Extension Agronomist Travis Miller says 91 percent of the state's winter wheat crop is in fair to very poor condition. West Texas wheat is dying, and much of it didn't come up at all. Miller says livestock producers have been the hardest hit. Stock tanks are drying up in many counties. Seventy one percent of the state's ranges and pastures are in poor to very poor condition. Cattle prices are higher than a year ago. But ranchers will lose money by being forced to sell off herds because of a lack of water and forage. Seventy five Texas counties have been given disaster declarations and are eligible for disaster assistance. The Texas Department of Agriculture is providing drought information assistance packets. Farmers and ranchers may receive a copy by calling the agency's state drought coordinator Bill Breeze at (512) 463-7517.

Risk management

A risk management program helping producers make sound financial planning decisions is also serving as an aid during the periods of drought. Extension economist Joe Outlaw says the Finan-

cial and Risk Management Assistance Program is a planning tool aimed at helping both farmers and ranchers become better managers and marketers. With the assistance of a computer software programs, Extension Economists input every aspect of a producer's operation and calculate a risk component prior to making a costly financial decision. The program takes into consideration market conditions as well as past yields to help give the producer an expected average return on investment. He says all of the information is put into a model and linked with forecasts from different groups. This can help project what the financial condition of the farm or ranch will be in the future. The program will help the producer analyze a number of alternatives. Those include keeping replacement heifers and building back the herd over time. Also a farmer looking to install a \$60,000 irrigation system could have his plan evaluated. Outlaw says the analysis would help them decide if they can afford it. For ranchers, the assistance program can also be a valuable tool when facing a drought situation. It's really about the comparison between the present and the future. Outlaw says it won't tell them reality, but will give farmers a good understanding of what they should do.

An excellent web page for drought information and strategies can be found at: http://agnews.tamu.edu/drought/drgtprk98/

Local Red Cross offers a CPR class in Spanish

Every second counts in an emergency, so do what you can by taking a Spanish-language Adult CPR class.

The class teaches participants to help anyone age 9 and over in a choking, breathing or cardiac emergency.

The class costs \$20. Participants who demonstrate the necessary skills and pass one written

quiz will receive Adult CPR and first aid certificates. This four-hour class is scheduled for Saturday, April 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Contact your local Red Cross at (830) 775-8626 for locations. Please wear comfortable clothing for CPR and first aid floor practices. Pre-registration and prepayment is required.

Local Red Cross offers courses in First Aid, CPR and Babysitting Training

In times of emergency, a few seconds can save a life. Learn how to help by signing up for First Aid Basics. This class teaches participants how to stop bleeding, care for muscle and joint injuries, and help someone who has a sudden illness. This four-hour class is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5 from 6 to 10 p.m. Participants who complete skill checks and pass a written quiz will receive a First Aid Basic certificate. The cost is \$20.

First Aid with Adult, Child and Infant CPR will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, April 4, 5, and 6 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. each day or on Saturday, April 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

This nine hour class teaches participants to help people of all ages during a medical emergency. This class, which meets state childcare licensing requirements,

costs \$30. Participants who demonstrate the necessary skills and pass written quizzes will receive CPR and first aid cards.

What does it take to be a good babysitter? Learn how to be the best in a Red Cross Babysitter Training class on Friday, April 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, April 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This class teaches participants ages 11-15 information on child development, appropriate activities, diapering, feeding, discipline, working with parents, and first aid. This \$30 class includes a guide and safety kit. Both sessions must be attended. Please bring a doll both days and a sack lunch on Saturday.

Contact your local Red Cross at (830) 775-8626 for locations. Please wear comfortable clothing for CPR and first aid floor practices. Pre-registration and prepayment is required.

Border Patrol sponsors Fun Run

DEL RIO - On April 29, the Del Rio sector will sponsor the Fourth Annual Border Patrol Fun Run in support of Texas Special Olympics. The run will begin and end at the entrance to the Border Patrol Air Operations Facility at the Del Rio International Airport (West 15th Street).

Registration for the event will begin at 7:30 a.m. The Fun Run will start at 9 a.m. Entry fees are

\$15 for adults and \$10 for children 15 and under. Entry fee includes a Texas Special Olympics T-shirt.

Trophies will be awarded to the first place male and female overall winners. Medals will be awarded to first, second and third place male and female finishers in each age group.

Individuals must register on the day of the event.

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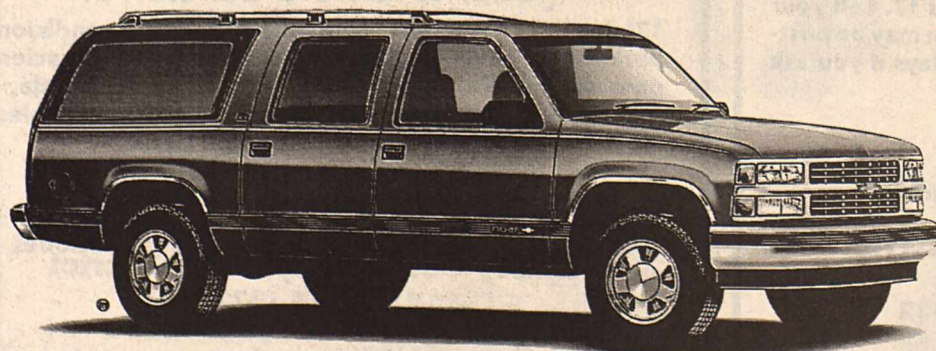
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Pegasus Satellite Television donates \$10,000 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation and underwrites the wish of a child from Uvalde. The child will have the opportunity to choose a wish following his or her release from the hospital. The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants wishes of children with life threatening illnesses. From left, Kim Fanning, communication specialist, Pegasus Satellite Television and Keith Sultemeier, acting executive director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central and South Texas.

In spite of what people may think, people who are from Johannesburg, South Africa do wear clothes and no, they do not live in tree houses.

Ngwanaphateng Mogashoa when pronounced in English sounds very musical, but Elizabeth is her Americanized name. She has been in the United States almost three years and is a student at Southwest Texas Jr. College in Uvalde. Her goal is to be a nurse. She will be graduating May 13, 2000.

Elizabeth has one sister, three brothers and two nieces. Her mother, Martha Mogashoa, is a nurse at Sebokeng Hospital.

Traveling and singing in the church choir are some of the things Elizabeth likes to do.

"Texas is big but it is not that different from Africa. We have tall buildings and trees like you

have here," said Mogashoa. According to Elizabeth there are eleven languages in Africa and she speaks eight of them. The two she spoke of us were very interesting. We did not know what she said, but it sounded nice.

Elizabeth said, "I have the best mother in the world, she is my hero and my inspiration and my reason for wanting to do the best I can, so I can finish school and take care of her. I love you Mom. To my friends Kenneth and Chris Holmes and Mom, for helping me and being the best friends I have ever had. Thank You! Words can never explain or express my deepest appreciation and gratitude. To the First Baptist Church in Uvalde, you have been my family and home away from home. You have been a blessing to me and thank you so much."



Pictured above from left: Chris Holmes, Elizabeth Mogashoa and Jewel Robinson.

See Fiesta in a brand new way this year

Calling all Red Cross Fiesta Aid Station Team (FAST) members. The Red Cross needs 150 first aid volunteers and now is the time to sign up.

The Red Cross has agreed to provide first aid stations for some of the biggest events at Fiesta this year and needs team members to staff those stations. It's fun and easy to be a First Aid Station member. You will receive a cool T-shirt and you get to see the best of Fiesta - free.

Red Cross Fiesta orientations are one - hour long and will take place at 3642 East Houston Street in San Antonio on Saturday, April 15 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday, April 17 - 20 at 6 p.m. In order to be a FAST member, you must be at least 18 years old and currently certified in or authorized to teach Red Cross Adult, Infant and Child CPR and first aid skills.

Stay after the orientation for a free recertification. Those with certifications or licenses other than Red Cross may challenge the Red Cross skill and knowledge tests. All Fiesta First Aid Station Team members get recertification or challenge training for free. Current FAST members get a gift when they recruit a new volunteer.

We're also looking for individuals to join a bicycle team for the Battle of the Flowers and Flambeau parades. Be sure to tell us if you would like to be a part of that team.

If you have a favorite event, you may call ahead now and put your name on the list for that event. Except for the parades, most events require only four hours of your time.

Please call 224-5151, or 1-800-775-6803, ext 266, to sign up for a Fiesta First Aid Station Team.

Traditions establish family continuity

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

Some of the most important elements of family life are family traditions. Traditions establish family continuity; they build family stability; and they cultivate family unity and identity. When a family needs counseling due to infidelity, alcoholism, drug abuse, or for a variety of other reasons, the best predictor of whether the family will make it through the healing process is whether family traditions have been kept intact.

The Lenten and Easter season is rich in traditions that have survived in the Church from the most ancient of times. Some of these traditions have been integrated into family life. For instance, the buying of new clothes for Easter is common in Christian cultures.

In the ancient Church, it was a tradition to give a new convert a new white robe upon completing the conversion rites. When he or she came up out of the baptismal waters and entered the new life in Christ and full communion with

the Church, a new white robe replaced the common clothes that had been worn. Sometimes the converts wore the new robes for weeks to symbolize their new life.

New clothes at Easter are a wonderful family tradition when we realize what the symbolism means. Many times we buy our children clothes which have designer labels or designer names.

Public awareness campaign aimed at troubled youth

Austin-On Tuesday, January 11 the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (TDPRS) launched a statewide public awareness campaign for the Texas Youth Hotline aimed at troubled youth and families, according to Hotline Director, Jay Smith.

"The Texas Youth Hotline is answered 24 hours a day and provides prevention and crisis intervention services to callers who are in need of a caring voice and a listening ear," Smith said. "Hotline counselors talk with callers who face a variety of issues including family conflicts, delin-

quency, truancy, and abuse and neglect."

Smith said television, radio, and billboard public service announcements and more than 250,000 pieces of public awareness materials for schools, social service agencies, law enforcement and youth related organizations are aimed at bringing the troubled youth problem to a wider public attention and to make youths and parents more aware of the services available.

"Many of today's youth who are lonely or angry do not have constructive ways of venting their frustrations," states Smith. "We

offer a safe, non threatening environment where callers can discuss their problems with someone who will listen and not judge them. Hotline callers are urged to seek ongoing guidance and support from trusted adults, school faculty, or local social service agencies."

"Our goal is to help minimize problems at home or school and prevent youth from becoming involved in delinquent, self-destructive behavior," explains Smith. For more information about the Texas Youth Hotline contact 1-800-210-2278 or visit www.texasyouth.org.

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Protect your rights! "Render" your taxable property by April 17th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year. The rendition form is available at your local appraisal district office... or you may draft a similar form.

Who must file a rendition?
You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business.

Are there any advantages to you?
The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- You give your opinion of your property's value. If the appraisal district believes the value is higher, it must notify you in writing of the higher value and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 1999. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2000.

What's the deadline?
The last day for filing 2000 renditions is April 17. Call your appraisal district for the last date the rendition may be post-marked, if mailing. You can get an extra 15 days if you ask for it in writing by the April 17 deadline.

Where do you file?
File renditions with your local appraisal district at:
Kinney County Appraisal District
P. O. BOX 1377
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS 78832
830 563-2323
For more information stop by your appraisal district and pick up
"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"
Or contact:
Comptroller's Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

¡Protega sus derechos! "Rienda" su propiedad antes del 17º de abril.

Una "rendición" es un reporte al distrito de valoraciones en donde Ud. alista toda la propiedad que poseó o controló el día 1 de enero, 1998. El formulario para la rendición se puede obtener en su oficina local del distrito de valoraciones...o puede improvisar una forma parecida.

¿Quien debe hacer una rendición?
Debe hacer una rendición si Ud. es dueño y gana ingresos de una propiedad personal—por ejemplo, el inventario y equipo utilizado en un negocio.

¿Que ventaja me da?
Las ventajas de hacer una rendición son las siguientes:

- Ud. registra su opinión sobre la valoración de su propiedad. Si el distrito opina que el valor es mas grande, deber avisarle por escrito y explicarle como protestar el nuevo valor a su junta de revisión.
- Registra su dirección correcta para que le pueden mandar sus tarifas de impuestos. Según la ley, Ud. es responsable por pagar sus impuestos sin demora o de pagar cualquier multa que resulte por haberlos pagado tarde—aunque la tarifa se haya mandado a una dirección equivocada.
- Tambien puede someter un "reporte de valoración disminuida" para avisar al distrito de cualquier reducción significativa en la valoración de su propiedad en 1999. El distrito examinará su propiedad antes de designarle un valor en 2000.

¿Cual es la hora del cierre?
17º de abril es la última fecha para mandar sus rendiciones para 2000. Favor de llamar a su distrito de valoraciones para obtener la última fecha en que puede mandar su redición por correo. Puede obtener 15 días adicionales si los pide por escrito antes de la hora de cierre.

¿Donde hago mi rendición?
Haga su rendición con su distrito local de valoraciones en: **Kinney County Appraisal District**
P. O. BOX 1377
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS 78832
Para mas información, visítenos y obtenga una copia gratis de
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"Impuestos Sobre la Propiedad en Texas: Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos"
ó escriba a
Comptroller's Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

Varsity Tennis teams sweep District

By Bonnie Brotherton
Contributing Writer

The varsity boys' and girls' tennis teams swept the district meet titles at the district meet in Uvalde on March 29. The girls defended their team title for the second straight year. Leslie Meyer and Brittany Shewart defeated teammates Michelle Bizzell and Duquesa Hunt for district champions in the doubles division.

In the boys' division, Schiller

Hill and Chris Petrosky also defended their title and won the district title for the second year in a row. All three doubles teams will advance to the regional meet in San Marcos later this month.

Levi Duncan won the third place medal in singles. Other tennis players competing were Susannah Davis, fourth in singles, Amanda Ward in singles and Tony Rubio and Sabu Flores in doubles.

30AA District Results

- Boys**
Brackett 26
Comfort 18
Dilly 16
Jourdanton 12
Center Point 0
- Girls**
Brackett 36
Comfort 22
Jourdanton 8
Center Point 6
Dilley 0

Tigerettes clinch state playoff spot

By Gregg Nowlin
Contributing Writer

The Tigerettes Softball Team clinched a state playoff spot Tuesday, April 4, after being denied for the past two years.

In the eight years the Tigerettes have been playing softball, the team has advanced to the playoffs six times.

"It feels real good, getting back in the playoffs. I'm really excited for this year's seniors, Tiffany Eckenrod, Jamie Bader, Trish

Robinson and Michelle Melancon. I'm also excited for the whole team, they have had a great year so far, and I'm looking forward to the playoffs."

Tuesday, the Tigerettes lost to Jourdanton. "This loss puts us in a tie for second place. It looks like we will have a one game playoff against them in the near future, when we know the details we will let everyone know."

Leading the way at the plate for the game was Queta Garza with two hits, and two stolen bases,,

also Trish Robinson with two hits. Erika Garcia handled the pitching duties for the Tigerettes.

"I thought Erika pitched well enough to win. She struck out five batters and only walked four. Unfortunately we had too many untimely errors for the game."

Friday, the Tigerettes travel to Natalia to play the district leading Mustangs at 4:30.

"Way to go Tigerettes, You've made your town proud of you!" said Coach Gregg Nowlin.

Middle school Tennis teams claim District Title

By Bonnie Brotherton
Contributing Writer

The 8th grade tennis teams claimed the district title for the third straight year.

In girls singles, Ashley Smith defeated teammate Sarah Meyer for 1st place honors. Celeste Hill and Emily Petrosky won 1st while teammates Beth Ballew and Allyson LaMascus came home

with 3rd place.

In the boys division, Dietrich Davis and Wacey Taylor defeated teammates Cheston Clark and Tony Jamail for the district championship.

Team totals: Brackett - 86, Comfort - 32, Center Point - 26, Jourdanton - 0.

The 7th grade team won 2nd place team honors. Robbie Looney placed second in singles.

Kody Yeager and Tillman Davis won 1st in doubles. On the girls side, Kristen Meyer and Clarissa Aguirre placed 3rd, defeating teammates Courtney Frerich and Megan King. Jackie Duncan placed 4th in the single division. Shawn Looney also competed in the singles division.

Team totals: Comfort - 52, Brackett - 40, Jourdanton - 32, Center Point - 20.

Tigers stampede the Mustangs

Senior lefthander Tommy Sandoval of the Brackett Tigers continued his winning streak by beating the Natalia Mustangs in District 30-AA action Friday night on the Tigers' diamond.

Sandoval allowed four hits, a single in the third, a single in the fifth, and two singles in the sixth, struck out eight and walked three.

The loser, Rodriguez, allowed 16 hits and 14 runs. Brandon Moore belted a three run homerun in the bottom of the first inning to get things started for the Tigers.

Daniel Hernandez went 3 for 3, had a double in the bottom of the second inning and scored the Tigers' fourth run.

The Tigers scored five runs in the bottom of the third inning when Zach Davis singled on a 3-1 pitch.

J.J. Rivas and Daniel Hernandez singled, and Freshman

Jared Hobbs hit a three-run homerun to make the score, Tigers 9, Natalia, 2.

The Tigers ended the game in the bottom of the sixth inning on a J.J. Rivas two-run homerun to centerfield.

Ladies Spring Fling Golf Tournament

The Fort Clark Ladies Golf Association held their annual Spring Fling Invitational Tournament on March 27th and 28th. The two-day competition event was a two-person scramble.

Winners in the First Flight were Lou Green and Joy Kyle. A tie for second place were the teams of Beth Waller and Rosemary Johnson; and Jane Young and Shirley Stephenson. Cyndi Shaw and Terry Farias came in fourth. Fifth was Hazel Stringer and Peggy Malcom. Mary Stephenson

The final score was Tigers 14, Mustangs, 4. "That was a big game for us, Tigers" Coach Ricky Creel said. Tigers' overall record is 7 wins, 8 losses. District record is 3W-1L.

and Joy Hinkleman rounded out first flight.

The Second Flight was won by Lynn Ebert and Sherri White. Kelly Dennis and Fern Dyer placed second. Third place was won by the team of Jackie Marrs and Teresa Stephens. Marge Maderich and Kay Roberts finished the flight.

A golf bag, which was donated by Budweiser was won by Lou Green. Joy Kyle of Del Rio won a decorated sweatshirt donated by Sherri White.

District Golf coming to a close

By Dave Wilkins
Contributing Writer

Tuesday the Girl's and Boy's Golf Teams competed in the third District Leg at Comfort's new golf course (Buckhorn Golf Course). The students competed very well, both teams shot their lowest team total since district started.

Tigers lose to Comfort

The Brackett Tigers and the Comfort Bobcats battled for first place in District 30-2A.

The Brackett Tigers' district record, 2-0 and Comfort Bobcats' record, 2-0.

John Wylie took the hill for the Brackett Tigers in the top of the first inning and allowed three unearned runs.

"We came out tense at the beginning of the game," Tigers Coach Ricky Creel said.

Haufler, the winning pitcher for the Comfort Bobcats, gave up five runs on nine hits.

The first run came in the bot-

tom of the second inning on a Javier DeLeon single. The next two runs came on a Javier DeLeon single into centerfield.

At the end of three innings, the score was Tigers 3, Bobcats 5. The Bobcats broke it open in the top of the fourth by scoring four runs, a homerun by Sybert and Woerner.

The Tigers' last three runs came in the bottom of the sixth inning on a Brandon Moore single, which made the final score, Tigers 5, Bobcats 9. Comfort took sole possession of first place.

a 421. The Girls Golf Team is going to Regionals! Monday, April 3rd, will decide if they go as District Champs!

The boys are still sitting in third, needing to beat Comfort by 21 strokes to advance to Regionals. Jarrett Harrison shot an 83, Manuel Madrid had an 86, Jacob Hughes turned in an 88, Chase Neuman shot 91, and Jeff Luna had a 102; for a team total of 348. Jourdanton, who is in first shot a 312, and Comfort shot 328. Our Medalists shot very well also. They consisted of: Carl Dalton (92), Elliot Stone (93), Jesse Davis (93), and Sammy Flores (94).

It will be a close finish to an interesting season. These kids have worked hard to improve since last year, and they have done a great job! They walk from 5 to 7 miles, depending on the course, during a tournament carrying a 30 to 50 lb. bag on their back. So come support them Monday at Fort Clark Golf Course. You will see some good golf. The tournament starts at 9:00 am.

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TO ALL CITIZENS OF BRACKETTVILLE

Again it is time to elect a Mayor for the City of Brackettville. J.B. and I have never wanted to get involved in City of Brackettville elections. This time, we strongly support the re-election of Carment M. Berlanga for Mayor.

We bring to your attention the following:

1. Who has served the City of Brackettville for the past eight years with pride, dedication, loyalty, and integrity?
2. Who has helped the City of Spofford for the past eight years fight against a massive toxic land fill?
3. Who helped negotiate and took a strong fair and professional stand on the 50 year Spofford water contract with the City of Brackettville?
4. Who has represented the City of Brackettville with a 99% attendance at all local functions?
5. Who has represented the City of Brackettville with a 99% attendance at all nine county regional meetings as a board member of Middle Rio Grande Development Council?

We can honestly say and truly mean it, Mayor Carmen Berlanga fits all of these categories and even more.

Our hats are off to her! We salute her for being a people's person and a servant of our community!

We urge all citizens to cast your vote for Mayor Carmen Berlanga on May 6th. If it's not broken, don't fix it.

God bless the City of Brackettville and Kinney County.

J.B. and Tootsie Herndon

Paid Pol. Adv., paid for by J.B. and Tootsie Herndon

Texas health officials report decline in number of TB cases

Tuberculosis is an ancient disease that knows no borders.

According to data released recently by the Texas Department of Health, the number of TB cases in Texas declined 9.4 percent in 1999 from the previous year to 1,649.

This decrease continues a downward trend from the recent peak of 2,542 cases reported in 1994. The proportion of those with tuberculosis who are foreign born however, is rising - almost double from 20 percent of those with TB in Texas in 1993 to 39.3 percent in 1999.

"Our large urban areas and several counties along the Texas-Mexico border bear a great burden of tuberculosis," said Dr. William R. Archer, Texas Commissioner of Health.

"Tuberculosis does not exist in isolation. We cannot seal our state's borders. We live in the world community of trade, travel and displaced people and the world's forecast for tuberculosis is deadly without a great coordinated effort."

Dr. Nils Daulaire, president of the Global Health Council, has stated that the effects of health problems transcend nations' borders. "There is no 'them' in global health," he told the 1999 Global Health Council Conference attendees. "Only us. We cannot be a strong world unless we are a healthy world."

While TB is the number one killer in the world - 2 to 3 million people each year accounting for more than one-quarter of all preventable adult deaths in developing countries - the disease in the United States occurs mainly in well-defined risk groups and geographic areas.

"Unfortunately, it is the most difficult cases that are left to treat," said Charles Wallace of TDH's Tuberculosis Elimination Division. "TB carries a stigma. In some cultures, tuberculosis is a bad word and the disease is not discussed. We in Texas face lan-

guage barriers in dealing with TB."

Tuberculosis is a contagious disease, especially damaging to the lungs. People with active TB spread the bacteria through the air when they cough, sneeze or talk. The disease is not usually transmitted on clothing, bedding or other items touched by those with active tuberculosis. But left untreated, each person with active TB may infect up to 15 people a year. Many others are infected with TB but will not get sick or be infectious.

"People may die from tuberculosis or they may remain ill a long time, infecting others," Wallace said. "There is a huge pool of people infected with TB, more than one million in Texas."

Highest risk groups in Texas include people born in a foreign country, substance abusers, those with HIV infection, inmates in correctional facilities, people with diabetes and the homeless.

Symptoms include a persistent cough, fever, weight loss, night sweats, constant tiredness and loss of appetite.

Some people with active tuberculosis will have only mild symptoms. Those with advanced cases may cough up blood. Checks for TB include a tuberculin test to show if a person is infected, chest x-ray to show if the lungs have been damaged, and a sputum test to show TB germs. Stopping or slowing tuberculosis in Texas acts as a firewall for 18 other states, Wallace said, especially among migrant workers. Texas supports a tracking and TB treatment completion project called TB-Net that follows migrant workers from clinic to clinic.

Tuberculosis usually can be cured with a regiment of antibiotics over the course of many months. After about two weeks of treatment, people usually are not infectious. A major problem is the development of multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB), often caused by partial or inconsistent treat-

ment, when patients do not take all their drugs or when they receive the wrong treatment. People with MDR-TB can pass on the same drug-resistant TB germs to others.

One strategy used in Texas to try to prevent MDR-TB from occurring is directly observed therapy or DOT.

With DOT, an outreach or public health worker visits each patient to watch that patient take every dose of TB medicine until the treatment is complete. These treatments may be anywhere from two to 10 times a week, often for months.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that between now and the year 2020, nearly one billion people will be newly infected, 200 million will

get sick and 70 million will die from TB if control is not strengthened.

More than one-third of the world's population is infected with TB. Most of these people are not infectious and will not become sick.

But up to 10 percent may develop tuberculosis during their lifetime. HIV infection in particular, is accelerating the spread of TB. In people with weakened immune systems, TB germs can become active and multiply.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), TB has to be fought globally to protect locally. A report from CDC's Division of Tuberculosis Elimination states "In an era marked by increased international travel and a global

marketplace, no region of the world is immune from outside influences. International collaboration will be essential to eliminate TB. TB does not stop at the U.S. border and neither can prevention efforts."

Several projects along the border with Mexico attempt to address the multi-national problems of tuberculosis.

The international workgroup Ten Against TB includes Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California and six states in Mexico. The goal is to coordinate activities, authority, resources and TB programs on both sides of the border.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is putting \$16 million into the TB fight along the U.S.-Mexico border. This year, \$3 mil-

lion will facilitate binational information exchange systems in six border states.

Another \$13 million will be available between 2001 and 2004. Other binational programs include three projects along the Texas-Mexico border. Juntos Binational Tuberculosis Project includes the sister cities of El Paso and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico; Los Dos Laredos connects Laredo with Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico and McAllen with Reynosa, Tamaulipas.

Binational cooperation results in an openness between Texas and Mexico and a strengthening of local systems," Archer said. "Relationships, friendship and working together will create the change needed for handling tuberculosis."

Jose, Emily favorite names in Texas for booming number of babies born in 1998

Texas residents had more babies in 1998 than in any other year since births were first recorded in the state in 1903, according to the Bureau of Vital Statistics at the Texas Department of Health (TDH). Those 342,199 infants were more likely to be called Jose if a boy and Emily if a girl than by any other names.

These two names lead the list of the 10 most popular names for all Texas children born in 1998, the last year for which complete statistics are available. Those names will likely be around for a while.

Overall life expectancy for a baby born in Texas in 1998 was 76.5 years. A male infant born that year could expect to live 73.5 years while a female infant's life expectancy was 79.5 years. Also, females had a higher life expectancy than male infants in all racial and ethnic groups.

Jose also heads the list of most popular boy names for Hispanic infants, with Jennifer the favorite

for Hispanic girls. Both names were favored in 1997 as well. For African-American babies, the names Jordan and Jasmine were most often selected; for Anglo children, Jacob and Hannah, again the same as in 1997. The list is tabulated using exact spelling of infant names listed on birth certificates.

The previous year, Jose also headed the favorite male list, while Ashley was at the top for all girls, followed by Emily at number two.

Most popular names for all babies born to Texas residents, 1998.

Male: 1st Jose, 2nd Jacob, 3rd Michael, 4th Christopher, 5th Joshua, 6th Matthew, 7th David, 8th Brandon, 9th Jonathan and 10th Daniel.

Females: 1st Emily, 2nd Ashley, 3rd Alexis, 4th Samantha, 5th Sarah, 6th Victoria, 7th Hannah, 8th Jessica, 9th Jennifer and 10th Madison.

Most popular names for His-

panic babies: Male: 1st Jose, 2nd Juan, 3rd Luis, 4th Jonathan, 5th Jesus, 6th Daniel, 7th David, 8th Christopher, 9th Michael and 10th Carlos.

Female: 1st Jennifer, 2nd Samantha, 3rd Ashley, 4th Victoria, 5th Maria, 6th Alexis, 7th Stephanie, 8th Jessica, 9th Alyssa and 10th Vanessa.

Most popular names for Africa-

American babies:

1st Jordan, 2nd Joshua, 3rd Christopher, 4th Michael, 5th Cameron, 6th Anthony and Brandon, 7th Christian, 8th Darius, 9th Isaiah and 10th James.

Female: 1st Jasmine, 2nd Alexis, 3rd Taylor, 4th Destiny, 5th Brianna, 6th Ashley, 7th Kayla, 8th Brittany, 9th Jada and 10th Diamond.

Most popular names for Angelo babies - which includes other and unknown race/ethnicity.

Male: 1st Jacob, 2nd Matthew, 3rd Michael, 4th Joshua, 5th William, 6th Christopher, 7th Austin, 8th Tyler, 9th James and 10th

Zachary.

Female: 1st Hannah, 2nd Emily, 3rd Madison, 4th Sarah, 5th Taylor, 6th Lauren, 7th Ashley, 8th Alexis, 9th Elizabeth and 10th Samantha.

Washington, D.C. discovers Brackettville

Continued from Page 1 meetings in the Palisado Building make up Tuesday's schedule.

The representatives will spend the night at the Ft. Clark Motel and leave for Mexico at 8 a.m. on April 12.

Clarence Ward will accompany the group, who will have two days of meetings and link up with historians flying into Mexico from Washington, D.C. Their goal is to verify the Seminole's residency in Mexico and promote tourism of combined historical landmarks.

Brackettville knows of its importance and it's rewarding to the citizens that Washington, D.C. also recognizes the fact.

NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION CIUDAD)

To the Registered Voters of Brackettville, Texas: (A los votantes registrados del Brackettville, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 06, 2000, for voting in a City election, to Elect Mayor and Three Alderman

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

City Hall in Brackettville, Texas
Edificio Municipal de la Ciudad de Brackettville, Texas

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at (La votación en adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

City Hall/Edificio Municipal de la Ciudad (location) (sitio)
between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on April 19, 2000 (date)
(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el 19 de Abril, 2000 (fecha))

and ending on May 02, 2000 (date)
(y terminando el 2 de Mayo, 2000 (fecha))

Additional early voting will be held at the same location as follows: (La votación en adelantada además se llevará a cabo en el mismo sitio de tal manera:)

Date (Fecha)	Hours (Horas)
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)

David G. Luna (Name of Early Voting Clerk) (Nombre del Secretario de la Votación En Adelantada)
P. O. Box 526 (Address) (Dirección)
Brackettville, Texas 78832 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Recommended but not required

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 28, 2000/28 de Abril, 2000 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 15 day of February, 2000
(Emitida este día 15 de Febrero, 2000)

David G. Luna
Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)
Mayor/Alcalde

*If early voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of early voting, delete this part.

NOTICE OF BOARD ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION DIRECTIVA)

To the Registered Voters of Kinney County, Texas: (A los votantes registrados del Condado Kinney, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 6, 2000, for voting in a School Board election, to elect two trustees

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

Brackett ISD Central Office, 400 S. Ann Street, Brackettville
Escuela ISD Brackett en la oficina central por la calle 400 S. Ann, Brackettville

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at (La votación en adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

Brackett ISD Central Office Escuela ISD Brackett en la oficina central (location) (sitio)
between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning on April 19, 2000 (date)
(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 4:00 de la tarde empezando el 19 de abril, 2000 (fecha))

and ending on May 2, 2000 (date)
(y terminando el 2 de mayo, 2000 (fecha))

Additional early voting will be held at the same location as follows: (La votación en adelantada además se llevará a cabo en el mismo sitio de tal manera:)

Date (Fecha)	Hours (Horas)
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Susan A. Esparza (Name of Early Voting Clerk) (Nombre del Secretario de la Votación En Adelantada)
PO Box 586 (Address) (Dirección)
Brackettville, TX 78832 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Recommended but not required

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 28, 2000 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el) 28 de abril, 2000 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 4th day of April, 2000
(Emitida este día 4 de abril, 2000)

Doris Brown
Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)

*If early voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of early voting, delete this part.

Outdoors

State officials urge Turkey hunters to be wary of ticks

A little on the Wildlife side
By Henry Lutz

AUSTIN, Texas — Unwary turkey hunters could carry more than a trophy gobbler out of the woods this spring. State officials are urging anyone spending time afield in the months ahead to take precautions against disease-carrying ticks.

"Millions of outdoor enthusiasts head afield in Texas each year," said Bryan Richards, a wildlife biologist with TPW who contracted Lyme disease in Wisconsin several years ago.

"While the exact number of tick-borne illnesses in humans is unknown, it is probably less than one thousand per year. It's not a reason to stay home, but it is a reason to become informed and take reasonable precautions, which is what we're advocating here."

"With common sense and diligence, you can have a safe time outdoors in Texas."

A bite from an infected tick can cause illnesses such as Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever and human ehrlichiosis. Ticks are especially prevalent in wooded, brushy and grassy areas.

"Turkey hunting increases your chances of exposure to ticks. Hunters are walking through the woods and sitting for extended periods on the ground up against a tree," added Richards. "Awareness and precaution are a hunter's two greatest allies."

According to the Texas Department of Health (TDH), Lyme disease is the most frequently diagnosed tick-borne disease in the nation and in Texas, with more than 1,680 possible cases reported in this state since 1990.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that can cause severe skin, joint, heart and nervous system problems if it is not diagnosed and treated early. Named after the town of Lyme, Conn., where it was first described in 1976, the disease usually begins with flu-like

symptoms such as fatigue, headache, fever, stiff neck and joint pain.

Occasionally there may be skin lesions or rashes, usually in the shape of a bulls-eye spreading outward from the site of the tick bite.

Julie Rawlings of the Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance Division at TDH points to the Lone Star tick, common throughout the southern and central United States, as one to watch for.

"In Texas, this is the tick likely to carry diseases," she said. "People usually are infected April through June, months when the Lone Star tick is most active."

Richards noted that Lone Star ticks, especially the nymphal stage ticks which are active in the spring, are much smaller than common dog and cattle ticks and can go unnoticed without careful inspection. In their larval and nymphal stages, they are no big-

ger than a pinhead. Adult ticks are slightly larger.

"Ticks can attach to any part of the human body but often attach to the more hidden and hairy areas such as the groin, beltline, ankles, armpits and scalp."

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) research in the eastern United States indicates that, for the most part, ticks transmit Lyme disease to humans during the nymphal stage, probably because nymphs are more likely to feed on a person and are rarely noticed because of their small size, less than 2 millimeters or 1/12 inch.

Thus, the nymphs typically have ample time to feed and transmit the infection. Ticks are most likely to transmit infection after two or more days of feeding, but are capable of transmitting disease organisms within a few hours.

Next week we will look at prevention and what to do if you are bitten by a tick.

Superintendent gives Rotarians overview of school budget

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer



Visiting Rotarian Michael Hall.

Superintendent Taylor Stephenson presented the program for the weekly luncheon meeting on March 30. He presented an overview of the Brackett ISD budget and called our attention to the major problems confronting the district for the school year 2000-2001.

The district is appealing the local value assigned by the State Comptroller which is \$93,389,222, a figure Stephenson believes to be based on inaccurate information. The district would lose \$375,000 next year if the appeal is not won.

Another problem is the cost of insurance which has skyrocketed. Despite the district providing \$100 per month (raised \$15 a month this year), the cost of insurance is about \$160,000 a month which puts it out of the range of affordability for most of the lower paid employees.

Stephenson reported that the March figures on enrollment were 399 in Jones Elementary (PK-6), 94 in Brackett Middle School (junior high) which consists of grades 7 and 8, and 188 students are in Brackett High School (grades 9-12). Thirteen students attend Alternative School in Academic Recovery. Special Education stu-

dents include 43 in elementary, 31 in middle school and 38 are in high school, 5 of these are in Alternative School academic recovery.

Fifty-five students are in the ESL (English as a second language) program, most of whom are in grades K-3.

Stephenson reviewed various federal and state programs which provide money for different areas.

Visiting Rotarian Michael Hall was introduced and spoke briefly about his background and his impressions of Fort Clark Springs and Brackettville, especially the school system. Hall has come here as an applicant for the job of High School principal. His home is in Brush, Colo., but this past year he has served as principal in a high school in California near

Continued on Page 10

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Saturday, March 25
6:24 PM, Local residents phoned to report an accident involving a vehicle on Highway 90 West. Sheriff deputies and troopers investigated and found out that the driver of the vehicle apparently hit a deer. No one was injured.

Tuesday, March 28
6:53 AM, A local resident reported that there was a two-vehicle accident on West Spring Street. Deputies investigated and found that the accident involved a truck and a car. There were no injuries.

10:30 AM, A local resident reported damages to a residence behind Wainwright 14 in Fort Clark Springs.

Vandals removed a panel from an air conditioning unit and broke the freon line, and also damaged a window screen. Estimated damage: \$300.

8:02 PM, Deputy Guidry reported that the west door of the Civic Center was open. The door was secured at 8:13 PM.

Wednesday, March 29
Midnight, A local resident reported loud music being played in the neighborhood. Source of loud music was notified and volume was lowered.

Thursday, March 30
7:30 AM, A sick skunk was reported in the area and disposed of by deputies. Texas Department of Health officials were notified and suggested that blood samples from the animal be taken and tested.

6:15 PM, A local woman reported that her husband tried to choke her, her husband denied it. The woman said her husband had gotten upset after she asked him for the car keys. He told her that if she wanted to go anywhere to walk, because he didn't want her to get any more traffic tickets. No charges were filed on either party.

Friday, March 31
1 AM, Someone found a small black duffle bag containing an empty red case for glasses, a gray T-shirt, a pair of blue running pants, 1 pair of black sandals, miscellaneous papers and a makeup case. The bag was found near the gymnasium and brought to the sheriff's office.

8:14 AM, A minor accident occurred at Pico's parking lot. There were no injuries.

2:58 PM, A local resident reported that a motorist was driving fast and weaving in and out of traffic.

6:25 PM, A goat and some

cows were sighted roaming about on Highway 90 West. The cows were accounted for, but it was not known who the goat's owner was.

7 PM, A local man said his mother is holding on to some property that belongs to him. Deputies were sent to investigate. At 7:20 p.m. he went to the man's house and the man said his mother had some VCR tapes that belonged to him. He said that he had already given her a washer and dryer. The mother said she would give everything back. Judge Ford said he would speak with the two and made arrangements for the son to pick up his belongings.

Saturday, April 1
8:00 AM, Reports that the weight room at the high school had been broken into turned out to be erroneous.

Sunday, April 2
10:15 AM, Jose Luis Riojas, 21, of Christoval, Texas, was arrested for Public Intoxication.

Riojas was released the following day for time served plus \$100 fine.

10:15 AM, Kathy Burton Killiam, 41, of San Angelo, was arrested for Public Intoxication. Burton was released the following day for time served plus \$100.

10:15 AM, Tammy Michelle Hayes, 33, of Christoval, Texas, was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Possession of Marijuana (first offense). She posted bond and was released the next day.

10:15 AM, Ted Billy Killiam, 53, of San Angelo was arrested for Public Intoxication. He was released the next day for time served and \$100.

Monday, April 3
11:15 AM, A local resident complained about a neighbor's black dog continues to pay visits to her yard. She said she was concerned about baby lambs in her yard being attacked by the dog. The dog's owner was contacted.

Please Remember that we attempt to include something for everyone within the pages of our paper. We realize that some folks enjoy finding fault and for those readers we thoughtfully include a socially acceptable number of errors within our publication.

WANTED ALIVE VOTERS April 11 VOTE FRANCI WYLIE

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Responsible Representation
Pd. Pol. Adv. by Francie Wylie

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ACTIVE STAFF SPECIALISTS

Regular office hours.
Bezerra, Herminio, M.D. International Medicine.....278-7105
Bitar, Jamil, M.D. Internal Medicine & Cardiology.....591-1294
Box, Gloria G., M.D. Orthopedic Surgeon.....278-2292
Carpinteyro, Ralph, M.D. Internal Medicine.....278-6681
Flanders, Barry, M.D. Radiologist.....278-6251
Gatonde, G.V., M.D. Surgery.....278-4568
Garza, Steve R., M.D. Family Practice/OB.....278-4453
Guajardo, Frank, D.O. Family Practice 108.....278-1494
Lewis, Brandon J., M.D. Family Practice.....278-4426
Lutton, Richard B., M.D. Family Practice/OB.....278-4453
Mazloum, Bassem W., M.D. Internal Medicine & Gastroenterology.....278-8096
Preddy, John, D.O. Family Practice/OB.....278-7101
Shah, Jayesh B., M.D. Internal Medicine.....591-1955
Shudde, John L., M.D. Family Practice.....278-3118
Sosa, Isaac, M.D. Internal Medicine.....278-6265
Utterback, Carl, M.D. Family Practice/OB.....278-4588
Watkins, Harry O., M.D. Surgery.....278-3213

OTHER SPECIALISTS

1042 GARNER FIELD ROAD
Dr. Arlo Terry - (Every Tues.) Ophthalmologist.....(830) 278-9465
Dr. Christine Truitt - (4/13, 4/27) Neurologist.....(210) 614-3959
Dr. Matthew Mossbacher - (4/6) Rheumatologist.....(210) 690-8067
Dr. Rodolfo Molina - (4/20) Rheumatologist.....(210) 690-8067
Dr. Joshua Goldman - Every Mon. Neurologist.....(830)-773-5358
Novacare - Every Thurs. Orthotics/Prosthetics.....(210) 227-2471

APRIL OUT-PATIENT CLINIC CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Dr. Sammy Vick UROLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430	4 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020	5 Dr. Stephen Miller DERMATOLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430 Dr. Elizabeth Parten PSYCHIATRIST (830) 816-2251 Dr. Moises Bucay CARDIOLOGIST (210) 614-5400	6 Dr. George Swanson OTOLARYNGOLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430 Dr. L. Prasad Vemulapalli CARDIOLOGIST (830) 278-6251 Ext. 1430	7 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020 Dr. David Dean NEUROSURGEON (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430
10 Dr. Sammy Vick UROLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430	11 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020 Dr. Hjalmar Contreras PODIATRIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430	12 Dr. Fernando Triana CARDIOLOGIST (210) 614-5400	13 Dr. Mark Weinstein DERMATOLOGIST (830) 278-6251 Ext. 1430	14 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020 Dr. Teresa Hospers PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGIST 1-800-697-7008
17 Dr. Sammy Vick UROLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430 Dr. Catherine Rezendes PODIATRIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430	18 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020 Dr. Jerry Kruse UROLOGIST (830)-278-6251 Ext. 1430	19 Dr. Stephen Miller DERMATOLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430 Dr. Moises Bucay CARDIOLOGIST (210) 614-5400 Dr. Elizabeth Parten PSYCHIATRIST (830) 816-2251	20 Dr. George Swanson OTOLARYNGOLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430 Dr. L. Prasad Vemulapalli CARDIOLOGIST (830) 278-6251 Ext. 1430	21 Good Friday!
24 Dr. Sammy Vick UROLOGIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430 Dr. James Simpson PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGIST 1-800-242-0008	25 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020 Dr. Catherine Rezendes PODIATRIST (830) 278-6251, Ext. 1430	26 Dr. Fernando Triana CARDIOLOGIST (210) 614-5400 Dr. Charles Machell CARDIAC PACING/ ELECTRO PHYSIOLOGIST (210) 614-5400	27 Dr. Mark Weinstein DERMATOLOGIST (830) 278-6251 Ext. 1430 Dr. Joel Rutman NEUROLOGY/EPILEPSY 1-888-606-5353	28 Dr. Sanjiv Kumar OPHTHAMOLOGIST (830) 278-2020

Heritage Program for Senior Adults
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830-278-8144

Out-Patient Specialty Clinic
1021 Garner Field Road
(830) 278-6251 Ext. 430

UMH Health Care Clinics
Uvalde
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Sabinal
(830) 988-2985

Emergency Department
(830) 278-6251

Hyperbaric Center
(Wound-Care Therapy)
(830) 278-6251, Ext. 377

Rehabilitation
Occupational, Physical & Speech Therapy
(830) 278-6251, Ext. 310

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63x63 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-65.

ACROSS

- 1. Init., on an F-117
5. Was overly fond of
10. Arch
14. The Little Prince
15. Poe family-name for short
16. Show fear
17. Walked
18. Tableau
19. Sometimes-bearded flower
20. Bled
21. Death row reprieve
22. Chair back ornaments
24. More irate
26. Sacred song
27. Quayle's st.
28. Humdrum one
29. Oola's Alley
32. Natives of Oulu
35. Health club amenity
36. All-terrain vehicle, for short
37. Open-mouthed
38. Cohere
39. "Diving the Wreck" (Adrienne Rich)
40. Ending for king or bore
41. Grace under pressure
42. "Rocket Man" singer John

DOWN

- 1. Word on bottles of concentrated detergent
2. Plastic wrap brand
3. Amid
4. Provided sustenance
5. Did a cleaning job
6. Tony's cousin?
7. The Harder Fall
8. Dusk, to a poet
9. Thanksgiving menu standard
10. Overflow
11. Dominant
12. Hit the runway
13. Costner's Untouchables role
21. Iniquities
23. Bear with a hard bed
25. Love token
26. Dried plum
28. Web-footed Disney heroine
30. Name of four Holy Roman emperors
31. Day laborer
32. Fashion passions
33. The Munsters' pet bat
34. Places on the ballot
35. Skid
38. Gives the nod
39. Maladies
41. Wrangler's pal
42. Elver's parents
45. Jane's Frasier role
47. Extraordinary things
48. Archie Bunker, e.g.
49. Wait
50. Lions' prides
51. Begin's Camp David partner
52. Sate
53. Artifice
54. Taylor of Ransom
58. Water, to Pierre
59. Take the gold

The male midwife toad, a small European toad, fastens a bunch of eggs laid by a female toad to his legs and carries them until they hatch.

You Can Make It http://www.craftpatterns.com Image of wooden planter boxes.

It is a simple job to build these attractive planter boxes. Plans show how to use standard-size boards to construct the planters in three different sizes. The short planter is 18" high, the medium-size planter is 24" high and the tall planter is 30" high. (#1029-H...\$10.95 plus \$3.75 shipping charge).

CRAFT PATTERNS Home Workshop, Dept. R5V 3545 Stern Avenue, St. Charles, IL 60174-5407 Mail payment or call 24-hour order line: 1-800-747-1429

- 1029-H Deck Planter Trio Plan...\$14.70
98 "You Can Make It" Catalog...\$4.00 (Shows hundreds of plans & books plus \$4.00 rebate offer)

IL residents add 6.5% sales tax - prices include delivery charges Name: Address: City: State: Zip:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY April 6...Martha Anderson April 6...Judy Blankenship April 6...Norma Cruz April 6...Julia Terrazas April 6...Maria Villarreal April 7...Toady Fritter April 7...Ruby Gooch April 7...John Mark Ingram April 7...Concepcion Jimenez April 8...Jose Cervantes April 8...Lee R. McEntire Jr. April 8...Maria Elisa Ramos April 8...Bob Rowe April 8...Flora Thaxton April 9...Maria Pena April 10...Lily Schwandner April 10...William J. Zwart April 11...Granville Griffin April 11...Amber Haag April 12...Peter Pacheco April 12...Maria Lydia Ramos April 12...Marion Wills

Shiny metal pans are better for cake-baking because they reflect the heat away from the cake, thus producing a light, tender crust.

HOROSCOPES

Aries March 21- April 20
Deadlines. Deadlines. Deadlines. They haunt you night and day. You can get through this time and get things done on time. Focus on your home life. You cannot allow family problems to get out of control. Depend on the support of a friend.
Taurus April 21-May 21
Make sure you understand everything thoroughly before you agree to or sign any contract. You can't always depend on someone else's advice. The numbers two and eight will play a very interesting role in your immediate future.
Gemini May 22-June 21
Take time to meditate, plan and make sound decisions. You don't want to rush into anything without having all the facts first. Take comfort in the colors of the sea. Visiting a body of water will help you take the right steps.
Cancer June 22-July 22
A defensive attitude is not going to make anything better for you at work. Own up to the problems if they are yours. If not, help find a solution to them. Search your soul for some insight into a family predicament. You can be of help.
Leo July 23-August 23
You are held in high esteem by friends and colleagues alike. Don't take advantage of the situation though. Think about taking some time away from work to devote to an elderly relative. Someone is very lonely and needs your company.
Virgo August 24-Sept. 22
Slow down your pace a little. It's time you took a long overdue vacation. You may be surprised how a change of scenery could help you reach unexpected heights. Clarify a financial situation before you get too involved.
Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Don't be too hard on yourself. After all, things may not be what they seem. Meditation may strengthen your faith and the confidence you have in yourself and those around you. Avoid any confrontation at all costs.
Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Take advantage of your friendliness. It may surprise you how many problems are solved with kindness and just a little understanding. You may find yourself drawn to the clear color of the sky as it works to relax your inner being.
Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Get back to basics before it is too late. A camping trip would be a wonderful getaway. Problems have been known to dissipate over the flames of a campfire. Rely on your independent spirit to help you work out a successful plan.
Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Intuition will serve you well this week. Listen carefully. Focus on the number seven. It's going to be key to you getting your job done on time. A grouchy neighbor will be working hard toward ruining some of your plans. Smile in his/her face.
Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
The numbers two and six will swim in and out of your life. Watch for them. They will work for you in surprising ways. Just the thought of them should bring you some serenity. Be open-minded to some worthy changes.
Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
Your week will be highlighted by a spiritual awakening. You'll feel renewed. Be realistic about your future goals. Promote others' ideas and causes, and you will find that others will work harder for yours. After all, you are on the same side.

Be an ambassador of peace Thy word is true from the beginning

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charolette Corey

It is your job to be an ambassador of peace and let God be God. Do not let the cares of this world overtake you, but "in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, make known your request to God, and the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6-7, read on through verse 9). We are to keep (or take good care of) our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus, therefore we must choose to act like him.

He has given us the power to do so through the shedding of his blood, the final sacrifice. (2 Cor. 5:18-20; Eph 6:12-18; Heb. 12:14-15; John 8:7,10-12; Col 3:12-17; Gal. 5:22-23) Hebrews 10:12-13 says of Jesus "...after he

had offered one sacrifice for sins forever sat down at the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool."

The blood of Jesus is more important and more powerful than a "blood feud". Yes, the word of God tells us that "Thou shalt not kill" or more precisely "Thou shalt not murder" (Matt. 5:21, read also verse 22). It is the courts job to determine a murderer's sentence, not yours. If you choose to hate, you will only be punishing yourself and setting an example for your children to learn wrong choices. By choosing to hate, you pass on the curses which fall on people who hate other people. Pray for those who must make decisions in a court of law, that they make their judgments according to God's word, remembering that God shows us mercy.

You can hate the sin, but not the sinner. We are commanded to love (agape love, unconditionally love) all, all, all people. (Mark 12:33 Gal. 5:14-15). There are no exceptions. This does not mean it is easy, it is simply a matter of choice. If you humble yourself before God, he will heal your broken heart. (Psalm 34:18). He will restore what the devil has stolen from you (usually in an unexpected way). (John 10:10, Joel 2:24-25)

Be wise in the wisdom of God, not the wisdom of "the world". (1 Cor. 1:19-25) Break family curses that continue to spread hate, unforgiveness, murder, and revenge by choosing to forgive in the name of Jesus. In so doing you bring upon yourself God's blessings, not the curses. Live your life as an ambassador of peace. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

St. John's Missionary Church
Pastor William P. Adams Sr.

I cried with my whole heart. Hear me, O Lord; I will keep thy statutes.

I cried unto thee, save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies. I anticipated the dawning of the morning and cried; I hope in Thy word.

Mine eyes anticipate the night watches, that I might meditate in Thy word.

Hear my voice, according unto thy loving kindness; O Lord, revive me, according to thy judgments.

They draw nigh that follow after mischief, they are far from thy law.

Thou art near, O Lord and all thy commandments are truth.

Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them forever.

Consider mine affliction, and deliver me; for I do not forget thy law.

Plead my cause and deliver me; revive me according to thy Word.

Salvation is far from the wicked; for they seek not thy statutes.

Great are thy tender mercies, O Lord; revive me according to thine judgments.

Many are my persecutors and

mine enemies; yet I do not decline from thy testimonies.

I beheld the transgressions and was grieved, because they kept not thy word.

Consider how I love thy pre-

cepts; revive me, O Lord, according to thy loving kindness.

Thy word is true from the beginning and everyone of thy righteous judgments endureth forever. Amen. Psalms 119:145-160.

NEW JERUSALEM TEMPLE CHURCH

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Services every Sunday
except 2nd Sunday of the month
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Morning Service 11:30 a.m.
Missionary Worship every 3rd Thursday 5:30 p.m.
830-563-9468 Pastor Rudy Goodloe

LAS MORAS MASONIC LODGE
meets the 2nd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.
School of Instruction meets every Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Visiting Brothers are Welcome

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On the corner of Fort and Henderson
Sunday Schedule
Worship 9AM
Sunday School 10:15 to 11:00 AM
Wednesday Bible study in Sanctuary 7:00 PM
Pastor: Nathan Lafrenz 830-591-1614

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman
Sunday Schedule:
Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - Childrens Church 11 a.m. nursery provided
Choir all ages 4:30 p.m.
Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.
Wednesdays 7 p.m.
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
Bus and Church information call church office at 563-2245
Pastor: R. D. Holloway

Welcome!

Church of Christ

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

Usefulness is not impaired by imperfection

St. Mary Magdalene
By Lynn McNew

I must admit I have never heard of Greta K. Nagel, but I recently read a quote attributed to her. I am going to repeat it here, because it really struck a note with me. Ms. Nagel says, "Usefulness is not impaired by imperfection. You can drink from a chipped cup."

This made me stop and think about how useful I am to others, but more importantly how I treat others who want to be useful to me. People frequently ask me if they can help with the various projects I am involved in. Some of the time I willingly give them a job to do, but I often find myself saying, "Oh, thanks, but I can do it."

I am really being unfair to the people who ask to help. Indirectly, I am saying to them that they are not as capable as I am to do this job. In truth, they would probably do a better job and would certainly bring new ideas to the project. Remembering last week's column and in fairness to me, I sometimes just want to complete the project myself.

We have all probably experienced giving someone a job and it was not completed for whatever reason. When this happens we need to pick up the pieces and do the best we can. Then we have to ask ourselves why the project wasn't completed: Did the other person have too much to do? Did I make my expectations clear? Did I have preset ideas of what I thought the results should be?

Or do I give the volunteer the project and then stand-back and let them do it their own way? Will it be done exactly as I would have done it? Probably not, but will I give the other person the satisfaction of participating in the project? Probably so, and that is what volunteering is all about.

After my accident, when I needed the help of other people, I thought I would never forget how important it is to accept help. Now that I am "back on my feet" I seem to be back in my old mind-set. I seem to forget how important it is to let others do things, to be involved.

This week I will try to be more in tune with those who volunteer to help me. If you ask if I need

your help, please don't accept no for an answer. Help me remember that you have useful hands, feet and ideas.

You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. God. Bless You.

He who loves his life loses it

First United Methodist Church
By Rev. Ken F. Sellers Jr.

On a daily basis, we all risk ourselves as we leave the comfort and safety of our homes behind and journey into the world.

Maybe we are going to work or to the store or to visit someone just to admire God's handiwork. Depending on where and how you live, this journey is not only an adventure but a dangerous one.

We are made aware by the media of the many hazards awaiting us in the world - traffic accidents, robberies, shootings, drugs, disease, kids killing kids, friends killing friends, family members killing each other, etc.

Around every corner, in every city, town and village, the things we fear may cause our death are an ever-present reality.

So, why go out at all? Why not just hole up in our fortress homes, live in solitary and not take risks?

Well, physical survival requires the sustenance of food and water. For the economic means to physically survive, we need to earn money. In addition, there is evidence to suggest that one cannot physically survive entirely alone in this world. There seems to be little option but to brave the

hazards and journey forth in fear toward that death which awaits in one form or another.

Jesus' words in John 12:25 help us. He says, "He who loves his life (fears for the loss of life) loses it; and he who hates his life in the world (knows a life without fear follows the worldly life) shall keep it (life without fear) to life eternal."

These words from Jesus come early in Holy Week according to the gospel writer, when Jesus is anticipating his death on the cross and his subsequent resurrection. This passage is coupled with these words, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; but if it dies, it bears fruit." (John 12:24, New American Standard Bible).

The fear of the loss of life is human and very real to all of us. So, the question arises, "Why have we been created and placed here by God if the only result, whether an untimely agony or at the end of long life, is just to die?" Come join us at First United Methodist Church on Sunday at 10:45 a.m. as we examine, "The Purpose of Life."

\$1,000 grand prize in Celestial Arts poetry contest

A \$1,000.00 grand prize is being offered in a new poetry contest sponsored by Celestial Arts, free to everyone. A whopping \$25,000.00 in prizes will be awarded during the coming year! "Even if you have never entered a competition before," says Poetry Editor Michael Thomas, "this is an opportunity to win big. Even if you have written only one

poem it deserves to be read and appreciated. Beginners are welcome!"

To enter send one original poem on any subject, using any style, to: Free Poetry Contest, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd., PMB4, Ashland, or 97520. Or enter on line at www.freecontest.com.

Be sure your poem is 21 lines or less and your name and address appear on the page with your poem. The deadline for entering is May 8, 2000.

BISD

Activity Calendar

April 6-12, 2000
Thursday, April 6
JV Baseball
Del Rio (H),
6:30 p.m.
District Advisory Committee meeting, 3:45 p.m.
Track, District
Friday, April 7
End of 5th 6 weeks!
V Baseball District Center Point (T)
Girls Softball V Natalia (A) 4:30 p.m.
Jones Elementary Parenting Session, 6-7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 8
JV Baseball
Del Rio (H) 12-2 p.m.
Monday, April 10
Board of trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Girls Softball JV Eagle Pass (H) 5 p.m.
National Volunteer Week
Tuesday, April 11
V Baseball District Jourdanton (H) 7:30 p.m.
1st Grade Field Trip to 777 Ranch
Girls Softball V District D-Hanis (A) 4:30 p.m.
National Volunteer Week TAAS (Elem.)
Safety tip of the week:
Label containers properly to avoid accidental poisoning or mixing of chemicals.

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AS WE JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH HOLY WEEK, APRIL 16-23

In order to better experience the fullness of Easter, we are going to become followers of Jesus as he enters Jerusalem in preparation for the Passover feast. We will be looking at the scriptures through the eyes of those in His company who did not know what was to come. It promises to be an eye-opening journey. Each day, the Scripture study will be presented twice.

- April 16 Palm Sunday - 10:45 a.m., A PALM PROCESSION to begin worship. 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., Scripture study - Mark 11:1-11; IT'S SUNDAY. JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM, THE CITY THAT KILLS PROPHETS.
- April 17 Noon and 5:30 p.m., Scripture study - Matthew 21:18-27, 22:15-23:39; IT'S MONDAY. JESUS CONFRONTS HIS CRITICS.
- April 18 Noon and 5:30 p.m., Scripture study - Mark 14:1-9; IT'S TUESDAY; JESUS IS ANOINTED BY A STRANGER WHOSE NAME IS FORTGOTTEN, BUT NOT HER DEED.
- April 19 Noon and 5:30 p.m., Scripture study - Luke 21:10-22:6; IT'S WEDNESDAY. JESUS SPEAKS OF THE FUTURE AND JUDAS CUTS A DEAL.
- April 20 Noon and 5:00 p.m., Scripture study - John 13:1-17 and 31B-35; IT'S THURSDAY, THE DAY OF THE PASSOVER FEAST. JESUS WASHES THE FEET OF THE DISCIPLES AND SPEAKS OF A NEW COMMANDMENT. 6:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday worship service, EXPERIENCING THE LAST SUPPER.
- April 21 Noon and 5:00 p.m. "THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS," a study of Jesus' words from the cross. 6 p.m., Good Friday, TENEBRAE worship service.
- April 23 7:00 a.m., Community Sunrise Worship Service presented by The Church Alliance of Brackettville at the Amphitheater in Fort Clark Springs. 10:45 a.m., "SONRISE" worship service for Easter Sunday.

EASTER MAY NEVER BE THE SAME FOR YOU AGAIN!

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U	S	A	F	D	O	T	E	D	S	P	A	N
L	A	M	E	U	S	H	E	R	P	A	L	E
T	R	O	D	S	C	E	N	E	I	R	I	S
R	A	N	S	T	A	Y	S	P	L	A	T	S
A	N	G	R	I	E	R	P	S	A	L	M	
I	N	D	D	R	I	P	O	O	P			
F	I	N	N	S	S	A	U	N	A	U	T	E
A	G	O	G	C	L	I	N	G	I	N	T	O
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G	R	A	N	D	E	L	I	P	S	B	A	
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U	S	E	R	T	A	L	O	N	I	D	E	A
T	E	S	S	S	U	I	T	E	N	E	S	T

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Rotarians briefed on school budget

Continued from Page 7

Los Angeles. He has been looking for a small town where students come from environments different from the city. As a school principal, he has focused on discipline, and his aim is to help students develop their potential.

One thing that has appealed to him about Brackettville (besides its excellent school system and the community's interest and support of its schools) was the dry climate. In Colorado, his home, he had developed sinus trouble that threatened his voice. He is a musician who once tried out for the Metropolitan Opera. He has always maintained an interest in singing and in theater. In fact, he commented that the upstairs room where Rotary meets at Las Moras Inn would be ideal for dinner theater. Several Rotarians who happen to be members of "Voices" and other groups devoted to the Arts, quickly expressed the desire that he and his family come here to stay.

Among his many interests is history. That was his major in college and he was delighted when Frank Cheaney offered to take him on a guided tour of the Fort Clark Museum.

Hall's wife and two high school-aged children are living in Colorado since she has a work commitment she needs to fulfill before joining him where he settles.

The Brackett News

FAX IT FAST!!!

\$2 for the first page, \$1 for each page thereafter.

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