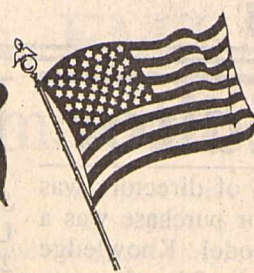


The Brackett News



Have a safe and happy Fourth of July!

12th year, No. 21

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

City gears up to celebrate 4th Parade, ceremony, dance scheduled

Kinney County's Fourth of July celebration will start at 7 a.m. with an all day volleyball tournament. Also planned is a parade that will begin at 9 a.m. at the Alternative School on North Ann Street.



Parade grand marshals will be veterans of World War II. A ceremony is planned after the parade in the courtyard to honor World War II veterans and veterans of

all wars. Lt. Col. Star Smith from Laughlin Air Force Base will be the guest speaker. There will be a flyover during this time.

Food, crafts and game booths will be set up near the city swimming park.

Music will be played throughout the day by Eric Williams of Del Rio who will also be the disc jockey during the street dance that will begin at 9 p.m.

The day will end at midnight with fireworks. Residents are encouraged to enjoy the fun, bring your lawn chairs and if anyone wants to shoot off fireworks, they may do so under the direction of the Brackettville Fire Department.

Sponsors of the July 4th celebration are Las Moras Hispanic Organization, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Boy Scouts, Fort Clark Springs, the Little League Association, Youth Group, the Seminole Indians and the Brackettville Fire Department.

Booths are still available for \$20 each. Persons interested in renting a booth may call Sarita Villarreal at 563-3420. Persons wanting information about the parade may call Augusta Pines at 563-9979 and about the volleyball tournament, Julia Terrazas at 563-2252 or Alma Gutierrez at 563-3139.

Track field near Highway 334 designated as fireworks location

Submitted by Ron Ring Brackettville Police Chief

Brackettville City Ordinance No. 1998-04-14 prohibits the sale, offering for sale and the use or discharge of fireworks within the city limits of Brackettville.

Any violation of this ordinance can and will result in the issuance of a citation that is finable for up to \$200.

Understanding that many citizens enjoy shooting off fireworks to celebrate our nation's Independence Day, together with the Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department and the Brackett Independent School District, the City Council has designated the bonfire area at the track field on Highway 334 as a fireworks location.

In other words, if you would like to shoot off fireworks this July 4th, the above mentioned location is the only place it will be permissible.

This designated area will be open from 8 p.m. until midnight Tuesday, July 4.

The display of any fireworks at any other location within the city limits is illegal and persons caught will be cited and fined.

Any questions concerning this announcement or the City Ordinance pertaining to the use of fireworks may be directed to Police Chief Ring at 563-9188.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated; have a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Skyrockets with sticks, missiles with fins banned in unincorporated areas

Certain fireworks are restricted in unincorporated areas of Kinney County.

Those restricted fireworks are classified as "skyrockets with sticks" and "missiles with fins."

No person may sell, detonate, ignite or in any way use certain restricted fireworks in any portion of the unincorporated areas of the county.

Violators will commit a Class C Misdemeanor and may be fined as much as \$500.

Fireworks not prohibited under this Order are common fireworks, small in size classified as Class C explosives and large firework devices designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation and classified as Class B explosives.

A person commits an offense if he or she sells or intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly detonates, ignites, or in any way uses fireworks on a county road or in the right-of-way on a county road.



A present for dad

Shelby Schuster and Clint Dorrell, both age 4, work on a project to give to their dad. The youngsters participated in a Fun with Crafts class at the Kinney County Library recently. Shelby, Clint and other youngsters in the class decorated pieces of wood with different colored buttons and bottlecaps. Adults helped the kids by gluing on the items. The finished product was a plaque/key holder for dad to hang up. (Photo by Diana Gonzales)

Elusive motorist caught

An elusive motorist was apprehended last Thursday morning near Ellen Street about three hours after he was sighted speeding on Highway 90.

Artemio Vasquez II, 27, of San Antonio, was arrested by a Kinney County Sheriff's deputy and was charged with evading arrest, driving while license suspended and theft of more than \$20,000 but less than \$100,000, a third degree felony. He is still in custody.

The sheriff's report showed that at 9:13 p.m. Thursday, June 22, a DPS trooper requested assistance in pursuing the driver of a vehicle who failed to obey the trooper's signal to stop. The motorist had slowed down but had turned the vehicle in the opposite direction twice with the trooper in pursuit. At one time, the motorist's vehicle faced the trooper's car head-on and the headlights made it possible for the trooper to see the man's face. The motorist then sped into a nearby pasture. A Sheriff's Deputy met the trooper at a local ranch where they continued to search for the driver and the vehicle.



This wrecked vehicle was found on a local ranch abandoned by a motorist who was sighted speeding on Highway 90.

They also made sure residents of the ranch were safe. The deputy was then asked to patrol Highway 90 and look out for the vehicle. Later, at the ranch, the trooper and a Border Patrol agent found the vehicle, which was wrecked. At 12:15 a.m. June 23, the deputy noticed a man who was

walking near Highway 90 and Ellen street. The man told the deputy he was waiting for a friend to pick him up. The deputy informed the trooper who came to the location. He checked the man's boot prints and determined that they matched the ones found at the local ranch.

Herndon urges residents to help protect environment, water supply

Contributed by Frances McMaster

The guest speaker for the Rotary Club on June 20 was Tootsie Herndon from Spofford. Mrs. Herndon is well known in Kinney County for devoting her time, energy and willpower to preventing Texcor from building a radioactive dump one-half mile from the city of Spofford in 1988 which would have threatened the well being of the surrounding areas. As

Ms. Herndon said, "After a long, hard struggle, lots of work, thousands of dollars and with the help of people from all walks of life, different groups and organizations, as well as the help from Mexico and the La Paz agreement, Texcor's permit was denied by TNRC in 1994."

This sounds like a battle courageously won. However, one year later, Adobe Ecosystem proposed the Rio Grande Regional Municipal Solid Waste landfill in "The same players, investors, and

attorneys represent Adobe as did Texcor," Herndon reports. "They make empty promises of jobs and lots of money for our community and are unconcerned that money cannot replace or repair the devastation caused by such a landfill." Adobe wants to handle "Regional Municipal Solid Waste" but it wants no restrictions. Waste could be toxic, corrosive, explosive or flammable, and Adobe would take waste from all over the United States and Mexico.

Continued on Page 5

City's sales tax rebates for June up 29 percent

The City of Brackettville's sales tax rebates for June are up 29 percent compared to the same period last year.

State Comptroller Carole Rylander delivered a total of \$199.3 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,103 Texas cities and 119 counties, an 8.3 percent increase over the \$184 million allocated to the cities and counties in June 1999.

This month's sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in April and reported by businesses filing monthly tax returns

in May. Rylander delivered monthly sales tax rebates totaling \$183.6 million to Texas cities, 8.37 percent higher than last June's payments of \$169.5 million.

The city of Brackettville received a sales tax rebate of \$3,292.86 in June, which is 28.75 percent above the previous June's \$2,557.44 payment. Year-to-date payments to the city total \$27,070.30, which is 11.51 percent higher than the allocation of \$24,274.39 for the same period

Continued on Page 5



Problem solvers

No problem is too large or too small for these four year olds! Putting the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle together are from left, Greg Juarez, David Ortega, Rico Rodriguez and Ayssa Rodriguez. The toddlers and their moms participate in various activities taking place this summer at the Kinney County library including Fun With Phonics on Tuesdays and Thursdays. (Photo by Diana Gonzales)

Briefs ...

Masonic Lodge #444 holds open Installation

On Saturday, July 1 at 6:00 p.m., Las Moras Lodge #444 will have an open installation of officers for Masonic year 2000-2001.

Bruce Clements will be the Installing Officer. District Deputy Grand Master James Runyan will be the Installing Marshal.

The public and all Masons in the local area are encouraged to attend.

Brigade cleanup July 1

"The Charge of the Cavalry Brigade," sponsored by Fort Clark Springs' Community Council is set to go "gung ho" on cleanup projects on Saturday, July 1 at 9 a.m. All positive and civic minded members are urged to volunteer to meet in front of Safter Hall for project assignments. As a token of appreciation, the Community Council provides refreshments and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Safter Hall.

Honor Roll at Texas A&M University recently. She is a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies. The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students taking at least 15 semester hours who have maintained at least a 3.75 grade point ratio out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period.

Alamo Village celebrates 4th

Alamo Village's first annual Gunfighter Competition and Open-Air Multi-Media Art Show and Sale is Tuesday, July 4 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Gunfighter teams from throughout Texas. The Art Show and Sale will feature a variety of paintings. Also planned are games for children, live music by Keith Magel of Pleasanton, performances by 12-year-old singing sensation Jacqueline Conoly, a book signing by Frances McMasters, author of "Death Plays the Lead," and a variety of food and beverages.

Rocksprings Rodeo July 1

The annual Rocksprings Open Rodeo is Saturday, July 1. As the second oldest rodeo in Texas, this year the rodeo features performances at 2 and 8 p.m. A dance will cap the night off as Clay Baker and the Texas Honkytonk Band take the stage from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Rocksprings Rodeo is sponsored by the Rocksprings Fair Association. Food booths will be available for some of the best Texas vittles this side of the border. For more information, call 830-683-3131.

INSIDE

Army's 225th B-day

Last week, Congress joined America in wishing the United States Army a happy 225th birthday, and passed a resolution commemorating its courage, valor and commitment to the protection of our great nation and its citizens. Opinion/Page 2

EMS Update

Since the last "Update," things have really been "popping" here! The new building is complete and we are moved in... we still have a few items left to complete, but this building is great!! School/Page 5

Using Fireworks

Picnics, parades, family gatherings and fireworks mark many traditional Independence Day celebrations. Unfortunately, there is another all too common occurrence - injuries from fireworks. Lifestyles/Page 2

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Letters to the Editor

Mr. Don Smith, according to your writings, you must have had many delusions in your lifetime. In the absence of delusions of myself I must assume your statements are truthful.

Many centuries ago the truth was the earth was flat. Knowledge proved this to be false. A few days ago, a statement by the general manager of Fort Clark Springs Association that a trac-

tor the board of directors was considering for purchase was a 1990 year model. Knowledge proved this to be false. It was a 1975 year model and caused a loss in value to the association of several thousand dollars.

Mr. Smith, if you are interested in the truth as you mentioned in the letter to the editor, gain knowledge.

Art Baker

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Big Mama
See!



Peace is seeing a sunrise
or sunset and knowing
whom to thank.

Your Representatives

President

President William J. Clinton, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C. 20510, Comment line 1-202-456-1111

U.S. Senator

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison, 283 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman 23rd District

The Honorable Henry Bonilla, 110 E. Broadway, Del Rio, Texas 78840. 1-830-774-6547 or 1529 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-4323, Washington: 1-202-225-4511, San Antonio: 1-210-697-9055, Fax: 1-210-697-9185

Governor

The Honorable George W. Bush, Box 12428, Austin, Texas 78711, 1-800-252-9600, Fax: 1-512-463-7397

The Brackett News

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Happy 225th birthday to the Army

Submitted by
U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla
23rd District

In 1962, General Douglas MacArthur made his farewell address to the cadets of the United States Military Academy of West Point.

He told the future Army officers: "Yours is the profession of arms, the will to win, the sure knowledge that in war there is no substitute for victory and that if we fail, the Nation will be destroyed."

Last week, Congress joined America in wishing the United States Army a happy 225th birthday, and passed a resolution commemorating its cour-

age, valor and commitment to the protection of our great nation and its citizens.

The Army was born on June 14, 1775, a year before the Declaration of Independence was signed. Why is it older than America? Because before our Founding Fathers could agree on the Declaration of Independence, it knew that a professional army was needed to defend our rights.

Since 1775 our Army has been the protector of our independence having fought bravely in every war America has ever found herself engaged in.

For over two centuries, the U.S. Army has seen the recruitment of over 30 million men and

women while also having had to bear the loss of 874,513 soldiers who died protecting our freedom.

The United States Army is not the largest army in the world, but without a doubt it is the best army this world has ever known.

The United States Army has a history that we all can be proud of. It won America's independence in an eight year struggle with Great Britain. It then preserved the Union through a four year battle that saw brother fight brother.

It has repeatedly defended the United States against enemies abroad, by defeating Nazi totalitarianism, Japanese imperialism

and world communism. The Army has not stopped here. The United States Army can draw great satisfaction from knowing that when the nation was in need, it answered the call.

Recently, the United States House of Representatives named the American soldier Person of the Century.

This is an honor that is unequivocally deserved. Had it not been for the courageous brave souls who fought and died, we may not be wishing the United States a 225th birthday next year.

I join you all in thanking those brave men and women for their service and commitment to our freedom. Happy Birthday to our United States Army!

Practice what you teach

Submitted by Jay Seville
Director of Special Projects
for Frontiers of Freedom

A precedent has been set that could impact tens of millions of children and working adults in the coming decades. The Massachusetts Board of Education adopted regulations this month requiring teachers at schools where 30 percent of the students fail the state's math tests to be tested by taking the exams themselves. How could the Massachusetts Board of Education be so insensitive?

The brouhaha stems from the 1999 test scores in Massachusetts where 40 percent of the 8th graders and 53 percent of the 10th graders failed the math section. Perhaps it is no surprise that a lawsuit and teacher boycotts were among the first responses by the teachers' unions. One could almost hear the protesters, "How dare the Massachusetts board require me to demonstrate competency in my subject area!"

Stephen E. Gorrie, president of the Massachusetts Teachers Association, was quoted in the Washington Times, "We not only believe it is illegal, but it is unnecessary. We think it is going to damage the quality of schools by driving good teachers out of our system." From his illogical statement, one would conjecture he received his math training from the teachers he endeavors to defend. How would "good teachers" be driven out of the school system

The Massachusetts Board of Education adopted regulations this month requiring teachers at schools where 30 percent of the students fail the state's math tests to be tested by taking the exams themselves.

by taking the tests themselves? If teachers are qualified there is nothing to worry about, right? They will pass the tests.

Others opined that low-income schools could theoretically be targeted. Given the recent polling showing the majority of black Americans support school choice, this would be something most minorities in the United States would applaud; an opportunity to rid their communities of incompetent teachers when trying to solve the quandary of American education today: America ranks among the highest of industrialized nations in per pupil spending yet remains among the lowest in math and science scores. The often quoted TIMSS study (Third International Mathematics and Science Study) placed American senior high school students 19th out of 21 countries in mathematics. In science, they scored 16th out of 21 countries.

Is the answer more money? Reason Magazine reported that spending per pupil more than

tripled under \$2,000 to over \$6,000 and salaries for instructional staff increased from \$25,206 to \$39,451 in 1996 dollars. Even class sizes declined from 26 to 17. Yet after all this increased spending, what have we gotten in return for our investment?

To blame incompetent teachers would be the easy way out, but would not solve Johnny's test scores.

To a large degree, the teachers are merely the products of and bound to the rules of a dysfunctional system: monopolized education. The teachers tend to be very hardworking men and women that had to play by the pre-determined rules of the centralized educational bureaucracy. College students majoring in education spend significantly less time studying their particular subject area in the universities than other majors due to the exorbitant number of psychology and methods courses required of education majors by federal bureaucrats.

Many of the capable school administrators are bound to the "rules" of this bureaucracy when it comes to making curriculum decisions, determining the length of the school year, exactly where to invest the money allotted their schools to get the most return on their expenditures and hiring and firing teachers based on their performance. With the NEA's membership at 2.3 million it remains the largest union in the country with over \$200 million in dues on the national level. Stephen Moore of the Cato Institute noted an NEA staff member boasting that "we're the only union with our own cabinet department" in reference to the Department of Education. It quashes school choice and voucher programs at every opportunity.

The lack of return on our investment from the public education is disappointing, especially for the economically disadvantaged.

But when one observes how much more dispensable an excellent education is becoming in the information age, one begins to see the issue is not merely a political but an ethical one.

Each passing year the evidence increases the support for school vouchers, school choice programs, home schooling and religious schools.

To prevent these reforms borders on immoral, at least that is what most inner-city mothers would probably tell you.

The Eagle flourishes in Texas

Capitol Comment
U.S. Senator
Kay Bailey Hutchison

Last month I went on a train ride that was a dream come true from Austin to Fort Worth on Amtrak's Texas Eagle to inaugurate its first day of daily passenger service between Chicago, St. Louis, Dallas-Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio.

The expansion of the Texas Eagle schedule from four days a week to seven is a milestone in the development of a Texas transportation system for the 21st Century. It ties our state together - for families, businesses, and tourists.

Daily passenger rail service provides convenience and greater mobility for Texans who live in rural areas. It expands the transportation options available to Texans young and old. At the same time, tourism is our state's third largest industry, employing more than half a million people. This new, daily passenger service will bring even more visitors to Texas and make it easier for them to stay longer and take in more of our cities and scenery.

Texas' sheer size means that transportation can make us or break us, and Amtrak's new daily service keeps Texas right on track.

This dream was a long time coming, but worth every bit of the effort. Just three years ago the Texas Eagle was slated for discontinuation.

When I heard the news, I decided to do everything I could do to save the Eagle and see it soar again. As the first step in its resuscitation, I persuaded Congress to extend federal funding on a short-term basis to keep the train operational while Amtrak worked with the State of Texas to secure a life-saving loan.

Without the team effort of communities along the route, we would not be celebrating this milestone in Texas transportation history. Local communities and their elected officials from East Texas to San Antonio provided critical support in urging the state Legislature to authorize a \$5.6 million dollar "bridge" loan. This loan was designed to keep the service running while Amtrak went to work on developing its revenue-generating mail and express business (the shipment of time-sensitive goods.)

The communities were required to provide collateral for half of the loan amount to ensure its repayment, and did so gladly, knowing that their transportation future was at stake. Everyone cheered when Amtrak paid back the loan ahead of schedule.

The investment quickly began to pay off in steady and sustained growth all along the line.

Today, the Eagle accounts for an increasing share of Amtrak's growing ridership, as well as its mail and express revenues.

The expansion of the Texas Eagle schedule from four days a week to seven is a milestone in the development of a Texas transportation system for the 21st Century.

Eagle ridership grew nearly 10 percent from 1998 to 1999, and is up 11.2 percent for the first six months of this year. In fact, the Texas Eagle leads Amtrak's business unit in ridership gains so far this year. I expect to see that growth continue now that we have daily service.

Communities along the route are working hard to bring their local railroad facilities up to par:

- A new, intermodal station paid by the City of Cleburne opened in 1999.
- The train depot in Temple is being restored and is set to be re-dedicated this summer.
- The historic Texas and Pacific (T&P) depot in Marshall was restored after more than a decade of hard work and dedication on the part of the Marshall Depot Inc., the citizens, and school children of Marshall and retired T&P employees. It reopened on November 13, 1999.
- Amtrak celebrated the grand opening of its new Sunset Station in San Antonio last year, as well. Built by the city's Via Metropolitan Transit service, this new station is an excellent example of the type of partnerships that Amtrak has developed to improve service to the traveling public.

In addition, Amtrak recently announced plans to create a major hub in Fort Worth and launch a new offshoot from the New York-New Orleans

Crescent line to provide service between Washington, D.C., Atlanta, and the Dallas-Fort Worth region. This could mean exciting changes for some Texas communities, which might get train service they don't now have, and I've pledged to work with any communities that might lose out as a result of these changes to ensure other transportation options become available to them.

Rail passenger service is critical to our transportation future. Not everyone wants to fly or drive to their destination. Amtrak provides a needed alternative; mass transit that connects Texans to bus lines, to light rail systems in our urban areas and to our airports.

With an expanding rail passenger service schedule, a whole segment of our population now enjoys many more transportation choices. The future of Texas rail is full of great opportunities, and I remain committed to working with Texas communities and Congress to ensure Amtrak's bright future.

Sheriff's Report

Wednesday, June 21
12:30 p.m., Artemio Vasquez II, 27, of San Antonio, was arrested for evading arrest, for driving while license suspended and for theft of more than \$20,000 but less than \$100,000, a third degree felony. He is still in custody.

2:20 p.m. A local rancher reported that someone had broken into his ranch and another ranch close by. The sheriff was informed.

6:46 p.m., A local resident reported that someone was harassing her with phone calls. A deputy was informed.

7:28 p.m., A local man reported that there was a fire in the alley behind a trailer. He was concerned because the fire was close to a gas meter. A deputy went to the scene, found out it was a controlled burn, and that it was not close to the anything.

10:42 p.m. A local woman reported that her husband had taken her new car and that she wanted him to bring it back home. Deputies were asked to look out for the car.

Friday, June 23

3:52 p.m., A grass fire went out of control on the old Gateway property across from the Fort Clark Springs gate. Firefighters

were notified and arrived at 3:55 p.m. The fire was extinguished by 4:05 p.m.

Saturday, June 24

2:41 a.m. A local woman phoned and asked for assistance with her daughter's former boyfriend. The woman said the ex-boyfriend wanted to take his and her daughter's children but that her daughter was not home. Deputies went to the woman's house and took care of the problem.

6:25 p.m., A disabled vehicle parked between Highway 90 and Spring Street was believed to be a hazard to drivers so deputies notified the owner who asked for assistance in moving the vehicle. Deputies responded and by 7:30 p.m., the vehicle was moved off the road.

Monday, June 26

9:28 a.m., Fort Clark Springs security requested assistance in removing an animal (type unknown) from the ceiling of a hotel room. Deputies were informed.

Thursday, June 22

2 p.m., Jason Lee Riddle, 24 of Levelland, Texas and Levi Hayes, 23, were arrested for being in possession of a controlled substance, a third degree felony. Hayes posted bond and was released. Riddle is still in custody.

Open house, bike rodeos, EMT courses, emergency planning panel meeting make June very busy month

EMS Update
By Carolyn Rutherford
EMS Director

Since the last "Update," things have really been "popping" here! The new building is complete and we are moved in. . . we still have a few items left to complete, but this building is great!!

For those Fort Clark folks, we still house an ambulance over at the EMS Station on the Fort. Whenever it is not needed for service, rest assured that it will be there.

Ceremony short & sweet

Our Ribbon Cutting ceremony was wonderfully short but mostly sweet, as a wonderful person donated two delicious cakes (if I tell you what kind, it'll give away the donor's name, and I'm sworn to secrecy).

Julie from the Nutrition Center put together a tempting nutty fruit salad.

Davis Hardware donated a welcome mat and The Gift Box donated our ribbon and bow. There were around 30 folks who visited us that day. The second day, CPR and Health Day, was very disappointing. Nobody

Bike Safety Rodeo

But the third day - - - whew! For our Bike Safety Rodeo, we had 64 participants. The Texas Department of Transportation lent us their cones for our obstacle course.

The majority of participants were little tykes, and we emphasized the importance of stopping, looking both ways, using hand signals.

Every child receiving helmet gave a "solemn promise" to wear a helmet everytime they ride a bicycle.

Now, I hope in the near future, some nice person may catch kids who do wear their helmets and behave safely on the bikes and get a treat for their good work.

Bike Rodeo July 19

The next bicycle rodeo is July 19 (Wednesday) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be more obstacle courses (a total of eight stations) and participants will earn prizes of all kinds. More later - - - keep watching the paper and flyers. EMT courses

I guess you're wondering what is going on with our EMT- Inter-

mediate Course. It completed, and our students are finishing up the internship requirements and awaiting their state test.

Again, they still need encouragement for all this time they have put into training to benefit all of us.

Our EMT Basic course has started. Thanks to the Brackettville Independent School District, we are linked up with Utopia so they can also train desperately needed EMS personnel. In our class here, we welcome seven prospective new volunteers for our system.

Welcome, Laura Rosas!

We welcome Ms. Laura Rosas to our full time staff. She is an EMT Basic from Del Rio. Her position is EMT-Basic and Clerk II for our EMS.

She fills in a major gap with our hectic routine and already has put in time voluntarily to fill in on weekends.

Emergency Planning panel

The Local Emergency Planning Committee continues to meet throughout the summer.

Our first priority is to set up ahead of time, shelters around the cities of Brackettville and Spofford and in the County as well. This

requires agreements and training with the American Red Cross.

If anyone knows of an organization willing to participate, please let me know by calling the office. Next on the priority list is Warning and notifying the community when a potential disaster is threatening us with a reliable system in place.

I will be looking for grant money for the expensive items. Please let us have your suggestions.

Our next meeting is July 24 from 7 to 8:30p.m. in the new EMS Building.

Our office is open Monday through Fridays except holidays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please phone us for any information you need at 830-563-9090 or 830-563-5374.

If you are reporting an emergency, please call 911.

Please be aware that any ambulance responding after the first call may respond with less than State Department of Health required staff.

There will always be at least one basic life support crew member with the patient.

Sidewalks leading to EMS building to be installed in time for November elections

Instead of rolling out the proverbial red carpet, the county is installing sidewalks to welcome citizens who will cast their ballots in November in the new EMS building, now a designated polling place.

Commissioners' Court, at a special meeting last week, authorized County Judge Herb Senne to take and award construction

bids for the sidewalk project. The work is estimated to cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

There is grant money and building maintenance funds available to pay for the project, Senne informed Precinct 1 Commissioner Freddie Frerich and Precinct 4 Commissioner Pat Melancon. Precinct 2 Commissioner Joe Montalvo and Precinct

3 Commissioner Joe V. Williams were not present at the meeting.

The new EMS facility at the corner of Ellen and Henderson streets, has been open since June 1. Maintenance around the building continues, including drainage pipe work.

Soon, paving for parking and wheelchair accessibility will take place.

Ranch Estate Planning Seminar planned Aug. 6-7

Estate taxes are a major problem for ranch owners - and their heirs.

Dr. Wayne Hayenga, an attorney with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, will hold a Ranch Estate Planning Seminar on Aug. 6 and 7, in conjunction with the Annual Beef Cattle Short Course. The seminar will start at 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 and conclude at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 7 in the College Station Hilton.

Topics will include the basic tools of estate planning: Wills,

Living Trusts, and Powers of Attorney. But most of the time will be spent on income and estate tax saving plans for ranching community/separate property, special use valuation for ranches, partnerships and corporations will be discussed in the context of the gift and estate tax rules. Dr. Hayenga is an excellent communicator. He delivers a top notch educational program emphasizing key points with an entertaining style illustrating estate and income tax law provi-

sions with practical examples that make learning a pleasure. His teaching makes full use of his broad background and practical experience as a farmer, banker and lawyer.

Registration fee is \$100 per person. It includes seminar materials, snacks on Sunday evening and lunch on Monday, as well as refreshment breaks. For more information, call Sharon Wehring-Forster or Dr. Wayne Hayenga at (979) 845-2226.

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Too much time on his hands? Sweet Adelines International Educational Symposium set July 19-23 at Trinity University in San Antonio

I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

I heard on the news that a man was going to drive a golf ball across the United States.

He planned to start on the beach in California and finish somewhere in Florida.

There are two things that immediately come to my mind.

First, why did this make national news?

Isn't there something more important going on in our country worth hearing about?

Secondly, this guy needs a job. This round of golf is going to take up about 18 months of his life.

Imagine how many things one could accomplish in that year and a half.

His name won't go into any record books. He won't be paid for his efforts.

In my opinion, he will have wasted some 550 days of his life. He could have done a lot of good in that time span.

There's a lot of litter along the highway from sea to sea. If nothing else, pick up trash.

Maybe I'm looking at this all wrong.

Perhaps the time I spend on my idle leisure is just as wasted as I believe his to be.

He has a right to enjoy his moments on our world just like everybody else.

He's just doing a lot of playing at one time.

The rest of us do it in spurts. We stretch it out.

So if that happy golfer happens to come through South Texas on his tour, I might just play a couple of holes with him.

But I could be wrong.

Sweet Adelines International will soon give San Antonio something to sing about as 1,200 four-part harmony singers from around the world bring their unique style of music to San Antonio for the annual International Education Symposium at Trinity University July 19-23.

Sweet Adelines are women who excel in singing the unique American musical art form of barbershop harmony.

Sweet Adelines International is headquartered in Tulsa, Okla., where it was founded in 1945. It is one of the largest women singers organizations in the world, committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performance. The second annual International Education Symposium accomplishes this commitment by offering thrilling barbershop competitions, exciting shows, and over 180 educational classes.

Hundreds of Sweet Adelines and friends will join together for Mass Sing on Thursday, July 20 at 6:45 p.m. on the Coates Esplanade on the Trinity University campus. Mass Sing is the largest sing-out of the year, and it is a fantastic array of sight and sound.

The anticipation, excitement and discipline of preparing for a barbershop contest comes to life as twenty quartets compete for the title of Rising Star Quarter Champion. The contest is scheduled for Friday, July 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Laurie Auditorium on the cam-



The Dazzling Diamonds, 1999 Rising Star Quartet Champions, will relinquish their title to one of 20 quartets that will be competing for the honor Friday, July 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Laurie Auditorium, on the campus of Trinity University in San Antonio.

pus of Trinity University. The quartets, composed of members aged 25 and younger, hail from Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Ontario, Canada. The Rising Star Quartet Contest encourages young women to develop mastery in their singing technique and experience the plea-

sure of singing four-part a capella harmony in the barbershop style. The 1999 Rising Star Quartet Champion, The Dazzling Diamonds, from Michigan, will relinquish their title to one winning quartet. Saturday spotlights the inaugural Sweet Adelines International Harmony Classic Chorus contest featuring the top five Division A choruses (small, 15-40 members) and the top five Divi-

sion AA choruses (midsize, 41-65 members). The competition ignites at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 22 in the Laurie Auditorium on the campus of Trinity University. The high-energy contest will showcase choruses by featuring each in 12-15 minute performance packages.

IES 2000 concludes with a spectacular grand finale show with the Harmony Classic winners and Rising Star Quarter winners, the Young Women in Harmony chorus and the 2000 International Quartet Champion Signature Sound. The shows begin on Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Laurie Auditorium.

The International Education Symposium is full of energy, great sounds and a spectacle of enthusiastic singers. All competition sessions and the Mass Sing are open to the general public. Tickets may be purchased in the Sweet Adelines International headquarters office located in Coates University Center on the Trinity University campus, beginning Thursday, July 20 at 9 a.m. Individual ticket prices for the Rising Star Quartet Contest, the Harmony Classic Contests and the Best of Times Grand Finale Show are \$10 each.

Tickets will also be available at the door prior to each event in the Laurie Auditorium lobby. The Mass Sing is a free event. For advance information, contact 1-800-992-7464, or www.sweetadelineintl.org.

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What must be learned and what must be believed

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Mom, I'm home," ten year old Tiffany yelled as she burst through the front door.

"Hi, honey. How was school?" her mom asked from the kitchen.

"It was ok," said Tiffany after getting a glass of milk from

the refrigerator

"What did you learn today," Maria asked as she sat down with her daughter.

"We learned about evolution," Tiffany replied.

"Tell me about evolution," Maria prodded.

"Well," Tiffany said, "we learned that millions of years ago all of our ancestors were apes."

Maria continued, "It sounds like apes somehow became human beings."

"That's what the teacher said," Tiffany answered.

"What do you think about having apes for your ancestors?" Maria asked with a laugh.

"I'm not sure I like that. We learned in church that God cre-

ated us and everything else," replied Tiffany.

"Well," Maria continued, "would you rather be related to an ape or related to God?"

"I think I would rather be related to God. If we are created by God then why do they teach evolution?" Tiffany asked.

"Honey," Maria began, "When people don't believe in God they try to find some other explanations for how the universe and living things came into being. The result is what is called the theory of evolution."

We must understand that it is only a theory. It requires faith to believe in evolution just like it takes faith to believe that we are created by God. Because it is

taught in school, you have to learn it, but that doesn't mean you have to believe it."

It is a wise parent who can teach a child the difference between what must be learned and what must be believed.

It was the Lord God who said, "Let us make man in our image..." (Genesis 1:26).

A wise man once told parents to teach their children the way they should go and it will be their source of wisdom for the rest of their lives (Proverbs 22:6).

This column is brought to you by the St. Henry de Osso Family Project strengthening families, faith and education in Brackettville. Questions? Contact

Use caution with fireworks for a safer Fourth of July

Picnics, parades, family gatherings and fireworks mark many traditional Independence Day celebrations. Unfortunately, there is another all too common occurrence - injuries from fireworks.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reports approximately 8,500 people were injured from fireworks in the United States in 1998.

Two-thirds of all such injuries occur during July. Males are three times as likely to suffer injuries from fireworks than are females and more than 40 percent of those injured from fireworks are 14 years old or younger.

The pattern is similar in Texas. During the period 1996-1998 more than half of all reported fireworks related injuries occurred around the Fourth of July, according to data from the Texas Trauma Registry of the Texas Department of Health's Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Program.

All but two of the patients reported to the registry were male, and 60 percent were under age 18. Most patients suffered burns to the

face and hands.

Not all of those injured were lighting the fireworks, some were bystanders who were too close.

Public fireworks displays run by professionals are generally safer than using the fireworks yourself.

However, if fireworks are legal in your area and you decide to use them, follow these CPSC guidelines:

Always:

- Follow all state and local laws
- Buy from reputable dealers. Ask to see their permit.

- Read all labels, warnings and instructions with each firework before using.

- Supervise children ages 15 and older closely when they use fireworks.

- Use fireworks outdoors on a flat, smooth surface away from houses, flammable materials, trees and dry grass.

- Have a bucket of water or hose close by for emergencies.

- Light only one firework at a time and keep unused fireworks away from flames.

- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from anything that could light them.

- Move to a safe distance after igniting a firework.

- Stay at a safe distance if you are a bystander.

Never:

- Light fireworks in a container.

- Relight a "dud." Douse it with water instead.

- Aim or shoot fireworks at people, buildings or cars.

- Carry fireworks in your pocket.

- Use alcohol or drugs while lighting fireworks.

- Modify fireworks or make homemade ones.

- Put any part of your body over the firework while lighting it.

- Allow children under age 15 to play with fireworks.

Injuries from fireworks can be painful, sometimes disfiguring and occasionally deadly.

Following a few simple safety guidelines can reduce the risk of harm.

Sons of the American Revolution meet in Uvalde

Submitted by
Clara McCord

The Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Uvalde Chapter #53 met June 10 in Uvalde. President Charles McFarland opened the meeting with prayer and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the February meeting were read by Tom Casey, who also gave the

financial report. After announcements, lunch was served. Allen McCord introduced the speaker, Lt. Col. Lester Reed Dillon (retired) from San Antonio. Dillon retired in 1985 after 26 years in the Army's infantry. He is the past president of the San Antonio chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Currently he chairs the San Antonio chapter of the American

Revolution's ROTC Committee. His program was entitled, "Battle Road of the Battles of the Lexington and Concord."

Attending the meeting were President McFarland and wife, Pat, from Sabinal, Clarence Bell from San Antonio, Clem and Pat McKelvy and Allen and Clara McCord from Brackettville, Tom Casey from Montel and Mr. and Mrs. Dillon.

Happy 4th

Every year the Fourth of July serves to remind us of the freedoms and liberties we enjoy as Americans, as well as the opportunities — the opportunity to educate our children, create small businesses, control our own futures.

May you and your family enjoy a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Your Congressman,

Henry Bonilla

Henry Bonilla



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



Courtney Frerich, center, is congratulated by Stony Burks, left and Pat McKelvy. (Photo courtesy of Kayla Davis)

Courtney Frerich's essay earns top honors

Courtney Frerich, 7th grade student at Brackett Middle School, received a first place medal, certificate and a check for \$50 from the Albert Sydney Johnson Chapter No. 2060 of San Antonio, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Courtney's essay entitled, "Emma Sansom, Teenage Confederate Heroine" was chosen as the best that was submitted by any seventh or eighth grade student in the San Antonio chapter area.

Also last week at the Elijah Holcombe Society, Children of the American Revolution meeting in Kerrville, she received a Texas Merit Award for placing first in the state competition of programs about Historic Places or Landmarks.

Courtney's collage of photographs of historic Fort Clark and her written report had been presented earlier to her chapter and then forwarded to the state competition.

Teachers Council honors first Hispanic woman to serve on Fourth Court of Appeals

Justice Alma L. Lopez of the Fourth Court of Appeals is the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Award from the San Antonio Teachers Council.

Anna Garica nominated Justice Lopez, a graduate of Burbank High School in San Antonio, for the award. The San Antonio Teachers Council made the following remarks regarding this award, which was issued May 5: "Judge Alma Lopez is the first Hispanic woman elected to serve on the Fourth Court of Appeals

and the second Hispanic woman to serve on a Court of Appeals in Texas.

She is actively involved in civic and political organizations and has earned numerous honors and recognitions for her work.

She is best known for always giving back to the school district that gave her the educational background she needed to succeed. As busy as Judge Lopez is, she is always available to speak on career day and take part in many SAISD activities.

Herndon tells Rotary about Adobe's plans

Continued from Page 1

Herndon questions whether this would be a "landfill or a mountain," since Adobe plans to go up 100 feet above the current surface of the land. The possible effects of such a dump would spread out in all directions. As many as 38 trucks an hour could bring in waste. This would cause tremendous impact on roads and bridges.

Cities in the surrounding area oppose such a fill, along with Laughlin Air Force Base, Fort Clark Springs and many adjacent and nearby landowners.

Laughlin has an auxiliary airfield in Spofford which is used to train pilots in take off and landings. Landfills attract birds which are hazards to aircraft landing and taking off nearby, and the proposed landfill would be only four miles from the runways.

The Federal Aviation guidelines suggest at least 10 miles from a landfill site.

It is easy to think there is so much opposition, Adobe couldn't possibly be allowed to win, but a new factor has entered the picture. Adobe's investors purchased land locally known as Ranchito 33 west of and adjacent to Fort Clark Springs that has eight artesian water wells.

Adobe is now in the process of negotiating the sale of water to the cities of Eagle Pass and Laredo and possibly the city of Del Rio.

"Presently Eagle Pass has engaged an attorney to pursue means of developing a water transmission line from Ranchito 33 to Eagle Pass.

Eagle Pass has some underdeveloped residential areas without running water and sewers classified as colonias. These colonias enable the city of Eagle Pass to qualify for 100 percent colonia grants from the Texas Water Development Board.

"What does 100 percent colonia grants mean? Very sadly, it means Eagle Pass Water Works does not spend a dime to get water, Adobe makes a tremendous clear profit and has water for the landfill, Kinney County is depleted of water, which definitely will affect Fort Clark Springs and the city of Brackettville water supply," said Herndon.

Tootsie Herndon is a concerned citizen and one who is trying to alert other citizens to the dangers that threaten our environment when money and greed matter more than wisdom and good judgment.

Rebates increase in June

Continued from Page 1

last year. Rebates of \$15.7 million to Texas counties are 7.47 percent higher than the allocations of \$14.6 million in June 1999.

The \$2,285.02 local sales tax allocation to Kinney County for June reflects a 31.63 percent increase from the \$1,735.88 sales tax rebate for the same month last year.

The year-to-date payments to Kinney County are down 5.2 percent, from \$17,046.86 to

\$16,159.14.

The state comptroller delivered another \$6.6 million to 51 special purpose districts around the state.

The June sales tax allocation for Kinney County Health Services was \$2,245.68, up 31.65 percent over the June 1999 payment of \$1,705.76.

Year-to-date, Kinney County Health Services has received \$15,825.39, which is down 4.27 percent from the \$16,531.80 payment for the same period last year.

Ward board president, Lutz vice president

Making a Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

We're half way through the year. That's right, the first six months of 2000 are history. We're on our way to the downhill side of the year. It won't be long 'till New Years Day, 2001. It has been a great run for the first six months.

Congratulations to Tim Ward, new school board president and Henry Lutz, new vice president of the board. Jim McDaniel was sworn in as our new board member. The board works hard to help keep the excellent school system in tact. They do a fine job.

We're trying hard to fill all vacancies as soon as we have qualified teacher replacements. There is tremendous shortage of teachers in Texas this year. Many schools will start school with unfilled positions.

The Administrative office has been carpeted for the first time in many years. The gold carpet of the 70s is no longer there. We're excited to have the same color carpet in all of the rooms of the of-

ice. It's also clean and very nice. Drop by and take a look.

The new scoreboard was installed at the football field last week. It's nice, and all of the numbers and lights work. We're thankful to have a scoreboard that works. The taxpayers of Kinney County and the Bank and Trust split the costs of the new board. Thanks to all of you. I'm excited to see the scoreboard light up with each and every Tiger victory next year.

I enjoyed watching the football and basketball camps. We have volleyball camp coming up this next week. These camps are sponsored by the coaches of the sports. Our kids have greatly enjoyed the camps. It's nice to have more for the children to do in Brackettville in the summer.

Our drum majors, Angela Talamantes, Amanda Ward, and Candice Ingram attended drum marching school in San Antonio this past week. They won awards and are to be commended for their dedication. New director, Jason Guidry, has been to Brackettville

to find housing. Our band program will begin rehearsing at the end of July.

Summer School and our summer food program will end this Thursday, June 29. We have had

good attendance, and both programs have been successful. Driver Education is going strong with about 15 young students. Mr. Ramon from Del Rio is our teacher. Have a great week!

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Briefs...

Volleyball Camp July 3-7

Students in grades 5 through 9 are invited to participate in the 3rd annual Tigerette Volleyball Camp July 3-7 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration continues through July 1.

Campers will learn passing, setting and spiking techniques, offense and defense and how to have fun playing volleyball. Registration fee is \$25 and includes a T-shirt.

Interested persons may contact

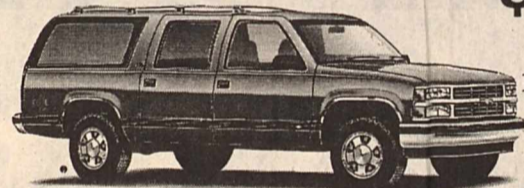
Dusty Brotherton at 563-3303 for more information.

Davis on honor roll

Amber Nicole Davis of Brackettville was named to the Dean's Honor Roll at Texas A&M University recently. She is a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies. The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students taking at least 15 semester hours who have maintained at least a 3.75 grade point ratio out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period.

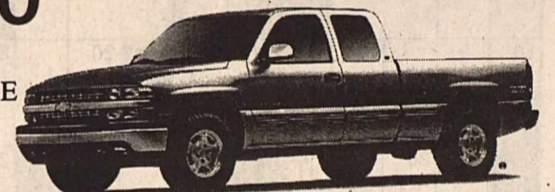
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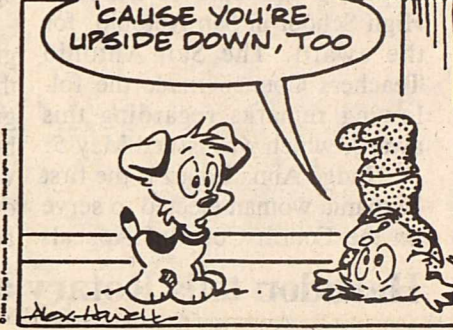
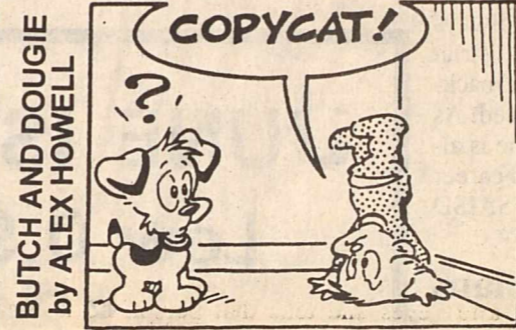
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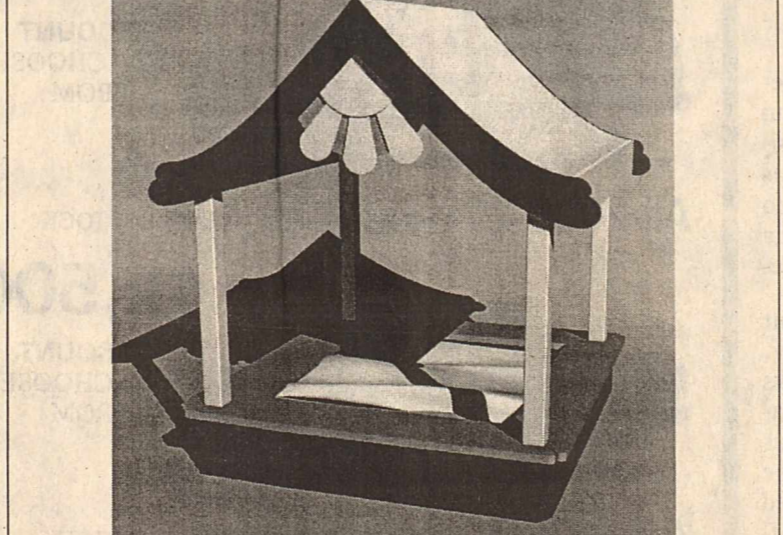
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It is easy to build this sandbox with decorative sun shade. Common 4-by-4 posts support the graceful roof joists that cut from a single piece of 1-1/2-inch thick pine lumber. The sand-filled play area is 4 feet square and is surrounded by 11-inch wide seats. A canvas roof stretches over the roof cross-members and is fastened securely with ties to the roof and side fascia boards. Overall size is approximately 6 feet square. Roof is 4 feet high at the sides, 7 feet high at the peak. (#3294...\$9.95 plus \$2.50 ship-

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HOROSCOPES

Aries March 21- April 20
 It's time to come up with a master plan and figure out your career goals. Fight the urge to procrastinate. Working on small projects around the house, especially in the garden, will help give you a sense of purpose. Trust your instincts.

Taurus April 21-May 21
 Committed Taurus is hard at work while coworkers are enjoying summer vacations. Do not allow jealousy to get the best of you. This is your time to shine. Diligence and attention to detail may be rewarded.

Gemini May 22-June 21
 Exploring your past may help you face the future. Look for a tranquil place to daydream about romance. Emerald green grass beckons. Give in. Take a blanket and a journal, and recapture childhood dreams on paper.

Cancer June 22-July 22
 Become a person of value. Stand up for what's right at work even though it may be unpopular. Learn to put your foot down when people are unreasonable. True friends will stand by you during this difficult time.

Leo July 23-August 23
 Your generosity is put to the test on Wednesday. If you have the time, patience and money, help out family members. With determination and fortitude, you can help those less fortunate. Your deeds will not go unnoticed.

Virgo August 24-Sept. 22
 The highly organized Virgo travels extensively this week, both for work and play. Pay special attention to personal grooming on the 5th. When you least expect it, a huge professional opportunity will come your way.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
 You find peace in observing nature this week. Speak out. Share your opinions with others. You have a lot more in common than you originally thought. You are prone to a back injury this week. Use good sense in lifting a heavy object.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
 Step out on faith and jump right into a cycle of success, particularly in real estate. Pressure may have you stressed out, especially on the 7th. Find a new way to relax. A long swim could help clear your mind and relieve anxiety.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
 An adventurous spirit may be too much for even eccentric friends to handle. They want summertime relaxation. You want to conquer the world. Watch how you express your opinions. They may be misinterpreted by those closest to you.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
 Scare away legal monsters with your surefootedness and thorough research. Those who saw you as conservative and cautious are awed by your spirit. Remain cool. Keep your emotions in check until you do your homework.

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
 Play up your wild, dramatic side, but think before you act, even if admirers want an encore. Scheduling downtime is a must. Pay special attention to recurring thoughts about getting back to the basics, especially on the 7th.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
 Foreign films and classical music take you out of the summer sun and help combat physical stress. Pay special attention to children. They are looking for attention and praise this week—not criticism.

- ACROSS**
- You're Getting to ___ Habit with Me (2 wds.)
 - Exclamation of relief
 - Bones
 - "The Art of Love" poet
 - Petrarch's inspiration
 - Spydom surname
 - Change over
 - Torpid
 - Egyptian sun god
 - Scared stiff
 - Arguments
 - Jason's enchantress
 - Bear or bunny
 - ___ is that music... (Keats)
 - Dirt road feature
 - Kingdom
 - Editor Steinem
 - Prevent speech
 - Leo's sound
 - Marker letters
 - Graduate
 - Pumpernickel's kin
 - Hold firmly
 - Supplement, with "out"
 - Coined
 - Teen girls' mag
 - Alm
 - Lacrimal product
 - Poetic contraction
- DOWN**
- Half of a Pacific island
 - Daredevil name
 - 1953 Loren film
 - Stray
 - Color
 - Slips, morally
 - Stop or pocket follower
 - Blinka ___ (Bruce Willis film)
 - Winged youth
 - Andy Gump's wife
 - Window type
 - Falsified
 - Dry cleaner's freebie
19. They may be mixed in a collage
 21. Where to find Fin. and Ger.
 23. Increase
 25. Native plants
 26. Jazz trumpeter Armstrong
 28. Basker's goal
 30. Body artery
 31. Coat
 32. Vocal palomino
 33. Jobs for musicians
 34. Cakes and ___
 36. Kookaburra's tree
 40. Godfrey's instrument, for short
 41. Type of protest
 44. Sham
 47. Drink of the gods
 49. Slangy agreement
 51. Generic horse
 54. Like the Vikings
 56. Hammer's target
 57. Husky's load
 58. Stress of voice
 59. Obivious to all else
 61. Presently
 62. Appetizing reading
 63. Gob
 64. ___Magnon
 66. To Kill a Mockingbird character

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 29.....Ernest Hall	July 2.....Jesus Pena
June 29.....Earl Johnson	July 2.....Henry Schwandner
June 30.....Anne Butler	July 2.....Nadine Wakefield
June 30.....Jessica DeLeon	July 3.....Jane Custard
June 30.....Laura Martinez	July 3.....Zack Davis
June 30.....Stacey Terrazas	July 3.....Mabel Parham
July 1.....Ben Fuentes	July 4.....Tomas Castillo
July 1.....Antonio Ramos	July 4.....Cissy DeLeon
July 1.....Ruben Talamantez	July 4.....Andres L. Pena
July 1.....Richard C. Ward Jr.	July 5.....Lonnie Barrett
July 2.....Inez Hutchinson	July 5.....Max Hensley

For Entertainment Purposes Only

God is the king of all of the earth

St. John's
Missionary Church
By Judith E. Adams

Psalms 47:1-9
O clap your hands, all ye people: shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
For the Lord most high is terrible; he is a great king over all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved.
God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our king. Sing praises.
For God is the king of all the earth sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.
The princess of the people are gathered together, even the people of the God of Abraham: for the shields of the earth belong unto God: he is greatly exalted.

God bless the men and women who have suffered so that we might be free

St. Mary Magdalene
By Lynn McNew

As most everyone knows, Sen John S. McCain, a retired U. S. Navy officer and a senator from Arizona and recent presidential candidate, was a prisoner of war for five and one-half years during the Vietnam War. This story is taken from a speech he gave.

In 1971, Captain McCain was moved into a large room with 30 or 40 other prisoners. One of the men in this room was a young officer from Alabama named Mike Christian. Mike had grown up in a very poor family and had a keen appreciation for the opportunities

America and her military provide for people who want to work and succeed.

At this time the Vietnamese were allowing some prisoners to receive packages from home. Some of these packages yielded small items of clothing, such as handkerchiefs and scarves. Using these items and a bamboo needle he had found, Mike created an American flag, which he sewed onto the inside of his shirt.

Every afternoon, before they ate their standard bowl of soup, the American prisoners would hang Mike's shirt on the wall of the cell and sincerely say the Pledge of Allegiance.

One day the Vietnamese searched the Americans' cell and

discovered Mike's shirt with Old Glory sewn inside. They removed it and that evening they returned and beat Mike Christian severely for the next couple of hours.

Captain McCain said they cleaned Mike's wounds as best they could and helped him onto the concrete slab in the middle of the cell on which they slept. Later when McCain checked on Mike, he was not where they had left him.

Searching the dark cell, McCain finally found Mike. He had painfully braced himself up in the corner under the dim light hanging there.

His eyes were swollen almost

shut from the beating the Vietnamese had given him. And blood was oozing from around the make-do bandages they had tied around his head and arms. There, with a piece of red cloth, another shirt, and his bamboo needle, Mike Christian was slowly making another American flag.

Captain McCain said the other prisoners asked each other, "Why? Why is he doing it? The Vietnamese will just find it too, sooner or later. And next time, they might kill him."

Mike wasn't making the flag because it made him feel better. He was making the flag because he knew how important it

was to the other Americans to be able to pledge their allegiance to their flag and homeland.

And, indeed, those Americans never took the Pledge of Allegiance for granted again.

God Bless the men and women who have suffered and died that we might be free. God Bless the USA.

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

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'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God'

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charolette Corey

As we enjoy our freedoms in this country, we must also deal with the freedoms of others. The only way this can work is through the power of God's love and forgiveness.

Jesus has set the example for us through his great love for us, to the point of shedding his blood for us and by forgiving us of our sins. On the cross he told his father, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34).

This same blood covers us when we sin. This same forgiveness is extended to each of us. Why, then, do we still have such violence in this country, in this world? Ignorance and wrong choices make for much of the problem.

We want Jesus to bless us and

give us increase and prosper our talents, health, and finances, but we must remember what he requires of us first.

When you go to the Lord in prayer asking him to accept your "gifts" which you dedicate to him, he tells you "first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." (Matt. 5:24)

We have "Forgiveness Time" at the end of our sessions with the children at our church. Each child takes a turn to come before the others and have asked of him/him, "Does anyone have ought against this person?" Each person that has been offended that day has a chance to voice the offense. The child then looks that person in the eyes and tells that person he is sorry and asks their forgiveness.

In response, the other child looks into their offenders eyes

and tells them, "I forgive you." When a child feels falsely accused, (and only God knows the truth) they still must say "I'm sorry, please forgive me". We tell everyone that if they falsely accuse someone, as God knows the truth, then he will face God's judgment.

The falsely accused child enters into the "suffering of Jesus Christ (as he was falsely accused Mark 14:56) and receives the blessings of a "peacemaker".

By doing this the quarrels have been cut down dramatically and they often immediately take care of apologies. There is more peace in our time together. God tells us, "Blessed are those who are peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." Matt. 5:9.

There would be more peace in families and in this world if we would all follow this prac-

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

Marriages

Jan. 31 -Francis Steffen Larson and Martha Maria Daly.
Feb. 13 - Jaysim Weathersby and Paige Michelle Johnson
Feb. 24 - Guillermo S. Pina and Virginia Hutchings
Feb. 24 - Luis Armando Rivas and Kayla Ann Cruz
March 4 - Mitchell Lane Frerich and Michelle Devon Lowe
April 11 - Anthony Carl Houston and Donna Marie Scarberry
May 29 - Jamie Reyes Fernandez and Patricia Ortiz
June 3 - Rene Rodriguez and Brenda Lee Clarke
June 10 - Noe Sanchez and Cherlyne Monique Samora

Deaths

Merdith R. (Mert) Miller

Merdith R. Miller died on June 26 at his home in Brackettville, after a short battle with cancer.

He was born December 4, 1938 in Cushing, Oklahoma to Willie B. and Emma U. Miller.

He worked for over 20 years for The Badger Company/Raytheon Engineers and Constructors.

He was in construction management working on petrochemical projects in seven states and five foreign countries.

He was a Marine Corps veteran, member of the Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, Scimitar Shrine Temple and the Order of the Eastern Star.

His survivors include: His wife, Contance (Connie) Miller to whom he was married for 35 years; one son, David Ray Miller and his wife, Quinlan Miller of Humble, Texas; one daughter, Julie Renee Miller-Mikus and her husband, Jonathan Mikus of Stephenville, Texas.

Also, three sisters, Agnes Russell of Edmond, Oklahoma, Descygene Wise of Drumright, Oklahoma and Burlene Willison of Yukon, Oklahoma and one brother, W.B. (Dub) Miller of Brackettville, Texas.

Graveside services will be held at the National Cemetery at Fayetteville, Ark. on Monday, July 3 at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to:

Val Verde Hospices, 102 Center Drive, Suite D, Del Rio, Texas 78840, Shrine Hospitals c/o Scimitar Temple, One Scimitar Circle, Little Rock, Arkansas 72209 or to a favorite charity.

Debt relief kit available

Do you know a senior citizen or disabled person that is struggling with debt and receiving threatening or harassing phone calls?

If so information in the new "Debt Relief Kit" from Financial Assistance Network in Washington, D.C., may help.

Financial Assistance Network, has just announced the release of its debt relief kit. The kit contains everything necessary to help consumers combine their bills into one convenient monthly payment. In many cases, creditors reduce or waive interest completely in an effort to help consumers avoid filing for bankruptcy.

Using the Debt Relief Kit, consumers fill out a simple creditor listing sheet and send it back for processing. "Everyone's bills are different, so consumers will receive their own personal debt reduction proposal," says Paul Navestad. The kit also contains information about a special attorney supervised debt assistance program for seniors and the disabled.

"This program helps people with a fixed income from social security or disability who are receiving threatening mail or harassing phone calls from unsecured creditors such as credit card companies, department stores, collection agencies, doctors and hospitals.

"Because your only income is from social security or from disability checks, the law protects you," explained Navestad to a group of seniors and disabled people.

"Your creditors will be contacted and notified that you are now being represented by an attorney. It is amazing to see how your health and outlook on life can improve just because those threatening letters and harassing phone calls have stopped." After a one-time set up fee, ongoing representation



by an attorney is only \$5 per month." The preparation of the personal debt reduction proposal is free of charge.

Consumers can receive a debt relief kit by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to: Financial Assistance Network - Debt Re-

lief Kit Offer - Dept. DRK-SRO428 - P.O. Box 60944, Washington, D.C. 20039-0944. Consumers can also get information from Financial Assistance Network's Internet website at: www.FinancialAssistanceNetworking.org or toll free hotline: 1-800-940-9051.

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MOBILE HOMES

NEW 3 BEDROOM 2 bath A/C, Extra Large Master Bath, Double Lavatories, Huge HEX Jacuzzi, Horse Shoe Kitchen. All Major Appliances. 301.71 per mo. 5% DP 9.75 APR VAR WAC for 360 months. Call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711.

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

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

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

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
830-563-2446 830-563-2447

Brackett Commercial property on east side of town, office, large garage used for work area, priced to sell.
2 lots on east side of Ann Street. \$2,750.00

Fort
3 bedroom, 2 bath home, must see!
3 bedroom, 2 bath home, tile and berber carpet, by the Oaks.
www.kinneycountyland.com

DEBBIE TRANT LOCKHART REAL ESTATE
830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

Fort: Price Slashed on spacious stone home, 3/2. 2200 +- sq.ft., FP, carport, large workshop, central locale, now \$97,000.

Fort: 3/2 mobile home in good location, new carpet, appliances, stone skirting, 2nd roof, privacy fence oak trees, only \$29,500 owner finance!

Well built stone home, 1600 +- sq.ft., FP, open kitchen/den, big screened porch, carport/storage, sprinkler system, manicured lawn.

MOBILE HOMES

"HOT, HOT, HOT Deals"
5 bdrm 3 bth 46,900 Y2K
3 bdrm 2 bath 18,000 Y2K
2 bdrm 2 bth 16,000 Y2K
double wide 3/2 2,000 used cash
3 bdrm 1,500 cash. 1-800-756-7711.

ABANDONED HOME NEEDS owner. Pay small transfer fee and move in. 1-800-756-7711.

3/2 ON 5.5 acres with lake access. Lease purchase option. 1-800-756-7711.

TRANSFERRED TO FLA. Owner to co-sign and make first payment. 1-800-756-7711.

SINGLE WIDE SET up in park close to good schools. For sale by owner. 1-800-756-7711.

WOODED ACREAGE for mobile homes. Owner fin. 1-800-756-7711.

REAL ESTATE

FORECLOSED HOMES. LOW or \$0 down! Gov't and bank repos being sold now! Fantastic savings! Financing available. Local listings, 1-800-501-1777, ext. 299.

2.84 ACRES CHOICE highway frontage Hwy 90 & 131 Brackettville. \$60,000 firm. 830-774-5084.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

SEALED BIDS will be received by the Brackett Independent School District on Tuesday, July 18, 2000 at 3:00 p.m. for the following project: Air Conditioning of Gymnasium for Brackett ISD. Bids will be received at the School Superintendent's Office, located at 400 Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas, and then publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals received after closing time, or not accompanied by all required documents, will be returned, and not considered. Specifications and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations: Office of Taylor Stephenson, Superintendent of Schools, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas 78832, John S. Graves & Associates, Inc., Architects, 202 Hornby Place, Uvalde, TX 78801. Plans may be obtained upon deposit of \$25.00 from the Office of the Architect. The Owner reserves the right to waive formalities or to reject any or all bids, and to award the contract to the most advantageous bidder. Each bidder shall deposit with his Bid a Certified Check or Bid Bond, in the amount of Five Percent (5%) of his proposal. 100% Performance Bond and 100% Payment Bond will be required.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE Development Council announces the availability of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Grant Funding for Fiscal Year 2001 in cooperation with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission. Regional Funding available this year is \$89,717.00. Eligible project categories under this grant include: Local Enforcement, Source Reduction and Recycling, Citizens' Collection Stations and "Small" Registered Scales at MSW Landfills, Technical Studies and Local Solid Waste Management Plans, River and Lake Clean-ups and Texas Country Cleanups, Educational and Training Projects. Eligible applicants are: Cities, Counties, Public Schools and School Districts, General and Special Law Districts and Regional Planning Commissions (Council of Government) in the Middle Rio Grande Development Council service delivery area. Please note that as per TNRCC guidelines, applications for the collection and/or transportation of MSW are not eligible for funding, furthermore, as a matter of policy the MRGDC Board does not solicit applications for soft costs. For more information on this request for project proposals, and/or a copy of an application packet, please contact: Gilberto Sz. Gonzalez, Solid Waste Coordinator, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, TX 78834, phone (830) 876-3533, extension 1207. Proposals shall be accepted until 5 p.m. August 3, 2000.

BRACKETT ISD is accepting bids for the removal and/or tear down of the old AG Building (Baby Gym). Specifications can be picked up at the Central Office, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville. Bids are due and will be opened Monday, July 10th, at 3:00 P.M. All bids must be sealed and clearly marked on the envelope, Bid - Old AG Building.

WANTED

WANTED: CARRIER For San Antonio Express News in Brackettville area. Contact Joe 775-0332. Pager 1-888-839-1665

WE BUY ALUMINUM cans 30¢ lb. Batteries 75¢ ea. Also old cars with titles. 563-9970.

Texas crime rate decreases

The number of major crimes committed in Texas decreased by .06 percent in 1999, according to preliminary data compiled by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The crime rate-the number of crimes per 100,000 population in Texas-declined 1.5 percent.

The eight-page summary of crime information can be accessed at the DPS Web site, www.txdps.state.tx.us.

The DPS does not speculate on reasons for crime rate variations. Please contact your local police department or criminal justice professor for further analysis.

Year 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999
Volume 1,356,451 1,245,897 1,160,932 1,079,340 1,064,362 1,091,878 1,064,914 1,009,868 1,009,253

Change +2% -8.2% -6.8% -7% -1.4% +2.6% -2.5% -5.2% -.06%

Answer to Crossword

BEA	WHEW	DEM
OVID	LAURA	HARI
REDO	INERT	ATON
ALARMED	SCENES	
	MEDEA	HUG
FLED	RUT	REALM
GLORIA	GAG	ROAR
IOU	ALUMNUS	RYE
GRIP	EKE	MINTED
SAISSY	END	TEAR
	EEN	TONIC
STUPOR	BANTAMS	
CLOD	RABBIT	ANEW
RENO	SPOIL	RONA
ODE	ETON	NUB

For local news, Read the Brackett News

4th of July BLAST OFF! We're shooting the Works!

Starts Thursday 9AM-9PM

6 MONTHS FREE NO DOWN PAYMENT NO INTEREST FOR 6 FULL MONTHS

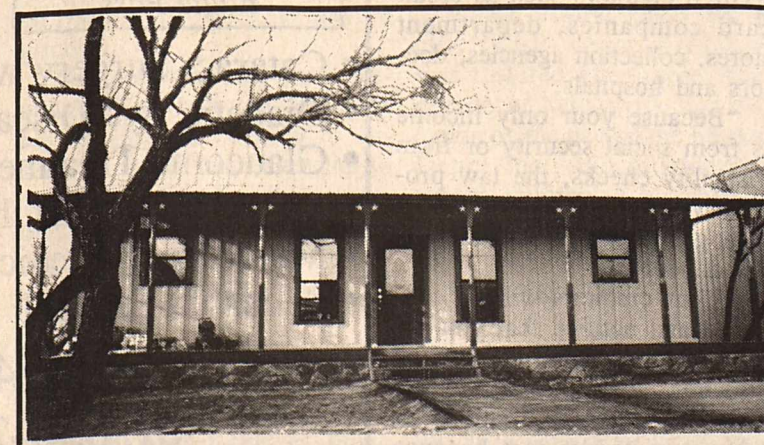
Queen Ann Cherry Writing Desk \$199	Oak Computer Desk and Hutch Top \$299	Grandfather Clock Large Selections as low as \$799	Tomasville Entertainment Armoire \$2475	Wingback Chair and Otto your choice of colors \$249
Broyhill Sofa & Loveseat 1 only - 1/2 price reg. \$1600 \$799	Broyhill Sofa, Chair & Otto \$995	8 Piece Cherry Dining Room China, table, 1 arm, 5 side \$1995	Full-Queen Serta Sleeper your choice \$498	Solid Wood Oval Table & 4 chairs \$499
5 Piece Glass & Iron Table & 4 chairs \$399	Brass & Glass Vanity & Bench 1 only \$50	Solid Wood Dresser, Hutch Mirror & Headboard \$699	Cherry Finish Dresser, Mirror, Headboard & Nightstand \$699	Close Out on Broyhill white youth group bedroom all 50% OFF

Ave. F at 10th 775-1508
MON - SAT 9AM-6PM THURS 9AM-9PM
*Ricks will be closed July 4th
www.ricksfurniturecompany.com

Ricks FURNITURE COMPANY SINCE 1947

FREE DELIVERY TO BRACKETTVILLE
18% accrues from date of delivery. Will be deducted if account paid in full by Jan. 2001. Requires \$399 minimum purchase. Subject to credit approval. Does not apply to prior purchase. 20% Deposit required on all special orders.

Hill Country Community MHMR Center
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Responsible for Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center Administration on behalf of the Board of Trustees; coordination of strategic planning; interactions with advisory/advocacy groups, funding and accreditation entities; responsible for fiscal accountability and human resources practices. Extensive travel required. Master's degree in Psychology, Sociology, Medicine, Business or Public Education. 6 years professional experience, 3 in administrative and/or management positions; 3 years direct experience in mental health/mental retardation system. Prefer previous MHMR experience in procedures, operations, and service delivery; exp. with organizational development, complex budgets, and long-range planning; exp. reporting to board; managed care environment; exp. with legislative initiatives and public and private funding arenas.
Send Resume and Salary Requirements to:
Judge David Montgomery
The Medina County Courthouse
1100 16th Street, Room 101
Hondo, Texas 78861
This position closes on July 7, 2000 at 5:00 p.m.
CALL JOB LINE for details
1-800-687-5276
www.hillcountry.org
Hill Country is an EOE



FRONTIER TEXAS STYLE - New home for sale in Fort Clark. 3 BR 2 bath. Large Porch. Craftsman built. Antique trim. 1200 sq.ft. Living area - \$68,500. 563-9473 or 830-317-4193 anytime.