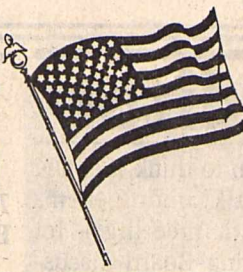


# The Brackett News



The countdown continues...  
...School starts Monday, Aug. 14



12th year, No. 28

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

## Briefs ...

### Museum opens Saturday

The Kinney County Heritage Museum will be open Saturday, Aug. 12 from 1 to 4 p.m.

### 1,040 apprehended

There were 1,040 apprehensions in the Brackettville area during July, Del Rio Sector Border Patrol reports indicate.

That number is included in the sector total of 9,373 during that time period. Also included in the sector totals are 86 apprehensions in the Abilene area; 1,237 in Carrizo Springs; 62 in Comstock; 1,309 in Del Rio; 5,297 in Eagle Pass; 6 in Llano, 67 in Rocksprings; 43 in San Angelo; and 226 in Uvalde. Of the total number apprehended, all but 380 were Mexican nationals.

Also during July, agents seized 2,188.62 pounds of marijuana having a street value of \$1,750,895.

### Disaster training

Join a local or national disaster response team and help make a difference! American Red Cross Training will begin Friday, Aug. 18 at 6 p.m. and continue Saturday, Aug. 19 at 8:30 a.m. in La Quinta Motel in Del Rio. There is no fee for the training. Interested persons may call Jane Pratt at 775-8626 to sign up.

### Red Cross to raise funds

To raise funds for the American Red Cross, the Del Rio branch is hosting its second annual wine tasting gathering Friday, Sept. 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Pecan Street Station in Del Rio. Wines from across Texas will be served. Also planned is a silent auction of items donated by local artists. Interested persons may call 775-8626 or 775-1632 for more information.

### Air Amistad set Oct. 8

A Korean War-era dogfight between a MIG and an F-80 jet, the U.S. Army Golden Knights parachute team and the always popular U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds will highlight the Air Amistad 2000 open house and air show Oct. 8 at Laughlin Air Force Base. Gates open at 9 a.m.

Military aircraft such as huge cargo and tanker aircraft, high-performance fighters and bombers will be on display to view and photograph. For up-to-the minute details on the open house and airshow events, visit the Air Amistad 2000 web site available at [www.laughlin.af.mil](http://www.laughlin.af.mil).

## INSIDE

### What will you do in the end?

We have just seen another terrifying example of the power of the media to form public opinion and effect changes in government.

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### Texans enjoy golfing in Wisconsin

Thirty persons from Oklahoma, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin and Fort Clark Springs members attended the third annual Wisconsin golf outing hosted by Ann Malin and Ken and Ruth Spencer

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### Making A Difference

We're working hard this week, trying to get everything as right as possible before the first day of school.

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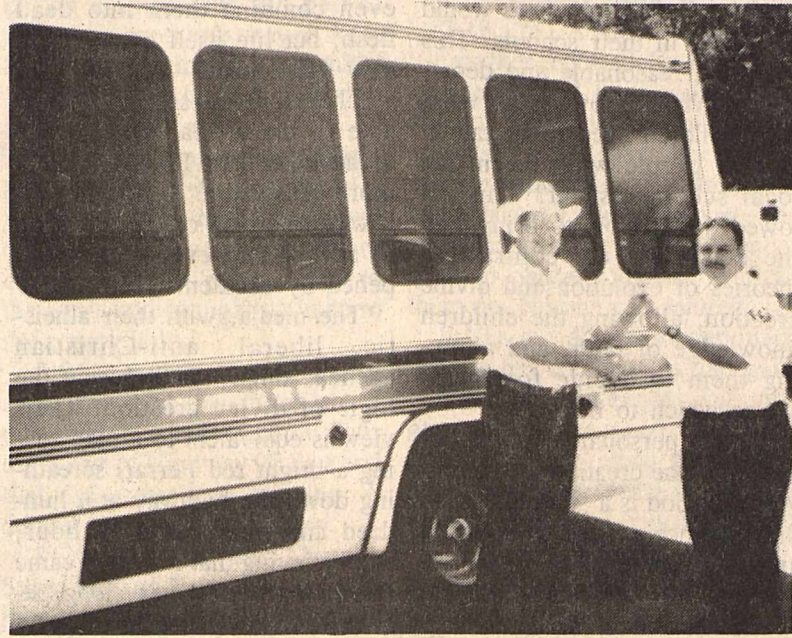
12th year, No. 28

## River City EMS donates shuttle bus to Expanded Horizons Inc.

Submitted by Herb Senne

Larry Hernandez, owner of River City EMS of San Antonio and Jaime Castro, regional director of River City EMS, recently teamed up with Expanded Horizons Director Herb Senne and Lee Sweeten, regional director of the Texas Department of Health (TDH) to help alleviate a growing transportation problem.

"The number of folks we are serving through our local work center is growing at a steady pace," according to Senne. "We had already outgrown the small station wagon provided by the Hill Country Community MHMR Center. In addition to seating capacity, our local work center needed a vehicle equipped with a wheelchair lift. Thanks to the kind folks at River City EMS and to Lee Sweeten of TDH, we now have both. We can now accommodate and transport all our clients to and from the local work center. Our clients can even take an out of town "fun" trip if they wish. Our community has been in need of a vehicle capable of transporting folks in a wheelchair for a long while. This vehicle is



Jaime Castro, right, gives Herb Senne the keys to the shuttle bus. Castro is regional director of River City EMS, a privately owned EMS service owned by San Antonio resident, Larry Hernandez. Hernandez is originally from Brackettville.

equipped with a "new" 1000 pound lift. If possible, our work center staff and customers hope to be able to contract with various local businesses and individuals to begin providing this service in the future.

"Our clients are all looking forward to their first ride in their

"new wheels." Just as soon as we have insurance in place and a new inspection sticker affixed, you should see it and its passengers smiling and waving as they pass you by. Wave back and smile, both are contagious!"

## Kinney County students face new immunization rules for hepatitis A

Children in Kinney County enrolling in schools or child-care facilities this fall face new immunization rules for hepatitis A.

Also, students in public and private schools and child-care facilities must be up to date on all their immunizations, adds Kristin Hamlett of the Immunization Division of the Texas Department of Health.

The hepatitis A vaccine requirement affects students attending school or child care facilities in Kinney and 31 other counties along the Texas-Mexico border. Since Aug. 1, 1999, two doses of hepatitis A have been required for children 5 years and older, born on or after Sept. 2, 1992. As of Monday, Aug. 1 of this year, this requirement expands to include younger children enrolled in licensed child-care facilities.

Two-year-olds must get one dose of hepatitis A vaccine on or before their second birthday. Children in this birth group - born on or after Sept. 2, 1992, must have two doses by the time they turn 3.

The hepatitis A vaccine requirement affects students attending school or child care facilities in Kinney and 31 other counties along the Texas-Mexico border. Since Aug. 1, 1999, two doses of hepatitis A have been required for children 5 years and older, born on or after Sept. 2, 1992. As of Monday, Aug. 1 of this year, this requirement expands to include younger children enrolled in licensed child-care facilities.

(See Immunization Chart on Page 4)

Children with proof of a previous hepatitis A infection do not need to be vaccinated.

Studies show that 50 percent of children in the 32 border counties in Texas have been infected with hepatitis A by age 10. During the last 10 years, an average of 39 cases of hepatitis A infection per 100,000 population a year was recorded in this area. The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends routine hepatitis A vaccinations in areas that average at least 10 cases per

100,000 population a year for 10 years.

Also as of Aug. 1, the existing requirement for hepatitis B vaccine expands to include a group of adolescents. Previously, children born on or after Sept. 2, 1992, had to show proof of receiving three doses of hepatitis B vaccine by age 5. As of Aug. 1, children born on or after Sept. 2, 1988, also must be vaccinated against hepatitis B. These children may receive the vaccine at

Continued on Page 4

## Work to begin soon on new Pico Store

Construction will soon begin on a 4,000 square foot building that will house a larger and improved Pico Store that will better serve the estimated 1,000 customers that stop by the store each day, said

Rick Alvarado, manager.

Last week, work crews began preliminary work and will continue to tear down the three vacant buildings currently adjacent to the existing store, toward Ann

Street.

The new store will be in that area, and the existing store will be torn down and a couple of gas pump islands and a satellite diesel pump will take its place.



Work crews will tear down these buildings to make room for a 4,000 square foot building that will house a new and improved Pico Store, according to Rick Alvarado, manager. The new store also will bring more jobs to the area.

## Manuel Sanchez trial scheduled to begin Oct. 24

Pre-trial motions in the Manuel "Timber" Sanchez case, scheduled to take place here Tuesday morning, were postponed until September in Del Rio, after Sanchez's court appointed attorney, Victor Roberto Garcia, asked 63rd Judicial District Judge George Thurmond for more time to gather material for his client's defense.

At the scheduled pre-trial hearing Tuesday morning on the second floor of the Kinney County Courthouse, Garcia, a Del Rio attorney, asked Thurmond for additional time because he needed help interviewing people in the Brackettville area.

Garcia was told he could hire an investigator at a cost of up to \$1,000. Garcia said he has retained the services of J.R. Soto of Del Rio to investigate. Sanchez's trial is scheduled to begin on Oct.

24 in Kinney County.

Sanchez, 44, stands accused of murder in the death of Alfonso Gomez Jr., 30. He remains in custody in the Kinney County Jail. Sanchez was charged with murder in mid-March after Gomez died from stab wounds to the chest and left arm. The prosecution contends that the stabbing incident occurred after Sanchez and the victim fought because of a past grudge. Sanchez also is accused of the attempted murder of Jerry Guidry, manager of Mario's Pub where the stabbing took place. Guidry was wounded in the right arm and abdominal area while attempting to break up the fight.

Sanchez fled the scene after the stabbing and was later arrested at his residence. He did not resist arrest and voluntarily surrendered a knife, believed to be the murder weapon.

## City charges residents new gas rate too soon

In case you didn't notice, your gas bill was higher than usual this month, but it shouldn't have been.

Citizens who did notice the increase and phoned city hall were reminded by City Secretary David Luna that the city council had voted last month to increase the gas rates.

The council did raise the rates on July 10 but the hike was not supposed to become effective until Aug. 1.

Residents received their bills last week. The bills reflected a July 15 reading and should have stayed at the old rate of \$2.89 per BTU until July 31, but residents were charged the new rate, \$4.20 per BTU which should not have become effective until Aug. 1. When asked to explain why, Luna turned the matter over to another city employee who answered that she had just followed orders. Phone calls were made to the mayor and some council members about this matter; however, some council members could not be contacted because they have unlisted numbers.

Within a few days though, the city spent hundreds of dollars in

postage to let residents know of the billing mistake. A letter said top

"On July 26, the city entered into a new gas contract with West Texas Gas Marketing Inc. The new price was to take effect Aug. 1, while the old contract or old price was to end on July 31.

"On July 31, the new price was entered into the Utilities Department computer, the bills were then printed and sent out. The price should not have been entered until after July 31.

"The Utilities Department will make an adjustment of error in August, therefore you, the customer will be paying the price you paid in previous months. The new price will not be added on until September.

The increase will be \$1.31 per 1000 MBTU. I apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused. (Signed) David Luna.

On July 10, the city council unanimously voted to enter into a three-year contract with the gas company at a fixed rate of \$4.20 per British Thermal Unit (BTU).

The new gas rate will continue through July 31, 2003.

## BISD board approval sought for vocational classes and clubs

Brackett High School will be seeking approval to add new vo-

ccational classes and clubs to the district curriculum for implementation second semester, according to Michael Hall, high school principal.

A proposal will be presented soon to the Brackett Independent School Board of Trustees for the panel's consideration.

The primary goal of the high school is to provide students with more work-release opportunities for credit, he added.

The high school will also be seeking to expand partnerships within the business community.

The key vocational clubs that would be formed are:

FBLA - Future Business Leaders of America;

VICA - Vocational and Industrial Clubs of America and

DECA - Distributive Education Clubs of America.

Many high schools in Texas and across the United States have student chapters in FBLA, VICA and DECA.

It is readily apparent that not all graduating seniors are college bound.

Many college graduates have found that there is no work available upon graduation in their chosen field.

BHS parents and students who are interested in helping to organize and investigate these programs should call the high school office for more information.

Letters to the Editor

I have taken considerable time to mull over the two "information" sheets sent out by the Good Government Group (GGG) and their statement "because we are needed" - I don't think so!

They state in the last "information" that they are in a position "...to identify and elect members who we know to be wise..." etc. - but only if they agree with their ideas. A member should be able to run for the Board if he/she so desires and without the approval of any group. Qualifications are on the resume and the ballot. From what I have observed in the past, some of the nominees selected, and elected, leave a lot to be desired. FCSA is a business and not a toy to be played with.

GGG comments on the Concerned Members (CM) disrupting meetings. What about the

GGG who seem to think it is OK for them to talk among themselves during a meeting - let alone interrupting Board discussions if they don't approve of what is being said.

Where are their manners and where is the president who can't, or won't, bring the meeting to order? These members should be removed from the meeting - no matter who they are. A sergeant at arms is needed who will remove disrupting members.

Yes, the GGG admits they "have an agenda." Unless something "radical" is done, the ability to be financially sound will be lost.

One should know whereof they speak before they speak. Their information says nothing and does exactly what they claim the CM letters have done.

PJ Rogers

What will you do in the end?

The Way I See It! By Steven R. LaMascus

We have just seen another terrifying example of the power of the media to form public opinion and effect changes in government.

Kansas' Board of Education last year enacted policy that allowed local school districts to determine whether or not evolution or creation or both would be taught in their schools. This was both reasonable and democratic. Who knows best what their children need to be taught but the people who live in the local school district? This allowed the schools to bring into the classroom the contrasting theories of evolution and divine creation, allowing the children knowledge of both, and allowing them to decide for themselves which to believe.

Now I personally do not believe that the creation of the universe by God is a "theory." I see the evidence of that creation all around me every day and have no option but to believe that God spoke the universe into being. That everything I see everyday was the result of a fortuitous ac-

cident is simply not acceptable to my (I hope) logical mind.

On the other hand, evolution is a "theory" of the most theoretical kind. There is simply no evidence, not one smidgen, that life came from nothingness by the interaction of various chemicals and compounds. We may someday be able to manufacture the building blocks of life, amino acids, proteins, and so forth, and even combine them into dead flesh, but life itself comes from only one source - God.

Therefore, it seems reasonable to me to teach the divine creation of all. It is infinitely more reasonable to accept that it was all a plan of creation than to accept that everything happened by accident.

The media, with their atheistic, liberal, anti-Christian agenda, simply can't accept the logic of divine creation. Their view is equivalent to a man seeing a bright red Ferrari screaming down the highway at a hundred and forty miles an hour, and believing that it simply came into being over a very long period of time by accident out of base elements interacting with each other, rather than the ob-

vious conclusion that a covey of Italian craftsmen built it from a set of blueprints. Think about it!

When the brave and right-thinking Kansas Board of Education decided to allow the students to decide for themselves who was right, the media were enraged.

"We can't have this," they said. "These people are allowing God into their schools. This is a flagrant violation of the separation of Church and State. Oh, no! We must save these innocent children from the curses of conservatism and Judeo-Christian ethics."

And with that they mounted a campaign to denigrate and demonize the members of the board who were simply trying to give their children the very best education possible. And they succeeded!

In the recent election, two of three members who openly campaigned for teaching creationism were defeated in the Republican primary. One was nominated again. To effect this miracle the Democratic Party advised its members to change parties and vote in the Republican primary for the purpose of

nominating liberal candidates. This was the only way they could defeat the incumbents in a conservative Republican state. Once again Evil, by trickery and deceit, has won a battle over Good. But the war isn't over.

The liberal elements in the media continue to make inroads. They win a battle here and there and influence elections and persuade good people that evil is good, right is wrong, and God is dead; but they are wrong.

They cannot know it because they are blind to the truth, but they are going to eventually realize what fools they have been.

Someday they will rue the day they decided to abandon Christian truths for atheistic lies. When they, all of them, are standing in front of the Great White Throne answering for their evil, worthless lives, they will understand perfectly.

Jeremiah 5:30, 31 - "A horrible and shocking thing has happened in the land: The prophets' prophesy lies, the priests rule by their own authority, and my people love it this way.

But what will you do in the end?"

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 Sez!**



Let us endeavor to live that when we die even the undertaker will be sorry

Your Representatives

- President**  
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Comment line 1-202-456-1111
- U.S. Senator**  
The Honorable Phil Gramm  
370 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
- 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**  
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The Honorable Frank Madla, Texas Senate, P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, 1-512-463-0121
- State Representative District 74**  
The Honorable Pete P. Gallego, 1110 W. 10th Street Del Rio, Texas 78840, 1-830-774-0800

Mandatory workman's comp in Texas a bad idea

Submitted by Bill Hammond

Texas is the only state in the union that allows employers to decide if they wish to carry workers' compensation coverage. If the Texas AFL-CIO has its way, employers in Texas will be forced into a system that does not meet the needs of every Texas business.

Yet, the Texas AFL-CIO has set, as a top legislative goal, the passage of mandatory workers' comp in this state.

Increasingly, Texas business owners are turning to private insurers for workplace coverage and electing to stay out of the state's workers' comp program. The reason is pretty simple: costs are 40 to 60 percent less when employers choose not to carry workers' comp by offering employees alternative means of coverage and care.

Texas businesses have no choice but to look for alternatives, because the current Texas workers' comp system is in need of repair. Studies estimate that the cost of worker's compensation insurance in Texas is currently 47 percent above the national average.

But there are still those special interest groups such as the Texas AFL-CIO that want to protect and promote our failed system. What the big labor bosses want is for the Texas Legislature to take what is arguably a bad workers' compensation system and make it mandatory for all Texas businesses.

This is a bad idea for Texas businesses and it is a bad idea for Texas workers. The reason is simple - the current Texas system provides protections for employers that are inadequate at best.

Currently in Texas, 60 per-

cent of employers (employing 80 percent of the Texas workforce) carry workers compensation insurance. Many of the remaining businesses do not carry such coverage because first, it is so expensive and secondly, because there is no effective oversight of the system that limits its abuse.

In terms of costs, workers compensation adds on average 5 percent to a company's payroll costs. If you are operating on a thin profit margin, this could be trouble. If you are operating a labor intensive business where personnel costs make up the bulk of your expenses, the AFL-CIO proposal might just put you out of business.

Many Texas companies have found ways to provide a benefit package that covers injured workers without joining the workers' comp system. These

businesses provide similar benefits while saving 40 to 60 percent over the cost of workers' comp through a directed care system. By designing their own system, adequate oversight and controls can be instituted which can lead to injured workers returning to the job in a much more timely fashion, benefitting both the employees and the employer. Besides saving money, operating outside the workers' compensation system has caused these companies to be more safety conscious.

As far as abuses of the system goes, it boils down to a resistance to directed care. If a health care provider sees an open-ended system that will pay her forever to treat someone, whether the patient needs the treatment to continue or not, what is his or her incentive to discontinue the unnecessary office visits?

The answer is none.

Such a system is obviously expensive for employers, but it is not in the injured workers best interest either. Keep in mind that the whole time the worker has remained on workers' comp, he or she is only earning 70 percent of normal pay. How many of us can survive at 70 percent of income for an extended period of time?

Not surprisingly, the majority of worker's' comp lawsuits comes from employees whose employers participate in the workers' comp program. What an irony it is that the system that is supposedly set up to non-judicially remedy the plight of an injured worker actually puts the worker in a bind and facilitates lawsuits.

Rest assured that many groups will have their lobbyists out in force next legislative session to try to give birth to this ill-conceived idea.

But TABCC will also be there in the hall of the capitol building representing the best interest of Texas businesses and their employees. Our message: *Mandatory workers' comp is a bad idea.* It punishes small business owners and it provides no tangible benefit for employees of small businesses.

We will actively oppose mandatory comp and will need the help of every business man and woman in Texas. Our elected officials need to hear from you. When they do, I am confident that common sense will prevail.

Instead of institutionalizing a broken worker's comp system, let's focus our efforts on fixing our current overpriced and ineffective system. If we can do that, all Texans will benefit.

(Bill Hammond is the president of the Austin based Texas Association of Business and Chambers of Commerce).

Social Security without limits

Capitol Comment By Kay Bailey Hutchison United States Senator

The Social Security earnings limit always struck me as one of the most ill-considered parts of the federal tax code. Government shouldn't be in the business of discouraging adults from working, regardless of what age they are.

Until last April, Social Security recipients age 65 to 69 lost \$1 in benefits for every \$3 they earned above the earnings limit, which in 1999 was \$9,600. Beneficiaries subject to that penalty were being assessed, in effect, a 33 1/3 percent marginal tax rate after having paid into the Social Security system all their lives.

This punished and discriminated against seniors who remain active and productive in the workforce. It gnawed away at the idea that individuals should be allowed to decide how to spend their retirement years without government interference.

This earnings limit was the survivor of a bygone era, a product of the Great Depression when unemployment stood at 25 percent. At that time there was a national consensus that an individual should retire completely after reaching a certain age, and make room for other younger people badly in need of a job.

But in today's low unemployment economy, it is important for those with experience and skill to stay in the workforce as long as possible. The continuing participation of older Americans is increasingly critical to the health of the U.S. economy. The 40 million-plus Americans age 60 and over represent a vast store of human capital. Economists estimate that removing the earnings limit could increase the labor supply by 5.3 percent by allowing individuals to continue working without tax penalties.

So in March of this year, Congress unanimously passed a bill eliminating the earnings penalty and it was signed into law the following month, directly affecting the hundreds of thousands of Social Security recipients who are working this year. The repeal is retroactive to January 1, so the

415,000 working seniors will get refunds for the money already deducted from their Social Security checks.

In addition to the basic issues of fairness and the desirability of maintaining a skills workforce, the repeal will strengthen the retirement security of Americans by giving seniors the choice of working longer and saving more - an important consideration when more people are living longer than ever before. Breakthroughs in medicine and biotechnology mean future retirees will live even longer. Repealing the earnings limit will help to raise the standard of living for many, many seniors, as well as strengthen our overall economy.

This was a correction to the tax code we could afford to make. No recipients are receiving higher benefits than they would have otherwise. We have balanced the budget and begun to pay down the debt. We anticipate healthy surpluses. There was no reason not to make this adjustment in basic fairness. Getting rid of this tax on working seniors was the right thing to do.

**The Brackett News**

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

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**The Brackett News**

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\$1 for each page thereafter

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## Kinney County Sheriff's Report ...

**Monday, July 31**  
9:30 p.m. A local rancher reported that someone had opened the dog pen on his ranch and that all his dogs were running loose. He said he would check on his lambs and sheep in the morning to see if they were still there.

**Wednesday, Aug. 2**  
6:15 a.m., Jesus Ramos Jr., 21, of Batesville, Texas, was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Second Offense. He posted bond Saturday, Aug. 5 and was released.

**Thursday, Aug. 3**  
4:11 a.m., Someone at the Highway 90 East checkpoint station alerted law enforcement officials here they had a possible intoxicated driver. Deputy Pena was dispatched to the checkpoint.

10:05 a.m. A husband and wife had an argument and the wife left the house driving the family truck. The husband asked for deputy's help in getting back the truck. The wife was located and she refused to take the truck back because she said the vehicle was in her name. The deputy told the couple that due to community property laws in this state, he did not have the authority to say whose truck it was.

6:45 p.m., A horse was sighted on Highway 693 (Macy Road) near Highway 90. The owners were contacted and they went to

get the animal.

6:50 p.m. Someone reported that there were about 10 illegal aliens approximately 8 to 10 miles west of Brackettville on Highway 90. Border Patrol agents were notified.

9:41 p.m., A local boy said he was bitten by a dog. The dog's owner told deputies that the dog bit the boy when the boy came onto her property. The owner was asked to keep the dog tied up for 10 days and to watch its behavior. Deputies would return in 10 days to check up on the dog and would let the boy know if he would need any medical attention.

11:15 p.m., A woman reported that, as she and her children were fishing in the area behind the fort, a motorist drove by and used vulgar language. She and her children decided to leave and got into their truck. But the motorist followed them and "started to play chicken" with her. She then drove to the fort's front gate and told the security officer what had happened.

**Saturday, Aug. 5**

12:16 a.m., A Border Patrol agent advised law enforcement officials here that a Del Rio Police officer was following a motorist who was driving dangerously. A Department of Public Safety trooper was advised.

6 a.m., Enrique Mendez of Stafford was arrested for DWLS. He posted bond and was released.

8:28 a.m., Mario Castillo, 36, of Houston was arrested for Driving While License Suspended (DWLS). He posted bond and was released.

1:55 a.m., A local resident reported that a motorist was speeding up and down Ann Street. A deputy was dispatched to the scene and took care of the situation.

2:39 p.m., A local resident reported a suspicious van parked near her brother's house near Spofford. Nothing had been taken from the house but she wanted to make a report anyway.

2:40 p.m., Border Patrol agents apprehended a man who had a warrant out for his arrest based on charges of harassment in another county. A deputy went to the scene and brought the man to the county jail.

3:01 p.m., A Border Patrol agent reported that there was a one-vehicle accident about four miles east of Highway 90. East and that there were no injuries. A deputy was sent to the scene.

3:20 p.m., Craig Thomas Stiner, 29, of Tyler was arrested based on an outstanding warrant from Smith County. He was released Monday, Aug. 7 per Judge Dunn.

3:30 p.m., Two families were arguing over a table near the Fort Clark Springs swimming pool and a deputy went to the scene to take care of the situation.

5:09 p.m., A motorist needed assistance on Highway 90 West at Elm Creek and a DPS trooper was notified.

11:22 p.m., A local resident reported that his neighbor was hollering and fighting with his family. A deputy was sent to the scene to investigate.

**Sunday, Aug. 6**

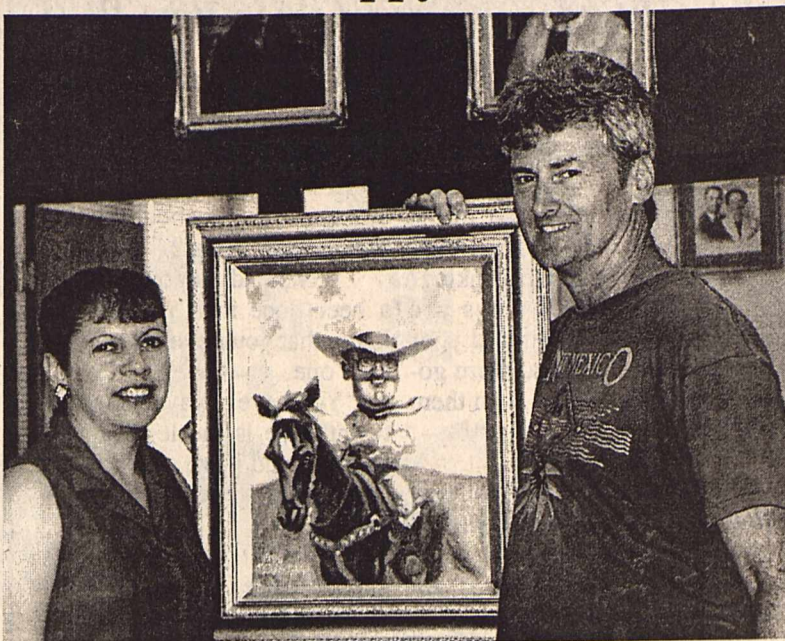
3:18 a.m., A Rio Grande Electric worker reported that a vehicle apparently had hit a utility pole about 11 miles east of Brackettville on Highway 90 East. The driver of the vehicle and his passengers had obtained a ride to Brackettville and had gone to a convenience store to phone someone to pick them up. No one was injured.

9:13 a.m., A motorist reported leaving her car keys in the ignition and that the engine was still on. A deputy was sent to the scene.

1:05 p.m., A man reported a woman for interfering with child custody. Deputies investigated.

11:23 p.m. A local resident reported that an unknown person was knocking at her door. A deputy was sent to investigate.

## A tribute to Happy Shahan



Texas Tim Webb presents Sara Terrazas, Kinney County Librarian, a caricature painting of the late and great Happy Shahan. Webb is from Houston but has been a frequent visitor to Brackettville since 1982. His mother, Catherine Webb, has lived at Fort Clark Springs since 1985. Texas Tim said he was on his way to New Mexico in 1982 when he stopped off in Brackettville and "fell in love with the town." Part of his stop in Brackettville included a trip to Alamo Village of course, where he met Happy. He "loves the ambience of Brackettville and Alamo Village" Webb said, which is why he visits the area at least three times a year. His painting, entitled, "Happy Shahan, Visionary of Texas," was painted by Texas Tim in 1999. The painting will be placed in the "Happy Room" in the children's section of the library.

## Outdoors

### Wildlife cooperatives fight habitat fragmentation

A Little on the Wildlife Side  
By Henry Lutz

A new wildlife cooperative on the Middle Trinity River shows an important trend in Texas — multiple landowners banding together to combat the fragmentation of wildlife habitat caused in part by the breakup of family lands.

In 1999, the U.S. Department of Agriculture conducted a survey that showed Texas led the nation in the loss of undeveloped land from 1992-1997. The federal government reported that every two minutes another acre of Texas farmland or open space becomes a subdivision, shopping mall or road. In some cases, heirs feel compelled to sell or subdivide property to pay estate taxes. Fragmentation of large tracts of land by commercial and urban development and road construction has disrupted natural travel corridors and feeding areas for wildlife, making efficient land and wildlife management practices difficult to

implement. Many landowners across the state have formed cooperative groups that implement management programs over large areas, rather than individual programs for each piece of property.

Texas Parks and Wildlife is assisting cooperative efforts by providing management assistance as well as incorporating habitat management on state-owned land and TPW-managed land into the strategies of neighboring cooperatives. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, for example, owns over 140,000 acres of land in 46 counties. Some of the land is managed by TPW and being incorporated into various co-ops.

One new group in the cooperative effort is the Middle Trinity River Conservation Cooperative, led by cardiologist Dr. Robert McFarlane of Palestine. Although the MTRCC began forming this year, more than 100,000 acres of public and private land have already been incorporated into the group's efforts. Public lands in-

volved with the co-op consist of 21,000 acres owned by TDCJ. More than 20,000 acres that have been added to the MTRCC's management area include the Engeling, Richland Creek and Big Lake Bottom wildlife management areas.

McFarlane said he has noticed a significant increase in wildlife on his 7,200-acre ranch since he started a management plan five years ago. He said it is normal to see several hundred deer each day, while it was rare to see more than a few five years ago.

"There's no point in trying to manage wildlife unless the owners of the adjacent properties are on the same plan as you," McFarlane said. "There are a lot of people interested in the co-op because we all will benefit from it. With the interest I see in this, I expect to see this group double in a year." Along with deer management, McFarlane has built dams and levees to attract waterfowl. Many outdoor enthusiasts in the

area would like to establish the Trinity River Basin as a migratory waterfowl habitat. For many landowners, the revenue from leasing land to hunters is beginning to exceed that produced through traditional agricultural use.

TPW Technical Guidance Biologist Matt Wagner said the MTRCC is important because it will be one of the only co-ops on a major watershed with deer, waterfowl and ecotourism interests.

Not only will the MTRCC help boost wildlife populations along the river, but it will also help protect a large portion of the 300,000 acres of bottomland hardwood forest in the river basin.

For more information on how to start a co-op or find a one in your area, contact Texas Organization of Wildlife Management Associations President Jack Holman at (979) 732-7503. For more information on MTRCC or management plans contact Matt Wagner at (409) 845-5798.

### Domestic ticks can carry deadly livestock disease

For years, ranchers, veterinarians and livestock health officials have been vigilant for foreign ticks capable of carrying dangerous animal diseases. That's not enough, admonishes Dr. Pete Teel, a Texas A&M University tick specialist who says Texas' home-grown ticks could also transmit deadly infections.

"If infected tropical bont ticks from the Caribbean introduced heartwater into Texas, our native Gulf Coast tick could become infected, making disease eradication extremely, if not nearly impossible, to wipe out," said Dr. Teel. He described heartwater as an acute and usually fatal tick-borne disease that affects ruminants — cud chewing animals such as cows, sheep, goats and deer.

Dr. Teel is building a database and "mapping" the migration of native ticks, particularly the Gulf Coast tick. He pointed out that this tick lived only 50 to 100 miles inland until the 1960s, when it was detected in Kansas and Oklahoma. Since then, it has been found in 50 of Oklahoma's 77 counties, and in 19 of Kansas' 105 counties.

"We can fight an outbreak of a

tick-borne disease more effectively, if we know where susceptible ticks live," said Dr. Teel. He urged livestock producers, veterinarians and others to send tick specimens for identification to the state federal laboratory of the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

"Adult Gulf Coast ticks," which prefer animals' head and ear regions, appear in June, and populations peak from August through October," he said. "It's 'prime time' for collection and submission." He reminded ranchers to check not only domestic livestock, but exotic hoofstock as well. Feral hogs, he noted, also are notorious tick "toters," known to carry Gulf Coast, Lone Star and American dog ticks.

Free "ectoparasite collection vials" or submission kits for ticks and maggots (worms) are available from TAHC inspectors or the Area 6 office in Lampasas at 1-800-658-6642, feed stores, county agents or veterinarians. The kits, which include a short questionnaire, are pre-addressed and may

be mailed at no cost. Laboratory staff will identify the ticks and if necessary, forward the specimen to other federal laboratories for further examination. If submitters provide a return address, a report will be provided.

Dr. Teel said heartwater disease was confined to Africa until 1830, when cattle carrying infected ticks were shipped to the Caribbean. Also migrating were cattle egrets. These birds "hang out" with grazing cows and have airlifted ticks to at least 15 islands. Dr. Teel said that statistics indicate five out of 50 Caribbean egrets carry at least 10 tropical bont ticks, some of which could transmit heartwater. Researchers during 1988-1991 tracked 720 dye-marked egrets from Antigua and 303 marked birds from Guadeloupe. The birds traveled among 14 islands, and one Guadeloupe-origin bird was spotted in the Florida Keys.

To become involved in a heartwater disease outbreak, Texas' native Gulf Coast tick must be exposed as a larvae or nymph (baby stage) and transmit infec-

tion in the next phase of its three-host lifecycle. Although young Gulf Coast ticks typically feed on ground-dwelling birds, Dr. Teel said immature ticks also can feed on cattle. If they select a heartwater-infected animal, the ticks would become infected and transmit heartwater to its next host, setting up a disastrous scenario.

"International livestock movements give us reason for concern about tick-borne diseases like heartwater," said Dr. Teel. A black rhinoceros shipped to Texas in the late 1980s, he said, was found to be carrying a potential vector of heartwater. In 1989, African-imported ostriches arrived infested with Hyalomma ticks, efficient vectors for a variety of diseases. Recently in Florida, a number of imported reptiles and tortoises have sported a variety of foreign ticks, he said.

"The introduction of a tick-borne disease like heartwater is always a possibility," said Dr. Teel. "We must be prepared to fight a foreign animal disease that could be spread farther by our own pests."

## Health

### Who should be tested for Hepatitis C?

The scenario is frightening — a virus causing a disease of the liver lurks in the body, sometimes for decades without symptoms.

The treatment is difficult — injections three times a week for 6-12 months, often resulting in strong side effects.

The long term results of infection for some can lead to cirrhosis of the liver, a transplant or even death. This is hepatitis C.

Hepatitis C is the most common chronic blood borne infection and the leading cause of liver transplants in the United States. In this environment it is not surprising that there is a lot of misleading information resulting in confusion. That is why the facts are so important.

"Hepatitis C is a virus spread by direct contact with infected blood. We encourage people to get tested for the virus if they have ever used injection drugs not prescribed by a doctor, or if they received dialysis, or had a blood transfusion or solid organ transplant before 1992 when blood was first screened for hepatitis C," said Sharilyn K. Stanley, M.D., Associate Commissioner of Disease Control and Prevention with the Texas Department of Health (TDH). In addition, persons with hemophilia who received clotting factor concentrates before 1987, those exposed to hepatitis C-infected blood through needle sticks or open sores and children born to mothers infected with hepatitis C are at risk of infection and should be tested. People with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or sexually transmitted diseases should also consider being tested since there is a high co-infection rate. Many of those infected experience no symptoms; although some people have symptoms that appear briefly 6-7 weeks after infection.

Symptoms include: nausea, jaundice (yellow skin and eyes), dark urine, light-colored stools, stomachache, loss of appetite, mild fever, flu like illness and fatigue. There is no vaccine for

hepatitis C. Contact your health care provider for further information on hepatitis C testing.

"Some people are needlessly concerned about hepatitis C and misinformation has been circulating," said Stanley.

"In the United States the general population is not at risk of contracting hepatitis C through vaccinations, dental work or body piercing when universal safety precautions are practiced. Sterilization of instruments, disposable needles and good hand washing prevent the spread of the virus," said Stanley.

Hepatitis C cannot be transmitted through donating blood. Since July 1992, the blood supply has been screened for the virus and any infected blood is destroyed.

Furthermore, the virus is not spread through casual contact such as hugging, shaking hands or using telephones used by infected persons. Erroneous reports claim that veterans and emergency workers are more likely to be infected with hepatitis C. However, the Centers for Disease Control and prevention studies indicate these groups have no higher rate of infection with the virus than individuals of the same age and sex in the general population. In response to House Bill 1652, TDH implemented a series of blinded studies on blood samples to determine the rate of hepatitis C infection in the state's general population and to gather data on infection rates of high risk populations. Results from these studies should be available by the end of 2000 and will be used to develop education efforts to inform the public about prevention and set up effective counseling and testing programs. Even though the virus is currently difficult to treat, there is hope for people who test positive for hepatitis C. "Those with the hepatitis C virus can make behavioral changes to prevent further damage to their liver, such as not drinking alcohol. There are also encouraging new treatments being developed," said Stanley.

### Tips from the Red Cross

**Heat cramps/heat exhaustion:** Get the person to a cooler place and have him or her rest in a comfortable position. Give a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes. Do not let him or her drink too quickly. Do not give liquids with alcohol or caffeine in them, as they can make conditions worse. Remove or loosen tight clothing and apply cool, wet cloths such as towels or wet sheets. **Heat stroke:** Heat stroke is a life-threatening situation! Help is needed fast. Call 9-1-1 or your local EMS number. Move the person to a cooler place.

Quickly cool the body. Wrap wet sheets around the body and fan it. If you have ice packs or cold packs, wrap them in a cloth and place them on each of the victim's wrists and ankles, in the armpits and on the neck to cool the large blood vessels. (Do not use rubbing alcohol because it closes the skin's pores and prevents heat loss.) Watch for signals of breathing problems and make sure the airway is clear. Keep the person lying down. For more information contact your local American Red Cross chapter at (210) 224-5151 or (800) 775-6803.

### West Texas ranchers in need of pasture and hay

Farmers and ranchers who have pastureland with available water supplies for lease or hay to sell are asked to call the Texas Department of Agriculture's Hay and Grazing Hotline at 1-877-429-1998. "We are still receiving calls from ranchers in the Edwards Plateau and West Texas who need

grazing acreage as well as hay to feed their livestock," said Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs. "Some areas of the state have not seen rain since early last year and are going into summer with forecasts calling for above-normal temperatures and below-normal rainfall. "One producer

in Concho County said he had never seen it this dry in 50 years. With most of Texas still in moderate to extreme drought and 63 percent of our ranges and pastures rated in fair to very poor condition, the situation is still critical for many producers. We've even heard from one rancher who is

looking for 50,000 grazing acres since there is no forage on his land." said Combs. Producers in and out of state can list their pasture for lease or hay for sale by calling the toll-free Hay and Grazing Hotline at 1-877-429-1998 or by visiting TDA's website at www.state.tx.us.

**A proud father teaches his child moral limits by his own behavior**

Empowering Families  
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Jamie, did you read in the paper about four boys being picked up for underage drinking?"

"Three of these boys are friends of yours. You told your Mom and me that you were going out to the movies with them that same night."

"What happened?"

"Dad, do you remember how you and Mom have always told us that sometimes we have to make hard decisions that might mean losing a friend when it involves something morally right?"

"What happened that night, Son?"

"Well, it's a long story, Dad, but they wanted to get some beer before the movie. David said he knew someone who would get it for us. This guy, I don't even know his name got a case of beer and we put it in the trunk."

"I thought about it all during the movie and decided that it just wasn't right. When the movie was over I told the guys that I would find another way to get home. Sally's Mom and Dad were there and I asked them for

a ride."

"I'm proud of you, Son. That was a wise decision. What made you think twice about drinking with your friends?"

"Well, Dad, I know you drink a beer once in a while. I also know that you never drink more than one."

"You have always told us that twenty-one is the legal age for alcohol, and if we can say no as teenagers we can say no as adults."

"I didn't drink with those guys because I knew you would be disappointed in me if I did."

It is a proud father who has set the example for his children and has taught them moral limits by his own behavior.

A proud father, long ago, said to his son: "Do not drink wine till you become drunk, nor let drunkenness accompany you on your way (Tobit 4:15)."

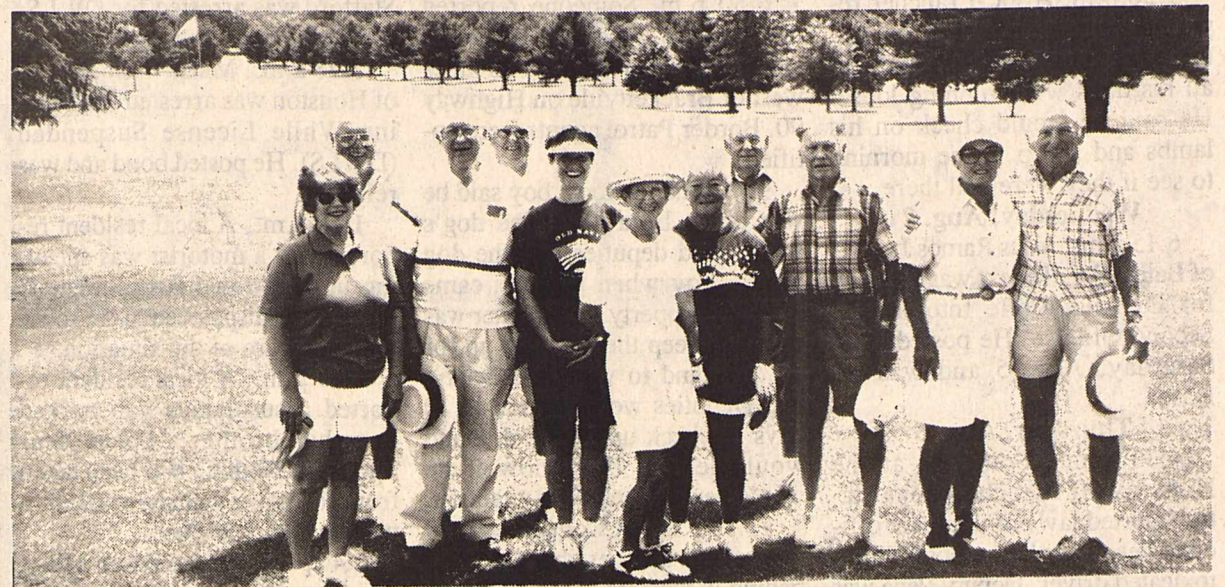
"Wine is arrogant, strong drink is riotous; none who goes astray for it is wise (Proverbs 20:1)."

This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project, working to strengthen families, faith and education in Brackettville.

**Texans enjoy golfing in Wisconsin**

Submitted by  
Ruth Spencer

Thirty persons from Oklahoma, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin and Fort Clark Springs members attended the third annual Wisconsin golf outing hosted by Ann Malin and Ken and Ruth Spencer. The Ballards, Millers, Whites and Spencers enjoyed an "Early Bird Game" at the Arcadia Country Club. They also toured a "State of the Art" War Memorial Park there. An outdoor spaghetti supper was served by the Spencers. The tournament began at Trempealeau Mountain Golf Club with 19 golfers competing. Prizes were awarded for the front nine only, due to a rain delay on the back nine. Winning low net for the men was the team of Del Kendrick, Bob Williamson, Cricket Ladd and Howard Peck with a net score of 34.25. 37.5 was posted by Ken Spencer, Milo White and Bill Larson for second place. Lynn Ebert, Ann Malin and



The tournament began at Trempealeau Mountain Golf Club with 19 golfers competing. Thirty persons from Oklahoma, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin and Fort Clark Springs members attended the third annual Wisconsin golf outing hosted by Ann Malin and Ken and Ruth Spencer. (Photo courtesy of Ruth Spencer)

Jan Siffing scored 42.33 to capture first place for the ladies. Second place team of Margo Kendrick, Gwenn Lass and Joyce Williamson recorded 47.5. A de-

lightful dinner was enjoyed by all at the Corner Supper Club. Riverbend Gold Club saw 12 couples participating. Couples alternated shots and totaled two

couples scores for low net. First place was Bob and Joyce Williamson and their partners, Ann Malin and Bill Larson, scoring low net of 143. 147 was the second low for the team of Bob and Barb Miller and John and Marilyn Ballard. Most accurate drives were won by Del Kendrick and Sherri White. Dinner was served at Riverview Supper Club, which has a scenic overlook of the Black River. Twenty-four golfers competed in a colored ball rotation game on Friday at Drugan's Castle Mound Golf and Supper Club. The team of Bob Williamson, Ruth Spencer, John Ballard and Jo Ann Mayberry and the team of Milo White, Ann Malin, Ken Thompson and Margo Kendrick tied for first place with a score of 93. Second place with a score of 98 was the team of Louie Zipperer, Joyce Williamson, Del Kendrick and Lynn Ebert. Ruth and Ken Spencer hosted Saturday morning "Breakfast in the Park" to 25 people who enjoyed "omelets in a bag" and all the embellishments.

**New vaccination rules apply to Kinney County students**

Continued from Page 1  
any time before age 12, but proof of vaccination will not be required until 30 days after their 12th birthday. Children with proof of a previous hepatitis B infection do not need to be vaccinated. Before recommendation for universal infant vaccination against hepatitis B, about 30,000 children and adolescents were infected annually in the country. A large number of people infected with hepatitis B early in life become chronic carriers who can continue to transmit the disease. Vaccination against hepatitis B is the only way to decrease the number of chronic carriers.

Chickenpox (varicella) vaccine or a history of having had chickenpox disease is required for two groups of children as of Aug. 1. The first group is children born on or after Sept. 2, 1994, who are 12 months of age or older. A second group, children born on or after Sept. 2, 1988, but before Sept. 2, 1994, must show proof of vaccination or a history of having had chickenpox by 30 days after their 12th birthday. Before the vaccine, about 4 million cases of chickenpox occurred each year in the United States, with up to 200,000 patients having complications including an average of 100 deaths. Other vaccines re-

quired at various ages are polio, diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP); Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib); and measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). Children who have not completed a particular series of shots may attend school or child-care facilities if they have received at least the first dose and are on schedule for the remaining doses as soon as medically possible. "Children vaccinated at the earliest recommended age always meet state immunization requirements," said Robert Crider, director of Texas Department of Health Immunization Division.

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Age	Vaccine requirement (at the time the child first enters the age group)
Younger than 2 months	No vaccines required
2 through 3 months	1 dose polio vaccine 1 dose DTP/DTaP vaccine 1 dose Hib vaccine
4 through 5 months	2 doses polio vaccine 2 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine 2 doses Hib vaccine
6 through 11 months	2 doses polio vaccine 2 doses Hib vaccine 3 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine
12 through 14 months	1 dose MMR vaccine received on or after 1st birthday 2 doses Hib vaccine 3 doses polio vaccine 3 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine 1 dose varicella on or after 1st birthday
15 months through 4 years	1 dose MMR vaccine on or after 1st birthday 1 dose Hib vaccine on or after 15 months of age (unless a primary series and booster are completed) 3 doses polio vaccine 4 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine (4th dose required at 18 months) 1 dose varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday
2 years	1 dose hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only)
3 through 4 years	2 doses hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only)
5 through 6 years	3 doses polio vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday 4 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday. (Proof of pertussis vaccination not required for children 5 years or older). 1 dose MMR vaccine on or after 1st birthday and 1 additional dose of measles vaccine (may be received as part of a second MMR) 3 doses hepatitis B vaccine 2 doses hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only) 1 dose varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday for children born on or after Sept. 2, 1994.
7 through 11 years	3 doses polio vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday 3 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday and 1 within the last 10 years. 1 dose MMR vaccine on or after 1st birthday. Children born on or after Sept. 2, 1991, must have 2 doses of measles vaccine (may be part of a second MMR) 3 doses hepatitis B vaccine for children born on or after Sept. 2, 1992 2 doses hepatitis A vaccine for children born on or after Sept. 2, 1992 (32 border counties only).
12 years and older (in addition to those required at age 7)	Children born between Sept. 1, 1978, and Sept. 1, 1991 (inclusive) must show proof of 2 doses of measles vaccine within 30 days after their 12th birthday (may be part of a second MMR). Children born between Sept. 2, 1988 and Sept. 1, 1992 (inclusive) must show proof of 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine within 30 days after 12th birthday. Children born between Sept. 2, 1988 and Sept. 1, 1994 (inclusive) must have 1 dose of varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday within 30 days after their 12th birthday. If first dose is received after age 13, 2 doses are required. Polio vaccine is not required for students 18 and older.

**Problems, anyone?**

I Could be Wrong!  
By Chuck Hall

I can't remember who said it, but I just read a quote that is worth sharing. "You'll only be remembered for two things: the problems you solved and the problems you created."

I'll buy that. I've solved a few dilemmas. And I've created a bunch more. I'm not ashamed of either. Solving problems is good. But without the problems that are constructed, how can the world develop great thinkers? Problems don't just develop on their own, you know. Somebody has to generate predicaments, or at the very least, point them out to others, or we will never have any real progress.

I hope you're reading this with a serious mind, because that is exactly how I intend for this to be interpreted. I am in earnest.

Yep, I've devised my fair share of problems. I hope to do so for many years to come. Not just trivial, little tiny ones, but magnificent mind-boggling quandaries that can take years to unravel. I want to be remembered as someone who challenged the minds of young people, and everyone else I encountered, to the point that they worked on some puzzles for decades. I want them to remember me as trying to make them reach beyond the stars. We have many problems to solve. Let's devise some more. The human mind hasn't even begun to reach its full potential. But I could be wrong.

**Marriages**

- July 1 - Michael Rene Valenzuela and Graciela Morin.
- July 29 - Aurelio Oropeza Ramirez and Maria de los Angeles Marques-Cardona.
- July 22 - Walter Tillman Hunt and April Ann Finley
- July 29 - James Edward Heath and Linda Carol Dunevant
- July 29 - Jesse Josue Estrada and Machel Lee Ann Schaub
- July 29 - Randy Rosales and Isela Valdez

# School year begins Monday

*Making a Difference*  
By Taylor Stephenson

The 2000-2001 school year officially begins Monday, Aug. 14. The buildings are cleaned and ready for the first day. The staff eagerly awaits the students. Handbooks with all of the new rules and policies should be in the hands of staff and students very close to the first day of school. This year, there is a handbook for elementary and a separate handbook for secondary students. You'll like the change.

The school facilities have undergone major improvements this past summer. We have painted buildings, tiled floors and air conditioned buildings. Along with all of this, we have tried to keep the grass and flowers growing. New traffic paint has been put on the parking lots and crosswalks have

been repainted. So, as our school year begins, slow your cars down and watch for the children crossing.

We're working on the budget and tax rates for the school year. The budget is an intricate piece of money figures for every program that exists at BISD. Dixie Brown, business manager, guides us through the process as instructional and support decisions are made. Marla Madrid puts together payroll and benefit information for the 106 staff members. Susan Esparza deals with the legalities of advertising and board approval for the processes. The Board of Trustees has the final say on budget and tax rates. I spend lots of time thinking about the impact of the budget. What do the staff and students need at BISD to be successful. We want the best year

ever for our kids.

Volleyball and football practices began on Monday, August 7. Football head coach, David Yeager, and volleyball head coach, Dusty Brotherton, each had about 45 players show up on August 7. That's a good turnout and we're proud to have that many students playing these two major sports. The band and cheerleaders are working hard trying to get ready for the first games. Cindy Brandt is cheerleader sponsor for the high school and Angie Meeks works with Junior High cheerleaders. Jason Guidry is our band director for the upcoming school year.

We're working hard this week, trying to get everything as right as possible before the first day of school. It's a big day. We want it to be the best ever. Have a great week!



Brackett High School Tiger Band members couldn't wait until the first day of school to play the instruments they enjoy playing. They participated in Band Camp under the direction of new band director, Jason Guidry.

## Brackett High School automobile mechanics class goes to the races

Submitted by Michael Hall  
BHS principal

The newly formed Brackett High School Auto Mechanics Class attended the drag races at Alamo Dragway last Saturday evening. The class is sponsored by Michael Hall, who is the new BHS principal. Students on the field trip were Lindsay Hall, Schiller Hill, Doug Sanchez, George Martinez, and J.P. Peneda.

The mechanics class will be held at Hall's house on Mondays from 6 to 9 p.m. beginning Monday, Aug. 14. Students will be taught the basics in auto mechanics, including engine, transmission, drive train, autobody and electrical systems. Bret Trant has

donated a 1955 Chevy to the class to work on. Students may also work on their own vehicles or other donated vehicles.

In addition to the mechanics course, BHS students may participate in the Drag Racing Club, which is sponsored by Alamo Dragway in San Antonio, through the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA). Students may race their own vehicles in the high school division as long as they are supervised by their parents. Students who just want to be spectators must have a permission slip from their parents and use district approved transportation to and from the track.

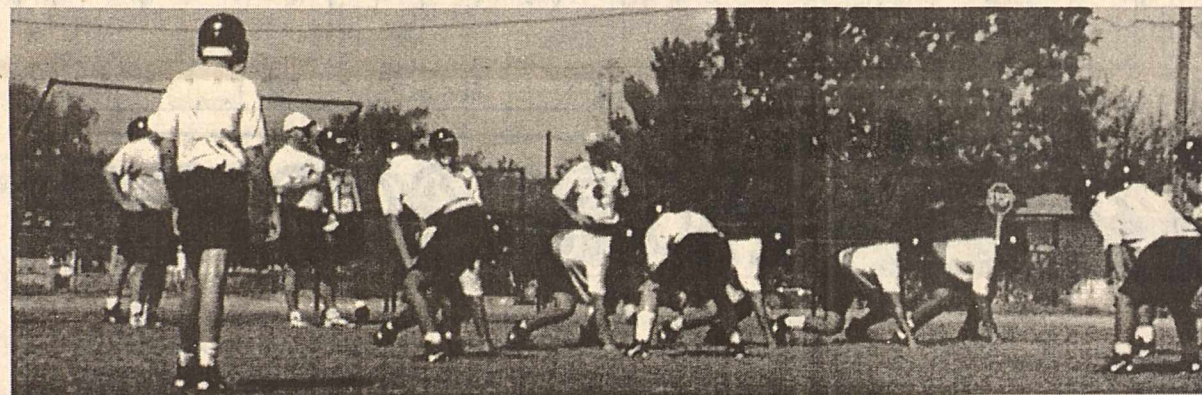
The students witnessed a varied racing program at Alamo Dragway last Saturday. Two jet

dragsters were there, along with some pro-stocker and a nostalgia top fuel dragster, which provided the kids with some exciting 200 mph runs. Numerous other classes of vehicles competed also. The next outing to Alamo Dragway will be on Saturday, Sept. 16. Racing field trips will also be scheduled this fall to national races in Dallas and Houston.

The main purpose of the Racing Club is to deter street racing and promote driving safety and proper racing techniques.

A final sign up for the mechanics class and Racing Club will be conducted on the first week of school.

Interested students and parents may call Mr. Hall for further information at 563-9179.



High school football fans, get ready! Monday marked the official start of the 2000 High School Football Season. Forty-five boys showed up at 7 a.m. Monday ready to practice and prepare for

another big season. Coach Yeager and his coaching staff are excited and ready for the kick-off Sept. 9 against the Sabinal Yellow Jackets.

### School supply list 2000-2001 Grades 7 and 8

- No. 2 lead pencils
- Ink pens - black/blue for written work
- Red for grading/checking
- Colored pencils (map colors) - at least 12 colors
- Package of at least 4 different colored hi-lighters
- Art gum eraser
- 12-inch ruler with markings in centimeters and inches
- Subject Dividers
- 8 1/2 by 11 inch wide ruled, loose leaf, white notebook paper
- Pencil pouch/bag
- No Trapper Keepers or similar notebooks with velcro fasteners

Please use the color code given below to purchase the following items:

- 7 each - 1-inch vinyl ring binders
- 7 each - Fpolders with pockets and fasteners (brads)
- 2 each - spiral notebooks (for Language Arts and Math Enrichment)

Color code for the items above:

- Light blue - Language Arts
- Red - Reading
- Black - Social Studies
- Yellow - Science
- Light Green - Math
- Tan - Math Enrichment
- White - Other classes

## High school to add vocal music program

Submitted by Michael Hall  
BHS principal

Brackett High School is planning to add a vocal music program to its course offerings.

The vocal class will meet on Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. in the auditorium.

Registration for the class will be held during the first week of school.

The class will provide individual group instruction in vocal performance. It is hoped that a "show choir" can be developed from this class.

The class will be open to students in grades 7-12. In addition, community members may audition

to participate in the show choir for community performances.

A double octet, consisting of eight men and eight women, will be used. The group will produce and stage contemporary and classical numbers combined with limited choreography.

The class will be taught by Principal Michael Hall, in conjunction with Jason Guidry, band director. Hall's vocal experience includes opera, classical voice and music theatre production.

Guidry's training is in both instrumental and vocal music. Any community members who are interested in auditioning for the group should call Hall at 563-9179 or at Brackett High School.

For local news you can use, read The Brackett News

### Thank You!

On August 8, 2000, three young men were on their way to football practice. Enroute they discovered a handbag, much to their curiosity, they opened it and found a handgun in it. They immediately reported to the Sheriff's Department. There are not enough words to express our thanks to the following young men for their actions and their honesty. Again thank you, Miguel Hernandez, Jesse Higoalgo and J.J. Rivas.  
Sheriff Burgess and Chief Deputy Fritter

### NOTICE

Brackett IND School District offers career and technology programs in Vocational Ag, Business and Home economics. Admission to these programs is based on personal interests and desire.

It is the policy of BISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of BISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

BISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Taylor Stephenson or the Section 504 Coordinator, Paula Renken at 563-2491.

### ATENCION AVISO

El Distrito Escolar de Brackett ofrece programas vocacionales en Agricultura, Negocios Comerciales Y Materias con relacion a Economias del Hogar. La admision a estos programas se basa en Interes Y deseo de La persona.

Es norma de Distrito no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

Es norma de Distrito no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, la Ley de Discriminacion por Edad, de 1975, segun enmienda, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

Distrito tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para information sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo IX, Taylor Stephenson, y/o el Coordinador de la Seccion 504, Paula Renken at 563-2491.

### BISD School Calendar 2000-2001

- August
- 8 - New Staff Inservice
- 9 - Staff Development
- 10 - Staff Development
- 11 - Work Day
- 14 - First Day of School
- September
- 4 - School holiday
- 22 - End of first six weeks
- October
- 9 - School holiday
- November
- 3 - End of second six weeks
- 22-24 - Thanksgiving School Holiday
- December
- 19 - End of third six weeks
- 20 - Work Day/Student Holiday
- 21-29 - Christmas Break - School holiday
- January
- 1-2 - New Year - Holiday
- 3 - Staff Development/Student Holiday
- 12 - School Holiday
- 24 - Staff Development/Student Holiday
- February
- 23 - End of fourth six weeks
- March
- 12-16 - Spring Break - School holiday
- April
- 12 - End of fifth six weeks
- 13 - Good Friday - School Holiday
- 16 - Easter/School Holiday
- May
- 25 - End of sixth six weeks
- 25 - Last Day of School/Graduation
- 26 - Work day

(Clip and save!)

## Brackett Tigers football schedule

### Brackett Varsity Football Schedule

- Aug. 24 - Crystal City (Scrimmage) - Away - 5:30 and 7 p.m.
  - Aug. 31 - Junction (Scrimmage) - Home - 5:30 and 7 p.m.
  - Sept. 8 - Sabinal - Home - 7:30 p.m.
  - Sept. 15 - Rocksprings - Away - 8 p.m.
  - Sept. 22 - Nueces Canyon - Home - 7:30 p.m.
  - Sept. 29 - Leakey - Away - 7:30 p.m.
  - Oct. 6 - LaPryor - Away - 7:30 p.m.
  - Oct. 13 - \* Three Rivers - Home - 7:30 p.m.
  - Oct. 20 - \* Pettus-Homecoming - Home - 7:30 p.m.
  - Oct. 27 - \* Poth - Away - 7:30 p.m.
  - Nov. 3 - \* Natalia - Parents' Night - Home - 7:30 p.m.
  - Nov. 10 - \* Dilley - Away - 7:30 p.m.
- \* Denotes District 30AA Football Games

### Brackett Junior Varsity Football

- Sept. 7 - Sabinal - Away - 6 p.m.
- Sept. 14 - Rocksprings - Home - 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 21 - Nueces Canyon - Away - 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 28 - Sabinal - Home - 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 5 - Uvalde-9th Grade - Away - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 12 - Uvalde-9th Grade- Home - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - Open
- Oct. 26 - Open
- Nov. 2 - Natalia - Away - 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 9 - Dilley - Home - 6 p.m.

### Brackett Junior High Football

- Sept. 7 - Black and Gold - Home - 5 p.m.
- Sept. 14 - Rocksprings - Home - 5 p.m.
- Sept. 21 - Nueces Canyon - Away - 5 p.m.
- Sept. 28 - Leakey - Home - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 5 - LaPryor - Home - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 12 - Batesville - Away - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - Black and Gold - Home - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 26 - Batesville - Home - 5 p.m.
- Nov. 2 - Natalia - --Away - 5 p.m.


Athletic Director and Head Football Coach: David Yeager  
Superintendent: Taylor Stephenson; Principal: Michael Hall

(Clip and save!)

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**GEORGE by MARK SZORADY**  
WHAT A RIP-OFF!  
WHAT'S WRONG?  
THIS 1999 CALENDER I BOUGHT ONLY HAS SIX MONTHS IN IT!  
WHO SOLD YOU A CALENDER LIKE THAT?!

**OUT ON A LIMB by GARY KOPERVAS**  
LARRY, DO YOU FIND IT ALL INTIMIDATING THAT I SPENT FOUR YEARS IN THE MARINES?  
OF COURSE NOT, SWEETKINS.  
I...CAN'T...HEAR... YOU, MAGGOT!  
SIR... NO, SIR.  
AS YOU WERE.

1	2	3	4	5	6		
7		8		9	10		
11			12		13		
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	26	27		28			
29	30		31	32	33	34	
35			36		37	38	39
40		41		42		43	
44			45		46	47	
48					49		
	50				51		

- ACROSS**
- Vaudeville instrument, for short
  - Make the \_\_\_\_\_ fly
  - Written legal argument
  - Did a pottery-making job
  - Tenuous
  - Rent payee
  - Historical periods
  - Application
  - Insubstantial
  - Sothern of "Maisie"
  - Decree
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ is cast
  - Sign of sorrow
  - Emulates Oksana Baiul
  - Dogpatch diminutive
  - Gilliam or Erwin
  - Europe's Bay of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Border on
  - Outlying
  - Potatoes
  - Henry Miller's literary pal
  - Berlin's "\_\_\_\_\_ Lost In His Arms" (2 wds.)
  - Cassowary's kin
  - Jimmy Carter's alma mater: abbr.
  - Friendly
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ Degrees In The Shade"
  - Imparts
  - Capshaw and Smith
  - Salon liquid
  - Parisian refusal
- DOWN**
- Suave and sophisticated
  - Young foxes
  - Sniggler's quarry
  - For shame!
  - Bear, to Livy
  - Dwell
  - Like overcooked toast
  - Emulate the Hatfields and the McCoys
  - Small bits
  - Perky Day
  - Poseidon's realm
  - The Catcher In The \_\_\_\_\_
  - Family member
  - Sevareid and Roberts
  - Brits' bye-byes
  - Capp and Hirt
  - Marat's workplace
  - Jacket features that change with the times
  - Brunch bread
  - Smoothed out the wrinkles
  - Delicious!
  - Like Charlie on "Charlie's Angels"
  - Shades
  - Adam's clothes tree
  - Moisten a doughnut
  - Thumbs-down vote
  - Like Ho's bubbles
  - Golden Rule preposition
  - Block or cannon suffix
  - Singer Janis

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**HOROSCOPES**

**Aries March 21- April 20**  
Don't let your frustration get the better of you this week. Take a deep breath and relax. You can handle it! This may just be the thing you need to propel you back into your exercise routine. It would be a great way for you to burn off frustration.

**Taurus April 21-May 21**  
Wake up! You have been listening to the wrong person, and that person is leading you down the wrong path. Don't take his/her advice to heart. Make up your own mind. Your living situation is on the path to improvement.

**Gemini May 22-June 21**  
A sick relative has been taking advantage of family members. It's up to you to put a stop to the problem. Be nice, but firm. Your family will really appreciate what you've done. Work piles up this week, but with a lull next week, you'll catch up.

**Cancer June 22-July 22**  
If a close friend has become increasingly boring to be with, suggest doing something new and different with him/her. Instead of always going out to dinner, how about taking part in a sport? The change will be good for you both.

**Leo July 23-August 23**  
Friends want you to spend time with them this week, but your family needs you, too. You can take care of both at once. Plan an outdoor party for family and friends. Make it potluck, and you won't have to do all the cooking and preparations.

**Virgo August 24-Sept. 22**  
Plan a romantic dinner for the weekend. It's your chance to cook some new recipes you've been dying to try. Remember what your partner doesn't like because it's important to him/her. Most importantly, don't bring home work this weekend.

**Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23**  
Before summer comes to a close, there are a few chores you need to get done. Don't wait until fall because your schedule will just get more crowded. This is a good time for you to consider getting involved with a new financial prospect.

**Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22**  
Work piling up? It's time to delegate some to one of your people or get help from a coworker. You can't do it all, and that's just what you've been trying to do. Your work is suffering, and so are your relationships because of your short temper.

**Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21**  
A business-oriented social event will bring you great opportunities this week. Don't pass it up because of something going on at home. A few hours away from home won't make that big of a difference. Keep your mind on the event and act professionally.

**Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20**  
Listen to your financial adviser. He/she has some good suggestions for you and can answer all your financial questions. This is not the time to go off on a whim of your own or follow a friend's lead. The professional really does know best.

**Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18**  
Watch your budget this week. See if there are some ways you could cut back on a few household extras. The time you have been given for a project at work is not enough. When you ask for help, explain to your supervisor that quality may suffer.

**Pisces Feb. 19-March 20**  
It's important that you don't read too much into a friend's words or actions this week. You just don't know what the extenuating circumstances might be. Watch the time you spend socializing at work. Someone may misinterpret it.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

August 9...Savanah Massingill	August 13.....Georgia Logue
August 9...Howard Wakefield	August 13.Megan McWilliams
August 10.....Ashley Castillo	August 13.....Ron Ring
August 10.....Vanessa Castillo	August 14.....Roland Boysen
August 10.....Bea Rocha	August 14.....Sarah Davis
August 11.....Ted Seidl	August 14.....Audie Herrington
August 11.....Sandi Vance	August 14.....Roger Stephens
August 12.....Bernie Cervantes	August 15.....Martin Luna
August 12.....Elsie Huntsman	August 15.....Mal Mills
August 13.....Nina Batson	August 15.....Tilda Sierra
August 13.....J.J. Guidry	August 15.....Daniel Woods

# Donations of school supplies welcome Blessings of the God-fearing man

Gateway Ministries  
Pastor Charolette Corey

As school time is nearing, we are hearing the excitement in the hearts of the children and their need for preparation.

It has been a joy to see the different children search their closets and bring clothes, shoes, and items that they have outgrown to share with the other children.

It has been like a shopping spree for them and a delight. I know that God will bless each child who was not stingy to give out of his or her abundance.

Still, there are children who have "fallen through the cracks" because of their sizes,

or the fact that we have only one boy now attending on a regular basis. We have children who need school supplies and who need tennis shoes.

(Many of these children spent the summer barefooted and now find that they have grown to a larger size.)

For any of you that would like to assist some of these children with purchasing school supplies, backpacks, or shoes, we have one 1st grade, one 2nd grade, one 3rd grade, one 4th grade, two 5th grade, two 6th, one 7th grade, and one 8th grade. There are other children but their parents have the funds to purchase them what they need. For the children's sizes we have need of

.... boy - shoe size 11, shirt - Large, shorts -Large, and for the girls ...shoes - size 10 children's, size 3 to 4 children's, size 2 or 2 1/2 to 3 women's, 5 to 5 1/2 women's, 6 - 6/12 women's, size 7 1/2 women's, size 8 1/2 women's.

Shirts - children's 6x, children's 6/7, Girl's 7/8, 10/12, 12 or Small, 13/14, 14/16, XL. Shorts - one children's size 5, 2 of size 6, 8, 10/12, 12 slim, 12/13, 13/14, 16/18, XL. (We also have need of baby and toddler's clothes.)

God is doing a tremendous thing in their lives. We have seen more eagerness to share with others, to repent and ask for forgiveness of others when they

give offense, to give forgiveness to others when they ask for forgiveness, and participation in reading the scripture, memorizing scripture verses, and singing in the WWJD (What Would Jesus Do) Children's Choir.

Remember "Whosoever shall give to drink one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward." Matt 10:42. Our phone is 830-563-9331 or 2121.

God bless all of you and your families. May he provide for you in all of your needs, both physical and spiritual.

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

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

Praise ye the Lord, blessed is the man who feareth the Lord, who delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon this earth; the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house; and his righteousness endureth forever.

Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness; he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

A good man showeth favor, and leadeth; he will guide his affairs with discretion.

Surely he shall not be moved

forever; the righteous shall be everlasting remembrance.

He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.

His heart is established; he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth forever; his horn shall be exalted with honor.

The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away. The desire of the wicked shall perish. Psalms 112. Praise God.

Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Amen.

## Helping new parents adjust

News USA - A new video, narrated in English by Oprah Winfrey and in Spanish by Univision talk show host Cristina Saralegui, provides information and guidance for parents on establishing a nurturing environment for their new babies.

Produced by Civitas, a non-profit communications group, "Begin With Love" will be distributed free to parents of 3.6 million new babies born in the

United States through The Parenting Groups' First Moments new parent kit. The year-long giveaway began on Mother's Day.

"This video provides caregivers a crucial tool to help them with the most important job they have," says Winfrey, a Civitas board member. "I'm proud to be a part of 'Begin With Love,'" said Cristina Saralegui. "I certainly wish I had this information when I gave birth to my kids." "Begin With Love" highlights five guidelines

for parents:

- Take care of yourself. Once home from the hospital, it's important you take care of yourself and your important relationships. How you feel affects how you care for the baby.

- Provide a warm and loving environment. Your affection is key to your baby's growth and development. When your newborn is happy, he's more open to learning.

- Talk, sing and read to your baby. Words and music are some of the best ways to connect with your infant.

- Create a predictable world for your baby. Providing routines lets your child know she can depend on you. In turn, she'll spend less energy fussing and more time learning.

- Understand and respond to your baby's needs. Responding to your baby teaches him he can communicate his needs, building trust in you and the world around him.

- "Begin With Love" was produced with a \$2 million gift from Ronald McDonald House Charities and a \$1 million sponsorship from drugstore.com. The 30-minute Spanish or English editions may each be purchased for \$9.95 (plus shipping and handling) on the Internet at [www.civitas.org](http://www.civitas.org), or by calling 1-800-TO-BEGIN (862-3446). Civitas provides parents and

caregivers with the tools they need to enrich young children's lives. Founded in 1993 by Jeffrey Jacobs, president of Harpo Entertainment Group, Civitas transforms leading edge research in early childhood development into products and services. Civitas tools are disseminated through television, the Internet, print media and commercial partnerships.

## CPR, first aid class scheduled Aug. 18-20

An instructor course in first aid and CPR is scheduled by the Red Cross from Aug. 18-20. The course requires students to be at least 17 years old and to have CPR and first aid training.

Candidates will be tested during the first class session and attendance is required at all sessions. The course also includes orientation to materials and prac-

tice teaching assignments. The class will meet Aug. 18, 19 and 20, the instructor training will begin at 4 p.m. The training is necessary for anyone wanting to teach a Red Cross course. Interested persons may call 775-8626 for more information and to register. Scholarship applications are available, added Jane Pratt, branch manager.

## 10 ways to talk to your teens about money

Submitted by  
Euna Kwon  
Merrill Lynch Corporation

It may seem like your teenagers turn a deaf ear to everything you say. But when it comes to financial matters, America's young people are listening to their parents more than we might think.

The recently released third annual survey of teens commissioned by Merrill Lynch, which designates April as International Saving Month each year, found that advice from adults about saving and investing greatly influenced the behavior of many teenagers.

In the survey of 515 teens between the ages of 12 and 17, 41 percent of teens asked a parent or other relative for advice on where to invest or save money, while another 8 percent asked a friend or family friend. And, 57 percent of teens said that a parent or relative opened a saving account for them.

While these statistics are encouraging for many parents, they may cause guilt feelings for others. Significantly fewer teens this year than last year (56 percent vs. 41 percent) sought a parent's advice on how to save money. Perhaps your teen doesn't feel comfortable approaching you about money matters, or maybe you have been reluctant to broach the topic.

### What teens need to know

Our survey indicates that many families are discussing helpful money management topics. How would your family compare to those of the teens we surveyed?

You may know that you should discuss money with your teens, but you may not know how. Here are ten aspects of financial management that you and your teens should discuss.

- Budgeting. Help your teen construct a simple budget that tracks income and expenses, so they can see where their money

	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
How to spend money more wisely	51%	38%	11%
How to be a better saver	41	44	15
Paying for a college education	26	47	27
Investing money	29	41	30
Using credit cards responsibly	8	24	8

- Saving to meet goals. Discuss your teen's short- and long-term goals - whether a computer game and clothes, or a car and a college education. If saving has been a problem, go through the budget to see where spending could be tightened.

- How to save and invest. Because of inflation, the money your teen saves today may not buy as much in the future. That's why earning interest is important. Some teens don't grasp this concept. In the survey, almost 67 percent of teens surveyed said checking or savings accounts was the best vehicle for saving money. Yet 13 percent said saving with a piggy bank - a method that doesn't earn a dime of interest - was the best way.

- A savings account is a good starting place, but some teens are interested in stocks and stock mutual funds, investments that offer the potential for higher returns. In the survey, 12 percent of teens said they owned mutual funds, while another 12 percent said they owned stock. If you're going to advise your teen on investments, you'll have to be knowledgeable yourself - take the time to bone up on investments like stocks, bonds and mutual funds.

- Earning money. If your child's expenses exceed income, or if he or she has significant long-term goals, talk about ways to increase income. While you don't want jobs to negatively affect your child's school work, many teens can handle both responsibilities. In our survey, 72 percent of teens reported doing odd jobs to earn money and 34

- Taxes and inflation. When teens get their first paycheck, they are often shocked at their take-home pay. Using their pay stub, talk about the taxes that are taken out of their pay. Extend the discussion to show how inflation can have a depleting effect on income over time.

- The wise use of credit. Every year, our survey finds a widespread lack of knowledge about credit cards - this year, 68 percent said they have never discussed using credit cards responsibly with their parents. Discuss choosing a card with the lowest interest rate and paying the balance in full each month on time to avoid interest and late fees.

- Buying and maintaining a car. Thirty percent of teens in the survey who said they were saving said they were saving to buy a car. But often teens don't understand the financial impact of a car. Discuss buying a used car versus a new one; leasing or buying; the effect of an auto loan's interest expenses on total cost; and insurance, maintenance, and fuel costs.

- Paying for college. In our survey, 42 percent of those saving said a college education was a goal. But fewer teens this year (26 percent vs. 33 percent) reported frequently discussing saving for a college education with their family. Decide whether your teen will pay for any part of tuition and room and board, books and supplies, clothes, a car or other transportation and living expenses, and then help your teen budget.

- Living on your own. Help

teens understand their monthly expenses, including rent and utilities, telephone, cable and Internet access, food, household supplies and laundry costs, transportation, and renter's and auto insurance. Don't forget to include security deposits, utility deposits, telephone or cable hookup charges, and moving expenses. Create a household budget to see whether your teens can expect to earn enough to live as they would like, or whether they need to share living expenses with others, or even wait awhile.

- Entrepreneurial pursuits. Your teen's entrepreneurial bent is worth encouraging. Whether they want to create their own business now, or dream of working for themselves once they enter the adult work force, discuss ways to work toward this goal.

**Teach teens to save**  
In the survey, 59 percent of teens said they usually save half of their money, and 24 percent said they saved all of their money. These are encouraging statistics. Yet 17 percent reported spending most of their money as soon as they got it. Where does your teen stand?

Help your teens acquire the practice of saving by engaging them in practical discussions about managing their money. Saving is a habit teens are likely to carry into their adult years, giving them a head start toward their own financial security.

(Editor's Note: Euna Kwon is Manager of Education Services for Merrill Lynch's Private Client Group. This article is cour-

## The Trinity and prayer

St. Mary Magdalene Church  
By Lynn McNew

"Who should I be praying to?"

"I get confused in my prayer."

"Must I speak to the Father or to the Son or to the Holy Spirit?"

No doubt many can identify with this problem. Like most issues in our faith, the question leads us into deep waters; it brings us face to face with the mystery of God and the incredible fact of our relationship with God in prayer.

We are faced, too, with a mystery too deep for words, yet we must try and get our bearings.

At many times in our prayer, we focus on God the Father, as Jesus Himself taught us: "When you pray, say: Our Father, who art in Heaven." (Luke 11:2-4). In the public liturgy of the Church, most prayers are addressed to God as Father.

At other times in our prayer we focus on the person of Jesus as when we repeat the prayer of the dying thief: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." (Luke 24:43).

We also have a living tradition of dialogue with Jesus in the warmth of our devotion to the Sacred Heart: "Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on me."

Sometimes in our prayer we focus on the Holy Spirit as with the whole Church we sing: "Come Holy Ghost, Creator blest." Often, too, we sing: "Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me."

We are left with the truth that God is always greater than our words can express. In the end, all Christian prayer is directed to the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit.

As we grow in prayer, we discover that our prayer becomes

simpler. The more that our prayer draws us into the relationship between the Father, the Son and the Spirit, the more we find the love of the Holy Trinity abiding within us.

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

God Bless You!

### First aid class in Spanish set Aug. 12

The American Red Cross has scheduled a first aid class in Spanish on Saturday, Aug. 12.

Students enrolled in the first aid class in Spanish will learn how to act in emergency situations.

They will be taught to recognize life-threatening emergencies such as respiratory or cardiac problems, sudden illness or injuries to infants, adults or children and how to take care of them.

The course meets child care licensing requirements.

Interested persons may call 775-8626 for more information and to register. Scholarship applications are available, added Jane Pratt, branch manager.

Sell it fast in the classifieds, 563-2852

OUR REDEEMER  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA

On the corner of  
Fort and Henderson

Sunday Schedule  
Worship 9 AM

Pastor: Nathan Lafrenz  
830-591-1614

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

**First Baptist Church (SBC)**  
Corner of Ann and Veltman  
Sunday Schedule:  
Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service - 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

**ACREAGE**

**100 ACRES BETWEEN** Rocksprings and Brackettville. Joins larger ranch. End of road. Fence two sides, oak, cedar cover. Texas Veteran or owner financing. 1-830-257-5572. www.texasranchland.com.

**59.5 ACRES SOUTHWEST** of Rocksprings. Good live oak and cedar cover. Whitetail, exotics, turkey, 5 deer county. Low down, owner terms. 1-830-257-5626. www.texasranchland.com.

**LAKE BARGAIN! 3+ ACRES** - \$24,900 with boat slip! Beautifully wooded, spectacular views, deeded access to crystal clear 35,000 acre recreational lake in Tennessee - next to 18 hole golf course. Paved roads, utilities, soils tested, Excellent financing. Call now, 1-800-704-3154, ext. 30.

**ADOPTION**

**NOTE:** it is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

**WE'RE MARRIED AND** best friends! Steve's an adoptee himself, a big softie and avid sports fan. Tricia's compassionate and wonderful with children. We enjoy biking, walks in the neighborhood, basketball games and Sunday dinners with family. Call us, Tricia and Steve, 1-888-804-9050.

**AUTOMOBILES**

**CHARITY CARS - DONATE** your vehicle, tax deductible, free towing. We provide vehicles to needy families. As seen on Oprah and People Magazine. 1-800-442-4451, www.charitycars.org.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**A NATIONAL GREETING** rte. 50 established locations (all local), Super income. (\$6.5k investment), free info, 1-800-462-5813.

**"EASY MONEY" - NEED**, extra money? Learn how to get it. Mail SASE to EM, Box 160, Corunna, MI 48817. Web site: glynntwoffice.com.

**M&M, MARS/NESTLE.** Established vending route. Will sell by 8/21/2000. Under \$9k minimum investment required. \$2000+ monthly profit potential. Financing available/good credit. 1-800-637-7444.

**DRIVERS WANTED**

**ATTN. DRIVERS: FLEETWOOD** Transportation hiring long-haul flatbed drivers. Peterbilt equipment. Guaranteed home time and complete package of benefits. Also need long-haul owner operators. 1-800-458-4279.

**COMPANY PAID CDL training & first** year income \$35K - Stevens Transport - OTR drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced, 1-800-333-8595. EOE.

**DRIVER: COVENANT TRANSPORT** Coast to coast runs \* Teams start up to .46cpm \* \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers, 1-800-441-4394; owner/operators 1-877-848-6615. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

**DRIVERS: ALLIED VAN Lines** has openings in their special products fleet. Class A CDL with 2 yrs. OTR experience required. Average 125cpm. 1-800-634-2200, Dept. ATXS.

**DRIVERS - CFI HIRING OTR** company/student/owner operators. Company with one year experience start at 32 cpm. Students earn \$50 per day. Owner/Operator start at \$80 all miles. For more information call 1-800-CFI-DRIVE.

**TRUCK DRIVERS - O/O'S** (.82+ )cpm, company teams (.36+ )cpm and solo (.28+ )cpm or (.30+ )cpm. Good miles, excellent equipment and benefits. OTR experience required. Gulf Coast Transport, 1-888-988-8666.

**DRIVERS - NEW PAY** package. Applications processed in 2 hours or less. Long haul and regional drivers. Class -A CDL required. Continental Express, 1-800-727-4374.

**DRIVERS: NORTH AMERICAN** Van Lines has openings in their specialized general commodities fleet. Minimum of 3 months OTR experience required. Call 1-800-348-2147, Dept. TXS.

**DRIVERS - WHEN IT** comes to benefits, we've got all the bells and whistles. \*Paid weekly. \*Great pay. \*\$1,000 sign-on bonus. \*Student graduates welcome. SRT toll free: 1-877-BIG-PAYDAY (1-877-244-7293).

**DRIVERS-OWNER/OPS:** Run regional. Home weekly! Paid: Base plate, permits, fuel taxes. 81 cpm. Loaded and empty plus fuel surcharge. 1-800-454-2887. Arnold Transportation.

**DRIVERS WANTED**

**IF YOU ARE** the spouse of an over the road truck driver, we will teach you to drive a "Big Rig" w/ automatic transmission in just 2 weeks! Interested, please call 1-800-234-3748.

**DRIVER - EXPERIENCED AUTO** carriers need for growing Austin, Texas-based company. Top pay and benefits. Class-A CLD. PWH Enterprises, 1-888-518-7228.

**DRIVER - SOLOS START** at .31cpm, teams .34cpm. Guaranteed home time, top equipment. Owner/operators, .83cpm, 3,000+ miles per week, paid fuel surcharges, \$1,000 sign-on. 1-800-214-1592. James Helwig & Son.

**DRIVERS TRAINING**

**GET ON THE road!** Tri-State semi-driver training program offers: 3 week training, job placement assistance. Financial aid available to qualified students. Call today. 1-800-854-7364. www.learn2drive.com.

**A \$35,000 PER YEAR** career! C.R. England needs driver trainees. 15 day CDL training. Housing/meals included. No upfront \$\$\$\$. Tractor Trailer Training. 1-888-781-8556.

**DRIVER - INEXPERIENCED? LEARN** to be an OTR professional from a top carrier. Great pay, executive-style benefits and conventional equipment. Minimum investment required. Call today! US Xpress, 1-800-879-7743.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**BE DEBT FREE** - years sooner! Low payments. Reduce interest. Stop late fees. Stop collectors. Family credit counseling. Non-profit Christian agency. Free quote. www.familycredit.org. Recorded message: 1-800-729-7964.

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

**NEED CASH? INSTANT** cash advance. \$200-\$500 transferred into your checking account. We want your business. www.telecash.net or call TeleCash now, 1-888-828-5231.

**FOR RENT**

**FOR RENT** - furnished condo, FCS, 1 lg. bdr - 2 B, 2 story - Lg. walled/gated yard. Newly refurbished. A/C central. 563-9543.

**HOUSE FOR RENT.** 3 bd. 1 1/2 bath Grant Street. \$550.00. 563-2597.

**FOR SALE**

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

**RECONDITIONED GOLF CART** batteries. Guaranteed. \$150 set plus exchange. New batteries also available. 563-9970.

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

**KISS CABLE GOODBYE!** Free dish network satellite TV and 3 free months of HBO, Cinemax, Showtime. Top 40 channels, \$19.99/month. FedEx delivery/install kit. 1-888-292-4836.

**UNDELIVERED BUILDINGS!** MUST go immediately. Factory direct. Save thousands - 25x32, 30x44, 40x50, 50x110. Financing available. Ideal shops, garages, storage. Call 1-800-341-7007 www.steelmasterusa.com.

**PRE-FABRICATED METAL** buildings with erection drawings. 40x50x12, \$6764. 40x60x14, \$7833. Call for a free quote on your size. Metal Building Supply of Texas, 1-800-842-0453.

**PREMIER STEEL BUILDINGS** must sell overstock. Arch and straight-wall. 1-800-973-3366, www.premiersteel.org.

**HEALTH/MEDICAL**

**HERPES - EverCLR STOPS** herpes outbreaks! 96% never have another herpes outbreak! Free call: 1-877-EVERCLR. More information: www.everclr.com.

**MALE IMPOTENCE** CAN be corrected at no cost to you by a safe FDA approved vacuum pump fully covered by medicare/private insurance. Call 1-800-500-6995.

**MEDICARE NEBULIZER PATIENTS!** Stop paying cash for Albuterol, Atrovent, etc. Medicare pays for them. We bill Medicare and deliver to you. Med-A-Save 1-800-538-9849, ext. 12Q.

**HELP WANTED**

**CHECK THIS OUT.** We are hiring 18-23 sharp individuals to assist in nationwide travel tour. Training, transportation and lodging furnished. Return guaranteed. Prince Sales Inc., 1-800-490-9559.

**CLAIMS PROCESSOR!** \$20-\$40/hour potential. Processing claims is easy! Training provided, must own PC. Call now! 1-888-568-7649, ext. 698.

**CONTINUUM, 2 PEOPLE NEEDED** to travel 100% thru-out US working to provide medical testing. Must have clean driving record. 1 team member must have a class A CDL. Will train right team. Call 1-800-232-2332, ext. 336.

**HELP WANTED**

**RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC** Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications for the position of Engineering Aide in the Cooperative's Brackettville office. Experience in electric power distribution line construction, AutoCAD, GPS, and survey equipment preferred. Applications may be picked up or requested from any RGEC office and must be mailed to RGEC, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Applications must be postmarked on or before August 18, 2000. RGEC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE** Futuro Communities Inc., Development Council is seeking Certified Instructors for each of its Community Technology Centers (CTC) located in Eagle Pass, Uvalde, Carrizo Springs, Crystal City and Cotulla. As part of the CTC program, we will be implementing technology skills training in various areas such as PC and Windows basics, Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Database Management and advanced topics of Programming, Networking, and some special classes in Spanish such as Introduccion a Computadoras and Computer Rebuild Techniques. The CTC instructor should be available on a per class basis and/or as a package to include two or more training classes. The CTCs will need to hold classes every two weeks (one in each CTC) over a ten-week period to complete. The CTC program has the right to cancel if attendance is not adequate. For more information, persons should contact Mary Jane Salgado, CTC Program Coordinator, 330 North Getty, Uvalde, TX, e-mail: mjmsal@hilconet.com. The Middle Rio Grande Futuro Communities, Inc., is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. The Futuro CTC program is a non-profit whose mission is "To enable a creation of a quality workforce for the Futuro Region and the preparation of youth and adults for lifelong learning, leadership, citizenship and career success through technology."

For information, please contact our VOICE telephone number (830) 278-6817 or TDD telephone number (830) 876-1260.

**FOR LOCAL DOCTORS!** Data entry. Easy claims processing. Training provided. Computer lit required. No previous experience necessary. Flexible hours. Software \$449.00. Titan Business Solutions. 1-800-806-8663, ext. 7088.

**HOST FAMILIES**

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS** like Melanie, 18, from Germany arriving in August. Melanie likes volleyball, swimming, and theatre. Be a host family. Call 1-800-SIBLING or visit our web site at www.aistxok.com to view Melanie's and other student profiles online.

**LOST DOG**

**10-YEAR-OLD REDDISH-BROWN** Yorkshire terrier. Last seen Sunday night (7/30/00). If found please call 563-9006. A car crushed his pelvis so he walks with a wobble. He can't hear very well and his name is Spike. He is a part of our family, we miss him very much. Thank you.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**UNLIMITED LOCAL CALLING** with 200 free domestic long distance minutes for \$44.95 per month. Call 1-800-519-1735 (referral number: 211221). Visit www.phoneworld.org for free phone card.

**PHONE BILL TOO high?** International and USA unlimited flat rate long distance, 24/7, in/out state. Business/residential fiber optic lines. Call Commercial Funding Group, 1-877-929-2444.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Public Notice, County of Kinney,** Texas Community Development Program. The County of Kinney is giving notice of the county's intent to submit a Community Development Fund application for a grant from the Texas Community Development Program. The grant application request is \$243,638.00 for fire protection equipment and emergency medical service equipment in Kinney County. The application is available for review at the Kinney County Courthouse during regular business hours.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

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**REAL ESTATE**

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

Double wide - 3 bed, large addition for den, 2 baths. \$35,000.

Creekfront property, luscious surroundings - 3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, large den. Only \$65,000.

2 bed, large, enclosed porch, fireplace, rock exterior, \$90,000.

On golf course beautifully designed 2 bed, 2 baths, double-car garage \$97,000.

3 bed, 2 baths, fireplace on two large lots. Extra large space for RV and other vehicles. Rock exterior \$120,000.

Good buys on mobile homes and RV's.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**A NEW LOOK** for men and women - Cosmetic surgery. \$0 down, \$38 per week. Hair, breast, lip, nose. Toll free, 1-877-842-8566

**NOTICE: TEXAS EAGLE** sightseer lounge car singing competition. R&B, blues, pop, C/W. Write: Making Texas Music, Putnam, TX 76469, for application.

**MOBILE HOMES**

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

**99' REPO,** must sell, cheap, extra clean, 3/2, all appliances. Call 1-877-538-9780.

**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.

**NEW 3 BEDROOM** 2 bath A/C, Extra Large Master Bath, Double Vanities, 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.

**UNDER NEW** management. All homes on sale, 4 BR/2 BA or 3 BR/2 BA. Call for great savings. 1-877-538-9780.

**HAVE A JOB?** Do you rent? Then you qualify for our homes. Call 1-877-538-9780.

**STOP RENTING.** own today. Buy a Texas Home. Easy terms, low down payments. Everyone qualifies. Call 1-877-538-9780.

**FIRST TIME** buyers, no credit needed on all double and single wide homes. Call 1-877-538-9780.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

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

98 acres w/fabulous 3 bd 2 bath rock home 3 miles from Brackett on FM 2804. 2 wells, tanks and many extras!

Secluded 3 Bd, 2 Bth on the fort \$99,500. Fully furnished.

On the golf course. 3 Bd 2 Bath, beautiful oak trees and not far from the Golf Club.

Call for more info. Office 830-563-2447, Cell 512-461-1378, Home 830-563-2561.

www.kinneycountyland.com

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

Fort: Spacious 4/2 home, FP, lovely carpeting & cabinet work, built in home theater/big TV with surround sound, appliances, huge covered parking (room for rv), lots of storage, workshop, sprinkler system & more!

Unit 27: 1997 16' x 76' Redmond mobile home, big deck, storm cellar, large cul-de-sac lot, private locale!

Fort: spacious stone home, approx. 1,400 sq/ft; 2 bd, 11/4 bath, wood stove, garage, appliances, just painted, reduced to \$41,000, selling semi-furnished!

Good selection of golf course lots, some with big oaks!

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION** of Kimble Electric Cooperative Inc., for transfer of Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Inc. On June 21, 2000, Kimble Electric Cooperative Inc. (KEC), an electric cooperative headquartered in Junction, Texas, filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas an application to transfer its service area Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Inc. (PEC), an electric cooperative headquartered in Johnson City, Texas. A copy of the application is available for review during normal business hours at KEC's office at 702 Pecan Street, Junction, Texas 76849. Persons with questions about the application should contact Hubert D'Spain or Duwan Ruff at (915) 446-2625. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas at P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326 or call the Public Utility Commission's Office of Customer Protection at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll free) 1-800-735-2989. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is September 11, 2000 and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date. The case has been assigned Docket No. 22697.

This application results from a transaction being entered into by KEC and PEC whereby PEC will acquire substantially all assets and all liabilities of KEC, and KEC members will become members of PEC, with their former KEC patronage capital transferred to PEC. On the date the transaction closes, each KEC rate class will be rolled into a PEC rate class consisting of a rate that is, on that date, no higher than that of the previously corresponding KEC class.

**REAL ESTATE**

**NEW HOME FOR SALE** on Fort Clark. 830-563-9473 or 830-317-4193 - High ceilings, CH/CA hardwood & tile floors, beautiful trim - large kitchen - 3 BR - 2 BA - large front porch. Please call for appointment.

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

**HOUSE FOR SALE,** 505 North Ann Street. 830-563-3580. Entire house renovated. New central air & heat, new plumbing, new sheet rock/paint job, new electrical, new carpet, new tile. 2 bedroom/1 bath, 3 outbuildings (one could be used for work space or has potential as guest bedroom). Fenced in backyard, carport, outside freshly painted. Please call for appointment.

**RANCHES/REAL ESTATE**

**SO. COLORADO MOUNTAIN** ranch, 40 acres - \$36,900. 30 miles from Colorado/New Mexico border. Picturesque acreage with pinon trees and Rocky Mountain views. Year round access and utilities. Excellent financing. Ideal horse property. Call Red Creek Ranch, toll-free, 1-877-676-6367.

**FORECLOSED HOMES.** LOW or \$0 down. Government and bank repos being sold now. Fantastic savings. Financing available. Call for listings! 1-800-501-1777, ext. 2099.

**REQUEST FOR BIDS**

**KINNEY COUNTY** is requesting proposals from qualified contractors for certain addition and modifications of an existing circulation desk at the Public Library. The deadline for submission of this request for proposal is Friday, Aug. 25, 2000 at 3:00 P.M. Specifications may be obtained at the Kinney County Library, 510 S. Ellen, Brackettville, TX., or by contacting Sara Terrazas at 830-563-2884. Kinney County is an equal opportunity employer.

**THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE** Development Council (MRGDC) is requesting proposals from qualified vendors for Infant/Toddler and General Early Childhood Development Resources Supplies. The deadline for submission of this RFD is Friday, August 25, 2000 at 10:00 A.M., CST, at the following address: Middle Rio Grande Development Council, 307 West Nopal, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, TX 78834. Proposal packets may be obtained by contacting Raul D. Diaz, CPM Department at VOICE telephone number (830) 876-3533 or TDD telephone number (830) 876-1260. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

**WANTED**

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

**Read the Brackett News to find out what's going on in and around Kinney County**

Smart ways to borrow money

For many, borrowing money is easy - repaying it is the hard part. That's why it's important to borrow only when necessary and to do so carefully, taking into consideration your overall financial plan. The Texas Society of CPAs provides the following guidelines for borrowing sensibly.

**Tap Your Home Equity**  
Do you own a home? If so, you may be able to borrow against your equity - that is, the difference between the value of your home and the amount you owe on it. In other words, equity is the cash you'd make if you sold the home and repaid your mortgage lender. Although you may use the money in any way you choose, many home equity borrowers use the proceeds for home improvements, auto purchases, or debt consolidation.

One of the reasons home equity loans and lines of credit make good financial sense is because the interest on home equity debt is deductible. Under current law, you can borrow as much as \$100,000 (halved for married filing separately), as long as it is secured by your home. What's more, you may be able to deduct

all the interest on the loan. But there is a downside, and it's a serious one. If you can't repay your home equity loan or credit line, you could lose your house. So, never borrow against your home unless you're absolutely sure you can repay.

**Borrow Against Life Insurance**  
A cash value life insurance policy is another source of inexpensive credit. The amount you may borrow depends on how long your policy has been in effect, your age when it was issued, and the amount of the policy's death benefit. The interest rate you pay is generally lower than most other borrowing sources because there is no risk on the insurance company's part since your loan is secured by the cash value of the policy. With most policies, you can either repay the loan at your own pace, or not at all. Keep in mind the policy's death benefit is reduced by the amount you borrow. That means if you should die with an outstanding loan, your heirs will receive only the amount that is remaining.

**Open a Margin Account**  
If you have an investment portfolio, a margin loan allows you to

borrow cash from your investments without selling. Under current Federal Reserve rules, you can borrow up to 50 percent of the market value of the stock you own. The interest rates charged on margin loans are among the lowest, since they're based on fully secured assets. CPAs urge caution in borrowing against volatile stocks. If the market price of the stocks you've borrowed against drops, you could get a "margin call" from your broker requiring that you put up additional cash or securities as collateral against your loan. If you don't meet the request for additional collateral, the broker has the right to sell your stock at market price.

**Borrow from Retirement**  
If you need money for the short term, you may be able to borrow from your IRA as long as you roll it over to another IRA within 60 days. You're allowed to do this once a year, with each of your IRAs, including Roth IRAs. Be aware that if you miss the repayment deadline, you will owe tax on the amount withdrawn and possibly an early distribution penalty.

As a last resort, you may be able to tap into your 401(k) plan,

which may allow you to borrow half the money in your account, up to \$50,000. The interest rate is typically a point or two above prime.

However, the interest you pay goes back into your account, so you are essentially paying yourself interest. You generally have five years to repay the loan (longer if you use the money to buy a home).

However, if you leave your employer before the loan is paid in full, the outstanding balance is due immediately. Any part of the loan that is not repaid is treated as a distribution and is subject to tax and possible penalties.

About the TSCPA: The Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants ([www.tscpa.org](http://www.tscpa.org)) is the statewide professional membership association of CPAs with more than 27,000 members in business and industry, public practice, government and education. TSCPA is a state chapter of the AICPA, the first national, professional membership organization to be ISO 9001 certified, in recognition of its quality management and assurance practices.

Answer to Crossword

U	K	E	F	U	R						
B	R	I	E	F	I	R	E	D			
S	U	B	T	L	E	L	E	S	S	O	R
E											