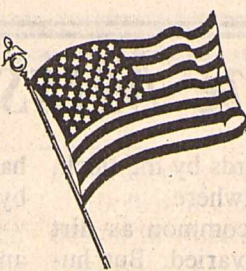


The Brackett News



Sept. 8 at 5 p.m. deadline to file as write-in candidate for November general elections

See story on this page

12th year, No. 30

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Briefs ...

Heath resigns post

James Heath resigned from his position as general manager of Fort Clark Springs on Saturday, Aug. 19, according to a statement released Tuesday morning by Elizabeth Gibbs, president of the Fort Clark Springs Association board of directors. He had served in that position since February 1998, added Gibbs. Heath told The Brackett News that he did resign and that he had no further comment. "I think (the announcement) speaks for itself," he said.

Museum opens Saturday

The Heritage Museum will be open Saturday, Aug. 26 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Shahan earns degree

Jenifer Tuesday Shahan of Brackettville was among 55 students who received degrees July 29 at commencement ceremonies for graduates of the Baylor University Law School. She is the daughter of Tully and Darlene Shahan.

CCD signup Saturday

St. Mary Magdalene's Catholic Church will begin CCD registration Saturday, Aug. 26 and continue through Sunday, Sept. 3 after each weekend Mass. This year, classes are scheduled for children in pre-school through 12th grade.

Classes for First Communion students will begin Wednesday, Aug. 30 at 7 p.m. in the parish hall. All other classes will begin Wednesday, Sept. 6. "We look forward to a wonderful time of prayer and religious education in this jubilee year!" said Candace O'Neill, coordinator of Religious Education. Interested persons may call 563-277 for more information.

Sept. 16-17 celebration

The Seminole Indian Scout Association's 128th anniversary will be celebrated Sept. 16-17 on the Carver School grounds. A parade is scheduled Sept. 17 beginning at 10 a.m.

After the parade, a talent show, barbecue, food and beverage booths, a cake and prize walk, and a dance. Sept. 17, services are planned beginning at 11 a.m. at the Seminole Indian Scouts Cemetery, then lunch at the Carver School grounds. For more information, interested persons may call Augusta Pines at 563-9979, Beverly Wright at 563-9181 or Clarence Ward at 563-9394.

INSIDE

The missing link?

Snakes are common as dirt and almost as varied. But humans? We are all the same.

Opinion/Page 2

Arthritis of the knee

One of the most frustrating problems many older patients face is the loss of mobility. This is especially so in rural Texas, where folks are fiercely independent, and take great pride in providing for themselves.

First of two articles by Dr. Gloria Box

Lifestyle/Page 4

Making A Difference

Well, the air conditioning is now running at the gym. You can come see a volleyball game and enjoy it in an air conditioned gym. It is wonderful.

School/Page 5

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Brackett High School earns state's highest rating - Exemplary!

School accreditation ratings were received this week by Brackett Independent School District Superintendent Taylor Stephenson.

The highest rating given in Texas is Exemplary, given to Brackett High School.

Jones Elementary received a rating of Recognized which is the second highest rating.

Brackett Middle School received a rating of Academically Acceptable.

Brackett Alternative School was rated Academically Acceptable, which is the highest rating given to alternative schools.

Brackett Independent School District was rated Recognized, the same as Jones Elementary School.

"These are the best accreditation ratings ever received in Brackettville.

"We're particularly thrilled at the Exemplary rating received at Brackett High School. Congratulations, BISD teachers and students for a job well done!" said Stephenson.

The 2000 accountability ratings were released to Texas school districts Aug. 17 by Jim Nelson, commissioner of education with the Texas Education Agency in Austin.

In his report, Nelson explains the base indicator standards for each rating.

An Exemplary Rating (the rating given to Brackett High) include that at least 90 percent of students who took a state required test passed each subject area - reading, writing and mathematics; that the school's 1998-99 dropout rate was 1.0 percent or less and that the 1998-99 attendance rate was at least 94 percent.

"These are the best accreditation ratings ever received in Brackettville. Congratulations, teachers and students for a job well done!"

- Taylor Stephenson

A Recognized Rating (such as Jones Elementary) mean that at least 80 percent of the students who took the state mandated test passed each subject area; that the school's 1998-99 dropout rate is 3.5 percent or less and that the attendance rate was at least 94 percent.

An Academically Acceptable Rating (Brackett Middle School and the Alternative School) mean that at least 50 percent of the students who took the state required test passed each subject area (reading, writing and math); that the 1998-99 dropout rate was 6.0 percent or less; and the 1998-99 attendance rate was at least 94 percent.

"We are delighted with the scores," said Stephenson. "These ratings are an indication that the district is doing great."

This is the first time in the Brackett School District's history that the high school has received an exemplary rating since 1993 when the state mandated the test (formally known as the TAAS - Texas Assessment of Academic Skills), Stephenson added.

The Brackett School District and Jones Elementary have received Recognized ratings two years in a row.

4H honors Albert Payne

County employee's efforts lauded

Submitted by Beth Ballew
4-H Senior Club reporter

Kinney County employee Albert Payne was presented the Friend of 4-H award at a recent banquet.

The award is given annually to an individual or business that goes above and beyond the call of duty for the 4-H program. Beth Ballew read a biography on Albert Payne, this year's winner, and the award and plaque were presented by Mrs. Nadalee Allen and Mr. Elledge at the annual achievement banquet Thursday, Aug. 10 in the Civic Center.

Current president Elizabeth Threadgill, welcomed everyone for the evening. Susannah Davis gave the invocation after which all those present enjoyed a wonderful potluck meal. Dietrich Davis led the 4-H motto and pledge. At this time, a special guest, Kinney County Judge Herb Senne installed the officers and club manager.

Beth Ballew introduced the guest speaker for this year, Tobin Pennington of Raymondville. He gave an inspiring speech about the rewards of 4-H in his life and how he plans to pursue his goals at Texas A&M University.

All 4-H members were recognized for their hard work in their projects. Dietrich Davis and Mason McWilliams recognized members in the rabbit and sheep projects. Next Beth Ballew and Tillman Davis awarded the meat goat projects, and Jared and Whitney Hobbs



County extension agent Robert Elledge presents the Friends of 4-H to Albert Payne for "going above and beyond the call of duty."

announced the Angora Goat, Horse, Beef and Swine projects. Finally, Elizabeth Threadgill and Robert Davis presented the remaining project awards.

Some 4-H members had accumulated enough points to move to the Bronze, Silver or Gold award level this year. Elizabeth Threadgill and Duequesa Hunt announced bronze awards for Summer Allen, Boyd Brotherton, Dietrich Davis, Robert Davis, Susannah Davis, Tillman Davis, Jared Hobbs and Whitney Hobbs; silver awards for Bailee Allen and Zack Davis; and the gold award for Michelle Melancon. Record book awards went to Summer and Bailee Allen and Sarah Gammill.

Robert Elledge presented the Helping Hand award to Colter Barajas and Natasha Smith. Duequesa Hunt and Bailee Allen recognized the adult leaders who volunteer their time and talents to the 4-H program. Other special awards presented throughout the evening were club manager awards to Nadalee Allen and Lisa Conoly, and a County Agent award to Robert Elledge. Michelle Melancon was honored as senior 4-H member of the year and Cassandra Gomez as junior 4-H member of the year.

Jared Hobbs gave closing remarks and announcements at the end of the program, and the 4-H members were rewarded for all their hard work with a dance that lasted until midnight.

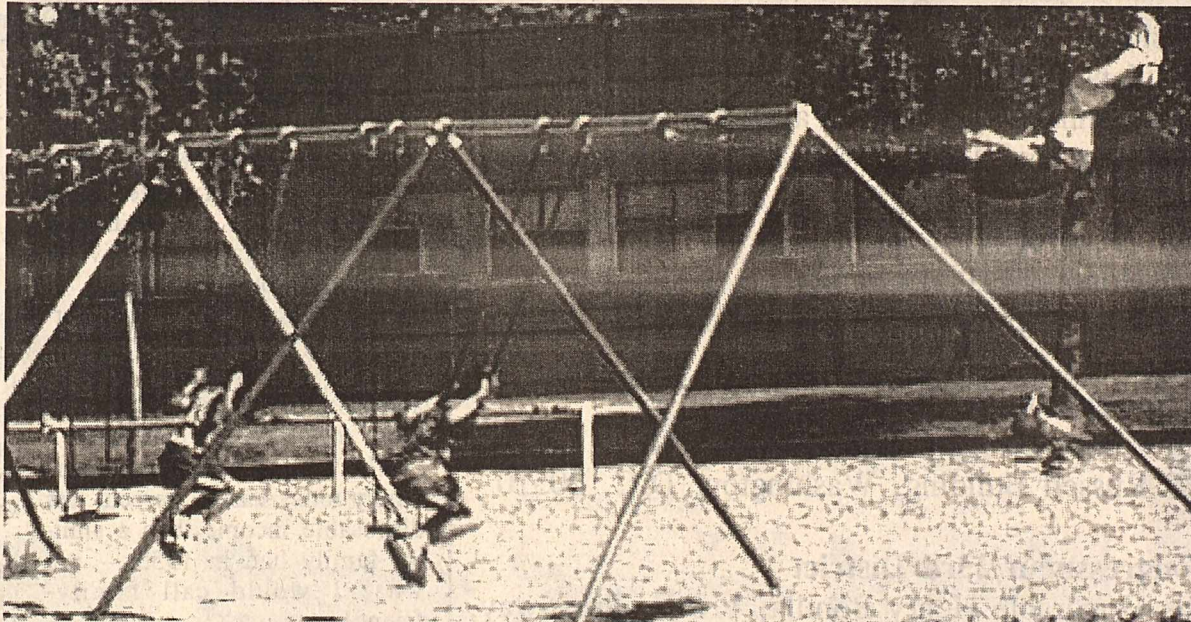
Sept. 8 is deadline to file as write-in candidate for November elections

The filing deadline is Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m. for persons who want to declare themselves as write-in candidates for the November general election for state and county offices. Candidates running as a write-in candidate have a choice to file either by fee or petition, according to Ann McGeehan, director of elections in Austin.

Those filing requirements can be found in sections 172.024 and 172.025 of the Texas Election Code and are also listed on the back of the declaration form. A candidate who ran in a primary election and lost is ineligible to be a write-in candidate for the general election for the same office.

Candidates running as a write-in candidate may begin campaigning any time after they have filed a campaign treasurer with the county clerk. Candidates for county or precinct office must file with the county judge. The filing fee or petition requirements are the same as they were for candidates

The names of write-in candidates will be posted on voting booths on Election Day. Interested persons may obtain more information by contacting the county clerk or county judge at the Kinney County Courthouse or calling the director of elections at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683).



Three students at Jones Elementary School take time off from their studies to play on the swings during recess. School started last Monday, Aug. 14 with 363 students registered at the school. The students are as serious about studying as they are about playing. Their school has received a Recognized Rating from the Texas Education Agency. A Recognized rating means that at least 80 percent of the students who took the state mandated TAAS (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills) test passed each subject area - reading, writing and mathematics.

It's Your Money

Taxpayers are reminded that public hearings begin next week involving the Brackettville Independent School District and the City of Brackettville's proposed budget for 2000-2001. Hearings will follow in early September to discuss the county and school district's proposed tax rate.

Brackett ISD budget hearing, Monday, Aug. 28

A public hearing is planned Monday, Aug. 28 at 6 p.m. in the district board room to discuss the district's 2000-2001 proposed budget.

City budget hearing Thursday, Aug. 31

The City of Brackettville has scheduled a public hearing Thursday, Aug. 31 to discuss the city's 2000-2001 proposed budget. The hearing will begin at 6 p.m. in the city manager's office at city hall, 119 W. Spring St.

County tax rate, Friday, Sept. 1

Kinney County Commissioners' Court plans a public hearing Friday, Sept. 1 at 9 a.m. to discuss the proposed tax rate.

Brackett ISD tax rate, Sept. 7

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate for Brackett ISD is planned Thursday, Sept. 7 at 6 p.m. in the district board room.

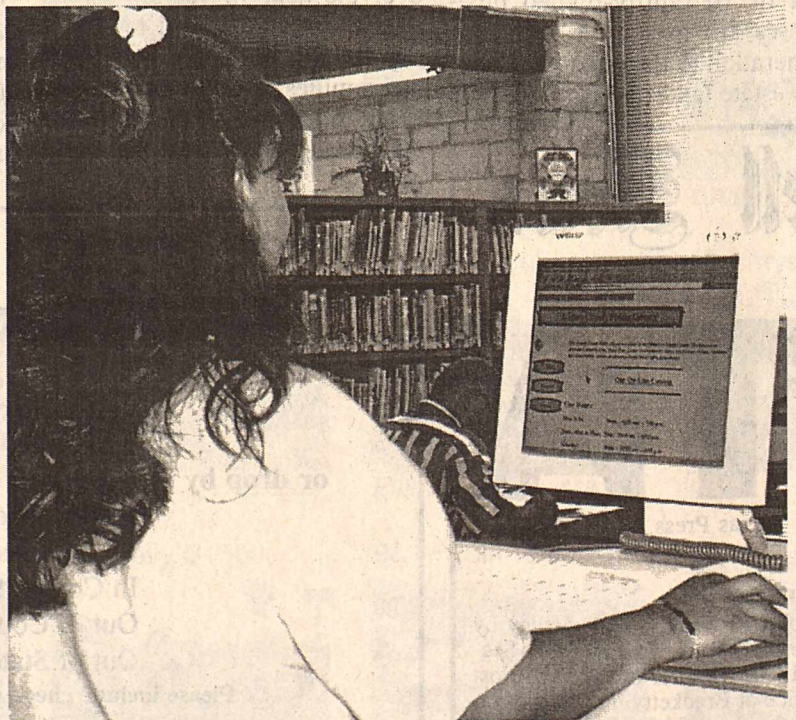
County budget and tax rate, Sept. 11

Kinney County Commissioners' Court has scheduled a public hearing Monday, Sept. 11 at 9 a.m. to discuss the county's proposed 2000-2001 county budget and will later vote on adopting it. At 11 a.m., the panel will decide what the 2000-2001 county tax rate will be.

Cavalry Brigade tackles extra project

Submitted by
Woodie Hornburg

What? Again? Yep, the Fort Clark Springs Community Council's "Cavalry Brigade" is taking on an extra cleaning project Saturday, Aug. 26. Same old, same old - same place to meet - Shafter Hall, same time - 9 a.m., same reward - Free lunch/ refreshments and the same type of volunteers who bring constructive attitudes with a willingness to work. Due to Labor Day falling on the scheduled work date, the project has been upped a week. To assist the Recreation Department, Sept. 30 is designated for a commissary cleanup in preparation for a Haunted House in October. Then the Cavalry Brigade will be back on track for its planned project Oct. 7. Fort Clark Springs members are invited to come and enjoy the camaraderies of optimistic volunteers who "walk the walk" in keeping Fort Clark Springs beautiful.



If you're interested in borrowing a particular book or video from the Kinney County Library, you don't have to visit the facility on Spring Street. You can log on to www.brackettville.lib.tx.us and find out if what you want is available. There's a card catalog listed on the website and you locate a book or a magazine by typing in the author's name or the title of the book. The site will tell you whether the book is available, said Aracely Vasquez, assistant librarian. Speaking of books, the library welcomes hardbacks and paperbacks and magazines, too. You can either donate paperbacks or trade them for other paperbacks, or you can buy paperbacks for 25 cents each.

'You can't find the Missing Link 'cause there ain't none' Your tax dollars put to poor use

The Way I See It!
Steven R. LaMascus

I was watching a show on television the other night, supposedly a scientific treatise on "The Dawn of Man."

It was interesting, if unrealistic, and posed at least one interesting question.

However, it also touted, again, the theory of evolution as an indisputable fact.

The most interesting aspect of the whole show was when one of the featured anthropologists mentioned in passing that he thought it strange that all other animal species on earth have more than one branch, but Homo Sapiens has only the one — humans.

There are several species of whales. There are kangaroos by

the score and birds by the flock. Apes are everywhere.

Snakes are common as dirt and almost as varied. But humans? We are all the same.

This anthropologist simply couldn't come to grips with the evolutionary forces that would, or could, cause such an occurrence.

He didn't doubt that such forces were to blame for the evolutionary dead end, but he simply couldn't explain it. Well, I can!

I get so tired and so exasperated with supposedly intelligent people ignoring the obvious truth that I simply want to scream, "Hey, Einstein! You can't find the answer in evolution. You can't find the Missing Link, 'cause there ain't one! Man didn't evolve from some

hairy ape but was created, as is, by God!"

That previously mentioned anthropologist was close to the real truth.

The answer was within his grasp; but he was unable, due to his atheistic education, I suppose, to take that one last step and admit that there is only one species of human because God planned it that way.

There is only one species of man because there is only one God, and God created man in His own image.

Therefore, as there can be only one image of God, there can be only one species of man. Simple really.

Everyone who advocates belief in the Big Bang Theory and the Theory of Evolution always seems to omit several important points.

One is that those are both just theories and not proven facts. There is much more evidence to disprove them than to prove them.

Second, they seem to miss the obvious fact that something, or rather someone, had to cause the Big Bang.

If the entire universe was once compressed into a point of matter the size of a grapefruit; and if time and space were only created by the explosion of that

point of matter; what catalyst caused it to go bang?

And where did that matter come from to begin with? Simple! God!

These so-called scientists are desperately trying to explain in earthly terms the inexplicable perfection of God; and when they fail they still refuse to accept the reality of God and instead embrace pure chance, a cosmic accident, as the causation of everything.

That is roughly equivalent to setting a monkey down at a typewriter, expecting him to reproduce the complete works of William Shakespeare, error free no less.

In other words, it isn't happening. You cannot explain the origin of the universe and the dawn of man in any way except as a preconceived plan by an all-powerful God. That other old dog, evolution, just won't hunt!

The annoying part of this whole ludicrous debate is that the only side you ever see on television is that of evolution. It is portrayed as pure gospel. There is never any doubt cast on the absolute truth of evolution.

The fact that no one has ever offered a single piece of proof that one species can somehow magically transform itself into another totally different species

is completely ignored.

The fact that no one can explain how dead stuff became living stuff is ignored with equal fervency.

Shades of Frankenstein! Let's just mix up the oft-mentioned primordial goop, juice it with some super lightning and, presto, chango, we have life.

Then a few billion years later, through the wizardry of evolution, we have man.

The steps in between are a bit fuzzy, in fact they are missing altogether, but hey, it's either that or admit that those religious nuts may be right.

Nope, it's evolution or nothing. Folks it isn't that those people believe so strongly in the theory of evolution, it is that they simply refuse to accept the truth of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And I am so very, very sorry for them, because that is the only way they will ever find answers to their questions. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'"

By Henry Bonilla
U.S. Congressman

OSHA is at it again. They are using your hard earned tax dollars to train their friends and impose more regulations on America's small business owners. The history of America's growth is a strong testament to the importance of small businesses - they are the backbone of our nation's economy and should be allowed to thrive without federal government interference.

Over the past few years, through this column and in-person, I have discussed the proposal released by the Occupational Safety Hazardous Administration (OSHA) that would force almost 1.6 million companies that employ workers in physical jobs to create an ergonomics program.

OSHA's early estimates of this regulation were approximately \$4 billion, but the Small Business Administration and industry estimates place the cost at as high as \$22 billion. OSHA has not taken into consideration that the high-dollar outcome of this regulation could result in job losses, hiring freezes and lower employee salaries.

OSHA's regulation has the ability to kill hundreds of small businesses across our country. Both the House and Senate have approved legislation to stop the proposed OSHA regulation. However, due to a threatened veto by the president, hearings continue on Capitol Hill in hopes of determining the necessity of the regulation.

And now, as if proposing these new standards was not enough, Congressional reports show that OSHA hired 28 expert witnesses and paid their \$1.8 million salaries with your tax dollars. The agency's use of well paid and well trained witnesses - including doctors, insurance specialists and ergonomists - is wrong and damages the fairness of this decision. It is unethical and underhanded to put a witness, who has been trained for weeks, up against a small business owner, who's only knowledge of the regulation is how it will effect his corner gas station in Midland.

But almost worse than the ethics of this case is that the paychecks for these expertly trained witnesses came out of your pocket book.

This is a flat-out unfair use of your tax dollars. OSHA was wrong to use your hard-earned money to pay witnesses to tell their side of the story. The agency claims that their goal is to "protect workers." If mis-using the tax-dollars of millions of workers is what they call "protection" - I think they need to check the definition again.

Payment of witnesses, unfair standards which will hurt businesses across America and abuse of tax dollars - all of these injustices add up to just one thing: Bad Business.

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!



The reason some of us find it difficult to think is that we haven't any previous experience

Tax cuts keep stacking up!

Capitol Comments
By Kay Bailey Hutchison
United States Senator

We did it! Congress has passed legislation that corrects two of the worst provisions of the federal tax code: the marriage tax penalty and the death tax.

This is a significant achievement, and a victory for American families. The President, however, has said he will veto both tax cuts.

Taking the first budget surplus - now estimated to be more than \$2 trillion - as a starting point, Congress asked the question whether to return this money to those who earned it, or to spend it on more government programs.

Perhaps the best way to illustrate the scope of the tax burden being borne by families is to compare today's rates with that of an average family (relative to its income) four decades ago. In 1955, the total family tax burden was 18 percent.

Today, federal payroll taxes and state and local levies have more than doubled that load.

The result? A middle-income family today has 25 percent less disposable income than a similar family had in 1955 - not what I would call family-friendly.

The most egregious example of over-taxation is the marriage tax penalty, which hits 21 million married couples harder simply because they are legally wed, and their combined income pushes them into a higher tax bracket.

The average marriage tax

forfeit is \$1,400 a year — money that can't be used to help save for a down payment on a house, or childcare or a new car, but is instead going to the tax collector.

I have long believed that marriage should not be a taxable event.

Rather than elevating the institution of marriage, one of the foundation stones of our society, tax law has made walking down the aisle a costly journey.

Congress voted overwhelmingly to deep-six this penalty. The legislation doubles the standard deduction to \$8,800 and expands the 15 percent tax bracket for married couples to twice that of single taxpayers.

The estate tax, or death tax as it has been labeled, is just as loathsome in a different way.

This is a tax that targets people who work hard, sacrifice and save for their families' futures. Repeal of this macabre provision is a second, key component in Congress' efforts to reduce the excessive tax bills faced by working families.

The estate tax is a direct assault on family farms and small businesses — our local drug stores, dry cleaners, the ranches and restaurants that are so much a part of the fabric of American life.

But the Small Business Administration estimates that seven out of 10 family-owned businesses fail to survive from one generation to the next — and cites the estate tax as a major obstacle

to a successful transition. Such a tax is unwise as well as unfair. It is a drag on our economy and a drag on job creation.

There's no getting around the fact that the estate tax is confiscatory: These assets already have been taxed — first when the money was earned, and again when it was invested.

The estate tax imposes a major burden on America's small businesses, particularly closely held-family firms, and on family farms.

Farmers, ranchers and small business owners have to hire accountants, financial planners and lawyers to build a safety net that will protect their families and employees, but too often, these costly measures are not enough to avert disaster.

The death tax is a tax on the American dream: the old-fashioned idea that you can work hard, do well, and give your kids a better chance than you had. Death and taxes may be inevitable, but they shouldn't be simultaneous.

I have been working toward the repeal of these unfair taxes since Texans first elected me to the Senate in 1993.

Without a change in the law, the estimated \$2.4 trillion annual tax surplus will mean a tax overpayment equal to more than \$27,000 for every taxpaying household in the United States over the next 10 years.

We can well afford to return a part of that surplus to American families, and we should. The place to start? End the marriage tax penalty and repeal the death tax.

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

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The Brackett News

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Kinney County Sheriff's Report ...

Monday, Aug. 14

9:42 a.m., Witnesses reported a two vehicle accident on Highway 90 West. EMS, the fire department, Department of Transportation and deputies responded.

9:24 p.m., A man was seen on Highway 90 West waving for help. Deputies went to the scene.

Tuesday, Aug. 15

11:50 a.m., A German Shepherd wearing a red collar was spotted approximately 10 miles south of Brackett on Highway 131. The person who made the report said this was the second day he had seen the dog in the same location in case someone reported the dog missing.

12:45 p.m., About 20 goats and one cow were seen near Highway

693 (Macy Road). The owner of the animals was contacted.

Wednesday, Aug. 16

5:25 a.m., A local woman reported that a tree had fallen and had knocked down some power lines. A city employee was called to see whether he would put some barricades around the fallen wires so that kids could not go through the area. Central Power and Light Co. officials said they would send a unit to the scene.

9:45 a.m., A local woman reported that a local man had taken a drug overdose and needed assistance. But when help arrived, the man who supposedly overdosed ran away from the scene. The man said he did not want to go with EMS but wanted the

woman who called the sheriff's office to leave his house. After the man signed a refusal to be treated form, the woman, EMS and the deputy left him alone.

3:14 p.m., A local business asked deputies for help with a belligerent customer.

5:20 p.m., Firefighters extinguished a grass fire across from Fort Clark Springs.

7:34 p.m., A worker at a local business told deputies that an unruly customer had assaulted two other customers and that they were going to press charges. Later, the victims said they did not want to press charges. At 10:30 p.m., the unruly customer was sighted driving a vehicle on Highway 90. He was pulled over and arrested for

driving while intoxicated. 10:30 p.m., Danny Billings, 41, of Brackettville, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, first offense. He posted bond and was released the next day.

Friday, Aug. 18

4:04 p.m., A school bus driver reported that a motorist had sped past the school bus even though the vehicle's lights were flashing while it was parked at Anacacho Ranch and Highway 1572.

6:35 p.m., A trucker reported that the driver of a blue Ford pickup and a white car were speeding on the highway. Deputies went to look for the speeding motorists.

10:50 p.m., A local resident reported that someone had broken into his residence. A deputy went

to the scene to investigate. 10:38 p.m., Someone reported that an 18-wheeler rolled over on Highway 277 North, 25 miles from Del Rio. Val Verde County officials were notified.

Saturday, Aug. 19

10 a.m., A local rancher reported trouble with the previous owner of the ranch and other unwanted visitors on his property. The former owner had broken a lock to get onto the property and had loaded a trailer with some furniture. The current owner said he wanted to file trespassing charges against the intruders and that he would not allow them to take the furniture. The former owner said he would leave the furniture but that he would sue the current

owner. Deputies escorted the former owner and the other unwanted guests off the property.

10:42 a.m., A local resident called the sheriff's office because she was concerned that a local woman might need medical attention. EMS was notified.

1:30 p.m. A motorist reported that she had picked up a young hitchhiker on Highway 334 and had driven him to a ranch about 12 miles from Brackettville. The motorist was concerned about the boy's safety. Later deputies found out who the boy's parents were and they were contacted.

7:10 p.m., Someone reported that a gate was left open at a local ranch. The owners were contacted.

Texas Parks & Wildlife rates dove hunting prospects 'good'

A Little on the Wildlife side
By Henry Lutz

AUSTIN - Conditions are ripe for better than usual hunting in the upcoming Texas dove season, according to wildlife officials. In a state that boasts a dove population of more than 40 million birds, that equates to plenty of wing shooting action.

Mourning dove seasons are:

—North Zone: Sept. 1-Oct. 30
—Central Zone: Sept. 1-Oct. 17 and Dec. 26-Jan. 7
—South Zone: Sept. 22-Nov. 5 and Dec. 26-Jan. 9 (closes Jan. 5 in the special white-winged dove area).

Shooting hours are one-half

hour before sunrise to sunset. The daily bag limit is 15 dove in the aggregate. The white-winged dove season is Sept. 2, 3, 9 and 10 in the Special White-winged Dove Area of South Texas. Bag and possession limits are 10 white-winged, mourning and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, including no more than five mourning doves and two white-tipped doves per day. Shooting hours are noon to sunset. "We expect hunting success to be as good or better than last year," said Jay Roberson, Texas Parks and Wildlife dove program leader. "We've received reports of good numbers of birds except in the west central part of the state where a prolonged

drought may have hurt production and doves tend not to persist in areas without adequate feed."

Texas boasts a fall dove population of more than 40 million birds, more than half of which are produced annually. In addition, several million more migrant doves from bordering states to the north make their way across Texas each fall. Last season, 393,000 Texas dove hunters spent a combined 1.2 million days afield and took 4.5 million birds.

"I believe those numbers will go up this year," Roberson added, "but it really depends on the weather we get between now and the season opener."

Cold fronts in late August tend

to push locally produced doves south, and more rain means the dove may disperse over a greater area, making it tougher on hunters hoping to concentrate their efforts around stock tanks, he explained.

Need a place to hunt? For the price of a \$40 Annual Public Hunting Permit, hunters can access dove hunting on 48,000 acres of TPW public dove leases. Funds generated by the sale of permits are used to purchase these hunting rights. The 130 leases are scattered through all three dove zones; some cover more than 1,000 acres and the largest contains nearly 4,000 acres. Annual Public Hunting permits may be purchased

wherever hunting licenses are sold. White-winged dove hunters are reminded that a \$7 white-winged dove stamp is required to hunt whitewings anywhere in Texas and that whitewing populations are expanding throughout much of the Central and South Zones. "Whitewing populations continue to expand across the state, especially in urban areas," said Roberson, who noted breeding now as far north as Lubbock and Wichita Falls. Dove hunters can avoid taking any chances by purchasing the Super Combo license package, which for \$49 includes resident hunting and fishing licenses plus all seven special stamps. Purchased separately, the

package would cost \$91. Persons 65 years of age or older may purchase the resident Senior Super Combo license for \$25 which offers the same privileges as the Super Combo license and is available this year for the first time.

Hunters are also reminded to renew their hunting licenses, which expire Aug. 31, before heading out on opening day. Dove hunters must answer Harvest Information Program questions while buying their license. HIP certification will be printed on the license at the time of purchase after a brief series of questions have been answered. Lifetime license holders must also be HIP-certified in order to hunt migratory birds.

Border Patrol agents seize nearly 2,000 pounds of marijuana

U.S. Border Patrol agents in the Del Rio sector seized nearly 2,000 pounds of marijuana in recent weeks. Since July 26, agents here have seized a total of 1,997.45 pounds of marijuana in nine separate incidents. The total value of the seized contraband was \$1,597,960.

• Aug. 9 - An agent attempted

to stop a pickup truck on Vega Verde Road. The driver sped away, later crashing at the intersection of Leonel Martinez Boulevard and Avenue T. The driver was arrested after 220.15 pounds of marijuana was found in the vehicle.

• Aug. 3 - Agents patrolling near the Del Rio Port of Entry

chased three men who escaped across the river to Mexico. A black bag, containing 41 pounds of marijuana was found nearby.

• Aug. 3 - When agents tried to stop a vehicle five miles west of Eagle Pass, the driver sped away. He later jumped out of the car and fled on foot. The driver was apprehended and 177.2

pounds of marijuana was found in the vehicle.

• Aug. 3 - Agents patrolling 20 miles west of Eagle Pass found eight feed sacks abandoned. The sacks contained a total of 283.2 pounds of marijuana.

• Aug. 1 - As agents patrolling near Comstock approached a group of five people, walking

through the brush, all but one of the group scattered. The man was taken into custody after agents found him in possession of four bundles of marijuana, totalling 231 pounds.

• July 31 - Two vehicles, travelling in tandem, were stopped by agents near Comstock. Four men were arrested after agents discov-

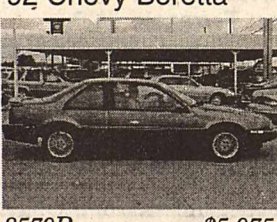
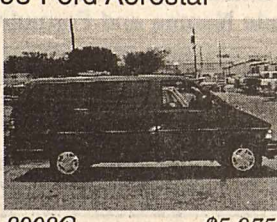

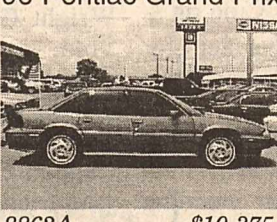
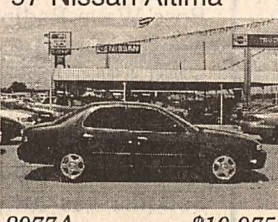

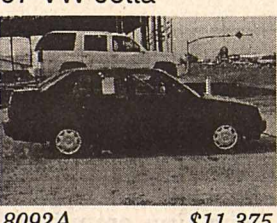







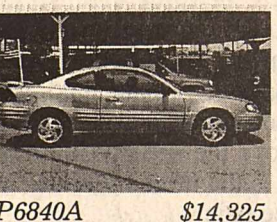

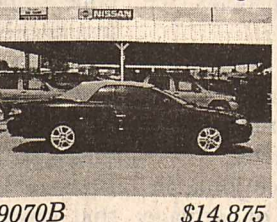

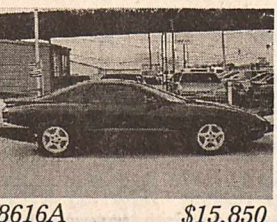

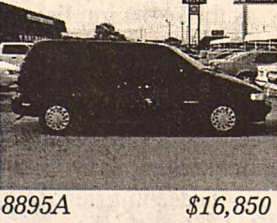





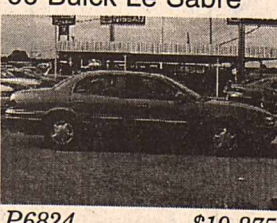

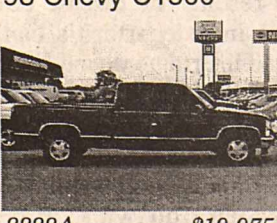
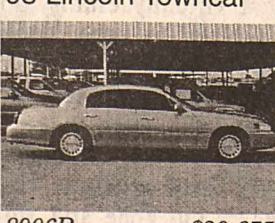
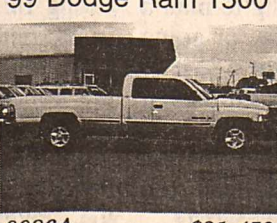


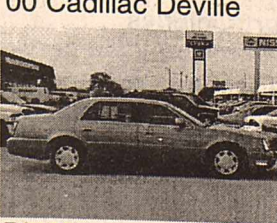
ered two bundles of marijuana in one vehicle and eight bundles in the other. Agents seized a total of 502 pounds of marijuana.

• July 28 - As agents approached an area known for drug smuggling activity near Eagle Pass, they observed five people carrying bundles on their backs.

Continued on Page 8

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Brown Automotive wants to thank you for your patronage with these special offers during August 17-23, 2000.

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<p>97 Chevy Venture</p>  <p>8885A \$13,950</p>	<p>99 Pontiac Grand Am</p>  <p>P6840A \$14,325</p>	<p>94 Chevy Suburban</p>  <p>9065A \$14,865</p>	<p>97 Chrysler Sebring</p>  <p>9070B \$14,875</p>	<p>99 GMC Sonoma</p>  <p>8708B \$14,875</p>	<p>97 Pontiac Firebird</p>  <p>8616A \$15,850</p>	<p>99 Pontiac Grand Prix</p>  <p>9078A \$16,475</p>
<p>98 Nissan Quest</p>  <p>8895A \$16,850</p>	<p>96 Jeep Cherokee</p>  <p>9084A \$16,975</p>	<p>95 Chevy Suburban</p>  <p>P68BA \$18,375</p>	<p>99 Chrysler Concorde</p>  <p>9047A \$18,975</p>	<p>99 Ford F-150</p>  <p>8994A \$19,575</p>	<p>99 Dodge Ram 1500</p>  <p>91273A \$19,850</p>	<p>00 Buick Le Sabre</p>  <p>P6824 \$19,875</p>
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Rotary District Governor visits

Submitted by Frances McMaster

The Governor of District, John Holcomb and his aide, Eamon Grant, visited the Brackettville Rotary Club Aug. 17 and reviewed the plans for the coming year with emphasis on the various categories of service which structure the club. The local club completed plans for a fundraiser to benefit Rotary's Scholarship Fund. A barbecue dinner will be given at Shahan Park on Aug. 27. Michael Hall, Patty Lopez and Jacquelyn Conoly will provide entertainment. Tables and chairs will be set under trees in the shade, but if you would prefer, you may take your food home. Food will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Plates are priced at \$5 for adult and \$2.50 for children 10 years old and under. This is a good chance to meet and hear baritone Michael Hall, Brackettville High School principal. Patty and Jacquelyn are well-known and experienced local performers who are lending their talents to make this benefit a smashing success. Rotary hopes you will come and help the Scholarship Fund, fill your tummy with great food and enjoy the entertainment.

Why does this woman hate me?

I Could Be Wrong
By Chuck Hall

I don't hate anyone. I really don't. I've seen what hatred does to a person and I don't want to be part of it. We need more love and kindness in our world, not hatred. But there is a person on this planet that I am developing a strong dislike for. Martha "let me fix up your house and ruin your life" Stewart. I hope you don't even know whom I'm talking about. This woman has cost

me a lot of money.

She comes on her TV show, with tools and gadgets that even major home improvement stores don't carry, and implants torture creating schemes into the minds of wives everywhere.

What scares me most is that there are others out there like Martha and her program. These types of shows are increasing in popularity. I think I could learn to hate her.

I have things in my home that I had not imagined I would have several years ago. I don't even

know what some of them are for. And I need some help here. I need some feedback. Do people really have lawn chairs that are only for decoration purposes? Does anyone, besides Martha Stewart, actually have ornamental furniture that no one ever sits in? Ever?

I really want to take a poll here. Men and women. Please stop when you see me and give me your answer. I want to know. I need to know. But I could be wrong.

It is a wise child who learns from her mistakes

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Mom, can we talk?" The voice on the phone sounded desperate. Gracie knew that her daughter was in need of love and a good ear. "Sure, honey. Come over, I'll be here."

Barbara sat down at the table. Looking into her mother's face, her eyes filled with tears. "Mom, it's all wrong. It just isn't working. All Dave thinks about is himself. I thought if I moved in with him he would change and everything would be all right, but it

isn't. Mom, I want to come home."

Gracie moved a chair beside her daughter. She put Barbara's head on her shoulder and held her like she had when Barb was a child. "Sweetheart," Gracie began, "welcome home. We will work this out together. Dad will pick up your things at Dave's. There are some decisions to be made now."

"But Mom, I feel so ashamed and dirty. How will anyone ever trust me? I feel like my life is so messed up."

"Barb," Gracie interrupted. "You made a bad choice. You cannot undo what you have done. Who and what you become from now on is up to you. You already

when you decided it was wrong to live with Dave. You made the second good decision when you called me and asked for help. I'll put the teapot on and we can talk about the other decisions you have to make."

It is a wise child who learns from her mistakes and who returns to the house of her father and who follows the wisdom of her mother. When she receives her words, wisdom enters her heart, knowledge will please her soul, discretion will watch over her and understanding will guard her future. (Proverbs 2:1,2,10,11).

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

Lawn looking poorly? Here's how you can control Brown Patch and other problems

Submitted by Robert Elledge Kinney County Extension Agent

Brown Patch Disease, caused by a fungus (*Rhizoctonia solani*), occurs in the late spring or early fall. The disease is characterized by circular patterns of dead grass blades in the turf. These range from the stolons because of the deterioration in the attachment area.

Stolons often remain green. New leaves may emerge in the center of the circular patch in 2 to 3 weeks, giving the diseased area a doughnut shaped appearance. The entire spot eventually may become green during a long growing season.

St. Augustine grass is damaged more by brown patch than Bermuda grass or Zoysia grass. Disease development occurs most rapidly in temperature between 75 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit when free moisture is present. Fungus activity stops when the air temperature reaches 90 degrees. This explains seasonal development.

Some lawns are affected almost every year, while others are damaged only occasionally. Fungicide application, which effectively prevents brown patch development, should be made when brown patch is expected.

On lawns where brown patch occurs occasionally, apply fungicide when the disease first appears.

Materials for Disease Control

Chemical: Benomyl
Trade Name and Formulations: Tersan 1991 (WP)
Use to control: Brown patch and Dollar Spot

Chemical: Captan
Trade Name and Formulations: Captan (WP)
Use to control: Brown Patch; Helmin-Thosp Orium
Green Leaf Spot, Fading Out

Chemical: Chloroneb
Trade Name and Formulations: Tersan SP (WP)
Use to control: Pythium Blight

Chemical: Chlorothalolil
Trade Name and Formulations: Dacoril 27B7 (LWP)
Use to control: Brown Patch, Helmin-Thosp Orium
Gray Leaf Spot, Dollar Spot

Chemical: Cyдохexamide
Trade Name and Formulations: Acti-Dione-TGF (WP)
Use to control: Dollar Spot, Rust, Fading Out

Chemical: Cyдохexamide + PCNB
Trade Name and Formulations: Acti-Dione-RZ (WP)
Use to control: Brown Patch, Helmin-Thosp Orium, Gray
Leaf Spot, Dollar Spot, Rust, Fading Out

Chemical: Cyдохexamide + Thiram
Trade Name and Formulations: Acti-Dione + Thiram (WP)
Use to control: Brown Patch, Helmin-Thosp Orium, Gray
Leaf Spot, Dollar Spot, Rust, Fading Out

Chemical: Maneb and coordinated
Trade Name and Formulations: Fore (WP)
Use to control: Brown Patch, Helmin-Thosp Orium
Rust, Fading Out

Chemical: Zincion
Trade Name and Formulations: Tersan LSR (WP)
Use to control: Brown Patch, Helmin-Thosp Orium
Rust, Fading Out

Chemical: PCNB
Trade Name and Foundations: Terraclor (LG,WP)
Use to control: Brown Patch

Chemical: Terrazole
Trade Names and Formulations: Terrazole (WP)
Koban (WP) Truban (WP)
Use to control: Pythium Blight

Chemical: Iron Sulfate
Trade Names and Formulations: Copperas (WP)
Use to control: Iron Chlorosis

Chemical: Iron chelates
Trade Name and Formulations: Several
Use to control: Iron Chlorosis

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'The Web' can help you find the perfect wedding present

News USA - So you're invited to another wedding. That means you have to go to the mall, fight the traffic and look for that perfect wedding gift in your price range again, right? Not anymore.

Thanks to the Internet, you can now search for the perfect wedding gift without even leaving your home. No more schlepping to the mall to puzzle over the list of gifts that Binky and Bobo have fondly imagined folks are dying to buy for them. Now you can find, order and send great gifts right from your desk. Just log on to Mall.com and you're at the virtual mall!

Looking for something for some very, very good friends? Through Hammacher Schlemmer, you can order the happy couple a Bose Wave Radio for \$499.95, a London Green Croquet Set for \$349.95 or 6-foot Windchimes \$259.95.

If you're looking for something a little less pricey, Williams-Sonoma has ideas for wedding showers as well as great wedding gifts. For example, check out their Deluxe Warring 60th Anniversary

Blender priced at \$139 or the Julia Child Cookbook "Baking with Julia" for \$40.

For more great gifts, check out Neiman Marcus. There you can send the couple a Nambe' tri-corner bowl for \$125 or Hova Snowflake liqueur glasses, set of 5 for \$55.

Looking for something a little more personal? Visit wine.com to see about ordering personalized bottles of wine. How about a 12-bottle case of personalized Chardonnay for \$159? You can also order personalized bubbly with Riedel lead crystal champagne flutes for \$60.50.

Another great place for gifts is the Museum Company. There you could select the Frank Lloyd Wright Glass mantle clock for \$145.

If you're looking for something a little more fun, what about a Take 5 Party Table for \$68 from Chiasso Online? It's perfect for your friends who love to entertain outside. Whatever your budget, if you need to find great wedding gifts, just log on to Mall.com.

Arthritis of the knee: causes, symptoms and treatment

Part I in a series

Submitted by
Dr. Gloria G. Box

One of the most frustrating problems many older patients face is the loss of mobility.

This is especially so in rural Texas, where folks are fiercely independent, and take great pride in providing for themselves.

Arthritis in the knee joint, injuries to the ligaments or cartilage in the knee, or just normal wear and tear can lead to debilitating pain.

Sometimes an arthritic or injured knee can lock up, give way, or simply lose stability.

This in turn can lead to the inability to do even simple activities like walking or climbing stairs.

Things that we often take for granted - such as going to mail a letter at the post office, or going to the grocery store for a loaf of bread - can turn into difficult if not impossible tasks.

If the knee gives way at the wrong time, a fall can lead to a fractured hip or broken wrist.

The knee joint is the largest joint in the body. Every time you take a step, you use your knee. After millions of steps over a lifetime of use, the knee joint can begin to wear out. Injury to the knee early in life, especially a bad injury that did not heal properly,

can accelerate arthritic changes in the knee.

How the healthy knee works
The knee joint acts like a hinge, and is formed where the thighbone, shinbone and kneecap meet. In a healthy knee, the joint moves freely, (just like a well-oiled hinge).

The reason a healthy knee glides so freely is due to a thick layer of smooth, slick cartilage that covers the joint surfaces: namely, the ends of the shinbone, thighbone, and underside of the knee cap.

In addition to enabling the knee to move easily, this cartilage also serves as the knee's shock absorber.

All remaining surfaces of the knee are covered with another tissue called the synovial membrane. This membrane releases a lubricating fluid that virtually eliminates friction in a healthy knee.

Ligaments are tissues that hold the bones of the knee joint together, while tendons attach the muscles to the bones. The muscles, in turn, serve to power the movements of the knee and leg.

Causes of knee pain and loss of mobility
When any part of the knee is damaged, joint movement suffers. Over a period of time, the cartilage can begin to crack or wear away. Initially, the knee may just

feel a little stiff. As time progresses, the bones of the joint can begin rubbing together and pain is the result. One of the primary causes of knee pain is arthritis.

Though there are many types of arthritis, the most common are osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and traumatic arthritis.

Above the age of 50, osteoarthritis is the most common cause of knee pain.

Osteoarthritis is a slowly progressive condition that often begins by a roughening and fissuring of the normally smooth surface of the cartilage.

This can ultimately progress to complete destruction of the cartilage with bone grinding against bone.

When joint stiffness and instability occur, impairment and disability result. The disease development in osteoarthritis can be slow and intermittent, and can take several years to become disabling.

Symptoms of arthritis
Symptoms of osteoarthritis can include pain in the area of the knee joint when you walk, (or put weight on it) or a tendency for the joint to stiffen up when it is rested in one position.

In more severe cases, knee pain may occur even at night or during rest (non-weight bearing). Eventually, stiffness of the joint can become severe, and occasionally,

a grinding sensations can be felt. The knee pain can be associated with mild swelling of the joint and with firm protusions around the edges.

Rheumatoid arthritis is a condition where the membrane in the knee becomes thickened and inflamed.

Too much fluid is produced in the knee joint and it overfills the joint space. This chronic inflammation can damage the cartilage, causing pain and stiffness.

Traumatic arthritis is caused, as the name implies, by trauma to the knee.

It usually follows a serious knee injury such as a bad fall or blow to the knee resulting in a fracture, or tears of the knee's ligaments.

These injuries may damage the knee cartilage over time, causing knee pain and limiting knee function.

In Part II of this article, I'll discuss the various treatment options available and the pros and cons of each.

(Editor's Note: This article was written by orthopaedic surgeon Gloria G. Box, M.D., who owns and operates Uvalde Bone & Joint Clinic, (830) 278-2292.)

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For local news you
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The Brackett News

Stephenson: The gym is now air conditioned!

Making a Difference
by Taylor Stephenson

Well, the air conditioning is now running at the gym. You can come see a volleyball game and enjoy it in an air conditioned gym. It is wonderful.

Some school patrons talked about how hot it used to be (in the good old days?) All were impressed to have a gym that is air conditioned.

We're not running on full speed yet because CPL needs to provide a better power supply.

They are working on this, and it will be installed in the next couple of weeks.

Come out and see our fine volleyball teams play and enjoy the air conditioning.

First game Sept. 8.

The band is marching; the cheerleaders are cheering; and the teams are practicing. Our first regular season football game will be held on Friday, Sept. 8. We'll have a scrimmage or two before that time. This will be a fun team to watch this year.



"The air conditioning is now running at the gym. You can come see a volleyball game and enjoy it in an air conditioned gym," according to Taylor Stephenson, BISD superintendent.

We're working on the traffic jam in the main parking lot that occurs each day at about 3:25 to 3:45 p.m.

It's caused by 4th grade parents trying to pick up their children in front of the elementary school, and 5th and 6th grade parents trying to do the same in the parking lot near the school library.

The most logical solution will be to change some of the dismissal times. We'll have some news later on this week.

Hearing set Monday

Our budget and tax hearing will be Monday, Aug. 28 at 6 p.m. The school proposes a 3 cent increase that will pay lots of dividends in the form of matching state funds for the next three years.

The budget is a conservative one and maintains Brackett ISD as having one of the lowest school tax rates in the state.

Meet the Teacher

The Meet the Teacher Night at Jones Elementary was a successful event. The children and faculty were lead by Judy Burks in "We Are the World; We are the Children." This was followed by parent visits to their children's classrooms. Good job.

School chorus
Michael Hall reports a couple of dozen singers signed in for the school chorus. Some came to the meeting; others signed in the next week. This will be an exciting group to watch.

Have a great week!

Tigers primed for playoffs, district title

First scrimmage game today in Crystal City

Submitted by
Kaylia Thomas

The Brackett Tigers are eyeing a chance to do something that hasn't been done since before 1950. They are looking to make the playoffs for the third year in a row. Brackett is picked by many to be a contender for the district title.

"We think we have a great opportunity to have a successful year," replied third year coach David Yeager.

The Tigers were hit hard by graduation, returning only three offensive starters and four defensive starters to this year's team. "Our kids work as hard

as anybody in the district and we think we can win a lot of games this year," said Yeager.

District 30-AA will be challenging with the addition of Poth, Three Rivers and Pettus to the district.

The Tigers return Jesse Hidalgo on offense who rushed for over 1,400 yards last season, along with Carlos Gomez at guard and Sam Hunt at tight end.

On defense, returning are Hidalgo, who moved to linebacker alongside Chris Palomo and J.J. Rivas at tackle. Miguel Hernandez has moved to defensive end.

The Tigers are in Crystal City today for the first scrimmage that starts at 5 p.m. Please come and support the Tigers!



Out of my way! - The Brackett Tigers aim to make the district playoffs for the third year in a row.
(Photo by Kaylia Thomas)

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 - * Petrus-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 ISD Activity Calendar

Thursday, August 24

5 p.m., G-9, JV Volleyball, D'Hanis (T) TBA
Varsity Football, Crystal City (Scrim.) (A) 5:30 & 7 p.m.

Friday, August 25

G JV Volleyball Hondo Tournament (T) TBA.

Saturday, August 26

G JV, V Volleyball Hondo Tournament (T) TBA

Monday, August 28

5:45-6 p.m. Juan Avila Jr. Bench Dedication

6-6:30 p.m. Public hearing on budget

6:30 p.m. Board meeting on budget

7&8 Volleyball Del Rio (White) (H) 5/6 p.m.

Tuesday, August 29

5 p.m., G JN, V Volleyball, Leakey (T)

Set an example: Use cross-walks - Encourage students to do the same!

Jimmy Davis' article published in Texas Coach Magazine



Coach Thomas has been to the football playoffs three years and coached on several different levels. He knows what it takes to play on Friday nights and to have a winning team. "We should coach kids with a positive demeanor and try to eliminate the negative," he says.

Coach Jimmy Thomas, defensive coordinator at Brackett High School, recently received the honor of having his article, entitled, "Coaching Defensive Football," published in the *Texas Coach Magazine*. The publication is circulated all across the state of Texas and is read by over 10,000 coaches.

The article appeared in the August 2000 issue and highlighted the efforts that coaches should make while working with kids.

As a coach, Jimmy Thomas has been to the football playoffs three years and coached on several different levels. He knows what it takes to play on Friday nights and to have a winning team.

Throughout his article Coach gave tips on how to work and win with a football team.

When asked what point was most important, he replied, "We should coach kids with a positive demeanor and try to eliminate the negative."

SWTJC adds 19 new instructors, offers nearly 800 courses this year

By Willie Edwards
Public Information Officer

UVALDE - Beginning his second full year at the helm, Southwest Texas Junior College president Ismael Sosa is excited and optimistic about the beginning of a new semester.

"Our challenge is, and will continue to be, finding creative ways to meet the needs of the large and isolated area of Southwest Texas that we serve," Sosa said.

"By adding new faculty and increasing our course offerings to nearly 800 classes this semester, I believe we are heading in the right direction."

President Sosa says the SWTNET program which offers distance learning capabilities to 22 high schools in the college's 11-county service area is a major means the college is using to serve outlying areas.

"Dual and concurrent enrollment by high school students continues to be a significant part of our enrollment and the SWTNET

program has expanded our ability to offer classes throughout our service area," Sosa said.

Other areas Sosa sees the college making positive strides in are workforce training/development and increased technical programs.

"Dean of Business Leslie Kramer, Romelia Aranda and Dick Whipple are doing a great job forging partnerships with area business and industry to provide programs that train participants to meet specific needs in Southwest Texas," Sosa said.

He addressed SWTJC faculty and staff during the general faculty meeting Tuesday at the Matthews Student Center in Uvalde.

According to Gloria Rivera, dean of instructional services, SWTJC will begin the year with 87 full-time faculty in Del Rio, Eagle Pass and Uvalde.

"We have added new faculty in Del Rio, Eagle Pass and Uvalde," Rivera said.

"We are excited about our new instructors and the new ideas they

will bring to SWTJC."

A new nursing program in Eagle Pass, a new health and human services division in Uvalde and increased participation by area high schools in distance learning/video conferencing classes all indicate SWTJC is growing to meet the needs of its constituents, Rivera said.

She also noted that SWTJC is still looking to fill an additional seven faculty positions in biology, English, speech, math, economics, office systems technology and auto mechanics technology.

New faculty added to SWTJC for the fall semester in Uvalde are:

Lana Marlow, speech; John Marlow, communications; Frank Cornacchione, criminal justice; Dr. Gabrielle Forbes, biology; Sharon Wilson, vocational nursing; Claudia Kurek, economics; Anna Carmichael, office systems technology; and Dr. Mark Underwood, English.

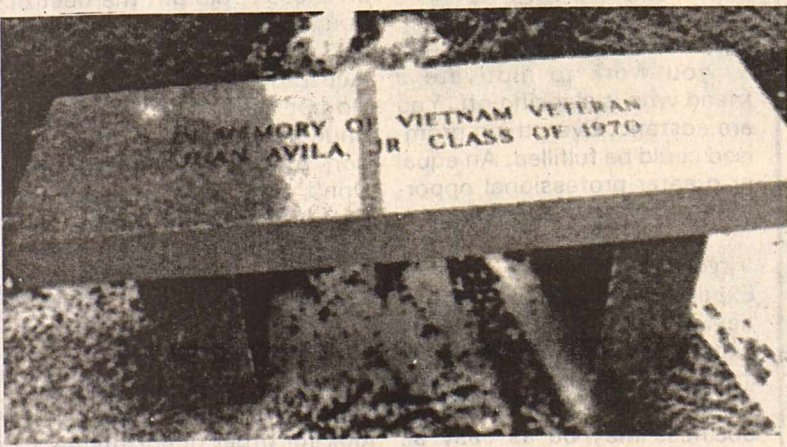
In Eagle Pass, new faculty are: Jerry Cowley, biology; Luis Perez, computer information systems; Mariano Aguilar, English; Shiloh Richter-Pivoda, English; Mario Cardenas, history; Amanda Van Cleve, vocational nursing; Kristine Davenport, vocational nursing; and Edward Koslowski, math.

New on the Del Rio faculty are: Pat Dugan, English; Charles Garabedian, history; and Pat Rhodes-Nicosia, math.

On-site registration will continue Thursday and Friday in Uvalde.

Late registration for fall semester classes will continue at the junior college will be Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 28-29.

The first day of classes at Southwest Texas Junior College campuses in Uvalde, Del Rio and Eagle Pass will be Monday, Aug. 28.

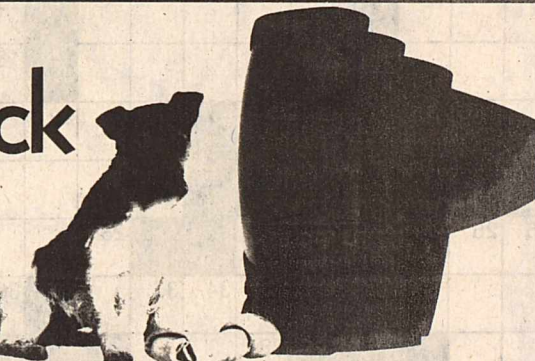


In memoriam

A ceremony is planned Monday, Aug. 28 at 5:45 p.m. in front of the Brackett ISD administration office to pay tribute to Juan Avila Jr., a member of the class of 1970, the first Brackett student who lost his life in Vietnam. This bench, in front of the administration building, is dedicated to Avila's memory. Avila's family will be among those attending the ceremony. The public is invited.

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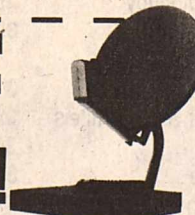


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ATTENTION ALL BINGO PLAYERS... The Del Rio Elks would like to invite everyone to come out, enjoy a pleasant afternoon, and win Big Bucks playing Bingo.

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Living Water with ECOTECH® combines three technologies in one compact water treatment system:

Cartoon strip featuring MAMA'S BOYZ, PORTER'S BOOKS, and GEORGE by MARK SZORADY.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68.

ACROSS and DOWN crossword clues including: 1. London-based TV network, 4. Nazimova of Hedda Gabler, 8. Chasm, 11. Attends to a squeaky door.

You Can Make It http://www.craftpatterns.com. Advertisement for a twin-size racecar bed with images of the bed and a racecar.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY August 24-29. List of names for birthdays including Nakai Breen, Janet Gieseke, Maggie Lee Lipich, etc.

HOROSCOPES Aries March 21- April 20 Jealousy could get the best of you this week for no apparent reason. Taurus April 21-May 21 Anticipate potential problems in the environment in which you work.

Choose God's love, choose to be happy and to forgive and bless others

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charolette Corey

Thank God for his Super Natural strength. I really do not know how people make it from day to day without his love, wisdom, guidance, and strength. When you feel like you're at your wit's end, He is there. He carries you through the hard times. He strengthens you by the power of his word. He gives you grace to carry the cross you must bear. His mercy covers you like the wings of a mother hen over her chicks. The blood of Jesus protects you from harm and during these difficult times, you experience the promises of God that he will never leave you nor forsake you. Satan uses the worst of times to allow things in your life to "snowball." If you aren't filled

with His word and trust in Him by faith, the situation can easily drown you with lies and depression. Instead, God causes you to be an overcomer by the power of his word. Life is full of opportunities to choose to be happy, to choose God's love, to choose to forgive and bless others. It is not always easy, but it is a choice that is very rewarding. Like the children at our church sing from the word of God... "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not unto your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your path straight." God uses people to direct you in wisdom as well. What would we do without the other parts of the body of Christ? I do not know. There are so many precious people who have reached out and enriched our

lives and the lives of our loved ones. I thank God for them daily. God also uses his angels who he sends on assignment to watch over us. There are often occasions which we will never know about until we reach heaven in which God has saved us from falling into Satan's trap or pitfall. This is all the more reason to enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Having just lost my husband's, (Bob Corey's), stepmother, Blanch Corey, who helped raise him since his own mother's death when he was 3, we are so grateful for God's Super Natural strength, grace, power and love. Thank you all for your help, your love and your prayers. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

A small town's uniqueness

St. Mary Magdalene Church
Submitted by Lynn McNew

I recently came across a series of articles written by Arthur Gordon of Savannah, Ga. He shares his thoughts and feelings on life in small towns. Although Savannah isn't exactly what we would think of as a small town, it has the feeling of "small-townness" in the sense of the warmth and friendliness it displays. It reminds us that this town is America. It is you. It is me. It belongs to us all and together we can behold its goodness. Following is one of Mr. Gordon's articles:
By Arthur Gordon
Whenever I visit up North or travel to cities in the West, people sometimes ask me what life is like in a small town in

Georgia, in the deep South. "It must be very different," they conjecture. Yes, it is different, I tell them. No one would ever mistake the colonial charm of my hometown of Savannah for the super steel-and-glass structures that tower over New York City. Likewise, no one would ever mistake the forested mountain slopes of New England for the Everglades of Florida, or the plains of Montana for the blue grass of Kentucky, or the Arizona desert for the lakes of Minnesota. Diversity, that's one of the glories of our country. We're all Americans, and we all speak the same language and watch the same TV programs and elect the same president, but the regional differences persist—different

foods, traditions, values, lifestyles. And it's out of this wonderful "differentness" that the color and texture and character of this marvelous country are created. It's just one more example of the infinite variety and inventiveness of the Creator of all things. No two individuals alike, no two snowflakes alike, no two sets of fingerprints alike. And no two towns alike, either. No matter what, yours is going to be different. ***** In future weeks we will discover some of these differences. Lord, give us the capacity to be amazed and delighted and enchanted by the diversity around us. You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. God Bless You!

'We, like the Apostles, find Jesus is hard to understand'

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

What was the name of that book - "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus"? The age old problem in the relationship between men and women is most certainly, "we don't often understand things the same way." Of course, generalizations always ignore the exceptions, but I'm going to use them anyway. Men can talk together about sports almost indefinitely without ever saying anything of any importance (other than to sports enthusiasts). But, women could care less about the Yankee second base man who was responsible for "the shot heard

around the world" (a home-run of special importance). Women can spend an inordinate amount of time shopping for that special article of clothing that will go perfectly with a pair of shoes or a handbag. Men, on the other hand, don't even know what color their socks are most days (and couldn't care less). Women can talk on the phone for hours with a girlfriend. Men are impatient to get off the phone as soon as possible. Men are insensitive (they don't even notice that they leave the toilet seat up). Women are sensitive (they know what their man is thinking at all times, even if the man denies it). Many a young man has made the mistake of thinking that he

and his date are "compatible" when this can only be true if he is willing to undergo a significant transformation after the dating has moved to "commitment." If most of you (men and women) are like me, we spend a lot of time trying to understand and to be understood. It is important to all of us that our concerns about things are understood by others. We don't want to be alone in our opinion, for that might indicate we are wrong. It is comforting, a bit, to know that Jesus struggled with a similar problem. In John 6:56-69, we find that the followers of Jesus are expressing their confusion regarding one of

Jesus' teachings (about being the bread of life whose flesh must be eaten and whose blood must be imbibed). They proclaim, "This is a difficult statement, who can listen to it?" As a result, some turn away from accompanying him there just outside of Capernaum. They could no longer go along with that which they could not logically comprehend. That is also very true in today's society. Many find it difficult to follow Jesus, because we are "enlightened" and have made reason and logic the foundation for "truth." Join us at First United Methodist Church this Sunday at 10:45 a.m. as we, like the Apostles, find "Jesus is difficult

Parents urged to teach children after school rules for propane appliance safety

Parents are urged to discuss propane gas appliance safety measures with their children if the youngsters are home alone after school. "Teaching kids basic propane safety rules will help them if there is ever an emergency when an adult isn't home," said Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Michael L. Williams. "We need to keep kids informed that if they smell gas, they should exit the home immediately and not use any electric switches or appliances."

by using a "scratch and sniff" brochure available from Texas propane suppliers. The Railroad Commission of Texas' Alternative Fuels Research and Education Division (AFRED) can provide consumers with basic safety tips, as well as additional propane uses and rebates by calling toll-free, (800) 64-CLEAR (800-642-5327). Propane safety tips can also be accessed via the Railroad Commission of Texas' Internet site at www.rrc.state.tx.us.

St. John's Missionary Baptist Church pastor lists new worship service hours

St. John's Missionary Church
By Rev. William P. Adams Sr.
Praise the Lord: Trust in the Lord. Proverbs 3:5-6
St. John's Missionary Baptist Church, 116 W. Crockett St. Brackettville, Texas 830-563-3550
Pastor Rev. Wm. P. Adams 830-563-3032
New worship service hours effective now.
Sundays - Worship Service 3 p.m.

Wednesdays -- Worship Service 6 p.m.
Fridays -- Morning Worship Service 10 a.m.
Fridays - Evening Prayer Service 6 p.m.
For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him (Jesus) should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16
Everyone is invited: Public, whoever; yes that means you! To worship with us. God loves you and so do we.

Commissioner Charles R. Matthews adds, "Teaching children propane appliance safety is a good lesson to learn. Children should know to keep all objects away from gas furnaces, space heaters and fireplaces and stay away from tanks and valves. Propane appliances aren't toys and should never be turned on without adult supervision." "Teach children to use their heads and their noses when dealing with propane," Commissioner Tony Garza advises. "They should learn to sniff out trouble by recognizing its distinct odor and should learn to recognize common noises made by propane appliances."

Created in 1991 by the Texas Legislature, the Alternative Fuels Research and Education Division of the Texas Railroad Commission is charged with researching and educating the public about propane and other environmentally beneficial fuels that can help reduce air pollution in Texas.

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

2000 Property Tax Rates in Ft Clark M.U.D.

This notice concerns 2000 property tax rates for Ft Clark M.U.D.. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$14,576
Last year's debt taxes	\$124,552
Last year's total taxes	\$139,128
Last year's tax base	\$33,508,671
Last year's total tax rate	0.4152/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$138,021
/ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$32,650,760
= This year's effective tax rate	0.4227 / \$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function)	\$14,460
/ This year's adjusted tax base	\$32,650,760
= This year's effective operating rate	0.0443 / \$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	0.0478 / \$100
+ This year's debt rate	0.1562 / \$100
= This year's rollback rate	0.2040 / \$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If Ft Clark M.U.D. adopts a 2000 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.4227 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 1999 taxes by \$7,594.

Schedule A
Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Property Tax Fund	\$575,000

Schedule B
2000 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
1977 Utility Bond Issue	\$52,050	\$0	\$0	\$52,050
Total required for 2000 debt service				\$52,050
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$0
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$0
- Excess collections last year				\$0
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2000				\$52,050
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 96.00% of its taxes in 2000				\$2,169
= Total debt levy				\$54,219

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 412 S. Ann St., Brackettville, Tx 78832.

Name of person preparing this notice: William F. Haenn
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date prepared: August 22, 2000

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Brackettville Rotary Club
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and entertainment
Sunday, Aug. 27
11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Shahan Park
To benefit Scholarship Fund

Meeting
Good Government Group
Thursday, Aug. 24, 2000
7:00 p.m.
St. Andrew's Church

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Workers' Compensation/Medicare/Insurance
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