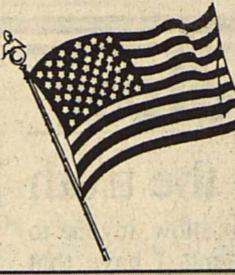


The Brackett News



Happy
New Year!

12th year, No. 48

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

1 Section, 6 Pages

Lindeman, Barlow retire Drug education is still important

Bill Lindeman and Cordelia Barlow were honored at a luncheon held by co-workers and Kinney County elected officials, on Thursday, December 14, at the Kinney County Civic Center.

Lindeman retires as Kinney County Constable and Barlow retires as Kinney County Auditor on December 31.

Lindeman was appointed as Constable in 1990 to fill an unexpired term. He ran successfully for two terms as Constable.

On January 1, 2001, he will become a reserve deputy under Sheriff Burgess. He will be working security for the J.K. Burr ranch which is south of Spofford.

Lindeman started his career as a constable in Hays County on January 1, 1956. He became a state game warden on June 15, 1959, and served in and around Kinney County. He retired on July 31, 1989, after serving over 30 years. He then worked as a non-salaried deputy under Sheriff Norman Hooten.

This January will mark 44

years in law enforcement for Lindeman.

He and his wife Ava have made Brackettville their home for many years.

Barlow was appointed to her position as County Auditor on January 17, 1992, to fill the unexpired term of Bettye Deason. She was appointed by the District Judge.

Before her appointment, she worked for Dolores Raney in the County Clerk's office. She had worked there since December of 1989.

Barlow was born at the Fort Clark hospital while her father was stationed there as a Master Sergeant. The same doctor who delivered Barlow also delivered her first son in a San Antonio hospital.

She has not made any post-retirement plans as of now, except to visit her children who live in Washington, New Hampshire and here in Brackettville. Barlow has three sons and several grandchildren.

Making A Difference By Taylor Stephenson

Happy New Year, 2001! It has been a very good year for our community. A year ago, we ushered in the new millennium, 2000. In that year, the economy has flourished nationally. In our own community, though the summer was dry, we have had good winter moisture. Kinney County folks end the year as we began the last one, happy to be living in Texas.

I have seen tremendous progress made in our town and county. Government seems to be stable, secure and progressively addressing problems. In our school system, we had a banner year and we continue to work to maintain and improve on those accomplishments. We have fine teachers and kids. We have a caring school board and administration that work daily to make things better.

In our country, we need to unite behind our new president.

America is far more important than any political party. When the aggrandizement of the party becomes our goal, we need to reflect and to change. The election is over, and it's time to change the guard. Have a great 4 years, George W. Bush!

Though we do things well locally, some of our young ones still look for answers through drugs.

There are adults and a few young ones who can't do anything else but take advantage of the weaknesses of others. It's time that we address this problem. Parents can begin by knowing who their children are with and what they are doing. The next step will be easy.

We need to have more drug education in the schools. Law enforcement should find out who is selling and take care of the problem. We can do better! There are many of us community members, parents, teachers, law enforcement (including Border Patrol & DEA) who want this mess stopped. We

are a caring community members. None of us accepts the status quo on this problem. What about it? Let's make Kinney County a community that the druggies pass through on their way to a place that tolerates abuse and selling of drugs. It's time that we work together to solve the problem of drug abuse in our community.

All year long, I have used the slogan regarding Brackett ISD, "A Place Where Winners Go!" We have had tremendous success with academics and extracurricular activities this past year. I want to see this focus continue. We need to believe in ourselves so we can continue to be winners.

I suggest another goal for Fort Clark Springs to try to work together to solve problems. It's the best place to live in the world, but unfortunately we have allowed negative thinkers to prevail. I believe that those folks need to find a life and should try to do something positive to help make things better. There are many who do this, but the few sour ones make life difficult for all of us. I hope that the board and management of Fort Clark will begin to find ways to promote Fort Clark Springs as they work for fiscal solvency. There are too many cooks in the kitchen.

I believe in this community. I plan to be here even after retirement. With all of our problems, we're far better off than whatever else is out there. Let's figure out how to solve the problems that I have identified (and those that I haven't). Then, let's work together each day to build a sense of community in all that are lucky enough to live in this fine community. Have a great week!

Briefs ...

Border Patrol weekly statistics

The following is a report of the apprehensions by Border Patrol agents assigned to the Del Rio Sector for the period Dec. 18-24, 2000. The information is provided by station, and includes a sector total.

Abilene...24, Brackettville...55, Carrizo Springs...107, Comstock...0, Del Rio...80, Eagle Pass...477, Llano...17, Rocksprings...0, San Angelo...3, Uvalde...37, Sector Total...800, Other Than Mexicans...46

Green wins championship

Recently Lou Green won the 2 day Ladies Golf League Championship Tournament for 2000. Shooting very consistently with a 79 on Monday and an 80 on Tuesday for a total score of 159, she also won Medalist Honors.

With approximately 10 members in each flight, Darlene Horning won the first Flight with a 90-92. Winning the Second Flight with a 99-100 was Theresa Stephens.

The Ladies League had their Christmas Brunch on Tuesday, December 20 in the Green Room of the Golf Club House. Wonderful foods, including breakfast casserole, sausage balls, biscuits and gravy, home made cinnamon rolls and other sweetbreads, fruit and vegetable goodies were enjoyed by the 40 members present.

During the impromptu business meeting the ladies decided not to begin play on Tuesdays until 10:30 a.m. during the cold weather. Dues for 2001 are now being accepted. Any women golfers in the area are invited to join.

Spindletop 2001 celebrates history

The history of the Lucas gusher comes alive in an authentic re-enactment - complete with blowing well, actors, horses and period equipment as part of the Spindletop centennial celebration Jan. 10, 2001, at the Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum on the Lamar University campus.

All the activities and events are free and open to the public. Commemorative items and merchandise, stamp cancellations and books about Spindletop, as well as food and drinks, will be on sale.

For more information about Spindletop events and projects, visit the Spindletop 2001 Commission website: www.spindletop2001.org or call the office at Lamar University, John Gray Center, Building B, Suite 103, Beaumont, Texas 77705 at (409) 839-2977, or the Beaumont Convention and Visitors Bureau at (409) 880-3749.

INSIDE

I could be wrong!

If you've read my ramblings for a while, you might recall an article relating an incident concerning my getting stuck in the river gravel about two years ago. I got stuck in almost exactly the same spot not too long ago.

Opinion/Page 2

The way I see it!

Just when I thought I had seen it all I stumble onto yet another abomination from the entertainment industry.

I was flipping through the channels the other night when I came across a so-called sitcom titled Son of the Beach. That started the alarms clanging so I decided to find out if what I suspected from the title was true.

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County Judge Herb Senne presents Cordelia Barlow with a plaque at her retirement luncheon on December 14. The plaque was given in appreciation for 9 years of service as Kinney County Auditor.

On left, Herb Senne, County Judge, presents Bill Lindeman a plaque in appreciation for almost 10 years of service as Kinney County Constable.

Crime: Something can be done

By Verlene Cheesboro
Contributing Writer

The debate about parole has taken front stage in many communities as parolees continue to commit repeat offenses. As a retired state prison captain who spent two decades in the system, I feel that the problem is not the parole system but the prisons which do not rehabilitate criminals, and actually just create better ones.

With increasingly more heinous crimes hitting our headlines, crime victims, lawmakers and other citizens are taking a 'lock-them-up-and-throw-away-the-key' stance. The basis of the current system is that if they can be punished enough, they will reform. With recidivism rates showing that two-thirds of inmates released are arrested within three years, it is clear that this thinking is flawed.

Author and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard, whose methods are used in criminal reform programs around the world, wrote in 1938 that "the individual man thinks of a cell simply as a place where the criminal will be held incommunicado until he is finally reborn. It rarely occurs to this individual man that he is actually fostering

the practice of placing this one criminal in the society of criminals." I have seen this as experienced, older inmates eagerly share their criminal expertise with first time offenders entering the prison system, resulting in a more knowledgeable criminal.

Hubbard saw that the key to reforming criminals was "establishment of the criminal's self respect."

Education is the first step toward helping inmates regain their self respect as 69% of inmates

nationally cannot read or write. Studies and statistics also show that those inmates who managed to get their education in jail do not return to prison. They are now employable and have the basic skills they need to survive legitimately.

Many corrections' educational programs have been cut back. Instead of skills that can rehabilitate, in the current system prisoners are learning new ways to commit crime, and are then released into the community worse than ever.

According to U.S. News and World Report, 95% of inmates will re-enter our communities.

Addressing illiteracy in our prisons will bring about a lower recidivism rate and greater parole successes.

Cheaney explains Christmas traditions to Brackettville Rotarians

The Brackettville Rotary Club held its annual celebration of Christmas during its luncheon meeting at Fort Clark's restaurant on December 21. Ruby Cheaney played Christmas music on the piano for the entertainment of the group during the social period before the meeting started, and she accompanied the singing during the program. December program chairman Frank Cheaney was the master of ceremonies for the observance, and gave a program dealing with the traditions of Christmas. Frank read the Christmas story from the Book of Luke, and was then joined by Taylor Stephenson and Michael Hall in

singing the old favorite, "We Three Kings of Orient Are."

Frank spoke of the history of many of our Christmas traditions. He explained the origin of the traditions surrounding plants commonly associated with Christmas. The cross of Christ may have been made from a holly or "holly" tree, and the holly wreaths with their red berries represent the crown of thorns and Christ's blood shed for us all.

He also told of the origin of candy canes at Christmas. They were used by Christians in 17th century England at a time when the open celebration of Christmas was forbidden. The shape was

meant to represent a shepherd's crook. The three small stripes represented the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and the large stripe represented the life of Jesus that he gave for us. Another tradition he mentioned was the use of the Christmas card. Back in 1843, Englishman Henry Cole found himself too pressed for time to write his holiday greeting by hand - a custom of the day - so he hired a London artist to produce a card suitable for all the names on his list. He sent 1,000 cards that year (at a penny per card postage,) and his idea became wildly popular. This year, Americans will send about three billion Christmas Cards.

Frank concluded his part of the program by telling the story of the writing of the beloved song "Silent Night" in 1818 by Father Joseph Mohr and organist Franz Gruber in the little town of Oberndorf bei Salzburg, Austria. Their church organ was out of order, so they wrote this little song to be sung by a children's choir at the Christmas Eve mass, with guitar accompaniment. The lovely song spread throughout the world and has been translated into many languages. Frank was joined by Michael Hall in singing the song in the original German. Frank then sang it in Spanish and in Hawaiian. He relented and didn't sing it in the other 65 languages into which it has been translated, but the entire group joined him in singing the song in English.

The club elected Michael Hall to be the Vice President/President Elect, to take office in July, 2001. He will be the President for the 2002 - 2003 year. The Reverend Ken Sellers, of First United Methodist Church, was approved for membership and will be inducted at today's meeting. The club has been without a member of the clergy since the passing of long-time Rotarian Brother Joe Townsend in February of this year.

We welcome Brother Ken to our group.



Dr. Buchanan and staff celebrate Grand Opening at a new satellite clinic at historic Fort Clark Springs (old EMS building) in Brackettville. Clinic hours will be every Wednesday, starting on December 27, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hours will be extended as needed. Clinic is open for all Kinney County residents. Appointments can be made by calling, toll-free, 1-866-4-RIO-DOC, walk-ins will be accepted. Dr. Buchanan is board certified in family practice and expects to open a new office in Del Rio next month on Bedell.

Letters to the Editor

Write if you care to know the truth

I guess by now everyone knows that I've been asked to register here. Something I didn't want to do, because my children live here.

Those that know me, know the truth. Those that know me and don't like me will have a good time with this. Those who don't know me and would like to see the truth, are welcome to

write me. I will allow anyone to see the documents I have that shows my innocence.

I know that my friends, those who really know me, will never abandon me.

I pray, that those who will enjoy spreading this, will leave my children out of it.

Thank You
Roger Perez

Clearing up any misunderstandings

There were a few errors in the Pearl Harbor report to the Rotary Club. Please don't blame Frances, either I didn't speak plain enough or her tape recorder garbled the message.

The other Fort Clark survivor is Bill Proctor, not Robert.

The Pennsylvania was not a supply ship, but the flagship of

the Pacific Fleet.

The torpedoes were set at less than forty-five feet; the Helena's draft was only thirty-two feet.

The dive-bombers dropped bombs, not torpedoes.

Hopefully this will clear up any misunderstanding.

Sincerely,
Tom Powell

Looking forward to working relationships

By Henry Bonilla
U.S. Congressman, 23rd Dist.

Last week 538 electors from every state in the Union met in their respective state houses and cast their votes for president and vice president. George W. Bush and Dick Cheney received the necessary 270 electoral votes and will now become the next President and Vice President of the United States. This constitutional act finally marked the end of the 2000 presidential and federal election cycle.

The 2000 election cycle was the closest presidential election in American history. It also produced the first evenly divided Senate this century, while the

House of Representatives provides neither party with an overwhelming majority. These results should clearly tell every elected official across the United States that bipartisanship and an ability to work for a common goal will be necessary to complete the work of Americans.

President elect Bush along with both Republican and Democratic candidates from all around the country campaigned on the issues of education, medicare, social security and tax reform. These priorities were included in many stump speeches and provide the new Congress and President elect Bush a good starting point for the next Congress and next presidency. It is

clear that whether we are Republican or Democrat, our constituents want a change from the current policies that govern our education, medicare, social security policies and tax code. I believe it is imperative to abandon partisan politics and work with President elect Bush to get these priorities done just as this Congress has done with President Clinton.

The past two years Congress has proved that we can work together with the White House and look past party lines. The 106th Congress finally closed its doors for the winter holidays but not without first meeting the needs of Americans everywhere. Congress and the White House agreed to provide \$150 million increase for the Community Health Centers (CHC) program. CHC combine the efforts of community leaders and doctors to develop a plan to best provide proper quality health

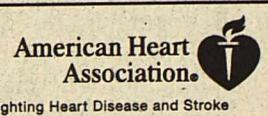
care to rural communities. We established programs to boost home ownership for low and moderate income families. And we also agreed to reauthorize the Older Americans Act which provides services to many of our mothers and fathers and grandmothers and grandfathers. This Congress worked together with the White House and achieved great ends. I expect the next Congress will do the same.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate President elect Bush for a well run and dignified campaign. And I would also like to ask that as a nation we stand behind our new leader as has always been done in the past. Let us work together to achieve the priorities that every American who went to the polls voiced—a change in education policy, reform to the medicare and social security system and a simpler and fairer tax code for everyone.

Now I admit I'm not too bright, but I have just read that amendment several times and I find nowhere in it any protection for freedom of expression. In fact that is absolutely not what was intended by the framers of the Constitution. What they intended was that the government could not, and would not make laws that regulated in any way the people's right to disagree publicly with that same government. They never meant to protect pornography and the other moral destroying garbage we are bombarded and besieged with on a daily basis.

Both the entertainment industry and the mainstream media rant and rave about their First Amendment Rights. They go berserk if there is the slightest attempt to establish any type of morally responsible control. They will accept no boundaries at all. However, let a person attempt to utter a public (religious) prayer (which is, you will notice, mentioned specifically before freedom of speech in the same amendment and was therefore, we may assume, of greater importance to the Founding Fathers), and they will scream and holler that such blatant public displays of intolerant hatred should be legislated.

I submit here that they can't have it both ways. Either the document says there can be no controls, or it doesn't. I concur that the press should be able to say anything they feel is necessary in opposition to decisions



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Seeking our forefathers true intentions

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

Just when I thought I had seen it all I stumble onto yet another abomination from the entertainment industry.

I was flipping through the channels the other night when I came across a so-called sitcom titled Son of the Beach. That started the alarms clanging so I decided to find out if what I suspected from the title was true. True to form, the morally bankrupt entertainment industry has again plunged down well past my lowest expectations.

This was the most blatantly vulgar exhibition of prime time sewage that I have ever seen. Because children read this paper I will not give you the details, but let it be said that this was pure filth, thinly disguised as comedy.

As I sit here I have in front of me a copy of the Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. The First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The raw sewage mentioned above is claimed by its defenders to be protected by the portion of that amendment which says, "or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press...." They claim that it is their right to produce and foist upon the American public such unadulterated swill, because it is their constitutional right as protected by "freedom of expression."

Now I admit I'm not too bright, but I have just read that amendment several times and I find nowhere in it any protection for freedom of expression. In fact that is absolutely not what was intended by the framers of the Constitution. What they intended was that the government could not, and would not make laws that regulated in any way the people's right to disagree publicly with that same government. They never meant to protect pornography and the other moral destroying garbage we are bombarded and besieged with on a daily basis.

What we need is a true Supreme Court instead of the pale, insipid, pusillanimous, inferior imitation that is now seated in those hallowed halls. We need a Supreme Court that has the valor and fortitude to revisit and overturn all those wrong decisions made by their predecessors and return the true meaning to the Constitution of the United States.

We have allowed the Constitution to be liberally interpreted into oblivion. We now need to reverse that destructive trend. Then maybe the day will never come when we need to exercise the real reason for the inclusion of the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

1 Samuel 2:3 - "Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the Lord is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed."

clear that whether we are Republican or Democrat, our constituents want a change from the current policies that govern our education, medicare, social security policies and tax code. I believe it is imperative to abandon partisan politics and work with President elect Bush to get these priorities done just as this Congress has done with President Clinton.

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If you've read my ramblings for a while, you might recall an article relating an incident concerning my getting stuck in the river gravel about two years ago. I got stuck in almost exactly the same spot not too long ago. In educational circles, we have words for students who don't, or won't, learn from their mistakes. But, once again with the help of a friend, I got unstuck.

Maybe one day I'll learn better than to try to cross loose gravel. Maybe, but I doubt it.

After a week or so of not being able to get in to check on the livestock, I call a friend and asked if he could take me out in his 4-wheel drive truck. Getting stuck was just the first mistake.

I can state for an absolute fact that we went places where any goat in his right mind would have turned back. I know one of the things that created the rash spirit of adventure that day was the fact neither one of us wanted to be the first to admit being doubtful of being able to traverse uncharted ground. Next time, I'll freely admit my hesitancy and not let us act so foolhardy. But I could be wrong.

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Kinney County Sheriff's Report**Monday, Dec. 18**

4:53 p.m., A local man reported that his bike had been stolen and requested an officer come to his residence to see if anyone was still around. Chief of Police Ron Ring was dispatched. The man later reported that he had found his bike; he had left it at City Hall.

12:08 p.m., Chief Ring responded to a call from a local woman reporting that she had heard shots behind her apartment. Ring advised that there was no one in the area.

7:00 p.m., After a report of a traffic accident, Trooper Tom Wiley was enroute to the location. The accident was reported to be on Hwy. 90, west of Brackettville, east of Perdido Creek. Trooper Wiley was unable to locate the accident.

8:48 p.m., A local woman called the Sheriff's Office to report a knife fight behind a local convenience store. Deputy Chism and the EMS were dispatched to the scene.

9:05 p.m., Sheriff Burgess arrived at a local convenience store after being notified of a knifing at the location. He left the scene to look for the suspect.

9:30 p.m., Armando Estrada, 29, of Brackettville, was arrested for Aggravated Assault with a deadly weapon. He was released three days later on a \$10,000 American Bond.

Tuesday, Dec. 19

2:20 p.m., A local rancher requested a deputy come to his ranch 14 miles east on Hwy 90 in order to file a report on a break-in. Sheriff Burgess responded.

7:15 p.m., A local woman called to report that a white Chevy Lumina almost hit her front bicycle tire while she was riding on Ann Street.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

7:00 p.m., Deputy Manuel Pena called to report the Railroad lights were going on and off with no train in sight. Railroad dispatch was notified and said that two trains were in fact coming.

Thursday, Dec. 21

12:45 a.m., Deputy Pena was dispatched to FCS Golf Course after being notified by Fort Clark Security. An unknown person had staked a local realtor's sign on the 14th green. The sign was taken to the Sheriff's office and dusted for prints. Two prints were lifted from the sign. The case is still under investigation.

1:35 p.m., A local woman reported a local man, who she says is a reckless driver, and gave his license plate information. She filled out a report at the Sheriff's office, and stated that she had encountered this driver many times but didn't report him until now, because she was being nice.

2:38 p.m., A local woman called to report an accident near Holmes street and requested a deputy to take pictures. Chief Ring was notified.

9:10 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to a call reporting that fireworks were being discharged on 1st street. The caller was concerned for cars passing by. Pena went to the scene and spoke with the subject and stated that everything was o.k.

Friday, Dec. 22

3:45 p.m., A local woman called to report that five kids were shooting at each other near the cemetery near 2nd Street. Chief Ring was notified.

7:40 p.m., It was reported that a horse tied beside the road on the edge of town kept walking out into traffic. Chief Ring was notified.

8:20 p.m., A local woman reported that some kids were shooting Roman Candles at each other and at cars near her residence on E. 1st St. Deputy Chism arrived at the scene to take care of the situation.

10:30 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to a call from Officer Diaz of Fort Clark Security, stating that the back door of a residence in the Oaks was open while the people who lived there were not home. Pena and Diaz secured the residence and stated that nothing seemed to be missing.

Saturday, Dec. 23

2:20 a.m., Luis Antonio Guajardo, 20, of Brackettville was arrested for DWI 1st offense. Guajardo was released later that day on a \$1,500 bond.

9:45 a.m., A local rancher called to inform Sheriff's Office that the train had been sitting in the same spot for over 10 minutes behind his ranch on Hwy 1572.

Sunday, Dec. 24

7:56 a.m., A local woman called to report that someone had keyed her vehicle the night before near the Fort Clark Bar area. She said she would go to the Sheriff's Office later that day to take pictures of the marks which were on both sides and the back of her vehicle.

3:48 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to a call by a local woman

reporting that two young boys were throwing rocks at a neighbor's car. Pena spoke to the boys who stated that they were not throwing the rocks at the car, but on the street. Pena also spoke with their father.

6:18 a.m., A local woman called to report that she lost her black 9 mm glock. She reported that the last time she had it was on FM 693. She stated that there were 9 or 10 shells in the clip of the gun.

7:21 p.m., A city employee was sent to a residence on Pafford to check on a sewer problem. The Sheriff's Office received the call from a local woman concerning the matter.

11:04 p.m., The Sheriff's Office received a call from a local woman stating that there was loud

music and people popping fireworks near her residence on Pafford St. Deputy Chism was notified and said he would take care of the situation.

Monday, Dec. 25

1:02 p.m., The local girl, reported missing, contacted the Sheriff's Office and gave her location. She stated that she did not want to go home because she was having problems with her parents.

7:08 p.m., A local man requested a deputy to go by his residence on Thomas St. He reported that neighbors were popping fireworks and hitting his trailer. Chief Deputy Fritter responded.

7:21 a.m., A local family filed a missing persons report on their daughter. The family thought that the girl may have gone with a friend to Mexico. The girl was last seen the day before at her residence at 1:00 p.m.

9:50 a.m., Border Patrol dispatcher, Chuck Booth called to

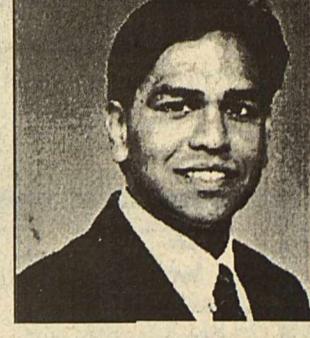
report an abandoned vehicle 8 miles south of FM 693 on Hwy 277. He requested that the car be towed. Chief Deputy Fritter responded to the call.

1:02 p.m., The local girl, reported missing, contacted the Sheriff's Office and gave her location. She stated that she did not want to go home because she was having problems with her parents.

7:08 p.m., A local man requested a deputy to go by his residence on Thomas St. He reported that neighbors were popping fireworks and hitting his trailer. Chief Deputy Fritter responded.

8:15 p.m., Deputy Chism responded to a call by a local woman reporting that someone was popping fireworks and hitting her residence on Louise St.

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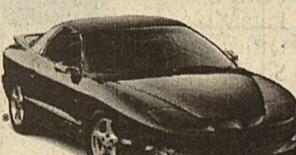
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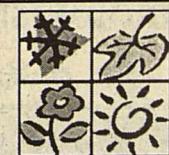
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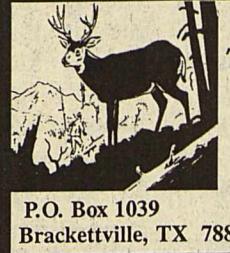


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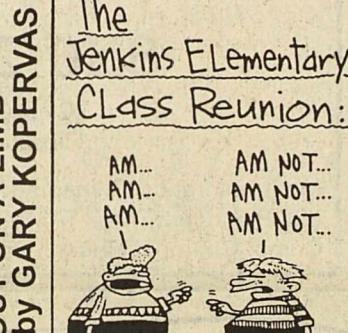
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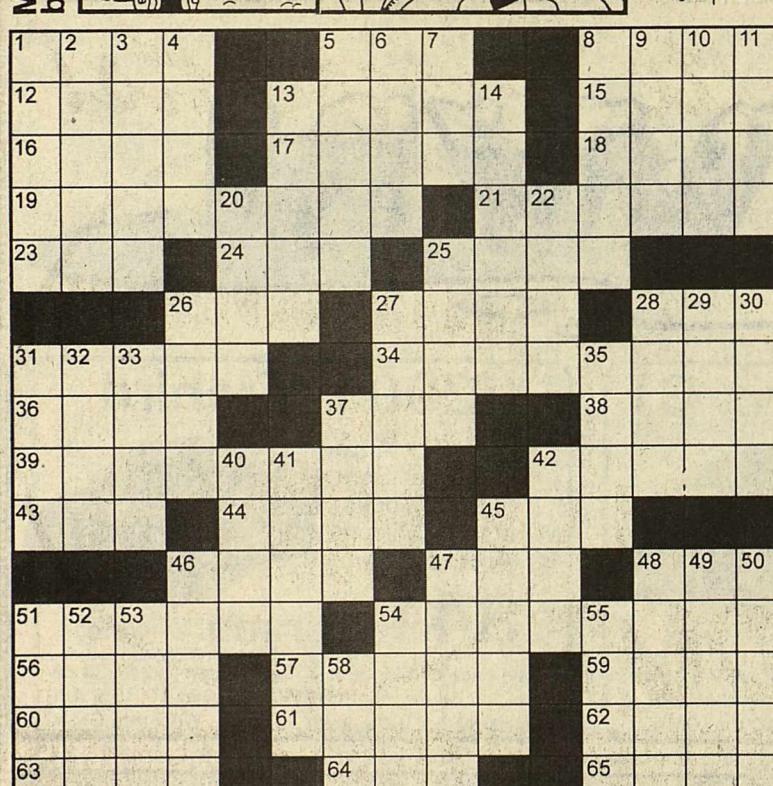
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by JERRY CRAFT



ACROSS

- Altercation
- Symbol of Lent
- One
- Midway feature
- Fragrant lavender flower
- What the fourth little piggy had
- Pernicious
- Friend, to Juan
- Laura of Citizen Ruth
- Excavated
- Was unsteady
- R-V link
- Supplement
- Brandywine, e.g.
- Ocean vessel initials
- Actor Raymond
- Pete Townshend group, with "The"
- Leona's man
- Motivated by a Muse
- Wrought
- Commercial notices
- Pianist Peter
- Put an end to
- Giver
- Opposite of WNW
- off (angry)
- Itch
- Pinocchio, before he learned his lesson
- Antiperspirant brand
- A laughing matter, at the dentist

DOWN

- Basset and Flintstone
- Rosie's fastener
- Fifi's farewell
- Shrill cry
- Aspired
- Reached base, in a way
- Harridan
- Below
- Christmas: Fr.
- About (2 wds.)
- Incline
- Countries
- Kitchen tools
- Five ____ Pieces
- Foe of the Clinton clan
- Plays on words
- Marshy ground
- lights
- Actor Estrada
- Large African antelope
- "She __" (#1 hit for Alabama) (2 wds.)
- Palomino's pride
- Tears
- Lasso formation
- Ransom's car, for short
- The Subject
- Roses
- Dory accessories
- Firehouse coffeepots
- Lingered
- Famed English architect
- Courageous one
- Incense's output
- Nowhere to
- Tycoon Onassis et al.
- "Marie"
- Party to (2 wds.)
- Claim
- Singer Redding
- Apartment dweller
- Depress
- Camden (Orioles' home)
- Large ponds
- Bobby or Barry of baseball
- Type of salami
- Intense devotion
- Uses scissors
- Informal message
- Vocalized
- Watermelon leftover
- Novel by Zola
- Angel topper
- Ben Hur author Wallace

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Dec. 28.....Hortencia Castro	Dec. 31.....Jerry Adams
Dec. 28.....Tiny Castro	Dec. 31.....Betty Sanchez
Dec. 28.....Patricia Garberick	Jan. 1.....Chonita Garza
Dec. 28.....Jessie Garcia	Jan. 1.....Tootsie Herndon
Dec. 29.....Clarisia Aguirre	Jan. 1.....Valerie Vela
Dec. 29.....Joan Boutwell	Jan. 2.....David Burton
Dec. 29.....Myrna Gonzalez	Jan. 2.....Amanda Meek
Dec. 29.....Judy Hooker	Jan. 2.....Jerry Melane
Dec. 30.....Jason Kelly	Jan. 2.....Jerry Taugner
Jan. 3.....Janelle Senne	

HOROSCOPES

Aries March 21- April 20

It could be time to rethink your career choice. Realizing there is more to life than success and wealth could propel you to change. You may receive a gift with a hidden meaning. Be grateful.

Taurus April 21-May 21

The dry spell in your social life may come to an end. Allow yourself to let go of things you can't control. Calm anxieties by going for a long walk. An unusual present could make you laugh long and hard.

Gemini May 22-June 21

The world is your playground. Go out and use it. A friend with political aspirations may seek your help. If you are comfortable with the idea, you may find a new hobby.

Cancer June 22-July 22

Let go and try to have some fun. A grumpy face may upset some people. You'll have to work hard to regain their trust. Remember all children like to receive gifts, particularly from their parents.

Leo July 23-August 23

A remodeling project may get the creative juices flowing. Think bold colors. A stubborn streak could affect an important work relationship. If you remain calm, compromise is more likely.

Virgo August 24-Sept. 22

It doesn't appear that work-related travel will take a hiatus. You may need to reschedule a family visit. Knowing a little more about a superior could help initiate productive conversations.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

Work hard to find a happy medium in an uncomfortable situation.

If you look fear in the face, you may gain an unknown confidence. The art of using natural healing remedies fascinates you.

For local news you can use,
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For Entertainment Purposes Only

Resolve to have "fat souls" next year *Don't forget the reason for the season*

Gateway Ministries, Inc.
By Pastor Charlotte Corey

This holiday season we have been busy singing "Silent Night, Holy Night." It is important to carry with us into the New Year the peace of God and the holiness of God's presence.

As we set aside political arguments and forgive words that were spoken in the heat of the recent elections, we make sure that the new year is started with in the Spirit of Forgiveness. This starts in our own hearts with asking God to forgive us of our wrong thoughts and actions. It extends also to asking his forgiveness for not doing those things that the Holy Spirit was gently whispering for us to do. Remember, when you repent, God is quick to forgive so, also forgive yourself, even as God forgives you.

A new year gives you an opportunity to start fresh with relationships... relationships with your family, your friends, and, most importantly, with God. Choosing to show your love and thankfulness to others is just the beginning. Choosing to learn how to love yourself is the difficult part. How can you "love

your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27) when you don't know how to love yourself? If you would fight for the rights of a friend, fight for the rights of your own soul (your mind, your will and your emotions). Forgive yourself and feed yourself upon God's word. Psalms 199:10 says "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" and in Psalms 34:8 "O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

This friend of yours, that is "you," is worth fighting for! You need to nourish yourself and encourage yourself in the things of God. Pig out on God! The taste is great! God loves "fat" souls, Proverbs 13:4 "The soul of the sluggard desireth and hath nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat." Prov. 28: 25 "He that is of a proud heart, stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be made fat." and Psalms 92:13 -14 "Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing." and in Prov. 11:25 "The generous soul

shall be made fat; and he that watereth shall also be watered himself." (We are talking about the soul, not being physically out of shape. OOPS!) My prayer for you this year is that your soul be made "fat" and in the words of God in II John 1:3 "Grace be with you, mercy, and peace from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the son of the Father, in truth and love." Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

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

where the scissors are. Whew! We can relax for a while!

But wait a minute! We aren't the "left-behinds" are we? And if we aren't, then shouldn't we still be expecting Jesus? And if we aren't expecting Jesus, are we letting down our "spiritual guard"? And if we get caught like this, won't we be sorry!

The economic Christmas is over, but our remembrance of "The Reason for the Season" shouldn't be. If there are any

Christmas-and-Easter-only Christians reading this, let me tell you, God wants to talk with you more often than twice a year. In fact, God wants your ear every day and sometimes twice on Sunday. God enjoyed your visit to his house and now wants to be invited into yours. He will only stay as long as you let him.

He will help you in your daily chores and with your daily struggles, if you ask him. He will counsel and give advice only when you ask. He will give love in return for anger, frustration, and misunderstanding.

And to think, you have only felt ready for God twice a year up till now. Or maybe one Sunday a month, or maybe twice some months. Is it time to consider a new arrangement with God? He has the time, do you?

We invite you to join us at First United Methodist Church Sunday at 10:45 am as we join together with other flawed and forgetful Christians and try to find God's Word for us in every day life!

May this upcoming, not-so-special season change your life for all eternity, just as the special one may have.

Holidays are a family celebration

St. Mary Magdalene
By Lynn McNew

Christmas is over. At least it is for some people. In my family, Christmas tends to last for several days or even weeks, as we exchange gifts and celebrate together with various family members. Whenever you celebrate, the important thing is family.

Luke's gospel reminds us that Jesus was part of a human family. In a story familiar to all of us, Mary and Joseph leave Jesus behind in Jerusalem, thinking He is elsewhere in the group of travelers. If you have ever lost a child in a store, you can well identify with the feelings going through the hearts and minds of Jesus' parents as they searched in vain for their Son.

I remember one time when my daughter wandered away from me in a fabric store. The tables full of standing bolts of fabric made it impossible to see very far and I can remember the fear in my heart as I frantically searched for her. And then the relief I felt when she appeared—I didn't know whether to hug her or spank her—I hope I hugged her!

So when Mary and Joseph finally retraced their steps and found Jesus in the temple, Mary's words, "Son, why have you done this to us?" Your father

and I have been looking for you with great anxiety," let us know that she could scold Him the same as any earthly mother. It reminds us that when Jesus became one of us, human, He entered into a web of relationships, of struggles, joys, and disappointments. He was like us in all things but sin.

The Sunday after Christmas is traditionally the Sunday set aside to celebrate the Holy Family. This celebration is a good reminder to us that we are part of an extended holy family through baptism. John tells us that we are beloved children of God—part of the Holy Family of our Father. To remain part of this holy family, we are asked to do two things: keep God's commandments and love one another.

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As we enter into a New Year, I resolve to devote more quality time to my family. Most of them are far away, so I can't see them as often as I would like, but there is the wonderful world of the Internet and writing letters is a good option.

Lord, thank you for the gift of my family. Thank you for our good health and the love we share. Bless all the members of your Holy Family.

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By David Crowe

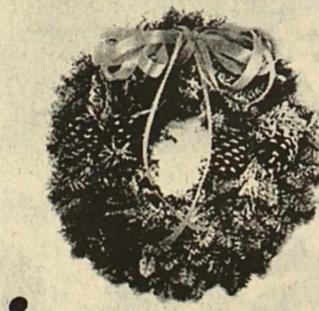
Are you who and what you would like to be? If so, great! If not, why not?

Are you living the life or the kind of life that you'd like? If so, again great! If not, why not? Do you have as many friends or the kind of friends that you'd like? If so, wonderful! If not, why not? Does your life have purpose, direction and meaning or are you just alive, but not really living? No one sees themselves as other people see them. Most people will be far more tolerant of you, than you will be with yourself. Want to change? Want to be better, do better? Be

healthier? Be smarter?

There are hundreds of self-help books on the book shelves. You can learn a lot about yourself. What works and what doesn't. What's right and what's not, for you, for your life.

Saying to yourself, "I don't have the time, money or inclination to read a bunch of stupid books?" If not, great! If so, I have a suggestion for you, if you want answers for your problems, today! I dare you or anyone of reasonable intelligence to read the book of Job, with a totally open mind, and not learn a multitude of things, to help you live a fuller, healthier, happier life. Do it for you!



the Spirit of Sharing.

Now is the time to give thanks for the many blessings in our lives by giving of ourselves to those in need.

May we all take the time this season to find ways to contribute to our communities — whether it be through charitable organizations, or directly to friends or family members in need. Through giving, the holiday spirit will be yours.

May you and your family enjoy a safe and joyous holiday season.

Happy Holidays,

Henry Bonilla

Congressman
Henry Bonilla



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DRIVERS WANTED

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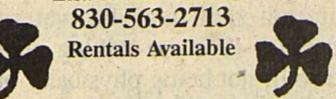
HELP WANTED

THE MIDDLE RIO Grande Development Council is accepting job applications for the position of Maintenance Worker to be housed at the MRGDC Uvalde Workforce Center in Uvalde, Texas. Preference will be given to applicants who have three (3) or more years of similar work experience. This position is responsible for the general cleaning and maintenance of building, grounds and storage areas at the central office. Some examples of the duties and responsibilities of this position include the following: open and secure building on a daily basis; cleaning office work areas and rest rooms; sweep, mop, scrub, vacuum and polish floors; removal of trash and other refuse; dust equipment, furniture and fixtures; maintenance of custodial supplies; must be able to assemble furniture and perform minor mechanical repairs; may perform duties as shipper and receiver; transport and arrange materials in storage rooms; load and unload various weights of materials and merchandise and store in proper location; maintain and adjust air conditioner thermostats/filters; clean all debris on central office grounds; cut grass areas and perform related tasks as required. Salary range for this position is \$14,446. Persons interested in applying for this position must send a resume and/or file an application with: Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Executive Director, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199 - 307 W. Nopal, Carrizo Springs, Texas, 78834. A copy of the job description and application for employment are available upon request. Applications and/or resumes will be accepted for this position until filled. 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. For information please contact at (830) 876-3533 or through our TDD telephone number (830) 876-1260.

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

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and
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Music by Encanto of Del Rio

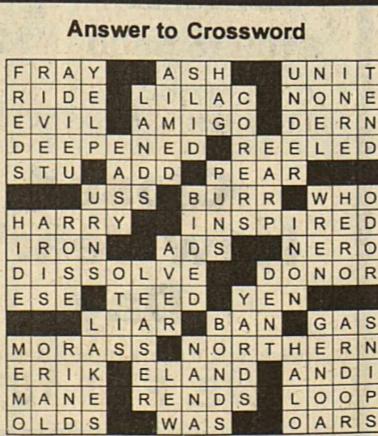
Presale tickets \$10 per person through December 30, otherwise pay \$12 on December 31. Students pay \$5 at the door (12 and under free)

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