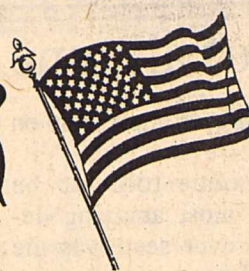


The Brackett News



Remember your sweetheart on Wednesday!

13th year, No. 1

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Warm Springs to close Del Rio, Brackettville facilities

San Antonio - Two Warm Springs Rehabilitation Outpatient Clinics - one located in Del Rio and another located in Brackettville - will close Wednesday, February 7.

Officials with Warm Springs Rehabilitation System, who traveled to the affected clinics to make the announcement to employees and patients, said patients will continue to be seen Monday, February 5 and Tuesday, February 6.

These are the only Warm Springs facilities affected.

Jim Ashbaugh, vice president of product management for Warm Springs, attributed the closures to three key reasons: decreased reimbursements from Medicaid and other sources; lack of tax support; and increasing costs of personnel recruitment and retention.

"Reimbursements and payments from payers, including Med-

icaid, haven't kept up with the true cost of providing services and in some instances, they have actually decreased," Ashbaugh said.

"Included in these escalating operating expenses are the costs to recruit and retain qualified personnel. Although we are a non-profit health system, we are not tax supported as are other medical facilities in the area. We simply do not have any cushion to absorb the losses."

Ashbaugh said that every effort will be made to make transition as comfortable as possible for the approximately 25 patients currently being served by these clinics. Patients will be referred to other care facilities in the Del Rio/Brackettville area, he said.

The two clinics employ a total of 10 full- and part-time professionals. All will receive priority consideration for open positions

for which they are qualified within the Warm Springs Rehabilitation network, Ashbaugh said. He added that all full-time employees not transferring to other Warm Springs locations who have been with the system for 90 days or more will receive a severance package based on their length of service and all employees' health benefits will continue through the end of February.

"In addition, we will work with other local healthcare providers to help place employees," Ashbaugh said.

"We are grateful for having had the opportunity to serve the people of Del Rio and Brackettville," he said. "We leave the community at a time when we are confident that alternative services are available to meet the needs of people with disabilities."

High School students learn importance of good career

By Michelle Frerich
Contributing Writer

Students at Brackett High School participated in their first-ever Job Shadow Day last Friday. Thirty-two students went out into the community to 17 different job sites and shadowed employees to learn more about particular careers.

Students prepared for the day, in the classroom, by doing activities such as resumes and career exploration worksheets. While at their job sites, students interviewed the employees they worked with to get more of a feel for what their jobs entail. Students learned specific responsibilities for each career, as well as general knowledge important for any employee. They also learned social skills, and the answer to the all important question, "why do I need to know

this?"

The students at Brackett High School truly enjoyed their learning experiences.

The businesses who were kind enough to allow a student to shadow an employee were: County Tax Assessor's Office, County Clerk, Game Warden (Henry Lutz), United Medical Center, Judge Ford, Rio Grande Electric Co-Op, Kinney County Appraisal Office, The GiftBox, Kinney County Wool and Mohair, U.S. Post Office, Sheriff's Office, The Brackett News, Kinney County Public Library, Fort Clark Springs, The Aging Center, Border Patrol, Alamo Village.

Brackett High School would like to thank all the businesses that helped in Job Shadow Day and graciously allowed our students to shadow them on Friday.

Briefs ...

Arts Council presents jazz concert

Get ready for an enchanting evening at the Brackettville Civic Center on February 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Through the auspices of the Kinney County Arts Council and The Texas Commission on the Arts, "The Rainbows" featuring Leo "Bugg" Johnson of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame - "Drifters," Mr. Harry "Keyboard" King, Barnabas Smith, and saxophone man Richard Johnson will be in concert with jazz, and high energy sounds of yesterday and today.

Tickets are available at the FCS's Adult Center and from any Arts Council member. The goal of the Kinney County Arts Council is to bring a variety of cultural events to this area; therefore, a "free" concert will be provided for the school children of the Brackett ISD on February 23.

Fiesta of gems

The Southwest Gem and Mineral Society will present the 41st Annual "Fiesta of Gems" show and sale in the Morris Activity Center, Joe Freeman Coliseum, San Antonio, Texas, on March 23, 24, and 25, 2001.

Admission - Adults: \$4.00 each day. \$8.00 all three days. Children under 12: \$.50 each day.

(Note: School Field Trip Groups on Friday, 3/23/2001)

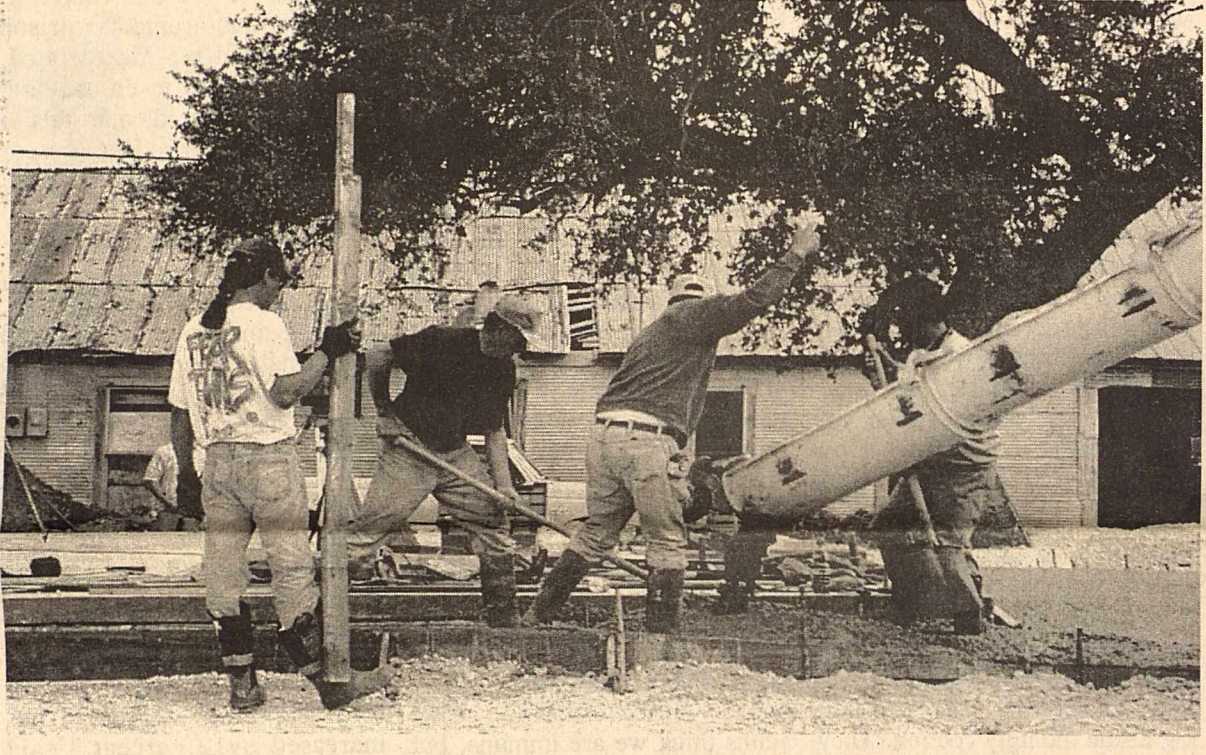
Hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday

Violin concert

New York City Violinists to Join The Chamber Soloists of Austin for Eagle Pass Performance Friday, Feb. 16 at Moore Hall at 8 p.m.

Two visiting violinists from New York City will be joining The Chamber Soloists of Austin in a performance at 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 16 at Moore Hall.

Sponsored by the Arts Council of Eagle Pass, pre-sale tickets for the concert by The Chamber Soloists are now on sale at the Eagle Pass Chamber of Commerce and at Western Communications for only \$3 per student and \$5 per adult.



Pictured are construction workers as they work hard to lay the foundation for the new Pico store in Brackettville. Work began on the new store approximately three weeks ago. Ricky Alvarado, store manager, says he is looking forward to having the new store. The present Pico store will eventually be torn down so that the area can be used for more gas islands. The work is being done by local business MB Construction. Mike Bizzell, owner of MB Construction says he and the crew are working towards having the new store completed by the beginning of May.

Lions learn about 9-1-1 identification

The February 1, 2001, meeting of the Brackettville Lions Club was provided a very informative program from Forest Anderson, who is the 9-1-1 Director, and Chris Shanks, GIS Database Supervisor, from Middle Rio Grand Development Council. Forest spoke first concerning Emergency Services 9-1-1 Identifying Numbers.

Public Safety Answering Point, known as PSAP, is the location where 9-1-1 calls are answered. They serve nine counties with eleven 9-1-1 centers, nine primary and two secondary or back up centers. There are 55,000 addresses maintained and their responsibility is to provide 9-1-1 addresses for rural areas. The problem is tying the physical address into the telephone system, so that the caller can be located by emergency equipment as quickly as possible.

Mr. Anderson said he is dedi-

cated to public education about this service through speaking to service organizations, health fairs, and schools. He noted that any 9-1-1 call that originates in Kinney County ends in Kinney County. This is particularly important due to the increased use of cell phones.

There are three phases in wireless 9-1-1 service. In Phase 0, the call goes in and the dispatcher doesn't know where it comes from. Phase I provides a display of the cellular caller's phone number. Phase II provides a display of the phone number as well as the caller's physical address.

The goal is to provide signs of uniform size with registered identifying numbers to be placed on the gate or in the yard of rural homes so that emergency equipment can locate where they are needed.

Chris Shanks spoke on the GIS (Geographic Information System)

and gave a fascinating demonstration on how it works. GIS is a computer software tool that creates and displays maps. It combines a 9-1-1 database with a physical address. It provides a visual location map to show where the 9-1-1 call is coming from and where emergency equipment needs to go. Chris was able to show several members of the audience their home site by entering their name and/or street name.

There will be an "Address Day" in the near future. At that time, county residents will have an opportunity to be registered and assigned numbers. More information can be obtained by going on line to www.911planning.com. or contacting Middle Rio Grande Development Council.

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

Garza named to Dean's List

SWTJC President Ismael Sosa and Dean of Instructional Services Gloria Rivera have recognized 143 students for academic excellence during the 2000 fall semester.

A total of 69 students were honored by earning recognition on the President's List. This academic honor is bestowed upon students who maintained a 4.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) in at least 12 hours.

An additional 74 students qualified for Dean's List honors. To make the Dean's List, students must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours and maintain at least a 3.6 GPA.

"It is always an honor to recognize the hard work and dedication of our top students," President Sosa said. "When you take into consideration that many of our students have to balance their education with work and family, this accomplishment is certainly worthy of praise."

Francisca D. Garza of Brackettville was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2000 semester.

A total of 1,683 SWTJC students were classified as full-time last fall by enrolling in at least 12 hours.

Tiger Woods will not be here

The Fort Clark Springs Las Moras Invitational Golf Tournament in Brackettville, Texas will be held March 16th, 17th, and 18th.

Invitations are being sent by the Fort Clark Springs Men's Golf Association to all the top south Texas golfers and flyers are being mailed to the surrounding golf courses. This is the 12th annual two-man select shot flighted tournament held by the Brackettville golfers.

The first 200 players who pay the \$100 per man entry fee to register for the tournament will be eligible to compete for approximately \$10,000 in prize money.

Our president stated that Tiger Woods is invited and would be a welcome participant, but he is not expected to enter.

Bob Walker, the golf course maintenance Superintendent, assures us the crews will have the course in the best possible condition for the tournament.

George Vernor, the pro shop manager and staff will, as usual, treat all visiting golfers and guests in a royal fashion. The golfers entry fee covers his lunch on both Saturday and Sunday, his green

fees and a practice round on Friday if he calls and receives a tee time. Visitors may also purchase meals and beverages at the golf course.

Our members are now soliciting sponsors who make this tournament possible and the huge success it has been every year. The sponsors are merchants, professionals and individuals who contribute \$50 each to support the tournament and gain the favor of our golfing members.

The names of all the sponsors are posted on a large billboard at the golf course for the entire year and the names will also be listed in a thank you advertisement placed in a local newspaper at a later date.

Although Tiger Woods is not expected to be here, the visiting public or gallery can expect to see some spectacular golf. Our own Roy Dyer and others demonstrate how the top pros play the game with 300 yard drives, close iron shots, deadly chips and unbelievable putts.

There will be no charge for visitors and the public is welcome. You are sure to get your money's worth.

Local residents named honor students, graduates

College Station - Texas A&M University has named its honor students for the 2000 fall semester, recognizing several thousand students for outstanding academic performance.

"Distinguished Student," recognizes students who earned a 3.25 to 3.75 GPR while taking at least 15 hours. Among those recognized were: Zachry Hunt Davis, Jr., a sophomore, who is majoring in General Studies. Amy Elaine Bader, a senior, majoring in Entomology.

Diplomas were awarded to approximately 3,400 Texas A&M University graduates during fall commencement ceremonies. The degrees were presented at four separate ceremonies.

Among those receiving degrees were: Amber Nicole Davis, who received a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, Kathleen Elaine Hall, who received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing and Jared Ty Shahan, who received a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science.

Lincoln brings Whitehead Museum to life

replica of the Jersey Lily's Saloon and Judge Roy Bean's burial place, Dr. Simon Rodriguez's office, Border Radio and an Indian room. In fact, there is actually a traveling Indian exhibit, which can be taken to schools.

Besides preserving the past for future generations and teaching children that "there was life before Nintendo," the Museum has beautifully landscaped grounds, and a Chapel, which can be rented for such things as weddings and graduation parties. It seats 150 people comfortably and has a maximum capacity of 500 people.

Ms. Lincoln is well known for her excellent cooking abilities, and she actually does the cooking for large and small groups. She "loves to cook" and cooks for her staff about once a week.

She told the Rotarians about how the museum acquires many gifts, such as Lily Langtry's original traveling piano. Someone recently gave the Museum a truck that had to be repaired. It has been fixed and will provide the transportation which is often needed to pick up donated objects. Memorabilia from the Second World War is being requested at present. Anyone who has such objects they would like to give to the Museum, please get in touch.

The Whitehead memorial Museum is located at 1308 South Main Street in Del Rio. The telephone number is (830)-774-7568.

If your idea of a museum is place to see dusty old objects and to be lulled into inertia, forget this museum. This is a dynamic place to go.

INSIDE

■ **The way I see it!**

We recently purchased one of those Direct TV dish antennas in the hope that amid the sex, perversion, violence, profanity, sacrilegious vulgarity, and mystical psychobabble, we could find something wholesome enough for the family to watch together.
Opinion/Page 2

■ **Empowering families**

"Mom, I want to go live with Dad." Fifteen year old Jessica was voicing something that every divorced parent has heard.
Ann, had been expecting it. "Why do you want to live with your Dad, honey?"
Lifestyles/Page 3

■ **Making a difference**

Three grants have been funded for BISD! Our grant writers have been hard at work this past month. Grants provide enrichment monies to the Brackett Schools. The administration and school board try hard to keep a low tax rate in our school district.
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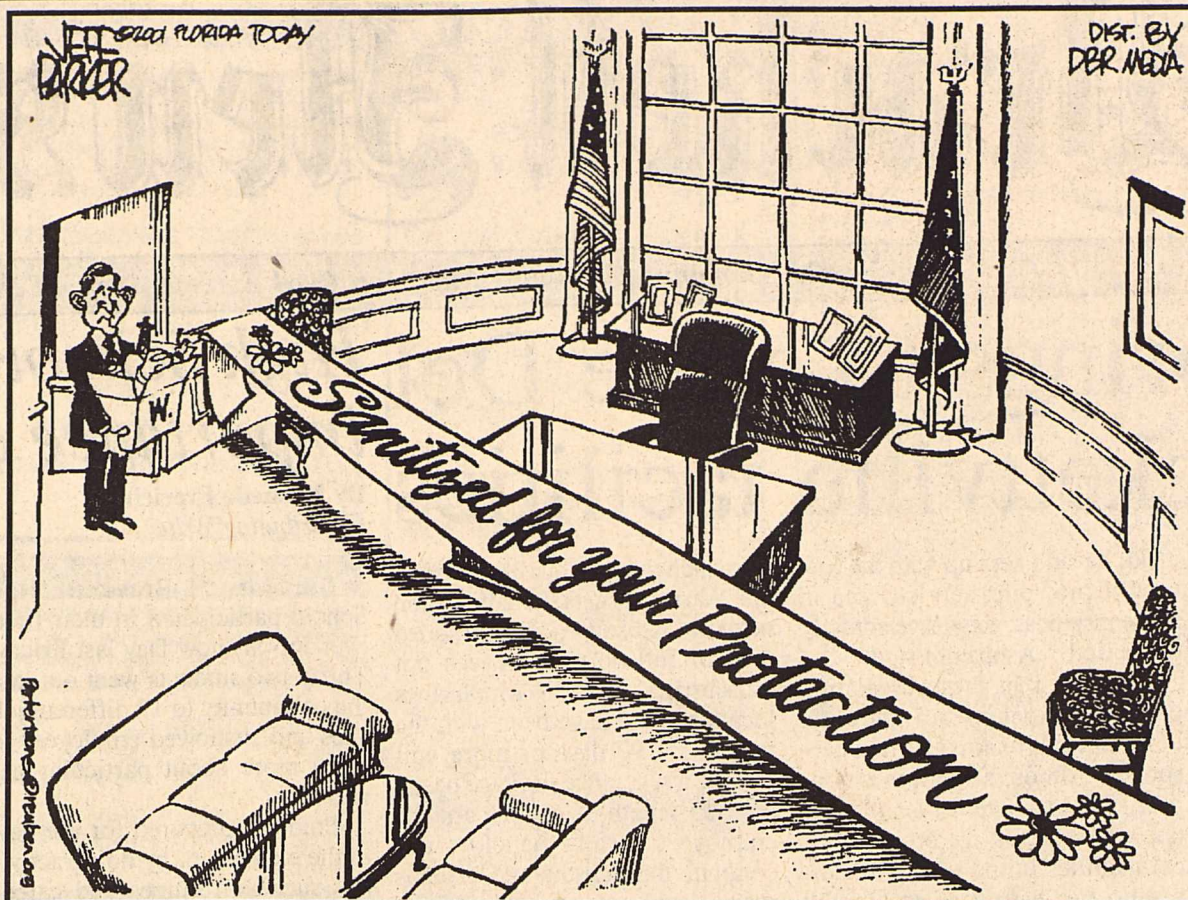
13th year, No. 1

The greatest invention of all time

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

A little over a year ago, Kathy Bader asked the question "What 20th century creation has made the most significant impact on mankind?" The next time you see me, give me your response. As I pondered the inquiry, several answers immediately came to mind. The computer has to rank close to the top. I guess the self-winding watch and sliced bread are also in there somewhere. The development of atomic energy, with both the positive and negative impact, has to be given some serious consideration. Transportation then came to mind. The automobile, airplanes, trains, rocketry and space exploration. Each one of these developments has

made a significant impression on our world. My dad once told me he thought the most amazing device he had ever seen was the flashlight. When a young man walked with a kerosene lantern, in the early morning or late evening, its swaying motion caused already frightening shadows to come alive. Once animated from an indefinable birth, they moved with unimaginable detail. Yep, a flashlight has to rank high on this list, along with all other battery-operated devices. Finally we come to my personal favorite. I can state with absolute certainty that the invention that has had the most impact on my life thus far has to be the remote control for the TV. But I could be wrong.



Rep. Bonilla introduces judge-ship legislation

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressmen Henry Bonilla and Solomon P. Ortiz, co-chairs of the Congressional Border Caucus, today introduced bipartisan legislation to increase the number of federal judgeships along the U.S./Mexico border. "The need for additional judges is critical," said Mr. Bonilla. "The current federal case load for federal district court judges is enormous. This legislation is directly aimed at adding a dose of equity to the current situation."

The Southwest Border Judgeship Act of 2001 will add 18 federal judgeships to the Southwest Border — nine permanent and nine temporary. Additionally, the Southern Judicial District of Texas is slated to receive a new permanent judge and the Western Judicial District is slated to receive two new judges under the bill.

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison has introduced the companion legislation in the United States Senate. "The number of arrests for drug trafficking and illegal immigration has risen significantly. But it makes little sense to have the arrests if you don't have all the other requirements: prison space to hold the incarcerated, pre-trial services to ensure civil rights are protected, marshals to move them, and judges to hear the cases in a timely fashion," said Mr. Bonilla.

Criminal cases in the five border courts (Western Texas, Southern Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and South California) now handle 26 percent of all federal court criminal filings in the United States. The other 74 percent of federal court criminal filings are divided among the 89 other district courts. It is projected that the five border courts will handle one-third of all cases within two years.

"The U.S. District Court judges along the border are carrying a heavy burden. In just five years, their caseload has increased by 12 percent," said Mr. Bonilla. "By providing more judges to these important courts, we are providing a better judicial system for everyone who lives and works along the U.S./Mexico border."

The Southwest Border Judgeship Act of 2001 must pass both the House of Representatives and the Senate before sending it to the President for signature into law.

Your Representatives

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The Honorable Phil Gramm
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202-224-2934
- U.S. Senator**
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
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202-224-5922
- Congressman 23rd District**
The Honorable Henry Bonilla, 110 E. Broadway, Del Rio, Texas 78840.
1-830-774-6547 or 1529 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-4323, Washington: 1-202-225-4511, San Antonio: 1-210-697-9055, Fax: 1-210-697-9185
- Governor**
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Television continues to affect self-image

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

Against my better judgement, I have been watching television lately. We recently purchased one of those Direct TV dish antennas in the hope that amid the sex, perversion, violence, profanity, sacrilegious vulgarity, and mystical psychobabble, we could find something wholesome enough for the family to watch together. Well, let me tell you - it ain't easy.

I am appalled at the things being aired on television these days. I have already written of the obscene show Son of the Beach, but that is only one of the almost pornographic offerings. Now the Fox network is introducing several more new shows guaranteed to make your teenager think that he or she is the only person in the world not having pre-, post-, and extra-marital sex with everyone they meet. The country today is apparently obsessed with sex. That is all you see on television. Even the advertisements are for various herbs, vitamins, and pharmaceuticals guaranteed to improve, enhance, and/or rejuvenate your sex life. We are also obsessed with our appearances, which probably also relates to our obsession with sex.

"Don't like how you look? Dr. Slice N. Stitch is the best cosmetic surgeon in the world! Our world-renowned clinic, Tuck and Roll, Inc., is good, cheap, and confidential. Want a facelift? A tummy tuck? A nose job? Implants in various sensitive regions of your body? Contact us at 1-800-I-LOVE-ME."

Television and magazines has

destroyed our self-esteem and our grasp of reality. Most of you ladies out there do not, and never will, look like Pamela Anderson. As a matter of fact, Pamela Anderson didn't used to look like Pamela Anderson. Neither are you guys going to suddenly evolve into spitting images of Brad Pitt. Unfortunately, or more correctly, fortunately, we are all individuals. Some of us are fat, some of us are skinny, some of us are tall and gawky, some are short and pudgy, but all of us are beautiful in our own ways - especially if we have faith in Christ Jesus.

Why do we continue to seek perfection where it cannot be? Because that is what the television - in programs and commercials - is telling us we should be. And it is a bald-faced lie!

When was the first time you ever heard of bulimia? How about anorexia? I never heard of either until television began to tell us that we could be perfect. All we needed was this magic diet potion, or that miracle Hollywood diet, or quick and easy cosmetic surgery, and we could be the beautiful butterfly that had been hiding inside the ugly cocoon. They have convinced us that if we are ten pounds overweight, or if we don't have a chiseled jaw and perfect teeth, or cleavage out to here, that we are less than human.

Now they are misleading everyone about the prevalence of illicit sex, in whatever format you prefer. Yeah, all teenagers are doing it, except you. That's what it shows on television, right? And the teenagers on TV are never bothered by their par-

ents. In fact, we seldom see the parents; and if we do, they are portrayed as idiots who have no clue what the teenager is going through and even less compassion for their adolescent tribulations. TV today is immensely dangerous, and getting more so by the day. It misrepresents society. It misrepresents morality. It misrepresents the relationship between men and women. It misrepresents the family unit. It misrepresents God. God bless Dan Quale, Murphy Brown was wrong!

If you have a TV (and who doesn't today?) and don't monitor very closely what your children watch, you are playing with pure undiluted nitroglycerine. There are things on mainstream television, available for all to watch, that would have been rated R or maybe even X when I was a teenager. TV shows like Son of the Beach, South Park, Strip Mall, Crossing Over With John Edwards, and others too numerous to name, are dangerous. They are capable of warping the thinking of our children. That is their ultimate intent. They play to our basest animal instincts. We adults think we are immune, but we are not. And if we adults are not immune, what should we think about our children?

Mark 9:42 - "And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out."

Agenda for the 107th congress includes important issues

Capitol Comment
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

The 107th Congress' agenda is simple and clear: Work to emphasize quality public education, maintain our economic growth and global leadership and modernize our health care and Social Security systems. We want to produce results for families and children, men and women, all Americans. We seek bipartisan cooperation and will initially focus a great deal of thought and effort in the following areas:

Education: At the upper levels, our universities and colleges are the finest in the world. Students and researchers from across the globe come to the United States to study and learn. But at the secondary and elementary school levels, we have a wide disparity of quality and needs. Of course, our historical American tradition is for educational decisions to be sorted out at the local and community level, and local property taxes typically provide most of the funding for our schools. We want to ensure that local decision-making remains paramount, and that Washington does not dictate to local families and teachers how their children should be educated.

But the federal government can help in so many ways. Good examples of this are federal programs that encourage high school students to take challenging advanced-placement courses and federal incentives for mid-career or retired professionals to enter classrooms and teach where they can make a real difference. We will work with the new President to emphasize these targeted yet flexible approaches as an alternative to simply spending more money without results.

Restoring our military capability: At the Republican Convention, Vice President Cheney pledged to our military forces that help was on the way. We can deliver on that promise by focusing quickly on military readiness and modernization. While our forces are the best trained and equipped in the world today, it is still very difficult for them to adequately address the many missions they've been assigned. We must increase the size of our force, with an emphasis on combat troops and equipment.

We are fortunate to have as our partners in the new administration Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. With

their support and cooperation, we can identify the areas which need the quickest attention and move aggressively to fix the problems.

Tax relief: We have passed bipartisan tax relief bills in the last two years, only to see our work ended with the President's veto pen. Things have changed now. President Bush made tax relief a major theme of his campaign and he is preparing to send to the Congress a number of significant measures to provide this relief. One of those measures will be to cut tax rates across the board for all Americans. Another will be relief from federal taxes levied on families when a loved one dies.

For millions of Americans, elimination of the federal tax penalty on marriage will also be a high priority item, and on January 22, I introduced legislation to end it. This year, I'm optimistic we will.

Social Security and Medicare Reform: Both of these are also high on our list. We have taken the lead, with key Democrats, including Louisiana Senator John Breaux, to reform Medicare and give seniors new prescription drug and other benefits and options, while at the same time putting the program on a sound financial track to keep it solvent

and available for future generations of retirees. President Bush has a specific plan to implement a medicare prescription drug benefit, in the context of overall reform, and I am confident Congress will take up the issue in short order.

Energy Independence: Finally, we share President Bush's commitment to developing and implementing a comprehensive national energy policy. We should continue our commitment to making our nation more fuel efficient and to developing new sources of energy.

We must also explore and develop new production of the traditional resources that still meet the vast majority of our energy needs.

We have gone from 36 percent dependence on foreign oil during the 1994 oil embargo that nearly crippled our economy to 56 percent dependence today. The alternative to expanding domestic production is a growing reliance on imported oil from OPEC nations that do not share our interests. With new exploration, conservation and tax incentives to the hundreds of thousands of small business oil producers who cannot survive the boom-bust cycle without them, we can reverse this trend.

Big Mama Sez!

To belittle is to be little.

The Brackett News

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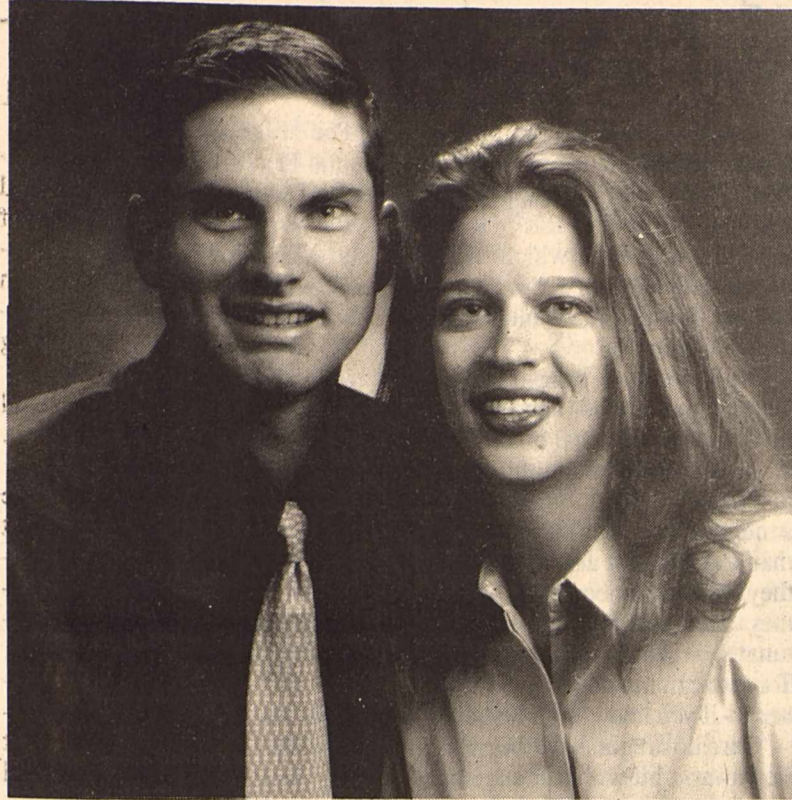
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Dice, Real to be married



Carolyn Bell Rutherford of Brackettville, Texas, and Edward R. Dice Jr. of Pensacola, Florida announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Virginia Dice to Robert E. Real. Robert is the son of Cynthia C. Allen of Ingram, Texas, and Casper Real of Utopia, Texas. Susan and Robert are 2000 and 1998 graduates, respectively of Texas A&M University. The

bride-elect works as a medical entomologist for Harris County, and Robert works for Rental Service Corporation in Houston, Texas. Their wedding is planned for June 16, 2001, at the Kerrville United Methodist Church, with the reception at the 'The Farm,' in Bandera, Texas. The couple plans to make their home in Houston, Texas.

Welcome Conoly baby



Zuehl Schafer Conoly

Zuehl Schafer Conoly, a child of God, has blessed the Stan Conoly family by his birth on December 31, 2000. He was born at the Uvalde Memorial Hospital and weighed 9 pounds 12 ounces. Zuehl has the greatest brother and sister, Jacquelyn and Stanford and feels right at home with all the household noises including music, singing, Nintendo, and the weather channel! His grandparents Papa Bud and Gita Conoly and grand-daddy Emil "Bubba" Schafer welcomed Zuehl to their loving family. His Aunts and Uncles and all his cousins visited him soon after his birth. We had the best New Year's Eve party this year. Thank you God for such beautiful, special children you blessed us with.

Uvalde Arts Council to present pioneer era musical

The Uvalde Arts Council will present Quilters, a musical, on the Opera House stage in February. Quilters is the story of a pioneer mother and her daughters that could be the story of any number of the families that settled this area. It depicts life on the frontier; girlhood, marriage, childbirth, spinsterhood, twisters, fire, illness and death, with love, warmth and humor. Quilting and how it sustained frontier women is the overlying theme. The stories are illuminated with music, dance and drama blended by the "blocks" of the quilt.

The Uvalde Piecemakers Quilt Guild will produce the play and will provide the set, costumes, props, technical and stage crew. They have also made the glorious, brilliantly colorful quilt revealed

at the end of the play. This "Legacy Quilt" will be presented to a lucky winner after the February 25 performance.

Tickets for the quilt drawing are available at a cost of \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 and may be purchased at the Opera House, Relics Antiques or from any Uvalde Piecemaker. Pieced and quilted wallhangings used throughout the play will be featured in a silent auction in the White Room of the Opera House.

Performances will be February 16, 17, 23, 24 and 25. Ticket prices are \$8 and \$10 for adults and \$4.00 for children with a \$2.00 discount for senior citizens. Group rates are also available. Please call the Grand Opera House at (830)-278-4184 for more information.

Lights are big and bright in Texas

(AUSTIN) "Texas and California share many strengths," said Jeff Moseley, executive director of the Texas Department of Economic Development.

"We want everyone to know we have great weather, we have a beautiful ocean, but unlike California we've got power." Texas officials, facing deregulation in 2002, cite many strengths in the state's energy supply. Texas has seen 23 new power plants built since the introduction of wholesale competition in 1995, another 24 are under construction, and 28 power plants are in the planning stage.

The addition of new generating plants will result in excess capacity margin of 23.3 percent by next summer.

With California businesses losing millions of dollars due to lost production, students using flashlights to attend night school, and traffic lights malfunctioning, business leaders will want to take a

hard look at infrastructure when making decisions on where to expand, Moseley added.

Texas is well positioned to take the lead in business development due to its ample energy supply coupled with low energy costs, workforce availability, reasonable housing costs, low cost of living, and overall excellent quality of life.

The state's marketing agency for business development wants to recruit business expansions to Texas because the nation's second-largest state has plenty of power and is cited as a "business-friendly" state. Texas led the nation in the number of manufacturing jobs created over the last decade.

The Texas Department of Economic Development plans an outreach program to include education materials targeted to corporate decision-makers. These materials will be distributed via trade shows, direct mail, and statewide economic development network.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, Jan. 29
4:50 p.m., Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter responded to a burglary of a local building on Hwy 90.

Wednesday, Jan. 31
4:15 p.m., A local man requested a deputy to come by so he could file a complaint against a boy whom he did not want his daughter seeing. Deputy Fritter responded.

5:45 p.m., A maroon 1998 Chevy Lumina was exceeding 90 MPH, eastbound on Hwy 90.
10:08 p.m., Deputy Manny Pena, Jr., was notified about a speeding 18 wheeler on Hwy 90.

10:26 p.m., A resident from Fort Clark Springs phoned the Sheriff's Office, requesting an officer for a domestic problem between husband/wife. Deputy Pena was the responding officer.

Thursday, Feb. 1
10:40 a.m., Deputy Fritter responded to a call for a complaint on a verbal assault.

11:55 a.m., A local woman called asking for information about whether to file a complaint on a school situation that involved her son.

Friday, Feb 2
2:30 a.m., On FM 2804, Deputy Pena reported that the gate to Kaplan ranch was open.

3:24 a.m., Deputy Karl Chism responded to a call from the Cline check point reporting a stranded motorist 18 miles east of town.

Saturday, Feb 3
9:30 a.m., A man reported that he found a Nokia cell phone in the parking lot of a local store.

11:00 a.m., Deputy Pena responded to a break-in on FM 334 at a hunting camp. The door and four dead bolt locks were damaged. The estimated damage was about \$300.

2:30 p.m., A local man reported a black dog had bitten his sister's back and that he knew who the owner was. Deputy Pena advised a city employee to pick up

the dog for observation. 2:30 p.m., Manuel Gomez Rodriguez, 38, of Corpus Christi, was arrested for DPS warrants by Deputy Chism. Rodriguez is still being held.

5:06 p.m., A local woman requested to talk to a deputy about a problem she was having with a man. Deputy Pena took care of the situation.

5:34 p.m., Fort Clark Springs Security reported a minor accident on Ft. Clark. Deputy Pena was the responding officer.

9:30 p.m., A woman reported loud music that was being played. Deputy Chism responded to the call.

Sunday, Feb. 4
1:15 a.m., Deputy Chism responded to a call, about a stranded elderly couple, on Hwy 90 east of town.

2:48 p.m., There was a report of 6 to 7 illegals at FM 3008 on Hwy 90. United States Border Patrol was notified.



Happy 4th Birthday, Johnathan Garcia. May you have a very special day. With lots of love, Mommy, Daddy, Markey and Adriana. We love you, Shorty.

Panther Cave temporarily closed

The National Park Service has announced the temporary closure of Panther Cave due to a rock fall that damaged the stairway into the cave. Amistad National Recreation Area staff expect to be able to repair the steps within a month. The public will be notified when the site is reopened.

Panther Cave contains spectacular examples of 4,000 year old Native American paintings and is on the Rio Grande arm of Lake Amistad.

Panther Cave is approximately 25 miles by boat from the Diablo East area of Lake Amistad.

Amistad National Recreation Area headquarters is located on

Tops in Blue offers free performance to area residents

Highway 90W and is open daily 8am-5pm except for major holidays. For more information, visitors may call (830)-775-7491, tune in to AM 1540 near the lake, or visit the park's web site at www.nps.gov/amis.

Tops in Blue offers free performance to area residents

Area residents are invited to a free, family-oriented entertainment showcase at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday (Feb. 8) in Paul Poag Theatre. Tops In Blue 2000 is on

the final leg of its nine-month, 20-country performance schedule. This 30 member all-military troupe intertwines singers, dancers and musicians into a 90-minute stage performance.

Paul Poag Theatre seats approximately 700 people. Doors will open to military identification-cardholders at 6:30, and then to the general public at 7:00. Theatre seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Tops in Blue 2000 is cosponsored by AT&T and USP&IRA.

Audience members will be eligible to win gifts from both sponsors during the evening's program.

Fort Clark members enjoy Duplicate Bridge

By Dianna Daniels
Contributing Writer

Duplicate Bridge was played Tuesday, January 30, 2001 in the Gorgas Room at Fort Clark. There were eight and one half tables. The Mitchell movement was used. The winners in the East/West were: 1st-Dianna Daniels and Kay Roberts;

2nd-Harry and Margie Jones; and 3rd-Mylo Unruh and Peg Woolston. The winners in the North/South were: 1st-Betty Schlatterer and Bob Barnett; 2nd-Ann Watts and Ann Malin; and 3rd-Rosetta Pingent and Tina Bauguess. There was a large group there which always makes a fun evening.



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Divorced parents must still take responsibility for their children

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Mom, I want to go live with Dad." Fifteen year old Jessica was voicing something that every divorced parent has heard.

Ann, had been expecting it. "Why do you want to live with your Dad, honey?"

"Because there are too many rules in this house. I can't do what I want to. I always have to do what somebody else says," Jessica responded.

"And you think that your father will allow you to do anything you want?" Ann questioned.

"Sure," Jessica said. "He never puts restrictions on me like you do."

Knowing the outcome, Ann invited her daughter to call her dad with her request and her reasons and then waited. Jessica returned with a disappointed look. "What did he say?"

"He said that my reasons are not good enough."

Ann continued where she left off. "He also told you that the rules were the same at his house as they

are here, didn't he?"

"Yes," Jessica said and turned toward her bedroom.

Ann followed and the two of them sat on the bed. Jessica was crying and Ann took her hand. "Look sweetheart, your dad and I both love you, and we decided that just because we weren't married did not mean that we could not both be parents. In addition to visitation that you have with each of us, we also agreed on rules of conduct and discipline. We promised each other that we would communicate and that each would back up the other when it comes to such things. You are a very lucky girl because your dad wants to be as much a part of your life as possible. As you get older, your dad and I will talk about changing the rules as you show that you can handle the responsibility for your own behavior."

Even though parents are divorced, they never lose the responsibility to be parents. Children in such circumstances need as much of the structure and security of a two-parent family as it is possible to give them.

Consumer of Hill Country Community MHMR Center keeps highway rest area spic and span

Del Rio/Brackettville/Uvalde - Texas - "Yes, and before I go off the air, I would like to thank that young man at the Highway 90 rest area between Brackettville and Uvalde. He fixed my flat tire this morning on the spot. His name is Jesus. How about that!" The Del Rio radio talk show host extended her gratitude to Jesus Carrillo, a consumer of the Del Rio Mental Retardation Services. Carrillo is in charge of the maintenance and landscaping of this particular rest area overseen by the Texas Department of Transportation.

For the past 5 years, the TxDOT has played a vital part of providing jobs to people with disabilities in Del Rio, Texas. Jesus Carrillo started his work in 1998. He enjoys being in charge of four acres of tree-shaded land, including a picnic area, the restrooms and a small storage building containing all the necessary equipment and tools to facilitate his daily duties. Carrillo orders all the required supplies, and is proud of the fact that he owns a pick-up

truck giving him a certain independence and mobility in this part of the country, where the towns are sparse and the distances are plenty.

Carrillo carries a cell phone that comes in handy for emergency calls for travelers asking for medical help or major vehicle repairs. And soon, when the summer temperatures hit Texas again, overheated cars will roll into the rest area like "little steam engines."

This remark brings Carrillo to a rather personal travel analysis: "I have been on planes, buses, boats, and automobiles, but never on a train. I would like to take a train trip to Chicago and back."

Well, Jesus Carrillo is not all work. He enjoys good food and dancing and visiting his family in the North. But yet, he loves to return to his parents' home in Del Rio and to go back to work after an exciting summer vacation time.

And there at the Highway 90 rest area between Brackettville and Uvalde, Carrillo is very proud of his daily achievements, and eager

to improve his skills for an even more independent and fulfilling life in our society. He appreciates the help of the Del Rio MR Service Organization, which is part of the Hill Country Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center.

And with a bright smile, Carrillo has another anecdote: "A lot of transcontinental bikers from Canada come through this area. I just fixed a flat tire for one of them a couple of weeks ago. They thanked me a lot and told me that they would remember me, once they are back in Canada. Unfortunately, the talk shows on Radio Toronto can not be received down here, - if you know what I mean!"

Carrillo might have been carried away a bit with this statement or he simply was pulling a leg.

However, next time you are traveling on Highway 90, stop by and say hello to Carrillo. You might want to mention that you are aware of his radio fame. Have your camera ready -- Carrillo will be smiling at you.

The Hill Country Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center provides services in nineteen counties in Central Texas with a population of 420,000 residents. There are ten (10) Mental Health Centers, nine (9) Mental Retardation Centers, ten (10) Early Childhood Intervention Offices, and two (2) Administrative Offices.

On a monthly average, services are provided to more than 3,000 consumers with mental illness, mental retardation, and developmental delays.

Hill Country Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center is a community-based, publicly funded, not for profit organization.

It's mission statement "Together we will support and assist people to lead lives in dignity" reflects the civic, social and professional commitment of this organization.

For further information, please call (830) 775-1334 or visit the website at www.hillcountry.org

Health

The life cycle and mechanics of addiction

By Clark Carr,
President Narconon International

Whether or not a person is genetically, biochemically, or otherwise predisposed to alcoholism or other drug addiction is a controversy that has been debated for years within the scientific, medical and chemical dependency communities.

One school of thought advocates the "disease concept," which embraces the notion that addiction is an inherited disease and that the individual is permanently ill at a genetic level, even if he or she experiences long periods of sobri-

ety. Another philosophy argues that addiction is a dual problem consisting of a physical and mental dependency on chemicals, compounded by a preexisting mental disorder (i.e. clinical depression, bipolar disorder, or some other mental such illness). This viewpoint puts forward that the mental disorder needs to be treated first as the primary cause of the addiction.

A third philosophy subscribes to the idea that chemical dependency leads to "chemical imbalances" in the neurological system. The fact remains that although there may be research data supporting all of these concepts, none of these theories are absolute. Based on surveys of thousands of alcohol and other drug rehabilitation program graduates, we have a national recovery rate average of between 16% and 20%.

The message is clear that we have a lot more to learn if we are to raise the national recovery rate to a more acceptable, desirable level.

In addition to the above three viewpoints of addiction, there is a fourth school of thought which has proven to be more accurate. It has to do with the life cycle of addiction. This data is universally applicable to addiction, no matter which hypothesis is used to explain the phenomenon of chemical dependency.

The life cycle of addiction begins with a problem, a discomfort or some form of emotional or physical pain a person is experiencing. The person finds this very difficult to deal with. Here is an individual who, like most people in our society, is basically good. He has encountered a problem or discomfort that he does not have the ability to resolve. This could include a problem such as difficulty "fitting in" as a child or teenager, anxiety due to peer pressure, identity problems, or divorce as an adult. It could also include physical discomfort, such as a broken arm, a bad back, or inability to sleep.

The person experiencing the discomfort has a real problem. He feels this problem is a major life situation that is persisting, and he can see no immediate resolution or relief from it.

We have all experienced such things in our lives to a greater or lesser degree. The difference between which one of us becomes an addict and which one does not depends on whether or not, at the

time of this traumatic experience, we are subjected to pro-drug or alcohol influences via some sort of significant peer pressure. The painkilling or emotion-dulling effects of drugs or alcohol become an acceptable solution to the discomfort because the person using alcohol or other drugs experiences relief from the negative feeling associated with his or her problem. As soon as the addict experiences relief from the discomfort, he inadvertently attaches "value" to the drug or drink. It helped him feel better. Even though the relief is only temporary, drug or drink is adopted as a solution to the problem. This assigned "value" is the only reason the person ever uses drugs or drinks a second, third or more times. From this point forward, it is just a matter of time before the alcohol-drinking or drug-using person loses the ability to control the alcohol or drug use.

No matter at what stage of "self-control" the person may feel he is at, once he or she has started using alcohol or other drugs regularly for their "relief value," he is somewhere on the road called "addiction." Addiction is not the destination. Addiction is the whole road.

Diabetes is a disease that has no cure, and there are 15.7 million people in the United States who have it. Each day approximately 2,200 people are diagnosed with this disease.

The disease is diabetes and it is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States, and the physicians of Texas Medical Association wants you to be aware of the warning signs.

There are two major types of diabetes:

Type I occurs when the body does not produce insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy. Type II, referred to as non-insulin dependent, occurs when the body does not make enough, or properly use, insulin.

Type II diabetes is the most common form of the disease, accounting for 90 to 95 percent of diabetes cases. The cause of diabetes is unknown, although obesity and lack of exercise appear to play roles.

As the U.S. population becomes increasingly overweight, researchers expect Type II diabetes to appear more frequently in younger children.

Type II diabetes commonly occurs in children who are:

- Overweight: as many as 80 percent may be overweight at the time of diagnosis;
- Older than 10 years of age and

- Blurred vision;
- Breath odor;
- Impotence in men;
- Cessation of menses in women;
- Bleeding gums;
- Ear noise or buzzing;
- Diarrhea;
- Depression;
- Confusion or Irritability;
- Cuts and bruises that are slow to heal;
- Tingling and numbness in the hands or feet.

School nurses are helping to identify early warning signs of diabetes.

According to Dr. Stanley Fisch, a Harlingen pediatrician, "The Texas Department of Health has a program called ANTES which allows school nurses to look for early signs of diabetes much like they test school children's spines for scoliosis." By identifying early warning signs, more children are getting early treatment for a dangerous disease before it gets out of hand. Parents need to stress good eating habits to their children.

It is never too early to set children on the course of eating nutritious foods low in sugar, fat, and high in fiber.

Instead of watching TV or playing on the computer, parents should also encourage their children to be physically active and play outside.

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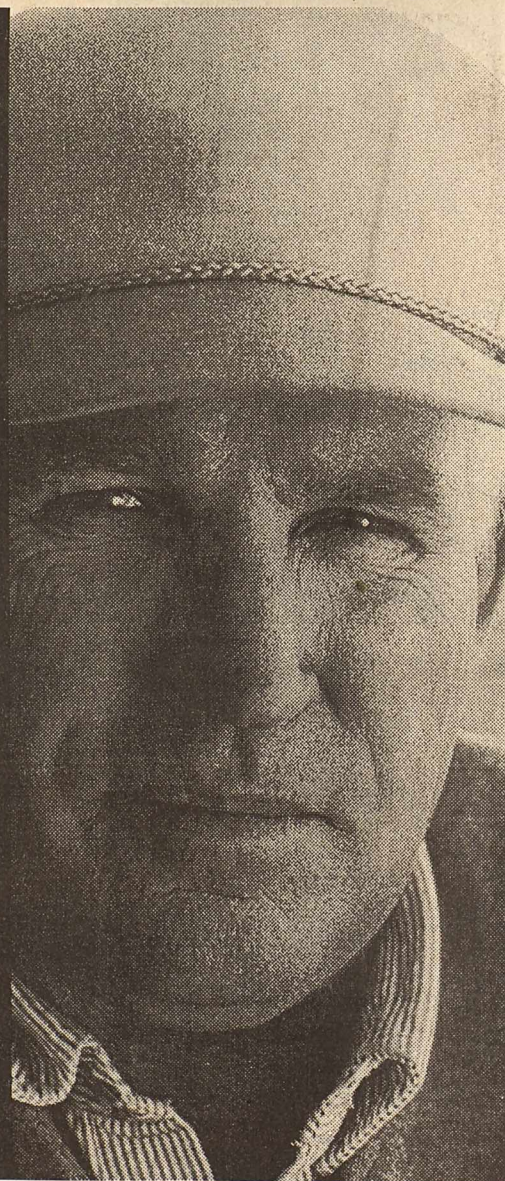
"Take your time and you'll only need to pull the trigger once."

Like his father and grandfather, Johnny Edmondson is a rancher. His spread is 660 acres, but with irrigation and improved pasture, he manages to run 3000 head through it in a year. Coop power, the same power he's depended on for thirty years, makes that kind of efficiency possible.

Johnny belongs to a Smart Choice cooperative. What's "Smart Choice?" We are. We're a coalition of West Texas cooperatives committed to making the right decision on electric deregulation.

The goal of deregulation is to bring the benefits of retail competition to the power industry. But so far, in states such as California and Pennsylvania, reality has fallen short of the promise, often bringing higher rates and even power shortages. The Texas Legislature gives cooperatives an opportunity to wait and see how deregulation will affect Texans. We intend to take advantage of that time to be sure deregulation is right for our member-owners.

Texas electric cooperatives have been providing power to Texans since 1937. As coops, we are non-profit and member-owned. To learn more about deregulation visit us at our web site, or call your local Smart Choice cooperative.



the smart choice.

Your Smart Choice Electric Cooperatives.

- Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Comanche Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.smartchoicecoops.com

School district receives three grants 7th and 8th grade boys end season with a win

Making A Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

Three grants have been funded for BISD! Our grant writers have been hard at work this past month. Grants provide enrichment monies to the Brackett Schools. The administration and school board try hard to keep a low tax rate in our school district. We want our schools to operate efficiently with maximum results. Many school districts have taxed their property owners the maximum allowable tax rate in Texas of \$1.50 plus any bonds that they may owe. Our state government rewards schools who have high property tax rates. That's correct! At BISD, our tax rate is \$1.24. That includes operations and bonds. It's less expensive to live in Brackettville than in most other communities in Texas.

Christina Sifuentes, kindergarten teacher, wrote a grant entitled "Play It Safe." The grant amount is \$1800 for playground improvements. The students in kindergarten will be learning about playground safety, characteristics of living things and plants that grow well in our area. This grant has a community partner, the PTO. Sifuentes commented, "the teachers are excited about the grant and the opportunity to serve the students at our school." Sylvia Donaldson and Bonnie Brotherton also teach kindergarten at Jones Elementary School.

Mary Ellen Fuentes and Pam Melancon wrote a grant called "A Look Back in Time" which will focus on the life of a child in the late 1800s in this area. The main focus of the grant is to foster community involvement and to give the children and community a sense of community/cultural pride. Activities that the children will participate in will include research, a field trip back to Back Forty at the Institute of Texas Cultures and the design of brochures and posters for the Fort Clark Springs Festival. The children will participate in live demonstrations at the festival. Teachers participating in the project are Edgar, Melancon and Fuentes. The grant is a service learning grant designed to increase community awareness. The grant of \$1800 will be used for costumes, field trips, supplies and technology.

Paula Renken wrote a grant submitted to the Hillcrest Foundation for \$80,000. This grant will fund the purchase of \$30,000 in science equipment and supplies for the Intermediate School Science Lab. The lab will be used by all elementary grades and will convert the "old high school science lab" to be a functional science lab for students in grades K-6. Also included was \$50,000 for improvements to the school auditorium. There will be many improvements made that include new seats, curtains, drapes, electrical improvements, carpeted aisles and a new sound system. The school district will partner on this grant for the auditorium which is estimated to have a total cost of about \$100,000. We're grateful to the Hillcrest Foundation, founded by Mrs. W.W. Carruth, Sr., and to D. Harold Byrd for their support of our schools and community. What a difference you have made for the students of Kinney County, Texas!

I'll write more about these grants as they move toward fruition. Wow! This is great news for our community. Thanks to those who have considered our needs and to those who took the time to submit the grant for the school district.

Willie Clements has resigned his position as Alternative School lead teacher at BISD. He has taken a position at Loraine near Abilene as a K-12 principal. We wish Mr. Clements success as he moves into school administration. His family will stay in Brackettville until the end of this school year. Have a great week!

Perry's math initiative is first priority

Governor Rick Perry has made improved math instruction his #1 priority for public education in the 77th Legislature.

Modeled after the Texas Reading Initiative, which was passed in order to ensure that all Texas children can read by third grade, Governor Perry's math initiative is being hailed as an innovative approach to education reform.

If passed into law, Governor Perry's math initiative would create:

- A master math teacher program that would pay an additional \$5,000 a year to fifth through eighth grade teachers who achieve expert certification in math. It is similar to a master reading teacher program that was approved by the Legislature two years ago at the suggestion of then-Lt. Gov. Perry.
- Intensive programs for after-school and summer school instruction for students who are below grade level in math.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Texas Democrat Party have been critical of Governor Perry's plan to make sure Texas children are learning math. In fact, Democrat State Chair Molly Beth Malcolm criticized the efforts of both Gov. Perry and then-Gov. Bush in the education arena: "...neither Perry nor Bush seem to understand the real issue at hand - that we must do a better job for our teachers if we are going to have world class public schools." (Dallas Morning News, 01/31/01)

The seventh grade boys basketball team defeated Knippa last Monday night to improve their record to 6-5. The high scorer of the game was Anthony Munoz with 10 points. Evaristo Villareal and Brand Wylie showed to be great defensive players, both having a number of steals against the Rock Crushers. The cubs have come a long way this season and have shown great talent. The Cubs roster consists of Travis Nowlin, Martin Flores, Brand Wylie, Joe Steelman, Jose Talamantes, Mason McWilliams, Robby Looney, Joey Montalvo, Evaristo Villareal, and Anthony Munoz.

The eighth grade boys finished the season by beating Knippa 49-11. Leading the Tigers in scoring were Oscar Sierra with 16 points, Mark Kestaloort with 10 points, and Kody Yeager with 8 points.

The Tigers final record was 11-2, and they won the Nueces Canyon and the Rocksprings tournaments. The 8th grade boys basketball team includes: Tillman Davis, Kody Yeager, Noe Talamantes, Cody Robinette, Anthony Munoz, Rolando Ortiz, Mark Kestaloort, Brandon Kluzek, Oscar Sierra, and Whitney Massingill.

Republicans agree that we must look for new ways to retain good Texas teachers, and raising teacher benefits in a fiscally responsible manner is a goal that Republican leadership will accomplish this session. But the first priority in education should always begin with the question: Are our children learning?

The Democrat leadership's partisan response to governor Perry's proposal is unproductive and unnecessary. The difference between Republicans and Democrats on this issue is that while we agree that improving benefits for Texas teachers is a priority, Republicans believe that our children's education is THE priority. After all, if educating our kids is not "the real issue at hand" in public education, then what is?

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Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

Thursday, February 8
1st GR Parent's Meeting, Cafeteria 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 9
5:00 PM Bsktbl JVB/VB
Three Rivers (H) Employee flu shots, \$5, 10-12:00 & 1-3:00 Immunization Clinic, 10-12:00 & 1-3:00

Saturday, February 10
12:00 p.m. V Baseball Del Rio (Scrim.) (H)

Monday, February 12
8:30 a.m. Boy's Golf, Kerrville-Schreiner (T), 8:30 a.m. Girl's Golf, Kerrville-Schreiner (T) 6:00 pm - 7:30 p.m. St. Henry DeOsso Parenting Session, Library, 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees mtg.

Tuesday, February 13
5:00 pm Bsktbl JVB/VB Pettus (H)

Spring enrollment record set at SWTJC

Southwest Texas Junior College has set a new record for spring enrollment.

According to Dean of Admissions Joe Barker, 3651 students were enrolled for classes this spring at various sites across Southwest Texas.

"We're down about 60 from the fall," Barker said, "but we did break the spring record of 3,552 students set last year."

Barker said he is not overly concerned with the drop in enrollment from last fall's all-time record of 3,713.

"You never like seeing the numbers drop from one semester to the next, but I've been here a long time and spring enrollment is nearly always lower than the fall," he said. "Maybe we can break that trend in the future, but right now we're just pleased to have set a new spring record."

Other official enrollment figures for the spring 2001 semester show Uvalde with 1,469 students, Eagle Pass with 924, Del Rio with 817 and Crystal City with 103.

Figures from other sites around the college's 11-county service area include: Hondo Torres Unit, 110; Hondo High School, 53; Pearsall, 35; Cotulla, 18; Carrizo Springs, 14; Dilley, 13; Utopia, 12; Natalia, 11; Nueces Canyon, 10; Brackettville and Leakey, 8; Rocksprings, 2; and Sabin, 1.

Barker noted that over 700 students took advantage of the college's phone registration system to enroll in spring classes.

"That represents about 40 percent of those eligible to register by phone and is a 50 percent increase over the fall phone registration numbers," Barker said. "Phone registration has been well received by our students and I expect it will continue to grow."

Host families needed for International Exchange students

Host families are needed to host international high school exchange students for the 2001/2002 school year.

The students will arrive in early August 2001 and will stay with the host family for one semester or until the end of the school year.

They are in need of caring American families to provide a home, an extra meal at the table, and share with them this unique experience.

Families need not have children at home. The students are between the ages of 15 and 18.

They speak English, are covered by medical insurance and have spending money for their personal expenses.

The SHARE! High School Exchange Program is sponsored by Educational Resource Development Trust (ERDT).

Families are able to review student applications and select the student they feel will best match their own interests.

For more information, call Yvette Coffinan at the ERDT Southwest Regional Office at 1-800-941-3738.

Dewhurst announces legislative initiatives to settle school fund land disputes

AUSTIN-Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst today announced that legislation is being filed to resolve title disputes involving people who had in good faith acquired land which is actually owned by the Permanent School Fund (PSF). The legislation, sponsored by Sen. Ken

Armbrister, D-Victoria, and Rep. Robby Cook, D-Eagle Lake, when passed by the Legislature, will be in the form of constitutional amendments to be approved by the voters in November 2001.

"We want to be fair to fellow Texans who, acting in good faith, acquired land which is owned by our schoolchildren," Dewhurst said. "This problem has caused heartbreak and stress for many years, and I appreciate Sen. Armbrister's and Rep. Cook's help in solving this."

Rep. Cook recently filed two bills in the House of Representa-

atives to address the problem: House Joint Resolution 52 and House Joint Resolution 53. Sen. Armbrister will file similar joint resolutions in the Senate.

HJR 52 deals specifically with the 21 remaining claimants in Bastrop County. When approved, HJR 52 will relinquish the state's surface interests to the 21 remaining claimants, while retaining mineral rights for the benefit of the PSF. In December 1999, 12 Bastrop County claimants received their land free and clear when their title companies reimbursed the PSF.

HJR 53 is designed to handle future good-faith claims on surveyed, unsold PSF lands without having to resort to constitutional amendments every time. The enabling legislation will designate the School Land Board as the permanent, statutory body to resolve future good-faith claims. As in the case of Bastrop County, mineral interests would be retained for the benefit of the PSF.

"This is a win-win," Dewhurst said. "We're going to protect innocent people and resolve long-festering problems, caused mainly by flawed 19th century surveys."

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

Walt and Richard

We've been watching you and we like what we see! You're the cat's meowwww. We want to be your Valentines! Meet us at the Lounge at 8:00 Valentine's Night!

Happy Valentine's Day Special from The Giftbox

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TOWN HALL MEETING

February 13 ~~~ 7:00 P.M.

RGEC Office
Hwy. 90, Brackettville, TX

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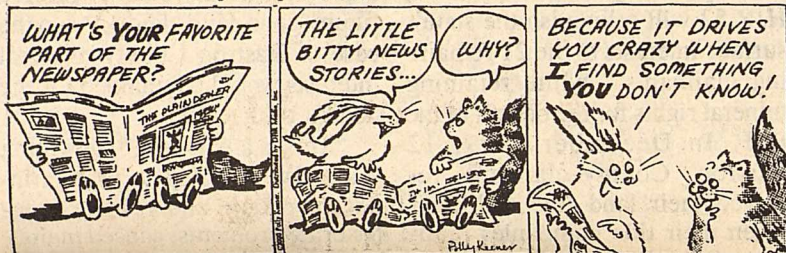
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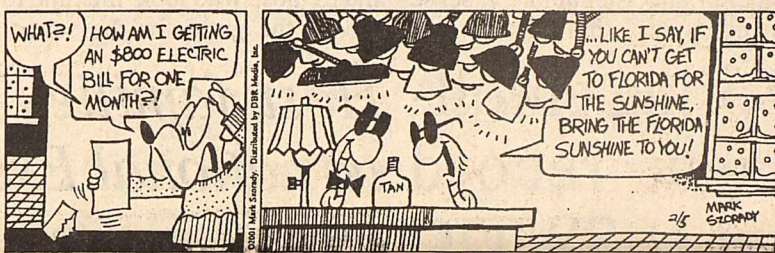
HAMSTER ALLEY by Polly Keener



SUZY Q by Elena Steier



GEORGE by Mark Szorady



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
20					21			22	23				
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30				31		32			33		34	35	36
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51	52	53						54					
55								56			57	58	59
60					61	62			63				
64					65				66				
67					68				69				

ACROSS

- 1 Most awful
- 6 Stuff
- 10 Piece of lingerie
- 14 Diminish
- 15 Hit the ceiling
- 16 Movie theater: Sp.
- 17 ___ name
- 18 Lulu
- 19 Philosopher
- 20 Hardest to climb
- 22 ___ counter
- 24 Margins
- 25 Body parts
- 26 City in California
- 29 Clean the tub
- 30 First ___
- 31 Unflinching
- 33 Hits
- 37 Harps
- 39 Sorbonne student
- 41 Stage direction
- 42 Catch
- 44 Like covered brick walls
- 46 Grassy area
- 47 Want desperately
- 49 University officer
- 51 Milk ingredient
- 54 Hollow tube
- 55 Orchestra member
- 56 Most inexperienced
- 60 Clown
- 61 Respiratory sound
- 63 Gunpowder ingredient
- 64 Barbara or Anthony
- 65 Away from the wind
- 66 High school activity
- 67 Six-year terms: abbr.
- 68 Claim against property
- 69 Schoolboy's
- item, once
- DOWN
- 1 Comedians
- 2 Sad bit of news
- 3 Talk with excessive enthusiasm
- 4 Drives
- 5 Bowling variety
- 6 Religious symbol
- 7 Partner for
- 3 Down
- 8 Stone
- 9 Business deal
- 10 Doodle
- 11 Feudal lord
- 12 Central
- 13 House of Lords members
- 21 Ham it up
- 23 Australian birds
- 25 67 x 18, in old Rome
- 26 Supporters group
- 27 100 dinars
- 28 Do a lawn chore
- 29 Holy item
- 32 Popeye's love
- 34 Part of a wheel base
- 35 Appearance
- 36 Item on the back of a baseball card
- 38 Parts
- 40 Like a haunted house
- 43 People on the front of baseball cards
- 45 Relies
- 48 Of the stars
- 50 Friendly
- 51 Places for earrings
- 52 Dwelling
- 53 Defraud
- 54 Primp
- 56 Delight
- 57 Explosive site
- 58 Religious group
- 59 Genealogist's subject
- 62 Clay, today

ROARING TWENTIES

In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Words can be found in all directions—forward, backward, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: Items Found in a Bathroom

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

- 1. Shower cap
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____
- 13. _____
- 14. _____
- 15. _____
- 16. _____
- 17. _____
- 18. _____
- 19. _____
- 20. _____

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- What former president took David Letterman by surprise by calling him "Regis"?
- What is the last of a cat's sense to develop?
- What French coast claims Antibes, Nice, Monte Carlo and St. Tropez?
- What favorite Christmas movie featured the only portrayal of Santa Claus to win an Oscar?
- What 1950 robbery did the FBI spend six years and \$129 million trying to solve?
- What 1970s flute-playing British rock group shared its name with the 18th-century inventor of the seed drill?
- In what decade was concentrated frozen orange juice introduced?
- What kids' TV show was cancelled in Mississippi in 1970 because it was considered "highly integrated"?
- What company launched the first clone of an IBM PC in 1982?
- What did Amish teens begin using to get around Pennsylvania Dutch country in the 1990s?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Feb. 8.....Juanita Rivas
- Feb. 8.....Bill Stout
- Feb. 8.....Agnes Vondy
- Feb. 8.....Robert Wilson
- Feb. 9.....Katherine Field
- Feb. 9.....Erika Garcia
- Feb. 9.....Sandy Herman
- Feb. 9.....Samantha Payne
- Feb. 10.....Tony Frerich
- Feb. 10.....Mary Rasch
- Feb. 11.....Ethel Griffin
- Feb. 11.....Michael Montalvo
- Feb. 12.....Versie Burnes
- Feb. 12.....Joaquin Davis
- Feb. 12.....Earl Love
- Feb. 12.....Regina Pena
- Feb. 12.....Ricky Sandoval
- Feb. 13.....Alfred Pena, Jr.
- Feb. 14.....Dora Goodloe
- Feb. 14.....Dolores Jones
- Feb. 14.....Hector Luna
- Feb. 14.....Jack Schram
- Feb. 14.....Shirley Stephenson
- Feb. 14.....Frances Testman

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A renewed spirit of energy fills you as the week begins. Take advantage of this to tackle all those tough chores. By week's end, you are proud of what you accomplish.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You're not as patient as you normally are this week. It seems your stress level is rising. Deal with this logically rather than emotionally.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Despite the temptation, this isn't the time to gamble on the family's finances. Instead, come up with a solid, common-sense plan. Seek the advice of an expert to help you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You're shocked at a friend's unkind words. Perhaps it's time to rethink this relationship. It seems you're being used and manipulated.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're amazed at what you can accomplish when you put your mind to it. Your powers of concentration are unmatched this week. Utilize them to the best advantage.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Events unfolding at work take a new turn. This time, it's for the better. Over the weekend, you are able to put everything into proper perspective.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Someone close to you is in an irritable mood. Just give this person space. Whatever's wrong has nothing to do with you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Worrying about money isn't going to help. You need to take concrete steps. Seek out the counsel of family members.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You're ready to embrace the new direction your life is taking. Try to ignore those naysayers. Some people are uncomfortable with risk, but that's not in your character.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Feel free to indulge in favorite recreational activities. This goes a long way toward helping you recharge your internal batteries. This weekend, the accent is on much-needed rest.

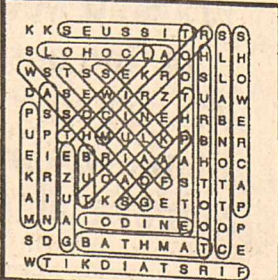
VIRGO (August 23 to Sept. 22) Frustration over a family member's problems reaches new heights. However, try not to take it out on this person. What's happening can't be helped.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You impress those around you with your cheery attitude. It seems nothing can shake you these days. This weekend, enjoy a special family outing.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

- 1. Alcohol
- 2. Aspirin
- 3. Bathmat
- 4. Cotton balls
- 5. Faucet
- 6. First aid kit
- 7. Gauze
- 8. Iodine
- 9. Make-up
- 10. Mirror
- 11. Shower cap
- 12. Sink
- 13. Soap
- 14. Tissues
- 15. Toilet
- 16. Toothbrush
- 17. Toothpaste
- 18. Towel
- 19. Tub
- 20. Washrag



Trivia Time Answers

- Jimmy Carter
- Sight
- The Riviera
- The original "Miracle on 34th Street"
- The Boston Brink's Express Company
- Jethro Tull
- The 1940s
- "Sesame Street"
- Compaq
- Rollberblades

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Allow God to help you hold your tongue Seven pillars of marriage

Gateway Ministries, Inc.
By Pastor Charolette Corey

Sometimes less is best. It is so easy to respond to the aggravation, disappointment and anger that people can cause you with sharp words. Thank God for the power of the Holy Spirit working in you when you are able to "abide in the refuge of the most High God," and not respond to offense immediately with a retort that would "scald the ears off a sailor."

The thoughts may rise; they may be many, but you are "more than a conqueror" when you are able to renounce those thoughts and cry out to God for his help and his peace. He is faithful to be there for you and will give you wisdom if you but ask.

You may feel as though you are in a physical struggle like Jacob wrestling with an angel, but endure to the end and God will bless you. The nature of man's flesh is to retaliate with

speed and finality, but the nature of the spirit of God leads one on a path of forgiveness, peace and inner strength. Yes, I said strength, because it is not being weak to "put a bridle on your tongue," and wait for God's love to respond to the occasion. (Remember, I didn't say it would be easy.)

When problems arise it is simply an occasion to overcome evil with good. How you do that relies entirely on how much you are immersed in the presence of God. If you are sharing your life with him day by day, moment by moment (not just leaving him in the church pew) then his presence will be manifested in your time of need immediately. If you only call on him in time of trouble, you will have to wait, remove yourself from the situation, get quiet before him, and become attentive to his still, quiet voice.

Those who walk with him daily, moment to moment hear God's voice just as you hear any

friend's voice. Even with friends, you don't talk all the time. There are many moments during which you are both in the same manner of thinking, times in which you just smile at each other and experience the moment, knowing the joy and pleasure that each other is experiencing.

Patience brings peace. "Holding your tongue" gives opportunity for God to enter the situation and bring his wisdom and healing. Of course, it God tells you to say something, then say it. You will be able to tell if it is from God when it is motivated by his unconditional love and when it draws the other person closer to God.

I've found that the best thing to do is to "sleep on it". That is not to say to go to bed angry because ungodly anger is a sin and anger will end up punishing yourself by making you physically sick. Instead, tell God about it, ask for his wisdom, forgive the person(s), and leave it on God's altar. He is faithful to provide the answer. When he speaks, the words will be just enough to get the job done. Sometimes when he speaks, he simply tells you to show the person how God loves his children (yes, he created them too.)

Check it out. Sometimes less is best. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

Norman Vincent Peale and his wife Ruth were once asked to share some of their secrets of staying in love and how their marriage had grown steadily stronger in 50-plus years. As we approach Valentine's Day, I want to paraphrase some of their ideas to share with you.

According to the Peales, there are seven pillars that support a good marriage and the first one is trust. No marriage can be called a good one unless there is total trust between the partners. You have to trust your partner to be faithful, to be honest, to be generous and understanding and kind. And the partner has to be trustworthy in all these and many other areas of living.

The second pillar that supports a good marriage is the willingness to make sacrifices. Not just major, dramatic sacrifices—although sometimes those are necessary—but the little almost unseen adjustments where you change your behavior or your thinking because it will help or benefit your partner. Love is give-and-take, they say, but when you're truly in love you're willing to give more than

you take. Forgiveness. Successful marriages need it and use it all the time. Not in great tragedies, perhaps, but in little failings and shortcomings. And what is forgiveness, really? It's offering the person who has offended a chance to do better. And then another chance. And another. Up to seventy times seven.

What does a pillar do? It supports something, doesn't it? That's what marriage partners should do, too. They should hold each other up. They should be supportive. All people need emotional support, as well as physical support. Sometimes, we need emotional support more than physical support. That's when a marriage partner becomes a balance wheel, a shock absorber, a North Star, a pillar to hold each other up.

There is a four-letter word always associated with happiness in marriage, certainly with Valentines, Day. That word is love. But there's also a ten-letter word that is equally important. That word is friendship. Henry Ford once said, "He who brings out the best in you is your friend." Emerson expressed the same idea. "Our chief want in life is someone who will make us do what we can. This is the function of a friend." In a truly successful marriage the partners are best friends, who are comfortable with each other and share interests, viewpoints, values, goals. They like being together; they feel incomplete when they're separated. When you're married to your best

friend, that's just about the surest guarantee of happiness that this uncertain world has to offer.

Shared fun. Shared laughter. These may not be the biggest and strongest pillars that hold up marriage and family closeness, but they certainly carry their share of the load. When our children were young, we were like many young families in that we didn't have much money. This never seemed to matter—we shared family times when we sat around the kitchen table, playing games and eating popcorn. To this day, our three children like to play jokes on each other and every time they are together, they spend time reminiscing about the great times we shared when they were growing up.

Love is God's Presence. Of all the pillars that support and sustain a marriage, this is the strongest—the willingness to bring God into every situation; every problem, every aspect of living. When we ask Him for protection for our loved ones, when we thank Him for our blessings; when we pray together as a family, He is there watching over us. He loves us; He cares about us; He wants us to be happy. All we have to do is ask!

Lord, on this Valentines Day, and every day, I thank you for the great gift of my marriage and family. Be with us, Lord, in everything we do.

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

Year of blessings

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

It's been a whole year, since I became the pastor of the Frontier Baptist Church.

It's been a year filled with good memories, personal rewards and many blessings from God.

Last January, as we prayed that God would return brother Joe Townsend to us, I preached on "faith" and "hope".

Early in February, we laid brother Joe to rest in the Brackettville cemetery.

I had the honor of officiating his service, along with Rev. Jack Cash of Waco.

On Valentine's Day, I delivered a sermon on "love". God's love for us and our love for one another.

In numerous, articles written to you, in this newspaper, I have attempted to challenge you, motivate you and invite you to attend church services with us or any church of your choice.

The articles I've written and the sermons that I've delivered in March, April and May, have asked and answered many questions. Questions like, "Why you should go to church." "Are you hungry?" "Do you want to become a winner?" "Who is this man, Jesus?" "Got no patience?"

In the summer, June, July and August, I told you, "that you could trust in God" and "that you could live a good and fruitful life."

I preached, "that God is waiting", "so open the doors wide." The doors to your hearts.

The titles of my articles, in the past three months include,

"Looking For a Good Book To Read?" "Live a Fuller, Happier Life," "Is It Really Possible to Have It All?" "Allow God to Save You From Fear." "It's Time to Wake Up and Smell the Poinsettias." "Jesus Fulfills Prophecy."

I've told you "that God is in control." And I've warned you about "witches, wizards, and sorcerers."

In 2001, I will continue to write to you, preach to you and invite you to attend church services with us. More importantly, I will implore you to come home to God, he is patiently waiting.

If I can help you in any way, page me at (888)-745-6914.

Do as the Lord wills

St. Johns Missionary Church
Rev. William P. Adams, Sr.

Come now, ye that say, today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain;

Whereas ye know not what shall be on the next day. For what is your life? It is even a

vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

For ye ought to say, if the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

But now ye rejoice in your boastings; all such rejoicing is evil.

Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

James 4:13-17

Obituary.....

Emma Jean Dooley, former resident of Odessa, passed away in San Antonio on Thursday, January 17, at the age of 90. For nearly 20 years Emma Jean taught English in Odessa public schools, first at Crockett when it was a junior high school, then at Hood Junior High School. Claude and Emma Jean were members of the First Baptist Church.

Emma Jean and her husband, Claude Dooley, lived in Odessa from 1954 until 1984 when they retired to Marble Falls. After Claude passed away in 1997, Emma Jean remained in Marble Falls for a year before moving to San Antonio to be near her daughter.

Emma Jean was born in Red Water, Texas on January 16, 1911. She graduated from Knox City High School in 1928 and

from Texas Tech College in 1931 with a degree in English. Her first teaching assignment was in Brackettville, Texas. There she met Claude Dooley, a local rancher. They were married in 1937.

The years Emma Jean taught school in Brackettville were very special to her. She loved her students and told stories about them for years. The Spanish songs

and phrases she learned from her students and her enthusiasm for the Hispanic culture she passed along to her daughter, Betty.

Emma Jean is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Betty and Stuart Awbrey of San Antonio, her brother and sister-in-law, Skeezix and Beverly Martin of Odessa, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, V.O. and Mae Martin,



and her brothers, Guy Martin, Harold Martin and George M. Martin.


Services were held at Porter Loring Funeral Home in San Antonio Monday at 11:00 January 22, 2001.

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Choir all ages 4:30 p.m.
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February 26 - Encouragement: The Key to Success in School
March 5 - Having Fun: The Key to Happiness and Long Life
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DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVERS: SOLOS UP to .45cpm, teams up to .41cpm. Contractors .81cpm all miles. Lease options available (no money down), fuel incentives and more! Call Burlington Motor Carriers, 1-800-583-9504.

OTR DRIVER - MARTEN Transport Ltd. Can pay you with one year plus experience, 33cpm. Call 1-800-395-3331, www.marten.com.

DRIVERS NEEDED. LOOK! Get your CDL and a great job. No money out of your pocket, if qualified. Earn up to \$800 or more. 1-800-301-6759. Ref. # 3008.

CDL/OTR DRIVERS choice *Solos to 35 cpm * Teams to 46 cpm * Owner/operators to 90 cpm *Excellent lease/purchase *Full benefits *Home weekly some areas. Call Big Lou, 1-888-747-3447.

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

DRIVERS: NORTH AMERICAN Van Lines has openings in logistics, relocation, blanket wrap and flatbed fleets. Minimum of 3 months OTR experience required. Tractor purchase available. Call 1-800-348-2147, Dept. TXS.

DRIVER TRAINING

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

LAND FOR SALE

A FREE LIST. Affordable hunting ranches, 50-100-250 acres or more. Trophy whitetail, 5 deer limit, lowest prices. E-Z terms! Call toll-free, 1-866-389-5263.

MISCELLANEOUS

COORDINATOR - OPPORTUNITY to work with international students and local families as a CCI Area Representative, a non-profit student exchange program. Supplemental income. Call: 1-800-605-2341.

PAYING TOO MUCH for your term life insurance? To see if you are, visit our website at hslinsurnce.com. Call HSL Insurance at 1-888-440-4915 for lowest rates nationwide.

TIMESHARE REALES. The most effective way to buy, sell or rent! No commissions! Closing & financing provided. Free information. 1-888-997-6668.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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

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

FOR SALE

FT. CLARK SPRINGS RV lot in unit 14, for sale - concrete pad, metal cover, storage shed, all utility connections. Will sell for \$7,000. Call (830)-775-9863 in Del Rio.

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

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

FOR SALE

ARCH STEEL BUILDINGS inventory clearance! Huge savings! 2000 steel prices while supplies last! 25x34, 30x40, 52x128. Great workshops/garages. Call 1-800-341-7007, www.steelmasterusa.com.

STEEL BUILDINGS - MUST sell two steel buildings from cancellation, one is 40x40 - brand new, never erected, will sell for balance owed. Call Danny at 1-800-552-8504.

FOR SALE
Brackett Car Wash
Excellent income property
563-2398

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE SATURDAY, February 10, 8 a.m. #6 Sunset Lane, FCS, (behind Wainwright house) lawn equipment, furniture, household items, etc.

MULTI - FAMILY GARAGE sale, Sat. Feb. 10th 8:00 a.m. to ? Corner of Spring and Beaumont.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD sale, 510 West Spring St., Saturday, Feb. 10, 8 AM to ?

HELP WANTED

WANTED ADVERTISING SALES person call the Brackett News 1-830-563-2852 for application.

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED \$635 weekly processing mail. Easy! No experience needed. Call 1-888-333-7114 Ext 8140 24Hrs.

AVON - LOOKING for higher income? More flexible hours? Independence? Avon has what you're looking for. Let's talk. 1-888-561-2866. No up-front fee.

BROTHERS-SISTERS. WILL place 15 new hires, over 18, travel coast-to-coast, no experience, we train. Phone - 1-281-876-3606. EOE.

COMPUTER, INTERNET PEOPLE wanted to work online. \$125-\$175 an hour. Full training. Vacations, bonuses and incentives. Bi-linguals also needed. 49 countries. Free e-book: www.profitpc.net.

EARN UP TO \$35 per hour. Internet travel agency. No experience needed. Full training. Computer with modem required. Call 1-888-689-1560 ext. 5073.

PROCESSING CLAIMS FROM home. \$15-\$45 per hour! Established company seeks people. Training provided. Must own PC. 1-800-935-1311 ext. 235.

HOMES FOR SALE

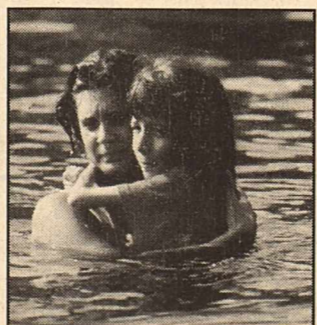
HOUSE W/ TWO lots, \$49,500, 3 br., 1 large bath, 1 car garage, fenced backyard and storage building. Great for kids & pets, ph. 563-9596.

1999 PALM HARBOR home 3/2. New G.E. appliances, improvements. Setting on 3 lots, (3rd lot optional) at F.C.S. unit 27. \$74,900, 563-9533.

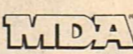
NEED AVON PRODUCTS? For orders or Books call Kathy Wilson 563-3347 or call (830) 719-0270.

PACKARD BELL PERSONAL Computer - 486 ES '93 Model - disk, CD Rom, sound speakers, Windows 95 - Disk and CD Rom drives need reprogramming \$300 or best offer. Small microwave - Sharp Carousel Half Pint brand \$40. 563-3347 or (830) 719-0270.

DIVE IN!



Dive into MDA, and learn more about summer kids' camps, family support groups, and life-saving research.



Muscular Dystrophy Association
Jerry Lewis, National Chairman
1-800-572-1717
www.mdaua.org

Answer to Crossword

WORST	GRAM	SLIP
ABATE	RAGE	CINE
GIVEN	ONER	RENE
STEEPEST	GEIGER	
RIEMS	MEMBERS	
FRESNO	SCRUB	
AID	STOIC	SLAMS
NAGS	ELEVE	EXITT
SLEEP	IVITED	LEA
	GRAVE	REGENT
LACTOSE	PIPE	
OBOIST	GREENEST	
BOZO	RALE	NITER
EDEN	ALEE	DANCE
SENS	LIEN	SLATE

REAL ESTATE

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

On golf course - 3 bed, 2 baths, 4 year-old house. Excellent condition \$71,900

Facing Las Moras Creek - 4 bed, 2 baths, 2 story home \$85,000

Facing Las Moras Creek - 3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, large den \$65,000

10 acres on Hwy 90 with buildings including restaurant. \$130,000

2 bed, 1 bath, carport, fenced yard. \$28,500

LEGAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: PPA USERS (phenylpropanolamine) dexamtrm and triaminic hemorrhagic stroke/bleeding of brain. Grossman & Waldman, 1-800-833-9121. Free confidential consultation. No fees/expenses if no recovery. Board certified. Principal office - Houston.

REAL ESTATE

PRICE REDUCED - 2.84 acres choice highway frontage Hwy 90 & 131 Brackettville. \$50,000 firm. 830-774-5084.

Steve Stoner will be in town to clean carpets next week.

Call for appointment.
563-2678
563-3362

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO

P.O. Box 1025
Brackettville, TX 78832
830-563-2446 830-563-2447

*New listing - In Unit 36, 2 bedroom, 2 bath with RV Pad and cover.
*Larger home excellent for a luxury hunting headquarters. Located on the corner of Grant and F.C.S. Road approx. 7100 sq.ft.

*2600 sq.ft. Santa Fe style home in the Oaks, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, priced to sell.
*460 acres, 2 tanks, located south of Spofford. Also many lots in Spofford. Call for info.
*5300 acres 23 miles north of Brackett Adjoining 10,000 acre Kickapoo Caverns. Three nice houses, abundant water.
*Unit 15, Lot 135, a 2 bedroom mobile home, owner will finance.

LOCKHART REAL ESTATE

DEBBIE TRANT
BARBARA VOSS

830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

3/2 Solitare home in immaculate condition, FP, isolated master, screened porch, carport, storage, stone skirting, all appliances, nice oaks!

Metal covered RV lot with furnished efficiency apartment + store room.

3/2 home in private area, fireplace, jacuzzi tub in master bath, tiled screened porch, hobby room, storage shed, fenced!

View listings at: www.brackettville.com/realstate

La Fortuna Ranch Sales

615 Hwy 90 East

Phyllis & Les Meyer
830-563-9911

*Beautiful - 2/2 carport home near the Historical District (FCS) Excellent value!
*Like new 2400 +- sq.ft. 4/3 Manufactured Home on 5 ac. Office, Fireplace, 16X40 covered porch, well, septic. 2 yrs. Old
*Kinney Co. Ranches: 2000 ac. 12 miles west. Excellent improvements, paved frontage, 2 wells, lodge and 2 seasonal creeks. 1825 ac. West: Live creek, home and improvements
Fantastic 9700 ac. ranch: 14 miles NE (water), also 80 ac. at the edge of Brackett City limits. + More ranches available.

ALAS MORAS MASONIC LODGE

meets the 2nd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.

School of Instruction meets every

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Visiting Brothers are Welcome

Dependency exemptions can help minimize your tax bill

By Lucy Medrano
Contributing Writer

(Austin, TX) Some people will go to great lengths - and rightly so - to make certain that they take every deduction due them. Yet many of these same people overlook the value of maximizing dependency exemptions. The Texas Society of CPAs (TSCPA) reports that, for 2000, each dependency exemption lowers the amount of income subject to tax by \$2,800. Here's what you need to know to determine how you can make the most of these exemptions.

Five-Part Dependency Test
A five-part test is used to determine whether an individual may be claimed as your dependent. (1) Dependents must receive over half of their support from you. (2) If the dependent is not a relative, he or she must have lived with you and been a member of your household for the entire year. (3) A dependent must be a U.S. citizen, or a resident of the U.S., Canada, or Mexico. (4) He or she may not file a joint return with anyone, except in certain instances where a refund is being claimed. (5) A prospective dependent's gross income must be less than \$2,800 for 2000. (The gross income requirement does not apply to a child under the age of 19 or to a full-time student under age 24.)

Typically, deciding whether a member of your household is a dependent is relatively simple. In the most common cases, the person is a minor child living with and supported by one or both parents. However, in some instances, where an extended family lives under one roof, there may be questions as to whether certain individuals qualify for dependency exemptions. Additionally, you may be able to claim a person you sup-

port as a dependent, even if they are not living with you. To help you address these issues, here are answers to some frequently asked questions regarding dependency exemptions.

Q. My two sisters and I support our mother who lives with me. Together, in 2000, we paid more than half of her total support but, because we split the cost three ways, individually, none of us pays more than 50 percent of her care. Can we qualify for the dependency exemption?

A. Yes. In such situations, as long as you each paid over 10% of total support for the dependent and together overall provide 50% of her total support, you may agree among yourselves to have one of you take the exemption. You can also take turns claiming the exemption. Form 2120 must be completed.

Q. In determining whether I furnished over half the support for a dependent, what exactly counts as support?

A. Among the items considered as support of a dependent are: food, shelter, clothing, medical and dental care, health insurance premiums, education, transportation, recreation, and similar necessities. To compute the value of the shelter you provide, use its "fair rental value" that is, the amount you could reasonably expect to receive from a stranger for the same lodging. You may also factor in a reasonable allowance for the use of furnishings, telephone, electricity, etc.

Q. Are there limitations on who can claim dependency exemptions?

A. Yes, the dependency exemption is subject to adjusted gross income (AGI) thresholds. For the 2000 tax year, it begins to be phased out for single filers with AGIs of \$128,950, joint filers with

AGIs of \$193,400, married filing separately with AGIs of \$96,700 and heads of household with AGIs of \$161,150.

Q. Our income has reached the point where we no longer get the full benefit of dependency exemptions. Can our son who is away at college claim a personal exemption on his own return?

A. There is nothing optional about the dependent exemption rule. If you are eligible to claim an exemption for your child who is away at college, the child cannot claim his or her own exemption. This is true even if you are going to lose some or all of your personal exemptions because your income is too high.

Q. The total cost of my parents' support is \$28,000, of which they pay \$20,000 and I contribute the remaining \$8,000, which is less than half. Is there another way of structuring my payments that would allow me to claim my parents as dependents?

A. Instead of contributing to the combined support of your parents, offer all of your support to just one parent and have them file married filing separately. Your \$8,000 would be more than half of one parent's total support (\$14,000). Be sure you can back up your plan with checks made payable to just the one parent.

About the TSCPA
The Texas Society of CPAs is a nonprofit, voluntary professional organization representing Texas CPAs. With a membership of 28,000 and a history of over 85 years, the Society has one of the largest in-state memberships of any CPA organization in the nation. The Society promotes professionalism, ethics, and integrity among CPAs, and is committed to protecting the interests of the public and its members.

**PUBLIC AUCTION
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES
BY KINNEY COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION SEIZED AND FORFEITED VEHICLES

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2001
TIME: 10:00 AM
LOCATION: KINNEY COUNTY CIVIC CENTER
200 EAST SPRING STREET
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS 78832

1. 1987 4-DOOR HONDA ACURA
2. 1991 DODGE CARAVAN
3. 1996 DODGE DAKOTA PK

TERMS OF SALE:
CASH / CASHIERS CHECK / MONEY ORDER

VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS IS WITH NO GUARANTEES OF ANY KIND, FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
(830) 563-2788

SIGNED THIS 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY 2001
L.K. BURGESS
KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS

The Brackett News

FAX IT FAST!!!

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

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Brackettville, Texas, 78832

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