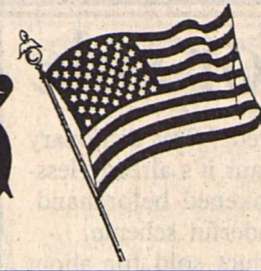


The Brackett News



Ray Price concert in Uvalde rescheduled

See Story Page 3

13th year, No. 5

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Fort Clark Festival begins Friday McKelvy wins cancer benefit golf tournament



Pictured are the Badland Texas Rangers who will be appearing throughout the day at Saturday's Fort Clark Festival events. Back row from left to right are: Poncho Schmidt, David Sprott, Clark Nash, James Plunkitt, James Hickman, Bain Walker, James Ham, D.R. Powell, and Daniel Gring. Front row: Beverly Schmidt, Liz Ryan, Karen Hickman, Jim Ryan, Director; Ann Powell, Kathy Sprott, Patty Ham, and Fraci Plunkitt.

Fort Clark Springs Festival begins on Friday, March 9, 2001, with a Welcome Dance by the "Happy Travelers Band" 8 - 11 p.m. at the Swim Park. At 7 p.m., Bingo will be in Shafter Hall. The Festival continues on March 10, 2001, with all day events beginning at 7:30 a.m. The Badland Rangers will be appearing along with the 1940s Cavalry Drill group throughout the day. Bands including, Swamp Angels, The Happy Travelers, The Borderline Singers and the Lone Star Pickerz, and our own Brackettville High School Band will play country, blue grass, Cajun and German music. Baked goods will be for sale, along with hot dogs, hamburgers, cold drinks, beer and much more. Arts and crafts ven-

dors will have their wares displayed. Entertainment by local musicians include FCS Residents, Ann Barron on keyboard, Cathy Conrey on accordion and keyboard, Jackie Duncan singing accompanied by her father, Drew Duncan; Pat Strothers on keyboard and accordion for your sit down listening pleasure. Old fashioned games for all ages are planned morning and afternoon. Come run a three-legged race, toss a raw egg, or twirl a hoola hoop; plus much more. Living history demonstrations of black powder firearms, soap making, quilting, cannon firings, are planned throughout the Festival. A Mule team, Judge Roy Bean, a wagon ride of the Historical District and

tour of the Wainwright Home, as well as Texas Tall Tales (come spin your own yarn), are for everyone's pleasure. Dave Crowe will bring his Cowboy Poetry to life and The Cadence Cloggers will present their skilled footwork. Purchase of a \$3 button entitles the holder to win prizes, donated by local merchants, throughout the day. The Old Quarry Players will present "Grandpa's Last Mistake" for a \$3 admission, Saturday evening at 6:45 p.m. Come and dance at the swim park at 8 p.m. with the Lone Star Pickerz. The Festival will conclude with a devotional program by the Fort Clark Springs Voices choir at 8 a.m., Sunday, followed by a breakfast brunch (\$5) at the Las Moras Inn.

Alzheimer's Association donates books to library

The Alzheimer's Association, with a generous grant from the David and Betty Sacks Foundation, is donating books on Alzheimer's Disease to the Kinney County Public Library. The books being donated are:

- 36-Hour Day, Revised Edition by Nancy Mace and Peter Rabins. This book is a comprehensive and practical guide for families and caregivers.
- The Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer's Care by Virginia Bell and David Troxel. This book offers a compassionate model for caring for patients with dementia.
- Safe Return Home by Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers. This book is a special collection of cartoon strips that deal with a very serious subject in a dignified and touching way.

South Central Texas Region. It is the intention of the Alzheimer's Association and the specific purpose of this grant to try to reach out to the rural areas with information and resources to assist caregivers and patients of Alzheimer's Disease and other related dementias.

The books are now in the library. To contact the local Alzheimer's Association office for information or resources, call (210)-822-6449 or 1-800-824-8069 or email Jenifer.Scott@alz.org.

School Board elections

The Brackett Independent School District Board of Trustees will hold a general election for three trustee positions at the May 5th Brackett school board election. The three trustees will be elected to three-year terms. Incumbents Jim McDaniel and Sara Terrazas have filed for reelection in the school board race, and Gloria Garza Garcia has yet to file. Linda Jaso has also filed for one of the three-year terms. The deadline for filing a candidate application is March 21st at 5:00 p.m.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday, at the Central Office, 400 Ann Street, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., beginning on April 18, 2001, and ending May 1, 2001. Applications for ballots by mail should be mailed to Susan Esparza, BISD Early Voting Clerk, P.O. Box 586, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. All applications to apply for a ballot by mail must be received by April 27, 2001, at the close of the business day.

ministration will support this important agenda," said Bonilla. Bonilla has also been a leader in free trade policy. He helped push the North American Free Trade Alliance (NAFTA) through Congress. His work on NAFTA was responsible for producing more jobs, economic growth and greater prosperity for the 23rd district and the entire state of Texas. "Trade has been a driving force behind our country's economic success. Since NAFTA's signing in 1994, international trade production has increased from \$100 billion to \$248 billion per year. This is real revenue that American businesses are enjoying," said Bonilla. This is the second time in his congressional career that Mr. Bonilla has received the NAM Award for Legislative Excellence. Bonilla first received the award in 2000.

Bonilla honored for legislative excellence

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Henry Bonilla (R-TX) was today honored by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) for his dedication to issues important to the business and manufacturing community. "I am honored to receive the National Association of Manufacturers' Award for Legislative Excellence," said Bonilla. "The manufacturers of America are the heart and soul of American business. They have played a vital, pivotal and integral role in the success of the United States economy." The National Association of Manufacturers is the nation's largest and oldest multi-industry trade association. NAM represents more than 14,000 large, mid-size and small manufacturers. NAM's Award for Legislative Excellence acknowledges legislators who support a pro-growth, pro-trade and

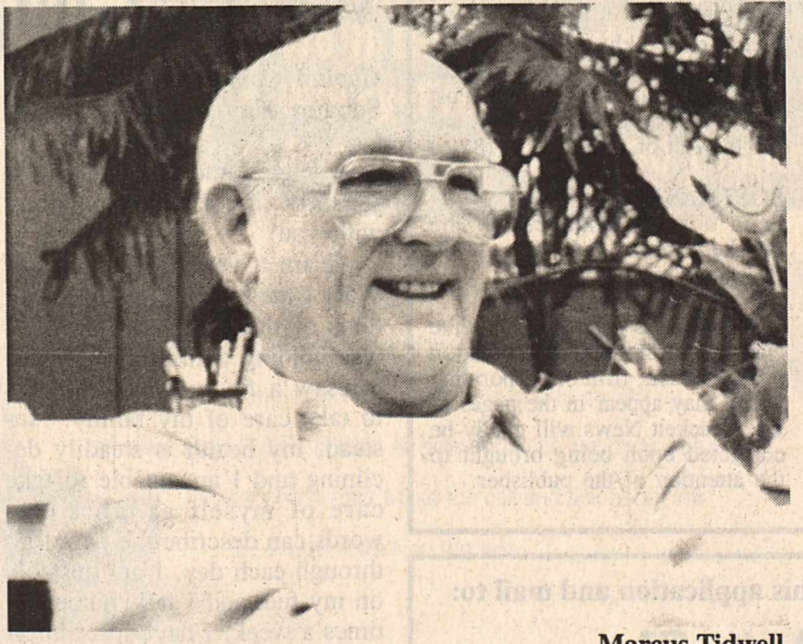
development or community development agencies are eligible for application. HUD will award up to approximately \$24 million on a competitive basis in the (1) Capacity Building funding category and the (2) Support for Innovative Housing and Economic Development Activities (SIHEDA) funding category. HUD will award up to approximately \$12 million to build capacity. The maximum amount awarded to a successful application in the SIHEDA category will be \$400,000. The application deadline is April 6, 2001. For more information contact: Charlotte Banks, Economic Development Specialist, Southwest Region, at (817) 978-5956.

pro-business agenda. "Henry is receiving the NAM Award because he achieved a 100 percent voting record on legislation that is important to the business and manufacturing community in this past Congress. This is an extraordinary accomplishment, but not for someone like Henry Bonilla," said Greg Swinton, CEO Ryder Systems, Inc. Bonilla's legislative achievements are many and distinguished. He has championed the common-sense conservative causes of smaller government, less government regulation and returning hard working Americans the money they have earned. "Smart tax cuts and an open trade policy will play a vital role in keeping American businesses strong and prosperous. I am dedicated to pushing this agenda through Congress and I feel certain that our new presidential ad-

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation was established in 1982 by Nancy Brinker to honor the memory of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died from breast cancer at the age of 36. The Foundation is an international organization with a network of volunteers working through local Affiliates and Komen Race for the Cure events to eradicate breast cancer as a life threatening disease by advancing research, education, screening and treatment. The Foundation runs one of the most innovative, responsive grant programs in breast cancer today. In addition to funding research, the Foundation and its Affiliates fund community-based breast health education and breast cancer screening and treatment projects for the medically underserved. This year, an estimated 182,800 women and 1,400 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer. Approximately 40,800 women and 400 men will die of breast cancer this year. Breast cancer is the leading cancer site among American women and is second only to lung cancer in cancer deaths. When breast cancer is confined to the breast, the five-year survival rate is over 95 percent. Forty-two Ft. Clark golfers donated their \$15.00 to the Susan G. Komen Rally For A Cure Benefit Golf Tournament on Tuesday, March 6, 2001. The hole chosen for Closest To The Pin was #11. Pat McKelvy's ball stopped 5'6" from the pin. Dale Unruh won the men's division with a shot that was 8'3" from the pin. Placing second in the women's division was Mary Stephenson and Lou Zipperer placed second in the men's division. Rosemary Johnson was the tournament chairman and thanks all who participated. In regular Ladies League play on the same day with the game being Point Par, Rosemary Johnson won first with 26 points; Joy Hinkleman and Lou Green tied with 23 points each to take 2nd and 3rd place; Pat McKelvy and Jane Young tied with 21 points to take 4th and 5th place; Mary Stephenson and Kay Roberts tied with 20 points to take 6th and 7th place. Three chip-ins were reported by Lou Green, Camille Niell, and Jane Young. Lou Green won two skins, Kay Roberts won one, and Orlean Alvis won one.

Tidwell to teach for Texas Association Of Appraisal Districts

Illness forced the owner of this firm to close business in the later part of last year. Although there were others offering this type of educational service, this still left a slight gap for someone or some agency to fill. Texas Association of Appraisal Districts, which had only been offering appraisal courses added assessing/collecting courses beginning the first part of this year. This included the state exam review sessions. Tidwell has been asked to teach their review sessions as well as the assessing/collecting courses they offer. Marcus is doubly delighted with this. He is happy to be able to continue doing something he truly enjoys but is also glad that he is still able to get about well enough to get it done. He will celebrate his seventieth birthday later this month.



Marcus Tidwell

RHED program offers grant

The purpose of the Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) program is to build capacity at the state and local level for rural housing and economic development and to support innovative housing and economic development activities in rural areas. These funds will be awarded competitively through a selection process conducted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Local rural non-profit organizations, community development corporations (CDCs), Indian tribes, state housing and finance agencies, and state economic de-

Briefs ...

Computer classes

Computer classes are still being offered at the Kinney County Public Library. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Classes consist of Microsoft Word, Excel and use of the Internet. Anyone interested, should contact the Library for registration.

Carol Miller is teaching the classes. Carol has been donating her time twice a week since October 2000 and the Kinney County Library is very grateful for her services.

Resident earns honors

Brownwood - Brackettville native Colby Crosby, a business administration major at Howard Payne University, was named to the dean's list for the 2000 fall semester. He is the son of Steve Crosby. Students must earn a 3.65 - 3.99 grade point average to be named to the dean's list.

Cheerleader, Pep team

Registration for the Pee Wee League Cheerleader, Pep and Drill team will be held until March 31st. The cost is \$10 for cheerleading and \$5 each for the pep and drill team.

For more information or to register, please call Nancy Rodriguez at 563-9314 or Sandi Maxwell at 563-9408.

High School One Act Play

The Brackett High School will proudly present this year's One Act Play, "The Rocking Horse Winner" by DH Lawrence, Thursday, March 8th, at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. Members of the One Act Play hope that you will be able to attend their performance.

Military seminar

The Fort Clark Recreational Department is sponsoring, for our retired military people living in Kinney County, a seminar concerning the military commissary. Mr. Pastano from Laughlin AFB will come and talk and answer questions. Please attend this important meeting, at no charge, at the Fort Clark Service Club, 6:30 p.m. Monday March 12, 2001.

INSIDE

- The way I see it!
Rapper Eminem is up for an award this year at the Grammys. I didn't really know who or what Eminem was till I saw his name in the news, so I decided I would look up some of his stuff on the internet. To say I was sickened by what I found would be the understatement of the millennium.
Opinion/Page 2
- Empowering families
"Jimmy, come here." Joe spoke to his nine year-old son in a serious and commanding voice. Jimmy responded with a groan, knowing that the tone of his dad's voice meant trouble. He took the long way through the kitchen and dining room putting off for as long as possible what he knew to be the inevitable.
Lifestyles/Page 4
- Making a difference
Jones Elementary School invites all to an Open House from 6:30 to 7:30 this Thursday evening. The staff and students have decorated the halls with Texas History bulletin boards and student work. They're ready for you to come and check it out.
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13th year, No. 5

Scuffed boots for sale

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

I'm glad winter is over. I like spring. I enjoy watching the changing of the seasons. I relish the awakening and renewal of life. And I'm glad cold weather is behind me. I'm glad freezes are for now a thing of the past. When the winter was not yet in full furry, I sent my wife and two of my daughters to get me some antifreeze for my ranch truck. Like good stewards that they are, they asked me what reasonable price they should be expected to pay. So far, so good. They returned with an item I have neither seen nor even heard of. Antifreeze mix! It's 50% antifreeze and 50% water. "No mixing required." I don't usually blend the water and antifreeze in my radiator anyway.

"Pre-diluted." My dictionary says that means it's already lessened or weakened beforehand. What a wonderful scheme.

This product sold for about \$4. That means I paid \$2 for a half gallon of water. For that same amount of money the city of Brackettville would have sold me a thousand gallons of H₂O.

I think pre-diluted antifreeze is in the same category as faded jeans. Maybe this could open a whole new concept in marketing. I started looking around the house.

I have some "pre-bent" nails for sale. I also located some socks with holes already worn in them. Surely you'd be interested in a (I hope you read one of my recent articles) chain saw that needs fine-tuning. The possibilities are unlimited. But I could be wrong.

NRDP tackles important issues

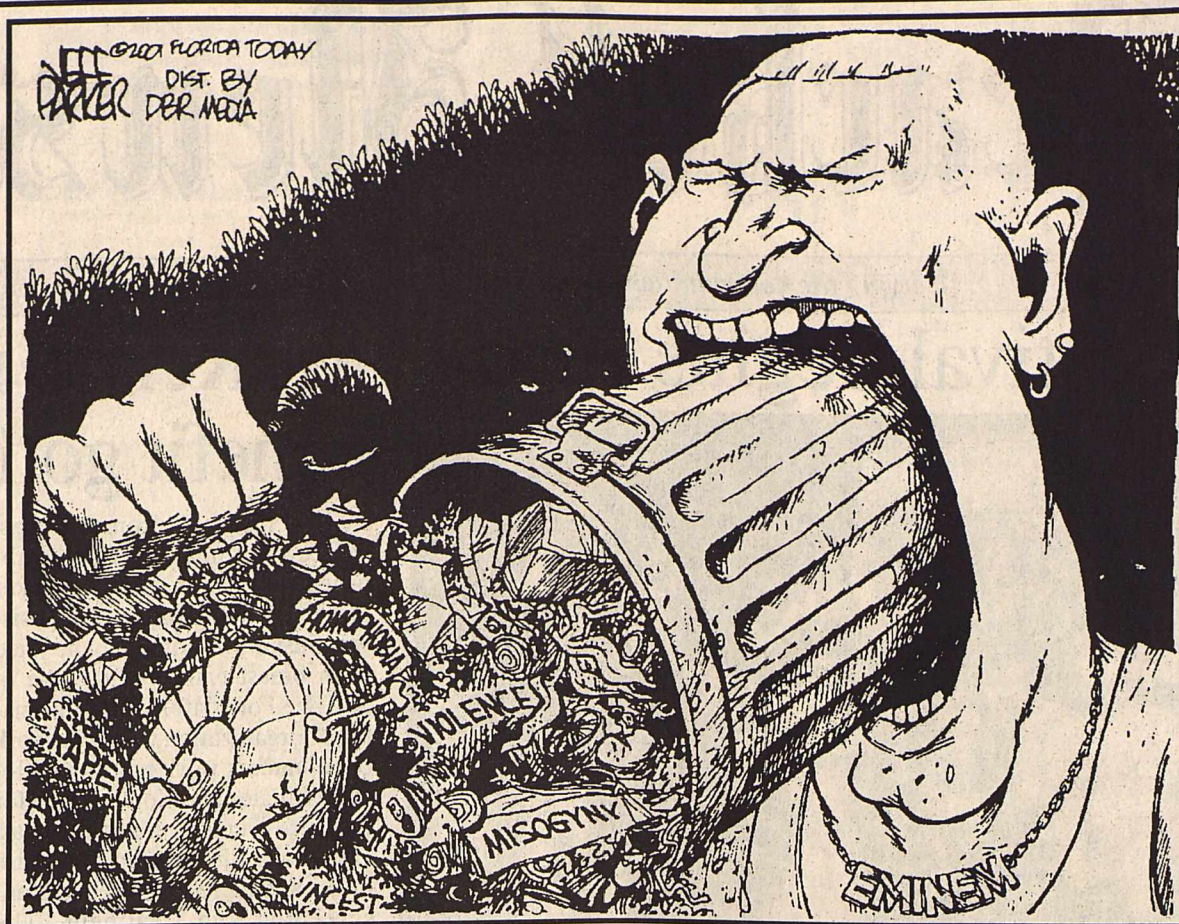
The National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP) task forces tackle important issues that affect all of rural America and cut across the entire Partnership. Task forces include participation from the federal, state, tribal, and local governments as well as the for-profit, non-profit, and community-based private sectors. This collaborative approach gives the task forces depth and leverage when addressing key rural issues such as healthcare and welfare reform.

The NRDP task forces provide leadership in identifying opportunities and challenges and in developing appropriate and practical responses. By bringing

together representatives from several governmental levels and multiple programs, each task force is positioned to make a significant impact in improving the quality of life in rural communities. Currently, the National Rural Development Partnership has six active taskforces:

- Healthcare
- Telecommunications Policy
- Welfare Reform
- Workforce Development
- Livable Rural Communities
- Women in Rural America

The Partnership has just created a new web page listing the upcoming events of all the active task forces located at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/nrdp/ConferenceCalls.html>.



What are your kids listening to?

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

Caution!! Material in this article is not suitable for younger readers.

Rapper Eminem is up for an award this year at the Grammys. I didn't really know who or what Eminem was till I saw his name in the news, so I decided I would look up some of his stuff on the internet. To say I was sickened by what I found would be the understatement of the millennium.

Do you ever listen to the music (to stretch the definition to the breaking point) that your kids are listening to? Do you censor your kid's so-called entertainment? Read this and see if you think that might be a good idea.

From the Marshall Mathers LP by Eminem:

They said I can't rap about bein broke no more, They ain't say I can't rap about coke no more, (AHHH!) Slut, you think I won't choke no whore, til the vocal cords don't work in her throat no more?! (AHHH!) These mxxxxfxxxxx are thinkin I'm playin.

*I invented violence, you vile venomous volatle bxxxxx, vain Vicadin, vrinnn Vrinnn, VRINNN! (*chainsaw revs up*), Texas Chainsaw, left his brains all, danglin from his neck, while his head barely hangs on, Blood, guts, guns, cuts, Knives, lives, wives, nuns, sluts.*

Bxxxx I'ma kill you! Like a murder weapon, I'm a conceal

you, in a closet with mildew, sheets, pillows and film you, Buck with me, I been through hell, shut the hell up! I'm tryin to develop these pictures of the Devil to sell 'em, I ain't acid rap," but I rap on acid, Serial killer hidin murder material, in a cereal box on top of your stereo, Here we go again, we're out of our medicine, out of our minds, and we want in yours, let us in.

This is a rather mild example of the sick and sadistic lyrics in this maniac's music, and this is about normal for the genre. How in the name of everything holy can this satanic insanity be considered entertainment, much less music? And people wonder why violence is rampant in our schools and streets, why juvenile crime is at an all time high? It takes a total idiot to miss the obvious.

Almost everything in the entertainment industry today is aimed at destroying the morals of our youth. Nothing is sacred. In other "songs" this demonic pervert waxes eloquent about sex with his mother, arranging for a gang rape of his sister, murder in various revolting forms, and other sick and perverted acts too heinous to mention here.

This sewage is on the open market, with no safe-guards to prevent its being purchased by our children. It is a sad and degenerate commentary on our society that this type of reprehensible garbage is not illegal,

not to mention the putrid fact that it is seriously being considered for an award for excellence! Eminem should not be honored; he should be imprisoned or institutionalized.

But if reading the lyrics above, quoted from his website, doesn't persuade you that something must be done to stop this insane trend, then you are part of the problem and not the solution. I don't care what anyone says, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was never, by any stretch of the imagination, intended to protect such demonic, destructive swill as this. Read it again and then contemplate this fact: Satan is no longer even attempting to disguise his attacks on our children. This is open, unrestricted warfare, and the souls of our young are the victor's prize.

The last line from the lyrics I reluctantly included should reveal to you the truth of the matter: "out of our minds, and we want in yours, let us in." Pay attention! Or pay the price!

Two days after I finished writing this piece, Eminem was awarded three Grammys for his "music." What does this mean to you?

Jeremiah 6:10, 11 - "To whom can I speak and give warning? Who will listen to me? Their ears are closed so they cannot hear. The word of the Lord is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it. But I am full of the wrath of the Lord, and I cannot hold it in."

We owe Gulf War veterans some answers

Capitol Comment
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

A letter came across my desk recently that I'd like to share with you:

"I am a veteran of the Gulf War. I have many, many symptoms of the Gulf War illness. I was holding a full-time job and foresaw a future of many years to take care of my family. Instead, my health is steadily declining and I am unable to take care of myself at times. No words can describe the pain I go through each day. I am unstable on my feet and I fall numerous times a week. I have lost almost all my sight, and am unable to drive a car and must depend on my family and friends to get me where I need to go."

The writer lives in Victoria, and his is only one among hundreds of similar, heart-wrenching letters I've received regarding a condition referred to as Gulf War Syndrome, which affects thousands of veterans of that conflict throughout our country.

Those who served apparently were exposed to a veritable witch's brew of known and potential health hazards, including blowing dust and sand, smoke from oil well fires, petroleum fuels and their combustion products as well as possible exposure to chemical warfare nerve agents and biological warfare agents. They were given vacci-

nations and bromide pills to protect against nerve agents; they came into contact with insecticides, infectious diseases and perhaps depleted uranium. They were subjected to psychological and physiological stress.

One in seven of those who answered their country's call to serve in Desert Storm were affected in some way. They are suffering from a long, painful list of symptoms, including debilitating muscle and joint pain, memory loss, severe sleep disorders, crippling depression, chronic fatigue and concentration problems, among others. These former soldiers are ill. They are entitled to some answers - and to appropriate treatment.

In 1994, Congress approved a bill recognizing Gulf War Syndrome and making disabled veterans who served in that war eligible for treatment and compensation. Unfortunately, the Veterans Administration has withheld that coverage from more than 9,000 such soldiers, including the one who wrote the above letter. This is unacceptable.

So I have introduced a bill that will extend the time during which these veterans will be eligible for treatment if they have not been diagnosed yet with Desert Storm Syndrome, allowing them another 10 years to claim eligibility and giving the Department of Defense an op-

portunity to delay the deadline even further if it is necessary to do so.

My bill redefines an "undiagnosed illness" to include the delayed symptoms that still are being discovered. It would provide for the payment of compensation to Persian Gulf veterans suffering from a chronic disability resulting from their service in Kuwait.

Much investigation remains to be done into this illness to determine its exact cause and to accurately describe all of its symptoms.

I believe the evidence is increasingly clear that this is not caused by stress. We have an obligation to ensure Gulf War veterans are properly diagnosed, effectively treated and compensated for any service-connected disabilities.

This bill will be a step in the right direction, a way to help repay our debt to these veterans. Not only is it the right thing and fair thing to do, but during these times of increased deployments and personnel shortages, it is in our national interest to continue to take care of our dedicated service members.

We are going to stand by those who answered their country's call. We should not still be talking about untreated cases of Desert Storm syndrome and undiagnosed illnesses 10 years after the Persian Gulf War ended.

Bonilla votes to reform outdated bankruptcy laws

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

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Representative Henry Bonilla (R-TX) voted to make modest changes to the bankruptcy system in order to protect the economy and consumers.

"Bankruptcies cost American consumers billions of dollars each year. When a few reckless spenders choose to leave their debt unpaid, it falls on the shoulders of honest, responsible consumers. There is no room for fraud and abuse in the bankruptcy system," said Mr. Bonilla.

"Under this bipartisan effort, we'll ensure that people with real need will get a fresh start."

The Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2001 (H.R. 333) overhauls the U.S. Bankruptcy Code to require debtors with the ability to repay some or all of their debt to do so. Under current law, there is no statutory mandate requiring a debtor to repay debts even if one has the financial means for payment.

"This reform protects the rights of those who truly need a fresh start as determined by legal standard. Those who fall below the median threshold, as well as those with extraordinary circumstances like medical expenses, will not be subject to any change from current law," said Mr. Bonilla.

A primary objective of the bill is to make it more difficult for debtors to use the bankruptcy system to avoid paying their creditors. The Act establishes a needs based test that makes it harder for debtors with above median income to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy and obtain immediate discharge of their personal liability.

The bankruptcy reform bill gives states the authority to determine their own homestead exemption. States such as Texas and Florida "opt-out" of federal limits on the amount and type of property that a debtor may claim as exempt. To prevent the few instances of true homestead exemption abuse, the bill contains adequate safeguards, including a two-year residency requirement before the exemption can be used.

"For more than 100 years, the state of Texas has had the authority to dictate its own homestead exemptions. This is an issue that belongs to the states, where people on a local level can make an educated decision," said Mr. Bonilla. "A one-size-fits all solution just doesn't fit this issue."

Congress passed similar bankruptcy reform measures in each of the last two terms only to have it vetoed by President Clinton. The bill has enjoyed broad, bipartisan support in the past and continues to do so. Of the 56 original co-sponsors, 36 are Republicans, 19 are Democrats and one is Independent.

The House of Representatives approved the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2001 by a vote of 309 to 108.

Your Representatives

U.S. Senator
The Honorable Phil Gramm
370 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-2934

U.S. Senator
The Honorable
Kay Bailey Hutchison
283 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5922

Congressman 23rd District
The Honorable Henry Bonilla
110 E. Broadway
Del Rio, Texas 78840
1-830-774-6547

Governor
The Honorable Rick Perry
Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711
1-800-252-9600

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Editorial and publication offices are at 507 S. Ann St., Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Phone: (830) 563-2852; Fax: (830) 563-9538; Email: tbnews@comwerx.net

PERSONNEL:
Publisher: Jewel Robinson
Office Manager: Dimple Henry
Staff Writer: Amy Davis
Staff Writer: Steve LaMascus
Typist: Maria Alicia Duran

SUBSCRIPTION:
Subscriptions and change of address should be sent to: The Brackett News, P.O. Box 1039, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Be sure to give both old and new address when requesting change. Annual subscription rates are \$20 in Kinney County, \$25 outside of county but in Texas, and \$27.50 outside of Texas.

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Local resident takes role in classic comedy

Seguin - A Brackettville resident is part of the cast of the Texas Lutheran University spring theatre production of George Bernard Shaw's "Man and Superman."

Amanda Petrosky, a resident of Brackettville, played a key role in this classic comedy of manners, which was performed in the university's Jackson Auditorium March 1-4.

"Man and Superman" is a com-

edy of manners typical of the 17th and 18th centuries, but with a philosophical twist. Like all of the 2000-2001 TLU Theatre Productions, "Man and Superman" examines man's search for humanity.

Petrosky played Miss Susan Ramsden, a conservative gentlewoman, in Acts I, II, and IV of the production.

Amistad opens ramps

Amistad National Recreation Area announced the opening of both the new Box Canyon boat ramp and the previously closed Blackbrush boat ramp.

Acting park Superintendent Todd Brindle said, "We're proud of all the hard work our maintenance crew has done to build a good ramp in the upper parts of the lake." Brindle said the construction monies came from the recreation user fee program; sale of lake use passes funded this and other similar projects. The ramp at Box Canyon was opened last Saturday.

Visitors are reminded the Box Canyon ramp is located about 8 miles from US Highway 90 along a county-maintained dirt road. Services in the boat ramp area are

limited. Brindle also explained, "Due to it's narrow width, parking will not be allowed on the Box Canyon boat ramp. There is parking next to the ramp, and the ramp's grade is not as steep as others in the park."

Due to rising lake levels, Blackbrush boat ramp will also be reopened. Brindle said, "We'll keep Blackbrush open as long as lake levels permit." Amistad National Recreation Area headquarters is located on US 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.

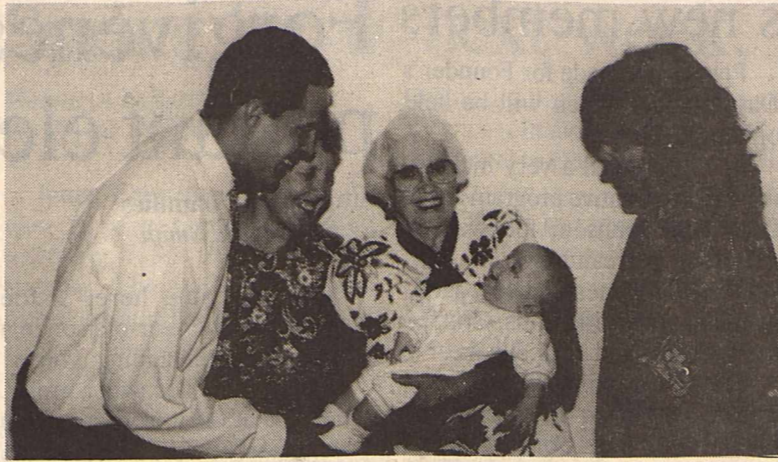
17th - Annual Texas Summer Nights Concert

A perennial favorite event of live music fans, Gruene, Texas announces its entertainment line up for the 17th -annual Texas Summer Nights scheduled March 11.

A showcase of some of the finest talent in Central Texas, the event is held in historic Gruene Hall and benefits the San Marcos Food Bank. This year's schedule includes: Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers, Trout Fishing in

America, Shake Russell and Dana Cooper, Willis Alan Ramsey and Nathan Hamilton Band - to name a few. Bands take the stage beginning at 2pm and performances will end at approximately 9:30pm.

Cover charge for the event is \$16 plus two cans of food for adults, \$8 for children. For more information, go to www.gruenehall.com or call Tracie Ferguson at 512-392-1693.



Five Generations - Pictured from left to right are: Bryan Thompson, Tryston's father, Betty Tidwell, Tryston's great grandmother, Clara Laman, holding her great-great grandson, Tryston Thompson, and Cheryl Juhasz, Tryston's grandmother.

Duplicate Bridge played at Fort Clark

Duplicate Bridge was played Tuesday evening, February 27th, at Fort Clark Springs in the Gorgas Room. There were 6 1/2 tables and the Mitchell Movement was used. The winners in the North/South were: 1st-Ann Melin and Anne Watts; 2nd-Tina Bauguess and Betty Ebert; and 3rd-Joyce Bell and Alice Seargeant. In the East/West, the winners were: 1st-Gertie

Trautwein and Ruth Potter; 2nd-tied-Mary Edgar and Nancy O'Brien and partners Kay Roberts and Dianna Daniels. The cards were not wonderful, but a good time and lots of competition was enjoyed by all. Duplicate bridge is open to anyone who wishes to play and who has a partner with whom to play. We begin at 7 PM every Tuesday.

Ray Price Concert rescheduled

The Uvalde Arts Council's fundraiser of the year, Ray Price and The Cherokee Cowboys, has been rescheduled for April 14, 2001. Ray underwent surgery in February, the surgery was successful and he is recovering very well. However doctors want him to rest a little longer before traveling.

All of Ray Price's scheduled performances in February were canceled immediately after the surgery, however, Jim Doran, spokesman for Ray Price and The Cherokee Cowboys, said that Ray wanted to keep his March engagements. After careful consideration, he decided to follow doctors' rec-

ommendations.

The concert is being rescheduled for April 14, 2001 at the same times, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Persons who have already bought their reserved seat tickets should keep those tickets.

These tickets will be honored on April 14th. All seats are reserved and there are only a few seats left for each performance. If it is impossible for you to attend please return the tickets to the Grand Opera House and your money will be refunded. For more information or any questions you might have, please call the Grand Opera House, (830)-278-4184.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, Feb. 26

3:30 p.m., A man reported his wallet stolen from his car at a local store.

4:30 p.m., Andres Martinez Sr., 20, from Brackettville was arrested for DWI by Sheriff Buddy Burgess. Martinez was released on March 3rd for time served.

11:54 p.m., A woman reported her wedding band and coin ring were missing, and wanted to file a report so it would be sent to the local pawn shops.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

4:27 p.m., Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter, responded to a call of some kids driving recklessly.

10:47 p.m., Joseph Anthony Passalacqua, 30, from Bandera, was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley for DWI 2nd and possession of marijuana. Passalacqua is still being held.

Wednesday, Feb. 28

9:30 a.m., DPS Trooper Tom Wylie reported a loose calf, 1 mile east of Fritter Park.

8:00 p.m., Task Force of Del Rio reported a vehicle on the side of the road by Mud Creek on Hwy 90 west. Deputy Manuel Pena responded to the call and requested the wrecker service.

Friday, March 2

8:22 a.m., A man reported his 1982 grey Dodge 4 wheel drive, which had a roll bar, a deer feeder welded to the back bumper and a California license plate had been stolen.

4:32 p.m., A call was made of a vehicle rollover 3 miles south of FM 693 on FM 277. Trooper Ashley responded to the call and the ambulance was notified.

Saturday, March 3

6:48 a.m., A report was made of a truck that had gone off of the road and into a ditch, on Hwy 90

and FM 3348. Trooper Ashley was advised.

2:00 p.m., A man reported his neighbors cows were on his property for several months now and he wanted to file a complaint. The cows had caused \$500 in damage and he wanted something to be done as soon as possible. Deputy Pena responded.

2:03 p.m., A call was made of a possible drunk driver, driving in front of him on Hwy 90. Deputy Pena responded to the call.

4:44 p.m., A local man called to report that his stove had caught on fire but that he had put it out before it spread. A report was made by Deputy Pena.

6:00 p.m., A white Suburban broke down at a local store and the owner had permission from the store manager to leave it there. Deputy Pena responded.

Sunday, March 4

9:45 a.m., A local woman reported a brown horse that was in her yard. A city employee was notified.

5:20 p.m., A man called requesting that an officer go to his apartment. Deputy Pena responded to the call.

10:31 p.m., A resident from Galveston received a call from his neighbor stating that his lights were on at his ranch. The man called the Sheriff's Office requesting an officer to go check out his place because he said that there had not been anyone there. Deputy Karl Chism responded to the call.

Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back. Regret is an appalling waste of energy; you can't build on it; it's only good for wallowing in.
—Katherine Mansfield

OUTDOORS

Boater education classes offered

A Little on the Wildlife Side
Contributed by Henry Lutz

Austin, Texas — Boating enthusiasts have three ways to participate in boater education classes this spring sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

While instruction is recommended for all boaters, the law in Texas requires certification for some operators.

The year-round classes are offered in three formats: the traditional classroom setting, the Boat Texas home study course and the Internet-based on-line course. A new Spanish language on-line version is expected later this spring. The price for the courses starts at \$13.

For those who prefer the traditional classroom setting, TPW encourages early registration. "We recommend that boaters register for a boater education course sooner rather than later," said Tim Spice, TPW boater education coordinator. "These courses are mostly offered by volunteers so they can vary in locations and dates, but they are offered almost continually in urban areas throughout the state."

Certain operators are now required to complete a boater education class. Legislation that went into effect in 1997 mandated boater education for the first time in Texas. Those persons born on or after Sept. 1, 1984, must complete a boater education course in

order to operate unsupervised boats of 10 horsepower or more, including personal watercraft and windblown vessels more than 14 feet in length.

"Statistics show that persons who successfully pass an approved boating safety course are less likely to be involved in an accident. Everyone can gain something from a boating safety class," added Spice.

Many insurance companies offer discounts of up to 20 percent for policyholders who complete an approved course.

The Boat Texas home-study course and the online version make boater education more accessible for those who live in rural areas, according to Steve Hall, TPW education director. The home-study version proved to be more popular than expected, with 4,000 participants last year.

Boat Texas, (800) 460-9698, offers a home-study guide that includes a video, instruction and mail-in test. The on-line version of the boater education course can be accessed through TPW's Web site (<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/>). The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squads also offer TPW-approved boater education courses.

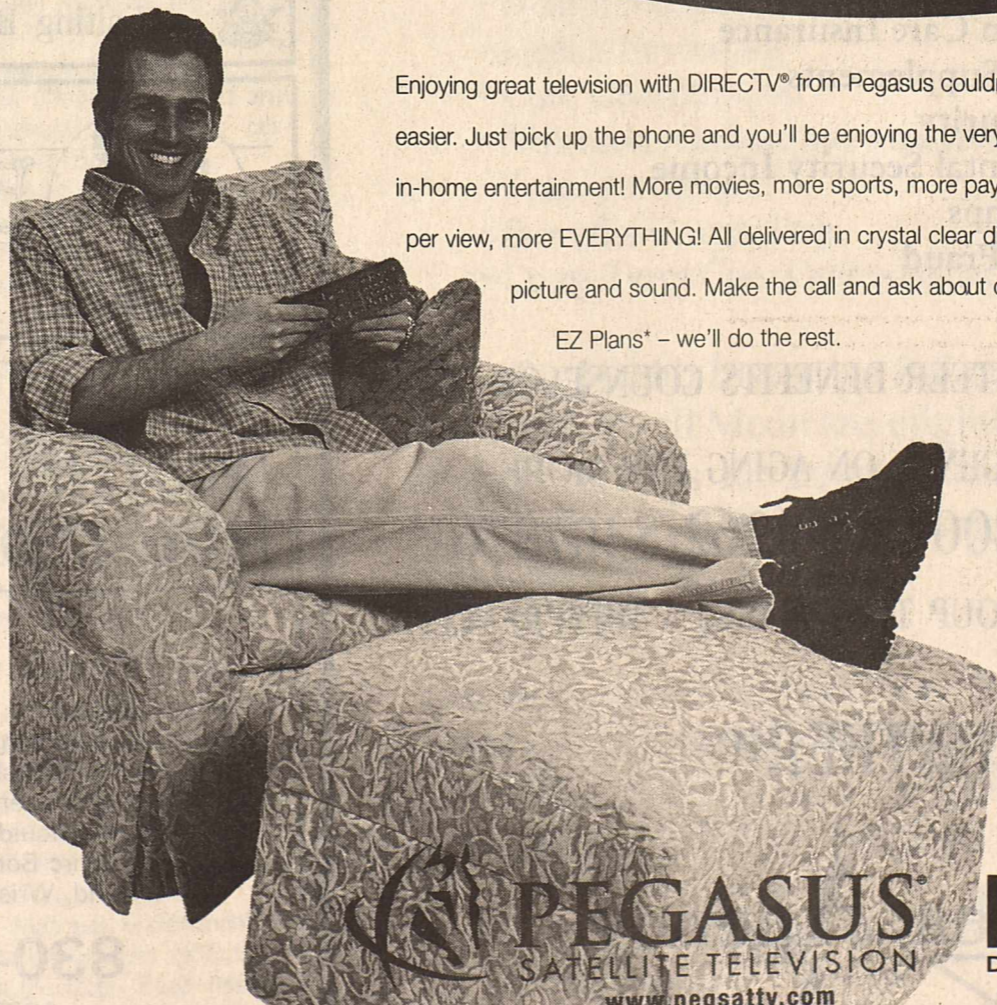
For more information on Boater Education, contact TPW at (800) 792-1112 or access the TPW Web site for an updated list of courses (<http://tpwd.state.tx.us/edu/boated/bedcity.htm>).



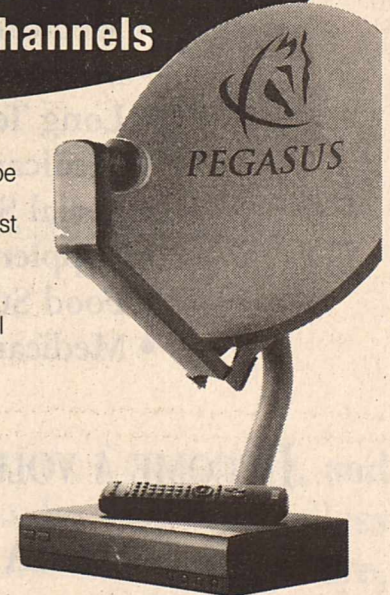
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Preceptor Theta Sigma welcomes new members

Preceptor Theta Sigma Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi, met in the home of B. J. Eckinrod on Monday, March 5.

Vice-president Arlys Simpson, who is in charge of membership, announced that Katie Brown and Louise Pflughoeft have elected to join this chapter and will begin their pledge training soon. Janie Meridith has decided to reactivate her membership and join this chapter. Dee Jones, a visitor of Molly Schroeder's from Alamogordo, New Mexico, was welcomed. As we grow as a chapter, we look for new opportunities to reach out and "shed the light of our torch throughout the world."

Beta Sigma Phi means friend-

ship to most of us. No matter how modern our organization becomes, friendship is still cherished--in fact, it is probably more sought after than in simpler times from the past.

The more we become wired on the Internet (and in doing that, perhaps less attached to others face to face) the more important our friendships become. We have embraced the future and wired paths of friendship on the Internet, but we also know the value of a hug, a hand to hold.

The chapter voted to again sponsor member Bobbie Waddill in the Lions Club "Stride for Sight" walk-a-thon.

Plans were made for Founder's Day Banquet which will be held on April 30.

B. J. presented a very interesting and informative program about Lady Bird Johnson, followed by delicious refreshments of both chicken and pimento cheese sandwiches, chips and dips, stuffed mushrooms, and carmel cake.

Those present were Katie Brown, Jan Chism, B. J. Eckinrod, Luella Gilliland, Donna Gracey, Lou Green, Gaye Kurz, Pat McKelvy, Janie Meridith, Louise Pflughoeft, Alicia Raymer, Molly Schroeder, Arlys Simpson, Jean Sommers, Mylo Unruh, Bobbie Waddill, and Dee Jones.

Forgiveness, responsibility important elements in relationships

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Jimmy, come here." Joe spoke to his nine year-old son in a serious and commanding voice.

Jimmy responded with a groan, knowing that the tone of his dad's voice meant trouble. He took the long way through the kitchen and dining room putting off for as long as possible what he knew to be the inevitable. It was with a grave sense of dread that he faced his father.

"Sit here son," Joe said motioning to the chair in front of him. "It seems that Katie's doll was broken and cannot be fixed. After a thorough investigation of the situation, I have concluded that you are the one who broke the doll."

Jimmy looked into his dad's eyes and then at the paddle in his lap. He knew what would come of this. "Please forgive me Dad. I was playing with Katie and I just got too rough. It won't happen again." Jimmy's eyes were beginning to show the tears that ex-

pressed the lump in his throat.

Lifting Jimmy's chin so that their eyes met Joe spoke comfort to his son. "I forgive you Son. Because you have confessed and asked for forgiveness there will be no punishment. But, you must make this right with Katie. What will you do?"

"I must buy her a new doll and ask her forgiveness."

"When will you do this?" Joe asked.

"If you will take me to the store, I will get the money from my bank." Jimmy answered.

"Jimmy, I am very proud of you because you are learning honesty and integrity and you are learning to be responsible for your actions. Now we can enjoy finding a new doll for Katie together."

No lasting relationship can ever be sustained unless we learn along the way to take responsibility for our actions and to ask others for forgiveness. An important part of the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray involves the forgiveness of others and the forgiveness of our heavenly Father.

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

Health

Hepatitis C is a silent epidemic that is beginning to roar

An estimated 300,000 Texans are walking around with a disease that exhibits few or no symptoms, while silently destroying their livers.

According to the March issue of Texas Medicine magazine, hepatitis C is a silent epidemic that is beginning to roar.

Hepatitis C is a virus only identified in 1989 that already ranks second only to alcohol use as a cause of cirrhosis of the liver. Medical researchers predict that hepatitis C will quadruple the number of liver cancers in the next 10 to 15 years and triple the number of liver disease deaths by the end of this decade.

Hepatitis C is called a "silent" epidemic because it takes an average of 24 years after the initial viral contact to develop cirrhosis of the liver, according to William M. Lee, MD, director of the Clinical Center for Liver Diseases at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. In the meantime, the person appears outwardly healthy and strong, showing no signs of the debilitating disease that lurks inside.

So who has hepatitis C? Nearly two million Americans, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Maybe 200 million people worldwide. No one knows for sure.

However, several groups of people seem to be at higher risk. Intravenous drug users, even those who only tried IV drugs once, are at risk.

Also at risk are people who received blood transfusions or whole blood products before 1992 - the year blood banks nationwide began screening the blood supply for the virus. People with multiple sex partners also should be screened because new evidence suggests the virus can be transmitted through sexual contact.

While researchers have found it challenging to track the incidence of the disease among most of the population, the jump in hepatitis C is quite notable in the prisons.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice recently found that 25 to 30 percent of incoming inmates have the hepatitis C virus.

National statistics echo the Texas findings, with 30 percent of men in prison and 54 percent of incarcerated women testing positive for the virus.

The disease poses a serious health threat and challenge to the medical community because there are so many unknowns associated with it, reports Texas Medicine.

"We don't know the complete natural history and course of the disease. We don't know all the ways it's transmitted," said Frank Adams, DO, a gastroenterologist who directs the hepatology clinic at Brackenridge Hospital in Austin.

"There are some people, for example, who have it who don't fall into any of the risk categories. We have no animal model for it, so research is difficult.

"The virus mutates once it gets into the body, so it's a very difficult target to hit," said Dr. Adams. "And because the disease has been discovered only recently, we can't predict with absolute surety how hepatitis C patients will respond as they age."

For more information on hep-

atitis C, its impact and available treatments, check out the full text of the Texas Medicine article. Point your browser to www.texmed.org, choose About TMA and then choose News Room, then Texas Medicine Magazine.

Texas Medicine is the official news magazine of the Texas Medical Association and provides timely information on medical issues that impact Texas patients and their physicians.

TMA is a professional organization of more than 37,000 physicians and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 118 component county medical societies around the state. The Association represents 85 percent of the doctors of medicine licensed and residing in Texas. TMA's key objective is to improve the health of all Texans.

Providing state-of-the-art weapons against cancer

The diagnosis of cancer can hit like a one-two punch. At first, many patients don't believe the bad news; then later comes the hurt, the anger and the bargaining.

But the good news is that cancer patients who are treated at the Scott & White Center for Cancer Prevention and Care have a secret weapon in the usual arsenal of cancer-fighting treatments - medical research.

Headquartered in Temple, Texas, Scott & White has been for more than a century a recognized leader in cancer diagnosis and treatment. It is also a national leader in research and clinical trials. That means that cancer patients receive state-of-the-art care close to home.

Lore Lagrone, B.S.N., R.N., O.C.N., a registered nurse with advanced training in oncology and research manager with the Scott & White Center for Cancer Prevention and Care, was a research nurse involved in studying the clinical trials for Taxol, fifteen years ago. Taxol is a compound first isolated from the Pacific yew tree. Through several levels of

careful trials, medical researchers discovered that Taxol was a prototype for an experimental class of chemotherapy drugs that slow - and in some cases, stop - the division of cancer cells. By 1992, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Taxol in the treatment of ovarian cancer.

Ms. Lagrone remembers those cancer patients of the early 1980's who volunteered to use Taxol. The knowledge medical researchers gained through their participation eventually helped hundreds of thousands of cancer patients. Today, Taxol is standard treatment for a variety of cancers, including ovarian, breast, non-small-cell lung and Kaposi's sarcoma.

Hundreds of Scott & White patients diagnosed with cancer of skin, lungs, ovaries, breast, prostate, and blood are now participating in trials. Upcoming studies to begin later this year involve an experimental approach that literally "starves" tumors by cutting off the blood supply. When the tumors shrink, they are then removed surgically. Another proposed trial will study whether se-

lenium and Vitamin E can prevent prostate cancer in healthy men.

"The Scott & White approach to cancer care is based on the fact that cancer is not just one disease, nor does a patient have just one problem when dealing with treatment and recovery," said Lucas Wong, M.D., medical director for the Scott & White Center for Cancer Prevention and Care and assistant professor with The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine.

About 20 years ago, Scott & White developed interdisciplinary teams to help address the many concerns of patients and their loved ones. These teams screen all cancer patients to see if they are appropriate to participate in clinical trials. Still, only about 6 percent of Scott & White patients participate in clinical trials - in line with the national average.

Scott & White has a long-standing leadership in the treatment of cancer. In 1933, Scott & White was the first hospital in Texas to be accredited by the American College of Surgeons for cancer surgery. Last year, Scott & White physicians diagnosed and treated 1,650 new cancer cases. The Scott & White Tumor Registry, the first such registry in the state, has tracked 33,000 individuals since its beginning in 1955. Scott & White has a 97 percent follow-up rate, well above the minimum 90 percent rate required by the American College of Surgeons.

All experimental medical treatments - not just for cancer - must undergo a rigid four-step process before they become standard treatments.

- Phase I studies are for medications that have shown benefit in animals but now must show benefits in a limited group of human subjects.
- Usually these patients have exhausted all other standard methods of treatment. During Phase I studies, medical researchers determine maximum dosages and carefully note the side effects.
- Phase II studies begin after some benefit has been found in the small group of patients in Phase I. Now researchers have to widen their study population and focus on specific benefits of the medication.
- Phase III compare the standard treatment with the experimental treatment. In many cases, patients receive the standard treatment along with the experimental treatment.
- "In some cancers, the standard treatment is to wait and watch," said Ms. Lagrone. "Phase III and IV trials give patients an extra tool for fighting cancer." Phase III studies usually involve a larger patient population.
- Phase IV trials evaluate other uses of an established treatment.

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High School track team earns 2nd place

The High School girls track team placed second in the Junction Track meet on Saturday, March 3.

In the 3200 Meter, Lacey Dodson placed 7th and Nicole Mata placed 8th. Stephanie Coronado placed 2nd in the 800 Meter, Ashley Smith placed 6th and Tammy Smith placed 7th.

Celeste Hill earned 1st place in the 100 Hurdles, and 2nd in the 300 Hurdles, Ashley Smith earned 5th in the 300 Hurdles.

In the 800 Relay, Tammy Smith,

Sarah Meyer, Stacy Castilla, and Melinda Villareal placed 3rd. In the 400 Meter, Stephanie Coronado placed 2nd and Stacy Castilla placed 3rd in the 200 Meter. In the 100 Meter, Melinda Villareal earned 1st. Celeste Hill, Sarah Meyer, Stephanie Coronado and Melinda Villareal placed 3rd in the 1600 Relay.

Brackett received 77 points, Miles -121, Comfort - 70, Junction - 46, Center Point - 42, Grape Creek - 24, Eldorado -20, Menard -17, Angelo Christian -13.

Tigers place second at Junction

The Tiger boy's track team took second place overall at the Junction Invitational Track Meet. The relay teams showed to be exceptional with a number of alternates. The sprint relay team (Jared Hobbs, Eliot Stone, Raymond Gomez, and Damian Toms) placed 2nd with a time of 45.12. The mile relay team (Raymond Gomez, Damian Toms, Lee Davis, and Thomas Crow) also received medals for third place.

In the individuals, first place

winner were Damian Toms in the 400m (50.90) and Thomas Crow in the 3200m. Crow also placed 2nd in the 800m (2.08). Other medals went to Raymond Gomez with 6th in the 200m, Levi Duncan with 4th in the 300IH and T.D. Smith with 5th in the 300IH. Field events were canceled due to the weather.

The Tigers will run at Carrizo Springs this Saturday and would appreciate your support.

Spring break next week, principal search continues

Making A Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

Jones Elementary School invites all to an Open House from 6:30 to 7:30 this Thursday evening. The staff and students have decorated the halls with Texas History bulletin boards and student work. They're ready for you to come and check it out. We're very proud of the staff and students at Jones Elementary School for their extra effort to involve community and parents in the schools.

The BHS One Act Play Cast and crew will present their one act play, "The Rocking Horse Winner" at 7:30 PM in the school auditorium on this Thursday, March 8. This play will be presented at UIL contest on March 20. Kaylia Thomas is the director of the play.

We will begin our Spring Break, Monday, March 12 through Friday, March 16. Students and staff will take a week off before tackling the last ten weeks of school. Most of the students and staff will kick back and enjoy a slower less structured type of life

during the break. Some have family trips scheduled. My wife and I will travel to Columbia, Missouri, to visit our son, Michael and his wife, Della and grandson, Taylor who is 2 1/2 years old. We're excited, but know that the North Country is usually very cold this time of the year. A year ago, we experienced an 8 inch snow fall in St. Louis after leaving Texas' balmy 90 degree weather.

The board authorized adding a Technology Building to the building project. It would be used to train school staff with the latest in technology. The building would include about 18 computer stations for small group instruction. Perhaps, we could use the building for adult education at night time and during the summer. We dream of a building that we could get into each day (not used for students on a daily basis) that could be used to teach the staff more about technology applications. Most of our staff has strong computer skills, but all of us need to continue to learn if we are to guide our students. Student skills con-

tinue to improve, and we must stay ahead of them.

We have begun our principal search again. The job has been widely advertised, and we hope to complete the process in April. Our goal would be to have a new principal on the job sometime in May. We have received applications from different parts of Texas and a few from out-of-state. A search committee made up of two board members, superintendent, a principal, and a teacher will begin interviewing shortly after spring break.

The California school shooting causes concern in every community in our nation. No one knows what causes a student to shoot his classmates and teachers. Every statement that is made regarding threats should be reported to the school and to the police. If we err, let's err on the side of caution. Help us keep our children safe.

The school's authority in student criminal acts extends in most cases 300 feet beyond the boundary of the schools. This is true unless the crime involves a Title

V felony. Section 37.006 of the School Code is used as the basis for the Code of Conduct in Texas Public Schools. Law enforcement has a 1000 foot statute that is used to determine the drug free zone of public schools. I believe that the two laws should be the same. Laws are made in Austin and in Washington. I have called our state representative to ask that the school authority be extended to 1000 feet to make it the same as law enforcement. I'll keep you informed on the progress of this request.

School extra-curricular activities can have written training rules that give them the authority over students. Most of our school activities have students sign agreements that they will comply with the conduct code required by the school activity. Have a great, restful week!

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

Thursday, March 8
Jones Elementary Open House, Scholastic Book Fair, Hunt Library, School Breakfast Week, Tennis Hondo, "The Rocking Horse Winner" One Act Play, 7:30 p.m. in HS Auditorium

Friday, March 9
JV/V Basbl Sonora (A) 5 & 7:00 PM, Scholastic Book Fair, Hunt Library, School Breakfast Week, Tennis Hondo

Saturday, March 10
JV/V Basbl Crystal City (H), 12 & 2:30 PM, Tennis Hondo, Track JVG/VG/JVB/VB Carrizo Springs

Monday, March 12
9:00 AM Boy's Golf, Devine Invitational, SPRING BREAK/School Holiday

Tuesday, March 13
4:00 PM V Basbl, Sabinal (A), SPRING BREAK/School Holiday

Wednesday, March 14
SPRING BREAK/School Holiday

4th Six Weeks Honor Roll

Honor Roll as provided by BISD:

Jones Elementary All A Honor Roll
■ **Sixth Grade:** Justin Calk, Laura Meyer, Josh O'Neill, Kara Yeager.

■ **Fifth Grade:** Bailee Allen, Jesus Balderas, Meghann Davis, Evelyn Rojas, Bianca Stewart, Anolda Watkins.

■ **Fourth Grade:** Summer Allen, Brooke Bowlin, Katie Braesicke, Emily Calk, Serenity Gammill, Rebecca Mann, Laura Swinson.

■ **Third Grade:** Jose Aguilar, Chris Blake, Cynthia Bland, Alexis Buecher, Brayen Chacon, Cody Clark, Casey Couch, Brianna Escamilla, Amanda Flores, Emily Fuentes, Ivy Garcia, Ramon Gutierrez, Aracely Martinez, Maria Martinez, Nancy Martinez, Daniel Molinar, Elena Molinar, Elidia Molinar, Paul

Novel, Gerardo Pacheco, J.R. Pena, Jay Proulx, Krystal Rangel, Raul Rivas, Rolando Rivas, Claudia Rocha, Dulce Rodriguez, Michael Rosetti, Lawrence Salazar, Alejandra Talamantes, Isaac Talmantes, Nydia Talamantes, Katie Yeager.

■ **Second Grade:** Zazu Abraham, Marisol Aguirre, Katie Bowlin, Kelsey Bruce, Bryan Calk, Bianca Cruz, Sarah Davis, Mike Flores, Clarissa Garcia, Vincent Garcia, Jody Garrett, Valeria Garza, Stella Guajardo, Wyatt Guidry, Abby Gutierrez, Itzel Jimenez, Ayland Letsinger, Tyler McDonald, Abran Muniz, Brenda Pacheco, Robert Payne, Kaylyn Queen, Janine Rex, Victor Robledo, Jaime Rodriguez, Nayellie Rojas, Victor Roman, Icela Rueda, Becky Salazar, Su Su Seargeant, Josh Smith, Sammie Stewart, Robert Torres, Erica Villanueva.

A-B Honor Roll

■ **Sixth Grade:** Adan Aguirre, Dolores Cano, Robert Davis, Rachel Lethco, Lorena Mendoza, Cesar Ortiz, Ivan Pinales, Michael Stephenson, Nadine Terrazas.

■ **Fifth Grade:** Kaden Berg, Stephen Boden, Travis Bonner, Chris Calloway, Julie Castillo, Israel DeHoyos, Marco Duran, Doolie Fernandez, Marlene Gloria, Daphne Hunt, Jaime Jimenez, Josh Kluzek, Kenia Martinez, Kyle Moore, Lane Nowlin, E.J. Pena, Anabel Perez, Nadia Santellano, Chris Seargeant, Kara Thomas.

■ **Fourth Grade:** Felisha Abrego, Laura Adams, Ray Aguilar, Valerie Davis, Joshua Garrett, Jessica Garza, Veronica Garza, Cristiana Gomez, Roxane Gomez, Esna Herrera, Diana Honstein, Miranda Letsinger, Bianca Martinez, Ashley Resendez, Jonathan Rios, Maribel

Rivas, Steven Rivera, Graciela Rocha, Bianca Terrazas.

■ **Third Grade:** Crystal Bartlett, Janillie Cortez, Amanda DelBosque, Joe Luis Flores, Salina Flores, Gino Gonzales, Justin Kesteloot, Angel Maldonado, Ana Maritinez, Jesse Martinez, Adolfo Reyes, Miranda Salmon, Maria Samora, Lilianna Valdez, Marcia Villarreal, Alex Zamora.

■ **Second Grade:** Richard Antu, Celina Calvillo, Mark Garcia, Bernadette Garza, Jesse Garza, Brice Graham, Adrian Juarez, Ward Kerr, Olivia Molaison, Paige Nowlin, Avian Pacheco, Salvador Pacheco, Steven Rodriguez, Aracely Salazar, Cynthia Salazar, Jaime Sandoval, Cheyenne Smith, Ezequiel Salazar Danika Villarreal.

Middle School All A Honor Roll
■ **Eighth Grade:** Tillman

Davis, Brandon Kluzek, Robert Looney, Cody Robinette, Shanae Simmons.

■ **Seventh Grade:** Blair Lambert, Billy Steelman, Rachel Swinson, Brand Wylie.

A - B Honor Roll

■ **Eight Grade:** Juliann Ashabrunner, Stephanie Bonner, Jaclynn Duncan, Courtney Frerich, Whitney Hobbs, Megan King, Sean Looney, Whitney Massingill, Kristin Meyer, Ryan Moore, Samantha Pina, Oscar Sierra, Celina Terrazas, Kody Yeager.

■ **Seventh Grade:** Dana Bonner, John Braesicke, Ashley Castillo, Jessica Crane, Mason McWilliams, Tanya Molinar, Yasmin Pena, Kaylynn Perez, Adon Santellano, Timmeke Simmons, Brandy Smith, Soraida Talamantes.

Reminding Texans to look, listen and live

Austin, TX — Railroad Commission of Texas Chairman Michael L. Williams reminds Texas drivers to use caution when approaching a railroad crossing. Operation Lifesaver has recently placed information on its website for teachers to use in the classroom. This curriculum will increase student awareness of and, more importantly, understanding of the dangers rail crossings present.

"The availability of Operation Lifesaver's curriculum is a great step in the effort to decrease high-

way-rail collisions not only in Texas, but throughout the United States," Williams said.

Texas, with more rail crossings than any other state in the nation, leads the country in rail-crossing incidents. While there has been a downward trend in crossing collisions, some of our most densely populated counties - Harris, Tarrant and Dallas - still lead the state in rail crossing collisions. Most occur during daylight hours, in clear weather, and with unobstructed views. Over 25% involve

motorists running into the side of a train already at a crossing.

"When it comes down to a train versus a vehicle, the train inevitably wins. In fact, a 100-car freight train requires the length of 18 football fields to come to a complete stop," Williams said.

Information and curriculum materials for Grades K-12 can be found on the Operation Lifesaver website, www.oli.org, a city, state, and federal sponsored rail safety and trespass - prevention organization.

SWTJC Creative Arts Contest deadline nears

With the deadline for entries rapidly approaching, it's time to finish up those projects and enter them in the 20th Annual Southwest Texas Junior College Creative Arts Contest.

Southwest Texans will compete for prizes in a variety of age groups and categories in the visual arts portion of this year's contest.

Jill Coe, Humanities and Fine Arts division chair at SWTJC, is chairman of this year's contest committee. "The deadline for entries in the visual arts contest is only a few weeks off so we want to remind prospective entrants to get their projects finished and ready to turn in," Coe said.

The entry deadline for the visual arts contest is March 23. There is no fee for the contest and entry details are on application forms.

Visual art categories for all age groups include: drawing with color, painting, cover, pencil, scratch board, charcoal, pen and ink and computer generated graphics. Photography is also included in the contest for grades seven and up.

Age groups for the contest will be: kindergarten and first grade, grades 2-3, grades 4-6, grades 7-8, grades 9-10, grades 11-12, college and community.

Application/entry forms are available at SWTJC facilities in Crystal City, Del Rio, Eagle Pass

and Uvalde.

Contestants may also request entry forms by writing to Willie Edwards, SWTJC Public Information Officer, 2401 Garner Field Road, Uvalde, Texas, 78801. You may also e-mail a request for entry information to Edwards at publicinfo@swtjc.cc.tx.us. Or call (830) 591-7222 for contest information.

All winning entries in the contest will be recognized during the SWTJC Creative Arts Award's Ceremony on April 26, 2001, in Uvalde. Winning entries will also be included in the 2001 edition of The Palm's Leaf magazine.

"The Palm's Leaf is a popular compilation of winning literary and visual arts entries and will be designed and printed over the sum-

National Endowment for the Arts offers grant

By Leslie Medema
Contributing Writer

Developing the arts and integrating them more fully into the life of communities nationwide is at the heart of the National Endowment for the Arts' Challenge America initiative. This new program is designed to strengthen families, communities, and our nation through the arts. It challenges America's communities to build partnerships and expand understanding about the vital role of the arts in enhancing national cre-

ativity, community spirit, and the preservation of our living artistic cultural heritage.

This is the first grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to specifically mention RURAL as one of its target audiences.

The National Endowment for the Arts only accepts applications from partnerships. Each partnership must have a lead organization (applicant) that assumes full responsibility for the grants.

Applications are due May 1, 2001. For more information go to www.nea.gov

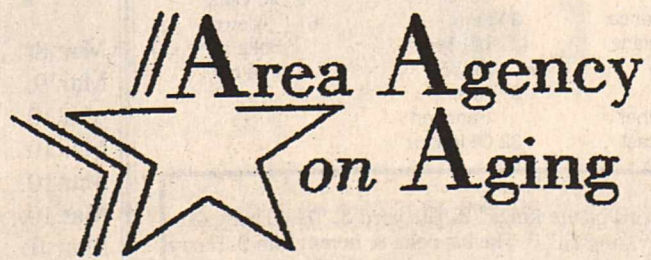
AREA AGENCY ON AGING SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SIXTY PLUS

The Area Agency on Aging of The Middle Rio Grande Development Council can facilitate accessing available resources for persons with disabilities and Sixty Plus in the following counties: Dimmit, Zavala, Maverick, Val Verde, La Salle, Kinney, Uvalde, Real, Edwards. The AAA provides service delivery thru the Access and Assistance programs which include the following services:

- Information, Referral & Assistance
- Health Maintenance
- Health Screening
- Care Coordination
- Nutrition: Congregate and Home Delivered Meals
- Transportation
- Benefits Counseling
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman

HICAP - Health Insurance Information, Counseling, and Assistance to all Medicare-eligible individuals regardless of age. Services for People with Disabilities Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, Supplemental Insurance thru counseling or Presentations.

THE AAA IS YOUR CONNECTION TO SERVICES REGION WIDE. TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION CALL 1-800-224-4262 OR 830-876-1253. FOR DEAF OR HEARING IMPAIRED USE TDD# SPANISH...800-735-2989 FOR ENGLISH CALL 830-876-1260



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- ACROSS**
 1 West Point student
 6 Busy place at noon
 10 Masses
 14 Animated
 15 Weighs heavy
 16 Passage into a mine
 17 South
 18 1838 invention
 20 Shoe width for Pres. Taft
 21 Tiny noise
 23 Nostrils
 24 Aim at pins
 25 Become unfrozen
 27 Take out
 30 Largest Mariana Island
 31 out; go back on a promise; slang
 34 Lamb
 35 Gambling game
 36 Jim Nabors' birthplace; abbr.
- DOWN**
 1 Word with carrot or sponge
 2 Skin lotion ingredient
 3 Terrible
 4 Tempted one
 5 Whistler
 6 Desert sight
 7 On
 8 Preposition
 9 Zees turned sideways
 10 Colorful bird
 11 Stench
 12 one's time; wait
 13 Canonized ones; abbr.
 19 Hard coating
 22 Quadruped
 24 Boyfriend
 25 Capital city
 26 Accessories
 27 Cherished ones
 28 Island
 29 Real estate concerns
 30 One beyond help
 31 River transport
 32 Of former times
 33 No longer in vogue
 35 Lads
 38 Light sources
 39 Perennial flower
 40 City in Uttar Pradesh, India
 46 Family member
 47 Old anesthesiologist
 48 Sea divider
 49 Baseball team member
 50 Box
 51 Pennsylvania
 52 Unpopular one
 53 Withdraw by degrees
 54 Short reminder
 55 Frosting spreader
 56 Tiny bit
 58 Keatsian subject
 59 Old Olds
 61 down; make a note of

Trivia Time Answers
 1. "Lord of the Flies" and "Lord of the Rings" 2. The yard 3. "The Flying Circus" 4. Paleface 5. Venice 6. "Kung Fu" 7. The bazooka 8. Invent him 9. Harry Truman 10. Bananas
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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— forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?
 Today's Category: CAR MODELS

I	I	J	G	R	A	N	D	A	M	C	E
T	U	E	C	E	L	I	C	A	A	I	L
H	C	D	I	P	E	R	T	N	I	V	B
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R	C	E	S	D	R	O	C	C	A	R	E
D	S	R	M	U	S	T	A	N	G	Y	T

Trivia Time by Walter Branch
 1. What two "Lord of the ..." novels were published in 1954?
 2. What measure of length was formalized as the distance from King Henry I of England's nose to the fingertips of his extended arm?
 3. What nickname was given to the Red Baron's squadron of flyers during World War I?
 4. What term for a white man did James Fenimore Cooper coin in an 1822 story about Indians?
 5. What Italian city is known as the "Bride of the Sea" and the "Jewel of the Adriatic"?
 6. What TV series' supporting characters included Chen Ming Kan and Master Po?
 7. What weapon was named after a gag musical instrument invented by comic Bob Burns?
 8. What two words conclude Voltaire's dictum: "If God did not exist, it would be necessary to...?"
 9. Who proposed a national health insurance program during a 1940s State of the Union address?
 10. What fruit did consumers complain the fried chicken tasted like in early Swanson TV dinners?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mar. 8.....Antonio Flores	Mar. 10.....Maria Sandoval
Mar. 9.....Johanna Smith	Mar. 10.....Woodie F. Trotter
Mar. 10.....Delma Benites	Mar. 11.....Margo Kendrick
Mar. 10.....Jesse Davis	Mar. 12.....Connie Hall
Mar. 10.....Joe Escamilla	Mar. 12.....Christina Meek
Mar. 10.....Dutch Schoofield	Mar. 14.....Louella Gilliland
Mar. 10.....Richard Smith	Mar. 14.....Martin Sheets

HOROSCOPES
 by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 By neglecting some work early in the week, you're playing catch-up later on. However, by week's end, you're back on track. Utilize the weekend to reorganize closets.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
 You're distracted this week by the troubles of a friend. It would be wise to remember that you have little or no control over this. Your friend will need the freedom to make his own choices.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 You can't shake that bit of spring fever. However, don't let this distract you too much. There's still work which needs your special touch.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
 A disagreement with a loved one needn't get out of hand. Turn down the volume and begin listening to each other. Over the weekend, you finally make peace.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 You're fairly bursting with energy this week. It seems there's nothing you can't accomplish. Be sure, though, not to burn yourself out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
 While you've set your sights on a certain goal, you have a bit of tunnel vision. Be sure you can visualize the entire picture. This weekend, a friend's surprise visit is a delight.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 Research projects and other cerebral matters are bound to be successful this week. You're at your intellectual best. Remember, though, logic can't always apply to certain human situations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
 An unexpected visitor shows up at your door by midweek. However, this isn't especially welcome. Be as polite as possible, but stand your ground.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 While you are normally a confident person, some perceive you as arrogant this week. Try to tone things down a bit. By week's end, you are able to convey the proper messages.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
 You're being overly stubborn where a friendship is concerned. This isn't generally like you. Try to find it in your heart to be more understanding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
 Merely mouthing the correct platitudes is not enough. Remember, actions do speak louder than words. It's time to prove yourself to that special someone.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
 Home life takes the spotlight this week. You are content to begin fixing things up and improving your abode. Over the weekend, feel free to enjoy a special social event.

For Entertainment Purposes Only
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Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Accord	11. Grand Am
2. Altima	12. Intrepid
3. Camry	13. Lumina
4. Cavalier	14. Mustang
5. Corolla	15. Sable
6. Civic	16. Sentra
7. Civic	17. Skylark
8. Corolla	18. Taurus
9. DeVille	19. Tempo
10. Escort	20. Thunderbird

Church Alliance of Brackettville, Texas

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

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

The public is invited to join the Church Alliance of Brackettville at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, March 12th for a presentation by Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center of Del Rio. The presentation will take place at First United Methodist Church on James Street.

We will be learning how to identify victims of domestic violence and best offer them assistance. These victims are generally the daughters, mothers, and even grandmothers of our neighborhoods. Children are almost always hurt by this crime,

even when they are not the immediate victims.

The problem is neither cultural nor economic. It doesn't happen in just the big city but also in small towns like Brackettville. It can happen on The Fort as well as in town. It is insidious and often hidden from view because those who witness it don't know what they may do to help. We can help, all of us, by becoming aware of the resources available to the women and children who suffer this terrible injustice.

If you are planning to attend, please call ahead (563-2823) so we may have some understanding of the number of people we will need to accommodate.

Dear friend, I implore you to read and absorb every word, that I write to you today.

This could be that single greatest message that I have ever shared with you.

We have all heard it said, "that a fool and his/her money, are soon parted." A fool wastes all that he/she has, all that he/she has been given.

Please, let us not be foolish. We have also heard, though most of us do not fully understand all that it means, "the love of money is the root of all evils."

Is having money, wealth, power and influence, a bad thing? No! Of course not!

These things are gifts from God, to be used and re-distrib-

uted for the glory of God.

There is however, certain responsibilities, that come with the possessing God's gifts.

The Lord says "those who can be trusted with a little, can also be trusted with much."

Each of us will be judged, not only for how we lived our lives, but how we received God's gifts and what we did with them.

I must ask myself, was I a generous, caring, and sharing person or was I greedy and stingy with the gifts that God gave me.

We each were given life. Let's share our lives with as many other people as we can. Let's become friends with as many as will accept us. Let's help as many people in need of help as we possibly can. Our lives will be enriched for it.

We were each given time. Share yours. Use your time on earth wisely. Do the most amount of good for yourself and for others as you can with whatever time, God has allowed you.

We were each given certain talents. You need to find out what yours are. Learn how to use your talents to glorify God.

Enrich all the lives that you can and yours will be enriched twice as much.

We were each given love. Love is the greatest gift of all. Give your love to as many as will accept it. The more you give away, the more love you will receive in return.

We were each given the ability to provide for ourselves and each other. What we do with this ability and all of our God given resources, is of the utmost importance.

So, what I am asking you to do? Give, give, give! You cannot out give God. Give in his name. Give in the name of love.

It will be returned to you, with interest. I implore you! I dare you, to take this challenge.

Take your life, your time, your talents, your love, your resources and give it all to the Lord.

How can we do this? By sharing with everyone you meet. Some a little and some a lot.

Allow God to fill your life with blessings from heaven.

There is more to living than just being alive.

Love is of God, He loved us first

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

Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, that God sent his only begotten son into the world, that we might live through him.

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:7-10.

We love him, because he first loved us.

If a man says, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother, whom he hath seen, how can he love God, whom he hath not seen?

And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also. 1 John 4:19-21.

It is the sick who need a doctor

Gateway Ministries
Pastor Charolette Corey

"Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" This was asked of the disciples of Jesus in Matthew 9:10-13. Jesus answered "Healthy people don't need a doctor- sick people do. Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture. I want you to be merciful; I don't want your sacrifices. For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough." In other words, he wasn't being there for people who already considered themselves righteous, but for those who knew they were sinners and needed a chance to repent.

Too often, those of us who have already been saved by faith through grace and have made many changes in our lives toward righteousness, find ourselves not wanting to associate

with those who have unchristian qualities. We find it uncomfortable to be around people who are greedy and have their own agenda of goals that walk all over other people's rights. Too often we shun them like they had leprosy, but what would Jesus do?

If he was invited to visit and eat with a person, he visited and ate. Showing a person what true Christianity is, by the unconditional love you exhibit, can be the best and only "Bible" they have a chance to "read." Jesus won people to him by speaking the truth and turning people's hearts to the love of the Father. The Holy Spirit convicts the hearts of people, it is not your job.

When God has a heart prepared to hear the truth of his word, it has already become softened and he gives the other person ears to hear what he or

she may have heard all their lives, but suddenly understands for the first time. Then the word comes alive and is planted in the heart to bear good fruit.

Jesus gave us all the example to simply "be an example" of faith, hope, and love. He gave us the example of forgiveness, mercy and grace. Jesus in giving each of us mercy asks each one of us to show mercy to others. Grace and mercy are not something that you deserve. They are simple qualities that God pours out upon you because of the depth of his great love for you. He expects you to do the same for others, not because the other person deserves it, but because Jesus has already paid the price for it.

Be the "doctor for the sick." Share God's love and mercy with others. God will do the rest. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Lent: Life without chocolate

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

I love music. Well, okay, you might ask what that has to do with the title of this article. I hope I can tie it all together, because what I really want to talk about is overcoming temptation.

Chapter 4 of Luke's gospel tells us the story of Jesus spending forty days in the desert without eating. As we all know, at the end of the forty days, he was very hungry and the devil taunted him, saying, "If you are the son of God, command this stone to turn into bread." (Vs.3) And of course, Jesus refuses throughout all the temptations and challenges Satan puts before him.

Part of this chapter of Luke's gospel forms the basis for one of my favorite songs, On Eagle's Wings. "For to his angels he's given a command, to guard you in all of your ways. Upon their wings they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone."

This brings me to my opening statement. "I love music." Jesus' words in this song should be a consolation for us during Lent.

As we enter into the second

week of the Lenten season, I am already finding it difficult to keep my Lenten promises all the time.

Whether it is life without chocolate or taking more time for prayer, life (and the devil) hand me temptations everyday. How I deal with these temptations is the important thing. I can choose to give up because I have made a mistake, or I can believe in the words of the song and know that there is help for me, if I am willing to ask and accept it.

In 1 Corinthians 10:13 Paul tells us, "No test has been sent you that does not come to all men. Besides, God keeps His promise. He will not let you be tested beyond your strength. Along with the test He will give you a way out of it so that you may be able to endure it." Now I realize this bible verse can be a wonderful source of strength for anyone in great need, but I also believe God's promise works for anyone, even me, in any situation where we need some help, including Lenten promises.

All I have to do, all anyone has to do, is be determined to do better, to try harder. And then to ask God for the strength

to pass up that chocolate candy or spend thirty minutes less each day watching television and more in prayer and bible reading.

Lord, I thank you for the gift of your son. No one can ever come close to the sacrifice you and he made for us—you in giving over your son to death and Jesus for dying for our sins. Please give me the strength to overcome the temptations of the devil this week.

You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. In addition to regular weekend Masses at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday evening, and 8:00 a.m. (Spanish) and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, we have Mass on Wednesday and 12:00 noon and Stations of the Cross on Friday at 5:30 p.m. God Bless You.

Obituaries.....

Tomas Gomez, Sr.

Tomas Gomez Sr., age 78, died March 1, 2001 at his home in Brackettville. He was born May 28, 1922 on the Gaebler Ranch near Spofford, Texas. He was a lifelong resident of Kinney County. He was preceded in death by his father and mother Fernando and Francisca H. Gomez and his sister Gregoria Cruz and husband Camilio.

He served his country during World War II as Technician Fifth Grade with the 804th Tank Destroyer Battalion. He received an honorable discharge from the Army in December 1945.

On January 9, 1947, he married Pasqua Garcia of Brackettville. In January 1951, he went to work on the West Pinto Ranch, Kinney County where he reared his family and served as ranch foreman for almost fifty

years.

Mr. Gomez is survived by his wife of fifty-four years, Pasqua Gomez. Sons, Tomas, Jr. and wife Honeybee, and Johnny of Brackettville, Leonardo and wife Elsa Gomez of New Braunfels. Daughters, Margaret Wright and husband Johnnie of Leomister, Mass., and Mary Ward and husband, Douglas of Brackettville. Grandchildren Carlos, Tommy, Cassandra and Cristiana Gomez, Douglas, Jr., and Tommy Ward, all of Brackettville, and Andrea and Lisa Wright of Leomister, Mass., and great-grandson Jared Wright. Sister Victoria Cruz and husband Antonio, brothers Candido and Idelfonso Gomez and wife Santos of Brackettville, also numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Visitation was on Sunday, March 4, 2001, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Monday, March 5,

2001, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at his residence 104 Sweeney, Brackettville, Texas. The rosary was at 7 p.m. both nights. The mass was on Tuesday, March 6, 2001 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. Burial followed at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Cemetery. Military honors were conducted by the Ft. Sam Houston Honor Guard and San Felipe Del Rio Honor Guard.

The pallbearers were Leonardo Gomez, Rom Gomez, Jr., Carlos Gomez, Tommy Gomez, Jimmy Bader, and Pete Bland. Honorary Pallbearers were Joe "Boy" Williams, Joe Kelly, Domingo Vill-arreal, Jr., Camilo Cruz, Jr., Armando Cruz, and Pete Salas.

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Sandi Kay Wills

Sandi Kay Wills passed away, while surrounded by family, on Thursday morning March 1, 2001 at the age of 49.

She was born May 5th, 1951, in Norman Oklahoma, to Malcolm F. Crowder and Lorene Crowder.

She was an active craftswoman who enjoyed quilting, pottery, dollmaking, painting and making jewelry.

She was preceded in death by her father Malcolm F. Crowder and son Thomas Bryan Gidge.

She is survived by her husband Richard Wills, of Laredo.

Her mother Lorene Crowder, of Tow, Texas. One brother Don Crowder and wife Dana, of Tow, Texas. One sister Sherry Lopez and husband Jose, of San Antonio, Texas.

Two daughters Genie Robinson and husband Wes, of Brackettville, and Carolyn Hayes of Round Rock, Texas. Two sons Bryan Ray Gidge, of Dallas, and Jeffrey Braidon of Lubbock.

A memorial service was held Monday March 5, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. at the Brackettville Funeral Chapel. A private family burial followed in Del Rio. Arrangements were under the direction of the Brackettville Funeral Home.

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Church of Christ
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Sunday A.M., 9:30 Classes - 10:30 Worship
Sunday P.M. 1:30
Wednesday P.M. 6:30 Classes
Minister: Ray Melton

God Created the Church to be a Family for ALL His Children.
Sunday Schedule: SONrise Service at 8:00 am
Bible School at 9:30 am
Choir Practice at 10:15 am
Worship at 10:45 am
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, "HOME AWAY FROM HOME"
Child care available upon request. 563-2823

Thank you
The family of Tomas Gomez Sr. would like to express all their heartfelt thanks to family, friends and neighbors; who have shown their support and prayers during this time of sorrow. The family also wishes to thank all the doctors and nurses including the wonderful Hospice care he received. Again thanks to all and God bless you all.
The Gomez Family

First Baptist Church (SBC)
Corner of Ann and Veltman
Pastor: R. D. Holloway 563-2245
Sunday: Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.
Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study

ADOPTION

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

A HAND TO HOLD - throughout all of the ups and downs in your baby's life. We can't wait to be parents! Call Jamie and Bobby at 1-800-866-2042.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ATTENTION! 29 PEOPLE needed. Work from home, part-time or full-time, \$25-\$75 per hour. Mail Order, will train. Call toll free. HB International 1-877-775-6726.

A NESTLE ROUTE. Up to \$2,700/month (realistic). 25 vending sites. No competition. - 16 hours/month. \$9,625 cash investment required. 1-800-268-6601 (24 hours).

GROWING BUSINESS NEEDS help! Work from home. Mail-order/e-commerce. \$522 + possible per week, part time. \$1000-\$4000 possible per week full time. www.HarvestOfDreams.com. 1-800-695-7906.

AMERICAN GREETINGS #1 card route. 40 proven locations, all local. Dependable income. National company. Call now, open 24 hours. (\$5k investment) Free information, 1-800-529-9407.

ATTENTION! 29 PEOPLE needed. Work from home, part-time or full-time, \$15-\$65 per hour. Mail Order. Call HB International 1-800-891-5197, www.ticket2cash.com.

GROWING BUSINESS NEEDS help! Work from home. Mail-order/e-commerce. \$522 + possible per week, part time. \$1000-\$4000 possible per week full time. C & H Marketing 1-800-686-7920.

M&M/WARS ESTABLISHED routes available. Minimum investment \$4800. Annual potential earnings over \$90k. 1-800-836-6991, 24 hours.

DRIVERS WANTED

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

DRIVER: COVENANT TRANSPORT: No CDL - No problem 1-800-806-5549 * Teams start up to 46 cpm * Owner Operators/Solos .83 cpm * Teams .88 cpm. Experienced drivers: 1-800-441-4394, Owner Operators: 1-877-848-6615, Graduate students: 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVER - IT PAYS to start with us. Call SRT today 1-877-244-7293 or 1-877-BIG-PAYDAY. *Great pay *Paid weekly *Excellent benefits *New equipment *\$1,250 sign-on bonus *Student graduates welcome. Southern Refrigerated Transport.

DRIVERS AND OWNER/operators wanted for various runs! CDL training available! Tuition reimbursement up to \$5,000. Swift Transportation, www.swifttrans.com. (eoe,m/f) 1-800-284-8785.

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.

TRUCK DRIVERS OTR 2-3 weeks. Solo and teams - Good miles, pay, excellent equipment and benefits. One year OTR experience required. Gulf Coast Transport, 1-888-988-8666.

DRIVERS - CFI HIRING OTR drivers. Company/student/owner operators. Company with one year experience start at \$.32 cpm. Owner/Operators start at \$.86 all miles (w/fuel surcharge). Also ask about our 2-week spouse training program in an automatic transmission truck. Call 1-800-CFI-DRIVE.

DRIVERS GET REAL! Real pay, real miles, real people. 2-hour approval. Company paid medical for driver. Obtainable bonuses. Class-A CDL required. Continental Express 1-800-727-4374.

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.

DRIVERS: OWNER/OPERATORS. Fleetwood Transportation is now leasing. Great lease package, we can help you loaded. Also need company drivers. 1-888-276-9923, www.ftwd.net.

DRIVERS: REGIONAL RUNS (70% Texas), \$600-\$800 weekly and benefits, more home time. (Weekly on regional), 6 months experience needed. Harold or Troy at National Freight. 1-800-666-0380.

DRIVERS: SOLOS UP to .45 cpm, 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.

Answer to Crossword Puzzle

CADET CAFE MOBS
ALIVE ATON ADIT
KOREA MORSECODE
EEE PEEP NARES
BOWL THAW
DELETE GUAM COP
ELIA MONTE ALA
ALEUTIANISLANDS
RIN ARLES GOES
SSS PIER SERENE
MESS PITA
SENIOR WASH MIA
PRESSURED EJECT
AIRE REAIR ROMEO
REDS NONE STORM

DRIVER TRAINING

DRIVE THE BIG trucks! Earn the big \$\$\$! No experience necessary! 14 day CDL Training! Franklin College CDL Driver Training School 1634 South Cherry Lane Fort Worth, Texas 76108. Call 1-800-817-5137.

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.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

500FASTCASH.COM - SHORT TERM loans up to \$500.00! We want your business! To apply: 1-888-990-2274. Loans by County Bank, Rehoboth Beach, DE (FDIC), Equal Opportunity Lender.

A BAD DAY is being in debt! Lower your payments and interest immediately and confidentially. Call ACCC now at 1-888-BILL-FREE, www.billfree.org. Non-profit.

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

FCS MOBILE HOME - clean, 3 bedroom, fully furnished, new a/c unit, call (830)-563-2919 or (210)-682-4225.

FOR RENT OR sale, closed in travel trailer, nice and warm. \$50 deposit, \$150 rent or can be bought reasonable 830-563-2866.

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

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

1985 R.V. SOUTHWIND, 27 ft., 28,000 miles new a. c., tires and batteries. Sale or trade on place at Ft. Clark call (915)-520-8999 after 5:00 p.m.

1999 TOYOTA PRERUNNER TRD supercharged automatic, V6, extra cab loaded, too much to list 17K, \$21,500 obo. Call 563-5156 or 563-9335.

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.

MUST SALE! UNDELIVERED arch steel buildings. Factory Direct! Sizes include: 25x40, 30x60, 40x90, 52x128. Perfect for workshops/garages. Call 1-800-341-7007. www.steelmasterusa.com.

NEW SNYDER, TX brick plant now open. Buy direct and save! Call 1-915-573-1572.

The wood stork, also known as the wood ibis, is the only true stork native to the United States.

HELP WANTED

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

GENERAL RANCH WORKER, mechanic, equipment operator (dozer, tractor) needed for west Uvalde County ranch. Work independently with varied duties in a progressive operation. Will train the right person or consider part-time arrangement. Apply in writing to HCR 77 Box 275B, Uvalde, Texas, 78801 or fax to 830-279-0661.

AMERICA'S AIR FORCE. Jobs available in over 150 specialties, plus: *Up to \$17,000 enlistment bonus *Up to \$10,000 student loan repayment *Prior service openings. High-school grads age 17-27 or prior service members from any branch, call 1-800-423-USA or visit www.airforce.com.

AVON - LOOKING for higher income? More flexible hours? Independence? Avon has what you're looking for. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053. No up-front fee.

CLAIMS PROCESSOR! PROCESS claims from home. \$20-\$40/ hour potential. Full training. Computer with modem required. Call now! Medicor, LLC 1-888-568-7649, ext. 699.

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.

EXCELLENT INCOME, FLEXIBLE hours. Doctors need your help processing insurance claims. Complete training and long term support. Computer required. Reputable. (\$329 fee) www.eMedClaims.org, 1-877-777-4608.

UP TO \$45,000 per year. No experience needed, we train. Must own computer and modem. Doctors need people to process medical claims. Call 1-888-689-1560, ext. 5073.

HOMES FOR SALE

CUSTOM BUILT HOME in the Oaks on Las Moras Creek, 2215 sq. ft. living, 4/3/2, 9ft. ceilings, isolated master bedroom, Sprinkler system, call 563-9655 or 563-5331.

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.

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.

LEGAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: HIP REPLACEMENT problems! (Sulzar Orthopedics) Grossman & Waldman 1-800-833-9121. Free confidential consultation. Board certified - Personal injury. No fees or expenses if no recovery. Houston - Principal.

LOST

Lost for over three weeks; from area of Gove, Edwards and Thomas Street. White male Chihuahua puppy, blue collar with bell. Reward offered for his return. 563-2291

REAL ESTATE

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

- On Airport Rd. 3 bed, 2 baths, glass-in room with hot tub, 2 carport, tool and golf cart shed, gas insert fireplace, 2209 +- sq.ft.
- 2 bed, 2 baths, fireplace, modern kitchen, attached screened room with hot tub, wet bar, 2 storage bldgs.
- Reduced in price commercial lots
- 1 bed, small art room, 2 baths, brick home, garage, all appliances. RV on adjacent lot optional.
- 10 acres on Hwy. 90 with 3 bldgs. will sell separately.
- Efficiency 1 bed, furnished townhouse, great buy.
- Golf course lots. Airport Rd.

MISCELLANEOUS

A WONDERFUL FAMILY experience. Scandinavian, German, European, South American, Asian exchange students attending high school arriving August. Become a host family/AISE. Call 1-800-SIBLING. www.aise.com.

EARN YOUR COLLEGE degree quickly! Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate, by correspondence based upon prior education, experience, and study course. Free catalog, Cambridge State University 1-800-964-8316. 24 hrs.

GOT A CAMPGROUND membership or timeshare? We'll take it! Also timeshare rentals needed. America's most successful resale clearinghouse. Resort Property Resales, 1-800-423-5967 - Toll free. www.resortsales.com.

REAL ESTATE

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

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

• Unit 15, Lot 135, owner will finance with 20% down.
• Nice home on the parade grounds, 2 story, \$80,000

- New listing at 302 Fort St. in Brackett, 2 lots, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, and has a well on the property.
- Santa Fe style extra large master bedroom, very nice, in the Oaks, \$135,000.
- Large home excellent for a luxury hunting headquarters 7,100 sq.ft.

LOCKHART REAL ESTATE

DEBBIE TRANT BARBARA VOSS
830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

Spacious 2/2 home in "the Oaks," fireplace, large master bed, screened porch, wonderful view of the creek!

Lovely 2/2 home, office/workshop, private patio, covered RV parking, sprinkler system. Beautiful furniture included. A steal at \$79,000!

Unit 35, 2/2 Palm Harbor, 16'X70', large workshop/storage area, patio, carport, RV hook-up, choice corner lot!
View listings at: www.brackettville.com/realestate

La Fortuna Ranch Sales Phyllis & Les Meyer
615 Hwy 90 East 830-563-9911

- *Two Large Historical Stone Homes (FCS)
- *Beautiful - 2/2 home, with carport 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 years old.
- *In the Oaks, very nice home on 2 oak covered lots.

Kinney County Ranches: 80, 1825, 2000 & 10,000 acre available now + Other South Texas Ranches

TRAVEL/VACATION

FLORIDA'S NAVARRE AND Ft. Walton beach. Uncrowded beaches near Destin, Ft. Walton and Pensacola attractions and restaurants. Budget rates on luxury beachfront condominiums. www.navarrerresorts.com, 1-800-787-6206.

PANAMA CITY BEACH. Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort from \$49.00 (1-2 p.m. arrive Sunday/Monday - Free night, 4/1/01-5/25/01 with restrictions.) Pools, river ride, suites, and bar. 1-800-488-8828. www.sandpiperbeacon.com.

WANTED

ARE YOU LOOKING for daytime child care? Monday - Friday, full day \$15. After school \$5. Transportation available. Brandi 563-9227.

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

FAX IT FAST!!
Phone: (830) 563-2852
Fax: (830) 563-9538

Living in a house that hears, then rebels

By Debbie Farmer
Contributing Writer

I have to type this column fast because, you see, I haven't got much time. Now, normally I can take as long as I like, leisurely typing a few words here and there in-between wandering around the house and gazing into the refrigerator. I can mull over my every word before I set it down on paper. But not today. Nuh-uh. You see, last week my husband finished filing our tax return and, in the heat of the moment, turned to me and said loudly, "Honey, I think we might be getting a refund this year".

"Shhhh!!," I hissed. "Don't you remember what happened the last time you said something like that?" I quickly clamped my hand over his mouth before the house could hear. I hoped maybe, just maybe, it had been preoccupied with things like settling and forming new cracks.

But, sure enough, the next day when I came home, the garage door opener wouldn't work. No matter how hard I pushed the button the door remained shut as if saying to me "just try to get into your house, lady. I dare you". So I did what any other intelligent,

educated person would do in my situation: I repeatedly hit the remote control against the side of the steering wheel.

Eventually my husband came home and we pried the door open, but I've been around long enough to know what this means. It won't be long before the other appliances catch on about the extra money being spent on the garage door and I'll be spending my days shopping for new bolts and wires and calling repairmen.

And if you don't believe me, just ask my neighbor Julie. Once her husband had briefly mentioned a Christmas bonus over dinner and, sure enough, the next day her dishwasher wouldn't start. And just as soon as they had that fixed, the upstairs plumbing started leaking and the furnace gave out.

My friend Tina made the mistake of announcing that she was going to put part of her new pay raise away for a cruise. Then the next thing she knew her washing machine was overflowing and seeping into the living room underneath her new carpet.

On the other hand my friend Jenny is careful to never mention extra money out loud and she's lived in the same house for ten

years without so much as replacing the heat filter.

So, even though I was careful not to mention anything about the new garage door opener within earshot of the rest of the house, I wasn't too surprised when the heat mechanism in my dryer went out the next day. Or when the vacuum cleaner belt broke.

But when I went to pick up my daughter from school and the car wouldn't start, that was the last straw.

When my husband came home, I grabbed him by the collar. "Tell the house that you were only kidding about the tax r-e-f-u-n-d," I begged.

"What?" He eyed me suspiciously. "Have you been varnishing the wood furniture again?"

"Just do it! Quick!" I let out a crazy little laugh.

So far, it's been two hours since anything has broken, refused to move or made funny noises. Oh, I realize our appliances don't really know when we have extra money, and it's only just a coincidence that they're breaking down at once. But I'm not taking any chances. I'm typing this column as fast as I can - just in case my computer catches on.

Using education IRAs to boost college savings

By Lucy Medrano
Contributing Writer

(Austin, TX) Although children get welcome breaks from school during the summer and holidays, parents cannot afford to take a break from college savings. The Texas Society of CPAs (TSCPA) points out that one way parents can boost their college savings is by taking advantage of Education Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs).

Despite the name, Education IRAs have little to do with retirement savings. Instead, these IRAs offer qualified taxpayers a tax-smart way to save for future college education expenses of their children or other beneficiaries. Earnings in education IRAs accumulate tax-free and there is no tax on withdrawal if the money is used for qualified education expenses. Unlike some IRAs, though, contributions are not deductible.

Contributions to Education IRAs must be made in cash before your child (or another beneficiary) reaches age 18. You can set up

Education IRAs for as many beneficiaries as you choose, so parents who are saving for the higher education costs of more than one child can reap a greater benefit. Total contributions per beneficiary cannot exceed \$500 in any tax year. It's wise to make sure you don't inadvertently exceed this limit. There's a six percent excise tax for contributions that exceed \$500 in any given tax year.


Don't forget that Education IRA savings can be used only for qualified higher education expenses. These include tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment. Expenses of room and board qualify only if your beneficiary is at least a half-time student at an eligible educational institution. Room and board is limited to the school's designated room, and board charge for students living on campus or \$2,500 each year for students living off campus and not at home. You also should be aware that distributions in excess of qualified expenses may be considered taxable income and may be subject to a 10 percent additional tax.

Unfortunately, not everyone can

take advantage of the benefits of Education IRAs. The provisions allowing contributions to an Education IRA are phased out for taxpayers whose AGI is between \$95,000 and \$110,000 if single, and between \$150,000 and \$160,000 if married filing jointly.

Education IRA balances must be distributed by the time a student reaches age 30. The earnings portion of the distribution must be included in the beneficiary's gross income. So if your child decides not to attend college or any other postsecondary school for which you have set aside funds, your child will face a 10 percent penalty on the amount withdrawn, if not used for qualified education expenses. One way to avoid this penalty is to roll over the balance tax-free into a new Education IRA for another member of the original beneficiary's family.

If you meet the income thresholds and other requirements, you can work with a CPA to decide whether the Education IRA should be part of your college savings strategy or if you should invest in other savings vehicles.


 **Texas Department of Transportation**

Public Notice

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will hold a public meeting to discuss the 2002-2004 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) encompassing Val Verde, Maverick, and Kinney Counties.

TxDOT is proposing the three year TIP and is requesting input from the public on these roadway improvement projects. This public meeting will be held at the TxDOT Training Room located at 319 East Gibbs in Del Rio at 6:00 p.m. on March 20, 2001.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Jo Ann E. Garcia, P.E. Director of Transportation Planning and Development for the Laredo District at (956) 712-7441.

 **Texas Department of Transportation**

Anuncio Publico

El Departamento de Transportacion del Estado de Texas (TxDOT), llevar a cabo una Junta Publica para hablar acerca de el Programa de Mejoramiento del Transporte (TIP - Transportation Improvement Program) para los anos 2002-2004 referente a los condados de Val Verde, Maverick y Kinney.

TxDOT esta proponiendo mejorar ciertos caminos y necesita conocer la opinion del publico acerca de estos proyectos. Esta junta publica se llevara a cabo en la oficina de juntas del Departamento de Transportacion de Texas (Del Rio) ubicada en 319 East Gibbs in Del Rio, Texas a las 6:00 p.m. el Martes 20, de Marzo, 2001.

Si usted tiene alguna pregunta o comentario acerca de esto, por favor comuniquese con Jo Ann Garcia, P.E. Director de Desarrollo y Planeacion de Transporte del Distrito de Laredo al telefono (956) 712-7441.