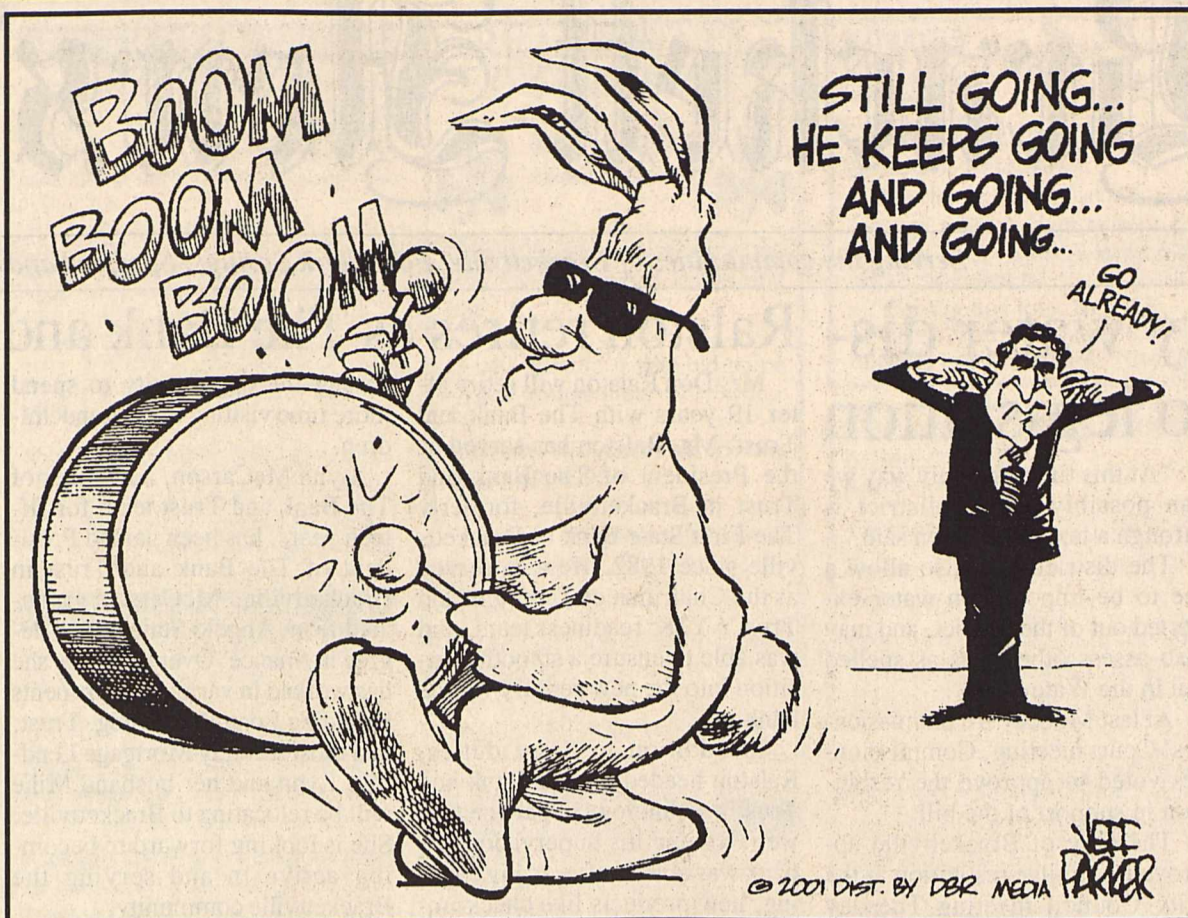


I'm The Second Charles Hall

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

I used this as a title for a recent column but someone, somewhere didn't like it and changed it. I liked it so I'll use it for this article. If it gets changed again, that's ok, I'll just submit it for the next week's piece. I'll keep sending it until it gets used. In case you never noticed, I'm so hard headed that by one method or the other, I get my way. I'm not hard to get along with. All I ever ask is that everything always goes my way. Since this is about me, let me talk about me. I'm writing, so again, I get my way. It's good to have a weekly space in the paper. Back to me. I'm over weight again. Or maybe I'm just too short. And I give the phrase out

of shape a whole new meaning. I am definitely not in shape. Or maybe not. Oval is a shape isn't it? I guess I'm what you might call, nutritionally speaking, an overachiever. I just like to eat. Food does wonders for my personality. Makes you wonder what I'd be like if I didn't eat, doesn't it? Thank heaven for elastic. Elastic clothes and elastic skin. I once bought a book for \$20.00 on how to lose weight. After about a week a friend asked me, "How much have you lost so far?" All I could truthfully answer was "\$20.00." Now quickly back to the title. I'm the second Charles Hall? If I gain any more weight there might be enough of me for two. I'll be the second one. But I could be wrong.



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,
The Fort Clark Days Fiesta last weekend was a great success. Anita and I have been around here for the last ten years and this was the best ever. Our compliments go to Larry and Jan Peck who coordinated things and to all the many volunteers who made it go so well. Many thanks for your hard work and perseverance.

I'm sure there are a few old grouches around who didn't like it, there always are. We are all volunteers and amateurs so nothing is ever perfect but it sure is fun. The time of year was great and the weather cooperated. We look forward to next year's celebration. God be with you and thank you again.

Sincerely,
Don and Anita Smith

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. All writers must provide proof of identity. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

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The Clintons just won't go away

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

I am sooooo tired of the Clintons and their half-wit antics. If it isn't Bill selling pardons, it's Hillary's brother getting paid big bucks to use his influence with Bill; and I would bet diamonds to sand that Bill was getting a piece of the action. The whole bunch of them combined don't have an honest cell in their bodies. And to make it worse, every time one of this rat pack gets caught at something crooked or questionable, the rest of them are (gasp) shocked and appalled. Hillary is either the dumbest woman on the face of the earth, strolling through life oblivious to everything and everyone around her, or she's the ringleader of the gang. She claims that she hasn't, for the last ten years that we know of, known about any of the criminal activities going on around her. Now she says of this latest scandal, she was just passing envelopes, but didn't open them, and didn't ask what was in them. If she is really that naive she has no business being a senator. Even a half-trained mule would have begun to get suspicious by now. However, we all know that it is a bald-faced lie. She is simply setting up, as the polytickall (multiple blood-sucking parasites) set calls it, plausible deniability. She's a crook like the rest of them. She's

just smart enough and protected enough to keep from getting caught red-handed. Bill is motivated by only two things - sex and attention. Hillary is also motivated by two things - power and money. Bill has to be the center of attention. And what do you think the 100 plus visits to the White House by Denise Rich, while Hillary was away campaigning, were for, tea? Hillary doesn't care about the attention, but like a succubus she feeds on the power, and money begets power. If it happens behind the scenes, all the better. She lets Bill have center stage, and allows him to sate his other appetites, while she peddles power and influence from the sidelines. Everything we have seen from the Clintons for the last three years has been focused on only two purposes. One is trying to bleach the stains out of Bill's, so-called, presidential legacy. The other is an all out effort to make Hillary the first female United States president. Oh, there is one other purpose - to steal and pilfer as much money and property as possible from the American People. These two have no marriage; they have a business agreement. They lied, cheated, stole, and probably, if you believe the statistics, murdered their way to the top of the American political scene and they intend to stay there by doing whatever it takes

- no holds barred. As far as they are concerned, their only gospel, and the only rule they play by is "the end justifies the means." I had hoped that when the presidential election was over we had heard the last of the Clintons. I am sorry that I was wrong. It seems that we may never hear the end of this villainous gang of crooks. It wouldn't surprise me if someday they rank right up there with the Wild Bunch, the James Gang, and Bonnie and Clyde. Come to think of it, at least Bonnie and Clyde were honest and forthright about being criminals. Since Bill is out, and Al lost the election, the Demos should have received the message. They need to clean house and find someone of stronger moral fiber to be their spokesperson, if there is still such a person in their party, which I am beginning to doubt. I hope this is the last article I ever have to write in which the name Clinton is mentioned. But I don't expect this to come to pass. Like a bad virus or an incurable social disease they seem to refuse to go away. A large, healthy dose of good, old-fashioned Gospel in our government would solve the problem, but the Supreme Court has already outlawed that. I guess our only other alternative is fervent prayer, but not at high school sporting events, that's illegal too. Makes me proud to be an American! Romans 1:16,17 - I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

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Tax relief for all Americans

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

Wouldn't you like to decide how to spend your money - rather than have the federal government decide for you? I know I would. Congress is working with the President to give back some of the overpayment you made when you filed your federal taxes. President Bush has proposed a tax relief package that provides across the board tax cuts to all Americans. That means if you pay taxes, you get money back. This past week, the House of Representatives passed a part of the President's overall plan for tax relief: the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Act of 2001. I was pr-oud to fight for this bill. We are now one step closer to giving \$958 billion in tax relief back to hard working Americans.

Specifically, the tax relief plan consolidates the five current tax rates into a simplified structure of four lower rates. Instead of the current 15, 28, 31, 36 and 39.6 percent brackets, this bill creates a new low tax bracket of 10 percent, then 15, 25 and 33 percent as the new highest rate. No one should ever have to pay more than a third of their income to Uncle Sam. And lower income Americans shouldn't have a sixth of their paychecks go right to Washington. This is tax relief that will help everyone. To give an added boost to the economy, and especially to help lower income Americans, the President's plan makes tax relief retroactive to January 1st of this year for the lowest tax bracket. President Bush's plan even takes six million Americans off the tax rolls altogether. It is a fair and balanced proposal that will certainly benefit hard-working Americans and offer them more flexibility on how they want to spend their money. This legislation gives back some of what you overpaid to the government so you can get a new washer and dryer or get your children new school clothes or even pay some of the college tuition. The bottom line is that it's your money. You can spend it much better than anyone in Washington, D.C. I feel certain this will be the year that we provide tax relief to all Americans. The president and leaders in Congress are trying to reach out to the opponents of our plan in order to foster a bi-partisan agreement without compromising the needs of you, the taxpayer. You deserve a refund. You overpaid your bill and received no change. Tax relief is the least we can do to correct the current injustice.

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Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, March 5
 3:00 p.m., Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter, responded to a 911 call, of a woman who was trying to take a child without permission.
 5:57 p.m., Reserve Deputy Manuel Pena Sr., reported ten to twenty goats near a ranch on FM 131 south.
 8:24 p.m., DPS Trooper Tony Ashley, reported a man walking on Hwy 90 west, by Standart Lane. Deputy Karl Chism was advised and turned the individual in to the Border Patrol.
Tuesday, March 6
 3:26 a.m., San Antonio Police Department reported a disoriented man who they had in custody because of his condition. Deputy Chism advised them to contact the Veterans Hospital so he would be treated.
 7:30 a.m., A local man reported the windows of his Dodge truck had been shot at with a BB gun.

9:00 a.m., John Freeman Jr., 50, of Fort Clark, was arrested for stalking by Sheriff Buddy Burgess. Freeman was released the same day on PR Bond.
 6:22 p.m., Constable Cordelia Mendeke responded to a call from security link that the alarm was on. The boys locker room door was unlocked but the building was empty.
 7:30 p.m., Jose Navarez Garcia, 17, from Del Rio, was arrested by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie for possession and delivery of marijuana. Garcia is still being held.
 7:30 p.m., Mario Alberto Moreno, 17, from Del Rio, was arrested for possession and delivery of marijuana by Trooper Wylie. Moreno is still being held.
Wednesday, March 7
 3:28 p.m., A 911 call was made of seven illegals on FM 131, 3 miles from the Kinney County line. The Border Patrol was in-

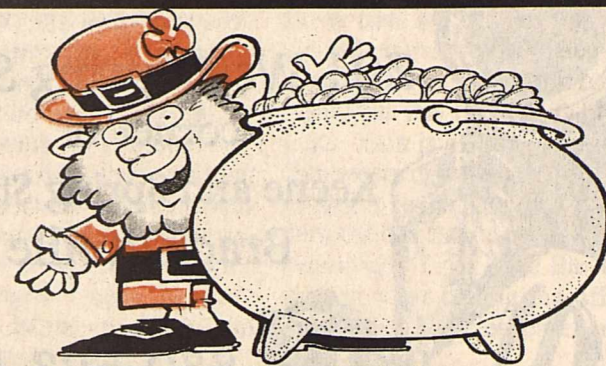
formed of the situation.
 6:00 p.m., Benito M. Vann, 46, from San Antonio, was arrested for DPS warrants by DPS Trooper Flores. Vann was released on Saturday for time served and cash paid.
Thursday, March 8
 11:30 a.m., A man reported a roll over 5 miles east on Hwy 90. Texas Department of Transportation was called to block traffic and EMS arrived but there were no injuries.
 1:39 p.m., Cordelia Mendeke reported a stranded suburban with a blowout, 12 miles west of town. DPS Trooper Ashley responded.
 7:00 p.m., A local woman called to report two men who were possible illegals that wanted to use her phone. Deputy Chism responded to the call.
 10:15 p.m., A resident from Fort Clark reported a man had harassed her daughter and wanted a deputy to talk with him, but if it

happened again she would file charges. Deputy Pena responded.
Friday, March 9
 5:55 a.m., A local man reported three horses that were loose headed south by the wool house area. A city employee was notified.
 3:56 p.m., A 911 call was made of an 18 wheeler driving recklessly on Hwy 90. Deputy Pena responded to the call.
 10:33 p.m., A call was made about an accident with an 18 wheeler on Hwy 90 east of town. Deputy Chism was notified.
Saturday, March 10
 2:16 p.m., A United States Border Patrol Agent, reported a pick-up had gone through the side of the fence on Hwy 90, there were no injuries. DPS Trooper Richard Slubar responded.
 2:20 p.m., Trooper Slubar was responding to an accident near the Cline checkpoint. He radioed Deputy Pena to check on a vehicle

near Fritter Park.
 3:30 p.m., A local woman reported two vehicles driving fast and recklessly. Deputy Pena was advised.
 3:56 p.m., A report was made of an 18 wheeler driving recklessly. Deputy Pena located the driver and everything was o.k.
 7:18 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to a two vehicle accident on FM 674 and Thomas Street. Deputy Pena called Trooper Wylie to take care of the investigation.
 8:14 p.m., There were was a 911 call from a local store, but there was no response. Deputy Chism was dispatched.
 11:56 p.m., A call from a local woman reported loud music that was being played. Deputy Chism responded to the call.
Sunday, March 11
 6:50 a.m., A Fort Clark resident requested an officer to talk to the woman who was bothering her. Trooper Slubar responded.

6:21 p.m., A call was made to the Sheriff's Office of some juveniles riding the school lawnmower. Deputy Pena was advised.
 7:51 p.m., A 911 call was made of a possible intoxicated driver on Hwy 90 east of town close to Fritter Park, driving a white Oldsmobile Cutlass.
 8:15 p.m., The Cline Checkpoint advised the Sheriff's Office of a intoxicated driver on Hwy 90, east of town.
 11:30 p.m., Manuel Morales Jr., 37, from Del Rio, was arrested for DWI 2nd offense by Trooper Wylie. Morales is still being held.
 11:30 p.m., Ricardo Diaz, 35, from Plainview was arrested by Trooper Wylie for P.I. Diaz was released the next day for time served.
 11:30 p.m., Riegosa J. Martinez, 28, from Mexico, was arrested for no Driver's License and insurance by Trooper Wylie. Martinez is still being held.

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Working through the trials of step-parenting

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"You can't tell me what to do," said thirteen year-old Yvette to her stepfather John. "You are not my Father." Her tone of voice was hostile. Turning to her mom, she continued, "Why do I have to do

as he says, Mom?" she questioned. "I don't like him. I wish he would go away."

Yvette was voicing what most children of second marriages say every day. Fortunately, John responded calmly and with loving concern. John and Yvette's mother had talked at length about the step-

parenting role before their marriage and they had reached some conclusions.

John looked at his wife Joan and then with a pleasant smile he faced Yvette and spoke. "Yvette, your feelings about me are normal for any kid in your situation. You have a Father who loves you and I know that I cannot and should not ever try to replace him in your life. I will do everything in my power to see that your relationship with him is nurtured. Since I am not a threat to you and your Dad, the best that you and I can do is to learn to be great friends. You have five more years before you can leave home and be on your own. I will do everything in my power to make these next five years as pleasant as possible for you."

Joan spoke. "Yvette, your Dad and I and John have all agreed about the rules that have to be fol-

lowed. The rules are exactly the same here as they are at your Dad's and must be followed." Looking into Yvette's eyes Joan continued. "As soon as you pick up the clothes in your room we can go on to the mall as we had planned."

Step-parenting is one of the most difficult of relationships. Such relationships are born out of adult disagreement and conflict to begin with. The scars of those conflicts are not healed in the hearts of children. All too often the adults do not give themselves time to heal before they enter into new relationships. Most of the time outside help and counseling is needed for a good outcome.

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

F.C. members play Duplicate Bridge

Duplicate bridge was played Tuesday evening, March 6th, at Fort Clark Springs in the Gorgas Room. There were 8 1/2 tables and the Mitchell Movement was used. The winners in the East/West were: 1st- Sharon and Bob Boucher; 2nd-Evelyn Whitely and Ann Legg; and 3rd-Gertie Tra-

utwein and Ruth Potter. In the North/South were: 1st-Anne Watts and Ann Malin; 2nd-Rosetta Pingnot and Tina Banguess; and 3rd-Flo and Jim Stafford. Play was lively with a lot of competitive spirit. A good time was had by all especially the winners!

Mountain Laurel Garden Club gears up for Annual Flower Show

By Joyce Bergey
Contributing Writer

The Mountain Laurel Garden Club held its monthly meeting on March 8th at the Adult Center. Hostesses Esmeralda Luz and Bunny McLaren provided a delicious assortment of refreshments presented with a St. Patricks Day theme.

The program for the meeting was given by Farel, owner of The Love of Farel in Del Rio. She showed members a variety of unique Easter designs and decorations made and sold in her shop.

The Garden Club is gearing up for our annual Flower Show to be held at the Service Club on April 21st. Our theme this year is "A Pretty Flower is Like a Melody." Visitors will enjoy the sights of lovely arrangements coupled with a special song. Be sure to mark this date on your calendars and join us in this fun event. Admission and refreshments will be free! Our next meeting will be held on April 12th at the Adult Center. Everyone is invited to join us to view beautiful nature photos presented by Pat Sponholtz.

Fort Clark to host golf tournament

The 12th annual Las Moras Creek Invitational Golf Tournament at the Fort Clark Springs Golf Course has a full field of golfers entered.

The course is ready, the tournament committee is ready and prime weather has been ordered.

With a practice day on Friday, March 16 and 2 tournament days on Saturday, March 17th and Sunday, March 18th. The 88 two-man teams will be competing for \$13,000 + in prize money.

Three flights will tee off in a shot gun start starting at 8 a.m. and another three flights will tee off at 1 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday all flights will play another 18 holes making it a 36 hole contest. Awards will be made after play on Sunday.

In addition to the prize money, the golfers have an opportunity to

win 2 hole-in-one prizes. On Saturday, a hole-in-one prize of \$10,000 sponsored by the Fort Clark Springs Men's Golf Association will be held on hole number 18.

On Sunday, a brand new 2001 Chevrolet Silverado extended-cab pick-up will be sponsored by Jacinto Chevrolet for a hole-in-one on hole number 18. The Fort Clark Women's Golf Association will give players another opportunity with a closest to the pin contest on hole number 6.

The members of the Fort Clark Men's Golf Club thank all the golfers playing in the tournament and doubly thank all of the tournament sponsors whose names are listed on the billboard by the Fort Clark Golf Course club house. Their support not only makes this tournament possible but successful.

National Agricultural Week in Texas is next week

Every spring offers the country an opportunity to step back for a moment and say thanks for all their hard work during National Agriculture Week. This year it runs March 18-24.

"You don't have to work on a farm or ranch to be touched by agriculture every day," said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs. "It's easy to take for granted the abundant and safe food supply available to us every time we open our refrigerator or the plentiful supplies of clothes, furniture and plants to brighten our lives."

Agriculture is the second largest industry in Texas, generating \$80 billion in annual economic impact to the state. It produces about 16 percent of the gross state product. Nearly 80 percent of the total land area in Texas is in some type of agricultural production and Texas ranks first in the nation for the number of farms and ranches. True to its past, agriculture remains largely a family endeavor. In North Texas, the descen-

dants of Samuel Washburn have continued to farm and ranch on three properties settled by the Texan in the early 1880s. Chris Jones Farm, Heritage Hill and the Gene Washburn Farm are now carrying on the tradition, honored for 150 years continuous family ownership and agricultural production under the Family Land Heritage Program.

"This heritage represents everything that agriculture and the history of Texas is about," Combs said.

In a resolution passed at last Monday's Commissioners' Court meeting, Commissioners voted to officially recognize next week as National Agricultural Week, in Kinney County. The Commissioners' Court urges everyone in this area to learn more about the role of agriculture, and share the knowledge with the young people in the area and recognize the farmers, ranchers and their families who contribute so much to this county, this state, this nation and the world.

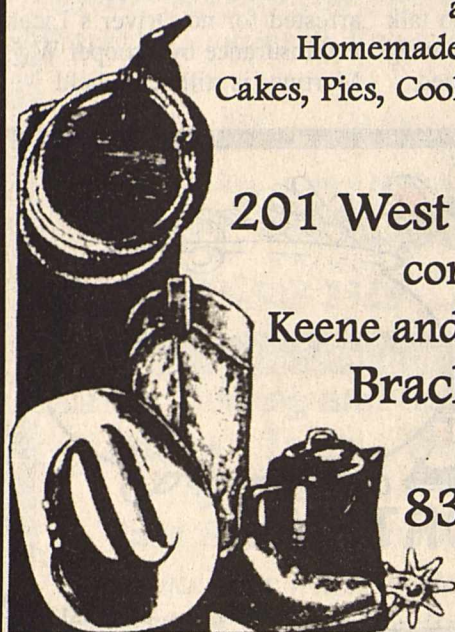
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Tigerette track races ahead once again Penny drive raises money, Open House a success

The High School Girls placed 3rd at the Carrizo Springs Track Meet on Saturday, March 10th.

In the 3200 meter, Nicole Mata - 5th, 800 meter, Ashley Smith - 4th, and Tammy Smith - 5th, 400 meter, Melinda Villareal - 2nd, 200 meter, Stacy Castilla - 6th, and in the 100 meter, Melinda Villareal - 2nd.

In the 300 Hurdles, Celeste Hill - 1st, Ashley Smith - 5th, and Tammy Smith - 6th, and in the 100 Hurdles Celeste Hill placed 1st. Cuddy De Los Santos, Tammy Smith, Celeste Hill, and Ashley Smith placed 5th in the 1600 Relay.

In the 800 Relay, Queta Garza, Sarah Meyer, Stacy Castilla, and Cuddy De Los Santos placed 4th. Queta Garza, Sarah Meyer, Stacy Castilla, and Cuddy De Los Santos placed 6th in the 400 Relay.

In the Field Events Melinda Villareal placed 2nd in the Triple

Jump and 1st in the Long Jump. Stacy Castilla earned 1st, and Celeste Hill earned 2nd in the High Jump.

The 8th grade girls placed 2nd at the Junior High Track Meet in Del Rio on Thursday, March 8th.

In the High Jump, Courtney Frerich - 1st; Long Jump, Vanessa Williams - 2nd and Davina Pena - 5th; Triple Jump, Vanessa Williams - 4th and Davina Pena - 5th.

In the 2400 Meter, Juliann Ashabranner - 3rd; 800 Meter, Juliann Ashabranner - 4th; 400 Meter, Davina Pena - 1st; 200 Meter, Vanessa Williams - 1st; In the 100 Meter, Vanessa Williams - 1st and Davina Pena - 3rd.

In the 300 Hurdles, Stephanie Bonner - 3rd, Courtney Frerich - 4th, 100 Hurdles, Stephanie Bonner - 1st and Courtney Frerich - 2nd. In the 1600 Relay, Davina Pena, Juliann Ashabranner, Stephanie Bonner, and Vanessa Williams placed 2nd.

The 7th Grade Girls placed 5th in the Del Rio Track Meet on Thursday, March 8th.

In the Shot Put event Tye Taylor placed 1st and in the Discus she placed 4th.

In the Long Jump, Ashley Castillo placed 6th; Triple Jump, Ashley Castillo and Timmeke Simmons tied for 6th place.

In the 800 Meter, Jessi Crane placed 6th; 400 Meter, Rachael Swinson placed 1st and Ashley Castillo placed 3rd.

Ashley Castillo placed 5th and Dana Bonner placed 6th in the 200 Meter. In the 100 Meter, Rachael Swinson earned 2nd.

In the 1600 Meter Relay, Timmeke Simmons, Ashley Castillo, Tanya Molinar, and Rachael Swinson placed 4th. In the 1320, Jessi Crane placed 5th.

Jessi Crane, Timmeke Simmons, Tanya Molinar and Dana Bonner placed 5th in the 800 Meter Relay.

Making A Difference By Taylor Stephenson

It's Spring Break in Brackettville. Students and staff are away from school this week resting and preparing for the last 10 weeks of school. Most students took the time off to rest, relax and enjoy their friends. I pray that this week will be a safe one. Students and staff have done a great job this year.

The Jones Elementary School Open House was a good one. Our school parking lot was completely full as students rushed to show off their work, and their teacher to their parents.

Attendance was outstanding. The halls were filled with Texas history facts mixed tastefully with pictures of the children. The older children had science fair projects to show off. Many teachers prepared food (chili) and gave samples to their visitors. This was an

evening to build community. It worked well. I'm proud of our teachers and Principal Renken for a job well done.

Jones Elementary had a penny drive that raised \$1,024.35 in just a couple of days for a project to be determined. I can't believe the pennies that were collected. The biggest task was counting and rolling the coins. They were working hard at getting this job done late Friday afternoon.

The UIL Play, "The Rocking Horse Winner" by D.H. Lawrence, directed by Kaylia Thomas, was well done.

The play was Brackett High School's entry for the One Act Play contest. The play was performed well for an audience this past Thursday evening. I was impressed with the play and with the young people who made up the cast and stage crew. Good luck this next week at UIL District Con-

test.

How about the Mountain Laurel flowers in Brackettville? The Bank has some of the best that I have seen. They are blooming all over town and at Fort Clark Springs. Take a trip outside to check out these fragrant flowers.

Fort Clark's Festival held this past weekend was very well planned (in my opinion). The brochure describing the events was classic and could be a collector's item. We were out of town for the weekend, but I know the attendance was good. Our 2nd Grade Classes were scheduled to perform in costume showing life in the frontier days. Our school bands also were to perform at the festival.

Initial principal interviews will begin on Monday, March 19. The committee has selected its first group of folks to interview. We're excited, and I know the applicants are. Have a great week.

Elementary students "Take a Look Back In Time"

In January, the students in Mrs. Melancon's, Mrs. Edgar's and Mrs. Fuentes' 2nd grade classes were informed that they had received a Texas Learn and Serve America Grant through ESC Region XIV & Region XX.

The grant has enabled the students to take "A Look Back in Time" to the 1850's through 1890's.

We appreciate the opportunity that this grant has given our students and community. Our preliminary research involved taking our children to the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio and the Fort Clark Museum to learn how children and their families lived.

The Institute's Back Forty enabled our students to experience first hand the life of the pioneer family at home, work, and school. We also saw how the military protected our area. Frank and Ruby Cheaney gave our students a tour of the Ft. Clark Museum and explained how the soldiers of Fort Clark protected our strategic location. Throughout the study many community members brought artifacts to our students to help them experience our history.

As the students studied our community's past they learned the fine arts of paper quilling and silhouette making. The students practiced such domestic chores as butter churning and washing clothes with the old-fashioned scrub board. They were most impressed that it took a family fifty buckets of water to do the weekly wash.

When we learned about children's toys from the past, we discovered that children did not have many toys. The children and

their parents made most of their toys from scraps and left over items. The students learned to make corn husk dolls just like children from long ago. Children of the past played many of the games that we still play today such as: marbles, hopscotch, leap frog, tag, and jump rope.

As a culmination of our project they showed their talents through demonstrations for the community at the Fort Clark Springs Festival. Students showed and explained how to churn butter, wash clothes, make corn husk dolls, play marbles, and paper quill. The students will continue this community project by creating a scrapbook of their "Look Back in Time" that will be presented to our school and county libraries later in the spring.

We would like to thank Frank and Ruby Cheaney, Rosie Mattingly, the Historical Society and the Old Quarry Society for all of their help with this project. We would also like to thank all the parents that allowed their children to participate in the demonstrations.

We would especially like to thank the parents that helped with costumes, props, and setup. They include Adriana Abraham, her mother Mrs. Abraham, Maggie Kerr, Sylvia Torres, Irma Rodriguez, Yolanda Rueda, ChaCha Stewart, Lynda Sanchez, and Corina Muniz.

This has been an extraordinary opportunity for the students to learn about and give back to the community.

We hope to have the opportunity to expand our "Look Back in Time" next year through the Texas Learn and Serve America Grant Program.



Students in Mrs. Melancon's class take a look back in time by making butter as it was done in the 1800s.

Thank You

To our family, to our friends, and to the people that we didn't even know—thank you for the love, the support, the plants and flowers, the calls, the unending supply of food and for all the little things as well. It is a wonderful gift to have such a caring community around us at a time like this. A very special thanks to Sandi's friends and former co-workers at the Rio Grande Electrical Cooperative for everything they have done in the past four years to help her and also for their friendship. The Cooperative never fails to lend a hand to the community—thank you all so much. Another special thanks to the men and women at CP&L, AEP, and West Texas Utilities for their overwhelming and much appreciated (not to mention much needed) show of support, thank you all. If anyone didn't get a copy of Sandi's Angel Biscuits or her Monkey Bread just email grobinson@the-i.net and a copy will be emailed to you. Sandi would have loved knowing that her favorite recipes were being shared enjoyed by her friends and family—and also knowing that no one will ever be able to make them turn out as good as she did.

Thanks to you all - from the family of Sandi Wills.

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- ACROSS
1 Network letters
4 Ermit a powerful beam
8 Fad
13 Boat builder
14 _ surgeon
15 Came to the rescue of
16 Part of the Louisiana Purchase: abbr.
17 Two-wheeled vehicle
18 Crow
19 Enticements
22 "There _ tavern in the town..."
23 State positively
24 Bright lights
26 Morays
29 React to pepper
32 Knowing
36 Get rid of
38 Heathen deity
39 Dip out water
40 Stories
41 Jellylike lump
42 Support
43 Made the wrong way
44 Cook's ingredient
45 Margarine
47 Design again
49 Plants with no root, stem or leaf
51 Homes
56 Tiny amount
58 Signature
61 Meat loaf ingredient
63 Deep wound
64 Something _; remarkable person
65 Weasel
66 This: Sp.
67 Sad-looking
68 _ out; falls asleep
69 Men's nicknames
70 Enzyme: suff. DOWN
1 Refreshing
2 Soothing ointments
3 Form
4 Find
5 Small _; suspect
6 Wrap-around
7 Singer/pianist
8 Start of a state capital
9 Narrow inlet
10 With due consideration
11 Final letters
12 _ St. Vincent Millay
13 "...when all through the house, _ creature..."
20 Christmas
21 Cardinals' homes
25 Horse's negative vote?
27 Heavy burden
28 Cake ingredient
30 Soar
31 River in Central Europe
32 Setting for Heidi
33 Distort
34 Worship
35 Disgust
37 Identical
40 Vehicle
44 Start of Hamlet's dilemma
46 Insurance company employees
48 Punctuation marks
50 Trims
52 Greek letter
53 Wooded valleys
54 Follow
55 Check
56 Winter fruit
57 Preposition
59 Heating chamber
60 Second-to-the-last file drawer, perhaps
62 Furniture wood

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: HEADWEAR
K D U A E P A H C T K K
B S S S E R D D A E H H
V A T A H P O T S N S O
S E S S R N A F G T O
O D I E E A T H R A A D
R S E L B E D X A L H E
E E W R N A B O C L A S
R O U N B O L B S O M T
B T O R N Y S L D N A E
M B D N T A M L C H N R
O F E Z D E W I G A A E
S T O U P E E P S T P B
1. Ten-gallon hat
2.
3.
4.
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6.
7.
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9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
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15.
16.
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20.

HOROSCOPES by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This isn't the week for you to take risks. Gambling and iffy investment schemes should be avoided. Over the weekend, take time to answer correspondence.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) As usual, your heart is in the right place. However, you're not applying common sense. Try not to let your emotions rule.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You find something you misplaced quite some time ago. While it's not a valuable object, it has some sentimental value. A co-worker is about to become more important in your life.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) You're quick with those stinging remarks. However, this is the week to bite your tongue. Once you say something, you won't be able to retract it easily.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You're pleased when your normal routine takes a new turn. On the job, you're quick and efficient. Apply this same attitude toward domestic chores this weekend.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Chance encounters lead to romance for singles. Others find renewed commitment and love. This weekend, get together with family members from afar.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You discover a new talent you never dreamed you had. Pursue this since it will bring you a great deal of joy. This weekend, you're quick to come to someone's aid.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your attractiveness serves you well this week. People flock to be near you. However, don't let this overly inflate your already healthy ego.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) It seems you can do no wrong this week. Everything you tackle is a success. Over the weekend, quiet, reflective times are best.
VIRGO (August 23 - Sept. 22) You experience a renewed sense of family commitment. Others take favorable notice of this. Later in the week, a phone call brings much information.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Sometimes, your life seems to be like one adventure after another. However, this isn't the time to take risks with your health. Later in the week, you settle down somewhat.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You have a tendency to try a bit too hard this week. Relax, and things come much more easily for you. Over the weekend, you feel content to just be with family.

Trivia Time by Walter Branch
1. What structures come in arch, beam, cantilever and suspension varieties?
2. What city joined Philadelphia as the main venue of the Live Aid concerts of 1985?
3. In what war did the bazooka make its debut?
4. What type of beverage did the U.S. double its intake of from 1970 to 1990, while tap water consumption decreased by half?
5. Who was the first West Point graduate to become president?
6. What "Cheers" character's beer bill at the end of 11 seasons totalled \$64,218 according to TV Guide?
7. What country planted sugar cane in Martinique in 1654?
8. What Caribbean country was taken over by Castro protegee Maurice Bishop four years before being invaded by the U.S.?
9. What title is traditionally reserved for the second son of a British sovereign?
10. What does a restaurant's sommelier serve?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15
16 17 18
19 20 21 22
23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31
32 33 34 35 36 37 38
39 40 41
42 43 44
45 46 47 48
49 50 51 52 53 54 55
56 57 58 59 60
61 62 63 64
65 66 67
68 69 70

Trivia Time Answers
1. Bridges; 2. London; 3. World War II; 4. Soft drinks; 5. Ulysses S. Grant; 6. Norm's; 7. France; 8. Grenada; 9. The Duke of York; 10. Wine

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Mar. 15.....George Martinez Mar. 18.....Emma Schiesler
Mar. 15.....Gregg Nowlin Mar. 18.....Charles Warren
Mar. 16.....Denese Bowers Mar. 19.....Ray Ashabranner
Mar. 16.....Stephen Foster Mar. 20.....Virginia Smith
Mar. 16.....Josie Pena Mar. 21.....Justin Coates
Mar. 16.....Taylor Pinnell Mar. 21.....Mary Lue Gonzalez
Mar. 17.....Jason Smith Mar. 21.....Irene Mata
Mar. 18.....Bruce Clements Mar. 21.....Michael Mellor

Roaring Twenties Solution:
1. Baseball cap 11. Pillbox hat
2. Beret 12. Scarf
3. Bonnet 13. Sombrero
4. Bowler 14. Tam
5. Chapeau 15. Ten-gallon hat
6. Derby 16. Top hat
7. Fez 17. Toupee
8. Headdress 18. Turban
9. Hood 19. Veil
10. Panama hat 20. Wig

Breaking the negative ties in your life

Gateway Ministries
Pastor Charolette Corey

"Evil communications corrupts good manners" (1 Cor. 15:33) or "Bad company corrupts good character." Whether it is "hanging out" with people who speak and do things that are ungodly or inviting into your living room or bedroom the foul language or violent behavior of actors on a TV screen or video game, you are still slowly but surely becoming desensitized to corrupt thinking.

When your senses are daily bombarded with the sounds of worldly chaos and calamity, your soul's only defense is to try to shut it out by "not feeling" the reality of the horror and abomination of it. As long as you feel the way God feels about it and call it what God calls it, you are safe, but when you start giving excuses for sinful behavior you open the door for it to come live at your house or in your heart.

Don't blame the teachers for not teaching your children compassion, righteousness, forgiveness, love and holiness if you are not exhibiting it in your own home. Your children do not own the place they live in. You pay the bills. They are required

to follow your rules whether they are sixty years old or six months old. As long as they live in your house and you are paying the bills, they must live under your house rules. Set those rules up under biblical commandments and live those commandments in front of them.

Pay attention to the company you keep, the words you speak, and the way you respond to difficult situations. Your children are watching you. If you are overcome by evil by responding with evil, guess how your children will respond. If you use scripture and overcome evil with good, your children will learn to do the same. (Romans 12:21) They will have a better chance of staying out of jail and staying alive.

Don't continue a family curse by simply giving in and saying "that's the way we've always done this." By staying in this rut you become yoked to the problem and captive to evil. (John 8:34) Jesus came to set the captives free. His word destroys yokes and breaks bondage. (Luke 4:18) Break the yoke in your life by choosing Godly communications and Godly company. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

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

Have you ever had a life-long friend? I do. He and I became friends as youth in our church. He was one year younger than I, but we seemed to hit it off as well as any two people could. In many ways we were opposites: he was loud, I was quiet; he was a risk-taker, I looked for assurance; he was cocky, I was unsure of myself. When we began to socialize together his traits began to rub off on me. I guess it was because he didn't see me as quiet, afraid of risk and low on self-esteem. Instead, he treated me as if I was every bit as worthy as he was.

Over the years we did just about every fun thing a pair of young men growing up could imagine. When I came home from college for weekends, we spent every available minute laughing and catching up. While I drifted away from the church, he kept me in touch with it through friends. When I got married, he was my best man. He was godfather to my first son. We spent untold hours planning and plotting on how to get rich together.

We lost touch with each other after a while. I moved to Milwaukee. He moved to New Orleans. His career was going great guns. My career was going meteoric. His marriage

failed, my family was growing. I had new friends and business associates and my old buddy was no longer in that grouping. I quit making time to include him in my life.

In 1991, for several reasons, we found ourselves in the same place at the same time. He was thinner, I wasn't. I had quit smoking, he hadn't. He was still cocky and I had become self-assured. Though over twenty years had passed since we were close, it was like we had never been apart. Our connection with each other never faltered even though we had not worked at it in such a long time. Even now, ten years later, we drift apart for a while and then reconnect. We work a little harder at staying in touch. His connection to me (and mine to him) seems to re-

main eternal regardless of how I abuse it.

In this way, my friend is like God. God never gives up on God's connection to each of us. God welcomes us back into God's family no matter how long we have been gone, no matter where we have been, no matter what we have done. God's love of us is eternal! It is we who give up and turn away, not God. In the gospel of Luke, we hear a parable from Jesus (Luke 13: 6-9) in which the owner of a fig orchard comes looking for the fruit of his investment after three years. Finding out that the fig trees haven't yet produced fruit, the owner intends to have them dug up and replaced. The gardener, who tends the orchard for the investor, suggests that they wait one

more year before deciding that the trees are barren. God deserves to find God's children fruitful, yet often they are not. The grace of God allows each of us another opportunity to claim our relationship with God and to act on that relationship in a fruitful way, by loving others and ourselves as God loves us.

Have you given up? Have you given up on those who were your friends? Have you given up on this world? Have you given up on God's invitation to relationship? Well, be assured God hasn't given up on you! We invite you to join us at First United Methodist Church Sunday at 8:00 am or at 10:45 am as we join together as seekers of fulfillment, trying to help each other find love and peace every day of our lives!

Lent: A time for Bible reading

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

Credit for the idea for my column must be given to someone else this week. Last weekend, as part of the Fort Clark Festival Days, the Voices of Fort Clark held an early morning worship service on Sunday. If you missed it, I am sorry, because Frank Eckenroth brought the message and he was very good. And it is to him that I must give credit for this article.

Frank spoke about reading the Bible and this is one of the things I intended to spend more time doing during Lent. It is something I like to do, but don't seem to do often enough.

I grew up in an era in the Catholic Church when Bible reading didn't seem to be the norm. I knew that the readings during Mass were from the Bible, but at that time the Mass was all in Latin and we followed along with prayer books, rather than the Bible as our Protestant friends did.

My husband grew up in a Protestant church and he has always been much more knowledgeable about the Bible. It was only as an adult when he was taking instructions in the Catholic Church and later when we were in a ministry study class, that I really began to read the Bible. And I found out something many people already know—it is absolutely the best reading there is!

We had a class with a priest years ago who used to set the scene for the Bible passage he was reading. He could really make you feel "on location" so to speak, with Jesus and His followers. I think those of us who stay in southwest Texas during the summer can identify with the hot, dusty weather found in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas when Jesus walked there. I can put myself in the crowd and pretend to be there in person listening to what Jesus had to say.

Frank challenged those of us in attendance on Sunday to spend more time reading the

Bible and I am glad he reminded me yet again of how the Lord speaks to me and gets me back on track. I am spending time reading the Bible in the morning before I read the newspaper.

Lord, thank you for once again speaking to me through one of your children. Help me to put Your Word first on my reading list and You first in my life. As we continue on through Lent, keep me mindful of the great sacrifices made for me and all mankind.

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

Let us be in reverent awe of God

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

Here is the question of the week. Since we are all God's children and he is a loving father. Why must we fear him?

Why must we be 'God fearing Christians?' This is going to be very difficult to explain. So, please bear with me.

One of the definitions for the word fear in Webster's dictionary is reverent awe, as of God.

So, let's think of ourselves as God reverent Christians, or God loving Christians, instead.

I like the idea of us having reverence for God, opposed to the idea of us fearing him.

God's word, the Holy Bible, makes reference to the word fear often. So, each time we read the word fear, let's think reverence instead. With that in mind, let's go to the Old Testament.

The Lord our God performed many miracles. (Joshua 4:24) "So that all the people of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so you might also fear the Lord your God." 2 Chronicles 19:7 says "Now, let the fear of the Lord be upon you. Judge carefully, for with the Lord our God, there is no injustice."

In the Psalms, David says "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him and he delivers them." (Psalm 34:7)

"Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you to fear the Lord." (Psalm 34:11)

"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous." (Psalm 34:15) "A righteous man may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from all of them." (Psalm 34:19) "The Lord redeems his servants, no one will be condemned who takes refuge in him." (Psalm 34:22)

In Psalm 111:10 David says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

Solomon in proverbs 1:7 said "The fear of the Lord is the be-

ginning of knowledge."

"To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness." (Ecclesiastes 2:26) "Fear God and reap his commandment, for this is the whole duty of man." (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

Now, let's look in the New Testament. Jesus talking about the Father, warned us, "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. But I will show you whom you should fear. Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has the power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you to fear him." (Luke 12: 4-5)

St. John wrote, "Dear friends, since God loved us, we also ought to love one another."

No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

God is love. Who ever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him.

There is no fear in love. (1 John 4: 7-21) To fear God is to love him and to love him is to fear him.

I leave you today, with this final bit of praise to God (1 Peter 1: 3-4) Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you.

In reverent awe, not fear, love God.

You can have eternal life

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

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his son.

He that hath the son hath life; and he that hath not the son of God hath not life.

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the son of God, that ye may

know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the son of God.

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us;

And if we know that he hear us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him. 1 John 5: 11-15.

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