

The Brackett News



Brackett vs. Junction here at 5:30 Friday

13th year, No. 30

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

3 Section, 22 Pages

Proposed county budget up 15.2 percent

The proposed Kinney County general fund budget totals \$2,317,833, up 15.2 percent, from this fiscal year's budget of \$2,012,243.

The constable's budget up 63.2 percent from \$21,261 to \$34,688. Salary was increased to \$19,788 from \$10,000, an increase of 97.9 percent. This increase was due to an interlocal agreement between Kinney County and Fort Clark Springs. Fort Clark Springs board of directors agreed at their last monthly meeting to pay the county \$52,500 a year for 60 working hours a week of law enforcement. Originally, commissioners planned to split the hours between the Sheriffs Department and County Constable. However, after a meeting with General Manager Maggie Kerr all parties decided it would be best to have service provided by the Sheriffs Department alone. The adjustments will be made at the September 10th budget hearing.

Other increases to the constable's budget included postage, supplies, auto repairs, law enforcement liability, vehicle insurance, and public official liability insurance.

The proposed EMS budget has increased 19.1 percent to \$225,168 from \$189,077. Telephone expense has increased 25 percent to \$4,000. Fuel expense has increased to \$4,100 from \$2,800, or 46.4 percent. Wages have increase 10.7 percent, which includes the new position of medical director. Vehicle insurance has increased 14.3 percent. Training and continuing education has increase 50 percent to \$3,000. \$17,215 of the total proposed increase is for an EMS training program that is expected to be taken over by Southwest Texas Junior College at no cost to the county. At last account the program was over

\$7,000 in the red for the current year.

The proposed library budget is up 5.9 percent from \$63,473 to \$67,193. Wages have increased 11.7 percent, which include a new position of part-time cataloger. Property and contents insurance has increased from \$1,300 to \$1,525.

The district court budget is up 5.1 percent, from \$37,623 to \$39,538. The District Attorney's salary is up 7.1 percent from \$12,216 to \$13,084.

The county agent's proposed budget is \$57,800, up 3 percent from \$56,119. Vehicle maintenance is \$1,100, up from \$532. Wages are up 2.6 percent.

The county attorney's budget is up 2.1 percent, from \$82,749 to \$84,489. Public official liability insurance has increased 22.9 percent. Wages increased 3.4 percent.

The county auditor's budget increased 4 percent. It includes wage increases of 3.7 percent and a 29.6 percent increase for seminars.

The justice of the peace's budget has increased 3.3 percent, from \$119,923 to \$123,834. The budget includes a 4.9 percent increase for wages.

The proposed sheriff's department budget is up 7.5 percent from \$568,331 to \$610,761. The majority of the increase is wages, up 12.3 percent, from \$278,522 to \$312,671, this includes a new position of Fort Clark Springs Deputy. All employees of the sheriff's department received a step increase, cost of living adjustment, and one advanced to pay grades. The sheriff only received a cost of living adjustment.

Continued on Page 7

Local talent to perform at Alamo Village next Monday

Local performers Patty Lopez and Jacquelyn Conoly will perform at Alamo Village's 41st Annual Labor Day Celebration and Cowboy Horse Race next Monday.

Rising Tejano singing star, Patty Lopez has lived in Brackettville all her life. Her parents Juanita and Ignacio Lopez own Lopez bakery. Patty started singing professionally at the age of 15. She has performed in Durango, Acuna, Monterrey, Zacatecas and many other towns in Mexico. Two years ago Patty started her own band "Patty y su Mileino" or "Patty's Millennium". They have been the opening act for many popular bands such as Intocable, Emelio, Pesado and Robert Earl Keen among others.

Patty and the Millennium will be releasing their first CD in the

next few months and are working on the new songs now.

Jacquelyn Conoly's, age 13, vocal accomplishments include performing at both the San Antonio and Houston Livestock Shows for the last two years. Other engagements include performing at the Kinney County Hunter's Roundup for the past two years and she has helped organize entertainment for the Annual Rotary Scholarship Fund-raiser.

Jacquelyn is the daughter of Stan and Lisa Conoly. She has lived in Brackettville her whole life and has been singing on stage since she was 10.

Everyone will have an opportunity to see these local performers on September 3 at Alamo Village. Alamo Village is located 7 miles north of Brackettville on FM 674.

New laws become effective September 1st

Daytime speed limit 75 miles per hour? That right!

House Bill 299 authorizes the Texas Transportation Commission to raise the speed limit to 75 miles per hour in counties with a population density of fewer than 10 people per square mile. Kinney County is one of the few to qualify. Dimmit, Duval, LaSalle, Real and Zavala are the other South Texas Counties that are included.

A later starting date for Texas students and no reduction in mandatory attendance days, means students most likely will be attending classes into June.

Senate Bill 108 requires all Texas public schools to begin their school year no earlier than the week in which August 21 falls.

Many new laws were adopted last spring by the Legislature and signed by governor Rick Perry. House Bill 5 along with the majority of the other laws will go into effect September 1st.

House Bill 5 bans open containers of alcoholic beverages inside vehicles. It has been illegal for motorists to drink and drive for years while passengers were allowed to imbibe, but not any more.

House Bill 63 increases the drivers license suspension period for a motorist who refuses to take a breathalyzer test and allows the peace officer to confiscate the motorist's drivers license.

House Bill 2250 imposes a felony for anyone while intoxicated who is convicted a second time for causing the death or injury of another person.

Senate Bill 215 increases the penalty for anyone who uses a motor vehicle to evade arrest.

Several new seat belt laws are coming into effect.

Senate Bill 399 increases the age limit to 18 for a child to ride in an open-bed truck and deletes the 35 M.P.H. limitation.

Senate Bill 1367 imposes a penalty for anyone who operates a motor vehicle without securing a child passenger in a safety seat system.

Senate Bill 113 increases the age limit to 17 for children to wear safety belts in a car or truck (exempts farm vehicles).

House Bill 1739 increases the penalty for child seat belt and safety seat offenses to a minimum of \$100 and to a maximum of \$250.

There are also several new laws governing DNA.

Senate Bill 1304 creates a missing persons DNA database at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Ft. Worth.

Senate Bill 3 establishes procedures for preserving the collection of DNA.

Senate Bill 1380 expands DNA collection to sex offenders and broadens the state registration to those who are required to register under federal law.

Senate Bill 638 expands the type of sexual offenses (like lewdness or indecent exposure) for which DNA can be collected.

And finally here are some of the new firearms laws.

House Bill 2784 authorizes DPS to maintain statistics on its website relating to convictions of persons licensed to carry concealed weapons.

Senate Bill 199 prohibits a person who is under a protected order or who is convicted of a domestic violence crime from possessing a firearm.

House Bill 84 imposes a third degree felony for a convicted felon to possess body armor.

Briefs ... Town Meeting

Brackett Independent School District invites the community to discuss their internet safety policy. The Town meeting will inform parents on measures to help safeguard students using the Internet at home and in the classroom.

What: Town meeting for community members to discuss Internet safety and steps to safeguard children while on the Internet.

Who: Facilitator, Frank Taylor, Technology Director
Where: Myrtle Higginbotham Hunt Library, 400 Ann St. Brackettville, TX
When: September 11, 2001 5:30 p.m.

Why: Brackett Independent School District is committed to providing an Internet-safe learning environment in our classrooms and with the "E-Rate" funds provided by the Government, students will be protected with Internet filtering software.

The Town Meeting will provide a forum for students, parents and educators to discuss how the Internet is used in the classroom and the measures that will be taken to protect students from inappropriate content online. Sample filtering software, provided by SurfControl, and Internet safety information handouts will be available to those attending the meeting. For more information on Internet filtering, visit <http://www.surfcontrol.com>.

Cavalry Brigade

The race is on for FCS's Community Council's "Cavalry Brigade" scheduled clean-up on Saturday, September 1st at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers congregate on the steps of Shafter Hall armed with garbage sacks, rags, windex, furniture polish, and trash pick-up sticks.

Besides the satisfaction of sprucing-up the cosmetic appearance of FCS, the volunteer is treated with a delicious free lunch and refreshments. There are jobs for all levels of physical abilities - you volunteer and the "Cavalry Brigade" will match you to an assignment of your choice. Come join the group for lots of fun, good food, and great fellowship!

Rancher found guilty in shooting

By John MacCormack
Express News Staff Writer

Brackettville - A Kinney County jury took only 80 minutes Friday to find local rancher Sam Blackwood guilty of deadly conduct in the fatal shooting of an undocumented Mexican immigrant last year.

Originally charged with murder, Blackwood, 76, who claimed self-defense, was indicted, tried and convicted on a misdemeanor charge.

"It proves the jury system worked. They based their verdict on what they heard in the court room," said District Attorney Fred Hernandez of a case that had drawn international scrutiny.

While the conviction carried a maximum jail sentence of one year, Blackwood will spend no time behind bars.

In the sentencing phase that followed, he was given a 180 day suspended sentence, fined \$4000 and 2 years probation.

Blackwood and his family members declined to comment on the verdict.

Jurors, some teary-eyed likewise declined to talk.

A spokesman for the Mexican Consulate in San Antonio said the outcome of the criminal proceeding, which a representative of the Mexican government had monitored daily, was "enormously discouraging."

"It is unacceptable to the Mexican government that a judicial system can allow a person who has shot someone from behind to walk away without the jail sentence such a crime deserves," said Mexican Consulate spokesman Marco Antonio

Fraire, who added that the Mexican government intends to register the strongest protest possible at the highest levels in Washington.

Although Blackwood's friends, wife and daughters were on hand for the verdict, and spoke on his behalf before the sentencing, no one was present who had known the deceased, Eusebio de Haro, 25, of Guanajuato.

De Haro bled to death after being shot once in the back of the left leg on May 13, 2000.

Javier Sanchez, his traveling companion when the shooting occurred at the Blackwood ranch, later surrendered to the U.S. Border Patrol.

Javier returned from Mexico to testify about the fatal confrontation.

The case grated on already raw nerves on both sides of the border.

Earlier this week, an accusatory headline in "El Zocalo," a Ciudad Acuna paper, captured the Mexican sentiment. It read: "In the United States, it is not a crime to kill a Mexican."

In their closing arguments Friday, both sides referred to the larger issues and border frictions that made de Haro's fatal encounter with Blackwood more than just another brush country shooting.

"Justice is not what is driving this prosecution, politics is driving it," said Mark Stevens, who represented Blackwood.

"And Sam Blackwood is caught right in the middle of this. It's a political football," he said, claiming pressure from Mexico was behind the prosecution of his client.

His counterpart, Hernandez,

told the jury it had to deliver a statement about violence against Mexican immigrants along the border.

"You've got to send a message that it's not OK to shoot illegal aliens in the back. Please, do not declare open season on them simply because they are wetbacks," he said, borrowing

"Justice is not what is driving this prosecution, politics is driving it."
- Mark Stevens

a derogatory term used by some local ranchers.

Only a few essential facts of the encounter were in dispute. Both Mexicans had lived in the United States and were returning after being deported following arrests on domestic violence charges.

All parties agreed that the two stopped by the Blackwoods' 125-acre spread about 13 miles north of town, asked for water and left after they were refused assistance.

Shortly after, Blackwood and his wife, Brenda, picked up their guns, got into a vehicle and drove up the road, where they encountered the two Mexicans a short distance away.

At this point, the accounts diverged.

Brenda Blackwood, 61, testified that the two undocumented immigrants charged them, and that her husband shot twice in self-defense.

"It was a tragedy, but not all tragedies are crimes. These two men and their lawless behavior

caused the man's death, not Sam Blackwood," Stevens said.

"Don't make them sacrificial lambs for this problem on the border. It's been going on forever," he said.

But Javier said he and his friend began running the other way when they saw Sam Blackwood get out of the car with a gun. He said Blackwood shot twice, narrowly missing him but hitting de Haro.

Critical to the prosecution's case was the fact that de Haro was shot in the back of his left leg. Hernandez scoffed at the defense's claims that de Haro was charging the Blackwoods and was killed by a weird ricochet that struck him from the rear.

"Give me a break. They're going to run right at a man with a gun?" he asked.

"If you are going to buy the bouncing bullet theory, there's nothing I can do about it," he said.

Testimony helpful to the prosecution came from Kinney County Sheriff Leland Burgess, who said neither Blackwood made any mention of acting in self-defense when he met them at the scene.

Instead, he testified, Brenda Blackwood told him that the two Mexicans were running away from them, and that her husband shot despite her urging that he hold his fire.

Only later did Brenda Blackwood claim the two acted aggressively.

In trying to cast de Haro and Javier as armed and dangerous men, the defense lawyers cited a letter written by a prison informant that said they were smuggling drugs through the

brush.

"These are bad, scary, dangerous people, people who are undocumented aliens, but are also documented certified criminals," said Richard Gutierrez, who also represented Blackwood.

Both men had convictions in the United States for family violence.

But Hernandez said it was Blackwood who acted criminally when he elected to pursue the two Mexicans.

"Sam Blackwood made a bad call when he decided to go after these guys. That's what this case boils down to," he said.

"He tagged him, whether it be a lucky shot or not. Whatever it was, he tagged him," he said.

After the conviction, Carolyn Baldwin, 69, a friend of the Blackwoods, said she believed he was doomed because of money and political pressure from the Mexican government.

"The jury was told what would happen if they didn't find him guilty. They said if he was acquitted, it would be open season on wetbacks," she said.

Until Monday, shortly before the trial began, both District Judge George Thurmond and the lawyers involved believed they were about to try Blackwood on a felony charge of dangerous conduct, punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

But a closer reading of the indictment showed language that allowed only a misdemeanor charge of dangerous conduct, so the case was shifted to county court, with Hernandez prosecuting by special appointment.

It was unclear how the mis-

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INSIDE

■ The way I see it!

Why was I annoyed, you ask? Because that kid had no clue who I was. He just thought it was funny. He was trying to embarrass me. It didn't work, it just showed what a jerk he was, and it was really no big deal except...
Opinion/Page 2

■ Making a difference

The school board adopted the budget and tax rate this past Monday night. A slight tax increase of 2.56 cents per \$100 of valuation was approved by the school board. We cut four positions before determining that a tax increase was needed.
School/Page 5

■ Empowering Families

A very wise man long ago said how blessed is the man who finds joy in his children (Sirach 26:2).
Lifestyles/Page 4

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Letter to the Editor

EMS vandal endangers lives

What is malicious mischief? There is a legal definition and a moral definition. In lay terms, malicious means to intend to harm, while mischief means to play a trick, without intending to harm. It's an oxymoron. Here's another slant: when someone intentionally "trashes" your property, without causing you physical harm, that's malicious mischief. The target in this case is personal - some individual whom you perceive has "done you wrong." There is usually only one person affected by this. You clean up the yard, lock the gates and keep an eye out. That's it.

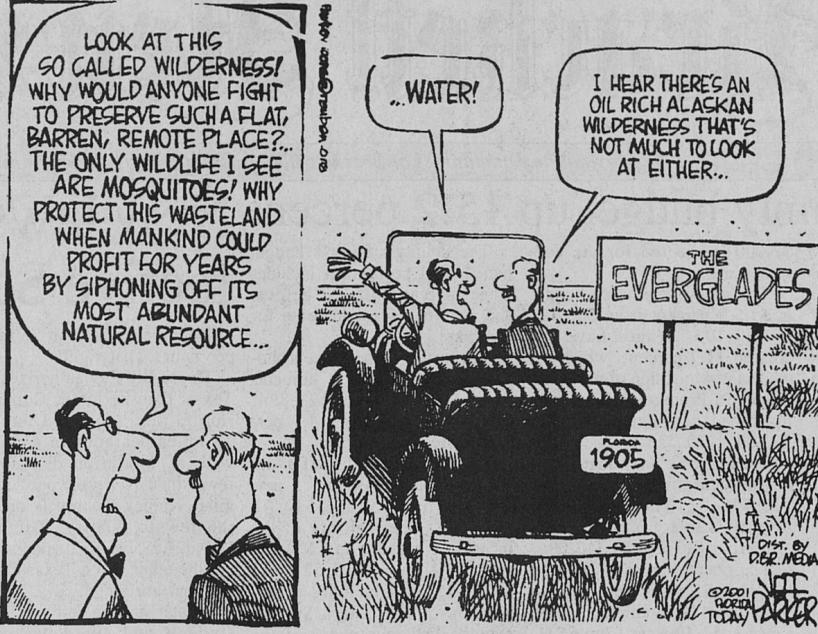
What about so-called malicious mischief that has the potential to harm? Legally, it's still called the same thing. But let's look at it more closely.

In the past week a "person or persons unknown" tampered with County-owned ambulances. At first, the pranks were minor, easily managed items. Due to checking the equipment everyday, last week we found our primary ambulance had its oxygen emptied and oxygen

emptied on the other units and our extra supply as well. This definitely was done to cause harm or embarrassment to EMS. But whom does it really hurt? What if the perpetrator walked around the corner and was hit by a car? Apparently, the person or persons attempting to harm EMS have not thought hard enough or maybe just are not as smart as they think they are. In a situation such as that, there is always a "Plan B," but there may have been delay in getting the oxygen to that patient. I'm speaking to the person or persons who have been harassing EMS... if there had been a run to your home that night, how would you feel about waiting until another ambulance got there?

Just be advised, whoever you are, you are endangering the lives and safety of yourself and your loved ones. EMS will go on with or without the oxygen - it's replaceable and we have many back up plans - but people are not.

Carolyn Rutherford
Kinney County EMS



R-E-S-P-E-C-T

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

R-E-S-P-E-C-T. Aretha Franklin sang a great song about that word. It is a word with many meanings, respect for your elders; respect for authority; self-respect; respect for other's personal property; respect for someone's opinion, even if it is different from yours.

I was in Wal-Mart Monday. I was standing in line to pay out when a group of young men came striding by. One of them, dressed in the uniform of the day, baggy shorts three times his size and a dirty tee shirt, with uncombed, poorly dyed blond hair stopped in front of me, grabbed my hand and said, "Hi there, how's it going?" Then he sauntered off with a smirk on his face, giggling to his buddies. I started to grab him by his dirty collar and ask him where we had met, but I was feeling less confrontational than usual and just let the incident pass.

Why was I annoyed, you ask? Because that kid had no clue who I was. He just thought it was funny. He was trying to embarrass me. It didn't work, it just showed what a jerk he was, and it was really no big deal except for one thing: it was just another example of how many of our young people have lost all respect for everything. A few minutes later that same group was back in the store. I saw them a third time entering Wal-Mart before I left. I have no doubt that they were in and out so much because they were shoplifting.

Our children are losing re-

spect for authority. I dealt with it daily in my job as a federal agent. We are seeing more juvenile crime because of it. Several different things cause it, I think. One is that our youth get everything they want without having to earn it. Not all of them, of course. You and I both know kids right here in Brackettville who make their own spending money working weekends and holidays on ranches in the area. These kids, almost without exception, are going to turn out to be outstanding additions to our society. But we also know kids who are given everything they want and do nothing but watch TV and play computer games. They destroy their own property and think nothing of it. It means nothing to them because they did not have to sweat and save to get it. These are the kids (again, not all of them) who will end up in trouble for vandalism or burglary, because of an equal lack of respect for others and their property.

Another thing is that there are no serious consequences for their lack of respect. When they are caught in an act of disrespect or even something worse, they usually are told that if it happens again they are really going to be in trouble. After about the third or fourth time it happens they figure out that they are immune to punishment. Suspended from school doesn't mean anything to them. They don't want to be there anyway. If they have to pay a fine for vandalism, Mom and Dad end up paying it and the kid gets off Scot-free. We tippy toe around

attitude deficient juveniles like they were some precious porcelain art pieces instead of spoiled, obnoxious little brats that need their butts beat. If they get into trouble we are angry with the person who caught them in the act. I lost count of the times I was confronted by an angry parent because his or her perfect little angel had been caught violating the law. The parent never asked what the kid had been doing at three in the morning in the middle of nowhere. Instead, almost to a person, the question was, why was I picking on their kid.

My spiritual mentor Ray Melton said something Sunday that sums it up nicely. He said, "If you give a man fifty-cents every time you see him, finally, when you see him and don't give it to him, he'll curse you till the day you die."

We need to make our children responsible for their actions. We also need to make them earn what they receive. We must teach them to respect themselves and others. With respect comes compassion, friendship, charity, and many other things that are good for the country. There are no entitlements. The Constitution only guarantees you life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Anything else you have to earn. And one of the things most difficult to earn is the respect of others.

Proverbs 6:6,7-8 - Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

Cuellar crackings down on unscrupulous notaries

AUSTIN - Secretary of State Henry Cuellar today sent a message that unscrupulous behavior on behalf of notaries public will not be tolerated. The Secretary of State commissions notaries public and has the authority to take disciplinary action, such as revocation of a commission, against a notary.

He released his message in Harlingen, accompanied by INS officials who have closely been monitoring notaries public who prey on innocent residents. In recent months, INS officials have received a large number of reports by residents who have been relying on notaries public in their quest for immigration benefits, only to find out they have been victims of a scam.

During the recent adjustment of immigration status period, large numbers were given misinformation by notaries public. Subsequently, these residents were charged from \$500-\$1,500 for a benefit to which they were not entitled. The victims reported to INS that notaries public assured them they met INS eligibility requirements, but never received proper documentation that listed their legal immigrant status.

"We can not allow this behavior to continue," said Secre-

tary Cuellar. "My office will not accept this."

Currently, the Office of the Secretary of State is heightening awareness of HB 3134, passed by the 77th Legislature. HB 3134 strengthens, clarifies and expands the prohibitions against notaries public representing themselves as an attorney. A violation of this law is basis for revocation or suspension of the notary's commission.

Additionally, HB 3134 also establishes criminal penalties for notaries public who represent themselves as attorneys. If it is shown that the defendant has previously been convicted of a violation of this section, an offense is enhanced to a felony of the third degree.

"INS Investigations Department in the Harlingen District remains dedicated to identify and prosecute persons who violate federal laws," said Mike Trominski, INS Harlingen district director. "It is inconceivable how anyone can claim to be providing a service to help persons seeking a benefit, when in reality they're preying on unsuspecting victims."

"It is unfortunate that someone in a role that engenders trust would seek to prey on those who are least able to defend them-

selves," Secretary Cuellar noted. "I won't accept this and the people of Texas shouldn't accept this. I will actively cooperate with state and federal prosecutors to stop the problem of those notaries public who deceptively present themselves as attorneys."

In an effort to reduce misinformation relating to INS benefits, INS Harlingen District Investigations Unit established the Asuntos Migratorios Coalition. Members of this coalition have been training residents living in the more than 1,500 colonias along the Rio Grande Valley on ways to identify unscrupulous notaries.

New Beginnings

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

Well, it's that time of year again - our kids are heading back to school. It's a time for new beginnings, a new school year, new grade levels, new teachers and new classrooms. Fresh from the long summer break, students all over Texas are trotting off to school once again to begin a new year of homework, studying and tests.

But students aren't the only ones marking a new beginning this school year. Parents, teachers and local communities all over the country are marking a new beginning as well. It's the beginning of the end of the federal one-size-fits-all approach to education.

Earlier this year, Congress passed the president's education plan. The "No Child Left Behind Act" is going to change the education of our children. By cutting the bureaucratic red tape, we're putting our nation's education system in the hands of educators, not political leaders in Washington, D.C.

Our new approach is going to cut down on federal requirements and give schools more of the flexibility they need and deserve. First things first, we're making it possible for schools to reduce class size by hiring more teachers. This is simple math. The smaller the classroom, the more attention students receive and the better they do in school. And we're not just hiring more teachers, we're also giving schools the freedom to provide more professional development for teachers. The more knowledge our teachers possess, the more our children will receive.

The No Child Left Behind Act is going to promote early reading skills and increase the focus on math and science education. Funds will be allocated for better math and science programs. We're also going to encourage schools to make their programs more rigorous to help children reach higher education goals. The new plan includes a performance-based grant program. This program is going to supply more funding to schools to increase literacy in technology. In other words: schools that need the most help will get the most help.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this legislation is that we're putting discretion in the hands of the schools. We're giving the schools the decision of how to spend federal funding. They can choose to spend more on development or they can make reducing class size a priority. Schools will make the decisions, not bureaucrats.

This plan is not a one-size-fits-all approach. Of course we're looking at our public education system, but we're also including programs that will protect home schooling and make schools safer from gun violence. This is a comprehensive plan that is going to give the power to the schools, because as we all know: that's where it belongs.

In the spirit of the season, of a new school year and of new beginnings, I'm proud that our new education initiative will begin the process of removing Washington from the education equation. Local control of education will provide our students with the best education possible. Class dismissed.

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.

Big Mama
Sez!



And though,
hard be the task,
"Keep a stiff upper lip".

The Brackett News

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DEADLINES:
Advertising deadline is noon Tuesday for advertising to be composed for the current publication.

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Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Wednesday, August 22
9:03 p.m., A 911 call was received, two kids on a bike were reported weaving in and out of traffic. Deputy Manuel Pena responded to call.

Thursday, August 23
6:10 p.m., A lady requested someone to trap a skunk at her residence. A city employee was advised.

8:31 p.m., A man reported a vehicle driving fast through Tiger Alley. Deputy Pena responded.

Friday, August 24
7:31 a.m., Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter, responded to a break in.

2:15 p.m., The Volunteer Fire Department responded to a fire, on 131 south before the airport gate.

Saturday, August 25
9:00 a.m., A woman reported a blue 1995 car missing. Deputy Pena was advised.

3:00 p.m., A break in was reported on Hwy 3008. Deputy Pena responded.

4:00 p.m., A man reported his wife missing. Deputy Pena was advised and informed the husband that his wife had been found by the Fort Clark Security.

8:10 p.m., A man reported his friend was kicked in the face by a horse. They were on the way to Uvalde to the hospital. Uvalde

County Sheriff's Office was advised. A unit was sent to intercept.

8:22 p.m., Deputy Karl Chism responded to a man who wanted to cause trouble.

10:15 p.m., Deputy Chism responded to a woman who locked her keys in the house.

11:44 p.m., Chief of Police Arnulfo Alonzo and Deputy Chism, spoke with the kids that were reported throwing beer bottles at each other and passing vehicles in front of the high school.

Sunday, August 26
No time shown on report. An employee from Fort Clark Security requested a deputy. Deputy Chism and Deputy Cordelia Mendeke were advised.

No time shown on report. Deputy Pena was informed that the funeral home door was open.

No time shown on report. A woman reported that the score board was on. Constable Mendeke advised one of the coaches and it went off by lightning.

Brackettville Rotary Club By Frances McMaster

The Brackettville Rotary Club has reason to celebrate at their Thursday noon meeting because Matthias Katzfuss, the exchange student from Germany sponsored by Rotary, has arrived and is staying with the Lloyd Davis family.

Having Matthias here in Brackettville is going to be as much of a learning experience for us as for him. One can only imagine the impact of entering into a life so utterly different from what he has experienced to date. In Texan-like arrogance this writer's opinion is that no place in the United States could be more colorful. Brackettville offers an opportunity to learn about life in American small town. It also provides an opportunity to sample life in the West during the frontier days by visiting the Kinney County Heritage Museum at the Fillipone building, by touring the Fort Clark Museum, by exploring Alamo Village, and by talking to old timers who live here. On the opposite end of the spectrum; what could be more modern than rounding up cattle in a helicopter?

We have yet to find out what we will learn by rubbing shoulders with Matthias, but its bound to be interesting and stimulating.

This exchange is the manifestation of Rotary ideals and goals to encourage education and promote a better understanding between people of different cultures.

Program Chairman Stan Conoly brought Sonja Shell to speak to Rotary about writing. Her article on the history of the Conoly ranch and the Delores settlement, which existed within its border, was recently published in REA's magazine, "Ranch and Rural Living".

Sonja chose to speak about words. Conoly had asked her what had inspired her to become a writer. Her fascination with words began, she explained, when an uncle who was particularly literate and well spoken, asked her to learn to spell Constantinople. She was about nine years old at the time, and spelling the word was quite a challenge. Once this was accomplished, she was directed to looking it up in her grandfather's library. This opened up a new world to her. The library became a mysterious place where one could learn many things.

She said her grandfather had an extensive library because he loved to read. This was fortunate because the small, country school she attended had none. She grew up on a farm in the Midwest, and its resources were limited. Her

grandfather's interest in reading provided an opportunity for her to learn and created a yearning in her to discover as much as possible about things that interested her. Thus, a writer was born.

Writers quickly become aware that words not only have meaning, they affect people. Choosing the best word in a written sentence can mean the difference in its impact on the reader. The right word can inspire the reader to keep reading, the poorly chosen word can allow their interest to lag.

Words are most important because they make it possible for us to communicate and to understand one another. If a room is full of people who speak two different languages, the people who speak the same language will group together because we have this need to share our world with others, she said.

Words chosen for publication will differ from casual conversation. She commented that if she were to read what she had written in her notes, it would be boring. In speaking, tone of voice and gestures may add meaning to what is being said. Something written to be read needs to be more organized and carefully thought out in order that the reader will know what is meant and to make the

work more interesting.

Ms. Shell said her grandfather had a copy of every book Zane Gray wrote, and that she read every one of them. Later, she became interested in researching historical places and events, and this led to her writing articles out of the enjoyment of writing. When she discovered people would actually pay money for what she had written, she was hooked. She would continue to write because of her love for it.

Philosopher Joseph Campbell was fond of saying that to be happy and fulfilled in life you must, "Follow your bliss". Sonya Shell would agree; she is doing this.

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Feelings about the little guy Blessed is the man who finds joy in his children Police activities league partner In Youth Outreach

I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

I spend as much time as I possibly can with Tillman. He's learning new words every day. I can hardly wait until I can relate many of my past experiences and adventures with him. I have so many stories to tell him. Some of them are even true.

He picked up a cute phrase recently. He says "Hoie Molnee!". He even laughs at himself when he says it. He thinks he's adorable. Where does he get these tendencies?

I have to be very careful when I'm around him. Everything I say and do he tries to imitate. His mother is so proud of me for teaching him to say "ahh" after he takes a swig of water or milk. He's a magnet, a sponge. He picks up everything that goes by. Especially if it happens to have some expression of feeling attached to it.

When he grows into a man, I know he'll lose all of the closeness that he has for an old man. He won't always think his granddad knows everything. He will some day realize that I am not fun to be around any more. Please don't misunderstand, I write this with no remorse or sadness. It's natural and a part of his growing up. He has to break free. He needs to generate his own lifetime of adventurous tales to someday share with his grandchildren. He'll even tell some true tales. Maybe.

But in the mean time, while he's yet at the time in his life while he still relishes the sight of my arrival, I hope you don't get tired of reading about my feelings for the little guy. I like writing, and reading, about him. I won't ever experience the need to break free of his feelings. And no, I couldn't be wrong.

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Can I help, Mommy?" Samantha asked.

Tina handed Samantha a cloth and told her she could dry some dishes. When they were finished Tina was feeling elated. It was quite a contrast to the day before when everything Samantha did seemed uncooperative. Tina gave her daughter a hug and told her how proud she was that she had offered to help. Whispering in Samantha's ear so nobody else could hear Tina said, "I'll bet we could find a little dish of ice cream."

"Can Teddy have some too?" Samantha asked.

"Sure Sweetheart." Tina set an empty bowl and spoon in front of the furry creature.

After the ice cream, Samantha picked up the big Teddy bear and made her way out of the kitchen. Looking at the bear she said, "See I told you she would be nice to us if we helped. I'm going to expect you to be a better bear from now on because I set the example for you."

Tina watched in amazement. Then she joined her husband in the living room. "John, have

you ever heard Samantha talk to that Teddy bear?"

"Oh, all the time," John answered. "It's interesting that you should ask. Last night when I went into her room to tuck her in and say our prayer together I saw something interesting. She lined up all her dolls by a chair. Then she picked up the bear and started spanking it. She told the bear how much she loved him but that he had to change his ways and mind her better. Then she turned to the dolls and told them that they would get the same thing if they didn't behave. When I went in to pray with her, she sat all the dolls and the bear on the bed and told me that tonight they were all going to pray with us."

A very wise man long ago said how blessed is the man who finds joy in his children (Sirach 26:2).

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

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Austin, Texas - Nearly 200 at-risk kids from cities across Texas returned home from summer camp armed with new goals, higher self esteem and good decision-making skills. At least that's the hope of the creators of a new youth outdoor outreach program launched this year at the PAL of Texas Youth Ranch.

The campers, ages 11 through 16, enjoyed typical camp activities such as archery, fishing, crafts and camping at the 244-acre facility in the Central Texas Hill Country. But the curriculum didn't end there, according to Kaye Kubezcka, executive director of the Police Activities League of Texas, a statewide non-profit organization that assists law enforcement agencies in working with at-risk youth. "We have integrated incremental skill-building into all of our programs and activities at the ranch. We challenge each camper to make choices that will push him into overcoming obstacles and building self-confidence," said Kubezcka. "The desired result is that the youth learn respect for themselves and others, and a deeper appreciation of nature."

Texas Parks and Wildlife and PAL of Texas joined forces to develop the youth outdoor out-

reach program, which gives campers new outdoor learning experiences and adventures.

But other aspects of the PAL Youth Ranch summer camp were quite different from other recreational camp programs - camp counselors were all law enforcement officers. PAL officers, community volunteers and campers came from El Paso, Uvalde, Conroe, Laredo and Houston. This culturally diverse group blended to participate in outdoor education experiences that were new to both the campers and most of the law enforcement officers.

The TPW Outdoor Outreach Program helped to fund a ropes challenge course at the ranch. The challenge course has a series of elements requiring skills such as climbing, strength and balance. In the final challenge the camper climbed a 30-foot wall, jumped from a platform and rode a "zip line" to the ground. Both individuals and groups overcame physical challenges and fears through trust, cooperation and self-discipline. The ropes course was a favorite activity of both the campers and the officers.

TPW provided most of the teaching staff to train officers to work as camp counselors. Dr.

Karl Cloninger serves as TPW's representative on the PAL of Texas Board of Directors. During a training program at the ranch in May, officers and community volunteers were certified to teach Project Wild (wildlife and plant identification) and Angler Education. They also learned archery and camping skills and became acquainted with the ranch environment.

For many of the officers, outdoor education was new territory, so they could relate to the campers who experienced trepidation about camping in the dark.

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Public Hearing On Proposed FY 2001-2002 Kinney County Budget And Notice Of Proposed Increase In Officers' Salaries

Pursuant to 111.007 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court of Kinney County, Texas gives notice that they will hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2001-2002 Budget. The Proposed Budget is on file at the County Clerk's Office for public inspection. The Budget Hearing will be conducted Monday, September 10, 2001 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the County Courtroom in the Kinney County Courthouse located at 501 South Ann Street in Brackettville, Texas. The public is invited to attend and participate in the Hearing. The Commissioners Court will consider adoption of said budget following the Public Hearing.

Pursuant to 152.013 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court of Kinney County, Texas publishes the proposed salaries, expenses, and/or allowances of each elected County official and the amount of the proposed increase(s). They are as follows:

Official	Total Comp. (FY 2000-2001)	Total Comp. (FY 2001-2002)	Proposed Salary (FY 2001-2002)	Other Proposed Allowances
County Judge	46,431.90	47,107.33	31,191.57	15,915.76 *1,2,5
County Attorney	46,375.18	47,333.64	28,943.64	18,390.00 *1,3
Co./Dist. Clerk	29,130.17	29,923.63	28,943.63	980.00 *3
Tax Assess/Collctr	23,039.12	23,671.62	22,591.62	1,080.00 *3
Co. Treasurer	22,744.12	23,219.62	22,591.62	628.00 *3
J.P.	25,091.00	25,584.34	25,584.34	00.00
County Sheriff	30,448.32	30,537.71	30,321.71	216.00 *3
Constable	11,067.00	20,265.01	19,788.01 *4	477.00 *5
Comm. Pct. 1	10,857.53	11,115.02	10,161.02	954.00 *5
Comm. Pct. 2	10,857.53	11,364.02	10,161.02	1,203.00 *3,5
Comm. Pct. 3	10,857.53	11,115.02	10,161.02	954.00 *5
Comm. Pct. 4	10,857.53	11,115.02	10,161.02	954.00 *5

*1 State Supplement
*2 Juvenile Judge Allowance
*3 Longevity Compensation
*4 Includes compensation paid by Ft. Clark Springs Assoc.
*5 Travel Allowance

The increases as proposed will be discussed at our regular Budget Hearing that is set for Monday, September 10, 2001, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the County Courtroom in the Kinney County Courthouse in Brackettville, Texas. The Commissioners invite the public to attend and participate when the Public Officials' salaries, expenses, and allowances will be discussed and set on said date.

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School board adopted budget and tax rate Conoly's support Brackett's ISD Library

Making A Difference By Taylor Stephenson

Rain finally came to Kinney County! Early Monday morning about 3 AM, the sound of thunder began its march through the county. Many of us were up most of the morning listening to the sound of rain. I had two inches in my rain gauge at Fort Clark Springs. The rain lasted for a couple of hours and reports of from 2 to 3.6 inches were heard throughout the county. Rain was widespread over much of Texas from the Panhandle to the Rio Grande!

In time for the first scrimmage with Crystal City, Mike Bizzell Construction Co. completed the new football bleachers. The bleachers are much more comfortable and allow more space for football fans. Mike and his crew worked hard

to give us a quality product. You'll enjoy the games much more this year at Tiger Stadium.

Last Friday, we had 645 students enrolled at Brackett ISD. This is up a few from last year. It's up 31 from the first week of school. It is far too early to detect enrollment trends, but it looks as if we will meet enrollment projections for the year. Most of our funds come to us based on the average daily attendance of students enrolled at BISD.

The school board adopted the budget and tax rate this past Monday night. A slight tax increase of 2.56 cents per \$100 of valuation was approved by the school board. We cut four positions before determining that a tax increase was needed. Our total tax for next year is \$1.2675. Our tax rate in 1993-

94 was \$1.28. The low tax rate has been historically a goal of the school board. Our local taxes maximize the Tier II equalization state funds. We receive 2 state dollars to match every dollar of local tax. The budget of \$5.9 million supports school programs in grades PK through 12 for 640 students in average daily attendance. The budget supports continued academic excellence and spends some of our cash reserves on improvement of BISD facilities. It is a conservative budget that seeks to maintain financial stability with one of the lowest school tax rates in Texas.

Football, volleyball, band and cheerleading are in full swing. We look forward to watching these BISD teams throughout the fall. Have a great week!

Conoly children hope to expand Weston's Library Memorial book drive

Fifth Annual Weston Zuehl Conoly "Legacy of Learning" Library Day is September 29th in Corpus Christi.

Area families have the opportunity to help expand Weston's Library at the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi.

When they do, donations of needed books in Weston's memory will be made as a "Thank You!" by the Conolys to the Brackettville I. S. D. library.

For the last four years, Barnes & Noble Book Store in Corpus Christi, The Conoly Family and the Texas State Aquarium have hosted an all-day book drive for Weston's Library, which was established in memory of Weston Zuehl Conoly, the six year old son of Katherine and David Conoly of Corpus Christi. Weston died in an accident in 1993.

David Conoly, along with his brothers Stan and Bill, grew up in Brackettville.

In 1995, friends of the

Conolys established the memorial children's library at the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi. It features computers and computer programs, access to the World Wide Web, books on all kinds of sea and marine life, bays and estuaries and marine biology. Animal husbandry staff at the aquarium rely on scientific research books that have been donated over the years to assist them in their daily care and feeding of the sharks, eels, starfish, jellyfish, coastal birds and hundreds of other species on display at the aquarium. The colorful family-friendly library is located at the end of the exhibit chain at the Texas State Aquarium, which is visited by more than 500,000 people from all over the world every year.

Every Weston's Library book drive is also a mini family reunion for the Conoly clan. Weston's three brothers, Will, Wyatt and Wylder, together with their cousins, each volunteer in different ways at Weston's Library Day. Weston's brother, Wyatt, will serve as Honorary Chairman of

the 2001 Book Drive. Will served at last year's event and it will be Wylder's turn next year. The Conoly children serve as greeters, provide entertainment, serve refreshments, play games and help with story-time and face painting. The aquarium staff always brings a live bird, sea creature or alligator for the children to enjoy, including "Ollie", a costumed, larger-than-life purple stuffed octopus.

The annual "Legacy of Learning" book drive held at Barnes and Noble allows families who attend to choose from selected books at a 20% discount when purchased as a gift to Weston's Library. Bookplates are placed inside the front cover commemorating the donation.

Anyone who cannot attend, but who would like to add a book to the shelves may send a tax deductible donation to Weston's Library at the Texas State Aquarium, 2710 North Shoreline, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78402. As a "Thank You!", the Conolys will help support the needs of the Brackettville I.S.D. Library.

Tiger defense dominates scrimmage against Crystal City

The Brackett High School Football team participated in a controlled scrimmage with the Crystal City Javalinas last Thursday August 23rd.

Defense dominated the scrimmage for both the Tigers and the Javalinas. The powerful Tiger defense only allowed the Javalinas four first downs and a meager 82 total yards of offense on 35 plays. The Tigers were able to generate a little more offense from their 35 plays, gaining 151 total yards and seven first downs. Senior fullback Dave Campos provided the only offense early for the Tigers gaining 62 yards on 6 carries. The Javalina defense shut down everything outside so the Tigers only opportunities came from the fullback position inside. Sophomore fullback Glen Morgan took over the running duties and broke free for a 66-yard touchdown run to provide the only score of the day for either team. Morgan ended

the scrimmage with 6 carries for 82 yards.

The Tiger defense was dominating throughout the scrimmage. Junior Jared Hobbs intercepted an errant pass due to the pressure put on the Javalina quarterback by Senior Carlos Gomez, Junior Doug Sanchez, and Sophomore Dietrich Davis. Glen Morgan, along with carrying the football, also accounted for a sack. All in all, it was a good scrimmage and a good test for the Tigers.

In junior varsity action, things were a little different.

The Tiger JV dominated the scrimmage 4 touchdowns to 1. The Javalinas began by moving the football down the field and scoring on the first drive. That would be all that they would get all day. The Tigers took over the football and went down the field in five plays to score. Jaime Puente would carry the ball 35 yards to paydirt. On the next

play, Mark Kestalo took the ball and raced 70 yards for another Tiger score. Later in the scrimmage, Eliot Stone would ramble 19 yards for third score and then Kody Yeager found Oscar Sierra in the end zone for a 10 yard touchdown pass to cap the days scoring. The JV Tigers finished the day with 347 total yards of offense to the Javalinas 140 yards. Mark Kestalo carried the ball 6 times for 109 yards and a touchdown, Jaime Puente carried the ball 5 times for 78 yards and a touchdown, Eliot Stone carried the ball 3 times for 64 yards and a touchdown, and Tony Rosetti carried the ball 6 times for 63 yards. Quarterback Kody Yeager connected 3 times on 5 attempts for 21 yards and a touchdown.

Next up for the Tigers will be scrimmage with the Junction Eagles today in Junction. The JV will begin at 5:30 and the varsity will follow.

Recommendations for children and adolescents exercising in extreme heat

The effects of the extreme Texas heat are apparent to everyone who has lived in Texas during August; however, many people are unaware that these effects are even more severe in children and adolescents.

Children tend to absorb more heat on hot days, and even produce more heat than adults while exercising. Also, children and adolescents are not able to sweat as much as adults, which reduces their ability to cool off.

Now that children are heading back to school and participating in outdoor athletic training and recreation, there are several important points parents, teachers and coaches must keep in mind to prevent a child from suffering a heat-related illness. Below are recommendations from the American Acad-

emy of Pediatrics for children and adolescents participating in physical activity during the last days of the hot summer:

1. At the beginning of a strenuous exercise program, the intensity and duration of exercise should be limited initially and then gradually increased during a period of 10 to 14 days to accomplish acclimatization to the heat. When such a period is not available, the length of time for participants during practice and competition should be curtailed. Football players should not wear full pads during the first practices.

2. During the activity, periodic drinking should be enforced (eg, each 20 minutes 5 oz of cold tap water or a commercially available sports bev-

erage for a child weighing 88 lbs and 9 oz for an adolescent 132 lbs), even if the child does not feel thirsty. Encourage athletes to eat and drink adequately in the recovery periods between practices.

3. Clothing should be light-colored and lightweight and limited to one layer of absorbent material to allow sweat to evaporate. Sweat-saturated garments should be replaced by dry garments.

4. If a child seems to be suffering during practices or games, move them to a cooler and shady place. Allow them to lie down, and remove protective equipment. If necessary, place them in cool water. In an emergency, pack the child with ice and contact a physician.

Varsity Volleyball Girls won against Comstock

On Tuesday, August 21, 2001 the Varsity Volleyball team won against the Comstock Lady Panthers. The scores were 15-9 and 15-1.

The leading scorers were Susannah Davis with 6 points, Mayra Aguirre, Duquesa Hunt, Erica Meyer, Vanessa Castillo all with 5 points. Assists were Susannah Davis with 10 points and Vanessa Castillo with 6 points. Kills were Erica Meyer with 6 points, Duquesa Hunt and Mayra Aguirre with 3 points.

On Friday August 24, 2001 the Varsity Volleyball team lost to Hondo and Churchill at the Hondo Varsity Tournament. They split with Crystal City and won against Del Rio.

The leading scorers were Susannah Davis with 19 points and Duquesa Hunt with 13 points. Assists were Susannah

Davis with 12 points and Vanessa Castillo with 2 points. Kills were Erica Meyer, Christina Flores, Duquesa Hunt, and Mayra Aguirre all with 3 points.

On Saturday August 25, 2001, the Varsity Tigerettes lost to Del Rio at the Hondo Tournament.

Leading scorers were Susannah Davis and Mayra Aguirre both with 4 points. Assists was Susannah Davis with

5 points. Kills Erica Meyer with 3 points. The team record is 3-2.

On Thursday, August 23, 2001 the JV Volleyball Gold lost to D'Hanis.

Outstanding players were Megan McWilliams for her serving and Jessica Terrazas.

The JV Black played D'Hanis Varsity in 3 games. Outstanding players were Beth Ballew and Sarah Meyer.

Notice To Parents

The Uvalde ISD and the Cluster Five Special Education Cooperative, through the Department of Special Education, provides comprehensive special education services to eligible students with disabilities in accordance with current federal and state policies and the guidelines regarding the education of the disabled.

Special Education

Special Education is the provision of a continuum of child-centered educational and supportive services in combination with those provided in the general school program to meet the needs of students who are disabled.

Students With Disabilities

Students with disabilities are students between the ages of three and 21, inclusive, with educational disabilities (physical disability, mental disability, emotionally disturbed, learning disabled, speech disability, autistic, or multiple disabilities); students leaving and not attending public school due to illness or accident; and students between birth and age 22, inclusive, who are hearing or visually impaired, whose disabilities are so limiting as to require the provision of special services in place of or in addition to instruction in the regular classroom.

For further information, you may contact the school district where the child resides.

Table with 2 columns: School District and Phone Number. Includes Uvalde ISD (830 591-4928), Brackett ISD (830 563-2491), D'Hanis ISD (830 363-7216), Knippa ISD (830 934-2176), Leakey ISD (830 232-5595), LaPryor ISD (830 365-4004), Nueces Canyon CISD (830 234-3514), Sabinal ISD (830 988-2472), Utopia ISD (830 966-3339), Cluster Five Special Education Coop (830 278-6695).

Ayuda para niños con impedimentos esta disponible

Niños, de nacimiento a 22 años de edad, que son ciegos y/o sordos, y niños de 3 a 22 años de edad con otros impedimentos son eligible para una educación pública apropiada gratuitamente. Favos de llamar a:

Cluster V 830-278-6695

(Sabinal Utopia, Nueces Canyon, Brackettville, D'Hanis, and Knippa, Llamen collect.)

Departamento de Servicios Educativos 830-591-4928

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

- Thursday, August 30: 5:30 PM JV FB Junction, (Scrim.) (A), 7:00 PM V FB Junction (Scrim.) (A)
Saturday, September 1: 9/JV Vlybl @ Del Rio Tourn, TBA, Cross Country @ Del Rio
Monday, September 3: School Holiday/Labor Day
Tuesday, September 4: 4:30 PM 9/JV/V Vlybl @ Utopia
Wednesday, September 5: 3:00 PM CARE mtg. 4-6th, Coun. Office

KNOW YOUR OWN STRENGTH For females, only 10% can lift as much as 47 pounds. Most should lift no more than 28 pounds. For males, only 10% can lift 70 pounds safely. Most should lift no more than 37 pounds. When in doubt...Ask for Help!

Advertisement for TexCare Partnership. Includes image of a woman holding a child, text 'Sana sana colita de rana...', and details about children's health insurance with phone number 1-800-647-6558 and website www.texcarepartnership.com.

Health precautions for hot weather *First minutes of a cardiac emergency is life-threatening*

Hot and getting hotter. That's often the weather forecast day after day in Texas in the summer. And while sunny days are the norm, intense heat can pose serious health problems even for those who are used to the scorchers.

Preliminary data from the bureau of vital statistics at the Texas Department of Health (TDH) show 58 deaths from heat-related causes last year. Most often, the elderly, the very young, people with other illnesses or those without access to air conditioning are the victims of intense, prolonged heat.

The body normally cools itself by sweating, but the combination of high temperatures and high humidity can cause this natural cooling system to work overtime. Dehydration and heat illness can result if a person does not replace fluids and salts lost during perspiration. Also, when humidity is high, sweat does not evaporate efficiently, preventing the body from releasing heat quickly. This heating of the body to dangerous levels may result in a heat illness.

Symptoms of heat illness include very heavy sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea, weak but rapid pulse and headaches. People with these symptoms should find shade, drink water and make sure there is good ventilation.

If fluids are not replaced soon, heat stroke can follow causing extremely high body temperature, red and dry skin,

rapid pulse, confusion, brain damage, loss of consciousness and eventually, death. For severe symptoms, get the victim into shade, call for emergency medical services and start cooling the person immediately with cool water or by fanning.

Staying in an air-conditioned area, either at home or in a public place such as a mall, library or recreation center, is the most efficient way to combat heat. If air conditioning is not available, pull the shades over the windows and use cross-ventilation and fans to cool rooms. In times of high temperatures and high humidity, however, turn off the fans or aim them through a window to blow the hot air out. A cool shower or bath also is an effective way to cool off. Limit the use of stoves and ovens to keep home temperatures lower.

Children especially can quickly become dehydrated. They need to drink fluids frequently, especially water, and wear light, loose clothes. Avoid drinks that are heavily sweetened or contain caffeine. Check on children often, especially if they are playing outside in high temperatures.

Other precautions include:

- Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle during hot weather.
- Drink plenty of fluids, but avoid drinks with alcohol, caffeine or a lot of sugar. Start drinking fluids before going out into the heat.

- Plan strenuous outdoor activity for early morning or in the evening when the temperature is lower.
- Take frequent breaks when working outside.
- Wear sun block, hats and light, loose fitting clothes.
- Stay indoors and in air conditioning as much as possible.
- Eat more frequently, but be sure meals are well balanced and light.
- Avoid dressing infants in heavy clothing or wrapping them in warm blankets.
- Check frequently on people who are elderly, ill or may need help.
- Check with a doctor about the effects of sun and heat when taking prescription drugs, especially diuretics or antihistamines.
- At first signs of heat illness - dizziness, nausea, headaches, muscle cramps - move to a cooler place, rest a few minutes, then slowly drink a cool beverage. Seek medical attention immediately if conditions do not improve.
- Pay attention to pets. Be sure they have plenty of water, and do not leave them closed up in parked cars or hot buildings.

The best defense against heat-related illness is prevention. Staying cool, drinking plenty of fluids, wearing cool clothing and monitoring outdoor activities all are key to staying healthy in hot weather.

Antonio, even in the usually dry cities of Lubbock and Midland, the dreaded *Stachybotrys* mold has gripped Texas after unseasonably wet winter and spring months.

Everything is bigger in Texas - including the risk to your health and property. The potentially lethal mold has been blamed for an increase in pulmonary dis-

ease across the state. As a result, the exorbitant cost of removal and liability has led to dizzyingly high insurance settlements and lawsuits.

Now Pro-Lab (tm) Environmental Protection Products, a leading manufacturer of home safety testing kits, introduces a do-it-yourself Professional Mold Test Kit that enables safe

and effective testing for these killer parasites, at an affordable cost! Residents and homeowners can test for the presence of these menacing molds.

Protect your home and your family from this airborne killer, test your home for mold. Pro-Lab's mold test kits are available at local home center/hardware stores, including Home Depot.

EMS Update
By Carolyn Rutherford, EMS Director

Hot off the presses - quoting from Texas State Office of Rural Health, "... many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack...without help, the person whose heart stops beating properly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged. . . a breath and cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart begins beating normally again. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm."

More information on the immunization front: because there is a shortage of Tetanus/diphtheria boosters, Centers for Dis-

ease Control has issued recommendations regarding eligibility for this immunization: persons traveling to a country where the risk of diphtheria is high; persons requiring tetanus shot for prevention after suffering a wound; persons who have received less than three doses of a vaccine containing tetanus and diphtheria toxoids; pregnant women who have not been vaccinated with T/d during the preceding ten years. Pediatric forms of this immunization with whooping cough should not be given to persons seven years of age or older. Texas Department of Health will provide T/d vaccine to public health region clinics and local health departments. These clinics and health departments may be provided T/d to individuals who have not been able to receive it from private providers or hospitals. Influenza vaccine is also predicted to be late again this year. "This cannot be known for sure until later in the year." For this reason your physician has been instructed to prioritize his or her high risk patients who will need flu shots first. On the positive side of this problem is the fact that shots given as late as December will still be effective protection since the "flu season" usually peaks around January or February. If you receive your shots too early, they will not be effective once the flu season is upon us. If you have any questions about TDH Immunization Program, please call them at 800-252-9152.

The EMT Basic course is nearly complete. We have three more weeks of class time and internships with ambulance services and emergency rooms. This is the really exciting time for our students as I see the "light bulbs" come on. That's an expression I use to describe the look of realization in my students' eyes, as for the first time they understand the "why" of classroom lectures while they are "doing" the skills, supervised by a nurse, a doctor, or another EMS trainer. If you see Jeffrey Luna, Machelie Estrada, and Anna Diaz around town, please encourage them. They have worked hard and need your support for the next tough stretch of training.

If you have an emergency, call 9-1-1. The first ambulance is staffed with a minimum of two EMS certified personnel, as required by TDH. Once subsequent calls are received, a Personnel Variance from TDH, allows Kinney County EMS to respond with one EMS certified attendant and a non-certified driver. This variance is in place until December 31, 2001. Please be assured that in all cases at least one EMS certified attendant will take care of our patients. If you have questions on staffing or any other EMS-related topic, please contact our office from 8 am-5 pm Monday through Friday, at 830-563-9090. Please leave a message if we are on a call.

Menacing molds spawn spores, create health hazard

The Lone Star State has been suffering from a lurking danger found in walls, air-conditioning ducts and carpets. From the Denton County courthouse, to the Corpus Christi City Hall, ruined dream houses in Austin, abandoned apartments in Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston elementary schools, evacuated dorms at the University of Texas, San

Antonio, even in the usually dry cities of Lubbock and Midland, the dreaded *Stachybotrys* mold has gripped Texas after unseasonably wet winter and spring months.

Everything is bigger in Texas - including the risk to your health and property. The potentially lethal mold has been blamed for an increase in pulmonary dis-

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Protect your home and your family from this airborne killer, test your home for mold. Pro-Lab's mold test kits are available at local home center/hardware stores, including Home Depot.

Aerobics
Catholic Church Parish Hall
Classes: Mon., Tues., Thurs.
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Monthly Fee: \$10
Starting Sept. 4, 2001 Registration Fee: \$10
For more information call Ida Holley at 563-9646 or Lucille Fuentes at 563-9313 (Casuals Plus).

"You don't have to sit on a cactus to learn how to jump."



All that Virginia Shahan and her husband "Happy" knew about movies was the price of tickets when John Wayne asked to make a movie on their ranch. After *The Alamo* was released in 1960, the Shahans found themselves proprietors of a tourist attraction and movie set. More than twenty films have been shot at Alamo Village and 20,000 people visit a year. Happy passed on in '96, but Virginia still manages the property, when she's not spending time at her ranch house with her eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Virginia counts on co-op power for her home and business. She belongs to a Smart Choice cooperative. What's "Smart Choice?" We're a coalition of Texas co-ops committed to making the right decision on electric deregulation.

Deregulation is a thorny issue and no one has a crystal ball to view its impact. Like many other Texas cooperatives, Smart Choice co-ops believe the wisest course is to "wait and see." Before deciding, Smart Choice co-ops want to know if deregulation has raised or lowered rates for other Texas power customers, particularly in rural areas.

Unlike private corporations, co-ops are owned by their customers. Your co-op's board of directors is elected to set policy that most benefits its member-owners. Your board is answerable to members and only to members, not shareholders or investment banks.

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

the smart choice.

Your Smart Choice Electric Cooperatives.

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

www.smartchoicecoops.com

Corrected Notice of the August 23rd, 2001 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Kinney County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 11.86 percent. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on September 4, 2001 at 9:00 AM at the County Courtroom, County Courthouse, 501 S. Ann St., Brackettville, Texas.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| For the proposal: | Francie Wylie | Joe Montalvo |
| | Nat Terrazas III | Pat Melancon |
| Against the proposal: | | |
| Present and not voting: | | |
| Absent: | Herb Senne | |

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average residence homestead value	\$ 26,801	\$ 28,508
General exemptions available (amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Average taxable value	\$ 16,801	\$ 18,508
Tax rate (per \$100)	0.8214	0.8397
Tax	\$ 138.00	\$ 155.41

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$17.41 or 12.62 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$0.0183 per \$100 of taxable value or 2.23 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures

The Kinney County Commissioners Court spent \$96,026 from October 1, 1999 to September 30, 2000 on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$41,344.

The Errors published in the August 23rd, 2001 Notice were released from the Appraisal District Office.

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New Texas swine-feeding law effective September 1; intended to protect against Foot-and-Mouth Disease

Texas pigs that are fed wastefood are going on a meat-free diet, when a new Texas law goes into effect September 1 that prohibits feeding to swine any wastefood that may contain meat or any type of meat scraps. Furthermore, it will be against the law to provide these products for feeding swine.

"This new law not only affects swine producers in Texas who feed wastefood containing meat and meat scraps, but it will also change the way food processors, restaurants, schools, hospitals and other establishments dispose of food scraps, if they have allowed them to be picked up for wastefood feeding," said Dr. Linda Logan, Texas' state veterinarian and head of the Texas Animal Health Commission, the state's livestock health regulatory agency. She said only fruits, vegetables, dairy products and bakery goods are allowable food items.

"The state legislature's move to ban meat and meat scraps for swine feeding stemmed from the global spread of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), the world's most costly and highly contagious livestock disease," said

Dr. Logan. "Since January 2000, more than 34 countries have battled FMD outbreaks. The virus is most often introduced into a country by imported infected animals or in uncooked meat products derived from infected animals." (The virus can remain viable in uncooked meat products for long periods of time.)

She noted that the FMD virus does not affect human or horse health. The virus causes blisters and sores in and around the mouth, teats and hooves of cloven-hooved animals, such as sheep, domestic and wild pigs, cattle, camels and deer. Affected animals lose body condition and even after sores heal, the virus can remain and can be spread, causing new outbreaks. To eradicate the disease, affected and exposed animals are slaughtered, then buried or burned to prevent spread.

After September 1, no meat scraps will be allowed in waste foods fed to swine. Allowable wastefoods will be restricted to fruits, vegetables and bakery products, will not have to be cooked. "Wastefood feeding permits and inspections will continue to be required to ensure

livestock health," said Dr. Logan.

In early August, the TAHC had more than 611 swine producers registered to feed wastefood. Of these, more than 69 percent currently feed wastefood containing meat or meat scraps, which, under current TAHC regulations, must be boiled for 30 minutes. In a cooperative effort involving the TAHC and USDA, animal health inspectors check wastefood feeding complexes for regulatory compliance every 30 to 45 days. On August 22, the 12 governor-appointed TAHC commissioners will propose revised wastefood feeding regulations that conform to the new Texas law. The regulations will include the following long-stand-

ing provisions already in place:

1. TAHC may require testing of all swine for livestock diseases prior to issuing producers a permit to feed wastefood to swine.

2. Annual surveys will be conducted by a TAHC or USDA representative to determine disease risk on each registered location.

3. Feral (wild) swine may not be fed at registered wastefood feeding locations.

"Despite the best efforts by federal agencies to inspect incoming luggage, mail and shipments of goods, some contaminated meat items could reach the U.S.," said Dr. Logan. "We needed a fire wall between potentially contaminated products and wastefood-fed pigs."

In Great Britain, animal health workers have slaughtered more than 3.7 million animals on more than 9,000 farms to stop a FMD outbreak that is thought to have started in late February when contaminated, imported meat products were fed to British swine. Several TAHC veterinarians and a number of other U.S. regulatory, university and private practicing veterinarians have worked month-long stints on the disease eradication effort in Great Britain, through US Department of Agriculture funding.

"We've not had a FMD outbreak in the U.S. since 1929, so our national corps of veterinarians haven't seen FMD field cases, unless they've worked in other countries," said Dr. Lo-

gan. "Moreover, fighting FMD in another country is like fighting a forest fire. You want to stamp it out to protect your own trees."

In case "fire walls" don't hold, Dr. Logan states that the TAHC is now a part of the state's emergency management system, thus enabling the TAHC to call draw on the manpower and resources of more than 30 state and local agencies, in the event of a foreign animal disease outbreak. The TAHC has had two simulated exercises to test preparedness; the first in late 2000. In late June 2001, more than 22 agencies, that are part of the Texas emergency management council participated in a simulated FMD outbreak in College Station.

County uses surplus to balance budget

Continued from Page 1

The proposed tax assessor-collector's budget is \$62,247, up 4.3 percent from \$59,656. It includes an insurance increase of 10.5 percent. Wages have increased 2.6 percent. Public official liability insurance has increased 22.9 percent. Postage and office supplies have increased 25 and 17.6 percent respectively.

The county treasurer's budget is up 6.3 percent from \$45,334 to \$48,178. Wages have increased 3.3 percent. Insurance has increased 10.6 percent. Public official liability insurance has increased 22.9 percent. \$1,000 is budgeted for equipment purchases.

The county judge's budget has gone from \$86,746 to \$89,918, an increase of 3.7 percent. Insurance has decreased 1.8 percent. Wages have increased 3.5 percent. Public official liability insurance has in-

creased 22.9 percent.

The DPS budget is proposed at \$6,500 up from \$6,400.

The county and district clerk's budget has been lowered by .6 percent, down to \$92,674 from \$93,189. The decrease is mostly due to a decrease in equipment purchases, down from \$5792 to \$1,200, or 79.3 percent. Insurance for this budget has decreased 6.7 percent from \$8,299 to \$7,749.

The building maintenance budget has decreased 13.4 percent from \$72,620 to \$62,874. The building maintenance line item is down to \$15,000 from \$25,604, a decrease of 41.4 percent. Janitorial supplies have decreased 10 percent. Equipment purchases has decreased 40 percent. Wages have increased 4.5 percent.

The proposed general fund budget is being balance by \$77,784 from prior surpluses or savings, down 65.6 percent

from \$226,009 during the current year.

Wage increases for step, grade, cost of living adjustments, FICA, retirement, unemployment, worker's compensation, insurance, and new positions, total \$1,514,681 in the proposed budget. This is an increase of \$73,473, or 4.9 percent, from this year.

The road and bridge fund budget has decreased 21.9 percent from \$254,128 to \$198,466. Road reconstruction has been cut from \$10,154 to \$0. Commissioners salaries have increased from \$39,614 to \$40,644, for all four precincts combined. Employee wages have increased 4.1 percent. Road materials has decreases from \$9,000 to \$5,000, or 44.4 percent. Tire expense has decreased 50 percent, machine supplies/repairs has decreased 40 percent, vehicle supplies/repairs has decrease 66.7 percent

and equipment purchases has decreased 50 percent. \$16,171 of the total decrease is due to the fulfillment of a lease purchase agreement.

Commissioner's are proposing a tax increase of \$0.0183 cents per \$100 of valuation. This raises the current tax rate of \$0.8214 to \$0.8397.

The Kinney County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing Tuesday September 4th, at 9:00 AM in the County Courtroom. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed tax rate.

Editors Note: Wage increases include elected officials and employees salaries within each individual budget; excluded amounts include FICA, unemployment, insurance, and workers compensation. All figures have been rounded to the nearest dollar. All percentages were rounded to the nearest tenth.

Blackwood found guilty

Continued from Page 1

understanding occurred. "Did the grand jury intend to return a felony or a misdemeanor charge? I cannot tell you that," said Thomas Lee, who was the Kinney County district attorney before Hernandez. "They felt his actions were

reckless and foolish, but it was very clear they did not want to indict him for murder," said Lee, now a district judge in Val Verde County.

Editor's note: This was reprinted with permission of the San Antonio Express News.

Other immigrant shootings on the border

■ **June 6, 1999:** Ivan Sepulveda is shot twice in the chest and once in the ankle in Vega Verde. Patrick Bordelon, a Laughlin AFB welder, is charged with aggravated assault. His neighbors raise his bond saying they are under siege by undocumented immigrants crossing the border.

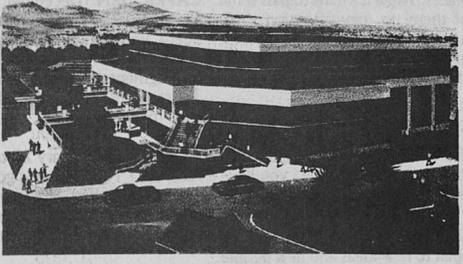
■ **Nov. 1, 1999:** Luis Armando Chavez Vaquera of Ciudad Acuna is shot in the back of the head on the Mexican side of the border near the Vega Verde community near Del Rio. Chavez's body is found in the river 11 days later. Patrick Bordelon, already out on bond for the June 1999 incident, is

arrested and later indicted on a murder charge.

■ **Jan. 26, 2001:** Ramon Flores Hernandez of Guanajuato is shot in the leg on a Zavala County ranch. Ranch owner Patrick McCarty is charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, but claims the shooting was not intentional. He is indicted later.

■ **April 10, 2001:** Juan Mauricio Gonzalez is shot in the buttocks after he and a companion are told to leave private property in Edwards County near Rocksprings. Property owner Coy Brown, a military retiree from Alaska, is charged with aggravated assault.

You are cordially invited...



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Pete P. Gallego Center
on Friday, August 31, 2001
at 11:30 in the morning
and to the Barbecue Luncheon following
compliments of Pete P. Gallego

Remarks by State Representative Pete P. Gallego

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS 1 Terrible tyke 5 Tempted one 9 Spud 14 Carry on, deliriously 15 Buggy 16 Humorous twist 17 Age 18 Use one of the senses 19 Pulp of a tooth 20 Light holders 23 Place for a ring 24 Word in the title of our national anthem 25 Stupid person 28 Patch applicators 32 Red and yellow 34 Sharp instrument 35 Barn fare 37 Dull speaker 38 Prefix for thesis or toxin 39 Royal one 40 Fox 41 Word whose homonyms mean rain hard & destitute 42 Bet 43 Liberates 44 Adjusted beforehand 46 Worshipers 48 Traveler's direction: abbr. 49 500 51 Sagebrush State: abbr. 52 Nonsense! 58 200 milligrams 61 Granted 62 Dismounted 63 Sermonize 64 Give off 65 Bear 66 Four-legged animal 67 Luth. and Episc. 68 Watcher DOWN 1 a-brac 2 Unusual: Lat. 3 Cosmetic company 4 Inclinations 5 Cling 6 Member's charges 7 Study of the body's structure: abbr. 8 Worthiness 9 Word with bell or toys 10 God of war 11 Rocky hill 12 Letter container: abbr. 13 Pumpernickel's cousin 21 Serve chowder 22 Picked 25 Annoying roommate 26 Concur 27 Equals 28 Fine residences 29 Main course 30 Animal's color 31 Annual visitor 33 Shorten 34 Northern Europeans 36 off; angry 39 Assigned a value to 43 Banjo ridge 45 Corrected a written work 47 Initial stages 50 Item in a garden shed 52 Lot 53 Ineffectual 54 Depraved 55 Satiated 56 Item with a string and a tail 57 Brit. currency 58 ABC and May 59 Linkletter 60 Actress Charlotte

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68 indicating starting positions for across and down words.

1. A musical; 2. The Shadow's; 3. Rush Limbaugh's; 4. K-9; 5. Sigmund Freud; 6. Murphy Brown's; 7. Ferny Kissinger; 8. Grasshoppers; 9. 5 cents; 10. Ohio

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: WELL-KNOWN U.S. CITIES

Grid for Roaring Twenties puzzle with words listed: A K S M Y H O U S T O N, K M J E N G M I A M I E, E E D N A L T R O P S W, P M K C B T K D H A S O, O P I S L D T O T A P R, T H B W A I E L G D O L, C I O E O N A E E B K E, S S S R I N V D D O A A, W D T X T S D S G I N N, E E O A A S L U T S E S, D W N L D N O T N E R T, S A N D I E G O R E N O

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- 1. What kind of movie do Hollywood insiders call a "tuner"? 2. What radio hero's true identity was known only by Margo Lane? 3. What conservative radio talk show host's second book had a record first printing of 2.5 million copies? 4. What letter-and-number designation was given to the U.S. canine corps in 1942? 5. What psychiatrist formulated the theory of the Oedipus Complex? 6. What sitcom character's childbirth in 1992 was the most-watched delivery since Lucy had Little Ricky in 1953? 7. Who served both Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford as Secretary of State? 8. What roasted insects are used to flavor Jiminy Bread? 9. What did the least expensive Hershey bar cost before a price change in November, 1969? 10. What state boasts the Cuyahoga River, which was once so polluted it caught on fire?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- August 30.....Vickie Mitchell September 3.....Rose E. Pena August 30.....Ben Vasquez September 3.....Rocio Pinales August 30.....Jane Young September 3.....Maria Rodriguez August 31.....Bill Herman September 3.....Charles Shipman August 31.....Tom McNew September 3.....Jennie Warren September 1.....Genie Robinson September 4.....Jack Huey September 1.....Murt Zimmerman September 4.....Marjorie Maderich September 2.....Jack Fielder September 4.....Jimmy Martinez September 3.....Debra Buantello September 5.....Marvin Davis

ASTROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

- ARIES (March 21 to April 19) While you'd like to get involved in a new project, complete the one that's pending first. Some original thinking goes a long way. This weekend, you and a friend disagree over a social outing. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) An important piece of machinery breaks down this week. However, don't attempt to fix it yourself. Get professional help. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Shoppers find bargains in unusual places. While it's hard to pass some of them up, pay attention to finances. A bigwig isn't in the best of moods and should be avoided at work. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your intellectual abilities are sharp this week. Take full advantage of this. Perhaps a new idea you have leads to a financial opportunity. LEO (July 23 to August 22) Be open to new ideas and new people this week. Someone you meet by chance is different from anyone you've ever known. This person becomes more important to you as time goes on. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Avoid being impulsive about romance. Some could be asked to take a business trip. This weekend, avoid overindulging in socializing. LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You stumble upon an important discovery at work. Keep this to yourself for now. Later in the week, put your newfound knowledge to good use. SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Be patient with an elderly relative who likes to reminisce. You just could learn something from those "same" stories. Use persistence to complete a pressing work assignment. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Inspiration comes from the least likely source. While taken by surprise, you learn much. Over the weekend, an out-of-town jaunt is possible. CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A family member needs your understanding, not your criticism. Your tendency to be judgmental should be avoided. A last-minute social invitation arrives for the weekend. AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Your career is going in the right direction. However, that doesn't mean some changes can't be made. Try to be innovative. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A friend promising pie-in-the-sky investment opportunities isn't on the level. Think before committing to anything. On the domestic scene, all is tranquil. CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS: Pee-wee Herman, August 27; LeAnn Rimes, August 28; Michael Jackson, August 29; Cameron Diaz, August 30; Richard Gere, August 31; Gloria Estefan, September 1; Keanu Reeves, September 2.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

- 1. Albany 11. New Orleans 12. Phoenix 13. Portland 14. Reno 15. San Diego 16. Seattle 17. Spokane 18. Topeka 19. Trenton 20. Tulsa

Small grid showing the solution for the Roaring Twenties puzzle.

National Hispanic Heritage Month *The grace of God is a love freely shown*

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

The month of September is National Hispanic Heritage Month. It is my delight to be able to share with you the following list of Hispanic Americans who have won the Congressional Medal of Honor (found on the internet).

Civil War
Ordinary Seaman Philip Bazaar, born in Chile, served in the United States Navy, on board the USS Santiago de Cuba.

Corporal Joseph H. De Castro, Company I, 19th Massachusetts Infantry, Boston, Mass.

Seaman John Ortega, United States Navy, USS Saratoga, born in the year 1840 in Spain.

The Boxer Rebellion
Private France Silva, United States Marine Corps, Haywards, CA, May 8, 1876 World War I

David Barkley, United States Army - Born 1899 in Laredo, Texas, Barkley was awarded the Medal of Honor and years later recognized as the Army's first Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient. His Hispanic background came to light 71 years after he gallantly gave his life for his country.

World War II
Staff Sergeant Lucian Adams, U. S. Army, Port Arthur, TX

Staff Sergeant Marcario Garcia, United States Army, Villa de Castano, Mexico.

Private First Class Harold Gonsalves, United States Marine Corps Reserve, Alameda, CA.

Private First Class David M. Gonzalez, United States Army, Pacoima, CA.

Private First Class Silvestre S. Herrera, United States Army, El Paso, TX.

Sergeant Jose M. Lopez, United States Army, Mission, TX.

Private Joe P. Martinez, United States Army, Taos, NM.
Private First Class Manuel Perez, Jr., U.S. Army, Oklahoma City, OK

Cleto Rodriguez, Technical Army, San Marcos, TX
Private First Class Alejandro R. Ruiz, United States Army, Loving, NM

Private First Class Jose F. Valdez, United States Army, Governador, NM
Staff Sergeant Ysmael R. Villegas, United States Army, Casa Blanca, CA

Korea
Private First Class Fernando Luis Garcia, United States Marine Corps, Utuado, P. R.

Private First Class Edward Gomez, United States Marine Corps, Reserve, Omaha, NB.
Staff Sergeant Ambrosio Guillen, United States Marine Corps, La Junta, CO.

Corporal Rodolfo P. Hernandez, United States Army, Colton, CA.
1st Lieutenant Baldomero Lopez, United States Marine Corps, Tampa, FL

Corporal Benito Martinez, United States Army, Fort Hancock, TX.
Private First Class Eugene Arnold Obregon, United States Marine Corps, Los Angeles, CA.

Sergeant Joseph C. Rodriguez, United States Army, San Bernardino, CA
Vietnam

Specialist Fourth Class John P. Baca, U. S. Army, Providence, R.I.

Master Sergeant Roy P. Benavidez, U. S. Army, Cuero, TX.

Lance Corporal Emilio A De La Garza, United States Marine Corps, Chicago, IL.

Private First Class Ralph E. Dias, United States Marine Corps, Shelocta, Pennsylvania.
Specialist Fourth Class Daniel Fernandez, United States Army, Albuquerque, NM.

Sergeant Alfredo Gonzalez, U.S. Marine Corps, Edinburg, TX.

Lance Corporal Jose Francisco Jimenez, United States Marine Corps, Mexico City, Mexico.

Lance Corporal Miguel Keith, United States Marine Corps, San Antonio, TX

Private First Class Carlos James Lozada, United States Army, Caguas, P. R.

Medic Alfred V. Rascon, 173rd Airborne Brigade, Chihuahua, Mexico.

Warrant Officer Luis R. Rocco, United States Army, Albuquerque, NM

Captain Euripides Rubio, United States Army, Ponce, P. R.

Specialist Fourth Class Hector Santiago-Colon, United States Army, Salinas, P.R.

Major Jay R. Vargas, Jr., United States Marine Corps, Winslow, AZ

First Sergeant Maximo Yabes, United States Army, Lodi, CA.

As we celebrate together the richness of the Hispanic culture of which we are a part this September, let us remember these heroes, some of whom served in times when it was difficult, if not dangerous, to be of Hispanic heritage. Gracias por servir su país fielmente.

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

How many times have you heard someone start a sentence with, "It was only by the grace of God, that we..."

You might ask, "Just what is the grace of God and how can it be obtained?"

Webster's defines the grace of God as divine clemency. Clemency as in ones having been pardoned for sins or laws broken.

J.I. Packer in his book, knowing God says, God clearly does not owe us anything nor is he bound or obligated in any way to take pity upon us or to pardon us. He is not even obliged to love us or to take care of us, but he does anyway.

God gives grace to his followers, based not on our merit, but rather on his own loving nature and kindness.

Grace is a gift. Grace is a free gift, given by a God, who is free not to be gracious.

The grace of God is a love freely shown toward guilty sinners, contrary to their merit and indeed in defiance of their demerit, hopefully you can follow this.

Grace is God showing goodness to people who actually deserve only severity and have no reason to expect anything but severity.

God gives his grace to us as an unconditional gift.

We should accept and receive it in the spirit of thanksgiving with humility.

When was the last time, that you remembered to thank God for all that he has done for you and your friends and family.

You might ask, who am I that God should even care or be con-

cerned about me?

You are his child, he created you and you are a co-heir with Jesus to the kingdom of Heaven and all else that God may possess.

You have been made eternal, you are like an angel. You have been given a crown, you are a high priest.

You were chosen by God even before the creation of the world.

You are someone important. You are God's treasured possession.

You are destined for greatness.

Whatever is important to you is important to God. You might also ask, "What is the purpose of grace?"

Again, God demonstrates his great love and grace by restoring man's relationship with himself.

This is what all the work of grace is aiming at. An even deeper knowledge of God and a much closer walk or fellowship with him.

God is drawing all of us sinners closer and closer to himself.

God provided both redemption and salvation for us, two things that we could not earn for ourselves, not ever.

We can be saved. If we'll provide the faith, he promises to provide the grace. It's already there, waiting.

You might ask, "What is salvation and how can I get it?" Salvation is a gift to us from our heavenly father, at no cost to us, but the cost to him was very high. He paid the price of our bondage out of sin with the very lifeblood of his only begotten son, Jesus.

This free gift of salvation is

only redeemable by our belief in and faithfulness to Jesus Christ.

We can only have a relationship with God the Father by first coming to Jesus, his son.

Jesus in turn, provides us with the Holy Spirit to guide us into the will of the father.

When asking for this guidance, sometimes we must wait and this waiting can often times be a blessing in itself, if we are waiting in the presence of the Lord. It gives him an opportunity to change us. Sometimes he changes pride into humility or doubts and fears into faith and peace.

When we allow him, he can and will do many wonderful things to us and for us.

God reserves himself to us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit makes us come alive in Jesus. He gives us a new nature with a new capacity to see God with a much greater understanding.

The Holy Spirit reveals to us that Jesus is God and that he is our savior.

Here comes the bottom live. You and I are hopeless sinners only in the respect, that it is hopeless for us to ever think that we will ever stop sinning.

Satan numbs our awareness and short-circuits our self control. We know that we are sinning and at the same time can't believe that we're doing it. We want to stop but do not have the will. We are weak.

Here is the good news, "thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, There is no condemnation for those of us who are in Jesus Christ. Our sin cannot condemn us. Amen

Understand that honor is like gold

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charlotte Corey

Gold or mist, which is heavier? Gold you say? You are right! Which is of greater value in this world? Gold, right again!

When we use gold, we "fix a value to a price", we call it precious; we give it respect. When you possess gold, you are known as having something of great value, something precious. On the Texas border, you will see many men, as well as women, wearing gold chains, gold earrings, gold rings, etc. People like to wear gold because it says, "Hey man, I have value and what I say is therefore important! Listen to me and take note! (Heed what I say!)"

God wants us to understand that honor is like gold. When

you are given honor it is like saying that what you have to say is "weighty and precious in value." We will do a three-part series on the word "Honor" as we look closer at this "weighty" subject.

This week let us first look at how to honor God.

1. "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." (Matt 22:37). Revere, fear God, and honor him by trusting him and his word as truth.

Accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior (John 3:16, Romans 8:3-4). "All men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honors not the Son honors not the Father which hath sent him." (John 5:23). When "religious" people accused Jesus of having a devil

because he healed people, even on the Sabbath day, Jesus said, "I have not a devil, but I honor my Father, and ye do dishonor me." (John 8:38)

2. Honor God with your tithes and offerings. "Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." (Prov. 3:9-10) Malachi 3:10-11 also speaks of this.

3. Honor God with your lips through sincere praise, worship, and prayer. "Sing forth the honor of his name: make his praise glorious: (Psalms 66:2, 71:8, Rev. 5:13)

Next week, "How To Receive Honor." Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

The Book of Mormon

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
By Sister Squires and Sister Coombs

Many people may wonder what exactly is scripture. When the Lords servants, or prophets, speak or write under the influence of the Holy Ghost, their words become scripture. From the beginning, the Lord has commanded his prophets to keep a record of his revelations and his dealings with his children. He said: "I command all men, both in the east and in the west, and in the north, and in the south, and in the islands of the sea, that they shall write the words which I speak unto them; for out of the books which shall be written I will judge the world, every man according to their works, according to that which is written" (2 Nephi 29:11).

We have been given several books of scripture for the use and benefit of man. The Holy Bible is a collection of sacred writings containing God's revelations to man. These writings cover many centuries, from the time of Adam through the time when the Apostles of Jesus Christ lived. The writings of these prophets who lived at various times in the history of the world, are divided into two sec-

tions. The first section is known as the Old Testament, testifying the events before the birth of Christ. The New Testament testifies of the birth and life of Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells us that all Gods truths will be revealed by the mouth of two or three witnesses (2 Cor 13:1). To serve as another testament of Jesus Christ we have been given another important book of scripture called the Book of Mormon. The Book of Mormon is a book of scripture written by prophets who lived on the American Continent. The first prophet traveled from Jerusalem about 600 years before Jesus Christ was born, and the Book of Mormon continues until about 421 years after Christ. It includes the account when Jesus Christ established his gospel on the American Continent.

We should each study the scriptures every day and share the truths with our children and friends. If we desire to avoid the evils of this world, we must feed our minds with truth and righteousness found in the scriptures. We will grow closer to God and to each other and learn to act upon the things we learn as we read and ponder the scriptures together.

Who is the greatest?

St. John's Missionary Church
By Rev. William P. Adams, Sr.

At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

And said, Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

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Faith is confident assurance concerning what we hope for

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

I have to tell you I'm not one of those people who have their Christmas shopping done by the first of September. In fact, I don't even have it finished by the first of December. I always have good intentions; I just always think of one more person to buy for or one more gift I want to get.

However, on these hot August days, it is rather nice to think about Christmas; even if it is only to conjure up memories of cooler weather.

Even in ordinary moments, even in August, we must be ready and waiting for the coming of the Lord. This is the life of faith that Paul describes in his Letter to the Hebrews. "Faith is confident assurance concerning

what we hope for, and conviction about things we do not see" (11:1).

Paul tells us that Abraham obeyed in faith even though he didn't know where he was going. By faith, Abraham and Sarah were given a son. He even went so far as to offer up his only son, Isaac, when put to the test, because he had faith that God would raise Isaac from the dead.

Waiting for the coming of Jesus - vigilance - means more than the end of our earthly life or the end of time. Vigilance has to do with waiting for Christ to

dwelt in us every moment of our lives, even on a hot August day.

Luke's gospel (12:32ff) tells us that we have been given the gift of faith and for those to whom much has been given, much will be required. Are we ready and willing for Christmas every day?

Lord, I thank you for the gift of your Son. Please grant me stronger faith and greater vigilance so that I may welcome God right here, right now.

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

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ES

November 22 to February 22

January 19 to March 19

THURSDAYS: Pee-wee's Big Adventure; Michael Jackson; Cameron Diaz; Gere, August; September 1; October 2.

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505 PAFFORD, 3 Br, 1 bath, washer, dryer, stove & refrigerator. Semi furnished. Fenced yard \$350 a month. Call Cherokee (916) 806-7681.

507 PAFFORD, 3 Br, 1 bath, fenced yard. \$300 a month. Call Cherokee (916) 806-7681.

1836 SQ. FT. OFFICE space. Walk in vault, new a/c and heat, handicap accessible \$450/mo. Call 563-2852, 563-9256 or 563-2846.

GARAGE SALE

3 FAMILY YARD Sale Sept 1, 9 AM - ? Unit 3 lot 57. Avon, tools, other goodies.

HELP WANTED

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGECE) is accepting applications for the position of Electrician's Helper to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Applicants must be able to assist in diagnosing and repairing problems in all equipment and apparatuses connected with residential, commercial and industrial electrical systems. Must be able to learn and apply information from technical manuals. Must be familiar with NEC and NESC. Call 1-800-749-1509 or send your request to RGECE, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Applications may also be picked up from any area office and must be postmarked on or before September 10, 2001. RGECE is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY Medical Billing Processing. No experience. Full training certification. Nationwide clearinghouse seeking reliable people. 30 wpm, computer and e-mail capabilities required. 1-888-329-7072 (fee).

FRIENDLY TOYS & GIFTS has openings for party plan advisors and managers. Home decor, gifts, toys, Christmas. Earn cash, trips, recognition. Free catalog, information 1-800-488-4875.

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• 3 yr old custom built home, 2 bd, 2 bath, large workshop area with separate CHA, carport!

• Extra nice 1999 Fleetwood, 28' x 48', FP, island kitchen, isolated master bd, Reduced to \$52,000!

• Spacious townhouse, 1 bd, 1 bath, CHA, nice patios, \$27,500!

• Seminole Terrace residential acreage tracts, close to town!
View listings at: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

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• Extra nice 1999 Fleetwood, 28' x 48', FP, island kitchen, isolated master bd, Reduced to \$52,000!

• Spacious townhouse, 1 bd, 1 bath, CHA, nice patios, \$27,500!

• Seminole Terrace residential acreage tracts, close to town!
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La Fortuna Ranch Sales

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*New Listing - 4/3/ carport on 5 acres 3 miles NW of town, paved frontage, white picket fence Quality improvements.
*2/2/2 with storage and huge Oaks/ on 2 lots in the Oaks, FCS.
*518 Acres rolling mesquite country - House, barns, well and Hwy Frontage. Great hunting!

2000 acres West of town, Lodge, Mesquite, Oaks, Good Deer Other Ranches Available 80 - 10,000 acres

HELP WANTED

THE MIDDLE RIO Grande Development Council is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant to the Director of Workforce Programs. This position will be in Carrizo Springs Central Office. Primary responsibilities will be performing highly advanced professional assistance work for an executive. Work involves supervising and/or coordinating the work of technical and clerical workers. Oversees high level administrative operations of the agency division. Works under minimal supervision with extensive latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgement. Applicants must have a minimum of five years direct experience in technical program areas, administrative management, and database and spread sheet applications. In addition, applicant must possess a degree from an accredited four-year college or university with major work in business administration or a related field. One year of direct experience may be substituted for each 30 college hours or two years of related experience may substitute for each year of direct experience. This position requires some travel within and outside the region. The salary range for this position depending on experience is \$21,627 - \$30,430. All qualified persons interested in applying for this position may submit a resume, an application, and transcripts to the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, 307 West Nopal Street, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834, to the attention of Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Executive Director. Application deadline for this position will be open until filled. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For more information you may call the Personnel Office at (830) 876-3533 or our VOICE TDD (830) 876-1260.

SECRETARY/TECHNICIAN, START date Oct. 15th. Secretarial skills and outdoor field work required. Call 563-2414 for application.

STAFF WRITER WANTED - Starting pay based on experience. Apply at the Brackett News Office, 507 Ann Street.

STAFF ACCOUNTANT FOR CPA Firm experience preferred, certified or eligible to sit for Exam. Local firm of 8 - 10 professionals. Attachment to the area preferred. Coleman, Horton & Company L.L.P., 400 East Nopal Street, Uvalde, TX 78801. Tel: 830-278-6276, Fax: 830-278-6868, E-Mail: chc@Ricc.net.

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MUST SELL DOUBLE wide 24 x 52 3BR, 2 bath. \$8,000 or best offer to be moved. 830 563-3277.

"SUMMER BLOWOUT," NEW Clayton Dream 3 Bdr/2 Bth, double wide home. \$239.62 per mo., 360 mo. 10% DN., 6.75% VAR APR w/ 4 pt. buy down WAC, 830-774-7711.

"OWN YOUR OWN home in 120 mos." 2001 Clayton Spirit II, 2 Bdr/1 bth. Only \$235.50 per mo., 120 mos. 10% Dn, 9.5% fix APR WAC, 830-774-7711.

2001 RIO VISTA by Clayton. 3 Bdr/2 bth double wide home 1316 sq. ft. \$335.50 per mo., 360 mo. 10% DN. 9.5 APR WAC, 830-774-7711.

"FAMILY SPECIAL," SPACIOUS 4 Bdr/2 Bth with retreat/study, 1896 sq. ft. double wide home \$371.82 per mo., 360 mo. 10% DN, 7.75% VAR. APR. WAC. Call 830-774-7711.

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CANDLE	STICKS	
EAR	THE	SAP
MENDERS	ORANGE	
LANCET	OATS	BORE
ANTI	RANE	BREER
PRE	ANTE	FREES
PRE	ADORS	ERS
SE	DEB	NEV
FI	DDLE	STICKS
CARAT	GAVE	ALIT
GRATE	EMIT	TOTE
STEED	RELS	EYER