

The Brackett News



Friday 15th,
girls softball vs.
SWTJC Tournament
@ Uvalde, TBA

14th year, No. 2

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Nowlin no longer head basketball coach Parents, students protest at BISD board meeting

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

Parents and students crowded the Board Meeting Room at Brackett ISD Monday evening to protest the reassignment of Coach Gregg Nowlin next year.

Parents spoke of Nowlin's after hours involvement with youth activities and his efforts to let each young athlete play.

Some attending the meeting were unsure what had happened and the Board was asked directly "what is happening".

Superintendent Taylor Stephenson responded, "A change has been recommended. Coach Nowlin will continue as Head Softball Coach and teacher, and he will be reassigned to another level in Girls Basketball."

"The change will not take place until next school year,"

Stephenson added.

The parent group was concerned that Nowlin might seek other employment and stated that "We don't want change, unless it means something better here. We're here to support him. What do we do today?"

Stephenson responded, "You're doing fine expressing your opinions. The Board listens and they will have lots to study and think about. There is a process to follow. You can make appointments with first, David Yeager, Athletic Director, John Paul Schuster, High School Principal, the Superintendent and finally the Board."

Stephenson went on to explain if Nowlin chose to appeal the decision, he would follow the same chain of command in order to bring the matter before the board.

"The key is in Coach Nowlin's hands. If he wants to

appeal, then he goes to the next level," Stephenson added.

Stephenson was asked who made the recommendations and replied, "The Athletic Director, the Superintendent and the Principal. The evaluation was done by the same people."

Another parent who stated her family was new in the area but had been impressed by the welcome, hospitality and professionalism they had encountered at BISD, charged the Board, "We trust you to be professional, open and fair, and keep educating us as to the processes."

Continued on Page 4

Adobe's application denied

By Tootsie Herndon
Contributing Writer

January 30, 2002, Commissioners of the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission denied Adobe's application for a permit to install a landfill in Spofford. Denial was based on a six year prolongation of administrative, technical, changes of counsels/ownerships, and other deficiencies in part of Adobe Eco-Systems, Ltd.

Present at this hearing were Rick Lowerre, attorney; Tootsie Herndon, Mayor Protem, Spofford; Herb Senne, County Judge; Carmen Berlanga, City Mayor; Bret Trant, CARE presi-

dent; Don and Pat Parks, CARE members; two representatives, City of Del Rio; bird strike expert representing Laughlin AFB.

While the persistence and perseverance of our local protestations have indeed rendered a 'win' of denial, keep in mind that TNRCC commissioners have the option to repeal their motion, Adobe has the option to appeal and/or re-apply the application all in due process of legal time frames.

Many sincere thanks to each and every one who supported and encouraged us in our battle to prevent ruination and devastation to our community.

Briefs ...

Commodities

Commodities will be distributed on Monday February 18 at 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the St. John's Missionary Baptist Church.

Computer Club

The Brackettville Computer Club will hold its monthly meeting from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the Kinney County Library Annex Room on Thursday, February 21st. This month's featured speaker is Frank Taylor, head of technology department at Brackett ISD. Frank will speak about all of his accomplishments at Brackett ISD as well as future plans for the new computer building. Admission is free, however a \$.50 per person donation is requested to compensate Kinney County Library with costs of utilities. See you there!

Bus Trip

Fort Clark Recreation is sponsoring a bus trip to Kickapoo Casino on February 23. There is no charge for the trip. We are requesting a .50 donation for driver tip. The bus will leave the Fort Clark Service Club at 12 noon. Be early. For more info call 563-2024 or see Juanita at bingo on Friday night to sign up.

Duplicate Bridge

Duplicate Bridge was played in the Gorgas Room at Fort Clark Springs on Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at 7PM. There were 6 1/2 tables and the Mitchell Movement was used. The winners in the North/South were: 1st-Ruth Potter and Sara Richhart; 2nd-Rosetta Pingent and Tina Bauguess; and 3rd-Dena Scott and Mylo Unruh. In the East/West, the winners were: 1st-Bob and Sharon Boucher; 2nd-Nancy O'Brien and Mary Edgar; and 3rd-Flo Staford and Alice Seargeant. It was a cool and rainy evening, just right to be inside and warm, playing fun games of bridge.

City to close Spicer Alley

Brackettville City Council Tuesday decided to close Spicer Alley due to dumping of trash over a number of years. City Manager David Luna reported that he and David Martinez inspected the alley and took photos; Council members also looked at it. Luna reported that people are starting to buy property there and clearing lots. The recommendation to close the alley contained stipulations that there be no structures or storage on the alleyway, and no dumping. Fences will be allowed with city access at any time. Luna stated, "This is a step in the right direction."

BISD Students selected for Academic All-State Football, ATSSB All Region Band

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

Brackett THSCA 2001-02 Academic All-State Football designees were presented to the BISD Board of Directors Monday. Lee Davis was selected as Class 2A - First Team, T.D. Smith, Class 2A - Second Team and Levi Duncan, Class 2A Honorable Mention. Selection involves GPA and community involvement as well as athletic ability. Congratulations were extended from Board members to the three students who are all seniors.

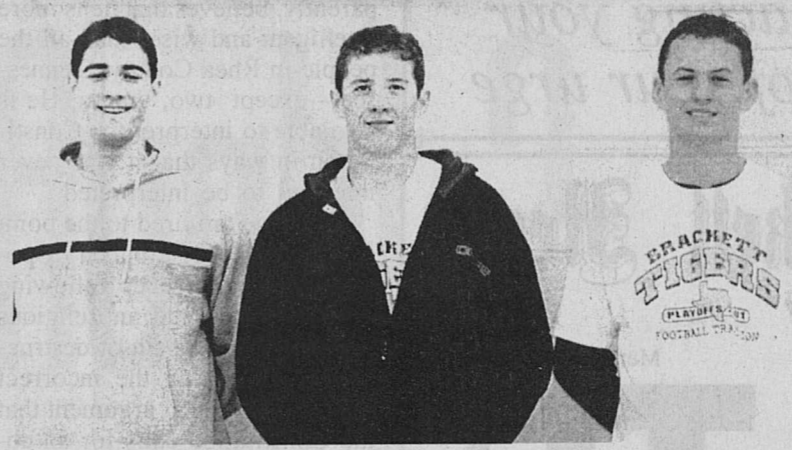
Three Brackett Tigerette Seniors also received recognition. Susannah Davis, setter, Duquesa Hunt, outside hitter and Erica Meyer, outside hitter were picked for Academic All-State Volleyball in Class AA for the year 2001.

Brackett Middle School students Lily Hernandez, Josh O'Neill, Yasmin Pena and Rachael Lethco will perform in Pearsall on March 9th with the ATSSB (Association of Texas Small School Bands) All region Band after qualifying in auditions Saturday.

Lily Hernandez was awarded 13th Chair out of 16 chosen from 53 competitors in the Trumpet Section. Josh O'Neill placed 1st Chair of three competitors in the Baritone Sax Section, Yasmin Pena placed 11th,



Academic All-State Volleyball designees from left: Erica Meyer, Duquesa Hunt. Not Pictured: Susannah Davis



Academic All-State Football designees from left: Levi Duncan, T. D. Smith and Lee Davis

or First Alternate, out of 12 chosen from 56 competitors in the Flute Section. Rachel Lethco, who was chosen as Alternate for Alto Sax (7th out of 30) will play Tenor Sax in the band.

SWCD contest winners



Winners of West Nueces-Las Moras Soil and Water Conservation District Contest from left: Cheyenne Billings, Ashley Smith, Hayley Hale, Susannah Davis and Nydia Talamantes

The West Nueces-Las Moras Soil and Water Conservation District recently sponsored a Poster and Essay Contest for local students. Poster contestants could choose from two themes: Gift of Trees and Habitat For Life. In the Poster Contest Cheyenne Billings, 4th Grade, won 1st Place and a prize of \$30 worth of Movie Dollars at the Del Rio Theater. Second place was won by Haley

Hale, 3rd Grade, who was awarded a T-shirt. Nydia Talamantes, 4th Grade, won 3rd place and a prize of two "How-to-draw" books.

Subject of the Essay Contest was Soil and Water Conservation. First place prize of \$50 and a plaque was won by Susannah Davis, 12th grade while 10th Grader Ashley Smith won Second Place and a prize of \$30 and a plaque.

Wardlaw appointed to water board New bid received for Detention Center

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

Kinney County Commissioners Monday appointed Hadley Wardlaw to a vacancy on the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board created by the resignation of Tom Dorrell. Francie Wylie and Pat Melancon voted for Wardlaw, Commissioners Terrazas and Montalvo voted for Jimmy Bader who was nominated by Terrazas. Judge Senne voted for Wardlaw, breaking a tie vote. Melancon commented, "They are both good choices."

Glenda Flores was appointed new Election Judge for Precinct 3.

The deadline for submission of bids to build a Kinney County Detention Center on Highway 131 was 9:00 a.m. Monday. At that time, the only proposal received was that of Riata Corporation. The 288 bed facility will offer 65 local jobs initially, with an average salary of \$22 - \$23,000. Riata's bid was in the amount of \$7,764,948. The bid will be placed on the agenda for the March Commissioners' meeting.

At the previous Commission-

ers' meeting 12 names had been drawn from the Grand Jury List to serve on Salary Grievance Committee for the county. Since only three from this list have to date agreed to serve, an amendment to the resolution was made redefining the committee selection procedure. The Grievance Committee will consist of the three from the Grand Jury List plus the District Judge, Sheriff, county tax assessor-collector, county treasurer, county/district clerk, and county attorney.

Fort Clark Springs General Manager Maggie Banner Kerr informed the board of a resolution made by the FCS Board of Directors inviting Kinney County and the City of Brackettville to join FCS in approaching State engineers, through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff regarding local flooding. Though the two flood control dams north of Brackettville control 80% of runoff, the remaining 20% causes some flooding problems in the city and often major flooding on Fort Clark. Judge Senne will call and write to the commissioners will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

K-9 cops aid Border Patrol



Pictured above Reina a female Belgian Malinois used as a drug dog by local Border Patrol agents.

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

Border patrol agents stationed at Brackettville frequently have a furry partner, either a German Shepherd or Malinois, trained to find people, drugs, and bombs or explosives. The dogs work with the agents at checkpoints, in brush, and especially in checking trains; wherever dogs are needed. Some dogs are trained to detect accelerants and work with Fire Marshalls.

Joe Threadgill, K-9 instructor, has been with the Border Patrol 18 years. He explained that the dogs, trained at the Border Patrol's National Canine Training Facility, Biggs Field, El Paso are imported from Germany and the Netherlands. United States breeders primarily

breed for show, Threadgill explained, while Germany and Holland breed working dogs. The animals are purchased at between one and two years of age, and cost "in the thousands", partly due to foreign countries buying dogs for bomb detection. The Malinois was originally a herd dog and is often mistaken for a German Shepherd. All females are spayed and most males neutered.

Border Patrol agents work with their dogs on a regular basis, devoting 8 hours every two weeks to training. The animals are passive indicators, not aggressive; when they "find" they sit, point, bark or lie down, though the preferred indicator is for the dog to sit. When the dog finds, he or she is rewarded with a toy. As an example, if one

agent is hidden and has the dog's favorite toy, when the dog finds the agent he is allowed to play with the toy for a few minutes. When the agent goes back into hiding he takes the toy with him, creating a conflict and reward situation. Since the dogs have their favorite toys the agents keep changing the toy/reward in training.

Threadgill said the dogs are not trained to be aggressive, but some are more so than others. They may be more handler possessive or vehicle possessive, and may react to a threat to their handler with aggression. Some dogs, he added, are more social than others but will find. Others are single-minded and only want to find.

The dogs are used regularly to check trains at Del Rio including Amtrack, all the sidings, Johnstown, Amanda at the A.J. Hoyt place, Pinto, Spofford and Anacacho as well as brush and highway checkpoints. Dogs recently found marijuana concealed in a dummy gas tank and inside a spare tire. Since the dogs are trained for drug detection, they are often called on by other organizations.

The Border Patrol will put on demonstrations with the dogs when requested.

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Letter to the Editor....

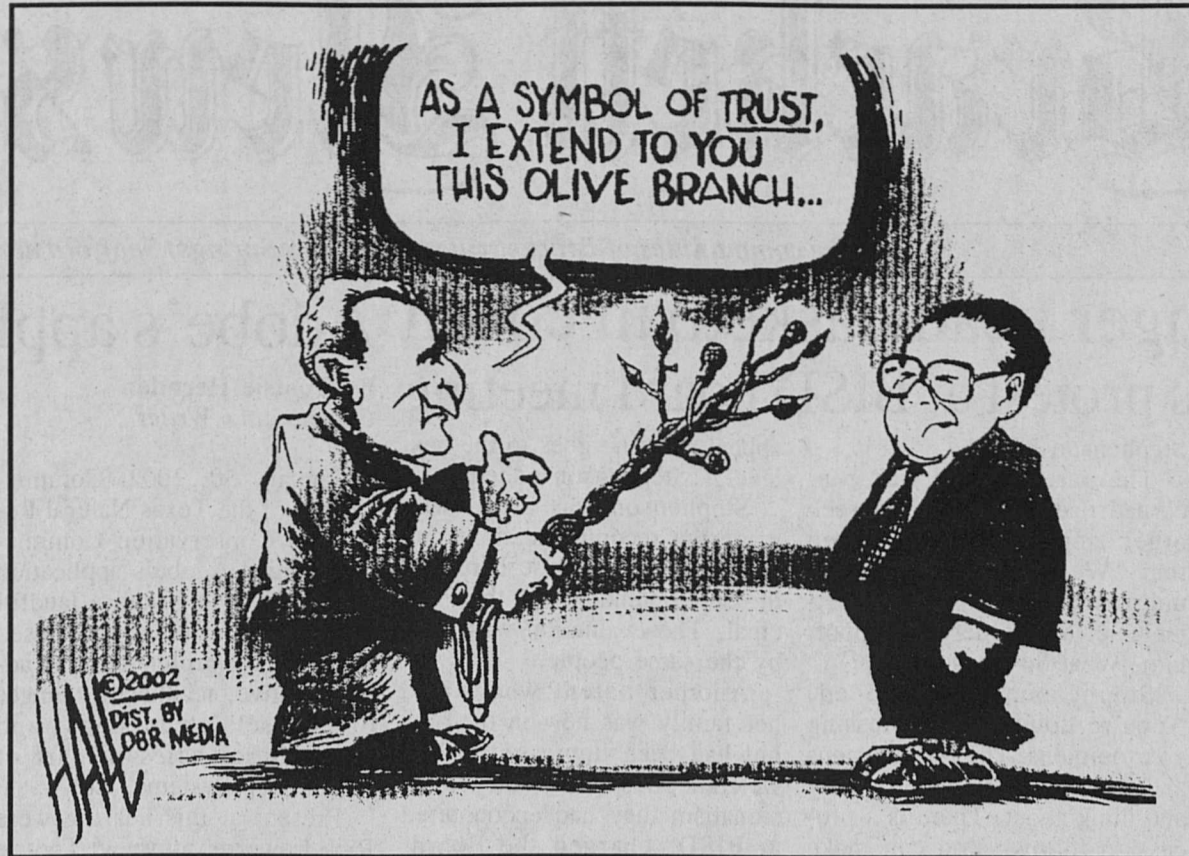
What happened to good ole Fort Clark Springs?

I grew up in Brackettville and Fort Clark. I have been a member since 1972. I remember when North American Towns first came to Brackettville new people where coming in, the Fort was buzzing with excitement! There was activities for everyone! Dances on weekends, once a month during the summer time! There were dances for the youth at the youth center. The music was up to date! You could swim at night you could fish at night, alot of people probably don't remember Mr. Wayne Pierce or Mr. John Davidson but when I was first married and had my first son Chad we all went fishing every night! That was when the older and the younger generations got along! I worked for North America Towns for four years.

1986 -1989 new people where coming in and the only concern of the people at that time was the sales people. After that that was basically the end of marketing. Since that time things started happening a little at a time to steadily bring the Fort to where it is now!

There are little groups that seem to quarrel all the time and gripe. There is nothing for the younger people with children to do except 9 hole golf. You can't swim after dark, no more fishing at night. Members who have financial problems are being harassed. Children can not have any fun!

Where are we going next? Could it be like the Taliban rule! Lets pray not! Take control, voice your opinion!
Grover Wayne Neuman



Freedom of religion

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

It truly astounds me how supposedly intelligent, educated people can be so blind when it comes to the simple concept of freedom of religion.

A federal judge in Tennessee has ruled that a bible class that has been taught for 51 years in Rhea County public school, the home of the Scopes Monkey Trial, is a violation of the First Amendment. The fact that 800 children were enrolled in the class, and that it wasn't required curriculum, and that students who objected could take other classes, and that only two parents were opposed to it, were totally immaterial to this constitutional crusader. He apparently believes that the good of the two far outweighs the good of the 800. He thinks that we are governed by minority rule. He apparently believes that he is more intelligent and wiser than all the people in Rhea County, Tennessee - except two, that is. He is also able to interpret the Constitution in ways that it was never intended to be interpreted.

I for one am tired of the point of abstraction of a bunch of politically correct sheep following a misdirected and antireligious leader down the path of destruction by accepting the incorrect and illogical legal argument that the Constitution calls for an absence of religion in our government. In order for anyone to accept that argument they are required to disregard all the statements made toward that subject by the leaders of this nation. The founders of the United States of America, to a man, believed that a country must be guided by divine wisdom to succeed. They believed that they were required by wisdom and

responsibility to seek divine guidance when making decisions that would affect the stability of this nation. Why now have the courts decided that those same men (who were wise enough to write the foundation documents of this mighty nation) did not mean what they said?

Have you ever heard of the Freedom from Religion Foundation? They are an atheistic group dedicated to wiping religion (read Christianity) from the face of the earth. They do not believe in freedom of religion. They want no religion at all. They and others like them are the driving force behind this satanic trend in the U.S. The ACLU is another. The Anti Christian League United spends a huge portion of its time and money fighting against people just like those in Tennessee.

Why have we become a nation ruled by a minority? Why are two morally contemptible people able to dictate policy to 800 righteous Christians who disagree with them?

If we can teach the theory of evolution in our schools, why can we not teach the reality of God?

September 11, 2001, should have opened the eyes of many in this country. In fact, for a few weeks the enemy laid low. They realized that there was a religious fervor in the nation that could not be denied. They waited until the righteous anger died down and things returned pretty much to normal, then they renewed their attack on the morality of the nation.

Why do you think the focus of this attack on our schools? It's because the children are where the future of this nation is going to be decided. They are open to ideas. They can be

taught and molded into little zealots, obsessed with the idea that the destruction of Christianity is a noble cause. They can be made to believe that Christians are intolerant, hateful isolationists, who want to make the world into a puritanical, oppressive place where no one has any personal rights. Yes, that is the purpose of the enemy. They want the world to be a dictatorship run by the politically correct, communistic left-wing faction. Personal rights are only for the politically astute. Morals are whatever they think they should be at the moment. The Bible is an antiquated curse on a modern, sophisticated civilization. They just don't want anyone to know it until it's too late!

If you want to see evil incarnate, just stand around and let the liberal judges whittle away at our freedom of religion until it is interpreted into oblivion. When there is no right and no wrong, when black and white become the same dirty shade of gray, you will see evil. But you will also see the wrath of a vengeful and righteous God. September 11th was just a wake up call; just wait until God really gets angry at the stupidity being spouted from our court benches.

Jeremiah 7:27-29 - "When you tell them all this, they will not listen to you; when you call to them, they will not answer. Therefore say to them, 'This is the nation that has not obeyed the Lord its God or responded to correction.

Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips. Cut off your hair and throw it away; take up a lament on the barren heights, for the Lord has rejected and abandoned this generation that is under his wrath.'"

Education back where it belongs

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

Finally, the national government is giving power back to parents and educators. Finally, the national government concedes that parents and educators know what is best for school children - not bureaucrats at the Department of Education. Finally, the national government is giving schools the flexibility they need to insure that every child receives the best education possible. Finally, education returns to a common sense grassroots approach of local and state accountability. This is the end of the one-size-fits-all approach to education. The new approach cuts down on federal requirements and gives schools 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 receive. The No Child Left Behind Act promotes early reading skills and strengthens our focus on math and science education. Funds are allocated for better math and science programs.

We're encouraging schools to make their programs more rigorous to help children reach higher educational goals. The new plan includes a performance-based grant program. This program supplies more funding to schools so they may increase literacy in technology. In other words, schools that need the most help will get it.

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 ability to assess their needs and decide how they will spend their 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 is where the parents come in. Washington gives you the power and responsibility to make your school accountable for these initiatives. Get to know the teachers and faculty. Support your local schools.

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!
Maturity is acting your age instead of your urge

The Brackett News

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Commitment, bravery, and triumph

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Capitol Comment

During my recent visit to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to observe the detainees from the war on terrorism, I came face-to-face with good and evil. In the terrorists, I saw the greatest wickedness that this world has to offer. But in their guards I saw commitment, bravery and triumph.

For nearly 100 years, the United States has operated a 45 square-mile military base at Guantanamo Bay. I was invited to travel with Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, and leaders of the Senate Defense and Military Construction Subcommittees.

Our mission was to observe Camp X-Ray, the holding camp for terrorist detainees, and assess future needs our military may have to support the continued detainment.

I wanted to visit our troops and observe the challenges of their mission first-hand. We have never dealt with such an enemy.

We have never fought such a

war. Our troops are forging new territory daily and they are doing an incredible job in the face of uncertainty.

Unfortunately, support for their hard work has been minimized by questions raised over the treatment of the terrorists at Camp X-Ray. All the senators there, Republicans and Democrats, agreed that they are being treated with decency and humanity - far more than they have demonstrated in return. The detainees are in clean facilities with access to excellent medical care - the same care given to our U.S. soldiers at the base. We have also made efforts to respect their religious beliefs by providing culturally appropriate foods and an Islamic cleric to facilitate their calls to prayer.

This fair, just and humane treatment does not mean we have forgotten the treacherous nature of these men; we are just acting as a civilized nation should.

On September 11 these terrorists demonstrated an absolute lack of respect for human life. They have proven to the world

that they are violent, vicious and dangerous. They continue to pose an enormous threat to our soldiers, even under the strictest of security.

They are willing to kill themselves to destroy Americans and the liberty and freedom that we represent.

Let me also point out that these detainees are not prisoners of war. They are illegal combatants who do not meet the basic prisoner of war standards laid out in the Geneva Convention.

This is an unconventional war against an unlawful enemy - they have no military uniforms or background. These men hide in caves, hide their weapons among innocent women and children and act with utter contempt for the laws of war. We must retain the ability to interrogate, detain and prosecute them for the vicious acts that they have committed, and to obtain information that will foil future attacks.

More than 300 Texas soldiers stationed at Fort Hood have been sent to Guantanamo Bay. The security of those soldiers is

one of my top priorities. I was asked to participate in this trip because I am the ranking member on the Military Construction Subcommittee, and I will be asked to approve funding for expenditures at Guantanamo Bay.

Tightening security on the island is of utmost importance. Our troops are operating in a highly volatile situation. They are in an ongoing state of alert and faced with an uncertain and vicious enemy.

We need to secure the base, police the detainees and protect our troops. I will do everything in my power to make sure this happens.

In the face of an uncertain enemy, our resolve remains certain. We will root out terrorism, preserve freedom and emerge victorious.

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

Davis family honorary guest of Rotary club Community Blood Drive is "Best Ever"



Davis Family and Rotary Youth Exchange Student from left, Matthias Katzfuss (Rotary Youth Exchange Student), Theresa Davis, Jesse Davis, and Marvin Davis. Not pictured is daughter Valerie Davis.

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

The Brackettville Rotary Club met on Thursday, February 7, to induct one new and readmit an old member. Frank Cheaney inducted Tully and Darlene Shahan into membership. Tully Shahan had been a member and a past president of Rotary, but had to resign due to the pressures of his young and developing law practice. This is Darlene Shahan's first time to belong. The induction took on special importance, not only because of the return of a member, but because the Shahan name is once again on its roles. Happy Shahan was one of the founders of the Brackettville Club and an active member during his lifetime since its inception 57 years ago.

Marvin and Teresa Davis and their son, Jesse, were also honored guests along with Rotary Exchange Student Matthias Katzfuss. Matthias is staying with the family, having moved

into town from the ranch setting of the Lloyd Davis family for the remainder of his stay in Brackettville.

An interest in music has helped form a special bond between Marvin Davis, Jesse, and Matthias and the three of them play guitars. Marvin Davis modestly said Matthias is a more accomplished musician than he and his son, and that Matthias has a beautiful singing voice.

Valerie Davis, who is eleven years old, is very fond of Matthias. The only rough edges occur when Valerie, a dedicated pet-lover, wants to bring her cats into the house.

Matthias had just returned from a meeting with other exchange students—more than 200 of them—in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There have been other meetings of the whole group where he has interacted and made friends with other students here in the United States from all over the world.

The value of bringing students together from such di-

verse places has value far beyond that which can easily be evaluated. These very different young people coming together and working side by side in peace, friendship, and having fun is the most obvious example. The pay-off will not only be the enhancement of these student's lives, but the influence that the experience will have on the future. Peace between nations can evolve out of such events.

For these many reasons, the Brackettville Rotary Club has decided to take part again in the Youth Exchange Program sponsored by Rotary International. Teresa Davis remarked that she

hoped the next student we bring here is a girl so that their family could host again and that Valerie could profit in the same way Jesse has from such a close friendship.

Rick Alvarado is the program chairman for this month, and members are looking forward to the programs he will be presenting. Rick is a relatively new member welcomed by the Club. If you are interested in joining Rotary, speak to one of the members. The scale of the service done by Rotary is world wide, and it works to promote harmony and well being in the world.

Wylie, Melancon attend Continuing Education Conference



From left: County Commissioners Francie Wylie and Pat Melancon.

County Commissioners Francie Wylie and Pat Melancon attended a 3 day Continuing Education Conference at College Station last week, earning 17 credit hours each from the Office of Continuing Education at Texas A & M University. County Commissioners are required to accrue at least 16 hours of continuing education credits each year.

The conference had specialized tracks for judges and commissioners under the theme "County Government - United in Purpose" and offered discussion on such topics as courthouse security, protecting courthouse records, emergency preparedness, and the specter of chemical and biological terrorism.



Michelle Frerich, High School Counselor, donating blood during last weeks blood drive.

Community participation in the Rio Grande Electric Cooperative-sponsored blood drive was overwhelming! A representative of the South Texas Blood & Tissue Center stated, "Congratulations! This was your best draw ever!" In addition to the twenty-one Rio Grande EC employees who donated, there were fifteen donors

from the community, and ten from the Brackett I.S.D.

Credit for the outstanding turn out goes to The Brackett News, for making sure that the word got out to the public, two hard working RGEC employees, Cathy Kelly and Bill Conolly, but most of all - to the people of Brackettville!

The Brackett News FAX IT FAST!!

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Cecil's Aught-2

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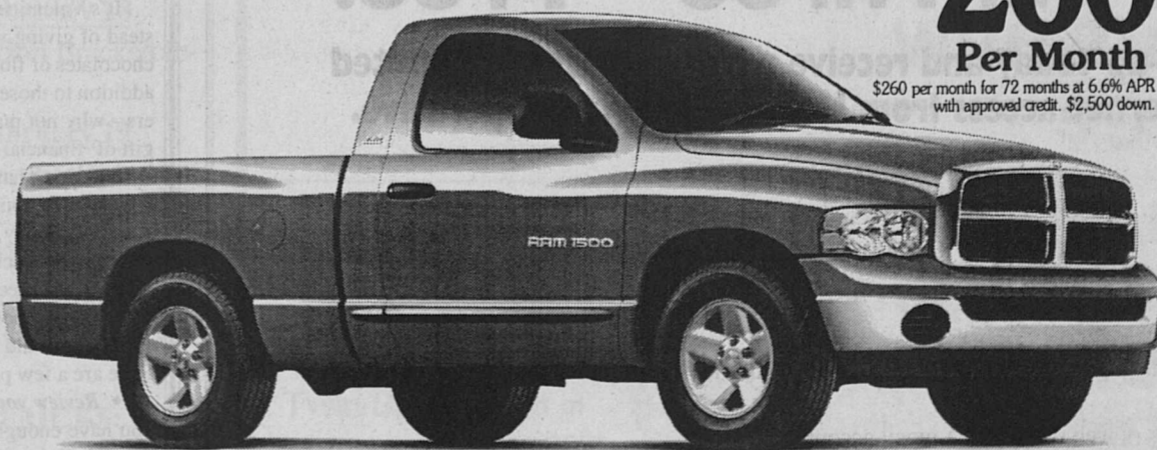


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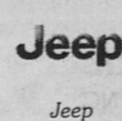
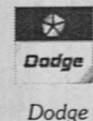
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Fred Turned Into Angel Overeaters Anonymous Rodriguez Announces Small Business Disaster Assistance

By Chuck Hall
But I could be wrong

It's that time of the year again. Time to take the local students to the annual San Antonio stock show and rodeo. It's a fun trip. I used to attend every year. When I was in high school it simply wasn't to be missed. In 1965, at the carnival, I tossed a nickel into a plate and won a baby duck. It was the cutest thing you ever saw.

On the spot I selected the name of "Fred". To this day I can't explain why I chose that designation. But Fred it was. Fred forever.

On the return trip, when everyone was exhausted, in the yellow bus with its extremely uncomfort-

able seats, Fred wanted to talk. Peep, Peep, Peep. His cuteness was rapidly evaporating. Someone suggested that the duckling, with or without my accompaniment, should be thrown out the window. I covered his little beak as much as I dared. Somehow, Fred made it to my home alive. He continued to live at our residence for many years. I still think it was one of the most enjoyable pets I ever had. That duck would greet every visitor with enthusiasm. It really liked people. But alas the day came when Fred was no more. As I ventured out to see Fred one morning, I found a large pile of eggs. Fred wasn't a Fred. But even then I could have been wrong.

Goodies from "G.G."

We will soon be enjoying more out door cook-outs with warmer weather.

Here is a salad as hearty as Texas that will please any large group. Bar-B-Que Bean Salad: drain and mix: 1 can green beans, 1 can wax (yellow) beans, 1 can kidney beans, 1 can chick peas (optional) (may shorten/condense to 1 can each of green beans, wax (yellow) beans, kidney and chick peas), 1 onion, chopped, 1/2 cup celery, diced, 1/2 cup green pepper diced. Sprinkle with: 1/2 cup sugar, 1 jar pimentos, diced, add following dressing: dressing 3/4 c. sugar, 2/3 cup vinegar, 1/2 cup oil, 1 tsp. salt, and 1/2 tsp. celery seed, mix well. With salad Mayonnaise may be used instead if preferred. Refrigerate overnight. Keeps well.

Compulsive overeaters are invited to a new weekly meeting of Overeaters Anonymous beginning this Thursday, February 14 at 6:30 pm at the Kinney County Library—Fritter Room.

Overeaters Anonymous is not a diet club.

There are no dues, fees or weigh-ins.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.

Founded in 1960 with three members, OA views compulsive overeating as a physical, emotional and spiritual disease that can be arrested but not cured. Members seek recovery on all three levels by following a twelve-step program patterned after that of Alcoholics Anonymous.

All compulsive overeaters are invited to attend Thursday's meeting.

Are you a compulsive overeater?

1. Do you eat when you're not hungry?
2. Do you go on eating binges for no apparent reason?
3. Do you have feelings of guilt and remorse after overeating?
4. Do you give too much time

and thought to food?

5. Do you look forward with pleasure and anticipation to the time when you can eat alone?
6. Do you plan these secret binges ahead of time?
7. Do you eat sensibly before others and make up for it alone?
8. Is your weight affecting the way you live your life?
9. Have you tried to diet for a week (or longer), only to fall short of your goal?
10. Do you resent others telling you to "use a little willpower" to stop overeating?
11. Despite evidence to the contrary, have you continued to assert that you can diet "on your own" whenever you wish?
12. Do you crave to eat at a definite time, day or night, other than at mealtime?
13. Do you eat to escape from worries or trouble?
14. Have you ever been treated for obesity or a food-related condition?
15. Does your eating behavior make you or others unhappy?

Many members of Overeaters Anonymous have found that they have answered yes to many of these questions. You are not alone.

Submitted by
Congressman **Ciro D. Rodriguez**

(Washington, DC) The Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued a federal disaster declaration for a 15-county region in South Texas, qualifying eligible businesses in those counties for low-interest economic disaster loans, Congressman **Ciro D. Rodriguez** announced today. To qualify, businesses in Atascosa, Banderita, Bexar, Edwards, Frio, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kinney, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Wilson, and Zavala counties, must file an application with the SBA before August 13, 2002.

"Many South Texas businesses experienced dramatic losses in agricultural sector income when producers lost their crops. The SBA's low interest emergency loans are designed to assist these small businesses in meeting normal operating expenses while South Texas producers recover."

Small businesses qualifying for the disaster assistance may receive up to \$1.5 million at four percent (4%) interest with repayment terms which may extend up to 30 years, depending upon the repayment ability of the individual applicant. To qualify, small businesses must meet size standards established by the SBA.

SBA representatives may be reached by calling a toll-free hotline at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired. While farm operators in the disaster area are not eligible for the SBA loans, a separate emergency designation issued by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides similar emergency loans. Farm operators who suffer property or production losses caused by inclement weather conditions earlier this year should contact their local Farm Service Agency for further information about eligibility requirements and applications.

The Old Quarry Society

It's almost here - the Old Quarry Society's Cabaret Dinner! This Friday and Saturday, February 15th and 16th, the Cabaret Dinner will be presented in the Cavalry Room of the Las Moras Inn, with a cash bar beginning at 6:00 PM (6:15 PM on Friday), dinner to start at 7:00 PM and the wonderful entertainment to follow. The menu calls for Chicken Cordon Bleu Friday night and glazed ham on Saturday.

Seating is limited and Friday is already sold out. But there are still tickets for Saturday, available at the Fort Clark Springs Adult Center.

Organization will perform

Award winning representatives of the world's largest all-male singing organization (SPEBSQSA) Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. will perform in Brackettville at 7:30 p.m. on February 22nd in the Civic Center.

The San Antonio Chordsmen

Barbershop Chorus under the direction of Arthur "Artie" Dolt, Jr. produce four to six in-town or road shows yearly and compete in two contests by the SPEBSQSA. Present shows are called "Fun Tier Days." The chapter was crowned International Champion at the Society's annual International chorus competition.

The chorus range in age from "teens" to the "seniors" and represent about every occupation and profession.

The "Kinney County Arts Council" is a non-profit organization that receives matching funds from the Texas Commission on the Arts; therefore, a charge of \$5.00 is necessary for adults at the 7:30 p.m. performance. The "KCACS" goal provides cultural events for Kinney County students, whose school program is scheduled at 1:00 p.m.

Parents and students protest at meeting

Continued from Page 1

Others spoke of Nowlin's accomplishments over 14 years in Brackettville which included Head Girls Basketball Coach, Head Softball Coach, Head Football Coach, Head Baseball Coach, Head Tennis Coach and Head Volleyball Coach. Nowlin has served as Girls Athletic Coordinator for the last 10 years.

"He is still going to be in the girls' program. I look forward to him returning here next year and being a positive influence on our campus and an active classroom teacher," said John Paul Schuster the following day.

At present Nowlin can expect a decrease in salary of 3.4% for the loss of the head coaching position. It is unknown what other

current responsibilities of Nowlin's may go to the new head coach. Depending on the scenario he could face a 17.5% reduction in salary.

The contract renewal process began with the superintendent's contract being renewed last Monday. Staff renewals will begin in two months.

"We won't give up on Gregg. He has been an employee and friend for years and we would like to keep him in our community," said Stephenson in a subsequent interview.

Nowlin stated he did plan to appeal the matter but declined to make further comment pending the outcome. The appeal process could take up to three weeks before going to the board.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

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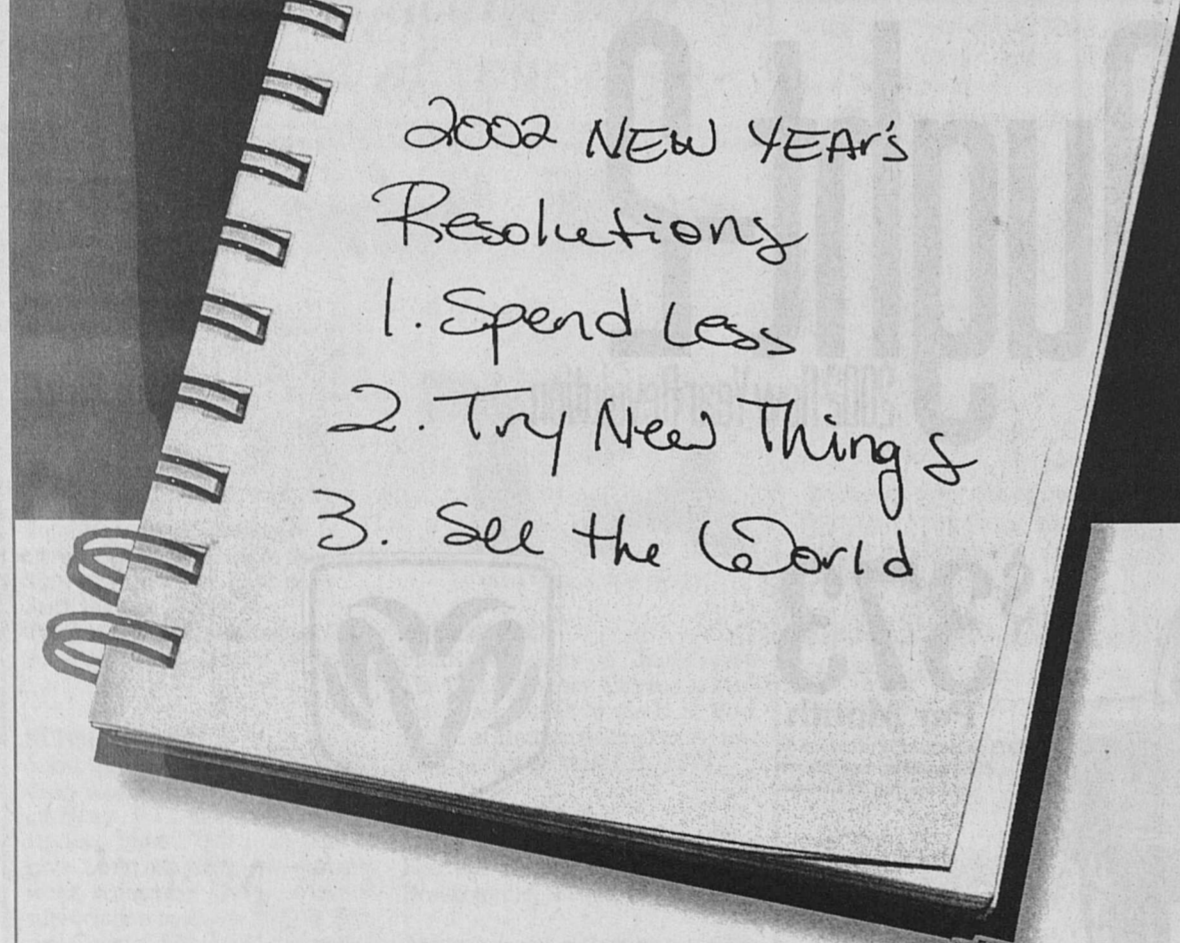
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Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, February 4
10:51 p.m., A man requested a deputy at his residence. Deputy Karl Chism was advised.
11:26 p.m., Deputy Chism responded to trespassing.

Tuesday, February 5
8:57 a.m., A man reported a brush fire on Hwy 674 north across from a ranch.
9:00 p.m., Levi Brando Moore, 20, from Brackettville, was arrested for burglary of habitat by Deputy Chism.

Wednesday, February 6
2:20 p.m., Vincent Charlie Hall, 40, from Whitney, TX, was arrested by Trooper Cano for driving while license suspended. Hall was released the same day after posting bond.
3:30 p.m., Nathan Michael Luna, 17, from Brackettville, was arrested for theft by Sheriff Buddy Burgess. Luna was released the same day on a \$1,200 Alamo Bail Bond.

Thursday, February 7
4:30 p.m., Jerry Alan Phipps, 40, was arrested by Sheriff Burgess for trespassing. Phipps was released the next day for time served.
9:30 p.m., A man reported a possible drunk driver, driving a maroon van on Hwy 90 west. DPS Trooper Tom Wylie and Deputy Manuel Pena Jr., were both advised.
Saturday, February 9
7:15 a.m., A man reported a black cow on Hwy 90 west.
10:49 a.m., An employee from the Laughlin Air Force Base reported the emergency beacon light at Spofford was on and requested a deputy to check the area. Deputy Pena responded.
1:50 p.m., Chief of Police Arnulfo Alonzo responded to kids arguing.
3:52 p.m. Deputy Pena responded to livestock on Hwy 90.
7:31 p.m., A man reported a large brush fire on Hwy 277 south five miles from rest area. Maverick County was notified.
Sunday, February 10
3:20 a.m., Deputy Manuel Pena Sr., responded to suspicious activity.
4:20 a.m., David Rios, 36, from Del Rio, was arrested for driving while license suspended by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie.
5:20 a.m., A United States Border Patrol Agent reported a cow on FM 1572.
8:50 a.m., Del Rio Border Patrol reported two cows on Hwy 90 west near Pinto Creek.
11:36 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to loud music.

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It's Valentine's Day! This year, instead of giving your loved ones those chocolates or flowers - or, at least, in addition to those chocolates and flowers - why not make sure you give the gift of financial security?

You don't have to be rich to protect your family - but you do need to plan ahead. So, today, consider drawing up a "Cupid's Checklist" containing a list of things you need to do to take care of those people most important to you.

What should you have on that list? Here are a few possibilities:

- Review your life insurance** - Do you have enough life insurance - and the right type of insurance - to meet your family's needs should anything happen to you? Keep in mind that your insurance needs change throughout your life. When you're just starting out in your career, and you have young children, you may be able to get by with an inexpensive term life policy. But as you move nearer to retirement and your children leave the house, you probably will no longer need as great a death benefit. Consequently, you may want to consider some type of "permanent" insurance - such as universal life - that provides an investment option and can be integrated into your estate plans. A financial professional can help you determine those types of insurance that are best suited to your particular situation.
- Update your beneficiary designations** - You need to supply beneficiary designations for virtually every financial instrument you own - annuities, IRAs, 401(k)s, and insurance policies. And, once you do indicate your chosen beneficiaries, it's pretty easy to forget about the matter altogether. Yet, circumstances may change in your life, and events such as death or divorce may well require you to revise your beneficiary designations. That's why it's a good idea to review these designations every couple of years or so. Remember, these are legally binding instructions - so make sure they're going to be carried out according to your wishes.
- Establish your estate plans** - Although recent legislation is designed to phase out estate taxes over the next several years, you can't assume you no longer have to do any estate planning. For one thing, there's no guarantee that these changes won't be reversed and you'll once again have to consider the impact of estate taxes on your heirs. But, just as importantly, you need a solid estate plan to make sure your assets go to those family members and charitable organizations you choose. To create an estate plan that fits your individual needs, consult with a legal adviser who is experienced in estate planning issues.
- Flowers will fade, and chocolates will get eaten. But if you use Valentine's Day as a starting-off point to ensure that your loved ones are taken care of financially, then you'll know that you've given the gift of a lifetime.

Stephenson contract extended, Board of Trustees UIL reassignment requested

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

In Executive Session, BISD Board of Directors extended Superintendent Taylor Stephenson's contract for two years, after reviewing his evaluation. The board also accepted the resignation of two teachers who had already indicated they wished to resign at the end of the school year. Replacements will be sought for Jason Guidry, Band Director and Judy Hooker.

Hooker is on leave of absence and her classes have been absorbed by two other teachers. Stephenson commended the teachers, who asked to take on the extra students to avoid further disruption for the children.

UIL Reassignment was discussed and Superintendent Stephenson will write to request reconsideration of the 2A assignment, primarily because of the tremendous travel distances to attend games. Because of this, the Jr.

High and JV often do not have a chance to play a full slate of games, and arriving home late at night is a burden on both students and parents who try to support them. Stephenson said he did not hold out much hope for reassignment, but felt in fairness to students and parents he and the board should make the request.

He will also recheck enrollment records, since at 180 students, BISD is only one student over the line into 2A.

Stephenson stated that he hopes to have RFP's for roof repair ready to advertise within the next two weeks. The RFP's will include the specification and scope of work to be done and will be advertised for two weeks.

If the RFP's are back, they will be presented at the next board meeting. State evaluation of property, which is higher than the Kinney County appraisal, continues to be a huge problem. Board President Tim Ward said, "The state does not take into consideration

the issue of a long period of drought affecting productivity nor the anthrax problem - we've had land that has gone unleased because of the anthrax scare. The state is looking for a way to not have to send money to us, and we're a poor county, 22nd from the bottom in a list of 254 counties in Texas. We have no mineral products, sheep and goat production is almost dead. Having the state say our property is worth more than we say it is puts us in a precarious position."

"When the state uses sale price of a piece of property, there may have been improvements made there that our assessors didn't know about, so naturally it sold for more than what we have it listed for."

Superintendent Stephenson will appeal the appraisal and obtain more information for the Board.

Because of Spring Break, the next Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 4th.

Making a Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

Dear Members of the Committee; The administration and Board of Trustees are disappointed with the conference and district placement of Brackett High School. We were only one (1) student above the cut-off for Class A with 180 certified enrollment on count day, October 26, 2001.

We have reviewed our numbers to ascertain that the October 26 count was correct. We have found no errors. So, we were placed in Class AA.

If Class A had been capped at 180 instead of 179, we could have participated in Class A competition with schools that are much closer to Brackettville. Because we were one student over, our students must travel all year long

close to 200 miles one way to get to Freer, Three Rivers and George West. The added expense for charter diesel buses would be better spent on our kids needs if we had been assigned to Class A.

It is impossible for us to have junior high and junior varsity competition with schools that are 200 miles away.

We can't travel 200 miles one way with young kids on weekdays. So, the students in athletic and academic programs in junior high and sub varsity levels will suffer because of lost program opportunities. I believe that the kids in George West, Freer and Three Rivers will also suffer.

After the redistricting in 2000, the Brackett Board of Trustees submitted a resolution asking that the UIL study the negative effect on student learning that a district

with Three Rivers, Poth and Pettus had on students at Brackett ISD. We are disappointed two years later (2002) to find that we will travel farther distances. Because of the distances involved, we can not understand why this was not taken into account when final decisions on conference size were determined. Would anyone care if we were in Class A?

If our conference can be reconsidered, the board, administration and athletic staff ask you to do it and place us in a closer Class A District. The parents of our community would strongly support such a move.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

■ Editors Note: This is a letter written by Superintendent Stephenson to the Universal Interscholastic League.

Parents it's time to be involved

Parents of High School Seniors need to be aware of several things at this point in time, if your student is planning on going to college or vocational school after he/she graduates. First of all, your senior should have applied to all of the colleges/schools that he or she is interested in attending by now. If they have not done so, please encourage them to obtain applications and submit them as soon as possible.

Many scholarship committees (including the local ones) require a "Letter of Acceptance" from a college to even consider a senior for their award. There are a number of national and state scholarships to apply for.

Seniors should also fill out and submit scholarship applications for all schools they are interested in attending. They do not have to know exactly where they are going to apply. Students should be proactive in their search, and see Mrs. Frerich (Counselor) for applications that are announced at

school.

Secondly, seniors should have their financial aid forms (FAFSA) submitted to the government by mid-March. The colleges recommend that you file your taxes now and input the proper tax information before submitting the FAFSA. Estimates of tax information are acceptable, however, you would have to re-submit the FAFSAs if your tax information was incorrect at the time the FAFSA was submitted. It is recommended that you submit your FAFSAs via the Internet. If your senior should have any questions regarding the FAFSA, he or she should see Mrs. Frerich.

Finally, seniors will be required to pass the TASP exam for college admission, whether they attend a two or four-year school. Seniors have been given the information at school.

Also, seniors wanting to attend four-year universities will be required to take the ACT and/or the SAT prior to admission. Students

may take these exams as many times as they wish, and applications are available in the Career Center in the High School. Fee-waivers are available for the ACT (one time only) and SAT (once per year) for students on free or reduced lunch plans. Should you have any questions about any of the information herein, please contact Michelle Frerich at 563-2491 ext. 401.

Current scholarships: The Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition-Postmark deadline March 4, 2002; The FFA College and Vocational/Technical School Scholarship Program-Postmark deadline - February 15, 2002; Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc. Scholarship - Deadline to be received in office March 1, 2002, 1:00 PM; SWTJC Scholarship Application - Deadline to be received in office - April 1, 2002. Internet searches with the word "Scholarships" will lend many scholarships available across the nation.

JV girl's basketball team wins

By Tiffany Blore
Contributing Writer

The JV Girl's basketball team ended the season with a win against Dilley in Dilley on February 5th.

The final score was 25 - 11.

The leading scorer was Valerie Terrazas with 7 points. Also scoring were Davina Pena with 5 points, Amanda Davis and Juliann Ashabanner each with 4 points, Whitney Hobbs with 3 points, and Kristi Meyer with 2 points. Also

working hard and playing well were Jackie Duncan, Stacey Terrazas, and Tammy Smith. This makes their record in district play 3-3, and 5-9 for the season. Thank you for your continued effort and hard work.

4-H Project Leaders

The Kinney County 4-H Club is looking for adults to volunteer as project leaders in a variety of programs offered through 4-H. We have several 4-H members who have signed up and expressed interest in different projects but are unable to participate because there is no leader for that project. We would like to help some of these children in learning and experi-

encing new things.

Please help? Your time and effort is invaluable. The following projects are some of those that are in need of a project leader: Public Speaking, Veterinary Science, Aquatic Science, Sport Fishing, Dog Care and Training, Small Animals, Poultry, Wildlife, White-tail Deer, Wood Science, Computer Science, Workforce Prepa-

ration and Careers, Endangered Species, Ag in the Classroom, Bicycle, Mini Gardens, Art, Food and Fiber, Exotic Wildlife, Entomology, and Outdoor Education.

If you feel that you might be interested in becoming a leader in one of these projects please contact the Kinney County Extension Agent, Robert Elledge, at 830-563-2442.

Job Shadow Day

Brackett High School recently held its second annual Job Shadow Day. Job Shadow Day is sponsored by School to Careers, and gives students an opportunity to go out into the workforce to learn more about specific careers.

Students "shadow" an employee for one day, and learn the skills necessary for each occupa-

tion. On Friday, February 1, 2002, twenty-five juniors and seniors went out into the community and gained meaningful learning experiences.

The students had wonderful comments on their experiences, and some of them have decided to volunteer their time at the job site

they visited! This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn the answer to the all-important question "Why do I need to know how to do this?"

Brackett High School would like to thank all the job sites for offering to host our students, and for giving of their time and generosity.

Boys golf competed at Tivy Invitational

By Coach D. Wilkins
Contributing Writer

The boy's golf team went to Kerrville Monday to compete in the Tivy Invitational. There were 14 teams present, our guys finished in second place with a team total of 365. Boerne placed first with a total of 333. Our team con-

sisted of Chase Neuman (shot 84), Ryan Benton (88), Eliot Stone (92), Whitney Massingil (101), & Robbie Looney (116). Chase also placed 3rd as an individual medalist.

They did very well on this difficult course! I was very pleased with their play, especially the new comers. Great job Guys!

2002 Little League

One of the rites of spring is the beginning of baseball. Preparations for the 2002 Little League seasons is currently under way in Brackettville. As youngsters dust off their bats and oil their gloves.

Little League, founded in 1939 in Williamsport, PA., is the world's largest youth sports program with more than 2.8 million children and 1 million volunteers in more than 100 countries. More than 30 million people have played in a Little League program as youngsters.

The program is solely based on the concept of volunteers. The Kinney County program is no exception. The league is looking for volunteers to help with umpiring, coaching, announcing, and book keeping. The concession stand is also ran with the help of volunteers. A clinic is currently being planned for anyone interested in

umpiring. Registration will begin for any youngsters between the age of 5 and 15 on February 11 from 5-7 p.m. Their age as of August 1 is the cut off for the season. Parents should bring the child's birth certificate along with the \$25 registration fee. Special consideration will be given to families with more than 2 children registering. Other registration dates will be February 14th, 19th, 21st, from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. The final day to register will be Saturday February 23 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. All registration will take place in room 1 of Jones Elementary.

Anyone interested in coaching should come during one of the registration times to fill out a volunteer information sheet. Anyone interesting in helping out with umpiring should call league president Jenifer Harris at 563-2273.

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

Thursday, February 14
G Softbl V SWTJC Tourn @ Uvalde, TBA

Friday, February 15
End of 4th 6 wks., G Softbl V SWTJC Tourn @ Uvalde, TBA

Saturday, February 16
G Softbl V SWTJC Tourn @ Uvalde, TBA

Monday, February 18
9:00 AM G Golf Brackett Invitational

Tuesday, February 19
SDAA Writing GR 4 & 8, TAAS Exit Level Writing GR 10, TAAS Writing GR 4 & 8

Wednesday, February 20
TAAS Exit Level Math GR 10

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
 1 Post Office purchase
 6 Leaning
 10 Trees
 14 Reason to say "oops"
 15 Fictional king
 16 Pack down firmly
 17 ___ bean
 18 Faulty
 20 Homonym for a number
 21 Trip
 23 Home that's for the birds
 24 Performer
 25 Hodgepodge
 27 Teaches
 30 Lofty
 31 Keep put
 34 Feels terrible
 35 Spectrum
 36 Unit
 37 Rest briefly
 41 Lennon's lady
 42 Exhorts
 43 Remove
 44 Louis and Paul: abbr.
 45 Believe
 46 Small flower
 48 Czech river
 49 Trick
 50 Be in a bee
 53 Demanding
 54 Adder's name
 57 Declared unfit to be lived in
 60 Terrific
 62 In the past
 63 Beauty spot
 64 23 Across resident
 65 Ending for six or seven
 66 Rears
 67 Brown ermine
 DOWN
 1 Time for a seasonal change: abbr.
 2 Singing group
 3 River in Italy
 4 Witticism
 5 Part of the nucleus
 6 Wood used for bridges
 7 Perennial vegetable
 8 Stupid, clumsy person
 9 Prefix for paid or heat
 10 Female greeting
 11 Animal's haunt
 12 Early 21st -century year
 13 Graf ___
 19 Nut
 22 Thing: Lat.
 24 Record
 25 Candies
 26 Like an omelet
 27 Take-out foods
 28 Laughing
 29 Voices
 30 Home for many wives
 31 Blunder
 32 Joint
 33 Adjusted anew
 35 Singer Miller
 38 Crowd close together
 39 Unrestricted
 40 False deity
 46 Pro
 47 Stopovers
 48 Ancient
 49 Disappears gradually
 50 Hebrides resident
 51 Corn bread
 52 Suffix for persist or subsist
 53 Grasped
 54 Lily variety
 55 Room in King Carlos' house
 56 43 Across' opposite
 58 Feminine title: abbr.
 59 Negative prefix
 61 Untrustworthy one

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67

Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
 Mickey Mouse; 10. A microphone
 1. Baron Manfred von Richthofen, better known as the Red Baron; 2. Sony; 3. I and you; 4. Jefferson Davis; 5. California; 6. Rice; 7. Lee Iacocca; 8. 15 cents; 9.

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: FIVE-LETTER BODY PARTS

A	T	R	O	A	G	K	K	K	I	K	K
C	D	K	H	K	R	E	V	I	L	J	E
H	O	L	T	S	O	L	K	J	E	S	E
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Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- What World War I fighter pilot flew an Albatross biplane that was painted crimson?
- What electronics company did Akio Morita found before co-writing "The Japan That Can Say No"?
- What are the two most frequently spoken words in the U.S.?
- What Confederate leader proposed in 1864 that 40,000 slaves be bought and enlisted in the army, then freed later?
- By 1991, which state had 24 of America's 26 human bodies frozen in the hope they could be revived again?
- What is the Japanese drink, sake, made from?
- Whom did Henry Ford II fire as president of the Ford Motor Company in 1978?
- What did a burger cost when the McDonald brothers opened for business in 1948?
- Who was the first animated character to be banned in East Germany for not measuring up to Marxist principles?
- What is Elvis holding in his right hand as depicted on a U.S. postage stamp?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 14.....Dora Goodloe	February 16.....Dorothy Wood
February 14.....Dolores Jones	February 17.....Carol Dimery
February 14.....Hector Luna	February 17.....Elton Goodloe
February 14.....Jack Schram	February 17.....Rochelle Mellen
February 14.....Shirley Stephenson	February 17.....Basilio Pacheco
February 14.....Frances Testman	February 17.....Renee M. Pena
February 15.....J.B. Herndon	February 17.....Ernesto Ortiz
February 15.....Virginia Shahan	February 18.....Irene Braun
February 16.....Roxie Brown	February 19.....Reggie Pena
February 20.....Henry Yeackle	

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 You spend some time this week playing catch-up at work. By midweek, all is on an even keel again. This weekend, reconnect with friends from the past.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 To alleviate the winter doldrums, find something to stimulate your imagination. Some take up a new hobby. Later in the week, you receive positive feedback at work.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 You're letting a family member annoy you unduly. The best way to deal with this person is to turn a deaf ear. Over the weekend, friends come to your aid.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 Be more understanding of your mate this week, who's been under some strain. Fortunately, you find just the right words to soothe the situation. Later in the week, romance is in the stars.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 When it comes to your finances, you need to get out of the back seat and take control. Leaving everything up to advisers is not a good idea. By week's end, you straighten things out.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
 You're under some pressure this week at work. However, don't let bigwigs goad you into rash action. A slow, methodical approach is best.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
 Although you are usually the one doing the comforting, this time, you need it. A trusted friend is the one to turn to. This weekend, you're under less stress.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
 You're upset when an invitation you'd assumed was forthcoming doesn't come your way. However, there's a good reason for this. In the long run, you'll be glad you didn't attend the event.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
 Shouting and getting angry won't get your point across to others. A calmer, more measured approach is best. By week's end, everyone ends up seeing things your way.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
 Being cagey with your mate causes problems this week. Openness and honesty are best. This weekend, you have a tendency to daydream and lose focus.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
 A surly co-worker really seems to have it in for you. Ignoring this person is your best bet. Bigwigs aren't paying any attention to what's being said.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
 You're normally frugal, and now is not the time to change this. Spend some time fine-tuning that budget. You'll be surprised at how much you can save.

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Ankle	11. Liver
2. Aorta	12. Mouth
3. Brain	13. Scalp
4. Cheek	14. Skull
5. Chest	15. Spine
6. Colon	16. Thigh
7. Elbow	17. Tooth
8. Groin	18. Tummy
9. Heart	19. Waist
10. Ileum	20. Wrist

Light Up Lent Seeking freedom Obituaries

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

Lent began yesterday, just in case you didn't know. For me, the beginning of Lent is more important as the beginning of the New Year. I have said before that I do not make New Year's resolutions, simply because I never keep them and it is one less area of my life about which I need to feel guilty. However, I do try to make some "Lenten resolutions."

I have heard it said that the greatest sin in the Church today is malaise. I looked that word up in the dictionary and found it means apathy, indifference, and laziness. Think about it-how many times do we go to church and can't even remember what the sermon was about? Do we know the names of all the people in our church, or at least, the names of those who go to the same Mass that we attend? Do we really care or are we just going through the motions?

Jesus calls us to be a light for the world. Matthew's Gospel (5: 14-16) challenges: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Lord shall answer

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

Then shall thy light break forth like the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily; and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rear guard.

Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity.

And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the af-

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lamp stand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

We were in a parish at one time where a large cross made of tree branches was placed on the altar and everyone in the parish was invited to nail their prayers and sacrifices to the cross. It was really something to see all those little pieces of paper on that cross as our offerings to Jesus. This is being a light to the world.

So as we go into this season of Lent, my resolution is to be a light to others. God will strengthen my faith, if I only ask, so that I can bring light to the darkness of others' fear and despair, to overcome my own apathy and laziness.

You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. In addition to regular weekend Masses, and weekday Masses, there will be Stations of the Cross on Friday at 5:30 p.m. God Bless You!

licted soul, then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be like the noonday.

And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations, and thou shalt be called, the repairer of the breach. The restorer of paths to dwell in. Isaiah 58:8-12.

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

In a recent sermon, I told my congregation, that if Jesus was here today (in human form) that he would be spending most of his time in the honky tonks and bars.

He would be in the pool halls and domino palaces and in the alley ways where hookers and dope dealers are as common place as the trash cans and dumpsters.

Jesus has always sought out the lost, sick and deprived. That's what he did when he was here 2,000 years ago and he has never stopped and never will.

Let's you and I take a trip. Let's you and I spend the day and night following in the foot steps that he would make, if he were here in the flesh.

Let's you and I open the doors to the honky tonks and bars and the pool halls and go into those filthy alleys.

Let's you and I take a really good look at the people that we find in there. Let's talk to them, one on one.

Let's learn their stories! Why are they there? What drove them to these places?

These are our brothers and sisters and it is only by the grace of God, that you and I haven't

had to join them, that we've found something better!

We've never had to deteriorate into such a state of decadence to be accepted or to have friends.

Misery loves company! These people are consoling one another into an acceptance of their personal plights.

The blind leading the blind, they both fall deeper into the pit of despair.

Young people, so lonely and starved for affection that they will give themselves to almost anybody for a little warmth and love, no matter how short the time or degrading the act.

More often than not, these experiences leave them less fulfilled and more desperate for meaningful human contact than they were before.

Middle aged people, having survived to this point, have more than likely experienced more than one failed marriage, a multitude of lost jobs and live daily in a sea of confusion.

They have tried really hard most of them, but without someone to show them the way, without having developed a lasting relationship with the father. They just can't seem to pull it all together, they can't make it work!

Praise God, some find their

way home. Some, not enough! But some find the truth and gain peace and true happiness.

Most move on into old age. By this time they are colder, harder, totally disbelieving that any other kind of life could possibly exist for them.

They spend nearly all their time seeking freedom from boredom.

They are constantly on the move, constantly searching for something to do! Travel, fish, read, watch TV, go play dominoes or bingo. Something, anything!

Worse yet, are those countless numbers that have given up completely and day after day just sit there and wait for old man death to come and take them. How sad!

Somehow collectively, you and I have to find some way to help them to break the chains that bind them to that way of life.

If it takes us a life time, if individually each of us could somehow save one other human being from destruction and show them the way to eternal life. Then our own lives will of had an even greater meaning and impact.

Please think and pray about this!

Janice Mendive

Janice Toft Mendive, 72, passed away Monday, February 4, 2002 at an Arlington hospital. A memorial service was held Friday, February 8th at St. Albans Episcopal Church of Arlington.

Janice was born January 13, 1930. She grew up in Brackettville and attended Texas A & I. She was preceded in death by parents, Harold & Wilhelmena Toft and sister, Sharon Toft Trant. Survivors: Husband, Lawrence Mendive of Arlington, daughter and son-in-law, Shawn Mendive and Denney Rhodes of Arlington; son, Lawrence Mendive Jr. of Dallas; daughter and son-in-law, Zane Land and Curtis Land of Arlington; grandchildren Peyton Land and Clay Land of Arlington.

Gordon Hutton

Gordon Jay Hutton, passed away peacefully on Friday February 8, 2002 at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio. He was a 24 year resident of Fort Clark Springs. He was preceded in death by his loving wife Lois. He is sadly missed by his sister Norma Culley and sons Gordon Jr., Kim, and Jay - D all of Canada and Rick of Fort Clark. At his request there will be no service.

Forgive and move on The Road Less Travelled

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charlotte Corey

Jesus, who is our example of agape love, love that is given when the person being loved does not merit it, is also our example for loving people without loving all their choices.

On the one hand, Jesus whipped the moneychangers out of the temple of God. On the other hand, Jesus had their sin laid upon him on the cross where he paid for their sins in an ultimate sacrifice of love.

On the one hand, Jesus was criticized by his own Hebrew high priests, his fellow men, fellow rabbis, scholars and lawyers, yet on the other hand, their sin was laid on him at the cross.

On the one hand, Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot, on the other hand, Jesus told him to go do what he had to do, knowing that he would be hung on a cross, and even Judas's sins would be placed on him on the cross.

On the one hand, Jesus performed miracles for thousands of people, healing, delivering, raising people from the dead, and yet he endured the trial and the sentence when the people at his trial chose to free Barabas instead of himself.

He took the sin of those people on himself at the cross.

On the one hand, Peter denied knowing Jesus Christ three times, but on the other hand Jesus still loved him and had his sin laid upon him on the cross.

It is hard to understand how Jesus could allow all that sinful nature to be placed upon him on the cross, and yet endure it, forgiving the people who had hurt him. Yet he forgave them all.

Father God in heaven even had to turn his back on his own son so as not to touch or be a part of the sin that was placed on Jesus.

The heartbreak of that is beyond anything anyone on this earth can ever know, yet Jesus had (and has) such great love, that he endured it all for us. Jesus has truly "born it all, all to him I owe".

The good news is that Jesus has empowered each person who believes in him through the power of his Holy Spirit to do all things through Christ (the Anointed One and his anointing), to forgive and to move on in life.

His love has made you more than a conqueror; he has made you an overcomer. He will wash you white as snow and let you start over again with a fresh slate.

Love others as God has first loved you. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
By Rev. Nathan LaFrenz

Recently churches throughout the world ended the season of Epiphany with the celebration of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

He is on a mountain with His disciples and His appearance is transfigured. Certainly for Jesus this was a mountain top experience.

What a rush it must have been for Him to be so in tune with the presence of His Heavenly Father.

While on the mountain top he must have looked down on the path where He had come as well as to the path he was about to go on; the path to Jerusalem. He had a choice at that moment. He could choose the easy road of power, popularity, and prestige; that which was offered to him while in the desert being tempted by Satan, or he could choose the path of faith and go

to Jerusalem where death on the cross awaited him. We know the road He chose. F. Scott Peck wrote a wonderful book called, "The Road Less Travelled" in which he describes human existence so well. He tells us that most of us don't want to go down the road less travelled because it is too hard. It is the road of self-discipline, responsibility, taking risks to love and forgive.

We like instead to choose the road more travelled which is making the easy choices of just doing what is easy or expedient. All of us are on the mountain tops with many paths in life still open for us to choose.

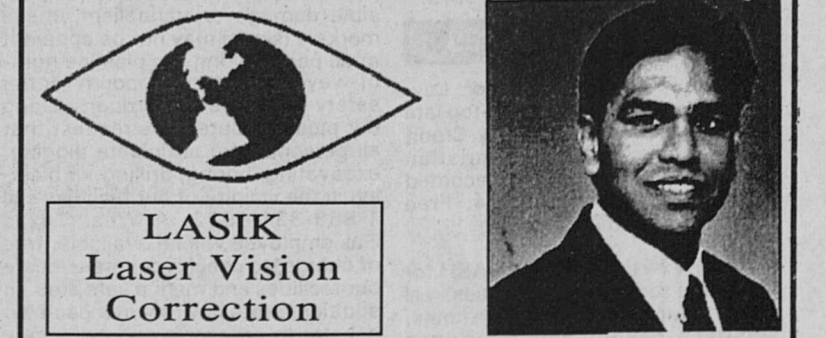
Which roads will we go on? Do we have the intestinal fortitude like Jesus to choose the road less travelled, the road to Jerusalem?

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Health

Melting the chocolate myth

Houston - If you have acne, don't put up the candy this Valentine's day. Have your chocolate and eat it too.

"Despite the belief that chocolate causes acne, there is no scientific basis that proves this theory," said Dr. John Wolf, chairman and professor in the department of dermatology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "Follow a 'common sense diet.' If a particular food affects your complexion, don't eat it."

Acne is a skin condition primarily affecting teenagers and nearly half of all adults. It is most often found on the face, neck, shoulders, upper back and chest in the forms of whiteheads, blackheads and pimples.

Acne is not caused by poor hygiene - but rather results from a combination of factors including heredity, hormones, natural bacteria, excess oil production and clogged pores.

Other factors that can trigger acne include stress, fatigue and menstruation.

"There is a natural tendency to associate acne flare-ups with something that you can actually see, such as a candy bar. It is important to understand, how-

ever, that acne goes through a continuous cycle of ups and downs caused by factors often beyond our control," Wolf said.

Wolf offers the following tips for controlling acne:

- Avoid harsh, excessive scrubbing. Washing with abrasive cleansers can make acne worse.

- Avoid oil-based makeup. These products can irritate the skin, causing acne to worsen.

- Don't pick. Touching the skin spreads bacteria and excess oil, which could lead to breakouts.

- For mild acne, try over-the-counter products that contain benzoyl peroxide. This is effective for killing bacteria associated with acne. If this doesn't help, see a dermatologist for prescription medication.

- Don't assume that you will outgrow acne. If left untreated, acne can cause scarring that could affect a person's physical and psychological health.

"Acne is not just a teen disease. It is a disease that can affect anyone at any stage in life," Wolf said.

"The key to keeping it under control is catching the problem early and seeking treatment from a professional."

Breakfast-skipping teens could suffer from lack of iron

Houston - Teens that do not eat breakfast are twice as likely to have diets low in iron, a shortfall that could be hurting their grades.

In a study of 700 ninth graders Nicklas found that 19 percent skipped breakfast, including 20 percent of white and 36

percent of non-white girls. Intakes of other vitamins were also higher among the breakfast eaters, while fat consumption was lower.

Poor food choices, skipped meals, and calorie cutting can also jeopardize a teen's diet quality and iron intake.

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Wednesday P.M. 6:30 Classes
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ANTIQUES

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AUCTIONS

INTERNET AUCTION. 2000 & 1999 Model Repossessed Mobile Homes. 1848 SF & 1792 SF/3 Bed/2 Bath. www.venuebid.com, 1-877-824-7653. Call for details. (TX Lic.#11818).

PERFORMANCE TESTED ALL Breed Bull Sale, February 23, 2002, Four County Auction, Industry, Texas. 160+ Bulls, Sell 1:00 p.m.; 400+ Commercial Females, 10:00 a.m. (TX Lic.#6098). For information: Pierce Sale Company, 1-979-865-1410.

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RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGECC) is accepting applications for the position of Mechanic to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Applicants must have two years experience as a mechanic or appropriate technical education preferred.

ABLE TO TRAVEL - Protek Chemical has openings for 8 people. No experience necessary. All transportation and lodging furnished. Expense paid training program. Work/travel entire USA with unique young business group. Call Melissa, 1-888-944-1999.

ATTENTION! BE YOUR own boss. \$25-\$75/hr. potential, PT/FT. No experience necessary. Mail order/internet, 1-888-779-6009, www.BossFree-24-7.com

AVON - ENTREPRENEUR WANTED! Must be willing to work whenever you want, be your own boss, and enjoy unlimited earnings. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WEST TEXAS GAS, Inc. issues this public notice to provide information concerning certain facilities and operations in Frio, Dimmit, Zavala, Uvalde, Maverick, Kinney, and Val Verde Counties of Texas. Excavation: West Texas Gas, Inc. operates buried natural gas pipelines and facilities in the above Texas Counties. WTG has markers placed along the pipeline routes, but because of possible damage or vandalism, these markers (signs) may not be apparent at all points along the pipeline right-of-ways. Due to our concern for the safety of people and property along our pipeline routes, we request that all persons who anticipate digging, excavating, boring, drilling, or blasting in the vicinity of our facilities call 1-888-334-4912. A West Texas Gas employee will be available, free of charge, to check your area, locate our facilities and mark a safe area. In addition, state law requires each excavator to contact a one call locate service. The one call service will then notify each operator of buried utilities that you intend to dig in an area that may contain buried utilities (water, gas, electric, telephone, etc.). This service and call are free. Contact the Texas Excavation Safety Service at 1-800-344-8377. Please notify West Texas Gas if the following situations occur in relation to a pipeline or other facilities we operate: The escape of gas from a pipeline - This may be detected by smell, hissing sound, or an unexplained area of dead vegetation in the vicinity of our facilities). Fire or explosion occurring near our facilities. Vandalism or theft of pipeline markers. Emergencies; in the event of an emergency involving a West Texas Gas facility: Evacuate the area immediately, notify local law enforcement, fire department and WTG. Do not return to the area until advised by officials.

HELP WANTED

LET'S TALK AVON!! Need extra money? Flexible Hours!! Up to 50% earnings!! Sell Avon!! Holly McBain - local dist. sales mgr. Toll free 1-800-942-8616!

HOUSE FOR SALE

LARGE ONE BED, 2 bath in unit 14 F.C.S. with separate 12 x 14 unit building. Can be used as spare bedroom, office. Drive is covered for R.V. with tool shed. Open to any reasonable offer until February 28, 2002. For information call Rick or Carole 563-2545.

REAL ESTATE

2 LOTS 408 & 410 E. Spring St. Also Bike Shop inventory. 830-563-3436 after 5 or weekends.

85-190 ACRES on Pecos River & Amistad National Recreation Area. Swim, fish, tube, hunt, crystal clear water, spectacular views. Near Langtry, \$495/Acre. Terms, 1-866-286-0199, www.westland.com

SHARE/CAMPGROUNDS

GOT A CAMPGROUND Membership or Timeshare? We'll take it! Selling, buying or renting? Call the best. Don't use the rest. World Wide Vacations, 1-800-423-5967.

It's good to have an end to journey toward; but it's the journey that matters, in the end. —Ursula LeGuin

REAL ESTATE

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

3 bed, 2 baths, 2 car carport, wide front porch. Priced to sell.

3 bed, 2 baths, extra large living room, jacuzzi tub, 2 carports. On corner lot on golf course. \$80,000.

2 bed, 2 baths townhouse. Great shape only \$45,000.

2 bed, 2 baths, carpeted, appliances \$57,000.

10 acres with buildings on Hwy 90. One good well. \$130,000.

Building lots in different sections of Fort Clark. Prices vary. All reasonable.

orourke@the-i.net

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

STAMP ALOP ELMS ERROR LEAR TAMP PINTO DEFECTIVE TOO TREK AERIE DOER MESS TRAINS HIGH BAR AILS RANGE ONE CATCHFORTHWINKS ONO URGES DELE STS DEEM FLORET SELLER HARD SSS CONDEMNED GREAT ONCE MOLE EAGLE TEEN ENDS STOAT

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO

Molly Earl Kaplan - Broker P.O. Box 1035 Brackettville, TX 78832 830-563-2446 830-563-2447

Historic home on the Fort 2-bedroom, 2 bath large, sun room. 700 acres with water and fence priced to sell. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, very nice screened in porch \$70,000 on Walnut. www.kinneycountyland.com

LAS MORAS REALTY

DEBBIE TRANT BARBARA VOSS New Listing: 3 bed, 2 bath brick home on 25 + acres, minutes from town. Home has 2,400 +sq. ft., FP, nice kitchen. Includes cute 1 bed, 1 bath guesthouse!

Spacious 2 bed, 2 bath brick home, FP, sunroom, garage, sprinkler system, super condition & locale, Reduced Price!

3/2 mobile home in excellent condition, 2nd roof, carport, screened porch, fenced yard, sprinkler system. \$33,900 includes some furnishings, possible O.F.

Ranches & small acreage available! View listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

Rent:

Stage Stop for rent, gas stove, W/D, large yard.

3 bedroom, 2-bath on 20 acres.

Historic home on the Fort 2-bedroom, 2 bath large, sun room.

700 acres with water and fence priced to sell.

3 bedroom, 2 bath home, very nice screened in porch \$70,000 on Walnut.

La Fortuna Ranch Sales

Phyllis and Les Meyer 830-563-9911 615 Hwy 90 East

Homes in Fort Clark Springs, Historical and Recent Construction

*New Listing *Calvary Condo 1/1/2 garages - \$40,000.00

*New Listing *3/2/2, All brick, with 2 lots on Airport (FCS)

*4/3 carport on 5 acres 1.5 miles north of town, Quality improvements

*4/3/2 all the extras in the Oaks Subdivision (FCS)

We have buyers for all size ranches!

If you are thinking of selling please give us a call

Jacinto Chevrolet SUPERSALE! Sale ends Feb 28. \$2002 factory REBATE! 5.9% apr financing W.A.C. don't miss this sale. Includes vehicle listings: New 2002 S-10 REG CAB, New 2002 CHEVY CAVALIER, New 2002 CHEVY AVALANCHE, New 2002 SILVERADO EXT CAB, New 2002 1 TON SILVERADO REG CAB 4X4, New 2002 MONTE CARLO SS DALE EARNHART EDITION, New 2002 VENTURE VAN, New 2002 CHEVY TRACKER, New 2002 CHEVY SUBURBAN. Also Quality Pre-Owned SuperSale! GM Certified USED VEHICLES. 'Where Real People Make a Real Difference' and 'We'll Be There' slogan.