

The Brackett News



Delinquent taxpayers receive final warning
See story, Page 3

14th year, No. 29

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

Miller requests resignations of directors

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Fort Clark Springs board member Carol Miller asked for the resignations of fellow directors Mona Miller and Tom Saylor at a workshop last Tuesday.

When the two directors refused to resign, Carol Miller lambasted them at the board meeting Saturday morning.

"There is nothing in our declaration or bylaws which covers the censure or discipline of directors, but the behavior of two of the sitting directors on this board has been so flagrantly counter to the interests of our

"Carol (Miller), for the past three years, we've heard you bluster and vilify other board members, members of the association and the staff ... It's sad that your self-esteem is so low that you have to tear down others to make yourself feel important. I really pity you."

Fort Clark Springs director Mona Miller

association that some official note of it must be taken," said Carol Miller, as she read from a written statement during the meeting.

Over 400 Fort Clark members signed a petition, initiated by the Preservation Society, re-

questing a meeting to vote on removing Shirley Hadsell, Jack Simpson, Carol Miller, Glen White and Frank Cheaney from the board. Hadsell, the former president, resigned July 20 to accept a job with the association. Her board seat was filled

by Bob Williamson.

"In recent months, a protest group calling themselves the Preservation Society has been attempting a hostile takeover of this association by trying to remove all of the directors from the board, except for Tam Saylor and Mona Miller, who could then appoint their own slate of replacement directors to control the affairs of the association," Carol Miller continued in her statement.

"These two directors have assumed leadership roles with this protest organization, taking actions which are contrary to the procedures spelled out in our



At odds

Fort Clark Springs board member Tom Saylor (left) responds to comments made by fellow director Carol Miller (right) during Saturday's meeting. Miller previously asked for the resignations of Saylor and director Mona Miller.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Aldermen seek new water tank

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Brackettville officials are hoping a new elevated water storage tank will help improve the water pressure in the city.

The City Council voted last week to apply for a grant through the Office of Rural Affairs to fund the construction of the new tank.

The 100-percent, federally-funded grant is for \$267,844, according to Carl Esser of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council.

"We are in need of more water pressure," said David Luna, city secretary. "You go to other towns, stay in hotels or visit someone, and you notice that the water pressure is a whole lot better than what it is here. A lot of it has to do with the way the pipes are laid out. Some of it has to do with the fact that our water tower is not big enough."

The number of water-users in Brackettville has increased dramatically in recent years.

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Working on technique

Brackett head football coach David Yeager explains the proper technique of returning punts to senior Jared Hobbs. The Tigers host Junction Friday night in a scrimmage.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Water district searches for office, manager

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District officials hope to have an office by their next meeting on Sept. 2.

The Commissioners Court will discuss renting the district a room in the County Annex building during a special meeting Friday afternoon at 4.

Fort Clark Springs officials agreed to rent an office to the district if necessary, and water board director Don Hood said

Doug Davis spoke to him about renting an office in downtown Brackettville.

"We are coming to the point where we have got to find an office and have some hours set," said Cecil Smith, chairman of the water board. "And we need a permanent general manager."

Board member Zach Davis suggested the directors develop specific job requirements prior to the September meeting.

"This is not something that you can just go out and get somebody off the street," board

member Bob Young said. "There are a lot of skills involved. It would help a great deal to have a general manager, but at the same time, you want one that is very capable that has the skills to do it."

Hood said the district could likely find a qualified person at Fort Clark Springs.

"We have an abundance of talent at Fort Clark," he said. "There are a lot of retired people there who are retired managers of all kinds of things. Possibly, if we're permitted to

advertise in our local paper, we might come up with somebody from the fort."

Darlene Shahan, the board secretary who is serving as interim general manager, said Jace Houston, the district's attorney, "suggested finding another district that would share a staff."

"A lot of staffs work part-time for two different districts," she said. "There are a lot of districts that share not only a general manager, but a staff."

"In all of this stuff that we're

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Teachers at Brackett ISD will receive additional pay raises for the new school year.

The Brackett School Board approved an additional \$400 salary increase for the district's teachers at its meeting last week.

The trustees voted in June to add an additional \$100 to its pay scale. With the \$400 increase approved last week, the district now pays its teachers \$1,600 above the minimum salary requirements established by the Texas Education Agency.

"Changes in our educational program required that we look at an additional position this year in our preliminary budget," said Taylor Stephenson, BISD's superintendent. "We did not fill that position. I discussed this possibility with the board at the budget workshop in early June, but preferred to wait until we knew the total staff cost for the 2002-03 school year."

Stephenson said the additional raise for the district's 60 teachers would be \$24,000 in salaries, plus benefits of 10 percent, for a total cost of \$26,400.

"Teachers have been more difficult to hire this past summer," he said. "The pool of applicants is drying up as apparently the demand exceeds the supply."

Recent research shows that Texas could have as many as 5,000 teaching positions unfilled when school starts this year, the superintendent said.

"I feel like if we're going to stay competitive in our part of the world, we're going to have to raise our teachers' salaries," he said. "Our school just can't make it without very fine teach-

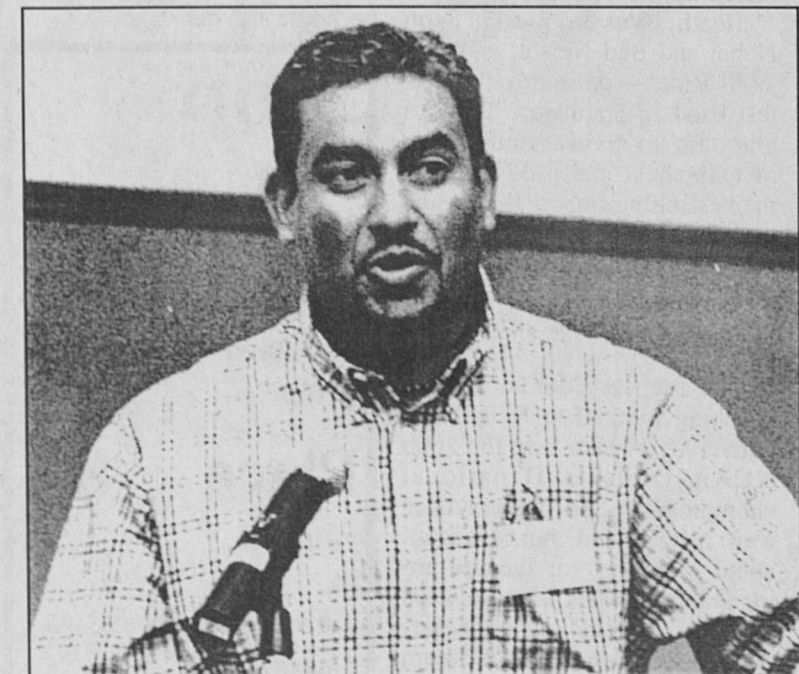
BISD teachers receive raises

SALARIES		
The following is the teacher salary schedule approved last week by the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees compared to state minimum salaries set by the Texas Education Agency:		
Years of Experience	TEA salary	BISD salary
0	\$24,240	\$25,840
1	\$24,810	\$26,410
2	\$25,390	\$26,990
3	\$25,960	\$27,560
4	\$27,170	\$28,770
5	\$28,380	\$29,980
6	\$29,590	\$31,190
7	\$30,720	\$32,320
8	\$31,780	\$33,380
9	\$32,790	\$34,390
10	\$33,730	\$35,330
11	\$34,640	\$36,240
12	\$35,490	\$37,090
13	\$36,280	\$37,880
14	\$37,050	\$38,650
15	\$37,760	\$39,360
16	\$38,440	\$40,040
17	\$39,080	\$40,680
18	\$39,680	\$41,280
19	\$40,260	\$41,860
20	\$40,800	\$42,400
21	\$40,800	\$42,940
22	\$40,800	\$43,480
23-plus	\$40,800	\$44,020

ers. We have added stipends for additional training above the bachelor's degree.

"BISD has a low tax rate compared to most other area schools, but our teacher salaries are slightly below area schools.

"Salaries are a factor in a teacher's decision to select a school. There are other things that are important such as community, safety, living conditions and administrative support. The board and administration hope to continue to improve teachers salaries and job conditions in Brackettville. We want the best teachers that we can afford," Stephenson added.



Perfect technique

Brackettville native Froylan Hernandez, a Sul Ross State University graduate student, presents his findings on Montezuma quail at the recent Trans-Pecos Wildlife conference.

Photo by Nancy Blanton

Brackettville native studies the ecology of Montezuma quail

By NANCY BLANTON
Sul Ross State University

On the list of upland game birds in West Texas, the Montezuma quail is low bird on the totem pole. But for Froylan Hernandez of Kingsville, the bird holds elevated status.

Hernandez, a Brackettville native who is a Sul Ross State University graduate student in wildlife resource management, has been studying the bird's ecology as his thesis project.

On Aug. 1, he presented some of his findings to a group of ranchers, wildlife biologists and land management educators about the bird's general ecology at the Trans-Pecos Wildlife con-

ference at Sul Ross. The conference provided new information to improve wildlife management programs on ranch property.

Dale Robbins, a noted quail expert and wildlife specialist with the Texas Cooperative Extension, indicated that research on the Montezuma quail is almost as elusive as the bird itself. Hernandez' presentation was the second in 10 years in the Trans-Pecos.

Hernandez' research, completed with the assistance of Clay Brewer, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area, and Louis Harveson, assistant professor in natural resource management at Sul Ross, addressed the question

of redefining the optimal environmental requirements of the quail.

"Most of the literature on their life history is 20 to 30 years old," Hernandez said. "They are difficult to study because they are hard to trap and flush in order to get an idea about locations and numbers. Their main food source is bulbs and tubers (as opposed to seeds and grains). I tried many different things, but found you have to be patient with these birds. Be in the right place at the right time and wait for them to come to you."

The study finds that the West Texas Montezuma quail populations differ in some behaviors,

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INSIDE

Steven LaMascus
I was thinking this morning about Jules Verne. He was one of the first science fiction writers. He was also, although he didn't intend to be, a prophet.
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Taylor Stephenson
Buses ran, cafeterias fed the kids, and teachers worked hard to give BISD students a good first week of school. We have had a fine opening of school this year!
Community/Page 4

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Nowlin's letter hits nail on head

Gregg Nowlin's letter to the editor of *The Brackett News* dated Aug. 15 about the administration at Brackett ISD only hiring football coaches and moving football coaches over to coach other sports really "hit the nail on the head."

Many of you know my son, Tevin, and his athletic ability. Tevin was a gifted athlete and excelled in all sports, particularly basketball. He was an accomplished baseball player and achieved Black Belt status in karate. He also played and excelled in football, golf and tennis while attending BHS. Unfortunately, neither karate nor baseball were offered at BHS.

Football coaches were his coaches for all athletic events, including basketball, tennis and golf. Just think what he might have accomplished with a little training from better-qualified instructors, instead of "just football coaches!"

Four years ago, after graduating college, Tevin applied for a coaching position at his "beloved" BHS, only to find that he did not meet the self-imposed qualifications of administrators, Taylor Stephenson, superintendent, and Roy Rokovich, athletic director.

Instead of hiring Tevin, a large, football guy just out of college was their choice for the coaching position. His physique made two of Tevin. One of Brackett's own was passed over for yet another football coach, just as Nowlin stated.

Many of you will remember this coach. He got hurt at the beginning of football season and wore a foot and ankle brace, and was paid off and dismissed before the end of the school year.

Was he dismissed because he was not a good coach or because of his injury?

Just like Coach Nowlin, I too, have several unanswered ques-

tions: Why was Tevin not hired? Was it because of his size? Did the administration just not like him? Was it because his mother was an opinionated teacher who did not specifically advocate football and was not a part of the "inside crowd?" Why was a first-year football athlete hired instead of Tevin, who is certified in both physical education and English? Did the School Board even know, or care, who had applied?

I'm sure those of you who know Tevin would agree that Tevin would have made Brackett proud and would still be here today!

Basketball, tennis, golf, baseball and even karate were his specialties. He is still actively involved in all these sports today, although, he is not a coach.

It is my opinion that the BISD Board of Trustees seldom concern themselves with personnel actions unless such actions directly effect themselves or their immediate family. In which case, they are in the driver's seat, are they not?

Wouldn't it be grand to have a Board of Trustees who make it a point to become more involved and better informed before making decisions which influence so many?

In rhetoric, given the opportunity, I'm positive they would agree. Don't you?

In retrospect, though, given the proper level of fertilization, mushrooms grow better in the dark. Do they not?

Janelle Senne

Reader supports Nowlin's letter

I say: Go Coach Nowlin!
The school spends \$100,000 on a "fitness room."

Why can't the school spend that amount on special education students?

Why am I saying this? Because our son, Carl, was in special ed for about 10 years — all of these at Brackett schools — and he cannot fill out an application for a job. I want this to be passed forward to other parents who have a child in special ed. Your child will be worked with, but for how long?

Will special ed. help your child?

Or will the money go toward's football?

By the way, I am not saying this by myself. We have four members of our family in teaching, one in San Antonio, Poteet, Corpus Christi and in Mission. There are two others that are no longer teachers because of bull ... in their district.

Do you want me to repeat what they say about our school district? They did tell us where we can go for complaints. What about it Brackett?

Lynn Dalton

Family and friends made the decision to stay an easy one

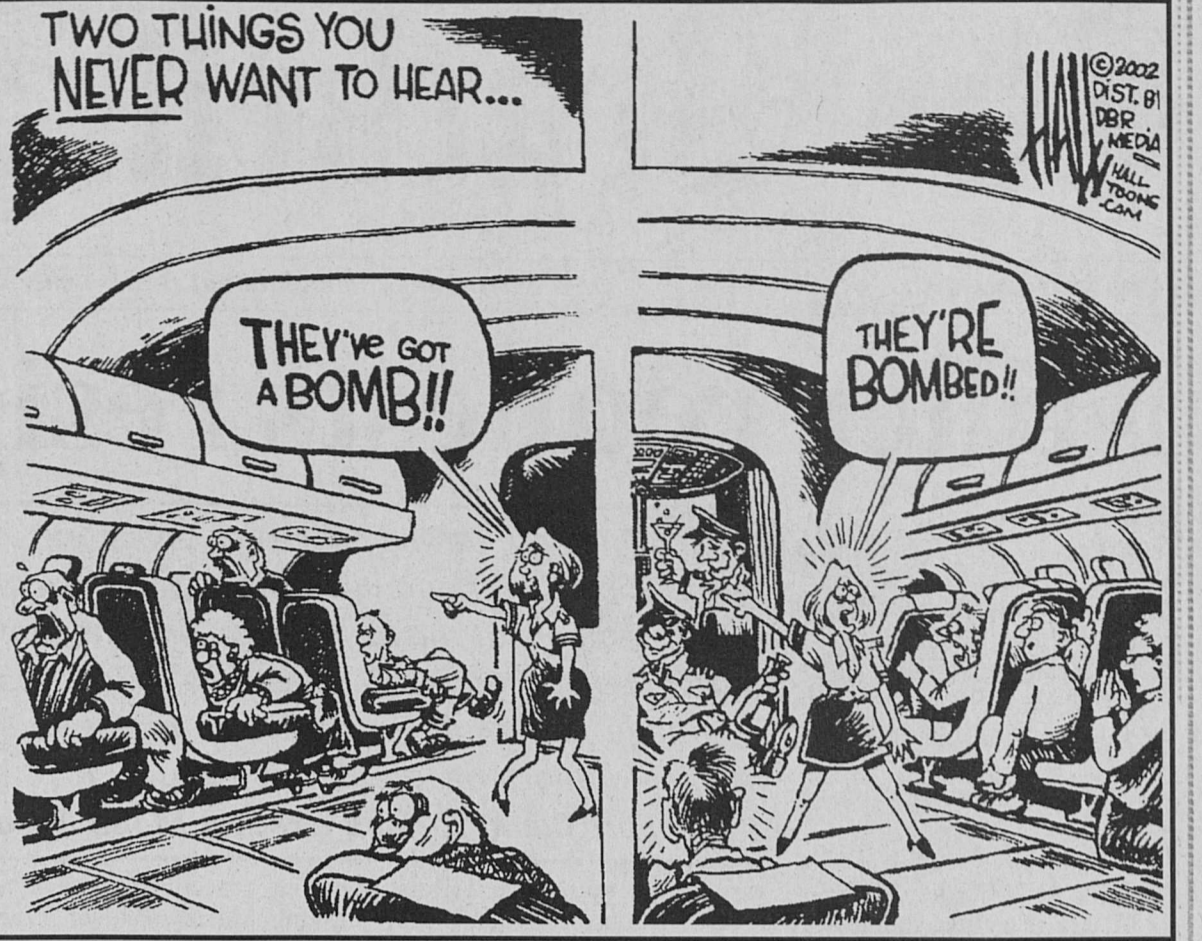
Over the last several weeks, I have been asked dozens of times the same question: "When are you going back to Mississippi?"

Well, truth is, I went back to Mississippi a few weeks ago — to pack my things and bring them back home.

Yeah, that's right, I've decided to stay here in Brackettville. This summer was the first time since moving to Mississippi three years ago that I have been able to spend more than a few days at home.

Spending a month in Brackettville made me realize how much I have missed my family and friends here. It is an awesome feeling to see familiar faces while driving down Ann Street, going to work with people I truly care about, and being able to see my family and friends every evening after work.

Next to God and my faith, family has always been the most important thing in my life. And this summer, more than ever, I feel the need to be close to my



The dark side of human nature will win in the end

I was thinking this morning about Jules Verne. He was one of the first science fiction writers. He was also, although he didn't intend to be, a prophet.

Verne prophesied atomic energy, 20th Century smog and pollution, high-rise office buildings, space flight, submarine exploration, and many other things that are reality today. All he did was take science and logically work out the most far-fetched use thereof that he could imagine. It is amazing how accurate he was. He described the size and weight of the space capsule, he described using Florida for a base for space shots, and even where the space capsule would land in the ocean. Amazing!

Even more amazing is that one of his books was not published because the editor thought it too far-fetched and too depressing to be released to the public. That book, about late 20th Century Paris, is almost a biography, a photograph, if you will, of modern-day Paris. Its accuracy is uncanny! Well, I'm not Jules Verne. My imagination is very limited and my writing skill pales in comparison to his.

However, I am going to try in this article to make some prophecies about the future of America and the world.

America is pretty easy to read. We have very well defined strata here. The flotsam and chaff have chosen sides and made themselves known to the world. The "gay" (I hate that word, it destroyed the usage of a perfectly wonderful descriptive adjective) and lesbian underground has "come out of the closet" and is more vocal and visual than ever. They are an abomination that is seeking ac-

ceptance by the mainstream public. And they are not alone. Basically, today in America, any group of people who have a destructive, twisted, societal damaging agenda are out there seeking to turn public opinion to their side. If you have some weird or bizarre perversion, all you have to do is declare that it is protected by the First Amendment and you will be embraced by the amoral left and loved and respected by Hollywood. Pretty soon, a drama based on your life story is on television during the family hour and there is a "critically acclaimed" movie in the theatres featuring some glamorous star as you.

Another line in the sand is the one between the liberal and conservative elements. The liberal seems to believe that there is nothing that should be considered immoral behavior, that the First Amendment protects everything in the nation except Christianity and the Second Amendment, that welfare is a God-given right, and that the government should control everything except our involuntary bodily functions. The conservative seems to believe that government already has too much power, that the First Amendment needs to have reasonable limits, the Second Amendment means just exactly what it says, that there really are perversions

out there that are simply not acceptable in a functioning and caring society; and that giveaway programs only destroy a person's self-respect and ability to fend for himself.

There does not appear to be any — I mean zero, zilch, nada, in the way of middle ground — and no possibility of a compromise. There is no possible resolution except the total annihilation of one side or the other. There will be no merger, only war, declared or undeclared. And the winner will decide the fate of the nation. I personally believe that the liberal side is going to win. What they believe and the causes they tout appeal more to the dark side of human nature than do those that the conservative side champion. It is a simple question of what is more appealing to the average citizen — high moral character with the self-control that demands, or total abandonment of all moral restraint and responsibility and acceptance of perversion as normalcy. Much to my dismay, I think the flesh will win out over the spirit. So there you have my prophecy. You and I, assuming that you are conservative, believe in self-government, moral responsibility, the right to keep and bear arms, religious freedom, and the inviolability of the family unit as the basis of any society, are soon to be dead and buried. I just pray that there is someone left to mourn our passing. Colossians 3:5&6: "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming." NIV



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascus

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Just Chatting

J.J. Guidry

artists have proven, you can be a successful entertainer without ever leaving the Lone Star State. Of course, once you are known in Texas, Nashville comes knocking on your door.

Heath, Wes Robinson, Scott Nebel and Bud Nelson make up Wild Ride — definitely the hottest band in Southwest Texas. I am going to do everything I can to help make the group one of the bestselling acts in Texas, and the work to do that has already started. The only thing I will miss about Mississippi are a few good friends and Saturday afternoons.

You see, last March, I began coaching football at Delta State University, which won the 2000 NCAA Division II national championship. Spring practices were a lot of fun, but it was all about preparing for the upcoming season this fall. I have always dreamed of coaching on Saturdays — and one day that dream will come true, but for right now, I am going to finish my degree in Texas and pursue my dream of making it in the music

industry, while enjoying the company of family and friends. The old saying, "Home is where the heart is," definitely is true for me. My heart is in Brackettville, and it will always be home for me.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

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Big Mama Sez!



God does not want us to do extraordinary things; he wants us to do ordinary things extraordinarily well.

The Brackett News

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Working on technique
The Texas Center at Texas A&M International University, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council and the city of Eagle Pass have formed a partnership to establish a regional resource center and database to support their economic development efforts. The group met in Brackettville recently. In attendance were Johnny Ruiz (from left) and Carl Esser of MRGDC, Bank & Trust president Lynn Carson, David Cardwell of Texas A&M International University, Brackett News publisher Jewel Robinson, Kinney County Judge Herb Senné and Adrian Pérez of MRGDC.

Delinquent tax payers receive final warning

The law firm of Linebarger Goggan Blair Pena and Sampson has issued 1,172 final warning letters to property owners who have failed to pay their property taxes to the Kinney County Appraisal District.

These property owners owe more than \$268,847.46 in delinquent taxes to Kinney County, the Road and Bridge District, Brackett ISD, the city of Brackettville, the city of Spofford and Fort Clark MUD.

Owners have 10 days to pay their taxes to the Appraisal District or else they will be subject to legal proceedings that could result in the foreclosure or seizure of their property.

"The warning letter we are sending is very serious," said Harold Putman, a partner for Linebarger Goggan.

By state law, taxpayers who

do not pay their taxes can lose their property through a foreclosure proceeding. The property owner is also responsible for paying all the costs associated with collecting their delinquent taxes. Interest continues to accrue on the unpaid balance. Therefore, the sooner they pay, the less it will cost them in the end. An aggressive tax collection effort is necessary to ensure local governments have the revenue to provide services vital to the community.

Delinquent taxpayers facing a financial hardship may qualify for payment arrangements. To qualify, taxpayers need to contact the Kinney County Appraisal District. The Appraisal District and the law firm work together to collect all overdue tax revenue. If taxpayers do not attempt to resolve their delin-

quent accounts, the law firm will have no other choice but take legal action seeking the foreclosure and sale of their property.

In May of this year, property owners who failed to pay their 2001 year taxes were issued a notice to pay their taxes by July 1 or else face an additional 15 percent penalty. Many taxpayers responded. Those who didn't are now responsible for paying the penalty which will defray the cost of collecting delinquent taxes.

Senior citizens, aged 65 or older, may secure your homestead against tax suit and sale by filing a deferral affidavit with the Appraisal District. However, even with an approved deferral, the tax and interest will continue to accrue and must be paid before the property is sold or transferred.

Brackettville native studies the ecology of Montezuma quail

Continued from Page 1
compared to larger populations located in Southern Arizona and New Mexico.

"For example, when the birds flush here, they have to fly longer distances to reach cover," he said. "There is less ground cover so they fly farther, but they find cover."

Optimal conditions for the quail are the pine-oak vegetation zones with grasses and low shrubs for protection from predators, a common environ-

ment in Southern Arizona and New Mexico, the location of the major populations. Higher elevations and cooler temperatures support the vegetation that provides food and cover. This subsequently results in greater populations and wider distributions. Currently, New Mexico allows for a hunting season on Montezuma quail.

In Trans-Pecos Texas, the Davis Mountains have long been the most identifiable location for the Montezuma quail.

Similar environmental conditions, areas of pine-oak grasslands above 4,500 feet, allow for a population of quail to become established there.

Hernandez conducted his research at the Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area, 50 miles south of the Davis Mountains. Populations of quail were located in slightly different environmental conditions of lower pine-oak density and less brush and more grass cover.

This research would indicate

the populations and distribution of the Montezuma quail in Trans-Pecos Texas could be more widespread than strictly the Davis Mountains. This may be due to the species flexibility to adapt to immediate local conditions and variations in the environment.

The quail is still considered an environmental specialist, but perhaps not under such a strict definition as previously thought.

"I think he did an outstanding job," said Harveson,

Hernandez' faculty advisor. "Any population or habitat information we can document on such an elusive bird will help us better manage their populations."

Hernandez is currently working as a research assistant at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute in Kingsville, doing more wildlife research on another quail project as he finishes his thesis.

He said one of the rewards of being in wildlife management

was not only being and working in the outdoors, which he has done since his youth in Brackettville, but associating with the people in the profession.

"To go out and work with people that I work with — they are not in it for the money, but because they know what they want to do," he said. "There's no money in it. They're pretty diehard. If it meant living off of baloney sandwiches, they'd be doing this. Working with those kinds of people is rewarding."

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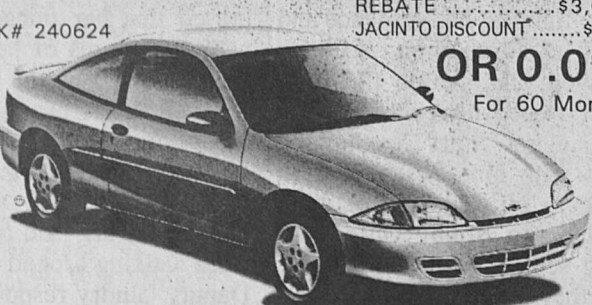
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The Brackettville Maintenance Office of the Texas Department of Transportation won the Eagle Award. Pictured are Luis Ramirez (from left), Laredo District engineer; Juan Hernandez, Brackettville maintenance supervisor; Rosa Treviño, Laredo District director of maintenance; and Michael Behrens, TxDOT executive director.

Local office wins award

The Brackettville Maintenance Office of the Texas Department of Transportation Laredo District was selected as the Eagle Award winner for 2001-02 during the district's annual Safety Awards Banquet in Laredo at Texas A&M International University.

The Brackettville Office, which maintains state highway roads and right of ways in Kinney County, was the overall winner selected from a total of eight other maintenance offices for superior scores achieved in preventive maintenance categories during fiscal year.

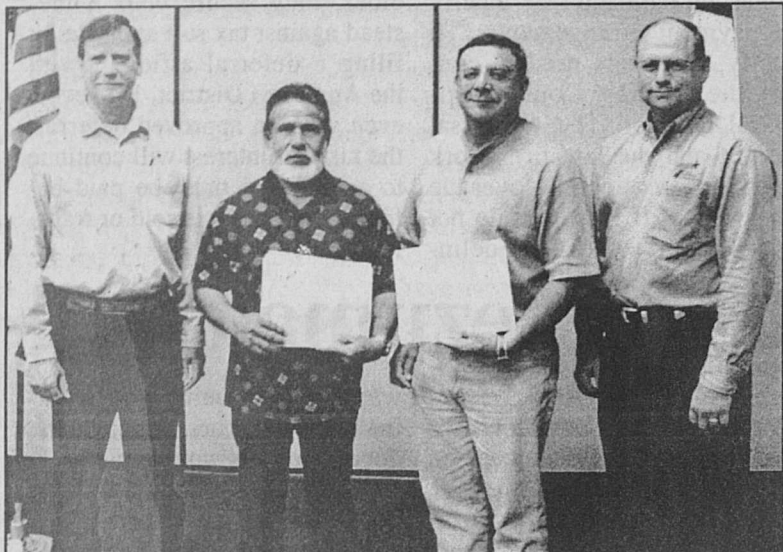
The Eagle Award is a traveling award that is bestowed an-

nually at the district's Safety Award Banquet to the maintenance office with the highest overall preventive maintenance scores. Some categories include preventive maintenance servicing, equipment utilization, housekeeping, safe backing stickers, field inspections, blue light compliance and liquid propane gas usage.

The Brackettville Maintenance Office personnel includes: Juan Hernandez, supervisor, Oscar Sierra, assistant supervisor, Elia Hernandez, Jose Benites, Lee Canty, Joe Diaz, Eduardo Garcia, Juan Gomez, Macario Muñoz Jr., Pablo Resendez and John Sell.



The staff from the TxDOT Brackettville Maintenance Office were recently recognized at the Laredo District Safety Awards Banquet for their continuous safe operator and no-injury efforts. Personnel include, top row (from left): John Sell, Juan Hernandez, Macario Muñoz Jr. and Pablo Resendez. Bottom row: Oscar Sierra, Jose Benites, Juan Gomez and Eduardo Garcia.



Luis Ramirez (left), TxDOT Laredo District engineer, and Michael Behrens (right), TxDOT executive director, presented 20-plus-year safe operator and no-injury safety award to Macario Muñoz (second from left) and Eduardo Garcia.

BISD teachers, staff work hard to ensure good first week of school for Brackettville students

Buses ran, cafeterias fed the kids, and teachers worked hard to give BISD students a good first week of school. We have had a fine opening of school this year — with only a few bumps that will be worked out in time!

Major changes include schedule modification at the junior high and high school that includes four blocks and four short periods. Two of the 75-minute blocks and four of the 50-minute periods are held each day. Students and staff seem to have adjusted well to the change — and to each other.

Our repainted fifth and sixth grade school has been a hit. The colors are brighter, and the building looks cleaner.

Our payroll and business staff has been busy preparing payroll checks for distribution to em-

ployees. School staff will receive their first paycheck of the new year in August — for the first time ever.

BISD changed fiscal years and was able to pay teachers for the month of August early. In the past, school employees received the first of 12 checks at the end of September.

Teachers pay raises this year included the step for experience, along with an additional

\$500 above base raise.

For teachers with more than 20 years experience, the district added an additional step to increase the experience maximum in Brackettville to 23. Most teachers will make about \$5.73 per day higher than last year.

New Grants

Frank Taylor has announced a new \$25,000 grant for the Alternative School for computers and networking enhancement. He also reported an E-Rate federal grant for \$120,000 to be used in networking of computers.

Mr. Taylor has done a superb job acquiring new technology funds for Brackett ISD. We're proud to have him on the BISD leadership team!

Busy Weekend

This weekend, we will have

Open House at the Elementary School Thursday night. Friday night, the Tiger football team will scrimmage with Junction in Brackettville. Saturday, the BHS volleyball teams will host a tournament in Brackett's new gym. Please attend and support these functions.

Well-Behaved Students

We have well behaved students at BISD. Each year, in particular, new teachers cannot believe the courtesy and respect that is demonstrated by students.

There are exceptions, of course, but we try to deal swiftly with those who cannot or won't follow the rules.

We'll continue to work to have a better staff and to help our fine students develop their academic skills.

Have a great week!

City officials hope to build new water tank

Continued from Page 1

"When I came to the city, there were 482 accounts," Luna said. "There are 796 accounts now."

If the grant is approved, the new tank will supply water-users east of Ann Street and the existing water tank will supply users west of Ann Street.

Luna said the new tank would be located on the northeast side of town near the cemetery.

"There is a spot right there on the east side of the Benitez residence that belongs to the city," he said. "It's big enough to put a tank there and to secure a perimeter fence around it. It's close enough to a main line that it's feasible to be able to hook up straight down the street by the Saenz residence. There is no rock at that location."

Approximately five years ago, the city installed a hydro-

sprayer through a grant to increase the water pressure.

"It did pick up some with the pressure on the northeast side of town," Luna said. "I know that they told us that the hydro-sprayer would make some difference, but not a whole lot of difference, and that's what it turned out to be. With that thing, we spent an awful lot of money on other people, on engineers and attorneys."

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, Aug. 12

12:04 a.m., The Uvalde Police Department reported that a train hit a truck on F.M. 1572. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter and Union Pacific Railroad were advised.

7:34 a.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent reported a one-vehicle accident on Highway 90 west, one mile east of Pinto Creek. The Del Rio Police Department, EMS and the Texas Department of Transportation were all notified.

Tuesday, Aug. 13

12:21 a.m., A man reported that someone was behind his residence on Second Street. Deputy Karl Chism responded to the call and patrolled the alley, but could not locate anyone.

10:15 a.m., Betty Jean Walker, 44, of Brackettville was arrested for harassment by Sheriff Buddy Burgess. Walker was released on a personal recognition bond.

Wednesday, Aug. 14

9:45 p.m., An anonymous caller said there was a lot of noise coming from the corner of Brown and Fulton streets. Deputy Manuel Pena was dispatched to the scene.

10:38 p.m., A woman reported that someone was behind his residence on Second Street. Deputy Pena was dispatched to the scene.

Thursday, Aug. 15

2:50 a.m., The Val Verde Sheriff's Office reported a stranded motorist on Highway 90, about 20 miles west of

Brackettville. Deputy Pena was notified.

9:20 a.m., A man reported four loose cows on Highway 90.

11:20 a.m., A Brackettville man said that someone parked in front of his house and shined his car lights at his residence and left. The complainant said he followed the man to the high school to see who it was. He said the man got angry, exchanged words with him, assaulted him and then left. The complainant told Deputy Bobby Guidry he would seek a restraining order from the justice of the peace.

5:30 p.m., Jesse Ramirez Lopez, 20, of Crystal City, was arrested by Deputy Pena for driving while intoxicated and a warrant out of Zavala County.

Friday, Aug. 16

2:51 a.m., A woman called 911 and said she needed help letting her dogs go outside because her husband was not home. Deputy Pena responded to the call.

11:26 a.m., A woman reported that kids with BB guns were shooting at her dog. Chief of Police Arnulfo Alonzo was advised.

Saturday, Aug. 17

7:52 a.m., Deputy Manuel Pena Sr. received a call from a Spofford woman who said someone broke into her residence. He responded to the call.

6:17 p.m., A man called 911 to report loose cattle on Highway 131. Another person called 911 17 minutes later to report the loose cattle.

11 p.m., Gregory Anthony Moran, 29, of San Antonio was arrested for possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces by Deputy Guidry and Deputy Pena.

11:14 p.m., A woman reported that her fiance's ex was getting pictures of her and putting them on the Internet. Deputy Pena responded to the complaint.

Sunday, Aug. 18

2:54 a.m., A woman at Kickapoo Park said two persons were walking around her trailer. Deputy Guidry responded to the complaint. He found a man who was dirty and had a small cut under his left eye. The man said he had gotten in a fight with another man. Guidry gave the man a ride home, and later cited both men for disorderly conduct.

9:20 a.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent requested a deputy at a local store. Deputy Guidry responded.

6 p.m., A woman said there was a sick dog at her residence on E. Thomas Street. The dispatcher tried to notify a city employee about the situation.

8:15 p.m., A motorist called to report a stranded motorist on Highway 90, about 5 miles west of Brackettville. Deputy Pena Jr. and Sr. responded to the call.

At an unknown time, Juan Manuel Gamboa, 33, of Del Rio was arrested for public intoxication by Deputy Guidry. He was released the next day for time served.

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Brackett's Maarten Vos (23), an exchange student from the Netherlands, works on his place-kicking with holder Kody Yeager during workouts this week.

Tigers scrimmage Junction on Friday

Brackett runs past Leakey 3-1

By J.J. GUIDRY
Sports Editor

The Brackett Tigers will host Junction Friday in their last controlled scrimmage of the pre-season. The junior varsity opens the action at 5:30 and the varsity will take the field at 7.

"Junction has always had good looking kids and good athletes," Tigers head coach David Yeager said. "They won state in track, so I know they have kids that can run."

"I know they're going to come down here and give us a good, physical contest. Last year, we were pretty even with them," he added.

Brackett is coming off a successful scrimmage against Leakey last Saturday. The Tigers scored three touchdowns

"We're hoping we can raise the bar a little bit on our overall play."
David Yeager

and the Eagles crossed the goal line once on BHS' second-team defense.

Brackett junior Tony Rosetti raced 75 yards on a trap for a touchdown, junior Jaime Puente scored on a 20-yard run, and sophomore Mark Kesteloot hit paydirt on a 10-yard sprint.

"I thought we executed pretty good offensively," Yeager said. "Defensively, I thought we did some good things, but we found some things we need to work on."

"I was happy with the enthusiasm. We are at a good place

now, and I like the progress that we're making.

"We only had about half of our offensive scheme in and we stayed in our base defensive package, so we were basically working on fundamentals and technique," he added.

The Tigers are implementing more of their schemes for Friday's scrimmage.

"We put some more offense on, so we're going to work on that. We're going to work the passing game more with our number one offense to see if we can pass, catch and block."

"We're going to work on our kicking game also. We're hoping we can raise the bar a little bit on our overall play."

The Tigers open the season on the road against Lytle on Aug. 30 in a 7:30 contest.

Tigerettes host eight-team volleyball tourney Saturday

By J.J. GUIDRY
Sports Editor

The Brackett Tigerettes will host an eight-team volleyball tournament on Saturday.

The tournament kicks off at 9 a.m. when Brackett J.V. faces Del Rio J.V. In other first-round games, Utopia faces Stacy at 10, Brackett battles Comstock at 11, and Leakey and D'Hanis meet at noon.

In the consolation semifinals, the Brackett J.V.-Del Rio J.V. loser will face the loser of the Utopia-Stacy contest at 1 p.m., while the loser of the Brackett-

Comstock game faces the Leakey-D'Hanis loser at 2.

The semifinals begin at 3 with the Brackett J.V.-Del Rio J.V. winner playing the winner of the Utopia-Stacy contest. The winner of the Brackett-Comstock game faces the Leakey-D'Hanis winner in the other semifinal at 4.

The consolation contest will begin at 5, the third place final is at 6, and the championship game is slated for 7.

The Tigerettes are 0-1 on the season after falling to LaPryor 15-13, 4-15, 15-5 on the road Tuesday in the opener for both

teams. Vanessa Castillo paced BHS with nine service points in the contest, while Stacy Terrazas had six.

Stephanie Bonner posted three kills in the contest and Vanessa Castillo had two.

Allison LaMascus tallied four assists for the Tigerettes, and Beth Ballew had a block.

Brackett's junior varsity is 1-0 after claiming a 15-1, 15-1 victory over La Pryor. Davina Pena led BHS with 15 points.

The Tigerettes travel to Comstock on Tuesday. The action begins with a J.V. game at 5.



Southwest Twisters recently won the San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department End of Summer Classic girls fast-pitch softball tournament. They play in Corpus Christi during Labor Day weekend. Team members include, top row (from left): Coach Nat Terrazas, Coach Bobby Sanchez, Colby Vanham, Arlynda Flores, Casandra Gomez, Lola Cano, Emily Valenzuela and Kaitlyn Crawford. Bottom row: Coach Felix Trejo, Gretel Trejo, Alma Reyes, Kara Yeager, Crystal Dickerson, Nadine Terrazas and Natalie Sanchez.

OUTDOORS

Texas Department of Health officials offer facts on the West Nile Virus

Harris County public health officials announced that the West Nile virus has been confirmed in two blue jays in the county. This was the first confirmation of the mosquito-borne virus in Texas. By July 3, one horse and another 29 infected birds had been found.

West Nile virus can cause encephalitis, an infection of the brain. It was first detected in the United States in New York in 1999 and is now being reported in many areas of the eastern half of the United States. Most people infected with this virus experience either no symptoms or flu-like symptoms. The elderly, those over 50, are most susceptible to WN virus.

Texas Department of Health

officials said the detection of the virus in Texas should not be cause for alarm.

"West Nile encephalitis has not been as deadly as St. Louis encephalitis, another mosquito-borne illness that we've had in Texas for years," said Jim Schuermann, who is with the Texas Department of Health's zoonosis control division.

Birds are the primary reservoir for WN virus. According to scientists at the Centers for Disease Control, people, horses, and most other mammals are not known to develop infectious-level viremias (virus circulating in the bloodstream) very often, and thus are probably "dead-end" or incidental hosts.

Birds in the family Corvidae (e.g., crows and jays) are especially susceptible to WN virus. Dead birds are important early indicators for the spread of WN Virus.

If you find a dead bird of any species, please contact the Zoonosis Control Division of the Texas Department of Health. Wear gloves or use a plastic bag when picking up any dead animal.

The elimination of mosquito breeding habitats remains the most effective and economical method of providing long-term mosquito control.

To eliminate breeding sites such as standing water around homes, people should dispose of used tires, clean rain gutters,

frequently change the water in birdbaths, turn over unused swimming pools, buckets and plastic containers. All of these activities eliminate or substantially reduce mosquito breeding habitats.

Control of adult mosquito populations by aerial application of insecticides is usually reserved as a last resort.

For personal protection outdoors, wear long pants and long sleeves. Apply an insect repellent of your choice. Those containing DEET can be very effective. Reduce your time spent outdoors after dark. If you keep your windows open at night, make sure your screens are in good repair. Make sure all doors and windows seal tightly.



Justin Kesteloot of Brackettville caught this 5-pound bass recently in Las Moras Creek.

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

Thursday, May 23
EOC Exam/English 11 GR
12, HS Athletic Banquet,
Civic Center, Dinner @
6:30, Awards @ 7:30 PM
Friday, May 24
10:00 AM 6th Gr Awards
Ceremony, Auditorium, 2:30
PM MS Awards Program,
Cafeteria
Tuesday, May 28
5:30 PM Spring Band Con-
cert, Auditorium
Wednesday, May 29
10:00 AM 2nd GR Awards
Ceremony, Audit

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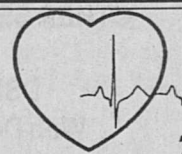
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7 p.m. ~ Wednesday, August 28
Las Moras Lounge ~ Fort Clark Springs

Dear Brackettville Citizens (especially parents),

My name is Mary Dimery Janssens, I have many years experience working with young children. I have earned both my Certificate of Completion in Child Development and Associates of Applied Sciences in Child Development at South West Texas Jr. College in Uvalde, Texas. I have wanted to start a Registered Family Home Day Care, but I was not sure if I would get any children. With your input, you can help me out a lot. Please let me know if your children can benefit from a Registered Family Home Day Care. Tell me what you think. You can reach me at:

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But I Could Be Wrong

Chuck Hall

Shoo, don't bother me

I don't like most bugs. Vinigeroons, fireflies and a few others are tolerable, most of the others are here just to annoy me.

I was returning from Uvalde after a nice visit with my daughter, son-in-law and grandson, Tanner, when I noticed a couple of flies in the cab of the truck.

I waited patiently until they got close to the window. I made a quick opening of the glass, but to no avail. They outsmarted me. They sensed the purpose of my maneuver and retreated to the other side of the enclosure.

I tried to swat them with my hat. Whoa! That tactic almost caused me to loose control.

As Charlie Chan used to say: "I rucky to be arrive. Number one son not too bright."

Time to adjust my strategy. I know, I'll turn on the heat and cook these little burgers. After feeling faint to the point of almost passing out, I abandoned that idea. Eventually, one by one, the dipteron chanced upon the open window. I wonder what went through their tiny minds as they went from the air-conditioned interior of my automobile to the 70-mph rush of hot wind.

Do flies even have brains? Probably not, but if they did, it couldn't be very big or well-developed. I can imagine their confusion. Somewhat like my own on occasion. I have often found myself saying: "Where am I? How did I get here?"

Some force greater than my own caused me to chance surroundings. But I could be wrong.

Reid: Museum offers historic look at county

BY FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

Ailene Reid, chairman of the Kinney County Historical Commission, explained how the Kinney County Heritage Museum came into being last Thursday and described some of its contents during the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting.

Reid was welcomed to the meeting by Manolo Rosas Jr., program chairman.

The museum is located in the Filippone building that is located at the intersection El Paso and James Streets in Brackettville. It was once a general store.

Reid described it as a two-story, six-sided limestone building with a stucco-over-limestone addition on part of one side. It has a metal roof. She noted that the building is basically a rectangular shape, but the two front corners are squared-off, creating a hexagonal shape unique to this area. A wrought iron balcony is attached to the front side.

The city of Brackettville bought the building from Rufus Moore, the grandson of Giovanni Filippone, in 1984, according to Reid. Interested citizens, businesses, the Moody Foundation and the city of

Brackettville restored the building over a period of several years.

The building was given to Kinney County in 1993 to be operated as a museum, and the Kinney County Historical Commission was given the responsibility of operating it.

A large collection of pictures dating from 1890 to 1945 depict the heritage of Kinney County, and various items used around the home and ranch during the early days are displayed.

Reid said that she often receives requests for information about the history of this area. She can answer some of them, but she often refers the callers to some of the local amateur historians. She mentioned Bill Haenn, Don Swanson, the late Ben Pingenot and Charles Downing. She also calls upon Pat McKelvy, Frank Cheaney and Peter Pohl. Some of these people have written about the local history in articles and feature stories for the media.

Reid mentioned that Haenn's book, "Fort Clark and Brackettville; Land of Heroes" will be coming out this November.

The Historical Commission is responsible for endangered properties and historical sites

such as cemeteries and buildings. It acts as custodian of the museum.

The museum is open on the second and fourth Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 p.m. No fee is charged for admission, but donations are accepted.

The local Historical Commission can supply applications and help anyone who wants to get a historical marker. It requires a lot of detailed information and verification, and usually takes well over a year for completion because everything must be verified for accuracy.

The museum has been awarded a historical marker, and a dedication ceremony is planned for October.

Reid showed the group a brochure, "The Museums of South Texas," a project of the El Camino Real Market Trail which features a list of museums with locations on a small map of South Texas. This is a non-profit economic development alliance currently working in 13 counties south and west of San Antonio.

Reid said a lot of hard work had gone into its publication, and the brochure encourages day trips to small communities in South Texas. It will be a hand-



Ailene Reid (left), chairman of the Kinney County Historical Commission, is welcomed to the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting by Manolo Rosas Jr., program chairman.

out available at the museum.

Haenn reported that the History Club at Brackett High School had applied for a historical marker for the site of the Seminole Scouts encampment on Fort Clark. It has been approved and will be put in place in the near future.

Dave Alexander, Rotary

president, announced a plan to present awards on a quarterly basis to people who have made outstanding contributions to the community. Darlene Shahan is chairperson of this committee with Ella Chambers and Frances McMaster as members. October is set as the month for the first award.

Alamo librarian: Books nourish the soul

Books nourish the soul, according to Dora Guerra, the Alamo librarian.

Guerra was the featured speaker at a summer social recently hosted by area members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas at Fratelli's Restaurant in San Antonio.

Guerra said books can pick you up when you're down, and can transport you to another time and place. Books allow you to share the same space and the same adventures with heroes and villains, with leaders and

slackers, with nobles and buffoons. Some books even have a special feel about them.

"There are good books, there are so-so books, and then there are the books that linger in our mind and leave a pleasant feeling after you have put them down, much like the aftertaste left behind by a fine wine or by an extraordinary cheese," Guerra said.

The book that she reviewed, "Plantation Life in Texas" by Elizabeth Silverthorne, defi-

nately fell into the later category.

Silverthorne has published 12 books, all of which have received wide recognition. She has received numerous awards, citations and prizes.

"Her books leave you with a feeling of having had a long and fascinating conversation with a good friend," Guerra said. "She writes about the everyday human beings, who through their daily experiences have given color, substance and backbone to the Texas you and I know and love. Books abound about

the men who came later from the U.S. and continued the work that the first group had started. Later settlers continued to clear land, build shelters, chase after Indians, drive cattle to market, and lead the Texas Revolution. Elizabeth Silverthorne's books become essential to us because they tell us about what happened in-between all that.

"She describes in great detail who the everyday people were that kept the wheels of life rolling, giving Texas the fabric it has today," she added.

In "Plantation Life in Texas," Silverthorne uses bright sweeps of color to paint a picture of daily life in the Texas of the 1830s. Her approach to telling the East Texas story is absolutely meticulous. She makes eloquent use of the extensive research she did, and among the valuable qualities of her book is the biography provided for anyone who would want to learn more.

She takes plantation life up to and beyond the Civil War period in a sympathetic, eloquent and thoroughly documented way.

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50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Dr. Kenneth and Louise Stone will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 29. Their son, Cmdr. Darrell Stone of the U.S. Coast Guard, is taking them to Oahu, Hawaii, where Kenneth was stationed for three years while in the Navy. Darrell is presently stationed at Terminal Point in San Pedro, Calif.



Goodies
From G.G.

Vada
Baldree

Potato logs take planning

Don't you just love those potato logs you buy at HEB or fast food places?

Thick slices of tator, crisp and brown on the outside, but soft on the inside.

Want to serve them yourself? All it takes is planning ahead! Here's the secret:

Wash the desired number of potatoes and pat dry. Cut each into 8 wedges (do not peel!). Soak in cold water for 30 minutes, changing the water once (I add a few ice cubes!).

Drain, pat dry, pre-fry 8 or 9 wedges in hot oil for 2 minutes. Drain on paper towels, and cool at least 10 minutes.

Just before serving, fry again in hot oil for 8 to 10 minutes until brown. Drain, sprinkle with seasoned salt and grated parmesan cheese to taste. Serve with pride!

If you don't have a deep fry, I've found using a large sauce pan or stew pot to fry food works well.

Oil should be deep enough to submerge fries, temperature 400 degrees (sizzles when tested with drop of water).

Here is a money-saving hint: Use several pages of newspaper and one layer of paper towels for draining fried foods.

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Words can harm as much as they help

What's in a word? 'Words,' and their effect, is our topic this week.

Did you know that there are over 3,000 existing languages? Did you know that more people in this world speak, read and write in Chinese, than English? English is second.

Did you know that only a little over half of the world publications (books, newspapers and magazines) and radio and television shows are in English?

In the combined English languages of the world, there are close to 100,000 words. At best, you and I, maybe know a few hundred and use far less than that on a daily basis.

It's what you and I do with all those words that concern me. The right words can bring joy, peace, comfort, confidence,

encouragement and all manner of good, fruitful and worthwhile things. The wrong words can bring with them pain, sorrow, anxiety, despair, depression and all manner of needless suffering.

I remember a popular saying from my childhood: "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words can never hurt me." It's a lie! And we knew it at the time, because inside we were hurting!

There's another old expression from that era. "She's got a tongue like a double-edged sword!" Words, like a sword, can cut you, coming and going — cut you into small pieces. Words can hurt.

Let's you and I explore a few words. A busybody is one who meddles in the affairs of others.

The Bible contains several good passages which censure such people.



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

1 Thess. 4:11, "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you."

2 Thess. 3:11 - IR, "For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such, we command, and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work and eat their own bread."

1 Tim. 5:13, "And with all they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also, and busy bodies, speaking things which they ought not."

Let's not be busybodies and tattlers, let us be of good conscience.

Acts 24:16, "And here in do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men."

Deceit is the intentional misleading of another; or any under handed practice or act intend to mislead.

Mark 7:22-23, "Thefts, cautiousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, and evil eye, blaspheme, pride, foolishness. All these things come from within, and defile the man."

Let's not be deceitful or filled with envy. 2 Cor. 12:20, "For

I fear less when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not, lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults."

Jas. 3:16, "For where envy-ing and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work."

Let's not be backbiters and slander one another.

Gossip is a groundless rumor, a lie or idle chatter. The evil effects of this malicious practice are well known.

Here's another saying from my childhood, "You can't throw mud without getting a little on yourself."

Mother always said, "If you can't find anything good to say, then don't speak at all!"

I guess it's true, "Silence is golden and we all can be rich!"



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

Children learn at home, too

"School's going to be starting soon, Joan. Will you be glad to have the kids out of your hair for a while?" Sherri asked.

Joan looked into her half-empty coffee cup. She was reminded how fast the children were growing and how quickly they would be out on their own.

"I always have mixed feelings this time of year, Sherri," she said. "Summer is sometimes frustrating, but then I miss them when they get immersed in their class work and extracurricular activities. It seems like it's even more chaotic when they're in school."

"Well, I for one," Sherri said, "can't wait to get them out from under my feet. The school can have them for a while. I can't do anything with them at home, and besides, that's what the teachers are for. School is not home and home is not school. They need to be learning something."

"What do you mean by that, Sherri? Do you think that your home is not a school?" Joan asked.

"School is for learning," Sherri replied.

Catching her thoughts, she measured her words. "I guess kids learn at home, but it's not like school. Home is not that serious a place. They need the discipline and structure they get at school."

Joan thought for a minute, taking time to sip her coffee.

"Sherri, you're right, school is very important. But home is the most important school kids will ever have."

"If they don't learn discipline and good habits at home, they're not going to get much out of school. Parents are the most important teachers in every child's life."

A very wise man long ago said that children observe their father's instruction and must not reject the teaching of their mothers.

Parents' teaching makes its way to the heart and is a light for their paths in all of life (Proverbs 6:20-23).

Pray the teachers will model good Christian values in their teaching at school and build on what parents teach at home.

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

St. Andrews Episcopal Church Welcomes You
Corner of Fort & Henderson
Sunday Services 10:45 am
Eucharist: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday
Morning Prayer: 2nd, 4th Sunday

Baptism represents new relationship with God

It was my greatest privilege to be involved in an adult baptism last Sunday.

While I dearly love infant baptisms because of the children involved and the new relationship between the church, the parents and the child, it truly is a great privilege to have God call me to present to the church a new relationship between God and one of God's children.

Because the baptism of most churchgoers occurred long ago, the awe and mystery of baptism may be but a faint memory. It is a pastoral challenge to recreate the wonder of baptism as read for the first time from one of the gospel writers — Matthew, Mark, Luke or John.

Jesus — Son of God, Messiah, Emmanuel (God with Us), God Incarnate, The Word Made Flesh — offered himself to John the Baptist to be baptized in the River Jordan as a model. This expression of the cleansing of one's self (the dying to one's self) is offered to all of us as a preparation for the journey to which God calls God's children. And it must be done with the highest reverence and the most sincere commitment to living as



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Ken F. Sellers Jr.

we caring for our neighbor as Jesus did? Do we behave more like the Pharisees, Sadducees and Scribes than we do like Jesus?

As a friend of mine suggested, "Does our calendar and checkbook reflect the priorities we say we have? Or do they suggest that our most important relationships are with things other than God and family?" No, we cannot live as perfect a life as Jesus! But, we are called by God to work toward that perfect life, lest we begin excusing ourselves from tasks that are important to God but not us.

It is true! You are saved by the grace of God, not by your good deeds. However, the gospel message tells us that when we have true faith, it is evident by good nature of the fruits that are borne by our actions on behalf of the kingdom of God!

Do your actions reflect that your life of faith is real or a pretense?

Visit us at First United Methodist Church for worship this Sunday at 10:45 a.m. Join us as we attempt weekly to reaffirm our baptisms through recommendation to living as Jesus did.

Food for thought

As we were traveling this summer, I saw a number of bumper stickers and signs that I found to be interesting and/or thought provoking. So, in the hopes that they might spark an interest in you, I am devoting my column this week to "reflections on bumper



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

Some were patriotic: "These colors don't run," "Proud to be an American," and my personal favorite, "I proudly support U.S. troops." If you see that one someplace, buy it for me please. I have looked different places and can't find it.

I thought this one is appropriate for the beginning of school: "My child is a student at _____ School, where all children are honored." Think about it!

Many years ago, a group of people in Webb City, Mo., got together and decided to build a pair of praying hands on a hilltop at the edge of town.

As with many things, there was a lot of controversy, but the group persisted, and today the praying hands still stand with the motto: "Hands In Prayer, World In Peace."

This year, about a dozen

American flags surround it. Could this be the answer to our problems?

Churches, including our own Baptist churches, often seem to have signs that make you think.

How about: "Be an organ donor — give your heart to Jesus," or "The best vitamin for a Christian is B-1." And finally, I will leave you with a sign that seems to be talking to me personally (however uncomfortably): "Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity."

If you have seen any signs or bumper stickers along the way that you found personally interesting or delightful, let me know. I would enjoy adding to my collection.

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

Miller requests resignations of two Fort Clark directors

Continued from Page 1

dedicatory instruments, and which are contrary to the legal opinions given by our association attorney. The actions of this protest group and its leaders have done irrevocable damage to the association by creating a climate of confusion and divisiveness among our members, and have resulted in disastrous public relations which may take years to eradicate.

"Furthermore, the direct cost to the association of dealing with the havoc caused by this protest group and its leaders has now exceeded \$5,000, with additional significant expenses anticipated if the group's actions lead to a court case and further legal expenses. The misconduct of these two directors is further exacerbated by the fact that some of the written statements publicized by this protest group were false and/or misleading, while these two directors, who were in possession of all of the facts, could or should have known them to be false or misleading.

"The majority members of this board are duty bound to oppose this protest group and its leaders because to do otherwise would lead to a situation of anarchy, wherein a group of dissident members could thwart the will of the majority of our members without using the prescribed or proper methods for the recall of directors," Carol Miller added.

Following her comments, Saylor responded by pointing out that the Preservation Society was started by members.

"There were over 350 of them on board, by signing the petition, before Mona Miller or myself ever got involved," he said. "There are close to 500, if not more than 500, people on the petition at this time."

Saylor said there is a "difference in opinion" on the procedures for recalling directors.

"Our attorney, who we're paying for out of our pocket, has pointed out a flaw in the bylaws and in the declaration of protective restrictions," he said. "We are required by law, as directors, to perform certain duty and functions to represent the people who voted us in to office."

"I agree, and members of the Preservation Society agree, that there are things amiss. In order to observe the solvency and not go into an insolvency state, we're asking for removal of the manager. When that didn't happen, the only way to remove the manager was to remove the board that protects her. That's the reason behind this whole process. It has not had anything to do with the personalities of the board members," he added.

Mona Miller said: "Carol, for the past three years we've heard you bluster and vilify other board members, members of the association and the staff. I'm quite certain that Jack (Simpson, board president) is pleased that you've decided to turn your spitefulness on Tom and I, and leave him alone. It's sad that your self-esteem is so low that you have to tear down others to make yourself feel important. I really pity you."

Christ is leading the war against evil

This is war!

It is war against the spirits of sickness and disease. It is war against the spirits of poverty and lack. It is war against spirits of mental illness. It is war against spirits of greed and envy. It is war against generations of curses that have attacked your family. But most of all, it is a war that has already been won by the blood of Jesus Christ!

Why do we continue to put up with it? God has equipped us with his name. Everyone who is born again in Jesus Christ by repenting of their sins and asking Jesus to come and live in their lives as Lord and Savior has the right to use his name — the name above all names at which "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord."

You have the right to use his word, and his word does not return to him void of achieving that which he sent it out to do. He has equipped you with his word as his two-edged sword to send the devil and his army of evil spirits running.

You have the right to plead the blood of Jesus over every area of your life — physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

over your choices. The blood of Jesus Christ has paid the price, once and for all, for all sin, sickness and death.

Why do we become complacent in fighting the war? It is because we allow our consciences to become seared, worn down little by little, by going into the things of this world.

Jesus Christ is the head of our army. He has won the battle and yet it is up to us, as his army, to speak out, to speak his word, to use the degree of faith he has given to each of us, to preach boldly his word, to stand firm and not give up, to endure to the end, to be his mouth, his hands and a light in this dark world.

People are spiritually "drowning" out there. Some of them are even fellow Christians who have given up the good fight. Stand in the gap for them,

encourage them, gather the troops, lock arm and arm with the family of God and press in. Overcome evil with good.

We are in this world, but not of it. We are in this world, but be of good cheer, because Jesus Christ has overcome the world. Jesus Christ has defeated darkness and evil. Remember who you are, sons and daughters of the Living God. Shake out the cobwebs. Put back on the full armor of God (Ephesians 6) and get back in the fight. Pray without ceasing and never fear, your Heavenly Father is near.

Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Read about it in The Brackett News!

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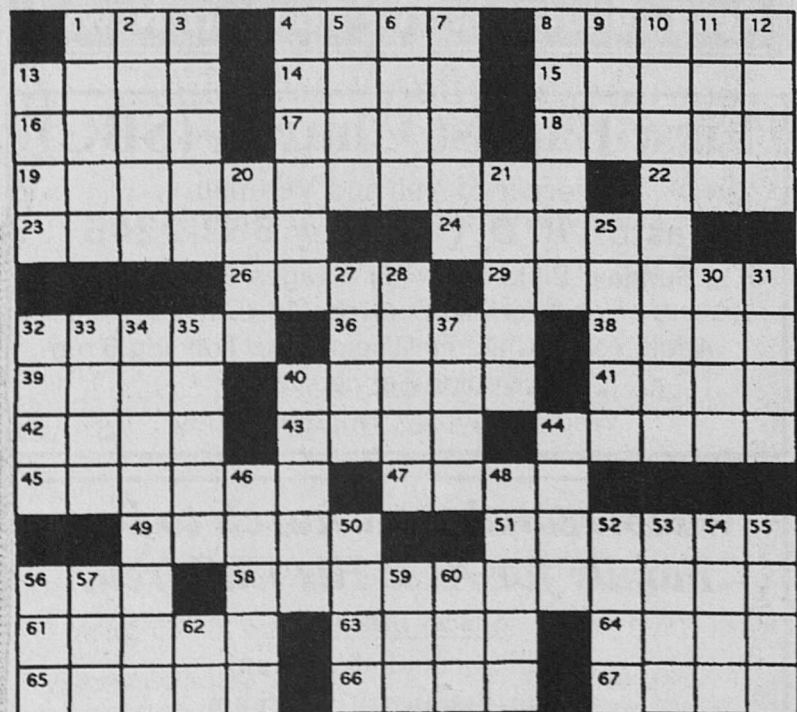
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | assurance | letters | 30 This: Sp. |
| 1 Gamble | 43 Italian | DOWN | 31 Noticed |
| 4 Ty the Tiger | 44 City in Germany | 1 Head | 32 Utilizes |
| 8 Storage place | 45 General Hospital, e.g. | 3 covering | 33 Character |
| 13 Common verb | 47 Use the palm | 2 Expunge | 34 Reservist |
| 14 Soup ingredient | 49 Skin layer | 3 Seed part | 35 Bert's buddy |
| 15 Different | 51 Real estate transaction | 4 ___ phrase; thinks of a new saying | 37 Fervor |
| 16 Time cycles | 56 Parts of days, for short | 5 Site of the Natl. Cowboy Hall of Fame | 40 ___ Alabama |
| 17 Martinique et Miquelon | 58 Exhausting task | 6 Harte | 44 Fencing item |
| 18 Staggers | 61 Tragic hero | 7 Essential | 46 Bowers |
| 19 Goal | 63 Prefix for cast or gram | 8 Place for a street sign | 48 Stop |
| 22 Word with up or in | 64 Muffin ingredient | 9 Devoured trees | 50 Performer |
| 23 Prepares clams | 65 "...the bombs bursting ..." | 10 Beech | 52 Tree-climbing animal |
| 24 Summit | 66 Singles | 11 Sun: prof. Formerly | 53 "Rubber Capital of the World" |
| 26 Jack and Jill's item | 67 Easy center | 12 Formerly | 54 Springs |
| 29 Male honeybees | 68 Horses' features | 13 Gets hitched | 55 Eagle of the sea |
| 32 Encourages | 69 Force out | 20 Miscellaneous | 56 Overly proper |
| 36 S, M, or L | 70 English | 21 Restaurant request | 57 Start of a famous portrait |
| 38 Stratagem | | 25 Ulcers | 59 Game of chance |
| 39 Bitter | | 27 Contraction | 60 ___ cheese |
| 40 Haughty expression | | 28 Claims against property | 62 "Old MacDonald had a farm, ..." |
| 41 Ending for Paul or Nan | | | |
| 42 Spirited self- | | | |



Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc. Common denominator
1. Rudolf Valentino; 2. Life; 3. "1984"; 4. Earth; 5. Bartlett's "Familiar Quotations"; 6. Camel; 7. "certific"; 8. Lima; 9. One; 10. Lowest

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: POPULAR SINGERS

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

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

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

1. What silent star's real name was Rodolfo Alfonso Raffaele Pierre Philibert Guglielmi?
2. What prison sentence was handed down to Nelson Mandela in 1964?
3. What 1948 George Orwell novel begins, "It was a bright cold day in April and the clocks were striking 13"?
4. What weighs 5,500 billion tons?
5. What reference work was first compiled by 19th-century publisher James Bartlett?
6. What did the U.S. Army buy 75 of in 1855 for reconnaissance and supply in the Southwest U.S.?
7. What movie has Al Pacino snorting enough cocaine for an army?
8. What Peruvian city was the capital of the Spanish empire in the New World until the 19th century?
9. How many of every 10 films shown in 1990 were horror films?
10. What mathematical term is used to describe a lowering of taste or quality to reach the largest possible audience?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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| August 22.....Gracie Escamilla | August 26.....Kay Gilbreth |
| August 22.....Hubert McKelvy | August 26.....Fredrico Martinez |
| August 22.....Ben Terrazas Jr. | August 26.....Martha McDonald |
| August 22.....Kenneth Weaver | August 26.....Justin Shamblin |
| August 24.....Nakai Breen | August 27.....Gus Garcia |
| August 24.....Janet Gieseke | August 27.....Rose Mattingly |
| August 24.....Maggie Lee Lipich | August 27.....Tom Erle |
| August 25.....Lesley Jones | August 28.....Elena Luna |
| August 25.....Maria Juarez | August 28.....Augustine Luz |
| August 25.....Joseph A. Luna | August 28.....Worth Mayfield |
| August 25.....Gene Nixon | August 28.....David Meyer |
| August 25.....Clara Ricks | August 28.....Edward Solis Jr. |
| August 28.....Mary Stephenson | |

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Some situations are just not controllable. In this case, you have to learn to let go. Over the weekend, pay extra attention to a neglected loved one.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
You tend to be somewhat forgetful this week. As a result, you could misplace something of value. Enlist the aid of those around you to locate the treasured item.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Self-preoccupation takes over this week. Thus, you're not really listening to what co-workers are trying to say. Make an effort to concentrate so you don't miss something important.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Domestic duties are front and center this week. However, these needn't run into extra expenditures. You're perfectly capable of executing do-it-yourself projects.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
Though you normally enjoy being the center of attention, it's not a good week for you socially. For some reason, you've gotten on the wrong side of some friends. Do your best to make amends.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
Don't allow a co-worker's lack of enthusiasm to hold you back. You don't need this person's help to complete a project. By week's end, you're satisfied with the end result.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
The big push is on at work, and you're in the thick of it. With your capable handling of the situation, you're able to overcome any obstacles. This weekend, feel free to indulge yourself with a little pampering.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
It's fine to be concerned with your budget. However, don't let worry take over. You're in better shape financially than you think.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
It's not a good week in terms of communication with your mate. You are unable to verbalize exactly what you mean. Some frustration is the inevitable result.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
Events which are happening at a distance could affect you directly. Since this is a family matter, it's a good idea to try to get everyone together. As a group, you'll be able to resolve the situation.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
A friend's thoughtlessness comes as a shock to you this week. This person is normally compassionate. Fortunately, you find it has nothing to do with you, so don't take it so personally.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
You have a specific plan in mind as to how to tackle a certain project. However, it will prove to be more difficult than you'd originally thought. Your innovative mind saves the day by week's end.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

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AVERAGE \$900/WEEK, plus bonuses with one year OTR experience (Class A CDL, Hazmat). More experience pays more. Top miles and overtime. Heartland Express, 1-887-800-6345, www.heartlandexpress.com

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HEALTH

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Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
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Rentals Available

2 yr. old townhouse, 2 bed, 2 baths, tile and carpet floors, metal roof, secluded and close to Las Moras creek. Two lots, \$59,900.

2 bed, 1 bath, Barracks apartment, rock storage shed. Great getaway and rental. \$40,000.

3 bed, 1 bath unfurnished home on Thomas St., Brackettville.

3 bed, 2 baths double wide, unit 27, for rent or sell.

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Beautiful lot on golf course, unit 27.

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NEW MEXICO MOUNTAINS. 140 Acres - ONLY \$49,900. Gorgeous grasslands, mature tree cover, 6,300' elevation. Mountain views, year-round roads, nearby electric. Perfect for horse lovers. Adjacent to national forest. Excellent financing. Call today. This won't last. SW Properties of NM, Inc., 1-866-350-5263.

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Unit 15 lot 160, 161 (160 Bliss Circle) FCS 3bdr, 2bth manufactured housing enclosed porch, partially furnished, POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCED!

Unit 36 lot 39, FCS 2 Br, 1bt manufactured housing.

Unit 27 lot 2 blk O FCS Eagle way 2Br, 2Bt 1180 sq. ft. custom built screened in porch.

Brackettville - Old Stagecoach House corner of El Paso & Fort 1 bdr/1 bth. FOR SALE OR LEASE.

Acreage - 80.03 Acres Tract #303 Leona Ranch.

3104 AIRPORT RD. 2br/2bt enclosed porch, patio, storage, fenced b/y 2 car carport all electric.

Have Buyers - Need Listings! Same name new owner
Ken Barnett - Pat Owens - Melissa Davis
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The Masters Condo unit 1201 1bdr, furnished, garage \$34,000.

Townhouse lot 116, unit 1 furnished.

Unit 15 lot 48, FCS 3 bdr/2bth 1120 sq.ft. manufactured housing \$29,500.

Unit 36 lot 39, FCS 2 Br, 1bt manufactured housing.

Unit 27 lot 2 blk O FCS Eagle way 2Br, 2Bt 1180 sq. ft. custom built screened in porch.

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Ken Barnett - Pat Owens - Melissa Davis
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Spacious home on the outskirts of town; 3BR/2B, carport, new roof, new carpet and other upgrades.

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Two lots in Unit 15, has utility hookups; sacrifice at \$2,000 for both lots.

32 +/- acres with furnished 3BR/2B River Bend. Includes tractor, trailer, truck, deer stands and feeders.

Ranches and small acreage available.

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The Oaks, 2/2/2 Beautiful Stone Home with sunroom, 2 lots and huge oaks.

1874 Colony Row Historical officers quarters in FCS, 2 story 3/3/2 with office, plus large screened areas.

2/2 carport, FCS near Historic District - Priced to Sell.

1300 acres, high fenced, with improvements - \$595/acre.

We have ranches of all sizes available!
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

WANTED

PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT FOR Engineering Services. The City of Brackettville is submitting an application for consideration of a contract award from the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) for water facilities improvements. Accordingly, the City is seeking to contract with a qualified engineering firm (registered to practice in the State of Texas) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. Please submit your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for these proposed services to the address below: City of Brackettville, Water Facilities Improvements c/o Carl Esser, Planner, Middle Rio Grande Development Council 216 W. Main St. Uvalde, Texas 78801. Proposals must be received by the City of Brackettville, no later than 3:00 p.m. on the 6th day of September, 2002 to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all engineering firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. The City of Brackettville is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Answers to Crossword Puzzle

BET	COBB	CACHE
WERE	OKRA	OTHER
ERAS	ILES	REBELS
DESTINATION	SIT	
STEARNS	CREST	
	PAIL	DRONES
URGES	SAZE	RUSE
SOUR	SNER	ETTE
ELAN	ETNA	ESSEN
SERIAL	SLAP	
DERMA	RESALE	
PMS	BACKBREAKER	
ROMEO	TELE	BRAN
INAIR	ONES	LOPE
MANES	ROUT	ENS

HEALTH

Heart doctors fear athletes use of dangerous dietary supplements

With two-a-day football drills less than a month away, Texas cardiologists are calling on Texas news editors, sportswriters, parents, coaches, and the University Interscholastic League to sound an alarm about the drug ephedrine.

George Rodgers, MD, FACC, acting president and governor of the Texas chapter of the American College of Cardiology, worries that "ephedrine is a dangerous drug, is easily abused, and has killed

people. We're concerned about anyone, including athletes, taking over-the-counter substances that can have serious cardiac consequences."

Student athletes mistakenly may take ephedrine as a shortcut to increased performance on the field.

What they don't know is that severe adverse reactions can happen even on their first or second dose of ephedrine and even taken at the recommended dosage.

More than 90 percent of adverse events reported to the FDA occur at recommended doses or less. Dietary supplements containing ephedrine alkaloids are marketed for unapproved indications and used by lay people who may have unknown underlying medical conditions. The NCAA took steps last year to address the problem by allowing voluntary workouts for incoming student athletes and by providing them with education about the risks of taking

dietary supplements.

It is through our news editors, the University Interscholastic League, coaches, and parents, to warn students about the grave risk they take with their health and their lives by using ephedrine.

TCACC represents 1,000 of the state's cardiologists and is affiliated with the American College of Cardiology. TCA CC's mission is to improve the cardiovascular health of Texans.

Chance for poisonings abundant in summer

With more and more people outdoors in the summer, the potential for poisonings increase. Chances to get stung by insects, bitten by snakes or spiders or poisoned by spoiled picnic food, pesticides, insecticides and even carbon monoxide from boats abound.

Deaths from carbon monoxide on boats are being investigated as a relatively new danger. Most poisonings on watercraft are caused by exhaust from gasoline-powered generators used to power appliances on moored houseboats.

"In the last few years, more larger houseboats are jammed with electric appliances, including air conditioners, that require an auxiliary generator," said Judy Whitfield, coordinator for the Texas Poison Center Network and a staff member of the bureau of epidemiology at the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

These generators, she notes also are becoming more common on cabin cruisers.

Some carbon monoxide poisonings also happen to people who are sitting in the rear of open boats moving slowly through the water or who are

hanging onto or sitting on a rear swim platform near an engine's exhaust.

Nationally, about 300 deaths have been reported due to boat-related carbon monoxide poisonings.

No deaths were recorded in Texas in 2000 (the most recent year statistics are available), from boat-related carbon monoxide poisonings.

"Usually no one is concerned about carbon monoxide being a danger in the open air," Whitfield said. "But we are advising boat users to be alert to any symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning including headaches, nausea and difficulty with balance."

Experts also recommend these precautions to boat users:

- Do not allow anyone to swim near the rear of a boat or occupy the rear swim platform if an engine is operating at that area.
- Do not tie together two houseboats with side-exhausting generators.
- This creates a potentially deadly environment both indoors and outdoors.
- Never enter the airspace beneath the swim deck of any

houseboat that has a rear exhausting generator if that engine is operating.

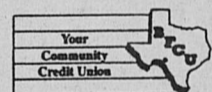
Even after engines are shut down, high carbon monoxide concentrations remain in the confined airspace for a long time.

If you own such a boat, get it retrofitted to reroute the exhaust safely.

In 2001, total poisonings reported to the Texas Poison Center Network increased in every age group during the warm months of April to September. Of the 156,723 confirmed poisonings last year, 82,026 poisonings occurred from April to September.

A new national hotline number, 1-800-222-1222, is available 24 hours a day. Callers are automatically connected to specially trained nurses, pharmacists and physicians at the closest local poison control center. Poison treatment and control experts respond to emergencies and answer poison-related questions about medications, household product and other potentially dangerous substances. In addition, the 1-800-Poison-1 number continues to be available in Texas.

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At The Edwards County Fairgrounds

In Conjunction with the Annual...
Diez y Seis
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Books Open at 9 a.m. to rope at 10 a.m.
Entry Fee: \$15.00/man
Prizes:

Buckles & Money To Be Given To 1st & 2nd Place Header & Heeler

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Food Booths, Games & Live Music Provided

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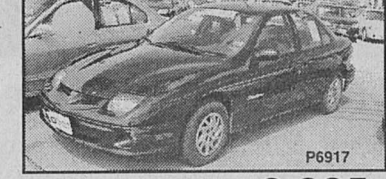
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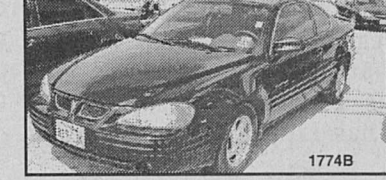
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