

The Brackett News



Smith sets new scoring record
See story, Page 6

14th year, No. 45

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

FBI drug bust results in six arrests

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Six Kinney County citizens were arrested on federal indictments last week as a result of an investigation by officials from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The investigation had been going on for "quite a while," according to Kinney County

Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess.

FBI agents arrested Angela Carrion, 34, Paul Carrion, 35, and Richard Ortega, 39, on Wednesday and David Dalton, 46, Lynn Dalton, 47, and Don Hood Jr., 42, on Friday. They were all charged with conspiracy to possess and distribute narcotics.

All six individuals are being held without bond at the Wac-

"There is a lot of drug business anywhere along the Mexican border ... The best way now to smuggle drugs across the border is to bring it by foot because the port of entries are more secure."

Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess

kenhut Detention Facility in Del Rio.

Last week's arrests have come after several other drug-

arrests in the past few months. It didn't come as a surprise to the local sheriff.

"There is a lot of drug business anywhere along the Mexican border," Burgess said. "Security at the port of entries on our gulf coast are being upgraded because of terrorist threats, so they're checking more containers coming into the ports.

"The best way now to smuggle drugs across the border is to bring it by foot because the port of entries are so much more secure.

"It's going to get worse. When you're talking money — and there's big bucks in that business — it's easy to sway somebody over. Once you're gone, you're there. It's not easy to quit," the sheriff added.

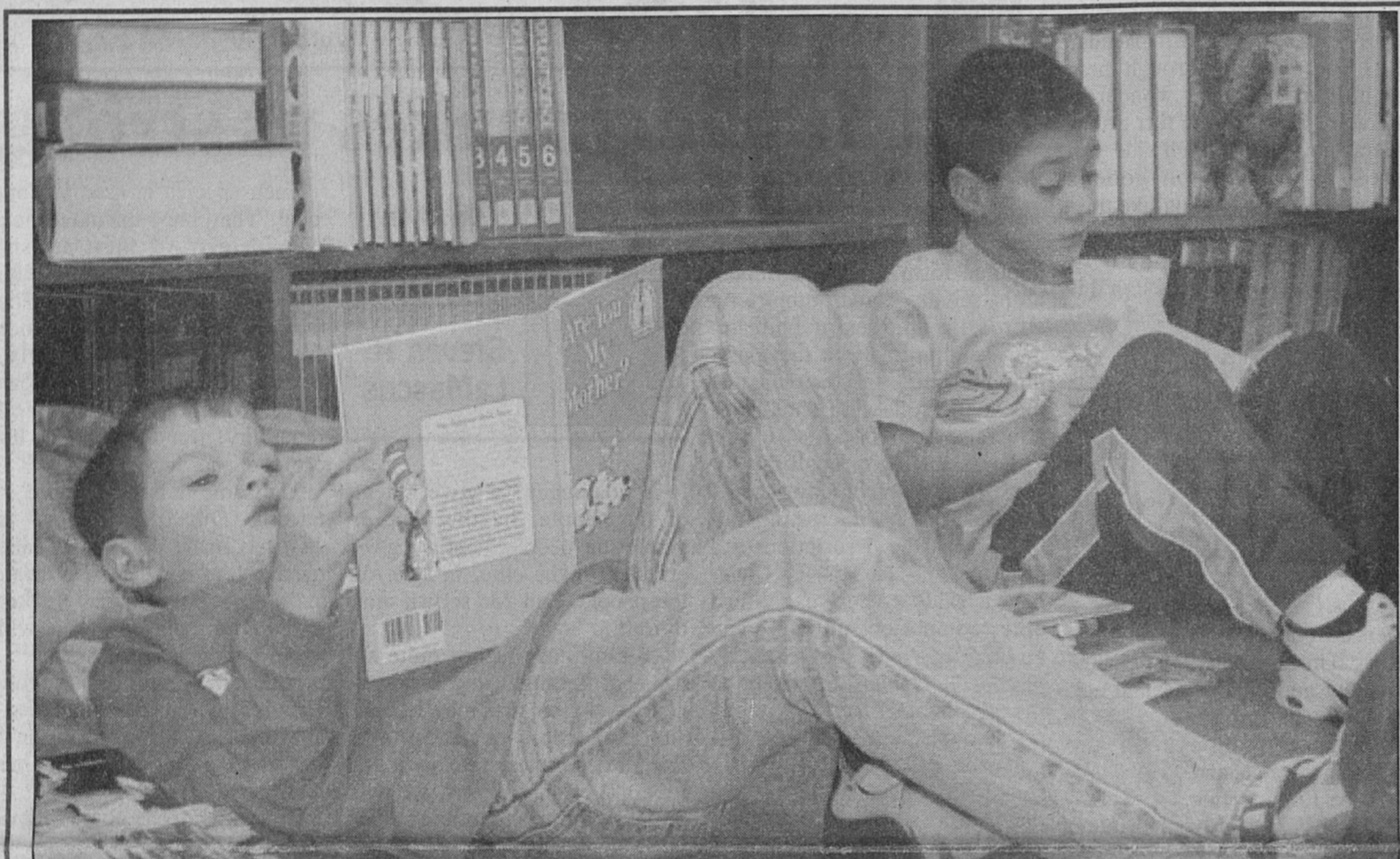


Photo by Kathy Wilson

Classroom reading event

Wyatt Blake (left) and Edgar DeLeon were among the 50 first-grade students of Jones Elementary School teachers Alma Gutierrez, Candy Hobbs and Candi Hohman who participated in the World's Largest Classroom Reading Event on Friday. The students read non-stop for 2,003 seconds. Over 550 books were read in just over 33 minutes. Parents, family and friends were invited to join in the effort to promote silent reading.

Guidry named new constable

Brackettville native returns to post he held in 1980s

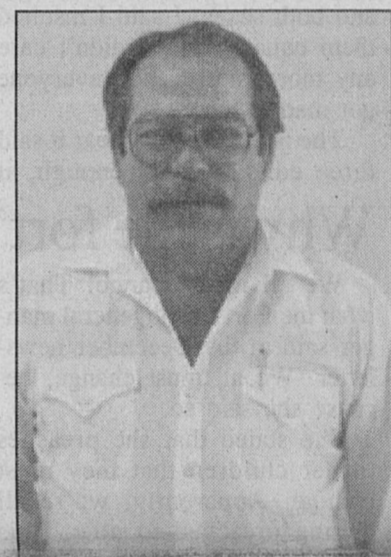
By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Bobby Guidry has a new job — but it is a position he is familiar with.

The Brackettville native was named Kinney County's new constable Monday afternoon by the Commissioners Court.

Guidry was the first county-wide constable, holding the position from 1984 to 1987.

"I'm excited about it," Guidry said. "It's been almost 20 years since I was constable, so I'm sure a lot of it has changed since then, but I'm looking forward to serving the people."



Bobby Guidry

The constable's position has been vacant since Cordelia Mendeke resigned on Nov. 7. Mendeke, who served as constable since her successful campaign run in the 2000 general election, is now a court security officer with the U.S. Marshal's Service in Del Rio.

Guidry fills Mendeke's unexpired term. The position will be on the ballot again in the 2004 general election.

Guidry has been working for the Kinney County Sheriff's Office for the past seven years, with certification as both a law enforcement officer and a jailor.

"Bobby will be a good constable," Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess said. "He was an excellent deputy for me."

"He has great common sense, and I've always believed that's one of the greatest attributes you can have as a peace officer. When to take action, when not to take action, when to use force, when not to use force,

when to draw your gun and when not to — he has the ability to make the right decisions," the sheriff added.

Guidry's appointment Monday was unanimous by the county's four commissioners — Pat Me-lancon, Joe Montalvo, Nat Terrazas and Francie Wylie.

He was one of six applicants for the position, which included James Blankenship, Ron Ring, Larry Robinson, Cody Shannon and Neal Simmons.

Ring and Shannon chose to be interviewed by the commissioners in closed session, while Blankenship, Guidry, Robinson and Simmons were interviewed in open session.

"It was not an easy decision," County Judge Herb Senne said. "We had some really excellent candidates. They answered some tough questions, and were speaking from experience. We were lucky to have so many good, qualified applicants."

Judge considers second FCS trial next week

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

District Judge Tom Lee is considering a motion for a new trial concerning who has legal claim to serve on the Fort Clark Springs Board of Directors.

Lee will hold a hearing next Thursday at 1:30 p.m. to consider the motion filed by Chad Ellis, an attorney representing board members Mona Miller and Tom Saylor.

Lee ruled in October the recall election initiated by the Preservation Society, a group of Fort Clark members unhappy with the current administration, to remove the Fort Clark directors "had no legal effect," leaving

the association's original board in control of the fort.

Lee said the Preservation Society had to satisfy a section of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act that says a special meeting may be called by "1/10 of the members entitled to vote."

In his decision, the judge said: "I do not know how many Fort Clark Springs Association members signed a petition for a special meeting ... In all other regards, I believe the Preservation Society did the best they could to conduct the removal process fairly and under the rules provided. I therefore find that the removal procedure is of no legal effect."

Members of the Preservation

Society argue the signed petition meets the requirements of the law to call a special meeting, but said Lee would not introduce it into evidence.

Ellis attached a copy of the petition, which he says is signed by 434 members in good standing, to his motion for a new trial.

"In the interest of fairness and justice, the court should consider the signed petition as evidence," Ellis said in his motion.

Quinton Etzel, a Del Rio attorney representing the association, requested that the motion be denied.

"No error is alleged in defendants' motion for new trial, nor is there any newly discovered evidence. There is no reason to

set aside the court's judgement," Etzel wrote in his response.

After the Preservation Society circulated the petition last summer, a special membership meeting was held on Aug. 10 to recall the directors. The majority of the members voting chose to remove Frank Cheaney, Carol Miller, Jack Simpson, Glen White and Bob Williamson, and to keep Saylor and Mona Miller. Saylor and Mona Miller later appointed five new directors — Nolan Brandt, John Dixon, Al Jenkins, Rozetta Pingnot and Santos Yerena.

The fort operated without a board for over a month after the initial lawsuit was filed by the association.

County library has a lot to offer citizens

By JERRY WEBER
Contributing Writer

It was interesting to note the reactions of a dozen or more senior citizens, members of The Computer Workshop, assembled at the Kinney County Library to hear Sarah Terrazas, the librarian, explain the computer program.

Basically, the workshop members came for a sandwich and received a banquet laden with information on services available that include a fax machine, computers, TV, a VCR and satellite system, education classes and seminars, audio-visual, consulting and networking resources.

Terrazas, the director of the local library for the last eight years, explained the changes that have taken place recently — changes that are impressive, to

say the least.

In 1999, she authored a TIF grant for the purchase of computers, printers and ISDN line for faster Internet service and a network system. Her efforts produced an award of \$74,000 that enabled the citizens of Kinney County to enter the Computer Age.

Then, two years ago, she submitted another grant and the library was awarded \$19,000 for the purchase of large-print books, nonfiction and reference materials, educational and recreational videos and books on tape.

In 2001, an advanced technology grant in the amount of \$33,000 was awarded. Terrazas used the grant to update software, purchase more computers and added new software to the library's automation system.

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Photo by Jerry Weber

Talking about technology

Sarah Terrazas (standing), director of the Kinney County Library, discusses the numerous services offered to local citizens with members of The Computer Workshop.

INSIDE

Steven R. LaMascus

Our political elite, our government, our representatives are out of control. The people no longer have any control at all.
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You know, thanks to Hollywood, often times we have the misconception that criminals are intelligent.
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Change isn't always for the best for everyone

I was reading the December Fort Clark Springs Newsletter this past week and the "change" article caught my eye.

The article included that "change is good for all of us, young and old alike." I agree to some degree, but we should consider how that change will impact "all of us."

The phrase "you better change your ways or you are going to get in trouble and be left behind," was in regard to children, and the phrase "I learned a long time ago that change (progress) will always win over," put a bit of a scare in me.

I will always resist change when I feel a threat to my val-

ues or way of life is being challenged. Wouldn't you? So I don't believe change is always the "best" for all of us.

As a mother, I instilled Godly values during my children's upbringing and they are doing the same. This was important to me. Change to ungodly ways or "leave them behind?" Not on your life.

Follow someone's leadership blindly because change "will always win over." I wonder, is this how Jim Jones, Hitler, etc., got their followers? It's like the song says, "You've got to stand for something or you'll fall for anything."

Even in small areas of my family life, "change" has de-

tracted from our activities on the fort. Night fishing, midnight swims or taking an after-dark stroll, have ceased to be. I guess this letter is my way, in part, of resisting change. These activities and more are why most of us came here.

Extra security because of troubles "out back" was good. Closing the area off to the 99.9 percent of us for family activities was not.

Does this mean all who live in Unit 3 must be in their homes by nightfall or they might be prosecuted, all because a drug bust happened there?

To follow change blindly will lead to destruction.

Linda Jackson

FCS members should love, listen to one another

There are miracles!

I was hurt and I was madder that a wet hen. I wrote a scathing letter to the editor about the fort. It was so hot, both sides would have been writing rebuttals and boosting *The Brackett News'* circulation just to keep up with who was being sassy to whom on any given week.

After reading the letter to my husband, he suggested I set that letter aside and reread it later since I had insulted everybody and both sexes. I said I insulted them equally, I just didn't care any more, not even if everyone got mad at me.

The next person to hear it said three edits was not enough, it

needed one more. Another told me "soften it a bit" and emailed grandchildren pictures to me. One just listened to me rant and rave. A lady listened and sent me home with cookies and the Sunday comics to read. The last person sent me an email hug and said, "I know you have been hurt, but you are too good a person to write that stuff."

While I was eating cookies, reading the comics and listening to Christmas music, I realized what I had, starting with my wise husband. He stands beside me no matter what I do and no matter what personal cost to him. My friends saved me from getting myself into real trouble with

that letter.

What did I do to deserve even one of these wonderful friends? It is God, working through them to heal me. What a wonderful miracle. To all of the fort grumblers, no matter which side you are on, you are too good a people to go on feuding like this. Try loving and listening to one another. Give hugs.

Maybe if we do it enough this Christmas season, God will bless us all with a miracle - a little peace until the next fort election. If we do a really good job, God may bless the whole world with a miracle - peace on Earth to all.

Patty Moffatt

Why is the fort's G.M. preaching about change?

We all must change! That's what the Fort Clark general manager said in the December newsletter. We all must change, because she said so.

She stated that she preaches to her children that they must change. Apparently, we're all getting preached to now. This rather vague statement, like most things she says, has a special message. My guess is that the general manager is getting a lot of complaints about her so-called change. All her bad decisions are coming back on her and she's trying desperately to

get the members to believe that everything is running fine — remember that one? — and that everything she does is for our own good, just like her children.

But is change always good like the G.M. would like us to believe? Hitler was for change, and that wasn't good. Once there was school prayer, but someone said "we all must change" and now school prayer is gone.

Recently, a judge in California decided "we all must change" and ordered the word "God" removed from the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Cherokee Indians experienced change on the Trail of tears. Unfortunately, the change was not good for them, and neither was the progress.

Just keep an eye on the swinging watch and Fort Clark will be running fine.

Finally, it has been brought to my attention that I have been incorrectly referring to the small golf course, with the tall grass, as the nine-hole golf course. Obviously, I'm not a golfer and I'm sorry if my error caused anyone any emotional trauma.

Dave Reinhold



Individuality makes us strong

Last week I told you I thought we were headed for a bloody return to the past, when the most popular form of entertainment in the mighty Roman Empire required the murder of both humans and animals in the gladiatorial games. If you read that piece, the following should really raise your hackles.



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascus

I was surfing through the TV directory the other day when I came across an interesting tidbit. It was the description of a program on The History Channel. It said, "Abusive political elite, complacent military, and an eroding cultural identity placed the Roman Empire in an inexorable decline."

I looked at that simple, yet poignant, description of the reasons for the "decline and fall of the Roman Empire" and suddenly had cold chills running down my spine. Now correct me if I'm wrong, but doesn't "abusive political elite, complacent military, and eroding cultural identity" fit the present situation in the United States like a hand-tailored Armani suit?

Our political elite, our government, our representatives are out of control. The people no longer have any control at all. It seems that no matter who we elect they are corrupted by the vampires and leeches already entrenched in other political offices.

The "political elite" are only interested in sating their own base desires. They want to bleed the public, fill their pockets, and satisfy their hunger for power. The needs of the nation are the farthest things from their minds. They are not just complacent, they are absolutely apathetic — remorseless. Selfless statesmanship has been replaced by selfish profiteering.

The government of the U.S. has so far outgrown its intended purpose as to be unrecognizable to the men and women who originally conceived of the idea.

It is no longer "a government of the people, by the people, and for the people," but is a government of the elite, in spite of the people, and for selfish ambition!

Our military is not quite so bad, but is caught in a series of highs and lows that may lead to an "inexorable decline." We are not defenseless yet, but if the Liberal Left has its way, we will be. They are trying to disarm the U.S., make it a part of a One Nation Earth, and turn our sovereignty over to a conglomeration of foreign diplomats with zero interest in the health and longevity of the United States.

One world government is not a realistic possibility. I don't care what the liberal fairytale says, it is not the ultimate form of government. What it is, is the beginning of the end. One world government will cause total chaos, not peace and tranquility. We are also losing our cultural identity just as fast as we can import other cultures into the country.

Star Trek was one of my favorite shows in the '60s. Mr. Spock was a believer in total diversity. He wore a medal known as IDIC. It meant "infinite diversity in infinite combinations." That is, on the surface, a great and wondrous ideal. The reality, however, is much different.

God separated the species of animals for a purpose. Infinite diversity in infinite combinations would completely destroy the ecosystem of the earth. It doesn't work! What that type of diversity causes is sterility.

Each species is separate but equal. They must maintain their own identity or they perish. When you cross a donkey with a horse the result is sterile. The same is true with most other similar species. Individually, they can get along fine. They can graze together in peace and tranquility. But they cannot interbreed and survive.

The same is basically true of nations. Our individuality is what has made us strong. Take that away, as is the current ideal, and we get weaker and weaker until we no longer have the will or the strength to survive.

If that was true of the mighty Roman Empire, what monumental arrogance is it for us to think we are immune to the same death?

I'm not Hitler. I don't believe in "racial purity." Total racial purity also leads to inbred sterility and death. Race and culture are totally different.

The United States is made up of many races united in one national culture. That is what we must preserve. Infinite cultural diversity in a single nation is a death sentence.

Our strength is in our racial diversity and our cultural unity. And the one unifying force, for hundreds of years, has been Jesus Christ. It is to Him that we must now turn for sanctuary. God bless America!

Ezra 10:2-3, "And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, spoke up and said to Ezra, 'We have trespassed against our God, and have taken pagan wives from the peoples of the land; yet now there is hope in Israel in spite of this. Now therefore, let us make a covenant with our God to put away all these wives and those who have been born to them, according to the advice of my master and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law.'" NKJV

Learning to be more aggressive

If you have ever talked to me, you would assume that I wasn't that shy. You would probably be right. In many occasions, I can be very outgoing and busy. I guess you can say I like the sound of my voice.

Sadly, on the basketball court, it is a whole different story. If you have watched me play, you know exactly what I am talking about. I look like a scared little kid who doesn't know what they're doing, and half the time I don't.

Recently, my grandmother was talking about the phrase: "Some people make things happen, some people watch things happen, and some people wonder what happened."

I am definitely the last. It is



Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

not the coaching that is bad, it is I who is the problem. I don't pay attention to my surroundings, or instructions, and I try to make sure I don't hurt anyone.

The varsity Tigerettes basketball team played in a tournament this weekend. This is where, instead of showing my crazy skills, I showed my crazy mistakes. I constantly said sorry, I

let people pass by me for free points, and I felt really bad after I fouled someone.

I remember once during a game with Nueces Canyon, I ran into this girl, and fouled her. I saw black for awhile and cut the inside of my lip, but even through blindness, I continued saying: "I am sorry, I am so sorry." It was pretty sad.

I have no idea what is wrong with me. I am not only the tallest girl on the team, I am also the biggest. I might even be one of most intimidating, that is, until you see me play.

I keep telling myself that I have to be more aggressive — the sad thing is, I don't know how to be, at least not on the court anyway.

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Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

Just a letter from home

As our nation fights the War on Terrorism, we place our lives and liberties in the hands of the brave men and women fighting on the front lines. These individuals risk their lives every day to preserve our freedom and safety.

While we attend holiday parties and decorate our trees, our troops find themselves alone in foreign territory. Now, more than ever, it is paramount that we rally behind our troops and show our support.

When I think of our troops away from home over the holiday season, I am reminded of a story I heard many years ago.

During the Vietnam War, Sgt. Billy Thompson sent a simple holiday request to news columnist Abigail Van Buren. He suggested that "just a letter from home" would make a wonderful Christmas present. This resulted in the holiday letter writing campaign called "Operation Dear Abby."

For 17 years, American citizens sent letters and cards to servicemen deployed away from home. These cards served to boost morale and spread holiday cheer to thousands of military personnel.

Many years later, during Operation Desert Storm, a new letter-writing campaign was born. Rather than focus only on the holiday season, "Any Servicemember" aimed to promote troops morale year-round. During operations in Bosnia, the campaign continued to grow and brought joy to many members of armed services.

Unfortunately, recent threats of Anthrax and biological warfare have made delivering large amounts of mail to our troops unsafe. The Department of Defense was forced to announce that both of these highly successful campaigns would be indefinitely suspended.

In the midst of a new kind of war, we must find new means of supporting our servicemen and women.

In light of these events, the Navy created a web-based alternative to traditional letter-writing campaigns. The new "Any Servicemember" web site provides a simple system to send e-mail greetings to our troops.

Anyone wishing a reply to their message, need only to include a return e-mail address.

This simple process allows those sending the message to chose any branch of the military to send their greetings. While our troops will miss the brightly-colored envelopes and picturesque cards, they are excited about the convenience of e-mail.

As our troops face new challenges, we must demonstrate the true conviction for our armed services. Each person must do their part to help boost the morale of those who will not be home for the holidays.

I urge each of you to participate in this thoughtful and patriotic campaign. It will take only a few minutes, but think of the joy it will bring to these very special and admirable men and women.

Criminals lack intelligence

You know, thanks to Hollywood, often times we have the misconception that criminals are intelligent. All you have to do these days is pick up any newspaper to find out that this isn't true.

That dawned on me when I read the story of two men from Fitchburg, Mass., who suffered life-threatening burns when they tried to remove \$100,000 worth of high-grade marijuana that was hidden in a car gas tank.

Octavio Soto, 44, and Jose Cezares, 23, are recovering at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston with third-degree burns after the flash fire. Soto has burns over 65 percent of his body, while Cezares suffered burns over 30 percent of his body.

While investigating the fire, authorities noticed that a gas tank had been removed from a car and weighed more than it should have. Investigators cut the tank open to find two sealed metal containers containing an estimated 60 pounds of mari-



Just Chatting

J.J. Guidry

juana, which reportedly had a street value of more than \$100,000.

The fire was caused by an explosion, ignited by Soto's and Cezares' efforts to saw into the tank they had removed from a 1995 GMC Yukon. A spark from the saw ignited gas vapors from the tank, police said.

Not too bright, huh? Soto and Cezares have been charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

Gasoline proved to be a good defense for an attendant at an Indianapolis service station. He thwarted an apparent robbery attempt by spraying the two assailants with gasoline.

The robbers approached the Swifty Service Station on foot as the attendant was fueling the car. One wore a ski mask; the other wore a white cloth over his face.

As the two robbers approached the attendant, he pulled out the nozzle and sprayed them with gasoline.

A law enforcement officer said one of the robbers responded by firing a revolver. The bullet shattered a window of the car the attendant was servicing. A woman in the car was slightly injured.

The officer said the woman, who thought she had been struck by a bullet at first, told her husband to drive away quickly. The couple stopped at a friend's house nearby and called 911.

Intelligent criminals may make the storylines more interesting in movies, but at best, most modern-day criminals are only good for laughs.

On second thought, these stories could be the basis of award-winning comedies. Oh well, it's just a thought.

Thank You

Words cannot express our gratitude for the prayers, support and other expressions of sympathy during our time of loss.

We realize how important our family and friends are to us.... Your acts of kindness will always be remembered by our family.

A special thank you to the City of Brackettville for their warmth and generosity during this time.

The family of Zulema S. Wilson

The Brackett News

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Stop moping around! Get rid of those unwanted items.



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Pickup rollover

A Houston man rolled his truck last week in front of the Texas Department of Transportation offices on Highway 90. The man was not injured in the accident.

Photo by Kathy Wilson

Teachers make a difference

Teachers make a difference every day in the lives of our children. I am proud of the teachers at Brackett ISD.

My article this week answers a question asked to a teacher by a higher-paid chief executive officer. I don't know who wrote this, but it reflects my feelings about education and the teaching profession. If you agree, tell teachers that they are making a difference.

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life. One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued: "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided his best option in life was to become a teacher?"

"Those who can do. Those who can't teach."

To corroborate, he said to another guest: "You're a teacher, Susan. Be honest. What do you



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

make?"

Susan, who had a reputation of honesty and frankness, replied: "You want to know what I make? I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I can make a C+ feel like the Congressional Medal of Honor and an A- feel like a slap in the face if the student did not do his or her best."

"I can make kids sit through 40 minutes of study hall in absolute silence. You want to know what I make? I make kids wonder. I make them question.

I make them criticize. I make them apologize and mean it.

"I make them write. I make them read, read, read. I make them spell 'definitely' and 'beautiful' over and over, until they will never misspell either one of those words again. I make them show all their work in math and hide it all on their final drafts in English.

"I elevate them to experience music and art and the joy in performance, so their lives are rich, full of kindness and culture, and they take pride in themselves and their accomplishments.

"I make them understand that if you have the brains then follow your heart and if someone ever tries to judge you by what you make, you pay them no attention.

"You want to know what I make? I make a difference! What do you make?"

Have a great week!

BRIEFS

Brackett ISD hosts Christmas concerts

Brackett ISD invites the community to its Christmas concerts. The fifth, sixth and Brackett Tiger Bands will perform tonight. On Monday, the Pre-K through fourth grades will perform various Christmas songs. These performances are both in the school auditorium at 7 each night. Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria following both concerts.

The Tiger Band is selling raffle tickets. First prize is an Emerson DVD/VCR (partially funded by Wal-Mart) and second prize is an Apex VCR donated by HEB. The winning tickets will be drawn between band performances on Thursday.

Amistad NRA presents free program

The Amistad National Recreation Area will present a free program on Monday. "Bats of Texas" will cover these fascinating flying mammals, their life history, ecological importance, and how humans and bats can live together with mutual benefit. The program will be held at the Ramada Inn of Del Rio, at 2101 Veterans Ave., at 6 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.

Students named to National Dean's List

Enriqueta Garza of Sul Ross University and Cecilia Terrazas of the University of Texas at San Antonio are among the approximately 140,000 students included in the 25th annual edition of The National Dean's List, 2001-2002.

The National Dean's List, published by Educational Communications Inc., is the largest recognition program and publication in the nation honoring high-achieving college students.

Students are selected for this honor by their college deans, registrars or honor society advisors and must be in the upper 10 percent of their class, on their school's dean's list, or have earned a comparable honor. Listed students are eligible to compete for \$50,000 in scholarship awards funded by the publisher, and may also use a referral service for future employment opportunities. More than 2,500 colleges and universities nationwide use the publication to recognize their academically qualified students.

Two teams tie for top honors in bridge

Duplicate Bridge was played in the Gorgas Room at Fort Clark Springs on Tuesday evening. The Howell Movement was used for five pairs. Mona Miller and Dena Scott tied Ruth Potter and Sara Richhart for first-place honors. Third place winners were Kay Roberts and Dianna Daniels.

The annual Christmas party will be held on Tuesday in the Gorgas Room at 6:30 p.m. All bridge players and their partners are welcome. Those attending are asked to bring some appetizers for the party. Bridge will start at 7 p.m.

Fort Clark Voices perform Saturday

The Voices of Fort Clark will present a Christmas Concert on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Post Theater. A varied selection of secular and sacred Christmas music will be presented.

The choir is under the direction of Lynn McNew and accompanied by Cathie Conrey.

4-H Shooting Sports Club elects officers

The Kinney County 4-H Shooting Sports club held its first meeting last Tuesday, discussing proper firearm safety procedures and electing officers.

The officers for the 2002-2003 shooting season are: Beau Watkins, president; Brandon Kluzek, vice president; Summer Allen, secretary; Jared Harris, treasurer; and Tammy Smith, reporter.

Those who missed the meeting must contact the extension office at 563-2442 or Kandace LaMascus for information regarding practice times and other meetings for the project.

Members must attend a safety meeting before beginning practice, and at least two regular 4-H meetings before participating in the actual competition project of shooting sports in the spring. Practice will begin within the next week, and more specific information will be available at a later date.

BHS has four named to regional band

Four Brackett High School band members were selected for the regional Band of the Association of Texas Small School Bands, BHS band director Ann Davidson announced.

Earning honors were Jeffrey Tipps, first chair bass clarinet; Yasmin Pena, flute; Cody Robinette, baritone; and Kami Berg, mallet percussion. Berg and Tipps qualified for all-state tryouts to be held later in the school year.

Regional band members competed with students from Region 11 in Pearsall last Saturday. Those selected will rehearse in San Antonio on Jan. 17-18 for a concert on the night of Jan. 18.

Computer Club set to meet on Monday

Have you ever wondered how the internet works? Come join the Brackettville Computer Club for its December meeting. The guest speaker is Trish Taylor, manager of Rionet, Rio Grand Electric Companies internet service provider.

The meeting is scheduled for 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday in the Fritter Room at the Kinney County Library. The cost is 50 cents per person, all of which is donated to the library for utility expenses.

Volunteers are needed for Local Emergency Planning Committee

The Local Emergency Planning Committee met on Monday. We discussed the usual topics and decided that we need to have some more people willing to work hard at a really important job for Homeland Security.

In this community, there are so many people who are more than qualified to help us out! We have the written program down and need to carry out the rest.

We have slots available in the categories of alternates for disabled citizens, Fort Clark Springs community groups, and owner/operators of covered facilities (these facilities are factories, industries or utilities that must file specific reports with TDH because of the hazardous materials they use or store).

This task we have ahead of us requires a long-term commitment to learn what each



EMS Update

Carolyn Rutherford

department's responsibilities and duties are if — or when — we have a disaster. What is at stake is the safety and health of our entire community. We have to train every single person with a role, large or small, in our preparedness operations.

This enormous responsibility will take all entities working together for the good of all citizens in our county, laying aside political or personal conflicts to meet the heavy and difficult bur-

den we must take on and complete.

Remember, we are on the border and because of that distinction, we are also extremely vulnerable to terrorism through biological (smallpox), chemical (nerve gas) and nuclear attack.

Please do not dismiss my words as "phobic and paranoid," because the federal government has issued warnings stating we have a 100 percent probability of an attack like 9-11 now.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" applies well here because if we are proactive and anticipate bad things happening, we will be prepared when they eventually do occur.

Please help yourself, your neighbor, and this country by signing up with us. Your part of this is important to the safety of

every citizen in this whole area.

Contact me or County Judge Herb Senne as soon as possible to volunteer your help.

Personnel Variance

Kinney County EMS responds its primary ambulance with minimum staffing required by TDH with two EMS-certified personnel. Once that ambulance is committed to the original call, our other two ambulances may be staffed with less than TDH-approved personnel.

TDH is currently reviewing our application for renewal of the temporary personnel shortage variance, which expires on Dec. 31. Our patients are always attended by at least one TDH EMS-certified person.

If you have any questions about EMS, call 563-9090 or visit the EMS office at 401 S. Ellen St.

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Tuesday, Dec. 3

1:10 p.m., A 911 call reported a one-vehicle rollover, off of Highway 90 in front of the Transportation Department. No injuries were reported.

3:10 p.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent reported an accident involving an 18-wheeler on Highway 90 at the Cline checkpoint.

5:19 p.m., A woman reported a gas meter that had been run over on E. Thorn Street.

Thursday, Dec. 5

3:38 p.m., A dispatcher from the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office reported loose goats on Highway 90, east of the J.D. Cox Ranch.

Friday, Dec. 6

4:45 p.m., Kirby Ted Babineaux, 48, of Nederland was arrested by DPS Trooper Tully Welch for driving while intoxicated, unlicensed weapon and failure to control speed. He was later released on a \$2,400 bail bond.

6:30 p.m., David Garcia, 20, of Uvalde was arrested by DPS Trooper Wheat for outstanding DPS warrants. He is being held in the Kinney County Jail.

8:50 p.m., A Val Verde Sheriff's Office employee reported a one-vehicle rollover on Highway 277, 2 miles south of the Sycamore Creek bridge. Two injuries were reported.

10 p.m., A man reported an unwanted woman at his residence on W. Veltman Street.

Saturday, Dec. 7

9:45 a.m., A man called to report that his son had not come home the previous night. The boy returned home an hour after the report was made.

3:09 p.m., A man reported a poaching incident. Game Warden Henry Lutz was notified.

4:46 p.m., A U.S. Border Patrol Agent reported a blue station wagon broke down on Highway 90, 10 to 15 miles from Brackettville.

5:57 p.m., A woman reported that she had locked her keys in her vehicle on E. Thorn Street.

10:15 p.m., Miguel Angel Martinez, 28, was arrested by Deputy Karl Chism on warrants out of Wichita County for probation violation and child endangerment. He is being held in the Kinney County Jail.

Sanjiv R. Kumar, M.D., P.A.

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* Oferta valida hasta el 31 de diciembre 2002



Outstanding student
Brackett High school senior Laura Negrete (center) received the U.S. Border Patrol Outstanding Student Award during a ceremony Tuesday. She was presented the award by agents Joel Coog (left) and Ronnie Hobbs of the Brackettville Sector.

Photo by Kathy Wilson

Stephenson discusses issues concerning BISD

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson discussed things going on at the school district last Thursday at the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting at Las Moras Inn.

Stephenson described the process of changing the gymnasium floor that had been damaged during recent rains.

Stephenson also discussed the process that should be followed when bringing complaints to the School Board. He said that he believed people have a right to say what they would like to say and to appeal what decisions they would like to appeal, but the

School Board has a policy regarding the procedure to be followed when this occurs. This is also state-recommended policy, and similar procedures are followed by large corporations.

A grievance should be taken up directly with the teacher or principal first, and if it is not resolved by working on it and the person or persons are still aggrieved, then a written report should be given to the superintendent. If the grievance is not resolved at this point, it then goes to the School Board.

One isn't to wait until the second Monday of the month and suddenly appear at the School Board meeting.

The state of Texas stipulates

by law that the person to be named in such a grievance must be notified ahead of time in order to be in attendance and be capable of responding to the matter.

On a more personal note, Stephenson said that when a problem at school came up with his own child, he went directly to the teacher. Sometimes it was due to a misunderstanding with the teacher, sometimes it was his own problem, sometimes his child was at fault, but by handling the matter, it was resolved.

Eaminn Srank, assistant to the district governor, will discuss recent changes requested by the Rotary Foundation at today's meeting.

Martinez receives national Hispanic scholastic award

Maria Martinez, a senior at Brackett High School, has been recognized as a scholar in the National Hispanic Recognition Program, BISD counselor Michelle Frerich announced.

The National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP), established in 1983, is a College Board program that provides national recognition of the exceptional academic achievements of Hispanic high school seniors, and identifies them for post-secondary institutions.

Students enter the program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT) as high school juniors and by identifying themselves as Hispanic.

From more than 200,000 students nationwide, approximately 4,500 of the highest-scoring students were initially identified as semifinalists. Based on further evidence of their academic achievement, a select

group of 3,800 students have been recognized as a scholar or honorable mention finalist.

Martinez is among the 3,400 Hispanic students who have been recognized as scholars in the recognition program.

The names of all scholars and honorable mention finalists are listed in the NHRP publication, which has been released to colleges and universities to encourage them to seek out these talented Hispanic students as potential candidates for admission.

Founded in 1900, the College Board is a nonprofit membership association of schools, colleges and other educational organizations. The College Board's mission is to prepare, inspire and connect students to college and opportunity, with a commitment to excellence and equity.

Brackett ISD pays for every junior to take the PSAT every year.



Outstanding student
Brackett High school principal John Paul Schuster (left) presents a National Hispanic Recognition Program award to senior Maria Martinez at a ceremony on Tuesday.

Photo by Kathy Wilson

Betas learn about Honduras

Preceptor Theta Sigma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met recently in the home of Mylo Unruh, who presented the cultural program on Honduras.

Mylo and husband, Dale, traveled to Honduras this summer to visit with their daughter and family who are stationed there.

Part of Spain's vast empire in the New World, Honduras became an independent nation in 1821. After two and a half decades of mostly military rule, a freely-elected civilian government came to power in 1982.

During the 1980s, Honduras proved a haven for anti-Sandinista contras fighting the Marxist Nicaraguan government and an ally to Salvadoran government forces fighting the leftist guerrillas.

Honduras is located in Middle America, bordering the Caribbean Sea, between Guatemala and Nicaragua, and bordering the North Pacific Ocean, between El Salvador and Nicaragua. Its land area is slightly

larger than Tennessee and the climate is subtropical in the lowlands and temperate in the mountains. The terrain is mostly mountains in the interior, with narrow coastal plains. The natural resources are timber, various mining metals, coal and fish.

About 41 percent of the population is under the age of 14 years, with 97 percent of the population being Roman Catholic. Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere with an extraordinarily unequal distribution of income — 53 percent of the population lives below the poverty level. The nation is banking on expanded trade privileges and on debt relief to help their situation. Growth remains dependent on the status of the U.S. economy.

While there, the Unruhs made a side trip to see the Copan Ruins, one of the ancient Mayan cities in Western Honduras. At one time, back in 1100 A.D., the population was estimated to be over 20,000.

Quick snacks ideas for get-togethers

The mad whirlwind has begun of seemingly endless things to do, places to go, shopping to do, meals to fix and the big fun of get-togethers, big and small.

That means we need snacks that are fast to fix and inexpensive. Here's some quickies to add to your files for anytime.

"Grannies" Hor d'oeuvres

Cook 1 pound of sausage until crumbles, and then drain well. Place slices of party rye bread (or thin-sliced rye bread cut in half or quarters) on cookie sheet, spoon 1 teaspoon of sausage on each and cover with swiss cheese, smaller than the bread slice. Use pre-sliced cheese if possible by the deli. Broil until the cheese melts. Serve warm.

Pickled Carrots and Zucchini



Goodies
From G.G.

Vada Baldree

Here's what we need: 1/2 cup of sugar, 3 whole cloves, 1/2 cup of vinegar, 2-inch stick of cinnamon, 1 tablespoon of mustard seed, 3 medium carrots (cut in strips), and 1 medium zucchini (cut in strips).

In a saucepan, mix the first five ingredients and a 1/2 cup of water. Add carrots, and then cover and simmer until crisp-tender. Add zucchini and return

to boiling. Immediately transfer to a bowl. Cover and chill at least eight hours. It makes three cups.

Sweet Fruit Nibbles

Use canned, fresh or frozen fruits and serve, whole or bite-size pieces, by doing the following:

Dip fruit pieces in fruit-flavored yogurt. Then, roll in flaked coconut.

Spoon slightly-thawed lemonade or orange juice concentrate over fruit. Banana, apple, pear and peach slices, sprinkled with cinnamon.

Correction: In last week's column, 1 1/2 tablespoons of olive oil (no substitute) was left out of the ingredients for the recipe for Bottomless Cheese Crock.



Look who turned 18 yrs. old
Happy Birthday
From - Michael,
Mya, Jesse, Freddy
and Grandma

Graduation Announcement



Jill Woodson

Commencement Exercises will be held at the CC Winn Campus in Eagle Pass High School at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 14th, 2002. Jill earned her Bachelors Degree in Social Science

Stephenson discusses issues facing school district

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson discussed things going on at the school district last Thursday at the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting.

Stephenson discussed the process that should be followed when bringing complaints to the School Board. He said that he

believed people have a right to say what they would like to say and to appeal what decisions they would like to appeal, but the School Board has a policy regarding the procedure to be followed when this occurs. This is also state-recommended policy.

A grievance should be taken up directly with the teacher or principal first, and if it is not resolved by working on it and the

person or persons are still aggrieved, then a written report should be given to the superintendent. If the grievance is not resolved at this point, it then goes to the School Board.

One isn't to wait until the second Monday of the month and suddenly appear at the School Board meeting. To jump ahead of the required order just causes chaos.

County library has a lot to offer citizens

Continued from Page 1

The Kinney County library now has 22 computers and a server.

In the summer, six weeks are dedicated to the children of the community, providing them with educational and recreational programs. These programs include reading, creative writing, music, arts and crafts, drawing, drama and games. The children, at an average of 75 a day, also receive snacks and drinks donated by organizations and parents that wish to help.

Throughout the year, the fo-

cus is on literacy programs for adults, as well as English and Spanish classes.

There is a Home Bound Program for individuals unable to travel. They can receive books, videos and magazines, delivered to their home.

Once a week, year round, a story hour is presented which includes reading a story, a children's craft hour and a songfest. Headstart teachers bring their students every week and the library averages 30 students per class.

Tutoring is also available af-

ter class for elementary-age students on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m., and members of a Young Adult Program, which meets once a week, volunteer to assist younger children with homework. A computer class is also offered twice a week to instruct in computer basics.

Terrazas' long-term goal is to expand the library, offer more classes to the public, hire more staff, create an outreach program for teen-agers and build a strong Friends of the Library group.

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Smith breaks school scoring record

Ashley Smith poured in 38 points last Thursday, breaking a school record and leading the Brackett Tigerettes to a 67-50 win over Sabinal in the first round of the Nueces Canyon tournament.

The Tigerettes (3-4) finished fourth in the tournament.

Smith's 38 points broke the school record for most points scored in a game. The previous record was 36 points, shared by Wendy McDaniel (1993) and Yvonne Luna (1988).

"It is a great achievement," Brackett coach Ricky Creel said. "It was her first game back since having wrist surgery. She

played really well. She was very aggressive going to the basket."

The Tigerettes led the Lady Jackets 33-28 at halftime and then outscored Sabinal 34-22 in the second half to claim the win.

Stephanie Bonner also finished in double figures, scoring 12 points. Amanda Davis had seven points, Ashley Castillo finished with six and Shanae Simmons had four.

In the second round, Brackett fell to Nueces Canyon 43-34. The Lady Panthers raced to a 12-4 lead at the end of the opening stanza, but Brackett outscored Nueces Canyon 11-7 in the second quarter to pull within four

"It is a great achievement. It was her first game back since having wrist surgery. She played really well. She was very aggressive going to the basket."

BHS coach Ricky Creel on Ashley Smith

at 19-15 at halftime. Nueces Canyon went on to outscore BHS 24-19 in the second half for the win.

Simmons led the Tigerettes with nine points in the contest, Smith scored eight, Bonner had six, Castillo pitched in five, Courtney Frerich scored four and Amanda Davis added two.

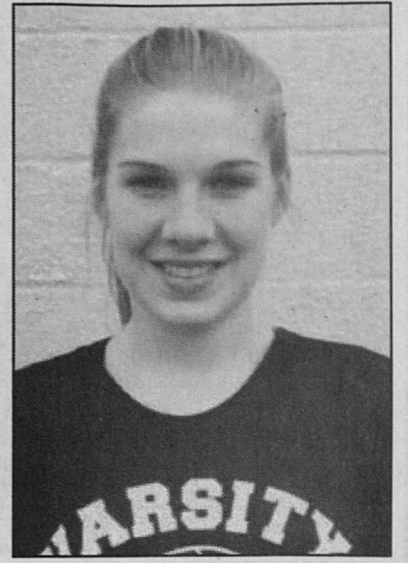
In the third place final, the Tigerettes dropped a 49-40 decision to Utopia. The Lady Buffalos built a 27-18 lead at intermission. Brackett outscored Utopia 13-7 in the third quarter to cut the deficit to three, but couldn't pull out the victory.

Castillo led BHS with 12 points and Frerich chipped in

eight points. Simmons, Smith and Tye Taylor all had five points, Davis scored three and Tammy Smith had two.

On Tuesday, Brackett avenged the loss to Utopia with a 39-34 home victory over the Lady Buffalos. Utopia held the early advantage, leading 24-17 at halftime, but the Tigerettes outscored the Lady Buffalos 22-10 in the second half.

Smith and Stacey Castilla paced Brackett's scoring attack with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Castillo finished with seven points, Frerich had four, Davis scored three, and Simmons and Smith each had two.



Ashley Smith

Tigers place 11 players on all-district

The Brackett Tigers had 11 players earn honors on the 30-AA all-district team, which was chosen by the conference's coaches.

The Tigers, who tied for third in district with a 3-2 mark, had five unanimous selections and seven players who earned accolades on both sides of the ball.

Junior running back Tony Rosetti and junior guard Glenn Morgan were unanimous picks on offense. Junior tight end Dietrich Davis and junior tackle Eli Woolsey were also named to the first team.

Senior running back Jared Hobbs, senior tight end Jesse Davis, senior center Philip Munoz and junior tackle Jason Smith earned second-team honors.

Unanimous selections on defense were Rosetti at linebacker, Woolsey at end and Hobbs in the secondary. Morgan earned first-team honors at linebacker, as well as senior defensive tackle Terrell Freeman.

Selections on the second-team defense include Smith at tackle, Davis at end, Munoz and sophomore Tillman Davis at linebacker and senior Boyd Brotherton in the secondary.



All-district players

Representing the Brackett Tigers on the 30-AA all-district football team are, top row (from left): Dietrich Davis and Glenn Morgan. Middle row: Jason Smith, Eli Woolsey, Terrell Freeman, Jared Hobbs and Jesse Davis. Bottom row: Philip Munoz, Tony Rosetti, Boyd Brotherton and Tillman Davis.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Panthers top Tigers in consolation final

BARKSDALE — Brackett built a 25-24 halftime lead Saturday, but the Knippa Rock-crushers outscored the Tigers 19-12 in the second half to claim a 43-37 victory in the consolation finals of the Nueces Canyon basketball tournament.

"We lost our mental focus during the second half," Tigers coach Charlie Marquardt said. "We didn't shoot the ball well at all. We need to focus on execution and we'll stop playing at the level of our competition. Our schedule gets much tougher from here on out."

Jared Hobbs and Philip Munoz both scored in double figures for Brackett with 13 and 11 points, respectively. Jesse Davis finished with five points, and Boyd Brotherton and Charlie Slaughter each had four points.

In the consolation semifinals, the Tigers exploded for a 15-0 run in the second quarter against the LaPryor Bulldogs en route to a 56-35 win.

"We started out well and then coasted for the victory," Marquardt said. "It's a win, but our effort at times bothers me because we make the same mistakes over and over again."

Munoz scored a game-high 20 points in the contest, Dietrich

Davis had 15 points, Hobbs scored 11, Brotherton pitched in eight and Jesse Davis had two.

In the opening round, the Tigers fell to Sabinal 55-53.

"The two things up to this point in the season that had been good failed to show for this game, defense and free throws," Marquardt said. "We were 7 for 16 from the free-throw line."

Hobbs led Brackett in the contest with 15 points and Munoz scored 13. Dietrich Davis posted a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Jesse Davis finished with eight points, Brotherton had four and Noe Talamantez chipped in one.

On Tuesday, the Tigers fell to the Utopia Buffalos 39-23 in its home opener.

Brackett led 8-6 after the opening stanza, but Utopia outscored the Tigers 16-4 in the second period to go up 22-12 at halftime. The Buffalos secured the win after outscoring the Tigers 17-11 in the second half, holding Brackett scoreless in the fourth quarter.

Dietrich Davis led Brackett with six points, Munoz, Slaughter and Jesse Davis all had four points, Hobbs scored three and Talamantez pitched in two.

SWTJC tournament begins today

Brackett opens play in the Southwest Texas Junior College basketball tournament today in Uvalde.

The Tigerettes (3-4) face Nueces Canyon this morning at 11:30 in their opening contest. BHS fell to the Lady Panthers 43-34 last week on the road.

In today's other first-round matchup, LaPryor plays Utopia at 8:30 a.m. The losers of the two games meet at 3:30 p.m., while the winners play at 6:30

p.m. On Friday, Leakey plays Sabinal at 8:30 a.m., and D'Hanis faces Knippa at 11:30 a.m. On Saturday, the seventh-place game is at 8:30 a.m., the consolation contest is at 11:30 a.m., the third-place final is at 3:30 p.m. and the championship is at 6:30 p.m.

The Tigers (3-3) open the tournament against Nueces Canyon today in a 1 p.m. contest. It will be the first time the two

teams meet this season.

In the other first-round game, LaPryor plays Utopia at 10 a.m. The losers of the two games meet at 5 p.m., while the winners play at 8 p.m.

On Friday, Leakey plays Sabinal at 10 a.m., and D'Hanis faces Knippa at 1 p.m. On Saturday, the seventh-place game is at 10 a.m., the consolation contest is at 1 p.m., the third-place final is at 5 p.m. and the championship is at 8 p.m.

Cubettes come up short against Del Rio

ROUNDUP

Del Rio outscored Brackett 7-2 in the second quarter and then held off a late Cubettes rally to claim a 31-25 win Monday in eighth grade girls basketball action.

Emily Valenzuela posted a double-double to lead Brackett (0-3). She had 13 rebounds and 11 points, along with five assists and four steals.

Rachel Lethco and Nadine Terrazas each had four points. Lethco also had five re-

bounds, while Terrazas finished with five assists and three steals in the contest.

Lola Cano, Allison Del Bosque, Laura Meyer and Kara Yeager all scored two points.

Last week, the Cubettes came up short last against Comstock, falling 31-26.

Valenzuela finished with 10 points in the contest and Lethco

scored eight points.

■ **Seventh-grade team:** Sacred Heart built a 16-9 halftime lead over the Brackett Cubettes and then held on for a 28-18 win in seventh grade girls basketball action.

Jennifer Zomora was the Cubettes' leading scorer with eight points, while Bailie Allen, Hayley Harris, Bianca Stewart, Analda Watkins and Jolisa Wright all had two points.

OUTDOORS

License log new requirement for deer hunters

As you come upon that freshly killed buck this fall, the adrenaline still flowing, something as simple as filling out a deer tag can become quite confusing. At least, that's what Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens have observed in the past.

"Under the old system, the various tags could be confusing," said David Sinclair, TPWD law enforcement chief of wildlife enforcement. "One tag was for a one-buck county in the west zone or a three-buck county, and one was for a one-buck county in the east zone or a two- or three-buck county, so it was confusing to know which was the right tag."

Hunters will notice the 2002-03 hunting license has been simplified and includes five generic white-tailed deer tags — three can be used to tag a buck or antlerless deer and two are antlerless only.

"Now, in addition to filling out a generic carcass tag, the hunter will complete the harvest



A Little on the Wildlife Side

Henry Lutz

resource is accompanied by a wildlife resource document from the person who killed or caught it.

No wildlife resource document is required when the entire carcass of a deer (including head, which may be skinned or unskinned) is given to, or transported by, another person if the tag from the hunter's license and other required permits or the pronghorn permit remains attached until the carcass reaches its final destination and is finally processed.

An example of a wildlife resource document can be found on page 103 of the Outdoor Annual of hunting and fishing regulations, available where hunting licenses are sold, or on line at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>.

Also new this year is the elimination of a requirement that an unskinned head must accompany deer carcasses as proof of sex.

For more information, call TPWD at (800) 792-1112.



Successful hunt

Ray (left) and Richard Luna, the sons of Kinney County residents Armando and Minnie Luna, killed this elk during a recent Colorado hunting trip.

Photo Special to The Brackett News

Local families' holidays disrupted by drug arrests

Christmas is nearly here! And for some of our neighbors, it will be a Christmas like no other because they will mourn the loss of loved ones that died during the past year.

Some left us after a long, full life. Others were taken before their lives had barely begun. No matter, the grief will still be agonizing during a period of time when most are in high spirits.

For those who need to grieve, wrapped Christmas presents will not contain joy and love enough to supplant the anguish that comes with loss revisited. And that loss is revisited in many firsts following a death — the first birthday, the first Valentine's Day, the first time their song is played on the radio — you get the picture.

I often feel guilty knowing that there are people near me, physically and emotionally, who will not, for reasons beyond their control, share in the spirit of love that comes into my life and home on special occasions like Christmas. So, I share that spirit in the ways that are available to me in the hope that a few of those unfortunate lives are touched.

First, I share the Spirit that God sends to each of us to know that we are never alone in our struggle, never unloved despite our flaws.

Secondly, I share the hugs



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Ken F. Sellers Jr.

and smiles that are given to me by others. Any sign of human compassion is a sign from God that our grief/loss/struggle is of short duration and will be overcome.

It was brought to my attention at Sunday worship that there are families in our community whose holidays have been disrupted by recent drug arrests. Along with grief of the loss of a loved one that is sure to come with such circumstances, there is also shame.

I offer to those families the following assurance. First, we find in the Old Testament writings of the Prophet Ezekiel the assurance from God that the "sins of the father are not visited upon the children."

What someone else does in life that brings them shame cannot in any way bring shame upon you. If anyone treats you differently because of what someone close to you has done, those unfortunate souls bring shame upon themselves only,

and will need to seek forgiveness before God.

Secondly, though your loved ones who were arrested for their crimes against man's law (if they are guilty) will have to suffer the consequences, God's law is different and forgiving. If they can find their way to asking forgiveness of God, it will be given and the consequences averted.

I know from personal experiences in prison ministry that it is never too late to ask God's forgiveness, that no individual is beyond the redeeming power of God. And the special redeeming power that makes this happen is always love.

So, I tell you, love your family members that have broken man's law; know that they will suffer the consequences determined by man; also know that your love can bring them back from the brink of self destruction.

God loves even the very worst of us! Can't we find a way to love them as well?

God calls all of us to love each other, as God loves us! Your need for love and your capacity for love can be found in the community of faith here in Brackettville. Visit a church this Sunday. If you have no church home, come visit us at First United Methodist Church for worship this Sunday at 10:45 a.m.

Work can destroy your health, worse than a serious illness

Josh slipped into the bedroom. Maria's voice startled him.

"Honey," she said, "you can turn on the light. I'm not asleep."

"Sorry I'm so late," Josh said. "Things from work just keep piling up. I can't seem to get everything done. I'm in no mood to talk."

Maria sensed his anxiety. She waited until he had turned off the light and climbed into bed beside her. She took his hand and pleaded. "Josh, we've got to talk. This is the only time we have."

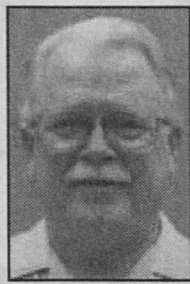
Josh squeezed her hand. He took a deep breath and relaxed. He tried hard to get his mind off work. "OK, honey," he said. "I'll try to listen."

Maria released his hand and turned so she could look him in the eyes. "I'm really worried about you, Josh. You've changed a lot. You're time with your work is distancing you from the children. Sometimes even I feel like a stranger in your world."

"I know, you're right, honey," Josh responded. He dropped his head.

She took his hand. He continued. "It's either bring paperwork home or stay late at work."

Maria sensed his feelings of hopelessness. "Honey, long ago a very wise man said that



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

when you allow your work to possess you, it keeps you from sleeping. Even worse than a serious illness, it will destroy your health (Sirach 31:1-2).

"When I went back to work after the kids were born I made a personal vow that I would never allow myself to get so engrossed in my work that it could rob me of my time for you and the children."

Josh looked at his wife. In his mind he felt a warm sense of appreciation for Maria's wisdom and sensitivity. At the same time, he realized the calamities ahead if he didn't change things at work. "I'll make the effort, honey," he said.

"One day at a time, Josh. Together we can do it one day at a time," Maria responded.

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.



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

The true spirit of Christmas

Bright lights, Christmas trees, and candy galour are nice, but it's not the true spirit of Christmas.

Movies about "Santa Clause," reindeer, and snowmen are cute, but it's not the true spirit of Christmas.

If you believe that is all that Christmas is about, you will surely be depressed.

If anything, it will only give you a temporary "fix" of laughter and joy. When the house trash is taken out after Christmas, you will just be tired and drained without any joy left.

The true meaning of Christmas is the hope we find in the best gift of all, the gift of love through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

If Jesus had remained a baby laying in manger, we would all have cause to be depressed. But since he lived and died for your sins and mine, because he overcame death and the grave, we have hope of eternal life by faith in him.

That is shoutin' news. That is the good news of the gospel. That is the reason for "Noel." It is the reason to be strengthened in the power of his might, because He lives!

Because He lives, you can face tomorrow.

Because he lives, no weapon formed against you may prosper.

Because he lives, no demon on earth can touch you because of the blood that he shed has covered you and protects you.

Because he lives, no curses can light on you, but must return to the nest where they live.

Because he lives, nothing can separate you from the love of God — not height, nor depth, nor breadth of distance.

Because he lives, you have hope and that more abundantly. Because he lives, you have faith and that more abundantly.

Because he lives, you have love, and that more abundantly. Because he lives, you have the favor of God upon you.

Because he lives, you prosper. Because he lives you, have mercy and grace.

You are like a tree planted by the water that produces good fruit in due season.

You are decorated with all the abundance of Heaven because you belong to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Heavenly Hosts sing "Halleluia" because he lives.

You are God's Christmas Tree as you are adorned with the spirit of God and his blessings.

So, when the devil comes to give you bad news, let him know it's not your mail and you are not defeated.

Depression must leave you because you know in whom you have believed and are persuaded that he is able to keep that which you have committed unto him against that day.

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

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

Look before you leap

I was in a shoe store looking around. There was only one other person in the store with the sales clerk — a teen-age boy wearing loafers and no socks. He was paying for a pair of athletic shoes when I walked in.

After he received his change, he walked over to the sport socks rack in the corner of the store.

The clerk went to the back room for a minute to find my size. I glanced up from my chair to see the boy shove a pair of fluffy white socks into his bag as he walked toward the front door.

When the clerk returned, I whispered, "Did he buy a pair of socks?"

"No, why?"

"Well, I just saw him stuff a pair of socks into his bag."

The clerk ran after the young shoplifter. As a firm believer in "tough" love, I felt that if the boy got caught now, perhaps he would end his life of crime at an early age.



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

The clerk returned, smiling. "Those were Jason's own socks that he brought in to try on with his sneakers."

I had misjudged and wrongly accused the boy. It was then that I decided to concentrate on gathering all the facts before opening my mouth — to "look before I leap."

Maybe if I make a list of my own faults and look at it periodically, I won't be so quick to criticize others. Maybe there is a lesson here for all of us.

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

Christ is the best gift of all

There is a popular Christmas song in which a youngster does not ask for expensive Christmas gifts, but only for his two front teeth.

Perhaps he wanted them because they related closely to him as a maturing person. After all, children get tired of being teased about the missing-teeth aspect of growing up. They want a feeling of well-being. Whatever does that is a precious thing, although no price tag may be attached to it. So it is with the great love God revealed to us when He sent His Son into the world as our Savior. Jesus came as an infant small, born in poverty, wrapped in swaddling clothes, laid in a manger. By all outward appearances, there was little to impress the people for whom He came. Yet, in this Child, the fullness of God dwelled. In Him, and in none other, is our salvation. So we can say, never mind the ex-



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Nathan Lafrenz

pensive gifts, the glitter and glamour, the royal trappings of a Christ who never was, but exists only in people's imagination — a Christ with a halo and other heavenly features as artists like to picture Him. All we want for Christmas is the Christ child, the baby born in deep poverty and humility, for He communicates God's saving love for us. Only He brings life and salvation. In only Him do we find true happiness.

Come and express your gratitude for God's saving acts in Christ each Sunday morning at 9 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Christmas poster contest is planned

Officials have announced the Theme for this year's Community Unity Poster Contest: "Jesus, the gift of love."

First Prize for the contest is \$25, second prize is \$15 and third prize is \$10. Prizes will be awarded for three divisions — elementary, junior high and high school.

All submissions must be turned in by noon tomorrow to the BISD Main Office. All posters become the property of the Church Alliance of Brackettville. The contest is open to all ages of school children. Participants must reside in Kinney County. Prizes will be given out Sunday at the Community Unity Christmas Program, which will be held at the Civic Center from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Attendance is required.

There will be a silent auction for the posters during the program. Winning posters will be displayed at Kinney County Public Library the following week.

HEALTH

Detecting diabetes early increases chances of prevention

November was American Diabetes Month. Over 17 million Americans have diabetes, and an estimated 5.9 million of them do not know it.

The long-term effects of diabetes can include damage to the eyes, nerves, kidneys and cardiovascular system. Approximately 90 percent of people living with diabetes have Type 2 diabetes, a devastating disease with potentially life-threatening complications.

Dr. Fouad R. Kandeel, direc-

tor of the City of Hope Gonda Diabetes Center in Los Angeles, stresses the importance of preventing Type 2 diabetes by controlling weight, eating a low-fat diet that is high in fruits, vegetables and whole grains, and exercising regularly.

People with a family history of diabetes have a greater chance of developing the disease.

Others at risk include people who are over age 45, are overweight, do not exercise regu-

larly, or have high blood pressure.

Women who developed diabetes during pregnancy or have had babies weighing 9 pounds or more at birth are also at greater risk.

African Americans, Latinos and Native Americans are almost twice as likely to develop diabetes than the rest of the population.

"Knowing your risks and detecting Type 2 diabetes early will increase your chances of

successfully preventing or managing the disease," Kandeel said.

Common signs of diabetes include frequent urination and infections, unusual thirst or weight loss, extreme hunger or fatigue, blurred vision, slow-healing cuts and bruises, and tingling or numbness in the hands or feet.

"Properly managing diabetes is essential to preventing further complications such as heart disease, kidney disease, strokes,

blindness, nerve damage, skin disorders and foot problems," Kandeel said.

Type 2 diabetes can be managed with healthy meal planning, weight loss, exercise and medical treatment. Ask your doctor if you think you could be at risk of developing the disease.

For more information about diabetes research and treatment at the City of Hope Gonda Diabetes Center in Los Angeles, call (800) 826-HOPE.

Read The Brackett News to find out about the latest news in and around Kinney County!

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS	Carol or Angel	5 Transfer of property to the third owner	activity
1 Frolic	42 Smells	6 No longer applicable	32 Wrinkled object
6 Baby's word	43 First-class substance	7 Still under the covers	33 Slender as
10 Jordanian	44 Kept out	8 1 of 13 colonies: abbr.	35 Weather forecast
14 Cognizant	48 Word with sun or balance	9 Pub request	38 Hits that can't be fielded
15 Famous brother	49 Works at a super-market	10 New exerciser's woes	39 Thought
16 Movie: Sp. Distributes	50 Beverage	11 Hornbills' fishing spots	40 Jungle gym pieces
18 Item on a night stand	53 Satisfy	12 Bancroft, for one	46 Winged creature
20 Suffix for poet or count	54 Flying: pref.	13 Red item	47 Traveling salesmen
21 Past one's prime	57 Auto-mobile discharges	19 Chattered	48 Outdoes
23 Change one's alarm	60 African-American	22 MacArthur or Patton: abbr.	59 Keep meat moist
24 Alaskan transport	62 Fit snugly inside	24 Meat and vegetables in a seasoned broth	50 Musical Home
25 "Oh, not!"	63 Trench	25 Met music	51 Word of agreement
27 Furry tree-climber	64 Free of superfluous words	26 Forsaken, to a poet	52 Meaning
30 Gail between walk and run	65 Hill builders	27 Worth	53 Ginger
31 Financial specialist: abbr.	66 Celebrant at St. Peter's	28 Amphitheater	54 Taj Mahal's site
34 _____, Pennsylvania	67 Blind parts	29 Equestrian	55 Formerly
35 English territorial division	DOWN	30 Comforter's repeated word	56 Graceful forest animals
36 Bobby of the Bruins	1 Got here	31 Enjoy a child's	58 Irsome tot
37 Embarrassed, pale & sad	2 Fills with reverence		59 No runs, no hits, no errors
41 Suffix for	3. Nixon and others		61 Slimy swimmer
	4 Prior to		

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—forward, backward, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS

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

1. I Peter
2. _____
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19. _____
20. _____

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

1. What is the Celsius equivalent of 77F.?
2. Who was the third president of the United States?
3. What painting by Manet caused a scandal in 1863?
4. What family of birds does the adjutant belong to?
5. Who was Doris Day's co-star in the movie, "Pillow Talk"?
6. Which metal is the chief constituent of pewter?
7. Who won the Best Actress Oscar for her role in the movie, "The Sin of Madelon Claudet"?
8. Who was the composer of "The Flight of the Bumblebee"?
9. For what cartoon character did Clarence Nash provide the voice?
10. What name was given to the style of architectural design popular in the 1890s?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dec. 14.....John Flores | Dec. 17.....Josie Aguirre |
| Dec. 14.....Felix Gonzales | Dec. 17.....Amber Carrow |
| Dec. 15.....Teodoro Avila | Dec. 17.....Josefina Estrada |
| Dec. 15.....Rickie Espinosa | Dec. 17.....Jack Frerich |
| Dec. 15.....Mary Sandoval | Dec. 17.....Gracie Mata |
| Dec. 15.....Plunker Sheedy | Dec. 17.....Diane Wilson |
| Dec. 16.....Mary Allen | Dec. 18.....Carol Benefield |
| Dec. 16.....Allen Kreiger Jr. | Dec. 18.....Adrian Juarez |
| Dec. 16.....Greg Sandoval | Dec. 18.....Wayne Meyer |
| Dec. 16.....Laura Tovar | Dec. 18.....Joe Sandoval |
| Dec. 18.....Jessica Taylor | |

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're particularly outspoken this week. However, this could get you in a bit of hot water. Temper your views with diplomacy.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The beginning of the week brings some difficulty. By midweek, you're on a more even keel. This weekend, peace reigns at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) While you feel you're behind on your holiday shopping, it's best to delay it even more. If not, you could spend more than you can afford. Over the weekend, a phone call brings good news.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You find it difficult to communicate clearly this week. Take the time to formulate your opinions. You don't have to have your say right away.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You need to find just the right approach to that perplexing project. Once you do, you're unstoppable. Later in the week, socializing is favored.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You're uncharacteristically sentimental this week. Try to break this maudlin mood. It won't serve you well in the long run.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You're the model of brisk efficiency this week. However, this gets on the nerves of some co-workers. Try not to be so brusque.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Keep that credit card in your wallet when holiday shopping. If you don't have it to spend, you shouldn't. Otherwise, you'll spend the beginning of the New Year trying to figure out how to pay off debts.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A friend surprises you with some thoughtless behavior. Don't take this too seriously. Everyone can have a bad day now and again.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You're a bundle of energy as the week begins. This quickly wanes, so make the most of it. This weekend is a good time to reconnect with family members you've been neglecting.

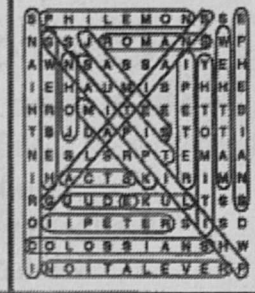
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You approach a difficult assignment with zest. That's because you truly love a challenge. Bigwigs will be appreciative.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Try not to push yourself unduly this week. Everything will get done in due time. Later in the week, your patience is tested.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Acts	11. Mark
2. Colossians	12. Matthew
3. I Corinthians	13. I Peter
4. Ephesians	14. II Peter
5. Galatians	15. Philemon
6. Hebrews	16. Philippians
7. James	17. Revelation
8. John	18. Romans
9. Jude	19. I Timothy
10. Luke	20. Titus



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Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
 1. 25C; 2. Thomas Jefferson; 3. Luncheon on the Grass; 4. The stork; 5. Rock Hudson; 6. Tim; 7. Helen Hayes; 8. Rimsky-Korsakov; 9. Donald Duck; 10. Art Nouveau

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- Townhouse lot 116, unit 1 furnished.
- 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.
- 166 AIRPORT RD. 2br/2bt enclosed porch, patio, storage, fenced bly 2 car carport all electric.

Have Buyers - Need Listings! Same name new owner
Ken Barnett - Pat Owens - Melissa Davis
info@kinneycountyland.com

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

New Listing: Lovely 1 bed condo on golf course, fully furnished, carpeting & paint upgrades, includes carport & golf cart!

New Listing Unit 15: cute 2/2 Clayton manufactured home with open kitchen, appliances included. Has fenced yard, gardening beds, & workshop, just \$24,000!
520 acres: wet weather creek draw with dirt tank, fenced, shared well, elect. nearby. Owner finance!
138 acres: Lindsey Creek, fenced, hwy front, good brush cover! \$575/ac. Ranches & small acreages for sale!
View listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ABSOLUTE \$\$ MAKER. Cash daily. Big profits, interactive vending. Free information. Paragon Ventures. Call 1-800-494-6074.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

BAD CREDIT? OVERDUE bills? From \$5000 - \$150,000. Low payments. Lower interest rates. Fast results. 1-800-798-0904. GFA.

GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE DEC. 14th. 9-5 p.m., 15th -9- noon. F.C.S. Unit 31, block D #8 Bowlegs - some furniture

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVER-COVENANT TRANSPORT - Hiring experienced teams, solos and trainers. O/O-Solos/Teams 83 cents. We are looking for experienced teams to run priority dispatch. Call 1-888-MORE-PAY (1-888-667-3729).

DRIVERS - OWNER/OPERATORS - 83 cpm, loaded or empty. Plates/permits/layover/lumbers and tolls paid. Lots of miles. Call Harold or Bob at National Freight, 1-800-666-0380.

DRIVERS - SW REGIONAL. home on weekly basis. Teams start .34 cpm, OTR start 32 cpm. Six months OTR experience w/CDL-A. Ask for Harold/Bob, National Freight, 1-800-666-0380.

DRIVER - TRUCKERS! FFE - Will get you home. FFE - Will get you paid. FFE - Will get you miles. Call 1-800-569-9232. Open all day, every day, including holidays.

DRIVERS - SWIFT TRANSPORTATION is hiring experienced and inexperienced drivers and owner/operators. CDL training available. We pay for experience great benefits, tuition reimbursement. 1-800-669-7943 (eoe-m/f)

DRIVERS - USA TRUCK, a stable company. 90% no touch, late model assigned conventionals. More miles more money. No experience? Tuition reimbursement available. 1-800-237-4642.

\$\$\$CASH\$\$\$ - IMMEDIATE CASH for structured settlements, annuities, real estate notes, private mortgage notes, accident cases, and insurance payouts. J. G. Wentworth, 1-800-794-7310.

BE DEBT FREE! Consolidate credit card debt into one low monthly payment. Cut interest, stop creditor calls and late fees. National Consolidators, 1-800-270-9894.

FOR LEASE

(2) CITY LOTS for mobile home sites, utilities w/paved streets, call 830-563-9101.

FOR SALE

1979 GMC 16' Flatbed dump truck, runs and dumps good, \$1,600 563-9128

9 LOTS NEXT to Headstart \$2,800 563-9128

2 FIRE SIDE chairs w/1 foot stool. Oak arms and legs. 1 small oven, stuffed rocker chair. 563-2012

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - FREE Vacation Get-A-Way. While supplies last w/purchase of Wolff Tanning Bed. Payments from \$25/month. Free color catalog, 1-800-781-5173, www.np.etstan.com.

YARD SALE LOTS of items misc. odds & ends. 312 W. Fulton, Sat 14th, 8: a.m. - ?

HEALTH

MEDICARE PATIENTS USING Inhalers: Albuterol - Atrivent - Combivent - Serevent - Azmacort - Flovent and others. Having difficulty? Breathe easy again. Medicare covered liquid therapy may be available if you qualify. Med-A-Save, 1-800-224-1919, ext. TX5002.

HELP WANTED

FORT CLARK SPRINGS is currently seeking a part-time bartender. Applications may be picked up at the main office at Fort Clark Springs. Fort Clark Springs is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

eBAY WHOLESALERS NEEDED! Distribute merchandise on eBay. No experience required. Call toll-free for more information. Project Refund, 1-800-568-1636, Ext. B-4735.

SEEKING MALE ATTENDANT to care for elderly man. Call 800-446-0622. Ask for Belinda.

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS CHECK up on stores in your area. Part/full time. Training. No selling. Call toll-free, AHPI, 1-888-478-1342, Ext. 3345.

HELP WANTED

EXTRA INCOME \$250 - \$500 week helping U.S. Government file HUD/FHA Mortgage refunds. No experience necessary. Will train to work at home. Call TPI Research 1-800-589-8891

THE KINNEY COUNTY Sheriff's Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Deputy Sheriff. Applicants must be a Certified Peace Officer and must reside in Kinney County after hire. For further information contact Sheriff Burgess (830) 563-2788. Interested applicants may pick up an application from the Kinney County Sheriff's Department. Application will be accepted until December 31, 2002.

JOIN OUR TEAM and make a difference. In the Texas Army National Guard you can get money for college and career training. Call 1-800-GO-GUARD.

LOOKING FOR A job? Try looking in The Brackett News classifieds for the latest area job openings!

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGECC) is accepting applications for the position of Office Clerk to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Duties include processing and routing all incoming and outgoing mail, preparing correspondence and reports, filing and other related activities. Position requires accuracy, attention to detail, and knowledge of word processing and spreadsheet applications. Must be able to maintain a harmonious work relationship with all Cooperative personnel. Be willing to work overtime, if needed. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with a clear driving record. Applications may be picked up or requested from any RGECC office and must be mailed to RGECC, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Applications must be postmarked on or before December 23, 2002. RGECC is an EOE.

SALES - SALES MANAGERS - One of the highest paid jobs in America. Highly successful national company. Will train. We provide appointments. Call Don, 1-800-322-4103, Vericomm Corp.

POOLS & SPAS

SPA FLOOR SAMPLE! Must sell! 7 person spa. Never used. MSRP \$4999. Will sacrifice \$2499. Includes cover. Also, 5 person spa - never used - \$1999. Will deliver. Full factory warranty. Call Icon Health & Fitness, 1-800-980-7727.

REAL ESTATE

BEST DEAL IN the area! 2600 +/- acres Brackettville. 3 sides high game fenced. Good ranch roads, 5 tanks, excellent game. Has been managed for 20+ years. \$ 495/acre. Call Doug Evans for details & showing (830) 895-0777.

ABSOLUTE STEAL! 5 Acres - \$19,900. Sacrifice price on beautiful North Texas hill country property. Perfect getaway, retirement or horse set-up. Access to 600 acre private park. Financing. Texas Land & Ranches. Call now, 1-866-516-4868.

COLORADO RANCH SALE. 35 acres - \$49,900. Magnificent mountain ranch at 8,000' elevation. Mix of meadows with ponds and aspen. Stunning views, virtually surrounded by federal lands. Must see! Good terms. Call Colorado Land & Ranches, 1-866-353-4809.

LAKE LOT SACRIFICE - 5 Acres - \$24,900. Beautiful lake property w/ access to 260 acre private lake. Perfect getaway, retirement, horse property. World class fishing. Gated entrance. Surveyed. Low \$ down. Won't last! Call Texas Land & Ranches, 1-888-676-5253.

NEW MEXICO MOUNTAINS. 140 Acres - Only \$49,900. Gorgeous grasslands, mature tree cover, 6,300' elevation. Mountain views, year-round roads and 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.

20 ACRES BETWEEN Mason & Junction. Great views, electricity, sandy soil, shallow well water, good tree cover. \$2106/down, \$251/mo. TX Vet. Ranch Enterprises, 1-800-876-9720, hillcountryranches.com.

REAL ESTATE

100 ACRES - \$44,900. Trophy whitetails (5 deer limit). Tree covered hills and draws. Abundant turkey, quail, small game. Good access. More acreage available. E-Z terms. Call 1-866-899-5263, Texas Land & Ranches.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE Development Council announces the availability of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Grant Funding for Fiscal Year 2003 in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Eligible project categories under this grant include: Local Enforcement, Source Reduction and Recycling, Citizens' Collection Stations, "Small" Registered Transfer Stations, "Household" Hazardous Waste Management, Technical Studies, Local Solid Waste Management Plans, River and Lake Clean-ups, Texas Country Clean-ups, Educational and Training Projects. Eligible applicants are: Cities, Counties, Public Schools and School Districts, General and Special Law Districts and Regional Planning Commissions (Councils of Governments) in the Middle Rio Grande Development Council Service delivery area. Please note that as per Texas Commission on Environmental Quality guidelines applications for the collection and transportation of MSW are not eligible for funding furthermore, as a matter of policy the MRGDC Board does not solicit applications for soft costs. For more information on this request for project proposals, and/or a copy of an application packet, please contact: Marco A. Lopez, Solid Waste Coordinator, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, TX, 78834, phone (830) 876-1286. Proposals shall be accepted until P.M. - January 10, 2002.

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

CAPER DADA ARAB
AWAKE ABEL CINE
METES TELEPHONE
ESS AGED RESET
SLED ALAS
MARTEN TROT CPA
ERIB SHIRE ORR
REDWHITE AND BLUE
INE ODORS AONE
TAR MERE BARREL
DEAM BAGS
LAGER BATE AER
EMISSIONS NEGRO
NEST MOAT TERSE
ANTS POPE SLATS

SELL IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS CALL 563-2852 TODAY!



WHY LEASE?

Own your own part of the Texas Hill Country for as little as \$695.00 down and \$116.69 per month at 8.75 % financing. Based on 20 acre tract with minimum down payment.

Leona Ranch, located 15 miles north of Brackettville, Texas, has an abundance of whitetail deer, javelina, turkey, quail, dove, rabbits and squirrels. Other non-game species include feral hogs, wild Spanish goats, racoons, ringtails, fox, bobcats and a few mountain lions.

The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.



For information call (830) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (830) 563-2077 evenings.

THE BANK & TRUST
A Relationship you can Bank On™

Join us Tuesday, December 17th for our annual holiday Open House from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Visit us in Brackettville at 102 North Street
Motor Bank Hours:
Mon. thru Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Lobby Hours: Mon. thru Thurs. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(830) 774-2555

We will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25th and at 12:00 on Tuesday Dec. 24th

Member FDIC

YEAR END LIQUIDATION

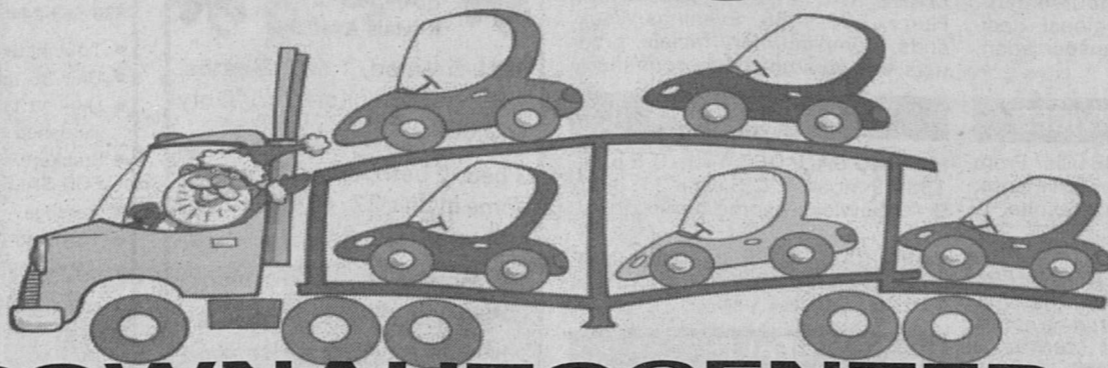
Save up to
\$11000













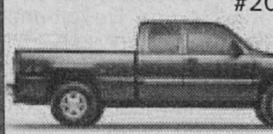









No Payments

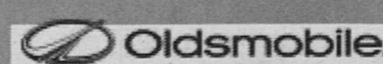
til March

2003

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<p>2002 SUNFIRE SE #1012</p>  <p>Save \$3600</p> <p>MSRP ... \$17530 Rebate ... \$2500 Brown Disc ... \$1135</p> <p>0.0% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$13895</p>	<p>2003 GRANDE AM #1884</p>  <p>Save \$3400</p> <p>MSRP ... \$18705 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$1410</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$15295</p>	<p>2003 VIBE #1991</p>  <p>Save \$3000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$19040 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$1045</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$15995</p>	<p>2003 SIERRA 1500 #2002</p>  <p>Save \$4000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$20953 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$2000</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$16953</p>
<p>2002 SONOMA SPORT SIDE EXT CAB #1980</p>  <p>Save \$4000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$21620 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$2025</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$17595</p>	<p>2003 CENTURY LIMITED #2168</p>  <p>Save \$3600</p> <p>MSRP ... \$22355 Rebate ... \$3000 Brown Disc ... \$1660</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$18695</p>	<p>2003 AZTEC #1693</p>  <p>Save \$3500</p> <p>MSRP ... \$20995 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$1500</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$17495</p>	<p>2003 SAFARI #1952</p>  <p>Save \$4100</p> <p>MSRP ... \$26682 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$2187</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$22495</p>
<p>2003 MONTANA EXT #1326</p>  <p>Save \$6400</p> <p>MSRP ... \$28925 Rebate ... \$4000 Brown Disc ... \$2430</p> <p>0.0% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$22495</p>	<p>2003 LASABRE #1208</p>  <p>Save \$5300</p> <p>MSRP ... \$29344 Rebate ... \$3000 Brown Disc ... \$2395</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$23920</p>	<p>2003 Z71 EXT CAB #2146</p>  <p>Save \$4000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$33460 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$3465</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$27995</p>	<p>2003 ENVOY #2178</p>  <p>Save \$4800</p> <p>MSRP ... \$31415 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$2820</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$26595</p>
<p>2003 EXT CAB SLE #2072</p>  <p>Save \$5100</p> <p>MSRP ... \$28161 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$3166</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$22995</p>	<p>2003 ENVOY XL #1998</p>  <p>Save \$5000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$32920 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$3025</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$27895</p>	<p>2003 YUKON SLE #2181</p>  <p>Save Over \$6000 on all '03 Yukon</p> <p>MSRP ... \$34775 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$4000</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$28775</p>	<p>2003 PARK AVENUE #1215</p>  <p>Save \$5300</p> <p>MSRP ... \$36032 Rebate ... \$3000 Brown Disc ... \$3082</p> <p>0.0% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$29950</p>
<p>2003 YUKON XL #2078</p>  <p>Save Over \$6500 on all '03 Yukon XL</p> <p>MSRP ... \$38515 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$4520</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$31995</p>	<p>2003 CREW CAB 4X4 HALF TON #2171</p>  <p>Save \$7000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$36210 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$3715</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$30495</p>	<p>2003 DEVILLE #1599</p>  <p>Save \$11000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$45780 Rebate ... \$4000 Brown Disc ... \$5685</p> <p>0.0% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>CADILLAC OWNER LOYALTY...\$1500</p> <p>\$34595</p>	<p>2003 SEVILLE SLS #1928</p>  <p>Save \$7000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$45920 Rebate ... \$1500 Brown Disc ... \$5500</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$38920</p>
<p>2003 RENDEVOUS #1693</p>  <p>Save \$4300</p> <p>MSRP ... \$25745 Rebate ... \$2000 Brown Disc ... \$2350</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>\$21395</p>		<p>2002 ESCALADE #1693</p>  <p>Save \$4000</p> <p>MSRP ... \$50920 Rebate ... \$2500 Brown Disc ... \$3925</p> <p>APR AS LOW AS 3.9% APR For 60 MOS.</p> <p>CADILLAC OWNER LOYALTY... \$2500</p> <p>\$45495</p>	



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