

The Brackett News



Tigers take third at SWTJC tourney
See story, Page 5

14th year, No. 46

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

Detention Center finally a reality

Facility to provide more local jobs

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

There has been talk of a new detention center in Kinney County for over five years.

The negotiations finally ended Monday as the Commissioners Court set the wheels in motion for the new 288-bed facility which will house federal prisoners.

"The fire is lit and we're cooking now," County Judge Herb Senne said.

Five years ago, county officials explored the feasibility of running a detention center with tax-based financing. The new

facility is being funded and operated privately.

"It's been a frustrating drive, but the project is finally put together," said Bob Prince, the regional director of marketing for CiviGenics, a Massachusetts-based company which will operate the detention center.

The first payment installment of \$75,000 was presented to Senne during Monday's meeting by Mike Patton, a marketing specialist with CiviGenics.

"This is a big deal for us and a big deal for Kinney County," Patton said. "We've all faced a lot of difficulties over the last several years, but we have been con-

stantly working and it has all come together."

The detention center will be on 60 acres of land, located on Highway 131, approximately 1.3 miles south of the Highway 90 intersection.

Construction is expected to begin soon. Once it is underway, officials expect the facility to be completed in 12 to 14 months.

Prince expects to hire approximately 60 employees to operate the detention center.

"We will want to hire local personnel, as much as we can," he said. "We think there is a good labor pool here and in the

surrounding counties. We will pay competitive wages."

In addition to housing federal inmates, the detention facility will include office space and an evidence storage facility for the Kinney County Sheriff's Office.

During Monday's meeting, the commissioners voted to hire DRG Architects of San Antonio as the county's independent consulting architectural firm for \$75,000, which is included in the contract.

"They have proven their ability to perform and provide a quality product," Patton said. "I feel comfortable with their technical competence."



\$75,000 check
Photo by J.J. Guidry
Mike Patton (left) of CiviGenics presents a \$75,000 check to County Judge Herb Senne for the new Detention Center Monday during a Commissioners Court meeting.

BRIEFS

Community Council offers forum at FCS

Fort Clark Springs members can bring up issues, needs, desires and kudos for the association during the monthly Community Council meetings.

All members in good standing at Fort Clark Springs Association are members of Community Council, which meets at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month at Shafter Hall.

Beginning in 2003, there will be a monthly forum where people may bring up subjects they want to know about and get answers to their questions.

Old Quarry presents Christmas play

The Old Quarry Society will present a Christmas gift to the community in the form of a play entitled "The Silent Bells."

The play, performed by the Uvalde Arts Council, will be presented Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Post Theater.

There will be no admission charged and refreshments will be served following the performance.

Christmas baskets set to be delivered

The Las Moras Hispanic organization will be delivering Christmas baskets on Saturday beginning at 9 a.m.

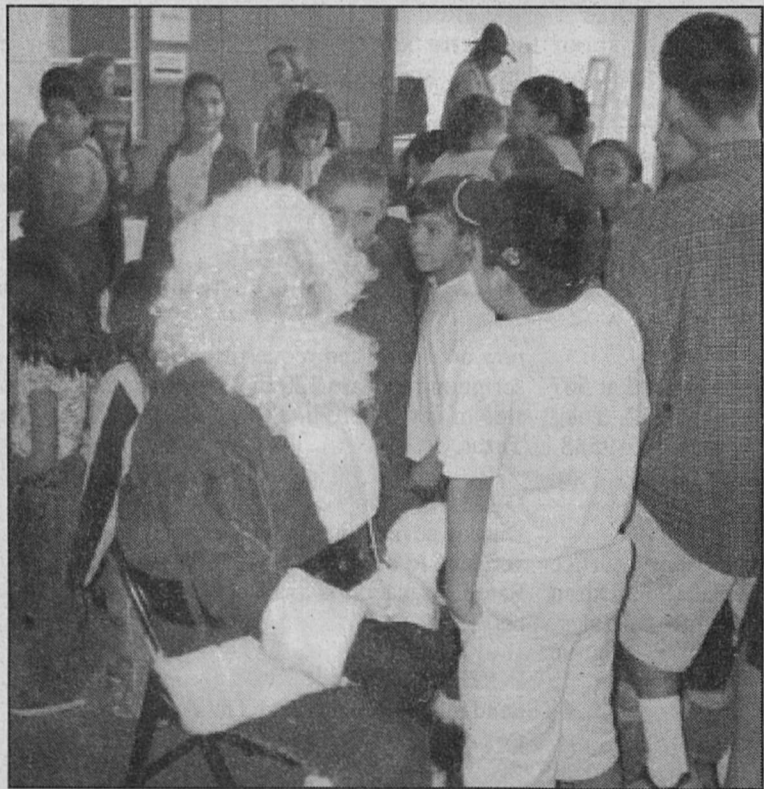
Church to present play Sunday at 11

The First Baptist Church is presenting the Christmas play "Behold That Star" at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

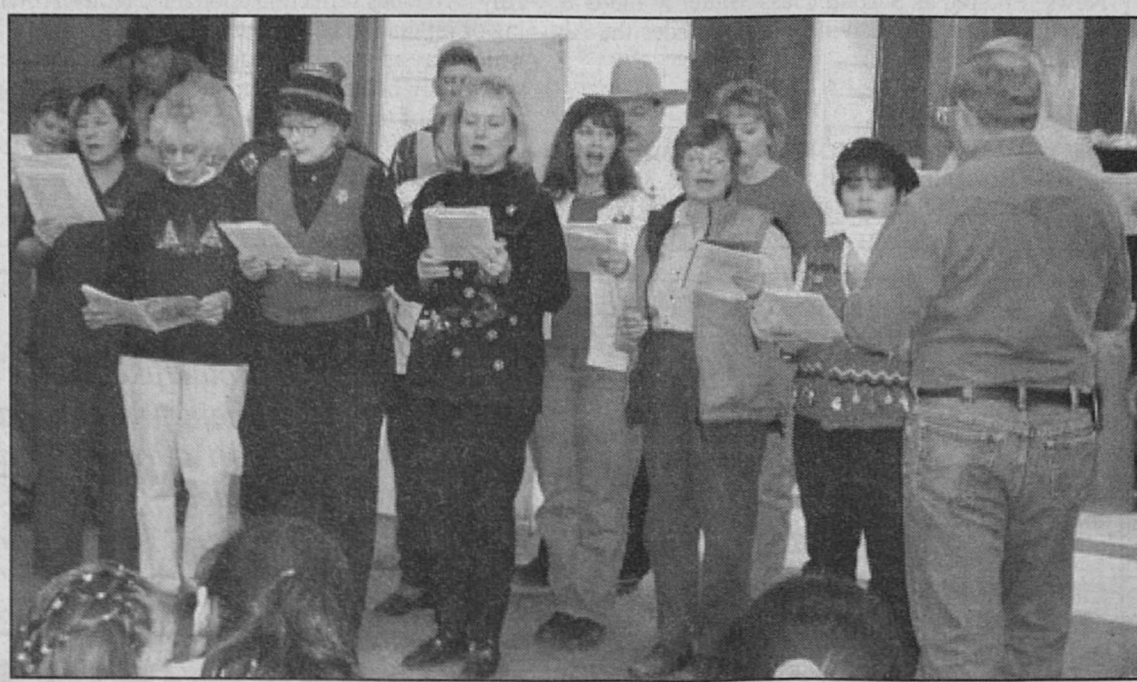
Community Unity



ABOVE: The Las Moras Hispanic Organization provided hot dogs and hot chocolate at the Community Unity Christmas celebration Sunday at the Kinney County Civic Center.



LEFT: Santa Claus was on hand for the local celebration. His helpers distributed gifts to all the children in attendance.



BELOW: The Church of Christ Singers were among a number of groups to provide musical entertainment at the the Community Unity celebration.

Photos by J.J. Guidry

BISD leaders discuss complaint procedures

Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson reviewed the district's complaint procedures and policies during last week's School Board meeting.

"The presentation was based on my review of the policies, procedures and statutes with guidance from the board's legal representative," Stephenson said. "The study was comprehensive."

Copies of all local school policies are available in each principal's office, each board member has a copy and there is a copy in the Central Office.

The board policy was reviewed for all in attendance during the regular meeting.

"Policy is in place for complaints from all students, parents, school patrons and employees," Stephenson said.

The policy is referenced in student and staff handbooks. It suggests that many complaints can be resolved with telephone calls or visits to teachers or principal.

"The policy stresses the use of the chain of command to resolve complaints," Stephenson said.

Staff members cannot be identified by name in open session, according to the policy.

"In our small district, identifying a person by a position in open session also is not acceptable because many times we only have one person filling that position," the superintendent said. "When a staff member is the subject of a complaint at the board meeting, the complaint will be heard in executive session unless the staff member wants it heard in open session. This policy also affects complaints about the discipline of a student."

If a complaint cannot be resolved informally, policy dictates that it should be presented

to Level I, which is the school principal, within 15 days of the event that the complaint is based on. Level II complaints to the superintendent cannot be presented unless a Level I complaint has been heard.

The complaint procedure specifies that Level II complaints must be presented in writing to the superintendent, and must include the date of the Level I conference, along with the resolution that is asked for in the complaint. Time-lines are written into policy for Level II complaints and response.

Level III is the School Board. Complaints cannot be presented to the board unless there has been a Level I and Level II complaint that has been timely filed.

"The board will follow its own policies to not hear names of employees, along with a directive in policy to the presiding officer of the board to make sure that administrative procedures have been followed before the appeal to the board," Stephenson said.

Written requests to appear on the agenda for board meetings are required to be filed by noon, four days prior to the board meeting.

"The request should be specific," Stephenson said. "Questions are asked about the action requested. Also, will the address include discussion of specific district personnel or will it include discussion of discipline of a specific student? The School Board, at each meeting, will judiciously use these procedures."

Prior to last week's meeting, Stephenson met with Linda Jaso to outline the presentation he made to the board.

Jaso and other BISD parents were unhappy with the district's response and said they would be contacting officials soon to reflect their dissatisfaction.

Officials meet with SAWS leaders

The president, vice president and interim general manager of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors recently met with officials from the San Antonio Water System, but were reluctant to discuss the issue during a meeting last Wednesday.

Board members refused to discuss the issue because it was not on the meeting agenda.

The letter from Eugene Habiger of SAWS to Darlene Shahan, director and interim general manager, says:

"Our meeting last week was very productive, and I appreciate you, Don Hood and Cecil Smith taking the time to discuss

with Jim Mayor, my board chairman, and me the issues surrounding water production in your area. Attached is the interlocal agreement now in existence between the Evergreen Underground water Conservation District and the San Antonio Water System.

"As a follow-up to our discussion, I would like to confirm that we will share with you results of the scientific and technical analysis being done for us by HDR Engineering relating to Kinney County water availability and impact. You have my commitment that we will share that data with you when it is available sometime in early 2003."

INSIDE

Shanae Simmons

If you were to walk into a kindergarten class and ask them about kissing, they would probably shout out some responses like "eww." Opinion/Page 2

Taylor Stephenson

It's Christmas time again in Kinney County. This year, we are finally seeing signs of the fall season. Community/Page 3

Vada Baldree

I recently discovered this recipe that's got a lot going for it. For instance, it's super easy, fast to make and low in cost. Lifestyles/Page 6

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Did Shahans couch the rules?

Two weeks ago, *The Brackett News* ran an article from the *Austin American-Statesman* which contained the following statement from Tully Shahan: "The last thing we would do is couch these rules to favor us."

According to Webster, one definition of couch is "to put in specific or particular words." No other definition seems to fit Shahan's usage.

Unfortunately, the facts concerning the rules don't support Shahan's statement. On July 25, Darlene Shahan presented a new Section 10. The section was adopted on Aug. 6.

According to the *Austin American-Statesman* article, the Shahans have wells drilled after Jan. 1, 2002.

Whether it was intended or not, Section 10.04D does favor wells drilled after Jan. 1, 2002. This is an undeniable and unarguable fact.

I cannot comprehend the insistence on using a date to determine historical use. Nothing in the water code seems to support it. Historical use should be tied to the property.

What if a historical user chooses to drill a new well? Should they receive more or

less water? I do not believe that is right, either way.

Some of you believe the water district doesn't concern you, think again. The district's attorney Brian Sledge told the board the City of Brackettville and Fort Clark Springs would be subject to the usage fees that were adopted.

What do you think that will do to your water bill?

When the bill for the district was being drafted, it was decided that we had to have an ad-valorem-based district. There wasn't enough usage in this county to support a fee-based district. In addition, we subsequently discovered that Chapter 36, Section 36.121 of the water code would prohibit charging usage fees to the city or fort. I can only assume the district is picking and choosing what sections of the code it will follow.

You, the public, are the watchdogs of governmental entities. Your responsibility does not end at the voting booth, it only begins. To expect governmental entities to play by the rules, when unobserved, is naive. Power corrupts, absolute power corrupts, absolutely.

Wes Robinson

Some people need to get a life

I didn't plan on writing so soon since I arrived down here, but after reading the two letters from Richard Card and Dave Reinhold, I thought I must say something.

My husband and I arrived here Nov. 22. We were fortunate to be able to go to the pool the 26th. There was nothing slimy or dirty about it, and we do spend a lot of time there all winter long, weather permitting. As we found in years past, it was pretty much like it looks this time of the year. It was clean, and we even had two swimmers there.

Last Saturday, I joined with the Cavalry Brigade in their monthly clean up. I walked from the NCO Club, past the restaurant, down to the creek, both sides of the pool, past the toilets, past the Duck Inn, up the road, through the amphitheater, and back up to Shafter Hall.

The worst area I found was behind the restaurant where there was lots of Styrofoam popcorn, empty cans and Styrofoam cups laying behind the building.

I did not see anything wrong with the pool's condition for this time of year.

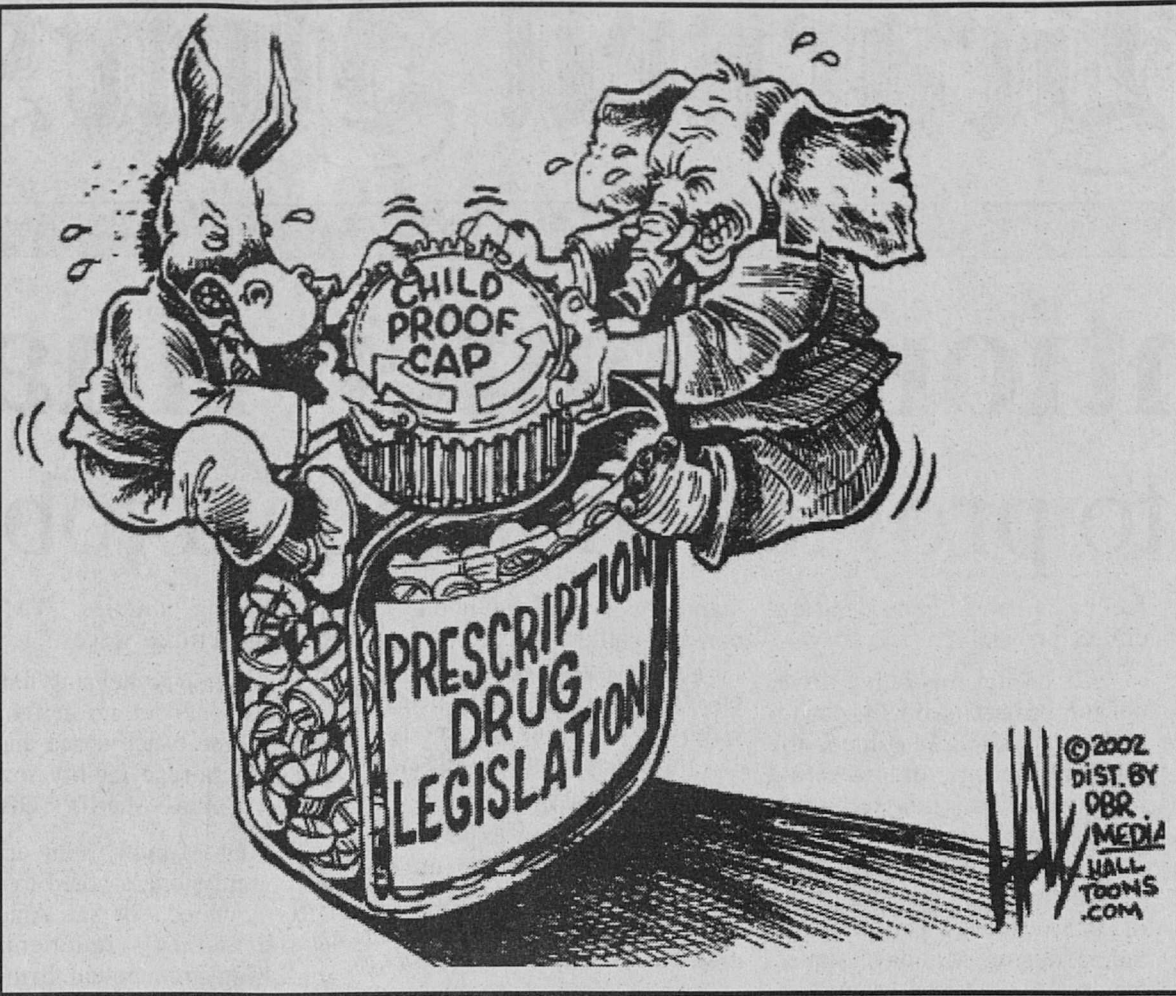
In regards to the "brown/green areas" of the two golf courses, my husband and I again could not see anything to complain about. For this time of year, with all the rain that you people have had, they looked quite decent. Heck, my husband is color-blind and even he could see the difference between green and brown.

We walked the par-three and we drove around the 18. We have seen much worse conditions in other years that we have been coming down. I guess we just don't look for all the bad points. We are just happy to have all these amenities and luxuries available without having to drive a long distance.

I have always known that you must live somewhere, and if you are not happy where you live, move.

As for all the negative letters written by other people, I say get a life.

Kathi Warm



What happens when Santa doesn't come?

When I was growing up, my parents didn't have a lot of money. I was nearly 12 before I realized that not all moms and dads hold down two or three jobs apiece.

I know my parents must have dreaded Christmas. When you're little, everybody's quick to tell you that Santa Claus brings toys only to good little boys and girls. If you don't get much under the tree on Christmas morning, you must have done something to get on the wrong side of Santa.

A tree was a luxury we couldn't always afford at Christmas. But, until the year I turned 10, there were always presents.

That year, 1964, things were harder than usual. By then our family had grown to include five children, including me. My dad would stay up late at night, adding, subtracting and dividing the bills in a crazy kind of math that never gave him the answers he wanted.

About two weeks before Christmas, my mom took me aside. "Henry," she said, "you're the oldest, so you should know what's happening. It looks like we're not going to be able to buy any presents this year. I need you to help your brothers and sisters understand."

I nodded, but inside I was worried. How do you tell a 5-year-old that Santa won't be coming this year?



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

nights when dad could barely sleep before heading off to the next job.

Now, 37 Christmases later, my son and daughter have never gone to sleep on Christmas Eve afraid that Santa's forgotten them. But that doesn't mean we haven't tried to show them what it's like for other children who aren't as lucky as they are.

Every year, Project ABC (Any Baby Can) here in San Antonio matches us with a family that doesn't have enough money to give their kids the Christmas they deserve. The families that Project ABC helps all have children with expensive medical problems.

One year, our family was matched with a family that had a boy my son's age who had muscular dystrophy. Our family goes out and buys presents we think the children (and their parents) will like. We also bring them everyday things like canned food or pots and pans.

We're not the only family who plays Santa. Today, there are dozens of charities that try to make sure that "all" good girls and boys have a Merry Christmas.

They do it not because of some rule or regulation the government has passed. They do it because they care about their fellow Americans. They are what Christmas and our country are all about.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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The Brackett News

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May that jolly old gent bring you the most wonderful holiday season ever! Warmest Greetings from:

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Have something to say? Write a letter to the editor!

Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

Kissing seems kind of gross

If you were to walk into a kindergarten class and ask them about kissing, they would probably shout out some responses like "eww" or "gross, you can get cooties from that." But as you raise up to higher levels, like high school, opinions seem to have matured.

I seem to be stuck at the kindergarten level. Whenever I hear about people kissing, I am slightly grossed out — lizards seem to come to mind.

I was recently thinking about the "kiss" and where it came from, and why anyone in the world would want to. Personally, kissing seems kind of gross.

Kissing, also known as osculation, originated through pre-mastication. Pre-mastication means the transfer of chewed food from mother to child. I bet you never thought about that when you were kissing a loved one. Nowadays, we have baby food instead of saliva-soaked appetizers. Eventually, from there, it evolved into a sign of affection.

In the earlier days, tobacco was also passed from male to female through pre-mastication as a sign of affection. A young man would hold tobacco in his teeth and invite the girl to grasp it with her teeth. Then, she would pull it out of his mouth. Then, if the girl accepted the wad of pre-masticated tobacco, she shared the boy's love.

For some reason, that sounds extremely gross to me, but hey, what do I know?

It is also believed that the kiss symbolizes the union of souls. By sharing breath, souls were thought to become one. That is also the reason for Eskimo kisses.

Some people, when thinking of the kiss, may imagine a beautiful scene from a film, like the 1942 hit *Casablanca*. When character Rick Blaine, played by Humphrey Bogart, grabs Ilsa (Ingrid Bergman) and, after saying "Here's looking at you kid," passionately kisses her. Here you have the music, the lighting and the perfect setting, but that's a movie. If you were to deduct all of those things, you are left with two people exposing each other to one another's germs. How sanitary is that?

There are many different kinds of kisses. You have the parent-child kiss, the friends-family kiss, the ceremonial kiss, and the romantic kiss. Personally, I don't really involve myself in any of those, especially the romantic. Yuck! I can't understand what the whole big deal is about it. I don't ever want to kiss anyone — it is gross. Even getting a kiss on the cheek from my grandmother is strange. You have the lipstick mark and everything, but at least she is trying to show me affection.

Obviously, most don't have these feelings, but like I have said before in earlier columns, I am a different kind of kid. I don't always find some of the things my peers enjoy very cool. Yuck! Sorry, had to get it out again. I don't really see the need for kissing. Whatever happened to the nice friendly hand-shake?

The Christmas spirit has hit Brackettville

It's Christmas time again in Kinney County. This year, we are finally seeing signs of the fall season. Check out the bright red color of the oaks on the par-3 golf course at Fort Clark Springs.



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

Early freezes have helped give us a fall season even as winter is about to officially begin. Thanksgiving came a week late so our Christmas lights have been put up later. We're doing better, and there are many beautiful sights in town and at Fort Clark Springs.

Signs of Christmas included a wonderful high school band concert, directed by Anne Davidson and played by the Timmer Band.

The Voices of Fort Clark, directed by Lynn McNew and accompanied by Cathy Conrey,

presented songs of the season last Saturday night.

Sunday night, the ministers and churches of Kinney County ably put the Christmas Community Unity program together. Charlotte Corey headed this effort that featured a toy from Santa for each child. There were snacks, along with cold and hot drinks given by community organizations.

Monday night, the younger

children of Jones Elementary presented their Christmas program.

Several Christmas Eve services are scheduled in Brackettville. I am aware of the Methodist candlelight service at 6 p.m. and the traditional Catholic midnight mass. There are probably others, so check with the church of your choice.

At school, our students are winding down the first semester with exams and Christmas parties.

It's a fun time for the young, but it is a stressful time for secondary students who are being tested on their first semester's work.

The children have had a wonderful semester. We take pride in our students and staff at BISD. Merry Christmas!



Christmas concert
Jones Elementary School students sang carols Monday night during the school's annual Christmas Concert at the Brackett ISD Auditorium.

Photo by Kathy Wilson

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Friday, Dec. 6
4:45 p.m., Ted Kirby Babineaux, 48, of Nederland was arrested by DPS Trooper Tully Welch for driving while intoxicated and unlawfully carrying of a weapon. 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 on outstanding DPS warrants. He was released after paying a \$185 fine.

Saturday, Dec. 7
10:15 p.m., Miguel Angel Martinez, 28, of Mexico, was arrested by Deputy Karl Chism on warrants for violation of probation and child endangerment. He was turned over to the Wichita County Sheriff's Office.

Monday, Dec. 9
9:51 a.m., A Border Patrol agent reported a one-vehicle rollover on Highway 90, 1 mile west of Brackettville. No injuries were reported.

10:52 a.m., A man reported a semi truck had gone off the road and through a fence on Highway 90, north of Fritter Park. No injuries were reported.

Tuesday, Dec. 10
3:30 p.m., A woman reported that she had been receiving vulgar mail.

7:06 p.m., An anonymous caller reported a white Dodge Charger driving reckless on Highway 90, 5 miles east of Brackettville.

8:47 p.m., A man reported loud music coming from a residence near the Catholic Church in Spofford.

Thursday, Dec. 12
6:27 p.m., An anonymous caller reported a dead cow in the road close to Pinto Creek.

Saturday, Dec. 14
11:20 p.m., Ronald Kelton, 51, of Grand Prairie was arrested by DPS Trooper Welch for driving while intoxicated. He was released the next day on a \$1,500 cash bond.

Sunday, Dec. 15
5 p.m., A man called to report that he had left his glasses in the back of a patrol car.

7:20 p.m., A woman reported a reckless driver on Highway 90, west of Kinney County. The Val Verde Sheriff's Office was notified.

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<p>SEALY Lowry</p> <p>Queen 2 Pc. Set \$379</p> <p>Twin Ea. Pc.....\$119</p> <p>Full Ea. Pc.....\$179</p> <p>King 3-Pc.set....\$479</p>	<p>SEALY POSTUREPEDIC Amberhill Firm or Plush</p> <p>Queen 2 Pc. Set \$499</p> <p>Twin Ea. Pc.....\$179</p> <p>Full Ea. Pc.....\$239</p> <p>King 3-Pc.set....\$749</p>
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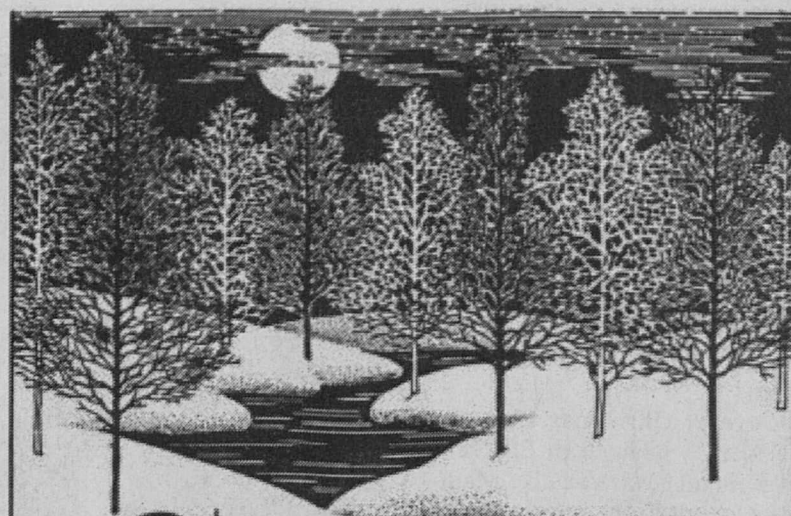
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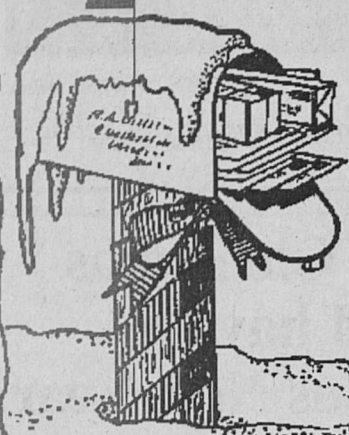
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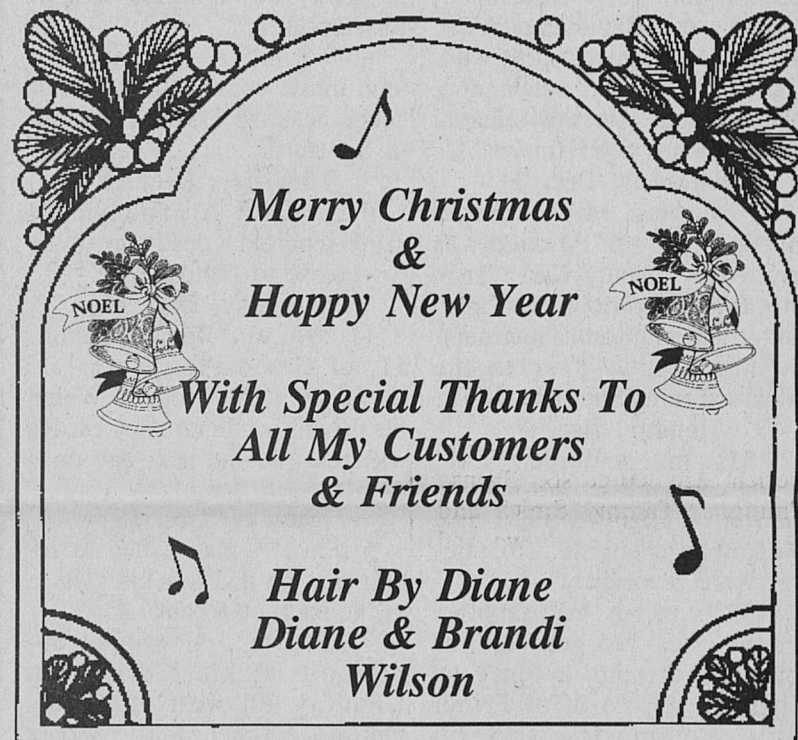
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Photo by J.J. Guidry

Finding an opening

Brackett guard Charlie Slaughter (left) draws a double-team and looks for an opening in the Nueces Canyon defense during the Tigers win over the Panthers last Thursday.

Tigers take third place at SWTJC tournament

UVALDE — Brackett had four players score in double figures on Saturday as the Tigers claimed a 72-55 victory over the Leakey Eagles in the third-place final of the Southwest Texas Junior College basketball tournament.

Brackett (5-4) outscored Leakey 17-11 in the opening stanza en route to a 37-25 half-time lead.

"We played well, both offensively and defensively," BHS coach Charlie Marquardt said. "By far, this was the best game of the season for us."

Charlie Slaughter led the Tigers' scoring attack with a game-high 25 points. Philip Munoz scored 21, Jesse Davis and Jared Hobbs both finished with 12 points and Dietrich Davis added two.

Munoz, who also had six rebounds in the contest, repre-

sented Brackett on the all-tournament team.

Hobbs pulled down five boards in the game and Slaughter had four.

The Tigers came up short Thursday night in the semifinals. Utopia jumped ahead of Brackett 20-3 after the first quarter and held on for a 62-35 victory.

"Utopia just outplayed us in every facet of the game," Marquardt said. "We never got on track early so it was a tough, uphill battle the rest of the way."

"The guys showed a lot of character with their effort in the second half. We matched them scoring the last two quarters."

Slaughter finished the game with 11 points, Hobbs scored nine points, Munoz had seven points and seven rebounds, Boyd Brotherton pitched in four points, Jesse Davis had five re-

bounds and three points, and Dietrich Davis added one point.

Brackett opened the tournament with a 48-30 victory over the Nueces Canyon Panthers.

The Tigers were leading 31-24 after three quarters and then put the game away in the final period, outscoring the Panthers 16-6.

Hobbs recorded a double-double in the contest with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Brotherton finished the game with nine points, Munoz had eight points and eight rebounds, Slaughter scored seven points, Dietrich Davis had five points and five rebounds, and Jesse Davis chipped in two points.

Brackett hosted Comstock on Tuesday, but results were not available at press-time. The Tigers resume action on Dec. 30 with a 8 p.m. road game against Knippa.

Tigerettes fall in consolation championship

UVALDE — Brackett outscored Knippa 16-10 in the fourth quarter Saturday, but the Tigerettes could not overcome a 16-point deficit as they fell to the Rockcrushers 42-32 in the consolation championship of the Southwest Texas Junior College basketball tournament.

"I thought we played a lot better in this tournament," BHS coach Ricky Creel said. "The girls are learning from each game. The thing I like the most is the girls do not quit."

Ashley Smith led Brackett (4-6) with 13 points in the contest, Amanda Davis and Courtney Frerich each scored six, Shanae Simmons, Tammy Smith and Tye Taylor all scored two and Ashley Castillo added one.

In the consolation semifinals, the Tigerettes claimed a 40-36 victory over LaPryor.

Simmons finished the contest with 10 points, Ashley Smith scored eight, Stephanie Bonner had seven, Frerich pitched in five, Taylor had four, and Stacey Castilla, Ashley Castillo and Vanessa Castillo all had two.

Nueces Canyon edged Brackett 36-34 in the opening round of the tournament.

Bonner was BHS' leading scorer with six points, Davis and Vanessa Castillo both had five, Frerich and Ashley Smith both scored four, and Castilla, Simmons, Taylor and Ashley Castillo all chipped in two.

The Tigerettes hosted Comstock on Tuesday, but results were not available at press-time. Brackett resumes action on Dec. 30 with a 6:30 p.m. road game against Knippa.

J.V. Tigerettes fall to Comstock

COMSTOCK — The Comstock Lady Panthers outscored the Brackett Tigerettes 8-5 in the final stanza last Tuesday to claim a 22-19 win in junior varsity basketball action.

Each team scored two points in the first period, but Brackett outscored Comstock 10-6 in the second quarter to go up 12-8 at intermission.

The Lady Panthers then outscored the Tigerettes 6-2 in the third period to tie the game at 14-all going into the final stanza.

Brackett was led by Brandy Smith, who scored nine points, including seven in the second quarter.

Jesse Crane finished with seven points, and Timmeka Simmons added three points.

The Tigerettes hosted Comstock on Tuesday, but results were not available at press-time. Brackett resumes action on Jan. 3 at home with a 5 p.m. game against Natalia in its district opener.

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Assistant district governor visits Rotary meeting

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

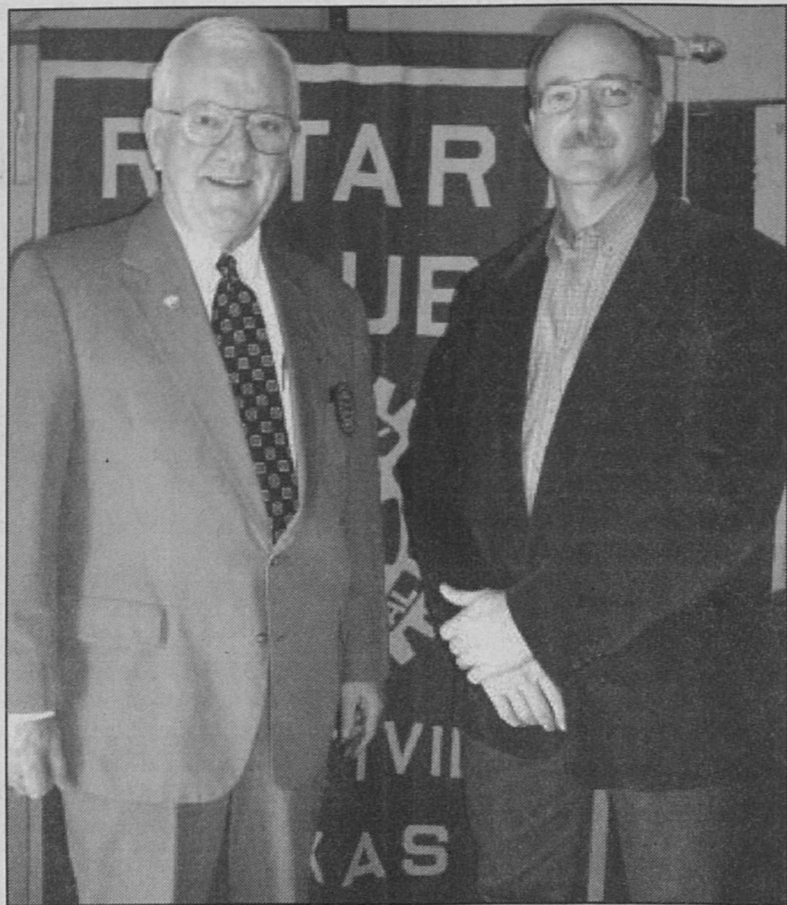
Assistant District Governor Eamonn Grant made his quarterly visit to the Brackettville Rotary Club last Thursday.

Grant brought holiday greetings from the district governor and spoke about the goals of the district, as well as those of Rotary International.

Two suggested local projects are presently under consideration, one of which will be selected by the club to celebrate Rotary's centennial year in 2005.

The club will host its annual Christmas celebration meeting today at noon at Las Moras Restaurant.

Frank Cheaney announced that his wife, Ruby, will accompany the group as everyone sings Christmas songs today. Taylor Stephenson, BISD superintendent, will direct the group.



District official visits local club Photo by Bill Haenn
Assistant District Governor Eamonn Grant (left) is welcomed to the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting last Thursday by Dave Alexander, club president.

Harrison receives medal

Katherine "Kitty" Allen Harrison, a member of Fort Clark who resides in Rio Frio, was the surprised recipient of the DAR Patriotism Medal at the Caddel-Smith Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas meeting last Thursday at the Uvalde Country Club.

The Uvalde de las Encinas Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic had voted several months ago to honor Harrison for her years in promoting patriotism in the area. It was decided that the appropriate place to honor her was at a DRT meeting since she has been active in that organization for over 30 years.

"This medal is in appreciation for the many patriotic endeavors that Kitty has been involved in through the years," said Pat McKelvy, DAR chapter regent.

Harrison is a past president of the Caddel-Smith Chapter and has filled all the chapter's offices through the years. She

currently is serving on a state-appointed committee.

A direct descendant of Martin Allen who came to Texas with Stephen F. Austin's first colony, Harrison was instrumental in organizing the descendants of those 300 families into a viable group in 1987 at San Felipe.

A very community involved individual, Harrison is active in most of the Frio Canyon organizations, as well as the family heritage groups.

"She has generously shared and given of her ancestral history to anyone who has asked and is truly an inspiration to her family and friends," said Kay Allen Anderson, Harrison's niece.

Prior to the medal presentation, a short business meeting was conducted by Billie Jean Davis, chapter president.

A special welcome was extended to Rosemarie Gregory of New Braunfels, the state historian general. Also welcomed was Mary Woodward from

Kerrville, who served as the chapters organizing regent 25 years ago.

McKelvy introduced four new members who had been approved by the registrar general: Mary Elizabeth Robinson Troxclair from Knippa whose ancestor is George Washington Brooks, Mildred Madeline Lincecum Barta from Leakey whose ancestor is Gideon Lincecum, Mary Sale Stitts Brewer from Uvalde whose ancestor is Jesse White, and Barbara Jeanne Niesen Woodman from Uvalde whose ancestor is Andrew Kent.

The chapter membership is now at 110.

Following the conclusion of the business meeting, lunch was served and then an exciting gift exchange was held.

Membership in the Daughters of the Republic of Texas is open to any female over the age of 18 years who is a lineal descendant of anyone living in Texas during the time it was a republic.

A cheery hello!
Just want to offer a sincere "Thanks" for your patronage and to wish you well!

Alamo Lumber Del Rio

Peanut Butter Plus Cookies easy, fast to make

I recently discovered this recipe that's got a lot going for it. For instance, it's super easy and fast to make, low in cost, we usually have ingredients on hand, favorite foods are used — on and on.

A big extra is that children of young age can do most of the making with little or no help. Consequently, I call it "Peanut Butter Plus Cookie." Let me



Goodies
From G.G.

Vada
Baldree

know how you like it.

Peanut Butter Plus Cookie

Here's what we need: 1/2 cup of creamy peanut butter; 1 sleeve (4 ounces) of round butter-flavored crackers; 1 cup (6 ounces) of white, semi-sweet or milk chocolate chips; and 1 tablespoon of shortening.

Spread the peanut butter on half of the crackers; top with the other half making a sandwich. Refrigerate.

Melt chocolate chips with shortening (to melt use double boiler over simmering water, or microwave according to directions on package), stirring until smooth.

Dip sandwiches into chocolate (I use small tongs personally) and place on waxed paper until chocolate hardens.

This recipe makes 1 1/2 dozen cookies.

Beta Epsilon Omicron Chapter hosts annual Christmas party

Reindeer, Santa, Christmas trees, the creche, tiny lit villages, lights, greenery and Christmas music greeted the Beta Epsilon Omicron Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi at the home of Hazel Ivy for the annual cookie exchange and

party. The Christmas spirit was present throughout the house.

Winter resident Barbara Brissette was welcomed. Barbara kept everyone interested and entertained as she shared experiences of her Alaskan trip.

Hazel served a beautiful buffet of pigs in a blanket, a fresh vegetable tray, relishes, dips, chips, pecan sandies and a wonderful holiday punch. Guests served themselves on Christmas China. Each member brought

cookies to sample and exchange.

The theme for the evening was "Christmas Traditions, Past and Present." Traditions were shared as secret sister gifts were opened.

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Robert
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Judge Ford and Staff

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Bobby Guidry

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From Fort Clark Springs Association

BVFD New Years Eve Dance

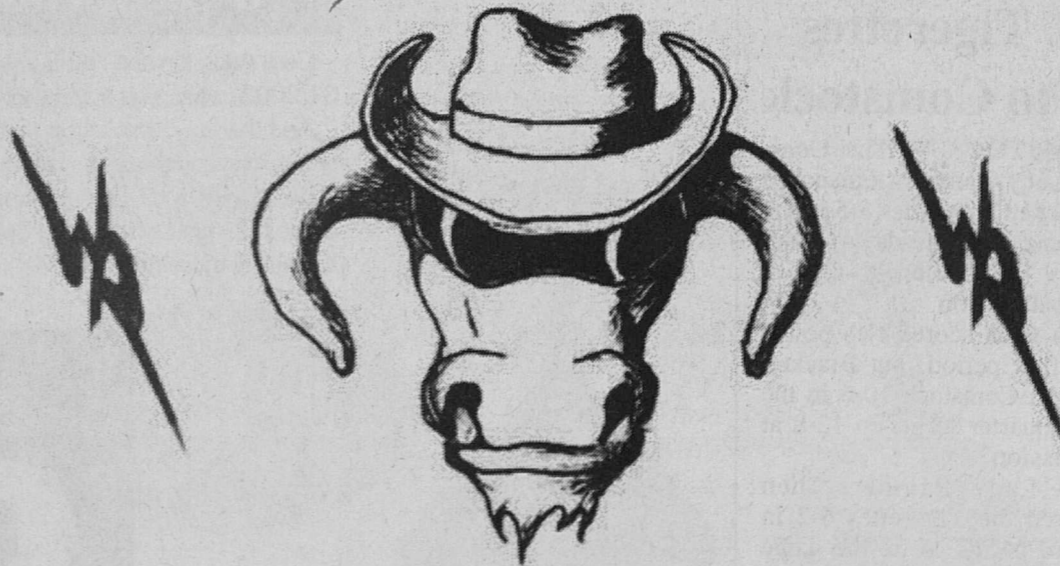
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A modern-day Christmas story

When I read God's Holy Word, I cannot help but imagine what it would be like if it was here and now, and instead of the Holy Bible, I was reading it in say, *The Brackett News*.

For example, take one of my all time favorites, the "Christmas story," the birth of our Lord, Jesus. The story would go something like this.

Last March, one of our high school seniors, a girl named Mary, who is very popular in school and attends church regularly, received a visit from the angel Gabriel. This must have been quite a shock in itself.

Gabriel goes on to explain to her that God Himself had selected her to give birth to his own son.

I am certain that her head must have been swimming with a million questions. How can this be possible, she is a virgin? What will her fiancée Joseph say? Will he believe her? Will

he still want to marry her? What will her parents say or do or think? Pregnant! A baby! How?

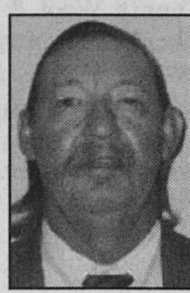
After Gabriel explains it to her, that the Holy Spirit and the power of God will overshadow her so that the Holy One can be born, he tells her that her aunt and uncle are also going to have a baby.

This also has to be the work of God because her Aunt Elizabeth and Uncle Zechariah are quite elderly and have never had children because Elizabeth has always been barren.

If Joseph still loves her and wants to marry her, it needs to happen right away! They cannot wait until May or June, as they had planned.

How many people should we — could we tell? Elizabeth gave birth to a son, John, back in June and Mary is due to give birth to her first born son, Jesus, any day now.

A few days ago, Joseph took



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

that they told some nearby cowboys and they came over to visit. Some visiting dignitaries, who had followed the star, stopped by and brought gifts.

All in all, this was a wondrous night, a night still talked about today.

It seemed that those cowboys told lots of folks who came by for a look see.

Eight days later, Mary and Joseph took their son, Jesus, to church for the first time. There was a righteous man named Simeon waiting there. Simeon had waited for a long time to meet the Son of God. There was also an old woman there named Anna, who gave thanks to God for this precious of all gifts. The gift of redemption.

Rumor has it that the law got after 'em for something and that they moved to Oklahoma, but I am sure that it will all work out and they will soon be coming back home to live.

Mary, even though she's going to give birth at any time, up to Austin to see the IRS, something about their taxes.

There were so many people there that all the motels and hotels were booked solid. Mary wound up giving birth to their son in a livestock barn filled with animals, no less.

God was with them and the birth was an easy one. The weather was mild and a bright star shown over head, as Mary lay her son in an empty manger.

The Angels were so excited

Birth is a miracle

It was time. Ken rushed to find the little suitcase. He tried to be calm. Lori's groans kept his attention.

"OK, honey, we're ready." He helped her in, then said a prayer as the car lurched forward.

The 30-mile trip seemed long. Ken repeatedly looked at his wife. Her face showed pain and anxiety, but she feigned a smile for his sake.

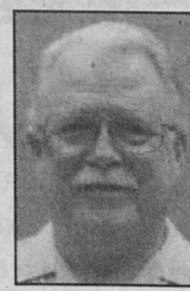
"I'm all right, honey," she said. "Just get us there in one piece."

Her hands rested on her abdomen, making contact with the life struggling inside. She moved close to Ken and put her head against his shoulder like she had done so many other times. She was thinking of three now.

They were ushered into a room. Attendants busied themselves with Lori. Her pains were getting closer. Ken took hold of her hand and walked beside her as they pushed the gurney into another room.

Ken lost track of time. He heard sounds of people all talking at once, giving instructions to each other and to Lori. He felt so helpless, but found himself repeating what the attendants were saying, "Push Lori, push." Each time he squeezed her hand.

There was a loud cry and Lori went limp. Someone said,



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

"It's a healthy boy."

Relief and joy was on everybody's face. A red and wrinkled, screaming bundle of humanity was thrust into Ken's arms.

Ken remembered a promise of long ago. As a mother cannot forget the child of her womb so God would never forget his people (Isaiah 49:15).

Ken gently laid the child on Lori's breast.

Looking into Ken's eyes, Lori spoke: "A child is born to us, a son has been given to us. (Isaiah 9:5)

"We will name him Joshua, for one day he will be strong and great. God has entrusted him to us and we will love him and nurture him."

A hush fell on the room and a new sound was heard like the gentle flutter of wings.

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.

The gift of 'The Prince of Peace'

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." (Isa. 9:6)



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Heb. 13:20-21) "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:14) "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." (Rom.12:18)

"For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God." (Gal.6:15-16)

"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us." (Eph. 2:13-18) "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee." (Psalms 122.6) "The Lord will

give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace." (Psalm 29:11)

"Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all. (2 Thes. 3:16)

"Grace be with you, mercy, and peace be multiplied unto you, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love." (2 John 2:3 & 2 Peter 1:2).

This Christmas thank God that the people of Israel existed, that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, that he lived, died and was resurrected in the land of Israel. God has blessed this country through the seed of Israel, Jesus Christ.

Stand strong in your support of peace for Jerusalem, that God prosper you, your family and country.

Jesus died and shed his blood so that each of us can not only have a Merry Christmas, but also eternal life. Thank you Lord for that greatest of all gifts. God bless you all. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

The sounds of the season

Everyone who knows me knows that music is a very important part of my life. This is especially true during the Christmas season. It seems as if I just can't "get enough" of the beautiful music.

Several years ago, when I was virtually homebound, I wrote an article about the television program "The Joy of Christmas."

Today, when I think about that program, which I watched over and over again, the things I really remember are the angels flying out over the heads of the people seated in the auditorium of the Crystal Cathedral and the music.

One song I especially liked was sung by a small shepherd boy, who saw the beautiful gifts brought to the Christ Child and was dismayed that he had no gift to bring. As the song goes, he gave the greatest gift of all — the gift of his heart. I am thankful that the gifts I give and receive this year will be gifts from the heart, and the greatest gift of all is giving my heart to God.

Another of my favorite Christmas carols is "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." The words say, in part, "And in despair, I bowed my head, 'There is no peace on earth,' I said, 'For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men'."

As our country prepares for the possibility of war and continues to try to protect ourselves from terrorism, these words seem to ring true. However, the song continues, "Then peeled the bells more loud and deep, 'God is not dead, nor doth He sleep; the wrong shall fail, the right prevail with peace on earth, good will to men.'" I am thankful for this reassurance. When I was a child growing



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

up in Illinois, one of the magic times of Christmas was coming out of Midnight Mass. It always seemed to be snowing and the air was cold and crisp and the stars were so bright.

"O Holy Night" brings to mind the same kind of night. It probably wasn't snowing in Bethlehem, but the night was certainly cold and bright. I am thankful for Texas winters where the stars are definitely bright, but there isn't any snow and not too many cold nights.

And who can think about favorite Christmas music without "Silent Night" appearing on the top of the list. There are varying stories about the origin of this song. It is well known that Franz Gruber wrote the music for this lovely hymn after the organ in the church had broken. What is not so well known is when the words were written. Joseph Mohr may have written the poem some time before Gruber wrote the melody. Regardless, it has become one of the most well-known carols of all time. I am thankful that "Christ, the Savior is born."

As we celebrate this Christmas season may our minds be filled with joy, our hearts filled with love, and our lives be filled with music. You are welcome to worship with us at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. Merry Christmas and may God bless you and yours.

God is present everywhere

What a view God must have! The psalms tell us, "From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all humanity: from His dwelling place He watches all who live on earth, He who forms the hearts of them all, who considers everything they do."

But God does more than look down, as though He were a distant absentee landlord. He is present everywhere in His universe as Creator and Preserver. What is more, God was present in our world in His Son, who as the Word made flesh dwelt among us. In Jesus Christ, Immanuel, God is with us.

Our Lord, before ascending into Heaven, promised to establish His comforting presence among us through the Holy Spirit, proceeding from Him and the Father. That promise was redeemed when, at Pentecost, the Spirit with all His graces was outpoured.

Christ did what He said: "I



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Nathan Lafrenz

will not leave you as orphans: I will come to you." (John 14:18)

The Christ once born in Bethlehem is here with us today in His invisible presence as our Creator and Preserver, with the Father and Holy Spirit.

In a special way, He is also the Light with us in the Word made Flesh.

He promises us, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

Come and celebrate the presence of the Light of Christ this Christmas Eve at our Candlelight Service at 7 p.m.

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Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
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Las Moras Hispanic Organization

HO, HO, HO!

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To all our Friends & Neighbors

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 Recruiter/Beauty Advisor
 612 S. Main St. Downtown Del Rio
 Phone (830) 775-8284
 Fax (830) 775-8285
 cjmterry@avon.net
Start your own business. Only \$10 to start.
Free gift when you join.

HOME CONSTRUCTION
 All Types of Construction
FREE ESTIMATES
 ♦ Remodeling ♦ Roofing Repairs
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Bruce Drilling and Services
Pumps Tanks Wells
 Specializing in
Turn Key Installation of
trouble free water systems
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Brandon Lewis M.D.
 1020 E. Leona Road
 Uvalde, Texas 78801
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(830) 278-4426
Se Habla Espanol

Durden & Durden, PLLC
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
 Business Law Wills &
 Real Estate Law Trusts
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 Uvalde, Texas (830) 278-2550
 Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Brackettville Funeral Home
 114 North Street
 563-9600
Serving Brackettville since 1914
 Manager: Leon Humphreys

Linda's Nails
 Come & Pamper Yourself with a quiet atmosphere
 Complimentary wine & beverage with
 pedicure spa service 2107 Veterans
 Blvd. Suite #4
 Mon-Sat. 9-6 Del Rio, TX
 830-775-6966

SEW WHAT?
 Custom Embroidery
Stacey
 Ashabanner P.O. Box 917
 Phone: 830-563-9006
 Brackettville, Texas 78832
 E-mail: ashent@medinaec.com
 Custom Designs on clothes, caps, bags, linens
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 Unique Gifts! You tell us. We'll Sew What?

**Archie's Landscaping
 and
 Lawn Maintenance**
 Experienced - Professional
 Free Estimates
Let us solve your Lawn & Garden problems
 563-5102
 Archie and Jill Woodson

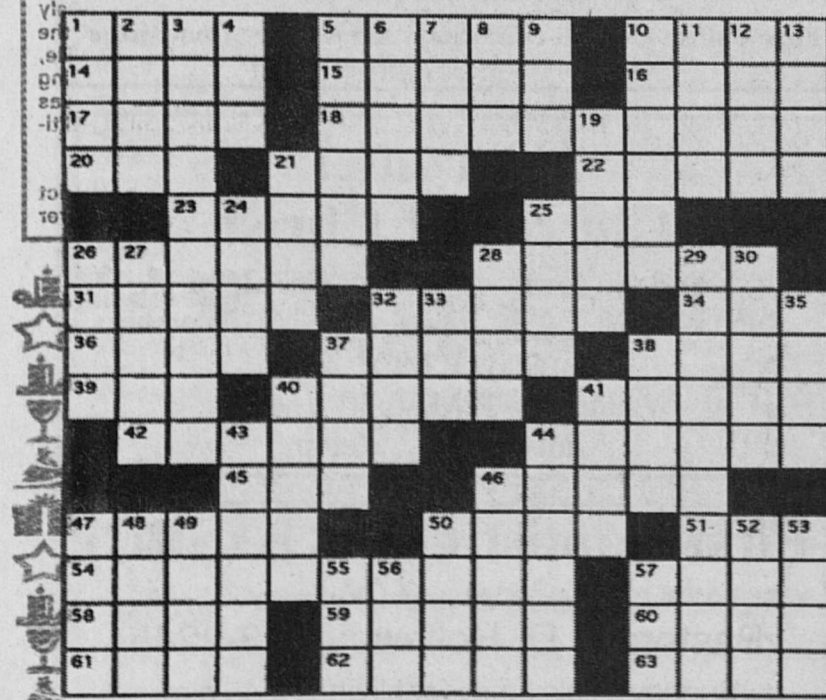
**Travis Wilson
 Construction**
 Complete turn key jobs on RV
 and Mobile home lots. Concrete,
 water, sewer and electrical. Clear
 lots and caliche pads
563-2398

**SOUTHWEST
 SERVICE Co.**
 (830) 563-9256
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 Tom & Anita Parts • Repair Hwy 90E
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ROOFING SHEETMETAL REMODELING ROOM ADDITIONS STUCCO
AAA
Roofing and Remodeling
No Job Too Big or Small
 Free Estimates Peter D. Perez
 (830) 563-2617
 SHEET ROCK TEXTURES PAINTING FENCING CERAMIC TILE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CROSS
 1 Ashen
 2 Iron or gold
 3 Move suddenly
 4 Cattleman's item
 5 Humiliate
 6 Collection of this
 7 Elec. units
 8 From ... completely
 9 "Diamond State" abbr.
 10 Convicted ones
 11 Author of "The Count of Monte Cristo"
 12 Strange twist of circumstances
 13 Wee one
 14 Elevator alternative
 15 Opposite of blessings
 16 Change in London
 17 Blueprints
 18 Portion of land
 19 Formerly
 20 Like a
 21 country bumpkin
 22 Expensive painting
 23 off; infuriate
 24 Find an answer to
 25 Rustic shelter
 26 Disease-carrying insect
 27 Make fun of
 28 Spike or Peggy
 29 Spay
 30 Man the rudder
 31 School orgs.
 32 Plus stand;
 33 hot dog vendor's spot
 34 Prison: slang
 35 Mine entrance
 36 Item on a teacher's desk
 37 Depend
 38 Stewart and others
 39 Isle of Man residents
 40 Sweetened juices
 41 DOWN
 42 Bush, to Yale
 43 City built on seven hills
 44 Refrigerator and stove
 45 Word of agreement
 46 Bricklayers
 47 Heavy wood
 48 Letters for Plato
 49 Crawling creature
 50 Give permission to
 51 Police-men's snacks
 52 See 1 Down
 53 of Cascia
 54 Fling
 55 Fragrances
 56 Central part
 57 Staple for billions
 58 Song
 59 Rover's neighbor
 60 Doctrine
 61 Abode
 62 of long, long ago
 63 Explained in detail
 64 Dependable
 65 Anemic
 66 IX times
 67 Minute
 68 Feature for Rudolph
 69 Be bold
 70 Metric unit
 71 Hit Broadway play
 72 Chooses
 73 Sky sights
 74 Ring-shaped island
 75 Skin mark
 76 Bustle
 77 Oklahama
 78 Word with cream or filler
 79 Place for gnus and elands to drink
 80 Carrie Nation & pals
 81 Rising gas
 82 Bath with seats
 83 Fern. title



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: **GREEK LETTERS**

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

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Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- What make of car ran commercials featuring the mother-daughter team of Priscilla and Lisa Marie Presley?
- What role did Tim Curry have in the movie, "Clue"?
- What fashion designer, suffering from AIDS, opened and closed his last fashion show with Gershwin's "S Wonderful"?
- With whom was comic Sam Kinison briefly linked romantically in 1988?
- What "Donna Reed Show" cast member portrayed Francine Webster on "One Day at a Time"?
- What kind of trees are used at Cohocton, New York's tree-sitting championships?
- What former Beatle said he loved New York because "people ask you for autographs or say 'hi,' but they don't bug you"?
- What Jimmy Stewart movie's colorization caused Frank Capra to complain: "Even the villain looks pink and cheerful"?
- What First Lady's office announced that she uses "no hair coloring of any kind"?
- What Samuel Beckett play did Mike Nichols direct Robin Williams and Steve Martin in?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 19.....Nathan M. Luna	Dec. 22.....Don Hood
Dec. 19.....Enemencia Starzel	Dec. 22.....Richard Pena
Dec. 19.....Roger Workman	Dec. 23.....Victor Abrego
Dec. 20.....Jean Hood	Dec. 23.....Johnie Beard
Dec. 20.....Juan Reyes	Dec. 23.....Sergio Cardenas
Dec. 20.....Darlene Shahan	Dec. 23.....Danny Molinar
Dec. 20.....Julia Terrazas	Dec. 23.....Elena Molinar
Dec. 21.....Clay Hunt III	Dec. 23.....Elidia Molinar
Dec. 21.....Shelley Jost	Dec. 24.....Tom Beatty
Dec. 22.....Arabela Abrego	Dec. 24.....Sam Ferguson
Dec. 22.....Robert Elledge	Dec. 24.....Paul Williams
Dec. 22.....Evelyn Estes	Dec. 25.....Michael Gass

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) While it's undeniably a hectic time of year, slow down. It's a good week to focus on what's really important. This weekend, reconnect with family, particularly children.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're a scintillating conversationalist at holiday parties. Just be sure you don't overly indulge. Otherwise, you could end up embarrassing yourself.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You discover a new cultural interest which fascinates you. Be careful, though, that you don't become obsessed with this. Later in the week, be sure you have everything you need for the holidays.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) While making the rounds of holiday parties, you encounter someone who's very attractive. This means romance for singles. Over the weekend, volunteer some time for a worthy cause.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your creativity is sparked and you find some innovative gifts for those on your list. A midweek domestic matter needs your attention. After that, it's smooth sailing.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You're uncharacteristically grumpy for this time of year. Try to sort out what's bothering you. After all, you don't want to ruin everyone's holiday mood.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your work week is quite productive. The opposite is true of those pesky domestic chores. Use the weekend to get the house in shape for the holidays.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A child has a wonderful suggestion for the family. You'll find yourself looking at new ways to celebrate the holidays. This weekend, put those plans into place.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your boss' attitude is particularly "Grinch-like" right now. Try to avoid getting on this person's bad side. The mood soon passes.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You get the urge to travel this week. However, this is the time for home and hearth. Put your travel plans on hold until after the holidays.

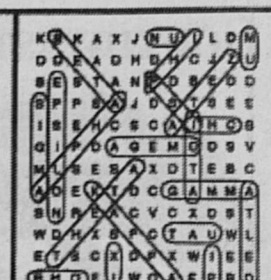
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) As frustrating as it is, you just can't seem to get your point across this week. Let others do the talking for you. This weekend, you get some much-needed rest.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) While you're not pleased with some unexpected guests, grin and bear it. Yes, it's rude. However, it's best to approach this as graciously as possible.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

- Alpha
- Beta
- Chi
- Delta
- Epsilon
- Gamma
- Iota
- Kappa
- Mu
- Nu
- Omega
- Pi
- Rho
- Sigma
- Tau
- Theta
- Xi
- Zeta



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Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
 1. Oldsmobile; 2. The butler; 3. Perry Ellis; 4. Jessica Hahn; 5. Shelley Fabares; 6. Maple trees; 7. John Lennon; 8. "It's a Wonderful Life"; 9. Barbara Bush; 10. "Walzing After Godot"

ADOPTION

Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

A CHRISTMAS WISH. Adoption. Young, energetic couple will give your baby unconditional love, limitless opportunity and a childhood filled with fun.

AUTOMOBILES

1-800-CHARITY! DONATE YOUR vehicle directly to the original, nationally acclaimed Charity Cars.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

\$1.00 STORES. COMPLETE turnkey from \$45,900. See our showcase store in Texas.

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVER/ CDL (A)...Celebrating 40 years. Solos to 39 cents, Teams to 41 cents.

DRIVER - COMPANY & Owner/Ops - Regional - Home Weekly. Pay for experience up to 31 cpm Company.

DRIVER-COVENANT TRANSPORT - Hiring experienced teams, solos and trainers. O/O-Solos/Teams 83 cents.

DRIVERS-NO EXPERIENCE? Low or no cost CDL training available. Meals, lodging and transportation provided.

DRIVERS - OWNER/OPERATORS - 83 cpm, loaded or empty. Plates/permits/lavover/lumbers and tolls paid.

DRIVERS - SWIFT TRANSPORTATION is hiring experienced and inexperienced drivers and owner/operators.

DRIVER - TRUCKERS! FFE - Will get you home. FFE - Will get you paid. FFE - Will get you miles.

DRIVER TRAINING

A CAREER IN Truck Driving. Company paid CDL training if qualified. Long Horn Driver Training Institute.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CASH NOW! - IMMEDIATE CASH for structured settlements, annuities, real estate notes, private mortgage notes, accident cases, and insurance payouts.

CASH NOW! FOR future payments. We buy insurance settlements, annuities and lottery winnings.

FOR LEASE

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

FOR SALE

4 DEARBORN HEATERS (12,000 - 20,000 BTU) 1 6/2" artificial Christmas tree, good condition.

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

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

MARY KAY COSMETICS, Alana Flurry, 563-9435. Evenings/Weekends, Complimentary facials, products, etc.

ROPING HORSE - 18 years old, black gelding. Head, heel or breakaway \$1800. 765-0098

USED V CRIMP galvanized tin 26 in. wide 10 ft. \$3.50. 12 ft. \$4.20. 775-5338 or 765-0098

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - FREE Vacation Get-A-Way. While supplies last w/purchase of Wolff Tanning Bed.

GARAGE SALES

SATURDAY 21ST 8:30 - 12. FCS unit 31 Bowlegs (McWilliams). Lots of Misc. & clothes.

HEALTH

MEDICARE PATIENTS USING Inhalers: Albuterol - Atrovent - Combivent - Serevent - Azmacort - Flovent and others.

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.

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGE) is accepting applications for the position of Field Tech to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office.

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGE) is accepting applications for the position of Office Clerk to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office.

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

EARN UP TO \$35/hr! Top on-line auction needs resellers. No experience required. Call toll-free for more information.

GET PAID TO be a Mystery Shopper! (Pay no fees.) As an Independent Contractor, evaluate Customer Service at restaurants, gas stations, etc.

JOIN OUR TEAM and make a difference. In the Texas Army National Guard you can get money for college and career training.

FIND A JOB in the classifieds!!!

REAL ESTATE

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

May the Holy Family Bless You and Yours Now and Always.

orourke@the-i.net

PET SUPPLIES

GET HOOK, ROUND & Tapeworms. Rotate Happy Jack (R) Lique-Vict (R) and Tapeworm tablets.

REAL ESTATE

BEST DEAL in the area! 2600 +/- acres Brackettville. 3 sides high game fenced. Good ranch roads, 5 tanks, excellent game.

ABSOLUTE STEAL! 5 Acres - \$19,900. Sacrifice price on beautiful North Texas hill country property.

COLORADO RANCH SALE. 35 acres - \$49,900. Magnificent mountain ranch at 8,000' elevation.

LAKE LOT SACRIFICE - 5 Acres - \$24,900. Beautiful lake property w/ access to 260 acre private lake.

NEW MEXICO MOUNTAINS. 140 Acres - Only \$49,900. Gorgeous grasslands, mature tree cover, 6,300' elevation.

100 ACRES - \$44,900. Trophy whitetails (5 deer limit). Tree covered hills and draws.

FIND REAL ESTATE deals here!!!

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

GRAY METAL DART
ROBE ABASE OLIO
AMPS SOUPTONUTS
DEL CONS DUMAS
IRON Y TOT
STAIRS CURSBS
PENCE PLANS LOT
ONCE NAIVE DALI
TBE SOLVE CABIN
TSET LEE PARODY
LBE ALTER
STEER PTAS AND
CONCESSION STIR
ADIT APPLE REBY
RODS GAELS ADES

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our friends
Alfred (Chap) and Henry

JOYOUS TIDINGS
A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All
From The City of Brackettville Housing Authority

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO

*** **
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
830-563-2446 830-563-2447

- 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 b/y 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

One of the real joys of the season is the opportunity to say thank you and to wish you a special Christmas and the very best New Year.

View listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

Tejas Properties

Phyllis & Les Meyer
615 Hwy 90 EAST
830-563-9911

- New Listing - FCS 2/2 carport with detached studio, Excellent Condition.
3/2 carports, large yard, plus a 16x20 Office/Storage, near school.
The Oaks, 2/2 Beautiful Home with sunroom, 2 lots and huge oaks.
2/2 Home with carport, Ward St. in FCS, excellent condition.
1450 acres Great Hunting! In the hills N. of Town.
We have ranches of all sizes available!
www.Tejas-Properties.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

BRACKETT I.S.D. IS accepting proposals for the district's 2003 Erate grant application. Interested vendors should contact Frank Taylor for more information.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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).

KINNEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Court is currently accepting bid proposals for repairs resulting from hail damages on all County owned buildings. Proposals must be submitted specific to each building which includes the following: Courthouse, Nutrition Center, Jail, Annex Building, Civic Center, JP Office, Road & Bridge Department, Swimming Pool Concession, Baseball Park Concession Building, EMS Building, Library, Filippone Building and roofs of other associated outbuildings.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE
KINNEY COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District will hold Hearings on Rulemaking and District Fees on Tuesday, January 7, 2003, at 5:00 p.m., in the District Courtroom of the Kinney County Courthouse located in Brackettville, Texas.

HEARING ON RULEMAKING

- 1. Call to Order.
2. Public hearing on proposed District Rules, comments to proposed District Rules, and possible action to repeal and/or amend certain District Rules, continued from December 11, 2002.
3. Adjourn.

FEE HEARING

- 1. Call to Order.
2. Public Hearing and possible action on adoption of Fee Schedule for Permit Application Fees, Water Use Fees, Transport Fees, and/or Other Administrative Fees, continued from December 11, 2002.
3. Adjourn.

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above NOTICE OF HEARINGS of the Board of Directors of the Kinney County Groundwater District, is a true and correct copy of said Notice. I have published a true and correct copy of said Notice at least 10 days immediately preceding the day of said hearings and will post said Notice on the bulletin board in the Kinney County Courthouse, located in Brackettville, Texas, continuously for at least Ten (10) days immediately preceding the day of said hearings; a true and correct copy of said Notice was furnished to the Kinney County Clerk, in which the above named political subdivision is located.
Dated December 17, 2002
Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District
By: Darlene Shahan, Secretary/Treasurer

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

JUAN R. AGUIRISTI * ROBERT AGUIRRE * HECTOR AGUIRRE * FELICIA ALVAREZ * JANELLE M ALEJANDRO * VICKI L ALLEN * BERLINDA ALVARADO * CATHY ALVAREZ * DOLORES M ALVAREZ * ELENA ALVAREZ * ALFREDO ALVAREZ * PATRICIA B ARMSTRONG * YOLANDA H AROPHIN * ANGELICA ARREDONDO * PATRICIA A ARREDONDO * JOLYANNA ARREOLA * HECTOR AVILA * DIAMANTINA M BABBITT * LETICIA H BALLESTEROS * ALMA P BANAGON * NANCY G BARTON * ANJAMETTE BAS * MARLOWE BAS * HOMERENCIA BASALDUA * YSABEL BASALDUA * ANITA H BASS * LUISITO P BAUTISTA * MICHELLE K BAXTER * ROBERT B BEATTY * CONSTANCE C BENAVIDEZ * MARIO C BERNAL * MARTA L BERNAL * MARY K BERRY * MARY L BERRY * GENA L BISCHOFF * FELIX BLANCO, JR * ANNE M BLISS * SYDNEY J BOOKER * PATTI L BOREN * KARLA E BOWMAN * SHERYL A BOYD * MARIA G BRINGAS * AMANDA M BRISENO * OLGA V BROOKS * ALLISON B BROWN * KENNETH E BROWN * SHARON B BROWN * PEGGY A BULLOCK * ALDA CANO * ESDULA CARDONA * JERRY N CARRASCO * CHARLA J CARTER * LAURA E CARTER * LEE C CASE * JEFFREY A CASSON * MARIA G CASTILLO * LEOPOLDO CASTILLON * NORMA CASTRO * PURIFICACION CASTRO * SHARON A CATLETT * ANN M CATRON * MARIO A CHACON * NORMA A CHACON * ELSA M CHAVEZ * SAN JUAN CHAVEZ * PEGGY V CLARK * NORMA J COLE * DAVID F CORTEZ * CYNTHIA CORWIN * ERICA COWARD * JACQUELINE COWARD * MARTIN R COWARD, JR * RAQUEL COWARD * MATTHEW J CRISP, III * SHANNA L CROWSEY * MARICELA A CRUZ * MARLEN CRUZ * KOCHITL L CZECHOWICZ * JANICE L DANIEL * ANNA M DARDEA * NORMAN E DAVENPORT * IRMA C DAVILA * ERIC R DEHOYOS * NORMA C DEHOYOS * OLGA A DELACRUZ * EDUARDO DELEON, JR * ESMERALDA M DELEON * NORMA M DELEON * ALETHA C DELOS * MARIA DELTORO * PERNIA E DENNIS * ROSARIO S DENT * LYNDON V DIONGSON * NORA J DRESS * LEAH N DUNING * LUCY DURAN * MARY DURAN * RAYMUNDO J DURAN, JR * BEN M DURR * BLAKE W CAKER * LINDA S EARWOOD * NIKOLAY P EMBEY * ANNA I FERREIRA * JOE ESPARZA, JR * LIBRADO ESPARZA * JESUS J ESQUIVEL * LETICIA S ESTARDA * MARIA R ESTARDA * SHIRLEY J EYOLDT * SAMETA S FAIRCHILD * MELBA A FAIRIS * EVANGELINA P FAZ * GEORGE FEAR * PAUL J FEAR * MATHERINE L FEHLEY * RONALD C FEHNER * LORRAINE D FENSKER * SYLVIA G FERNANDEZ * DENISE L FLETCHER * ALDO R FLORES * DIANA FLORES * MARIA O FLORES * OSCAR L FLORES * PAUL D FLORES * SILVIA FLORES * VANESSA A FLORES * JOYCE L FLUITT * PATTY M FOGLE * CARMEN T FONTANETZ * MINDI N FRANKLIN * CAROLYN A FRENCH * IRMA S FUENTES * OLGA S FUENTES * RITA M GANT * CARLOS GARCIA * AMBER GARCIA * CAROLINA F GARCIA * ESTELLA GARCIA * MARIA I GARCIA * MARIA I GARCIA * MELBA D GARCIA * PAULINE A GARCIA * ROBERT GARCIA * VANESSA M GARCIA * LYNNE O GARTMAN * CYNTHIA J GARZA * GINA Y GARZA * MARIA D GARZA * ROSEMARIE R GARZA * BARBARA J GEMONDY * JACQUELINE L GEMETTE * LINDA F GLEASON * VIRGINIA B GLEASON * CAROLYN S GLOYER * BERNARDA M GOMEZ * KELLY D GOMEZ * LINDA GOMEZ * ROSALVA H GOMEZ * ALFREDO GONZALEZ * CHRISTINA M GONZALES * GLORIA A GONZALES * JOE S GONZALES * JULIAN GONZALES * MATTHEW F GONZALES * ROSALVA M GONZALES * ROSIE C GONZALES * VERONICA N GONZALES * OLGA A 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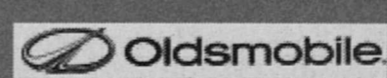
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