

The Brackett News

Tigers come up short against Three Rivers
See story, Page 5

14th year, No. 52

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Ag community makes plea to water board

Agricultural producers are pleading with the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors to amend a rule that requires well meters to be installed by April 1.

Jennifer McDaniel made the request in writing to the board and it was discussed Tuesday during the district's monthly meeting. McDaniel and her husband, Jim, farm in western Kinney County.

Darlene Shahan, board secretary, said McDaniel's letter was received after the 20-day deadline to request a rehearing on the district's rules.

"I'm certain that you did not intend to destroy agriculture

with this, but that's what you're doing," Melanie Jones told board members Tuesday.

A committee of board members Cecil Smith and Don Hood will look into the matter further.

Rule 9.09J states: "An applicant for a historic use permit shall install a meter or secure the district's approval of an alternative measuring method by April 1 on each well for which an application has been submitted. Failure to timely install such a meter or secure district approval of an alternative measuring method shall be grounds for the district to deny the permit and/or pursue enforcement action for violation of the district's rules." The McDaniels have seven

"I'm certain that you did not intend to destroy agriculture with this, but that's what you're doing."

Melanie Jones

wells on their farm and expect to pay between \$17,000 and \$20,000 in order to comply with the rules.

"My husband secured a loan from our bank for this year's farming operation," Jennifer McDaniel said in her letter. "The enormous cost associated with the fee-schedule requirements in Section 9.09J in the district rules is not figured into that loan. We have no way to change the ap-

plication.

"This board took over one year to pass substantive rules. Now, you are giving us less than three months to comply. How can you justify this? The way the rule is currently written, it is a violation of our property rights and the Constitution."

McDaniel requested that the district extend its fee date to one year after permits are granted.

"We can then get the money

approved from our banking institutions," she said. "You will be able to protect the water and save the agricultural industry at the same time if you will simply make this small change."

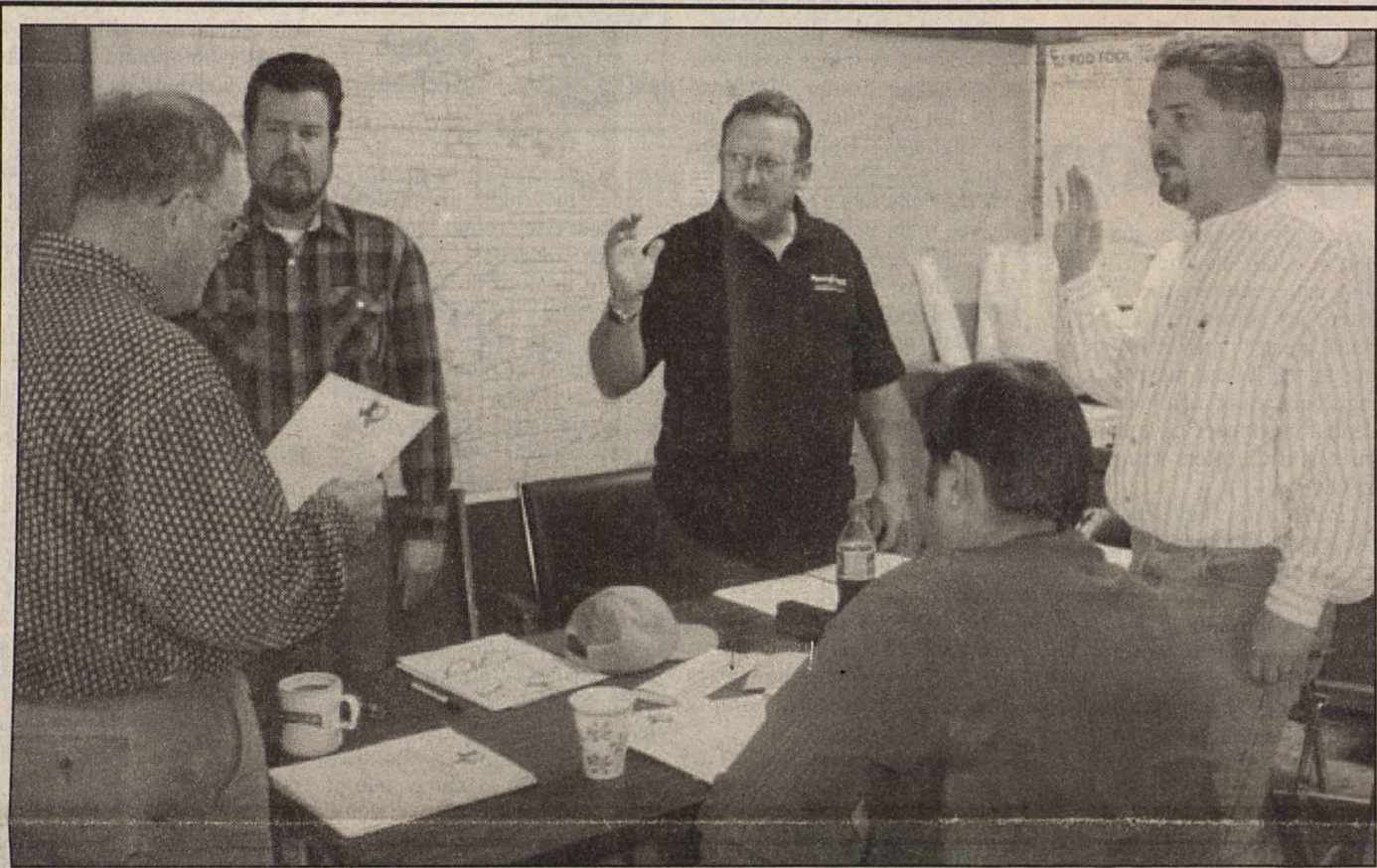
"Production agriculture does not provide a producer with a big profit margin. Anyone involved in the business full-time knows this and should understand where my husband and I are coming from."

"We all have debt, and few of us here could pay all of that debt at once. Imagine if every business you owed wanted your money and wanted the balance of your debt paid in full at once, or risk losing everything. That is where we are, and that is why

I am appealing to you."

McDaniel said she had trouble communicating with members of the board.

"I tried to follow up with some of you late last week, but was told through a voice mail from Director Don Hood that on the advice of counsel you are not to discuss these issues with me," she said in her letter. "After my husband's 12 years of service on the school board and the late-night phone calls we received from angry parents on various issues, I do not understand any of you obtaining legal counsel at this point. By doing so, you have cut yourself off from the public you were elected and appointed to represent."



Appraisal District officials sworn in
Kinney County Chief Appraiser Bill Haenn (standing, from left) swears in recently-elected Appraisal District board members Tim Ward, Tom Ertle and Wes Robinson last week as director Richard Slubar (seated) looks on.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

FCSA creates a new department

Fort Clark Springs completely revamped its Accounting Office, splitting it into two separate departments, according to the association's general manager, Maggie Banner Kerr.

The fort's accountant will continue to head the Accounting Department, which has moved to the east wing of the Administration Building, and will be completely responsible for all of the financial statements.

"The accountant has one other employee working with her — that is the payables clerk, who also will have other duties," Kerr said in her column in the Fort Clark Springs February Newsletter.

The new department, called Member Services, will now handle receivables for the association.

Genell Hobbs will head the Member Services Department, which is housed in the old accounting offices on the west side of the Administration Building.

The new department includes two other employees who will be handling receivables, member transfers and the general maintenance of the membership accounts.

"How many times have you heard about someone's membership account being messed up? Most likely, more often than you care to hear about," Kerr said. "Every time a member comes into the office and has problems with an account, the staff, as well as all management and even the Board of Directors, loses credibility. Yes, mistakes were happening."

Kerr said the mistakes were a result of the way the Accounting Department was organized in past years.

"All aspects of accounting —

from payables, receivables, purchasing, petty cash and others — were being handled in the same office and by some of the same employees. There was lots of room for error because of so much distraction due to department managers, employees and vendors coming in and out of the office all day long," she said.

"The Accounting Department employees never had isolated time to perform their jobs without lots of distractions and interruptions," Kerr added.

The general manager said the reorganization has made employees more efficient in their job performances.

"The first week has gone really well," she said. "The isolation for the accountant and the receivables clerk has already helped. The payables clerk has been set up in an office with all her supplies and invoices, and is conveniently located so that the department managers, employees and vendors can access her office when necessary."

The front desk in the lobby will still continue to take all over-the-counter payments from members who desire to walk into the front office and pay their assessments.

"If there are any questions regarding members' accounts, they will be sent to Member Services, and Ms. Hobbs and her staff will assist the members in regards to their accounts," Kerr said.

"Also, when a member sells a membership, with or without property, and needs to transfer their membership, this will be done at the Member Services Department. Name changes, address changes and other membership maintenance will be handled in this department as well," she added.

Trio arrested for drug smuggling

Three men arrested earlier this week are only part of a smuggling ring that has brought more than \$3 million worth of marijuana into the country, a federal agent said Friday.

Donald Bynum, a senior special agent with the U.S. Customs Service, made those allegations during the preliminary examination and detention hearing of Casey Bob Hutto before U.S. Magistrate Judge Dennis Green Friday afternoon.

Hutto, 23, a Del Rio native living in San Antonio, John Edward Magness, 27, of Brackettville, and Rolando Solis Jr., 27, of Del Rio made their initial

court appearances before Green last Tuesday.

"The co-defendant stated that they had done four loads of about 200 pounds each ... and a year ago they made two loads a week at 100 pounds a load for about a half a year," Bynum said, adding the ring is believed to have moved more than \$3 million worth of marijuana.

According to the complaint filed with the U.S. District Clerk last Tuesday, Magness, Hutto and Solis are charged with "unlawfully, knowingly and intentionally importing and causing to be imported into the United States from Mexico approxi-

mately 339.5 pounds of marijuana."

According to the complaint, special agents of the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Border Patrol discovered about 339.5 pounds of marijuana concealed near a gate on the Lowry Ranch, about eight miles west of Comstock, about 7 a.m. on Jan. 26.

"At approximately 9:45 p.m., John Edward Magness arrived at the gate and signaled to unknown individuals," the complaint reads. "U.S. Border Patrol agents approached Magness and told him in Spanish to back up his vehicle to load the mari-

juana. Magness parked his vehicle next to the gate and the marijuana was loaded into the vehicle."

"On Monday (Jan. 27) at approximately 5:15 a.m., Casey Bob Hutto and Rolando Solis Jr., following numerous consensually monitored telephone calls, arrived in the Comstock, Texas, area to assist with the smuggling of the marijuana."

If convicted, each of the three men face a sentence of five to 40 years imprisonment, up to a \$2 million fine, a period of supervised release of up to four years and a \$100 special assessment fee.

INSIDE

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They are in the classrooms, they are in the workplace, and they are on the roads. Bullies. You know, those kids who steal your lunch money.
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BOY SCOUTS: TEACHING VALUES

Robinette reflects on positive scouting experiences

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

The values learned in Boy Scouts of America may be applied in later life.

Scouting forms a good moral base since scouts are to lead a clean, Godly life. They also learn to be good leaders. Scouts are expected to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, obedient. They learn to obey their scout master and the Bible, and they should be cheerful, thrifty and brave.

That was the message brought by Cody Robinette at last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting at Las Moras Restaurant.

Cody recently completed his project to become an Eagle Scout, which will be recognized officially at the end of February. He was introduced by Ms. Paula Renken, Jones Elementary School principal and January Rotary program chairman.

Renken mentioned that Cody's mother, Olivia Robinette, teaches in the elementary school. This means that Cody is around school at times, and

Renken described him as an excellent role model for younger students.

When Cody was 5 years old, he became a Cub Scout. He was inspired by his father, Joel Robinette, who had been an Eagle Scout. Robinette continues to be active in scouting and is scout master of Cody's troop. Mrs. Robinette commented later that this has meant Cody was held to even higher expectations than the other boys.

Being a Cub provides fun-filled activities such as campouts and hikes, which also provide the opportunity to learn skills such as building a fire and taking care of oneself out in nature.

Cubs earn merit badges for each task they learn. A Cub can become a Boy Scout at 11 years of age.

Cody continued in scouting and mastered the many tasks required before taking on the project that would qualify him to become an Eagle Scout.

He chose to design and build a swing set for the children at the Church of Christ. The project

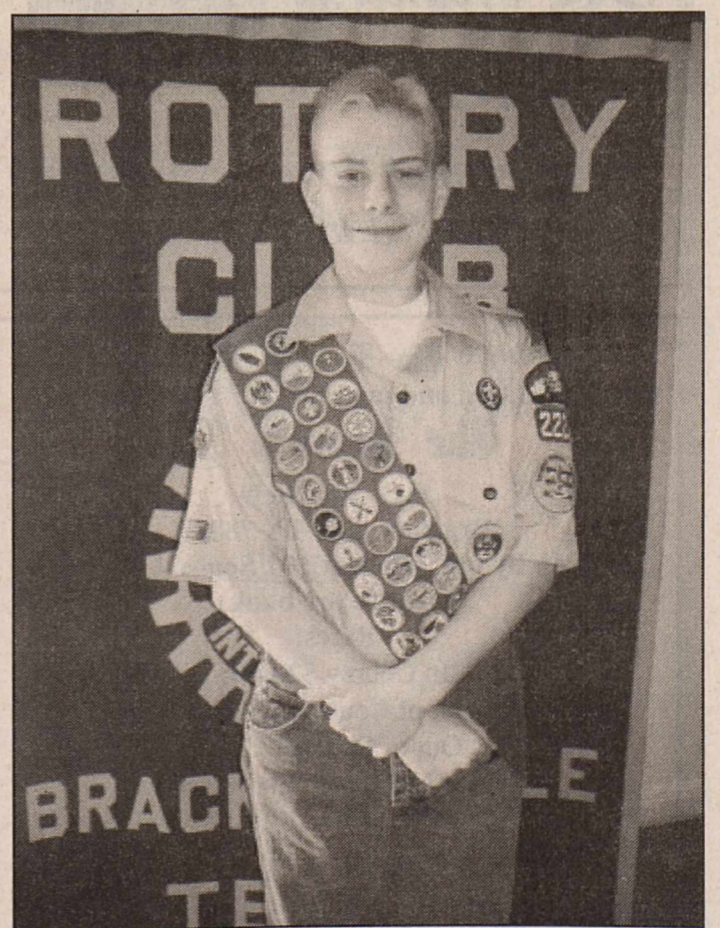
also requires that the Scout work with others in order to learn management and supervision skills. Michael Stephen-son, Miles Braesicke and Eliot Stone were also involved.

One of the many advantages of becoming an Eagle Scout is that it is impressive on college applications. It doesn't guarantee admittance, but shows the ability to work for and attain goals. There is also a scholarship fund for Eagle Scouts.

Cody's presentation demonstrated some of what he has learned from being a Scout. He wore his uniform neatly and his merit badge sash crossed his chest. His talk was well organized and presented with confidence.

Cody invited questions from Rotary members and responded knowledgeably.

Exchange Student Maartin Vos spoke briefly about his activities. His mother, Marianne Vos-Vester, and his older brother, Reinout, are visiting from the Netherlands and will be honored guests at today's Rotary meeting.



Eagle Scout
Cody Robinette discussed his experiences with the Boy Scouts of America at last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting at Las Moras Restaurant.

Photo by Bill Haenn

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote wisely in the upcoming Fort Clark Springs election

The time is growing nigh, and I hope you have been taking a long, hard look at where you want your vote to go in the board election.

I can't stress enough the importance of your voting in this election and which direction that vote needs to go. Granted, if it does go the right way, it will only look like a small step in bringing harmony back to our fort, and only the right people elected will help in taking back what we have lost. So think about what's happened, as opposed to what we had before and what we could have again.

In my opinion, it will be like one giant step in bringing back that wonderful place of peace

and tranquility we once had.

So read the literature that is coming to you very carefully, so when it's time to cast your vote, you can vote for those individuals who want to see the fort "preserved." And please don't vote for those who want to join those problem people, who it seems, want very badly to bring it all tumbling down.

For the life of me, I can't see the motives that the goat-herder and the flock have for seeing the fort destroyed.

Is it greed of what we possess? Hiding an embezzlement of funds? Or just pure and simple ignorant inability of managing the everyday running of our fort?

Something else to think about, and that is voting against the ousting of Tom Saylor from the board. He has done nothing wrong! He and Mona have worked very hard to keep us from hitting rock bottom and it has been a straight uphill battle for them, against obdurate thinking people. So please, vote "against" his being removed from the board. He's been an enormous asset to the fort in his attempts to help us keep what we have worked so hard for.

So please, I beg of you, use your vote wisely. Let's take back control of the fort. Vote for making the fort the best it can be once again.

Richard Card Sr.

Board decision raises questions of wisdom, impropriety

Your Jan. 23 editorial regarding the action of the FCSA Board of Directors placing a single board member on the spring ballot for recall was right on target.

While the action was probably legal, it raises serious ques-

tions of wisdom and impropriety.

Such an action expresses the great imbalance of power that tips in the favor of the board and against the membership. It serves to delegitimize the powers of the membership to redress griev-

ances they have with the board and/or general manager.

As you so aptly pointed out, the only fair way to do a recall under the present circumstances is for all board members to be on the ballot.

Donald E. Smith

Most Texans have positive view of electric competition

By REBECCA KLEIN
Special to The Brackett News

COMMENTARY

Since the beginning of the year, I have said that retail electric competition is right for Texas.

According to a recent statewide poll by the Center for Research and Public Policy, most Texans agree.

Nearly two out of three (64 percent) of the state's residential customers have a "very positive" or "somewhat positive" view of retail electric competition, up from 48.3 percent a year ago.

Other highlights of the poll include: Three out of four residents (75.3 percent) reported they were "very interested" (38.8 percent) or "somewhat interested" (36.5 percent) in choosing a retail electric provider.

Among residential customers, 52 percent of those interviewed cited "lower price" as the factor that might lead them to switch electric providers, while 29.5 percent cited "customer service."

About 8 percent said "renewable energy" would be a factor that might lead them to change electric providers.

Texas lawmakers did a good

job of building the competitive electric market. In areas open to competition, all customers have numerous offers available from competing electric providers, hundreds of millions of dollars have been saved on electric bills, and we've encouraged investment in new power plants and transmission lines.

Despite some bumps during the transition to competition, the Texas market is working.

You can choose among a variety of retail electric providers, based on what is most important to you — lower prices, enhanced customer service, even environmentally-friendly sources of power.

Since the PUC continues to regulate the transmission and distribution of electricity, you can be assured the actual delivery of electricity will remain safe and reliable.

One measure of a successful market is the number of customers who shop. Latest numbers show that approximately 320,000 residential customers (roughly 6.5 percent) are now being served by a new electric provider.

Another way to measure suc-

cess is by looking at the number of retail electric providers that have entered the market. There are more than 25 active retail electric providers operating in the Texas market, serving all classes of customers. Residential customers have between three and 11 offers from which to choose.

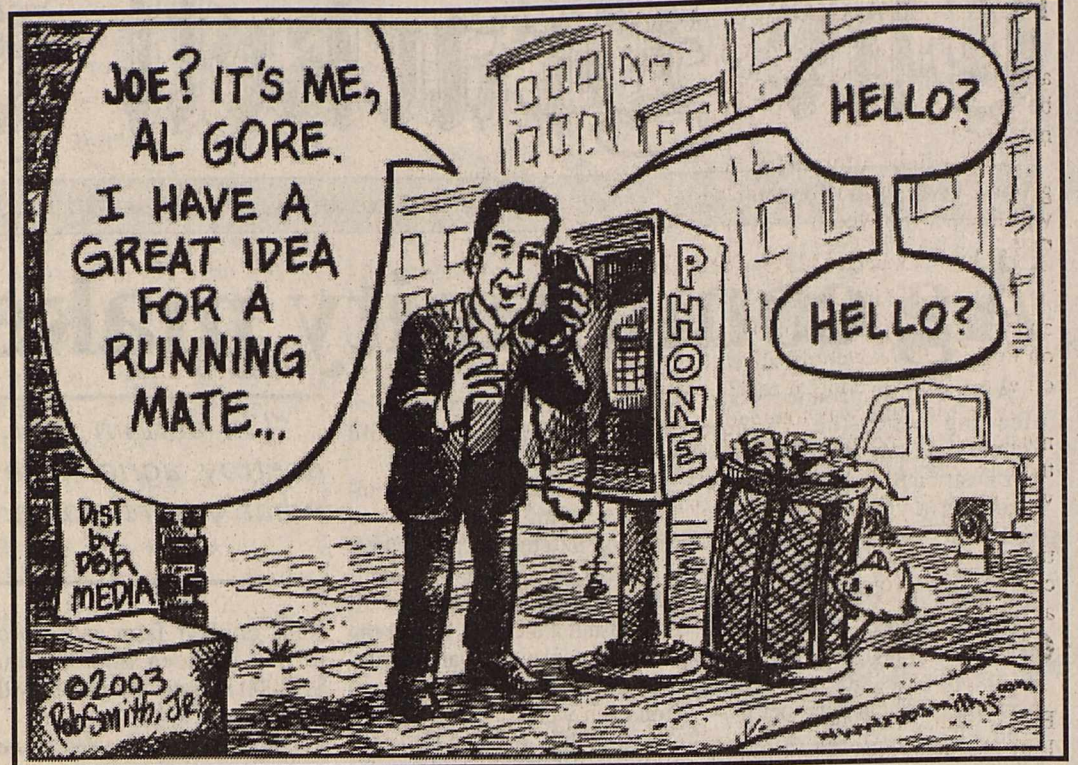
Perhaps the key measure of success is whether Texans are saving money. The answer is an unqualified yes — even without switching providers.

Residential customers in competitive areas of the state saved approximately \$900 million in the first year of competition compared to 2001.

Texans can save even more money by shopping for a new provider. A residential customer can expect to save an additional \$80 to \$165 dollars a year by switching to the lowest cost provider.

As we begin the second year of retail electric competition, I expect to see more customers enter the competitive market, more offers from retail electric providers and even more enthusiasm for the good thing we have going in Texas.

Editor's note: Rebecca Klein is the chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas.



Bullies desire control

They are in the classrooms, they are in the workplace, and they are on the roads. Bullies. You know, those kids who steal your lunch money, the guys who say those nasty things about you at the water cooler, or those jerks that won't let you pass on the highway. Bullies can be found anywhere around the world, in any shape or form. We all face them in everyday life.

Luckily enough for me, I happen to have my own personal group of bullies. OK, maybe I wouldn't consider myself that lucky. They always have some rude remark about my clothing, about the way I act, and even my articles. The sad thing is they are all bigger than me. I can't even push them down and sit on them like I could in kindergarten. Life was good in kindergarten.

Nowadays I just sit around and wait for the punches. It seems like they always find new ways to hurt, embarrass or simply shock me.

I once asked the nastiest of bullies why he always picked on me. He replied, with his evil little grin, "Oh, it is just fun teasing you, Shanae."

Urrgh. I hate those grins. Those grins that show that they think they are so perfect, that they own the world, and everyone else is just an insignificant speck on their untied boot.

There is something else that really annoys me about bullies. If you notice, bullies are often



Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

one of the popular people. Though they have to put down everyone else around them, one time or another, people still seem to flock to them like flies to raw, stinky meat. Then, those who see past their fake, cruel exterior get the blunt end of the stick. Strong, smart, cool people, like me, are just trying to expose their evil. Why is it that only I see how mean they really are? I don't even have 20/20 vision.

I wouldn't even consider myself to be in the same category as others who are victims of bullies. I went on this website for parents whose children were being bullied. It showed ways of dealing with these meanies and what kinds of children were usually picked on. Their choice of prey were the kids you would usually stereotype as victims, the smaller, weaker, antisocial types. Oddly enough, none of those adjectives describe me in the least.

The website said kids are bullies because they have the urge to be in control and have power over others. It also said that bullies are more likely to have criminal behaviors as adults. That

could be a good thing and bad thing. While I was a CEO of a large company making billions a year, they would be sharing a cell with an unusually hairy, but friendly 350-pound man. Then again, we don't need anymore criminals roaming America's streets either.

After a few minutes of reading, I was supposedly going to learn some ways to protect myself from these predators. The site said to simply walk away, tell them to leave me alone, or use humor and come up with a good comeback when a bully teased me. Keeping eye contact and role playing with a parent were supposed to help as well.

Now how am I supposed to walk away while in the classroom? When I tell them to leave me alone, they tease me further, and I end up dising myself with my sorry comebacks. Eye contact doesn't work, and I can't even think of role playing with my grandmother.

"Well, hey Mr. 5-foot flat bully, can you please stop picking on me?"

Well I haven't figured out a way to fight off bullies yet. At least I know not everyone likes me out there, and think how boring life would be if everyone liked you. Bullies make life mofe ... um ... interesting. Well, at least that is what I keep telling myself. Hey, they are supposed to be graduating soon, or at least I will be graduating in a couple of years. Whichever comes first.

To touch the face of God

More than 33 years ago, America made reality out of a dream. We put a man on the moon. We achieved a feat that many on Earth thought was impossible.

Those of us from the black-and-white TV generation remember where we were on that July day when Neil Armstrong lowered himself onto the moon's surface and uttered the words: "This is one small step for man and one giant leap for mankind."

That monumental mission — and the dozens that have followed it — remind us that dreams really can become reality. But with reality comes tragedy and sorrow. Sadly, on Saturday, we were reminded of this fateful fact.

Seven brave and dedicated astronauts lost their lives while pursuing a national dream. Words cannot express the gratitude we owe to those courageous souls, their families and loved ones.

I think President Ronald Reagan said it best in 1986 when he expressed a national gratitude to the space program after learning that the Space Shuttle Challenger had been lost. I would like to leave you



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

today a portion of his poignant remarks:

"Perhaps we've forgotten the courage it took for the crew of the shuttle ... they were aware of the dangers, but overcame them and did their jobs brilliantly. We mourn seven heroes ... We mourn their loss as a nation together ... For the families of the seven, we cannot bear, as you do, the full impact of this tragedy. But we feel the loss ... Your loved ones were daring and brave, and they had that special grace, that special spirit that says, 'Give me a challenge, and I'll meet it with joy.'

"They had a hunger to explore the universe and discover its truths. They wished to serve, and they did. They served all of us.

"We've grown used to wonders in this century. It's hard to dazzle us. But for 25 years, the United States space program has

been doing just that ... We've grown used to the idea of space, and perhaps we forget that we've only just begun. We're still pioneers. They, the members of the Challenger crew, were pioneers.

"The future doesn't belong to the fainthearted; it belongs to the brave. The Challenger crew was pulling us into the future, and we'll continue to follow them ... I've always had great faith in and respect for our space program. And what happened today does nothing to diminish it. We don't hide our space program. We don't keep secrets and cover things up. We do it all up front and in public. That's the way freedom is, and we wouldn't change it for a minute ... We'll continue our quest in space. There will be more shuttle flights and more shuttle crews ... Nothing ends here; our hopes and our journeys continue.

"The crew of the space shuttle Challenger honored us by the manner in which they lived their lives. We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waved goodbye and 'slipped the surly bonds of earth' to 'touch the face of God.'"

Quit wishing you were something else

I was listening to my students the other day. They were visiting after having taken a test. I often think I should listen more and talk less.

I overheard one of them say: "I wish I was ..."

How many times have I heard that same expression over the years? Almost everybody wishes he or she was something else. Lots of folks wish they had more money. I used to wish I were taller. That way I wouldn't be overweight.

My message today is to quit wishing you were something



But I Could Be Wrong

Chuck Hall

else. Be content with what you are. If a dog could fly, he wouldn't be a dog. He would be a bird. Or maybe just a bird-dog.

You are what you are. As Popeye says, "I yam what I yam."

Be thankful for all that you

are. We're all good people. God doesn't make junk. Enjoy being you. Learn to like yourself.

On the other hand, let's change those things about ourselves that can be changed and truly need to be changed.

Make yourself better. Improve your health. Stop smoking. Lose some weight.

I really need to do that last one. I am constantly reminded of how fat I am. Don't ask me who tells me. Let's just say it's someone close. I'm going to lose this unnecessary flab.

But I could be wrong.

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. The Brackett News will not publish letters sent via e-mail. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Big Mama Sez!



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CORRECTIONS

In last week's edition, in a story concerning the appointment of County Commissioner Francie Wylie as general manager of the Groundwater Conservation District, Jennifer McDaniel was quoted as saying: "It may not be illegal, but it's unethical." The statement was actually made by Melanie Jones.

In the story about Fort Clark Springs, it was reported that board member Jack Simpson voted to borrow money from the impound fund to pay the association's taxes. As president, Simpson did not vote on the issue.

We regret these errors.

The Brackett News

The Brackett News (USPS 003987) is an entirely locally owned, independent newspaper published weekly on Thursday for \$20 per year in Kinney County, \$25 outside of county but in Texas, and \$27.50 outside of Texas, by The Brackett News, Inc., 507 S. Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas, 78832, (telephone: 830-563-2852, fax: 830-563-9538) and entered as second class matter at the U.S. Post Office at Brackettville, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1878.

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in The Brackett News will gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

BRIEFS

FCSA candidates to speak Saturday

The Fort Clark Springs Community Council will meet at 10 a.m. Feb. 8 at the Post Theater. Fort Clark board candidates will be invited to present their qualifications and philosophies at the meeting.

There will be a forum led by Diane Daniels. Candidates will be given a time period for their formal presentation. The audience will then be allowed to present questions to the candidates.

Time Machine to perform Feb. 28

The group Time Machine will perform for the entertainment and cultural expansion of the school students of Kinney County on Feb. 28. Plans were finalized by the Kinney County Arts Council at a recent meeting at the Fort Clark Springs Adult Center.

Time Machine was founded in 1996 and performs a variety of music, which includes classical jazz and contemporary. For more than 15 years, the originator, Mario Fraga, has been performing with great success in South Texas and northern Mexico.

Since the Kinney County Arts Council is a non-profit organization, the Texas Commission on the Arts matches funds for the cultural arts projects. Evening performances are always planned at the Civic Center on the same date as the school's program.

Old Quarry to host Dinner Theater

The Old Quarry Society will host its annual Dinner Theater on Friday and Saturday, upstairs at the Los Moras Restaurant on Fort Clark Springs. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a cash bar, followed by dinner at 7 and entertainment at 8.

Friday night's dinner selection will be a seafood buffet with catfish, shrimp, stuffed crab, frogs legs, and all the trimmings, including salad and dessert. Saturday night's choice will be a country buffet with chicken, pork chops, roast beef, vegetables, salad and dessert. The entertainment for both evenings will be an excellent presentation by the Upstagers of Del Rio with their production of "First Night," starring Kelly Jackson and Joel Bacon. This delightful comedy by Jack Neary will be the Upstagers' entry in the Texas Little Theatre competition in March.

Season ticket holders can call 563-9229 for reservations. Individual tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by also calling 563-9229.

Crumley, Hagler make Honor List

LUBBOCK — Katy Hagler of Brackettville was among 1,500 Texas Tech University graduates who were awarded degrees during fall 2002 commencement ceremonies on Dec. 14.

Hagler and Caleb Crumley, also of Brackettville, were named to the Honor's List for 2002 fall semester. Hagler graduated with a bachelor's degree in science, majoring in family financial planning. Crumley is majoring in chemical engineering.

Health program to begin on Friday

A new program will be available to residents of Brackettville beginning Friday. Marcy Looney, a registered nurse from Del Rio will begin offering the Health and Wholeness Program this week in Brackettville. The program will consist of special health and wholeness classes, as well as things like blood pressure and blood sugar testing.

On Friday, at Sator Hall on James Street, blood pressure, blood sugar and miscellaneous testing will be offered from 9 to 10 a.m. and from 1 to 2 p.m. At 10 a.m., a class will be given on diabetes. A class on advanced directives (such as living wills) is set for 2 p.m.

Registration is not necessary. The program is being offered at no charge. Looney will be in town one day each week. For more information, call 563-2823.

UIL academic team claims honors at Southwest meet

BHS sent 20 students to the UIL academic meet at Southwest High School in San Antonio this past Friday. There were 48 schools present representing 1A to 5A schools.

BHS students scored well, with Beau Watkins third in persuasive speaking, and Emily Petrosky and Cody Robinette eighth in CX debate.

In computer applications, Sarah Meyer was second and Ashley Smith took eighth place. Meyer, Smith and Whitney Hobbs placed second as a team in computer applications.

In accounting, Elizabeth Threadgill finished second, Ashley Thourot was third, Tammy Smith took fourth and Laura Negrete was seventh. Threadgill, Thourot and Smith

placed second as a team.

This Friday, the UIL academic team heads to Sonora Friday and Saturday for a two-day meet.

The CX debate will compete on Friday at Sonora and then head to Natalia for district competition on Saturday.

Cindy Brandt is coordinator of UIL academics at BHS.

Food Service
This is Food Service Appreciation Week! We have an outstanding school lunch and breakfast program in Brackettville that is staffed by capable Honey Bee Gomez, manager, and her amiable crew.

Thanks for a job well done!
Redecorated Room
In the past couple of weeks, we have redecorated the elemen-



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

tary distance learning room, adjacent to the Old Gym.

The room has a new coat of paint and will soon have new carpet and a new cold-water fountain. We use this room for staff and for students.

Fitness Center
The new fitness center is now open and is in use. Girls and boys in junior high and high school are using the facility on a regular basis. The students are very proud of the facility.

Chartered Buses

One good thing that our district does is to send a chartered diesel bus to the long out of town games when girls and boys basketball teams play. Students are safer and come back more rested than if riding on a traditional school bus. On shorter trips, and when we have only a couple of teams playing, we use vans or regular school buses.

Job Openings
The school district has advertised for a band director and for a superintendent.

Readers with knowledge of potential applicants should advise them of the vacancies.

We have advertised with universities, in major newspapers of the state and on several web sites. Have a great week!

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, Jan. 27
8:37 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported an open door at the Post Theater.

9:47 p.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent reported an abandoned vehicle on Highway 334, a half mile west of West Prong.

Tuesday, Jan. 28
3 p.m., Jacob Terry Fenton, 19, of Fort Worth was arrested by Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess for possession of marijuana.

He was booked into the Kinney County Jail, where he was still being held at press-time.

4:43 p.m., A woman reported that her dog had been shot.

5:27 p.m., A woman reported a stranded motorist on Highway 334. The Department of Public Safety was notified.

7 p.m., A man said he found a bullet in his motorcycle tire.

Thursday, Jan. 29
7:38 p.m., A Uvalde Sheriff's Office employee reported a reckless driver in a Mitsubishi Eclipse, headed west towards Brackettville on Highway 90.

Saturday, Jan. 31

12:10 a.m., A woman said someone was knocking on the door of her residence on E. First Street.

1:16 a.m., The Maverick County Sheriff's Office reported a suspicious semi-truck and about four or five, four-wheel drive trucks parked parallel on the side of the road on Highway 277, about 5 miles inside Kinney County.

7:04 a.m., A man said there was another man causing problems in the back yard of his residence on E. El Paso Street, and that the man refused to leave.

Sunday, Feb. 1

Adam A. Blythe, 20, and Christopher Ryan Salyer, 18, both of San Marcos, and Justin Curtis Pounds, 19, of Humble were arrested by DPS Troopers Tully Welch and Marcos Hernandez. Blythe was charged with driving while intoxicated and minor in possession of alcohol, while Salyer and Pounds were charged with public intoxication and minor in possession of alcohol. All three were released the next day for time

served.

12:23 a.m., A woman requested EMS assistance at her residence at the Senior Apartments.

2:26 a.m., A man reported a wrecked vehicle at Fort Clark Springs. EMS personnel were dispatched to the scene.

10:50 a.m., A Brackettville woman reported that her fence had been torn down at her residence close to Highway 90, east of Brackettville and across from the Texas Department of Transportation.

11:50 a.m., A woman requested assistance in serving an

eviction notice.

5:34 p.m., A man reported children busting a vehicle's windows near E. Spring Street.

Monday, Feb. 2

Jose Gersalzo Cruz, 30, of San Antonio was arrested by Troopers Welch and Hernandez for driving with a suspended license. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail, where he was still being held at press-time.

1:42 a.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent reported that an illegal alien at the Cline Checkpoint had been assaulted by a coyote.

9:40 a.m., A one-vehicle rollover on Highway 90 East.

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<p>2003 SAFARI APR AS LOW AS 2.9% FOR 60 MOS. #2194 SAVE \$4224 \$21615 MSRP ... \$25839 REBATE ... \$2000 BROWN DISCOUNT.. \$2224</p>	<p>2003 YUKON XL 0.0% APR XM Radio, Leather, OnStar #1962 \$36421 MSRP ... \$43921 REBATE ... \$2500 BROWN DISCOUNT.. \$5000</p>	<p>2003 SIERRA 2500 DLS Save \$6200 #2280 \$28010 MSRP ... \$34210 REBATE ... \$2500 BROWN DISCOUNT.. \$3700</p>
<p>2003 ENVOY 0.0% APR #2325 \$23845 MSRP ... \$28745 REBATE ... \$2500 BROWN DISCOUNT.. \$2400</p>	<p>2003 EXT. CAB SLE APR AS LOW AS 2.9% FOR 60 MOS. #2125 SAVE \$5666 \$22044 MSRP ... \$27710 REBATE ... \$2500 BROWN DISCOUNT.. \$3166</p>	<p>2003 ENVOY XL 0.0% APR FOR 60 MOS. #2221 SAVE \$6025 \$27430 MSRP ... \$33455 REBATE ... \$3000 BROWN DISCOUNT.. \$3025</p>

Trucks

2218C 2000 Nissan Frontier KC.....\$11,500	2263A 2002 GMC Ext. Cab SLE.....\$22,375	2124B 2000 GMC Yukon XL.....\$25,425
2323A 2000 Chevy S10 Ext. Cab.....\$11,475	2262A 1997 GMC Ext. Cab SLE.....\$12,475	2217A 2000 Nissan Pathfinder SE.....\$22,475
2170A 2000 Nissan Frontier KC.....\$10,850	2029A 1997 Ford F-350 XLT CC.....\$9,950	P7144A 1999 Chevy Tahoe LS.....\$18,475
1402BB 1998 Chevy. 2500 Ext. Cab.....\$15,475	2351A 2001 GMC Ext. Cab SLE Z-71.....\$22,475	2315A 1999 Chev. Suburban LS.....\$14,800
2009B 2000 Nissan Frontier CC.....\$14,875	2284B 2000 Dodge Ram 1500 Club Cab.....\$15,375	2268A 2001 GMC Yukon XL.....\$26,875
1971A 1999 Nissan Frontier KC.....\$10,975	P7143A 2001 GMC Sierra SL.....\$14,475	1915A 1999 GMC Sub. SLE.....\$16,475
1640A 2002 Ford F150 SC XLT.....\$19,975		2342A 1998 Ford Expedition Leather.....\$15,575
2192A 2001 Chevy. Ext. Cab LS.....\$20,575		1109A 2001 GMC Yukon SLT.....\$26,475
2346B 2002 GMC 2500 CC DSL.....\$33,195		2317A 1999 Montero Sport.....\$13,475
P1711A 2002 GMC Ext. Cab SLE.....\$22,475		1402C 2000 Chevy. Blazer LS.....\$12,995
2258A 1999 Ford F250 XLT SC.....\$16,875		
P2121 2000 Ford F250 DSL XLT.....\$22,375		
P7111A 1998 Ford F150 XLT SC.....\$14,575		
1839BB 2002 Chevy S10 RC.....\$11,875		

Cars

1065A 1999 Nissan Maxima GXE.....\$14,975	2276A 1999 Chevy Tahoe LS.....\$16,475
2156A 2000 Chevrolet Impala.....\$13,475	P7138 2002 Chevy Trailblazer LS.....\$21,275
1754C 1999 Chevrolet Malibu.....\$8,995	1563A 2002 GMC Envoy SLE.....\$24,550
2350B 2001 Pontiac Grand Am SE.....\$11,475	P7160 2000 Chevy Blazer LS.....\$14,575
2277A 2000 Cadillac Deville.....\$23,475	P7156 2002 Montero Sport.....\$19,475
2337A 1999 Towncar Signature.....\$17,750	2128A 1999 Jeep Wrangler Sahara.....\$18,375
P7049 2001 Mitsubishi Galant.....\$12,275	

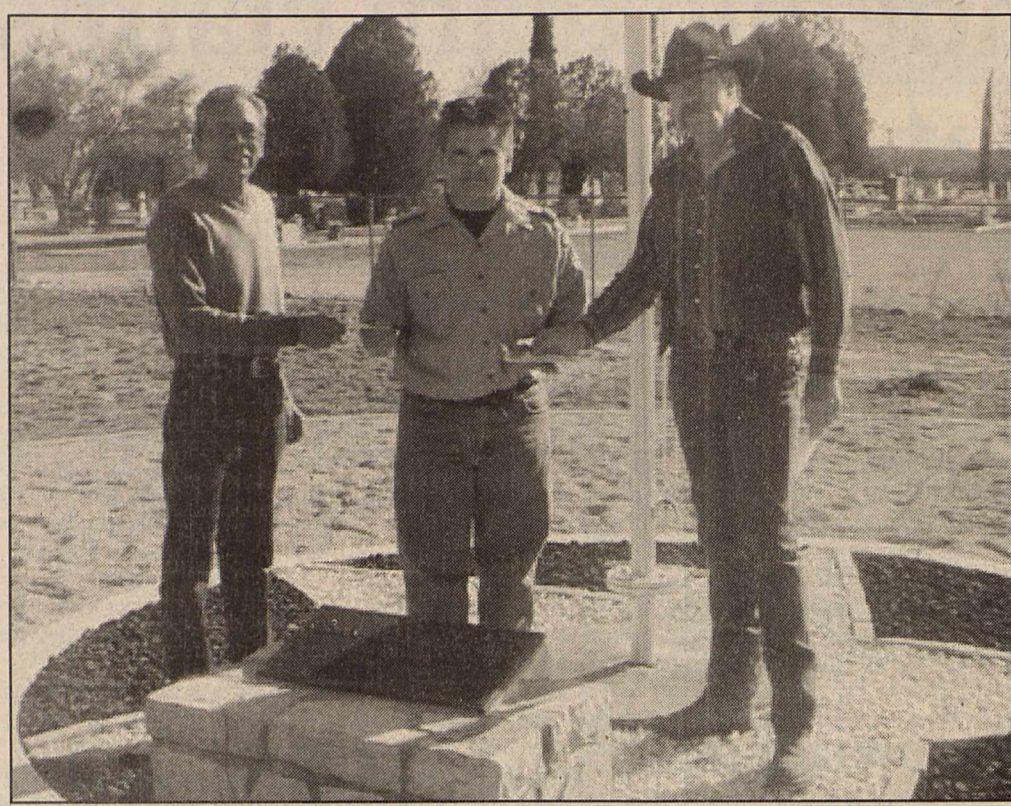
SUVs

2276A 1999 Chevy Tahoe LS.....\$16,475	
P7138 2002 Chevy Trailblazer LS.....\$21,275	
1563A 2002 GMC Envoy SLE.....\$24,550	
P7160 2000 Chevy Blazer LS.....\$14,575	
P7156 2002 Montero Sport.....\$19,475	
2128A 1999 Jeep Wrangler Sahara.....\$18,375	

Minivans

2231A 2001 Nissan Quest GLE.....\$18,475
9974B 1997 Pontiac Montana EXT.....\$10,875

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Becoming an Eagle Scout

Jeff Tipps (center), a senior at Brackett High School, accepts donations from Ruben Martinez (left) of the Las Moras Hispanic Association and Monty Montgomery. Tipps raised funds to restore the VFW Cemetery as a project to become an Eagle Scout. The project, including labor, totaled over \$1,000. Tipps landscaped the cemetery with pea gravel, purchased and installed two benches, painted the flag pole, used bricks to create a star around the flag pole and filled the area with lava rock and white marble.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Empowering Families' series looks at the American Dream

The American Dream is the goal of every American family. It draws millions of immigrants into the United States every year. It serves to motivate countless people out of poverty and ignorance every day.

Just what is the American Dream? This will be the topic of the Empowering Families' series of four sessions in February and March. Jones Elementary School in a community partnership with the St. Henry DeOsso Family Project is presenting the series of four sessions free of charge for all interested parents, grandparents, young couples and professionals of all kinds who work with families.

Why do so many families fail to achieve the American Dream? According to Dr. Donald Smith, author and lecturer, there are four reasons why many do not achieve the American Dream. The four reasons will be the topics of the four sessions to be held at the BISD Library, beginning Monday, Feb. 10, at 6 p.m.

The first reason why the American Dream is not fulfilled is because of the economic collapse of the family, according to

Smith. This will be the topic of Feb. 10.

Most families do not suffer because of the lack of money and resources, but because of poor management of their money and resources. Smith will discuss making decisions that will result in effective money management and for getting out of crushing debt.

The second reason why the American Dream is not fulfilled is because of the collapse of partnerships failure and divorce will not truly achieve the American Dream. This will be the topic of Feb. 18 when Smith will discuss how to heal the partnership problems and deal with divorce where it occurs.

The third reason why the American Dream is not fulfilled is because of the collapse of self-control and the rampant rage that results from a self-centered approach to life. This will be the topic of Feb. 24.

Anger and the failure of self-control immobilize your normal psychological resources. This failure ensures failure in school, in work, in relationships and in life. Smith address how to rec-

ognize the problems of anger and self-control in your life and to set new goals and strategies for eliminating this threat to your American Dream.

The fourth reason why so many families fail to achieve the American Dream is because of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. These substances are a major cancer on our society that destroys families, destroys morals, and crushes financial resources. This will be the topic of March 3. Smith will discuss how to recognize the signs, deal with the tragedies, and change the course of one's life to conquer substance abuse problems, and to prevent persons from infecting their children so they can achieve the American Dream.

All the sessions begin promptly at 6 p.m. and will end at 7:30. Refreshments and childcare will be provided.

Door prizes will be given out each evening and everybody attending all four sessions will be given a free copy of one of Smith's books.

For more information, call Smith at 563-2285 or Jones Elementary at 563-2491, Ext. 2.

BRIEFS

Miller-Scott, Malin-Watts claim wins

Five tables played the Mitchell Movement Tuesday as the Duplicate Bridge Club met in the Gorgas Room at Fort Clark Springs.

The winners in the north-south were Mona Miller and Dena Scott. Jeanette and Blake Hinton finished second, and Dianna Daniels and Mylo Unruh were third. Ann Malin and Ann Watts won the east-west, while Dorothy Simmons and Gertrude Trautwein were second, and Alice Seargeant and Flo Stafford were third.

On Jan. 21, Watts and Sharon Boucher won the north-south, Ella Chambers and Rusty Richhart were second, and Helen Marie Jones and Rozetta Pingent were third. Daniels and Unruh won the east-west, Flo and Jim Stafford took second-place honors, and Ken and Betty TeGrotenhuis were third.

Ruth Potter and Sara Richhart won the north-south on Jan. 14. Jones and Pingent finished second, and the Hintons tied Malin and Watts for third place. Seargeant and Flo Stafford took top honors in the east-west, Bob Barnett and Carol Benfield were second, and Ken and Betty TeGrotenhuis were third.

Simpson receives Preceptor Degree

The Beta Sigma Phi Chapter met Monday evening at the home of Louise Pflughoeft with 11 members in attendance. A beautiful candlelight ceremony was held for Arlys Simpson, who received her Preceptor Degree, and for Louise Pflughoeft and Marian Weber, who received the Ritual of the Jewel.

The Valentine party was discussed. It is going to be held at the Las Moras Restaurant on Friday evening, Feb. 14. A slate of officers was presented by the nominating committee and was unanimously passed. A lovely meal was served and Louise gave a very informative program on the nesting habits of the Loon.

Safety seats save lives

Last week, we spoke about people flashing headlights to warn others about peace officers working traffic. I thank all those for reading and hopefully heeding the plea.

I have another pet peeve of mine on child safety, regarding seat belts and safety seats. They save lives — always have and will continue to do so. To learn the hard way on this subject is truly the sad way. Those who have had an accident and lived to tell about it will testify to this.

Something I've noticed is some very loving mothers around town riding with their babies and children not buckled up proper — or at all. It really concerns me. Also, I've seen mothers holding a baby between themselves and the steering wheel. I know the thought behind this is they are protecting their baby, and I'm sure they mean well.

If you have an accident by striking an object or an object striking you and causing you to come to a halt, your child's death or being severely injured is almost guaranteed.

Be sure to read and understand how to install your safety seats correctly. Always use new safety seats only. Drive safe!



Constable's Corner

Bobby Guidry

traveling at 40 mph, has a frontal collision and comes to a complete halt, the child would come out of the parents arms with a force of 400 pounds. Like dropping a 400-pound rock on your child.

In the worst-case scenario, a 200-pound parent is not wearing a seat belt and is traveling at 20 mph. Both the child and the parent would hit the steering wheel or dash with a force of 8,000 pounds and 400 pounds of force. The child would sustain the full 8,000 pounds of force.

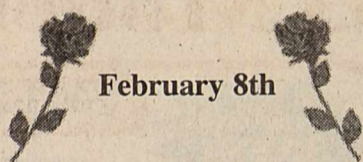
You can cut this example in half and get pretty much the same results. Get the picture? So please buckle up — click it or ticket it — no exceptions and no excuses.

Be sure to read and understand how to install your safety seats correctly. Always use new safety seats only. Drive safe!

Looking for my roots

Seeking information and pictures of my Parents Mr. & Mrs. Esteban Leal. Mother's Maiden name was Carolina Pena.

The following last names are connected to our family: Pena, Talamantez, Martinez, Montalvo, Terrasas, Sanchez, Velos and Resma. If you have any pictures or information; Please call collect 830-278-2226.



Happy Birthday

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Osteochondrosis is common for puppies

PET TALK

One of man's worst aches is a sore joint, and man's best friend can suffer from the same problem. If you think your puppy has painful joints, it may have developed osteochondrosis (OC) and it may be literally having growing pains.

"Osteochondrosis is a fairly common developmental abnormality that affects the cartilage in the joints of dogs, usually under one year of age," said Dr. Daniel Mertens, a veterinarian at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine.

"This condition typically affects large and giant breed dogs, including Labradors, German Shepards, and Golden Retrievers, but is occasionally found in smaller breeds."

Mertens says that as puppies grow, their joints are composed of cartilage that gradually mineralizes into bone. OC occurs when the process results in an uneven bone surface, which causes friction during joint movement.

This friction can eventually cause a piece of the overlying cartilage to chip away and float around inside the joint causing further pain and immobility, and when that happens, the condition is called osteochondrosis dissecans, OCD.

Symptoms of OC may include lameness, swelling in joints and pain when the joint is manipulated. Your veterinarian will take X-rays to determine if there is any swelling or other abnormality in the affected joints.

Symptoms of OC and/or OCD typically will begin between 6 to 10 months of age, said Mertens.

"There are several causes of OC and OCD," Mertens explains. "Evidence suggests that large, overweight, highly active and male dogs have a higher risk

for developing OC. The rapid growth that is normal for large breeds can actually be aggravated by a diet that provides too many calories, vitamins and nutrients. These dogs tend to benefit from a diet that will temper their growth rather than accelerate it."

In some cases, OC can resolve itself within a few months, but often OC will worsen to become OCD, Mertens says. There is little that can be done to treat OC except to restrict the dog's exercise and wait, he notes.

Antiinflammatory medication may offer some relief from painful joints, but it may be difficult to limit a dog's activities when it has been treated for the pain.

For dogs with OCD, your veterinarian will probably recommend surgery to remove the cartilage fragment that is loose inside the joint, Mertens adds. Although there is no effective way to repair the defect in the newly formed joint, the surgery generally includes a process by which the bone can be encouraged to create fibrocartilage (scar tissue) in place of the defect.

"OCD can occur in any joint, but is most commonly found in the shoulder," Mertens said.

"OCD in the shoulder is typically the most easily treated, whereas OCD in the elbow, knees, and hocks (ankles) tends to be both less common and more difficult to treat."

Mertens says other orthopedic conditions common to dogs have similar symptoms to OC and OCD. These include panosteitis, hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, hypertrophic osteodystrophy, and angular limb deformities.

Salmon cooked on the grill is a nice change

Health experts say we should eat more fish. Well, I like mine fried or from a can. The exception is salmon cooked on the grill with Tony Chachere's.

The following recipe, using canned salmon, is a nice change from the usual. To complete the meal, I like to serve oven-baked potato wedges and green beans seasoned with onion.

Salmon Cakes with lemon-herb sauce makes four servings.

Here's what we need: 1/4 cup each of finely-chopped red pepper and green onions, 1/4 cup of mayonnaise, 1 tablespoon of lemon juice, 1/4 teaspoon of seasoned salt, cayenne (red) pepper, one beaten egg, 1 cup of dried bread crumbs, two 6-ounce cans of salmon (remove skin), and 3 tablespoons of butter.

In a small bowl, mix the first six ingredients, tasting to adjust for personal preference. Stir in the egg, well drained, and flaked salmon, plus 4 tablespoons of



Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

the bread crumbs. Shape into six or eight balls.

Roll the balls in the remaining bread crumbs. Flatten into about 1/2 thick.

Fry in melted butter over medium heat for three to four minutes each side.

Serve with Lemon-Herb sauce, which requires: 3/4 cup of mayonnaise, 1 tablespoon of lemon juice, 1 tablespoon prepared horseradish (or to taste), 2 1/2 teaspoons of fresh thyme or 1 teaspoon of dried thyme, salt and pepper to taste. Combine in small bowl and blend well.

Keep refrigerated.

Three Rivers holds lead in district race

Tigers come up short, 72-56

Three Rivers built a 33-26 halftime lead and then outscored Brackett 23-13 in the third quarter en route to a 72-56 win Friday as the Bulldogs went up two games in the race for the District 30-AA championship.

The Bulldogs (17-8) are perfect in conference action with a 7-0 record and a two-game lead over the Tigers (11-8), who are 5-2 in league play. Natalia (11-9) is sitting in third place with a 4-3 mark, while Freer (9-13) is 3-4.

Brackett faced Freer in a late game on Tuesday. The Tigers resume action on Friday when they host Natalia at 8, before closing the regular season next Tuesday with a road contest against George West.

Philip Munoz recorded a double-double Friday against Three Rivers, pacing Brackett with 19 points and 12 rebounds. Dietrich Davis and Boyd Brotherton also finished in double figures with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

"The quickness and depth of Three Rivers really came into

STANDINGS		
District 30-AA Boys		
Team	Dst	Sea
Three Rivers	7-0	17-8
Brackett	5-2	11-8
Natalia	4-3	11-9
Freer	3-4	9-13
Dilley	2-5	9-10
George West	0-7	3-12

play," Tigers coach Charlie Marquardt said. "They forced turnovers with their pressure defense. We have been able to handle presses for the most part this year, but tonight it caused us problems.

"We really didn't want to get in an up-tempo game, but their defensive effort wouldn't allow us to control the tempo," he added.

Jesse Davis finished the contest with seven points for the Tigers, Charlie Slaughter tallied nine boards and five points, and Jared Hobbs scored four points.

Last Tuesday, Brackett trailed by four against Dilley going into the final stanza, but

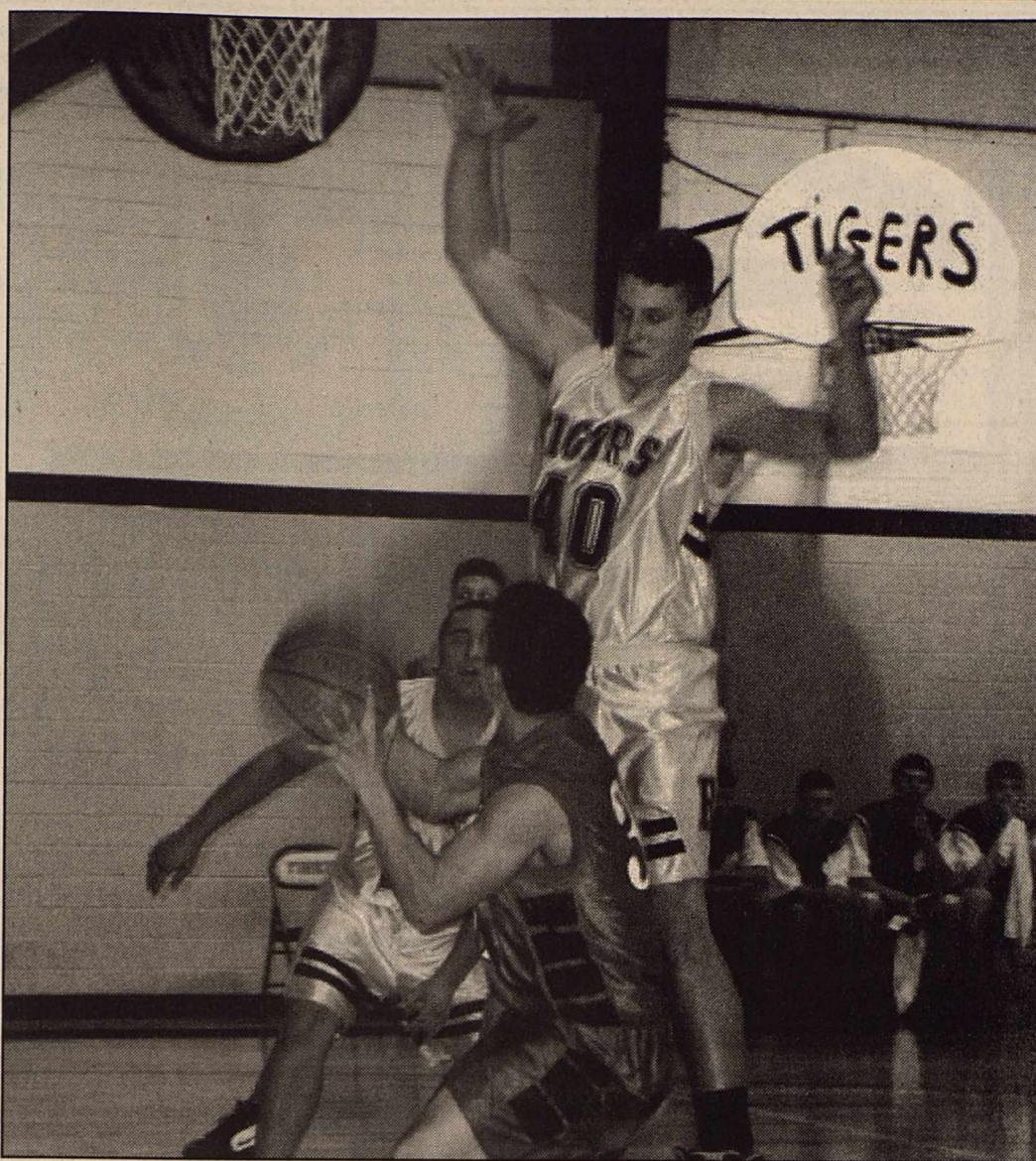
outscored the Wolves 20-6 in the fourth period for a 55-45 win on the road.

Hobbs led the Tigers with a game-high 25 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter. He also pulled down five rebounds.

"We had a battle on our hands from the start," Marquardt said. "We made the first basket of the game and after that it was an uphill battle.

"I was proud of the way the guy's stayed focused and kept their composure. We made a strong run and got up by as much as 14 midway in the fourth. After that, it was a job of taking care of the ball. This win proves that this team has a lot of character. We are taking one game at a time; quarters by quarters."

Munoz finished the contest with 10 points and six rebounds, Slaughter scored seven points, Noe Talamantes pitched in four points, Dietrich Davis had four points and four boards, Jesse Davis pitched in three points and five rebounds, and Brotherton added two points.



Shot blocker

Brackett center Dietrich Davis (40) attempts to block a shot as teammate Philip Munoz closes down the middle against Three Rivers on Friday night.

Photo by J.J. Guidry



Drawing in the defense

Tigerettes forward Courtney Frerich (12) dishes the ball to teammate Stacey Castilla (22) after drawing a triple-team against Three Rivers on Friday night.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Lady Bulldogs top Tigerettes

Three Rivers jumped out to a 20-8 lead after the opening stanza Friday night and then cruised to a 59-30 victory over Brackett.

The Lady Bulldogs (18-8) are leading the District 30-AA standings with an 8-1 record, while George West (14-10) and Natalia (14-12) are tied for second with 6-3 marks. Freer (11-12) is in fourth place with a 4-5 record, the Tigerettes (8-14) are in fifth at 3-6 and Dilley (10-16) is 0-9.

Brackett closed the regular season on Tuesday with a road game against Freer, but the results of the contest were not available at press-time.

Courtney Frerich led the Tigerettes with 11 points against Three Rivers.

Ashley Smith finished the contest with six points, while

STANDINGS		
District 30-AA Girls		
Team	Dst	Sea
Three Rivers	8-1	18-8
George West	6-3	14-10
Natalia	6-3	14-12
Freer	4-5	11-12
Brackett	3-6	8-14
Dilley	0-9	10-16

Ashley Castillo scored four points.

Amanda Davis had three points in the game, and Stacey Castilla, Shanae Simmons and Tammy Smith all added two apiece.

Last Tuesday, the Tigerettes posted a 53-38 win over Dilley on the road.

Brackett led 13-11 after one period, but then blew the game open, outscoring Dilley 20-6 in

the second quarter to go up 33-17 at intermission.

"That was one of the best first halves our team has played this year," Tigerettes coach Ricky Creel said. "We were flying around on defense and running our offense to perfection. I was very proud of our team."

Smith finished the game with a game-high 25 points, including 4 of 6 shooting from the free-throw line. She also had five steals.

Simmons scored six points in the game, while Castillo posted seven rebounds, five points and five steals, and Smith had five points and two boards.

Davis and Tye Taylor each had four points and three steals. Castilla scored two points, Nicole Mata had two rebounds and one point, and Frerich added one point.

Nowlin leads J.V. to one-point win over Three Rivers

Travis Nowlin poured in a game-high 20 points, including a clutch 3-pointer in the fourth quarter, to lead the Brackett Tigers to a 44-43 win over the Three Rivers Bulldogs Friday night in junior varsity basketball action.

The Tigers, who (10-3) improve to 4-0 in district with the victory, trailed 27-26 before outscoring the Bulldogs 18-16 in the final period.

"We faced a very tough Three Rivers team and never gave up,"

Tigers coach Ken Wallace said. "We came from behind in the fourth quarter to win it.

"Travis hit a huge 3-pointer to put us ahead seven points and then we held off Three Rivers' charge at the end.

"Brand Wylie played excellent defense and helped handle the ball against a tough press," he added.

Tony Rosetti also finished in double figures for Brackett with 15 points. Tillman Davis scored four points for the Tigers, Clyde

Adams and Brandon Kluzek each had two points, and Oscar Sierra added one.

The Tigers have two games remaining this season. They host Natalia Friday night at 5, and then travel to George West on Tuesday.

The junior varsity Tigerettes improved to 5-6 overall and 2-3 in district play with wins over Dilley and Natalia last week.

On Friday, Brackett jumped ahead of Dilley 10-2 after the

ROUNDUP

opening period and then cruised to a 20-12 victory.

"I thought our team put a lot of pressure on Dilley in the first quarter which gave us the opportunity to score," Tigerettes coach Tiffiny Blore said.

"Towards the end of the game, we executed our offenses well and got good looks at the basket.

"For our last game against

Freer, we are trying to pull everything together and run great offense and defense the entire game," Blore added.

Brackett faced Freer Tuesday on the road, but results were not available at press-time.

Timmeka Simmons paced the Tigerettes against Dilley with eight points, seven rebounds, three steals and two assists.

Jessi Crane and Brandy Smith both had three points and two steals. Smith also had five rebounds.

Stephanie DeLeon had four boards and two points in the game, while Dana Bonner and Alanna Conoly both pulled down three rebounds and scored two points apiece.

Against Natalia, Brackett was leading 12-9 at halftime before outscoring the Lady Mustangs 8-2 in the third quarter en route to a 27-22 victory.

Simmons had 10 points in the contest, Crane scored eight, Bonner had three, and Conoly, DeLeon and Smith each had two.

Amistad NRA develops new management plan

The National Park Service is asking for public input as it develops a new management plan for the Amistad National Recreation Area.

Public comment will be included in an environmental impact statement for a general management plan (GMP) for Amistad.

The final product will be a comprehensive GMP to provide the frame work for making man-

agement decisions about the preservation of natural and cultural resources, visitor use and interpretation, and development of the appropriate park facilities.

"The primary purpose of the GMP is to provide a long-range vision of where we want Amistad National Recreation Area to be in the future and provide broad goals for achieving that vision," said Alan Cox, superintendent.

"We will be issuing a news-

OUTDOORS

letter during the scoping phase. If you would like to be on our mailing list, contact us at the addresses below," he said.

The National Park Service will conduct public meetings and solicit comments from state, county and city agencies, and organizations, park neighbors, state historical preservation of-

ficers and associated American Indian tribes for Amistad's environmental assessment and GMP.

This process is under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, and notice was published in the Federal Register on Jan. 16.

For further information, call Cox or Mark Morgan at (830) 775-7491, Ext. 201 or 234, respectively.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
 1 Singer's range
 5 Tarry
 10 Belton's concern
 14 One of two twelves
 15 Obliterate
 16 ___ song; cheaply
 17 Names
 18 Privilege of the first to reach a four-way stop
 20 From ___ Z
 21 Traditional gifts for dad
 22 Lets
 23 FDR and JFK, to Harvard
 25 Jolt
 28 Feast
 28 Soothing resin
 31 Hot under the collar
 32 Monroe's follower
 34 Five cees
 36 Weaponry
 37 Wrong
 38 Govt.
DOWN
 1 "___ partridge in a..."
 2 Clumsy one
 3 Downhill glider
 4 Switch positions
 5 Make fun of
 6 American Indians
 7 Fails to keep up
 8 ___ Wednesday
 9 Nevertheless
 10 Bids
 11 Depressed
 12 Phooey!
 13 States
 19 Examinations
 21 Story
 24 Rising star
 25 Bread spreads
 26 Latvian capital
 27 Throw forth lava
 28 1st, 2nd or 3rd
 29 Like evidence allowed in court
 30 Intended
 32 Hemmed in by
 33 Math. procedure
 35 Suffixes for respond and depend
 37 Toward shelter
 38 Protective cover
 40 TV's Green ___
 41 Coal or gas
 43 Certify by oath
 44 Monsters
 46 Ports
 47 Earth
 48 Competent
 49 Purposes
 50 American Beauty
 52 Partial amount
 53 Furniture wood
 55 Undermine
 56 Country est. in 1948
 57 Boatman's item

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
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 61 62 63

Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
 1. 1981; 2. A fax machine; 3. 1; 4. High-definition television; 5. ("Just like) Starting Over"; 6. Three; 7. Somersault; 8. Camels; 9. Gloria Steinem; 10. An iron skillet

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

Today's Category: FIVE-LETTER ANIMALS

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

1. Eland
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 20. _____

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

1. What year did the space shuttle Columbia lift off for the first time?
2. What's a long-distance paper copier usually called?
3. What word appeared an average of 21.21 times per page in Donald Trump's best-selling book?
4. What is HDTV short for to a video buff?
5. What 1980 number one hit begins with Yoko Ono ringing a wishing bell?
6. How many of very five firefighters' meals are interrupted?
7. What did Ashrita Furman do continuously for 10 miles in New York's Central Park to set a world record?
8. What animals did Abu Dhabi give Day-Glo jackets to protect them from drunk drivers?
9. Who described a liberated woman as "one who has sex before marriage and a job after"?
10. What do contestants hold in one hand while negotiating the 415-yard course at Olney, England's all-women's Pancake Race?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Feb. 6.....Hazel Tridle | Feb. 9.....Pat Moffatt |
| Feb. 7.....Tomasa Avila | Feb. 9.....Samantha Payne |
| Feb. 7.....Frances Beene | Feb. 10.....Tony Frerich |
| Feb. 7.....Anita Ertle | Feb. 10.....Mary Rasch |
| Feb. 7.....Freddie Frerich | Feb. 11.....Ethel Griffin |
| Feb. 8.....Juanita Rivas | Feb. 11.....Sarah Meyer |
| Feb. 8.....Bill Stout | Feb. 11.....Michael Montalvo |
| Feb. 8.....Agnes Vondy | Feb. 12.....Versie Burnes |
| Feb. 8.....Robert Wilson | Feb. 12.....Joquin Davis |
| Feb. 9.....Katherine Field | Feb. 12.....Earl Love |
| Feb. 9.....Erika Garcia | Feb. 12.....Regina Pena |
| Feb. 9.....Sandy Herman | Feb. 12.....Ricky Sandoval |

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 A bit of confusion greets you early in the week. However, you can sift through the conflicting messages. Later, a special invitation comes your way.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 As the week begins, you're still whirling from your social activities. Buckle down. There's much work to be done.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 What takes place on the job front is the exact opposite at home. Everything runs smoothly on the domestic scene. At work, exercise patience.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 Someone close to you isn't forthcoming with the answers you demand. Give this person time to sort things through. You'll be rewarded for your patience.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 You and your mate see eye to eye on most things this week. However, a bit of friction still remains over an issue with a child. Later in the week, pay some attention to your finances.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
 You reach an important decision concerning a matter at home. On the job, though, don't force the issue. Things work themselves out in due time.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
 You're able to juggle quite a few things successfully this week. Nothing can distract you from tasks at hand. Over the weekend, execute domestic chores before socializing.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
 If you want something, you need to be clear in those desires. Don't be afraid to state them publicly. The end result will be what you hoped for.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
 Take a long, hard look at that investment portfolio. You and your mate may want to shift things around. This weekend, leave work worries aside and try to relax.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
 You can be a bit of a loner sometimes. This is one week where you indulge that tendency. Later in the week, you're pleased with your progress on the job.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
 Don't let an unexpected event throw you off your stride. You're on the right track. You just have to have the discipline to stick to it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
 You finally get the news you'd been hoping for. However, avoid a tendency to gloat. The weekend is a good time to get together with friends.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Bunny | 11. Moose |
| 2. Burro | 12. Mouse |
| 3. Camel | 13. Otter |
| 4. Chimp | 14. Panda |
| 5. Coati | 15. Sable |
| 6. Eland | 16. Sheep |
| 7. Horse | 17. Skunk |
| 8. Hyena | 18. Tapir |
| 9. Liama | 19. Tiger |
| 10. Lemur | 20. Zebra |

Grid solution for Roaring Twenties puzzle showing circled words.

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RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Clerk to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Applicants must have strong oral and written communication skills. Must be proficient with Microsoft Excel and Word. Processes and routes all incoming and outgoing mail. Type at least 60 words per minute, 10-key and office equipment. Must be able to maintain confidential information. Willing to work overtime, if needed. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with a clear driving record. Applications may be picked up from any RGEC office or requested by calling 830 563-2444. Applications must be mailed to RGEC, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Applications must be postmarked on or before February 11, 2003. RGEC is an EOE.

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REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. **CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S):** District: Laredo. Contract 6094-38-001 for **MOWING HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY** in KINNEY County, etc. will be opened on February 27, 2003 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$90,819.84. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit pre-qualification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 8854. State Office: Construction Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540. District Office(s): Laredo District Truck Engineer, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, Texas 78043. Phone: 956-712-7400. Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

MISCELLANEOUS

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RENTALS - O'ROURKE REALTY - Elsa & Paul O'Rourke. (830) 563-2713

PUBLIC NOTICE

THIS IS TO give notice of intent to introduce in the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, a bill to be entitled "an Act relating to the administration, powers, duties, taxing authority and operation of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District and the development and management of groundwater resources within Kinney County."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS AS A WATER WELL OWNER

The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") was created by the 77th Texas Legislature in 2001 and has been delegated the responsibility of conserving, preserving, protecting, and recharging the groundwater in Kinney County under the authority of Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code and the District's enabling act.

The District is now accepting applications for Historic Use Permits from well owners and operators in Kinney County. If you currently own or operate a well in Kinney County, you may be eligible for a Historic Use Permit from the District. The only way to ensure that the District may protect your rights and your investment in your well against future well owners and operators is to obtain a Historic Permit. You must file an application for a Historic Use Permit with the District by April 1, 2003, or you may forever lose your right to be protected as a historic user. Also, it is a violation of the District's Rules to operate a well after April 1, 2003, without having either a Historic Use Permit application on file with the District or a Regular Permit for non-historic uses issued by the District. Certain small water wells used solely for domestic and livestock watering purposes may be exempt from these requirements, but such well owners and operators should contact the District and review the District's Rules to ensure that they qualify for such an exemption before April 1, 2003, in order to not risk missing the deadline.

Historic users may be protected to a greater degree than non-historic users with regard to possible requirements to cut back on the amount of groundwater produced in the future. This may be your only chance to protect your interest in your future ability to withdraw groundwater in Kinney County. It is critical to file an application with the District by the April 1, 2003, deadline. For more information on how you can protect your rights as a well owner or operator or to obtain a copy of the District's Rules or a Historic Use Permit application form, contact:

General Manager
Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District
Courthouse Annex, 522 E. Ellen
P.O. Box 369
Brackettville, Texas 78832
Phone: (830) 563-2462
Fax: (830) 563-9240

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Brackettville, TX 78832
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- 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. Reduced \$5,000.
- Brackettville - Old Stagecoach House corner of El Paso & Fort 1 bdr/1 bth. FOR SALE OR LEASE.
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- * 2150 acres Home, barns, good deer and exotics.

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1 - 3 ACRE SITES on East Tennessee Lake. Starting at \$29,900. Private, covered boat docks included. Call Lake Developer Partnership, 1-877-505-1871, Ext. 1239.

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

ALTO DELAY ODDS
NOON ERASE FORA
DUBS RIGHTOFWAY
ATO TIES RENTS
GRADS JAR
REGALE BALSAM
IRATE ADAMS DEE
GUNS AMISS TMAN
APE ALIVE FAINT
TRACED BURSTS
TRE WEEPS
SAUTE RIAL IST
OBSESSIONS OBOE
ILES ASSET ALMA
LEST PRESS REEK

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
CALL 563-2852 TODAY!

UVALDE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

FEBRUARY 2003 · OUTPATIENT CLINIC CALENDAR

You are encouraged to select a physician from the Active Medical Staff of our Hospital. If you are unable to get an appointment, call the UMH Uvalde Health Care Clinic, (830) 278-1692, or the UMH Sabinol Health Care Clinic, (830) 988-2985, for hours of operation.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sammy Vick, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	John Brownlee, M.D. Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-242-0008	Elizabeth Parten, M.D. General Psychiatrist 1-830-816-2251	Carlos Morales, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 George Swanson, M.D. Otolaryngologist / ENT 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	David Dean, M.D. Neurosurgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430
Kurt Meissner, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430		Fernando Triana, M.D. Cardiologist 1-210-614-5400	Randall Bell, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	
Sammy Vick, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	Jerry Kruse, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 John Brownlee, M.D. Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-242-0008	Stephen Miller, M.D. Dermatologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Elizabeth Parten, M.D. General Psychiatrist 1-830-816-2251	Carlos Morales, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	David Dean, M.D. Neurosurgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430
Kurt Meissner, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	Theresa A. Hospers, M.D. Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-697-7008		Randall Bell, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	

Active Medical Staff

Please Call for Office Hours

- Bezerra, Herminio, M.D.
Internal Medicine..... 278-7105
- Bitar, Jamil, M.D.
Internal Medicine & Cardiology..... 591-1294
- Box, Gloria G., M.D.
Orthopedic Surgery..... 278-2292
- Carpinteyro, Ralph, M.D.
Internal Medicine..... 278-6681
- Handers, Barry, M.D.
Radiology..... 278-6251
- Gatonde, G. V., M.D.
Surgery..... 278-4568
- Garza, R. Steve, M.D.
Family Practice/OB..... 278-4453
- Luton, Richard B., M.D.
Family Practice/OB..... 278-4453
- Preddy, John, D.O.
Family Practice/OB..... 278-7101
- Shudde, John L., M.D.
Family Practice..... 278-3118
- Sosa, Isaac, M.D.
Internal Medicine..... 278-6265
- Uptergrove, Kevin L., M.D.
Family Practice/OB..... 278-4453
- Utterback, Carl, M.D.
Family Practice/OB..... 278-4588
- Watkins, Harry O., M.D.
Surgery..... 278-3213
- Zarzar, Francisco J., M.D.
Pediatrics..... 278-7105

Other Specialists

- Gregory Baber, D.M.D.
Dental Surgeon..... (830) 278-7105
- Jesse Castellanos, M.D.
Disability Assessments, Inc. (830) 278-6469
- Hanger Prosthetics (every Monday)
..... (210) 227-2471
- Victor Igunbola, D.D.S.
Pediatric Dental Surgeon..... (830) 278-3122
- Sanjiv Kumar, M.D.
Ophthalmologist..... (830) 278-2020
- Rodolfo Molina, M.D. (2/20)
Rheumatologist..... (210) 690-8067
- Matthew Mossbacher, M.D. (2/6)
Rheumatologist..... (210) 690-8067
- Gabriel Rodriguez, D.P.M.
Podiatrist..... (830) 278-1840
- Manuel A. Santiago, M.D. (every Wednesday)
Hematology/Oncology..... (210) 595-5300
- Arlo Terry, M.D. (every Tuesday)
Ophthalmologist..... (830) 278-9465



Outpatient Specialty Clinic Open Mon - Fri 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Corner Puccini Lane & Kessler Drive (830) 278-6251, ext. 1430	Emergency Dept. Open 24-hours, 7 days a week w/ physician on duty at all times (830) 278-6251	Rehabilitation Occupational, Physical & Speech Therapy (830) 278-6251, ext. 1310	Home Health & Hospice Home nursing care and in-home occupational, physical and speech therapy. (830) 278-6691
UMH Health Care Clinics Uvalde Sabinol (830) 278-1692 (830) 988-2985	Hyperbaric Center Wound Care therapy Open Mon - Fri 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (830) 278-6251, ext. 1377	UMH Crossroads Program for Senior Adults 100 Royal Lane • (830) 278-8144	

