

The Brackett News



Board names finalist for superintendent
See story, Page 3

15 year, No. 8

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Fort Clark: A changing of the guard

Newly-elected board eliminates G.M.'s job

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

Fort Clark Springs elected three new board members on Saturday, and then lost three directors two days later at a special meeting.

Nolan Brandt, John Dixon and Ray Reyna won their respective election bids. Directors Frank Cheaney, Carol Miller and Glen White subsequently resigned on Monday morning.

Tom Saylor, the only veteran director left on the board, received a vote of confidence from the association. Members voted 1,007 to 458 against recalling him from the board in the annual election.

Saylor defeated White 4-3 in a vote of the new board to serve as president of the association. Reyna was elected vice president, Brandt was chosen as the secretary and Dixon was named the new treasurer.

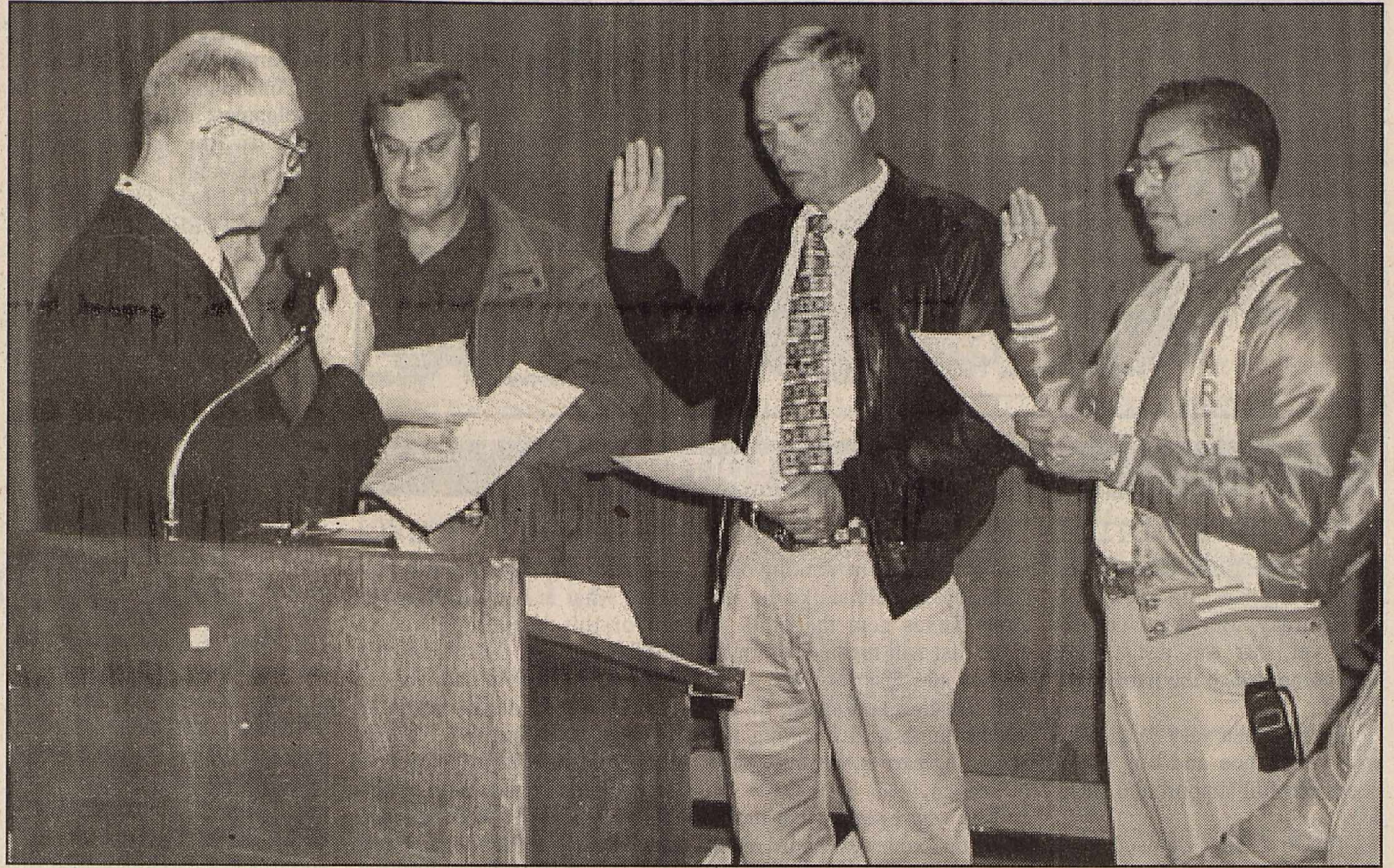
Brandt was the top vote-get-

VOTING	
Voting results for the Fort Clark Board of Directors:	
Candidate	Votes
Nolan Brandt	939
Ray Reyna	859
John Dixon	818
Mary Gray-Partlow	594
Tom McNew	524
Ruth King	516
Wylie Simmons	400

ter in the election with 939 votes, while Reyna received 859 votes and Dixon had 818. Mary Gray-Partlow received 594 votes, Tom McNew had 524, Ruth King garnered 516 and Wylie Simmons received 400.

In its first action as a new board, the directors voted 4-3 to eliminate the positions of general manager, public relations manager and lounge manager in order to reduce operating expenses.

Brandt, Dixon and Reyna
■ See SAYLOR/Page 4



The oath of office

Fort Clark Springs Directors Ray Reyna (from right), Nolan Brandt and John Dixon are sworn in by former board member Frank Cheaney after their election victories on Saturday.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Officials no longer seeking grant to reintroduce minnow into creek

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

Fort Clark Springs Association is no longer pursuing a grant with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reestablish the Devils River minnow population in Las Moras Creek.

The association filed a proposal for the Private Stewardship Grants Program on Jan. 15.

Newly-elected board members Nolan Brandt, John Dixon and Ray Reyna voted Monday to no longer pursue the grant.

In addition, the directors created four new temporary committees during the special meeting.

"Right now, we have more questions than answers," said Tom Saylor, the new president of the board. "We are going to go looking for those answers."

Saylor said the new board's first priority is to return the fort to a sound financial basis.

"Right now, we do not know the true financial status of the association," he said. "We are three months behind. The last financial statement the Board of Directors received was for December 2002, and we do not know the accuracy of that statement."

"This is not a criticism of the Accounting Department. They have been working in a hostile

environment for several months now. No one should have to work with knots in their stomachs because of threats and false accusations."

The board voted to appoint Art Baker, Sherry Holloway, Sigi Mills and Dena Scott to serve on a temporary audit committee, which will conduct a full audit of the financial records from the last 30 months.

Former Director Mona Miller was appointed to chair a temporary budget committee.

"We have been operating without a budget this year because there was no budget approved," Saylor said.

"At the time the budget was

being prepared, the general manager (Maggie Banner Kerr) sued two members of the board and five other members of the association, which precipitated a lockout by the district judge (Tom Lee), and the budget was never finished and adopted," he added.

Genell Hobbs is chairing a temporary personnel committee, which will perform full background checks on all employees and board members.

The association's four officers — Brandt, Dixon, Reyna and Saylor — make up the executive committee, which will supervise the daily operation of the association on a temporary basis.

The directors agreed to study the feasibility of placing the bar, restaurant, motel and R.V. Park under the Las Moras Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary corporation of the association.

The board voted to enter discussions with the Golf Committee, the Men's Golf Association, the Women's Golf Association and the Couples Golf to form a Las Moras Golf and Country Club, "whereby the golfing community of the association would own and operate the golf course at no expense to the association."

The association is also negotiating with the Fort Clark Municipal Utility District for the

assumption of street and road maintenance, and garbage and refuse collection and disposal.

The board voted to terminate a contract with Gregg Link, a computer programmer, scrap the present accounting software package and to "get an off-the-shelf accounting software system, along with a data management software package that will provide the information we want when we want it."

In addition, the directors adopted Roberts Rules of Order for the conduct of all meetings.

"This replaces Sturgis Rules, which are a bit unwieldy and are non-standard in the business world," Saylor said.

Juarez pulls out of school board race

ELECTIONS

Following are the candidates, in the order they will appear on the ballot, in the May 3 elections:

City Council

- **Place 1:** Martha Ward McDonald, Bonnie Wardlaw, Patricia Barragan.
- **Place 3:** Camilo Cruz Jr., Tomas Gomez Jr., June Kaminski.

School Board

- **At-large:** Martha Gerardo, Sondra Meil, Mark Frerich, Susanna Castillo.

Early voting begins April 16 in BISD, city elections

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

Lionel Juarez has pulled out of the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees election.

The local post master made the decision last Wednesday because of "personal reasons."

"I feel the remaining candidates are competent and wish every one of them success," Juarez said this week. "I appreciate all of my supporters and recommend to them and every

voter to utilize their right to vote — every vote does count — and to vote their conscious and heart."

Board members Rose Mary Slubar and Tim Ward are not seeking re-election in the upcoming May 3 election.

Four candidates are vying for two three-year positions on the school board — Susanna Castillo, Mark Frerich, Martha Gerardo and Sondra Meil.

There are also two seats up for grabs in the Brackettville

City Council election, also on May 3.

Patricia Barragan and Bonnie Wardlaw will be challenging incumbent City Council member Martha Ward McDonald for Place 1 on the council.

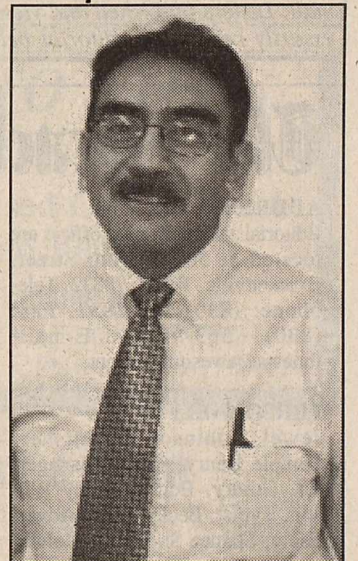
Tomas Gomez is the Place 3 incumbent alderman. He will face Camilo Cruz Jr. and June Kaminski in the election.

Each City Council seat has a two-year term.

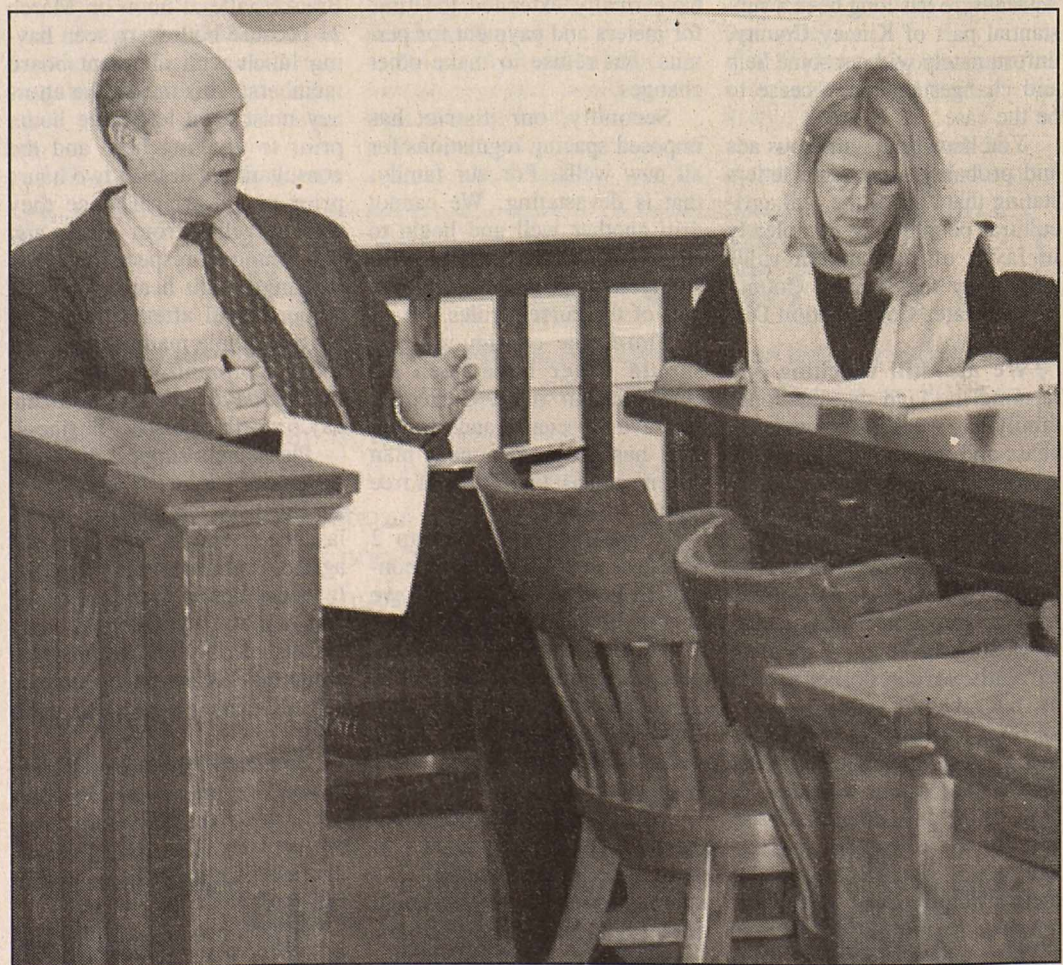
Early voting by personal appearance for the city election

will be held at City Hall April 16-29 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for Good Friday on April 18. Applications to vote early by mail are now being accepted. Ballots must be received by April 29.

Early voting by personal appearance for the school board election will be held at the BISD Central Office April 16-29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Applications to vote early by mail will be accepted by the close of business on April 25.



Lionel Juarez



Reporting on well applications

Steven Walthour (left), acting general manager of the Kinney County Groundwater District, gives a report to the Board of Directors Tuesday as board member Darlene Shahan listens.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Local well owners face application deadline

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

The application deadline has come and gone to register existing wells in Kinney County.

Steve Walthour, acting general manager for the groundwater conservation district, said 40 historic use, six domestic use and three regular applications had been received by the Tuesday deadline.

"The applications had to be post-marked by today," said Walthour. "I expect to have quite a few actually trickle in the rest of this week through the mail."

Walthour is a permitting enforcement manager with the Edwards Aquifer Authority who was hired in January as a consultant with the local district.

"For the most part, people are giving it their best effort to get the applications filed," he said. "Once we get everything in, we'll start plotting all the existing exempt wells on some maps and figure out where all of those are."

"The historic use permits, which is really the hard-fast

deadline they need to make by today, we're going to start sitting down with each of those applicants who filed those within a few weeks and just start going through the list."

Well owners filing historic use permits had to pay a \$50 fee with their applications. The remainder of the application fee and the groundwater use fee is due Oct 1.

"The applicants asked for an extended deadline for the fees," Walthour said. "The district looked at it and decided that the \$50 would at least help cover some of the administration cost of starting the paper work."

"There are some people that are probably going to modify their applications once they get a little bit more information. Some of them really don't know what their fee is going to be, so why collect now when that number could go up or down later?"

The district's directors voted Tuesday during their regular meeting to extend the deadline to meter wells to July 1.

The board also received its first-ever financial report at the monthly meeting.

INSIDE

■ **Chuck Hall**
I knew I was in for a treat from the moment he walked up to me. The Post Office is a usual place to see people you haven't seen for a while.
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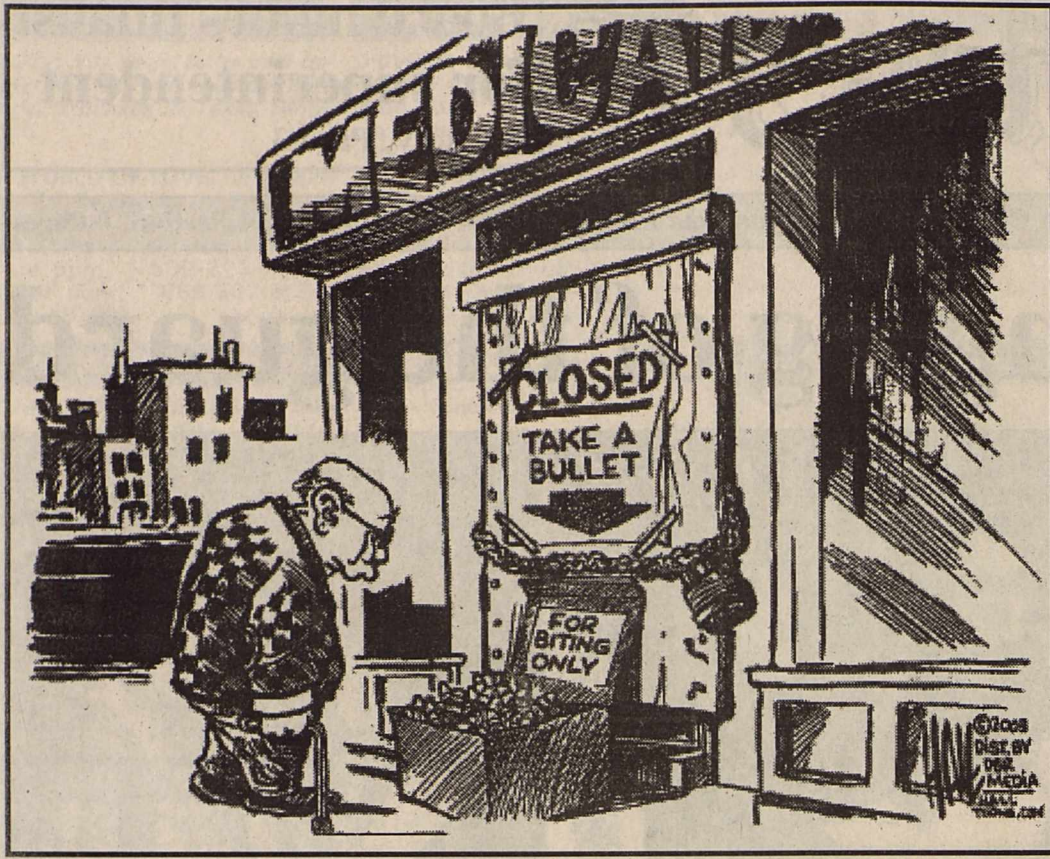
■ **BHS takes third**
Brackett High School is sending 17 students to the regional UIL academic meet after placing third in the District 30-AA meet.
Community/Page 3

■ **Frerich wins gold**
Courtney Frerich won the gold medal in the 300 hurdles Saturday, helping the Brackett Tigerettes to third place at the Carrizo Springs track meet.
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fort Clark Springs has a long, hard road ahead to travel

Well the Lord God rained down many blessing upon FCS on Saturday. But don't get excited yet, that was just a baby step compared to the hard work ahead.

There is one very long, hard row yet to hoe and our board needs our full support and backing.

The first thing we need to do is to put all that happened behind us. The past is just that, the past.

What's needed now is for all of us to roll up our sleeves and work together as a finely-tuned machine, pitching in with spit, polish and elbow grease to as-

support our board in making Fort Clark Springs shine like the precious Texas gem that it is. A place that will make our family, friends and visitors want to return to again and again, or just maybe think about staying and becoming part of this little piece of heaven.

The way I see it, that means going up to our new board members and showing them that you are ready to help out in any way, shape or form that you are capable of doing.

I myself have made a pledge to each of them to do just that. I am not totally sure in what way I can be of service, but I am just

that — ready, willing and able to do what is needed of me to do for this beautiful piece of heaven that our Lord has only given us in trust to care for.

So come on team, let us all band together and get to work. Lets give Fort Clark Springs that much-needed lift it needs. Lets tell everyone who will listen just how wonderful the living is here on Fort Clark Springs.

In closing, I wish to thank the membership for voting and the large group of members attending the meeting. May the Lord bless and keep each and everyone of us in His loving hands.

Richard A. Card Sr.

Support new board

Spring is the time of rejuvenation and new life.

So lets unite and support our new board and make this the spring of Fort Clark.

Gerry Smith

Fort must get to work to clean up mess

Congratulations to newly elected Fort Clark Springs Directors Ray Reyna, John Dixon and Nolan Brandt. Also, congratulations to the fort's new board president, Tom Saylor.

These last 22 months have been strange and trying times for

employees and members. But we weathered the storm just like any 150-year-old fort would have done, and the fort prevailed.

Now we must put it all behind us and get to work because there's a mess to clean up.

Dave Reinhold

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.



"But I Could Be Wrong"

Chuck Hall

Is it too late?

I knew I was in for a treat from the moment he walked up to me. The Post Office is a usual place to see people you haven't seen for a while. I hadn't looked for this guy.

"I have a compliment for you," he said.

Compliment or complement? Was he going to say something nice? About me? Or was he going to give me enough to make 90 degrees?

I doubted that he knew that much about geometry. But I also questioned him saying anything nice about me.

"I've never liked you." Nice so far. This man was a real flatterer.

"Neither have I ever cared to read your column."

I never thought he could read.

"But you write some pretty good stuff."

Pretty good?

My turn to respond: "Thanks. I appreciate it."

I wanted to tell him that I agreed with him completely. Check me off as positive on all three statements. I never liked him either. I don't care if he read my columns. And I think I write some pretty good stuff.

I guess now I don't have to tell him. Only problem is he's been gone since the first year I started writing. Suppose I should have told him at the time. But I could be wrong.



Big Mama Sez!

Use the gift of touch today. We all need that human contact.

EDITORIAL

Proposed bill could affect water district

Following is Senate Bill No. 1886, introduced by Sen. Frank Madla.

The Brackett News has not formed an opinion on the bill, but is printing the bill in its entirety as a service to the community:

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 in Kinney County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 2, Chapter 1344, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is amended by adding Subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(3) "Historic use" means the withdrawal and beneficial use of groundwater for any purpose on or before September 1, 2001.

SECTION 2. Chapter 1344, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is amended by adding Sections 5A, 5B, and 5C to read as follows:

Sec. 5A. HISTORIC USE PERMITS. (a) In adopting rules limiting groundwater production, the district shall preserve historic use to the maximum extent practicable.

(b) The owner of a well that has been put to historic use may apply for a historic use permit from the district on or before October 1, 2003. The application must be accompanied by:

(1) an application fee in an amount set by the district; and
(2) a declaration of historic use.

(c) The district shall issue a historic use permit to a well owner for the annual production of groundwater in an amount equal to the maximum amount of groundwater produced from the well for beneficial use without waste during any one calendar year of historic use if the well owner:

(1) complies with Subsection (b) of this section; and
(2) establishes historic use by a preponderance of the evidence.

(d) If the period of historic use of a well is less than one calendar year, the district shall issue a historic use permit to the well owner for the annual production of groundwater in an amount equal to the amount of groundwater that would normally be used beneficially for a calendar year without waste for each purpose for which the groundwater had actually been used during the period of his-

toric use.

(e) If the district issues a historic use permit, the district shall issue the permit without a term, and the permit remains in effect until the permit is abandoned, canceled, or retired.

(f) On written notice to the district identifying each party or permit involved and without being required to obtain a permit amendment, the holder of a historic use permit may for any purpose:

(1) lease groundwater rights recognized in the historic use permit;

(2) transfer, assign, or convey the historic use permit; or

(3) aggregate groundwater rights recognized in the historic use permit with groundwater rights recognized in other permits issued by the district, provided that each aggregated right involves the production of groundwater from the same aquifer formation and any separate and distinct hydrogeologic unit of the aquifer formation.

Sec. 5B. NEW PERMITS. (a) The district may consider a new permit application after the district has:

(1) acted on all applications for historic use permits filed under Section 5A of this Act; and

(2) implemented a management plan certified under Section 36.1072, Water Code.

(b) The district shall base a decision on a new permit application, including a decision regarding the imposition of spacing or production limitations, on specific hydrogeologic conditions occurring in any separate and distinct hydrogeologic units within aquifer formations in the district. The district may not base a decision on a new permit application on the contiguity of the applicant's surface acreage.

(c) As part of its procedures for acting on new permit applications, the district shall develop a procedure for allowing an applicant to initiate district action to create a management zone for an area having hydrogeologic conditions that warrant special management considerations or a particularized management scheme.

Sec. 5C. METERING AND MEASURING WELL PRODUCTION. (a) A well that produces 25,000 gallons or less of groundwater a day for domestic or livestock use is exempt from district rules concerning metering a well or measuring well production.

(b) The district shall pay the costs of purchasing, installing, and maintaining any meter or measuring device that the district requires for a well.

SECTION 3. Section 6, Chapter 1344, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is amended by adding Subsections (j) and (k) to read as follows:

(j) Section 36.056(c), Water Code, does not apply to the district.

(k) A person may not serve as a director or manager of the district or as an engineer, attorney, or other person providing professional services to the district if the person:

(1) is related within the third degree of affinity or consanguinity to a person who serves or has served as a director or manager of the district or as an engineer, attorney, or other person providing professional services to the district; or

(2) is a party to a contract with a person described by Subdivision (1) of this subsection.

SECTION 4. Section 11, Chapter 1344, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(b) The district may impose a fee on groundwater [water] exported out of the district. Revenue generated from fees under this subsection must be used solely for purposes of economic development and primary and secondary education in the district. To ensure the fulfillment of those purposes, the district shall transfer the revenue immediately after collection to the West Nueces-Las Moras Soil & Water Conservation District #236, which shall manage and dispense the revenue for the purposes stated.

(d) Notwithstanding Subsection (c) of this section, the district may not assess a production fee for a well unless the district:

(1) has issued a permit for the well; and

(2) imposes property taxes to pay the maintenance and operating expenses of the district at the maximum rate permitted by Subsection (a) of this section, unless the fee is set at a nominal amount.

SECTION 5. (a) Any rules of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District that are inconsistent with this Act are superseded by this Act.

(b) This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

Groundwater district's rules impose financial damage to many in agricultural community

By JOHN AND MELANIE JONES
Special to The Brackett News

COMMENTARY

Dear citizens of Kinney County, Brackettville and Ft. Clark Springs:

We desperately need your help. Please support the ranchers and farmers of this county. Agriculture has long been a substantial part of Kinney County, unfortunately without some help and changes that may cease to be the case.

You have read numerous ads and probably seen some letters stating that "all of the real agricultural people" are completely in favor of the current rules passed by the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District.

We are still ranching and farming the land that the Jones family has worked for over 100 years and we do not agree with many of the rules. In fact those rules are imposing serious financial damage to many in the agricultural community. We are in favor of a water district that will manage and protect our county. However, the rules as they are currently written do not protect us, but take our rights away.

First, our district is not honoring historic usage as many districts across our state do. We have to fill out numerous forms and try to "prove up" our usage when we have no water meters or well logs. They were not necessary in the 1950s and 1970s when our artesian wells were drilled. In addition, our district is requiring us to purchase and install meters at over \$1,500 per well installed. We also have a hefty permit fee due

and have to do this all again in January.

The Edwards Aquifer Authority bears the cost burden for their historic users. We have appealed to the board members numerous times to make this change. They have finally extended the time for meters and payment for permits, but refuse to make other changes.

Secondly, our district has imposed spacing regulations for all new wells. For our family, that is devastating. We cannot drill another well and begin to irrigate one of our fields due the stringent regulations that are part of the current rules.

Third, the contiguous rule should never have been included in our rules. Currently, we have no science and our district has no management plan despite at least two offers of free help.

A landowner can pump 2 acre-feet for each acre of contiguous land owned. Instead, we should have hydrological data that determines how much water can be pumped. The rule, as it stands, benefits those with many thousands of acres, even if they don't have water under all of their land.

We are very concerned about the finances of our district as well, especially when district's counsel points out we need high fees to pay his costs alone. Maybe this is why they continually want to charge the landowners high fees, yet have just obtained a loan to operate. How much money that we don't have is being spent?

Their general counsel has been hired at \$190 per hour, and according to Brain Sledge's comments when hired by the board, "The clock starts when I leave Austin." The district's consultant has been hired at around \$100 per hour.

They were both in Brackettville at noon on March 21 because both were seen having lunch with different board members. This means the attorney must have left three hours prior to arriving here and the consultant left at least two hours prior to his arrival since they were traveling from Austin and San Antonio, respectively. The meeting/permit hearing did not adjourn until after 10:30 p.m. By our simple math, the district spent approximately \$4,540 of our taxpayer dollars for this day's worth of district business.

Please help support the landowners of Kinney County. Senate Bill 1886 was filed in Austin last week and it will help our agricultural community greatly. It would honor historical usage and demand hydrological data before permits are granted for pumping. Please check out the bill and make an informed decision.

You can view the bill online if you are interested. In addition, www.texasgroundwater.org provides data for numerous districts that have been grandfathered.

We feel privileged to live and ranch in Kinney County and would like to do so for many more years. Please feel free to ask us if you have questions or concerns. Your time and help are greatly appreciated.

The Brackett News

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New Subscription Renewal Change of Address

Templeton named finalist for superintendent's job

The school board named its finalist for the superintendent's position at BISD.

Robert Templeton from Corpus Christi was selected by the school board.

Mr. Templeton spent lots of time at Fort Clark Springs in his younger days. His grandfather is from Dell City, and once served on the Rio Grande Electric board. Bobby is married and has a 1-year-old son.

His name has been posted for 21 days as required by Texas statute as the finalist for this position. The Board will take action at the end of that period and will officially name him as the next superintendent of BISD.

Town Meeting

A town meeting hosted by the superintendent's advisory committee is scheduled for Monday,

at 6:30 p.m. in the District Courtroom, upstairs at the Kinney County Courthouse.

Parents and citizens of Brackettville who have suggestions or thoughts on how to serve the needs of Brackett ISD's children are encouraged to attend.

Don Smith chairs a committee of nine local citizens that have been appointed to hear your concerns. For more information, contact Don at 563.2285.

Voices' Concert

The Voices of Fort Clark Springs presented one of its best concerts ever Sunday night with selections entitled "Singing Around the World."

Lynn McNew ably directed and Cathy Conrey was impeccable as the piano accompanist.



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

Music from 11 nations was included on the program. The program began with "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and closed with "We Are Americans — We Love the USA."

UIL Competition

The University Interscholastic League teams from Brackett ISD performed well this past week.

Brackett High scored third place after leading the point totals most of the day. BISD had 20 students qualify

for the regional competition in San Marcos on April 11-12. Cindy Brandt coordinates the UIL efforts of the district.

Mary Petrosky reports that the junior high students performed well this past Friday.

Academic competition is a major part of our school at BISD. We're proud of students and sponsors.

One-Act Play

Lynn McNew reported that the one-act play placed third and was very close to advancing to regional competition.

Emily Petrosky was honored with an All-Star Cast selection, and Tammy Smith was honorable mention All-Star Cast.

The play was outstanding. We're proud of Mrs. McNew and the fine cast. Have a great week!



30th anniversary

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Ruben Buentello (left) is congratulated by Jewel Robinson, publisher of The Brackett News, Monday as he celebrated 30 years of employment with the Brackett Independent School District.

BHS sends 17 to regional UIL competition

Brackett High School is sending 17 students to the regional UIL academic meet after placing third in the District 30-AA meet held in Natalia over the past two weeks.

Three Rivers took the district championship with 360.5 points, while Freer was second with 353 points and BHS was third with 334 points.

"Our total overall points have increased for the last two years," Brackett UIL sponsor Cindy Brandt said. "We led for most of the day until late in the afternoon."

"I am proud of the students and the extra effort they put into

each of these events in order to compete," she added.

The regional competition will be held in San Marcos on April 11-12. The students will participate in 11 different events.

The current events team took first place in district. Individually, Beth Ballew won first place, Amanda Davis was second, Megan McWilliams was third and Dietrich Davis was seventh.

Tammy Smith took top honors in ready writing with a first-place finish.

In the journalism events, Juliann Ashabranner was first in feature writing, fifth in editorial

writing and sixth in news writing. Shanae Simmons was second in editorial writing and sixth in both feature writing and headline writing. Pedro Pacheco finished third in headline writing, while Courtney Frerich was fourth in news writing.

Pacheco was also third in informative speaking, while Simmons took fourth in poetry. Tony Rosetti and Eliot Stone finished first and second, respectively, in persuasive speaking.

Emily Petrosky won the prose competition, while Star Smith was third in literary criticism.

The spelling team of Amanda Davis, Philip Munoz and Kody

Yeager brought home first-place honors. Individually, Davis was first and Munoz was fifth.

The accounting team also finished first. Individually, Sarah Meyer finished second, Elizabeth Threadgill was third, Smith came in fourth and Ashley Thourout was sixth.

In computer applications, Meyer and Ashley Smith finished sixth and seventh, respectively.

The social studies team won top honors. Individually, Ballew placed second, Dietrich Davis finished third, Amanda Davis was fourth and McWilliams took fifth.

Texas celebrates National Agriculture Week

AUSTIN — Texas recently celebrated National Agriculture Week.

"Agriculture starts with the growing and harvesting of food and fiber and ends with almost everything we eat, wear and use," Agriculture Commissioner

Susan Combs said.

"This week we honor the hard work and dedication of Texas farmers, ranchers and many other agriculture professionals in our state's food and fiber industry."

"These are the people who

ensure that we have an abundant, reliable and affordable supply of food, natural fiber, horticultural, forestry and other agricultural products," she said.

Combs kicked off National Agriculture Week by signing a proclamation that recognizes

more than two centuries of Texas agriculture and the families that are part of that history.

Texas is the second-largest agricultural state in the US, accounting for about 7 percent of the total U.S. agricultural income.

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, March 24
7:29 a.m., A man driving a red Ford Explorer called to report that he was involved in an accident a few miles west of Uvalde. He said there were no injuries. The Uvalde Police Department was notified.

11:28 p.m., A 911 caller reported a possible accident on Highway 674.

Tuesday, March 25
3:08 p.m., A Spofford woman said a white dog almost bit her.

7:00 p.m., Jared Andrew Wimberly, 21, and Robert Woodrow Webb, 57, both of Uvalde, were arrested by DPS Trooper Tully Welch. Wimberly was charged with driving while intoxicated. He was released two days later on a \$1,500 bail bond. Webb was charged with public intoxication and being an unsecured passenger. He was released two days later for time served.

8:12 p.m., An EMS employee said a woman brought her daughter to the EMS station because a brown dog had bitten her.

9:00 p.m., The Edwards

County Sheriff's Office reported loose cows on Highways 2523 and 3008.

Wednesday, March 26
8:34 p.m., A 911 call was received from a residence on N. Beaumont Street, but the caller hung up. The dispatcher called back. A man said his wife needed assistance, and that he was taking her to the hospital.

Thursday, March 27
5:41 a.m., A man reported a train blocking Highway 131. Union Pacific Railroad was notified of the situation.

1:45 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs employee reported an unsecured door at a residence in Unit 15.

5:56 p.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent reported a black Voltswagon driving reckless, speeding over 100 mph and running other vehicles off the road on Highway 90, west of Brackettville.

6 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs woman reported family problems with her brother-in-law.

7:55 p.m., A woman reported a man's wheelchair had run out

of electricity on Ann Street.

Friday, March 28
3:30 p.m., Samuel L. Samora, 37, of Uvalde was arrested by DPS Trooper Welch for warrants out of Uvalde County. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail, where he was still being held at press-time.

5:21 p.m., A woman reported two illegal aliens on Highway 131, north of Spofford.

Saturday, March 29
7:06 a.m., The Val Verde Sheriff's Office reported large pieces of a tire on Highway 277, south of Sycamore Creek.

4:05 p.m., A woman said a goat's head was stuck in a fence.

4:24 p.m., A 911 caller requested assistance at the Fort Clark Springs administration office.

5:05 p.m., A 911 caller said two older children were throwing rocks at a smaller child near Pear Alley.

8:36 p.m., A woman reported a strange car parked at the Saddle Shop.

Sunday, March 30
3:08 a.m., A San Antonio

woman reported her vehicle had been taken by her boyfriend and that he was headed west on Highway 90 towards Del Rio.

3:45 p.m., Gustavo Meza, 31, of Houston was arrested for warrants out of Liberty County. He was released the same day on a \$1,000 cash bond.

3:45 p.m., Tom Greer Epperson, 56, of Rocksprings was arrested by DPS Troopers Ashley and Hernandez for driving while intoxicated. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail, where he was still being held at press-time.

1 p.m., A woman requested assistance in retrieving personal property from a residence in Brackettville.

4:15 p.m., A woman reported that some of her missing property was at a neighbor's house, in Unit 27 on Fort Clark Springs.

8:20 p.m., An individual reported a black and silver bike stolen from First Baptist Church.

9:41 p.m., A man reported a key stuck in the bank deposit drop box.

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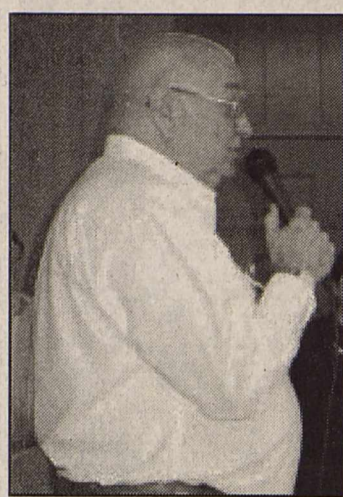
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Saylor only veteran left on board



Tom Saylor

Continued from Page 1
were in favor of the action and Cheaney, Miller and White were opposed, forcing Saylor to break the tie.

The directors suspended Maggie Banner Kerr, general manager, and Jene' McDonald, public relations manager and lounge manager, until the board could reclassify their duties.

Miller said the board could not eliminate the position of general manager because the association's by-laws mandate: "The executive power over day to day operations will be the responsibility of a paid general manager hired by the Board of

Directors and serving subject to the will of the board."

"You could fire Maggie Kerr, but you cannot dismiss her by eliminating her position," she said. "That vote breaks your oath of office and brands you as dishonorable men, not to be trusted."

"I cannot work with dishonorable, untrustworthy men," she added.

Kerr criticized the board for discussing personnel issues in open session, but Saylor said the board was simply eliminating jobs.

"The EEOC will stand behind this woman (McDonald) and kick our (Fort Clark Springs)

ass," Kerr said.

On Monday, the board voted to create an Executive Committee, made up of the association's four officers — Brandt, Dixon, Reyna and Saylor — which will supervise the daily operation of the association on a temporary basis.

"The department heads will manage their departments and report to the Executive Committee and be responsible to the Board of Directors," Saylor said. "They will be expected to manage the assets, physical, financial and personnel, under their control, both frugally and wisely."

The new board met with the association's employees on Monday, but Kerr and McDonald did not attend the meeting.

"Contrary to what you may have been told, we are not on a witch hunt," Saylor told the employees. "There will not be a blood bath. We are not closing the bar, the restaurant or the motel. There will be no wholesale layoffs or firings."

"We are working to keep this place afloat so you will have jobs to come to. Hang in there with us. It is our desire to return the control of the fort to the people who really own it, and to make it a desirable place to

live and work," he added.

Cheaney, Miller and White submitted their letters of resignation from the board at the beginning of the special meeting Monday morning.

"The election of the radical faction that now controls the Board of Directors has, in my opinion, placed the association in grave peril," White said. "I do not wish to be associated in any way with their actions."

Cheaney, who did not attend the special meeting, said he was resigning for "personal reasons."

Saylor said the board appoint three new directors at its next regular meeting.

Thank You

To: The Fort Clark Springs Association Members
Thank You for your support during the recent Board of Directors Election. "A Journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step" and we have begun the march!!! Let us continue to move forward in defining our community of excellence. Once again, thank you for your support.
John Dixon

Thank You

Thanks to the many members who have donated their time, money and prayers for the past nine months to preserve the integrity of Fort Clark Springs as a member owned organization. Democracy has won again in America. Let us go forward, heal our wounds and work together in an open society to help our "little taste of Heaven" to prosper.
Preservation Society

Vote for Progress Not Politics

Elect Patricia "Pat" Barragan
City Councilman Alderwoman Place 1

Citizens of the City of Brackettville I ask for your vote in the upcoming election for City Council Alderwoman Place 1, I urge every voting citizen of this city to vote on Saturday, May 3rd to make a difference in our city. We the citizens of Brackettville have many questions that have not been answered. Our former city council members whom are asking for your votes once again have served for a number of years but neither one nor the other has made an effort to change things in our city. We need new people in our council who are concerned and want to make a difference not sit back and agree to everything that is said and done. There is one council member who has tried to the best of her ability to change things, but without success, due to the lack of support from most of the other council members. I ask of you concerned citizens to please vote on Saturday, May 3rd if you want to see a change in our city. Your support and vote will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Patricia Barragan

Pd. pol. adv. pd. for by Pat Barragan P.O. Box 1204, Brackettville, TX

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Mary Rivas was named the Fort Clark Springs' Employee of the Year on Saturday.



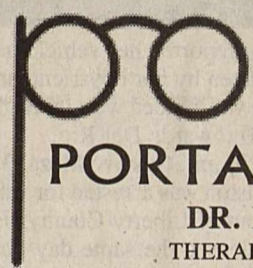
John Carson was named the Fort Clark Springs' Member of the Year on Saturday.

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OBITUARY

Raymundo G. Talamantez

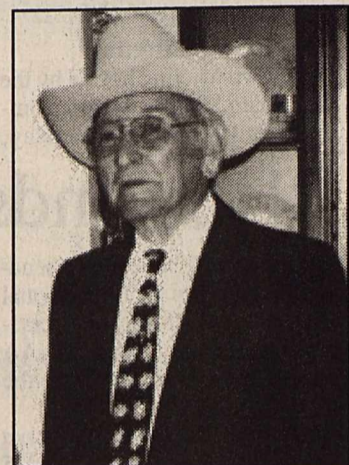
Raymundo G. Talamantez, 94, passed away March 24, 2003, in Del Rio.

He was preceded in death by his wife: Rita Rodriguez Talamantez; infant son: Vidal Talamantez; infant grandson: Richard Gomez; brothers: Juan Talamantez, Gregorio "G.C." Talamantez and Tomas Talamantez; and sisters: Josefa Talamantez Luna and Anita Talamantez.

He is loved and remembered by his sons: Raymond Talamantez and wife Eileen of Holland, Mich., Carlos Talamantez and companion Maria Woodson of Wickenburg, Ariz., Flavio Talamantez Sr. and wife Mary of Brackettville; daughters: Yolanda Hidalgo and husband Joe of San Jose, Calif., and Eleanor Gomez and husband Ernest of San Antonio; 20 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

Raymundo Talamantez was born Dec. 2, 1908, in Brackettville, the son of Gregorio Carlos Talamantez and Petra Guerrero Talamantez.

After the death of his father, along with his brother, G.C., he continued the traditional family business of sheep-shearing for more than 40 years, and was known and respected throughout Texas, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Colorado and California as "Capitan" of one of the largest shearing crews in the coun-



Raymundo G. Talamantez

try.

In 1972, Talamantez opened Ray's Market in Brackettville, Texas.

In 1975, he was elected justice of the peace for Kinney County and served in that capacity for 12 years. He later served for a short time as municipal judge for the City of Brackettville.

During this time, he continued operating his neighborhood grocery store, which is now owned and operated by his son, Flavio Talamantez Sr.

Talamantez was a lifelong member of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Brackettville. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, with burial at Kinney County Cemetery.

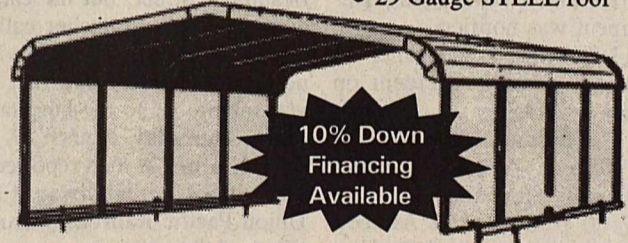
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Terrazas receives Community Service Award

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

The Brackettville Rotary Club presented its second Community Service Award on March 27. Sarah Terrazas, the recipient, was honored for her exemplary work as director of the Kinney County Library.

Terrazas has held the position for the past eight years, and under her direction, the library has evolved into a resource for technological services and materials, as well as fulfilling its traditional role of providing information and recreational reading.

Terrazas spoke to members about the library before she was given her award. She credited Brackettville's first librarian, Miss Elsie Sauer, as being her inspiration. Miss Sauer and the New World Study Club gave book shows and donated books to establish the first library in 1952. Terrazas pointed out that much hard work and dedication went into its creation.

Terrazas said that the existing library was built in 1982 and is funded by the county. An Advisory Board helps plan and propose a budget for the library, which is submitted to the judge and Commissioners Court for approval. Both have been very supportive, she said.

The Kinney County Public Library is a member of the Alamo Area Library System out of San Antonio, which is funded by the state. Terrazas said the local library receives many benefits from it, such as 1,500 worth of books each year, computers, fax machines, TVs, VCRs and a satellite system.

The library director is required to attend 20 hours of continuing education each year. Terrazas also is required to apply for available grants and provide a summer reading program for children.

Almost every year since 1998 thousands of dollars of grant money has been received by the library for furnishing equipment, books, videos and audios.

A meeting room at the library is available for public use, and classes are provided to teach how to use the various kinds of equipment. A large variety of summer programs are available, and the library has become a place for children to learn different kinds of skills.

To Rotarians who are old enough to have seen the tremendous expansion of services and materials, the library is an amaz-

ing example of the changes brought about by the technical marvels of recent years. The fact that a small town library has kept up with such changes and offers so many services is noted by residents, as well as by Winter Texans and other visitors.

Terrazas has been the person who has encouraged and directed this growth.

She is married to Joel Terrazas. The couple has 3 children. Cecilia is the eldest. She is married and has recently presented her parents with a grandchild. Celina and Joelson are younger.

Mrs. Terrazas was born in Eagle Pass to Julio and Paulita Solis and has lived in Spofford all of her life. She graduated from Brackett High School in 1977 and attended Southwest Texas Junior College.

Terrazas is also the city clerk of Spofford and a member of the Brackett ISD School Board of Trustees.

She is also a volunteer member of the Quad Counties Alcohol Prevention and Intervention Program in Del Rio, she is director and coordinator for the Spofford Youth, and is a member of the County Emergency Management Committee.



Community Service Award

Sarah Terrazas (left), director of the Kinney County Library, was presented a Community Service Award last week from the Brackettville Rotary Club. Terrazas and Sonya Cruz (right), assistant director of the library, were welcomed to the meeting by Rotarian Lynn McCarson.

Photo by Bill Haenn

BRIEFS Brackett DAR members honored

Pat McKelvy and Louise Stone of Brackettville, members of the Uvalde de las Encinas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, were among those receiving awards at the 104th Annual Texas State Conference held in San Antonio on March 20-22.

McKelvy was recognized as the Outstanding Volunteer Field Genealogist in Texas and also for having spent 360 hours copying deteriorating manuscripts from the DAR library in Washington, D.C.

Stone, who serves as the chapter historian, received special recognition from Friends of the DAR Library and was responsible for the chapter's second-place award for the number of print inches and second-place award for the number of print articles. She expressed her appreciation to the various area newspapers who print the chapter's activities.

Cavalry Brigade meets on Saturday

Instead of rattling sabres and spurs, the Fort Clark Springs Community Council's Cavalry Brigade will be wielding pick sticks, rakes, hoes, brooms, mops and dusting rags during the scheduled clean-up campaign on Saturday. Mustering takes place at 9 a.m. in front of Shafter Hall.

Company Z expanded to 47 in March. However, the brigade welcomes a growth in volunteer enlistments. No warm body will be turned away, regardless of ability or disability. The mission is to beautify the historical buildings and FCS' hallowed grounds and creek.

Free chow will be served from 11:30 to 12:30. After the savory meal, congenial fellowship and loads of fun, troopers will be furloughed until the May 3 roll call.

ATPE hosts team in Relay for Life

The Brackett ISD chapter of the Association of Texas Professional Educators is hosting a team in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in Del Rio.

The walk-a-thon is scheduled for 6 p.m. Friday, April 11, through 10 a.m. Saturday, April 12.

The purpose of the relay is to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

If you are interested in making a donation or in purchasing a luminaria in honor of or in memory of someone, contact any local ATPE member.

Anyone interested in walking in the relay, please contact Michelle Frerich at 563-2491, Ext. 401, or 563-3005.

Boosters to meet Monday at 5:30

The Brackett Tiger Athletic Booster Club will meet Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Mrs. LaMascus' classroom.

Students collecting items for troops

The Brackett High School Student Council and the FCCLA are working together to collect items for Operation Shoebox.

The organization is collecting items that our troops need. The list of items can be found at www.operationshoobox.com or at one of our drop-off locations.

The collection will begin on April 4 and end on April 25. Items may be dropped off at any of the school's main offices, the Bank & Trust, Rio Grande Electric or the Kinney County Library.

Monetary donations are also being accepting to pay postage costs.

If you have the name and address of a family member that is currently serving and you would like a box sent to them, please send in that information to any of the school offices.

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Thank You
I would like to Thank my friends and neighbors at Fort Clark for the lovely surprise party held in celebration of my 80th Birthday. The more than 48 people who attended...made my day... wonderful food...wonderful conversation and a truly wonderful surprise...Thank you all so very much. With love & gratitude
Marge Jones

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7 Sammy Vick, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	8	9	10 Randall Bell, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	11
14 Kurt Meissner, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	15 Jerry Kruse, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	16 Stephen Miller, M.D. Dermatologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	17 Carlos Morales, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	18
21 Sammy Vick, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	22 Theresa A. Hospers, M.D. Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-697-7008	23	24 Randall Bell, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	25 David Dean, M.D. Neurosurgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430
28 Kurt Meissner, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	29	30 Fernando Triana, M.D. Cardiologist 1-210-614-5400	HAPPY EASTER	

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Family Practice/OB..... 278-4453

Preddy, John, D.O.
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Shudde, John L., M.D.
Family Practice..... 278-3118

Sosa, Isaac, M.D.
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
1 Jeer
6 ___ with; tolerate
10 Part of a ticket
14 Beverage
15 Said aloud
16 El ___
17 Change
18 Made legally binding
20 Famous Chairman
21 Bearing
23 Clear the slate
24 Group of animals
25 See 19
27 Warning sign
30 Earring's place
31 Eur. language
34 Skating rink
35 Domes-ticates
36 Sticky stuff
37 Outwits
41 Suffix for
depart or script
42 Like a juicier peach
43 Gambler's mecca
44 Isr.'s neighbor
45 Seed covering
46 Bowl-shaped cavity
48 ___ tea
49 Mouse's feature
50 Get away from
53 Overlaid with gold
54 Reverence
57 Stuntman
60 Stomach problem
62 Canadian prov.
63 Shopper's delight
64 Marksman
65 Hodgepodge
68 School orgs.
67 City in England
DOWN
1 Pigeon's pitfall
2 Vending machine purchase
3 Numerical prefix
4 Unfriendly one
5 Dell resident
6 Cherished locale
8 Harper, for short
9 Samuel's teacher
10 Bowling term
11 "See ya!"
12 Takes advantage of
13 Foretell
19 Abhor
22 Dander
24 Linden and others
25 Best of all hits
26 "Wanna make ___?"
27 Counterfeit
28 Word with one or day
29 Liquid
30 Stereotype
31 Long-legged bird
32 Not you, or me, or anybody else
33 "___ it!"; words of encouragement
35 Lacking enthusiasm
38 Drew over
39 Take on
40 Of an epoch
46 Presidential nickname
47 Ceremony
48 Opinions
49 Floor pieces
50 Cheese-exporting town
51 Stretch of lowland
52 Ballet and ceramics
53 ___ monster
54 Top
55 Unwanted growth
56 Misjudges
58 Intuitive power
59 Tub
61 Recline

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-67 indicating starting positions for across and down words.

Trivia Time Answers © 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
Woody Guthrie; 8. Moses; 9. Nuclear bombs; 10. Art Linkletter
and Harry Reasoner; 4. 1965; 5. Sam Sheppard's; 6. "East of Eden"; 7. 1. Shelley Berman and Bob Newhart; 2. The Beach Boys; 3. Mike Wallace

ROARING TWENTIES

In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Words can be found in all directions— forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: BIRDS

Grid for Roaring Twenties puzzle with words circled: P K D O O T A K C O C, A J W N O R E H D D P R, R L S W A L L O W R I O, R D D P G D P D E I G W, O H O A A E Q K S O E S, T A E G N R C U X I O E, D W D G N R D A W N R, E K U D P I D O X I D U, S I C D D D M S W K L T, N D O Y R A N A C S A L, S O S C N E R W L E R U, W O S T R I C H X F K V

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

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- 1. What two comedians had top 10 albums in 1960?
2. What musical group started out as Kenny and The Cadets and then became Carl and The Passions?
3. Who hosted "60 Minutes" in its first season?
4. What year marked the first major anti-Vietnam War demonstration?
5. Whose 1954 conviction was thrown out by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1966 because of "virulent publicity" in Cleveland newspapers?
6. What John Steinbeck novel included twin brothers named Caleb and Aron?
7. What folk singer gave the world the word "hootenanny" in the 1940s?
8. What was Charlton Heston's first Biblical movie role?
9. What is nucleomiphobia the fear of?
10. What afternoon TV personality made a bundle on the hula hoop?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Apr. 3.....Greg Abrigo
Apr. 4.....Stella Guajardo
Apr. 4.....Richard Schafer
Apr. 5.....Bill Bray
Apr. 5.....Rodolfo Gonzalez
Apr. 5.....Noemi Martinez
Apr. 5.....Vicente Santos
Apr. 5.....James Speaker
Apr. 5.....B.J. Terrazas
Apr. 6.....Martha Anderson
Apr. 6.....Judy Blankenship
Apr. 6.....Norma Cruz
Apr. 6.....Doreen Hollenbeck
Apr. 6.....Julia Terrazas
Apr. 6.....Maria Villarreal
Apr. 7.....Ruby Gooch
Apr. 7.....John Mark Ingram
Apr. 7.....Concepcion Jimenez
Apr. 8.....Jose Cervantes
Apr. 8.....Lee R. McEntire, Jr.
Apr. 8.....Maria Elisa Ramos
Apr. 8.....Bob Rowe
Apr. 8.....Flora Thaxton
Apr. 9.....Maria Pena

ASTROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're uncertain about an important decision to be made. This isn't like you. Tap into your self-confidence and you'll find the answer.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're unprepared for those extra expenses that arise this week. Some careful budgeting is required. Later in the week, domestic harmony reigns.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're taken aback by a co-worker's malicious words. Don't retaliate in kind. By rising above this, you show who really has class.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) If you let them, distractions at work can interfere with your progress. A disagreement arises with your spouse over finances. By week's end, though, you reach a satisfactory compromise.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) A speculative investment isn't right for you at this time. Despite the rosy picture someone is painting, you need to avoid this. Over the weekend, quiet activities are favored.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You ask for someone's input. Unfortunately, it's not what you wanted to hear. It's best to stick to your own counsel on this one.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Much progress is made on the job this week. However, the opposite is true of your social life. Feel free to turn down invitations.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some find themselves putting off a long-planned trip or vacation. Instead of being resentful, make the most of it. In the long run, it all works out to your satisfaction.
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You've done a stellar job of keeping your mouth shut concerning a friend's bizarre actions. Now, however, it's time to state your case. This person needs a rude awakening.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) It's wise to remember that you can't control everything. In your social life, you'll find this particularly apt. Over the weekend, loved ones rally to your cause.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An unresolved relationship issue rears its ugly head again. It's time to address this head-on. Later in the week, you're pleased with the outcome.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Be sure you know everything that's expected of you before tackling a new work project. If you need clarification, don't hesitate to ask. This weekend, a family member has some concerns.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

- 1. Canary
2. Cockatoo
3. Crow
4. Eagle
5. Flamingo
6. Hawk
7. Heron
8. Kiwi
9. Lark
10. Ostrich
11. Owl
12. Parrot
13. Penguin
14. Pigeon
15. Quail
16. Sparrow
17. Swallow
18. Vulture
19. Woodpecker
20. Wren

Grid for Roaring Twenties solution with words circled: P K D O O T A K C O C, A J W N O R E H D D P R, R L S W A L L O W R I O, R D D P G D P D E I G W, O H O A A E Q K S O E S, T A E G N R C U X I O E, D W D G N R D A W N R, E K U D P I D O X I D U, S I C D D D M S W K L T, N D O Y R A N A C S A L, S O S C N E R W L E R U, W O S T R I C H X F K V

Satan has polluted and deluded our very lives

The word "Satan" is used in portions of the Old Testament and throughout the New Testament as the proper name of the supreme supernatural adversary, also called the "devil."

The opposition between Satan and God is made quite clear in the New Testament, in which Satan is seen as a leader of the forces of evil (Matthew 12:26) and the agent in the temptations of Jesus (Matthew 4:10), and of Peter (Matthew 16:23) and of Judas (Like 22:3) and of Ananias (Acts 5:3).

Through the life and atoning acts of Jesus, Satan has been overcome, but he still seeks to gain the advantage over you and I.

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 2:11, "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: For we are not ignorant of his devices."

Now, 2,000 years later, I can't help but wonder if that's entirely true. The world is so much bigger and so much has changed throughout this time period.

Non-believers outnumber Christian believers 4 to 1, and still I believe that there is a very, very small number of people that would make a conscious



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

commitment to follow, worship and devote their lives to Satan and his causes.

But because of Satan's craftiness, he has polluted and deluded our very lives. One example of this is our holidays and festivals.

Let's look at the origins of Easter. Easter is an annual celebration observed by most of the Christian Church, commemorating Christ's resurrection.

Modern observance of Easter represents a convergence of three traditions. First, the Hebrew passover. Second, the Christian commemoration of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. And thirdly, the "norse ostara or eostra," from which the name "Easter" is derived, a pagan festival of spring which fell at the vernal equinox, March 21.

Prominent symbols in this celebration were rabbits, signifying fecundity, and eggs, col-

ored like the rays of the returning sun.

In the name of fun, on Easter, even the best Christian families enjoy Easter egg hunts. We celebrate both as Christians and pagans, without giving any thought to it.

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus, but most of the customs associated with Christmas were not originally Christian. The merrymaking, the feasting, the candles and the giving of gifts came from the Roman saturnalia.

The yule log and the wassail bowl can be traced back to the German and Celtic tribes' celebration of the return of the sun at the time of the winter solstice in the festival of yule.

The Christmas tree came later and Santa Claus like, the Easter Bunny — I don't know where they're from.

All I am saying is don't lose your perspective. Don't let Santa Claus become Christmas. Don't let the Easter Bunny become Easter. Don't let Thanksgiving Day, become "Turkey Day" or "Football Day."

Don't let Satan cheapen what we believe in. Don't let him side track us!

We must stand united

"And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand." (Matthew 12:25)

This statement falls two ways. First, it is important that the people of God stand united.

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

the wicked.

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." (Ephesians 6:10-18)

Stay dressed in God's armour to protect yourself and use the living word of God in faith to empower you to overcome the wiles of the devil.

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." (Jude 1:20-21)

Stay alert, stay prepared, and stay safe.

Second, pray that God reveals to you the schemes of the devil. Then, when he reveals them to you pray for wisdom with discernment and knowledge

with understanding to know what to do on your part to overcome the devil's plans. Then act on what God tells you. Realize that those who are the enemies of Jesus Christ will be led by their own demons and these demons vie for lordship and kingdoms among themselves. They will be divided and fall by their own wicked (crooked) natures.

In the meantime, continue to plead the blood of Jesus over your family, your property, your city, your state, your country, and all those fellow believers all over the world. That precious blood was shed for all sin, sickness and death. It's power is so great that no demon in hell can withstand it.

All curses cannot cross his blood line (like a spiritual line drawn in the sand). It's power is like the blood of the lamb painted on the doorposts of the children of Israel to protect them from the angel of death.

By doing so you can rest in peace — God's peace that passes all understanding. In him we live and move and have our being. (Acts 17:29)

Praise God! Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love!

God confirms a mother's authority over her children

"Lori, Janie called a while ago. She wants you to go over to her house for a while. She has a new video game she wants you to see."

"I don't think I'll go, Mom. I've got some other things to do. Besides, I really don't like to go over there."

"I thought Janie was your friend," Julie said. "Has that changed? Has something happened to break your friendship?"

"Mom, Janie yells and screams at her mom. It goes on all the time. Sometimes she calls her mom pretty foul names. I just get real uncomfortable being around stuff like that."

"What's their problem?" Julie asked.

"Janie challenges everything her mom says. They argue and fight over just about anything. I don't think they love each other at all."

"I feel sorry for Janie's mom," Julie replied. "It's really a sad day when mothers are left to raise their children alone. What's even worse is when divorced couples keep their conflict alive without forgiveness for each other."

"I know Janie's dad does everything he can so that Janie will disrespect her mom. She behaves toward her mom just like her dad."

"Mom, if I talked to you like



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

that, I know I'd get it from Dad," Lori said.

"You're right, Lori. Your dad wouldn't allow stuff like that. But your dad teaches you to respect and love me as your mother, and he sets the example. It is important that children be taught to respect and revere their mothers, not because of fear of their fathers, but because it's right.

"Long ago a very wise man said that God confirms a mother's authority over her children. Bringing comfort to your mother is obedience to the Lord. The child who angers her mother is accursed by her Creator. (Sirach 3: 2, 6, 16)

"What's even worse is that someday Janie will have children who will treat her just like she treated her mother. We always reap what we sow, Lori."

■ *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.*

Prayer moves the hand of God

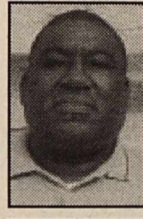
He will bless them that fear the Lord, both small and great. The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children.

Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth. The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.

The dead praise not the Lord, neither any that go down into silence.

But we will bless the Lord from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the Lord. Psalms 115: 13-18.

O Praise the Lord, all ye na-



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

tions: praise him all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord. Psalms 117.

Come pray with us every morning at 7 a.m. Prayer moves the hand of God.

Praise the Lord!

SPORTS

Frerich leads Tigerettes to third-place finish

CARRIZO SPRINGS — Courtney Frerich turned in a time of 52.3 to win the gold medal in the 300-meter hurdles Saturday, helping the Brackett Tigerettes to a third-place finish at the Carrizo Springs track meet.

Carrizo Springs won the meet with 152 points, and Devine was second with 97 points. BHS finished with 91 points, while Laredo St. Augustine had 72, Cotulla had 69 and Somerset had 49.

Frerich teamed with Divina Pena, Stacey Castilla and Vanessa Williams to take second in the 800-meter relay with a 1:55.1.

The sprint relay team of Caitlyn Wylie, Dana Bonner,

Brandy Smith and Timmeka Simmons finished fifth with a 55.0.

In the mile relay, Pena, Juliann Ashabranner, Williams and Castilla were sixth with a 4:38.8.

Frerich and Castilla were second and third, respectively, in the high jump with leaps of 4-8, while Pena was third in the 400 with a 68.3 and fourth in the long jump with a 15-2.

Ashabranner was second in the 3,200 with a time of 12:16.1, while Jessi Crane finished fourth with a 13:58.2. Ashabranner was also third in the 1,600 with a 5:51.81.

Tammy Smith finished third in the 100 hurdles with an 18.1, while Stephanie Coranado was

fifth in the 800 with a 2:37.5.

Williams and Wylie finished fourth and fifth in the 100 with times of 14.6 and 14.7, respectively. Wylie was also sixth in the 200 with a 30.09.

In the boys' varsity division, Mark Kesteloot won a silver medal in the 400 after being clocked at 52.9. He also took fifth in the shot put with a throw of 39-11.

Tony Rosetti, Tito Hilado, Cody Edwards and Terrell Freeman finished fourth in the 800 relay with a 1:37.8.

Edwards was the fourth-place finisher in the 100 with an 11.7, while Rosetti and Freeman were fourth and fifth in the 200 with times of 24.5 and 24.6, respectively.

Noe Talamantes finished in fifth in the 800 after posting a time of 2:16.

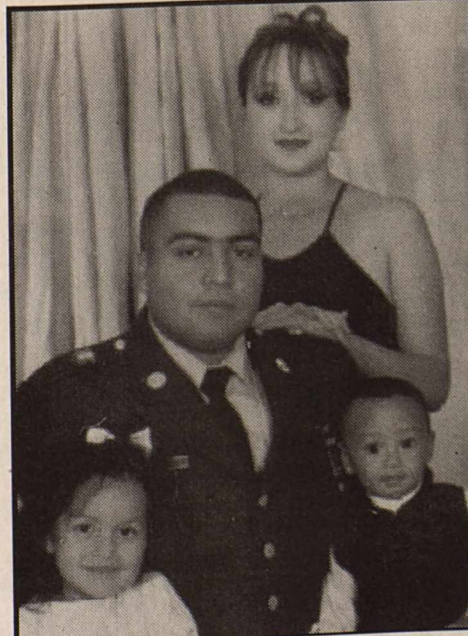
In the junior varsity boys' division, Eliot Stone won the gold in the 100 after posting the top time with an 11.48.

Stone also teamed with Boyd Brotherton, Glenn Morgan and Ramiro Pina to take second in the 400 relay with a 47.6.

Brotherton, Morgan, Pina and Miles Braeksicke finished in fifth place in the 800 relay with a 1:44.

Morgan also took second in the shot put, third in the 100 with a 12.2, and fifth in the discus.

Braeksicke was sixth in the 110 high hurdles with a 19.7, while Kody Yeager was sixth in the 300 hurdles with a 47.9.



Sgt. John Hernandez Family

All prayers and letters welcome

Sgt. John Hernandez was stationed in Germany with his family for 3 years before being deployed to Northern Kuwait, where he spent 6 months. He has now left Camp Vdari for Iraq. John is a Crew Chief working on Apache Helicopters. Address: Sgt Hernandez, John 11th AVN, 2/6 CAV A-TRP, 1442, APO AE, 09302-1442

Please Come to Our Town Meeting

Monday, April 7, 2003.
District Courtroom, 6:30 P.M.
Host: Superintendent's Advisory Committee
Parents & Citizens of Brackettville: We'd like to hear your thoughts or suggestions on how the school can better serve the needs of our children. For additional information contact: Don Smith (830) 563-2285

Venga por favor a Nuestro Town Meeting

El Lunes, el 7 de abril de 2003.
District Courtroom, el Palacio de justicia (arriba) de Condado de Kinney 6:30 P.M.
El anfitrión: Patrocinadores Consultores de Comité de Padres & Ciudadanos de Brackettville: apreciariamos oír sus pensamientos o las sugerencias en cómo la escuela puede servir mejor las necesidades de nuestros niños. Para información adicional contacte: Don Smith (830) 563-2285

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MUST SELL Oil base paint, all colors - white, red, yellow, blue, brown, grey. 180+ gallons/pallet. \$125/pallet obo. 194 pallets available. MIDCITIES, appointment only 469-951-0583; 1-888-966-3448, JMS Construction.

FOR SALE

FORT CLARK MEMBERSHIP unattached, \$300. 210-673-3889

SAWMILL \$3895. NEW Super Lumbermate 2000. Larger capacities, options. ATV accessories, edgers, skidders. www.norwoodindustries.com. Norwood Industries, 252 Sonwil Drive, Buffalo, NY 14225. 1-800-578-1363, free information, Ext 300-N.

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE 407 N. Fort. Misc. household items - 9:00 a.m. Sat. April 5th.

MULTI - FAMILY GARAGE sale - Sat. April 5th 9-2 31D2 Bowlegs St. Lots of clothes all sizes.

YARD SALE FCS 51 Airport Rd., April 4, 5, 6 - 6 A.M. - ??

YARD SALE - 18 Colony Row F.C.S Sat. Apr. 5th 9 am till ?

YARD SALE UNIT 3 lot 57. Sat. April 5th 9 am till ?

GARAGE SALE - SAT. 5th 8:00 AM - Unit 37 lot 16.

HELP WANTED

KINNEY COUNTY IS currently taking applications for the position of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director. Job application, job description, pay schedule and benefits package may be obtained from the Office of the County Judge at 501 South Ann Street, P.O. Box 348, Brackettville, Texas 78832 or by calling 830-563-2401. Position vacancy closes May 02, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. Kinney County is an equal opportunity employer.

AVON CALLING! NEED extra money? Work part/full time from home. Earn up to 50%. Call for starter kit and gift, 1-866-696-2866 (ISR).

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

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT. No hiring entry - professional levels. Benefits/paid training. For info on available positions, call OCL, toll-free, 1-800-585-9024, Ext. 4414.

MANAGERS NEEDED: Never pay an electric bill again! Fill out the survey at http://www.electronicwind.net for phone enrollment. HLT distributors @ aol.com

O'Rourke Realty
Paul & Elsa O'Rourke
P.O. Box 670
Brackettville, TX 78832
(830) 563-2713

Manufactured home - 4 bed, 3 baths - Fireplace, lots of extras.

Townhouse - furnished efficiency, good deal.

3 bed, 2 baths, partially furnished mobile home - Unit 15.

Possible owner finance - 2 bed, 2 bath mobile home, screen porch, carport - 2nd roof.

7 Lots on Spring Street - Price reduced.

2 bed, 2 baths, den, near creek. \$48,000.

orourke@the-i.net

REAL ESTATE

REPO: 3 BD, 2 bth, 1520 sq. foot home on 2 acres in Brackettville area. Less than two years old, will finance for \$800 down, first payment wouldn't be due for 60 days. First time buyers welcome. Call Robert Smith at Jim Walter Homes. 1-800-866-2213.

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

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

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

100 ACRES - \$44,900. Trophy whitetails (5 deer limit). Tree covered hills and draws. Abundant turkey, quail, small game. Good access. More acreage.

FIND THE BEST deals here!

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
830-563-2446 830-563-2447

- Unit 15 lot 160, 161 (160 Bliss Circle) FCS 3bdr, 2bth manufactured housing enclosed porch, partially furnished, POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCED!
- 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. Reduced \$5,000.
- 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 2 car carport all electric.

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

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

Nice inexpensive winter home away from home, 1968 Mooncrest 1 Br, 1B mobile home. **Great buy at \$14,900.**

Historic 1BR, 1B upstairs unit with approx. 583 sq. ft. All furniture plus range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included. Only \$35,000.

Brackettville - Ten acres on the outskirts of Brackettville offers country living but is in the city limits. The Solitaire 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths provides plenty of room.

IDEAL family home, get-away, recreational place. This 3BR, 2B 18' X 80' River Bend on 32+ acres is ideal for a family or a hunters haven. Home is completely furnished. Ranches and small acreage available.

View listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

Tejas Properties

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

Historical Homes For Sale on Colony Row in FCS.

- * 3/2 Townhouse on Las Moras Creek, great views.
- * Nice 3/2 carport, 2-story home in town near school.
- * 3/2 carports, large yard, plus a 16X20 Office/Storage.
- * The Oaks, 2 1/2 Beautiful Home, 2 lots and huge oaks.
- * 2/2 Home with carport, Ward St. in FCS, excellent condition.

We Have ranches of all sizes available!
www.Tejas-Properties.com

Greg Tom Realty

"We have buyers for Hill Country Ranches"

Tommy Dee Seargeant
Agent
512-312-1218

Greg Tom
Broker
830-537-3200

REAL ESTATE

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath rock home on large lot in Unit 31, FCS - sunroom (or 4th bedroom), double carport with attic storage, shop, storage room, covered patio - call Frank Cheaney at 563-2172.

REAL ESTATE

TEXAS VETS - 21.69 acres SW of Mason; electric, end of road privacy, great views, deer and turkey. \$1981/down, \$251/month. Ranch Enterprises. 1-830-792-4953, texasranchland.com

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.

TOWN HALL MEETING

\$50.00 ACCT. CREDIT GIVEAWAY!

Rio Grande Electric Co-op Warehouse
(Rear Entrance - Hwy. 90 & U.S. 131)
Tuesday, April 8, 2003
7:00 P.M.

Hear the Latest Co-op News:
Deregulation
System Improvements
Technical Advancements

For More Information, Contact
Rene or Lynda at 830-563-2444
Or 1-800-749-1509

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas 78832, 1-800-749-1509
www.riogrande.coop, www.smartchoice.coop

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
FAIR HOUSING IT'S THE LAW

This year marks the thirty-fifth Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law. To promote fair housing practices, the County of Kinney encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights.

Title VII of the Civil Rights of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

POLICY OF NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF HANDICAPPED STATUS

The County of Kinney does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities. Herb Senne, Kinney County Judge, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

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

We Support Our Troops Amigoz

Prayer to the Virgin Mary
Pray nine Hail Mary's during nine days with a lit candle and ask for three favors: one economic, two impossible and on the eighth day publish. On the ninth, let the candle be consumed. Even with out faith they shall be fulfilled.
DES
Thank you Mother Mary

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

SCOFF LIVE STUB
COCOA ORAL PASO
ALTER VALIDATED
MAO MIEN ERASE
HEAD HATE
BEWARE LOBE ENG
OVAL TAMES GOO
GETS THE BETTER OF
URE RIPEA RENO
SYR ARIL CRATER
ICED TAIL
EVADE GILT AWE
DAREDEVIL ULCER
ALTA SALE AIMER
MESS PTAS LEEDS

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE BRACKETT NEWS' CLASSIFIEDS

CALL 563-2852 TODAY!