



Senate committee considers bill concerning groundwater district



Photo by J.J. Guidry

Water issues divide Kinney County citizens

Tootsie Herndon (standing, left), mayor pro-tem of Spofford, expresses her concerns about water issues that have divided Kinney County's citizens during a Commissioners Court meeting Monday.

Herndon: Controversy divides local citizens

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

The debate over the water in Kinney County made it to the state capitol last week.

A number of local citizens gave testimony in Austin as the Natural Resources Committee discussed Senate Bill 1886, addressing the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District.

Tootsie Herndon, mayor pro-tem of Spofford, said she was embarrassed by the debate, adding that the community has been divided and that local citizens were referred to as "the Hatfields and the McCoys."

"Our own water board has lost credibility in this process because the (water marketers) have attacked them through local citizens," she said. "It really bothers me that they have run the Shahan's name down. This is terrible."

"We need to bring credibility back to the Shahans and to our local water board because we are the ones who elected these people to represent us."

Herndon made her comments while addressing the Commissioners Court Monday.

Last week, the commissioners rejected a resolution supporting the local water district, but

"If a lot of people would learn the rules, a lot of this crap would not be happening."

Tully Shahan

this week the court voted 4-1 to adopt resolution opposing Senate Bill 1886.

County Judge Herb Senne and Commissioners Pat Melancon, Joe Montalvo and Francie Wylie voted for the resolution, while Commissioner Nat Terrazas was opposed.

Local businessman Wes Robinson took exception to Herndon's comments during the Commissioners Court meeting.

"I can tell you personally, I've attended most of the meetings, and if this board has been discredited, they've done it through their own actions," he said. "I would strongly urge you not to fly to support a board that will not accept input from the general public or that refuses to be fiscally responsible."

"We wouldn't be here today if there were recall laws provided for under the statutes of the state of Texas for groundwater conservation districts."

See COMMISSIONERS/Page 4

Fort Clark to fill board vacancies

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

The Fort Clark Springs board is expected to name three new directors at the association's monthly meeting Saturday morning at 10.

President Tom Saylor, the only veteran director remaining on the board, said 10 persons had applied or had been recommended for positions on the board.

Nolan Brandt, John Dixon and Ray Reyna won their respective election bids last month, and Frank Cheaney, Carol Miller and Glen White then resigned from the board two days later.

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.

"I believe we are making progress. I think we're heading in the right direction, but there is a lot of work to be done. It's kind of like eating an elephant — you have to do it one bite at a time."

FCSA President Tom Saylor

Brandt, Dixon and Reyna were in favor of the action and Cheaney, Miller and White were opposed, forcing Saylor to break the tie.

Miller told the newly-elected directors: "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.

In White's letter of resignation, he said: "The election of the radical faction that now con-

trols the Board of Directors has, in my opinion, placed the association in grave peril. I do not wish to be associated in any way with their actions."

Cheaney simply said he was resigning for "personal reasons."

The new board has created 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.

"I believe we are making progress," said Saylor. "I think

we're heading in the right direction, but there is a lot of work to be done. It's kind of like eating an elephant — you have to do it one bite at a time.

John Dixon is working real close with the accounting department, and the Audit Committee has been digging. There hasn't been anything found that would be cause for criminal charges, but there has been gross mismanagement.

"There was no accountability. It was just sloppy management. There was money being spent on things that it didn't need to be spent on, so we're tightening it up."

"The staff is working together real well. The employees are great. Their production is real good and they are working really hard," he added.

In other FCSA news, Bob Walker was re-hired as the maintenance director on Monday.

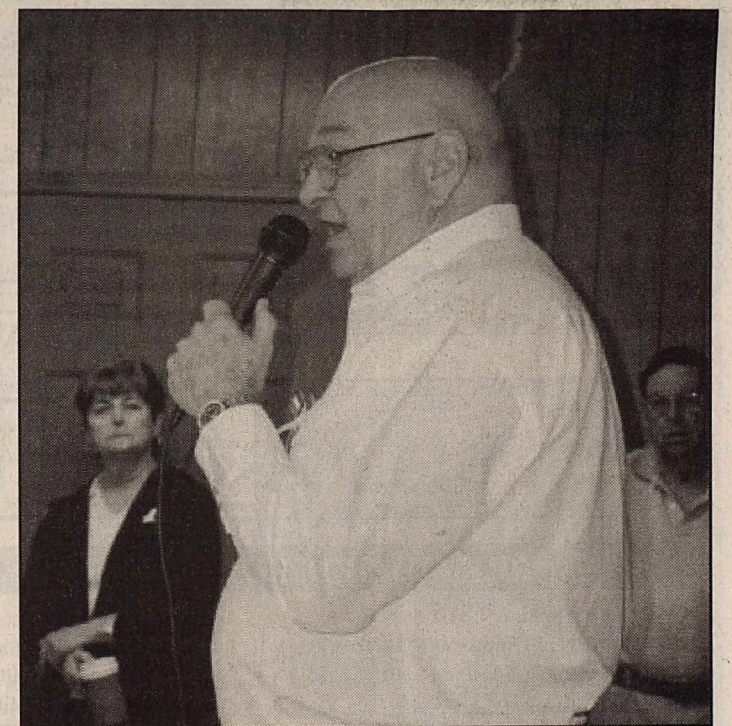


Photo by J.J. Guidry

New directors considered

Tom Saylor and the Fort Clark Springs board are expected to appoint three new directors Saturday.

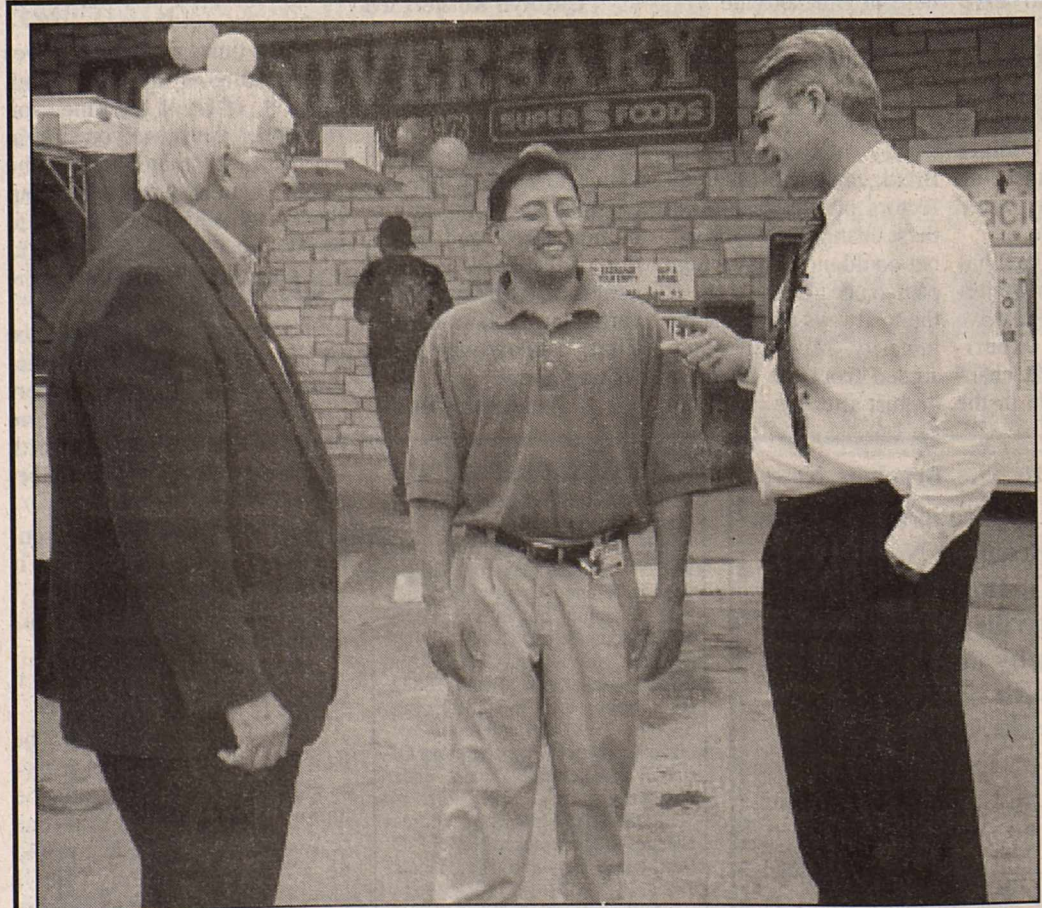


Photo by J.J. Guidry

Celebrating 30 years

John Dieterle (from left), founder of Super S Foods, Junior Rosas, Brackettville store manager, and David McBurnett, Super S' president, celebrated the grocery store's 30th anniversary last week. See related photo, Page 4.

Early voting is underway in city, school elections

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Early voting for the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees and Brackettville City Council elections began on Wednesday.

School 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

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.

will be held at City Hall through April 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 BISS Central Office through April 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.

INSIDE	
■ Chuck Hall	I said some awful things about some people last weekend. Let me start at the beginning. I had to dig a ditch. I needed to replace a water line. Opinion/Page 2
■ Shanae Simmons	Recently, I read a book about a young boy and his travel through the realization that life is not what he thought it was. It is called "The Giver." Opinion/Page 2
■ Taylor Stephenson	Congratulations to Juliann Ashabraner for her first-place finish in the regional UIL contest. She has qualified to go on to state in UIL academics. Community/Page 3
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OBITUARIES

Lillie Mae Dimery

Lillie Mae Dimery passed away on Thursday, April 10, 2003, at Val Verde Regional Medical Center in Del Rio at 6:45 a.m. She was born Dec. 7, 1920, to Willie Mable Wallace and Clarence Warrior in Hondo.

Her husband of 54 years of wonderful marriage, Louis Paul Dimery, preceded her in death.

Lillie Mae Dimery was a proud and respected woman in her community. She attended school in Hondo, Uvalde and Brackettville.

She worked as a cook for numerous years in Marfa with the Gearhearts. Later she moved to Brackettville as a loving housewife. Everyone enjoyed "Lillie Mae," as called by many, and her warmth and good heartiness. She will be missed very much by those who knew her best.

Those who will mourn her include her daughter: Mable Kay Dimery of Del Rio; two grandchildren: Latrell Nanise Dimery and Azell Dwight

Dimery, also from Del Rio; two brothers: Arthur Edward Bryant of Billings, Mo., and Pete Louis Pierce of Del Rio; sisters-in-law: Julia Halabeth Bryant of El Paso, Paula Dimery of Killeen, Ollie Dimery of Redland, Calif., Carol Dimery of Brackettville, Gelneva Dimery of Kerrville, Judy Bryant of Billings, Mo., brothers-in-law: Freddie Dimery of Kerrville; Porter Dimery of Des Moines, Iowa; also Willie and Ethel Warrior of Del Rio, and God-daughter Dawnett Daniels of Big Lake.

Services were held Tuesday at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in Brackettville.

Pallbearers were Richard Paul Bryant, Billie Joe Pierce, Floyd MacArthur Washington, Tracey Pierce, Ronnie Warrior and Elmo Watson.

Honorable pallbearers were Melvin Daniels, Willie Warrior, Arthur Bryant Jr., Robert Bryant, Hon. Johnny Felton, Marshall T. Williams, Ben Presley and Robert Nunley.

Willard B. "Red" Smith

Willard B. "Red" Smith passed away on April 7, 2003. He was born in Del Rio on Sept. 9, 1915, to David and Clara Smith.

Smith's family was among the early settlers of Del Rio. He attended school in Del Rio and then began service in the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934.

While in Lampasas with the CCC, he met and married Katherine Mathews on Sept. 15, 1936.

In 1943, Smith enlisted in the United States Navy and served in the Pacific theatre for the duration of World War II.

Upon his arrival home, he returned to work for Central Power and Light and dedicated over 20 years to the company. He was general manager for the Moody Foundation Ranches until his retirement to pursue private ranching, which he continued until his death.

In life, Smith made priorities of his commitments, which were to the Lord, his wife, his children and his family.

Gabriel A. Walker

Gabriel A. Walker passed away April 6, 2003, at 6 years of age.

Walker was born in Uvalde on April 27, 1996.

He is survived by his parents: Betty Walker and Anthony Paul

dren and grandchildren, and his wife.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years: Katherine; their three children: David Smith and wife Leigh of Las Cruces, N.M., Richard Smith and wife Beth Ann of Brackettville, and Elaine Neisemier and husband Gary of Junction; six grandchildren: Cameron Smith of College Station, Dale, Brent and Ashley Smith of Brackettville, Jay Neisemier and wife Darla, and Katherine Neisemier of Junction; sisters: Thelma Worley of Uvalde and Norma Lee Royals of Burford, Ga., closest niece: Doris Hunt and her brother Don Worley; numerous other nieces and nephews, and honorary son Dr. Walter Wilson and his wife, Dr. Nancy Henry Wilson of Rochester, Minnesota.

The family suggests memorials to Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Brackett ISD, P.O. Box 586, Brackettville, TX 78832, or the charity of your choice.

Services were held Wednesday at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church.

Ashabranner advances to state in UIL

Congratulations to Juliann Ashabranner for her first-place finish in the regional UIL contest. She has qualified to go on to state in UIL academics.

Also to the boys' golf team for its second-place finish in district. Brackett High School won the district girls' and boys' tennis championships. We also won first place in the girls' district track and third place in boys' track.

Many of our high school students will be traveling to regional competition this next week. We're proud of you.

Early voting for two positions on the Board of Trustees for the Brackett schools began Wednesday and will continue through April 29.

Voters are asked to bring their voter registration cards or identification with them when

they come to vote. Voting will be held from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day that school is in session.

The election is extremely important to the future of Brackett ISD. We're losing two fine board members in Tim Ward and Rose Mary Slubar.

If we are to continue with the excellence that Brackett ISD exemplifies, you need to take the time to vote. The regular election day is Saturday, May 3.

Cafeteria Addition
The BISD school board is moving ahead with plans to build a cafeteria addition to seat an additional 150 students.

The existing cafeteria has worked well for years, but is too small for the number of students that must eat lunch in such a short period of time.

The remodeling will be completed about Thanksgiving



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

2003.

We're working on specifications through our architect, John Graves Jr., to replace hail damaged metal roofs for the fifth and sixth grade building, library, junior high, cafeteria, band room and home economics, new high school, vocational building and technology building. All roofs are metal and will continue to be the same.

This project should be completed before school starts next summer.

School Calendar
BISD's school calendar for

2003-04 looks like the calendar for 2002-03. We'll be making copies available at the building principal's level.

Operation Shoebox
Our students are working on Operation Shoebox. This is their attempt to send boxes of goodies to our troops overseas.

Mrs. Dickson is coordinating the effort at BHS and Mrs. Hobbs is working on it at elementary.

I'll have more information in the future. Some of the items that are being shipped are toothbrushes and toothpaste, pop-top canned goods (sausages, canned fruit), chips in tubes, razors, stationary and stamps, shampoo and deodorant.

What a grand project. K-6 teachers are asking students to write a letter, poem or draw a picture to send in the boxes. Have a great week!

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, April 7

4:21 p.m., The owner of the Getaway Apartments on Highway 90 West requested assistance because another man was threatening his life.

4:55 p.m., William Samuel Ritchie, 25, of Brackettville was arrested by DPS Trooper Tully Welch for criminal trespassing. He was released four days later after the charges were dropped.

Tuesday, April 8

4:26 a.m., A woman reported a train blocking Highway 131 in Spofford.

8:15 a.m., A woman reported an elderly woman had fallen

down at her residence on W. Remote Alley and could not get up to unlock the door for EMS personnel. Constable Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene and crawled through a bathroom window to unlock the door. EMS personnel transported the woman to Val Verde Regional Medical Center.

Friday, April 11
11:15 a.m., Genovano Rocha Gonzales, 29, of Uvalde was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley on a warrant for assault. He was released two days later after paying a \$500 fine, plus time served.

Wednesday, April 9
11:47 a.m., A man reported three illegal aliens at his residence in Spofford. Officials with the U.S. Border Patrol were notified of the situation.

Thursday, April 10
9:37 p.m., A man reported an

Astro Van driving reckless, speeding and running stop signs near Beaumont Street.

Friday, April 11
11:30 a.m., Francisco Gomez, 47, of Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Karl Chism for fighting in a public place. He was released the next day after paying a \$500 fine.

Saturday, April 12

6:05 p.m., Christopher Wells, 21, of Fort Hood was arrested by DPS Troopers Ashley and Marcos Hernandez for driving while intoxicated. He was released the following day after posting a \$1,500 bail bond.

Sunday, April 13
8:56 a.m., A man reported a little white dog in Unit 15 of Fort Clark Springs.

2:20 p.m., A woman requested assistance at her residence in Kickapoo Park because her daughter had been drinking and left in her vehicle, and she wanted her daughter to come home.

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BRIEFS

Church Alliance set to host Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday morning

The Church Alliance of Brackettville will host its annual Easter Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m. on Sunday. Pastor Bernie Cervantes of the Vida Nueva Christian Center will bring the message. As usual, the Voices of Fort Clark will be providing musical praise and thanksgiving.

Other Church Alliance participants will be Pastor William Adams of St. John's Missionary Baptist Church, Pastor David Crowe of Frontier Baptist Church, Brother Holt Tuck of La Primera Bautista, Pastor Nathan Lafrenz of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Pastors Charlotte and Bob Corey of Gateway Ministries, Father Mike Davis of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Father Cornelius Scanlan of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church and Pastor Ken Sellers of First United Methodist Church.

"Rise early for the music and Word, which reflect the awe and wonder of the resurrection of the Son of God, a promise of resurrection from death to life eternal for all who believe," Sellers said.

Hernandez serving overseas in Iraq

Daniel Hernandez, a 2000 BHS graduate, was recently stationed in Fort Bragg, N.C., and is currently serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Hernandez, the son of Barbara Avila, was deployed in early February and awaits the day to come home.

Hernandez requested that friends and family write to him to show love and support. You can write to him at the following address: Spc. Daniel Hernandez, B/2-319th AFAR 82nd ABN PIV Unit # 96932, APO AE 09368-6932.

Judge Ford attends seminar for JPs

Judge John Ford was certified at the recent 20-hour justice of the peace seminar held last month in Austin. The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center, a division of Southwest Texas State University, with offices in Austin.

The seminar is one of four held for elected justices of the peace so they can fulfill their continuing judicial education requirements as set forth in Article 27.005 of the Texas Government Code.

Agents apprehend 6,579 in March

DEL RIO — U.S. Border Patrol agents from the Brackettville Station apprehended 1,150 illegal aliens in March.

Agents from the Del Rio Sector apprehended a total of 6,579 illegal aliens, including 2,076 in Eagle Pass, 1,282 Carrizo Springs, 895 in Del Rio, 137 in San Angelo, 135 in Abilene, 133 in Comstock, 124 in Rocksprings and 51 in Llano.

FCSA hosts forum on water district

The Fort Clark Springs Association will have a forum Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at Post Theater to discuss the issues facing the Kinney County Groundwater District. The forum is open to the public.

Church raises scholarship funds

Members of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and youths joined forces at the church's annual chicken plate sale April 5. Sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, funds raised will be applied for youths scholarships.

Commissioners oppose state bill concerning groundwater district

Continued from Page 1

County Attorney Tully Shahan, whose wife Darlene is a water board member, said much of the debate exists because of misinformation.

"If a lot of people would learn the rules, a lot of this crap would not be happening," he told the commissioners.

The bill was introduced by Sen. Frank Madla, who said the local water district "has had some difficulties and some problems that I felt needed to be addressed."

"In creating the district, there were two important objectives that were emphasized," he said. "The first was that the district would be funded through ad-valorem taxes and export fees, rather than production fees paid by the local landowners. The second objective was that local landowners and that local water utilities would be protected by preserving their historic use and their groundwater rights."

Currently, the district is being supported by ad-valorem taxes and production fees.

Under the bill, the district must impose the maximum rate of property taxes before charging a production fee. In addition, any export fees collected would be turned over to the West Nueces-Las Moras Soil and Water Conservation District.

"That money should go back to the water board in order to keep ad-valorem taxes down," Montalvo said. "A lot of my people in this county are on

fixed income. They can't afford any more taxes. Half of them are on welfare."

Terrazas said that was one of the changes already being considered by the senate committee.

"One board member (Don Hood) has already motioned for those taxes in the past to be raised to the maximum," Robinson said. "That was prior to Senate Bill 1886 ever becoming an issue."

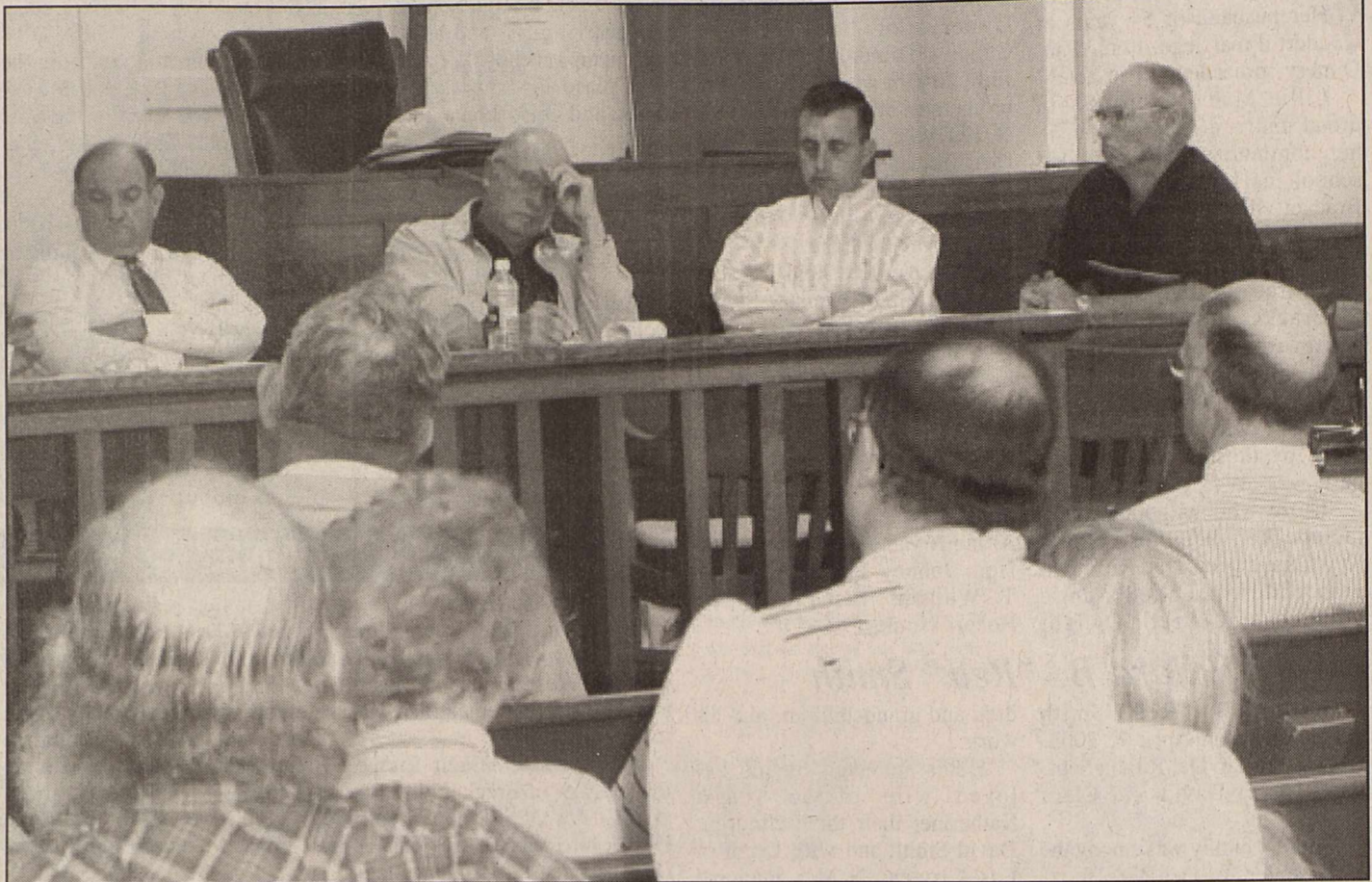
Currently, the district has imposed a 10-year limit on claims of historic use, but the bill defines historic use as "the withdrawal and beneficial use of groundwater for any purpose on or before Sept. 1, 2001."

Lifetime resident Joe York said that would be detrimental to the county.

"I was here in 1964 when we dried up the springs," he said. "They piped water from over on the 73, which was a part of Fort Clark at that time, and tied into an old fire plug out at the air field with a 4 1/2-inch line and got enough water to Fort Clark. Fortunately, we got a little well completed by City Hall that we were able to use until we could go drill another well by the water tower."

Cecil Smith, president of the water board, said the district would not be able to afford to study the county's groundwater resources if the bill is passed.

"It will cost about \$750,000 for a scientific study," he said. "If we don't spend a cent out of this district, it would take about



State considers bill affecting local groundwater district

Groundwater conservation district directors Chuck Hall (from left), Hadley Wardlaw, Chris Ring and Don Hood listen to citizen input during a recent meeting. The local district has been the topic of a bill being considered by the Senate's Natural Resources Committee. Local citizens are divided over the bill.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

eight years of tax money before we could even afford it."

Local rancher Danette Coates said the district has already been fiscally irresponsible.

"The water district has spent

over \$100,000 on a lawyer and not \$1 on hydrology," she said.

"I want the board to spend more money on studying what we have before we divide it."

Melancon said he felt the bill

needed some changes.

"I think it has some good points, but the same is true with the rules of our district now — they need work," he said. "I don't think 1886 is going to fix

it. I don't feel that this addresses the whole problem and is going to fix it. I think there are some major problems with this bill that could be very detrimental to this county."

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Fond farewell

Carolyn Rutherford (right) visits with Julie Molano (left) and Martha Padron last week during a farewell party given in her honor. Rutherford has resigned as Kinney County's EMS director and emergency management coordinator to accept a new job with the Texas Department of Health.

Photo by Jewel Robinson

Sheffield discusses DAR project

Ella E. Lee Sheffield of Smithville, a member of the Lost Pines Chapter NSDAR, spoke on the Kings Highway project at the Uvalde de las Encinas Chapter meeting Saturday.

Presently, Lee serves as the Texas state Chairman for this project.

The Kings Highway was marked by the Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution. The project began in November 1911 at the TSDAR Conference in Galveston.

Maps were used dating back to 1683 to help survey this early trail going across Texas. It starts at Pendleton on the Sabine River and ends in Maverick County at the Rio Grande River. A few of the counties it passes through are LaSalle, Dimmit and Atascosa counties.

There were 128 markers placed every 5 miles apart, and at corners and river crossings. The first marker was placed in San Antonio and the second in Nacogdoches.

These boulders are of Texas granite, 5 feet high and 3 1/2 feet wide, setting on a large base of concrete.

The boulders are inscribed "Kings Highway, Camino Real, Old San Antonio Road marked by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the State of Texas A.D. 1918."

During the years, the location of many of the markers have been lost. Anyone knowing where a marker is located is asked to contact a DAR member.

The meeting began with the opening ritual, led by regent Pat McKelvy, who was assisted by chaplain Bea Carmichael.

The national defense report was given by Freida Rogers. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and the treasurer's report was accepted.

Applicant members Joanna Barker, Ann Pedersen and Anne McWhorter were welcomed, along with Sheffield and SAR member Clark Davis.

The resignation of Edith Frazell as chapter treasurer was accepted with regret. Sharon Gass was elected to complete the term of office.

Louise Stone announced that the local chapter will be hosting the DAR Hill Country Council on Thursday, May 8, at the Uvalde Country Club.

Vice regent Janie Van Hoozer gave a report of the recent state convention and congratulated Pat McKelvy on being selected as the Texas DAR Outstanding Volunteer Field Genealogist of the Year. Louise Stone was commended for all her work on the chapter's press book, which placed second in the state. The chapter earned a total of 26 awards.

The final meeting of the year will be on Saturday, May 17, at Uvalde's Holiday Inn. Registration is at 10:30 a.m., followed by the meeting at 11.

The DAR Good Citizens from Brackettville, Pearsall and Uvalde and their guests will be recognized.

Beet salad is refreshing

This salad is one of the most refreshing I've experienced. Beets are not top most in my line of favorites, unless they are spiced or pickled, but this dish moved them up into the Top 10 division.

Congeaed Beet Salad

Here's what we need: one regular size can of diced beets, two 3-ounce packages of raspberry gelatin, 1 1/2 cups of water, 1 1/2 cups of beet juice, 1/2 cup of wine vinegar, 1 teaspoon of grated onion, 1 teaspoon of mustard seed and 1 cup sugar.

Heat water and the beet juice from the can. If there is not enough juice, add water to make



Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

a 1 1/2 cup. Add sugar and bring to a boil. Pour over gelatin and stir to dissolve. Allow to cool.

Add vinegar, onion and mustard seed, and then stir in diced beets. Pour into a 9-by-9-inch square dish or any desired mold. Refrigerate several hours to congeal. Serve in squares or slices.

Lions Club elects officers

The Brackettville Lions Club elected new officers last Thursday at a meeting at Los Moras Restaurant.

New officers include Mary Dixon, president; Tom McNew and John Dixon, vice presidents; Donna Saylor, secretary and treasurer; Bobbi Waddill, tail twister; Lynn McNew, lion tamer; and Norma Connor, Eileen Voracek and Zeni McKelvy, directors.

The Lions will be helping the FCS Recreation Committee with the annual Easter Egg Hunt for

children to age 10 on Good Friday at 2 p.m. at Rendevous Park.

On Thursday, March 20, the Lions honored longtime member Walt Bauguess and his lovely wife, Tina, with a dinner in their honor. Lion Walt was presented a copy of the charter of the club and also a certificate of appreciation for his many years of service to the Brackettville Lions Club and Lions International.

He has served in many capacities, receiving many awards for the number of members he has brought into the club.

Junior high students compete in UIL

Brackett Junior High students recently participated in the district UIL academic competition.

In the eighth-grade competition, Josh O'Neill and Kara Yeager were first and sixth in math. O'Neill and Alison Carroll were first and sixth in ready writing. Carroll was also claimed third-place honors in impromptu speaking and was fourth in spelling, while Clint Conrad took second place in computer generated art.

In the seventh-grade competition, Heather Baggett and Meghann Davis were first and

second in spelling, Conrad Moore was third in math, Bianca Stewart was third in ready writing, Bailee Allen was fourth in impromptu speaking and Anolda Watkins was fifth in black and white art.

In the sixth-grade competition, Laura Swinson was first in math, first in calculator and fourth in maps, graphs and charts. Emily Calk and Becca Mann were second and fifth in ready writing, Brooke Bowlin claimed fourth place in spelling and Jared Harris was fifth in oral reading.

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FAIR HOUSING IT'S THE LAW!

This year marks the thirty-fifth (35th) Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law. To promote fair housing practices, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act 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.

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To serve on the Brackett School Board of Trustees would give me the opportunity to give back to a community that has supported my business for 10 years. I feel I can bring not only an informed but also an objective mind to the Board of Trustees. Strong leadership makes a great school and exceptional students which in turn makes a solid and bright future for us all. I would like to have a part in shaping that future.

Elija a Sondra Meil para el Consejo de la Mesa Directiva de la escuela de Brackett el 3 de mayo de 2003.

18 años de residencia en el condado de Kinney 10 años como una dueña de negocio. 2 años de servir de presidenta del Comité Consultor de BISD

Servir en el Consejo de la Mesa Directiva de la escuela de Brackett, me daría la oportunidad de devolver a la comunidad que ha sostenido mi negocio por 10 años. Yo siento que puedo traer una actitud comunicativa y una mente objetiva a la Mesa Directiva.

Una dirección fuerte hace a una escuela magnífica y a sus estudiantes excepcionales que en cambio marca un futuro brillante y sólido para todos. Apreciaría tener una parte en formar ese futuro.

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Super S Foods celebrated its 30th year anniversary with a gathering in Brackettville.

Matrix celebrates first-year anniversary in Brackettville

The Brackettville branch of the Matrix Rehabilitation Center is celebrating its one-year anniversary.

Matrix Rehabilitation Center is a licensed and certified outpatient rehabilitation facility.

Matrix Rehabilitation Center provides a wide range of service, such as physical therapy, speech language therapy, and social and vocational counseling.

The center's premise has always been to treat the patient, not just the problem.

When a patient first comes to Matrix Rehabilitation Center, they are immediately greeted by a friendly and courteous staff that truly cares about the patient and takes pride in the work they do.

Matrix Rehabilitation Center established the Brackettville branch a year ago after treating several patients from the Kinney Country area and realizing that patients had to go through tremendous hardships and travel expense to come to Del Rio or Uvalde for rehabilitation services.

With that in mind, the Ma-

trix Rehabilitation Center began bringing the therapy to the patients.

The center opened a branch location at 503 S. Ann St. in Brackettville to address these long-overlooked needs.

Currently, Matrix Rehabilitation Center is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. to care for the needs of the people of Kinney County.

Matrix Rehabilitation accepts assignment of benefits on all insurance plans, as well as Medicare, Medicaid and worker's compensation.

All that is required is a physician's order to initiate and evaluation and subsequent treatment.

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Matrix Rehabilitation is proud to be an active member of the Kinney County community and looks forward to continuing a wonderful relationship with the outstanding people of Brackettville.



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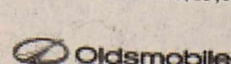
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Tigerettes win district track title

DILLEY — The Tigerettes had nine qualify for regionals after winning the District 30-2A track title last Thursday.

Brackett's boys finished third overall and will send five runners to the regional meet.

The Tigerettes won the meet with 171 points, while Three Rivers was second with 126 and George West was third with 100. Dilley and Natalia finished fourth and fifth with 83 points, respectively, while Freer had 54½ points.

The top two individuals in each event advance to the regional meet on April 25-26 in San Marcos. They will participate in a qualifiers' meet today in Fredericksburg.

Courtney Frerich, Rachel Swinson, Stacey Castilla and Vanessa Williams won the gold in the 800-meter relay with a time of 1:51.8. In the mile relay, Divina Pena, Stephanie Coronado, Swinson and Castilla were first with a 4:15.3.

Swinson also qualified for regionals in the 400 after winning the gold with a 61.8, while Williams took first in the 200 with a 27.7.

Frerich and Tammy Smith finished first and second in the

300-meter hurdles with times of 49.59 and 51.0, respectively. Smith also advanced to the regional meet in the triple jump after placing second. She was third in the 100-meter hurdles after being clocked at 17.1.

Juliann Ashabranner won the gold in the 1600 and 3200 with times of 5:40.3 and 12:29.6, respectively.

Ashley Castillo advanced to regionals after winning the 800 with a 2:32.06. Castillo was also third in the 1600 with a 6:12.4, while Jessi Crane was third in the 3200 with a 14:11.4.

Coronado was third in the 800 with a 2:34.1 and fifth in the 400 with a 65.5.

The sprint relay team of Caitlyn Wylie, Dana Bonner, Brandy Smith and Timmeke Simmons took fifth with a 54.04.

Williams was third in the 100 with a 13.4, Pena finished fourth with a 13.67 and Wylie took fifth with a 13.8. Castilla and Wylie were also fifth and sixth in the 200 with times of 28.7 and 28.8, respectively.

In other field events, Castilla and Frerich were third and sixth in the high jump, respectively, Shanae Simmons was fifth in the shot put, Tye Taylor was sixth

in the discus, and Tammy Smith was sixth in the long jump.

Terrell Freeman qualified for regionals in three events to lead the Tigers to a third-place finish in the boys' division.

Freeman won the gold in the 200 after being clocked at 24.1. He was also third in the long jump.

Freeman teamed with Tito Hidalgo, Cody Edwards and Mark Kesteloot to take second in the 400-meter relay with a 45.3.

Hidalgo, Edwards, Freeman and Watkins were second in the 800 relay with a time of 1:34.6.

Hidalgo was third in the 100 with an 11.68. Sanchez took fourth in the discus, while Glenn Morgan was fourth in the shot put and sixth in the 100 with an 11.9.

Cody Edwards placed fourth in the 100 with an 11.78, while Tres Rueda was fourth in the 110-high hurdles with a 17.5 and fourth in the 300 hurdles with a 44.8.

Kesteloot, Watkins, Tony Rosetti and Noe Talamantes were fourth in the 1600-meter relay with a time of 3:42.

Kesteloot was also fourth in the 400 with a 51.9 and fifth in

the shot put, while Rosetti finished second in the 200 with a 24.8.

Talamantes was fifth in the 400 with a 54.8 and sixth in the 800 with a 2:14, while Kody Yeager was sixth in the 300 hurdles with a time of 47.3.

In the junior varsity boys' division, Ramiro Pina won the 100 with a 12.4 and the 200 with a 27.6 He was also second in the long jump.

Rolando Ortiz won the shot put competition, finished third in the 300 hurdles with a 50.3 and was fourth in the 110 hurdles with a 20.8.

Ortiz and Pina teamed with Miles Braesicke and Star Smith to take third in the sprint relay with a time of 50.0.

Smith was also second in the triple jump, while Braesicke was second in the 110 hurdles with a 19.5, third in the 200 with a 29.1 and fifth in the discus.

In the junior varsity girls' division, Alanna Conoly won the 400 with a time of 71.09 and was fifth in the 200 with a 32.09.

Vickie Resendez was third in the 400 with a time of 74.9, while Kaylynn Perez was third in the 800 with a 3:08.6 and third in the 1600 with a 7:09.6.

Seventh-grade girls win first in conference

DILLEY — The Cubettes won two of three relays to take first place in the seventh-grade division in the District 30-2A track meet last Friday.

Anolda Watkins, Daphne Hunt, Julie Castillo and Bianca Stewart teamed to win the 800-meter relay, while Castillo, Hunt, Stewart and Bailee Allen won the mile relay.

The sprint team of Watkins, Amber Castilla, Capri Creech and Elva Garcia was fourth.

Allen won four other gold medals in the 100 hurdles, 300 hurdles, discus and shot put.

Stewart was first in the 400 and high jump, and second in the triple jump, while Garcia won the 1600 and 2400 and was fifth in the high jump.

Castillo was first in the 200 and long jump, while Hunt was first in the 800 and was third in the discus. Watkins was second in the 200, while Castilla was third in the 400 and sixth in the high jump.

The Cubettes took fifth place overall in the eighth-grade girls' division.

Nadine Terrazas, Lola

Cano, Danika Schmidt and Kara Yeager took second in the 800 and 1600 relays.

Schmidt was first in the 300 hurdles and sixth in the high jump. Lisa Morgan was second in the high jump, third in the 100, fifth in the 200 and sixth in the 400, while Emily Valenzuela was fourth in the high jump and the 100.

Yeager was third in the 800 and sixth in the discus, Cano was fourth in the 2400 and Terrazas was fifth in the 400.

In seventh-grade boys, Travis Bonner was second in the 200, third in the 100, 400 and high jump and fifth in the long jump.

Chuy Balderas, Lane Nowlin, Israel Dehoyos and Manny Rosas were fifth in the 400 and 800 relays. Dehoyos was also fifth in the discus and Rosas was sixth in the 200.

In eighth-grade boys, Ivan Pinales, Robert Davis, Josh O'Neill and Clint Conrad were fourth in the 1600 and fifth in the 400 relays. Pinales was also third in the 200, and Davis was fifth in the 100.

Brackett tennis teams claim top honors

UVALDE — Brackett had six players qualify for regionals as the Tigers and Tigerettes claimed the District 30-2A tennis titles last week.

Maarten Vos won the boys' singles title and Jackie Duncan won the girls' singles title. In girls' doubles, Sarah Meyer and Ashley Smith won first while

Whitney Hobbs and Kristin Meyer were second.

Shadene Gum placed third in girls' singles, while Tillman Davis and Tony Jamail were third in boys' doubles.

Brackett hosted the junior high district tournament.

In junior high singles, Bailee Allen, Amy Doriocourt and Ash-

ley Stephenson took the top three spots in seventh-grade girls, Laura Meyer and Robin Pevelow were first and second in eighth-grade girls, Alex Gonzales won the seventh-grade boys title, and Cullen Duncan was third in eighth-grade boys.

In girls' doubles, Whitney Gum and Erica Rodri-guez finished first, Allyson Del Bosque and Natasha Smith took second, Amber Castilla and Bianca Stewart finished third, and Capri Creech and Anolda Watkins were fourth. In boys' doubles, Stanford Conoly and Michael Stephenson took top honors, while Josh Kluzak and Chris Seargeant claimed second place.

OUTDOORS

State department proposes increasing fees

Faced with increasing demand for services and increasing costs, the Finance Committee of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission has authorized publishing in the Texas Register a proposal to increase selected hunting and fishing licenses and boat registration and titling fees by approximately 20 percent.

TPWD will schedule a series of public meetings for April and May and take public comments by phone, mail and e-mail before the commission considers a final vote about the fee proposal at its May 29 meeting.

If approved, new hunting and fishing fees would take effect when new season licenses go on sale this fall. Boat fees could change sooner, depending on commission action.

"We haven't raised license and boat fees since 1996," said Katharine Armstrong, TPWD commission chairman. "In the past two years, we've worked hard to set our financial house in order and looked for all the cost-savings we can find. I think we have done a good job on that front and believe this fee proposal is warranted and reasonable."

"In recent years we've added game wardens in the field and upgraded facilities statewide, among other improvements. Our customers get an excellent value for the licenses and fees they pay."

"We need the support of our

conservation constituents, the hunters, anglers and boaters of Texas, and we'll be working to explain to them the reasons for this proposal," she said.

The commission considered a fee increase in 2001, but decided to focus first on reducing costs and honing financial practices instead. For several years, TPWD has been able to avoid increasing fees by spending down fund balances left over at the end of each fiscal year. Those fund balances are now gone.

"In legislative committee meetings this year, we briefed state leaders on the possibility of a fee increase," said Robert L. Cook, TPWD executive director. "It's no secret that state budgets are tight this year, and I don't see it getting better next year."

"Earlier this year, we initiated a hiring freeze, eliminated out-of-state travel and drastically reduced capital expenditures like vehicles and boats. If we're going to provide the core services people expect, additional revenue is needed."

According to the Texas Comptroller's revenue estimates, by the end of the 2004-05 fiscal biennium, TPWD will be facing a \$10 million shortfall unless the agency generates additional revenue.

Meanwhile, although fees have not increased since 1996, agency costs have risen sharply in some areas.

Electricity rates have gone



A Little on the Wildlife Side

Henry Lutz

up about 30 percent in some parts of the state. Chronic wasting disease testing and response has generated unanticipated costs. Additional employees in the field mean higher costs, including items with escalating costs, like boat and vehicle fuel.

The fee proposal says the popular super combo license, which includes all licenses and stamps needed to hunt or fish in Texas, would increase from \$49 to \$59. The super combo generated almost \$17 million last year — that's about one-fourth of the 2002 gross license revenue of \$69 million. Resident fishing and resident hunting licenses would each increase from \$19 to \$23.

All told, TPWD has 162 license types. Hunting and fishing stamps and senior and youth license types would not increase. Commercial licenses and state park fees would likewise not be affected if the current proposal goes through.

A staff analysis showed that with the proposed increases, TPWD fees would be in line with cost of living increases since 1996.

For example, although the

super combo license now costs \$49, its seven-year inflation value is \$58.25, about the same as the proposed increase to \$59.

Boat registration and titling fees would also increase for the first time since 1996. Boat registration for vessels less than 16 feet would increase from \$25 to \$30. Boats from 16 to 25 feet would go from \$40 to \$50. Boats 26 feet to 40 feet would go from \$55 to \$70. Boats more than 40 feet long would go from \$70 to \$90. Rental boat fees would go from \$15 to \$30. Titles for all boats would increase from \$15 to \$25.

Boat fee revenue is currently dedicated for use only in Fund 9, which pays for fisheries and wildlife management and law enforcement.

But TPWD's greatest need is in Fund 64 for state parks, where close to 90 employee positions have been held vacant for more than a year to save money. Proposed legislation would allow TPWD to use up to 15 percent of boat revenue in Fund 64. This would help cover costs at 26 lake-based state parks with boat ramps and other facilities.

If the fee increase proposal passes, it would bring in an additional \$13.8 million in revenue for fiscal year 2004.

The proposal will be submitted to the Texas Register the week of April 8 and is expected to be published in the register April 25.

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Vote Mark Frerich for School Board Trustee

I, Mark Frerich, am currently seeking a position on the Brackett School Board. I attended Kindergarten through 12th grade at BISD and graduated from San Angelo State University with a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology. I presently work for Union Pacific Railroad. I am married to Amanda, and we have three daughters: Madison 6, Kate, 5, and Kirstin 3. A school system requires dedication, integrity, and equality in order to excel, and I'd be honored to work in a system that strives for these qualities. I would appreciate your vote in the school board election. Thank you.

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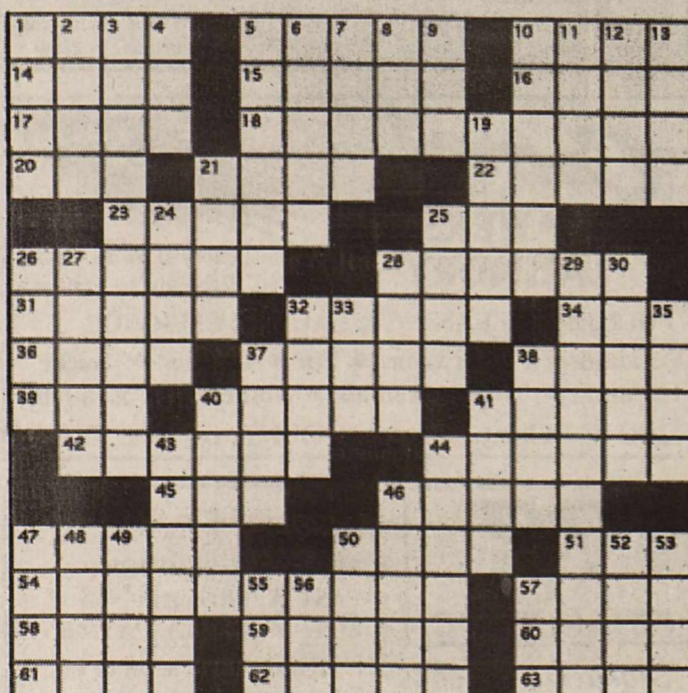
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
1 Word of lament
5 Human trunks
10 Location
14 Wait
15 Of arms and legs
16 What you; anything else of a similar sort
17 Hand-capped
18 Capital city
20 Assam silkworm
21 Sporting equipment
22 Occasion
23 Bawl out
25 Exist
26 Take for granted
28 Blustery conditions
31 Ending for York or Worcester
32 Miles per hour
34 Ripe old age
36 One of Hamlet's choices
37 Scrub
38 D doubled plus 151
39 Bird with a sharp sense of sight and sound
40 City in New York
41 Color
42 Cowardly
44 Dwells on with delight
45 to; increase
46 Soupy
47 Without
48 happy-go-lucky
50 Items on a list to Santa
51 Barracks
54 In a marvelous way
57 Region
58 Narrow way
59 Long for
60 King Kong and family
61 Brit. currency
62 Becomes bored
63 Bother
DOWN
1 Qualified
2 One not to be
3 Like some court evidence
4 Use one of the senses
5 Football position
6 Egg-shaped
7 off; robs
8 So, on the braes
9 Place to spend the night
10 Lad; colloq.
11 Part of a book
12 Hot spot
13 Item made of canvas
19 John the Baptist's captor
21 Indefinite amount
24 Remedy
25 Sun disk
26 In the matter of
27 Ostentatious
28 Connery or Penn
29 Lab item
30 system
32 Committed homicide
33 Tiny, round item
35 Paintings
37 Clumsy one
38 Relocate
40 More mature
41 30th president & others
43 Place where food is kept
44 Give permission
46 Find the answer to
47 Leather workers' tools
48 Garment
49 Ms. Bancroft
50 Title for former rulers
52 Bills
53 Trial
55 All Saints' Day's fore-runner; abbr.
56 Swiss canton
57 Hit with a stun gun



Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
1. The Polaroid Land camera; 2. "Hallmark Hall of Fame"; 3. Ford; 4. Jimmy Carter; 5. Draw; 6. Herbert T. Gillis; 7. The Ronettes; 8. "Armageddon"; 9. Eastern; 10. Pepsi

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: U. S. STATES

Grid with letters: E R I H S P M A H W E N
I I A W A H D X G D A P
D T G A C S A X E T R A
U A N Y K C A W O I I M
A N I S K S S K R D Z O
N A M L D C A Q G E O H
A I O K L D U L I M N A
I S Y J H I O T A S A L
D I W T C H N I N D S R
N U U D A Q N O G E R O
I O X D W E O H I O K S
S L I C E W K A N S A S

- 1. Arizona
2.
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12.
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20.

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- 1. What camera made its debut in 1960?
2. What show sponsored by a greeting card company presented original TV plays, musical comedy, adaptations and Broadway shows?
3. What company did Lee Iacocca leave to join Chrysler?
4. Whose presidential memoirs were titled "Keeping Faith"?
5. What did John Nagy try to teach people to do?
6. What was the name of Dobbie Gillis' father on "The Many Loves of Dobbie Gillis"?
7. What group did Ronnie Bennett, who married Phil Spector, belong to?
8. What Leon Uris novel chronicles the Berlin airlift?
9. What now-defunct airline's motto was "We Have to Earn Our Wings Every Day"?
10. What is Hugh Hefner's favorite kind of soda?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Apr. 17.....Julie Ashabanner Apr. 20.....Bobbie Schaefer
Apr. 17.....Josefine Monroy Apr. 20.....Debbie Smith
Apr. 17.....Jean Seargeant Apr. 21.....Louis Baur
Apr. 18.....San Juanita Abrigo Apr. 21.....Timmy Garcia
Apr. 18.....Corina Muniz Apr. 21.....Severo Martinez
Apr. 18.....Roxanna Payne Apr. 22.....Debra Bauntello
Apr. 18.....Wilma Yates Apr. 23.....Adam Caton
Apr. 20.....Calvin Oliver Apr. 23.....Sara Gonzales
Apr. 23.....Norma Sandoval

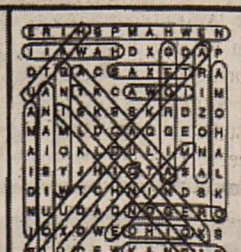
HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Unexpected news hits home. However, your take-charge attitude is all that's needed. This weekend, all becomes clear.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) An unexpected social invitation comes your way. Welcome this. The occasion could have fortuitous business undertones.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Married couples experience renewed commitment. In business, it's smooth sailing this week. Later, a minor budgetary problem crops up.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You're so concerned about your upcoming weekend plans, you ignore what's happening in front of you. Try to concentrate. It's also a wise idea to get enough rest this week.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You get an A+ for cooperation this week. You're able to open up and take others' suggestions freely. By week's end, you're happy with the ultimate outcome.
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A bigwig confuses your work with someone else's. Correct this, but in a low-key manner. A calm attitude will get you further than ranting and raving.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You continue to shine in the spotlight. However, some stolen moments alone help you tremendously. Over the weekend, your leadership capabilities come to the fore.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A key decision needs to be made. This will bode well, though, for the future. This weekend, your mate has some relationship issues.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) You find yourself puzzling over something early in the week. While it's a bit troublesome, you can find the answers. Listening to others is the key.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're in a buoyant mood as the week begins. It seems nothing can ruffle your feathers. At week's end, a pleasant social outing is satisfying.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A minor physical problem keeps you confined to bed early in the week. Once you're up, though, you rise with a vengeance! Others are impressed.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Finances are important, and you realize that. However, avoid being overly frugal. You don't want to appear cheap.

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- Roaring Twenties Solution:
1. Alaska
2. Arizona
3. Georgia
4. Hawaii
5. Idaho
6. Illinois
7. Indiana
8. Iowa
9. Kansas
10. Kentucky
11. Louisiana
12. Maine
13. New Hampshire
14. Ohio
15. Oklahoma
16. Oregon
17. South Dakota
18. Texas
19. Utah
20. Wyoming



Find the answers in Jesus

ROME — My dear brothers and sisters of Brackettville: Peace and grace be with you. Our Lord Jesus said "deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

It seems in the last 50 years that the church has been going through a heavy squall. Many have left Christ. There is an attack on Christianity everywhere. It seems like Christ is asleep while the church sinks.

To understand this we have to look back and see how Christ dealt with the Apostles that night on the sea; we have to "be still and know that I am God."

We've seen squalls come up before in the time of St. Benedict, St. Francis, as well as many others, and we find ourselves here again.

How can we stop the storm? Many have tried programs or movements or what have you, but the only way we can stop the storm is Jesus. We have to enter into the Paschal mystery of Jesus. We usually want to look everywhere but Christ. The only one who can transform the children of America is Christ.

You have to be able to give them and teach them the Paschal mystery. You have to be able to show them with your life.

Everything in their life is about entering into oneness with Jesus in his Paschal mystery. If you can see this, then your life has meaning — you come to understand the purpose of life.

Jesus stands condemned, sentenced to death on the cross — that is you too. (Mark 15:6-15)

They put on him the garments of royalty. They want to clothe you in the ways of the world. You must clothe yourselves in the garments of Christ and people will recognize you as being from Christ.

Expect to be rejected if you are like Christ. You will be a sign of contradiction. All must go through the way of the Cross to get to heaven.

The friends of Jesus were shocked when they saw him on the way of the cross and so people will be shocked when they see you going on the way of the cross. In this way, you will penetrate the lives of the people.

They put the heavy cross on



Postcard Home

Brother Henry Clay Hunt III

his shoulders (John 19:17). The cross is heavy and you can't carry it without the grace of God, "for nothing will be impossible for God." (Luke 1:37)

To see how to carry the cross we look to Jesus. They tried to wipe the joy off the face of Jesus on the way of the cross, but they couldn't do it. I'm not speaking of grinning from ear to ear under the weight of the cross, but we must have a contentment of joy and smiling. This is a joy that wells up from within that no one can take away.

The altar is on the way of the cross. That is why we come to the altar — to be crucified with Christ. It is a way of love. Like the way of the cross, your love has to reach to every generation and all people.

The cross is the septer by

which Christ triumphed and by which you will triumph. By this, your enemies will flee. It is the key to open the gates of heaven.

By the cross, you will enter into the sanctuary of heaven. God chose us in our poverty and he enriches us in himself.

Jesus seeks friends who long to follow and imitate him. He is looking for friends. He doesn't have too many.

Reflect on the sacred mysteries of your life — they will take you deeper into the mysteries of Christ. The cross doesn't make sense unless it is in the divine light of God.

Jesus didn't question the cross, he took it up with joy and kissed it because it was the will of the Father. (Matthew 26:39)

To understand this mystery, we can ask his Blessed Mother to help us.

As I know you suffer in your lives, my dear friends, it is my prayer that the Father send his Holy Spirit to console, strengthen, and guide you. May the Ark of the Covenant shelter you and may she bring you to what is within.

Unhealthy eating brings sickness

"Robert," Diane yelled. "Supper's on the table. Wash your hands and come to eat."

Robert obediently came to the table after washing his hands. Looking at the food, his face showed obvious displeasure at the prospects of what he had to eat.

"Mom, you know I don't like this stuff," he said. "Why can't you just fix what I like?"

"Well," Diane replied, "for one thing, we'd be eating the same thing day after day. The rest of the family would get kind of tired of the same thing all the time, don't you think?"

Robert took a minute to think, and answered: "So, just fix it for me and then fix whatever everybody else wants too."

Diane looked him directly in the eye: "And you think I can fix something different for each person in the family?"

"Sounds good to me,"

Robert whined. Hoping to get his dad on his side, Robert said, "Don't you think that would be a good idea, Dad?"

Jonathan looked at his son and then at his wife, both of whom were wondering how he would weigh in on this one. Jonathan knew he needed to support his wife. At the same time, he saw the opportunity for Robert to learn something.



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

"Son," Jonathan began, "it's partly a matter of good health and partly a matter of discipline. You can't have good health without a balanced diet, and you can't have a balanced diet without discipline."

"Look, Dad, I don't need a lecture," Robert retorted. Undeterred, Jonathan continued: "Son, long ago a very wise man said that while you are young and in good health you must learn to govern your appetites. You must not allow yourself to be drawn only to the things you like because you can become gluttonous for the foods of choice."

"Unhealthy eating brings on sickness and death comes from lack of self-control. Good judgment in regards to what you eat brings health and a long life." (Sirach 37:26-30)

■ **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.

Pastor embarks on new journey

Today is Maundy Thursday, the traditional day for celebration of the Last Supper Jesus shared with his followers.

It is a time to celebrate extended family and the closeness of discipleship. It is a time to look back on the journey shared and to look ahead to the next journey. It is a time of change and of sameness. It is a time to address our relationships and priorities.

This evening at First United Methodist Church in Brackettville, I will share my final Maundy Thursday with my church family and friends. I will be leaving Brackettville June 2 for the next calling God has in store for me.

This special service of Holy Communion will be bittersweet. I have fondly, and I hope humbly, served God in this little seg-



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Ken F. Sellers

ment of God's kingdom.

I have learned much about God from my church family, my ecumenical friends, and the lovely people here.

In one sense, a Methodist pastor is most fortunate. He gets to accumulate more and more spiritual mentors and companions as he moves from church to church at the call of the bishop.

In another sense, the Methodist pastor is most unfortunate. He must say a tearful goodbye to many loved ones that have helped bear his pains and bur-

dens for a period of time.

No matter, the journey is the most important aspect of serving God, not what can be accumulated or what is left behind.

The joy of being a Christian is knowing that one always returns to journey with their Christian family when God calls us all together for eternity in God's presence and in the presence of all other Christians.

If our journey together has touched you in any way, I pray that you will find it has been to the glory of God and for the love of your neighbor.

If our journey has been meaningful to you in any way, then I pray you will know that your segment continues without me and that it is just as important as when we traveled together.

God calls me to be placed elsewhere. God calls you to stay.

God calls us both to bear fruit for the kingdom of God where we are, now and in the future.

May your journey continue to bless others as much as it has me.

May your witness be as loving to others as it was to me.

Until we meet again, in this journey or when God calls us together for the eternal segment, to God I commend each and every one of you.

Please join us in the journey to the cross tonight at 6 for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The journey in obedience to God's call begins in any of the many places of worship in Brackettville this Sunday. If you have no church home, come visit us at First United Methodist Church on James Street for worship Sunday at 10:45 a.m.

Crucifixion has a long history

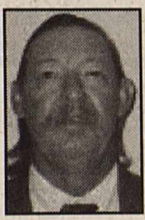
With Easter nearly upon us, I got to wondering about crucifixion — the who, what, when where and why. So, I did a little research and here is what I found out.

Crucifixion was a method of capital punishment among the Persians, Seleucids, Jews and Romans from about the 6th century B.C. to the 4th century A.D.

As an instrument of death, the cross was abhorred by both Jews and Romans, although the Romans were the ones who administered execution by crucifixion.

Here's an interesting note: According to Roman law, no Roman citizen could be crucified, which may explain why St. Paul was executed by beheading.

Among the Romans, crucifixion was normally preceded by scourging, probably to hasten death. That is, the condemned



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

man was usually whipped and forced to drag or carry the cross beam to where the upright was already standing.

His hands were tied or nailed to the cross beam, which was then attached to the upright, some 9 to 12 feet above the ground, and his feet bound or nailed, or in some cases staked to the upright.

If a man was merely tied to the cross, nothing else was done and he was left to die of starvation, heart failure or asphyxiation. If he was nailed or staked, a potion was sometimes given to

deaden the pain.

The combination of inflamed wounds, heat, exposure, hunger, thirst and possible tetanus made crucifixion a truly horrible means of death.

Although the time required to kill a man by crucifixion varied with the stamina of the individual, death rarely came sooner than 36 hours. This explains the astonishment of Pilate when he received word that Jesus was already dead after only a few hours on the cross.

Death was sometimes hastened, as in the case of the two thieves who died with Christ, by breaking the legs of the victims.

Mostly, it was political or religious agitators and those without civil rights that were crucified.

Crucifixion was abolished by Constantine I in 337 A.D. after his conversion to Christianity.

Matthew 27:29 says, "And when they had plaited a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand; and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, hail, king of Jews."

Luke 23:33, "And when they were come to the place which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and malefactors (thieves), one on the right hand and the other on the left."

Philippians 2:8, "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Hebrews 12:2, "Looking upon Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Walk with Christ in prayer and sacrifice

I enjoy walking — it is good exercise and also a good time to think and pray. Unfortunately, I don't walk as often as I should or as I would like. This is a good week to think about walking. The weather is nice and this is the time, as the Bible tells us, when Jesus walked triumphantly into Jerusalem. There are many stories in the Bible telling us of Jesus walking through the countryside, preaching and teaching as his friends and followers walked with him.

When I read the Bible, I love to imagine myself in the crowd, walking along the hot, dusty road, following a Man in a long, flowing robe and carrying a shepherd's staff. All the people are walking as closely as they can to Him so as not to miss a word He says. I can see Him as He stops to speak to a child or rest for a minute under a small tree. I can see people offering Him a drink from their wineskins or a piece of fruit to eat.

I think He was sometimes so focused on teaching the people all He wanted them to know in the short time He had left that He might have often forgotten

to eat, unless someone reminded Him. John's gospel (12:12-15) and Luke's gospel (19:28-38) tell us about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem before He was condemned to death.

He knew what lay ahead of Him and yet He was willing to make this walk, still preaching and teaching to the people who laid down their cloaks and waved palm branches.

On Palm Sunday, at the beginning of Mass, we re-enact this walk with a blessing of palms and a short procession into the church, usually singing "The King of Glory Comes." Then, later in the Mass, we read the story of the Lord's Passion — His trial and death — a sad reminder of what is to come.

And, of course, the most infamous walk of all, as He walked the road to Calvary.

Many of the same people who cheered Him only days earlier were now jeering. Instead of waving palm branches, they were throwing stones. I'm not sure I would want to be in this crowd. I would hope I would be like Veronica, who reached out to wipe the blood and sweat



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

from Jesus' face. I would hope I would not be one of the "followers" who turned against Him.

I am reminded of a song: "Jesus walked this lonesome valley, He had to walk it by Himself. Nobody else could walk it for Him, He had to walk it by Himself." There is another song that expresses my feelings during this week: "Lord, let me walk that lonely road with You, under the weight of the wood. Lord, let me walk that last mile in Your shoes, under the weight of the wood."

Finally, I will close with a song that gives me hope: "Just a closer walk with Thee. Grant it, Jesus, is my plea. Daily walking close to Thee. Let it be, dear Lord, let it be."

Lord, as we celebrate this Holy Week, let me take time to

walk with You in prayer and sacrifice. Thank you for the great gift of Your life for us all.

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

During Holy Week there will be several services. Holy Thursday will be the evening Mass of the Last Supper at 7:30 p.m., with night watch at the "tomb" from 8:30 p.m. to midnight. On Good Friday, our two deacon candidates, Jim Bader and Joe Goebel, will offer a reflection on the seven last words of Christ at 2:15 p.m., followed by Stations of the Cross outside at 3 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. on Good Friday will be a celebration of the passion and death of Jesus. The Easter Vigil Mass will be Saturday at 7:30 p.m. There will be no 6:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday. There will be Spanish Mass at 8 a.m. and Mass at 10:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday. God Bless You!

On a personal note, our daughter-in-law heard from our son last Wednesday. He can't tell us where he is, but he is fine.

Thank you for all your concern and prayers for all our military men and women.

We have peace with God

At the Daniel Boone home near Defiance, Mo., stands a dead elm tree under which Boone, as the representative of the Spanish government, held judgement sessions between Indians and white settlers. It is called the "Judgement Tree."

In history, many things have been transacted under trees. Under the Washington Elm in Cambridge, Mass., George Washington took command of the Continental troops. Under the Treaty Tree in Texas, Stephen F. Austin signed boundary agreements with the Indians.

The Peace Tree on San Juan Hill in Cuba marked the spot where Theodore Roosevelt and the Rough Riders dislodged the enemy from their stronghold.

But no tree ever saw a greater event than the accursed tree — Calvary's cross. There Jesus was crucified on the tree of Calvary, the cross, so that sin and death might be defeated.

The cross was a Judgement Tree. On it Jesus endured the judgement of death for all humanity, judgement which the



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Nathan Lafrenz

righteous God demanded of all sinners. Jesus, the sinners, substitute, the Lamb of God, suffered death on Calvary's cross.

By that action of God through Christ, we sinners are forgiven and escape the judgement we deserve.

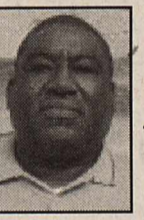
The Judgement Tree becomes the Peace Tree — the tree that brought peace with God. The cross loses its horror and threat of divine judgement when we keep in mind Paul's words: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Come and celebrate this peace bought for us through Christ's sacrifice on the cross of Calvary this Easter Sunday at 9 a.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Forgive and your Father will forgive

"Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

"But, if ye not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses." (St. Mark 11:24-26)



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

"Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men." (Psalms 107:8)

God Created the Church to be a Family for ALL His Children.

Sunday Schedule:

Bible School at 9:30 a.m.

Choir Practice at 10:15 a.m.

Worship at 10:45 a.m.

First United Methodist Church, "Home Away from Home"
Child care available upon request. 563-2823

Welcome! Church of Christ

808 N. Ann 563-2616
Sunday AM, 9:30 Classes, 10:30 Worship
Sunday PM 1:30
Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes
Minister: Ray Melton

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman
563-2245
Sunday: Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.
Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study

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DRIVER - COVENANT TRANS- PORT. 150 teams needed immediately. Ask about our priority dispatch. Owner/Operators, experienced drivers, solos, teams and graduate students. Call 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729).

DRIVERS - REGIONAL - 10 states (70%). Home weekly - \$600-\$800. OTR - start .32, 6 months experience with CDL/A. Owner Operators - OTR .83 loaded and empty. Call Bob, National Freight, 1-800-666-0380.

DRIVERS: TEAMS + Western Express = Success. Solid miles, good home time, competitive pay, benefits package, paid vacation. Class A-CDL, 22 years old, good MVR. 1-888-793-9732.

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24 MILLION POUND grain storage facility, 3 dryers, 2 dump pits, scales, office, Anhydrous Ammonia storage, TX Hwy. 194, 1.5 miles southeast of Hart, 1-806-938-2640.

FOR SALE

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GARAGE SALES

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YARD SALE FT. Clark 1004 Fairway Circle. Saturday, April 19, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Meeks residence

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TOBE CLEAN MCLT
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