

# The Brackett News



School board renews contracts for teachers  
See story, Page 4

15 year, No.12

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

## BRIEFS

### Old Quarry hosts wine and cheese party on Sunday

The Old Quarry Society will host its annual wine and cheese party and installation of officers on Sunday at 5 p.m. at Post Theatre. The public is invited to attend.

Officers for 2003-04 are Charlene Simmons, president; JoAnn Werner, first vice president; Gil Raymer, second vice president; Rosie Mattingly, secretary; and Tom McNew, treasurer.

The 2003-2004 season is in the planning stages, with "The Cemetery Club" to be presented as the first fall production and "Nun-crackers" as the Christmas offering.

Season tickets for 2003-2004 will be on sale in a few months. Current season ticket holders will be notified.

### Cavalry Brigade meets Saturday

What do mothers and the Cavalry Brigade have in common? Their work is never done!

Volunteers — help! You are needed for the monthly clean-up sponsored by Fort Clark Springs's Community Council. Regardless of physical ability, there is an assignment for everyone. Mustering takes place at Shafter Hall Saturday at 9 a.m. One of the perks is a delicious lunch from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m.

As the 5th Cavalry's motto "Loyalty and Courage," the Cavalry Brigade Company Z emulates "loyalty" to preserve Fort Clark's historical buildings and grounds and the courage to giddy-up and do it!

### Ward named SGA vice president



Ward

Diana Koch Ward is the new vice president of the Student Government Association at Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College following student-body elections last week.

The Brackettville native was sworn in Saturday at a ceremony at the Ramada Inn in Del Rio.

Ward is a senior elementary education major. She has a 4.0 grade-point average and was named to the Dean's List during the fall 2002 semester.

### Benefit luncheon

The Lutheran Church women hosted the Christian Ladies Luncheon last Monday. The money that was raised was given to Brackett High School for the senior graduation party.

# High voter turnout expected

## City Council, school board elections are Saturday

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Editor

With unusually large turnouts in early voting, officials are expecting similarly large numbers of voters Saturday in the Brackettville City Council and Brackett ISD Board of Trustees elections.

Early voting for both elections ended on Tuesday. There were 144 early voters, including 26 by mail, in the city election and 433 early voters, including 16 by mail, in the school board election.



Castillo



Frerich



Gerardo



Meil

"This is the best turnout we've ever had for early voting," City Manager David Luna said.

School board members Rose Mary Slubar and Tim Ward are not seeking re-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.

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.

All registered voters in Kinney County can vote in the school board election on Saturday at the Brackett ISD Central Office. Brackettville residents can cast their votes at City Hall.

## 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.

## Under New Leadership



Passing the torch  
Bobby Templeton (left) of Corpus Christi, hired last week as Brackett ISD's new superintendent, visits with current superintendent Taylor Stephenson.

## Templeton embraces new role

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Editor

Bobby Templeton has fond childhood memories of Brackettville. Now he is looking forward to making new memories in Brackettville. The Corpus Christi native is the new superintendent of schools at Brackett ISD.

"I used to come here a lot as a kid," he said. "My grandfather worked closely with Rio Grande Electric and had friends here. I would come and spend the summers here with him. I always loved the area and thought that if an opportunity ever came up to get down here, I was going to do my best to take it."

Templeton was officially named the new superintendent last week during a special school board meeting. He was selected from over 30 applicants seeking the position.

"We're very impressed with Bobby," said Tim Ward, school board president. "He seems to be very excited about having the new position. He is enthusiastic, has extensive experience and he has been in love with this area for a long time. We feel like it will be a good fit."

Templeton and his wife, Monica, have a 1-year-old son, Clay.

"My wife and I can't wait," he said. "We're looking for..."  
■ See TEMPLETON/Page 4

## Committee to share its concerns

Brackett ISD's recently-appointed Superintendent's Advisory Committee will make a report to superintendent Taylor Stephenson on Monday.

The committee was formed in March at the suggestion of the Justice Department and LULAC.

"This is something we have needed to do," Stephenson said. "The Justice Department suggestion gave us the impetus to get it going."

The committee has met four times, including a Town Hall meeting on April 7. The committee also met on April 14 and was open to hearing from patrons who wanted to speak in private.

"The committee has worked well together and we have all taken our charge seriously," said Dr. Donald Smith, chair of the committee. "The superintendent asked us to listen to the patrons and parents of the district and to make recommendations that would help make every child's experience in the BISSD schools the best it can be."

"We had a good turnout for the Town Hall meeting and heard comments that were all very constructive. We commend the community for being willing to speak."

The committee heard numerous comments that relate to areas of concern and places improvements can be made.

Smith said the Committee was able to distill the comments into six general areas of concern: cafeteria and nutrition, school and community communication, family and parental involvement, safety and risk management, student discipline and behavior, and athletics and extra-curricular activities.

■ See BISSD/Page 4

## INSIDE

### Shanae Simmons

Recently I found myself stressed out. I had a DVD to return and no ride to get there, a book to read, a worksheet to finish, and this article to write.  
Opinion/Page 2

### Henry Bonilla

I've spent recent weeks carefully following the war in Iraq. Among the heroes currently serving our nation are many legal immigrants.  
Opinion/Page 2

### Headed to state

Juliann Ashabranner and the relay team of Divina Pena, Stephanie Coronado, Rachel Swinson and Stacey Castilla are headed to the state meet.  
Sports/Page 5

## INDEX

Community .....	3-4
Classifieds .....	10
Health .....	7
Lifestyles .....	6-7
Opinion .....	2
Religion .....	9
Sports .....	5

## Water board approves first-ever well permit

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Editor

Tuesday was a historic day for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District.

The district's Board of Directors approved its first-ever well permit during a special meeting at the Courthouse.

The permit was approved for John Boerschig, an attorney from Katy, to drill a well on his ranch property on F.M. 334, approximately 2 miles north of the Brackettville mountain portion of the Evans U-Bar Ranch. The permit includes annual withdrawal of 300 acre-feet of water.

All seven board members — Chuck Hall, Don Hood, Chris Ring, Darlene Shahan, Cecil Smith, Hadley Wardlaw and Bob Young — voted to approve the permit, following the recommendation of Steve Walthour, interim general manager.

The directors also held a hearing Tuesday on two permit applications from Shahan Ranches. One of the wells is on property owned by Virigina Shahan and is seeking annual withdrawal of

"We think the public has not received sufficient notice since the public notice is not correct."  
Danette Coates

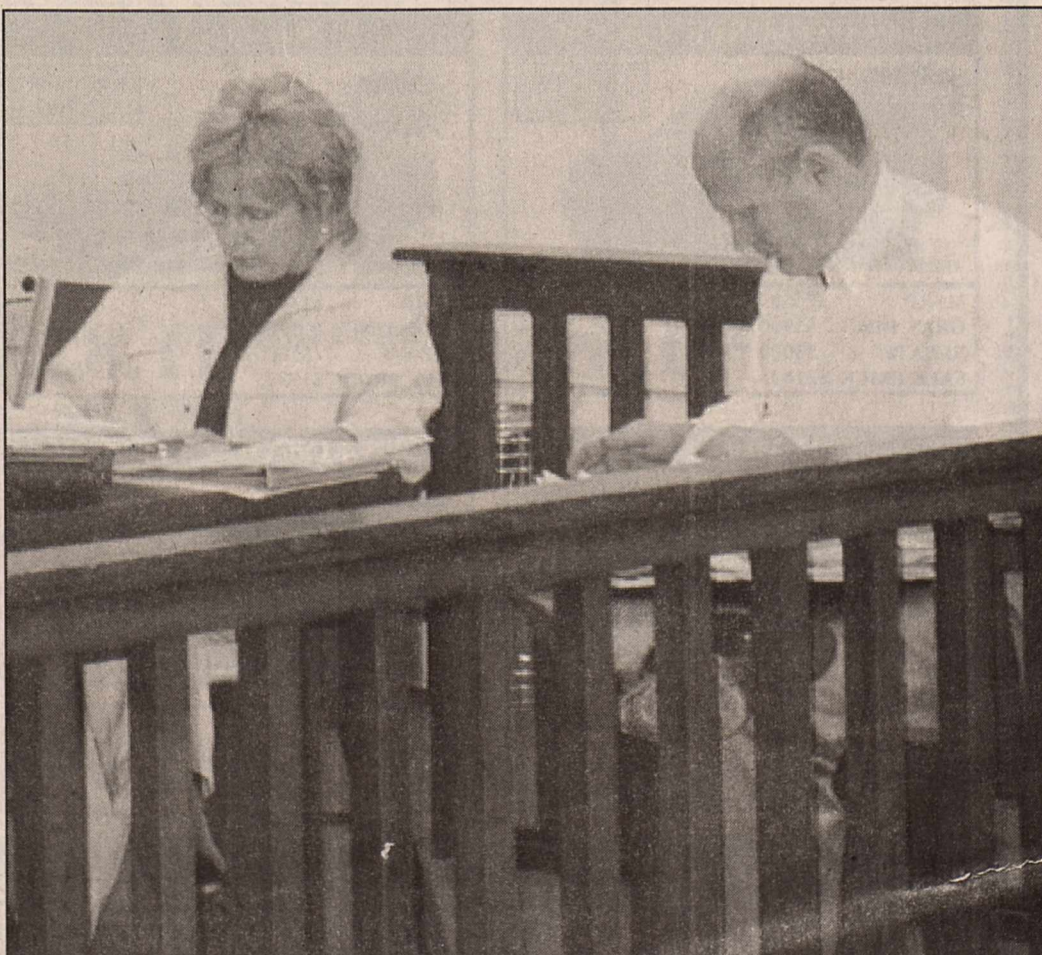
180 acre-feet of water, while the other is on property owned by Jamie Rains, Tulisha Wardlaw and Tully Shahan and is seeking annual withdrawal of 220 acre-feet of water.

The water will be used to irrigate to grow grass for the family's livestock business, according to Shahan.

Both of the wells produce approximately 1,100 gallons of water per minute.

The Shahans originally filed applications for historical use on the two wells, but withdrew the applications and filed for regular permits.

Danette Coates, whose family owns property adjacent to the Shahan's property, was the only person to present evidence in...  
■ See WATER/Page 4



Considering well permits  
Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District board member Darlene Shahan (left) and Steve Walthour, interim general manager, listen during presentations made Tuesday for well permit applications within the county.

Photo by J.J. Guidry



# Yellow Dart saves the day

Recently I found myself stressed out. I had left everything to be done at the last minute. I had a DVD to return and no ride to get there, a book to read, a worksheet to fill out, and this article to write. Oh yes, and I only had a few hours to do it in. I definitely had my work cut out for me.



Teen Spirit  
**Shanae Simmons**

I was sitting on the couch watching TV before I realized what time it was. Once I found out, I went into a rush. I knew I would get into trouble if I didn't turn in the movie on time, because my grandparents had just finished nagging me about the last two late movies I had turned in. I had to read several chapters of an extremely mind-numbing book and actually know what I read for the worksheets that went along with it. Man I was stressing.

Then my dear little sister reminded me of my dear friend by saying, "Why don't you just ride your scooter down into town and turn in the movie? At least you won't get into trouble about that."

"Oh yeah, the Yellow Dart,"

I thought. Then I ran outside and got him from his resting place. I threw the DVD in the little trunk and was on my way.

I went into town and turned it in, but on the way back I began to worry about my dilemma once more. I still had all of those chapters to read. Suddenly, I felt a slight jolt in the handle bars and I looked down.

"What the heck," I thought. "That was weird." My attention was suddenly brought to my wrist watch. I had left my stop watch on and it was going.

Then I suddenly got a brilliant idea. How about I time myself on how long it took me to read a page in the book, and then see how long it would take. I figured that if I read each page in a minute, I would be finished within an hour. After that I felt

a lot better and I wasn't as stressed out.

Finally I made it home. I read that book in exactly the time I had planned. Then I thought about the worksheets. I had wanted to finish them with some friends, but the study group we had planned was canceled. I was staring out the window when the Yellow Dart caught my eye.

I started thinking about how I wanted to look at a part for it on the Internet. The Internet! Perfect. I could get on the Internet, and study with my friends online.

I hurried up and got to my computer, signed on to my instant messenger, and I was in luck, my friends were online. We all gave our opinions about the book, and finished up the worksheets in a nice hurry.

"Phew!" I thought. Now what about the article? Then I thought, why not describe everything that you were just doing, and kaboom — this is the result.

Man, if it weren't for the Yellow Dart, I don't know where I would be. Probably \$3.24 poorer in late fees.

# DISARMED...



# Helping soldiers serving America

Like most Americans, I've spent recent weeks carefully following the war in Iraq. Our military has provided the world with a shining example of America and the goodness of the American people. Among the heroes currently serving our nation are many legal immigrants.



Weekly Report  
**Henry Bonilla**

These young men and women have followed America's immigration laws. In fact, some of them have simply been unable to attend a ceremony to be sworn in as a citizen, due to long deployments overseas, or in tragic cases where they have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation.

These patriotic men and women have willingly volunteered to carry out one of the most solemn duties that any na-

tion can ask of its citizens — the defense of freedom. More than most, they have truly earned their opportunity to become citizens of the country whose uniform they wear so proudly.

That's why I have cosponsored a bill that will remove many of the barriers faced by legal immigrants who serve in the U.S. armed forces. This bill reduces the residency requirement to two years, it waives the

naturalization fee, and it enables servicemen and women to be sworn in as citizens while stationed overseas.

Other conditions for citizenship will remain in place, which includes requirements that potential citizens are of good moral character; commit themselves to the principles of the Constitution; demonstrate the ability to read, write and understand English; and pass a test on U.S. government and history.

To many legal immigrants, joining the armed forces is a bold expression of their dedication to freedom and democracy. Enacting H.R. 1275 is a way that America can do the right thing for those defending the American way.

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### 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.

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**BRIEFS**

**BISD announces pre-registration**

Brackett ISD has announced that pre-registration for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten children is underway and will be held through May 14 at the Jones Elementary School office from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The kindergarten program is open to all 5-year-old children whose birthday falls before Sept. 1 and whose immunization records are current. In order to register a child, parents will need the following information at registration: proof of birthdate (birth certificate or passport), immunization record (must be updated) and a Social Security card.

The pre-kindergarten program is limited to children who are 4 years old by Sept. 1 and whose immunization records are current. In addition, children must be limited in the English language or from families whose incomes qualifies them for the free or reduced lunch program. In order to register a child for the pre-kindergarten program, parents will need the following information at registration: proof of birthdate (birth certificate or passport), immunization record (must be updated), proof of family income and a Social Security card.

Children who are currently enrolled in school do not need to pre-register. For more information, call Marci Resendez, Jones Elementary secretary, at 563-2491, Ext. 200.

**May 19 is Quail Appreciation Day**

Quail Appreciation Day will be celebrated May 19 at the Dink Wardlaw Agriculture Complex beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m. The event is a joint effort between Val Verde and Kinney counties.

Topics for the morning session will include quail biology, pen-raised quail, supplemental feeding and watering, predators, weather affecting quail, hunting regulations and the Texas Quail Plan.

Following a catered lunch, the group will go to the Baker ranch, north of Del Rio, which has been participating in the Texas Quail Index Study for the past year. Nesting and nesting habitat, predator trends, brush sculpting and management, and radio telemetry are some of the topics which will be discussed.

A number of speakers are scheduled for the event. Registration forms are available at the Kinney County or Val Verde County Extension offices. For more information, call 563-2442.

**BISD schedules clinic Wednesday**

An immunization clinic with a nurse from the Texas Department of Health will be held at the Jones Elementary science lab on Wednesday. There is now sufficient vaccine for students to have their 10-year tetanus booster, which is required for school entry in August. For more information, call the 563-2491, Ext. 182.

**Eye examinations offered Tuesday**

Free eye examination will be offered Tuesday at 5:30 at the EMS Building.

**School board election is Saturday**

The big news this week is the school board election scheduled for Saturday with voting in the Central Office of the school district.

We have had a good turnout for early voting, and encourage all to cast their ballots in this very important school election.

The city election will be held on the same day, and it is vital to the progress of the city.

**End of School Year**

The last month of school began this week. Soon, our students will be lined up for graduation in their caps and gowns, and the 2002-03 school year will be history.

I encourage students to do

their best academically during the final few days. The final six-weeks grades include lots of daily work, tests and special projects that are due. Stay on top of the work and get it done right. It will be worth your effort.

**Closed Campus**

Remember that school campuses close at 9 every night unless there is a school activity. The public is encouraged to let the Sheriff's Office know if we have folks wandering on school campuses after 9 p.m.

We have had some glass breakage the past week and would like to have your help to stop the vandalism.



*Making A Difference*

**Taylor Stephenson**

A starter gun used for track stolen from a coach's office last week is being dealt with according to the school policy and statutes. The gun was stolen after school, and was taken away from the school grounds in late afternoon after school. Starter guns do not fire a projectile, but student possession violates the student code of conduct.

**School Travel**  
Our travel is overwhelming this time of the year. There are so many school trips that we take that our fleet seems to be continuously rolling.

Thanks to Richard Terrazas, director of maintenance, and his assistants, Tommy Castillo and Armando Sanchez, who help keep the vehicles clean and in good shape.

**BISD Website**  
Visit the BISD website maintained for the school district by Frank Taylor, director of technology, at [www.brackett.k12.tx.us](http://www.brackett.k12.tx.us) for information, announcements and calendar.

Have a great week!

**KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT**

**Monday, April 21**

9:14 a.m., Deputy Larry Robinson reported vandalism of a vehicle on North Street.

9:14 p.m., A 911 caller reported loose horses on Highway 90, west of Brackettville.

**Tuesday, April 22**

2:10 p.m., A cell phone caller reported a reckless driver on Highway 90, traveling westbound. Del Rio DPS officials were notified of the situation.

7:13 p.m., A woman reported stolen baby chicks from a residence on S. Beaumont Street.

8:10 p.m., A man reported that the signal light was out on Ann Street. Texas Department of Transportation officials were notified of the situation.

8:22 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs employee requested assistance at the front gate.

8:40 p.m., A man reported that someone was burning trash and that the smoke was very bad. City officials were notified.

9:15 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs man said he was having a dispute with his neighbor in Unit 3.

**Thursday, April 24**  
4:52 p.m., A woman reported a grass fire near her residence on W. Crockett Street.

**Friday, April 25**  
1:40 a.m., A man reported an abandoned vehicle on Highway 674, about 9 miles north of Brackettville.  
9:53 a.m., A man reported

that someone broke into his ranch house, located about 13 miles east of Brackettville. He said some clothes and food were missing from the house. He said he saw a white truck speeding away from the house when he arrived.

10:25 a.m., Deputy Manny Pena reported a hog trap stolen from Fort Clark Springs.

10:44 a.m., A woman reported an abandoned camper with no tires on Highway 674.

3:50 p.m., Ronald Valdez, 36, of Austin was arrested by Constable Bobby Guidry for DWI probation violation. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he was still being held at press-time.

10:56 p.m., An anonymous caller reported a reckless driver on Ann Street.

**Saturday, April 26**  
12:03 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported loud music in Unit 7.

**Sunday, April 27**

2:05 p.m., A man reported a couple of go-carts driving at a high rates of speed and not stopping at stop signs on E. Louis and Gove streets.

4:32 p.m., A woman reported that a camp had been broken into near her property at the Leona Ranch.

8:58 p.m., A 911 caller reported that individuals were trying to break into his house on W. Fulton Street.

**Read The Brackett News to find out about all of the latest news in Kinney County!**

**BAR-B-Q BENEFIT**  
For Laura Lawson (Medical expenses)

Date - May 11, 2003  
time - 11pm till 3pm  
place - Shahan Park  
Donation - \$5.00 per plate

*We would love for you to come. We would appreciate any donations. Please call Tootsie Herndon at 563-2046*

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May 3, 2003

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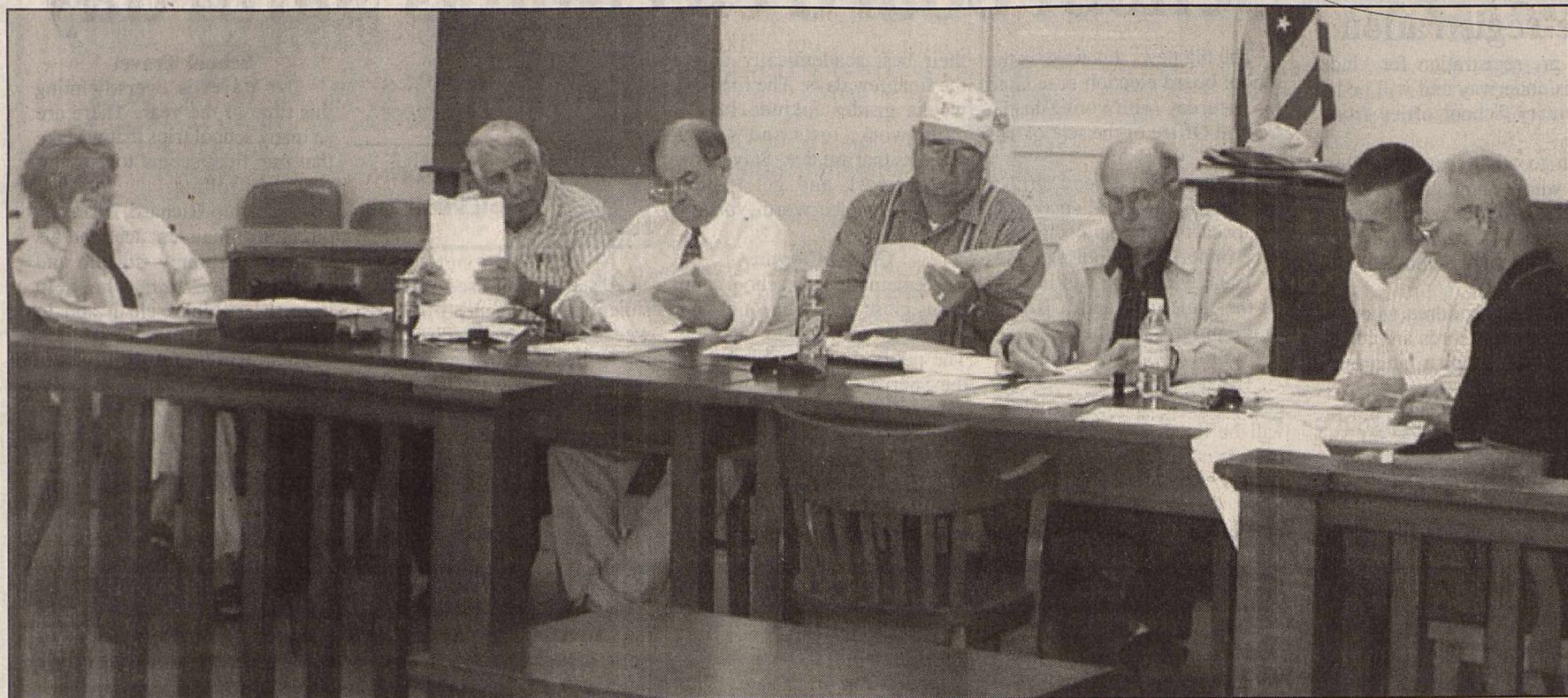
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# Water board approves first-ever well permit



Continued from Page 1

opposition to the permits. The coordinates of the wells were incorrect on the Shahan's applications and the public notice of the hearing, but Walthour gave the correct locations of the wells to the board Tuesday night.

"We think the public has not received sufficient notice since the public notice is not correct," Coates said. "The coordinates become integral because of the spacing requirements."

Coates questioned whether the wells met the spacing requirements in the district's rules. Walthour said the wells were in compliance.

One of the wells is in violation of the rules because of its distance to the property line, but Walthour presented a waiver signed by the Shahan's neighbor.

Coates has 10 days to present further written evidence. Walthour will file a hearing report to the district within two weeks, and the board will take action on the applications within 35 days.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## Considering well permits

Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District board member Darlene Shahan, Cecil Smith, Chuck Hall, Bob Young, Hadley Wardlaw Chris Ring and Don Hood review well permit applications from Shahan Ranches Tuesday during a public hearing.

## Templeton takes over BISD post

Continued from Page 1  
ward to getting down here and being a part of this community." Templeton is succeeding Taylor Stephenson, who announced his retirement as superintendent in January.

Templeton has been employed with Flour Bluff ISD in Corpus Christi since 1995. He began his stint there as a teacher and coach, and then spent three years as an assistant principal before becoming a principal in 2000. He has also worked in the Taft ISD and El Paso ISD school systems.

"I'm delighted with the quality of educator that Bobby Templeton is," Stephenson said. "He has a delightful family. They will be an asset to our community. I am excited to be able to hand the baton off to someone of his quality."

Templeton will begin working full-time on June 1. Stephenson is retiring on July 31.

"Our primary training session will be the month of June, plus whatever coordination we can do during the month of May," Stephenson said. "We will talk about community,

money, education, hiring and building a budget. We will make it a smooth transition."

Stephenson has worked in public education for 43 years. He came to Brackett ISD in 1992 as its curriculum director and federal programs coordinator, and is currently in his seventh year as the district's superintendent.

"The work has been rewarding, and we have made tremendous progress in the past 10 years. I have particularly enjoyed the young people through the years," Stephenson added.



Bobby Templeton

## Trustees approve teacher contracts

Teacher contracts were approved by the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees at the school district's April meeting.

The board approved contracts for probationary and term contract teachers.

The trustees also accepted a retirement request from Angie Meeks and the end-of-year resignation from Ann Davidson.

### Budget

The board reviewed revenue and expenditures for the first nine months of the fiscal year, July through March.

"There are no major problems with this year's budget," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said.

The enrollment for Brackett ISD is down 34 students compared to one year ago. Texas funds schools primarily on the basis of average-daily attendance.

Stephenson said attendance projections will be lower for the next fiscal year. He also noted the state's shortfall of approximately 10 billion dollars.

### Purchase of Property

The board approved purchase of a trust property for Javier Solis. The property is in Spofford and has been struck from tax rolls following an unsuccessful sheriff's sale in 1996. The Kinney County Appraisal

District has been holding the property in trust for Kinney County, the city of Spofford and Brackett ISD.

### Election Judges

The trustees appointed Yvette Clements as an alternate judge for the May 3 school board election. Celia Ramon was appointed as an additional deputy clerk for early voting.

### School Calendar

The school calendar was approved by the board. The calendar closely resembles this year's calendar, and it received the most votes from staff members.

The calendar selected is one of three that the Brackett District Advisory Committee recommended to the calendar committee. The committee then received votes on the three.

### Textbooks

The board approved textbook recommendations for the 2003-04 school year for elementary and secondary social studies.

### New Bus

The trustees granted permission to the superintendent to purchase a used diesel school bus for in-town transportation. The district will trade in four buses that are unusable. The board also voted to sell a 1961 Ford tractor and shredder by sealed bid.

## BISD committee to discuss concerns with superintendent

Continued from Page 1  
The committee will make specific recommendations on these concerns Monday to Stephenson, who will then make his recommendations to the Board of Trustees on May 12.

"The committee has heard many good comments about

BISD," Smith said. "The citizens of Kinney County can be very proud of our schools. There are many parents who deliberately choose to live here because of our schools. The schools here are a definite asset to the county."

"We are proud of our schools," Stephenson said. "But

there is always room to make things better and that's what we are committed to doing."

The nine-member appointed committee includes Smith, Ricky Alvarado, Nakai Breen, Theresa Davis, Tony Frerich, Henry Fuentes, Martha McDonald, Ponce Padron and Lydia Tipps.

"I believe that in the short time we had this year, we have accomplished a lot," Smith said.

"Of course, this is thanks to the citizens and patrons of the district who are serious about working together to give us the best schools possible for our children."

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# Tigerettes send five to state track meet

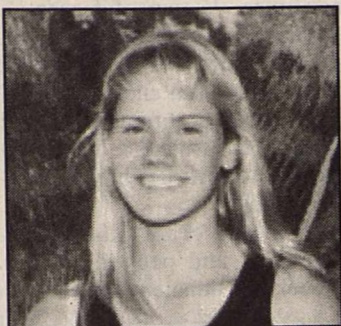
SAN MARCOS — Brackett distance runner Juliann Ashabranner and the mile relay team of Divina Pena, Stephanie Coronado, Rachel Swinson and Stacey Castilla earned a trip to the state track meet after winning silver medals at the Region IV-2A meet Saturday.

Van Vleck won the regional meet with 88 points, while Schulenburg was second with 64 points and Wallis Brazos was third with 43½ points. Salado and Odem finished fourth and fifth, respectively, with 40 points apiece, while Brackett was sixth in the 32-team field with 33 points.

The top two finishers in each event at the regional meet qualified for the state meet May 10 in Austin.

Ashabranner finished second in the 1600-meter run with a time of 5:29.81. Salado's Lauren Mewhinney won the event after being clocked at 5:18.86.

Ashabranner also placed fourth in the 3200 after turning in a time of 12:45.69.



Juliann Ashabranner

Odem claimed the gold medal in the mile relay with a time of 4:08.85, while the Brackett quartet finished second with a time of 4:11.22.

Swinson also placed fourth in the 400 after turning in a time of 1:00.73, while Courtney Frerich was sixth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 50.27.

Frerich, Swinson, Castilla and Caitlyn Wylie also competed in the 800 relay, while Tammy Smith competed in the 300 hurdles and triple jump and Ashley Castillo ran the 800.

**Notice of Public Sale** - to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale is 8:30 a.m., Saturday, May 3, 2003, at Sunshine Self Storage at 750 W. Louise St., Brackettville, TX, behind Kinney County Wool & Mohair. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale. Storage unit in the name of Ana Talamantes. Content of unit: mini blinds, ceiling fans, BB gun, flower vases, bar stools, and misc. items. Storage unit in the name of Walter Webb. Contents: children's items, old computer, elec. heater, roll away bed frame and misc. items. Contact Sunshine Self Storage at KCWM on West Spring St., Brackettville, Tx 78832, Phone 830-563-2471

## Thank You

The Maria B. Ward family would like to thank you. During a time like this we realize how much our friends and family really mean to us.... Your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered.

Thank you,  
Douglas Ward & Family,  
Pasqua Gomez & Family

## Thank You

We would like to give our sincere thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers and food. Your support during this time of sorrow was deeply appreciated. God Bless you all!

The family of Raul Luna

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF RULEMAKING REHEARING OF THE KINNEY COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District will hold a Rehearing on Rulemaking on May 9th, 2003, at 5:30 p.m., in the District Courtroom of the Kinney County Courthouse located in Brackettville, Texas.

#### REHEARING ON RULEMAKING

1. Call to Order.
2. Public hearing on proposed District Rules, comments to proposed District Rules, and possible action to repeal, amend, and/or adopt certain District Rules.
3. Adjourn.

ISSUED this 28th day of April, 2003, in Brackettville, Texas, on the recommendation of the Acting General Manager.

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above NOTICE OF HEARING of the Board of Directors of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District is a true and correct copy of said Notice. I have published a true and correct copy of said Notice in the Del Rio News-Herald and Brackett News, and will post said Notice on the bulletin board in the Kinney County Courthouse, located in Brackettville, Texas, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and District rules. A true and correct copy of said Notice was furnished to the Kinney County Clerk, in which the above named political subdivision is located.

Dated this the 28th day of April, 2003

Kinney County Groundwater conservation District  
By: Darlene Shahan, Secretary/ Treasurer

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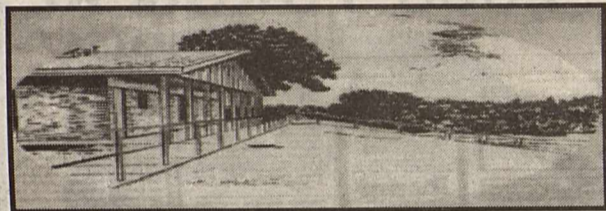
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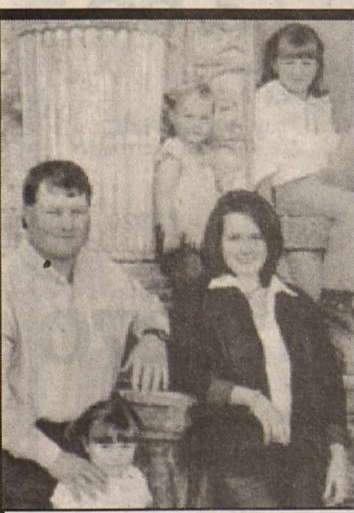
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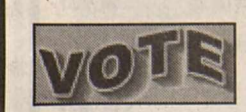
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ELECTION DATE  
Sat., May 3, 2003

# MARK FRERICH

## School Board Trustee

Pd. pol. adv. pd. for by Mark Frerich P.O. Box 1911, Brackettville, TX 78832

# Seafood Alfredo is quick, cool

Ready or not, hot weather has arrived. It's time to think about quick and cool meals. Seafood Alfredo fits both needs. This recipe serves four to six people. Here's what we need: one 12-ounce package of bow tie pasta, two cloves of minced garlic, 1/2 teaspoon of pepper, 2 tablespoons of olive or vegetable oil, one 8-ounce package of flaked



Goodies  
From G.G.  
**Vada Baldree**

lemon juice, 1/2 cup of frozen peas (thawed), one 16-ounce jar of alfredo sauce and 1/4 cup of shredded parmesan cheese. Cook pasta according to directions. Meanwhile, use a large skillet to saute garlic in oil until it is tender. Stir in the crab, shrimp, lemon juice and pepper, and then cook one minute while stirring.

Add alfredo sauce and peas. Continue to stir as it cooks until heated through. Top the drained pasta with the seafood mixture and top with parmesan. Serve with plain or vegetable crackers, plus green salad. A simple dessert of instant pudding topped with cookie crumbs and/or whipped topping and you come out a winner!

## Lions Club inducts new members

The Brackettville Lions Club inducted two new members at its regular meeting on April 17. Mary Dixon, club president, introduced the new members, Jerry Anderson and Zeni McKelvy. Lion Tom McNew told the new members some of the history of Lionism and inducted them into the club. Barry McKelvy will be inducted at a later time. New officers of the Brackettville Lions Club 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 Conner, Zeni McKelvy and Eileen Voracek, directors. On April 3, the Brackettville

Lions heard a very interesting and informative talk from FBI agent Randy Markham. Markham lives at Fort Clark and works in the FBI office in Del Rio. He told members about his time as a police officer in Montgomery, Ala., which led to his applying for the FBI. Agent Markham had some instructors in the academy whom he admired very much. The primary function of the FBI is civil rights violations — public corruption. Since Sept. 11, the number of FBI agents have increased and they work in this area with the U.S. Border Patrol and local law enforcement agencies to prevent terrorist suspects from entering this country.

## Pflughoeft honored by sorority

The Preceptor Theta Sigma chapter of Beta Sigma Phi celebrated Founder's Day on Monday at the R.V. Park kitchen at Fort Clark Springs. Social director Louise Pflughoeft cooked a delicious dinner of stuffed Cornish hens, twice-baked potatoes, green beans, salad, fruit and a pineapple upside-down cake. Appetizers of shrimp and wine were enjoyed before the sisters joined to sing "The Star Spangled Banner." The opening ritual was recited and then Bobbi Waddill offered the Beta Sigma Phi grace. Following dinner, Lynn McNew welcomed all present and read the Founder's Day Pledge. Janie Meredith read the

message from International. Arlys Simpson gave several awards, including gifts to her retiring officers and perfect attendance pins to Pat McKelvy (12 years) Luella Gilliland (six years) and Jan Chism (four years). The highlight of the evening was the announcement of Louise Pflughoeft as Woman of the Year. Pflughoeft has done an outstanding job as social chairman, planning parties and outings for the sisters and their spouses. Jan Chism read the theme for 2003-04, which is "Colors of Friendship." The meeting closed with the closing ritual. The next meeting will be on Monday with Janie Meredith as hostess.



**The future of education** Photo by Bill Haenn  
Judith Canales (left), director of special projects at Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, is welcomed to the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting by Rotarian Frances McMaster, program chairman for the month of April. Canales discussed the future of the college at last week's Rotary Club meeting at Las Moras Restaurant.

## Texas CPAs encourage consumers to manage debt wisely

DALLAS — Everywhere you turn, you see credit offers for low teaser rates, no payments for one year, on-the-spot credit approval. At this time of year, who couldn't use some extra cash to pay off bills? According to the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, in today's economic environment, it's more important than ever to follow sensible strategies for incurring and managing debt. Borrowing for a home or a college education usually makes good financial sense. However, unless you're absolutely sure that you can pay the bills in full when they arrive, it makes little sense to use a credit card to pay for things that are consumed quickly, such as restaurant meals or vacation expenses.

Texas CPAs also say that consumers should get the right loan for their situation. A credit card might be a good choice for short-term borrowing needs if you will be able to pay off the balance in a month or two. If you're putting an addition on your house, taking out a home equity loan or line of credit may be a better option. Shop around for the best interest rate before you borrow as annual percentage rates, fees and repayment plans can differ substantially. Many web sites allow you to compare credit card rates and features. Be sure you understand the terms of credit including the interest rate, grace period, minimum finance charges, annual fees and fees associated with late payments, exceeding your credit limit, and cash advances.

How much debt is too much? CPAs recommend carrying only one or two major credit cards. Use them sparingly and don't get in over your head. A common rule of thumb is to limit non-mortgage monthly credit payments to 15 percent of your take-home pay. CPAs also warn consumers against falling into the minimum payment trap. Low payments sound attractive, but consumers can end up paying more in finance charges because the length of time required to pay off a balance increases significantly. If you charged too much this holiday season and need to quickly pay down your debt, the best strategy is to target the balances with the highest annual percentage rates. Reduce inter-

est costs by transferring your credit card balances to a lower interest rate card. Consider a home equity loan or line of credit — but only if you're sure you can handle the payments. Finally, protect your credit history. Your credit report is based on your payment history. Be sure to make all loan and credit card payments on time. This habit pays off with a good credit history. If you cannot make your monthly payment for some reason, contact your creditor to explain the circumstances. Most creditors are willing to work with you. To get a copy of your report, call one of the three national credit bureaus: Equifax at (800) 685-1111, Experian at (888) 397-3742 or Trans Union at (800) 888-4213.

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# Funeral directors offer helpful tips in making funeral arrangements

AUSTIN — Like most everything else he did, when Doc Kahill died last October, he was his usual, easygoing self. He enjoyed a cup of decaf and the 10 p.m. news before going to bed. The next morning, his housekeeper was unable to rouse him.

Doc's two adult sons lived in other states. By the time they arrived the next evening, the body had been taken to a nearby funeral home. After the two men embraced and were seated at the kitchen table, they sat in silence until one of them asked, "So what do we do now?"

Jim Garrison, executive director of the Texas Funeral Directors Association, said this question is not uncommon because polite society tends to avoid discussing death.

"Families often travel an unknown road after the death of a loved one," he said. "And if the family member hasn't discussed what kind of funeral they prefer, planning is usually left up to the survivors."

Steve Fairchild, a director at Brenham Memorial Chapel, said families who have made funeral arrangements in the past are always better prepared.

"A family making arrangements for the first time may not know to bring clothing and the paperwork needed — like Social Security card, military records and birth certificates — to complete the death certificate," he said. "Some funeral homes leave a printed guide of the information needed when the body is removed, and this also helps the family know what to bring when they come to make arrangements."

Families who have lived in the same area for a number of years, particularly a small town, seem to be more informed and better prepared than families who live elsewhere.

"American funeral traditions are changing," Fairchild said. "And families often don't realize that they can personalize service, including burying dad in his favorite hunting jacket or dressing mother in her favorite square dance dress."

Russell Harvey, funeral director at Corrigan Funeral Home, said the modern funeral has evolved into a "celebration of life."

"Caskets are now available to depict hobbies and interests of the deceased, anything from a favorite Bible verse to an angler landing a big bass," he said. "Most funeral homes also provide memory boards where families can display favorite photographs or memory tables where some of the deceased's favorite items can be arranged."

In a recent funeral ceremony, the deceased farmer's tractor pulled a wagon carrying his casket to a nearby cemetery.

In another service, the life of a woman who loved playing Bingo was celebrated with an actual Bingo game — her grandchildren calling the numbers and the winner receiving a remembrance from the deceased's ceramic collection.

"What many families don't always know is that the funeral director is there to plan and carry out whatever the family needs to remember the life that has been lived," Garrison said. "That includes arranging the ser-

vice, notifying clergy or another individual to lead the service.

"It also includes ordering floral tributes, finding special music, making arrangements for a meal after the service and coordinating with a local cemetery," he said.

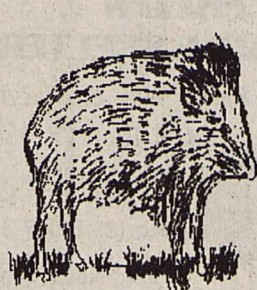
Whatever the family needs to remember their loved one can be included in the service as long as it is within the bounds of good taste.

After one Dallas-area funeral, the family asked for a horse-drawn funeral coach to bring the casket to the cemetery. In another unique service, an Elvis impersonator performed a deceased Elvis fan's two favorite tunes.

"Some families prefer clergy to deliver a traditional eulogy, but a growing number are asking family members and friends to participate in the service or including candle-lighting, videos of the deceased or planning service made up entirely of music and favorite Bible readings or poetry," Garrison said.

Andrews funeral director Rex Johnson of McNett Funeral Home said funeral directors are always available to answer questions and to brief the family about what the cemetery requires, how to handle a cremation or how to find out about veteran's benefits and other financial matters.

"We know that most people are in shock after a death and our first priority is making the arrangement and the service as comfortable as possible," he said. "We also want to provide any information the family needs to make the right decisions."

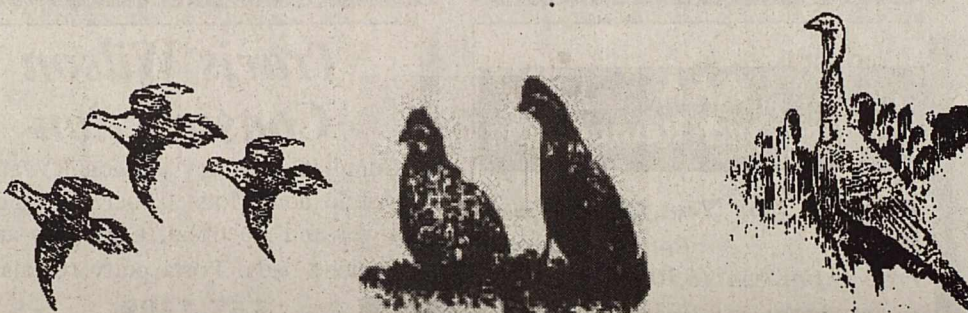


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## HEALTH

### Tips to save money on prescriptions

By PAUL CLARK  
Special to The Brackett News

With the escalating costs of prescription drugs, increasing insurance co-payments and the growing number of Americans without insurance, many U.S. residents are saving money by buying their prescription medications from Canada over the Internet or by phone.

Although cost savings are substantial, ranging from 20 to 80 percent, you should be sure you are dealing with a reputable pharmacy by asking the following questions before you buy:

1. Do you require a prescription from an American doctor?

Be exceptionally wary of any pharmacy that does not require a prescription. A reputable, licensed pharmacy will insist on this piece of information. Filling out a survey or health questionnaire does not substitute for the personal relationship that you have with your pharmacist.

2. Are you a pharmacy or a broker?

Although dealing with a third party is not always a bad idea, you are better off dealing directly with a pharmacy. Always establish how disputes or errors will be handled before ordering. Third-party companies may not have any way to deal with complaints or have any liability insurance.

3. What country are you ordering your medications from?

This is especially important if you are dealing with a broker that may be sourcing medications from around the world. Some countries such as Canada have very stringent regulations governing the practice of pharmacy and the quality of the medications that are dispensed. Other countries may have few, if any, regulations in place.

4. Is there a pharmacist I can talk to for medication related or health questions?

A long-distance pharmacy should not dissolve the pharmacist-patient relationship. Your pharmacist is a valuable professional and you should always have access to his or help.

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MAY 2003 · OUTPATIENT CLINIC CALENDAR

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  - Box, Gloria G., M.D.  
Orthopedic Surgery ..... 278-2292
  - Carpintero, Ralph, M.D.  
Internal Medicine ..... 278-6681
  - Flanders, Barry, M.D.  
Radiology ..... 278-6251
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Surgery ..... 278-4568
  - Garza, R. Steve, M.D.  
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  - Lutton, Richard B., M.D.  
Family Practice/OB ..... 278-4453
  - Preddy, John, D.O.  
Family Practice/OB ..... 278-7101
  - Shudde, John L., M.D.  
Family Practice ..... 278-3118
  - Sosa, Isaac, M.D.  
Internal Medicine ..... 278-6265
  - Uptergrove, Kevin L., M.D.  
Family Practice/OB ..... 278-4453
  - Uterback, Carl, M.D.  
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Surgery ..... 278-3213

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..... (210) 227-2471
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Ophthalmologist ..... (830) 278-2020
- Rodolfo Molina, M.D. (5/15)  
Rheumatologist ..... (210) 690-8067
- Matthew Mossbacher, M.D. (5/1)  
Rheumatologist ..... (210) 690-8067
- Gabriel Rodriguez, D.P.M.  
Podiatrist ..... (830) 278-1840
- Manuel A. Santiago, M.D. (every Wednesday)  
Hematology/Oncology ..... (210) 595-5300
- Arlis Terry, M.D. (every Tuesday)  
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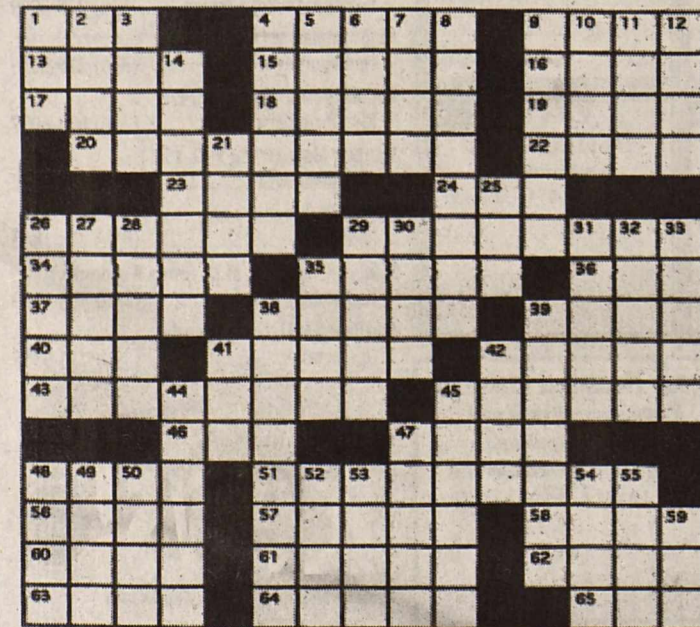
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**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**  
1 Tokyo accessory  
4 Parts of a horse's collar  
9 Boast  
13 Unit of force  
15 Stay  
16 Term of affection  
17 Home for over half of the people in the world  
18 Less mannerly  
19 Varily  
20 Leaping about  
22 Monthly expense  
23 Sponsorship  
24 Bleating animal  
26 Stands  
29 General Arnold & others  
34 Author of The Red Badge of Courage  
35 Bringing civil action

**DOWN**  
1 Eggs: Lat.  
2 Fruit variety  
3 Hip portions  
4 Brer Rabbit's creator  
5 Touches  
6 Part of France  
7 Garden spot  
8 Corporal's superior  
9 Wine  
10 St. Peter's burial place  
11 Cake's spot, for an hour or so  
12 Left  
14 Bars  
21 Type of arch  
25 Head covering  
26 Land units  
27 Duck's partner  
28 Western



**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. Two are circled to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: **HOMONYMS (like "Days" and "Daze")**

CDKTKNKJ(FLOUR)  
REJIDHHDHYJH  
ERADMKEERCHY  
ARDEWUEAKAKR  
KDCYDNEEIJJE  
VSOBBOSRPHNN  
LUNGIERCEKMO  
ADSTCRDNAHSI  
EBADEITBKTDI  
TTSCJDDHEREA  
SDWBHAREVEWT  
REWOLFLSCBES

1. Flour  
2. Flower  
3.  
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20.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

May 1 ..Rosemary Abrigo  
May 1 .....Sammy Smith  
May 1 ....Arnie Trautwein  
May 2 ..Lawrence Salazar  
May 2 .....Robert Tucker  
May 4 .....Sapopo Castillo  
May 4 .....James Conrad  
May 4 .....Cubie Kurtz  
May 5 .....Eleanor Frerich  
May 5 .....Johnny Smith  
May 7 .....Gloria Jimenez

**Roaring Twenties Solutions:**

1. Birth 11. Peak  
2. Birth 12. Rain  
3. Creek 13. Peign  
4. Creek 14. Stationary  
5. Ewe 15. Stationary  
6. Flour 16. Staal  
7. Flower 17. Staal  
8. Hair 18. Tide  
9. Hare 19. Tied  
10. Peak 20. You

**HOROSCOPES**  
by Charles Cooper

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19)  
The adage of catching more flies with honey should be adhered to this week. A kind word from you to a family member goes a long way. Later in the week, business affairs take precedence.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22)  
Someone you work with hands you an unpleasant surprise. Try to avoid losing your temper. This weekend, someone has great financial advice for you.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20)  
Not everyone appreciates your sense of humor. In fact, sometimes, your remarks are perceived as thoughtless. Guard that tongue this week!

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21)  
You'll have to apologize for that offhanded remark early in the week. While you didn't intentionally mean to hurt that person's feelings, it was the unfortunate result. Swallow your pride.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20)  
You're not inclined to go along with what a co-worker proposes this week. However, be sure that what you suggest is a viable alternative. Over the weekend, family activities dominate.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21)  
Shopping for a new wardrobe is recommended. However, look for bargains. You don't want to break the bank in this pursuit.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22)  
Creativity is highlighted this week. Any pursuit of an artistic nature will be fruitful. Later, the romantic bug bites.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19)  
You're able to successfully unravel the pieces of a puzzle at work. Bigwigs take notice of your problem-solving abilities. This weekend, go easy on the spending.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22)  
It's fine to slack off a bit. However, don't overly indulge yourself. Otherwise, you'll find yourself playing catch-up at a frantic pace late in the week.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18)  
A close friend seeks you out. Provide that shoulder to lean on. Your support is just what's needed.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22)  
You have a tendency this week to be overly cautious with your feelings. Feel free to let others glimpse your more tender side. In the long run, others will find it easier to understand you.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20)  
Usually, you can trust your instincts. This week, though, they lead you astray. Utilize logic and common sense instead.

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# Silent famine ravaging children

On Sunday in Parade magazine David Oliver Relin wrote, "There is a silent famine ravaging America's most vulnerable population."

The 2001 statistics he pointed out that the U.S. Department of Agriculture had identified 33.6 million Americans as being "food insecure," people who must skip a meal or eat non-nutritious meals. Of that number, approximately 13 million are children.

"Of all the problems facing the poor, hunger is the easiest to fix," said Dr. Deborah Frank, the director of the Grow Clinic for Children at Boston Medical Center. "We have the resources, but we don't have the political will to make the most helpless Americans our priority. Our failure to do that is being written on the bodies of children."

In the year 2000, according to Hunger Free America's State Report Card on Child Poverty and Hunger, Texas ranked second only to New Mexico in the percentage of households (15 out of every 100) that were food insecure. And still our state and

country are proposing budget cuts that further expose children to poverty and hunger.

CNN Money quoted Defense Department Comptroller Dav Zakheim on April 16 as saying, "The war (in Iraq) has cost in the region of about \$20 billion so far."

The headline claimed that the expected cost to maintain thousands of troops there through the end of this financial year is approximately \$2 billion per month.

As we know, President Bush had Congress pass a bill allocating \$79 billion to "pay for the war in Iraq to reward regional allies including Turkey, and help struggling U.S. airlines."

"In addition ... the Pentagon is spending up to \$1.2 billion monthly in the global war on terrorism sparked by the September attacks on America."

Am I the only one who can do the math?

Through the end of the year, the costs of our global war on terrorism, including ongoing work in Iraq, will cost the U.S. approximately \$67.2 billion.



First United Methodist Church  
Rev. Ken F. Sellers

That is roughly equivalent to spending \$2,000 or \$234 per month on each of the 33 million Americans who are "food insecure" (if there was no growth in those numbers since the 2001 statistics were released).

Perhaps it is appropriate to ask our government officials to take pay cuts and eat in food kitchens, or get their food at food pantries, until we are willing as a political body to see to it that the children of America are fed properly.

For the 13-plus million children at risk, I wonder if the threat of terror from Saddam Hussain was greater than the threat from their own political leaders!

Romans 12:20 reads, in part, "If your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give

him a drink."

We should all be aware of the money that has been spent appropriately to help rebuild Afghanistan and the money that will be spent appropriately to rebuild Iraq that is above and beyond the figures I have listed above.

If we have the political will to destroy and then rebuild and refurbish two other countries, shouldn't we have the political will to be doing something more about 33.6 million (or more) hungry Americans?

Where do you think the greater threat lies — from terrorism or lack of political will regarding our poor neighbors?

You can help by going to the website [www.greatamericanbake.org](http://www.greatamericanbake.org) or calling (800) 761-4227.

God's compassionate love for those in greatest need can be found at 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.

# Every sinful act begins in the mind as a thought

"Mom, some of the girls at school have been talking a lot about sex. I get real uncomfortable around that kind of talk."

Sixteen-year-old Brenda was bringing up a subject every teen-ager has to face.

"Well, that's a pretty heavy subject for kids your age," said Marcela. "I really feel good that you feel OK talking about it with me. What are the girls saying?"

While she waited for her daughter's response, Marcela breathed a prayer to the Holy Spirit to give her just the right words.

"They talk about having sex and how much fun it is," Brenda said. "I hear some of them saying pretty explicit things to their boyfriends. One of the girls was bragging about having sex with a boy right there at school. They make fun of girls who haven't lost their virginity. I know what the church says about those things, that they're wrong. But sometimes I really wonder if it's worth it to stay pure and holy."

Brenda looked down at the floor, feeling some shame for her remarks.

"Sounds pretty discouraging," Marcela said. "And there's a lot of public display, Mom," Brenda continued. "Some couples stand around rubbing their



Empowering Families  
Dr. Donald Smith

bodies on each other and kissing."

"Well honey, it sounds like the school needs to take some action to stop some of that," Marcela said as she took Brenda's hands in her own. "Public displays of sexual feelings are out of place for anybody, whatever their age. It gives the mind opportunity to dream of things that are forbidden and they trap the soul and give rise to sinful behavior."

"A very wise man long ago said before father and mother be ashamed of immorality (Sirach 41:15) and that lust for such things burns like fire. (9:15)

"If you keep your mind and thoughts pure, you won't be likely to give yourself to immoral behavior. The wise man also said that every sinful act begins as a thought or dream in the mind." (37:16)

**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.

# Complacency can put you in a dangerous place

My Daddy told me the story about when he was 9 years old and playing at the old swimmin' hole with his two older sisters.

While his sisters swam and played at one end of the stock tank, he decided to crawl into a small wooden boat and laze around in it while listening to the splashes and giggles of his sisters. The mid-morning breeze moving across the water and slapping against the boat's wooden hull while his feet dangled in the water, lulled him to sleep. Sometime later (his sisters had returned home), things were quiet until something woke him up.

The gentle breeze had slowly pushed his boat up to the opposite end of the water hole where trees overhung a nice and shady span of water. But, there was nothing nice about the situation.



Gateway Ministries  
Bob & Charolette Corey

This was the end of the pond that was taboo. No one was to ever go there, least of all him, all alone, with no one to hear his cry. His danger was made evident when he groggily opened his eyes and saw in the tree limbs above him, beside him, and all around him, large water moccasins that had crawled there to laze in the noon-day sun.

While his thoughts cried out to God to save him, he knew he could not shout out loud, flail his arms wildly or jump into the water because the snakes would

be startled awake.

His heart felt as though it would beat out of his chest as he slowly (eternally) wiggled his hands under the water to move the boat out from under the tree limbs and out to a safe distance away from the snakes. He learned a lesson to be more aware and vigilant when at the pond.

The same thing can happen to any of us when we become complacent to sin or become so sure of ourselves that we are too proud to see we have drifted into the presence of evil and danger.

One day we may wake up (if we wake up) and be staring death in the face.

We have to remember, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." (1 Peter

5:8)

We use our faith to resist the devil. We cast our care upon God because he cares for us. (1 Peter 5:7) But we must remain humble before God that he may exalt us in due time. (1 Peter 5:6)

If you have waited too long and already find yourself in that position, there is still hope. Just as my Dad suffered in his heart for a while and was then established, strengthened, and settled through the grace of God, you will be too by keeping your faith in God. (1 Peter 5:10).

God will reach out and rescue you to glorify himself and to show his dominion for ever and ever. Cry out to God in the name of Jesus, humble yourself before him, and he will raise you up.

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

# Shift your thoughts into a positive channel

Do you ever wake up "hohum" bored, "poor-me" lonely or "it's-a-cruel-world" unhappy?

If you do, consider the little mood-lifter passed along to me by a friend.

"You aren't alone, you know," she reminded me when I expressed being less than happy with my lot.

I thought she would go on to remind me that I have good friends, a loving family and to count my blessings. Instead, she surprised me and said something quite different:

"Meaning that you have a lot

of company! We all have those downers. Know what I do when one threatens? I have a card tucked away in a drawer that reads: 'I will postpone all negative feelings for 24 hours.'

"I pull that card out and prop it up in plain sight so that if I start to backslide, I am bound to be reminded to shift my thinking," she said.

Well, I never did get around to actually printing those words on a card, but I prayed about the matter.

"Please, Father," I said, "don't let me be negative to-



St. Mary Magdalene Church  
Lynn McNew

day." And do you know, when I began to make an active effort to turn my thoughts around, I became increasingly aware of the many blessings in my life. And at the end of those 24 hours, I found I had gotten along so nicely that I might just as well

coast through the next 24 hours in the same way.

Now if you are feeling down today, try letting go of all the negatives in your life. Use a card as my friend does if you want to, but either way, be sure to shift your thoughts into a positive channel — and see if something wonderful doesn't happen inside you!

Lord, let me think as you want me to be!

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

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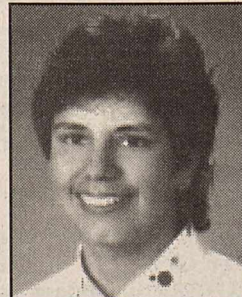
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**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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**CATTLE**

**TOMMY MILLIORN'S REGISTERED** and commercial complete Brangus Dispersal, May 17, 2003, Abilene Auction, Abilene, Texas, 1050 head. Contact Pierce Sales, 979-865-1410; Tommy Milliorn, 915-698-7014.

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**DRIVER-CDL/A HAZMAT** ... \$10,000 after 5 years. Solos to 39 cents, teams to 41 cents. Contractors to 87 cents, fuel surcharges. CDL grads welcome. EOE. 1-800-925-5556 or kllm.com

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**3 BEDROOM 1 1/2** bath home on Fort Clark. 563-9166

**FORT CLARK HOUSE - 3** bedroom, 2 bath rock home on large lot - sunroom (or 4th bedroom), double carport, shop, storage room, covered patio - call Frank Cheaney at 563-2172.

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**GARAGE SALES**

**GARAGE SALE - SUNSHINE** Storage - Saturday, May 3, 2003, 9 a.m. Storage Units #46 & #120. Behind Kinney County Wool & Mohair.

**GARAGE SALE: SATURDAY,** May 3, 2003 at 313 East Fulton St. 8:00 a.m. till Miscellaneous items.

**GARAGE SALES**

**MULTIFAMILY GARAGE SALE.** Household items, lamps, linens, baskets, chain saw, two adult bicycles, Kirby vacuum cleaner. Lots of women's clothing, men's shirts and suits. 2518 Oak Lane, The Oaks, Fort Clark. Saturday, 8:00 am until 1:00 pm.

**HEALTH**

**NEED AFFORDABLE HEALTH-CARE?** \$59.87/mo./ family. No limitations. All pre-existing conditions ok. United Family. 1-800-235-4031, Ext. 8353, CE06620.

**HELP WANTED**

**THE MIDDLE RIO Grande** Development Council is accepting applications for part-time temporary instructors to work with the Summer 2003 youth ACES (Academic and Career Enhancement for Success) Program within the nine county region. Dates of Employment: June 12, 2003 Staff Development. June 13, 2003 Work Day. June 16 through July 14, 2003. Hours of Employment: 8:00 - 12:00 Monday through Friday. Rate of Pay: \$18.00 an hour. Qualifications: Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in an Education or Related Field. Teacher Certification preferred. Must have experience working with adolescents between the Ages of 14 and 18; experience in working with SCANS preferred. Working environment: Works under the direct supervision of the Workforce Center in region travel required. All qualified persons interested in applying for these positions may submit an application and copies of transcripts to the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834, attention Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Executive Director of Administration. Deadline for positions will be kept open until positions are filled. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For more information you may call (830) 876-3533, or our TDD Voice (830) 876-1260.

**F/T SECRETARY/TECHNICIAN** position. Secretarial skills, computer skills and outdoor field work required. Applications will be accepted until May 2nd. Call 563-2414.

**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.

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**HELP WANTED**

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

**REQUEST FOR BIDS**

**BRACKETT INDEPENDENT** SCHOOL District is selling by sealed bid a 1961 Ford Tractor with shredder as surplus on an "as is" basis. Information can be obtained by contacting Brackett Independent School District, Attn: Taylor Stephenson, Superintendent, PO Box 586, Brackettville, TX 78832, 830 / 563-2491. All bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope with the words "Tractor Bid" printed clearly on the outside of the envelope. Bids due into the Central Office by 10:00 a.m., Mon., May 5, 2003. Brackett ISD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS** for Roof Repairs and Renovations will be received by the Brackett Independent School District at the Office Board Room, until 2:00 p.m., May 1, 2003. Interested parties may request proposal forms/specifications from: Taylor Stephenson, Superintendent, Brackett I.S.D. P.O. Box 586 / 400 Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Phone: (830) 563-2491 ext. 100, email: taylors@brackett.k12.tx.us. Each proposal shall include a Certified Check or Bid Bond in the amount of Five Percent (5%) of largest proposal.

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- Brackettville - Old Stagecoach House corner of El Paso & Fort 1 bdr/1 bth. FOR SALE OR LEASE.
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- \* 2/2 Home with carport, Ward St, in FCS, excellent condition.

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SERVICES CANYON  
IDIOT SARD  
SLIP TEN PTHISS  
LADE AVIAM RITE  
ICER LINDA SLED  
MESS SLEEP OWS

**Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures**

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or special appraised value placed on your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affected you.

**Informal Review**  
(Insert description of appraisal district's informal review process, if any, then give name and telephone number of person taxpayer should contact.)

**Review by the Appraisal Review Board**  
If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening, Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD will use to uphold their determination. The

CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at 412 S Ann St. Brackettville, TX

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

**Review by the District Court**  
After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 45 days of the date you receive the ARB's order.

**Tax Payment**  
If you appeal and your case is pending, you must pay the lesser of the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

**More Information**  
You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at 412 S Ann St Brackettville, TX (830) 563-2323. You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

**Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB**

**Usual Deadline**  
On or before Jun 15 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

**Special Deadlines**  
For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1). The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

\* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.

**GOODYEAR** 1700 Veterans Blvd. Del Rio, TX (830) 775-7487

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