

# The Brackett News

**Frerich is sworn in as new BISD trustee**  
See story, Page 3

15 year, No.14

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

## Is the city of Brackettville broke?



### Looking for financial stability

Brackettville City Manager David Luna (standing) answers questions about the city's financial status during Tuesday's City Council meeting. Officials are considering a \$120,000 loan to pay off debts.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

### Council to consider \$120,000 loan to pay off debts at meeting Friday

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Editor

With only \$16,592.62 in total cash assets, the Brackettville City Council is considering a \$120,000 loan to pay off the city's debts.

Total cash assets of the city have decreased \$572,583 or 97 percent over the last five years.

The aldermen discussed the city's financial status for over two hours Tuesday night during their monthly meeting, raising numerous questions they hope to have answered Friday night at 6 when the meeting is reconvened.

With a dwindling amount of cash, citizens expressed concern about how the city was surviving.

"We pay the bills as the money comes in," City Manager David Luna said.

According to the city manager, the city owes West Texas Gas over \$83,000. Reports indicate the city has not paid its gas bill since December 2001.

Council members said they were not aware of the debt until this week.

"We should have been aware of this long before the debt got to \$83,000 — that's a lot of mo-

*"Somewhere along the line, the council lost control of the city. We need to regain control of the city and regain respect for the mayor."*

**Bonnie Wardlaw**

ney," Mayor Pro-Tem Francisco "Chica" Garza said.

The city is considering an ordinance which includes a loan of \$120,000 from Del Rio Bank & Trust to be repaid through an annual ad valorem tax. Council members complained that they didn't receive a copy of the 29-page document until the day before the meeting.

"I want to be able to do more research before making a decision," Garza said.

The ordinance says the loan is "to finance the costs of paying contractual obligations to be incurred for constructing improvements to the city's landfill and the payment of professional services related to the financing of the aforementioned projects."

See COUNCIL/Page 5

## Water board discusses changes to district rules

The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors is considering several changes to its rules.

Brian Sledge, an Austin attorney who represents the district, presented the changes during a rehearing on the rules last Friday at the Kinney County Courthouse.

Sledge recommended that the board not take action on the changes until the public had the opportunity to review the proposed revisions to the rules.

The directors met Monday and Tuesday to adopt the changes, but both days opted to postpone the conclusion of the hearing. The board is set to resume discussions today at 5 at the Courthouse.

Don Hood, Chris Ring, Darlene Shahan and Cecil Smith were the only directors in attendance on Tuesday. Directors Chuck Hall, Hadley Wardlaw and Bob Young were absent.

The directors granted motions for the rehearing last month during a special meeting.



Sledge

The motions for a rehearing were in response to the revisions to the rules that were adopted on Jan. 7.

One of the major proposed changes to the rules is the addition of a new class of users. In addition to current users, who can claim historic use for the past 10 years, there are now a class of users referred to as historic users, who can claim historic use from June 1, 1972 through Dec. 31, 1991.

The debate over the groundwater resources in Kinney County made it to the state capitol during the current legislative session. A number of local citizens gave testimony in Austin as the Natural Resources Committee discussed Senate Bill 1886, addressing the local water district. The bill was introduced by Sen. Frank Madla, who said the local water district "has had some difficulties and some

*"(The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District) has had some difficulties and some problems that I felt needed to be addressed."*

**Sen. Frank Madla**

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.



### State qualifiers

Representing Brackett at the state track meet were Divina Pena (from left), Stacey Castilla, Tammy Smith, Rachel Swinson, Courtney Frerich, Juliann Ashabanner and Stephanie Coronado. See related story, Page 5.

Photo Special to The Brackett News



### Focusing on education

Lee Lincoln (left), director of Whitehead Memorial Museum, is welcomed to the Brackettville Rotary Club meeting by Tino Guzman, program chairman.

Photo by Bill Haenn

## Whitehead Memorial Museum hosted special program on dinosaurs Tuesday

By FRANCES McMASTER  
Contributing Writer

Del Rio's Whitehead Memorial Museum hosted a special program on dinosaurs Tuesday 9 a.m.

Lee Lincoln, director of the museum, discussed the program at last Thursday's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting. She was the guest of Tino Guzman, May program chairman.

Lisa Evans of the National Park Service had gathered the material for the presentation for the program and funding was secured from a grant.

A specialist on dinosaurs from San Antonio was on hand Tuesday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Lincoln said 722 youngsters from area schools, mostly first through sixth grade students, are scheduled to attend.

There were dinosaurs in this area, and the program will provide actual dinosaur bones, tracks and eggs for the children to see and touch.

The fee for each child is \$1, and each will be given a dinosaur egg as a souvenir.

Lincoln said the purpose of

the museum is education, and she stressed that the program would be a "hands-on" experience. She explained that when children can touch, see and feel, they learn more.

The museum is owned by the city of Del Rio and Val Verde County, and a board of 16 people governs it. A traveling exhibit is available to bring displays to schools in this area.

On the first Friday of the month, the museum has an overnight campout and from 20 to 40 youngsters may attend. The curriculum and activities depend on the interests of the group.

The campout is held in a huge barn that is air-conditioned. A campfire is built and the young people sit around it while a storyteller entertains them. The next morning, they are fed a big breakfast before they leave.

Rotarians were pleased to have very special guests for this meeting. The parents and twin brothers of exchange student Maarten Vos attended the meeting as they were ending a visit to the United States from their home in the Netherlands.

Maarten's mother, Marianne,

and older brother visited previously. This time, his father, Otto, and twin brothers, Michael and Laurens, also were here.

Maarten's father spoke to the group briefly. As a Rotarian, he noted the differences between this meeting and a typical meeting in the Netherlands.

He thanked the Rotary Club, as well as the host families, for having provided the opportunity for Maarten to come to the U.S. He particularly praised Bill Haenn for the active role he has played in overseeing the entire enterprise.

Vos said that he and his family felt a particular desire to reciprocate and plan to be host parents to a girl from Thailand this coming school year. He also encouraged the Brackettville Club to sponsor a student through the Rotary Outbound Program to spend time abroad.

BISD Superintendent Taylor Stephenson complimented Maarten for being a model student and being friendly and well liked. Stephenson added that having had an exchange student has also provided a significant learning experience for local students.

### INSIDE

#### Shanae Simmons

Recently I freaked out many of my classmates by speaking with my imaginary friend. This is not an abnormal thing for me.

Opinion/Page 2

#### Shooters take 3rd

The Kinney County 4-H Shooting Sports team had 12 members participate in the District 10 Rifle Competition May 3 in Kerrville.

Community/Page 3

#### Chuck Hall

I went to the George Paul Memorial bull riding in Del Rio not too long ago. I had a great time. I saw friends that I haven't seen in years.

Lifestyles/Page 4

### INDEX

Community .....	3
Classifieds .....	8
Deaths .....	3
Lifestyles .....	4
Opinion .....	2
Religion .....	7
Sports .....	5

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Brackett ISD, Kinney County will miss Taylor Stephenson

The school year is coming to an end, and I have a feeling of sadness. Taylor Stephenson is retiring.

Taylor may be looking forward to a more leisurely life, but I feel sad because he is leaving his post as superintendent.

I've lived in Fort Clark since 1985, and the fort and Brackettville are home to me.

The fact that Brackettville has had such a fine school system has been a source of pride and satisfaction to me, even though I don't have children or grandchildren who go to school here.

Taylor has come to be my friend since we both belong to the Brackettville Rotary Club, and I have watched him take part, listened to his comments, and observed the changes he has instigated in the school system

over the years. I have come to respect him tremendously. He has met with grace the challenges of a rapidly changing environment. He has recognized and accepted responsibility for educating children to work in a world changing so rapidly that the jobs for which they need to be trained do not even exist at the moment.

He is one of the few people I have known who can run a tight ship, hang tough when the going gets rough, yet never lose touch with his caring and concern for others.

Taylor never forgets that the people he deals with are human beings — small or large, young or old — individuals who need to feel good about themselves, and he has no need to be hurtful in dealing with them. He dem-

onstrates with his life that gentleness and weakness are not at all synonymous.

Before I retired, I was a psychotherapist, and I can tell you that perhaps the greatest gift anyone can give another human being is that of respect and kindness.

Any child treated by his or her elders in that fashion will develop self-esteem — a quality that is necessary to blossom into a healthy and effective adult.

Taylor has helped build a fine school system here in Brackettville, but perhaps his greatest gift is that of being a caring, concerned person — a man who is not afraid to show his gentleness as well as his strength. He has served as an excellent model for his students.

Frances McMaster

Stand up and say no to reintroducing fish into the creek

All that I've been wanting to write about Fort Clark Springs lately is all of the good things that we have seen happening around the fort.

The pride in FCSA ownership is showing itself all over the place. The new board is showing such boldness in the way they have taken the bull by the horns and are making the fort well again — doing everything in their power to make it run like it's supposed to be run.

But alas, it's not to be.

It's been rumored that a certain power-hungry group wants to see that sorry fish in our creek. Why? I'm not sure, but the way I understand it, if it were

in our creek, they would be able to gain the upper hand over the other group or groups around, thus making them the "big dog" around here.

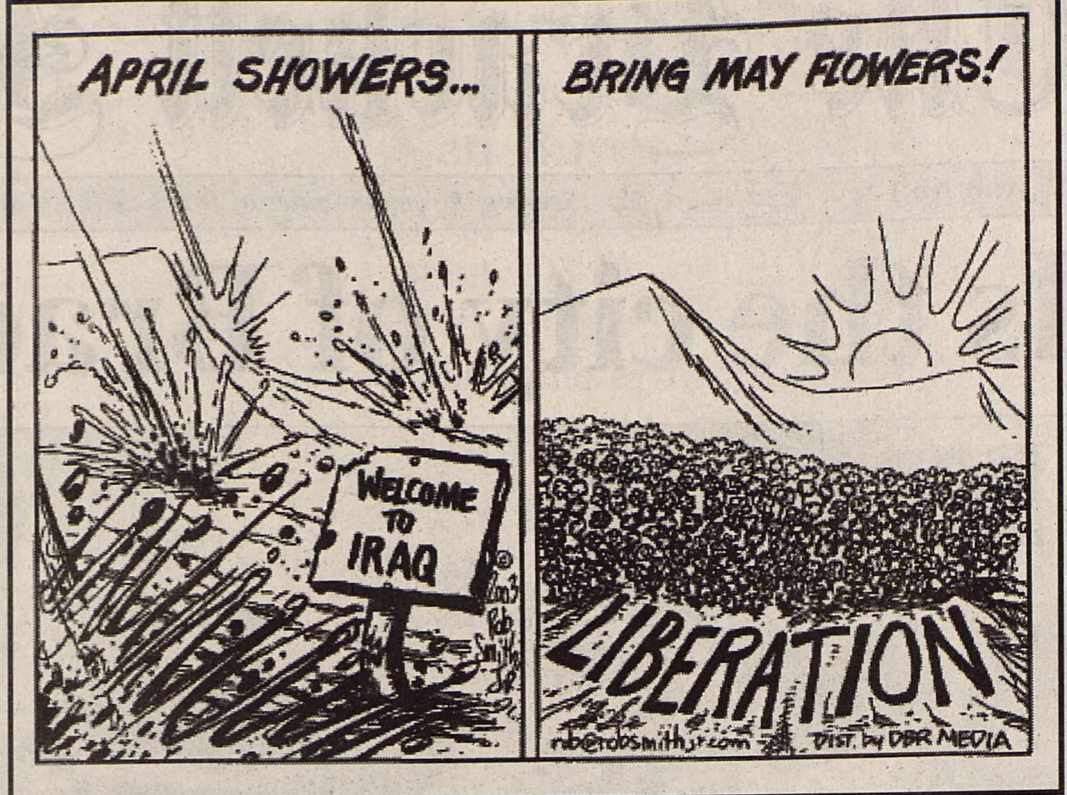
As of now, this fish is not endangered, but it could be close to being. Which, the way it has been explained to me, wouldn't hurt us for now, but could if it made the list and the federal government stepped in. There could be no chemical use of any kind, which in turn would stop most of the things we enjoy here. Golf, swimming and fishing, just to name a few.

And as we all know, we need these amenities to bring in our visitors, enticing them to come

back time and again, and just maybe enlarging our FCS family with the purchase of a membership, which in turn would help keep the fort alive and well.

When the amenities are gone, what will be the draw for them? What would make someone want to become a part of our FCS family? I think if I had not been standing around and enjoying the look of the "new old FCS" so much, I might have seen this coming, and we are the only thing that stands in the way of this coming to pass. So stand up and be counted and just say "no!" to this fishy-smelling problem.

Richard A. Card Sr.



What's wrong with imaginary friends?

Recently I freaked out many of my classmates by speaking with my imaginary friend. This is not an abnormal thing for me, freaking out my peers that is. I am a weird kid, and I take pride in that.



Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

A teacher of mine once told me that I was weird, and I simply smiled brightly and said that I knew, and that it was taken as a compliment.

Anyways, back to my imaginary friend. Actually my imaginary friend is a real person, Megan, but she moved so I pretended that she was here for one day so I wouldn't feel alone.

We made this plan to pretend that we were sharing one another's company even though we live many miles apart. I went the entire day, telling people to move out of the way, and that Megan was coming through.

I got many weird stares from teachers, but that is not an ordinary thing.

As the day continued, I realized how much fun I was having, and I began to wonder why I never had an imaginary friend as a child.

I was always very creative and imaginative, but I never had

an imaginary friend. Especially after watching "Drop Dead Fred," a movie about an imaginary friend who causes his owner tons of trouble, I really wanted one.

I talked to myself, which I still do today, including right now, but when I heard about my peer's imaginary friends, I felt a bit cheated, like the Imaginary Buddy Distributors skipped me.

So I would go along telling people I was the proud owner of a pretend pal. Later, I felt guilty that I was a liar because my imagination had never conjured up such a being, and I continued to tell everyone else that it had.

I later heard that children with imaginary friends were usually brighter and more creative than their peers.

How could this be true? I thought I knew everything

at the age of 8 and I was one of the most creative kids in my school, yet I felt I was the only one who was alone in the make-believe playmate department.

Eventually, the green-eyed monster faded, and I no longer had the desire for a relationship with a made-up comrade, not until recently that is.

Now, at the age of 16, I had myself an imaginary friend, while no one else in my school did. I was again the odd one out, but it was actually quite pleasant this time.

My imaginary Megan and I shared funny jokes, we told each other stories, and most of all, we kept each other company. I finally got the whole imaginary friend thing — it just took me about 10 years, but it was OK.

The other kids now think I am an oddball, so what's new? And I know that this new Megan is going to have to hit the road once the real Megan comes to visit, but I think that for the time being she is an excellent acquaintance.

And now, if you will excuse me, we are off to play tea party. Man do I love being a kid.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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Big Mama Sez!



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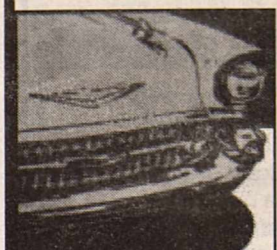
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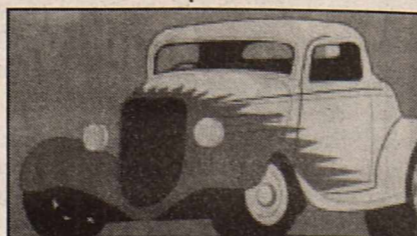
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# Junior 4-H shooters place third in district



**Kinney County 4-H Shooting Sports team** Photo Special to The Brackett News  
Members of the Kinney County 4-H Shooting Sports team competing in the District 10 Rifle Competition in Kerrville included: Tyler McDonald (from left), Bryan Calk, Seth Frerich, Chris Blake, Justin Calk, Emily Calk, Daphne Hunt, Anolda Watkins, Taylor Dunbar and Beau Watkins. Not pictured: Tammy Smith and Brandon Kluzek.

The Kinney County 4-H Shooting Sports team had 12 members participate in the District 10 Rifle Competition May 3 in Kerrville.

The Junior team, comprised of Emily Calk, Justin Calk, Daphne Hunt and Anolda Watkins, earned third-place medals and ribbons in the team competition and brought home a plaque to be displayed at the Kinney County Extension Office.

Hunt shot her personal best score, which earned her top honors and a plaque for high individual junior shooter. Watkins finished as the fourth highest individual junior shooter, earning her an award as well.

The senior team of Brandon Kluzek, Tammy Smith and Beau Watkins finished seventh, while Chris Blake, Bryan Calk, Taylor Dunbar and Tyler McDonald placed fifth in the pre-junior division.

Seth Frerich, who competed as an alternate, shot in the top gun competition, along with several other Kinney County shoot-



**Shooters take third** Photo Special to The Brackett News  
Junior shooters Emily Calk (from left), Daphne Hunt, Seth Frerich (alternate), Justin Calk and Anolda Watkins (not pictured) took third place. Hunt shot her personal best score, which earned her top honors and a plaque for high individual junior shooter.

ers from both the junior and pre-junior groups. Bryan Calk and Chris Blake were second and third, respectively, in the event. The shooters also competed

in the air pistol competition. Anolda Watkins brought home a third-place plaque in the event. The shooters' next match is in Brownwood on June 7.

## OBITUARY

### Eloise Hunt Davis

Eloise Hunt Davis died at home on Mother's Day, May 11, 2003, after a lengthy illness. She was 82.

Born June 1, 1920, to Myrtle and Tillman Hunt, she was raised in Kinney County. After graduating from Brackett High School, she enrolled at Texas State College for Women, now Texas Women's University, in Denton and earned a degree in business administration.

Eloise married Warren Paul Little of Comanche on July 23, 1940. He was wounded in combat during the D-Day invasion and died July 27, 1944. She then taught at Brackett High School for several years.

On May 29, 1946, she married Lloyd Lee Davis of San Angelo, a former Air Force pilot during World War II. This was the beginning of a 47-year union in which they devoted themselves to each other, to raising their family, and to ranching. He died on Dec. 26, 1992.

One of the many memorable occasions was their 40th wedding anniversary celebration in 1986, hosted by their children and their spouses.

Eloise was preceded in death by a son, Robert Davis, and is survived by her children: Paul Davis of East Hampton, N.Y., Nan Coates of Mertzton, Helen Cates of Uvalde, Lloyd Lee

Davis Jr. and Zack Davis, both of Brackettville, Diane Williams of Austin, and Jamie Ballew of Brackettville; her grandchildren: Dr. Stephen Coates and Stephanie Coates Panozzo, Wesley Cates, Lee, Amanda and Meghann Davis, Zachry, Susannah, Dietrich, Tillman, Robert and Sarah Davis, Marty, Blake and Scott Williams, J. Wayne, Laura Lee and Beth Ballew; her great-grandchildren: Jennifer Cates and Avery Williams; and her sister and brother: Mary Helen Kreiger and Clay Hunt, both of Brackettville.

The family wishes to extend their thanks to Thelma Villareal and Sharon Melton for their dear friendship and loving care of their mother and to the wonderful people of Hospice.

Memorials may be made to the St. Mary Magdalene Cemetery Fund, P.O. Box 916, Brackettville, TX 78832 or to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Lone Star Chapter, 8111 North Stadium Drive, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77054.

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

Eloise was buried next to her husband in the family cemetery on the Davis Ranch, 25 miles northeast of Brackettville under the direction of Rushing-Estes-Knowles Mortuary of Uvalde.

## Frerich sworn in as School Board member

The Brackett ISD Board of Trustees swore in new board member Mark Frerich Monday night. Sondra Meil received her oath of office at the canvass meeting last week.

Henry Lutz was elected president, Lloyd Lee Davis Jr. was elected vice president, and Sara Terrazas was elected secretary.

Our community wishes these leaders the best as they begin a new year of service to patrons of BISD. Superintendent-elect Bobby Templeton attended the meeting.

### Book Fair

Jones Elementary is hosting a Book Fair all week long, ending on Friday. Students, parents and grandparents, this is a chance to purchase excellent



### Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

learning and recreational books for young children. Contact Paula Renken, principal, for additional information.

### Committee Report

Copies of the report submitted to the board from the Superintendent's Advisory Committee were distributed at the board meeting and at the elementary school open house. If you would like a copy, please call the principal of your school

or Susan Esparza in the central office.

The board will study the report and prioritize action items. Dr. Don Smith, committee chair, spoke for the committee in saying "no district is perfect, but this is a good district. The schools are a tremendous asset to this community. We want our schools to be the best that they can be."

The report makes suggestions from the committee and public to improve the school system. Thanks to Dr. Smith and his committee for a job well done.

### Published Poet

The School Board recognized Heather Baggett, a seventh grade student, for writing a wonderful patriotic poem that will

be published in an anthology that recognizes superior achievement in young poets poetry.

Her poem is so good that I will devote the rest of my article so that you may enjoy it too.

The American Soldier: There are soldiers who died who gave their lives for freedom, for you and for me. They knew they might die for freedom, that's why they fought proudly and bold. Honor the soldiers who gave us their lives. Honor them with praise and with pride. Our American hearts can be let to ride the streets of gold, the rolling tide of oceans plenty. In freedom that rings, we should honor the American soldier. Have a great week!

## KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

### Monday, May 5

7:18 a.m., A BISD employee reported that someone had pushed an air conditioner into the building, but that no one entered the building.

10:25 a.m., Reynaldo Medina Morales, 58, of New Braunfels was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley on a fugitive warrant out of Comal County. He was released the next day on a \$2,500 bail bond.

### Tuesday, May 6

9 p.m., A Fort Clark man reported individuals on dirt bikes driving recklessly.

### Wednesday, May 7

10:39 a.m., An anonymous caller reported a dark blue towncar was driving recklessly.

12:30 p.m., A woman requested assistance at the public housing building because of a domestic dispute.

### Thursday, May 8

10:34 a.m., Border Patrol agents reported that they had apprehended two runaways from Eagle Pass. The juveniles' parents were notified.

11:25 a.m., Charles E. Coker, 44, of Del Rio was arrested by Trooper Ashley on outstanding DPS warrants. He was released the same day after paying a \$375 fine.

1:50 p.m., An anonymous caller reported a white truck headed towards Brackettville from Del Rio on Highway 90 was driving recklessly.

8:04 p.m., A man reported that someone broke into his sister's truck.

9:33 p.m., A woman reported that someone was trying to break into her residence on N. Gove Street and trying to scare her.

10:26 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs man reported a domestic disturbance and requesting a welfare check for his daughter. Deputy Ron Ring spoke with the woman. She said she had been in an argument but that there was no physical violence.

### Friday, May 9

3:36 p.m., Gabriel Benavides, 22, of Eagle Pass was arrested by DPS Trooper Marcos Hernandez for outstanding DPS

warrants out of Zavala County. He was released the same day after paying a \$140 fine.

9:06 p.m., An anonymous person radioed in a message that an ambulance was needed at Super S. A man on a bike had been hit by a car.

11:42 p.m., A man said he had been threatened by his niece and some other individuals at his residence on Beaumont Street.

### Saturday, May 10

8:20 a.m., A woman reported that paintballs were shot at her car at her residence on N. Brown Street. The front windshield of the vehicle and her apartment had been hit.

9:45 a.m., A BISD employee reported that the Home Economics Cottage had been vandalized. The window was broken and a hose was put through the window. The cottage was filled with water.

3:33 p.m., An individual reported that they knew who broke the windows at the school. Also, an individual reported knowing who broke into the band hall and

flooded it back in April.

2:33 p.m., Benito Lee Ozuna, 19, and Jessica Hernandez, 17, both of Uvalde, were arrested by DPS Trooper Ashley. Ozuna was charged with driving under the influence of a minor, driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana. He was released the next day after posting a \$2,000 bail bond. Hernandez was charged with possession of marijuana. She was booked into the Wackenhut Correctional Facility in Del Rio where she was still being held at press-time.

### Sunday, May 11

7:33 p.m., A woman reported that another woman was using bad language and harassing her children at the Fort Clark pool.

8 p.m., Ricky Alejandro Flores, 29, of Brackettville was arrested by Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter for violation of probation. He was released later the same day after posting a \$3,500 bail bond.

9:07 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee requested assistance at the pool.

## BRIEFS

### Brotherton named Student of Year

KERRVILLE — Lindsay Brotherton of Brackettville was named Schreiner University's 2003 Female Student of the Year. She is the daughter of Dusty and Bonnie Brotherton of Brackettville.

Brotherton graduated from Schreiner on May 11 with a bachelor of arts degree in exercise science. While at Schreiner University, she played volleyball, basketball and softball. She also was involved with the Student Senate and the Mountaineer newspaper, and was a member of the Honors Program. Brotherton was named to the 2003 Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities, was a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society and was named Exercise Student of the Year. She also was a recipient of the prestigious Summers scholarship award.

Schreiner students, staff and faculty nominated students for Female and Male Students of the Year. Brotherton was then selected for the honor by a committee of Schreiner staff members.

### Booster Club hosts supper, banquet

The Athletic Booster Club will host its annual Junior High Hamburger Supper at the Fort Clark Swim Park on Monday at 4. The meal will be served at 5 and awards will be presented at 5:30. Hamburgers will be free to junior high athletes and \$2 for everyone else. The High School Athletic Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, May 22, at 6 p.m. at the Civic Center. Awards will be presented at 7. Tickets for the barbecue dinner are on sale for \$5. The public is invited.

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**Lt. Dale Francis Marrou**  
 Lt. Col. and Mrs. Robert L. Conrey traveled to College Station last week to attend their grandson's Graduation from Texas A&M. Dale Francis Marrou was also commissioned as Lieutenant in the Army as his grandfather, Bob Conrey, gave him the oath of allegiance. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Francis Marrou of Universal City, TX.

**We need more rodeos**

I went to the George Paul Memorial bull riding in Del Rio not too long ago. I had a great time. I saw friends that I haven't seen in years. They serve as a reminder of a time long past in my life. The days of youth rodeo and hauling my kids up and down the pavement are gone forever from my routine.  
 The announcer at the bull riding was Boyd Polhamus. He's good at what he does. He's done quite a lot with his career since he first started announcing rodeos at Uvalde a few years back.  
 He's a lot younger than I am, but I'm still a fan of his. He's a fine role model for us all. He publicly professes to be a Christian. He's quite vocal about it.  
 He always starts a rodeo with a prayer. He makes no qualms about it. If you don't like it, you can leave. He is proud to be a

*But I Could Be Wrong*  
**Chuck Hall**

Christian and an American. I'm proud of him.  
 I'm also proud of the sport that I have been associated with for the last 30 years of my life. Rodeo is the last sport that I know of where prayer begins the events. I never went to a youth rodeo in all of the years that I traveled the circuit that didn't have a prayer. Maybe we did a lot of things that weren't right. Maybe we weren't perfect examples for our kids. I know of several rodeos that I'd like to redo. But we always started with a prayer. Maybe all we need is more rodeos in the world.  
 But I could be wrong.

**Hints make a difference**

I must share some new discoveries that have made a difference for me.  
 Hopefully there may be a new hint for you too!  
 Does your rice always clump together? Solution: When rice is finished cooking, immediately rinse it with cold water. It may be repeated.  
 I empty the rice into a colander, which I have in a large bowl, and run water while stirring the rice.  
 If not served immediately, re-heat by sitting rice in hot water. Each grain will stand alone.  
 Do your coffee grounds spill over in your drip coffee maker?  
 When I used a second paper coffee filter on top of the grounds, there were no more grounds in my coffee. It's worth a try.

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

Have you tried adding oil to the water when boiling pasta and find it still stuck together?  
 Next time, cook the pasta, then immediately drain and rinse with hot water (to wash off the starch), and then cold water to stop it from cooking. Drain.  
 Now, pour a small amount of oil in the palm of your hand and rub through the pasta. Magic!  
 It's necessary to use a large pot for cooking and helpful to stir before and during boiling, especially when using spaghetti.



**Mrs. Barkley Neal Simmons**  
 Amanda and Barkley Simmons were reunited in marriage April 27, 2003 at the terrace on Las Moras Creek. Ned Sitzes performed the ceremony. A candelit reception followed. The couple wishes to thank all family and friends who were able to share in this special evening.

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**Thank You!**  
 I want to thank all the citizens of Kinney County for turning out to vote in the recent election. I'd like to express my sincere appreciation for all the support I received from everyone. I promise to do my very best to ensure that all our children continue to receive a quality educational experience at B.I.S.D.  
 Thanks again,  
 Mark Frerich

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### Ashabraner, relay finish 7th at state



Ashabraner

AUSTIN — Juliann Ashabraner and Brackett's mile relay team both finished seventh at the UIL Class 2A state track meet Saturday.

Ashabraner ran a personal best 5:35.42 in the 1,600-meter run to finish in seventh. Salado's Lauren Mewhinney won the event with a 5:14.42.

The mile relay team of Divina Pena, Stephanie Coronado, Rachel Swinson and Stacey Castilla finished seventh after posting a time of 4:11.35. Alto's relay won the gold with a 3:56.60.

Alto won the state track meet with 64 points, while Cisco was second with 56 points and Frankston finished third with 36.



#### State qualifiers

Brackett's 1,600-meter relay team of Stephanie Coronado (from left), Divina Pena, Stacey Castilla and Rachel Swinson placed seventh at the state meet.

Photo Special to The Brackett News

### Council to consider \$120,000 loan

Continued from Page 1

Council members questioned the legality of the ordinance because, though it states the money will be used for the landfill, it would actually be used to pay other existing debts.

"We're asking the bank to loan us the money to reimburse ourselves to pay the obligations that we have," Luna said. "That will get us back on track."

The council asked for an itemized list of expenses incurred from the landfill and all other existing debts. The aldermen will continue discussions on the ordinance when the meeting resumes Friday. They unanimously tabled a related resolution Tuesday because the council members had not received a copy of the resolution.

Discussions got heated Tuesday and Luna defended his job performance to the council.

"I did the best I could with what you gave me," he said. "You don't send a soldier to war

without ammunition. I know the best I could do may not be good enough for some people, but that does not mean it's not good.

"It's no secret that some of you don't want me here. I have no problem with that. I didn't want some of you on the City Council."

Garza asked Luna, "How do you know that? Have you ever heard anyone say that?"

Luna replied: "It's a fact." Newly-elected council member Bonnie Wardlaw said, "Somewhere along the line, the council lost control of the city. We need to regain control of the city and regain respect for the mayor."

The council also unanimously voted to disapprove the financial statements presented at the meeting because the document was not complete.

"The balance on the financial report is not complete," Mayor Carmen Berlanga said. "They are not up to date."



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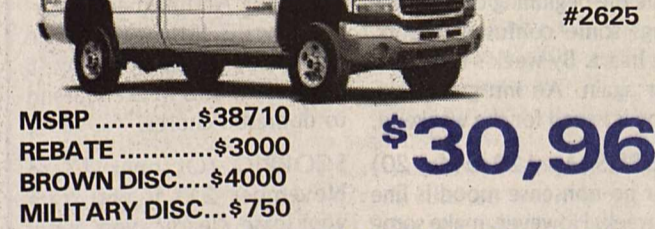
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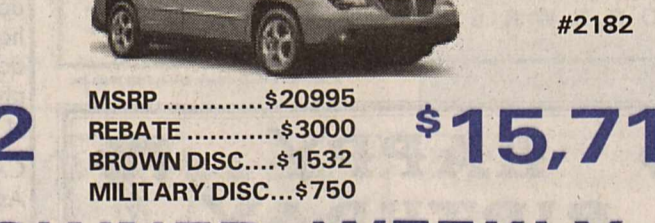
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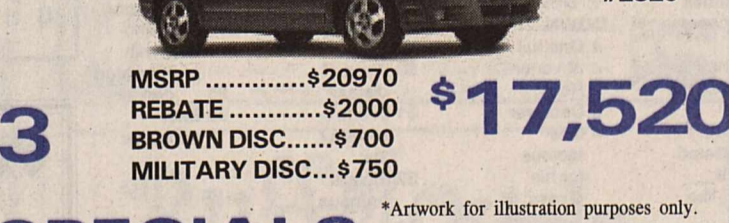
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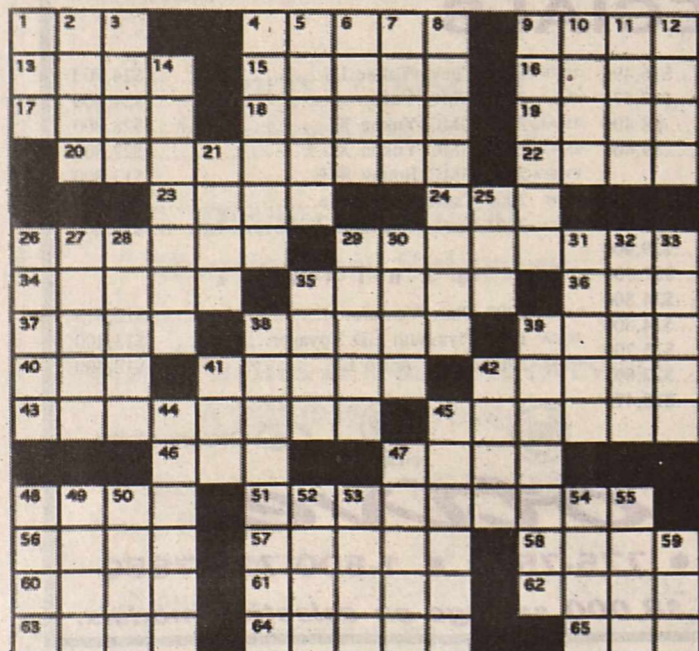
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| place         | (1721-87)        | role          | 50 Connected   |
| 23 Eins +     | 63 Stated        | 27 Gay;       | notes          |
| zwei          | 64 More          | WWII          | 52 Dare-       |
| 24 Chapeau    | cunning          | plane         | devil's        |
| 26 Fix        | 65 Greedy        | 28 Cone       | 1st name       |
| 29 Christmas  | one              | 29 Dunkirk    | 53 Mr. Strauss |
| purchases     | DOWN             | dads          | 54 One who     |
| 34 Ms.        | 1 One full       | built with    | gopherwood     |
| Bryant        | of venom         | 30 Word of    | 55 dancer      |
| 35 Approaches | 2 Ran            | disgust       | 59 Beer        |
| 36 Cry of     | 3 Deceiver       | 31 In one's   | container      |
| discovery     | 4 One            | birthday      |                |
| 37 Completed  | famous           | suit          |                |
| 38 Out of     | for his          | 32 Biblical   |                |
| 39 to; like   | "Trees"          | pronoun       |                |



ROARING TWENTIES

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

Today's Category: MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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

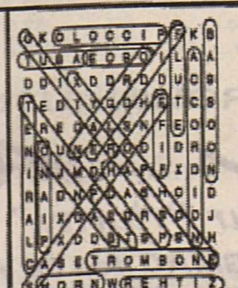
1. Accordion
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| May 16.....Angela Childress | May 18...Jania Finkerbinder |
| May 16.....David Samaniego  | May 19.....Nelda Archer     |
| May 16.....Amanda Simmons   | May 19.....Reyes Diaz       |
| May 16.....Malcolm Young    | May 19.....Sam Hunt         |
| May 17.....Daniel Garza     | May 19...Maria Alicia Duran |
| May 17.....Mistie Herndon   | May 19...William Patenaude  |
| May 17.....Chita Lopez      | May 20.....Billie Story     |
| May 21.....Francel Nelson   |                             |

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Accordion
2. Banjo
3. Bassoon
4. Clarinet
5. Fiddle
6. Flute
7. Flute
8. Guitar
9. Harp
10. Horn
11. Oboe
12. Organ
13. Piano
14. Piccolo
15. Saxophone
16. Trombone
17. Trumpet
18. Tuba
19. Xylophone
20. Zither



HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) While the beginning of the week brings some confusing events, take heart. By week's end, all is clear again. An intriguing invitation is issued for the weekend.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Your no-nonsense mood is fine this week. However, make some time for recreation. It'll recharge your creative abilities.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Fortunately, events on the job don't mirror what's going on at home. All is well on the domestic scene. Make an effort to simply ride out what's happening at work.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) As the saying goes, it's not wise to put all those eggs into one basket. Something you'd anticipated is not going to happen. If you're flexible, you can adapt.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A heart-to-heart talk with your mate yields much progress. Whether it's finances or children, you reach a pleasant accord. This weekend, guard that wallet.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Make sure you don't miss anything important while assessing your overall financial picture. In general, those around you see eye-to-eye this week. Later in the week, feel free to let go of work worries and just relax.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) An unexpected surprise awaits this week. While you didn't anticipate it, you'll be pleased. This weekend, tend to domestic chores.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) If you state your case clearly, you avoid communication gaps in the long run. However, avoid a tendency to be too preachy. Others find this annoying.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your success at work is well-deserved. However, you don't have to gloat about it. Give credit to all who helped.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) You go it alone this week. However, that won't interfere with anyone else's plans. Over the weekend, a new person comes into your life.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) You're not pleased with all the interruptions that occur early in the week. At the same time, you're the best one to deal with them. Later in the week, you achieve all you'd set out to do in the first place.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A close friend is simply full of advice this week. However, don't take this as gospel. You have a tendency, at times, to be gullible.



