

The Brackett News

Hobbs and Castillo earn athletic honors
See story, Page 7

15 year, No.17

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

BRIEFS

Red Hatters meet June 21 in Uvalde

Members of the Southwest Junior College faculty will host the quarterly meeting of the South Texas Red Hatters on Saturday, June 21, at noon at the Uvalde Country Club.

There will be food, fellowship and fun at the Vibrant Victorian Age Red Hatters Luncheon. See how much "fluff" you can attach to a parasol, and of course wear your red hat and purple outfit.

Deadline for receiving reservations is Friday, June 13. Checks for \$12.25 should be made payable to the Uvalde Country Club and mailed to Ann Pendersen, P.O. Box 546, Leakey TX 78873.

Methodist church welcomes pastor

The First United Methodist Church will welcome new pastor Roger Baker on Sunday at 10:45 a.m. Baker comes to Brackettville from Mildenhall, England, where he served as a Methodist "circuit rider" and completed theological study at the University of Cambridge. A native Texan, Baker is married to Lt. Col. Susan Baker, commander of the 47th Medical Support Squadron at Laughlin Air Force Base. The couple has two children.

BHS set to host volleyball camp

Brackett will be having its first-ever high school volleyball camp on June 30 through July 3.

The camp will run from 1 to 4 p.m. It will be led by Brackett graduate Lindsey Brotherton, who has just concluded a four-year collegiate volleyball career and has been named the head volleyball coach at Lexington High School. The camp will focus on correct passing, setting and spiking techniques, as well as team offense and defense.

The cost for the camp is \$30 and is due by June 20. For more information, call Brotherton at (830) 563-3303.

Agents apprehend 631 in Brackettville

U.S. Border Patrol agents apprehended 631 illegal aliens in Brackettville during the month of April.

Agents in the Del Rio Sector apprehended a total of 5,020 illegal aliens, including 1,548 in Eagle Pass, 1,221 in Carrizo Springs, 609 in Del Rio, 348 in Uvalde, 254 in San Angelo, 172 in Abilene, 108 in Comstock, 88 in Llano and 41 in Rocksprings.

Agents also seized 4,204.4 pounds of marijuana valued at \$3,365,922 during April.

City hoping to secure loan to pay West Texas Gas debt

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

Brackettville Mayor Carmen Berlanga said a loan with the Bank & Trust to pay off the city's debts "is pending."

"We are in communication with a bond company," Berlanga said. "They want an itemized list of all our debts. With the bills that came in at the end of May, it changed the picture."

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

Berlanga said the city has only \$5,348.67 in cash assets, while it owes \$204,766.44, in-

cluding \$88,149 to West Texas Gas and \$20,831.02 to CPL. Both the gas and electric companies have threatened to terminate services with the city if the debts were not paid.

"We have to pay the gas bill and we have to pay the electric bill or we won't have any water because we won't have any electricity to run the pumps," the mayor said.

While waiting for approval of the loan, the city did send a \$1,000 "good faith" check to West Texas Gas.

The company previously told city officials it would terminate its contract if half of the outstanding balance was not paid



"We would like to work something out, but I can tell you, they're going to have to come up with something pretty quick. It's just a bad situation."

J.J. King of West Texas Gas

by June 1, but that deadline has been extended, according to J.J. King, who works with the company's marketing department.

"We know the situation now," King said. "Before hand, we didn't know the situation. All we were going on was what Mr. (David) Luna was sending us, as far as letters and the payments that he would periodically send

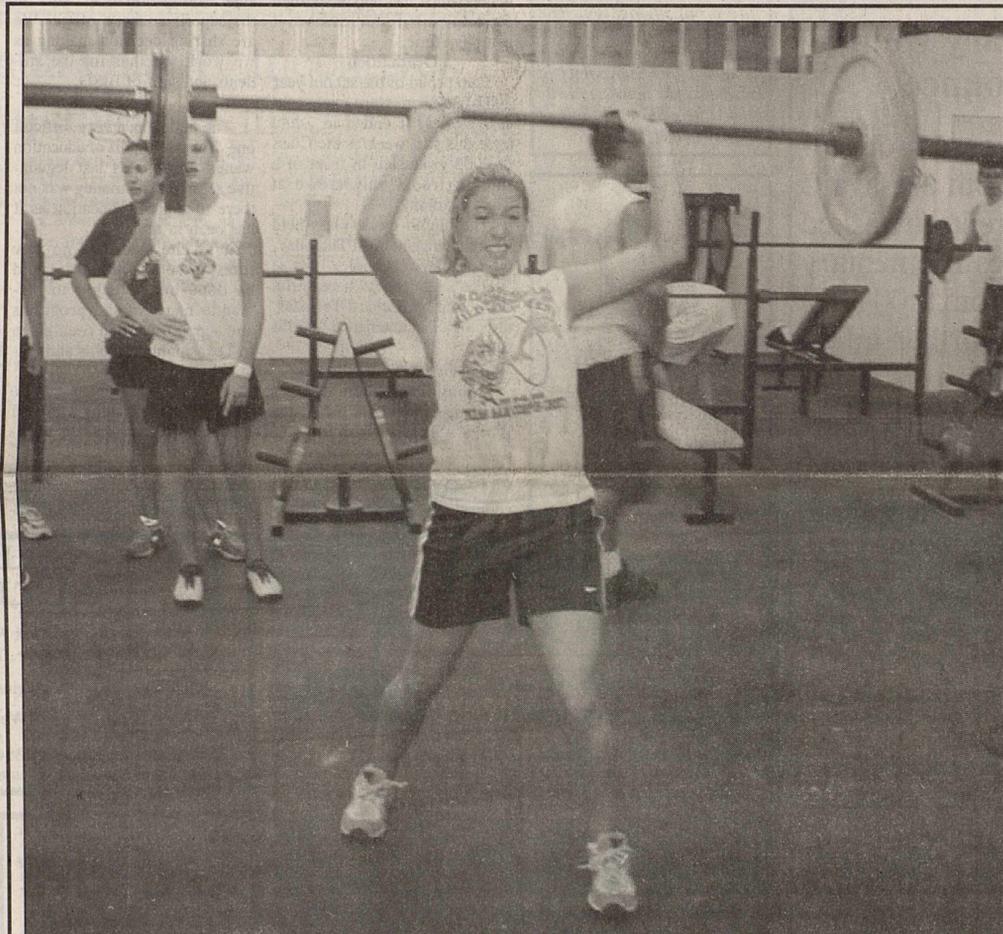
in. Council members said they were not aware of the debt until last week's monthly meeting.

"We should have been aware of this long before the debt got so big," Mayor Pro-Tem Francisca "Chica" Garza said. "We were uninformed for so long, now look at the mess we're in."

Officials said a loan may be the only answer to continue providing gas services to citizens.

"We're running out of time," Alderman Tomas Gomez Jr. said. "I don't see another way."

Luna said the city's financial problems are because of state mandates with the waste transfer station.



Summer in the weightroom

Brandy Smith was among 52 Brackett High School students that turned out Monday for the Summer Strength and Conditioning Program. Athletes work out Monday through Thursday, from 9 to 11 a.m. or 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Mayor running the city

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

With the absence of City Manager David Luna, Mayor Carmen Berlanga has been handling the day-to-day operations of the city of Brackettville.

After City Council members suggested May 16 that the city manager be suspended without pay, Luna apparently walked off the job. He has not been to work since that night, even though no formal action was taken against him.

The City Council was expected to discuss Luna's job status during an emergency meeting last week, but the meeting was never held.

Luna asked the mayor on May 22 in writing what his job status was, adding that he was being represented by Luis Vera, an attorney from San Antonio. That same day, officials learned that Pat Dodson of Uvalde had resigned as the city's attorney.

"We talked to Ralph Brown from San Antonio," Berlanga said Tuesday. "He used to be the city attorney before Pat Dodson. I called him and he said he would talk to Luna's attorney. That's all I know."

Alderwoman Bonnie Wardlaw previously proposed hiring Del Rio attorney Robert Garza, a former Brackettville resident. The council has taken no formal action in hiring an attorney.

INSIDE

Taylor Stephenson

BISD put its summer plans into motion this past week. Summer school for elementary and junior high students began this week.
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Chuck Hall

When I first started teaching, I took a lot of pride in my attire. I wore slack pants, white shirt and a nice necktie every day.
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Lynn McNew

There is an e-mail going around, which is a statement read by a high school principal at a football game at Roane County High School.
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Hardin: Deregulation has proven to be successful

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

Joe Hardin discussed the deregulation of the electric industry at last Thursday's Rotary Club meeting. Hardin, a service representative for Central Power and Light, is a past president of the Brackettville club.

Deregulation came into effect on Jan. 1 of 2002. Hardin said that tremendous changes have occurred since that time in the industry, the corporation and in his own job description.

Hardin believes that, on the whole, deregulation has proven to be successful. In Texas, it has gone relatively well because of skillful handling. However, he addressed some of the problems encountered by customers.

Reconnections have caused the most problems, Hardin said. In the past, if you needed reconnection and called before 4 p.m., you could get reconnected that same day. Now, it is a three to four day process by design, and if there are prob-

lems, it could take a week or better depending on circumstances.

Outage and maintenance is an area that has not been affected by deregulation, and you will find this service generally as efficient as it was in the past, Hardin said.

Some customers have had trouble getting billed on time, due to the multifaceted nature of the business now.

Some miscellaneous fees not billed to customers in the past are now charged to them. For instance, if the meter reader can not access your property due to a dog, a locked gate or some other reason, you will be billed \$65. A \$45 fee will be charged if there is a meter tampering problem and the seal is broken.

A new rule is in effect: the person who causes the expense is the one who pays. In the past, no charge was made to bring in electricity over a long distance. Now the customer must pay, and if it is far, the cost can be very large.

A lot of problems have been experienced in Brackettville by changes involving lease lighting, such as guard lights, security lights or floodlights.

The customer may buy the lights and the company may continue to provide service, but if the light becomes disabled and can't be repaired, it will be taken down and the customer charged. This does not include street lights.

Who do you call if you have a problem?

Hardin says that you should call your service representative, but people who did not make a choice of providers will be referred to a default representative. This is less than satisfactory since this job is often done by a contract phone center, and those who answer may have little training and may not be able to give much help.

CP&L did not choose to stay in the retail business and sold to a company in England.

Hardin said if people aren't
See HARDIN/Page 6



Deregulation

Tino Guzman (left) welcomes Joe Hardin to last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting.

Photo by Bill Haenn



THE U.S. BUDGET MATRIX RELOADED

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Thank You

I would like to thank the E.M.S., Fire Dept., Sheriff's Dept., Connie Smith and Felipe Martinez for coming to my aid. Your help was greatly appreciated. Thanks again

Felix Gonzales

Jones Elementary would like to announce:

End of year report cards for students of grades 1st-6th are available for pick up. Parents are asked to come by the Jones Elementary office Mon-Thurs. from 8:00 a.m. thru 3:30 p.m. For further information call 563-2491. ext. 200

The Brackett Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided at the school cafeteria, located at 400 N. Ann St., Brackettville, TX Beginning June 2, 2003 through June 26, 2003. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be served beginning at 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex age, disability, religion or political belief. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: Director, Civil Rights Division, MCW-106, Texas Department of Human Services, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. NOTE: Discrimination complaints based on religion or political beliefs must be referred only to the Director, Civil Rights Division, Texas Department of Human Services.:

The Brackett News

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EDITORIAL

Citizens deserve answers

Here are a few facts concerning the city of Brackettville:

- Mayor Carmen Berlanga said the city has only \$5,348.67 in cash assets, while it owes \$204,766.44, including \$88,149 to West Texas Gas and \$20,831.02 to CPL. Both the gas and electric companies have threatened to terminate services with the city if the debts were not paid.
- Total cash assets of the city have decreased \$572,583 or 97 percent over the last five years, according to the mayor.
- City Manager David Luna, along with various council members, past and present, have received numerous salary advances.
- The city is required to have

an annual audit, but has not had an audit since 2001. In fact, the city still owes its auditor \$1,000.

These facts and many more have come to light since Luna approached the council about a \$120,000 loan last month. The most disturbing fact is that the citizens have received few answers since that time.

Luna, whose job status is uncertain, said the city's financial problems arose because of state mandates with the waste transfer station. According to figures presented to the council, the city has spent \$36,214.50 in labor and \$18,574.78 in materials on the transfer station to comply with the mandates.

Does that explain the loss of over \$500,000?

The mayor has pointed the finger at Luna, but the city manager claims he made Berlanga aware of the financial woes over a year ago.

Berlanga recently said that the city is a manager-council form of government. She is wrong. If you read the state laws, Brackettville is a mayor-council form of government. Over the past decade, Luna was given an enormous amount of power, but it is still Berlanga that is responsible for the city's financial status. She was elected — and paid — to protect the interests of our city. Mayor, our city is over \$200,000 in debt and we still don't know why. We demand answers — answers that the citizens deserve.

Summer in full swing at BISD

BISD put its summer plans into motion this past week. Summer school for elementary and junior high students began this week. The school cafeteria is open and is serving nutritious meals for breakfast and lunch.

Principals are wrestling with schedules and room assignments for PK-12 teachers. Summer maintenance has begun. Budget preparation is in full motion. It is a busy time.

Graduation

I am proud of the school year 2002-03. There were many success stories. It ended in grand style this past week as the Class of 2003 graduated in front of a standing room only crowd at Tiger Stadium.

The eighth grade class held its commencement on Thursday, the last day of school.

The stadium was a beautiful site set up by Richard Terrazas, director of maintenance and his staff.

New Superintendent

Bobby Templeton, BISD's new superintendent, is on the job. I will work through the month of June and will try to ensure a smooth transition.

I have moved to the counselor's office in the Inter-



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

mediate School for the month of June. Templeton is at work in the superintendent's office. We are sharing decision making as we work together for the students and staff of BISD.

Budget

The budget is a very difficult one. Texas' support of education waned during this last legislative session. The money was not there to support education as it has been in the past.

With the pledge of no new taxes, there was little that could be done but to begin to dismantle many of the programs and support that had been given to Texas public schools and universities in the past.

Most school districts will be freezing salaries, along with staff members paying for their medical insurance.

We're looking at a freeze of salaries or of no insurance benefits. The board and administra-

tion are working on cost estimates of both.

Neither is a step forward for education in BISD. However, we must make decisions based on availability of funds.

Dixie Brown has worked long and hard to put together a budget that can endure. Our school system has operated with fiscal integrity and will stand the test of time.

Back on the Job

Jim D'Camp is doing fine and is back at work. He was injured in a fall during graduation. He has done an outstanding job with the school band.

Jim's son, Nathan, joined school band members for the commencement Friday night. We wish him well as he recovers from his injury and works to build a fine band for BISD.

Fitness Program

We have an excellent fitness program going on at the field house for high school level students in the mornings and evenings.

There were more girls than boys working when I observed. Also, check out the basketball camps that will begin this next week.

Have a great week!



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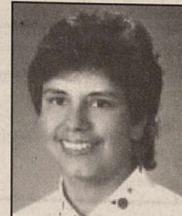
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4-H officers

New 4-H officers include, top row (from left): Justin Calk, Emily Petrosky, Miles Braesicke, Whitney Hobbs, Hayley Harris and Tillman Davis. Bottom row: Bryan Calk, Emily Calk, Taylor Dunbar, Sarah Davis, Summer Allen, Jared Harris and Bailee Allen.

Photo Special to The Brackett News

4-H clubs elect new officers

The Kinney County 4-H Club and Junior 4-H Club held their last meetings of the year recently to elect officers and club managers for the 2003-04 year.

The 4-H officers for next year are Tillman Davis, president; Hayley Harris, vice president,

Whitney Hobbs, secretary; Miles Braesicke, treasurer; Emily Petrosky, reporter; and Stanford Conoly and Justin Calk, council delegates. The senior club manager will be Roy Jay Harris.

Junior 4-H officers are Bai-

lee Allen, president; Jared Harris, vice president; Summer Allen, secretary; Sarah Davis, treasurer; Taylor Dunbar, reporter; and Emily Calk and Bryan Calk, council delegates. The junior club managers are Hudson Kerr and Leslie Dunbar.

The newly elected officers held a training meeting Friday at the Courthouse. The training gave the officers a chance to discuss programs, fundraisers and activities for the upcoming year.

The clubs will meet again in August.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Tuesday, May 20
9:40 a.m., Deputy Pena reported dead animal remains between Ft. Clark and Ranchito 73, and about 1 1/2 miles from the Nobul Ranch. Game Warden Henry Lutz was notified of the situation.

12:07 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported a prowler in Unit 36. Deputy Robinson was dispatched to the scene.

2:30 p.m., A man reported two illegal aliens on Highway 334, about 5 miles from Brackettville. U.S. Border Patrol agents were notified of the situation.

Wednesday, May 21
9:20 p.m., Michael Falcon, 25, of Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Ron Ring for theft by check. He was released the next day after posting bond.

Thursday, May 22
4:24 p.m., A man reported a truck on fire on Highway 90 west of the Brackettville city limits. Deputy Johnny Fritter and the Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department were dispatched to the scene.

Friday, May 23
1:23 p.m., A motorist reported a black Ford Mustang traveling at a high rate of speed

going east on Highway 90. Deputy Ron Ring was notified of the situation.

2:20 p.m., A Border Patrol agent reported a grass fire on Highway 131, behind the airstrip. Constable Bobby Guidry was notified and found out it was a controlled burn on a local ranch.

4:52 p.m., A 911 caller reported a minor accident at the Pico parking lot. Deputy Fritter was dispatched to the scene.

7:18 p.m., A 911 caller requested assistance at his residence on F.M. 2804. Deputy Ring was notified of the situation. Ring said the complainant's neighbors were burning trash and his wife's asthma was affected by the burning. Ring asked the complainant not to abuse the 911 system, adding that it was only for emergencies.

Saturday, May 24
5:55 p.m., A Val Verde Sheriff Office employee reported a possible intoxicated motorist on Highway 90 West in a black pickup. The driver was not intoxicated, just tired.

10:25 p.m., A woman reported a family dispute at her residence on N. Beaumont Street. Deputy Ring was dispatched to the scene.

FARM & RANCH

Environmental Quality Incentives Program available in Kinney County

Farmers and ranchers in Kinney County have until June 13 to make application for participation in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program funded through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

These funds are part of the conservation provisions contained in the 2002 Farm Bill.

Eligible program participants may apply for cost-share assistance for eligible conservation practices that address the natural resource concerns identified by the local work group.

In Kinney County, the re-

source concerns include water quantity on both rangeland and irrigated cropland.

Conservation practices applicable for cost share to address these resource concerns include: brush management; chemical, aerial; Pricklypear, Mesquite, Juniper, Tebuthiuron; chemical, IPT; mechanical; handcut, Juniper; chaining, Juniper; fence, non-electrical and electric; irrigation land leveling; irrigation system, microirrigation; irrigation system, sprinkler; irrigation water conveyance, pipeline, high-pressure, low-pressure, underground, plastic; water well;

watering facility and tank.

Cost-share rates for financial assistance have been set at the local level.

Additionally, funding is available to address statewide natural resource concern including animal feeding operations, wildlife habitat, water quality and invasive species.

For additional information or to make an application, interested farmers and ranchers should contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service at the local USDA Service Center in Brackettville, located at 501 S. Ann St., or call 563-2414.

Beef cattle meeting set for June 24 in Uvalde

Local cattle producers concerned about country of origin labeling will have their questions answered at a meeting sponsored by County Farm Bureaus and the Texas Cooperative Extension Service.

The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, at Southwest Texas Junior College in the Tate Auditorium in Uvalde. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a

meal. Country of origin labeling (COOL), set to become mandatory in October of 2004, has caused controversy because of unexpected costs that may have to be born by cattle producers. Producers would have to verify that their cattle are born, raised and slaughtered in the U.S.

The meeting will cover the verification process and help

producers estimate the time and costs necessary to comply with COOL. Producers attending the meeting will also hear about "backgrounding" of cattle. This is a preparatory process for cattle about to enter a feedlot.

Local ranchers can reserve a seat at the meeting by calling the Kinney County Cooperative Extension office at 563-2442, by 5 p.m. on June 23.

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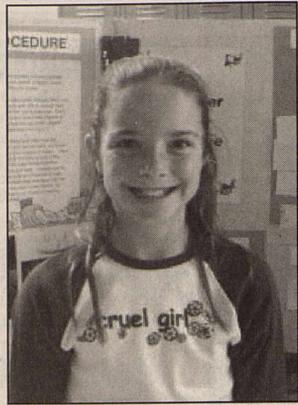
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Lilly Valdez, fifth grade first place, physical science



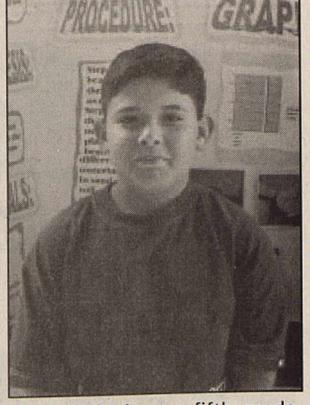
Taylor Dunbar, fifth grade second place, physical science



Nydia Talamantes, fifth grade third place, physical science



Elidia Molinar, fifth grade first place, life science



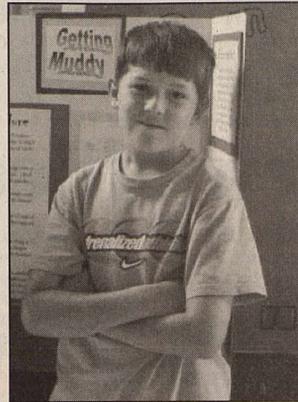
Ramon Gutierrez, fifth grade second place, life science



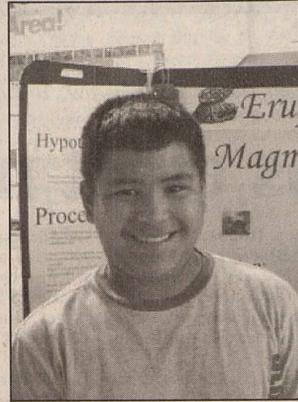
Brianna Escamilla, fifth grade third place, life science



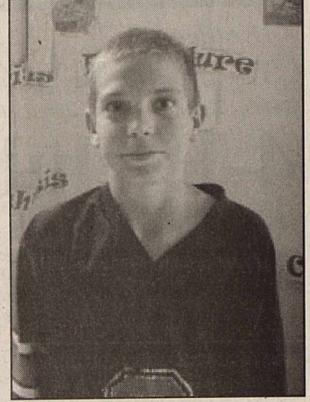
Amanda Flores, fifth grade third place, life science



Chris Blake, fifth grade first place, Earth science



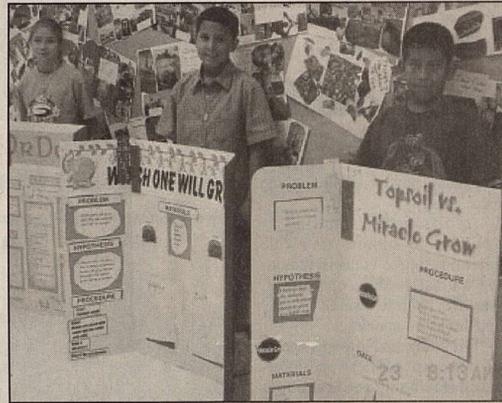
Raul Rivas, fifth grade second place, Earth science



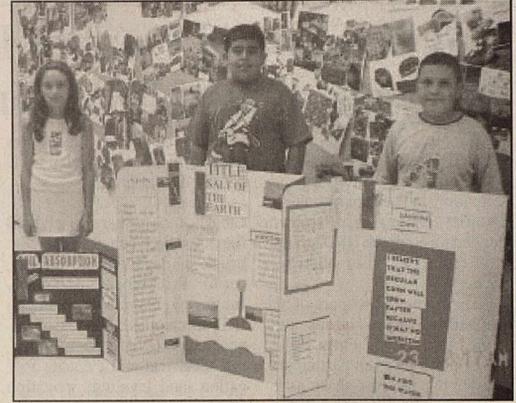
Raymond Robinson, fifth grade third place, Earth science



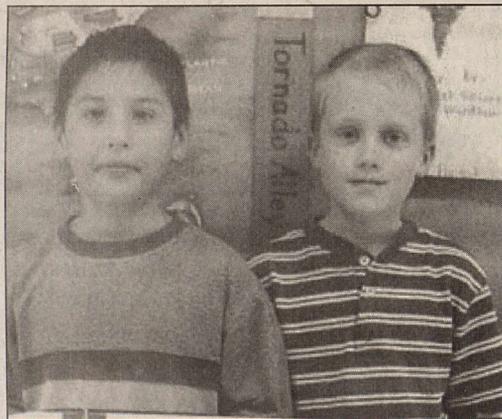
Winners in the fourth grade physical science division were Kelsey Bruce (from left), first place; Bryan Calk, second place; and Katie Bowlin, third place.



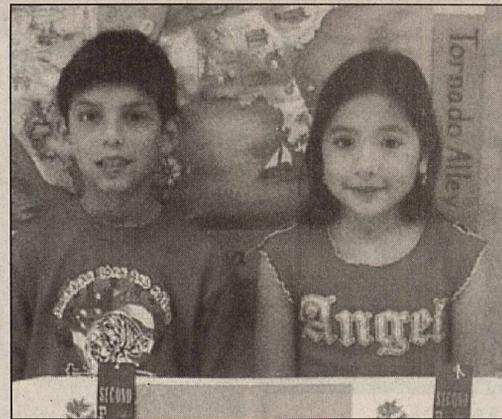
Winners in the fourth grade life science division were Icela Rueda (from left), first place; Sam Stewart, second place; and Adrian Juarez, third place.



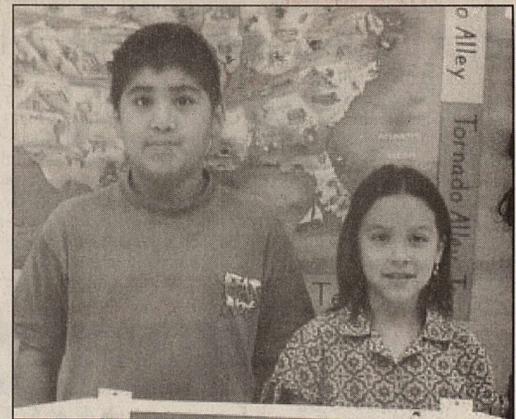
Winners in the fourth grade Earth science division were Haley Hale (from left), first place; Rolando Rivas, second place; and Jerry DeHoyos, third place.



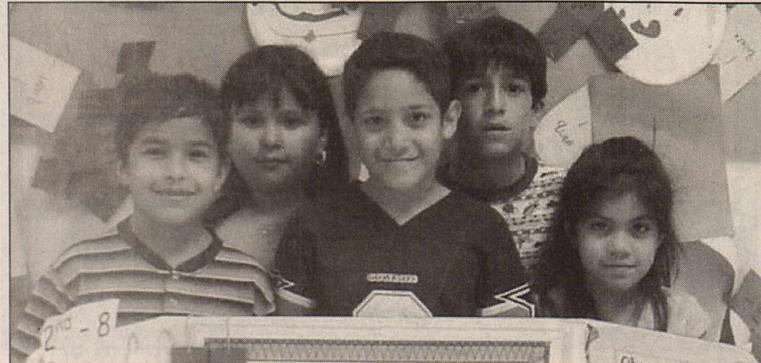
Joel Talamantes (left), Shandel Villarreal (right) won first place in the third grade division of the science fair.



Ricardo Rojas (left) and Amanda Herrera (right) took second place in the third grade division of the science fair.



Amadeo Martinez (left) and Nevada Payne (right) took third place in the third grade division of the science fair.



Jonathan Pinales (from left), Sammy DeHoyos, Adam Resendez, Juan Talamantes and Sariah Guartuche won first place in the second grade division of the science fair.



Maria Villarreal (from left), Juan Ramos, R.J. Hernandez, Ervey Rodriguez, Meghan Flores and Cesar Castillo (not pictured) took second place in the second grade division of the science fair.



Happy 1st Birthday Nicole

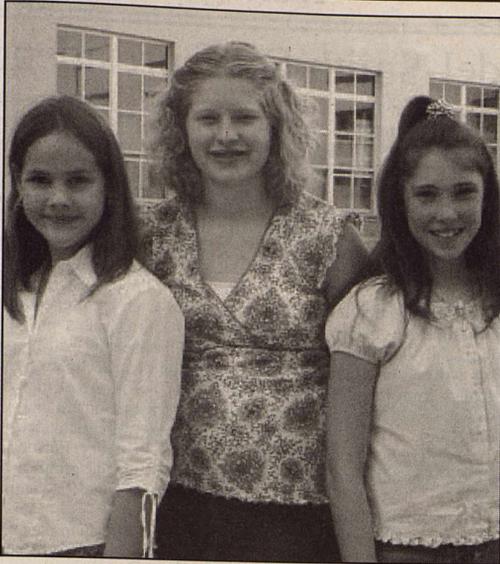
SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!



Brooke Brown (from left), Selene Talamantes, Heather Green, Joshua Pena and Celes Molano took third place in the second grade division of the science fair.



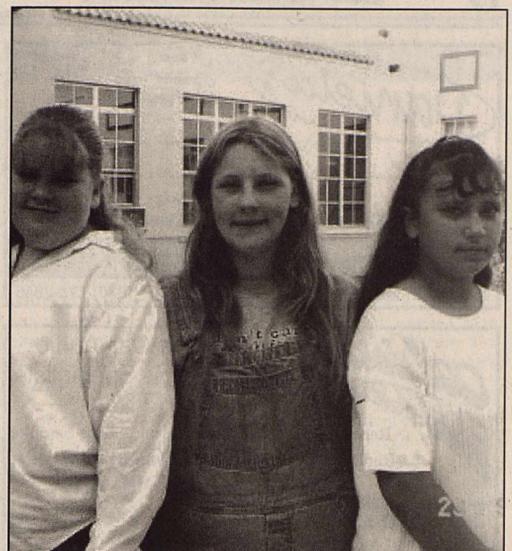
Winners in the first grade division of the science fair were Clarissa Valdez (from left), first place; Korlee Allen, second place; and Wyatt Blake, third.



Winners in the sixth grade physical science division were Katie Braesicke (from left), first place; Brooke Bowlin, second; and Valerie Davis, third.



Winners in the sixth grade Earth science division were Summer Allen (left), first place, and Valerie Talamantes, second place.



Winners in the sixth grade life science division were Emily Calk (from left), first place; Miranda Letsinger, second place; and Veronica Garza, third place.

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McKelvy installed as Caddel-Smith DRT president

The Caddel-Smith Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas installed a new slate of officers for 2003-2005 at its regular meeting last Thursday. Prior to the installation, Billie Jean Davis, president, called the meeting to order and gave the objectives of DRT. Bea Carmichael led the opening prayer and Otela Patterson led the pledge to the flags of the United States of America and of Texas. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by secretary Pricilla Montgomery and treasurer Ernestine Carson reported on the chapter's finances. Names of prospective members were presented by registrar Pat McKelvy: Alta Mae Miller Dutton, Marcella Marie Anderson Epperson and Carolyn Whittle Anderson, all from Rocksprings, and Ashley Anne Louk from Bakersfield, Calif. An inactive member of the

Kerrville chapter, Mollie Montgomery Wood Scherer, expressed a desire to reinstate with the Caddel-Smith Chapter. Those desiring to become associate members of the local chapter were Mary Louise Anderson Smith of Round Rock and Lillie Cheaney Lucas Skrobarcek of La Vernia. All of the above were welcomed. The winner of the Caddel-Smith Chapter Scholarship for 2003 was Laura Goodson. She is the 2003 valedictorian of Sabinal High School. Goodson, along with her mother, was introduced by Fran Brookshier. She was the 1999 District VII DRT essay contest winner and has made it a point of encouraging local fourth and seventh grade students to participate in the competitions. Goodson has been accepted by Texas A&M University and plans to major in architecture.

Billie Jean Davis and Fran Brookshier installed the new chapter officers for 2003-05. Patsy Cummings McKelvy of Fort Clark was installed as president. First vice president will be Kay Allen Anderson of Leakey and second vice president will be Patricia Blalack Moehring of Hondo. Serving as treasurer will be Ernestine Jessup Carson from Barksdale and recording secretary will be Pricilla Lucas Montgomery from Tarpley. Registrar will be Louise Bruce Stone from Fort Clark. Also installed were chaplain Nettie Huddleston Ollre from Leakey, historian Patricia Nichol Burrier from Leakey, flag custodian Otela Davis Patterson from Mountain Home, and parliamentarian Bille Jean Faulkner Davis from Uvalde. The sponsor of the John Blanton Chapter of the Children

of the Republic will be Frances Wyatt Brookshier of San Antonio, assisted by Ruby Huddleston Brigman of Uvalde. Crystal City member Emalee Carruthers will be a consultant for the chapter's history book. Newly-installed president Pat McKelvy announced a called meeting of the chapter for June 19 at 11 a.m. at the Uvalde Country Club. The main purpose of the meeting will be revising the chapter bylaws and any other business that may be necessary at that time. Members were reminded of the Family History Forum at Alamo Hall on the grounds of the Alamo on June 27, beginning at 9 a.m. The event is open to the public, but preregistration is recommended. Other local members include Charlotte Corey, Mary Seaver and Agnes Vondy.

'Casual Friday' leads to 'formal Tuesday'

When I first started teaching, I took a lot of pride in my attire. I wore slack pants, white shirt and a nice necktie every day. I looked and felt very professional. Thanks to a tradition created by Lee Jean manufacturing company, we discovered "casual Friday." I am not one to go against trends. Soon I too became tieless every Friday. I couldn't see any difference in my teaching. Nope, it wasn't any better or worse. I may have looked a little less business like, but I still felt the same. Maybe I'm getting old, but I have gone from the custom of casual Friday to the now popular "formal Tuesday." I seldom find myself these days wearing a tie more than once a week. Perhaps the heat is worse than it used to be. I saw a weather forecast the other day

that said "Wednesday, fair, 101." Fair? FAIR? I have some sad news for the writers of that report: 101 degrees is not FAIR! That's HOT. Where did they come up with this usage of the word "fair?" Fair brings to mind such things as "pleasing to look at," "light in color," "having consideration for everyone concerned" or "neither good nor bad, average." Fair does not make me think of 101. I even remember a fair-haired maiden. But I could be wrong.



But I Could Be Wrong
Chuck Hall

Preventive care proves to be valuable for pets

Just as preventive care can help your car, it can also be of great benefit for your pet. Both emergency care and preventive care are valuable ways of making sure your pet has a long and happy life. "Emergency medicine is sought when your pet is in a critical health situation, while preventive medicine should be utilized to keep abreast of changes in your pet's health," said Dr. Melanie Landis, a veterinarian in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University. "Preventive medicine or, wellness checkup, gives your veterinarian a baseline for blood work and urinalysis." Additionally, dental disease, heart murmurs, tumors and cataracts are easier to treat successfully when detected in their early stages. Preventive medicine covers procedures that may also help keep your pet in good health. Diseases such as gingivitis and stomatitis (inflamed, puffy mouth tissue) can be very painful but are preventable with regular oral exams and dental cleaning, notes Landis. "Most cats and dogs should

have their teeth cleaned by four years of age, then yearly thereafter," she said. "Vaccinations prevent disease by stimulating your pet's immune system. Once vaccinated, the animal's body produces antibodies that protect it from disease causing viruses and bacteria." Fecal exam and heartworm check are also considered preventive medicine. These yearly procedures are effective ways to protect your pet from possible disease or debilitation, Landis said. "Pet owners should consider pet health in terms of life span," she explains. Dog and cat life spans are shorter than that of humans, so your pet's annual veterinary exam is equivalent to humans having a physical every decade or more. Accumulated data from your pet's annual exam helps to document changes in the animal's health and determine if modifications, especially in diet, are needed. Digestive and metabolic processes change. Cats, which are prone to renal failure as they age, benefit from diets lower in sodium, according to Landis.

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9 Kurt Meissner, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	10	11	12 Carlos Morales, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	13
16 Sammy Vick, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	17 Jerry Kruse, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 John Brownlee, M.D. Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-242-0008	18 Stephen Miller, M.D. Dermatologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Elizabeth Parten, M.D. General Psychiatrist 1-830-816-2251	19 Randall Bell, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	20 David Dean, M.D. Neurosurgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430
23 Kurt Meissner, M.D. Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	24 Theresa A. Hoppers, M.D. Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-697-7008	25 Fernando Triana, M.D. Cardiologist 1-210-614-5400	26 Carlos Morales, M.D. Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 George Swanson, M.D. Otolaryngologist / ENT 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Carlos C. Soriano, M.D. General Surgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	27
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Chicken dinner has little clean-up

We all enjoy having friends over for dinner and fixing a simple, easily prepared, no-mess meal to serve. Pair this chicken dish with either a green bean casserole or any "quicky" bright-colored veggie and you can relax while it cooks with little clean-up afterwards. **Super Easy Dinner** Here is what we need: four to six chicken breasts; 1 pound of potatoes, cut in wedges; 1/2 cup of Italian salad dressing; 1 tablespoon of Italian seasoning; and 1/2 cup of parmesan cheese. Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees. Place the chicken and potatoes in a 9-by-13 casserole. Pour Italian dressing over all, and then sprinkle with Italian seasoning. Top with parmesan cheese. Cover with foil and bake 45 minutes. Remove cover and bake an additional 15 minutes longer.

Hardin discusses deregulation at Rotary meeting

Continued from Page 1 satisfied with their provider, they can choose from others. One good thing coming out of deregulation is that customers received a 6 percent reduction on rates, he said, and added that there are some real successes occurring. In California, there is no shortage, and CP&L plants are not being used. Newly built plants are more efficient and provide cheaper electricity with a cleaner environment. Hardin was the guest of May program chairman, Tino Guzman, who is retired from CP&L. Both are from Del Rio.



Athletes of the Year

Tigers quarterback Jared Hobbs (10), pictured above, and Ashley Castillo were named Brackett's Athletes of the Year last week at the annual athletic banquet, sponsored by the Athletic Booster Club.

Photo by Javier Cervantez

Hobbs, Castillo named top athletes

Jared Hobbs and Ashley Castillo were named Athletes of the Year at the Brackett High School Athletic Banquet last Thursday at the Civic Center.

The banquet was sponsored by the Athletic Booster Club.

Hobbs and Tammy Smith were named BHS' Scholar Athletes of the Year. Hobbs was also named the most valuable player in football and basketball.

Other football awards were given to Tony Rosetti, offensive MVP; Glen Morgan, defensive MVP; and Eli Woolsey, MVP lineman.

Jesse Davis and Dietrich Davis were named most improved in boys' basketball.

Tito Hidalgo was the track MVP, while Terrell Freeman earned the most improved award.

Morgan was the baseball MVP, and Tillman Davis was named most improved.

In golf, Ryan Benton was the MVP and Jesse Davis earned the



Hobbs



Castillo

most improved award.

Maarten Vos was named the MVP for the tennis team, and Star Smith was most improved.

Castillo was named the newcomer of the year in both basketball and softball.

Ashley Smith was named the MVP in girls' basketball, and Courtney Frerich earned the most improved award.

Celina Cano and Vanessa Castillo were the MVPs in softball, Dana Bonner was named most improved and Shonte Ward won the "Miss Hustle" award.

Juliann Ashabranner was

BHS All-Scholar Athletes

Following are Brackett High School's 2002-03 All-Scholar Athletes, announced at last week's Athletic Banquet:

■ **Seniors:** Ryan Benton, Jesse Davis, Jared Hobbs, Megan McWilliams, Doug Sanchez, Tammy Smith, Eliot Stone, Maarten Vos and Shonte Ward.

■ **Juniors:** Beth Ballew, Stacy Castilla, Stephanie Coronado, Amanda Davis, Dietrich Davis, Hector Febres, Tony Jamail, Allison LaMascus, Sarah Meyer, Emily Petrosky, Arnold Pinales, Ashley Smith, Star Smith, Beau Watkins and Eli Woolsey.

■ **Sophomores:** Juliann Ashabranner, Tillman Davis, Jackie Duncan, Cody Edwards, Courtney Frerich, Whitney Hobbs, Brandon Kluzek, Whitney Massingill, Cody Robinette, Oscar Sierra, Shanae Simmons and Kody Yeager.

■ **Freshmen:** Dana Bonner, Miles Braesicke, Ashley Castillo, Alanna Conoly, Jacquelyn Conoly, Jessie Crane, Cassandra Gomez, Shaddine Gum, Tanya Molinar, Travis Nowlin, Timmeke Simmons, Rachel Swinson, Tye Taylor and Brand Wylie.

named the MVP in cross country and track, and Tammy Smith was named most improved in both sports.

Vanessa Castillo won the MVP award in volleyball and Shanae Smith was the most improved.

In girls' tennis, Ashley Smith and Sarah Meyer were named MVPs and Shaddine Gum was the most improved.

Megan McWilliams was named the MVP of the girls' golf team, and Cassie Mata won the most improved award.

OUTDOORS

Parks and Wildlife to increase fees

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Commission voted unanimously last Thursday to increase most hunting and fishing license and boat registration fees. The cost of senior and youth license types will not increase.

Hunting and fishing license changes will take effect when new season licenses go on sale Aug 15. Boat fee increases will take effect Sep. 1, which means boat owners who get renewal notices with August expirations will see the higher fee schedule.

For the past two months, the department has sought public input about the fee proposal. TPWD had public meetings about fees in Abilene, Corpus Christi, Humble, Lubbock, San Antonio, Southlake and Tyler.

A total of 24 people came to these meetings and almost all spoke in favor of the fee increase proposal. More comments came by e-mail, mail and phone, most of them against the increases. All told, 61 people commented about boat fees and 158 com-



A Little on the Wildlife Side

Henry Lutz

mented about hunting and fishing fees.

"Public comment about the fee proposal was surprisingly light in my view, and to me that affirms what I've said since we began this process—hunters, anglers and boaters get a good deal from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department," said Katharine Armstrong, TPWD commission chairman. "It's been seven years since our last fee increase, and we need this one to keep providing the basic services that our state needs and our customers expect. I think most people understand and support that."

Many of those who commented said they would support a fee increase if they could be assured TPWD would spend the

money in ways that benefit boaters, hunters and anglers.

The boat registration fee increase is expected to generate an additional \$3.6 million per year. Hunting and fishing fee increases are projected to bring in an additional \$10.2 million per year. This money will allow the agency to keep providing basic services.

By law, TPWD can only spend hunting and fishing license revenue on fisheries and wildlife management and law enforcement. License funds cannot be diverted to state park operations or other state government needs.

The cost of a Super Combo license will increase this fall from \$49 to \$59. Resident hunting and resident fishing licenses will go from \$19 to \$23. Licenses for youth and seniors will not increase. Also for the first time since 1996, fees for two-year boat registration will increase by amounts between \$5 and \$15 depending on the size and type of vessel.

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Search Showcase**

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Entry Forms can be picked up at any Plaza Del Sol Mall Store
Entry Fee is \$5.00 per act
Fee & Entry Form must be turned into the Mall Office
Adult & Junior Categories
Copy of Official Rules and Regulations can be picked up at the Mall Office.

**Location: Plaza Del Sol Mall - In Movies 8 Wing, In Front of
FYE**

Date: Saturday June 14, 2003
Time: 7:00 PM

Prize Money (In cash and prizes)

1st Place \$400.00
2nd Place: \$300.00
3rd Place: \$100.00

Entry Fees:

Entry Fee per person: \$5.00 (nonrefundable)
**Entry forms to be picked up at any mall store, but must be turned in
at mall office with entry fee.**

Official Rules and Regulations

- Entries will be accepted in the following areas: comedy, magic, singing, playing an instrument and dance.
- No age restrictions
- Contestant may submit only one entry and can appear in only one act.
- Each contestant must perform for a minimum of two minutes and no longer than five minutes.
- There is a \$5.00 (nonrefundable) entry fee per act, payable at the time of entry form drop off.
- Deadline for submitting entry forms will be by June 8, 2003.
- Contestants cannot perform any act with explicit lyrics or vulgar gestures.
- Contestant must sign in an hour and a half before contest starts.
- Employees or immediate family of Plaza del Sol Mall or judges are not eligible to compete.
- There will be no substitutions for prizes except at the sole discretion of Plaza del Sol Mall. The Mall has the right to substitute a prize of similar value. No transfer or assignment of prizes allowed.
- Plaza del Sol Mall will not be responsible for any liabilities arising directly or indirectly from the award or use of the prize.
- In claiming your prize you acknowledge that Plaza del Sol Mall has the right to publicize your name, character, likeness photograph, voice and the fact that you are the winner for promotional purposes without financial remuneration.
- Plaza del Sol Mall cannot be held liable for any lost or stolen entries, prizes or contest information.
- Entrants must observe all applicable rules and regulations or be barred from the contest.
- Plaza del Sol Mall reserves the right to remove from the contest either prior, at or any time during the contest, any entrant not conforming to the rules and regulations or any entrant refusing to follow instructions of security or talent contest officials.
- Plaza del Sol Mall assumes no responsibility for any expenses, transportation, meals or rooms of any contestant.
- All decisions of the judges are final.

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ACROSS
 1 Units of land
 8 Bridge
 10 Macri-fo's home
 14 Crinkled cloth
 15 Record
 16 Unwanted part
 17 Gin's accompaniment
 18 River flowing through Poland
 19 Cappuccino containers
 20 Is very hot
 22 Apparition
 24 Barnyard sound
 25 Masculine names
 26 Dances
 29 Theater part
 30 ___ king
 31 Temperature taker
 33 Eliminate a boo-boo
 37 Reside
 39 Devour completely

DOWN
 1 As You Like It
 2 Noisy flier
 3 Monsieur Descartes
 4 Closing section of a book
 5 Part
 6 Baby carrier?
 7 Foxes' feet
 8 Mock
 9 Parts of teeth
 10 Bunches
 11 Home above
 12 Hacienda
 13 Leagues: abbr.
 21 Follow
 23 Man, for one
 25 Deputy: abbr.
 26 Jabber
 27 Caught in ___; found to be dishonest
 28 Parishioners'

section
 29 Late actress
 32 Assigned a value to
 34 "Thanks"
 35 Rational
 36 Mild oath
 38 Shoulder decorations
 40 Noodles
 43 Place
 45 Foliage
 48 Accountant's item
 50 Sacred tables
 51 Masonry wedges
 52 Lower region
 53 Football player
 54 Miscalculation
 56 Carried away; slang
 57 In ___; bored by routine
 58 Away
 59 Being; Sp.
 62 Poet's word

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
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67										68			

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: OCCUPATIONS

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

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| June 6.....Nicole Mestas | June 10.....Wendy Foster |
| June 8.....Ricardo Galvan | June 10.....Jennielee Robinson |
| June 8.....Mary Lancelle | June 10.....Sylvia Gomez |
| June 9.....Bob Jones | June 10.....Simon Smith |
| June 9.....Beth Ann Smith | June 10.....Elias Salazar |
| June 10.....Ralph Gonzalez | June 11.....Ben Terrazas |
| June 10.....Elia Gutierrez | June 11.....Bernardo Terrazas |

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Accountant	11. Florist
2. Actor	12. Gardener
3. Banker	13. Lawyer
4. Barber	14. Mailman
5. Bartender	15. Nurse
6. Butcher	16. Painter
7. Carpenter	17. Pilot
8. Chef	18. Tailor
9. Doctor	19. Teacher
10. Farmer	20. Waiter

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's clear sailing this week. You're able to accomplish all tasks by set deadlines. Later, physical activities are favored.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Diplomacy serves you well at work this week. Two feuding co-workers finally get the point. This weekend, you're the leader when it comes to social activities.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Avoid giving into discouragement where your career is concerned. Things will pick up soon. In fact, keep your eyes open for an exciting opportunity coming your way.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Stop pressing that special someone into a decision. This will all resolve itself in due time. Patience is the key.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You're able to see your financial picture clearly. Discuss your insights with your mate. Over the weekend, browse through some travel information.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Don't give up on your exercise regimen. It will help you focus mentally. Later in the week, a work project challenges your abilities.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You're highly motivated to succeed as the week begins. Just be sure your expectations are realistic. Ultimately, you make much progress.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You're finally through with a daunting work project. Feel free to reward yourself. However, in the process, avoid being overly self-indulgent.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're so focused on a goal, you've become enmeshed in tunnel vision. Widen your scope. Once you see the bigger picture, you're more effective.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Introspection serves you well this week. However, some perceive you as being too aloof. Be sure to keep your people connections strong.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Something you overhear accidentally wasn't meant for your ears. Try to forget it. If not, there's trouble down the road.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You surprise family members with your sociability this week. However, you're in an overall good mood. This weekend, curl up with a good book.

The rapture will impact the world like no other event has

I am told that Oct. 30, 1938, started out like any other day. After the evening meal, millions of Americans gathered around the radio to listen to their favorite shows. The radio network was suddenly interrupted by a breaking news flash saying that a meteor had crashed into the earth near Grovesmills, N.J.

The program then continued for a while longer until there was another interruption and more breaking news flashes.

Next, an on-site report came from New Jersey that said thousands of people had been killed, not by a meteor as had been earlier reported, but by death rays guns that were brandished about by an army of space invaders.

What sounded like a legitimate newscast was in reality nothing more than a very unique one-hour drama presented by Orson Wells called "War of the Worlds."

The news flash said that the

National Guard had been called out, that the secretary of war was mobilizing the Army and the White House had declared a state of national emergency.

Americans everywhere believed that we were under attack from outer space. Telephone switchboards were jammed. Churches were filled to capacity. The highways leading out of New York City were jammed with the cars of people trying to escape the terror of it all.

The panic of this nation brought on by a fake broadcast was unbelievable.

There is an actual, true, real event on God's timetable that will make the 1938 "War of the Worlds" and its traumatic impact on society look like child's play. That day will be when Jesus Christ removes his church from the planet Earth. This will be the rapture and it will happen in the twinkling of an eye.

The rapture will impact the



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

whole world like no other event in human history. Millions of people will suddenly disappear from the earth. Millions of graves will without warning burst open. Every nation in the world will be chaos and confusion.

Millions of cars, buses, trains and airplanes will lose their drivers, pilots and passengers. Hospitals everywhere will be overflowing because of all the wrecks and heart attacks, and suicide will be the order of the day because of the fear that will be in the hearts of those left behind, the unbelievers. People will be trying to find their loved ones

and panic will set in when they can't.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 says, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Arch Angel, and with the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Bundle up your family for safety

Many people are sending their children out into the world after graduation. Mothers, especially, feel like they are birthing their children all over again.

Even though it feels painful for their children to separate from them, it is necessary for their children to grow into maturity. This does not mean that Mom and Dad won't be there for council and affection. It does mean that they must overcome their fears for their children and place them in God's hands.

The best way is to bundle them up in a covering that will comfort and protect them as they apply it to their lives. This "bundling" is called the Living Word of God. Pray over them daily, whether they are at home or abroad. You know the power of God's word to perform what he has set it out to do.

You know the power of the



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

blood of Jesus that washes away all sin. You know the power of the name of Jesus to which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord.

Knowing these things, take comfort in the good seed of God's word that you have planted in your children for in due season it will sprout and bring forth a good harvest.

Take comfort in the power of God's word and pray over them daily claiming God's word for yourself and your family.

Remember in prayer that "No weapon formed against you shall

prosper. God will never leave you nor forsake you. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

"I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the

reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation." (Psalm 91)

Bundle your "newborn" up in the Word and do not fear. God is able to deliver your child, you and all your family. Bundle up with God's word. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

A father's blessing gives a family firm roots

"Look Steve, every time I try to talk to you about the kids you get defensive and angry," Cindy said. "Can't we be civil about this and talk like rational adults?"

Cindy was getting impatient. "Sometimes I wonder if it's worth it trying to keep you involved in their lives," she said.

Steve turned away, unable to look Cindy in the eye. His voice expressed some disillusionment. "Ever since our divorce, you've been nagging me about the kids," he said. "You have custody and they're your responsibility. I pay my child support faithfully. What more do you want?"

"I want you to be a father,"

Cindy shot back. "That's all. A father to your kids — is that too much to ask?"

Steve and Cindy sat eyeing one another, both at a loss for words. Steve resented what Cindy had implied, yet in his heart he knew it was true.

Steve stammered, "I just want to live my life without you telling me what I have to be and do, Cindy. That's all. I want to live my life."

Cindy prayed for the right words. At that moment, 10-year-old Laurie walked into the room.

Looking at Steve and with tears in her eyes she asked, "Don't you want to be my Daddy anymore?"



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

Steve and Cindy exchanged glances, knowing that Laurie had heard their conversation.

Cindy spoke first. "Honey, your Daddy loves you very much," she said.

Looking at Steve, she continued: "Mommy and Daddy are having an argument."

Steve knew he had to say something to heal Laurie's broken heart. He took Laurie's hand

then spoke.

"Daddy said some things that were not true, honey," he said. "Please forgive me."

Looking into Laurie's teary eyes he continued: "Yes, I am your father, but sometimes I let myself forget. Just because I don't live with Mommy doesn't mean that I can't be a good father. You just reminded me of that."

"Long ago a very wise man said that a father's blessing gives a family firm roots." (Sirach 3:9)

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.

Remember to enjoy your freedom of religion

There is an e-mail going around — I received a copy from my sister-in-law — which is a statement read by a high school principal at a football game at Roane County High School in Kingston, Tenn.

Basically, she says that due to a recent ruling by the Supreme Court, prayer is a violation of federal case law.

Even though it has always been the custom at her school to say a prayer and play the National Anthem at football games to honor God and our country, they will no longer do so.

She went on to mention a whole shopping list of things that could be, and were encouraged to be, talked about in public schools. There is no need for me to go into all of those — you know what they are.

She concluded by saying that



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

she would abide by the ruling and refrain from publicly praying at that time. However, she told the crowd that if they felt inspired to honor, praise and thank God, and ask Him in the name of Jesus to bless the event, to please feel free to do so.

One by one, people in the stands bowed their heads, held hands with one another and began to pray. They prayed in the stands. They prayed in the team huddles. They prayed at the concession stand and they prayed in the announcer's box.

I'm so glad I live in Brac-

ketville, Texas, where people are also not ashamed to pray. At football games, people in the stands always join in saying The Lord's Prayer.

I was unable to attend high school graduation, but I am sure there was an invocation.

Father Scanlon noted in the church bulletin last Sunday that God was referred to five times during the eighth grade graduation exercises: an opening prayer, a graduate bringing up God in his address, both Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Burks stressing God, and a closing prayer asking God for guidance.

We did, however, attend high school graduation at Foster High School in the Lamar School District. I was amazed that there was both an opening and closing prayer.

Somehow, Kingston, Tenn., Richmond, Texas, and our own

Brackettville remembered what so many have forgotten. We are given the freedom of religion, not the freedom from religion.

As Father Scanlon so aptly put it, "The message they sent our way was that, without the God of our life being actively involved in our lives, we are missing out on something."

Jesus said, "If you are ashamed of Me before men, then I will be ashamed of you before My Father."

Yes, I do love God. He is my source of existence and my Savior. He keeps me functioning each and every day. Without Him I will be nothing, but with Him, I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me.

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

When is the last time that you 'cleaned?'

By Rev. Roger Baker
First United Methodist Church

I write this as I am in the midst of packing our house, preparing to move back to Texas. A few boxes remain to be cleared out, but the biggest task is the cleaning.

No matter how many times I move, I am always amazed at the need for cleaning when we move out of a house.

It isn't as if we don't clean the house regularly — we do! But there are always a few places that don't quite get cleaned — the narrow space behind the stove, the far corner under the bed, etc. I found an amazing collection of sticky grime under the refrigerator and, like any parent of a toddler, I was amazed at what has turned up in my child's room.

It reminds me of the relationship we have with God. Many times the closeness we enjoy as new believers slowly melts away into a routine, a once-a-week cleaning that doesn't really touch all the places it should. When we have the courage to face up to it, we discover places in our life that aren't as clean as they could be — or should be. A life of faith that is lived every day for Jesus is much different from a life that spares only an hour or two each week.

As I clean my house today, I'm taking inventory of my life as well. Jesus advocated a simple message of love that was hard to live.

I know my thoughts aren't as pure as they should be. I have pride and anger and jealousy to clean from the corners of my life. I feel constantly conscious of my own lack of true holiness, true Godliness ... and at the same time, I

know that the Apostle Paul encouraged every believer to "run the race to completion."

But why does the Bible encourage us to attempt to live lives of holiness, when as fallible human beings, we will never match the holiness of Jesus? Why is it so important to try to live like Christ, when we can never be as perfect as Christ?

Early Christians asked this question, too. Some gave up and lived lives dedicated to self-pleasure. Others lapsed into an extreme legalism of the sort Jesus found intolerable in the Pharisees of his time.

Jesus never gave in to either extreme. He had time for everyone, from the priests of the temple to the woman accused of adultery. He called everyone to holiness, and at the same time he offered each one forgiveness.

He called us to living better than we are, to live better than we can be. And through the gift of the Holy Spirit, he made it possible.

Living the life of faith isn't a once-a-week commitment, it is a constant process. As Christians we share this journey together, like the pilgrims on the road to Emmaus, unaware of the presence of Jesus on the road beside them.

So as I prepare to meet you who live the life of faith in Brackettville, I'm committing myself to walk beside you and share your journey. Together we can share our joys, our cares, our gifts and our prayers. We'll worship on Sundays to be sure, but we'll live the life of the faith every day, and that's the most important part, I think.

But until we meet, I have some cleaning to do.

Your reward is in heaven

"And seeing the multitudes he went up into a mountain; and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for their's is the Kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

"Blessed are they which are



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

persecuted for righteousness's sake: for their's is the Kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

"Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." (St. Matthew 5:1-12)

Praise the Lord!

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

Sunday Schedule:

Bible School at 9:30 a.m.

Choir Practice at 10:15 a.m.

Worship at 10:45 a.m.

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

Welcome!

Church of Christ

808 N. Ann 563-2616

Sunday AM, 9:30 Classes, 10:30 Worship

Sunday PM 1:30

Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes

Minister: Ray Melton

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman Phone: 563-2245

VBS July 21st thru 25th

Sunday: Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service - 11 a.m.

Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.

Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Retama Manor Nursing & Rehabilitation Welcomes Irma Gonzalez to their staff



Irma Gonzalez, Retama's new Director of Nursing, started on May 19th. Irma was previously employed by Chartwell Community Services serving a multi-county area. So please, feel free to come in and welcome her to the Retama staff.

Lions Club Thrift Store

June 7, 2003

Open 9 a.m. - 12 Noon

Things for Father's Day
Lots of children's clothes
Many other bargains

For information or assistance please call:

Norma Conner: 563-2072

Mary Dixon: 563-2747

Donna Saylor: 563-3382

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

CAPPUCCINO ITALIAN COFFEE company expanding. Distributors wanted. High profit potential. Anyone can do this. Call Expresso Italia, 1-800-813-6625. Investment required.

MR. JIM'S PIZZA Franchises available! Be your own boss. Low start-up cost - under \$100,000. Food purchase savings. Simple system. Call Randy, 1-800-583-5960, www.mrjimpizza.net

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVER - ASK ABOUT REGIONAL! Solos to 39 cents, teams to 41 cents. Contractors to 87 cents...Next day pay. CDL/A hazmat, \$10,000 bonus. EOE. 1-800-925-5556 or kllm.com

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Teams, Teams, Teams. We need teams for the long haul. Owner/Operators, experienced drivers, solos, teams and graduate students. Call 1-888-MOREPAY (1-888-667-3729).

DRIVERS - DRIVING SCHOOL Graduates, we need you today! Tuition reimbursement. Up to 37 cents/mile, new equipment, excellent benefits and passenger policy. USA Truck, 1-800-237-4642.

DRIVER - \$4,500/MONTH, dedicated available, new equipment arriving, 90% no touch. Steady freight for steady pay. Owner/Operators welcome. USA Truck, 1-800-237-4642.

DRIVERS! LOOKING FOR stability? Respect - Friday paydays - family voice-mail - consistent miles - in-cab-e-mail - 2-hour processing. Class "A" CDL, 6 mo. OTR, 1-800-745-9670, www.continentalx.com

DRIVERS - NO EXPERIENCE? No problem. Low cost CDL training available. Meals, lodging and transportation provided, tuition reimbursement. \$1000 bonus. OTR, dedicated and regional freight. Swift Transportation, 1-800-231-5209.

DRIVERS...SWIFT TRANSPORTATION is hiring experienced and inexperienced drivers and O/O. CDL training available. We pay for experience, great benefits and consistent miles. 1-866-333-8801.

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

DRIVERS WANTED

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

DRIVERS - .36 A MILE! Dispatched/loaded/empty. Midwest. Dry bulk, pneumatic trailer training provided. Require 2 years OTR, Class "A" CDL, no endorsements. 1-800-821-3046, Ext. 1124, www.trucktiona.com

DRIVERS WANTED - 48 States & Canada. Competitive Pay. Benefits/paid vacation. Experienced and graduates apply today. Ask about \$10,000 longevity bonus and lease program. Transportation Logistics of Missouri, 1-866-732-1771.

OWNER/OPERATORS needed with flatbed experience. Dedicated, short, regional and long haul available from your area. Home weekends. Recruiter on duty, call 1-800-828-6452. W.T.I. Transport.

THE TOP PAY in the industry, period! \$.40 per mile. No one pays more. Newest equipment. Miles. Hometown. Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Everything! Heartland Express, 1-800-441-4953, www.heartlandexpress.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

\$25,000 CASH GRANTS! All Texas residents can qualify. Use your money for school, business, personal bills, etc. Don't miss out. Call 1-800-363-5222, Ext. 014 - American Grant Services.

\$\$\$ CASH\$\$\$ - IMMEDIATE CASH for structured settlements, annuities, real estate notes, private mortgage notes, accident cases, and insurance payouts. J. G. Wentworth, 1-800-794-7310.

CREDIT CARD DEBT? Stop collection calls. Cut finance charges. Cut payments up to 50%. Debt consolidation. Fast approval. No credit check. Avoid bankruptcy. National Consolidators, 1-800-270-9894.

FOR SALE

KING SIZE WATER bed, headboard w/mirror and 12 drawers. 563-3326

WOLFF TANNING BEDS - Affordable - Convenient. Tan at home. Payments from \$25/month. FREE Color Catalog. Call today, 1-800-711-0158.

FOR SALE

FORT CLARK HOUSE - 1945 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath rock home on large lot - sunroom (or 4th bedroom), utility room, double carport with attic storage, shop, storage room, covered patio - call Frank Cheaney at 563-2172.

MARY KAY COSMETICS, Alana Flurry, 563-9435. Evenings/Weekends. Complimentary facials, products, etc. www.marykay.com/afurry

9 LOTS NEXT to Head Start. \$1,900 for all 9, 563-9128.

PALM HARBOR HOME 4/3, 2.5 to 20 ACR for sale. Outside Brackettville city limits. No Brackettville City taxes and worries. County living. lg. 35 x 60 arch bld. This home is large enough to handle two family's / grand parents / in-laws, who ever. You can rent out part of the home for cash \$\$\$\$. The land is good grazing for goats/sheep/cattle/horses. Walk to hunting areas. 4 mi. to town. Good place to raise kids. Home has stove/ref./cent.,heat/A.C.,Wash/dry/dish wash./nice yard, quiet area. Forgot the chicken coop/w chickens. Note: owner "May" finance for one year with large down payment and credit check. Call or E-mail at US68VET @Yahoo.com for more details and prices. This nice place is located in Kinney Land Estates, off ranch rd. 2804, go north on Juajilo rd. to Wagon Wheel rd. and turn left up the hill, third place on left with lg. steel bld. 830-563-9770 leave message with phone, speak slowly and clear. Se habla espanol.

FREE 2-ROOM DIRECTV System including installation! 2 months FREE PROGRAMMING. Access 225+ TV channels. Digital quality picture and sound. Limited time offer. 1-800-264-3458.

NEED A COMPUTER? Bad credit? Bankruptcy OK. No credit check. Guaranteed approval, checking or savings account required. As low as \$35.00 a week. Financing Alternatives, 1-877-277-9806, WWW.PC4SURE.COM

WORK FROM HOME. Christian based environmental products company seeking Sales Managers and Representatives. No experience needed. Free information 24 hours. Call Pure Living Concepts, 1-866-275-9065.

GARAGE SALES

2504 OAK LANE, Fort Clark Springs - Brotherton residence, Sat., June 7th. Computer, clothes, furniture & more, 8 am till?

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 8:00 a.m. till? Washer, dryer, power washer, household goods, clothes & lots of stuff. Unit 37, lot 3.

O'Rourke Realty

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

Unit 32 - 2 bed, 2 baths, partially furnished and in beautiful condition. M.H. only \$32,000.

Unit 21, Fort Clark Road - 2 bed, 1 bath apartment.

3 bed, 1 bath - Unit 7, owner financing.

3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, rock exterior, including attached garage, R.V. storage. \$120,000

2 bed, 2 baths townhouse - Unit 1.
Overlooking Las Moras, beautiful scenery - 3 bed, 2 1/2 baths. \$65,000
7 lots on Springs St. drastically reduced, now \$28,000
orourke@the-i.net

GARAGE SALES

701 N. ANN - Friday & Saturday.

YARD SALE - APPLIANCES, furniture, clothing, lots more! 408 Chandler (49ers) Fri. & Sat., June 6 & 7, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

HEALTH

HORMONES - PREMARIN, PREMPRO - May cause breast cancer or stroke. Call Waldman-Smallwood (Estab. 1957), main office Beaumont. Free legal consultation, 1-800-833-9151 (likely to refer).

HELP WANTED

AVON CALLING! NEED extra money? Work part/full time from home. Earn up to 50%. Call for \$10 starter kit and gift, 1-800-211-0502 (ISR).

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

WORK FROM HOME. Christian based environmental products company seeking Sales Managers and Representatives. No experience needed. Free information 24 hours. Call Pure Living Concepts, 1-866-275-9065.

MOBILE HOMES

THE ENTERTAINER BY Fleetwood. We will beat any price in South Texas 1-800-448-7076.

CASH BUYERS WE have all name brands. Single wides and doublewides, call for information 1-800-448-7076.

SANDPOINTE 28 X 80 by Fleetwood. 4 BR, 2 bath - 2 living areas - fireplace many extras \$49,950.00. Lowest price in South Texas 1-800-448-7076.

PALM HARBOR 18 X 80 - Only \$12,950.00. Call 1-800-448-7076.

\$158.12 NEW HOME by Fleetwood - 5% down - 360 months, 11% APR WAC call 1-800-448-7076.

DOUBLEWIDES STARTING AT \$19,950.00. Call 1-800-448-7076.

16 X 80 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath - \$14,875.00. Must go 1-800-448-7076.

FLEETWOOD HOME BUYERS discounts up to \$7,000.00 on all stock units. Call 1-800-448-7076.

100 ACRES - \$39,900. 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.

HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY MHMR Insurance - Retirement - Holidays - Vacation
Registered Nurse - Hondo / Uvalde \$2911.00 - \$3318.00 / month; M-F; 8-5
Direct Care - Brackettville \$6.85 - 7.28 / hr; opp for pay raises
High School diploma or GED required
Full-time and Part-time positions available
Contact Molly @ 830-278-1541
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DEBBIE TRANT / BARBARA VOSS 830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

TOWNHOUSE - Beautiful spacious, 2/2 approx. 1,136 sq. ft., located in a quiet neighborhood.

160 Bliss Circle - Well-maintained 3BR, 2B 14' x 76' mobile home, approx. 1,064 sq. ft. Home has second metal roof, carport, stone skirting & storage shed.

Brackettville - Fulton St. - three lots with a 14' x 78', 3BR, 2B, mobile home. Nice older stucco home with 3BR and 2B on Veltmann St., approx. 1,622 +/- sq.ft., CHA.
Ranches and small acreage available.
View Listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

Tejas Properties

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

Historical Homes For Sale on Colony Row in FCS.

* 2 Homes on 4 lots across from the school, Good Buy!
* 3/2 Townhouse on Las Moras Creek, great views.
* The Oaks, 2/2/2 Beautiful Home, 2 lots and huge oaks.
* 2/2 Home with carport, Ward St. in FCS, excellent condition.

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

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

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SWIMMING POOLS. FACTORY Direct. Above grounds \$999.00. Full warranty. Financing and installation available. Call Mike, Family Fun Center, 281-356-3636.

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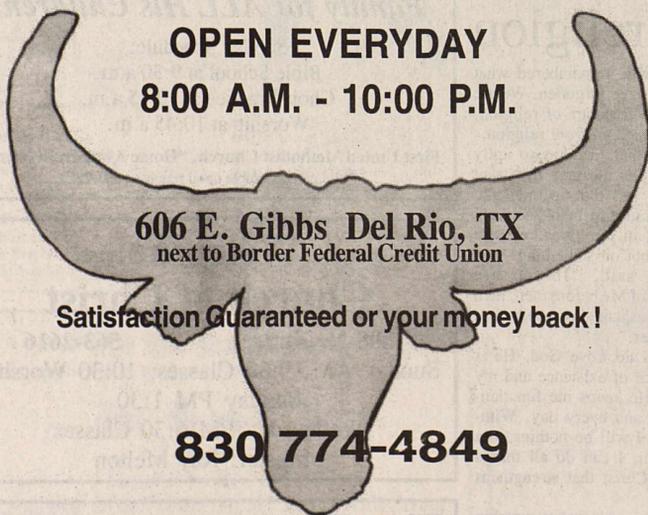
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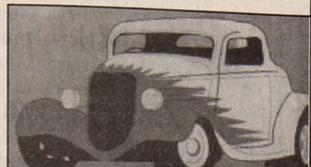
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