

The Brackett News



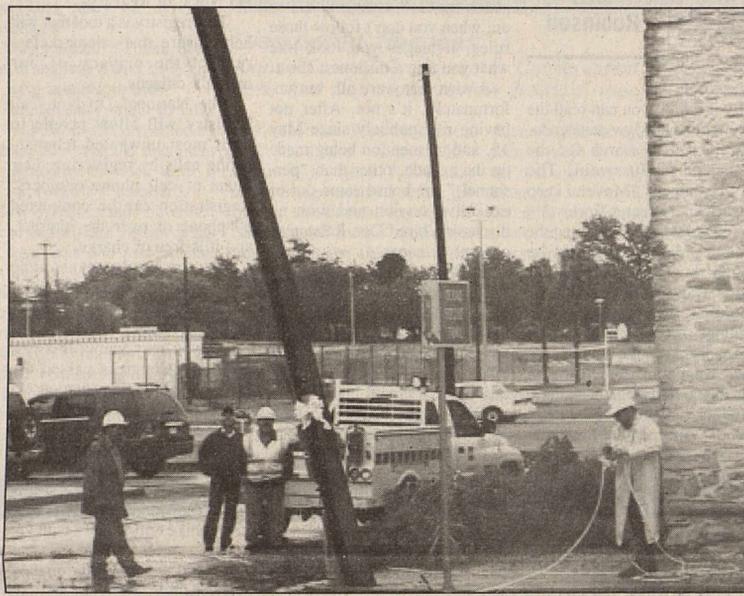
Water Board refuses to release documents
See story, Page 3

15 year, No. 23

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Hurricane Claudette hits Brackettville



ABOVE: Hurricane Claudette arrived in Brackettville early Wednesday morning and left her mark throughout the community. Joe Luna of Brackettville awoke to find his three vehicles covered by his neighbor's roof at the Kickapoo Trailer Park.

LEFT: Texas Department of Transportation employees were hard at work Wednesday morning, cleaning up after Hurricane Claudette. Among the problems was an electric pole across from the Kinney County Appraisal District that was leaning over.

Photos by Kathy Wilson

Mayor resigns

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor



Carmen Berlanga

Carmen Berlanga verbally resigned as mayor of Brackettville Tuesday night after citizens continued to express dissatisfaction with the city's financial woes. The community has been in an uproar since learning in May that the city was over \$200,000 in debt and that cash assets had decreased by 97 percent.

The City Council fired David Luna as city manager last month, but citizens argued that Berlanga, as the city's mayor and chief executive officer, was responsible for the city's financial situation.

"You keep saying that David was in charge, but you are the mayor — you are responsible for everything that has happened," said local businesswoman Genie Robinson. "Frankly, I would like to ask for your resignation."

"You may have it," Berlanga replied. "You can come in and do the bookkeeping, the payroll, the managing of the employees, try to get it all together, work with the auditors, work with the CPA, work with attorney, work with the investigators — it's all your's, honey."

"I'm out. You asked for my resignation and for me to step down. I'm gone. Thank you very much," added Berlanga, who has served as mayor for 11 years.

According to state law, the mayor's resignation must be in writing and signed by Berlanga before it becomes effective.

If Berlanga does resign in writing, the vacancy can be filled by appointment of the City Council or by a special election.

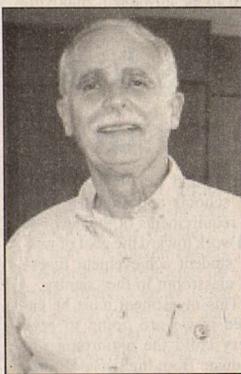
The city's debt had grown to \$220,239.99, but Berlanga reported Tuesday night that the amount owed had been cut by 36 percent to \$140,565.85.

"The money is coming in and I'm paying bills as it comes in," Berlanga said.

The major concern for citizens is the city's debt to West Texas Gas, which was once over \$80,000. City officials made ar-

■ See BERLANGA/Page 5

Water district hires Ralston as G.M.



Don Ralston

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

Don Ralston has been hired as the new general manager for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District.

The district's directors unanimously voted to hire Ralston last Thursday following an executive session that lasted for over an hour. Ralston was not interviewed by the board.

The Fort Clark Springs resident is the former president of The Bank & Trust.

"Don has a good background in financing," said Cecil Smith, president of the water district. "He will have to learn some

about the water end of the job, but for a man of his stature and education, it won't take him long to be on top of the game.

"People in the county know him. That was one thing we were really looking for, someone who is local," Smith added.

Like many local citizens, Ralston said he is concerned about the county's groundwater resources.

"I am not personally against anyone selling water — not at all," Ralston said after the meeting. "I am against the unregulated sale of water. I think we have to manage the water resources of Kinney County for everyone. That means for the

"I am not personally against anyone selling water — not at all. I am against the unregulated sale of water. I think we have to manage the water resources of Kinney County for everyone."

Don Ralston

people who want to sell water, as well as the people who live here and just want to be able to turn on the tap and have water."

The water board hired Francie Wylie as its general manager in January, but the county commissioner decided to turn down the offer.

Ralston replaces Steve Walthour, who has been serving as a general manager on an interim basis.

"I knew that they needed someone for the job," Ralston said. "They had public advertisement for the position for sometime and no one stepped

forward. I have the time and I have the energy to do it."

Walthour, who works full-time as a permitting enforcement manager with the Edwards Aquifer Authority, will remain as a consultant for the local district.

"You need someone who is here and who is accessible," Walthour said at the meeting. "I think Don will be as fair as anybody you can find. I think this is a good move for the county. It's going to be a great step for the community."

Walthour is paid \$100 an hour. Smith said the district has not set a salary for Ralston, but added that a wage of \$15 an hour is being discussed.

INSIDE

Wes Robinson

Well, open government took another blow in Kinney County last week, this time due to the actions of the Kinney water board.
Opinion/Page 2

Chuck Hall

I was in Uvalde last week and saw a brand new Cadillac. Nothing noteworthy about that. Except that it was four-wheel drive.
Lifestyles/Page 4

Lynn McNew

As you are reading this, our son is arriving home from Iraq. We have much to be thankful for and many reasons to praise God.
Religion/Page 7

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15th year, No. 23

Rotary Club seeking host family for exchange student

The Brackettville Rotary Club will again participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program by sponsoring inbound student, 17-year-old Christopher Lehnert from Germany, during the upcoming school year.

Christopher will be the third international exchange student to attend Brackett High School. He will be arriving from Germany in less than three weeks.

The Rotary Club has many pre-arrival preparations to accomplish.

The most critical preparation is the recruiting, screening and selecting of qualified, responsible and willing host families.

Rotary Youth Exchange Program guidance recommends two host families during the school year.

As Brackett ISD superintendent and Rotarian Bobby Templeton so appropriately states, this is another opportunity to make a difference in the life of a young man and allow him to experience life in an American community that cares.

Hosting a youth exchange student from another country is a challenge and an opportunity.

ance, have frequent counselor contact, and facilitate moves to new host families.

For his part, Christopher will have a role as ambassador for his village, his country and his sponsoring Rotary Club. Throughout his stay here, Christopher will also participate in the Rotary District Youth Exchange Program activities.

If you would like to be a host family, please contact Bill Haenn at 563-2323 or 563-2010 or Templeton at 563-2491 for an application.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our fine school and community," Haenn said.

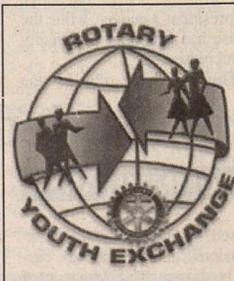


Photo Special to The Brackett News

District champs

The Kinney County All-Stars recently won the District 35 Little League softball tournament for 11 and 12 year olds. The team advances to sectional play July 16-22 in Fredericksburg. League officials are seeking donations to make the trip possible and to help pay for meals. Team members include, bottom row (from left): Cheyenne Smith, Amanda Flores, Natalie Aguirre and Elidia Molinar. Middle row: Brooklyn Gose, Maribel Rivas, Elena Molinar, Katie Yeager, Miranda Salmon, Ashley Resendez, Roxy Gomez, Ivy Garcia and Bianca Martinez. Top row: Martin Flores Sr., coach, Dido Garcia, coach, and Gregg Nowlin, manager.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fourth was a grand celebration

From the parade in the morning to the fireworks show at night, the Fourth of July celebration here in Brackettville and Fort Clark was a wonderful party.

Martha Padron deserves a huge thank you from the whole community. She started planning a high school reunion, and by the time the Fourth got here, it involved the whole county. She did so much work with such good cheer and grace that it almost looked easy, but we know it wasn't.

Bill Haenn did his usual stellar job, this time paying tribute to the Korean War veterans.

Riding on floats through the streets of Brackettville and Fort Clark to the cheering crowds, these veterans were then hon-

ored at a ceremony at the big flagpole on the fort. We are proud of these veterans and grateful for the sacrifices they and their families made during their years in uniform.

The evening's fireworks show, put on by the Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department, was breathtaking.

Besides setting up and setting off the big fireworks show, these great guys kept careful watch to provide a measure of safety for those who set off their own fireworks. We're very proud of these men.

A final thank you goes to those whose donations made the fireworks possible.

Thank you, to all who made this a marvelous Fourth of July.

Peggy Swafford

Newspaper deserves accolades

My husband Roger and I want to extend our congratulations to all the good people who help in writing and printing *The Brackett News*. The "top weekly newspaper in Texas" says it all!

A newspaper is really the lifeblood of a community and your award not only reflects the professionalism of the staff, but the

support of your readership.

We appreciated the opportunity to meet Jewel (Robinson) and Dimple (Henry) when we called in at your office to subscribe to the paper.

Keep up the good work! Congrats again to one and all!

Ellie Baker
Houston

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Water board is walking on the rights of citizens

Well, open government took another blow in Kinney County last week, this time due to the actions of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District's Board of Directors.

The directors, following the lead of secretary Darlene Shahan, refused to give copies of the financial reports and proposed management plan to citizens attending the meeting. Several verbal requests were denied and at least one subsequent written request.

The board argued that the documents aren't public until approved by the directors.

The board can, in an "open" meeting, discuss the documents, read excerpts and correct mistakes, but you can't get a copy of the documents until they are approved? I don't think so!

Last Friday the *Austin American-Statesman* ran a story concerning Gov. Rick Perry's documents used to prepare the state budget prior to it being presented to the legislature. According to the story, the attorney general ruled earlier this year that Perry had to release all budget documents used prior to presenting the budget to the legislature.

So the governor's budget homework is open to the public, but not the management plan or financial reports of our water district. I'll tell you, it makes me proud to know our local officials have more authority than our



Between
Us

Wes
Robinson

governor.

By the way, you can read the story on-line at www.statesman.com, just do a search for the writer, Gary Susswein. The story headline is "Move to keep budget papers secret fizzles."

You would think violating the Open Records Act would be enough, but not for our water board. They couldn't resist the opportunity to ignore the Open Meetings Act as well.

According to the agenda, the board went into executive session for attorney-client matters, including settlement agreement, potential enforcement for violation of district rules and pending motion for rehearing, despite being told, by me, that Government Code Section 551.071, "Consultation with Attorney," wasn't properly referenced on their agenda.

I also provided the board a copy of Section 551.071 and pointed out that it only covered pending or contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer. I have to admit, I didn't see any board members read it.

It's interesting to note that the board refused to act on an offer

for a free groundwater study three times because it wasn't worded properly on the agenda.

You know what the real problem is with making up rules to accommodate yourself? Later on, when you don't follow those rules, it makes you look like what you are, a dishonest cheat.

I wish that were all, but unfortunately, it's not. After not having met publicly since May 15, and no mention being made on the agenda, other than "personnel," the board came out of executive session and with no discussion hired Don Ralston as general manager.

Regardless of Ralston's qualifications, why wasn't he interviewed in executive session by the board like all of the previous applicants? What other decisions were made during the board's two month layoff?

Why is the board considering paying Ralston \$15 per hour when the first and interim general managers were to be paid \$9 per hour? Is Ralston really the general manager? The first general manager hired by the board "declined" the position two weeks after the board took action.

When governmental entities do things in secrecy, they're seldom, if ever, for the good of its citizens.

We're being walked on, folks. The question is, how long are you going to lie there and take it?

Federal funding remains in doubt as local school districts face severe budget cuts

BY SUSAN FROST
Special to The Brackett News

In America's schools, class sizes are ballooning. It's increasingly difficult to recruit and retain well-qualified teachers for our inner city and rural schools.

A quarter of our nation's eighth grade students read at "below basic" levels.

Between ninth and 12th grades, 1.4 million of our children will drop out of high school. Of those who enter college, close to 30 percent will have to take remedial courses in reading, writing or math.

States across the country are facing rapidly growing budget crises — the worst since World War II. Governors and state leg-

islators are being forced to slash education funding in order to meet balanced budget mandates.

Yet, even as states and local school districts cut vital services and lay off teachers, doubts are being raised about whether Washington will fulfill its promise to fully fund the No Child Left Behind Act, the landmark education legislation put forward by President Bush.

Congress has yet to decide, for example, how much federal money should be invested in the next school year. The U.S. Senate wants to add \$6.5 billion in new investments over and above the president's budget, while the House has proposed practically no increases.

This is not the time for the

COMMENTARY

federal government to renege on its commitment to improve the educational opportunities offered to our nation's most at-risk children. If Washington turns its back, millions of children will be left behind.

The Alliance for Excellent Education, a national nonprofit organization advocating on behalf of America's six million at-risk middle and high school students, is urging Congress and the president to agree to the Senate's \$6.5 billion education investment.

This investment is a necessary down payment on the promises made in the President's No Child

Left Behind Act. It would help our schools and students meet the requirements of the new law and work toward the goal of raising student achievement in every classroom in the country.

This investment must be enacted if we are going to give every child the opportunity to graduate from high school, prepared for college.

At a time when homeland security is such a priority for the nation, we must remember that investing in our children's future is our best defense.

■ *Editor's note: Susan Frost is the executive director of the Alliance for Excellent Education, a national policy, advocacy and research organization based in Washington, D.C.*

Redistricting needed to correct travesty

BY SUSAN WEDDINGTON
Republican Party of Texas

COMMENTARY

What would you do if after casting your vote on Election Day you learned that someone had secretly taken your ballot and thrown it in the trash?

Imagine how angry, frustrated and betrayed you would feel.

The disturbing truth is that in November 2002, nearly 10 percent of Texans' votes cast in congressional races were effectively thrown away.

Election returns show that 56 percent of Texans voted for the GOP congressional candidate in 2002. Yet, Republicans received less than 47 percent of the seats.

This travesty of democracy is

caused by the unfair way congressional district lines are currently drawn. The Almanac of American Politics labeled the Democrats' work "the shrewdest gerrymander of the 1990's."

In 2001, our elected legislators had the opportunity to right the wrongs of the past by enacting a fair plan that respected communities of common interest and the will of Texas voters. But State House Democrats refused to pass a congressional redistricting plan, and instead abdicated their constitutional responsibility to a group of appointed federal judges who imposed the map Texas has today.

The federal judges drew a map that met the bare minimum legal requirements while making sure it was not "avoidably detrimental to Members of Congress of either party holding unique, major leadership posts."

In other words, the court chose to protect incumbent politicians instead of working to correct the horrible Democrat gerrymandering of 1991. This explains why a majority of Texans are not getting what they are voting for today.

The federal court admitted that its interim map was not intended to reflect Texans' voting behavior or minority population growth across the state. In fact, the court stated that creating additional minority or Republi-

can districts, in accordance with population and electoral changes since the last census, is "a quintessential legislative decision."

Earlier this year, legislators once again had the opportunity to do right by Texans and fulfill their constitutional responsibilities by passing a final redistricting plan. But House Democrats, desperate to protect their synthetic congressional majority and the national Democrat Party, ran away to Oklahoma and shut down the legislature.

Today, Texas stand at the crossroads. The legislature must enact a fair redistricting plan now, before the next election, so that Texan's voices are finally heard and respected.



Weekly
Report

Henry
Bonilla

Freedom from the unwanted calls from telemarketers

Recently, Americans celebrated the birth and freedom of our great nation. Now we celebrate our freedom from intrusive telemarketers.

Unwanted telemarketing calls are annoying and all too common. When you are sitting down to dinner, or helping your kids with their homework, the last thing you want to deal with is a call from a stranger with a sales pitch.

Congress, along with President George W. Bush, has just established a way to protect you from bothersome telemarketing calls.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has joined with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to create a National Do Not Call Registry.

This registry is a tool that will help ensure that telemarketers respect the privacy of our nation's citizens.

The National Do Not Call Registry will allow people to limit most unwanted telemarketing calls by registering their home or cell phone numbers. Registration can be completed by phone or over the internet, and it is free of charge.

The service also comes at no expense to the taxpayers, as it is fully funded by the telemarketing industry.

As you may know, this past February Congress passed the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act which authorized the FTC to collect fees for non-compliance that will be used to maintain the National Do Not Call Registry.

I supported the passage of this legislation and I am proud to share this exciting news with you today.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Do Not Call Registry and how to register your telephone numbers, I urge you to visit donotcall.gov.

Americans now have an opportunity to support a nationwide Do-Not-Call list and help curb those unwanted, annoying telemarketing calls.

Do you have something to say? Write a letter to the editor!

Water board refuses to release documents

Citizens' requests denied for proposed management plan, financial reports

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors reviewed a proposed copy of its management plan and a financial report, but refused to release copies of the documents to the public last Thursday at its monthly meeting.

Director Bob Young reviewed the proposed management plan during the meeting, the first official gathering of the board in almost two months.

Zach Davis, a former board member, asked if copies of the proposed management plan would be made available to the public.

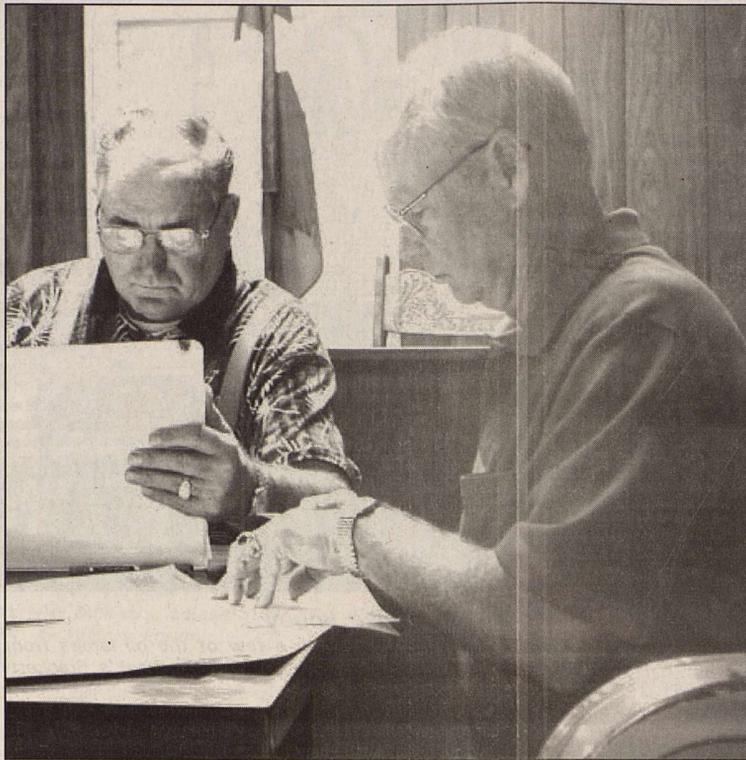
"It's termed personal and confidential by our attorney," said Darlene Shahan, the board secretary. "That's what the attorney put on the top of the document. When our attorney says it's OK to release it, we will release it, but we can't release something they've marked 'privileged.'"

Young added: "I sure don't mind discussing it with anybody. We have nothing to hide."

The directors voted to table the financial report presented by Shahan. She said the document would not be released until it was approved by the board.

The directors did, however, vote to consolidate the line items for legal fees and professional fees into one line item for professional fees, which includes the district's attorney, auditor and consultant. The board also added a \$500 line item for open records requests and adjusted the line item for collection fees from the Appraisal District.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, local



Discussing finances

Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District board members Bob Young (left) and Don Hood review financial reports during last Thursday's meeting.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

businessman Wes Robinson asked the board: "I would like to know if the \$17,500 that Brian Sledge testified before the Senate sub-committee that he had received for his services is included in the financial statements. According to Chapter 36, any gifts are supposed to be accepted by the district publicly, and I don't recall you ever doing that in a meeting."

The directors declined to respond.

Robinson also expressed concern over the board's intentions in meeting in executive session.

According to the agenda, the directors were to discuss personnel and attorney-client matters, including settlement agreement, potential enforcement for violation of district rules and a pending motion for a rehearing on the district rules.

"I noticed the attorney is not present and you have in your executive session attorney-client matters, so I assume that you intend to talk to him on the telephone," Robinson said. "If not, you really can't talk about anything underneath that."

"And regardless of whether

you do or not, potential enforcement for violation of district rules and pending motions for rehearings are not covered underneath that section of 551, which by the way is a typo on your agenda. It's not .074, it's .071, and here's you a copy of it. It's very specific on what you can talk to your attorney about. Those things are not included," Robinson said as he presented a copy of the law to the board members.

The directors met in executive session for nearly an hour and a half.

Directors discuss enforcement issues

By J.J. GUIDRY
Editor

The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors discussed enforcement of its rules last week during its monthly meeting.

Steve Walthour, interim general manager, said he was reviewing the district's authority and would present different enforcement programs to the directors at the next board meeting.

"At that time, we can go through different kind of enforcement issues," said Walthour, who also works as a permitting enforcement manager with the Edwards Aquifer Authority in San Antonio.

Director Bob Young asked if any enforcement action by the district would have to go through the courts.

"There are several levels of enforcement," Walthour said. "At the Edwards Aquifer Authority, going through and finding out what the potential violation is, and then talking to the alleged violator, we find that many times most people want to comply with our rules. If we bring a non-compliance issue to their attention, they generally jump on it and try to correct it."

"For example, you have a deadline for fees. If you haven't paid your fee by the deadline, you're not in compliance and it will be up to the board to decide what you do if someone hasn't paid their fees. I would recommend you treat everyone the same."

Walthour said he doesn't "expect a lot of bad apples" when it comes to the enforcement of the district's rules.

"At the authority, out of a thousand applications, I prob-



Steve Walthour, interim general manager and consultant for the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District, discusses issues concerning enforcement of the district's rules at last week's board meeting.

ably have probably two or three enforcement items a year that actually make it to court," he said.

Walthour also noted that Oct. 1 is the new filing deadline for permits, and that the new application forms should be out within the next week.

"June has been a down month as far as activity is concerned," he said. "In May, I went around and looked at a few wells and started to get familiar with the area, as far as metering is concerned."

"We're going to have the new permitting form out in the next couple of weeks, and we'll distribute those to everyone in the county. We'll also be looking at the applications that have already been turned in."

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Tuesday, July 8

1:04 p.m., Two women reported a two-vehicle accident on Ann Street in front of The Brackett News office. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter was dispatched to the scene. He said there were no injuries.

Wednesday, July 9

2:43 a.m., A woman reported loud music at the corner of Patrick and Fulton Street.

4:08 p.m., A man reported that his neighbor's dogs were in a pen and one dog had been killed.

8:45 p.m., A woman reported a reckless driver in a maroon Expedition near the Little League field. Deputy Ron Ring was dispatched to the scene, but could not locate the vehicle.

9:11 p.m., A citizen reporting loud music at a residence on E. Fourth Street. Deputy Ring was dispatched to the scene and the property owner agreed to turn down the music. While at the residence, Ring found the maroon Expedition that had been driving recklessly. The man said his son was driving the vehicle, but added that he would not be driving it again any time soon.

11:52 p.m., A woman reported kids fighting with a bat at the Kickapoo Trailer Park. Deputy Ring was dispatched to the scene and found about a dozen teen-agers in front of a residence on Fulton and Sweeney Street, but saw no evidence of a fight.

12 p.m., A man came into the Sheriff's Office to report loud music next to his residence on E. Fourth Street.

Thursday, July 10

12:20 a.m., U.S. Border Patrol agents at the Cline Check point reported that a man was in custody and could not pay his fines for outstanding DPS warrants. Deputy Ring was dispatched to the scene and arrested the man, Fernando Garza, 25, of San Antonio. Garza was released later the same day after the fines were paid.

5:40 p.m., A woman came into the Sheriff's Office to report that she had a fight with her boyfriend and that her car was parked in the middle of the road and would not start.

8:25 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported a trespasser at the swimming pool.

6 p.m., Orville Calvillo, 21, of Del Rio was arrested by Deputy James Blankenship for possession of marijuana. He was released two days later after posting a \$3,000 bail bond.

Friday, July 11

11:18 a.m., A Del Rio EMS employee reported that he received a 911 call reporting a deceased person on a ranch about seven miles north Highway 90 on Highway 3008. Justice of the Peace John Ford was notified of the situation.

3:02 p.m., A man reported a pit bull at his residence on N. Ann Street. He said he had already reported the animal to city officials. The dispatcher contacted city officials, who said the dog was under the man's residence. The complainant called back at 5:57 and said a city employee still had not come by his residence.

6:53 p.m., A woman reported two boys walking around the

Senior Apartments and moving an air conditioner.

8:25 p.m., Rafael Zepeda, 33, of San Antonio was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley for outstanding DPS warrants. He was released later the same day after paying his fines.

Saturday, July 12

5:00 p.m., A Del Rio man reported a Brackettville woman was calling him all night long and harassing him.

11:59 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported a reckless driver near the golf course.

12:54 p.m., A Pico employee reported two men harassing a customer on the west side of the building.

11:45 p.m., Hilario Garcia, 17, of Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Blankenship for public intoxication, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he was still being held at press-time.

Sunday, July 13

6:40 p.m., A man reported a gray Volvo driving recklessly, weaving in and out of traffic, on Highway 90, west of Brackettville.

6:51 p.m., A woman reported a three-wheeler that was possibly stolen. She saw it tied to a tree on Sweeney and Ann Street.

7:47 p.m., Jaime Adan Aguilera, 28, of Dallas was arrested by DPS Trooper Ashley on outstanding DPS warrants. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he was still being held at press-time.

9:55 p.m., A woman requested assistance at her residence on S. Beaumont Street.

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Haenn shares passion for oil lamps

By FRANCES McMASTER
Contributing Writer

Local historian Bill Haenn spoke about his hobby at last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting.

Haenn explained that a true hobby is an obsession, and collecting oil lamps is his obsession. This was easy to believe when he carefully arranged enough lamps to cover two large tables, saying this was a sample from his collection.

Haenn set the mood for his talk by asking his audience to imagine what it would be like without access to light. He said that since the dawn of time man has challenged the darkness by attempting to harness lightning and moon beams. Predators are mostly nocturnal and early man knew that "evil lurks in the darkness" — there were "things out there that will eat you!"

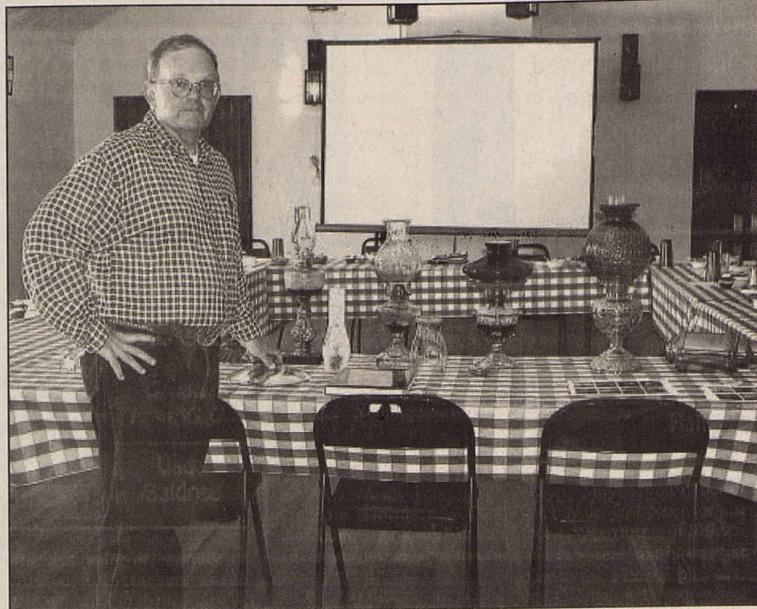
Fire has always been man's best weapon against the darkness and materials that burn provide light. As Haenn said, "It's as simple as that!"

He noted that today we take lighting for granted because so many different sources exist. We have incandescent lights, mercury vapor, halogen, fluorescent, bug light and 100-hour bulbs.

When Haenn asked how many Rotarians had at least one oil lamp in their home "for emergencies," almost everyone raised his or her hand.

Until the middle of the 19th century, animal fat, torches, oils and candles provided light. All of these were messy and potentially dangerous. The whale industry around the world provided oil for the lamps of the rich, but the poor burned candles or had no light at all.

When burning fluids such as turpentine and alcohol were used, a container was needed to hold the fluid, and these were made of glass. However, these fluids were extremely volatile. Insurance companies would not insure homes or buildings using



An obsessive hobby

Bill Haenn poses with a few of the oil lamps from his extensive collection. Haenn discussed his hobby at last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

these fluids.

In 1854, paraffin oil was discovered, which we know as kerosene. In 1859, oil was discovered in Titusville, Pa., and from then on the oil lamp industry exploded in popularity and manufacturers began making parts for lamps. The quality of the lamps served as a status symbol for the owners.

Haenn said that the youngest member of the family was often assigned the daily task of cleaning and refilling the lamps. Soot accumulated in the chimney and had to be cleaned by running a newspaper through it. Breakage was frequent.

The lamp base, the stem and the font are put together to hold the oil. A metal collar attached one piece to another, and these tended to wear out. When brass lamps were made, metal was at-

tached to metal instead of glass, and this problem was circumvented.

One might think that the wick burns and goes down and burns the kerosene. However, Haenn explained that it is the gases that burn, not the oil itself or the wick. When the lamp is lit, it should burn on low until the glass has a chance to warm up, otherwise the chimney is likely to break. The chimney protects the flame and brings the air up through the burn unit to make the flame burn bright.

By the 19th century, users demanded a brighter flame, and this inspired a number of innovations such as double wicks and round wicks to provide more air. All sorts of designs and embellishments were created to make them more attractive and to meet particular needs.

Haenn handed out photographs of lamps in his collection and explained the reasons for the various designs.

Haenn began his collection in 1991, and added, "It soon got out of hand."

He was hooked. To this history lover, lamps were a tangible part of the past he could own enjoy, and they were beautiful and affordable.

Haenn knows all the best places for lamp shopping. If anyone is interested in starting a collection, Haenn can tell you where to look.

President Paula Renken reminded members that the newly elected district president, his wife, along with Eamonn Grant, the governor's aide, would visit the Brackettville Club today at noon. Everyone was urged to attend the meeting.

New twist spices up green-bean casserole

Everyone knows I love to eat, and one of my favorite events are pot luck meals.

I always look for a "unidentifiable" dish — one that, just by looking, I know it's something I've not tried and might enjoy. I've learned to take just a sample for starters.

To my delight, at a recent luncheon I spotted such a dish — a lovely casserole with browned topping.

Upon finally filling my plate to overflowing, I tasted this "new" dish. Surprise! A new twist with a plus to our old green-bean casserole!

See if you don't agree. By the way, I had to beg for the recipe from the church's best cook!

Sour Cream Bean Casserole

Drain one can of French-cut green beans, one can of shoe-peg corn, one can of sliced water chestnuts, one small can of sliced mushrooms, and then mix with one medium diced onion, 3/4 cup of sour cream and one can of undiluted cream of celery soup.

Pour the mixed ingredients into a 9-by-13-inch dish. Top

*Goodies
From G.G.*



**Vada
Baldree**

with a mixture of one tube of crushed Ritz crackers mixed with one stick of melted oleo or butter. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.

Goopy Butter Cake
My daughter from North Carolina loves to fix this cake for guests. It's excellent!

Here's what we need: one box of yellow cake mix, one stick of butter, one cup of chopped pecans and one egg, along with 8 ounces of cream cheese, one box of powdered sugar and two eggs for the topping.

Melt the butter and mix the first four ingredients with hands, and then pack firmly in a 13-by-9-inch pan. Mix the topping ingredients and put on the top layer. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes when top is bubbly.

Have some extra money?

I have three things on my mind this week. Let's get right to them.

Item No. 1: I was in Uvalde last week and saw a brand new Cadillac. Nothing noteworthy about that. Except that it was four-wheel drive.

Now explain that to me. Is the owner really going to go "muddin'" in the new Cadillac? I don't think so. Nor can I ever imagine any serious off-road venturing.

Why would anyone spend extra money for four-wheel drive on a Cadillac?

Maybe that's the key: extra money. I guess when one can afford a new Cadillac, the four-wheel drive feature is just small change. So why not?

Item No. 2: On TV I watched an ad for an electric jar opener. Come on America, are we really so lazy that we won't even open our jars anymore?

I watched the young actress show and tell how jars of all sizes could have their lids removed with amazing ease.

I tell you what, just hire me. I'll come open your containers. But I won't work



*But I Could
Be Wrong*

**Chuck
Hall**

cheap. Maybe you'd better just buy the jar opener for just four easy payments of \$19.95.

Let's see, that's one jar opener for \$79.80, plus tax, one Cadillac with four-wheel drive for ... oh never mind.

Item No. 3: While we're on the subject of TV, who was it that came up with the idea of those little lines of script traveling across the bottom of my screen?

Can anyone really read and listen at the same time? I know I can't. It gets very frustrating to me to try to keep up with lines that travel too fast and a commentator that talks too fast. I find myself losing both thoughts.

Why don't producers just stick to one information blast at a time? Well that's enough of my foolishness.

But I could be wrong.

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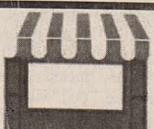
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Find breaking news in The Brackett News!

DRT sponsors seminar on family history

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas' Library Committee recently featured John Sellers in an all-day seminar on researching family history at Alamo Hall on the Alamo Complex in San Antonio.

"History's Role in Your Genealogical Pursuits" was Sellers' topic. His theory is that one needs to understand family life, laws, culture and ethnicity in order to be able to successfully pursue one's family tree.

"Revisiting our high school and college history lessons can benefit our genealogical research," he said. "Also, the knowledge of social history, history from the bottom up, can help us solve the proverbial brick walls."

Sellers said that it is important to know the history of the locations where your ancestors were, such as when that state was admitted to the Union and its previous status; how it was settled and by whom; the particular laws regarding land, probate, etc.; state land versus federal land states; when the county of your research was created and the genealogy of the surrounding counties.

Clues to your family can often be found in historical events, such as the major wars in American history: the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783; the War of 1812, 1812-1815; the Mexican War, 1846-1848; the Civil War, 1861-1865; the Spanish-American War, 1898; and American involvement in World War I, 1917-1918.

If your male ancestors were in the age range of 18-45 during these times, there is strong reason to check military records. It is also important to research the years for pensions for each



Family history forum
Pat McKelvy, Louise Stone and Alicia Raymer attended the recent Texas Family History Forum.

Photo Special to The Brackett News

war. Then there are the natural disasters, epidemics and economic events that could play an important role in the family's migration.

Other factors important to migration were the historic land acquisitions, such as the Louisiana Purchase or the removal of Indians to Oklahoma, historic movements such as the California Gold Rush in 1849 or the opening of Texas in the 1820s, or the immigration periods from foreign countries such as during the Irish potato famine or when the Mennonites left Russia in the

1880s. Sellers stated that newspaper research is a great way to breathe life back into your ancestors, and that it can be both rewarding and tedious. By studying the geography of your ancestral homes, you can be lead to the regional papers that might have local items of your county or community of interest. Knowing the religious ties of your ancestors could lead to regional religious newspapers. Also, there were several ethnic newspapers that existed for recent emigrants.

Those present were encouraged to remember not to see

those three important dates — birth, death and marriage — as an end, but a beginning to unravel and recreate their ancestor's lives.

Marriage records are the oldest vital record in virtually all the states and the most prolific records kept by all denominations of religion. He suggested using tax rolls to fill in those 10-year gaps in the census regarding an ancestor's activities.

Those attending the event from Brackettville were Caddell-Smith Chapter members Louise Stone and Pat McKelvy, who were joined by Alicia Raymer.

Berlanga resigns as mayor of Brackettville

Continued from Page 1
rangements with J.J. King of West Texas Gas to pay \$17,500 a month until Nov. 1 to erase the debt. If the balance is not paid by the deadline, the company will terminate its contract for services with the city.

City officials originally considered obtaining a loan for \$204,766.44 from the Bank & Trust, but apparently have abandoned the idea. Bank officials were leery of the approving the loan and asked city officials for their anticipated revenues and operating expenses for the remainder of the fiscal year.

"We're not even approaching a loan because we have been very fortunate in paying out this kind of money," Berlanga said. Citizens asked for assurance

that the debt to West Texas Gas would be paid by the deadline.

"As long as we are paying and not accumulating onto the old debt, they're not bothering us," the mayor said.

"We're paying as much as we can. And then, we will negotiate again on the balance that is outstanding. If we have a lesser balance and they do put us on a payment plan, then maybe we can meet it on a monthly basis and still pay the current month. It's a big maybe because we can't control the income. We have no way of knowing how much money is going to come in."

Freshman council member Bonnie Wardlaw replied: "Mr. King told us that he is not giving us anymore chances. We have to pay it off by Nov. 1 or

that's it. He's going to turn us over to the Railroad Commission. Believe it or not, people are saying that our gas cannot get turned off — if you don't pay, it gets turned off."

Robinson asked that the council prioritize its debts. "We have not hired anybody else to replace David Luna," Alderwoman Mary Flores said. "We're using that money to pay all these bills. If we were able to pay \$22,000 (to West Texas Gas) in six weeks, maybe in six months we can pay it off."

"Maybe? Maybe isn't good enough," Robinson said. "We need to know. We have a deadline — they were very clear about it. Are we going to make the deadline?" Gladys Burkepile agreed:

"We don't want a maybe. We want security to know that we're going to have gas."

"I believe that the gas company will communicate with us before they cut us off," Berlanga said. "We're making a good show."

"They don't care about a good show. They want their money," Robinson replied.

Bob Burkepile urged the council to reconsider the loan: "I compliment you on paying the many bills that you have paid. I'm very happy to hear that. Although, if you do apply for the loan and get these bills paid off, it will cost you some money, but you will be able to keep us in a secure situation where we're not wondering if our gas is going to be turned off."

Thank You



The family of Jose Bravo wishes to express their sincere thanks to all our wonderful friends and relatives for all the food, flowers, cards and words of encouragement or in any other way helped us during our sad loss. Without you we would not have been able to make it through these most difficult days. Special thanks to Deacon John Graf, V.V. Regional Hospital, Dr. R. Garcia, Dr. Perez and ICU staff. Romans 14:8 Whether we live, we live unto the Lord's. Whether we die, we die unto the Lords. Whether we live therefore or die, we are the Lords.
Bravo, Rosas, Soto & Martinez Families.

Happy Belated 1st Birthday



Theresa M.

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 64 Helper: abbr.
 65 City in Kansas
 66 Draw a new diagram
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 11 Alpine region
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 13 Repairs
 21 Egg holders
 23 Common Latin abbr.
 25 1978 Nobel Peace Prize co-winner
 26 Hamlet or Macbeth
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 59 Months: abbr.
 62 Accessory for the neck

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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: Things You Might Find in a Bedroom

D C R U C I F I X K W H
 R A D I O B M O C O A C
 E F S D T D K C L I K L
 E Q D L L G C L R J J O
 W H R D I H I B K M B S
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| July 17.....Opal Groce | July 21.....Katherine Pena |
| July 17.....Pat McKelvy | July 21.....Matthew Rocha |
| July 17.....Maria Elena Pena | July 22.....Elaine Ladeau |
| July 17.....Davina Rios | July 22.....Elvira Morin |
| July 18.....Carolina Aguilar | July 22.....Ernesto Ortiz Jr. |
| July 18.....Rosalie Boysen | July 22.....Jeff Russell |
| July 18.....Louise Reese | July 22.....Betty Tidwell |
| July 19.....Vella Gum | July 23.....Jennifer Ashabranner |
| July 20.....Ruth Dennis | July 23.....Luzgarda Fuentes |
| July 21.....Daniel Arroyos | July 23.....Tina Lumberas |
| July 21.....Juanita Garcia | July 23.....Kay Poff |
| July 21.....Martha Padron | July 23.....Amy Walker |

Roaring Twenties Solution:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Afghan | 11. Lamp |
| 2. Alarm | 12. Mattress |
| 3. Bed | 13. Mirror |
| 4. Blanket | 14. Pillow |
| 5. Clock | 15. Quilt |
| 6. Closet | 16. Radio |
| 7. Comb | 17. Robe |
| 8. Crucifix | 18. Sheet |
| 9. Dresser | 19. Slippers |
| 10. Hairbrush | 20. Spread |

D C R U C I F I X K W H
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 E F S D T D K C L I K L
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 W H R D I H I B K M B S
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 L L A M P C R O B E V H
 B C W X W K D A E R P S

FLOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You could get in over your head concerning a credit card matter. Think this through carefully. Your budget may not be able to accommodate more debt.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're usually pretty self-reliant. This week, though, you will need help from a friend. Don't be too proud to ask.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Keep your wits about you this week. More precisely, you need to pay close attention to what's being said. What you learn is beneficial to your future.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Minor domestic problems have happy endings. At work, though, it's best to stay out of the fray. Co-workers who are feuding could drag you into a mess.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You're certainly no shrinking violet. However, this week, try to keep a low profile. This weekend, travel plans reach fruition.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You're not in the mood for extra work. However, if you resist the urge to procrastinate, you'll do fine.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You lack motivation this week. Perhaps you should get a check-up. This could have something to do with your overall health.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) It's fine to look to the future. In the process, though, don't ignore what's going on in the present. Later in the week, you're taken aback by someone's interference.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) For some reason, you feel you have a reason to be jealous. This won't do you any good in the romance department. Put aside those insecurities once and for all.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Being assertive this week gets you where you want to go. By week's end, a major goal is accomplished. Later, feel free to celebrate your success.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You like everything laid out very neatly. Thus, when an unexpected event occurs, you're slow to adapt. Try not to let this happen this week.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You're swayed by what a co-worker tells you concerning money matters. However, don't act right away. You need to do more research before plunging in.

Commit to renewing your life

A man recently told me, "There is just so much to do and there's only one of me to do it all. I wish that I could just clone myself. Me and my clone would take turns going to work and staying home."

Have you ever felt like this? Have you ever felt like you started the day with a list of things that you wanted to do and that the list seems to be longer at the end of the day than when you started?

It seems to me that many people feel like they're on an emotional roller coaster. Their lives are going faster and faster and they don't know how to slow it down.

Because life has so much for us to do, it's so easy for us to get things a little out of balance.

When the tires on your car get out of balance, you're in for a rough ride. When your life is out of balance, you're in for a rough life.

Setting your life back in balance doesn't happen by accident. You have to do it and it has to be a deliberate act on your

part. You have to be deliberate in how you chose to live and decide what's truly important.

We need to weed out all the unimportant things that are taking a toll on our time and replace them with the important.

God wants us to throw out everything from our lives that is not holy. That means dumping everything that might tend to drag us down.

Clean out your life, your mind, your house and throw away all that junk for good. To do this, it will require a total commitment on your part. You must be committed to renewal.

Let's remember that we should never separate God's commitment to renewal from man's renewal to commitment.

Let me share a couple of stories with you. In July 1998, Ann Landers asked for people who lived during WWII to send in the secrets of how their marriages endured.

A Mr. King responded, "Dear Ann, my marriage has endured for over 60 years and we are very happy. The secret



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

is that she makes the minor decisions and I make the major ones. So far, nothing major has come up."

A man from Minnesota named David Wymlick got so tired of everyone asking him when he was going to get married that he set the date, Saturday, June 13, 1936.

There was just one small problem, he didn't have a bride, so his family and friends sent out applications and 26 women showed up at the bridal candidate mixer and Elizabeth Runzie, a slender 28-year-old red-head, was the overall best choice.

They were married that afternoon by the justice of the peace in front of 200 people. Last year after David's death,

Elizabeth was asked how their marriage lasted 66 years. She replied, "We were both very serious about this marriage and very committed to the idea."

The secret to marriage is not so much emotion as it is commitment. Commitment is the price paid for a strong marriage.

It is also the cost of genuine revival. You cannot obligate God to bring about revival. And revival will not come unless you desire it.

God waits for us to seek him, chiefly through humbling ourselves, praying and turning away from sin. God is committed to returning to us when we return to him with commitment.

Deuteronomy 4:29 says it much better than I can, "If you seek the Lord your God, you will find him, if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul."

Full commitment relies on God's power for victory. Full commitment takes bold action to please God. Full commitment repairs the broken things that matter to God.

Drinking alcohol is not wise if it causes you to stumble in life

"John and I believe that parents should teach their children to be responsible drinkers," Ann said.

"After all, they're going to drink alcohol whether we want them to or not. Its part of growing up, like a rite of passage," she said.

"I agree with you, Ann. Parents have to be conscientious and have to set a responsible example," Joanne said. "What I don't agree with you about is allowing your teen-agers to drink with you at home. We're having a senior party too, and we're making it plain that there will be no alcohol allowed."

"What if someone sneaks something into the punch?" Ann asked with a snicker. "How will you stop that?"

Joanne responded, "We have several couples who have promised to be at the party for as long as it lasts. They know how to have fun with the kids. Our pastor will also be coming and will offer a very special blessing to all the kids who attend."

Trying to have the final word, Ann said, "I still think you're wrong. They're going to bring their drinks and some of them will have already had too much by the time they get to your house."

"We've thought of that



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

too, Ann," Joanne said. "A couple of youth workers from our church will be here. They'll take drinkers aside and counsel with them. If someone has been drinking, we will have someone to take them home."

"Think about it Ann, if we want our children to be responsible with alcohol, the first thing they must learn is that alcohol is an illegal drug for anyone under the age of 21. Being responsible is waiting and obeying the law."

"A very wise man long ago said, 'Wine is arrogant, strong drink is riotous, none who goes astray for it is wise.' (Proverbs 20:1)."

"Another wise man tells us that it is not wise to do things like drink alcohol if it causes our children to stumble in life." (Romans 14:21)

■ *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.*

Christ chose to die for all of us

I don't know about you, but I am getting a bit frustrated at how everything has become so personalized. Personal computers, personal phone lines, personalized license plates, personal shoppers, etc.

Every new innovation these days seems to shout "me, me, me." I think perhaps we've become a nation obsessed with ourselves.

Perhaps the most dangerous symptom of this personalization is the phrase "personal Savior."

It's a phrase not heard very much outside of American evangelical circles. When I was in Europe, many of my fellow Christians found the phrase "personal Savior" offensive. To them, it meant that somehow Jesus saved only me, or perhaps only people like me. To them, it was an American appropriation of Jesus — making Him personal property rather than a gift by God to the entire world.

Maybe the folks had a point. I see a lot of people who seem to think "personal Savior" means that Jesus is saving the world as a bunch of unrelated



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Roger Baker

individuals. Some of these folks think that worshipping alone is appropriate because worship is so intimate and so personal that they don't want to pollute it with the presence of others.

I agree that our relationship with God is personal, but it also involves a community — God's church. God chose to relate to us as a gathering of believers as well.

I can't help but feel that we can't be truly obedient when we isolate ourselves from the fellowship of other Christians gathered to worship and study together.

The Apostle Paul instructed us not to forsake the meetings of the saints — the gathering of God's people in our churches.

Our churches are not perfect. As the bride of Christ, we (the

church) are made perfect only through His sacrifice and His forgiveness.

As a church, we make a lot of mistakes, too. We divide ourselves into "denominations" because we disagree over matters that are less important than the atoning love of Jesus. We argue with each other rather than cooperating to spread the wonderful news of God's love and Christ's sacrifice.

Some of our church leaders have betrayed our trust — especially painful when that betrayal involves the injury of children.

But the church can survive the consequences of our human nature if we remain collected together as a people of faith and prayer and action. We are the church, the bride that Christ claims for Himself. And Christ will not be denied.

Sometimes when we use the words "personal Savior," I think we are turning things around, acting proud and claiming Jesus for ourselves as if we are bestowing an honor upon Him. Luke 14:11 warns us against pride that exalts ourselves.

The Bible reminds us exactly who is choosing whom. (John 15:16)

It's easy to get confused on these points. The place for all people who are saved is within the church. (Acts 2:47)

As a church, we pray for each other. (Ephesians 6:18) And it is as a church, a collection of believers, that we grow together in the knowledge of our Lord. (2 Peter 3:18)

So for the next few weeks, I am going to try to remember that "personal Savior" refers to the fact that Jesus knows all about me personally — my sins, my flaws, my history — and I am going to work on remembering that the Savior chose me, and not the other way around.

I firmly believe that the Savior willingly chose to die for you, too, for Jesus isn't willing that any should be lost.

A collection of searching souls, willing to join you on your journey, is as near as your local Christian church.

Come join us in our search to learn more about this amazing gift.

Continue to build up your faith

Don't let your faith sink like a ship. Keep up the good fight of faith and keep a good conscience. (1 Timothy 1:18-19) "Don't give place to the devil!" (Ephesians 4:27) Don't invite him in. "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7)

St. Paul made the point that one can have faith, but can also choose to "put it away." (1 Timothy 1:19)

Faith is your "shield, whereby ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." (Ephesians 6:16). It is your choice to use that shield or put it down. If you choose to put it down, those "fiery darts" or lies and attacks of the devil have the opportunity to penetrate your

heart and mind, tearing you down to defeat.

God warns us that "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against ruler of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12)

It is therefore so important to maintain wearing it. He tells us press in by "praying with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:18)

Prayer brings you through to victory. The victory is yours through the blood bought price of Jesus Christ.

God commands us to persevere and keep vigilance. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." (1 Peter 5:8-9)

When the attack comes, humble yourself under the mighty hand of the Lord that he may exalt you in due time. (1

Peter 5:6)

"No weapon formed against you shall prosper and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn." (Isaiah 54:17) Your righteousness is not of your own, but of the Lord. (Isaiah 54:17) Through Jesus Christ all your iniquities have been taken away. (Isaiah 64:6, Acts 3:26, Romans 4:5-8, Hebrews 8:11-13).

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

Continue to build up your faith and keep your ship sailing onward to the reward set before you. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Praise God in good times and in bad

As you are reading this on Thursday, July 17th, our son is arriving home from Iraq.

I must take this opportunity to say thank you to all the people who have continued to pray for Capt. Tom and the men and women who are serving with him to keep us safe.

We have much to be thankful for and many reasons to praise God.

Our military people and their families sacrifice much for the rest of us and, for the most part, do it willingly.

We have several families here

in our community who have been directly affected by this war and we must continue to pray for the safety of their loved ones.

We also have many people here who remember fighting in previous wars, and families who remember the hardships brought on by those times. Our faith in God is what gets us through these difficult times.

We have so many reasons to praise God. I think it is amazing that for a community this size, there are so many churches.

If I have figured correctly, there are 11 or 12 churches in



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

Brackettville. This means the majority of people in Kinney County must have some religious affiliation. That should make us a community of people who praise God.

Praising God is so easy to do when things are going our way.

But what about praising God when things are going badly?

How many times can we say, "Lord, I praise You for the difficulty You have sent my way? I know with Your help I can get through it."

I am praising God today in thanksgiving for the safe return of my son, and for His continuing watch over all our families and friends.

All of you are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church.

God bless you!

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 Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
 Evening Service 7 p.m.
 Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study

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AUCTIONS

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EMPLOYMENT

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

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

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.

GARAGE SALE

YARD SALE - FRIDAY & Saturday, 308 4th Street, 8:00 till? No early sales - furniture, clothes, houseware, TV, and a little of everything.

LEGAL NOTICES

APPLICATION HAS BEEN made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit, a Local Distributors Permit and a Beer Retailers off premise License by L&W Leasing Inc. DBA The Jug Store to be located at 408 E. Military Dr. Brackettville, TX. Officers of said corporation are H. Wayne Delcours, president - Lauren Delcours secretary & Linda Woodson, stockholder.

MOBILE HOMES

ENTERTAINER BY FLEETWOOD - 32x80, best price in South Texas, 4 BR, Gameroom, DVD, ect. \$59,875.00 Call 1-800-448-7076

MOBILE HOMES

28X76 FLEETWOOD 4 BR, 2 bath only \$17,950.00. Call 1-800-448-7076

FLEETWOOD 3 BR 2 bath, AC-delivery, all appliances. \$12,950.00. Call 1-800-448-7076.

PALM HARBOR 16x80 only \$179 PM with 10% DP, 8.75 APR - 180 mths, WAC. 1-800-448-7076

DOUBLEWIDE'S UNDER \$20,000.00. Call for info - 1-800-448-7076.

REAL ESTATE

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.

TROPHY WHITETAIL 100 AC - \$39,900 (5 deer limit). 1st class Texas whitetail area. This 100 acres is an ideal habitat. Tree covered hills and draws, private but with good access. You'll love it! Will finance. Call Texas Land & Ranches, 1-866-899-5263.

COUNTRY GET-AWAY, 20 acres NE of Junction near London. Electricity, live oak and mesquite, great views, deer and turkey. \$3950/down, \$343/mo. Ranch Enterprises, 1-830-257-5572, texasranchland.com

WHY LEASE?

Own your own part of the Texas Hill Country for as little as \$695.00 down and \$116.69 per month at 8.75 % financing. Based on 20 acre tract with minimum down payment.

Leona Ranch, located 15 miles north of Brackettville, Texas, has an abundance of whitetail deer, javelina, turkey, quail, dove, rabbits and squirrels. Other non-game species include feral hogs, wild Spanish goats, racoons, ringtails, fox, bobcats and a few mountain lions.

The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.

For information call (830) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (830) 563-2077 evenings.



Gustavo Rodriguez Owner/Manager
& Jose H. Morin

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