

# The Brackett News



**Yeager hurls three shutouts in a row**

See story, Page 6

16th year, No. 10

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

## Water board to hire a G.M.

Kerr, Shahan and Wylie apply for job

By J.J. GUDRY  
Editor

The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors is expected to hire a new general manager today during a special meeting.

The directors will gather at 4 p.m. today in the district courtroom of the Kinney County Courthouse.

Don Ralston, the current general manager, has resigned, but agreed to work through today.

Officials said Maggie Banner-Kerr, Darlene Shahan and Francie Wylie have applied for the general manager's post.

Shahan is a member of the Board of Directors and acted as interim general manager during the district's initial year of operation.

Banner-Kerr is the former general manager of Fort Clark Springs Association.

Wylie is county commissioner of Precinct 1. She was hired as general manager of the district last year, but then declined the position.

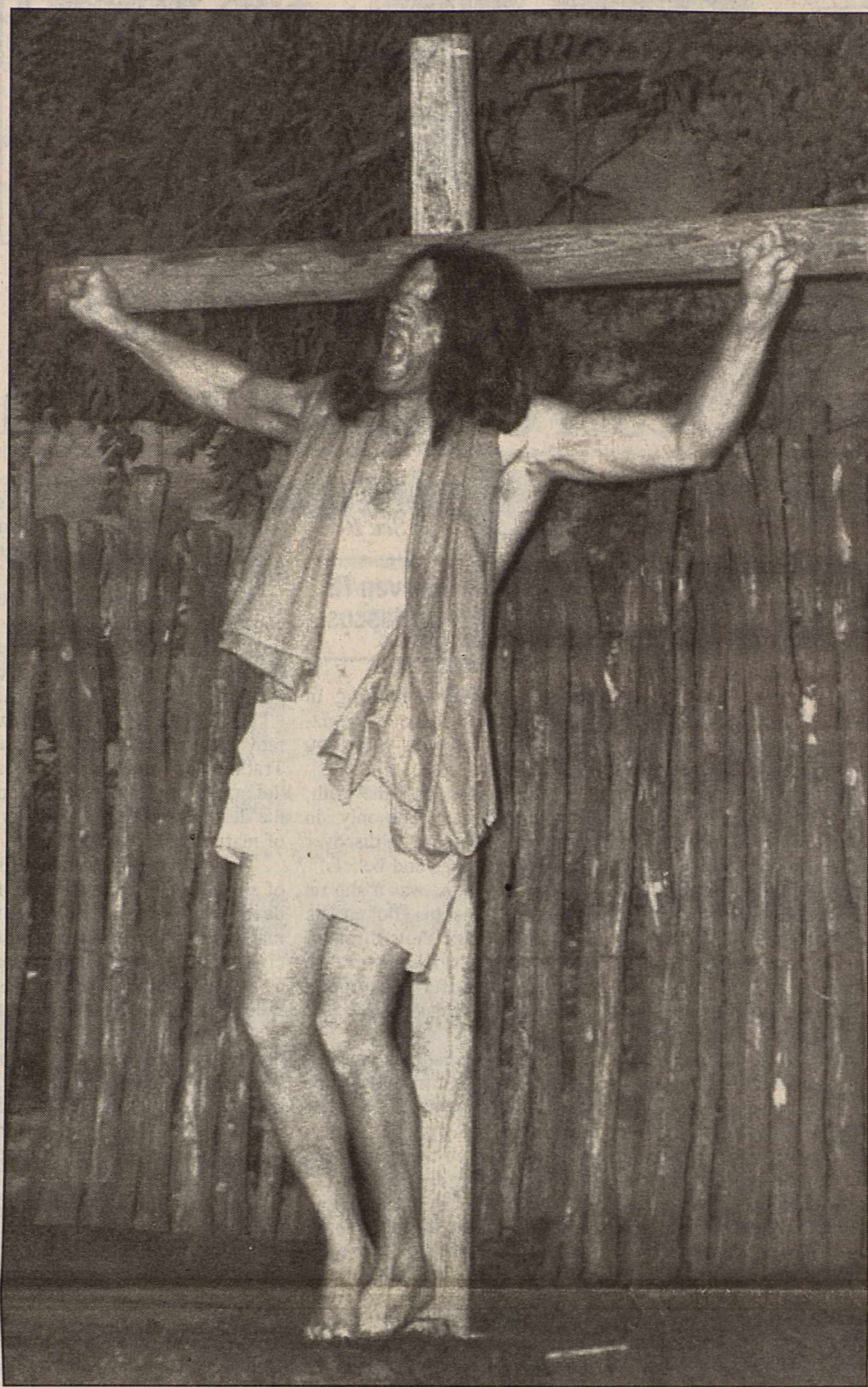
The agenda for the special meeting includes executive session for the board to review the applications.

The only other items on the agenda are new business items for future consideration and public comment.

Director Bob Young has resigned. The remainder of the board is made up Shahan, Chuck Hall, Don Hood, Christopher Ring and Hadley Wardlaw.

The Commissioners Court is responsible for naming a replacement for Young.

## Brackettville's Passion



**On the cross**  
Paul Kluzek portrayed Jesus Christ in the First Baptist Church's Easter musical "Above All Kings" Friday night at the Fort Clark Amphitheater. See related photo, Page 7.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## City to begin trash pick-up

Brackettville citizens will now have weekly trash pick-up services beginning on Monday.

The decision was made by the City Council during its monthly meeting on Tuesday night.

"I personally think that the citizens are going to benefit from this," Mayor Pro-Tem Francisca "Chica" Garza said. "I think a lot of them are going to appreciate the new services we're going to offer. I think people will be excited about it."

The decision was unanimously approved by Garza and council members Camilo Cruz, Mary Flores and Tomas Gomez. Alderman Johnny Samaniego was absent from the meeting.

City employees will begin picking up residential garbage on Monday and businesses on Tuesday.

Residential customers are currently paying a monthly fee of \$7 for the citizens' collection site. Officials said the rate will not change immediately.

The council plans to host a public hearing before making a decision about raising the rate. Garza said it would not be more than \$13 per month.

"We're going to start this and see if it works," Flores said. "I would like, personally, to see what the people have to say about how much we might charge."

"We know that it won't be more than \$13," Garza added.

Businesses with one or two employees pay \$15 a month and businesses with three or more employees pay \$30 a month. Officials said larger entities, such as Brackett ISD, have multiple accounts and pay \$30 for each account.

"Businesses may end up being a little more," Cruz said.

Garza said the city would not have to hire any additional employees to provide the service.

"We haven't hired anybody else," Garza said. "We have enough employees. They will

get it done."

If a house faces a street and an alley, the city asks that the garbage be placed near the alley, unless it is a dead-end. Citizens are going to be asked to put their household waste in plastic garbage cans in the future.

"If they set out just garbage bags too early, animals could tear it all up and then we would have a big mess," Garza said.

The council said citizens will likely not be able to dump their own garbage at the collection site in the future.

"We're going to try it for one month," Flores said. "If we have a lot of people saying, 'I'd rather haul my own,' then we'll have to go back and plan again. We're going to try it and see how the public feels about it."

"We have to see if it will work," Gomez added.

Officials said they were not sure if the employees will be able to pick up all of the city's residential trash in one day.

"We're going to see what happens," Cruz said. "It may be one day or it may take two days. We may have to do just part of the town on Monday. It just depends on how it goes."

Wardlaw said the employees will likely begin collecting garbage on the east side of town at 8 a.m. on Monday and work their way to the west side of town towards the collection site.

"Citizens can just put their garbage out in the morning," Flores said. "We just don't know exactly what time they will be there."

The council said the decision will save most citizens money.

"I'm already paying \$13 to somebody to pick up my garbage, plus the landfill (fee), so that would save me money," said Lydia Tipps, a candidate in the City Council election.

Wardlaw added: "A lot of senior citizens also contract to have their garbage hauled, so it will save them money too."

## Elderly, disabled homeowners may defer taxes

Texans aged 65 or older or who are disabled may postpone paying delinquent and current property taxes on their homes. They may take advantage of a tax option called "tax deferral" by signing an affidavit at the Kinney County Appraisal District Office.

"If the affidavit is on file, an older homeowner or one who is disabled cannot lose a homestead because of delinquent property taxes," said Bill Haenn, chief

appraiser of the Kinney County Appraisal District.

This special form of tax relief also halts a lawsuit filed to collect delinquent property taxes on an older or disabled Texan's home, according to Haenn.

"To stop a delinquent tax suit, the over-65 or disabled homeowner files the deferral affidavit with the court in which the suit is pending," Haenn said.

Once a homeowner files a tax

deferral affidavit with the appraisal district, no taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit for delinquent taxes as long as that person owns and lives in that home.

Two new provisions in the law now address how an over-65 or disabled homeowner with a pending sale to foreclose on the homestead's tax lien may halt that sale. And, the law extends the tax deferral to the surviving spouse of an individual who de-

ferred the taxes on the homestead if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age when the deceased spouse died.

Haenn stressed that the tax deferral only postpones paying taxes on the home — it does not cancel them.

During the deferral time, taxes and interest of 8 percent per year continue to add up.

"When the qualified homeowner or qualified surviving spouse no longer owns and lives

in the home, the taxes become due," he said. "If the taxes are not paid, taxing units can then sue to collect all the deferred taxes and interest."

There is no penalty on the taxes during the deferral time. However, filing the deferral affidavit will not forgive penalties that were already due.

Also, if the taxes remain delinquent after the deferral ends, a taxing unit may charge an added penalty if the account goes

to a delinquent tax attorney beginning on the 181st day after the deferral ends.

Tax deferral forms are available at the Appraisal District Office.

"The homeowner should fill out the form and have the signature witnessed by a notary public," Haenn said.

For more information, taxpayers may contact the Appraisal District Office, located at 412 S. Ann St., or call 563-2323.

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## BHS wins district UIL academic title

### Brackett to send 19 students to 2A regional competition

By J.J. GUDRY  
Editor

Brackett High School recently won the District 30-2A UIL academic meet. BHS had 19 students qualify for the regional academic competition.

In journalism, Shanae Simmons won the editorial writing competition, was second in feature writing and was third in headline writing. Juliann Ashabranner finished in fourth place in editorial writing.

Alanna Conoly came in third in the ready writing competition.

Brackett's accounting team finished first overall. Individually, Ashely Thourot was first,

Sarah Meyer was second, Beth Ballew finished fifth and Ashley Smith was sixth.

Meyer also took third in computer applications, Smith took fifth and Amanda Davis finished ninth.

Emily Petrosky and Tillman Davis took first and second place, respectively, in informative speaking.

In persuasive speaking, Tony Rosetti took third place and Beau Watkins was fifth.

The literary criticism team of Ashabranner, Hector Febres, Star Smith and Rachel Swinson took first-place honors. Individually, Swinson took first place, Febres was fourth and Smith was fifth.

Smith was also sixth in mathematics, while Clarissa Aguirre took second in poetry.

In prose, Emily Petrosky claimed top honors and Alison Carroll was fourth.

Shanae Simmons finished in sixth place in science. She had the top overall score in chemistry, and Brandon Kluzek had the second top score.

The social studies team of Beth Ballew, Dietrich Davis, Oscar Sierra and Star Smith placed first. Individually, Smith took first and Ballew was third.

In the one-act play competition, Petrosky was named to the All-Star Cast, and Ballew and Simmons both received honorable mention.



**Happy Easter!**  
Brackettville City Council member Camilo Cruz Jr. (right) hands out eggs during the Easter egg hunt sponsored by the city last Friday.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Garbage fees will affect entire city

After reading the article, "City raises fees," in *The Brackett News* last week, it brings to mind two words that may be used interchangeably, but mean the same. One is "hogwash" and the other is "whitewash."

The word "hogwash" would be the word I would use if I were talking to a rancher with my left foot in a pile of fresh cow pock, and "whitewash" would be the word I would use if I were addressing a ladies luncheon.

Surely, one cannot be so foolish as to presume increasing the costs to our local business owners would not affect every citizen of Kinney County.

Business owners pass on their cost to their customers. Therefore, the ranchers dependent upon our local businesses for their farm supplies will pay more for their fencing material, grain and other ranching supplies. Ranchers will then pass along their increased prices to their consumers, which is often the tourists of Brackettville or more commonly known as "the hunters."

Hunting is a billion-dollar industry in Texas and we can't afford to lose our hunters. It also means that our morning biscuit will no longer cost \$1 but \$1.25, or our weekly newspaper will no longer cost 50 cents but 75.

Probably no one in the city or county government is familiar with the term "cost accounting" or the "blackhorse" method of accounting, but I'm sure most business owners have some idea. Business owners look at the bottom line — their margin of profit over their operating cost. This is how business owners continue to remain business owners.

Secondly, in their effort to collect data from the "surrounding areas," did our city secretary and council members compare poverty level, unemployment, per capita income, population, etc.?

The Census 2000 tells me Brackettville has a total population of 1,876 with 1,295 over the age of 18. Of this number, 329 people are over the age of 62. Of this population (1,876), 1,395 are of Hispanic descent with an average per capita income of \$7,973. Clearly this population is not employed by our city or county government.

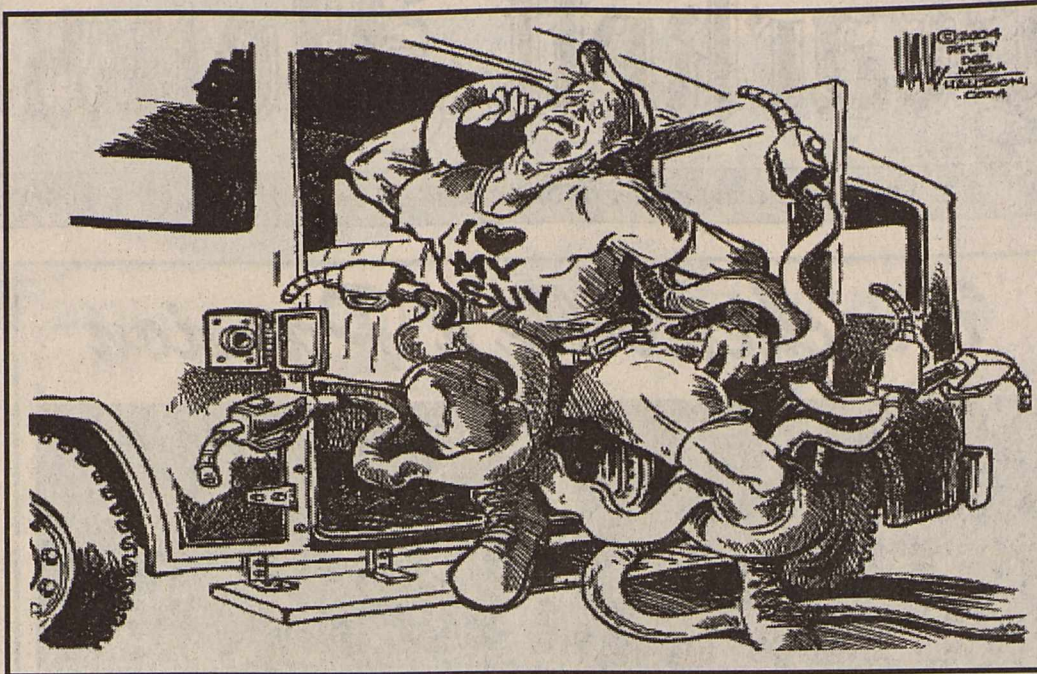
Also, nearly 54 percent of the available jobs in Kinney County are government jobs. It would seem to me that we could cut a few governmental jobs and save a bundle. We clearly have too much government and not enough citizens being taxed to death.

Thirdly, the statement "keep in mind rates have not changed since 1991" — well, the poverty level hasn't changed, the job market hasn't changed and the economic status hasn't changed.

We are still sending more than 40 percent of our children that live below the poverty level to our ever-increasingly bigger and better school system.

Truthfully, before I would be concerned with a bigger and better building, I would be more concerned about a child, any child, having enough food to eat, clothing to wear and adequate and appropriate shelter. Let's get our priorities straight and consider all the facts. What do we have to offer our children with their better education? Go left or right on U.S. 90?

Beverly Garcia



## Destroying marriage will destroy civilization

Here's a good one for you. This should show you the mental instability and total lack of a grasp of reality that is common among the Democratic Left's leadership.

The Traditional Values Coalition (TVC) sent a report to the Democratic Massachusetts Senate Majority Whip Joan Menard. The report was on research on the effects of transgender marriages. It was factual, and the conclusions drawn were valid.

They received a response from the Majority Whip's Chief of Staff, Benjamin Barrett, that stated in part, according to the TVC, "God hated TVC and our supporters and referred to us as f\*\*ing losers."

Can you imagine any sane person from a political office making such a statement to a grass-roots organization whose focus is to protect the value system of the United States?

Of course, after it became public that this moron had made such a statement, both he and his liberal boss apologized. That, however, doesn't change the fact that this mental midget said exactly what he believes. He is a hate-filled, logic-challenged, morally blind, fool, and just demonstrated that to the entire world.

Now let me ask you: Have you seen this reported in any of the big newspapers? On CNN, ABC, CBS, NBC? No?

And you won't either, because the media feel the same way that Barrett feels.

These people are sly, devils. They are incredibly good at making people believe that they are civic-minded, soft-



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascus

hearted and have nothing in mind but the welfare of the nation. They tell you what you want to hear.

A lie is a good as the truth, sometimes better. The only sin is to allow someone to discover their real feelings and beliefs.

Barrett's letter was a slip on his part. He lost his cool and let his real feelings show through. He and most like him are amoral, deceitful, dishonest, cunning, faithless facades of humanity.

They, and especially John Kerry, are all cut from the same cloth. Their only priority is to deceive as many people as possible and thereby gain as much personal power as they can.

They hate such organizations as TVC because the high morals and values that they represent are a real danger to the liberal agenda. You cannot destroy a nation that is ruled by Godly morals and honorable people. To destroy a nation you, must first destroy its moral base.

According to Reverend Louis Sheldon, "Those pushing same-sex marriage seem unconcerned over the prospect of she-males marrying each other or threesomes or foursomes deciding to marry one another. The polyamorists are anxious to get involved in this effort."

Pointing to a well-known gay activist named Paula Ettelbrick,

Sheldon notes that she has contended that homosexual families will have to include the sperm father or the egg-donor mother as parents.

"Thus, whenever children are conceived in homosexual 'families,' each child will have three parents. This sounds a lot like polyamory," Sheldon warned. "This is where the same-sex movement is headed and why the Traditional Values Coalition is doing everything it can to stop the destruction of the institution of marriage."

The family group is the basis of all society. The final result of destroying this institution of marriage is the destruction of civilization. A family consists of a father, a mother and the children. Each of those members has a role to play that is as old and defined as time itself. It works because it is natural, based on the laws of God. Change that and it self-destructs, and along with it our society, our civilization and our nation.

We are under attack from all sides by fools who either want to destroy our values and morals or who think they are better than us and want to destroy us for the good of "mankind." Well, I don't know about you, but me and mine will serve the Lord!

Joshua 24:15 - "But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

## Capitol Comment

Kay Bailey Hutchison

## Senator offers update

One of the things I enjoy most about being your United States senator is the opportunity I get to visit with you as I travel around our great state.

Every April, during the legislative break in Washington, I like to update Texans on what Congress has done during the first quarter of the year. While I make stops across the state, I wanted to also take a moment and update you in this column.

## The Budget

One of our chief accomplishments thus far was the passage of the 2005 budget. It has passed the Senate and provides a roadmap to win the war on terrorism, defend the homeland, promote economic growth and create new jobs. The budget clearly reflects our top priority of protecting Americans at home and abroad, while moving to cut the federal deficit in half, in just a few years. It is pending in the House of Representatives.

## The Economy

We've also made great strides toward improving our nation's economy. Americans are still reaping the benefits of last year's tax relief.

The service industry remains relatively strong, profits and cash flows continue to improve, business confidence and spending have been on the rise and job growth is accelerating. We received the good news that 308,000 jobs had been created in March, bringing the seven-month total to 759,000 jobs.

An editorial in the *Wall Street Journal* responded to that news by stating, "The U.S. employment situation is strong, improving and still the envy of the economic world."

To continue that trend of job creation, we are working on the JOBS Act to preserve work for thousands of Americans, alleviate the tax burden on manufacturing companies and allow U.S. businesses to compete fairly with their European counterparts. Unfortunately, it has not passed the Senate, but we will continue to work to lower unemployment and make sure every American looking for work can find it.

## Transportation

We did pass highway legislation in the Senate, but it was a bill I did not support because it continues to substantially short-change Texas.

One of my top priorities in reauthorizing the highway bill, which funds our national Interstate highway system, was to ensure Texas receives a greater return on every gas tax dollar we send to Washington. Currently we receive 90.5 cents back for every dollar sent, while other states receive 100 percent — and in some cases even more.

We have contributed more than \$5 billion to enable other states to build their highway networks over the last 47 years and unfortunately this year's bill did not lessen this disparity. I will continue to fight for an equitable formula that treats Texas fairly.

## The Months Ahead

While we've worked on some major initiatives this year, there are many issues still on our plate on which we must make progress. Medical malpractice, asbestos litigation and class action reform are important issues that must move forward.

Passage of a comprehensive energy policy remains a burning issue for Congress, particularly as we suffer through record gas prices at the pump. I'm hopeful we'll be able to produce a bill that will lower costs, promote conservation, reduce our reliance on foreign sources of oil, and create jobs and opportunities for Americans.

The United States of America will stay the course and we will see this battle through. In Washington, we'll continue to give our soldiers the resources, support and encouragement they need to defend our freedom and way of life.

Big Mama Sez!



Some quiet time for dreaming, an unexpected pleasure, moments filled with beauty ... may you have a day to treasure.

The Brackett News

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# Taxpayers deserve a voice in the education debate

As the debate begins in Austin over how best to fund education in Texas, I believe it is important to make sure that the people who pay the bills have a voice in the process.

We need to protect taxpayers and control property taxes by confronting the critical cost drivers that cause many Texans to continue to pay more.

Since 1999, total statewide property tax levies have increased by an average 10.4 percent a year. This increase is more than twice the combined annual rate of growth for inflation and our population.

For too long, Texas homeowners and employers have been the victim of an insidious, back door property tax hike that comes in the form of higher appraisals. Instead of raising rates to generate more revenue, local governments often depend upon the local appraiser to generate additional money for them.

Texans were told a property tax cut was on the way in 1997,

but when they opened their bills many found that their rate cuts were offset by appraisal hikes. I want a tax cut to be a tax cut, not a sleight of hand where the end result means Texans pay more.

One of my priorities in any special session on education will be to pass a Taxpayer Protection Plan that will ensure we not only cut property taxes, but cap and control them too.

First, I want to cap appraisal



From the Office of the Governor

Rick Perry

growth on Texas homesteads at 3 percent each year.

The median value of a Texas home is just under \$129,000.

The annual property tax bill on

that home is just over \$3,500.

Under current law, even without a property tax rate hike, that Texas homeowner could see their bill increase \$350 in one year and even more year after year. It's a phenomenon called appraisal creep and it is nothing less than a tax hike by any other name.

In order to make sure a tax cut actually is a tax cut, I also believe we need a cap on the annual growth in property tax

revenue that local governments can raise. We need to develop a measure that will allow property tax revenues for cities, counties, schools and special taxing districts to grow in proportion to their population and rising prices.

However, if local governments want to raise property tax revenue beyond what it costs to keep up with growth and inflation, under my proposal they will have to ask voters for approval.

Democrats, Republicans and Independents all seem to agree in that property taxes are too high. We all understand that Texans have not only seen their property tax rates rise, they have been victimized by an appraisal system that too often seems arbitrary, cumbersome, unfair and unaccountable.

It is time to give taxpayers a voice in the education reform debate. It is time to ensure that any property tax relief is real.



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

## A taxing time

The week is finally upon us. By the time you read this column, you will have finished filing your taxes or filing for an extension. As we dove into the pamphlets, filled out the forms and contacted our accountants, many of us were wondering, "how much worse can it get?" The answer: much, much worse.

Would you believe that some members of Congress would like to do away with the tax relief that is putting money back in the hands of the American people and growing the economy. It's hard to believe, but it's true.

Under the previous administration, taxes reached an unprecedented high. The average family in America paid more in taxes than on food, clothing and shelter combined. But the tide has turned under President Bush. Last year, conservative members of Congress enacted the largest tax relief package in 20 years.

Spring should be the time of year when we take stock and focus our attention on the year ahead. But for most of us, Spring is the season of headaches and frustration as we crunch and re-crunch numbers while filling out those dreaded IRS forms before the April 15 deadline. Instead of spending time with our families, we are stuck trying to figure out the federal tax code.

Here are some facts to help put in perspective the amount of time and money that is taken from us each year to pay our taxes.

■ Americans pay more in taxes than for food, clothing and shelter combined.

■ The IRS sends out 8 billion pages of forms and instructions every year. Laid end to end, they would circle the globe 28 times.

■ Taxes eat up over 38 percent of the average family's income.

■ The average American worked until May 7 last year just to pay his or her share of federal, state and local taxes. That's the first 128 days of your year.

■ This year nearly 60 percent of Americans will be forced to pay a tax professional to help them with their taxes.

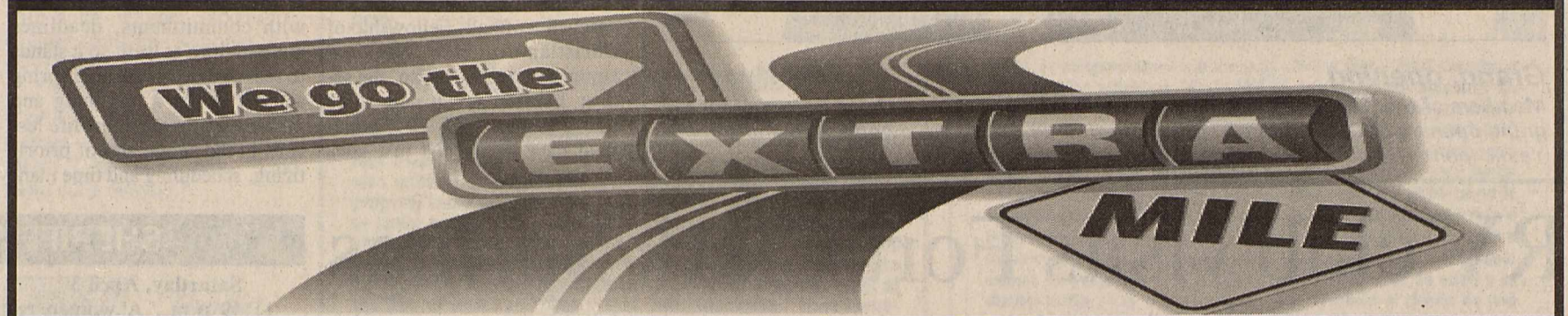
■ Almost the entire second income of a two-income family goes to pay taxes.

■ Instructions for the 1040EZ, the easiest personal income tax form, are 33 pages long.

These are just a few reasons why this Congress is working hard to reduce your tax burden. We made great strides last year, but we still have a long way to go.

Families in Texas should not have to pay so much of their hard earned money in taxes or be hassled by a burdensome tax code. You deserve to keep more of what you earn so you can do more for your families, churches and communities. After all, it is your money.

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2003 Chevrolet Avalanche..... 37,991 miles ..... SN16244	2003 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab..... 28,329 miles ..... SN 5153
2003 Chevrolet Cavalier..... 19,691 miles ..... SN 5113	2003 Pontiac Montana..... 21,694 miles ..... SN 5163
2003 GMC Envoy..... 17,431 miles ..... SN 5120	2003 Chevrolet Cavalier..... 28,902 miles ..... SN60944
2003 Pontiac Sunfire..... 29,137 miles ..... SN 5135	2002 Chevrolet Silverado Reg. Cab..... 32,431 miles ..... SN 5119
2003 Buick Century..... 25,192 miles ..... SN 5157	2002 Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup..... 15,581 miles ..... SN70144
2003 Chevrolet Silverado..... 12,894 miles ..... SN 5156	2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee..... 63,023 miles ..... SN70244
2003 Chevrolet S-10 Pickup..... 9,594 miles ..... SN 5153	2002 Chevrolet Suburban..... 32,153 miles ..... SN 5159
2003 Pontiac Grand Am..... 25,311 miles ..... SN 5150	2003 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab..... 32,431 miles ..... SN 5119
2003 Oldsmobile Alero..... 29,370 miles ..... SN 5151	2002 Pontiac Grand Am SE..... 32,778 miles ..... SN 5119
2003 Chevrolet Cavalier..... 22,319 miles ..... SN 5115	2002 Chevrolet Silverado Reg. Cab..... 32,431 miles ..... SN 5119
2003 Chevrolet S-10 Crew Cab..... 8,728 miles ..... SN 5115	2002 Chevrolet Suburban..... 33,761 miles ..... SN70144
2003 Pontiac Grand Am..... 29,408 miles ..... SN 5146	2002 GMC Yukon..... 32,861 miles ..... SN31944
2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer..... 18,515 miles ..... SN 5074	2002 Ford F150 XL..... 25,258 miles ..... SN31544
2003 GMC Ext. Cab..... 12,343 miles ..... SN06044	2001 Chevrolet Silverado Sportside..... 17,267 miles ..... SN 5160
2003 Oldsmobile Alero..... 24,011 miles ..... SN 5083	2000 Pontiac Montana..... 32,153 miles ..... SN 5159
2003 Chevrolet Cavalier..... 19,735 miles ..... SN 5109	2001 GMC Sierra Chevacab..... 33,361 miles ..... SN 5127
2003 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab..... 14,441 miles ..... SN 5139	2001 Suzuki Grand Vitara 4x4..... 33,154 miles ..... SN31544
2003 Chevrolet Malibu..... 8,701 miles ..... SN 5141	2001 Chevy Silverado Sportside V-Cab..... 25,259 miles ..... SN 5132
2003 Chevrolet S-10 Pickup..... 23,254 miles ..... SN 5131	1999 Kia Sephia..... 59,799 miles ..... SN60044
2003 Ford Expedition..... 28,335 miles ..... SN70544	
2003 Chevrolet Silverado C1500..... 28,335 miles ..... SN 5161	

**• Car of the Week •**

**2003 Chevrolet Cavalier**

• Auto • Warranty • AM/FM/CD

• 22,470 miles SN # 5154

\* \$1500 down • TT&L at 4.75% APR for 60 mos. W.A.C.

**• Truck of the Week •**

**2002 Chevy Silverado Ext. Cab**

• V-8 Engine • All Power

• Warranty • 32,275 miles SN # 5119

\* \$1500 down • TT&L at 4.75% APR for 72 mos. W.A.C.

**• SUV of the Week •**

**2000 Pontiac Montana**

• Auto • Warranty • All Power • 33,263 miles

• Front & Rear A/C SN # 5159

\* \$1500 down • TT&L at 4.75% APR for 60 mos. W.A.C.



### Grand opening

Members of the Kinney County Chamber of Commerce were on hand Saturday for the grand opening of Bob's Barbecue. Cutting the red ribbon are owners Bob and Virginia Yastic (center). The restaurant is located on E. Spring Street.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## Spring is a busy time

Spring time is finally here and like schools all over the state of Texas, we are abuzz with activity as we head into the final six-weeks grading period.

The kids are beginning their final push to finish up overdue projects and get in all of that last minute homework.

With only a few short weeks to go, time is short and there is much to be done. It just takes one look at the BISD calendar to see just how busy our kids are. This month alone we have baseball, softball, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Honor Society induction, the senior hamburger lunch sale, track, tennis, golf, UIL band, field trips — the list just goes on and on.



### Making A Difference

Bobby Templeton

It is truly a busy time for our students and it really illustrates how involved so many of our students are.

The world our kids will face in the near future is swarming with commitments, deadlines and activities as well, so it stands to reason that this siege of spring activity is not a bad thing and may even provide a few life lessons in the subtle arts of prioritizing, scheduling and time man-

agement.

This symphony of activity would come to a screeching halt if were not for the work and the tremendous support our students receive from the adults at school and in the community.

Without the hard work of the teachers and the encouragement of the parents, none of these "extra" activities would ever get off of the ground and school would be so much more mundane and so much less special for our young people.

On behalf of the students of Brackett ISD, we offer our sincere appreciation to all in the community who induct, coordinate, meet, plan, coach, direct, chaperone, and most of all care. Thank you!

## RV club visits Fort Clark Springs

The Full-Time Chapter No. 400 of the Holiday Rambler Recreational Vehicle Club is holding its Spring Rally at Fort Clark Springs RV Park this week. The week's events started on Saturday at the Service Club.

Items were gathered for the flood victims of Piedras Negras, Mexico. By the Easter potluck dinner, the table could not hold all of the items collected. These

will be delivered by a Lutheran/Episcopal group for distribution.

The 83 members have heard and seen the history of Fort Clark and the area by Phil Coburn of the Historical Society. The Border Patrol display, Del Rio, SAS Factory, Whitehead Museum, the Vineyard of Uvalde, The Uvalde State Bank, Opera House and Museums have been toured. Of course, the big, big event

is eating wherever one may be. This included the Fort Clark RV Park cooks providing breakfast, MiMi's Cafe, Fort Clark Festival Committees' spaghetti supper and a day at Alamo Village and a campfire steak dinner.

Time is always made for socializing as this is "family" for everyone who has left their "homelands" to live in their recreational vehicles and former

full-timers who are now just friends. Games, including golf, take place each day with lots of chatter and friendly kitbitzing.

Saturday will see the farewell, by hosts Wally and Lesley Jones, Steve and Katherine Fedor, Fort residents, for those off to see the four corners of the USA and everything in-between. As RVers say, "We'll see you down the road."

### SHERIFF'S REPORT

#### Saturday, April 3

11:49 p.m., A woman reported loud music on E. Fulton Street.

#### Sunday, April 4

8 a.m., A woman requested assistance in picking up her son on Tularosa Road.

11:50 a.m., A woman reported a sewer line down on Fulton Street. City officials were dispatched to the scene.

4:29 p.m., A man reported a sick raccoon along the fence at Jones Elementary School. City officials were notified of the situation.

4:39 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs man reported that his golf cart was missing from his residence in Unit 15.

#### Monday, April 5

9:10 a.m., DPS Trooper Marcos Hernandez requested Border Patrol assistance.

5:26 p.m., A man reported a golf cart in the alley behind his residence on W. Thomas Street. The golf cart had been reported stolen by a Fort Clark man the previous day.

10:01 p.m., Deputy Pena reported a train blocking Highway 131. Railroad officials were notified.

#### Tuesday, April 6

12:10 a.m., Uvalde Police Department officials reported a stranded motorist on Highway 90, east of Brackettville.

4:35 a.m., A man reported water running over F.M. 1572. Texas Department of Transportation officials were notified.

7:20 a.m., A Border Patrol agent reported an 18-wheeler rolled on its side about 2 miles west of the Cline checkpoint on Highway 90. No injuries were reported. DPS officials were notified.

8:14 a.m., A woman reported that a door was open at a residence on Highway 90.

3:30 p.m., Delbert Dennis Harris, 58, of Brackettville was arrested by Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess on a warrant for driving while intoxicated and probation violation. He was released later the same day after posting a \$4,000 bail bond.

5:40 p.m., A woman reported a white vehicle driving on the shoulder on the wrong side of Highway 90, east of Brackettville.

6:30 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported a reckless driver.

7:23 p.m., EMS officials reported a dark colored truck doing wheelies on the baseball field close to the EMS building.

8:01 p.m., An anonymous caller reported two girls on a go-cart on E. Louise Street headed towards N. Sheedy.

#### Wednesday, April 7

12:22 a.m., Gilbert Avalos, 43, of Corpus Christi was arrested by Deputies Donald Page and Ramon Gutierrez on a warrant. He was released later the same day after posting a cash bond.

9:45 a.m., A Brackettville

couple reported that someone had attempted to steal their goats. Their fence had been cut.

2:30 p.m., A woman reported two young boys trying to steal goats from their pen in her backyard on S. Gove Street the previous night. The woman said she scared them away by turning on the light.

2:50 p.m., Deputy Pena reported illegal aliens on a local ranch on Highway 90, east of Brackettville. Border Patrol officials were informed.

3:30 p.m., A woman reported a horse on the Brackett ISD playground. City officials were notified.

4 p.m., A Pico employee requested assistance in unlocking a vehicle.

4:30 p.m., A man reported two loose dogs on his property on F.M. 2804.

4:59 p.m., A man reported that someone had attempted to steal his goats from his residence on 407 N. Fort Street.

4:59 p.m., A man reported that a light brown Chevrolet Blazer had gone through a fence at the intersection of Sheedy and E. El Paso Street.

7:30 p.m., A woman reported that a man was driving fast on Beaumont Street in a white Ford Tempo.

8:15 p.m., A man reported illegal aliens on Highway 131, about 7 miles south of Brackettville. He said he was on the side of the road and wanted Border Patrol officials to pick him up. Local agents were notified.

#### Thursday, April 8

Enrique Vasquez, 40, of San Marcos was arrested by Sheriff Burgess for evading arrest. He was released later the same day after posting a \$2,500 bail bond.

#### Friday, April 9

7:10 p.m., A woman reported that her ex-husband had not picked up their son for the weekend. She said she had things to do and that she could not wait any longer.

10:17 p.m., A woman reported that a light was on in a residence on Remote Alley and that the owner no longer resides there.

#### Saturday, April 10

Kimberly Williams Johnson, 21, of Nacodoches, was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley for driving with an invalid license. She was released later the same day on a personal recognition bond.

1:50 p.m., A US Border Patrol agent reported cattle out at the intersection of Highway 131 and F.M. 1908.

3:52 p.m., A man reported a minor automobile accident in the parking lot of Super S.

11:58 p.m., An employee at the Garza Bar on W. El Paso Street reported a possible disturbance. The caller later said the problem was taken care of.

#### Sunday, April 11

1:24 a.m., A resident at the Senior Apartment called to complain about a loud vehicle.

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### "Productivity appraisal" may lower the property taxes on your farm, ranch or timber land!

Texas law allows farmers, ranchers and timber growers to pay property taxes based upon the "production value" of their land rather than on market value. This "productivity appraisal" means qualified land is taxed based on its ability to produce crops, livestock or timber—not on its value on the real estate market. And it can mean substantial property tax savings.

#### When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 2004 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

#### Do you need to reapply annually?

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to do so. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
OR CALL 830-563-2323

We'll be happy to answer your questions and provide you a free copy of

"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities"

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn  
Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528

or call: 1-800-252-9121

or on the Web at:

www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

### ¡"La valoración productiva" puede reducir los impuestos de su terreno agrícola, ganadero o maderero!

La ley de Texas permite a los granjeros, rancheros y madereros pagar sus impuestos de propiedad basándose en "la valoración productiva" del terreno calificado—o sea en su habilidad de producir cosecha, ganado o madera—y no de su valor en el mercado actual. Y esto le puede ahorrar en sus impuestos de propiedad.

#### ¿Cual es la fecha límite?

Si su terreno nunca ha tenido una valoración productiva, o si Ud. es nuevo dueño, debe solicitarla a su distrito de valoraciones antes del día 30 de abril, para recibir el beneficio en sus impuestos de propiedad del 2004. Puede recibir hasta 60 días más si tiene una buena razón y si solicita el tiempo adicional antes del 30 de abril. Si se pasa de esta fecha, es posible que todavía la pueda obtener, pero pagará una multa. Pregunte en la oficina de su distrito de valoraciones.

#### ¿Debo solicitarla cada año?

Por lo general, si su propiedad ya recibe una valoración productiva agrícola o maderera, no hay necesidad de pedir una nueva cada año—al menos que se lo pida su jefe de valoraciones. Si una solicitud nueva se requiere, el distrito de valoraciones le mandará un aviso por correo.

Para más información, llame o visite:

**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
OR CALL 830-563-2323

Con mucho gusto contestaremos a sus preguntas y le proporcionaremos una copia gratis de

"Impuestos Sobre la Propiedad en Texas: Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos"

ó escriba a:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn  
Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528

ó llame: 1-800-252-9121

ó en la Web: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html

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# Alamo buffs enjoy special performance

A unique evening was enjoyed by Alamo buffs from throughout the United States on April 3 at Alamo Village, located on the HV Shahan Ranch north of Brackettville.

John Wayne's "The Alamo" was shown for the first time on the set where it was filmed in 1959.

The restored 35-mm film furnished by Rob Jones of San Antonio, the projector and huge blow up outdoor screen furnished by Cliff Anderson of Independent Theatre Supply Inc. of San Antonio.

The live radio broadcast over Master of Ceremonies Jack Landman's Cybercity Radio website combined for an evening

that was memorable for all.

Prior to starting the film, Virginia Shahan, owner of Alamo Village, welcomed the crowd, and her daughter, Tulisha Wardlaw, introduced the guest cast members of "The Alamo." Mr. Hurd, Rudy "It Do" Robbins, Plunker Sheedy, Dean Smith, Emundo Trevino and Tommy Worrell answered questions and recalled their memories of working on the movie with John Wayne. Jacqueline Conoly sang the National Anthem before the film rolled.

"As the sound came up, everyone in attendance got goose bumps and a lump in their throat," Wardlaw said. "God Bless John Wayne!"

# Pineapple casserole is quick

I've been out of town about two weeks caring for family members and have had a chance to cook like crazy for my two brothers-in-law. Take my word for it, you can't fail with any meal you fix!

Naturally I made them my guinea pigs. This desert was a winner. It's so quick to throw together, you'll serve it often.

**Pineapple Casserole**  
 ¼ cup butter or margarine, softened  
 1 cup sugar or substitute  
 4 eggs  
 1 20-ounce can crushed pineapple, drained

1½ tablespoons lemon juice  
 5 slices day-old bread, cubed\*  
 In a medium-size bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each

one. Stir in pineapple and lemon juice. Fold in bread cubes. Pour into greased 8-by-8 square pan or round cake pan. Bake, uncovered, at 325 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes, or until firm.  
 This recipe yields six to eight servings. The recipe may be doubled successfully.  
 \* White or brown bread may be used. But I don't suggest using sourdough, rye, etc.

The addition of nuts would compliment this dish if desired.

Goodies  
From G.G.



Vada Baldree

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## A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

### Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owned a home on January 1 and used it as a primary residence on that date is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption to lower school taxes this year...and it doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.

### Are other exemptions available?

If you're disabled—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the over-65 or disabled exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (Starting this year, the county, city or junior college may adopt a tax ceiling to lock in 2004 taxes as the highest amount for over-65 or disabled homeowners.) The over-65 or disabled homeowner's school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. These homeowners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home's school tax ceiling, to a new home.

### Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2003, you won't need to reapply for 2004 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 2004. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the over-65 exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.

### When and where should I file?

File applications by April 30 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
 412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
 BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
 OR CALL 830-563-2323

For more information, stop in or call for a free copy of

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 or call: 1-800-252-9121  
 or on the Web at:

[www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html)

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

## ¡Varias exenciones de residencia pueden rebajar sus impuestos de propiedad!

Una exención de residencia reduce sus impuestos de propiedad. Por ejemplo, si su residencia tiene un valor de \$50,000 y Ud. recibe una exención de \$15,000, sus impuestos se calcularán como si el valor de su residencia fuera de \$35,000.

### ¿Quién califica para una exención?

Cualquier dueño de una residencia principal el día 1º de enero tiene derecho a una exención de residencia de \$15,000 este año para rebajar sus impuestos escolares... y no importa si la residencia es casa, condominio o casa móvil. (Los condados, municipios y distritos especiales de impuestos también pueden ofrecer exenciones de residencia.)

### ¿Hay otras exenciones?

Si Ud. es incapacitado—o si tiene 65 años o más—tiene derecho a una exención adicional de \$10,000 en sus impuestos escolares de propiedad. Y si Ud. califica para la exención para los que ya cumplieron 65 años o está incapacitado, también tiene derecho a un "tope" permanente en sus impuestos escolares de residencia. (Comenzando este año, el condado, la ciudad o una universidad de dos años puede adoptar un tope de impuestos en los impuestos del 2004 como la cantidad más grande para los dueños de hogar de 65 años o más o incapacitados.) La exención para los que ya cumplieron 65 años o están incapacitados y el tope máximo se pueden transferir al esposo/esposa sobreviviente si el o ella tiene 55 ó más años de edad y es dueño/dueña de la casa en donde vive. También el dueño de una casa nueva que tiene más de 65 años puede trasladar un porcentaje de tope máximo de los impuestos escolares que le tocaron en su domicilio anterior.

### ¿Debo solicitarla cada año?

No. Si Ud. recibió una exención de residencia en el 2003, no hay necesidad de solicitarla de nuevo en el 2004—al menos que se le pida su jefe de valoraciones. Sin embargo, si no ha recibido una exención en su residencia actual—o si ha cambiado de domicilio tendrá que solicitar una exención para el 2004. Si Ud. cumpliere los 65 años durante este año, tiene hasta un año de esa fecha para solicitar una nueva exención. Y si cumplió los 65 años o resultó incapacitado, tendrá que solicitar las exenciones adicionales.

### ¿Dónde y cuando debo solicitar mis exenciones?

Debe presentar su aplicación en la oficina local del distrito de valoraciones antes del día 30 de abril. Si necesita más tiempo, favor de ponerse en contacto con nosotros antes:

**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
 412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377, BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
 OR CALL 830-563-2323

Si desea más información, visítenos y obtenga una copia gratis de

"Impuestos Sobre la Propiedad en Texas: Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos"

ó escriba a:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn  
 Property Tax Division  
 P.O. Box 13528  
 Austin, TX 78711-3528

ó llame: 1-800-252-9121

ó en la Web: [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html)

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### NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION CIUDAD)

To the Registered Voters of Brackettville, Texas:

(A los votantes registrados del Brackettville Texas):

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 15, 2004

2004, for voting in a CITY election, to ELECT FOUR ALDERMAN, ONE MAYOR

(Notifíquese, por las presentes, que las casillas electorales sitadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 15 de Mayo de 2004 para votar en la Elección para ELIJIR CUATRO MIEMBROS DE COUNCILLO, UNO MAYOR

**LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES  
(DIRECCIONES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES:**  
 City Hall in Brackettville, Texas  
 Edificio Municipal de la Ciudad de Brackettville, Texas

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at

(La votación en adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

City Hall/Edificio Municipal de la Ciudad

(Location) (sitio)

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on APRIL 28, 2004 (date)

(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el 28 DE ABRIL, 2004 (fecha)

and ending on MAY 11, 2004 (date)

(y terminando el 11 MAYO, 2004 (fecha)

Additional early voting will be held at the same location as follows:

(La votación en adelantada además se llevará a cabo en el mismo sitio de tal manera:)

Date (Fecha)	Hours (Horas)
NA	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)

BONNIE S. WARDLAW  
 (Name of Early Voting Clerk)  
 (Nombre del Secretario de la Votación En Adelantada)  
P. O. Box 526  
 (Address) (Dirección)  
Brackettville, Texas 78832  
 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Recommended but not required

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el)

MAY 7, 2004 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 13 day of FEBRUARY, 2004.

(Emitida este día 13 de FEBRERO, 2004.)

*Bonnie S. Wardlaw*  
 Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial Que Preside)

\*If early voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of early voting, delete this part.

## Notice of Election

To the Registered Voters of Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas:  
 Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, on May 15, 2004, for voting in a school board election, to elect 3 trustees.

### LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE

Brackett Independent School District, 400 Ann Street, Hunt Library

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at 400 Ann Street, Central Office Boardroom, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM, beginning on April 28, 2004 and ending on May 11, 2004.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

Susan Esparza, Early Voting Clerk  
 PO Box 586  
 Brackettville, Texas 78832

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on May 7, 2004. Issued this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2004.

Henry Lutz

Signature of Presiding Officer.

### Aviso De Eleccion

A los votantes registrados en Brackettville, Condado de Kinney, Texas:  
 Se notifica, por la presente, que las casillas electorales sitadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 AM hasta las 7:00 PM el 15 de mayo, de 2004 para votar en la Elección para elegir 3 directores.

**La UBICACION DE el CENTRO ELECTORAL**  
 Brackett el Distrito Independiente de la Escuela, 400 Calle de Ann, la Biblioteca de la Caza

La votación en adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en la oficina central-Brackett Independent School District entre las 8:00 de la mañana y 4:00 de la tarde empezando el 28, de abril, 2004 y terminando el 11, de mayo 2004.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo

deberan enviarse a:

Susan Esparza, Early Voting Clerk  
 PO Box 586  
 Brackettville, TX 78832

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el 7 de mayo, 2004.

Emitida este día 15 de abril, 2004

Henry Lutz

Firma del Oficial Que Preside



### On a roll

Brackett pitcher Kara Yeager (right) hurls a pitch against Three Rivers last week as third baseman Lola Cano (left) and first baseman Ashley Castillo await the play. Yeager threw three shutouts last week as the Tigerettes moved into second place in district.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## Tigerettes in battle for district crown

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Sports Editor

Brackett's Kara Yeager hurled three shutouts last week to help the Tigerettes climb back into the race for the District 30-2A softball title.

Entering this week's games, Brackett (8-9) is 4-3 in district play and a half-game out of first behind Three Rivers (9-5), which is 4-2.

George West (16-8) and Natalia (11-7) are tied for third with 3-3 marks, while Freer (10-4) is 2-3 in conference and Dilley (10-9) is 2-4.

"Winning these three games puts us right back in the hunt for a district title," Tigerettes coach Greg Voyles said. "Beat-

ing Three Rivers and Natalia are huge wins for the program.

"One of the main reasons we are winning is because of our defense and our pitching. We just need to take care of business the next three games and see what happens."

Brackett opened last week with a 1-0 victory over Dilley as Yeager threw a one-hitter.

The two teams were scoreless until the Tigerettes scored the winning run in the top of the seventh. Lisa Morgan led the inning off with a triple and then scored on Divina Pena's game-winning RBI single.

Last Wednesday Yeager pitched a three-hit shutout as the Tigerettes blanked Three Rivers 9-0. All of Brackett's runs came

in the bottom of the sixth.

Nadine Terrazas paced BHS' offense with a perfect 4-for-4 plate performance. She also scored two runs.

Emily Valenzuela went 3-for-4, while Morgan and Ashley Castillo were both 2 for 3. All three each scored one run.

Stephanie Bonner crossed the plate twice in the contest after turning in a 1-for-3 performance.

The Tigerettes closed the week with a 4-0 win over Natalia on the road last Thursday. Yeager allowed only four hits in the contest.

Dana Bonner led Brackett's attack at the plate, going 3 for 3 and scoring two runs. Stephanie Bonner was 2 for 4 at the plate.

## Track team places sixth in Uvalde meet

By J.J. GUIDRY  
Sports Editor

UVALDE — The Tigerettes finished sixth overall Saturday in the Uvalde Invitational track meet. Brackett was the only 2A team in the competition, which featured three 5A schools.

Courtney Frerich brought home the team's only gold medal. She took first in the high jump with a leap of 5-2, while Stacey Castilla tied for fourth with a jump of 4-6. Frerich also took fourth in the intermediate hurdles with a time of 50.3.

Frerich teamed up with Divina Pena, Stephanie Coronado and Rachel Swinson to take third in the mile relay with a 4:16.9.

Pena, Frerich, Castilla and Vanessa Williams were fourth in the 800-meter relay with a time of 1:55, while the sprint team of

Caitlin Wylie, Williams, Brandy Smith and Pena were fourth with a 53.1.

Swinson was third in the 100-meter dash with a time of 13.3 and third in the 400 with a 60.5. Coronado finished sixth in the 400 after being clocked at 64.6. Swinson was also fourth in the long jump with a 14-5.

Juliam Ashabranner took third in the 3,200-meter run with a 12:35.8 and sixth in the 1,600 with a 5:52.1.

Williams was sixth in the 200 with a 28.4, while Ashley Smith was sixth in the 800 with a time of 2:38.6.

In the junior varsity division, Danika Schmidt, Timmeke Simmons, Kristina Wright and Vickie Resendez took first in the mile relay after turning in a time of 4:43.9.

Schmidt also took first in the

high jump with a 4-6 and sixth in the triple jump with a 27-6. She was second in the intermediate hurdles with a time of 53.3 and third in the high hurdles with a 19.3.

Ashley Castillo won the 3,200 with a 13:36.1, while Tanya Molinar was fourth in the 1,600 with a 6:47.8.

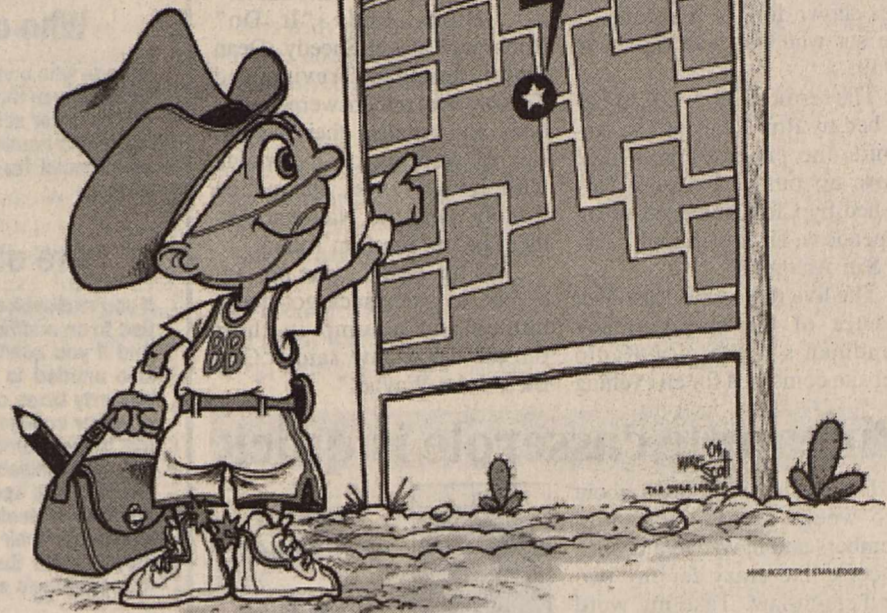
Resendez won the silver in the 400-meter dash after being clocked at 70.6.

Simmons and Wright took third and fourth in the 200 with times of 29.9 and 30.5, respectively.

Simmons was fifth in the 100 with a 14.4. She also took second in the long jump with a leap of 12-7 and second in the triple jump with a 30-1.

Brackett's track teams will compete in the district meet today in Dilley.

## This town has a familiar feel in name only



The following story is being reprinted with permission from the April 5 edition of the Star-Ledger.

BRACKETTVILLE — It had perplexed our resident expert since he touched ground in San Antonio and looked at a local map. Why would they name a town after him in Texas without inviting him to a dedication ceremony?

"Seems like a strange thing to do," Bracket Boy said. "We could have had a nice little party. Vitale would have made a speech. I could have cut the ribbon and dedicated my impeccable picks to the townsfolk. A big opportunity was lost!"

Still, the curiosity was killing him. He imagined a college hoops haven in Brackettville, Texas, a place filled with people just like him who lived and breathed the NCAA Tournament.

So with his pick assured the national championship — "No way my Huskies lose to those overmatched Yellow Jackets," he said — Bracket Boy decided to make a road trip.

He hopped in his rented Ford Taurus and headed West on U.S. 90, driving through Castroville and Hondo (presumably named for a columnist at another metro newspaper), through Knippa and Uvalde (the burial site of former Vice President John Nance Garner), and finally, 123 miles later, arrived in the town that bears his name.

"This is it?" BB said.

Brackettville is not big. In fact, it has 1,740 residents, according to the sign on the highway. But it is home to a big attraction, with signs pointing to the "Alamo Village: See'n Is Believe'n." It was just another 7 miles up the road.

The village, turns out, is actually a movie set built for "The Alamo," the 1960 John

Wayne movie. Bracket Boy paid his \$7.50 and headed inside, where he met Rich Curilla, the village historian.

"You are a day late," Curilla said. "Last night, we held a screening of John Wayne's 'The Alamo,' and more than 200 people came. It was quite a night. We even had a few special guests, including Dean Smith..."

"Dean Smith!?" BB gasped. "Yes, Dean Smith was here, and..."

"What was Dean Smith doing here?"

"Oh, he lives around here," Curilla answered. "He comes quite often. In fact, he married his second wife here."

"Dean Smith got married in a town named for me?"

Well, it took some old-fashioned smelling salts to wake BB after he fainted, and when he was revived, the historian and the bracketologist realized they were talking about two different men.

BB, of course, thought it was Dean Smith, the former North Carolina coach, who has won more college basketball games than any other coach.

Curilla was talking about Dean Smith, the cowboy stunt man. A sign on the wall advertises the "Dean Smith Celebrity Rodeo," and the photo is clearly not the coach.

"Dean is still very active," Curilla said. "He is very serious about trying to keep the Western alive."

Uh... wrong guy.

For the record, Curilla was not clear on which teams were playing in the Final Four two hours down the road.

"Believe it or not, I'm not that much into sports," he said. "But when it comes to Penn State football, that's different."

Bracket Boy left the village, exiting from a door with a sign above it that read, "Please exit with the wife you came in with."

These folks in Brackettville sure are cards!

He drove back "downtown" and decided he should eat. He

had two choices — the "Burger and Shake" place and the "Krazy Chicken Cafe." He chose the latter, and inside had the chance to grill more locals about the tournament.

Aubrey "Curly" Keilberg was having a lemonade inside. This is the most popular restaurant in town, he said, since it is "the only place you can smoke in, you know." The nonsmoking section must be outside, BB thought.

Curly has a wealth of knowledge about Brackettville, but none about the tournament. No, just like the folks at Alamo Village, he is not much of a sports fan, dating back to the time he served in the military and went through something called a "Communist Debriefing School."

The easiest way for the communists to get their message across to people, he said, was at sports arenas. So he stayed away.

"I just decided I was not interested," Curly said. "Not even NASCAR races."

But he did say Brackettville was a big sports town — for calf roping. Debbie Smith, the waitress/cook at the Krazy Chicken, said she used to do some calf roping (BB is still unclear how this works and does not want to know) but stopped.

"I don't look as good on the saddle as I used to," she said.

After three hours in the town — and not a single bracket or college basketball banner or Vitale face mask anywhere in sight — our resident expert had to ask the nagging question: Where did this little Texas town get its name? Curly scratched his bald head.

"Now don't take this to the bank, because I'm really not sure," he said. "I think there was a man named Brackett who lived here."

Clearly, a different guy. [bracketboy@star-ledger.com](mailto:bracketboy@star-ledger.com)

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### Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all the cast and crew of the "Above All Kings" Easter Musical, that worked behind the scenes, during the musical that was held last Friday and Saturday. To the soundmen Bob Jackson & Charles Marquardt who worked so hard, for the last three months, to make sure the music and sound went off so wonderfully. To the Assistant Director Susan Smith and Pianist Mary Pevehouse who made sure we knew the music, parts and notes. To Cindy Brinker and Michelle Frerich who also assisted in teaching the music in such a short time. To the Tim Ward Family - Tim, Chase and Blake, who made sure the Fort Clark Amphitheater was not flooded, by using their equipment to clear out the rain water. To Brandi Wilson and Debbie Ward, who made sure we had baby-sitting for those who needed childcare during the practices and performance of this musical. To all the actors who portrayed the characters in this musical, for without them we could not have reenacted this special event. To all the people who prayed, made costumes, gathered props, built sets, ran lights and videoed, I appreciated everything that you did.

Thank You, Kathy Wilson

Do you have something to say  
about a local issue? Write a  
letter to the editor today!



**'Above All Kings'**  
Members of the First Baptist Church of Brackettville perform during the church's Easter musical "Above All Kings" Friday night at the Fort Clark Amphitheater.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

## Commit your life to Christ

I have spent one of the most frustrating weeks of my life battling a set of computer problems with our church's database software. The software vendor made a lot of fancy promises last year, and I eagerly spent the money to upgrade to the latest version of the software that would fix many "bugs" and even add new features.

I checked the Post Office daily and I rushed to the office with the package when it arrived. Although things seemed to go smoothly at first, it wasn't long before I discovered problems.

Old data disappeared or was garbled in the upgrade. The data would not transfer to my palmtop computer despite the promises of the advertisements. A security problem allowed anyone to read my personal notes in the software, so I had to start locking my office door.

I called the company to complain — only to be reassured that yet another new version would fix all these problems and add

even more new features! So once again, I spent the money — not quite as eagerly — to upgrade to the latest version. I checked the Post Office daily and again I rushed to the office with the package when it arrived. This time things went from bad to worse. Instead of the error messages I had grown familiar with while waiting for the latest "fix," I was confronted with new warning messages.

Sometimes the software wouldn't let me into my own notes. My list of birthdays wouldn't print out. Suddenly, I wasn't intimidated, I was angry.

I called a competing vendor who calmly explained to me that most of their business came from unsatisfied customers of the product I was using. I listened carefully and asked a lot of questions. I wasn't going to make the same mistake a *third* time!

Isn't it the same way with our lives of faith? We try so many things to get ourselves through the stresses of daily life. We look



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Roger Baker

for outlets in social gatherings or in beverages, in the approval of parents or friends, in the success that a job brings or the status of things we buy.

Again and again we can be disappointed — the new car loses its luster, the status of being club president brings responsibility and hassles, the excesses of food or drink bring their own punishments. Along the way we lose faith in these earthly things we've relied upon.

Stepping away from a life focused on earthly things to focus on the Savior isn't easy. We need to ask a lot of questions and we have to listen carefully. Most importantly, when looking for something rewarding in our

lives, we need to look to our Bibles.

The Scriptures tell us that those who commit their lives to Christ can count on a new arrangement and a new circumstance. (Romans 7:5-6)

Our reward will no longer come from the things we do for ourselves, but from doing the things Jesus commanded us to do. (Mark 9:41)

We manage to do these things not because we are holy, but because Jesus makes it possible for us to behave in ways that are better than our human nature. (1 Corinthians 3:11)

At First United Methodist Church, we're learning how to focus ourselves on following Christ. Our Bible study on prayer meets Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in Slator Hall. You're welcome to join us!

We worship together each Sunday at 10:45 a.m. right after Sunday school at 9:30. Join us this Sunday for the Lord's Supper. All are welcome!

## Everybody learns from life, but the wise allow for change

It had been a long and complicated day. Two very tired women walked out of the judge's chambers. Marie put her arm around her daughter as a gesture of love.

Words seemed lost at this point — 17-year-old Janet was depressed and glum. Her immature mind was trying to understand the recent events in her life.

Janet finally broke the silence: "I was really lucky, Mom. Six-months on probation and community service, I can handle that."

"Janet," Marie responded sternly. "In situations like this, there's no such thing as luck. The judge did what he is required by law to do."

"Considering your small part in what happened, he was lenient. The most important matter now is to fulfill your obligation and to restore your name. Your family's been hurt. You'll need to restore the trust of your family and that of our good neighbors," she said.

"Mom, tell Dad..." She didn't finish her sentence before Marie interrupted.

"You broke your Dad's trust, now you must restore it. It's not mine to do. I'll stand by your side, but you must do what is necessary and right," Marie said.

"But, what can I tell him?"



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

Janet stammered, in tears. "What did you learn from this?" Marie asked.

"I learned a lot, Mom. I learned that you and Dad are the best parents I could ever ask for. I also learned that I was a fool to maintain friendship with a gang of kids I knew were going in the wrong direction."

"That is what you must tell your Dad, Janet," she said. "But more, you must prove to him and to your friends that you've changed by practicing what you've learned."

"Many centuries ago a very wise man said that learning is like fetters to the fool who laughs at it. But, to the wise, learning is like a chain of gold and a beautiful bracelet for her right arm. (Sirach 22:19-21)

"Everybody learns from life. But it's the wise who allows it to change her."

**Editor's note:** This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project, working in Brackettville to strengthen families, faith and education.

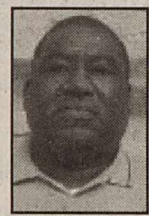
## Find victory with God

Praise God!

"And the Lord said unto Joshua, See I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the King thereof, and the mighty men of Valour."

"And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, take up the Ark of the Covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark of the Lord."

"So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

the trumpet and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city." (Joshua 6:2,6,20) Glory!

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## Don't get hit with a penalty! "Render" your taxable property by April 15th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year.

### Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business. If you render late, don't render or file an incomplete or false rendition, you could be hit with a 10 to 50% penalty.

### Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- You give your opinion of your property's value. The appraisal district must notify you in writing of any value change and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 2003. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2004.

### What's the deadline?

The last day for filing 2004 renditions is April 15. You can get an automatic extension to May 15 if you ask for it in writing on or before the April 15 deadline. The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after May 15 for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

### Where do you file?

File renditions with your local appraisal district at:  
**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
OR CALL 830-563-2323

For more information, stop by your appraisal district and pick up

"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities"

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn  
Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528  
or call: 1-800-252-9121  
or on the Web at:

www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

## ¡Cuidese de las multas! "Presente" su propiedad antes del 15 de abril.

Una "declaración de propiedad" es un reporte para el distrito de valoraciones en donde Ud. enlista toda la propiedad que poseyó o controló el día 1º de enero de este año.

### ¿Quién debe hacer una declaración de propiedad?

Debe hacer una declaración de propiedad si Ud. es dueño y gana ingresos de una propiedad personal—por ejemplo, el inventario y equipo utilizado en un negocio. Si usted no declara a tiempo, o si presenta una declaración incompleta o falsa, usted puede recibir una multa de un 10 hasta un 50 por ciento.

### ¿Que ventajas me da?

Las ventajas de hacer una declaración de propiedad son:

- Ud. registra su opinión sobre la valoración de su propiedad. El distrito debe avisarle por escrito y explicarle como protestar el nuevo valor y el cambio ante su junta de revisión.
- Registra su dirección correcta para que le puedan mandar sus tarifas de impuestos. Según la ley, Ud. es responsable por pagar sus impuestos sin demora o de pagar cualquier multa que resulte por haberlos pagado tarde—aunque la tarifa se haya mandado a una dirección equivocada.
- También puede someter un "reporte de valoración disminuida" para avisar al distrito de cualquier reducción significativa en la valoración de su propiedad en el 2003. El distrito examinará su propiedad antes de designarle un valor en el 2004.

### ¿Cual es la fecha límite?

El 15 de abril es el último día para mandar sus declaraciones para el 2004. Puede obtener una extensión automática hasta el 15 de mayo si la pide por escrito en o antes del 15 de abril. El jefe de valoración/tasación puede extender su plazo otros 15 días después del 15 de mayo si usted puede mostrar una razón justificada para la extensión.

### ¿Dónde hago mi declaración?

Haga su declaración con su distrito local de valoraciones en:  
**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
OR CALL 830-563-2323

Para más información, visite su distrito de valoración y obtenga una copia de

"Impuestos Sobre la Propiedad en Texas: Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos"

o escriba a:

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P.O. Box 1495
Brackettville, TX 78832 Fax: 830-563-2999

Clinic Pharmacy

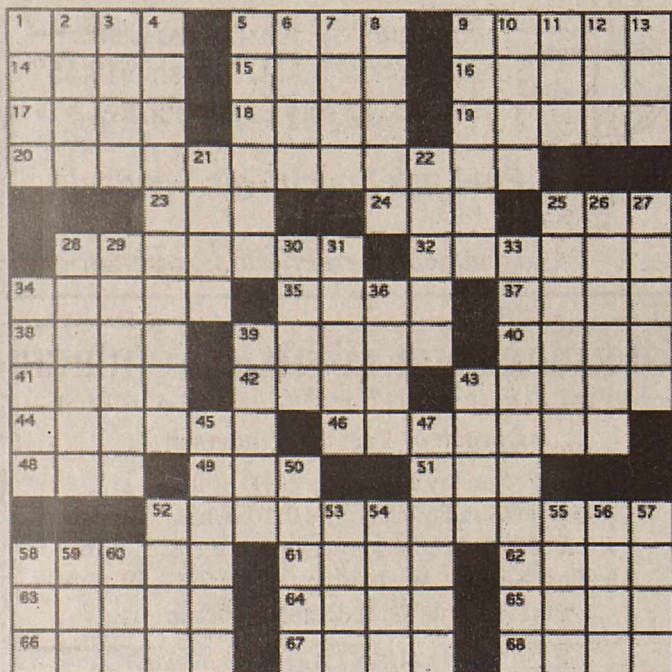
M-F 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
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We handle most major Insurance Cards
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Pharmacist: B.E. Sweet

Cheap Cheap Cheap. PROPANE

PICO PETROLEUM
308 SOUTH GROVE
UVALDE, TX, 78801
278-5681
Free delivery to Brackettville FREE DELIVERY

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Go by
5 Pops
9 Things to be learned?
14 Prefix for depressant or histamine
15 Estah's location
16 Not hidden
17 Meander
18 "See ya!"
19 AFL-CIO president (1955-79)
20 Post-Civil War profiteer
23 Vientiane resident
24 Mister
25 Address abbr.
28 Locks
32 Played in a lively way
34 Box
35 Barbie
37 Acted like
38 Make room changes
39 Saints' rings
40 Monster
movie
feature
21st-century tyrant
42 Musical brothers
43 One who gets up
44 Lifts
46 Slumbered
48 Diploma
hopefuls: abbr.
49 Pronoun
51 Furrow
52 Owner
58 West Side Story heroine
61 \_\_\_ out; endured successfully
62 Marks for a whiz
63 Spoken
64 Word of agreement
65 Edge
66 Future, for one
67 Votes
68 Football players
DOWN
1 Recreational area: Fr.
2 Celebes ox
3 Bogart, to Casablanca
4 Fools
5 Marks of repetition
6 Middle Easterner
7 Facts
8 Obstacles
9 Cesar \_\_\_
10 Four \_\_\_
11 Small green item
12 Harbor soarer
13 Animal enclosure
21 At one's \_\_\_; relaxed
22 Misses
25 Put side by side
26 Looked closely
27 Stranger
28 Quake
29 Boom-boxes
30 Made up
31 Shoemaker
33 Official
34 Grouchy people
36 Suffer defeat
39 Must
43 Put to flight
45 Fiery speech
47 Is fussy about one's appearance
50 Bug killer
52 Pope \_\_\_ XII (1939-58)
53 Birthplace for 52
54 Notion
55 Be a bread-winner
56 Uttered
57 Houston and others
58 Porch item
59 Potable
60 Howard or Reagan



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, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: POPULAR SINGERS

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

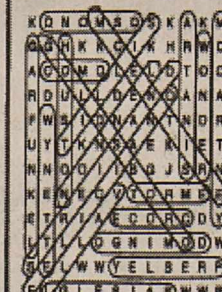
- 1. McCartney
2.
3.
4.
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20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- April 15.....Guadalupe Abrigo
April 15.....Loa Hundley
April 15.....John C. Sawchuk
April 16.....Gertrude McNair
April 17.....Julie Ashabranner
April 17.....Josefine Monroy
April 17.....Jean Sergeant
April 18.....San Juanita Abrigo
April 18.....Corina Muniz
April 18.....Roxanna Payne
April 18.....Wilma Yates
April 20.....Calvin Oliver
April 20.....Bobbie Schafer
April 20.....Debbie Smith
April 21.....Louis Baur
April 21.....Timmy Garcia
April 21.....Severo Martinez
April 21.....Hector Pena

Roaring Twenties Solution:

- 1. Como
2. Croce
3. Domingo
4. Feliciano
5. Garfunkel
6. Goldsboro
7. Houston
8. Iglesias
9. Lennon
10. McCartney
11. McEntire
12. Osmond
13. Presley
14. Sinatra
15. Streisand
16. Tillis
17. Torme
18. Valli
19. Wonder
20. Wynette



HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Tread carefully this week at work. Office politics are at work, and you need to stay out of it. Later in the week, you receive good news from a friend.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You need to go over projects carefully this week. Even ones you feel are completed may need some extra attention. There are loose ends to be addressed.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You seem to be all thumbs this week. No matter what you attempt, you make a mistake. Fortunately, these are minor incidents, and you work your way through.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) It's an unfortunate tendency of your sign to be too aggressive at times. This doesn't go over well at work. Tone it down, and you'll achieve the results you want.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It's best to think before speaking this week. Just blurring out your opinions could result in hurt feelings. A more measured approach is what's needed.
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're in too much of a hurry this week to get things done. Follow the lead of a co-worker who is more apt to be patient. By week's end, together, you've accomplished just what must be done.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Romance is highlighted this week. At work, though, you're going through a transitional period. Be sure you pay close attention so you can learn new skills.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You have so many tasks in front of you, you're not sure which to tackle first. Your best approach is to go with the easy ones first. This way, you'll have more time to devote to those that are more difficult.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your powers of persuasive speech are at their best this week. Use them to full advantage. This is particularly true on the work front.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) It's best this week to surround yourself with supportive people. Those who are negative merely sap your energy. This weekend, family life is pleasurable and comforting.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A friend seems to be goading you this week. There's no good reason for this. Just chalk it up to this person's need to stir up trouble every once in a while and ignore it.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Not everything goes as you'd planned this week. Try not to be so rigid. You need to be more adaptable and accepting.
(c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.



**ADOPTION**

*Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.*

**ADOPTION. LOVING COUPLE** promises baby secure future. Full-time mom, grandparents, pets, outdoor sports, educational opportunities. Expenses paid. Call Stacey/Carlos, 1-800-201-9842 or attorney, 1-800-242-8770.

**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION?** We can help. We specialize in matching families with birthmothers nationwide. Toll Free 24 hours a day, 1-866-921-0565. One True Gift Adoptions.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**1.800.VENDING, 90 MACHINES** - \$9,120. The best locations. 1-800-836-3464, 24 hours.

**ARE YOU MAKING \$1000** per week? All cash vending routes with prime locations available now! Under \$9,000 investment required. Call Toll Free, (24-7), Liberty Routes, 1-800-963-2654.

**HOME INSPECTION TRAINING** 5 day hands-on course. TREC approved for forty hours. Sponsorships available. ASHI MRC's -NAHI CEU's -CREIA CEC's. Building Specs, Inc. 1-800-217-7979, www.buildingspecs.com

**DRIVERS WANTED**

**ATTENTION DRIVERS/TEAMS:** Earn more per mile with us! Generous hometime and great benefits. Mesilla Valley Transportation, 1-888-562-4342.

**COMPANY DRIVERS, GREAT** opportunities if you live in TX, OK, LA, AR! Regional - 10 states (70%), home weekly. \$600-\$800 OTR, start .32 cents. Excellent benefits include 401k, 6 months plus T/T experience with A/CDL. Bob or Rick, 1-800-666-0380, National Freight, Inc. www.natlfreight.com

**DRIVERS - \$\$\$MO MONEY, MO MONEY** Top pay .42 cents per mile \$\$\$1,500\$\$\$ Sign-on Bonus for experienced drivers. 1-800-569-9232. Students welcome. Nationwide, www.ffe-inc.com, Conwell Corp.

**DRIVER - COVENANT TRANS-**PORT. Teams and Solos check out our new pay plan. Owner/Operators, Experienced Drivers, Solos, Teams and Graduate Students. Call 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729).

**DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED.** Learn to drive for Covenant! Local 15 day CDL training now available! 1-800-336-2669.

**DRIVERS WANTED**

**A/CDL DRIVERS: MINIMUM 6** months OTR. Team runs to West Coast- Late model equipment- Great pay, miles and benefits. Call Steve Mox Trucking. Ask for Marci. 1-800-253-5148.

**DRIVERS-NEW HOMETIME PLAN!** Mainly Midwest! Family owned. No Hazmat. Dry bulk pneumatics. Dry vans. 2 years OTR, class A/CDL. 1-800-821-3046. Ext. 1124, www.trucktiona.com

**DRIVERS...TRUCKS SET to 65** mph! \$2500 experienced driver sign-on bonus! New trainee pay! Van, flatbed, Autohaul. CDL training available. Swift Transportation, 1-866-333-8801, www.swifttruckingjobs.com

**NEW PAY PACKAGE!** Longhaul, Regional, Lease Operators, Company Drivers! Friday paydays! In-cab e-mail. Family voicemail. Class A/CDL, 6 months OTR. 1-800-745-9670, www.continentalx.com

**OUR COMMITMENT! 3 CENT** pay raise! Miles! Hometime! Respect! \$.43/mile! 12 months experience required. Heartland Express. 1-800-441-4953, www.heartlandexpress.com. Get paid what you deserve!

**OWNER/OPERATORS NEEDED,** 2 years OTR experience, regional, home weekends, paid tolls, weekly settlements, paid loaded and empty. Quality Transportation Services, 1-800-361-0188. Ask for Russ.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**LOCAL HUNTING LODGE** looking for housekeeping/kitchen assistant. Fulltime 30-40 hours per week. Call 830-563-3441 for information and interview.

**WANTED: A STAFF** writer to cover governmental meetings and community meetings and community events. Experience preferred. Interested individuals can pick up an application at 507 S. Ann Street.

**A TRAVEL JOB: INTEGRITY SALES** is placing 12 new hires, over 18, travel USA with co-ed business group. \$500 signing bonus. Call Diane at 1-877-PAIDFUN (724-3386) toll-free. Start today!

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

**YOU CAN DO IT** all with the Texas Army National Guard. Get paid for training, earn a great skill and go to school to earn your degree. Don't let this opportunity pass. Call 1-800-GO-GUARD today!

**EMPLOYMENT**

**CALI BOUND. NOW** hiring sharp outgoing people to travel entire US representing top sport, fashion and news publications. Expense paid training with base guarantee. Daily-weekly-monthly bonuses. Transportation and hotel provided with return trip guaranteed. Call Elite Sales, 1-800-282-0381. Call today-start tomorrow.

**GET PAID FOR EATING!** Post-menopausal women needed for 24-week line-in nutrition study. Fly to North Dakota at our expense! 1-800-562-4032, www.gfnrc.ars.usda.gov

**EMPLOYMENT TRAINING**

**ANNOUNCEMENT: NOW HIRING** 2004 postal positions. \$14.80-\$38.00+/hr. No experience necessary. Entry level with full benefits. Paid training. Call 7 days for information. 1888-826-2513, Ext. 966.

**ANNOUNCEMENT: NOW HIRING** for 2004 postal positions. Federal hire, \$16.00-\$48.00+/hr. Full benefits/Paid training and vacations. No experience necessary. E. Success, 1-866-317-0558, Ext. 300.

**\*\*FEDERAL POSTAL JOBS\*\*** Earn up to \$43,000/year. Free call. No experience necessary. Now hiring. Full Benefits. D & L Marketing, 1-800-842-1622, Ext. 448.

**POSTAL JOBS FOR 2004.** \$16.20-\$39.00/hr. Paid training. Full benefits. No experience necessary. Green card OK. Call Exam Preparation, 1-866-895-3696, Ext. 5656.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**\$\$\$CASH\$\$\$ CASH NOW** for structured settlements, annuities and insurance payouts. 1-800-794-7310. J.G. Wentworth. . . J.G. Wentworth means cash now for structured settlements.

**CASH FOR STRUCTURED** settlement/annuity payments. It's your money! Get cash now when you need it most. Oldest/best in the business. Settlement Purchasers. 1-877-Money-Me.

**FOR SALE**

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

**FREE 4-ROOM DIRECTV SYSTEM** including installation! 125+ channels, including locals, from \$29.99/month. Digital picture/sound. Limited offer. Plus shipping. Restrictions apply. 1-800-264-3458.

**SELL YOUR ITEMS** right here!

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

**"THE WELL" Building** and 4 lots - Thomas and Ann St. Will not sell separately.

Seven lots on Spring St. - \$28,000.

Unit 3 - 2 bed, 2 baths, mobile home - carport, 2nd roof, screened porch - \$10,000.

Unit 1 - 2 bed, 2 baths, den - \$48,000.

On golf course - 2 lots, 3 bed, 2 baths, in like new condition with detached garage - \$70,000.

orourke@the-i.net

**FOR SALE**

**WOLFF TANNING BEDS** - Affordable - Convenient. Tan at home. Payments from \$29/month. FREE color catalog. Call today. 1-888-839-5160.

**HEALTH INSURANCE**

**HEALTHCARE FOR ENTIRE** family, \$99.95 monthly. No age restrictions, includes dental, vision, pre-existing conditions accepted, unlimited usage, 500,000 doctors, 1-800-807-9769, limited time offer

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**ALEX BOWER CONSTRUCTION** & Repairs. Plumbing, carpentry, room and porch additions. Minor and major repairs at reasonable rates. All your home and yard needs. Before you start a project, call for free advice. 563-3284 alexbower@sbcglobal.net.

**WANT QUICK RESULTS?** Take advantage of the classifieds. Call 563-2852 today!

**FOR SALE**  
By Owner

3BR, 2 Bath,  
Rock Home  
in the Oaks,  
Fort Clark Springs.  
Approx 2624 sq. ft. -  
\$220,000.  
830-563-9356,  
leave message.  
MUST SEE

**Ken Barnett**  
**Real Estate**

P.O. Box 1035  
103 W. Spring St.  
Brackettville, TX 78832  
830-563-2446

- Townhouse lot 116, unit 1 furnished.
  - Unit 36 lot 39, FCS 2 Br, 1bt manufactured housing.
  - Acreage - 80.03 Acres Tract #303 Leona Ranch.
  - The Master Condominiums: 2 Bd/1 bath fully furnished - Large Garage Space included for Only \$41,500.00
  - Unit 15 Ft. Clark Springs: 2 br/2 bath Mobile - Roof cover, Carport Golf Cart Shed - Fully furnished \$34,500.00
  - 4.53 Acres off 19 Pepper Lane, Del Rio
- Have Buyers - Need Listings! Ken Barnett - Pat Owens - Melissa Davis

**LAS MORAS REALTY**  
DEBBIE TRANT / BARBARA VOSS

830-563-2997  
104 A-E Spring

**Great price** on this 5 BR, 2B home on ten acres on RR#2804. Lots of room to roam and grow! Needs some TLC and upgrading. **Reduced to \$89,500.**

Unit 14 - Cute one bedroom, one bath frame home, approx 400 sq. ft., some furniture. **All For \$10,000.**

**DON'T MISS THIS GREAT BUY!** Historic barracks row townhome, upgraded with new carpeting, painted inside and out.

**650 Acres** - Great hunting; surrounded by larger ranches; Hwy 90 frontage.

Ranches and small acreage available.  
www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

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

**Historical Homes For Sale on Colony Row in FCS.**

New Listing - Unit 14, 2/2/CP and sunroom \$29,990  
3/2/2 Corner Lot, Excellent Condition, \$125,000.  
3/2 Near school, fenced yard, huge lot, like new!  
2/2/2 in the Oaks-Spacious home & great price!  
2/2/2 carport, fresh paint, tile floors, ready for move-in \$68,500.

**Hunting Ranches Available!**  
www.Tejas-Properties.com

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**DSL OR HOME** networking? SBC DSL authorized agent right here in town, network certified. We also handle all types of computer repair. Call Doctor Computer at 830-563-3443.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS** of proposed Texas Highway Improvement Contracts. Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. Construction/Maintenance Contract(s), Dist/Div: Laredo, Contract 6114-36-001 for Mowing Highway Right Of Way in Kinney County, etc will be opened on April 29, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$84,462.45. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TXDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TXDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TXDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 12681 State Office, Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704. Phone: 512-416-2540. Dist/Div. Office (s), Laredo District, District Engineer, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, Texas 78043. Phone: 956-712-7400. Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

**REAL ESTATE**

**A FIRST TIME OFFER.** 100 acres - \$44,900. Trophy white-tails and mule deer. Rolling hills and draws, great access. Abundant turkey, quail, small game. More available. E-Z terms. Texas Land & Ranches, 1-866-899-5263.

**RUIDOSO AREA NEW MEXICO** 40 acres only \$24,900. Adjacent to National Forest. Stunning land outside Ruidoso in beautiful and 6500 ft. elevation Lincoln County. Adjacent to National forest abutting conservation preserve. Great elk and deer area. Remote and private but with year round road access and still an EZ drive to exciting Ruidoso. Best financing in years. 1-866-350-5263.

**Answers to Crossword Puzzle**

PASS	DADS	ROPES
ANTI	IRAN	OVERT
ROAM	TATA	MEANY
CARPET	BAGGER	
LAO	STR	APD
TRESSES	ROMPED	
CRATE	DOLL	APED
REDO	MALOS	GOHE
AMIN	AMES	RISER
BOOSTS	REPOSED	
SRS	IYS	RUY
PROPRIETRESS		
MARIA	RODE	AAAA
ALOUD	AMEN	TRIM
TENSE	YEAS	ENDS

**SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

To the registered voters of Fort Clark Municipal Utility District, Texas: Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 15, 2004, for voting in a general election to elect three (3) directors. Location of polling place: Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the Fort Clark Municipal Utility District office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on April 28, 2004 and ending on May 11, 2004

**MONUMENTS**

Custom Designs •  
•Vases • Statues  
*None too small  
or too large*  
Price us last and we will  
beat the others! See our display  
at **Del Rio Funeral Home**  
or call 563-9600

**Are you eligible for tax relief?**

Pick up a free copy of our pamphlet

**"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities"**

Learn about property tax relief available to you through:

- Homestead exemptions
- Disabled veteran exemptions
- Productivity appraisal for farm, ranch and timber land
- Tax deferrals for homeowners aged 65 and older or disabled

You'll learn how your property is appraised, so you can decide if the appraisal district's value is reasonable. And if you decide it isn't, Remedies will tell you how to prepare an appeal to the appraisal review board.

You'll learn the kinds of protests the appraisal review board can hear—and what kind of evidence you need to bring to your hearing.

Key dates are listed, so you'll know what you must do and when you're required to act.

Remedies is free. Spanish and large-type versions are also available. Ask for yours today at

**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
OR CALL 830-563-2323  
or e-mail: ptd.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us

or write to: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn  
Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528  
or call: 1-800-252-9121

or on the Web at:  
www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

**¿Quiere pagar menos impuestos de propiedad?**

Obtenga una copia de nuestro boletín

**Impuestos de Propiedad en Texas**

Derechos, Recursos y Responsabilidades del Contribuyente de Impuestos

Aprenda como puede pagar menos impuestos de propiedad por medio de:

- Una exención de residencia
- Una exención para veteranos incapacitados
- Una valoración especial para terrenos agrícolas, ganaderos o madereros
- Una exención para los que tengan 65 años o más o estén incapacitados

Aprenderá como se valúa su propiedad para que pueda decidir si la valoración del distrito es razonable. Y si no lo es, Recursos le demostrará como presentar su protesta ante la junta de revisión de valoración.

Aprenderá cuales son las formas de protesta que se permiten—y cuales documentos o pruebas debe traer consigo al presentar su protesta ante la junta.

Fechas importantes estan listadas para que usted pueda saber que es lo que debe de hacer—y cuándo.

Recursos es gratis. Versiones en español estan disponibles. Pida su copia hoy en:

**KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
412 S. ANN ST., PO BOX 1377  
BRACKETTVILLE, TX 78832-1377  
OR CALL 830-563-2323

ó e-mail: ptd.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us

ó escriba a: Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn  
Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528  
ó llame: 1-800-252-9121

ó en la Web: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/proptax.html

Un servicio público cortesía de este periódico

# Great Deals For You

**2004 GMC EXT. CAB 4-DOOR**  
#3332



**YOU SAVE \$6188**

- 4.8 V-8 Engine
- Air Conditioning
- Auto Transmission
- AM/FM/Cassette w/CD
- Aluminum Wheels
- Cruise Control
- Power Windows/Locks
- Remote Keyless Entry with Content Alarm
- Fog Lamps

The Actual sale price **\$23,299\***

Total Vehicle	\$29487
GM Discount	\$1000
MSRP	\$28487
Rebate	\$2500
Brown Disc	\$2688

**2004 BUICK CENTURY**  
#3296



**YOU SAVE \$4700**

- 3.1 V6 Engine
- 4 Wheel ABS
- Traction Control
- Auto Trans
- Power Seat
- Cruise Control
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Power Mirrors
- Dual Zone AC
- Keyless Entry
- AM/FM/CD

The Actual sale price **\$19,130\*\***

Total Vehicle	\$23830
GM Discount	\$500
MSRP	\$23330
Rebate	\$3000
Brown Disc	\$1200

**2004 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE**  
#3332



**YOU SAVE \$5940**  
3 At This Price

- 3.4 V-6 Engine
- Auto Trans
- 16" Chrome Wheels
- Monsoon Sound System
- AM/FM/CD/MP3
- Power Sunroof
- Rear Spoiler
- Power Windows/Locks
- Tilt

The Actual sale price **\$17,325\*\***

Total Vehicle	\$23265
GM Discount	\$1340
MSRP	\$21925
Rebate	\$3500
Brown Disc	\$1100

**2004 GMC YUKON SLE**  
#3187



**YOU SAVE \$6350**

MSRP .....\$35580  
BROWN DISC .....\$3350  
Rebate .....\$3000

**\$29,230**

**2004 GMC SIERRA REG. CAB**  
#3490



**YOU SAVE \$4839**

- 4.3 V-6
- Power Locks
- Dual Zone A/C
- Chrome Wheels
- AM/FM/CD
- Tinted Glass
- Auto Trans.
- Cruise Control

The Actual sale price **\$18,495\***

Total Vehicle	\$23334
GM Discount	\$500
MSRP	\$22834
Rebate	\$2500
Brown Disc	\$1839

**2004 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT**  
#2832



**YOU SAVE \$3500**

MSRP .....\$22995  
BROWN DISC .....\$1000  
REBATE .....\$2500

**\$19,495**

**2004 SUNFIRE**  
#3266



**YOU SAVE \$10,995\***

MSRP .....\$11427  
BROWN DISC .....\$432

**2004 ALERO**  
#2908



**YOU SAVE \$14,425\*\***

MSRP .....\$18825  
REBATE .....\$3500  
BROWN DISC .....\$900

**2004 PONTIAC VIBE**  
#3440



**YOU SAVE \$17,155\***

TOTAL VEH ...\$20255  
GM DISC .....\$300  
MSRP .....\$19955  
BROWN DISC .....\$800  
REBATE .....\$2000

**2004 ENVOY SLE**  
#3140



**YOU SAVE \$5000**

MSRP .....\$30315  
BROWN DISC .....\$2000  
REBATE .....\$3000

**\$24,999\*\***

**2004 ALERO**  
#2908



**YOU SAVE \$14,425\*\***

MSRP .....\$18825  
REBATE .....\$3500  
BROWN DISC .....\$900

**2003 PARK AVENUE**  
#2591



**YOU SAVE \$10000**

MSRP .....\$37535  
BROWN DISC ..\$10000

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