

## ELECTION RESULTS

Results from Saturday's Brackettville city election:

Mayor	Votes	%
Joe Garza Jr.	246	38%
Ponce Padron	237	36%
J.J. Guidry	168	26%
<b>Place 1</b>		
Tully Welch	260	43%
Camilo Cruz	257	42%
Richard Guajardo	94	15%
<b>Place 2</b>		
Matt Bland	236	38%
Mary Flores	196	31%
Ramon Garcia	113	18%
Stephanie Gomez	79	13%
<b>Place 4</b>		
Francisca Gomez	434	100%
<b>Place 5</b>		
Lydia Tipps	358	59%
John Samaniego	246	41%

# Garza wins mayoral bid Controversy surrounds city election

Brackettville citizens elected a new mayor and three new aldermen during the annual city elections on Saturday.

Joe N. Garza Jr. prevailed as Brackettville's first new mayor since the 12-year tenure of Carmen Berlanga. Matt Bland, Francisca "Chica" Garza, Lydia Tipps and Tully Welch won their respective council races, accord-

ing to unofficial totals.

Two of the races were decided by less than 10 votes and a recount is imminent, according to city officials. The votes are expected to be canvassed during a special City Council meeting Monday night at 6.

Law enforcement officials are investigating alleged voter fraud and there has been talk of legal

action calling for another election.

According to the return sheet signed by Bertha Reschman, election judge, 651 votes were cast in the mayor's race, but the register of official ballots, also signed by Reschman, says that only 495 ballots were accounted for.

Only registered voters within

the city are allowed to vote in the Brackettville election, but according to the signature roster from Saturday, there were eight Fort Clark Springs residents and another Kinney County resident that voted.

In addition, six voters on the roster were not listed at all on the voter registration rolls and there are over 30 signatures that

are unidentifiable.

The signature roster from Saturday did not include any voter identification numbers for those casting ballots. In addition, many of the voter signatures were not accompanied by printed names.

Records indicate that 315 ballots were cast by early voting

■ See VOTER FRAUD/Page 3



## Staff appreciation

ABOVE: Brackett ISD school board members Henry Lutz (from left), Ronnie Hobbs, Mark Freich, Sondra Meil, Lloyd Lee Davis and Sara Terrazas and Superintendent Bobby Templeton man the barbecue pit during a recent staff appreciation luncheon at the school district.

RIGHT: Jones Elementary School teachers Bonnie Brotherton (from left), Yolanda Rueda and Lisa Conoly visit during the staff luncheon on the Brackett ISD campus.

Photos by J.J. Guidry



# Ashley, Swinson and Terrazas win school board race Callnan, Stone and Young elected as MUD directors

Two new Brackett ISD school board members and a new Fort Clark Municipal Utility District director were elected on Saturday.

Tony Ashley, Sara Terrazas and Tom Swinson were successful in their bids for the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees. Each will serve three-year terms.

Ashley was the top vote-getter with 419, while Terrazas received 392 votes and Swinson garnered 387 votes.

Susanna Castillo finished with 193 votes and Roy Jay Harris had 167.

Terrazas was the only incumbent on the school board seeking re-election. Lloyd Lee Davis and Jim McDaniel did not seek another term.

In the election for the Fort Clark MUD Board of Directors, only 10 votes separated the four candidates.

Incumbents Bob Young and Ken Callnan received 75 and 73 votes, respectively, while chal-

## ELECTION RESULTS

Results of Saturday's elections for the Brackett ISD school board and the Fort Clark Municipal Utility District board:

School Board	
At-large	Votes
Tony Ashley	419
Sara Terrazas	392
Tom Swinson	387
Susanna Castillo	193
Roy Jay Harris	167
MUD Board	
At-large	Votes
Bob Young	75
Ken Callnan	73
Gregory Stone	67
Don Ralston	65

lenger Gregory Stone was elected with 67 votes. The three directors will serve two-year terms.

The third incumbent, Don Ralston, received 65 votes in the election.

## BHS graduation set for next Friday

The BHS Class of 2004 will graduate next Friday, May 28, at 8 p.m. at Tiger Stadium.

Amanda Davis will introduce the National Anthem, Ashley Smith will give the invocation and Eli Woolsey will give the commencement opening.

Beth Ballew will then give the valedictorian address, Sarah Meyer the salutatorian address and exchange student Christopher Lehnert will speak.

Star Smith will introduce Superintendent Bobby Templeton, who will give the charge to the graduates. BHS Principal Paula Renken will certify the graduates, and then Henry Lutz, board president, will present the graduates and announce scholarships.

Dietrich Davis will give the commencement closing, and Ashley Thourot and Beau Watkins will lead the congratulatory line.

## INSIDE

### Power outage

The member-consumers of RGEC experienced a power outage, which began Saturday night and continued through Sunday afternoon. Community/Page 3

### Hudson honored

Modgie Hudson was honored for 75 years of membership in the Order of the Eastern Star at the San Antonio Valley Hi Chapter. Lifestyles/Page 5

### Helping abroad

Alanna Conoly will return this summer to work in a state run orphanage with a five-person mission team traveling to Belarus, Ukraine in July. Lifestyles/Page 5

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# Success eludes the state legislature in special session on taxes, education

State lawmakers ended a fruitless special session on taxes and education Monday, with Republican leaders at odds over when to meet again and whether a new business tax should play into funding public schools.

"I think the state is facing some severe problems in terms of school finance," Brackett ISD Superintendent Bobby Templeton said. "Statewide, the student population is growing at a tremendous rate and school revenues are not keeping pace.

"I do not have a solution. Getting 1,039 superintendents and several hundred politicians to reach consensus on this is going to be pretty tough."

Templeton said the local school district is "trying to be as frugal as possible and do the best we can with what we have."

"Things may get better or they may get worse. Right now, we just don't know what the state is going to do," he said. "One thing that is certain is that we are getting a tremendous num-

ber of unfunded mandates. No matter what though, we will continue to have school and we will continue to provide our students with a top-notch education."

Templeton said the state has very few sources of revenue that are large enough to produce the amount of money needed to operate Texas' schools.

"One is a state income tax and the other is our current system of property taxes. I see good and bad in both systems, but I differ from many of my colleagues in other districts in the fact that I am very opposed to the usage of gambling charges and fees from adult-oriented businesses.

"I understand that these sources might produce a great deal of revenue, but I don't think it's worth it. To me that's selling out. I hope we never get to the point where we think it's acceptable to fund our schools on the backs of casinos and strip clubs," he added.

Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov.

"I hope we never get to the point where we think it's acceptable to fund our schools on the backs of casinos and strip clubs."

Bobby Templeton



David Dewhurst and House Speaker Tom Craddick jointly aired their differences after the House and Senate adjourned two days before the 30-day session was required to end Wednesday.

State leaders conceded Friday they were not going to close a deal on overhauling the nearly \$30 billion-a-year education system in a way that lowered school property taxes.

Perry did not predict a session start date, but he said proposed constitutional amendments must be approved by lawmakers by the end of August in order for voters to weigh them in November.

"I expect these discussions to

be fruitful so that I can call the Legislature back into session in the near future," Perry told the *San Antonio Express-News*.

"At the same time, I am committed to spending whatever time it takes to address this issue. It is more important to get this issue right than to get it right away."

Two work groups, each comprising six senators and six representatives, plan to study reform and finance topics, respectively, with meetings posted ahead of time and open to the public, Dewhurst said.

Dewhurst and Craddick each mentioned their desire to see a broad-based business tax replace

## Covering the uninsured

The next time you head to the doctor for a check-up or pick up your prescription at the drug store, think of the nearly 44 million Americans who don't have health insurance. For them, these seemingly routine activities become a tremendous financial burden, if not impossible.

Yet cost is not the greatest concern. For some, insurance can make the difference between life and death. Nearly 18,000 Americans die each year of treatable diseases because they don't have health coverage.

May 10-14 is national "Covering the Uninsured Week," designed to highlight this growing problem.

The crisis of the uninsured is reaching epic proportions across the nation, but nowhere is the situation more prevalent than in our own backyard. According to a recent study, 27 percent of working adults in Texas are uninsured — the highest rate in the country. This is one race we aren't proud to lead.

### Crisis in Texas

Many of these Texans are without health coverage because they work for small business owners who want to offer their employees insurance, but can't.

People who work for large corporations from Dell Computer to UPS often have a variety of health plans from which to choose. With thousands of employees in different states and other countries, these big businesses can negotiate a cost-effective plan that enables them to offer this benefit to their employees.

Insurance costs are rising across the board, for large and small companies, but the cost is hitting small businesses, which already run on razor thin profit margins, below the belt.

Small businesses have reported insurance rate increases of 30 percent or more during the last year alone.

A farmer in Uvalde who employs 21 ranch hands, or the owner of a women's clothing boutique in Salado with three employees, may want to offer this important benefit, but current costs would far exceed their profits. In fact, 60 percent of uninsured Americans are employed by small businesses that can't afford to offer health care benefits.

But there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Current legislation before Congress would allow the creation of Association Health Plans (AHPs) to help solve the epidemic.

### Association Health Plans

AHPs would allow members



Capitol  
Comment

Kay Bailey  
Hutchison

of bona fide associations to pool their resources and get affordable health coverage packages from insurance companies.

For example, the local Chamber of Commerce could broker a deal with an insurance company to provide health benefits to all of their member businesses and employees whether they be a dry cleaner or a hardware store. This innovative plan has wide support from small business owners, which make up the overwhelming majority of American business owners.

Groups as diverse as the National Funeral Directors Association and the American Disc Jockey Association have voiced their support for AHPs. In fact, organizations representing 12 million employers and 80 million workers have backed the legislation and are calling on Congress to help them provide health insurance.

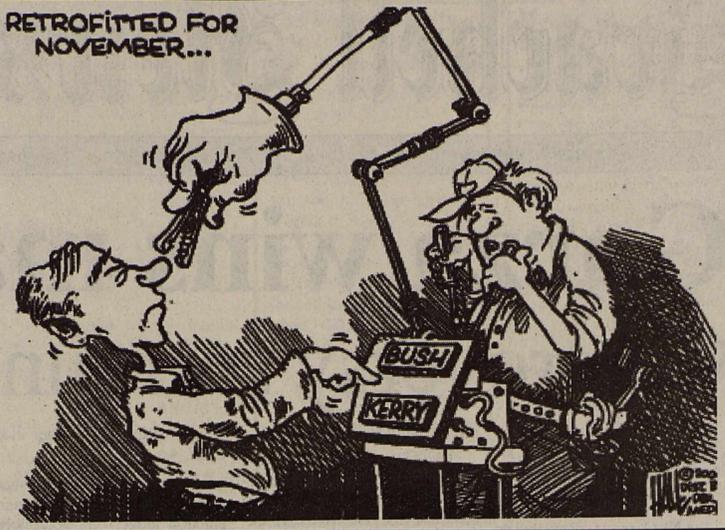
AHPs would be certified by the Labor Department and would have to meet rigorous standards — even more stringent than those followed by large national corporations and labor unions. And uniform federal regulations of AHPs will help businesses lower their administrative costs. By operating under federal law, AHPs can avoid the complexity and cost of complying with regulations in 50 different states.

### Personal Experience

I am an original co-sponsor of this legislation because as a former business owner myself, I know the challenge of offering employee benefits like health care. I carried that experience and the many challenges of entrepreneurship with me to Washington, where I have consistently fought to reduce red tape and bureaucracy to help encourage business growth.

Small businesses and the millions of people they employ are the economic engine of America. Congress should help build pathways and not create barriers to their success. By promoting AHPs, we will encourage more people to take advantage of the American dream of entrepreneurship and enable them to offer the critical and lifesaving benefit of health insurance. I hope my colleagues will work with me to bring this benefit home to Texas.

RETROFITTED FOR  
NOVEMBER...



## Preserving the integrity of our form of government

It was dreary that day before the November election, and it was not a good day for my 83-year-old father. He had been told following eye surgery that he might lose the sight in his left eye — bad news for someone whose sharp mind and wit is fueled by reading newspapers cover to cover and watching every news program he can.

"What time do you want to vote tomorrow?" I asked as we arrived at his home.

"I don't think I'll vote," he said, with the first hint of despondency I had ever heard from this normally buoyant man.

His reply prompted a quick reminder from me.

"You always told me that if you and mom didn't vote, the bad guys would take over," I said.

He smiled. "I guess I will vote," he said. "Let's go at 7."

My father is of a disappearing breed. Although he hasn't read a book on politics and it's unlikely that he's had a civics class, he has an innate sense of the importance of voting. Nothing — not even painful recovery from surgery or the prospect of blindness — could stop him.

Unfortunately, far less stops most of us today. Statistics tell us that our country ranks 103rd of 131 democracies in voter turnout. A lot of that is the result of cynicism about government.

Because of his life and upbringing as a poor kid in Depression-era Eastern Kentucky, my father possesses a belief in the basic goodness of government. He sees it at best as a safety net for those who need it and, at worst, a cup that is at least half full.

Make no mistake: Because he is as "tight" as they come and cares deeply about how his tax dollars are spent and how many tax dollars are raised, he often does see the cup as only half full. He worked hard in a factory all his life and never relied on welfare. But, that being said, he believes in government.

Can we say the same? We have reached a difficult time in our country's history. In an era of superficial sound bites and information overload, we are woefully uninformed about the proper role of government. We express our distrust and even hatred of it. The more confused or disillusioned among us say, "Why vote? I can't make a difference."

The most pessimistic view is that the prophets are correct, that our lives have become so broken down into special interests that our entire system of government is in peril. They see the waning of what many like to say is (or was) the greatest civilization on the face of the earth — America.

The more optimistic view is that through a revival of citizenship we can turn this thing



NewCities  
Foundation

Sylvia  
Lovely

around. But it must be citizenship of a special kind, tailored to meet the needs of life in the 21st century.

Whether we like it or not, our lives have changed dramatically. Unlike our grandparents who lived, worked and died within a 30-mile radius of their birthplace, we can live and work anywhere.

My father's generation in the '50s gave us the first hint of the possibility of seizing opportunity anytime and anywhere. That's when he and my mother — and thousands more like them — packed up and left Eastern Kentucky for the Northern cities to fill up vast, cavernous, and campus-like factories.

He had a car, a road in front of his rented farm in Bath County and enough of the Information Age edging into his life to be aware of the opportunity that awaited him in Dayton, Ohio.

Of course, he and his cohorts had another taste of upheaval — '70s style — when those same factories closed down and headed south, leaving places like Dayton looking like a ghost town and leaving people like my father out of luck and out of work, with little education.

Now we have arrived at another turning point. A new kind of citizen seizes the opportunity for which surveys tell us they are yearning. While they are not returning to small towns across America, they know instinctively that they are searching for community life.

There is a caveat to this new search for connection. While it might look a lot like the good old days of community life, it is anything but. Our sense of community is very different because our mobility lets us live in one place and work in another if we choose, or easily move to a new locale. And that makes our loyalty to place dramatically different.

But we must begin somewhere to plant roots. New citizenship suggests you can begin at the local level by understanding the fundamentals of building community in a 21st century setting. That means that while we still build around things such as local quality of life and economic opportunity, those opportunities are redefined in the context of a global economy and worldwide connection. And we must adapt.

It is not sufficient, for example, just to build a great neighborhood with all the amenities. That same neighborhood must find ways to relate to the city as a whole, which in turn must relate to its region, which

in turn must relate to the world. If we've learned anything with recent world events, it is that we are not alone anymore.

Finally, great citizenship is about participation in our workable system of representative democracy. But here in the United States, we aren't very good at it. Otherwise, we wouldn't have such an abysmal voting record.

For a community to thrive and survive in the 21st century, its citizens must have an impact in a global context. It is not enough to lament the loss of factories to overseas markets. While we should affect economic policy at state and local levels, we also must find ways to build resilient jobs and opportunities to thrive in the worldwide marketplace. That requires a long hard look to discern a local community's gifts and limitations.

I attended a rural Chamber of Commerce annual banquet on a recent Friday night. The room was packed. A small town that many of the experts might write off as dying is actually growing. The mayor was asked to identify the key to the city's economic success. He noted that there was literally a "town full" of people who cared about their place. And he added that vacation homes were sprouting on the nearby banks of a well-known lake, bringing new life and dollars into the community.

No, these homes didn't belong to refugees from New York City. Retirees from adjoining counties — where the lake is a short distance from home, where their heartstrings are still tied — were building them. Such local growth and development is a great example of taking advantage of what you are and not trying to be what you are not.

Take your pick of world crises and pay attention to what occasionally shows up on your TV screen in between the horrific scenes. You may see Iraqis crowded into small town halls to elect mayors and councils, or Haitians trying to restore community life amidst terror.

Could it be that at the grand old age of 227, our country could learn a thing or two from those who so desperately wish to have what we have? There was a reason my father went to vote that day, despite his personal pain and doubts.

You vote to put people in office to make decisions for the good of the community. And if you're dissatisfied with those decisions, you vote to replace them with someone better. It's a good system. We need to preserve its integrity.

**Editor's note:** Sylvia Lovely is president of the NewCities Foundation, a national non-profit group which inspires citizens to recommit themselves to their communities and reengage themselves in their local governments.



Weekly  
Report

Henry  
Bonilla

## Important facts about Medicare discount cards

This month the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will introduce new Medicare-approved prescription drug discount cards. The new cards will offer seniors discounts of up to 25 percent off the cost of their medications.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the seniors of our nation. Like any new program, there is an abundance of information that participants should know and understand. What follows is a series of frequently asked questions regarding the cards.

1. What kinds of discounts do the cards offer?

The new Medicare-approved cards will offer seniors discounts of up to 25 percent off the cost of their medications. Better yet, low-income seniors will be eligible to receive a \$600 credit on their cards to defray their drug costs this year. They will also receive an additional \$600 credit in 2005.

2. Who is a low-income senior?

Under the new law, a low-income senior is a person who makes less than 135 percent of the federal poverty level, roughly \$12,900 annually for an individual or \$16,600 for a couple.

3. When can seniors begin to sign up for these cards?

Seniors can now begin to sign up for their Medicare-approved discount cards. The cards will become active on June 1.

4. How will they sign up?

Seniors will be able to enroll with a drug card of their choice a number of ways. They include calling their congressional office for assistance signing up, and visiting [www.medicare.com](http://www.medicare.com) or calling (800) MEDICARE.

5. How much will it cost to sign up?

Some discount card sponsors will charge an enrollment fee of around \$30. However, other card sponsors will offer a lower fee or no fee at all.

6. What drugs are covered?

Every drug, any drug, all drugs, are covered under this program. Though all cards may not cover all drugs, every drug is covered by at least one of the cards offered.

7. How many cards will be offered?

Currently, 26 cards will be available nationwide and still others will be available regionally. The number of cards available to seniors will depend largely on where they live.

8. How will a senior know which card is best for them?

Because participation in this new discount card program is voluntary, choosing a card will require some research on the part of seniors or caregivers.

First, whether or not a card sponsor charges an enrollment fee will be a factor for some seniors. Second, which drugs the card covers and how much of a discount they offer will be other factors. Finally, which pharmacies in a senior's area offer which discounts will be another factor.

9. What if a senior has an existing drug discount card?

Seniors can have only one Medicare-approved discount card but they can keep discount drug cards they already have from drug makers or groups. In many cases the savings these cards offer will be greater than those the Medicare-approved card can offer.

I hope the information in this week's column proves helpful when making a decision about this new resource for our nation's seniors.

Big Mama  
Sez!



Take time to think — you can do more work with your head than you can with your feet.

The Brackett News

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

# Rio Grande Electric substation 'fowled up'

The member-consumers of Rio Grande experienced a power outage, which began at approximately 11:45 Saturday night and continued through approximately 3 p.m. Sunday.

The cause of the outage and extensive damage to Rio Grande's Brackettville substation was a bird strike, by what was more than likely an owl. The carcass was so badly burned that it made positive identification difficult.

A substation is the place where very high transmission voltage is stepped-down to distribution voltages, making it usable by homes and businesses.

Also contained at the substation is "buss-work" that splits the distribution power off in multiple directions.

The main areas affected at the Brackettville Substation were the transformer and the "buss."

Residents within a 5-mile radius of the substation reported seeing a fantastic light show and strange blue lights emanating from the area. This blue light was the arcing caused when lines came in contact with structures and each other.

Rio Grande's mobile substation was in place at the Del Rio substation, where crews had installed it in order to conduct maintenance to the regular substation.

Though close in distance, several things had to be accomplished before the mobile substation could be brought to Brackettville. First, arrangements had to be made with AEP to disconnect the mobile substation from the transmission line at Del Rio. This was, in itself, a complicated process.

Then, the labor involved in disconnecting and removing the mobile substation began. It is a physically demanding and grueling process. The mobile substation then had to be transported to the Brackettville substation. For the task, special equipment had to be hired because of the enormous size and extreme weight of the mobile substation.

Weighing in at approximately 56,000 pounds and valued at approximately \$470,000, the mobile substation is invaluable for its ability to take over the operations of a substation in a crisis situation.

During all this time, RGECCrews in Brackettville were making the substation ready for the arrival of the mobile substation. Operations and customer service staff were manning the phone lines, and radio equipment.

This was inventively accomplished by using the invertors from the co-op's technical support trucks to tie in to the co-op building's electrical system for power to run the radio and telephone systems, and only emergency exit lights. There was not enough power to run computer systems, which complicated and further hampered the process.

At last, the mobile substation completed its long journey from Del Rio, and crews were able to begin the process of tying it in to the Brackettville substation equipment — another physically demanding and arduous task.

After an exhausting night and a taxing day, power began to come on in some areas at 1:45 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, and was completely restored by approximately 3 p.m.

The co-op realizes that being without power is inconvenient,

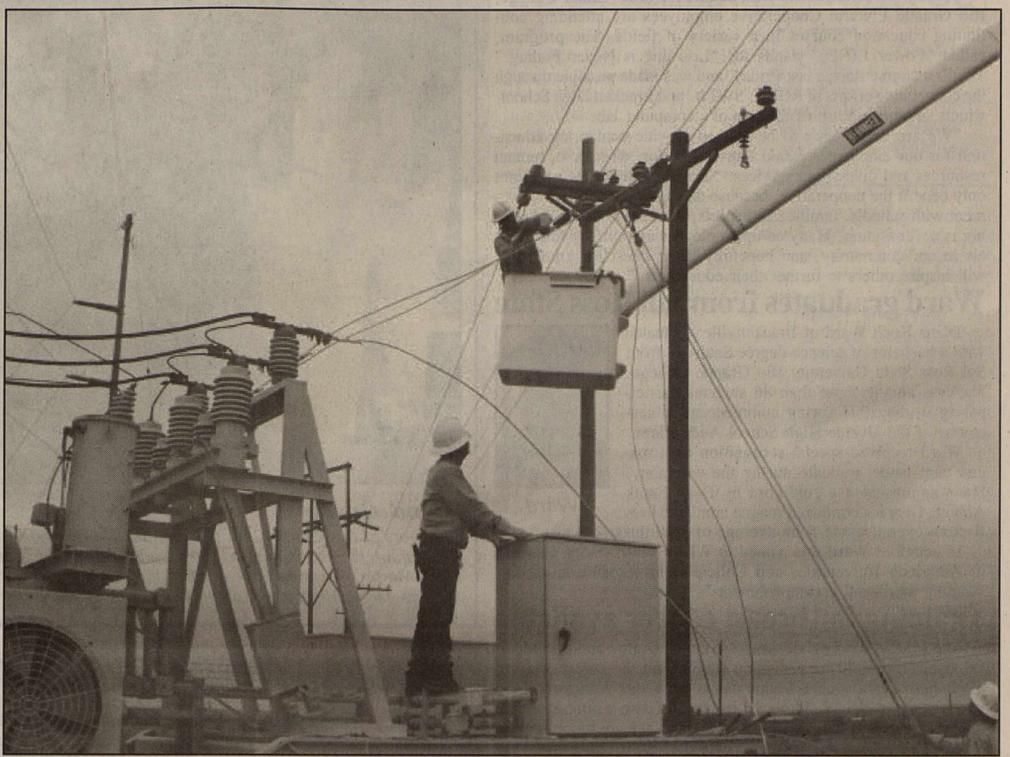


Photo by Frank Rodriguez/RGEC

## Power outage

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative linemen are shown connecting the secondary side of the mobile substation to the distribution lines that carry power to co-op member-consumers, who experienced a power outage over the weekend. The cause of the outage and extensive damage to Rio Grande's Brackettville substation was a bird strike, by what was more than likely an owl.

and uncomfortable.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of the people affected by this outage," said Dan Laws, general manager and CEO. "There is no way to prevent this kind of occurrence, and

we can just be grateful that the entire substation did not blow up, as is sometimes the case in such situations.

"While we sustained heavy damages to equipment, we are thankful that the crews who

worked so diligently to accomplish this difficult task were able to return safely home. They took extraordinary measures and exhibited extreme professionalism and ingenuity in restoring power as quickly and efficiently

as was possible under very dangerous and complicated circumstances.

"They are dedicated to serving the needs of the community, and we are fortunate to have them working for the co-op and you."

## Red Cross provides relief to disaster victims

SAN ANTONIO — For more than a century, the American Red Cross has upheld its mission to provide relief to disaster victims and to help people prevent, prepare for and cope with emergencies.

During those many years, Americans have supported the humanitarian mission of the Red Cross by contributing to disaster relief efforts, assisting members of the Armed Services and their families, and participating in safety and first aid training programs that can help mitigate the devastation of disasters of all types and degrees.

With the support of both individuals and corporations, the Red Cross helps victims of more than 70,000 disasters each year — disasters ranging from house fires to hurricanes and other widespread catastrophes, such as tornadoes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires.

Around the world, the Red Cross also aids international efforts for other countries ravaged by disasters, both natural and man-made.

This year, the mission and message of the Red Cross is preparedness.

In the last two years the world has seen the face of disaster change dramatically. The 2001 terrorist attacks and the elevated threat of future acts. The armed conflict in Afghanistan and Iraq and the increasing severity of natural disasters have made people more cognizant of danger.

For many families in the San Antonio area, the response to the War on Terror is very real. Thousands of local men and women are defending freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan. In time of

emergency, Red Cross remains a link between them and their families.

Red Cross volunteers are there for the wounded recovering in area hospitals and to help their families when they come to visit. They are also there for the families of servicemen who have died.

The need for Red Cross services to this segment of our community has increased dramatically.

"We have traditionally handled 2,548 emergency calls and provided 2,548 briefing for departing military personnel and their families each year, but this number has risen dramatically. This Year that number increased to more than 9,600 emergency calls and almost 65,000 briefings" said Catherine Villarreal, chapter associate director of emergency services.

The San Antonio Red Cross Chapter provides round-the-clock support to the military community through emergency messaging between families and deployed service men and women.

"A young military wife goes into deep depression, is suicidal and hospitalized. Her social worker has very little information about the serviceman's current location," Villarreal said. "A caseworker at the San Antonio Red Cross AFES center is able to locate the serviceman, get a message to him and his command. The serviceman is home by his wife's side in 48 hours. This is just one of the more than 9,500 stories."

The "Together We Prepare" campaign launched in 2003 is helping individuals and communities to take personal responsibility for the safety of themselves, their families, their homes and their neighborhoods.

Similarly, with "Together We Prepare — Workplaces," the Red Cross is calling on business professionals to take the same time and care to protect themselves, their employees and their customers as they take to protect their loved ones at home.

Both versions of the initiative offer these five basic steps to help individuals prepare for the unexpected:

■ **Make a plan:** Design a family (home) disaster plan. Work with neighbors and co-workers to create community and workplace disaster plans.

■ **Build a kit:** Assemble disaster supply kits, which contain items that people may need if confined to their home or place of business for an extended period, or if they are told to evacuate on short notice.

■ **Get trained:** Learn to save lives. The Red Cross offers classes year round to individuals and businesses on first aid, CPR, defibrillator use and much more.

■ **Volunteer:** Give of yourself. Supporting the Red Cross mission, whether sharing your time or money, means that they will be there to respond immediately whenever the need arises.

■ **Give blood:** Become a regular and frequent blood donor to ensure a blood supply that meets all needs, all of the time. It is critical that the Red Cross maintain at least a five-to seven-day blood supply.

For more information about your local Red Cross, call (210) 224-5151 or toll free at (800) 775-6803.

## Voter fraud suspected in election

Continued from Page 1 or by mail. However, when the early voting results were posted Saturday, there were 372 votes cast in the mayor's race — 145 for Ponce Padron, 123 for Joe N. Garza Jr. and 104 for J.J. Guidry.

According to the unofficial results, Garza finished with 246 votes, while Padron received 237 and Guidry had 168.

Francisca Garza, the only incumbent to be re-elected, ran unopposed for the Place 4 seat on the council and received 434 votes.

In the Place 1 election, Welch edged incumbent Camilo Cruz Jr. by three votes, 260-257, while Richard Guajardo had 94 votes.

Bland received 236 votes in the Place 2 race, while incumbent Mary V. Flores had 196, Ramon "Dido" Garcia had 113 and Stephanie "B'Ann" Gomez had 79.

In the Place 5 race, Lydia Tipps topped incumbent John Samaniego 358-246.

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## LOST

Male - 12 year old, longhaired Siamese



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**Thank You**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my supporters in the recent City Election. Without your support, my getting elected would not have been made possible. I would also like to congratulate the other winners in their races, along with all the other candidates who ran for office. I have to say that I am very proud of all of the candidates who had the courage to run in the election, but what I am most proud of, is the citizens of Brackettville for their tremendous effort in supporting the candidates. Your voice was heard loud and clear, that the residents of Brackettville want a change and I sincerely hope that this tremendous statement will serve as a warning to all those currently in public office today. The people of not only Brackettville, but of Kinney County are tired of the way that the local politicians have been taking care of business. I again thank all the voters who turned out in the city election and I look forward to serving on the City Council in your behalf.

*Sincerely, Matt Bland*

Pd.Pol. Adv. By Matt Bland, PO Box 695, Brackettville, Texas 78832

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BRIEFS

**RGEC employees taking courses**

Through an arrangement with Southwest Texas Junior College, Rio Grande Electric Cooperative employees are attending continuing education courses in a variety of fields. The program, called "Power LINE," stands for "Learning is Never Ending." The first course started last Friday, and was made possible through the cooperative efforts of RGEC, SWTJC and Brackett High School, which volunteered use of the school's computer lab.

"We are very happy to be able to provide continuing education for our employees," said Patricia Taylor, director of human resources and diversified services. "The skills they learn will not only benefit the cooperative, because through community involvement with schools, families and sports, others will see that learning is never ending. Many co-op employees are already role models in our community, and hopefully, their quest for knowledge will inspire others to further their educations."

**Ward graduates from Sul Ross State**

Diana Koch Ward of Brackettville graduated with a bachelor of science degree Saturday from Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College. She was among more than 86 students participating in the 2004 spring commencement ceremony at the Uvalde High School Auditorium.

Ward received special recognition as a magna cum laude graduate during the ceremony. She was presented a gold cord by Dean Frank Abbott. Degrees conferred magna cum laude reflect an overall grade-point average of 3.70 through 3.89.

In addition, Ward was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges "in recognition of outstanding merit and accomplishment."



Ward

**Training for breast cancer available**

The Middle Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging and The Medical Foundation will be providing training on the correct way to detect breast cancer next Wednesday at the Texas Workforce Center, located at 216 W. Main St. in Uvalde. The morning session for peer educators will be from 10 to noon. The afternoon session for Medicare beneficiaries will be from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The event is free. For more information, call San Juanita Galvan or Ana Saldana at (800) 224-4262 or (830) 876-3533.

**Roping for Christ being planned**

The Fifth Annual Roping for Christ is being planned for June 19 at 10 a.m. The event, a non-profit ministry for team ropers, is held at the Dust Bowl Arena, owned by Tom and Bea Dorrell and located 6 miles west of Brackettville.

The entry fee for the ropers is attending a non-denominational Christian service. Speakers include Ray Melton and Chico Hines. Kenny Caldwell will provide the music.

Prizes include Alamo Saddlery saddles, Gist belt buckles and rope bags. The family gathering includes music, food and games for children. For more information, call 563-3047.

**Hunt earns academic recognition**

Sul Ross State University student Sam Hunt of Brackettville has been honored for his academic achievements. Hunt was inducted as a member of the Gamma Beta Phi Society, a national honor and service organization for college students, and Alpha Chi, a national college honor scholarship society.

**Athletic banquet set for Thursday**

The Brackett Athletic Booster Club will host its annual high school Athletics Awards Banquet tonight at 6 at the Civic Center.

Tickets for non-athletes and family members are \$5 each, and can be purchased from Athletic Director David Yeager, at the Brackett ISD Central Office or at the door.

**City landfill will open on Fridays**

The Brackettville landfill will now be open on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The city will continue to pick up residential trash on Mondays and commercial trash on Tuesdays. Citizens are asked to have all trash in bags, which can be placed in a trash can.

**LEPC meets Monday for workshop**

The Local Emergency Planning Committee will host a workshop Monday night at 6:30 at the Kinney County EMS Building. All members are asked to attend.

**Thank You**

My sincere thanks to everyone who supported me in my bid for a position on the Brackett ISD School Board. Special thanks goes out to Dee Dee Brown, Mandy Frerich, Christy Palmer, Melissa Davis, and Leisha Ashley. Thank you for your hard work and support. **Tony Ashley**

Pd.Pol. Adv. By Tony Ashley, PO Box 1879, Brackettville, Texas 78832

**THANK YOU BRACKETTVILLE**

I would like to commend all the people who participated in last Saturday's municipal election. I would also like to sincerely thank the many who supported my successful candidacy for Mayor. I look forward to serving in such capacity and in making Brackettville a better and safer place to live and work. **Sincerely, Joe N. Garza, Jr.**

Pd.Pol. Adv. By Joe N. Garza Jr., PO Box 675, Brackettville, Texas 78832

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**Grand Opening**

Members of the Kinney County Chamber of Commerce were on hand Sunday for the official grand opening of Mi Mi's Restaurant, located at the Fort Clark Springs Golf Club. Attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Lou Green (from left), Mary Martin, Susanna Flores, J.D. Martin, Magdalena Ramirez, Ramiro Ramirez, Linda Ramirez, Rossio Reyes, Santa Hidalgo, Queta Hidalgo and Leigh Volcsko.

Photo by Jewel Robinson

**Texas observes Transportation Week**

AUSTIN — The Texas Legislature has designated this week as Texas Transportation Week to coincide with National Transportation Week and honor accomplishments in transportation.

Transportation enhancements and projects add 47,000 jobs to the state economy for every \$1 billion in transportation dollars spent, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Here's a statistical snapshot of transportation in Texas:

■ **Highways:** The Texas Department of Transportation maintains more than 79,000 miles of roads carrying vehicle traffic more than 442 million miles a day. State maintained roads include interstate highways (3,233 miles), U.S. high-

ways (12,109 miles), state highways (16,183 miles), farm-to-market roads (40,990 miles) and park roads (336 miles).

■ **Maintenance:** The Texas Department of Transportation spent approximately 42 percent of its budget maintaining the transportation system. In 2003, nearly 27,000 lane miles, or more than 14 percent of the state system, were resurfaced.

■ **Construction:** Thirty-three percent of TxDOT's \$5.3 billion budget goes to build and expand our transportation system.

■ **Bridges:** Texas has 48,720 bridges, more bridges than any other state. Last year, TxDOT rehabilitated or replaced 858 bridges and built 306 new-location bridges.

■ **Toll Roads:** Texas has 142

miles of toll roads. In 2003, the state started construction on the 65-mile, \$2.9 billion Central Texas Turnpike Project. More toll roads are being planned as a way to relieve congestion and improve mobility and safety.

■ **Aviation:** Texas has 300 general aviation airports and almost 49,000 private pilots. Airports also support business development and commercial interests such as travel, manufacturing and agricultural in and through the state.

■ **Vehicles:** More than 18.6 million vehicles are registered in Texas.

■ **Regional Mobility Authorities:** Texas now has three Regional Mobility Authorities, giving local authorities the ability to accelerate needed trans-

portation improvements.

■ **Public Transportation:** In 2003, nearly 277 million people used a TxDOT-funded public transit vehicle. There are 303 transit agencies providing for the public transportation needs of Texans.

■ **Railroads:** Texas had 13.2 percent fewer fatalities at highway-rail crossings in 2003.

■ **Safety:** Seat belt use increased from 81 to 85 percent in 2003. More than 50 million people a year stop at 102 safety rest areas.

■ **Travel:** The Texas Department of Transportation Travel Division served 3.2 million visitors to travel information centers. The division also fulfilled more than 545,000 travel information requests by mail.

**KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT**

**Monday, May 10**

6:30 p.m., A woman said that when she started her car a cat came out from underneath her engine and was hurt. She asked that someone come check on the cat.

8:37 p.m., A man reported shots being fired on Fort Clark Springs. Fort security was contacted an officer said he thought he heard a car backfire, but he was not sure.

9:37 p.m., A woman requested to speak with a deputy regarding an assault.

**Tuesday, May 11**

7:55 p.m., A man reported a busted gas line. City officials were notified of the situation.

10:30 p.m., A man reported that he and his wife had an argument and that she said she was going to hitchhike to San Antonio.

**Wednesday, May 12**

12 p.m., Juan Guzman Hernandez, 49, of Mexico was arrested by Deputy Donald Page on a warrant out of Bexar County. He was later turned over to Bexar County officials.

12:27 p.m., A woman reported a white car parked at the football field with a bunch of boys that may be smoking.

12:43 p.m., A man stated that his wife had received a letter regarding her vehicle and was going to pick it up in Del Rio. He said that he wanted to speak to a deputy about the matter.

8:11 p.m., Constable Bobby Guidry reported a reckless driver speeding on E. Edwards Street. A driver's license check revealed that the individual had no driver's license.

8:17 p.m., A man reported that his brother-in-law wrecked his truck on F.M. 2804. The man took his brother-in-law to the EMS building.

**Thursday, May 13**

12:10 a.m., A Uvalde Police Department official reported a stranded motorist on Highway 334.

2:35 a.m., Border Patrol agents requested assistance with a domestic disturbance and a possible DUI on Highway 277, south of Brackettville.

4:47 a.m., Efrain Villarreal Ibarra, 48, of Austin was arrested by Deputy Ramon Gutierrez for public intoxication. He was released later the same day after paying a fine.

10:15 a.m., A woman reported dogs fighting near her residence on E. Thorn Street.

5:55 p.m., A woman reported that an 18-wheeler had hit a pole in front of Pico's Central Power and Light officials were notified.

6 p.m., Several 911 callers reported an accident on Highway 277, about 3 miles south of Val Verde County. Val Verde EMS personnel were dispatched to the scene.

6:27 p.m., A man called 911 to report that a 91-year-old woman was involved in a bike accident near Broken Arrow and Warbonnet on Fort Clark Springs. He said she was injured and not responding well.

**Friday, May 14**

1:58 p.m., A Border Patrol agent reported a white suburban driving recklessly, headed east on Highway 90. Officials at the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office were notified of the situation.

11:08 p.m., A woman reported young children making lots of noise on Beaumont Street.

11:35 p.m., A man reported that he was concerned about his 16-year-old son riding around with other kids in a white Lincoln. He stated that he was going to town to look for him.

**Saturday, May 15**

7:15 p.m., A man requested to speak with a deputy about a

dog that belongs to another individual.

10:38 p.m., A man reported a possible intoxicated driver in a red SUV on Highway 90.

11:52 p.m., A woman reported a possible fire at the sub station. She said that the sky lit up blue and then all the lights went off. Rio Grande Electric officials were notified of the situation.

**Sunday, May 16**

8:28 a.m., A man requested assistance in regards to his house being broken into.

9:21 a.m., A woman reported that the Indian Store at Alamo Village had been broken into.

3:30 p.m., A man reported two goats, that are not his, were in his pen and had beat up his billy goat at his residence in the Kinney County Estates.

3:41 p.m., An anonymous caller said he was parked on the side of the road when a man asked him for some water and a ride to Uvalde. He said he gave the man a Coke and a sandwich, and that the man then began walking towards Brackettville.

5:50 p.m., A woman reported that her husband was cursing at her child. She asked to speak to a deputy.

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## Eastern Star honors Hudson for her 75 years of service

Imagine the experience of hearing nice things said about you that is usually reserved for the time of your demise.

Modgie Hudson, who has moved to Rock Ledge Manor on Fort Clark Springs, enjoyed such an occasion when she was honored for 75 years of membership in the Order of the Eastern Star at the San Antonio Valley Hi Chapter No. 1104 of which she was also a charter member.

Hudson was a first for the chapter and was presented a 75-year pin by the worthy matron and the worthy patron, Elizabeth and Bob Bordeaux.

A 50-year pin was also presented to Lorna Smith.

It was noted that the recipi-

ents represented 125 years of service.

Approximately 50 guests enjoyed the reception following the ceremony.

Many of the guests recalled the inspiration they received through their association with Hudson.

Hudson's membership includes many prestigious offices on the local and state levels.

Many of the guests came from afar to honor her, and as the speakers recounted the numerous examples of her dedication to the Order of the Eastern Star, she exhibited a pleased expression on her face.

The event was held earlier this month at the Valley Hi Masonic Lodge in San Antonio.



Bob and Elizabeth Bordeaux presented a 75-year pin to Modgie Hudson of Fort Clark Springs for her service to the Order of the Eastern Star.

## Chinese broccoli dish goes with any entree

Do you agree with me that "little green trees" are good? You know, broccoli! Just be sure and don't cook it until it's more like soft weeds.

Today's dish will go with any entree, even though it's a Chinese version. Hope you like it.

### Chinese Broccoli

1 pound fresh broccoli  
1 tablespoon toasted sesame seeds  
1 medium-sized sweet red pepper, sliced  
1 tablespoon soy sauce  
Trim broccoli and remove the tough ends of the lower stalks. Wash thoroughly and separate into spears. Peel spears if desired and cut into 1/4-inch diagonal slices.

Steam broccoli over boiling water on a steam rack in a covered pan for three to five minutes or until crisp-tender.

Coat large skillet with cook-



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ing spray. Add soy sauce and heat on medium until hot. Add broccoli and cook for one to two minutes, or until tender, stirring constantly.

Transfer to serving dish, sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds and garnish with sliced red pepper.

This recipe includes 27 calories, 1 gram of fat, trace cholesterol and 4 grams of carbohydrates.

"The turnpike is most people's hearts, I find, lies through their mouths, or I mistake mankind." — John Wolcott

## Hall returns to pen more columns

I realize that I said I was through writing. I really meant it, too. But I lied. No, I didn't lie. I just stretched the truth.

If this is the first time you realized that I am capable of slight fabricating of some of my tales, then you're obviously a first-time reader.

Two of my favorite people, my wife and Jewel Robinson, both said I would not be able to stop writing. What do they know? They both claim that I enjoy scribbling too much to put the pencil down.

I guess someone else, maybe everybody else, has figured out



But I Could Be Wrong

Chuck Hall

that I am my biggest fan. Nobody, and I mean nobody, gets a bigger kick out of reading my column more than I do. I laugh, I cry, and I thoroughly entertain myself reading my own material. At least somebody likes it.

Anyway, I guess once again, you'll just have to put up with

my ramblings. Either that or skip over certain sections of this paper. That means my part. Go on to the good stuff. Check out the want ads. See what's for sale. Read the sheriff's report. See who got caught.

I make you no more promises. I only know that I want to pen my foolishness again.

My grandson is still gravely ill. There are still many problems in the world. In my world. Many more than I am capable of solving. More than I even want to dwell upon. But life goes on. And things will get better. I have been lifted out of more.

There is a new song in my heart.

Maybe writing will help get over some of the rough spots. Maybe reading will, too.

Lots of people have told me they have missed my columns. Well, not lots, just several. Maybe several is not even the right term. OK. OK. If you must know it was only two. Only two and I'm married to one of them.

So look elsewhere if you're after true enlightenment. The paper has a lot to offer. My ramblings are not part of any required reading list. Nor should they be.

But I could be wrong.

The Brackett Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided at the school cafeteria, located at 400 N. Ann St., Brackettville, TX Beginning May 31, 2004 through June 18, 2004. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Brackett Independent School District will also provide meals at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church Parish Hall for the week of June 7, 2004 through June 11, 2004. Meal service there will be at 11:30 a.m. till 12:15 p.m. People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: Director, Civil Rights Division, MCW-106, Texas Department of Human Services, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. NOTE: Discrimination complaints based on religion or political beliefs must be referred only to the Director, Civil Rights Division, Texas Department of Human Services.."

## Conoly plans mission work at Ukraine orphanage

Brackett High School sophomore Alanna Conoly will return this summer to work in a state run orphanage on the other side of the world. Conoly will join a five-person mission team traveling to Belarus, Ukraine in July.

Conoly, 16, also a member of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, is making her second trip to Belarus as a youth missionary.

The team will do a two-week Christian youth summer camp for the Belarusian orphans, along with teaching basic hygiene and life skills. The team lives in the orphanage with the children while in Eastern Europe.

The mission team is traveling on behalf of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, which

sends mission teams outside the United States as part of their World Mission and Ministry program.

In addition to the ongoing ministry in Ukraine, the diocese is also involved in water well drilling ministries in Honduras and in a women's and children's center in Nebbi, Uganda.

Belarusian children often have never heard of Jesus Christ of Christianity. They must leave the orphanage at the age of 15, and most turn to prostitution or drugs as a way to survive.

Mission teams go in and teach the children about Jesus Christ and healthy life survival skills. Relationships are formed between the orphans and the team, and team members are encouraged to write and encourage or-

phans all year.

Each member of the mission team is responsible for raising their own money for the trip.

Monies raised are used for Christian youth camp supplies, basic gifts for the orphans (shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, socks, underwear, etc.) and to help pay for an interpreter who stays with the team at all times.

Conoly's travel expenses have been paid for and all monies raise locally will be used directly for the orphans' basic needs.

Conoly hopes to contribute a total of \$2,000 toward the mission trip from the people of Kinney County. All Brackettville churches will be given the opportunity to sign a prayer card

that will travel with her to the Ukraine.

Conoly will be raising money through upcoming fund-raisers. In addition to selling "scratch and pay" cards, she will host a "Bluebonnets for Belarus" sale, which allows residents to buy bluebonnet seeds by the pound or half pound.

A Krispy Kreme Donut Sale will be held on June 13 in the Pico parking lot from 6:30 to 11 a.m. For more information, contact Conoly at 563-3699.

Monies from her fund-raisers will be deposited in a mission account at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 700 S. Broadway, Corpus Christi, TX 78401, and dispersed to the adult team leader before the team leaves for the Ukraine.

## HEALTH

### Health officials urge use of repellent to protect against West Nile virus

Dust off the insect repellent. It's mosquito time in Texas. And with the mosquitoes West Nile virus once again will be circulating in the state, according to the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

One of the first lines of defense against getting the illness, health officials say, is using repellent containing DEET.

"DEET is an effective repellent that lasts much longer than other repellents," said Joe Garrett, a veterinarian with zoonosis control at TDS. "It's safe for children if used according to directions."

According to TDH, 77 percent of the people who got the more serious forms of West Nile infection in 2003 did not use repellent.

Anyone can become infected with West Nile virus, but people over 50 are at greatest risk.

"Older people, especially those who have medical problems, are more likely to develop the more serious forms of the illness including encephalitis and meningitis," Garrett said. "Many of the fatal cases in Texas occurred in the elderly population."

While not every mosquito carries the virus, avoiding any mosquito bite is key to preventing West Nile illness. Health officials advise wearing long sleeves and long pants and us-

ing insect repellent with DEET. Avoid going out from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active, and drain standing water from around your home so mosquitos cannot hatch.

Symptoms of West Nile illness appear from three to 14 days after a person is bitten by an infected mosquito.

West Nile virus infections usually are mild with flu-like symptoms including fever, headache, sore throat, body aches and fatigue. Symptoms of more severe West Nile infections are headache, high fever, stiff neck, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, coma and paralysis. If you have these symptoms, contact your health care provider right away.

"In 2003, we had a lot more human cases of West Nile illness than we had in 2002," Garrett said. "The increase was probably not due to any change in the disease itself, but because the disease had finally covered the entire state. There were more people exposed to the virus and therefore, more people infected with it."

So far this year, West Nile virus has been detected in three horses in Fort Bend, LaSalle and Montgomery counties, and five birds in Harris County.

In 2003 TDH recorded 434 human cases of West Nile in 86 Texas counties, including 36

deaths. In comparison in 2002, the state listed less than half that many cases — 202 in 37 counties with 13 deaths.

The 36 deaths last year were in residents of Angelina, Burnet, Cameron, Castro, Cherokee, Crosby, Dallas (4), Denton, Ellis, El Paso (3), Hale, Harris (3), Hidalgo (2), Floyd, Lubbock (2), Montgomery, Parmer, Potter, Randall (2), San Patricio, Smith, Taylor, Travis, Wharton and Wichita (2) counties.

West Nile virus has spread steadily westward across the United States since 1999 when New York first reported 62 human cases. Human cases of West Nile illness have now been reported in all states except Oregon and Washington. Crows, jays, sparrows and cardinals are among the birds most likely to carry the West Nile virus. The disease is transmitted when a mosquito bites a bird that is carrying the virus and later bites a human, horse or other animal.

This year, state health officials are working to improve tracking West Nile virus. One technique is to test birds in the field, a method that provides results in 15 minutes rather than waiting several days for laboratory findings. With this method, communities can respond quicker. For more information on West Nile virus, visit the TDH Web site at www.tdh.state.tx.us.

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**ACROSS**  
1 Jumps  
6 Bill's opponent  
10 Clemens & Eggar, for short  
14 Distribute  
15 Slender  
16 Blood problem  
17 Cavort  
18 Bellittie  
20 Nav. officer  
21 Frank  
23 Mend anew  
24 Aroma  
25 Cabbage concoction  
27 Primitive bed  
30 Blueprint  
31 Newspaper section  
34 Sea  
35 Huge  
36 Old card game  
37 City east northeast of Des Moines  
41 Chemical suffix  
42 Consumed  
43 One of an elephant's pair  
44 Blocker  
45 Eur. nation  
46 Suit  
48 Brit. currency  
49 Sing Sing quarters  
50 Astronaut's destination  
53 Request  
54 Sean, in  
45 Across  
57 Burrowing mammal  
60 Dance  
62 In a little while  
63 Wacko  
64 Script direction  
65 Forest creature  
66 Smith or Jackson  
67 Weather forecast  
**DOWN**  
1 Intertwine  
2 Spirited self-assurance  
3 Scenic  
4 locale  
4 Poet/author/critic  
5 Walked  
6 Birch tree  
7 Bright light  
8 Playing marble  
9 Traveler's spot  
10 Fastener  
11 Word of sorrow  
12 Method  
13 One-dish meal  
19 Ulysses and others  
22 13 Down container  
24 Earthenware jar  
25 Murdered  
26 Ground  
27 5 Down, back & forth  
28 Game site  
29 Burdened  
30 Slender measuring tube  
31 With the voice  
32 Use a

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
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57					58	59				60	61	
62					63					64		
65					66					67		

**ROARING TWENTIES**

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

Today's Category: MAGAZINE TITLES

L	A	T	I	N	M	A	S	S	K	E	1. Newsweek
K	W	V	R	U	O	M	A	L	G	N	2.
T	M	O	N	E	Y	D	P	T	O	K	3.
S	C	G	M	J	D	A	D	I	P	N	4.
E	C	U	D	A	R	S	T	T	E	E	5.
G	A	E	E	N	N	D	E	O	W	V	6.
I	L	D	N	E	E	N	T	P	P	S	7.
D	L	T	F	V	T	N	D	P	L	W	8.
F	S	I	E	A	E	D	G	A	E	E	9.
L	L	R	R	V	E	B	O	N	Y	E	10.
O	P	T	E	S	N	U	S	O	S	K	11.
G	E	S	X	E	R	E	D	B	O	O	12.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

May 20.....Billie Story	May 24.....Esteban M. Pena
May 21.....Francel Nelson	May 25.....Tammy Coggins
May 22.....Bo Hagler	May 25.....Ermenia Hernandez
May 22.....Ruben Talamantez	May 25.....Jennifer McDaniel
May 22.....Demitreus Williams	May 25.....Paula Samaniego
May 23.....Mike Bizzell	May 25.....Dolores Wilson
May 24.....Bernie Allemair	May 25.....Kathy Wilson
May 24.....Willie Allemair	May 26.....Phil Coburn
May 24.....Gladys Lewis	May 26.....Blanca Ortega

**Roaring Twenties Solution:**

1. Bon Appetit	11. People
2. Ebony	12. Prevention
3. Glamour	13. Redbook
4. Golf Digest	14. Seventeen
5. Latin Mass	15. Star
6. Life	16. Sunset
7. McCall's	17. Time
8. Money	18. TV Guide
9. Newsweek	19. Vogue
10. Parents	20. Woman's Day

**HOROSCOPES**

by Charles Cooper

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) It's a laid-back sort of week for you. After last week's frenetic pace, this is most welcome. Pay attention to something you're told toward the end of the week.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You're in a no-nonsense mood this week. This spurs you on to greater productivity at work. On the home front, a minor quarrel is possible with a loved one.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) It's a good time to tackle a do-it-yourself project you've been avoiding. With some research, you can figure out what must be done. The weekend isn't particularly favorable for socializing.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Be careful this week. A co-worker could be setting you up for a fall. This person has proven to be untrustworthy in the past.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Do your best to get domestic chores out of the way this week. That way, your mind is free to concentrate on work. Later in the week, be sure to ask the pertinent questions for the answers you need.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) You could be upset this week by a child's lack of progress academically. Instead of punishment, try a different approach. Perhaps you can make learning more fun.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You're center stage this week, both at work and at home. You do enjoy that spotlight! Over the weekend, visit relatives you haven't seen in a while.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) You have an unfortunate tendency to make stinging remarks when you're provoked. You need to curb this impulse this week. Not everyone deserves those barbs.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) If traveling out of town, use caution. Be aware of your surroundings. Later in the week, you accomplish much work-wise.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Someone's romantic interest in you isn't particularly welcome. Be kind when turning this person down. A little understanding will go a long way.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) You're upset by a friend who breaks a promise. This isn't the first time this person has disappointed you. Perhaps it's time to rethink the relationship.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Co-workers marvel at your ingenuity. This also raises your status with bigwigs. A raise and promotion could be in the works.



**Las Guadalupanas**

Las Guadalupanas is a group of 33 members of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church which is engaged in ministry of bereavement, providing food for families after deaths of loved ones. Members include, top row (from left): Mary Campos, Mary Sam York, Betty Guajardo, Melva DeLeon, Dora Garcia, Blanca Ortega and Yolanda Rueda. Middle row: Jean Seargeant, Emma Falcon, Lydia Tipps, Teresa Sanchez, Martha Falcon and Estella Guajardo. Bottom row: Susanna Castillo, Diana Flores and Elizabeth Falcon. Not pictured: Lois Carlson, Monica Castillo, Gloria Conrad, Norma Cruz, Janie DeHoyos, Mary Flores, Pricilla Garcia, Rosa Garcia, Diana Hernandez, Mary Meek, Maria Consuelo Pacheco, Maria Elena Pena, Helen Seargeant, Mary Stewart, Julia G. Terrazas, Julia Terrazas, Enriqueta Villarreal and Lourdes Zamora. For more information about the group, call Susanna Castillo at 563-3205.

Photo by J.J. Guidry



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Adams Sr.

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"But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (1 Kings 3:5, Matthew 7:7,33)

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**Can Muslims be saved?**

"How can they do that?" Brenda shouted. "They cut off a man's head for no reason and they yell, 'God is good, God is good.'"

Jeff looked up from his paper in time to see a newscast showing Nick Berg, an American Jew, in the captivity of five hooded men. Quickly, he turned the TV off.

"Come here, sweetheart. We need to talk about this," he said.

Brenda moved to be closer to her dad. His kindness and strength were reassuring.

Jeff continued, "This is pretty upsetting, isn't it?"

Almost in tears, Brenda expressed her anger: "Dad, don't

Muslims worship the same God as we do? How can they do things like that?"

Jeff put his arm around his daughter and held her close:

"Look sweetheart, the nature of their deeds tells you the men you saw are evil and sick. As a very wise man said long ago, they lay awake nights thinking of more evil and cannot sleep unless they rob and kill. (Proverbs 4:16-17)

"Violent men breed their own destruction. (Proverbs 21:7)

"The fact of the matter is, just because Muslims are monotheistic doesn't mean we worship the same God," Jeff continued.

"We know from reading the Bible our God is a wonderful and



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Smith

caring Father. He loves us and sent Jesus to save us for himself. Our own experience with Him witnesses to us that we have a personal relationship with Him.

"On the other hand, Muslims cannot even think of Allah, whom they worship as being a loving father, or of their having a personal relationship with him. Quite the contrary, he is a mas-

ter who orders his slaves to obey strict rules and there is no room for redemption. Allah will have no relationship with his slaves, either on earth or in heaven."

"Can Muslims be saved, Dad?" Brenda queried.

"Of course they can," Jeff answered. "And we must understand that not all Muslims are like the ones you saw on TV. Our God wants them to know about Jesus. He loves them even in their error."

■ Editor's note: This is the first in a short series on Islam. Material for this column is from "Inside Islam, A guide for Catholics," by Daniel Ali and Robert Spencer.

**SPORTS**

**Ashabranner, Swinson compete at state**

Juliann Ashabranner and Rachel Swinson competed in the Class 2A state track meet last week in Austin.

Swinson, a sophomore competing at state for the second year in a row, finished sixth in the 400-meter dash after being clocked at 59.65.

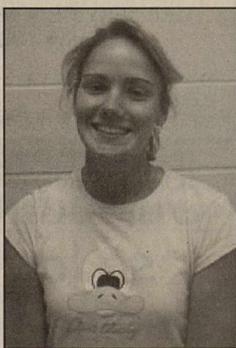
Crane won the 2A state title after racking up 53 points, while San Augustine was second with 46 points and Tuscola Jim Ned finished third after tallying 44 points.

Ashabranner, a junior, made her third straight appearance at the state meet. She was eighth in the 1,600-meter run after turn-

ing in a time of 5:47.7. She was also eighth in the 3,200-meter run with a time of 12:25.47.

"It was a real successful season," Tigerettes coach Dusty Brotherton said. "We are losing some quality seniors, but we have some strong competitors returning next year. Hopefully, next year we will be able to build on the experiences from this year."

Ashabranner and Swinson helped lead the Tigerettes to a seventh-place finish at the Region IV-2A in San Marcos earlier this month. Brackett won both the boys' and girls' district titles this season.



Juliann Ashabranner



Rachel Swinson

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