

The Brackett News

Tigers vs. Pirates
Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Tiger Stadium.
Be there!

17th year, No. 29

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

BRIEFS

4-H Fun Day

The Kinney County 4-H will be having a 4-H Fun Day on Sunday, Aug. 28, from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Civic Center. This will be the time to register for the 05-06 4-H year. For more info, call the Extension Office at 563-2442.

Seniors looking to burn it up!

The Senior class is asking for the public's help in collecting materials to burn at this year's bonfire. Homecoming is three weeks away, set for Sept. 16. To donate burnable items (no toxic items please) call 830-563-2491, ext. 412.

Athletic Booster Club meeting

The Brackett Tiger Athletic Booster Club will be holding the first meeting of the school year on Wednesday, Aug. 31 at 6 p.m. in the library. Come and support the Tigers and Tigerettes.

LEPC meets 6:30 Monday night

The Local Emergency Planning Committee meets Monday, Aug. 29 at the EMS Center. For more information, call 563-9090.

Business man caught dumping illegally Ordered to clean up his own mess

By Leigh Volcsko
Staff Writer

A Del Rio contractor was caught illegally dumping concrete debris on Partrick Street and was given the option to clean it up or potentially pay fines.

According to City Secretary, Bonnie Mayes, Maintenance Supervisor, David Martinez followed a dump truck he observed leaving an area on the west side of town, known for illegal dumping, to a residence on Fort Clark Springs on Wednesday.

After a short investigation it was determined that the debris piled up on the edge of Partrick Street was from a driveway in the Oaks subdivision, that independent contractor and Del Rio resident, Jose M. Duran, was paid to remove.

Mayes stated that she confronted Duran on the job site and insisted that he remove the debris before leaving town or she would report the violation to Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and risk being fined for his misdeed.

Duran did return to Partrick Street and loaded the concrete pieces back into his rented dump truck, but not before Mayes was witnessed giving the contractor

a stern warning about dumping in the City of Brackettville again.

"I bet he doesn't dump trash on the streets of Del Rio. It's a shame he thought he could do it here," remarked Mayes as she watched over the removal process.

The area around the illegal dump site is also called "Coyote Hill" and has been a place where locals, unwilling to haul their trash to the City's collection site, dispose of everything from daily household trash, to furniture and even the remains of demolished buildings.

City workers, Mayes said, have periodically been tasked with cleaning up the area, but within days it looks as though no work has been done at all.

Mayes also warned that it is not difficult to find the source of the trash and she will be investigating locals who continue to use the roadsides as disposal sites.

Mayes suspects that the trash on Coyote Hill not only comes from citizens just wanting to get rid of junk they do not use anymore, but from one of the local businesses that provides a trash pick-up service.

"It's a small town, so someone always tells," Mayes said about eventually catching the of-

fenders.

The public housing units on Spring, Beaumont and Second Streets have also become a noticeable problem.

Some units have various items stacked up around the entry and common areas while others have mattresses and old furniture piled up in the alleyways, only adding to the City's depressed appearance and health risks.

Efforts to improve health and safety standards, as well as the appearance of the city are currently underway.

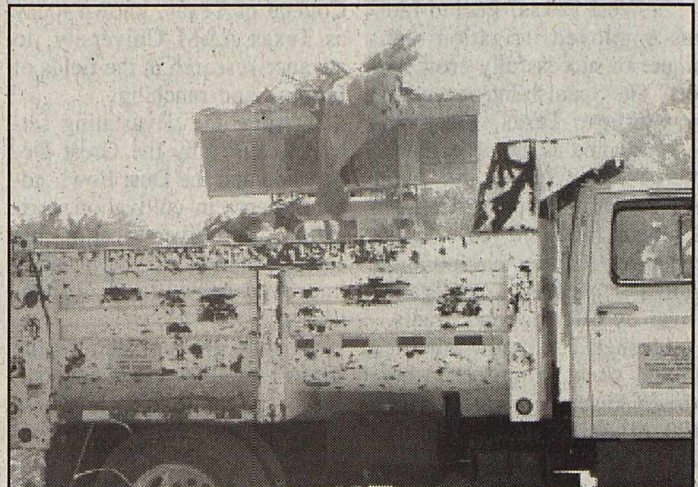
City officials encourage residents to take advantage of the collection site and properly dispose of their unwanted items.

The City's Collection Site not only offers a place to dispose of daily household trash, but metal, furniture, bedding and cardboard boxes are also accepted; most items at no charge.

The City began using the mobile wood chipper on loan from the Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments on Monday.

City workers will go street by street for the next four weeks disposing of unwanted brush.

The City reminds citizens to place brush on the corner of their property for easy access.



CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE COLLECTION SITE

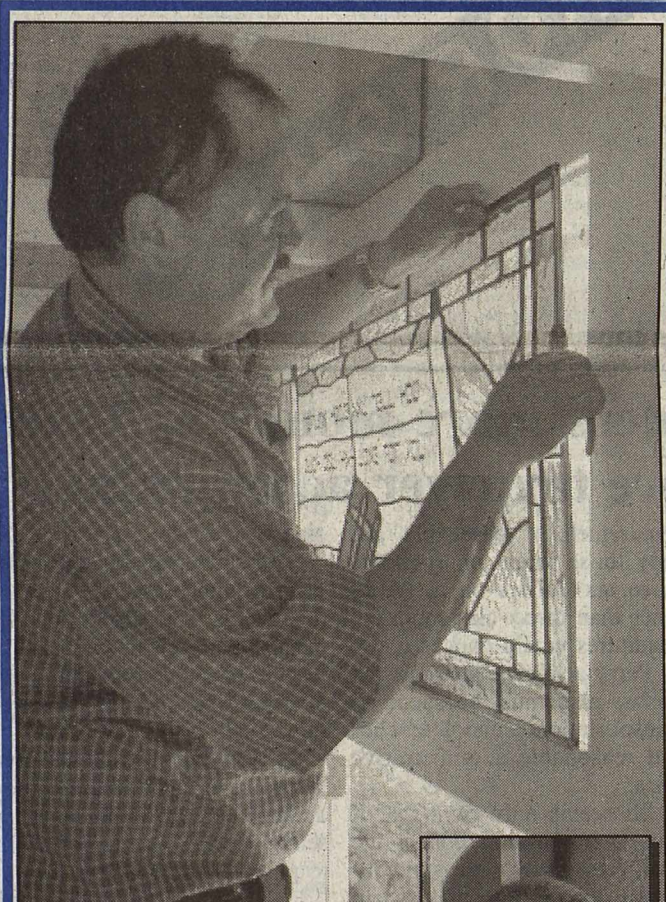
The Collection Site is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Items collected at No Charge:

Lawnmowers • Stoves • Bicycles • Refrigerators •
Swing sets • Aluminum siding • Metal futon frames •
Air conditioners • Cardboard •

Items Charged At \$6.50 per Cubic Yard:

Truckloads of non-resident trash • Mattresses •
Sofas/couches • Wood • Sheetrock •



NEW SIGHT

Brackett News photo by Leigh Volcsko

The First United Methodist Church is celebrating the installation of its new stained glass windows. Eagle Pass Artist Maria Gonzalez (photo at right) performed the "miraculous work" on the church's new fixtures. Installing the heavenly artwork is Abel Garza, also of Eagle Pass. The First United Methodist Church congregation voted on the artwork. Pastor Jean Reardon invites the public to visit them Sunday to enjoy the view.



Tigerettes steamrolling over opponents

The Varsity Volleyball team is 16-0 after defeating Junction, 25-10, 25-14, 25-16, Tuesday night.

Similar to their first meeting at a recent pre-season scrimmage, the girls from Junction were no match for the Tigerettes.

Both teams chanted and clapped throughout the game, but in the end, the Eagles were sent flying home minus a few feathers. Stats include: Timmeke Simmons led the team with 21 assists; Ashley Castillo: 4; Jessie Crane: 1; Emily Valenzuela: 1 and Bianca Stewart: 1.

Valenzuela served the Eagles a little crow with 3 aces; Brandy Smith: 2; Castillo: 1; Simmons: 1 Crane: 1 and Laura Meyer: 1. Castillo led in blocks with 4; Simmons: 1; Brandy Smith: 1 and Bailee Allen: 1. Castillo passed the night away with 13 digs; Simmons: 5; Crane: 4; Valenzuela: 4; Smith: 3; Tanya Molinar: 2; Stewart: 2 and Meyer: 2. Castillo ended play with 10 kills; Valenzuela: 7; Simmons: 6; Smith: 5; Allen: 4 and Meyer: 2.

PRE-SEASON SUMMARY

In the pre-season, the Tigerettes scratched up a few unofficial wins. The girls started off with a double-scrimmage away against Junction and Harper on Friday, Aug. 5. The Tigerettes soared over the Junction Eagles, but were trampled by the Harper Longhorns. Stats include: Simmons led the team with 31 assists, five aces and six kills against Junction. Castillo had 3

aces; Smith: 3; Laura Meyer: 3; Valenzuela: 2. Castillo repeatedly stopped the Eagles with nine kills; Valenzuela: 8; Smith: 6; Bailee Allen: 4 and Crane: 2. By the end of the game Castillo had a total of 12 digs and Valenzuela: 4. The Tigerettes gave an almost identical performance in the second set of games against Harper. Assists: Simmons: 31. Kills: Castillo: 5; Simmons: 4; Valenzuela: 4 and Crane: 2. Aces: Meyer: 5; Molinar: 3; Crane: 2 and Simmons: 2. Digs: Crane: 8; Valenzuela: 8 and Castillo: 5.

In the second pre-season scrimmage on Aug. 6, the Varsity girls played against Del Rio at home. Again, no official score was kept, but the Tigerettes walked away with the Queens' crown with the help from Simmons' 31 assists; Stewart: 2; Castillo: 2 and Valenzuela: 1. Meyer served up five aces; Castillo: 4; Valenzuela: 3; Simmons: 3; Jesses Crane: 1 and Tanya Molinar: 1. Castillo led in kills with 15; Valenzuela: 9; Simmons: 8; Stewart: 3; Allen: 1 and Crane: 1.

Brackett hosted a Volleyball Tournament Aug. 18 and 20. The rounds of play were scored as follows:

Brackett beat Cotulla JV 25-10; 25-9; 25-9
LaPryor beat Comstock 25-14; 17-25; 25-20; 25-14
Leakey beat Junction 25-22; 25-21; 25-10
Freer beat Utopia 24-26; 25-20; 25-13; 25-19

Comstock beat Cotulla 25-18; 25-18; 25-27; 25-23
Brackett beat LaPryor 25-17; 25-22; 25-17
Utopia beat Junction 25-18; 25-18; 20-25; 18-25; 15-4
Consolation round: Utopia beat Comstock 25-15; 25-15; 25-18

3rd Place: LaPryor beat Leakey 24-16; 17-25; 25-14; 25-22; 15-12
2nd Place: Freer
1st Place: Brackett beat Freer 25-18; 25-16; 25-23.

The numbers don't lie . . .

VARSITY SEASON SUMMARY

Brackett def. Laredo Cigara: 25-13, 25-18, 25-11, on Aug. 9. Aces: Crane: 7; Meyer: 4; Valenzuela: 3 and Castillo: 2. Kills: Castillo: 8; Simmons: 7; Valenzuela: 4; Smith: 2; Crane: 1; Allen: 1 and Stewart: 1. Assists: Simmons: 16; Castillo: 2; Meyer: 1 and Crane: 1. Blocks: Valenzuela: 2; Allen: 1 and Stewart: 1. Digs: Castillo: 7; Crane: 5; Meyer: 4; Simmons: 3; Molinar: 2 and Valenzuela: 2.
Brackett def. Del Rio: 25-23, 23-25, 25-14, 25-22, on Aug. 9. Aces: Valenzuela: 5 and Meyer: 5; Castillo: 2; Simmons: 1 and Crane: 1. Kills: Castillo: 10; Valenzuela: 9; Smith: 7; Simmons: 5; Allen: 3 and Stewart: 3. Assists: Simmons: 25 and Castillo: 2. Blocks: Castillo: 1; Valenzuela: 1; Allen: 1; Smith: 2 and Stewart: 3. Digs: Valenzuela: 13; Castillo: 13; Simmons: 8; Molinar: 6; Crane: 4; Smith: 4; Allen: 3; Meyer: 3 and Stewart: 1.
Brackett in D'Hanis for a Tourney
Brackett def. Cole: 25-23, 25-20
Kills: Valenzuela: 7; Castillo: 10; Simmons: 4 and Allen: 2. Assists: Simmons: 14; Valenzuela: 1 and Allen: 1. Blocks: Castillo: 1. Digs: Valenzuela: 9; Castillo: 7; Smith: 7; Molinar: 1 and Simmons: 1.
Brackett def. D'Hanis: 23-25, 25-18; 25-17, at tournament. Aces: Smith: 2. Kills: Simmons: 6; Valenzuela: 6; Castillo: 4; Smith: 4; Allen: 3 and Stewart: 2. Assists: Simmons: 16; Castillo: 1; Smith: 1 and Crane: 1. Blocks: Castillo: 2; Smith: 1 and Allen: 1. Digs: Castillo: 14; Valenzuela: 11; Allen: 5; Simmons: 4; Molinar: 1 and Smith: 1.
Brackett def. Ingram: 25-13, 25-12, at tournament. Aces: Valenzuela: 9;

Castillo: 2; Simmons: 2; Smith: 2 and Molinar: 1. Kills: Valenzuela: 5; Castillo: 4; Simmons: 4; Smith: 4; Stewart: 3 and Allen: 2. Assists: Simmons: 15. Blocks: Stewart: 1 and Castillo: 1. Digs: Smith: 5; Simmons: 4; Valenzuela: 3; Castillo: 3; Molinar: 1 and Allen: 1.
Brackett def. Medina: 25-9, 25-7, at tourney. Kills: Valenzuela: 6; Smith: 4; Castillo: 2 and Simmons: 2. Assists: Simmons: 9; Stewart: 2; Valenzuela: 2; Castillo: 1 and Smith: 1. Aces: Crane: 6; Molinar: 2; Valenzuela: 1 and Castillo: 1. Blocks: Castillo: 1; Simmons: 1 and Smith: 1. Digs: Crane: 4; Castillo: 3; Molinar: 2; Valenzuela: 2; Allen: 1; Smith: 1 and Simmons: 1.
Brackett def. Crystal City: 25-11, 25-14, 25-13, at tourney. Blocks: Bianca Stewart: 1 and Valenzuela: 1. Kills: Castillo: 5; Valenzuela: 4; Simmons: 4; Smith: 6; Crane: 4; Molinar: 1. Assists: Simmons: 11; Stewart: 1; Meyer: 1 and Castillo: 1. Aces: Crane: 4; Smith: 1; Molinar: 1; Valenzuela and Meyer: 1. Digs: Castillo: 10; Simmons: 3; Valenzuela: 3; Crane: 2; Smith: 2; Molinar: 2 and Meyer: 2.
Brackett def. Del Rio: 25-19, 25-12, 21-25, 25-6, Aug. 16. Aces: Meyer: 7; Castillo: 6; Valenzuela: 4; Smith: 2; Molinar: 1 and Simmons: 1. Kills: Castillo: 13; Smith: 10; Simmons: 10; Valenzuela: 4; Crane: 1 and Allen: 1. Assists: Simmons: 22; Smith: 3; Stewart: 2; Castillo: 1 and Meyer: 1. Blocks: Castillo: 1 and Meyer: 1. Digs: Castillo: 14; Molinar: 10; Smith: 5; Meyer: 5; Valenzuela: 5; Allen: 3; Simmons: 2; Stewart: 2 and Crane: 2.

INSIDE

Bonilla

They can choose to spend more on development or they can make reducing class size a priority. Schools will make the decisions, not bureaucrats. Opinion/Page 2

Adams

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the Kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood. Religion/Page 9

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Officials to conduct audit on conservation district

In an interview last week, Texas State Auditor John Keele confirmed with the Brackett News that there will be an official state audit on the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District.

"I have a request from State Representative Tracy O. King and State Senator Ken Armbruster to conduct an audit on the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District," Keele said in an interview Thursday of last week.

Keele did say that there is no date set yet to begin the audit. He did say however, that it will not be until after September, the

beginning of the fiscal year for the state.

In a brief interview with King, he noted that he made the request citing that "The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District would benefit from an audit."

King agreed that the audit would not be conducted until after September. "But it is coming down the pipe," King added.

"We submitted our request on July 7 and received an answer from the state auditors on our request."

Our request was submitted during the 79th Legislative Session.

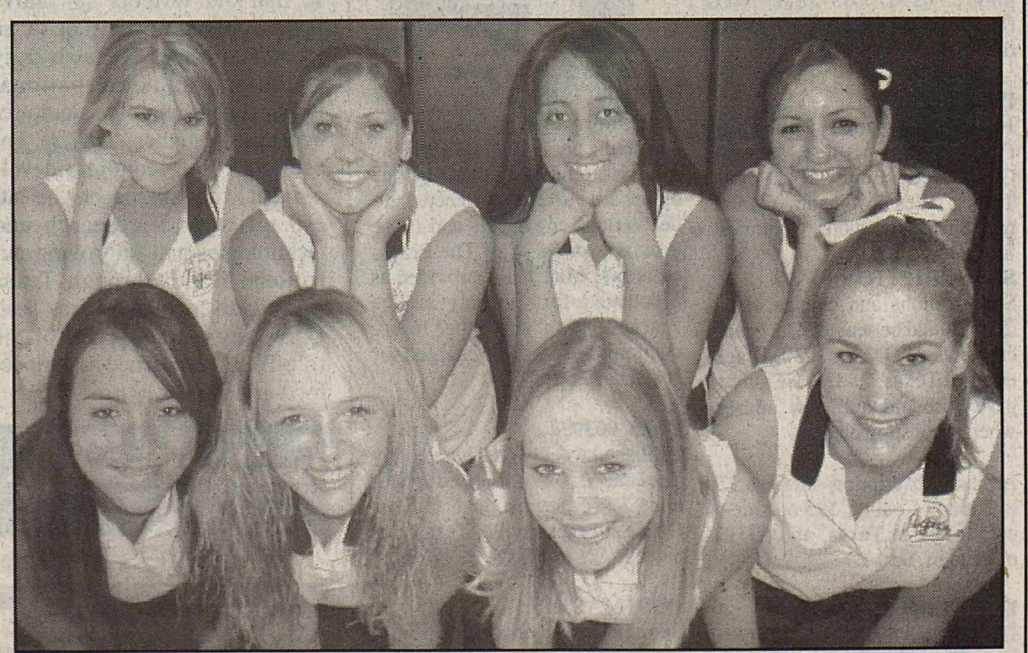
Council yeas Mayes' raise

In last week's edition of The Brackett News, it was reported that City Secretary Bonnie Mayes received a \$3,000 raise.

The story should have read that she received a \$3,765.00

raise.

The Brackettville City Council voted to approve giving Mayes a raise from \$22,500 to \$26,265 per year. The raise becomes effective Oct. 1, 2005.



THREE (OR EIGHT!) CHEERS

Cheering on the Fighting Tigers this year include the BHS Varsity Cheerleaders Seniors: Ashley Castillo (Head), Dana Bonner, Rachel Swinson, Junior Lola Cano (not pictured); Sophomores, Bailee Allen, Bianca Stewart; Freshmen Katie Braesicke, Harmony Pettett and mascot Julie Castillo.

Brackett News photo by Gus Garcia

The future of Texas Farming Back to School; leaving no child behind

Texas farming has a long and rich history.

Since prehistoric times, inhabitants have used a variety of agricultural methods to produce the necessary foods for survival. Caddo Indians in East Texas lived in permanent villages and prepared fields to cultivate corn, squash and beans.

In West Texas, Pueblo Indians employed irrigation techniques to successfully grow cotton. The Spanish introduced the grapefruit to Texas, which was later adopted as the official fruit of the Lone Star State. After Mexico won independence from Spain in 1821, the government encouraged settlement in the region north of the Rio Grande River by offering land grants.

Stephen F. Austin inherited a land grant from his father, Moses Austin and, together with 300 other families from the United States, helped to settle parts of Central, East, and Southeast Texas.

Prior to the Civil War, Texas agriculture primarily consisted of subsistence family farms typically ranging in size from 120 to 160 acres. With the expansion of the railroads, Texas farming grew rapidly creating the opportunity for commercial production.

The Morrill Land-Grant College Act in 1862 established the



Capitol Comment

Kay Bailey Hutchison

Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, known today as Texas A&M University, to advance research in the fields of farming and ranching.

Despite the devastating setbacks caused by the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, advancements in cultivation, irrigation, crop diversification and equipment modernization lead to improved agricultural productivity.

Today, groups such as the Texas Farm Bureau are advocating for the future of agribusiness in our state. Adding approximately \$40 billion to the state economy each year, Texas is one of our nation's leading farming states. Numerous organizations such as 4-H and the Future Farmers of America are helping to teach Texas' youth the cutting-edge techniques that will keep Texas on the forefront of the international agricultural industry.

Recent legislation will also contribute to the success of Texas' agricultural industry. The

Central American Free Trade Agreement, recently passed by Congress and signed into law on Aug. 2 by President George W. Bush, will have a tremendous impact on the Lone Star State. Texas is currently the fifth-largest state agricultural exporter to CAFTA countries and the nation's number one exporter of cotton.

CAFTA is a comprehensive trade agreement negotiated by the U.S. and Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic. CAFTA will eliminate 80 percent of tariffs on U.S. exports, including the up-to-15 percent tariffs on chemical, electrical equipment, machinery, processed food and transportation exports. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, CAFTA will boost Texas' exports to the region, adding \$683 million to the state economy after a year and \$3.6 billion after nine years.

On Aug. 8, President Bush signed into law the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

The legislation includes tax credits to encourage the production of clean renewable energies for wind, biomass, geothermal, small irrigation power, landfill gas and trash combustion.

The bill also includes the Coastal Impact Assistance Program, which I sponsored in the Senate. This program will improve habitat conservation and restoration, protect estuarine marshes and help improve Texas' air quality. The energy bill also includes a provision to authorize the U.S. Department of Interior to inventory oil and gas resources on the Outer Continental Shelf. This inventory will better enable the federal government to assess the extent of these resources.

The increased use of ethanol required by the bill will be a boost to corn growers who must supply the raw products to make ethanol into fuel. Our national energy independence is critical to the future of Texas' agricultural industry.

Also critical to Texas' future is meeting our transportation needs. For 50 years the Federal Aid Highway Program and the states have maintained one of the world's finest highway networks, making highways the first choice to transport most of the goods that drive our economy. This year, Congress was finally able to pass the transportation bill known as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act. This bill provides \$286.5 billion in federal funding through Fiscal Year 2009 for transportation projects.

The new law will go a long way toward meeting our transportation needs. Under the previous law, Texas was receiving on average \$2.1 billion annually. The new law will increase the average annual funding by nearly \$800 million, bringing Texas' annual average to \$2.89 billion.

Today, there are other critical needs to be addressed such as the increasing amount of American trade stemming from NAFTA. Texas has over 300,000 highway miles, the most of any state in our nation, and it is critical to make the commitment to maintain this system so that our farmers can move their products to market in an effective manner. Texas is truly a national and international leader in the field of agriculture. Working together, we are improving rural economic development, capitalizing on the latest agricultural research and technologies and improving nutritional health through Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University. I am proud of the role Texas has earned as a model for agribusiness.

This month, while families across the country prepare their children for the start of another school year, Congress continues to work with President Bush and ensure that no child is left behind in our country's educational system.

Congress has made tremendous progress in improving education in America.

We've approved measures to strengthen special education, help states and schools recruit highly-qualified teachers, and help states and communities meet the President's call for high standards and accountability in our schools.

While significant progress has been made to strengthen America's schools, more work remains.

I will continue my work to increase access to higher education for low and middle income students, expand school choice, improve vocational and technical education, and complete action on measures to strengthen special education and support school teachers.

Since President Bush began



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

his service, funding for the Department of Education has more than doubled.

But it is far too common when discussing education to concentrate on the inputs rather than the outcomes.

We cannot measure the effectiveness of our children's knowledge and learning merely on the amount of money we spend.

We need to measure it by their performance and by reaching every student's potential.

To succeed in school and life, every student needs a basic set of skills.

They need to listen attentively, speak persuasively, read with understanding and write with command.

In order to accomplish this goal, our nation must focus on accountability.

With the support of Congress, President Bush's No Child Left Behind program will help provide every child in America with access to the quality education they need, provide parents with the results they expect and hard working taxpayers with the accountability they deserve.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this legislation is that we're giving the power of discretion to the schools.

This gives the schools the ability to make local decisions on how to spend federal funding.

They can choose to spend more on development or they can make reducing class size a priority. Schools will make the decisions, not bureaucrats.

In the spirit of the season, of a new school year and of new beginnings, I'm proud that our education initiatives are beginning the process of removing Washington from the education equation.

Local control of education will provide our students with the best education possible. Class dismissed.

Big Mama Sez!

Good health and good news are two of life's greatest blessings.

LETTERS POLICY

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. All writers must provide proof of identity. The Brackett News will not publish letters sent via e-mail. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

The Brackett News

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The Brackett News

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PRESIDENT BUSH'S MOST USED TOOL IN THE WHITE HOUSE...

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Gov. Perry orders more money to Texas classrooms, more taxpayer accountability

Saying Texans have demanded education reforms that must be acted upon, Gov. Rick Perry this week began using his executive authority to implement key education reforms that the Texas Legislature has failed to pass.

He directed the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to implement the requirement that at least 65 percent of education dollars be spent in the classroom as well as numerous additional financial accountability measures for Texas schools.

"Today I am issuing an executive order that will put into law some of the most important education reforms that lawmakers failed to pass, including a requirement that 65 percent of all education funds be spent on direct classroom instruction," Perry said.

"This executive order will mean more financial accountability for taxpayers, more efficiency in school spending and more money directed to the classroom so that more children achieve."

"While these reforms address financial issues, their greatest impact will not be seen in school budgets, but in school classrooms, where children will benefit from wise spending better focused on their success," Perry said.

Under Perry's directive, TEA Commissioner Shirley Neeley will design and implement a new financial accountability and reporting system for Texas schools.

Over the next several years, schools will be required to spend an increasingly greater share of funds on direct classroom instruction - as defined by the National Center for Education Statistics - until the goal of 65 percent is reached.

"How schools guide this funding into the classroom will still be decided at the local level, but could include items like classroom computers and technology, science lab equipment, instructional materials and supplies, or even higher teacher salaries," Perry said.

Perry said that the 65 percent

requirement is "reasonable" and only those intent on spending more tax dollars on activities other than direct classroom expenditures would oppose it.

Perry acknowledged that tax dollars also must be spent on transportation, school lunches and reasonable administrative costs.

"It seems only right that if success in the classroom is the goal, close to two-thirds of education dollars should be spent directly on classroom instruction."

"While the legislative session has now ended, the need for school reform has not and Texans can rest assured that even though the legislature did not act, I will," Perry added.

"The people have demanded reform, they have been promised reform and I intend to deliver reform using the full constitutional authority of the executive branch."

The governor's executive order also requires schools to report how efficiently they are using taxpayer dollars, whether they are consolidating administrative functions with other government entities, and amounts expended on the following items:

- Funds used for school district operations not related to direct instruction, including counseling services, technology, nursing and social services.

- Funds used for maintenance, repair, and construction of school district facilities.

- Funds used for professional development and related purposes and how those funds relate to core academic areas required under state curriculum standards and as measured by state assessments.

- Dues or contributions to a non-instructional club, committee or organization;

- Funds provided to any person or organization for the purpose of lobbying;

- Funds expended for consulting services, media and public relations services.

- Funds expended for legal services, including legal fees spent on lawsuits against the

state.

- Funds available in school district fund balances.

Schools that exhibit poor financial management will be subject to special accreditation investigations and tough sanctions.

"My executive order will give taxpayers the accountability they deserve because it opens every school district's financial books to public scrutiny," Perry said.

"Taxpayers may find they have the best-run schools in the state of Texas or they may find areas where their schools should be getting more for their money.

With greater transparency in our schools, parents will be empowered to demand change if needed, and that is the ultimate form of local control."

Perry also noted that by identifying schools that are succeeding both academically and financially, we can help replicate their success in other parts of the state.

Perry said he was acting to implement education reform because improving classroom performance is simply too important to wait for lawmakers to overcome their differences.

He also encouraged Texans to speak out forcefully for other reforms left unaddressed by lawmakers such as real property tax relief that includes lower rates and protections against rising appraisals.

"While I hope to one day reach a legislative consensus on school finance, we can no longer delay taking action that will benefit schoolchildren, parents and taxpayers," Perry said. "They deserve better than unfulfilled promises and continued delays. They deserve immediate action."

Perry also said that while he cannot mandate a property tax cut or authorize an across-the-board teacher pay raise on my own, he will continue to take his case directly to the people.

"I will continue to use my constitutional authority to ensure that the education reforms mandated by the people are implemented according to their will," Perry said.



FOR THE CHILDREN Brackett News photo by Leigh Volcsko
 Marci Resendez, left, campus secretary for Jones Elementary accepts a host of book covers from John Paul Shuster, president of the Kinney-Val Verde Farm Bureau. The bureau donates book covers annually. Students needing book covers can ask their teachers or ask at the front office.

Student and Adult FCA chapters to preview '05-'06 year at Round-Up Party

The first Adult FCA Chapter meeting of the year is set for Saturday, Aug. 27, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Bill & Carolyn Conoly.

Officers will be elected, and the year's monthly FCA activities will be previewed by Coach/Sponsors Rhonda and Charlie Marquardt.

All members are invited and any adult interested in supporting the student chapter's activities is welcome, whether they have a child in school or not.

Immediately following the adult chapter meeting, student members of Brackett High School and Brackett Junior

Meyer graduates from ASU

Angelo State University conferred degrees upon 196 students during 2005 Summer commencement exercises August 13 in San Angelo, Texas.

The 2005 Summer graduates include Leslie Elaine Meyer, B.B.A., cum laude, of Brackettville.

Areas of undergraduate academic study at ASU lead to the following degrees: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.), Bachelor of Music (B.M.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Science Nursing (B.S.N.), and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.).



All K-12 grade teachers are eligible for 2006 Disney Teacher Awards

Burbank, Calif. - Recognize an outstanding teacher who is sparking the imaginations of children across your community.

Disney is accepting nominations for America's most creative teachers from now until October 15, 2005.

Next year's awards will go to the country's most extraordinary, creative teachers as part of the 2006 Disney Teacher Awards - but first you need to nominate them.

Teachers in public, private and parochial schools, Pre-Kinderergarten-12th grades are eligible to be nominated.

Nominations can be made until Oct. 15 in one of two ways:

- online DisneyHand.com
- toll free at 1-877-282-8322

Since 1989, Disney Teacher Awards have been presented to teachers who construct learning environments where students and teachers alike explore, imagine, and engage in a variety of stimulating ideas and experiences.

Specifically, the program honors those teachers whose approaches exemplify creativity in teaching and who inspire a joy of learning in their students.

"Sixteen years ago, we started celebrating local heroes by establishing the annual Disney Teacher Awards to honor America's finest educators," said Terry Wick, vice president, Disney Worldwide Outreach.

"We hope all communities will take this opportunity to acknowledge their heroes as well - their greatest teachers. This nomination process shows thousands of teachers across the country how much their work means to their students, colleagues and communities."

Honorees will be selected from the nationwide nominees. From there, they will be celebrated at a red-carpet Awards Gala in July, will be featured during a Disneyland Main Street Parade and Ceremony at Sleeping Beauty Castle, will attend VIP events and receptions, and will share teaching strategies with their fellow award-winning teachers.

During the Gala, four Honorees will be selected as Outstanding Teachers and one will be named the 2006 Disney Teacher of the Year.

In addition, the Honorees each receive \$10,000, a \$5,000 grant for their school and a six-

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KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, Aug. 15
 2:47 p.m., A woman called in to report that a green Ford Explorer on the side of U.S. Hwy. 90 near the Foyt Ranch was smoking. The caller did not know if it was just overheated or on fire. DPS was notified and Deputy Ron Ring was advised of the situation and enroute.

Tuesday, Aug. 16
 10:55 a.m., A woman reported a possible break-in at a local residence. Deputy Kenneth Freitag was advised of the situation and was enroute to the location.

Wednesday, Aug. 17
 10:35 p.m., A woman called in to report that she had received numerous obscene phone calls from a man threatening the use of dynamite.

Thursday, Aug. 18
 12:38 a.m., A man requested assistance because he had locked himself out of his home. Deputy Ramon Guterrez was notified of the situation.

1:40 a.m., A motorist traveling west on U.S. Hwy. 90 reported a Cadillac driving recklessly. Val Verde County officials were notified.

9:11 a.m., Jesus Martinez, of Brackettville, was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley for driving with an invalid license. Martinez was release on a \$1000 recognizance bond the same day.

held as of Monday.

Sunday, Aug. 21
 1:59 a.m., A woman reported that someone was knocking on her bedroom window at her Gove street residence. Deputy Guterrez was notified of the situation and was enroute to the location.

1:43 p.m., A woman called to report a reckless driver on U.S. Hwy 90 travelling east, near Pinto Park.

9:48 p.m., A U.S. Border Patrol Agent called to report a possible accident on Hwy 334. Deputy Guterrez and DPS Trooper Ashley were informed situation. Trooper Ashley later reported that no accident had occurred.

Thank You
 The family of Eulatio Garza Jr., would like to send many thanks to our family and friends who helped during the time of our great loss. All the food, prayers, cards, flowers, plants, memorials and donations are greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank the Alibi lounge for the donation Bar-B-Q that was held on Sunday, to the Guadalupanas for the food, and to all those that helped cook.
 We love you Jr.!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Alamo Village Water System, Public Water system ID Number 1360004 collected 1 water sample during the month of June 14, 2005, that contained coliform bacteria. This water system is required to submit a minimum of 1 routine water samples each month for bacteriological analysis. 1 routine sample was coliform found and 4 repeat samples were coliform found for the month and year indicated above. The remainder of the 4 repeat samples were coliform absent and the problem was resolved. There has been no finding of coliform since that June 14, 2005.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets drinking water standards in Texas and has determined that the presence of total coliform is a possible health concern. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

For water systems analyzing at least 40 samples per month, no more than 5 percent of the monthly samples may be positive for the total coliforms. For systems analyzing fewer than 40 samples per month, no more than one sample per month may be positive for total coliforms.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact Virginia Shahan at 830-563-3858.

Notice of Public Hearing on proposed FY 2005-2006 Kinney County Budget and Notice of Proposed Officers' Salaries

Pursuant to Section 111.007 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court of Kinney County, Texas, gives notice that they will hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2005-2006 Budget. The Proposed Budget is on file at the County Clerk's Office for public inspection. The Budget Hearing will be conducted Monday, September 12, 2005 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the County Courtroom in the Kinney County Courthouse located at 501 South Ann Street in Brackettville, Texas. The public is invited to attend and participate in the Hearing. The Commissioners Court will consider adoption of said budget following the Public hearing.

Pursuant to 152.013 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court of Kinney County, Texas publishes the proposed salaries, expenses, and/or allowances of each elected County official as follows.

OFFICIAL	FY 2005-2006			FOOTNOTES
	TOTAL AMOUNT	SALARY	OTHER ALLOWANCE	
County Judge	54,898.00	33,721.00	21,177.00	1,2,3,4
County Attorney	53,804.00	31,290.00	22,514.00	1,3
County/District Clerk	32,510.00	31,290.00	1,220.00	3
Tax Assessor/Collector	25,743.00	24,423.00	1,320.00	3
County Treasurer	25,448.00	24,423.00	1,025.00	3
JP	29,132.00	27,659.00	1,473.00	3,4
County Sheriff	33,260.00	32,780.00	480.00	3
Constable	22,943.00	21,643.00	1,300.00	3,5
Commissioner Pct. 1	10,986.00	10,986.00	-	-
Commissioner Pct. 2	11,510.00	10,986.00	524.00	3
Commissioner Pct. 3	10,986.00	10,986.00	-	-
Commissioner Pct. 4	11,235.00	10,986.00	249.00	3

- *1 State Supplement
- *2 Juvenile Judge Allowance
- *3 Longevity Compensation
- *4 Travel Allowance
- *5 Cell Phone Allowance

The salaries and allowances as proposed will be discussed at the regular Budget Hearing that is set for Monday, September 12, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. at the County Courtroom in the Kinney County Courthouse in Brackettville, Texas. The Commissioners invite the public to attend and participate when the Public Officials' salaries, expenses and allowances will be discussed and set on said date.

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Be on the lookout for school children and school buses

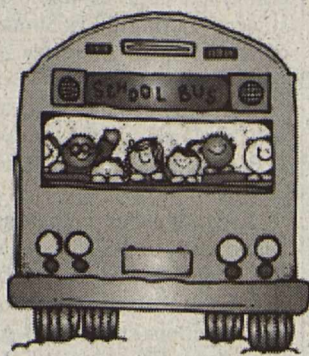
School children across the state will head back to school soon.

The Texas Dept. of Public Safety reminds all drivers to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school buses—and to obey all traffic laws related to school buses.

Drivers also need to slow down and pay attention in school zones.

Children may not be looking for oncoming traffic when they step into the roadway, so drivers must remain alert.

"Although school buses are the safest form of transportation for students, the most dangerous time of the journey is when kids are entering and exiting the bus," said Col. Thomas A. Davis, Jr., director of the DPS. "When a school bus is loading or unloading students, the law requires that drivers stop on most



roadways."

State law requirements

State law requires approaching drivers to stop when a school bus is stopped and operating a visual signal (red flashing lights or a stop sign).

Drivers should not proceed until the school bus resumes motion; the driver is signaled by the bus driver to proceed; or the visual signal is no longer activated. A driver does not have

to stop for a school bus if it is on a highway with roadways separated by an intervening space or physical barrier.

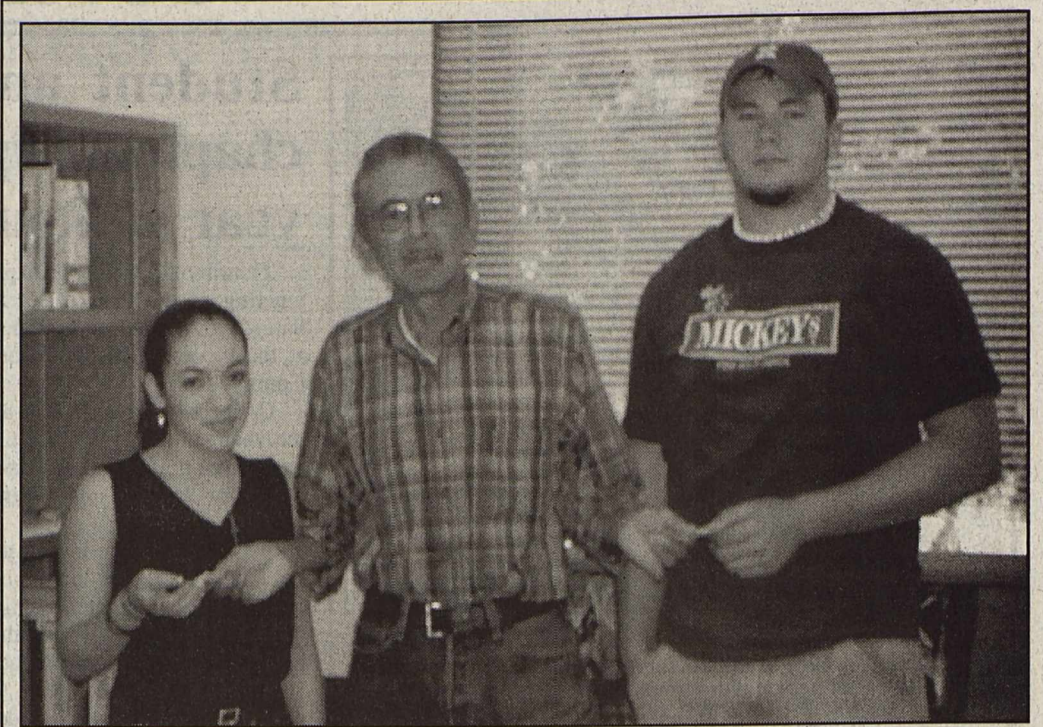
(If a highway is divided only by a left-turning lane, the roadways are not separated, and drivers must stop for school buses.)

Punishment for drivers who do not stop

Drivers who do not stop for school buses face a fine of up to \$1,000. If a driver is convicted of this offense more than one time, DPS can suspend their license for up to six months.

"DPS has zero tolerance for vehicles that pass stopped school buses," Davis said. "Drivers must slow down, obey school zone speed limits and stop for school buses to ensure the safety of Texas school children."

More information is also located at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/schoolbus>.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Courtesy photo

Ruben Martinez, center, trustee for the Fort Clark Springs Men's Golf Club presented their annual \$500 scholarships to two Brackett High School graduates. Receiving scholarships were Celina Terrazas, who will be attending the University of the Incarnate Word and majoring in biology. Also awarded a scholarship was Whitney Massingill, who will be attending Texas Lutheran University and majoring in pre-pharmacy.

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Hunting, Fishing Licenses on sale now

AUSTIN, Texas — New hunting and fishing licenses for 2005-06 will be available beginning Monday, Aug. 15, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is reminding customers to be aware of some significant changes.

All current annual hunting and fishing licenses expire on Aug. 31.

Two significant changes in special stamp endorsements passed during the last legislative session will affect game bird hunters this year. Rather than individual stamps for various game bird species, TPWD has consolidated the special endorsements into two categories: upland and migratory.

The white-winged dove stamp and waterfowl stamp are now combined into a single Migratory Game Bird Stamp (\$7), which will be required to hunt all migratory game birds, including ducks, geese, white-winged doves, mourning doves, white-tipped doves, sandhill cranes,

woodcock, snipe, rails, coots and gallinules.

The turkey stamp has been replaced by the Upland Game Bird Stamp (\$7), which will be required to hunt all non-migratory game birds, including turkey, quail, pheasant, chachalaca and lesser prairie chicken.

Anyone who purchases the Super Combo license package automatically gets these needed stamps.

In addition to the migratory stamp endorsement, Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification is required of all migratory game bird hunters.

HIP certification will be printed on the license at the time of sale only after the purchaser answers a few brief migratory bird questions.

Lifetime license holders must also be HIP-certified to hunt migratory birds and these new stamp changes are automatically included in all lifetime licenses.

A sizable share of game bird hunters — those who hunt mourning dove exclusively and quail hunters — will be buying stamps for the first time. License

sales data show that about 60 percent of all dove hunters already purchase the white-winged dove stamp.

TPWD also estimates that only about 40 percent of quail hunters would feel an impact from the new Upland Game Bird Stamp, since most quail hunters already buy combination type licenses that include all needed stamps. The department estimates that the two new stamps will generate up to \$1.5 million per year in new revenue for conservation work.

Also new this year, TPWD is waiving all fees for hunting and fishing licenses for Texas residents currently on active military duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, including members of the Reserves or National Guard on active duty.

A Texas resident is defined as a person who has resided continuously in the state for more than six months prior to applying for a license.

Active duty military personnel must show a current military identification card and proof of Texas residency.

The free military license may be obtained at any license ven-

dor location, but not by phone or on the Internet. Active duty military personnel will get a "Super Combo" Hunting and All-Water Fishing Package (Type 510), which includes all five state stamp endorsements (archery, freshwater fishing, and migratory game bird, saltwater fishing with a red drum tag and upland game bird).

The Federal Waterfowl (duck) Stamp is not included.

Texas issues 3.2 million hunting and fishing licenses annually through 28 TPWD field offices, more than 100 state parks and at many retailers across Texas.

Hunters and anglers can also purchase licenses by calling (800) 895-4248.

The phone license operation serves both Texans and non-residents, enabling hunters and anglers to buy licenses by phone using a major credit card. Call center hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

A license confirmation number is issued at the time of purchase for online and phone orders, and the physical license is mailed separately.

Confirmation numbers will verify that a license has been purchased but will not allow hunters to take fish or wildlife that requires a tag.

A \$5 convenience fee is charged for ordering online or by phone.

Wherever licenses are sold, several other items for the 2005-06 season are also available, including Annual Public Hunting Permits and entries in Big Time Texas Hunts drawings.

The Big Time Texas Hunts program offers the opportunity to win one or more guided hunts with food and lodging provided. Proceeds are dedicated to providing more public hunting opportunities and funding wildlife conservation and/or research programs in Texas.

Entries in the Big Time Texas Hunts drawings are \$10 each. There is no limit to the number of entries an individual may purchase, and entries may be purchased as gifts for others.

Purchasers must be 17 years old or older.

Information about the Big Time Texas Hunts and an entry form is available at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/bigtime/>.

The entry deadline on all categories is midnight Nov. 5.

Entries may be purchased year-round, but entries received after the deadline will be entered in the drawing for the following year.

The \$48 Annual Public Hunting Permit allows hunters access to about one million acres of public hunting lands, including land leased exclusively for hunting dove, pheasant, waterfowl and other small game.

Youth younger than age 17 may hunt on public hunting lands without the permit if they have the \$6 Special Resident Hunting license and are hunting with a permitted adult.

A Public Hunting Lands map booklet and supplement of dove lease maps will be mailed within a week of purchase of the permit at retail outlets; however, the map booklet and supplement can be obtained immediately by purchasing the permit at a TPWD law enforcement office.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

Last year, Kinney County's property tax rate was \$0.7876. That rate raised \$1,040,578, a portion of which was to fund operations such as:

Sheriff's department and jail operations, Emergency Management Services, Indigent Services, County Road Maintenance, Library, Nutrition Center, Office of the Justice of the Peace, County Judge, County Attorney, County Clerk, Tax Assessor/Collector, County Treasurer, County Auditor, Extension Service, District Court, District Attorney, Constable, Department of Public Service, Civic Center, County Cemetery, Grounds and Building Maintenance.

This year, Kinney County is proposing a property tax rate of \$0.7531. That would raise \$1,035,399, which is (\$5,179) more than the taxes imposed last year.

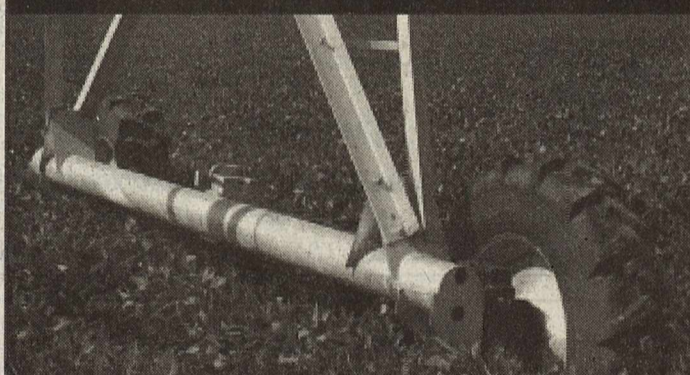
There will be two public hearings to consider that increase. The first public hearing will be held on September 6, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. at the Kinney County Courthouse. The second hearing will be held on September 9, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. at the Kinney County Courthouse.

Criminal Justice Mandate:

The Kinney County Auditor certifies that Kinney County has spent \$9,660.00 in the previous 12 months beginning Aug. 1, 2004, for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Kinney County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursements of such costs.

You have the right to attend the hearings and make comments. You are encouraged to attend and make comments if you wish.

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<p>#5130</p> <p>05 Pontiac Montana SV6 \$25,594 YOU SAVE \$4621 <small>MSRP \$30215 REBATE \$1000 DISCOUNT \$3621</small></p>	<p>#4945</p> <p>05 Buick LeSabre \$21,471.⁶³ YOU SAVE \$5978.³⁷ <small>MSRP \$27450 REBATE \$3000 BROWN DISC \$2978.37</small></p>	<p>#4173</p> <p>05 Cadillac Escalade \$46,553.⁸⁸ YOU SAVE \$9021.¹² <small>MSRP \$55575 BROWN DISC \$9021.12</small></p>	<p>#4858</p> <p>05 GMC Sierra \$17,539.⁴⁶ YOU SAVE \$7062.⁵⁴ <small>GM PRICE \$24602 GM DISC \$500 MSRP \$24102 REBATE \$2402 DISCOUNT \$3592.54</small></p>
<p>#5031</p> <p>2005 CADILLAC Deville \$39,395 YOU SAVE \$9590 <small>MSRP \$48985 DISCOUNT \$9590</small></p>	<p>#4827</p> <p>05 GMC Yukon \$30,515.⁸⁵ YOU SAVE \$9824.¹⁵ <small>GM PRICE \$40340 GM DISC \$900 MSRP \$39440 REBATE \$3000 DISCOUNT \$5924.15</small></p>	<p>#4797</p> <p>05 GMC Sierra Ext Cab \$21,997.⁵⁸ YOU SAVE \$8317.⁴² <small>GM PRICE \$30315 GM DISC \$1000 MSRP \$29315 REBATE \$3000 DISCOUNT \$4317.42</small></p>	<p>#4418</p> <p>05 GMC Yukon Xt \$32,165.⁸³ YOU SAVE \$10119.¹⁷ <small>GM PRICE \$42285 GM DISC \$900 MSRP \$41385 REBATE \$3000 DISCOUNT \$6219.17</small></p>
<p>#4324</p> <p>05 Buick Rainier CKL \$28,795 YOU SAVE \$9605 <small>GM PRICE \$38400 GM DISC \$2795 MSRP \$35605 REBATE \$3500 DISCOUNT \$4310</small></p>	<p>#4547</p> <p>05 GMC Canyon Ext Cab \$20,095 YOU SAVE \$3970 <small>MSRP \$24065 REBATE \$1000 BROWN DISC \$2970</small></p>	<p>#4865</p> <p>05 GMC Denali Crew Cab \$32,481.⁰⁵ YOU SAVE \$11528.⁹⁵ <small>GM PRICE \$44010 GM DISCOUNT \$1000 MSRP \$43010 REBATE \$2500 BROWN DISC \$8028.05</small></p>	<p>#4405</p> <p>05 Pontiac Vibe \$17,095 YOU SAVE \$3105 <small>GM PRICE \$20200 GM DISC \$300 MSRP \$19900 REBATE \$1000 DISCOUNT \$1865</small></p>

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<p>2001 CADILLAC Deville</p> <p>\$14600</p> <p>P7734A</p>	<p>2003 NISSAN Xterra</p> <p>\$16400</p> <p>5042A</p>	<p>2003 PONTIAC Montana Mini Van</p> <p>\$16900</p> <p>4482A</p>	<p>2004 CHEVY Silverado Ext Cab</p> <p>\$18900</p> <p>4381A</p>	<p>2005 NISSAN Altima</p> <p>\$18900</p> <p>4874A</p>
<p>2001 CHEVY Tahoe LT 4x4</p> <p>\$20400</p> <p>4652A</p>	<p>2003 FORD Supercrew</p> <p>\$20500</p> <p>5048A</p>	<p>2005 NISSAN Altima 2.5SL</p> <p>\$20700</p> <p>4836A</p>	<p>2004 FORD Supercrew</p> <p>\$22900</p> <p>4679A</p>	<p>2004 GMC Sierra Ext Cab</p> <p>\$24700</p> <p>5036A</p>
<p>2004 GMC Yukon</p> <p>\$25700</p> <p>4579A</p>	<p>2004 NISSAN Titan</p> <p>\$25900</p> <p>5128A</p>	<p>2004 GMC Yukon XL</p> <p>\$26400</p> <p>4934B</p>	<p>2004 DODGE Ram 1500 HEMI</p> <p>\$26400</p> <p>5154A</p>	<p>2003 GMC Yukon</p> <p>\$26900</p> <p>4293A</p>

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Relay for Life heads to Kinney County, thanks to local teen

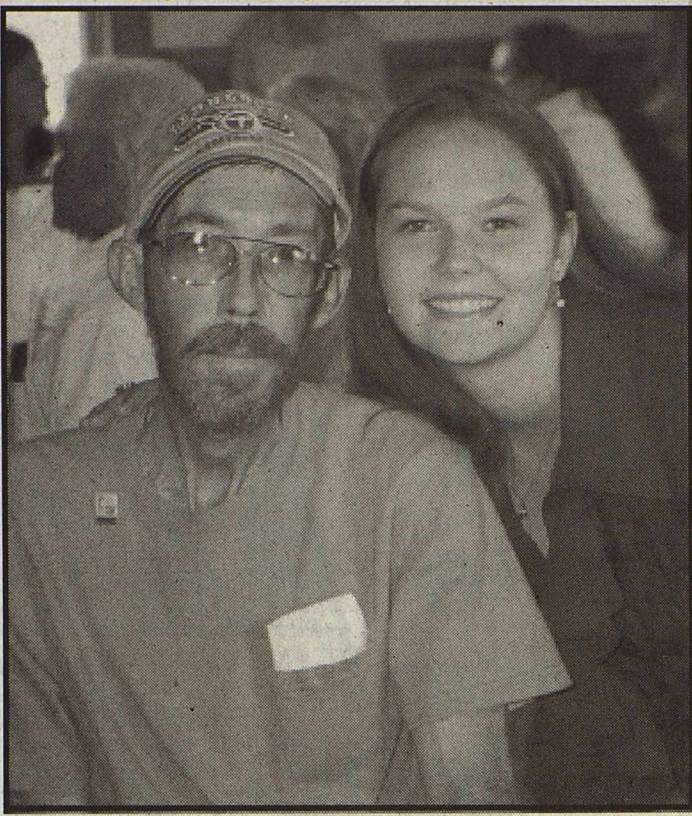
A young ladies' dream is coming to fruition. For the first time, Kinney County will host its own Relay for Life.

Relay for Life is an event that raises cancer awareness and celebrates survivors and the hope everyone has to find a cure for cancer. Locally, Alison Carroll took charge and is in charge of the upcoming event. Recently she hosted an event that raised more than \$900 for the cause.

More than 50 were in attendance at the event held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. At the event, Darlene Laws spoke on "Hope", the theme for the ACS. Laws is a cancer survivor.

Pat Sitzes spoke about the Cancer Support Group meets and Clarese Kehoe of the ACS spoke on the organization and Relay for Life. With the Mardi Gras theme, more than 100 luminaries lit the room. Helping with the event, included Carolyn Conoly, Alanna Conoly along with Trish Taylor

Alison lists her father, Mike as her inspiration, who is a cancer survivor as well.



Mike and Alison Carroll, father and daughter. Mike is Alison's inspiration, she says.



Team Alison, the group of ladies joined forces to help bring the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life to Kinney County.

Railroad Commission offers grilling safety tips for propane gas grills

AUSTIN — Texas Railroad Commissioners Victor Carrillo, Michael L. Williams and Elizabeth Ames Jones kicked off the official first day of summer by demonstrating how to barbecue safely using propane-fueled gas grills.

"Our agency has been directed by law to educate the public about using propane, and this mandate includes informing the public about using propane grills safely," said RRC Chairman Carrillo.

Commissioner Williams said, "The top choice for outdoor cooking now is propane-fueled grills.

About 65 percent of American backyard cooks choose propane over charcoal.

As propane continues to grow in popularity, all of us - from the novice to the seasoned barbecue expert need to be reminded of the safest techniques for gas grills."

Commissioner Jones said, "Along with popularity, propane grills provide a cleaner, and for some, an easier alternative to charcoal.

"The Texas Propane Gas Association helped sponsored the event.

Carrabba's Italian Grill and the Texas Beef Council donated the meat to be grilled.

Others donating items for the event included the Coca-Cola Company, Ferrellgas and the H.E.B. Grocery Company.

Safety tips for all propane uses can be found at www.txpropane.tx.gov and clicking on "Propane Safety

Tips," and then, "Gas Grilling Tips."

Or you may obtain a copy of a Propane Grilling brochure by calling 1-800-64-CLEAR.

Top 10 Gas Grilling Tips

1. Check used grills for worn hoses and proper air adjustment. Replace worn or defective parts and perform maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions.

2. If the grill is new, follow the manufacturer's assembly instructions and familiarize yourself with the manufacturer's recommended operating and safety practices.

3. Do not use a propane gas cylinder if it shows signs of external damage, such as dents, gouges, bulges, fire damage, corrosion, leakage or excessive rust.

4. After grilling, never store the propane gas cylinder indoors or within any enclosed space.

5. Always open the grill hood before lighting, and light according to manufacturer's instructions.

6. Always grill in a well-ventilated area. Do not grill indoors or close to the side of a house or other structure.

7. After filling or exchanging a cylinder, take it home immediately.

Do not leave it in your vehicle for any extended period of time.

8. To turn the cylinder valve off or on, remember "Righty, Tightly -Lefty, Loosey."

9. Railroad Commission rules require that if the cylinder is at least 12 years old, it must be periodically "requalified."

Most propane dealers will requalify a cylinder when it is

Record high gas prices got you down? Do something about it!

Industry analysts say our record high gas prices are likely to climb even higher and everyone is either driving around in circles to find the lowest price or just griping about them. But, according to experts, extra miles can be squeezed out of every fill-up if drivers followed a few simple rules. "The way to save money is in every drivers' hands, and sometimes feet," said Ray Palermo, director of public relations for national auto insurer, Response Insurance.

"Everything comes down to two basic categories of advice," explained Palermo, "car care and driving habits." He offered drivers a few pieces of advice.

- Lighten the car's load by removing all unnecessary items from the trunk, such as the bag of sand and shovel from the winter. Every 200 pounds of weight reduces gas efficiency by one mile per gallon. If you have to carry a lot of baggage, avoid using a roof-top container, which will increase the air drag. If you drive a pick-up truck, the open bed will have the same impact, so put a cover on it.

- Incorrectly inflated tires decrease fuel efficiency. Check vehicle and tire manufacturer for proper inflation.

- Don't turn on the air conditioner as a first response to the heat. Start your drive off with the windows open to exhaust the hot air out of the rear windows and then put on the A/C if needed. This will also enable the air conditioning to work faster and more efficiently when turned on.

- Smooth out your driving style by avoiding "jack rabbit" starts and sharp braking. Both expend gas and can present a hazard for others on the road.

- It's estimated that every mile per hour driven above 55 MPH costs 1% in fuel economy. So, slowing down can be both safe and fuel-efficient. Maintaining a constant speed also maximizes your car's performance.

If road conditions permit, use your car's cruise control.

- Traveling at a fast speed in a low gear wastes gas.

- Accelerate a little as you approach a hill, rather than hitting the gas and switching gears once on the incline.

A free brochure, *Improving Your Gas Mileage*, is available. Call 1-800-610-5928 or website: response.com.

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brought in to be refilled, if the cylinder is in a safe condition.

10. Only cylinders with an Overfill Protection Device (OPD) may be filled legally.

Consumers can tell if their propane cylinder has an OPD if it has a triangular hand wheel with the letters "OPD" on it or if the tank has an OPD wrapper or warning label.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate Water District

The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2005 on September 8, 2005 at 10:00 am at the County Courthouse in the District Courtroom. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: Don Hood Duke Meek
Cecil Smith Christopher Ring
Tootsie Herndon

AGAINST the proposal: Beth Ann Smith
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT: Chuck Hall

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.0531/\$100 Adopted	\$0.0606/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		+\$0.0075/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		+14.12%
Average appraised value	\$42,459	\$43,208
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$4,501	\$7,583
Average taxable value	\$37,958	\$35,625
Tax on average residence homestead	\$20.16	\$21.59
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		+\$1.43 +7.09%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax under Section 49.236(d), Water code

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YARD OF THE MONTH
The home of Ramon Rodriguez at 157 Oak Lane was selected as the yard of the month by the Mountain Laurel Garden Club. Ramon Rodriguez, pictured here, was pleased to have this honor.

Texas joins nation in cracking down on drunk driving

AUSTIN -With Labor Day and the last surge of summer road trips just two weeks away, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) announced today that Texas will be part of a coast-to-coast effort to remove drunk drivers from the nation's streets and highways.

Between Aug. 19 and Sept. 5, state troopers and thousands of local law enforcement officers will be stepping up enforcement of the state's DWI laws.

"We're putting drivers on notice: if you drink and drive during the upcoming Labor Day holiday, you're asking for trouble," said Steve Simmons, TxDOT's Deputy Executive Director.

Texas roads.

Source: Texas Department of Public Safety

- Texas still leads the nation with over 1,700 alcohol-related traffic deaths every year.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

- In 2003, 47 percent of all traffic fatalities in Texas involved alcohol, compared to 40 percent for the nation.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

- On average, someone in Texas dies in an alcohol-related traffic crash every five hours.

Source: Texas Department of Public Safety

been drinking.

DWI with a Child Passenger is a felony and punishable by:

- Fine up to \$10,000
- Up to two years in a state jail
- Loss of driver's license for six months.

DWI with a child passenger is a felony and punishable by:

- Fine up to \$10,000
- Up to two years in a state jail
- Loss of driver's license for six months.

THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU • THANK YOU

Little did I know that having a son with such complicated health problems would lead me to such greater faith, love and gratitude. Strangers have touched our lives and become friends; friends have become family; and family ... well there are no words!

We would like to say a special thank you to the following people for their time, effort and donations; to the Tyler Bowman Benefit Roping.

Alamo Saddlery, Cindy Reitz, Jonnye Glee & David Weid, Teresa & Marvin Davis, Valerie and Harmony, The Brackett News, Chuck and Connie Hall, Tully Welch, D&D Hardware, Jerry Aultman, Church of Christ ... and many more!

These little words cannot begin to express how very thankful we are for all of the prayers, warm thoughts and well wishes. Our sincerest thanks,

THE BOWMANS - TERRY, CHARLIE, TANNER AND TYLER

Bank & Trust acquired property in San Angelo

SAN ANGELO - The Bank & Trust, s.s.b. closed on 2.687 acres at Knickerbocker Road and University Avenue Thursday afternoon.

The property was formally owned by the San Angelo Independent School District.

Plans call for The Bank & Trust, now located at 5106 Knickerbocker, to build an approximate 7,000 square foot state-of-the-art banking facility.

In May of 2005, the SAISD set a minimum bid for the property of \$1.15 million and began accepting bids. The Bank & Trust bid approximately \$1.23 million and the SAISD board authorized administrators to begin drafting a contract.

The Bank & Trust was chartered for business in 1910.

The community bank with assets totaling \$255 million, has locations in southwest Texas including Brackettville, Del Rio, and Sonora.

The organization opened a Loan Production Office in San Angelo in May of 2004 and expanded to full-service banking operations in March of 2005.

The Bank & Trust bid approximately \$1.23 million and the SAISD board authorized administrators to begin drafting a contract.

Wrey Montgomery has been at the helm of the San Angelo market expansion in his role as President of The Bank & Trust San Angelo.

"We have been searching for the perfect site for about a year. The Bank & Trust looks forward to building our main branch on this property while we continue to look for other growth opportunities," says Montgomery. "Architectural plans are near completion and we plan to break ground this Fall.

Our staff is focused on building strong customer relationships while we look forward to moving into our new facility."

TxDOT is joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Texas Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement organizations statewide to get drunk drivers off the road."

NHTSA reports that alcohol was involved in almost half of the traffic deaths that occurred in Texas in 2003 and predicts that alcohol will be a factor in 7 of the 10 traffic deaths expected during the Labor Day weekend.

"The national crackdown is a comprehensive impaired driving prevention effort focused on highly visible enforcement, public awareness, and paid media to deter impaired driving," said Georgia S. Chakiris, regional administrator for NHTSA.

"Travelers in Texas and across the nation will see plenty of officers taking care of business—getting impaired drivers out from behind the wheel and into jail before they can cause injuries and deaths."

This month, motorists can also expect billboards, and radio and television ads warning them not to drink and drive. First-time DWI offenders can lose their driver's license for as much as a year, pay a fine of up to \$2,000 and serve up to 180 days in jail.

Facts on Alcohol Use in Texas

- Every day, drunk drivers kill or hurt over 70 people on

Here's The Law:

In Texas the legal limit for intoxication is .08 BAC (blood or breath alcohol concentration). However, drivers can be stopped and cited when impaired due to alcohol or other drugs regardless of BAC. Whether you're the driver or the passenger, you can be fined up to \$500 for having an open alcohol container in a vehicle.

- First DWI Offense**
- Up to a \$2,000 fine
 - Three days to 180 days in jail
 - Loss of driver's license up to a year
 - \$1,000 annual fee for three years to retain driver's license.
- Second DWI Offense***
- Up to a \$4,000 fine
 - One month to a year in jail
 - Loss of driver's license up to two years.
- Third DWI Offense***
- Up to a \$10,000 fine
 - Two to ten years in prison
 - Loss of driver's license up to two years.
- *After two or more DWI convictions in five years, motorists must install a special ignition switch that prevents the vehicle from being operated if they've

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Kinney County is part of Texas Pecos Trail Region designation

Texas Pecos Trail Region Designation

In Odessa, Texas at 10:00 am on Tuesday August 23, 2005, a press conference was held to officially announce the beginning of a new Texas Historic Commission Heritage Trail.

The Texas Pecos Trail Region grant application was approved by the Texas Historic Commission in Austin on July 29, 2005.

The Heritage Trail program is a grant program of the Texas Historic Commission with the main purpose of promoting heritage and cultural tourism in a designated area.

The Texas Pecos Trail Region includes 22 counties in West Texas, from Eagle Pass all the way west to Monahans & Andrews, and as far north as Stanton.

This region will be the largest geographic region approved to date by the THC.

The Heritage Trail program promotes heritage and cultural tourism and provides some funds for the opening of a regional office to manage and pro-

mote tourism in the region.

Basically all of the 22 counties involved in the Texas Pecos Trail Region have pledged to add money to the awarded grant money to help promote this region.

These pledges have been made by individuals, organizations, city and county governments, industrial development organizations, chambers and others involved in the tourism industry.

The funds have been pledged for 3 consecutive years to help kick-off the promotion of this sometimes forgotten area of our state.

A regional coordinator will be hired and an office set up to house the headquarters for the Texas Pecos Trail Region.

The long term and overall goal of the region will be to preserve, enhance, promote, and educate people about West Texas.

There is so much history along the Texas Pecos Trail that was designated as an historic trail in the late 1960's by then

Governor John Connally.

The Texas Pecos Trail Region will envelope all of that designated trail and the counties and communities that it travels through.

So many times this region of Texas is thought of only as waste land, but it is so much more with such a wide diversity of cultures, economies, and historic significance.

The vast panoramic views are sought by so many travelers that come through our office at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center.

A very often asked question from travelers is, "How much farther west do we have to drive before we see the desert?" This is especially true of the tourist from other countries or from the east coast.

The entire region is looking forward to working with the Texas Pecos Trail Region coordinator and board of directors to help promote tourism region wide.

This is an exciting time for our part of Texas.

SEE, PEOPLE DO READ SMALL ADS!

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

Last year, the City of Brackettville property tax rate was \$0.7963.

That rate raised \$180,668, a portion of which was used to fund operations such as: Water and sewer service to include installation and repairs; water and gas meter reading and billing; street lighting and repairs; debt reduction; animal control; operation of citizens collection site; fire protection; city employee compensation; maintenance of city parks; and flood control.

This year, City of Brackettville is proposing a property tax rate of \$0.8957. That rate would raise \$194,665, which is \$13,997 more than taxes imposed last year.

There will be two public hearings to consider that increase. The first public hearing will be held on September 6, 2005 at 6:00 PM at City Hall Annex. The second hearing will be held on September 12, 2005 at 6:00 PM at City Hall Annex.

You have a right to attend the hearings and make comments. You are encouraged to attend and make comments if you wish.

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Arrive @ Houston	8:10 A.M.	8:10 A.M.	8:10 A.M.	8:10 A.M.	8:10 A.M.	8:10 A.M.	8:10 A.M.
DEPART from Houston	8:55 A.M.	8:55 A.M.	8:55 A.M.	8:55 A.M.	8:55 A.M.	8:55 A.M.	8:55 A.M.
Arrive @ DRT	10:45 A.M.	10:45 A.M.	10:45 A.M.	10:45 A.M.	10:45 A.M.	10:45 A.M.	10:45 A.M.
DEPART from DRT	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
Arrive @ Houston	12:40 P.M.	12:40 P.M.	12:40 P.M.	12:40 P.M.	12:40 P.M.	12:40 P.M.	12:40 P.M.
DEPART from Houston	2:20 P.M.	2:20 P.M.	2:20 P.M.	2:20 P.M.	2:20 P.M.	2:20 P.M.	2:40 P.M.
Arrive @ DRT	4:08 P.M.	4:08 P.M.	4:08 P.M.	4:08 P.M.	4:08 P.M.	4:08 P.M.	4:28 P.M.
DEPART from DRT	4:25 P.M.	4:25 P.M.	4:25 P.M.	4:25 P.M.	4:25 P.M.	4:25 P.M.	
Arrive @ Houston	6:05 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	
DEPART from Houston	8:50 P.M.	8:50 P.M.	8:50 P.M.	8:50 P.M.	8:50 P.M.	8:50 P.M.	
Arrive @ DRT	10:38 P.M.	10:38 P.M.	10:38 P.M.	10:38 P.M.	10:38 P.M.	10:38 P.M.	

*Flight schedule subject to change.

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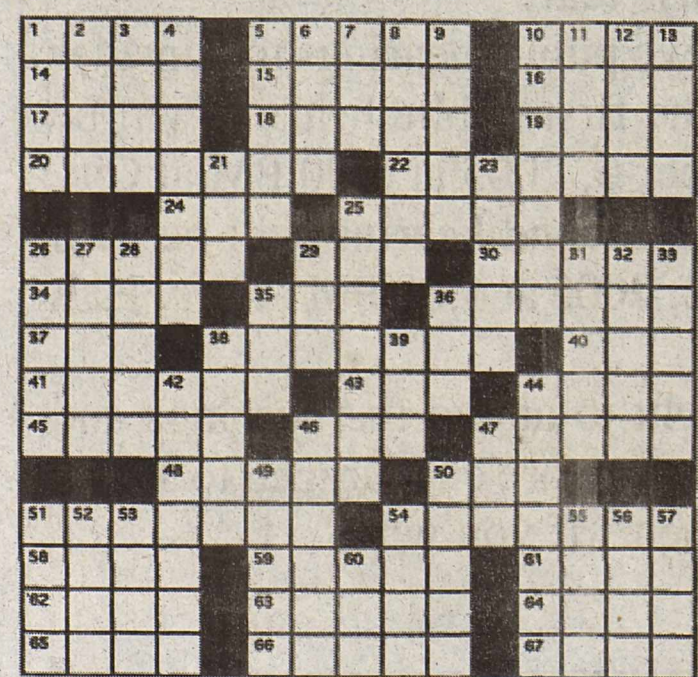
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| ACROSS | sent out to find a | 2 "Wee is mel" | indicators, usually |
| 1 Wagon | lost | 3 Horned animals | 35 Paver's substance |
| 5 Lies | package | 4 Gave medical aid to | 36 Years lived |
| 10 Wet | 43 Dessert | 5 pole | 38 Beverages |
| 14 Having wings | 44 German article | 6 Very eager | 39 Breather's need |
| 15 Obvious | 45 Elegance in bearing | 7 Meadow | 42 Asserted as true |
| 16 Word with what or when | 46 Title for Olivier | 8 Short reddish-brown | 44 Joy |
| 17 Opposite of different | 47 1 of 3 words to a sneezer | 9 Old | 46 Light |
| 18 Crown | 48 Chemical element | 10 Translator | 47 Prefix for degradable or feedback |
| 19 Geometric shape | 50 Govt. organization | 12 Fix | 49 Merchandise |
| 20 Analyzed ore | 51 Counselor | 13 Bush, for one: abbr. | 50 Game of strategy |
| 22 Nuts | 54 Weapon | 21 Sweet device | 51 See 38 |
| 24 Accessory on the braes | 58 Weaver's device | 23 Dog's disease | Down |
| 25 Prepare bread | 59 Speak publicly | 25 Ringleader: colloq. | 52 Elizabeth or Robert |
| 26 Sultan's wives | 61 Fictional villain | 26 Comes to a stop | 53 Small rodent |
| 29 Cover | 62 Women's magazine | 27 Nautical term | 54 Editor's word |
| 30 Boldness | 63 Removes | 28 Compensate to view | 55 Highly enthusiastic |
| 34 Acted like | 64 Flirt with | 29 Fall behind | 56 Unpleasant to view |
| 35 Color | 65 Origin | 31 Make a new bow | 57 Refusals |
| 36 Sees eye to eye | 66 Boards | 32 Blood carriers | 60 Heart of Dixie: abbr. |
| 37 Sever | 67 Negative words | 33 Plural | |
| 38 Traveler's need | DOWN | | |
| 40 Poet's contraction | 1 Mexican home | | |
| 41 Inquiry | | | |



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: WORDS THAT RHYME WITH "DAY"

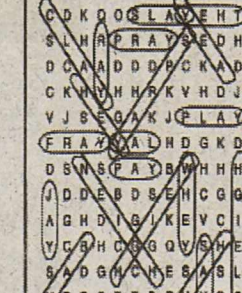
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S	A	D	G	H	C	H	E	S	A	S	L
Y	T	F	D	B	B	R	Y	Y	D	S	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Aug. 25.....Lesley Jones	Aug. 28.....Elena Luna
Aug. 25.....Maria Juarez	Aug. 28.....Augustine Luz
Aug. 25.....Joseph A. Luna	Aug. 28.....David Meyer
Aug. 25.....Gene Nixon	Aug. 28.....Edward Solis, Sr.
Aug. 25.....Clara Ricks	Aug. 28.....Mary Stephenson
Aug. 26.....Terri Day	Aug. 29.....Brianna Escamilla
Aug. 26.....Kay Gilbreth	Aug. 29.....Kristi Meyer
Aug. 26.....Fredrico Martinez	Aug. 29.....Richard A. Pena II
Aug. 26.....Martha McDonald	Aug. 30.....Vickie Mitchell
Aug. 26.....Justin Shamblin	Aug. 30.....Jim Strother
Aug. 27.....Gus Garcia	Aug. 30.....Ben Vasquez
Aug. 27.....Rose Mattingly	Aug. 30.....Jane Young
Aug. 27.....Donna Saylor	Aug. 31.....Bill Herman
Aug. 28.....Tom Ertle	Aug. 31.....Tom McNew

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Bay	11. Pray
2. Clay	12. Ray
3. Fray	13. Say
4. Hay	14. Slay
5. Hey	15. Sleigh
6. Jay	16. Spray
7. Lay	17. They
8. Neigh	18. Weigh
9. Pay	19. Whey
10. Play	20. Yea



HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You try to make time for someone you hadn't seen in a while. This takes some fancy juggling with your schedule. In the end, it's worth all the fuss.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You hone in on your career goals this week. Since you're in the mood for a change, you're rethinking those plans. This weekend, a social event leads to a business opportunity.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An unwelcome surprise visit puts you in a bit of a dither. Speak your mind, but do so tactfully. Social life is quiet over the weekend.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're delighted to find yourself with some spare time this week. After everything on your agenda recently, you're ready for some down time. Later, you successfully combine business with pleasure.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Take some time this week for self-examination. You may want to reassess your goals. Once you do, you come up with a new plan of attack.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your mental abilities are sharp this week. Put these to good use. A perplexing situation at work can be yours to solve.

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LEO (July 23 to August 22) For the most part, you're in a pleasant mood this week. Unpleasanties are behind you, and you look forward to new challenges. This weekend, friendships are highlighted.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You're in a no-nonsense mood this week. Work is your first priority. However, there are some things which need your attention on the home front.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Romance is on your mind this week, whether married or single. A minor crisis occurs mid-week at work. Fortunately, it's just that - minor.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You have a tendency to be a bit driven. Relax. You'll get the job done more efficiently if you stop pushing so hard.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your mate has a wonderful idea concerning joint financial matters. Open your mind to this. You don't always have all the answers.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A co-worker proposes a plan you can implement jointly. Working in tandem, you get a lot more done. Later in the week, you indulge in a favorite hobby.

OBITUARIES

Lois D. Manny

April 16, 1913 - Aug. 17, 2005

Lois D. Manny, 92, passed away Aug. 17, 2005, in Kerrville, Texas.

She was born on April 16, 1913 in Brackettville to William and Agnes Dooley.

Mrs. Manny was a grand lady who will be dearly missed by her family members.

She gave tremendous amounts of love to her family and friends.

Mrs. Manny was preceded in death by her husband, Henry J. "Chief" Manny. She is survived by her son, Al Dooley Manny and his wife Nancy; three grandchildren: Alice Schulz and husband Ron; Colleen Waller and husband, Bill; and Cullen Manny; two great grand-children: Geoffery Waller and Kelsey Waller; sister: Edna Mitchell; nieces: Tita Smith, Carole Kirby, Diane Dooley, Betty Awbrey and Gayle Elliott.

Funeral services were August 20, 2005 at Sunset Funeral Chapel. Entombment followed at Sunset Memorial Park Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to: St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Brackettville, Texas, Lakeridge United Methodist Church, 4701 82nd Street, Lubbock, Texas 79424 or Living Abundantly Ministries, PO Box PMB 374, 3411B 82nd, Lubbock, Texas 79423.

Caught under the pile

Years ago when I was playing high school football we played a scrimmage in a nearby town. Their playing field had low spots where water would stand and just before the game a rainstorm hit and filled those low spots. Sure enough one of their players was given the ball and around my end he came.

Just as I tackled him I looked down and noticed we were ankle deep in water. Down we went with me on the bottom and others piling on. I tried to crawl out but under the weight I couldn't move and my face was in the water. I tried to hold my breath but finally I had to take a breath. I was able to get a little air but I also got a lot of water and dry grass. I almost passed out but I could hear someone hollering get off and dimly see



Jerry Davenport

Brother J.

someone jerking people off the pile.

It was the coach who came to my rescue. Many times in life we find ourselves in similar situations. We feel like the pressures of life or different situations have us under the pile. If we are on God's team, (John 10:27 & 28). There is someone we can call out to or someone there looking out for us. Put your trust in the Lord Jesus and He will take care of you, (Psalm 4:3,18:3,50:15). See you in Church next Sunday.

God, the Almighty

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the Kings of the earth.

Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

And hath made us kings and priests unto god and his Father; to him be glory and dominion forever and ever Amen.

Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

of him. Even so, Amen.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending; saith the Lord, which is and which was, and which is to come the Almighty.

Revelation 1:5-8. Praise the Lord.

First United Methodist Church welcomes new pastor Jean Reardon

First United Methodist Church in Brackettville experienced a unique blessing during morning worship on Sunday, June 12 when three pastors shared in a special service marking the transition of leadership of the church.

The Rev. Roger Baker, outgoing pastor, led the first part of the service and incoming pastor, The Rev. Jean Reardon, preached.

The Superintendent of the San Angelo of the United Methodist Church, The Rev. Dr. David Edgar led the congregation in a special liturgy transferring pastoral leadership of the congregation from The Rev. Baker to The Rev. Reardon.

During that liturgy, a pewter cross and flame (symbolic of the United Methodist Church) which The Rev. Baker had worn at every Sunday worship service, was passed to The Rev. Reardon.

The Rev. Dr. Edgar presided at Holy Communion and The Revs. Baker and Reardon served the communion elements to the congregation.

Rarely, if ever, does a congregation have the opportunity to formally acknowledge the high regard in which an outgoing pastor is held while at the



From left, Rev. Dr. David Edgar, District Superintendent of the San Angelo District of the United Methodist Church; Pastor Jean Reardon, new pastor of First United Methodist Church, Brackettville; Pastor Roger Baker, outgoing pastor of the Brackettville church

same time welcoming and affirming the leadership of the incoming pastor. It was a service which truly reflected the loving spirit of the Brackettville community. Pastor Baker and his family have moved to Alabama where he will be working on his

doctorate degree and his wife will be attending the U.S. Air Force Air War College. Pastor Reardon is a recent graduate of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and a former elementary school teacher. Her husband, Tom, is a rancher, retired

teacher, and retired County Judge. They come here from Mason County where Tom has lived all his life.

They are truly touched by the warm welcome they have received from the people of Kinney County.

CPL Retail Energy God is your companion offers energy tips

With the increased costs of gasoline and natural gas, along with hotter temperatures, impacting household budgets, CPL Retail Energy L.P. wants to remind residential customers of home energy conservation tips to help manage energy costs during the final weeks of summer.

Air Conditioner

● Increase the air conditioner temperature. An increase of even one degree can lead to significant energy savings.

● Install a programmable thermostat to eliminate unnecessary cooling throughout the day.

● Have the air conditioner checked annually.

● Buy the proper size equipment to meet your home's requirements — an oversized or undersized air conditioner unit will waste energy.

Laundry

● Wash full loads to decrease the amount of energy used.

● Wash at a lower temperature or on the economy setting to save even more energy.

● Hang clothing outside instead of running the dryer.

● Use your dryer for consecutive loads. Built-up heat be-

tween loads will use less energy.

Refrigerator and Freezer

● Defrost regularly. When ice builds up, your freezer uses more electricity.

● Do not place the refrigerator next to the oven. Also, make sure there is plenty of ventilation space behind and above it.

● Keep your refrigerator at least three-quarters full to maintain maximum efficiency.

Lighting

● Use energy-saving light bulbs that can last up to ten times longer than normal bulbs.

● Fit external lights with motion sensors and timers to make sure they are used only when necessary.

● Turn off lights when you leave a room.

About CPL Retail Energy For more than 75 years, CPL Retail Energy and its predecessors have provided electricity to residential and small business customers in South Texas, including Corpus Christi, Victoria, McAllen, Laredo and Harlingen. CPL Retail Energy, a Direct Energy company, is part of Centrica's international group of companies providing retail energy in Texas and worldwide.

God is your companion

Rick had six more months. He was counting the days. After work at the farm, Donovan met Rick at his cell. "Chaplain needs to see ya Rick," he said curtly.

"What about?" Rick asked. "Its not my place to tell ya Richardson. Now c'mon let's go." Rick's heart jumped into his throat. The chaplain never requested to see anybody unless there was something awful wrong. All the possibilities ran through his mind. "Was it Amy? Was it one of the kids?" His questions gave his steps a sense of urgency.

Donovan knocked on a door. The chaplain invited Rick into his office.

"Sit down Rick. Something's happened you need to know about." Cold fear gripped Rick. He looked directly into the Chaplain's eyes.

"It's your son" Chaplain continued. "He fell into a swimming pool and nearly drowned. Right now he's in the hospital on life support. They're doing everything possible. They don't know if he'll make it or not. Here's a phone number. You can use my phone."

The Chaplain's words were direct and to the point. "It's all in God's hands Rick. I'll pray for you."

Rick felt his anger boiling to the surface. He couldn't hold it down. "I don't need your prayers Chaplain. I need to get outa here. I need to be there."

"I'm sorry Rick but you can't be there. There's nothing you can do but pray." The Chaplain



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

tried to be comforting but Rick's mind was closed.

Rick felt victimized. He felt helpless. He felt useless. Tears formed in his eyes and a lump formed in his throat. He quickly turned and left without making the phone call.

Donovan escorted him back to his cellblock. "I need to be alone Donovan," was all he could say.

"You're not alone Richardson," Donovan replied. God is your companion right now."

"Don't give me any of your God stuff Donovan," Rick shot back. The door to the cell closed with a loud clank.

Rick sunk into his bed. The more he thought, the angrier he became.

"How could this happen? Why wasn't Amy watching? Who's swimming pool? I'll sue their shirt off." Rick cursed. He cursed Amy.

He cursed the owner of the swimming pool. He cursed God. "How could God let this happen to a child?"

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

Brackett ISD Earns State's Highest Fiscal Accountability Rating

Brackett Independent School district officials announced that the district received a rating of "Superior Achievement" under Texas' new Schools FIRST financial accountability rating system, the third time in three years. The Superior Achievement rating is the state's highest, demonstrating the quality of Brackett ISD's financial management and reporting system.

This is the third year of Schools FIRST (Financial Accountability Rating System of Texas), a financial accountability system for Texas school districts developed by the Texas Education Agency in response to Senate Bill 875 of the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. The primary goal of Schools FIRST is to achieve quality performance in the management of school districts' financial resources, a goal made more significant due to the complexity of accounting associated with Texas' school finance system.

A public hearing will be held Monday, September 12, 2005, at 5:30 p.m., in the Central Office Boardroom to review indicators used by TEA to rate the district.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Sunday School: 10:10 AM
Sunday Worship: 11:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Study: 11:00 AM
Wednesday Healing Service: 12:10 PM

Corner of Fort and Henderson

Reverend Nathan Lafrenz 563-9607

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Corner of Fort & Henderson

Sunday: Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:10 a.m.

Bible Study Wednesday 11:00 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Healing Service Wednesday 12:10 - 12:50 p.m.

Email: www.ourredeemerlutheran.org

PASTOR NATHAN LAFRENTZ 563-9607

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman Phone: 563-2245

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

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

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

Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study

Come to the Frontier

A Bible Based New Testament Church

9:45 am Bible Study/Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

6:00 pm Sunday Night at the Movies or Bible study.
7:00 pm Wednesday Night Service

Nursery Provided

Pastor: Ned Sitzes (830) 563-5529

Frontier Baptist Church (SBC) Corner of Ann & El Paso

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Church of Christ

808 N. Ann 563-2616

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

Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes

Minister: Ray Melton

First United Methodist Church

109 James Street, next to the clinic
Sunday School 9:30 * Worship 10:45
Staffed Nursery Every Sunday

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EMPLOYMENT
KINNEY COUNTY EMS is accepting applications for full time EMT-1 to start October 1, 2005. Pick up applications at 401 S. Ellen St.

KINNEY COUNTY EMS is accepting applications for a part time EMT-B. Pick up applications at 401 S. Ellen St.

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. is accepting applications for an IT Supervisor in our Brackettville Office. Applicant must have an Associates Degree in Computer Science or in a related field, or the equivalent combination of education and experience. IT Supervisor will provide technical support to network end users; setup and maintain network operations; perform network troubleshooting; install, upgrade and configure all network components including routers, servers, and firewalls, and will maintain all data circuits for LAN/WAN. Will maintain company website, manage satellite based and dialup Internet service, provide troubleshooting for company phone system, and will supervise an IT Technician. Position will provide PC software training and support to all Cooperative employees and will include some irregular working hours and travel. Must possess excellent English oral and written skills. Must be able to maintain confidential information. Applications available at any RGEC office, downloaded from (www.rgco.coop), or by calling 830-563-2444. Mail application to RGEC, Human Resources Department, P.O. BOX 1509, Brackettville, TX, 78832. Job open until filled. EOE.

EMPLOYMENT
KINNEY COUNTY is currently accepting applications for the position of Road and Bridge Supervisor. Employment applications, position description, and pay schedule(s) may be obtained from the office of the County Judge. Deadline for applications is September 6, 2005. Interviews will be conducted beginning on September 12, 2005 and will continue until such time as final selection for such position is made by the Kinney County Commissioners Court. Kinney County is an equal opportunity employer.

NOW HIRING FOR 2005 Postal Positions. \$17.50-\$59.00 +/hr. Full benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience necessary. 1-800-584-1775. Reference #5400.

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

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FOR RENT
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BRICK LAYERS. D&L Masonry, Lubbock, Texas. Pay scale DOE. 1-806-795-3141.

EXPERIENCED DIESEL TECHS needed. Paid medical insurance, vacation and holidays. Uniforms provided. Witt International, 4406 W. Wall, Midland, TX 79703 or fax resume to 1-432-697-6417.

INSTALLERS FOR DIRECTV HSP full time positions for satellite installations. We need individuals who work with a sense of urgency and a strong focus on customer service and safety. Earn top wages. Paid training - no experience needed. Apply: 1-866-739-7737. EOE.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
THE WEST NUECES-Las Moras Soil & Water Conservation District #236 is soliciting bids for cedar removal as part of a Wildlife Habitat Enhancement project on a Kinney County ranch. Please contact our office at 830-563-2414, 2nd Floor, Kinney County Courthouse for more details. Deadline for bids is 5:00 p.m., September 8, 2005. No proposals will be accepted after the deadline.

STEEL BUILDINGS
MUST SELL FOUR steel buildings from Summer Inventory Clearance. One is 30 x 30, all brand new, never erected. Will sell for balance owed. Call 1-800-552-8504.

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MIDDLE-AGED MEXICAN lady to move to Ohio and care for elderly lady in my home. For more details call 419-222-4120.

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 SAME TIARA CONE
 ASSYED ALMONDS
 TAM KNEAVE
 HAREM LID HEAVE
 APED TAN AGREES
 LOP BAGGAGE TIS
 TRACER PIE EINE
 STYLE SIR BLESS
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 LOOM ORATE IAGO
 ELLE DELES OGLE
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386 acres: Edwards County, well and county road frontage
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REAL ESTATE

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110 Sunset, Lots 8 & 9, Unit 23, Fort Clark Springs. Main House, 2,540 sq. ft., 3BR, 1 1/2B, office/art room, 2 car carport, 1 car garage. Guest house, 1,000 sq.ft., 2BR, 1 1/2B, large shower, open kitchen, living area. RV pad. Large connecting patio. Price reduced \$194,500.00.

Historic Home - 202 McLane - Single level, 2,580 sq.ft. - Extra large lot, 3BR, 2B, New hardwood floors. Requires seeing to appreciate. \$169,000.00.

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 MSRP \$22730
 Rebate \$1500
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SALE PRICE \$14695

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- Automatic Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- AM/FM/CD
- Speed Control
- Advance Trac

MSRP \$27490
 Rebate \$1000
 DR FLM Disc \$3495
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SALE PRICE \$18995

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- Automatic
- 3rd Seat
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- Speed Control
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