

# The Brackett News

Not too late to help our soldiers overseas  
See Story Page 2

17th year, No. 46

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

**BRIEFS**

**Methodist Christmas eve candlelight service**

The First United Methodist Church would like to invite the public to attend their candlelight service on Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. A special breakfast will be served on Christmas morning at 9:30 a.m. followed by a worship service at 10:45 a.m.

**Christmas Baskets**

Las Moras Hispanic Organization will be delivering Christmas Baskets on Thur., Dec. 22, after 5 p.m.

**Baptist Christmas candlelight service**

The First Baptist Church of Brackettville invites the community to a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6 p.m. on Dec. 24.

**School holiday**

BISD's Christmas break officially starts today. All students will be released at 1 p.m. Classes will resume at 7:50 a.m. on Jan. 9, 2006.

**KC Heritage Museum closed on Dec. 24th**

Due to the holidays the Kinney County Heritage Museum will be closed next Saturday.

**Department of Public Safety local office hours**

The Brackettville driver's license office hours are 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., the first and third Thursdays of each month. The office is located upstairs at the county courthouse.

## Former City Manager indicted for theft

David Luna, former City Manager of Brackettville, was indicted for theft by a public servant Monday.

Luna received a total of three indictments from the Kinney County grand jury. A total bail of \$25,000 was set for the indictments.

Over 2,200 hours were expended by the state auditor's office

alone. The case was also investigated by Naldo Ramos of the Texas Department of Public Safety's Special Crimes Unit and the district attorney's office.

"I want to thank the state auditor's office for their assistance in this investigation," said Fred Hernandez, District Attorney.

"We would not have been able

to complete this investigation without their assistance and expertise in the area of financial crimes," Hernandez added.

The investigation has been on going since Luna was fired by the Brackettville City Council.

The city's financial woes came to light May 13, 2003 when Luna approached the council about taking out a \$120,000 loan to pay outstanding debts. The council tabled the item and asked for an itemized list of expenses for all existing debts.

After City Council members suggested on May 16, 2003 the city manager be suspended without pay, Luna walked off the job, even though no formal action was taken at that time. Luna had received salary advances in excess of \$35,000 during the prior fiscal year.

Then Mayor Carmen Berlanga subsequently reported the city had only \$5,349 in cash

assets, while it owed \$204,766.

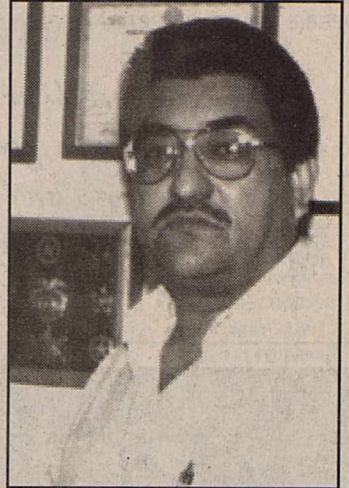
Luna was officially terminated by a unanimous vote of the city council on June 10, 2003.

The first indictment states between Jun. 9, 2002 and May 13, 2003, Luna intentionally and knowingly, unlawfully appropriated funds of \$1,500 or more but less than \$20,000 without the effective consent of the owner (City of Brackettville).

The offense of Theft by a Public Servant in the amount of \$1,500 to \$20,000 is a State Jail Felony punishable by two to ten years in a state jail facility and a fine of up to \$10,000.

The second indictment covered the time period between Jun. 9, 2001 and Jun. 8, 2002 for unlawfully appropriating funds of \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000.

The third indictment was for Jul. 1, 1998 to Jun. 8, 2001 appropriating funds of \$20,000 or



David Luna

more but less than \$100,000.

Theft by a Public Servant in the amount of \$20,000 to \$100,000 is punishable by two to twenty years in a state jail facility and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Luna was released Monday afternoon after posting bond.

## J.P. Ford indicted for theft and false evidence

Kinney County Justice of the Peace John Ford was indicted for theft by a public servant and fabricating physical evidence Monday.

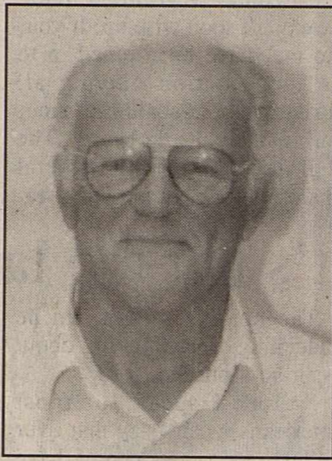
A total bail of \$10,000 was set for the two indictments handed out by the Kinney County grand jury.

Ford has been under investigation by the Texas Rangers and district attorney's office since Oct. of last year.

The first indictment states between Aug. 1, 2004 and Apr. 5, 2005 Ford intentionally and knowingly, unlawfully appropriated funds of \$1,500 or more but less than \$20,000 without the effective consent of the owner (Kinney County). Bail was set at \$5,000.

The offense of Theft by a Public Servant in the amount of \$1,500 to \$20,000 is a State Jail Felony punishable by two to ten years in a state jail facility and a fine of up to \$10,000.

The second indictment states Ford presented or documented



John Ford

a money order with knowledge of its falsity and with intent to affect the course and outcome of an official proceeding.

The offense is a third degree felony punishable by two to ten years in a state jail facility and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Ford has been justice of the peace for the last 7 years. He was released Monday after posting bond.

## Guerra interim EMS director

In a regular meeting on Dec. 12, the Commissioner's Court appointed April Guerra as the interim director for the Kinney County EMS. Guerra will serve for the next six months or until a permanent director can be hired.

Current EMS Director, Steve Burch, has resigned, but will serve until the end of the month. Burch is reportedly moving out of state.

Guerra is a certified paramedic and has more than five years working experience in Uvalde and Kinney Counties. She completed her basic and intermediate EMT training in Uvalde, but her Paramedic training was administered in San Antonio.

Her temporary responsibilities will include budgeting, maintaining the equipment and ensuring that the day to day operations of the EMS facility continue without interruption after Burch leaves.

"In order for our medics to stay on the cutting edge, I would like to see them receive more



New EMS Director

Photo by Leigh Volcsko

April Guerra was appointed interim EMS director due to the resignation of Steve Burch.

training as time and money will allow," said Guerra. "I would also like to see the county develop a search and rescue team," she added.

Guerra also said that the

county is always looking for good volunteers. Current medics and people interested in being a driver are encouraged to contact the EMS facility at 563-9090.

## Filing underway for March primary elections

Filing for six county positions is underway for the upcoming March primary elections.

The six local positions on the ballot include county judge, commissioner for Precinct 2, commissioner for Precinct 4, county clerk, county treasury and justice of the peace.

As of Wednesday, eight candidates have filed for six positions.

Incumbent Janis Floyd will be challenged in the primary by Joy Ralston. Both candidates have filed by petition.

Chuck Hall and Francie Wylie will vie for justice of the peace. Both candidates filed by paying a \$375 filing fee. Incumbent John Ford has not currently filed for reelection.

Incumbent Herb Senne has

filed for county judge by \$750 filing fee. Incumbent Pat Melancon has filed for commissioner Precinct 4 by \$750 filing fee. Incumbent Dora Sandoval has filed for county clerk by petition. Joe Montalvo has filed for commissioner Precinct 2 by \$750 filing fee.

Candidates seeking election to those positions can file through Jan. 2. Candidates must file for election through the respective party chairman or file as an independent. Applications for candidacy are available from the county chairpersons or county clerk.

Brackettville City Council member Mary Flores is county chair for the Democratic Party. Democratic candidates can file with Flores Monday through Fri-

day from 8 am to 5 pm. Kinney County does not have a Republican county chair and will not be holding a Republican primary election.

Early voting for the primary elections will be held Feb. 21 through Mar. 3.

## Texas Highway Patrol steps up enforcement for the holidays

DPS will have all available troopers patrolling Texas roadways during the Christmas holiday. Operation Holiday begins on Friday, Dec. 23 and runs through midnight on Monday, Dec. 26.

Troopers will target drunk drivers, speeders and people who are not wearing their seatbelts.

During Christmas weekend last year, DPS troopers made 340 DWI arrests and issued 10,594 speeding tickets and 1,183 tick-

ets for seat belt violations. In addition, troopers issued 503 tickets for child safety seat violations.

These numbers do not include citations written by other departments.

"If you choose to drive without regard for the safety of others, increased enforcement means you are nearly twice as likely to get a traffic citation or be arrested for DWI during the Christmas weekend," DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr.

said. Operation Holiday is a statewide effort by law enforcement to reduce fatalities during holiday weekends.

DPS is also participating in Operation CARE (Combined Accident Reduction Effort)—a nationwide effort maximizing enforcement on major interstate highways to reduce fatalities commonly associated with holiday weekends.

Highway Patrol troopers ask Texans to remember the follow-

ing driving safety tips:

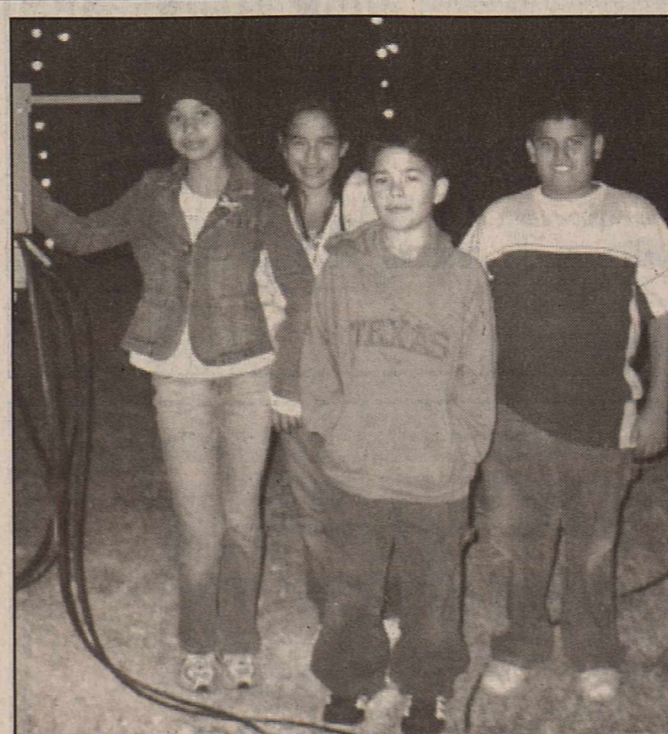
- Slow down—speed is the number one killer on Texas roads.
- Don't drink and drive; get a designated driver.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle.
- Keep cell phone chatter to a minimum.
- Drive with courtesy; it's contagious.
- Slow down in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.



Toy Drive

Photo special to The Brackett News

Gage Brown holds a toy donated by students at Jones Elementary School for the disadvantaged children at the Del Rio Hospital. The drive was organized by the second grade Gifted and Talented students, some under the direction of Laurel Plunk.



Old Fashion Tree Lighting

On the left, Selina Gerardo, McKenzie Castillo, Jonathan Quiroz and Jorge Villarreal flip the switch on Rio Grande Electric Co-op's giant tree of lights that can be seen from Highway 90. At right, Andie Gerardo smiles as Santa listens to her recite her list of Christmas wishes. This is the first tree lighting ceremony for the co-op, but administrators are planning to make this an annual event. They also hope to include local businesses in the celebration next year.



Photos by Leigh Volcsko



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

An incident occurred on Dec. 13 west of Brackettville involving multiple jurisdictions and disciplines. Kinney County EMS would like to thank the following agencies for their invaluable assistance and expertise in the handling of the situation: Kinney County Sheriff's Office

Department.  
EMS Volunteers  
The occasion could not have been handled as efficiently as it was without their expert assistance.

Again, a special thanks from the staff of Kinney County EMS.

April Guerra, EMT-P  
Kinney County EMS Director

LAS MORAS REALTY  
DEBBIE TRANT / BARBARA VOSS  
830-563-2997  
104 A-E Spring

One of the real joys of the season is the opportunity to say thank you and to wish you a special Christmas and the very best New Year

May your Christmas be a bright, shining package of love and laughter.

from  
Employees of  
Kinney County Jail  
and the  
Sheriff's Department

Big Mama Sez!

Think back to a hard lesson you learned as a child. Be glad for that experience

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  
Member of

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The Brackett News

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It's not polite to use the "C" word in public

By Nathan Tabor  
Contributing Writer

There's an old saying that goes: if something looks like a duck, walks like a duck, and talks like a duck, then it must be a duck. But as the latest campaign against one of the most sacred days of the year demonstrates, this simple litmus test might not always apply.

The cold wind blows as beautiful snowflakes fall to the ground; houses are adorned with twinkling lights; on street corners everywhere fraternal and church groups are selling freshly cut evergreen trees. It looks like Christmas.

Radio stations are eagerly deviating from their normal formats to play the "sounds of the season" Hark, the Herald Angels Sing, Blue Christmas or Little Saint Nick. When you combine the music, weather and scenery with the tangible excitement exemplified by little children waiting to tell the jolly fellow dressed in red what's on their "wish list," it sure feels like Christmas.

Christmas has always been my favorite time of the year. It is a chance to reflect upon the greatest gift God has granted each of the humble life Christ assumed when the Word became Flesh. I treasure the wonderful memories and good times that come from being with family and friends. This year is extra special for my wife and me because it is our daughter's first Christmas. Just thinking about this challenges me to control my anticipation as much as waiting for Santa does most children.

But if you pay close attention to many of the ads on TV and radio, the wording of most greeting cards, and the general attitude afforded this time of year, you can call this holiday many things: but none dare call it Christmas.

We are all too familiar with

the scenarios: atheist sues city over nativity scene; ACLU says portrait of the Madonna (the Mother of God, not the singer) covered in cow dung is protected speech, but elementary school Christmas play is hate crime. and so it goes year after year. It is absurd and frustrating, but should not be too easily dismissed as a "phase" we will get past if we just ignore the problem.

There is good news and bad news in this battle. The good news is that this is not the most hostile society has been toward Christianity and its sacred traditions. The bad news is that we're on a collision course to letting the past repeat itself. The time to take a stand against future persecution is now.

One of the aforementioned classic holiday tunes serves as the perfect example of the ghost of Christmas persecution past and what will become the ghost of Christmas persecution future if we don't soon wise up. If you, like me, have been tuned in to the local station playing all Christmas songs all the time, you've undoubtedly heard "The 12 Days of Christmas" several times by now. Apparently, ra-

dio programmers didn't get the "memo" about not using the "C-word" in public.

"The 12 Days of Christmas" is more than just a whimsical, well-rhymed song. It was actually written during a period in England (1559-1829) when it was illegal for Catholics to practice their faith. It was designed as a "catechism song," with each verse delivering a coded message about the tenets of the faith. The idea was that Catholics could sing the song without fear of retribution, but the memory aids built into it would help the children learn the faith.

The "true love" mentioned in the song represents God the Father, not an earthly suitor, and the recipient ("me") represents the baptized person. A few other examples from the song include: the partridge in a pear tree was Christ on the cross; two turtle doves symbolized the Old and New Testaments; four calling birds signified the four evangelists John; ten lords a-leaping stood for the Ten commandments; and the 12 drummers drumming denoted the 12 points of belief expressed in the Apostles Creed.

It took an act of the English

Parliament in 1829 to end the undue persecution of Catholics in Britain, but as another saying goes, those who are ignorant to history are bound to repeat it. While it is true that a key component of the Christian faith is to endure suffering, American Christians would be foolish to turn a blind eye to harbingers of a new period that outlaws the belief in Christ.

Less than 200 years have passed since the emancipation of Catholics in England. Now we live in a world where the worship of self and material goods is celebrated; where those who seek to honor our country's Judeo-Christian heritage are ridiculed at best and castigated at worst. And now, we are told that in the name of "tolerance," Christians and their holidays simply can't be tolerated.

The fact is, you cannot have Christmas without Christ. That's not to say that individuals cannot celebrate December 25 in some secularized way - that is their prerogative if they so choose. But it does not give others the right to rob us of the true origin and nature of the celebration. So, Merry Christmas to you all!

It's not too late to help soldiers overseas



Weekly Report  
Henry Bonilla

Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. There will be a shipping charge added depending on the number of certificates sent.

One of the many benefits of this certificate is that soldiers will be able to use it right away. AAFES ensures that soldiers will have immediate access to merchandise from home - like American candy bars - in Iraq. Also, this allows soldiers to buy things when they need them, and not have to worry about the logistics of heavy packages.

Serving your country is a great honor. However, that doesn't keep our soldiers from missing family, friends, or America.

Receiving gifts and messages of support from back home is a real boost and a great way to stay focused on the mission at hand - winning the war for freedom.

Please consider sending a gift to a soldier abroad.

Your gift of support may be the most touching present a soldier far from home receives this holiday season.

Now more than ever, people are counting their blessings - faith, family and friends top the list. No doubt about it, also on that list is freedom.

One of the most important things we can do as a country is show strong support for our military men and women. This holiday season, I urge those who just want to "do something," to send gifts to our troops online through Operation Santa's Gift from the Homefront.

Just log onto www.aafes.com and click on the camouflage-clad Santa.

You can purchase certificates in \$10, \$20, or \$25 denominations accepted at any military exchange (AAFES, NEX, MCX, Coast Guard Exchange) retail store around the world, including those supporting Operation

Happy Holidays to Our Members  
from Border Federal Credit Union.  
We will be closing all day  
December 24th and  
December 26th.

BORDER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
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KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS  
from  
CASUALS PLUS AND PLAZA WASH  
LUCILLE AND CORDELIA

FESTIVE TIDINGS!  
'Tis the season to express our thanks for your friendship and support. Merry Christmas, friends.  
Feliz Navidad  
from Steve and Judy Crosby  
Casa Verde Garden Center

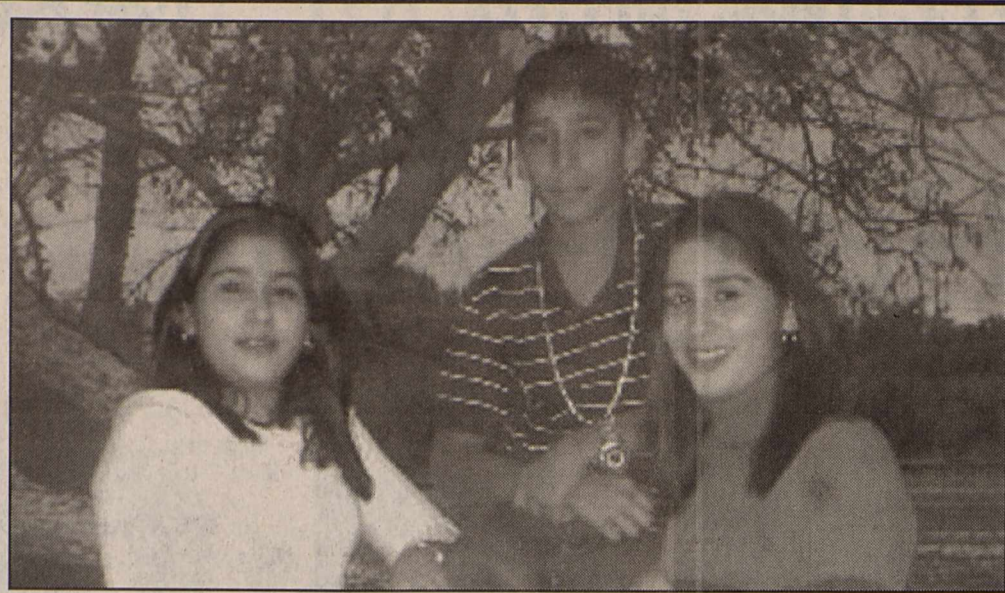
THE SPIRIT OF Christmas  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
Lozano's Welding  
Henry & Carmen Lozano

HO, HO, HO!  
Have the merriest of holidays! Greetings from  
Bob & Gladys Burkepile  
To all our Friends & Neighbors

Our prescription for a joyous season:  
Take 1 part each of laughter, love, peace and good will every day of the holiday. Have a happy!  
Clinic Pharmacy  
Merry Christmas  
B.E. and Charlotte Sweet, Savannah and Mirza

Season's Greetings  
from  
Archie's Landscaping & Lawn Maintenance  
Archie & Jill Woodson

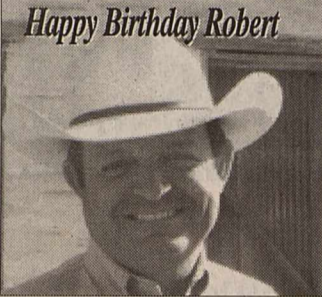




**My how they've grown!** Photo special to The Brackett News  
Elena, Danny and Elidia Molinar pose for their annual birthday photograph. The trio will turn 14 on Dec. 23 and are now eighth graders at Brackett Jr. High School. The triplets are the children of Tony and Elena Molinar and the younger siblings of Tony Jr. and Tanya.



**All State Team Member** Photo by Leigh Volcsko  
Daphne Hunt was selected to be a member of the 1A All State Cross Country Team for 2005. Hunt chosen by the 1A Texas Girls Coaches Association, is a tenth grader at Brackett High School.



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**Happy Holidays!**

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**0%** for 60 mos.  
-OR-  
**2.9%** for 72 mos. on Selected 2005's  
-OR-  
rebates up to **\$6,000**

**4.9%** for 72 mos.  
-OR-  
rebates up to **\$3,500** on Selected 2006's

**Merry Christmas**  
from The Chiropractic Clinic

Christmas is a time of celebration, a time for sharing with friends and family, and a time for reflection on the year just past and for making plans for the New Year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your referrals to our clinic. Since we opened in March 2004 (has it really been almost two years?!), more and more of our new patients indicate that they were referred by a friend, family member or co-worker. By your referral, you have paid us the nicest compliment possible and we appreciate your confidence and trust. We also value your friendship. Our best wishes for a happy and safe holiday season.

Dr. Kent Suzanne

**UVALDE'S USED VEHICLE HEADQUARTERS**

<p><b>2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer LT</b></p> <p>Christmas Special Price • Sunroof • CD/Cass • Power Locks / Windows • 3rd Row Seat • 27,700 miles</p> <p><b>\$16,750</b> Plus TT&amp;L (was \$20,995) -OR- <b>\$239.00</b> mo.</p> <p>20% down plus TT&amp;L @ 6.45% for 72 mos. to qualified buyers W.A.C. SN 09222</p>	<p><b>2005 Toyota Tundra SR5 4x4</b></p> <p>Christmas Special Price • WARRANTY • AM/FM/CD • V-8 • 4 Door • 3,439 miles</p> <p><b>\$23,995</b> Plus TT&amp;L (was \$28,900) -OR- <b>\$358.00</b> mo.</p> <p>20% down plus TT&amp;L @ 6.45% for 72 mos. to qualified buyers W.A.C. SN 67574</p>	<p><b>2003 Ford Expedition XLT</b></p> <p>Christmas Special Price • V-8 • 3rd Row Seat • Power Locks / Windows • AM/FM/CD/Cass • 38,800 miles</p> <p><b>\$16,995</b> Plus TT&amp;L (was \$19,825) -OR- <b>\$242.00</b> mo.</p> <p>20% down plus TT&amp;L @ 6.45% for 72 mos. to qualified buyers W.A.C. SN 02774</p>
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**UVALDE'S USED VEHICLE HEADQUARTERS.**

2005 Toyota Tundra 4x4.....3439 miles	SN67574	2003 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD.....18830 miles	SN33308
2005 Buick Century Custom V-6.....22544 miles	SN08347	2003 Ford ZX2 / 4 cyl.....45100 miles	SN61864
2005 Ford Focus 4-cyl.....21228 miles	SN09506	2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer Ext I-6.....27698 miles	SN09222
2005 Chevrolet Silverado C1500 V-8.....30985 miles	SN51376	2003 Chevrolet Suburban V-8.....51177 miles	SN53373
2005 Buick LeSabre Custom.....27836 miles	SN08347	2003 Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup V-8.....27314 miles	SN30438
2004 Ford F-150 Supercrew.....18200 miles	SN48080	2003 Ford F-250 Super Duty V-8.....53102 miles	SN27027
2004 Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup V-8.....22259 miles	SN37770	2003 Ford Expedition V-8.....33850 miles	SN09874
2004 Ford F-150 Supercab V-8.....31797 miles	SN15482	2003 Ford Expedition V-8.....38811 miles	SN02774
2004 Ford Expedition V-8.....47894 miles	SN69435	2002 Ford F-150 Pickup V-8.....70154 miles	SN49615
2004 Lincoln Town Car V-8.....30165 miles	SN47805	2002 Ford Explorer Sport Trac.....48100 miles	SN49842
2004 Mercury Sable V-6.....19335 miles	SN23041	2002 Lincoln Town Car V-8.....57834 miles	SN56972
2004 Ford Taurus.....21854 miles	SN76453	2002 Ford Explorer.....47074 miles	SN74007
2004 Pontiac Grand Am SE.....39196 miles	SN47923	2001 Jeep Grand Cherokee.....39629 miles	SN30233
2004 Ford Mustang.....17650 miles	SN35962	2001 Ford Explorer Sport Trac.....55177 miles	SN24128
2004 Ford F150 Supercab.....30004 miles	SN38727	2001 Ford Explorer Sport Trac.....40862 miles	SN75941
2004 Ford F150 Supercab.....53994 miles	SN17212	2001 Ford F-150 Pickup V-8.....71182 miles	SN39945
2004 Ford F150 Supercrew.....18200 miles	SN48080	2000 Chevrolet Suburban V-8.....86964 miles	SN36549
2004 Ford F150 Supercrew.....39436 miles	SN71222	2000 Ford F-350 Super Duty V-8.....93127 miles	SN57873
2003 Ford Focus.....38622 miles	SN43576	1991 Dodge Stealth.....61976 miles	SN00375

**2005 Chevy Silverado LS Crewcab**

Christmas Special Price  
• WARRANTY  
• Power Locks / Windows  
• Bedliner • Trailer Towing Pkg.  
• AM/FM/CD • 31,000 miles

**\$18,995**  
Plus TT&L (was \$22,900)  
-OR-  
**\$274.00** mo.

20% down plus TT&L @ 6.45% for 72 mos. to qualified buyers W.A.C. SN 51376

**From Our Family to Yours...**

May this be a very special Holiday Season. Thank you for your continued support and the opportunity to represent you in the Texas House of Representatives.

Respectfully,  
Tracy O. King and family

**Yes! Second Chance Financing is here. Bad Credit • No Credit • No App. Refused!**

**GRIFFITH** **"Your Hometown Ford Dealer"**

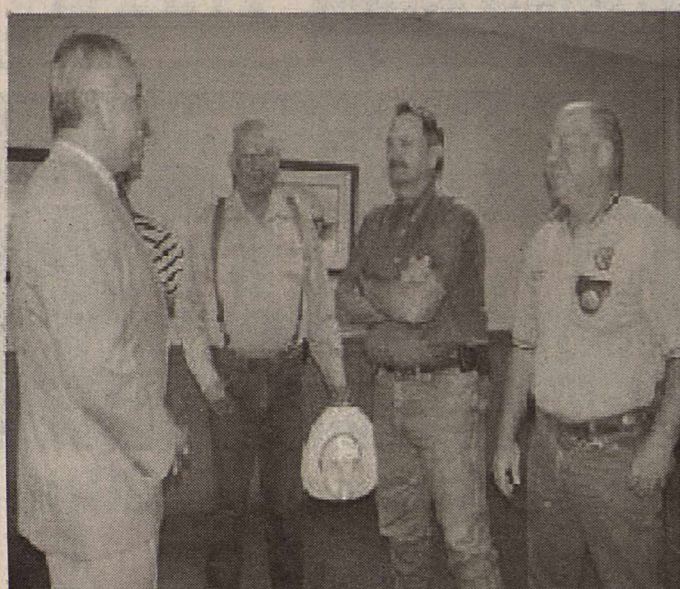
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3000 East Main, Uvalde • Open Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Brackett News wishes you a very Merry Christmas





# A holiday greeting from Congressman Henry Bonilla



Dear Friends,

I hope that this holiday season brings you and yours all the joy on earth.

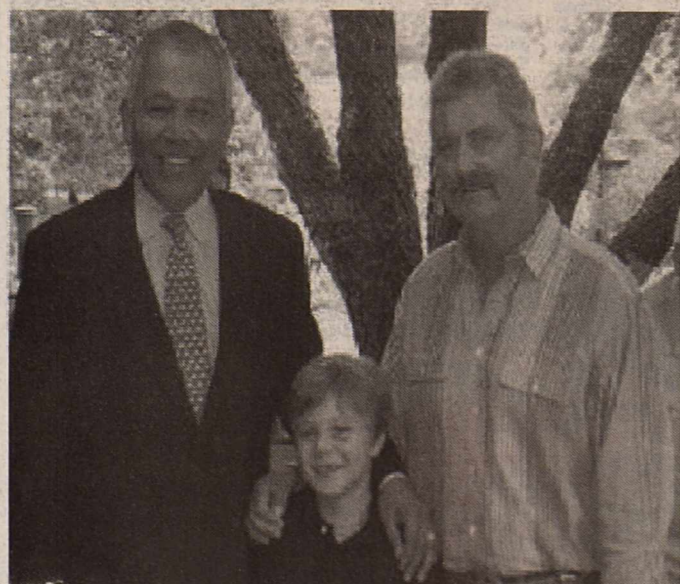


It has been my honor to represent you for the last twelve years and I look forward to another successful year for the people of the 23rd Congressional District.



All my best,

*Henry Bonilla*



Paid for and authorized by Texans for Henry Bonilla, Jill DeYoung Treasurer



# Food, food, wonderful food!

Food, food, wonderful food! Aren't holidays and special occasions wonderful? They allow us to eat as much and as often as we want. In fact, I'm sure there must be a law somewhere saying it must be done. All who agree, eat another cookie.

Back to reality, hope you are not forgetting to eat the stuff that's good for you too. With that in mind. Save one or two of today's veggie recipes to try. The fried potatoes are super!

**Fried Potatoes with Oregano**  
 1/4 cup virgin olive oil  
 1 1/2 lb. potatoes (preferably Yukon Gold) cut in half, then in 1/4 in. slices

1 lg. onion, cut in 1/4 in. slices  
 1/4 tsp. dried oregano, crumbled

1/2 tsp salt  
 1/4 tsp black pepper  
 3 tbsp. finely grated parmigiano-reggiano  
 Using 12 in. non-stick skillet, heat oil over medium heat



Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

until hot. Add potatoes, onion, oregano, salt and pepper; reduce heat to medium. Cook covered, stirring and turning potatoes occasionally. Cook until almost tender, about 10 minutes. Remove lid and cook, stirring and turning potatoes over 3 or 4 times until brown and crusty, about 8 - 10 minutes. Add more salt or pepper if desired. Transfer veggies to a shallow bowl and sprinkle with cheese. Serves 4.

**Frijoles Borrachos (Drunk Beans)**  
 4 cups pinto beans (2 lbs.)  
 1 tsp. baking soda  
 2 chopped onions  
 2 garlic cloves, chopped  
 4 slices bacon

1 tbsp. salt  
 1/2 tsp. sugar  
 2 tsp. cumin, optional  
 1 tsp. oregano, optional  
 1 can beer

Cover beans with water and soak overnight. Drain and discard any bad beans. In large pot, about 4 times the depth of beans. Cover beans with an inch of water and bring to a boil. Boil about 15 minutes. Reduce heat and slowly add baking soda. Stir until mixture foams to the top, about 1 minute and then quickly drain and rinse beans in a colander.

Return to pot; add onion, garlic, bacon; cover with water about 2 inches. Cover pot and cook slowly 2 to 4 hours. Add salt and other optional spices during last 1/2 hour of cooking along with the beer. Serves 8 to 10.

These beans are better flavored the second day and freeze well. Recipe can easily be halved.

Canned beans may be used, but the texture/consistency of liquid as well as taste of finished dish will be disappointing. When any recipe calls for dry cooked beans. Much is lost in the finished dish by using the short cut.

**Hot Spiced Fruit**  
 1 can fruit for salad (29 oz.)  
 1 jar maraschino cherries (8 oz.)  
 1 1/2 oz. can dark pitted cherries  
 2 lg. bananas, cut in large chunks  
 1/3 cup brown sugar  
 2 tbsp. cornstarch  
 1 1/2 tsp. curry powder  
 1/4 cup butter, melted

Drain fruit well, mixing all the juices together. Combine dry ingredients and melted butter. Place fruit in 9 x 13 in. casserole; add dry ingredients with melted butter cover with reserved juices. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes. Serves 4 to 6.

Fruit cocktail cannot be substituted for fruit salad.

*Earlene Thurber Swanson* Love To All

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all my friends in Brackettville and Fort Clark. I miss going to the Post Office and seeing people I have known through the years and stopping to visit with people in town but we all get older & sometimes you have to move on.

*Season's Greetings*

We have a lot to be thankful for during the holidays because of you, our friends and neighbors. It is a pleasure to serve this community. Enjoy the season.

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CERTIFIED \$25495                  Leather, Dual Climate Control, Dual Power Seats, Remote Entry PY295919</p> <p><b>VEHICLES UNDER \$10,000</b></p> <p>99 Dodge Grand Caravan - Automatic, Rear AC, 3rd Seat, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise U148264 65k Miles \$6995</p> <p>99 Expedition - 3rd Seat, Rear Air, 6 Disc CD, All Power ULA8220 \$7995</p> <p>03 Ford Ranger - CD, Tilt, Cruise, Grt Guard UPB43074 \$8995</p> <p>02 Dodge Stratus SE - Auto, Sunroof, CD, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise UN161035 \$8995</p> <p>04 Oldsmobile Alero - AC, CD, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Spoiler UC205214 \$9995</p> <p>03 Ford Mustang - Automatic, Spoiler, 6 Disc CD, Cruise, Alloy Wheels, Spoiler U133388 \$9995</p> <p>03 Taurus SES - Leather, CD, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy Wheels, Spoiler U0133388 \$9995</p> <p>00 Nissan Xterra - Auto, AC, CD, DVD, Tilt, Cruise UC094720 \$9995</p>	<p><b>2003 FORD WINDSTAR</b></p> <p>3rd Seat                  AC                  CD                  Power Windows                  Power Locks                  Tilt                  Cruise                  UBA33947                  Only 27,500 Miles</p> <p><b>\$10495</b></p> <p><b>2003 EXPLORER SPORT</b></p> <p>Sunroof                  CD + AC                  Side Steps                  Power Windows                  Power Locks                  Tilt                  Cruise                  Keyless Entry                  Power Seat                  Power Mirrors                  UUB29293</p> <p><b>\$10995</b></p> <p><b>2001 F-150 SUPERCREW LARIAT</b></p> <p>Leather                  CD                  AC                  Power Windows                  Power Locks                  Tilt                  Cruise                  Side Steps</p> <p><b>\$11995</b></p> <p><b>2003 JEEP WRANGLER</b></p> <p>6 Cylinder                  AC                  CD                  Hard Top                  And Soft Top                  Tilt                  Cruise                  Custom Front Bumper                  Only 22,400 Miles                  UP307728</p> <p><b>\$17995</b></p> <p><b>2004 EXPEDITION</b></p> <p>3rd Seat                  Rear Air                  6 Disc CD                  Power Windows                  Power Locks                  Power Mirrors                  Tilt                  Cruise                  AC                  ULB00662</p> <p><b>\$19995</b></p> <p><b>2003 F-250 SUPERCAB</b></p> <p>Grill Guard                  Bedliner                  Chrome Wheels                  Chrome Side Steps                  AC                  Power Windows                  Power Locks                  Tilt                  Cruise                  Low Miles                  UED03031</p> <p><b>\$23995</b></p>	<p>01 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT Quad Cab - Auto, AC, Bodiner - UM563989 \$10495</p> <p>01 F-150 Super Cab - Auto, CD, AC, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Low Miles - UNB42320 \$11995</p> <p>04 Pontiac Vibe - Automatic, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Low Miles UZ443601 \$13995</p> <p>01 Mustang GT - Leather, CD, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Only 31,826 Miles U223892A \$13995</p> <p>02 Grand Cherokee - 6 Cyl., Auto, CD, AC, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise - Only 22,411 Miles \$13995</p> <p>03 Silverado R/C LS - V8, Automatic, CD, AC, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise U2215246 \$14995</p> <p>02 Explorer Sport Trac - Bedliner, AC, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy Wheels - UUD29869 \$15495</p> <p>04 GMC Sierra 1500 Ext Cab - CD, New Tires, Bedliner - U1183853 \$15995</p> <p>03 F150 Supercrew XLT - Auto, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise - UKR006216 \$16495</p> <p>02 Tacoma SR5 - Double Cab, 6 Cylinder, Automatic, Bedliner, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Chrome Side Steps, CD U263990 \$16495</p> <p><b>2006 DODGE 2500 QUAD CAB</b>                  Diesel                  Grill Guard                  AC + Tilt + Cruise + CD                  UG123776                  Only 1,000 Miles  <b>\$29995</b></p> <p>01 F-150 Super Crew 4x4 - Leather, Grill Guard, Keyless Entry, AC, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise UB36787A \$16495</p> <p>04 F-150 STX Super Cab - Automatic, Alloy Wheels, CD, Tilt, Cruise UNA39066 \$16995</p> <p>03 Towncar - New Body Style, Leather, Cd, AC, All Power UY661669 \$17995</p> <p>05 Explorer XLT - Leather, Rear AC, 3rd Seat, All Power, Only 4K Miles - PZ408457 \$18995</p> <p>04 GMC Sierra Ext Cab SLE - 27 Chrome Wheels, Chrome Side Steps, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, CD U116824 \$18995</p> <p>04 Mustang GT - Automatic, Leather, CD, Spoiler, Tilt, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Low Miles UF240654 \$18995</p> <p>03 GMC Yukon - Rear Air, Running Boards, CD, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise - UR227502 \$19495</p> <p>04 F-150 Super Crew Lariat - Bedliner, CD, AC, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise \$19995</p> <p>04 F-150 Super Cab Lariat - Leather, CD, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Low Miles UA24890A \$19995</p> <p>04 Expedition - Rear Air, CD, Fold Flat 3rd Seat, 20K Miles - ULB0062 \$19995</p> <p>04 Expedition Eddie Bauer - Two Tone, Leather, DVD - ULA84452 \$20995</p> <p>03 Expedition Eddie Bauer - Navigation, DVD, Leather, All Power, Low Miles ULB47844 \$22995</p> <p>03 F-250 Supercab Diesel - Hoodway, Grille Guard, Low Miles UED03031 \$24995</p>
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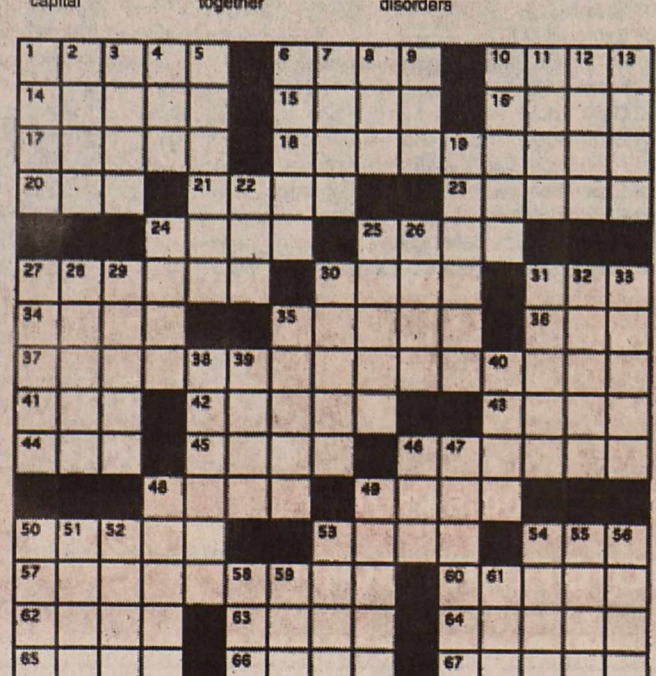
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ACROSS  
 1 Funny person  
 6 Asian land  
 10 Wound covering  
 14 Center of action  
 15 Is not slang  
 16 Family member  
 17 Show contempt  
 18 Cherishes  
 20 Little person  
 21 Whitney and others  
 23 Mountain crest  
 24 Adult-to-be  
 25 Avoid  
 27 "All \_\_\_"  
 30 Mr. Guinness  
 31 Attach  
 34 Irrigate  
 35 Earn points  
 36 Common verb  
 37 U.S. state capital

DOWN  
 1 Filing  
 2 Fee \_\_\_?  
 3 Come together  
 4 Ending for Joseph or Paul  
 5 Vocation  
 6 Language  
 7 Haughty manners  
 8 Bill de-nomination  
 9 RR depot  
 10 Reject with disdain  
 11 Give a hoot  
 12 In \_\_\_  
 13 Foundation  
 14 Cup's companion  
 22 Appeared to be winning  
 24 Powder ingredient  
 25 Blackthorn  
 26 Rosemary, for one  
 27 City on the Rhone  
 28 Painful swellings  
 29 Barnyard sounds  
 30 Skin disorders

31 Old hat  
 32 Nettled  
 33 Approaches  
 35 Sights  
 38 Spoke publicly  
 39 \_\_\_ Falana  
 40 Distinctive atmosphere  
 46 Full house sign  
 47 Batters' delights  
 48 Uneven  
 49 Dress up fussily  
 50 French cleric  
 51 Coat  
 52 First-class  
 53 Kermit of "Sesame Street"  
 54 Olla contents  
 55 Reason for marriage  
 56 Unique Individual  
 58 Parents  
 59 1977 heavy-weight champ  
 61 General \_\_\_



**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: PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL TEAMS

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

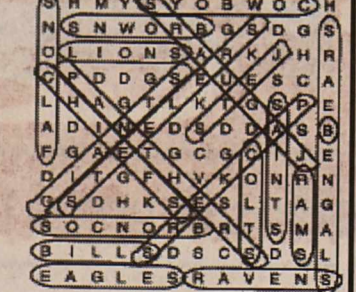
1. Saints  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_  
 11. \_\_\_\_\_  
 12. \_\_\_\_\_  
 13. \_\_\_\_\_  
 14. \_\_\_\_\_  
 15. \_\_\_\_\_  
 16. \_\_\_\_\_  
 17. \_\_\_\_\_  
 18. \_\_\_\_\_  
 19. \_\_\_\_\_  
 20. \_\_\_\_\_

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Dec. 22.....Arabala Abrego  
 Dec. 22.....Robert Elledge  
 Dec. 22.....Evelyn Estes  
 Dec. 22.....Don Hood  
 Dec. 22.....Richard Pena  
 Dec. 23.....Victor Abrego  
 Dec. 23.....Johnie Beard  
 Dec. 23.....Sergio Cardenas  
 Dec. 23.....Danny Molinar  
 Dec. 23.....Elena Molinar  
 Dec. 23.....Elidia Molinar  
 Dec. 23.....W.T. Hunt  
 Dec. 24.....Paul Williams  
 Dec. 25.....Michael Gass  
 Dec. 26.....Dorothy Clark  
 Dec. 26.....Pat Foster  
 Dec. 26.....Pam Melancon  
 Dec. 27.....Margarita Pena  
 Dec. 27.....Christina Smith  
 Dec. 27.....J.J. Smith

**Roaring Twenties Solution:**

1. Bears 11. Giants  
 2. Bengals 12. Jaguars  
 3. Bills 13. Jets  
 4. Broncos 14. Lions  
 5. Browns 15. Packers  
 6. Chiefs 16. Panthers  
 7. Colts 17. Rams  
 8. Cowboys 18. Ravens  
 9. Eagles 19. Saints  
 10. Falcons 20. Steelers



**HOROSCOPES**

by Charles Cooper

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19)  
 Your mind is wandering as the week begins. That's because you have your sights set on the holiday. Do your best to concentrate on work so you have nothing to worry about at week's end.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20)  
 An unexpected business development is in your favor. While this is a hectic time of year, you manage to balance everything quite nicely. This weekend, some much needed rest is in order.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20)  
 A friend can be a great source of advice concerning a personal matter. Be sure to tend to last-minute holiday chores. You don't want to get caught short when the big day arrives.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22)  
 You're pulled in different directions this week. Friends' holiday plans conflict with those of your family. Choose wisely.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22)  
 This isn't the time to reveal your work plans to co-workers. Keep these to yourself. Later, you're able to enjoy a fun-filled holiday.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22)  
 Anything of a financial nature is favored this week. Despite having spent money on gifts, you still have a solid footing. Home interests are the highlight of the weekend.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22)  
 The beginning of the week is the time to answer phone calls, e-mails, and all related work correspondence. Get these out of the way quickly. Later, you spend an enjoyable holiday with family members.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21)  
 Someone you're not really close to surprises you with a holiday gift. Accept this graciously. While unprepared, you can reciprocate at another time.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21)  
 Any work you do of a creative nature is favored this week. Children are unusually cooperative, which is no surprise. At this time of year, you know what they're up to!

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19)  
 Nothing of importance really happens at work this week. Everyone is firmly entrenched in holiday mode. Enjoy this lull while it lasts.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18)  
 You reach a favorable agreement with a bigwig this week. This really frames your holiday mood. Feel free to celebrate your good fortune along with the holiday.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20)  
 You're focused on finances this week. That's fine, but don't let it become an obsession. If you do, you'll ruin the holiday for those around you.

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SHERIFF'S REPORT

**Monday, Dec. 12**  
6:00 p.m., A woman reported that her home had been burglarized. Deputy Ramon Gutierrez was advised of the situation.  
10:00 p.m., Ruben Rojas Jr., 36, of Sanderson was arrested by DPS Trooper Tully Welch for driving while intoxicated with a child under 15, a felony. Rojas was released on Dec. 13 after securing a \$3500 bond.  
**Tuesday, Dec. 13**  
3:40 p.m., A 911 caller reported a plane crash near Fritter Park. Sheriff Buddy Burgess and his deputies were informed of the situation and en route to the location. BVFD and EMS were also dispatched.  
8:21 p.m., A 911 caller reported a possible drunk driver on HWY 277.  
**Wednesday, Dec. 14**  
4:00 p.m., A DPS dispatcher in Del Rio called to report a one vehicle accident on HWY 277, 30 miles out of Del Rio. A car hit a deer. No injuries were reported. Deputy Gutierrez was advised of the situation.  
10:55 p.m., Deputy Pena called to report that he was advised by Val Verde Sheriff's Department about an individual traveling from Del Rio with stolen goods and a weapon. Deputy Kenneth Freitag located the individual on HWY 90. Kinney County EMS was dispatched to the location.

**Thursday, Dec. 15**  
2:35 a.m., A woman called to report that her neighbors were making a lot of noise. Deputy Freitag was advised.  
6:45 a.m., A security company called to report that the alarm at BISD Central Office was sounding off. Constable Bobby Guidry and a school official were both notified.  
2:00 p.m., James Paul Charles, 19, of Austin was arrested by Trooper Tully Welch for driving with an invalid license. Charles was released later the same day after securing a \$1500 bond.  
**Friday, Dec. 16**  
8:03 a.m., A Border Patrol Agent requested assistance at the Brackett Station in regards to an individual in custody in possession of a controlled substance. Constable Guidry responded to the call.  
8:16 a.m., A man called to request assistance from a deputy regarding a domestic issue.  
8:34 p.m., A 911 caller reported a suspicious truck parked in front of his residence. The truck dropped some individuals off and then later returned to pick them up; leaving in a hurry. Game Warden Henry Lutz and Deputy Freitag were advised of the situation and en route to the location.  
9:14 p.m., A 911 caller reported a two-car accident on

HWY 90 east of Brackettville. EMS was dispatched. No injuries were reported.  
11:11 p.m., Dan M. Villarreal, 36, of Brackettville was arrested by Deputy Freitag for assault causing bodily injury and family violence. Villarreal was released the next day on a \$1000 PR bond.  
**Saturday, Dec. 17**  
6:15 p.m., Brandon Sam Walker, 25, of Menard was arrested by DPS Trooper Enrique Trevino for public intoxication. Walker was still being held at press time.  
6:15 p.m., Travis D. Walker, 29, of Menard was arrested by Trooper Trevino for evading arrest and detention with a vehicle, driving while intoxicated; first offense, driving with an invalid license and possession of marijuana under 2 oz. Walker is still being held.  
**Sunday, Dec. 18**  
12:09 a.m., Teresa Smith Prather, 48, of Waxahatche was arrested by Deputy Gutierrez for public intoxication. Prather was issued a citation and released.  
1:28 a.m., A 911 caller reported a possible drunk driver west of Brackettville. The call was reported to the Val Verde Sheriff's Department.  
7:21 p.m., A 911 caller reported that his medication had been stolen from his residence. Deputy Gutierrez was informed

and en route to the location.  
**Monday, Dec. 19**  
12:08 a.m., A 911 caller reported a vehicle had struck a deer between Brackettville and the Cline checkpoint. The caller also stated the vehicle's engine was smoking and there were children in it. Deputy Gutierrez was dispatched to the scene.  
12:35 a.m., A 911 caller reported a possible vehicle accident on HWY 90 15 miles east of Del Rio. Trooper Welch was

advised of the situation.  
11:02 a.m., David Luna, 57, of Brackettville was arrested by DPS Trooper Mario Ramirez for theft by a public servant. Luna was released the same day after posting bonds totaling \$25,000.

12:20 p.m., John Harold Ford, III, 64, of Brackettville was arrested by Trooper Welch for theft by a public servant and fabricating physical evidence. Ford was released the same day on two bonds totaling \$10,000.

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Candlelight Service

Pastor: Ned Sitzes

Everyone Welcome

Dec. 24

5 p.m.



refreshments following the service



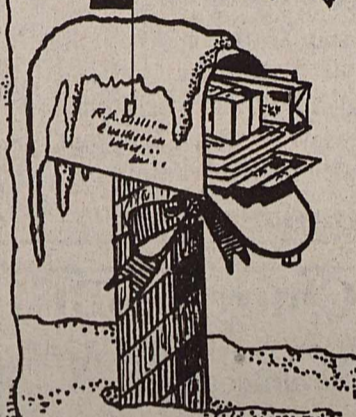
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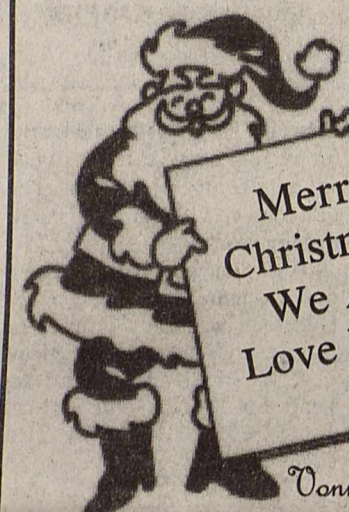
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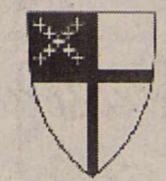
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# Do you have room for Jesus?

Those of us who are church folks know the story well of Mary and Joseph journeying to Bethlehem and finding no room in which to stay. This story is re-enacted every year in Hispanic communities as *Las Posadas*. Again and again, Joseph and Mary, heavy with child, are turned away. From our perspective two thousand years later, we are offended that NO ONE had a warm room to offer in which Jesus could be born.

But, do WE have room? Do we have room in our busy lives for Jesus to come in? As we approach Christmas Day our lives are filled with the hustle and bustle of the Christmas shopping season. There are holiday par-



**First United Methodist Church**  
**Rev. Jean Reardon**

ties to attend, cookies to bake, houses and offices to decorate, Christmas cards to send—and, of course the shopping! We often become over-stressed and irritable, the exact opposite of the love, joy and peace Christ was intended to bring. We are offended when Christ is taken out of the holiday displays in public places, but have we taken Christ out of our own family's

Christmas? Christmas is on Sunday this year and some big city churches have opted not to have services. That is not true here in Brackettville. Please take an hour or so on Christmas morning to worship Christ in the congregation of your choice. The good news of the coming of our Savior is for us; all of us. Christ is present as we gather.

If you do not have a church home here and would like to

gather with us at 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist, we will warmly welcome you. We will have a candlelight service at 6 PM on Saturday (Christmas Eve). On Sunday morning, we will gather for Christmas Breakfast in Slator Hall at 9:30 to share fellowship and Christmas stories, and then we will move across the street for worship at 10:45. We look forward to seeing new friends and old as we make room in our hearts for Jesus.

## Anchor of the soul

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath.

That by two immutable things in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil,



**St. John's Missionary Church**  
**Rev. Bill Adams Sr.**

Where the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest forever after the order of Melchiz'edek.  
Hebrews 6: 17-20  
Praise The Lord!

## It's the outside people see

"Sit down Richardson," the Warden said in his matter-of-fact tone. Rick obeyed.

"Yer paperwork for release ta the half-way house is signed and ready. Jordan's explained the rules. Ya know what's expected? Any questions?"

"No sir," Rick replied. "I know what's expected of me and I have every intention of following the rules."

Warden looked directly into Rick's eyes. "One slip Richardson, and yer back in here fer the rest of yer sentence. There's no second chances. Ya gotta concentrate on makin it one day at a time."

"Yes sir," Rick repeated. "I'll make it."  
"You'll have housekeepin and kitchen chores ta share with the other men. They'll help ya get an outside job and you'll be allowed ta come and go to work without restrictions. There'll be specific times when ya have ta be in. You'll git weekend day passes to visit yer kids. Whatever money ya make, you'll git a little for spending; some'll go for yer room and board. The rest'll go ta yer wife. Ya understand all that?"

"Yes sir," Rick said again. "I understand."

Warden kept his eyes on Rick's expression. Suddenly his serious look changed and he smiled. "Richardson, I've seen



**Empowering Families**  
**Dr. Donald Smith**

hundered's of men come and go from here. At this point I can always tell if they're gonna make it or not. Yer one of the one's that'll make it Richardson. It's gonna be a struggle but yer gonna make it."

Warden continued. "There's a lot of people out there, probably many of yer old friends who're gonna avoid ya cause yer an ex-con. Many aren't gonna trust yer so-called 'jail house conversion.' They're gonna look for any little mistake ya make jus ta say yer a fake Christian. Just understand where they're comin from. They're not gonna accept ya as ya are. Right or wrong they want ta see ya prove yerself. Every single day, you've got ta prove yer not just a new man on the inside, but yer a new man on the outside too. Remember, it's the outside they see and that's how you'll be judged."

"What about yer future?" Warden asked. Without waiting for an answer, he continued. "The pre-release counseling program here has been a great success. We'll be expanding it. Ya interested in a job?"

## Under the tree

I especially remember one Christmas many years ago because my Dad had been assigned to Illinois to train the Air National Guard.

I remember it well because it was so cold and there was lots of snow. My father found a bankers home that had been renovated to accommodate several families.

My brother and I slept in what I would call the living room and it was a large beautiful room but it was cold. That was also the room where my parents put the Christmas tree.

Every night my brother and I would lay awake and look at the tree with it's beautiful lights. How we enjoyed the Christmas season with the joyous music and how we looked forward to Christmas morning, opening the presents, hot chocolate, food and family. We also went to special Christmas programs at a nearby



**Jerry Davenport**  
**Brother J.**

Church. That was a great time for me but many years later I had an experience that was even more wonderful than that Christmas morning.

It was one evening when I got down on my knees and asked God to have mercy on me and forgive my sins. (1 John 1:9) and yes, I called out with all my heart for Jesus, (John 3:16) to be My Lord and Savior, (Romans 10:13).

Now, Christmas is even more special to me. May God bless you and your family this Christmas. See you in Church next Sunday.

*Merry Christmas*

and a Happy New Year.



**Val Verde Regional Medical Center**

We want to wish each and everyone of you a Merry, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

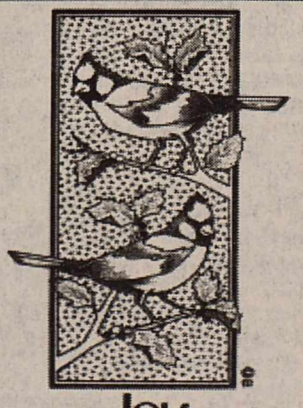
**Alfred (Chapo) and Joe**




**Joy To The World**

Have a beautiful Christmas.

From Fort Clark Springs Association



**LAS MORAS HISPANIC ORGANIZATION**



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THE FAMILY STONE (PG-13) No Passes 11:25 1:50 4:30 7:10 9:15

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**DRIVER - NOW HIRING** qualified drivers for OTR positions. Food grade tanker, no hazmat, no pumps, great benefits, competitive pay and new equipment. Need 2 years experience. Call Bynum Transport for your opportunity today. 1-800-741-7950.

**DRIVERS - ARE YOU** dreaming of semi-retirement? Drive one week, fish/hunt one week. Optional per diem. Also, full time positions, 53' van. Students and O/O's welcome. Sign-on bonus. "Take home more, be home more" with Roehl. EOE. Call 7 days/wk, 1-888-356-1136, www.GoRoehl.com

**DRIVERS - CLASS A-CDL,** 1 year OTR, Flatbed, Company Driver. NEW 2006 trucks. "Be a name, not a number." Newman Trucking, 1-800-827-8785 or 1-817-847-8785.

**DRIVERS: FIND A** new Dedicated Driving Job for the new year at www.HotDDJ.com. Spend more time at home in 2006. Search jobs and enter online to win a Polaris ATV and other prizes. Hear about jobs and enter by phone at 1-888-423-8446.

**DRIVERS - LOOKING FOR** stability? Great miles! Respect! Friday paydays! In-cab E-mail! Family voicemail! 2-hour processing! Class "A" CDL, 6 mo. OTR. 1-800-745-9670, www.continental.com

**DRIVERS - NATIONAL** freight needs you! New pay package - more freight - less sitting. Company Drivers, OTR and Regional Freight, Class A-CDL w/Hazmat. Bob/Wendy, 1-800-666-0380, www.natlfreight.com

**DRIVERS - OTR \$HOLIDAY** Cash\$. Class "A" CDL. 1 year OTR. From start, get extra \$800 first 8 weeks. Then .03 cpm to \$4,000. Call FFE Transportation, 1-800-569-9232.

**DRIVERS - OVERNITE** TRANSPORTATION, a UPS Company, needs 53' T/T drivers. New pay package. CDL-A w/hazmat required. Low cost benefits. call Donna at 1-877-786-6773.

**DRIVERS! \$6,000** EXPERIENCED driver incentive bonus! Top pay and more home time. No experience? No problem - low cost CDL and 100% tuition reimbursement. 1-800-796-9888, www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com

**\$800-\$1200/WEEK!** Jacobson Logistics is hiring dedicated regional drivers. \$15/weekly benefits. Frequent home time. 1-866-511-1134. Apply online www.DRIVEJTC.com

**MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE** - \$1500 sign-on bonus! Class A OTR Company Drivers & increased O/O package. Call Val, 1-800-973-9161. www.heyl.net, Heyl Truck Lines, Inc.

**NORTHSTAR TRANSPORTATION,** Owner/Contractor, Texas Regional, \$0.87 CPM, Base Plate/Permit Program, fuel discounts, Cargo/Liability coverage, weekly settlements, Direct Deposit, Tolls, Stop Pay, Trippak & Imaging. 1-800-695-4473 (HIRE).

**O/O DRIVER - FFE.** The F/S is higher here. \$1.11 average. \$2,000 sign-on. \$2,600 referral bonus. Base plate provided. No truck, no problem. Low payment with short lease. 1-800-569-9298.

**OTR - FLATBEDS.** How about \$1.64 all miles! That's what our Owner/Operators average. Limited openings for Company Drivers + new pay program. E.W. Wylie Co., 1-866-357-2446.

**PUT YOUR CAREER** on the Fast Track! No experience, no problem. Training available. Call now. 1-800-517-8317. Fast Track Drivers Solutions.

**WE'RE RAISING PAY** to another level! Announcing \$.50/mile for all OTR miles everywhere. Heartland does it again. Year over-the-road experience required. Heartland Express 1-800-441-4953, www.heartlandexpress.com

**EMPLOYMENT**

**ELEMENTARY TEACHER** - Application Procedure: Download from website: www.brackett.k12.tx.us, pick up at the BISD Central Office, 400 Ann Street, or request by mail, Brackett ISD, PO Box 586, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville, TX 78832. For information, call Central Office at (830) 563-2491, fax (830) 563-9264. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Direct inquires to Alma Gutierrez, Principal. Brackett ISD is an equal opportunity employer.

**KINNEY COUNTY EMS** is accepting applications for full time and part time EMT's. Apply at 401 S. Ellen St or call 563-9090.

**RNS AND LVNS WANTED** to work full time or part time in long term care setting. Pay based on experience. Call Cindy or Kelly 830-775-2459.

**SECRETARY - APPLICATION PROCEDURE:** Application/Job Description can be picked up at the BISD Central Office, 400 Ann Street, or request by mail, Brackett ISD, PO Box 586, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville, TX 78832. For information, call Central Office at (830) 563-2491, fax (830) 563-9264. Applications accepted until position is filled. Direct inquires to Paula Renken, Superintendent. Brackett ISD is an equal opportunity employer.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**GET CASH NOW.** We buy structured settlements and insurance Annuities. Call Structured Asset Funding Now! 1-877-966-8669.

**FOR RENT**

**3BR, 1 1/2 bath** on Fort Clark. \$450 per month, \$200 deposit, 563-7168.

**FOR SALE**

**ALASKA SMOKED SALMON.** Vacuum packed. 563-2835

**RV LOT - 50 CHANDLER,** Lot 1, Unit 22, with Living area, Bath and Storage area. Includes membership. \$7,000. (210) 843-8287

**SAWMILLS FROM ONLY** \$2,795.00. Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwoodindustries.com Free information: 1-800-578-1363, Ext. 300N.

**WOLFF TANNING BEDS.** Buy direct and save. Full body units from \$22 a month. FREE color catalog. Call today. 1-800-842-1305, www.np.etstan.com

**HOME BUILDERS**

**BUILD YOUR NEW** home on you land today! Low down. Low interest rate. Low monthly payments. Visit United-Bilt Homes or call 1-800-756-2506, UBH.com

**JOB TRAINING**

**NOW HIRING FOR** Postal Positions. \$18.50-\$59.00+/hr. Full benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience necessary. 1-800-584-1775. Public Announcement Reference #5401.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**CASSETTE TO CD** only \$9.95. www.vintagesounds.biz. Locally owned and operated business. 563-3443.

**AIRLINE MECHANIC** - Rapid training for high paying Aviation career. FAA predicts severe shortage. Financial aid if qualify - job placement assistance. Call AIM 1-888-349-5387.

**EARN DEGREE ONLINE** from home. Medical, Business, Paralegal, Computers. Job placement assistance. Computer & financial aid if qualify. 1-866-858-2121, www.onlinetidewateretech.com

**MOBILE HOMES**

**NEW DOUBLEWIDE** \$222 per month. Cheaper than a singlewide. 10% DP - 8 1/4 APR - 36 month WAC call 1-800-448-7076.

**CASH BUYERS 16X80** only \$7995. Call 1-800-448-7076

**PALM HARBOR 16X80** only \$19,995. Call 1-800-448-7076

**CASH BUYERS - DOUBLEWIDE:** starting @ 19,995. Call 1-800-448-7076.

**FLEETWOOD WITH PORCH** 16x80 - only 14, 995. Call 1-800-448-7076.

**Answers to Crossword Puzzle**

COMIC LAOS SCAB  
ARENA ALINT PAPA  
SNEER TREASURES  
TOT TELIS ARETE  
BOARD ALEG PIN  
ROIL SCORE ARE  
LINGOLNNEBRASKA  
ELK ROUES USER  
SSS ALBS SHLOOS  
ETAB FROM BLO  
AWARE FROM BLO  
BROADMARE ELTON  
BANS ALOE REEVE  
EPEE SIGN SEWER

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF SALE** The State of Texas by virtue of an order of sale, County of Kinney dated the 6th day of December, 2005, and issued pursuant to a judgement decree of the District Court of Kinney County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 6th day of December, 2005, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in January, the same being the 3rd day of said month at the Courthouse door of Kinney County, in the City of Brackettville, at the hour 10:00 o'clock A.M. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suits in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Kinney and the State of Texas, to wit: **3456 Kinney County Appraisal District vs. Karl A. Smith and Norma E. Smith.** Tract 1: Lots 1-12, Block G of the Maverick Addition to the City of Brackettville, situated in Kinney County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in volume A-7, page 215 of the map and plat records of Kinney County, Texas. Tract 2: Lots 1-7, block H of the Maverick Addition to the City of Brackettville, situated in Kinney County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in volume A-7, page 215 of the map and plat records of Kinney County, Texas or upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion thereof to satisfy said judgement, interest, penalties and costs; subject, however, to the right of redemption, the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, with the time prescribed, from the recordation of the deed, in the manner provided by law, and subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sale to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs. Dated this 6th day of December, 2005, at Brackettville, Texas. Leland K. Burgess, Sheriff, Kinney County, Texas.

**THIS IS TO** serve as notice that Cingular Wireless is in the process of fulfilling compliance requirements for a 190' Self Support telecommunication tower to be located at 1266 RR in Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas known as the Spofford site. Comments are sought on the effect of the proposed tower on historic properties within the viewshed of the proposed tower per the Nationwide Programmatic Agreement of March 7, 2005 under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. For comments, please call: Cingular Wireless Regulatory Department at 210-384-1990. Pub. December

**O'Rourke Realty**  
Paul & Elsa O'Rourke  
(830) 563-2713



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www.orourke Realty.net

**REAL ESTATE**

**A BARGAIN - 75 Acres** - \$34,900. Rolling hills, good brush, rock outcroppings. Trophy deer habitat. Good highway access. Easy terms. Perfect for hunting retreat. Texas Land & Ranches, 1-877-542-6642.

**AFORDABLE HILL COUNTRY** hunting property. Why lease when you can own? 1-800-876-9720. ranchenterprises ltd.com

**BREWSTER COUNTY, 176+** acres at \$235 per acre, south of Sanderson, deep canyons and rough terrain, deer, quail, and javelina. Owner financed, 5% down. 1-830-885-4578.

**NEW TO MARKET - 100 Acres** - HUNTING RANCH. First chance to own hunting retreat. Big buck area, plus turkey, dove, quail and more. Very private with/EZ highway access. \$44,900 w/financing. 1-866-899-5263.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**KINNEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'** Court is currently accepting bid/proposals for one new, two-wheel drive tractor with front-end loader and heavy-duty 8'-3pt. shredder attachment(s). Bid specifications and other requirements may be obtained from the office of the Kinney County Judge, located at 501 S. Ann St., PO Box 348, Brackettville, TX or by calling (830) 563-2401. It is anticipated that bid(s) will be awarded by said court on January 9, 2006. The Kinney County Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to select the proposal most advantageous to the County and reserves the right to waive any irregularity in the proposals received.

**LAS MORAS REALTY**  
DEBBIE TRANT / BARBARA VOSS  
830-563-2997  
104 A-E Spring  
**Unit 15:** 3BR, 2B Fleetwood home, upgrades including paint & carpeting. Large metal cover with RVO area, next to greenbelt. \$28,500.  
**Unit 14:** Nice 2BR, 2B home, approx 1,200 sq.ft., metal roof, carport & garage.  
**Unique 3 BR, 2.5B** two story home, lovely setting overlooking Las Moras Creek.  
**Unit 36:** large cement slab & hookups, \$10,000  
Ranches and small acreage available.  
View listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

**Tejas Properties**  
Phyllis & Les Meyer  
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**BEAUTIFUL 3/2/2** with office in the Oaks, features an open living area, 2400 +/- sf, abundant kitchen cabinets, Pella windows and doors, fenced backyard with covered patio and 3 decks, hot tub, and sprinkler system. Freshly painted and Ready For Move-In!!! \$179,500.00 www.Tejas-Properties.com

**KENNESAW REAL ESTATE**

**Historic Home - 202 McClaine** - Single home - 2,580 sq.ft. - Extra large lot - 3BR - Hardwood floors. Requires \$140,000.00. POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCE.

**Log Cabin Manufactured Home** (private well) 2,000 sq.ft. covered front porch, wood floors & fireplace. On 5.05 acres in Kinney County Ranch Estates.

**Six Pastures - 725 +/- AC, 1170 +/- AC, 950 +/- AC, 440 +/- AC, 650 +/- AC, 525 +/-** priced to sell. Owner financing available.

**Commercial Property** - 999 Spring St. Good Rental Location Call 563-2446.

**Unit 7, Fort Clark Springs, Lots 17 & 18.** 4BR, 2B, fenced yard and carport. \$66,000.

830-563-2446 Fax 830-563-2699  
103 W. Spring St., Brackettville, TX 78832  
Ken Barnett - Marcus Tidwell - Pat Owens - Melissa Davis - Hattie Berleth  
Broker \* Appraiser \* Property Management

**STEEL BUILDINGS**

**ALL STEEL BUILDINGS!** Up to 50% off. Engineered for Hurricane Coast. Ship factory direct for quick delivery. 24x30 up to 100x200. Call Metalcraft Buildings now! 1-800-499-6401 - Eddie.

**STEEL BUILDINGS - FACTORY** deals. Save \$\$\$ 40'x60' to 100' x 200'. Example: 50'x100'x12' = \$3.60/sq.ft. 1-888-467-4443, www.rigidbuilding.com

**BUILDING SALE!** "Extended 3 weeks!" 20x26 now \$3340. 25x30 \$4790. 30x40 \$7340. 40x60 \$11,490. Factory Direct, 25 years. Many others. Ends/accessories optional. Pioneer, 1-800-668-5422.

**SELL YOUR UNWANTED** items in the classifieds! Call 563-2852

**WANTED**

**VOLUNTEERS FOR** The Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department. Meetings are 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. Applications can be picked up in advance at City Hall or at The Brackett News office or call Joe at 210-380-6817

People do read small ads! Call today 563-2852

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Mr. & Mrs Juan M. Flores,  
Family and Employees would like  
to thank you for your Business.  
May God Bless You.

Merry Christmas  
& Happy New  
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You deserve the best!  
We want to thank you, our  
patrons, for letting us serve you!  
**Fort Clark M.U.D.**

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&  
Happy New Year

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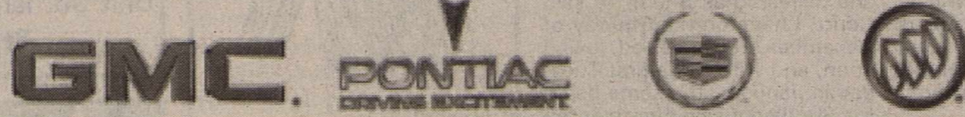
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**2005 GMC Canyon Z85**  
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MSRP ..... \$19195  
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B. Disc ..... \$3300  
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**2006 Pontiac Vibe**  
#2077

MSRP ..... \$19200  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$700  
**Save \$933**

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**2006 Pontiac G6**  
#7225

MSRP ..... \$21850  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$1300  
**Save \$3398**

**\$18457**

**2005 Buick Lacrosse CX**  
#7102

MSRP ..... \$24170  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$1800  
**Save \$5727**

**\$19340**

**2005 Pontiac Grand Prix**  
#6683

MSRP ..... \$20300  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$2000  
**Save \$5600**

**\$19750**

**2006 Buick Rendezvous**  
#7785

MSRP ..... \$22980  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$1000  
**Save \$6373**

**\$20932**

See Red



Save Green

**2005 Buick LeSabre**  
#4090

MSRP ..... \$23980  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$1700  
**Save \$5780**

**\$21670**

**2005 Buick Terraza CX**  
#5094

MSRP ..... \$25000  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$2270  
**Save \$5727**

**\$23573**

**2006 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE**  
#7290

MSRP ..... \$25000  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$2000  
**Save \$6483**

**\$24067**

**2006 GMC Envoy SLE**  
#7214

MSRP ..... \$27000  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$2750  
**Save \$4650**

**\$26255**

**2006 Buick Lucerne CXL**  
#7480

MSRP ..... \$30135  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$1780  
**Save \$1788**

**\$28347**

**2005 Buick Rainier CXL**  
#6024

MSRP ..... \$32400  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$4000  
**Save \$8927**

**\$29473**

**2005 GMC Yukon**  
#6100

MSRP ..... \$32000  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$3300  
**Save \$11310**

**\$29665**

**2005 GMC Yukon XL**  
#6417

MSRP ..... \$34000  
Retailer ..... \$2000  
B. Disc ..... \$3300  
**Save \$11304**

**\$30036**

### CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

<p><b>2001 Chevrolet Impala</b> #7350</p> <p><b>\$10995</b></p>	<p><b>2004 Nissan Sentra</b> #7715</p> <p><b>\$12995</b></p>	<h2>CARFAX'S AVAILABLE</h2>		<p><b>2005 Buick Century</b> #7771</p> <p><b>\$13995</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Mercury Sable</b> #7178</p> <p><b>\$14900</b></p>
<p><b>2001 Chevrolet Silverado</b> #7735</p> <p><b>\$15995</b></p>	<p><b>2002 Chevrolet Silverado</b> #7715</p> <p><b>\$16995</b></p>	<p><b>2003 Nissan Altima</b> #7107A</p> <p><b>\$16995</b></p>	<p><b>2004 Mazda MX3</b> #7770</p> <p><b>\$17400</b></p>	<p><b>2003 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab</b> #4301A</p> <p><b>\$17995</b></p>	<p><b>2003 GMC Envoy</b> #663A</p> <p><b>\$18995</b></p>
<p><b>2003 Oldsmobile Bravada</b> #6907A</p> <p><b>\$19900</b></p>	<p><b>2001 GMC Yukon XL</b> #7735</p> <p><b>\$20500</b></p>	<p><b>2003 Honda Odyssey</b> #7112A</p> <p><b>\$20995</b></p>	<p><b>2003 Chevrolet Tahoe LS</b> #6921B</p> <p><b>\$21800</b></p>	<p><b>2001 GMC Sierra</b> #7100A</p> <p><b>\$21995</b></p>	<p><b>2005 GMC Sierra Crew Cab</b> #4410A</p> <p><b>\$24600</b></p>
<p><b>2004 Dodge 1500 Crew Cab</b> #5104A</p> <p><b>\$25500</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Nissan Maxima</b> #7731</p> <p><b>\$25595</b></p>	<p><b>2005 Nissan Xterra</b> #7734</p> <p><b>\$26400</b></p>	<p><b>2004 Nissan Titan Crew Cab</b> #7211A</p> <p><b>\$26400</b></p>	<p><b>2002 Jaguar XJ6</b> #4434A</p> <p><b>\$28900</b></p>	<p><b>2004 GMC Yukon XL Denali</b> #5005A</p> <p><b>\$36900</b></p>

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