

The Brackett News

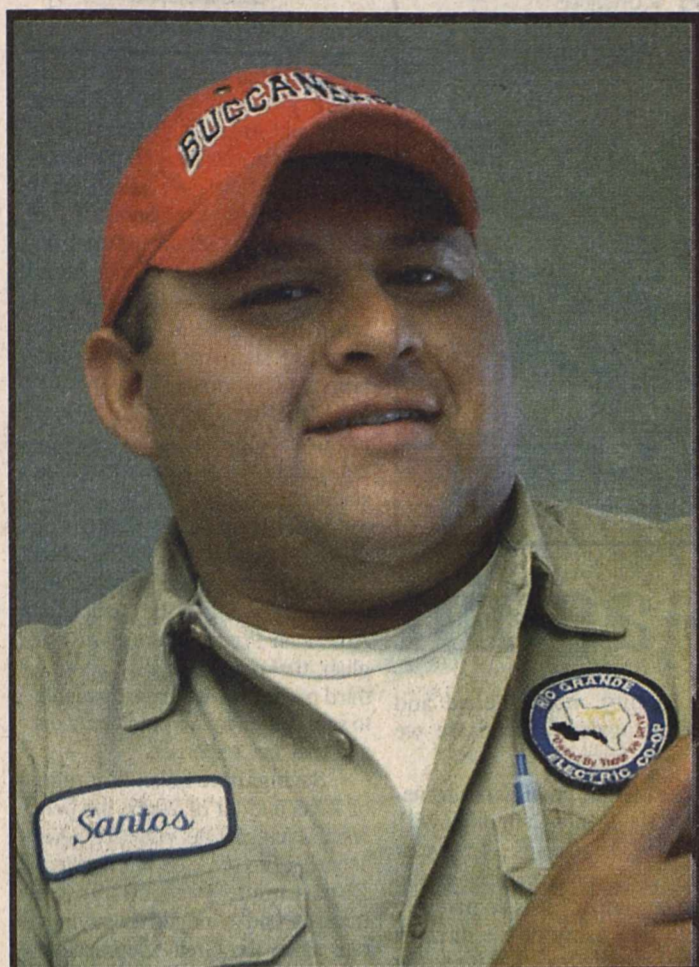
Thursday, April 26, 2007

Volume 19, No. 12

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Rollover accident takes life of local co-op employee



Santos DeHoyos

November 1, 1977 - April 24, 2007

"He was not just a co-worker, he was a friend ..."

-Daniel Laws

Santos DeHoyos, 29, of Brackettville died in a single-vehicle rollover accident on Highway 1024, on April 24.

DeHoyos, an employee of Rio Grande Electrical Cooperative, Inc. (RGE), was reportedly traveling towards Hwy. 90 after completing a service call in the Panhandle area, when the company-owned truck he was operating slid across the road on a deep curve.

According to Senior Deputy Jose Blancarte of the Val Verde Sheriff Department, DeHoyos was ejected from the driver's side door after the right side tires hit an embankment and caused the truck to roll approximately 3 to 4 times.

Blancarte stated DeHoyos suffered severe head trauma and was pronounced dead at the scene by Val Verde Justice of the Peace Joey Gonzalez at 2:45 p.m.

DeHoyos leaves behind a wife, Savannah Massingill DeHoyos, and a two year old daughter.

Santos worked for RGE for more than five years, and most recently was the Brackettville meter reader.

RGE General Manager and CEO Daniel Laws stated, "Santos was a valued employee who was full of life and always wore a smile. He will be sorely missed. He was a big guy with an equally big heart, and was loved by all of us. His passing has affected each of us on a very personal level. He was not just a co-worker, he was a friend."

RGE has established a trust fund for Santos' and Savannah's daughter, Solana, at the Bank & Trust Brackettville Branch.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, friends and family wanting to honor Santos may contribute to the fund.

Funeral services for Santos DeHoyos are scheduled as follows: Visitation will be held

from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. Friday, April 27, at Sunset Funeral Home in Brackettville. A Rosary will be held at 7 p.m. the same evening also at Sunset Funeral Home in Brackettville.

The Funeral Mass will be Saturday, April 28, at 9 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Brackettville, with graveside ceremonies following at the Kinney County Cemetery.



Rollover Accident

Photo by Chad Schafer
VVCRVFD Firefighter

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative employee, Santos DeHoyos was killed in a single vehicle rollover accident on Highway 1024 on Tuesday, April 24. DeHoyos leaves behind a wife and two year old daughter.

Kinney County emergency workers aid Eagle Pass tornado victims

Kinney County EMS Director Bruce Hudgens and EMT Fredirico Galvan traveled to Eagle Pass late Tuesday night to assist the victims of the tor-

nado that touched down and crushed a small community located near the Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino.

Hudgens reported the duo set

up mini triage stations to help make quick assessments of the injured before they were transported to local and regional hospitals.

Emergency workers from all over South Texas made their services available to the citizens of Maverick County. Most performed search and rescue operations, while others treated the survivors of the twister that flattened one elementary school, destroyed more than 600 homes and killed 9, including one child.

Locally, donations of personal hygiene items, diapers, formula, toilet paper, cleaning items, clothing, sheets, blankets and nonperishable food items are being collected at the Kinney County Water-Soil Conservation Office, next to Maverick Storage on Highway 90.

Items can be dropped off during normal business hours and will be picked up daily by project coordinator Asalia Casas, of Eagle Pass.



Tornado Victims

Eagle Pass tornado victims were escorted to their homes in Rosita Valley one van-load at a time and given just enough time to gather up medicines and other critical items.

Photo by Leigh Volcsko



Miss Kinney County 2007

Photo by Leigh Volcsko

Bailee Allen was named Miss Kinney County 2007. Allen is a junior at Brackett High School and the daughter of Bret and Nadalee Allen. Official results from the pageant will be included in the May 3 edition of TBN.

News BRIEFS

School Calendar

Thursday 04/26: Tennis Regional @ College Station
Friday 04/27: High School Track Regional @ Sam Houston State University Huntsville, TX
Saturday 04/28: High School Track Regional cont.
Saturday 05/05: Baseball State Playoffs TBA, Softball Bi-District TBA

Vacation Bible School

First Baptist Church of Brackettville has scheduled Vacation Bible School for July 16-20, 2007. The theme is SonForce Kids, A Spy Adventure.

FCA News

FCA for your calendars: Golf Ball Drop is Wednesday, May 2, from 7-9p at the Rio Grande Electric Co-op. THANK YOU 4-H for doing the food for us! Golf Ball Drop tickets will be on sale Monday, April 30, Tuesday, May 1, and Wednesday, May 2 at the Co-op during the lunch hour. Remember, \$10 buys a chance to win \$1,000. All monies will be used to send students to leadership camp this summer. Baccalaureate Dinner for our graduating seniors is Wednesday, May, 6:30p at the Service Club. If you can provide a lasagne and haven't already told Carolyn Conoly, please reply. 100-plus guests are expected. We also need helpers to make Italian Cream Cakes and bring bags of salad. Senior parents: You are off the hook, we want you to come as guests. Messy Relays, Wednesday, May 9, at the practice field, immedi-

ately following the Baccalaureate Dinner. Don't miss this - it's hysterical! Charlie Marquardt's powerful lesson on sin & forgiveness. We need to borrow 7 or 8 large tarps. And, YES, there will be an Adult Team!!! Marquardt's FCA Honor Banquet in San Antonio, Monday, May 21, 7:30p @The Bright Shawl, @Augusta & McCullough. Host is Ron Thulin, Fox Sports/ESPN Sportscenter. If you'd like to join us, let Carolyn Conoly. FCA will have a team participating in Brackett's City-Wide Clean up Day on May 26. All who participate will be required to wear gloves and we need more adult supervision.

63rd District Court Docket

The Honorable District Judge Tom Lee will be hearing the following cases of interest: June 26, 2007: Petit Jury Trial with panel reporting at 9 a.m., The State of Texas vs. 2109CR-John Ford, III, 2110CR-John Ford, III, Scott W. McCrum, Atty. August 20, 2007: Petit Jury Trial with panel reporting at 9 a.m., The State of Texas vs. 2106CR-David Luna, 2107CR-David Luna, 2108CR-David Luna, Michael Reyes, Atty.

4-H News

The 4-H will host its next meeting on Sunday, May 6, at 6pm at the FCS Service Club. No meetings in April. Be ready in May for election of officers and club managers. There will be a KC Livestock Show Board meeting on May 16, at 7:30 pm at the Ag Shop. Anyone having a concern about the KC Livestock Show 2006-2007 or would like to make rule change suggestions need to submit those in writing to the Extension Office before May 14 at 5pm.

Relay For Life

Come out and support the American Cancer Society's 2nd Annual Kinney County Relay For Life April 28, 8 pm until April 29, at 10am.

Athletic Boosters

The Athletic Booster Club officers have scheduled a meeting for May 1, 2007, at Jones Elem. room 10 at 4:00 pm. Items to discuss are the end of year Athletic banquets for JH and HS students. Other topics to be discussed are goals for next year and a fund raiser. Hope you can join us in making the Booster Club a great success.

Red Hatters

What? A club with no officers? No dues? No program? Just for ladies with a penchant for fun? Or for ladies who have a flare for impeccable occasions? How about a name??? Well, the Red Hatters of Fort Clark and Brackettville were just described by this preface. The sign up sheet can be found at the FCSA Adult Center and the deadline is Monday, April 30 with the event on Wednesday, May 2. An elegant lunch will be served at 12 noon to charming ladies in red hats and purple attire; however, the color of the bodily cover is optional. Location? This intriguing mystery will be revealed at the time of sign up. See you there!

"King Fisher"

The Ft. Clark Historical Society presents a program by local historian Don Smith on "King Fisher" (a person of interest and significance in Texas History). Saturday, April 28th, 10 AM at the Palisado Bldg. Coffee and donut social at 9:30 AM. Join us!

Early Voting

Early voting for the special

election on May 12 starts Saturday, April 30 thru May 8. Early voting will be held at the Clerk's office. Election Day voting will take place at regular precincts.

Band Boosters

The Brackett Tiger Band Booster is offering the Holley Scholarship. An application can be picked up at Mr. Goodson (Band Director), Mrs. Stone (BHS Academic Advisor) or on the web. www.brackett.k12.tx.us: BHS Student Activities Page and under updates on the Band site. Deadline is May 1st at 3:30 PM. Only serious applicants need apply.

Spring Concert

The Brackett Tiger Band will have their Spring Concert, Thursday, April 26 at 7p.m. at the Brackett HS Auditorium. An ice cream reception will follow.

LEPC Meeting

The Local Emergency Planning Committee will have their monthly meeting at the EMS building on Monday, April 30 at 7p.m. Contact Elaine Ladeau 563-3678 if you have questions or concerns.

Weekend WEATHER

Friday	T-Storms High: 81 Low: 62
Saturday	T-Storms High: 84 Low: 63
Sunday	T-Storms High: 86 Low: 64

Dye Testing Progress Report

As of Wednesday, April 11, the dye that was injected into the Alamo Cave and the HF&F Sinkhole/cave on March 9th had not shown up in any of the weekly samples obtained since March 10th. The Edwards Aquifer Authority made the decision to reinject the 2 locations again. On Thursday, April 12, both locations were reinjected. The volume of dye for each location was tripled from the original amounts and the water flush was also increased at each location. Along with Grant Synder, a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel of groundwater experts established by the KCGCD Board, Dr. Goebel and Jack Boxell witnessed the second injection at the HF&F Ranch. They were not permitted on the Shahan Ranch.

Sampling resumed on a weekly basis by George Veni & Associates, witnessed by Dr. Goebel and Jack Boxell, on Tuesday, April 17th. As before, our local consultants were not permitted on the Shahan, Circle H or Don Hood ranch to witness sampling at their sites.

Jack Boxell

I would like to take the time to publicly thank the Kinney County Chamber of Commerce, and especially President Mary Martin, for inviting me to emcee the Miss Kinney County Pageant held on April 21.

It was such a great pleasure to work with you all as well as to meet all the girls who participated in the event.

The hospitality shown by all will be with me forever.

A big thanks to Susan and Randall Moore for working so hard to educate me on short notice about the pageant. Thanks to Mary Martin and her husband JD for their hospitality and warm welcome. And another thanks especially to Hattie Berleth for providing accommodations at the Lodge for myself and my family.

It was nice meeting Leigh Volcsko of the Brackett News while she photographed the event.

And a huge congratulations to all the girls who walked the stage that afternoon. Not everyone can do what you did with such confidence. You are all winners. Remember what Mrs. Moore told you on the eve of the pageant: "Ta-Da!"

Sandi Green-Maxwell
Little Miss/Mr San Antonio Pageant
Director and Owner

Photo Contest Rules

Get your newspapers and cameras ready for the 2nd Annual TBN Photo Contest! Contest Rules: Individual(s) or (things) in photo must be holding The Brackett News and the banner (title) must be clearly displayed. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the most original photo, most comical photo, for the photo taken the greatest distance from Brackettville and new category for this year... Famous person holding TBN. All submissions will be printed in TBN as space will allow. Photos submitted are subject to unlimited use by TBN. Staff members (and/or their immediate family members) can submit photos, but are not eligible to win. The deadline for submission will be September 28, 2007. Prizes and winners will be announced in the October 25, 2007, edition of TBN. Name, Address and Phone number must be included on each submission. Submit your electronic photos to: tnews@sbcglobal.net, Subject line: PHOTO CONTEST. No limit per person on submissions.

The Brackett News

BRACKETT NEWS STAFF
Leigh Volcsko, Editor and Advertising Dir.
Allison Taylor, Managing Editor

www.thebrackettnews.com

For questions or corrections please call the editor at 830-563-2852 or email tnews@sbcglobal.net. Letters to the editor must be on subjects of interest and be 350 words or less.

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Letter To Editor POLICY

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words and be on subjects of interest. 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. Letters found or believed to be written by a person other than that of the signed author will be refused. 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

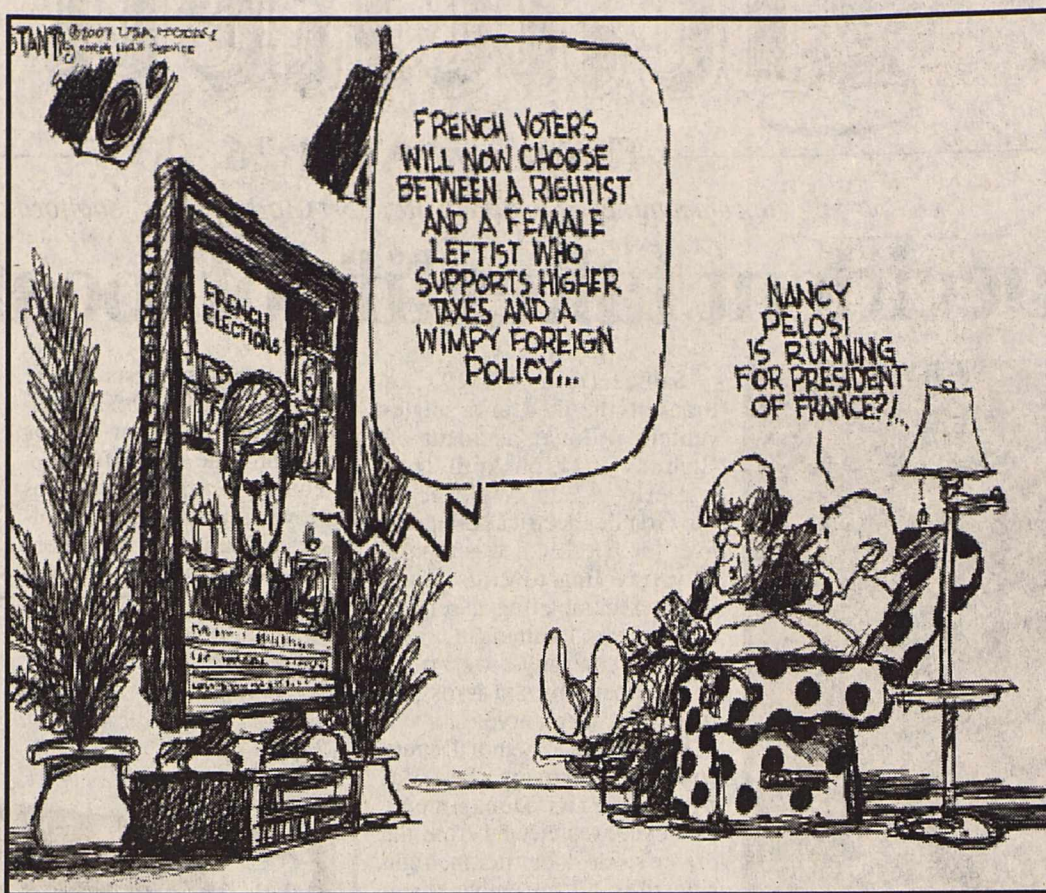
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Blame the gun - again



Steven LaMascus

The Way I See It

I knew it would happen. Just as soon as I heard about the massacre of students at Virginia Tech, I knew that the left would immediately try to blame the gun rather than the nut who pulled the trigger.

I am terribly sorry for the terrible tragedy at Virginia Tech. No one should have to go through such a horror as being told that some psycho just gunned down his child for no reason except that he was mad at the world and your son or daughter was in his path.

However, the problem does not lie with guns, but with society. This South Korean was a known loner, a known manic depressive, and had been referred to counseling by a professor. He wrote things in his creative writing class that frightened the professor.

He was the epitome of what we have come to know as someone who will do these things. It is not a secret. It happened at Columbine and it has happened before. The signs were there for all to see. We understand this, but we fail to do anything about it.

You see, we can't bring ourselves to look at and blame an individual, but it's very easy to blame an inanimate object. We can't bring ourselves to point fingers at someone whom we feel we should be sorry for. The loner, the misfit, the depressive, the psychotic, should be an ob-

ject of pity, not watched and guarded against. When are we going to learn?

I just got an email from someone on the Brady Campaign with the bold headlines, *Stop the NRA!* They are screaming to end "gun violence." It is so patently stupid that many of the citizens of the United States can't see the truth. There is no such thing as "gun violence," only people can perpetrate violence. A gun just goes along and does what it is told to do. It is not evil, only people can claim that onerous title. A gun cannot act on its own, it must be operated by a person. How can such a thing be evil or cause violence?

Contemplate this: How far would this nut have gotten if all the students were armed? How about if only half were armed and educated in the use of a handgun? He wouldn't have gotten very far, much less killed 30-odd people over the course of a couple of hours.

Also, how much protecting did the police do in this instance? We are told that we don't need guns because the police will protect us. Well, let me tell you, from the perspective of a 25-year veteran law enforcement officer, the police can't protect anybody. They simply come along later and pick up the broken pieces. The only protection you are going to get is the protection you are packing yourself!

If you want to be a victim, just stand around and depend on the police. If you want protection, go buy a gun, learn to use it well, and then carry the thing everywhere you go. That is protection.

Had one of the students in the first building been carrying a gun, he could have saved the lives of 31 people. Think about it!

Thank You

We would like to take this means of expressing our deep appreciation for all the kind gestures, cards, phone calls, flowers and food that were sent to us during our time of loss. Your thoughtfulness was overwhelming! It was wonderful seeing so many friends from Kinney County at Mother's funeral service. It meant a great deal to all of us. Thanks for everything.

With love,
The Tim Ward Family &
Sherry & Gary Blocker

YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR COMMUNITY HASN'T GONE UNNOTICED

If you work for a public educational institution or non-profit organization, Edward Jones can explain options for your 403(b) TSA retirement savings plan and recommend a strategy that's best for you.



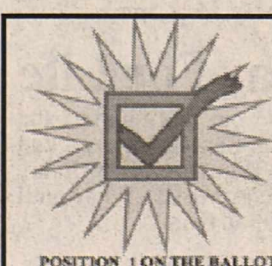
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POSITION 1 ON THE BALLOT

Re-Elect Sondra Meil School Board Trustee

Currently serving my 4th year on the Board
Served 2 years as Chairman of the Bisd Advisory Committee
Business and Management Background
I care and would very much like to continue to be a part of the strong leadership of our School.

EARLY VOTING BEGINS APRIL 30TH
AND PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

Political Ad paid for by Sondra Meil, Box 329, Brackettville TX 78832



To build wealth, look at both sides of the balance sheet



Emily Cooper

To achieve your financial goals, you need to be a diligent saver and investor. But you need to do more than just build your assets - you also must do a good job of managing your debts. If you let your debts get out of control, they will eventually erode your savings and investments - and when that happens, the road to financial success can get pretty bumpy. Unfortunately, your fellow Americans are doing a poor job of saving money and staying out of debt. Here are some telling statistics:

Debt is rising. By September 2006, household debt had reached 130.9 percent of disposable income, according to the Center for American Progress. In plain English, that means we owe about a third more than we have available to spend after we've paid our taxes and met our expenses.

Savings have fallen. For most of 2005 and all of 2006, the personal savings rate was negative, according to the U.S. Commerce Department. Previously, we haven't had a negative savings rate since the Great Depression. In short, we've gotten into the habit of spending more than we save.

These grim figures foretell a discouraging financial future for many of us. Every dollar you pay for debt is a dollar you can't use to invest. Furthermore, if you have too little in savings, you may well be forced to dip into your existing investments to pay for short-term needs, such as a car repair or an expensive new appliance. And the more you take from your investments today, the less you will have available tomorrow - when you might need the money to help pay for retirement or your children's college tuition.

So what can you do to protect your savings and investments against the demands of debt? You probably already are familiar with some steps you can take to cut costs: Extend the life of your old car, eat out less often, look for cheaper phone and cable service, etc. In short, review your entire lifestyle, and try to separate the "nice to have" items from the "must have" ones. If you can reduce your expenses, you can start whittling away at your debt.

While you're taking steps to cut your costs, you can still add to your investments. How? For starters, increase your contributions to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan every time you get a raise. Until you retire, you generally won't be able to access this money without taking a big tax hit, so you won't be tempted to "raid" your 401(k) to pay off debts. [You can, however, typically take loans from a 401(k) or similar account.] You also may want to "pay yourself first." Each month, before you pay the mortgage, the utility companies and your other obligations, set aside an amount for your investments. It's easier if you set up a bank authorization to move the money directly into the investment you choose. By having the money taken out this way, you are less likely to "miss" it - and, hopefully, you'll be less likely to look at it as a source of funding for your daily life. By cutting your debts, boosting your 401(k) contributions and paying yourself first, you can help yourself get a firmer grip on your financial situation - today and tomorrow.

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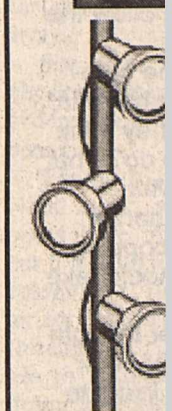
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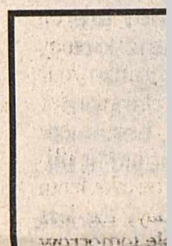
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Submitted by Henson



Submitted by Henson

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BHS SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

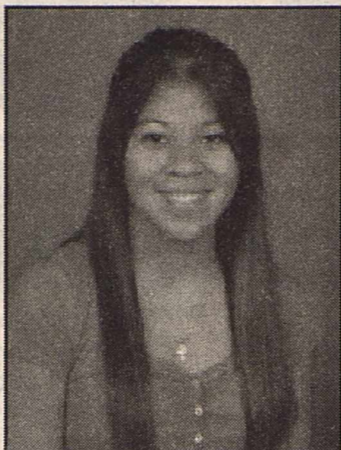
Class of 2007



Nadine Terrazas

Name: Nadine Terrazas
 Mother: Elda Terrazas
 Father: Nat Terrazas III
 Siblings: Nat Terrazas IV, Melony Terrazas, and Vanessa Terrazas.
 What Are Your Plans After Graduation?: Go to Junior College in Del Rio for criminal justice.
 What Teacher Influenced You The Most? Mrs. Curry, she pushed me to do everything.

Schroeder selected for 2007 Welch Scholar Program



Gabby Schroeder, a junior at Brackett High School, was recently selected to attend the University of Houston site for the 2007 Welch Scholar Program.

The Welch Summer Scholar Program, sponsored by the Robert A. Welch Foundation of Texas, has been active for 23 years now.

They have offered approximately 1,200 rising high school junior and senior students in the State of Texas the opportunity to spend 5 weeks on a university campus, to work with professional researchers in professional laboratories, and to form lifelong friendships with other students who share their same interests.

The primary goal of the Welch Summer Scholar Program is to provide talented Texas students with learning opportunities above and beyond those normally available in high school science education programs.

A secondary goal of this summer program is to recognize the capacity of students to be motivated by a measure of independence in their studies and, thus, to accept greater responsibility for planning and carrying out their own learning.

The students who participate in the program are chosen in a competitive basis.

The students are evaluated by a Selection Committee made up of the Program Coordinators at each of the university sites based on their SAT scores, their academic standing as documented on their official transcripts and remarks regarding character and academic potential from a recommending teacher as well as letters from two supporting teachers.

Gabby will spend June 10th - July 14th researching a topic alongside a research scientist, and then develop an abstract, paper and presentation board on her topic.

BISD GOLF UPDATE

Submitted by Coach Erik Henson

The Brackett Boys golf team punched their ticket to Austin on Tuesday by finishing second at the 1A Region IV Championships in Brenham. The boys shot rounds of 334-354, to finish second

and behind Goldthwaite. Lane Nowlin paced the Tigers with a two day total of 164. Other members of the team included Justin Calk, Sam Childress, Seth Frerich, and Guy Rigby. Next up for the boys will be the 1A State Championships in Austin at Lions Municipal Golf Course

on May 7-8. The Brackett Tigerette Golf team finished fourth at the Regional Tournament. The ladies played exceptionally well both day, and were only 8 shots behind third place Flatonia. Ashely Stephenson lead the way with a two day total of 189 which was

good enough for fourth place and a trip to Austin, via the rule that the top two individuals on non-advancing teams whom finish in the top six advance. Other members of the girls team included Whitney Gum, Laura Meyer, Laura Swinson, and Meghann Davis.

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A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

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

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What is Time All About?

By Ivan the Scientist

What would it be like to go back in time? I often wonder what really did happen back in the old days.

I'd like to meet famous people and see historical events. It would be so neat!

The first place I would go is back to the days of King Arthur, to see all the castles and battles. The question still remains: Is

time travel possible?

Where do we start? How about time? What is time? The Oxford English dictionary defines time as "a limited stretch or space of continued existence," or "the interval between two successive events."

Hmm-mmm — pretty big words and kind of complicated.

Let's start with a rock. Pick up any rock around you. Now throw it as far as you can.

OK, now bring it back — but not by running and getting it! Bring it back in time.

Can you do it? Pretty hard, huh?

Did you know there's a time travel word? Yep — it's "Sorry." "Sorry" is the word that can sometimes change big wrongs, done back in time. Try it some time.

Get it? OK, time to go. See you next time!

Everybody Dance, Now! You Can Do It!

By Sassi

There aren't any bad dancers!

Often we listen to people make comments like, "he has no rhythm" or she can't follow the beat."

Sometimes the comments are more harmful, like, "What do they think they're trying to do? That looks simply awful."

Or, "He can't dance at all, he's just bobbing — maybe he should take some lessons!"

Have you ever thought that about someone or said something like it to your friends?

What's really important about dancing, anyway? I love dancing and someday I would like to be in a competition.

And I must admit there is one type of dancer I always enjoy watching on the floor.

Have you ever seen the dancers that get up for every dance (even if they can't dance)? They are always smiling and look like they're having fun.

I watch these dancers with fascination, because they are what music is all about.

Social dancing is people moving together on the dance floor and enjoying themselves. We don't have to dance the same way as everyone else. Even if you just get up and sway to the music, that's your way of dancing.



HOCKEY PUCK: HARD & FAST!

By Jocko

A puck is a hard rubber disk used in ice hockey.

It is 1 inch thick (25.4 mm) and 3 inches in diameter (76.2 mm), and it weighs between 5.5 and 6 ounces (156-170 grams).

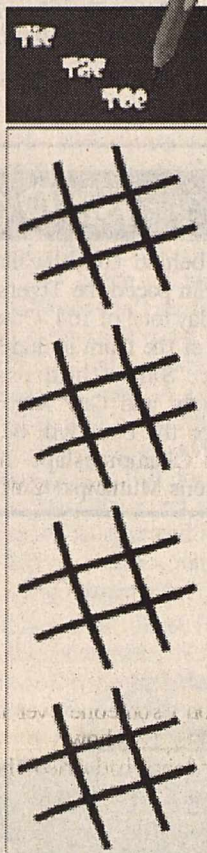
A hockey puck is frozen for a few hours before each hockey game to keep it from bouncing. Pucks can reach speeds of 100 mph (160 kph) when hit by players' sticks.

Ice hockey evolved from field hockey played on frozen surfaces, like ponds and lakes, in Canada.

SECRET KID COUNTY CODE

☼ = A	☹ = H	☼ = O	☼ = V
☼ = B	☼ = I	☼ = P	☼ = W
☼ = C	☼ = J	☼ = Q	☼ = X
☼ = D	☼ = K	☼ = R	☼ = Y
☼ = E	☼ = L	☼ = S	☼ = Z
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Directions: Use these life symbols to discover the hidden message.

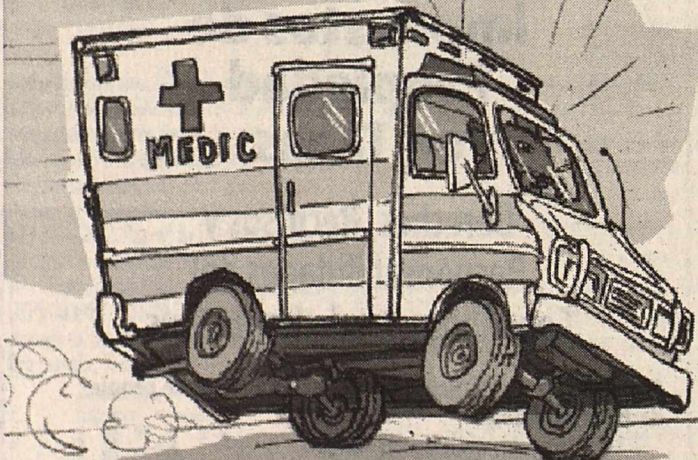


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The Mouse and the Motorcycle

By Beverly Cleary



Chapter 12

NIE - Newspapers in Education! Join us as we enjoy this young readers classic. *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* by Beverly Cleary. With special permission, each week, one chapter of this book will be printed in *The Brackett News*. Did you miss the first eleven chapters? Visit www.thebrackettnews.com. Click on "NIE".

Chapter 12
An Errand of Mercy
Owlis thought Ralph, as he clung to the Virginia creeper and filled his lungs with the cool night air that was such a relief after the stuffy drinking glass. I've always wanted to climb down this vine and explore the ground floor, he reminded himself grimly, and now I have to. Ralph had never before been outdoors beneath the moon and the stars. He felt small and frightened and alone.

Slowly, paw over paw, he worked his way along the shoots and tendrils. An owl, uncomfortably close in a pine tree, hooted, and Ralph huddled shivering in the shadow of a leaf, aware that he was losing precious seconds. A night wind rattled the windows and the owl glided off across the parking lot. Ralph inched his way down the vine. It was a long winding route full of detours to the ground-floor window, which, to Ralph's relief, was open.

Upon reaching the sill, Ralph leaped to the floor of the room, in which three young men of college age were sleeping, two in beds and one in a sleeping bag on the floor.

An aspirin, I must find an aspirin, thought Ralph, darting under the bed. He bumped into a dust mouse,

and made a gobbling, snorting noise. Ralph dropped the aspirin in a panic and looked wildly about for a hiding place. With one terrified leap he dived under the grandfather clock between the elevator and the stairs. It was immediately plain from the dust that no one ever cleaned under the dock.

"A-haa. A-haa." Ralph struggled to control a sneeze. Above him the works of the clock began to make grinding noises.

"A-choo!" The sneeze could not be held back.

Boing! The clock struck one thirty, forcing Ralph to clap his hands over his ears. How his famous ancestor, the one that ran up the clock, hickory-dickory-dock, stood the racket, he did not know.

Peeking out, Ralph discovered the night clerk had slept soundly through the din, so he ventured out from under the clock to continue his struggle with the aspirin tablet. Since carrying the pill up the stairs was impossible, Ralph had to find another way. The elevator? Ridiculous. A mouse could not run an elevator. Then, quite unexpectedly, a whole plan of action popped into his mind. Ralph had a genuine inspiration.

First he rolled the aspirin to a safe place behind the ashtray stand beside the elevator. Then, empty-pawed, he climbed the stairs to the second floor and ran down the hall to Room 215, where he squeezed under the door. Keith was still half awake, his eyes glinting with fever under their heavy lids.

"Pst!" said Ralph. "I've found an aspirin for you."

"Hm-m?" murmured Keith.

"An aspirin tablet. I've found an aspirin!"

"Where is it?" Keith was more awake now.

"Down on the first floor."

"Oh." Keith was obviously disappointed.

"Now wait," said Ralph. "I can get it up here, but I've got to have some help. You'll have to let me take your sports car."

"You're too young," mumbled Keith.

"I am not." And it was true that Ralph felt very much older than he had when he lost the motorcycle.

"Come on. You need that aspirin, don't you?"

"You already lost my motorcycle."

"Oh, come on." Ralph was growing more impatient as he felt the night slipping by. "If you won't let me take the sports car, will you let me take the ambulance?"

"I guess so." Keith did not feel equal to arguing with a determined mouse. He picked up his ambulance from the bedside table and set it on the floor. "Here."

"One more thing," said Ralph anxiously. "Do you think you could manage to open the door for me? I know you feel terrible, but it is the last thing I'll ask. Honest. And I

promise I'll have the aspirin up here in no time."

Keith sighed but he slid his feet out from under the sheet and, hanging onto the bedside table, reached over and opened the door.

Ralph was already seated in the white ambulance with the red cross painted on the side. "Wh-e-e. Wh-e-e. Wh-e-e." He took the corner into the hall on two wheels and sped down the bare floor between the wall and the carpet until he came to Room 211. Here he slowed down and then went. "Wh-e-e! Wh-e-e! Wh-e-e!" good and loud. This carried him, as he had planned, to the elevator. It was a crucial moment. Now he would find out if his plan was going to work.

The little dog in Room 211 began to whimper and then to bark just as Ralph had planned.

In a moment the door opened and the man stumbled out with the little terrier in his arms. "Oh, all right," he grumbled. "I'll walk you. Shut up, will you?"

Ralph waited, his paws tense on the steering wheel.

The man walked groggily to the closed elevator door, where he managed, in spite of the wriggling dog in his arms, to push the button. Soon the elevator door slid open.

Ralph knew that timing was important. The man entered the elevator. The dog barked. "Wh-e-e! Wh-e-e!" said Ralph hard enough and fast enough to shoot the ambulance at great speed across the yawning crack between the floor of the hall and the floor of the elevator before the man turned around. As the dog's owner turned, Ralph steered skillfully around his feet and parked the ambulance behind him. The man pressed the button, the doors closed, and the elevator actually began to descend.

"Do you know what you are?" the man sleepily asked the dog. "You are a nuisance, that's what you are. A four-footed, hair-covered nuisance."

The dog ignored his master. "I know you're down there," he yapped to Ralph. "If I could just get down I'd get you!"

Ralph did not answer. He was taking no chances. He waited quietly inside his ambulance until the man had carried the dog out before he drove out of the elevator. He jumped out of the ambulance, opened the rear doors, seized the precious aspirin, and boosted it inside. Slamming the doors, he ran around and jumped into the driver's seat. There was not an instant to lose.

"Wh-e-e. Wh-e-e." The ambulance moved toward the open elevator, but unfortunately by this time Ralph was slightly out of breath. The front wheels of the ambulance caught in the crack between the floor of the lobby and the floor of the elevator. The ambulance was stuck.

Oh, no, thought Ralph. Not now. I

can't fail now. "Wh-e-e. Wh-e-e," he managed to gasp. The wheels spun but the ambulance did not move. Ralph jumped out, put his shoulder to the rear of the vehicle, and pushed with all his strength. Nothing happened. In a moment the man would be returning with his dog.

Desperate, Ralph climbed back into the ambulance. He took a breath so deep he thought his lungs would surely burst.

"Wh-e-e! Wh-e-e! Wh-e-e!" He made the sound hard and fast and high-pitched. The wheels spun. The ambulance moved, slowly at first, and then as the tires got a grip on the floor of the elevator, it shot out of the crack and across the elevator and hit the rear wall with a bump. Ralph collapsed over the steering wheel, limp with relief, just as the man came back through the lobby with his dog.

"I guess some boy lost his toy ambulance," muttered the man, more awake now, as he stepped in

and pressed the button.

Toyl thought Ralph indignantly. This ambulance is carrying medical supplies to the sick.

"Boy, my foot!" yapped the terrier. "It's that dastardly mouse. Let me down and I'll get him!"

Ralph did not try to answer. He was saving all his breath now to get the ambulance across that crack once more.

The man slapped the dog lightly on the nose and said, "Be quiet! I took you outside, didn't I?"

Fortunately the elevator door stayed open behind the man as he walked out, so Ralph had no trouble driving the ambulance out and down the hall to Room 215. The door had blown shut but he did not care. He jumped out of the ambulance and ran around to the back, where he unloaded the aspirin, shoved it under the bedroom door, and squeezed under after it.

"Hey, Keith! I've got it!" Ralph was filled with triumph. "I've brought you an aspirin!"

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Our Cancer week is Andrea year cancer surv diagnosed with myeloma on Fe 2001. Multiple form of bone can Andrea had her steering her car, and her pain away.

She went to physician for treated ordered x-rays bones.

Through the blood work, she could have mult but it was up to tologist, Dr. Holter for Cancer, T Research (CTRC nio to make the doing a biopsy and he did agree was multiple myl

Andrea did chemotherapy tr March-August 20

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ACS Relay for Life

A cancer survivor story

Thursday, April 26, 2007 The Brackett News 5



Our Cancer Survivor this week is Andrea Garcia a six year cancer survivor who was diagnosed with multiple myeloma on February 16th, 2001. Multiple Myeloma is a form of bone cancer.

Andrea had hit her knee on her steering wheel of her new car, and her pain would not go away.

She went to her personal physician for treatment, and she ordered x-rays of her large bones.

Through the x-rays and blood work, she was told she could have multiple myeloma, but it was up to the medical oncologist, Dr. Holihan at the Center for Cancer, Treatment, and Research (CTRC) in San Antonio to make the diagnosis by doing a biopsy of the tumor, and he did agree the diagnosis was multiple myeloma.

Andrea did once a month chemotherapy treatments from March-August 2001. In Septem-

ber 2001, she did thirty radiation treatments. Her sister Mary Jane took her back and forth for radiation everyday in San Antonio. Andrea's comment about radiation was she had always wanted tattoos on her hip.

She did a stem cell transplant using her own cells in October 2002, and she was able to have three years of remission.

In November 2005, she was visiting in Dallas with family when she could not walk. Her oncologist confirmed that her multiple myeloma had come back. This time her brother Sonny gave her his stem cells.

Andrea did double chemotherapy for a week, and on April 4th, 2006, she received her brother's stem cells. She is in remission at this time.

Once a month, Andrea goes to CTRC for an IV treatment of Aridia which is a bone hardening agent and a Procrit shot, and she sees her medical oncologist every two months.

She now celebrates April 4th as her other birthday since it has given her life, and she expects presents, too.

Andrea knows how precious life is, and lives her life to the fullest. Andrea's advice to those

dealing with the diagnosis of cancer is to not give up. She believes that the mind is a powerful tool in this fight, and if you tell yourself, it is going to be a good day, and your mind hears it, it will be a good day.

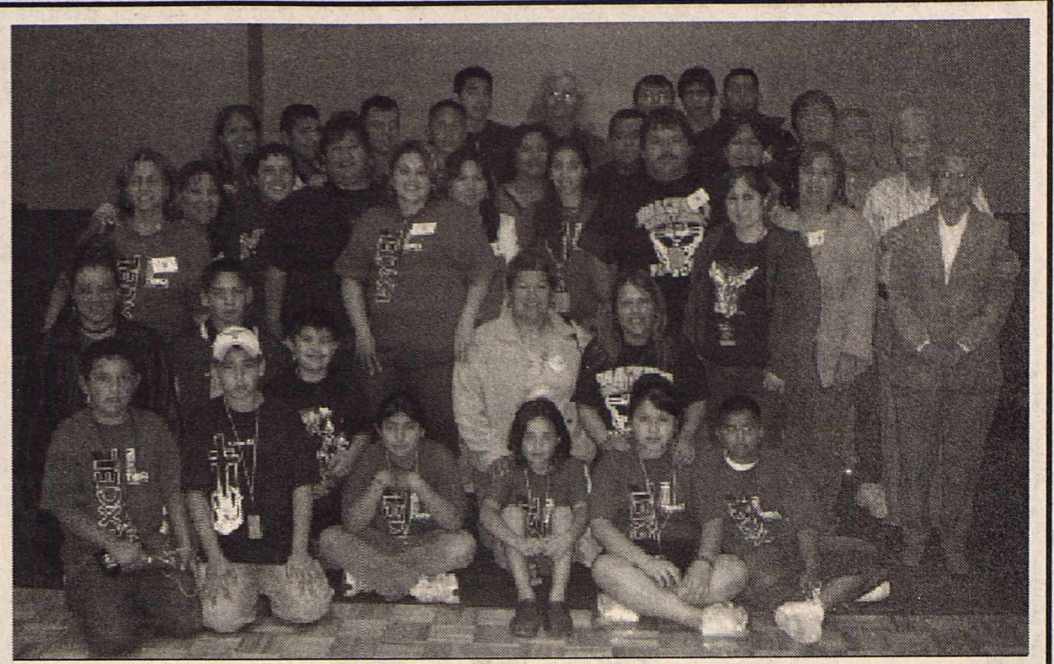
Andrea calls her sister, Mary Jane "her rock" since Mary Jane has been her constant caregiver since this started, and Andrea credits family, friends, Mary Jane's computer friends, and her community here in Brackettville with helping her through this fight with cancer.

She reported that someone telling her a person was praying for her helped her with her fight.

As a cancer survivor, Andrea knows the importance of giving back to help others to fight this disease. She sponsors a girl's volleyball tournament every year, and this year she hopes to have it the weekend of Juneteenth.

All the money raised, she gives to the American Cancer Society to help find a cure for cancer.

Andrea will be participating in the Relay for Life this weekend starting Saturday April 28th at 6pm and ending at 6am on Sunday morning April 29th.



Catholic Charismatic Renewal
Thirteen families attended the regional conference of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal at the Henry B. Gonzales convention center in San Antonio on April 14-15. Courtesy Photo

Delegates attend Catholic charismatic renewal conference

Submitted by Don Smith

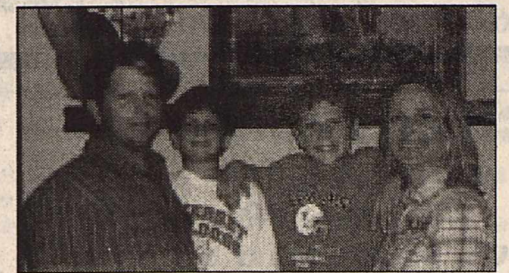
goods, and bought barbeque raising projects of the local plates that were part of the fund- group to pay for the trip.

Members of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of St. Mary Magdalene Church attended a regional conference of the CCR at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center in San Antonio the weekend of April 14th and 15th. Speakers included many nationally known evangelists of the Charismatic Renewal movement in the Catholic Church. There were special meetings for teens called Teen Explosion and a special ministry for children.

The program Saturday was capped off in the evening with a powerful healing service conducted by Fr. Pedro Molina and Dr. Bob Rice. Dr. Rice, now a Catholic lay-evangelist ministered in Brackettville two years ago. On Sunday the meetings concluded with a special Mass presided over by Bishop Thomas J. Flannigan of the San Antonio Archdiocese.

The local Renewal Group wishes to thank local Brackettville folks who donated money, bought cakes and baked

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Cassandra Jane Gomez

Dedicated to
Maria E. DeLeon
June 22, 1988-April 22, 2007
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Hearts
The caring prayers, the shaking shock -
This awful news my world did rock.

No one knew how it happened or why.
We were all so sad; it made me cry.

How unfair it should have happened now -
Won't someone ever tell me how?

Her tears had dried; her pain had healed;
And God chose this time for

her life to yield.
It's later now, while we've moved on -
We miss her as though she had just gone.

We'll never forget all the good she did,
Even though, to her our farewells we've bid.

We love her still, we miss her yet;
And on this I'll forever bet.

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION ESPECIAL)

To the registered voters of the County of Brackettville, Texas:
(a las votantes registradas del Condado de Brackettville, Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 12, 2007, for voting in a special election to "adopt or reject the proposed Constitutional Amendment as submitted by the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, of the State of Texas."

(Notificar, por las presentes, que las casillas electorales situadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 12 de Mayo para votar en la Elección Especial para adoptar o rechazar la enmienda propuesta constitucional así como fueron sometidas por la 80a Legislatura Sesión Regular, de la Estado de Texas.)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCIONES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES

Pct. 1 EMS Building
Pct. 2 High School Auditorium
Pct. 3 Senior Citizens Office
Pct. 4 Kinney County Library Annex

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: Kinney County Clerk's Office
(la votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en:) 501 Ann Street

(location) (sitio)

If the county clerk is not the early voting clerk, the information in the block is required.

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on 4/30/07 (date)
(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el 4 de Abril, 2007) (fecha)

and ending on May 8, 2007 (date) (y terminando el 8 de Mayo, 2007) (fecha)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantadas por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Dora Elia Sandoval, County Clerk
(Name of Early Voting Clerk) (Nombre del Secretario de la Votación Adelantada)

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(Address) (Dirección)

Brackettville, Texas 78832
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Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:
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4/12/07
(date) (fecha)

Issued this the 12 day of April, 2007.
(Emitido este día 12 de Abril de 2007)

John S. Sandoval
Signature of County Judge (Firmado del Jefe del Condado)

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Thursday, April 26, 2007 The Brackett News 6

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Brackettville, TX 830-563-2471
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. P.O. Box 1010
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Physical Therapy
Brandon Lewis M.D.
1020 E. Leona Road
Uvalde, Texas 78801
Workers' Compensation/Medicare/Insurance
(830) 278-4426
Se Habla Espanol

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
Pastor Jeff Janca

Brackett Burger & Shake
We have SWEET Tea!
Try our new CAPPUCINO!
This Sunday's Special:
Pot Roast

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

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
Corner of Fort & Henderson
Sunday: Worship 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wednesday 7 p.m. (October - April)
Lutheran Church Women 11 a.m. Parrish Hall
(Second Monday of Month)
Email: www.ourredeemerlutheran.org
PASTOR NATHAN LAFRENZ 563-9607

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Heavy Equipment
BENTONITE DEALER
(Pond/Tank Sealer)
Shop 830-278-1308
Mobile 830-591-8314
Mobile 830-591-3008

First United Methodist Church
109 James Street, next to the clinic
Sunday School 9:30 * Worship 10:45
Staffed Nursery Every Sunday
Hear the Bible, Feel the Spirit,
Find a Welcome!
open hearts, open minds, open doors

Welcome!
Church of Christ
808 N. Ann 563-2616
Sunday AM, 9:30 Classes
& 10:30 Worship
Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes
Minister: Ray Melton

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Full Service Salon and Day Spa
Manicures • Pedicures • Facials
Hot River Rock Massage • Spa Packages
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CONCAN Country Club www.concangolf.com
Located on River Road (CR 348), 3.5 miles north
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\$19,375
Cash Give Away
April 1st thru April 30th 2007
Play With The Card, Get Free Cash!
Every half hour starting April 1st 2007 from 12pm to 12 am there
will be \$25 in free cash given away in a computer generated random
drawing. You must be playing on an electronic gaming device using your
Players Club Card at the time of the drawing to have a chance at winning.
25 DRAWINGS, 25 WINNERS A DAY!
The more you play with the card, the better your chances of winning!
PLAYERS CLUB
LUCKY EAGLE
EAGLE PASS, TEXAS
www.luckyeagleplayersclub.com

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
"Welcomes You"
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM
(October - April)
Reverend Nathan Lafrenz 563-9607

EMPLOYMENT
THE FOLLOWING ARE OPEN ELEMENTARY TE PARAPROFESSI Application Download from www.brackett.k12 at the BISS Centra Ann Street, or req Brackett ISD, P Brackettville, TX information, call Ce (830) 563-2491 563-9264. Applic accepted until posit Direct inquires to S Supt. Secret Resources. Bracke equal opportunity

THE FOLLOWING OPEN at BISS: Con nician Application Download from www.brackett.k12 up at the BISS Ce 400 Ann Street, c mail, Brackett ISD, Brackettville, TX information, call Ce at (830) 563-2491 563-9264. Applic accepted until posit Direct inquires to S Sec. to Supt. / sources. Brackett I opportunity employ

THE CITY OF BRA IS NOW ACCEPTI TIONS for mainten ment positions. Dea mit applications w May 11, 2007 at

A vari exemp you
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OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLER TEXAS

or on the Web at: v A public servic

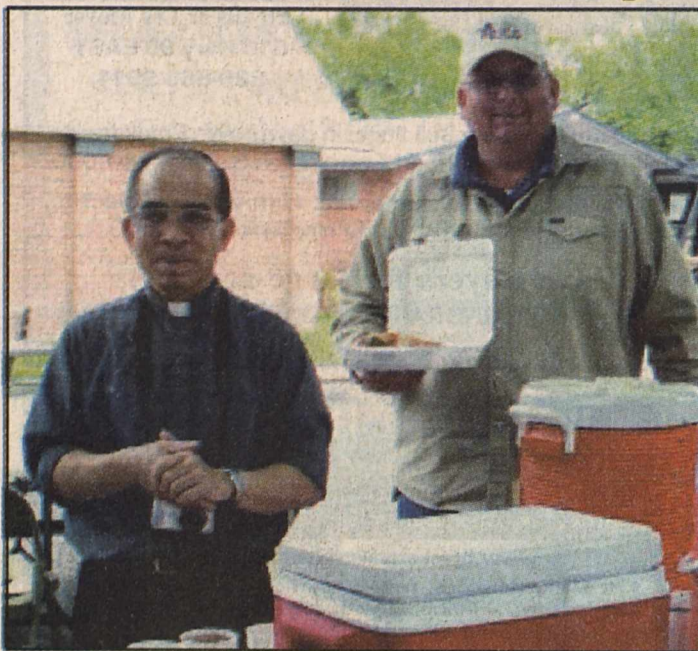
VISIT

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winning numbers

Photos of the Week

Thursday, April 26, 2007 The Brackett News 8



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

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

When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 2007 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

Do you need to reapply annually?

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

For more information, call or come by:

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

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

Or contact:

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528
or call: 1-800-252-9121

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

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

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

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

¿Cual es la fecha límite?

Si su terreno nunca ha tenido una valoración productiva, o si Ud. es nuevo dueño, debe solicitarla a su distrito de valoraciones antes del día 30 de abril, para recibir el beneficio en sus impuestos de propiedad del 2007. Puede recibir hasta 60 días más si tiene una buena razón y si solicita el tiempo adicional antes del 30 de abril del 2007. Si se pasa de esta fecha, es posible que todavía la pueda obtener, pero pagará una multa. Pregunte en la oficina de su distrito de valoraciones.

¿Debo solicitarla cada año?

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

Para más información, llámenos o visítenos:

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

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

ó escribanos a:

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

ó llámenos al: 1-800-252-9121

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

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