

# The Brackett News

Volume 21, No. 10

Thursday, April 9, 2009

1 Section, 6 Pages

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

## Community News

**SUNRISE SERVICE**  
The Community Sunrise Service will be at the Old Quarry Amphitheater at Fort Clark Springs, Sunday, April 12 at 7am.

**METHODIST CHURCH**  
Thursday April 9, Maundy Thursday communion service at 7pm. Friday, April 10, Good Friday Service of Shadows at 7pm. On Sunday, April 12, 9:30am: Sunday School.; 10:15am, Easter Egg Hunt; 10:45am Service of Resurrection and at noon, Easter Pot Luck Banquet-All are invited!

**PROM PRESENTATION**  
Come see Brackett High School celebrities in the latest prom fashions at the red carpet event of the year. Prom Presentation will be held in front of the Kinney County Courthouse on Saturday, April 18, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT - CIVIC MEETINGS**  
Beginning in April, the KCGCD's regular meetings will be held every second Thursday of the month. The April meeting will be April 9, 2009 at the District Courtroom of the Kinney County Court House in Brackettville.

**TEA PARTY**  
A tea party is coming and the mad hatter will be there!!! April 18, more details to come. Trophies will be awarded for the best Republican, Democrat, Independent and Overall hats!

**RELAY FOR LIFE**  
Help fight Cancer at Relay For Life May 2-3, 2009 at the Brackett Tiger Stadium from 6pm - 6am. For more information call Elena C. Luna at 830-563-6123

**SPRING CARNIVAL**  
On April 24 from 4pm-7pm at Elementary Parking lot. The class of 2011 will have a Bingo, Bottle toss, Cake Walk, Snow Cone, Cotton Candy, Tri-Cycle Race, Tattoos, Funnel Cakes, Jumping Castle, Jail, dunking booth IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A BOOTH, PLEASE CONTACT Yolanda Rueda (830-563-2491 ext 412)

**Weekend WEATHER**

**Friday**  
High: 87  
Low: 55  
Sunny

**Saturday**  
High: 90  
Low: 57  
Mostly Sunny

**Sunday**  
High: 84  
Low: 51  
Sunny

## City council; school board cancel elections

City council; school board cancel elections

City of Brackettville alderpersons voted unanimously at Special meeting on March 23 to cancel the May 9 election.

This year, only two positions were up for grabs and due to lack of opposition, the City opted to save money and take a pass on the election.

City council position Place One, currently held by Mary Flores and Place Three, currently held by Ponce Padron, were the only positions scheduled to be on the ballot this year.

Flores filed for re-election, but for lack of opposition, she will be sworn in for another two-year term. Flores has served a total of ten years on the council.

Padron did not file for re-election, however, Nancy Mendoza, an employee of the Bank & Trust in Brackettville, did file and without any opposition either, she too will be sworn in soon after the May 9 election date.

City Council Place 2, currently held by Stephanie Buitron; Place 4, currently held by Francisca Chica Hernandez;

Place 5, currently held by Demitres Williams and the mayoral position currently held by Charles Feagley, will all expire in May, 2010.

The Brackett ISD Board of Trustees will meet on Monday, April 14 and are scheduled to vote to cancel their election also

scheduled for May 9.

At large positions currently held at Mark Frerich and John Paul Schuster were the only two of seven positions open this year. Both Frerich and Schuster filed to run again and since neither will face opposition, the pair will each be sworn in for another

three-year term.

Other members Sondra Meil, Tony Ashley and Tony Molinar were elected in May 2007 and their positions expire in May 2010. Dan Laws and Brad Coe were elected in May 2008 and their positions will expire in May 2011.

## Average Stream Flow for January and March

Submitted By  
Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District

Last week we gave some figures that might have been confusing for some, so this week we want to give you the average stream flows for our creeks, if you have questions please contact the District office at 563-9699 and we will be glad to answer them as we have ability to do so.

Las Moras Creek Average Flow January 629.52 Acre Feet. Average Flow March 1,379.86 Acre Feet

Pinto Creek Average Flow January 770.98 Acre Feet. Average Flow March 989.48 Acre Feet

Mud Creek Average Flow January 1956.05 Acre Feet. Average Flow March 1577.61 Acre Feet

We will bring this information to you each month as we get the flow measured.

stant to the Board  
Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District

## Happy Easter



## Love Me, Love My Bunny

Photo By Leigh Volcsko  
Madeline Ducharme, age 22 months, shows her bunny a little love as she prepares for Easter Sunday on April 12. Madeline is the daughter of Cherrise and JJ Ducharme of Brackettville.

## Dr. Luz: The road to Brackettville

By Katie Brown  
Staff Reporter

The road to Brackettville was a long one that started in the Philippines where Dr. Agustin Q. Luz was born and raised. His father was a lawyer and encouraged him to go into law. This was before WWII and he began looking for a law school. Then in 1941 the Japanese invaded the Philippines. Universities were not encouraged to offer law as a course of study, only the sciences. The Philippines were under Marshal Law. Fortunately, his uncle was a doctor who encouraged him to take up Liberal Arts; to take up arts and major in biology or chemistry. So he did that. He was presented to take medicine through his uncle's recommendation though he still hoped to take law one day and follow in his

father's footsteps. He went to medical school at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila in 1945, studied general medicine and graduated in 1950.

Following medical school, Dr. Luz went to look for a job at Clark Field Air Force Base just northwest of Manila. Clark Field was an American military facility established in 1903 and a stronghold of American forces during the end of WWII. He was hired by the Air Force to be a general medical officer and from there was recruited to serve in Okinawa, Japan. He spent 10 years in Okinawa between the Air Force and the Army.

Meanwhile, his wife Esmeralda, who was a year behind him in school, completed her course of study in pharmacology. In 1964 they brought their family to the United States and settled in Detroit, Michigan. Esmeralda went to work as a pharmacist at Mt. Carmel Hospital. Dr. Luz took the entrance examination, the Education Council for Foreign Graduates, qualifying him for residency or internship in the United States. He applied to St. John's Medical Center in Detroit and was there for four years. He went back to medical school and took an additional three years to specialize in Internal Medicine. He practiced in Michigan for awhile after that



Dr. Luz and his staff at Brackettville United Medical Center. Luz were the honored guests at the Viola Veronica Crout Red Hatter Luncheon April 8. Pictured from left: Jill Duncan, Lydla Tippis, Michelle Hernandez, Jean Householder, Dr. Luz and Rosemary Slubar.

and when he turned sixty they thought it was time to slow down a bit.

They decided to look at Florida and Texas. Finding Florida to be densely populated with doctors, they turned their sights to Texas. In 1982 he met with Dr. Gonzales, the Medical Director of the United Medical Center in Eagle Pass and was assigned there for awhile. When he was later asked to consider Brackettville, a retirement community, his immediate response was, "Where's that?"

Favorably impressed with the diverse population of Fort Clark, the peacefulness of a small town and the abundance of outdoor activities and amenities was all it took. At that time, there were just two nurses here

and the clinic was much smaller. He told his wife he thought this would be a nice place to rest. She said, "What rest are you talking about?" knowing that for him medicine was a lifetime commitment and that he couldn't separate himself from the profession. He has many colleagues, who like himself, have retired only to return to practice a short time later. It's not the money that keeps him from retiring, it's the feeling of fulfillment, of promoting health and preventing diseases. He enjoys traveling but soon finds that he gets bored and all he can think about is getting back to his clinic. Dr. Luz doesn't play

## What's Happening

### RELAY FOR LIFE DAY

In the City of Brackettville, the color PURPLE is to be worn on April 15<sup>th</sup> in recognition of American Cancer Society's Relay For Life. We also encourage all citizens or anyone who has been touched by cancer and needs to find hope or wants to bring hope to others to participate in Relay For Life 2009 in recognition of 25 years of progress in the fight against this disease. Join in on May 2-3, 2009, at the Brackett Tiger Stadium from 6 p.m. to 6a.m. as we all walk together from dusk to dawn as we Celebrate, Remember and Fight Back, where together, we will stand united to eliminate cancer.

### FOOD BANK NEWS

**THE CSFP OVER AGE 60 DISTRIBUTION** will be on Friday, April 17 from 11am - 5pm at the newspaper office. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY. ALL FOOD MUST BE PICKED UP ON THIS DAY. FOOD WILL NOT BE HELD FOR YOU TO PICK UP AT A LATER TIME. All clients must present a Photo ID every month. Distribution dates for 2009 are as follows: April 17, May 22, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20 and December 18.

### TEXCAP FOOD FOR FAMILIES DISTRIBUTION

will be on Friday, April 17 from 11am - 5pm at the newspaper office. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY. ALL FOOD MUST BE PICKED UP ON THIS DAY. FOOD WILL NOT BE HELD FOR YOU TO PICK UP AT A LATER TIME. You will not receive a phone call, it is first come, first served. All clients must present a Photo ID every month. Distribution dates for 2009 are as follows: April 17, May 22, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20 and December 18.

### ARTS IN THE HEART OF UVALDE

The Arts Council and the Uvalde Arts League are inviting artist living within a 150-mile radius of Uvalde to participate in an outdoor art festival to take place on Saturday, May 2, 2009. Arts in the Heart of Uvalde will take place in the beautiful, tree-shaded plaza in the center of town at the junction of Hwy US90 and US83. To join us for this wonderful and festive event contact Ester Trevino at 104 W. North St., Uvalde, Texas 78801 or call 830-278-4184

**RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER**

Continued on Page 2

## LETTER to the Editor

### April - Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month

A group of animal lovers drove all over the City of Brackettville - what we saw is appalling. Many dogs are just tied to trees or fences to weather the elements. With summer and hot weather just around the corner- these animals, so called pets need plenty of water food and shelter. Without proper care the summer months are very difficult. These animals suffer from fleas, ticks, heart worms and other parasites. Protect against more unwanted dogs and cats - spay and neuter your little animals. It is time to take action against animal cruelty, we are their voices. Our friends need our help. Never leave a small child alone with any animals.

Nina Fuentes

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### The Brackett News

BRACKETT NEWS STAFF  
Leigh Volosko, Publisher  
Sara Rivas, Associate Editor

www.mybrackettnews.com

For questions or corrections please call the editor at 830-563-2852 or email tbrnews@sbglobal.net.

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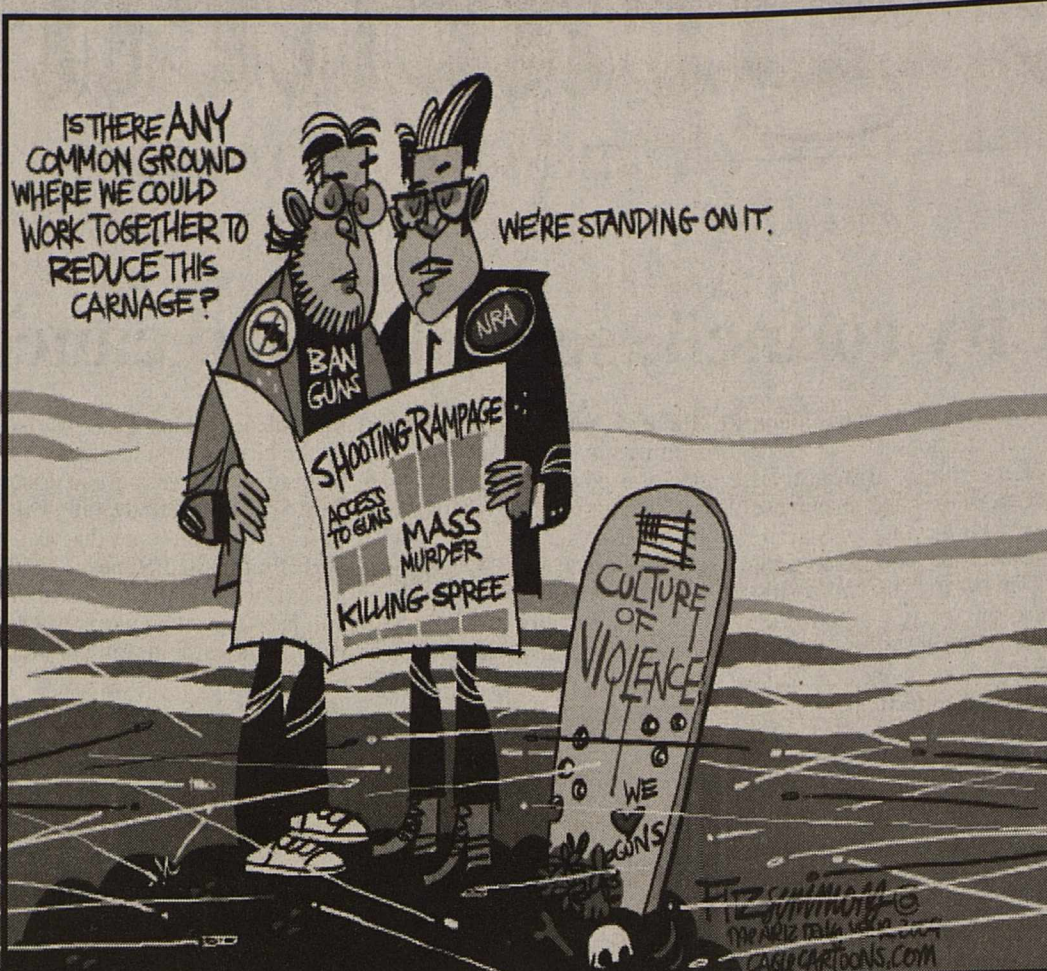
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### Can P/E ratio help you make smart investment choices?



Emily Cooper

Many stocks were pummeled by the long and severe market downturn. As a result, you can now find plenty of good, quality stocks selling at low prices. On the other hand, some companies belong to industries whose near-term future looks uncertain and even though these stocks, too, may be inexpensive, they aren't necessarily good deals. So, how can you tell the difference between good stocks selling at temporarily low prices and not-so-good stocks selling at deservedly low prices? One tool that may help you is the price/earnings ratio, or P/E. When looked at mathematically, P/E is a simple concept: it's calculated by dividing the current stock price of a company by its earnings per share. So, for example, a stock that is now priced

at \$40 and has \$2 of earnings per share will have a P/E of 20. Generally speaking, a stock's P/E reveals how much investors are willing to pay per dollar of earnings. So, for the stock mentioned above, its P/E of 20 implies that investors are willing to pay \$20 for every \$1 of earnings that the company generates. It follows, therefore, that the higher the P/E, the more "expensive" a stock is perceived as being. Because the average P/E in the stock market has been around 15 over the past 50 years, one might say, in a broad sense, that a stock with a P/E of 20 is neither terribly expensive nor particularly cheap. Overall, the P/E ratio is a typically a good indicator of a stock's value and a much better indicator than the price alone. To illustrate: A \$20 stock with a P/E of 70 may actually be much more "expensive" than a \$100 stock with a P/E of 20. As an investor, you're paying much more for the future earnings of the \$20 stock than you are for the earnings of the \$100 stock. So, in the present-day situation, with the market still down so much, you might be able to use P/E to get a clearer sense of which

### Dr. Luz: A journey

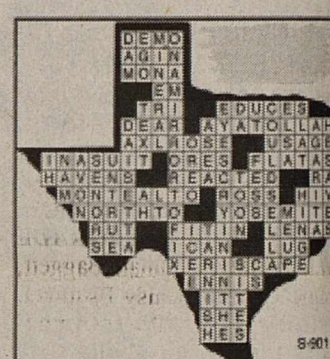
Continued from Page 1

golf so much anymore, however, he takes great pleasure in listening to good music as was evidenced by the melodious sounds in the background as he talked.

The highlight of his career was coming to the United States. "In the Philippines the practice of medicine is different. It doesn't give you the ability or the encouragement to go farther. The approach is symptomatic without knowing the diagnosis. It's very crude medicine." Because of their lack of technology, he said, you mainly rely on your ability to make a diagnosis and prescribe treatment through clinical judgment without much laboratory to back it up.

Dr. Luz is a member of the 50 Years Club in Texas. He has been practicing for 59 years, 27 of which have been in Brackettville. He doesn't believe that to be exemplary however as he has several colleagues who have been in practice since the 1940's!

On Wednesday, the Viola Veronica Crout Red Hat Society honored Dr. Luz for his dedication to medicine and for his commitment to the people of Brackettville. He was accompanied by Rosemary Slubar, Clinic Manager over Del Rio and Brackettville and nurses Lydia Tipps, Jean Householder, Jill Duncan and Michelle Hernandez. Barbara Simmons once again dazzled everyone with her culinary expertise. Reverend Jean Reardon so graciously gave the invocation. When all were finished dining, Dr. Luz patiently assisted with the drawing for door prizes and posing for pictures. Many Red Hatters extended their heartfelt thanks, relating stories about this wonderful man. Debbie Ward said that Dr. Luz has treated five generations of the Ward family. There are few doctors who can claim such longevity in one area. For such a small community, we are so very lucky that the road Dr. Luz chose brought him to Brackettville.



### "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 2008 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: (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 2008. 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, llamemos o visitenos:

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"

o escribanos a:

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs  
Property Tax Division  
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o llamemos al: (800) 252-9121

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3RD NINE WEEKS H  
ROLL Submitted By B  
ALL "A" HONOR  
1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Zuehl  
Mason Eckenrod, Cati G  
Stetson Schuster 2ND C  
Alejandro DeHoyos,  
Garza, Kaili Price, K  
Rangel, Lucero Rodi  
Zane Shamsheer, M  
Sheedy, Tanner Slubar,  
Smith, Aries Talamantes  
Terrazas, Brendan Turk  
GRADE Kirstin Ferri  
Pearson 4TH GRADE I  
Gerardo, Christina Jan  
Rosas, Alexa Solis,  
Stoffel, Tyler Schuste  
GRADE Isabel Garcia,  
Price, Elizabeth Range  
Stoffel, Donovan Swille  
GRADE Peyton Bonne  
gan Brown, Blake D  
Madison Frerich,  
Sandoval, and Jose Tal

"AB" HONOR RO  
GRADE Nathan Brinke  
Buitron, Diego C  
Kristopher Creel, Mich  
con, Logan Fisher,  
Gerardo, Elyssa Her  
Delilah Luna, J  
McKaskle, Nicole Mes  
GRADE Eduardo C  
Kris'tal Cook, Mya Gar  
Martinez, Franny  
Kimmie Stafford, Jewe  
Connie Talamantes,  
Talamantes, Natalie T  
Sara Titchenell 3RD C  
Eddy Argil, Ayme Bru  
ginia Guerrero, Juan I  
Jackie Pacheco, Edga  
Roman Rosas, Sabrina  
Jeremiah Sandoval,  
Valenzuela 4TH C  
Kymie Creel, Erick D  
Marissa Flores, Brian  
Martinez, Celina He  
Xavier Herrera, Justin  
Kaitlyn Lopez, Patric  
DariusRichard, Destiny  
Angel Villarreal 5TH  
Walt Ashley, Hannah  
Angie Caceda, Daisy  
Kate Frerich, Dieg  
Estrella Martinez, J

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MSRP	\$22
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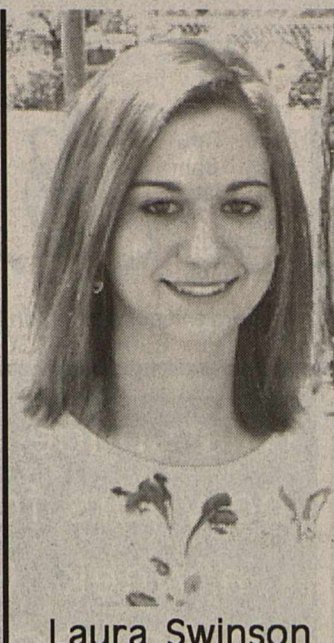


## 3rd Nine Week Honor Rolls

### 3RD NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL Submitted By BISD:

**ALL "A" HONOR ROLL**  
**1st - 6th Grade** Zuehl Conoly, Mason Eckenrod, Cati Guzman, Stetson Schuster  
**2ND GRADE** Alejandro DeHoyos, Kyle Garza, Kaili Price, Kristina Rangel, Lucero Rodriguez, Zane Shamsheer, Matthew Sheedy, Tanner Slubar, Taylor Smith, Aries Talamantes, Karina Terrazas, Brendan Turkett  
**3RD GRADE** Kirstin Frerich, Haley Pearson  
**4TH GRADE** Danielle Gerardo, Christina Janca, J.T. Rosas, Alexa Solis, Abbey Stoffel, Tyler Schuster  
**5TH GRADE** Isabel Garcia, Jeyson Price, Elizabeth Rangel, Max Stoffel, Donovan Swilley  
**6TH GRADE** Peyton Bonner, Morgan Brown, Blake Duncan, Madison Frerich, Te'a Sandoval, and Jose Talamantes

Martinez, Kayla Morelli, Jairo Pinales, Benjamin Rodriguez, Jonathon Stafford, Alyssa Villarreal  
**6TH GRADE** Yessenia Argil, Webb Ashley, Benjamin Brinker, Taylor Carcasi, Teno Flores, Mark Garcia, Martin Guzman, Matt Gutierrez, Dante Luna, Christian Lopez, Cheyenne Pena, David Ortega, Denise Salmon, Gabriella Sandoval, Joaquin Solis, Christian Quiroz, Amber Resendez, Ariana Rodriguez and Bryce Slubar



Laura Swinson

## Swinson receives honor

Brackett High School would like to recognize Laura Swinson for receiving the Certificate of Merit from the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Laura has received this certificate for advancing to Finalist Standing in the National Merit Scholarship Program of 2009 by demonstrating through distinguished performance high potential for future academic accomplishment.

### LEARN ABOUT THE MARKET WITH A FREE CUP OF COFFEE.

You're invited ... to join us at our next coffee club meeting.

Discussing current updates on the market and the economy in a relaxed, informal setting is a great way to get to know one another. Plus, the coffee's on us.

Please join us for the next coffee club meeting.

Breakfast will be served

**Date:** Friday, April 24, 2009  
**Time:** 8:30-10:00am  
**Place:** Fort Clark Springs Service Club

**Emily S Cooper**  
 Financial Advisor  
 3900 Veterans Blvd  
 Del Rio, TX 78840  
 830-774-5559

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 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## PROM PRESENTATION

Come see Brackett High School celebrities in the latest prom fashions at the red carpet event of the year. Prom Presentation will be held in front of the Kinney County Courthouse

Saturday, April 18, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

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- Power Locks
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## ALL 2008's MUST GO

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- 08 Ford Ranger Supercab Sport V6 ..... \$16795
- 08 Mercury Milan OR606182 Premier ..... \$16995
- 08 Ford Econoline Van ..... \$18495
- 08 Mercury Sable ..... \$19895
- 08 Ford Taurus Limited ..... \$24695
- 08 Ford Edge Limited ..... \$27995
- 08 Ford F250 Supercab 4x4 Diesel ..... \$31995
- 08 Ford Mustang GT Shelby ..... \$33995
- 08 Lincoln Navigator 20's ..... \$39695
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- 08 Ford F150 Supercrew Foosie Edition White ..... \$40995

### 2009 FORD FOCUS SE 4DR

- Auto Transmission
- Cruise Control
- Sirius Radio
- Air Conditioning
- AM/FM w/ CD Player
- Tilt Steering Wheel



MSRP \$17905  
 Rebate \$2000  
 FCBC \$500  
 DRFLM \$1410

YOU SAVE \$3,910

SALE PRICE \$13995

### 2009 FORD MUSTANG

- Auto Transmission
- Premium Stereo w/ CD
- Sport Appearance Pkg
- 16" Machine Cast Alum Wheels
- Rear Spoiler
- Air Conditioning
- V6 Engine



MSRP \$21820  
 DRFLM \$1225  
 Rebate \$2500  
 FCBC \$500

YOU SAVE \$4,252

SALE PRICE \$17595

### 2009 FORD F150 SUPERCAB XL

- Auto Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- Tilt Steering
- 4.6 V8 Engine
- AM/FM Stereo w/ CD Player
- Cruise Control



MSRP \$26535  
 Rebate \$2000  
 FCBC \$1000  
 DRFLM \$1840

YOU SAVE \$4,840

SALE PRICE \$21695

### 2009 FORD F150 SUPERCREW XL

- 4.6L 3V EFI V8 Engine
- Air Conditioning
- Cruise Control
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- AM/FM Stereo/CD
- Fog Lamps
- Power Windows



MSRP \$30060  
 Rebate \$2000  
 FCBC \$1000  
 DRFLM \$2065

YOU SAVE \$5,065

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\* Art for illustration purposes only \* 3.9% for 36 months WAC on selective vehicles \* 0% for 60 months in lieu of rebate. \*\*0% APR in lieu of rebate, term varies by model.

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Thursday, April 9, 2009 The Brackett News **4**

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 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

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**  
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 Sunday Worship 11:00 AM  
 Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM  
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 Email:www.ourredeemerlutheran.org  
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 A Bible Based New Testament Church  
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 11:00 am Worship Service  
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 Pastor: Ned Sitzes (830) 563-5529  
 Frontier Baptist Church (SBC) Corner of Ann & El Paso

**First Baptist Church**  
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 Evening Service 7 p.m.  
 Pastor Jeff Janca  
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 Phone: 563-2245  
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