

# The Brackett News

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Volume 22, No. 43

The Brackett News is Loved by many, Cussed by some, Read by them ALL!

1 Section, 6 Pages

Kinney County Is Home To Tiger All District Football Players

## Community News

### APPLIANCE REBATE

The Texas Appliance Mail-In Rebate Program will begin on December 20, 2010. Only purchases made on or after December 20, 2010, will be eligible. New Texas Appliance Mail-In Rebate Program Through unclaimed rebate funds, Texas will be able to offer a new appliance rebate program beginning December 20, 2010. Approximately \$10 million will be available for this program. The goal of the program is to promote awareness of ENERGY STAR® appliances and decrease energy consumption by encouraging appliance replacement. Visit <http://www.texaspowerfulsmart.org/rebate/appliances.php> for: Appliance rebates will be available on a first-come, first-served basis through a purchase and mail-in rebate program. View the Frequently Asked Questions for basic information to educate yourself on the new program. See our list of eligible appliances and their associated rebate amounts. Go to the ENERGY STAR website to learn more about ENERGY STAR appliances.

### LIBRARY NEWS

A PLUS FAMILY CARE LLC Family care provider agency will be holding a job fair at the Kinney County Public Library on Friday, Dec. 3, 2010 from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm For more information: 1-888-758-1874

### JONES E/I

#### EVENT CALENDAR

Dec. 6th - 10th:  
7th - Get Fit Meeting @6p.m. in the cafeteria  
9th - BDAC @3:45 in central Office  
11th - UIL Meet 8:00 - 4:00

### VET OUTREACH

ATTENTION VETERANS Men or Women, Vets4Vets meeting at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 4, 2010 at the Kinney County Library Annex GRACE after FIRE outreach coordinator/veteran; Tammi Jean Franklin out of the Boerne, TX, is looking to start a Vet-to-Vet support group here in Kinney County; the meeting is free & informal For more information call 830-563-2884

### SIMMONS FUND RAISER

We're having a Drawing Barbara and Neal!!!! As many of you know, Barkley and Amanda will be traveling back to the Heart Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio on December 4, and it is expected to be another lengthy stay. The Simmons' are overwhelmed by your generosity, and the fundraising efforts continue. In addition to the Sweet's hosting an Open House event, friends of the Simmons' have decided to have a drawing of the amazing culinary talents of Barbara and Neal!!!! The lucky winner of the drawing will receive an elegant dinner party for six catered by Barbara and Neal. "Dinner Party for 6". You may buy your tickets by contacting one of the following ticket sellers. Nancy Musgrave Diane Wilson Trina Lee Christi Maddox David Rex Xyan McWilliams Debbie Ward Other sellers to be announced The drawing will be held on Saturday evening, December 18, 2010 at The Filling Station. Although you don't have to be present to win, we hope you will join us from 7:00 to 7:30 pm for the drawing, hot cocoa and cookies, and so that we may thank you for your support. Friends of the Simmons family

### BRIDGE

FCS Duplicate Bridge will now be played every Friday afternoon at 1pm at the Adult Center. All Bridge players welcome.

### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Upcoming holiday schedule for BISD: Thanksgiving: Early release on Nov 23 @1pm and return on Nov 29 as scheduled; Christmas Holiday: Early release on Dec 22 @ 1pm and return on Jan 11 as scheduled; Spring Break: Early release on March 11 @1pm and return on March 21 as scheduled

### AA MEETING

The Joy of Living Group of Alcoholics Anonymous closed meetings, has changed its meeting time from Saturday at 7pm to Friday at 7pm at 803 E. Crockett Street.

## Former FCS DO files suit

By Leigh Jenkins  
mybrackettnews.com

Former Fort Clark Springs Association Director of Operations Felix Cerna filed a law suit

against his old employer, according to documents filed at the Kinney County Clerk's Office on November 17.

Tom Harwood of Uvalde, attorney for Cerna, pleads for the court to force Fort Clark

Springs Association, Inc. to pay the balance of Cerna's three-year contract that includes his salary and other benefits. Cerna was hired in June of 2009 and terminated in October of this year.

Harwood claims Cerna conducted himself, "in accordance with the by-laws of the Ft. Clark Springs association, he was interviewed and given favorable performance reviews."

The documents also include the claims Cerna was terminated with out cause and the Fort had not responded to a request submitted to the Fort more than thirty days ago to pay out his contract.

## Finnessey Family fills fort



Photo Courtesy To The Brackett News - Matriarch Mildred Finnessey with her great-grandson Ethan visit the Fort for their family reunion and to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Article Courtesy To  
The Brackett News  
By Katie Brown

The Finnessey family, whose daughter Mary K. Brown lives on Fort Clark, had a family reunion to celebrate their mother Mildred Finnessey who just turned 90. The Thanksgiving week long celebration was held

at the home of Trent and Mary Brown with a Thanksgiving feast served at Creekside, catered by Barbara Simmons. In attendance were seven of the children and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. They traveled from San Francisco, CA, Colorado Springs, CO, St. Louis, MO, Granite Shoals, TX, Houston, TX, and Alice, TX with grand-

children also coming from Austin, TX.

Mildred, who lives with her daughter in Granite Shoals, was thrilled to see all her "boys" together again. It had been six years since all had gathered when her husband passed away in 2004. Sadly missed was daughter Theresa who passed away in 2003. A special surprise was that granddaughter

Shandi, former Miss USA 2004, was able to fly in from Los Angeles to attend the event.

The gathering was truly a celebration of family, complete with "tell all" stories of childhood antics passed down through the years. Great grandchildren met cousins for the first time, forming immediate bonds with promises to keep in touch on Facebook. Laughter filled

the air. All agreed that Fort Clark was a beautiful place to visit; the weather was perfect and as if on cue, the deer and turkey made several appearances to the delight of all. Then, with a touch of sadness and lots of hugs, everyone said their goodbyes and headed home on Saturday. What a wonderful way to start off the Christmas season.

## Shipley's take holiday decorations to airwaves

The Shipley's have decorated their rented Fort Clark Springs home for Christmas, but have taken it to the airwaves.

If you pass by the Shipley House at 15 Colony Row and tune your radio to FM 88.5, you can enjoy a lightshow that coordinates with a selection of musical holiday classics.

Thousands of lights feature a Nativity Scene,

A post of the Brackett News

fan page on Facebook.com suggested members of the Fort were complaining about, "too many lights", but Seth Shipley said he saw the post, but was unable to validate the comment after checking with Fort security.

Thousands of lights feature a Nativity scene and a countdown clock.

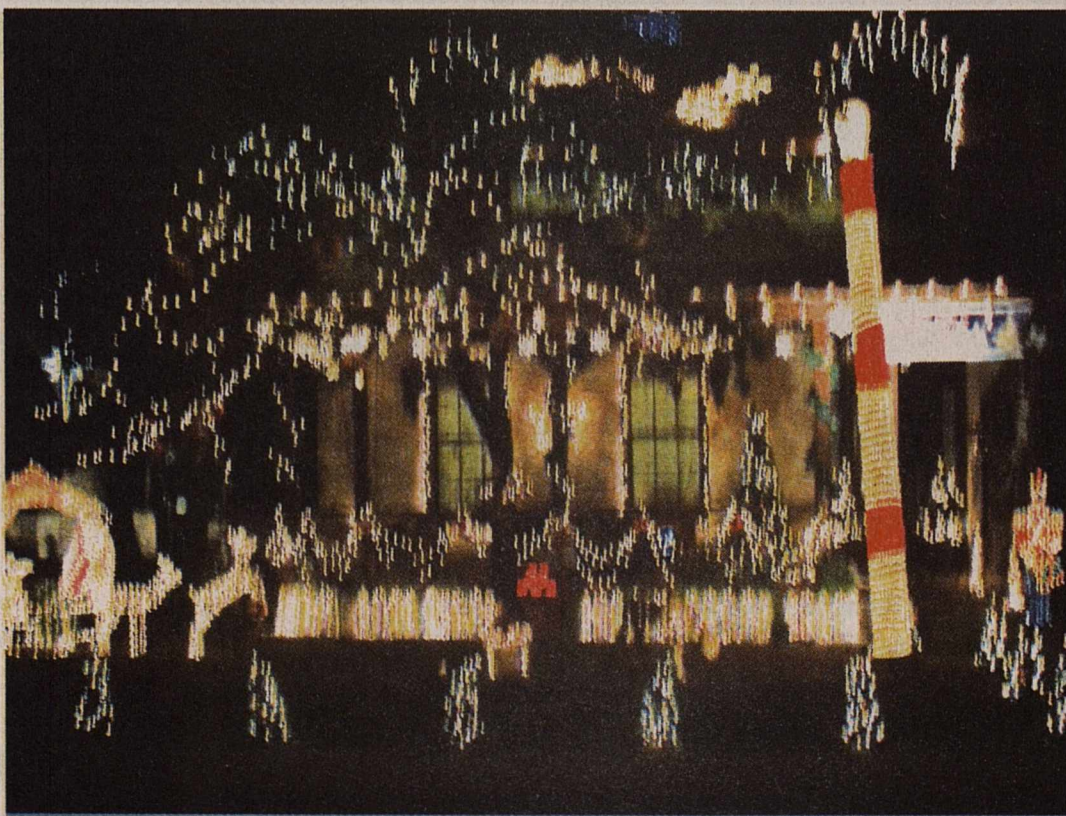
Shipley has been declared the winner of The Brackett News Annual Christmas Decoration Con-

test, unless of course another resident of Kinney County out does this massive display.

"What do we do? How do you top this kind of display?" said TBN Publisher Leigh Jenkins Volcsko.

"Our judges are already out looking at potential candidates for a winner. Because of this we are updating our contest, prizes and rules," she concluded.

Brackett News contest details to be announced soon.



Brackett News Photo By Leigh Jenkins - The Shipley House at 15 Colony Row on Fort Clark Springs is the front runner for the Sixth Annual Brackett News Best Decorated House Contest. If you see a house in Kinney County you think others need to see, call 830.563.2852

## RGEC to host Community Christmas event

Submitted by RGEC

Area residents are invited to take part in the Community Christmas event Thursday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. in front of Rio Grande Electric Co-op. There will be singing of Christmas songs by several local church and school groups, and plenty of opportunities to sing along with those favorite old holiday classics.

Light refreshments will be served, and children will have a chance to tell Santa Claus what they would like for Christmas. Their photos will be taken with Santa and can be downloaded from RGEC's Facebook page the following day. (For safety's sake, the photos will not be identified with any of the children's personal information.)

Please join in this fun-filled event to kick off the Holiday Season!

## Jingle Bell 5K Fun Run/Walk

Open to Community of Brackettville

Submitted By Christie Palmer

Brackettville will hold a 5K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010. Those wishing to participate can complete this flyer and drop off at Jones Elementary school prior to the event. Onsite registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. the day of the event with the run/walk beginning at 8:00 a.m.

This event is being sponsored by Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas as part of their Get FIT program. This program promotes healthier lifestyles by educating both children and parents. This year initiative has also included elimination of sugary beverages in the school cafeteria, tracking of time children spend viewing TV and weekly parent lessons.

The first 100 people completing the 5K run/walk will receive a FREE t-shirt. Please show your support for a healthier Brackettville by coming out on Saturday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> and participating in this event.

"Nemo me impune lacesset - No one will provoke me with impunity"

## Publishers PLOG (or Paper Log)

Two Things real quick....

#1 - Due to a lot of Thanksgiving holiday madness and a family emergency, some of our papers were not delivered, delivered late or delivered twice. We sincerely apologize for the delay or multiple delivery and we will work to correct the problem so the Christmas and New Year's holiday delivery will be smooth. We appreciate your business and if you do not receive your paper, please call us at 830.563.2852.

#2 - Once again we are kicking off our annual holiday decoration contest. But this year there is a twist. We already have a winner.... It's the Shipley's at 15 Colony Row at Fort Clark Springs (See Page 1 for pic and brief story). You can still win though, you just have to beat the Shipleys! Prize Details for this year are still being worked on and will be posted, but the names and addresses for the Drive By This House List starts today. So call in your favorite house on the Fort or in Brackettville to 830.563.2852, email it to tbnws@sbcglobal.net or find brackett news on Facebook.com.

Leigh J.

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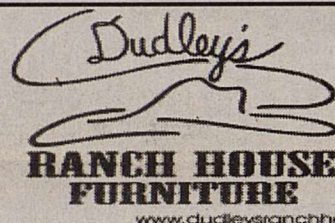


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### Letter To Editor POLICY

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit all letters for accuracy, taste and grammar. We reserve the right to condense letters for space purposes. We reserve the right to refuse letters for any reason. Letters should be approximately 350 words in length. Letters to the editor should not attack private citizens. Letters to the editor regarding any upcoming election and/or candidates shall be charged the same rate as a political ad and will be subject to state law. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. All writers are subject to being asked to provide proof of identity. Letters found or believed to be written by a person other than that of the signed author will be rejected. We do not publish form letters, copies of letters or letters written to other publications. Exceptions to the rules are made on a letter by letter basis. Unless otherwise noted, letters to the editor and columns on the opinion page reflect the opinion of the writers and not necessarily those of The Brackett News.

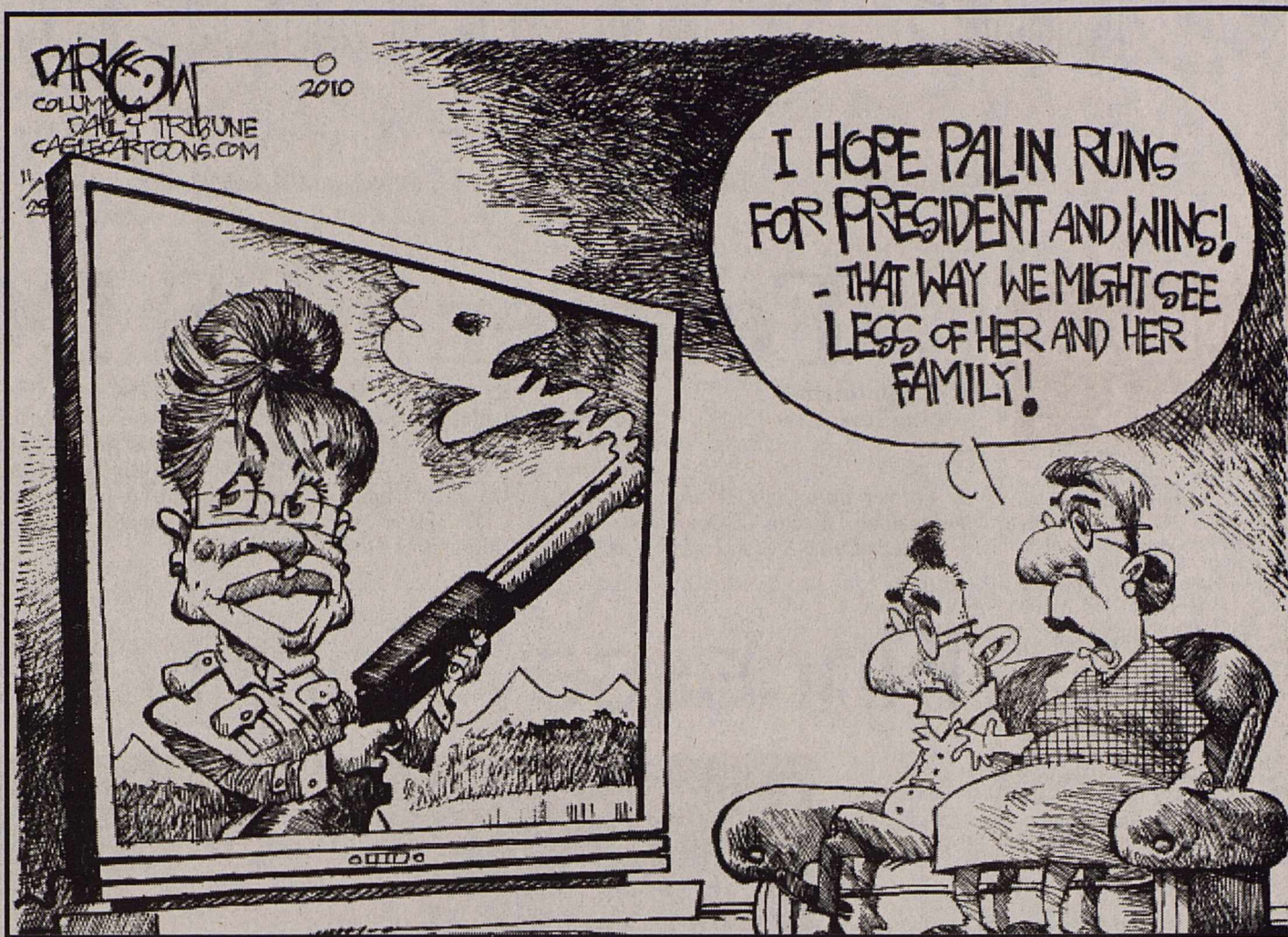
## The Brackett News

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www.mybrackettnews.com

For questions or corrections please call  
830-563-2852 or email  
tbnws@sbcglobal.net.

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**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**  
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2008



## Prepared for a winter storm



Fly Lady Marla Cilley

Why do we let unexpected problems with weather, electricity, and other little things, throw our routines in the trash? I can tell you, it is not a perfect world. One little thing out of whack throws a monkey wrench into our plan. Winter is almost here; with this season, comes snow, school closings, ice storms and power outages.

Are you prepared with plan B? Let's pretend for a minute (some of you will not have to pretend at all) You have lived it. O.K. your power goes out and you have no heat, no hot water, no stove, you can't stay home, because it is very cold. So you go to the neighbors, because they have a fireplace, but the family is still running in and out of the house. After the power comes back on, your home is trashed. WHY? You have not been cooking, washing dishes, taking baths or watching TV. You have not really even been at home, except to run in and out getting things. Here is why your home became trashed! Everyone reverted back to your days of

CHAOS. They thought that since there was no power, there was no power (discipline in our home)! Routines are a discipline. So without power, we didn't need routines, because we couldn't adhere to them anyway. FREE FOR ALL. Well if your routines were habit, you would not have been able to toss them out into the snow so fast.

Our biggest problem is picking up after ourselves. Without our routines we do not police our hotspots, keep our sink clean or keep the children on track with their routines.

So when the storm hits, the kids are out of school, and you are without power, you still have sunlight (during the day). Don't allow the fact that there is a little problem to stand in your way of doing things like you have been doing for months. You want a perfect world and most days are not like this at all. Enjoy the challenge of feeding your family with a buddy burner. If you were in scouts, you know what I am talking about. Play games by flashlight, read to them, just remember to stay calm and don't let your home get panicked. You are still in charge.

Plan B is like being on a camping trip for me. I love to make do with what every I have. Since we live in the country and have our own water system, we have to be prepared. So we have some bottles of water in the basement, for making coffee, washing our hair, sponge baths, and cooking if needed. We also have two fireplaces, so we can

keep warm, if needed. There are dutch ovens for cooking in the fireplace and a real perk coffee maker. So we won't starve. Knowing what you can do and how, is part of not getting panicked. We also have a gas grill on the back deck. So if the freezer was without power for more than 2 days, we would have to start cooking up a storm.

Do you have an emergency backup plan in your home? Think about this for a little while and see exactly what you would do in case of a power outage.

Do you know where your flashlights are? Can you find them in the dark?

Do you have a weather radio, or battery operated radio for an emergency channel? How about Extra water for drinking and minimal bathing? Do you have an alternate way to heat your home? How about to cook? And the pot and pans to do it with? Do you know about safety in the house with kerosene heaters, grills and candles?

Do you have a fire extinguisher handy?

Do you have plenty of Blankets? Hats and gloves? Just a little planning can keep you from pulling your hair out after the crisis is over. Learn to adapt and you will be so pleased the next time there is a weather emergency. Get Ready for a Storm; you will be glad you did!

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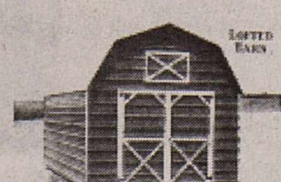
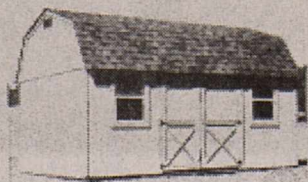
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## Basketball teams start season



Shelby Schuster

On November 15, the Junior High Boys Basketball teams started their season with games against the Sabinal Junior High Boys teams.

The 7th grade boys had a total of 38 points- Julian Quiroz: 8, Brandon Blevins: 7, Moses Lira: 6, Walt Ashley: 5, Walker Harris: 4, Jaido Pinales: 2, Rafael Martinez: 2, Donovan Swilley: 2, Diego Luna: 2. The 7th Grade Boys won 38-32.

The 8th Grade Boys had a total of 35 points- David Ortega: 14, Saul Talamantes: 8, Colten Stephenson: 4, Blake Duncan: 2, Teno Flores: 2, Jose Talamantes: 2, Matt Gutierrez: 2, Christian Quiroz: 1. The 8th Grade Boys lost 38-35.

On November 16, the JV and Varsity Girls Basketball teams played the Rocksprings Lady Angoras.

The JV Girls had a total of 25 points- Mercedes Ocasio: 13, Shelby Schuster: 6, Calli Campos: 4, Cynthia Salazar: 2. Cynthia Salazar and Shelby Schuster were the rebound leaders with 6 rebounds and Cynthia Salazar was the leading stealer with 4 steals. The JV Girls lost 31-25.

The Varsity Girls had a total of 51 points- Karley Harris: 15, Paige Nowlin: 15, Priscilla Aguirre: 9, Bianca Cruz: 6, Kelsey Bruce: 2, Rachael Nash: 2, 10 steals- Kelsey Bruce: 4, Bianca Cruz: 4, Priscilla Aguirre: 1, Jaclyn Abbey: 1, 7 assists- Kelsey Bruce: 2, Jaclyn Abbey: 2, Bianca Cruz: 1, Selina Gerardo: 1, 22 rebounds- Karley Harris: 11, Paige Nowlin: 6, Priscilla Aguirre: 2, Bianca Cruz: 2, Selina Gerardo: 1. The Varsity Girls lost 53-51.

The Girls also played against the Comstock Lady Panthers on November 22.

The JV had a total of 17 points- Shelby Schuster: 4, Mercedes Ocasio: 3, Mikaela Castillo: 3, Clarissa Cruz: 3, Haley Smith: 2. Shelby Schuster was the leading rebounder with 6 rebounds. Briana Garza was the assist leader with 4 assists.

Cynthia Salazar was the team's leader in steals with 4. The JV Girls lost 24-17.

Against Comstock, The Varsity Girls had a total of 61 points- Paige Nowlin: 15, Meghan Flores: 13, Kelsey Bruce: 12, Jaclyn Abbey: 9, Rachael Nash: 7, Selina Gerardo: 5, 25 steals- Kelsey Bruce: 12, Rachael Nash: 5, Priscilla Aguirre: 3, Paige Nowlin: 2, Meghan Flores: 2, Selina Gerardo: 1, 18 rebounds- Kelsey Bruce: 8, Selina Gerardo: 3, Paige Nowlin: 3, Karley Harris: 1, Priscilla Aguirre: 1, Jaclyn Abbey: 1, Meghan Flores: 1, 6 assists- Rachael Nash: 2, Selina Gerardo: 2, Jaclyn Abbey: 1, Karley Harris: 1. Paige Nowlin also had 1 block. The Varsity Girls won 61-51.

On November 23, the Girls played against the Nueces Canyon Lady Panthers.

The JV Girls had a total of 8 steals- Calli Campos: 4, Briana Garza: 4. Haley Smith was the rebounding leader with 5 rebounds. The JV Girls lost 49-9.

The Varsity Girls had a total of 40 points- Paige Nowlin: 11, Selina Gerardo: 8, Jaclyn Abbey: 6, Rachael Nash: 5, Kelsey Bruce: 5, Priscilla Aguirre: 3,

Meghan Flores: 2, 25 rebounds- Paige Nowlin: 9, Kelsey Bruce: 6, Selina Gerardo: 4, Jaclyn Abbey: 3, Rachael Nash: 1, Shelby Schuster: 1, Mercedes Ocasio: 1, 12 steals- Kelsey Bruce: 4, Paige Nowlin: 3, Selina Gerardo: 2, Jaclyn Abbey: 1, Priscilla Aguirre: 1, Priscilla Aguirre: 1, 10 assists- Selina Gerardo: 4, Paige Nowlin: 2, Jaclyn Abbey: 2, Kelsey Bruce: 1, Priscilla Aguirre: 1, 4 blocks- Paige Nowlin: 2, Kelsey Bruce: 1, Priscilla Aguirre: 1. The Varsity Girls lost 65-40.

On November 19, the JV and Varsity Basketball Boys played against the Dilley Wolves.

The Varsity Boys had a total of 41 points- Erbey Martinez: 12, Victor Robledo: 12, Jonathon Quiroz: 8, Joelson Terrazas: 5, Ayland Letsinger: 2, and Brandon Sandoval: 2. The Varsity Boys lost 47-41.

The JV and Varsity Boys also played against the Comstock Panthers on November 23.

The Varsity Boys had a total of 51 points- Erbey Martinez: 19, Cesar Castillo: 8, Joelson Terrazas: 8, Sam Stewart: 6, Ayland Letsinger: 4, Jonathon Quiroz: 4, and Victor Robledo: 2. The Varsity Boys lost 60-51.

## BISD Employee of the Week

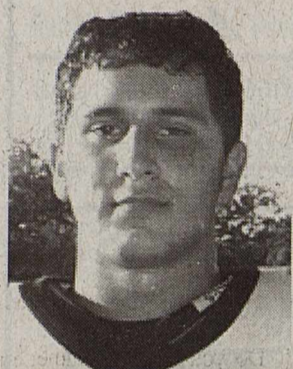


**KACIE WILLIAMS**  
Campus Secretary, BHS, BJH, BEA

### Six Things About Me You Probably Didn't Know...

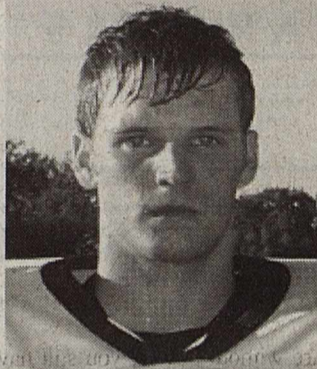
1. I got married in a run down motel... due to a hurricane on my wedding day in Florida that was supposed to be an all out beach wedding.
2. I have my Florida Real Estate License.
3. I am an only child born in San Jose, California.
4. My favorite color is deep pink.
5. I was an active firefighter for 2 years before my youngest was born.
6. My 3 beautiful children are my life!

## 2010 Brackett Tiger Football District 14-A All District Selections



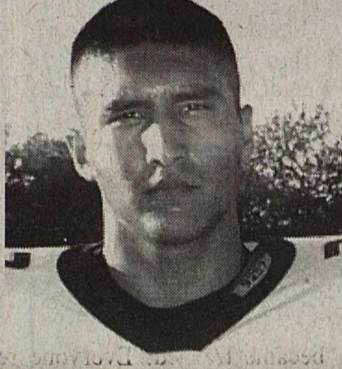
TIGERS

**SAM STEWART - SR**  
OFFENSE:  
District Offensive Co-MVP  
Academic All District



TIGERS

**BRANDON ALLEN - SR**  
1st Team Quarterback  
1st Team Kicker  
2nd Team Punter  
2nd Team Defensive Back  
Academic All District



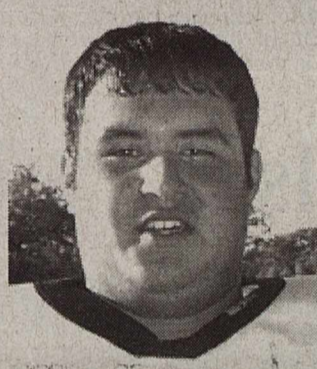
TIGERS

**VICTOR ROBLEDO - SR**  
1st Team Running Back  
1st Team Def.  
Outside Linebacker



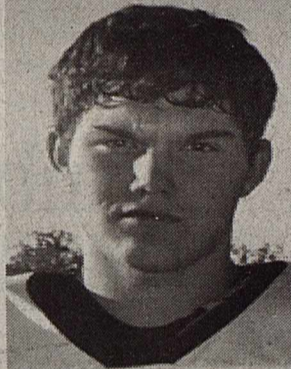
TIGERS

**AYLAND LETSINGER - SR**  
1st Team Tight End  
Academic All District



TIGERS

**JAIME RODRIGUEZ - SR**  
DEFENSE:  
1st Team Defensive Line  
1st Team Offensive Line



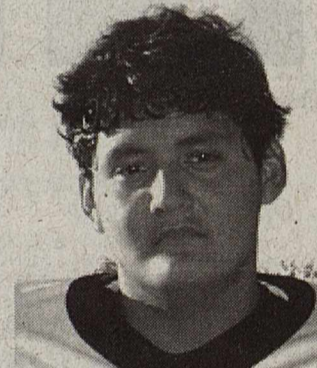
TIGERS

**LEVI GUTIERREZ - JR**  
2nd Team Offensive Line  
2nd Team Defensive Line



TIGERS

**ERBEY MARTINEZ - SOPH**  
2nd Team Defensive Back



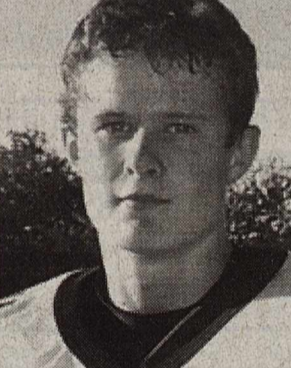
TIGERS

**ROBERT TORRES - SR**  
Academic All District



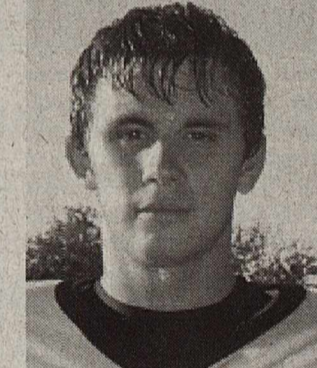
TIGERS

**DANIEL FALCON - SOPH**  
2nd Team Def. Inside  
Linebacker



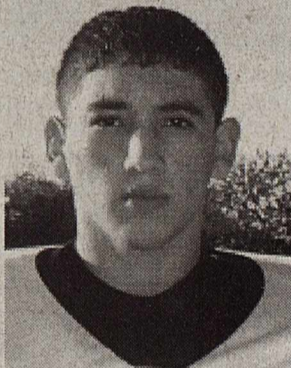
TIGERS

**JOSH SMITH - SR**  
Academic All District



TIGERS

**JAIME SANDOVAL - SR**  
2nd Tm Def Outside Linebacker  
Academic All District

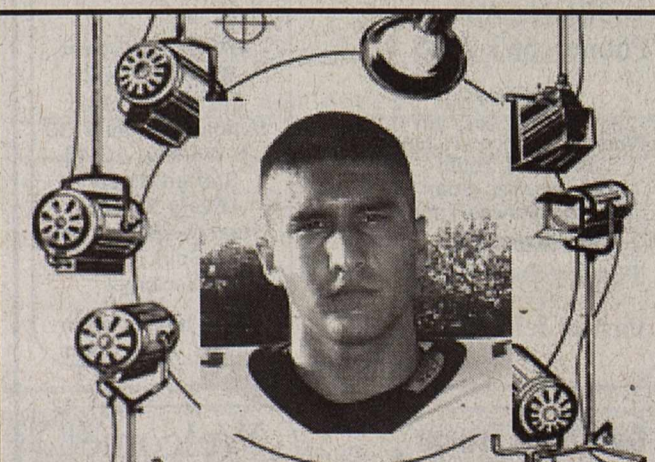


TIGERS

**CESAR CASTILLO - SOPH**  
2nd Team Offensive Line

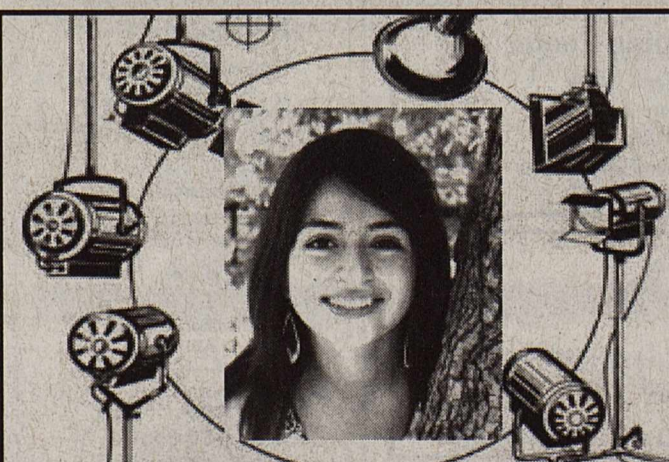
## Class of 2010

### BHS SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



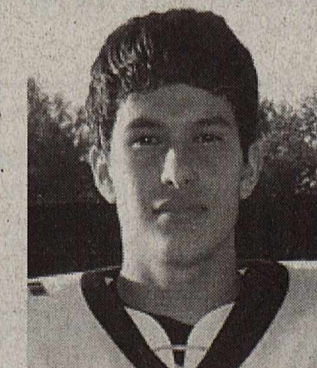
Victor Robledo

**Mother:** Linda Sanchez  
**What are your plans after graduation?** I plan to enlist in the Army.  
**What teacher influenced you the most?** Mrs. Bader influenced me the most.  
**What are you most looking forward to after graduation?** I look forward to getting out and seeing the world.  
**What do you think you will miss the most after graduation?** I will miss my friends and family.



Sahara Rodriguez

**Mother:** Irma Rodriguez  
**Father:** Jesus Rodriguez  
**Siblings:** Steven Rodriguez  
**What are your plans after graduation?** I plan on attending UT Austin and majoring in International Business  
**What teacher influenced you the most?** Mrs. Ballew influenced me the most.  
**What are you most looking forward to after graduation?** I'm excited about being on my own and meeting new people.  
**What do you think you will miss the most after graduation?** I will miss my mom! But I will also miss all my family and friends



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## Catholic Church makes way for new sign



Brackett News Photo By Leigh Jenkins and Artistic Enhancements By Sara Rivas - St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church Parishioner Henry Fuentes has been working with others to prepare the brick sign in front of the church for a new insert and over the last year have been developing a garden area around the sign. Also seen in the background is the entrance to the church.

## Mexican drug violence could help South Texas onion farmers

*Onions from down south may not reach U.S. markets this season*

Submitted by Tyler Bobinmyer  
Kinney County Ext Agent  
Written By Rod Santa Ana

WESLACO — South Texas onion growers have planted more acres than they did last year based on speculation that drug cartel violence may keep Mexican onions out of the U.S. market next year, according to an expert with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

"Onion acreage here is up by as much as 2,000 acres over last year's 8,700 acres based on several factors, including the fact that competing Mexican onions may not make it into the U.S. during our harvest window next year," said Dr. Juan Anciso, an AgriLife Extension vegetable specialist in Weslaco.

Other factors include lingering memories of high market prices for last year's crop and excellent planting weather this year, Anciso said.

"Weather was a huge problem last year," Anciso said. "We had lots of rain that affected both planting and harvesting in Mexico and here in South Texas. But not this year. The entire peak planting month of October here was dry and it stayed that way until the end of the planting window on Nov. 15."

Bad weather last season led to fewer onions and higher market prices for growers who were able to cash in.

"Depending on how much rain they got, some growers here made a killing, some broke

even and some lost their shirts," he said.

Mexican onions, which usually compete with the South Texas onion harvest in the spring, were not a factor due to heavy tropical rains there too.

"This year, regardless of what kind of weather Mexico has, speculation among growers is that the drug violence will keep Mexican onions from competing with our onions again this season," Anciso said.

There's no way to determine how much seed was bought and planted in Mexico this fall, but the violence will have an impact this year that wasn't there last year, he said.

"It's getting difficult to farm there and even harder to find trucks to ship the produce up here."

While the North American Free Trade Agreement pushed farmers south into Mexico during the 1990s, the violence is now pushing growers back to the U.S., Anciso said.

"I've had Mexican growers come to my office to talk to me about buying farmland here in South Texas," he said. "Just recently, one grower was looking for 10,000 acres, another

wanted 3,000 and another was looking for 1,000."

Anciso said that due to urbanization, prospective buyers are not likely to find large tracts of farmland in one location.

"Of course, I send them to real estate agents, but if they buy large tracts of land, it will likely be piecemeal, not all together in one tract," he said.

The growers looking to move north from Mexico are sorghum growers who will likely stick to growing what they know, but could branch out to other crops, "depending on the market forces," he said.

"Nobody could have predicted all this craziness in Mexico," Anciso said. "But it's indicative of the volatile global economy we're in now. Markets of any commodity, not just agriculture, can quickly move up or down."

Most of the onions planted in South Texas are of the sweet variety and are doing well, as are other winter vegetables, including cabbage, leafy greens, carrots and others, Anciso said.

"All our winter vegetables were planted on time, stands came up well and overall are doing very well."

## Symbols of Christmas

By Christian Oneal  
Brackett News Contributor

The sights and sounds of Christmas are all around us. Store windows with displays, neighborhoods with lights, and decorated trees in the living room.

As we decorate our homes and businesses, be sure to appreciate the meanings of the symbols of Christmas.

These symbols originated hundreds of years ago, when families would gather in quiet solitude to decorate simple farm homes. These symbols originated during times when decorations were rare, and often required a financial sacrifice for the family.

**THE TREE:** Most researchers agree that the modern Christmas tree is a symbol of the new life that springs forth from the root of Jesse. Jesse was the father of King David. The Messiah was promised from the line of King David. Jesus was a direct descendant of King David, and His life is symbolized as the "new life" that sprouts from the tree. Jesse and David are the roots. Christ is the life.

**THE CHRISTMAS CANE:** Shaped like a Shepherd's cane, for Jesus said that He was "the good Shepherd." The color red in the cane symbolizes the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross for all of humanity. The white symbolizes the purity of Jesus' life on this earth a perfect, sinless life. The canes that are made of candy remind us that Jesus said that we are to eat of His flesh.

**THE WREATH:** In the Book of Revelation, Jesus is described as The Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. The circular wreath has no beginning, and no end. His Kingdom knows no beginning and no end. The green of the wreath reminds us the Jesus is eternal, springing forth a new life, a new covenant.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:** Jesus is the Light of the World. (John 8:12) A great Light has come into the world.

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS:** Christmas gifts are symbolic for two reasons. First, they remind us that the wise men brought gifts to the baby Jesus. Those gifts were chosen to be gifts for a king, gifts for a priest, and gifts for a funeral. Jesus was both king and priest, and He gave His life for us. Second, the gifts remind us of the eternal gift that we have if we accept Jesus

Christ as Lord and Savior, and recognize Him as the Son of God. The gift of eternal life, dwelling with God the Father and with Jesus the Son for eternity in heaven, if we accept Jesus and trust in Him alone.

**THE HOLLY:** Symbolic of the crown of thorns that Jesus wore as he voluntarily submitted Himself to trial and crucifixion.

**THE STAR:** Usually placed on the top of the tree, the star reminds us that Jesus birth was announced by the appearance of a star. That star led the wise men to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. Bethlehem was the fulfillment of an old Testament prediction concerning the birth of the Messiah. (Micah 5)

**ANGELS:** God used Angels to proclaim the birth of Jesus.

**THE NATIVITY:** The nativity scene reminds us of the lowly entry of Jesus into our world. He left heaven to redeem us for eternity. The lowly nature of His entry reminds us that "He who is last shall be first."

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Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM (October - April)  
Corner of Fort and Henderson  
Reverend Nathan Lafrenz 830-719-2082

**First Baptist Church**

301 N. Ann  
Phone: 563-2245

Sunday Bible Study: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 11 am  
Children & Youth Bible studies 6pm  
Evening Service 7pm  
Wednesday Evening Service 7pm  
Pastor Jeff Janca

**First United Methodist Church**

109 James Street,  
830-563-2823  
next to the clinic  
Sunday School 9:30  
\* Worship 10:45  
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Every Sunday  
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Wednesday 7 p.m. (October - April)

Email: www.ourredeemerlutheran.org  
Pastor Nathan LaFrance 563-9733

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Worship Service 6pm  
Sunday Evening Service  
830-563-5529  
Pastor: Ned Sitzes  
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Frontier Baptist Church (SBC)

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808 N. Ann  
830-563-2616

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Sunday Evening Service, 6:30 pm  
Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes  
Minister: Ray Melton

## OBITUARY

### Connie K. Fritter



April 14, 1951 - November 25, 2010

Connie Kathleen Fritter, 59, of Brackettville, Texas passed away November 25, 2010, in San Antonio, Texas. She was born April 14, 1951, in Ector County to Mark Ora & Cordelia Jane (Perry) Forbus.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mark Ora and Cordelia (Dee) Forbus; husband, John S. Fritter; and a brother, Mark Forbus.

Connie is survived by son, Cody Carl Shannon Sr. and wife, Sheri, of Kerrville, Texas; daughter, Dedra Kathleen Boutwell and husband, Stephen, of Three Rivers, Texas; grandchildren, Taylor Phelan Boutwell, Micaela Kathleen Boutwell, Cody Carl Shannon Jr.; step-grandchildren, Hager Robert Fryrear, Palmer Bradley Fryrear; brother, Kenneth Lloyd Forbus; sister-in-law, Barbara Lomax; numerous nieces, nephews and many friends.

Pallbearers include Cody Shannon, Garry Don White, Stephen S. Boutwell, Taylor Boutwell, Perry White, and Kenneth Forbus.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, November 29, 2010, at the First Baptist Church in Brackettville, Texas, with Pastor Jeff Janca officiating. Interment will follow in the Brackettville Cemetery.

## Kinney County Sheriff's Report

November 24

A woman reported loose cattle on Fulton and Beaumont streets in Brackettville.

A woman called to report her infant was locked inside a vehicle.

A man called to report his children said a neighbor he was having problems with lurking around his house while he was not home.

An anonymous caller reported juveniles skateboarding at the high school.

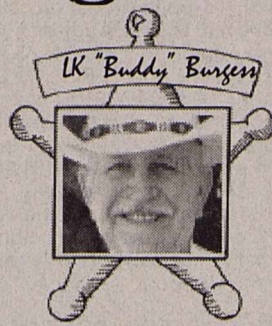
November 26

A property owner at Fort Clark reported a renter he was having problems with tried to run over a fence to get into the property.

November 29

Michael Shane Cox, 38, of New Caney, was arrested on an outstanding failure to appear warrant. Cox was still being held at press time.

A woman called to report a possible break-in at her Brackettville home



November 21

Timothy Dale Gore, 44, of San Antonio, was arrested for DWI with child under 15 years old. Gore was released after posting a \$2,500 bond on November 22.

November 23

A security company reported an alarm was sounding off at a ranch on Hwy 334. A return call from the company cancelled the alert.

A woman reported she lost her purse and it was recovered in D'Hanis. She said her social security card, birth certificate, school papers and \$50 in cash were missing.



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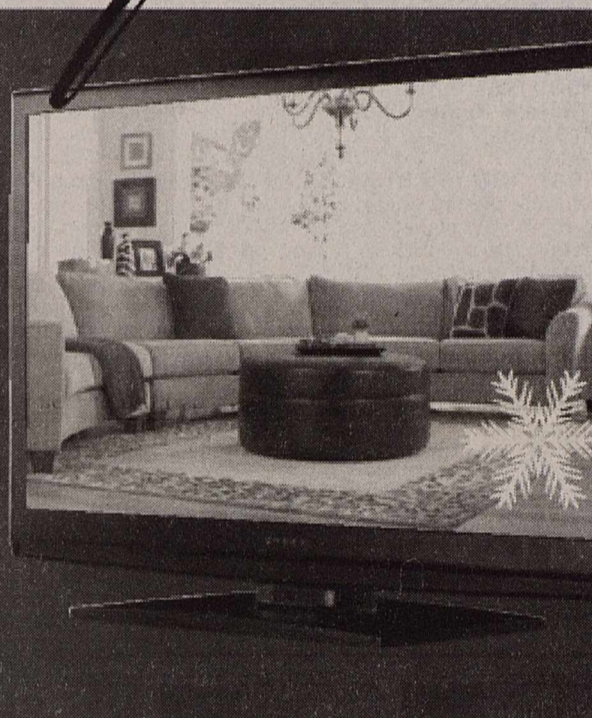
Jeff Ayers, Agent  
at the Bank every Thursday  
830.563.2451

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING KINNEY COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT** The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the District's Rules at 9:00 a.m. on December 16, 2010 in the Library Annex, (Fritter Building), 502 South Ellen Street, Brackettville, Texas. The public is invited to provide comments and testimony on the proposed rule amendments. 1) Rule 3.04 is amended to read as follows: **RULE 3.04 REQUIREMENTS FOR A REGULAR PERMIT** Applicant must comply with Rule 3.02. After granting a test permit by the District and the well has been pumped for a minimum of one (1) year or an acceptable pumping test has been completed, the Applicant must submit an application for a Regular Permit to the District, on a form approved by the District, which must state the quantity pumped or requested to the District for review. The Applicant submission must contain a written request for a hearing on a form approved by the District. An applicant may, in lieu of obtaining a test permit, apply directly for a Regular Permit, on a form approved by the District, along with evidence supporting that the amount of groundwater withdrawals requested will not unreasonably affect existing groundwater or surface water resources, or existing permit holders. The applicant must present sound scientific evidence generally accepted as evidence under the Texas Rules of Evidence and associated case law. 2) Option 1: Rule 7.03 is amended to read as follows: **RULE 7.03 PAYMENT OF FEES** All permit fees are due at the time of application or registration or other time designated by the District. The annual water use and transport fee for each permit shall be paid as directed by the District from time-to-time and as determined necessary and suitable to assure proper accounting and un-interrupted receipt of such funds. An applicant may provide the district with a bond in the amount of the permit fees, payable to the District upon approval of the application. If the application is denied the bond shall be immediately returned to the applicant. Option 2: Rule 7.03 is amended to read as follows: **RULE 7.03 PAYMENT OF FEES** All application fees are due at the time of application or registration. Permit fees are due at the time the application is approved. The annual water use and transport fee for each permit shall be paid as directed by the District from time-to-time and as determined necessary and suitable to assure proper accounting and un-interrupted receipt of such funds.



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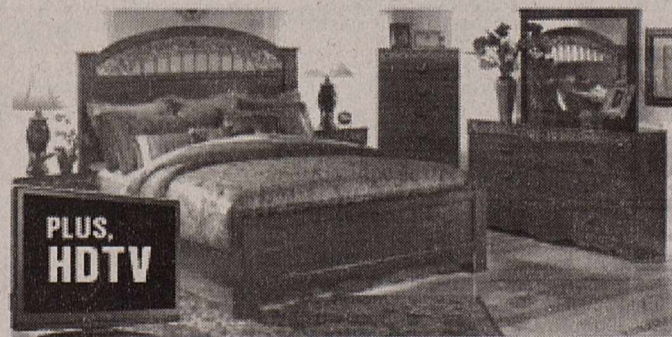
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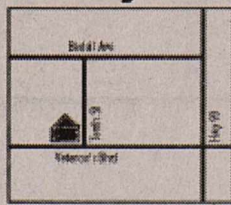
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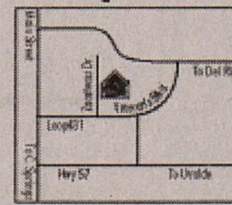
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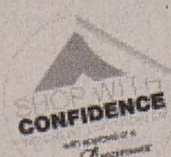
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