

Brackett News WEEKLY

Donna Schuster named rancher of the year
See Story Below

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Volume 23, No. 25

Kinney County Is Home To Donna Davis Schuster - Young Rancher Of The Year

1 Section, 6 Pages

BRACKETT BRIEFS

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Commissioner's Court, We would like to take this means of expressing our appreciation for your generous gift to the School Paving and Drainage Project. Your support is a great source of encouragement and we thank you for your positive influence in our county. Mr. & Mrs. Don Hood, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Garcia, Kinney County Post, Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Janca, Mr. & Mrs. Woody Massingill, Dr. Peter Holmes, Mr. & Mrs. Sam Holloman, Mr. Harold Byrd Jr. Community Education Centers, The First State Bank of Uvalde, Brackett News Weekly, The Bank and Trust and Mr. & Mrs. Tim Ward.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Kinney County Fire Rescue Volunteers, We would like to express our appreciation for your generous gift that made it possible for four Volunteer Fireman to attend the Texas A&M Fire Training School in College Station. Our County is blessed with many dedicated young men who give their time and resources to serve their fellow man. Sincerely Your Kinney County Fire and Rescue Volunteers. Fort Clark Springs Association, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Foust, Mrs. Agnes Camp, Mr. & Mrs. Joe York and Mr. & Mrs. Don Hood.

BOOSTER CLUB

The Brackett Athletic Booster Club is currently selling ads for the fall sports poster. The ads sale deadline is August 10th. If anyone is interested in purchasing an ad they may contact Donna Schuster at 830-591-6147. This is one of the major fundraisers for the booster club and the monies raised contribute to athletic equipment and scholarships. The next meeting of the booster club is August 11th at 6 pm at the HE Cottage. Everyone is encouraged to attend and bring your ideas for the upcoming school year.

4H NEWS

Kinney 4-H was well represented at District Record book Judging in Helotes. Franny Smith received a fifth place standing for her record book on Rabbits. Stetson competed for his first year in the Horse category and placed third with his record book. Tyler Schuster outshined the rest and garnered a second place with her Leadership record book. Shelby Schuster blasted the competition with a first place record book in Communication and Expressive Arts. Shelby will go to State with her record book! Congratulations 4-H'ers and Best of Luck Shelby at State!

KICKAPOO STATE CAVERN PARK

Effective September 1, 2011, Kickapoo Cavern State Park will implement a reduction in public operations as directed. The park will be open to public from 8:00 am on Thursday, until 5:00 pm on Monday. The park will be closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Once the park is vacated, the front gate will be secured at 5:00 pm on Monday and will reopen at 8:00 am on Thursday. All visitor services, camping, and recreational opportunities will be available during the days the park is open to the public.

LIBRARY NEWS:

Friend your Kinney County Library: Have you joined your local Friends of the Library? Library lovers everywhere are invited and encouraged to join their local Friends of the Library group. These dedicated volunteers advocate for libraries, raise much needed funds, sponsor programs and special events, and host popular used book sales. If you haven't joined your Friends, contact Kinney County Library or join us on July 21 at 11:30 am at the library for a luncheon and organizational meeting.



Speed+Weed=Free Trip To The Pokey

Driving over the speed limit leads to drug arrest; Sheriff seizes 353 lbs

By Leigh Jenkins
Contributing Writer

A Kinney County Sheriff's Deputy arrested a Fort Worth man for transporting narcotics on July 25.

The deputy was patrolling the

area of FM 2523 at RR 3008, when he stopped a 2002 Dodge Ram for driving 64 miles per hour in a 60 m.p.h. zone.

The driver, Randolph C. Vrana, 49, immediately pulled to the side of the rode, stepped out of his truck and began walking back towards the deputy's patrol vehicle. As Vrana was walking towards the deputy, he used a remote control and locked the truck doors, a move the deputy noted as, "un-

usual", in his report. The deputy stated the driver appeared calm, but he could see the carotid artery (in his neck) pulsating rapidly.

The deputy asked Vrana why he was in the area and he said was looking for a deer lease, but could not say from whom he was going to lease property.

According to the report, the deputy obtained permission to search the vehicle and began by

opening some side toolboxes. A US Border Patrol agent, also at the scene, asked the driver to unlock the rear doors and Vrana withdrew his consent to continue searching his truck. The deputy looked in the rear windows and saw, "several square objects covered with blanket in the back seat".

Vrana was advised that he was going to be detained until a drug dog could perform a "free air sniff".

A US Border Patrol K9 agent arrived and his dog alerted to drugs at the passenger side, rear door.

The driver was found to have four bundles of Marijuana in the rear seat and five bundles in the center tool box.

Vrana and 353 pounds of Marijuana were turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration, but not until after he was issued a warning for speeding.



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Kinney County Sheriff's deputy arrested a Fort Worth man for transporting 353 pounds of Marijuana in his 2002 Dodge truck on July 25.

Koch retires after 28 years

By Leigh Jenkins
Contributing Writer

Brackett ISD Board of Trustees announced the retirement of Mary Koch at a Special meeting on July 25.

Koch, a popular food service employee, retired with 28 years of service.

With the new school year about to open in less than a month, the trustees met to make personnel decisions.

At the end of the 2010-2011 school year, three positions were open in the elementary school. Teacher Allison Cox did not return after the Winter break in December, 2010. Danene Moulton and Diana Olivares resigned and will not return this Fall.

Hired to fill two of the three available positions are Tara Eckenrod Massingill and Mayte Ruiz. Massingill was a long-term substitute teacher hired to fill Allison Cox's position. Ruiz is new to Brackett ISD.

The trustee hope to fill the third position at their August 8, meeting.

Other personnel matters addressed included accepting the resignation of maintenance employee Fernando Quiroz who is leaving to take a position in the oil industry.

Funds for educational aides Cynthia Turner, Tanya Cardenas and Cody Isaacs expired and the positions have been eliminated.



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Mary Koch retires after 28 years of service at BISD.

Schuster awarded rancher of the year



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Donna Schuster

Submitted by Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association and Kathryn Letsinger

Donna Davis Schuster was honored at the TSGRA meeting held this weekend in Kerrville at the lovely Inn of the Hills Conference center. Along with twenty family and friends who attended to support Donna, Kinney County is proud of one of it's own winning this prestigious award. Many letters of recommendation were sent in for Donna and the following is what was read to those in attendance before giving her her award.

"Donna Davis Schuster is the daughter of the late Dan Davis and Margaret Davis of Uvalde. The letters nominating Donna for this award were long and many. Her neighbor, Hayden Haby, said, "The late Dan Davis was the best rancher and neighbor I have ever known or neighbored with in my lifetime. His daughter, Donna, is just like her dad in every way. She is not only a good rancher, she is a complete rancher, having mastered the many skills it

takes to run a ranch."

"Donna started going with her dad horseback when she was about three years of age, and by the time she was about 11, she was as good as any full-time hand. She knew her stock because she was out there with them every single day. She is as hands-on as they come. When her dad died unexpectedly, she mourned his loss and then did just what he would have expected. She carried on what he'd started.

Several words that describe Donna Davis Schuster are passion, resilience, character, determined, and deep love of family and community. She takes care of her family, runs the ranch, volunteers in any way she can for 4-H, the Booster Club, Church, and the Extension Outreach programs. She is the "go-to" person for every other organization in her county that she cares about. She is instrumental in putting on Ag Day for Brackett I.S.D., is on the board of the Farm Bureau, is on the Extension AG/Wildlife Committee and is in charge of

the Kinney County Trapping Club.

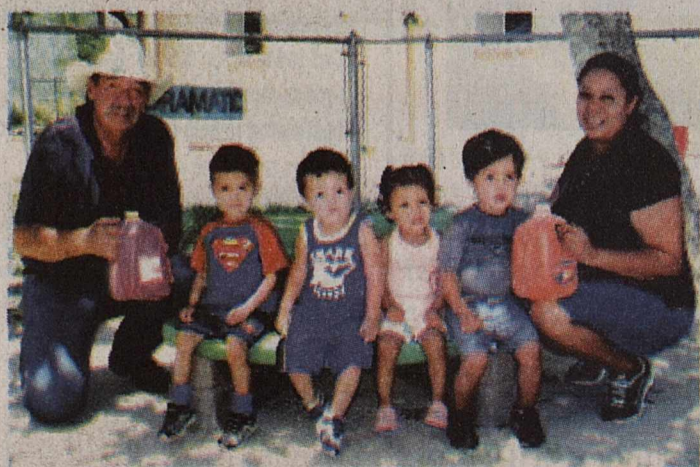
For Donna, it has never been about her. She gives selflessly of her time not only to her family but also to her community. When asked why she keeps pushing herself like she does, she said, "I have to keep trying to hold on to the things I love. If I drop the reins now, I'll never be able to pick them up again."

Her outstanding attention to every detail of the ever-changing ranching business in these tough times is precisely why the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association Awards Committee selected Donna Davis Schuster as the recipient of the 2011 Young Ranchers Award.

Donna and her husband, John Paul, who works for the railroad, have three children, Shelby, Tyler, and Stetson."

Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Haby, Mr. and Mrs. Joe York, and Mrs. Margaret Davis for their help with this award and for making this weekend special and enjoyable for all those attendance.

Have a juice and a smile



Brackett News Weekly Photo By Leigh Jenkins - Brackettville Rotary Club donated 20 gallons of fruit juice to community children on July 25. Pictured from left: David Crowe, Kristian, Michael, Xevianah, Trent and Diana Ortiz. Crowe along with his fellow Rotary members hosted a watermelon sale at the Fort Clark Swim Park over the July 4th Weekend. The sale raised \$680. The watermelons left over were donated to the Kinney County Senior Nutrition Center and to Jones Elementary's Camp Get Fit.

PLOG: Paper Log by Leigh Jenkins

Cutting back.
The government failed to bail out my business when an employee a looted my bank account when I first started out, nor did they swoop in and save the day when the economy tanked in October, 2008, and took some of my advertisers with it for a while. I didn't get a check in the mail when I went through the Big D and I Don't Mean Dallas a couple years ago that forced me to give up a lot, including a little skin off my backside, so if I had to look at the operation and downsize, restructure and then finally come up with a whole new game plan that included adjustments to my pride, then so does the government, including the City of Brackettville's government.

The paper has been flooded with calls, comments and people giving their opinion at the post office over one little sentence included in last week's paper (July 21, 2011).

"Fort Clark Administration confirmed on Wednesday morning the City of Brackettville was three months behind in its payment to the Fort for trash disposal."
When I was first told of this in May, I thought it was crap. And when I visited with the Fort administrators last week and just off the cuff asked about what I heard, you could've knocked me over with a feather when it was confirmed as the truth. We're still working on this story, but all the questions being thrown at me sound a little like this: What's going on over there? Who's in charge of the money? Is this the only item not paid? And why was this not disclosed at a public meeting? Shouldn't there be a list of bills due and then a list of bills paid the month prior with a date they were paid? The local school district has been forced to make difficult cut backs to the tune of \$350,000 for the new school year. The Fort is trying to reduce their budget by approximately \$150,000 - \$200,000 and they aren't making friends by canceling contracts with different organizations in order to tighten their belt. County Commissioner Pat Melancon gets bashed all the time for voting no when an agenda item is something he truly believes not to be in the best interest of the County's financial outlook. So what's going on with the city? If there is a good explanation for this, then the people need to hear it. If there's not a good explanation for this, then the people need to hear that too. Either way, city council members must make changes in the game plan to see that the city's business doesn't go south (again). I had to take a big dose of humble-suck it up-and-do what you gotta do when I faced hard times, so I can speak with authority when I make the request for the government to do the same. I survived and I'm back doing what I do, doing what I love and doing what I believe in, in bigger, louder and redder way than ever before. I have to face the choices of my past, but I am running with a powerful scream into my future filled with success and HUGE hopes and dreams...

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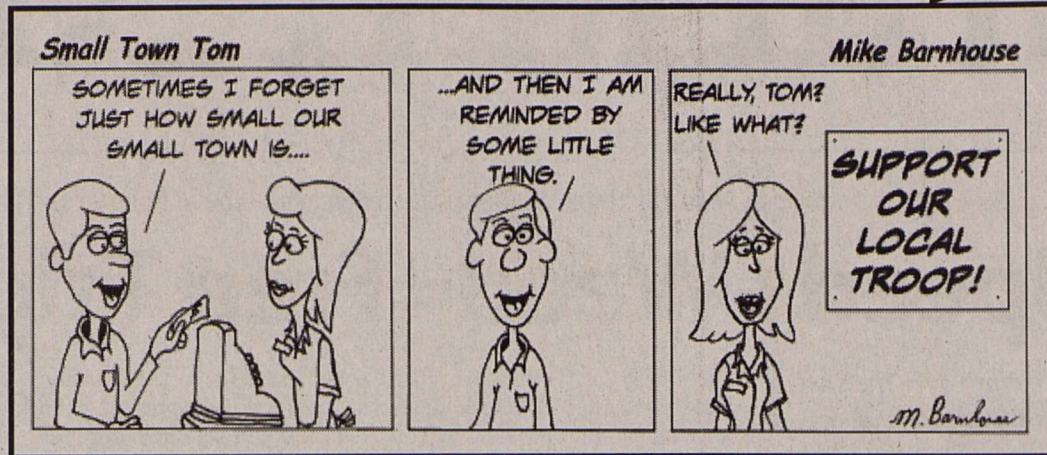
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For questions or corrections please call
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LETTER TO EDITOR POLICY

Brackett News Weekly 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 Weekly.



Like the weather, hot investment can cool off

We're in the "Dog Days" of summer - traditionally the hottest, steamiest time of year. But in a few weeks, the temperatures will begin to cool down. Nature isn't alone in this heating-and-cooling pattern - you can also find evidence of it in the investment world. To be specific, today's "hot" investments can lose their sizzle quickly - which means that, as an investor, you'll need to take steps to avoid being left out in the cold. An investment can become "hot" - that is, its price can shoot up - for any of a number of reasons. For example, a company that provides a well-known product or service may decide

to "go public" by making its shares available to investors; when this happens, the stocks become "hot" for a while. An investment may also become hot if a favorable event occurs, as might be the case with a drug company that gains permission to sell a medicine that's much in demand. And some investments heat up because an "expert" is touting them in the media.

But although different investments may get hot for different reasons, they all share one thing in common: They will cool off. In fact, by the time you and many other investors hear about a hot stock, it may already be cool-

ing off. If you buy into an investment that's been hot for a while, you should recognize that its "upside potential" may not be what you think. To help achieve your financial goals, you may be better off by not chasing after hot stocks. Instead, consider these ideas:

• **Increase share ownership.** One key to building wealth is to increase the amount of shares you own in your investments. Hot stocks are often expensive stocks, so you may be limited in the number of shares you can purchase. As an alternative, look for quality investments that are trading at reasonable prices. You might also consider buying additional shares in quality companies you already own.

• **Buy appropriate investments.** Even if you can afford to buy some shares in hot stocks, should you? These stocks may not be suitable for your needs, for any number of reasons: too risky for your risk tolerance, too similar to other stocks you already own, and so on. You need to own investments that are appropriate for your individual needs. Of course, you also need to keep in mind that any investment in stocks - whether hot or not - will fluctuate with changes in market conditions and may be worth more or less than your original investment when you sell. • **Diversify your holdings.** By continually pursuing hot investments, you might end up with an unbalanced, non-diversified portfolio. By diversifying your holdings, you can help reduce the impact of volatility on your portfolio. However, diversification, by itself, cannot guarantee a profit or protect against loss.

• **Think long term.** Chasing hot stocks is strictly a short-term move. Successful investors adhere to long-term strategies that require discipline, patience and a constant focus on the future.

By following these suggestions, you're unlikely to experience the "thrill" of chasing after hot investments - but you will get the satisfaction of building a portfolio designed to help meet your important investment goals.

No more parents left behind



Fly Lady Marla Cilley

This time of year everyone is writing articles on how to get the children ready to go back to school. I know this is an important topic for you but we have left out the main person who has to get the children ready for the first day of school; YOU!

You are the one that has to get up and get the family moving each morning. It is your responsibility to make sure they go to bed and get the rest they need to have a productive day. Your summer has been filled with a happy-go-lucky spirit. No one really had a bed time or their alarm set for morning.

Then when it came to mealtime; everyone just ate whatever they could find when they got hungry. What happened to the structure in our day? What happened to our routines? If we are going to expect our children to jump on the routine bandwagon then we better be there leading the way; not just barking the orders.

We teach best by our example. Not just a simple do as I do, but an example that is set in love and from the heart. If you are not taking care of yourself; you are not going to be able to take care of your family and show them the value of routines.

Most of our lives we have run around putting out fires just to stay on top of housework, bills, jobs and the responsibilities of parenting. If you are a born organized person these things do not take a toll on you, but if you tend to get sidetracked then you know about putting out fires. A born organized person just gets things done and the people around them do not even know that it has been done. If you were raised by a born organized person you have experienced this for yourself when you got your own place. Wasn't it a shock when the toilet started to grow things? Who knew that it was cleaned on a regular basis?

If you are this born organized person I am not putting you down. All I am saying is your children don't know that this is what is happening. So when you tell them to go clean the bathroom or their bedroom they have no clue. Mainly because it was just easier for you to do it yourself than to show them that there actually is a routine to housecleaning and most things in life. For the other 80% of us that are not born organized there is hope! We can learn to be organized. Imagine that! Taking the methods that a born organized person does naturally and using them to help us gain control over our homes and lives and in the end give our children the tools to go out into the world on their own. Born organized people can't even teach us sidetracked people what they do, because they have never had to figure it out; they just do it.

I have watched the people in my life that are born organized and what I have noticed is they tend to do the same thing in the same order every single morning. At first I thought that must be so boring and then I realized that it was brilliant. The brilliance comes from having the mundane things in life taken care of so you can have fun. Isn't that what all of us really want; to have little fun. We love fun and most of the time we are having fun; except when we are beating ourselves up because the kids are late to school again because you over-slept.

It is time for us to go to school and learn something that will help us enjoy life without the guilt we place on ourselves. Our children are a reflection of what is going on in us. They feel our stress levels because of our lack of routines. If you want to see a change in your children's behavior, please establish your routines. They will feel more secure because they will know what is next in their day.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Children's theatre performs Pinocchio



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly by David Loftus - Pictured from left: Emma Palmer, Sam Palmer and Erica Loftus perform in Missoula Children's Theatre *Pinocchio* earlier this month. MCT was sponsored by the Kinney County Arts Council.

Local educators attend TEPSA



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Pictured from left: Jones Elementary/Intermediate Principal Alma Gutierrez, Kimberly Ilse, Candy Hobbs and Christy Price.

Submitted by BIDS
Local educators present at Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association in Austin, June 2011.

TEPSA serves as a diverse, supportive community of education specialists committed to providing quality educational leadership training and support of school leaders to help improve the education of Texas school children.

Principal Alma Gutierrez, RTI Specialist Candy Hobbs, Counselor Kimberly Ilse and Pre-K Teacher Christy Price developed and presented information on improving state accountability ratings, using data as your compass, and restructuring for student success for beginning principals from around the state of Texas. The group shared information on the adventures sailed by Jones Elementary/Intermediate as the campus flowed from unacceptable rating to an exemplary rating.

Cheer Camp

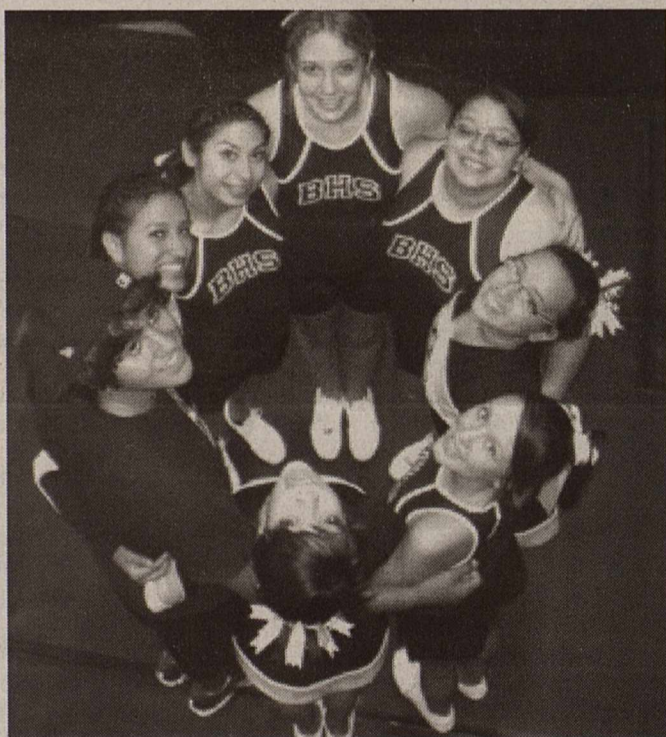
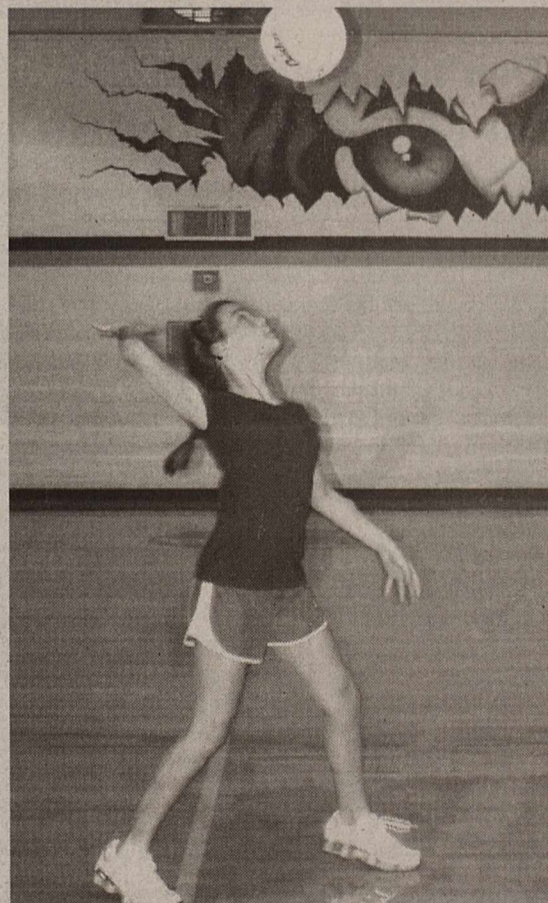


Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Brackett Varsity Cheerleaders 2011-2012 attended Cheer Camp in San Angelo this past weekend. Here, they learned new materials for the upcoming year and also participated in competitions. As a team they won a bid to the National Championships. Nevada Coe, Mckenzie Castillo, Vyviana Flores and Edgar DeLeon were selected for All-American Nominees. Sierra Falcon made the All-American Team and has received a bid to participate in the New Year's Parade in London. Nevada Coe received a bid to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in New York. The squad also won three Superior Ribbons and three Excellent Ribbons. Along with a Superior Skills Award in Stunts. Pictured clockwise from: Spotter Edgar DeLeon, McKenzie Castillo, Amber Resendez, Jenna Musgrave, Mascot Yanira Perez, Sierra Falcon, Head Nevada Coe and Vyviana Flores.

Volleyball Camp



Brackett News Weekly Photo By Leigh Jenkins - S. Perez practices her serve at Coach Lindsey Kunz' Volleyball Camp. Visit mybrackettnews.com to see all of the photos taken at this event.

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READ Read read

5th Annual Back to School Health & Social Services Fair*

The Health and Human Services Commission's Colonia Initiative Partners are planning a FREE Back to School Health & Social Services Fair to benefit children and families of Brackettville and Kinney County. Representatives from Health and Human Service Agencies, Non-Profit Organizations, Brackettville ISD, Medical Professionals, Faith Based Organizations and local community organizations will be providing information, handouts, and other healthy and fun activities.

FREE school supplies to all children attending the fair. (while supplies last)

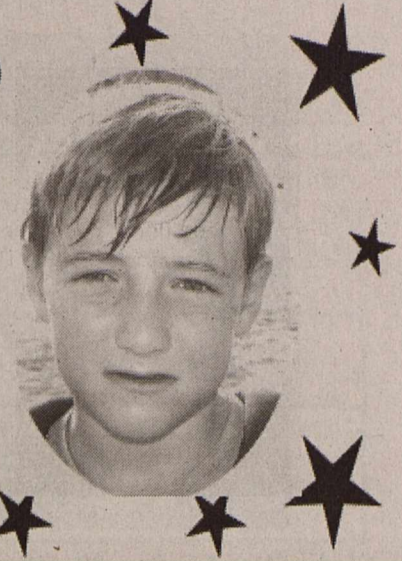
What: 5th Annual Back to School Health & Social Services Fair
When: August 16, 2011
Where: Brackettville Gym
Time: 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

For more information contact:
Héctor Mario Guerra 774-3661/703-7703

Kinney County LITTLE LEAGUE 9&10 ALL-STARS



Tyler
Winfree

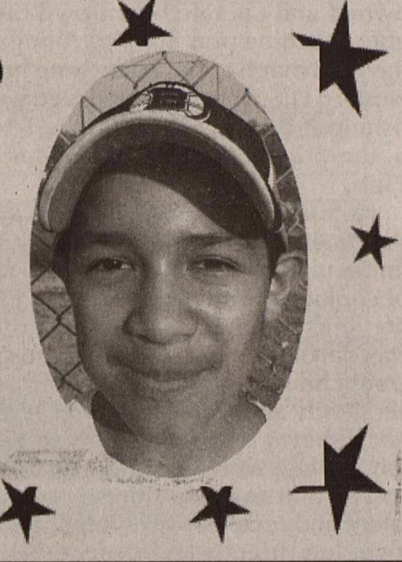


Position: Catcher and Pitcher
Parents: Jennifer and Chuck Winfree
Favorite MLB Team: NY Yankees

Kinney County LITTLE LEAGUE 11&12 ALL-STARS



J.T.
Rosas



Position: 2nd Base and Shortstop
Parents: Alex & Jr. Rosas
Favorite MLB Team: NY Yankees

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OBITUARY

Gladys "Neta" Coffey

February 14, 1921-July 20, 2011



Gladys "Neta" Coffey, 90, passed away July 20, 2011 in Del Rio, Texas. She was born February 14, 1921 in Swenson, Texas. Left to cherish her memory are a son, Ken Hatch of Tucson, Ariz.; daughter-in-law, Jane Hatch of Odessa; granddaughter, Xyan McWilliams and husband, Alan, of Brackettville; great-granddaughter, Megan McWilliams of Dallas; great-grandson, Mason McWilliams and fiancé, Whitney Demel, of Corpus Christi. She was preceded in death by her husband, J E "Ned" Coffey whom she married September 1, 1947, Father John Othaw Norris and Mother Willie Elizabeth Clark Norris and her sister, Almata "Tickle" Botkins.

Neta was raised on a ranch in West Texas between Fort Stockton and Alpine and attended and graduated from Fort Stockton High School. After living several years in California she moved back to Texas where she and husband, Ned, owned and operated their own business in Odessa - Reliable Machine and Supply. Along with her husband, Neta devoted much of her spare time hunting all over the Southwestern U.S. When she and Ned weren't hunting, they were fishing at Lake Amistad and the Texas coast. They were part of the original 13 founding members of the Permian Bass Club.

Neta was an active member of the Women's Auxiliary for the American Legion Post 430 in Odessa. There were many things in her life that Neta loved - family and friends, the joy of cooking, hunting and fishing, playing cards, and later in life, bird watching at her home in Fork Clark Springs. She was devoted to her granddaughter, her husband and great-grandchildren. She never missed an opportunity to be with her family and watch her great grandchildren participate in stock shows, sporting events or taking them to the lake to fish as they were growing up. She was the ultimate party hostess and an extraordinary cook who enjoyed sharing her talent and recipes with everyone. Neta's life was filled with love, fun, friends and many great adventures. She will be missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing this remarkable woman.

A Memorial service will be celebrated on Sunday, 1:00P.M, July 24, 2011 at G. W. Cox Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

In Lieu of Usual Remembrances, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association

Funeral arrangements with G. W. Cox Memorial Funeral Home, of Del Rio LTD, 114 Fletcher Drive, Del Rio, Texas. 78840 Ph: 830.775.2000

GOMEZ-HERNANDEZ REUNION 2011



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Pictured in the back row from left: Linda Martinez, Ramona Falcon, Josie Haubert, Camilo Cruz Jr., Elena Luna, Chris Cruz. Front row from left: Amelia Rehearing, Victoria Cruz and Frances Franklin. Not pictured Julia Terrazas and Penny Fernandez. The Gomez-Hernandez Reunion was held on July 15-16, with over 200 people in attendance from as far as Boston, Florida, New Mexico and all over Texas. The youngest who attended was 4 months and the oldest was 86.

Mis Quince Anos



We have the honor of presenting our daughter **Alexiss Castillo** on her Fifteenth Birthday. Alexiss is the daughter of Manuel and Terry Avalos, of Odessa, and the granddaughter of Consuelo and Eliberto Castillo, of Brackettville

Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Alexiss Castillo

Don't let heat exhaustion affect your wallet during the heat wave

Submitted by CPL

Direct Energy offers 10 tips under \$10 to help save on your energy bill this summer

SOUTH TEXAS (July 25, 2011) - With record breaking temperatures being recorded across the nation, many states officially are declaring the first heat wave of the season. Shorts, tank tops and flip flops are a must in the battle to keep cool. Air conditioners are also a major player in keeping Texans cool, which also means higher energy consumption and ultimately higher cooling bills.

"We've seen record breaking temperatures over the last few weeks, even for a Texas summer, we're dealing with extreme heat week in and week

out. So with the kids on vacation and spending more time in cooler temperatures inside the home, overall energy consumption is much higher," said Jim Steffes, vice president and general manager for CPL Retail Energy. "But you don't have to break out into a sweat about your energy bills. By implementing a few easy tips, you can keep your summer energy costs in check without having to sacrifice on comfort.

CPL Retail Energy offers ten simple tips under ten dollars to help keep your energy bills in check this summer, without having to resort to wearing a swimsuit indoors.

Tip Cost
Turn off air or close vents in unused rooms and shut the

doors. Don't lose money cooling rooms that aren't in use.

FREE
Close curtains or blinds on windows that are receiving direct sunlight to keep the heat out of the house.**FREE**

Replace the light bulbs in your home to compact fluorescents. CFLs use up to 75% less electricity than a incandescent bulb and can last ten times as long \$2 - \$8/bulb

Increase your air conditioner temperature by 2 degrees. Your air conditioner uses three to five percent more energy for each degree that your air conditioner is set below 75 degrees. Set your thermostat at 77 degrees to provide the most comfort at the least cost. **FREE**

Seal your doors, windows and air ducts with weather stripping or caulk. Up to 30% of cooling can be lost through holes and cracks throughout your home. This can save you up to \$150 a year on your energy bills. \$2.50 - 7.95/Door Weather Stripping \$2/Caulk

Unplug vampire electronics when not in use - items like cell phone, iPod, and computer chargers tend to suck energy even when they are not being used. With 10-40 of these in each home, American's spend the equivalent of one month's worth of energy bills on these devices. **FREE**

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

Microwaves use substantially less energy than ovens. Use one when cooking and reheating items. Even better, use the outdoor grill and have yourself a summer barbeque. **FREE**

If you're going to be away from home for a long time, say, on summer vacation, turn the temperature up. Better yet, turn the air conditioning unit off. **FREE**

Clean or replace your air conditioner's filter every month. Not only will it prevent wear-and-tear on your system, it can save up to 5% on your energy bills. \$0.75 - \$10/per filter.

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Spiritual Living Church Directory

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• Children & Youth Bible studies 6pm
• Evening Service 6pm Wednesday: Evening Service 7pm
301 N. Ann • Pastor Jeff Janca • Ph: 830.563.2245

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Welcome One Welcome All Come and Receive and Find Joy

Brown retires from co-op



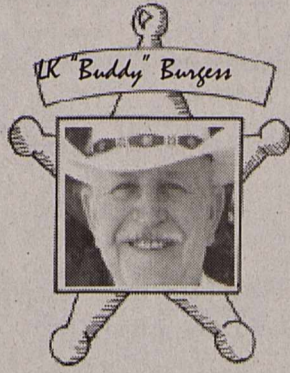
Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Rio Grande Electric Cooperative Director of Operations Clinton Brown will retire next month.

Submitted By RGEC
Clinton Brown will retire from his position as Director of Operations of Rio Grande Electric Cooperative after 25 years of service August 5.
The public is invited to drop in Rio Grande's offices at 778

East Hwy. 90 any time from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. to congratulate him and enjoy some light refreshments.

For those who can't attend in person, RGEC invites you to post congratulations on the Co-op Facebook page.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report



Sheriff LK Buddy Burgess recently attended the Sheriffs' Association of Texas 133rd Annual Training Conference at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, July 17-19, 2011. Over 1,500 people were in attendance.

The first Sheriffs' Association of Texas Conference was in 1878. Held annually in various cities across the state, this event allows Sheriffs, Deputies, Federal, State, and City law enforcement officers to network and discuss different issues that affect law enforcement across the state and nation. This year, Participants received training on a variety of topics including: Preventing Domestic Terrorism, School Shootings, Human Trafficking, Mass Facility Planning, DNA Collection, Jail Health Care and other topics. Participants also had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the latest in crime fighting tools and technology at more than 270 exhibitor booths.

Monday, July 18

A caller reported a group of young men selling smoke alarms and burglar alarms door to door. The men were wearing orange shirts.

Tuesday, July 19

A security company called to report a fire alarm was sounding off at a ranch on Hwy 3348. A man reported he locked his keys in the car at the post office and the vehicle was still running.

Wednesday, July 20

Fort Clark Security requested a deputy in regards to some neighbors arguing.

Thursday, July 21

Michael Moak, 44, of Brackettville, was arrested for criminal mischief, more than \$500, less than \$1,500. Moak was released the next day after posting a \$1,200 bond.

A caller reported windows had been broken out of an abandoned house on El Paso Street.

A man called to report a man riding his horse into oncoming traffic caused him to have to swerve to avoid hitting them.

Friday, July 22

Vanessa Reyes, 27, of Brackettville, was arrested for theft by check. Reyes was released the same day after posting a \$2,400 bond.

Joe Benites, 47, of Brackettville, was arrested for assault/family violence, causing bodily

injury. Benites was still being held at press time.

KCSO deputies called to report they were rounding up loose cattle on Hwy 90 East, two miles out of town.

A security company called to report a fire alarm was sounding off at a ranch on Hwy 1572.

A security company called to report a fire alarm was sounding off at a ranch on Hwy 90 West.

A caller reported live electrical wires were down near West Ross Street.

Saturday, July 23

A TxDPS dispatcher reported a one vehicle rollover on RR 693 at Hwy 277. VV EMS transported patient to Del Rio.

Sunday, July 24

VVSO reported they had been notified by the USBP about loose cattle in the area of 2523 and 3008.

Monday, July 25

A security company reported an alarm was sounding off at the Dollar General Store.

The Jug Store

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It's a Boy



Alan and Erica Cortez, of Brackettville, proudly announce the birth of their son, Caleb Elian Cortez.

Baby Caleb was born on July 2, 2011 at 11:24 p.m. in Del Rio.

Caleb weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 20 inches

in length.

This wonderful blessing was welcomed home by Big Brother Alan Cortez Jr.; Maternal Grandparents Baldo and Aracely Vasquez, of Brackettville; and Paternal Grandma Dolores Medina, of San Carlos, Coahuila, Mexico.

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 507 N. Fort, 3 BD 2 BA, 1307 sq ft, Remodeled, Large fenced yard, New Appliances,\$89,900.00
 602 N Ann St, 4 BD, 3 BA, 2890+ sqft, Lg living Rm, kitchen/bar, Office, Great for Family, **Price Reduced Appointment only**.....\$140,500.00
 515 W Crocket, 3 BD, 2 BA, 1144 sqft, Kitchen, Living Rm, utility Rm, **Price REDUCED for quick sale**.....\$69,000.00
 514 W Crocket, 3 BD, 2 BA, 1423sqft, Kitchen, Dining, Lg, Living Rm, **Price REDUCED**.....**SOLD**.....\$105,000.00
 15 Live Oak Circle unit 38 2 lots Space for 2 RV's, slab and plumbing 1600 sq ft home, 3,500 sq ft over roof...**SOLD**.....\$85,000.00

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EMPLOYMENT

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (RGEC) is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Secretary to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Applicants must have three years experience as a secretary, oral and written communication skills in the English language, be self-motivated & detail-oriented. Experience with creating spreadsheets and word processing required, Microsoft Excel and Word preferred. Knowledge of Microsoft Access & PowerPoint helpful. Must be able to maintain confidential information. Willing to work overtime, if needed. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with a clear driving record. Applications are available at the Brackettville RGEC office, can be downloaded from www.rgec.com or requested by calling 830-563-2444. Return completed applications to RGEC, Human Resources Department, P.O. BOX 1509, Brackettville, TX, 78832. Job open until filled. EOE

KINNEY COUNTY is accepting applications for the position of EMS Director. Those interested may pick up an application at the County Judges office on 501 South Ann Street. Applications will be accepted until August 12th 2011. For more information please call 830-563-2401.

THE FOLLOWING POSITION is open at BISD: **MAINTENANCE** Application procedure: Download application from website or pick up at the Brackett ISD Central Office, 400 Ann Street. For application information call Central Office at (830) 563-2491, fax (830) 563-9264. Applications accepted until position filled. Direct position inquiries to Javier Valdez, (830) 563-5044.

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FOR RENT IN BRACKETTVILLE, UNFURNISHED 2BR 1.5B, Pear Alley. \$450/mo + utilities. Call O'Rourke Realty 830.563.2713 [eo]

FOR RENT- Fort , Nice 2 BR, 2 BA + Den \$550/mo \$550 dep Call 830-563-9993

FORT, FURNISHED STUDIO \$450/mo + utilities. Call O'Rourke Realty 830.563.2713 [eo]

FT. CLARK-CORNER lot-2/2 totally furnished-ca/ch- storage bldg.-t.v-s-unit 3. 830.563.9082

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4/2 ON ANN STREET, remodeled kitchen and bathroom, large corner lot with pecan trees, recently painted throughout, enclosed porches. Only \$129,995.00!
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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. **CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)** Dist/Div: San Antonio Contract 6230-51-001 for REMOVE AND REPLACE SPEED LIMIT SIGNS - SOUTH in BEXAR County, etc will be opened on August 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$921,367.97. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 36958 State Office Constr./ Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s) San Antonio District District Engineer 4615 NWLoop

PUBLIC NOTICE

410 San Antonio, Texas 78229-0928 Phone: 210-615-1110 Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF BRACKETT VILLE PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING STUDY (2011-2012) The City of Brackettville, will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on August 9, 2011 at the Brackettville Annex in regards to the Planning and Capacity Building Study Comprehensive Plan 2011-2012, which was funded from the Texas Department of Rural Affairs. Copies of the Comprehensive Plan will be available for review at the City Hall twelve (12) days prior to the Public Hearing. All citizens and interested groups are invited to attend and comment on this matter. Those persons unable to attend the final public hearing may submit their views to Henry Garcia, Brackettville City Manager from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or mail them to City of Brackettville P O Box 526 Brackettville, Texas 78832. Accommodations are available for handicapped persons and an interpreter will be provided should one be required for non-English speaking persons by contacting 830 - 563-2412.

MARK AND BRAND NOTICE Every 10 years Texas Livestock producers are required by law to re-record their brands and earmarks if they intend to continue using them. Re-recorded brands and other marks must be recorded in the County Clerks office starting Sept. 1, 2001 thru March 2011. The fee for recoding each brand is \$11.00. If you have any questions, please call me at 830.563.2521. Dora Elia Sandoval County Clerk Kinney County, Texas

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- New Listing: 161 Chandler. Fantastic deal on 49'er Duplex. Approx. 2,500 sq. ft. **Under Contract**
- New Listing: 556 Fairway Circle. Awesomest custom-built home with 3BR/2B
- New Listing: 271 Crockett. Darling 4BR/2B home with tiled floors, great open floor plan, sunroom and beautiful fenced back yard with guest quarters. Many upgrades! **Reduced \$128,000**
- New Listing: 30 Cavalry Trail. Wonderful historic 3BR/3B home on 2 lots (appx 1/2 acre) in great area!
- 73 Broken Arrow. 2BR/2B mobile home. Needs a little TLC. Priced to sell
- Fairway Circle: 72'x120' Lot. Walking distance from Las Moras Creek! \$12,5000 Reduced to 9,500.
- Fairway Circle: 2 Golf Lots w/ mature Oaks. Just walking distance from Las Moras Creek! Beautiful area. \$25,000
- Anderson/Travis: Cute 3BR/1.5B on 1 lot. \$42,500

BRACKETTVILLE

- 106 West First Street: Beautiful 1,900 +/- sq ft w 3BR/2B in a great neighborhood on 1 1/2 lots. Many upgrades. Great price @ \$159,900.
- 204 E. Fulton St: Darling little 2BR/1B Cottage on 2 large fenced lots! Located close to schools. Priced to sell!
- 403 Brown St. 2BR/1B Home on lg. lot
- 7 City Lots - Spring St.
- 109 W. Spring St.: Downtown Brackettville 4,400sq. ft. Great Rental Property!

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- 820 Acres: 16 miles N. of Brackettville on Hwy 674. "Bowhunter's Paradise" World class hunting operation. Unbelievable Opportunity **Price Reduced**
- 717 ACRES: 8 miles N. of Brackettville on Hwy 334
- 318 Acres: 17 miles S. of Brackettville on Hwy 131

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 Debbie Trant Agent-Owner, Lawrence Mendive-Broker

New Listing-23 Oak Lane: wonderful home under canopy of oaks, 3BR, 2B, 2,100 +/-sq.ft, offers great kitchen, huge master shower, guest quarters, covered patio, fenced yard & storage.
New Listing-122 LaMotte: nice 3/2 stone home in private setting, fireplace, tiled screen porch, carport, & fenced yard.
869 Fairway Cr: lovely brick home overlooking golf course fairway, 4BR, 3B, tile floors, FP
203 Oak Lane: custom built home under giant oaks! 2,998 +/-sq.ft., 3BR, 2.5B, 2 FP, sunroom with hot-tub, recent upgrades. **REDUCED**
New Listing-Unit 14: cute 1BR/1B home only \$15,000!
36 Broken Arrow: nice 2/2 mobile home + spacious addition, large carport, shed, fenced yard, only \$22,000 with seller financing!
Unit 3: furnished 2/1 mobile home with sunroom & carport
111 Tiger Alley: cozy 3Br home, nice upgrades **Reduced!**
705 N. Ellen: 3/2 brick home, 1,900 +/-sq.ft., totally remodeled, workshop, fenced, \$69,900
605 N. Gove: **SOLD**
Ann St: custom built metal building, large parking area, multi-use possibilities, choice location near school & grocery
10-15 Ac: Kinney Co Ranch Estates, fenced, elect nearby
703 Ac: near town, easy access, 2 wells, elect, outbuildings

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 7000 GVW • 4" Channel Wrap Around Tongue
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