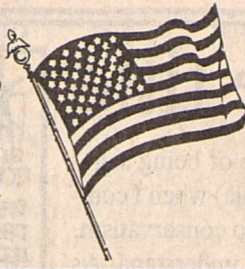


# The Brackett News



**Congratulations  
Class of 2000 !!!  
See Pages 4 & 5**

12th year, No. 16

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

## Briefs ... Class of 2000 graduates Friday night

### Memorial Day gathering

A Memorial Day gathering is planned Sunday, May 28 at 1 p.m. at the Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery. Afterwards, Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery Association members and guests are invited to the Carver School grounds for refreshments, said Clarence Ward, Association president.

### Memorial Day flag fact

On Memorial Day, the U.S. flag should be displayed at half-staff until 12 noon only, then raised to the top of the staff (Source: U.S. Flag Code and The American Legion).

For more information on the proper display of the U.S. flag, visit The American Legion at [www.legion.org/flagcode.htm](http://www.legion.org/flagcode.htm).

### Museum open Saturday

The Kinney County Heritage Museum will be open Saturday, May 27 from 1 to 4 p.m.

### EMS Open House June 12

The new EMS building will be ready for EMS personnel on June 1, but the open house will be June 12, according to Carolyn Rutherford, EMS director. Also, Michelle Rosas was incorrectly identified as Michelle Rust in last week's issue.

### Summer camp to begin

There will be a girls' basketball summer camp June 12-15. The camp will be for girls who will be entering 4th through 9th grades. Basic fundamental skills will be taught as well as daily games. The cost of the camp is \$25. A camp shirt will be given to each participant. For information call Gregg Nowlin at 563-2155 or Jennifer Harris at 563-2273. Deadline is June 1.

### Agents recover body

U.S. Border Patrol agents from the Carrizo Springs station recovered the body of a 68-year-old man from Mexico Saturday, May 20. A Justice of the Peace pronounced the man dead at 3:17 p.m. Cause of death was listed as dehydration. Authorities stress that crossing illegally into the United States can be extremely dangerous due to heat and drought conditions.

### The U.S. Border Patrol strives

to prevent the unnecessary suffering and death of illegal immigrants. Area residents can report those in need of assistance by calling the Border Patrol toll-free at (888) 299-4402 (Del Rio Sector).

### \$4 million in cocaine seized

Border Patrol agents from the Eagle Pass station seized more than \$4 million in cocaine as the result of an immigrant stop May 17. Agents patrolling FM Road 1021 approximately nine miles east of Eagle Pass performed an immigration stop on a pickup suspected of smuggling illegal immigrants. A search of the vehicle yielded 150.6 pounds of cocaine in 53 packages. The cocaine was valued at \$4,819,200.

### Jamie Bader honored

Jamie Bader was presented the Border Patrol Award at a ceremony last week at Brackett High School. Information supplied to this newspaper and published in last week's issue did not list Bader as the award recipient.

### Shell gets certificate

PARIS, Texas - Sonja Shell of Brackettville was recently awarded a certificate in casting from Paris Junior College during the school's 75th anniversary commencement exercise.

### LaMascus top student

BRYAN - Lindy LaMascus of Brackettville is among Distinguished Students listed at Blinn College for the 2000 spring semester. The college recognizes students who take a minimum of 12 college credit hours and earn a grade point average of 3.25 to 3.74 as Distinguished Students and those with at least 3.75 as President's Scholars.

Valedictorian Laura Lee Ballew and Salutatorian James Burks are among 45 Brackett Secondary School students who will receive diplomas during commencement exercises that will begin at 8 p.m. Friday, May 26 at Tiger Stadium.

Also receiving diplomas will be five Alternative School stu-

dents. Earlier this year, three additional Alternative School students earned enough credits to receive their high school diplomas.

Among the graduates will be the leaders of the Class of 2000: Tiffany Eckenrod, senior class president; Tara Eckenrod, vice president; LaToya Wright, trea-

sure and Jamie Bader, secretary. At the May 26 ceremony, Principal Don Sims, will speak to the graduates. Sims is retiring this summer after more than 30 years as an educator, including more than a decade as Brackett principal.

Alternative School graduates are: Kyle Ingram, Jessie Sanchez, Melony Talamantes, Manuel Reyes and Wendy Judkins. Savannah Massingill, Kermit Gomez and Ramiro Rios graduated earlier this year.

Brackett High School graduates

are: Eric Joshua Allen; Jamie Rue Bader; Laura Lee Ballew, valedictorian; James Stony Burks, salutatorian; Ricardo Castillo; Connie Magdalena Castro.

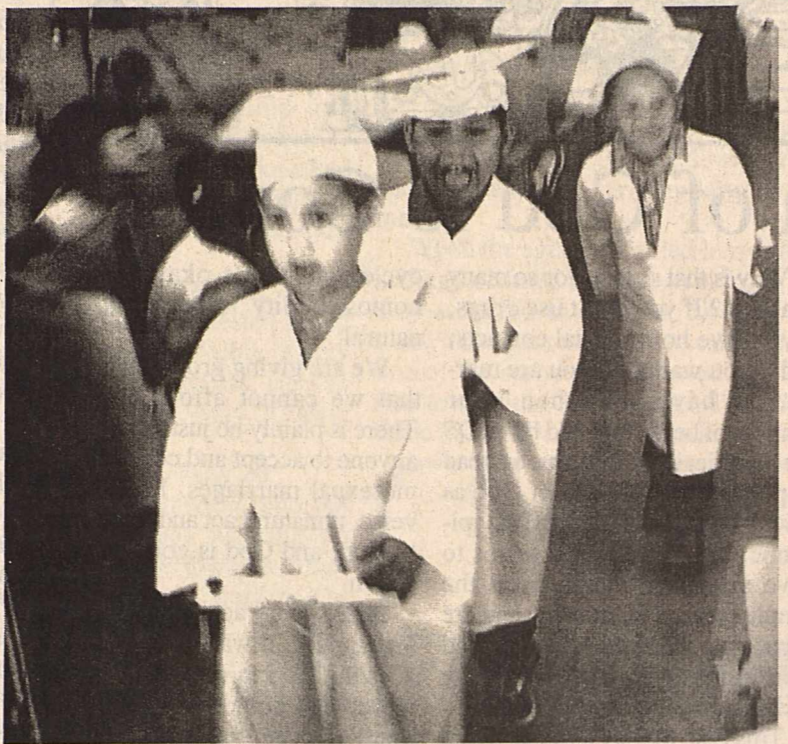
Michelle M. Clements; Kayla Cruz; Zachry Hunt Davis; Eljio Alex De Leon; Rey A. De Los Santos; Tara Brooke Eckenrod; Tiffany Paige Eckenrod; Helen Flores; Leticia B. Gomez.

Veronica Ann Gonzalez; Steven Richard Hagler; Jarrett R. Harrison; Daniel Hernandez; Jacob Austin Hughes; Cindy Lorena Jennings; Sunni Len

Jones; Jeffrey Luna; Jerritt Brandon Meeks.

Michelle Melancon; Molly R. Montalvo; Seth William Mitchell-Moore; Brandon Levi Moore; Richard Clayton Moses; Joshua Mulva; Jaime Ortiz; Donald Mason Page; Ariel Palomo Jr.

Samantha Payne; Miguel Angel Ramos; Jaime Rivas; Tricia Jane Robinson; Theresa Marie Ryan; Stephanie Marie Sanches; Tommy Sandoval; Barkley Simmons; Efrain Talamantes; Coty J. Williams and Latoya M. Wright



(Photo by Jewel Robinson) Pre-kindergarten students were awarded diplomas during Wednesday morning ceremonies.

## Child Serve to sponsor free fingerprinting for Kinney County children

The Brackettville Housing Authority Resident Council is sponsoring the fingerprinting of children in Kinney County June 17-18 during the Juneteenth celebration in Seminole Indian Park. The service will be provided at no cost.

The event is part of Project Child Serve activities. Child Serve was implemented by the Housing Authority Resident Council after the organization, in conjunction with the National Children's Registry, determined that there was a need to protect children in the community.

If a parent has to go through a horrifying event such as the disappearance of a child, local, state and federal authorities have a greater chance of identifying and subsequently returning the child to his or her parents if the child's fingerprints are on file.

Child Serve is a pro-active effort designed to maximize the safe return of any child in Kinney County who, for some reasons,

disappears. This technique has been recognized nationally in the continued attempts to provide safety for children and dissuade criminal who might otherwise hope to prey on society's most precious resource.

Child Serve is endorsed and supported by Brackettville Mayor Carmen Berlanga, Chief of Police Ron Ring, Sheriff Buddy Burgess and City Secretary David Luna.

For persons unable to take advantage of the fingerprinting service during the Juneteenth celebration, alternate dates and locations will be announced soon.

The Brackettville Housing Authority applauds the Resident Council's aggressive approach to a growing national concern.

The task is formidable and requires involvement at all levels. With community support and participation, Child Serve will succeed in providing one more reason to take pride in Brackettville.



(Photo by Jewel Robinson) Pauline Hilliard, who has been librarian in the Brackett Independent School District for the past 11 years, is retiring. She served in the Peace Corps for four years as an English teacher in the Philippines. She began teaching in the United States in 1968. She has taught English, English as a Second Language and reading in junior high and high school, and has taught English in college. She also served six years in the Army.

## Laura Lee Ballew, James Burks top students

Laura Lee Ballew is valedictorian of the graduating class of 2000 with a grade point average of 4.65. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Ballew. She earned early acceptance to Texas A&M University for next fall where she will be majoring in Biomedical Science. She is the recipient of a Lewis Jones Endowed Scholarship from the university.

Miss Ballew has been active and held offices in National Honor Society, Student Council, Science Club, History Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Future Farmers of America, and has been president of her class. She has competed in University Interscholastic League (UIL) Literary Events, Science Fair, and UIL One Act Play. Her athletic involvement involved golf, in which she was district silver medalist individual this year, volleyball, basketball, cross country, track, and cheerleading. She has advanced passed the district level in several sports.

Some of the awards she has received this year are the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award, the U.S. Army Reserves Scholar Athlete girl award, the UIL Scholar award, the U.S. Border Patrol Outstanding Student award, Most Valuable Player in golf, and Brackett High School All-Scholar Athlete girl.

Outside of school she is active in the 4-H Club, has competed in state and national stock shows for ten years and exhibited the grand

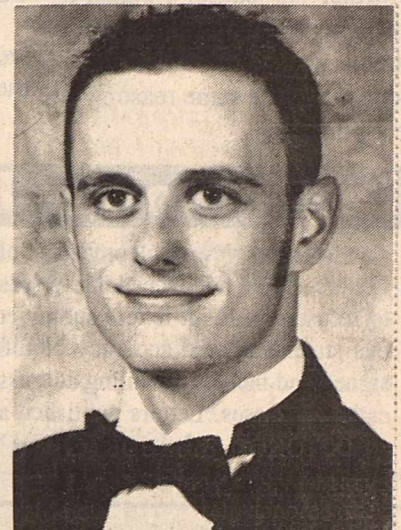


Laura Lee Ballew

champion lamb at the Odessa State Stock Show last year. She is a member of and active in the St. Mary Magdalene Church.

Brackett High School Salutatorian for the Senior Class of 2000 is James Burks. James is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Burks. James gained early acceptance into the college of engineering at Texas A&M and will be involved in various activities at College Station prior to the fall semester.

James has represented his class in various offices. He has been active and held office in several organizations, including Student Council, National Honor Society, Science Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, among others. James was a member of the Brackett Tiger Band for six years and is the outgoing drum major. James was involved in the track



James Burks

program in athletics and was one of the original members of the Brackett Cross Country track team coached by Julie Bruce. He has competed at the regional level in cross country track and University Interscholastic League (UIL) literary competitions. James has also been the recipient of several honors for his performance in One Act Play competitions.

James, many accomplishments and contributions have also involved activities outside of the school setting.

He recently performed at Carnegie Hall, and has been a representative and counselor at the Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly, and is actively involved with teaching young people and with worship responsibilities as a member of the Brackettville Church of Christ.

## Hotline established to report unbuckled kids

AUSTIN - People who see unbuckled children through Monday, May 29 are urged to call 1-800-764-5755 to report the license plate number of the vehicle they were riding in.

Vehicle owners will receive a letter from the National Safety Council reminding them that allowing a child to ride unrestrained is dangerous and illegal.

The weeklong campaign is part of Operation ABC Mobilization: America Buckles Up Children, which promotes zero tolerance of deadbeat drivers \* adults who drive with unbuckled children.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Department of Transportation and Texas Department of Health have joined together to promote the nationwide effort to increase proper seat belt use by children and teenagers.

\* In 1998, 175 children under the age of 15 years were killed in Texas traffic crashes. More than half of them were unrestrained.

\* Texas law requires all children from birth to two years to be restrained in an approved child safety seat anywhere they sit in a vehicle. Children ages two years to four years must be in either an approved child safety seat or the vehicle's seat belt system. Children ages four years through fourteen years must be in a safety belt anywhere they sit in the vehicle.

The Texas Department of Health's Safe Riders Program has two campaigns that begin next week:

\* A new occupant protection program aimed at convincing teenagers to buckle up has some help from Daryl "Moose" Johnston and tennis stars Serena and Venus Williams. Posters and bookmarks proclaiming the value

of buckling up are available to high school and youth groups across Texas.

\* A new Spanish-language video on child passenger safety training has been produced and will be distributed to safety seat loaner programs. Copies are available for parents and educators upon request.

### INSIDE

■ **The way I see it!**  
The vast majority of people who have been infected, ... were either homosexual, or were sexually promiscuous, having sex out of wedlock with multiple partners.  
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■ **Graduates honored**  
Last Sunday, St. Mary Magdalene church honored the BISS Senior Class of 2000. Such a fine looking group of young men and women ...  
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■ **Making a Difference**  
The school year ends Friday, May 26. Summer vacation is around the corner beginning our traditional Memorial Day holiday for all employees on Monday.  
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## Please, check the title

Let it be known! I have never claimed to be the voice of Christianity. If you will check the title of my column you will see that it says, "The Way I See It."

Reverend Sellers, you accuse me of arrogance and that wounds me deeply. What you identify as arrogance is in reality desperation. I am desperate for this nation to change its self-destructive course. That is not arrogance, sir, that is fear.

Let me say that, while I feel you misinterpret my motives and my attitude, I am very grateful that you sometimes find yourself in agreement with me. Because I too pray fervently that everything I write is in the best interest of Christianity. I am scared speechless every time I sit down to write one of those columns. I pray each time that God guide me. I search the scriptures for guidance. I ask God to use me in any way He will, to further His cause. I began to write The Way I See It because I felt God was calling me to do so. I hope that is the same reason you are a minister.

You accuse me of being sanctimonious (pharisaic) when I compare Christianity to conservatism. That I truly do not understand. As I understand Christianity, it deplores such things as abortion, homosexuality, divorce, violence, deceit, anthropomorphizing of animals, evolutionism, and many of the other things that liberalism seems to support. I do not believe that all conservatives are Christians, but I believe that the vast majority of Christians are conservative; and I do not believe that a true, deeply believing Christian can be a liberal. I may be wrong, but that is the way I see it.

And last, I do not sit in judgment. I do, however, try to bring to light, to people outside the Church, those things that I feel are contradictory to the Bible and to reason. I am desperate, Reverend Sellers, and frightened, and if you have a better approach, I am always open to suggestions.

If you care to discuss this, I would love to do so. Please call me.

Steven R. LaMascus

## Letters to the Editor Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters published and columnist's viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Big Mama Sez!



All I have seen teaches me to trust the creator for all I have not seen

## The Brackett News

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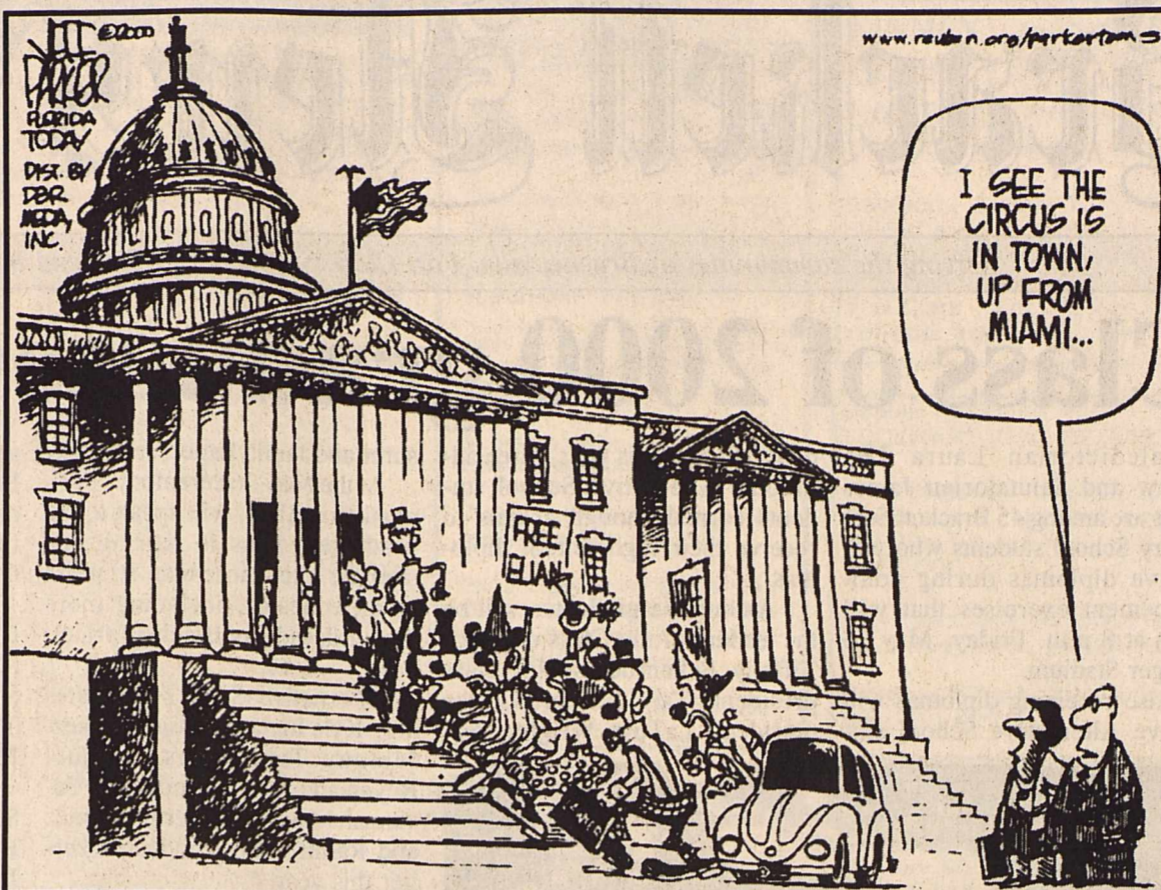
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## "The Wrath of God is Coming"

The Way I See It  
By Steven R. LaMascus

I just read that ten percent of the population of South Africa has AIDS. World wide the epidemic has reached a total of fifty million people infected. These are astounding figures, and they are going to increase, probably exponentially, until we figure out that the reason this is happening is that we have turned away from the life-giving laws of God and are willingly reentering a period of evil unequalled since God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.

There are only a few ways to be infected by AIDS. Bodily fluids transmit it from one person to another. It can be transmitted by contaminated blood transfusions, but this is very rare today; it can be transmitted by using contaminated needles for intravenous drug abuse; it can be transmitted by sexual contact with an infected person. Now let me ask you a question; how many of those South Africans do you think were infected by blood transfusions? And do you think the majority of them, ten percent of the population remember, are IV drug users? No, I don't think so either. So that leaves sex.

The vast majority of people who have been infected, in fact, I would go so far as to say that almost all of those who were infected by sexual contact, were either homosexual, or were sexually promiscuous, having sex out of wedlock with multiple partners. All those things are in direct conflict with the Word of God.

## Education initiatives target opportunity and excellence

Submitted by  
Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison

This month the Senate began its debate on the Educational Opportunities Act. At the heart of this legislation are two ideas: 1) that the more parental involvement there is in education, the better; and 2) the critical importance of maintaining state and local control of public schools.

We know from history, and from study after study, that the single most important factor in providing children with a quality education is parental involvement. We also know, conversely, that the parents of many under-achieving children are not involved in their education. Education reforms that incorporate parental decision-making are much more effective than those that don't.

Just as important to quality education is local control. The Educational Opportunities Act strengthens local control by giving states and school districts the flexibility to respond quickly to changing student needs. It attaches fewer strings to federal funding, letting the states and local school districts make more decisions, so that schools can meet the specific needs of their students rather than following a one-size fits all pattern imposed by Washington, D.C.

Schools succeed because parents, businesses and civic leaders get involved and make them better. Local participation and local

control are the cornerstones of providing equal educational opportunity. The Educational Opportunities Act also aims to:  
\* Support exceptional teachers. Our bill encourages school districts to hire, reward and retain the best teachers. The Senate included my Careers-to-Classrooms legislation that will streamline teacher certification procedures so talented people with badly needed skills can move into the classroom more quickly. This will be especially helpful to rural schools and schools that are experiencing a teacher shortage. I want to encourage professionals with expertise in such areas as foreign languages, math and science to share their knowledge with our children.  
\* Help disadvantaged students meet higher standards. It is wrong to let any child slip through the cracks. This bill provides schools and teachers with greater decision-making authority in exchange for increased responsibility for improving student performance.

In addition, I continue to support Advanced Placement, an educational initiative that I have long worked to expand. This program tests high school students for college credit and is set up to encourage more students to take college-level courses while still in high school. Texas has been a national leader in making Advanced Placement available at high schools across our state. A head start on college may just be the deciding

factor that propels many a student through the doors of higher education. For 30 years, federal education programs have proliferated while student performance across the country has stagnated or declined. But we have started to turn things around, notably in Texas where we have had spectacular success in improving test scores and reversing the high dropout rate among students, particularly minorities. We can't afford to deny any child the opportunity to succeed by failing to equip that child adequately for the future. We should be proud that our state has been leading the way, setting an example for others to follow. The Educational Opportunities Act would make even more progress possible by ensuring that the federal government is part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Why is that so hard for so many to accept? If you don't use drugs, never have homosexual contacts, and if you wait until you are married to have sex, then your chances of being infected by AIDS are practically zero. But instead of preaching the Word of God as a way to combat the AIDS epidemic, the entire world seems to have voluntarily abandoned the simple concept of morality and are apparently willing to die to defend their right to practice perversity and immorality.

This is so bloody simple! If you obey God, he will protect you! If you follow in the footsteps of the Lord, you will prosper. If you defy his will, he will punish you. He is your father; he will do what is necessary to lead you into the narrow path. If that means your destruction, he will not shy away. Your body is really unimportant; it is your immortal soul that interests God.

With each rotation of the earth we drift farther and farther from reality. In the news every day is the concerted effort in the United States to have same sex, homosexual, unnatural unions adjudicated as legal and natural. Our schools, and even our churches, are beginning to allow inroads on the morality of our nation. Our children are being brainwashed to accept this liberal lie. Unnatural is normal; normal is unreasonable; conservatism is hateful; socialism is righteous; Christianity is intolerant; right is wrong and wrong is not your fault. You are homosexual because your father wouldn't let you have a new bicycle, but that's okay because homosexuality is beautiful and natural.

We are giving ground in a war that we cannot afford to lose. There is plainly no justification for anyone to accept and condone homosexual marriages. It is a perverse, unnatural act and an offense to God, and God is going to take action.

AIDS is no accident. It didn't just appear. It was given to us by a loving God to remind us that if we do not comply with his will there will be consequences. As long as our sexual morality is lower than that of alley cats, we can expect no relief. Our only recourse is to return to the biblical concept of sexual purity. Don't sleep around; don't sleep with members of the same sex; don't have sex until marriage. Is the world really so blind that it cannot see that the cure is here. It has been here since Moses wrote Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Obey God and AIDS will go away. Obey God, and like the plague that took the first born of Egypt, AIDS will pass over you. God never breaks a promise. Test him in this.

Colossians 3:5, 6 - "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming."

And: Hebrews 10:23 - "Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."

## Remembering the Price of Freedom

Submitted by  
U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

As we approach the Memorial Day weekend, let us reflect on the service that many an American has given our nation to make us free.

Our other national holidays would have no meaning if it were not for the sacrifices made for freedom that we honor on Memorial Day. It may seem cliché, but it is true: Freedom does not come without a price. We may sometimes take for granted the many liberties we enjoy in America, but they have all been earned through the ultimate gift given by so many of the members of our armed forces. So many soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines have died for our liberty and prosperity, for peace and stability. They knew when they put on their uniform that there was no guarantee of safety and went off to follow orders without questioning and acted obediently with patriotism and commitment to their country. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude. We can make another payment on that debt this Memorial Day.

Memorial Day touches the hearts and memories of Americans like no other national holiday. The Fourth of July celebrates our independence. Thanksgiving expresses gratitude for our blessings. Veterans' Day honors those who served. But Memorial Day honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve that independence and those blessings.

Memorial Day combines the meaning of every other national holiday. It is on this day that we remember and pay tribute to the brave men and women who throughout history gave their lives upholding our freedom.

No other country in the world has sacrificed so many of its sons and daughters to secure not only its own freedom, but that of other nations. Foe after foe have thought Americans were too soft and too selfish to sacrifice their lives. More than a million heroes have proven them wrong.

This Memorial Day, I hope we will all take some time to remember the meaning of that day. Our freedom was earned by that heroic multitude who fought with unrivaled courage and gave their lives for their country. Memorial Day is a time to reflect on those sacrifices and remember them in our prayers. It is a time for us to show those who gave their lives that their country loves them as much as they loved it.

## Your Representatives

**President**  
President William J. Clinton, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C. 20510, Comment line 1-202-456-1111

**U.S. Senator**  
The Honorable Phil Gramm, 370 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

**U.S. Senator**  
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison, 283 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

**Congressman 23rd District**  
The Honorable Henry Bonilla, 110 E. Broadway, Del Rio, Texas 78840 1-830-774-6547 or 1529 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-4323, Washington: 1-202-225-4511, San Antonio: 1-210-697-9055, Fax: 1-210-697-9185

**Governor**  
The Honorable George W. Bush, Box 12428, Austin, Texas 78711, 1-800-252-9600, 1-512-463-2000, Fax: 1-512-463-7397

**State Senator District 19**  
The Honorable Frank Madla, Texas Senate, P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, 1-512-463-0121

**State Representative District 74**  
The Honorable Pete P. Gallego, 1110 W. 10th Street, Del Rio, Texas 78840, 1-830-774-0800



**Kinney County Sheriff's Report ...**

**Monday, May 15**  
3:56 p.m., A black cow was spotted on FM 693 (Macy Road). The owner was contacted.

3:36 p.m., Someone called the owner of two goats who were wandering on Highway 90. He said he would take care of the problem.

**Tuesday, May 16**  
7 p.m., Three steers were seen near Beaumont and El Paso streets. The owner was contacted and told where the animals were, but by then, the steers decided to go back up the hill. They were spotted at 9:50 p.m. on FM 2804 (Pinto Road-Farley Lane).

11:58 p.m., A big black bull was seen in the middle of Highway 277 north by Pinto Creek. The owner was informed.

**Wednesday, May 17**  
3:03 a.m., A local woman called 9-1-1 to report that her husband was bothering her and wanting to get into her house. Deputies went to the scene.

1:50 p.m., EMS responded to a call that a man was having a seizure at the Rudy Ranch near Uvalde.

6:48 p.m., A local resident reported that several cars parked in an alley were preventing him from driving his own car out of his yard. He asked for a deputy's assistance.

9:54 p.m., A local businessman complained that a customer was being abusive.

The customer had claimed that a relative had purchased a vehicle from the businessman and had asked him to come pick it up.

But the customer could not produce a bill of sale and the business would not let him remove the property. The customer then

threatened the businessman and shoved the businessman's wife. The businessman demanded that the customer leave and he did.

**Thursday, May 18**  
10:10 a.m., Two small dogs (terriers) were seen one mile north of Spofford on Highway 131.

5:15 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs resident reported that someone stole 10 gallons of gas from the gas tank of his pickup that was parked about four lots from his house.

Daniel Michael Cramer, 30, of Tampa, Fla., was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia. He was released Friday, May 19 for time served.

**Friday, May 19**  
2:30 p.m., A woman reported that someone wanted to take her aunt to live in San Antonio. The woman said she didn't want her aunt to leave Brackettville. Police investigated and found out that the aunt was of sound mind and wanted to go to San Antonio.

5:59 p.m., A motorist knocked down a Highway 90 road sign in front of the gas pumps of the Stop 'N Shop.

Julio Cesar Rodriguez, 24, of San Antonio, was arrested based on a Department of Public Safety warrant from Eagle Pass. He was released Saturday, May 20 after he paid a fine.

**Saturday, May 20**  
3:40 a.m. Someone reported that a person was walking on Highway 90 East towards Brackettville. A deputy went to the scene to take care of the situation.

7:45 p.m., A local woman asked for a deputy's to come to her house to take care of a minor dispute.

**Border Patrol agents nab six suspected drug traffickers, seize over \$300,000 worth of pot**

By Dennis Smith  
Public Affairs Specialist

DEL RIO - U.S. Border Patrol agents from the Eagle Pass station have been busy over the past week, seizing more than \$300,000 worth of marijuana and arresting six suspected drug traffickers, in five separate incidents.

Early Saturday morning, May 6, agents patrolling approximately six miles west of Eagle Pass spotted three men, two of whom were carrying duffel bags, near the bank of the Rio Grande.

The men ran, dropping the bags, as agents approached. After a brief foot chase, agents caught the three men and recovered the duffel bags. A search of the bags revealed 117.4 pounds of marijuana, valued at \$93,920.

Later that evening, an agent on duty approximately two miles east of the Eagle Pass Port of Entry spotted three men carrying large bundles.

When the agent identified himself and ordered the men to stop, they scattered in different directions. The agent managed to catch one of the suspects as he tried to flee toward the Rio Grande. The three bundles, found to contain a

total of 114.6 pounds of marijuana, worth an estimated \$91,680, were recovered with the help of a Border Patrol narcotics canine.

On Tuesday, May 9, agents working east of the Eagle Pass Port of Entry spotted three men getting in the Rio Grande, headed to Mexico.

A Border Patrol canine searched the area and alerted to five duffel bags just up the from where the men were seen.

The duffel bags contained 24 bricks of marijuana, with a combined weight of 108.8 pounds, and an estimated value of \$87,040.

On Wednesday, May 10, local authorities requested assistance from a Border Patrol canine unit in searching a vehicle at La Quinta motel.

The canine alerted to the engine compartment of the vehicle. A search revealed two feed sacks containing marijuana totaling 90 pounds. The marijuana and vehicle, a 1986 Dodge Ram Charger, were seized.

Agents patrolling an area about nine miles east of the Eagle Pass Port of Entry on Thursday, May 11, observed three men running toward the Rio Grande. As agents

approached the spot from whence the men fled, agents found a feed sack that they suspected contained contraband.

After a foot chase, agents were able to apprehend two of the subjects, who were soaking wet upon capture.

The feed sack was found to contain 52.2 pounds of marijuana, valued at an estimated \$41,760.

The contraband and suspects, in each case, were turned over to the Multi-Agency Drug Task Force in Eagle Pass.

A vehicle stop by a U.S. Border Patrol agent from the Carrizo Springs station on Sunday, May 7 resulted in the arrest of a suspected drug smuggler and the seizure of more than 500 pounds of marijuana.

An agent, patrolling Highway 277, observed a 2000 Oldsmobile travelling eastbound.

Based on a number of factors that indicated possible illegal activity, the agent stopped the vehicle to perform an immigration inspection of the driver.

The agent noted that, as the driver was producing identification and vehicle rental documents, his hands were shaking uncontrollably.

The agent also observed a tarp covering something on the floorboard of the backseat area of the car.

The driver agreed to open the trunk of the vehicle, whereupon the agent discovered several bundles that were found to contain marijuana, valued at a total of 516.9 pounds of marijuana, valued at a total of \$413,520, was recovered from the vehicle.

The marijuana and suspect were turned over to the Multi-Agency Drug Task Force in Eagle Pass.

**Agents make 241 apprehensions in area**

Border Patrol agents made 241 apprehensions in the Brackettville area between May 15 and 21.

The Del Rio sector total was 2,979 apprehensions including 86 who were not Mexican citizens.

The total includes:  
29 apprehensions in Abilene,  
305 in Carrizo Springs  
26 in Comstock  
523 in Del Rio  
1,728 in Eagle Pass  
4 in Llano  
15 in Rocksprings  
6 in San Angelo and  
102 in Uvalde.

**Over 1,000 pounds of marijuana seized**

DEL RIO - U.S. Border Patrol agents from the Comstock Station seized more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana Sunday, approximately 15 miles west of Comstock.

Agents performing linewatch duty in an area south of the Shumla Rest Area on U.S. Highway 90 found several black

bundles hidden in the brush. An exhaustive search of the area, including support by a Border Patrol canine unit yielded 24 bundles of marijuana with a total weight of 1,084 pounds.

The marijuana, valued at \$867,200, was turned over to the Multi-Agency Drug Task Force in Eagle Pass.

**Dig safely when tackling home improvement projects**

AUSTIN - As homeowners get set to tackle a variety of home improvement projects, Railroad Commission Chairman Michael L. Williams, Commissioner Charles Matthews and Commissioner Tony Garza reminds Texans that one call beforehand can help ensure safe digging.

Williams, Matthews and Garza noted that the statewide one-call notification system's toll-free number at (800) 545-6005 is available to everyone to help prevent accidental damage of natural gas and other utility lines. Third party damage remains the leading cause of gas line disruption in Texas.

"When it comes to home improvement projects, this toll-free number is more valuable than your shovel," Williams said.

"The one-call system is in place to make sure any excavation projects, large or small, can be done safely and without any surprises."

"Texans can participate in helping prevent accidents by using the one-call system," stated Matthews.

"Crucial information can be obtained regarding the location of utility lines, greatly reducing the odds of a potentially serious accident."

"It's one call that means summer outdoor landscaping and home improvement projects come off without a hitch," Garza added.

"Natural gas and other utility lines are literally just a few shovels of dirt away so it makes sense to call before you dig."

Those calling the one-call telephone number at (800) 545-6005

can report where and when they intend to excavate.

Natural gas, electricity, cable, water, and sewer lines are among the utilities that can be identified for homeowners, contractors and excavators.

The one-call center will match the excavation address against lists of streets, and then provide the information to local utilities.

Utility companies will have two working days to come to the property and mark the lines before digging begins.

Texas has had a One-Call law in place since 1998 as a way to protect those who are digging from injury during excavation. In addition, the One Call system is meant to reduce or prevent damage to underground facilities.

The Texas Railroad Commission's Pipeline Safety program regulates the safety of the more than 150,000 miles of intrastate natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines in Texas.

As part of that responsibility, the RRC is a partner in the national "Dig Safely: Call Before You Dig" program.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG - In Texas, call toll-free 1-800-545-6005.

WAIT THE REQUIRED AMOUNT OF TIME - At least two working days, but no more than 14 days, prior to excavation.

RESPECT THE MARKS - The national standard is a two-foot "hand dig" zone on both sides of the marks.

DIG WITH CARE - Dig safely.

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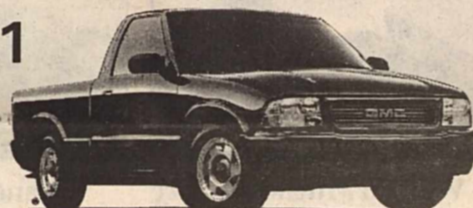
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#8746  
Vortex V-6, Auto, Front/Rear A/C, AM/FM Cass./CD, Deep Tinted Glass, Alum. Wheels & Keyless Entry



2000 GMC SIERRA 1500 4WD 4DR

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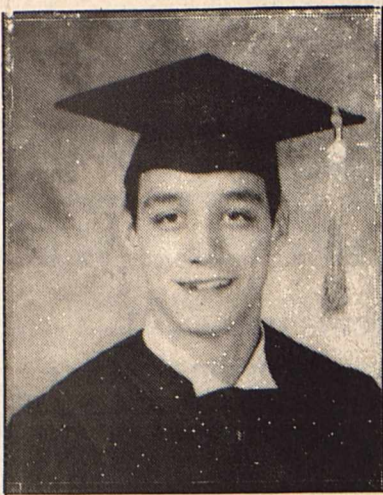
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#8760 Sell price of \$19,895 35 Payments of \$311.82 With one final payment of \$11,804.80 at 8.25% APR  
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# Brackett High



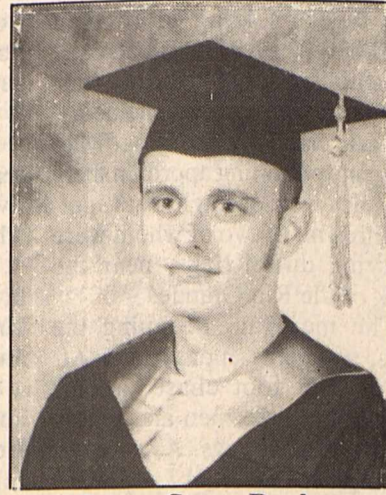
Eric Joshua Allen



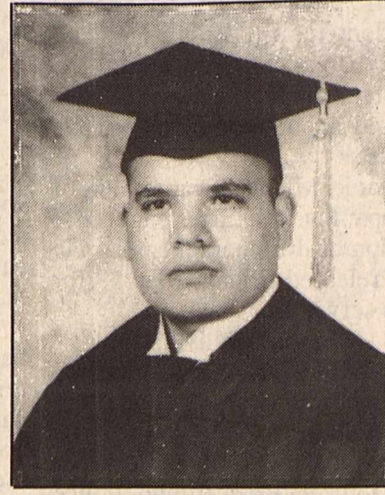
Jamie Rue Bader



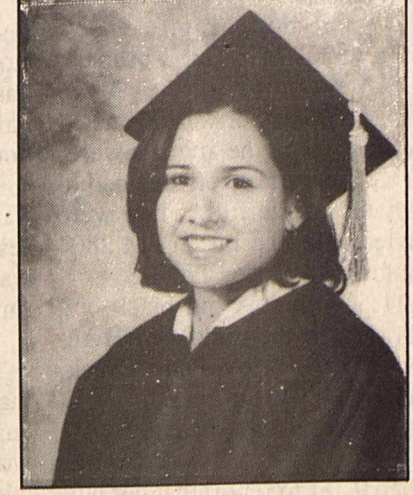
Laura Lee Ballew  
Valedictorian



James Stony Burks  
Salutatorian



Ricardo Castillo



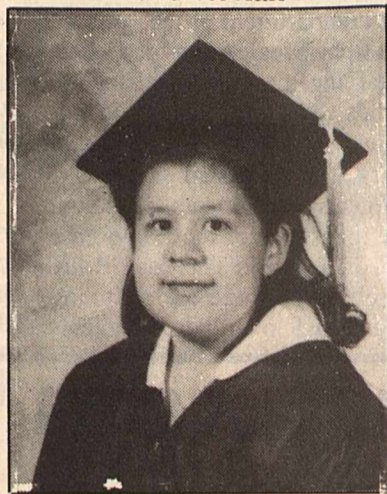
Connie Magdalena Castro



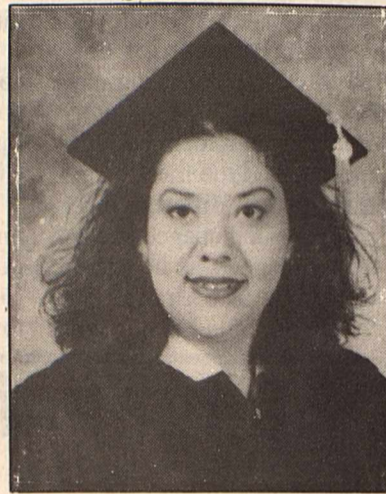
Tiffany Paige Eckenrod



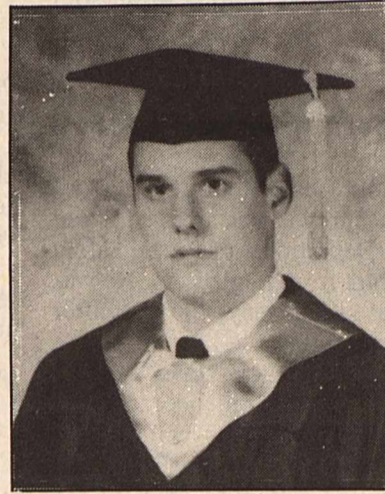
Helen Flores



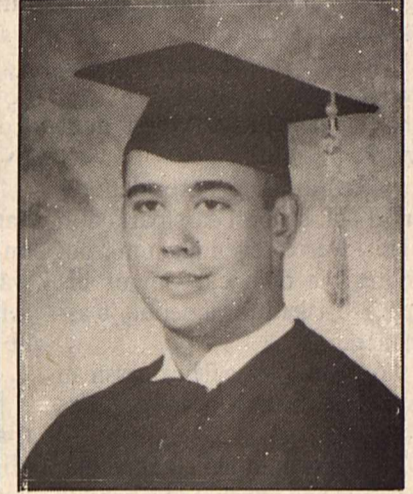
Leticia B. Gomez



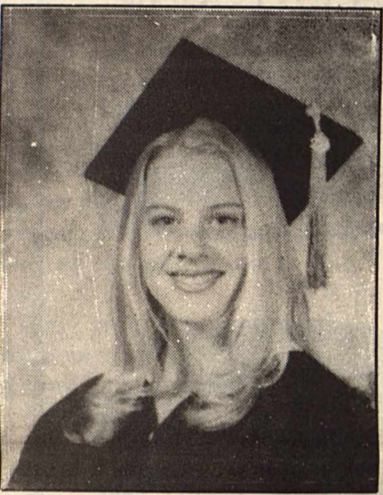
Veronica Ann Gonzalez



Steven Richard Hagler



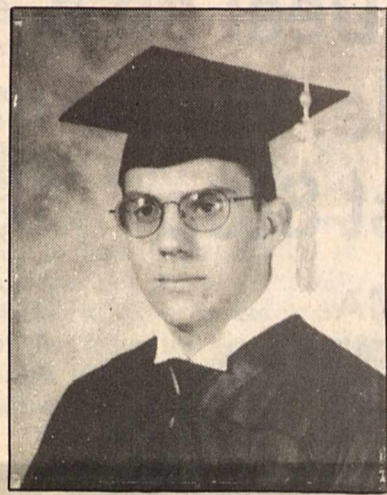
Jarrett R. Harrison



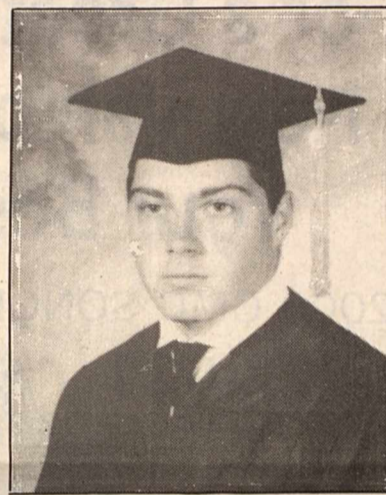
Michelle Melancon



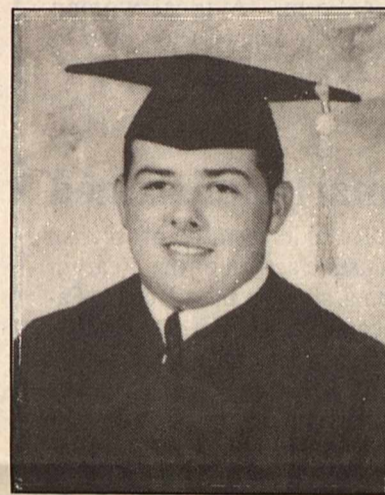
Molly R. Montalvo



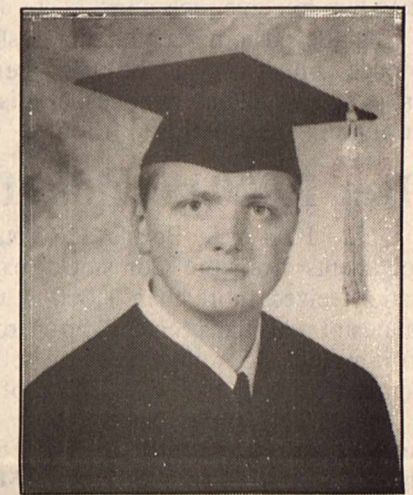
Seth William Mitchell-Moore



Brandon Levi Moore



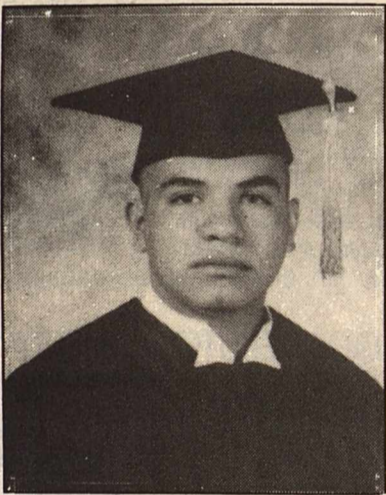
Richard Clayton Moses



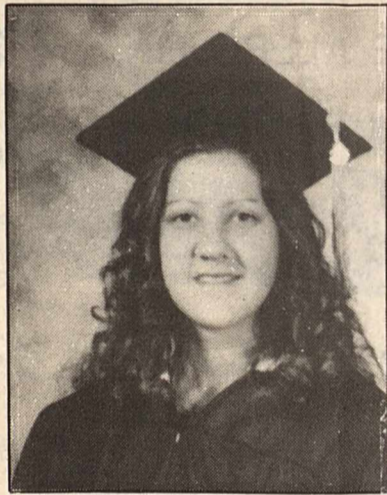
Joshua Mulvaine



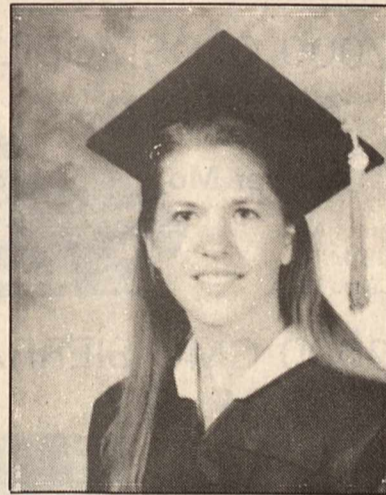
Congratulations  
Seniors  
O'Rourke  
Realty



Joe Rivas



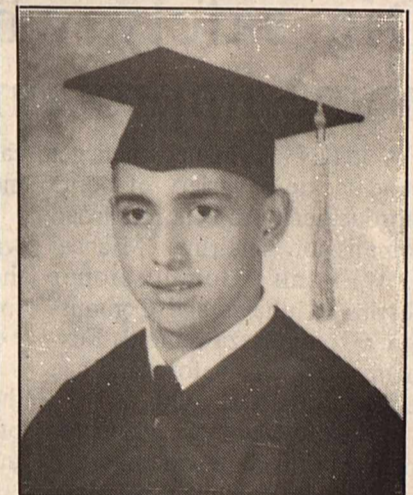
Tricia Jane Robinson



Theresa Marie Ryan



Stephanie Marie Sanches



Tommy Sandoval



Congratulations  
Seniors  
From  
The Staff &  
Management  
At Burger & Shake

Congratulations  
Seniors  
from  
Southwest Service  
and Car Quest  
Tom & Anita Ertle

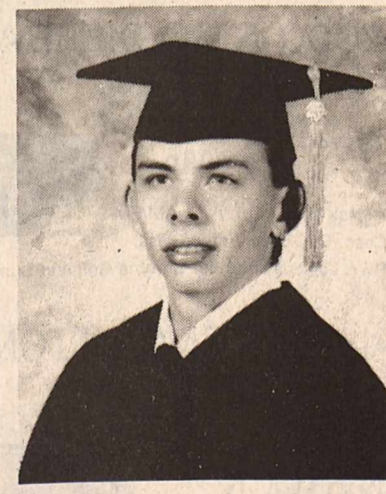
Congratulations  
Class of 2000  
May all your  
future endeavors  
be fulfilled  
Mayor  
Carmen M.  
Berlanga

## BISD Alternative

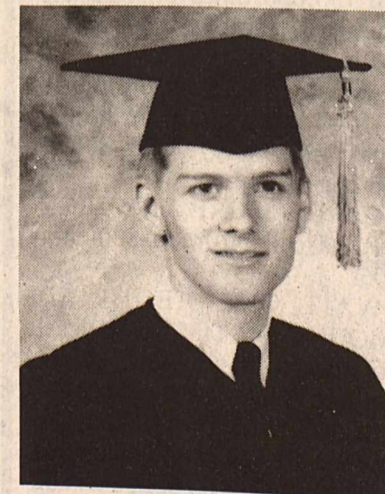
Congratulations  
Seniors!!  
Best wishes for a  
Future  
  
Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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From  
The Kinney  
County Jail  
and Staff

Congratulations  
to the  
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Kermit Gomez



Kyle Ingram



Savannah Massingill

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Good Luck  
Seniors  
From  
The Management  
and Staff of the  
Kinney County  
Wool & Mohair

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Class of 2000  
Good Luck!  
From  
The Brackettville Lions Club  
& The Lions Thrift Shop

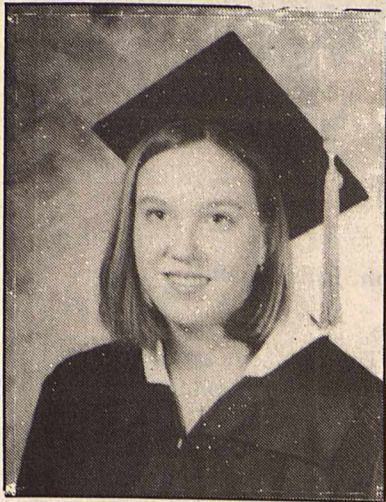
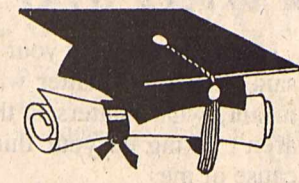
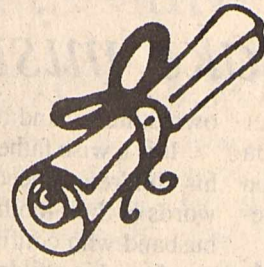
CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE SENIORS  
CLASS OF 2000  
FROM  
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VIRGINIA SHAHAN

Congratulations  
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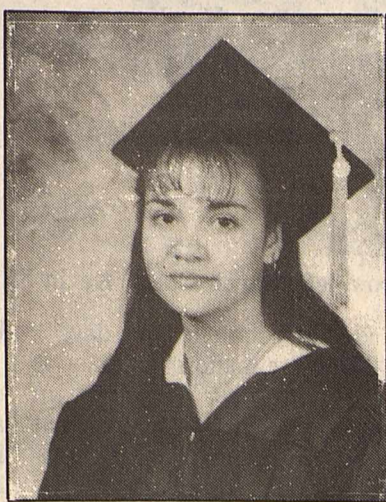
Congratulations  
from All of Us  
at  
Brown  
Automotive



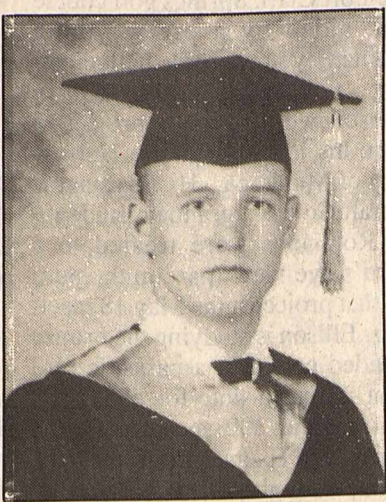
# Class of 2000



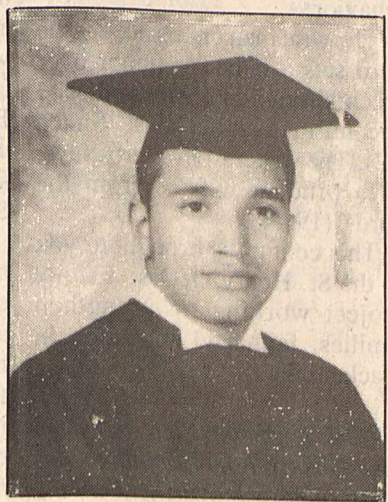
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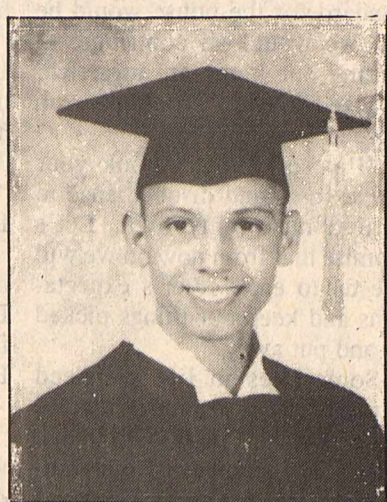
Kayla Cruz



Zachry Hunt Davis



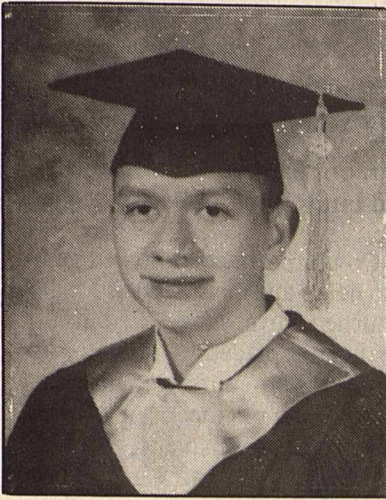
Elijo Alex De Leon



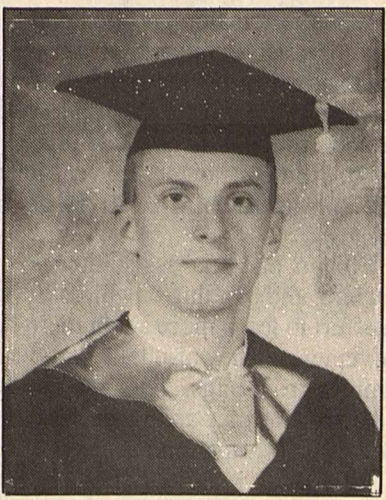
Rey A. De Los Santos



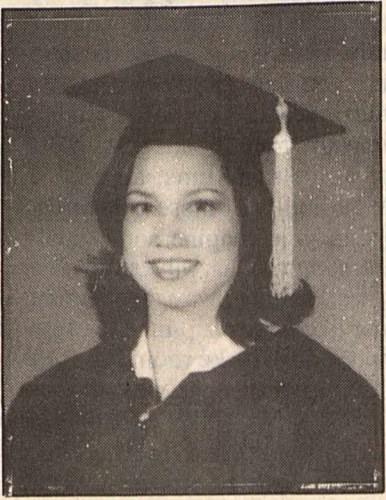
Tara Brooke Eckenrod



Daniel Hernandez



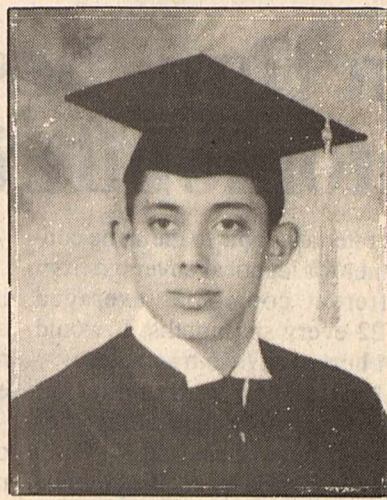
Jacob Austin Hughes



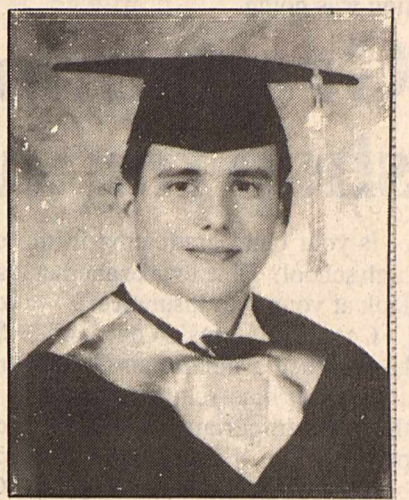
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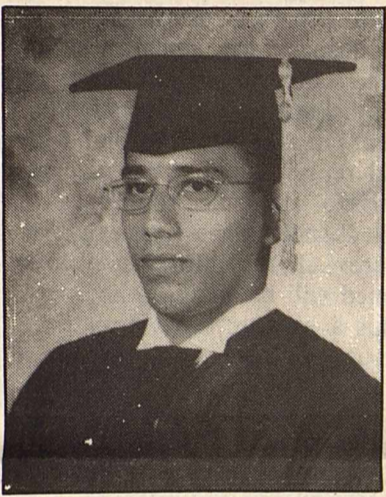
Sunni Len Jones



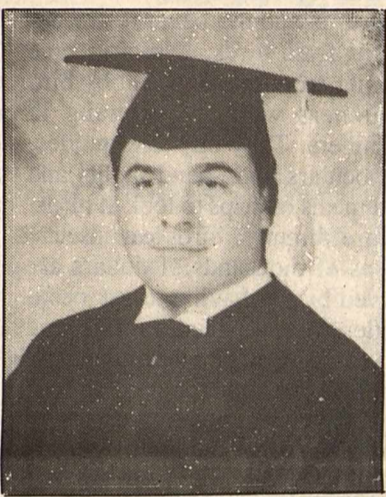
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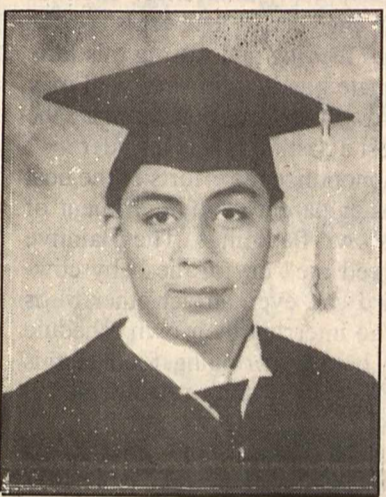
Jerritt Brandon Meeks



Jaime Ortiz



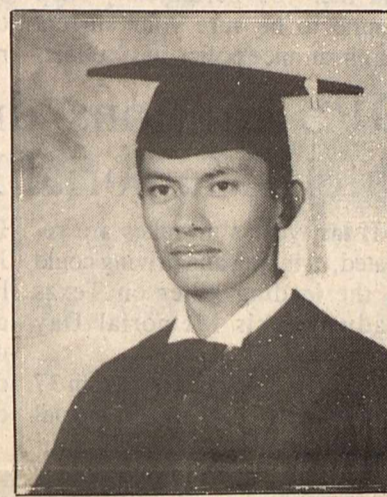
Donald Mason Page



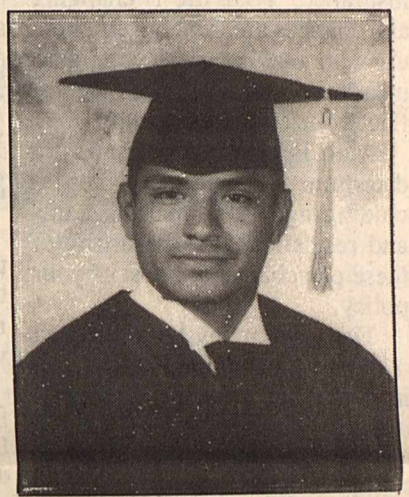
Ariel Palomo Jr.



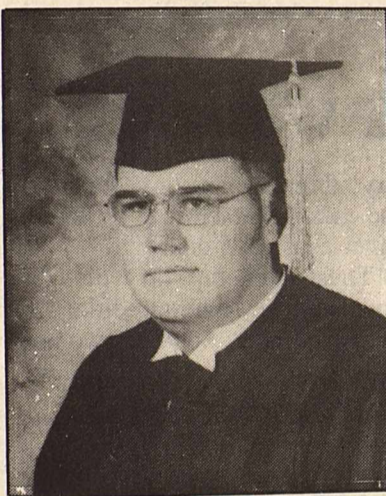
Samantha Payne



Miguel Angel Ramos



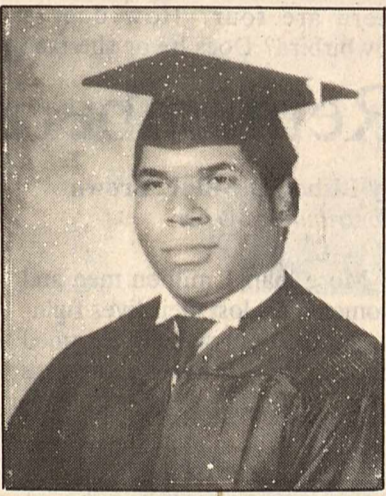
Jaime Rivas



Barkley Simmons



Efrain Talamantes

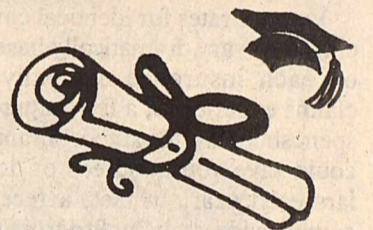


Coty J. Williams



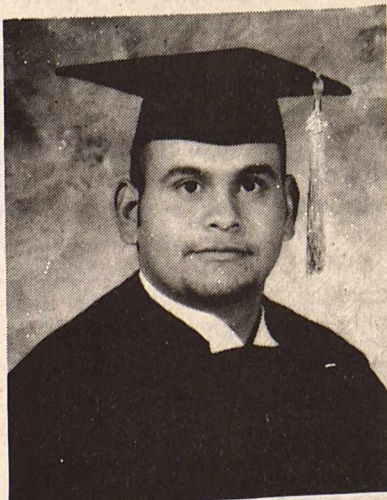
Latoya M. Wright

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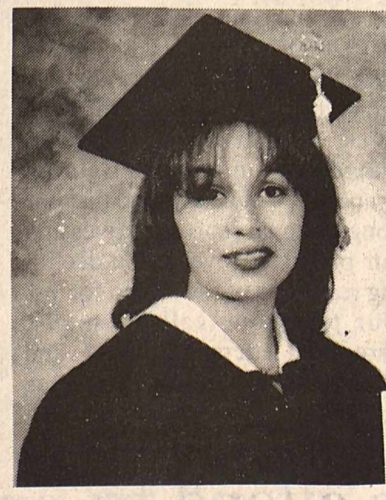


*Congratulations Seniors Class of 2000*  
 Hair By Diane  
 Diane & Brandi Wilson

# School Graduates



Jessie Sanchez



Melony Talamantes

**BISD Alternative School Teachers:**  
 William Clements  
 Carroll Petrosky

**Congratulations Class of 2000 Good Luck**  
 From the Kinney County Chamber of Commerce

**Congratulations Seniors 2000**  
 Stop N Shop  
 Mr. & Mrs. Freddie Frerich

*We Are Proud Of Our 2000 Graduates Best Wishes*  
 From Fort Clark Springs Association, Inc.

**Copies to Go Congratulates the graduating Class of 2000**

**Congratulations Class of 2000**  
 Lozano's Welding Shop  
 Henry Lozano, Owner

**Congratulations To The Class of 2000**  
 Debbie Trant  
 Lockhart Real Estate

**Congratulations Seniors from**  
**Jacinto Chevrolet**  
 2300 Hwy 90 West  
 775-0566

**Congratulations to the Class of 2000 from**  
**Bruce Drilling and Services**  
 563-9916

**Congratulations to Zachry and the Senior Class of 2000 from**  
**Davis Hardware and Ranch Supply**  
 563-2528

**Congratulations Seniors 2000**  
 Choose the road less traveled by!  
 Kinney County Judge's Office

**Congratulations Seniors Class of 2000**  
 From Pico's # 15  
 Rick Alvarado-Mgr.

**Good Luck And God Bless**  
 From The Brackett News



## Sometimes we need someone else to remind us that we make mistakes

Empowering Families  
By Dr. Donald Smith

"David," said Dad insistently. "You and I need to talk."

"What's up?" David questioned.

"Let's go to your room where we can talk alone."

David began to worry. "What did I do now?" he asked.

"It isn't what you did, it's what you didn't do. And it involves me."

"So how does it involve you, Dad?"

"Mom tells me that you weren't picking up your clothes and toys. She said you believe that because I don't pick up my clothes, you don't have to either."

"But Dad, I really didn't mean it that way." David began to worry about where this conversation was going.

"Son, I trust what your mother said. It doesn't matter what you meant, what matters is that you aren't picking up your things because of me."

"We all agreed that our family standard for the house would be that we would all contribute to making our home an attractive, civilized and an efficiently run place to live."

"I'm sorry that it took your carelessness and disobedience to remind me of my own. Let's promise that from now on we will live up to each other's expectations and keep our things picked up and put away."

Sometimes in life we need someone else to remind us that we make mistakes. It is best if that person is a member of our family. Our children and our spouses can be accurate mirrors of our

own attitudes and behavior.

It is a wise father who teaches his children to heed and trust the words of their mother. It is a wise husband who confirms his wife's words to his children in his own behavior.

The wise man once said, "...the Lord sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons" (Sirach 3:2). The writer of Proverbs says, "...a prudent wife is from the Lord" (19:14).

This column is brought to you by the St. Henry DeOsso Family Project working to strengthen families, faith and education in Brackettville.

*Note: If you have questions you would like for Dr. Smith to address, please leave them at the Brackett News office.*

## Graduation time best time to shop for automobile insurance

Is your child graduating from high school? Time to take another look at your auto insurance.

Congratulations! Your child has reached a milestone. Graduating from high school is one of the most important events in a person's life. It's also one of the best times for parents to shop for auto insurance. That's right - auto insurance. Your life is changing and chances are, you haven't kept up with making sure your auto insurance coverages and rates reflect your current situation.

Auto insurance premiums are determined by many variables including age, job, marital status and residence. Altering many of these can change the cost of your policy.

There are many variables that may change with a child graduating from high school. If your child is going away to college, a change in their residence could significantly change the insurance rates you're getting with your current company.

Because rates for identical coverage can vary dramatically based on each insurance company's claims experience, a few minutes spent shopping for auto insurance could save you hundreds of dollars each year. In fact, a recent countrywide study by Progressive Insurance showed that the difference between the highest and low-

est rates available to the same consumer for identical coverage from different companies averaged \$522 every six months. It would not hurt to save extra money.

"In addition to your lifestyle changing, insurance companies often change their rates." Willy Graves, president of Progressive County Mutual, said. "It's important that you periodically shop around to be sure your current auto insurance policy best reflects

## DPS cautions drivers to drive safely Memorial Day and always

If last year's mistakes are repeated, drinking and driving could be the leading killer on Texas roadways this Memorial Day weekend.

Last year, 46 people died in 37 fatal wrecks, making Memorial Day the single most deadly holiday of 1999, according to preliminary DPS figures. A look inside the numbers reveals that half of the fatal wrecks and 47 percent (22 people) of the deaths were alcohol-related. That's far above the state average, which was 29.6 percent of the total fatalities in 1998.

"Overall, alcohol-related deaths have been declining in Texas the last several years, so the Memorial Day numbers are troubling and unacceptable," said DPS

your needs."

Fortunately, shopping for auto insurance is no longer a difficult time consuming task. There are many options available to consumers.

You can get free estimates over the phone at various 1-800 numbers, you can look up quotes on the Web or you can consult with an independent agent who can answer all the questions directly.

Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. "A three-thousand pound vehicle is not the place to play chicken with your life and the lives of your fellow travelers. Driving drunk is out of style-and it's a crime."

DPS troopers and many other police agencies will increase patrols over the weekend to get drunk drivers off the roads and to target speeders and seat belt violators.

The DPS statewide Stranded Motorist Hotline, 800-525-5555, can also be used to report obviously intoxicated drivers.

The most deadly time on the road last Memorial Day weekend was between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., when 57 percent of the fatal crashes took place-a time frame when alcohol and fatigue often are cited as factors. Fatigued or asleep drivers are suspected in six of the fatalities.

"This may be the start of the summer vacation season, but you can't get too relaxed behind the wheel," said Davis. "If you start to nod off, please pull over to a safe place and take a break."

Last Memorial Day holiday, 44 percent of those killed (18 people) were not wearing safety belts in wrecks where restraint use was applicable. Excessive or unsafe speed was listed as a contributing factor in 15 fatalities, seven people were killed in crashes where signal lights or stop signs were disregarded, four fatalities were blamed on faulty tires and two people died trying to outrun police officials. In addition, 54 percent of the wrecks were one-vehicle collisions.

## Three DPS troopers earn Medals of Valor

Medals of Valor were presented Monday to three DPS Troopers for their actions in trying to aid Trooper Terry Miller and Atascosa Sheriff's Deputies Mark Stephenson and Thomas Monse on Oct. 12, 1999. Also receiving awards were 17 Atascosa County residents who voluntarily responded to the scene to offer assistance. This was the largest number of Director's Awards given for a single incident since the awards program began in 1982.

Trooper Miller and Deputies Monse and Stephenson were killed by a sniper when they responded to a possible domestic violence call in rural Atascosa County.

## Doctoral candidate, graduate student treat area Rotarians to a bird's eye view

By Frances McMaster  
Contributing Writer

If you think you've seen someone climbing trees, stealing eggs out of bird's nest somewhere near the Fort Clark Springs golf course and aided by a pretty young woman, you weren't hallucinating, you were seeing Kevin Ellison working on a project to earn his Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba. His assistant is Sarah Coles, a graduate student.

Rotarians were treated to a bird's eye view (pardon the pun) of that project at the May 18 meeting. Ellison is studying the bronze headed cowbird, a parasitic bird that is responsible for endangering around 200 species of song birds. Bill Haenn, program chairman, brought them to speak at Rotary.

Hearing this young man give a very scientific explanation of this study, you would not expect to find yourself ready to throttle bronze headed cowbirds, feeling sympathy for their songbird hosts and at the same time, amazed at the gullibility of those host birds.

Can you imagine some innocent songbird happily sitting on its nest, trilling away, and having a nifty cowbird zip in at the first opportunity, make room for itself to lay its own egg, which takes only seconds - like releasing a bomb on target, and fly away. The host returns and sits on the intruder egg along with its own, not noticing any difference. Then, as the eggs hatch, the host is conned into feeding and raising this little innately bandit who very well may grow faster and soon dominate the host's nestlings. The intruder may monopolize the efforts of the host foster parent to the detriment of its own fledglings. The plaintive "feed me" cry of the baby cowbird can even attract other birds who interrupt their own schedule to help by bringing food to this poor baby which must be starving.

What about the host bird? Doesn't it know that egg looks strange? Doesn't it realize that there were three eggs and now there are four? How does a cowbirdbird? Does he or she face

## Remembering America's war dead

By Bishop David R. Brown  
Contributing Writer

More than 1 million men and women have lost their lives fighting for freedom in the U.S. armed forces. We can never reimburse

the price they paid. We can summon no words to allay the pain of their loved ones. We can, and we should, honor America's war dead on Memorial Day.

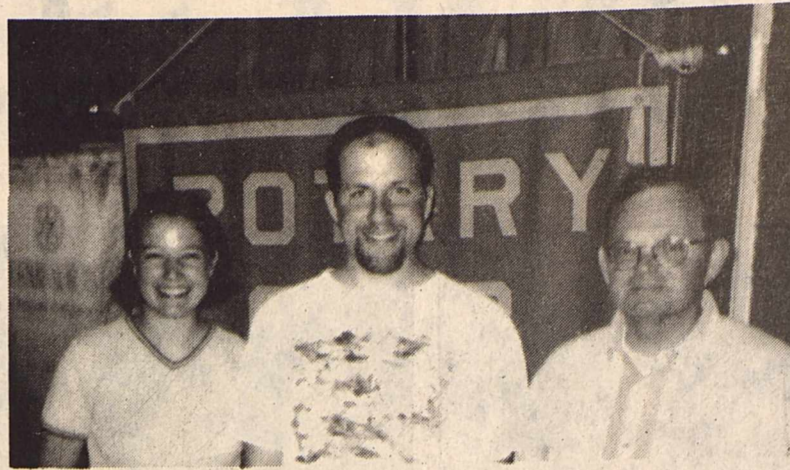
We, as beneficiaries of America's departed heroes, should make three pledges on Memorial Day to ensure that the Supreme Sacrifice of our nation's war dead never will be in vain.

The first pledge we should make is to fly the U.S. Flag and to participate in our community's commemorative events. America's patriots shed their blood in defense of our nation's core values of freedom, justice and equality as well as the U.S. Flag that symbolizes our values. Memorial Day should unify all Americans in solemn tribute to those who did not come marching home and to consecrate the principles for which they fought.

The second pledge we should make is to teach our children and grandchildren that the freedoms they may take for granted were purchased by incredible sacrifice. When we lead by example, by bringing our children and grand-

## DAR members attend tri-annual meeting

The Kerrville hillside home of Billie Bryant was the site of the tri-annual meeting of the Hill Country Council, Daughters of the American Revolution. Members of the newly organized DAR chapter in Boerne were welcomed to the Council. President Joan Davis announced that member Jean King had won first place in the American Heritage Poster



From left: Sarah Coles, Kevin Ellison, Bill Haenn

an identity problem some day?

There are matters that may be understood better as a result of Ellison's study. One scientist has already learned that the baby cowbird responds to the cry of a female songbird while still living in its alien quarters. It will turn and stare at the female. The fledgling obviously isn't imprinted, some mysterious knowledge from its inner resources is at work here. As soon as the hard work of raising this little stranger is over, it will join its cowbird relatives or friends.

Ellison and his assistant are catching and banding cowbirds in an effort to learn more about their movements. They also take blood samples from eggs and from the older birds as they are banded and the DNA information is studied.

Why does it matter? For one thing, the beauty of the songbird is part of our heritage. Furthermore, economic benefits are derived from birds. Direct income comes from money spent by bird watchers who are growing in numbers. They buy field guides, binoculars and spend nights and eat meals on trips to look at birds. More directly, birds eat insects. Tens of thousands of dollars are saved by not having to use pesticides in industrial forests and stands of timber when plenty of birds are around.

Birds are good indicators of environmental qualities. We are familiar with the story of the bald eagle who went on the endangered species list because DDT spraying had caused their eggs to become too thin for the embryos to

live. The bronze headed cowbird is multiplying at a phenomenal rate and the song birds are decreasing in numbers. Raphael Carlson in her warning cry about conservation spoke of changes of habitat and its effect on the environment. As cities and towns expand, the edge of the populated areas encroach upon predator's territory. Raccoons, for instance, gather to dine on refuse from the garbage cans or dog food left in the yard, and birds. Song birds are declining.

Cowbirds once followed buffalo herds and ate insects from the upturned earth. Now, the buffalo has been replaced by lawn mowers. The golf course replaces the short grass on the prairie. The cowbird doesn't have to go as far or work as hard to earn its living. It thrives by stealing the time and energy of other birds as they build nests and raise young.

Ellison points out that one must understand the birds before they can be controlled. He patiently climbs trees, collects cowbird eggs and replaces them with painted artificial ones since some species will abandon a nest if no eggs are there. All the information collected will be analyzed and perhaps a way to turn this pattern around will emerge. Ellison had one last word to say.

This area is a natural habitat for birds of many types. Some thought should be given to turning the Fort into a bird sanctuary, which, despite popular belief, it is not at this time.

children with us to Memorial Day public observations, we teach the leaders of tomorrow that freedom is not free.

The third pledge is to participate in our democracy in order to give patriots-present the best opportunity to triumph against evil.

Today's troops form the light of hope that pierces the darkness of tyranny, but that light is growing dim due to inadequate military spending and foolhardy defense policy. Safeguarding the bounty of 1 million war dead is a military that is smarting from a 300 percent increase in deployments and a one-third decrease in active-duty strength since 1987. This is a military receiving fewer tax dollars, as a percentage of gross domestic product, than the military that suffered the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

We must act as if Memorial Day 2000 is Dec. 6, 1941; as if "We the People" have an opportunity to deter aggression, save lives, and give our men and women in uniform a fighting chance. We must demand that our congressional representatives and our president reverse the declining readiness of the armed forces. Our telephone calls, e-mails, faxes, and letters to Congress and to the White House can reverse the neglect that erodes our mili-

tary, threatens national security, and endangers the values for which Americans gave their lives.



These contemporary pledges flow from the earliest traditions of Memorial Day. Southern women in the spring of 1865 planted flow-

ers on the graves of Confederate war dead. Gen. John Logam, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of union veterans, ordered his group to decorate the graves of Union troops on a uniform date in 1868. These and other commemorations would give rise to the first national Memorial Day observance on May 30, 1868 at Arlington National Cemetery. Gen. James Garfield, keynote speaker for the observance, said those who lost their lives fighting for freedom engaged in the ultimate expression of humanity's "highest virtues." The general was right!

More than 1 million men and women, preponderantly of modest means and infinite courage, sacrificed all of their tomorrows while fighting America's unifying "virtues." Surely we can honor their sacrifice, transmit the values for which they fought, and preserve the "common defense" that is liberty's backbone. By our vigilance, the sacrifices of America's departed heroes shall never be in vain.

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School of Instruction meets every  
Monday at 7:00 p.m.  
Visiting Brothers are Welcome

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**Congratulations, Eric and Daniel, Seniors 2000. Love, your family.**

## Outstanding students at middle school receive awards

Students who excelled in various academic areas this school year at Brackett Middle School were honored last week.

Award winners included:  
**LANGUAGE ARTS** - 7th Grade: Julissa Luna, Rolando Ortiz, Robert Looney, Shanae Simmons. 8th Grade: Chestin Hatley-Clark, Davina Rios, Beth Ballew, Sabrina Silver.

**READING** - 7th Grade: Celina Terrazas, Juliann Ashabranner. 8th Grade: Star Smith, Amanda Davis, Nataly Rodriguez, Nathan Luna

**CHAPTER 1 READING** - 7th Grade: Raymond Gonzalez, Marivel Fernandez

**SCIENCE** - 7th Grade: Cody Robinette, Courtney Frerich; 8th Grade: Dulce Jimenez, Dietrich Davis

**MATH** - 7th Grade: Oscar Sierra III, Whitney Massingill. 8th Grade: Blake Ward, David Lattimer

**ALGEBRA I** - Mrs. Wilkins: Ashley Smith; Mr. Yeager: Sarah Meyer  
**PRE-ALGEBRA** - 7th Grade: Nohelia Trujillo, Charlie Slaughter

**MATH ENRICHMENT** - 8th Grade: Emily Petrosky, Bessie Martin

**TITLE I MATH** - 7th Grade: Noe Talamantes, 8th Grade: David Latimer

**SOCIAL STUDIES** - 7th Grade: Brandon Kluzek, Kody Yeager; 8th Grade: Beau Watkins, Arnold Pinales

**TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION** - 8th Grade: Celeste Hill, Sarah Meyer

**HEALTH** - 7th Grade: Sean Looney, Charlie Slaughter; 8th Grade: Ashley Thourot, Avelardo Martinez

**GIFTED AND TALENTED** - 8th Grade: Sabrina Silver

**ESL** - 7th Grade - Nohelia Trujillo

**CERTIFICATES:**  
**LANGUAGE ARTS** - 7th Grade: Cassandra Rios, 8th Grade: Martha Wardlaw

**READING** - 7th Grade: Cassandra Rios, 8th Grade: Martha Wardlaw

**MATH** - 7th Grade: Emmanuel Talamantes, 8th Grade: Martha Wardlaw

**OUTSTANDING CONDUCT** - 7th Grade: Emmanuel Talamantes, 8th Grade: Martha

Wardlaw  
**TEACHER ASSISTANT** - Cassandra Rios

**Mrs. Roberts - OUTSTANDING CONDUCT** - 7th Grade: Valentino Morin; **HIGHEST LEVEL:** 7th Grade: Cassandra Rios, 8th Grade: Martha Wardlaw.

**ALL YEAR A's**  
 8th Grade: Elizabeth Ballew, Amanda Davis, Emily Petrosky, Sabrina Silver, Ashley Smith

**ALL YEAR A's and B's**  
 7th Grade: Stephanie Bonner, Courtney Frerich, Monica Gonzalez, Whitney Hobbs, Meagan King, Brandon Kluzek, Whitney Massingill, Kristin Meyer, Cody Robinette, Oscar Sierra III, Kody Yeager

8th Grade: Stacey Castilla, Dietrich Davis, Hector Febres, Nancy Hill, Allison LaMascus, Star Smith III, Ashley Thourot, Blake Ward, Beau Watkins, Chestin Hatley-Clark, Sarah Meyer

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION** - Science Fair Awards Mrs. Crumley - Most Improved Reaser - 7th Grade: Marivel Fernandez, Mark Kestellot, 8th Grade: David Lattimer

**PLAQUES** - Accelerated Reader - 7th Grade: Juliann Ashabranner, Tillman Davis, Courtney Freich, Brandon Kluzek, Celina Terrazas, Megan King, Whitney Hobbs; 8th Grade: Star Smith, Amanda Davis, Beau Watkins, Sabrina Silver

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE** - 7th Grade: Juliann Ashabranner, Valentino Morin and Oscar Sierra III; 8th Grade: Dietrich Davis, Tony Jamail, Bessie Martin, Stacy Terrazas.

**MEDALS** - **UIL READY WRITING** - 8th Grade: Ashley Smith, second place

**RIBBONS** - **UIL READY WRITING** - 8th Grade: Beth Ballew, sixth place; **UIL ORAL READING** - 8th Grade: Emily Petrosky, fourth place; **UIL ATHEMATICS:** 8th Grade:abrina Silver, sixth place, 7th grade: Tillman Davis, fourth place; **UIL CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS** - 7th Grade: Tillman Davis, fifth place.

**PRESIDENT'S EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM:** Elizabeth Ballew, Amanda Davis, Nancy Celeste Hill, Allison LaMascus, Sarah Meyer, Emily Petrosky, Sabrina Silver, Ashley Smith, Star Smith.

**PLAQUES** - Accelerated Reader - 7th Grade: Juliann Ashabranner, Tillman Davis, Courtney Freich, Brandon Kluzek, Celina Terrazas, Megan King, Whitney Hobbs; 8th Grade: Star Smith, Amanda Davis, Beau Watkins, Sabrina Silver

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## Summer vacation is just around the corner

*Making a Difference*  
 By Taylor Stephenson

The school year ends Friday, May 26. Summer vacation is around the corner beginning our traditional Memorial Day holiday for all employees on Monday, May 29.

**678 students**  
 Our year ends with 678 students. On Dec. 1, we reached 700 for the first time (ever?). Our highest number of students was 703 at the end of December. Most of the second semester, we hovered around the 700 mark. Traditionally, we begin to lose some students mostly migrants at the end of the school year.

**Graduation Friday night**  
 Commencement exercises are scheduled this Friday for 8th grade students in the school auditorium at 11 a.m. and for the Senior Class of 2000 at Tiger Stadium at 8 p.m. The 8th grade ceremony is traditional and will be performed with its usual clockwork precision. Honor students present most of the program. The high school ceremony will include speeches from our honor students

and a Charge to Seniors to be given by retiring high school principal, Don Sims. The high school ceremony is beautiful with some 2,000 roses for those who have helped Seniors reach this achievement. This year, only three names will be read and roses given to those three from each Senior. The ceremony will be much shorter as a result of this change.

**Scholarships**  
 We're very pleased with the increasing number of scholarships for the Class of 2000. The James T. "Happy" Shahan Scholarship given by Calvin and Kim Wallen has increased from one \$1,000 scholarship to two for the first time. Calvin worked as a young lad at Alamo Village where he got to know and appreciate our own unique Happy Shahan. The Wallens make their home in Heath, Texas, and have been very successful in their own business. We appreciate this scholarship which has been awarded for the past four years. This scholarship given by the Wallens helps us all focus on what Happy Shahan did for our community.

This year, the Bubba

Whitworth Scholarship is a new one. Given by Wanda and Bill Whitworth is a fine addition to our scholarships. The scholarship in memory of Bubba Jack Whitworth, their son, memorializes him through a \$2,000 scholarship to be given for the first time at the graduation exercises Friday night. Everyone who knew Bubba Jack liked him. This is a living memorial to his legacy.

**'Tremendous concert'**  
 The Tiger Band presented a tremendous concert Monday night. They have improved so much that parents and directors were smiling from the first note until the last note had echoed into the night. The band is hard work. This has been one of our best years. We look for great things to come from the Tiger Band.

### Lucky third grader wins poster contest, new bike

One lucky third-grader from Jones Elementary will receive a free brand new bicycle and helmet Thursday afternoon after being chosen as the winner in a Red Cross poster contest.

Third-graders at Jones Elementary took part in the Red Cross Safe Families Curriculum, where they learned how to keep their families safe in the event of fire, a medical emergency such as choking or cardiac arrest, and water safety.

After the curriculum, which consists of three 30-minute lessons, the children took a report card home and made sure that their families had working smoke detectors, a meeting place outside of the home in case of fire, a disaster supplies kit, and other items.

The children then drew a poster illustrating how they have made their families safe. One poster will be chosen, and that child will receive a new bike and helmet on Thursday, May 25 at 2:30 p.m.

The winner's picture will be published in the June 3 issue of *The Brackett News*.

## Laura Lee Ballew DAR Good Citizen

Laura Lee Ballew has been honored as Brackett High School's DAR Good Citizen.


This award is presented annually by the Uvalde de las Encinas Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

The purpose of the award is to stress the qualities of good citizenship among senior female high school students.

The student selected as the school's "DAR Good Citizen" must have the qualities of:


Dependability which includes truthfulness, loyalty, punctuality; Service, which includes cooperation, courtesy, consideration of others; Leadership, which includes personality, self-control, ability to assume responsibility; Patriotism, which includes unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation, to an outstanding degree.

Laura Lee received her certificate, DAR Good Citizen medal and a check for \$100 at the regular luncheon meeting of the Uvalde chapter on Saturday, May 20. Accompanying her was her mother, Mrs. Jamie Ballew.



**Brackett High Class of 2000**  
 Laurie Lee Ballew, *Valedictorian*; James Burks, *Salutatorian*  
 Tiffany Eckenrod, *President*; Tara Eckenrod, *Vice President*;  
 LaToya Wright, *Treasurer*; Jamie Bader, *Secretary*

**Commencement: Friday, May 26, 2000, 8 p.m. Tiger Stadium**  
 Processional - Brackett Tiger Band, "Pomp and Circumstance"  
 National Anthem - Brackett Tiger Band  
 Commencement Opening - Jamie Bader  
 Salutatorian Address - James Burks  
 Valedictorian Address - Laura Lee Ballew  
 Introduction of the Principal - Zack Davis  
 Charge to the Graduates - High school principal Don Sims  
 Presentation of Special Recognition - Jerrit Meeks and Tiffany Eckenrod  
 Presentation of Special Awards - Taylor Stephenson, superintendent  
 Certification of Brackett Alternative School Graduates - Don Sims, principal  
 Presentation of Brackett Alternative School Diplomas - Lloyd Lee Davis, school board president and Rosemary Slubar, board secretary.  
 Certification of Brackett High School Graduates - Don Sims, principal.  
 Presentation of Brackett High School Diplomas - Lloyd Lee Davis, school board president and Gloria Garcia, board vice president  
 The School Song - Brackett Tiger Band led by Sunni Jones  
 Commencement Closing - Jacob Hughes  
 Recessional - Brackett Tiger Band  
 Congratulatory Line - Class of 2000



*Congratulations to Leticia B. Gomez and classmates from Tino and Norma Gomez & Family Best wishes to the Class of 2000.*

**Congratulations to the graduates, "Class of 1970" Valedictorian, Lloyd Lee Davis and especially to Roger Rodriguez, Salutatorian. Ora Rodriguez**

## Mirror, mirror on the wall

*I Could Be Wrong*  
 By Chuck Hall

I had my feelings hurt the other day. I really did. And I'm going to tell you who did it too. It was my dad. My very own father. Cut me like a knife. I had taken him a new picture of my grandson, Tillman. His great grandson. Dad was very pleased. The photos turned out so good. My daughter had them made but sent me to pick out the best one. She knew I'd buy them all. And I did. I liked them all. Dad really liked them. But then dad went a step too far.

"That has to be the prettiest boy I have ever seen!" Now wait a minute dad. What about your own son? How about me? Looking at some of my old baby pictures I

thought I was quite cute as a young lad. (Yes, I know. I changed.)

I always believed that all parents felt like their children were the best looking kids ever. I felt like I had been betrayed. Dad had broken the parental/offspring law. Very close to child abuse. And at my age it hurts even worse.

But dad just might be right. Tillman is very easy on the eyes. He makes me smile just to see him. He's a very pretty boy all right. But someone chastised me for that statement recently. I was told: "Don't say that your grandson is pretty. Boys that are pretty grow up to have problems."

I don't know about that. It didn't bother me any. I grew up as a pretty boy and I'm OK. But, once again, I could be wrong.

## 'Chronicles of Big Bend' on sale now

AUSTIN - The Texas State Historical Association has reprinted the 1976 W. D. Smithers classic, *Chronicles of the Big Bend: A Photographic Memoir of Life on the Border*. Smithers photographs and first-hand account record history in the making in this harsh and beautiful region.

As a young teamster on a pack-mule train, Wilfred Dudley Smithers saw the Big Bend Country for the first time in 1916 and it captured his imagination forever.

For decades thereafter he returned to Texas' last frontier—the great bend of the Rio Grande on military, bandits, law enforcement, liquor smugglers, curanderos (healers), avisadores (secret message senders), and the national park are among the subjects the book addresses.

Smithers' work captures the cruelty and enigma of life in the Big Bend—from a child bitten by a

rattlesnake to the mysterious avisadores. The *Chronicles of the Big Bend* is a rare documentary look at a frontier region as it was known by only a few and as it will never be seen again.

It is a deeply personal human portrait of one of the truly unique regions of Texas.

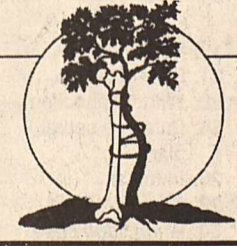
"Smithers is one of those exceptional individuals who recognized history as it was occurring and possessed the capacity to record its lessons," writes Kenneth B. Ragsdale in the Foreword.

"With an eye for detail and an uncanny memory, he preserved a graphic record of a primitive lifestyle that once existed in that 'wondrous curve of the Rio Grande.'"

Ask for *Chronicles of the Big Bend* at your local book store, or order it directly from the Texas State Historical Association (TSHA) by calling 1-800-687-8132.


The Brackett Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided at the school cafeteria, located at 400 N. Ann St., Brackettville, TX. People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: Director, Civil Rights Division, MCW-106, Texas Department of Human Services, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

(NOTE: Discrimination complaints based on religion or political beliefs must be referred only to the Director, Civil Rights Division, Texas Department of Human Services.



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**BISD Activity Calendar**

**May 25-31**

**Friday, May 25**  
 11 a.m.-12 noon  
 Eighth Grade Graduation

End of sixth 6 weeks!

High school graduation.  
 8 p.m. Tiger Stadium  
 Project Graduation  
 Last day of school

**Saturday, May 27**  
 Teacher Work Day



**Brackett High School seniors David Luna and Jamie Bader were presented the Border Patrol Outstanding Student Award recently.**



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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10		11		12		13		14
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	22		23		24			
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57	58			59		60		61
63			64		65		66	
68			69				70	
71				72				73

**ACROSS**

- Carmaker Ransom Olds
- Cotillion gal
- River, to Pedro
- Grows drowsy
- Language heard at the Forum
- Actor Betz
- Number 8 on the Beaufort Scale
- Start of a Dickens title
- Grapes of Wrath character
- Knitting
- Sends to cloud nine
- Crown
- Eng. major's course
- The last laugh?
- Comic Caesar
- Recline lazily
- Like early movies
- Go to the (contend)
- Playwright Coward
- Hoo-ha
- Critical examiner
- Pooh character
- Skillful
- Three: Ital.
- Silkwood and Valentine
- Stash belowdecks
- Recipe amt.
- Publisher Bradlee et al.
- Impress informally
- Three-card monte "winner"
- Audible lamenter
- Military command
- Saline drop
- Doggie catcher
- Stand like Pisa's tower
- Die
- Compare
- Author Bombeck
- MSS. readers
- Lily: Fr.
- Intuitive letters
- Hunt goddess
- Be indisposed
- Without direction
- Puts in a secret place
- In the sky
- Sunup
- Arabesque star
- Jaworski and Trotsky
- In need of cheer
- Cable option
- Shame on you!
- Gatos
- Museum treasure
- Word with water or pool
- In the direction of
- Deliver the story
- Received a trophy
- Full and new, for the moon
- "All's ..."
- Take the lam (2 wds.)
- Drink made with fermented honey
- Pair in a rowboat
- Wading bird
- Pony's pop
- Wahoo et al.
- "Los" or "les"
- Enjoy a Vermont vacation
- Tavern spigot

**DOWN**

- School subj.
- Advance
- Inactive
- Library stamps
- After zeta
- Ill temper
- Dissolute one
- Spring blossom
- Viva torero!
- Fume
- Part of a hall-decking refrain
- Dicken's Little
- Boll weevil's dinner

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

May 25...Tammy Coggins	May 28...Vern Price
May 25...Ermenia Hernandez	May 28...Leticia Vela
May 25...Jennifer McDaniel	May 29...Bernadette Frerich
May 25...Paula Samaniego	May 29...Ruby Frerich
May 25...Dolores Wilson	May 29...Rosie Garcia
May 26...Blanca Ortega	May 29...Mary Etta Speaker
May 27...John Garberich	May 30...Fernando Valdez
May 28...Rene Diaz	May 31...J.C. Morrow
May 28...Dorothy Oliver	May 31...William Varner
	May 31...Merle Wills

**HOROSCOPES**

**Aries March 21- April 20**  
 Surprise a special person in your life with a celebration in his/her honor. This person is long overdue for a celebration. Take an idea to your supervisor. It will benefit you professionally. Invest any bonus you get.

**Taurus April 21-May 21**  
 Don't allow a new relationship to ruin a friendship. It's not worth it. Because of your involvement in an organization, you'll find yourself in a good position to help those less fortunate. An extravagant trip is on your horizon.

**Gemini May 22-June 21**  
 Have you taken on too many activities? Be honest and accept your limitations. Take the advice and help of a friend. An unexpected celebration is on your horizon. A relative could use your help in the job market.

**Cancer June 22-July 22**  
 With your hectic schedule, you should avoid those likely to upset you. You don't need the stress in your life. It's important that you take it easy for awhile. A new restaurant in town is a great place to get together with friends.

**Leo July 23-August 23**  
 Help will come from someone you really care about. With the two of you working together, you'll be surprised at how much you can accomplish. Reconsider an idea you were going to present at work. It's likely to work now.

**Virgo August 24-Sept. 22**  
 Money you didn't know about may be headed your way. Splurge a little for a change. It's a great way to let off some steam. Just don't forget someone less fortunate than you. An unknown source of help may be on the way.

**Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23**  
 Events at work will drain all your energy. Don't take your exhaustion and frustrations out on those at home. A so-called friend could ruin a new relationship for you. Jealousy will rear its ugly head and result in a blowout.

**Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22**  
 It's time to take matters into your own hands. You can get people back on track. Someone you thought you knew well is not what he/she seems. Watch your back. A pet would make a great gift for a relative who's been lonely.

**Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21**  
 You are handling a situation all wrong—creating problems for those around you. Your vehicle problems will not go away. Start shopping for a good deal. Maybe it's time you called in a long-overdue favor. It could be beneficial.

**Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20**  
 What has happened is not your fault. It's time to quit blaming yourself. Catharsis is the key to getting past this situation. The color orange will bring you some happiness. Turn to a source close to home for help.

**Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18**  
 Your confusion regarding a close friend is very understandable. Pay close attention to what is going on between the two of you. Changes at work are on the way. Don't expect them all to be positive but still hope for the best.

**Pisces Feb. 19-March 20**  
 Don't allow someone's accusations to get the best of you. This is not the time to fall back on an old habit. Find a hobby to keep you away from the source of your problems. It could turn out to be the best outlet for your energy.

For the local news that's important to you, subscribe to The Brackett News! Call 563-2852 today for your subscription!



# Do what Jesus would do *Love one another as Jesus loves you*

Gateway Ministries  
By Pastor Charolette Corey

I had the opportunity to use the power of prayer when I flew from San Antonio to Guadalajara. During the first leg of the flight, we sat for two hours on the runway in a stuffy, packed plane with four children ages 4-5 sitting next to me who giggled and talked the entire time. They were oblivious to the engineers trying to fix the electrical problem on our plane. Their child-like hearts trusted that all would be well. It reminded me of the scripture "Be anxious for nothing, but in all things give thanks unto the Lord."

We all sighed with relief as we began to taxi and climb. By the time we reached Mexico City, everyone had missed their connecting flights. We went through customs and returned to find out what flight was substituted.

We entered the plane and as we sat down, I heard one man in back of me say "I thought this plane wasn't going to take off because it had so many engineers working on it before take-off". I told him "I didn't think they would let it

fly again so soon, because I had just finished flying here in the same plane and it had sat on the runway for 2 hours." We taxied out to the runway and sat for another 20 minutes as engineers again returned to work on the electrical system.

As we finally began to climb in altitude the plane began making a noise I had never heard before and hope never to hear again. Everyone on board began to look a little "bug-eyed" as they strained to look out the windows. The sound reminded me of a fan whose blade has become bent and puts such a strain on the motor that a bearing starts to go out just before it quits.

I began "making my peace with God", covering everything that I might have done wrong since last we had talked, asking for His forgiveness, asking Him to take care of Bobby, my parents, our children, and the work at the church.

As a pitiful tear escaped down my cheek, I thought, "What would Jesse Duplantis do?" (a brother-in-Christ whom God has saved from many unexpected "plane" experiences) and then loudly heard

in my spirit, "No, What Would Jesus Do?" I saw Jesus' disciples shaking Him to wake up because they believed their boat was about to be swamped with water and all drown. Jesus simply woke up, told the storm "Peace, be still", told His disciples that He had said that they were going to the other side and so they would ..... on the power of His Word.

In my spirit I heard so loud, "Charolette, I told you to go to the other side, so you will. I speak to your spirit, "Peace, be still". After this I had to pray out loud not in fear, but faith, for the plane and all the passengers.

Afterward, the sound became less, but upon reaching Guadalajara it droned even louder. I continued to boldly pray out loud as people around me smiled and shook their heads in agreement. We landed safely and I turned to those who were staying on the plane to go to Tijuana and asked God's holy angels to watch over them. Many shook their heads "Yes!".

The bottom line is, it is always right to "Do What Jesus Would Do". Stand in faith, rest in hope,

First United Methodist Church  
By Rev. Ken F. Sellers

Nickelodeon is a TV channel for kids. I know because whenever I watch it, the kid in me giggles and grins a lot. Several of the shows Nickelodeon features exhibit families and-or kids in different kinds of competition. The loser frequently receives some slimy looking paste or ooze dropped on them from above. While watching these types of shows, it appears the kids actually enjoy the "ooze" part while the grownups sort of wince when it happens to them. By choosing to compete, the contestants agree to accept the consequences should they lose, whether they like it or not.

Life choices bring consequences and grimaces, as well. As the insurance TV commercial explains graphically, if you pull the lever that releases the large mallet which will then fall to the floor exactly where you now stand, don't be surprised if it hits you in the head! Yet, we are constantly amazed and grimacing at the consequences that befall us. In John 15:12, Jesus speaking to his close friends the disciples, tells them, "This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you." No large book of rules, just a simple, "love one another...as I have loved you." And then, in verse 14 he expands on the relationship a bit, "You are

my friends, if you do what I command: "Not, "you are my friends no matter what you do!" But, we are friends if you keep the commandment to love one another!

Consequences! Whatever we do on game shows, in school, in relationships, in life and in our spiritual journey there are consequences. For the most part the consequences of what we do are as clear as those mentioned above from John 15:14. On the game show, if we are wrong we get slimed. In our spiritual journey, if we don't love one another, we lose the friendship of Jesus. Please join us at First United Methodist this Sunday at 10:45 a.m. as we examine the simple consequential rule from Jesus, "Love One Another as Jesus Loves You."

**Summer Bible School**  
St. Mary Magdalene's Catholic Church invites Brackettville children, ages 5 and up, to a Summer Fun Vacation Bible School planned Monday, June 5 through Friday, June 9. Camp will end with a Family Fun Day Saturday, June 10. Summer Fun will start at 9 a.m. everyday and end at 12 noon. Fee is \$3 for children ages 5-10; children ages 11 and up can join in the fun at no cost.

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830-563-9468 Pastor Rudy Goodloe

**First Baptist Church (SBC)**  
Corner of Ann and Veltman  
Sunday Schedule:  
Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service - Childrens Church 11 a.m.  
nursery provided  
Choir all ages 4:30 p.m.  
Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.  
Evening Service 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays 7 p.m.  
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting  
Bus and Church information call church office at 563-2245  
Pastor: R. D. Holloway

## Let your reach exceed your grasp

Saint Mary Magdalene  
By Lynn McNew

Last Sunday, St. Mary Magdalene church honored the BISD Senior Class of 2000. Such a fine looking group of young men and women proceeded into the church to the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance." As they took their places of honor in the front of the church I couldn't help but think what a long way they had come and what a long way they have to go.

If I could have one wish for this graduating class it would be to have a dream, a vision of what they want to do—an aim for the direction they will go.

I believe it was Browning who said, "Your reach should exceed

your grasp, or what's a heaven for?" Langston Hughes wrote, "Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die then life is like a broken-winged bird that cannot fly." Yes, we need those dreams or, if you prefer, a vision. Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, said, "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Prov. 29:18). Helen Keller was asked the question, "What would be worse than being blind?" She responded that it would be infinitely worse to have 20/20 eyesight and no vision than to be blind but have that vision.

Your parents, teachers and the people who believe in you have a vision for you. Their guidance and help have brought you this far.

Don't forget to thank them for what they have done for you and don't forget to believe in yourself and the trust they have in you.

So as you go forth into the future always keep your vision ahead of you. Your path may be rocky, your road may be narrow, you may even come to a dead end. With a vision, you can step over the rocks, through the narrow places, choose another course.

Your Father in Heaven is with you always. He has a vision of what you will become. Listen with your heart and mind and He will always be your guide.

You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. God Bless You!

## HEALTH

### Individual responses vital to saving lives

9-1-1. Those three numbers often mean the difference between life and death, day in and day out. Emergency medical help can be reached by telephone most everywhere in Texas 24 hours a day. These emergency response teams provide a lifeline from the ill and injured to medical care, according to Kathy Perkins, chief of the Bureau of Emergency Management at the Texas Department of Health (TDH.)

"Nearly 45,000 trained, certified emergency personnel are part of the Texas Emergency Medical Services," Perkins said. "These highly trained medics treat patients from the emergency scene to the hospital and are an integral part of our emergency care system for victims of sudden and serious illness or injury."

Minutes count in an emergency, and what individuals do in an emergency situation even before EMS arrives makes a significant difference to an ill or injured person, Perkins said.

Recognizing a medical emergency is one of the first steps. Auto wrecks, chest pains or serious falls with broken bones signal emergency conditions to many people. But other situations are not so obvious. Call 9-1-1 immediately if any of these conditions are present:

- \* Serious bleeding
- \* Unconsciousness
- \* Signs of a heart attack
- \* Burns
- \* Neck or spine injuries
- \* Not breathing
- \* Choking
- \* Broken bones
- \* Head, chest or abdominal injuries.

Common sense and knowing the victim also are important to assessing an emergency, Perkins said. "Factors such as stressful events, a pre-existing medical condition or abnormal behavior may

signal an emergency situation exists for an individual."

How you make an emergency call also is important. Remain calm or have another person make the call. Give the 9-1-1 dispatcher whatever facts are requested. This information usually will include the address of the emergency and possibly a nearby cross street, your name and the telephone number of your location, the name of the ill or injured person and what is wrong. Have someone wait near the street or in a parking lot to direct EMS to the victim. Most important - stay on the line until the dispatcher tells you to hang up.

Remember not to move the ill or injured person unless that person is in immediate danger. Do not give the person anything to eat or drink and do not allow him or her to smoke. Keep the person calm and still.

The Texas Trauma System consists of 173 trauma centers across Texas, coordinating a patient's in-

### Volunteers needed to serve as nursing home advocates

The "Tough Enough to Care - Be There" volunteer recruitment campaign is kicking off in the Middle Rio Grande region. This is a statewide campaign, to recruit volunteers to serve nursing home residents.

Certified Volunteer Ombudsman advocate for quality care for residents in Texas nursing facilities. They are trained through a program under the auspices of the Texas Department on Aging. An individual receives 36 hours of training before becoming certified to identify, investigate and resolve

hospital care so that the ill or injured person receives the type of care needed.

"While we can be proud of the emergency medical services in Texas," Perkins said, "prevention is still the best way to avoid accidental or premature death." Learning CPR and the Heimlich maneuver are ways to begin. Other healthy lifestyle habits also help. These include:

- \* Using seatbelts and child safety seats
- \* Keeping immunizations current
- \* Eating right and exercising
- \* Driving at safe speeds
- \* Avoiding alcohol use while driving
- \* Keeping guns locked in a safe place.

To receive a copy of TDH's brochure, "When Minutes Count: A Citizen's Guide to Medical Emergencies," contact the TDH Bureau of Emergency Management at 1100 W. 49th St., Austin 78756 or call 512-834-6700.

complaints by or on behalf of nursing facility residents. Ombudsmen assist Texas families and serve the needs of the most vulnerable of our citizens.

The goal of this campaign is to recruit at least one Certified Volunteer Ombudsman to serve the residents of each nursing home in Texas.

For more information, or to volunteer contact San Juanita Galvan, Regional Ombudsman for the Area Agency on Aging of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council at 1-800-224-4262.

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Call 563-2852

First Baptist Church will be having a Vacation Bible School June 5th - 9th

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12 Dr. B. Buck Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	13 Dr. M. Singer Ophthalmologist	14	15 Dr. G. Warner Urologist Dr. S. Singer Ophthalmologist (No Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist)	16 Dr. D. Dean Neuro-Surgeon Dr. G. Warner Urologist	
19 Dr. M. Oswald Ophthalmologist	20 Dr. M. Singer Ophthalmologist	21	22 Dr. G. Warner Urologist Dr. S. Singer Ophthalmologist (No Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist)	23 Dr. G. Warner Urologist	
26	27 Dr. M. Singer Ophthalmologist Dr. K. Bloom Pediatric Cardiologist	28 Dr. S. Miller Dermatologist	29 Dr. S. Fisher Ophthalmologist Dr. G. Warner Urologist Dr. A. Dinesman Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist	30 Dr. G. Warner Urologist	

To schedule an appointment with any of the above physicians call (830) 703-1730. All physicians see patients at the Val Verde Regional Medical Center, 801 Bedell Ave., Del Rio, Texas. Easy access through south entrance of the building.



**ADOPTIONS**

Note: it is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

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**DIVORCE \$155\*** - COVERS child support, custody, visitation, missing spouses, property debts, military, name change, one signature required. \*Excludes govt. fees, uncontested. 1-800-522-6000 (8 am - 8pm), Hallwood, Inc.

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**DRIVER - EARN UP** to 38 cpm! No forced NE or Canada. No-touch freight. Guaranteed home time. 1 year OTR, 23 years, CDL with HazMat. Company & O/O's. Fleets welcome. Paschall Truck Lines. 1-800-848-0405.

**DRIVERS-OWNER/OPS:** Run regional. Home weekly! Paid: Base plate, permits, fuel taxes. 81 cpm. Loaded and empty plus fuel surcharge. 1-800-454-2887. Arnold Transportation.

**NEW PAY PACKAGE.** OTR teams (.36) needed for dedicated and drop/hook runs. Solo drivers, excellent equipment and benefits. Experience required. Gulf Coast Transport, 1-888-988-8666.

**IF YOU ARE** the spouse of an OTR truck driver, we'll teach you to drive a "Big Rig" w/ automatic transmission in just 2 weeks! 1-800-234-3748.

**OWNERS OPERATORS AVERAGE** 113 cpm in five-state area running AR, TX, OK, LA, and NM. We need 63 trucks to cover current obligation. \$1,000 sign-on bonus. Base plates provided. Fuel surcharge and a low-cost lease program. FFE has plenty of freight. Call 1-800-569-9298.

**DRIVERS WANTED**

**DRIVER: COVENANT TRANSPORT** \* Coast to coast runs \* Teams start at 42 - 45cpm \* \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers, experienced drivers, and owner operators. 1-800-441-4394. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

**COMPANY PAID CDL training & first** year income \$35K - Stevens Transport - OTR drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced, 1-800-333-8595. EOE.

**DRIVERS: SWIFT TRANSPORTATION** drivers and owner operators wanted for various types of runs! CDL training available. Ask about our \$1,000 sign-on bonus. 1-800-669-7943 (eoe-m/f).

**DRIVERS - WHEN IT** comes to benefits, we've got all the bells and whistles. \*Paid weekly. \*Great pay. \*\$1,000 sign-on bonus. \*Students welcome. SRT Call toll free: 1-877-BIG-PAYDAY (1-877-244-7293).

**OWNER OPERATOR - EARN** up to 85 cpm loaded & empty! No forced NE or Canada. Paid base plates & permits. 1 year OTR, 23 years, CDL with HazMat. Company & O/O's. Fleets welcome. Paschall Truck Lines. 1-800-848-0405.

**EDUCATIONAL TRAINING**

**A \$35,000 PER Year career!** C.R. England needs driver trainees. 15 day CDL training. Housing/meals included. No upfront \$\$\$s. Tractor Trailer Training. 1-888-781-8556.

**DRIVER - INEXPERIENCED? LEARN** to be an OTR professional from a top carrier. Great pay, executive-style benefits and conventional equipment. Minimum investment required. Call today! US Xpress, 1-800-879-7743.

**DRIVERS - NO EXPERIENCE** required - seeking 187 new drivers for OTR driver training - Carrier's pay for training - Employment contract required - Call today for a personal interview: 1-888-320-7848.

**TRI-STATE SEMI DRIVER** Training, Inc. \*Job placement assistance before training. \*Tuition loans available, no credit check. \*17 day training. \*3001 N-45 Palmer, TX. \*Call 1-888-854-7364.

**HELP WANTED**

**CLAIMS PROCESSOR!** \$20-\$40/hour potential. Processing claims is easy! Training provided, must own PC. Call now! 1-888-568-7649, ext. 698.

**FOR LOCAL DOCTORS!** Data entry, E-Z claims processing. Training provided. Computer lit required. No previous experience necessary. Flexible hours. Software \$499.00. Titan Business Solutions. 1-888-968-7793, ext. 7088.

**LET YOUR COMPUTER** earn \$\$\$\$. Work around your schedule. Call 1-800-262-0363 ext. 4062. http://www.4freeinfo.com/8027.

**HEALTH MEDICAL**

**HERPES - EverCLR STOPS** herpes outbreaks! 96% never have another herpes outbreak! Free call: 1-877-EVERCLR. More information: www.everclr.com.

**MASTECTOMY OR BREAST** Augmentation? Replace old bras/breastforms (prosthesis) today. 2 new forms/4 new bras billed direct to medicare. Save money! Satisfaction guaranteed. 1-800-755-7880.

**MEDICARE NEBULIZER PATIENTS!** Stop paying cash for Albuterol, Atrovent, etc. Medicare pays for them. We bill Medicare and deliver to you. Med-A-Save 1-800-538-9849, ext. 12F.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**BEHIND ON BILLS?** Consolidate them. Avoid bankruptcy. Stop creditor calls. Reduce interest. Cut payments up to 50%. Call now. 1-800-270-9894.

**OVER YOUR HEAD** in debt? Do you need more breathing room? Debt consolidation, no qualifying. \*Free consultation, 1-800-556-1548. www.anewhorizon.org. Licensed, bonded, nonprofit/national company.

**FOR RENT**

**LARGE HOUSE AT** Spofford. Fenced-in yard. Satellite - central air & heat. Call Tootsie, 563-2046.

**FOR SALE**

**INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE!** Arch steel buildings. Factory Direct. Save Thousands! 25x38, 30x44, 40x50, 50x110. Perfect backyard shops/garages/storage. Call 1-800-341-7007. www.steelmasterusa.com.

**POOL CITY'S KAYAK** Pool, demo homesites wanted to display new maintenance free pool. Save thousands with this unique opportunity! Call today to qualify, 1-800-338-9919. www.poolcitykayak.com.

**STEEL BUILDINGS SALE:** 5,000+ sizes. 40x60x14, \$8,641; 50x75x14, \$11,048; 50x100x16, \$14,843; 60x100x16, \$16,518. Mini-storage buildings, 40x160, 32 units, \$16,534. Free brochures. www.sentinelbuildings.com. Sentinel buildings, 1-800-327-0790, ext. 79.

**WANT A COMPUTER?** But no cash? MMX Technology will finance with "0" down. Past credit problems, no problem. Call toll free, 1-888-875-1087.

**FOR SALE**

**JOHN DEERE 425 10'7"** off set disk (like new) \$6750.00. John Deere 4 row planter \$600.00. Manual treadmill (like new) \$100.00. Wheelchair (like new) \$300.00. Walker - \$25.00. Electric typewriter \$25.00. 830-563-2344.

**MARY KAY COSMETICS,** Alana Flurry, 563-9435. Evenings/Weekends. Complimentary facials, products, etc.

**92 EZ Go Golf Cart.** New batteries Feb. '98. \$1,200. 563-9327.

**FOR SALE BY owner - House-FCS-** 2 br, 2 bath, carport, storage room, \$29,900. Call 563-9577.

**AMAZINGLY LOW PRICES - Wolff** Tanning Beds. Buy factory direct. Excellent service, flexible financing available. Home/commercial units. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-800-842-1310.

**BUILDING SALE. . . NO salesman.** Go direct and save. Final clearance. 20x26 \$2,600. 25x30 \$3,145. 30x40 \$4,750. 35x50 \$6,100. 40x60 \$7,800. 48x90 \$12,000. Others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422.

**STEEL BUILDINGS - MUST** sell steel buildings from cancellation. Will sell for balance owed. Brand new, never erected. One is 30 x 42, 40 x 40. Call 1-800-552-8504.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**CONTRACT FOR DEED Notice.** In accordance with Subchapter E, Chapter 5, Property Code, as added by Chapter 994, Acts of the 74th Legislature, (Sections 5.091 and 5.092, Property Code), the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs has determined that the requirements governing residential contracts for deed in Subchapter E will regulate executory contract for deed transactions involving residential property located in the county of Kinney effective June 1, 2000 through May 31, 2001.

**LEGAL SERVICES**

**NURSING HOME NEGLECT - Abuse,** bedsores, burns, assaults, weight-loss, falls, deaths. Call free confidential consultation, David P. Willis, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer. Houston, TX principal of office, 1-800-883-9858.

**MOBILE HOMES**

**OWNING A HOME IS EASY,** low monthly payments even better. For the deal that you can't refuse call 1-800-908-9076 and visit our web page at www.geocities.com/valuehousingsouth/valuehousingsouth.html.

**READY TO BUY A HOME?** We make dreams come true. Own today little down. Call 1-800-908-9076 and visit our web page at www.geocities.com/valuehousingsouth/valuehousingsouth.html.

**TIRED OF RENTING?** We can save you \$\$\$\$. STOP renting call today, 1-800-908-9076 and visit our web page at www.geocities.com/valuehousingsouth/valuehousingsouth.html.

**ARE YOU HOT** and and want to COOL down? With a purchase of a NEW home you can receive an above ground swimming pool. Value of \$1,000 call today for your cool savings 1-800-908-9076 and visit our web page at www.geocities.com/valuehousingsouth/valuehousingsouth.html.

**COME SPIN THE WHEEL** at Value Housing and win one of the following prizes: a big screen TV, a computer, or a trip to Las Vegas for 2 with purchase of a new home and much much more, call today 1-800-908-9076 and visit our web page at www.geocities.com/valuehousingsouth/valuehousingsouth.html.

**1999 3 BEDROOM** 2 bath, A/C Plywood Floors, All Major Appliances, Shipped to us by mistake. Price Reduced - The Factory is paying for freight! Save now, call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711 toll free.

**LAND HOMES PACKAGES,** 3% Down FHA Loans 1-877-538-9780.

**BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM** 2 Bath, Save over 10,000. Call 1-877-538-9780.

**3 BEDROOM** 2 bath A/C, Extra Large Master Bath, Double Lavatories, Huge HEX Jacuzzi, Horse Shoe Kitchen. All Major Appliances. 301.71 per mo. 5% DP 9.75 APR VAR WAC for 360 months. Call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711.

**NEW 4 BEDROOM** 2 bath Danville A/C Shingle Roof, Hardboard Siding, Dishwasher, Stove and Refrigerator. Free Delivery, Setup a Tie Downs and Skirting. 260.13 per mo 10% D.P. 9.5 APR VAR WAC for 360 months. Call 774-7711 or 888 611-7711.

**REAL ESTATE**

**O'Rourke Realty**  
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke  
830-563-2713  
Rentals Available

Completely renovated - 1 very large bedroom, 1 1/2 baths. RV covered parking, patio could be enclosed for added living space. Only \$33,000.

Easy to own 2 bed, 1 bath mobile home in Ft. Clark. Owner will finance.

In Brackettville - 1 bed, unfurnished, for rent.

2 bed, 1 bath, furnished, Baracks Row apt. \$40,000.

Perfect get away apt. in Fort Clark. Completely furnished. \$18,000 or make an offer. Membership included.

RV's and/or RV lots for sale. Very affordable.

**MOBILE HOMES**

**USED 2 BEDROOM** 1 1/2 bath. Don't miss this one \$3995.00 1-877-538-9780

**OWNING YOUR OWN** Home is easy call 1-877-538-9780

**DON'T PAY RENT!!!** You can own for less than rent. Call 1-877-538-9780

**FROM RENT TO Own,** we'll show you how. 1-877-538-9780

**DON'T PAY BIG** City prices. Come to Castroville and Save \$. 830-931-2480 Metro

**GOOD, BAD, NO** Credit. We do home loans others won't. Call 830-931-2480 Metro

**"HOT, HOT, HOT Deals"**  
5 bdrm 3 bth 46,900 Y2K  
3 bdrm 2 bath 18,000 Y2K  
2 bdrm 2 bth 16,000 Y2K  
double wide 3/2 2,000 used cash  
3 bdrm 1,500 cash. 1-800-756-7711.

**ASSUME NOTE ONLY** 38 payments on huge 3 bdrm 2 bath 1-800-756-7711.

**NEW 3 BEDROOM** 1 bath AC, Plywood Floors, Stove and Refrigerator. 180.66 per mo for 240 months. 10% DP 8.75 APR VAR WAC Call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711.

**KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO**

Fort Clark Springs - 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, tiled garage, \$88,000.  
Airport Road, beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, new listing, \$67,500 - Must see. Home W. of the water towers, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. A hunter's dream place, walk-in cooler, secluded area, all furnished, including cookware, linens.  
Brackettville - Conrad's Trading Post, active and a very profitable business.  
Fort Clark - Lot 20, Block N, Unit 27, 50x100 size. Owner will consider any offer! www.kinneycountyland.com

**DEBBIE TRANT LOCKHART REAL ESTATE**

Price Slashed in beautiful home in "Oaks", 3/2, spacious rooms, 2,160 sq. ft., updated kitchen, new carpet, new paint inside/out. Hot tub room, workshop, sprinkler system, big oaks, Now \$119,000.

Fort: great buy on stone home, 2 bd, 1 1/2 bath, 1,400+-sq. ft., wood stove, garage, just \$45,000.

Covered RV lot with cement pad & 2-hookups, next to park, only \$11,000.

**REAL ESTATE**

**2.84 ACRES CHOICE** highway frontage Hwy 90 & 131 Brackettville. \$60,000 firm. 830-774-5084.

**FORECLOSED HOMES.** LOW or \$0 down. Gov't and bank repos being sold now. Fantastic savings! Financing available. Local listings, 1-800-501-1777, ext. 299.

**REQUEST FOR BIDS**

**THE BRACKETTVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY** is accepting bids for a weekly pickup of household (kitchen) trash and once a month pickup of old appliances, etc. Bids will not be accepted after 3 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, 2000. Brackettville Housing Authority is located at 205 S. Sweeney, P.O. Box 371, Brackettville.

**BRACKETT ISD INVITATION TO BID:** Brackettville Independent School District is selling by sealed bid 2 electric stoves in working condition. Information can be obtained by contacting Brackett Independent School District, Attn: Taylor Stephenson, Superintendent, PO Box 586, Brackettville, TX 78832, 830/563-2491. All bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope with the words "Stove 1" or "Stove 2" printed clearly on the outside of the envelope. Bids due into the Central Office by 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 6, 2000. Brackett ISD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (MRGDC)** is requesting proposals from qualified vendors for lease-to-purchase, rental or purchase of Office Furniture. The deadline for submission of this RFP is 4:00 p.m. Friday, June 2, 2000 at the following address: Middle Rio Grande Development Council, 307 W. Nopal St., P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834. Proposal packets may be obtained by contacting Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Director of Administration, at VOICE or TDD telephone number 830-876-3533. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

**REWARD**

**\$5000 REWARD** - A total reward of \$5,000.00 is being offered for information leading to the conviction of the persons responsible for the loss of over 400 Spanish goats from Rudy Ranch at Cline between April 1, 1999 and July 19, 1999. Call 210-824-7595.

**VACATION/TRAVEL**

**GOT A CAMPGROUND** membership or timeshare? We'll take it! Inventory needed, certain resorts. America's oldest and largest resort resale clearinghouse. Resort property resales, 1-800-423-5967 www.resortsales.com.

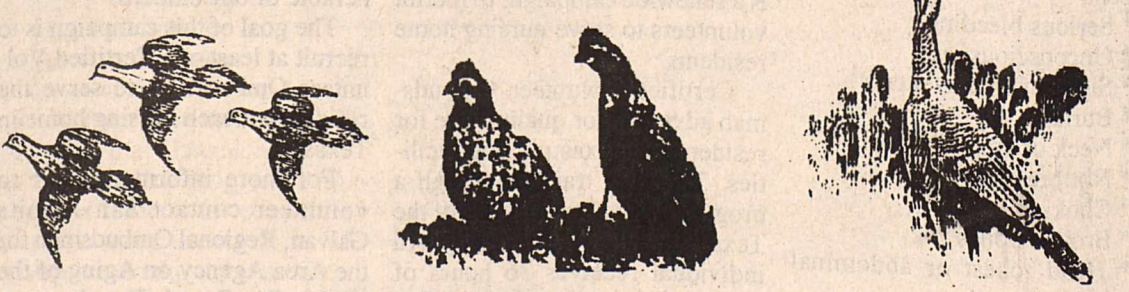


**WHY LEASE?**

Own your own part of the Texas Hill Country for as little as \$695.00 down and \$125.25 per month at 9.75 % financing. Based on 20 acre tract with minimum down payment.

Leona Ranch, located 15 miles north of Brackettville, Texas, has an abundance of whitetail deer, javelina, turkey, quail, dove, rabbits and squirrels. Other non-game species include feral hogs, wild Spanish goats, racoons, ringtails, fox, bobcats and a few mountain lions.

The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.



For information call (830) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (830) 563-2077 evenings.

**Answer to Crossword**

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