



# Brackett News

WEEKLY

Ducharme wins big with bass!  
See Page 6

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Volume 24 No. 1

Kinney County Is Home To Brackett News Weekly - Happy 23rd Birthday Today!

1 Section, 8 Pages

## KINNEY COUNTY NEWS

**CITY COUNCIL MTG**  
Brackettville City Council will meet Tuesday, February 14, at the City Annex on Highway 90 at 6pm.

**CITY ELECTION NEWS**  
Starting February 5, 2012 applications for a place on The City election Ballot will be available at 119 W. Spring St. during normal hours of operation 8:00a.m. - 12:00p.m. and 1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. Last day to file will be March 5, 2012. Council Places are as follow: Mayor, currently held by Zandra Negrete; Place 2, currently held by John Plunker Sheedy; Place 4, currently held by Francisca Chica Hernandez; and Place 5, currently held by Demitres Williams.

**ALOHA TEAM**  
The Relay for Life ALOHA team is going to be selling Sandwiches on Friday February 17, 2012 to raise money for the Relay for life. It will be Chicken salad on a croissant with chips and a drink for \$6.00. So place your order now and help give someone one more Birthday. All orders must be in by Thursday 16, 2012. You can place your order with any team member or E-mail Adela Avila 830-591-7566 adela.avila@brackettisd.net

**KC PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE**  
February 10 1 pm - 5 pm.  
February 11 12 pm - 5 pm.  
We have a varied selection of books that will appeal to every age group. All books are very reasonable priced. The Proceeds will benefit the needs of our Kinney County Library and community. Sponsored by Friends of the Kinney County Library.

**FORT CLARK ART CLUB**  
Annual Valentine Open House on Sunday February 12, from 2-4pm at the FCS Art Studio.

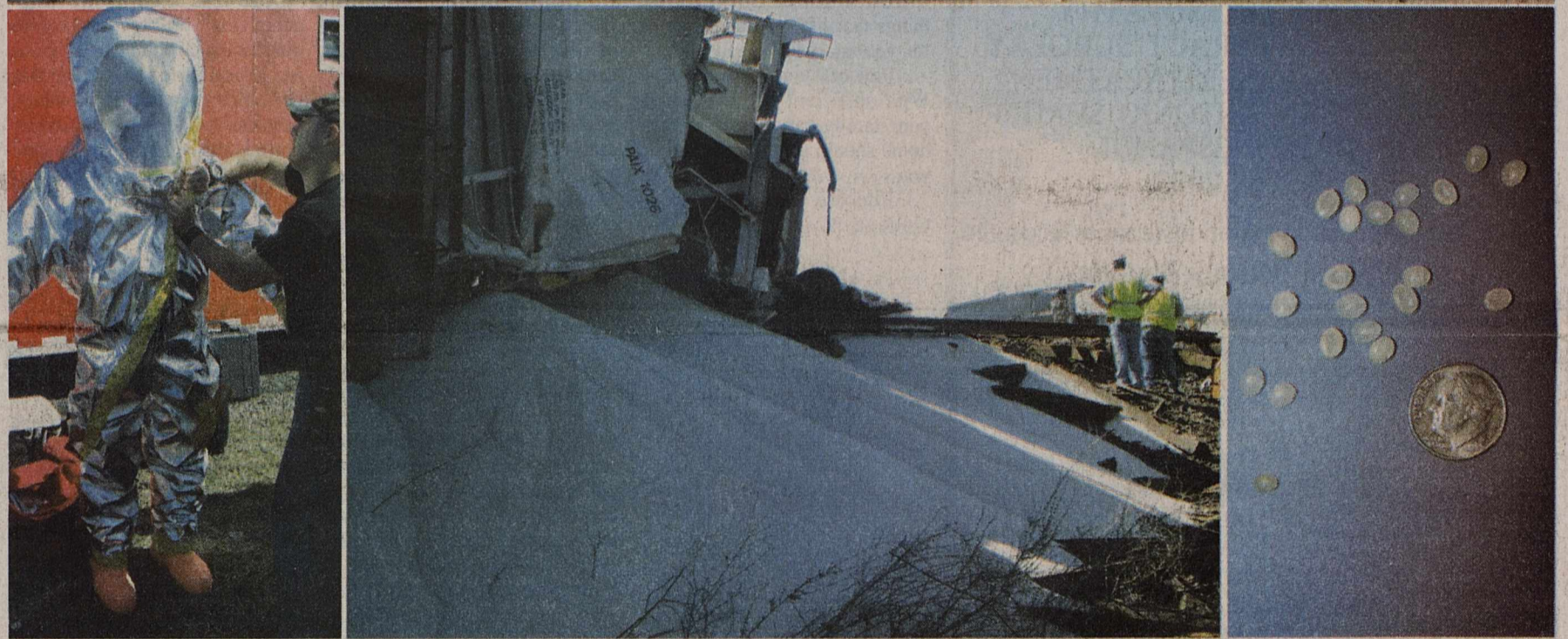
**BISD CALENDER OF EVENTS**  
February 9 OAP Clinic in Fredericksburg  
February 10 Basketball Pictures  
HS Tennis at Uvalde  
TMEA Band Convention at San Antonio  
Spring Picture Day  
VB only District Basketball vs. S.A. Gervin at 6:00 p.m.  
February 11 HS Tennis at Uvalde  
February 14 JVB, VB District Basketball at Sabinal at 5:00 p.m.  
Softball vs. Hondo at 5:00 p.m.  
February 15 JV, V Boys Golf at Mason  
February 16 V Girls Golf at Mason  
Softball at Dille Tournament

**JONES ELEMENTARY CALENDER OF EVENTS**  
Feb. 8 - Progress Reports go home  
Feb. 10 - Spring Pictures and class group pictures  
Feb. 13 - 17 - Math & Reading Benchmark Testing/ No Tutorials all this week  
Feb. 14 - Valentines Day, please be advised of the following:  
\*Deliveries must be already tagged with the student's name and homeroom teacher  
\*Valentine's Day deliveries will not be accepted after 1:30  
\*Items will be delivered to students at 2:00  
Feb. 16 - Family Science Night @5:30 in the cafeteria  
Feb. 20 - Holiday, President's Day

**PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP**  
Second Thursday of every month 7:00pm at 212 Bowlegs, FCS McNurlins: call: 830-563-9587 for directions. If you have Parkinson disease or similar movement disorder, or are the spouse or partner of someone who does, please join us. We are starting a new support group for people in the Brackettville/Fort Clark area. It will give us an opportunity to learn about the latest findings to help with this disease. We are also here to help each other as we travel on this journey. There is new technology and medicines being developed everyday. Join us an please call if you have questions.

# Derailed

## 30 train cars go off the tracks



Top Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Aerial photo of 13 of the 30 Union Pacific railroad cars that derailed on February 8. Lower Photos From Left By Leigh Castillo - Lower left: SSgt Casey Young dons an "A" Level Haz Mat suit prior to inspecting a possible chemical spill; Lower center: Polypropylene pellets, or small plastic pellets, spilled out of several rail cars; Lower right: Size comparison of the Polypropylene pellets.

By Leigh Castillo  
Contributing Writer

Thirty Union Pacific railroad cars derailed 15 miles west of Brackettville on February 8.

Kinney County Sheriff's Office officials said they received ten, 911 calls near the 8 o'clock hour on Tuesday morning, all reporting a train had derailed.

In short order, Highway 90, from Laughlin Air Force Base to RR 3008, was shut down by Kinney County Sheriff LK Buddy Burgess and Val Verde Sheriff Joe Frank Martinez.

Union Pacific Media Director Raquel Espinoza said the one

hundred-car train originated in Houston and was traveling to West Colton, California when it derailed near Highway 90 Mile Marker 454.

Area first responders, including the Union Pacific conductor and engineer on the derailed train, Laughlin Fire Chief-Fire Emergency Services Craig Wilgus, Craig Alexander, David Isbell and Juan Soriano, were credited by the Kinney County Sheriff's Department as being instrumental in setting up an on-site command center.

The United States Border Patrol Air Operations sent in a helicopter and conducted an aerial inspection. Electronic photo-

graphs and video clips of the scene were transmitted back to the command post located in the bar ditch on the opposite side of the front gate of the Foyt Ranch on Hwy 90.

The aerial information showed the crash was split into two parts with 13 cars in the east group and 17 in the west group. It also showed a white snow-like substance had spilled from several of the tankers.

Authorities initially inspecting the crash site said they detected a faint chemical odor and the area was evacuated until the Laughlin Air Force Hazardous Materials Response Team (Haz Mat Team) could inspect each

of the tanker cars. The train's manifest listed three empty Chlorine tankers and several other tankers carrying Potassium Hydroxide Solution and Propylene Oxide.

The Haz Mat Team rolled in, and with military precision, sent three servicemen to investigate the cars for damage and possible spills. Delayed momentarily by a barb wire fence, the team made their way around the brush and determined there was no damage to the tankers and detected only residual amounts of Chlorine.

The white substance that had spilled on the ground was determined to be Polypropylene

pellets, or small plastic beads that are melted down and used to form other plastic products. Once the Haz Mat inspection was completed. Several Union Pacific crews, including one from Houston and one from Laredo, were called in to begin their clean up operation.

By noon the same day, there were trailers carrying heavy equipment and cranes being unloaded.

Espinoza said the cause of the derailment is unknown and the matter is under investigation.

Espinoza also said the clean up and process is expected to take two weeks. The rail line reopened Wednesday afternoon.

## Fuetes, Flores awarded Light of Nations



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Pictured from left: Diama Hernandez, Archbishop Gustavo Garcia Siller and Henry Fuetes.

Submitted By SMMCC

Local parish members Henry Fuetes and Diama Hernandez Flores received the Lumen Gentium Award at a special appreciation service on February 2, in San Antonio.

The Lumen Gentium, "Light of Nations" Award, was presented

by Archbishop Gustavo Garcia Siller.

Fuetes was chosen from St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Brackettville and Flores was chosen from St. Blaise Mission in Spofford.

The Lumen Gentium Award, as initiated by Archbishop Gustavo, is an annual award presented to

those who have used their talents to deepen the life of the church in the parishes and missions, or have served in an extraordinary way.

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia Siller will administer the Holy Confirmation services at St. Mary Magdalene Parish on April 29, at 5pm.

## Voter mailout delayed

Submitted By Martha Peña Padron  
Kinney County Voter Registrar

The mailing of New Voter Registration Certificates is delayed throughout the State of Texas due to ongoing litigation regarding State Redistricting plans.

The Certificates cannot be prepared or mailed until the U.S. Supreme Court rules on the new district boundary maps. The approved maps are necessary to assign voters to the correct voting precincts.

Previous Voter Registration Certificates printed on blue paper expired on Dec. 31, 2011. Renewal Certificates that will be printed on yellow paper will be mailed to all registered voters once the State Redistricting plans are finalized by Federal Courts.

Voters can expect to receive

their new certificates before the 2012 Primary Election, currently scheduled for April 3, 2012.

The delay in mailing the Voter Registration Certificates will not interfere with anyone's ability to vote. My office is firmly committed to supporting and protecting the right of every qualified voter.



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Kinney County Tax Voter Registrar

# Opinion

email us YOUR opinion at [tbnews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tbnews@sbcglobal.net)

### Small Town Tom

### Mike Barnhouse

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## Here's how to insure a great Valentine's Day

**Emily Cooper**  
Edward Jones in Del Rio

Valentine's Day is almost upon us. To celebrate, you may want to present your loved ones with chocolates, flowers or any number of other traditional gifts. But if your valentine also happens to be your spouse or your life partner, you also might want to show your love in another way — by making sure you have adequate insurance.

Just consider some of the things that life insurance can do for you and your family:

- Pay off your mortgage — With sufficient life insurance, your family can remain in their home should anything happen to you.
- Educate your children — College is expensive, and it seems to get more costly every year. If you were to die prematurely, your life insurance proceeds could help pay for your children's education.
- Help fund retirement — Term insurance consists of just a death benefit. But "permanent" insurance policies, such as whole life or universal life, a tax-advantaged savings component that could help pay for your retirement and help keep you financially independent — which means you won't have to worry about being a "burden" to your grown children. Furthermore, proceeds from your life insurance policy could help your surviving spouse retire more comfortably.
- Help protect your business — If you're involved in a family-owned business enterprise, you can structure a life insurance policy to help preserve the business or transfer it to the next generation.
- Pay for estate taxes — If your estate is sizable, it could generate estate taxes. Life insurance proceeds can help your heirs pay these taxes.

Clearly, life insurance offers a variety of benefits. But how much do you need? And what type do you need? You might hear that your coverage should be worth around seven or eight times your annual salary. But there's really no one-size-fits-all formula. In determining how much life insurance you require, you should consider your age, your income, the size of your family, the amount of your mortgage, whether your spouse has a retirement account, your financial goals and other factors. Your financial advisor can help you assess these variables to determine the appropriate level of coverage.

One final word on life insurance: Don't wait too long before purchasing a policy or upgrading your existing one. Your life insurance premium is based, in part, on your age, so the sooner you act, the better. Also, the time to buy life insurance is while you are healthy, because poor health could prevent you from obtaining coverage.

As important as it is, life insurance isn't the only protection you and your loved ones may need. During your working years, you are actually more likely to become temporarily disabled, due to injury or illness, than you are to die. If you weren't able to work for a while, you could help your family maintain its lifestyle if you had an adequate disability income insurance policy. Your employer might offer you some coverage as a benefit, but it might not be sufficient, either in terms of income or the length of the disability covered. Consequently, you may want to explore an individual disability insurance policy.

When you think of romantic Valentine's Day presents, "insurance" probably doesn't pop up right away. Yet, by making sure you've got all the coverage you need, you may actually be giving your loved ones the greatest gift they'll ever receive.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

## Brackett News Weekly

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## Clutter alienates

**Fly Lady Marla Cilley**

Clutter sucks the energy right out of you. This is why I have urged you to shine your sink. Just seeing one small area that is clean and clutter free, gives you the energy to do more; I think you are beginning to believe me. The same way that clutter tends to grow in our hotspots, clutter free areas are contagious too. With just a small area clean, you will begin to clean and clear the areas surrounding your bright spot.

Keep your counters clear as you cook. Don't let things pile up. Clean up after each dish prepared. Fill your sink with fresh hot soapy water each time it gets dirty and cold. Put out clean dish towels and dish cloths. When you get an area clean, declare it a clutter free zone. Use your hot spot preventions twice daily to keep them clear of clutter.

Our husbands and children are pushed away by this clutter. We allow it to alienate our family from us. Husbands hide in the bedroom, the family room in front of the tv, tinkering in the garage or they don't come home at all. These are places of refuge. As a result of husbands protecting themselves from the clutter, you feel abandoned. Lines of communication become broken because clutter can push people apart. You all know about this.

Look at what happens with your children. With clutter everywhere, they have a problem sitting still. Yes, I sincerely believe that clutter affects our ability to focus. This is a downward spiral. Clutter keeps us from focusing. This contributes to more clutter and chaos. We get depressed and want to hide. Things get worse and we become hermits. Our children are seeing our lack of structure and discipline. They do not want to mind us, when we tell them to clean their room. Why should they? Our room is not clean.

You will find that when you set this example, even just in one area, you will begin to see a change in your children. They will be more willing to help, when they see you doing something. The children want attention! When our homes are cluttered; we become overwhelmed, so we do nothing. Our focus is on the clutter and not on our children. Can you see this? Our poor children just want us to notice them for a while. This is when they make an even bigger mess. Any attention even negative attention; is better than no attention. You yell at them and get upset with yourself because of your mean voice and then you beat yourself up. This vicious cycle has got to stop. You are not a bad Mom, a bad wife or a bad person! The only problem is that we have allowed the enemy CLUTTER to invade our territory. It is time to take back our homes and find the peace that I know is there. You will know this too, when you clean one small area of the clutter and keep it clear. This victory will be yours and your whole family will celebrate. Set your timer for 15 minutes and practice our new habit for February! Just grab a trash bag and start tossing; it is time to kick that clutter right out of our lives!

For more help getting rid of your CHAOS, check out her website and join her free mentoring group at [www.FlyLady.net](http://www.FlyLady.net) or her book, Sink Reflections published by Random House and her New York Times Best Selling book, Body Clutter published by Simon and Schuster. Copyright 2012 Marla Cilley Used by permission in this publication.

## Brackett News Weekly

[www.mybrackettnews.com](http://www.mybrackettnews.com)

For questions or corrections please call 830-563-2852 or email: [tbnews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tbnews@sbcglobal.net)

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

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# Community

Wedding, Birth & Quinceanera Announcements Printed FREE

## Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 2012 Church Officers

Submitted by  
Barbara Williams

Heading off the church council selection: President - Bruce Trautwein, Vice President - Roger Martin, Secretary - Marie Coburn, Treasurer - Linda Cooksey, Financial Secretary - Barb Williams along with Dianna Daniels and Dennis Olson - Council Members. A tasty lunch was had at break-time.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church council candidates met to select their 2012 church officers at a day seminar Thursday, February 2, 2012 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM in Brackettville, Texas and held at Pinto Paradise Bed & Breakfast.

## TxDOT US 90 Passing Lane Project from Uvalde to Del Rio (Road Closures)

UVALDE - The Texas Department of Transportation and Hunter Industries continue to move forward with improvements to widen and resurface US 90 from Uvalde to Del Rio. As part of the widening the contractor will be performing blasting of rock embankments to widen the roadway.

Beginning Monday February 20, 2012 thru Friday March 9, 2012 motorists should expect intermittent road closures of US 90 in Western Uvalde County from FM 1022 to the Railroad Crossing in Cline. (approx-

mately 4 miles west of FM 1022).

TxDOT advises motorists to drive with caution through this work zone and anticipate delays of approximately fifteen (15) to thirty (30) minutes during working hours Monday thru Friday, to allow crews time to perform blasting operations, & perform cleanup and traffic control to ensure for public safety.

The \$ 8.6 million project which began in Uvalde County March 1, 2011 is anticipated for completion in the Summer of 2012.

## Borderline Singers to perform in Brackett



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly

Submitted by Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

On Sunday February 26th the Borderline Singers will be performing at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church during the 9 a.m. service.

After the Service there will

be a fellowship coffee in the Parish Hall.

The church is located on the corner of Fort and Henderson in Brackettville.

All are welcome to come and Worship with us that morning and enjoy the music of the Borderline Singers.

## A Super Crash



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - On January 25, a Brackettville woman reported she was parking her car in the Lowes Grocery (formerly Super S) parking lot on the Fulton Street side of the building when her foot slipped off the brake pedal and her vehicle collided with the building. No damage to the vehicle was reported. Total building damage is not known.

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# Community

Got News? 24hr News Number: 830.563.7153

## Train Derailment

See Story Page 1



Brackett News Weekly Photo By Leigh Castillo - Union Pacific derailed February 8.



Brackett News Weekly Photo By Leigh Castillo - First Responders and Union Pacific Railroad employees view aerial pictures of the derailment.



Brackett News Weekly Photo By Leigh Castillo - Union Pacific clean up crews arrive on scene.



Brackett News Weekly Photo By Leigh Castillo - Laughlin AFB Haz Mat team member suits up to inspect derailed tankers.

## Republican Party of Kinney County

Submitted By John Quigley  
County Chair, Kinney County  
Republican Party

Wanted to bring you up to date.  
I received the information from the State Republican Party and the Secretary of State.

1. The 3 Judge Panel in Washington D. C. said they will make a ruling in 30 days in regard to the Redistricting maps that the State of Texas had submitted for approval in 2011.

This was on Tuesday 31 January.

2. Today the 3 Judge Panel in San Antonio issued an order requiring interested parties to the redistricting lawsuit to file briefs by February 10th, and setting an additional status conference for 8:00 am on February 15th.

They had originally scheduled a trial on the State Senate map for February 6th.

It appears that the Court has decided to move forward without waiting on the panel in D. C. however, the schedule they put forth today does not lend

itself to an Apr. 3rd unified primary date.

It is still possible to have an April 17th primary date if every thing moves ahead quickly. In all likelihood, their new schedule means that a new single unified primary date could not be held until at least April 24th.

3. Also, on Tuesday, the Texas Democratic Party filed an advisory to the court withdrawing their previous statement that a single unified April primary was possible.

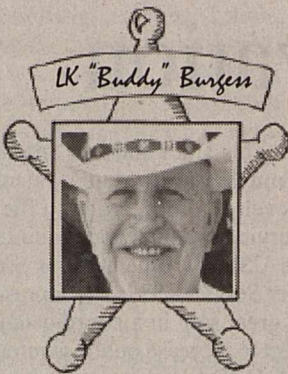
They now take the position that they do not oppose a bifur-

cated primary with the first part in April and a subsequent primary sometime later, only if the State of Texas will pay for it.

If the State will not pay for it then they do NOT favor a bifurcated primary, but rather, a much later single unified primary, possibly sometime this summer.

4. The Republican Party of Texas' position is that in order to comply with the process specified by the Texas Election Code for the selection of delegates to the State Convention, that a primary must be held on or before April 17th.

## Kinney County Sheriff's Report



**Tuesday, January 24**  
William Clyde Adams, 24, of Brackettville, was arrested for disorderly conduct. Adams was released the next day after posting a \$500 bond.

A man reported a reckless driver in the construction zone near the old Dust Bowl Ranch on Highway 90

**Wednesday, January 25**  
A Spofford man reported a dark F150 was driving up and down the railroad tracks without the use of headlights.

A man called to request a welfare check on his wife. He be-

lieved she had taken the phone off the hook and he was trying to call.

An employee of a local business called to report someone had hit the side of the store with their car.

**Thursday, January 26**  
Maverick County SO reported they escorted a Brackettville woman they found walking on the side of the highway to the Kinney County Line.

**Friday, January 27**  
A woman reported an unknown vehicle parked next to her home.

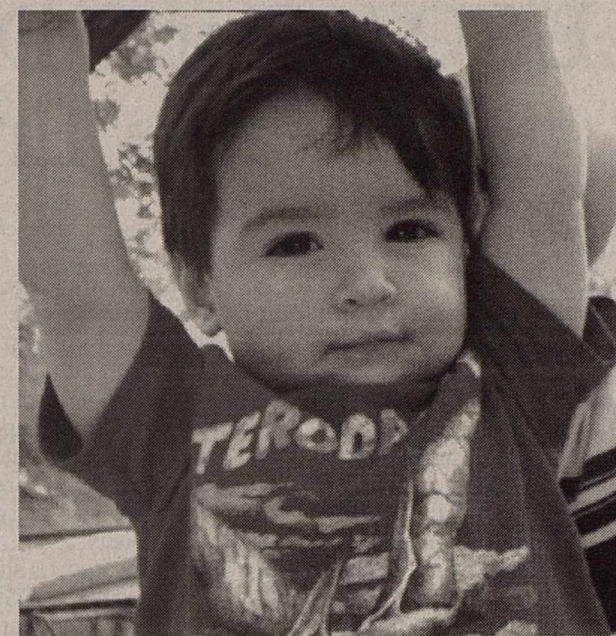
A woman called to report a break in at her ranch house. She reported all her clothes, knives and food were taken and her house was a mess.

A man called to report smoke was coming out of the roof of the old taxidermy building next to the car wash.

**Saturday, January 28**  
Fort Clark Security called to request a deputy's assistance.

**Sunday, January 29**  
A woman called to report she has information about a fight on Beaumont Street.

## Happy Birthday



At your house there is such fun  
Now that your birthday has begun  
And wishes come your way  
With kisses to make them all come true  
Be happy and glad sweet boy  
The age of two will be filled with such joy!  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY T.J.!**  
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### Spiritual Living Church Directory

<p><b>TEMPLE ELIENAI</b> EN DIOS ESTAN MIS OJOS Jorge y Erika Rodriguez Patores PO Box 212 Brackettville, TX 78832 404 El Paso St.</p>	<p><b>St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church</b> Weekdays: Tues: 5:30 PM Wed: 12 PM Thurs, Fri: 7 AM Weekends: Sat: 5:30 PM Sun: 8 AM (Spanish) 10:30 AM Parish Priest Father Pius Ezeigbo</p>	<p><b>Spofford Catholic Church</b> Road 131 • Father Pius Ezeigbo 830.563.2487</p>
<p><b>First United Methodist Church</b> 109 James Street • 830.563.2823 Next to the clinic • Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Staffed Nursery Every Sunday Hear the Bible, Feel the Spirit, Find a Welcome! Open hearts, open minds, open doors</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Sunday: Bible Study 9:45 am • Worship Service 11 am • Choir practice 5:30 pm • Evening Service 6:30pm Wednesday: Evening Service 6:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm • Pastor Jeff Janca • Youth Jake Earnheart • 301 N. Ann Ph: 830.563.2245</p>	<p><b>Our Redeemer Lutheran Church</b> Fort &amp; Henderson Sunday: Worship 9 am Email: orlcrackett@gmail.com 830.563.7717 Pastor Dick Reinap</p>
<p><b>Come to the Frontier</b> A Bible Based New Testament Church 9:45 am Bible Study/Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 6pm Sunday Evening Service Corner of Ann &amp; El Paso • Pastor Ned Sitzes • 830.563.5529</p>	<p><b>St. Andrew's Episcopal Church</b> "Welcomes You" Sunday Worship 10:30 AM Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM (October - April) Corner of Fort and Henderson • Reverend Nathan Lafrenz • 830.719.2082</p>	<p><b>WELCOME! Church of Christ</b> 808 N. Ann • 830.563.2616 Sunday AM 9:30 Classes &amp; 10:30 Worship Sunday Evening Service, 6:30 pm Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes Minister: Ray Melton</p>
		<p><b>St. John's Missionary Church</b> Church Services Schedule: Tuesdays - Teachers meeting @ 6pm; Wed. Bible Study @ 6pm; Thursdays Choir Rehearsal @ 6pm; Friday Prayer Night @ 6pm Sunday morning Sunday School 9:30-10:30am Sunday Evening family Night 6pm 116 W. Crockett Street • 830.563.3550 Welcome One Welcome All Come and Receive and Find Joy</p>





