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The Brackett News

Vol. 8 No. 1 Brackettville, Fort Clark, Spofford, and Kinney County, Texas February 15, 1996

"If a man had half as much insight, as he has hindsight, he would have twice as much foresight."

City Council Takes a Stand Against the Dump

The Brackettville City Council met in regular session February 13, 1996 at exactly 6:00 P.M. The City of Brackettville is the first entity, other than the Spofford City Council, to make an official stand against the proposed Waste Dump near Spofford. A resolution presented by Mrs. Tootsie Herndon of Spofford was voted on with Alderman Gonzales, Alderman Bushart and Mayor Protom Flores voting for the resolution, Alderwoman Seargeant voting against the resolution. Alderman Goodloe's resignation was accepted earlier in the meeting.

Susan Harrison made a presentation asking the City Council to adopt an ordinance for Parental Responsibility. This ordinance would make parents responsible for their juvenile children's actions. Mrs. Harrison had statements from other cities where this ordinance was successful. After a heated discussion the council took no action. Alderwoman Seargeant requested

that the council re-evaluate it's decision about hiring a City Police Department. The council will reconsider at a later date.

Alderman Gonzales very emotionally requested that the City of Brackettville do something to honor Mr. Matt Sandoval's memory. City Manager David Luna suggested that they rename the meeting room, the Matt Sandoval meeting room. The city will take action on this after more consideration.

The City road department is working on problem streets where water stands causing numerous problems. They will be building bridges in two areas of town to alleviate the water problems.

The city utility department is installing digital water meters to enable customers to read their own meter when they have questions. The department had to reread 14 meters last month at customer's requests. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

School Board Hires Security Force

At the regular meeting of the Brackett ISD School Board on February 12, 1996, the board voted to Hire Smith Security. Smith Security will be used on an as needed basis at the discretion of Mr. Mills, BISD Superintendent.

In honor of School Board month the BISD faculty had a reception for the board prior to the meeting. The room was decorated with pink and red roses, and the table was laden with goodies prepared by the cafeteria staff. Each board member clad in their new sweat shirts was presented a flower to wear. It was a very nice gesture by the faculty. The following letter was read to the board, written by Courtney Harrison, BHS Student Council President.

Dear Mr. Bader, Mrs. Slubar, Mr. Conoly, Mrs. Shahan, Mr. McDaniel, Mrs. Garcia, and Mr. Davis;

On behalf of the Brackett High School Student Council, I would like for you to know how very much the students at our high school appreciate the many, many hours of personal time that you sacrifice to help us obtain the very best education possible. We realize that you serve in the best interests of all students in the district and that sometimes your decisions must be difficult and painful. We want you to know that we are thankful that there are seven dedicated residents of Kinney County that care about us and want to help us succeed. Although it may be in years to come that we realize the many benefits that you have bestowed upon us, we do realize now that you are serving to help make our high school one of excellence. We can ask no more; we can simply say "Thank you for caring".

Sincerely, Courtney Harrison

Driver Falls Asleep

Saturday February 9, 1996, at 6:15 AM The EMS crew was called out for a vehicle accident East of Brackettville on US 90. Gary Gene March of Uvalde, Texas was east bound on US 90, when he apparently fell asleep. His car veered off the south side of the roadway and hit a barbed wire fence. Gary March driving a 1987 Ford Ranger, sustained minor injuries and refused EMS transport. Trooper Whitaker investigated the accident.

Thank you Courtney for putting into words what we all feel.

As we walked into the board room we couldn't help noticing that the room was filled with very creative poster size cards one from each grade. Each card was a thank you to the board for their caring efforts toward the students.

Visitors to the board meeting were Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris, members of the Region 20 Board. Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris explained that their board was made up of school board members from all over the region, and that they were there to support the local school boards. Mr. Mills and Mr. Bader expressed their gratitude to the Region 20 board for all of their helpful services.

Another visitor to the meeting was Mr. Jim Coffey from Region 15. Mr. Coffey explained the rulings pertaining to Gifted and Talented students.

The board had previously requested a grounds evaluation and the findings were presented by Mr. Steve Kaeppler. Mr. Kaeppler explained various methods for gaining needed space on the BISD campus, and pointed out some areas in need of correction. The board thanked Mr. Kaeppler for his evaluation and will act on the suggestions on a priority basis.

There were some parents at the meeting with a complaint. The teacher was present and expressed his apology to the parents. The incident was dealt with in a very open manner by all parties, and everyone was satisfied with the outcome.

Susan Harrison presented her report on the TAAS test results and pre-registration for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Harrison spends an hour and a half with each class planning their schedules.

There was a proposal before the board to allow children into the pre-K program for a tuition fee. These students would be the children who do not qualify for the program under the present guidelines. The board discussed the proposal and said they would look into it further.

Historical Tax exemptions: The board approved some of the tax exemption requests, holding some aside for further examination and denying some completely.

Public School Week will be

"Tigerettes Clinch 2nd Place with win over Natalia. The Tigerettes will play Poth in the Sommerset gym at 7:00 pm on Thursday, February 15, 1996.

Go support the Tigerettes as they make their first step in the 1996 playoffs! Good Luck Tigerettes!"

Kinney County Commissioners Meeting

Commissioners Court met in regular session Monday February 12, 1996. In attendance were Commissioner Frerich, commissioner Montalvo, Commissioner Mendeke, Commissioner O'Rourke and Judge Seargeant. Minutes were approved from the meetings of January 8, 12 and 26, and all reports were approved.

The Court heard Ida Holley's request for use of the civic center again. Mrs. Holley again stated that she could not be responsible for all accidents or injuries to any participants at the aerobic classes. The court will review this issue again if the county attorney says Mrs. Holley can use the same waiver form that the karate group used.

The court approved the bond for Martha Catherine Martinez in the amount of \$15,000.00 as deputy Tax Assessor. All 4 commissioners voted yeas.

Cliff Fritter submitted the monthly road report and requested permanent status for one of his employees, David Garza. David Garza is a very qualified and valued employee. The court declined to put Mr. Garza on permanent status pending the outcome of the new truck purchase.

Commissioner Frerich has worked hard to find the road department a very needed dump truck to replace the one that is out of commission. Commissioner Frerich has located a good truck for \$11,000.00; all other trucks have been priced at \$22,000.00 and up. Mr. Fritter said he and the County Auditor will make a list of items to be auctioned along with the old dump truck to see if they could make up the difference in funds for the new truck and Mr. Garza's permanent status. The court will review this again when they have more information.

The Kinney County Road Crew will begin working a 5 day work week on February 19th. The crew has been working 4 day work weeks at 10 hours a day, but due to their getting paid for 10 hour holidays they have been requested to return to 5 day a week 8 hours a day status. The crew will be working from 7 AM to 4 PM. The motion was made by Commissioner O'Rourke, seconded by Commissioner Frerich, all 4 commissioners voted yes.

County Clerk Dora Sandoval, requested permission to hire an additional clerk at \$5.00 per hour to serve only for the 2 weeks during the elections. After much discussion; the motion was made by Judge Tommy Seargeant, Commissioner Frerich, Commissioner Montalvo and Judge Seargeant voted yes while Commissioners Mendeke and O'Rourke voted no. The motion carried.

The court approved a request for the Texas Water Utilities Association to use the civic center for their monthly meeting at no charge provided the date did not conflict with another commitment.

Rio Grande Electric is assisting the County, with their bucket truck, in replenishing the exterior lighting on the outside of the building.

After lunch the court addressed the proposed investment policy. County Treasurer advised the court that a

decision must be made before any CD's or other investments were made.

The court agreed to pay the bill from the City of Brackettville, for lawyer fees. These fees were for the recently purchased alley from the city that went through the Allied Task Force's vehicle compound lot. Mr. Woolen advised the court that the grant would pay for the fees.

The court reviewed the Sheriff's report, there are 26 prisoners in the jail, 22 are federal prisoners and 4 are from Kinney County.

The court reviewed the Tax Assessor Collector's latest employee's salary, after much discussion with County Tax Assessor Collector Martha Pena Hooten there was no action taken. However there would be a hiring freeze as of this date and any new employment would be reviewed by the court.

The court passed a resolution prohibiting fire arms in all county buildings, with the exception of law enforcement officers. There will be signs put up in all buildings.

The court went into executive session. At 1:00 PM the court reconvened. Court was temporarily recessed to move upstairs to the district court room. due to the amount of people present.

Mrs. Tootsie Herndon presented a resolution, signed by the Spofford Mayor and City Council, opposing the proposed Waste Dump. Mrs. Herndon asked that the County Commissioners also sign such a proposal. Mrs. Herndon presented Judge Seargeant with a petition signed by 750 Kinney County residents opposing the dump. After a public forum the court chose to have their lawyer write up a resolution to be signed at the next meeting in opposition of the waste dump.

The court temporarily recessed to move back down stairs. Mr. James Crummley requested a raise for Marsha Harrell. Mr. Crummley's department would pay half of the increase and Kinney County would pay the other half. Marsha has worked for Kinney County for 3 years with no raise, she is now making \$4.35 per hour. Mr. Crummley added that Marsha excelled in computer knowledge and had helped all of the other Kinney County departments with computer problems. The court declined Mr. Crummley's request, stating that they would review it again at a later date, there just wasn't any money to pay out this year.

Maryn A. Caton reported on the Nutrition Center (see article this paper). Judge Seargeant questioned Ms. Caton about people passing petitions around while people were eating. Ms. Caton said it was not legal for the staff to pass a petition, but the participants were free to pass the petition. The Jail and the Nutrition Center are now working together on a nutrition plan, they will purchase their food with the same vendor, thus buying more quantity and receiving larger discounts, along with menu assistance.

The Kinney County Commissioners Court adjourned at 3:00.

Thank You Agnes

Some "News Notes" on *The Brackett News* front page January 17, 1891.

Mexico's financial outlook is good. Silver has a rising tendency.

A very heavy snow seriously affecting stock is reported at Washburn.

Del Rio reports fight with counterfeiter; nobody hurt.

Disastrous freight wreck at Cayney, I.T. No lives lost.

Mexico holds her quarantine against Eagle Pass, but there is no smallpox there.

The hostiles have moved up to about five miles of the agency.

Household Hints:

Fever drink: Pour cold water on wheat bran; let boil half hour, strain and add sugar and lemon juice. Use cold.

Gruel: Add to three pints of boiling water two tablespoons full of corn meal, stirred up in a little cold water; add half a pinch of salt and cook twenty minutes. For convalescents, toast a piece of bread nicely, put into the gruel with one or two spoonfuls of sweet cream, a little sugar and nutmeg or cinnamon.

"The Brackett News" is beginning its eighth year with this issue.

We would like to thank our mentor Agnes Vondy for an original banner from "The Brackett News", volume XI No. 27, January 17, 1891.

When we decided to start this paper I knew what I wanted for a banner, the name and the type of lettering. What I did not know until I talked to Agnes, was that "The Brackett News" was in existence many years before I was born. Did I perhaps read this paper in my other life? I don't know. I do know the banner Agnes gave me is exactly what I pictured in my minds eye.

Agnes, like our paper just had a birthday, and like our paper her roots go way back in this community.

She lives on El Paso Street, which is the "Old Spanish Trail", that once ran through Brackettville. She is the granddaughter of F. S. Fritter and still has many items that once belonged to her grandfather.

Fielding Stafford (Frank) Fritter was born in Stafford, Virginia, on Feb. 3rd, 1827, to Augustus and Su-



Agnes Vondy

san Fritter, who immigrated from France. He moved to Memphis, Tennessee at an early age. He trained as a stone cutter and helped to build the courthouse in Memphis.

Frank Fritter came to Texas in the late 1850's.

In 1867 he was a stage driver on the Old Spanish Trail to California, the route passed through Brackett where he settled.

Frank bought about 900 acres in Brackett and married Annie Ross in 1874. They had seven children. Annie was the daughter of Annie O'Hanlon Ross, who settled in this area in 1837.

In 1878 Frank Fritter was elected sheriff of Kinney County, Texas. He was a well known and respected lawman. His jurisdiction included the border with Mexico, Fort Clark and Brackett. He served as sheriff for eight years.

He was a Mason and helped organize Brackett Blue Lodge #444 A.F. and A.M. in 1876, of which he was a charter member.

On his retirement from law enforcement, he opened the "California Exchange" Saloon in Brackett, which catered to the soldiers across the road at Fort Clark, he served the best shiskey in town, "Old Reserve D". He operated the saloon until his death in 1915 at the age of 88 years. He has other descendants who still live in Brackettville, Texas.

Deputy Johnny Fritter is also a descendant of F.S. Fritter

AARP Provides Free Tax Assistance

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) provides free assistance to low - or moderate - income taxpayers. Volunteers are trained to complete basic income tax forms and answer your questions.

Assistance is available on Friday morning from 9:00 to 1:00 beginning March 1 through April 12. Bring your current tax records and a copy of last year's income tax return to the Kinney County Aging Center.

Tax System Must Go

By Henry Bonilla
Congressman, 23rd District, Texas

This is the time of year when Americans take on an additional job. That's right, it's time to collect the paperwork, find the forms and begin working on the complicated process of filing your 1996 federal income tax. But despite the long hours you will devote to this task, you will not get paid for your work. In fact, you are the one paying. The current tax system has become so complicated that Americans are spending roughly \$232 billion to support an army of accountants and IRS agents to fill out tax forms. That means paying your taxes cost you a lot more than your tax form says.

The current tax system is in desperate need of reform. Congress needs to revamp the current tax code so that hard-working American families do not have to waste their valuable time and money each year just to fill out their tax forms. While there are several different tax reform plans being proposed, the one fact that everyone agrees on is that the current system is unfair and must go.

In fact, I read in February's Reader's Digest that there is remarkable agreement among all Americans on the issue of tax fairness. According to the Reader's Digest poll, not

only do most Americans think that the current tax system is unfair, but they also agree on a solution. Those polled thought that a family of four should bear a total tax burden of 25 percent of its income. That's 25 percent for all taxes combined: federal, state and local including Social Security, sales and property taxes.

Perhaps the most striking finding is that respondents across economic, racial, and ideological lines answered with remarkable similarity. Conservative liberal, rich, poor, Hispanic, black, white, single, married -- it didn't matter. The answer was the same -- a family of four should pay no more than a quarter of its income for government.

Whether the solution lies in the flat tax, a national sales tax or another tax system remains to be seen. One thing is clear: the American people should be able to keep more of the money they have worked so hard to earn. They should be able to keep more to feed their family, send a child to college or start their own business. They should not be penalized for saving and investing their earnings. They should be able to pass along their business, farm or ranch to their children without having to pay ridiculously high estate taxes. Americans should

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Reflections

Editorial By Norman H. Hooten

I recently drove my pickup truck to a favorite spot north of Brackettville locally known as "Harwood Hill". From that high spot one can look south, east, and west for 50 to 100 miles. The Anacacho Mountains are strung out eastward like a string of rough black pearls from their termination point on the ranch named after them in southeast Kinney County. Las Moras Mountain, Pinto Mountain, Iron Mountain, and Turkey Mountain rise upward in the flat plain northeast and north of the town of Brackettville. On a clear day "Sleeping Woman" mountain in Mexico can be plainly seen.

The "quiet" is so acute that it actually "roars" in one's ears. Turkey buzzards and various birds of prey on their eternal patrol in search of food, and from the high point of observation they are actually flying below the on-looker.

One of a romantic heart cannot help but be touched by the beauty, peace, and quiet of the panorama of nature spread out below, dotted here and there by ranch headquarters and in the far distance, the town and community of Brackettville and Fort Clark.

From a distance, surrounded by the beauty of nature, one would tend to believe that our community would be touched and affected by that beauty and draw from it peace, dignity, and respect for our friends, neighbors, and fellow county and community residents and citizens.

And, when I first came to this community nearly 30 years ago it seemed to be that way. Not so anymore, our community is divided and ravaged by hatred, jealousy, and the dominating egos of certain elected and appointed public officials who have chosen to use their positions of "public trust" to further their own desire for power and personal gain. These "cancers" in our community divide

and separate the people with their evil ways, causing neighbor to hate neighbor, brother to hate sister, and friends to split apart forever. They plant the seeds of distrust and "water" them with jealousy, greed, and over-inflated egos. These so-called "public leaders" use their destructive influences to carry out their own personal vendettas against self-proclaimed "enemies", making "hit lists" of those whom they have targeted for destruction. They then spend their time "demonizing" the targeted victim until they have accomplished their goals. They then move on to the next target.

These "demons in lambskins" could not succeed in their efforts if they did not have the willing cooperation of co-conspirators in their evil doings. But they are not the majority of the people, so one might ask how they can cause so much damage, hatred, and division within our community? The answer is because they are allowed to do so! The time has come for all of us who live and work in Kinney County to stop a minute, take a deep look inside our hearts, and ask ourselves if we are satisfied with the attitude of our community overall. And then we need to further ask ourselves if we are part of the problem by our actions and words. Does our "coffee shop" gossip cause damage, pain, and destruction for others? Do we spread hatred, distrust, and bitterness by our gossip? Do we speak with personal knowledge of that we appear to be such an authority on, or are we simply repeating the hateful gossip started by one of the "evil-doers", adding our own juicy tid-bits to the story to enhance our misguided self-importance?

Maybe we should take to heart the lessons of nature and be tolerant of others to a large degree. Are they really to be hated and scorned just because they step to a different drum-

mer? Do they become our enemy just because they have a different viewpoint, or just because they live, love, work and play in a different way than we do? Must we all be clones, all exactly alike, in order to be friends, or at the very least friendly neighbors and fellow citizens and residents of this community?

Most of you are aware of who the destructive "public officials" are and you are aware of the damage they do to our personal relationships and our community and county as a whole. Why then do we tolerate them? Why do we allow them to remain in their respective positions spreading their messages of hate and discontent?

The time has come to rid our public offices of the elected or appointed officials who have abused the public trust by spreading their messages of destruction. The time has come for all of us to examine our own motives, thoughts, actions, and words. We are the people of our community and county! We are the ones who allow our public officials and community leaders to continue their destructive and divisive methods! The time has come to get back to the basics of friendship, tolerance, and/or at the very least, respect, for our fellow citizens and residents. The time has come to examine our own motives and to "clean up our own acts" by first asking ourselves if what we say about others is true, and if true would our talking about it serve any constructive value. Think about it!

THAT'S ALL!

Cameo From The Past

By J. Lee Ballantyne
Contributing Writer

Reminiscing! What a powerful word it is. I am 95 years old and I have finally come to know the meaning of the word to the fullest extent? I can now sit and look out the window and "reminisce" with the best! And I'm perfectly content in my window watching.

When my Mother and Father were growing old and would sit and look out the window I always felt I was failing them in some way, and I would make an effort to include them in the family conversation. Now I know that those quiet times were very precious to them. They were living in the past and remembering certain times in their lives that were very dear to them.

So don't worry about us old folks "living in the past." We are happy with our memories and reminiscing is a great way to keep us happy.

Will there ever be another century with all the fantastic advancements we have seen? What you have to look forward to!

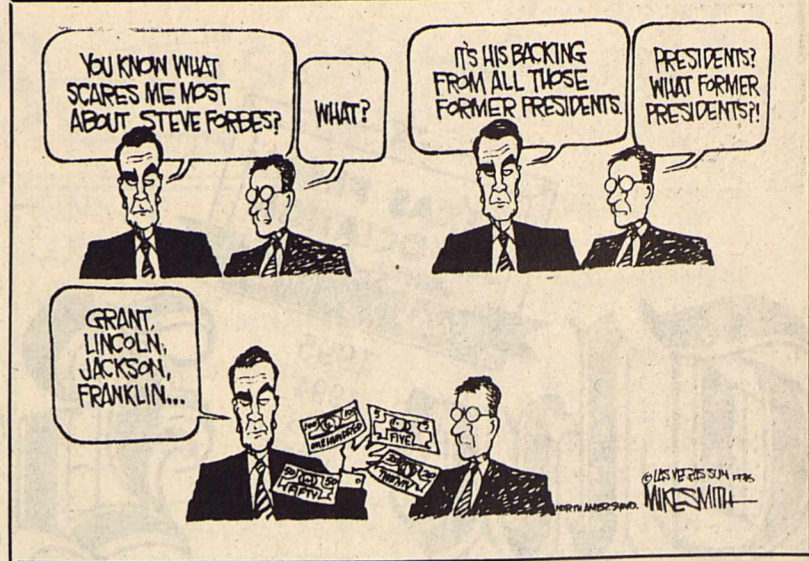
Unsung Hero

by Joe Townsend



Today I'm departing from the norm. I want to high-light two people. These folks have been interested in this area for a good many years. They bought property in and around Spofford. They transformed the old school into an outstanding lodge. They built a first class landing strip that can accommodate Lear jets. They installed lights and a fence to keep deer off the runway.

They have a pasture with a good many axis deer. They have quite a collection of domestic fowl, including four different types. There are guineas, pea fowl, and chickens. They are a tremendous asset to the area. They are solidly embedded in sensing and standing for the right. They are certainly immune to being manipulated. They established a business and were tremendously successful. They are now retired and enjoying the area. They are warm hearted and friendly; truly a lovable couple. Surely Paul and Linda Malone are Unsung Heroes.



Between Us

By Joe Townsend



Being a part of the intellectual elite I was not sent a copy of the latest scandalous mud sheet sent to most area residents last week. Were it about me I'd simply consign it to the trash heap where it belongs but since it is a blatant attempt to destroy another I want to express my utter contempt. Anyone who is so much a coward he won't sign his name deserves nothing but contempt.

In the first place the closing of a letter should properly be signed "respectfully" - not "respectively". Such ignorance is typical of the author. Who are these "concerned citizens of Kinney County"? When was this organization formalized? Who is the president? Where is the headquarters? Such an affront to integrity is also typical of a coward fantasizing a place to try to hide his skulduggery. The author identifies himself when it is revealed that the "Fax Transmission" was sent to "Judge Tommy Sergeant." I presume it was meant for Tommy Sergeant since he's the one who has been circulating it "around for the last two months." It's too bad he doesn't have enough standing with the Middle Rio Grande Development Council for them to know how to spell his name. This fax contained high lighting done by the recipient. He would better have highlighted amounts given to Brackettville, \$448,207 and demanded these records and disbursements be brought to Commissioners Court or better yet the money given to Kinney County \$277,073. It would be good that we not begin this accounting in 1986 but effectively go back to 1972. If we want to dig dirt lets start at the beginning. Or are these records destroyed?

To try to hold Tootsie Herndon responsible for all funds for Spofford is the mental gymnastics of a fool. The City of Spofford is a political entity. If there is fault to be found,

all integrity and honesty would demand the mayor, secretary, and council be accused and called on the carpet. Tootsie is not, nor has she ever been mayor, secretary or treasurer. Nor has she stood up "in church" and said how much she raised for the CARE group. The only way that money was misspent was handing it over to money hungry lawyers. At any rate this is no concern of the County Judge or Commissioners Court. If an "Emergency Company from Dallas" received a grant to bring water to Spofford, where was the grant from? How did they get the grant? How much would they siphon off before Spofford received a dime? Where would they get the water? Would Spofford be beholden and held hostage by Joe York? The more castles this scandal monger tries to build the more it proves to be a house of sand. Where is the money paid to Kinney County by the railroad? Where is the money paid by the utilities to Kinney County? Some of us "concerned citizens" would like to know. To extend his arrogance the perpetrator finally includes "the Herndons". Does he mean J.B.? Does he mean the Herndon family? It's ironic and ludicrous that the County Judge requests that the County Judge and County Attorney "order" that "these records be turned over to the court for a full investigation" is one of the most arrogant threats of an irresponsible public official I've ever heard. By what authority can a County Judge assume jurisdiction over any political entity except maybe the county where he is County Judge, and that a conditional jurisdiction dependent on commissioners court.

Now we can get to the nitty gritty. Why does this scoundrel want to destroy Tootsie Herndon? It's simple, she can't be manipulated. Had she not taken a stand against Adobe Eco-Systems none of this would have happened. The "Concerned Citizens" could not care less about the water problems of Spofford. Nothing governs people like this but their insidious desires to feed their bloated ego. No one disagreed more with Tootsie Herndon in the Tex Core affair than did I. I still feel she was on the wrong side of the issue. When the final decision came down to a conspiracy between Ann Richards and Mexico and Tex Core was eliminated I waited for someone to step into the void. Because of the ideal geological conditions I have long felt that some type of "dump" would eventually come to the area. Now comes an unknown, totally inexperienced group almost totally from Mexico with very little money and hoping to go into business on loans from governmental entities. When I read Tootsie first "letter" in *The Brackett News*, I thought, "Here we go again." These nefarious letters had hardly hit the mail boxes until I had a telephone call from a very irate person asking me if I received one. When I said "No," their response was, "Wait right there, I'll bring you mine". When I read it, it was crystal clear where it came from. This lead to some research. In the course I was brought face to face with the proposed waste dump at Spofford. Before anyone supports the waste dump and Adobe Eco-Systems he should read the plan and proposals. It is full of pure hogwash and out right fabrications. In several places Wallace Cooper is mentioned, quoted and treated as an insider. In fact Wallace has absolutely nothing to do with this company. The chicanery involving Wallace is a revelation of the character of the company. The company is a group of Mexican entrepreneurs. The front man is a smooth talking individual.

The company has little or no money and expects to operate on a loan of \$16,000,000 from the bank organized and financed by government to implement NAFTA. They admit to having no experience in the field. They have a grandiose scheme of enlisting railroads nationwide to bring in waste. They claim to have connections with barges and off loading of waste on the coast to bring by rail to Spofford. Anticipated birds and buzzards offer a hazard to planes employing 2 up to date airports, one a USAF base. The materials they propose to accept find loop holes in the acceptable waste including dead animals and considerable toxic waste and some hazardous materials. They propose to police the operation themselves by checking randomly 1% of "loads". They propose to bring in waste, including toxic from Mexico. This is peculiar in view of Mexico's opposition to both Tex Core and the West Texas dump owned by Texas. Since this is a company of Mexicans, why not put the dump in Mexico? A careful reading of the company material and plans will tell anyone it is not a good thing for this country. Rumor has it that this mailout was a product of the offices of Adobe Inc. If this be true this is another reason why we don't need them in Kinney County, we have too many of this type already here.

I know most people are turned off by all the pro and con during Tex Core but we would all be foolish to sit on our hands and allow this company to further corrupt the county and bring in a most undesirable operation. If politics doesn't rule again and this time foist this albatross on us the people of the county should do all in their power to block this.

For Pete's Sake

I might as well tell you about the friend of mine who went to the Kentucky Derby last year. He stuck around a day or two to bet on the races.

"I had a great hunch at the races up there," he told me. "We had room number 5 at the Fifth Street Motel. My wife and I had been married exactly five years. It was the fifth race. So I placed a bet on horse No. 5."

"And he won?"

"No, he came in fifth."

A friend of mine went to the doctor for a check-up.

"I've checked you over thoroughly and I can't seem to find the cause of your trouble," the Doc said. "It might be due to drinking, however."

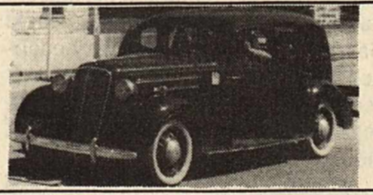
"Oh, well, Doc, that's OK. I have little of that trouble myself. I'll just come back when you're sober."

Jim and Clem were talking things over, setting as they were on one of the park benches at our town's Church Circle.

"I think it's disgraceful to see these young gals here in town wearin' these little short miniskirts and dresses," Jim said. "After all, what would people say if it was your wife, traipsin' around showing her legs like that?"

Clem chewed his cud and gave a long sigh. "They'd probably say I married her for her money", he declared.

**Learning to do,
Doing to learn,
Earning to live,
Living to serve.**



Rambling Around Kinney County
By THE K.C. RAMBLER

Put March 16 on your calendar. The Art Club will hold its annual Arts & Craft Show. A special hat contest will be held. A prize will be presented to the lady (or man) creating the best Easter hat as decided by the judges. For more details, call 563-2559.

Hungry? Nothing like Tex-Mex food. For a quick lunch or supper (to go only) try La Familia Grill 802 W. Spring Street - Call 563-9444. The Chalusas are outstanding! Hours are from 7:00 A.M. to 2:00 and 5 to 10 in the evening. Breakfasts are available - with fresh biscuits made daily (biscuits and gravy anyone?) A variety of sandwiches and full suppers are available. Do give it a try.

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) offers you an evening of dancing and music by a live Tejano Band from Del Rio. Come dancing on Saturday, February 17th at the Civic Center. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. If you buy your tickets in advance you will save money. See you there.

Are you looking for hand-knit Afghan for yourself or for gifts? At My Lady Hair Salon on Ann Street you can find just that among other craft items. A new young hair stylist

is available there now - she can do your hair and knit you an Afghan (not at the same time). Go up to Sissy's and take a look.

Alamo Village is open daily to all visitors. We have many out-of-state travelers in the area - enjoying the only good weather in the nation, it seems. What a great place to spend an afternoon getting the feel of an old Texas cow town. Mr. Cerillo was there to great visitors from California. He told tales an anecdotes and generally charmed these folks. Alamo Village is a "must see" location. Expect it to continue functioning as usual. It is unique that all buildings are three dimensional. No facades only as on many movie sets. There will be movies on the horizon - keep your acting shoes ready.

Free Seminar

The Texas Veterans Land Board is holding a Seminar and Exhibit for Texas Veterans in Brackettville on Thursday, February 15, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. at the Civic Center, 200 East Spring Street. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m.

This community event is designed to help the more than 7,000 Veterans in Kinney and surrounding counties learn more about the loan programs available from the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB). The special low interest loan programs can provide a tremendous economic boost to our area in the form of land, housing, and home improvement loans.

The Knights would like to thank all those that made this event possible and successful.

Agapito Saenz
K.C. Program Director

Big Mama See!



With every rising of the sun, Think of your life as just begun.

PLEASE REMEMBER that we attempt to include something for everyone within the pages of our paper. We realize that that some folks enjoy finding fault and for those readers we thoughtfully include a socially acceptable number of errors within our publication.



MEMBER 1996

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Brackett News welcomes letters to the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and context.
Letters will be edited to avoid the use of profanity or libelous statements pertaining to the rights of citizens.
Letters published and columnist's viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of this newspaper.
All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number.
Thank You!

The Brackett News

Publisher - Jewel Robinson
Editor - Lynda Conrey

507 S. Ann St - Leona Ranch Office
Brackettville, TX 78832
210-563-2852
Fax 210-563-9538

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The quotation found under the Mast Head on the front page is a copy from, "The Rear Vision Mirror," a Fort Worth Newspaper published Wednesday, March 8, 1961.

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From The Desk Of Your Local Game Warden

By Henry J. Lutz

This week we return to our look at the wildlife that we live with here in Kinney County. The Coyote is probably more of an enemy to ranchers here than even the Roadrunner and Wyle E. Coyote were in the famous cartoons. I am sure that many ranchers wished that the local coyotes had as much trouble catching their livestock as ol' Wyle E. did trying to catch the Roadrunner.

The coyote is medium sized, long legged, and long muzzled, with a bushy tail and long, pointed ears. Its general appearance is somewhat like a grayish collie or a small, pale yellowish German shepherd. The color of the back is a grizzled gray or buff overlaid with black; the muzzle, ears, and outer sides of the legs are yellowish buff; and the underparts are a light buff. Their appearance may vary somewhat depending on several factors. Coyotes range throughout the continental United States and Canada. They range throughout Texas and live in a variety of habitats, including deserts, grasslands, mountains, and the lowland forests.

Coyotes eat a wide variety of food items, and this dietary versatility is undoubtedly important to their success. They eat poultry, persimmons and other fruits, insects, rodents, birds, cattle, rabbits, deer, sheep and goats, and a wide variety of these and other available food sources. When I lived in Port Isabel, near Brownsville on the Southern Texas Coast, it was not unusual to see sev-

eral coyotes foraging close to and in small towns, picking through garbage.

The basic social unit of coyotes is the family. Coyote mates establish a territory and prepare a den for their family. They maintain a close social bond throughout the year. The pair hunt and sleep together, but in late pregnancy the male frequently hunts alone and brings back food to his mate. There are many coyotes that may live alone or form a loose association with one another for social contact or killing prey. Two to six such animals may band together to form coyote "packs". One animal in this group is usually dominant, but interaction among pack members is only temporary.

Normal litter size is from 2 to 12, averaging about 6. Newborn coyote pups weigh about 7 to 9 ounces, depending on litter size, compared to an average adult weight of 25 to 35 pounds. The pups are born blind and helpless, usually in an excavated den located along brush covered slopes, steep banks, thickets, hollow logs, or rock ledges. The pups are nourished by milk for the first 10 days. Their eyes open on the tenth day at which time they can move about somewhat. They can walk by 20 days and run by 6 weeks of age. At 12 to 15 days of age, the adults start to supplement the pups diet with regurgitated foods. Pups begin to eat solid food at 4 to 6 weeks. The months of May, June, and July are the basic training period

for pups. They learn to accept regurgitated food from their parents, to climb in and out of the den, to catch insects, and finally to hunt and catch larger prey. The den is abandoned by late June or early July, at which time the family begins to wander. November and December are the primary months when the young disperse.

Coyotes may be active throughout the day, but tend to be more active during the early morning and around sunset. Their movements include travel within a territory or home range, dispersal from the den, and long migrations. The home range size of coyotes seems to vary geographically, seasonally, and individually within populations.

Coyotes communicate with one another by calling and scent marking. They are among the most vocal of all North American wild animals and they emit 3 distinct calls (squeaks, howl calls, and distress calls). The wavering calls of coyotes on clear nights serve primarily for announcing the position and hunting success of the caller.

Few coyotes live more than 6 to 8 years in the wild. Losses are due mainly to predation, parasites and disease, and man. Mortality is particularly high for pups, who are vulnerable to hawks, owls, eagles, mountain lions, and even other coyotes. Hunting and trapping account for many adult deaths.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

FACT SHEET -- "Adobe Eco-Systems has been contacted by Maquiladora companies along the Texas/Mexico border. There is currently a need for a safe and efficient way to dispose of the thousands of tons of waste generated by the companies daily. Government officials have contacted us about solving these problems on a long term basis."

"Union Pacific has expressed an interest in Joint Venturing collection facilities in South and Central Texas. We have also discussed Joint Venturing a barge off loading facility in Corpus Christi, TX. Wally Cooper has researched this area and has excellent contacts with several companies in Louisiana that would use this service. He believes he can secure a Letter of Intent for the disposal of two or three hundred (200-300) tons per day, in our facility, BEFORE we start operations. I am working on communities and companies that should generate five hundred (500) tons of waste per day. We are also starting talks with officials in Corpus and Austin, who will be closing their fa-

cilities in two (2) years. These two (2) markers would generate thirteen hundred to fifteen hundred (1300-1500) tons a day."

RAIL ACCESS

"Rail services anticipated to be the heart of the Rio Grande facility. Union Pacific has expressed an interest Joint Venturing the material loading facilities at the site and two (2) regional transfer stations in south and central Texas. These facilities will be used to consolidate waste streams locally prior to loading on trains for final transportation to the Landfill."

"A main line of Southern Pacific railroad runs across the width of the property. This is a major rail route in Texas and will provide a continuous link with the NATION'S railroad network. The line runs directly to San Antonio to the South and El Paso to the west. The line connects at these points to transport ANYWHERE in the United States."

"This excellent rail access and handling capability allows the Rio Grande facility to completely serve

virtually ALL MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS IN THE UNITED STATES. Rail transportation is particularly efficient for processing high volumes of waste and for handling large on-going waste streams."

So much for Jim Stephens' speil on 9 county region and no maquiladoras. One of the main maquiladoras is Monsanto, which is 99% toxic waste.

Please see the railroad maps. The heavy lines, of course, are the main routes, but look at the small lines. There are thousands of them to equal to 2.6 TRILLION - ton miles of railroad. All to meet from El Paso and San Antonio to dump at Spofford thousands of tons upon thousands of tons of garbage, 24 hours a day, for 64 years in 20 cells of 33' x 96' x 12 acres each.

THE GOOD LORD HELP US.

/s/Tootsie Herndon
P.O. Box 8
Brackettville, TX 78832

RE: Concerned Citizens of Kinney County

Since the sender of the "Dear Neighbor" letter did not have the courage or nerve to sign it, I have no choice but to use the public media to answer.

If anybody wants information about Spofford's City business, JUST ASK! There is a legal and proper way to request information instead of this backhanded, low, cheap, and infantile letter.

The letter from Middle Rio Grande is not a letter at all. It is a list of grants issued to the three governing entities in Kinney County for the past ten years. This list was requested solely by Judge Tommy Seargeant, to whom, it is addressed. How this got into the hands of some very foolish people is beyond me. This is public record and there is absolutely no need to be sneaky and ugly about it.

The rotation of grants comes about with MRGDC "Gentlemen's Agreement". This means that every city with less than 5000 population gets a percent of the whole block grant from the nine county region based on population, income per capita, and unemployment.

The "Gentlemen's Agreement" has recently come under attack by the State wanting to abolish this method of distribution, which is the envy of the other 23 regions in the State. Are the governing entities aware of this? If we keep fooling with it, we are in danger of NOBODY getting any money, not the County, City, or Spofford.

Everybody knows one cannot do what we want on these grants. The grants are governed by strict rules and regulations that MUST be adhered to and followed through to the penny. The administration of these grants is through MRGDC. Spofford never sees the actual money. A break-down of the expenses on the grants can be obtained upon proper request.

I will take each and every one of the twisted and false accusations one by one at a later date. For now, enough to say that all the CARE monies are duly accounted and documented.

One very important fact, Spofford paid its attorneys' fees for party statues representation against Texcor. Instead of knocking me, we should be grateful that we do NOT have Texcor's nuclear dump!

We often went into his "office" for good conversation and ice tea. Happy treated us with the same respect that he extended to the movie stars. Over 1200 people attended our party at the Village and it seems like he visited with half of them. The cavers were granted access to the ranch and to Alamo Village for the 9 days of our event. Happy continued

Let us get to the real reason as to why this "Dear Neighbor" letter on the Water Improvements and CARE came about. The idea, of course, is to discredit me because of my OPEN opposition to the proposed landfill by Adobe Eco-Systems versus behind the scenes support for it.

Yes, I was at Commissioners Court on Feb. 12. When and if I receive an officially signed request, then and only then, maybe I will present documentation; not that it is anybody's business. These nebulous "Concerned Citizens" are not by any means official. I could say what I really think, but it is not printable.

I want to most sincerely give each and everyone of you that attended the Commissioners Court meeting Feb. 12 a BIG thank you for coming. More sincere thank you to all that signed our petition. Believe me, your presence and signatures helped alot. GOD BLESS YOU.

/s/ Tootsie Herndon
P.O. Box 8
Brackettville, TX 78832

Editor,

There is a new star in the Texas sky tonight, Happy Shahan. I met this man about four years ago while making plans for the 1994 National Speleological Society (Cavers) Convention in Brackettville. From the start, we knew we were dealing with a special man. Each time we visited, he took time to make us feel special.

girls basketball team is 2nd in the district and still having playoffs. The boys basketball team will possibly be in a playoff for second place in the district. Coach Rokovich said that the basketball program has improved tremendously and he was real proud of each of them. The Junior High teams both finished with a win.

to assist the cavers long after the convention was over. The cavers have lost a good friend. But so has Brackettville, Ft. Clark Springs, Texas and the nation. Vaya con Dios, Happy.

/s/Mike Walsh
And The Texas Caving Community

Congratulations to all of our athletes. The board and Mr Rokovich will be looking into possibly getting some other insurance. Our insurance is not satisfactory, perhaps there is another insurance that would be less expensive with more coverage.

The board went into executive session at 11:00 PM.

Continued from page 1

March 25 to 29 this year with open house and the pancake supper on March 26.

The school calendar for next year was reviewed and sent back to the committee.

Coach Roy Rokovich presented his athletic report to the board. The

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wine word
 - 4 Forsyth's "The — File"
 - 10 Booker T. & the —
 - 13 Speedy
 - 18 I love, to Lucretius
 - 19 Sweet-smelling pouch
 - 20 Olsen of vaudeville
 - 21 Brewer or Wright
 - 22 Popular '50s vocalist
 - 24 "Caribbean Queen" singer
 - 26 Energy units
 - 27 Mountain nymph
 - 29 Knight wear?
 - 30 Family vehicle
 - 31 Carrot or parsnip
 - 34 Trickle
 - 36 Covertness
 - 39 Italian entree
 - 44 Singer
 - 45 Spoon-bender
 - 46 Mirilla of the Met
 - 47 Plead
 - 49 Once more
 - 53 Multitalented
- Down**
- 5 "— Kapital"
 - 6 Reverberation
 - 7 Restaurateur
 - 8 Bone-dry
 - 9 Colonel's command
 - 10 Rabble
 - 11 Little look
 - 12 Ward of "Sisters"
 - 13 Antique auto
 - 14 Rainbow shape
 - 15 Get one's goat
 - 16 Author
 - 17 DeVito of "Junior"
 - 21 Polk's predecessor
 - 23 From
 - 25 Hartman or
 - 28 Singer
 - 32 In error
 - 33 Actress Garr
 - 35 Exile isle
 - 37 Request an encore
 - 38 Trickster
 - 39 Confident
 - 40 H.S. math
 - 41 Morning moisture
 - 42 — Cat (winter wheels)
 - 43 Commandeer
 - 48 Item for Judge Ito
 - 50 One of the Chipmunks
 - 51 Sans emotion
 - 52 — prosequi
 - 54 PD alert
 - 56 Climbing plants
 - 57 Walter of "Kolch"
 - 59 Spanish seaport
 - 60 Rock star
 - 62 Heavy metal instrument?
 - 67 More like a fox
 - 68 "It — Be You"
 - 70 Impressive tales
 - 72 Daly of "Christy"
 - 74 Honolulu hello
 - 75 Sherpa site
 - 78 Expect
 - 79 Silverware
 - 85 Like-minded
 - 87 Camel's cousin
 - 91 Sandman's realm
 - 92 Norse royal name
 - 93 "— in the Money"
 - 95 Mr. Jeremy Fisher, for one
 - 96 Prolix
 - 97 Swindle
 - 98 "We — the World"
 - 99 Navel store?
 - 103 Metrical foot
 - 105 Put away some pie
 - 108 Trepidation
 - 109 Japan's first capital
 - 111 Wheel part
 - 112 Scanty
 - 113 Put on
 - 114 Tacitus' tongue
 - 115 "All — Am I" ('62 song)
 - 116 Kafka character
 - 121 Foot part
 - 123 Artist Magritte
 - 124 Smidgen
 - 125 University ordeal
 - 127 Curly coil
 - 128 Forest lather
 - 130 Mal de (seasickness)
 - 131 Cen. segments
 - 132 Dr. Ruth's topic
 - 134 Hodges of baseball
 - 135 English cathedral city

MagicMaze

— WARD

E I E A W S P L R I E A X T Q
 N J G C Z W T Q I N J G D A X
 U R O L J G R D G A X V S P N
 K I F N E V A E H C A Y X V S
 Q O L J H E C A T X T K V T R
 P N L J H F D B R F S S N Y X
 V T R P O M K I A Y A W E O G
 E D B Z X W U T E K O D T W R
 Q O N L J I G M F D C N N U D
 C A Y X W V O T S R U A P I O
 O N L K J H I G T F E L B F W

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- After Earth Out Way
- Back Heaven Right West
- Coast Land Sky West
- Down Left Unto Wind

Natasha's Stars



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You are in line for a new opportunity. However, this comes to you from a distance. In general, you have a stress-free week. Later in the week, enjoy romance and recreational interests. However, take some time for meditation.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Be on the alert now for a chance to improve your career situation. Early in the week, you get a nice jump-start on a project. However, this requires the cooperation of others, so actively seek this out.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You feel especially confident this week and are willing to tackle even the hardest of tasks. Bigwigs admire your enthusiasm and take note. Exercising initiative opens important financial and business doors. Much progress is made.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Early in the week, don't allow a difference of opinion with a loved one to cause you to be overly critical and intolerant. Later in the week, the emphasis is happily on social life and romance. The weekend brings family harmony.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) There is travel in the stars for you, but it is mostly local. Those dreaming of far-away locales must bide their time for now. Improved concentration leads to mental achievements on the job. The weekend is great for visiting friends.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A partnership matter is happily resolved early in the week. This leaves you free to get on with the business at hand. Advice you seek now is not forthcoming, so rely on your own instincts instead. Education is accented.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) As the week dawns, you are able to reach a better understanding with someone who's been in disagreement with you. You're likely to be busy this week with home-related tasks, although business interests are

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You are able this week to see the larger picture. However, don't allow a detail you consider insignificant to hamper your vision. Travel for pleasure is possible for singles, with a romantic overture in the mix.

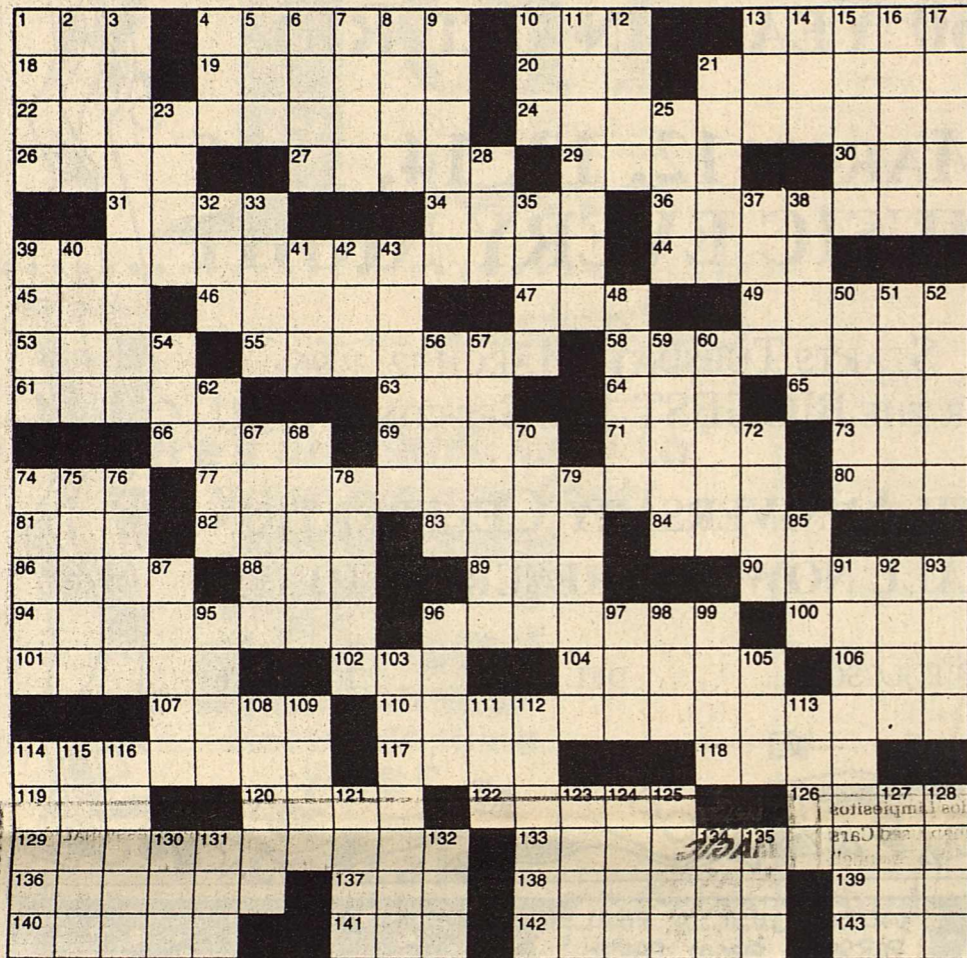
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The accent early in the week is on domestic interests. Later, however, you spend some time out and about socializing and enjoying good times. This weekend, some move closer to making a romantic commitment.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) News you receive early in the week has huge import for your future. You have a renewed incentive now to get ahead in life. Toward that end, a new opportunity is challenging, but you meet it head-on.

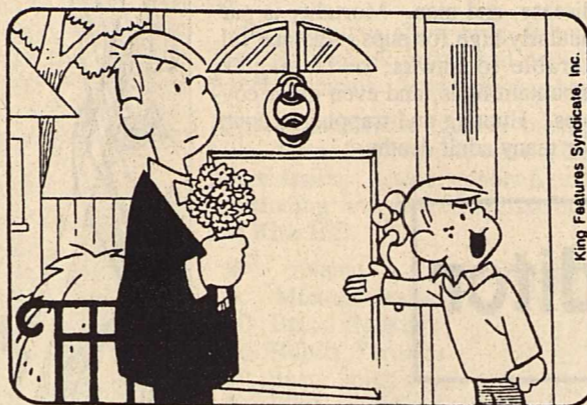
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) It will be a busy time socially for you all week, but particularly so as you head toward the weekend. Partnership interests are also happily emphasized. Use understanding when dealing with a child's problems.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Romance is favored early in the week, but keep this confidential. Later, you devote attention to a do-it-yourself project or household concerns. The weekend brings a financial opportunity.

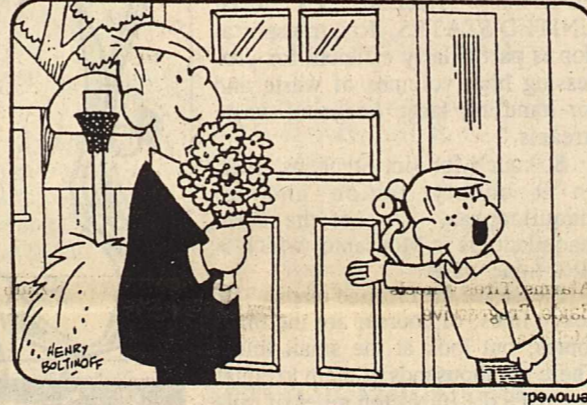
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Vision Teaser



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Backboard unit is added; 2. Handrail is missing; 3. Bouquet is removed; 4. Expression is changed; 5. Door is different; 6. Knocker is changed.

Happy Birthday

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| February 15 | J.B. Herndon | February 17 | Elton Goodloe |
| February 15 | Virginia Shahan | February 18 | Irene Braun |
| February 16 | Dorothy Wood | February 18 | Annie Barrow |
| February 16 | Roxie Brown | February 19 | Reggie Pena |
| February 16 | Shirley Holloway | February 19 | Sophia Gomez |
| February 16 | Debra Hale | February 20 | (93) |
| February 17 | Basilio Pacheco | February 20 | Henry Yeackle |
| February 17 | Ernesto Ortiz | February 21 | Ricky Sandoval |
| February 17 | Renae Marie Pena | February 21 | Lester Meredith |
| February 17 | Carol Dimery | | |

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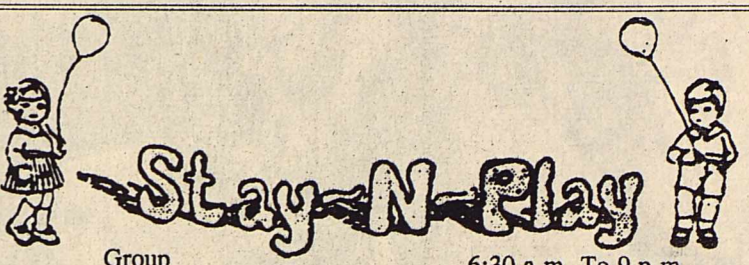
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The word *pasta* is an Italian term meaning *dough*.

BISD Cafeteria Menu

Parents Welcome To Join Their Children At Breakfast Or Lunch

- Milk Served At All Meals
- Three Choices For Breakfast:
- 1. Printed Menu; 2. Cereal, Toast, Fruit Or Juice; 3. Two Toasts, Fruit Or Juice
- Grades 7-12 Will Be Offered One Extra Bread/Grain Product

Breakfast Menu

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16
 Hash Browns
 Scrambled Eggs
 Picante
 Fruit or Fruit Juice

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19
 Cheese Toast
 Fruit or Fruit Juice

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
 Banana Nut Muffins
 Fruit or Fruit Juice

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
 Breakfast Bagel
 Fruit or Fruit Juice

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22
 Sweet Potato Bread
 Fruit or Fruit Juice

11 School Days In The Month Of August
 Elementary @ \$1.10 - \$12.10
 Middle And High School @ \$1.25 - \$13.75
 Milk Served At All Meals
 Salad Bar Available Everyday "B" Line Everyday

Lunch Menu

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16
 Beef Chop Suey
 White Rice
 Oriental Stir Fry Veggies
 Roll/Fortune Cookies

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19
 Italian Hoagie On A Bun
 Potato Wedges
 Fresh Fruit

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
 Spaghetti W/Meat Sauce
 Veggie Salad
 Seasoned Peas
 Whole Wheat Roll

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
 Hamburger or Grilled Cheese
 Sandwich
 Burger Salad
 French Fries
 Fruited Jello

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22
 Beef Tacos W/Cheese
 Taco Salad
 Spanish Rice
 Pinto Beans
 Fruit

JV Tigers Tame Bulldogs

Tuesday, the Tigers traveled to LaPryor to see what the Bulldogs had to offer.

The JV Tigers, coming off their loss in Natalia, needed a win. That is exactly what they got. The Tigers picked up a 37-29 victory over the Bulldogs.

Leading scorer for the Tigers was Patrick Munoz with 9 points. 8 points came from Justin Turner. Luis Guajardo had 7 points. Demetrius Williams had 6 points. David Honstein had 5, and Xavier Tomms had 2.

Way To Go Tigers!

JV Tigers Fall To Mustangs

Friday, the Junior Varsity Tigers traveled to Natalia to face the Junior Varsity Mustangs in their 15th game of the season.

The Tigers jumped out to an early lead. They kept their lead until the final quarter. The Mustangs battled back to defeat the Tigers 49-44. The leading scorer for the Tigers was Luis Guajardo with 18 points. Patrick Munoz had 14 points. Xavier Tomms and David Honstein each had 4 points. Justin Turner chipped in 2 points as did Josh Crumley.

Tigers Rip Mustangs

Friday, the Tigers traveled to Natalia to face the Mustangs in this 29-AA District match-up. The Tigers took a loss last year in the Natalia gym, different year...different story. The Tigers ripped the Mustangs 68-53.

The game was much closer in the beginning. The score stood at 14-12 after 1 quarter of play. The Tigers played a great 2nd quarter to take a 32-22 half-time lead. The third quarter was equally good for the Tigers as they had a 51-37 lead after 3 quarters. A 17-16 Tiger fourth quarter ended the match-up at 68-53.

This district win gave the Tigers a record of 7-3. The Tigers have an over-all record of 15-9.

Way To Go Tigers

#	Name	Points Scored
5	Michael Padron	3
10	Brian Hooker	6
15	Ruben Terrazas	18
20	Beau Smallwood	8
21	Eric Rivera	4
22	Ramon DeLeon	28
32	Kirk Hill	1

Tigerettes Clinch 2nd Place

Friday, the Tigerettes closed their district race against Natalia. Their 47-32 victory over the Lady Mustangs clinched 2nd place for the Tigerettes. 2nd place in district 29-AA assures the Tigerettes a trip to the playoffs.

They ended their district season with 8 wins and only 2 losses. Their overall record was 22-4.

The leading scorer in the Tigerettes onslaught of the lady Mustangs was Lindy LaMascus with 11 points. Amanda Meek had 10 points, Denise Frerich had 8 points, Reccia Jobe had 4 points, Sandra Hernandez had 4 points, Tina Meek had 3 points as did Courtney Harrison, Chica Garza and Katy Hagler each chipped in 2 points.

The Tigerettes will play Poth, in Sommerset, Thursday at 7:00.

Tigers Slap Bulldogs

Tuesday, the Tigers traveled to LaPryor to face the Bulldogs in their last regular season road trip of the year.

The Tigers upped their district record to 8-3 with their 84-56 slap of the LaPryor Bulldogs.

In the first quarter the Bulldogs couldn't miss. Heading into the 2nd quarter losing 16-13, the Tigers turned it on. The Tigers took a 42-31 lead. They kept their 11 point lead to take a 53-42 lead to the fourth quarter. The Tigers played an excellent fourth quarter to end the game at 84-56.

Stealing the show was Ruben Terrazas with 32 points and double figure rebounds. Brian Hooker had 15 points and double figure rebounds. Mike Padron had 10 points and double figure assists. Also in double figure rebounding was Moses Hernandez and Kirk Hill.

#	Name	Points Scored
5	Michael Padron	10
10	Brian Hooker	15
15	Ruben Terrazas	32
20	Beau Smallwood	8
22	Ramon DeLeon	14
40	Moses Hernandez	5

Tigers Play Dilley

Tigers play Dilley here Friday at 6:30. Just after the JV boys. If the Tigers win, they will play Dilley again for a playoff for 2nd place of District 29-AA. The winner of that game goes to the playoffs. Support your Tigers as they take their biggest step to win the playoffs.

Student Activities During the Fourth Six Weeks

Two weeks ago every student in the Middle School and High School who passed all their classes was treated to a coke party in the cafeteria.

All Elementary and Middle School Students who made the Honor Roll for the Third Six Weeks were treated to an Honor Ice Cream Party recently. The ice cream and cones were donated by Super S. Over 150 students were eligible for this activity. A certificate was given to each student for their accomplishments.

61 High School students who made the All A or A-B Honor Roll were treated to Mr. Gatti's Pizza on February 7. In about 20 minutes they managed to devour 16 large pizzas, receive Valentine candy and certificates, and were on their way back to class.

On Friday, February 9 the Middle School held their annual Valentine's Dance. Over 90 students were in attendance. During the dance, Eighth graders Coty Williams and Molly Montalvo were crowned Valentine King and Queen; seventh graders Eric Allen and April Crumley were crowned Prince and Princess and sixth graders Josh Garey and Stephanie Gomez were crowned Duke and Duchess. Many thanks to all the parents who chaperoned and sent refreshments.

FRESHMEN CLASS FAVORITES

Most Handsome/Beautiful: Moses Villarreal, Stephanie Terrazas, Most Likely to Succeed: Aaron Taylor, Mandy Petrosky, Most Popular:

SOPHOMORE CLASS FAVORITES

Most Handsome/Beautiful: Jose Gonzalez, Katy Hagler, Most Likely to Succeed-Alfred Rodriguez, Windy Goodloe, Most Popular-Jose Gonzalez, Windy Goodloe, Funniest-Michael Meyer, Cecilia Terrazas, Friendliest-Lionel Ramos, Windy Goodloe, Favorite Couple-Cecilia Terrazas and Demetrius Williams.

JUNIOR CLASS FAVORITES

Most Handsome/Beautiful-Michael Aguirre, Bonnie Hughes, Most Likely to Succeed-David Melancon, Courtney Harrison, Most Popular-Beau Smallwood, Sandra Hernandez, Funniest-Butch Lopez, Zandra Negrete, Friendliest-Michael Aguirre, Donna Campos, Favorite Couple-Chica Garza and Moses Hernandez.

SENIOR CLASS FAVORITES

Most Handsome/Beautiful-Michael Padron, Denise Frerich, Most Likely to Succeed-Jared Shahan, Valerie Jimenez, Most Popular-Michael Padron, Denise Frerich, Funniest-Kirk Hill, Terry Esparza, Friendliest-Carlos Martinez, Valerie Jimenez, Favorite Couple-Monica Rodriguez and John Castro.
 MR AND MISS BHS
 Ruben Terrazas and Isabel Aguirre



It's time to add a few words about the dedication of school board members. It's a subject that I know well. Having attended school board meetings at least monthly for 26 years, I feel competent to write on this subject. 22 of those years were spent working directly with school boards in my capacity as Superintendent of Schools in New Mexico. The past four have been in a more relaxed position of curriculum director at BISD.

The impetus for the type in Texas about Boards came from Gov. George W. Bush's proclamation of February as School Board Recognition Month. Our governor wants folks all over Texas to recognize the contributions of school boards as they provide a vision for Texas school children. Gov. Bush eloquently described the governing board of the biggest business in most cities--the public schools. Education takes one of the largest bites out of the state budget. It's an expensive business. It's our future.

In Brackettville, we have 7 elected board members who represent the citizenry in making policy and providing direction for BISD. I think that the biggest job of a board is to hire a superintendent who can competently administer the schools in accordance with local policy and state and federal law.

The Board is a vital part of the public schools of Texas. They decide lots of issues. When the talk is over, a vote must be taken...decide the issue...move on to another problem. There's never enough time. Looking over last Monday's agenda of the Board of Trustees, the meetings was to begin at 6:30 P.M. and to end about 12:20 A.M. But, about half way through, the Board put the agenda on the fast track and finished about 11. There were agenda items about facilities, budgets, taxes, elections, security, textbooks, calendars, athletics, curriculum, personnel as well as listening during a couple of public forum sessions. A reception to honor the board given by educators and students was held at 6:00. It was a long evening.

There is no pay for school board members. Every school patron expects you to represent them. There are long hours, some harmony, some discordance and lots of talk. Seems like talk is cheap. Every person who appears before the board-thinks that the topic must be covered at least 110%...so we talk and talk and talk. One of the biggest problems that a board has is cutting to the good stuff that makes a difference for kids. Each Board is responsible for assuring that the assessment of students, school staff and educational programs occurs in their community.

Local school board members are to be strong advocates for public education and they are responsible for

communicating the needs of the district to the public and the public's expectations to the district.

The very best board members that I have known believed in the chain of command. Have you talked to the teacher, principal and superintendent about this problem before appearing before the board? I can remember those questions being asked to an aggrieved patron in New Mexico. If the answer was no, the Board president told the school patron to work through the problems with the folks who could help the most. That president said "come back to the next meeting if you haven't solved the problem." He was saying, go to the teacher and ask for help...then to the principal...then to the superintendent. If you still have problems, contact the board. It's good process that works best for everyone concerned. Teachers want it this way...so do administrators...so do board members. Problems are solved faster for school patrons in this way.

In the final analysis, board members need to be heard. They give of their time because they have beliefs about how schools should be run...how kids should be treated...and who should be working in the schools. They listen to the public. They provide direction to the school. Successful board members know that they must do their homework before presenting arguments. They also know that they must find common ground with other board members if they are to be successful. Good board members know that their power is as a board...not as an individual member of that board.

I enjoy the Brackett Board of Education. Members are:

Jim Bader, President, Jim McDaniel, Vice President, Rosemary Slubar, Secretary, Gloria Garcia, Stan Conoly, Darlene Shahan, Lloyd Lee Davis.

These folks get along fine together. They want the best for Brackett's kids. They try to support the professional staff in it's job to give the best to the kids. They work hard to stretch the district's financial support without overtaxing the taxpayers. Above all, they take pride in excellence. They want the best for our kids.

So, the job of serving on a school board is tough, and you do it free! Not many folks thank you when things go well... Most of us moan when things don't. Board members spend lots of hours studying, talking & listening to all sides of issues. A wise person once said, "you can accomplish miracles if you don't care who gets the credit." Behind every good school stands a board that has its act together. I'm thankful that our BISD board does. Take time to thank these folks. They deserve a tip of the hat! They make a difference at BISD!



Tiger Band

Congratulations to the Tiger Band members that participated in the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest this past Saturday. All entries received a First Division rating. These were: Brandy Meeks-Flute Solo, Valerie Jimenez-Clarinet Solo, Alfred Rodriguez-Bass Clarinet Solo, Windy Goodloe-Tenor Saxophone Solo, Jo Lee Jones-Trumpet Solo, and Brandy Meeks, Valerie

Jimenez, and Alfred Rodriguez-Woodwind Trio. Brandy Meeks, Valerie Jimenez, and Alfred Rodriguez qualified for the UIL State Solo and Ensemble contest to be held in Austin later this year. Congratulations to all students involved.

The Tiger Band would like to thank Mary Beth Mills for accompanying the soloists.

The MRGDC Small Business Development Center Is Sponsoring A IRS Tax Seminar

The Middle Rio Grand Development Council Small Business Development Center is sponsoring a special IRS Tax Seminar, on "The Proper Filing of Schedule C and F for 1995." Scheduled for February 22, 1996 at two different time frames and locations. In Uvalde, at the Middle Rio Grande Development Council's Conference Room, located at 209 North Getty from 8:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. In Carrizo Springs at the local, Civic Center, located at 405 North 7th Street from 1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. These workshops are of special interest to owners of small businesses and all farmers located in the nine county region which include Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, LaSalle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde and Zavala Counties.

It is important that business owners and farmers have the opportunity to meet IRS employees on a one-on-one basis to ask questions in a non-adversarial setting.

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council Small Business Development Center under cooperative agreement No. #5-7770-0049-10-SRSURGC/MRGDC is partially funded and is in a partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration and Sul Ross State University Small and Minority Development Center. The support given by the U.S. Small Business Administration through such funding does not constitute an expressed or implied endorsement of any of the co-sponsors' or participants' opinions, findings, conclusions, recommendations, products or services. All SBDC programs are nondiscriminatory and open to the public. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested in advance. Contact MRGDC/SBDC by calling 210-278-2527 or 278-4151.

These Seminars Are Free And Open To The Public

**At the
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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

*Come fill up on the best
 Sausage & Pancakes
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5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday February 20
 Adults \$3.50 Children \$2.00

County Agent News

By Alan L. McWilliams



PRUNING TIME IS AT HAND

February is an ideal time to prune most flowering shrubs in Texas, whether they are in dormancy or not. Horticulturalists at Texas A&M say one plant that needs pruning is the crepe myrtle, which has become so popular in the southwest over the last ten years. The most important thing to remember when pruning crepe myrtles is to keep the shape of the plant intact.

For crepe myrtles, the most beneficial pruning is on the dormant seedpods and any dead branches. Cutting back the seedpods is important because the leftover seedpods are sending a small chemical signal to the rest of the plant telling it that it's already done the job of setting a bloom head. Because you need to keep the natural shape of the shrub, do not be lead into butch cutting — or a straight cut across the top of a full grown crepe myrtle — which can greatly deter regrowth later on this spring.

While we're on the subject of pruning, February is also the ideal time in Texas, to prune back roses. Now, while we said earlier that keeping the natural shape of most flowering shrubs is essential, the pruning of hybrid tea roses is completely different. It is essential to know whether your roses are everblooming or once-blooming, because if you prune the once-bloomers now, you are pruning back this year's growth of flowers. You should only remove dead wood twiggly growth or shaded growth. Giving so-called severe "haircuts" will cause trouble for the plant during the spring growth. Since pruning is actually a wounding process, the plant must use extra energy during the healing process.

GARDEN CHECKLIST FOR FEBRUARY

-Do not fertilize newly set out trees or shrubs until after they have started to grow, and then only very lightly the first year.

-When buying plants, the biggest is not always the best, especially with bare-rooted plants. The medium to small sizes (4-6 foot) usually become established faster and will become effective in the landscape much quicker than the larger sizes.

-Complete the bar-rooted planting of woody landscape plants this month. Container and ball and burlapped plants are in good supply and can be set out most any time. Winter and early spring planting provides an opportunity for good establishment before hot weather comes.

-Now is a good time to select and plant container-grown roses to fill

those bare spots in your rose garden.

-When pruning shrubs, follow these steps:

a. Prune out any dead or damaged branches first.

b. Thin out by removing about 1/3 of the canes or stems at ground level.

c. Shape the rest of the plant but do not cut everything back to the same height.

-Now is the ideal time to plant a pecan tree in your home landscape. Trees planted after March do not have as good a survival chance as those planted now.

ALOE VERA

Aloe Vera has been around for a long time. The spiny tender leaves of the aloe plant have been harvested and used since the days of the Roman Empire. Initially, they were valued for their medicinal properties. In the Middle Ages, however, aloe was an ingredient in the mysterious compounds used by witches and charlatans. In Egypt, aloe is believed to bring good fortune.

Although aloe can be started from seed, it is best to obtain young plants, called pups, that develop near the base of the plant. Aloe likes sandy, well-drained soil and full sun. In Texas, the desert-looking aloe is often used in rock gardens along with other plants that have unusual shape or striking configurations. Aloe is winter hardy, meaning it can withstand any winter weather, only in deep South Texas. It requires protection every where else and in many years, such as this one, should be brought indoors.

Aloe is an ideal potted plant. It requires little water and little fertilizer. It can be put on a windowsill that receives direct sunlight, or a coffee table or plant stand that receives indirect sunlight. For indoor culture use a potting mix of 50 percent sand and 50 percent loose soil.

The clear smooth jelly of the aloe plant can be used in the home to treat minor kitchen burns, abrasions and sunburns. Any leaf can be harvested — simply cut one off and peel back a portion of the skin. It dries quickly when applied. Aloe leaves will keep a few days in the refrigerator. Unused portions also can be wrapped tightly and stored in the freezer.

The Kinney County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service is located on the second floor of the county courthouse and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed during the noon hour each day.

Fort Clark Community Council Gets New Baby for Cavalry Room

At the regular meeting of the Fort Clark Community Council on February 9, 1996 the group voted to purchase a baby Grande Piano and place it in the Cavalry Room of the Las Moras Inn. Les Roper announced that they found a good piano and several musical people said it was a quality instrument. The new 'Baby' is scheduled for delivery sometime Wednesday Feb. 14th.

Howard Skelton and a committee are studying the Charter and Bi-Laws of the Council. When the study is completed the committee will present a revised edition to the Council for their approval.

The Council is checking into the requirements by Texas Department of Transportation to put up a sign on US 90 advertising Fort Clark Springs. A report will be made at the next meeting. If anyone is planning to travel and wants to take along some FCS Brochures, they will be available at the Campers World RV Park office.

George Foster made a plea for all members to oppose the proposed Waste Dump at Spofford. Bob Burkpile asked the Council if they would be interested in being one of the sponsors for the Las Moras Golf Tournament. The motion was made and passed to give the Las Moras Golf Tournament \$50.00 for a donation.

Volunteers for the Committee to head the Anniversary Year activities will be: Diane Daniels, Lynda Conroy, Howard Skelton, George Foster, Helen Peck, Charlene Simmons, Jack Schram and Joan Boutwell. This committee will report on the activities at the next meeting. A suggestion was made to have Anniversary buttons made and sold in order to raise some funds for the costs. The buttons will entitle the wearer to discounts at certain events during the year. The contest for the button design and slogan will begin immediately.

Rotary Club

The first Happy Shahan Memorial Golf Tournament, which was a scramble, was held on February 10th and was a great success. Stan Conoly was in charge of the tournament. The cold, which had discouraged outside activities for weeks, cleared up and the tournament day was beautiful.

Everyone competed enthusiastically and gathered afterwards at the club house to eat hamburgers and french fries. Members of winning teams won hams, and a pastel painting of a western scene was awarded to one player in a drawing.

At the Thursday, February 8th meeting, program chairman Dr. Charles Schmidt presented Buddy Burgess, Kinney county sheriff, as speaker. Burgess was appointed sheriff in mid-December of 1995 and is now running for election. He came out of retirement to take the job of sheriff, but his career was as a highway patrolman. He has been orienting himself to the job.

When he came into the office, he found everything running well. The main thing needed was an increase in federal prisoners. The federal government pays \$35.00 a day expenses for each—an important source of income for any jail. He was able to get that increased. Now, 22 federal prisoners are incarcerated here as well as four county prisoners.

Burgess has hired 4 more jailers. Contrary to rumors, he has fired no one. Burgess has two deputy sheriffs who work in law enforcement. Since entering the office, he has received good response from the highway patrol and border patrol.

Most of the prisoners jailed here

were involved in smuggling. Prisoners usually want out of jail and have to be watched closely. One thing that Burgess has had to learn is the importance of observing the rights of prisoners because of protective laws. Many of them live far more comfortably in prison than they did before being incarcerated. For instance, they must be exercised twice a week. Their medical and religious needs must be met. Toiletries are provided if the prisoner can not afford to pay for them.

The prisoner's mail must be handled, and they may have visitors twice a week. Jailers also monitor traffic and communicate with other agencies. They monitor 911 calls and disperse ambulances. Many telephone calls come in, many urgent. Recently, many people have come in to be finger printed because of the new gun law which allows citizens to be armed.

Juvenile crimes provide the most frustrating problem. Juveniles can't be jailed with adult prisoners and must be taken to Del Rio to be incarcerated. After completing 1 and 1/2 hours of paper work, Del Rio often can't accommodate the prisoners. That means they must be released to parents and returned to the same disturbed home situations which helped create the problems in the first place. Burgess is trying diligently to get juvenile crime under control.

Sheriff Burgess provided an interesting look at the activities and the responsibilities of this office. We thank him and Dr. Schmidt for presenting this program to us.

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Free European Travel Planner
 (NAPS)—What city is Europe's 1996 Cultural Capital? Who is receiving special attention in Germany, Spain and Scotland this year? How long is the drive from Rome to Vienna?
 The answers are 1) Copenhagen; 2) religious reformer Martin Luther, painter Francisco

Goya and poet Robert Burns, respectively; and 3) 716 miles.
 It's all in the latest edition of **Planning Your Trip to Europe**, available free to the public. With 68 pages of photos, maps and basic information on everything from passports to currency exchange, the planner is an authoritative introduction to Europe. Included are leading attractions of 26 countries, as well as ideas on dining, shopping and touring.

Planning Your Trip to Europe is presented by the European Travel Commission and its member national tourist offices in cooperation with Rail Europe, American Airlines and Hertz.
 A copy is available by writing to: European Travel Planner, PO Box 1754, New York, NY 10185. Allow about three weeks for delivery. (Note: Internet travelers can now visit Europe at <http://www.goeeurope.com>.)



Val Verde Memorial Hospital
 Val Verde Memorial Hospital, in cooperation with the South Texas Blood Bank, will host a blood drive Wednesday, March 6th, from 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. in the Lab Conference Room at the hospital. It is important to note the extended hours of this blood drive. An additional two hours were added to the drive to accommodate those potential donors who are unable to leave work prior to 6:00 P.M.
 Requirements for donors are: must be between the ages of 17 years of age (all 17 year olds must have written parental consent) and 72 years of age; must be in good general health; must weigh at least 110 pounds; and must not have donated blood in the past 8 weeks.
 If you are taking antibiotics on the day of the blood drive, if you have recently had surgery, active allergies, or are pregnant, you will be deferred — or ask to wait until the next regularly scheduled blood drive which will be in July. Val Verde Memorial Hospital is one of 75 hospitals and clinics in a 43-county service area supplied with blood and blood products by the South Texas Blood & Tissue Center.
 All donors will be asked to show proper identification before beginning the donation process. Proper identification should include the donor's name, plus one of the following: date of birth, Social Security Number or photo identification. Turnips Can't...People Can!!! Give Blood, the Gift of Life! You never know when the life you save may be yours or that of someone you love.
 For additional information, please call 775-8566, Ext 250.
 Progress...that's what can be seen as one drives down Bedell Ave. past Val Verde Memorial Hospital! Con-

struction is moving right along and the projected completion date for the newest addition to the hospital is July 1996. While the construction may temporarily be an inconvenience, the end result will be well worth the wait!
 Approximately 40,000 square feet of new space is being constructed. This new addition will include a primary care clinic, a consolidated outpatient clinic (the V.V.M.H. Out Patient Clinic is currently located across the street from the hospital). Once construction is complete, the Out Patient Clinic will be under the same roof as the hospital. An ultra modern maternal health center which will include private rooms as well as LDRs (this is a room where the expectant mom can labor, deliver, and recover in a bedroom-like setting), traditional delivery rooms, and a new nursery. The hospital's physical therapy center is being renovated and expanded, the outpatient surgery (or same-day surgery) is being expanded to accommodate the increase in the number of same-day surgeries currently being done at the hospital. The nursing unit known as Station 4 has been completely renovated and there will also be a designated pediatric unit once construction is complete.
 Why has Val Verde Memorial Hospital embarked on this big project? To better serve the patients in this community and the surrounding area. With the rapid shift in demand for outpatient services now and in the future, these changes and additions will better meet those needs. Operating efficiencies will be gained in the design and consolidation of some areas. And it will enlarge and improve our labor, delivery and other maternal health services.
 During this period of construction, the hospital is approximately 12 beds

short. However, once construction is complete there will be 51 medical/surgical beds, 8 intensive care beds, 16 beds in the OB area, and 16 bassinets in the nursery. While the construction project does not include the addition of any beds, with the redesign of some areas, it has created a temporary shortage of beds, which, at this particular time of year can be an inconvenience. Scott Evans, Hospital Administrator, stated "we appreciate the community's support and understanding as we work toward the completion of the construction project. While today it may be a bit of an inconvenience because we have 12 less patient beds to work with, we know that once the project is complete, everyone will agree that it was well worth a bit of inconvenience for a short period of time. Even with the temporary shortage, no one has been denied care because of the bed shortage. Appropriate arrangements have been made for all patients who need hospital care."
 Total cost of this project is about \$6.6 million dollars. It is important to note that the hospital has the money in the bank to pay for the construction. Val Verde Memorial Hospital is recognized as a "Disproportionate Share Hospital" by the Texas Department of Human Services for the high volume of Medicaid services rendered. The hospital is awarded additional funds as partial compensation for these services, and is mandated to spend these funds to improve healthcare services within the community.
 This is the most recent major construction/renovation the hospital has had since 1982.
 Val Verde Memorial Hospital...Partners In Caring For YOUR Good Health!

February 14, 1996
 In Loving Memory of H. B. "Nick" Nixon
 Another lonely year has gone by, Without you by my side. I'll face each tomorrow with a smile, but my sorrow I cannot hide.
 I came back home to stay a while, and look around the place. It's not the same without you, and that loneliness I cannot face.
 I even brought your old dog Jack and let him run around out back. He, like me is searching sadly about his old home, remembering how about the land we used to roam.
 Now the time has come to decide just where I want to reside. Memories here are so strong, I suppose this is where I belong.

Love Poems Sought In Free Contest
 A \$1,000 grand prize is being offered in a free poetry contest, open to everyone in the Brackettville area. There are over \$3,000 in prizes, and the deadline for entering is April 7, 1996. Winners will be announced on or before June 1, and a winner's list sent to all entrants.
 "Poems must be written on love, or have a love theme," says Daisy Rudge, Contest Director of the famed New York Poetry Alliance. "Poets are the brief chroniclers of our time. In a world so full of hate, we'd like to see what poets say about love. We feel this contest will produce exciting results and, as such, reserve the right to publish the winning poems. Beginners are welcome!"
 To enter, send one poem 21 lines or less to: Poetry Contest, 134 W. 32nd St., Suite 264, New York, NY 10001.

Community Calendar
 A.A.: Open meeting, Monday, 8 PM, Slatior Hall, James St.
 Las Moras Masonic Lodge 444: 2nd Tue. 7 p.m., Lodge Hall, Ann St.
 Band Booster Club: 1st Tuesday, 7 p.m., High School Band Hall
 BISS School Board: 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., School Board Room
 Beta Sigma Phi
 R of J Beta Epsilon Omicron (Sept-May) 2nd & 4th Monday, 7 p.m.
 Preceptor Theta Sigma (Sept-May) 1st & 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.
 Laureate Iota Epsilon (all year) 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.
 Boot Scooters: Thursday 7:00 PM, Town Hall, FCS
 Mountain Laurel Garden Club: 2nd Thursday, 10 a.m. Adult Center
 Kinney Co. Chamber of Commerce Board: 2nd Thu. 6:30 p.m. FC Restaurant
 City Council: 1st Tuesday after 2nd Monday, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
 K.C. Commissioners Court: 2nd Monday, 9 a.m., Court House
 Del Rio Christian Women's Club: 1st Wednesday, 12 Noon San Felipe Country Club. Reservations required.
 FCS Pot Luck Supper: 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Service Club. Bring covered dish, plates and utensils.
 FC Duplicate Bridge: Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Adult Center
 FCS Art Club: Work days Monday and Saturday a.m., Meeting 1st Monday, 1 p.m., Art Studio
 FCS Community Council: 2nd Saturday, 10 a.m., Shafter Hall.
 FCS Board of Directors: 3rd Saturday, 10:00 a.m., Board Room
 FCS Historical Society: 4th Saturday, 9:30 a.m., Palisado Building.
 FCS Museum/Sutler's Store: Saturday & Sunday, 1-4 p.m.
 FCS Ladies Luncheon: 2nd Wednesday, Noon, Las Moras Restaurant. Make reservations at Adult Center.
 FCS VFW #8360 & Auxiliary: 4th Monday, Service Club 6 p.m. Pot Luck, 7 p.m. Meetings
 FCS Old Quarry Society: 1st Monday, 6 p.m., Adult Center.
 Friends of Library: No regular schedule. Call library for info.
 K.C. Historical Preservation Society: 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Court House.
 KC Kickers: 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Service Club.
 Knights of Columbus: 1st Sunday, 12 Noon, Parish Hall.
 Lions Club: 1st and 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Las Moras Restaurant.
 Order of Eastern Star 204: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 407 Bedell, Del Rio.
 FC Shrine Club: 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Las Moras Restaurant.
 Rotary Club: Every Thursday, 12 Noon, Las Moras Restaurant.
 Methodist Ladies Luncheon: 3rd Wednesday, Noon, Slatior Hall, Please make reservations.
 Kinney County Heritage Museum: 2nd and 4th Saturday, 1-4 p.m., Filippone Building.

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Exclusively for Women

Francis Henry French was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on September 27, 1857. Deeply impressed from his youth by the stirring deeds and stories told by veterans of the Civil War, he realized his ambition for a military career by entering the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York where he graduated twelfth from the Class of 1879. He was assigned as 2nd Lieut. of "E" Company 19th Infantry and came West. Following service at Fort Garland, Colorado Territory and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the regiment moved to Fort Brown at Brownsville, Texas where Lt. French was detailed as the Regimental Adjutant. In December of 1882 the 19th Infantry was posted to Fort Clark.

At Fort Clark, on January 1, 1883, Lt. French began diaries which he faithfully maintained for the next thirty years.

February 1884: Lt. French eagerly awaits the arrival of his relief ("D" Troop, 8th Cavalry) so he may return to Ft. Clark after over two months of field service commanding the Seminole-Negro Indian Scout Detachment close to the line of the Southern Pacific at Mayers Spring (near present day Dryden). The Detachment begins the trek back to Ft. Clark on the 7th with French locating his bed in the ambulance. After a five day journey the post is reached and no time is lost rejoining the society of the fort as numerous "calls" are made the first night back. French petitions Gen'l Smith to be assigned the quarters next to the Adjutant's Office (today's Harrison house) and moves in the day of the "Leap Year" Hop. He resumes his daily visits to the Seminole Camp and catches his turn as Officer of the Guard. A theatrical is performed at the Post Hall (possibly located in Lucille Schooler's house) and lawn tennis becomes a frequent activity. Lt. French is the social butterfly as he escorts or visits every lady on the post in his role as the proper Victorian gentleman.

Friday, February 15 1884

Returned from the party about two o'clock this morning, after leaving partner at Mrs. Buffington's. Spent the rest of the night in new quarters. Ives left last night for San Antonio as the new hop room is to be opened there tonight. It is rather strange that they have not invited any of us to participate as so many of them came up for our hop last December. Had the rations for the rest of the month taken out to camp today. Went out to stables as usual this evening. Fountain called in the evening & invited me to dinner on Sunday. Afterwards called with Shunk on Gen'l Smith, but only Mrs. Smith was at home, at Guard's and at Col. Lyster's. Learned there that Maddox visited Marie while on leave. This may make a match. Wonder how I would feel now if told that they are engaged. After

FOOTSTEPS ECHO

The Fort Clark Diaries and Letters of
Major General Francis Henry French

Courtesy of his descendants



this call Shunk came into my house & we talked a while. Almost went to sleep in my chair while he was in the room. Clear & cold today.

Saturday, February 16 1884

Capt. Vance went out hunting with Hall & Hewitt today. Guard was in my house this morning making some papers about John Thompson, dead scout, while I read papers from home. Went out to stables as usual. After dark went over to visit at a lodge in town, Eckerson vouching for Maj. Withere'll & me, & King being examined. Saw a trial there but did not wait for the raising of a man. After returning took a bath.

Sunday, February 17 1884

Wrote usual letter home this morning but did not finish it until nearly time to dress for dinner. Mr. & Mrs. Hammond, Mrs. Buffington, Miss Kauffman & Steele were at dinner also and we had a very pleasant party. Confound my stomach it kept me uneasy all the meal. Must conquer this thing as it is only a fancy on my part. Left soon after dinner to go down to camp, but no pony was at my quarters. Put on civilian clothes and walked up & down the line awhile with Mrs. Hammond, Miss Kauffman & Steele. Then went to Shunk's & had a long talk with him. The young is inclined to be cynical as he is just finding out what a sham society is. Later in the evening he came over to my quarters and we played duets. Maddox went out to Mayers Springs last night.

Monday, February 18 1884

Made out duplicates of enlistment papers and returned several papers to Washington in obedience to some letters from the Adjutant General. Feel much better now that these are sent. Went out to stables in the evening. After dark called at Col. Bliss', Dr. Heger's, Col. Bernard's and Col. Towle's, sitting on the porch with Mrs. Remington on the next porch. ([Asterisk] Mistake. Called on Col. Towle Sunday evening.) Then went down to the store & played billiards with Hewitt & Cunningham. Buffington got in from Mayers Springs today.

Tuesday, February 19, 1884

Spoke to Hammond today about lawn tennis & agreed to get a Seminole here tomorrow to help put up the court which Hammond has. This morning's paper contains the welcome news that we are entitled to longevity for West Point service by decision of Court of Claims. If not reversed by Supreme Court, this will give me about \$200 or \$300 arrearage. Have already sent power of attorney to collect this to Rutherford of Washington (see diary for January 23.) This will be a big help to me just now, as I have engaged to pay \$200 cash & note for \$500 in two years, 10% interest for a third in to be married in the Fall, and I owe Capt. Vance \$100 on a note. So this arrearage will be a bonanza to me. Went to camp as usual this evening. After dark escorted Miss Kauffman over to Capt. Hall's where Miss Armour & Eckerson, Shunk & Steele played "Go-bang" & spent a very pleasant evening. Fountain left for Mayers Springs tonight and does not care to go much.

Wednesday, February 20 1884

Wilson was released from the guard house this morning. He reported to me at the Quartermaster's. Told him to look out as I intended to be very strict with him in future. Had Luce Cassas come in and with Hammond put up the lawn tennis & played a few games, Flynn & Cunningham joining us. Then wrote letter home. Went out to camp as usual. After returning sat down to read a while & went to sleep in the chair. Woke up at 8-10. Had engagement to escort Mrs. Hall to promenade concert at 7-30. Dressed in a hurry & went to her house. She kindly excused me & went over with me but it was more than half over. After returning went down to the Sutler's where I played billiards with Cunningham.

Thursday, February 21 1884

Played lawn tennis a short time this morning after guard mounting. Guard & Chaplain Blaine came in just before noon but left in time for

me to dress and go to Gen. Smith's for lunch with Steele. After lunch returned to play duets with Shunk but he had to attend a court martial. Some of the Seminoles are acting like fools and I am becoming thoroughly disgusted. This evening at stables the Sergeant complained of Carolina July. Ordered him to be brought to my house tomorrow morning. In the evening went to a children's party at the hop room given my Mamie Smith in honor of May Phelps and had a pleasant time there. Escorted Mrs. Doughty and Mrs. Lyster home. Then went to Geary's a while and then into Hewitt's & sat there talking with him and Williams until rather late. Vernon gave a card party this evening to which I was not invited. As I had not called yet, could not expect an invitation and was not disappointed.

Friday, February 22 1884

Washington's Birthday observed as a national holiday by the suspension of all work at the Post except necessary guard & fatigue duties. Played tennis a while this morning. Had Carolina July confined & caught Prymus Thompson in a square lie. Have given him to expect severe treatment in future. Played two games of billiards with Hewitt and then went over to town to see Mrs. Ross to whom Thompson had pawned a horse belonging to his sister-in-law. Mrs. Ross promised to give up the horse and I am to collect the money from Thompson's next pay day. Played duets in the afternoon with Shunk. Went out to stables as usual. In the evening called at Capt. Remington's, Maj. Withere'll's and Dr. Buffington's. After returning read Heart of Mid-Lothian a while.

Answers to Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
37	SEC	ODESSA	NVA	MRS	TERESA	RAFFI	TO						
46	AMO	SACHET	OLEB	TERESA	RAFFI	TO							
	DINA	HISHORE	BILLY	OCCEAN	EVAN								
	ERGS	OREA	MAIL	SECRET	YAN								
	SITU	FREN	SEEP	OSHEL	SECRET								
51	URIT	FREN	SEEP	OSHEL	SECRET								
	SURIT	FREN	SEEP	OSHEL	SECRET								
68	EGYPT												
	ANA	BUSH	AVIA	ACAL	PULCO								
	OPAL	ETOT	ACE	ENDOW									
61	HAT	FR	MUS	ICAL	ERLE								
	ALTA	R	DO	A	RA								
	NOAN	PER	MANENT	WAVE									
75	LAS	AGNA	ODTE	TEEM									
	ALA	GR	IN	MA	RTO	ALAS							
82	TOM	MY	SAND	IS	GO	GERA							
	INSER	HEX	RE	ALLY	DO								
88	NEAR	S	RE	ALLY	DO								

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ROADRUNNER ENERGY

Another Insult To Texas Juries:
A Reason To Abolish
The Court Of Criminal Appeals

By John Bradley

It is time for Texas voters to give the Court of Criminal Appeals the death penalty. For more than a hundred years, the Court, along with its statewide authority to hear the final appeals in criminal matters, has been the object of public ridicule. The opinions of this Court follow an unrelenting pattern of reversing criminal convictions for reasons unrelated to the fairness of a trial.

Just in the last few years, liberal members of the Court of Criminal Appeals have shown an appalling disrespect for our juries. The Court has said that juries can't take notes during trial without strict supervision, can't ask questions of witnesses, and must not hear certain evidence about the criminal background of a defendant in deciding guilt or punishment. Those judges just don't trust you.

On January 31, the Court added one more insult. In an opinion by Judge Frank Maloney, a liberal Democrat who is the only judge currently seeking re-election in November, the Court said appellate judges now have the unreviewable power to reverse a criminal conviction even after a rational jury finds the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The Court of Criminal Appeals has lost all semblance of a hall of justice. Too many times, the Court has forgotten victims in its rush to reverse a criminal conviction. Now the jury is also forgotten. This latest windfall for the criminal allows a judge, who did not hear the evidence or see the witnesses in the courtroom, to substitute the court's opinion for the wisdom of twelve members of a com-

munity. It is yet another outrageous signal of disrespect for the hard work and conscientious deliberation of Texas juries.

Allowing judges to second guess juries will undoubtedly increase the likelihood that law-abiding citizens will again become victims of an otherwise properly convicted criminal. Enough is enough.

There are two ways for society to protect itself from the Court of Criminal Appeals. First, for the short term, vote in the March 12 primary for conservative judges to serve on the Court. But beware that several criminal defense attorneys in the race are using the Republican party label to camouflage their liberal agenda. Second, for more permanent justice, support a constitutional amendment to abolish the Court of Criminal Appeals.

For society truly to protect itself against the senseless liberal rulings of the judges on the Court of Criminal Appeals, it must put an end to that Court's unrestrained and disrespectful use of power. I am now running for election to the Court in the Republican primary to provide conservative leadership that respects law enforcement, victims, and juries.

Meanwhile, Senator Buster Brown (R-Lake Jackson) has proposed a sensible constitutional amendment to abolish the Court of Criminal Appeals and unify final appellate jurisdiction in our Texas Supreme Court. I support that effort, even if it means losing my job after being elected to the Court.

Texas has 14 intermediate courts of appeals that do a commendable job

of hearing and resolving criminal appeals while maintaining respect for law enforcement. The Texas Supreme Court has a reputation for a conservative, respectful approach to reviewing decisions from those appellate courts in civil matters and could easily absorb the appeals of criminal matters.

It is time to do something that will permanently protect law-abiding citizens from opinions that threaten the public safety. Contact your senator and representative and let them know you support a constitutional amendment to abolish the Court of Criminal Appeals. In the meantime, vote on March 12 for conservative judges to serve on the Court.

John Bradley currently is a chief felony prosecutor in Williamson County and is a former felony prosecutor in Harris County for District Attorney Johnny Holmes. He also is a candidate in the Republican primary for Place 3 on the Court of Criminal Appeals, the seat currently occupied by Democrat Frank Maloney. Bradley previously served as a briefing attorney and research assistant for Judge Charles Campbell on the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Bradley, who is board certified in criminal law, also served as a representative of law enforcement on the Punishment Standards Commission in 1991 and as general counsel on the Senate Criminal Justice Committee in the 1995 legislative session. He is a coauthor of "Texas Sentencing", a legal manual explaining Texas punishment laws, and frequently writes and speaks on criminal justice issues.

Ash Wednesday:
A Call To Repentance

The United Methodist Church would like to invite the community to a brief worship service in observance of Ash Wednesday. The service will be held in the sanctuary at 7 p.m., this Wednesday, February 21.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent. Lent is the 40 days prior to Easter spent in preparation for Easter through reflection, repentance, and remembering our baptism. (For a further understanding of Lent, see Pastor Sheree Harris' article on p. 9).

On Ash Wednesday we remember our mortality, answer Christ's call to repentance, and wait upon Christ for a renewing spirit. We acknowledge that except by God's grace we are "dust unto dust, ashes unto ashes." This is symbolized by the imposition of the ashes and holy communion. During the service, the congregation will be invited to be marked with ashes in the sign of the cross on the forehead. This is an optional invitation. Those who do not desire to be marked may remain in their pews during this part of the service.

All persons who profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior will also be invited to share in the Lord's Supper.

Although the Ash Wednesday observance is a very old service in our Christian heritage, it may be a new worship experience for many people. If you have any questions about the service, please feel free to call Rev. Sheree Harris (1-210-775-4052).

Moncus' Musings

MIKE MONCUS

Park Ranger, Interpreter
Bastrop State Park

The Smoke

The smoke when it had reached me was rich with oak leaf scent. The road below the hill was shrouded in a thick cloud of gray smoke. Billed as a "controlled burn" people were in the forest all along a line extending over a mile, maybe it was two if you include the paved street on the northern boundary of where the fire was planned to stay, the fire was like all fires potentially dangerous and potentially unpredictable. Everyone was ready to fight fire with spray rigs and rakes and miscellaneous gear. A battle against fire is like any battle if you're waiting for it to come your direction then you become a little if not a lot nervous depending on how accustomed you are to something terrifying. Battles-the wise avoid them the foolish welcome them. Almost everyone were raw recruits who had the previous few days gone through fire basic training and a few were true veterans of fire. As in war the weather was a prime determining factor as to the successful outcome of the prescribed burn. The humidity plus the wind and the fuel load mattered and would make up part of the equation and the difference as to

whether or not the fire would rage out of control or the fighters could control it and in the end put it out.

Early on you could see the burn was going to be quick. So fast that even the pine mat would only scorch across the top and not burn underneath. Occasionally uplifts of wind ignited needles hanging in the yaupon brush and a roaring explosion would burn itself out before much burn could continue. Some flames licked pretty high up on some of the rough loblolly pine bark but raced on leaving the tree comfortable but a little frightened. Small birds raced out and away ahead of the flaming terror but all other wildlife knew long in advance to become refugees. The fire soldiers weren't seeking prisoners or casualties. It was only a war against stagnation. A war against a part of the forest that hadn't changed in so long that it was becoming an enemy of itself. The battle when it was over was a success according to everyone who fought. Everyone went home a hero. Maybe that's true. Maybe it's not. Maybe like any war it was a matter of opinion or a matter of perspective.

Beta Sigma Phi Chapters

Beta Epsilon Omicron and Theta Sigma chapter members and guests joined together in a Sweetheart Celebration with dinner at Las Moras Inn on Saturday evening, February 10.

Chapter Presidents Marla Madrid and Luella Gilliland presided over the festivities. Lynn McNew and Cathy Conrey led the group in song and then Cathy gave the invocation prior to dinner.

A new transfer into Theta Sigma, Alicia Raymer, was given the Ritual of Welcome. She and her husband, Gil, have recently moved to Fort Clark from Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Since 1938 chapters in Beta Sigma Phi have elected sweethearts and the International winner's picture appears every February on the cover The

Torch, the official magazine.

Local past sweethearts Pam Melancon, Dee Gaston, Lynn McNew, Patsy Callnan, Pat McKelvey and Marge Geeze were introduced.

The highlight of the evening came when last year's sweethearts Pam Melancon and Dee Gaston announced their respective chapters 1996 sweethearts as Barbara Miller and Luella Gilliland. After the crowning ceremony gifts for the honorees and secret sisters were distributed.

Attractive centerpieces of white miniature trees flowering with hanging red hearts and paper heart cups filled with tasty small candies topped by colorfully wrapped chocolate kisses added to the festivities.

Good food...good fellowship...a true sweetheart of an evening.

Bridge Anyone

By Norma Gould

The FCS Duplicate Bridge Club met Tues. Feb. 6 with 9 tables in play.

Lamont & Marie McCandless won 1st place in N/S direction. Delina Hay & LaVerne Schaefer won 2nd place with Dena Scott & Mona Miller winning 3rd.

Evelyn Whitley & Ray Kurtz won 1st place in the E/W direction. Betty Schlatterer & Mary Butler won 2nd with Jerry O'Brien & Mary Edgar winning 3rd.



Genii were believed to be protective gods worshiped by the ancient Romans. The Romans believed each person had a genius (plural, genii) who gave protection and guidance



First Baptist Church
Rev. Gil Ash, Pastor
"The Pastor's Pen"

In Christian circles we have the opportunity to listen to people. In the course of our conversations, many promises are given, statements made, excuses offered. Perhaps it is easy to see, then, that some people do not "say what they mean":

"THEY SAY" usually means, "I heard it from at least one source, but everybody must believe it."

"IT NEEDS TO BE DONE" means, "I'm not going to do anything about it, but the church ought to."

"I'VE HEARD SOME CRITICISM" usually means, "I'm against it but I don't have the nerve to state my belief."

"THE WHOLE CHURCH IS UPSET" usually means, "Two or three loudmouths have turned loose their venom."

"IT MIGHT BRING CRITICISM" means, "I know it should be done but it takes too much effort for me to do it."

"IF MEMORY SERVES ME

RIGHT" really means, "I'm going to say something I'm not sure of, whether true or false, but if somebody discovers I'm wrong, then I can always blame my memory."

"PREACHER, I WILL BE THERE IF I'M NOT PROVIDENTIALLY HINDERED" nearly always means, "If I'm not there, you can blame God for it."

"I'LL COME EVERY TIME I CAN" usually means, "If I do not have something better to do I'll be there."

"I WON'T PROMISE, BUT I'LL DO MY BEST" MEANS, "Don't expect much out of me."

"I'M STILL STUDYING THE QUESTION" usually means, "I want to stay in a position to agree with both sides."

You can't take it from there! Christians should be far more careful to mean what they say and say what they mean than people of the world (Matthew 5:36,37).



Frontier Baptist Church
Rev. Joe Townsend, Pastor

In the beginning of his ministry Jesus with his mother and disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana of Galilee. They ran out of wine, Jesus' mother took note and called it to his attention. There were near the door six water jars where water was kept for the washing of hands and feet. There were six of them and they held twenty and thirty gallons each. Jesus told the nearby men to fill these with water. He then told them to dip out the water and give to the guests. It had been changed to the finest wine.

When Jesus spoke, he spoke with authority. He is God. His word is not subject to alteration nor denial. Any who claim intelligence enough to change it do so at their own risk and detriment, He spoke personally. He picked the men involved, He picked with definity, not splattering fashion. God speaks to individuals, a message for them particularly. What Jesus says is for a blessing to whom He speaks and through them to others. What Jesus says is for the

glory of the Father. In obeying the direction of Jesus we give glory to God the Father. He speaks only that which is good for the recipient. No need to question the leadership of Jesus unless you want to go the wrong way to your detriment, Jesus speaks the way of success and happiness. Because the men did what Jesus said there was much fine wine which caused the patrons to compliment the wine. A new side of Jesus was revealed. Never before had he directed a miracle. Now his followers and all present recognized Jesus as extraordinary and his ministry to meet humans was launched.

When Jesus speaks, it always is in accord with God's Word, the Bible and we do well to respond "Yes Lord", and follow Him. There will be another message from God's Word, the Bible, at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday, at 11:00 P.M. You are cordially invited to attend and be blessed. Come and see.

Brackettville Funeral Home

(Formerly Humphreys)

114 North Street Brackettville
210/563-9600
New Name - New Lower Prices

Anns Candle Shop & Botanica
Curandera y Consejera
Good Luck - Health - Happiness - Bingo - Love-Incense - Herbs
Protection pouches to protect you from all dangers
Psychic Advisor and Card Reader on all affairs of life - Love, Marriages, business and health. She is gifted to help you no matter what your problem might be. *Sufre usted en el Amor, Matrimonio, No tiene suerte en el trabajo, en el negocio? Yo lo ayudo en cualquier problema de la vida. SE ECHAN LAS BARAJAS SE HACEN LIMPIESAS*
Call for appt. 901 S. Main
(210) 775-7819 Del Rio, Texas

First United Methodist Church



Rev. Sheree Harris, Pastor

Have you ever wished that you could just wipe the slate clean -- erase all the things that you wish you hadn't done and all the missed opportunities for doing something good -- and start all over? If you have wished that, then the Christian season of Lent is for you! We can't wipe our own slate clean, but God can, and with God's help we can start over. Lent is the season in the Christian year during which we ask God to do just that.

Observance of the Lenten season goes all the way back to the very early (apostolic) Church, the first 200 years after Christ. Lent is the 40 days, not counting Sundays, preceding Easter. Sundays are not included because the early church (and the church today) understood every Sunday to be a celebration of the Easter resurrection. The 40 days is symbolic of the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the wilderness before they reached the promised land and of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for his ministry.

Lent has always been a time of preparation. Originally, it was a time period spent teaching, training, and preparing new converts to Christianity for their baptism which would take place on Easter. Through the centu-

ries, it has evolved into a time during which all Christians, new and mature, are called to repentance in preparation for spiritual renewal in Easter.

Repentance involves 3 steps: (1) We examine our relationship with God and others to identify attitudes and behavior we want to change. (2) We confess these desired changes to God and ask forgiveness. (3) We seek God's guidance and strength to effect these changes in our heart and in our actions.

There are a variety of spiritual disciplines to help us repent. They include: silent reflection, prayer, self-denial or fasting, and worship. Obviously, we can engage in these disciplines any time throughout the year. Lent is simply the time we are more intentional about doing it.

Ash Wednesday, February 21, is the first day of Lent. (For further discussion of Ash Wednesday, see related article, "Ash Wednesday: A Call to Repentance.") Our church invites you to a special worship service on that day in observance of the beginning of Lent. The service will be at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please come as you are but with a heart that desires to be changed.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church



Rev. Bill Koons, Pastor

The traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be held again this year at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Brackettville, according to Mrs. Frances McMaster, Bishop's Warden of the local church. Serving of pancakes and sausage in quantities commensurate with diners' appetites will be from 5 P.M. to 7:30 P.M., Tuesday, February 20, in the parish hall of the church at Fort and Henderson streets. Fare will be \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. Tickets may be purchased from local Episcopalians prior to February 20 or at the door on Shrove Tuesday.

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday's Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew's will begin at the church at 6 P.M., February 21.

Pancake suppers on the night before Ash Wednesday are traditional meals in the Anglican Communion, having roots in early England. Shrove Tuesday is also called Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday; in the Middle Ages on this last day before Lent everyone had as much fun as they could.

Pancakes were made from butter and cream and eggs that would be forbidden during the next six weeks of Lent. In England the bell that had solemnly summoned the parish to church to be shriven of their sins later became known as the pancake bell. It reminded everyone the holiday had begun. They could put down their

tools, make their pancakes, and take to the streets for fun and games. As cooks used up fats in their houses for pancakes before the rigorous fast days of Lent, pancake games started. One event, held at a number of churches, is called a pancake race, where housewives race from the town square clutching a pan with a pancake in it. Each runner must toss her pancake three times, and the winner is the first to arrive at the church with their pancake still in one piece.

St. Andrew's Church for a number of years has used its annual pancake supper as a means of sharing this tradition with others, as an opportunity for community fellowship, and as a fund-raising effort of the year.

On Ash Wednesday, lawbreakers and wrongdoers in the town used to have to walk barefoot to church to show their sorrow for their sins. Ashes would be put on their foreheads as a sign of repentance. Gradually everyone else joined in this service of repentance but without having to go barefoot. The 6 P.M. service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21, will be an Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes by the Rev. Bill Koons, former vicar of the local congregation. At this service, the priest places ashes on the heads of members, repeating to each that: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."



St. John's Baptist Church

Pastor Wm. P. Adams, Sr.
210-563-9175

IT is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name O MOST HIGH.

To shew forth thy Loving Kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.

Upon an instrument of ten strings and upon the psaltery, upon the harp with solemn sound.

For thou LORD hast made me glad through the work; I will triumph in the works of thy hands

O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.

A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.

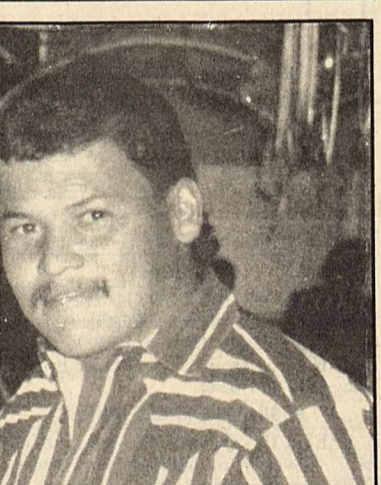
When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the worker of iniquity do flourish; it is that they shall be destroyed forever. Psalms 92:1-7

Praise The Lord
St. John Baptist Church
Pastor William P. Adams Sr.

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of GOD in Christ Jesus concerning you.

/Thessalonians 5:18
Come Worship With Us.

Obituary



Raul A. Cardenas Jr.

Raul A. Cardenas Jr., 23, of Pecos, Texas, died Friday, February 2, 1996, as the result of an accident close to Laredo, Texas.

Born March 20, 1972 in Del Rio, Texas, Cardenas attended Public schools in Del Rio and Pecos.

Funeral Services were held Wednesday, February 7, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Del Rio, Texas, with the Rev. Jose Caracoza officiating. Burial followed at Del Rio Memorial Park.

Cardenas is survived by his three children, Cody, Yesenia and Raul A. Cardenas, III, all of Pecos; parents, Raul and Teresa Cardenas of Pecos; brother, Rolando Cardenas of Pecos; sisters, Rachel C. Hernandez of Uvalde and Ruby Cardenas of Pecos; grandparents, Serapio and Secundina Cardenas of Del Rio; aunt, Maria Elena Pena of Brackettville; uncle, Jose Luis Cardenas of Del Rio; and numerous cousins and friends.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Don's Funeral Chapels, 305-307 Plaza Ave., Del Rio, Texas.

Else Sauer

Else Sauer is temporarily residing at Retama Manor and would enjoy any news from home. Else's address is:

Else Sauer
Retama Manor Nursing Center
100 Herman Dr.
Del Rio, TX 78840
210-774-4066

Coming Soon... Glory Road

The Old Quarry Society's production of "Glory Road" will be presented the last weekend of June and the first weekend of July. We need 70 people for this production, people of all ages, lots of men. Be watching for the sign up date near the end of February.

Happy Valentine's Day and Anniversary

Mom & Marshal Conner

February 14

From Bernie, Willie, Wayne, Gary, Judy, Jeff, Keith

Fort Clark Springs General Manager's Update

LAS MORAS RESTAURANT - In response to customer wants, suggestions and increasing patronage Las Moras Restaurant will begin extending hours of operation starting this Sunday, February 18th. The restaurant will be open for breakfast every morning at 8 A.M., serve the lunch crowd until 2 P.M. and at 5 P.M. begin serving delicious dinners until closing at 9:00 P.M. Sunday through Thursday nights and until 10 P.M. Friday and Saturday. The hours of Las Moras Lounge will be adjusted to correspond to the restaurant's evening operations.

The restaurant's Cavalry Ballroom is also available for private parties and organizational banquets. To make your personal or group arrangements please speak to Roger or call 563-2290.

ELDERHOSTEL - Our largest Elderhostel of the season will join us this coming week. Almost fifty people will be introduced to the magic of Fort Clark.

CATS IN UNIT 3 - The increasing concern regarding stray cats in unit 3 is being addressed through a letter to all Unit 3 property owners and a physical effort to capture the animals. Traps will soon be set throughout the unit and residents are cautioned not to disturb or tamper with the traps. Any animal trapped is a potential rabies carrier and must be dealt with by properly vaccinated personnel. Thank you for your cooperation during this effort.

JUVENILES - A recent presentation by Kinney County Sheriff Buddy Burgess to Rotary emphasized his concern over the growing frequency of incidents involving misbehavior by youngsters in the county. Fort Clark shares this concern. The membership of Fort Clark Springs Association stands on the principle that Fort Clark is not a safe haven for juvenile misconduct. The Rules and regulations of the Association are one of our properly adopted "dedicatory instruments" through which the membership manages and regulates itself for the protection, preservation of order and operation of the grounds. As the duly appointed agent for the Board of Directors it remains my responsibility and intent to enforce these Rules and Regulations. I will not hesitate to defend the enforcement of our restrictive covenants under Title 11, Chapter 202, Section 202.004 of the Texas Property Code. Please help me by being familiar with our Rules and Regulations, impressing upon your children and grand children the intent of the Rules and Regulations and promptly reporting irregularities to Smith Security.

HUNTING OF ARTIFACTS ON CLUB GROUNDS - Recently discovered holes and pits around the fort indicate that thoughtless individuals are busy disturbing our ground for their own gain.

Hunting of artifacts on club grounds through the use of metal de-

ectors, by sight, etc. is restricted to Fort Clark Springs members only. No guests, renters, contractors, etc. are authorized to search, dig and/or remove any artifacts from Fort Clark Springs property.

Digging for artifacts on club grounds by members is restricted to the following implements:

1. In developed areas where the Association maintains the grass through mowing, only a sharp, pointed instrument no more than six (6") inches long and 1/4" in diameter or square may be used to probe or dig in the ground (i.e. a screwdriver).

2. In wilderness or undeveloped areas, a hand digging instrument such as small shovel or spade not to exceed six (6") inches wide may be used providing the ground is returned to its approximate normal state. No growing vegetation over (6") inches high may be removed in order to dig.

3. No power equipment or any type mechanical device may be used to dig for artifacts on Fort property unless it is a supervised dig approved by the Board of Directors.

Artifacts found on Fort Clark Springs club grounds are the property of the Association and the Association may, at its discretion, lay claim to items found for the museum collection and/or its own use. If you see anyone digging in green areas please report it.

Together we can make Fort Clark a wonderful and safe place to visit or live.

Church Directory



St. Andrews Episcopal Church: Henderson & Fort Sunday Church Service 10:30 a.m. Vicar: Rev. Bill Koons, 563-2071.
Frontier Baptist Church (A Southern Baptist Church): Sunday Services 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Joe Townsend, Pastor, 563-2158.
First Baptist Church (A Southern Baptist Church): 307 N. Ann St., Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m., Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m., Gil Ash, Pastor, 563-2245.
Baptist Hispanic Mission: 307 N. Ann Street, Sunday 9:45 a.m., Wednesday 5:30 p.m., Friday, 6:00 p.m., Eugenio Duran, Pastor.
Church of Christ: N. Ann St., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study Sunday 6:30 p.m., Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church: Sun. Masses at 8:00 A.M. (Spanish) and 10:30 A.M. (English); Mon., Thurs. and Fri. Mass at 7:00 AM; Wed. Mass 6:30 P.M., Religion Classes Wed. 4:00 and 7:00 PM; Sat. Rosary 7:30 AM, Sat. Mass 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM. Confession Wed. & Sat. 5:30 PM, Rev. Donald R. Lavelle, C.M.F.
St. Blaise Catholic Church: Sun. Mass 12:30 noon. Adult Catholic Explanation and Convert Classes Thurs. 7:00 PM Rev. Donald R. Lavelle, C.M.F.
First United Methodist Church: "Celebrate and Witness" Fellowship 9:30 a.m., Church School Classes 9:45 a.m., Service of Worship 11:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Wednesday 5:00 p.m., Sheree Harris, Pastor.
St. John's Baptist Church: Crockett at Keene St., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Worship a.m., Worship 11:00 p.m., William P. Adams, Sr., Pastor, 563-9175.
Our Redeemer Lutheran Congregation E.L.C.A.: Shafter Hall, F.C.S., Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship, Bible Study every other Sunday 10:00 a.m., Rev. Nathan La Frenz, 563-2047.
Templo Elim Asambea de Dios: North Street, Sunday 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Wednesday and Friday, 7:00 p.m., Rev. Abundio Mancha, Pastor, 563-9237.
Apostolic New Jerusalem: 514 E. Louise St., Sunday School 10:45 A.M. and Morning worship 11:30 A.M., Missionary Meeting every 3rd Thursday of the month. Everyone Welcome! Pastor, Rudy Goodloe
Gateway Ministries (Non-Denominational): 301 E. Spring St. (across from post office), Praise & Worship Fellowship Sunday 10:00 a.m., Bible Study Wednesday 6:30 p.m., Robert W. Corey, Pastor, Charollette Corey, Associate Pastor, 563-9331.

563-2852 Only \$3.00 for 10 Words or less and only 20¢ per word thereafter. **CLASSIFIEDS** **FOR SALE** **563-2852**
 All Classified Ads placed in *The Brackett News* must be paid in advance.

REAL ESTATE
O'Rourke Realty
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
Licensed Brokers
210-563-2713
FCS Memberships And Rentals Available
 For Sale: Smartly decorated, 1 bed, townhouse. Six foot fence encloses gravel and cactus garden. Furniture, appliances and membership included. Only \$20,000.
 For Sale: Very good condition, ready for occupancy, 3 bed., 1 bath mobile home in Unit 15. Second metal roof. Significantly reduced from original asking price.
 For Sale: Elegant, spacious, 3 bed 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room that can be converted to family room. Great location, great price. Two memberships included.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
 Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc. (RGE) is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Secretary to fill a vacancy in the Brackettville office. Applicants must type 50 to 55 wpm, use 10 key and have basic computer knowledge of Word Perfect and Lotus 1-2-3 programs, with the ability to maintain confidential information. Must possess a current Texas Drivers License. Applications may be picked up or requested from any RGE office and must be mailed to Trish Taylor, RGE, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, TX, 78832, on or before February 23, 1996. RGE is an EOE. Vacancy 96/001.

LOST
 Lost prescription glasses in a green cloth case. Lost at the Las Moras Restaurant, Dinner Theatre Friday night around the parking lot or upstairs.
REWARD
563-9646
 Leave Message

Notice: To All Citizens Who Oppose the DUMP
 Tuesday February 20, 1996
Remember This Date!!
 There will be a Border Environment Cooperation Commission meeting at the Del Rio City Council Chambers from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. This is a very important meeting. Adobe-Ecco, The Greater Rio Grande Municiple Land Fill, will be requesting a \$16 million dollar loan to finance building the Waste Dump in Spofford.
 We need all the concerned citizens who oppose this dump to attend this very critical meeting.
Please Be There!!

FOR SALE
 Remington Model 870 Wingmaster 12 GA Shotgun 28" Barrel W/Case \$350.00 563-2951

FOR SALE
 Ft. Clark Springs Lot & Membership sacrificed. Family moved too far away to enjoy. Call 210-277-1189

LIONS THRIFT SHOP
 Open this Saturday 9 AM to 2PM. Books on sale, new selection of clothes, sofas and chairs, ladies handbags, lots of new things.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 A lot of times our local politicians forget to represent the citizens. We vote our representatives in to represent us, but a lot of times they fail to do so. So it's time our citizens realize this. Lets vote people out that don't represent us. The petitioners and the City of Spofford would like to thank: Commissioner Cordelia Mendeke Precinct #3, Commissioner Joe Montalvo Precinct #2, Commissioner Paul O'Rourke Precinct #4 for giving their commitment for a resolution against Adobe Eco-Systems. The City of Spofford and petitioners would also like to thank the City of Brackettville Mayor Carmen Berlanga, City Secretary David Luna, Councilman Ralph Gonzales, Councilman, Charles Bushart and Council woman Mary Flores for their support of the resolution.
 Tootsie Herndon
 The City of Spofford

Bonilla Continued from page 1
 be able to enjoy a better life without being forced to fork over astronomical amounts to Uncle Sam each April 15.
 The clear majority of American opinion shows that most of us have given a lot of thought to what a fair tax system would look like. Congress should take the lead from the American people and push forward on real tax reform as soon as possible.

Mobile Home
 16x80 mobile home low, low, low payments. Will deliver (210) 675-0190.

Mobile Home
 2 bedroom mobile home delivered and set with air. \$162 month and zero down. (210) 673-7711.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 The Community Council of Southwest Texas, Inc. is now located at 116 W. Military Dr. (old Border Patrol office). Phone 210-563-2422.
 We are asking our clients to please come in so we can rebuild our files which were destroyed due to the fire in January.
 The following information is needed:
 (1) Proof of income for all members of the household or unemployment letter.
 (2) Social securities for all members of the household.
 (3) I.D. for the head of the household.
 (4) Food stamp letter, stating the amount you receive.
 (5) Letter from landlord stating the reason and date of eviction.
 (6) CPL or water and gas bill.
 (7) Copy of billing history from utility service company.
 We are presently taking applications under the following programs: Energy Crisis, Co-payment, Elderly and Disabled and Heating and Cooling. Funds are very limited so this will be for energy crisis and elderly cases as needed.
 Contact your Brackettville office for further information.

FOR SALE
 Metal Bunk Beds w/mattress
 \$150.00
 563-2063

FOR SALE
 G.E. Camcorder Model CG515 w/a.c adapter charger. Rechargeable 6 volt battery. Cassette adapter w/7 cassettes, and case.
 563-9197

FOR SALE
 1991 Geo Metro Convertible
 Air, Automatic
 563-9646
 Leave Message

POSITION VACANCY
 Brackett ISD is seeking to fill the position of Elementary Principal. Mid-management certification required and the closing date is March 8, 1996. Additional information can be obtained by contacting: G. Steve Mills at 210/563-2491. Brackett ISD is an equal opportunity employer.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Effective February 8, 1996, there will be a charge for the following: Thank you notices, wedding announcements, birth announcements, and engagement announcements. The charge will be at the regular display ad rate. *The Brackett News* will not be responsible for returning pictures that are not pick up within two weeks.

YARD SALE
 Saturday 9 :00 a.m. to ?
 4th & Ann Street
 (Oliver's Residence)
 Elec. Guitar, Scanner, Antiques, Lots, Lots more.

FOUND
 Found at First Baptist Church following the funeral of HappyShahan: one ladies purse with personal items and no identification. Owner may contact Pastor Gil Ash @ 563-2245 or 563-9359.

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO
 P.O. Box 1035
 Brackettville, TX 78832
 210-563-2446 210-563-2447
 House #20 on Colony Row. 5 bedrooms, 5 1/2 baths. Excellent hunting lodge or single family dwelling. Ft. Clark.
 Condos on the golf course at \$27,500. 1 bdrm, 1 bath.
 103 West Edwards, Katty-Corner from the Elementary School, a very nicely remodeled 2 bdrm, 2 bath home. Owner needs an offer!
 520 acres of prime hunting/recreation half way between Brackettville and Del Rio. 2 water wells w/ Perdido Creek.

DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO UNTO YOU!
ROBERT R. MARTINEZ M.D.
UROLOGIST
PROSTATE SPECIALIST
 775-9525 710 BEDELL

LEAP INTO THE SAVINGS

 With a new subscription to **The Brackett News**
For a Limited time only
Get a New Subscription
 limited to new subscribers
 7 months for the price of 6 \$10.00
 in Kinney County
 Out of Kinney County
 7 months for the price of 6 \$12.50

CONVERSION VAN Blowout Sale

 Was 25,993.95
NOW ONLY 20,995.00
 Stk. #52612

 Was 25,993.95
NOW ONLY 20,995.00
 Stk. #52613

 Was 28,923.00
NOW ONLY 22,995.00
 Stk. #52506

 Was 30,073.95
NOW ONLY 23,995.00
 Stk. #52500
HOWARD CHEVROLET DEL RIO, TX
 2300 Hwy 90W
 775-0566

Tex SCAN
 Statewide Classified Advertising Network
 More than 300 Texas newspapers for \$300. Call this newspaper for details.

AUCTIONS
RITCHIE BROS. AUCTIONEERS Int'l unreserved construction equipment auction, Fort Worth, Texas - March 6, 1996. To add your units or receive a free color brochure phone 817-237-6544.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
CAREER/INVESTMENT: BE your own boss! Novus Windshield Repair Franchise. 2,500 operations worldwide. Dynamic, over 400% growth in industry since 1990. \$5,695 down with add'l financing available. Factory training. Field support. Roger Taylor, 1-800-328-1117.

DRIVERS WANTED
DRIVERS: FLATBED 48 state OTR. Assigned new conventional, competitive pay, benefits. \$1,000 sign on bonus, rider program, flexible time off. Call Roadrunner Trucking 1-800-876-7784.
DRIVERS - REGIONAL RUNS available with great pay and benefits! Get home more often with Cal-Ark International. Must be 22 with CDL and HazMat endorsement. 1-800-950-8326.
DRIVERS - SINGLES/TEAMS - O/O lease program - no money down. Must meet DOT requirement. Late model walk-in. Call Arctic Express 1-800-927-0431.
DRIVERS - SOLO/TEAMS, \$2,000.00 sign on. Top teams earn \$104,000+, top trainers earn 70k+, major benefits/motiv & deadhead pay. Covenant Transport 1-800-441-4394. Students call 1-800-338-6428.
DRIVERS WANTED. E.L. Powell & Sons, Tulsa, OK. We offer late model equipment, good insurance. 22%. One year verifiable flat bed experience. 918-446-4447. 1-800-444-3777.
FLATBED DRIVERS EPES Hauling, Inc. * Minimum age 23. CDL-A * Full benefit package * Home every 7-9 days * 1-800-248-6537 * Also hiring owner operators.
NEW IMPROVED PAY package offered by Beech Trucking for regional drivers. Home every weekend. Start at 26¢ with monthly bonuses & benefits. Call 1-800-521-0649. EOE.

EDUCATION
BECOME A PARALEGAL. Join one of America's fastest growing professions. Lawyer instructed home study. Specialty programs offered. P.C.D.I., Atlanta, Georgia. Free catalogue. 1-800-362-7070, Dept. LLB722.

HOME-SCHOOL! 1st-12th! Private school at home! No class attendance! Professional curriculum. Monthly UPS shipments. Report cards! Diplomas! Monthly payment plans! Sykes Academy: 1-800-767-7171.

EMPLOYMENT
TRAINEES WANTED: NAVY Seals/divers. Qualifications: *17-25yrs. *Physically fit *Capable of physical training test *H.S. graduate/diploma. Dallas/Ft. Worth, 1-800-492-9738; Houston, 1-800-853-6600; San Antonio, 1-800-292-5547.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS
SHARE A DREAM - host Scandinavian, European, South American, Asian, Russian high school exchange students arriving August. Become a host family/AISE. Call 1-800-SIBLING.

FINANCIAL SERVICES
FREE DEBT CONSOLIDATION. Immediate relief! Too many debts? Overdue bills? Reduce monthly payments 30%-50%. Eliminate interest. Stop collection callers. Restore credit. NCCS, nonprofit. 1-800-955-0412.

FOR SALE
3 STEEL ARCH buildings, new 40x30 was \$6,150.00 now \$2,990.00; 40x58 was \$10,840.00 now \$3,990.00; 50x120 was \$20,450.00 now \$11,990.00. Endwalls available. 1-800-745-2685.
LIQUID WORMERS NOT doing the job? Get Happy Jack Trivemicide. Gets hooks, rounds, & tapes in dogs & cats. Available O-T-C. At county Co-Ops.
TANNING BEDS: COMMERCIAL home, lotions (including; Supre, Body Drench, Nitro, Inferno and Swedish Beauty), lamps, parts and supplies. Call today. Puretan International, Inc. 1-800-338-8267.
TANNING BEDS, WOLFF and Summaster. Factory direct to public. Eliminate middle man. Save hundreds. Money back guarantee. Home/commercial. Easy payments. Free catalog. 1-800-KEEP-A-TAN, 1-800-533-7282.
WOLFF TANNING BEDS. Tan at home.

Buy direct and save! Commercial/home units from \$199.00. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today 1-800-842-1305.
HEALTH
ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER: No more Ritalin. Natural relief is now available. Call 1-800-724-3344 for free information. Maximum Enterprises.
DIABETICS! FOR THOSE who qualify. Medicare/insurance billed direct for test strips, insulin, glucometers. Satisfaction guaranteed. Liberty Medical Supply 1-800-762-8026 mention #2071.
RAPID WEIGHT LOSS. "Only \$17.95." Burns fat, calories, stops hunger. Lose 3-5 pounds/week. Money back guaranteed. Call for information. United Pharmaceutical 1-800-733-3288 (C.O.D.'s accepted).
STOP SMOKING IN 7 days. Doctor recommended. Money back guarantee. 90% success rate. \$197. Call 10AM - 10PM EST 404-522-0555.
REAL ESTATE
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