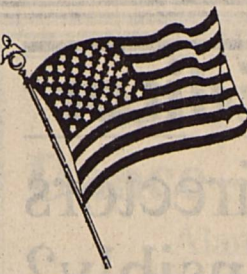


The Brackett News



The city water supply will be shutoff from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. tonight for installation of a new pressure pump.

10th year, No. 7

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

Trustees OK building plan for new wing

The Brackett School Board approved a basic building plan for the district's new academic wing at its regular meeting last week.

The high school addition will have 10 classrooms and a science lab.

"That's basically what we think we can afford," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said.

The trustees adopted the plan and gave administrators the authority to make adjustments. Officials are trying to position the ■ See TRUSTEES/Page 3



School Board members Lloyd Lee Davis (from left), Tim Ward and Jim McDaniel discuss the district's new academic wing.

City hosts hearing on Fulton Street closure

The Brackettville City Council will host a public hearing tonight to discuss closing Fulton Street, between Ann and Ellen streets. The 6:00 hearing will be held at the City Hall Annex, located on Highway 90 West.

Brackett Independent School District officials made the request to close the street, which will separate the high school annex and a new academic wing. The additional building is expected to be completed by the beginning of the next school year.

Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said closing Fulton Street was a "safety issue."

"Every period, we're going to have kids coming and going, maybe 100 to 150 kids every period that

are moving back and forth between those two buildings," Stephenson said.

"The property on the next block is primarily owned by the school and two landowners. We have signed statements from both of those landowners saying that they support the closure.

"We realize that it's going to cause people to have to go a block out of the way, but we just feel like it's something that is in the best interest of the people of Brackettville to look at the safety issue," he said.

The school district asked the city to close the street permanently, but officials are also considering closing the street only during school hours. ■ See PUBLIC HEARING/Page 3

Five candidates seek vacant council post

Five candidates are seeking the vacant City Council position in the upcoming May 2 election.

Alex Longoria and Mindy Slubar both filed Monday to run as write-in candidates for the position.

Three other candidates -- Ralph Gonzalez, Martin T. Luna Jr. and Martha E. Ward McDonald -- have also filed for the city council post, which has been vacant since Tino Gomez's resignation last month.

Mayor Carmen M. Berlanga and Alderwomen Mary V. Flores and Tencha Pena have all filed for re-election.

Diana Koch Ward will chal-

lenge Berlanga in the race for the mayor's position. Flores and Pena are unopposed.

In the School Board race, trustees will be elected to fill three expiring three-year terms and one unexpired term with one year remaining.

Incumbents Lloyd Lee Davis Jr., Gloria Garcia and Darlene Shahan have filed for the three-year terms. Sara Terrazas has also filed to run for one of the three at-large positions.

Jim McDaniel has filed for the unexpired term. He was appointed to the board last year following Jimmy Bader's resignation.

Fort Clark to announce new directors

Fort Clark Springs will announce the results of the Board of Directors election Saturday at its annual meeting.

George Cowart is the only incumbent running for re-election. He was appointed to the board following Mary Mitchell's resignation.

Directors Frank Cheaney and Ben Pingnot are not seeking another three-year term.

Cowart, David Gonzalez, Bill Kelly, Don Parks and Kenneth Spencer are running for three at-large positions.

Hillconet to provide local internet access

Hillconet of Kerrville is in the process of providing local internet access in Kinney County.

Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said this is good news for local computer users, who currently have to pay long distance charges in order to "surf the net."

The service will cost \$25 a month for unlimited access, plus a one-time \$25 set-up fee.

"I think it's a really good deal," Stephenson said. "The good thing about it is you don't have to pay for long distance phone calls.

He said the company should have the system "up and running" within 30 days.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Montalvo (center) has donated airline tickets to Marty Payne (third from left), La Toya Wright (second from right) and Patty Lopez (not pictured) and chaperones Elia Payne (left) and Beverly Wright (right) as they prepare for the 1998 Belgium International Cup.



Mike Cosgriff (from left) and Marvin Fletcher took first place in the Championship Flight of Sunday's Las Moras Invitational golf tournament. Bruce Thompson and Aaron Billings finished second and Ben Alexander and Ted Covington (not pictured) were third. See related story and photos, Page 6.

Trustees invite public comments on scheduling at tonight's hearing

The Brackett School Board of Trustees will host a public hearing tonight at 7 to hear citizens' comments on block scheduling.

The school district currently uses block scheduling, in which most classes meet every other day. The trustees are considering going back to traditional scheduling, where classes meet daily.

"We realize we will have people that will want to present both sides of the issue, pros and cons," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "What is going to be best for the kids here is what should be the bottom line.

"The board, primarily, just wants to listen. They may make a statement, but there will be no decisions made at the meeting. It's just a public input session for people who have feelings about it."

Last month, school district officials surveyed students, parents and teachers to get input on the issue.

"In the surveys, we were interested in the reasons more than how many thought a specific way," Stephenson said. "We're trying to make the board familiar with the reasons and everything that's involved here."

Stephenson said the School Board will discuss the topic at its April meeting.

"Boards have to decide issues like that," he said. "And if this board decides that blocks is the way we should be, that's what we're going to do. If they decide that classes need to meet every day, that's what we're going to do. They have the authority to do that.

"Every year that I've been in Brackettville, I know there has been some unrest about whether we should study it or not, so at least it's on the front burner now."

INSIDE

Joe Townsend

It's sad that in the coming city election already some followers and at least one candidate feel the necessity of trashing the opponent. **Opinion/Page 2**

Chuck Hall

Everybody seems to be talking about the new stop light in town. Either that or the possibility of closing a street up by the school. **Opinion/Page 2**

Tigers top Rams

Brackett had a season high 15 hits Tuesday night as the Tigers picked up a 15-13 win over the Del Rio Rams' junior varsity. **Sports/Page 7**

INDEX

Classifieds	10
Community	3
Crossword	8
Health	5
Lifestyles	4-5
Opinion	2
Outdoors	7
Religion	9
Sports	6-7

10th year, No. 7
10 pages

Jimenez enjoys visit to Kinney County

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

Master accordionist Santiago Jimenez Jr. spent a week in Kinney County and made many stops, including a visit to the Brackettville Rotary Club.

Bank President Don Ralston was unable to attend Thursday's Rotary meeting, but sent his wife, Joy, to present a program on his behalf. She is active in the Kinney County Arts Council and had made arrangements for Jimenez to perform.

During the course of the week-long visit, Jimenez performed for many adult groups as well as children. The visit is made possible by the Texas Folklife Resource, a part of the Commission for the Arts. The grant was given through NEA.

Ralston said that Kinney County was one of 20 counties in Texas that will be enjoying music through this program. She said all that was needed was to apply.

Jimenez is charged not only with playing but to speak of the

importance of Tejano conjunto music in the Mexican American culture.

He played several numbers, but he also told his audience of his own family background, which was very meaningful. His grandfather, father, and brother have been successful and well known musicians.

Jimenez does not remember his grandfather, but his grandfather was important in the accordion history of the area in the 1800s. At that time there were no microphones or recording.

Jimenez's father played the guitar for several years before changing to the accordion. He liked the accordion music and taught himself to play. He was especially fond of the German style and went to the Fredricksburg area to learn to play it.

He played polkas, waltzes and musurkas and combined a Tex-Mex style with the German. In the 1930s, the elder Jimenez recorded 78's with studios such as RCA and Decca.

Jimenez was one of six boys and

two girls. All play some instrument, but not professionally, except for his brother, Flaco, who is five years older than Santiago.

Flaco liked to play country music. He and other musicians, such as Freddie Fender, formed the Texas Tornadoes. He has cut approximately 80 records and has won five Grammy awards.

Jimenez's father was important to him in the sense of making music present in his life, but not as a teacher. He did, however, insist that if his sons played, they should play well. He corrected their mistakes, but each son learned to play on his own.

As a small child, Santiago would take his father's accordion out of the closet when his father wasn't using it. The boy would try to play, and because he knew nothing about it, he repeatedly broke his father's reeds. His dad would get angry at finding the accordion broken, but blamed it on Flaco.

One day the young Jimenez was caught in the act. He started crying, expecting to be harshly punished by his father, but was for-



Joy Ralston (from left) welcomes Santiago Jimenez Jr. and his wife, Mary, to last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting. Jimenez spent last week in Kinney County. Photo by Eric McMaster

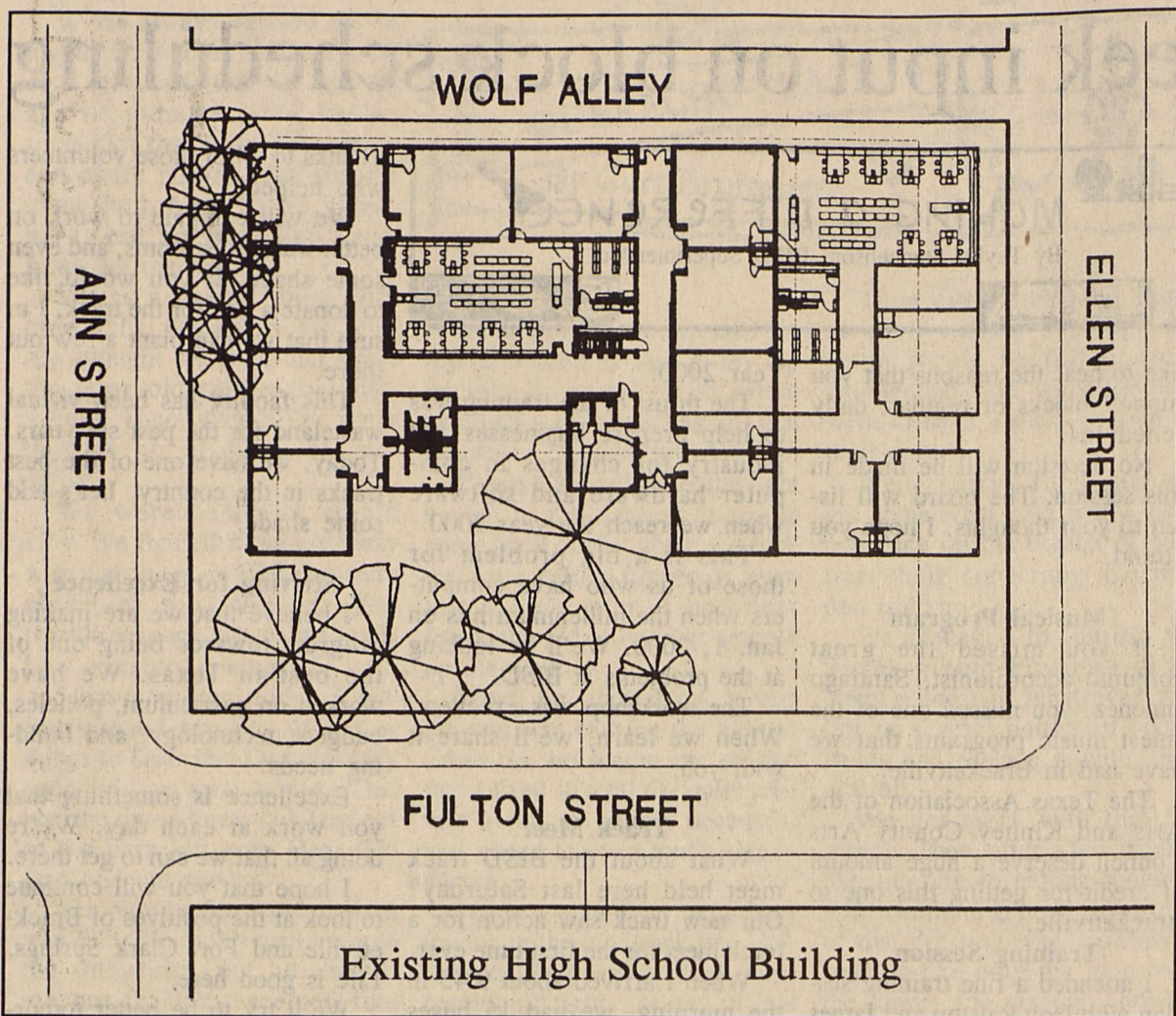
given.

By the age of 15, the younger Jimenez started playing seriously, and by 17 he began recording with his brother. He has been in the running for a Grammy three times and has traveled all over the world. When he was in Germany, he

treated them to some Tex-Mex junta.

Jimenez was accompanied by his wife, Mary. The couple likes Fort Clark Springs so much they have decided to look into the possibility of moving to Fort Clark Springs.

Trustees approve building plan



Continued from Page 1
future building on the recently purchased Guidry property so that the majority of the existing trees are not affected.

"The board approved a basic plan," Stephenson said. "That plan possibly could be moved around on the site."

"It's a beautiful site. It's our goal to save as many of those big trees as we can. If there's a way of saving them, we can do it. We're going to look and evaluate each one. We know we can't save everything, obviously."

"What we do pledge to do is if we tear something down, we're going to plant something else there that will be a fast-growing, nice shade tree," he added.

Officials hope to have the building completed by the beginning of the next school year.

Personnel

After meeting in executive session, the School Board voted to give all teachers one-year contract extensions. The trustees also accepted resignations from Kathy Hoyle, a kindergarten teacher, and Ron Arnesen, who teaches health and physical education.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, March 16
10:20 a.m., A Texas Department of Transportation employee reported that he had found a wallet. Sheriff's Department officials notified the owner of the wallet, who resides in Baytown, Texas.

2:40 p.m., Border Patrol officials reported a structure fire in Spofford. Members of the Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department and Kinney County EMS were dispatched to the scene. No injuries were reported.

10:20 p.m., Address Martinez Jr., 17, Rene Rodriguez, 20, and Benito Herrera Talamantez, 20, all of Brackettville, were arrested for minor in possession by Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism. Conrado H. Talamantez, 22, of Brackettville was arrested on two charges of furnishing alcohol to a minor. They were booked into the Kinney County Jail. Martinez, Rodriguez and Benito Talamantez were released the next day after paying \$100 fines, plus time served. Conrado Talamantez was released on a \$1,000 bail bond.

Wednesday, March 18
9:10 p.m., Uvalde Police Department officials reported that a driver of an 18-wheeler was driving reckless, heading towards Brackettville. Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry was notified, but was unable to locate the vehicle.

Thursday, March 19
12:51 a.m., Alfredo Rodriguez

Martinez, 41, of Del Rio was arrested on outstanding warrants by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Martinez was released the same day after paying a \$319 fine.

9:51 a.m., A Texas Department of Transportation official reported an abandoned vehicle on Highway 1572.

Saturday, March 21
8:03 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs woman reported that her VCR was stolen from her residence on Third Street. The woman said they entered the mobile home through the front door. She said that she had not been at Fort Clark Springs since December. The case is still under investigation.

9:30 a.m., Leonardo Wardlaw, 23, of Kingsville, Texas, was arrested for theft by check by Deputy Guidry and Reserve Deputy Ron Ring. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Wardlaw was released the same day on a \$750 personal recognizance bond.

Sunday, March 22
12:26 a.m., A Brackettville woman reported seeing minors drinking. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene.

9:15 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs man reported that his nephew's residence in Unit 14 had been broken into. The case is still under investigation.

3:00 p.m., Jason York Fritschi,

21, and John Gardner Montgomery, 20, both of Orinda, Calif., were arrested by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie and charged with possession of marijuana, less than two ounces. They were booked into the Kinney County Jail. Fritschi and Montgomery were released the next day after each posted a \$1,000 cash bond.

7:00 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported that a large brown dog came into her yard at her residence on Third Street and began fighting with her dog. The woman said that her dog was on a chain and could not get away from the larger dog. She said she hit the bigger dog with a stick to keep it from killing her dog. The woman said she called the mayor and several city employees to complain and was told they would check into the incident the following morning.

8:29 p.m., An employee at the Crazy Chicken said that there was a hobo in the restaurant and she didn't want him there when she was by herself. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene. He brought the man back to the Sheriff's Office.

Public hearing focuses on Fulton Street

Continued from Page 1
"We prefer permanent closure because we know kids move too fast," Stephenson said. "At night, they're going to be having activities between the buildings."

"We're not trying to gain on the amount of property. We realize that people are going to have to come in here to access utilities. We still have utilities that run down that street."

The City Council discussed the issue last week at its regular meeting, but decided not to take any action until after a public hearing.

"The City Council felt like this issue needed to go before the public before any decision was made," Alderman J.J. Guidry said.

"Everyone will be affected if the street is closed, so we wanted to give the citizens an opportunity to voice their opinions on the matter," he added.

Community Calendar

Thursday, March 26
12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets in the Cavalry Ballroom at the Las Moras Restaurant on Fort Clark Springs.

Saturday, March 28
10:00 a.m., The Fort Club Historical Society meets at the Palisado Building on Fort Clark Springs.

Tuesday, March 31
7:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets in the Gorgas Room at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.

Thursday, April 2
12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets in the Cavalry Ballroom at the Las Moras Restaurant on Fort Clark Springs.

6:30 p.m., The Lions Club meets in the Cavalry Ballroom at the Las Moras Restaurant on Fort Clark Springs.

Sunday, April 5
12:00 p.m., The Knights of Columbus meet at Parish Hall.

Monday, April 6
1:00 p.m., The Fort Club Art Club meets at the Art Studio on Fort Clark Springs.

5:00 p.m., The Old Quarry Society meets at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.

Tuesday, April 7
7:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets in the Gorgas Room at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.

Thursday, April 9
9:30 a.m., The Mountain Laurel Garden Club meets in the Gorgas Room at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.

12:00 p.m., The Brackettville Rotary Club meets in the Cavalry Ballroom at the Las Moras Restaurant on Fort Clark Springs.

6:30 p.m., The Kinney County Chamber of Commerce meets in the Cavalry Ballroom at the Las Moras Restaurant on Fort Clark Springs.

Saturday, April 11
10:00 a.m., The Fort Club Springs Community Council meets in Shafter Hall on Fort Clark Springs.

Monday, April 13
9:00 a.m., The Kinney County Commissioners Court meets at the Court House on Ann Street.

6:30 p.m., The Brackett School Board of Trustees meet at the district's Administration Building on Ann Street.

Tuesday, April 14
6:00 p.m., The Brackettville City Council meets at the City Annex on Highway 90 West.

7:00 p.m., The Fort Clark Duplicate Bridge Club meets in the Gorgas Room at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs.

7:00 p.m., The Las Moras Masonic Lodge No. 444 meets at Lodge Hall on Ann Street.

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It is now time to cast your vote in the runoff election. Early voting is April 6-10. Election day is April 14. Please vote for Commissioner Paul O'Rourke, Precinct 4, and Commissioner Joe Montalvo, Precinct 2, who represented the citizens of Kinney County in a resolution against Adobe Eco-Systems' municipal landfill. We must have strong leadership in our county to defeat Adobe.

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Adult computer class offered

Trustees seek input on block scheduling

How about a quick computer class for adults held on Monday nights from 6 to 8 p.m.?

If you are interested, call my office at 563-2491, extension 1, and give Susan Veach your name and phone number. Frank Taylor will teach the class in the Hunt Library.

I am told that the internet company Hillconet will be ready to take your orders in the next two weeks.

Our school district appreciates the support of the community. We are trying to give back something to you for your support.

This year, we have provided a GED class for adults, Spanish classes for adults, English classes for those adults who need help in English, and now a computer class. I hope you take advantage of these opportunities.

Block Scheduling

We will have a hearing tonight at 7 in the library on block or traditional schedules.

This meeting is to give input to the School Board. They would

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Taylor Stephenson, BISD Superintendent

like to hear the reasons that you support blocks or regular, daily schedules.

No decision will be made in this session. The board will listen to your thoughts. I hope you attend.

Musical Program

If you missed the great conjunto accordionist, Santiago Jimenez, you missed one of the finest music programs that we have had in Brackettville.

The Texas Association of the Arts and Kinney County Arts Council deserve a huge amount of credit for getting this one to Brackettville.

Training Session

I attended a fine training session with Don Ralston and James Heath, Fort Clark Springs general manager, sponsored by the Del Rio Bank and Trust. The topic was Y2K. That means

Year 2000!

The thrust of the training was to help prepare businesses and industry for changes in computer hardware and software when we reach the year 2000.

This is a big problem for those of us who have computers when the millennium hits on Jan. 1, 2000. We'll be looking at the problems at BISD. The workshop was excellent. When we learn, we'll share it with you.

Track Meet

What about the BISD track meet held here last Saturday? Our new track saw action for the first time ever.

When I arrived about 9:45 in the morning, we had 15 buses and 150 cars parked waiting for the action.

Julie Bruce did a magnificent job coordinating the meet.

Thanks to all of those volunteers who helped.

We will continue to work on better water, restrooms, and even some shade. If you would like to donate a tree for the track, I'm sure that we can plant a few out there.

This facility has been virtual wasteland for the past six years. Today, we have one of the best tracks in the country. Let's add some shade.

Striving for Excellence

I believe that we are making progress towards being one of the best in Texas. We have worked on curriculum, policies, budgets, technology, and building needs.

Excellence is something that you work at each day. We're doing all that we can to get there.

I hope that you will continue to look at the positives of Brackettville and Fort Clark Springs. Life is good here.

We'll try to be better tomorrow than we were today. We'll make it because of hard work and positive attitudes!

Have a good week.

FOOTSTEPS ECHO

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

Courtesy of his descendants

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 12th from the Class of 1879. He was assigned as 2nd Lt. 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 30 years.

Friday, March 26, 1886

Capt. Vance suspended drill this morning on account of the drizzle. Mail brought me a copy of the Military Service Institution Journal. While waiting for the mail Theo. Lyster brought me a note from Miss Saunders in which she apologized for her conduct last Monday evening as she heard last night that I was offended. Was somewhat annoyed, but should have had more sense than to show it. Now I must explain to Miss Saunders. Met on a Board of Survey after mail came at "E" Troop. Then went over to town and was repaid by receiving my watch at the express office. Was sorry to see that it had not been altered to a stem winder, but suppose this was impossible. After lunch went to Q.M. office a short time and then wrote on proceedings of Board until dinner time. Had parade as usual in blouses. After which wrote on proceedings until 7-30 o'clock when went to Capt. Feche't's and spent the evening playing cribbage there, Mrs. Feche't and Capt. Hall being beaten one game by Capt. F. & self. Steele made up with Capt. Feche't and spent the evening there. Had a lunch afterwards. Wanted to see Miss Saunders after parade but Vedder took her out for a ride.

Saturday, March 27, 1886

A rest from drill this morning. Completed proceedings of Board of Survey before breakfast and took them to Williams for his signature. He refused to sign on account of going to breakfast, but kept the papers and said he would send them to me after signing. Asked him to send them to Col. Lyster, the President of the Board, for his signature, but he persisted. We both lost our tempers. Ought to have had more sense, but I get out of patience every time I go near this fellow for I believe him to be a swindler and entirely unworthy of being in the Army. Mail brought a letter and bundle of papers from home and an O.B. Planted the sweet pea seeds Mattie sent, and weeded the yard. After lunch wrote to San Antonio to order some shirts and cuffs that I

was measured for last month and studied French. After retreat went to Gen. Smith's but Miss Saunders was out and so failed to make that explanation. Had a pleasant call there and then spent the rest of the evening playing whist at Mrs. Hall's, where Hewitt and I came out ahead. Studied French before retiring.

Sunday, March 28 1886

The usual inspection this morning. Sat on Capt. Feche't's porch during guard mounting until mail came which had nothing for me. Looked over the papers in the Library and then wrote usual letter home. After lunch corrected some French exercises for Hewitt and then went over to Gen. Smith's to see Miss Saunders, but could not as she was sleeping. This is the third time that I have been prevented from seeing her to make a verbal reply to her note. Went to the Library for a few moments and then took a walk with Geary out to the target ranges which are being repaired for the practice season. After dinner spent a few moments at Capt. Feche't's and Geary & Steele came in my house after retreat and sat until church time. Escorted Mrs. Hall home and then had a call from Geary. Fell asleep while he was here. Wrote a note in reply to Miss Saunders as a personal interview seems impossible.

Monday, March 29, 1886

The recall was sounded after drill call this morning on account of the heavy rain during the night. Marched on guard relieving Eckerson. Returned to quarters to change clothes and while there sent the note to Miss Saunders. Hope this will end the matter. Capt. Hall sent for me to come to the office to see about the recent Board of Survey proceedings. Took them down to the guardhouse to make necessary corrections in them and then carried them back to the office. "A" & "H" Co's. were coming in as I went up to the office. Saw Taylor and Fowler at a distance, but had no time to speak to them. Studied French until noon. Steele came down with me after lunch and sat a while. At one o'clock Hewitt and the recruit Guyot came and we had the French lesson here at the guardhouse. Mail brought me nothing today. Had quite a long French lesson. Think we are improving. After it wrote an O.B. to Forsyth enclosing the statement of differences received Saturday from the Q.M. General's office

and asked him to straighten out the matter. Also wrote a letter to Shunk. In the evening took a nap and then wrote a letter to Helen Giddings, writing until after the Officer of the Day inspected at one o'clock.

Tuesday, March 30, 1886

Wrote a letter to Warnock before breakfast renewing the order for a forage cap and trimmings for a Summer helmet as the letter sent on the 12th must have been miscarried, no answer having yet been received. Cunningham relieved me at guard mounting. Mail brought a letter from home and one from the publishers of the Encyclopedia. While in the office after mail came met Dr. Schwartzkopf, a veterinary surgeon ordered for duty. He is a young German, has been in this country only six months, but speaks English creditably and seems to be well educated. Met Fowler this morning who seems to be the same as ever. He is fixing up some rooms in the new building to occupy temporarily. After guard mounting his wife came over with Mrs. Taylor, and Geary and I went down there a while. Both ladies seem not to have changed. Shaved and then read the papers in the Library until lunch. After the lunch went to Capt. Vance's who is moving into a new house, and then down to the store to get some money to pay mess bill. Studied French and read the papers from home this afternoon. Made out pay accounts and mailed them to Maj. Muhlenberg requesting checks to be sent so as to be received by the first prox. Promised Vedder to make some right line drawings for him at the Q.M. office. After dinner sat a while with Mrs. Lyster on her porch. Hewitt and I went to Capt. Vance's and there read over the French lesson, as the Cercle could not have a meeting tonight on account of the illness of Mrs. Gillmore's little boy. After tattoo called at Capt. Feche't's.

Wednesday, March 31, 1886

A review and inspmontly, took place this morning. After it went down to the Q.M. office to make tracings of plans for new buildings. Vedder wants to send these with a report and has asked me to make them. After lunch had French lesson as Hewitt wants to go out hunting tomorrow with Capt. Vance to remain three or four days. Sat a while with Mrs. Feche't and then worked on trac-



ings until four o'clock when wrote on usual letter home, completing it after dinner. Mail today brought only a postal note about the shirts and cuffs recently ordered and some papers for advertisement. Capt. Vance being Officer of the Day took the calls. Received a case for trial before the garrison court tomorrow and examined the prisoner this afternoon. In the evening called on the Taylors and intended to call on the Fowlers but saw others in there. Then went to Mrs. Feche't's and spent the rest of the evening there. Played cribbage, Capt. Feche't and I beating Mrs. Feche't and Capt. Hall badly.

Thursday, April 1, 1886

Had charge of the company at drill today Capt. Vance being on guard. Sat with Miss Folsom during guard mounting and then tried a man before the garrison court. Worked on the tracing until noon. Mail was late and I did not see it until noon when I found a new blouse from Hatfield which fits very well, pay for March and some advertisements. Worked on tracings in the afternoon, sending Miss Folsom an April fool box before going to work. Took a bath before dinner and after the meal wrote up the proceedings of the Court. Sat with Miss Folsom a while after retreat, first attending to some money matters at the store and making a call on the Fowlers. Went into Capt. Vance's until about eight o'clock and then spent the rest of the evening at Gen. Smith's singing. There has been a row among the ladies and Miss Folsom has withdrawn from this club. Steele like an obedient child tied to his Mother's apron string also pulling out. He acted the part of tale bearer and made a trouble that cannot be healed; if he had kept his mouth shut the matter would probably have been settled. Today brings Father another birthday. Hope he will be spared to have many happy returns of the day. "K" Co. left today for Duncan. Sorry to lose Geary, but can spare Towle and Payne.

The things that children will do Briefs ...

It has always amazed me as to just how some kids grow up or at least to live to the ripe old age of puberty. I've known some kids that was pretty ornery and really pushed their parents to the limit. And by limit, I mean have 'em just one step away from flat out murder.

It was a mental thing with most of us, you know. We actually thought we could out smart the poor old things (parents/adults). There were a few times that we got it done, but not many.

We were basically stupid kids. We figured if we got away with just one good trick, we were ahead of the average. The trouble was we just didn't know how to figure averages.

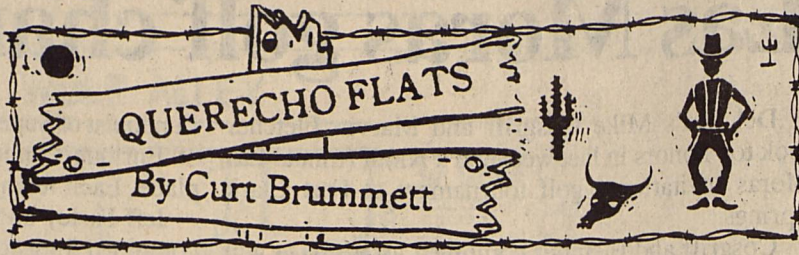
I have written about a few times that I tried to do a few things to Dear Old Dad and only once did I get away with it. That was the time I threw old Tom out of the barn loft onto Dear Old Dad and old spooks.

The only one to see that stunt was Bob. He didn't turn me into the authorities, but he chewed me out for what seemed like hours.

His words: "Little Elmo you're gonna have to quit messing around with your old daddy like that cause one of these days you're gonna fool around and kill 'im."

That stunt was done on purpose and strictly for the purpose of revenge.

When I electrocuted Dear Old Dad with a hot shot, hot enough to kill flies at 30 steps, it was an accident. I didn't know he was relieving his kidneys of excess pressure. And I honestly thought that old hot shot would dry up that little puddle of foamy wa-



ter. It didn't.

Dear Old Dad impressed on my little mind by way of my hip pockets (when he got to where he could walk normal again) that accidents "can be prevented."

When I learned to set the light switch in the barn so it would come back on just about the time we were eating supper or even just a little later, I pert-near drove the old silly thing smooth up the wall.

When he figured out it was me that was causing the light to come on, he scared me so bad that I lived in total darkness till I was about 18 simply because I was afraid to even touch a light switch.

When we hid the neighbors tractor in the hay stack one Halloween, there was no trial, jury, reading of rights, or any of that legal stuff. We were all gathered up and offered the opportunity to confess or get the hell whipped out of us. We did the safe thing. We confessed. We still got the hell whipped out of us.

Of course, you know that meant war. Breach of contract brings an automatic penalty of "revenge."

Since the ladies of the community wouldn't allow alcohol in the buildings when there was a community function going on, the men would hide (or just plain keep) the drinking material out in the pickups or cars.

Then every now and then, through out the evening, the room would be full of only women and kids, while the men went to have a social session of their own.

Well, Larry, Terry and me got some what of a really good pay back on the breach of contract thing concerning the hidden tractor.

We managed to (during the Thanksgiving Festival) drain about a third of what ever was left of several bottles of social fluids and replace it with mineral oil.

We got away with this for awhile. Then, after a few weeks, the men got to getting together and mentioning how rich some of that dressing was and how it seemed like only the men took the scours and not the women.

One more time, we were gathered up. No trial, jury, reading of rights. We were offered the same deal as we were when the tractor was hidden.

Now we were young, but not complete idiots. We knew it wasn't gonna make any difference so we just told 'em to get it over with.

They did. One time Dear Old Dad had gone into Tucumcari and managed to have one or two too many. He got back just about sundown and me and him was sitting on the porch. He was having a beer and I was having a glass of Kool Aid and some of those Sweet Tarts.

Now Sweet Tarts were brand new to the candy industry. It didn't take us long to discover that a Sweet Tart placed in a

bottle of Coke would cause such an ungodly chemical reaction it could possibly blow up the coke bottle, not to mention stain everything within twenty feet the same color as the Sweet Tart that was placed in the Coke.

We had managed to get a lot of satisfaction from this scientific discovery by testing it out on the little kids and them goofy girls.

Well, Dear Old Dad had just set his can of beer down between us and I did it. I don't know why I did it but I did. Some times I do things on the spur of the moment and it scared me.

Yep, I dropped a strawberry flavored Sweet Tart in Dear Old Dad's beer can.

There was red, foamy, Hamms that shot up out of that can roughly nine inches and started hissing and popping as it hit the porch.

Now Dear Old Dad wasn't in just real good shape when I did this. He didn't stampede or anything like that, he scooted over a little, looked at that volcanic beer can, looked at me (I was doing everything under the sun to act like everything was normal), then got up and went into the house.

Dear Old Mom asked what was wrong. He said, "Nothing really. I'm just pretty tired and I think I'll turn in early tonight."

To the day he died, he never figured out what happened. Through the years, he never one time mentioned the volcanic Hamms to any one that I know of. But there was several times I would catch him looking at the red stain on the porch. I know good and well he was wondering just how the hell it got there.

I never told 'im and Dear Old Mom couldn't because she never knew.

And to this day, I can truthfully say, "I do believe I got ya one time."

HEALTH

Little errors mean big risks concerning child safety seats

More Texans are buckling up their seat belts and putting their children in safety seats, but recent safety seat checkup events sponsored by the Texas Department of Health (TDH) show that nine out of 10 safety seats are being used incorrectly.

Johnny Humphreys, director of TDH's Safe Riders Program, said that injuries sustained in traffic crashes are the number one killer of children ages 14 and under.

The use of child safety seats reduces the risk of death in traffic crashes by 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers, but even small errors in the installation or use of a safety seat increases the risk that the seat will not properly protect a child in a crash.

Texas law requires that children up to age 2 ride in a safety seat, children ages 2 and 3 must be in a safety seat or a seat belt, and anyone age 4 and older must be in a seat belt if they are riding in the front seat.

Children under the age of 12 cannot ride in the cargo area of a pickup truck unless the truck is traveling at a speed of less than 35 miles per hour.

In Texas, drivers can be pulled over for lack of or improper restraint.

Recent studies conducted by the Texas Transportation Institute found only 63 percent of children under age 5 are restrained.

In hundreds of safety seat inspections conducted by specialists over the past year in Texas, 90 percent of safety seats inspected were used improperly.

Some common errors include:

- Safety seat not secure after it is buckled in. It should not move, but fit snugly.
- Infant facing forward. Children under 1 year old or 20 pounds should face the rear.
- Infant seat not secured at a 45-degree recline. Use rolled up towels or blankets for support.
- Loose or incorrectly routed harness straps. Straps should be snug to the child's body.
- Child in a booster seat too soon. Booster seats should not be

used until the child is 40 inches tall or weighs 40 pounds. Use a convertible safety seat until one of those limits is reached.

Parents can inform themselves and protect their children by following these guidelines:

- Read the instructions that come with the safety seat and consult the vehicle owner's manual for proper installation techniques.

- Buy a safety seat that is compatible with the car or truck you drive and exchange it if it is not.

- Send in the registration card when you buy a safety seat so that you are notified in the event of a recall.

- Dispose of any seats that are more than 10 years old.

- Avoid using safety seats unless you know their history. Replace seats that have been in a traffic crash.

- Never place an infant in the front seat of cars with passenger air bags.

- All children under the age of 13 should ride in the back seat if the car has a passenger air bag.

Safety seat checkups help parents learn how to use seats correctly.

"Correctly selecting and using a child safety seat can be a very confusing and complicated process," Humphreys said. "Safety seat checkups are designed to help parents and care givers ensure that their children ride as safely as possible."

TDH has photo guides that show common safety seat errors and how to correct them. TDH also conducts safety checkup events for parents around the state.

Call 1-800-252-8255 for information and materials or to schedule a safety checkup for your community.

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Cosgriff and Fletcher claim Las Moras golf championsip



Rick Quintela (from left) and Mac Ortiz finished second in the First Flight and Walter and Roy Dyer won first place at the Las Moras Invitational on Sunday at Fort Clark Springs.

Del Rio's Mike Cosgriff and Marvin Fletcher took top honors in last weekend's Ninth Annual Las Moras Invitational golf tournament at Fort Clark Springs.

Cosgriff and Fletcher combined for a 120 to win the Championship Flight in the tournament, which featured 144 golfers.

Aaron Billings and Bruce Thompson, also of Del Rio, took second in the Championship Flight with a 121. Third place went to Ben Alexander of Ballinger and San Angelo's Ted Covington. They posted a 122.

Fort Clark's Roy and Walter Dyer combined for a 120 to win the title in the First Flight. They edged out the Uvalde team of Mac Ortiz and Rick Quintela, who were second with a 123.

George Fernandez and Joseph Harlow of Devine tied Matt Hurt of Bedford and College Station's Jeremy Stone for third place. Both teams had 125s.

Pete Garza and Juan Martinez of Uvalde shot a 122 to win the Second Flight.

Lundquist of Superior, Wis., tied the Eagle Pass team of Enrique Gomez and Lou Gonzales for second place. Each team had a 126.

Jeff Farley and Jeff Wurn, both of San Antonio, combined for a score of 123 to win the Third Flight.

Second place went to Bob Brunnemann of Austin and Nick Calderon of San Antonio. They posted a 128.

C.B. Hilderbran and Steve Rankin, both of Uvalde, took third place honors with a 129.

Brackettville's Mark and Mitch Frerich finished fourth with a score of 131.

James and Moses Benites of San Antonio tied the Del Rio team of Marion Forbes and Truitt Nunn for fifth place. Each team had a 133.

Uvalde's Ruben Martinez and Eddie Rodriguez posted a 129 to win first place in the Fourth Flight.

Second place went to Ramiro Cano Jr. and Fred Pena, also of Uvalde. They had a 132.

Del Rio's Jose Cordova and Victor De Los Reyes tied Oscar Orona and Albert Trevino, both of San Antonio, for third place. Both teams shot a 136.



Claiming honors in the Third Flight of last weekend's tournament were, kneeling, from left: Mark and Mitch Frerich, Jeff Farley and Steve Rankin. Standing: C.B. Hilderbran, Nick Calderon, Bob Brunnemann and Jeff Wurn.



Winners in the Fourth Flight were, kneeling, from left: Albert Trevino and Eddie Rodriguez. Standing: Victor De Los Reyes, Jose Cordova, Fred Pena, Ramiro Cano Jr. and Ruben Martinez. Not pictured: Oscar Orona.

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Do you need to reapply annually?

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Pete Garza (from left) and Juan Martinez won first in the Second Flight at the Las Moras Invitational while Lou Gonzales and Enrique Gomez tied Richard and Roger Lundquist for second place.

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Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 Proof-reader's mark
6 Essential
11 Crude wooden shoe
16 Conditional release from prison
17 Adult insect stage
18 Sports compounds
20 Abraham in Nebraska?
21 Yucca-like desert plant
22 Small crown
24 Literary collection
25 Sturdy fabrics
27 English writer and social reformer
29 Pikelike fish
30 Army meal
32 Actress
33 Worth or merit, once
34 Medieval lyric
35 Bandleader
37 Shaw
39 Still sleeping
40 Prepare the tea
41 Dean Martin parties?
43 Produce quickly
45 Brings to an end
46 Sister of Ares
48 Russian drink
49 Weather forecast
50 Nightingale in Alabama?
54 Freud's concern
55 California trading center?
59 Mother of Castor and Pollux
60 Festive occasions
62 Adopts a sullen expression
64 Use an old phone
65 Festive friend
66 Author of Yutang
67 Psych. org.
68 Brazilian macaw
69 Incoherent talk
71 Special point of view
73 Greek island
75 Harrow's rival
76 A bit of Bermuda In New Zealand?
78 Turkish officer
80 Honeymoon spot in Colorado?
82 One of the tides
83 Swimmer's rummy
84 Circle segment
85 TV "Ran-egade" in Nevada?
86 Funnyman Dangerfield
89 Skycaps
91 Becomes mature in North Dakota?
95 Fencing swords
96 Impose a tax
97 Chicago business district
99 Bread of small hardy cattle
100 Crowd
101 River in Yorkshire
102 Thick slice
104 Computer food?
105 Son of Gad
106 Quantity
108 Kitchen gadget
110 Title for Alec Guinness
111 Oscar in Wisconsin?
113 Clan
115 Gread for riches
117 Seat in the chance
118 Souvenir
119 Deduce or infer
120 River to the Danuba
121 Baker's need
122 Winged DOWN
1 Variation of rummy
2 Circle segment
3 Cross
4 Terry or Corby
5 Kind of elbow?
6 Iron chancel for in North Dakota?
7 Andy's sidekick
8 Made a lap
9 Designer
10 Explorer in Ohio?
11 Dismissed from employment
12 Jack-in-the-pulpit, for one
13 Capital of Switzerland
14 Yoko —
15 Becomes snarled
16 English playwright
19 Naval construction man
20 Missouri birthplace of HST
23 Pitfalls
25 Tell it like —
28 Drip out slowly
31 Leader of the Canaanites
34 Made amends
35 French verb
38 Overhanging roof edges
39 Noted fabulist
40 Like a fashion model
42 Confess and implicate others
44 Roofing slate
45 Granite wheel parts
47 Bivalve mollusk
49 Kind of muscle
50 Cube or card starter
51 Proposition proved to be true
52 State of being hated
53 Of an ancient Greek city
55 Assayer's cup
56 Larlat
57 French star
58 African antelope
61 Dancer or Miller
63 Rower
70 Canned
71 Command to Fido
72 Linger a while
73 Ship of the desert
74 Eternally
75 Fled to wed
77 Ann and Robert E.
79 Narrow ship channel
81 Arthurian lady
83 A bit of England in Connecticut?
84 Look for gold in the Nutmeg State?
86 Change a garment's length
87 "Thais" and "Aida"
88 Laughs at contemporary lady
89 Ardean country
90 Only
92 Tricky
93 Formal announcement
94 Delusion's partner?
96 Young lord of the jungle
98 Paste used in foreremots
101 Soap plant
103 Angled edge of plate glass
106 Biblical name:
Doouay
107 Corner
108 Kimono sashes
109 — avis
112 — Amin
114 Labor org.
116 Mus. direction to the performer

MAGIC MAZE

DESCRIPTIONS OF WATER

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

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

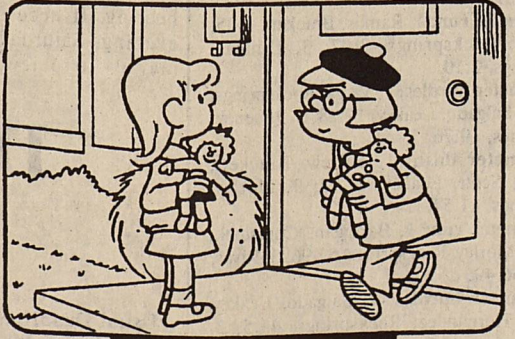
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|-------|--------|
| Boiling | Cloudy | Icy | Salty |
| Brackish | Cold | Muddy | Turbid |
| Clean | Dirty | Murky | White |
| Clear | Hot | Rough | |

Your Horoscope by Natasha

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Mental work doesn't go as well as anticipated. Also, judgment is off this week when it comes to spending on matters of pleasure. You uncharacteristically splurge for some reason.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It will be difficult this week to convince family members of the merit of a business project you're pursuing. Try not to skim the surface. Be thorough and follow through on all details.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Even if principle is involved, remember that sometimes others simply forget what is expected of them. Small problems arise later in the week with friends. These are easily cleared up by the weekend.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Avoid friction with higher-ups as the week begins. Projects around the house keep you busy. It's not a good idea this weekend to get financially involved with a friend's investment scheme.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) Although the social sector of your life is happily emphasized, you experience rivalry in romance or let jealous feelings come to the fore. Negativity is never becoming and doesn't serve you well in the long run.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) New ideas have you anxious to get started, but impatience could cause trouble with those around you. Still, you will get ahead. A weekend social outing proves fascinating.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Charm and persuasiveness serve you well this week. Still, in dealings with higher-ups, you have to gauge the situation carefully. Behavior must be appropriate.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You could be a bit hard on one friend, though there's a tendency to keep up with some of



your high-stepping friends. You can't have it both ways. Make the more conservative choice and stick to a safer routine.
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) After holding yourself in check for part of the week, there's a tendency to trip the light fantastic. However, you could spend a bit more than you'd anticipated. Take steps to correct this in order to avoid future problems.
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Artistic types contact the muse and vent their feelings. Enjoy the company of friends in social settings. This weekend, romance sets the pace as you could be swept off your feet.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Behind-the-scenes moves are favored regarding business and finances. Once you get the work out of the way, you feel a charge of creative energy. Let your hair down and socialize this weekend.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Important work gains come early in the week. Later, creative interests dominate and stir your intellect. Although social life is a plus over the weekend, you'll also want some time just for yourself and pet projects.
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HOCUS-FOCUS



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Hat is different; 2. Socks are higher; 3. Backpack is missing; 4. Hair is shorter; 5. Pants are different; 6. Backpack is missing.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 26	Felicia Abrigo	March 28	Adrian Pena
March 26	Arturo Falcon	March 28	Tim Ward
March 26	Tommy Garcia	March 29	Melody Barrett
March 26	Anne Owen	March 29	Ivan Pinales
March 27	Lydia Cremer	March 30	Frank Guajardo
March 27	Tommy Foster	April 1	Letty Ferguson
March 27	Roberta Pena	April 1	Debra Frerich
March 27	Dick Reivitt	April 1	Denice Frerich
March 27	Tiffany Reschman	April 1	Tanya Frerich
March 28	Terry De Hoyas	April 1	Dolores Frances
		April 1	Tencha Pena

Believe in Christ to be saved

By Rev. Joe Townsend
Frontier Baptist Church

Every thinking person comes to the point in his heart where he earnestly asks, "What must I do to be saved?" or "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

The Scripture is abundantly clear: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" says the Bible.

There are no "ifs," "ands" nor "buts." It is so simple that the Bible says "a wayfaring man though a fool need not err therein."

The key word is "believe." This means to put faith in. The Bible

makes it clear by stating, "By grace are ye saved through faith," not by works lest any man boast.

It is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. If a person has to do anything to be saved, it is not a gift. A gift is an unmerited favor.

In the Old Testament, the Levitical law demanded many types of sacrifices. There was nothing in any of them of themselves to bring forgiveness. It was the faith in God leading people to obey God that was effective.

God gave his only begotten son and thus gave salvation. By faith in him is salvation — a gift from God.

If a person has to do anything

to receive salvation it is not a gift, it is earned. If a man has to do anything at all to be saved, he is working for his salvation and God says this cannot be.

If one has to be baptized to join a church, to do penance or any ritual to receive salvation, it is not a gift.

Certainly a Christian should be baptized, the Bible says so. Surely a person should be in a church, the Bible says so. These, however, are for one who is already a Christian and have no part in becoming a Christian. This is a gift of God.

Faithfulness and works for God will be rewarded in heaven, but salvation is given on earth.

To believe that we have to do anything to be saved means we don't have faith enough in God to believe. He can save us without our help.

If God created us, if he can bless us, if he gave his son for us, surely he can save us. He can only give his gift of salvation if we put our faith in his son, Jesus Christ.

There will be another message from the Bible in worship at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday at 11 a.m. Come and worship with us.

Answers to Super Crossword

DESCRIPTIONS OF WATER

A hardened heart indicates selfishness

By Pastor Charolette Corey
Gateway Ministries

Are you a Nabal (pronounced naw-bawl)? Strong's Exhaustive Concordance defines this person as stupid, wicked, impious, a foolish man or woman, a vile person.

David (the future King of Israel) was a picture of Christ who protected the countryside from bandits and attacking animals so that herds and communities could prosper.

He had performed his part and sent word to the community where Nabal lived to request his portion (a tithe) of the bounty which Nabal and the community had been blessed.

Nabal, in the midst of planning his own feast to rejoice in the bounty of wool from his sheep-shearing, greedily refused to honor David and his men. Nabal did not realize how close he and all the men of the community came to being destroyed.

Abigail, Nabal's wife (Abigail meaning chief, source of joy), heard of David and his men's an-

ger and went out leading a caravan of precious foods and drink to appease David's anger into forgiveness and blessings.

Unfortunately, when Abigail told her husband what she had done, Nabal, the fool that he was, became stiff-necked and hardened his heart against his precious wife.

In trying to punish her by his hard words and rejection of her actions, he spewed toxins into his own bloodstream that caused him to have a heart attack and die (Corey's paraphrase of 1 Samuel, 25.).

Obviously, the hardness of Nabal's character was a lifestyle that eventually caught up with him.

A hardened heart indicates selfishness, unforgiveness, a lack of love, joy, truth and peace.

A hardened heart feeds on anger until it becomes so inflamed, there is no room for blood to flow through it.

A hardened heart becomes stiff and unpliant through unforgiveness and judgement of others.

A hardened heart is the ultimate

shout of "no!" to God and all the blessings He has stored up for you.

Abigail received her blessing. After Nabal died, she became David's wife.

Even if you have just some of Nabal's traits, I pray that God removes any stone in your heart and softens it to conform to his word. Honor God, stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Readings from the book of Romans

By Rev. William Adams Sr.
St. John's Baptist Church

"Likewise, the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; For we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:26-28

Praise the Lord!

VAL VERDE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
801 Bedell Ave.
Del Rio, Texas

1998		April			1998	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Dr. B.S. Mittler Cardiology/ Internal Med.	2 Dr. R. Evans Ophthalmologist Dr. H. Komet/ Dr. A. Dinesman Ear, Nose, & Throat	3 Dr. David Dean Neuro Surgeon	4
5	6 Dr. R. Hernandez Ophthalmologist	7 Dr. M. Singer Ophthalmologist	8	9 Dr. S.J. Fisher Ophthalmologist Dr. H. Komet/ Dr. A. Dinesman Ear, Nose, & Throat	10 "Good Friday" Closed	11
12	13 Dr. R. Hernandez Ophthalmologist	14 Dr. Estrada Pediatric Oncology & Hematology	15 Dr. B.S. Mittler Cardiology/ Internal Med.	16 Dr. R. Evans Ophthalmologist Dr. H. Komet/ Dr. A. Dinesman Ear, Nose, & Throat	17 Dr. David Dean Neuro Surgeon	18
19	20 Dr. R. Hernandez Ophthalmologist	21 Dr. M. Singer Ophthalmologist	22	23 Dr. S.J. Fisher Ophthalmologist Dr. H. Komet/ Dr. A. Dinesman Ear, Nose, & Throat	24	25
26	27 Dr. R. Hernandez Ophthalmologist	28 Dr. M. Singer Ophthalmologist Dr. Bloom Pediatric Cardiology	29 Dr. S. Miller Dermatology	30 Dr. R. Evans Ophthalmologist Dr. H. Komet/ Dr. A. Dinesman Ear, Nose, & Throat		

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

KINNEY COUNTY HERITAGE MUSEUM
(FILIPPONE BUILDING)

Open 2nd & 4th Saturdays
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

LAS MORAS MASONIC LODGE

meets the 2nd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.

School of Instruction meets the 1st, and 3rd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.

Visiting Brothers are Welcome

Val Verde Home Nurses, Inc.

"Offering Skilled and Therapeutic Services"

"Quality Home Health Care"

2116 Ave. F. Del Rio, TX 1-800-446-0655

Welcome!

Church of Christ

808 N. Ann

Sunday A.M., 9:30 Classes - 10:30 Worship
Sunday P.M. 1:30
Wednesday P.M. 6:30 Classes
Minister: Ray Melton

A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owned a home on January 1st (and used it as their primary residence on that date) is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption to lower their school taxes this year...and it doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium, or mobile home. (Counties, cities, and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.)

Are other exemptions available?

If you're *disabled*—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an *additional \$10,000 school tax exemption* on your home. And if you qualify for the over-65 exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (The ceiling does not apply to county or city property taxes, and those entities may offer other exemptions.) The over-65 homeowner's exemptions and school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. Over-65 homeowners also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home's over-65 school tax ceiling, to a new home.

Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 1997, you won't need to reapply for 1998 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 1998. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the over-65 exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled during 1997, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.

When and where should I file?

File applications by April 30 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1377
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS 78832
(830) 563-2323

For more information, stop in or call for a free copy of "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"

Or contact:
Comptroller's Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

Protect your rights! "Render" your taxable property by April 15th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year. The rendition form is available at your local appraisal district office... or you may draft a similar form.

Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business.

Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- ☑ You give your opinion of your property's value. If the appraisal district believes the value is higher, it must notify you in writing of the higher value and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- ☑ You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- ☑ You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 1997. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 1998.

What's the deadline?

The last day for filing 1998 renditions is April 15. Call your appraisal district for the last date the rendition may be post-marked, if mailing. You can get an extra 15 days if you ask for it in writing by the April 15 deadline.

Where do you file?

File renditions with your local appraisal district at:

KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1377
503 ANN STREET
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS 78832
(830) 563-2323

For more information stop by your appraisal district and pick up

"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"

Or contact:
Comptroller's Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, TX 78711-3528

