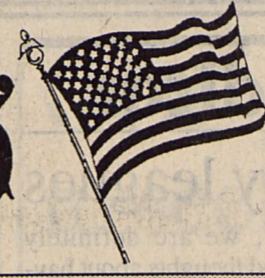


The Brackett News



Falcon Cable freezes rates

See story below

10th year, No. 20

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Briefs ...

Trustees to consider out-of-district request

Three Laughing Air Force Base families have asked the Brackett School Board of Trustees to allow their children to attend school in Kinney County.

The School Board is expected to consider the requests at a special board meeting, tentatively scheduled for 6:30 Monday night.

"The board policy says that out-of-district requests may be considered on a case-by-case basis, and that's what the board will be doing," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said.

The trustees are also expected to review the proposed budget for the Kinney County Appraisal District and discuss personnel.

"We hope to do some hiring," Stephenson said. "We'll probably have some resignations that we anticipate receiving."

In Texas, July 1 is the last day for a teacher to resign without board approval.

City's water contract with Spofford delayed

The City of Brackettville's contract to provide water to Spofford "is still in the works," according to City Secretary David Luna.

"I talked to Joe Cardenas (of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council)," Luna said at this month's regular City Council meeting. "He has a short delay on it. They're still working on it. They'll forward it to our attorneys."

JTPA employees clean city's drainage ditch

A drainage ditch in Brackettville is finally being cleaned by five summer employees with the city. The positions are funded by the Job Training Partnership Act.

"If you haven't noticed, they're cleaning the drainage ditches we always get complaints on," City Secretary David Luna told the City Council at this month's regular meeting.

"It usually takes a mass of people to be able to clean that drainage ditch," he said. "The drainage ditch is just about complete."

EMS to offer course

Kinney County EMS is making plans to provide an EMT course.

The course will be offered to 10 individuals willing to volunteer time to the EMS program.

For more information, call (830) 563-9090.

Rabid dog shot in Spofford

By J.J. Guidry
News Editor

A rabid dog was shot in Spofford last Tuesday. It is Kinney County's first rabies case this year.

According to a Texas Department of Health report, a woman said a dog showed up at her residence in Spofford and grabbed a kitten and killed it. She threw rocks at the dog and it ran off.

The woman left for a while and when she returned, the dog was fighting with her dog. She beat the dog off and it ran next door and bit the neighbor's puppy.

The neighbor called the Kinney County Sheriff's Department and Reserve Deputy Manny Pena was dispatched to the scene.

When Pena arrived, the dog was under the woman's house. The dog ran at the woman and she shot it. Pena, who works with the Wildlife Damage Management Service, shot the dog again, killing it.

The remains of the dog were sent to the Southwest Texas Veterinarian Medical Center where it tested positive for rabies.

According to the Sheriff's Department, the other animals involved in the incident were confined and quarantined.

The Department of Health advised that the animals and the Spofford residents were to start taking post-exposure rabies shots.

The incident marked the 23rd rabies case for Region 8 this year. It was the region's second dog case.

Since 1990, five human lives have been lost to rabies in Texas. In South Texas alone, two people have died from canine rabies and more than 2,500 people have taken post-exposure injections of rabies vaccine after being exposed to a potentially rabid animal.

Though treatment is effective if given in time, once rabies develops, it is always fatal in humans, according to the Department of Health.



School Board members Lloyd Lee Davis (from left), Tim Ward and Jim McDaniel evaluate the site of the district's new academic wing earlier this year. The five proposals to construct the new facility were all over the projected estimated cost of the project.

New academic wing proposals above district's estimated costs

All five proposals for the construction of Brackett School District's new academic wing were above the estimated cost of the project.

School district officials opened the sealed bids last Thursday.

The estimated cost of the project was between \$800,000 and \$1 million, while the proposals ranged from \$1,090,000 to \$1,238,000.

The contractors who submitted proposals were Greco Construction, Talley Construction, RCI, Droemer Construction, and Tom Page Construction, all of San Antonio.

"We're going to evaluate them to find the proposal that meets our needs the best," Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said.

"Each contractor gave us proposals with a dollar figure with a bid bond, which is a sub-contractors list, and gave us the total

"We're going to evaluate them to find the proposal that meets our needs the best."

Taylor Stephenson

amount of days that it would take to complete the proposal.

"We had alternates for paving a parking area adjacent to the school, for teacher storeroom cabinets, which we may be able to build ourselves cheaper, for science lab equipment, which we are trying to get funded with a grant proposal, for an individually controlled heating an air conditioning system, and for duct work, which would be metal or fiberglass."

A committee made up of Stephenson, two School Board members, the district's business

See NEW/Page 4

County beefs up EMS

Commissioners provide additional \$13,900 in funding

In efforts to improve the county's EMS program, County Commissioners approved an additional \$13,900 in funding for the program earlier this month.

County officials said their ultimate goal is to raise the EMS level of service from basic life support to an intensive care unit.

"I think EMS should be a priority," Precinct 1 Commissioner Freddie Frerich said. "I believe it will benefit everybody in the county."

Kinney County received a top-of-the-line ambulance from the Texas Department of Health (TDH) last year, but is unable to use the vehicle to its potential because of its basic life support status.

"We have the supplies and the equipment that were given to us by TDH," EMS Director Michelle Rosas said. "They're stored away and we need to start using them. We have a defibrillator that's more than \$10,000 and it's just sitting there. We need to use it."

"It would be a great advantage to the county to have that level of service because of the distance that we have to travel to the hospitals," she added.

"I think EMS should be a priority. I believe it will benefit everybody in the county."

Freddie Frerich

The additional funding includes:

- an additional full-time basic EMT at current rates. The approximate cost per year, including benefits, is \$16,800.

- an additional part-time intermediate EMT, working one 24-hour shift per week, a 12-hour shift plus 12 hours on call time. The base rate is \$8 per hour plus \$15 per call during on call time. The approximate cost per week, including benefits, is \$139.

- two additional part-time EMT paramedics, working one shift each per week, a 12-hour shift plus 12 hours on call time. The base rate is \$9.50 per hour plus \$15 per transport during on call time. The approximate cost per week, including benefits, for both positions is \$322.50.

- an additional volunteer EMT paramedic at cost reimbursement for one 24-hour shift per week with mileage reimbursement of 28 cents per mile. The approximate cost per week is \$53.

- an additional \$2,500 for supplies and equipment, including the cost of drugs required for an intensive care unit.

Officials see needs of border area

By Jaime Castillo
San Antonio Express-News

EAGLE PASS - Members of a House Republican task force agreed Saturday that more resources are needed for the drug fight in South Texas, but most refused to back away from a proposal allowing the use of military personnel and equipment along the U.S.-Mexican border.

The seven-member delegation, led by U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla, ended a two-day tour in which its members monitored federal drug interdiction efforts and met with border ranch owners long tired of illegal narcotics trafficking on their properties.

Speaking Saturday at the Eagle Pass International Bridge, the Republican lawmakers pledged to return to Washington and push for \$2 billion more to be spent on the nation's drug effort.

The United States now spends about \$17 billion annually on programs ranging from drug treatment to law enforcement.

"Law enforcement at every level are doing a tremendous job," Bonilla said. "But they're doing so much with very little resources."

U.S. Rep. Dennis Hastert of Illinois, co-chairman of the GOP task force, noted the "gripping" testimony offered by about 25 property owners who met pri-

vately with the congressman Friday night in Del Rio.

"They and the other fine people who are on the front line of this problem, I think they have the right to ask: Is there really a war on drugs in America?" Hastert said.

The 205-mile border area monitored here by the U.S. Border Patrol -- reaching inland from Comstock to Carrizo Springs and once considered too remote by undocumented immigrants -- has become a favored entrance point after crackdowns in recent years like Operation Hold the Line in El Paso.

See GOP/Page 3

INSIDE

- Joe Townsend
The subject of guns is a volatile issue. There is more rhetoric and less objective thought than almost any issue.
Opinion/Page 2
- Expanded program
Brackett ISD is looking to expand its GT Program. Michael Scholler presented a report on the program to the School Board.
Community/Page 3
- Carr scholarship
Alfredo Rodriguez of Brackettville was one of five students selected to receive a Vikki Carr Foundation scholarship.
Lifestyles/Page 5

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Appraisal District's budget jumps 4 percent

The proposed budget for the Kinney County Appraisal District is 4.18 percent higher than the current budget.

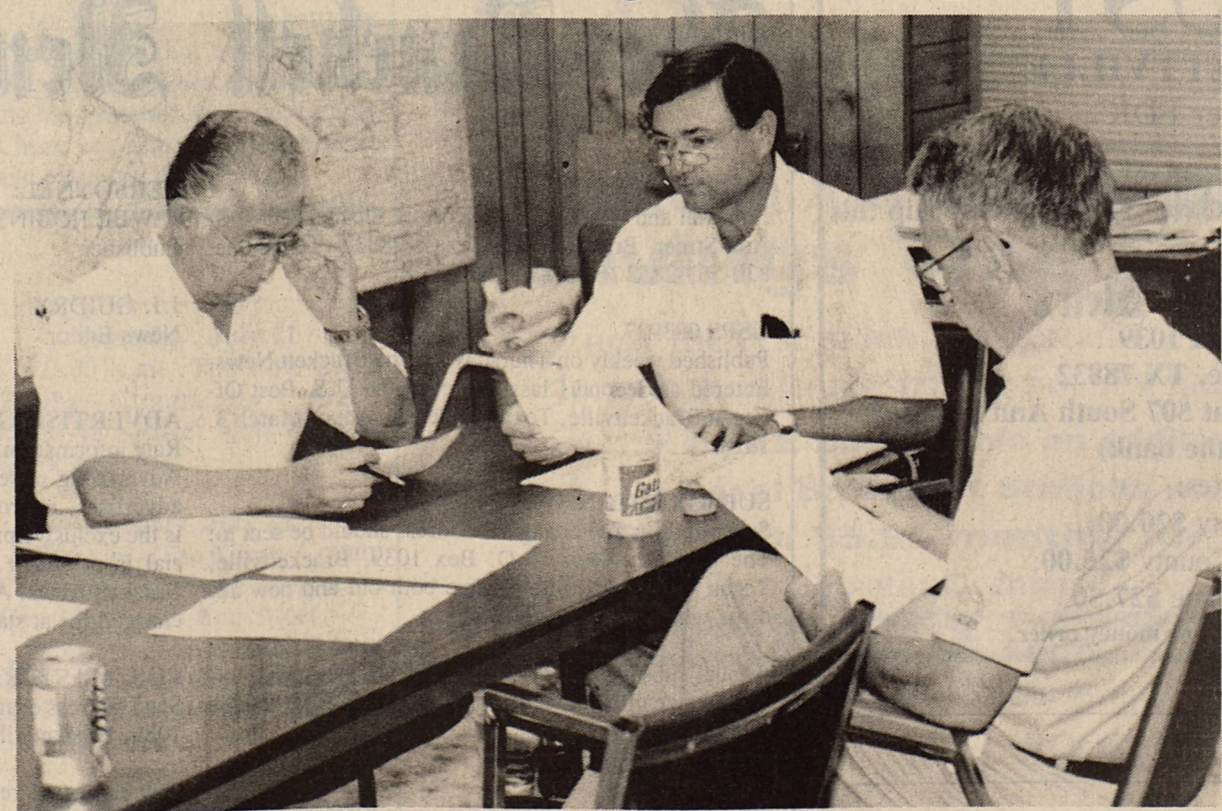
The Appraisal District's Board of Directors hosted a public hearing on the proposed budget Tuesday, but no citizens were in attendance.

Jimmy Bader, chairman of the Appraisal District board said he was "satisfied" with the proposed budget.

"Joyce (Fuentes, chief appraiser) and her staff run an efficient office," Bader said. "I think we provide a good, quality service for our entities here in Brackettville. It would be very hard for them to be able to do it on their own."

The biggest increase in the proposed budget is the line item for service and maintenance, which is proposed at \$21,000, up from \$18,000. Of the \$21,000 in the line item, \$16,340 is for computer software maintenance.

The chief appraiser's annual salary remained \$32,960, while the bookkeeper's salary increased from \$16,800 to \$17,304 and the



Kinney County Appraisal District board members Henry Fuentes (from left), Jimmy Bader and Mike Holley discussed the proposed budget at a public hearing Tuesday.

clerk's increased from \$11,290 to \$12,984.
Employee retirement benefits

increased from \$6,223 to \$6,385 and social security benefits increased from \$4,504 to \$4,600.

The only other increase in the budget was an additional \$100 for the entity's lease.

Falcon Cable freezes rates

Falcon Cable TV announced this week that it will not increase its regular cable television rates in 1998.

All services, including basic cable, Falcon's channel packages, and premium channels like HBO and Showtime will remain frozen at their regular pricing levels through at least March 1999.

"We know that rate increases are a concern to our customers, and we certainly don't enjoy imposing them," said Lorna Gentry of Falcon Cable. "However, we do recognize the need to balance price with value."

Gentry called the decision an unusual step, particularly because of Falcon's own sharply increasing costs for programming purchased from ESPN, TNT, TBS and other networks.

"Even as our costs go up, we strive to provide the best value to our customers," Gentry added.

Letter to the Editor

New rules will destroy leagues

To the Fort Clark Springs Board of Directors:

We received the Sentinel for June and July on June 12, and have carefully read the Board of Directors' policy statements, "Rules of Golf Play at Fort Clark Springs."

We would like to write this letter not as an angry protest, but rather will share our thoughts regarding said policy, as to the Men's, Ladies' and Couples' golf groups.

To say that we are terribly disappointed is an understatement, as the primary reason for our coming to Fort Clark every winter for six years has been the golf course, and in particular the Ladies' and Couples' Leagues. Now, because of the "no shotgun starts" for any of the groups, something that is treasured and valuable will be destroyed.

We have formed friendships and made acquaintances that we never would have any other way.

Many of the Winter Texans have liked the Fort so much they have bought property to ensure their pleasant experiences. Last November we, too, purchased a lot and new mobile in Unit 15, and my husband spent the winter improving the property.

However, we are definitely having second thoughts about having invested in Fort Clark, an organization that neither wants or takes input from those who are directly affected by rulings such as the aforementioned.

I think it's a shame to have taken this action while so many of the Winter Texans are not present, and cannot register an organized protest.

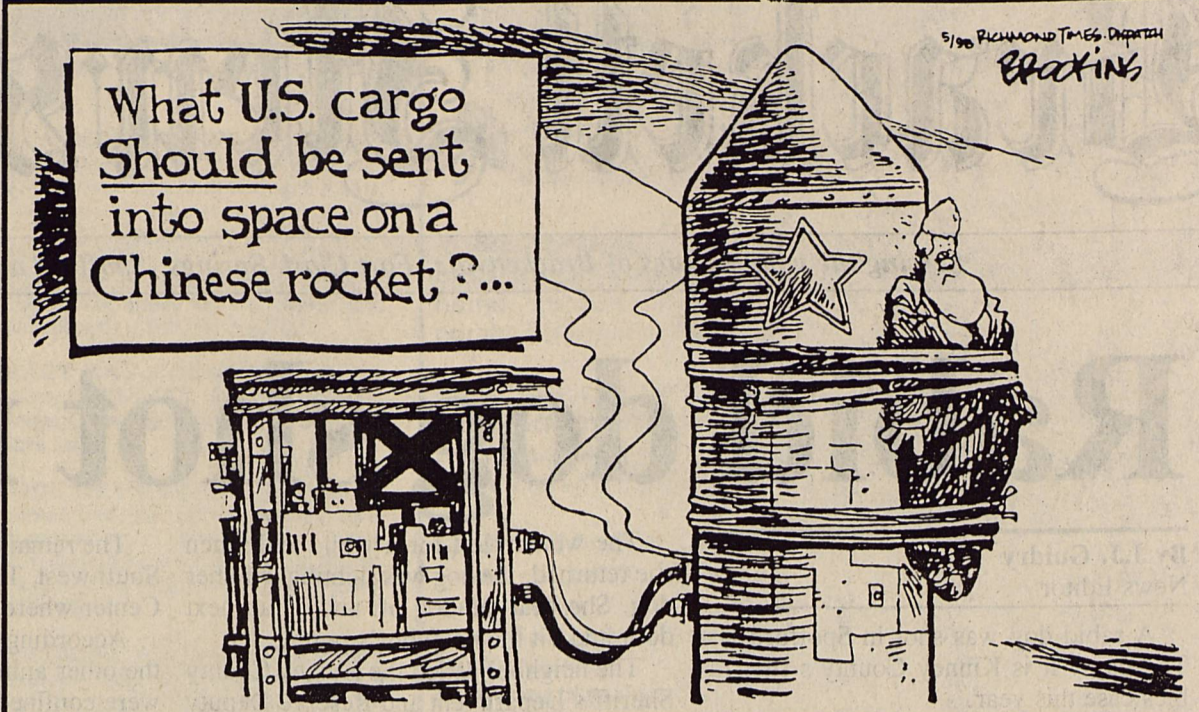
To require tee times prior to 8 a.m. rather than shotgun starts to handle leagues of 40 in some leagues, and sometimes 40 couples in the Couples' League, will inevitably result in the destruction of a very valuable part of life on the Fort.

I can only assume that those who have drawn up these rules have never availed themselves of the pleasure of companionship afforded by the leagues at the 18-hole course.

I do hope an attempt will be made on the director's level to amend these rules.

All courses must have rules, but this one change is discriminatory to a large section of the Fort residents.

Louis and Edith Zipperer
Iron River, Wis.



The problems with guns are the characters using them

Between Us

By Joe Townsend



The subject of guns is a volatile issue. There is more rhetoric and less objective thought than almost any issue. It crowds the headlines with abortion and homosexuality.

The anti-gun activists are joined by some rabid politicians intent only on getting votes. These are joined by devotees of the speculation of psychologist intent on flaunting the arrogance of an inexact science based solely on opinions.

There can be no question but that the Constitution protects the right of citizens to own guns.

The president sounds off about certain types of guns. First it was Saturday Night Specials. When it was proved that these killed few people, he shifted to automatic weapons. It's a proven fact that these kill few people, but by his rhetoric, he's never bothered by facts nor the Constitution. He thinks he can get more votes by waving the anti-gun flag so he constantly bleats it.

Guns in the hands of criminals or irresponsible people are a problem, there's no doubt about it. But the problem will never be solved by attacking guns. No gun ever killed anyone except at the hands of some human being.

The demand that all guns must have trigger locks is another concession to the criminal. A man having a gun to protect his family could be killed because of the delay caused by the lock.

The problem goes much deeper than piddling with laws involving guns per se.

As a boy, I spent many days hunting. My father had a .410-gauge shotgun. Our family ate rabbit three or four times a week. My dad killed some and I killed the others. There was never an accident involving the gun.

All my adult life, I've owned three rifles. One was a 22 semi-automatic. One was a 32 special, about the same as a 30-30. One was a 30-06.

I largely raised a family of six on deer meat. As our boys came along, I taught them about guns.

They were in a rack on the wall accessible to anyone at anytime. I kept them loaded (not in the chamber) and taught my sons they were loaded.

Too many people are killed by someone "thinking" the gun was not loaded.

At nine years, I taught my sons to use the 22 to kill rabbits and squirrels. At 12, I taught them how to use the 38 special to shoot deer. When they were grown, on rare occasions, I taught them and allowed them to use the 30-06. There was never the least problem with or about guns.

The basic reason was not my teaching about guns, but with the character of the boys. From the day they were born, they were in Sunday school and church. This gave them the foundation of character, discipline and respect they would need all their lives.

At home, they were taught and disciplined to respect laws and rules. They were taught they were responsible for their actions and would pay the penalty for misdeeds. It was the basic character of the boys that prevented any problems about guns.

The problems regarding the misuse of guns will never be solved until individual character demands responsibility for himself.

I heard one psychologist say boys taking guns to school and killing was a result of playing violent electronic games. There is no evidence that any boy involved in recent shootings played these games.

In the 30's, a book was given great hype by the media. It was entitled "Our Movie Made Children." The theme of the book was that the nation would be destroyed by young people watching violent movies.

In those days, the most popular shows were the westerns, full of shooting and killing. It was from that generation came the giant leap in aviation. It was from them came the development of plastics. It was from that age came television, the splitting of the atom, flight into space, etc.

The difference was the young people of that age were taught discipline, character building, right behavior at home, in school, in church and in society. A return to the family, school teaching, and religious message of those days will solve the gun problems of today.

Restrictions on guns simply is an exercise in futility. Criminals will always get guns, FBI checks, executive order of Boy Clinton notwithstanding.

The problem is the character using the gun. Until our judicial system begins strictly enforcing the laws we have, there will not be a dent in the problem. The strictest gun control laws in the nation are in Washington D.C., where there are more murders with guns than any city in America.

It is a proven fact that in the states where the people have more guns there is less crime and fewer killings. In every state where concealed handguns are legal, crime and killings have decreased.

It's high time the people wake up to the facts and quit listening to the flaming rhetoric of politicians, especially Clinton and Gore.

Clinton has consistently defied the Constitution and the law of the land to do what he wants. It's time to hold him accountable for criminal conspiracy. If this started, there would be no end to it. It is the trade mark of his administration that he cares nothing about the Constitution and current laws.

A warning call

By Henry Bonilla
U.S. Congressman, 23rd District

In a recent news story, a Navy squadron commander reported that only two of his 14 fighter jets were safe enough for his pilots to fly.

This unacceptable situation is only one of many alarming examples of what we are doing to our military by continuing to expect our forces to operate with less money.

Our armed forces are in worse shape now than they have been since the end of the Vietnam War. The United States military is squeezed into the dangerous position of having to do more with less. Because of that, our military readiness is compromised and our ability to decisively win a potential war is at risk.

Part of the problem is that the defense department budget has been cut every year for a decade. With less money available, military pay and benefits are only a fraction of what they should be, base housing is unfit, recruitment is down and more and more soldiers are being sent on back-to-back, overseas deployments.

Navy and Air Force pilots, tired of senseless deployments and low morale, are being lured away by commercial airlines which pay more money, have better benefits and require less extended time away from the family.

We will never be able to recruit good people to join the military with lousy pay, poor benefits and long periods of time away from home as incentives.

Our inaction in giving our soldiers the incentives they need to stay in the military and our inability to recruit the number of qualified people needed to properly sustain our forces is a very dangerous trend. Instead of scaling back defense spending, we need to increase the defense budget and eliminate unnecessary and expensive peacekeeping missions like Bosnia and Haiti.

These unending peacekeeping missions are compromising our ability to be able to effectively maintain our forces and properly train our troops for combat.

Using our increasingly limited supply of defense funds on costly peacekeeping missions is itself a threat to our national security.

If the United States is going to remain the top military force in the world, we need to immediately address the serious issues confronting our armed forces.

We have a moral obligation to give our military the tools and the manpower it needs to succeed. We cannot properly do this if we constantly over-extend our troops, and allow our defense budget to be consistently raided.

Unsung Hero

By Joe Townsend

I went to the Juneteenth celebration, mainly to get some of the outstanding barbecue.

The food was more than delicious. Those who served were most gracious.

I missed "Chicken" Dimery and "Sonny Girl." The ones who did the barbecuing, however, did a wonderful job.

The chicken was just right, neither undercooked nor overcooked. The brisket was so tender you could cut it with a fork.

I looked to see who the cooks were. I saw Albert Payne and David Sargeant. It appeared they were being surprised by Helen Sargeant. This called to my attention to how many times these men are called upon for this task.

When you think barbecue, my mind runs always to Albert Payne and now joined by David Sargeant. They are to be highly commended for giving the many hours and much work necessary to produce such delicious barbecue.

There are few people who will donate so much energy and work to do this and even those who do, few can turn out such delicious barbecue.

Surely, Albert Payne and David Sargeant are Unsung Heroes, and Helen too for her support.

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

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Rodriguez awarded \$2,500 scholarship

SAN ANTONIO — Alfredo Rodriguez of Brackettville was one of five students selected to receive a Vikki Carr Foundation scholarship for the upcoming academic year.

The Texas office of the Vikki Carr Scholarship Foundation announced its 1998 donation of \$8,000 in scholarships to five Texas residents of Hispanic heritage. The awards range in size from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

Rodriguez, a 1998 graduate of Brackett High School, was awarded a \$2,500 scholarship.

Other scholarship recipients selected were Perla Banda of Harlingen, Enoc Garza of Houston, and Helen Meza and Ray Altamirano of San Antonio.

Since 1971, Grammy-award winner Vikki Carr has publicly promoted the talents and accomplishments of Latinos beyond the Hispanic community through the Foundation. Her goal included a personal effort to return the encouragement and support she received from others, especially as she pursued her musical career.

The Vikki Carr Scholarship Foundation remains committed to

helping Hispanic youth become leaders in society.

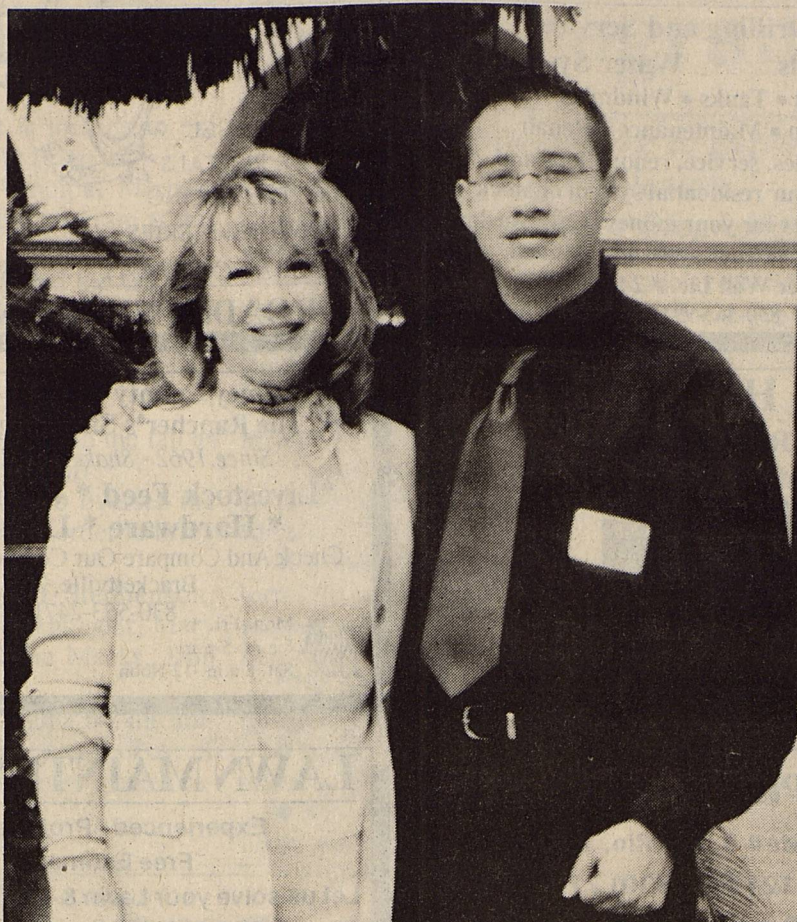
"The foundation is my way to thank God for the gift of my voice, a gift that helped me realize my dreams," Carr said. "In return, I want to help Hispanic students realize their dreams by assisting their efforts to pursue higher education."

Scholarship winners are selected once each year, and the selections are based on four essential criteria: academic achievement, community involvement, leadership, and financial need. Students may compete for renewal of their scholarship each year.

Over a half-million dollars has been awarded to Hispanic students dedicated to achieving their dreams.

Contributions from Carr, as well as from numerous individuals and corporations, have helped support outstanding young men and women who merit an opportunity for higher learning but for whom the cost of such is often prohibitive.

For more information about the Vikki Carr Scholarship Foundation, call (210) 699-0205.



Vikki Carr, left, congratulates Alfredo Rodriguez after he was named one of five students selected to receive a Vikki Carr Foundation scholarship for the upcoming academic year.

But, I could be wrong!

By: Chuck Hall



Don't forget to buckle up!

A dear friend of mine lost a niece in an automobile accident. It was a tragic loss.

Losing a loved one always hurts. It somehow hurts more when a young life is taken from us.

My friend asked me to write something. When she asked, I thought she wanted an article about the young lady. But all she wanted was for me to remind everyone to wear their seatbelts.

It seemed such a small thing to do and yet we all need reminding from time to time. It's the least I can do. So that's it. Just buckle

up. As soon as you get in the car, put that seatbelt on. Make your passengers do it too. Not because you might get a ticket if you don't, but just because it will save your life.

When you just run down to the store: Buckle up! When you go on a long trip: Buckle up!

Do it for me. Do it for your kids. Do it for yourself. Just do it!

You can thank me later. And maybe your family won't have to suffer from the loss of your life. And I couldn't be wrong.

Jimenez named to Dean's List at Southwest Texas

SAN MARCOS, Texas — Valerie Marie Jimenez has been named to the Dean's List at Southwest Texas State University for the spring semester with a 3.8 grade point average.

In addition, Jimenez was inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta National Academic Honor Society. She has again been designated as a Mitte Scholar for the 1998-99 school year. Mitte Scholars are awarded a \$5,000 renew-

able scholarship.

This past year, Jimenez was a recruiter for Southwest Texas State University (SWT), encouraging students to pursue a higher education and informing seniors of admission requirements, deadlines, services offered, and college experience in general.

She was also inducted into Rotaract Club of SWT, the college level of Rotary Club International.

Jimenez was also awarded an Outstanding Volunteer award in recognition of her time and effort dedicated to the Nurturing Program. The program is designed for families experiencing serious interaction problems.

Jimenez is a 1996 graduate of Brackett High School. She is a junior at SWT in San Marcos, majoring in English with a minor in social work. She is the daughter of Hector and Gloria Jimenez.

DAR sponsors genealogy workshop

The Hill Country Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Council will sponsor a genealogy workshop at Butt Holdsworth Memorial Library in Kerrville on Saturday, July 18.

The workshop, which is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will be open to the public. There will be a \$3.00 fee for morning or afternoon session, or a \$5.00 fee for all day, payable at the door.

Ella E. Lee Sheffield, a well known genealogist and editor from Smithville, will conduct the workshop. She will be speaking on "A Look at Records Dating 1890 and Later" and "Do I have

everything I Need to Join the DAR?"

The second half of her talk is entitled "Revolutionary Time Period for Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio." This will also include information on revolutionary service in Virginia and North Carolina.

Sheffield was the Texas Gulf Coast office manager for Southern Historical Press for over 10 years, where she formatted, compiled, indexed and supervised the typing of genealogy books.

At the conclusion of the lecture there will be a question and answer period.

Lodge installs officers

The Las Moras Masonic Lodge will install its new officers at an open meeting Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Lodge Room.

The public is invited to the installation ceremony. Refreshments will be served.

OUTDOORS

TPWD makes few changes to dove season regulations

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has made a few changes to the dove season regulations.

The dates for dove seasons are Sept. 1 through Oct. 30 in the North Zone; Sept. 1 through Oct. 18 and Dec. 26 through Jan. 6 in the Central Zone; and Sept. 25 through Nov. 8 and Dec. 26 through Jan. 9 in the South Zone.

No changes were made in either the daily bag limit of 15, the season length of 60 days, or all-day shooting hours.

The white-winged dove season is Sept. 5, 6, 12 and 13 in the special white-winged dove area of South Texas.

Bag and possession limits are 10 white-winged, mourning and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, including no more than five mourning doves and two white-tipped doves per day. Shooting hours will be noon to sunset.

In Kinney County, the area north of U.S. Highway 90 is in



A Little On The Wildlife Side

By Henry Lutz
Kinney County Game Warden



the Central Zone and follows those season dates and bag limits. The area south of U.S. Highway 90 in Kinney County is in the South Zone and follows the season dates in that area.

Please note the new start date of Sept. 25 this year, not Sept. 20 as it has been in past years.

The area south of U.S. Highway 90 in Kinney County is also included in the special white-winged dove area of South Texas, and the dates, bag limits, and shooting times are stated above.

Please note that the dates, bag limits and shooting times are different than those of the regular season.

If you are hunting in a county other than Kinney, please check

the dates and regulations for that county.

TPWD will fully implement the Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) in Texas this year. This is a nationwide program administered by the USFWS in cooperation with the states to obtain more reliable national harvest estimates for all migratory game birds. All states will be in the program by the 1998 fall hunting season.

License vendors will certify migratory game bird hunters at the time of license purchase. Hunters will be asked a few simple questions about their hunting activity for migratory game birds such as doves, ducks, geese and sandhill cranes.

Boating hazards increase as lake levels decrease

DEL RIO — The National Park Service is reminding boaters that as the lake levels decrease at Lake Amistad the potential to encounter a boating hazard increases.

One hazard in particular is that people assume the Boundary Demarcation Bouys, also known as the International Boundary Markers, are navigational bouys and tend to use them as a guide along the old Rio Grande channel.

National Park Service Superintendent Bill Sontag and Bill Jeffers, project manager for the International Boundary and Water Commission, strongly advise boaters against the practice.

During a telephone interview, Jeffers said the marker bouys are not stationary objects in the wa-

ter, they float and therefore are subject to movement.

Jeffers added that the No. 3 bouy marker is missing and the IBWC has not yet found a replacement.

Sontag urges people boating near the boundary line to navigate slowly and be aware that potential hazards do exist. There are no navigational bouys in that particular area of the lake, but it is still recommended that boaters follow channel bouys in other parts of Lake Amistad.

Sontag added that Lake Amistad is at a new record low from the former lowest level of 50 feet down, reached on Aug. 22, 1996. The lake is now more than 52 feet lower than normal and is still falling, despite the heavy rainfall Del Rio received last week.

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THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING



MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 Public weather vane? 5 Rugged situation 10 Classic order of architecture 15 Many-layered mineral 19 Genus of olives 20 Kind of mild cigar 21 Convex molding 22 Irish Isles 23 Shea tenants 24 Desert haven 25 Palindromic title 26 Noted cartoonist 27 Back doors, once 29 Hackneyed Claude Monet 33 "Oh Golden" 34 Tropical vine 35 David Copperfield's bride 36 Beauty parlors 39 Ipsa follower 40 Traveler's note? 44 Mate or room starter 45 Enjoy the surf 46 Gloss, insensate
47 Sticky mess engrossed 49 Third canonical 50 Lowest suit in bridge 51 Small liqueur glass 52 Pierre's friend 53 Popular potherb in France 54 Pretended attack in fencing 55 Famous jockey 56 Schedule notation for 58 Novelist Stephen Crane 59 Deep, narrow valley 60 Conried of movies 61 Energetic 62 Diction or fact 63 Literary caricature 66 Anagram of spore 67 Musical conclusion? 71 Benedictine abbey site 72 Prohibition vessel? 73 Ernest Borgnine portrayal 74 Enrapt and vigor
75 Figure-skater's milieu 76 Asks very earnestly 77 Bizarre curtain fabric, often in Paris 80 Despolio 81 Kind of swindle 82 Provide refreshments 83 Canopy supports 85 Word before oven or treat 86 Jackie Mason's forte 87 Buzz or gummerfart 88 Slender, graceful girl 89 Coarse file 90 City in "The Khan" 93 — Park, site of Edison's laboratory 94 Delay indefinitely 98 It's before crop or canal 99 Role of Valerie Harper 101 Boy or cub 103 Designer Cassini 104 Pay to play 105 Sifts, of old 106 Mom's sister, in Sevens 107 Dross of metal 108 Affirmatives 109 Jump in sudden fright
110 Take the "Lights out" signal DOWN
1 Ostentatious display 2 Bread spread 3 "— Be Buddies" (1940 song) 4 Same as 111 Across, in England 5 Treats with contempt 6 Large, oxlike antelope 7 Soviet news agency 8 Swiss canton 9 Gourmets' 10 Fats of early rock 'n' roll 11 Egg-shaped truck or discussion 12 — the six hundred" (Tennyson) 13 Labor org. 14 Garden heaps 15 Lunatic 16 Oil-exporting country 17 List of sorts 18 Teeny-weeny socialists 20 Longish time periods 30 Scoke severely 32 Johnson of comedy 34 Key or string starter 35 Lack of conviction 36 Fight or quarrel 37 Cottonwood tree 38 Stone, in ancient Rome 39 Broad comedy 40 Dried fruit 41 "The — and the Ecstasy" 42 Last movement of a sonata 43 Senior member of a group 45 Large, supporting timbers 46 Flash on and off 49 Threafold 50 Discontinue 51 Word before 53 Eared seal 54 Search for concealed weapons 55 Piquant 57 Use the gray matter 58 One of sorts 59 Social 61 Cries like a donkey 62 Rounded point of land 63 Brush clean 64 Shift style 65 Brought into pitch 66 Maps of town sites 67 Protective eye shield 68 Conserve of 69 Cut into cubes 70 Variety of corundum 72 Light, trifling talk 73 Chew steadily 76 Attitudes assumed for effect 77 Frontier settlements 78 City stanchion 80 Mouth or speaker starter 81 Wall St. optimist 82 Price 84 Talks idly 85 Hereditary ruler 86 Small table bottle 87 Jewish home festival 89 Letter carrier's cours 90 Room gen 91 Tip-toy 92 "— moment too ston" 93 Actress 94 Corn read 95 Spicy meat stew 96 One of the lids 97 Green — and Ham (Dr. Seuss' book) 100 White House initials 102 Bird or fish starter

MAGIC MAZE

HAND FORGING

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

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

Bellows	Flux	Press	Tuyere
Bending	Hammer	Punching	Upsetting
Blacksmith	Heat	Smithing	Welding
Fan	Metal	Swaging	

Your Horoscope by Natasha

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although you have a tendency to get bogged down in minor details, you're efficient. Bigwigs take note of your accomplishments. Keep working on your special project, but take time off this weekend.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Beware of people who are too outgoing and forgiving. They have a hidden motive. On the home front, don't allow petty matters to cause upheaval.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) While you tend to be overly extravagant sometimes, you find good deals. On the job front, paying a little more attention to your duties can reap rewards.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It isn't a good week for seeking advice from a confidant, who is concentrating on his or her own problems. Self-reliance is the key to achieving solutions. By week's end, you're satisfied with what transpires.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) While a new source of money could be coming your way soon, don't spend your gift foolishly. In your heart, you know your limitations. Sound judgment eventually wins out.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) If you are in the mood for redecorating your home, begin planning. Take one step at a time, however, and avoid extravagance. A friend has a good idea over the weekend.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Think before you speak. While you feel strongly about your personal and political beliefs, be open-minded and understanding of those who disagree. Differing viewpoints make life more interesting.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You're somewhat nervous about a work-related dilemma. All will turn out fine eventually. In the meantime, do not make any snap decisions.

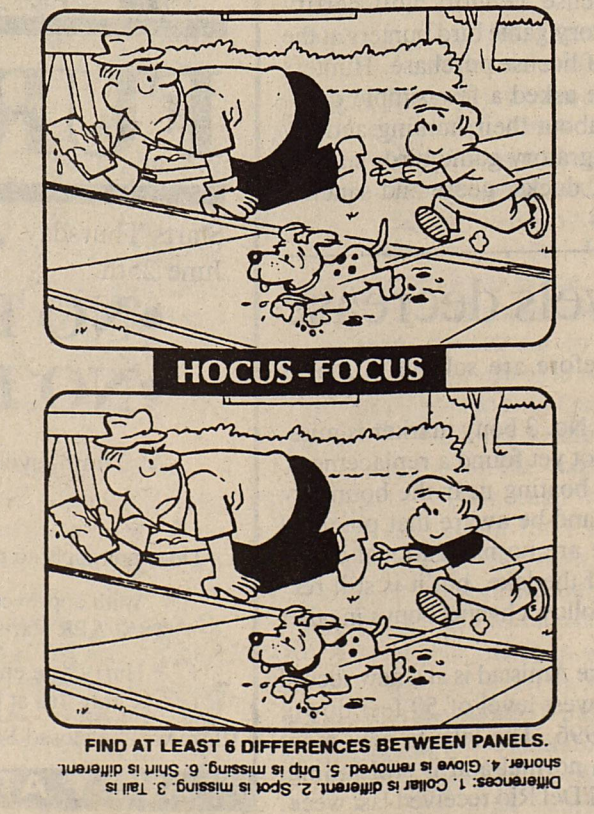
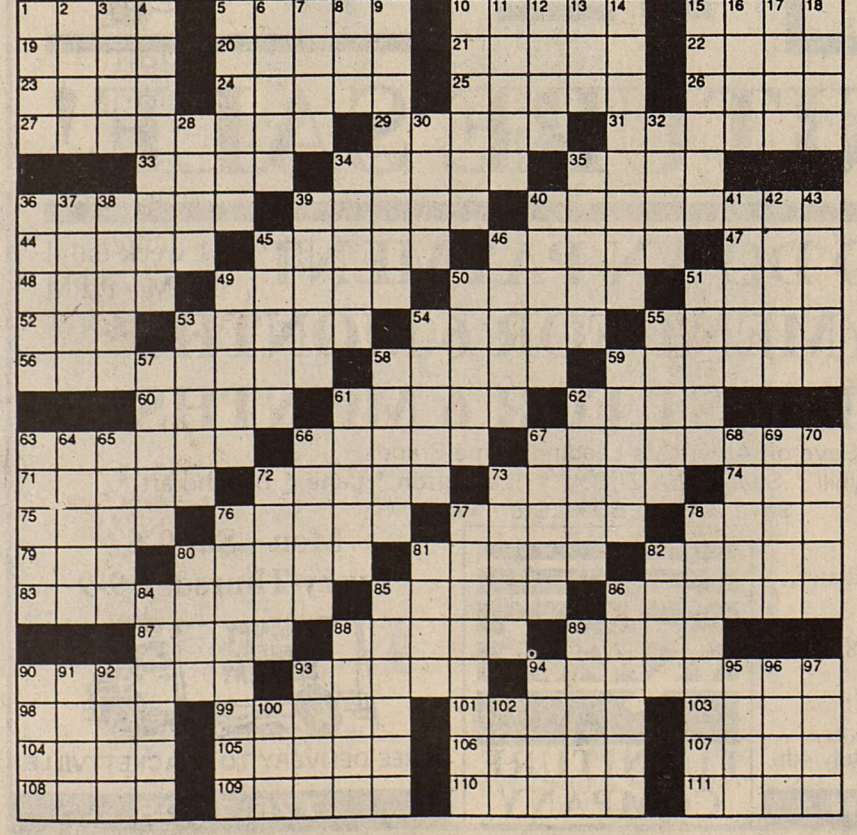
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Be alert for a tendency you'll have this week to procrastinate. You can make some progress midweek if you speak up. People are likely to listen and to respect you.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't put any stock into what you're hearing at work. Instead, keep your concentration on the duties that are expected of you. The weekend brings romantic surprises.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're feeling self-confident and ready to tackle the world. However, be careful. You could go overboard and appear overbearing to those around you.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) If you happen to be traveling, don't be surprised by some unexpected delays. Partners could be on edge, but things settle down by week's end. Avoid extravagant shopping binges over the weekend.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 25 ..Engarcia Villarreal	June 30Jessica DeLeon
June 26 ..Gladys Humphrey	June 30Laura Martinez
June 27Rubie Kelley	June 30Stacey Terrazas
June 27Joe Rivas Jr.	July 1Ben Fuentes
June 28Leah Fuller	July 1Antonio Ramos
June 29Ernest Hall	July 1Ruben Talamantez
June 29Earl Johnson	July 1 ..Richard C. Ward Jr.
June 30Anne Butler	

A person's relationship with God is determined by faith in his son

By Rev. Joe Townsend
Frontier Baptist Church

Jesus, in the sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:1-18, uses the word "Father" regarding God. Nine times.

It's great that we celebrate Father's Day to pay tribute to our earthly fathers. It's even more important that we remember our heavenly father every day.

There is a sense where God is the father of all mankind by creation. He cannot be and is not the true heavenly father except to those who have personally trusted in his son Jesus as savior.

When one does accept Jesus as savior, he becomes in that instant a child of God and God becomes father.

We in this way become adopted into the family of God. The Bible says there is no other

possible way to be redeemed and to know God as heavenly father. The idea that "as man is God once was and as God is man can become" is blasphemy straight from Satan.

"Father" tells of a blessed relationship. It makes it possible for man to tap into the wisdom of God. It relegates to God power uncomprehensible.

As father, he has the power to protect, to provide and to preserve his children. As father, God bestows his love to each child of God in unbelievable depth. As father, he demonstrates consistently his tender care.

Recognize God as father has another side. It calls faith from his children a confiding affection. It calls for reverence in the relationship. It offers trustfulness in power beyond our abilities. It calls for obedience and undying faith.

Once we become children of God, he becomes our father for all eternity. Whatever happens in life each of us will always be the child of our earthly father. Whatever happens in the life of a child of God, he is and always will be father.

This is true, according to the Bible, because our relationship to God is determined by our faith in his son. No amount of any kind of works will establish the relationship. No membership in any church nor affiliation with any sect will provide the relationship.

Faith in Jesus Christ as the eternal son of God the father admits one into the family of God to be God's child through life in this world and for all eternity.

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

Live in the moment

By Rev. Sheree Harris
First United Methodist Church

Have you ever wished that time would stand still?

Maybe it was a moment when you knew God was in heaven and all was right with the world (at least your world).

Maybe it was a time when something truly special, a major event like a marriage proposal or birth of a child, or maybe a simple thing like your child presenting you with a hand-picked wild flower and you just wanted to remain transfixed by the look in his or her eyes.

Perhaps life is a little hectic and you'd like to pause and give yourself a breather because there never seems to be enough of it to get everything done or to enjoy the little pleasures.

At one time or another, for all these reasons, I have wished that time would stop just for a little while.

In infinite divine wisdom, however, God has not obliged

me. If time did stop, it would throw everything off course, and no doubt we would miss some of the blessings that, unbeknownst to us, lie ahead of us. We would be denied some future joy. So time marches on and so do we (march, run, gallop, leap).

In the Bible, God tells us, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven," (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

God does not promise us that all of those times will be pleasant. However, God's name is Emmanuel, which means "God with us," and God did promise, "Lo, I will be with you even until the end of the age."

My prayer is this: that in all times, ones that we wish could last forever and ones we can hardly bear, we know God's presence and receive the blessing that lies therein. Let us live in the moment as we live eternally in God.

Today's time can't be saved for tomorrow

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." Proverbs 27:1

Every new day brings with it 86,000 fresh seconds. Today's time cannot be saved for tomorrow as today's time never keeps. You cannot use yesterday's time today as yesterday's time has already been consumed. You may not gather tomorrow's time today as tomorrow's time is not ripe.

You cannot use yesterday's time today as yesterday's time has already been consumed.

The past and the future have not been given to us; it is not ours to breathe or exhale. We live within the smallest perimeter, which we call today. Do not compromise today, it is all we have.

You are invited to worship at St. Mary Magdalene's Catholic Church.

Mass will be held on Monday, Thursday and Friday at 7 a.m.; Wednesday at noon; Saturday at 6:30 p.m.; and on Sunday at 8 a.m. in Spanish, 10:30 a.m., and at Spofford at 12:30 p.m.

God will supply the answers

By Pastor Charolette Corey
Gateway Ministries

Have you seen the Chihuahua commercial where he's calling out "Here lee-zard, lee-zard!" as he is using a small cardboard box to try to catch a giant monster of a lizard?

Then, after the monster shows up with its intimidating size, the Chihuahua simply says, "I theenk I better get a beeger box."

And in a later commercial he is seen riding joyfully around on the tail of the giant lizard after having "mastered" the problem.

It puts me in mind of James 1: 2-5, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, knowing this, that trying of your faith worketh patience, but let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire wanting nothing. If any

of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, and up braideth not, and it shall be given him, but let him ask in faith not wavering."

When a "lizard" or problem comes upon you which might first appear to be overwhelming, just "get a bigger box." In other words, be patient, ask God in unwavering faith for wisdom to overcome the problem, and he will supply the answer.

Then, as you wait patiently for the problem to be resolved, God performs a work which produces great joy inside your soul.

So, no matter what size you are, how old or how young you are, you too can say, "Here lee-zard, lee-zard!" and know that you are more than a conqueror, you are an overcomer through Christ who strengthens you.

Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Readings from the book of Acts

By Rev. William P. Adams Sr.
St. John Missionary Church

"And Philip ran there to him, and heard him read the prophet, Isaiah, and said, Understandest thou what thou readeest?"

"And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he besought Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

"The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth;

"In his humiliation his judge-

ment was taken away, and who shall declare his generation? For his life is taken from the earth.

"And eunuch answered Philip, and said I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? Of himself, or of some other man?"

"Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

"And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water. What doth hinder me to be baptized?"

"And Philip said, if thou believest with all thine heart, thou

mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God.

"And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

"And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing."

Acts 8:30-39

The St. John Missionary Church's prayer line, (830) 563-3032, is available 24 hours daily. Let's pray.

Children's Puppet Workshop

On Mondays and Fridays, from 1 to 3 p.m., Gateway Ministries is sponsoring a puppet workshop for children this summer. Anyone who is old enough to behave and take instruction (at least six years old) is welcome. Pastor Charolette Corey is the instructor. Adults may stay and help if they desire, or they may bring cookies, sodas or chips. After gaining some experience with the use of puppets, the children will perform a puppet show for the residents at the Senior Citizen Apartments. Gateway Ministries is located diagonally across from the Post Office at 301 E. Spring Street. For more information, call Gateway Ministries at 563-9331, 563-2121, or 563-2601.

Answers to Super Crossword

HAND FORGING

Try to lift people up, don't tear them down

This story is based on Luke 6:41-42. One of the men in the community committed a serious sin.

The town council called a meeting and requested the teacher to attend. When he refused to come they sent a delegation telling him the matter was most urgent.

"Since you insist," he said, "I will come in about 30 minutes."

When he arrived at the meeting of the town council, the teacher entered the room carrying a leaking jug on his back, filled with water.

The members of the town council asked, "Teacher, what is this?"

"All day long," the teacher replied, "my sins run out behind me and I am unaware of them. Yet despite my blindness to my own sin, today I am asked to judge the error of another."

When they heard the words of the teacher they forgave the man, who had sinned and said no more.

How easy it is to judge the sins of other people and yet forget as Jesus taught us to not notice the log in our own eyes.

Would it not be wonderful for our Christian community here in Brackettville, Texas, the U.S., and in the world to focus our efforts rather than on tearing people down but lifting people up with love and encouragement?

Perhaps we enjoy tearing people down so as to feel more exalted in our own eyes. We must remember that Jesus died for all sinners, each and everyone of us.

Let us all resolve to share the good news of God's love with each other so that all may be uplifted and full of joy. Amen.

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Sunday P.M. 1:30

Wednesday P.M. 6:30 Classes

Minister: Ray Melton

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2. Need a ride to the grocery store or Post Office?
3. Need help in writing letters, etc.?
4. Need bereavement ministry?
5. Need someone to visit with?
6. Want to be on a prayer list?

Just call Diann Schooler at 563-2908 or Sue Talamantez-Freeman at 563-3367.

St. Mary Magdalene Helping Hands Committee

TAKE SOMEONE TO COURT

Make a motion to support physical activity

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

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

