

The Brackett News



Principals receive contract extension
See story below

11th year, No. 1

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Briefs ...

Illegal alien smuggler escapes on foot after vehicular accident

DEL RIO - Border Patrol agents responded to a report of a group of possible undocumented aliens present at a residence in Cienegas Terrace on Saturday.

Agents observed several subjects attempting to board a van. Upon noticing the marked Border Patrol vehicle, the driver of the van accelerated and left the residence. Agents proceeded to follow the van, never travelling more than 25 miles per hour in the residential area.

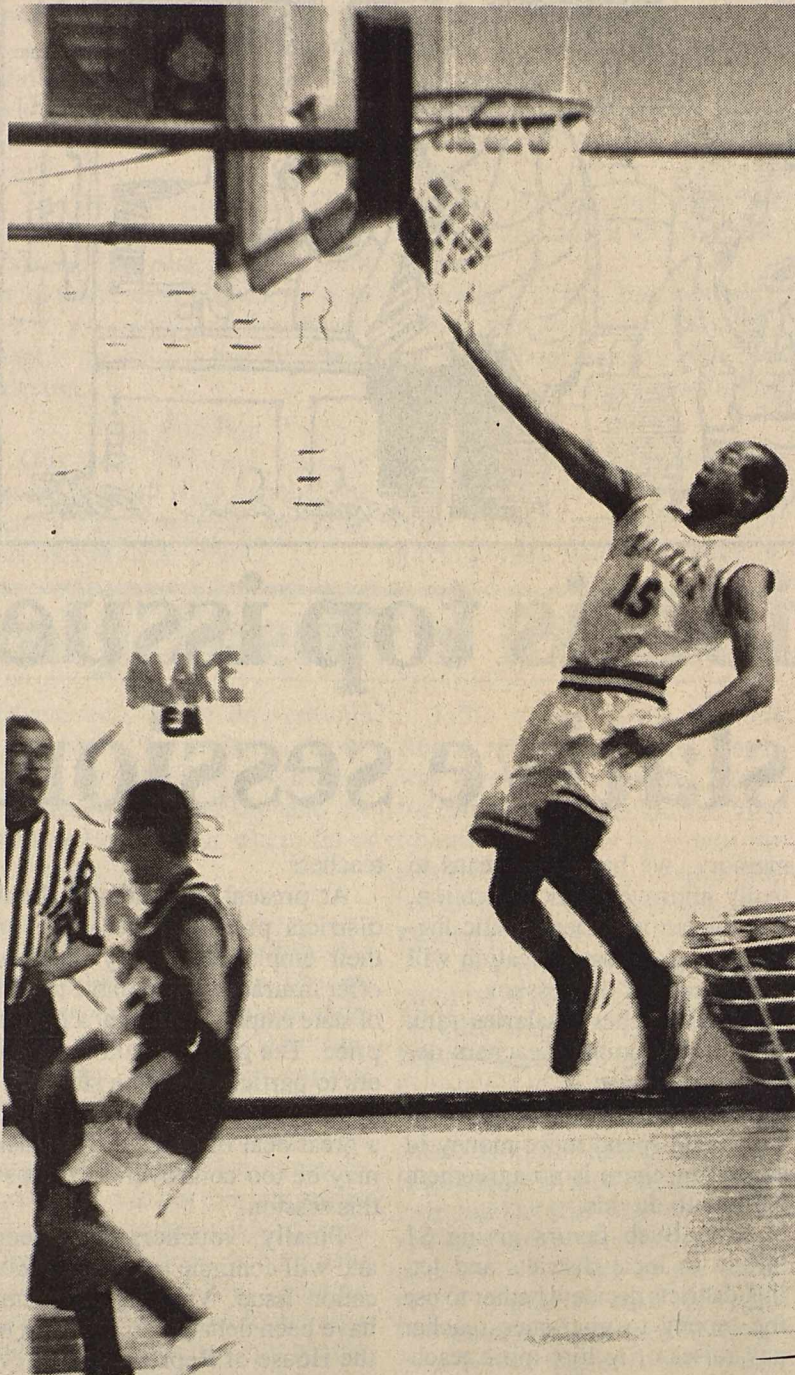
After traveling a short distance, agents came upon a cloud of dust and saw the van in a vacant lot. It appeared that the driver had lost control of his vehicle and struck a vehicle, which was parked alongside the road.

Border Patrol agents did not pursue the suspect vehicle nor activate emergency lights, due to the fact that Cienegas Terrace is a residential neighborhood.

The driver of the vehicle climbed out of the van and abandoned on foot.

The Val Verde Sheriff's Department was notified of the accident and an EMS unit was also requested. One undocumented alien in the van received lacerations to his head and required medical attention at the Val Verde Medical Center.

The alien smuggler managed to avoid apprehension but several illegal aliens were voluntarily returned to Mexico.



Damian Toms (15) scores a layup against the Dilley Wolves. See related story, Page 5. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

Candidates can file for election Monday

Candidates seeking a position on the Brackettville City Council or the Brackett ISD School Board of Trustees can apply Monday for a place on the ballot for the May 1 election.

March 17 is the deadline to file for a place on the ballot for the City Council and School Board elections. The deadline for write-in candidates to file is March 22.

Two members of the Brackettville City Council are up for re-election - Aldermen J.J. Guidry and Wes Robinson. Each position has a two-year term.

Two at-large positions on the School Board of Trustees will be on the ballot. Each position has a three-year term. Incumbents are Steve LaMascus and Jim McDaniel.

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, David Luna was appointed early voting clerk, and Debra Bland, Ginger Dodson, Lingo Sandoval and Ana Belia Talamantes were appointed deputy clerks.

The election judge and alternate election judge will be appointed at the March 9 meeting. The elec-

March 17 is the deadline to file for a place on the ballot for the City Council and School Board elections. The deadline for write-in candidates to file is March 22.

tion judge will be paid \$6 per hour plus \$10 for the delivery of all required paper work to the voter registrar's office. The alternate judge and two clerks will be paid \$5.15 per hour. The city will buy lunch for the election workers.

At Monday night's School Board meeting, Susan Veach was named early voting clerk, Dixie Brown was appointed an election official, and Marla Madrid, Gracie Mata and Tilda Sierra were appointed deputy clerks.

Sondra Meil is the election judge for the School Board election, and Connie Coronado is the alternate judge.

Border Patrol records 5,380 apprehensions

U.S. Border Patrol agents in the Del Rio sector recorded 5,380 apprehensions during the first week of April.

Agents at the Brackettville station made 749 apprehensions for the period of Feb. 1-7.

Leading the sector for the week was the Eagle Pass station, which recorded 1,966 apprehensions.

Agents at the Del Rio station made 1,089 apprehension during

the week.

The Carrizo Springs station had 936 apprehensions, the Uvalde station had 388 apprehensions, and the Rocksprings station had 89 apprehensions.

The San Angelo station had 67 apprehensions and the Comstock station recorded a total of 39 apprehensions.

At other stations in the Del Rio sector, the Llano station had 30

apprehensions, and the Abilene station recorded 28 apprehensions.

The information for the weekly apprehensions is provided by each station in the Del Rio sector.

U.S. Border Patrol agents from the Del Rio sector seized 331.1 pounds of marijuana during the period of Feb. 1-7. The seized drugs were valued at approximately \$264,880.

Petrosky wins silver at Del Rio UIL meet

DEL RIO - Brackett High School senior Mandy Petrosky brought home a gold medal from the Del Rio High School University Interscholastic League (UIL) Academic Invitational Meet.

The UIL event featured 13 schools from around the area which competed in various academic events in an effort to prepare for UIL district competition.

Petrosky competed in persuasive extemporaneous speaking. Extemporaneous speaking requires the student to prepare a seven minute speech within a 30 minute time period.

Brackett is preparing for the district UIL competition that will be held at the end of March inourdanton.

Any students interested in competing in UIL Academic events should talk to their teacher.

Speed limits reduced on Highway 90 inside city

Speed limits on Highway 90 will be reduced inside the Brackettville city limits to 40 miles per hour, officials announced.

The speed limits adopted by the Texas Department of Transportation and approved by the Brackettville City Council include: 55 miles per hour from milepoint 17.60 to 18.20, 40 miles per hour from milepoint 18.20 to 18.97, 50 miles per hour from milepoint 18.97 to 19.35, and 60 miles per hour from milepoint 19.35 to 19.71.

Brackettville City Secretary David Luna said the city became aware of the proposal when the department of Transportation installed the stoplight on Highway 90.

"Many residents from Fort Clark had voiced their opinion on lowering the speed from 45 to 35 because of the gate entrance," Luna said. "At that time, that council requested that the state allow us

"Many residents from Fort Clark had voiced their opinion on lowering the speed from 45 to 35 because of the gate entrance."

City Secretary David Luna

to do that. After their survey of vehicle traffic, they had decided that they would lower the speed limit from 45 to 40, but not to 35."

In addition, officials made the following changes for R.M. 334: 30 miles per hour from milepoint 0 to 1.06, 40 miles per hour from milepoint 1.06 to 1.51, 50 miles per hour from milepoint 1.51 to 1.83, and 20 miles per hour from milepoint .43 to .67 when the flashing school speed zone signs are in operation.



Winners in the Knights of Columbus free throw contest are, bottom row, from left: Travis Nowlin, Mandy Lee Harris, Divina Pena, Stephanie DeLeon and Anthony Munoz. Middle row: George Martinez, Wacy Taylor, Stephanie Gomez and Arnold Pinales. Helping run the contest were, top row: Manny Pena, Gregg Nowlin, Pedro Abrego and Joe Williams.

Principals receive contract extension

Brackett ISD's two principals each received a one-year contract extension Monday night.

The Brackett School Board approved the extensions for High School Principal Don Sims and Jones Elementary Principal Michael Scholer during its regular meeting.

The trustees will discuss the contract for Stoney Burks, assistant principal in charge of the middle school, at a later date during discussion of teacher's contracts.

In other action:

The board officially named the district's newest building Brackett High School.

"When we move the fifth and sixth grade into what is Brackett High School now, that won't be Brackett High School," Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said.

Officials have not officially announced a new name for the

current high school building.

"We're not going to name it right now," he said. "We're going to put fifth and sixth grade it. We will designate a building name for it in the future."

Trustees agreed to install seating for handicap individuals at the football stadium and make the ramp handicap-accessible.

"I think it's a good decision," Stephenson said. "Now we'll have room in the stands for folks with wheelchairs. We're happy to provide the service."

"We're going to try and get it in by graduation. We're going to have to change the slope on the existing ramp under the home stands. We're going to use the entire ramp. When we get to the bottom, we're going to go about 24 feet on both directions. That way we can have full access without choking down the traffic."

Hadsells retire from RGEC

Charles and Shirley Hadsell both retired from Rio Grande Electric Cooperative (RGEC) after working a total of nearly 70 years.

Charles has been retired as of Jan. 1, while Shirley retired on Jan. 31.

Charles Hadsell began work-

ing for the cooperative on April 14, 1969 as a heavy equipment operator. During his career at RGEC, Charles held titles such as mechanic, foreman, district manager, line superintendent and area operations manager.

Working in the Dell City, Marfa and Brackettville offices

allowed Charles to gain the respect and admiration of many of the cooperative members as well as the employees.

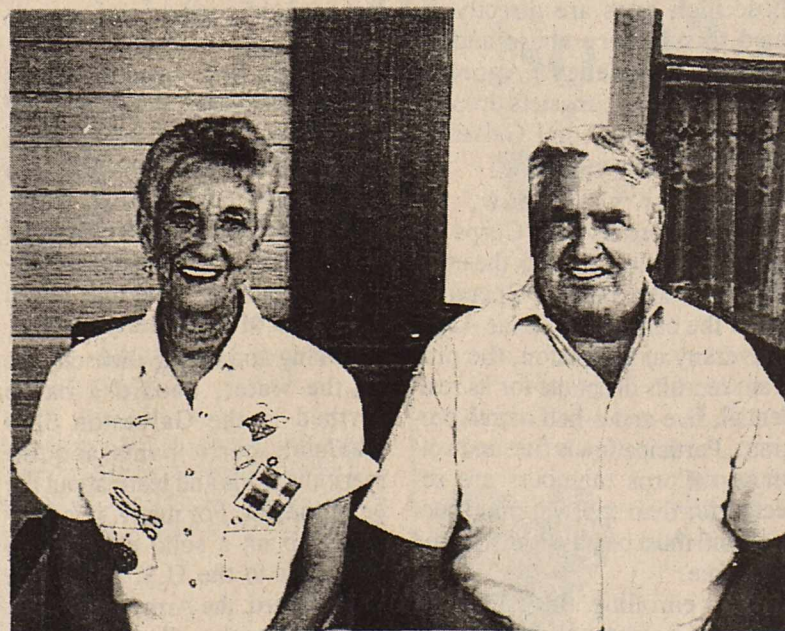
"I will miss my association with the crew at RGEC very much and thank you for all your help and cooperation over the past 29-plus years," he said.

Shirley Hadsell held the title of clerk while earning a wage of \$1 per hour when she began working for RGEC. Titles she has since held have included clerk-typist, communications operator, secretary, accounts receivable clerk and member service advisor, the position she held at retirement.

Annual meetings, energy audits, member advisory meetings and the "local pages" found in monthly issues of Texas Co-op Power magazine are but a few of the responsibilities that Shirley will miss.

"I will miss my contact with the membership the most," she said.

She worked in the Dell City office, the Marfa office and the Brackettville office over the past 40 years.



Shirley and Charles Hadsell have both retired from Rio Grande Electric Cooperative. Photo Special to The Brackett News

INSIDE

Henry Bonilla

What if the federal government came up with a plan requiring banks across the country to spy on customers?
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Taylor Stephenson

Early February has brought beautiful days and a preview of spring! The temperature has been close to 90 for the past week.
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Chuck Hall

A man stopped by my office the other day and during his short visit, the subject of my column came up.
Lifestyles/Page 4

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Letters to the Editor

Reject proposed changes

The proposed changes to the Declaration of Protective Restrictions, included in the ballot package of Fort Clark Springs Association, must be summarily rejected by the membership.

Part III, Statement of Intent, reads: "These restrictions shall be constructed so as to encourage as much as possible the participation by the members in the operation of the Association, to expedite complete control of the Association by its members as early as possible, to encourage the acquisition by members of building sites (as provided in Part VI hereof), and to facilitate the expeditious operation of the Association, including the performance by it of its obligations hereunder."

How can this goal be accomplished when Part VII of the same proposed declaration strikes the members' rights to instruct the Board of Directors concerning the operation of the Association?

Rudy Brenk

The board graciously grants you, the member, the right to comment on the way they run the operations. These two parts contradict each other completely.

The By-Laws of Fort Clark Springs Association, Inc., Article IV Board of Directors state in paragraph 1: "... and the right and power of the members to instruct the directors ..."

Members own Fort Clark Springs Association. They keep it alive with their exorbitant assessment payments. These facts give the members every right to instruct the directors how they want their own business run!

This insidious attempt to infringe on the right of members by a Board of Directors, composed largely of ego-trippers and status seekers motivated by delusions of power, must compel every member to vote no on the proposed changes.

Reader defends the pope

In regards to Brother Joe Townsend's article concerning Pope John Paul II in last week's issue, I must stand in defense of the holy father.

The pope is the true vicar of Christ, the successor to the throne of Peter, and he is the truth.

His plea for the man's life was not any political move but was to show compassion to a nation that has lost compassion in almost every facet of its being. He knows

that it is God's discernment, not man's, on the time for one's life to end. I feel and pray for the victims and their family.

Spending the rest of his life in prison will in a sense kill the murderer, that is to say kill his spirit which is obviously evil, but it will not take his very life which will end in due time when he will have to face the true judge.

With all respect,

Henry Clay Hunt III

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.

Big Mama Sez!



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The Brackett News

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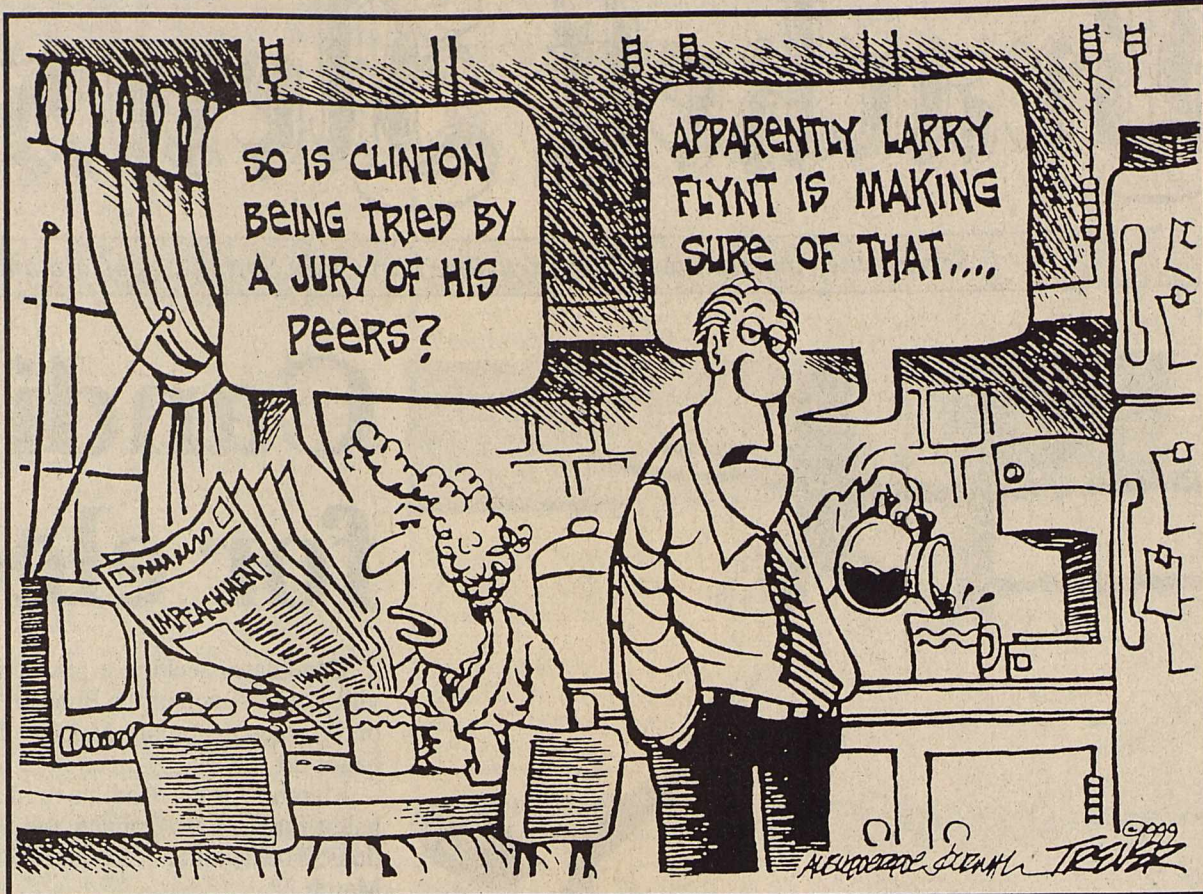
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Education is top issue for legislative session

By Pete P. Gallego
State Representative, District 74

I have always thought of myself as an English teacher at heart. If I had not gotten caught up in the swirl of law and politics, I might have been dotting the i's and crossing the t's of students at Alpine High School. Regardless of my career path, I still hope a teacher's hopes and worry a teacher's worries.

Last week, teachers gathered on the steps of the State Capitol to voice their dissatisfaction with aspects of our educational system.

Educators from Fort Davis and Del Rio dropped by the office to visit and a group of teachers from Brackettville and Eagle Pass came in to voice their concerns. Many more teachers from Fort Stockton, Marfa and school districts all across House District 74 also took time to write me a letter or send me an e-mail.

These teachers are concerned about the same four issues: pay raises, increased retirement benefits, improved health care, and the defeat of voucher legislation.

As a House member, education has always been one of my passions. This session, I am confident that Texas will continue the practice of continued support for both teachers and school districts.

For the first time in recent

memory, we have the means to really improve public education. Republican and Democratic legislators agree that education will be the issue of the session.

Texas teacher's salaries rank 38th in the nation. Teachers deserve a pay raise.

While there is agreement that we should spend more money in education, there is no agreement on how to do this.

Gov. Bush favors giving \$1 billion to local districts and letting districts decide whether to use the money to guarantee teacher pay raises or to hire more teachers. Most Democrats want to use the additional money to guarantee teacher pay raises and ensuring that the extra money go directly into the classroom.

Improving teacher retirement benefits is another crucial way to help people who help our kids.

Teachers are asking to increase the retirement multiplier from 2 percent to 2.25 percent. We can probably raise the multiplier to at least 2.1 percent without jeopardizing the financial stability of the Teachers Retirement System. Also, it is important that the Legislature appropriate funds to allow retired teachers to keep their health benefits.

And, speaking of health benefits, there is discussion about providing state health insurance for

teachers.

At present, individual school districts provide insurance for their employees. Many districts offer insurance comparable to that of state employees, but at a higher price. The goal is to allow teachers to participate in the state system and thereby save local districts a great deal of money. This idea may be too controversial to pass this session.

Finally, vouchers have been and will continue to be a big education issue. Voucher programs have been debated on the floor of the House of Representatives every session since 1991. However, they have never been a part of a floor debate in the Texas Senate.

The presiding officer of the Senate, Lt. Gov. Rick Perry, was elected on a promise to enact a voucher program. The House will wait to see if Perry can get his plan out of the Senate before it even begins another debate on this issue.

Vouchers drain our public schools of needed revenues. I intend to continue voting against vouchers at every opportunity.

Overall, I believe public school teachers can look forward to a productive and positive legislative session. The Texas legislature is poised to make great strides in taking care of the schools and teachers who care for Texas children.

A Texas success story at sea

If success is a journey, and not a destination, there is a group of young people in South Texas who are well on their way, thanks to a program that combines environmental conservation with education and career preparation for at-risk youth.

Many programs designed to help high school dropouts begin with high hopes and great expectations, only to disappoint both their sponsors and participants.

But the Seaborne Conservation Corps program in Galveston, since its inception, has been proceeding full steam ahead.

The problem is a serious one: Texas' high school drop-out rate is high, 35 percent or more, and those high rates are directly related to substance abuse and juvenile delinquency. Approximately 10,000 youngsters drop out of Harris County and Galveston County schools each year.

For four years now, the Seaborne Conservation Corps has been intervening to break the cycle of despair and failure. Operating out of the campus of Texas A&M University at Galveston, the program recruits dropouts for its residential, five-and-a-half month program. Participation is free and voluntary. Corps members are selected for their motivation to succeed and must be physically fit and drug free.

After enrolling, these 17-to-20 year olds go through four weeks of basic preparation, including a rigorous physical training pro-



Capitol Comment

U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison

gram. They are given a stipend and provided with room and board, and clothing.

Once on board, they receive intensive instruction in life skills, motivation and leadership based on a military model that incorporates strict discipline and high standards of conduct and appearance.

The aim is to instill the Corps members with self discipline, self confidence and a strong work ethic. They learn to work as a team. They attend GED, vocational and career development classes. They receive round-the-clock mentoring. And they put in 450 hours of community service.

Living and taking their classes on the water, aboard a barge berthed in the Galveston Ship Channel, participants acquire maritime skills and learn about the environment. For many, it is their first step on a solid career path that leads to the U.S. Navy, the Coast Guard, the Army or college.

The Seaborne Conservation Corps' graduation rate is 80 percent, compared to a 32 percent

rate in the Job Corps.

Parents whose children have gone through this award-winning program sing its praise. One family wrote Corps Director Al De Medeiros:

"Four weeks ago we brought you a smart-mouthed, belligerent 17-year-old brat ... On Friday night, we picked up a wonderful young man, whom we did not recognize. We want to express our shock and delight for the outstanding job you have done with our son in this short period of time."

Another parent wrote: "Since my son has been a part of the Seaborne Conservation Corps, I have seen a dramatic change in his attitude. I have no doubt he can do anything he sets his mind to."

An Army platoon commander wrote of a Corps alumnus: "If you have any more Seaborne cadets who are willing to be infantrymen and paratroopers, and who have the same character and discipline, send them to me! Our unit, our state and our country need soldiers of that caliber."

This program, which will double in size from 70 to 140 students next year, is turning out the kind of young people of whom we all can be proud. I am happy to report that I was able to ensure it continues by getting funding included in the 1999 Defense Appropriations Bill.

By any criteria, the Seaborne Conservation Corps is a success story of the first order.

Power of the people

By Henry Bonilla
U.S. Congressman, District 23

What if the federal government came up with a plan requiring banks across the country to spy on customers? What if those banks were then supposed to take the information gathered and report it to the federal government?

Every time you withdrew a large sum of money, or if you sold your car and made a large deposit to your savings account, the federal government would know. Do you think it sounds like something that would never happen in America? Well, think again.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the agency that oversees America's banks, recently came up with a plan they call the "Know Your Customer" program. The intent of the plan is to crack down on crimes like money laundering. But this federal plan goes too far.

Under this program, banks across the country would be forced to track the banking habits of their customers. If a customer makes a withdrawal, or a deposit, inconsistent with their normal pattern, the system sends up a red flag to notify officials at the bank.

It doesn't stop there. The bank would then report to the federal government that there has been "suspicious activity" in your account.

That means every time one of life's little emergencies crops up like you need to replace the hot water heater or buy a new refrigerator, the federal bureaucrats could get a heads up about your private affairs, even though you've done nothing illegal.

This frightening plan packs a double punch. Not only does it invade our individual privacy, it also imposes an unfunded federal mandate upon banks across the country.

Your community bank would have to bear the cost of formulating a plan that tracks a customer's banking habits. And the plan is so broadly written that even if a bank had a tracking system in place, the federal government could force changes.

As you can imagine, the "Know Your Customer" plan has not been well received in Texas, or anywhere in the country for that matter. In fact, public outcry has been so intense that the federal banking agencies are rethinking the idea.

The FDIC reports that it has received around 15,000 comments from irritated Americans calling the "Know Your Customer" plan an invasion of privacy.

Because the criticism has been so harsh, the federal government is quietly backing away from its own plan. And just to make sure this invasive program never sees the light of day, Congress is already drafting legislation.

The Fourth Amendment of the Constitution guarantees us protection from "unreasonable searches and seizures." We cannot allow our constitutional rights to be infringed upon.

Unsung Hero

By Joe Townsend

There is a fine lady who merits recognition. She is an important part of a ranch family.

She and her husband raised two fine sons who are a fine tribute to them.

She is and has always been a fine help-mate to her husband. She has always sided her husband in work on the ranch.

She is devoted to her church. She is a warmhearted, friendly person. She is well respected and liked by all who know her.

Surely, Bernadette Frerich is an Unsung Hero.

Between Us

By Joe Townsend

Joe Townsend took the week off. His column will resume next week.

Spring is just around the corner

Early February has brought beautiful days and a preview of spring!

The temperature has been close to 90 for the past week. Red bud and ash trees have begun to flower and leaf out. The bougainvillea has begun to grow again.

Word is that the advance scouts from the purple martins have already found Kinney County.

So, get those bird houses cleaned out and the yards in shape. Spring can't be far away!

BHS Activities

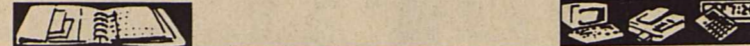
The last home basketball game of the regular season will be on Tuesday, Feb. 16.

It's time for baseball and softball seasons to begin. Our tennis and golf teams have already begun practice. Track teams are organizing.

Our FFA has begun its judging circuit for 1999. The band is preparing for its spring concert

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Taylor Stephenson, BISD Superintendent



contest. This is a busy time for our students at BISD.

The fourth six weeks ends Friday. This means there are only two more in the 1998-99 school year. Two thirds of the school year is over.

The senior class of 1999 worked on financial aid with Mrs. Harrison this past week. Seniors should have their request for academic assistance and for enrollment at the schools that they have selected.

New Building

Our new building will be named Brackett High School. The School Board selected the name this past Monday night.

It's an appropriate choice. Every town needs a high school named the same as the town. In our case, there is a bit of a difference with the Brackett High School in the town of Brackettville.

That's the way that it was set up years ago, and it will be maintained.

We will have a Brackett High School next year when the existing high school houses grades five and six. I am happy with the choice.

Computer Classes

Computer classes already have huge numbers enrolled. Our beginning class will start today at

5:30 p.m. The advanced class will begin today at 6:45 p.m.

Needless to say, we have had many register for classes. Frank Taylor will teach the classes.

GED Classes

GED classes are held on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Alternative School. For more information, contact Mr. Clements at 563-9537.

Most jobs require a high school diploma or the equivalent. If you have not completed high school, we can help you!

If you have questions about any of the classes or schedules, call the Superintendent's Office at 563-2491, ext. 1.

Have a great week.



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We'd like to express our heartfelt thanks to our customers and friends.
Happy Valentine's Day

JORGE & SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
& EMPLOYEES



Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Wednesday, Feb. 3

12:39 p.m., A Highway 90 motorist calling from a cellular phone complained about gravel coming out of an 18-wheeler which had its tailgate down. The U.S. Border Patrol at the Cline checkpoint were notified of the situation.

8:16 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported that she heard noise coming from the Masonic Cemetery and said there might be some beer drinkers around the area. Deputy Sheriff Bobby Guidry was dispatched to the scene but he could not locate anyone.

Thursday, Feb. 4

11:02 p.m., A Brackettville woman reported that someone was trying to break into her residence on W. Spring Street. She said they tried to come into her house through the front door, and after they were unsuccessful they tried to enter through the back door. Deputy Guidry was dispatched to the scene but could not locate anyone near the residence.

11:50 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs man said that his wife had been drinking and would not let him see his child. He said that he was worried about the child. Deputy Guidry accompanied the man to the residence in Unit 15. The child appeared to be fine. Guidry informed the couple that if they did not behave, criminal charges could be brought against them. Both stated they did not want to go to jail and would behave. Guidry then escorted the man to his residence.

Friday, Feb. 5

11:33 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs woman reported that her dryer was smoking at the plug. Smith Security officers responded to the call in Unit 14 and the Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department was notified of the situation.

4:00 p.m., Reuben James

Talamantez, 27, of Brackettville was arrested for probation violation by Deputy Guidry. Talamantez was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.

Saturday, Feb. 6

2:48 a.m., A Brackettville woman who resides on Thomas Street reported that an alarm at the school was going off. After unsuccessful attempts to contact school officials, Deputy Sheriff Karl Chism was dispatched to the scene. He found that someone threw a flower pot through a window on the southeast side of Jones Elementary School. School officials arrived and later reported vandalism. They had found several computers on the floor but the subject was unable to take anything before the alarm went off. The case is still under investigation.

7:45 p.m., Ricardo Menchaca, 23, of Del Rio was arrested by DPS Trooper Richard Slubar for driving while intoxicated, first offense. Menchaca was booked into the Kinney County Jail where he is still being held.

10:00 p.m., Raul Talamantez, 35, of Brackettville was arrested for family violence assault by Brackettville Chief of Police Ron Ring. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Talamantez was released the following day after posting a \$5,000 bail bond.

Sunday, Feb. 7

1:50 a.m., Will Russell Rogers, 20, of Fort Hood, Texas was arrested by Trooper Slubar for driving while intoxicated, first offense. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Rogers was released later the same day after posting a \$3,000 bail bond.

7:38 a.m., A Brackettville man reported 10 dogs at his residence on Fort Street. A City of Brackettville animal control officer was dispatched to the scene.

7:15 p.m., A female motorist called 911 after hitting a deer on Highway 90, between Brackettville and Del Rio. She was crying and very upset. The deer was still alive in the middle of the highway. No injuries were reported. The woman's car was still operational but she requested assistance. DPS Trooper Tony Ashley was dispatched to the scene. A second 911 call came from a man at Stop N Shop who had stopped to help the lady. Kinney County Game Warden Henry Lutz was later dispatched to the scene.

Monday, Feb. 8

12:45 p.m., Javier Diaz, 25, of Corpus Christi, Texas was arrested by Chief Ring on outstanding DPS warrants. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail. Diaz was released the same day after paying a \$675 fine.

3:26 p.m., A woman reported that she locked her keys in her car. Chief Deputy Sheriff Johnny Fritter was dispatched to the scene.


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Texas Press Association.

Obituary

Tomasa Avila

Tomasa Avila, 93, of Brackettville passed away on Saturday, Feb. 6, 1999 after a lengthy illness. She was born Feb. 7, 1905 and would have celebrated her 94th birthday on Sunday.

Avila is survived by her husband: Teodoro Avila; grandchildren: Johnny Cuellar, Richard Cuellar, Alberto Cuellar Jr., Ernest Cuellar, Gloria Cuellar Salas, Eva Cuellar Gutierrez, Henry Cuellar, Patricia Cuellar Garcia, Sammy Cuellar and Nancy Cuellar; and numerous great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, many friends and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by a son and daughter.

Visitation was Tuesday, Feb. 9, at the Brackettville Funeral Home. Mass was at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. Burial followed at the Brackettville Catholic Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Del Rio Funeral Home dba Brackettville Funeral Home, 114 North St.

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Briefs ...

Daughters host Fifth Texas History Forum

SAN ANTONIO - "Laying the Cornerstone: Texans and Tejanos, 1821-1836" was the topic of the Fifth Texas History Forum held at Alamo Hall recently. The event was sponsored by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

The purpose of the forum was to provide an informal setting for amateur and professional historians to share information on current research in Texas history, to furnish continuing educational opportunities for professional educators, and to recognize outstanding research in Texas history.

Alamo Hall was filled to capacity to hear Sam Houston's great-granddaughter, Madge Thornall Roberts, speak on her illustrious ancestor.

Dr. Jesus F. de la Teja of Southwest Texas State University used Juan N. Seguin as his topic. Dr. Margaret Swett Henson, a leading authority on early Texas, discussed her book, "Lorenzo de Zavala: The Pragmatic Idealist." Dr. Gregg Cantrell spoke on Stephen F. Austin and the Tejanos.

Refreshments were provided by Caddell-Smith Chapter, DRT, of Uvalde. Among hostesses serving was Pat McKelvy of Brackettville. Other locals attending were Hawkins and Jack Huey, and Agnes Vondy. Former resident Madalene Morgan served in a professional capacity at the meeting.

Vondy celebrates 90th birthday with dance at Daughters of the Confederacy meeting

KERRVILLE - How many people can dance a full three minutes of "Put Your Little Foot" on their 90th birthday? Well, this is what Brackettville resident Agnes Vondy did at the Real Granddaughters meeting of the Kerrville United Daughters of the Confederacy on Monday. The luncheon and program was held at The Wilderness clubhouse.

At the regular meeting of the UDC held later in the afternoon, James Anderson presented a program on the early years of Robert E. Lee. Also attending from Brackettville were Hawkins Huey and Pat McKelvy.

Land hosts Preceptor Theta Sigma meeting

Jean Land hosted the Preceptor Theta Sigma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi's regular meeting last Monday. She served tacos with fresh fruit and pineapple upside down cake to Marge Geeze, Pat McKelvy, Bobbie Waddill, Doraline Kellar, Alicia Raymer, Molly Schroeder, Arlys Simpson, Clara McCord, Jan Chism, Mylo Unruh, Jean Somers, Nancy Frerich, and visitor Dee Jones, a friend of Schroeder.

Raymer, the group's president, led the opening ritual and conducted a short business meeting. Land gave a very interesting account of her 21-day tour of China. After the program, all stood for the closing ritual and mizpah.

Bridge Club attracts five and a half tables

The Fort Clark Springs Duplicate Bridge Club attracted five and a half tables at its meeting Tuesday night at the Adult Center.

Ella Chambers and Sara Richhart won the north-south division, while Joyce Ambler and Jeanette Hinton were second, and Blake Hinton and Mac McCandles finished third. In the east-west division, Carol Benfield and Molly Schroeder claimed first place, Joyce Bell and Alice Seargeant were second, and Mylo Unruh and Peg Woolston took third.

RGEC to host Weight Watchers class

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative will be hosting a weekly Weight Watchers class at its office on Highway 90 and Highway 131. The class will begin between 5 and 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18. For more information, call Susana Castillo at 563-2444 by Feb. 17.

Order of Election

An election is hereby ordered to be held on May 1, 1999 for the purpose of Board of Trustees Election. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Central Office-Brackett Independent School District between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning on April 14, 1999 and ending on April 27, 1999.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to
Susan Veach
P.O. Box 586
Brackettville, Texas 78832.

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 23, 1999. Issued this the 9th day of February, 1999.

Dixie Brown

Signature of Presiding Officer.

Orden De Eleccion

Por la presente se ordena que se llevara a cabo una eleccion el 1 de mayo 1999 con el proposito de:

Eleccion de la mesa Directiva

La votacion en adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en oficina central- Brackett Independent School District entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 4:00 de la tarde empezando el 14, de abril, 1999 y terminando el 27, de abril 1999.

La votacion en adelantada ademas se llevara a cabo de tal manera:

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a:

Susan Veach

P.O. Box 586

Brackettville, TX 78832

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el 23 de abril, 1999

Emitida este dia de Febrero, 1999

Dixie Brown

Firma del Oficial Que Preside

Game Warden addresses Brackettville Rotary Club

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

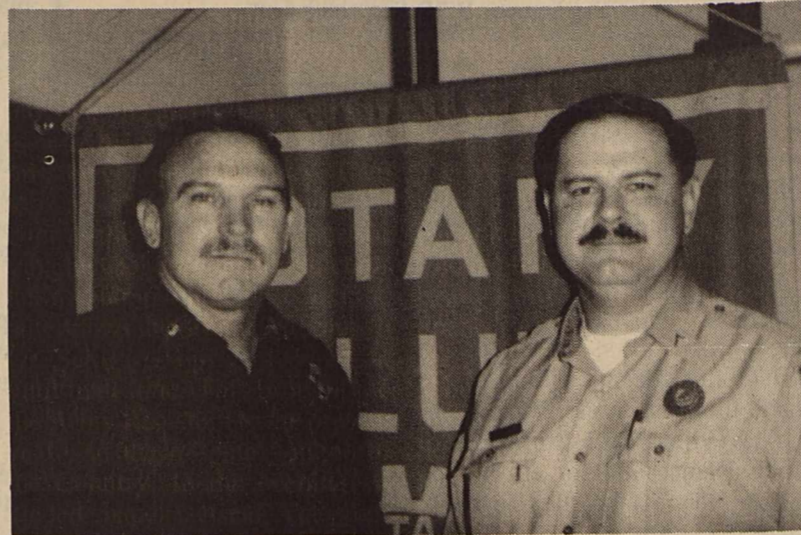
Henry Lutz, agent of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, spoke to the Brackettville Rotary Club last Thursday.

The game warden focused members' attention on the changes occurring in people's interest in wildlife associated recreation. This means a major boost in the economy for areas providing opportunities to take part in such recreation activities.

A national survey done in 1961 reported that Americans spent \$96.9 billion on recreational activities related to wildlife.

A national survey done in 1961 reported that Americans spent \$96.9 billion on recreational activities related to wildlife. These interests served to generate significant income in recreational areas.

In the past, almost the only outdoor recreation was hunting and fishing. This has declined somewhat and large increases have occurred in hiking and walking nature trails, observing



David Moody (left), program chairman for the Brackettville Rotary Club, introduced Game Warden Henry Lutz at last week's meeting.
Photo by Eric McMaster

and photographing wildlife and bird watching, particularly.

Some of the income generated goes to the Parks and Wildlife agency. Licenses sold and fines levied for such activities as driving a boat while intoxicated, provide operating expenses. None of the agency's money comes out of the general fund. Some federal funds and grants are received, and taxes on sporting provide income.

In 1996, 24 million trips were taken by people merely to observe and photograph wildlife.

Millions of dollars are spent on such things as seed for bird feeders and corn thrown out to attract deer - activities described as "non-consumptive" and taking place at home.

Kinney County has many hunting leases that are continually booked and this brings people to this area during the season. Recognizing trends can provide ways to increase income. This region has a lot of observable wildlife. A little thought and planning could add to our ability to attract visitors.

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, Feb. 11, 1887

No drill this morning. Wrote on a court martial case for Ives so that he could commence painting some lamp shades which are to replace some broken by me in Mrs. Guard's house before New Years. Went down to the Quartermaster's for material to paint with. Two or three callers came in during the morning to see Roberts, and Dr. Lauderdale called for the first time. Worked on the lamp shades when callers left. After lunch had usual French lesson and was very glad to resume them as have been forced by the Mikado to lose some lessons. Went over to the hall after the lesson to see that all my costumes & properties were ready for tonight. The mail brought letter and papers from home, a letter from Lula which shows that she is quite homesick, and an advertisement. Had usual dress parade this evening. Worked on the shades before parade. Had dinner afterwards. Put on cits after dinner and went to Mrs. Guard's who fixed my hair and face. Then dressed in the Library like on Tuesday evening. The Mikado was repeated tonight and given for the last time I hope. The audience was much more liberal in praise and on the whole I think the opera was much more successfully given. Am glad that it is over. After dressing went over to Guard's where found Ives. We stayed there quite a while enjoying some champagne and crackers. Spent quite a time afterwards clearing the paint off my head and face. It was colder tonight and more comfortable on the stage than on Tuesday. Farber came back today. Invitations were sent to San Antonio and Del Rio for tonight's entertainment but nobody accepted. Think this is the last time we ought to invite them. The Del Rio people did not acknowledge the invitation even.

Saturday, Feb. 12, 1887

Today brings Mother another birthday; may she have many more and happy ones too. Slept almost up to breakfast time this morning. Marched on guard to

day relieving Geary who is on in Kendall's place. Read the papers from home and part of the "Poet at the Breakfast Table" until noon. After lunch went into Geary's and saw Steele there, he having arrived this morning from Langtry where Walcutt has just relieved him. After lunch wrote letter home as the mail leaves at 11 o'clock A.M. and will not have time to write tomorrow, and commenced letter to Lula. Got mail on way to dinner, consisting of the war numbers of the Century bound and the four numbers of the present volume unbound. One of the bound volumes May-Oct. 1886, is missing but will probably turn up soon. Told the mail orderly to notify the postmaster who ordered the books for me and if it does not come tomorrow I shall go over to see him myself. In the evening had to go up to quarters and bring down my lamp as the guard house lamp went out. Looked through one of the bound volumes that came today and then completed Lula's letter, taking several naps during the evening. Received an invitation to a reception to Miss Kauffman at the hall next Tuesday evening [Invitation in Guardhouse Museum Collection].

Sunday, Feb. 13, 1887

Had trouble with the lights during the night and had to use a lantern until 1 o'clock when the Officer of the Day inspected and I turned in. Fowler relieved me this morning. Gen. Smith and Dr. Pope inspected the guard house before guard mounting. Mailed letters home and to Lula and sent a note to postmaster about the missing volume of Century. Then took a bath and shaved and went over to the chapel to practice for tonight. Roberts joined the choir taking Hammond's place and the latter plays the organ. After lunch Dr. Schwartzkopff called and sat until mail time. This brought me the Army Register for the present year and the missing volume of the Century. In the evening attended chapel as usual. The choir sang quite well together. Escorted Miss Coleman home and sat in Gen. Smith's until tattoo. Read in the Century afterwards.

Monday, Feb. 14, 1887

Had drill this morning although it was rather chilly. After breakfast worked for a long time painting on some glass globes shades and then played tennis with Guard

and Hammond and had a right enjoyable time. Went up to Capt. Vance's as usual for the lesson but Guyot was busy and we were unable to have it. Worked on the shades until mail came bringing me a letter from home and some papers as advertisements. Looked over the papers in the Library but saw nothing of Spencer's retirement. Am disappointed in getting no letter from Mr. Edgerton but suppose he must be very busy. Do hope that the retirement will come soon. Carried a letter to Roberts at the guard house. No parade this evening as parades are suspended until March. After dinner called at Mrs. Kauffman's, Mrs. Fechet's and then went to Col. Jordan's to engage to dance the german with Miss Betty next Friday evening when Mamie Smith gives a german. Called on King and wife later at Cunningham's. Mrs. King is very pretty. Walked until tattoo with Guard and wife and then spent rest of evening at Col. Jordan's chatting. Ives was there too. Read in the "Poet at the Breakfast Table" until bedtime.

Tuesday, Feb. 15, 1887

Had usual drill this morning. After breakfast worked a short time on the globes and then played tennis until noon with Hammond, Guard & Farber stopping for a short time to go down to the band practice room with other officers of the 19th to select a regimental march. We selected "The Pride of the Trombones," a lively animated march that makes a good marching tune. After lunch the French class met at Capt. Vance's and had usual successful lesson. Mail brought only an invitation to a G.A.R. hop at the hall next Tuesday evening [Invitation in Guardhouse Museum Collection]. Looked over the papers in the Library but saw nothing of Spencer's retirement. Am afraid Mr. Edgerton has forgotten all about this as he has not answered my last letter. Attended a reception at the hall given by Capt. and Mrs. Kauffman in honor of Miss Kauffman and had a very enjoyable evening although dancing was very warm even with swallow tail suit [Programme Dance Card in Guardhouse Museum Collection]. Escorted Miss Jordan home.

Wednesday, Feb. 16, 1887

Had usual drill this morning notwithstanding a heavy mist. Wrote letter home after guard

But I could be wrong

By Chuck Hall



I want more!

A man stopped by my office the other day and during his short visit, the subject of my column came up. He related that he enjoyed my articles but continued by saying that I should write more.

I said read it twice. He grinned. I asked if he meant more than once a week. He laughed and said no, he meant I should write longer.

I then tried my best to explain to the man that it took me an average of five and a half days just to come up with an idea for each week's piece. I therefore had to write quickly or there wouldn't be enough hours in the day to finish.

After a weak, frustrated glance, he retorted that there should be more words in my column. He thought I should make it longer in length. Some people are never satisfied.

One person wants more, another wants less, still another doesn't want it at all. How can I please you all?

Don't let any of this fool you. Those who know me best know I only write for myself anyway. And this space is all you're going to get! But I could be wrong.

mounting and mailed it so as to leave in this morning's mail. Finished the globe shades before lunch and am very glad they are done. Broke one at Mrs. Guard's before New Year's and had to wait a long time for new ones to come and then the Mikado took up so much time that Ives could not help me paint them as he promised to do. After lunch commenced to read in the "Poet at the Breakfast Table" but could not get interested in it and did more dozing then reading. Mail brought a letter from Lula, but nothing from Mr. Edgerton. Returned the "Poet &c." to the Library and looked over the papers but saw nothing of Spencer's retirement. After dinner took the globes and part of my Mikado costumes to Mrs. Guard's as she is going to use them for decorations and looked over the favors which have been bought for our german next Saturday. Then called with Roberts on Mrs. Lauderdale, Mrs. Leefe and Mrs. Williams before tattoo and afterwards we made our party call on Mrs. Kauffman.

Thursday, Feb. 17, 1887

Had battalion drill this morning. Played tennis after breakfast with Guard, Hammond and Farber. Sat a while at Mrs. Guard's after lunch and then spent a short time in Steele's. The mail had nothing for me, and the papers brought no word of Spencer's retirement. Guard told me that his mother was working to secure this also and I earnestly hope she will be successful as Mr. Edgerton does not seem to be able to obtain it. After mail came worked at Mrs. Guard's on the favors for our german next Saturday evening. Spent the evening at a progressive euchre party at Col. Jordan's to & from which escorted Miss Coleman [Invitation in the Guardhouse Museum Collection]. Had a right enjoyable time but felt ashamed of myself for getting somewhat excited over the game. Did not win anything. It lasted until after midnight.

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Dilley's win eliminates Brackett from playoffs

By J.J. Guidry
Sports Editor

DILLEY - The Lady Wolves spoiled the Tigerettes' hopes of making the playoffs Tuesday night as Dilley picked up a 41-33 victory over Brackett.

The Tigerettes finish their campaign with a 15-13 record. They were fourth in district with a 4-6 mark.

Brackett lost four starters throughout the season, three were to injuries.

"I thought we played pretty well," Brackett coach Gregg Nowlin said. "We were real fortunate to be in the situation we were in - to come down to the last game and still have a shot at the playoffs. To go through what we did this year with the injuries, it says a lot for the other girls."

Jennifer Ashabranner paced Brackett's offense with 12 points. The senior also had seven rebounds, five assists and two steals.

"Jennifer hit some key shots in the game," Nowlin said.

Freshman post Duquesa Hunt led the Tigerettes on the boards with nine rebounds. She also had two points and two steals.

"I thought Duquesa played real well for a freshman," Nowlin said. "She was going against seniors. She got some valuable playing time."

Tricia Robinson scored nine points for Brackett, Jamie Bader had six, and Lindsey Brotherton finished with four points and eight rebounds.

On Friday, Brackett scored 27 points in the fourth quarter as they defeated Natalia 62-49.

"We played terrible in the first half," Nowlin said. "We came back and lit it up in the fourth quarter."

Ashabranner finished with 21 points and Robinson scored a career-high 19 points.

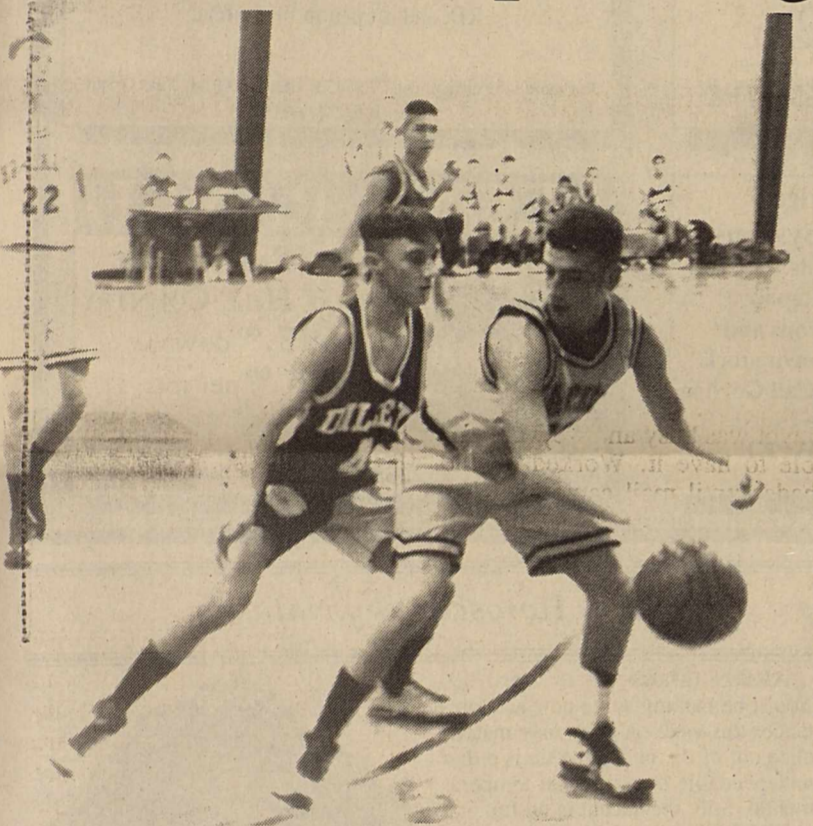
"She started coming on at the end of the year," Nowlin said.

Brotherton scored eight, Queta Garza had five, Gracie Terrazas had four, Hilda Aguirre had three, and Samantha Payne had two.



Tigerettes point guard Tricia Robinson (20) puts up a jump shot against the Lady Wolves. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

Wolves run past Tigers in 73-54 victory



Brackett's Matthew Smallwood looks for an opening in Dilley's defense as Jacob Hughes (22) looks on. The Tigers dropped a 73-54 decision to the Wolves. Brackett News Photo by J.J. Guidry

DILLEY - The Wolves jumped out to a 13-6 lead after the opening stanza and then scored 29 points in the fourth quarter Tuesday as Dilley picked up a 73-54 win over the Brackett Tigers.

The loss drops Brackett to 7-15 overall and 2-6 in District 30-2A competition.

"We played well at spurts," Tigers coach Jimmy Thomas said. "We showed a lot of character by pulling within two points in the fourth quarter."

Shooting guard Damian Toms led Brackett with a 13-point scoring performance.

"Damian played real well," Thomas said. "He is fast and he can jump out of the gym. He was real aggressive on defense."

Steven Hagler also finished in double figures. The junior center scored 10 points.

"Hagler shot the ball real well," Thomas said. "We were able to take advantage of his size down low."

Schiller Hill, Phillip Juarez and Matthew Smallwood all had eight

points in the contest, and Jacob Hughes added seven.

Last Friday, Natalia slipped past Brackett for a 48-46 victory.

"They started hitting their shots in the second half," Thomas said. "We had some illnesses. Schiller Hill was out and we had to move two players up from the junior varsity."

Smallwood scored a game-high 19 points, Toms finished with 16, Hagler had six, Coty Williams scored four, and Juarez added one.

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OUTDOORS

TPW offering electronic field trips for school kids

AUSTIN - School children across Texas and throughout the nation are invited to a series of virtual field trips - all from the comfort of their classrooms.

Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) is embarking upon a second round of electronic field trips in which children can log on to the department's website to take part in educational and interactive activities.

School children and home-schooled children with access to the Internet can learn about the Southern Great Plains Bison herd, follow an archeological dig, discover creatures of the Gulf Coast, and find out about NASA's water reclamation experiments.

In order to participate, classrooms must be able to receive streaming media, such as real audio and/or real video. Teachers must register online at www.tpwd.state.tx.us to participate live.

TPW plans to archive the virtual field trips on the department's website where they will be available to anyone after the event, according to Nancy Heron, project coordinator.

The program offers a long-term use as a teaching tool through a TPW web-based project called Exploring Texas.

"We're attempting to create a

A Little On The Wildlife Side
By Henry Lutz
Kinney County Game Warden

fun, hands on way of learning about the natural and cultural diversity of Texas," Herron said.

■ **Feb. 17, Challenge at Caprock: Saving the Last of the Great Plains Bison Herd** - Learn about the efforts to save the world's last remnants of the most genetically pure Southern Great Plains Bison Herd.

Hosts include park naturalists, wildlife biologists, a representative of the Comanche nation, and a "buffalo hunter."

Students will host "Home on the Range." Topics include geology, park and regional ecosystems, bison and genetic, Native American heritage, and life on a West Texas ranch.

■ **March 3, Travel the Texas Time Machine** - Students solve the mystery from an archeological dig. Texas naturalists through the ages will be in full costume and character with clues for the savvy listener.

Ask questions during the broadcast and the characters will answer them live.

■ **April 7, Treasures of the Gulf Coast** - Take a look at coastal habitats along Texas shores including estuaries and seagrasses, and take a special look at coastal critters.

High school students will demonstrate experiments at the water's edge that test water quality and survey wildlife just like Texas Parks and Wildlife biologists.

■ **May 4, Spaceship Earth: Saving Aquatic Habitats** - Learn about NASA's water reclamation experiments for the space station.

Using this "biosphere" concept, students can think about earth's precious water resources with new understanding.

Talk with students from Amarillo, Weatherford, McAllen and Mexico about their unique projects and how other students can get involved.

For more information on TPW electronic field trips, contact Herron at TPW, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas, 78744 or e-mail to education@tpwd.state.tx.us.

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Looking at cynicism versus trust

By Steven R. LaMascus
Contributing Writer

The other day our pastor, Rev. Ray (Muleskinner) Melton, was telling a tall tale for the purpose of making a point.

We all knew it was pure hyperbole and were enjoying the tale while looking for the not-so-hidden moral of the story. Almost all of us knew it, that is, except for one person.

This person, (whose name I will guard with my last ounce of strength, or until someone asks me) for now we'll call her Judy, was swallowing the tall tale hook, line and sinker. Or maybe I should say saddle, bridle and blanket.

Anyway, she was totally unaware that this was a parable until the punch line. Then she was embarrassed that she was so gullible. Of course, we all chided her about being so gullible and everyone, including Judy, got a big kick out of it.

That started me thinking. Who is better off, those of us who are cynical and always look for the trickster, even in our pastor, or Judy,

who is so trusting that she believes whatever she is told until the punch line?

I have been in law enforcement in some way for most of my life. I have learned to be cynical. I find it very difficult to trust anyone I don't know intimately.

I have very few really close friends and this is the main reason. Those people who are my friends know this and have chosen to ignore it. Although sometimes they feel obliged to gently remind me of the fact that not everyone is a crook, and for this I am truly grateful. It helps me maintain my sanity.

Judy, on the other hand, trusts everyone. While I am occasionally in for a pleasant surprise when I find that a person I have recently met is an honest, straight-shooting Christian, Judy is sometimes disappointed when she is taken advantage of by someone she trusted.

Now here is the difference. I am always scowling at the possibility that someone is going to put one over on me. I am pessimistic about human behavior and often think the worst of someone until they prove me wrong.

I wear my cynicism like medieval armor.

This sometimes makes me about half bitter, often distrusting, almost always guarded, and occasionally even surly.

Judy is just the opposite - cheery, happy, trusting, giving, teaching, loving, loyal, helpful, courteous, and totally without malice toward anyone. To the core of my soul, I wish that I had her outlook on life.

This, folks, is my point. Is it better to look at a sunset and see the majestic beauty of divine creation, or look at the same sunset and see that the colors are caused by dust in the air that aggravates your allergies? Think about it.

Judy is one of those rare people who always see the good side of any situation. How wonderful the world would be if we were all like her. Keep the faith Judy! Don't ever lose your childlike innocence. It is much too valuable. And when the rest of us laugh at you remember this - we are just envious.

Because: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these," Luke 18:16 NIV. May God bless you.

Readings from the book of Psalms

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

"Oh, give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the people.

"Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him; talk ye of all his wondrous works.

"Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

"Seek the Lord, and his strength: seek his face evermore.

"Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgements of his mouth;

"He is the Lord our God: his judgements are in all the earth.

"He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations," Psalms 105: 1-5, 7-8.

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman

Sunday Schedule:

- Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service - nursery provided 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir grades 6-12, 4:45 p.m.
- Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
- Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesdays 7 p.m.

- Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
- Mission Kids grade K-5
- Youth grades 6-12

Bus and Church information call church office at 563-2245

Pastor: R. D. Holloway

Need a helping hand?

Do you or anyone you know:

1. Need a ride to church or a medical facility?
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

Don't wait on presents

Submitted by
St. Mary Magdalene Church

"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity," Proverbs 17:17.

Because Valentine's Day is coming soon, the advertisers, who make big money preying on human frailty put out a clear message this time of year: "If you're lovable and worthwhile, somebody will give you a great big box of chocolates, or at the very least a fancy card."

If these tokens of love don't show up, that proves that you aren't a good person.

It's sad and it's kind of sick, but if you pay attention to the signals you get from the media now, you'll see that message again and again.

Here's the simple truth. If you don't receive that box of candy on Valentine's Day, it doesn't mean that you are useless, unattractive or a loser. It only means that you didn't receive a box of candy - period.

Instead of brooding, why not use this time to develop other areas of your life?

This is a good time for investing time in your friendships. Make two phone calls a day just to keep in contact with people. Lots of people are looking for friendship and contact, and they're likely to appreciate your seeking them out.

Invest time in your friends, and they'll be there to support you when you need it. Besides which, if you're just moping on your couch, you'll never meet anybody. But if you're out and around with your friends, who knows what will turn up?

Stay active doing things that you enjoy and explore new opportunities. Remember: "Two are better than one; because they have a good return for their work: if one falls down, his friend can help him up," Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.

You are invited to worship with us at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church.

Jesus is your first love

By Pastor Charolette Corey
Gateway Ministries

No Jesus, no love. Know Jesus, know love. There are many people who profess to love others, but they do not truly know how to love until they learn how to love with "agape" love, that is the unconditional love of God.

A person who does not love God, doesn't know him and does not understand the true nature of a person's reason for being alive. God, in his great love, created mankind to not only take dominion over the earth, take care of the garden, and multiply good seed, he made mankind to love him and fellowship with him. Adam and Eve started out doing this, but fell short in sin.

God's will for each of us today is to be restored to the fullness of his love. That love can only be found through receiving his only begotten son, Jesus Christ as one's Lord and Savior. This is because Jesus paid the ultimate price of true love, that is, he laid down his life for the sins of the people of

(John 3:16, John 15:13, Romans 5:8-21).

By better understanding what true love is and walking in it daily, you have access to the Heavenly Father any time of day or night because Jesus is your mediator, your gateway to the Father.

Jesus offers up prayer for you every day. He desires the very best for you and has made you victorious through his own victory over death and the grave (Gal. 3:20, I Tim. 2:5-6, Heb. 8:6, 9:14-15, 12:24-28).

Only by loving Jesus can you truly love yourself and love your neighbor. Only by loving Jesus can you love God (1 John 4:7-21).

Remember, Jesus is your first love, return to him (Rev. 2:4). Know Jesus, know love. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Subscribe to
The Brackett News.
Call 563-2852 today!

Thank You
We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, calls, food, flowers, cards and concern during the illness and loss of our loved one. God bless you. The family of Dan Foreman

Thank You
We would like to thank our friends and relatives who came by to see us during our time of grief, with offerings of food, flowers and most important their love. God Bless You Cervantez and Montalvo family

CLASSIFIED ADS REALLY WORK 563-2852

Welcome!
Church of Christ
808 N. Ann 563-2616
Sunday A.M., 9:30 Classes - 10:30 Worship
Sunday P.M. 1:30
Wednesday P.M. 6:30 Classes
Minister: Ray Melton

METHODIST CHURCH
Invites you to
Worship at 10:45 AM & 6:30 PM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
FOR ALL AGES
Nursery provided
201 James Street

Val Verde Home Nurses, Inc.
"Offering Skilled and Therapeutic Services"
"Quality Home Health Care"
2116 Ave. F in Del Rio 1-800-446-0655

Eugenio Bricio, M.D.
Board Certified in Cardiology
Board Certified in Internal Medicine
612 Bedell Ave. Suite E. Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Del Rio, Texas 78840 Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Tel. (830) 768-0267

this world. He was sinless, yet his blood has paid for your and my sins. By repenting of your sins, asking Jesus to wipe them away by covering them with his blood, and asking Jesus to live in your heart, you become restored to true love

Hurry! Offer Ends 2/21/99!

Value \$200 FREE Programming

Buy a DIRECTV System, subscribe to Total Choice® PLATINUM from Pegasus Satellite Television, activate USSB® and get over \$200 in FREE programming.

Variety

- Access to over 225 channels including your favorite cable networks, STARZ!, Encore and more!
- Premium movie channels including HBO, Showtime, Cinemax and more!
- The most choices in regular season sports!
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Star Communications
830-775-9351
Del Rio, Texas

PEGASUS SATELLITE TELEVISION

Limited time offer for new residential subscribers who purchase a DIRECTV System between 1/14/99 and 2/21/99. Choice PLATINUM programming, one free month of \$29.99 USSB Entertainment Unlimited®, no \$16.50 USSB. Programming and pricing subject to change. May not be combined with any other offers. Certain restrictions apply. \$10.00 activation fee. ©1999 Pegasus Satellite Broadcasting Company, Inc. DIRECTV and Total Choice are registered trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc.

A MESSAGE FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
DIRECT DEPOSIT
Simple. Safe. Secure.
www.frua.treas.gov/fffi
A public service of this publication.

ADOPTIONS

Note: It is illegal to be paid for any thing beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoptions.

LOVING CHRISTIAN COUPLE wishes to share love, laughter, security with your precious baby. Doting grandparents, excited cousins await. Thank you for choosing life. Call Kris and Carter, 1-888-493-1018.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

AVON PRODUCTS - START your own business. Work flexible hours. Enjoy unlimited earnings. Call toll free 1-888-942-4053. \$20 start-up.

MOLLY MAID: HOME service is big business. Join expanding leading residential cleaning franchise. Training/technology. Minimum investment \$12-25K, financing available, protected territories. 1-800-665-5962/ www.mollymaid.com.

DRIVERS WANTED

CONTINENTAL EXPRESS NEEDS OTR & Regional drivers. Voted among the top 10 small carriers. Paid benefits. 90-95% no-touch freight. 1-800-727-4374. EOE. 1-800-695-4473.

DRIVER - C/O/O/O. Super opportunities! Super benefits! Super compensation! Call for information. Class A CDL required. Arnold Transportation, 1-800-454-2887.

DRIVER: COVENANT TRANSPORT *Coast to Coast Runs* Teams start 35c-37c. \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers and owner operators, 1-800-441-4394. Graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVER - FLATBED: SUCCESS is close to home! Earn up to 34c/mile. Medical, dental & life. Consistent miles. Midwest/48 states. 3 years OTR + 1 year flatbed. Combined Transport. 1-800-637-4407.

DRIVERS - START AT 34c/mile! *2,500-3,000 miles/week. *100% conventional sleepers. *Benefits & bonus program. *Mostly no touch/ Drop & Hook. Call OTRX today! 1-800-423-6939.

DRIVER - SOLOS START up to 36c/mile. Teams up to 38c/mile. \$10,000 longevity bonus, too! Must be 23 with six months OTR experience. Vernon Sawyer. 1-888-829-9565.

DRIVER/OTR A GREAT pay plan... Up to 36cpm! Great home time. Singles, teams, students & O/O's. Carco Carrier, 1-888-462-2726 (Toll Free) www.carcotrans.com.

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVERS - KLLM & NDI are offering great job opportunities for people wanting to enter the trucking industry. Call 1-888-209-0617 or 1-830-775-8545.

DRIVERS: NEW TRUCK Purchase Program. Own a 1999 Freightliner in 30 months. No money down. Driver & O/O positions also available. New pay/benefits. Call 1-800-888-0203

DRIVERS-OTR, TEAM, Owner/ Operators, students. CDL, HazMat, DBL endorsements, clean MVR - great pay package. Home weekly. EOE. Andrus Transportation @ 1-800-888-5838 or 1-800-451-6129.

DRIVERS - OWNER OPERATORS wanted. Regional fleet, home most weekends. Long haul available. Mostly Midwest/Southeast. Company positions available. 1-800-888-0203.

FLEETWOOD TRANSPORTATION HIRING long haul flatbed drivers. Peterbuilt equipment, good home time and spousal rider program. Also need long haul owner operators. Please call 1-800-458-4279.

EDUCATIONAL/TRAINING

AIR FORCE. GREAT career opportunities available for high school grads, ages 17-27. Plus up to \$9,000 enlistment bonus if you qualify! For an information packet call 1-800-423-USAF or visit www.airforce.com.

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

EMPLOYMENT

FIND A BETTER Job now!! New audio cassette program. Hundreds of ideas on three audio cassettes. Call Gillis Direct for free information, 1-800-466-0027.

MECHANIC, EQUIPMENT OPERATOR and general ranch worker needed for permanent position on West Uvalde ranch. Housing provided. Apply in writing to 2143 Zercher Rd., San Antonio, TX, 78209, or fax to (210) 824-7587.

PHOTOGRAPHERS/ SALES PERSONS/ Makeup Artist. Need for Glamour Photography. Regional travel. Salary, commission, benefits, expenses paid. Experience preferred. Will train. 1-800-800-4948. Ext. 257. www.styleshots.com

EMPLOYMENT

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications from individuals with varying levels of lineman skills. The position will fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Excellent benefits package included. Applicants must be able and willing to work under adverse weather conditions, including holidays, overtime, and weekend duty. Must have physical stamina to climb poles, trim trees, lift heavy objects, operate equipment and tools. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with two or less moving violations and no DWI/DUI citations in the last three years. In addition, the applicant must be able to obtain a CDL license within 90 days from date of hire. Call Donieta O'Keefe at 1-800-749-1509 or send your request to RGEC, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Applications may also be picked up from any area office and must be postmarked on or before February 12, 1999. RGEC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TEMPORARY RANCH HAND needed. Call Granstaff Ranch at 563-3001.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

A DEBT-FREE LIFE! Confidential help. Cut monthly payments. Reduce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy. Nation's largest non-profit: Genus Credit Management. 24 hours, 1-800-317-9971.

ARE YOU DROWNING in Debt? Debt relief: free, immediate, confidential. Consolidate payments, lower interest. Call 1-888-BILL-FREE or 1-888-245-5373. American Credit Counselors, Non-profit.

****AVOID BANKRUPTCY**** DEBT consolidation. Stop collection calls. Cut monthly payments to 50%. Eliminate finance charges. Fast approval. National Consolidators. 1-800-270-9894.

BOARDWALK MORTGAGE CORPORATION. Fast cash for notes. Residential & Commercial are receiving payment? Boardwalk wants to buy them from you. Free call 1-888-265-4082. see www.dallastimes.com

FINANCING AVAILABLE. GOOD or bad credit for farm, homes, refinance. Cash out or purchase money. Prior bankruptcy - OK. Fast approval. Money Tree Financial Corporation. 1-800-987-5529.

LOST MONEY: IF you have paid off a HUD/ FHA loan visit: www.kcnet.com/hodda for free refund search or call 1-816-921-6376.

REAL ESTATE

O'Rourke Realty
Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
830-563-2713
F C S Memberships & Rentals Available

2 bed, 2 baths, covered patio, plenty of storage space, \$40,000.

2 large bedrooms, 2 baths, extra large den, carport, nearly 2 thousand sq. feet. \$55,000.00.

2 bed, 2 baths mobile home on corner lot, F.C.S. Large shop, driveway. Price reduced.

3 bed, 2 1/2 baths, loft bedroom or family room. Lovely view of creek. \$65,000.

Furnished RV, 2 room apt. under same roof, driveway, 2 baths, washer and dryer. Only \$16,000 with membership.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

OVER YOUR HEAD in debt? Credit cards/ bills? *Cut payments up to 60%!!! *Maintain good credit. *Free consultation 1-800-556-1548. www.anewhorizon.org. Licensed, bonded, non-profit, National Co.

\$\$\$OVERDUE BILLS!!! CREDIT Problems? Consolidate debts! Same day approval. Cut monthly payments up to 50%!! Call Debt Management: 1-800-863-9006 ext. 883. www.help-pay-bills.com. Only 2% administration fee!

\$\$\$WE BUY \$\$\$ *SELLER financed notes *Insurance settlements *Land note portfolios. Colonial Financial. 1-800-969-1200, ext. 42.

FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT in town. Utilities paid, \$325.00 month, 563-9161.

FOR SALE

3 LOTS IN Brackettville, \$4800. Call 830-591-0098.

CARS \$100 - \$500. Police Impounds: Honda's, Toyota's Chevy's, Jeep's and Sport Utility Vehicles. Call now. \$49 List fee. 1-800-772-7470 ext. 7183.

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

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
Molly Ardrey - Broker
830-563-2446

Rock home in immaculate condition. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, custom window coverings, new carpet. Large covered parking for motor home and tiled patio. Excellent location on Fort Clark.

35 ft. Park Model Skylark with good covered parking and patio. Excellent condition. Only \$12,000.

Homes in the historic district on Fort Clark from 2 to 5 bedrooms.

Large and small acreage.

DEBBIE TRANT MELISSA DAVIS LOCKHART REAL ESTATE
830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring

New Listing: 3 bed, 2 bath older brick home in town, approx. 1,900 sq.ft., \$31,000. Owner will finance.

3 bd, 2 bath stone home with wood stove, CHA, carport & storage. Nice large lot, near historic district. \$64,000.

Make offer on 2 mobile homes on adjoining lots, CHA, rock skirting, storage sheds, patio. \$18,000 each, will split.

Stop in & see the good selection of dolls, children's books & gifts at LET'S PLAY, for the Young & Young at heart!

FOR SALE

KMM METAL BUILDINGS: 24x30x10, \$3100. 30x40x12 \$4500. 40x75x12 \$7900. 50x100x14 \$13,150. Mini-warehouses: 20x120 with doors \$8300., 30x120 with doors \$10,800. Call for other sizes 1-972-283-9300. www.kmmbuildings.com.

PONTOON - \$5,000. GOLF cart - \$500. Ft. Clark membership - \$500. 830-775-9991.

STEEL BUILDINGS SALE: 40x60x14, \$8,349; 50x75x14, \$10,883; 50x100x16, \$14,627; 60x100x16, \$16,938. Mini-storage buildings, 40x160, 32 units, \$16,914. Free brochures. www.sentinelbuildings.com Sentinel Buildings, 1-800-327-0790, Extension 79.

WANTED 5 HOMES to display vinyl siding and insulated windows. Call today for details, 1-800-880-5856.

WOLFF TANNING BEDS. Tan at home. Buy direct and save! Commercial/Home units from \$199.00. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-800-842-1310.

THE HUD HOME is here. Call 1-888-611-7711.

ARE YOU LOOKING for a new mobile home? For the best deals around, look in The Brackett News' classifieds first!

NO DOWN PAYMENT? Problem Credit? Own the home you need now, without a big down payment. Complete financing if qualified. DeGeorge Home Alliance, 1-800-343-2884.

OWNER MOVING, MUST sell. Property at 202-204 North St. No reasonable offer refused. Asking \$79,500 includes all appliances and store fixtures. Call (830) 563-9222.

SOUTHERN COLORADO RANCH Sale! 54 acres - \$24,900. Bring your horses & ride out to one of the last great ranches in Colorado. Nice fields with outstanding Rock Mountain Views. Year round access, telephone/ electricity. Excellent financing. Call now 1-719-676-6367, Hatchet Ranch.

WHOLESALE LAND: WYOMING. 160 acres range land, no utilities. Part of "Old West" at prices soon disappearing! \$195 down/ \$238 month. (\$23,800/ 9% / 15 years) Doug 1-714-832-4409.

WE BUY MINERALS, Royalties, Overrides - any size interest. Tell us what you have and let us make you an offer. Call Trinity Production Co. 1-800-243-8629.

NURSING HOME ABUSE - Neglect, bedsores, burns, assaults, mal-nutrition, falls, deaths. Call for free confidential consultation, David P. Willis, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer. Houston, Tx. principal office, 1-800-883-9858.

LOSE WEIGHT TODAY, keep it off! All natural, safe, effective program. Take the struggle out of dieting! \$29.95 + S&H. 1-800-608-1390.

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A VANtastic Sale

At A VANtastic PRICE

<p>'94 MERCURY VILLAGER *7756A</p>  <p>\$8,995*</p>	<p>'94 DODGE CARAVAN *P6588C</p>  <p>\$9,295*</p>	<p>\$\$\$</p>
<p>'94 CHEVY ASTRO *7725A</p>  <p>\$9,895*</p>	<p>'96 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY *6578A</p>  <p>\$13,495*</p>	<p>'97 CHEVY ASTRO *7734A</p>  <p>\$14,995*</p>
<p>'97 CHEVY ASTRO *P6542</p>  <p>\$14,995*</p>	<p>'97 PONTIAC TRANSPORT *P6587</p>  <p>\$15,995*</p>	<p>'98 CHEVY VENTURE *P6583</p>  <p>\$15,995*</p>
<p>'97 CHEVY VENTURE *7881A</p>  <p>\$17,495*</p>	<p>'97 DODGE CARAVAN *7833A</p>  <p>\$17,995*</p>	<p>\$\$\$</p>

* Plus TT&L

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BISD ORDER FOR ELECTION

At the February 8, 1999 regular meeting of the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees, a call for an election was ordered. May 1, 1999, Board members are to be elected to fill two expiring three-year terms on the Brackett Independent School District Board of Trustees. Interested candidates may pick up applications, and file for place on the ballot, at the BISD Central Office, 400 Ann Street, beginning February 15, 1999. The last day to file is March 17, 1999, at 5:00 p.m.

AUCTION

Moving Sale - Household Goods - Washer - Dryer - 3 TV's - 2 Couches - Automated Recliner - Franklin Stove - Some Antiques - Bedroom Furniture - Cedar Chest - Yard Tools - Shop Tools - Elec. Drills - Saber Saws

Something For Everyone

Items Too Numerous To Mention
#13 Sunset Lane, Ft. Clark Springs
Feb. 20th - 10:00 a.m. - Inspection
8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Day of Sale
CC Veltmann-Auctioneer
Tx Lic.#7023

Answers to Super Crossword

37	ABADAT	ICES	REAR	ADTIME
46	ERICCA	TACT	ANSA	WANETT
46	ARTHURASHE	JOHNNY	CASH	
46	RETE	ALCOVIE	SETA	ENNA
46	CITY	OLTO	ERIS	BRUIA
46	OPIC	WATERS	AGUE	EEN
51	OPERAS	SOLARTA	NARAS	
51	PENAL	MERL	EGGS	REPAY
51	ERIN	PARISE	AMATE	STARN
51	NITO	HASTEN	MARTE	GURIE
51	MASS		FRAS	
61	MELLEN	HAYES	BAFFETT	MOP
61	AVON	AGORIA	EXILLE	WOTE
61	RTIVAL	EDITT	SLAY	SALON
61	ELEGITT	HEADSET	INTIVED	
61	ERIAS	SNITTS	SAGA	
75	POA	ESITA	GAR	TARIN
75	ORBS	TART	LUNATE	GRAB
75	PAUL	REVERE	MARY	MARTIN
75	ENSH	ETRAL	ZIVER	REISE
75	STEED	SEMT	NESIS	TYLER

CHARLES -

