



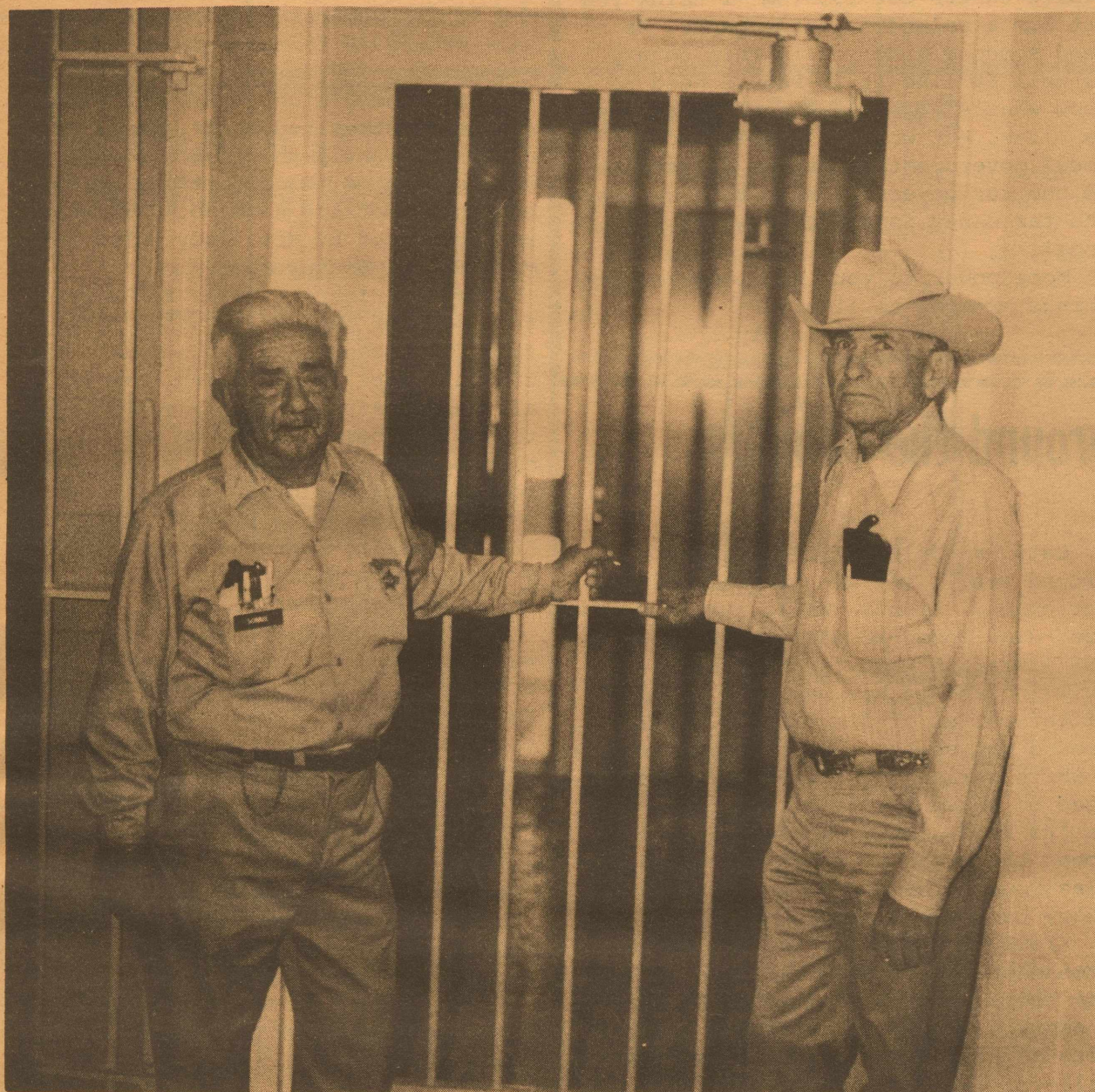
the Kinney Cavalryman

VOL. 2 NO. 48

DECEMBER 12 1975

BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS

NEW JAIL OPENS



JAILER JOSEPH "SONNY" OLVERA AND KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF, JOHN SHEEDY inspect one of the security areas of the new jail on it's opening Monday, December 8, 1975.

The new hospital-like structure with individual cells (with individual restrooms,) accepted it's first inmate Monday, after many months of unexplained delay. The jail, which is one of the most modern in the United States, has an inter-com system in each cell, (no piped music at this date.)

DIXON RITES HELD

Friends and relatives paid final tribute Sunday, December 7 to Mrs. Lear Dixon, Mother of Jerusalem Temple Church.

Obsequies were conducted at 3:30 p.m. at Jerusalem Temple. Edder H. B. Bridges, pastor, officiated. Other ministers present were, Rev. Tommy Payne of Big Lake, Elder Lonnie Green of Del Rio, Rev. Eddie Smith, St. John Baptist in Brackettville.

Mrs. Lear Dixon passed away at 5:00 a.m., December 3, 1975 at the Val Verde Memorial Hospital in Del Rio, Texas. She was born January 7, 1905 to Mr. and Mrs. Willie Wilson. She was Baptized, December 13, 1929. She was united in Holy Matrimony to Mr. Matthew Dixon. To this Union, two children were born. Raymond Dixon of El Paso and Mary Dixon of Brackettville, Texas. She is survived by the son and daughter, Raymond and Mary and six Grandchildren, Booker T. Dixon of Ft. Hood, Texas, Raymond Dixon Jr., Jo Louis, and Laura Dixon of El Paso, Texas, Robert and Roger Brown of Brackettville, Texas, daughter-in-law, Ampord Dixon. Three brothers, Mr. John Vasquez of Brackettville, Texas Mr. Sam Burno of Waco, Texas, and Mr. Willie Wilson of Mexico. Three sisters, Mrs. Fena Kelley of Brackettville, Mrs. Presilla Payne of Del Rio, Texas, and Mrs. Victoria Factor of Brackettville. A host of nephews and nieces and friends. Doran Mortuary, of Del Rio, was in charge of arrangements. Interment was in Seminole Indian Scout Cemetery. Pallbearers were Buddy Payne, Willie Payne, Hardin Ward, Belton Daniels and Robert Orrant.

Commissioner's Court

SPECIAL MEETING-NOVEMBER 24, 1975
CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR RESIGNS

The Court received the following letter from Civil Defense Director, Albert Seargeant:

The Honorable Tommy Seargeant
Judge of Kinney County and
Commissioners Court
Brackettville, Texas 78832

November 18, 1975
P. O. Box 363
Brackettville, Texas 78832
Gentlemen:

Effective this date, please accept my resignation as Civil Defense Director of Kinney County.

/s/ Albert J. Seargeant, Jr.

cc: State Department of Public Safety

The Court accepted Mr. Seargeant's resignation and will appoint a new Civil Defense Director at the regular December 8, 1975 meeting.

"LIBERTY TREE"

Judge Seargeant informed the Court that the Texas Forest Service is donating a "liberty tree" to Kinney County for the Bicentennial observance. The tree will arrive some time before February 1, 1976, and at that time a suitable place for planting will be chosen.

MIGRANT AFFAIRS

The following letter was received from the Office of the Governor, Director of Migrant Affairs, to-wit:

The Honorable Tommy Seargeant
County Judge
Kinney County Court House
Post Office Box 585
Brackettville, Texas 78832

November 13, 1975

Dear Mr. Seargeant:

I have recently been informed by the Texas Migrant Council of the outstanding support and assistance rendered to the Vocational Skills Component by the Kinney County Commissioners' Court. I wish to take this opportunity to extend the appreciation of the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs to the Commissioners for their unanimous support of this project by making available the FFA Barn without charge as a training facility.

The members of the Commissioners Court are to be congratulated and sincerely thanked for their valuable contribution to the migrants and seasonal farm-workers in their area.

Many thanks for your assistance.

Sincerely,
/s/ Rojelio P. Perez
Director

(continued on page 6, column 3)

the Kinney Cavalryman

J. GEORGE LOOS, JR.
EDITOR

PUBLISHER
JUDY LOOS

P.O. BOX 735
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS
78832

563-2696
Published each Friday
SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$11.00 per year

APPLICATION TO MAIL AT SECOND
CLASS POSTAGE RATE IS PENDING
AT BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS, 78832

"LOOSISM"

HE WHO PROCRASTINATES NEVER
ACCUMULATES.....

LETTERS
to the editor



Dear Editor,

You've had plenty of brick-bats how about a "bouquet" for a change- "Three cheers for Loosism"-I think you put out a splendid little paper. We need someone like you in this county to tell it like it is-People need to know what's going on-They say ignorance is Bliss, but when it involves our local government it can be disastrous to the tax payers-We need to know where the tax money is going or where it's gone!

More power to you, Mr. Loos-We need things brought to light.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Harold Toft

their new uniforms.

Jones Elementary children will get to see a Christmas play next week. The cast, as announced by Mr. Thomas Lester, include the following students: Kimberly Trant, John Sheedy, Richard Herndon, Dawn Slubar, Venita Gum, and Florentino Gomez. Student directors are Brenda Alston and Peggy Postell. Kenneth Carnley is the stage manager. Furniture props are needed. If you can donate anything, call Lucy Lucas, prop master.

Stumped for a Christmas present idea? The BHS FHA girls are having a Tupperware party tomorrow according to Josie Factor, chapter president. If you can't come, call your order to any FHA member. The future homemakers also had a cookie sale Wednesday to raise funds for future projects.

Last Monday night, the cheerleaders and Bengelettes had their annual banquet. Evidently the food was very good-several wanted to go back for thirds, but their mothers said no. The groups are sponsored by Mrs. Judy Burks and Miss Sherri Foster.

The BHS Fighting Tiger basketball team brought home a 3rd place trophy from the Rocksprings tournament. Continuous practice and games have helped all the squads tremendously and great things are bound to happen when district play begins in January. Coaches for the roundballers include the following:

- Boy's Varsity-Oscar Villasenor
- Girl's Varsity-Ernest Wueste
- Jr. High Boys-Stony Burks
- Jr. High Girls-Sherri Foster

Hear ye! Hear ye! Don't be left out when memories are on sale. Be sure to order your 1975-76 yearbook from a sales representative. Though the price is up this year, remember that everything has gone up too. The staff just wants to break even and give you the best yearbook they can put together.

Notes in passing...Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Mastro on the birth of a new son. Also Mr. and Mrs. Lee Schermerhorn are proud of a new baby boy...BHS bus drivers attended a safety course at Uvalde last week... The FFA will have Christmas trees on sale next week...

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Each depositor insured to \$40,000
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Brackettville, Texas
563-2315

around the campus...

Cats are delightful creatures to have around you. They are playful and affectionate. Right? Well, according to Mrs. Jane Young-NO WAY! Last week the BHS librarian went to the junior high building and on her way back heard the pitter-patter of little feet. Turning around she saw a cat-the black kind with a white stripe down its back. She managed to chase it off by pouring coffee on its head. Guess where the skunk spent the night-in Coach Ernest Wueste's classroom. There's just no way this story can have a snappy ending.

Slowly but surely, the Christmas atmosphere is becoming apparent. Thursday night the BHS band gave its Yule concert. It was an excellent program with a very catchy rendition of "Jingle Bells." The band looked supersharp in

Brackettville

For Your Convenience Use Our Mobile Office
In Brackettville Every Thursday
NEW HOURS 3:00 P.M. To 4:15 P.M.

NEW LOCATION

IN FRONT OF SCHOOL

Think of us as
your Bankroll.
Come in for a
loan on anything.



BORDER CREDIT UNION

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PACE

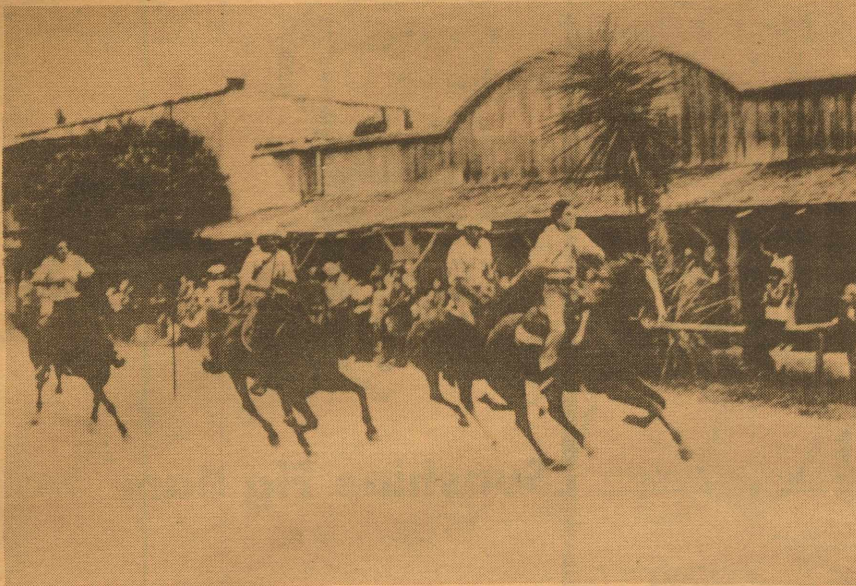
CB Radios



CB Antennas
(of all types)



Ave. F & 12th
775-7446
Del Rio

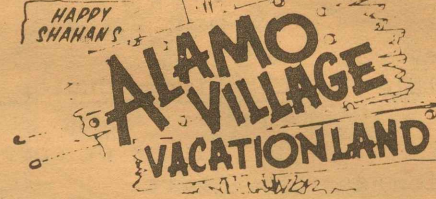


Alamo Village Indian Store

Good Food & Cold Drinks
OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR

SPECIALIZING IN:
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SOUVENIRS
GIFTS

"MOVIE CAPITAL OF TEXAS"
NORTH OF BRACKETTVILLE
ON F.M. 674



BRACKETT HAPPENINGS

BY:
LILLIE MAE DIMERY

Seen around town Saturday and Sunday were: Gloria Washington, Mary Best, Francis Fay, Earnest Young, Robert Nunley, the Willie Warrior's, Tony Warrior, Mr. and Mrs. Hardin Payne and children, Mr. Charlie Wilson—all from Del Rio, Mrs. Lillian Warren, Mrs. Helen Dinery and daughter and Grandchildren.

Others seen around town were: Mr. and Mrs. Norman Jackson and children, Mrs. Tina Wilson, Mr. John Wilson, Mrs. Bea Daniels, Mr. B. Wilson, all from Kerrville, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vasquez and family, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Jefferson from Fort Stockton, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Sniffen of Czona, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Watson Jr. and family of San Antonio, Texas, Mr. John Friner of Mexico, Mrs. Alice Vasquez, Mr. Willie James Wilson of Houston, Texas, and Mr. Winferd Warrior of seguin.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Daniels and son, Neal Daniels of San Antonio, were in Brackettville on business.

Mrs. Fannie Jones and son, Joshua Hall, were week-end visitors.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Kinney County Library invites you and your children to join them in their Christmas celebration at 6:30 p.m., December 14th. All are welcome. Adults need not be accompanied by a child.



Mr. and Mrs. Lee Schermerhorn are the proud parents of a baby boy, Jessie Martin Schermerhorn, weighing 7 lbs. 7 ozs. "Marty" was born on Thursday, December 4, and was assisted by Dr. Winn at the Uvalde Memorial Hospital.

Dominic Basil Mastro is the new son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Mastro. Dominic weighed 4 lbs. 10 ozs. and was assisted by Dr. Garcia at the Val Verde Memorial Hospital in Del Rio.

Beta Sigma Phi



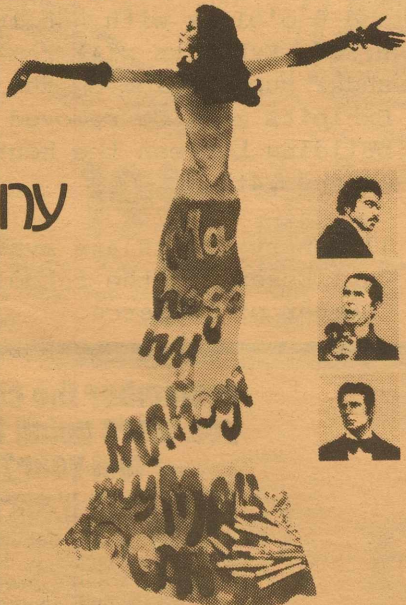
The Xi Rho Phi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held a meeting Monday evening, December 1 in the home of Golda Martin. Marty Miears led the opening ritual and conducted the business meeting. Nelda Gwartney, chapter secretary, called the roll and read the minutes of the previous meeting. Communications from International were shared by Nelda and Marty. Paula Ragsdale gave the Treasurer's report. Several items of chapter business were settled including arrangements for the upcoming Christmas dinner.

The members decided to elect a chapter sweetheart even though we could not enter her in the International Beta Sigma Phi Contest. Golda Martin was selected as the chapter's Valentine Sweetheart. She will be honored at a Valentine supper and later at the Valentine Day Dance in Del Rio in February.

775-9828
CINEMA PLAZA
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Mahogany—the woman every woman wants to be and every man wants to have.

Diana Ross



Paramount Pictures presents
Mahogany

Soundtrack available on Motown Records & Tapes

Panavision® in Color
A Paramount Picture

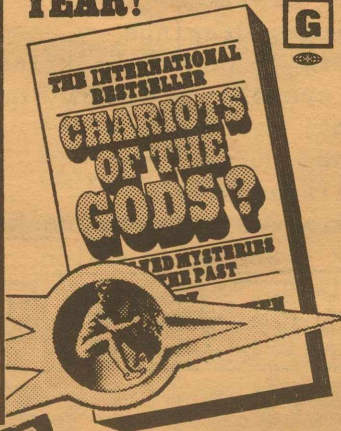


PG

Billy Dee Williams Jean-Pierre Aumont Anthony Perkins

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RITA
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THE #1 COLLEGE
BEST SELLER
IS NOW THE MOST
CONTROVERSIAL
FILM OF THE
YEAR!



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War of Gargantua

HIGHWAY 90 EAST 775-4541
GAY 90
DRIVE IN THEATRE

CLINT EASTWOOD

FOR A FEW DOLLARS MORE
THE GOOD THE BAD & THE UGLY
FIST FULL OF DOLLARS

Clint Eastwood has never been in a deadlier spot!



Kinney County Project Show Slated

1. Any youth between the ages of 6 and 19, residing in Kinney County, attending Brackettville Schools are eligible to enter the Kinney County Project show in the Youth Division. The ages are divided in the following manner:

Pee Wee 6, 7
Pre-Teen 8, 9, 10
Junior 11, 12, 13
Senior 14, 19.

2. Any adult over 19 years of age, residing in Kinney County is eligible to enter the project show.

3. Exhibitors in the youth division must be under the direct supervision of the vocational agricultural teacher, vocational home economics teacher, county extension agent, or classroom teacher and the exhibitors entry form must be signed by the respective supervisor.

4. Exhibitors in the adult division will submit an entry form signed only by the exhibitor.

5. Entries in writing must be submitted to the county extension agent, vocational agricultural teacher, or vocational home economics teacher on or before January 14, 1976.

6. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in each class. There will be a limit of 4 entries for each Junior and Pre-Teen exhibitor and 5 entries for each Senior and Adult Exhibitor.

7. Exhibitors are reminded to enter a new entry in the project show and re-entry of last year's project is discouraged.

8. Divisions, classes and chairpersons for the project show are:
Overall Chairperson of Project Show - Wanda Jennings

Foods Chairperson: Judy Burks

Foods - Pre-Teen Division

Classes:

1. drop cookies
2. rolled cookies
3. quick breads
4. sweet quick breads
5. uniced cakes
6. bar cookies

Foods - Junior Division

Classes:

1. drop cookies
2. rolled cookies
3. quick breads
4. sweet quick breads
5. uniced cakes
6. bar cookies

Foods - Senior Division

Classes:

1. iced cakes
2. uniced cakes
3. yeast breads
4. sweet yeast products
5. pies - one crust
6. pies - two crust
7. quick breads

Foods - Adult Division

Classes:

1. iced cakes
2. uniced cakes
3. yeast breads
4. sweet yeast products
5. pies - one crust
6. pies - two crust
7. quick breads
8. jellies
9. jams and marmalades
10. pickles and relishes

Clothing Chairperson - Clara Ricks

Clothing - Pre-Teen Division

Classes:

1. blouses or shirts
2. skirt
3. dresses (school type)
4. slacks
5. shorts or sets
6. vests
7. party dresses
8. pant suits

Clothing - Junior and Senior Divisions

Classes:

1. blouse or shirt
2. skirt
3. school dresses
4. suits and dresses (wool)
5. slacks
6. shorts or sets
7. vests
8. coats
9. party dresses
10. pant suits

Clothing - Adult Division

Classes:

1. blouse or shirt
2. skirt
3. tailored suits or dresses (wool)
4. jackets or coats (unlined)
5. jackets or coats (lined)
6. children's clothing
7. party dresses
8. pant suits

Educational Exhibits Chairperson - Charles Koch

Educational Exhibits (Pee Wee Division, Pre-Teen Division and Junior Division)

Classes:

1. poster, displays, charts, science exhibits

Educational Exhibits - Senior Division

Classes:

1. posters, displays, charts, scientific exhibits
2. essays, short stories, original poetry

Arts & Crafts Chairperson - Laura Latham, Pam McIntosh

Arts and Crafts - Pre Teen and Junior

Classes:

1. wood crafts
2. leather crafts
3. paintings, drawings
4. handwork (crochet, knitting, embroidery, quilting, needlepoint, macrame, crewel embroidery)
5. miscellaneous

Arts and Crafts - Senior Division and Adult Division

Classes:

1. wood craft
2. leather craft
3. paintings, drawings
4. handwork (crochet, knitting, embroidery, crewel embroidery, quilting, needlepoint, macrame)
5. antiques
6. miscellaneous

Metal Work - Chairperson Jack Long

Metal Work - Senior Division

All one Class

Photography Chairperson - Jake Royal
Photography - Senior & Adult (minimum print size 5x7)

Classes:

1. color - landscape
2. color - animal life
3. color - still life
4. B & W - landscape
5. B & W - animal life
6. B & W - still life



Special SAVINGS!

Sunshine Fig Bars 2/1.35

Del Monte Cream Style Corn 3/1.25

Fruit Cocktail 2/89¢

Pampers

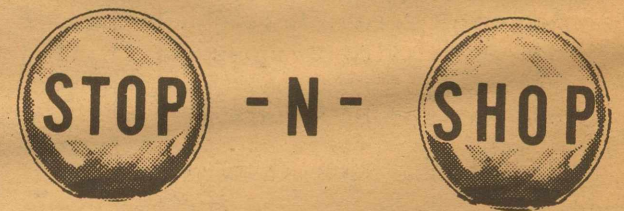
Day & Night Todler 1.50 2/2.90

Nationally Advertised

No Nonsense Pantyhose

Now Available

CASH & CARRY
Save Money
with



7 a.m - 11p.m
563-9783

9. Ribbons will be awarded to each exhibitor for his entry. In group entries each exhibitor will be awarded a ribbon.

10. The show will be held at the Kinney County Civic Center on January 23, 1976 with entries due between 8 and 9 o'clock with judging to begin at 9:30. Exhibits will remain on display under supervision on the 23rd and 24th. Exhibits must be removed from the building between the hours of 5 and 6 on the 24th.

11. Entry blanks are available from Carl Esser, at the school or at the Chamber of Commerce.

**remember the checkup
you were going to have
last year?**

Well, it's time to have it again. Only this time, HAVE IT! Today doctors can save one in two persons when cancer is detected in time and treated promptly. If your doctor finds anything wrong, you've gained the most important thing of all: time. And if nothing's wrong, just think of the blissful peace of mind that's all yours.

American Cancer Society

FOR CHRISTMAS

GIFT IDEAS



You'll find the perfect gift for everyone on your shopping list...at your local independent hardware merchant with national chain buying power. Visit us soon for the best possible selection.



Nesco
18-QT. ROASTER OVEN
Bakes, roasts or cooks a festive family meal, or prepares food for up to 50. Removable pan, oven-type control. N-109

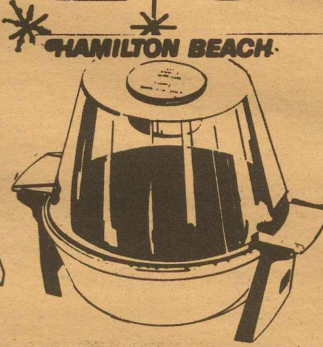
\$69⁹⁵ 29⁸⁸

MR. COFFEE
NORTH AMERICAN SYSTEMS, INC.

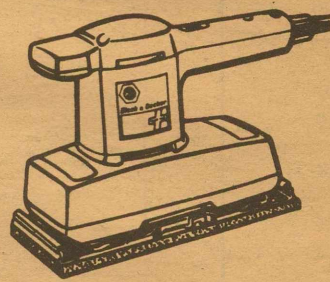
10-CUP DRIP COFFEEMAKER



Great-tasting coffee in seconds, with no bitter, boiled taste. Warming plate. MC-1C Replacement Decanter. D6 4.88



HAMILTON BEACH
Butter-Up CORN POPPER **12⁸⁸**
Joe Namath endorsed. Cover doubles as serving bowl. Makes four quarts. 500G

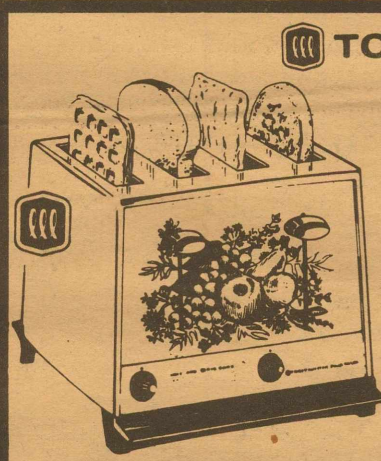


Dual Action SANDER **34⁹⁹**
Orbital motion for fast material removal; straight line for fine finishing. 7490



Osterizer
LIQUEFIER-BLENDER
8-SPEED BLENDER with 3 MINI-JARS
24⁸⁸

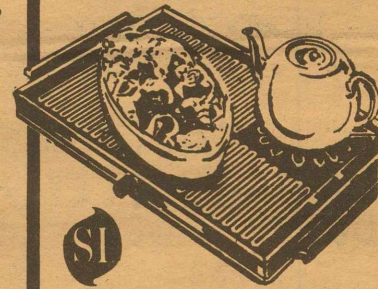
Five pushbutton speeds, 3 cycle speeds—grate, chop grind. 3 blend/store/serve jars. 533-14/5



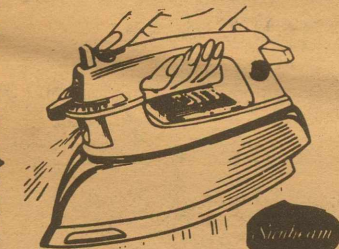
TOASTMASTER

4-SLICE TOASTER
29⁸⁸

Each pair of slots operates independently. Superflex® timer assures right shade. Fruit cluster design. D154



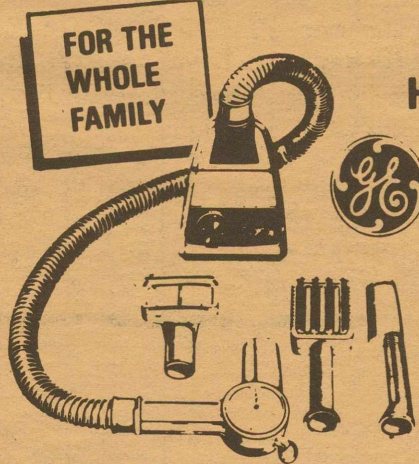
HOT TRAY Food Warmer **14⁸⁸**
Adjustable temperature control; "hot spot" for coffee. Big 17-5/8" long. H-928



Jewel Shot-of-Steam Iron. **23⁸⁸**
Steam valve has man-made ruby—delivers extra steam over 200,000 times. 12-71



RIVAL
5-Quart CROCK POT **26⁸⁸**
Cooks all day while the cook's away for 3¢. Takes ham, roast, etc. 3300



FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
SUPERBLOW Hair Care Center **28⁸⁸**

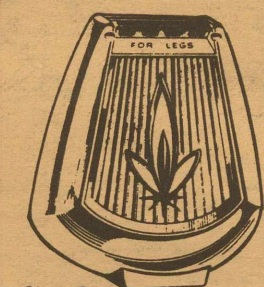
Power center sits on a table, leaves hands free to handle drying and styling accessories. Variable air flow; 3 heat settings. With pistol dryer, blower brush, comb. SB-1



Deluxe Shave Cream Dispenser **19⁸⁸**
Dispenses lather at temperature he selects; after-shave lotion too. SCD-3



Mist Stick STYLER **19⁸⁸**
Provides gentle mist plus controlled heat for curling and styling. 54-74



Lady Sunbeam SHAVER **5⁸⁸**
Two-sided micro-twin head—one side for legs, one for underarms. LS4C



Gillette
SUPER MAX Styler Dryer **16⁸⁸**
Five attachments let you style your hair any way. 650 watts; 2 heats. HD-7

Cordless Triple Header SHAVER

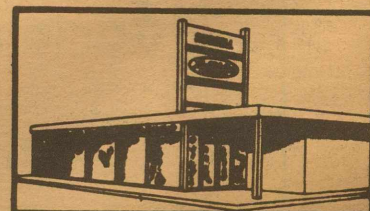
38⁸⁸

Nine closeness/comfort settings match any beard, any face. Gives up to twice the shaves per charge as any other. Recharger incl. HP1308



RUSSELL HARDWARE

506 E. Gibbs 775-3502



COUNTY AGENT REPORT

BY: CARL ESSER

On December 16, 1975 a Wild Game Care and Cookery clinic will be held at the CPL Auditorium, in Uvalde, starting at 2:00 p.m. The program is designed to provide hunters, fishermen, and homemakers with information on how best to utilize meat resources from wild game and fish. It is being sponsored jointly by the Family Living Task Force and the Wildlife and Recreation Task Force of the STAR Program.

Mr. Don Steinbach, Fisheries Specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at College Station, will present information on how to handle fish from the time you get them on the hook until you have them in the boat or on the bank, dressed out and ready to take home. Mr. Steinbach will provide hints to insure the best quality in fish from catch to kitchen.

Dr. Milo Shult, Area Wildlife Specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Uvalde, will cover similar information as related to game

animals, including both big game such as deer and game birds such as doves and quail. Handling of game animals in the field can be just as important to the meat quality as how they are prepared in the kitchen. Shult will provide information on the best way to take game and the way to handle it in the field based on some recent research.

Dr. Ranzell Nickelson, II, Seafood Technologist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at College Station, will provide information on both fish and game with respect to methods of preserving and quality control which can be used by both the sportsman and the homemaker. Dr. Nickelson will demonstrate various techniques for preservation, including smoking and curing of venison. He will also provide hints on quality control for seafood products.

Although cattlemen are concerned with keeping costs at a minimum due to current market prices, there is one investment that continues to pay big dividends--the cost of pregnancy testing.

The average cost of pregnancy testing cows is about \$1 to \$1.50 per head. This is a small investment that can save hundreds of dollars, points out Carl Esser, county agent for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Just how much can cattlemen save with pregnancy testing? The cost of testing cows at weaning in a 100-cow herd would be offset by a \$1,170 savings if 90 per cent of the cows bred and the open cows were kept until the next breeding. With a 70 per cent breeding rate, the savings could mushroom to \$3,290.

Once cows are tested and found to be open, the wise decision is to move them to market, contends Esser. Although current prices are low, open cows need to be removed from the herd as quickly as possible to reduce overhead and minimize costs.

With a 70 per cent potential calf crop, a cattlemen who retains his open cows in anticipation of higher prices is losing money. Just to break even, cow prices would have to rise by more than \$9.50 per hundred weight over their current level.

So, Esser advises cattlemen to dispose of open cows as soon after breeding as possible. Most often this can best be done by pregnancy testing the cows at weaning.

COMMISSIONER'S COURT

(continued from page 1)

NOMINEES TO CAMINO REAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Commissioner L. S. Johnson made the motion to appoint Dr. Joe L. Sanders of Del Rio, Texas, as provider and Lydia Saenz of Carrizo Springs, Texas, as consumer. Commissioner Manuel Fuentes seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BI-CENTENNIAL CO-CHAIRMEN

Commissioner G. C. Talamantez made the motion to appoint Mrs. E. E. Knott and Miss Charles Wilson to act a Kinney County's Bi-Centennial Co-Chairmen. Commissioner T. H. Glover seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

LAS MORAS ROAD R R CROSSINGS

The Court received the following letter; in regards to relocation of unprotected railroad crossings on Las Moras Road, from the Southern Pacific Transportation Company:
November 13, 1975

Mr. Tommy Seargeant
County Judge
Kinney County
Brackettville, Texas 78832

Dear Judge Seargeant:

This refers further to recent conversations and correspondence with Mr. H. Q. Grizzard of my office concerning the relocating of a county road near Spoford, Texas.

This letter is to advise you of the progress being made to obtain approval from our management for this project. The District Engineer's office in Houston, Texas, has concurred in my recommendations and has forwarded this proposal to San Francisco for review by the executive offices.

It will still be a few weeks before we can receive a decision on this matter, however, I thought you would be interested in knowing of the progress.

If I may be of assistance, please advise.

Yours truly,

/s/ R. R. Mahon
Division Engineer



Poinsettias
FOR A COLORFUL CHRISTMAS

TRIM YOUR TREE

with



Bows

Cornhusk dolls

Straw Garland
and
many more beautiful
hanging ornaments

NEW TREE TRIMMERS

by Corningware

Hallmark

Party goods for Christmas

Birthday & Fun



Raggedy Ann's

302 MARGARET LANE
DEL RIO, TEXAS

775-7615



Soil Conservation

by: Howard Ragsdale

Around this time each year, the hunting fever starts to run pretty high and deer hunters begin having visions of bagging a trophy buck. One like the larger of the two deer pictured here will often give a hunter a bad case of the "shakes" or "buck fever" as it is often called. Nearly everyone will agree that this buck is in the trophy class, but they may not understand what it takes to produce a set of antlers such as this.

First of all a buck has to have some age. During the first three or four years of a buck's life, body growth takes priority over antler growth. In other words, most of his nutrition goes toward antler development. During this time, if conditions are good, he may have eight or more points and even a fairly respectable set of antlers. However, he usually won't have a massive, heavy beamed set until he is around four years old. At this age his body growth has usually stopped and a larger part of his diet can go toward growing a good set of antlers. But age isn't the whole story. Without adequate food, even prime-aged bucks may not have trophy antlers.

What is adequate food? Here quality, not quantity is the key. The average deer needs only four to five pounds of food per day but this food must be of high quality--that is with a protein content of around 13% or more. The types of plants that deer prefer generally have a protein content this high or higher.

At the top of the list are the forbs or weeds that often go unnoticed on our rangeland. These include plants such as Engelmann daisy, bush sunflower, velvet bundleflower, least snoutbean and many others. Even plants such as ragweed are highly preferred during certain times of the year and are also high in protein content. However, as is often the case, most of these plants are also preferred by domestic livestock and deer must compete with them for these choice plants.



Antler growth is one of nature's phenomenas. Each year deer shed their antlers and grow a new set in a period of a few short months. Several factors such as age, food and heredity will determine whether or not this small buck will develop into a trophy buck like the larger one. Good conservation practices can do a lot to help this happen.

When these plants are no longer available, deer then turn to woody plants or browse plants as they are often called. Examples of these are liveoak, Texas kidneywood, hackberry, greenbriar and many of our brushy species. These are also high in protein but are not as preferred as are the forbs.

At the bottom of the list on a deer's diet is grass. It usually makes up less than 10% of their diet and is generally taken in the spring when the grass is young and tender or during the winter when cool season grasses such as Texas wintergrass are the primary sources of green food.

Another important factor is that this high quality food needs to be available at the right time of year. For antler development this means that it needs to be available in sufficient quantity during the period April through August or when the new set of ant-

lers is growing

Landowners and hunters alike are concerned about antler size. With deer hunting bringing in a good share of income each year, many ranchers are asking what they can do to improve their deer herd. Little can be done to increase the age of the deer. With the heavy hunting pressure in the Hill country, less than 25% of the deer live to be older than two and one-half years. This means that only a small percentage of the deer will live to produce trophy antlers.

What can be done however, is to increase the antler size of the young and old deer alike by providing more food for them. Several conservation practices fit in very well with a good deer management program. A proper stocking rate that will achieve proper grazing use is one of the first places to begin. Since deer are in competition with domestic livestock for many food plants, a proper balance of deer and livestock numbers is necessary. Along with this, a planned grazing system fits in very well. Periodic deferment of pastures also helps increase many of the desirable deer plants.

Many ranchers are heavily infested with brush that is retarding the growth of both livestock and deer forage. Removal of some of this brush in a planned brush management program can help restore some of these better plants. Additional watering facilities and wildlife food plots are other practices that can be installed.

Hunters can also help. Since a deer herd can increase from 25 to 40% each year, proper harvest is necessary. This means taking off surplus animals. Using doe permits is one method of accomplishing this. It is better to harvest these surplus animals than to let them die from over population and starvation.

For additional information about how you can put some of these conservation practices to work for your deer herd, contact the Local Soil Conservation Service Office.

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NOTICES

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COMMENTS from the SAGEBRUSH



It's time to plant trees. The right type and size of peach trees planted now, should produce some fruit next summer. Shade trees planted now will gain almost a full year over being planted in February.

Be careful to buy trees that produce in this area. The best way to be sure of that, is to buy trees grown in this area for this area. You are safer to buy halled and burlapped trees and freshly dug trees. These cost a little more, but an additional cost of \$5.00 or so is very little when you think of it. The tree should be there many years. The start it gets will determine how many years and how well it does. If you plant a cheap tree and lose it the first year, you've paid a high price for the economy you sought. If you buy a "mail order" tree and it takes two years to bear or shape up for shade, you've paid a high price for economy. Like anything of importance, you get about what you pay for and first class doesn't cost all that much more.

Community Calendar

December 11-12-13

Southwest Texas Junior College Tournament

December 14----- Sunday

Bingo, for Fire Department at Civic Center at 7:30 p.m.

December 15----- Monday

FFA Christmas tree cutting trip

December 16----- Tuesday

FFA-FHA Christmas Party

December 18-19-20

Brackettville Tournament

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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM AT 7:30 P.M. ON DECEMBER 16 and DECEMBER 29, 1975. A LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS WILL BE DISCUSSED.

TWO PUBLIC MEETINGS HAVE BEEN SET BY THE CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE ON THE PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR THE 1976 HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT.

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