

FUTURE REPRESENTED



PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT ARE; RAYMOND TALAMANTEZ, WIL SHAHAN, AND EARL WRIGHT.

FOR THE FUTURE

Three young Brackettville residents aided the Sesquicentennial Committee in closing the time capsule at the Kinney County Courthouse on December 9, 1986.

Wil Shahan, Raymond Talamantez, and Earl A. Wright, III attended the ceremony along with committee member Joe Townsend in hopes that the three will return to Brackettville in 50 years for the capsule opening.

Wil Shahan, age 10, is the son of Tully and Darlene Shahan. Brackettville history is deep in his blood as his great-grandfather, Elisha Webb, purchased land in Kinney County in 1925. Webb moved

his family, with wife Fanny Fay, to Brackettville one year later. Shahan's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. J.T. (Happy) Shahan of Brackettville and Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Buckner of Uvalde.

Shahan's dream is to become a rancher when he grows up.

Eight-year-old Raymond Talamantez is the son of Flavio and Mary Talamantez. He has one sister, Valerie, and two brothers, Flavio Jr. and Armando. Young Talamantez's grandparents are Raymond and Rita Talamantez of Brackettville and Sophia Gomez a resident of Brackettville for all of her 84 years.

Talamantez enjoys sports and might enter into coaching as a profession.

Earl A. Wright III, is a 10-year-

CONT. ON PAGE 2



On Sunday, Dec. 28th, (the Sunday between Christmas and New Years), at 3:00 in the afternoon, there will be a service in the First Baptist Church honoring Mrs. J. Lee Ballantyne and her iminent Father, Rev. F.M.D. Hill, Medical Doctor, turned Evangelical Preacher, who organized the Church in 1921.

Mrs. Ballantyne has been Church Organist for more than forty years and she taught in the Brackett School system for some 50 years. All of her former fellow faculty members, former students and her host of friends are cordially invited to attend. The Rev. Jack R. Cash, of Waco, who pastored the Church in the 1950's, will bring

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THE VARIOUS HATS OF KINNEY COUNTY J.P.

A Justice of the Peace wears many hats as Countywide J.P. Rose Mary Slubar can testify.

Among the many duties performed by the Justice of the Peace in Kinney County, included are handling criminal court cases classified as Class C misdemeanors, small claims court and civil court up to an amount of \$1,000.00. The J.P. holds inquests and also presides as county coroner.

Pictured above: Countywide J.P. Rose Mary Slubar and Justice of the Peace Court Secretary Janice Garley

BALLANTYNE CONT'D FROM PG. 1

the Commemorative Address, dedicating a Baby Grand Piano for the Sanctuary, in honor of Mrs. Ballantyne and Reverend, Dr. Hill.

The Bronze Plaque will be unveiled by a grand-daughter. Please tell your friends and come share this day with her.



REPRESENTATIVES CONT. FROM PAGE 1

old 5th grader. He is the son of Beverly Wright and the grandson of Harding and Dorothy Ward of Brackettville. Wright's greatgrandfather, John July, also born in Brackettville, was one of the original Seminole Indian Scouts.

Wright dreams of becoming a motorcycle racer when he gets older.

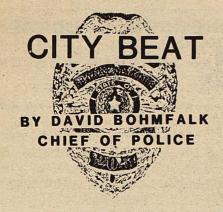
Look forward to seeing each of these boys in 50 years when they will have the pleasure of opening Kinney County's sesquicentennial time capsule.

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Stats for week of 7-13 December 1986:

30 citations

- 2 warnings
- 4 arrests-HP44's
- 1 arrest-local municipal warrants
- 1 assist-DPS
- 1 municipal court case

Last week's weather brought up an important topic for this week's column. Winter weather driving. Of course, the best advice I can give is to stay off the roads when conditions are favorable for ice to form. If you are on the road when ice forms, try if at all possible to get somewhere as near as possible where you can stay until passage becomes safe again.

If you must drive, keep in mind that ice is unpredictable at best. The worst place to find ice is on a bridge or overpass. Black Ice is a term used often in northern climates. It refers to ice which cannot be seen on the road. It is especially common at night. If you hit ice or are unsure of the road, do not use brakes or accelerator. Allow the car to coast, and if your car starts to slip, turn your steering wheel into the skid. And please, if not for state law or under other conditions, have your seatbelts on. Also, keep your speed down at all times. Even on the highway, 55 mph may be too

Maintenance can alleviate some problems with the car. Be sure that you have a strong charge of antifreeze. Also, keep a bottle of it in the car, just in case. Make sure that all areas of the car, in addition, are in good working order. Weak batteries may lose some power, if left in the cold for extended periods. Euying a new one is best, if the present one is old, or shows signs of weakness.

Questions have come up in the past on how this department is operated. If you have a question, comment, complaint, or suggestion, I have an open door policy. I will be glad to discuss anything concerning the Brackettville Police Department. Suggestions are welcome. I can be reached through City Hall at 563-2100, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The best time is on any weekday around 1:00 pm. Crime, crime prevention, traffic, and police operations are just a few of the subjects, but civil matters are not in my scope of authority. All conversations regarding questions or suggestions will be kept in confidence.



DEAR DIANE:

I was recently voted a state senator. It had been a long haul, but I finally made it. Believe me, it's really not easy to be a woman in politics.

I've been dating a man for about a year and now he wants to get married. I do love him very much and I don't want to lose him, but I just don't see how marriage and my career could mix. After all my hard work, I'm not about to give everything up. My boyfriend just doesn't understand it when I tell him that marriage just isn't in my plans right now.

I even asked him what's wrong with the way things are now, but he said that eventually it would just get empty because it wouldn't be enough. He said he believes marriage is the fulfillment of a relationship like ours. I don't know what to do about this because I know he's going to leave me. Can you help?

UNHAPPY

DEAR UNHAPPY

Quite frankly, I don't see what the problem is. It's not an either-or situation. You can have both marriage and a career and make them work. After all, how many of your fellow senators, whether male or female, are married? I'll bet if you asked them, they wouldn't understand why you feel you have to remain single.

Perhaps there's something else holding you back. I suspect that may be the case. Try to think about it and examine your feelings. Once you know what's really troubling you and holding you back, you and your boyfriend can probably work something out. I do believe he'd be willing to wait a bit longer

if he knew there were some reason for waiting.

DEAR DIANE:

Lately, I've been very unhappy and dissatisfied with my life. The reasons are many and, it seems, the solutions are few. I'm withdrawing more and more from friends and family, because I really feel that I just want to be alone.

My behavior is really starting to irritate my boy-friend, but I can't help it. I just don't feel like being with him. I'd rather be alone. When I am alone, I just sort of brood about things. I'm also finding it harder and harder to motivate myself to go to work. I have a good job which I need to support myself, but I'm just not interested. What can I do to help myself?

DEPRESSED DEAR DEPRESSED:

You're on the road to helping yourself, though you may not realize it. Just writing this letter alone is a good, positive step. What you need to do is define the "things" that are troubling you with the help of a counselor. Once you've done that, you'll be able to work out some solutions.

Please seek help right away. As you've recognized, your behavior is unhealthy and could possibly lead you to really becoming depressed — in the clinical sense. The sooner you start working on your problems, the better you'll feel.

If you have a question, you can write to Ms. Van Arsdale c/o Diane Eckert, Editor Weekly Features, King Features, 235 East 45th Street, New York, New York 10017.

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MagicMaze

PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then strike it off the list. Circling it will show a letter has been used but will eave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your answer.

HINT: Christmas is a very happy, yet trying, time.

BBad, Baby; C—Cold, Church, Carol, Cry; D—Decorate; E—Eat, Excite, Egg; F—Food; G—Good, Gift, Gold; H—Happy; J—Jesus, Joseph; K—Kids, Kiss; L—Lad, Log, Love; M—Mary, Mug, Mass; N—Night; O—Ornaments; P—Presents, Past; R—Relatives; S—Santa, Sled, Snow, Silent, Silver, Sing; T—Toys, Tree; W—Warm; Y—Yule

D E S L E D O O G I F T P

R L N A W A R M M O J R H

E O O D N B D O O F E E A

L V W C L T O Y S S S E P

A E T H O E A T E I U C P

T I M U G G E N K L S A Y

I R Y R A M T I I E Y R D

V E U C P S O G D N R O L

E V L H A N A H S T C L O

S L E S S I K T B A B Y G

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L H P E S O J E X C I T E

ANS.ON PG. 11

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One thing nobody needs on the list of things to do for Christmas is to have an allergy attack. But every year, some people suffer through a would-be merry season with what feels like a head cold, a rash, itchy eyes, headaches and other symptoms, just because they picked the wrong kind of Christmas tree.

Allergy sufferers are plentiful in Texas, especially in the central region and hill country. And December is one of their worst months, according to the Texas Department of Health (TDH), since the onset of colder weather invariably brings "cedar fever".

Cedar fever is an allergic

reaction to the pollen of the male mountain cedar (actually a juniper, <u>Juniper ashei</u>),

which grows wild throughout Texas. The male trees have tiny green cones which turn brown, spring oper, and release pollen in the early winter. The minute, sticky grains of pollen irritate the eyes and sinuses, and enter the sufferer's respiratory system, triggering the allergic reaction.

Allergy specialists in Texas say that cedar fever is second only to ragweed allergy in the number of people it affects. And its severity may be greater.

TDH recommends that persons who like to cut their own Christmas trees should look for the female cedar trees, which have small blue berries.

But cedar fever is not the only threat to allergy victims. TDH also warns that those who purchase "pre-cut" Christmas trees of other evergreen species also may suffer allergy attacks brought on by invisible mold spores.

Even those who choose artificial trees may end up with the sneezes, if they are allergic to dust.

(For more information contact: Dennis Perrotta, Director, Environmental Epidemiology Division, or Margaret Wilson, Public Information Coordinator, at 512/458-7405.)

TURNOUT LOWER THAN EXPECTED

AT LOCAL BLOOD DRIVE

Despite a much lower than anticipated public participation, last Saturday's "Give The Gift of Life For Christmas" community Blood Drive was considered to be moderately successful by the sponsoring Brackettville Ministerial Alliance and the South Texas Regional Blood Bank.

Twenty-five willing donors appeared to support the drive, and eighteen units of blood were collected to supply area hospital needs during the Christmas holiday period. While the goal of assured blood coverage for all area citizens was not reached, the units collected, when separated into critical components, can assist as many as 72 individual patients having emergency blood needs.

A word of "Thanks" is in order to all of the following who came to donate:

Daniel Arroyo
Philip Bell
Gloria Benacci
"Eenny" Benacci
David Bixby
Joan Boutwell
Al DaCosta
Lawrence Dodge
Val Finch
Lois Hall
Jean Householder
Cubie Kurtz
Robert Lovell

Cecilia Lumbreras
Angela Luna
Elena Luna
Robert Nelson
Warren Outlaw
Jennifer Pasanski
Don Ralston
Albert Seargeant
Paul Shepard
Janie Slubar
KoseMary Slubar
Jimmie Standridge

Appreciation is also due to those who assisted in publicity for the campaign with poster display, mailing stuffers, press coverage, and word-of-mouth encouragement.

Another blood drive will be planned for an unspecified date late in the spring of 1987.

SHERIFF'S CORNER



NORMAN HOOTEN SHERIFF

Mr. Martin Sheets was kind enough to bring me a copy of a poem that was printed in the Dalhart Daily Texan many years ago. The poem was written by a deputy sheriff and the general theme of the poem contains much truth and should hopefully give us something to think about. The poem is shown below.

DON'T BLAME THE CHILDREN

Ey Deputy Sheriff Herbert E. Roberts

We read in the papers and hear on the air

Of killing and stealing and crimes everywhere

We sigh and we say as we notice the trend---

"This younger generation, where will it all end?"

But can we be sure it's their fault alone---

That maybe a part of it isn't our own?

Are we less guilty who place in their way

Too many things that lead them astray?

Too much money to spend, too much idle time,

Too many movies of passion and crime,

Too many books not fit to be read, Too much evil in what they hear said.

Too many children encouraged to roam

Ey too many parents who won't stay home.

Kids don't make the movies, they don't write the books,

That paint gay pictures of gangsters and crooks.

They don't make the liquor, they don't run the bars,

They don't make the laws, they don't buy the cars,

They don't peddle drugs that addle the brain,

That's all done by older folks greedy for gain.

Delinquent teenagers -oh, how we condemn them!

The sins of the nations, we blame them all on them.

The laws of the blameless-the Savior made known-

"Who is there among us to cast the first stone?"

For-in so many cases, it's sad but it's true,

The title "Delinquent" fits older folks too.

THINK ABOUT IT!

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Brackettville Chamber of Commerce wishes to express its appreciation to the many local merchants for their support when Santa Claus visited here Saturday, December 13th. One hundred twentyseven (127) girls and participated. A gift certificate for a bicycle, \$25.00 gift certificate, and many other gifts were given away. Thanks also to Santa for taking time out from his busy schedule to stop here for a few hours. Merry Christmas

Mirror of Your Mind by JOHN CONWELL

to All.



Do parents ever wish to turn back the clock?

Of course not: mothers and fathers want their children to grow up and Or course not; mothers and lathers want their children to grow up and realize their fullest potential. Oh, there may be moments when parents think back to when their daughter, say, was about 4 and made them feel they were the most important people in the world. They remember the look of love on her face as she placed such confidence in them. They can understand that their girl has had to move on into her teens and beyond; but they still think back to when she was so little and they cannot but help ask themselves: "But did she have to change so much" in order to assert her independence from did she have to change so much" in order to assert her independence from

Have drunk-driving campaigns curbed social drinking?

To some degree. At least there seems to be more concern that dinner and party guests be cold sober at least by the time the goodbyes are being said. Many of the campaigns against drunk driving have pointed up the danger of people getting whind the wheel while they are still under the influence of alcohol. Hosts and hostcsses, too, find the strong emphasis to wipe out drunk-driving has enabled them to be confident they can enjoy their guests without feeling the need to urge them to drink.

T.V. Quiz by Linda Luckhurst

The Beverly Hillbillies

1. On what network did the show air?

2. What was Mr. Drysdale's first name?

3. What was Miss Jane's

hobby? 4. What was Jethro's

main career goal in life? 5. What professional position did Granny think she held?

6. What was Jethro's mother's name?

7. Who portrayed Jethro's mother?

8. What was Jethro's last name?

9. What was the name of the bank in which Jed Clampett had all of his money?

10. What did Granny think the pool table was used for?

Answers: 1. CBS; 2. Milburn; 3. Bird-watching; 4. To become a brain surgeon; 5. Doctor; 6. Pearl; Bea Benaderet; 9. Bodine; 9. The Commerce Bank of Beverly Hills; 10. A dining room table

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T.V. Quiz by Linda Luckhurst

THE ADDAMS FAMILY

1. What were the names of the children on "The Addams Family"?

2. What type of bed did Uncle Fester sleep on?

3. What was the name of the Addamses' cousin?

4. What was the name of the lion which was the family pet? 5. What language did

Morticia speak in order to turn Gomez on?

6. What was the name of the family butler?

7. Who delivered the mail to the Addamses?

8. Where did Gomez make his money? 9. How could Uncle Fes-

ter generate electricity? 10. Who portrayed Uncle Fester?

Answers: 1. Wednesday and Pugsley; 2. A bed of nails; 3. Itt; 4. Kit-Kat; 5. French; 6. Lurch; 7. "Thing" - a hand; 8. On the stock market; 9. By inserting a light bulb in his mouth; 10. Jackie Coogan

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HIT MUSICAL TO **BE PERFORMED**

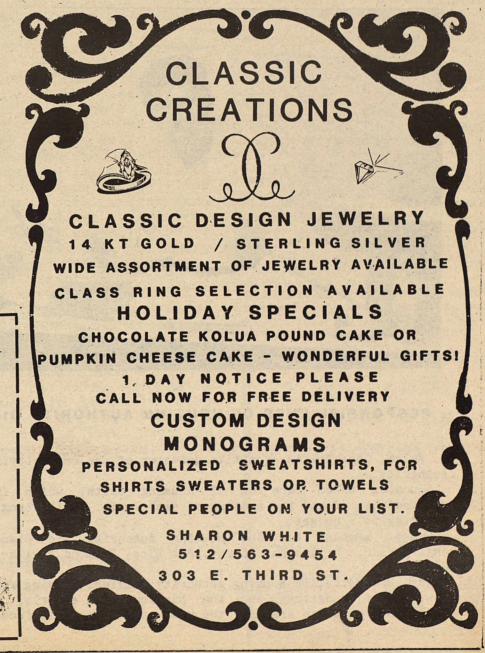
On Thursday, December 18th, Jones Elementary and the High School Bands will present their annual Christmas programs at the school auditorium.

At 1:00 on Thursday afternoon, there will be a matinee performance of the Elementary Musical entitled "The North Pole Goes Rock N' Roll." At 6:00 pm the Brackett High School Band will perform, followed at 7:00 by an evening performance of "The North Pole Goes Rock N' Roll."

A great deal of work has gone into both productions involving students and teachers alike. You will have an opportunity to see the new band uniforms if you've missed them, and you will see and hear fine acting, dancing, singing and instrumental music in "The North Pole Goes Rock N' Roll." "It's a smash hit musical" says director Danny Potter. All performances are free and the public is invited to any or all of them. You are sure to leave with a great Christmas spirit.



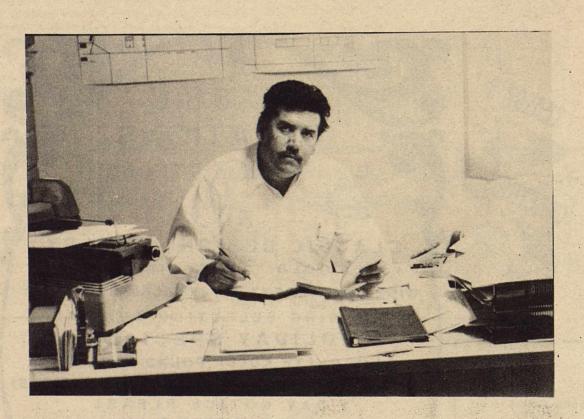








The Voices of Fort Clark performed a Christmas concert on Monday, December 14. The group entertained the crowd at the Town Hall with such seasonal hits as "Do You Hear What I Hear?", "Grandma's Christmas Secret", and "Here Comes Santa Claus". The evening concluded with refreshments and a early visit from Jolly Ole' St. Nick himself who delighted the children and even listened to a few early gift requests.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF HOUSING AUTHORITY DIRECTOR

Ralph Gonzalez is executive director of the Brackettville Housing Authority.

Gonzalez takes care of 32 housing units, which includes the maintenance of and the renting of each unit, collecting rent, and adhering to a budget.

Board members for the Housing Authority are Diane Bravo - chairperson, Lillie Mae Dimery, Bob Rice, Raymond Aguilar, and Hector Jimenez.

The Brackettville Housing Authority provides housing for persons on low income budgets, and the handicapped, elderly, disabled or veterans. The units are, for the most part, federally funded.

A. A. GROUP FORMED TO SERVE KINNEY COUNTY

A new local chapter organization of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) is being formed to serve the Erackettville and Kinney County area. An open meeting of the new group, and others interested in the problem of alcoholism, will be held to provide information on the A.A. program at 8:00 p.m. on Monday evening, December 21st, in the Slator Hall of the First United Methodist Church.

The A.A. program has long been recognized as one of the most successful means of achieving and maintaining sobriety for those individuals and families afflicted by the problem of alcohol.

A.A. groups are fellowships of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their commom problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

If you, or someone you know, struggles with a possible drinking problem, you are invited to attend the open meeting to obtain further information. As a public health and social problem, alcoholism crosses all racial and economic lines; anyone may be afflicted with this disease, and anyone with a desire to stop drinking may do so with the help of the A.A. program's 12 steps to recovery.

B.I.S.D. OFFERS SATELLITE COURSES

The Brackettville Independent School District will offer two college credit courses over the TI-IN Satellite Network facilities of the school district beginning January 12. The courses are offered through North Texas University, Denton and Texas A&I, Kingsville. Instructors will be members of the faculties of these universities. Course titles are Understanding Students for A Positive Classroom Atmosphere and Language Acquisition and Development. Community members and those outside of the Brackettville ISD area are invited to enroll in these courses. Information can be obtained by contacting coordinator Ron Kelley at the school or by telephoning 563-2491 for information.

SPORTS BY KEN MULLIGAN

TIGERS SPLIT

Leakey - The boys varsity season record dropped to 2-5 after a 60-50 loss to the Leakey Eagles. The girls, however, improved their record to 2-5 by stomping the lady Eagles 48-30.

Coach Van Maren said, "
We held Leakey to 3 pts. in
the fourth quarter but fell
a little short. Hector Pena
and Eloy Garcia had
outstanding defensive
games."

The Tigers were led on offense by Dutch Wardlaw who had 18 pts. and pulled down 6 rebounds. Pena had 9 pts. and 7 boards, Garcia was 6/0, Charlie Baker was 5/4, Robert Estrada 4/3, Placido Samaniego 3/0, Frank Morgan 2/2, Able Esparza 2/0, and 0/1. Mitch Frerich On defense, Baker had 3 steals and 1 blocked shot. Frerich 2/0, Esparza 1/0, Samaniego 1/0, and Morgan

The Tigerettes were led offensively by Sheri White who was high scorer with 17 pts. and high rebounder with 14 boards. Martha Samaniego chipped in with 11 pts. and 9 rebounds. Tia Ralston was 6/12, Pilar Lozano 5/10, Elana Sandoval 5/3, Yvonne Luna 2/2, Tammy Frerich 2/1, Melinda Meyer 0/1, and Melissa Meyer 0/1.

On Defense, Samaneigo had 1 blocked shot and 2 steals. M. Lozano was 0/3, and P. Lozano and Ralston were each 0/1.

ALL DISTRICT TIGERS

The following is a breakdown of the Tigers on the all district list for district 30-AA:

1st Team Defense:

Hector Pena LB

2nd Team Offense:

Frank Morgan WR Robert Estrada RB 2nd Team Defense:

Frank Morgan DB Jaime Rodriguez DL

Honorable Mention:

Hector Pena QB
Jesus Aguirre RB
Frankie Gutierrez OL
Chris Gomez OL
Sean Mulligan LB
Dutch Wardlaw DE

According to Coach Spring, The boys who made honorable mention all recieved at least 1 vote but not enough to make 1st or 2nd team.

Of the honorees, coach Spring had this to say," Hector Pena is a very hard working, dedicated athlete. We will miss him greatly as we will miss all our seniors. Chris Gomez has a great attitude. He is one of those athletes who will play where ever he is needed and give 100 per cent. Robert Estrada, a senior in eligebility, was the spark for us on offense. he'll be a tough act to follow. Frank Morgan made steady improvement offensively and defensively through out the season, the best part is, he's just a sophmore. Frankie Gutierrez, a soph., is a very strong young man whose dedication to hard work will make him a dominating force on the line next year, both offense and Aguirre, defense. Jesus soph., is a quick, elusive running back and a very defensive back. aggressive Sean Mulligan, soph., is a hard hitter who causes a lot of fumbles. He seems to be around the ball all the time. Dutch Wardlaw, jr., is the most improved player on the team. He caused many a QB to roll out the other way. Jaime Rodriguez, jr., made 1st team DL as a tackle last year and was moved to a new position this year, nose guard, next year he will be back on the first team."

ANSWER: EMOTIONAL 9 Letters

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Your Horoscope by Chas. King Cooper

Aries (March 21 to April 19) Don't let that person who's disagreeing with you get on your nerves. Instead, take a different approach and listen to the ideas being offered. You might just find a better way of doing things. The weekend is best spent close to home enjoying family ties.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) The money you were counting on is not forthcoming, so you'd be wise to re-think your budget for the coming months. Bear in mind that you're going to have to trim expenses. Spend some time this week visiting friends and family. Invite them into your home as well.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) This won't be your week for having things go just the way you like. As a result, you might be somewhat short-tempered, so make an effort to lie low and be as diplomatic as possible. Someone close to you is puzzled over your behavior, so make an effort to be more consistent emotionally.

Moon Children (June 21 to July 22) You feel somewhat ignored and taken for granted this week, but don't brood about it. Others are just too busy gearing up for the holidays to be sensitive to your needs. Join them in their holiday preparations and don't concentrate on yourself.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) You will find yourself unsure of your mate this week, but don't press the issue. You're likely to get into a fight, so try to ride this rough period out stoically. It will pass. You will need to pay close attention to detail at work this week.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) You will be surprised at the apparent lack of support from your family concerning your career change plan. However, be prepared to stick to your decision, because sometimes it's not necessarily wise to pick what's "safe."

Libra (September 23 to October 22) Your penchant for helping others sometimes results in meddling, so try to be sensitive to this. You'd be best off just keeping your opinions to yourself for now. Work will be very hectic this week, so stay on top of things to avoid a crunch.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Someone in your family is causing you worry by spending too much money. However, avoid the temptation to offer a loan. This is one lesson that's going to have to be learned the hard way. Find a way to keep children occupied this week since they're very restless.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Others have been finding your behavior overbearing of late. Although you may feel that you know better, it's wise to lay off right now and stop exerting so much authority. Your relationships will be all the better for it.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Your mind seems to be wandering at work this week and co-workers are resentful. Try to get yourself motivated again to avoid any unpleasant situations with bigwigs.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) You've been working really hard lately, so go ahead and treat yourself to that dreamed-of extravagance. Someone you'd like to get close to won't be very responsive to your romantic overtures this week.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) You must be careful this week to keep your business life and your home life separate. If you've had an argument at home, leave it there. Avoid insisting on getting your own way.

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DEER & TURKEY

DAY LEASE OR WEEK

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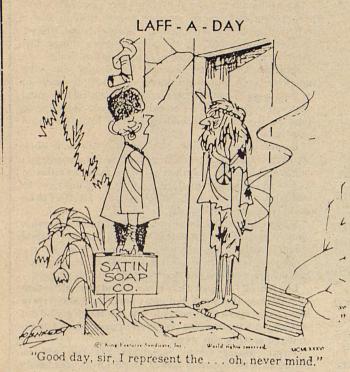
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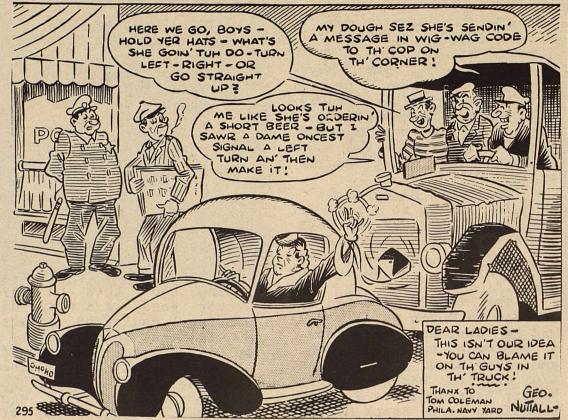
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JUST FOR LAUGHS

IT NEVER FAILS







"Smart idea getting him a waterproof watch—this is his third bath today."



Bol Schwetter "What's so great about sending a man to the moon in a few days? After all, there's no traffic."



"There's nothing like golf to keep a guy in shape."

Off Beat







In England the wassail bowl has been a central feature of Christmas celebrations. It sat in the home on Christmas Eve, waiting to offer warm cheer to all who might enter.

The innovative colonist developed their own version of the wassail bowl--a rich brew known as eggnog. One old-time recipe called for equal parts of rye whiskey and Jamaican rum mixed with eggs and heavy cream and then amply laced with sherry.

In many parts of America, Christmas Eve wouldn't be complete without the carolers who walk the streets singing old and much loved Christmas songs, followed by a steaming hot cup of spiced cider, hot cocoa, or rich eggnog and a slice of fruit cake.

After the excitement of a Christmas morning--complete with the opening of gifts--families throughout the country meet to enjoy Christmas Dinner.

While you're serving traditional foods, be sure to decorate your table in traditional fashion as well. Of course, you'll have the Christmas wreath on the door, but why not try one on the table as a centerpiece? Lay it flat, and put red candles in the center.

Small Christmas ornaments with names lettered in gold or silver paint pens make delightful take-home placecards. You might want to continue this Christmas ornament decorating theme by filling a basket or bowl with colored balls using it as another centerpiece.

Whatever you serve...however you decorate...your Christmas celebration will be enjoyed even more by sharing the holiday. Here are a few Christmas recipes I would like to share with you.

Old-Fashioned Wassail

- 1 T. whole cloves 1 3" stick cinnamon
- 2 Qts. apple cider or juice
- 1 Qt. cranberry juice

1 (46 oz) can pineapple juice 1 (12 oz) can frozen orange juice thawed and undiluted

1 (6 oz) can frozen lemonade thawed and undiluted

1 C. plus 2 T. water 2/3 C. firmly packed brown sugar

Tie cloves and cinnamon in cheesecloth bag. Place spice bag and remaining ingredients in a large kettle; stir well. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, 15 mins. Remove spice bag and serve. Yield: 1 1/2 gallons.

Gingerbread squares

1/3 C. margarine softened

1/2 C. sugar

2 eggs beaten

2/3 C. molasses

2 C. flour

2 tsp. baking powder

1/4 tsp. baking soda

2 tsp. ginger

1 tsp. ground cinnamon

1/2 tsp. salt

3/4 C. buttermilk

sweetened whipped cream or cool whip

Cream butter; gradually add sugar, beating at medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and molasses, beating well. Combine next 6 ingredients; add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture. Mix well after each addition.

Pour batter into a greased and floured 9" square baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 mins. Cool and cut into squares. Top with whipped cream. Yield: 9 servings.

Almond filled crepes

1/3 C. sifted flour 1 T. sugar dash salt 1 egg & 1 egg yolk 3/4 C. milk 1 T. melted margarine

Place all ingredients in mixing bowl and beat with mixer until smooth. Refrigerate for several hours or until thick. Heat heavy 6" skillet until a drop of water will dance on surface. Grease lightly and pour in 2 T. batter. Tilt skillet from side to side until batter covers bottom. Cook for 1 1/2 mins. or until lightly browned. Invert skillet over paper towel. Cook remaining crepes in same manner.

Almond filling

1 C. sugar
1/4 C. flour
1 C. milk
2 eggs & 2 egg yolks
3 T. margarine
2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 tsp. almond extract
1/2 C. ground toasted almonds
melted butter
whipped cream

Mix the sugar & flour in saucepan. Add milk and cook, stirring, until thick. Cook, stirring for 2 mins longer. Beat eggs and yolks slightly. Stir small amount of hot mixture into eggs, then add back to hot mixture. Bring to boil, stirring, then remove from heat. Stir in remaining ingredients except melted butter and whipped cream and let cool. Spread about 2 T. almond mixture on unbrowned side of each crepe. Roll up & place, folded side down in greased 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish. Brush with melted butter. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 mins. or until hot. Garnish with grated unsweetened chocolate and sifted confectioners sugar. Serve warm with cream. Yield: 10 cups.

Merry Christmas from Mom's Kitchen.

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By Dorthy Payne

Early in the 1800's a boy named Mark Carr was born in the foothills of the Catskills. Christmas to little Mark brought no tree laden with presents and candles. But by the time he had grown up Mark read or heard of the beautiful Christmas trees that were so popular in New York City.

One day it occured to him that he might make such use of the young fir trees that grew in such large numbers around his home. He decided that if he could go to New York with a number of these trees, he might possibly sell them to the city people. At any rate, he would not lose much money and not more time than he could afford. It was the year 1851 when Mark made his first trip with a load of trees which it had taken he and his boy friends weeks to cut.

When he arrived in New York he paid a dollar for a strip of sidewalk and there arranged his stock. From the first hour Mark met with success. Indeed the demand for his trees was so much greater than the supply that he soon raised the prices and made more money than it seemed possible.

The next year Mark Carr returned to the same corner and sold every Christmas tree he had brought. From that time to this, business of selling Christmas trees has increased in New York City and spread to hamlets and towns all over the country.

Our memory of Christmas is pleasant because of the story of the Christ Child and partly because of the presents we give and receive and partly because of the beautiful decorations that expresses Christmas happiness.

The pioneer Christmas entirely individual, each household cherished traditions of their forefathers. Each family these traditions the best they could, making do with what material they had. Everything could be made by the family. Nothing for keeping the family together like sitting in front of the open fireplace stringing popcorn and cranberries for the tree cutting and pasting paper decorations, and many could be made such as stars, paper chains, garlands, holly leaves, snowflakes and cornucopias.

At night when the children were asleep, the parents fashioned balls, dolls, wooden toys, doll beds, tiny chairs and teatables, could forget the who mouthwatering memory of a Christmas orange in the bottom of the stocking hung by the fireplace. And remember ----

Every light that's shining bright on the Christmas tree, Brings a wish for joy today and in the days to be.

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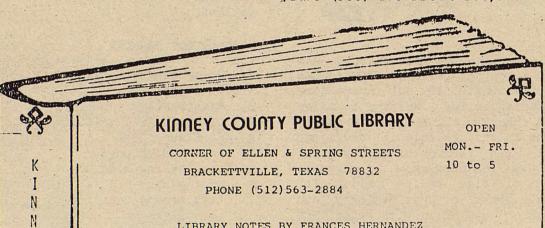
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To keep children's modeling clay moist and pliable, wrap



The odds against bowling a perfect game (300) are about 300,000 to one



LIBRARY NOTES BY FRANCES HERNANDEZ

Kinney County Public Library was once again host of the Western Geographic Committee Meeting.

The Geographic Committee meetings are called by Lee LaCaff. San Antonio Area Library System Coordinator, specifically to enable Library Directors and Lay Representatives to participate in discussing and planning the system budget for FY 88. There are three Geographic Committees in the system that correspond to the Hill Country, Brush Country and Western districts.

The officers elected to the committee this year were: Janice Weber, Chair, Chris Turk, Vice-Chair, Marcie Savage, Secretary.

The committee discussed, altered, and voted on the recommendations made by the Program Committees. (Program committees include: Media, Collection Development and Automation.) The recommendations will be reviewed by the Planning Committee which is comprised of one member of the Advisory Council, the elected Chairperson of the Geographic Committees, program committee chairpersons, and two other representatives appointed by the Council Chair. This committee will meet in January.

The following attended the Western Geographic Committee Meeting: From Val Verde-County Public of Del Rio, Janice Weber, Director, Marice Savage, Reference Librarian, Jeffrey Mahl, Trustee, & Jim Croom, Trustee. From El Progresso Memorial of Uvalde, Carol Kothmann, Director, Frances Cannon, Board President & Elaine Bracy, Lay Representative and Board Member. From Eagle Pass Public, Sue Croom, Director. From Quemado Public, Chris Turk, Director. From Crystal City Public, Rudy Torres, Librarian Assistant and from Kinney County Public, Frances Hernandez, Director, & Margaret K. Peck, Alternate Lay Representative and Board

Coffee was provided thanks to the generous donations pitched into the donation jar at the library. A cheese and crackers snack was provided by Chris Kurt of Quemado and Sue Croom of Eagle Pass.

The following 1986 IRS Forms are available at the library:

1040EZ, 1040A, 1040, 1040 Schedules A&B&W plus Instruction Booklets for 1040EZ 1040A and 1040.

TEXAS PIONEER CELEBRATES 106TH BIRTHDAY

(HUDSPETH COUNTY, TEXAS)--Mary L. Neely, West Texas pioneer, will celebrate her 106th birthday on December 28, at her ranch home about 75 miles downriver from El Paso.

Last year, December 28, 1985, her 105th birthday, was proclaimed Mary Neely Day by Governor Mark White. The proclamation said: "Her long and rich life exemplifies the pioneer spirit that tamed the wildest parts of Texas." In 1984 the State Senate passed a resolution honoring her.

The inspiring life of Mary Neely began in 1880 in Comanche County, Texas, where she was born to Frank and Lucretia Holmsley. Her father was a frontier doctor, and she was his assistant during her girlhood. She used this early medical training for the next several decades, ministering to the needs of family and neighbors in isolated West Texas communities where there were no doctors.

At age 22, she married Joe Holmes Neely. Their honeymoon was a three-month trip in a covered wagon to New Mexico, where several months later their first child, Joe Jr., was born. They moved back to Texas to manage a ranch where Mrs. Neely faced rattlesnakes, panthers, and outlaws. She had to rope wild cows to get milk for the family to drink.

In 1905, the Neelys moved to Dell City, Texas, where they managed another ranch for ten years. Their second son Tom was born here. In a final move, the family bought several sections of land west of McNary, near the Rio Grande, about 75 miles downriver from El Paso. They made the move in wagons and a Model T Ford, according to Mrs. Neely, "driving cattle eight or ten miles a day, keeping them out of bogs and arroyos, dodging flashfloods."

At that time, the border was a haven for Pancho Villa's band and rustlers, and the Neelys' newly acquired house was full of bullet holes. Their ranch was a success, providing them with the necessities, plus cattle, hogs, cotton, and mohair to sell.

Wherever she lived, Mrs. Neely used her medical training, treating broken bones and wounds, and acting as midwife for her neighbors on both sides of the border.

In addition to grueling work-heavy outdoor ranch work and keeping a frontier household

going--and acting as the only medical help within miles, the 4'11" Mrs. Neely found time to read aloud daily to the children. The family valued education, and Mrs. Neely has continued her reading, study, and intellectual correspondence throughout her life.

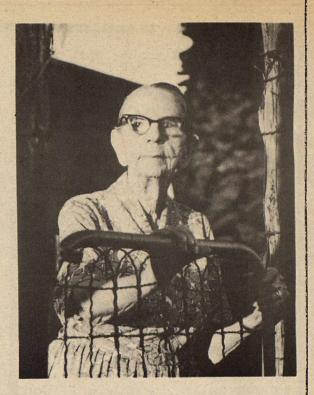
Her husband died in 1952, and for several years, Mrs. Neely--known as "Grandma"--continued to run the ranch by herself. She now has sold or leased portions of the ranch, but she still lives in their original adobe ranch house with her son Joe, 85, a retired Navy career officer, and his wife. Her younger son, Tom, 81--a retired Hudspeth County judge--lives in nearby Sierra Blanca. Tom calls himself "the baby of the family." The Neely brothers joke about who will take care of their mother when they die.

This year, Tom reports that his mother is doing extremely well.

"We think she is doing real well for somebody her age," he says,

"but then nobody is sure how somebody her age is supposed to be doing." Unfortunately for someone who has always been an avid reader, her eyesight is failing. "People read to her, "Tom notes, "but it's not the same."

On past birthdays, Mary Neely has received greetings from such notables as Governor Bill Clements, President Carter. and President Reagan. Last year, she garnered much statewide publicity regarding Governor White's proclamation of



Exemplifying the pioneer spirit "that tamed the wildest part of Texas", Mary Neely will celebrate her 106th birthday on December 28, 1986.

Mary Neely Day. Tom Neely says that she has saved all her news clippings and is very happy about the recognition. However, Mrs. Neely is not interested in celebrity as much as she is in spiritual and intellectual progress. She enjoys discussing books that interest her, and her philosophy of life and death.

She has many friends and relatives, and quite a few are expected to visit her this year in honor of her 106th birthday.



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