

COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR APPOINTED



On Monday, January 8, 1990, Commissioners Court appointed Martha Pena Smallwood as Tax Assessor/Collector for Kinney County.

Mr. Tim Ward had resigned previously to run for the County Judge Office in the upcoming election.

The appointed was made to fill the vacancy until this next General election when the choice of Tax Assessor/Collector will be decided by the people of Kinney County.

Mrs. Smallwood has been working in this office for the past six years.

FIRE DESTROYS BRACKETTVILLE HOME

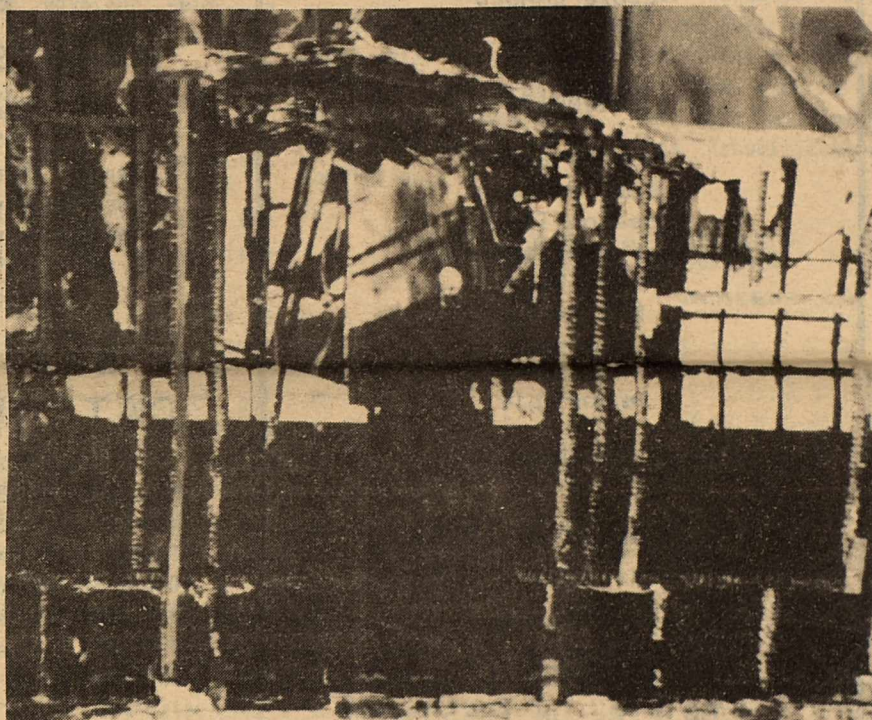
On January 5, 1990, at 5:57 a.m., a fire that totally destroyed the Chester Puda family home was reported. This is the kind all firemen dread, a structure fire of a fellow fireman. The home was located at 302 E. 4th street. When the firemen arrived the mobile home and carport was already badly engulfed in flames.

The fire had apparently started in the storage shed under the carport, and after blazing through the plywood walls of the shed, quickly spread to the attached mobile home, melting through the aluminum siding and spreading throughout the entire mobile home.

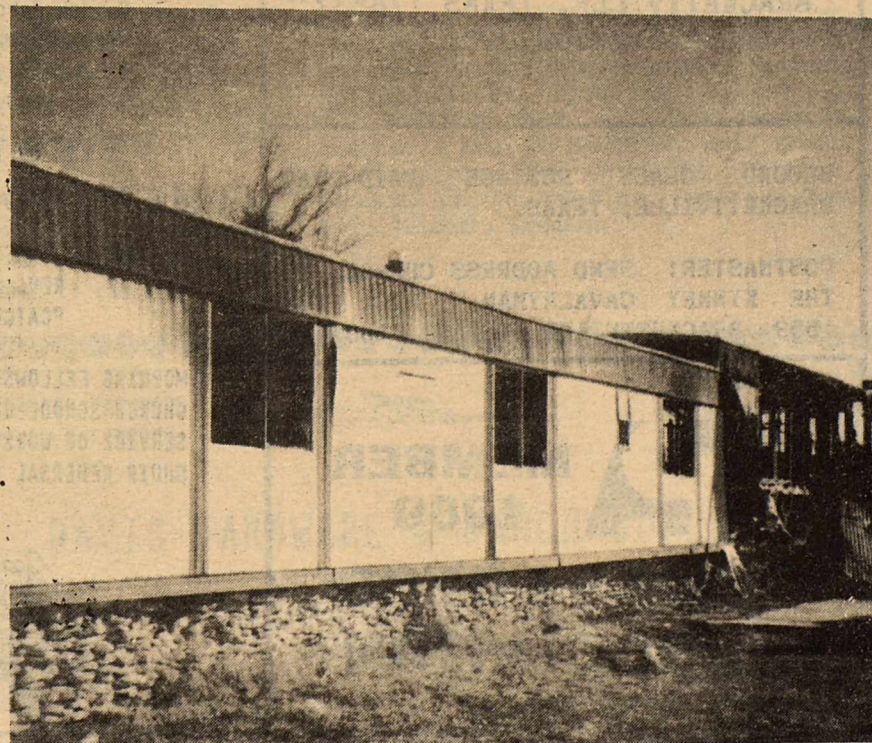
The Puda family's dog's continuous barking woke the family up, thereby enabling Mr. Puda to save their five children and vehicles.

Unfortunately, they were unable to save anything else, and suffered a total loss of all their furniture, clothing and personal belongings.

We are so thankful that the Puda family are safe and the community has been lending a helpful hand. We have a good community and good people that live here. A special thanks from the Cavalryman to all those wonderful people!



Pictured above and below is the burned mobile home of the Chester Puda Family.



the Kinney Cavalryman

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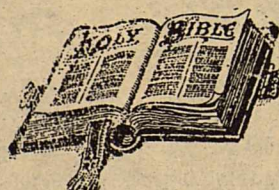
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ALL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WILL BE PRINTED IF THEY ARE SIGNED AND ACCOMPANIED BY A TELEPHONE NUMBER.

SOUTH TEXAS HEART INSTITUTE

Now for the first time in San Antonio, Texas, a person facing heart problem can have all of their diagnostic, treatment and educational needs met under one roof.

The South Texas Heart Institute, 401 North San Saba Street, is a comprehensive heart and vascular outpatient center founded and operated by cardiologists Dr. Hector VillaSenor and Dr. Jose A. Perez.

The goals of the Institute are to serve as a center of excellence and practice preventive cardiovascular care and educate the community regarding health factors that can be controlled. The Institute has a fully staffed patient education center that is available with classroom teaching on such topics as heart disease, heart attacks, diabetes, hypertension, smoking, stress management, cardiac rehabilitation, exercise programs and occupational therapy. Dietician and nutritional counseling are also a component of the program.

The Heart Institute will be involved in state of the art technology involving coronary stents and coronary atherectomy. These are experimental devices used to keep blocked arteries open in patients with coronary disease, or prior to balloon angioplasty. Dr. Jose Perez is one of fifteen cardiologists in the United States involved in the placement of coronary stents and use of atherectomy catheters.

Associated with the Heart Institute will be the South Texas Interventional Vascular Group, a group of radiologists with particular interest in vascular disease and non-surgical methods to open blockages that include angioplasty, atherectomy catheters, intravascular stents and laser techniques. The

group is headed by Dr. Robert R. Murray and Dr. Julio Palmaz, inventor of the stent.

Available services include echocardiograms, carotid doppler studies, cholesterol testing, exercise treadmill tests, peripheral non-invasive vascular studies, pulmonary function tests and nuclear cardiology with the use of a state of the art SPECT CAMRERA.

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Bill Clements, in an effort to assure a complete count of all Texans in the 1990 census, has assembled a committee of state agency chiefs who will engender increased census awareness among state employees and agency clients.

A comprehensive census count is crucial to Texas in the 1990s, the governor said, in ensuring the state gets its allotted share of federal funds. Also at stake is proper representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

An accurate census count in Texas could net the state and local governments as much as \$900 million more in federal funds during the next 10 years, according to the Texas State Data Center.

In addition, Texas could gain as many as four new congressional seats if the 1990 count is accurate.

"Texas literally cannot afford to put forth anything less than an all-out effort to make sure of all of our residents are counted by census-takers in 1990," the governor said. "This committee will make sure that key state agencies do everything possible to help Texas achieve that goal."

The governor's State Agency Census Planning Committee is part of a strategy designed to avoid a repeat of the 1980 undercount of Texas residents. Estimates are the 1980 census missed as many as 547,000 Texans, of which 396,000 were minorities.

In 1987 alone, Texans lost an estimated \$21.3 million in Medicaid funds as a result of the undercount in the 1980 census.

The committee, using agency newsletters and paycheck inserts, will generate state employee awareness of the importance of the census.

The committee will focus special attention on agencies with heavy public contact, including those dealing in social services whose federal funding is tied to the census.

Promotional posters and informational materials will be distributed to targeted state agencies, including local offices of the Department of Human Services and the Texas Employment Commission, health department clinics and Department of Public Safety driver's license stations.

The Health and Human Services Coordinating Council will take the lead in organizing the census effort, with technical assistance from the Department of Commerce.

Assigned to serve on the committee are the executive directors or representatives of the Texas Department of Commerce, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Office of the State Comptroller of Public Accounts, the Secretary of State's office.

The Texas Education Agency, the Texas Employment Commission, Texas Employees Retirement System, the Texas Department of Health, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.


The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, the Texas Department of Human Services, the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

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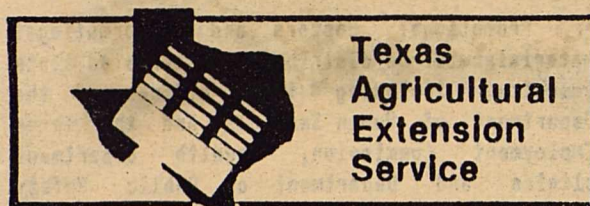
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Texas
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BY ALAN L. MCWILLIAMS

ODESSA LIVESTOCK SHOW

Congratulations are in order to Kinney County 4-H members participating in the Sandhills Herford & Quarter Horse Show in Odessa, Texas. County 4-H member, Kimberly Ahrens, placed finewool lambs in the 3rd, 6th, and 5th places. Lacey Esser placed finewool lambs in the 11th and 18th positions. Richard Esser had 19th and 27th place lambs and Walt Esser had 13th and 18th place lambs. All 4-H members are busy getting ready for our county livestock show to be held January 19 and 20.

PREGNANCY TESTING ON COWS

Pregnancy testing and culling of open and skipper cows, (those calving every two years), is one of the quickest ways to improve the reproductive performance of your beef herd. There have been numerous field demonstrations conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service to back up the information. Pregnancy testing, then removing open cows and cows that have not calved but once in a two year period, can increase your overall herd pregnancy rate dramatically. Remember, the nutrition and health status of the bull will also affect fertility.

Upon initiating a program such as this, producers can expect to buy more replacements for the first couple of years, but initial costs can be recovered within two to three and the total dollar income will be higher than without culling.

If you are considering a program like this, don't forget there are several other important management factors that must be considered for a profitable beef herd. Timely supplemental feeding, reproductive vaccines, and highly fertile bulls are among some of these items to be considered.

A common sense approach to supplemental feeding (when the animals cannot obtain nutrients from forage or body storage) might include the following:

- Feed salt and 8-12 percent phosphorus supplement of similar calcium content free choice year round unless the mineral is already in a supplemental feed.
- inject or feed vitamin A if more than 4-6 months pass without much green in pastures. The drier the weather, the more attention vitamin A deserves.
- always feed enough protein to maintain a 6% plus protein ration of maintenance of rumen function. Additional will be needed for milk production, growth, and other factors.
- use cow condition or fatness as a guide to additional feeding.

Loss of weight or condition suggests more energy. Because of negative associated effects on digestion when adding grain to forage diets, energy supplementation is seldom financially rewarding as protein supplementation alone. However, energy supplementation may be necessary for survival if forage is limited in

amount, cows are in extremely poor condition, or weather is unusually severe, or where a combination of these things exist.

These recommendations primarily deal with beef cattle and some adjustments must be made for sheep and goat production.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are proud of your Kinney County Public Library. It is a good library, and we want to make it a better one, in order to serve you in the best way possible. Some of our valued patrons have suggested we let you know some of the needs of your Library, in order that those who wish may have an opportunity to make helpful gifts.

A subscription to Cattleman magazine, Ranch Magazine, Time Magazine, Newsweek Magazine, Sports Illustrated Magazine, the San Antonio Light, or the San Antonio News-Express would be enjoyed by many Kinney County readers. Are there other good magazines you would like to see your Library have?

Dominoes, checkers, and other games would be enjoyed in the Library by our children. We want as many of them as possible to look forward to coming to the Library and to feel the Library is an enjoyable place to be.

A new film strip projector is needed to replace the one which has worn out, in order that we may continue to use filmstrips we have. Also, new headphones are needed for our audio cassette-film strip viewer for children's stories.

If you would like to make a gift to your library of any of these or other gifts, please check with Irma Perez, our librarian, in order to avoid duplications. Also, funds for new books and new materials are always welcome. A nice notification of Memorial gifts or gifts to honor anniversaries, celebrate birthdays and other happy occasions, is always sent by mail to honorees or family members. You and others will feel a glow of pride and pleasure when you make a gift to your Library. Try it-you'll like it!

SALVATION ARMY

BY WANDA E. SCHWANDNER

In 1982, Don Green, The Field Service Area Representative for The Salvation Army came to The First State Bank where I was employed and ask if I would take the office of Treasurer for The Kinney County Service Unit. I agreed and through the years, he & I became warm friends with a mutual trust and concern for the community. During the seven years, we conducted drives via bank statement mail-outs, compliments of The First State Bank and our community always responded. We ask for and received special grants from The Salvation Army Headquarters for tornado victims and local families in trouble.

Recently, I received a letter from E.O. Urray, Director of State Services, informing me that 38 Service Units in Texas would close due to the failing economy. One of these would be the Brackettville Service Unit. We had a drive in December, compliments of The Kinney Cavalryman, with a flier in the weekly paper. We were able to help some local families with

special concerns at Christmas. When I received Mr. Urray's letter, I was able to spend the remainder of the account in Kinney County.

I want to thank the people of Kinney County for your wonderful financial support of The Salvation Army during the years. I hope you realize that I would like to thank each of you individually, but I would hate to leave anyone out so I'll thank you collectively. A special thanks to Committee men, Norman Hooten & Reverend Phillip Bell who helped me with wise discretion.

My best wishes and warm regards to Kinney County. Also thanks to the Salvation Army. Without the help of organizations like these and the donations of our local people we would not be able to help our fellow travelers and local citizens with emergencies and hard times.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Wanda,

When I stop weeping, I hope to express something that I feel about your article in the January 4, 1990 issue of the Kinney Cavalryman. I thought most people had forgotten about the things you wrote about. That is not true. You still remember.

The names of our family horses were different, as was the breed also, as well as the colors. But our Dan and Tony were the same to us as your Rocky and Daisy were to you.

Thank you so much for bringing back some of the things I have trouble leaving behind and making us all remember where we came from.

Keep writing. Most of us in this town are proud of the things you have done for us.

We are happy to know you and hope you will feel like coming to see us any chance you get.

Yours sincerely
Edith Moore Sharp

THANK YOU

We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks, to all the kind people of Brackettville, for all their help and support that we have received. We are truly touched by the kindness that so many people have shown us. Your support has made the loss of our home so much easier for us to deal with, and we deeply appreciate it. At a time like this it shows that Brackettville is a special small town to live in, with many special and kind people.

Thank you again Brackettville.
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The famous old cattle trail known as "The Chisholm Trail," was believed to have been blazed by the Indian scout and trader Jesse Chisholm. It has been found that this trail was used long before Jesse Chisholm's time.

Black Beaver, a Delaware scout and frontiersman used this trail to evacuate Union Troops from the Oklahoma territory during the Civil War.

Before Black Beaver's time however, the Wichita Indian people used the same trail. There were two branches of this tribe. One branch lived in the area around Wichita, Texas and the other near present day Wichita, Kansas. At that time it was known as the "Whchita Trace," and who knows what pre-historic people used it before that.

The remains of this old cattle trail can be seen at the edge of Addington in southern Oklahoma. There is a monument near there dedicated to both Black Bear and Jesse Chisholm.

One century ago untold thousands of longhorns were driven up this famous trail. This cattle trail like other cattle trails of the time became obsolete when the cattle began bringing cattle ticks into Oklahoma and Kansas. By the time the tick invasion could be controlled the railroad and it's "iron" horse made an appearance. Thus the cattle ranchers began shipping their steers in cattle cars on the railroads. Soon the days of the old cattle drives were over, and few steers were brought up the trails on foot.

In the 1920's some drives came up the trail from Texas and long-horns dotted the pastures in Oklahoma but they were becoming fewer and fewer until finally the short-horned cattle replaced them.

REFLECTIONS

BY PRESTON TAYLOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

One of the popular speakers of our generation is Zig Ziglar. He has a best-seller entitled SEE YOU AT THE TOP. The writing inspires and challenges the reader to "get going" and "reach the top."

Everyone wants his family and team to be number one. People naturally speak of successful people -- the big winners. In fact, we are a "success-oriented" society.

Strangely enough, the Bible mentions those who are "at the bottom." Jesus said the greatest people get beneath the load and carry the burden. These don't battle and contend for top spots and recognition. The one who pulls the load and serves in the true sense of the word will not even think of who gets the credit or the honor from any task. Self shows up last.

Elevation to some rightful place will finally come to those who are in a right

position before the Lord of glory. The one who humbles himself or herself before Christ and places the interests of God's eternal cause first in life has the unfailing promise of being treated right by the Lord Himself.

Do you want to get to the top? Would a high place with everlasting benefits interest you? Christ says He will exalt those who invest life in any place for God's glory. If one wants to get to the top, he must be ready to be at the bottom.

CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE

The City, starting next week, will have a weekly article keeping the Citizens abreast of what we are doing.



License To Kill

When Bond wants revenge, nothing stands in his way. Not even Her Majesty's Secret Service!

James Bond is in Florida for his old friend Felix Leiter's marriage. On the eve of the wedding Bond and Felix capture South America's most ruthless drug lord, Franz Sanchez. But after a two million dollar bribe, Sanchez is a free man. To teach drug enforcement authorities a lesson, he brutally murders the new Mrs. Leiter, and feeds Felix to the sharks!

The usually cool James Bond is beside himself with rage. However, Her Majesty's Secret Service doesn't approve of "personal vendettas." They feel that this is a matter best left to U.S. authorities, and 007 is handed another assignment. For the first time ever, Bond refuses to obey....and his Licence To Kill is revoked!

With these words - "You have my resignation, sir." Timothy Dalton as James Bond embarks upon the most deadly and unusual mission of 007's career!

WHEN HARRY MET SALLY

There's never been a friendship quite like Harry and Sally's. From faking an orgasm at the corner deli, to debating the odds of having great sex with a guy named "Sheldon," there's nothing Harry and Sally don't do together. Well, almost nothing. And that's the witty and wonderful premise of Rob Reiner's hilarious romantic comedy.

"When Harry Met Sally" was directed by Rob Reiner who also directed "Stand By Me", "The Princess Bride", "The Sure Thing", and "This Is Spinal Tap," and stars Billy Crystal ("Throw Momma From The Train," "Running Scared," "Memories Of Me") and Meg Ryan ("The Presido," "Top Gun," "D.O.A.," "Innerspace"), with great supporting performances by Carrie Fisher ("Star Wars," "The Burbs," "Hannah And Her Sisters"), and Bruno Kirby ("Good Morning Vietnam").



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COMMISSIONERS COURT

The regular Commissioners Court Monthly meeting for January was held on January 8th.

The meeting was called to order with all member present.

All bills and official reports were approved.

County Attorney Shahan presented a resolution to prevent "Exemption of personal property in-transit tax for Kinney County". The resolution passed unanimously.

The Commissioners Court set the Holiday schedule for 1990.

A Salary Grievance Committee for 1990 was selected. They are as follows: Judge Tommy Seargeant, Chairman, Tully Shahan, Norman Hooten, Martha Smallwood, Dolores Raney, Louis Dimery, Mary La Gioia, Pat Melancon, and Charles Olsen.

Bonds for Cordelia Barlow and Janice Floyd were approved.

Executive Session was held to discuss personnel, salaries and pending litigation.

In open session a salary raise from \$4.10 to \$4.50 was voted unanimously for Terry Sandoval.

The budget was amended for \$14,573.68 which was the total amount spent on the County Road Maintenance building. This was spent out of the Road and Bridge fund.

The County officials were reminded to turn in their updated inventory list of equipment for this year.

An order placing all officials on salary basis for the year of 1990 was done. This is a yearly procedure.

Martha Smallwood was appointed County Tax Assessor/Collector until the upcoming election.

The old dental clinic building was voted to be put on the County Insurance coverage.

A review of the old delinquent ambulance bills was done.

New appointments to the library board was tabled until recommendations from the present board are received.

Permission to use the Civic Center on January 19 and 20th for the Kinney County Livestock Show was given at the same price as last year.

The meeting was adjourned.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Brackettville City Council will be holding a Special Meeting to discuss the T.V. Cables malfunctions and to appoint a Committee to investigate and gather information for the City Council. The Special Meeting will be on January 22, 1990, Monday at 6:00 P.M. The City would appreciate all concerned Citizens to attend.

Thank you,
Vito La Gioia
Mayor

COMMUNITY SERVICE MESSAGE FROM KINNEY COUNTY ATTORNEY,
TULLY SHAHAN

TURN IN A PUSHER

The information gathered as a result of the following form is confidential and will not be divulged to anyone outside the County Attorney's office of Kinney County, Texas. Any information you may provide even if only a partial description will be evaluated and placed into a composite file of all other information gathered, hopefully to provide a full picture of the problem as it exists. Action will be taken on every submission. Thank you for your cooperation.

Name of suspected drug dealer: _____

Nicknames: _____

Description: Ht. _____ Wt. _____ Sex _____ Age _____ DOB _____

Hair _____ Eyes _____ SS# _____

Address: _____

Home: _____

Business: _____

Motor Vehicle: Make: _____ Color: _____

Year: _____ Tag No.: _____

Associates of dealer: _____

Method of dealing: _____

Location of dealing: _____

Drug(s) being dealt: _____

Price: _____ Amount: _____

Main Purchasers:(i.e., schoolkids, truckers, etc.) _____

Code name you wish to be known by: _____

May we contact you? YES NO

If yes, then how: By mail _____ By phone # _____

When _____

If no, then will you contact us again using the same code name, should

you have further information? Yes _____ No _____

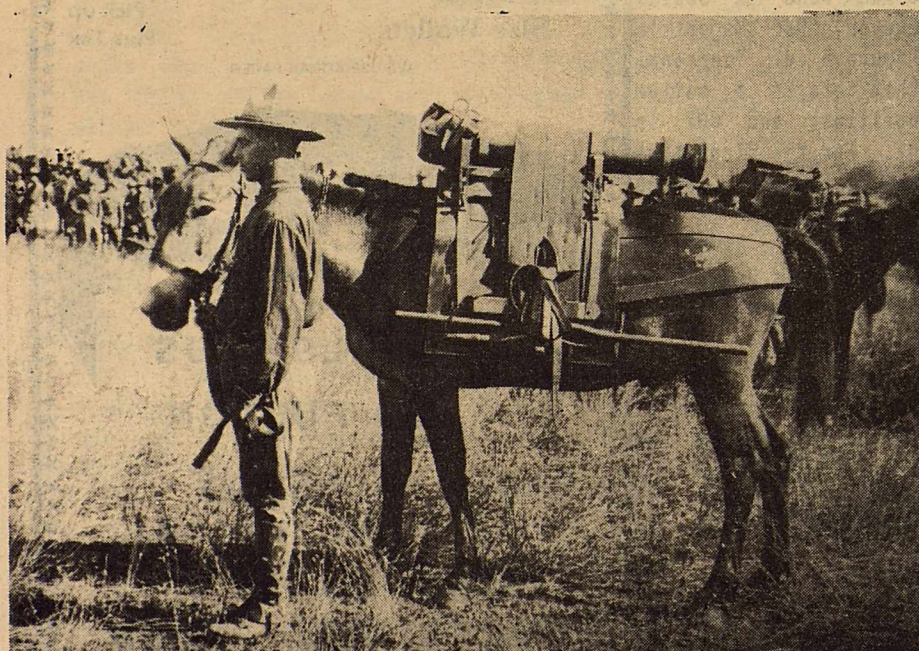
Please take a few minutes and invest 25 cents in a stamp. You can help in the fight against drugs. Take a stand and get involved! The life you save may be your child's. Mail to County Attorney, P. O. Box 365, Brackettville, Texas 78832.

THANK YOU

The family of Maria Rosario Sanchez wish to express their sincere THANKS and gratitude to all our friends, relatives, neighbors, pallbearers and Father David, all who called, sent flowers, cards, food, memorials or helped in any other way during our loss.

Again we thank you and God Bless you all!

The Armando Sanchez Family
and
The Gilberto Sanchez, Sr. Family



OLD ARMY DAYS
BY WALLACE MORGAN

Transporting a field piece during the 1920's (before and after) depended a great deal on mule power. These weapons were broken down for transport into different sections. Pictured is the barrel. The pack saddles were of course each made for one of the sections. During these times, mules were an efficient method of transport, especially over rugged country, and great distances. The U.S. Army considered them better for this use than horses, as the mule seemed to be more sure footed and hardier.

The Army mule was of great value to the Army for many years, including through World War II, and until 1956, when the last of the mule pack units were disbanded. The tradition of the Army mule goes on, however, as mules are used as mascots of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

CITY COUNCIL HOLDS REGULAR MEETING

The City of Brackettville City Council held their regular meeting on Monday, January 8th. All Council members were present. The Council approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting and the City and Utility department financial and operational reports. The T.V. Cables malfunctioning was discussed and the Mayor and Council had intended to appoint a committee to gather more information for the Council but since no representatives showed up it was tabled until Monday, January 22nd. The City's Landfill (dump) was discussed. The City's landfill is at the maximum because it was only design to take household garbage and people have been dumping fence wire, tin, metal, dead animals tires, lumber and brush. The Health Department Officials paid the City of Brackettville a visit last week and the Health Department found the City's landfill had three violations. Dead animals need to be in a pit and buried. They are a health hazard. Landfill is full and one pit needs to be covered over and the City is negotiating with Joe York to come and bury it. The brush and lumber was piled eight to ten feet high and needed to be covered, but there is no room at the landfill to do this. The lease on the landfill is up in July, 1990 which cost the City \$2,400.00 per year. The City will be negotiating the lease again in July and if the price remains the same then the landfill fee will remain the same but if the price to lease the landfill or other property go up the landfill will be adjusted accordingly. The City will be hiring someone who is a license operator with a high school Diploma or GED and with at least six months working experience at a landfill.

The City is going to let out bids for City trash pickup. In 1980 the people voted it in but nothing was ever done about it.

The Council voted to add January 15, 1990, Martin Luther King Jr. day to the list of City Holidays. Resolution 1990-1, Taxation of Property exempt was read and passed but due to an error it will be presented for passage on the January 22, 1990 meeting.

Two representatives from Rosin Group Inc., Mike Schroeder and Roy R. Rosin, P.E. will be placing an application for a grant on the study of sewer plant system at no cost to the City.

The City has been repairing street thru out the town with the aid of Travis Wilson Construction Company.

The City will be changing out meters starting with account #1 and so on. The City should have at least 50 meters replaced by the end of January. The Council had a executive session to discuss Insurance and Mr. Conboy's bill on the sewer line at the new Border Patrol Office located off of Spring street. Mr. Conboy had claimed he had paid the past City administrators for the line but has no records or receipts to prove he did so and the City records reflect no payment were made for the New Border Patrol's

sewer line.

Meeting adjourned with a special meeting set for Monday, January 22, 1990 at 6:00 to discuss the T.V. Cable service here in Brackettville.

OBITUARIES

JAMES CARL GANT

James C. Gant, 82, of Waterford died at 11:43 p.m. Monday, December 25, in Selby General Hospital.

He was born April 23, 1907, in Clay County, West Virginia, to Theodore F. and Ella Strickland Gant. He had worked as a boat designer most of his life.

He married the former Mildred M. Giffen in 1929. She died August 29, 1984.

He is survived by his mother of The Arbors at Marietta; one son, James D. Gant of Lowell; one daughter Joan H. Breaux of Waterford; three grandchildren; and two brothers, Ray Gant of Stockport and Samuel Gant of Franklin, Tenn.

He was preceded in death by his father and three brothers.

No services will be conducted. McCurdy Funeral Home at Beverly is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

MARIA DEL ROSARIO BERNAL SANCHEZ

Maria del Rosario Bernal Sanchez, 41, died December 29, 1989 at 3 a.m. at Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio.

She was born Dec. 18, 1948 in Del Rio and had resided with her family in Brackettville for the last 17 years.

She is survived by her husband, Armando Sanchez of Brackettville, two sons and one daughter; Noe armando and Rene Sanchez and Ana Patricia Sanchez, all of Brackettville.

The parents of Rosie are Maria Ester Moreno and the late Antonio Moreno, Jr. of Del Rio.

Pallbearers were Josue Bernal, Jr., Antonio Moreno III, Jose Garcia, Guadalupe Gutierrez, Martin Sanchez, and Guadalupe Sanchez.

Rosie will be greatly missed in our community. She was well known and liked by everyone.

GAYNELL TREMBLAY

Funeral services for Gaynell Tremblay, 63, were held Tuesday, January 9, 1990 at 2:00 p.m. in the Rushing Estes Knowles Chapel, under the direction of Rev. Joe Townsend. With interment following in the Brackettville County Cemetery.

Gaynell Tremblay died January 6, 1990 in Brackettville, Texas. She resided in Spofford, Texas.

She was born August 14, 1926, in Liberty Hill, Texas. She is survived by her father, Milton Simmons, of Spofford, Texas, one sister, Betty Moses, of Brackettville, two brothers, Chester Simmons, and Joe Simmons, both of Austin, seven nieces, six nephews, numerous great-nieces and nephews.

NEW TREATMENT

Clinical tests of a new "cold" laser treatment for atherosclerosis in coronary arteries are underway at Baylor College of Medicine and The Methodist Hospital in Houston.

The technique, called excimer laser angioplasty, vaporizes the buildup of plaque deposits along artery walls without heat by breaking chemical bonds. It is performed in the cardiac catheterization laboratory and is considered an alternative to bypass surgery in some cases.

Dr. Albert E. Raizner, associate professor of medicine at Baylor, director of the cardiac catheterization laboratories at Methodist and a cardiologist with The DeBakey Heart Center, said the excimer laser may prove advantageous because it removes plaque with less potential injury to artery walls, rather than pushing it aside as traditional balloon angioplasty does.

"If we can remove plaque without injuring the wall of the artery, we may do a better job longterm than with traditional balloon angioplasty where arteries are stretched," Raizner said.

In balloon angioplasty, a balloontipped catheter is pushed through clogged arteries. The balloon is inflated to compress plaque blockages, clearing the artery for a less obstructed flow of blood.

However, 25 to 30 percent of successful balloon angioplasty patients suffer a recurrence of plaque blockage within one to two years of the procedure. A treatment which totally removes the plaque with less stress to the artery walls may reduce this recurrence rate.

The excimer laser angioplasty technique now being tested at Baylor and Methodist may prove to be the improved atherosclerosis treatment researchers have been seeking, Raizner said. "Results on more than 20 patients so far have been encouraging, although we still have one to two years of testing ahead of us."



Travis Austin Bonner, born December 21, 1989 in Las Cruces, New Mexico to Vic and Debbie Bonner is welcomed by his three year old sister Stephanie.

Paternal grandmother is Vicki Bonner of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Maternal grandparents are Bill and Sandy Herman of Brackettville, Texas.

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