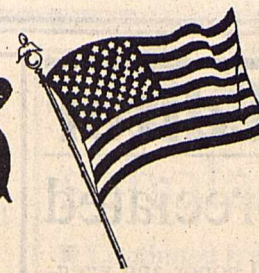


The Brackett News



Tigers to battle Bobcats Friday
See story, Page 5

9th year, No. 1

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

1 Section, 8 Pages



BRACKETT NEWS PHOTO BY J.J. GUIDRY

Brackett point guard Chica Garza, right, and the Tigerettes will open the state basketball playoffs Saturday against Navarro.

Tigerettes to open playoffs Saturday against Navarro

By J.J. Guidry
Sports Editor

The Brackett Tigerettes will open the state high school basketball playoffs Saturday against Navarro at 7:00 at Medina Valley High School in Castroville.

Brackett went 10-0 in conference play to win the District 30-2A title. The Tigerettes are 20-11 on the season. Navarro, the second place team in District 29-2A, is 16-10 overall.

"Navarro is a playoff team, and anybody that makes the playoffs is going to be a formidable opponent," Tigerettes coach Gregg Nowlin said.

"Some of our girls went and watched them play La Pryor Tuesday night, and they feel confident. They know they can play with them."

The Tigerettes are currently on a 10-game winning streak. On Friday, Brackett had four players score in double figures as they picked up a 97-24 win over Natalia.

"We have been playing really well," Nowlin said. "We just need to continue to play like we have been playing."

Nowlin said he feels his team will have an advantage with its quickness in guards Chica Garza and Lindy La Mascus. Garza is averaging 6.3 assists and 4.5 steals a game, while La Mascus is averaging 3.6 assists and 4.0 steals a game. La Mascus is coming off of a career-high 22-point performance against Natalia.

"They have trouble getting into a transition game," Nowlin said. "They like to get in a half-court game because of their size. We need to get out and run on them, and that will compliment our half-court game."

Brackett's half court game is led by 6-foot-1 center Amanda Meek and forward Courtney Harrison. Meek is averaging 17.3 points and 9.5 rebounds a game. Harrison is fourth in the area in free throw percentage. She has made 26 of 33 shots from the charity stripe for a .788 percentage.

"I'm curious to see how they play us," Nowlin said. "On Tuesday, they started in a 1-2-2 zone and then changed to a 2-3. We've done real well against those defenses this year."

"Courtney has had real big games against those defenses. Nobody has been able to stop Amanda one-on-one this year. If they double-team her, it opens up Courtney on the baseline."

City agrees to pursue metro telephone line

The Brackettville City Council unanimously voted to pursue a metro telephone line to Uvalde and Del Rio Tuesday night at its monthly meeting.

With a metro line, Brackettville residents would be able to call Uvalde and Del Rio toll free.

Alderman Felix Gonzales made a motion to have City Manager David G. Luna pursue the matter. Councilwoman Mary V. Flores seconded the motion, which passed 3-0. Tencha Pena also voted in favor of the action. Ralph Gonzalez was absent.

Mayor Carmen M. Berlanga read a letter to the city council from Bonny Herndon during Tuesday's meeting concerning the metro line.

"I would like to request that the city of Brackettville pursue the petitioning of Southwestern Bell to give the 563 telephone exchange local access to both of the cities of Uvalde and Del Rio," Herndon said in her letter.

"I know that this has been accomplished in other areas for small towns. For instance, La Pryor now has local telephone access to both Uvalde and Crystal

"I know that this has been accomplished in other areas for small towns. For instance, La Pryor now has local telephone access to both Uvalde and Crystal City."

Bonny Herndon

City.

"The pursuing of this possibility would be a great service for our area as it would serve to permanently lower everyone's long-distance telephone bill."

Herndon said she spoke with Southwestern Bell officials and was told that the metro line had to be applied for by the city councils in the affected telephone exchange area.

Trustees agree to buy property

The Brackett School Board of Trustees agreed to purchase two more pieces of property at their monthly meeting Monday night.

The board decided to purchase the PCI property, located on the corner of Ann and Third streets, and the Rose property, located across the street from the school.

The PCI property will be the new home for the alternative education school.

"We have a written contract with PCI and we're waiting on formal closure of the property," Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson said. "As soon as all of the paper work is done, we will transfer it."

The Rose property is adjacent to the Shahan property, which the board purchased last month. The trustees also purchased the Guidry property last month, which is across from the high school annex. These properties will be used to expand parking and for future expansion.

Stephenson said he hopes to improve the school district's parking situation by the end of the month.

"I hope, within the next month, we can put down a caliche base on the Shahan property," he said. "We may even try to do that with part of the Guidry property."

Commissioners to meet

Kinney County Judge Tommy Seargeant has called a special commissioners court meeting for Friday afternoon, beginning at 3.

County Commissioners include Freddie Frerich, Precinct 1; Joe Montalvo, Precinct 2; Joe "Boy" Williams, Precinct 3; and Paul O'Rourke, Precinct 4.

Items on the agenda include:

- Court to examine and approve all accounts, bills and de-

partment reports.

- Consider Civic Center roof repairs.

- Revise resolution on Texas county and district retirement.

- Request permission on approval of satellite system and installation of wires, as necessary, in the Fritter Room.

- Approval of new board members, Horace Troy and Sandy Herman.

- Review, revise, amend Civic Center rules, regulations, cleaning and fees.

- Executive session, personnel and pending litigation.

- Review, revise amend 1996-97 budget as needed.

- Consider supplemental grant and authorize county judge to sign grant application and resolution regarding city of Eagle Pass salary reimbursement.

Trustees consider well at football stadium Schooler receives one-year contract extension

The Brackett School Board discussed drilling water wells at Tiger Stadium and the new baseball complex on Monday night.

Superintendent Taylor Stephenson presented the proposal to the board, which hopes to make a decision at its March meeting.

Stephenson said it would cost a \$1.00 a day or less for electricity to operate a well at the football stadium.

"Last year, we spent \$7,000 on water at the football field," he said. "We estimate that we could pay for the drilling and pump in one year by applying the water bill savings to the construction. That means that each year thereafter we could save about \$5,000 per field."

"We wouldn't hook up the service for anything other than for watering the field," he added.

Principal's Contracts

The board of trustees approved a one-year

contract extension for Jones Elementary School Principal Michael Schooler.

The contract for Don Sims was not discussed. The high school principal has one year left on his current contract.

Stoney Burks' contract will be discussed at the March board meeting because he is a part-time principal and a part-time teacher at the middle school.

Ball Park Lighting Project

Construction is underway to light the baseball and softball fields.

Today, the light poles will arrive for the softball field. The lights are expected to be ready for the Tigerettes' Feb. 18 home opener.

The baseball field and football field are to be lighted after the softball field.

Historical Exemption

The board granted a tax exemption for historical purposes to the Las Moras Masonic

Lodge.

To qualify for this reduction in tax rate, the building must be noted with a historical designation.

Local Policy Update

The trustees reviewed Local Board Policy Update No. 53, which concentrates on processes to resolve complaints from employees, students, parents and the community.

"This policy basically calls for complaints to be presented at three district levels, the last being the board of education," Stephenson said.

"This is a good process. There were some questions on a portion of the policy dealing with a prohibition of staff participation in noncurriculum related student groups."

"The policy was drafted based on the law and on district responses submitted last year," he said.

Mangrum establishes scholarship fund

ODESSA - A \$600,000 gift from the estate of a former Odessan has nearly doubled the goal of an Odessa College scholarship drive being conducted in conjunction with the school's 50th anniversary, officials announced.

The \$602,819 bequest by Havel L. Mangrum, an Oklahoma sharecropper's son who became a millionaire after successful real estate investments in the 1980s, has pushed the amount raised in the Half-Century Scholarship Drive to \$959,000, Odessa College Director of Institutional Advancement Jeff Melton said. This is \$459,000 more than the \$500,000 goal of the drive, which is scheduled to continue through May.

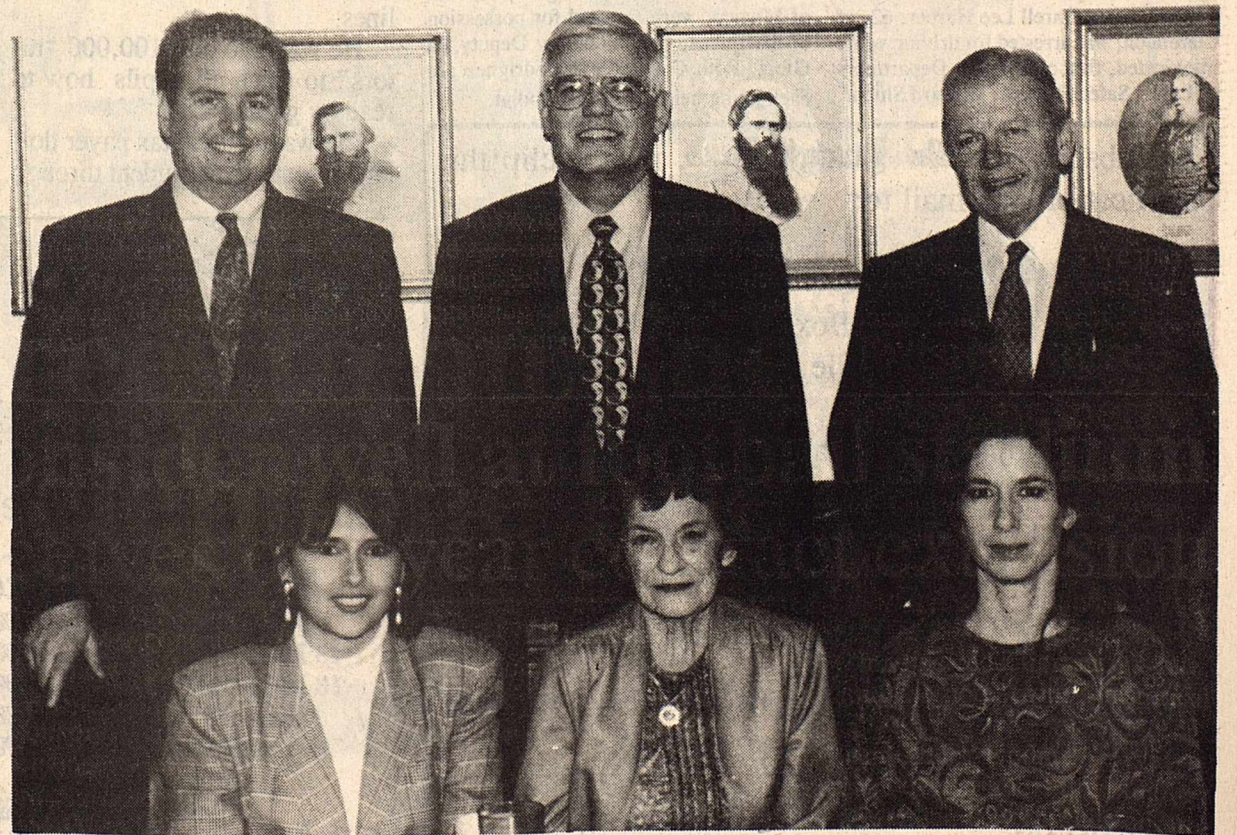
The H.L. Mangrum Scholarship Fund has been established to aid full-time students at Odessa College. Recipients must maintain at least a "C" average and demonstrate financial need. Half of the interest income generated by the endowment will be added to the principal and half will be distributed in scholarships each year.

Odessa College will award approximately 10 of the Mangrum Scholarships beginning this fall, Melton said. This brings the total amount of scholarships that the college awards each year to more than \$150,000.

Mangrum died in December 1995 at age 83. At the time of his death, he lived in Brackettville. Although Mangrum never attended Odessa College, his widow, Marie, took classes there several times over the years.

Mangrum, whose mother died when he was only 4 years old, attended a series of two-room schoolhouses in Oklahoma before being forced to leave school in the fifth grade to help support the family. A brother remembered that he and Havel Mangrum hopped freight trains and worked at odd jobs, sometimes going up to three days without a meal.

■ See MANGRUM/Page 3



BRACKETT NEWS PHOTO BY J.J. GUIDRY

Pictured are, seated, from left: Patricia Walker, Marie Mangrum and Tanya Hughes. Standing: Jeff Melton, Vance Gipson and Haygood Gulley.

INSIDE

■ Joe Townsend

We have again been treated to the blather of chameleon Clinton. Remember when he said, "The day of big government is over?"
Opinion/Page 2

■ Election Day set

City Council and School Board elections have been set for May 3, officials decided at this month's regular meetings.
Community/Page 3

■ Tigerettes win 97-24

Chica Garza broke a school records as the Tigerettes routed the Natalia Lady Mustangs 97-24 in district basketball action.
Sports/Page 5

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Letters To The Editor

Support is greatly appreciated

Never have I experienced such an outpouring of love and camaraderie as I did following the death of my beloved hero and brother, Norman Hooten. The phone calls of support, offerings of food, lodging and friends that traveled many miles were greatly appreciated. During his years as Sheriff, Norman made many friends. It truly made my heart proud to see that Norman's faith in humanity was as he believed.

Norman was one of the last true 'cowboy hearts', the stuff of which legends are made. As cowboys do, he suffered through hard times here and there, enemies and horse thieves being as they are. Although his heart would despair on occasion, he never lost faith in his true friends. Knowing that they stuck by each other through hard times and rejoiced for one another in the good, did his soul good.

Norman valued honor and integrity above all in his measure of a human being. Rich or poor, Norman loved you all with equal admiration and respect. He spoke of you often when he visited us and in our nightly phone conversations. As his sister and the one that kissed him goodnight his last night, I give a heartfelt and sincere thanks to each and everyone of you for loving my brother and being his friend. Thanks for being there through thick and thin and for the generosity and respect you showed prior to his final rest. To all of you in Brackett as well as the dear friends scattered to four corners. You honor my brother's memory.

Kai Hooten-Stringer
Mindy Stringer,
Eddie Stringer,
Jerrilyn Oates,
Austin, Texas.

American Heart Month, "Get in on the action!"

By Henry Bonilla
Congressman, 23rd District

Heart attack, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases remain the number one killer in the United States. On an average day in Texas in 1995, 150 Texans died due to cardiovascular diseases and stroke. Heart disease affected my family this year, and, chances are, it affected many of yours too.

Every year since 1963, February has been designated American Heart Month. This month is the time to learn more about cardiovascular disease detection, prevention and treatment. The American Heart Association has designated this year's educational message as "Get in on the Action!," urging Americans to make physical activity a part of their daily lives.

There are a few simple things we can all do to reduce the risk of heart disease. Exercising regularly is an important step. We all enjoy some form of exercise. So, whether it's horseback riding, jogging, walking or bike riding, help keep your heart healthy and "just do it!" Other easy approaches to control heart disease include eating a diet low in fat and high in fiber, and controlling stress.

One of the myths surrounding heart attack and stroke is that it is a "male disease." Wrong. Heart attack and stroke do not discrimi-

nate. In fact, heart attack, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases remain the number one killer of American females.

Research and education are key to battling and preventing heart disease.

Today, the chances of saving a life and reducing disability from heart disease and stroke are better than ever because of research done in our lifetime. Important discoveries such as life-extending drugs, bypass surgery and pacemakers, have improved the lives of many heart patients. But the fight against heart disease is far from over.

Hopefully, with more heart disease research and better education, fewer Texans will fall victim to the disease this year.

As with any other health problem, please consult a physician immediately if you, or someone you know, shows any sign of a heart problem.

For now, as we remember American Heart Awareness Month this February, get in on the action and increase your physical activity!

For more information or questions concerning prevention or treatment of heart disease, please call the Texas chapter of the American Heart Association (AHA) at 512/433-7220 or the San Antonio division of AHA at 210/614-4121.

Sheriff's Report

Sunday, February 2
5:20 a.m., Gumesindo Zarate Jr., 47, of San Marcos, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, third offense, by Sheriff's Deputy Timmy Santos. Zarate was released the same day after posting \$5,000 bond.

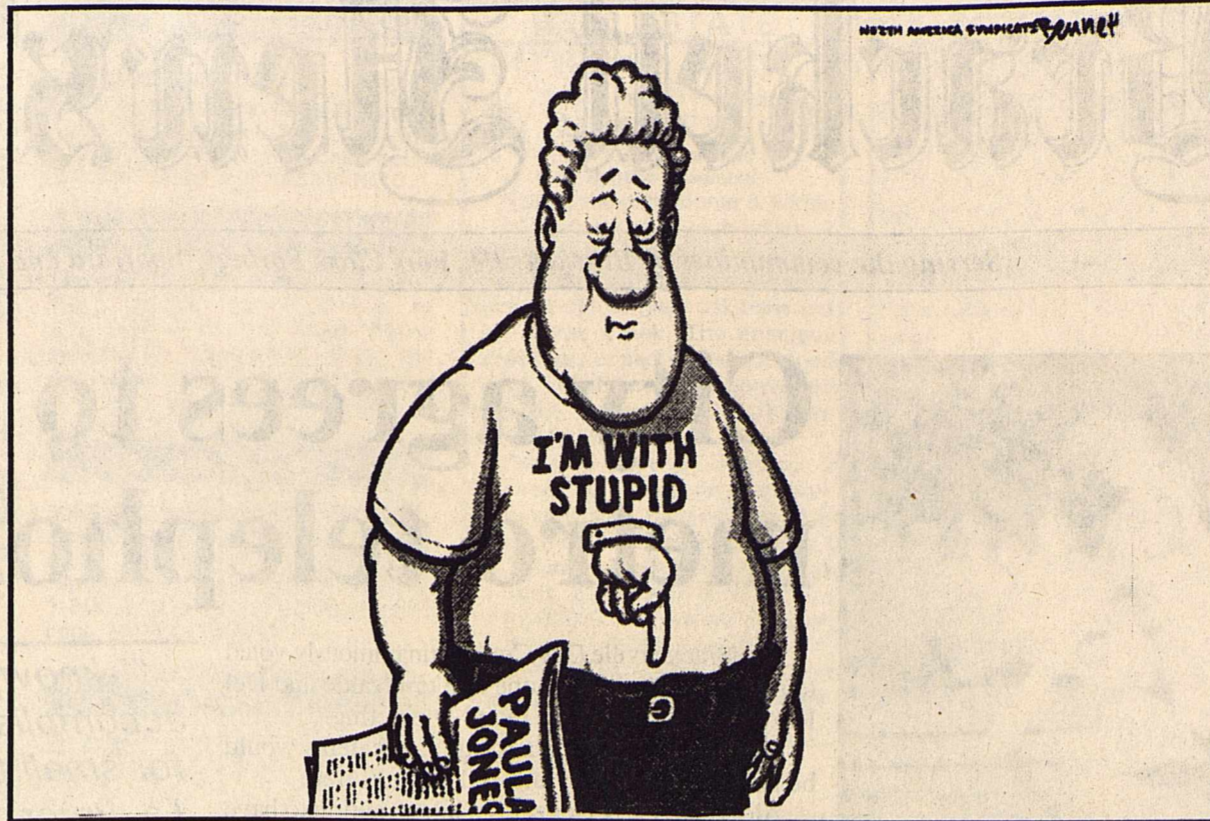
3:20 p.m. Martin Lynn Wiley, 33, of Austin, was arrested for possession of marijuana less than two ounces by Sheriff's Deputy Vito La Gioia. Wiley was released the next day after posting \$500 bond.

Wednesday, February 5
8:22 p.m., Darell Lee Harper, 62, of Clarendon, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, first offense, by Department of Public Safety Trooper Richard Stubar.

Harper was released the next day after posting \$1,000 bond.

Monday, February 10
12:05 a.m., Carlos Hernandez, 31, and Francisco R. Carrillo Jr., 35, both of Rocksprings, were arrested by Department of Public Safety Trooper Billy Spears. Hernandez was charged with driving while intoxicated, first offense, and Carrillo was charged with public intoxication. Both were released later the same day. Hernandez posted \$750 bond and Carrillo paid a \$100 fine.

3:35 p.m., Pablo Ugarpe Costilla, 63, and Salome Espinoza Rodriguez, 20, both of Mexico, were arrested for possession of marijuana, 42 pounds, by Deputy La Gioia. Both Costilla and Rodriguez are each being held on \$25,000 bond.



The week has been filled with good news

This week, I want to discuss some good news items:

Good News Item No. 1

Kandace LaMascus is back to work. We have all prayed and worked with Kandace through her illness.

Kandace's doctor says, "Mrs. LaMascus is one of the most motivated individuals that I have met and her progress following her surgery reflects this." Welcome back!

Good News Item No. 2

The Tigerettes' girls' basketball team has won the district championship. We were undefeated in district play.

The last game was the last jewel in the crown as our girls' team scored 97 points in a victory over Natalia.

Great job! Good luck in the bi-district playoff on Saturday night in Medina Valley against Navarro!

Good News Item No. 3

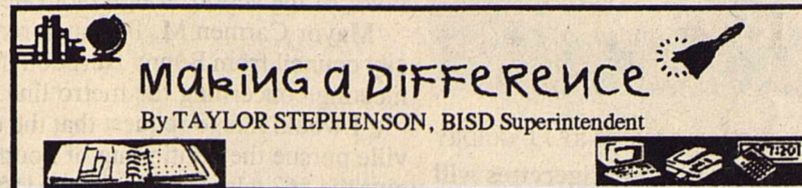
Liteco is in Brackettville installing the new light standards for the softball and baseball fields.

The new bleachers and new lights at this facility make it one of the best in our part of the world. I am so proud of the work and contributions that have been made to this complex.

Come by in a week or so and take a look.

Good News Item No. 4

Jones Elementary School has



been recognized as a Title 1 honored school.

To attain the status of honored campuses, 70 percent or more of the participating Title 1 students had to pass the reading and math sections of the TAAS tests in 1995-96 and in 1994-95.

The list includes 140 school districts, and there are about 1,000 school districts in Texas. We are one of the honored schools in 1996-97.

I'm proud of you, teachers and students.

Good News Item No. 5

Band is back!

This week, our fine bass clarinetist, Alfred Rodriguez, will represent Brackett High School this weekend in the All-State Band in San Antonio.

This is the first time in a long time (and who knows how long) that we have had a student in the All-State Band.

Also, the solo and ensemble contest held in Eagle Pass this last weekend produced four Division I ratings and two Division II ratings.

The band has made an impressive showing at home basketball games this year. Thanks!

Good News Item No. 6

The boys' basketball team has a shot at making the playoffs!

We played a magnificent game this last Friday against Natalia, and then beat Center Point on Tuesday.

The Tigers must win Friday to stay alive. They host the Comfort Bobcats at 6:30.

The team has a lot of talent. They are playing hard to stay in there and represent us as champions. It will take a lot of effort and luck.

Good News Item No. 7

Students in the eighth grade are focusing hard on the TAAS writing.

Mrs. Bader and Mrs. Frerich are working hard with their students to get them ready.

The same thing is happening at fourth grade with Hobbs, Hooker and Broussard.

At the exit level, Mrs. Curry and students are getting ready.

The writing test will be held Feb. 25.

That's about it. Hope you have a minute to sit back and think about the good things that have happened to you this last week. Have a good one!

"The day of big government is over?"

Between Us

By Joe Townsend



We have again been treated to the blather of chameleon Clinton.

Remember when he said, "The day of big government is over?"

Now he wants the federal government to take over the public schools and to establish standardized test across the nations to force every student to pass tests designed by bureaucrats.

He wants to establish evaluations of all teachers to weed out all who don't meet federal guidelines.

He wants to hire 100,000 "tutors" to teach all pupils how to read by grade three.

He wants to use tax payer dollars to send every student through

two years of college. There's a stinger here however.

The grade standard he set will eliminate most of the ones he proclaims to help.

How many times have you heard Clinton talk about "My budget which is a balanced budget?"

In honesty his budget will increase the deficit.

His cuts he talks about won't occur until after he leaves office.

His plea for bipartisanship means, "You all come and join me and support me- then we'll have bipartisanship."

At the National Democratic convention he apologized for the welfare reform bill he had signed and promised to "fix" it. His bud-

get calls for more welfare dollars than the welfare program he "reformed."

He proved his radical liberal character by saying he opposed a constitutional amendment demanding a balanced budget. Many states have this statute but Clinton doesn't want it so the liberal spend and tax phobia can continue.

Most of the American people have to swallow his bilge because a minority voted for his palaver.

However, this too shall pass.

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WORKFORCE BOARD SEEKS INPUT LOCAL BOARD SOLICITING OPINIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL PLAN.

Citizens interested in providing input for the regional workforce plan of the Middle Rio Grande Workforce Development Board are urged to attend a public meeting at the Uvalde Civic Center, Reading Room, 300 E. Main on Wednesday, February 19, 1997, at 6:30 p.m.

"The meeting will provide the public with an opportunity to tell us what the needs of the community are, with respect to employment, training, employer services, and other things related to a healthy regional economy," noted Leodoro Martinez, Executive Director of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council. "It will define the master plan by which job training and community services are provided in the Middle Rio Grande Region," he noted.

The Workforce Development Board was authorized in 1993 and 1995 by the state legislature, and was established in August 1996 by the region's chief elected officials. The action by the legislature passed the responsibility of the organization and delivery of a variety of state workforce services to local officials and the workforce board.

"The effect of the mandate has given the local workforce board the responsibility of planning activities ranging from employment to vocational training, and as such, it is essential that we understand the perspective of the community," said Martinez.

Persons unable to attend the meeting have the option of submitting their views to the following local Workforce Development Board members and elected officials.

**Kinney County Workforce Development Board,
Judge Tommy Seargeant 563-2401.
Chief Elected Officials: Judge Tommy Seargeant, Mayor Carmen Berlanga, 563-2412.**



Capitol
Comment

U.S. Sen.
Kay Bailey
Hutchison

Clearing the air

Late last year the Environmental Protection Agency unveiled a set of proposed new air-quality standards which, predictably, have re-ignited the entire debate over how best to ensure that the air we breathe is clear, clean and healthy.

The new regulations, aimed at ridding the air of harmful ozone and microscopic particles smaller than dust, would impose significant new regulatory requirements on hundreds of communities nationwide. These include five areas in Texas which are in compliance with current law: Tyler-Longview-Marshall, Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Victoria; as well as Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Beaumont-Port Arthur and El Paso, which still are attempting to meet current requirements.

This could result in yet stricter mandates that would have an impact on many areas of our lives: the utilities that generate the energy we consume, the factories, where we work, the dry cleaners who clean our clothes, as well as our automobiles, motorboats, leafblowers, lawnmowers and barbecues.

Yes, folks, the worst case scenario: In order to achieve a standard which has yet to be proven to have a scientific basis, the time honored tradition of Texas barbecue is threatened with federal regulation.

Moreover, communities found to be in noncompliance with the new regulations may face penalties including the loss of federal highway funding and the imposition of federally mandated compliance measures. The stakes in this debate are high, indeed.

Congress is trying to determine if the new rules can move us toward a sensible environmental policy that preserves all the gains we've made over the past two decades, without going to excess, and without imposing a costly, unbearable burden on our communities.

Complicating the problem of regulating particulates in the air generated by such activities as barbecues is the fact that there is no credible science to guide the EPA as to what size particles are the principle cause of health problems.

The EPA's own scientific advisory committee has concluded that the same public health benefits could be achieved under an alternative standard which would not throw so many cities into a state of financial havoc. Some believe the EPA's decision to impose the specific new standards it chose was based on policy and political considerations rather than sound science. It would be wiser, in my view, to encourage the EPA to adopt standards that are reasonable and achievable.

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County discusses drought and rain enhancement plan

The Kinney County Commissioners Court discussed a drought and rain enhancement plan at their monthly meeting Monday morning.

County Judge Tommy Seargeant and County Commissioners Joe Montalvo, Joe "Boy" Williams and Paul O'Rourke were present at the regular meeting. Precinct 1 Commissioner Freddie Frerich was absent.

The commissioners approved an agreement with MSB, concerning EMS billing. O'Rourke, Montalvo and Seargeant were in favor of the agreement, while Williams opposed.

The court deferred action on review of the task force, comp time and leave status of all departments, EMS Indigent Health Care Program, historic site tax exemptions for 1997, the purchase of a lawn mower and necessary equipment and tools, and repairs to the Civic Center.

The commissioners approved the minutes of the Jan. 13 meeting, and agreed to pay bills.

Cliff Fritter gave the road and bridge report, Michelle Rosas gave the EMS report, L.K. "Buddy" Burgess gave the sheriff's report, and Sara Terrazas gave the library report.

City, school elections set for May 3

City Council and School Board elections have been set for May 3.

Two aldermen will be elected to two-year terms at the city elections, when Ralph Gonzalez's and Felix Gonzales' terms will expire.

The polling place for the election will be City Hall, located at 119 West Spring Street. The poll will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted on weekdays at City Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., beginning April 14 and ending April 29.

City Manager David G. Luna has been appointed as the early voting clerk. Debra Bland, Ana Belia Talamantes and Ginger Dodson have been named deputy clerks.

On March 11, the city council will appoint the presiding judge, who will appoint an alternate presiding judge and two clerks.

The presiding judge will be paid \$6 an hour, plus an additional \$10 for the delivery of all required paper work to Martha Hooten at the voters' registrar office.

The alternate presiding judge and the two clerks will be paid \$5 an hour, and hours must not exceed the maximum hours required by law. The city will also buy the judges' and clerks' lunch.

The first day that candidates are permitted to file their application for a place on the ballot is Feb. 17. The last day is March 19, at 5 p.m.

The drawing for place on the ballot to determine the order in which the names are to be printed will be on March 24 at 1 p.m. at City Hall.

Also on May 3, two positions will be elected to three-year terms on the Brackett Independent School Board of Trustees, as Rose Mary Slubar's and Tim Ward's terms have expired.

Interested candidates may pick up applications at the school district's central office, located at 400 Ann Street.

The first day to file for a place on the ballot is Feb. 17. The last day is March 19, at 5 p.m. Early voting will be April 14-29.

Mangrum establishes scholarship fund at OC

Continued from Page 1

In the late 1930s, Mangrum began working in the oil fields in Hobbs, N.M. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, he returned to the Permian Basin and operated cafes in the boomtowns of Seminole and Snyder. He then moved to Odessa, where he purchased a small motel, which he sold and then bought a larger one. During this time, he began investing in real estate.

According to family members, Mangrum sold all his holdings in the 1980s, earning a

large profit and investing the proceeds in certificates of deposit when interest rates were at record highs.

In 1986, Mangrum moved from Odessa to Fort Clark Springs, where he purchased a comfortable, but modest home, golf clubs and golf cart for his retirement.

The deadline to apply for the Mangrum Scholarship and other Odessa College scholarships is April 15.

For more information, students should contact Odessa College student financial services at (915) 335-6429.

City Council approves engineer for community development project

The Brackettville City Council agreed to contract with Hunter Associates Texas of Austin Tuesday for engineering services for the Texas Community Development Project for a hydro-pneumatic booster station.

"This is the same company that did our water improvements," Mayor Carmen M. Berlanga said.

The council first considered the ranking and recommendation of engineering proposals as scored by the Middle Rio Grande Development Council.

The recommendation included these businesses in the following order: Hunter Associates Texas, Garcia & Wright Consulting Engineers, The Hogan Corporation, Amistad Consulting Services, and E.S. Moran Consulting Engineers.

Also on Tuesday, the council agreed to sell Lots 1 and 2, Brackett Addition, Block R, to

Buster Jamail for \$1,231.89.

The council approved a contract with West Texas Gas, which provides gas to the city, and granted a tax exemption on the Las Moras Masonic Lodge Building.

Berlanga signed a proclamation declaring February as Fair Housing Month in Brackettville, urging all citizens to become aware of and support the Fair Housing law.

Title III of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States.

Faustino "Lingo" Sandoval presented the fire marshal's report, Carol Sandoval gave the monthly activity report, and David G. Luna presented the city manager's update.

Band students fare well at solo and ensemble contest

EAGLE PASS - The Brackett Tiger Band brought home four Division I ratings and two Division II ratings from solo and ensemble contest Saturday.

"I am very pleased with the results at the Eagle Pass contest," said Michael Smellie, Brackett's band director.

Earning Division I ratings were Alex Arreola, clarinet; Samantha Payne, clarinet; Jania Finkensbinder, trombone; and James

Burks, tuba. All played Class III solos.

Alfred Rodriguez and Jerritt Meeks both earned Division II ratings. Rodriguez played a Class I bass clarinet solo and Meeks played a Class III saxophone solo.

"I'm very proud of the students that participated," Smellie said. "They gave it their best effort and worked really hard."

"It's very hard to play in a solo situation. Nervousness takes an effect because students are play-

ing in front of a judge that they have never met before.

"A student tends to forget everything that they have learned about their solo."

"Also, judges can be lenient one day and over critical on another day," he added.

Junior high band students are currently preparing for all-region tryouts in March, and the band is working on material for concert contest in April.

Bonilla reacts to State of the Union Speech

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-Texas, reacted tonight with cautious optimism to President Clinton's State of the Union address.

"As expected, the President delivered a good speech tonight," Bonilla said. "I just hope that his words were not just for the benefit of the cameras. Let's give the President the benefit of the doubt and hope that he will act on his promises."

"Last year, he called for the end of the era of big

government, but he didn't put his money where his mouth is," he said. "Congress has acted on its promises and made the tough choices to ensure a smaller, more common-sense government. The President has talked for years about balancing the budget. Yet tonight he talked out of both sides of his mouth. On the one hand, he said he was in favor of balancing the budget, but on the other, he planned to oppose the balanced budget amendment."

The Brackett News

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Kolkebeck speaks out about family violence

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

The Brackettville Rotary Club heard Didi Kolkebeck, executive director of the Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center, speak last Thursday.

Kolkebeck has a master's degree in psychology. Her husband is stationed at the Laughlin Air Force Base.

The Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center is located in Del Rio, but serves three counties: Val Verde, Kinney and Edwards.

Almost 100 percent of the abused persons are women. The center is a haven for women and children who have been affected by emotional, sexual and physical abuse.

Although we tend to think of abuse in physical terms, psychological abuse can be just as damaging, although not as apparent.

Verbal put-downs can be cruelly destructive, robbing women of their self esteem, and can be the forerunner of physical abuse. The perpetrators can be husbands or boyfriends.

Warnings of danger usually

refer to danger outside the home, but women are nine times more likely to be abused in their own homes.

Sixty percent of women killed are killed by their own husbands or boyfriends.

Eighty percent of women murdered are killed while trying to escape a violent relationship.

One third of the women seen in emergency rooms are there because of domestic violence.

In Del Rio, four women have been murdered in the last two years.

In the Brackettville area, two cases of abuse are reported per month.

These figures are misleading, however, because much domestic violence is unreported.

The need to resort to violence emanates from a warped need for power and control. Abused women are generally isolated by the abuser. They are allowed no friends and are given no money.

These factors create a growing sense of helplessness and low self esteem. These women are vulnerable because they often have little education and no skills to market.

Abused women can't imagine being able to escape from the overwhelming control they have experienced. They think they will be found and punished. No place is safe, and they have no means of support.

Women stay in abusive relationships because of fear. They have frequently been threatened with death if they leave. Sometimes these threats extend to their children who may be killed, injured or kidnapped if the woman attempts to leave.

Even if the children are not physically abused, they suffer from being exposed to the violence in the home.

The Amistad Center offers help in many ways to these victims.

They offer a place to stay. In

fact, they offer transportation to this safe haven if it is needed.

They may serve as liaison between victims and perpetrators.

They may provide an attorney to tell the victims of their rights and will accompany them if they must go to court.

Assistance will be provided in getting in touch with Children's Protective Service and in getting a restraint order if this is necessary.

Individual and group counseling are available for adults. Children are able to deal with their feelings with an art therapist in groups.

Therapy is also available for the perpetrators if they will accept it. They can learn more acceptable ways of expressing their anger.

The problem of family violence and rape is serious. During this year and the last part of 1996, the center helped in over 320 cases of domestic violence and 39 cases of sexual assault.

Anyone involved in an abusive relationship can call the center. Her needs will be assessed to see how best she can be helped. The center is not there to break up relationships or a family.

Funding from four different grants has been attained for the center, and it will soon be moving into a new building especially designed for their needs.

A crisis hot line is available now, but an 800 crisis number will be added for individuals living outside of Del Rio when the center moves into the new building.

Certain restrictions exist on the use of funding money, and furniture was not included. Several local organizations have sponsored rooms, but more help is needed.

Any person or organization that donates will be acknowledged with a plaque with their name on it. Donors will also be thanked in the Brackettville and Del Rio newspapers.

If you would like to donate to this very worthwhile service, please contact the center. The business/fax number is (210) 775-9612. The crisis hot line number is (210) 774-2744.



BRACKETT NEWS PHOTO BY ERIC McMASTER

Didi Kolkebeck, left, executive director of the Amistad Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center, is welcomed to the Rotary Club meeting by Sharon Tinsley, program chairman.

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Births

Schwandner

Lisa and Henry Schwandner proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Laura Haedyn. Laura was born December 20th, 1996. She weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 20 3/4 in. long.

Her maternal grandparents are David and Louise Drennan of Ft. Sumner, N.M.

Paternal grandparents are Carl and Courtney Schwandner of Silver City, N.M., and Wanda Schwandner of Satana, Kan.

Great grandparents are Ruby Drennan and Lily Schwandner.

Dad is so happy, he is grinning all over.



SCHWANDNER

Weddings



Stephen Boutwell and Dedra Hale

Johnnie and Connie Fritter and Tellis and Joan Boutwell announce the approaching marriage of their children, Dedra Kathleen Hale and Stephen Sean Boutwell.

Dedra and Stephen are both graduates of Brackettville High

School. The couple plans to live in Raleigh, North Carolina after the marriage.

The wedding will take place at the Golf Club on Fort Clark Springs, Saturday, February 15, at 4 p.m. A reception will follow.

But, I could be wrong!

By: Chuck Hall



The other day I was working on a project in my back yard when I heard a small voice, "Mr. Hall."

Looking around, at first I saw no one. Then, the second time I heard my name, I noticed three young men standing near my fence line.

As I walked over, one of them asked, "Could you please get our ball for us? We accidentally hit it over into your yard."

I was immediately impressed with the manners and honesty being displayed.

As I tossed the boys their play thing, again one of them spoke. "We're sorry to bother you Mr.

Hall. We'll try not to let it happen again."

I told him it was OK, that I had been a boy once myself.

I hope that at least once, some of the politeness that my mother worked so hard to instill in me came through.

I hope my courtesy was as uplifting to others as this lad's had been to me.

Young man, even at your tender age, no, especially at your tender age, you left a clear mark on my life.

As we all returned to our tasks at hand, I heard one remark to his friends, "See, Mr. Hall really is a nice guy."

But, he could be wrong.

Smoke From Nakai

By Nakai Breen



So the young man traded for the shiny disk. Instead of telling his wife that he didn't bring food and he had traded her pelts, he said instead, "We will never suffer hunger again." "I just received the most precious gift." "The Trapper told me not to open this box until I was all by myself."

The young man went behind the tipi and opened the box.

Lo and behold it shocked him because he had already caught a spirit, a young and handsome one. So early in the morning he got up and went in back of the tipi where he had buried the disk. He asked the spirit to bring him an elk.

There were a few stragglers left behind and sure enough an elk wandered around and the young man shot him. Now they had elk meat.

The next day he asked for geese. Sure enough there were some still swimming on the river. He shot them also.

The next day he returned to the back of the tipi and asked for some bear meat. Sure enough, a Sow was looking for a den and he shot her. They now had all the meat they could eat.

The young wife started to wonder what her husband was doing every morning when he went be-

hind the tipi.

She went looking behind the tipi. She stumbled on a box. She opened the box and saw a beautiful young girl. She went to see her grandmother an told her that her husband didn't love her anymore. The grandmother asked, "How do you know this?"

The young wife said, "Because I saw her, she is very pretty. He even keeps her in a box."

Both women went to see the pretty girl. The young wife was the first to see the spirit and she said, "See how pretty she is." The grandmother said, "Let me see her". So she looked into the disk and she said, "But she is not pretty, she is old and ugly."

The two of them kept saying, she is pretty, no, she is old and ugly over and over again.

In the mean time the young husband came and surprised them. They started to argue and the husband said, "You have ruined my man spirit and now we have a woman spirit." But then they really looked at each other. Their faces were the same faces in the disk.

That's when the mirror came to the Indian and brought vanity and jealousy among them.

Aho, Nakai

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Tigers battle Bobcats Friday with playoff hopes on the line

The Brackett Tigers will try to keep their playoff hopes alive tomorrow night as they host the Comfort Bobcats at 6:30.

Comfort (18-11) is 8-1 in conference play and has already secured the district title.

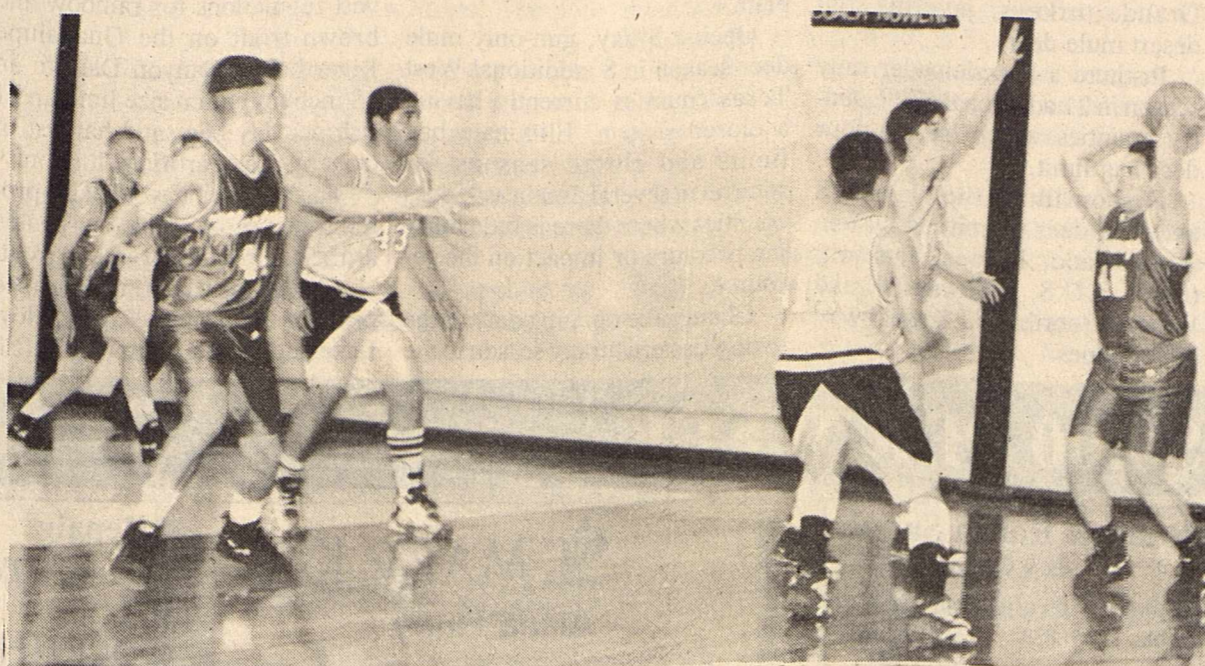
Brackett and Dilley are both 19-9 on the season and 6-3 in league action. If the both teams win tomorrow night, they will have a playoff Monday night in Uvalde to determine who advances to the playoffs.

But, to get in that situation, the Tigers will have to beat a tough Bobcat team.

"Comfort is really good," Tigers coach Gary Grubbs said. They have one of the best players in the district in Jimmy Bruns. I think if we do a good job of rebounding insider and push the ball down the court, we have a great chance to win."

Bruns is the second leading scorer in the South Texas area, averaging 27.6 points a game.

Ramon De Leon has started three games at point guard for Brackett, and is averaging over 10 assists a game since switching positions. He also leads the area in steals with 6.2 a game.



Brackett's Luis Guajardo (11) and Beau Smallwood trap a Natalia player as Moses Hernandez (43) looks on. The Tigers host Comfort tomorrow night at 6:30 in a District 30-2A contest.

"I think moving Ramon to the point has been the turning point in our season at this point," Grubbs said. "His leadership has been real important to us."

The Tigers are coming off of a 68-48 victory over the Center Point Pirates Tuesday night. Moses Hernandez paced the

Tigers with 25 points Tuesday, and Beau Smallwood had 14 points.

De Leon and Luis Guajardo both had eight points against Center Point, Rene Luna scored six, Matthew Smallwood hit a three-pointer, and Demitrous Williams and Josh Crumley both

added two. Last Friday, Hernandez had 21 points and 11 rebounds as Brackett topped Natalia, 84-45.

Guajardo had 19 points and 12 rebounds, Beau Smallwood had 12 points and 10 boards, and Matthew Smallwood had 14 points.

Basketball is going great

By Roy Rokovich
Contributing Writer

The end of the basketball season is approaching, and our athletes at Brackett High School have made a lot of progress. We're nearing the playoffs, and I'm excited.

I want to congratulate the Tigerettes' basketball team, Coach Gregg Nowlin and Coach Julie Bruce for winning the district championship.

I feel that Gregg has done an outstanding job with the girls' basketball program.

The team has improved from the beginning of the year to now. They have showed a lot of heart, character and determination.

They have represented our school with great pride, and I am very proud of them.

The Tigerettes will open the playoffs Saturday as they face Navarro in a 7:00 bi-district contest at Medina Valley High School in Castroville.

There will be a fan bus going to the game for interested parents and students. It costs \$1 to ride the bus.

To sign up to ride the bus, go by the high school principal's office before noon on Friday.

The first 50 people to sign up will be able to go. There has to be at least 30 people signed up in order to justify taking the bus.

Elementary school children must be accompanied by a parent in order to ride the bus.

The bus will stop for a meal after the game, so be sure and bring money to get into the game and to buy supper.

I would like to invite everyone in Kinney County to go to Castroville Saturday and support the Tigerettes.

I am equally proud of our boys' basketball team, Coach Gary Grubbs and Coach Art Finkenbinder for the outstanding job they have done this season.

I would also like to congratulate the Tigers on their win against Center Point on Tuesday.

The Tigers have a showdown Friday against Comfort. A win over Comfort will force a playoff game with Dilley to determine second place and a playoff berth.

The Tigers are one win away from a 20-win season, and that is outstanding.

Again, I would like to invite everyone to Friday's game at "The Jungle" to support our boys.

Great job, Tigers and Tigerettes. Great season! Go all the way to state!

Editor's note: Roy Rokovich is Brackett's athletic director.

Tigerettes rout Lady Mustangs in 97-24 win

Chica Garza broke a school records and Brackett had four players score in double figures Friday night as the Tigerettes routed the Natalia Lady Mustangs 97-24 in District 30-2A basketball action.

With the win, the Tigerettes finished their district slate with a perfect 10-0 league mark. Brackett is 20-11 on the year.

Friday was the Tigerettes' highest scoring game of the season, and their highest since defeating Natalia 106-12 in 1993.

Garza finished the contest with a career-high 15 assists, breaking the school record for most assists in one season. She has 183 assists, top-

ping Jennifer Terrazas' record of 182 set in 1995. Lindy La Mascus paced Brackett with a career-high 22 points. She also had 12 steals.

Amanda Meek scored 16 points, Courtney Harrison had 12 points, and Sandra Hernandez finished with 10 points.

Friday was Hernandez' first game since Dec. 28, when she suffered a leg injury against Jourdanton in the Devine Holiday Tournament.

Reccia Jobe scored nine points, Garza had eight, Katy Hagler and Tina Meek both scored six, Patty Lopez had three, La Toya Wright and Hilda Aguirre both had two, and Stephanie Terrazas added one.

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Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announces proposed regulations changes

By Henry Lutz
Kinney County Game Warden

AUSTIN - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced proposals designed to provide additional specialized hunting and fishing opportunities during the 1997-98 season, including an extension of the muzzleloader deer season in Central Texas and a quality trout fishery on the Guadalupe River.

The Regulatory Committee gave its consent to wildlife officials here Wed., Jan. 22, to carry a proposal package out for public comment.

Final approval of the regulations proclamation will be made by the Commission at its April 17 public meeting.

As a result of last year's regulations sunset initiative, when TPWD overhauled its entire regulations code, this year's package contains fewer proposed modifications to Texas hunting and fishing seasons, bags, means and methods than in recent years.

A "swing tag" for whitetail deer in 11 East Texas counties.

This proposal would create an option for a second buck in lieu of one doe in the following one buck/two doe counties: Angelina,

Jasper, Newton, Tyler, Polk, Hardin, Orange, Jefferson, Chambers, Liberty, and Montgomery.

Allow the use of crossbows during all general fall seasons, including: whitetail deer, Rio Grande turkeys, javelina and desert mule deer.

Institute a muzzleloader only season in 21 additional Hill Country counties which have a four deer bag limit.

Discontinue the LAMPS antlerless deer permitting system in Colorado, Lavaca, Jackson, (north of U.S. Highway 59) and Wharton (north of U.S. Highway 59) counties.

Incorporate mule deer into the Managed Lands Deer permit system to allow landowners in mule deer habitat to have a harvest quota established and permits issued under a wildlife management plan.

Open a 5 day, gun-only mule deer season in 8 additional West Texas counties currently having a closed season. Eliminate bag limits and closed seasons for squirrel in several Southeast Texas counties where there is little hunting pressure or impact on the resource.

Change the opening date of the spring Eastern turkey season to the

Mon. nearest April 14 for 14 consecutive days, and institute a spring season in Angelina, Delta, Gregg, Hopkins, Lamar, Sabine and San Augustine counties.

A proposal to change the harvest regulations for rainbow and brown trout on the Guadalupe River below Canyon Dam to an 18 inch minimum size limit and 1 fish per day bag, and harvest of trout by use of artificial lure only.

This regulation would also prohibit the use of scents or scented artificial lures for harvesting trout.

Change the bag limit for striped bass on the Trinity River below Lake Livingston Dam to a 2 fish

daily bag, and blue catfish to a 10 fish daily bag, with only two catfish over 24 inches long.

Create an 18-inch minimum size limit for large mouth bass on the newly impounded 800-acre Lake Gilmer in Upshur County and on the 825-acre Lake Bryan in Brazos County. Create a 14-21 inch slot limit for largemouth bass on Lake Athens and create an 18-inch minimum size limit for spotted and smallmouth bass on Lake Alan Henry. Standardize various size and bag limits on border lakes Texoma and Toledo Bend to regulations agreed upon with Louisiana and Oklahoma.

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Super Crossword

ACROSS	cake	ones	4 Rank or reputation	40 Malay garment	fluent
1 Ending for comedian Bill	51 Nickname for Bill	97 Numbered	5 Window frames	41 Queen of Carthage	84 "Let's Make a ..."
5 Word repeated in Doris Day song title	52 "Trinity" author	99 Cotton packer	6 White-tailed birds	42 Habitat plant form	86 Asks earnestly
9 Canadian prov.	54 More thirsty	100 British prison	7 Electric catfish	43 Nitwit	88 Bedouin
13 Beaver structures	55 Pub missile	101 Tax preparer	8 Moslem sacred book	44 Gaze intently	90 Pedestrian
17 Spartan serf	56 Father of Charlie and Emilio	104 Quantity of paper	9 Raided the ice box	45 Lacking energy	92 Leak out slowly
18 Inland sea of Asia	59 Jane Austen heroine	106 Top of an apron	10 Short, narrative poems	47 Place for savings?	94 Guest at a strange t-a party
19 Old salts	61 Fairy tale monster	107 Barren woman	48 Architect Saarinan	49 Controversial Scott	95 Formal discussions
20 Actress Massey	62 — man out	108 Fr. holy boisterous fun	51 Member of a Girl Scout division	96 Clear and sunny	98 Highly seasoned game dishes
22 Nebraska's largest city	63 Ransomed	114 Envious position	53 More chic	100 Complained	101 Country south of Libya
23 Two, at dice	65 Baal, for one	117 It means "love"	56 Early Persians	102 Propels the gondola	103 Bakery byproduct
25 Put in symbolic writing	67 June star?	118 Long-running Agatha Christie play	57 Mosque prayer leader	105 Native of New Zealand	107 Degrade
26 Make a show of elegance	69 Word before City or transit	120 Mural or muscular lead-in	58 Neighbor of Tibet	108 U.S. naturalist Ernest Thompson	109 Mountain lakes
28 Noxious plant	71 Long-limbed and slender	121 Resign an office	60 Size of type	110 Anagram for seat	112 The Bounty, for one
30 Before	72 Low walls or railings	122 Babylonian war god	63 Catskills sleeper	113 Mongolian tent	115 Speed or sand follower
31 Income source for clubs	75 She was naughtily, musically	124 Broadway signs	64 Urgent	116 Small dagger	119 Engineering org.
32 Dell loaf	77 Hoskins or Dylan	125 Weakens gradually	66 Literary collection		
34 Captain Hook's aide	81 Party line?	126 Location	68 Deep malice		
35 Mme., in Madrid	83 Fictional Simon	127 Hastened	70 Rover, at times		
36 Goose or snake sound	84 Borge or Hamlet	128 Ancient Roman clan	72 Historian's time frame		
37 Slip of the tongue	85 Bad shot from the tee	DOWN	73 Auk genus		
39 Dumbo's wings	87 Logan or Fitzgerald	1 Monkey's cousin	74 Box or bush lead-in		
41 Expose false claims	89 Pike-like fish	2 Gladden	76 Special times		
44 Kind of duck	90 British pennies	3 London district	78 Story starter		
46 Harvested	91 Partners of molluscs		79 Quilting groups		
50 Top of the	93 Harangues		82 Smoothly and		
	96 Eccentric				

MagicMaze


GREEK GODS & GODDESSES

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

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

Apollo	Demeter	Heros	Hestia
Ares	Dionysus	Hephaestus	Pluto
Bacchus	Eros	Hera	Poseidon
Cronus	Hades	Hermes	

Natasha's Stars



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your social circle happily opens up to include more fascinating people this week. In fact, a new acquaintance is radically different from anyone you've met to date! Over the weekend, guard against a tendency to daydream which will take you away from necessary tasks.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Be careful with extravagant spending this week. Also, avoid those who could take advantage of you in financial ventures. New beginnings, at work and at home, are heavily favored during this period. The weekend looks good for a short getaway.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You are interested in a new hobby or intellectual pursuit. Work of a creative nature is inspired. Open yourself up to what a family member has to say and try to be supportive. You gain much in understanding by doing so.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Career matters take a decided turn for the better this week. Your suspicions about a friend's manipulations are correct. Perhaps you should rethink whether this relationship is good for you in the long run.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A superior is in an obviously foul mood and should be avoided this week. If out shopping, you find something valuable in a surprising outlet. Your finances are also looking up and take a turn for the better.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Avoid being overly judgmental with a certain co-worker who needs your understanding rather than your criticism in order to straighten out. Couples make spur-of-the-moment social plans for the weekend.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You could find yourself doing some unplanned shopping for a home appliance that needs to be replaced. It's just outlived its usefulness! Avoid letting things slide on

the job. An overbearing type isn't likely to listen to reason.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some are planning to travel to a place never before seen. A mentor enters your life with valuable insights for your future. Your significant other doesn't understand your concerns about work this week.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're champing at the bit to try new things. Your thinking is inspired by originality. Socially, you think a friend is being unreasonable and unyielding and you could be correct about this.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A loved one is boring you with talk about past events that can't be altered. A business opportunity comes your way unexpectedly in the middle of the week. This weekend, domestic interests are accentuated.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You make positive strides in business and financial dealings this week. However, you still encounter some obstacles completing an existing assignments. You succeed, though, by being persistent.

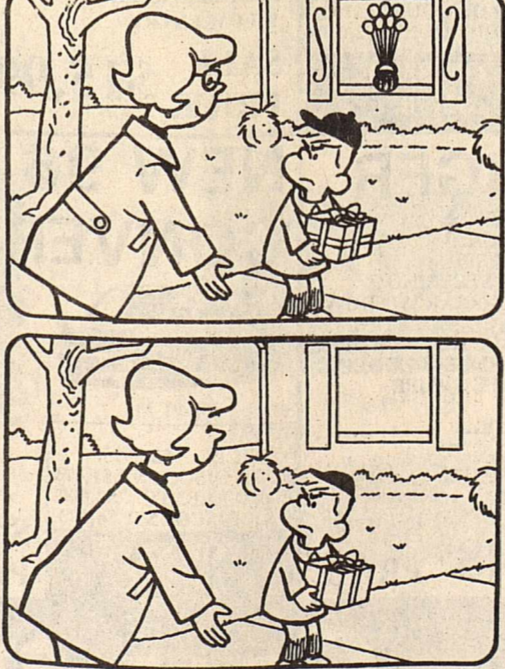
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Some make a sudden decision regarding a romantic relationship this week. Travel is on the agenda for others. Over the weekend, feel free to socialize, but avoid going overboard.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb 14	Hector Luna	Feb 16	Shirley Holloway
Feb 14	Dora Goodloe	Feb 16	Dedra Hale
Feb 14	Shirley Stephenson	Feb 17	Basilio Pacheco
Feb 14	Frances Testman	Feb 17	Ernesto Ortiz
Feb 14	Kathy Berset	Feb 17	Renee M. Pena
Feb 14	Cerilla Daniels	Feb 17	Carol Dimery
Feb 14	Dolores Jones	Feb 17	Elton Goodloe
Feb 14	Tina Smith	Feb 18	Irene Braun
Feb 15	J.B. Herndon	Feb 18	Annie Barrow
Feb 15	Virginia Shahan	Feb 19	Michelle Keith
Feb 16	Dorothy Wood	Feb 19	Reggie Pena
Feb 16	Roxie Brown	Feb 19	Sophia Gomez

HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least 6 differences between panels.

Differences: 1. Bell is missing; 2. Glasses are missing; 3. Cup is smothered; 4. Box is different; 5. Scuffs are missing; 6. Bedcovers are missing.

In general, the U.S. Navy names aircraft carriers after public officials, battleships after states, destroyers after sailors and attack submarines for cities.



First Baptist Church
 Rev. Gil Ash, Pastor
 "The Pastor's Pen"

This past Saturday I was called upon to officiate the funeral service for a friend whose father had died. I was the only preacher that any of the family knew. I had known the deceased since I was about five years old and had also worked in their family grocery store for a number of years. That explains in part why they called from Oklahoma City for me.

My friend, Terry, gave me the following instruction and reminder: "Dad was a good man but he was not a religious man and didn't give much thought to spiritual matters. For that reason I want you to know that I am not asking you to compromise your principles. In other words, I am not expecting you to say anything about Dad that you are not comfortable with. You just say what you feel you need to say to us."

I really appreciated his spirit and attitude. It wasn't because he let me off the hook, but rather that he wanted to hear the truth and was willing to accept it. What he said without saying it is, "I want to believe that Dad went to heaven

but he probably didn't. Tell us what we need to know so that we can." Terry knew that my words would not change the destination of his father, but perhaps as people heard the truth they perhaps could have the direction of their lives changed. Everyone readily accepts the fact that God is in heaven. Everyone wants to go there and wants to believe that their friends and loved ones have gone there when they died. But, now, here is the truth. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the father but by me (Jn. 14:6)."

To go to heaven, Jesus is the way. It is believing in him, trusting in him, and receiving his forgiveness following repentance of sin that makes heaven attainable. Another notable thing is that when a person repents of sin, their life takes a new direction which will always align them with the people of God, who, in the New Testament, are also referred to as the "church". Well, I hope you will be seen in Heaven! Will you also be seen in "church"?



St. John's Baptist Church
 Pastor Wm. P. Adams, Sr.
 210-563-2582

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatever I command you.

Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his Lord doeth: but I have called you friend; for all

things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatever ye shall ask of the Father in (Jesus) my name, he may give it you.

These things I command you, that ye love one another. St. John 15:11-17.

Praise the Lord.
 Come feast with us the table is set in the Lord.

Gateway Ministries
 Pastor Charolette Corey

Good grief !!! Is there such a thing? Yes, when it leads to salvation and deliverance. If it is the wrong kind of grief, the kind that is from the devil, it leads to breeding death in your soul (mind, will, and emotions) and ends in death for your body. For godly grief and the pain God is permitted to direct, produce a repentance that leads and contributes to salvation and deliverance from evil, and it never brings regret; but worldly grief (hopeless sorrow that is characteristic of the pagan world) is deadly, breeding and ending in death." (Amplified Bible, 2 Cor. 7:10).

God allows His godly grief to minister to you, only to let your soul know to reach out to Him for forgiveness and peace so that He can bless you, not condemn you! He wants to heal your hurts. If you continue to hang onto them, He can do nothing about them.

When evil grief comes knocking at the door of your mind, renounce it, tell it it's not your mail, take it to your landlord, Jesus.

Don't put yourself above the

will of God. He is sovereign. He is the judge. Even when it comes to judging yourself. You are not in charge, even of punishing yourself. He is, and when you have repented, He immediately forgives. Who are you to keep "flaying your flesh" with thoughts of condemnation, which eventually lead to death. Rom. 8:1-2 "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death."

In the same way, you are required by God to forgive those who have given offense to you and others. Luke 6:37-38.

"Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be poured into your lap.

For with what measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Let go and let God! Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Unsung Hero
 By Joe Townsend

An outstanding Unsung Hero is Martha Hooten.

Martha has spent her entire life in Brackettville. She finished school here. Soon after graduation she was married and two sons were born to that union. The marriage foundered and she was forced to raise the boys as a single parent.

She was employed in the office of Tax Assessor Collector. This office was separated from the Sheriff's office and she became subject to election to fill the office. She won the office and was later reelected. She is capable and efficient in the office.

She was later married to Norman Hooten.

Depraved individuals bent on destruction and vilification never

consider the wife and family of the victim.

There is hardly a more traumatic situation for a wife than to see her husband unjustly persecuted and mis-treated. Through all the trials and tribulations and then the death of Norman, Martha has measured up as a winner. She is doing a marvelous job of putting her life back together. She is a tremendous person and all who know her love her.

Martha is indeed an Unsung Hero. She is a walking reminder of the despicable treatment her husband received. If his destroyers have any modicum of character they will have a twinge of conscience every time they see her. Kudos to Martha Hooten, a living walking hero.

For Pete's Sake

CLYDE CUSTER grew up on one of the East Tennessee mountains. He didn't like being a hillbilly, and swore that he would move to New York City the very first chance he got, and would never, ever return home again.

Well, ol' Clyde worked at digging "Sang" and hoed corn, and worked "backer" and all for farmers, until he finally got enough cash together to buy an old car.

Then he saved up for gas and eating money, and finally, he had enough to make the trip.

"I'm leaving here for good!" he told his folks and neighbors. Well, his neighbor, Mrs. Dunn, upped and asked him if he would do her a big, big favor.

"Well, Widder Dunn, I shore will if I can," Clyde said. "What is it?"

"Well, Clyde," Widder Dunn said, "my own son, John, was just like you. He hated living here, and he left home twenty five years ago to go to New York City and I ain't never heard of him since."

When you get up there to New York City, I shore wish't you'd look up my boy John and tell him to let me know how he is and where he is and all like that."

"I'll do it," Clyde promised.

Then off he drove, heading toward New York City.

He finally got there, too.

Golly! Big skyscrapers everywhere, people all over the sidewalks, millions of cars and horns, traffic and all liked to have scared him out of his wits.

But he held on, and drove right into the main part of town. "Now,

let me see," Clyde said to himself, "What was Widder Dunn's boy's name? John. That was it. John Dunn.

He looked again at all the busy people and the huge buildings and the tremendous traffic.

"How in the world will I ever find him in all such as this?" he asked himself.

Just then he glanced up and saw a sign on one of the skyscrapers "Dunn and Bradstreet" it said.

"Well by golly!" Clyde thought. "That jist might be!"

He found a place to park his car and walked back to the building with the sign.

Inside, there was a huge reception room, presided over by a small woman at a big desk.

Clyde walked up to her.

"May I help you?" the woman asked.

"Yes'am," Clyde replied. "Have you got a JOHN here?"

"Why, yes," the woman said. "Right down the hall to the left. Fourth door on the right."

Clyde hurried to follow her directions.

Just as he reached for the handle, the door opened and a portly businessman came out.

"Say there, Mister," Clyde demanded, "Are you DUNN?"

"Done?" the man replied, "Why, yes I am."

"Well then," yelled Clyde. "CALL YER MOMMA!"

Editor's Note: "If you enjoy these stories and comments, send for a free sample of Post Story Book. Write Pete, Box 712, Kingsport, TN 37662.

Frontier Baptist Church
 Rev. Joe Townsend, Pastor

At such a time of uncertainty everyone needs some stability. The only true stability is that which rest in the realm of God.

The Bible is unchangeable. It is truth and truth never changes. It is the word of God and hence it is for the ages and certainly unchangeable.

Translations may depart from it but not change. Paraphrasing it may help some to understand it but it doesn't change it. "De sexing" the Bible (taking out any reference to God, Christ and any male factor) doesn't change the Bible and the Fatherhood of God.

The ten commandments are still the same as God penned on tablets of stone held by Moses on Mt. Sinai. God has never changed them. The Sermon on the Mount is still the teaching of Jesus Christ and still effective. The Bible is still "light," a lamp unto our feet to guide our steps. It is still supreme authority. It maybe ignored, denied, rationalized, or fought but it still stands as authority. Man may seek to change but it still stands supreme.

Christ is still and always will

be the same. He is example of what life can and should be. He is still the only way to find salvation and reach God. The Holy Spirit is still the same as at Pentecost. He still guides, strengthens and protects.

God is still the same. His purpose and plan is for the ages. The world is still his domain. People are still his creatures. No one nor any circumstances is beyond the reach of God.

Recognizing the reality of these consuming facts each person can know happiness and a victorious life. If one lets the prophets of doom bother him, he will be miserable.

If you let those who corrupt the Bible lead you astray you will lose your perspective. If you do, not commit your life to Christ you miss the purpose of living. If you do not allow the Holy Spirit to lead, you will go astray. If you do not keep your confidence in God you will miss the best in life.

Another message from God's word awaits all who worship at Frontier Baptist Church, Sunday morning at 11:00. Come and see.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
 Rev. Nathan La Frenz
 563-2047

Tielhard de Chardin once wrote, "The day will come when, after harnessing space, the winds, the tides and gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, we shall have discovered fire."

Love is the most powerful force on earth. It has the power to heal, to transform lives, to motivate people to extreme examples of sacrifice. Yet at this time of Valentine's Day we will get off track confusing love with romance, with the lure of flowers, candy, and balloons. And although all of us certainly cherish receiving Valentine Cards, and other gifts, we are only experiencing a small slice of the power of love. To get a handle of deep and profound love I want to share an old German story about a short hunchbacked man named Moses who fell in love with a merchant's daughter named Frumtje. But Frumtje was repulsed at the sight of the hunchbacked Moses. One day after several attempts at conversation with her, thwarted by her refusal to even look at him,

Moses shyly asked, "Do you believe marriages are made in heaven?" "Yes," she answered, still looking at the floor. "And do you?" "Yes, I do," he replied. "You see, in heaven at the birth of each boy, the Lord announces which girl he will marry. When I was born, my future bride was pointed out to me. Then the Lord added, "But your wife will be humpbacked."

"Right then and there I called out, "Oh Lord, a humpbacked woman would be a tragedy. Please, Lord, give me the hump and let her be beautiful." Then Frumtje looked into his eyes and was stirred by some deep memory. She reached out and gave Moses her hand and later became his devoted wife.

Sacrifice is the deepest expression of love. Of wanting the best for the other, at the expense of the welfare of one's self.

Does that not describe the Cross. God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son to die, so that we might have abundant life. Let us reflect on that type of love on this Valentines Day.

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There is a lot of action at Campers' World RV Park

By Chuck Titus
 Contributing Writer

FORT CLARK SPRINGS - There is a lot of action at Campers' World RV Park.

Campers' World has a new manager, Harlan Everett, and he and his wife, Evelyn, are a pleasant addition.

Last week, new venetian blinds were installed in the dining hall, with volunteers contributing the labor.

The cost of over \$400 was raised last year from the raffling of a beautiful quilt made and donated by Naomi and Cloyd Peters. Some of the ladies in the park helped with the finishing of the quilt.

The lounge is now back in the office, with lots of comfortable furniture, due to the new manager and Bill Haenn, the general manager of Fort Clark Springs.

Haenn came out to the RV Park last Tuesday to make sure that the work was progressing according to the needs of the park.

On Tuesday evening, there was a weiner roast at the fire ring with lots of salads, chili, beans, and desserts. It was all organized by Bob Douglas and his band of volunteers.

Unit 37's Western Band entertained all with their music and singing for over an hour prior to dinner.

Many visitors came and enjoyed the evening, just like old times in the park.

Bob Douglas and his volunteers are still having a donation pancake, sausage and egg breakfast every Saturday morning at 8.

Come on out to Camper's World and see the lounge, visit with the residents of the park, and meet the new manager.

One medium to large egg yields about 1/4 cup liquid.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who helped and participated in any way, to help make my benefit a great success. Your support is gratefully appreciated. Also thanks to everyone for their donations, cards, flowers and visits. Especially your prayers.

R.H. Salmon & family

THANK YOU

The Sanchez Family wishes to express their gratitude for all the cards, food, donations, expressions of sympathy and the many prayers on the recent untimely death of Juan Sanchez. We are comforted with your prayers. The Sanchez family also asks that you continue to pray for all the others involved in the accident and their families.

God Bless You.
 The Sanchez Family.

THANK YOU

We all experience things in our lives that cause us pain and heart-break. We experience failures, setbacks and losses in our personal and professional lives, many of which can be overcome with the strength and courage to "try again." But the loss of a loved one, as we have lost Norman, is however a gut wrenching and final loss that cannot be changed. Though if one has faith, the memory of our loved one can be an inspiration to carry on with the ideas, beliefs and advice left behind by their passing.

Norman is gone now, but he is in a better place. Free now from the trials and tribulations of this world. Our loss is Heaven's gain. In closing I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our friends and loved ones for the food, flowers, cards, prayers and phone calls of support. Special thanks to Rev. Joe Townsend for the beautiful church and graveside service and to Jewel Robinson and the Brackett News staff for the wonderful article in our local paper. Thanks also to Jewel Robinson and Plunker Sheedy for your offer of lodging for our family and friends. And to those of you who took the time, out of your busy schedules, to attend Norman's church service and who traveled to Lometa to his final resting place, and for being his friends till the end. I thank you. May God bless you all.

Martha P. Hooten and family

Answers to Super Crossword

LESS BRIA ALTA BARE
 HELLO ARAB YARE ILONA
 OMAMA BNAE YRIG COOED
 PUT ON BENDIG BUBINGELLO
 BEE QUER BARE BAME DIA
 BISS BARE BARE
 DEBONK BINTARIE BEARDED
 TICTING TOOD BING BATTER
 BART BARTIN BIMA COLE
 ORD REDDED BANGOOD
 BADE BAPED RANCO
 PARAPETE MARTIYA BOD
 ALAN BTAIC BICOLE DAME
 BLICE BETA BAR BENCE
 TENGON BIRADEE FLANED
 BTEE BALEE GAOL
 CPA REAM BIE ARID BIE
 HORSEPLAN BARTIBODIAE
 ALORA BODIBTRAP BTRYA
 BEMIT TARA BARE BINGO
 BIAE BIE BIE

GREEK GODS & GODDESSES

APOLLO
 ZEUS
 HERA
 ARES
 ATHENA
 ARTEMIS
 DIOS
 DEMETER
 HERCULES
 PERSEUS
 PROMETHEUS
 POSIEDON
 URANUS
 VULCAN

ADOPTION

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EMPLOYMENT

THE BRACKETT NEWS is now accepting applications for the position of Advertising Salesperson thru February 28th. Must be self motivated, people person with good communication skills and have own vehicle. Come by the Brackett News office to apply.

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BOX SPRING & Mattress, Queen size like new \$140.00. 563-2012

TRAILER 40 ft. 5th wheel, Teton. 563-9324.

KAYAK POOLS, demo homesites wanted to display new maintenance free pool. Save thousand\$ w/this unique opportunity! 100% financing...Call 1-800-338-9919, 100 mile radius Dallas/Fort Worth.

NO DOWN PAYMENT! PROBLEM credit? Own the home you need now, without a big downpayment. Complete financing if qualified, DeGeorge Home Alliance, 1-800-343-2884.

WEIGHT LIFTING EQUIPMENT FACTORY direct! Huge savings on home gyms, Smith Workout Centers, leg presses, much more. Gym quality. U.S. made. Free color brochure. Performance Fitness 1-800-701-5876.

WOLFF/SUNMASTER commercial/home systems. Our sunbeds are larger, tan better, cost less. America's largest independent manufacturer. Easy payments. Free delivery. Free color catalog, 1-800-KEEP-A-TAN.

FOR SALE

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

GARAGE SALES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS yard sale. Sat., Feb. 15, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Old Border Patrol Building on Highway 90. Bring any donations on Friday about 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., or on Saturday 15th.

HEALTH

DIABETIC?(USING INSULIN) Medicare pays for your supplies. We bill them, ship to you. Save money. Satisfaction guaranteed. Liberty Medical 1-800-633-2001. No HMO members. Mention 261911.

INTERNET

INTERNET SERVICE 800#, unlimited usage. \$28.00 per month. 563-5235.

LEGAL

UNDERGROUND GAS LEAKAGE:if your property is near a service station you may be entitled to substantial damages. Call Attorney Carl Waldman, main office, Beaumont, 1-800-833-9151. May associate other attorneys.

MISCELLANEOUS

CONTESTANTS WANTED girls 7-17 for Miss Texas American teen/pre-teen/sweetheart pageant. For a free application and brochure, call 1-800-713-COED.

PETS

PETS, READY FOR VALENTINES day. Miniature red, short smooth hair Dachshund pups. Only 3 left. Taking deposits. Del Rio, TX. \$200.00 each. (210)774-1710.

REAL ESTATE

HOUSE FOR SALE Fireplace-jacuzzi-shop-R.V. shelter. #8 Bowlegs F.C.S. 563-9392.

MOBILE HOME Unit 15 F.C.S. All reasonable offers will be considered. 563-2885

HOME FOR SALE \$4000.00. 775-6899. Se Vende Una Casa.

FORT CLARK SPRINGS Masters Condo ground floor, 1 bedroom 563-2065.

*BARGAIN HOMES*THOUSANDS OF government foreclosed and repossessed properties being liquidated this month! Government financing. Low/no down. Call for local listings! 1-800-338-0020 ext. 299.

GOT A CAMPGROUND membership or timeshare? We'll take it. America's most successful resort resale clearing house. Call Resort Sales Information toll free hotline. 1-800-423-5967.

WILD WEST RANCH 112.2 ac-\$49,000 So. Colorado Rockies. Located in foothills of Sangre De Cristos. High meadows w/spectacular views. Loaded w/deer, elk bighorn sheep. Year round access w/power & tel. Exc. owner financing. Call now 719-742-5207 Majors Ranch.

REAL ESTATE

O'Rourke Realty

Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
210-563-2713
F C S Memberships & Rentals Available

Facing the golf course & within walking distance of club house, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, home in Ft. Clark. Long and wide screened porch in back, overlooks giant oak trees and Las Moras Creek. The spacious breezeway or part of the screened porch could be easily converted into 3rd. bdrm. \$95,000.00. Includes 2 lots.

Reduced price on 3 bdrm., 2 bath, rock home built on thick concrete army slab. High ceilings, fireplace, metal roof, all appliances.

2 bdrm., 1 bath., small cottage in Unit 22. Price dropped to \$17,000.00. Owner will finance.

2 bdrm., 1 bath., mobile home. Appliances included, new carpet throughout. Reasonably priced, possible owner financed.

DEBBIE TRANT

210-563-2997/210-563-2007

LOCKHART REAL ESTATE

Open House: Sunday, February 16th, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. #19 Colony Row, Fort Clark. Beautifully remodeled historic officers quarter home with 2200 + sq. ft., fireplaces, wood/tile floors, & garage/workshop. Priced to sell!

2 bed, 2 bath mobile home in excellent condition, unit 15, new carpeting, carport, workshop, + storage shed. Call to see!

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO

P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
210-563-2446 or 210-563-2447

Own location and supply the ONLY lot zoned for multifamily dwelling on the golf course. Up to 12 condos on #10 tee box corner. \$20,000.

Block C, Lot 6 offers #10 fairway in front, Las Moras Creek in back. Large Oaks. \$8,500.

Lovely 3 bdrm, 2 full baths, CP&L electric and lots of lot, RV parking, golf cart hookups and much more.

1989 Oak Creek Home on Ann in Brackett. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Location, Location, Location!

Tumbleweed Pub

Plaza Del Sol Mall

Happy Hour 4-7 p.m. weekdays / \$1. draft beer. Margarita Day-Monday & Thursday, all day! We serve sandwiches, nachos, cincos, & chalupos!


Valentine's Day Special

Red Margaritas \$1.00 off

Open daily 11 a.m. - 2 a.m. 7 days a week

Owned & Operated by Joy Kyle & Ann Morris 768-0900

Bud Breen, cowboy, ranch foreman, western movie actor, then artist has been painting pictures that capture the beauty of the open country and ranch life that he loves so well. Born in Eagle Pass, Texas, Bud grew up on the ranches of Southwest Texas. Bud's Brackettville home is his studio, the kitchen table is his easel and his experiences are his inspiration.




Breen Gallery
507 South Ann Street
Brackettville, TX 78832
(210) 563-2961

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Plaza Del Sol Mall

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NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS.

City of Spofford
P.O. Box 1541
Brackettville, Texas 78832

Brackett News
February 13, 1997

TO: All interested agencies, Groups and Persons:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the City of Spofford, Texas intends to request the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for Project No: 714831.

Environmental Assessment Activities

Wastewater Improvements

The proposed facilities will be individual on site sewage facilities which will typically be a 750 gallon septic tank and an absorptive drain field with an area of 1,250 sq. feet. The estimated area is based on the soil type in Spofford but will vary depending on individual percolation tests. Slightly larger systems will be required for homes with more than two bedrooms. The sizing and location of these systems will conform to the current Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) regulations. It is proposed that each system be a "standard system", that in not an "engineered system". We propose to produce a typical system plan showing size of an absorption bed or length of trench based on percolation rates and also show standard construction details so that systems can be adapted to local site conditions.

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such a request of release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the City of Spofford has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190). The reason for such a decision not to prepare such a Statement is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.

An Environmental Review Record for the proposed project has been made by the City of Spofford which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such a statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the office of the Mayor, Mr. J. B. Herndon, City of Spofford, P.O. Box 1541, Spofford, Texas 78832, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups and persons, disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City to the address as set forth above. Such written comments must be received at the address specified within sixteen (16) days after this publication. All such comments so received will be considered and the City will not request the release of funds or take administrative action of the project prior to the date specified in the proceeding sentence.

Release of Funds

The City of Spofford will undertake the activities described above with Community Development Block Grant Funds under Title I from its program year 1996 under grant #714831 from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Spofford is certifying to TDHCA that Mr. J.B. Herndon, in his official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision making and action, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Spofford may use the Block Grant Funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. TDHCA will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the bases and the procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, P.O. Box 13941, Austin, Texas 78711.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the TDHCA. No objections received later than thirty-three (33) days after this publication will be considered by TDHCA.

J.B. Herndon, Mayor
City of Spofford
P.O. Box 1541
Brackettville, Texas 78832

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