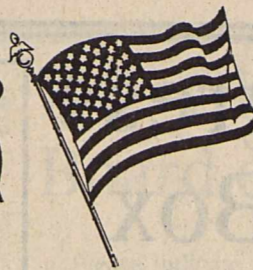


The Brackett News



City to open Swimming Pool June 1st.

11th year, No. 16

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Alamo Village celebrates 40th Anniversary

This Monday Alamo Village Movie Location will celebrate the opening of its 40th annual summer season.

Alamo Village was originally built by legendary actor John Wayne and Kinney County, Texas rancher James T. "Happy" Shahan for Duke's epic 1959 film "The Alamo." Wayne had wanted to do a movie on the Alamo battle since the 1940's and Happy wanted to "put Brackettville on the map." Both men saw their dreams become reality with the production of "The Alamo."

It took a lot of convincing to get Wayne to make the movie in the United States much less in Texas recalled Happy's widow, Virginia.

"He (Wayne) wanted to do it in Mexico or Panama, but Happy told him if he did make the film outside the U.S., the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (care takers of the real Alamo) would never allow it to be shown in the country."

"That got Wayne mad and he told Happy that the Daughters could go to heck and he would make his movie any blanket-e-blank place he wanted to."

"Happy let Wayne cool down and then asked him if he could fly to California to visit with him, Wayne agreed, and as Happy used to say, the rest is history," said Mrs. Shahan.

The set boasts a complete Old West town including a bank, jail, church, cantina/saloon, hotel, stage-stop, livery stables, and two dozen other adobe and board and batten buildings. A highlight of the set is the only full size replica of the Alamo mission located in San Antonio, Texas. Construction on "The Alamo" set started in September, 1957 and workers were still putting on the finishing touches

when filming began in late August 1959. When the movie finished filming on December 20, costs on the production had escalated to about \$12 million, making it the most expensive movie made in the U.S. up to that time.

Since "The Alamo," no fewer than one-hundred major features, films, and mini-series, documentaries, commercials, and musical videos have been filmed at the historic set. Labeled as "The Movie Capitol of Texas," the tourist attraction has attracted people from all 50 states and most foreign countries.

So what do you do with the largest movie set in the world when all of the actors and crew have left, for Happy Shahan the answer was simple. You open it to the public.

"We had to. Our fence was cut three times in one week by people wanting to see where John Wayne made the Alamo movie," replied Mrs. Shahan.

"We are in negotiations with three other production companies who want to film projects here in the future," Mrs. Shahan said. She added that the public is always welcome when movies are being made out at the set.

When Movies aren't being made at Alamo Village, visitors can leisurely browse through 18 walk in displays.

Seven days a week from Memorial Day through Labor Day the village has live entertainment. Four different cowboy music shows in the cantina, and four different gunfights out on main street.

At the close of each summer season, Alamo Village hosts its annual Labor Day Cowboy Horse Races. In March and October the village holds their semiannual trail ride and cattle

drive. Plans are also being made for a February or March 2000, historical reenactment of events en route to the battle of the Alamo.

"Living history interpreters from throughout the U.S. will be participating in that event," Mrs. Shahan said.

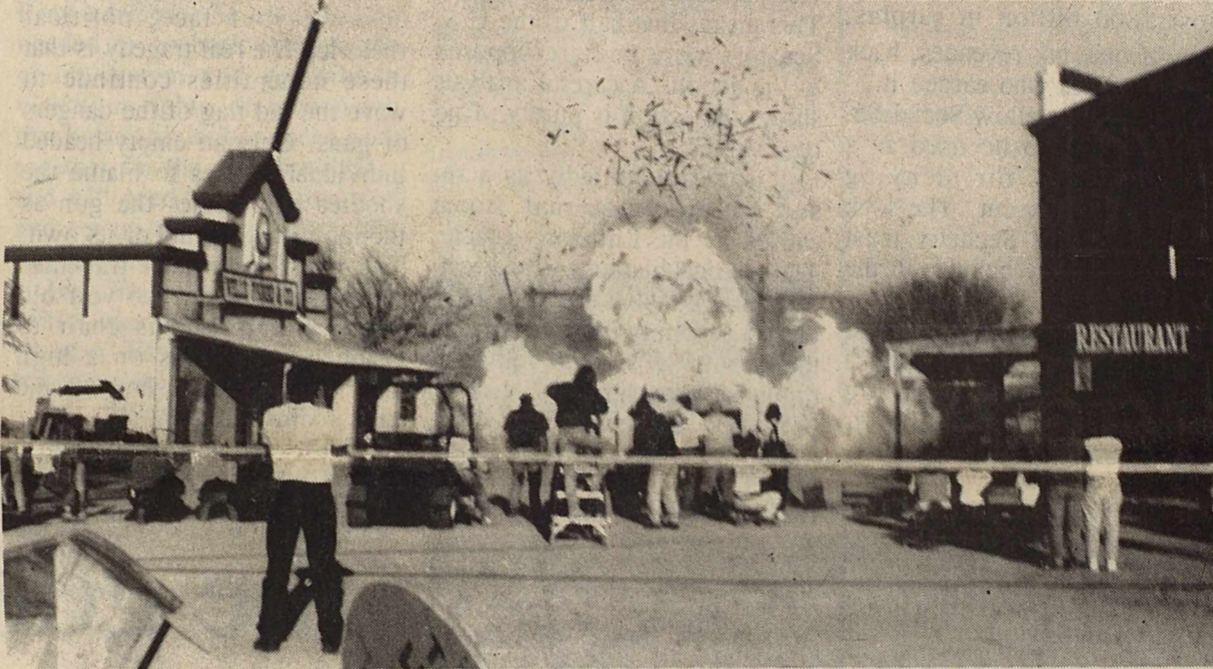
The History Channel will be filming a special called "Haunted San Antonio". Filming will be this Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Also a Christian pop group will be making a video. Shooting will be Monday, May 31 and Tuesday, June 1.

Local elementary student Jacquelyn Conoly, will be performing next Monday during the 12 noon and 2:00 p.m. shows.

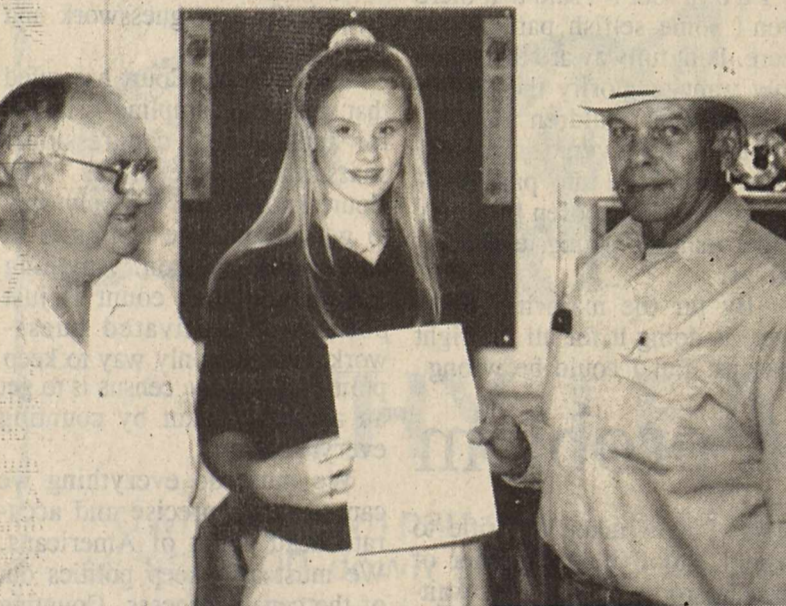
Alamo Village is opened daily at 9:00 a.m., except for a week at Christmas. Admissions prices may vary depending on the season.



Pictured above center, John Wayne with his daughter Aissa (left) on the set of "The Alamo", 1959.



An explosion, from the set of "Once Upon a Time in China", a Kung Fu western shot in 1997.



A one thousand dollar scholarship awarded by Del Rio Elks Lodge #837, is presented to Jennifer Ashabrunner by George Vernor, Representative of the Lodge, as Mr. Sims looks on.

Getting it straight: part 1

Jacob Hughes
STAFF WRITER

The practice of law is a very complicated area of interest. Most people understand the basic concept of what they can be held accountable for, but there are still some "myths" about courts and what will happen to the accused.

Brackettville Municipal Court is part of the Texas Judiciary, one of the three branches of the Texas Constitution. Municipal Courts role is to provide a fair, and impartial place for fine-only criminal cases within Brackettville city limits. These fines include traffic violations, minor penal codes, and city ordinance cases. The court provides all persons the right to trial by judge or jury and follows the procedures set forth under

Texas codes. Class "C" misdemeanors, or tickets, are the most common of all Municipal Court cases.

The first step of the process of taking care of a citation is to appear at the city Municipal Court office within ten working days after the citation.

If a citation was issued due to the lack of ability to produce proof of financial responsibility or a driver's license, and the person can produce proof that they had either one at the time of the issued citation, the charge will be dismissed by the appearing judge.

If an individual is given a ticket for an expired driver's license, registration, or inspection sticker. The ticket will be dismissed by the judge if he/she can prove that the problem was corrected within ten working days

of the citation.

If a citation was issued for a moving traffic violation and the individual had not yet taken a driving safety course in the past twelve months, then he/she may be permitted to keep the citation off of their driving record by paying an administrative fee, state taxes, court costs, and by completing a six hour driving safety course within ninety days that has been approved by the judge.

If he/she is not eligible to take a driving safety course, or they don't feel they have time to take one, then they may make the attempt to send a written application to the judge to suspend the citation off of their record through deferred adjudication. This will cost an administrative fee equal to the fines cost, state

Please see page 5

MUD approves sale of water to detention center

Tanya Kay McClure
STAFF WRITER

Fort Clark Springs Municipal Utility District, Board of Directors approved to supply water to the new Detention facility, last Monday.

"We feel extremely comfortable that everything is still a go. The financing has been approved and the site is being cleared. Soil testing has also been conducted and the results are still not in on those tests," said Bob Prince, Marketing Director, with Civi Genics. Civi

Genics is the firm that is building the facility.

According to Ralph Brown, attorney for Fort Clark Springs Municipal Utility District, MUD has the right to set an industrial rate on water usage.

Currently MUD charges .75 cents for residential usage, per thousand gallons. The district is considering charging the same rate to the detention facility that the City of Brackettville was going to charge.

The City had approved to supply water for them at the rate of \$1.25 per thousand gallons.

The MUD Board decided to leave it up to Larry Sofaly to come up with a reasonable rate price and talk to Civi Genics about the rate pricing and get their input.

The detention center is estimating usage of 72,000 gallons of water per day to operate the facility.

MUD will be charging the Center 50 cents per thousand gallons for sewage usage in addition to any charge for water.

The MUD Board stated that the water bill for the detention center will be approximately \$3,100 a month.

"Once we set a rate it is not locked in completely forever, later on down the road we have the ability to adjust that at any-time," said McKelvy.

Civi Genics will do all the construction associated with getting water from Fort Clark. They will tie in were Fort Clark's water line ends and will do all the boring underneath the Highway. All MUD will do is tell

them were to tie in.

MUD will assume the yearly maintenance of the water tower that Civi Genics is building for the center. Upon completion the tower it will become an asset of MUD.

The extra water usage will make MUD's system even more efficient. Currently MUD pumps approx. 200,000 gallons a day and the water just sits in the big lift stations and goes stagnant, causing the water to smell.

According to Sofaly if they could put 500,000 gallons a day through there it would be better. Keeping water moving through the lift station is what is needed.

"We will never reach 500,000 gallons a day. I don't foresee it, there would have to be an awful lot of growth in this area," said Ralston.

The facility has a tentative construction date set for the late part of June. The facility will be located on Highway 131 toward Spofford.

President Hubert McKelvy; members, Ken Callan, Robert Young, Don Ralston, Mike Holley and Larry Sofaly were present.

According to Larry Sofaly he sees no problems at this point in the contract agreement with Civi Genics.

Rates were not set at this time, more discussion and research will be done before a decision is made. The contract to give water to the facility was approved and the rate will be adjusted at the next meeting. All were in favor of the contract.

Briefs ...

GED Classes

Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. At Brackett Alternative School. Anyone that is interested in this program needs to contact Mr. William Clements at (830) 563-9537. This program is currently under way and will be running through out the summer.

Free Training

Free Emergency Medical Technician training will be offered by Kinney County EMS. Contact: Michelle Rosas at (830) 563-9090 for application information.

Pool to open

The City of Brackettville's Swimming Pool Park will open on June 1, 1999. The Pool hours are: Wednesday - Saturday 2-7 p.m. Sunday: 2-8 p.m. Closed on Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday - Friday 2-5 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday 2-6 p.m.

Correa places second at state competition

Brackett Senior, Sonya Correa competed in the 3,200 meter run in Austin on May 15, 1999. Sonya came home with a second place medal she won.

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■ **Surge in gun control**
The sudden upsurge in gun control is purely and simply a political football. The loud crowing about shellacking the NRA has a devastatingly hollow ring. **Opinion/Page 2**

■ **Best fishing in Spring**
The most exciting aspect of fishing that I can think of is the heart-stopping excitement of a smashing strike by a big bass on a top water plug. **Outdoors/Page 5**

■ **P-K Graduation held**
It has been a busy week. The Pre-kindergarten graduation was precious. The little ones march with such pride in their accomplishment. **Community/Page 3**

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Should Congress build a Lock Box

Submitted By
Rep. Kay Bailey Hutchison

Social Security used to be called the "third rail of American politics," those who touched it ran the risk of getting an unpleasant shock. That is no longer the case. Everyone knows we must make changes if the system is going to remain strong for future generations.

True, there is an ongoing national debate over the future of the system, but no one denies the need for an overhaul. Our goal has to be keeping the system solvent when the baby-boom generation begins to hit retirement age in 14 years or so, and peaks in 30 years.

One way to ensure that Social Security retirement funds will be available in the future for the millions who are paying into the system today is the so-called "lock box" proposal currently under consideration in Congress.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the Social Security trust funds will run a surplus of approximately \$1.8 trillion over the next 10 years. The lock-box legislation is designed to guarantee that all of this surplus Social Security money will be reserved for Social Security alone.

Why do we need a lock box? This year alone the budget borrows \$19.4 billion from the Social Security trust funds to fund other programs.

Despite President Clinton's pledge to save every cent of the budget surplus for Social Security, his budget request for next year calls for the use of 58 billion from the Social Security surplus for non-Social Security spending over the next five years. Many of us in Congress think this would be highly un-

wise. The lock box legislation will lock away all of the \$1.8 trillion in Social Security surplus funds over the next 10 years. It would require a "super majority" in Congress (60 votes in the Senate) to use those surplus funds for anything other than paying down the public debt, or for Social Security reform.

Such a procedure would effectively prohibit a raid on Social Security, as the President is proposing, while still allowing enough flexibility in the federal budget to deal with unforeseen emergencies, such as a war or a recession. But Social Security trust funds could not be used for any non-Social Security purpose.

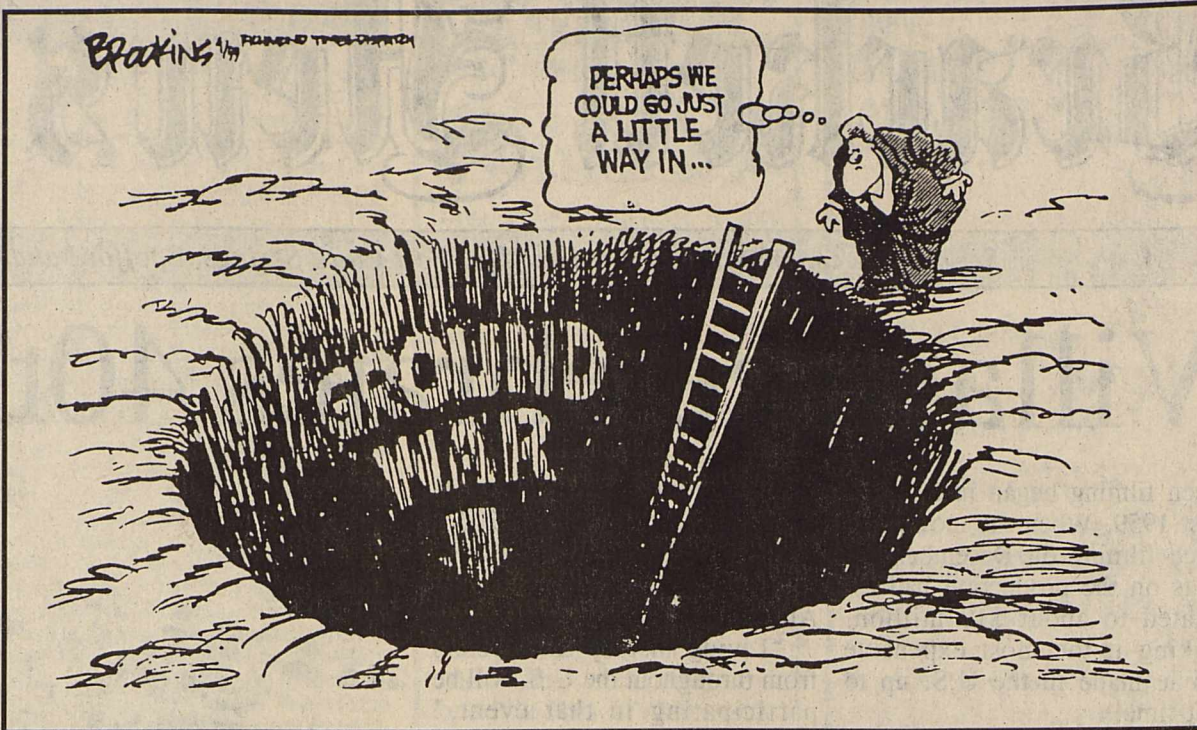
The Social Security lock box idea should not be confused with the parallel of debate over a tax cut. We can buttress Social Security and provide a tax cut for hard-working Americans.

One proposal in Congress is to cut taxes across the board by 10 percent. We can do that and still not touch the Social Security surplus. And we should do it.

Even without counting one cent of the Social Security surplus, the federal budget is such that we can afford to return almost \$800 billion in surplus, from income tax revenues, back to the families who earned it.

We must not allow Social Security reform to be used as a smoke screen for denying Americans a tax cut. The lock box puts Social Security trust funds where they belong: in the bank.

If we build the lock box and cut taxes, we will have taken a giant stride toward making Washington's budget smaller and American families' budgets larger.



Repercussions of Littleton

Between Us
Rev. Joe Townsend

The repercussions of the Littleton, Colorado slaughter continue to vibrate. The sad part of it is the way it has been politicized particularly by the democrats of Congress.

The sudden upsurge in gun control is purely and simply a political football. The loud crowing about shellacking the NRA has a devastatingly hollow ring. The fact that the action taken was so decisive they had to call the vice president to break a tie vote. This means that half of the U.S. Senators were and are opposed to the action. A careful analysis shows the action is purely of no real value.

It comes admittedly as a result of the emotional storm caused by the Littleton debacle. The political blather by the President that it will save "our children," is simply more hot air for the ears of those who refuse to think for themselves.

If these laws were in place it would not have affected the events in Colorado. Aside from that these two "non compos

mentis" individuals had already broken nineteen laws. Does anyone capable of sane thinking any kind and number of laws would have restrained them. Clinton's patsy in the Attorney General's office admitted she had prosecuted almost none of the violators of federal gun laws "because the states can do a better job."

The glaring question is, if states can do a better job with their own laws, why does this wily president and his stooges in Congress call for more laws?

The answer is as plain as the nose on your face, political rhetoric. The real tragedy is that these nonentities continue to wave the red flag of the dangers of guns. Only an empty headed individual refuses to blame the shooter but blames the gun as though it had a mind of its own. The latest prominent tragedies verify the facts. A two year old stacks things on his chair to reach under things on a high shelf to get a gun to show off and kills a small child.

A 15 year old breaks into a locked gun cabinet and terrorizes his school wounding a num-

ber of students. How the wonderful "victory over the NRA" dictating buyer checks have prevented these tragedies. Integrity tells us loud and clear you can't blame the guns but must hold the gunners responsible.

To think that instant checks on gun buyers has no relation to guns getting into the hands of criminals. Facts prove that where the people can carry concealed weapons, murders and robberies decline. Check the record in Florida. The ruling philosophy that we must determine why the culprit acted and then blame other individuals or factors to remove the blame from the guilty. The idea that a person must be held responsible for his actions is foreign to the president and his puppet voices.

To blame guns and to inflame the public against them shows not the inability to think but the bias that warps that thinking. Add that bias to emotionally fanned polls and political motivation and we see the situation in Congress to day.

This emotional binge will pass and those riding this emotional roller coaster will crash with it.

Keep up the good work

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

On my way somewhere one evening I drove by the school ground. I noticed an annual ritual that is not unusual for this time of the year. Little league baseball practice was going on. I was thrilled to see the number of parents not only there, but actively involved in helping with the activity.

They were trying to help in the physical, mental, emotional, and psychological development of their progeny. They were

there to support their sons and daughters in the event that they had chosen to participate in.

I've always been proud of my community and the fine folks that live here. But that day I was doubly proud. I have no doubt that the time invested in our kids today will pay handsome rewards in future years.

Most of the young men and women in our school today exhibit many signs of the love, devotion, care, and time that their parents have generously given to them. Those acts of pure unselfishness were done so that

our offsprings might have an opportunity to grow and develop into the kinds of adults that we all will be proud of.

I'd be a fool if I said that there aren't some selfish parents out there. I am fully aware that some only want to glorify themselves through their children.

There are even those who force their kids into participating in activities chosen by adults rather than the youngsters themselves.

By far the majority, however, is doing it for all the right reasons. But I could be wrong.

The problem is a human problem

The way I see it
By Steven R. LaMascus

I have been in law enforcement for over 20 years. I have seen sights that would make anyone have nightmares. The absolute disregard for life and lack of respect for others that is displayed daily by the criminal element of society still, after all those years, shocks me to the core of my soul. I simply do not understand how anyone can have such a callous attitude toward human life.

April 20, 1999, was a day that I will long remember. It was the day that two, or more, students at Columbine High School near Denver, Colorado, went on a killing rampage in their school and then committed suicide. They planted bombs and shot other students and teachers with handguns. They wandered through the halls and into classrooms gleefully spreading terror and death and no one will ever know why.

Simple anger is not enough. That cannot possibly explain the vicious, animalistic, brutal, inhuman actions of the killers. I have been angry and so have you. We have all been so mad we wanted to do harm to some-

one. This act was as far beyond that as the moon is beyond Dallas. This act was not merely inhuman it was demonic. It was the act of people possessed. I can think of no other reason for their actions. No human, however angry, would do such a thing. This was not a spur-of-the-moment retaliation for an insult or injury; it was premeditated, Satan inspired mayhem. There is simply no other explanation.

I am 47 years old. When I was a child, not that long ago in the Great Scheme of Things, such things were unheard of. When I was in junior high all the boys carried knives to school. It was expected that every boy had a pocketknife. It was simply a part of being male. There was no danger to others implied or expressed. Now, in our school, it is an expellable offense for a boy to have a pocketknife. That is truly sad. In those few short years a knife has gone from being an accepted tool to a forbidden deadly weapon.

The same is true of guns. When I was young every kid had a .22 rifle. One of the rites of youth was learning how to shoot and hunt. Again, the gun was thought of not as a weapon but as a tool or a sporting imple-

ment. I have taken my rifle to school, stood it in a corner of the classroom in its case, waiting for school to be out so I could go home with a friend, because we were going hunting after school. That is forbidden now by federal law.

It is a sad commentary that our society has become so violent that kids cannot be allowed possession of such implements. The problem is not with the tools, with guns and knives. The problem is a human problem. We cannot solve the problem by outlawing the tools. We must address the root of the problem.

We will shortly be hearing another outcry for the banning of guns because of the horrid scene in Colorado. People seem to think that outlawing guns will solve the problem of crime. That is a fantasy. Crimes of violence were being perpetrated millennia before guns were invented. If guns were outlawed the criminals would use knives, or swords, or axes, or nail-studded clubs. It is not the tool that needs to be controlled!

People can argue all they want about civil rights. They can cry out that there must be a separation of church and state. They

How many people live in the U.S. and how do we count them all

Submitted By
Rep Henry Bonilla

Let's say you have a jar full of jelly beans. It's a colorful jar filled with red, green, yellow, orange and pink jelly beans. Your job is to count the jelly beans. Your goal is to find out the total number of jelly beans in the jar.

You have two options. The first option is to count every jelly bean in the jar to get an accurate total number. The second option is to grab a handful of jelly beans and try to guess how many are in the jar based on the number you happened to grab compared to the size of the jar. Which option do you think will give you the most accurate number? Well, counting every jelly bean, of course.

In April of the year 2000, the United States of America will count its people. This is nothing new. We've done this every decade for over 200 years. The objective is clear, it is to find out how many people live in the United States.

Conducting a census every ten years is mandated in our Constitution. The Constitution also directs that the results of the census determine how many representatives each state should get in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, the allocation of federal money to local communities is based on the census count.

And while no one is arguing about the need for the census, many are arguing about the most accurate way to conduct it. Some want to count every person. Others want to statistically sample, or estimate, the population. But statistical sampling is not a fair way to assess how many people live in America. It is basically just guesswork and it is unreliable.

The Supreme Court has ruled that statistical sampling is illegal for apportioning congressional seats among the states. The Court knows that the only way to get an accurate census is to count every person. Anything less than a head count is just politically motivated guesswork. And the only way to keep politics out of the census is to get an accurate count by counting every person.

We must do everything we can to get a precise and accurate head count of Americans. We must also keep politics out of the census process. Counting each and every American is the only fair way to achieve an accurate, nonpolitical census. By counting every American, we will have an accurate census we can count on.

Your Representatives

U.S. Senator
The Honorable Phil Gramm
370 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. Senator
The Honorable
Kay Bailey Hutchison
283 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman 23rd District
The Honorable Henry Bonilla
1529 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4323

State Senator District 19
The Honorable Frank Madla
Texas Senate
P.O. Box 12068
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Big Mama
Sez!



A bore is someone who, when you ask him how he is, tells you.

The Brackett News

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Texas Press Association
DEADLINES:
Advertising deadline is noon Tuesday for advertising to be composed for the current publication.

USPS 003987
Published weekly on Thursday by The Brackett News. Entered as Second Class Matter at the U.S. Post Office at Brackettville, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1878.

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New Subscription Renewal Change of Address

It's graduation time in Brackettville KC Chamber Ballot for Board of Directors

Making a Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

It's graduation time in Brackettville! Five graduates of Brackett's Alternative School receive diplomas at ceremonies to be held Friday, May 28, at the Amphitheater at Fort Clark Springs, 10:30 AM. Brackett High School will graduate 35 on Friday night at 8:00 PM at the Tiger Stadium. Brackett Middle School will graduate its class of 51 students at 11:00 AM Thursday at the school auditorium. Your attendance at the class commencement is cordially requested.

This week, I have listened to the BHS senior class plan a trip to Schlitterbahn. This coupled

with the all night drug free party graduation night will be the last two big senior class activities. This has been a good class, and I know that they will represent our town and school system well.

It has been a busy week. The Pre-kindergarten graduation was precious. The little ones march with such pride in their accomplishment. Each class had an awards assembly. Awards were given for improvement and achievement with major emphasis on reading. The Family Matters picnic was successful Monday night. Michael Schooler and a fine staff coupled with volunteers does a remarkable job showing that family does really matter at BISD!

We will not have school Friday. This year, it is a work day for teachers and other school staff. There's much to do to put up supplies and books and get report cards ready for mailing. The staff has worked hard this year, and we are very proud of our accomplishments. Preliminary TAAS test results are outstanding. I'll give a complete summary next week after parents receive the individual test reports. Lots of folks work hard to teach our children the required Texas state curriculum. Our students have given us better test results this year than ever before at Brackett ISD.

The band concerts were very good. Our 5th and 6th grade bands directed by Roxana

Gonzalez played with pride this past week before a full house. The concert was very well received by the public. Hector Jimenez assisted by Roxana did a fine job getting the Tiger Band ready for concert. The students played a tough program and did a great job. Thanks band for a job well done.

I am grateful to the Brackett News for doing such a great job with the Senior Page for 1999. The pictures were very high quality. The layouts and preciseness in getting names correct is appreciated by the school and by the graduates. Thanks Brackett News for a job well done.

Don't forget to come and support the Graduates of the Class of 1999. Have a great week!

Please indicate your approval of candidates chosen by the Nominating Committee or write in your own candidate/s. Return this ballot to: Kinney County Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 386, Brackettville, TX 78832. By June 9th. Ballots will be counted during the regular Board meeting on June 10th.

The Chamber's Annual meeting will be Saturday, June 12 from noon to 2 PM at the Fort Clark Swimpark. BBQ lunch will be served at \$5.00 a plate. Officers will be installed at that meeting.

Tom Ertle Joan Boutwell
Lashawn McIvor Mary Martin

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, May 17
3:21 p.m. A local woman reported a rifle missing from her residence. She did not know for sure whether the rifle was left inside or outside the residence. She said that they had fired the rifle last night and could not locate it today. Two clips were also missing.

Valentin Castillo, age 36 of Brackettville was arrested for Public Intoxication by Deputy Karl Chism.

Tuesday, May 18
8:03 a.m. The Border Patrol check point called and advised of an accident two miles from check point. DPS Agent Ashley went to the scene. A fence was torn down and the truck was towed, no injuries.

3:45 p.m. A local man reported the theft of his ring. The ring was removed from his vehicle while it was parked at the Tiger Field. Estimated value of \$300.

Wednesday, May 19
11:05 a.m. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter, met with the owner of Sunshine Garden Center, concerning a theft of one hanging basket, one river fern, three fruit trees, two plum and one peach, one pomegranate

tree, one live oak, one palm tree, total value estimated at \$151. Subject or subjects crossed the nursery fence and used a broken ladder on the inside of the fence. The case has been solved.

10:08 p.m. A local woman called in to report that illegal aliens had broken into her house on Hwy 90, and took a 22 Rifle and some food and liquor. The woman also informed Border Patrol. The woman had gone to Uvalde and returned home that evening and found the house had been broken into.

3:45 p.m. Some local boys went by the residence of Deputy Bobby Guidry to inform him that two other local boys had tried to beat him up. Deputy Guidry spoke with the two juveniles and the argument started over the boys calling each other moms names. All involved stated that they would behave. Chief of Police Ron Ring had also spoken to them the day before and asked them to behave.

12:23 p.m. A local woman called in to report that a man was burning trash in a barrel and that the flames were too high. Deputy Guidry took care of the situation.

Chief of Police Ron Ring was notified of the situation.

Thursday, May 20
9:02 p.m. A local man called in to see if anyone could help him unlock his truck at the High School Gym. Deputy Guidry went to the school to provide assistance.

Friday, May 22
7:00 a.m. A local man called in to report that his ex-wife would not allow him to visit his children. Chief of Police Ron Ring advised the man that he needed to go back through the court system and reestablish visitation rights. Reason being that he and his ex have been back together for the past three years and will need to get re-divorced and set up new terms for child support and visitation.

Juan Raul Reyes, of San Antonio was arrested by DPS Trooper Tom Wylie for Public Intoxication.

Saturday, May 23
10:55 p.m. A local woman called in to report that a man was burning trash in a barrel and that the flames were too high. Deputy Guidry took care of the situation.

Unsung Hero

By Joe Townsend

There is a man here who has been here all his life. His father passed away when he and his two brothers were quite small.

His wonderful mother did an outstanding job of caring for and guiding her sons. This young man is following in the footsteps of his father as a trapper. He is adept at his job. He is a faithful husband and altogether an outstanding man.

He is not an aggressive person but goes quietly about his life. He does not engage in controversy but is more concerned about his own life and responsibilities. In deed Mark Bland is an Unsung Hero.

Find the news that's important to you in The Brackett News!

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

Help Your Heart Recipes

This recipe is intended to be part of an overall healthful eating plan. Total fat intake should be less than 30 percent of your total calories for a day — not for each food or recipe.

Steak Marinated in Beer and Green Onions

2 pounds boneless top sirloin steak, all visible fat removed	1 tablespoon grated fresh gingerroot
Marinade	1 tablespoon light soy sauce
1½ cups light beer (regular or non-alcoholic) (12 ounces)	2 medium cloves garlic, minced, or 1 teaspoon bottled minced garlic
4 green onions, minced	1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
2 tablespoons light brown sugar	1 teaspoon acceptable* vegetable oil
2 tablespoons dry sherry	Dash of red hot-pepper oil

Put steak in an airtight plastic bag. In a medium bowl, combine marinade ingredients. Pour over steak and turn to coat evenly. Seal and refrigerate for 1 to 24 hours, turning occasionally. Preheat grill on medium-high. Drain steak, then grill for 8 to 12 minutes per side, or until desired doneness. Serves 8.

*Use canola, safflower, soybean, sunflower, sesame, or olive oil.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving					
164 kcal	Calories	75 mg	Cholesterol	3 g	Saturated Fat
25 g	Protein	121 mg	Sodium	0 g	Polyunsaturated Fat
0 g	Carbohydrates	6 g	Total Fat	3 g	Monounsaturated Fat
0 g	Fiber				

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Fishing licenses, who needs what Top water fishing best in Spring

Just a little on the Wildlife side
By HENRY LUTZ

This week I want to talk about fishing licenses and who needs what kind of license. I also want to cover some information on measuring fish. First of all, I want to mention that the first Saturday in June of each year (June 5th, this year) is the annual Free Sport-fishing Day and no person is required to have a license or stamps while sport-fishing on this day.

For all the other days, in addition to the regular fishing license, there are temporary licenses available for both non-residents and Texas residents not wanting or needing to purchase a regular license. There is a Temporary (3-day) Resident Sportfishing license for \$10 and a Temporary (14 day) Resident Sportfishing license for \$12.

There is also a Temporary (5 day) Non-resident Fishing li-

cence available for \$20. All temporary licenses are valid for the consecutive number of days shown for each license. Before purchasing a temporary license, figure out how many times and days you are going to go fishing in the license year, remembering that all regular licenses expire August 31. If you end up purchasing 2 temporary licenses, it would be cheaper to purchase the regular license for \$19; (\$30 for non-resident) good for the license year (or date of purchase thru August 31 of each year).

Keep in mind that no one under 17 years of age ever needs to have a fishing license to fish in public waters and no one needs to have a fishing license to fish in a private stock tank or private area on a creek.

Here are some tips and things to remember when enjoying a great day out on the lake. First of all, check the device you use

to measure fish. Many people keep fish that are just barely of legal length. There is no problem with this as they are legal fish to keep.

But if the device used to measure the fish was not accurate or the device was not used properly, then you could end up with an illegal fish.

For instance, many fisherspersons (to use a more politically correct word) use a vinyl stick-on measuring tape stuck onto a tackle box, ice chest, or inside of the boat somewhere.

Sometimes these devices can expand and/or shrink over a period of time when exposed to the sun or cold weather, making it inaccurate. Also when holding a squirming fish, it may be hard to line up the nose of the fish with the zero mark on the tape especially if the fish is not laid flat on a flat surface.

The best device used to check

the length of a fish is some sort of fish measuring board or stick with a piece cornered at a 90 degree angle at the zero end so that the mouth of the fish rests up against that piece when the fish is laid flat on the board. It is best if the device can be laid on a flat surface and the fish can be laid flat on top of it.

Short of using a device like this, a wooden yardstick can be used if you are careful to line up the mouth of the fish with a zero mark and give yourself and extra 1/4 to 1/2 inch added to the length just to be sure.

It is a much more enjoyable experience to release a large-mouth bass you measured to exactly 14 inches than to be checked later and find that the fish was only 13 3/4 inches.

The point is: be careful when measuring your fish, regardless of your measuring device, and leave no room for doubt about whether it is a legal fish.

Campfires and Gunsmoke
By Steven R. LaMascus

The most exciting aspect of fishing that I can think of is the heart-stopping excitement of a smashing strike by a big bass on a top water plug. I love top water fishing. It is not as productive as plastic worms or spinners, but the anticipation and excitement are unmatched.

The best time to fish top waters is probably in the spring. The bass are in shallow water and are more active than any other time of the year. The weather is usually pleasant.

I prefer a very slight breeze when I am fishing top water. The tiniest of ripples seems to be conducive to success. If the waves are too large the fish have trouble seeing or hearing the lure. If the water is glassy the fish seem to be skittish and reluctant to bite.

I have found that the way you present a top water is about as important as the lure itself. The difficult part of the process is determining just how the fish prefer the lure to be fished. Sometimes a lure works best if it is ripped through the water, making noise equivalent to a ballistic missile submarine on the surface. At other times the fish seem to prefer the lure fished slowly and quietly. I have had tremendous success by casting a lure into a brushy area, letting it sit until the ripples die completely away, and then just barely twitching the lure. This apparently makes the bass think the thing is wounded and will sometimes cause a vicious strike. This technique is usually the most effective on practically calm days, while the ripping, noisy technique is best on windy days.

There are a number of different kinds of top water lures. They run the gamut from stick-baits that have no built in action, to poppers, to the legendary Jit-

terbug, to lures with propellers on either or both ends. They all have a place in your tackle box and all produce fish. I have had the best success with the poppers and stick-baits, but the propeller baits like the Heddon Wounded Spook and Wood Chopper are also very good. I have fished Jitterbugs quite a lot over the years and for some reason have never had any success with them. Other anglers, however, swear by them.

Another good top water bait is the buzz bait. This came about when anglers found that a spinnerbait fished fast across the surface so that its spinner made a buzzing sound caught a lot of bass. Soon there were a multitude of baits designed to run on the surface and sound like half submerged Piper Cubs. They are ugly and noisy but they work.

Lures like the Rebel and Rapala, while designed to be shallow diving lures can be fished on the surface and are deadly. They have a wonderfully enticing action and imitate a wounded minnow or shad on the surface.

Technique is something that is difficult to describe in print and that takes much practice to perfect. The most basic retrieve with a surface lure is called walking the dog. It involves twitching the rod tip to impart an action to the lure that causes it to dart from side to side. When done properly this is a truly deadly technique, but it takes a considerable amount of practice to perfect.

If you don't fish a surface lure regularly you are missing one of the most exciting aspects of the sport of fishing. I will throw a top water almost every time I go fishing. If it doesn't produce I try something else. But when the fish want their meals on the top, it is well worth the trouble.

B.I.S.D. Myrtle Higginbotham Hunt Library Acknowledges recent memorials

Lillie Belle Gruetzemacher donated Looking at Egyptian Myths and Legends Set entitled: Isis and Osiris, Land of the Five Suns, The Giant King and Enchanted Kingdoms in memory of Betty Inman.

Clinton and Dixie Brown donated Seven Wonders of the Ancient World in memory of Betty Inman.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom McNew donated MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers in memory of Katherine Berset.

Gene and Angie Meeks donated Cricket Never Dies a col-

lection of Haiku Tanka Poetry in memory of Mildred Williams and Bone Poems in memory of Michal Claire Schmidt.

Ronnie and Candy Hobbs donated Children Just Like Me: A Unique Celebration of Children Around The World in memory of Wallace Dimery and Agapito Saenz: Our Favorite Stories From Around The World in memory of P.H. Coats; and Celebrations! Festivals, Carnivals and Feast Days From Around The World in memory of Mildred and John Williams.

Martha P. Hooten donated a

miscellaneous collections of books in memory of Norman H. Hooten.

T.J. Powell donated a miscellaneous collection of books to our library.

Jimmy and Kathy Bader donated The Vice Presidents; a Biographical Dictionary in memory of Jim Fisher; Lives of Presidents: Fame Shame And What The Neighbors Thought in memory of Richard Rudman.

Jacob and Kitten Fohn and Mickey Daley donated Read Aloud Poems for Young People in memory of Michal Claire

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Ken and Patty Leifeste donated Marvelous Math: A Book of Poems in memory of Michal Claire Schmidt.

Henry and Cathy Lutz donated Wildlife Atlas in memory of Michal Claire Schmidt.

Joe and Mary Sam York donated Holes, Snowflake Bentley, and Heaven in memory of Michal Claire Schmidt.

Delia Curry donated South Paws and Sunday Punches in memory of Michal Claire Schmidt.



Steven Hagler and Lindsey Brotherton were honored at the Sport Awards Program. They were named Best All-Around Athletes for Brackett ISD.

Getting it straight

Continued from page 1

taxes, and court costs. Also the individual must not receive another ticket within an agreed upon amount of time. If the terms are met, the citation will be dismissed at the end of the agreed upon time frame.

As a citizen it is imperative that each individual know his or her rights. One should be able to know what will happen and possible solutions when issued a citation or another type of misdemeanor.

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 Week #4 June 3-9 Week #5 June 10-16
2. Take your KEYS to EACH Plaza del Sol Mall Store that is listed and have the KEY STAMPED at each store. After all the stores stamp the KEY, put your NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER on the registration form and drop the form at center court in the registration box.
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ACROSS	holding	ment	128 Fortuneteller	monkey	75 Track events
1 Filing	48 Old English	90 Puppeteer	129 Breakfast	36 German	76 Established
markers	bard	Tony	Order	coffeecake	method
5 Supports for	50 Allen or	91 Handle	DOWN	38 Aware of	77 Impaired by
corsets	Lawrence	92 Long-time	1 Bark cloth	39 Glacial ridge	use
10 Court	51 Granny, for	pride of the	2 Seed coat	40 One receiv-	78 Beagle or
promises	one	Pirates	3 A threat to	ing the gifts	setter
15 Word with	52 Realtor's	94 Remarks	the pigs?	41 Word with	79 German city
street or gap	sign	from Scrooge	4 Cabine	box or marsh	80 Files high
19 La Scala	53 Eye or ladder	96 Stupely	monkey	42 Steno group	83 Prepare for
bonus?	companion	97 Adjust to fit	5 They may be	44 Court queen	the boot
20 Part of USNA	55 Six-line	98 Six-line	charmed	45 Press	85 Praise
21 Parade	terminer	poem	6 Hoglike	together in	88 Head, in
feature	56 Slippery	100 Responded	animal	ranks	Dijon
22 High flier	swimmer	to stimulu	7 The Bard's	47 Lobster,	91 Jal —
23 Something	57 Frisky pet	102 Wide prairies	river	chimney and	93 Tie the knot
bought sight	59 Goddess of	103 Hammed	8 Talkative	flower	again
unseen	the moon	sheets	wild ox?	49 Wordsworth	95 Strong,
25 Financially	61 Make a	105 Worn or shovel	9 More glossy	opus	glossy fabric
irresponsible	blunder	10 Displeases	10 Displeases	52 Afternoon	96 Postures
27 White linen	62 Clarifies	106 Poet's	11 Carry or	naps	97 Communion
vestment	64 TV bird?	morning song	catch	54 Shrewd or	table
28 Related	66 Lack of	107 Bat wood	follower	clever	99 Mario Lanza,
29 Before, as a	pretensions	109 Baseball's	12 Attic treas-	57 End the gin	et al.
palindrome	68 Trig. function	Slaughter	ures?	game	101 Corp.'s top
31 Underground	69 Large cask	111 Charged	13 Nun's garb,	58 Wheel hubs	banana
missile	70 Good sense	atom	once	59 Style of	102 Small
storehouse	71 Remnants of	112 Chapter of	14 Needlelike	package	package
32 Dawn	a former time	the Koran	marker	60 Checks the	104 Wooden pin
goddess	75 Patron saint	113 Sailor	15 Type of pole	copy	106 Antiquated
33 Calculating	of France	116 Exert steady	or pants	63 Here, in	107 Burrows and
snake?	77 "The — of	pressure	16 Semipre-	Paris	Vigoda
35 Weed or	Eastwick"	119 A string	stones	65 Johnson or	108 Splinter group
cabbage	81 Once called	game	17 Roman	Cliburn	110 Small dagger
37 Teaching	Clay	122 Beige	emperor	67 Shopping list	112 Impromptu
assistant	82 State	123 Singer Dalla	18 Step in	ending?	attempt
39 Albert and	admitted in	124 Growing out	reverse?	71 Pipe or dish	114 Man in a
Bracken	1861	125 Like most	24 Consumer	holders	loge?
41 Accelerate	84 Prize	colleges	advocate	72 "Dallas"	115 Garden plots
43 Knows	possessions	126 Mets in	26 Written on	matrarch	117 Sailor's drink
intuitively	in WWII	reverse	stone?	73 Leo's	118 Verb or prop
46 Johnny	86 GI's friend	order?	30 Regret	portion?	and
Applesøed,	87 Coagulate	127 Winter	34 It's sekdom	74 One of	120 Cuckoo
for one	89 Gifts of	weather	adhered to	England's	121 Top combat
47 Poker	appease-	forecast	35 Crab or	nobs?	pilot

MAGIC MAZE

— HUNT

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

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

Big game	Easter egg	Lamar	Still
Boar	Fox	Lion	Tiger
Bow	Howard	Man	Treasure
Buffalo	Job	Scavenger	

HOCUS-FOCUS
 BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Fence slat is missing 2. Window is added 3. Book is upside down 4. Steak is missing

Your Horoscope by Natasha



ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 Now is one of the times when you are content to simply exist. You are capable of achieving much, but it feels best to do and say nothing at all.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 Seek out the person who knows you best, and allow yourself the luxury of collapsing in their arms. You need some support but it can't come from a stranger.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 Your mood may fluctuate in unpredictable and unnerving patterns. You can't control your emotions, so follow them and enjoy the ride.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 Relationships, both old and new, blossom in unexpected ways. Tell an old friend how much they mean to you, and create precious memories with your current partner.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 You are easily flustered now, and your feelings are extremely vulnerable. Find a safe, private spot and stay there for awhile.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
 Utilize twice as much caution as normal when dealing with others. Speak softly, keep a positive tone and save emotional outbursts for the privacy of your home.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
 More may be accomplished through teamwork than by moving independently. Being part of a team will give you some emotional support right now.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
 The idea of a love affair appeals to you, but you don't have time to find the right person. Know that when the time is right, you won't need to look quite so hard.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
 You feel particularly warm and loving toward everyone. Since you have achieved inner peace, you can support people without needing anything in return.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
 The comforts and cares of the material world are particularly important right now. You have been dragged firmly down to earth and have no time for esoteric exploration.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 19)
 Spend an evening out this week with immediate or extended family. Enjoy your time while reminiscing with siblings or cousins whom you haven't seen in a while.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
 There may be an excess of emotional demands placed on you. You can't answer to everyone immediately; tell people to give you more time.

YOU BORN THIS WEEK ...
 A bold approach is the best approach, and no challenge is too great. These are the mottoes by which you live. You like to be the best at everything — and you usually are. Physical and mental exercise are important to you. Be aware of your tendency to be overly competitive or combative.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 27..... John Garberich	May 29..... Rosie Garcia
May 28..... Rene Diaz	May 29... Mary Etta Speaker
May 28..... Dorothy Oliver	May 30.... Fernando Valdez
May 28..... Vern Price	May 31..... J.C. Morrow
May 28..... Leticia Vela	May 31..... William Varner
May 29... Bernadette Frerich	May 31..... Merle Willis
May 29..... Ruby Frerich	June 2..... Taylor L. Dunbar
June 2..... Lela Moore	

God never abandons his children

Frontier Baptist Church
Rev. Joe Townsend

The story of Samson is a fascinating recap of one man's life. He was born late in time to a woman chosen of God. According to the instructions of God he was raised a Nazirite. Thus he never shaved and his hair was never cut. He was a tremendously strong man. He once killed a lion with his bare hands. He slew thousands with the jaw bone of an ass.

He married a Phillistine which was against the teachings of God and his father. The Phillistines wanted to kill him but didn't dare to try because of his strength.

They offered his wife a great deal of money to find out the secret of his strength that they might kill him. After a couple of false leads he told his wife that if he did not have his hair he wouldn't have his strength. She had him go to sleep on her lap and men came and shaved his head.

When they were finished she awakened him telling him the Phillistines were coming. He awoke and shook himself and

readied to face the enemy not knowing God had withdrawn from him and along with that his strength.

The Phillistines took him and gouged out his eyes. After a while when his hair had grown back, the Phillistines were having a festival to Dagon, their God. They gathered 3000 strong in the Temple. They brought Samson to the Temple and made sport of him. Finally he asked a boy to place his hands on the central pillars of the Temple. He then pushed on the pillars and the roof crashed killing the several thousands of worshippers of Dagon.

Samson was dedicated a Nazirite, the highest role among the Jews. God blessed him with great physical strength and valor.

When his hair was shaved his identification as one of God's chosen was gone. So God departed from him. God was still omnipotent. He did not withdraw salvation from Samson.

He was listed in God's roll of heroes. God used him to destroy the Temple of Dagon.

It was wrong for him to marry a Philistine woman. It was

wrong for him to visit a harlot even though God delivered him from a trap to kill him.

He knew the danger of exposing himself to the Philistines. God cannot and will not continue to honor one who trifles with sin.

He grieved the Holy Spirit by his flirting with sin, by his stubbornness, his association with ungodly people, by his carnal lusts and by careless living and foolish conduct.

The Holy Spirit does not abandon us but does withdraw his peace, his power, and his blessings.

Samson had come to think he could not fall. Jesus said "Without me ye can do nothing." When Samson recognized his sin and cast himself upon the Lord he destroyed more of the enemy in his death than he had in his life.

God never abandons his children, those who trust in Jesus Christ, but sometimes leaves us to our own resources and the result of our waywardness.

I had a refreshing experience this week. In my message last week I said the mother of Moses was one of the greatest women

of the world and we don't even know her name.

This week I had a telephone call from some lovely lady. She reminded me of the statement and said we know her name. It is Jochebed. She noted a scripture and after a little research I found this verse; And Amram took him to Jochebed his fathers sister to wife and she bore him Aaron and Moses."

So we do know her name. My telephone connection was poor and I could hardly hear and understand the caller.

I learned a lot about her however. She has a charming voice. She lives on Ft. Clark.

She reads my column in the Brackett News which is always a recap of my Sunday morning sermon.

She reads it perceptibly catching the message. She is concerned about the Bible and is quite knowledgeable about it. She was thoughtful and helpful to me by calling. This sort of thing makes my work most rewarding.

There will be another message from the Bible at Frontier Baptist Church Sunday, at 11 a.m. Come and see.

Graduation is a serious transition

Gateway Ministries
Pator Charolette Corey

Graduation is a serious transition in a person's life. It is a transition from childhood into adulthood for those who know how to walk through the door of wisdom.

Some people graduate from high school, but never make the transition into adulthood.

Adulthood is more than paying rent or owning your own house, more than buying your own car, even more than getting married.

Adulthood comes by making mature choices. God's word says, "When I was a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things." (I Cor. 13:11)

Maturity is shown when you choose to put a bridle on your tongue, choosing to speak things that will edify or build up others and, in so doing, build up yourself.

Maturity asks God for wisdom with discernment (James 1:5-6). "Let him ask God, that giveth to all men liberally...but

let him ask in faith..."

Maturity is shown when you understand that "the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." (James 3:17).

Maturity is shown when you practice sifting through your thoughts and toss out any that do not conform to the word of God. Mature thoughts are those which are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtues, and full of praise. (Phil. 4:8). The Living Word of God has your formula for Success in Adulthood...

"Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established; And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. (Prov. 24:3-5) For your graduation we pray that God grant you the gift of wisdom so that you may prosper in all your ways. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

HEALTH

TDH offers advice for staying healthy in hot weather

Texans who suffered through 1998's deadly heat wave may be dreading the long, bright days of spring, summer and fall. According to the Texas Department of Health (TDH), last year was a scorcher with more than 140 heat-related deaths recorded in Texas through October.

Most often, the elderly, the very young, people with other illnesses or those without access to air conditioning are the victims of intense, prolonged heat. The combination of high temperatures and high humidity can cause a person's natural cooling system, or perspiration, to work overtime. Dehydration and heat illness can result if a person does not replace fluids and salts lost during perspiration.

Symptoms of a heat illness include profuse sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea, weak but rapid pulse and headaches. People with these symptoms should find shade and ventilation and drink water. If fluids are not replaced quickly, heat stroke can follow causing ex-

remely high body temperature, red and dry skin, rapid pulse, confusion, brain damage, loss of consciousness and, eventually, death. For severe symptoms get medical help immediately.

People can take precautions against heat illness, said Joe Stone, director of the TDH Emergency Preparedness Division. "Using common sense to stay cool is the most important protection you have," he said.

"Staying in an air-conditioned area, either at home or in a public place, is the most efficient way to combat heat. If air conditioning is not available, pull the shades over the windows and use cross-ventilation and fans to cool rooms. But in high temperatures and humidity, turn off the fans and aim them through a window to blow the hot air out."

Children especially can quickly become dehydrated. They need to drink fluids frequently, especially water, and wear light, loose clothes. Check on children often, especially if they are playing outside in high temperatures.

Other heat precautions include: Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle during hot weather. Drink plenty of fluids, but avoid drinks with alcohol, caffeine or a lot of sugar. Plan strenuous outdoor activity for early morning or late in the day. Take frequent breaks when working outside. Wear sun block, hats and light, loose fitting clothes. Stay indoors and in air conditioning as much as possible. Eat more frequently but be sure meals are well balanced and light.

Avoid dressing babies in heavy clothing or wrapping them in warm blankets. Check frequently on people who are elderly, ill or may need help.

Check with a doctor about the effects of the sun and heat exposure when taking prescription drugs, especially diuretics or antihistamines.

At first signs of heat illness—dizziness, nausea, headaches, muscle cramps—move to a cooler place, rest a few minutes, then slowly drink a cool beverage. Seek medical attention immedi-

ately if conditions do not improve. Pay attention to pets also. Be sure they have plenty of water and do not close them up in parked cars or hot buildings.

TDH's Division of Emergency Preparedness has a packet of heat wave-related publications available that includes a bilingual flier on heat precautions; a brochure explaining heat illness; instructions for school activity directors and coaches; and special reminders for nursing home and medical facility administrators.

"We urge the public to use and share these publications in any way they can to ensure that the high death and illness count for 1998 is not repeated," Stone said. The information also is available on the TDH Web site at www.tdh.state.tx.us. Click on Emergency Preparedness in the Healthy Community directory, then click on the Texas Heat Wave logo. People also may get the information from their local EMS, local health department or from TDH by calling 512-834-6700, ext 2322, or faxing 512-834-6736.

Human problem

Continued from Page 2
I can say that atheists have rights too. They can argue that Christianity is wrong, that there is no God, that evil occurs because the kids were mistreated as youngsters, because their parents spanked them. They can argue all those things and they would be dead wrong.

Christianity is the only way! If everyone lived by the tenets of Christianity there would be no evil in the world. That is a fact that is self-evident and inarguable. Christianity teaches peace, love, understanding, forgiveness, kindness, charity, and salvation. It teaches that life on earth is short and should be lived well to prepare for the endless future. It does not promote evil, or violence. It teaches that you should treat everyone as you would want to be treated — fairly, honestly, kindly and with respect.

I am willing to wager that the young men that performed the unthinkable evil deed in Colorado were not Christians. I'll further wager that their parents were liberal in their attitudes and probably didn't believe in corporal punishment. If their kids had been spanked in school they would most likely have sued the school for abuse. If not the above then they were from broken homes where the single parent didn't enforce discipline. They were probably into drugs,

the occult, and other dark and dangerous things. I do not know these things for certain, but in my experience they are likely. I have seen it a thousand times.

I don't know how to regain control of our destinies. It seems that the snowball is in motion and there is no stopping. Every time I turn on the television I see something else that tears out my heart and makes me want to scream in frustration. I know the answer and no one listens. The problem is obvious, the answer self-evident, and no one wants to take the trouble to act. We are too afraid to get involved. Are we cowards? Have we lost our moral courage?

These young men, these children, made not one, but several bombs in their rooms at home. How in the world could their parents have missed that? They ran around wearing black trench coats calling themselves The Trench Coat Mafia. They carried guns and spread terror. They were objects of fear in the school. Why wasn't something done before the situation escalated to murder and suicide?

Because, we have placed so many restrictions on the enforcement of laws against minors that they are basically above the law. There is nothing that can be done. They cannot be permanently expelled. They cannot be jailed. Their parents throw up their hands and say they can't

handle them anymore. "I've tried to talk to him and he just ignores me. I can't understand it; I gave him everything he ever wanted. I never hit him." Well maybe that's the problem.

Children need discipline. That is what makes them into functioning adults. They have to be taught that there are boundaries that cannot be crossed. There are rules, mores, tenets, laws, morals, and actions that are acceptable to society and stepping outside of those societal boundaries is not acceptable.

I have written before that Satan worship is one of the fastest growing religions in the world. Satanism has more than just a foothold in America. Satan is well on his way to have a stranglehold on us. There is a reason for that. We have grown complacent and spoiled. We no longer want to accept the responsibility that goes hand in hand with good Christian morality.

We don't want the burden of having to treat others like we want to be treated. People today want everything and want to give nothing. This society has become a society of takers and there are fewer and fewer givers. Unfortunately there cannot be only takers. For someone to receive, someone else has to give. Either that or whatever it is must be taken by force.

I would like to be optimistic.

I would like to think that this is a trend that will run its course; that someday we will return to a kinder and gentler time when kids could carry a pocketknife and be a Boy Scout and learn to shoot without danger of being killed or expelled or blown up. Unfortunately I have lost my optimism. I now think that the time has come for us to go the way of Rome, and Babylon, and ancient Egypt. Our time is up and we have lost. We have deserted our Christian roots and God has deserted us just like he did Israel. We are in a dive that will end in our destruction.

First we will lose our right to keep and bear arms. Next we will lose other rights. Then we will be invaded and overthrown, or possibly some self-serving politician will simply give us over into the hands of our enemies. We might even become so liberal that we degenerate into a chaos of anarchy.

I hope I am wrong, but I don't think The United States of America will be here in its present form in another fifty years. The rate of decline has escalated into a full-blown avalanche in the last thirty years and I see nothing happening which would indicate a reversal.

I have not given up. I will continue to fight. I will continue to try to make sense out of nonsense, but the diminishing morality of the country fright.

Happiness is ours

St Mary Magdalene Church
By Pat McKelvy

I guess the "if only" bug has been around a long time. It's pretty easy to catch: "if only I could win at golf I would be happy." "If only I had a million dollars...if only I could be a movie star...if only..."

Why is it that we always think that things or people will make us happy?

"If only my husband would work more in the yard..." "If only my neighbors would get

rid of their dog..." If only my children would do what I know is best for them..."

I believe that real happiness comes only from the Lord but we need to remember that the only person on this earth that can make us happy is ourselves. Happiness is ours for the finding, but we have to look for it and work for it and hope for it and pray for it and recognize it when we come across it.

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

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EMPLOYMENT

POSITION AVAILABLE ELEMENTARY Principal. Location: Jones Elementary, Brackett Independent School District, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville, TX 78832. Application procedures: Applications/Job Description can be picked up at the Brackett ISD Central Office, 400 Ann Street, or request by mail, Brackett ISD, P.O. Box 586, Brackettville, TX 78832. For information call Central Office at (830) 563-2491, fax (830) 563-9264. Applications accepted until the position is filled. Brackett Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. Direct inquiries to Taylor Stephenson, Superintendent.

THE TEXAS BAPTIST Home has positions working with adolescents. Experience preferred. Call 1-972-937-1321 or fax resume to 1-972-937-9510.

EMPLOYMENT

THE MIDDLE RIO Grande Development Council is accepting applications for a Workforce Case Manager III position to be housed in our Uvalde Workforce Center. Workforce Case Manager III salary range for this position is \$23,591 - \$27,311. This position is primarily responsible for advanced customer intake, assessment, application, and eligibility determination duties for all Workforce Development Programs; responsible for case management and serve as liaison to the community and agencies which serve as resources benefiting participants; provide lead role in the development of career paths and training recommendations leading to job placement in high skill, high wage jobs under close supervision of the Center Manager; reviews all intake eligibility and initiates team review for enrollment or referral to appropriate activities. Work includes the dissemination of basic information regarding Workforce Development programs; assisting in facilitating client access to all Workforce Development programs such as training and education services, employment services, and labor market information, as well as supportive services, including child care services, unemployment compensation, student loans, and other financial assistance programs. Applicants must possess, at a minimum, a High School diploma from an accredited high school or GED certification plus a minimum of four years in related work experience. Experience in interviewing and or working in a case management system serving customers through state or federal programs is preferred. Thirty hours of college academic courses may be substituted for each year of direct experience or two years of related experience may be substituted for each year of direct work experience. These positions may require some travel within and outside the region. All qualified persons interested in applying for this position may submit an application, a resume, and copies of transcripts to the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834, attention Ramon S. Johnson, Deputy Director of Administration. Application deadline for these positions will be Tuesday, May 25 at 5 p.m. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL District Now accepting applications for Clerical/Abstractor. Applicants must have HS or GED, Computer and Uniplex knowledge a must. Self motivated, Good Public Relations Skills, and be dedicated. This is a full-time permanent position, only very interested persons need apply. Application will be picked up at KCAD office. All applications must have resume attached. Applications must be in by June 18, 1999. No phone calls please - KCAD location: 412 South Ann St. Brackettville.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is soliciting Request for Qualifications (RFQ's) from qualified vendors for services such as Physicals, Drug Testing, Health Card Certifications, TB Test, X-Rays, Vision Care and Medication Assistance, etc. RFQ's may be obtained by contacting Ramon S. Johnson, Deputy Director of Administration at VOICE or TDD telephone number (830) 876-3533, MRGDC, 307 W. Nopal Street, Carrizo Springs, TX 78834. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council is an equal opportunity employer, and auxiliary aids and services may be made available upon request to individuals with disabilities. The Middle Rio Grande Development Council reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS, Sealed proposals addressed to the County Commissioners of Kinney County, Texas will be received at the Kinney County Court House until 10:00 a.m. on 15th Day of June, 1999, for the construction of certain county road improvements, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened. Principal work items include preparation of subgrade and furnishing and installing new base material on numerous county roads. A sum total of 26,103 cubic yards of material shall be obtained and installed on certain county roads. These roads include Chapman, Tularosa, Las Moras, Schubach, Standard, Anacacho, and Kinney County Ranch Estates. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified cashiers check, or an approved bond in an amount of not less than 5% of the maximum total bid, payable to Kinney County without recourse, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract with Kinney County, within ten (10) days after the award of the contract to him. Attention is called to the requirement that not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Contract Documents must be paid on this project, and that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Proposals forms, plans and specifications may be obtained from Hunter Associates Texas Ltd., 1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 410E, Austin, Texas 78723-1033, (512) 454-8716 upon payment of \$30.00. Payment is not-refundable. The right is reserved, as the interest of the County of Kinney may require, to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities in bids received. This project is being funded by a grant from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Project No. 718097 and FEMA. Honorable Herb Senne, County Judge Kinney County

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Contractor's Notice of Texas Highway Maintenance Work

Sealed proposals for Installation of Raised Pavement Markers in Maverick and Duval Counties covered by Control Nos. 604417001 and 604433001 will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 East Riverside, Austin, Texas, 78704, until 1:00 p.m., on June 2 & 3, 1999, respectively, and then publicly opened and read.

Applicable specifications relative to the Contracts are available for inspection at the Office of:
Rosa E. Trevino, P.E.
Director of Maintenance
1817 Bob Bullock Loop
Laredo, Texas 78043

The estimated costs for these projects are \$312,800 and \$284,428 respectively.
Only a Cashier's Check, Money Order or Teller's Check on a State or National Bank, on a State or National Saving and Loan Association or a State or Federally Chartered Credit Union for \$8,000 each are considered acceptable. The Proposal Guaranty must be in the amount stated and may be payable at or through the institution issuing the instruments or may be drawn on a non-bank and payable at or through a bank. The Department will not accept personal checks, certified checks, other types of money orders and bid bonds.
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