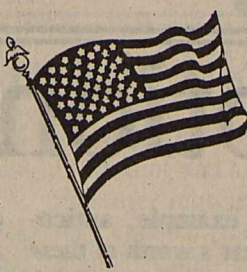


The Brackett News



Air Amistad this Sunday from 9 - 5
See story at bottom of page 1

12th year, No. 36

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

4-H Celebrates Corey welcomed into DRT Briefs ... National 4-H Week

Across the country, 4-H began its National 4-H Week 2000 on Sunday, October 1. The celebration continues through Saturday, October 7. National 4-H Week, celebrated annually, provides recognition to the 6.6 million youth involved in 4-H programs and the 6.3 million 4-H volunteers.

Pledging their hands to larger service is a key component to the 4-H philosophy of learning by doing.

This year, 4-H made a pledge to America's Promise to strengthen youth participation and youth/adult partnerships in order to build an infrastructure in communities where youth and adults commit to making their communities better places for everyone.

4-H, recognized for its service and volunteer activities has promoted youth volunteerism through its national PSA campaign, "Are You Into It?" In 1999, more than 217,000 youth got involved in

volunteerism, service learning and community service nationwide.

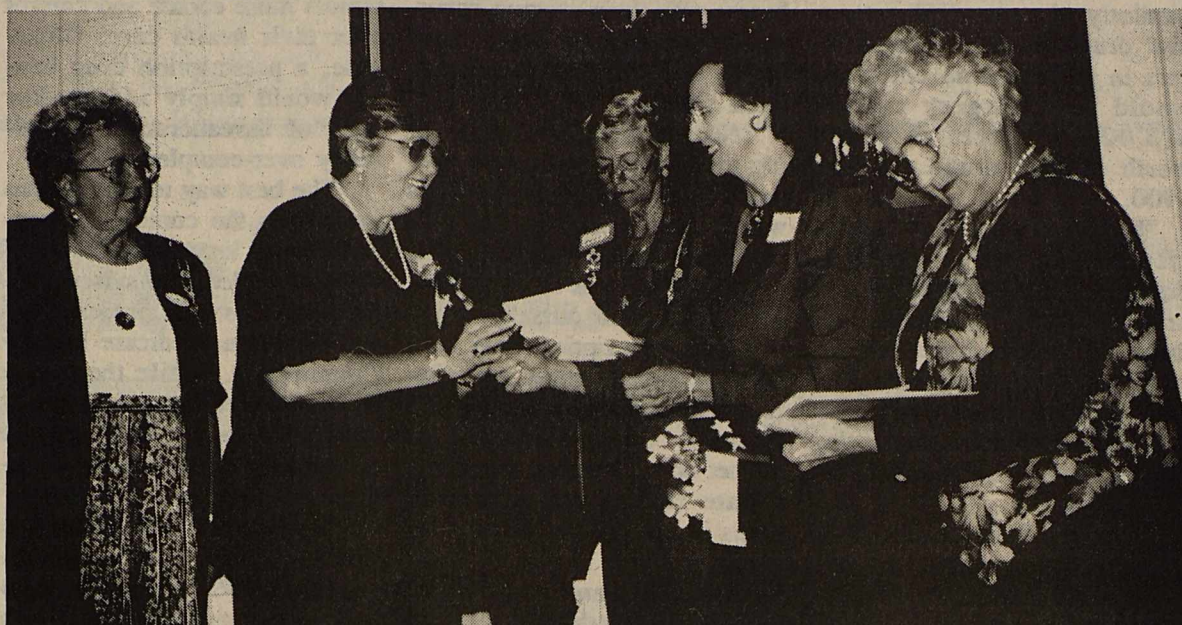
4-H volunteers range in age from 13 to well over 70. Many of them, though not all, 4-H alumni wish to give back to the organization that they benefited from.

They come from a wide array of economic situations and backgrounds and share the common interest of youth development.

In Kinney County, we have 11 volunteers and 94 4-H members. Our current projects are Photography, Shooting Sports, Beef, Sheep, Goats, Swine, Rabbits, Horse, Foods and Nutrition, Clothing and Textiles, Public Speaking and Veterinary Science.

A variety of 4-H volunteer opportunities are available in Kinney County.

For more information, contact our County Extension Agent, Robert Elledge at the Kinney County Extension Office, 563-2442.



From left: Patsy Keelan, Charolette Corey, Pat McKelvy, Bea Carmichael and Lora B. Garrison.

The Caddell Smith Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas began the new year, 2000-2001, Friday, September 22 with a Dutch Treat Luncheon at the Uvalde Country Club. Thirty-one members and ten guests attended. Greetings were given to all and members introduced their guests.

President Lora B. Garrison conducted a special service to welcome the two new members that were present, Charolette Corey of Brackettville and Patsy Keelan of Leakey.

Roberta Himebrook, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Division Head for Mathematics, Sci-

ences and Technologies at New Mexico State University gave a very interesting talk on her "Parson's Family History".

Pat McKelvy, Agnes Vondy, and Charolette Corey were among those who enjoyed the delicious luncheon provided by the Uvalde Country Club.

FCS Old Quarry drama club

By Woody Hornburg
Contributing Writer

"Bargain Hunters" need to search no more! Obtain a rare treasure by attending "The Coming Attractions Party," hosted by FCS's Old Quarry Society on October 8th at 5:00 p.m., located at FCS's Member Services "court-yard."

This is an opportunity to see five shows, one of which is a cabaret dinner for a \$25.00 season ticket.

The first production is "Antiques" at the Post Theater on October 21st at 7:30 p.m. A Sunday Matinee on October 22nd will be at 2:30 p.m. Other events on the docket are a Christmas Show, a Cabaret dinner/play in January and March will have two productions, a melodrama and a "Variety Show" for Fort Clark Days.

A rare bargain - grab this winner on October 8th!

Cavalry Brigade beautification of FCS continues

By Woody Hornburg

With fourteen volunteers, the "Cavalry Brigade" gussied up the Post Theater's entry hall. FCS's Historical Society furnished the materials and the "CB" supplied the elbow grease. Also, trash was removed from Las Moras Creek and a wilderness area received a "face lift".

On October 7th the "CB" will paint the "Band Stand" with materials furnished by Peter Pohl. But, that isn't all! Volunteers are needed to finish up the wilderness area beautification project and also a continuation of removing trash that has been found in Las Moras Creek. So, cheerful volunteers meet at Shafter Hall at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 7th and remember, after work, there is a free lunch which promotes good fun and wholesome fellowship associations.

Varsity Football

By Christina Luna
Contributing Writer

The Brackett Fighting Tigers will be back in action on Friday night against the LaPryor Bulldogs. Kick off time is set for 7:30 at LaPryor. The Tigers are having a great season and would like to see all of their fans out supporting them in the run for 4-0.

Local Emergency Planning Committee to present Emergency Plan to Commissioners

EMS Update
By Carolyn Rutherford
EMS Director

We need some good news today ... Rose Mary Slubar has reactivated her Emergency Medical Technician - Basic certification. Rose Mary was one of the founders of Kinney County EMS. Congratulations, Rose Mary ... well done!

The Kinney County Local Emergency Planning Committee has been busy "doing its thing," planning for emergencies which may affect our county. One of our main concerns, Warning (letting people know there is an emergency or potential emergency) was noted in a recent letter to the editor in this publication. As of this moment, the siren at Ft. Clark is in good repair and is working. Your "best bet" as far as keeping informed of weather related emergencies is to purchase a NOAA weather alert radio. Weather alert radios can be purchased at electronic retail stores, such as Circuit City or Radio Shack and is relatively cheap (\$15 to \$40). This radio, electric powered with battery back-up, functions either in a monitor mode or alert mode. It activates whenever there is potentially dangerous weather developing. The announcements give important information, such as kind of hazard (lightning, high wind, hail, tornado, flash flooding), either as an alert (possible hazard) or a warning (hazard is occurring). This information includes things like the direction of travel and counties to be affected, along with some instructions for those affected areas.

The LEPC continues to work on the written Emergency Plan for the county. Our efforts have been moving right along, thanks to the hard work of Toady Fritter (works for City of Brackettville Housing Authority), a member of the LEPC. She has been working on food, sheltering, and agreements on behalf of the LEPC. With the valuable assistance of Mona Miller, a resident of Ft. Clark, agreements have been circulated to local businesses, church groups, and commercial concerns to "nail down" the details for emergencies. The local response has been very rewarding with a strong spirit of cooperation. In fact, there are many folks who are already willing to help us out in this advanced planning. Local HAM radio operators signed up a couple of months ago, and will solve the inevitable problems with communications. Jane Pratt of the American Red Cross office in Del Rio plans on training all these folks who want to assist us with shelters and disaster assessment. Other areas of the LEPC work: notification for evacuation, emergency services involvement (includes Fire Department, law enforcement, and EMS). The revised Emergency Management Plan for Kinney County will be distributed to key county officials and Commissioners' Court for review and finalized (it is hoped) at the next Commissioners' Court meeting, October 12, 2000.

Plans are being made to launch a door-to-door public information drive. We will be circulating bilingual flyers, explaining what to do in event of an emergency. Examples of such information are:

what to have ready all the time, what to take with you, how to secure your residence before leaving it, and where to go. Another purpose of the door-to-door information drive is to learn who in the community may need help getting to a shelter. This information will make our emergency workers in EMS, law enforcement, and Fire Department more aware of which people need to be checked on regularly to assure they are doing well. Look for this to happen sometime before the holidays.

Once more, a reminder: if you have an emergency, call 911. Please be aware that terms of a personnel variance with Texas Department of Health require us to inform the public that any additional ambulances responding to a call after our primary ambulance is committed to a call, may be staffed with EMS personnel that do not necessarily meet TDH required staffing. However, be assured that at all times, there will be an EMS certified attendant with the patient.

Register to Vote Your vote makes a difference

By Martha P. Hooten
Voter Registrar

The November 7th General Election is just around the corner and October 10th is the last day to register to vote, in person (deadline is extended since last day falls on Sunday and Monday is a national holiday).

Voter registration cards are mailed out every two years and many are returned as undeliverable. After confirmation notices are mailed out to the voters whose certificates were returned and I receive no response, then they are placed on a suspense list then cancelled after two federal elections. If I receive information that they are deceased or have moved and re-registered in another county then they are cancelled immediately.

Voters are asked to inform the Voter Registrar's office of any changes that have taken place such as change of residence and mailing address, name change or any information that may be incorrect on their voter registration certificate. It is highly recommended to make changes before the deadline so that our registration records can be as accurate as possible and so that we may avoid any problems on election day.

If you are not sure of the status of your voter record, please feel free to either call the office at 563-2688 or come by. We are located on the first floor of the county courthouse. My deputy Catherine and I will be happy to assist you. I encourage you to exercise your constitutional right to vote. It is up to you to participate. Your vote can make a difference.

Air Amistad expects more than 40,000 visitors

By Jim Teet
Contributing Writer

Laughlin Air Force Base - The popular U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Demonstration Team and the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachutists headline a full day of airpower demonstrations and vintage aircraft on display Sunday, October 8, at Air Amistad 2000.

The annual military air show by Laughlin is free and the public is invited to visit the aircraft on display in the air and on the ground. Good weather is expected to bring more than 40,000 visitors.

Ground displays include the C-

130, C-17 and C-141 cargo aircraft; KC-10, KC-17 and KC-135 tanker aircraft; F-15, F-16, F-117 and A-10 fighter/bomber aircraft; plus U.S. Army HH-60 and U.S. Border Patrol helicopters, the E-3A AWACS and a variety of vintage aircraft once used by the U.S. military.

Laughlin gates open at 9 a.m. and more than 40 refreshment and souvenir booths will be on site. Buses will provide free shuttle service for everyone to and from the parking areas.

The complete schedule of flying and ground entertainment activities follows.

Event	Time
Laughlin Gates Open to the Public	9:00
Military Working Dog Demonstration	9:30
Opening Ceremonies - Golden Knights Parachutes	9:45
Casa De La Culture Ballet Folklorico	10:00
AT-6 and PT-17 Steerman Flyover	10:05
Tiger Klassen SU-26 Aerobatics Display	10:15
Jets Cheerleader Team	10:30
T-1, T-37, T-38, T-6A Flyover	11:00
Del Rio AFJROTC Drill Teams	11:10
U.S. Navy F-18C Demonstration	11:10
The Machine (Band Performance)	Noon
Russian ISKRA and Czech L-29D Flyovers	12:05
U.S. Navy F-18C Demonstration	12:30
U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachutists	12:50
Jacquelyn Conoly (Singer)	1:00
P-51 Aerobatics Demonstration	1:30
Tiger Klassen SU-26 Aerobatics Display	1:45
F-15 and F-4 Flyovers	2:00
Puppetman Performance	2:05
T-38 Flyover	2:15
U.S. Air Force Re-enlistment Ceremony	2:30
U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Demonstration	3:00
Air Amistad 2000 Closes	5:00

Concealed handgun course offered

The Middle Rio Grande Law Enforcement Academy will offer a concealed handgun course October 6 and 7 at Southwest Texas Junior College in Uvalde.

According to academy director Norman Stutte, the course is for individuals who want to comply with the Texas Concealed Handgun Carry Law that went into effect in 1996, or for individuals wishing to renew their current license.

"The handgun license expires on the date of your birthday and you have six months to take a renewal course," Stutte said. Instruction for the 15-hour course will be conducted Friday, Oct. 6, from 6 to 10 p.m. and on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cost for first-time training is \$90 and the renewal training is \$45. Instruction will be in the Espinosa Building, Room 12.

"The course will cover non-violent dispute resolution, gun laws and use of force, safety at home and rules and changes in the Texas Concealed Handgun Carry Law," Stutte said.

Individuals interested in taking the course should call (830) 591-7237.

Members sought

Hill County Community MHMR Center is soliciting interested persons to become members in the Mental Retardation Citizen's Advisory Committee (MR-CAC).

All interested persons may apply. Consumer/family representation for children and adult services is preferred.

For more information, interested persons should contact Carolyn Davis at (830) 249-4180 [Boerne, TX] no later than Friday, October 6, 2000.

Stuart Bat Cave

Observe and estimated 500,000 bats emerge from Stuart Bat Cave in the evening on September 23rd. A program will be given regarding bats and the environment.

Programs hosted by friends and volunteers of the Park. Fee: Adults \$5, children under 13, \$3. Reservations required.

Tours are held with resources and weather permitting. Call Park for information and reservations at 830-563-2342.

INSIDE

Rx for Medicare

"No group in America feels the pinch of increasing drug costs more than the elderly. While older people are enjoying longer, healthier lives thanks to cutting-edge drugs and treatment, some face hard choices when it comes to refilling their prescriptions -- or refilling their pantries." - Kay Bailey Hutchinson

Opinion/Page 2

Youth loan applications

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America ...

Ranch/Page 4

Varsity Volleyball

The Varsity Volleyball team won 15-5 and 15-8 against Comstock on Saturday September 30. Leading scorers were Mayra Aguirre and Erika Garcia.

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A prescription for Medicare

Dewhurst hails success of historic pipeline safety conference

Washington, D.C. - Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison made the following statement Friday regarding Medicare reform:

"No group in America feels the pinch of increasing drug costs more than the elderly. While older people are enjoying longer, healthier lives thanks to cutting-edge drugs and treatment, some face hard choices when it comes to refilling their prescriptions - or refilling their pantries.

"Prescription drugs can now control disease and chronic illness that, just a few years ago, were considered hopeless. The research and testing necessary to get new drugs to the market place is expensive, so the price of these miracles-in-a-bottle has risen faster than nearly any other consumer item. But advances in pharmaceutical research also have the potential to significantly reduce the cost of health care for seniors.

"Take for example, anticoagulants. A year's worth of these blood thinning agents, which help prevent the recurrence of strokes, costs \$1,000. Compare that to a \$100,000 in lifetime costs for taking care of an individual who has suffered a stroke. Similarly, the new 'H2 antagonist' drugs are used to treat ulcers in patients who otherwise would need surgery costing \$28,000 or more. A year's worth of such drugs can cost \$900.

"Medicare would pay for the ulcer surgery. But Medicare does not provide prescription drug coverage. Although two-thirds of seniors have private, supplementary coverage that includes a prescription drug benefit, the other third are paying 100 percent of their escalating drug costs.

"Congress is in the process of trying to figure out the best way to address this situation. As a so-

ciety, we should be looking for a way to provide prescription drugs to those who need them but are unable to afford them. We must be careful to design a plan that is responsible, and tailored to those who truly need the help, so that seniors who are happy with their existing coverage are not forced into a more costly one-size-fits-all government program.

"Nor are older Americans going to be happy with a government program that decides which drugs they can and cannot have. Most of us believe such decisions are best made by our doctors and ourselves.

"Any prescription drug benefit will have to meet my criteria for common sense and effectiveness. Government should not set up a plan that would duplicate coverage that already exists in the private sector. Nor should we have to wait 5 or 10 years for the plan to take effect. That is the length of time some proposals on the table would take.

"The approach I favor would have two main components:

"First it should provide immediate assistance to the states to expand or initiate their prescription drug support programs for moderate to low-income seniors. In many states these pro-

grams have put needed drugs within the reach of elderly individuals who otherwise were going without.

"Second, a Medicare prescription drug benefit should be part of a broader Medicare modernization plan that gives seniors more choice and control over their health care. Otherwise, a prescription drug benefit would simply add another layer of bureaucracy to an already over-complex system.

"The best way to address this issue is in the context of comprehensive, long-term reform of the entire Medicare system, reform such as was proposed by the bipartisan Medicare Review Commission. While the White House rejected these recommendations, I am still confident we can develop a consensus in Congress on this issue.

"Medicare is essentially the same program that was established in 1965 in response to hospital costs associated with acute care for the elderly. Today, medical advances mean patients can be treated at home or in the doctor's office, and the emphasis has shifted to preventative care. We need to strengthen the system and make it as modern as the medicine it now provides."

AUSTIN-Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst said key western states are firm on pipeline safety after an historic conference in Austin on Wednesday, September 20.

"This is the first time multiple state officials who grant pipeline easements, federal agencies overseeing pipelines and private industry sat down together and discussed mutual safety concerns," Dewhurst said. "I am pleased by the industry's commitment to do more, and we have learned there is more government can do to improve pipeline safety."

"My fellow Land Commissioners agree we have to address this issue together. I can promise you that pipeline safety will be a top priority at next January's meeting of the Western States Land Commissioners Association in Oklahoma City."

Dewhurst recently learned that 22 out of 49 congressional statutory requirements imposed since 1988 to improve pipeline safety have not been implemented.

"I believe pipelines can and must be safely operated, but the federal Office of Pipeline Safety must be far more aggressive in implementing all federal health and safety laws and recommendations to safeguard the public,"

Dewhurst said. "I don't want Texans to suffer from pipeline accidents like the one that recently killed so many in New Mexico, or the 1999 tragedy in Bellingham, Washington."


In addition to Dewhurst, Land Commissioners and officials from Arizona, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Washington attended the meeting. Among those who addressed attendees were Jim Hall, Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Terri Binns, Regional Director of the federal Office of Pipeline Safety; Marty Matheson, General Manager of Pipelines for the American Petroleum Institute; and Michael Williams, Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission. El Paso Pipelines, Coastal Corp., Longhorn Pipeline, Exxon-Mobil, Equilon Pipeline, Colonial Pipeline and the Association of Texas Intrastate Natural Gas Pipelines also had representatives at the meeting.

"I hope yesterday's meeting marks the beginning of a continuous dialog between the pipeline industry and government agencies charged with protecting the public," Dewhurst said. "It's a good start for furthering our efforts to alleviate this problem."

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Big Mama Sez!



When down in the mouth, remember Jonah. He came out all right.

Texas Rail Crossing collisions increase

Railroad Commission Chairman Michael Williams, Commissioner Charles R. Matthews, and Commissioner Tony Garza urge motorists to be cautious when approaching any highway-rail intersection.

The safety reminder came following the release of figures showing highway-rail crossing collisions in Texas last year increasing for the first time since 1994.

According to the final 1999 statistics from the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration, 365 collisions occurred at highway-rail crossings in Texas last year compared to 322 in 1998. The 1999 figure represents a 13 percent increase from the previous year. Texas once again led the

nation last year in the number of collisions.

"This is not the way I had hoped to end the decade," Williams said. "The worst part is that these collisions are generally avoidable."

"It's important to always be cautious at rail crossings," Matthews stated. "Obeying crossing signals and warning signs is the surest way to guarantee safety."

"No meeting, deadline or appointment is worth the life-and-death risk you take when crossing the path of an oncoming train," added Garza. "Fact is, you can't beat a train. That's a lesson that can't be repeated enough."

Williams, Matthews and

Garza noted the 41 highway-rail fatalities recorded in 1999 represented a nine percent decrease from the previous year. The state also recorded 175 injuries last year.

Texas counties recording the most highway-rail crossing collisions in 1999 included: Harris (29); Dallas (25); Tarrant (24); Jefferson (14); and Bexar (12).

Statistics reveal that crossing gates were present in 28 percent of highway-rail crossing collisions recorded last year. More than half (56 percent) of the motorists involved never stopped at the intersection before being hit.

According to preliminary data compiled by the Railroad Commission of Texas, 98 high-

way-rail grade crossing collisions have already occurred in the state through the first three months of 2000.

Through a joint effort with the "Operation Lifesaver" program, the Railroad Commission works year round to educate drivers about rail crossing safety with classes held in schools and other educational venues statewide. Operation Lifesaver classes emphasize the safety message of "Look, Listen and Live."

Texas has almost 12,000 miles of mainline track within the state - the most of any state in the nation. Texas also has the largest number of highway-rail crossings in the country with more than 18,000.

The Brackett News

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New Subscription Renewal Change of Address

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, Sept. 25
1:29 p.m., A city employee called to report a two vehicle accident at the corner of Gove St. and Spring St. An ambulance was requested.

7:55 p.m., A local man called to report that there were two vehicles, a black Jeep Cherokee and a white pick-up truck with an extended cab driving fast on S. Patrick St. he was afraid they might "run over" him and his daughter. Deputy Chism responded, however, was unable to locate the vehicles.

Tuesday, Sept. 26
10:38 p.m., A woman from a local ranch called to report that someone had broken into her mobile home. She stated that the front door was still wide open, and she was unsure if "they" were still inside. Deputy Henry Lutz was dispatched to the scene, he also requested Border Patrol to the scene.

11:57 p.m., A local woman called to report her husband had returned home drunk, an argument ensued with the man throwing items in the kitchen. Deputy Chism was dispatched to the scene.

Wednesday, Sept. 27
7:30 a.m., Leonel G. Frausto, 49, of Del Rio, Tx was arrested by Officer Tom Wylie for DPS warrants. He was released the same day for fines paid.

11:35 p.m. A man from a local ranch came in person to the K.C.S.O. to report an attempted break-in to his property. He stated that there had been approx. 5 or 6 attempts to burglarize his property and he has taken measures to prevent them.

1:25 p.m., A local woman called to report that she had lost

her cell phone on 9/22 and that her cellular company required a sheriff's report.

Thursday, Sept. 28
1:25 p.m., A Houston, Texas, man called to report that he had left his vehicle on the side of the road on Hwy 90W and that it would be picked up later that day.

2:10 p.m., The Uvalde Police Dept. called to report that a white F-150 pick-up truck with chrome wheels and extended cab driven by a white male was stolen. They stated that the vehicle may be headed towards Brackettville. Chief Ron Ring was notified. Later Uvalde P.D. notified that the vehicle had been found.

4:00 p.m., Jose Manuel De La Rosa, 27, of Del Rio, Texas was arrested by Sheriff Burgess for a county warrant. He was released the same day for fines paid.

Friday, Sept. 29
8:00 p.m., A local woman reported that she and her boyfriend were having a dispute over property. Both parties spoke with Judge Ford. A report was filed and the woman was advised to speak with Judge Ford on the following Monday.

Thursday, Sept. 30
2:05 p.m., A call was received from a local woman, stating that her mother had passed away. Deputy Karl Chism and Judge Ford were notified and dispatched to the residence. John Ford notified Brackett Funeral Home and they stated that they would respond to the residence.

9:15 a.m., Ana Gabriel Bonilla, 26, of Poteet, Tx was arrested by Officer Tony Ashley for Theft by Check. She posted bond and was released the same

day.
10:10 p.m., A local man called to report a locked vehicle at a local convenience store. Reserve Deputy Larry Robinson was notified.

10:25 p.m., A local woman called to report loud music on Spring St. Reserve Deputy Robinson was dispatched to the scene. However, the music was under the legal limit according to the meter used.

10:42 p.m., A second local woman called to report loud music. She was notified that the noise level had previously been checked that night and at that time was under the legal limit. She stated that if nothing was done she would call the Sheriff at home. Reserve Deputy Robinson went to the scene to read the meter.

Friday, Oct. 1
1:10 p.m., Martinez Francisco Orralde, 34, of Mexico was arrested by Deputy Manuel Pena Jr. for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

7:40 p.m., Laura Connors Campos, 39, of Uvalde, Tx was arrested by Officer Wylie for DWI 1st Offense. She was released the next day after posting bond.

10:00 p.m., K.C.S.O. received a call from V.V.S.O. that there was a loose cow on Hwy 277 S. A local rancher believed to be the owner of the cow was notified.

Saturday, Oct. 2
4:34 a.m., A local man called to report that while getting ready to go for his morning run, he saw a man standing by a local church trying to open a window. Chief Ron Ring was notified and dispatched to the situation. Upon arrival at the church he radioed

the Sheriff's office saying there were two illegal aliens running around the church. Border Patrol was notified as was a person responsible for the church.

5:06 a.m., The above illegal aliens were both charged with burglary of a building. Border Patrol took custody of both illegals for questioning. It was found that one illegal alien was 16 years of age and the second was 26 years of age.

10:41 p.m., A local man called to report that he was having difficulty with a minor child. He requested a deputy to discuss the problem with.

Sunday, Oct. 3
4:07 a.m., Casimiro Godina Jr., 33, of Quemado, TX, was arrested by Deputy Karl Chism for DWI and a probation violation. He is still be held.

Your Representatives

U.S. Senator
The Honorable Phil Gramm
370 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-2934

U.S. Senator
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
283 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5922

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110 E. Broadway
Del Rio, Texas 78840
1-830-774-6547

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The Honorable George W. Bush
Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711
1-800-252-9600

New EPA report reveals common tap water contaminant likely to cause cancer

(ARA) - Drinking water quality is just a problem for big cities with too many factories and too many cars, right?

Not so, says James Elder, Former Director of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. A recent study by EPA revealed atrazine, a common tap water contaminant in the Midwest, to be more dangerous than previously thought. EPA has recommended the commonly used herbicide be upgraded from a "possible" to a "likely" carcinogen.

"A common misconception is that rural America is safe from drinking water contamination. In fact, some of the most dangerous water contaminants, such as atrazine, are present in communities throughout the Midwest," says Elder. "These herbicides seep into the water supply after being applied primarily to corn fields to kill weeds."

Atrazine is the most widely used farm weed killer in the nation and a common tap water contaminant. Atrazine contaminates the tap water of more than 10 million people in the Midwest and causes more health standard violations in tap water than any other EPA-regulated chemical pollutant. (Source: Environmental Working Group)

"Water utilities are spending millions of dollars per year testing tap water for atrazine and other agricultural chemicals," says Elder. "Most existing drinking water treatment plants are not designed to remove atrazine before it reaches the tap. And while the EPA considers what action it will take to tighten the existing standard, consumers need to take personal action."

Chicken pox can and should be prevented

Although chicken pox is a common disease, it should not be taken lightly. Chicken pox, or varicella, is a highly contagious viral disease that most often strikes children. It causes fever and those itchy skin lesions that torment about 4 million people each year. However, many people do not realize that chicken pox also can lead to serious complications or even death.

About 9,300 people - mostly children - are hospitalized each year for complications resulting from chicken pox. About 100 die. Serious problems that may result from chicken pox include swelling of the brain, pneumonia, ear infections and loss of muscle coordination. The risk of developing severe infections from chicken pox increases as people get older.

The good news is that a relatively new vaccine is available to inoculate children and adults against the disease. The Food and Drug Administration approved the varicella vaccine in 1995 for use in individuals at least 12 months of age.

Effective August 1, 2000, the state of Texas now requires the varicella vaccine for children who have not previously been diagnosed with chicken pox. The varicella vaccine (or proof of past chicken pox infection) will be a school requirement for two age groups: (1) Children ages 12 months through five years who were born on or after Sept. 2, 1994; and (2) Children 12 years old or older who were born between Sept. 2, 1988 and Sept. 2, 1994.

Children ages six through 11 years (during the 2000-2001 school year) will not be affected by the requirement until they turn 12 years of age. In addition, children who were born before Sept. 2, 1988 (i.e., children 13 years of age or older during the 2000-2001 school year), will not be affected by the requirement. For more information, log onto the Texas Department of Health website at <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/immunize/uparch/w00faq.htm>.

Even if a child is not required to receive the varicella vaccine, the physicians of the Texas Medical Association recommend parents vaccinate their children against chicken pox if they are at least 12 months of age and have never had the disease.

Elder recommends using a home water filtration system as an effective way to reduce the level of atrazine in drinking water. Many of these units are surprisingly affordable and easy to use.

"The most important thing to look for when shopping for a water filter is to make sure that it has been certified by an independent agency, such as the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF), a nationally recognized not-for-profit agency that certifies water filters,"

says Elder. "For example, the PUR Ultimate faucet mount is NSF-certified to reduce atrazine."

Health Effects of Atrazine

The recent upgrade of atrazine by EPA from a "possible" carcinogen to a "likely" carcinogen comes after a five-year review of industry and government data summarized in EPA's new "hazard assessment," revealing atrazine to be of more serious concern than before. The report also says there are indications that atrazine could cause

uterine, prostate and breast cancer in humans and may also disrupt reproductive development.

Children are especially at risk from exposure to atrazine. Based on animal studies, EPA has presented findings that atrazine has the potential to deliver potent harmful effects to the fetus, infant and children reaching puberty. (Source: Environmental Protection Agency)

Previously reported short-term health effects from exposure to

atrazine include congestion of heart, lung and kidneys, low blood pressure, muscle spasms, weight loss and damage to the adrenal glands. Long-term effects from chronic exposure to atrazine include weight loss, cardiovascular damage, retinal and some muscle degeneration and cancer. (Source: Environmental Protection Agency)

To learn more about the atrazine levels in your local drinking water supply, visit www.purwater.com. In addition to finding direct

links to the EPA consumer confidence reports — water quality reports prepared by local municipal water suppliers — the site provides consumers with useful information on common drinking water contaminants. If your community's water report is not available on the EPA Web site, call your local water supplier and request one be sent to you.

Courtesy of ARA Content, www.aracontent.com, e-mail: info@aracontent.com

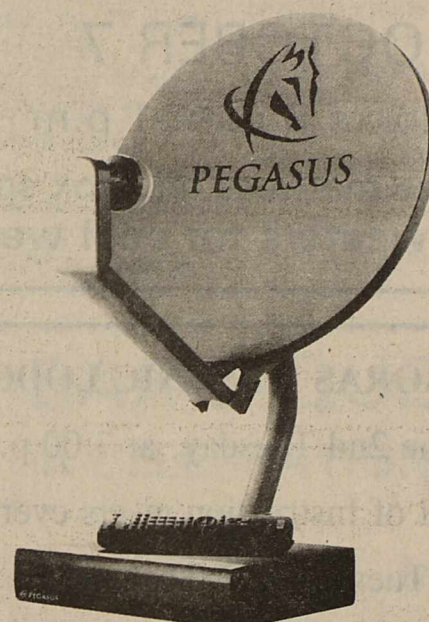
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Youth loan applications being accepted

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America, and similar organizations.

Each project must be a part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization supervisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

Only projects of modest size can be financed. A modest project is limited in physical size, capital requirements, and overall objectives. The maximum amount of the loan will be based on the individual project. Youths may use the

money to buy animals, equipment, and supplies; buy, rent, or repair needed tools and equipment; and pay operating expenses for running the project.

The Farm Service Agency, Farm Loan Office is located at 2306 West Dickinson, Suite 1, Ft. Stockton, Texas and serves the following counties: Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Kinney, Loving, Maverick, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, Terrell, Val Verde, Ward and Winkler. For an application or additional information contact the Ft. Stockton Office at (915) 336-5206 or your local FSA Office.

FSA is an equal opportunity lender. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: The Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

AgriPro Wheat to Market Texas A&M Wheat Varieties

AgriPro Wheat, a business unit of Advanta USA, has signed a licensing agreement with Texas A&M University to market Texas A&M winter wheat and triticale varieties.

The licensing arrangement with AgriPro was initially proposed by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, which is seeking private business partners to foster sustainability and growth of its research program and increase returns from its crop breeding efforts. Frank Gilstrap, associate director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, says that for Texas A&M, the partnership with AgriPro brings key advantages. Among them:

- Greater commercial capability to market "TAM" varieties.
- A way to augment efforts to maintain seed certification standards, and enforce intellectual property rights in Texas and other states.
- A strong system for producing sufficient seed of licensed varieties to effectively meet market demand.

• A means of monitoring and auditing seed sales and usage, and conducting national and regional evaluation and performance tests of licensed varieties to identify and promote varietal adoption.

• Potential access to new technologies.

AgriPro Wheat will market TAM varieties in the same way they have marketed AgriPro Wheat varieties for more than twenty years. That includes a royalty stream, which TAM will share in. More importantly however, working with Texas A&M offers an opportunity to expand certified seed acreage in Texas, thus improving the overall health of the Texas wheat industry, says David Worrall, AgriPro Wheat breeder and co-manager of the company.

"Certified seed is planted on less than two percent of wheat acres in Texas. This means that basic seed quality in the state is substandard. Both AgriPro and

Texas A&M believe we can improve that number by working with Texas A&M and its educational programs. Once the growers understand certified seed is an important quality control program designed for their benefit, we will have a healthier wheat seed industry."

Both Gilstrap and Worrall believe the partnership will benefit Texas crop producers, resulting in high quality seed adapted to Texas environments. "Buyers of Texas wheat will have a greater ability to know seed origin and its characteristics, which will benefit quality awareness of wheat grown in the state," says Gilstrap.

TAM varieties sold through AgriPro will be priced similarly to AgriPro varieties currently marketed in Texas. Worrall points out that Texas A&M is under no obligation to market its varieties exclusively through AgriPro Wheat.

Indeed, Texas A&M may continue to use traditional marketing

channels and adapt new ones. As well, AgriPro Wheat is under no obligation to market Texas A&M varieties.

"I have great confidence in the people we're dealing with," says Gilstrap. "It's a relationship that promises to work well for Texas A&M, but more importantly, our producers."

Worrall stresses that the partnership between AgriPro Wheat and Texas A&M will not affect the breeding programs or research direction of either entity. "This is simply a marketing relationship. We will take their finished products, and market them," he says. "We're not in the market to buy public programs and we're not out beating the bushes to market varieties from other public wheat breeding programs. We just felt that in this case, we could serve producers better by working together rather than working separately and that's what our arrangement with Texas A&M will accomplish."

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Louisiana joins Equine Passport Program

By Terry Beals
 Texas Animal Health Commission
 DVM Executive Director

It's a done deal. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency, reports Louisiana has joined the "equine passport" program for horses, donkeys, mules and asses originating within and traveling among the participating states: Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi and Louisiana.

"We are very happy to join the four states already using this six-month health document," said Dr. Maxwell Lea, Louisiana's state veterinarian. "We've received positive comments from equine owners about this program and think it will provide convenience and benefits for riders from all the states involved."

The six-month equine passport can be used for intra- or interstate travel, in lieu of a certificate of veterinary inspection (health paper), which is valid only 30 to 45 days, depending on the state in which it is presented. Equine that will be traveling under the equine passport program must be permanently identified with a tattoo, brand or microchip implant. The animals also must be tested negative for the viral disease Equine

Infectious Anemia (EIA), also called "Coggins," within 30 days prior to being issued the passport. The official EIA test document, called a VS 10-11, must be presented with the equine passport when entering participating states.

"Under the passport program, equine owners need only one passport and an EIA test document for an entire season of travel to nearby states," said Dr. Lea. "It will save producers time and money and attract riders from other participating states."

Dr. Terry Beals, Texas state veterinarian and TAHC executive director, said about 50 passports have been issued for Texas equine. "It's early in the trail ride, rodeo and competition season, and I expect other owners who travel among the passport states will be contacting their accredited veterinarians for the document," he said. "The passport may not be used at Texas pari-mutuel race tracks, but all other major shows and events welcome the document."

For more information on obtaining, owners or trainers may contact their accredited veterinarian or call their TAHC area office, or the Permits section at the TAHC in Austin at 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777.

Farm Service Agency holds committee election

Submitted by
 Farm Service Agency

The election of responsible agricultural producers is important to all farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because the county Farm Service Agency (FSA) committee is a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Elections for committee membership are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA.

There will be elections for three positions on the area committee this year. The positions will be for the west side of Uvalde County, for Kinney County, and for Maverick County.

The county FSA committees help run FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will have and how they will be run. They make FSA agricultural programs fit the needs faced by local producers.

Committees make decisions on:

- commodity price support

loans and payments;

- establishment of allotments, yields, and marketing quotas;
- farmer loans;
- conservation programs;
- incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities; and
- other farm disaster assistance.

FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and committee members apply their judgement and knowledge to make local decisions.

Important dates:
 October 30 - Last day to file nomination forms
 November 24 - Ballots mailed to eligible voters.
 December 4 - Last day to return voter ballots.

January 1 - Elected committee members and alternates take office.

Farm owners, operators, tenants, and sharecroppers of legal voting age can vote if they are eligible to take part in any FSA program. Check with the FSA in Uvalde County for voting requirements. You can reach them at 830-278-9197.

Texas should benefit from USDA's increased livestock health grants, cooperative agreements

Texas livestock health programs should benefit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) 2002 initiative, which calls for more state grants and cooperative agreements to strengthen state-federal ties. "This is very good news for states, because as we finally 'close out' the cattle brucellosis and cattle tuberculosis eradication programs, it will help ensure we can maintain an adequate infrastructure of staffing, equipment and resources to address emergency disease outbreaks of natural disasters affecting livestock," said Dr. Terry Beals, Texas state veterinarian and executive director for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

Dr. Alfonso Torres, deputy administrator for USDA's Veterinary Services, discussed the 2002 initiative with state veterinarians gathered in Corpus Christi for the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA), an umbrella group for all animal agriculture species and organizations. Dr. Torres said that as cattle brucellosis cooperative agreements shrink, due to eradication of the bacterial disease, doors open to address other goals.

Among the area targeted, said Dr. Torres, are diseases of feral swine. More than 23 states report a growing population of wild hogs that are capable of carrying and transmitting pseudorabies (a viral infection of swine) and swine brucellosis. These diseases have been nearly wiped out in domestic swine herds, and the wild hogs could jeopardize a state's hard-won sta-

tus in the national eradication program. Furthermore, if they are exposed, the free-ranging scavengers are a ready host for native and exotic ticks and foreign animal diseases such as hog cholera or African swine fever.

Dr. Torres also listed disease surveillance in Yellowstone National Park as a priority and said a settlement is being negotiated between the USDA-APHIS and other federal and state agencies to combat brucellosis infection in the park's bison. He said a compromise will be required as the current "bison management plan" offered by another federal agency addresses control, but not eradication of the disease within the park. He said a panel will be convened to determine what is required to eliminate brucellosis infection in Yellowstone by 2010.

Another priority Dr. Torres discussed with the group was emergency management plans for handling livestock in disease outbreaks or natural disasters. He said that, in addition to addressing sufficient infrastructure, an emergency management specialist will be named for each state. A number of states, including Texas, already have state and federal staff trained and assigned to response teams that can be on site within a few hours.

Besides 900 miles of border we share with Mexico, Texas has major air and seaports, making us particularly vulnerable to a foreign animal disease or pest introduction," said Dr. Beals. "Disaster preparedness is no small task, as it requires training, coordination and materials, to enable a response

team to be on site within a few hours, ready for work."

Dr. Torres said emergency plans may be needed if exotic ticks are introduced, referring to incidences when tick-infested reptiles were discovered at Florida import stations. Also this spring, USDA inspectors at the Miami Import Center discovered screwworm maggots on horses imported from Argentina and Venezuela. The animals were treated immediately for the fresh flesh-eating maggots, and the stalls in the secure import center were disinfected.

Besides stepping up surveillance for ticks entering through import stations, the USDA 2002 initiative also addresses the Texas-Mexico border where federal "tick riders" patrol on horseback, watching for fever tick-laden stray livestock crossing the Rio Grande from Mexico.

Finally, he said bluetongue, a vector-borne disease, will be followed and mapped, as the 2002 initiative will provide funding for surveillance through the collection and testing of slaughter samples.

In Texas, we also need surveillance and eradication funding for scrapie, a degenerative disease affecting the central nervous system of sheep and sometimes, goats," said Dr. Beals. "Also needed is increased surveillance funds for cattle tuberculosis (TB) as Texas is home to the country's two TB-quarantined cattle herds. We must wrap up eradication before other states impose restrictions on our cattle."

Dr. Torres concluded his discussion with a report on emerg-

ing disease situations, one of which is in Iowa, where an outbreak of the extremely contagious viral hemorrhagic disease of rabbits has killed nearly 100 percent of the stricken domestic animals. The disease does not affect wild rabbits. Dr. Torres said the disease was discovered in 1984 in China and as infection spread, the disease may have entered the U.S. through Mexico. "Trickle down" effects of such disease outbreaks can be significant and widespread, he said, citing that an outbreak of the disease in Cuba killed off caged laboratory rabbits, affecting that country's ability to produce hog cholera vaccine to protect swine herds.

In Mexico, reported Dr. Torres, several million birds in poultry production facilities have been depopulated, due to an outbreak of Exotic Newcastle disease. He stressed the need for U.S. poultry producers to practice strict biosecurity to protect flocks. He also emphasized that poultry from the affected Mexican facilities would not be allowed into the U.S.

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture until recently was known as the Livestock Conservation Institute, established in 1916 as a coalition during a time when bovine tuberculosis threatened the future of public health, the livestock industry and meat processors. Headquartered in Kentucky, the NIAA's national membership includes livestock associations representing all species, allied industries, individual producers, veterinarians and state animal health regulatory entities.

Successful migrant education programs honored Aguirre, Meyer leading scorers Cubs beat Eagles 48-6

Jones Elementary has been recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for successfully educating its migrant students.

TEA's Division of Migrant Education has selected Jones Elementary as a winner of the 2000-2001 Promising Campus Award given to school campuses and school districts that achieved academic success with their migrant students. Statewide, 100 school districts and 395 campuses are receiving this recognition.

The purpose of the award is to recognize school districts and campuses that strive to meet the unique needs of migrant children and their families and that help migrant students to meet high academic standards. There are approximately 122,000 migrant children in Texas.

Recipients of the Exceptional Campus Award will be presented with a plaque at the 2000 Texas Migrant Education Conference during a special luncheon in their honor. Recipients in all other categories will be recognized in the awards luncheon program. The 2000 Texas Migrant Education Conference will take place at the South Padre Island Convention Centre in South Padre Island, Texas, on November 15-17, 2000.

In order to receive the district award, school districts had to have at least 30 percent of their migrant student population passing all tests taken of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test, have at least a 94 percent migrant student attendance rate, and have a migrant student dropout rate of 6% or less. The 100 district winners

were divided into four categories based on number of migrant students enrolled.

Campus winners were ranked within the four categories of Exceptional, Excelling, Promising, and Acknowledged based upon migrant student performance on the TAAS, migrant student attendance, and migrant student dropout rate. Statewide 48 campuses were distinguished as Exceptional, 97 campuses as Excelling, 137 campuses as Promising and 113 campuses as Acknowledged.

Each year the Migrant State Conference Planning Committee discusses and selects the criteria for district and campus awards. The committee includes state, regional and district migrant educators.

By Erica Gloria
Contributing Writer

The Varsity Volleyball team won 15-5 and 15-8 against Comstock on Saturday September 30. Leading scorers were Mayra Aguirre and Erika Garcia. Duquesa Hunt and Erica Meyer totaled 5 kills altogether throughout the game. Susannah Davis and Michelle Bizzell assisted 5 times each, while Ashley Smith and Erika Garcia each had 2 aces. The Varsity Volleyball team record is 11-8 so far this season.

At the Leakey JV Tournament on Saturday, the JV Gold placed second. They won against Center Point JV 15-3 and 15-8. In the next match they played Leakey JV and won with a score of 15-6 and 15-10. Unfortunately, JV Gold

lost the Championship game to Center Point Freshmen 7-15 and 14-16. Outstanding players in the tournament were Sarah Meyer, Allison LaMascus, Beth Ballew, and Stacey Terrazas. Outstanding Servers for the team were Lacey Dodson and Maria Martinez.

The JV Black Team played Comstock on Saturday and won with a score of 15-8, 11-15, and 15-3. Outstanding players were Davina Luna, Celina Cano, and Nicole Mata.

JV Tigers beat Sabinal

By Christina Luna
Contributing Writer

The JV Tigers defeated the Sabinal Yellow Jackets 36-6 on Thursday night. On offense, Joe Eddie Jaso ran for 4 touchdowns. Along beside him was Joey Escamilla with one touchdown. Together with a strong offense and a strong defense, the JV Tigers played a terrific game.

On defense, Beau Watkins, Glenn Morgan, and R C Franklin had an outstanding game.

This week the JV Tigers will play the Uvalde JV at the Honeybowl at 5:00. Come out and support the JV Tigers as they go for 3-1.

Even though the Varsity Tigers did not play on Friday night due to forfeiture by the Leakey Eagles, Tiger Stadium still saw football action on Thursday night. The first battle was fought between the Brackett Cubs and the Leakey Eagles. The Cubs came out on top with a score of 48-6.

On offense, Omar Rivas ran for a 30-yard touchdown. Charlie Slaughter had three carries and he ran for a total of 71 yards. Brand Wylie ran for a 30 yard touchdown. In a quick eye, Kody Yeager passed to Tillman Davis, who ran for a 10-yard touchdown. Yeager and Miles Braesicke were 2 for 2 in two point conversions.

On defense, Lito Escamilla and Evaristo Villareal each recovered fumbles. Davis had an outstanding interception, which gave the Cubs the ball.

This upcoming Thursday the Mighty Cubs will face off with the La Pryor Bulldogs at Tiger Stadium at 5:30. Come out and support the Cubs as they go for 4-0.

OUTDOORS

Hunter Education Class in Brackettville

A Little on the Wildlife Side
By Henry Lutz

A four day Hunter Education Training Course has been set for Monday & Tuesday, October 16 & 17, and continue Monday & Tuesday October 23 & 24, 2000. Classes will be from 6:30 PM-9:30 PM each night. Registration for the 4 evening class will be held on the first night of class. Classes will be held at Brackett High School Annex, Room 5 (Science Room) in Brackettville, entrance off of Fulton Street, across from the new high school building. The cost is only \$10.00 per person. The class is a 12 hour course. Everyone must attend all 12 hours to successfully complete the course and be certified. Every hunter born on or after September

2, 1971, must successfully complete a Hunter Education Training Course. Hunters of all ages are welcome to attend. A parent or other relative is encouraged to attend with their child. The minimum age of certification is 12 years old. Children under 12 may attend but would have to retake the course after they reach age 12.

If you are a hunter and you are 17 or older and born after September 2, 1971, you must have this course to hunt. You will receive a citation if you hunt and have not completed the course.

The hunter education course is a class that teaches hunting safety, skills and responsibility. This course is good for life. It has to be completed only one time. Other states may require that a hunter complete a Hunter Safety or Edu-

cation Course before hunting there. This course meets the requirements necessary for hunting out of state. When the course is completed, the certification card is good for life and is honored by the other 49 states and 10 Canadian provinces that require hunter education. The card must be carried at all times while hunting.

Additional information in regards to Hunter Education:

If you were born on or after September 2, 1971, and you are age 17 and over, you must successfully complete a hunter education course to hunt—age 12 through 16, you must successfully complete a hunter education course or be accompanied by a licensed hunter 17 years of age or older when hunting—under 12

years of age, you must be accompanied by a licensed hunter 17 years of age or older when hunting. You are not old enough to take the course and be certified.

Hunters, regardless of age, need to purchase a hunting license and stamps (if needed) and must carry them with him or her at all times while hunting. Upon completion of the Hunter Education Course, you will receive proof that you have completed the course. This proof of certification is required to be on your person, along with your hunting license, while hunting. It is not required to purchase a license.

If you need more information or have questions about the Hunter Education class, please call me at 563-2507.

Mother Nature's Department Store

Amistad National Recreation Area—The deserts of Texas can be life threatening or life sustaining.

Look closer at what one writer called "Nature, armed to the teeth" and you will find an abundance of plants that feed and heal.

When early Native Americans lived in the Lower Pecos region 4,000 - 5,000 years ago, the land provided sustenance and opportunity, and they used those resources respectfully and intelligently. They relied heavily on the plants for food, medicine, and tools—knowledge that has been all but lost in our modern world.

On November 4 and 5 the Big Bend Natural History Association will present "Living Off the Land—Indigenous Technology and Knowledge", one of the most popular seminars from the association's spring season.

This seminar will be a hands-on study of that early technology. There will be demonstrations of flintknapping, weaving from locally-available plant fibers, and fashioning of tools from wood.

The class will be able to work with spear throwers, bows and arrows, and other tools replicated from local materials.

The seminar will be taught by Dr. Phil Dering, an archeologist and botanist working as project archeologist for the Center for Environmental Archaeology at Texas A&M University. Dr. Dering has been an instructor for the Big Bend Seminars program for many years.

Cost of the seminar is \$100 per person with the class size limited to 15 people.

It is part of the Big Bend Seminars program designed to enhance the understanding and enjoyment of the Big Bend and Amistad areas.

Big Bend Natural History Association is the non-profit cooperating association that operates bookstores in Big Bend National Park and Amistad National Recreation Area as well as sponsoring the seminars program.

To sign up for this seminar or for additional information, contact the Big Bend Natural History Association at 915-477-2236 or e-mail at bbna@nps.gov.

Humans should prepare animals for disaster too

Some gut-wrenching scenes are never forgotten. An elderly woman clutches her cat as she waits to be rescued from her flood-ravaged home. A dog clings desperately to a rooftop, inches from the rising water, dead livestock float among the sodden logs or debris, or half-buried animals struggle to escape from the mud.

Whether it's a hurricane, flood, wildfire, or other natural or manmade disaster - an animal evacuation plan can make the difference between life, death or tremendous suffering for pets and livestock," said Dr. Mark Michalke, a field veterinarian for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and leader of the Evacuation Committee for the Texas Emergency Response Team (TERT).

TERT was originally formed by the TAHC, the state's livestock health regulatory agency and Texas staff from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services to address devastating foreign pests, diseases, or bioterrorism. On the governor's emergency management team, TERT serves with the Texas Department of Health, in collaboration with the Texas Veterinary Medical Association and other livestock and health agencies.

TERT members quickly recognized the need to address animal evacuation in disasters, particularly after Texas' devastating October 1998 flood in which more than 23,000 head of cattle were drowned. Another 400 head of hogs, sheep, equine and poultry also were killed in the violent storm that struck 21 counties in south central Texas.

"Most shelters will not accept pets, so it's important to know ahead of time where animals can be housed," commented Dr. Michalke. He said that, in addition to their normal duties, the eight-member evacuation committee has worked nearly a year to develop a database of veterinary practitioners, kennels, interested persons and organizations willing to give animals safe haven during an emergency. The committee has

contacts for "cowboy help" to round up animals and with livestock haulers.

"No one wants to leave their pets, horses or other stock to drown, burn or suffer in a natural or man-made disaster. Establish a relationship with animal housing facilities outside your area before a crisis and keep phone numbers and addresses handy," said Dr. Michalke. "Calling ahead to reserve space also will increase your chances of gaining space for your animals."

Dr. Michalke said an emergency evacuation kit for animals should be maintained in an easily accessible place. Keep an adequate supply of clean water and food, collars or bridles, leashes or leads, medicines and health records - including proof of rabies vaccinations or for equine, test documents for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) or "Coggins." If animals are evacuated, he said owners should carry several photos of their animals to aid in identification, as pets may be shuffled from one site to another in a chaotic situation.

"In the 1998 flood, there was no clean water available for the animals that survived the initial devastation. Livestock or pet food supplies may be limited after disaster hits, so make certain your emergency kit has plenty. If you have large animals, such as horses or other livestock, plan an evacuation route," he said. "Leave early and allow time for hauling. Don't wait until roads become congested or impassable, as this will stress the animals."

Dr. Michalke said a number of livestock markets and fairgrounds have agreed to serve as holding sites during an emergency. He noted that, in the 1998 flood, several of these facilities provided shelter for livestock that survived being washed from their pastures. County extension agents and TAHC livestock inspectors worked to match owners with their strayed stock, using information provided by brands and ear tags.

"Despite all planning, we will have to deal with strays, displaced

and dead animals after a disaster situation. TERT can assist with identification, restraint and capture of animals, and disposing of carcasses to protect public health," said Dr. Michalke. "These are the skills we've developed for addressing a disease outbreak or bioterrorism. With more than 45 million people and 2.5 million animals traveling internationally each year, it's only a matter of time before bacteria, viruses or pests will 'hitch a ride' into the U.S."

"Nine TAHC veterinarians and several USDA veterinarians in Texas are trained as foreign animal disease diagnosticians, but it's the animal owners who are the 'front lines' for recognizing threats," he said.



"Besides knowing how and where to move animals in a disaster, be aware and report potential signs of a foreign animal disease," Dr. Michalke said. He advised owners to report any of the following danger signs:

- sudden, unexplained death loss in a herd or flock
- severe illness affecting a high percentage of animals
- blistering around an animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves
- unusual ticks or maggots
- staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders exhibited by the animal.

"Call your veterinary practitioner first," he said. "Also notify the nearest TAHC area office, the central headquarters in Austin at 1-800-550-8242 or the USDA in Austin at 512-916-5555." Dr. Michalke said the TAHC and USDA does not charge to investigate possible animal diseases or pests. Specimens and samples are collected and shipped to state or federal laboratories.

"Immediate response is crucial in an outbreak," he said. "The first 24 hours are the most important for stopping a disease or pest 'dead in its tracks' before it can spread. Millions of dollars could be lost overnight in an outbreak, due to restricted trade opportunities, costs for fighting disease and the loss of animals."

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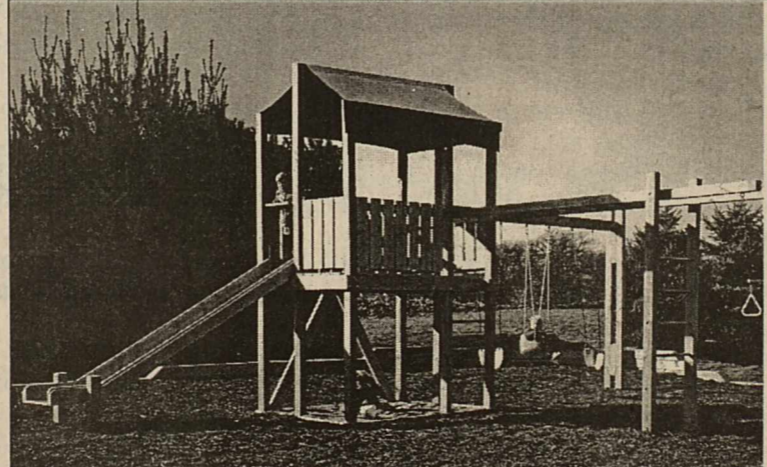
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- ACROSS**
- She played Maude
 - Slimy vegetable
 - Gusto
 - Ancient Greek harp
 - Piece of asparagus
 - Burt's ex
 - Holler
 - Waistless top
 - Take ___ the chin (2 wds.)
 - Extinguishes
 - Eclipse
 - Forest female
 - "Tribute to whom tribute is ___" (Romans 13:7-8)
 - Pollster's data
 - Aniselike seasoning
 - Picked up the check
 - ___ Marner
 - Moved in water
 - Douceur
 - Gob
 - "To All the Girls ___ Loved Before"
 - Porters
 - Genesis gobbledygook locale
 - Fit of pique
 - Nocturnal noisemaker
- DOWN**
- Stunt journalist Nellie
 - Watched
 - The younger Guthrie
 - Mr. Holland's ___ (1995 film)
 - Olin of thirtysomething
 - Surprise attack
 - Video game venues
 - Show of hands
 - Sharing a secret
 - Time division: abbr.
 - Escaped
 - Noble horses
 - Compares
 - Isaac, to Abraham
 - Stocking mishap
 - Coin side
 - Lose greenness
 - Ravi Shankar's instrument
 - Got on
 - Adlai ___ Stevenson
 - Actress Linda
 - Harper Valley gp.
 - Sci. room
 - Was in session
 - Flew high
 - Gestures
 - Furloughs
 - Less well
 - Hitter's hope with men on: abbr.
 - B'way sellout sign
 - Airplane wing part
 - Retread, e.g.
 - Departure door
 - Biblical paradise
 - "Never Give a Sucker an ___ Break"
 - Actor Andrews
 - Osaka cincher
 - ___ Ray Hutton
 - French refusal

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Oct. 6.....Rachel Fuller	Oct. 8.....Joy Ralston
Oct. 6.....Violet Tucker	Oct. 10.....David Garcia
Oct. 7.....John Nowlin	Oct. 10.....Lupe Rodriguez
Oct. 7.....Francis Outlaw	Oct. 11.....Xavier Adams
Oct. 7.....Bret Trant	Oct. 11.....Keith Bickel
Oct. 11.....Charles Evans	

HOROSCOPES

Aries March 21-April 20
Your cheerful mood may make people wonder what you're up to this week. You can't help but be happy. Everything is going smoothly at home and at work. While your energy is at an all-time high, avoid making insensitive comments.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Thoughts of searching for a job in a more creative field may be consuming. Associating too much with family members could drain your energy. Take care of business quickly and remain focused on the big picture.

Taurus April 21-May 21
Ever-prepared Taurus may need to get a jump on holiday shopping. Look before you buy. Do not let your life be a series of missed opportunities. Get over the fears which could hold you back professionally.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You may be more interested in getting the job done quickly than in getting it done right. Be careful. Starting an investment portfolio at this time could be a good move, if you do the necessary research.

Gemini May 22-June 21
Take the phone off the hook. Too many people are asking for favors or assistance taking personal time away from you. Making a healthy choice could be as easy as eating more fruit. Your wit could prove to be the saving grace at work.

Cancer June 22-July 22
Pay attention on the homefront. A lack of communication could land you in hot water with your partner. Listen carefully. What appears to be a straightforward conversation may have a hidden meaning. Analyze it.

Leo July 23-August 23
This week may seem like a continuous lesson in learning about the people you are closest to at work. Try to be a good student. You may cross paths with an old friend. Don't let old differences get in the way.

Virgo August 24-Sept. 22
Things are not as they seem. Your tendency to demand too much change in too short of time may be straining your relationship. Too often you jump into things without considering others feelings.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Your critical-thinking skills may be put to good use as you attempt to decipher what is really going on behind the scenes with a loved one. Try not to jump to conclusions. Going to an art exhibit may inspire you.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan.20
People-oriented Capricorn may find him/herself in an interesting social situation. Take your talents seriously. A stranger you recently met could become a true friend and collaborator as you try to put those talents to the test.

Aquarius January 21-Feb. 18
You could find yourself influenced by people you generally wouldn't associate with. Instead of reacting quickly and illogically, give yourself plenty of time to sort out the situation.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
Tempestuous and unpredictable. You could be your own worst enemy if you don't slow down and think. Try to avoid flights of fancy even though they generate enthusiasm and excitement with others. Take advice from an older person to heart.

For local news you can use, read The Brackett News

Obituaries

Essie Coker

Essie "Big Mama" Coker passed away peacefully at home September 30, 2000 near Brackettville, Texas. She is survived by daughters Bobbie Schafer and husband Richard, Jewel Robinson, Dimple Henry and husband Jerry, Jane Custard and husband Chuck, Pat Bartkowiak and husband Raymond and one son Roy Max Hensley. She is also survived by 19 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren, 5 great great grandchildren and one sister Melba Simmons of Doddridge, Arkansas, also survives. She was born in Miller County Arkansas, June 15, 1910 and has been a resident of Brackettville since 1971. She was preceded in death by one son Daniel Foreman and one daughter Melba J. Foreman. Numerous nieces and nephews survive.

Visitation hours were held Sunday, October 1, 2000 at the Brackettville Chapel and Graveside Services were held Monday, October 2, 2000, with the Reverend Ray Melton of the Brackettville Church of Christ officiating.

Vernon F. Ebert

Vernon F. Ebert, 84, Prescott, WI, formerly of St. Paul & Brackettville, Texas, died Thursday, September 14, 2000 at Regina Med. Cntr., Hastings, Wisconsin.

He is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth (Betty) of 63 yrs., Prescott, Wisconsin, four sons, David (Ann Parkinson) Ebert, Cottage Grove, Minnesota, John (Judy Anderson) Ebert, Woodbury, Minnesota, Thomas (Maryanne) Ebert, Long Lake, Minnesota, and Douglas Ebert, Rockport, Illinois. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren, four brothers, Ray (Myra) Ebert, New Braunfels, Texas, Oliver (Patricia) Ebert, San Angelo, Texas, David (Elaine) Ebert, Roswell, New Mexico, and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Ebert was preceded in death by three brothers, Gervase, Urban, and Charles, Jr. Vernon F. Ebert, was born to Charles and Anna (Platten) Ebert, August 8, 1916 in Wausau, Wisconsin. He was a graduate of Shawano High School and married Elizabeth (Betty) Roberts July 3, 1937 in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. Ebert was a salesman throughout his career, specializing in water softening systems. He later owned his own business

in Beldenville, Wisconsin. Mr. Ebert was a former member of St. Mark's Parish and current member of St. Joseph's Parish. Mr. Ebert and his wife wintered in Texas for over 18 years.

Memorial Requiem Mass was held Saturday, September 23 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Prescott, Wisconsin. Rev. Ed Shuttleworth officiating. Burial of remains will be at a later date. Memorials are preferred to sharing and caring hands or donors choice.

Araldo Martinez

Araldo "Joel" Martinez, was born July 13, 1930 to Mr. & Mrs. Jose T. Martinez of Brackettville, Texas. He was a resident of Chicago, Illinois at the time of his passing on September 25, 2000. He is survived by his Beloved wife, Laura, his son Arnold, and his daughters Linda and Denise. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren and his sister Maria Lydia Ramos of California. He was preceded in death by his father Jose T. Martinez.

Donald J. Packer

Donald James Packer died September 29, 2000 at his home in Ft. Clark. Don had retired from the Air Force and made his home in Brackettville since 1976. He married Margaret Ruth Packer on April 8, 1982. He is survived by his wife Ruth of Brackettville, daughter Debbie Packer of Dallas, Texas, two stepdaughters Sonja Shell of Ft. Clark and Susan Wilson of Milan, Missouri. He is also survived by two sisters, Dorothy Cullison of Beatrice, Nebraska and Darlene Day of San Diego, California.

There will be no funeral memorial services per the request of Donald Packer.

Edwin Snyder, Sr.

Edwin "Ed" K. Snyder, Sr. passed away in home on September 27, 2000. Mr. Snyder was born in Fort Clark Springs, Texas on March 13, 1936. Mr. Snyder attended Brackettville High School and graduated in 1953. He married Beth Lewis in 1954. Mr. Snyder was an entrepreneur and the owner of Telco Systems, Inc., Waco, Texas from 1972 to 1990. He then retired to his hometown of Brackettville.

Mr. Snyder was preceded in death by his wife, Beth, and a daughter, Nancy Snyder. Mr. Snyder is survived by a sister, Joan J. Snyder and a brother, William H. Snyder, by his three

children, Edwin "Win" Snyder of Waco, Annice Snyder of Wichita Falls, and Tony Snyder of Lorena. He had five grandchildren, Amy Snyder, Christopher Snyder, Nicole Rocha, Dustin Snyder and Ashley Snyder. He also had two great-grandchildren Matthew Rocha and Isaac Rocha.

Graveside services for Mr. Snyder were held Saturday, September 30, 2000 at the Kinney County Cemetery in Brackettville, Texas.

The soul of a journey is liberty, perfect liberty, to think, feel, do just as one pleases.

—William Hazlitt

Happiness is a butterfly, which when pursued is always just beyond your grasp, but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you.

—Nathaniel Hawthorne

The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably integrity. Without it, no real success is possible, no matter whether it is on a section gang, a football field, in an army, or in an office.

—Dwight D. Eisenhower

What I like in a good author is not what he says, but what he whispers.

—Logan Pearsall Smith

Up Close and Personal

By Tom McNew
St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church

Well, it is over. The 2000 Summer Olympic Games from Sydney, Australia. People seem to have very mixed emotions about the Olympics—either they were glued to their television set and watched every moment they could, or they didn't watch even a minute of the whole thing. I guess I was somewhere in the middle.

There were parts of the Olympics I really enjoyed. I wanted to see Olympic competitions. When I had time to watch, I wanted to see some athletes doing their best for the country they represented.

What I didn't like to watch were the "Up Close and Personal" (borrowed, I believe, from the Atlanta Games of several years ago) stories about the lives of various athletes. I didn't want time taken away from sporting events to hear about how some young person had overcome adversities in his or her life to get to where he/she is today.

This led me to doing some thinking about the "Up Close and Personal" in our own lives.

How many times has someone reached out to me with a story or a problem and my reaction has been that I don't want to be bothered with this right now. When was the last time I "tuned someone out" because I didn't want to hear what that person had to say?

Often it takes a great deal of courage for an individual to speak out about something that is bothering him. Our reaction to this person can help or hurt the confidence he or she has in sharing with us again. What my friend or family member wants to share with me is very important at that moment and I should be willing and open to listening, really listening, to what is being said.

There are some guidelines I can use to decide if I am really listening: Am I really paying attention? Am I really focused on what is being said? Am I thinking about something else entirely or already formulating my answer or solution to the problem? Am I showing by my facial expressions and body language that I care and am concerned about the person speaking?

This week I am going to work toward being a good listener. When someone needs to share

an "Up Close and Personal" moment, I will make it an important moment for me also.

Lord, thank You for this wonderful country we live in, where young people have so many opportunities to excel in sports, music, academics, whatever their goals are. Thank you for family and friends who trust me enough to want to share the joys and problems of their lives with me. Please give me the patience to be a good listener. Open my ears, mind, and heart so I can truly hear what is being said to me.

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Domestic Violence Awareness Month

First United Methodist Church by Rev. Ken F. Sellers Jr.

I found the following three quotes on the internet at www.fvpf.org: "Nearly one-third of American women (31 percent) report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or a boyfriend at some point in their lives, according to a 1998 Commonwealth Fund survey." "In a national survey of more than 2000 American families,

approximately 50 percent of the men who frequently assaulted their wives also frequently abused their children."

"Eight percent of high school age girls said 'yes' when asked if 'a boyfriend or date has ever forced sex against your will.'"

In October of 1982 the National Coalition Against Violence observed the first Day of Unity. The intent was to connect advocates for battered women and children from all across the

nation, making the outcry against abuse far greater than ever before. In 1987 the Day of Unity became Domestic Violence Awareness Month. And in 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress. This legislation has been passed every year since.

As we enter Domestic Violence Awareness Month here in Brackettville, we are perhaps uncertain that our small community is affected, but don't be naive, domestic violence has no economic or ethnic boundaries. It can be found anywhere, anytime.

Amistand Family Violence And Rape Crisis Center has been established in this area to assist women and children in finding a way out of the horrible cycle of abuse. They are physically located in Del Rio but serve Kinney County as well as Val Verde and Edwards counties. If you have a need for advice or assistance, day or night, please call toll-free 1-888-774-2744

Let's join others from all over the nation this month in shouting "Stop!" to those who are still inflicting abuse on women, children and, yes, even men. Please, become an advocate for those who cannot protect themselves. We are called by Jesus to love others as ourselves. Would we want to be abused by someone we thought loved us? I think not.

Bring in the harvest

By Pastor Charolette Corey Gateway Ministries

It is harvest time. Are you sleeping? The Lord is calling his people to bring in his harvest. Will you bring your Heavenly Father honor or shame? "...He that sleepest during harvest is a son that causeth shame." (Prov. 10:5)

There are so many people whose hearts are crying out for God, who are simply waiting for you to tell them about the price Jesus has paid for them. The value of their lives are in your hands as you choose to share God's life-giving word. Jesus said, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2) Pray and ask God to send you.

You don't have to go to South Africa to make a difference. You can help bring in the harvest in your own community. Time is not an issue. You can share while buying groceries, picking up your mail, getting your hair cut, any time you get out of your house or even talk on the telephone or internet. Our history is filled with pioneers who helped each other in times of

trouble and who joined together their efforts to build barns for each other and help bring in each others harvests. Many of you are here today because of the efforts of these past ancestors. Honor your parents and your ancestors by continuing the spirit of helping others.

In the 60's and 70's there was a song that said "...together we stand, divided we fall, and if our backs are ever up against the wall, we stand together together, you and I. "In God we stand together for all eternity. Build your house upon the rock and it will not fall when the storms come. Teach others how to be strong in the storms. Don't sleep while it is time for the harvest, instead say, "Here am I, Lord, send me." Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

Every knee should bow

By Rev. William P. Adams Sr. St. John's Baptist Church

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1,2
And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore, God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth,

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father. Philippians 2:8-11.

Expect a blessing only from God

Empowering Families By Dr. Donald Smith

"I can't stand Jeff anymore," said Tony as he threw his books on the couch.

"What's the problem, Son?" Ed replied.

"Jeff got a better grade than I did on the science exam today. The only reason he got it was because I helped him study. And then he takes all the credit himself. He didn't even thank me and didn't let our friends know that he wouldn't have made it without my help. I'm not ever going to help him again."

"I can understand your feelings Son. I know you wanted to help Jeff because he is your friend. I know it doesn't seem right when you don't get credit for some good that you do. Jesus tells us in Matthew chapter 6 that we should do good things for others and not expect to have people praise us for it. In fact, when people do give us praise then that praise is our only reward."

"But Dad, Jeff shouldn't get credit for something that I did." "Tony, which would you rather have; praise and thanks from someone now, or praise and thanks from God when you get to heaven?"

"I guess it's better to have it come from God." Tony replied. "Remember Son, God wants us to do good things for others at every opportunity. In fact we should be looking for good

things we can do for others, especially our friends. And we should do them with no expectation of praise or thanks. We do them because we love God and because we love others as ourselves. I'm proud of you Tony, for being willing to help Jeff. It is the Christian thing to do. You can feel good about yourself because of his success even if you and I and God are the only ones who know what you did for him."

This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project working to strengthen family, faith and education in Brackettville.

You actually read this article?

I Could Be Wrong! By Chuck Hall

It still catches me off guard when someone mentions a particular article I have written for the paper. It really surprises me to hear individuals refer to my particular ramblings. I'm shocked that others actually read what I write. So if I seem amazed as you speak of the last column and the contents thereof, it's because I am.

I don't write this for anyone to read. I really don't. No one. I write it for me. I offer it to the paper, (for a modest sum of money of course), ask them to print it, and then actually believe that nobody's going to look at it.

But I know why you read my stuff. I have mentioned this to several of you on numerous occasions. You read this piece because it's short. It can't take more than 5 minutes to read my lines. Five minutes tops.

And you check out ICBW because there are never any deep thoughts. There are no hidden meanings to my words. I am not writing to inspire you or to create profound intellectual discussions at the coffee shops.

I only generate these few passages because something, or someone, caused me to have feelings along certain channels this week.

I hope this makes sense. It does to me. But I could be wrong.

ACREAGE

COLORADO - \$11,500 BUYS a beautiful riverfront acreage. Secluded with good accessibility, in scenic mountain canyon. Trout fishing on property, \$175 down, \$175 monthly. Call owner 1-806-376-8690.

LAND BARGAIN! 3+ ACRES - \$24,900 with boat slip! Beautifully wooded, spectacular views, deeded access to crystal clear 35,000 acre recreational lake in Tennessee - next to 18 hole golf course. Paved roads, utilities, soils tested. Excellent financing. Call now, 1-800-704-3154, ext. 30.

SO. COLORADO MOUNTAIN ranch, 37 acres - \$36,900. 30 miles from Colorado/New Mexico border. Picturesque acreage with pinon trees and Rocky Mountain views. Year round access and utilities. Excellent financing. Ideal horse property. Call Red Creek Ranch, toll-free, 1-877-676-6367.

ADOPTION

NOTE: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

ADOPT: STAY - AT - home, loving and secure future await your baby, medical/legal expenses paid. 1-800-595-6976.

OPEN ARMS & HEARTS are waiting. We promise to love, protect and cherish your newborn. We are a financially successful couple who can provide a safe and money secure environment for your baby. Call and find out more about us. Ginger and Ken 1-800-866-2027.

TWO PHYSICIANS HAPPILY married for 10 years, but remain childless. Anxious to take newborn into our home and shower with love and affection. 1-888-722-5255.

AUTOMOBILES

CHARITY CARS - DONATE your vehicle. As seen on Oprah and People Magazine. Tax deductible, free towing. We provide donated vehicles to struggling families 1-800-442-4451, www.charitycars.org.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ACHIEVE FINANCIAL FREEDOM. America's fastest growing carpet cleaning franchise, Heaven's Best. Unique dry in one-hour process, \$15,900 includes equipment/training. Some financing available, 1-800-568-3605.

AREA GREETING CARD route. 100 top locations. Proven income. E-Z money, all local. Free information (\$6.5K investment) 1-800-529-9407.

DRIVERS WANTED

ATTN. DRIVERS: FLEETWOOD Transportation hiring long-haul flatbed drivers. Peterbilt equipment. Guaranteed home time and complete package of benefits. Also need long-haul owner operators. 1-800-458-4279.

COMPANY PAID CDL training & first year income \$35K - Stevens Transport - OTR drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced, 1-800-333-8595. EOE.

DRIVER - BEGIN A career with us. KTL's hiring experienced and beginning drivers. .27cpm - .33cpm. To start. We offer tuition reimbursement, top pay and benefits. Know the leaders. 1-800-633-9668. EOE.

DRIVERS - CFI HIRING OTR company/student/owner operators. Company with one year experience start at \$.32 cpm. Students earn \$50 per day. Owner/Operator start at \$.80 all miles. For more information call 1-800-CFI-DRIVE.

DRIVER: COVENANT TRANSPORT * Coast to coast runs * Teams start .42cpm - .46cpm * \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers, 1-800-441-4394; owner/operators 1-877-848-6615. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVER - GOT FLATBED experience? Get paid for it. Wildcat Enterprises, Inc. has immediate openings for experienced flatbed solo and husband/wife team drivers. Wildcat also offers... * Orientation pay * Tarp pay * 1000 mile average length of haul * Complete benefits package. Call 1-877-285-8756.

DRIVER - OWNER/OPERATORS earn more with OTRX. How? OTRX offers free Owner/Operator training to help you succeed. Plus \$.88cpm loaded/empty * Paid base plate/permits/tolls * Drop/unloading/layover pay * Need 5 years OTR experience. Start making more money today. 1-800-423-6939. www.otrx.com.

DRIVER - SOLOS START at .31cpm, teams .34cpm. Guaranteed home time, top equipment. Owner/Operators, .83cpm, 3,000+ miles per week, paid fuel surcharges, \$1,000 sign-on. 1-877-9-HELWIG. James Helwig & Son.

DRIVERS - NOW HIRING great drivers. Applications processed in 2 hours or less. Long haul and regional drivers. Class -A CDL required. Continental Express, 1-800-727-4374.

DRIVERS - OWNER/OPERATOR'S, flatbed - dry box, shift up to a better career with Smithway Motor Xpress, great pay package/miles and home time, 1-800-952-8091.

IF YOU ARE the spouse of an over the road truck driver, we will teach you to drive a "Big Rig" w/ automatic transmission in just 2 weeks! Interested, please call 1-800-234-3748.

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVERS - WHEN IT comes to benefits, we've got all the bells and whistles. *Paid weekly. *Great pay, *\$1,000 sign-on bonus. *Student graduates welcome. SRT toll free: 1-877-BIG-PAYDAY (1-877-244-7293).

DRIVERS-OWNER/OPERATORS: Run regional. Home weekly! Paid: Base plate, permits, fuel taxes. 81 cpm. Loaded and empty plus fuel surcharge. 1-800-454-2887. Arnold Transportation.

TRUCK DRIVERS - COMPANY solo (.30+ or .28+cpm.) Teams (.36+cpm). Good miles, excellent equipment and benefits. One year OTR Experience required. Gulf Coast Transport, 1-888-988-8666.

DRIVER TRAINING

A \$35,000 PER YEAR career! C.R. England needs driver trainees. 15 day CDL training. Housing/meals included. No upfront \$\$\$, Tractor Trailer Training. 1-888-781-8556.

GET ON THE road! Tri-State semi-driver training program offers: 3 week training, job placement assistance. Financial aid available to qualified students. Call today. 1-888-854-7364. www.learn2drive.com.

TRAVEL/VACATION

DESTIN, FLORIDA. LOW fall rates on luxury Gulf front homes, condominiums and cottages. Free daily round of golf at top-rated course. www.destinresorts.com or 1-800-336-9669.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

BE DEBT FREE - years sooner! Low payments. Reduce interest. Stop late fees. Stop collectors. Family credit counseling. Non-profit Christian agency. Se Hablo Espanol. Recorded message: 1-800-729-7964. Free quote. www.familycredit.org.

NEED CASH? \$500.00 cash by phone. Same day service. Checking account required. No credit checks. No upfront fees. Call toll free now, 1-888-891-6669.

FOR SALE

MOBILE HOME WITH large shop and double carport. Lawn, trees and fenced back yard. \$30,500. 563-3058

1990 HITCHHIKER R.V., 34', double slide out, Excellent condition, \$16,900, 563-9533

MARY KAY COSMETICS, Alana Flurry, 563-9435. Evenings/Weekends, Complimentary facials, products, etc.

AMAZINGLY LOW PRICES - Wolff Tanning Beds. Buy factory direct. Excellent service, flexible financing available. Home/commercial units. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-800-842-1310.

DELL COMPUTERS... BUILT-to-order. Pentium III available. \$0 down, low monthly payment - O.A.C. Open 7 days. Limited time - free internet access - most areas. 1-800-477-9016, Code VZ40; www.omcsolutions.com.

LOWEST PRICES EVER on select arch steel buildings, including 20x24, 30x42, 40x64, 50x110. Factory direct. Ultimate garage/workshops. Must sell. Call 1-800-341-7007, www.steelmasterusa.com

RIGID BUILDING SYSTEMS. Arch, straightwall, and single slope buildings. Best prices. Best buildings. Fastest delivery. 1-800-658-2885.

GARAGE SALES

NEUMAN RESIDENCE GARAGE SALE Unit 27 #2 Ash Lane Sat. Oct 7 9:00 - ? Furniture, Appliances, Tools, Clothes & Much More.

402 N. FORT STREET, Saturday 7th of October 2000. 9:00 a.m. Men's clothes, women's clothes, exercise equipment, lamps. Please NO Early Birds.

YARD SALE FORT Clark Unit 14 Lot 49 Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6 & 7.

206 B EAST Veltman Friday and Saturday October 6 & 7. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Many items. Small trailer, riding lawn mower.

YARD SALE UNIT 3 Lot 57 Saturday and Sunday, October 7 & 8. 9 a.m.

HEALTH/MEDICAL

HERPES - EverCLR STOPS herpes outbreaks! 96% never have another herpes outbreak! Free call: 1-877-EVERCLR. More information: www.everclr.com.

HELP WANTED

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications for the position of Meter Reader for the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with a clear driving record. Applications may be picked up or requested from any RGEC office and must be mailed to Rio Grande ECI, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas, 78832. Applications must be postmarked on or before October 19, 2000. RGEC is an EOE.

FULL TIME EMTB/CLERK II for Kinney County EMS Brackettville. Join our Frontier/Rural EMS system as we grow! Minimum qualifications, Texas Department of Health EMT Basic. More information available at 830-563-9090 (ask for Carolyn or leave message).

HELP WANTED

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Secretary to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Applicants must have three years experience as a secretary and oral and written communications in the English language. Experience with creating spreadsheets and word processing, Microsoft Excel and Word preferred, or the ability to learn this software. Processes and routes all incoming and outgoing mail. Type at least 60 words per minute, 10-key and office equipment. Back up on telephones. Must be able to maintain confidential information. Willing to work overtime, if needed. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with a clear driving record. Applications may be picked up or requested from any RGEC office and must be mailed to RGEC, Administrative Department, P.O. Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Applications must be postmarked on or before October 19, 2000. RGEC is an EOE.

\$40 TO \$60K POTENTIAL. Data entry: we need claim processors now. No experience needed. Will train. Computer required. Emedbilling, 1-888-314-1033 dept. 308.

CLAIMS PROCESSOR! \$20-\$40/hour potential. Processing claims is easy! Training provided, must own PC. Call now! 1-888-568-7649, ext. 698.

DRIVERS - SEEKING OWNER/Operators, professional fleet drivers. Opportunities for regional and OTR with high revenue loads. Call Landstar Ligon to get rolling. Toll free 1-866-846-4839.

FFE TRANSPORTATION IS hiring experienced drivers who we can place in our carrier assisted training program. We offer good starting pay and excellent benefits. 1-800-569-9232.

MANAGER OPPORTUNITIES - HICKORY Farms has seasonal manager openings in a mall near you. Easy training programs, competitive salary, bonuses, 40% employee discount. Call 1-800-228-8229, EOE.

FORECLOSED HOMES. LOW or \$0 down. Government and bank repos being sold now. Financing available. Call for listings! 1-800-501-1777, ext. 2099.

LEGAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: FIRESTONE TIRE injuries - Ford Explorer rollovers. Free confidential consultation. Grossman & Waldman, 1-800-833-9121. No fees/expenses if no recovery. Board certified. Houston - principal office.

ATTENTION: PROPULSID - FENPHEN Rezulin users, deadlines approaching. Free confidential consultation. Grossman & Waldman, 1-800-833-9121. No fees/expenses if no recovery. Board certified. Houston - principal office.

DIABETES DRUGREZULIN recalled by FDA, liver damage, failures and deaths. Call free consultation, David P. Willis, Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Lawyer. 1-800-883-9858. Principal office, Houston, TX.

MOBILE HOMES

SPECIAL OF THE MONTH Brand new 3/2 16X80 Champion. Loaded (including Delivery & A/C), Only \$19,888. Call toll free for free brochure 1-877-377-2165

BRAND NEW 3/2 CHAMPION DOUBLEWIDE, Only \$24,888 including delivery & A/C. Call for free brochures 1-877-377-2165

\$500 DOWN NEW 3 BDR 2BATH - FREE washer & dryer. Only three left. 1-877-377-2165. 360 mos., 10.75% APR, \$399.00/mo.

\$199.00 MONTH New 3/2 furnished mobile. FREE washer & dryer. For Limited Time Only - 210-698-6810 10% down, 360 mos., 10.75% APR

1999 3 BEDROOM 2 bath, A/C Plywood Floors, All Major Appliances, Shipped to us by mistake. Price Reduced - The Factory is paying for freight! Save now, call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711 toll free.

NEW 3 BEDROOM 1 bath AC, Plywood Floors, Stove and Refrigerator. 180.66 per mo for 240 months. 10% DP 8.75 APR VAR WAC Call 774-7711 or 888-611-7711.

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Answer to Crossword

B	E	A		O	K	R	A		V	I	M			
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REAL ESTATE

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Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
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Rentals Available

RVs For Sale with or without lot

Behind the school: 3 bed, 2 baths, family room, laundry room, fenced big yard \$59,000 For Rent \$500 + utilities

Across from golf course 3 bed, 2 baths, laundry room, utility shed. \$75,000

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Double wide, 3 bed., 2 baths, \$38,000. For Rent \$500 + utilities

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BRACKETTVILLE HOUSE FOR sale, 505 N. Ann Street, entire home renovated, Call 915-426-2780

1999 PALM HARBOR Home, 3/2, new G.E. appliances. Improvements. Setting on 3 lots at F.C.S. Unit 27 \$74,900, 563-9533

2.84 ACRES CHOICE highway frontage Hwy 90 & 131 Brackettville. \$60,000 firm. 830-774-5084.

Texas establishes concealed handgun license reciprocity with Kentucky

Texas has signed a reciprocal agreement with Kentucky, allowing citizens with concealed handgun licenses issued by Kentucky to legally carry concealed handguns in Texas, and vice versa. Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, signed the reciprocity agreement with the State of Kentucky through which its licensees can visit Texas with their con-

cealed handguns. "This agreement will allow licensed Texans to travel freely in Kentucky, while enjoying the same or similar privileges their licenses give them at home," Davis said. This reciprocity agreement—the seventh Texas has reached with another state—was made possible by 1997 changes to the state's concealed handgun law. Texas also has

reciprocity agreements with Arkansas, Louisiana, Arizona, Florida, Tennessee and Oklahoma. "Texans should remember that weapons laws vary from state to state, and before traveling, license holders should educate themselves about laws in other states that govern where and when they can legally carry their concealed handguns," Davis said.

COLUMBUS DAY SALE

Save 26% to 66%

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All Wood for TV, Stereo, Etc. \$599 value
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White iron daybed with top spring, in carton
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KINCAID SOLID WOOD
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35% off

7 Piece Living Room
Sofa, Loveseat, one cocktail, two end tables, two lamps
\$999
SAVE \$500

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Table & 4 chairs
Clean, refreshing country furniture reminiscent of graceful farmhouse life nearly a century ago. Heavy legs, shaped bases, richly textured natural woods.

*Regular, list and original advertised price are offering prices only and may or may not have resulted in sales. Advertised merchandise may be available at these sales prices in future sales events. Interim markdowns may have been taken on original prices, offer may end at any time.

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