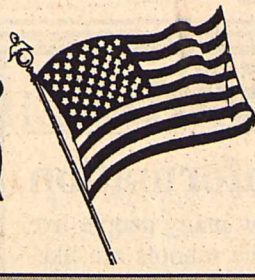


The Brackett News



"The Rainbows" perform at the Civic Center on February 23rd at 7:30 p.m.

13th year, No. 3

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

County adopts monitored well drilling resolution, plans continue for detention center

By Amy Davis
Staff Writer

At last week's meeting Commissioners heard from Delgado Durrant, Inc., who, after analyzing the county last year for the feasibility of a detention facility, presented various options for building the facility.

Commissioners were given the option of having the new facility built near the existing jail or east of town on Loop 166 and Hwy 90. Commissioners also had the option of having a 96 or 144 bed jail built.

In a unanimous vote, Commissioners voted to construct a \$4.4 million jail facility with a 144 bed capacity, to be located west of the existing jail.

Delgado Durrant, Inc., who will be planning, contracting and financing the new detention facility, suggested that the area west of the jail would be the ideal area to be used. Commissioners agreed because of its close proximity to the Courthouse, Sheriff's Office and existing jail.

Delgado Durrant Inc. now has 90 to 120 days to finalized a lease purchase agreement and the plans for construction. The existing jail will continue to be in use as construction begins.

In other business, Commissioners voted to adopt a resolution that would allow the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to drill wells in Kinney County for the purpose of collecting data.

The data will be used to better estimate the recharge and sustainability yield for the Edwards/Trinity aquifer plateau.

Kinney and Val Verde Counties will use data from the monitoring

system to establish a supply water management policy. The new wells will provide continuous data and will be the drought-response trigger wells for these two counties.

The TWDB has plans to drill six wells in Kinney and Val Verde Counties. Judge Herb Senne feels that Kinney County will have its share of wells drilled in this area.

"I think it would be correct to assume that two or three of those proposed wells would be in Kinney County - in an area that needs to be monitored," he said.

Judge Senne sees the new well monitoring project as something positive for the County.

"This project may well fit hand-in-glove with the water district that we are in the process of trying to put together in Kinney County," Senne said. "We will need monitoring wells with that district - if that comes about."

Senne also added that, even if the water district is not created, the findings of the monitored wells will undoubtedly be used sometime in the future.

The resolution was proposed because the Plateau Regional Water Plan is in need of more accurate and meaningful calculations of sustainable ground water supply in relation to the Edwards/Trinity (Plateau) aquifer's contribution to San Felipe and Las Moras springflow and to available local groundwater supplies in Val Verde and Kinney Counties.

The County recognizes that proper water management must be established to insure its continued availability.

Commissioner's also voted to allow the County to sponsor youth related activities requiring the use of the Civic Center.

Sara Terrazas, County Librarian, says the State of Texas is requiring it's libraries to add activities for teenagers to their library programs. Terrazas would like one of the new programs to be a monthly dance for youth held at the Civic Center.

Terrazas has teamed up with the parents of teenagers in the community to plan the monthly event.

The dances would be locked down so that anyone attending would not be allowed to leave and then return, unless signed out by a parent.

Concessions as well as fundraisers would finance the use of the facility.

The implementation of this program is pending on statutory review by County Attorney, Tully Shahan.

Mendeke scholarship to be given

The William Mendeke, Save Our Students (SOS) Scholarship was founded by Cordelia Mendeke in memory of her father, who served the Brackettville community for many years and believed in the law.

"Save our Students is important to me and I believe to many of you!" said Mendeke.

The \$500 scholarship will be given to two students each year, beginning this May. The SOS Scholarship was created to encourage students to say no to negative peer pressure, alcohol, drugs or unlawful behavior.

To be eligible, student must be going from the 6th to the 7th grade or from the 8th to the 9th grade, must have good grades, good conduct, on and off the school campus, and must not be involved with any drugs, alcohol or unlawful behavior.

In order to retain the scholar-

ship, the winner must continue with these same requirements throughout the 12th grade.

The scholarship money for each student will be held in a bank account until graduation from high school.

Public donations and memorials are accepted. No amount is too small. Please contact Cordelia Mendeke for more information. The first \$1000 has been established, but Mendeke says she hopes to continue to have support from the public.

The SOS board members are Tina Meek, president, Don Parks, secretary, Dianna Walker, treasurer, Debbie Trant, Lourdes Zamora and Lucille Fuentes. The board members, along with Mendeke, have fund raisers planned for the future.

"Thank you, and God bless our community and students," said Mendeke.

Community joins in RGEC for blood drive

Citizens of Brackettville joined Rio Grande Electric Co-op staff for the recent blood drive held at RGEC's Headquarters. Teresa Balchuck, Administrative Supervisor and event organizer, stated that there were even more participants this year than last.

It is important to note that civic responsibility starts at a young age in this community. Eleven of the donors contributing to the success of the Blood Drive were Brackett High School students.

"For a small community," said Donna Tatsch of the South Texas Blood and Tissue Center, "Rio Grande's annual event is always successful. This year the response was so great that our staff even had to stay late to accommodate all the donors! It's this kind of

community spirit that we like to see. Rio Grande Electric Cooperative employees and the citizens of Brackettville are to be commended for their participation. The South

Texas Blood and Tissue Center sincerely thanks the Brackettville community for its support in helping the many hospital patients throughout South Texas."



Game Warden, Henry Lutz, as a nurse from the South Texas Blood and Tissue Center preps him to give blood at the blood drive offered by Rio Grande Electric Co-Op.

Volunteer ombudsmen needed

The regular meeting of the Brackettville Lions Club was held on February 15, in the Calvary Room of Los Moras Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by Lion President Wilma Lewis at 6:30 p.m. with fourteen members and three guests present. Lion Bill Stuart led the group in the Pledge to the Flag, followed by "God Bless America" led by Lion Bobbi Waddill. Lion Roland Boysen asked for God's blessings on our food and help and healing for members and friends who need it.

Following dinner, guest Rosetta Pingent spoke to us on the Texas Ombudsman Program. She told a story of an old lady who went to live with her son and his family. As she became older and more infirm, the son and his wife ignored her more and more, except to continually berate her for her messiness at mealtimes. Finally, they put a small table in the corner of the room and this was where she was expected to eat her meals. One day the son came across his small daughter building with her blocks. When he asked her what she was building, she answered, "A table for you and Mommy to eat at when you are old." Needless to say, the old woman was immediately welcomed back to the family table.

Unfortunately, this is not the case with many people in nursing homes. They are put there and never, or rarely ever, seen by their families again. This is where the Texas Ombudsman Program comes in. A service of the Texas Department on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging, the Ombudsman program is dedicated to helping residents, family and staff achieve the best possible quality of life in Texas long-term care facilities.

An Ombudsman is a specially trained and certified individual, with volunteer or staff, who advocated for quality care in Texas nursing and assisted living facilities.

In this area, there are three nursing homes in Del Rio, one in Camp Wood, one in Carrizo Springs, one in Eagle Pass and two in Uvalde which are in need of volunteer ombudsmen. These people do not do hands-on things, such as push wheel chairs. They are there to make someone's life happier by being an advocate for that person.

There is an advocacy check list which includes residents' rights to be clean and well-groomed, up out of bed if possible, have well-served meals and help with eating if necessary, and involvement by staff with residents.

The staff should know the residents by name, should answer call lights promptly and should respect the privacy of the residents by closing doors. There are also check lists for the building and administration. Residents Rights should be posted and observed as well as meals and activities posted in prominent places.

Rosetta told us that as an ombudsman, you can make a difference. She closed with a story about a little boy walking with his grandfather on the beach. As the little boy saw a starfish, he would pick it up and throw it back into the ocean. His grandfather looked down the beach at all the other starfish and remarked to the little boy that he couldn't make much difference when you considered all the starfish. The little boy answered, "I'm making a difference to this one."

There is money going into our nine-county region for this program. If it is not used, the government will assume that it isn't needed, when really people just don't know that these programs are available. There are certain financial restrictions and individuals must be sixty or older to qualify. More information can be obtained from the Area Agency on Aging (1-800-224-4262). For deaf or hearing impaired use TDD #830-876-1206.

Trent Brown wins golf championship

Trent Brown, a local golfer, shot a 69 and 74 for a 143 total in the two day Men's Club Championship held on Friday and Saturday, the 16th and 17th of February at Fort Clark Springs Golf Course in Brackettville.

He was awarded the champion-



Pictured is Trent Brown, with the trophy and engraved putter he won at last weekend's Men's Club Championship at the Fort Clark Springs Golf Course.

ship trophy along with an engraved putter presented at an awards dinner at the Service Club following the tournament.

Also honored at the dinner were the four flight winners as follows: A Flight champion, Dale Unruh, Second place, Roy Dyer and Third place winner was Bill Mitchell. In the B flight the champion was Dave Wilkens, Second place, Hoagy Nelson and Third place winner was Bob Boucher. The C flight champion was Roger Stephens, Second place, Rueben Martinez and Third place went to Jerry Sandahal. The D flight championship was won by Gordon Math-ison, Second place, Howard Peck, and Third place, Bill Larson.

All of the flight winners received a monetary prize and the flight champions will have their names engraved on the championship trophy kept at the club house.

Also recognized at the dinner were some of the members whose efforts made the tournament and the dinner a success. They were: the dinner committee, Rueben Martinez, Alfred Pena, Larry

Walker and Carl Green. Our main support staff, the ladies, that posted the scores and did whatever tasks that needed to be done: Mylo Unruh, Dianna Daniels, Pat Nelson, Barb Miller, Fern Dyer, Lou Green and Lynn Ebert. The secretary and treasurer, Roger Kurz, who keeps us all straight, checking memberships, entry fees, prizes, etc., and the tournament committee leader, Jack Simpson. These and many more made the tournament one to be remembered.

Testifying to the honesty of golfers were the actions of one of the members in the tournament whose ball laid on the lip of a hole and he picked it up failing to hole the putt. After teeing off on the next hole he realized he violated the rule (you must hole all putts), and knowing the rule, even though no one else had noticed the error, this member disqualified himself from the tournament because disqualification is the penalty for failing to hole a putt in medal play competition. We hope that all of our members would have done the same under the circumstances.

Goldbeck Co. returns to Ft. Clark after sixty years

Eugene O. Goldbeck, a pioneer of panoramic photography in Texas, visited Fort Clark throughout the 1920s and 30s to take his trademark "Birdseye view" panoramic photographs of the post from the water tower.

A local collection of these unique photographs is on display in the Fort Clark Historical Society's Guardhouse Museum. Reprints of these historic photos of Fort Clark are in fact still available from The University of Texas Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center in Austin (reprints are \$40 each, www.hrc.utexas.edu/photography). The Center houses the Goldbeck Collection of nearly 80,000 panoramic photographs taken over a career spanning almost 75 years and covering the world. Mr. Goldbeck's

most frequently photographed subjects were the military and U. S. Army posts in Texas. Today, The Goldbeck Company in San Antonio (www.goldbeckcompany.com) carries on the family photography business begun in 1921 as the National Photo Service.

At the November Fort Clark Historical Society meeting, Bill Haenn presented a talk on the subject of Goldbeck's Fort Clark photographs, and the response for a modern panoramic photograph was significant. Mr. Haenn contacted the Goldbeck Company and made arrangements for their return to Fort Clark after almost sixty years. A photographer from the Goldbeck Company will be here at Fort Clark on Monday, February 26th, 2001 to take a color panoramic photograph of the

National Register Historic District, from the water tower, with the same camera used by E.O. Goldbeck. The finished color panoramic photo will be 48x10 inches and titled, "Birdseye view of Fort Clark, Texas, National Register Historic District 2001."

Several local businesses and a majority of Historic District residents have already ordered prints and Mr. Haenn said everyone is invited to participate in this project.

The prints are \$20 each and approximately \$10 per person towards the setup fee. If you would like to reserve your print of this very special photograph, which will surely become a sought after piece of Fort Clark's history, please contact Mr. Haenn at 563-2323 or 563-2010.

Briefs ...

G.E.D. classes offered

G.E.D. classes will be offered at the Kinney County Public Library every Monday and Wednesday 6 - 8 p.m. Beginning March 5, 2001, for more information call 563-2884.

School Board election

At the February 12, regular School Board of Trustees meeting, a call for an election was ordered. On May 5, 2001, board members are to be elected to fill three expiring three-year terms on the Brackett Independent School District Board of Trustees. Interested candidates may pick up applications at the BISD Central Office, 400 Ann Street. Applications for a place on the ballot are being accepted through March 21, 2001, at 5:00 p.m.

Texas birthday party

There will be a Texas birthday party hosted by the Whitehead Memorial Museum and Casa De La Cultura at 1308 S. Main on March 3, 2001. Meal 6-7 p.m., dinner tickets \$6.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door, program 7:00 p.m. - ? Performing: Mariachis, The Borderline Singers, Square Dancers, and Ballet Folklorico, special guest: Actor James Drury. For more info. call (830)-774-7568.

Duplicate bridge played

The Fort Clark Springs Duplicate Bridge Club played on Tuesday, February 13, 2001 in the Gorgas Room at the adult center.

There were 8 1/2 tables and the Mitchell Movement was used. The winners in the North/South were: 1st-Tina Bauguess and Rosetta Pingent; 2nd-Ella Chambers and Rusty Richhart; and 3rd-Sara Richhart and Flo Stafford. In the East/West, the winners were: 1st-Carol Benfield and Molly Schroeder; 2nd-Sharon and Bob Boucher; and 3rd-Ken and Betty TeGrotenhuis. There was only a 20 point difference between the top and the bottom of the group in the East/West so competition was keen. Play was lively and the evening was enjoyable.

Sector Weekly Statistics

Del Rio, Texas - The following is a report of the apprehensions by Border Patrol agents assigned to the Del Rio Sector for the period Feb. 12-18, 2001. The information is provided by station, and includes a sector total.

Abilene...29, Brackettville...521, Carrizo Springs...682, Comstock...20, Del Rio...645, Eagle Pass...1,961, Llano...29, Rocksprings...81, San Angelo...24, Uvalde...249, Sector Total...4,241, Other Than Mexicans...124

INSIDE

I could be wrong!

I watched a show on the Discovery channel the other day. That's a great channel by the way. The feature was about animals and such things in our world that kill man. I thought it was interesting. Maybe it's not my usual stuff but I want to write about it anyway. **Opinion/Page 2**

The way I see it!

The headline reads: Boy Suspended for Pointing Chicken Jonesboro, Ark. (AP) - An 8-year-old boy was suspended from school for 3 days after pointing a breaded chicken finger at a teacher and saying, 'Pow, pow, pow.' **Opinion/Page 2**

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Letters to the Editor

California student seeks information

Dear Readers...Help!
Hello, my name is Robbie Sullivan. I am in the fifth grade at Valencia Elementary in Laguna Hills, California. I am doing a project with my class called Discovering America.
I am trying to discover what life is like in other parts of our great nation. I will be giving an oral report about Texas and specifically what life is like in Brackettville. There are not many books written about Brackettville telling: what kids do for fun, what does the town

look like, how many people live there, what the schools are like, and why people enjoy living there.

It does not matter if you are six, or a hundred and six, I would love to hear from you. I thank you for reading this and taking the time and effort to explain why Brackettville is such a great place to live.

Sincerely, Robbie

Robbie Sullivan
25661 Paseo De Valencia
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

The countdown of mankillers

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

I watched a show on the Discovery channel the other day. That's a great channel by the way. The feature was about animals and such things in our world that kill man. I thought it was interesting. Maybe it's not my usual stuff but I want to write about it anyway.
You can quit reading any time you want.
Number 10 started with bears. They killed 6 people last year, mostly in North America.
Number 9 on the list was the dreaded shark with 8 kills to their credit. The Florida coast seems to be their most popular feeding ground.
Hyenas showed up next with a surprising 50 fatalities to slower humans. Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the ocean, jellyfish were ranked 7th for taking 55 lives.

The big cats got into the act with tigers, leopards, and lions (in that order of destructiveness) killing an even 80 of our kinsmen.

Heavy weights came next with 130 trappings by elephants.

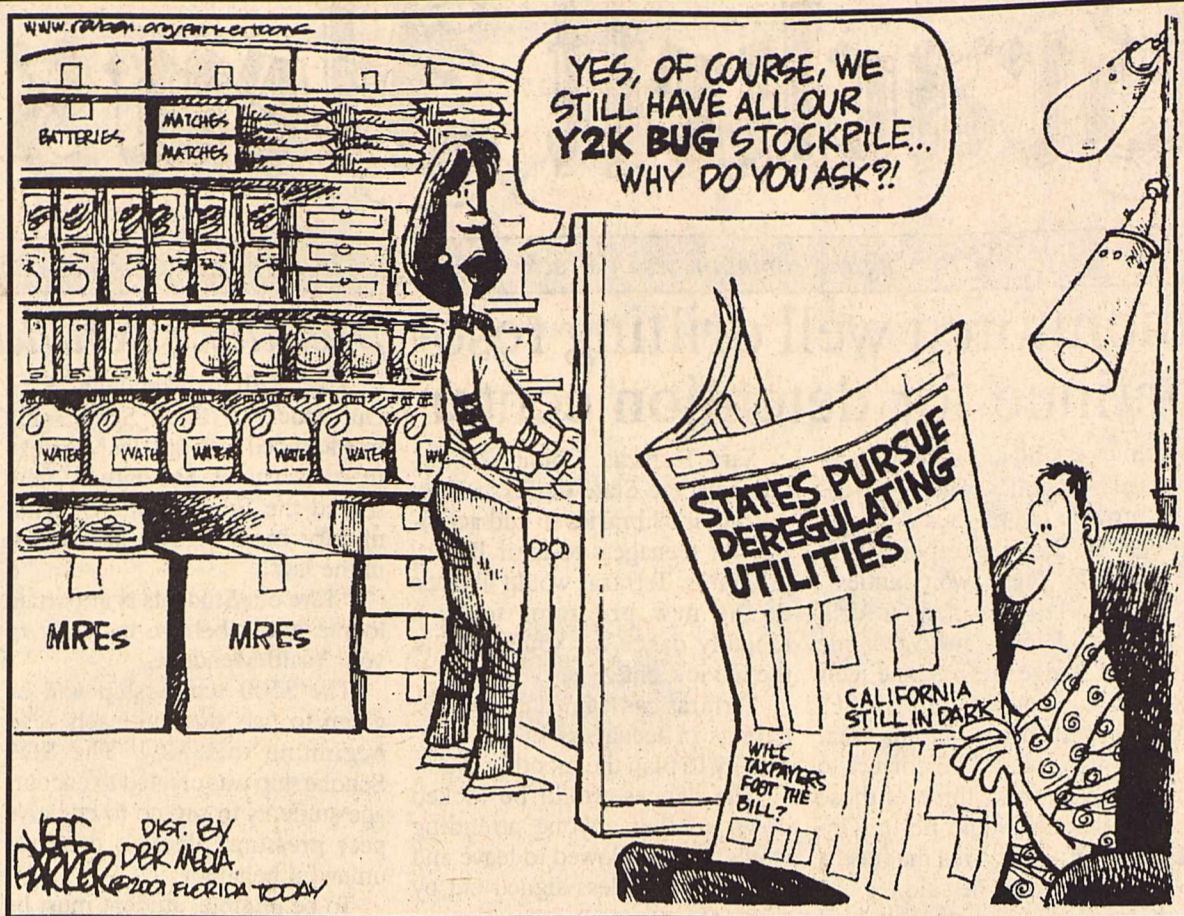
Fourth place honors went to scorpions. They claimed 500 victims.

Finally my number one suspect, the crocodile, appeared on the register, having devoured over 2000 of our species.

Bees and wasps were 2nd and they annihilated about 10,000 folks in one year.

And at the head of the class, by ten times their nearest competitor, and by over nine times all of the others combined, was snakes. The age-old serpent, the slimiest of all creatures, accounted for well over 100,000 deaths last year alone.

Hope you liked it. I'll do better next week. But I could be wrong.



Instead of paranoia, we need morality

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

The headline reads: Boy Suspended for Pointing Chicken

"Jonesboro, Ark. (AP) - An 8-year-old boy was suspended from school for 3 days after pointing a breaded chicken finger at a teacher and saying, 'Pow, pow, pow.'"

The incident apparently violated the Jonesboro School District's zero-tolerance policy against weapons."

Later in the article South Elementary principal Dan Sullivan is quoted as saying that punishment for a threat "depends on the tone, the demeanor and in some manner you judge the intent. It's not the object in the hand, it's the thought in the mind."

That is right, this man and his school board, apparently, are policing the thoughts of an 8-year-old child and determining that he is violent. This is for doing something that 8-year-olds have been doing for centuries without the slightest indication that it was a sign of violent or anti-social behavior. I find this intolerable, not to mention paranoid and psychotic! George Orwell would be proud of them!

These same people, probably, and too many others just like them, who suspend a baby for a playful gesture, say and do absolutely nothing about the violence and mayhem displayed on television, in the movies, and at video arcades all over the nation. They are too interested in keeping their schools safe from hoodlums with deadly chicken fingers, but fail to realize the real danger. I cringe at the

thought of that child being allowed to run rampant through the halls of the school seeking to cause death and destruction with a full-automatic drum stick. Oh, the horror!

My friends and I used to take our hunting rifles to school if we were going hunting later, so we wouldn't have to go home first. No one thought it unusual at all. It was accepted as a reasonable practice. We simply took them to the principal's office where they and the ammunition would be safe.

When I was in public school in the fifties and sixties almost every boy in school carried a pocketknife. I have sat in study hall with my two-bladed Case and a whetstone and sharpened my knife in the presence of my teachers. I have for forty years felt undressed without a pocketknife in my pants. I find that I have need of a knife almost every day. I have never gone on a killing spree, and neither have any of the other equally well armed children, now adults, that I grew up with. Shocking isn't it?

When I was a kid our favorite games were Cowboys and Indians and Combat. We chased each other the Little Big Horn, warred around Fort Apache, shot each other off the ramparts of "A Bridge too Far," and re-fought The Battle of the Bulge. And believe it or not, when the wars were over we were still friends, and not a single one of us received a fatal or debilitating wound.

The actions of that 8-year-old in Jonesboro were not hostile, they were normal. The problems in this country today don't

stem from children playing children's games. Instead they stem from our own tacit acceptance of megadoses of graphic violence given to our kids in the form of television, movies, and violent video games; and the outlawing of the teaching of Christian principles in our schools.

Instead of overreacting to a child's playful gesture, we need to react strongly to the destructive legislation that continues to be forced on our children, our schools, and us. What we need, instead of paranoid school policies, taught in a socialistically sterile environment, are megadoses of Christian morality taught in our schools, and strong legislation against violent entertainment in our communities. We don't need National Thought Police; we need entertainment industry censorship. We need to - make that have to - stop the purposeful, systematic desensitization of our children to violence and return to kinder, simpler, and more Christian times. We must treat the disease at its roots instead of reacting with knee-jerk paranoia to simple tools and innocent children's games. Otherwise we are lost and our nation will end up as just another failed footnote in history.

Psalm 5:9-10 "Not a word from their mouth can be trusted; their heart is filled with destruction. Their throat is an open grave; with their tongue they speak deceit. Declare them guilty, O God! Let their intrigues be their downfall. Banish them for their many sins, for they have rebelled against you."

Campaign finance and reform reality

Capitol Comment
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

Political campaigns cost money. Any attempt to reform campaign finance laws has to take this reality into account.

Reform can level the playing field.

Reform can make the election process more responsive to voters and more accessible to potential candidates.

But effective campaign finance reform has to acknowledge the central role played by legitimate, voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations.

Voters need information, the more the better, and getting that information to them costs money. Inherent in our democracy is the right and ability of candidates for public office to publicize their views before an election so the electorate is able to make an informed choice. I have introduced campaign reform legislation that addresses shortcomings in the current system. My bill targets specific problems with specific remedies.

Problem: Political action committees (PACs) overshadow individual contributors and concentrate fund raising in Washington.

My solution: set a limit for

both individual and PAC contributions of \$3,000 per candidate per election.

Problem: Inordinate amounts of campaign contributions coming from sources other than voters in a candidate's home district or state.

My solution: Strengthen politicians' home-state ties and encourage expanded grass-roots participation by requiring that at least 60 percent of a congressional candidate's campaign funds come from in-state individual residents in the case of the Senate, or from District residents, in the case of the House of Representatives.

This will ensure that the people of each state have the greatest say in the outcome of their congressional elections, and would help challengers, who rely more often upon individual contributions.

Problem: Candidates can loan their own campaigns unlimited sums of money, then reimburse themselves with contributions collected after they've been elected to office.

My solution: Set a \$250,000 limit on what self-financed candidates can reimburse themselves for campaign loans. Problem: Incumbent elected officials enjoy the unfair advantage of free mass mailings, even

during election years, up to 60 days before the election.

My solution: End the mass-mail franking privilege for Senators during election years.

My bill incorporates common sense into our campaign finance laws by targeting areas that have been subject to abuse and excess, while respecting freedom of expression. These are clear, workable reforms, designed to encourage broad political participation while addressing shortcomings that undermine public confidence.

They would go a long way toward returning control of federal campaigns and elections to individual voters.

Securing the future of all Americans

By Henry Bonilla
U.S. Congressman, 23rd Dist.

I have good news from Washington. Congress and the White House are committed to a plan that will secure the retirement and health security of every tax-paying American.

Last week, the House of Representatives passed important legislation that will "lock away" funding for Social Security and Medicare. The Social Security and Medicare Lockbox Act will prevent a portion of the surplus from being used for any purpose other than providing retirement and health security.

This legislation has been a long time coming. While Social Security has been one of our nation's greatest success stories, new and difficult challenges face the program. Happily, Americans are living longer, healthier lives. In the past century, we added 28 years to our life expectancy. However, longer life expectancies have brought significant challenges to our Social Security system.

America is not yet prepared to face the needs of our aging population. If we're not careful, Medicare could be insolvent in the future. And in just a few years, there are predictions that Social Security will be in the red. These implications are frightening. Seniors currently rely on Social Security for nearly half of their income. And, Medicare provides a staggering amount of the elderly with basic health insurance coverage.

These programs are simply too important to be used as a slush fund for careless government spending. We should not borrow money from our children and grandchildren. That is why last year I voted for the Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Act. This legislation dedicated every penny of the Social Security surplus toward protecting Social Security and saving Medicare. We came very close to making this strategy a reality. The legislation overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives. Unfortunately, the Senate did not pass the bill before the legislative session came to a close.

I feel certain that this year we will come to an agreement. The Social Security and Medicare Lockbox Act is something that both conservatives and liberals can agree upon. The Congressional Budget Office recently announced an estimated \$5.6 trillion budget surplus over the next ten years. I think you and I will agree that this surplus leaves more than enough room to set aside \$2.9 trillion for Social Security and Medicare.

Setting aside this money is the responsible thing to do. And with a surplus of more than \$5 trillion, we will still have room to offer tax relief to working Americans and pay down the debt. It can be done. I look forward to making sure that a lockbox becomes a standard practice. The retirement security of all taxpaying Americans should be guaranteed - this legislation will make that goal a reality.

Sell it in the Classifieds
Call
563-2852

Big Mama Sez!
It is better to suffer a wrong than to do a wrong.

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610 Dr. Fermin Calderon Blvd., Del Rio, Texas 78840
830-775-5359

Kinney County Sheriff's Report

Monday, Feb. 12
 9:50 p.m., A local woman reported a possible accident involving an 18 wheeler on Highway 90 near the justice of the peace's office. DPS Trooper Tony Ashley was dispatched to the location.
 9:23 p.m., A local woman reported another woman was at her residence causing problems. Deputy Karl Chism was dispatched to the residence.
Tuesday, Feb. 13
 9:00 a.m., A caller reported an 18 wheeler had hit his truck, while parked at a local convenience store and drove off. At 9:19 a.m., Trooper Ashley requested Uvalde Police Department be notified since the vehicle was last seen heading east on Hwy 90. Approximately 25 minutes later Uvalde P.D. advised they had the vehicle stopped.
 10:00 a.m., Tracy Dawn Garcia, 27 years old, of Del Rio, was arrested by Sheriff Burgess for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Garcia posted bond the same day.
Wednesday, Feb. 14
 8:15 a.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent requested help stopping a silver Continental traveling north on Hwy 1908. Sheriff Burgess and Troopers Wylie and Slubar responded.
 1:30 p.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent requested assistance with a bail out on Hwy 334 approximately 5 miles from town. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter was dispatched to the scene. A total of 12 illegals were captured.
 2:52 p.m., A Highway department employee reported someone had locked their keys in their car. Reserve Deputy Robinson was dispatched.
Thursday, Feb. 15
 2:57 a.m., A local woman reported that her son had possible been assaulted. Deputy Pena was dispatched to the residence. Although the man had several scratches on his back and chest he said he had not been assaulted. Kinney County EMS transported the man to Val Verde Regional Medical Center.
 12:30 p.m., Juan Hernandez, 36 years of age, from Mexico, was arrested for public intoxication, by Deputy Manuel Pena Jr. Hernandez was still being held as of Monday.
 7:00 p.m., A U.S. Border Pa-

rol agent reported some sheep loose on Hwy 90 east of Arenosa Creek. The owner was notified.
Friday, Feb. 16
 6:50 p.m., An employee of a local convenience store reported a leaking gas pump. Deputy Pena responded. Fire Dept. was called to wash down the gas and they in turn requested sand from the Highway Dept. to cover the spill.
 8:25 p.m., Fort Clark security called for a deputy in regards to a disturbance. Deputy Chism took care of the situation.
Saturday, Feb. 17
 11:30 a.m., Taylor Anna Livingston, 18 years old, of Brownsville, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Livingston posted bond the following day.
 12:05 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to a call from a Fort Clark resident stating that a woman had taken some papers and an envelope with money from his car the night before after she drove his vehicle. He believes the woman accidentally took the items while grabbing her things out of the car. The woman was located the next day and said she was not with the man and that she didn't have his things.
 1:50 p.m., A 911 call was received from a motorist reporting a possible drunk driver heading toward Brackettville. Deputy Pena responded.
 2:55 p.m., A Fort Clark woman called to report that someone had stolen all the gas from her truck. The woman stated that a friend of hers had filled the vehicle up three days prior and had parked it at the caller's house. Deputy Pena responded to the call. The case is still under investigation.
 6:01 p.m., The Sheriff's office was informed of a loose emu near the track field on Hwy 334. Deputy Pena responded by contacting the owner of the emu.
 7:19 p.m., Deputy Pena was dispatched to the Fort Clark Security Shack after receiving a call about a car that had been running for about 5 hours at a resident's home. The resident was identified, but was unable to be located. The resident later returned stating that she had been out to dinner.
 7:46 p.m., A local woman reported that man in a wrecker truck parked beside her car at her resi-

dence. When she walked outside, he wouldn't say anything and then drove off. The woman said she didn't want the man coming by again. Deputy Chism was notified of the situation.
Sunday, Feb. 18
 2:30 p.m., Deputy Pena responded to a call from two women reporting that the Fort Clark Security officer on duty had wrecked the patrol truck. The driver of the truck stated that he had hit a deer near Post Theatre. The truck had brown paint on it, where it had hit something. An employee of Fort Clark reported that the man had hit a brown picnic table. The man confessed that he had after reading a section of the Penal Code referring to False Report to a Peace Officer. No charges were filed.
 9:05 p.m., Deputy Pena discovered that the front window had been broken at an abandoned residence on Quintel Street. Pena called for assistance from the Border Patrol. The house was searched but no one was found.
 12:20 p.m., Jamie Rivas, 19 years of age, of Brackettville, was arrested by Deputy Pena for delivery of marijuana. Rivas is still being held.
Monday, Feb. 19
 2:28 p.m. A 911 call was received from a boy reporting that there was a man going around the Senior Apartments knocking on doors and windows. Deputy Chism responded, but found no one in the area.
 9:06 a.m., Henry Carrasco Trevino, 27 years old, of Dallas, was arrested for assault, burglary of a vehicle, and an outstanding warrant from Dallas County, by Trooper Ashley. Trevino is still being held.

Learning is half attitude, half hard work

Empowering Families
 By Dr. Donald Smith

"Mom, I'm home," eight year old Jaime yelled as the door behind him shut hard. "Look Mom, I got a 'B' on the math exam."
 "I'm proud of you Jaime," Maricella exclaimed. "Just look what you can do when you decide to work hard. You went up from a 'D' to a 'B'. Just wait until your dad sees this. He will be proud too."
 "Look Dad, my math grade went up to a 'B'. Did Mom tell you about it?"
 "Yes Mi'jito, she told me about it," Johnny replied. "And I, too am proud of you. You see what can be done when you work hard."

Life is all about working hard and then enjoying the fruit of your labors. You can be proud of yourself. Hold your head up because your increasing knowledge will give you opportunities to learn even more, opportunities you must seize upon to better yourself. You deserve a reward for your efforts. We have saved some money for just this occasion. You and I will go get a big pizza and we will all enjoy your victory. If you keep getting these good grades, you can expect something of your very own as a reward.
 A very wise man said many centuries ago, "Like a chain of gold is learning to a wise man, like a bracelet on his right arm (Sirach 21:21). Nourish him with the

bread of understanding, and give him the water of learning to drink (15:3)." Learning in school is about fifty percent attitude and fifty percent hard work. Parents need to nurture in their children the attitude of possibility along with the expectation of performance. If a child grows up with the belief that he can learn, then he will be willing to try. If he has hope for the future he will sustain his effort. All success should be rewarded with praise and whenever possible with significant tangible tokens.
This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project working in Brackettville to strengthen family, faith and education.

Night out on the town with Leo "Bug" Johnson

How often can you have a "night out on the town" in Brackettville? Well, two great service organizations, the "Kinney County Arts Council" and "The Texas Commission on the Arts" combine their resources to make it possible for such an outing at the Civic Center on February 23rd at 7:30 p.m. So, mommas and daddies, other couples, and singles can put on their dancing shoes or just plain listen to the Dallas based six man band. "The Rainbows" features Leo 'Bug' Johnson of The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame - Drifters and five other talented musicians.
 The group will perform for the Brackett ISD and Head Start students at 1:30 p.m. in the Civic Center followed by the 7:30 p.m. concert/dance performance for the patrons of Brackettville. Since this

is the primary event of the year for the K.C. Arts Council, we encourage all to support us so we can continue to bring quality entertainment to Kinney County. Tickets are \$5.00 and may be obtained at The Bank & Trust, FCS Adult Center, any member of the "Arts Council," or at the door.
 Leo 'Bug' Johnson is one of the last 'real' rhythm and blues singers. Sounds of yesterday, today, and unforgettable jazz will make an evening "out on the town" in Brackettville, a time to remember and cherish. So, fellow citizens support this nonprofit organization that expands the cultural realm of your community and the school children of Brackettville.

Genealogical Society presents "Brackettville, Texas in 1870 and 1880"

The Southwest Texas Genealogical Society will meet Saturday, March 3, 2001, at Las Moras Restaurant, Ft. Clark, Brackettville, Texas at 10:00 a.m. Registration for the meeting is \$2.00, lunch \$8.00. The public is invited.
 The program will be presented by Edith Huddleston, a member of Southwest Texas Genealogical Society, the Uvalde County Historical Commission, Uvalde County Historical Commission, Inc. and The Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Caddell Smith Chapter. Mrs. Huddleston's subject will be "Brackettville, Texas in 1870 and 1880" and is taken from her yet unpublished manuscript titled: Treasures of Southwest Texas, Women and Water, 1860-1887.

Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much. —Oscar Wilde

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Your responsibility is to choose Forgiving as God does is what we must do

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charolette Corey

Don't worry, be happy. There will always be someone who hates you because you love Jesus. If you are known as his follower and truly walk in his word you will always have an enemy. Your enemy is the devil and his lies. People are not your enemy, the devil is. He is the one who deceives. He is the father of all lies. He comes not but to steal, kill and destroy. (John 10:10, Rev. 12:9, 13:14)

Jesus experienced similar problems when he said, "He that hateth me hateth my Father also." (John 15:23). Jesus's disciples experienced hatred shown against them too. Jesus responded with "The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you." (John 15:20).

In the midst of the storm, Jesus is the rock on which to build your house, your life. He is your strong foundation in whom there is no moving. He is your shelter and your refuge. He is your ever present help in time of trouble. He is

your comforter. He is your strength. He is your guide and your teacher. He is the good shepherd who watches over you, his sheep. He comes to give you life and that more abundantly. (Matt 7:24, James 1:17, Psalm 61:3, Psalm 91:2, Luke 6:48, Psalms 46:1, John 14:18, Mark 6:34, John 10:10-11, 14).

Your responsibility is to choose to forgive others, love them as you love yourself, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you". (Matt 5:44, Luke 6:27). Why, you say, would I want to do that? So that "ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven." (Matt 5:45).

Time here on this earth is as the grass groweth and then the sun burns down upon it and it withereth away. Eternity is forever. When confronted with choosing your priorities, it should be for eternal benefits. Present discomforts shall pass away. (1 Peter 1:24)

Choose to not worry. Choose to be happy. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

I don't like to be wrong, and I don't like to say I'm sorry. Both of these character flaws (I chose to call them flaws, rather than traits) cause me to have a difficult time with forgiveness.

In the Catholic faith a big part of our asking for forgiveness comes in confession. For years, I have had friends of other faiths ask about "confession."

"Why do you have to go into that little dark box? Can't you just ask God for forgiveness?"

The answer to these questions comes in knowing some history of the early Church. In those days, an individual stood in front of his (her) fellow parishioners and confessed his sins against God and his neighbor. Today, the priest takes the place of the other members of the parish and we are confessing our sins both to God and to the neighbors we have injured or offended.

The Lord's Prayer says "Forgive us our trespasses (debts in

some faiths) as we forgive those who trespass against us (our debtors). In Matthew's Gospel (6:14) Jesus tells us, "If you forgive the faults of others your heavenly Father will forgive you yours." Mark 11:25 says, "When you stand to pray, forgive anyone against whom you have a grievance so that your heavenly Father may in turn forgive you your faults."

When I was a child, we went to confession once a month, whether we needed it or not. Then after I had graduated from college and had my first teaching job in Chicago, I had a priest suggest that I go out and do something wrong before I came to confession and "wasted any more of his time." I want to believe that particular priest was feeling very pressured and having a bad day, but the end result of that incident was that it is difficult for me to go to confession. And this leads back to what I said at the beginning of this article. I have a very difficult time with forgiveness.

I believe part of my difficulty

comes in the realization that if I must ask for someone's forgiveness, I have done something wrong. I have to admit I've made a mistake. Recently I had to ask for forgiveness from a friend for what was a very serious oversight on my part. When I realized I must ask for her forgiveness, I first thought of all the excuses I could make, the reasons I could give for the oversight. However, in the end, I simply admitted that I had made a mistake. She very graciously accepted my apology and I was much relieved and glad that I had reached out to her.

Forgiveness, even though it is difficult, is very liberating. Even though I dread going to confession, I feel very free after I am finished. Talking to my friend made me feel as if a twenty-pound weight had finally been lifted from my shoulders.

When I ask for someone's forgiveness, I must decide that I will not say or do that "thing" again. In my mind, this is the difference

between saying, "I'm sorry," or "Please forgive me." When we say, "I'm sorry," we aren't committed to the idea of change in our behavior or attitude. "Please forgive me" involves a commitment to do better, to make a change in our lives. This is difficult.

It is also sometimes difficult to accept the forgiveness of others. Sometimes, I don't want to forgive the other person—I want to "hold a grudge," to let that person see how bad he/she has made me feel. This is rubbish. Our feelings are our own, not caused by anyone else and we can decide to forgive, which will bring relief to both of us.

Lord, I thank You for Your forgiveness of my many wrongdoings. I ask you to open my heart and my mind to those who ask for my forgiveness and for the courage to ask for the forgiveness of others.

You are welcome to worship with us anytime at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. God Bless You!

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
By Bette Koons

The traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be held again this year at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Brackettville, according to Ella Chambers, Bishop's Warden of the local church. Serving of pancakes and sausage in quantities commensurate with diners' appetites will be from 5 p.m. till 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 27, in the parish hall of the church at Fort and Henderson streets. Cost for an adult ticket is \$4.50 at the door or \$4.00 if purchased in advance. Fare for children 12 and under is \$2.00. Tickets are available from any church member or from Debbie Trant at Lockhart Real Estate.

St. Andrew's Church for a number of years has used its annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper as a means of sharing this tradition with others, as an opportunity for community fellowship, and as a fund-raising effort for its building and improvements fund. The Epiphany Season ends on

Shrove Tuesday or "Fat Tuesday." Its customs are a curious combination of carnival indulgences and the jollity ending a joyful season and of penitential preparation for Lent. Lent might begin on the next day, Ash Wednesday, but for this last day everyone had as much fun as they could. Pancake suppers on this Tuesday are traditional meals in the Anglican Communion (of which the Episcopal Church is a part), having roots in early England. The day gets its name from the old requirement that one confess his or her sins on this date in order to be "shriven" before Lent. Before the modern conveniences of mixes and refrigerators, making pancakes was a way to use up animal fats and other food forbidden during the rigorous fast of the next six weeks of Lent. It also was a way to live out the Scriptural admonition to "clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new

batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." (1 Cor. 5:7, 8)

The bell that solemnly summoned parishioners to church to receive absolution for their sins became known as the pancake bell. Rung later it reminded members that the holiday had begun, that they could put down their tools, make their pancakes, and take to the streets for fun and games. One game, held at a number of churches, was called a pancake race. Housewives raced from the town square to the church, clutching a pan with a pancake in it. Each runner must toss her pancake three times, and the winner was the first to arrive at the church with her pancake still in one piece.

Be led by the Spirit of God

Rev. William P. Adams, Sr.
St. Johns Missionary Church

But if the spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also (give life to) your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the Flesh, to live

after the flesh.

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye, through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry Abba, Father.

The spirit himself bareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God;

And if children, then heirs—heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Romans 8: 11-17.

He can and will take you home

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

He looked me straight in the eye. His eyes were filled with pain and sorrow, it was obvious, he had been crying.

His voice cracked as he asked, "If God is so perfect, how can he make people like me? What good can we possibly be?"

I asked, "What kind of people are we talking about?"

"The kind that continually hurt and disappoint the ones, that they care the most about!"

He had lost yet another job and was finding it hard to find a new one.

He had worked for four employers in the past two years.

I studied him as he asked "what's wrong with me?"

He was clean-cut, intelligent, well educated and seemed like a nice guy.

Four jobs in two years? Yes! Something must be wrong, but what and was he solely to blame?

I told him, Yes! God is perfect! God does not make bad people, God does not make failures, God does not make mistakes.

I asked him "Do you believe that when you were born, you entered this world with a clean slate? You were almost angelically pure, you were born sinless."

Unfortunately, no one stays that way. Like Adam and Eve, we gained the knowledge of good and evil.

He shook his head yes and said "I guess everyone starts with a clean slate, but it doesn't stay that way long. Why?"

I answered, "Because we were born into sin, a world full of sin. Even if we were lucky enough to be born to God fearing, God loving parents. They too are sinners,

struggling to do good, struggling to do right."

"Then we didn't have a chance from the beginning? What's the use?" He countered.

God gave you life that you should live. He wants you to be happy. He wants you to be productive and multiply. He wants you to share the life that he gave you with him.

He has all the answers to all your questions. He has a plan for

your life. Let him have control. Let him straighten out this mess for you. He will show you what to do, if you will let him.

Your life is yours to do whatever, you want to do with it. Let him help you to make the most of it.

He can take you places in this world that you can not go on your own and can take you out of this world. He can and will take you home, to heaven.

Obituary.....

Charles Wilson Ward

Charles Wilson Ward (Charlie) went to be with his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2001, at the age of 81, after a lengthy illness.

He was born Sept. 4, 1919, in Pearsall, TX to Henry Springfield Ward and Mildred Hindes Ward.

He graduated from Carrizo Springs High School, where he excelled in athletics. He received a football scholarship to the University of Texas.

He served two years as a U.S. Border Patrol agent in Spofford, Texas. In December of 1941, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and was commissioned a first Lt. and Bombadier during World War II.

After the war, he married Margaret Laverne York, and began his life long career of farming in the Brackettville and Uvalde area.

He was a long time member of the First Baptist Church of Brackettville. He was a member of the Brackett Lions Club and served on the Kinney County library board, Kinney County Historical commission, West Nueces Soil and Water Conservation district board and the

local V.F.W.

An avid historian, Charlie loved to read and share historical events with others.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Hugh and Garret and one sister, Inez Graham.

He is survived by a daughter Sherry Laverne Blocker and husband Gary, of San Antonio, Texas. One son Tim Ward and wife Debbie of Brackettville, three grandchildren, Cherrise Ward of Belton, Texas, Chase and Blake Ward of Brackettville.

Two nieces Mary Ann Trulock of Little Rock, Ark. Georgia Ann Hawes of Victoria, Texas, and one nephew, Gary Hugh Ward of Victoria, Texas.

Arrangements at the Brackettville Funeral Chapel are on Thursday February 22 from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on 114 North St.

Funeral services will be at the First Baptist Church of Brackettville, Texas, Feb. 23, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. with a private family burial in the Pearsall Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of the Brackettville Funeral Home.

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Call Pastor Ken F. Sellers, Jr. at 563-2823 for more information.

Raising Kids Can Get the Best of Anyone! Like Some Help? Read On!
First United Methodist Church of Brackettville will soon be presenting "Parents Helping Parents: A Program Offering Parent Peer Support" for parents of children ages 3 through 7. This program was created by Methodist Healthcare Ministries and is now available for the Brackettville Community. The curriculum brings together parents and children to discuss age-appropriate development information. In addition, we will cover such things as managing outside influences on our children, managing our living situations, violence in our homes, relationships, balancing work and family, and health and well-being.
The program is free to all participants and will meet one evening a week for 10 weeks. Child care will be available, so both parents and siblings may come. Pastor Ken Sellers of First United Methodist Church will be the facilitator of this program. Please contact the church at 563-2823 to sign-up or for further information.
Parents Helping Parents for parents raising teens will follow this summer.

Tigerettes excel in softball Rainbows to perform for students

By Greg Nowlin
Contributing Writer

The Tigerettes are off to a great start in Softball! Tigerettes went to Uvalde to compete in the 3A and 4A Tournament over the weekend. They finished in third place. They began play on Thursday the 15th against the Lytle Pirates. Tigerettes won by a score of 16 to 5. Erika Garcia picked up the victory, and Queta Garza handled the catching duties. The second game on Thursday saw the Tigerettes tear up the San Antonio West Campus team 12 to 4. Celina Cano picked up the win, and Queta Garza again did the catching.

The last game on Thursday saw the girls take on the hometown Uvalde Coyotes. The Coyotes won by the score of 7 to 1, in a very hard fought game, a few costly errors cost the girls, down the stretch of the game. On Saturday, the Tigerettes took on the Carrizo Springs Wildcats for third place. The girls took care of the Wildcats, 5 to 1. Erika Garcia once again picked up the win, and Queta Garza handled the catching duties.

Playing well in the tournament was: Erika Garcia who pitched 3 games, won 2, and lost only one. She also had 4 hits and 4 RBI's, also Vanessa Castillo had 5 hits, 5 RBI's, and scored 3 runs. Queta Garza had 4 hits, 8 stolen bases, and scored 5 runs, B'Ann Gomez had 4 hits, 4 RBI's, and stole 5 bases, Melinda Villarreal had 8 stolen bases, and scored 6 runs.

Cuddy De Los Santos had 4 stolen bases and scored 4 runs. Celina Cano pitched one game, she gave up 2 hits, 2 walks and struck out 6 batters. Celina has greatly improved on her accuracy from last year.

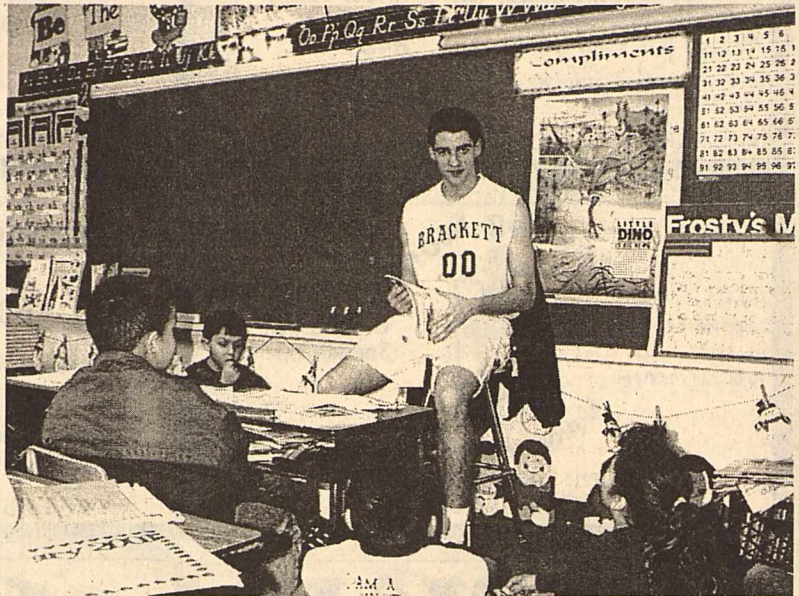
There was a total of 10 teams entered in the Tournament, Brackett was the only AA team entered. Erika Garcia was selected to the All-Tournament Team.

Other team members this year who also made big contributions are: Marty Payne, Stephanie Samaniego, Tina Luna, Christina Flores, April Martinez, Duquesa

Hunt, Celia De Leon, and Nicole Mata.

"It was a great way to start off the season, we got in a lot of playing time, and gained some valuable experience along the way against some pretty good teams," said Coach Nowlin.

This Saturday the 24th of February, we will be hosting our 8th Annual Tigerette Tournament, we have teams like Eagle Pass, Carrizo Springs, Junction, Charlotte entered in it. Please come out on Saturday, and support the Tigerettes as they make another run at the State Playoffs.



The Brackett Boys basketball team initiated a new reading program this season that copies the NBA theme "Reading is Fundamental." Book reading to Elementary classes took place on game day to stress the importance of reading, and to promote the boy's basketball program. Pictured above is Levi Duncan reading to a group of 2nd graders.

Choosing the high school classes that lead to success

It's that time of year again. High school students are lining up to talk to their counselors about next fall's classes.

If you want to make sure your student is ready for education beyond high school, here are recommendations from ACT, makers of the college entrance exam, the ACT Assessment.

It's never too early to think about college preparation. Choices made as a freshman and sophomore could affect choices for the rest of the student's life. By selecting a strong academic program in high school, the student is preparing well for college. In fact, the ACT, used for college admission

by almost all U.S. colleges and universities, measures what the student has learned in high school to estimate how well he or she is expected to do in college.

Most college admission professionals say the courses a student takes in high school and his or her grades are the most important pieces of information in considering college admission. Grades and courses show the student's potential and work ethic.

ACT has a recommended list of high school courses that students can use as a guide for planning their choices. Be sure to check with the colleges and universities of interest to compare the requirements. The ACT minimum recommendations are: English: four

years, Mathematics: three years (algebra and higher level math), Natural Sciences: three years, with lab experience, Social Studies: three years, Foreign languages: two units in the same language, Additional courses: visual arts, music, theatre, drama, dance, computer science.

A student's chance of success in college is greatly enhanced by taking rigorous courses in all subjects, especially in math. Research from ACT shows that students who take more math classes are better prepared for college than other students and score higher on the ACT overall.

For more college and career planning information, visit www.act.org.

Making A Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

The Rainbows will perform for the students of BISS Friday afternoon at the Civic Center. Students will be bussed to the concert which will last about an hour. Friday night, the Kinney County Arts Council will sponsor a concert of music by the Rainbows open to the public at the Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. This is a fine performing group that our students and the folks in Kinney County will enjoy. We're grateful to the Arts Council and to the Texas Commission on the Arts for bringing this concert to Brackettville. I encourage you to attend this evening of music.

My wife and I visited Amarillo this past weekend. Our daughter, Traci and her husband, Nathan, live there. Our main reason for visiting was to see little Bradley who is a year and a half. He is a delightful little one. He has learned to say Grandma and Granddad and a few other less significant words. We grin, and love Bradley as often as possible. We were able to attend his special classes in music therapy. Bradley is hearing impaired, but his mind is quick as he shows you signs that we don't yet know. The special classes in Amarillo are high level and his life is on track to be fun and achievement filled.

It's a pleasure to see the grass turning green and the trees leafing out in our county. Everything in the panhandle of Texas is brown. As you leave San Antonio and drive West toward Brackettville, the grass gets greener and the trees begin to show their new Spring leaves. It's very nice. The Panhandle will be this way in a month or so. I hope you take the time to enjoy the outdoors during this season.

This week, we have cheerleader tryouts on Friday for Junior High and High School for the 2001-02 school year. It's difficult to believe that the planning and organization

for next year begins this early. Our Spring Break is only two weeks away. Students and staff look forward to this break.

We issue our condolences to family and friends of Charlie Ward. He passed on early this week. It's my understanding that his services will be on Friday at the Baptist Church at 2:00 p.m. Check out the time and date on this.

Cathy Lutz is our TAAS coordinator. She does her homework and gets the job done for the district. It's a difficult job, but all who are involved with her have complimented her on the job that she has done this year.

This weekend, we have a softball tournament in Brackettville. The tennis, golf and baseball teams will be out of town. The spring sports program has begun with a bang!

This week signifies the end of the fourth six weeks of school. So, we're two thirds of the way through

with only two six weeks to go. Encourage your children to keep their work up to date and to work on problem classes now.

The Texas state legislature has a huge job this year trying to meet the needs of its patrons with less money than they need to do the job. Some are saying that the tax decrease last year was a mistake. Hindsight is easy in cases like this. Our legislators do not have the luxury of knowing what the economy or the cost of services will be when considering a budget. They can get the best estimates, which is what they did. At the time, it seemed right. I caution against a state income tax. I've tried that one in New Mexico. It's absolutely one of the worst forms of taxation. It seems strange that the federal government is considering an income tax decrease while our state is considering an income tax increase. I don't think the state tax will ever pass. Have a great week!

Tigers end season with win

The Brackett Tigers beat Pettus last Tuesday night to finish district in fourth place.

The Tigers missed the playoffs by one game. The Tigers ended their season 11-12 on the year winning the La Pryor Tournament, and finishing 3rd in the SWTIC Tournament. Brackett lost four close games down the stretch that cost them a playoff spot.

"We are disappointed about our season and our free throw shooting down the stretch, but I am proud that we ended it with a win," said Coach Jimmy Thomas. The Tigers will lose three seniors Damian Toms, Schiller Hill, and Jesse Hidalgo.

The Tigers will return 3 starters, and 6 letterman for the next year's team.

"Play it Safe" project

If you have experience in building, gardening, welding, or woodworking, or are interested in helping the community with a service project, then Jones Elementary needs your expertise!

The Kindergarten teachers and students have been awarded the "Play it Safe" grant in order to make improvements to the school playground. With the help of the P.T.O., plans are being made to

improve existing equipment and to add a few benches, along with a covered picnic area for the students. But, your advice is needed!

This project will only be possible with your help. Please meet us on the Jones Elementary playground, Tuesday, February 27, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. for a planning meeting. Please call Christina Sifuentes with any questions at 563-2491.

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

- Thursday, February 22**
Girls Softbl V Tigerette Tourn. (H) TBA, Tennis JV Sabinal, After school, Test Day, Exit Math & Reading, V Basebl La Pryor Tourn. (A) TBA
- Friday, February 23**
9:00 AM Girl's Golf, Place: SA Holmes-Lackland, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM KC Arts Council Concert, Cheerleader Tryouts, New Gym! 9:00 HS Voting, 10:30 JH Voting, End of Fourth 6 Wks., Girls Softbl V Tigerette Tourn. (H) TBA, Payday! Tennis Sabinal, Track VG Del Rio, V Basebl LaPryor Tourn. (A) TBA
- Saturday, February 24**
Girls Softbl V Tigerette Tourn. (H) TBA, Track JH Uvalde, Track VB Dilley, V Basebl LaPryor Tourn. (A) TBA
- Monday, February 26**
9:00 AM Boy's Golf, Place: Brackett Invitational, 9:00 AM Girl's Golf, Place: Brackett Invitational, 4:30 PM Girls Softbl JV Eagle Pass, 9th (A), 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM St. Henry DeOsso Parenting Session, Dr. Don Smith, Library
- Tuesday, February 27**
4:00 PM Girls Softbl V Comfort (A), 4:00 PM V Basebl D'Hanis (A), Elementary Group Pictures!
- Wednesday, February 28**
Spring Pictures!

CALISTHENICS FOR OVERWORKED FINGERS Bend thumb against the palm of the hand beneath the little finger. Hold for 5 seconds. Repeat 5 times, then switch hands.

Poems sought in contest

A \$1,000.00 grand prize is being offered in a new poetry contest sponsored by Celestial Arts, free to everyone.

A whopping \$50,000.00 in prizes will be awarded during the coming year!

To enter send one poem 21 lines

or less: Celestial Arts, P.O. Box 1140., Dept. Free Contest, Talent, OR 97540. Or enter online at www.freecontest.com.

Be sure your name and address appear on the page with your poem. The deadline for entering is March 10, 2001.

LAS MORAS MASONIC LODGE
meets the 2nd Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m.
School of Instruction meets every Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Visiting Brothers are Welcome

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Fort and Henderson Streets

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February 22nd from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

\$4.00 Adults
\$4.50 at Door
\$2.00 for Children 12 years and under

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Texas electric cooperatives have been providing power to Texans since 1937. As coops, we are non-profit and member-owned. To learn more about deregulation visit us at our web site, or call your local Smart Choice cooperative.

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- Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Bud Breen, cowboy, ranch foreman, western movie actor, then artist has been painting pictures that capture the beauty of the open country and ranch life that he loves so well.
 Bud's Brackettville home is his studio, the kitchen table is his easel and his experiences are his inspiration.
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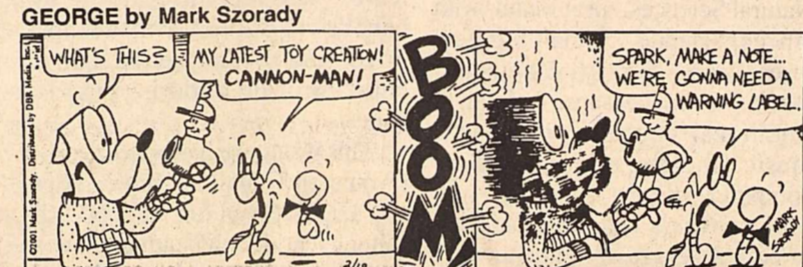
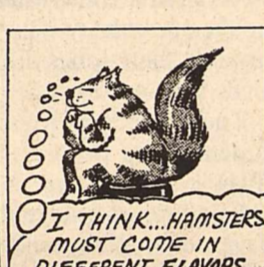
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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ROARING TWENTIES
 In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Words can be found in all directions— forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?
 Today's Category: FAMOUS INVENTORS

S	J	L	S	M	T	T	A	W	K	F	N	1. Bell
W	K	K	P	O	L	N	U	D	I	I	R	2.
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T	O	I	E	S	W	E	O	E	S	C	M	4.
I	W	H	T	E	E	C	P	D	E	H	E	5.
E	E	C	G	N	R	P	P	I	F	S	S	6.
H	A	S	M	A	E	U	S	S	U	W	S	7.
N	S	W	M	Z	L	Y	W	O	L	I	E	8.
E	T	E	S	L	S	I	E	N	T	S	B	9.
R	M	R	M	(B	E	L	L	O	O	W	D	10.
A	A	A	L	E	F	F	I	E	N	E	N	11.
F	N	W	R	A	E	Y	D	O	O	G	M	12.

AOROSCOPIES
 by Charles Cooper
ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 An annoying phone call comes early in the week from a cantankerous relative. Do your best to hold your tongue. Utilize tact instead.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 Good news comes your way this week. This puts everyone around you in a celebratory mood. However, don't neglect work duties.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 It's a week of mixed signals at best. However, your communication skills are finely honed. As a result, you make great headway.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 A long-held fear should be met head-on. Once you conquer this, the world is at your beck and call. This weekend, take part in cultural pursuits.
LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 Those tempted to go on a shopping spree should review finances first. Those holiday bills are still an issue. Over the weekend, romance is in the air.
VIRGO (August 23 to Sept. 22)
 It's a good time to schedule that checkup with your doctor. Neglecting your own welfare isn't in your best interest. Later in the week, good news comes via the telephone.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
 A break in your routine is what's needed early in the week. This weekend, spend some time fine-tuning your plans for the future.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
 Inspiration comes from an unlikely source. However, you're quick to jump on it. Together, you can find a solution for a long-standing problem.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
 You're feeling a bit lethargic as the week begins. However, you soon conquer this feeling. By week's end, you've accomplished all you set out to do.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
 A situation at work needs your special touch. Fortunately, bigwigs look to you for the answers. Later in the week, you reap the rewards of your labor.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
 Gregarious as always, your charisma is attractive to all around you. Use this charm to its best advantage. Ultimately, it helps you toward your goals.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
 A co-worker's deceit has you feeling betrayed. However, the two of you can smooth things over by having a heart-to-heart talk. Don't hold in that anger and resentment.
CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS:
 Senator Ted Kennedy, February 22; Peter Fonda, February 23; Barry Bostwick, February 24; George Harrison, February 25.
 For Entertainment Purposes Only
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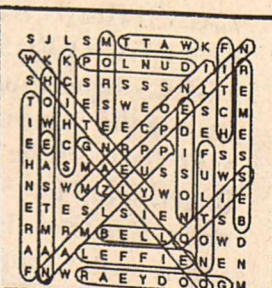
ACROSS
 1 Sport
 5 Make wide slashes
 10 Metal fastener
 14 Four __ two is two
 15 Up to
 16 Edmondson's loc.
 17 Holiday stamp
 18 Kingdom
 19 Diamond
 20 Makes beloved
 22 Presidents
 24 Bustle
 25 Non-flowering plants
 26 Sky sight
 29 Peanut butter container
 30 Gets closer to
 34 Slimy swimmers
 35 Participated in the Boston Marathon
 36 Piece of ammo
 37 Drs.' group
 38 Aluminum sheet

40 Female calls
 41 Frolicked
 43 Crawler
 44 Fat
 45 Nasal sound
 46 Poet's word
 47 Kitchen implement
 48 Provide stamp
 50 Lend a hand to
 51 Piece of furniture
 54 Auction attendees
 58 Bumpkin
 59 South African Dutchmen
 61 Of the congregation
 62 College in North Carolina
 63 Easter time, often
 64 ¿Cómo __?; How are you?
 65 Departed
 66 Actress Adoree
 67 Bud support
 DOWN
 1 Model's stance
 2 Cake's place, temporarily
 3 Soft, bluish-gray element
 4 New __
 5 Beast of burden
 6 Scottish ones
 7 Train's destination: abbr.
 8 Farmer
 9 Fudd or Gantry
 10 1st money taken in by a new business
 11 Sailor's direction
 12 __ up; arouse
 13 Compadres
 21 PITCHER contents
 23 Invalidate
 25 Noisy display
 26 Juicy snacks
 27 Yellow item
 28 1836 massacre scene
 29 Period before 2/1: abbr.
 31 With the voice
 32 Make merry
 33 Washington, for one
 35 Disencomber
 36 Part of a harness
 38 13 through
 39 Word with some or every
 42 Tense
 44 Leather seats
 46 Luxembourg's location
 47 Cover
 49 Exclude
 50 Part of a theater
 51 Sketched
 52 Law
 53 Poet's color
 54 Cheese variety
 55 Orient
 56 Ceremony
 57 Sucker's pitfall
 60 White-tailed eagle

Trivia Time by Walter Branch
 1. What 1991 flick was widely described as the first women's "buddy movie"?
 2. What popular dog name means "faithful" in Latin?
 3. Who was flying a mail route between St. Louis and Chicago when he learned of the \$25,000 prize for soloing across the Atlantic?
 4. From what country did Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia split in 1991?
 5. How many heads did the mythical dog, Cerberus, who guarded the gates of Hades, have?
 6. What number was first calculated by Archimedes around 250 B.C.?
 7. In a 1978 edict, aimed to eliminate sexism, what did Woonsocket, Rhode Island rule that manholes should be called?
 8. What new name did a member of the Moondogs suggest before a May 10, 1960 audition?
 9. What is the name for the time during the year when day and night are equally long?
 10. What did the U.S. post office impose on July 1, 1963?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 Feb. 22.....Francisco Arellano
 Feb. 23.....David Melancon
 Feb. 23.....F.B. Stanley
 Feb. 24.....Lorraine Coffin
 Feb. 25.....Jack Brewster
 Feb. 25.....Cassandra Mata
 Feb. 25.....Jack Phillips
 Feb. 25.....Arnold Pinales, Jr.
 Feb. 25.....Oscar Sierra, Jr.
 Feb. 26.....Elaine Crane
 Feb. 26.....Heather Martin
 Feb. 26.....Ruth Young
 Feb. 27.....Elizabeth Dillahunt
 Feb. 27.....Milton Russell
 Feb. 28.....Rudolph Hendrickson
 Feb. 28.....Ruth Lagow
 Feb. 28.....Dale Smith

Roaring Twenties Solution:
 1. Bell
 2. Bessemer
 3. Dunlop
 4. Eastman
 5. Edison
 6. Eiffel
 7. Fahrenheit
 8. Fitch
 9. Fulton
 10. Galileo
 11. Goodyear
 12. Howe
 13. Marconi
 14. Morse
 15. Otis
 16. Pullman
 17. Schick
 18. Watt
 19. Whitney
 20. Zeppelin

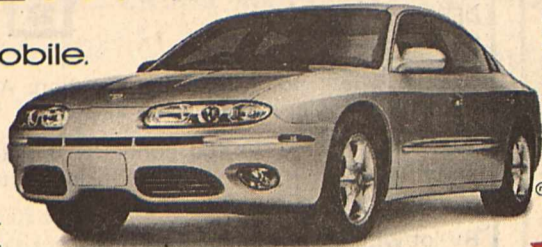


Trivia Time Answers
 1. "Thelma & Louise"; 2. Fido; 3. Charles Lindbergh; 4. Yugoslavia; 5. Three; 6. Pi; 7. Personholes; 8. The Beatles; 9. The equinox; 10. Zip codes
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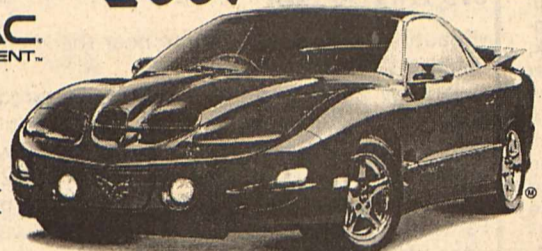
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BROWN DISC.....3,500

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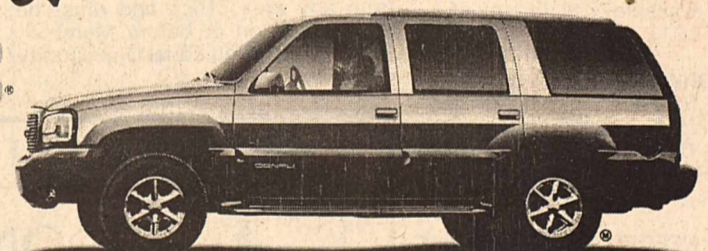


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