

The Brackett News



Friday, @ 5 p.m.
here JV, VG, VB
play against Natalia

13th year, No. 51

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

FCS board approves Horse Club contract

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

At a special meeting Saturday, Fort Clark Springs Association Board of Directors approved an agreement between FCSA and the Fort Clark Horse Club.

The Horse Club contract was approved with four members voting for approval; Carol Miller and Glen White voted against, Betty Gibbs abstained.

Miller and White both had reservations about certain aspects of the agreement.

White suggested adding the words "no rearing" to the statement in the contract that specifies no commercial operation and no breeding.

Miller noted that, though the contract states that "any person renting a stall on a monthly basis must be a member in good standing of FCSA", there is no place where it says "membership in the club must be open to all Fort Clark members."

Tom Saylor said that he and Maggie Banner Kerr had talked to FCSA attorneys concerning the "cancellation with or without cause" statement which was

amended in the contract to read "with cause". According to the attorneys, if the "without cause" statement is included, any frivolous reason might incur this clause and the agreement in effect would become a 30 day lease. Miller pointed out that with 7 members of the board, it would require 4 members to cancel the contract.

The Fort Clark Horse Club also ratified the agreement at its meeting last Monday.

In action regarding golf fees, the board approved a quarterly service charge of \$10.00 per payment to be added when annual green fees are paid quarterly. Jack Simpson voted against the measure. Monthly green fees were also reinstated at \$100 per month for singles, \$150 for couples.

The board awarded a bid for development of Unit 38 to Compton Enterprises in the amount of \$359,448.25.

At its regular meeting on January 19th, the FCSA Board approved a policy revision regarding records review. The revision deleted "only FCSA member in good standing may

review records". Since FCSA is a nonprofit organization, anyone may review financial records when available. However, a request in writing is required for copies of financial statements.

An amendment to personnel policy will give each employee of FCSA one personal day per year, in addition to the 9 holidays now approved.

Brush cleanup begins on dams

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

Work began Monday on brush cleanup along the spillways of the two flood control dams north of Brackettville. There is an interagency agreement between the City of Brackettville and Kinney County dating back to 1961. Every year the city and county each deposit \$400 in an escrow account to cover maintenance of the dams. When the account has sufficient funds, short term labor is hired and using city/county equipment the accumulated brush is removed from the dams spillways.

According to Judge Herb Senne the dams were built as a pilot project in flood control under the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation designed and implemented with Federal dollars. After the project was completed, from year one through year ten, the USDA was responsible for upkeep and maintenance. However, after 10 years Kinney County and the City of Brackettville, under an interlocal agreement, became responsible for operation and maintenance along with the Soil Conservation Department.

Funds from the escrow account are used to manually chop

Sanchez receives 12 years Plea bargain drops drug charges

Manuel "Timber" Sanchez was sentenced to 12 years, last Monday, for the murder of Alfonso Gomez, Jr.

Alfonzo was stabbed to death during a fight at a local bar on March 19, 2000.

The incident apparently stemmed from some past grudge between the two men.

Gomez received a wound to the left arm and a stab wound to the chest. He was pronounced dead shortly after arrival at Val Verde Regional Medical Center.

Sanchez was indicted on two

counts, murder and attempted murder, on April 3, 2000.

On October 10, 2000, Sanchez was found innocent of attempted murder. The jury deadlocked over the murder. Sanchez' bond was reduced to \$10,000 after the mistrial and he was soon released from jail.

In January of the following year Sanchez was arrested for delivery of cocaine.

The sentence was a result of a plea bargain. Sanchez pled guilty to the homicide and a subsequent drug charge was dropped.

Briefs ...

Dental Team

The University of Texas Health Science Dental Team will be at the First Baptist Church at the corner of Ann and Veltman on Saturday from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m. February 2, 2002.

Blood Drive

Sponsored by Rio Grande Electric Cooperative. Wednesday, February 6, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Call Lynda or Kathy at RGECC, 563-2444, to schedule a time. Rio Grande will provide all kinds of energy-packed snacks and juices! Each donor will be given a t-shirt.

Duplicate Bridge

Duplicate Bridge was played at Fort Clark Springs on Tuesday evening, January 22, 2002, in the Gorgas Room. There were 5 tables and the Mitchell Movement was used. The winners in the North/South were: 1st-Sara Richhart and Ruth Potter; 2nd-Ann Malin and Ann Watts; and 3rd-Rusty Richhart and Ella Chambers. In the East/West, the winners were: 1st-Dena Scott and Mona Miller; 2nd-Dianna Daniels and Kay Roberts; and 3rd-Sharon and Bob Boucher. The evening was a good one to relax, kick back and play bridge. The cards were reasonable for everyone giving us all a chance to shine.

Thrift Store

The Brackettville Lions Club Thrift Store has a supply of medical equipment, including hospital beds, walkers, potty chairs (and extenders), and crutches. If you are in need of any of these things, come by the store on the first Saturday of each month or contact a member of the Brackettville Lions Club.

Voices of Ft. Clark

The Voices of Ft. Clark will resume rehearsals on Monday, Feb. 4, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. at Post Theater. We will be preparing for a Spring Concert and also for the Easter Sunrise Service. Anyone interested in singing, please join us. For more information, you may call 563-9229.

Photo unclaimed

The photo found by a Rio Grande Electric worker and printed in last week's Brackett News has still not been claimed. Cindy Edwards of RGECC says "If no one claims her, I'm going to take her home and add her to my family so she won't be alone."

Deleon found guilty of delivering marijuana

In January of 2000 undercover agents from the 63rd Judicial District Undercover Task Force arrested 11 Kinney County residents on charges of delivering or possession of drugs and 3 others (Uvalde residents selling in Brackettville) on charges of selling drugs.

Jimmy Granato, Texas DPS Narcotics Service, Commander, 63rd Narcotics Task Force stated the action of two years ago removed 14 persons involved in drugs from the streets of Brackettville. 38 others were arrested in Uvalde County

Although the cases of some of the individuals arrested at that have gone to trial or plea bargain, three individuals apprehended in one undercover operation are on the docket for District Court this week at Kinney County Court House in Brackettville.

Javier Deleon was arrested by an undercover agent on January 7, 2000.

Deleon along with Eugene Flores, Jr. and Jaime Rivas on

a charge of delivery of .37 ounce of marijuana on school grounds.

The event occurred within 1,000 feet of school property which is defined as school grounds under the Health & Safety Drug Free Zone Act.

After a jury trial, Deleon was found guilty and sentenced to 6 months incarceration in the state jail.

Flores' trial has been reset to April 15, 2002.

Audit praises county management

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

Wayne Beyer of Beyer and Company, Certified Public Accountants presented a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Audit) for Kinney County to County Commissioners at their January meeting. The report is for the year ended September 30, 2001.

Beyer noted the overfunding of the pension fund at 107%, with 1.448 million in assets and \$1.344 million in obligations. This overfunding has decreased over the last three years from 113%. Additions to the analysis of funding progress will be made yearly until ten years of data is available.

Though Beyer stated the General Fund balance is still rela-

tively underfunded, at \$563,446 it shows an increase over last year of approximately \$55,000. Over the past 4-5 years the county has brought this balance up and the County and Commissioners can be commended, according to Beyer.

He also suggested the county target this reserve at close to \$1 million. "I have seen counties go through \$1 million in an emer-

gency," Beyer said. The Road and Bridge Fund showed an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$34,707 as of September 30th.

All issues mentioned in a separate Management Letter from Beyer and Company had been taken care of since the beginning of October, according to Sandy Watkins, Kinney County Auditor.

Elementary teachers visit Rotary

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

Paula Renken brought three elementary school teachers with her to present a program to the Brackettville Rotary Club on January 24. Their presentation was on the use of technology in teaching. Candy Hobbs, Master Technology Teacher, headed the presentation and Kimberli Cummings and Alma Gutierrez, first grade teachers, contributed to the Program.

Hobbs is head of the Intel Technology Project. Being able to use a computer is essential for the education of students who will be moving into tomorrow's world. However, not every teacher is familiar with the technology. The goal of Intel is to train teachers all over the world so that they may train their students in the use of the computer. Intel wants to train 500,000 teachers and those teachers will,

in turn, train students.

Hobbs said that when she was being trained she discovered just how fortunate Brackettville is in having so many computers available to students. Teachers from other districts complained that their schools had too few. Some only had one computer available, and students had to wait their turn to use it. Others said there was a computer available, but no one used it because the staff wasn't trained. Hobbs credited superintendent Taylor Stephenson and Frank Taylor, Director of Technology, for finding money to keep the Brackettville School System so well supplied and offering training to teachers.

Last October a 40 hour training course was offered to teachers. Classes were held directly after school hours were over, which meant that after teaching for 7 hours, teachers sat for 4

more and also did the homework required of the class in order to complete the technology class. Eighteen enrolled and seventeen completed it; most of them were first grade teachers.

Intel gave the teachers who enrolled the software Microsoft Office and Publisher. Taylor estimated that it would sell for around \$300.00, and the teachers were allowed to keep it. Another course will be offered, probably next summer, for staff development so that this technology can be utilized.

Hobbs introduced Kimberli Cummings, a first grade teacher who is teaching for her first year. Cummings was already proficient in using the computer, but took the course because she wanted to learn how to create a web page. She then projected a web page she had created which could be used to communicate with parents. It is not presently

on the internet, but will be sometime in the future so that parents can be in touch with what is going on in the classroom.

A picture of the class will be shown, but only pictures of children whose parents have given permission will be included. No names will be used because of the danger of predators wanting to take advantage of children.

The site will have links that will connect to such things as a list of homework assignments, various academic subjects, and a school calendar. If parents don't have a computer, they can use one at the school library two or three times a week at specific times or at the Kinney County Library.

Students are encouraged to use email. It helps develop writing and typing skills.

Alma Gutierrez, another first grade teacher spoke of how her students use the computers. She

mentioned that her own first grader comes in early with her to start each day, and her task is to turn on the computers.

Gutierrez said that the first graders actually do research using the computers. She said the results of their efforts are amazing.

One of the research projects was on other parts of the world. As a special treat, Rotary Youth Exchange Student Matthias Katsfuzz visited the class and spoke to them about Germany. Like the proud foster parents Rotary members consider themselves to be, they beamed with pride.

This past weekend Matthias went with Maria Martinez and J. P. Pineda to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award conference in New Braunfels. The three reported back that they enjoyed the weekend and learned a lot about leadership.

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A very wise man said long ago that a blow from the tongue smashes bones (28:17) Lifestyles/Page 4

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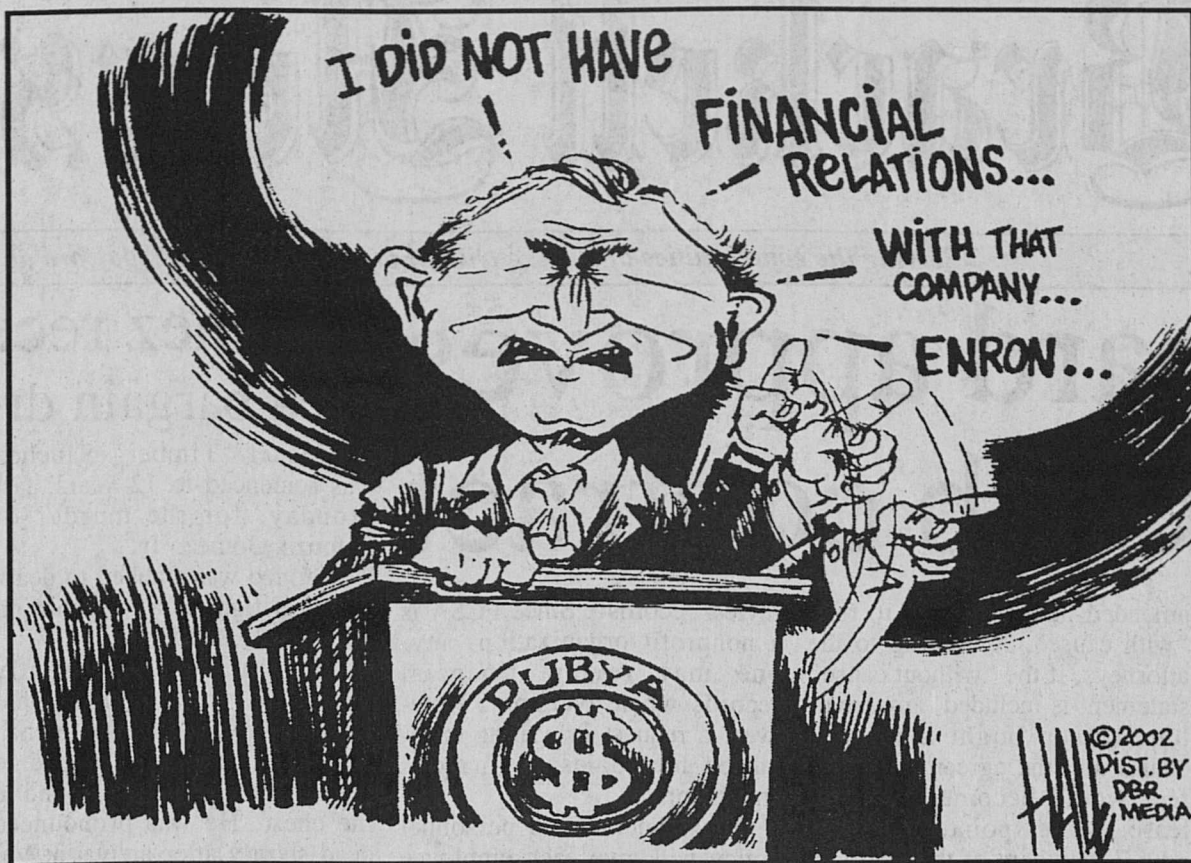
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February 2002 is...

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

These aren't all of the eventful days in February, just some of my favorites. AMD/Low Vision Awareness Month (How low do I need to look?) International Boost Your Self-Esteem Month (Boost MY self-esteem?) Marfan Syndrome Awareness Month (What is that?) National Bird Feeding Month (I fed a bird to my cat, OK?) National Sign Up for Summer Camp Month (Don't go, just sign up), National Weddings Month (Do nations marry?) Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month (Is there a reward?) Wise Health Consumer Month (Even my health is wise) Women's Heart Week (2/1-2/7) (I won't say it) Robinson Crusoe Day (2/1) (Is this like Survivor?)

National Freedom Day (2/1) (Women's hearts get a week?) Love May Make the World Go 'Round but Laughter Keeps Us from Getting Dizzy Week (2/7-2/14) (this is too long to work) Love Your Robot Day (2/8) (too kinky for me) Utah: Jell-O Week (2/10-2/16) (Texas: what?) National Pancake Week (2/10-2/16) (just not in Utah) Shrove Monday (2/11) (Strove?) Fasching (2/11) (OK tell me) Chinese New Year (2/12-Year of the Horse) Lupercalia (2/15) (I'm blank again) Read Me Week (2/25-3/1) (read you, I can't even spell You) Ta'anit Esther (2/25) (Please call) Purim (2/26) (I want to know) Spay Day (2/26) (I don't want to know) Perigean Spring Tides (2/27) (I couldn't find out) All year long: I could be wrong week!



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

During elementary school, I found recess to be the most enjoyable part of my day. I always wished that my time outside could be extended into the afternoon. My recess is now filled with travel to the 29 counties that make up the 23rd district. I spend quality time with my district staff and educate our part of the state. It's a great way to get in touch with the people who matter the most: my constituents.

We are a nation at war, and we must continue to support our troops and our President. We must also address the important issues facing America. There are several legislative priorities this Congress must address.

As a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I am dedicated to rebuilding our national defense. We must continue to support our men and women in uniform who have taken an oath to defend and protect our nation. As our troops face new challenges, we must demonstrate the true commitment for our armed services.

I was honored last year to have been appointed Chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. As Chairman, I oversee hundreds of state and national agriculture programs. Last year's spending bill was great for Texas agriculture producers. Many of the programs funded will directly impact farmers and ranchers in the 23rd district and throughout our great state, as well as our nation. I remain dedicated to keeping the agriculture industry strong and healthy.

Beyond my subcommittee positions in the House of Representatives, I want each of you to know that I will not back down on the issues I have fought for since my first days in Congress. We must continue to provide meaningful tax relief to the people of America — especially considering our current economic conditions. Now more than ever, we also need to look out for the small businesses of America. They are the backbone of our country. Small businesses should be protected so they have the opportunity to grow and flourish.

I'll also continue my work on the Texas/Mexico border; I'll aim for better health research funding; and of course, I'll shoot for the stars when it comes to educating our nation's children. After almost a decade of commitment to these issues, we've seen remarkable results.

But we're not finished. This year will bring us one step closer to accomplishing our goals and making the 23rd district better than ever. It goes without saying that America forever changed on September 11th.

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. All writers must provide proof of identity. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

Guantanamo Bay

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

Well it didn't take the Left Coast morons long to return to normal. The latest news is that several of the self-righteous guardians of political correctness have filed a law suit in California District Court regarding the civil rights and humane treatment of the Taliban prisoners being held at Guantanamo Bay. How many of you are surprised by this move? What, nobody? How many are surprised that it came from California? Same result, huh? The Taliban totally outlawed all self-expression and civil rights in their own country. They murdered people because of Christian beliefs; they imposed their own religious ideology by force; and we are supposed to treat them like rebellious children? They are animals. They are fanatical religious killers. They want nothing more than to destroy us and all we stand for, and we are to treat them like backsliding brothers? I don't think so! And besides, what possible jurisdiction can a California judge have over military prisoners held in a naval base in a foreign country? If this judge has any brains, which is doubtful, being that he is a California judge, he will tell the bleeding hearts who filed this case to take a flying leap, that he has no jurisdiction.

The Taliban prisoners deserve humane treatment, nothing more. They do not deserve preferential treatment. They do not deserve color television, waterbeds, maid service, room service, satin sheets or anything else the PC Gestapo can dream up. They were not mistreated because they were not given a window seat on the flight from Afghanistan to Cuba. They are

not mistreated by being cuffed and jailed and guarded and kept separate. They are dangerous! They are deadly! They are not United States Citizens accused of jaywalking. They are the enemy! They are killers! What does it take to make the liberal halfwits understand that not everyone in the world is a nice guy? There are people out there who hate you simply because you are not like them. Racist? Yes! Bigoted? Yes! But true nonetheless. If you are one of those who thinks you can reach these people by being kind and giving them gifts, you need a lesson in reality. It ain't gonna happen. These people have pledged to fight to the death. They want to kill you. They don't care if you are a civil rights activist, give large amounts of money to the ACLU, and don't eat anything with a face. They hate you because you are you! And any one of them would happily take a knife and gut you like a deer. That's reality!

After the WTC attack I thought that, just maybe, this country had a chance to return to sanity. I saw people displaying outright patriotism. I saw "In God We Trust," "God Bless America," and other patriotic Christian slogans displayed with pride in public places. I was proud and happy to see the American people once again coming together behind a common cause, to fight a common enemy. I was once again proud to be an American.

But it didn't last long. Now we are right back in the rut that is tearing the guts out of this nation. We can no longer allow the liberal left to tell us how to think and act. We don't need them trying to change history and control our thoughts. We have allowed them to re-

verse our social reality until only the guilty are innocent and the innocent are always guilty — of something. The only ones protected by civil rights are those who have violated the civil rights of someone else. The criminal and the terrorist are protected by armies of attorneys, while the innocent, the patriot, conservative Christian, the ordinary citizen is left to rot in the turmoil or politically correct sewage.

I'm not supposed to spank my kids, pray in public, speak my mind, vote conservative, smoke a cigar, salute my flag, celebrate Christmas, or any other of a multitude of PC sins. On the other hand, the Taliban, terrorists, and the home grown criminal are protected from all types of legal and political pressures simply because of their guilt. Tell me where the justice is in that! It is high time that we forced the law to protect the innocent and punish the guilty. It is time we took back our nation from the politically correct and replaced them with the politically ignorant.

Let reality and reason and logic rule our government and our private lives, instead of sentimental, left-wing, atheistic, hypocritical idiocy. Put God back into our schools and government. He is truth and justice incarnate. He can tell us how best to govern, if we just listen to Him!

Romans 2:1&2 - "You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth." NIV

Big Mama Sez!

Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt.

The Brackett News

Member of

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Letter to the Editor....

Brrrr, baby it's cold outside, inside, and everywhere

Well, time was too short for us. We did try to partake in as much as possible while we were in Brackettville, but there are only so many hours in the day, so many days in the week, and only so many months before I had to go to work.

But boy, did I try to do it all. We went to the community alliance gathering before Thanksgiving at the Frontier Baptist Church and listened to good singing and enlightening words from representatives of the different faiths. When we went to the tamale feed at the Civic Center, Wally stopped counting tamales at 18 and I quit after eating 14.

We rolled out of there after we listened to a little lady sing wondrous tunes while we were stuffing our faces. It was another good feed.

It was a good thing that Wally and I do not play pool because it would have taken us forever to play a game at Ora's during Sunday's pool tournaments. We did okay handling a beer or two though. A big thanks of appre-

ciation has to be extended to the post office employees. They are so good at finding the correct recipients of mail that sometimes doesn't even come close to having an address. There is something positive to be said about small cities. People care.

I did something I had never done before. Instead of going to midnight mass for Christmas, I saw my first Christmas Pageant put on by young Catholic adults. That was one of the most memorable Christmases I have ever experienced. I also was fortunate to have heard some real good saxophone playing by two young men on Sundays. It never ceases to amaze me how much talent some of these young adults have in a town of this size.

But, then again, coming from various small towns in Alaska, I am well aware of the talent that exists in little towns. It is the adults that nurture, encourage, and support the youths to put out their best. It is also the quality of the education system that broadens the development of these children. Your school dis-

trict is so fortunate to have a good superintendent and a very caring principal. What a treat it was to go to the library and check my mail and receive faxes. The computers were always available, the reorganization of the library's layout was improved, and the girls were always helpful.

Very few people think about the fire department until they have to call them. We sure were happy to support them New Year's Eve though.

We tried to make New Year's Eve last all night, but we finally had to quit when we saw the sky breaking day. The dance floor at the Civic Center is still the smoothest and best in town. I did get one good rock and roll dance, but I still cannot get used to "walking in a circle." I guess that is a local tradition like eating black-eyed peas, and I still can't get used to that either. Each time when we come down, we try to take it all in; and we still find more and more to do. Puffy's is gone, the Gateway is gone, and the old Mercantile

building is gone. Still, there are always new things to find and partake in. Thank you again for making our time off so full of fun. When I get home though, I am going to see a doctor because no one in her right mind goes up to Alaska now. I definitely have to make up for this dumb decision next go-around. Hopefully, we can get down here in time for Brackett's wild game feed, and stay until the livestock show. In case you haven't noticed, we come down here to eat, eat, and then eat. Hope all you ranchers get just the right amount of rain this coming summer.

All you people of Brackettville, be proud of your community. There are so many special people who live here. Now I am going to play in the snow until I have to go to work. And come October, I will look forward to the day that Wally and I get down there. Again, thank all of you for a wonderful time. Hasta luego.

Kathi Warm
Sitka, Alaska

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Field notes of a Texas Game Warden

Austin, Texas - The following excerpts are from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Warden field reports:

None of your business?... Van Zandt County Game Warden Steve Stapleton received a call about someone who might have killed a deer illegally. When the warden questioned the person about the remains, the person said, "Son, that deer is none of your business," according to TPW law enforcement reports. Charges were filed against the person for felon in possession of firearm and possession of a deer with no Wildlife Resource Document.

It's my son's deer... Upshur County Game Wardens followed up on information on possible illegal hunting. One person confessed to exceeding the bag limit of buck deer in a one-buck county and using the license tag of his 9-year-old son. Charges are pending.

Illegal killings... Travis County Game Wardens responded to a call about hunters who were spreading corn on a road and using a vehicle to hit deer. Wardens caught three ju-

veniles and they were charged with hunting in closed season and taking deer illegally.

Chase involves gunfire... TPW Game Warden Don Jackson noticed a vehicle spotlighting just after midnight one recent early morning. He ended up chasing it in Bell and Burnet counties for 15 miles. At one point, when the car went out of control and hit some small trees, Jackson tried to approach it. The suspect's vehicle then almost pinned Jackson between the two vehicles as its occupants tried to escape. Jackson fired two rounds into their rear tire and the car later flipped over. The two suspects ran away. The suspects were later identified and charges are pending.

Don't mess with Texas... Hidalgo county Game Warden Ken Baker assisted the U.S. Border Patrol in securing a 23-foot fiberglass boat with a Florida registration after it was discovered it was being used to smuggle 1,700 pounds of marijuana across the Rio Grande River, according to TPW law enforcement reports.

Hotline available to youths

Austin - The Texas Youth Hotline launched a statewide public awareness campaign in January aimed at youths and families in crisis situations. The hotline's toll-free telephone number is 1-800-210-2278.

"The Texas Youth Hotline is answered 24 hours a day and provides prevention and crisis intervention services to callers who are in need of a caring voice and a listening ear," said Jay Smith, Hotline director. "Hotline counselors talk with callers who face a variety of issues including family conflicts, delinquency, truancy, and abuse and neglect."

Smith said television and radio public service announcements and more than 250,000 pieces of public awareness materials for schools, social service agencies, runaway shelters, law enforcement and youth-related organizations are aimed at bringing the troubled youth problem to wider public attention and to make youth and parents more aware of the services

available. "Many of today's youth who are lonely or angry do not have construction ways of venting their frustrations," said Smith. "We offer a safe, non-threatening environment where callers can discuss their problems with someone who will listen and not judge them."

Smith said callers are urged to seek ongoing guidance and support from trusted adults, school faculty, or local social service agencies. "Our goal is to help minimize problems at home or school and prevent youth from becoming involved in delinquent, self-destructive behavior," explains Smith.

For additional information about the Texas Youth Hotline, call the hotline's toll-free telephone number, 1-800-210-2278, or visit www.texasyouth.org. The Texas Youth Hotline is a program of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.

Young enlist in Army



On January 14, 2002, Michael Young enlisted with the U.S. Army. He will leave for basic training camp at Fort Jackson, South Carolina on February 7, 2002.

Michael is the son of the late Melody Young of Schertz and the brother of Robert Maxwell of Brackettville.

Conoly to perform at San Antonio

Jacquelyn Conoly will once again be performing at the San Antonio and Houston Livestock Shows.

On Saturday, February 2nd she will be entertaining at the Morris Activity Center at 2:30 p.m. at the San Antonio Livestock Show.

On February 16th in Houston she will take to the stage at the ever-popular "Hideout" at 7 p.m. for a talent competition.

Jacquelyn will be singing classic country as well as some of the top 40 country songs.

Jacquelyn who is 13 years old has been performing for three years and has enjoyed traveling and meeting new people.

She has been challenged and inspired by her vocal instructor, Rocco Fortunato, who has diligently worked with her these past few years.



WHEELIN' AND DEALIN'

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Kinney County Sheriff's Report ...

Monday, January 21
 11:00 p.m., Jaime Picos, 41, from Pflugerville, was arrested for driving while license suspended by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley. Picos was released the same day on a \$1,200 bond.
 6:35 p.m., Jose Garcia, 21, from San Juan, TX, was arrested by DPS Trooper Welch for no drivers license and no seat belt. Garcia was arraigned on February 7, at 2 p.m. and a fine of \$395.

Tuesday, January 22
 12:22 a.m., A woman reported a man who was disoriented. Deputy Karl Chism responded to the call.
 9:56 a.m., Adrian E. Caluib, 29, from Mexico, was arrested for defraud records out of Bexar County Sheriff Buddy Burgess. Caluib was released to Bexar County.
 6:58 p.m., A 911 call was received. A resident from Fort Clark reported a disturbance at unit 15. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter responded.

Thursday, January 24
 1:05 p.m., Jose Vega, 51, from Brackettville, was arrested for driving while license suspended by Deputy Larry Robinson. Vega was released on a \$500 PR Bond.

Friday, January 25
 7:19 a.m., A Brackett Border Patrol Agent reported a possible vehicle roll-over west of Pinto Creek on Hwy 90. Trooper Ashley was notified.

Saturday, January 26
 9:56 a.m., Fort Clark Security reported a house that was broken into. Deputy Chism was

advised.
 11:54 a.m., A man reported a reckless driver on Hwy 90 east. Trooper Ashley responded.

1:40 p.m., Deputy Chism responded to a family problem.

4:35 p.m., An employee from a local store reported a gas drive off.

9:00 p.m., Deputy Manuel Pena Sr. reported a possible burglary.

Sunday, January 27
 11:17 a.m., A man reported a tan calf on FM 693.
 12:24 p.m., A man wanted to file a complaint because someone cut off the lock to his ranch. Deputy Chism responded.

1:12 p.m., A man reported a possible stolen vehicle.

5:15 p.m., A woman requested an officer. Deputy Chism was advised.

5:55 p.m., A woman reported her keys were locked in her vehicle. Deputy Chism was notified.

6:45 p.m., The Val Verde Sheriff's office reported a grass fire at Pinto Creek on Hwy 277. The Sheriff's Office called the foreman on the property and he stated everything was ok.

8:15 p.m., The Uvalde Sheriff's Office reported a one vehicle roll-over east on Hwy 90, ten miles from town. Trooper Wylie, Deputy Pena, Fire Department, Wrecker Service, and EMS were all notified.

8:40 p.m., A woman reported illegal aliens on her property. The Border Patrol were notified.

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Words express how you feel Texans Conquer Cancer license plate

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

"Steve, come here. We need to talk." Gracie summoned her nine-year-old son. "Yeah Mom." Steve said as he dropped himself into the chair. "What is it?"

Gracie began. "A while ago when Jason was here I overheard the two of you talking about one of your teachers. You described her as a bitch. What does that word mean to you Steve?"

Embarrassed that his mother had heard him, Steve tried to explain. "Well, uh, I dunno. I think it maybe means that she's ugly and mean?"

"That's close. You'll learn soon enough what the exact meaning is. The point is, the word is demeaning and derogatory. It's the kind of word that can bring pain and grief to someone you use it on. Where did you hear that word?" Gracie asked.

Steve tried to avoid answering

because he knew where it would go. "Well uh, I think I heard Dad use it talking about the old lady up the street." Gracie got right into Steve's face. She needed to make a point. Her tone was serious but loving. "Steve, your dad and I will have a private talk about his use of the word. It's not appropriate for either of you. Right now this is between you and I. In your heart, are you really interested in causing your teacher some personal pain?" Steve tried to make a joke out of it. "Well, I guess not. But it was just in fun, Mom. Can't we just forget about it?"

"When the damage is already

done," Gracie replied, "We can't just forget about it because there is something in your heart that allows words like that to come out. Jesus told us that the words that come out of your mouth expresses what is in your heart (Matthew 12:34,35). A very wise man said long ago that a blow from the tongue smashes bones (28:17) but a kind mouth multiplies friends and gracious lips prompt friendly greetings (Sirach 6:5)."

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

Cabaret Dinner

The Old Quarry Society is having its Cabaret Dinner on Friday, February 15, and Saturday, February 16, in the Cavalry Room (upstairs) of Las Moras Inn. Please note the change in dates. There will be a cash bar starting at 6:00 PM and dinner will follow at 7:00. The entertainment of the evening will be the musical comedy Nonsense, about the Little Sisters of Hoboken putting on a fundraiser.

The menu will be the same each night except for the meat.

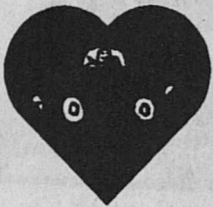
Friday night the meat will be chicken cordon bleu and Saturday it will be glazed ham. Seating is limited so if you have not done so, season ticket holders need to be sure to call Rosie Mattingly at 563-2205 or Carol Miller at 563-2137 to let them know which night you will be attending. Tickets for the remaining available seating will be on sale starting February 2nd.

Come join us for the night of good food, good friends and rousing entertainment!

It's A Girl!



Toby and Staci Frerich of Corpus Christi, Texas would like to announce the birth of their second child, a baby girl named Megan Grace. Megan was born on January 8, 2002 at 4:15 p.m. at Spohn South Hospital in Corpus Christi. She weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches in length. She is welcomed by 2 1/2 year old brother Tristan. The maternal grandparents are Grace Glaze and the late Gene "Bugger" Glaze of El Campo, Texas. The paternal grandparents are Tony and Nancy Frerich of Brackettville. Aunts and Uncles are Tammy and Tracy Beams of Del Rio and Cindy and Joey Savino of El Campo.



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An Overview of the ACTIVITIES and ACCOMPLISHMENTS of Herb Senne, Kinney County Judge

ADMINISTRATIVE Highlights: (4 years)

Leadership in the Development, Implementation and Use of Kinney County's Personnel Management & Performance Appraisal System

Identified the need for and assisted with obtaining the Legislative authority required to plan, form and confirm the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District

Leadership in the formation and operations of the Texas Border Weather Modification Association (Rainfall Enhancement Program)

Served as member of governing board of Regional Water Planning Group for Region J (Plateau)

Helped many others successfully fight-off the permitting and subsequent installation of "Adobe's dump" or municipal solid waste landfill at the proposed site South of Spofford

Active member of the Middle Rio Grande Council of Government; a nine (9) county region

- 1) Currently serving on its Board of Directors
- 2) Currently Chairing one Committee
- 3) Serving on three (3) additional Committees

Active member and serving on the Board of Directors of the Hill Country Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center; a nineteen (19) county region

Served an appointed tenure of the Fort Clark Springs' Board of Directors

Assisted many others in the formation and the enactment of Legislation required to enforce traffic on Fort Clark Springs which has resulted in the existing contract now enforce between Kinney County and Fort Clark Springs

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS (PERSONAL)

Identified need for and established Local Work Center for Mentally Challenged Adults. Staffing currently includes one (1) full time and one (1) part time (to be funded). Six (6) clients are receiving services all day, Monday through Friday and various others are working under Supportive Employment Programs. THIS IS JANELLE'S and MY GREAT-EST ACHIEVEMENT, ever!! It will grow, just like those it serves.

EDUCATION, COMMISSIONS, BACKGROUND AND ETC.

Various Agricultural related degrees from Uvalde Junior College, Sul Ross State University and Texas Technological University

Continuing Education Studies:

- 1) Texas A&M University
- 2) Texas Tech University
- 3) University of Nebraska
- 4) Colorado State University
- 5) University of Texas

Previous Employment:

- 1) Two (2) years teaching at High School Level
- 2) Thirty (30) years Civil Service with USDA - Soil Conservation Service (NRCS)
- 3) Appointed Acting County Judge for six (6) months
- 4) Elected to serve four (4) years as Kinney County Judge
- 5) Commissioned Constitutional County and Trial Judge by Texas Governor, Bush and Texas Judicial Education System, respectively

On Tuesday March 12, 2002 you will elect by majority vote the man who will serve as County Judge. Judge Herb Senne on his record and foundation of honest proven ability and performance will surely serve you well. A vote for Judge Senne is a vote for a people person who is Qualified and dedicated to his County and fellow citizens. Early voting February 25 - March 8 or by mail NOW - March 5. Vote for a Winner vote to Re-Elect Judge Herb Senne.

J.B. & Tootsie Herndon

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The Texans Conquer Cancer license plate is this month's featured license plate. The plate is a visual symbol of support for cancer patients that can be displayed on Texas passenger cars and light commercial vehicles year-round. This new license plate was approved in the recent legislative session.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Kinney County Tax Assessor-Collectors Office can help you display this special license plate and benefit the Texans Conquer Cancer capital account. The new plate costs just \$30 in addition to regular registration fees, with \$25 applied as a credit to the Texans conquer Cancer account. Money will be distributed to Texas nonprofit organizations that provide support services for cancer patients and their families. The remaining \$5 is used for the cost of administering the program. The plate can be personalized for an additional \$40.

This colorful plate has a heart-shaped Texas flag on the left side on a bright blue background with the words "Texans Conquer Can-

cer" printed in white under the heart (as shown on image below). The words "Support Patient Services" are printed on a red border across the bottom of the plate. The plates first became available in December 2001. An event to introduce the plate took place at the State Capitol on January 16. Cancer-survivor Lance Armstrong was the featured speaker.

Motorists can get the Texans Conquer Cancer plates by applying through the county tax office, accessing TxDOT's web site (www.dot.state.tx.us), calling TxDOT's Fax-On-Demand forms

line at (888) 232-7033, or calling the TxDOT Help Desk at 512-465-7611. A customer will receive their set within about two weeks of application.

The Kinney County Tax Office is an agent for TxDOT, which started its specialty license plate program in 1965. Today, TxDOT has more than 85 different plate designs, with many of them benefiting a particular group or organization.

For more information, call Martha Pena Padron, Kinney County Tax Assessor-Collector at 563-2688.

Arts Council

All of the Brackettville school students have a memorable cultural event to look forward to, on February 22nd at 1:30 p.m. in the Civic Center via courtesy of the Texas Council on Art and the Kinney County Arts Council. It's a performance by the renown "San Antonio Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus." In order to bring such

events to Brackettville, the local KCAC will charge for a different 7:30 p.m. performance at the Civic Center. School children will be admitted free. Citizens of Kinney County and its surroundings have the privilege to support and thereby enriching cultural experiences for the students of this area.

Brown presents woodcarving program

By Lynn McNew
Contributing Writer

The Preceptor Theta Sigma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met in the home of Katie Brown on Monday, Jan. 21, 2002. President Arlys Simpson called the meeting to order and four guests were introduced. They were Ollie Beyer, who is a member of BSP in Marble Falls, Peggy Tombs, Marion Webber and Lynda Heckman. Hostess Katie Brown served a delightful supper of fin-

ger sandwiches, chips, veggies, lemon cake and tea.

Following the refreshments Trent Brown presented a fascinating program on woodcarving. Trent told of the carving class that has recently started at Ft. Clark Springs. He talked about the different types of woods used in carving-almost anything can be used, however some woods are better than others. He said carvings could be painted or stained or left in the natural wood. Trent also showed various tools used for

carving, stating that the tools do not have to be expensive. There are competitions for wood carvers and Trent talked about what things the judges look for in a wood piece. He showed numerous examples of his work, some funny, some quite beautiful and all very well done.

A business meeting followed the program. Voting for Valentine Sweetheart was held and discussion on the Valentine dinner followed. The dinner will be Monday, Feb. 11, at 7:00 p.m. at Barbara's Table.

Members present included Katie Brown, Jan Chism, B. J. Eckenrod, Luella Gilliland, Lou Green, Hawkins Huey, Doraline Keller, Pat McKelvy, Lynn McNew, Louise Pflughoeft, Aicia Raymer, Molly Schroeder, Arlys Simpson, and Bobbie Waddill. The next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 4, 2002 at 5:30 p.m. with Louise Pflughoeft as hostess.

Pretty-up historical Ft. Clark

It's going to take place on the 2's, 2nd month, 2nd day, and year of 02-that is! On February 2nd at 9:00 a.m. in front of Shafter Hall, the Community Council's "Cavalry Brigade" will clamor for assignments to 'pretty-up' historical Ft. Clark. Projects vary for the volunteers on a physical scale from

one to ten, depending on ability and stamina. Rain or shine, the work goes on. With gourmet chefs preparing a free lunch at 11:30 a.m., and a glamorous array of servers, the volunteers will not only enjoy sumptuous food, but also great fellowship, fun, and the joy of work well done!

Goodies from G.G.

Texan's never tire of eating beans! They are not only versatile and economical, but they are good for us. Featured today is a recipe with a European flavor and oh so delicious.

Black Bean Soup

Wash, sort and soak overnight in salted water: 2 cups of black beans. Fry together: 1 chopped onion in 3 tablespoon of butter. Drain beans, combine soaked beans, 2 quarts cold water, 2 stalks

diced celery and fried onion. Simmer until beans are tender.

Mix together: 1 1/2 tablespoons flour, 1/4 tsp. mustard (dry), 1/8 tsp. pepper, dash cayenne, 3/4 tsp. salt. Add a small amount of bean mixture to this mix, stirring until smooth. Combine with remaining soup mixture. Reheat to boiling, then remove from heat.

Dice and add to soup 2 hard boiled eggs and 1 tablespoon

lemon juice. For a fancy touch, garnish each serving with chopped hard boiled egg and 1 slice lemon.

Cubed ham is excellent added.. if desired. Served with hot corn bread and small salad makes a lip smacking good meal!

Tips for the week

Did you know that a green-uripe-banana weighs more than a ripe one? So, to save money, buy when ripe when possible.



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Leona Ranch, located 15 miles north of Brackettville, Texas, has an abundance of whitetail deer, javelina, turkey, quail, dove, rabbits and squirrels. Other non-game species include feral hogs, wild Spanish goats, racoons, ringtails, fox, bobcats and a few mountain lions.

The terrain of the Leona Ranch is varied, consisting of plateaus covered with scrub-brush and grass meadows, intermixed with deep heavily wooded draws, many of which contain dry creekbeds. Windmills are located in various places providing water for wildlife.



For information call (830) 563-2961 8-5, M-F, or (830) 563-2077 evenings.

Golf season begins this week Elementary students correspond with servicemen

Making a Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

The first round of testing of Texas public school students mandated by the state begins this week. A field-test is scheduled for special needs students (SDAA) in writing-grades 4 and 7, reading, grades 3-8, and math, grades 3-8.

This is the first round of testing in 2002. Testing is a major component of the Texas educational systems.

In theory, tests validate whether the state curriculum has been taught and learned. Paper and pencil tests are only one way to evaluate success of students.

Other ways of testing based on performance of students are much more difficult to do statewide. Locally, we continue to evaluate with a balanced testing program that includes performance (as in a lab or having a student read to demonstrate reading skills and understanding) and in the creation

of a product (research based, for instance) The new national education laws mandate even more paper and pencil testing for students.

This Friday, Feb. 1, we play our last home basketball game of the regular season. The game features the JV Girls, Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys playing Natalia. Games begin at 5 PM and last until about 9:30 PM. I hope you will take the time to come and support our student athletes.

This week, we begin golf season with the Del Rio Invitational on Friday and Saturday. BHS has both girls and boys golf teams. Fort Clark Springs allows our teams to use their fine golf course during the season. We wish our teams success as they begin a new season of golf.

As we move into the month of February, the weather will warm gradually and we will see some moisture begin to fall. It is dry again in Kinney County. Spring rains can't be far away.

I'll attend the Commissioner's

Conference on Education in Austin this week. The annual meeting includes general sessions with noted speakers that include the Commissioner and our Governor, Rick Perry.

I'll also attend workshops on finance, legal matters, curriculum and assessment, and school finance.

I am pleased that the Fort Clark Springs Board will continue to allow quarterly payments of golf dues from members. Golf brings many folks to Fort Clark for the winter season and many move as permanent residents so that they can play golf. Some just enjoy golf and want to come spend their time on our beautiful course (day or weekend players). Though I play little golf (not much time and I'm not very good), I know golf is a major drawing card for our community. Whatever we can do to keep folks coming and to improve our golf course needs to be done. I am also aware of the fiscal needs of FCS. We continue to have compliments on our instructional program, school facilities and on the behavior of our students. We're not perfect, but each day we work to get better! We're very proud. Have a great week!

mission much easier to handle knowing that we have the love and support of family and friends back in the States.

Jones Elementary classes wrote to servicemen overseas during the holidays. Several students have even received letters back from the servicemen who got their cards and letters. This letter is from the Commander of Bravo Company.

Dear Students, Teachers, and Administration:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind words and prayers for the Soldiers deployed overseas. On behalf, of all the Soldiers in Bravo Company, please let me say how much we appreciate the letters. Many of us are away from our families and loved ones for the first time, and knowing that there are Americans who support our sacrifices makes the job worth doing.

Currently, we are conducting patrols throughout the local towns and villages, as well as guarding places that are subject to attack, like churches and schools. At times our jobs can be very dangerous, but most of the time we do not have any problems. Many of the Kosovo people are very happy to have us here, and do not cause any problems. It makes our

8th grade finishes basketball season

By Tiffiny Blore
Contributing Writer

The 8th Grade basketball team finished the season with an 8 win - 3 losses record. On January 21st they played Del Rio White team and won 30 - 22. The high scorer was Ashley Castillo with 12 points.

Also scoring were Timmeka Simmons, Roxanna Dehoyos, Tonya Molinar, Brandy Smith, Alanna Conoly, Jessi Crane, and Tye Taylor. On January 26th they played in and won the Rocksprings Tournament. They played Junction in their first game and won 25 to

18. The second game they played against Ozona. They won that game 31 to 22.

These two wins made them the champions of their pool. Scorers in the Ozona game were Jessi Crane with 9 points, Tye Taylor with 8 points, Ashley Castillo with 8 points, Brandy Smith and Dayna Bonner each with two points. Also playing well were Timmeka Simmons, Alanna Conoly, and Cassie Mata.

The girls won their last six games of the season and both tournaments they played in.

Congratulations to all the girls for a great season.

Meyer speaks to Ft. Clark Historical Society

President of the Brackett High School Historical Society, Erica Meyer, is on a mission. Her society has adopted the project to place a historical marker near the site of the Seminole Scout Village on Ft. Clark. She said that they feel this often neglected group, who contributed so much to our rich local history, should be remembered.

Under the guidance of their sponsor, Kathy Bader, the society did the research. Then applied for

and received official sanction the state.

Presently they are raising funds to buy the plaque. These young people serve as an inspiration to us all.

New officers of the Ft. Clark Historical Society were announced. They are: Glen White-President, Walt Banguess-Vice President, Larry Mendeke-Secretary, and Tom Collins-Treasurer. 65 members were in attendance Saturday.

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

- Thursday, January 31**
12:00 PM Roofing Committee, CO, SDAA, Reading Field Test GR 3-8
 - Friday, February 1**
8:00 AM B Golf Del Rio Invitational, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Substitute Workshop, CO, 5:00 PM BKB JVG/VG/VB Natalia, Dist. (H)
 - Saturday, February 2**
8:00 AM B Golf Del Rio Invitational
 - Monday, February 4**
8:00 AM G Golf Del Rio Invitational
 - Tuesday, February 5**
5:00 PM BKB JVB/VG/VB Dilley, Dist. (A), TAAS II Writing Filed Test GR 4 & 7
 - Wednesday, February 6**
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Rio Grande Electric Coop Blood Drive, @ RGEC, 3:40 PM Brackett District Advisory Committee
- FITNESS TRICKS:**
Run spiritedly. One study found that runners who focus on the horizon ahead have a longer stride and use oxygen more efficiently than those who look down.

The Brackett News
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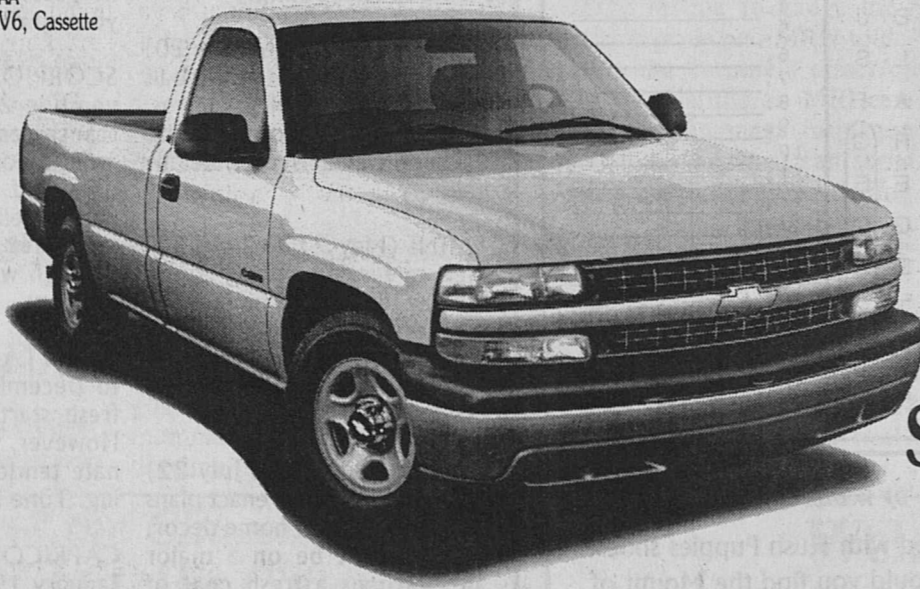
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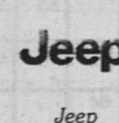
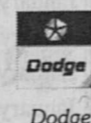
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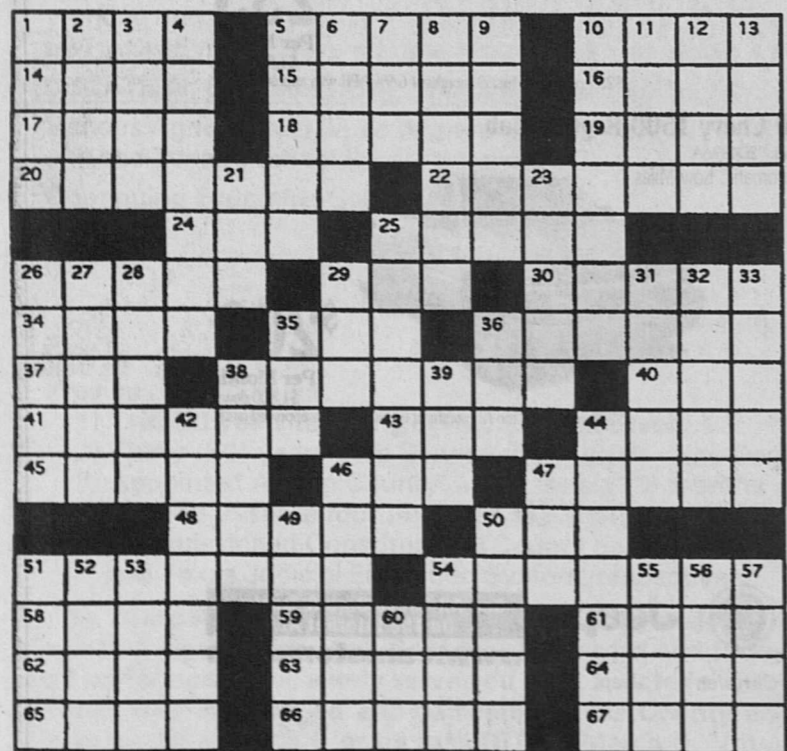
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
 1 Strike
 5 Explosion
 10 Famous folksinger's son
 14 Whittle
 15 Major vessel
 16 Conduct
 17 Friend, in Martinique
 18 Idaho's export
 19 Cleanse
 20 Activated
 22 Well liked
 24 Word with band or first
 25 Chose
 26 Straighten
 29 Boy in a Johnny Cash hit
 30 Gathers
 34 Solitary
 35 Inclined
 36 Tasty morsel
 37 Not going backwards
 38 Immeasurably bad
 40 ___ loss; confused
 41 Tense
 43 Suffix for

DOWN
 1 Health resorts
 2 Night stand
 3 Song for one
 4 Noble's rank
 5 With ___ breath
 6 Insert bullets
 7 College major
 8 Great plain
 9 Card for the future
 10 Referred
 11 Opposite of fictitious
 12 Dangerous emission
 13 Part of the German/Polish boundary
 21 Family tree members
 23 Risk
 25 In the backyard
 26 Singers
 27 Bonkers
 28 ___ tube
 29 Covert occupation
 31 "Jump down, turn around, to pick ___"
 32 Mountaineer's aid
 33 Georgia, for



1. Bassett hound; 2. On your palm; 3. Fauterney; 4. Stader & Waldorf; 5. A ligger; 6. Audie Murphy; 7. Fear of the sea; 8. Philadelphia; 9. Anne of Cleves; 10. One

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—forward, backward, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: **FIRST NAMES OF U.S. PRESIDENTS**

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

- George
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Trivia Time by Walter Branch

- What breed of dog is associated with Hush Puppies shoes?
- On what part of your body would you find the Mount of Apollo and the Mount of Venus?
- What is Donald Duck's middle name?
- In the TV series "The Muppet Show," what are the names of the two old hecklers in the balcony?
- What is the offspring of a tigress and a lion called?
- What actor was the most decorated American soldier of World War II?
- What is thalassophobia?
- In what U.S. city was the first hospital opened on February 11, 1752?
- Which wife of Henry VIII did he call his "Flanders Mare"?
- How many Canadian provinces have a shoreline on any of the five Great Lakes?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January 31.....Petra Fuentes	February 4.....Ester Lamborn
January 31.....Lalo Fuentes	February 4.....Dorothy Roberts
January 31.....Lisa Gass	February 5.....Clarence Ward
January 31.....Tully Shahan	February 5.....Luther Ward
January 31.....Cherrise Ward	February 6.....Hazel Tridle
February 3.....Margaret Lenz	February 7.....Tomas Avila
February 3.....Oscar Sierra III	February 7.....Frances Beene
February 4.....Julie Ann Castillo	February 7.....Anita Ertle
February 7.....Freddie Frerich	

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
 It's a calm week for you, both at home and at work. You find yourself enjoying a more leisurely pace. Later in the week, couples go on a special outing.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
 Don't be afraid to set your goals high. If you aim for bigger things, you'll be more successful. This weekend, travel is possible for some.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
 A new career opportunity comes your way this week. This involves a partnership of a different sort from what you're used to. Over the weekend, friendships are renewed.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
 Feel free this week to enact plans for changes in your home decor. These needn't be on a major scale. Perhaps a fresh coat of paint will do the trick.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
 Business dealings are highlighted this week. Fortunately, they work out in your favor. Later in the week, social interests take precedence.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
 You're likely to receive an interesting job offer this week. Examine it carefully. If you negotiate properly, you get everything you wanted.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
 Friendships take center stage this week. In particular, you renew an acquaintance with someone you haven't seen in years. Catching up boosts your spirits.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
 Everything that transpires this week centers around home and family. Some may find themselves contemplating selling a home. Later in the week, your mate comes through with love and encouragement.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
 You make a fresh start this week at work. However, you have an unfortunate tendency to be overbearing. Tone it down a bit!

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
 You receive a new assignment at work which is well suited to your talents. Make the most of this opportunity. With diligence, you positively shine in this area.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
 Your creativity is spurred this week. It's also a good time to take up a new and unusual hobby. Over the weekend, shopping for the home is favored.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
 Finances are at the forefront this week. It's a great time to apply for a mortgage or personal loan. This weekend, activities center around domestic life.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Abraham	11. Lyndon
2. Andrew	12. Martin
3. Calvin	13. Millard
4. Chester	14. Richard
5. Dwight	15. Ronald
6. George	16. Thomas
7. Gerald	17. Ulisses
8. Herbert	18. Warren
9. James	19. William
10. John	20. Zachary

Here I am, Lord God is watching

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

When our youngest son, Tim, was about four years old, we attended Mass at the hospital chapel in Lubbock one Sunday.

The priest said, "A reading from St. Paul to Timothy." Tim immediately stood up in the pew and said, "Here I am!"

At the time we were very embarrassed and tried to quiet him. People around us just chuckled. Today I would also chuckle if I heard a small child say something similar. For this is exactly what God wants us to say, "Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will."

With the excitement of the holidays drifting into our memories, we are once again

faced with the call to present ourselves before God and follow the path laid out for us by the Lord Jesus.

John the Baptist points to Jesus and says, "Behold, the Lamb of God" (1:29ff). The manifestation of the Lord is seen throughout John's gospel, obviously; but not just as a historical record of events long past. We believe that Christ is present, through the power of the Holy Spirit, within each of us.

Timothy was a companion of Paul on some of Paul's missionary journeys, and was often sent by Paul on special missions. Paul instructed Timothy on what he was to do to preach the word of God without fear, to follow in the footsteps that God would lead him.

So, if we truly believe that Christ is present in all of us, do we follow where God is sending us?

Do our attitudes and actions at home, school, and the workplace manifest Christ to other people?

Are we Christ-like enough that others could point to us and say, "Behold, the Lamb of God?" As Christians, this is what our entire lives are all about—becoming more and more like Christ with the passing of each day.

Lord, here I am, I come to do Your will. I thank You for Your guidance in the way You want me to go.

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

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

Before me lays the blank white page, on which I wanted to write wondering encouraging thoughts to you.

I stare at the page, in a total loss as to what to write. Not having a clue as to what God would have me say to you, I bow my head in prayer, "Father, please help me!"

It has been one of those days. You know, you've had them too, when all you seem to have are questions, not answers.

You ponder perhaps, that you aren't being obedient enough to God? Does obedience come easier or harder at certain times of the day or week? Or at certain places or among certain people? Questions without answers or are they?

At God's prompting, I turn to his holy word. I am led to the last 12 books of the Old Testament Hosea thru Malachi. Combined are only some 90 pages long.

Hosea was a prophet, who was told by God to marry a Harlot. That's right, a prostitute! So he marries a whore named

Gomer, knowing full well, that she will never be faithful to him. She has children by him and of course, other men as well and these children are told by God to rebuke her and drive her from her home.

At the same time, God tells Hosea, that he is to continue to love and care for her in isolation, for a while at least.

Looking for the moral in this sordid story, I find one. There is a much deeper love story being told here, if you look harder. "God demands from those whom he has loved and redeemed, utter and absolute loyalty. He requires love and chastity from us, keeping us from prostituting our souls to Satan. God indicates his claim by stern action.

Turning next to Joel, the people of Judah needed a huge wake-up call. Very much like we Americans, the people of Judah, were prosperous, complacent, self centered and were taking God for granted. Big, big, mistake! Like the loving parent he is, he always give us a chance to repent before he inflicts his discipline.

Like Joel, God uses a simple

shepherd named Amos. Amos listened to God and proclaimed, "God holds all people accountable for their actions." Which includes you and I.

In the book of Obadiah, God's children were stubborn, rebellious, and forgetful. Over the years, God had dished out a lot of discipline for their bad behavior, but he loved his children.

You remember the story of Jonah. God wanted Jonah to warn the Ninevites of his coming judgement.

Jonah ran as far and as fast as he could, trying to get out of and away from what God wanted. In the end, God got what he wanted. Jonah preached and the Ninevites repented and returned to God.

The book of Micah, yet another warning of judgement to people who dare to ignore God. Love cautions the loved.

Generations have past since Jonah and the people of Nineveh repented no more and God's judgement finally and fully came upon them. Nahum, God's prophet pronounced God's Judgement upon these prideful, wicked people.

In the face of great trouble, Habakkuk brought his questions to God. After he received his answers, he prayed and asked God to do great miracles.

God's Prophet Zephaniah proclaims "As surely as God judges sin, there is hope, deliverance and salvation for those of us who put their trust in him."

Haggai's message from God to his people was to inform them that they had their priorities all wrong. They had forgotten, what came first! Your personal relationship with God!

When you read Zechariah, take hope in the knowledge that God controls the future, your future, my future and that a king is coming. Boy, is he ever!

Finally comes a biggie, the book of Malachi. The book of Malachi is an open challenge to take God seriously, not just in our giving but in every aspect of life.

Don't forget God is watching!

Don't forget God has challenged us to challenge him! "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it (3:10)

Health

"Supersizing" can double calories

Houston - "Supersizing" a fast-food order may seem like a value, but you could get more than you bargained for in terms of your health.

"People are unaware of normal food portions," said Dr. John Foreyt, a professor of medicine and director of the Behavioral Medicine Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "Increasingly, larger-than-normal amounts of food are perceived as normal."

Buying an order of large fries and a 32-ounce cola instead of an order of small fries and a 12-ounce soft drink may cost only a few cents more, but it can double the calories.

Foreyt says despite the added fat, the inexpensive, larger fast-food "combo" is the choice of many busy families. "Even children are used to ordering larger servings," he said.

This trend is of concern given that U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher released a report in December stating that obesity causes 300,000 deaths a year in America. Smoking accounts for 400,000 deaths.

The key is knowing how to make sensible food choices. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which developed the Food Guide Pyramid, a daily diet consisting of no more than 30 percent of calories from fat includes the following amounts of food:

- Bread, cereal, rice and pasta: 6 to 11 servings. One serving: 1 slice of bread, tortilla or pancake, a half-cup of cereal, rice or pasta, 2 medium cookies, a half of a bagel, or a hamburger bun.

- Vegetables: 3 to 5 servings. One: a half-cup of chopped raw/

cooked vegetables, scalloped potatoes or potato salad, 1 cup raw, leafy vegetables, or 10 French fries.

- Fruit: 2 to 4 servings. One serving: 1 piece of fruit or melon wedge, fourth-cup dried fruit, a half-cup of chopped, cooked, or canned fruit, or three-fourths cup of fruit juice.

- Milk, Yogurt and Cheese: 2 to 3 servings. One serving: 1 cup of milk or yogurt (plain or frozen), one and half cups of ice cream or ice milk, 2 cups of cottage cheese, one and a half ounces of natural cheese, or two ounces of processed cheese.

- Meat, poultry, fish, dry

beans, eggs and nuts: 2 to 3 servings. One serving: about 3 ounces of cooked lean beef, pork, lamb, veal, poultry or fish - roughly the size of a deck of playing cards, a half-cup of cooked beans, 1 egg, or 2 tablespoons of peanut butter.

- Fats, oils and sweets: Use sparingly.

Ordering large portions of food at inexpensive prices can be tempting, so know your order ahead of time. "Don't be caught in the drive-thru line wondering what you want," Foreyt said. "You are in control of your diet, not a restaurant."

Alzheimer's vaccine

Houston - An experimental vaccine for people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease is undergoing phase II clinical trials at Baylor College of Medicine. The study investigates the safety and effectiveness of vaccinating patients with a protein similar to one produced in the brains of Alzheimer's patients. Baylor is one of 20 institutions across the country participating in the study.

"The idea behind the Alzheimer's vaccine is exciting because no therapies currently can prevent Alzheimer's or stop the progression of the disease," said Dr. Rachele Doody, principal investigator of the study and director of the Alzheimer's Disease Center at Baylor. "We look forward to discovering the vaccine's true potential."

Participants will be inoculated with amyloid protein in a vaccine formulation with the goal of activating the body's immune system to produce antibodies. Elan Pharmaceuticals,

Inc. commercially produces the vaccine. In earlier animal studies, the vaccine caused an immune response that cleared out beta amyloid plaques in the brains of mice.

The build up of amyloid plaques is also a hallmark of Alzheimer's disease in humans. During the 16-month study, study participants will be randomly assigned to either receive several doses of the vaccine or a placebo. They will regularly undergo testing to gauge their cognitive skills and MRIs to determine the vaccine's effect on the brain. "While an MRI cannot show any change in plaque levels in the brain, it can show whether the brain is continuing to shrink or not, which is a sign of advancing Alzheimer's," Doody said.

A total of 375 people worldwide will participate in the study, with more than 20 at Baylor. However, sites are no longer accepting patients into the trial, since it is full.

Good and bad fear

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charlotte Corey

There is good and bad fear. Fear God, not the devil. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

In this case we mean, give God all your reverence and adoration because he first loved you.

"Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling." (Psalms 2:110)

"The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." (Psalms 19:9)

"Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire." (Heb 12:28-29)

Do not give weight or importance to what any other faction may threaten you with. "If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub (Satan), how much more shall they call them of his household?"

Fear them not therefore; for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known, Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt 10:25-26,28)

When it comes to things of

this world, God says to you, "For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." (II Tim. 1:7)

"For you 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 itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." (Romans 8:15)

God promises his children protection in (Psalms 91:5-8) "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked."

Fear God, not the devil and those that are his puppets. Stand in faith, rest in hope, walk in love.

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Choir Practice at 10:15 am
Worship at 10:45 am

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Church of Christ

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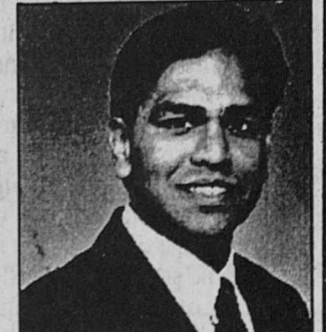
Thank You

I knew when Doug wanted to move to Brackettville that it was a nice little town. I knew it would be the right place for our kids to go to school. But, I never knew until Doug passed away just how supportive this little community could be. There were more people at his funeral than would fit in the funeral home and hundreds of people brought food and gave monetary support. Without your donations I wouldn't have been able to lay Doug to rest, so I am forever grateful to all of you. To everyone of you who have made donations to the Doug Taylor Memorial Fund, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. There are so many anonymous donors that I will never get to thank by writing to you, but want you to know that it is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for the emotional support, without it I don't think I could have gotten through this. My kids and I never knew how lucky we were to live in this small town until January of this year. Thank you so much to everyone.

Karen, Wacy, Tye and Tom Henry Taylor

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HELP WANTED

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications for the position of Engineering Field Technician to fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Brackettville Office. Must demonstrate basic mathematical skills and the ability to operate a computer. Must demonstrate ability to operate, safeguard, and maintain expensive technical tools and equipment. Must be able to work under adverse weather conditions such as extreme heat and cold, high winds and stormy conditions. Must be able to hike across rough terrain while carrying surveying and other related equipment. Must be willing to travel throughout Cooperative's service territory involving multiple overnight stays away from home. Must demonstrate ability to work safely and comply with Cooperative's safety rules. Must possess good interpersonal skills including the ability to maintain a harmonious relationship with all Cooperative personnel and members. Must possess oral and written communications skills in the English language. Must be able to maintain confidential information. Must possess a valid Texas Driver's License with a clear driving record and be insurable with the Cooperative's insurance carrier. Must be or become certified in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. 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 February 11, 2002. RGEC is an EOE.

SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER. EXPERIENCE with Microsoft Word and Excel, Quickbooks, and Internet required. Good communication skills, especially on the telephone, also required. Send resume to Alamo Village, P.O. Box 528, Brackettville, TX 78832 or call (830) 563-2580.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS WANTED Bisd will hold a free workshop for anyone interested in substitute teaching, February 1, 2002, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., in the Central Office Boardroom. Requirements: H.S. diploma or G.E.D., and love of kids. Call: Susan Esparza, Secretary to Supt., 563-2491, ext. 100. This is a required workshop for new or returning substitutes (those not on the Fall list.)

REAL ESTATE

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2 bed, 2 1/2 baths, large addition suitable as 3rd bedroom. \$58,000.

2 bed, 2 baths, den, fireplace, rock exterior.

Building lots on and around golf course. Prices vary. All reasonable. orourke@the-i.net

HELP WANTED

ATTENTION! BE YOUR own boss. \$25-\$75/hr. potential, PT/FT. No experience necessary. Mail order/internet, 1-888-779-6009, www.BossFree-24-7.com

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MISCELLANEOUS

RESERVE BOOTH SPACE now in the big Waco RV, Boat & Sports Show, March 15-17, HOT Fairgrounds, 10x10's \$250, up. Free prizes. Bill Foster, 1-254-754-3511.

REAL ESTATE

285 ACRES, RUGGED, scenic West Texas property near Dryden. White-tail, Mule Deer, Javelina, Quail. \$2000 down, \$268/month for Texas Veterans (30 yrs. 7.5%), or owner terms, 1-210-697-0168.

FORECLOSED HOMES - NO down payments! 3-4 bedrooms from \$25,000. Gorgeous homes. Bank direct. For local list: 1-203-838-8200, 7 days till 11pm. Search www.foreclosureland.com. Fee.

We don't understand life any better at 40 than at 20, but we know it and admit it.
—Jules Renard

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR FINANCING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF DETENTION FACILITY

(Kinney County Commissioners Court)

Sealed proposals addressed to the Kinney County Commissioners Court will be received on or before 9:00 o'clock A.M. on February 11, 2002, at the office of the County Judge, Herb Senne, P.O. Box 348, Kinney County Courthouse, 501 Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas, 78832 for the financing, design, construction, operation and management of a 288-bed adult detention center/facility. The proposal shall be in conformance with the Request for Proposal Specifications available at the above address.

Significant bond, indemnification and insurance requirements will be placed on the successful respondent, including the provision of performance and payment bonds. All contract requirements of the Request for Proposal Specifications and Section 351.103 of the Local Government Code (V.T.C.A.) will be required to be agreed to and met by the successful respondent.

The financing proposal shall provide for lease-purchase of the Facility by the County, with an option to purchase, and transfer of legal title upon payment of all lease payments. The County shall have no liability or cost for the Facility financing except to the extent of prisoner housing contract revenues actually generated by the Facility. The financing proposal shall include all costs of planning, financing, design, construction, equipping, furnishing and start-up of the Facility, including all costs of land and professional fees.

Operation and management will be required to be in conformance with the rules and regulations of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, the Operation and Management Agreement between the successful respondent and the County, and rules of jurisdictions housing prisoners at the Facility to the extent made applicable by the terms of the prisoner housing contracts with those jurisdictions. The compensation for the operation and management of the Facility will be paid on the basis of a per prisoner, per day fee, payable solely out of the net revenues of the Facility, and from no other source, after first application of gross revenues to the Lease obligations.

Design of the Facility must be by competent design professionals licensed in the State of Texas with significant experience in the design of detention facilities. The design and construction of the Facility must be in accordance with the standards of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, and the successful respondent must obtain all required approvals and certifications of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. Respondents shall present a firm bid for the design, construction, equipping, and furnishing of the Facility in accordance with the requirement of the Request for Proposal Specifications.

The successful respondent will be required to provide all development and project management services necessary to assure timely financing, design and construction of the Facility in accordance with the successful proposal, the plans and specifications, applicable contracts, and the project budget.

The County will not obligate its funds or tax revenues to pay for any component of this project, including the operation and management of the Facility, and the sole source of funding for repayment of financing, operation and management or other associated costs and expenses shall be the revenues actually generated by the Facility and received. The financing shall not be a debt or obligation of the County, and, upon, termination of or default on the financing, the County must have no liability or obligation for repayment of the financing.

The Kinney County Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to select the proposal most advantageous to the County, and reserves the right to waive any irregularity in the proposals received.

Horned Lizard Stories Sought

Austin, Texas - Texas Parks and Wildlife's Hometown Horned Toads essay contest, designed to get students to research remembrances of horned lizards in their communities, is bringing in many interesting stories, but contest officials still want more.

Though some stories are what officials expected, others are different and very interesting, said Lee Ann Linam, TPW's coordinator for the contest.

"Some stories are a little more unusual or personal, such as the U.S. Army private who said horned lizards were a sanity-preserving diversion for his unit stationed in remote New Mexico. Then there's the mom who reported that her 4-year-old son was

having a hard time adjusting to pre-school in Killeen until he became the class hero by capturing a horned lizard on the playground one day."

Linam also stresses that the stories are beginning to shed light on some conservation issues for the species as well. She said in many parts of the state, people began to notice a decline in the 1960's and recently people say they have found many in west Texas.

TPW's goal for the Hometown Horned Toads essay contest is for students to collect such stories in their communities, analyze the patterns of these stories, and suggest some possible reasons for the decline of horned lizards in many areas. The essay contest is open

to students in grades 3-12. Prizes, including savings bonds, TPW Conservation Passports, t-shirts, and horned lizards souvenirs will be awarded to individuals in three age categories. A group field trip and t-shirts will also be awarded to the top group effort in each age category.

Deadline for entry in the essay contest is March 1. Contest details, guidelines, and entry forms can be obtained by calling 512-912-7011 or by visiting www.tpwd.state.tx.us/tracker/. The website also has a section for non-students eager to share their horny toad remembrances, because, according to Linam, "There's no species that Texans would rather talk about."

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

SLAP	BLAST	ARLO
PARE	AORTA	LEAD
AMIE	TATER	LAVE
SPARKED	POPULAR	
AID	OPTED	
ALIGN	SUE	REAPS
LONE	APT	TIDBIT
TON	ABYSMAL	ATA
ONEDGE	IAN	CLOT
SYRIA	ODD	IRENE
STARE	ONE	
BITTERN	DREAMER	
OLEO	RABID	SORE
NEAR	ATONE	ERIN
EAST	SEWER	DEED

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