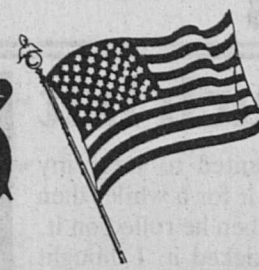


The Brackett News



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13th year, No. 52

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Vondy to celebrate 93rd birthday



Pictured above Agnes Fritter Vondy.

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

How do you celebrate another birthday...when you've had 92 others? For Agnes Vondy it usually means getting together with her son, whose birthday is close to hers. This year Agnes' son may not be able

to be with her so she hasn't any special plans for her 93rd birthday on February 8th.

When she was born in Brackettville in 1909, Fort Clark was still an active military base. The streets were dirt and though her grandparents, Frank and Ann Ross Fritter lived in a house on Thomas Street, Agnes was born

in the Goebel house. Her parents were Patrick "Pat" Fritter and Lucy Stratton Fritter. Agnes was the second child, her older sister was Katherine Fritter Bailey and two sons followed, Patrick, Jr. and John Stanley Fritter.

Agnes went to school at Brackettville, graduating in 1927 as Valedictorian of her class of 11, then studied to be a teacher at Lady of the Lake College at San Antonio. Thomas Vondy of Houston caught Agnes' eye at a dance and they were married in 1929 at the little Catholic church on Sweeney Street in Brackettville. The couple had a church wedding, "with all the trimmings", Agnes says.

She was always involved in athletics, both at Brackettville and Lady of the Lake College. In Brackettville she played baseball, basketball and tennis, and in college basketball and tennis.

Growing up in Brackettville, Agnes knew many children who lived at Fort Clark since they all

came into town to go to school. One she remembers from high school was the daughter of Colonel Wallace B. "Babe" Scales. Colonel Scales was very popular and the only officer ever assigned to Fort Clark twice as Commander of the 5th Cavalry. Commander Scales died here in 1935.

There were lots of band concerts at the fort, she recalls, as well as outdoor boxing matches. Agnes' aunt and uncle, Major Harry and Bessie Wilson lived at the fort then, and the Fritter children walked to the events there.

What is now the Adult Center was a hospital at that time, and Brackettville residents were often patients there. Fort Clark doctors also came to town and made house calls, though Dr. Gilson practiced in Brackettville. There were few cars in town then, and the roads weren't paved. There were private stores, where the butcher shop would cut meat for you, the dair-

ies delivered milk and water companies brought drinking water to fill barrels at most homes. There were some wells, but some did not have drinkable water. There was a bakery, and farmers would peddle their vegetables to local housewives.

Pat Fritter had a picture show during Agnes school years, called the "Clark Theater" which showed silent movies. Lucy Fritter pumped the player piano to accompany the movies. Located where the library is now, the building was later used for a grocery store, and "Ross Hall" where dances were held. The "Chataqua Players" gave programs on the stage at Ross Hall which combined entertainment and education. The group also performed at schools.

Touring vaudeville groups performed at both the Clark Theater and Ross Hall.

After Pat Fritter closed the movie theater, he opened the "Airdome", a precursor to the

Continued on Page 5

Briefs ...

Estrada cleared of marijuana charge

At a jury trial last week in District Court, Jesus Estrada was found not guilty on a charge of delivery of marijuana.

When asked for a comment, Assistant District Attorney Lee Romero said, "Apparently the jury believed Officer Gonzales' testimony but wanted more evidence - a paper document showing when his report was filed - which typically is not allowed in criminal cases."

"We always respect a jury's decision," Romero added.

Primary Elections

The Democratic and Republican Primary Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2002.

The last day to register to vote or to make any precinct changes for the March 12, 2002 primary elections either in person or by mail will be Monday, February 11, 2002.

"Any time an individual changes his place of residence, mailing address or their name is legally changed one must make a change in our office by completing a change form. This will allow our office to update our records and also to avoid any problems on election day."

"Early voting for these elections will begin on Monday, February 25, 2002, in the County Clerk's Office."

Hamburger Feed/Sock Hop

Mark your calendar! February 11th is the Hamburger Feed/Sock Hop at the Post Theater, sponsored by the Fort Clark Springs Festival. Food will be served starting at 5:30 PM continuing until 7:30 PM. Music of the 50's and 60's will be the order of the night. Tickets are available at the Fort Clark Springs Adult Center or from Committee members.

Duplicate Bridge

Duplicate Bridge was played at Fort Clark Springs on Tuesday, January 29, 2002 at 7 PM in the Gorgas Room. There were 5 1/2 tables and the Mitchell Movement was used. The winners in the North/South were: 1st-Rosetta Pingent and Tina Bauguess; 2nd-Ann Malin and Ann Watts; and 3rd-Joyce and Choppy Ambler. The winners in the East/West were: 1st-Sharon Boucher and Bob Boucher; 2nd-Flo Stafford and Alice Seargeant and 3rd-Carol Benfield and Molly Schroeder. This writer has only one comment. One could sure tell there was a full moon out.

EMS participate in Shadow Day KCGWCD Board meets, Dorrell resigns

EMS Update
By Carolyn Rutherford

A great friend and mentor of mine died on Saturday morning. Folks in Brackettville most likely have never met this man, unless they traveled to Methodist Hospital Emergency Room in San Antonio. I first met Dr. Leonard D. Marks in 1980 when I joined Kendall County EMS as a paramedic student. At that time I suffered so severely from "physician intimidation stammer," that I could not utter two understandable words in a patient report in person or over the radio or phone! However, after only a few conversations with him, I found my affliction disappeared. Regardless of the hour of the day or night (most often in the wee hours of the morning) "Doc" as I tagged him, greeted me in that unusual accent he had, with: "what's up, kiddo?" An EMS Medical Director, you must understand, is disturbed at all possible inopportune times. The conversation always ended



From left: Carolyn Rutherford, EMS Director and Jamie Wylie. Wylie was participating in the BISD Shadow Day Program.

with, "just be sure to do what's right for your patient." An EMS Medical Director becomes a lot like your Dad; you always assume he'll be there to help you out of a tight spot. "Doc" took care of my Susie after her major vehicle accident, where she suffered a brain injury. He was sharp and funny and charming; all the characteristics that calm a worried Mom's worst fears. He taught me by that great example, how important all those characteristics are to your pa-

tient. Without knowing it, I learned more from "Doc" than any of my teachers. Even though I can no longer hear his voice, I feel his presence with every patient I attend. How wonderful for his wife, son, and daughters to know that his influence benefits many people far away from San Antonio. Thanks, "Doc," and Godspeed.

Kinney County EMS was honored to participate in Brackettville Schools' Shadow Day

Continued on Page 3

By Flo Dean
Staff Writer

At a regular meeting Tuesday noon at the Las Moras Restaurant the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board President Tom Dorrell tendered his resignation from the board, for personal reasons. Vice-President Cecil Smith will take over in Dorrell's absence and Kinney County Commissioners will be requested to appoint another member to the board. Dorrell's resignation will be accepted at the next regular board meeting.

Caroline Runge, Manager of the Menard County Underground Water District since its creation in 1999 conducted a workshop for board members. Runge urged the board develop a budget, rules and regulations, statement of purpose and Management Plan. She also suggested office space for the board be found if at all possible.

Runge stated that the State Water Plan tends to move water out of rural districts to urban areas, and the local water districts protect rural water.

Bill Haenn, Chief Appraiser, Kinney County Appraisal District presented information about possible income to the Water District from the ad valorem tax approved by Kinney County voters in January. A new tax unit created before July 1, Haenn said, can levy a tax in 2002. The board will receive its first income from the tax in October.

The board declared the appointment of committees at its last meeting null and void, since this item of business was not on the agenda for that meeting.

A meeting for a Rules Workshop was set for 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 12th at the District Courtroom, Kinney County Court House.

The date for regular board

Continued on Page 3

Two pilots die in T-37 crash near auxiliary field

Two Laughlin AFB pilots were killed in a crash south of Spofford last Thursday.

First Lt. Chad B. Carlson, an instructor pilot from Lewisville, Texas, and Second Lt. Nicholas J. Jabara, a student pilot from Colbert, Washington, were pronounced dead at the scene.

Jabara was the grandson of Col. James Jabara, the first American Ace of the Korean War.

Both pilots, assigned to the 84th Flying Training Squadron, were on a routine training mission when their T-37, a small twin-engine jet, went down.



The command center of the Air Force Investigation Board located near the crash site the day after the accident.

The crash occurred around 1:30 p.m. approximately 1 mile down wind from the runway. It

is not known whether or not the pilots were on approach for landing but apparently they

were too low to eject. The T-37, or Tweet, which has been in service since 1956 does not have a

zero altitude ejection seat.

Continued on Page 4

Elementary teachers speak to local Rotarians

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

The Brackettville Rotary Club welcomed fifth grade teacher Louisa Stone and sixth grade teacher, Liz Frerich as speakers for the Thursday, February 28 meeting. Elementary School Principal Paula Renken, program chairman for January, introduced them.

Last spring Ms. Stone and Ms. Frerich learned about a program that sounded interesting and was designed for the age group of children they taught. The two teachers went to Ms. Renken with the idea and were

encouraged to look into it. They began gathering information, and this year they have begun implementing the program.

The J. and G. program (Junior Master Gardener) is patterned after the Master Gardener program. It is sponsored by Texas A. & M. and the 4 H Club and students who are in the program automatically become 4 H Club members. Gardening, planting, the study of insect control, pesticides, herbicides and related subjects are brought into the classroom and tied in with Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts. They also provide excellent opportunities for



Jones Elementary 6th grade teacher Liz Frerich (left) and 5th grade teacher Louisa Stone (right) with Program Chair, Rotarian Paula Renken

research with websites on the Internet.

School Career Coordinator, Ms. Angelina De Leon, helped the teachers fill out a request for a grant that they later received. It paid for textbooks and materials needed to get started—a teacher's manual, and books for the children.

The books don't look like textbooks, and the students enthusiastically do the projects. The teachers point out that "doing" is the best way of learning. An example they cited was a project where the students planted a bean.

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INSIDE

The way I see it!

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened." NIV
Opinion/Page 2

Empowering Families

A wise man long ago said that a soothing tongue is a tree of life. Lifestyles/Page 4

Making a difference

Brackett High School will continue to compete in Class AA. School/Page 5

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I've got an old slouch hat

But I could be wrong
By Chuck Hall

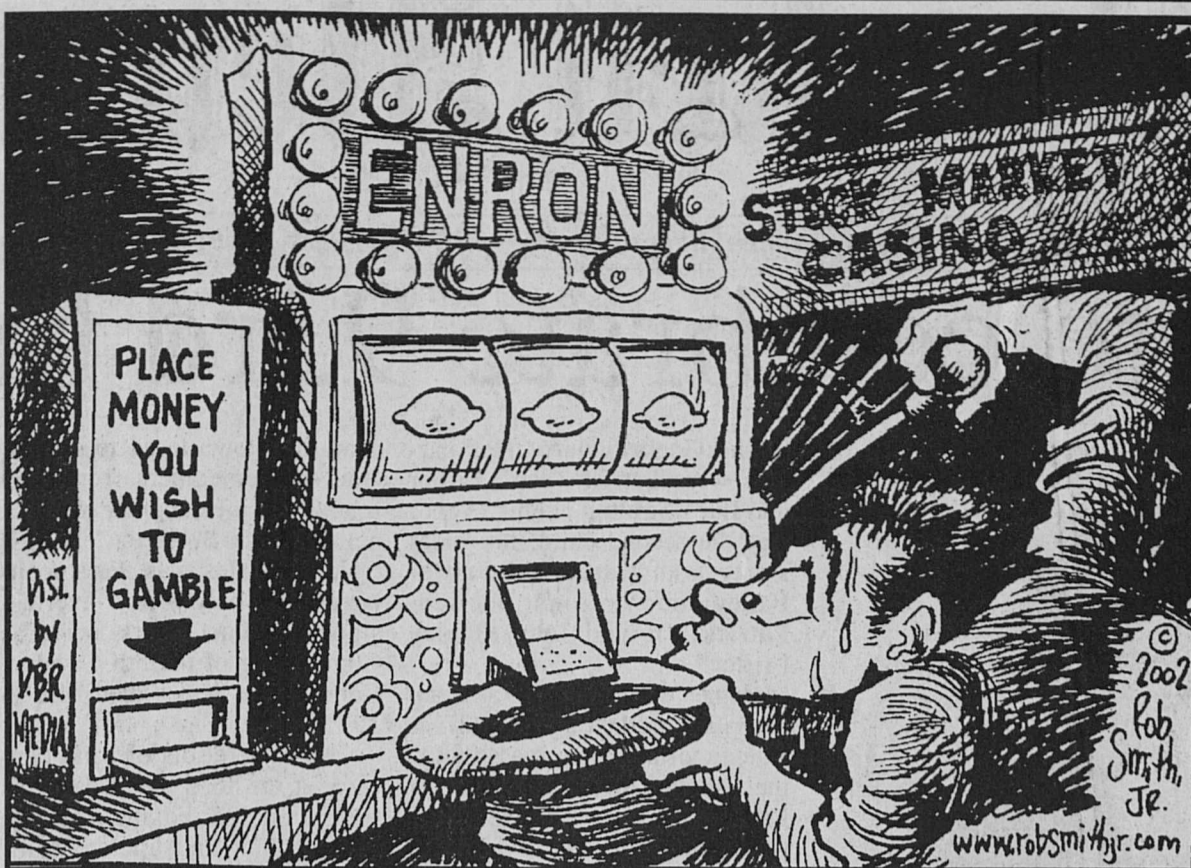
In the late 1980's my mother bought me a hat for Christmas. It was one of the last presents that Mom got for me. The very last one was borrowed and never returned, but that's another story. It wasn't just a hat. It was a 20 X John B. Stetson. If you don't appreciate that, or even know what it means, then you won't understand the significance of that hat.

In the rodeo circles that I used to run in, there was an unwritten rule about touching a man's hat. You just didn't do it. Not once, not ever. It could get you hurt real quick. A hat is a very personal thing to a lot of people.

Recently the "T-man", my

grandson, wanted to wear my hat. He wore it for a while, then he sat on it, then he rolled on it, and then he kicked it. I thought "What the heck, it's just a hat, and he's Tillman." But then I thought again. No, it's not just a hat. It's my hat. It has great value to me and he needs to know it. Some things aren't meant to be trashed. He needs to learn that there are items in this world that have importance. Not everything is placed here for Tillman's disposable pleasure.

He fussed for a while. But he didn't win. Someday, he'll get that hat to own. Or maybe another similar to it. He'll have to decide what it's worth is. He may let his grandson tear it up. It'll be his call. But I could be wrong.



Perfect balance

The Way I See It
By Steven R. LaMascus

Reverend Bill Adams is a loving, wise, and Godly man. I went to hear him preach the other day and was amazed at the sheer joy he finds in spreading the Gospel. While I feel anger at the transgressions of unbelievers, I think he simply sees opportunities to spread the "Good News of Jesus Christ." He positively exudes love and happiness and energy. He said many things that evening that are important and well worth remembering, but one thing he said really stuck in my mind. It was three little words that so aptly describe what I try to say in volumes that it just leaves me in awe of his eloquence. He said, "Look at God!"

The Bible says that no man has any excuse for not believing in God. We see Him all around us. We see His perfect creation at every turn. If we deny Him we are denying the logic of an orderly universe. If we say that evolution is valid, that humans evolved from apes, and that elephants evolved from mice, and the sun, moon, planets, stars, and galaxies were all accidental, we are denying God and demonstrating indescribable arrogance. God is nature, so why do we find that there are people who worship trees and rocks. Why would any sane person worship the creation instead of the being who created it? That is akin to seeing a Buick parked on the street and marveling at the accident of nature that manufactured such a wonderful machine. There is no such thing as an accident. God may not directly cause everything to happen, but you can be certain that

he allows it to happen.

Natural selection? Sure, God selected. "Look at God!"

The balance of nature? Certainly! God balanced it. "Look at God!"

The universe is in perfect balance. The moon orbits the earth, the earth orbits the sun, the sun orbits the center of the galaxy, and there are millions of galaxies. For all I know there may be millions of universes; but there is only one God.

Each thing, each living organism on earth is dependent upon another. Everything is in balance. The plant grows in the soil, the cow eats the plant, we eat the cow, we die and enrich the soil, and the process starts all over again. The same circle happens in the oceans. Perfect balance! God's plan in action. "Look at God!" You can be sure that God did not cause the World Trade Center attack. He did, and will, however, use that terrible event to his own ends.

He already has used that tragedy to bring this nation closer together and to cause our faith in Him to grow. If we backslide again, he will again let us be struck by our enemies. I think that if you will remember, several times I had predicted in this column that unless we turned to God again as a nation, He would turn our enemies loose on us. I'm not a prophet, I just read the Bible. It happened in the past and it will happen in the future. Why? Because we deserved it! We turned away from God as a nation. "Look at God!" And look to God.

Do you want guidance? If so, there is only one place to find it. Do you want security? It is in the arms of God.

This nation, this world, and

this universe are not immortal or invulnerable. Only God is immortal, invulnerable, and perfect. Only He can create perfect things. Accidents do not cause perfection, they cause chaos. Believing that perfection came from chaos by accident is insane. Do you want to know the secrets of the universe? Then "Look at God!"

I wish that all the evolutionists and atheists and all the other types of unbelievers in the world would simply "Look at God!" I wish that they could see things as clearly as I do - as clearly as Brother Bill Adams does. Understanding the universe does not take a doctorate in physics, it only takes believing in God. Because, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Isn't that simple?

Do you want to know the truth? Look to God, and trust in Jesus. They are truth. They are perfection. They are the reason you are and the only way that you will be.

Romans 1:18-21 - "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened." NIV

An essential component of national defense

Capitol Comment
By Kay Bailey Hutchison

Energy is not only a matter of economic security - it is vital to our national security. Now, more than ever before, it is critical that we reduce our reliance on foreign sources of oil.

In addition to altering the course of our lives and pushing us into a battle against terrorism, September 11, 2001 served as an unfortunate reminder of why our country must adopt a sensible, national energy policy. Stability depends on opening up our own resources.

Today, the United States depends on foreign oil production for about 60 percent of national demand. Yet back when the oil shocks of the 1970s knocked the wind out of our economy, that figure was closer to one-third. This is unacceptable - but solvable.

We must take control of our destiny and increase domestic production to help stabilize oil prices, control our own energy supply and put Americans back to work - a strong energy policy would be one of the best economic stimulus packages Congress could pass.

Utilizing the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

One of the first steps to reduce dependence on the Middle East is to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for drilling. Opponents of drilling in the ANWR have unfortunately painted an inaccurate picture of environmental destruction and disregard for its habitat. The truth of the matter is that while the Refuge is the size of South Carolina, the proposed drilling area in Alaska is only 2,000 acres - smaller than the San Antonio International Airport.

New technologies enable drillers to efficiently use much smaller plots of land, effectively reducing any disruption to the surrounding wildlife and natural habitat. If we made the commitment to drill in the ANWR today, in one year's time we could have the full capacity to produce the amount of oil that we import from Saddam Hussein's Iraq everyday.

Uncapping our Marginal Wells

There are nearly 500,000 low-volume wells around the country that have the capacity to produce roughly 10-15 bar-

rels a day. While that figure may sound low, the combined production of these wells would equal 20 percent of America's oil needs - nearly the same amount we currently import from Saudi Arabia.

Unfortunately there is currently no economic incentive for producers to incur the expense of reopening and maintaining these wells. Producers need a safety net to weather the storm of price fluctuations.

That's why I have proposed bipartisan legislation that provides a tax credit for marginal well operators if oil prices fall to between \$18 and \$15 per barrel. By implementing a floor on the price per barrel, we can create stability and ensure that domestic producers can continue contributing to our nation's oil demands, even in the face of dropping prices.

The solution We must free ourselves from the whims of foreign dictators and unstable regimes that do not have America's best interests at heart.

Increasing domestic production by encouraging marginal wells and allowing access to ANWR resources would be a

The speech

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

Washington, D.C. - Rep. Henry Bonilla joined colleagues from both sides of the political aisle and both chambers of the Congress tonight as President George W. Bush presented his first-ever State of the Union address. "This was the speech our nation needed to hear," said Mr. Bonilla. "Our country has changed dramatically since September 11th. The people of the United States have resumed their daily lives, but we have not forgotten the events of that tragic day. We still need a leader, like President Bush, to keep us focused and strong."

Rep. Bonilla applauded President Bush's outline for the War on Terrorism, and complimented his undaunting conviction. As a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Bonilla was pleased with the president's emphasis on the nation's military.

"Amazing accomplishments have been achieved over the last four months. But we have a long way to go. President Bush understands the road ahead and has prepared us well," said Mr. Bonilla. "Tonight, he laid out a blueprint for our nation's success. But most importantly, he once again gave us the confidence to move forward."

"In order to win this war on terrorism, we must support the men and women of our armed services. President Bush signaled tonight that he will not neglect the strength of our military. He is dedicated to rebuilding our national defense and making it stronger than ever. This is the type of unwavering commitment our brave nation deserves," said Mr. Bonilla.

In addition to the War on Terrorism, President Bush discussed his commitment to securing the nation's economy. Mr. Bonilla was an original co-sponsor of the president's tax cut proposal early last year.

He is hopeful that a stimulus package will include additional tax cuts, assistance for small business, and most importantly, opportunities for job growth and security. Mr. Bonilla recognizes that the nation's goals have changed dramatically since September 11th. However, he was pleased to see President Bush's dedication to his early promises. "The president has not forgotten the goals he set out last year. His plate is much fuller than it was four months ago, but he proved tonight that he will keep his promises. Our nation will see better education, better healthcare and a stronger social security system. Because of President Bush's steadfast leadership, we can all proclaim tonight that the state of our union is strong!"

critical step towards ensuring that we are not beholden to foreign countries for our nation's energy needs.

It is critical that we emphasize a balanced and comprehensive strategy that meets the needs of today and plans for tomorrow - one that effectively balance conservation, development of alternative sources of energy, and common sense exploration to increase our own energy supply here at home.

This will be one of my highest priorities for Congress this Spring.

We must now focus on stability for our country - our economy, homeland defense and national security.

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Big Mama
Sez!



I never found the companion that was so companionable as solitude.

The Brackett News

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Bill Haenn signs contract

By Flo Dean Staff Writer



Bill Haenn, Kinney County Chief Appraiser, has signed a contract with Arcadia Publishing for a pictorial history of Fort Clark and Brackettville, covering the time span pre-history to the present, with primary emphasis on the active service period of Fort Clark, 1852-1946. The book, titled "Land of Heroes, Fort Clark and Brackettville, Texas" is deadline for May 15, 2002 and will be published approximately 12 weeks

after that date. Haenn plans to include 180 - 200 photos and is attempting to do his own scans, which is an option with Arcadia, to avoid having to send irreplaceable photos for publisher scanning. Though the publisher has concerns about the book being con-

signed to a local market interest, Haenn points out that the subject matter should appeal to military historians and enthusiasts. The photos Haenn has already gathered for the book are unique, largely never published photos of the area. He would appreciate it if anyone who has pre-1945 photos of Fort Clark or Brackettville would bring the photos in to the Appraisal District Office at 412 S. Ann Street in Brackettville for scanning. Any photos that are used in the book will be credited to the photographer. Haenn

said he can also restore, electronically, faded or damaged photos. Haenn hopes to "capture the spirit of the individual moment" with his collection of photos and captions. "Indians seldom let photographers take their pictures," Haenn said, "because they thought that part of their spirit left them and was captured in that little black box." Haenn, who has 25 years military service with the United States Army, retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He lives at Fork Clark.

Students receive Orange Belt



Back row from left to right; Michael Stephenson, Lori Eichelberg, Charmaine Dunn, Jenaette Hipshmann, Jerry Dunn, Joey Ashley. Second Row from left; Austin Shewbart, Ashley Stephenson, Joshua Kluzek, Vicky Resendez, third row from left; Victor Robledo, Adam Resendez, Tariq Cherradi, and Instructor Harvey Battle First Degree Black Belt.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

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 pan-

cakes and sausage will be from 5 p.m. till 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 12, in the parish hall. Cost for an adult ticket is \$4.50 at the door or \$4.00 in advance. Fare for children 12 and under is

\$2.00. Tickets are available from any church member or from Debbie Trant at Las Moras Realty.

Ocean to Ocean via Brackettville



Traffic was tied up for almost an hour Tuesday afternoon at the corner of Ann and Spring while a huge boat made a left turn. Transcontinental Rigging and Loading, towing the boat and a shorter trailer, were headed north through Brackettville on the way from San Diego to Rockport near Corpus Christi.

length was 155'. The boat was 18'6" tall and 17' wide. Roper picked up the boat on Highway 9 at Rodeo, NM near the Arizona state line. Crew members climbed on top of the boat to tilt and swing the traffic lights at the intersection to allow the boat to slide beneath them. There were a lot of spectators, lending a carnival atmosphere to a rainy day in Brackettville.

KCGWCD changes meeting time

Continued from Page 1 meetings was changed to 1:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month at the District Courtroom, Kinney County Court House. The change was made to make the meeting more accessible to the public. Darlene Shahan reported that

a Letter of Preclearance for the January KCGWCD election has been received from the U.S. Department of Justice. Paul Edwards and Vic Hilderbran from the Uvalde Water District attended the meeting and offered their assistance to the Kinney County Board.

Rutherford friend and mentor passes away

Continued from Page 1 Program. Our time with Jamie Wylie, granddaughter of Cliff and Toady Fritter, was spent checking out the ambulances, inventorying equipment, using the computer. We enjoyed our time with Jamie, who is interested in emergency work ("something with an adrenalin rush"). I hope we recruit her! South West Texas Junior College and Kinney County EMS Training Program kicked off our new relationship with an EMS Instructor course, just completed. In that class are two of our EMS workers, James Blankenship Jr. (Intermediate, part time) and Chris Calk (Intermediate full time). Students made four presentations and had to sweat "bullets" and pass a written exam. Our whole "new crop" of instructors now numbers 15. These students are from Eagle Pass, Uvalde, Leakey, Big Wells, Crystal City, and Hondo. The results of the course will increase the number and availability of instructors for our whole area. The SWTJC-Kinney County EMS Training Program started an Intermediate course on Janu-

ary 29, 2002. Thanks to Brackettville Independent School District we are broadcasting the classes from Brackettville. The other site is Uvalde, thanks to Middle Rio Grande Development Council. Between those two sites, we have 17 students. Two of those students are EMS personnel from Kinney County; Abel Mendez, one of our EMT volunteers and Edgar Guadarrama, EMT full time employee. Watch this column for future updates on their progress. If you need to report an emergency, dial 9-1-1. Kinney County EMS responds its primary ambulance with TDH required certified personnel (at least two certified personnel); subsequent simultaneous calls may be answered with less than TDH required personnel as allowed by a Personnel Variance; however, please be assured that at all times an EMS certified individual attends the patient. If you have questions on this or other EMS related topics, please call us 830-563-9090 Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm, or visit the office at 401 S. Ellen St. at those times.

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A tree of life

Word Power: Communication In The Family

Empowering Families
By Dr. Donald Smith

Julie threw her backpack on the couch and sat down beside her mom. Her facial expression and the look in her eyes revealed her depressed mood. "What is it sweetheart?" Barb asked. "You

look kind of sad." "It's Katie, Mom. She failed the test today. She was crying when we left school and worried about what her mom would say." "What did you say to her, Julie?" Barb asked. "Well, I tried to tell her that she could do better and that she is smart. But Mom,

she kept saying how dumb she is and she could never get it right." "It sounds like she's convincing herself that she can't do it because she's dumb and you know that's not the case?" Barb asked. "I know she can do it Mom. She just has to believe it too."

"I'm proud of you Julie," Barb replied. "You've taken the first step toward helping Katie. A wise man long ago said that a soothing tongue is a tree of life (Proverbs 15:4) and that anxiety depresses the heart but a kindly word makes it glad (12:25). You could see that Katie was anxious and worried. You spoke soothing and kindly words and I'm sure it helped her to know that you believe in her. Now you can follow up on those kind words with some action."

"You Think I should help her?" Julie asked. "Why not." Barb answered. "Where do you start and what can you do?" "Well," Julie said, "We're not really friends but she only lives a few blocks from here. I like her and we could be friends. Maybe we could do our homework together?"

"I think that would be very nice of you Julie," Barb responded. I'll call her mom and talk to her. Maybe you could go to her house before supper time. How about putting some of those cookies we baked yesterday in a bag and we'll see what can be done."

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

Communication in the Family is the theme of a series of four classes for parents, teachers and others interested in families. The classes will be presented at the school library. The dates will be from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30pm. Childcare and refreshments will be provided at the school.

The series is being presented at no cost to participants as a community partnership effort between Jones Elementary School and the St. Henry deOsso Family Project. The classes will be taught by Drs. Donald and Anita Smith. The Smith's are retired educators living at Ft. Clark Springs.

The class schedule is as follows:
February 11: Words, The Building Blocks of Family Communication

February 18: Listening, The Key to Understanding in the Family

February 25: Women are From Venus - Men are Out to Lunch
March 4: Only The Shadow Knows

Registration forms can be obtained from the Jones Elementary School Principal's office or at the

Casuals Plus store and Laundromat. The classes are designed for married couples, adults who are contemplating marriage, young people, grandparents, and others especially interested in working with families.

We are living in violent and in many ways unprincipled times. Children are killing other children, parents are killing their children, children are abandoned by their parents to the care of television, computer games and websites. Children are giving birth to children and sexually transmitted disease spreads most rapidly

among teenagers. Children are being prescribed medications to speed them up or to slow them down.

To build success we need strong families, strong faith, and strong education. Come to the classes and commit yourself to becoming part of the solution. Change comes one family at a time. It doesn't take a village to raise a child; it takes a family.

Volunteers are needed to help with the childcare. For information or to volunteer, call the Smiths at 563-2285 or the Jones Elementary School office at 563-2491 X2.

Old Quarry Society

By Carol Miller
Contributing Writer

The Old Quarry Society's presentation of its annual Cabaret Dinner is Friday and Saturday, February 15th and 16th, in the Cavalry Room (upstairs) of the Las Moras Inn. Seating is limited. Tickets are available at the Fort Clark Springs Adult Center. Friday night is almost full but there are plenty of tickets left for Saturday night.

The play, Nonsense, a musical comedy with book, music and lyrics by Dan Groggin, will be the entertainment of the evening. This is the story about the Little Sisters of Hoboken attempting to raise funds. It is starring Ida Holley, Lynn McNew, Tami McNew, Jewel Robinson, and Charlene Simmons. The presentation is produced with the permission of Samuel French, Inc.

Come join us for an evening of good food and fun!!

Memorial service held for pilots

Continued from Page 1

The accident site on the York Ranch was taken over by an Air Force Investigation Board within a couple of hours after the incident. The board is made up of qualified Air Force officers trained at the Air Force Inspection Safety Center located in Kirtland AFB, New Mexico.

Investigation boards are typically on site for 7-10 days and then

take approximately 3 months to make a final report as to the cause of an accident.

Memorial services were held for Carlson and Jabara yesterday at Laughlin AFB. Jabara's funeral will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. at the U.S. Air Force Academy's Cadet Chapel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Carlson's will be held at Temple Baptist Church in Colleyville, Texas, tomorrow at 2 p.m.

The Carlson family has requested that anyone wishing to send flowers instead contribute to a trust fund set up for Carlson's

two year old daughter. To donate, send your donation to the Del Rio National Bank, 525 South Main, Del Rio, Texas, 78840. Write "Carlson Trust Fund" on the check.

The Jabara family has requested that anyone wishing to send flowers instead contribute to the newly established Nicholas Jabara Memorial Scholarship fund at Gonzaga Preparatory High School, 1224 East Euclid Avenue, Spokane, Washington, 99207.

Laughlin's last fatal crash happened in 1983.

Goodies from "G.G."

If you are in the majority, we have to have our "sweet fix". Try this for fast and easy scrumptious treat.

Butterscotch pecan rolls, 1 pkg. (12 oz) brown and serve rolls, 1 butterscotch pudding mix (not instant), 6 oz package pecan pieces. Line muffin tin with cupcake papers, place roll in each and bake according to directions. Meanwhile, prepare the pudding according to directions and fold in pecans. Using an ice pick, puncture the hot rolls several times at different depths and pour in the hot pudding mix. Cool for a few minutes. Then remove to serving plates. Goody but good!

MUFON meeting

MUFON will be meeting Tuesday, February 12 from 7-9pm at Mr. Gatti's Pizza in Del Rio. All are welcome to attend. We're excited about our speaker, former International Director of MUFON, Walt Andrus. Andrus will present a slide show about the November 30th, 1989 abduction of a 41 year old wife and mother who was seen by credible witnesses as she was floated on a blue beam of light from her 12th floor apartment, located opposite the busy New York Times loading bay. Shortly after 3:15 am, Linda Cortile (pseudonym) sees a creature with large eyes near her bed which then assists her in floating out the living room window, into a beam of light and up into a UFO. Witnesses on the ground report the UFO then plunged underwater where it remained and was not seen again. A world leader and high level security attendants witnessed this spectacular sequence of events. The witnesses also reported car lights and radios turning off spontaneously as engines stalled. MUFON's mission is the systematic collection & analysis of UFO data, with the ultimate goal of learning the origin and nature of the UFO phenomenon. Come visit us and learn more. You can also go to www.mufon.com to learn about the organization. Send questions or comments about the MUFON Del Rio meetings to mufon_dr@hotmail.com.

FINANCIAL FOCUS Good Reasons to See an Investment Professional



Joaquin Davis
Investment Representative
Edward Jones
830-775-0023

During the long bull market of the 1990s, it wasn't all that hard to be a successful investor. But when the dot-com bubble burst and technology stocks went into an extended slump, it suddenly became a lot harder to navigate the investment world alone. In fact, if you're going to make the right decisions in all types of markets, you'll need the help of an investment professional - but that's not the only reason to work with one. Actually, professional investment help is a plus for many reasons. Here are a few of the most common ones, courtesy of the Forum for Investor Advice:

- **Maintaining proper portfolio diversification** - Over the years, you may have bought some stocks here, some bonds there and some money market accounts somewhere else. But have you ever analyzed your portfolio to make sure it was properly diversified? An investment professional can help you keep your assets allocated in a way that is appropriate for your individual goals, tolerance for risk and time horizon.
- **Dealing with an inheritance** - If you inherited a substantial sum of money, what would you do with it? Would you

know the best way to invest it to help you meet your objectives? Would you know how to avoid taking a big tax hit? An investment professional, along with your tax adviser, can help you with these issues.

• **Planning for retirement** - You've probably already thought a bit about your retirement, but have you really envisioned what it might look like? Will you spend your time traveling and pursuing hobbies, or will you do some part-time work or consulting? An investment professional can help you put a price tag on your goals and suggest investment strategies for achieving them. By showing you how much you need to save, and what type of return you need to earn, your investment professional can help guide you along a well-planned path toward retirement security.

• **Transferring 401 (k) money** - When you leave your job, you'll have to decide what to do with your 401 (k). You could just take the cash, but you'd have to pay income taxes, along with a possible 10 percent penalty. You could leave the money in your employer's plan, if allowed. Or you could roll over your 401 (k) to an IRA or your new employer's plan. An investment professional can help you decide which move will be in your best interests.

For all these reasons, and many others, you'll want to work with qualified investment professional. But don't just pick the first name you see. Ask your friends and relatives whom they use. You may want to interview several people until you find one with whom you'd be comfortable working. Look for someone who has experience working with people like you.

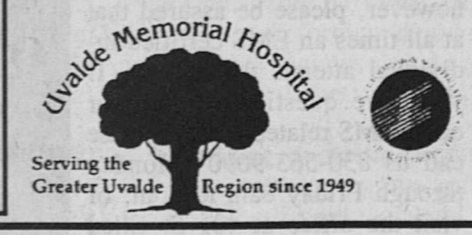
Once you've found a good match, don't hesitate to get down to work. The sooner you start getting professional assistance, the faster the progress you'll make toward your financial goals.

UVALDE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

FEBRUARY 2002 · OUTPATIENT CLINIC CALENDAR

You are encouraged to select a physician from the Active Medical Staff of our Hospital. If you are unable to get an appointment, call the UMH Uvalde Health Care Clinic, (830) 278-1692, or the UMH Sabinol Health Care Clinic, (830) 988-2985, for hours of operation.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sammy Vick, M.D. 4 Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	James Simpson, M.D. 5 Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-242-0008	Stephen Miller, M.D. 6 Dermatologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	George Swanson, M.D. 7 Otolaryngologist / ENT 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	David Dean, M.D. 1 Neurosurgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430 Sudha Kumar, M.D. General Psychiatrist 1-210-615-8877
Andamo Guillaume, M.D. 4 Otolaryngologist / ENT 1-830-773-6655		Fernando Triana, M.D. 6 Cardiologist 1-210-614-5400	Carlos Morales, M.D. 7 Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	
Kurt Meissner, M.D. 11 Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430		Elizabeth Parten, M.D. 13 General Psychiatrist 1-830-816-2251	Randell Bell, M.D. 14 Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	David Dean, M.D. 15 Neurosurgeon 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430
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Sammy Vick, M.D. 18 Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	Jerry Kruse, M.D. 19 Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	Stephen Miller, M.D. 20 Dermatologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	Carlos Morales, M.D. 21 Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	Sudha Kumar, M.D. 22 General Psychiatrist 1-210-615-8877
Andamo Guillaume, M.D. 18 Otolaryngologist / ENT 1-830-773-6655		Elizabeth Parten, M.D. 20 General Psychiatrist 1-830-816-2251		
Kurt Meissner, M.D. 25 Urologist 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	James Schroeder, M.D. 26 Pediatric Cardiologist 1-800-697-7008		Randell Bell, M.D. 28 Pulmonary Diseases 1-830-278-6251, ext. 1430	
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Basketball season ends on a good note

By Jenifer Harris
Contributing Writer

The 7th grade girls basketball season came to an end on Jan. 28 with a win over Sacred Heart. The girls came out on top with a score of 41-23. The first quarter found the young Tigerettes behind by 7 with a score of 9-2. Laura Meyer scored the only 2 points in the first quarter. After the half the team came to life with Emily Venezuela scoring 22 of the final 41 points. Also kicking in points where: Kara Yeager with 7, Nadine Terrazas with 6, and Danika Schmidt, and Rachel Lethco adding 2. The girls also competed in the Comstock tournament on January 24-26. The

team suffered a loss to the Del Rio blue team with a score of 25-33. This put the team playing for Consolation against the Del Rio Sacred Heart team. The team beat Sacred Heart by a score of 45-13. High scorer was Emily Venezuela with 14. Rachel Lethco with 7, Nadine Terrazas and Kara Yeager adding 6 apiece. Natasha Smith had 4 points and Cynthia Jaso, Laura Meyer, Lorrana Mendoza, and Lola Cano each had 2 points. Emily Venezuela was named to the all tourney team. Also competing in the tourney was Samantha Davis and Danika Schmidt.

Overall the team had a successful season. It was a great pleasure coaching and working with these young ladies.

Girls Compete In Del Rio Golf Tournament

By Coach Dave Wilkins
Contributing Writer

Our Girl's Golf team competed in the Del Rio tournament Monday, the 4th. The girl's team consisted of Erica Meyer, Megan McWilliams, Shena Meyer, and Beth Ballew.

A hard fought game

By Coach Greg Nowlin
Contributing Writer

The Tigerettes Basketball team lost a hard fought game Tuesday night in Poth.

The game was close until the third quarter when the height from Poth finally wore down the much smaller Tigerettes. The final score was Poth 48 and the Tigerettes 30. Playing well for the Tigerettes was Stephanie Bonner with 12 points, Ashley Smith with

They placed 3rd as a team, and Erica placed 3rd as an individual medalist. Erica is a senior and our only returning player from our district champion team last year. Their next tournament is Feb. 18th here at Fort Clark. Everyone is welcome to come and watch.

5 points, and Courtney Frerich and Shanae Simmons with 3 points each.

The girls are now 12 wins versus 14 losses for the year. They have two games remaining. They are at home Friday Feb. 1st, and finish up the season Tuesday the 5th in Dilley.

Come on out and support the Tigerettes two Seniors Duquesa Hunt and Migdalia Gonzalez and the rest of the Tigerettes, as they play their last home game.

Former students recognized

College Station - Texas A&M University has named its honor students for the 2001 fall semester, recognizing students for outstanding academic performance. The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students taking at least 15 semester hours who have maintained at least a 3.75 grade point ratio (GPR) out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period.

As second designation. "Distinguished Student," recognizes students who earned 3.25 to 3.75 GPR while taking at least 15 hours.

Among those recognized were: Zachary Hunt Davis Jr., Junior, was recognized for the Dean's Honor Roll and Amy Elaine Bader, Senior, was recognized for the Distinguished Students List.

Brackettville Student named to President's list

Kerrville, Texas - Schreiner University has named a student from Brackettville to its President's List.

Lindsey Brotherton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dustin Brotherton, was named to the roster of high-achieving students for the Fall 2001 term.

To qualify for the President's List, full-time students must have passing grades in all classes, must earn at least a 3.7 grade point av-

erage, and have at least 12 hours' credit for the term.

Schreiner University is a primarily residential liberal arts college in Kerrville, Texas. The university is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Schreiner grants a master's degree in education and baccalaureate degrees in the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. Visit our web site at www.schreiner.edu.

Vondy turns 93 tomorrow

Continued from Page 1

drive-in movie. Patrons sat outdoors and looked at a movie projected from the rear. Agnes remembers the elevated screen to be about 100 square feet.

A few soldiers came to Brackettville from the fort, and a lot of girls went with the soldiers and later married them.

After their marriage, Agnes and Tom Vondy lived at the asphalt mines near Uvalde. There was a small settlement there but the children had no place to go to school. Agnes and Tom went into Uvalde to talk to the Superintendent of Schools who agreed there had to be a school at the mines. For six years Agnes taught there, with 60 students in first through sixth grades. One of the homes was converted to a schoolroom.

The Vondy's daughter, Luanne was born in 1934 and when she was about 3 the family moved to Uvalde where Agnes began teaching dancing. Governor Dolph Briscoe, Jr. who was then about 12 years old, was one of her students.

Agnes wanted a room added to her home for a dance studio and approached John Nance Garner, who in addition to being Vice-President of the United States from 1933 to 1941, also had a construction company in Uvalde. At the time he was building homes in Uvalde for rentals. She approached Garner when he was in Uvalde on vacation and asked if he could put a large room for a dance studio on her house.

Garner replied that he "never had built a dance hall but he'd go for it."

When still a student, Agnes was "quite a dancer" and took lessons from a cousin who lived in Corpus Christi. She taught tap, ballet and aerobics and had an exercise class in Uvalde.

Later, after Tom died in 1968, she took up square dancing. With a local group she went to square dances in Del Rio, Uvalde, Eagle Pass and the Service Club at Fort Clark.

The Vondys moved to Rock Springs, Texas where they had a cafe for about four years in the early 1940's. When war broke out they sold the cafe and Tom went to the shipyards in Portland, Oregon for three years, where their son Harry was born in 1944. Tom went on ahead, and Agnes with Luanne rode a troop train to Portland, with an overnight stop in Los Angeles. The train was so crowded Luanne had to sit on her mother's

lap. The family lived in a housing project, which Agnes remembers was all new construction, and where they had many friends.

After the war, they moved to Houston where Agnes taught at parochial schools from 1946-1959, they returned to Brackettville in 1959. Here Agnes taught second grade from 1959 until 1971. Some of her students are now grandparents, she says.

When the Vondy family returned to Brackettville Agnes found the town had changed considerably with new people, and more people living here. Fort Clark had closed as a military post.

Tom Vondy had an office where the Brackett News is now located, and where Harry worked with his father until he moved to San Antonio.

Agnes learned to drive at 14, when her Grandma Fritter, who

had a car but didn't know how to drive, hired Agnes to take her and Agnes' Aunt Virginia (Ross) to church every Sunday. The Fritters' had a Hudson Super 6, and Agnes earned a dollar each time she took her grandma and aunt to church.

"They trusted me," Agnes says, "and I like to drive to this day."

After retiring from Brackettville Public School, Agnes taught Headstart and became interested in historical work. When Pat Fritter died, Agnes inherited a small ranch and she tended to that as well. One day when she went to the ranch to water her cattle, she encountered an alien. The young man came to her car, where she had a gun in plain view on the seat and asked for money or food. She told him she had neither, but he could fill his canteen and go on. Five older men, dressed in long overcoats and Stetson hats, rose from the bushes where they had

been hiding. They asked for directions to Rio Hondo, and Agnes says, "I pointed to the east, and they left."

Agnes now belongs to the Historical Society, Daughters of the Confederacy and Descendants of the Republic of Texas and the Genealogy Society of Brackettville and Uvalde. She still drives and takes care of her family of cats.

UIL alignment has been announced

Making a Difference
By Taylor Stephenson

University Interscholastic League Alignment for the next two years (2002-03 and 2003-04) was announced this week! Brackett High School will continue to compete in Class AA. Members of the district are Brackett, Dilley, Freer, George West, Natalia and Three Rivers. Poth and Pettus are no longer members of our district beginning next school year.

Brackett HS was right on the bubble having 180 enrollment on the count day which was October 26, 2001. The cut off was 179. All schools count enrolled students on that date. The numbers are always in transition as some students are leaving and others are moving all over the state. A UIL state committee works on the alignment determining how many schools will be in each Classification from AAAAA to Class A. They also determine the cut off numbers of students in each class. 179 student enrollment on the count day would have placed us in Class A. Interesting! So, we are the smallest school in Texas in Class AA according to my calculations. Also, we will have to travel great distances to Freer, George West and Three Rivers. We'll do the best that we can.

It's very difficult to get the alignment changed after it is announced. Because of longer travel distances, I preferred Class A. Also, it is very difficult to get Junior High and Junior Varsity schedules in a district that is as geographically strung out as this one is. We can not travel to Freer, George West and Three Rivers for competition below the varsity level. The expense and travel time make this impossible.

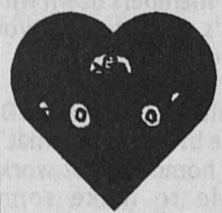
Basketball games with Natalia this past Friday were fun to watch. JV Boys came from behind with a scoring surge in the fourth quarter. Our girls played a very exciting game, and lost in the final minute of play. BHS Boys played

one of their best games of the season (easily winning). This week, our teams play Dilley in what is the girls' final game of the season. JV and Varsity Boys will travel to Pettus and Three Rivers. If all goes well, the varsity boys will continue into the playoffs.

Watch for the "Empowering Family" sessions beginning Monday, Feb. 11 in the school library from 6 to 7:30 PM. There will be four Monday night sessions that help families learn better communication skills. Child care and refreshments will be provided. Dr. Donald Smith and Dr. Anita Torres Smith will be the presenters. You will enjoy these folks and what you learn will help your family. Give it a try! Have a great week!

Brackett ISD Activity Calendar

- Friday, February 8**
5:00 PM BKB JVB/VB
Three Rivers, Dist. (A)
 - Saturday, February 9**
12:00 PM Basebl Del Rio Scrim. (H)
 - Monday, February 11**
8:30 AM B Golf Kerrville
Tivy, 6:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting
 - Tuesday, February 12**
5:00 PM BKB JVB/VB
Pettus, Dist. (A)
- FITNESS TRICKS:**
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Try turning on the TV if you use a treadmill or stationary bicycle. Studies show you're likely to walk, run or "spin" longer when watching.



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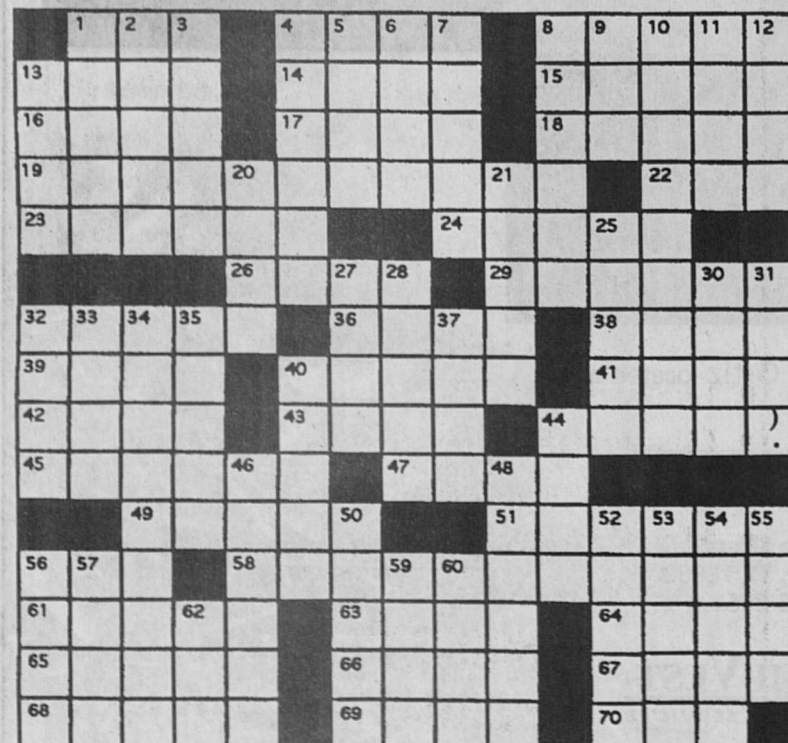
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
- 1 Mr. Davis
- 4 Pigeon's downfall
- 8 English novelist Charles
- 13 Holy man
- 14 Vagrant
- 15 Encourage
- 16 Acidity
- 17 In sulky
- 18 Made a funnel-like shape
- 19 Basic, essential part
- 22 Alternatives
- 23 Sudden, involuntary action
- 24 Mother's Day gift
- 26 Like a lazybones
- 29 Disease-carrying insect
- 32 Saying
- 36 Caught in
- 38 Vivid display of colors
- 39 River flowing to the Mediterranean
- 40 One-of-a-kind; non-pareil
- 41 Church image
- 42 Rise high
- 43 Lacking 1 of the senses
- 44 Hard seed covering
- 45 Felt
- 47 Fish
- 49 Boils
- 51 Varies
- 56 After
- 61 Goes first
- 63 Religious symbol
- 64 Talk wildly
- 65 With 48 Down, make-up maker
- 66 Adjutant
- 67 out of
- 39 River flowing to the Mediterranean
- 40 One-of-a-kind; non-pareil
- 41 Church image
- 42 Rise high
- 43 Lacking 1 of the senses
- 44 Hard seed covering
- 45 Felt
- 47 Fish
- 49 Boils
- 51 Varies
- 56 After
- 61 Goes first
- 63 Religious symbol
- 64 Talk wildly
- 65 With 48 Down, make-up maker
- 66 Adjutant
- 67 out of
- 28 Inventor Howe
- 30 Black substance
- 31 Volcanic mountain
- 32 Jumble
- 33 Musical instrument
- 34 Reward
- 35 Human trunk
- 37 News, for short
- 40 Reptile
- 44 Relate
- 46 Cleared the slate
- 48 See 65
- 50 Leather fastener
- 52 Fortune-teller's item
- 53 Day's march
- 54 French income
- 55 Jets: abbr.
- 56 Beverages
- 57 For fear that
- 59 9, __
- 60 Area
- 62 Grade



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

Today's Category: TYPES OF WATERCRAFT

S D S W G A L L L E O N	K I F F K A Y A K R C	1. Yacht
D C U T T E R S R S E A	2.	3.
S R H D U D D E E P T	4.	5.
W U S O D G G D P O H	6.	7.
G I A D O G I Y P O G M	8.	9.
A S R W I N R S I L I A	10.	11.
L E K R G R E E L S E R	12.	13.
L R T H E D K R C D R A	14.	15.
E U Y F G K N G D R F N	16.	17.
O D D O R Y A C H T K S	18.	19.
N W W D E S T R O Y E R	20.	
W I N D J A M M E R S R		

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

1. What film mover-and-shaker said, "You've got to take the bitter with the sour"?
2. What Caribbean country held its first free elections since 1957 in 1990?
3. What time is a soldier due back on base if he has received "Cinderella liberty"?
4. What river flows through Baghdad?
5. In the Book of Genesis, who asked, "Am I my brother's keeper"?
6. What Martin Scorsese mob movie featured Robert De Niro, Joe Pesci and Paul Sorvino?
7. What parts of the body does an EENT specialist deal with?
8. What 1960 Joseph Heller book never was a best-seller but still sells a steady 100,000 copies each year?
9. What state designated square dancing as its official dance?
10. What was Hugh Hefner still trying to lose when he was 22 years old?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 7.....Tomasa Avila	February 9.....Samantha Payne
February 7.....Frances Beene	February 10.....Tony Frerich
February 7.....Anita Ertle	February 10.....Mary Rasch
February 7.....Freddie Frerich	February 11.....Ethel Griffin
February 8.....Juanita Rivas	February 11.....Michael Montalvo
February 8.....Bill Stout	February 12.....Versie Burnes
February 8.....Agnes Vondy	February 12.....Joaquin Davis
February 8.....Robert Wilson	February 12.....Earl Love
February 9.....Katherine Field	February 12.....Regina Pena
February 9.....Erika Garcia	February 12.....Ricky Sandoval
February 9.....Sandy Herman	February 13.....Alfred Pena, Jr.

AHOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a week of distractions for you at work. However, you are able to focus simply by ignoring them. Some self-discipline goes a long way.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) That "woe-is-me" attitude is less than attractive. Worse, you'll bring family members down with it. By week's end, though, you lighten up considerably.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're more in tune with what's going on at home than at work. You're able to make some needed changes domestically as a result. Over the weekend, family members give you your space.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The emphasis is on the practical this week rather than the idealistic. Once you get your head out of the clouds, you do better. Bigwigs take positive note of this.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You spend some time this week looking into career opportunities. Perhaps a radical change is in the works. Later in the week, a petty spat with your mate is easily resolved.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You're not in the mood for much socializing this week. In fact, time spent by yourself is a good idea. Over the weekend, someone close to you has good news.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You're usually able to look at both sides of an issue. However, this week, your stubbornness comes to the fore. Clear-headed thinking is necessary.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A stroke of just plain good luck spurs you to new heights on the job. The key to this is communication. Be sure that you're listening carefully to what others have to say.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The emphasis this week is on partnerships. Positive developments are the happy result. Over the weekend, some find they have a secret admirer.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Overall, you're happy with your romantic life. However, there is someone who's less than thrilled. Perhaps you've been ignoring a friend's needs.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're plagued this week with a minor health problem. Be sure you get enough rest so you can fight this off. Later in the week, inspiration hits at the strangest time.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Ideas come easily to you this week. You're called upon to solve a sticky situation at work, and you rise to the occasion. This weekend, keep your spirits high.

Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
 1. Samuel Goldwyn; 2. Haiti; 3. Midnight; 4. The Tigris River; 5. Cain; 6. "Goodfellas"; 7. The eye, nose, throat; 8. "Catch-22"; 9. Washington; 10. 10. His virginity

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Ark	11. Galleon
2. Catamaran	12. Kayak
3. Clipper	13. Outrigger
4. Cruiser	14. Schooner
5. Cutter	15. Skiff
6. Destroyer	16. Sloop
7. Dinghy	17. Tanker
8. Dory	18. Tug
9. Ferry	19. Windjammer
10. Freighter	20. Yacht

Faith and courage *The fruit of the spirit*

St. Mary Magdalene Church
By Lynn McNew

I have never been a "water person." I grew up in Illinois along the Mississippi River and as a child, used to swim and picnic along the river. But I had a bad water scare as a teenager and tend to get seasick very easily, so there are many other places I would rather be than on the water. My husband would never even consider a cruise as an enjoyable vacation! Yet, water in such an important factor in our life in Southwest Texas. It seems to always be a popular topic of discussion-from need for rain, to the recent election of the Groundwater District Board.

The area where Jesus lived and preached was also very influenced by water. It was dry desert land and the rivers and lakes were vital to the people's way of life.

Jesus chose several of His disciples from people who worked on the water-men who were fishermen.

He called Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John to leave their boats and nets, and in the case of James and John, their father, and come follow Him and become "fishers of men" (Matt. 5:18-22).

In Chapter 14 of Matthew's Gospel, we read that Jesus' disciples went out into the boat without Him and after He had

prayed for a while, He walked across the water to them. They were afraid and thought He was some kind of ghost. Peter challenged Him saying, "If it is really You, tell me to come to You across the water." Jesus, as we remember the story, assured Peter that he could indeed walk on water, but as Peter became afraid, he began to sink. Jesus, of course, saved him (22-31).

Jesus sometimes asks us to do things that seem as impossible as walking on water. We sometimes are fearful and begin to sink, as Peter did. It is important for us to remember that because Jesus asks us to work for Him, to be "fishers of men," He will give us the strength and

perseverance to carry on-to get the job done-to be disciples.

As we get closer to the season of Lent, a time of prayer and sacrifice, it is good for us to open our hearts to the Lord's voice and pray that we will respond to His call to discipleship with conviction and generosity.

Lord, I thank You for the disciples You have put in my life and I pray that You will help me to become a disciple for You. I ask You to give me faith and courage so that I don't become fearful and sink in the water of my fears and doubts.

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

Lord shall answer

St. John's Missionary Church
By William P. Adams Sr.

Then shall thy light break forth like the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily; and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rear guard.

Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity.

And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the af-

flicted soul, then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be like the noonday.

And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations, and thou shalt be called, the repairer of the breach. The restorer of paths to dwell in. Isaiah 58:8-12.

Gateway Ministries
By Pastor Charolette Corey

Let the hound of heaven seek out and overtake the little foxes in your life. The little foxes are the lies in our lives with which we compromise the fruit of the spirit. These lies are like little foxes which sneak into a vineyard and eat up the grapes, spoiling the harvest.

Lying to ourselves compromises the effectiveness of the word of God in our lives which is manifested in the anointing given to each of his children as believers. Taking our eyes off of Jesus, even in the little things, causes him to say, "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee

quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." (Rev. 2: 4-5)

Lying to ourselves causes stagnation in our growth as Christians and puts a wall between our Heavenly Father and ourselves.

Our consciences condemn us and we hide from the Father lest we be chastened. We become like Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden after they had sinned. No longer were they eager to run out and meet God in the garden, to walk and talk with him. Instead, they hid themselves from him, fearing his judgment. (Gen. 3:8-10)

A pretense of piety arises from trying to hide things from God, things which he already knows about and has a solution for you. I Timothy 4:1-2 says, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times

some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience seared with a hot iron."

Your Heavenly Father is simply waiting for you to respond to him with simple agreement with him about what he calls sin. When we are repentant, he forgives us. Where we are weak, he becomes our strength. (2 Cor. 12:9-10). Where we falter, he becomes our righteousness. (1 John 1:9).

Your Heavenly Father will never leave you nor forsake you. Nothing can separate you from the love of God. Remove the little foxes from your life and draw closer to Jesus. He will give you his strength through the power of Holy Spirit to achieve it. Stand in faith, rest in hope walk in love.

Live in his light

Frontier Baptist Church
By Dave Crowe

Here's an interesting question.

When you think of God, what kind of mental image do you have? What have we learned about him and his appearance? God must look very much like us, because Genesis clearly states that, Adam being the father of the human race was the first person created in God's image. Before God removed Adam's rib to create Eve, they (God and Adam) walked through the garden of Eden.

When God and two of his angels appeared to Abraham, they appeared looking like men.

When Jacob wrestled the night away with God, God appeared as a man.

At the battle of Jericho, Joshua saw the Lord as a soldier with a drawn sword.

The Lord appeared in human form to the Israelites at Bodkin and they wept aloud and offered sacrifices. The Lord came to Gideon while he was threshing wheat in a wine press at Ophrah.

God entered that blazing furnace with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to protect them.

God appeared before men in the old testament many, many times and always as a man.

And when God came to earth in the form of Jesus Christ, born as all men, are, in the form of a little baby.

When I think of God, I think of him not only as my creator, but as my heavenly father. Not just as my Father, but a close personal friend. Not just as my friend, but my personal hero and savior, saving me from an eternity in hell.

Did you know that God has and displays (in the Holy Bible) every emotion that you and I possess. Love and hate (Malachi 1:2-3) jealousy (Hosea 2:13-14 and Joel 2:18) joy (Zephaniah

3:17) and even pain (Isaiah 63:10 Ezekiel 7: 20-22)

When I read the old testament (God's testimony about himself) here's a few of the things that I find.

God admits that he will use anyone, anything to get his message across, prophets, prostitutes, whatever!

God reminds us over and over again of his undying love and mercy and his constant call for repentance.

God judges righteously and blesses the deserving.

God says "Do not mock me and do not mess with my children! To do so is to mess with me!" Like Jonah, we must spread the good news. God could put anyone of us in the belly, of a whale, just as easy as not! (Thought) God doesn't want his people to fail, rather he gives them opportunities to repent and

go to heaven. But, if they persist in sin, he will punish them.

(Another thought) Do you doubt? Thomas had his doubts! Did Christ send him away? No! Even Moses had his reservations! Did God tell him to forget it and go home? No!

God knew that Job had his struggles! Did God avoid him? No, not once! Paul certainly had his hard times! Did God ever abandon him? No way!

Do you have unanswered questions? Here is something that you can take to the bank! God never, ever turns away the honest seeker! Go to God with those questions.

You may not find all the answers, but in finding God, you have found the one who has all the answers! (Last thought) if you'll love and glorify God and love those around you, you will be living in his light.

Health Breastfeeding among Hispanic mothers

Houston - Researchers at Baylor College of Medicine are identifying effective ways to increase breastfeeding rates among low-income Hispanic mothers.

The U.S. Surgeon General has made increasing breastfeeding rates a public health priority. But, until this study, conducted through the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor, there has been little information about the best way to do so.

Proyecto Leche de Vida (Project Milk of Life), a community-based breastfeeding pilot project, began as part of a random-controlled research trial.

Designed to compare the effectiveness of home visits and telephone consultations by trained breastfeeding counselors, the research trial and pilot project provided services to women living in Houston's East End neighborhood, an area with a predominantly Hispanic immigrant population. Spearheaded by Dr. Judy Hopkinson, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Baylor, the program was initially funded by the Texas Department of Health and Episcopal Health Charities.

Preliminary results from the research trail, which involved

105 new mothers, showed 38 percent of mothers in the trial breastfed exclusively for at least three months, a significant improvement over the 5 percent typical for new mothers in that area.

Scientific research has shown that three months of exclusive breastfeeding is needed to effectively reduce infant morbidity and health care costs throughout the first year of life.

Hopkinson found that both home visits and telephone calls could effectively increase the number of mothers who are still breastfeeding exclusively at 3 months of age.

In the study, 41 percent of the new mothers who received home visits and 35 percent of those who received phone calls were still breast-feeding exclusively at 3 months postpartum, compared to just 11 percent in the control group.

However, when it came to first-time mothers, Hopkinson found that home visits were hands-down the most effective approach. She explained that the inexperienced mothers often lacked basic breastfeeding knowledge and skills.

Many also have limited access to Spanish-language breastfeeding information and assistance in the hospital. As a

result, hands-on teaching during home visits becomes essential.

Following completion of the research trial, the Proyecto Leche de Vida community-based project was continued, with additional financial support from Episcopal Health Charities and private philanthropists.

Over two years, counselors in the project provided over 2,700 breastfeeding consultations to more than 450 women. Another 1,000 women participated in prenatal breastfeeding classes.

The success of Proyecto Leche de Vida has led to an additional \$250,000 grant from the Texas Department of Health, which will help to develop similar public-service projects in additional under-served neighborhoods throughout Houston.

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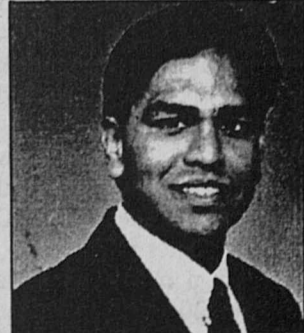
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2 bed, 2 baths, carpeted, appliances \$57,000.

10 acres with buildings on Hwy 90. One good well. \$130,000.
Building lots in different sections of Fort Clark. Prices vary. All reasonable.
ourourke@the-i.net

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.

HELP WANTED

KINNEY COUNTY EMS full time EMT/CLERK minimum requirement HS diploma or GED TDL Tx EMT Basic Contact Mrs Rutherford 830-563-9090 Deadline February 8, 2002 5 pm.

AVON - ENTREPRENEUR WANTED! Must be willing to work whenever you want, be your own boss, and enjoy unlimited earnings. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053.

LOOKING FOR A CHANGE? We have an answer. Set own hours. Turnkey proven business. Complete training. Free information 1-800-736-2334, www.FocusOnFreedom.com

REAL ESTATE

TIME SHARE UNITS and Campground Memberships. Distress sales - cheap. Worldwide selections. Call Vacation Network, U.S. and Canada, 1-800-543-6173. Free rental information, 1-954-563-5586, www.vnadvertising.com

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO
Molly Earl Kaplan - Broker
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832

830-563-2446 830-563-2447
Rent:
• Stage Stop for rent, gas stove, W/ D, large yard.
• 3 bedroom, 2-bath on 20 acres.
Sale:
• Historic home on the Fort 2-bedroom, 2 bath large, sun room.
• 700 acres with water and fence priced to sell.
• 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, very nice screened in porch \$70,000 on Walnut.
www.kinneycountyland.com

LAS MORAS REALTY
DEBBIE TRANT
BARBARA VOSS

830-563-2997
104 A-E Spring
Ft. Clark - Nice 16' x 80' MH, next to greenbelt, carport, second roof, deck, storage, appliances and furniture included.
Large historic townhome, 2/2, FP, carport, screened porch, utility/storage area.
Unit 14, custom built 2/2 home 1200 +/- sq. ft, one car garage, carport, storage area.
Unit 15, lot 28, 1986 Fleetwood 14' x 60', 2/2 CHA, rock skirting, carport and storage bldg. Reduced \$22,000 possible owner financing.
Ranches and small acreage available.
View listings: **www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com**

La Fortuna Ranch Sales
615 Hwy 90 East

Phyllis and Les Meyer
830-563-9911
Homes in Fort Clark Springs, Historical and Recent Construction
*New Listing *Calvary Condo 1/1/2 garages - \$40,000.00
*New Listing *3/2/2, All brick, with 2 lots on Airport (FCS)
*4/3 carport on 5 acres 1.5 miles north of town. Quality improvements
*4/3/2 all the extras in the Oaks Subdivision (FCS)
We have buyers for all size ranches!
If you are thinking of selling please give us a call

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Answers to Crossword Puzzle
MAC SCAM READE
LAMA HOBBO EGGON
ACOR APET CONED
CORNERSTONE ORS
SNEEZE ROSES
IDLE TSETSE
MOTTO ALIE RIOT
EBRO AKIND ICON
SOAR DEAF TESTA
SENSED SOLE
SORES ALTERS
ALL ARTICULATES
LEADS ROOD RANT
ESTEE AIDE OPTS
STEED PIER TEE

PANAMA CITY BEACH. Best selection of luxury condominiums & beach houses offered by Arvida Realty Services. Great rates. Free brochure/reservations: 1-800-343-8315, www.panamabeachrentals.com
LOW RATES ON Florida beachfront accommodations. Destin, Ft. Walton, Navaree, Beaches of South Walton & West Panama City Beach. Free golf. www.destinresorts.com or 1-800-336-9669.

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Frerich and Stone speak to Rotary

Continued from Page 1

When it sprouted, they got excited and eagerly watched it grow. They wanted to water it every day, and they loved to measure how much it had grown.

The curriculum for the J. and G. program covers the third through the sixth grades. Plans are being made to extend it through the eighth grade.

A couple of years ago, a green house was donated to the school, and this will be available for the J. and G. program to use. Six garden boxes are to be built outside the fifth and sixth grade buildings that will be used this spring.

The books for J. and G. are modeled after the Boy Scout and

Girl Scout programs. A certificate is awarded for each project finished. The student can take the book home and choose a project and a date to finish. When one project from each chapter over the two years covering the fifth and sixth grades is finished, the student will be certified as a Junior Master Gardener.

Ms. Stone and Frerich brought with them some interesting examples of completed projects. The only difficulty they have encountered is finding time since State teaching requirements make it difficult to add anything to the crowded schedule. The projects don't take more than about 30 minutes to finish, and ideally, the

J. and G. program can be worked in once a week.

The Coordinator suggested they start slowly. The books are fun to have and use and projects can also be fun to do. She warned that it would be tempting to take on too much and risk feeling overburdened.

The future holds a lot of promise for the program. Ms. Renken said that environmental science is an area coming into importance, and this program will fit in nicely with that. She also mentioned that finding and implementing this program is a good example of the initiative and good teamwork the staff exhibits.

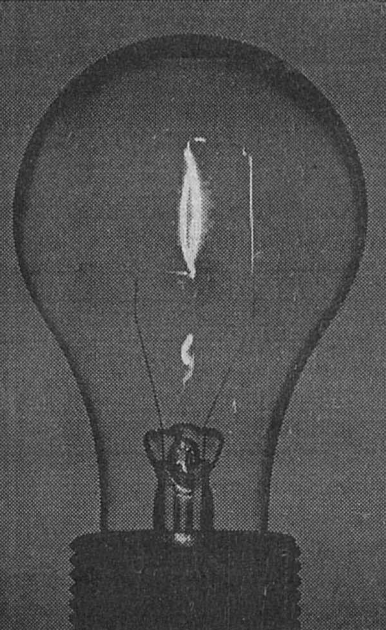
Kinney County Sheriff's Report ...

Tuesday, February 29
6:20 p.m., A local store informed the Sheriff's Office that an individual had locked his keys in the vehicle. Deputy Larry Robinson responded.
6:28 p.m., A 911 call was received. A man reported that he had been attacked. Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter responded.

7:35 p.m., Levi Brandon Moore, 20, from Brackettville, was arrested for possession of marijuana over 2 oz. by DPS Trooper Welch. Moore was released on a \$1,000 PR Bond the same day.
8:01 p.m., A woman reported a two car wreck in front of a local store. Constable Cordelia Mendeke, Trooper Welch, EMS, and the Fire Department were all notified.
8:58 p.m., A city employee responded to a sewer problem.
9:50 p.m., Ramiro Campos Gonzalez, 46, from Brackettville, was arrested by Trooper Welch for driving while intoxicated. Gonzalez was released by Surety Bail Bond.

Wednesday, February 30
10:15 p.m. Rolando Aguirre, 23, from Brackettville, was arrested for driving while intoxicated 2nd offense by Deputy Manuel Pena. Aguirre was released on a \$1,800 PR Bond by Judge Ford the next day.
Thursday, February 31
12:30 p.m. Abel Carrion Liserio, 55, from Del Rio, was arrested for outstanding warrants in Kinney County, failure to appear and no insurance by Constable Mendeke. Liserio was released on Sunday for time served.
4:35 p.m., Deputy Fritter responded to some kids fighting around Sweeney and Thomas St.
6:38 p.m., A woman requested a deputy at her residence. Deputy Fritter responded.
7:00 p.m., A man requested a deputy at his residence. Deputy Fritter was advised.
Friday, February 1
12:30 p.m., Mauro Barrera, 22, from Brackettville, was arrested by Deputy Guidry for probation violation.
1:30 p.m., Kyle Ingram, 19, from Norfolk, VA, was arrested

for burglary of a habitat by Deputy Fritter.
1:30 p.m., Adam Caton, 17, from Brackettville, was arrested by Deputy Fritter for burglary of a habitat.
Saturday, February 2
8:00 p.m., Jose Leos Jr., 26, from San Antonio, was arrested for possession of marijuana less than 2 oz. by Trooper Welch. Leos was released on a \$1,200 bond with Judy's Bond the next day.
Sunday, February 3
5:27 a.m., A Border Patrol agent reported a one vehicle rollover on Hwy 90 west by Sycamore Creek. Del Rio's EMS was advised.
11:05 p.m., A blue and grey pick up was reported running stop signs. Deputy Pena was notified.
Monday, February 4
12:10 a.m., A Fort Clark Springs employee reported an intoxicated driver.
12:16 a.m., Gustavo Sandoval, 43, from Brackettville, was arrested for driving while intoxicated 2nd offense by Deputy Pena.



the smart choice

Affordable Rural Power - Endangered Species?

Electric deregulation is supposed to benefit Texas consumers - all consumers, urban and rural. But the legislature recently allowed the Panhandle five extra years to deregulate. Why? Because deregulation could backfire for that region's farms and ranches. What does that foretell for farms and ranches elsewhere? Sixty years ago rural electric cooperatives were formed because private power companies found rural dwellers "unprofitable." Will they again? Will they want to compete for your business? Portions of East Texas are seeking exemption from deregulation because nobody has signed up to compete for their business. At Rio Grande Electric Co-op, we intend to wait and see if this industry experiment will work. That's the smart choice. For more information on deregulation, visit us at our web site, or call your local Smart Choice Cooperative.
www.smartchoicecoops.com

SmartChoice
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Comanche Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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