

The Brackett News

Tigers open playoffs Tuesday in Castrovilla
See story, Page 7 

15th year, No. 1

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

1 Section, 10 Pages

Water district still without manager

County commissioner declines position in order not to 'harm' district

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

Not wanting to "harm" the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District, Commissioner Francie Wylie will not serve as the general manager.

The decision was announced by board secretary Darlene Shahan Tuesday night at a special meeting.

The water board agreed to

readvertise the position and have Steven Walthour, a permitting enforcement manager with the Edwards Aquifer Authority who was hired last month as a consultant with the local district, to handle the general manager's duties until the job is filled.

The district also discussed hiring Norma Reivitt of Fort Clark Springs as a secretary, but no formal action was taken.

With an April 1 deadline

looming for local citizens to register wells, concern was expressed to the board about having someone in the district's office to answer questions.

"We're still looking at an April 1 deadline to comply with the rules, but you're not providing us the services the district should be providing," said Jennifer McDaniel, whose family farms in western Kinney County.

The board voted to hire Wylie

as general manager on Jan. 23, but citizens immediately raised the question of a conflict of interest with the Precinct 2 commissioner drawing salaries from two county entities.

It was also pointed out that Wylie, as a commissioner, will be in a position to appoint a water board member because of the vacancy created by Zach Davis.

In previous commissioners court meetings, Wylie voted to

appoint Chuck Hall and Hadley Wardlaw to the water board. It was Hall who made the motion to hire Wylie as general manager last month.

"It may not be illegal, but it's unethical," Melanie Jones said after the decision was announced.

During this week's meeting, citizens questioned why Wylie did not submit a letter of resignation after being hired as gen-

eral manager.

"We made a motion to hire her, but she did not sign anything," board chairman Cecil Smith said. "As far as we can determine, we do not need a resignation because she was never hired. (The motion) was to hire her only if she would accept the contract, which she did not."

Also on Tuesday, the directors voted to formally accept Davis' resignation.

City, school elections set for May 3

Elections for the Brackettville City Council and the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees have been set for May 3. The elections were ordered during regular meetings this week.

Two seats will be on the ballot in the City Council election. Tomas Gomez's and Martha Ward McDonald's two-year terms are expiring.

There are also two positions up for election on the school board. Three-year terms are expiring for trustees Rose Mary Slubar and Tim Ward.

Candidates seeking positions on the ballots for either election can file an application from Feb. 19 through March 28.

Early voting by personal appearance for the city election will be held at City Hall April 16-29 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for Good Friday on April 18. Applications to vote early by mail will be accepted beginning March 4. Ballots must be received by April 29.

City Manager David Luna has been appointed early voting clerk and deputy clerks are Lisa Garcia, Linda Ramirez, Rebecca Garcia, Mirza Clarke and Faustino Sandoval Jr.

The City Council appointed Bertha Reschman as its election judge and Rosie Garcia as assistant election judge.

Early voting by personal appearance for the school board election will be held at the BISD Central Office April 16-29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Applications to vote early by mail will be accepted by the close of business on April 25.

Susan Esparza has been appointed as the district's early voting clerk and deputy clerks are Patricia Hidalgo and Marla Madrid.

Dixie Brown is the school's election official, Sondra Meil is the election judge and Connie Coronado is an assistant election judge.



Photo by J.J. Guidry

Meet the candidates

Tom McNew (from left), Wylie Simmons, John Dixon, Ruth King, Nolan Brandt, Ray Reyna and Mary Gray-Partlow are vying for three seats on the Fort Clark Springs Association Board of Directors. The seven candidates participated in a forum Saturday.

Seven candidates seek seats on Fort Clark Springs board

Seven candidates seeking seats on the Fort Clark Springs Board of Directors had the chance to share their views Saturday with the membership.

The Fort Clark Springs Community Council hosted a forum with the candidates at Post Theater.

There are three seats up for election. Each position has a three-year term. Candidates for the board include Nolan Brandt, John Dixon, Mary Gray-Partlow, Ruth King, Tom McNew, Ray Reyna and Wylie Simmons.

Ballots were mailed out to the membership last week. Results of the election will be announced at the annual meeting on March 29.

Diane Daniels led the forum. In the order they will appear on

the ballot, the candidates presented their qualifications and philosophies. The audience then was allowed to present questions to the candidates.

McNew first came to Fort Clark in 1972 and has lived there since 1988.

McNew said he believes in being active in the community and service to others. He has served in the Lions Club, the Knights of Columbus and other groups "that give back to the community in one way, shape or form."

He addressed the fort's declining membership base.

"Our challenge now is to do some publicity to resell ourselves and the wonderful lifestyle that we have here at the fort," McNew said. "We can improve and expand our facilities

so it looks nice when we come in. We need fiscal responsibility."

He also discussed more summer-time activities to encourage non-resident members to spend time at the fort, making their membership more valuable.

Simmons has served the Community Council as president for three years and vice president for four years. He has been chairman of the Planning Committee and a member of the Old Quarry Society and the Historical Society. He has also volunteered with Fort Clark Days, and painting and constructing signs around the fort.

"I don't want to tell you what I'm going to do, I'm going to tell you what I have done for this place," Simmons told those in attendance.

Dixon said he wanted to see the board prioritize the fort needs and then develop a plan to implement those needs.

He addressed capital improvements, such as road improvements, and said the association can host more golf tournaments to generate revenue and use the restaurant to promote the fort.

"We can bring more money in and lessen the burden to the Fort Clark membership," he said. "We need to maximize our assets and minimize our liabilities."

Dixon also proposed to establish a financing committee to "anticipate upcoming needs and what you have to do to meet those needs."

He also wants to energize the existing committee system.

"When a committee makes a recommendation to the board, let's listen to them. Energize them, charge them with a responsibility and let them do their job."

"I want to improve our community of excellence here and also our quality of life," he said.

King has been a FCSA member since 1984 and has lived on the fort since 1991.

"We thought we had found heaven," she said. "It doesn't feel like heaven right now, but it can again. It's going to take a lot of work."

King is retired from the U.S. Air Force. She worked 20 years in personnel, which involved reading and interpreting regulations.

"If elected, I will have access **See SEVEN/Page 4**



Photo by Javier Cervantez

Heading to the playoffs

Brackett's Charlie Slaughter (from left), Dietrich Davis and Philip Munoz battle for rebounding position Friday during the Tigers' 51-42 win over Natalia. Brackett opens the playoffs on Tuesday. See story, Page 7.

BISD begins search for superintendent

By J.J. GUDRY
Editor

Brackett ISD has begun its search for a new superintendent. The Board of Trustees will hold the first of several closed workshops tonight at 6 to review applications for the district's chief administrative position.

Superintendent Taylor Stephenson announced his retirement last month. He has worked in public education for 43 years.

The district began advertising the superintendent's position last week in major newspapers and at universities across the state, as well as on its website and the Texas Association of School Administrators' website.

As of Tuesday, 26 application packets had been requested and six applications have been turned in.

"We've had lots of responses, but you never know how many will submit their total applications," Stephenson said. "We just started this a week ago, so we're doing pretty well."

The deadline to apply for the

position is March 21. Board members will screen applicants, conduct on-campus visits and then select finalists the week of March 24.

Final interviews will be held the week of March 31 and the posting of the finalists for the position will be announced the first week in April. A new superintendent will be hired the week of April 21.

Stephenson came to Brackett ISD in 1992 as its curriculum director and federal programs coordinator, and is currently in his seventh year as the district's superintendent. His resignation is effective July 31.

"The work has been rewarding, and we have made tremendous progress in the past 10 years. I have particularly enjoyed the young people through the years."

"Continuing to make decisions that are in the best interests of the children will always yield results that are best for the school district. I wish the board success in every future endeavor," he added.

INSIDE

Shanae Simmons

Feb. 15 is all I have been able to think about. That is when I will find out if I will be able to embark on a journey of a lifetime. **Opinion/Page 3**

Taylor Stephenson

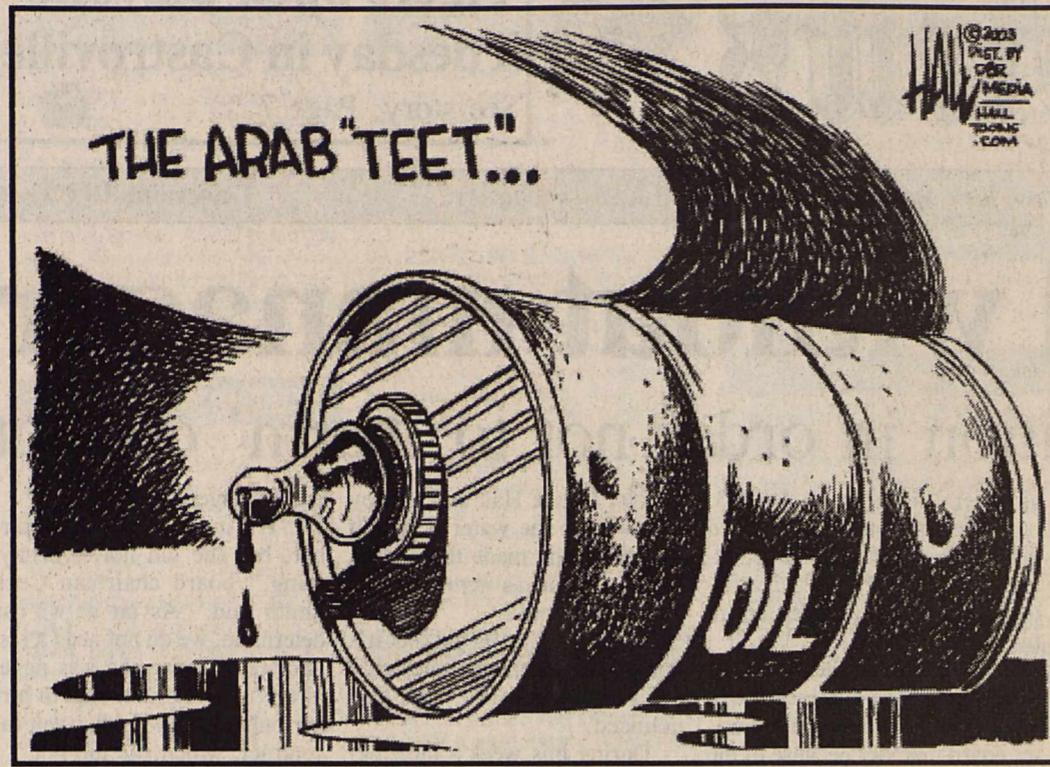
BISD was awarded local value this week by the state Comptroller's Office. Local value saves the district taxpayers approximately \$250,000. **Community/Page 5**

Chuck Hall

I bought an item that required some assembly. Let me stop right here and back up. My wife bought an item that required some assembly. **Lifestyles/Page 6**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Water district is violating the property rights of citizens

K.C. Groundwater Conservation District board members have distributed fliers requesting citizens write letters to legislators in support of the groundwater district. The flier contains inaccurate statements. The water district plan called for ad valorem taxes, paid by all water users in Kinney County. The intention was to protect water rights and regulate water exporters, and protect agriculture.

We are one of a few remaining families in full-time agriculture. We supported formation of this district. Now, like the majority of agriculture producers, we're angry. We're not fighting for rights to market water. We're fighting for agriculture.

Local ag producers are beginning to realize this renegade district has taken our water rights, charging exorbitant fees for registering wells, purchasing meters, and paying for irrigation

water. This has impacted us personally. Twenty-five years ago, we purchased land — 1,000 acres of which was farmland with three irrigation wells. We couldn't afford to farm and used it for grazing. After working extremely hard to make payments, we finished paying for the land in 2001. We planned to grow alfalfa hay. Since we can't show history of pumping in the last 10 years, we cannot use the wells for irrigating alfalfa because we're allowed only 2 acre-feet of water — not enough for this crop. This violates our private property rights and constitutes "taking" our water. The land we finished paying for has been devalued. Existing rules favor "last minute" non-exempt wells drilled as the district rules were being written. Wells that were put into operation during the past year have the opportunity to

Why does fort general manager single out just one dog?

I think this has gotten ridiculous. I received a letter, on my door, from Maggie Kerr last Wednesday, between 2:15 and 2:50 p.m., when I left my house to run errands. The letter reads: "Once again we have had numerous complaints regarding your dog. Once again I am letting you know that your current dog must be removed because of its danger to the neighborhood. Your dog continuously barks and disturbs the neighbors. Your dog needs to be removed from the Fort no later than 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003." First of all, this was the first letter I ever received concerning my dog. Why were my dogs

single out to be removed? What about the other dogs within the neighborhood? Second, what happened to the leash law? My dogs were in a fenced cage at least 50 feet or more away from anybody and could not get out. How were my dogs a danger to the neighborhood? So what if a dog barks? That's how they speak to let you know they need something, something's wrong or if there's trouble about. My dogs don't even bark at the deer or turkey. My dogs bark when they get excited, get provoked, or when someone or a stray they don't know comes in the yard. Dogs need to speak just like people, you can't muzzle them just because you don't

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fort Clark Springs stuck in a 'bureaucratic vicious cycle'

I was told just recently that the Peter's principle says: "We all rise to the level of our incompetence." But I personally think this group of terminal optimists has far exceeded that level by leaps and bounds, and it seems to fit our little group of misfit's like a glove. There is a man named Crozier who wrote about the bureaucratic phenomenon. In it, he outlined what he called the "bureaucratic vicious cycle." Now granted, with my limited education, I didn't totally understand all of what he had to say. He said it has four elements: the impersonality of rules, the centralization of decision, the

strata isolation and the development of parallel power relationships. I found that I like the sound of the "bureaucratic vicious cycle" because it reminded me of our cycle of bureaucratic viciousness by the current administration and general manager. Who, in my opinion, are destroying the fort. Herein lies another topic that needs to be addressed. Maybe we should change the title of "general manager" to just "manager" because the "general" part seems to go straight to some people's heads — filling that very small space with the idea that this gives them the right of "all powerful ruler," when in

General manager deserves a chance to turn fort around

My husband, Dick, and I have been coming to the fort for seven years. Because of the many wonderful people, we are now homeowners and residents of Texas and the fort. I do not ever recall "peace and tranquility" here. I recall a new manager every year, both at the fort and at the golf course. As soon as we would head north for the summer, a group would get together and cause dissention and fire the general manager. I was beginning to wonder why we even bothered to vote. What's wrong with you people? Can't you abide by the vote of the majority for even one year? I applaud Maggie for keeping up her sense of humor. I don't understand how, in the

course of one year, she can be responsible for the downfall of the fort. She would have to be a magician to do that. She hasn't ruined the golf course, it was always dry without much grass. We were told grass couldn't be grown, but proved them wrong by transplanting sod and watching it grow (when it was watered). As a member of the Golf Committee, I must say that this is the first time since we got involved down here that I feel we have a general manager that is working with us trying to better the fort. And the golf course is a very big part of the fort. It's the main reason a lot of people are here. Without it, many of us would leave and then the fort would

Fort is wonderful and doesn't deserve negative publicity

When we had to return to Wisconsin due to serious medical problem of our daughter, we advised our friends of our leaving. We mentioned Lara's ongoing medical problem that she's had for four months and stated that she has exhausted her vacation and medical time off of work, thereby being placed on a leave of absence, with no income. She was referred to a hospital in Chicago, which would add traveling costs for them. After we returned to Wisconsin to assist with family matters, we were informed that our wonderful friends at Fort Clark Springs organized a benefit for our daughter. They advised us that many people volunteered to

assist in their endeavor of kindness. The benefit was held Sunday afternoon with about 250 people attending and they raised almost \$2,000 for our daughter, whom only a few people have met on one of their visits to Fort Clark. We thought it was time that the public found out what a wonderful place Fort Clark Springs can be, and the care and concern people have for each other's needs. Ask anyone, if help is needed, there are always people eager to help each other. Yes, Fort Clark is a wonderful community and it's time all the negativism be stopped. This only hurts the growth. People complain about losing

What goes around eventually comes around, even at FCS

We just received this week's paper with the flyer in it from the Preservation Society. I couldn't believe that there is going to be a proposition on the ballots to remove Tom Saylor. I know we are no longer members of FCS, but I just couldn't hold back. If they, the board, allow this proposition against Tom for the members to vote and decide, then why can't it be put on as a Proposition 3 for the members to decide if they want Maggie Banner Kerr to stay as the manager of FCS? I then read where the Accounting Department has been changed around. I couldn't believe that Genell Hobbs has been put in charge and taken away from the job that she has been doing for over 20

years. She has the knowledge and knows FCS like the back of her hand. And to think that Mrs. Kerr moved her over to the accounting office. What is the matter? Is Mrs. Kerr afraid that Genell will see and hear what is going on in her office? I can believe Carol Miller would want that, but I can't believe that Frank Cheaney, of all people who know and have worked with Genell when she filled in as manager so many times, would allow this. The other five should be ashamed also. I wish, as an ex-member, that some of the people who write letters to the editor against what is going on would have run for the board. I know it would be

Recall vote is a shameful act of cowardice by directors

The recall vote of Director Tom Saylor, decided by the majority of board members, is a shameful act of cowardice. The shiftless individual's responsible for this cowardice act are afraid of losing their power and will obviously resort to sneaky, underhanded methods to keep their grip on that power. Directors Tom Saylor and Mona Miller have worked for the membership and have been physically responsible, unlike the majority of directors who have worked for the general manager. If this majority of directors

is working for membership and want members to decide to keep or remove incumbent directors, then why don't they also include their own names on the recall? That's the way the previous recall was conducted, with all seven directors on the ballot. Now it's just Saylor who is on the ballot. Why? Because, unlike the five directors who were overwhelmingly voted out by the members in the previous recall, Saylor does not pander to the general manager. This recall of Saylor is apparently a last-ditch-effort to try to keep their board majority and

Boy scouts, youth groups deserve support of community

I read a letter given to me by Catherine of the Las Moras Hispanic Organization about a young Boy Scout by the name of Jeff Tipps. Jeff was trying to raise money to complete a scouting project involving renovating the cemetery in Brackettville in honor of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I understand that the scouts were going to put something with red, white and blue around the flag pole. We, the people, should support our youth more than ever since the United States is having hard times. We should help our youth through these hard times so the youth of today has hope of a good future, and believes in their country. Let's not forget that the youth of today may be the leaders of tomorrow. I am donating \$100 to the Scouts of Troop 257, Brackettville, to be used for their cemetery project. Monty Montgomery

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. The Brackett News will not publish letters sent via e-mail. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

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The Brackett News

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Do you have something to say about a local issue? Write a letter to the editor today!

EDITORIAL

What are Groundwater Conservation District officials afraid of?

Once again, a member or members of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors are involved in ethically questionable conduct.

Last Saturday, board member Robert Young spoke at a Fort Clark Community Council meeting concerning keeping local control of the groundwater district. Subsequently, Young distributed flyers entitled "Talking and Writing Points in Support of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District."

Several other board members admitted knowledge of the flyer at Tuesday's regular board meeting. Who wrote this flyer? We would like to know!

Young said during the meeting the district is "protecting farmers and ranchers."

In our opinion, board members involved in spreading this type of propaganda are not protecting or benefiting anyone. They only appear to be in fear of losing some of their influence and power. Are they worried how this might effect their personal gains?

Apparently, Young's actions were prompted by a public notice that ran in the classified section of last week's newspaper. It was a notice of intent to introduce legislature relating to the administration, powers, duties, taxing authority and operation of the district.

The fact is, currently no one, except the writer, knows what will be contained in the bill or how it will effect the district. How can you form an opinion when you don't know what something says?

Young and any others involved are doing exactly what they claim is being done to them — painting a false picture. Although we agree with several points made in the flyer, in our opinion, it is riddled with half-truths and, in some instances, complete falsehoods.

The flyer claims the vast majority of Kinney County farmers and ranchers support the district's efforts to manage groundwater. We have attended almost every board meeting and have yet to see a single farmer speak in favor of the district's rules or fees. The only ranchers we have seen speak in favor of the district were either board members or family members of the same. Both groups could be considered a "vocal minority," as the flyer labels water marketers. However, it is naive to assume the un-vocal majority of residents currently support the district.

The flyer states water marketers, lobbyists and profiteers are attempting, through the legislature, to strip the district of its powers. The truth is, if the district was ran fair and equitable towards all concerned parties, it would benefit the water marketers, residents of this county and every single landowner.

We agree that this issue should have been kept at a local level. However, the board has repeatedly fought any input from farmers, ranchers, water marketers, the Texas Water Development Board and the Agriculture Extension Agency. What would you do when your concerns fall on deaf ears at the local level? You go over their heads!

The flyer also states the district has done nothing unlawful. Unfortunately, that is yet to be determined. With at least two letters currently in the hands of the Attorney General, we will hopefully have those answers in the near future.

In addition, it states that land values, wildlife and agricultural investments would considerably change if the legislature strips the district of its powers.

Counties throughout the state, with or without groundwater districts, have seen little or no change in values due to the rules of a district or usage of groundwater.

Agricultural values, i.e. farmland, is a completely different matter. Due to the current rules and fees of our district, thousands of acres of farmland in our county have already been devalued. The livelihoods of many families will be affected as well.

Before you take it upon yourself to write state officials, we suggest you call their offices. We believe you will be surprised to find out many of the "true farmers and ranchers" have already called or written expressing their concerns.

Don't embarrass yourself by writing a letter about a bill that hasn't been introduced yet. Read the bill, and then form your opinion. At this point, its anyone's guess whether it will be beneficial or detrimental to the district.

If and when the bill is introduced, *The Brackett News* will publish all information pertaining to our district. If space is available, we will publish the bill in its entirety.

Hoping a dream will come true

I sit and wait. Feb 15 is all I have been able to think about for the longest time. That is the day when I will get a letter saying if I will or if I will not be able to embark on a journey of a lifetime.



Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

I wrote an essay to a Texas ambassador program and, if selected out of the many who applied, I will be able to embark on an exciting trip to China. What a thrill it would be to go and see the Great Wall of China, eat some true Chinese food, and stand on foreign soil. I have never been out of the country. The greatest thing is it's expense-free. The whole thing would be paid for, and I would learn so much! Everyday, when the time to sit and think is offered, I day-dream about going to China, seeing the places, the people, and hearing the language. What an adventure! Every night I pray to be picked to go, and I get excited when the thought of how wonderful it is comes to mind.

The possibilities of me making it are very slim, but I love imagining it. I have not won many things in my life. If I don't get picked I will survive, I always have, but I hope I am.

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2323A	2000 Chevy S10 Ext. Cab	\$11,475
2170A	2000 Nissan Frontier KC	\$10,850
1402BB	1998 Chevy. 2500 Ext. Cab	\$15,475
2009B	2000 Nissan Frontier CC	\$14,875
1971A	1999 Nissan Frontier KC	\$10,975
1640A	2002 Ford F150 SC XLT	\$19,975
2192A	2001 Chevy. Ext. Cab LS	\$20,575
2346B	2002 GMC 2500 CC DSL	\$33,195
P1711A	2002 GMC Ext. Cab SLE	\$22,475
2258A	1999 Ford F250 XLT SC	\$16,875
P7212	2000 Ford F250 DSL XLT	\$22,375
P7111A	1998 Ford F150 XLT SC	\$14,575
1839BB	2002 Chevy S10 RC	\$11,875

Car's

2263A	2002 GMC Ext. Cab SLE	\$22,375
2262A	1997 GMC Ext. Cab SLE	\$12,475
2029A	1997 Ford F-350 XLT CC	\$9,950
2351A	2001 GMC Ext. Cab SLE Z-71	\$22,475
2284B	2000 Dodge Ram 1500 Club Cab	\$15,375
P7143A	2001 GMC Sierra SL	\$14,475
P7228	2003 Buick Century	\$16,495
2377A	1998 Geo Metro	\$6,475
1065A	1999 Nissan Maxima GXE	\$14,975
2156A	2000 Chevrolet Impala	\$13,475
1754C	1999 Chevrolet Malibu	\$8,995
2350B	2001 Pontiac Grand Am SE	\$11,475
2277A	2000 Cadillac Deville	\$23,475
2337A	1999 Towncar Signature	\$17,750
P7049	2001 Mitsubishi Galant	\$12,475
P6994	2001 Pontiac Sunfire SE	\$6,950
2142A	2000 Firebird Ram Air	\$24,475
1215A	1999 Cadillac Deville	\$17,575
2185A	2003 Cadillac CTS	\$33,475
P7179	2001 Pontiac Bonneville SE	\$15,475
2270B	1997 Pontiac Gd. Prix Coupe	\$8,975
2276A	1999 Chevy Tahoe LS	\$16,475
P7138	2002 Chevy Trailblazer LS	\$21,275
1563A	2002 GMC Envoy SLE	\$24,550
P7160	2000 Chevy Blazer LS	\$14,575
P7156	2002 Montero Sport	\$19,475
2128A	1999 Jeep Wrangler Sahara	\$18,375
1214B	2000 GMC Yukon XL	\$25,425
2217A	2000 Nissan Pathfinder SE	\$22,475
P7144A	1999 Chevy Tahoe LS	\$18,475
2315A	1999 Chev. Suburban LS	\$14,800
2268A	2001 GMC Yukon XL	\$26,875
1915A	1999 GMC Sub. SLE	\$16,475
2342A	1998 Ford Expedition Leather	\$15,575
1109A	2001 GMC Yukon SLT	\$26,475
2317A	1999 Montero Sport	\$13,475
1402C	2000 Chevy. Blazer LS	\$12,995

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Seven candidates seek seats on FCSA board



Meet the candidates

Fort Clark Springs members packed the Post Theater Saturday as the Community Council hosted a forum for the seven candidates seeking seats on the Board of Directors.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

■ Continued from Page 1
to a lot of information. That's when I would like to give you a proposal for how to solve our problems," she said. "I am a blank slate. I am open to anyone's viewpoints, as long as they are facts."

Brandt moved to Fort Clark 18 years ago. He works for the U.S. Border Patrol as a senior field operations supervisor at the Del Rio Station.

Brandt said he has "over 25 years of business management and financial responsibility. Having owned and operated a business of my own, I understand cash flow, financial statements and budgets."

He discussed declining membership and the many facilities that need attention, such as the pool, golf course and the roads.

"The fort didn't have enough money to pay its taxes," Brandt said. "The board members are

responsible for the financial well-being of Fort Clark Springs.

"We must look forward to the future. We must begin to financially rebuild. I would like to see Fort Clark Springs return to the financially-secure association it once was."

Reyna is retired from the U.S. Marine Corps and has worked in business for over 28 years. He has been a Fort Clark Springs member for over 25 years and a resident of the fort for over 10 years.

"I want to help get the fort back on its feet with financial stability," he said.

Reyna suggested increasing revenue through advertising and making better use of the golf course and the airfield.

"We need to encourage tourism, encourage people coming in and encourage money coming in," he said. "By bringing in revenue, we can provide more

services for less money.

"We have not had a financial statement since September," Reyna said. "How can we approve a budget when we don't even know how much money we have coming in or going out? We don't even know where we stand. Who would go out and spend money without knowing what you had in your pocket-book?"

Gray-Partlow grew up in Eagle Pass. She taught school for 33 years and operated the family farm for 13 years.

She used the farm to pursue other business ventures, such as dedicating 27 acres of land for an 80-unit mobile home park and developing a website to market pecan sales.

If elected, Gray-Partlow said she would bring ideas and energy to the fort and increase revenues through advertising and exposure on the Internet.

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REGARDING THE
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ANNUAL ELECTION**

The current election is critical to the future of Fort Clark Springs Association, Inc. (FCSA). It is time to send a signal that the membership of FCSA will not tolerate the manipulation of its Board of Directors and membership in general by a minority group of board members. The administration of FCSA through its duly elected board is vital to the economic health of this organization. FCSA should be operated and administered under sound business practices to the benefit of all its members. In keeping with this principle it is strongly recommended that the membership of FCSA cast their ballots in the current election as follows:

Board of Directors

The following individuals will be a strong addition to the FCSA Board of Directors and help provide the stability that is vital to the future of our Association.

Please Vote For:
**Ruth A. King;
Mary W. Gray-Partlow; and
Wylie Simmons**

Proposition #1

Vote YES for Proposition #1: Support of this proposition will provide vital funding to maintain and improve existing facilities without any additional expense to the membership.

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**Find all of the latest Fort Clark Springs Association
news every week right here in The Brackett News!**

Decision saves taxpayers \$250,000

BISD was awarded local value this week by the state Comptroller's Office. Local value saves the district taxpayers approximately \$250,000 that would be lost if the decision had been state value.



Making A Difference

Taylor Stephenson

Texas state law requires taxes to be appraised at 95 percent of the actual value. Appraisals are determined yearly through the hard working staff at the local tax office in compliance with statute. Employees of the state Comptroller's Office check appraisals to determine compliance.

The state informed Chief Appraiser Bill Haenn that the appraisals met the acid test and were within the 95 percent in the ratio study.

School district officials are elated. Thanks for a job well done to the Kinney County Appraisal District, Bill Haenn, Liz Luna, Gene Slate, and to the board that includes Tom Ertle, Mike Holley, Wes Robinson, Richard Slubar and Tim Ward.

Student Recognition
Jared Hobbs and Jeff Tipps were recognized Monday night by the School Board.

Jared was named Academic

All-State honorable mention in football. He has been a fine athlete, scholar and leader in the BHS athletic program for the past four years.

Jeff was recognized for being awarded a first-division rating on a tenor saxophone solo. Because it was a Class I (most difficult) solo, he will go to the state solo-and-ensemble contest later in the spring.

It has been many years since BHS has had a student qualify for state. Congratulations Jeff.

Lydia Tipps, Jeff's mom, who loves the band and has been a strong supporter for years, was in attendance at the board meeting.

Yasmin Pena earned a first-division rating on her Class III

flute solo. We're proud of you Yasmin!

BHS Sports

Congratulations to the boy's basketball teams. Coach Charlie Marquardt's varsity boys earned a second-place finish in district and will enter the playoffs early next Tuesday. The J.V. boys' team and Coach Ken Wallace are undefeated in district play (6-0) going into the last game. We're proud of these successes.

Thanks to the Booster Club for providing the beautiful new scorer's table in the gym for basketball. It is a fine addition to the gym. Also, the track and tennis teams will have a tent to protect athletes from sun in these athletic events.

Have a great week.

OBITUARY

Lina Falcon

Lina Falcon, age 29, passed away Feb. 5, 2003, in Gainesville, Ga. She was born May 25, 1973, in Del Rio.

Falcon was preceded in death by her grandparents: Nicolas Falcon Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Camilo Cruz Sr.

She is survived by her parents: Juan Ramon Falcon Sr. and Romona Falcon of Gainesville, Ga., son: Pedro Abrego III, son of Pedro Abrego Jr. of Del Rio; daughter: Anisah Briana Redd, daughter of fiance Fred Redd; brother: Sgt. Juan Ramon Falcon Jr. and wife Ira of Brackettville; sister: Mary Falcon and fiance Michael A. Proulx of Brackettville; nephews: Nathan Dee Pearson, Jaleel Proulx and Michael A. Proulx Jr.; nieces: Dezrey Amari Falcon and Karissa Monique Falcon; grandmother: Maria Antonia Falcon of Brackettville; and



numerous aunts, uncles and cousins and a host of friends.

A Mass of Christian burial was held Monday at St. Mary of Magdalene Catholic Church in Brackettville.

Pallbearers were Juan Ramon Falcon Jr., Rene Rodriguez, Esteban Jarez, Jose Fernando Castillo, Michael Falcon Sr., Frank Rodriguez, David Reyes and Robert Camillo Franklin.

Bridge design contest offers scholarships

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative has announced an innovative bridge design contest in which students can receive valuable scholarships. The contest is being sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The second annual West Point Bridge Design Contest is a realistic, internet based, hands-on competition for middle and high school students, designed to develop excitement and interest in engineering activities.

The contest is specifically aimed at promoting math, science, and technology education in U.S. middle and secondary schools. Contest participants must be at least 13 years old at the time of registration and must

be enrolled in middle school or high school in the US. The qualifying round of the free contest runs through April 10.

For more information or to download the software go to <http://bridgecontest.usma.edu>.

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, Feb. 3

6:32 a.m., A man reported a one-vehicle roll-over on Highway 90, just east of Brackettville. No injuries were reported.

3:07 p.m., A woman reported a break-in at her residence on W. Edwards Street.

12:55 p.m., An employee at Bubba's Beverage Barn said a man was harassing her at work.

6:30 p.m., A man reported trash all over F.M. 1572.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

12:20 p.m., A 911 caller reported that a tractor trailer was dropping rock on Highway 90.

8:35 p.m., A man requested help with fixing a flat tire on his vehicle. He was on Highway 90, about 3 miles east of Brackettville.

8:37 p.m., A Del Rio woman reported a possible juvenile kidnapping from the H.E.B. parking lot in Del Rio. The juvenile was later found at the Pico in Brackettville.

Wednesday, Feb. 5

11 a.m., Miguel Beltran Alvarado, 36, of Acuna, Mexico, was arrested by DPS Trooper Tony Ashley on outstanding DPS warrants. He was released the next day for time served.

2:53 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported a minor vehicle accident on Sims Road.

6:49 p.m., A man reported a bale of hay on Highway 90, east of Brackettville near the Cline checkpoint. The Texas Department of Transportation was notified of the situation.

Thursday, Feb. 6

8:45 a.m., A man reported that someone vandalized his porch with oil and chalk at the Senior Apartments.

Friday, Feb. 7

2:45 a.m., A 911 caller reported that his mobile home, south of Brackettville on Highway 3348, was on fire. EMS was dispatched to the scene.

8:39 a.m., A Texas Department of Transportation employee called to report a one-vehicle accident on Highway 90, east of Brackettville. No injuries were reported.

10:30 a.m., A caller reported a travel trailer roll-over on Highway 90, east of Brackettville.

3:45 p.m., A 911 call reported a black pickup truck speeding. Deputy Michael Schaefer was notified of the situation.

6:14 p.m., A man reported that he had lost his wallet.

Saturday, Feb. 8

3:30 p.m., A Stop N Shop employee reported that a purse had been stolen.

7:05 p.m., A woman reported a vehicle speeding in Brackettville.

Sunday, Feb. 9

4:40 a.m., A U.S. Border Patrol agent requested DPS assistance for a vehicle with an intoxicated driver and passengers.

6:17 a.m., Leija Hector Gerardo Sandoval, 18, and Willie Lopez, 17, of Eagle Pass, and Saucedo Hector Mondragon, 17, of San Antonio were arrested by DPS Troopers Tully Welch and Marcos Hernandez for public intoxication. The three men were released the next day after paying fines.

6:30 a.m., Brenda Garcia, 17, and Lucero Mendez, 19, both of Eagle Pass, were arrested by DPS Troopers Welch and Hernandez. Garcia was charged with driving while intoxicated, first offense, and Mendez was charged with public intoxication. Both women were transported to the Wackenhut Correctional Facility in Del Rio.

6:56 p.m., A caller reported a water leak behind the school. A city employee was notified of the situation.

10:56 p.m., A woman reported that she found a light on in her house on Ann street.

BRIEFS

Sadie Hawkins Dance is on Monday

The Sadie Hawkins Dinner and Dance at 6 p.m. will be held on Monday at the Fort Clark Springs' Post Theater. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Fort Clark Springs Festival.

Sadie Hawkins is a cartoon character from the Al Capps' cartoon of "Lil' Abner." In the cartoon, Sadie was not a very attractive gal, so her daddy, Pappy Yoakum, came up with the idea of a Sadie Hawkins' dance, whereby Sadie could ask a fella to come. He thought it might give Sadie a chance to have a date every once in awhile.

A prize will be awarded for the best character costume. Shmoo Stew and Kickapoo Joy Juice will be served. Tickets for the fundraiser are \$7 and can be purchased at the Fort Adult Center and RV Park, or by calling Charlene Simmons at 563-3070.

Christian concert set for Saturday

The Robbie Seay Band will perform Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Brackett High School Auditorium. The concert is being sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Admission will be \$1. All ages are welcome.

Support group meets tonight at fort

The Fibro-Myalgia Support Group will be meeting tonight at 7 at the Adult Center on Fort Clark Springs. The group will be meeting once a month at night and also once a month during the day. Family and friends are welcome. For more information, call Flo at 563-9666 or Elaine at 563-3678.

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Exchange student's family makes visit for 18th birthday celebration

By Frances McMaster
Contributing Writer

When Rotary International foreign exchange student Maarten Vos arrived in Brackettville, the local club realized he was a friendly, attractive and self-confident young man.

Club members felt proud and pleased to be his sponsor, enabling him to spend a year here in the United States, especially in Brackettville.

Good deeds often bring positive returns, and at last week's meeting, the club reaped an unexpected reward.

Maarten's mother, Marianne Vos-Vester, and his older brother, Reinout, flew to the states from the Netherlands. They came here to help Maarten celebrate his 18th birthday and attended the Rotary meeting.

Maarten explained that Vester is his mother's maiden name, and that in the Netherlands, the two names are linked in this manner.

Brackett Superintendent Taylor Stephenson opened the discussion by commenting about how well Maarten has adjusted to school and how popular he is with his fellow students.

Stephenson asked Vos-Vester about Rotary in Holland. She replied that Maarten's father is a Rotarian, and she has been in charge of fund-raising projects for the Rotary Club, which has 62 members, both male and female.

Vos-Vester recently headed the club's Highland Games Project. Companies pay an entry fee to sponsor game competitors, and this raised \$30,000. Matching funds from Rotary International meant that a \$60,000 contribution was given to Polio Plus, a project aimed at finishing the eradication of polio in the world. The club also sponsors an exchange student each year.

Vos-Vester has also been in charge of an event given every five years in the historic port of Amsterdam. Over 120 tall sail-

ing ships, along with 2,000 huge ships and many small, privately owned vessels from all over the world, gather in Amsterdam.

Visitors come to see Amsterdam's historic places and to see the ships. Some 4 million people are involved. It is the biggest event in the Netherlands and cost some \$30 million to stage, but brings in much more to Amsterdam, she commented.

Vos-Vester exclaimed that she loved the United States and that Americans have a "beautiful nature and are so good."

She expressed special gratitude to the host families with whom Maarten has stayed during his visit, and declared that they have become like family to her also.

She particularly complimented Bill Haenn, who is chairman of the Foreign Student Project and has been very involved with Maarten.

Reinout Vos is a 20-year-old student at the High Economics University of Amsterdam, studying economics and labor law.

Maarten will be entering the High University of Amsterdam next year and plans to go into sports medicine.

Vos-Vester presented a gift to Haenn of two streamers that are memorabilia from the 50th anniversary of D-Day. Each is 7-inches wide and 1-yard long. The top 4½ inches consists of narrow red and white stripes; the bottom is a 2½-inch stripe of cobalt blue.

Printed on one streamer is "1945 to 1995." On the second is printed "29th Div. Ass. U.S.A." She then told the history of these streamers.

Haenn, a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, received this gift with deep appreciation and added that he had worked with the 29th Division.

"I think this was meant to be," Vos-Vester said.

At a time when the United States stands on the brink of a possible war, her talk was particularly poignant, and both Vos-Vester and Rotary members were deeply moved.

A family visit

Photo by Bill Haenn

Rotary International exchange student Maarten Vos (right) attended last week's Brackettville Rotary Club meeting at Las Moras Restaurant with his brother, Reinout (left), and mother, Marianne, who were visiting from the Netherlands. Maarten turned 18 last week.

THANK YOU

WE WISH TO THANK THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE AT FORT CLARK SPRINGS FOR THE MEDICAL BENEFIT FOR LARA HINES & FAMILY. WE THANK THE ORGANIZERS OF THE EVENT. WE THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO DONATED REFRESHMENTS, BAKED GOODS, RAFFLE ITEMS AND MUSICAL TALENT. WE THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED THE BENEFIT TO HELP MAKE IT A HUGE SUCCESS

KEN & RUTH SPENCER, JIM & LARA HINES & FAMILY

We were truly amazed at the event and the results. Our daughter is still in Chicago Hospital, but has sounded pretty good the last two nights. Ken & I will go there again this weekend to be with her. Grandpa & Grandma need a little rest from two active grandchildren. Although, we are happy to help out that is for sure and the kids are good—so that helps.

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Helpful hints for needy times

Today's features are helps for special times or needs. We all need help sometime.

The first is useful when you're going to feed a big crowd and want to serve a nourishing meal. The other one is a guide given by a husband.

Elephant Stew

You have to plan ahead. Cut a medium-size elephant into small bite-size pieces — this usually takes about 2 months. Add enough brown gravy to cover. Cook over fire in open pot for about four weeks, maintaining 465 degrees. This will serve 3,862 people.

If more are expected, two rabbits may be added, but do this only if necessary. Most people don't like to find hare in their stew.

Here is how to heat a can of beans:

1. Open with electric can opener. Leave can top on magnetic part; do not put in garbage. Do not wipe up dribbles.
2. Pick pan 10 times larger to heat beans in.
3. Place on smallest burner.
4. Heat at highest temperature, being sure that some beans are scorched onto the bottom of pan.
5. When doling out portions, dribble a path between pan and plate. Do not clean up dribbles yourself. If they must be cleaned, let the dog or cat lick them up.
6. Leave the entire cotton-picking mess for wife to clean.
7. As soon as wife returns, complain about your having to "slave" in the kitchen to fix yourself something to eat.

Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

Read The Brackett News to find out about all of the the latest news in Kinney County!

Who writes instructions?

On a trip to San Antonio, I bought an item that required some assembly. Let me stop right here and back up. My wife bought an item that required some assembly. And I'll be fair right from the start — she did do her fair share of assembling.

The instructions were inside the box, naturally, so I opened it up to get started.

Step No. 1: "Open box and read instructions." How am I supposed to get to this step?

Step No. 2: "Check all parts." Notice that no tools are required. High quality tools are provided in this kit. My grandson plays with plastic tools of higher quality!

Step No. 3: "Take off pants, put them on your body where a shirt usually goes. Cross your arms, crawl into the washing machine and practice making a Jacob's ladder behind your back." This step wasn't really included, but it should have been. It would have helped immensely in developing the manual dexterity needed to complete the rest of the instructions.

After trying to find how part 32R attached to part AF51 (see accompanying photo No. 43B on Page 241), I decided I am not mechanically inclined.

After throwing tools, losing parts, using baling wire, issuing mild oaths, scraping knuckles, busing shins, I managed to get the darned thing together.

I was proud of myself. It did not look exactly like the picture on the box, but they're not supposed to.

But I could be wrong.

Chuck Hall

DAR deems history forum a success

Leaders of the Daughters of the Republic have deemed the group's annual Texas History Forum a success.

Local Caddell-Smith Chapter members and guests attending were Mary Dale and Jerry Brewer, Janet Capen, Bea and Alan Carmichael, Virginia Davis, Bernie Dishman, Lora B. Garrison, Beth Hiler, Francis Karasek, Nadine Lasiter, Pat McKelvy, Phyllis McNelly and Louise Stone.

Earlier in the week, the Texas Historical Commission, celebrating its 50th anniversary, tipped its hat to the DRT. Commission members were in San Antonio for several days attending their quarterly meeting.

While in San Antonio, Texas Historical Commission officials presented the DRT, custodians of the Alamo, an award of merit at the shrine.

The commission has "had a hand in state preservation for five decades," he continued.

Among its achievements is the historical marker project, which has placed more than 12,000 markers around the state — more than in any other state; the Main Street program, which revitalizes downtown and historic districts; and a courthouse preservation program, which has funded the restoration of county courthouses in Texas.

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<p>SEALY Stockton</p> <p>\$447</p> <p>Queen 2 Pc. Set</p> <p>Twin Ea. Pc.....\$147</p> <p>Full Ea. Pc.....\$197</p> <p>King 3-Pc.set.....\$577</p>	<p>SEALY POSTUREPEDIC Unison Firm, Plush or Pillowtop</p> <p>\$597</p> <p>Queen 2 Pc. Set</p> <p>Twin Ea. Pc.....\$227</p> <p>Full Ea. Pc.....\$267</p> <p>King 3-Pc.set.....\$847</p>

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Tigers open playoffs Tuesday

Brackett secures second place with win over Natalia

Brackett exploded in the third quarter to pull past Natalia Friday as the Tigers clinched second place in district with a 51-42 win over the Mustangs.

The Tigers (14-8, 8-2) open the playoffs Tuesday with a 7:30 contest against Nixon-Smilee at Medina Valley High School in Castroville.

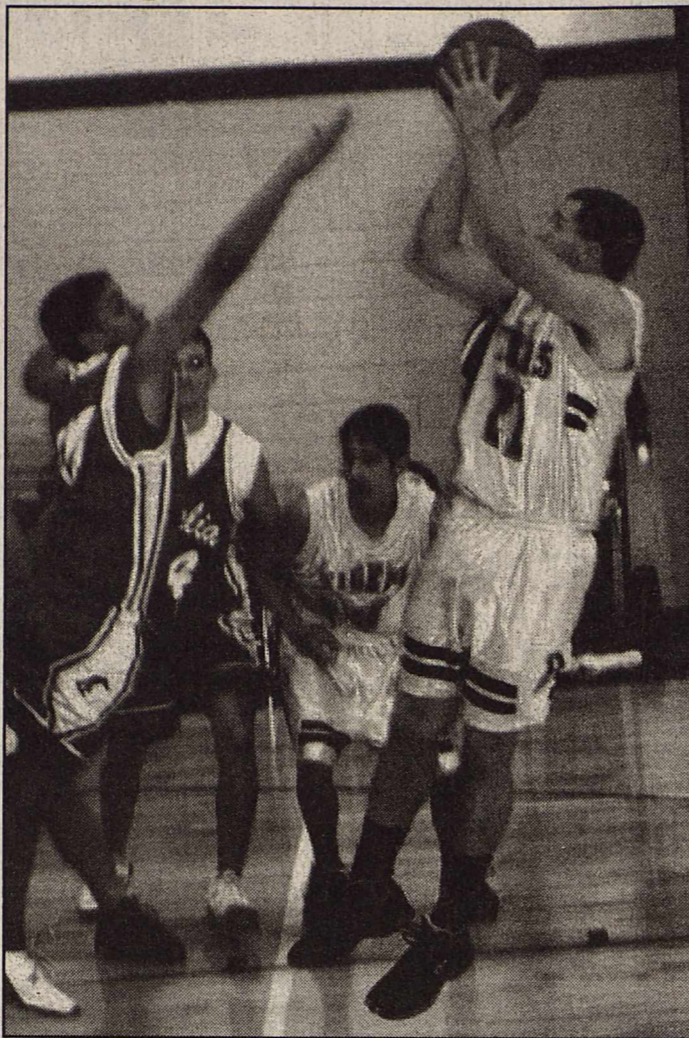
On Friday, Brackett fell behind early, but used a strong second half to secure the win.

"We lacked intensity at the beginning of the game and gave Natalia the confidence to make it tough on us," Tigers coach Charlie Marquardt said. "Our effort in the second half was much better than the first half."

Brackett was trailing by two midway through the third quarter before exploding with a 10-point run. Charlie Slaughter capped the spurt with a 3-pointer at the 2:57 mark for a 39-31 lead.

Jared Hobbs hit a fade-away jumper in the lane and Slaughter added a free throw with 6:44 remaining to give the Tigers their biggest lead of the contest at 44-33.

Hobbs led Brackett with 21 points and six rebounds. Slaughter also finished in double digits with a 10-point performance.



Two points Photo by Javier Cervantez
Tigers forward Jared Hobbs sinks a fade-away jumper in the paint during Friday's 51-42 win over Natalia.

Natalia pulled within six late as Frankie Argenal hit a trey and Paul Ramsay sank a turn-around jumper, but the Tigers iced the win as Slaughter and Boyd Brotherton each hit a free throw in the last 29 seconds.

Philip Munoz finished with six points for Brackett, Dietrich Davis had five points and five blocked shots, Brotherton scored five, and Jesse Davis

pitched in four points and six boards.

Last Tuesday, Brackett outscored Freer 24-10 in the fourth quarter as the Tigers claimed a 57-47 win on the road.

Hobbs had 21 points for BHS,

while Slaughter scored 12.

Jesse Davis finished with nine points and seven rebounds, Brotherton and Munoz both scored seven points and Dietrich Davis added one point. Brotherton also grabbed six boards.

J.V. Tigers slip by Mustangs for 52-47 win

Brackett had four players score in double figures Friday as the Tigers claimed a 52-47 victory over Natalia in junior varsity basketball action.

With the win, Brackett improves to 11-3 overall and 5-0 in district play. "Our balanced score was the

key to this victory," Tigers coach Ken Wallace said. "We had four players reach double digits and that is very difficult to defend."

"We hit 8 out of 10 free throws in the fourth quarter to iced the victory. Kody Yeager went 4 for 4 from the line in the

fourth," he added.

Travis Nowlin paced Brackett with 12 points, while Yeager, Tony Rosetti and Oscar Sierra all had 10 points apiece. Tillman Davis finished with four points, Brand Wylie scored three, Rolando Ortiz had two and Clyde Adams added one.

Order of Election

An election is hereby ordered to be held on May 3, 2003 for the purpose of Board of Trustees Election. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Central Office-Brackett Independent School District between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning on April 16, 2003 and ending on April 29, 2003.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

Susan Esparza, Early Voting Clerk
PO Box 586
Brackettville, Texas 78832

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 25, 2003. Issued this the 10th day of February, 2003.

Dixie Brown
Signature of Presiding Officer

Orden De Eleccion

Por la presente se ordena que se llevara a cabo una eleccion el 3 de mayo, 2003 con el proposito de:

Eleccion de la mesa Directiva

La votacion en adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en oficina central-Brackett Independent School District entre las 8:00 de la manana y las 4:00 de la tarde empezando el 16 de abril, 2003 y terminando el 29 de abril, 2003.

La votacion en adelantada ademas se llevara a cabo de tal manera:

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a:

Susan Esparza, Early Voting Clerk
PO Box 586
Brackettville, TX 78832

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el 25 de abril, 2003. Emitida este dia 10 de Febrero, 2003

Dixie Brown
Firma del Oficial Que Preside

Please act NOW before it's too late

IN SUPPORT OF Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District

Dear Senator _____

Dear Representative _____

I am a citizen/property owner in Kinney County. I completely support my local groundwater conversation district. I do not want local control to be taken away. Like all other areas of the state, this issue must be kept at the local level with the majority of the people it effects making the decisions. Please help preserve local control for all Texans.

- Eighty-eight percent of voting Kinney County residents voted in favor of the creation of our groundwater conservation district and to tax ourselves.
- The vast majority of Kinney County citizens, farmers and ranchers continue to support the District's efforts to manage our groundwater resources for all users.
- Groundwater is the principal water resource in Kinney County.
- The District has adopted rules that positively promote sound water management.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THIS IS TO give notice of intent to introduce in the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, a bill to be entitled "an Act relating to the administration, powers, duties, taxing authority and operation of the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District and the development and management of groundwater resources within Kinney County."

This was published in The Brackett News, Thursday, February 6, 2003. I do not want this!

Respectfully submitted,

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| The Honorable Timoteo Garza
Texas House of Representatives
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Austin, Texas 78768-2910 | The Honorable Frank Madla
Texas Senate
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Austin, Texas 78711 |
| The Honorable Ken Armbrister
Texas Senate
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711 | The Honorable Robert Puente
Texas House of Representatives
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Austin, Texas 78768-2910 |
| The Honorable Mike Jackson
Texas Senate
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711 | The Honorable Robert L. "Robby" Cook
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
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| The Honorable Gonzalo Barrientos
Texas Senate
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS	smashed	DOWN	30 Earring spots
1 Part of the S.A. coast	36 Period school: abbr.	1 Type of school: abbr.	31 Author of Around the World in Eighty Days
6 Otherwise	41 V	2 Item on a dog tag	32 Formed a curve
10 Make a mess	42 Foreigner	3 Boring companion	33 Grabs
14 Printer's mark	43 Dagger	4 Make a boo-boo	35 Like a derisive remark
15 Secular	44 Make a boo-boo	4 Diagnostic test, for short	38 Knight's page
16 Word with dead or head	45 Frees	5 Unchanging	39 Mixture of this & that
17 Señorita's confidante	46 Breaks a traffic law	6 Fill with joy	40 Bewildered
18 Self-confidence	48 African plant	7 Whip	46 Droop
20 Timetable abbr.	49 Prefix for phrase or legal	8 Abby, to Ann	47 Like better
21 Los dos, in the U.S.	50 Upright stone slab	9 Old French coin	48 Cathedral feature
23 Opposite of exit	53 Showing good judgment	10 Inclination	49 Histories
24 Medieval, spelled media-ally	54 Filled one's tummy	11 Dryer residue	50 Striker's opposite
25 Float	57 Parts of a formal attire	12 Tale opener	51 Sound
27 Pressed a type-writer's bar	60 Doomed	13 Nobleman	52 Comfort
30 Company emblem	62 Handle: Lat.	19 Turn over a new leaf	53 Moved smoothly
31 Storage container	63 Flutter	22 Eccentric	54 Rat
34 Meaty connotation	64 Antelope	24 Eight: Sp.	55 Nomad's home
35 Not	65 Beverage	25 Sign of spring	56 Nelson
	66 Cincinnati	26 Grows gray	58 Continent: abbr.
	67 Deceitful: slang	27 Push	59 du Diable
		28 Dad, humorously	61 So. state
		29 Garden bloom	

Trivia Time Answers (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.
 1. Beverly Hills; 2. "The Book of Questions"; 3. "Who Framed Roger Rabbit"; 4. Two; 5. "Planes, Trains and Automobiles"; 6. Disney University; 7. Jesse Jackson; 8. Frank Zappa; 9. Chrysler; 10. Nickel

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: **WELL-KNOWN U.S. CITIES**

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

Trivia Time by Walter Branch

1. What soprano dubbed herself "the Beatles of opera"?
2. What book asked the question: "Baby, would you be willing to eat a bowl of live crickets for \$40,000"?
3. What movie featured cameo appearances by Tweety Bird, Betty Boop and Dumbo?
4. How many of Ronald Reagan's children were mothered by Nancy?
5. What Steve Martin movie mentions three types of transport in its title?
6. What amusement park university did General Electric and General Motors executives attend to learn motivation techniques?
7. Whom did New York Mayor Ed Koch say Jews would be "crazy" to back for president in 1988?
8. Whose album featured Senator Fritz Hollings' plea for a "constitutional" way of banning porn-rock?
9. What automaker nixed \$7 million worth of advertising from the TV miniseries, "Amerika"?
10. What metal in jewelry is the most common cause of skin allergies?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Feb. 13.....Alfred Pena, Jr. | Feb. 16.....Roxie Brown |
| Feb. 14.....Dora Goodloe | Feb. 16.....Dorothy Wood |
| Feb. 14.....Dolores Jones | Feb. 17.....Carol Dimery |
| Feb. 14.....Hector Luna | Feb. 17.....Elton Goodloe |
| Feb. 14.....Jack Shram | Feb. 17.....Rochelle Mellen |
| Feb. 14.....Shirley Stephenson | Feb. 17.....Basilio Pacheco |
| Feb. 14.....Frances Testman | Feb. 17.....Renae M. Pena |
| Feb. 15.....J.B. Herndon | Feb. 17.....Ernesto Ortiz |
| Feb. 15.....Virginia Shahan | Feb. 18.....Irene Braun |
| Feb. 19.....Reggie Pena | |

ZODIAC SCOPES

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The news you've been waiting for arrives midweek. However, don't jump on it right away. Mull over your options first.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You successfully bring a project to fruition. However, right behind it comes another one. Apply yourself and all goes well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your social life takes an upturn toward the latter part of the week. Be sure, though, work is completed first. In the process, try not to rush anything.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Follow the various twists and turns a work project leads you on. While there are some surprises, the end result is a good one. Over the weekend, time alone is good for couples.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) It's time to spiff up your wardrobe. You might also want to make some changes to your physical appearance. Perhaps a new haircut is just the solution.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You feel comfortable in your everyday routine this week. This gives you a sense of safety. Later in the week, avoid a potential argument with a friend.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You express yourself well this week. Thus, you have just the right words to smooth a friend's ruffled feelings. This weekend, use caution while driving.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some find themselves shopping for a big-ticket item for the home. Check out all the competitors before making a decision. You need to get the most for your money.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Recreational interests are first and foremost in your mind this week. Some are able to take a mini-vacation. Later in the week, work beckons.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) It's a good idea to go on the charm offensive at work this week. Bigwigs in particular need some complimentary words. Over the weekend, keep a handle on your ego.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A disturbing phone call haunts you early in the week. However, all eventually turns out well. Try not to let this throw you too far off track.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your checkbook is in a bit of a mess. Take some time to straighten things out. If need be, seek the advice of an expert.

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Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Anaheim	11. Manchester
2. Anchorage	12. Miami
3. Baltimore	13. New Orleans
4. Chicago	14. Orlando
5. Dallas	15. Portland
6. Duluth	16. Reno
7. Hilo	17. Salem
8. Kokomo	18. Seattle
9. Las Vegas	19. Spokane
10. Los Angeles	20. Tucson

A greater understanding can increase your motivation and desire for change

My question for this week is: How many lives have you loved so far?

No, I'm not talking reincarnation here! Well, not the Shirley Maclaine type anyway, where the soul returns after physical death to live in a new body, over and over again. I firmly believe that you can live several completely different lives in a single lifetime, however.

Take me for an example. I was born in 1943 and, until 1962, I lived at home with my parents, under their guidance and control.

In 1964, I married for the first time, creating a new life that lasted 21 years. A life much different than the first.

In 1986, I married a second time and I took into this new life the knowledge of what did and did not work in the first marriage. Armed with this knowledge, I once again became a new and different person than in the

first or second life. I found out that I had the ability to reinvent myself, keeping only the good and discarding the undesirable.

In 1992, that life ended and I started a fourth new life by moving to Brackettville and becoming the marshal of Alamo Village — a life that lasted for eight wonderful years.

Early in 2000, I left Alamo Village to become the pastor of the Frontier Baptist Church. Even though, I had been baptized back in October 1976, I never enjoyed a completely satisfying relationship with God Almighty, until I began to diligently study his word, pray and preach.

I can honestly say, that I loved a life totally different than any of my other lives until I remarried for the third time in 2002. For the first time, the life that I live today is an extension of the last. All the other times, I brought basically nothing of the



Frontier Baptist Church

Rev. Dave Crowe

marital change or a vocational change to prompt you to make life altering changes.

There are many people that I know personally who possess a vision of personal evolution that somehow lack the will to make it happen.

It's important to remember that sometimes we do have the power to change, but like so many others we can change only with God's help.

Let me close by saying that a greater understanding can increase your motivation for change.

There are at least three things we need to do. First, acquire a deeper self-knowledge that can lead to self-acceptance and even self-love. Second, simply to face the truth about who we are and our behavior. Thirdly, to identify our behavior patterns so that we can surrender them to God, so that he can make important changes to us.

old into the new.

If you'll stop and think about it, you more than likely have had somewhat the same experience. Because of the metamorphosing that we do as we go through life, we are constantly undergoing a rejuvenescence and reinvigorating conditioning or reconditioning.

Where am I going with all of this? Remember last week, when I said that you could become a different kind of person with a new sense of serenity and love, and a new kind of humility and new kind of openness?

You can do this at anytime. You don't need to wait for a

The best valentine of all is the chance to be truly heard

Valentine's Day. What a good time to share something about developing emotionally close relationships.

More than anything else, the one thing people want is to be heard. It's the magnet that draws people to one another, keeps them coming back and holds relationships together.

When we were involved in Marriage Encounter, active listening was one of the most important lessons we covered. Here are some of the things I've learned about listening:

■ Instead of small talk, share something personal about yourself. Vulnerability opens the door to closeness.

■ When the other person shares, listen! Show by facial expression, nodding or appropriate questions that you're really hearing. You don't have to agree. Just listen.

■ Don't steal the conversation by saying, "Oh, that happened to me, too." Let the other person express all they need to say.

■ Try to share feelings instead of intellectual concepts or pat answers. "I understand." "It makes me sad,



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Lynn McNew

too." Instead of, "The Bible says ..." or "All you have to do is ..."

■ Never give advice unless asked, and maybe not even then! Most people really don't want it and may avoid you in the future if they choose not to follow your advice.

■ Above all, don't judge. Accept and you will be accepted.

■ Finally, never betray a confidence. Value and respect what was shared, and safe keep it in your heart and prayers.

Let's give our spouse, parent, child, sibling or friend the best valentine of all this year — the chance to be truly heard. Lord, help me to listen with my heart.

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

Honor your parents by following their example

John, Judy and their three children set aside time to go over the family finances. After hearing everybody, John spoke. His tone was solemn, but he tried to sound hopeful.

"We realize that none of us gets everything we want," he said. All shook their heads in agreement. John continued: "Things are getting kind of tough. The mortgage and car payments take a lot we could spend on other things. And, we've run up the credit cards too high. Each of us must decide what we can do without until we get the credit cards paid off. Then we can look at this again."

The children looked glum as they considered the prospects, and 14-year-old Josh spoke first: "I could get some yard work."

Then Sandy chimed in, "And I could do some babysitting. I'm 13 now."

Susie was just 6. "I can't do anything," she sobbed.

John intervened. "If Josh and Sandy can earn money to finance more of their own needs, then we can all take care of Susie til she gets older."

Looking at Josh and Sandy, John continued. "Mom and I really appreciate your being so responsible."

Judy turned to John with a hopeful look. "Look John, our



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

moms and dads have offered to help us. Maybe it's time we ask them for some money, or maybe a loan."

"I really appreciate our grandmas and grandpas," John said. "They hate to see us struggle like they did. They've helped with buying us all clothes for Christmas and birthdays."

John continued after a thoughtful pause: "They have their own needs in their old age. Retirement is not easy for them. They need all they have."

"Long ago a very wise man named Moses taught his people to honor their parents to ensure a long and healthy life. (Exodus 20:12)

"We will honor them by following their example and making our own way just like they did. Someday it will be our turn to look after them," he said.

■ **Editor's note:** This column is brought to you by the St. Henry deOsso Family Project, working in Brackettville to strengthen family, faith and education.

Pray for the president

Presidents Day on Monday is an excellent opportunity to focus on "honoring the King," in our case, the president. We do this through the prayer of faith, and we do this with our speech and actions. (1 Peter 2:12-17, 1 Tim. 2:1-3)

First and foremost you are to daily pray for the president. Let us pray together that he ...

"Realize his personal sinfulness and his daily need of the cleansing power of Jesus Christ. Recognize his personal inadequacy for the task and therefore depend upon Almighty God for wisdom (with discernment), knowledge (with understanding), and courage to carry out his task. Reject all counsel that violates spiritual principles and then trust God to prove him right.

"Resist the pressure of those who would have him violate his conscience. Reverse the trends of socialism and humanism in our land, both of which (tries to) dethrone God and deity man. Rely upon prayer and the Word of God as the source of his strength and the key to his success. Restore dignity, honor, trustworthiness, and righteousness to the office of the presidency. Remember to be a good example in his conduct to the fathers and sons of the land. Be reminded daily that he will be accountable to Almighty God for his attitudes, actions, and motives while serving as president." (www.intouch.org, InTouch Ministries, Prayer Touch)



Gateway Ministries

Bob & Charolette Corey

In addition to this, we plead the blood of Jesus (which is the most power price of redemption that was, is and ever will be available to those who receive it as a gift of grace).

We plead the blood of Jesus over the president, his family, his counselors and their families — as well as the men and women in our military and their families — for protection against the plans of the evil one. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, which is above all names. (Eph 1:21)

We "honor the king" by keeping the word of God holy and manifested in our lives because Jesus Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (1 Tim. 6:15-16).

We also do this by "submitting ourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil-doers, and for the praise of them that do well." (1 Peter 2:13-13)

You can give honor because you "can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth (you)." (Phil. 4:13)

To God be the glory. Stand in faith, rest in hope walk in love.

Use, improve your talents to better service the Lord

Actor Jimmy Stewart explained once in an interview how advancement used to be made in Hollywood: "You started out with little parts in little movies, and then you went on to the little parts in big movies, then to big parts in little movies, and finally to big parts in big pictures."

This kind of professional progress differs from what most people seem to prefer: overnight success, being an instant celebrity, starting at the top. But this instant stardom formula misses the most important ingredient — faithfulness.

Jesus' parable of the talents highlights such dedication: "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things." (Matt. 25:21)

Trustworthiness, dependability, giving the assignment your best effort, these are steps lead-



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Nathan Lafrenz

ing to success. Success, however, doesn't necessarily mean gaining wealth or getting promotions.

In the eyes of God, success comes from faithfully using one's talents and improving them so that better service to the Lord can be rendered. This brings satisfaction to the individual and gives glory to God. No success is greater than this.

May God help us be faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and be strengthened in faith at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church each Sunday morning at 9.

Praise the Lord

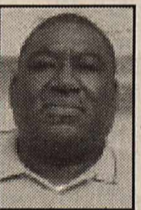
Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Praise him with sound of the trumpet: praise him with the Psaltery and harp.

Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding symbols, Let everything that hath



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

breath Praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord. Psalms 150.

Hallelujah! The Bragg Family, which sings southern gospel, country and bluegrass gospel, will be performing at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday. Everyone is welcome!

BUSINESS

RGEC receives grant for radio transmitter

Rio Grande Electric Cooperative has been awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service for the purchase of equipment necessary for the installation of an All-Hazards Warning Network radio transmitter at the Cooperative's Carrizo Springs tower.

The total estimated value of the grant award is \$150,485. Of this amount, Rio Grande Electric Cooperative is contributing \$71,986 in matching funds. These funds are in-kind contributions of tower rental fees, and

electrical power over a 20-year period.

"Rio Grande Electric Cooperative has filled the biggest gap in NOAA weather radio coverage in our area," said Larry Eblen, National Weather Service warning coordinator for the region.

Daniel G. Laws, Rio Grande Electric Cooperative general manager and CEO, said: "It has been a long and tedious process, but well worth the wait. We are glad that residents of these long-overlooked areas will now have the warning system they so des-

perately need."

The Carrizo Springs Cooperative property will house a 1,000-watt dual transmitter, which will provide warning signals to Dimmit, Zavala, and most of Maverick counties.

Broadcasts are made on one of seven high-band FM frequencies, ranging from 162.40 to 162.55 megahertz. The range of the broadcast signal varies, depending largely upon terrain, but the projected coverage area is very impressive.

NWR will provide recorded weather messages including

regularly scheduled forecasts, informational messages, synopses of weather and daily and monthly climatic summaries for South Texas. They are repeated every four to six minutes and revised every one to three hours or more frequently, if needed.

RGEC has provided the electrical service to rural Texans for over 57 years, serving 18 counties in Southwest Texas and two counties in Southern New Mexico.

For more information about Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, call (800) 749-1509.

Financial Aid Awareness Month

All seniors planning on attending college this fall needs to submit a completed FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon as possible. You may pick up a paper form from Michelle Frerich (Counselor), or fill out a form online (recommended by the government) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Anyone who plans to go to college can apply!

Welcome!
Church of Christ
 808 N. Ann 563-2616
 Sunday AM, 9:30 Classes, 10:30 Worship
 Sunday PM 1:30
 Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes
 Minister: Ray Melton

Job Shadow Day

Attention businesses in the Brackettville area: Brackett High School will be hosting its 3rd annual Job Shadow Day on Friday, March 7, 2003. Job Shadow Day is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn more about the different careers they may be interested in pursuing. If you are interested in hosting a student at your work site, please contact Michelle Frerich at 563-2491 ext. 401 or at michelle_f@bracket.t.k12.tx.us.

God Created the Church to be a Family for ALL His Children.
 Sunday Schedule:
 Bible School at 9:30 a.m.
 Choir Practice at 10:15 a.m.
 Worship at 10:45 a.m.
First United Methodist Church, "Home Away from Home"
 Child care available upon request. 563-2823

St. Andrews Episcopal Church Welcomes You
 Corner of Fort & Henderson
 Sunday Services 10:45 am
 Eucharist: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday
 Morning Prayer: 2nd, 4th Sunday

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
 CALL 563-2852 TODAY!

First Baptist Church (SBC)
 Corner of Ann and Veltman
 Pastor: R. D. Holloway 563-2245
 Sunday: Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m.
 Worship Service - 11 a.m.
 Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
 Evening Service 7 p.m.
 Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study

The Brackett News FAX IT FAST!!
 \$2 for the first page, \$1 for each page thereafter
 507 South Ann Street Phone: (830) 563-2852
 Brackettville, Texas 78832 Fax: (830) 563-9538

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

A GOLD-MINE CANDY Route - \$3495.00, Soda-Snack, Medical Route - \$9995.00. Immediate. American VendAll Corp., 1-877-836-3888.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS! Work from anywhere. Avoid the glass ceiling. No inventory - deliveries - collections. No experience necessary. Investment required. Call our 24-hour recorded message, BNI, 1-888-328-CASH.

DRIVERS WANTED

DRIVER - COMPANY & Owner/Ops - Regional - Home Weekly. Pay for experience up to 31 cpm Company, 81 cpm Owner/Ops. 1-800-454-2887, Arnold Transportation.

DRIVER-COVENANT TRANSPORT - Hiring experienced teams, solos and trainers. O/O-Solos/Teams 83 cents. We are looking for experienced teams to run priority dispatch. Call 1-888-MORE-PAY (1-888-667-3729).

DRIVER: LEASE/PURCHASE Program now available. Earn \$.82 cpm. No credit check, \$0 down, CDL and one year OTR required. Apply today. 1-877-560-8829, www.roberon-drivers.com. EOE.

DRIVERS: NO EXPERIENCE needed. Can earn \$40K first year. 16 day CDL training program - lodging, meals, transportation included. At least 21 years old. PNG Group, Toll free 1-800-370-1550.

DRIVERS - NO EXPERIENCE? No problem. Low cost CDL training available. Meals, lodging and transportation provided. Tuition reimbursement. \$1,000 bonus. OTR, regional, dedicated freight. Swift Transportation, 1-800-231-5209.

DRIVERS - OUR TOP driver earned \$4,500/month, steady freight for steady pay. New equipment arriving, 90% no touch. Owner Operators welcome. USA Truck, 1-800-237-4642.

DRIVERS - REGIONAL - 10 states (70%). Home weekly - \$600-\$800. OTR - start .32, 6 months experience with CDL/A. Owner Operators - OTR .83 loaded and empty. Call Bob or Harold, National Freight, 1-800-666-0380.

DRIVERS: TEAMS + Western Express = Success. Solid miles, good home time, competitive pay, benefits package, paid vacation. Class A-CDL, 22 years old, good MVR. 1-888-216-5627.

DRIVER - TRUCKERS! FFE - Will get you home. FFE - Will get you paid. FFE - Will get you miles. Call 1-800-569-9232. Open all day, every day. Students: Training Assistance available.

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

ANDES	ELSE	SLOP
CARET	LAIC	LINE
AMIGA	ASSURANCE	
DEP	BOTH	ENTER
OLDE	RAFT	
SPACED	LOGO	VAT
HASH	SOBER	ERA
OTTO	VON	BISMARCK
VEE	ALIEN	SNEE
ERR	RIDS	SPEEDS
ALOE	PARA	
STELE	SAGE	ATE
COAT	TAILS	FATED
ANSA	FLIT	ELAND
BEER	REDS	RATTY

DRIVERS WANTED

FUEL TANKER DRIVER needed for the Sonora, Texas area. 5 years tanker experience required. Days, full benefits, company owned equipment. Home nightly. Call Simons Petroleum, 1-800-256-2056.

\$1,200 CASH BONUS for qualified OTR drivers. 3 years flatbed experience needed. Established flatbed carrier looking to expand. Peterbilt conventionals, air-ride flats. Good pay, good benefits. Specialized Hauling, M-F, 7:00-5:30. Call 1-800-831-0870.

SWIFT TRANSPORTATION IS hiring experienced and inexperienced drivers and O/O. CDL training available. We pay for experience, great benefits, tuition reimbursement. 1-800-669-7943 (eoe-m/f).

FINANCIAL SERVICES

\$\$\$ CASH \$\$\$ - IMMEDIATE CASH for structured settlements, annuities, real estate notes, private mortgage notes, accident cases, and insurance payouts. J. G. Wentworth, 1-800-794-7310.

CREDIT CARD DEBT? Stop collection calls. Cut finance charges. Cut payments up to 50%. Debt consolidation. Fast approval. No credit check. Avoid bankruptcy. National Consolidators, 1-800-270-9894.

INSTANT CASH! Up to \$500. No Credit Bureau check. Call 1-866-559-5626, www.moneymartexpress.com

FOR SALE

9 LOTS NEXT to Headstart \$2500.00. 563-9128

1979 GMC 16' flatbed dump truck. Runs and dumps good \$1200.00. 563-9128

1996 CHRYSLER LHS fully loaded \$2500. o.b.o 563-9324.

1994 ITASKA SUNDANCER 28' motor home. Space 4, RV park, 417-533-2508.

1996 MYSTIQUE 4 DR. 4 cyl, low mileage \$5,400. 563-2618

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

RECONDITIONED GOLF CART batteries \$150.00 set. New batteries \$350.00 set. New Tires \$45 each guaranteed. Smitty's 563-9970

HIGH QUALITY - LOW PRICES. Wolff Tanning Beds. Payments from \$25/month. Home delivery. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-888-839-5160, www.np-etstan.com

HAVE UNWANTED ITEMS? Sell them in the classifieds!

SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
CALL 563-2852 TODAY!

FOR SALE

METAL BUILDINGS. 40' x 160' x 12'. New on the dock \$16,053. Available for inspection in Hardy, Texas. Contact Phil Dixon for freight rate at 1-800-793-9710.

GARAGE SALES

MULTI FAMILY SALE at Jean's - 103 W. Spring. Sat. Feb 15, at 8:00 a.m.

HELP WANTED

THE KINNEY COUNTY Groundwater Conservation District is now accepting applications for the position of General Manager. Applicants should demonstrate a working knowledge of the Texas Water Code, Texas Administrative Code, Texas Government Code, etc., and all matters pertaining to the administration of a Texas Groundwater Conservation District. Please direct all inquiries and/or resumes to PO Box 369, Brackettville, Texas 78832.

AUTOMOTIVE JOBS - DELIVER your resume instantly to Automotive Dealerships nationwide in 5 minutes or less. Earn more. Search jobs. It's FREE, fast, effective! Go online now to: www.autoemploy.com

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.

GET OUT OF HERE. Now hiring girls and guys 18 and over to work and travel with sales. Training and transportation provided. Call Morgan @ DEE-Mart, 1-877-224-9716.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LOA A. HUNDLEY, Deceased, were issued on February 4th, 2003, in Cause No. 996, pending in Kinney County, Texas to: JO ANN MARYBERRY and RICHARD W. HANSEN, Co-Independent Executors. The residence of JO ANN MARYBERRY is Lot 5, Unit 26, Brackettville, Texas 78832 and RICHARD W. HANSEN, 130 Beau Rivage Drive, Mandevilla, Louisiana 70471. All persons having claims against this Estate which are currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. JO ANN MARYBERRY, Co-Independent Executor; RICHARD W. HANSEN, Co-Independent Executor; c/o TULLY SHAHAN, Attorney at Law, Post Office Box 367, 401 South Ann Street, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Dated the 5th day of February, 2003. By: Tully Shahan, Attorney for the Estate. Phone: 830/563-2462. Facsimile: 830/563-9240.

O'Rourke Realty
Paul & Elsa O'Rourke
P.O. Box 670
Brackettville, TX 78832
(830) 563-2713

2 bed; enclosed porch, 2 baths, fire place, jacuzzi room, wet bar, sprinkler system. \$85,000.

In beautiful condition, double wide - 3 bed, 2 baths, screened deck, fireplace. \$70,000.00

2 bed, 2 baths mobile home, many attractive features. Unit 32. \$32,000.

Unit 27 - 3 bed, 2 baths double wide. Reduced price now.

orourke@the-i.net

PUBLIC NOTICES

WEST TEXAS GAS, Inc. issues this public notice to provide information concerning certain facilities and operations in Frio, Dimmitt, Zavala, Uvalde, Maverick, Kinney, and Val Verde Counties of Texas. West Texas Gas, Inc. operates buried natural gas pipelines and facilities in the above Texas Counties. WTG has markers placed along the pipeline routes, but because of possible damage or vandalism, these markers (signs) may not be apparent at all points along the pipeline right-of-ways. Due to our concern for the safety of people and property along our pipeline routes, we request that all persons who anticipate digging, excavating, boring, drilling, or blasting in the vicinity of our facilities call 1-888-334-4912. A West Texas Gas employee will be available, free of charge, to check your area, locate our facilities and mark a safe area. In addition, state law requires each excavator to contact a one call locate service. The one call service will then notify each operator of buried utilities that you intend to dig in an area that may contain buried utilities (water, gas, electric, telephone, etc.). This service and call are free. Contact the Texas Excavation Safety Service at 1-800-344-8377. Please notify West Texas Gas if the following situations occur in relation to a pipeline or other facilities we operate: THE ESCAPE OF GAS FROM A PIPELINE - This may be detected by smell, hissing sound, or an unexplained area of dead vegetation in the vicinity of our facilities. FIRE OR EXPLOSION OCCURRING NEAR OUR FACILITIES, VANDALISM OR THEFT OF PIPELINE MARKERS. In the event of an EMERGENCY involving a West Texas Gas facility: EVACUATE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY. NOTIFY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND WTG. DO NOT RETURN TO THE AREA UNTIL ADVISED BY OFFICIALS.

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO
P.O. Box 1035
Brackettville, TX 78832
830-563-2446 830-563-2447

- The Masters Condo unit 1201 1bdr, furnished, garage \$34,000.
- Unit 15 lot 160, 161 (160 Bliss Circle) FCS 3brd, 2bth manufactured housing enclosed porch, partially furnished, POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCED!
- Townhouse lot 116, unit 1 furnished.
- Unit 36 lot 39, FCS 2 Br, 1bt manufactured housing.
- Unit 27 lot 2 blk O FCS Eagle way 2Br, 2Bt 1180 sq. ft. custom built screened in porch. Reduced \$5,000.
- Brackettville - Old Stagecoach House corner of El Paso & Fort 1 bdr/1 bth. FOR SALE OR LEASE.
- Acreage - 80.03 Acres Tract #303 Leona Ranch.
- 166 AIRPORT RD. 2br/2bt enclosed porch, patio, storage, fenced b/y 2 car carport all electric.

Have Buyers - Need Listings! Same name new owner
Ken Barnett - Pat Owens - Melissa Davis
info@kinneycountyland.com

LAS MORAS REALTY 830-563-2997
DEBBIE TRANT / BARBARA VOSS 104 A-E Spring

PERFECT STARTER OR WINTER TEXAS HOME! Extra nice two bedroom, two bath home in great location. \$68,000.
Fairway Circle - Nice 2000 28' X 52' Town & Country manufactured home, three bedrooms, two bath. ONLY \$37,500.
Brackettville - Country living is great in this 4/3 manufactured home on 5 acres. Includes a 35' X 60' metal arch barn.
Ranches and small acreage for sale.
View listings: www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

Tejas Properties Phyllis & Les Meyer
615 Hwy 90 EAST
830-563-9911

- * 3/2 carports, large yard, plus a 16X20 Office/Storage.
 - * The Oaks, 2/2/2, Beautiful Home, 2 lots and huge oaks.
 - * 2/2 Home with carport, Ward St. in FCS, excellent condition.
 - * 1450 acres Great Hunting! In the hills N. of Town.
 - * 733 acres Hills and valleys, wildlife plus 2 wells.
 - * 2150 acres Home, barns, good deer and exotics.
- We have ranches of all sizes available!
www.Tejas-Properties.com

PUBLIC NOTICES REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICES

LA COMPANIA WEST Texas Gas Inc. (WTG) publica este aviso para informarles acerca de ciertas operaciones y edificaciones los condados de Frio, Dimmitt, Zavala, Uvalde, Maverick, Kinney, y Val Verde, en Tejas. La compania mantiene canerias de gas y edificios en los condados de Texas nombrados aqui. La compania WTG tiene marcadores a lo largo de las rutas de canerias de gas. Con el hecho que hay la posibilidad de dafio a vandalismo a esos marcadores, quizas estos marcadores no estan como deben estar. Esto nos causa concierneiminto a la gente y la propiedad de nuestra comunidad, Les pedimos que cualquier persona que tiene planes de cultivar, excavar, taladrar o usar polvora en la vecinidad de nuestros edificaciones, llame al 1-800-334-4912. Un representante de WTG sera disponible, sin cobro a usted, para examinar la area donde piensa trabajar y localizar nuestras canarias y marcar una area cualsea sin peligro para usted. Ademas la ley del estado de Tejas requiere cada excavator que haga una llamada a WTG para obtener nuestro servicio. La llamada nos permite notificar a cada operador de lineas enteradas de utilidades. (agua, gas, electricidad, telefonicas, etc.) Esta llamada es gratis Lllame a Texas Excavation Safety Service (Excavacion de Seguridad de Excavacion en Tejas). 1-800-334-8377. Favor de avisar a WTG si las siguientes situaciones ocurren en relacion a una caneria o alguna edificacion que nosotros mantenemos. El escape de gas de una caneria. Esto se podra notar por el olor de gas, un sibilido parecido a un serpiente, una area en la vegetacion que esta seca. Fuego o explosion. Vandalismo o robo de nuestros marcadores. En caso de una emergencia, Evacue la area inmediatamente. Avise a las autoridades de la ley. (policia, bomberos o WTG) No regrese a la area hasta que sea permitido por los oficiales que no haiga peligro de regresrar.

RENTALS

RENTALS - O'ROURKE REALTY - Elsa & Paul O'Rourke. (830) 563-2713

FIND WHAT YOU'RE looking for every week in The Brackett News' classifieds!

REAL ESTATE

ABSOLUTE STEAL! 5 Acres \$19,900. Sacrifice price on beautiful North Texas hill country property. Perfect getaway, retirement or horse set-up. Access to 600 acre private park. Financing. Texas Land & Ranches. Call now, 1-866-516-4868.

COLORADO RANCH SALE. 35 acres - \$49,900. Magnificent mountain ranch at 8,000' elevation. Mix of meadows with spring fed ponds and aspen. Stunning views, virtually surrounded by federal lands. Must see! Good terms. Call Colorado Land & Ranches, 1-866-353-4809.

NEW MEXICO MOUNTAINS. 140 Acres - Only \$49,900. Gorgeous grasslands, mature tree cover, 6,300' elevation. Mountain views, year-round roads and electric. Perfect for horse lovers. Adjacent to national forest. Excellent financing. Call today. This won't last. SW Properties of NM, Inc., 1-866-350-5263.

100 ACRES - \$44,900. Trophy whitetails (5 deer limit). Tree covered hills and draws. Abundant turkey, quail, small game. Good access. More acreage available. E-Z terms. Call 1-866-899-5263, Texas Land & Ranches.

COUNTRY CLUB LIVING. Beautiful golf course home. Gated, security, clubhouse, tennis, swimming, marina, fishing. Pecanera of alguna edificacion que nosotros mantenemos. El escape de gas de una caneria. Esto se podra notar por el olor de gas, un sibilido parecido a un serpiente, una area en la vegetacion que esta seca. Fuego o explosion. Vandalismo o robo de nuestros marcadores. En caso de una emergencia, Evacue la area inmediatamente. Avise a las autoridades de la ley. (policia, bomberos o WTG) No regrese a la area hasta que sea permitido por los oficiales que no haiga peligro de regresrar.

DURANGO, COLORADO - EXQUISITE (Cabin ready) high mountain getaway. 36 acres overlooking the real Southwest. End of the road privacy yet 20 minutes from town. Pines, creek and paralyzing views. \$145,000. Excellent seller financing. 1-970-731-9413.

1 - 3 ACRE SITES on East Tennessee Lake. Starting at \$29,900. Private, covered boat docks included. Call Lake Developer Partnership, 1-877-505-1871, Ext. 1

WANTED

WE BUY ALUMINUM cans. Junk batteries and other metals. Smitty's 563-9970.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS AS A WATER WELL OWNER
The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") was created by the 77th Texas Legislature in 2001 and has been delegated the responsibility of conserving, preserving, protecting, and recharging the groundwater in Kinney County under the authority of Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code and the District's enabling act. The District is now accepting applications for Historic Use Permits from well owners and operators in Kinney County. If you currently own or operate a well in Kinney County, you may be eligible for a Historic Use Permit from the District. The only way to ensure that the District may protect your rights and your investment in your well against future well owners and operators is to obtain a Historic Use Permit. You must file an application for a Historic Use Permit with the District by April 1, 2003, or you may forever lose your right to be protected as a historic user. Also, it is a violation of the District's Rules to operate a well after April 1, 2003, without having an Existing Exempt Well Registration or Historic Use Permit Application on file with the District or a Regular Permit for Non-Historic uses issued by the District. Certain small water wells used solely for domestic and livestock watering purposes may be exempt from these requirements, but such well owners and operators should contact the District and review the District's Rules to ensure that they qualify for such an exemption before April 1, 2003, in order to not risk missing the deadline. Historic users may be protected to a greater degree than non-historic users with regard to possible requirements to cut back on the amount of groundwater produced in the future. This may be your only chance to protect your interest in your future ability to withdraw groundwater in Kinney County. It is critical to file an application with the District by the April 1, 2003, deadline. For more information on how you can protect your rights as a well owner or operator or to obtain a copy of the District's Rules or a Historic Use Permit application form, contact: General Manager, Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District, Courthouse Annex, 522 E. Ellen, P.O. Box 369, Brackettville, Texas 78832, Phone: (830) 563-2462, Fax: (830) 563-9240.

FORM INFORMATION:

EXISTING EXEMPT WELL REGISTRATION FORM; Fill out all information that is known and return to the District office by mail or fax. Costs: \$0.00

An exempt well may include a well used solely (1) for domestic use or for providing water for livestock or poultry on a tract of land larger than 10 acres that is incapable of producing more than 25,000 gallons of groundwater a day, unless the well supplies water for a subdivision of land for which a plat approval is required under Chapter 232 of the local Government Code, (2) for mining under a Railroad Commission permit issued pursuant to Chapter 134 of the Texas Natural Resources Code; (3) for supporting exploration and production of hydrocarbons; or (4) for those additional exceptions and qualifications set forth in §36.117 of the Texas Water Code.

HISTORIC USE APPLICATION-WELL REGISTRATION FORM, HISTORIC USE PERMIT APPLICATION, HISTORIC USE PERMIT APPLICATION-CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM FORM Fill out all information and return to the District Office by fax or mail. Costs: \$500 for applications for more than 100 acre feet of water and \$200 for applications for up to 100 acre feet of water, plus applicable groundwater use fees.

REGULAR PERMIT APPLICATION-WELL REGISTRATION FORM and REGULAR PERMIT APPLICATION FORM. Fill out all information and return to the District office by fax or mail. Costs: \$500 for applications for more than 100 acre feet of water and \$200 for applications for up to 100 acre feet of water, plus applicable groundwater use fees.

Stop moping around Get rid of those unwanted items.
Place your ad in The Brackett News classifieds, and get results fast!!! Call 563-2852 today.

WHY LEASE?
Own your own part of the Texas Hill Country for as little as \$695.00 down and \$116.69 per month at 8.75 % financing. Based on 20 acre tract with minimum down payment.
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,