

The Brackett News

Brackett track teams win conference titles
See story, Page 7

16th year, No. 11

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

Candidates participate in forum

Early voting begins Wednesday in City Council, school elections

Local citizens will have a chance to meet candidates for mayor and the Brackettville City Council next week.

A Meet the Candidates public forum will be held Monday night at 7 at the Brackett ISD Auditorium.

Citizens will have the opportunity to participate in a question-and-answer session with the candidates and address issues relating to the future of the city.

The city election is slated for May 15. Early voting begins on Wednesday and will continue through May 11.

Citizens can vote early at City Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Francisca "Chica" Garza is the only incumbent council member not facing opposition in the election. Garza holds the Place 4 position on the council.

Joe N. Garza Jr., J.J. Guidry and Ponce Padron have all filed to run for mayor. Guidry is a former city councilman.

Carmen Berlanga is the incumbent mayor, but has not been active in the city since suffering a stroke last fall.

Seeking the Place 1 position on the council are incumbent

CANDIDATE PROFILES

The Brackett News will publish profiles of candidates in next week's edition. All candidates for the City Council, BISD Board of Trustees and Fort Clark MUD Board of Directors are invited to submit biographies and photos for publication. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon.

Camilo Cruz Jr., Richard Guajardo and Tully Welch.

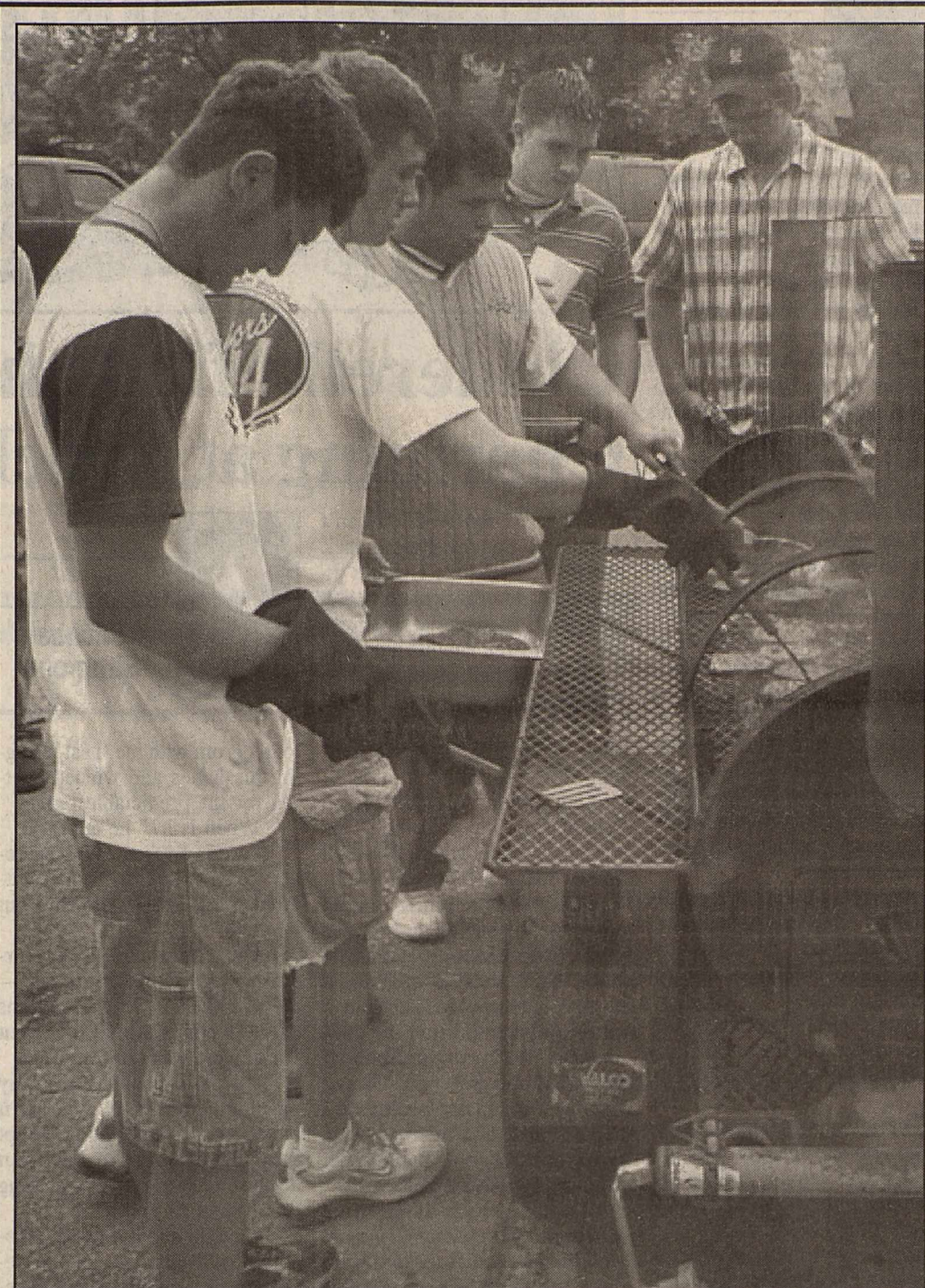
Three candidates have filed to challenge incumbent Mary Flores for her Place 2 seat — Matt Bland, Ramon "Dido" Garcia and Stephanie "B'Ann" Gomez.

Council member Johnny Samaniego, Place 5, is being challenged by Lydia Tipps.

The mayor and council positions all have a two-year term.

Cruz was appointed to the council last year to fill a vacancy left by Bonnie Wardlaw, the current city secretary. That position will have one year remaining following this year's election.

Applications are now being accepted to vote early by mail for both elections.



Afternoon barbecue

Members of the Class of 2004 manned the barbecue pits Wednesday during Brackett High School's annual senior class hamburger sale.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Crane pulls out of race

Five candidates seek two seats

Curvin Crane has withdrawn as a candidate in the upcoming Brackett ISD Board of Trustees election.



Terrazas

The school district's election is slated for May 15. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sara Terrazas is the only incumbent school board member seeking re-election.

Trustees Lloyd Lee Davis and Jim McDaniel did not sign up to run for another term on the school board.

Joining Terrazas on the ballot will be Tony Ashley, Susanna T. Castillo, Roy Jay Harris and Tom Swinson.

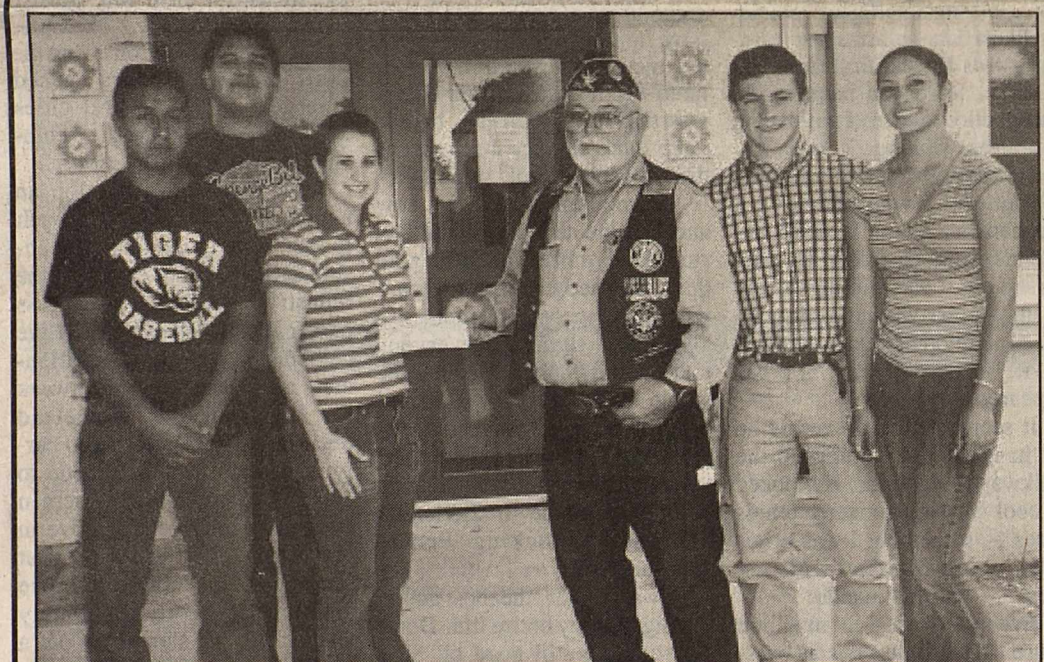
The top two vote-getters in the race will be elected to two-year terms.

The Brackett ISD election is open to all registered voters in Kinney County.

Early voting for the school elections begins on Wednesday and ends on May 11.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the BISD Central Office, located at 400 Ann St., between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Applications are now being accepted to vote early by mail for both elections.



Project Graduation donation

Ron Wiley (center) of the Del Rio/Laughlin American Legion Post No. 298 presents BHS seniors Arnold Pinales, D.J. Lattimer, Emily Petrosky, Beau Watkins and Stacey Castilla a donation for the 14th annual drug- and alcohol-free all-night Project Graduation party.

Photo Special to The Brackett News

Property tax information now available from KCAD Office

Bill Haenn, chief appraiser for the Kinney County Appraisal District, has announced that a 2004 pamphlet called "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities" is available to property owners to help them save on their property taxes.

Published by the Texas Comptroller's Office, the pamphlet explains how the property tax system in Texas works and tells property owners about possible tax savings.

Haenn noted that the pamphlet addresses property taxes collected by all types of taxing units — counties, cities, school districts and special districts, such as Fort Clark Municipal Utility District.

"Homeowners may file for various property tax exemptions offered by taxing units on residence homesteads," Haenn said.

In Texas, a homestead is generally the house and yard used as the owner's principal residence. The pamphlet explains each exemption and how to apply for it.

For example, all homeowners who owned and lived in their homes on Jan. 1 may file for a \$15,000 general exemption from their home's value for school taxes. In addition, certain disabled homeowners and those aged 65 or older may qualify for an additional \$10,000 school exemption from the value of their homes.

"A tax freeze, or ceiling, for

school taxes is a benefit for homeowners once they become 65 years old or disabled," Haenn said. "State law provides that these homeowners may apply during the year, rather than waiting until the next Jan. 1."

"An elderly homeowner's taxes that pay for public schools cannot increase above the total school tax amount on that home in the first year that the homeowner receives the over-65 homeowner exemption," he continued. "Starting in 2004, the disabled homeowners' taxes may not increase above the 2003 school tax amount, if the homeowner received the 2003 disabled exemption. The tax ceiling amount is set in the year of

See PROPERTY/Page 4

INSIDE

Shanae Simmons

My heart fluttered. "I can't do this," I thought. Pacing back and forth, I felt like I would go mad or further my current state of insanity.
Opinion/Page 2

Henry Bonilla

Would you be surprised to learn that there is one simple step you can take to keep your children healthy? It's not a magic drug.
Opinion/Page 2

Roger Baker

Have you asked, "what good is going to church?" It's a question I get asked, usually by implication rather than a direct confrontation.
Religion/Page 4

INDEX

- Classifieds8
- Community3
- Crime3
- Lifestyles5
- Opinion2
- Religion4
- Sports7

16th year, No. 11

Senne: Governor's plan will cause cuts in services

Kinney County Judge Herb Senne voiced his concerns this week that the plan to restructure local government revenue put forth last month by Gov. Rick Perry would result in cuts in services to local citizens, while the state continues dumping unfunded mandates on county taxpayers.

"While there is certainly room for improvement in the state's revenue system for counties, the Perry plan does not include real, enforceable protection from unfunded state mandates to counties, such as expensive required programs like legal representation for indigent criminal defendants and health care for indigents," the county judge said.

The day of Perry's announcement, the Board of Directors of the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) expressed concern that the problem of unfunded state mandates and the financial burden they place on local taxpayers would not be solved under the proposal.

The 14-member board authorized TAC President Mickey

West, Palo Pinto County judge, to designate a committee of county officials to discuss the goal of controlling unfunded mandates with state leadership.

The governor's written handouts last week addressed only "new unfunded mandates," but did not address existing mandates, including the big-ticket items of indigent criminal defense and indigent health care.

"If such expenses are not reassumed by the state, then many counties will have to curtail law enforcement and citizens will no longer see timely administration of justice in our courthouses," Senne said.

More than 220 counties have passed resolutions asking the legislature to pass a bill allowing voters to cast ballots in 2005 on a constitutional amendment prohibiting unfunded mandates.

"Local elected officials are good stewards of the public's money," Senne said.

"Our taxpayers are our neighbors, our friends and our voters. It is imperative that we are conservative with their money," he added.



From coast to coast

The Team Anasazi Bicycle Club of Durango, Colo., made a stop in Brackettville last week. The six men, all over the age of 50, are bicycling coast to coast from San Diego, Calif., to St. Augustine, Fla. Team members are, back row (from left): Jerry Fisher, Steve Parker, Bruce Bransom and Beate Abshagen. Front: Jan Ulrich and Stan Rabbe.

Photo by Kathy Wilson

Vaccinate your infants today

Would you be surprised to learn that there is one simple step you can take to keep your children healthy? It's not a magic drug. And it won't cost you thousands of dollars. It's a very simple task and one that we all should follow: get your child vaccinated and do it on schedule.



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

This week marks the ninth annual National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW). Across the nation, efforts are being made to immunize more precious infants. In Texas, you will see this campaign in full swing as little red boots scoot their way across the state to promote "Shots Across Texas."

Vaccinating your children may sound like an obvious step in raising a healthy child, but life is hectic and this step is too often forgotten or put-off for far too long. Vaccinations offer the single best protection for the health of our children and our future.

In today's society, immunization is no longer a luxury, it's a necessity. We all know the old adage, "you're only as strong as your weakest link." In this case, the weakest link is the unvaccinated child.

We often forget how fortunate we are to have access to vaccinations. I have first-hand appreciation of vaccinations. You see, I grew up in a public housing complex in South San Antonio. The people living there were poor, but they provided a hard-working, labor force for the city's factories and military bases. In those days, many of today's vaccinations did not exist. Far too many children suffered serious illnesses that today can be avoided by a simple vaccination.

As chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, I oversee funding for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This important administration approves, regulates and

monitors all vaccines.

I have diligently worked to increase funding for the FDA. I understand that too many families are without health insurance. This is unfortunate in itself.

But as we work to increase healthcare coverage, let's remember that vaccinations are still one of the best and cheapest ways to protect our children's health. They could mean the difference between life and death—especially if adequate health care is not available.

I am proud of the many parents who have helped increase immunization coverage among children in the United States.

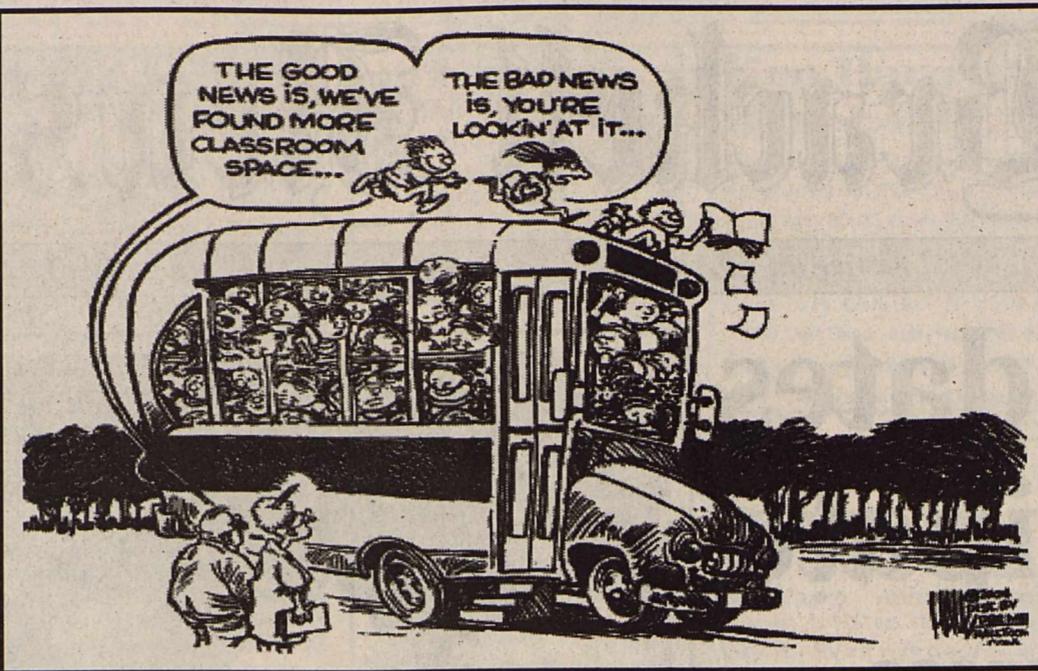
Over 90 percent of infants today receive the most critical vaccines by age two. These efforts have translated into a 95 percent reduction in vaccine-preventable deaths. This is tremendous progress, but we must work to stop any child from remaining unvaccinated. There's just no excuse.

There is no reason for any parent to delay having their children vaccinated. If cost is a concern, there are a host of resources to help.

Public Health Policy wisely picks up the tab for vaccinating anyone who can not afford to pay.

Parents can get more information on vaccines, by asking a local physician or calling the National Immunization Hotline at (800) 232-2522.

Remember, there is no better way for you to protect your children from disease than by immunizing them. Protect the littlest Texans by vaccinating your infants on schedule.



Cinderella finds her Prince Charming at Brackett Prom

My heart fluttered. "I can't do this," I thought. Pacing back and forth, I felt like I would go mad or further my current state of insanity. I was doing something, not even against my will, something I had promised myself I would never do again. Plus, I was about to experience another of life's firsts. I was stepping in, I was taking a plunge.

Our annual Brackett High School prom was Saturday. This was also the day where I walked into a totally different direction.

First, let us reminisce an old column, the one of last year's prom. Remember what Shanae wore? Not a dress or anything a normal girl would wear, but a kilt in order to portray the courageous man known as William Wallace, the hero of "Brave Heart." Decked out in blue face paint and sword in hand, that memory can still be found fresh in many people's minds.

Well, this year things were different. I wore a dress. Not just any though, a slightly low neckline, white, flowery, beaded dress. I got my hair done, my nails manicured and a pedicure to boot (which wasn't too bad, to say the least). I had sparkly hair, dangling earrings, topped off with long black gloves and a black feathery boa. Needless to say, I surprised many.

But this was not the greatest part. The thing that made it all worthwhile was my escort. After watching him playing in his Christian rock band, I asked a 20 year-old drummer to my prom.

It was actually a dare, because I just happened to say, "Hey wouldn't it be so sweet if I asked the drummer to prom?" So, of course, my friends had to call me on it. Being the loud and rarely shy Shanae, I couldn't resist... that is, until the time came.

A band mate called him over, and I suddenly lost my nerve. He was way taller and cuter in person, so when he asked what was up, I just squeaked. Or at least, that's what the noises that came from my lips sounded like. My voice was an octave higher, my palms were sweaty, and I did well to look like a totally dork. I asked if he would like to go



Teen Spirit

Shanae Simmons

to my prom with me. I sat wringing my hands and winced waiting for his predictable reply.

"When is it?" he asked. My mind raced. Was he really going to say yes? I then stuttered a bit, finally uttering out the date.

"OK," he replied. Relief, surprise, extreme happiness — these could all be descriptions of my feelings at that time, but the biggest was confusion.

The days passed after my meeting with this fly guy, but it would not leave my mind. I kept thinking of ways to back out because I felt too shy, something that occurs rarely.

I thought about how he probably didn't want to go, me being a dork, and that I had to relieve him of his duties in some way. I tried to call him, but could never really get a hold of him. I finally was able to talk to him a few times, but never said really much of anything, at least not anything intelligent, sounding like a babe-in-arms just learning words for the first time.

Now, let us go back to the introduction, where I am pacing in a dress, waiting.

I waited, I walked, I talked, I screamed, I watched TV, I brushed my teeth, I called my friends, and basically freaked myself out. I was waiting for my "date" to arrive and yelling to my grandmother that I couldn't do it, when suddenly his car appeared.

It seemed like forever as he sat in it, finally coming up the walkway to my door. He looked so cool wearing converse tennis shoes — something I was originally going to wear with my dress — with his tuxedo.

Eventually we left my little house, me still nervous as ever, and went to a friend's house to meet up with everyone. Then we drove our cars to the gazebo on the Par 3 golf course where we were greeted with a nicely

decorated eating area, and a freshman man servant filling up our plates.

People started coming over, just to see what we were doing, as we ate while Enya music flowed in the background.

In the end, we made it to the dance and everyone attacked me, surprised I had finally worn a dress. They told me their crazy ideas of what they thought I was wearing.

But the whole night, nothing mattered. I danced with my date, and it felt as if we were the only ones on the dance floor. We talked, we laughed, and I continuously found ways to look like a dork, but it was the greatest night of my life.

He even held my hand, also being the first real dance I had with a boy. My stomach still has butterflies as I think about it all. By the end, we danced so close that I could comfortably lay my head on his shoulder and feel like the happiest person alive.

He had to leave and pick someone up. He had already stalled an hour, so I walked him to his car, and I was sad, but I felt that I had grown a bit in those couple hours just being in his presence.

We had a good time, took some great pictures, and I even gave him my bracelet to remember me by. I asked him how he liked prom, and he said that it was the better than his, he had only danced once because he didn't want to look stupid.

I asked him how he felt now and he said that he didn't feel stupid anymore and was glad that I learned early not to care what other people thought.

When I returned, everyone told me how happy I looked the whole night, and how surprised they were. It's funny how different two proms can be. In a year's difference, I went from William Wallace to Cinderella and met a rocking Prince Charming.

It was, by far, the most amazing night of my entire life. Don't worry, I am still good ol' Shanae, and I don't plan on dressing up regularly, but I learned that miracles do happen once in a while and I finally got mine.

Thanks again drummer boy.



Capitol Comment

Kay Bailey Hutchison

Securing the US railways

On Dec. 16, 1836, the First Congress of the Republic of Texas chartered the Texas Railroad, Navigation, and Banking Company. Just 10 years after the first public railroad was chartered in the United States and a mere nine months after the Texas Declaration of Independence was penned, our founders knew that a comprehensive rail system was critical to the future growth and stability of our state.

Railroads ultimately made the development of Texas possible and for years, economic growth paralleled railroad expansion.

Ensuing decades brought new modes of transportation to the American people, but trains remain important to our nation. They also present a security challenge as America faces the new enemy of terrorism in the 21st century.

Congress addressed the most glaring transportation security issues identified by the September 11 attacks. But most of the improvements have logically focused on aviation. Rail security remains vulnerable. Passengers are rarely required to show identification to buy tickets or board trains. Their baggage is hardly ever scrutinized. Worse than that, thousands of tons of cargo are transported by rail every day and the containers in which it is moved from ship to train or airplane are not secured.

Our economy relies heavily on rail and our country cannot afford a devastating loss of mobility, or worse — American lives — like the recent attack in Madrid, Spain. A statewide or national rail shutdown would be catastrophic. Communities depend on railroads to carry a huge quantity of cargo, nearly 42 percent of all intercity freight, including 65 percent of coal shipments, 30 percent of grain and important public safety supplies. For example, service disruptions following the 2001 terrorist attacks caused emergencies for several cities awaiting rail deliveries of chlorine for water purification.

The U.S. must develop an aggressive, proactive approach to security requirements that ensure safety without crippling the industry. Standards to address passengers and their baggage are a good start. In addition, parameters must be developed between the Department of Homeland Security and affected cargo carriers. It may not be realistic to expect we can physically screen every container on the move in our nation's vast economy. But instead of leaving immense amounts of cargo completely unchecked, we should lay out a systematic plan to coordinate and expand on existing technologies.

Safeguarding rail infrastructure is an important goal. In the last month an explosive device was found buried in the bed of a French passenger line, and a partially assembled bomb was discovered under a high-speed rail line south of Madrid. In our country, Amtrak serves more than 500 train stations and owns just 135 of them.

I recently introduced a comprehensive cargo container security bill to better safeguard shipments in the four major modes of our interconnected transportation network: aviation, highways, maritime and rail. Intermodal tracking systems that connect the dots from packaging to delivery are critical to securing our overall transportation infrastructure. Commercial shippers should be held responsible for the contents of packages they choose to transmit, value established relationships and use available technology to determine whether items are safe.

Sealed, so-called, "smart" boxes can play a key role in limiting the costs of widespread screening. My legislation would coordinate information collected by "smart" containers, so those which have been deemed safe need not be re-inspected without a specific reason, saving millions of dollars. I want to ensure that trains traveling Texas railways are loaded with goods and products — not weapons.

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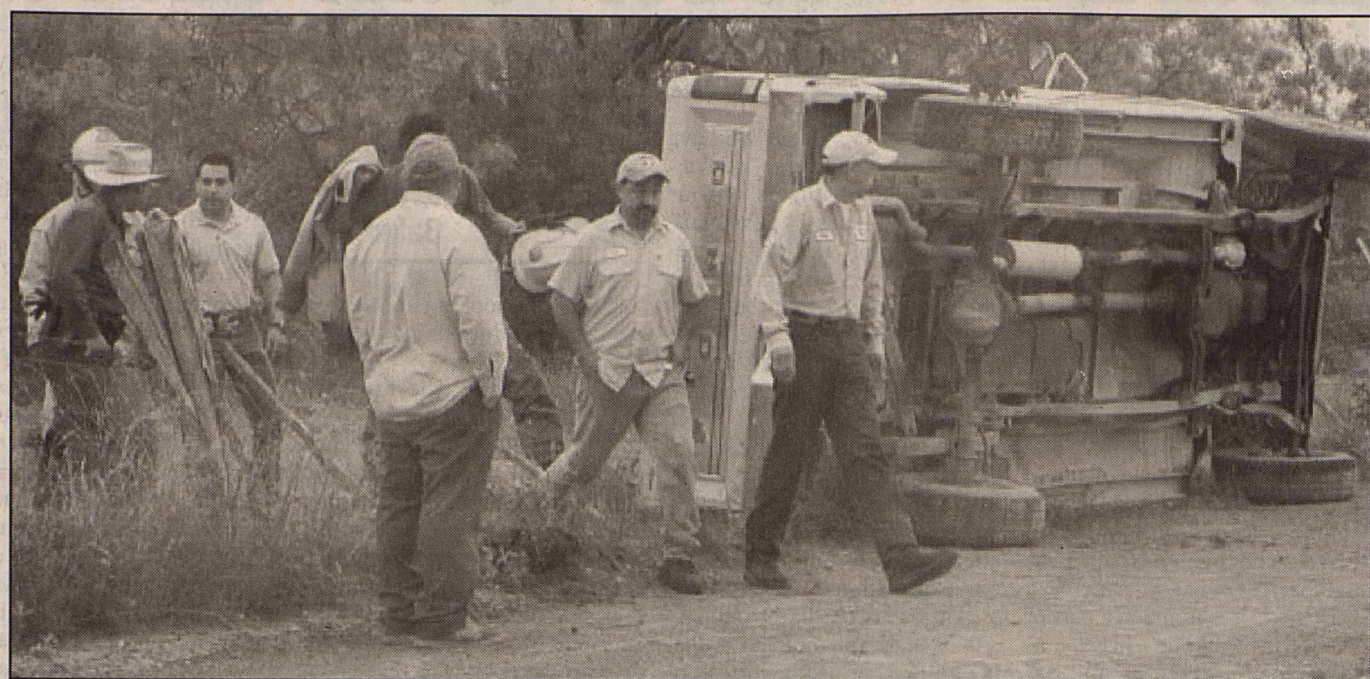
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One-vehicle accident

Local law enforcement, EMS and Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department personnel responded to a one-vehicle rollover Wednesday in front of the Dust Bowl Arena on Highway 90, west of Brackettville. A Del Rio couple was in the vehicle, but no injuries were reported. The driver of the vehicle was transported to Val Verde Regional Medical Center as a precautionary measure.

Photo by Kathy Wilson

BRACKETT ISD HONOR ROLL

The following is Brackett Independent School District's Honor Roll for the fifth six-weeks grading period:

High School

All-A Honor Roll

■ **Seniors:** Elizabeth Ballew, Chestin Clark-Hatley, Amanda Davis, Dietrich Davis, Hector Febres, Tony Jamail, David Lattimer, Sarah Meyer, Emily Petrosky, Ashley Smith, Ashley Thourout and Caitlin Wylie.

■ **Juniors:** Danielle Moore, Cody Robinette and Oscar Sierra.

■ **Sophomores:** Alanna Conoly, Rachel Swinson and Brand Wylie.

■ **Freshmen:** Justin Calk, Austin Shewbart and Kara Yeager.

A-B Honor Roll

■ **Seniors:** Stacey Castilla, Stephanie Coronado, Allison LaMascus, Christopher Lehner, Arnold Pinales, Nataly Rodriguez, Travis Rose, Star Smith, Blanca Talamantes, Blake Ward, Beau Watkins and Elijah Woolsey.

■ **Juniors:** Juliann Ashabraner, Stephanie Bonner, Tillman Davis, Jaclynn Duncan, Cody Edwards, Courtney Frerich, Monica Gonzalez, Whitney Hobbs, Whitney Massingill, Kristin Meyer, Samantha Pina, Shanae Simmons and Kody Yeager.

■ **Sophomores:** Valentin Barrutieta, Dana Bonner, John

Braesicke, Jessica Crane, Kimberly Glass, Liliana Hernandez, Yasmin Pena and Billy Steelman

■ **Freshmen:** Alison Carroll, Robert Davis, Seth Frerich, Laura Meyer, Jaime Muniz, Ivan Pinales, Natasha Smith, Micheal Stephenson, Marisela Talamantes, Nadine Terrazas and Kristina Wright.

Middle School

All-A Honor Roll

■ **Eighth grade:** Bailee Allen, Heather Baggett, Kaden Berg, Meghann Davis, Daphne Hunt, Conrad Moore, Bianca Stewart and Anolda Watkins.

■ **Seventh grade:** Samantha Moore and Laura Swinson.

A-B Honor Roll

■ **Eighth grade:** Travis Bonner, Amber Castilla, Julie Castillo, Capri Creech, Doolie Fernandez, Haley Harris, Joshua Kluzek, Lane Nowlin, Evelyn Rojas, Ashley Stephenson and Gabriela Talamantes.

■ **Seventh grade:** Laura Adams, Summer Allen, Amanda Braesicke, Emily Calk, Rebecca Mann, Harmony Pettett, Maribel Rivas, Graciela Rocha, Veronica Talamantes and Amory Thourout.

Elementary School

All-A Honor Roll

■ **Sixth grade:** Cody Clark, Brooklyn Gose and Katie Yeager.

■ **Fifth grade:** Kelsey Bruce, Haley Hale and Josh Smith.

■ **Fourth grade:** Lauren

Duncan and Nevada Payne.

■ **Third grade:** Priscilla Aguirre, Brooke Brown, Calli Campos, Cesar Castillo, Ryan Clark, Meghan Flores, Crystal Garcia, Yeika Garcia, Briana Garza, Selina Gerardo, Rolando Gutierrez, Lucas Hurt, Ethan Justice, Austin Pettett, Jonathan Pinales, Juan Ramos, Adam Resendez, Kyle Rinaldi, Raul Talamantes, Selene Talamantes and Marissa Villarreal.

■ **Second grade:** Judy Adams, Korlee Allen, Wyatt Blake, McKenzie Castillo, Clarissa Cruz, Clay Flores, Shannon Gammill, Dolores Garza, Javier Gomez, Marisol Gomez, Hannah Johnson, Steven Maldonado, Leona Packard, Paul Resendez, Isauro Rivas, Shelby Schuster, Haley Smith and Holt Tuck.

■ **First grade:** Webb Ashley, Peyton Bonner, Gabrielle Brown, Morgan Brown, Blake Duncan, Leonardo Elizondo, Maddie Frerich, Mark Garcia, Griffin Grayson, Logan Hurt, David Ortega, Bryce Slubar, Joaquin Solis and Davis Wade.

A-B Honor Roll

■ **Sixth grade:** Cheyenne Billings, Chris Blake, Cynthia Bland, Alexis Buecher, Brayen Chacon, Charles Conoly, Shaun Davis, Victor Elizondo, Brianna Escamilla, Ivy Garcia, Ramon Gutierrez, Lauren Hernandez, Aracely Martinez, Elena Molinar, Elidia Molinar, YeMi

Moore, Raul Rivas, Andy Schmidt and Isaac Talamantes.

■ **Fifth grade:** Bryan Calk, Stella Guajardo, Ayland Lettinger, Tyler McDonald, Janine Rex, Sahara Rodriguez, Victor Roman, SuSu Seargeant Sam Stewart and Erica Villanueva.

■ **Fourth grade:** Jordan Baumann, Tyler Coates, Francisca Flores, Brittany Hale, Emily Holmes, Ismael Morales, Salvador Pacheco, Joel Talamantes, Joelson Terrazas, Ashley Wardlaw, Kraig Wilson and Daulton Woodson.

■ **Third grade:** Daniel Brinker, Samantha DeHoyos, Austin Del Bosque, Vanerick Domenech, Tony Flores, Sariah Guartuche, R.J. Hernandez, Alexandra Herrera, Celes Molano, Jasmine Pena, Ervey Rodriguez, Maria Villarreal and Vanessa Villarreal.

■ **Second grade:** Issac Baldillez, Arturo Castillo, Isaiah Clements, Edgar DeLeon, Jose Falcon, Juan Lopez, Peter Martinez, Joshua Pena, Zachary Pevehouse, Consuelo Rodriguez, Garon Rueda and August Stephenson.

■ **First grade:** Yessenia Argil, Benjamin Brinker, Sierra Falcon, Brianna Flores, Joshua Gose, Christian Lopez, Reid Markham, Courtney McDonald, Karina Perez, Amber Resendez, Denise Salmon, Te'a Sandoval, Colten Stephenson, San Juanita Vasquez and Yasmine White.

KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, April 12

12:10 a.m., Victor Uvalde, 41, of Austin was arrested by DPS Trooper Marcos Hernandez for driving while intoxicated. He was released later the same day after posting a \$1,500 bail bond.

3:25 a.m., A 911 caller reported that her and her kids were stranded with a flat tire on Highway 90 East near Highway 3008.

10:49 a.m., A Highway Department employee reported an abandoned vehicle about two miles east of Brackettville on Highway 90.

2:04 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs security employee reported an open door at a residence in Unit 3.

6:28 p.m., A woman reported a cow in the middle of the road near Spofford. The owner was notified.

10:25 p.m., Deputy Ramon Gutierrez reported an open door at the Courthouse.

Tuesday, April 13

6:34 a.m., A man reported that a horse and donkeys were out on F.M. 693. The owner of the animals was notified.

Wednesday, April 14

8:10 a.m., Eloy Corrales Trevino, 46, of Brackettville was arrested by Constable Bobby Guidry on a warrant out of Victoria for theft by check and failure to appear. He was released the same day after posting a \$1,000 bail bond.

10:40 a.m., Ignacio Rodriguez, 33, of San Antonio was arrested by DPS Trooper White on a warrant for theft by check out of Bexar County. He was later released on a personal re-

cognizance bond. 12 p.m., Sylvia Torres, 40, of Brackettville was arrested by Sheriff L.K. "Buddy" Burgess for tampering with government records. She was released later the same day after posting a \$2,000 bail bond.

12:18 p.m., A woman reported that her son had been skipping school. Constable Guidry was notified.

9 p.m., A Spofford woman requested assistance with her ex-boyfriend. She said that he would not stop coming to her residence.

9:18 p.m., A woman reported a large metal object in the middle of Highway 90, about four miles west of Brackettville. Texas Department of Transportation officials were notified.

Thursday, April 15

11:15 a.m., Nathan Michael Luna, 19, of Brackettville was arrested by Constable Guidry for possession of a prohibited substance. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail, where he was still being held at press-time.

10:13 p.m., A woman reported a man arguing with some kids at his residence on Beaumont Street.

Friday, April 16

10:10 a.m., Nyshe Luce, 32, of Brackettville was arrested by Chief Deputy Johnny Fritter for injury to a child. She was released later the same day after posting a \$2,500 bail bond.

8 p.m., The Val Verde Sheriff's Office reported a big rubber tire on Highway 90, about seven miles west of the Cline checkpoint. Texas Department of Transportation officials were notified.

8:47 p.m., A woman reported a woman and a child were parked on the shoulder of the highway about 40 miles south of Del Rio. Eagle Pass DPS officials were notified.

10 p.m., A Fort Clark Springs woman reported an alarm sounding at a residence on Fairway Circle.

Saturday, April 17

1:40 p.m., A woman requested assistance with another individual at a residence on W. El Paso Street.

3:16 p.m., A woman requested assistance with her nephew at her residence on W. El Paso Street. The man had punched a hole through a wall.

Deputy Manuel Pena was dispatched to the scene. He found Jesse Sanchez, 22, of Brackettville being restrained by two other men. He was intoxicated and had scrapes and bruises on his back. Sanchez was arrested and charged with public intoxication and disorderly conduct. He was booked into the Kinney County Jail, where he was still being held at press-time.

3:50 p.m., A woman found a checkbook in the street close to her grandmother's house. The checkbook was returned to the owner.

5 p.m., A woman reported a suspicious vehicle on W. El Paso Street. She said the driver of the vehicle was taking pictures while her daughter was outside playing basketball.

11:23 p.m., A woman reported loud music near her resi-

dence on First Street.

11:25 p.m., A man reported and individual with a knife at the Garza Bar on El Paso and Beaumont Street.

Sunday, April 18

12 a.m., A man reported loud music on W. Third Street. Deputies Gutierrez and Page were notified.

12:16 a.m., A 911 caller reported a possible drug overdose on Lackey Alley. EMS personnel were dispatched to the location.

12:50 a.m., A woman called the Sheriff's Office for the fourth time to report loud music near her residence on First Street.

1:37 a.m., A 911 caller reported a couple fighting at a residence on Veltman Street.

1:42 a.m., A woman reported someone making their tires squeal on W. Rose Alley.

10:55 a.m., Juan Manuel Veliz, 37, of Del Rio was arrested by DPS Trooper Luna for driving while intoxicated, third offense.

11:38 a.m., A woman reported that a goat was on her property.

2:56 p.m., A woman requested assistance in unlocking her vehicle at the Pico's parking lot.

5:34 p.m., A man reported that a skunk was chasing his kids. City officials were notified.

6:31 p.m., A man requested assistance in unlocking his vehicle.

6:45 p.m., A 911 caller reported goats out on Highway 90, east of Brackettville. The owner of the goats was notified.

OBITUARY

Marilyn A. Baker

Marilyn A. Baker, long-time resident of Fort Clark Springs, passed from this world on Saturday, April 17, 2004, in San Antonio after a period of illness.

Baker was a devoted wife and mother whose love for family was obvious to everyone who knew her.

Her life included many interests. As an executive secretary, Baker was the third employee of the Martin Aircraft Company. She saw the development of the American aerospace first-hand, watching rockets and missiles launch in the early days of the industry.

After moving to Yuma, Colo., she met her husband, Art Baker. Together they bought and sold cattle and ran a successful feed lot for many years.

A Christian with a deep love for music, Baker combined her faith and her musical gifts in many ways. She taught piano and music skills to youth for many years. Starting with her own children, she led child and youth activities at churches for many years.

A long-time member of the local congregation, she contrib-

uted her musical gifts to the Sunday morning worship services until her recent illness.

Baker is survived by her husband: Art Baker of Fort Clark Springs; sisters: Cathie Conroy of Fort Clark Springs and Cheryl Newbanks of Yuma, Colo.; brothers: Lee Carpenter of Yuma, Colo., and Lyle Carpenter of Oklahoma City, Okla.; daughters: Marilyn Sobel and husband David, and Donna Crues and husband Larry; son: Billy Randle and wife Maria; step-daughter: Janet Burks and husband Larry; step-son: Calvin Baker; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at the First United Methodist Church in Brackettville on Wednesday with the Rev. Roger Baker presiding.

Memorial gifts may be sent in Baker's name to the Ruth Jacobs Memorial Scholarship Fund, Chorists Guild, 2834 W. Kingsley Rd., Garland, TX 75041-2498.

This fund assists college students with an interest in working with children's church music or youth choirs.

BRIEFS

Committee meets Kerrville to host arts & crafts fair

A committee will meet today at 4:30 in the courtroom at the Kinney County Courthouse to discuss the annual Fourth of July parade.

Rabies clinic is planned May 1

A Rabies Clinic will be held at City Hall on Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to noon.

LEPC set to meet

The Local Emergency Planning Committee will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday at the EMS Building.

There's no place like ... deep in the "Art of Texas." Ranked as one of the best in the nation, it's the official Texas State Arts and Crafts Fair in Kerrville. This year the fair runs Memorial Day weekend, from May 29-31.

The grand opening of the River Star Arts and Event Park, the fair's new home is on May 28, with a tasting of Texas wines and music by the Austin Lounge Lizards. Hours are from 4 to 8 p.m. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the gates open at 10 a.m. with plenty of time to visit over 200 craftsmen, enjoy good food, good music and great art.

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Find all the latest breaking news every week in The Brackett News!

Words can't be called back

"Lori, we need to talk. Let's go to the back yard."

Lori looked away from the TV and at her Dad's face, hoping to see some clue about the impending conversation. Seeing a serious look on his face, she got up and followed.

"What's up, Dad?" Lori asked. "Did I do something wrong?"

They reached the back yard and sat down in the lawn chairs. Bill looked at his daughter and then spoke.

"Lori, this morning Mom heard you say a couple of things that has her worried."

"What did I say, Dad? I don't remember anything bad," Lori said.

"Mom said that you got mad and used the name of God to damn your sister. She also said that you use the name of Jesus Christ pretty flippantly at times as an exclamation."

"But Dad, all the kids at school say things like that," Lori replied. "Nobody takes it seriously, and I really didn't mean anything by it."

"Whether anyone takes it seriously or not doesn't lessen the wrong in what you say. When you say words like that, you can never call them back into your mouth. Your words cursed your sister whom I know you dearly love. You also used the precious name



Empowering Families

Dr. Donald Smith

of our Lord as an exclamation. That's not honoring to God.

"These kinds of words express something in your heart that you can't be proud of. An apology is due to your sister and also to your mother who heard your words."

"Long ago a very wise man recognizing his own problem saw the need to guard his mouth so he would not be destroyed by his own words." (Sirach 22:27)

"He tells us not to allow ourselves to get into the habit of swearing or of being too familiar with the Holy Name. Persons who use such words will never mature in character." (Sirach 23:9-15)

"It was Jesus who told us that what is in the heart finds its way out through the mouth." (Luke 6:45)

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

Sanctify yourself against tomorrow

"Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed things, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff.

"Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed from among you.

"Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against tomorrow, for thus saith the Lord



St. John's Missionary Church

Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

God of Israel, there is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you." (Joshua 7:11-13)

Praise God!

First Baptist Church (SBC)

Corner of Ann and Veltman Phone: 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

Pastor Darin Koenig

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SELL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Learn how to serve the church

Have you ever wondered, "what good is going to church?" I know it's a question I get asked, usually by implication rather than a direct confrontation.

Here in Kinney County, the best figures I can come up with show we have about a 25 percent attendance rate, which is below a national average, reported anywhere from 48 to 54 percent. So it would appear we can do better. But the big question remains — why should we attend?

If you're from the Roman Catholic tradition, the answer is simple — attending Mass and receiving communion is an essential part of what it is to be a Christian. It is as much a part of life for the Catholic Christian as receiving forgiveness and extending charity.

For those of us in the Protestant camp, the answers aren't so easy.

I think one really big purpose

of church attendance is to relate to God as a community, rather than as individuals.

In America, where we have "personal" computers, "personalized" license plates on our "personal" cars, "personal" opinion polls, "personal" freedoms and "personal" privacy, it is easy to forget that the "personal relationship" we share with God through Jesus Christ is also a personal relationship shared with millions of other people. Our culture is so focused on the individual it is easy to forget the community of believers. This shapes the way we attend church and also shapes our expectations.

The focus on the "personal" lets us shop for the church that is right for our needs, instead of considering if we are right to join a specific worshipping congregation.

It means we listen to a sermon for what we can get out of



First United Methodist Church

Rev. Roger Baker

it, instead of looking at a larger picture of the needs of the entire congregation.

In some cases, we can embrace the church so possessively that the slightest change can hurt our feelings. In other cases, we can so separate ourselves from the rest of God's people that the needs of the universal church seem like someone else's problem as long as it doesn't interrupt our worship experience.

Last week I was delighted when two pastoral colleagues joined our Bible study for our closing prayers.

I was more delighted when I saw people all across Brackett

and Kinney County collect food and supplies for the victims of flooding in Piedras Negras.

These are acts that see the church as more than personal. They see the church as being personally involved with each other and with God. It was about a church that was bigger than one congregation or one tradition. It was about the one God who was bigger than all of us.

At First United Methodist Church, we are learning how to personally love and serve the entire church of Jesus Christ.

Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and stay for worship at 10:45.

Tuesday mornings, join us at 10 a.m. for a friendly Bible study. We change topics every six weeks or so and take a one-week break between topics. Next week we start the book "Encountering Jesus" by Zan Homes. Coffee and materials are free!

Can anything good come out of Brackettville?

The fourth Gospel, that entitled "The Gospel According to John," tells us this story. You can find it in the first chapter beginning with Verse 43.

Jesus of Nazareth had recruited the first three of his eventual 12 disciples: Andrew, Simon and Philip. Then this happened: let me quote it from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible:

"Philip found Nathaniel and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote,



St. Mary Magdalene Church

Fr. Cornelius J. Scanlan

Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathaniel said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.'

Yours truly has been with you here in Brackettville for almost

three years. Frequently, when one or another "big city folk" asks, "Where are you from?" and I answer "Brackettville," I hear a few make a snide remark such as, "Oh?" as if they expected me to say Washington, D.C. Another might say: "I never heard of it." These two and a few others are quite close to, "Can anything good come out of Brackettville?" The answer is: "Come and see!"

Come and see how our young people — the junior, but more especially, the senior high

school students — believed so much in themselves, in their teachers and coaches, that three teams among them took top honors at recent competitions: the UIL academic team and the girls' and boys' track teams.

Thanks must go not only to the young people of Brackettville for their achievement, but also to the teachers and coaches who drew out from them the spirit of loyalty and generosity that had to be part of the ingredients leading up to their accomplishments.

Property tax information available to citizens

Continued from Page 1

disability for future years." Haenn reminds these homeowners that the taxes may increase if the homeowner improves or adds to the house, such as adding a room or patio.

The law provides that this school tax benefit extends to the surviving spouse of an over-65 or disabled homeowner if the spouse is at least 55 years old at the time of the qualified spouse's death and lives in the home as the principal residence.

The chief appraiser pointed out that homeowners age 65 or older or disabled do not have to reapply for the exemption this year if they received the exemption last year.

Homeowners turning 65 during the year or becoming disabled may file for the school exemption up to one year from the date they turned 65 or became disabled, owned the home and

lived in it as their principal residence. Only those who did not have the exemption and tax ceiling in 2003 must apply in 2004.

Homeowners are also eligible for a \$3,000 general exemption for their county taxes because the county levies a tax for farm-to-market roads or flood control.

Haenn added that any taxing unit may offer a local option exemption that allows a percentage reduction in each residence homestead's appraised value.

In 2004, a taxing unit may exempt up to 20 percent of each qualified home's appraised value.

The taxpayer pamphlet also describes other exemptions available, such as those for disabled veterans and other disabled persons.

Productivity appraisal is another type of tax relief available to agricultural or timberland owners. It is available in two

forms, referred to by its Texas Constitution subsection of Article 8: "1-d" or agricultural-use appraisal and "1-d-1" or open-space land appraisal.

Landowners who wish their land to receive 1-d appraisal must apply each year. The landowner must file a signed, sworn application with the chief appraiser by April 30. However, owners of land receiving 1-d-1 appraisal do not need to reapply, unless the chief appraiser requests in writing that they do so.

Because the qualifications are less strict, many landowners choose to apply for 1-d-1. However, if the land's use changes to a non-agricultural one, the period for recapturing lost taxes is five years for 1-d-1. For 1-d, the recapture time is three years for change of ownership or use.

"The Appraisal District staff can offer more information about

special land appraisal and exemptions," Haenn said.

He said the pamphlet also contains information about protesting to the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is a local citizen board that hears taxpayer protests to ensure that property values are fair and uniform. There is no fee to protest to the ARB.

Another section deals with how voters can petition for an election to reduce the amount of a tax increase adopted by any taxing unit.

"I urge all property owners in the Kinney County Appraisal District to read the pamphlet and learn about the property tax system and all possible property tax relief," Haenn said.

"Remember, taxpayers must file exemption applications with the appraisal office by April 30 and any type of protest by June 15 this year," he added.

FAIR HOUSING IT'S THE LAW!

This year marks the thirty-sixth (36th) Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law. To promote fair housing practices, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

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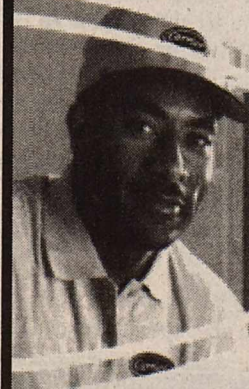
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A fond farewell

Geneva Bullock (standing left) was presented a certificate of achievement from the Brackett ISD Board of Trustees and a coffee mug from Superintendent Bobby Templeton last week. She has been volunteering every day for the last two years with Lisa Conoly's kindergarten class at Jones Elementary School. Bullock is moving to Arizona.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

Green bean casserole is different, and tasty

Most everyone enjoys green beans, but admit it, aren't you tired of the casserole we've been fixing for 15 years? If you would like a change, here's a tasty one. It serves three to four people.



Goodies From G.G.
Vada Baldree

- A Different Green Bean Casserole**
- 1 box frozen french sliced green beans (thawed) or 1 can drained
 - 1/2 can bean sprouts, drained or equivalent fresh
 - 4-ounce can water chestnuts
 - 4-ounce can sliced mushrooms
 - 2 small green onions, sliced, including tops
 - 1/2 cup grated cheese, colby jack or medium cheddar
 - 1 can cream of mushroom

soup, 1/2 can French fried onions.
Using a small casserole dish (1 to 1 1/2 quarts), layer half of the ingredients listed, in the order listed, except for the fried onions. Then repeat layering.
Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes. Top with fried onions. Return to oven for about 15 minutes. Be sure to watch so the onions don't get too brown.

Rio Grande Electric sponsors National Electrical Safety Month poster contest

Hey kids! Ask your school to sign up to participate in the third annual National Electrical Safety Month poster contest.

The contest is open to students in Grades 1 through 6. Certificates and Wal-Mart gift cards will be awarded for the best posters in each participating school, and *The Brackett News* will even publish your picture.

Winning posters may be incorporated into the design of fu-

ture book covers, which are distributed free to schools throughout West Texas and Southern New Mexico.

There are two divisions: first through third grades and fourth through sixth grades.

Posters will be judged on creativity and electrical safety principles represented.

Each poster should be labeled on the back with the following information: Grade, student's

name, age, school and school district.

School personnel will be responsible for selecting and photographing one winner in each division at each school and notifying Rio Grande Electric Cooperative.

Poster judging should be completed at the school level and Rio Grande Electric notified of winners by May 27.

The contest is open to stu-

dents in any school district in the following counties: Webb, Uvalde, Val Verde, Reeves, Hudspeth, Dimmit, Kinney, Terrell, Presidio, El Paso, Maverick, Edwards, Pecos, Jeff Davis, Zavala, Crockett, Brewster, Culberson, Otero (N.M.) and Eddy (N.M.).

School officials can contact Cindy Edwards at cedwards@rgcc.coop or call (800) 749-1509 to enroll a school.

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<p>04 GRAND MARQUIS GS SALE PRICE W/ AARP W/ OWNER LOYALTY \$18495 / \$17995 MSRP \$24,800, REBATE \$3,000, DISCOUNT \$2,955 YOU SAVE - \$5,955</p>	<p>04 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER SALE PRICE W/ AARP \$22995 TOTAL \$20,395, MERCDISC \$995, MSRP \$20,990, REBATE \$3,000, DRFLM DISC. \$2,785 YOU SAVE - \$6,480</p>	<p>04 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR SALE PRICE W/ AARP \$39995 MSRP \$49,975, REBATE \$10,000, DISCOUNT \$9,980 YOU SAVE \$9,520</p>

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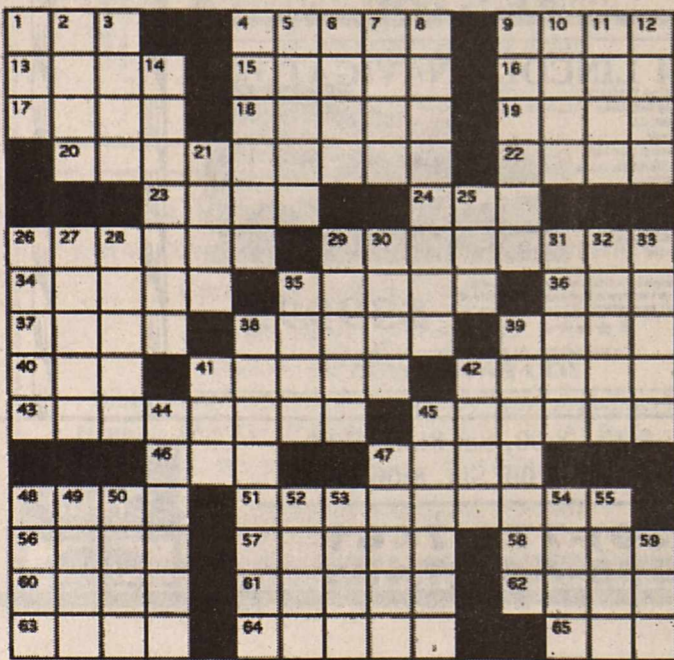
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ROARING TWENTIES

In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid.

Today's Category: MONTHS and BIRTHSTONES

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

- 1. Emerald 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 22...Debra Bauntello April 24.....Patrick Gass April 23.....Adam Caton April 25.Harold Kauffman April 23.....Sara Gonzales April 26....LaVohn Payne April 23..Norma Sandoval April 27.....Jack Wood April 24.....Mirza Clarke April 28..Candy Gonzales April 24.....Angie Gass April 28.....Chad Neuman

Roaring Twenties Solution: 1. Amethyst 11. June 2. April 12. March 3. August 13. May 4. December 14. November 5. Diamond 15. October 6. Emerald 16. Opal 7. February 17. Ruby 8. Garnet 18. Sapphire 9. January 19. September 10. July 20. Topaz

HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) LIBRA (September 23 to October 23) It's wise for you to keep in mind ber 22) You've addressed some that you can't control everything problems at work. Now it's time around you. A situation which has to turn your attention to domestic issues. Family members are frazzled. This time, just leave it waiting in line for you to consider their needs. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You're a bit scatter-brained this week. If you realize that, you can week to review finances. If need avoid some potential mistakes on the job. At home, you find a safe haven away from it all. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You and your mate are not communicating well this week. You're talking past each other. Find some time where you can both sit down calmly and hash things out in a reasonable manner. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It's a good idea to go over career plans this week. You may have missed something important for your future. A friend has great advice for you concerning a personal matter. LEO (July 23 to August 22) AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Friends are clamoring for your attention. However, this isn't the week for you to gad about socially. Tend to family matters first. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Take some time this week to find out what it is about a certain friend you find so irritating. If not, you could risk alienating that person. Over the weekend, watch your expenditures. (c) 2001 DBR Media, Inc.

BHS claims titles

Brackett won three of the four district track championships last week in Dilley. BHS claimed the varsity boys', varsity girls' and junior varsity boys' titles.

The top two finishers in each event at district qualify to compete in the regional meet next weekend in San Marcos.

The Tigers varsity team won the gold after tallying 151 points. Dilley was second with 122 points.

The sprint relay team of Beau Watkins, Tony Rosetti, Noe Talamantes and Cody Edwards finished first with a time of 44.52.

Brand Wylie, Watkins, Talamantes and Mark Kesteloot won the mile relay after being clocked at 3:33.51.

In the 800-meter dash, Wylie finished second with a time of 2:06.52, while Cesar Ortiz was sixth with a 2:17.3.

Tres Rueda won the 110 high hurdles with a 17.22 and Robert Davis was third with a 17.51. Rueda also took second in the 300 hurdles with a 43.33, while Davis was third with a 45.29.

In the 100-meter dash, Rosetti took second with an 11.65 and Edwards was third with an 11.73.

In the 400, Kesteloot and Talamantes took second and third with times of 51.75 and 52.9, respectively, while Watkins was fifth with a 56.9.

Edwards finished second in the 200 with a 24.45, while Rosetti was fourth with a 24.58 and Kesteloot was sixth with a 24.88.

In the 800-meter relay, Ortiz, Davis, Rueda and Glenn Morgan came in fifth with a 1:39.95.

Morgan finished second in the shot put with a throw of 44-6, and Rolando Ortiz came in fourth with a 42-7. Morgan also took third in the discus with a 126-6, while John Moore was sixth with a 116-8.

Wylie took second in the pole vault with a jump of 12-6.

In the varsity girls' division, the Tigerettes finished on top

with 179 points, while Three Rivers was second with 166.

Brackett's mile relay team of Courtney Frerich, Stephanie Coronado, Divina Pena and Rachel Swinson took the gold after being clocked at 4:12:9.

Pena, Frerich, Stacey Castilla and Timmeke Simmons came in third in the 800 relay with a time of 1:55.09.

The sprint team of Caitlin Wylie, Stephanie Bonner, Brandy Smith and Pena also posted a third-place finish with a time of 53.7.

Juliann Ashabranner won the 3,200-meter run with a time of 12:42.9, while Ashley Castillo and Tanya Molinar were second and third with times of 14:01.9 and 14:44.5, respectively.

Ashabranner also won the 1,600 with a 5:46.8, while Ashley Smith was third with a 5:58.4 and Molinar was sixth with a 6:46.6.

Bonner took third in the high hurdles with a 17.07 and Brandy Smith finished sixth with an 18.8.

Frerich won the high hurdles after posting a 49.8. Brandy Smith finished second with a 51.0 and Danika Schmidt was fourth with a 55.1.

In the 800, Ashley Smith was second with a 2:38.1, while Castillo and Coronado were fourth and fifth with times of 2:46.4 and 2:47.7, respectively.

Swinson won the 400 with a 60.8 and was second in the 100 with a 13.2. Wylie was fifth in the 200 with a time of 29.8, while Coronado finished sixth in the 400 with a 66.6.

In the field events, Frerich took second in the high jump with a 5-0. Castilla finished third with 4-11 and Schmidt was fifth with a 4-4.

Swinson was third in the long jump with a 16.5, while Pena was fourth with a 15.75.

Shanae Simmons posted a third-place finish in the discus competition with a throw of 97 feet.

The Tigers' junior varsity also claimed a district championship.

The junior varsity sprint relay team of Star Smith, Miles Braesicke, Ivan Pinales and Whitney Massingill won the gold after turning in a 47.9.

Massingill finished second in the 100-meter dash with a 12.42, while Braesicke was third with a 12.56 and Pinales was fourth with a 12.70.

In the 200, Braesicke, Massingill and Pinales finished fourth, fifth and sixth with times of 25.83, 25.89 and 25.97, respectively.

Smith turned in a fourth-place finish in the 400 after running a 61.2.

Massingill won two gold medals for taking first in the shot put with a 38-7 and first in the discus with a 107-9. Braesicke was second in the discus with a 100-6.

Smith won the triple jump with a 33-10.5, while Pinales was third with a 33-5. Pinales also took fourth in the long jump with a leap of 16-4.

Kristina Wright competed alone in the junior varsity girls' division and placed fourth overall, beating two teams by herself. Her individual results were not available at press-time.



Heading to third
Brackett's Nadine Terrazas gets ready to head to third base against Three Rivers. The Tigerettes closed their season Tuesday with a heart-breaking 6-5 loss to Three Rivers.

Photo by J.J. Guidry

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Kayla Cruz, Happy
30th Birthday Mark
Gonzales - Good
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NOTICE OF FINAL PUBLIC HEARING

The County of Kinney has completed the Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment Grant of which 100% or \$243,638.00 was funded by the Office of Rural Community Affairs, Texas Community Development Program Project Number 722499. The project consisted of improving Emergency Medical Services (EMS) through the purchase of one EMS van with life support capabilities, the purchase of one 2004 remount unit (EMS) van and various fire fighting and rescue equipment to include such items as a Jaws of Life unit, helmets, boots, gloves, hoses, pumps, etc.

A final public hearing to review and receive comments on the program performance including the actual use of funds will be held at 5:05 p.m. Monday April 26, 2004 at the Kinney County Courthouse.

All citizens and interested groups are invited to attend and comment on this matter. Those persons unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the Honorable Herb Senne, County Judge, Kinney County Courthouse, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or mail them:

Hon. Herb Senne
County of Kinney
P.O. Box 348
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First Baptist Church - \$20 all day
(Covers lunch and use of my tools)
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