

The Brackett News



**Cross Country
Tigerettes at State**
See page 5

16th year, No. 41

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

1 Section, 8 Pages

BRIEFS

LEPC meeting

Local Emergency Planning Committee meets Monday, Nov. 22, 6:30 p.m. in the EMS Building.

Bandera holds

Harvest Festival

There's more fun in Bandera than the Two-Step and Barbecue! Come celebrate our first-ever Harvest Festival on Saturday, Nov. 20, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club, 715 Maple St.

Featuring more than 100 entertainers, and a variety of ethnic foods, the event will celebrate our region's cultural diversity.

It's jointly sponsored by the Boys and Girls Club of Bandera County and the ESL (English as a Second Language) students of Bandera and Medina.

Pee Wee hoops

sign up 18th & 19th

The Brackett Pee Wee Basketball is gearing up for its second year. The group is registering kids from 1st grade through 6th grade for Pee Wee Basketball.

Registration is today and Friday from 3 to 4 p.m. at the Elementary Building. Deadline to register your child for Pee Wee Basketball is Dec. 3. The cost is \$17 per child. For more information contact Maggie Kerr at 563-9533.

Agents nab

\$8M in narcotics

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officers at South Texas ports of entry finished the last week of the fiscal year with a flourish, seizing \$8 million in narcotics, including two cargo loads in Laredo and three significant cocaine seizures in Hidalgo.

During a seven-day period ending midnight Thursday, Sept. 30, CBP Officers at eight South Texas ports of entry extending from Brownsville to Del Rio seized: 5,761 pounds of marijuana, 134 pounds of cocaine, arrested 22 fugitives, recovered two stolen vehicles, detected 17 immigration violations and seized \$51,460 in undeclared currency.

The two largest marijuana seizures both were discovered in tractor trailers at World Trade Bridge. CBP Officers on Sept. 24 discovered 2,750 pounds of marijuana in a 1995 Freightliner tractor hauling a shipment of tostadas.

The driver was arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agents.

Tigers enter playoffs Friday against Flatonia Brackett, Bulldogs face off 7:30 p.m. in Alamo Heights

By Darin Koenig
Sports Writer

The weather has turned colder, it gets dark really early, and the leaves and rain have begun to fall.

This can only mean one thing; the second Texas football season has arrived!

This second season is only for a privileged few, 64 teams in class 1A to be exact.

Now the time has come when it is down to the best 32 teams in the state of Texas.

Your Brackett Tigers are one of these 32 teams.

They will take their hopes, dreams, and talent on the road this Friday night.

The first step in the Brackett Tigers "second season" is a battle against Flatonia.

This is a battle because the stakes have just gone from big to enormous.

The first season determined a district championship and earning a spot in the playoffs.

The Brackett Tigers achieved both of those goals. Now, the time has come to take the next step.

That next step will be a historical step for Brackett and the Tiger football program.

It will mean that the Tigers have won their first playoff game in school history.

The 2004 Brackett Tigers are already a historical team.

They have won back-to-back undefeated district championships.

Is this the team that will become a team for the ages in Brackett High School history? Friday night will bring the answer to that question.

You may want to know the inside scoop about this historical team that seeks the best record in school history, the first play-

off victory in school history, and the first football state championship in school history.

This team is headed by one of the best coaching staffs in the state of Texas, they have already knocked off one State ranked opponent, class 2A Sonora, and have achieved one of the most difficult feats in coaching, the back-to-back undefeated district championships.

The host of players includes one 1,000 yard rusher and a quarterback who has thrown for over 650 yards, 15 touchdowns, and only two interceptions.

The offensive line has consistently opened gapping holes for running backs allowing them to gain over 3600 yards rushing.

The defense has stifled opponents, giving up just over 1400 yards of offense on the season.

The Tigers special teams have scored five touchdowns on the

season.

The punt return squad has three touchdowns, one came on a kickoff return, and one was scored on a blocked punt.

This overwhelming display of power on the gridiron has led the Associated Press to rank this team second in class 1A.

The Tigers will square off Friday against a powerful opponent. Flatonia has a dangerous running back who has left defenders missing tackles all season.

They combine this threat with a speedy receiver who stands at about six feet five inches.

This height allows him to catch passes that are thrown high above defensive backs.

Flatonia was busy this last Friday in their Bi-District game against Ben Bolt.

Flatonia won the game 28-6 and now look to upset the Ti-

gers.

The Tigers will take their first step towards a State Championship against this powerful foe on Friday night at 7:30 PM.

The game will be in San Antonio at Alamo Heights Stadium. If the Tigers win, they will play the winner of the Axtell/Rock-springs game. Come out and support your Brackett Tigers as they seek to bring home an Area Championship.

Brackett ISD is sponsoring Fan Buses Friday. If you want to ride, you must come into the central offices for your reservation. Cost is \$5 per person. Junior High students and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Each student must have a signed permission slip to ride the fan bus.

For more information contact central office at 563-2491, ext. 100. For directions to the game, contact the central office as well.



FLOOD WATERS
A super cell over the area dumped nearly 10 inches of rain in the Kinney County area. The rains had the Pinto Creek crest at nearly five feet above on the flood gauge, according to reports from the National Weather Service. Forecast calls for clear skies the rest of the week.
Photo by Wes Robinson

Esparza, Trevino recognized by USPS

Postmaster Leonel G. Juarez recognized Sales Service Associate (SSA) David Esparza and SSA Ruben Trevino achieving safety performance excellence of their duties.

Both were presented with commemorative jackets. The West Texas (WesTx) Area was number one in the District for Fiscal Year 2004. The Brackettville Post Office had no accidents for the Fiscal Year.

"We extend our thanks to both Mr. Esparza and Mr. Trevino for a job well done," Juarez said.



Photo by Jewel Robinson
Brackettville Post Master Leonel Juarez, left, presents SSA Daniel Trevino, center, and SSA David Esparza with commemorative jackets for being rated No. 1 in the WesTx Area.

Community Unity set for Dec. 4th

The Church Alliance of Brackettville reminds everyone that it is that time of year again for collecting donations for the Community Unity Christmas Program to be held Saturday, Dec. 4, in the east side of the Kinney County Civic Center. This year, the date has been moved up an entire week. The program starts at 5 p.m. with the Food Court and Entertainment, 5:30 p.m. for the Poster Contest Cash Awards. This year's theme is "Jesus: The Gift of Joy!". Toys will be distributed at 7 p.m. and clean-up at 8 p.m. To make a donation to this year's Community Unity Christmas Program, make checks payable to Gateway Ministries, Inc, P.O. Box 1449, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Make a notation that it is to be used for the Christmas Program (toys and expenses). The group is trying to receive all donations by Nov. 20. Persons or groups wanting to have a table to distribute free items at the Food Court or who have any questions, may contact Charlotte Corey at 563-2121, 513-0890, or email at: bccorey50@yahoo.com.

INSIDE

Kay Hutchison

The voters in this election delivered a verdict on domestic policies, decisively rejecting obstructionism. They desire Republicans and Democrats to work together.
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Chuck Hall

I seldom go anywhere without wanting a map. It's just my nature. There is something about knowing where I'm at that gives me a feeling of security.
Opinion/Page 4

Donald Smith

Josie seemed confused. "I still don't understand Rolando. All these years, I thought it was over with."
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Beto the Gecko: Be good, Santa is not the only one watching!

- Ask any Elementary or Intermediate student who Beto the Gecko is and you will probably get all sorts of answers.
- One first grade student yesterday said "Beto is the lizard that lives in Mr. Burks' desk."
- Another student commented in the cafeteria that "Beto the Gecko is the little lizard that helps the Principal."
- Both of those answers are pretty close to being perfect.
- Beto does live in a desk and he is amazingly helpful. Beto is the mythical, all seeing, all knowing brown gecko that secretly helps Principal Burks and the teachers find and recognize students. Students who make Honest decisions, Care about their fellow classmates, are responsible for everything they do, have good Citizenship in and out of the classroom.
- Students who Cooperate with teachers and other students, Care about those around them, and are Determined to do a great job.
- All of "Betos Buddies" had their picture taken and displayed in central office.
- The students recognized by Beto this six weeks were:



Beto's Buddies are: Back Row from left — Jesse Martinez, Mike Flores, Francisca Flores, Annette Martinez, Cynthia Salazar, Emily Holmes, and McKenzie Castillo. Front Row: Dolores Garza, Judy Adams, Yasmine White, Maddie Frerich, Jeremiah Sandoval, Walt Ashley, and Jairo Pinales.

The theory of evolution

Now I'm mad! Just when I think we are about to put a bit of reality back into our lives something happens to show just how moronic certain segments of our society have become.

Georgia is in the news. Trying to be fair and offer a rounded education, giving their children the whole story on creation and not just bombarding them with the atheistic, and incorrect, theory of evolution as the only option, one county near Atlanta, in a fit of sanity, put stickers only say that evolution is a theory and not a physical law.

Sounds fair and reasonable to me. Gives both sides a fair hearing. Well, Emory Univer-



The Way I See It

Steven R. LaMascus

sity molecular biologist Carlos Moreno says, "People want to project the image that Georgia is a modern state, that we're in the 21st century. Then something like this happens."

The stickers only say that evolution should be "critically considered," but the atheist, liberal, Jesus hating, Christian hating group that runs most of our educational system and decides what should be in our textbooks are in a total uproar.

They don't want a fair hearing, they don't want to even mention the fact that evolution is unproven, that the evidence points to evolution being false, and that most things that can be observed seem to have happened just as the Bible says.

That ain't good enough! The truth is that this has nothing to do with evolution as a theory or a law.

The truth is that it has to do with God.

Those who don't believe in God are incensed that we stupid and backward Christians would have the temerity to question their superior intellect and try to dictate to them what our children should be taught in school.

It should be obvious to us that they are smarter, wiser, and much better looking than we are, and that we should just roll

over and play dead, letting them teach our children any kind of atheistic lies they choose to perpetrate.

This is made plain by Moreno when he says about northerners, "They felt Southerners were not only less well educated, but less intelligent."

Do we really care what a bunch of useless, arrogant, narrow-minded, city-dwelling, atheists think of us?

Because they think they are superior does not make it true. That they feel that way is a sure sign that it isn't true!

Arrogance is usually a sign of inferiority, not superiority.

A person with true intelligence and common sense realizes how ignorant he really is and doesn't take anything for granted, but continues throughout his life to search for truth.

A sign of intelligence is open-mindedness, not a mind made up and closed to input. The evolutionists have made up their minds, not based on evidence but on the fact that if they don't believe in evolution they are forced to conclude that we stupid Christians are correct and there really is a God who created the universe.

They can't handle that so they choose, that's CHOOSE, to believe in evolution.

It takes the same amount of faith, misplaced though it is, to believe in evolution as it does to believe in creation.

This is not a choice to believe in logic over mythology. This is a choice to deny God and embrace Satan.

These people refuse to look at the facts.

If their only choices are God or evolution, they are going to choose evolution because they will not, even at the cost of their immortal souls, even if they know for a fact that they are going to hell, believe in a God that rules an ordered and created universe.

It is just exactly that simple. Every law of science denies the existence of evolution.

An ordered universe formed from total chaos is contrary to the laws of nature.

Evolution is contrary to the observed results of mutation. Never, not once, has any mutation resulted in an addition of genetic information in DNA.

Every time mutation has been observed it has resulted in a loss of information.

The creature so mutated is not strengthened but weakened to the point of being unable to survive. That is the truth, not Darwin's half-baked notion of natural selection and improvement of nature by mutation.

Evolution is a lie! God is the truth!

Do you want your children taught a lie or the truth? If you believe in evolution you are the fool, not us.

We know, we're saved, you're lost.

Get a clue or burn in hell. That is your real choice!

Genesis 1:24, "And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.'"

And it was so."

Encouraging vets to share

Last week our nation celebrated Veterans Day. The day reminded us that throughout America, and particularly in the Lone Star State, there are thousands of veterans with a wealth of unique memories and perspectives from their years of service in the U.S. Armed Forces.

To gather and preserve those memories for future generations, the Library of Congress has launched the Veterans History Project. I strongly encourage all veterans of all wars to participate in this exciting effort to capture first-person accounts of wartime experiences.

Created by Congress in 2000, the Veterans History Project coordinates and expands a national collection of veterans' oral histories and writings. Part of the Library of Congress' American Folklife Center, the Project honors those who served in the military and those civilians who have worked in support of our armed forces.

The Project builds on our nation's ever-evolving collective memory. Honoring our past plays a key element for understanding our shared identity, and the Library of Congress is the steward of America's memory.

Oral history can bring us close to the experience of the intense camaraderie with others upon whom your life depends; the fear that comes with being under siege; or the uncertainty of waiting on the home front for a loved one to return. So many men and women from World War I to Operation Enduring Freedom have powerful stories that must be recorded for the future.

Oral history brings history down from a lofty distance. While many histories of war cap-



Weekly Report

Henry Bonilla

ture the perspective of the generals and admirals, much can also be learned from the letters of a young man in combat and his young bride.

The Veterans History Project recruits Americans of all ages, veterans and non-veterans, to be part of this process. The project also serves as a tremendous outlet for veterans' sons and daughters, many of whom have long been curious about their father or mother's wartime stories but never heard them.

By sitting down with audio or video recorders and guiding veterans through their military and civilian exploits, these volunteers add rich details to our nation's great history.

Almost 19 million war veterans live in America now, according to the Project. Tragically, more than 1,500 die every day. The time to record these oral histories is now!

For more information on how you and your family may contribute to the Veterans History Project, visit the Project's web site at www.loc.gov/veterans or simply call the Project at (202) 707-4916. The staff at the Project will send you a starter kit and put you in touch with local volunteers to assist you in your efforts to contribute to this important collection.

It is up to those who served to share with America exactly why freedom isn't free.

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Big Mama Sez!

Most people say that as you get old, you have to give up things. I think you get old because you give up things.

The Brackett News
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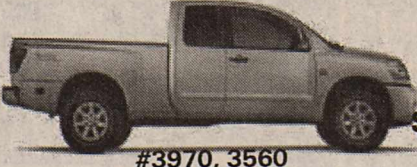
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An agenda for the future Welcome to 'Narlins!

There are elections in which everyone knows that "the people have spoken" but they don't always know exactly what the people have said. This November's election was different. Not only did the people speak, they spoke clearly. They supported President George W. Bush and want Congress to do the people's work without political obstruction.

We have important tasks ahead of us. First, we have the War on Terror. President Bush believes this war is not a localized matter confined to a single country. It is a worldwide struggle. We are battling fanatics who kidnap and behead civilians and shoot fleeing children in the back. There can be



Capitol Comment

Kay Bailey Hutchison

no dialogue with such people, and the American people understand this. The War on Terror not only involves providing our troops with everything they need, it also involves making needed reforms to our security agencies to help us defend our homeland.

The voters in this election also delivered a verdict on domestic policies. They decisively rejected obstructionism because

they desire Republicans and Democrats to work together.

For instance, the Senate should take action on the President's judicial nominees. For years, qualified candidates have been denied a vote for confirmation despite having the support of a bipartisan majority in the Senate. I will work with my colleagues to ensure these nominees get a vote.

The American people want Congress to make family tax relief permanent. Texans also want us to make the state sales tax deduction permanent. Eliminated 18 years ago, I and my colleagues were able to restore it for 2004 and 2005 and save the average Texas family of four more than \$928 in federal taxes each year.

Tax simplification is also on the agenda. One proposal is the Flat Tax to replace our present multi-tiered system with a single rate. Another option is to adopt a National Sales Tax in place of income and payroll taxes.

Our country also hungers for leadership to ensure the long-term survival of our Social Security system. With 70 million baby boomers in this country on the verge of retirement, we need to take action to shore up the system. President Bush's proposal guarantees those who have already retired, or are close to retirement, will receive the benefits they have been promised. His plan will also let Americans voluntarily choose to deposit part of their Social Security payments in private accounts which have historically yielded higher returns than payments into the Social Security program.

In the latter part of this past summer I took a trip to New Orleans. The locals there call it "Narlins". I walked more in three days than I have in the last three years. After a while all of the shops began to look the same. They had the same stuff and basically the same prices.

We stayed in a nice hotel. I forget the name. We ate some of the best food I have ever put in my mouth. I really like seafood. Shrimp tastes great no matter how you cook it.

One evening we even ate in a savory Mexican food restaurant.

I seldom go anywhere without wanting a map. It's just my nature. There is something about knowing where I'm at that gives me a feeling of security.

Not only where I'm at, but where I'm going. I like maps.

A map affords me indepen-



But I Could Be Wrong

Chuck Hall

dence. New Orleans was no different. I located a map in the first hour of our arrival. I found spots of interest to go visit. I highlighted areas that I had been told to look for. I had heard a lot about one spot in particular. I wanted to try the oysters at a place called the Acme Oyster Bar. I highly recommend it.

After I located the place in question on my booklet type map, I needed a bookmark to reference the page. Not having anything else, I slipped a dollar bill into position. So far all

is well. As we walked down the street, I wanted to check the exact address in my map book.

I found it, saw we were a block away, and deposited the money in the front pocket of my pants, and the map back into the rear pocket.

As we started to enter the eating establishment, I felt a small nudge, heard a mumbled apology from the offending party, and then continued inside.

After the meal, we wanted to see other sights. I reached for my map and it was gone.

I sincerely apologize to the person that saw me take money from the booklet, thought I carried more there, and decided to pick my pocket.

He probably has a family to feed. They're still hungry. I let him down.

But I could be wrong.

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Delicious cornbread salad

Recently, a friend of mine asked me to bring a special salad that my aunt in New Mexico had given me several years ago. Usual fare of brisket and all the trimmings and she wanted it part of the menu.

What an honor! In the past couple of years, I've seen and tried variations of this but still find I like the seemingly original one developed many years ago. Word of caution: Spice/

heat increases with time.

Cornbread Salad
1 pkg. Mexican cornbread mix, 1 med. tomato, seeded and chopped finely, 1 med. bell pepper, green, finely chopped, 1/2 cup onion finely minced, 1 cup mayonnaise, 2 tbsp. prepared mustard, 1 tbsp. pepper, salt and sugar.

Cook cornbread according to package directions. Cool and crumble. Using large bowl, com-



Goodies From G.G.

Vada Baldree

bine all ingredients, blending thoroughly. Cover and refrigerate at least 12 hours. May be stored for use 3-4 days.

Preparing your boat for winter

Fishfinders and downriggers deserve special attention before winter sets in. Preparing the boat

for winter is a habit most owners try not to forget. Before that first frost hits, boats are prepped for a long winter's nap. Engines are fogged, lower unit grease replaced and wheel bearings packed. It makes preparing for that first trip in the spring a bit easier. "Too often, the attachments to the boat are simply overlooked," said Computrol's Ted Thibault. "The fishfinder worked great on the last trip and the downriggers did their job flawlessly. But these high tech electronics need special care. "First, unplug power cords and

remove the fish finders from the boat," he said. "They should be stored inside away from the extreme winter cold. These products work just as good in January as they did in August but prolonged storage in cold is not recommended. Apply an antioxidant spray to terminal connections to reduce oxidation potential, and this is a good time to inspect components, looking for cracks in transducer or cables." Thibault added that now is also a good time for servicing , such as replacing screens or fixing known problems.

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Varsity Tigerettes end cross country

By Darin Koenig
Sports Writer

The Brackett Tigerettes ended the Cross Country season at the State Meet in Round Rock this past Saturday. The Tigerettes competed well finishing in eighth place against in Class 1A.

The team ended an amazing season that featured another District Championship and the entire team competing against the best teams in Class 1A. Sulphur Springs North Hopkins won the

meet with 35 points. Sundown finished in second with 51 points, while Stratford's 72 points was good for third.

Alvord earned 108 points for fourth place, Thorndale earned 174 for fifth, Era scored 186 to grab sixth, and Aspermont tallied 189 to finish seventh place.

In the individual competition, the Tigerettes were led by Juliann Ashabranner who finished in 12:47 finishing just one second ahead of Daphne Hunt who ran a 12:48. Gabby

Schroeder finished the Dell Diamond course in 13:12, with Elva Garcia running a 14:29.

Garcia was being chased by teammate Julie Castillo who crossed the finish line just one second behind at the 14:30 mark. Jessi Crane ran a 15:19 in the state competition and Timmeke Simmons rounded out the

Brackett competitors with a time of 17:29.

This meet concluded the 2004 Cross Country season for BHS. The team showed great heart and was able to overcome many obstacles during the season to make it to this level of competition. Congratulations to the Brackett Tigerettes on an amazing season.



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SHERIFF'S REPORT

Monday, November 8
7:23 a.m., Del Rio DPS stated that a man reported a cut fence and buildings broken into at the Doppler Station. The land owner and Border Patrol were notified. Constable Bobby Guidry and Deputy Ron Ring were informed.

3:28 p.m., A City employee requested a deputy at the City Hall because a man was causing problems. Deputy Donald Page was dispatched.

Tuesday, November 9
2:23 p.m., Christopher Maldonado, 17, of Baytown, was arrested by Sheriff Buddy Burgess for prohibited weapons, brass knuckles. Maldonado is still being held at the time of the report.

Wednesday, November 10
10:30 a.m., Rebecca Lynn Semrad, 24, of Tylor, Texas, was arrested by Deputy Page for theft. Semrad was later released

after posting \$800 security bond.

Thursday, November 11
10:01 a.m., A man reported an accident on Highway 90 towards Uvalde. He stated that there were no injuries but the driver appeared to be intoxicated. Deputy Gutierrez and Uvalde Police Department were notified.

Saturday, November 13
12:15 a.m., A woman requested to speak with a deputy concerning her daughter being involved in a fight. Deputy Page was informed.

Sunday, November 14
10:00 a.m., Gilbert Fernandez, 20, of Wellington, Texas, was arrested by Sheriff Burgess for forgery. Fernandez was later released after posting \$2,500 security bond.

9:45 p.m., An anonymous caller reported a vehicle driving up and down Highway 90 west. Deputy Page was advised.

MONUMENTS

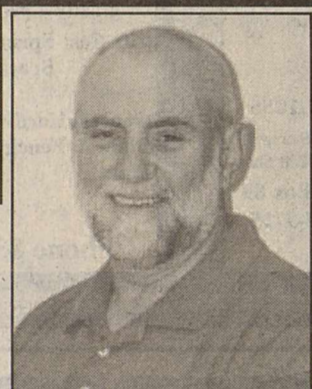
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2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer	19,872 miles	SN 5206	2004 Buick Century Custom	30,633 miles	SN 5241	2003 Pontiac Grand Am	25,311 miles	SN 5150	2003 Chevrolet Silverado Crewcab	57,992 miles	SN 5245A
2004 Chevrolet Impala	18,402 miles	SN 5211	2004 Buick LaSalle Custom	19,097 miles	SN 5243	2003 Chevrolet Silverado C1500	28,295 miles	SN 5161	2003 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab	50,914 miles	SN 5295A
2004 Pontiac Bonneville	24,094 miles	SN 5218	2004 Buick LaSalle Custom	29,793 miles	SN 5240	2003 Chevrolet Venture Van	33,228 miles	SN 5162	2002 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab	38,749 miles	SN 70904A
2004 Chevrolet Cavalier	28,305 miles	SN 5219	2003 Pontiac Sunfire	30,211 miles	SN 5201	2003 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab	28,529 miles	SN 5155	2002 Chevrolet Silverado Reg. Cab	52,331 miles	SN 5219A
2004 Pontiac Grand Am SE	30,435 miles	SN 5239	2003 Chevrolet Suburban	34,187 miles	SN 71244A	2003 Chevrolet Suburban	29,311 miles	SN 5166	2002 GMC Sonoma Sportside	34,176 miles	SN 5228
2004 Pontiac Grand Am	15,512 miles	SN 5236	2003 Chevrolet Silverado C1500	11,950 miles	SN 5233	2003 Chevrolet Tahoe	33,417 miles	SN 5172	2002 Chevrolet Avalanche	26,373 miles	SN 5244A
2004 Chevrolet Aveo	14,519 miles	SN 5237	2003 Dodge Dakota Quad Cab	35,190 miles	SN 5210A	2003 Chevrolet Cavalier	27,547 miles	SN 5202	2002 GMC Yukon XL	44,814 miles	SN 5235A
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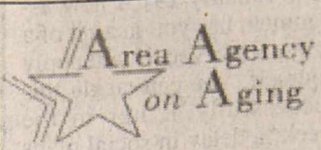
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ROARING TWENTIES In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Words can be found in all directions—forward, backward, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words? Today's Category: WATERCRAFT

Today's Category: WATERCRAFT HWINARAMATAC SGREPPILCFWSW RDSLOOPASAKI ESCHOONEREDFN GALLEONEDEED GOSDES YDTKRJI BNGSOSLHHRARA DDDRDINGHYM TRHTONDSISAM UGSSELDOEECE OECRBOATRWHR DRESIURCFYTT 1. Ferry 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Nov. 18.....Ruben Bauntello Nov. 18.....Elizabeth Smith Nov. 18.....Lyla E. Udy Nov. 19.....Linda Sanchez Nov. 19.....Victor Sanchez Nov. 20.....Raymond Aguilar Nov. 20.....Tracy Gilbreth Nov. 20.....Dusty Rose Nov. 21.....Billy Robinson Nov. 23.....Dennis Olson Nov. 23.....Dottie Stueckroth Nov. 23.....Harold Miller Nov. 24.....Marie Coburn Nov. 24.....Mary Nobles

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HOROSCOPES by Charles Cooper AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You delight in a loved one's good news. In fact, it's fortuitous for the entire family. Over the weekend, stay away from people who could bring you down. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) An opportunity for advancement is possible on the job. Study this carefully. Not everything is at it seems. ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You need to take the initiative this week. That means, no sitting by the phone or computer, waiting for someone to get back to you. You'll do better when you're in control. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Business dealings are favored this week. In fact, bigwigs might surprise you with a special reward. Later in the week, you could get into a disagreement with a loved one over money matters. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're worrying needlessly over something you can't control. This is one time when time truly will solve the problem. Over the weekend, friendships are highlighted. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're very self-confident this week. As a result, it seems everything you touch turns to gold, at least, figuratively. At home, a loved one is a bit depressed, so try to cheer this person up. LEO (July 23 to August 22) You're in a peaceful place right now. In fact, it's a good week for some introspection. Insights you receive will help you in the future. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Financial developments are in your favor this week, which is a relief. Remember to research all investment matters thoroughly, though. This weekend, romance is a bit iffy. LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) If at all possible, see if you can get away for a few days. You need to clear your head. If you can do this, you'll be rested and refreshed for upcoming challenges. SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You receive good news on the family front. In fact, there just might be a new addition! Job interests come to the fore later in the week. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You receive an exciting invitation for the upcoming holidays. Be sure to clear this with family first. Everyone needs to be on the same wavelength for this visit. CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A new assignment has you in a bit of a tizzy. However, if you apply yourself, you can tackle this successfully. Later in the week, a delay in social plans could occur. (c) 2004 DBR Media, Inc.

Arriving and departing as Jesus did

When Sue & I arrived in Brackett some 18 months ago, we knew we'd be assigned here for only two years. We promised our friends and the congregation we'd tell them exactly where and when we'd be moving.

A few weeks ago, we found out that we'll be moving to Altus, Oklahoma in June of 2005. That's about 8 months from now.

Of course, knowing that you're leaving can change relationships. Jesus constantly mentioned His departure to His disciples, although they didn't understand. With the understanding the church has of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we today can see that every time Jesus spoke of His future, He spoke of both the suffering He would experience and the joy and forgiveness that the resurrection



First United Methodist Church
Rev. Roger Baker

would bring. Sadly, the disciples couldn't see what was coming... they could only face each moment as it occurred. Jesus knew that despite His personal suffering and departure, the rewards to His followers would be enormous. The disciples could only envision the loss of their leader. Jesus knew that the Holy Spirit would come to His disciples to lead them into all truth.

I understand this aspect of Jesus' ministry better than I'd like. This is my fourth occasion to leave a congregation after be-

ing heavily involved in the local ministry, but the first time as the senior pastor. The last time Sue & I left not just a congregation, but 13 different churches I served as a circuit preacher. Leaving is always difficult.

The best way to cope that I've found is to look at the future prayerfully and expectantly. I've already begun preparing things for the person who will fill the pastoral role after me, even though that won't happen for many months. The new pastor will have an opportunity to build on the congregation's recent successes, and will also have the chance to correct mistakes and set out a new vision. It is an exciting time for the Methodist church!

This is also a time for me to get busy making corrections and adjustments so that when I de-

part, the new pastor will have the best possible opportunity to continue ministering to the people of Kinney County. Hopefully the new pastor will even be moved to write a few lines in the newspaper!

Enough of the talk of leaving! For now, we Methodists are focusing on the future: how we can prepare to show our new pastor that we know and live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One way that we show the world who we are is through our web site. Take a look at www.gbgm-umc.org/fumc-brackett for a glimpse at our church and our mission.

We'd love to show you how we worship God and what we believe. Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 AM and stay for worship at 10:45. We're eager to share the Good News of Jesus' resurrection!

Bless the Lord, O my soul

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction: who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things, so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for



St. John's Missionary Church
Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

all that are oppressed. He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

Psalms 103: 1-8. Praise God!

Old wounds can be healed

"Rolando, don't you feel guilt over your previous marriage and what you put your children through?" Josie asked.

"Yeah Josie," Rolando answered. "It's been difficult."

"How'd you get over it?" Josie asked.

"I confessed my sin and I know Jesus has forgiven me. My Pastor helped a lot. He also recommended that I see a Christian counselor to deal with the emotional wounds."

"Emotional wounds?" Josie asked.

Rolando thought for a moment. "I learned that bad decisions I made in my past left emotional wounds not only in my own heart and mind but also in others."

"Like?" Josie asked.

Rolando looked into Josie's

questioning eyes. "Like my ex-wife and my children. Like my mom and dad and my brothers and sisters. I hurt some people who love me and I had to deal with it."

Josie seemed confused. "I still don't understand Rolando. All these years, I thought it was over with."

"You know Josie," Rolando continued. "If you had surgery to remove a tumor or a diseased organ, there would be considerable pain. Both internal and external scars would be left on your body. The diseased organ is gone. The wound has healed. But the scar remains as evidence of the healing."

The two continued walking for several minutes in thoughtful silence. Rolando spoke. I learned from the Christian coun-



Empowering Families
Dr. Donald Smith

selor that I needed healing for the wounds my bad decisions had inflicted. Like a physical wound, I've experienced healing but memories remain as scars. I also learned that it's easy to suppress bad memories instead of dealing with the wounds."

Josie's eyes teared up. She spoke slowly. "What about the wounds that are caused by other people?"

"Those too must be healed Josie," Rolando spoke decisively. "When we get back to

the car, I'll give you a card with my counselor's name."

"Will you go to the counselor with me ... for emotional support?" Josie asked.

"Not this time, Josie," Rolando answered. "It's best if you go alone. You need to deal with your wounds." He continued haltingly. "If at some time in the future our relationship should become..."

He hesitated, "serious. Then we'll go together. We both carry baggage that could damage our relationship. We can deal with those things together with the counselor." (To be continued)

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.

Does it really?

A few years ago, when I was a youngster, long before there existed such "instant communications" as TV, the Internet, Fox Communications, CNN, Google, Etc., we of the younger generation, at that time were not that enthusiastic about listening to "THE NEWS" as about listening to several half-hour Radio Programs — Of course, this was years ago!

I used to listen to: "The Lone Ranger", "Jack Armstrong, the All American Boy", "I Love a Mystery", and several other programs whose names I do not now recall.

And then there was "THE SHADOW". Every once in awhile, this character, "The Shadow", would make the remark, "EVIL LURKS IN THE HEARTS OF MEN". Does It Really — and totally — to the exclusion of its counterpart, GOOD?

GOOD NEWS, or so it is said, "does not sell newspapers". Neither does Good News keep people glued to the "Boob Tube" for any length of time; otherwise why are the newscasts so full of the accounts of murders, kidnappings, family feuds



St. Mary Magdalene Church
Fr. Cornelius J. Scanlan

leading to mayhem, train wrecks, aircraft crashes, wars, and you name it?

It seems, in order for the Media to continue to capture the interest of the public — Got to keep them interested; otherwise we will lose our advertisers and our livelihood! — The Media News needs to be negative rather than positive in nature in order to keep the attention of the U.S.A. public.

Would it not be better for our national well-being if we people of these United States of America were to concentrate first on the positive, then only on the negative?

The New Testament "Book of Revelation" might give us a clue as to how to proceed in our attempt to bring about changes in the public attitude and subsequent behavior patterns check it out, Chapter Two.

OBITUARY

Roger Walter Kurz

Roger Walter Kurz, age 79, of Devine, Texas, passed away on Friday, Nov. 12, 2004.

He passed in Lytle, Texas, knowing he was loved and cared for by many. He was a resident of Ft. Clark Springs from November 1993 until February 2004.

Roger was an active golfer involved with the men's golf association, serving as president and in all other offices during his years at Ft. Clark.

He was involved with the Los Moras Tournament and also held a memorial tournament for David Sharp. Roger was a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

He is preceded in death by wife Mary Jane, brothers Carl, Roy and sister-in-law Lorraine Kurz.

He is survived by his former wife and best friend Gaye Kurz of Garland, Texas; sisters Pearl Talley and Nel Pyron of Lytle, and Lillian Cooper of Floresville; sister-in-law Neoma

Kurz of Converse, Texas; sons, David and wife Gloria of Houston, Douglas and wife Donna of Houston, and Roger and wife Deanna of W. Virginia; daughters Sharon Schubert and husband Walt of Sequim, Wash. Cynthia Martin of Houston, and Sandra Kurz of Tenn.

He is also survived by grandsons David Kurz Jr., Justin Kurz, Derek Kurz, Joshua Kurz, Shane Kurz and Todd Guilroy; granddaughters Sharon Schubert, Lana Kimball; three great grandsons and his special step-granddaughter Crystal Park and her daughter Hannah; many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was at Hurley Funeral Home in Lytle on Sunday Nov. 14, 2004. Funeral Services were held Nov. 15, 2004 in the Hurley Chapel.

Interment followed at Heckman Cemetery in Somerset, Texas.

Memorial Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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