

The Brackett News



Cavalry Brigade meets Saturday at 9 a.m.

See page 2

17th year, No. 4

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

1 Section, 8 Pages



One Act Play Cast

Brackett High School's One Act Play this year is Alice in Wonderland. This year, Zone competition is set for March 23 in Rocksprings. If the group advances, District is set for March 30. Both events will take place in Rocksprings. Directing the thespians and crew is Lynn McNew. Cast and Crew members include Whitney Hobbs, Jackie Duncan, Juliann Ashabranner, Oscar Sierra, Kara Yeager, Rachel Swinson, Dana Bonner, Heather Baggett, Stephanie Bonner, Kody Yeager, Tillman Davis, Clint Conrad, Miles Braesicke, Daphne Hunt, Cullen Duncan, Michael Stephenson, Shanae Simmons, Isreal Muniz, and Alison Carroll.

Tigers, Tigerettes earn 29-A All-District honors

By Ricky Creel
Contributing Writer

The 2004-2005 All-District selections for 29A basketball have been decided. The Tigers had two unanimous First Team selections, senior Charlie Slaughter and Junior Travis Nowlin.

The Tigerettes had one first team selection, junior Ashley

Castillo.

The Tigerettes received two second team selections, senior Courtney Frerich and sophomore Emily Valenzuela.

Honorable mentions went to senior Stephanie Bonner, sophomore Kara Yeager, senior Noe Talamantes and junior Leon Woolsey. During the basketball season we had some students maintain a 90 average or above

to be on the All-Academic Team.

These students are senior Stephanie Bonner, senior Courtney Frerich, junior Dana Bonner, sophomore Kara Yeager, senior Oscar Sierra, senior Tillman Davis, senior Brandon Kluzcek, junior Leon Woolsey and junior Brand Wylie.

These are your All-District selections for the 2004-2005 basketball season.

BRIEFS

Fort Clark Ladies Golf
Best front nine winners were Marian Weber, 1st place; 2nd place tie went to Jackie Marrs and Pal Alexson; Betty Lee and Fern Dyer tied for 3rd place.

FCA Meeting
The Adult Chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes will meet 2 p.m. Sunday, March 6 at the Church of Christ on N. Ann Street. Planning will take place for the "Meet Your Prayer Partner" event in April and also for the All Night After Prom Party in May.

The Adult FCA Chapter is grateful to the Ministerial Alliance for their recent donation of cash door prizes to be awarded to students who attend the After Prom Party. Additional cash

donations for the After Prom Party are being accepted. Checks for this purpose may be sent to Rhonda Marquardt or Tiffany Blore at Brackett High School. For more information, contact Carolyn Conoly at 563-3699.

GED Classes
Adult GED Classes are being held at the Brackett Educational Academy (formerly known as the Alternative School) 703 N. Ann Street, on Tuesday, March 22nd. Orientation and Registration at 5:00 p.m. Bring photo ID and social security number for registration. For more information, call 830-563-9537.

Booster club meets Monday
The Brackett Athletic Booster Club will meet Monday, March 7 at 7 p.m. in the gym. Plans for the sports banquet will be made.

Old Quarry Society costumes available
The Old Quarry Society will make period costumes available for anyone who desires to wear a costume for the Fort Clark Festival.

Ladies will be available at Post Theatre on Friday, March 4 from 10 a.m. to noon and again on Monday, March 7 from 4 to 6 p.m. to help you find something wonderful to wear.

There will be a \$20 refundable deposit on each costume. No military costumes will be rented. For more information, please call Mary Partlow at 563-9178.

Old Quarry performs festival play
Again this year, the Saturday night highlight of the Fort Clark Festival will be a production by the Old Quarry Society.

This year's presentation is a farce titled "She Married Well." Written by John Kirkpatrick, this one act play is a story about two long time friends/enemies, who have always been very competitive.

Under the very capable direction of Ida Perez Holley, the play includes a cast of Old Quarry favorites.

Susanna Lowery plays Sallie Bradford, Dr. Kent Lowery plays her husband Ned, and Tina Meek plays their daughter Edith.

The "other friend," Eula Potter, is played by Mary Petrosky, with Jack Simpson as her husband, James.

A new-comer to our stage, Cody Edwards, plays their son, Peterson. Performances are scheduled for Saturday, March 12th, 7:30 p.m., Post Theatre and Sunday, March 13, 2:30 p.m., Post Theatre. For tickets, call 563-3070 or 563-9229.

Little League registration begins Saturday

Registration for the 2005 Kinney County Little League season will take place at the following times and locations:

Saturday, March 5 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Civic Center Monday, March 7 to Friday, March 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Kinney County EMS building

The 2005 Kinney County Little League board members would like to thank last year's

board members, coaches, managers, volunteers, sponsors and players for donating their time to make last year's season a huge success.

Today, March 3, the Kinney County Little League Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Kinney County EMS building.

Anyone wishing to be involved in this year's season is invited to attend.



City elections May 7 Gomez, Welch posts on ballot

The final day to file for election to the Brackettville City Council is Monday, March 7 at 5 p.m. at city hall.

An election has been set for Saturday, May 7. Two council posts are up for election.

Place 1 and place 3 posts, currently held by Tom Gomez Jr. and Tully Welch, respec-

tively will be on the ballot.

No word yet whether either will file for re-election.

Drawing for position on the ballot is set for Tuesday, March 8. The first day to accept applications for early voting ballots by mail is March 8. The last day for a candidate to withdraw in the election is March 15.

Early voting clerk begins mailing early voting ballots to applicants on March 23.

The last day to receive application for ballot to be voted by mail is April 29, and the last day to vote early by personal appearance is May 3. Early voting is set for city hall during regular business hours.

Volunteers are on tonight's city agenda

The Brackettville City Council will meet tonight in a special called meeting at 6:30 in the city annex building on U.S. 90 west.

On the agenda is the discussion of Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department constitution, by-laws, guidelines, charter, accountability and other provisions that govern the operations of the Brackettville Volunteer

Fire Department.

At the previous city council meeting, the council voted to table the discussion until now.

Also on the agenda is the discussion and possible approval for a volunteer program to assist the city's maintenance crew in patching street potholes.

And, the council will consider and possibly approve purchase

of computer replacement and upgrade by RAMS Computer Services of Del Rio. The new computers would upgrade the city's system.

Citizen's comments will be allowed at the beginning of the meeting while comments from City of Brackettville Mayor Joe N. Garza Jr., and alderpersons is set for the end of the meeting.

Final session of child lures prevention series Monday

The fourth and final session of the Child Lures Prevention Series is Monday evening March 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the BISS new cafeteria. Speakers will be Tina and Amanda Meek.

The Meek sisters are both graduates of Brackettville High School and the University of Texas at Austin.

Tina works for Tim Ward here in Brackettville and Amanda is an investigator for Child Protective Services and

works out of Uvalde.

Parents will learn how and what to teach their children about the dangers of sexual exploitation.

There will be drawings for door prizes. A special drawing will be held with the names of all who have attended four nights of the Child Lures Training. Refreshments will be furnished. Families are welcome to bring children and child care will be available in the Gym. Children old enough to ben-

efit from the sessions are encouraged to attend with their parents.

The workshop is free of charge and each attendee will receive a parent book to keep. Volunteers will be available to translate into Spanish and the parent books will be available in both English and Spanish.

For more information call Dr. Don Smith at 563-2285 or Rev. Nathan LaFrenz at 563-7371.

The Rhythm of the Night Panoramic Steel Band entertains packed house



Top photo: Members of the Texas State University Panoramic Steel Band entertained a packed house Friday night. Bottom photo: Professor GG answered questions from the audience giving a brief history of the steel drum and his band.

By Gus Garcia
Editor

The Kinney County Arts Council hosted the Texas State University Panorama Steel Band Saturday, Feb. 26 in the Fort's Post Theatre.

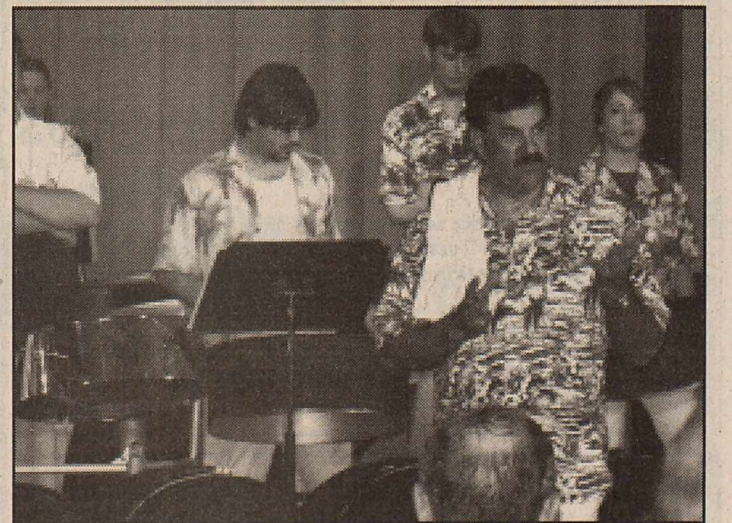
The band, comprised of students from TSU, under the direction of Genaro Gonzalez performed to a sold-out crowd that was enthused, grateful, dumbstruck and perplexed. "I just didn't know you could get that many sounds out of a tin drum," one concert-goer said. "It was marvelous."

The group entertained the audience with their selections bringing with them tropical breezes, swaying palm trees and salt-rimmed glasses with Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville.

Genaro Gonzalez, "GG" as he is affectionately known, is the band's professor and gave a brief history on the instrument.

He included that steel drums were invented on the island of Trinidad around the time of World War II.

The very first pitched steel drums were made from smaller metal containers and were convex in shape.



other.

These instruments were crude; they were still in their experimental stages and had no intentional pitches. In the 1940's and 1950's pan innovators experimented with the stylings or note patterns, and improved upon the tuning. Today the drum is constructed from the bottom of a 55 gallon barrel, sunk down in a concave fashion, and tuned with precision.

Harmonic sounds, deep rhythms and moving beats had the audience enthralled with the music. GG then opened the floor for questions.

Most questions were dealing "how can a steel drum make that

kind of sound." Other questions were about the type of music that can be played on the instrument. GG noted that all types of music can be played by the steel drum and it's the metal's shape and tuning that allows it to provide the various notes to music.

The not-so-professionally-choreography of the lead drums keep the audience entertained as well, and helped set the mood for the delightful music.

It might have been raining outside, but inside there was a warm beach, beautiful sunset and bright tiki torches, all thanks to the Panorama Steel Band and the Kinney County Council for the Arts.

INSIDE

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This week marks a special occasion for our great state. It is the anniversary of our state's independence from Mexico. Opinion/Page 2
- Roger Baker**
To be called as a pastor means more than just living a life of Christian example. Religion/Page 7
- Vada Baldree**
Here we go again, fellow cooks. I mentioned last week that I was in the mood to try new recipes, so you were fore warned. Lifestyles/Page 3

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Why "Cavalry Brigade"?

By Woodie Hornburg
Contributing Writer

First, volunteers muster the first Saturday of every month (March 5th) at Shafter Hall and eagerly pick job assignments at 9 a.m.

Positions range according to physical ability with a choice of inside/outside worksites.

Time spent on projects range from 9 a.m. with an 11:30 a.m. quitting time, at which time the trooper assembles for a delicious free lunch at Shafter Hall.

Besides the good food, great fun, there's electrifying fellowship.

Since Fort Clark's Las Moras Creek was being choked by water hyacinths it was believed that removing the plants to a minimum - the problem would be solved. Wrong!

It was learned that the government also had a hand in the matter.

Therefore, the Cavalry Brigade cooperating with the USA and avoiding the upset of the

ecological balance, a communication was sent forth for "G" men to do their magic to kill the plants without upsetting the fish.

The "CB" is still waiting, after four years, but hopefully the "CB" scouts will sight help coming soon to the aid of ailing Las Moras Creek.

The FCS board had sanctioned the creation of "The Cavalry Brigade" and also the hard working maintenance department welcomed the aid to work on projects that were on the lower end of priorities, more so now since the department has been cut to "bare bones."

They do a great job, which is a challenge for so few, presently, the "CB" is gearing up for "Fort Clark Days" on March 12 with grounds, commissary, and Seminole Hall needing a "gussying up".

So, volunteers - ya'll come and help the FCS's Community Council's "Cavalry Brigade" Saturday March 5 - We need ya!

Did we answer the question? Why "Cavalry Brigade"?

Big Mama Sez!



The purpose of life is to live a life of purpose.

LETTERS POLICY

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to refuse or edit all letters submitted for length, potentially libelous statements and accuracy of information. All letters must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification purposes. All writers must provide proof of identity. The Brackett News will not publish letters sent via e-mail. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

The Brackett News

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Texans stand out in support of our troops

Do not tell Staff Sgt. Kevin Hinds, a Guardsman from Orange, that the Texas National Guard is composed of "weekend warriors." He knows better.

He has spent months in the mountains of Afghanistan helping train 800 Afghans to become soldiers.

These Afghans will become the core of an army helping defend that country's fledgling democracy.

Sgt. Hinds' experience shows that the days when the men and women of the National Guard and Reserves could be called part-time soldiers are long past.

Although they were always part of our military, they were originally planned to be mobilized in the event of all-out war, as well as to cope with domestic natural disasters or civil emergencies.

Their role evolved into a more active participation in our national security over time, particularly when our armed forces were downsized after the end of the Cold War.

The Reserves and Guard shouldered an increasing part of our defense burden as the operational tempo of our military increased during the 90s, with peacekeeping duties in countries such as Bosnia and Haiti. However, after the 9-11 attacks in 2001, they came into their own. National Guard and Reserve troops protected vital installations throughout the United States.

Others participated in the liberation of Afghanistan. Finally, the Guard and Reserves helped overthrow Saddam Hussein's dictatorship and freed the Iraqi



Capitol Comment
Kay Bailey Hutchison

people.

Of the National Guard's 15 best-trained, best-equipped and most ready-to-deploy combat brigades, all but one are either in Iraq now, have demobilized after returning from a one-year tour in that country, or have been alerted for duty in 2005-2006.

Although the percentage of Reserve and National Guard troops serving in Iraq is slated to go down in the next troop rotation, today the mix stands at 50-50.

These men and women have all stepped up to do their duty to defend freedom.

While they directly bear the burden of service, their family, friends and their employers also face demands during their tours of duty overseas.

The job is made easier, however, because their neighbors in Texas are providing them a great deal of support.

For instance, when the 56th Combat Team of Texas' 36th Infantry Division shipped out for Iraq, 30,000 people gathered in Waco for the send-off.

Imagine what it meant to those young men and women that so many of their fellow Texans cared enough to come out and wish them well.

I am extremely proud that the Lone Star State is so supportive

of our soldiers.

Employers play a significant role when a reservist is activated, because many of them struggle when key personnel report for long tours of duty.

Recently, I traveled to Addison to attend a ceremony recognizing an employer's commitment to our troops and their families.

The company, Concentra, was receiving the 5-star award from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve for its support for the men and women who make up our National Guard and Reserve forces.

Concentra is entering an exclusive club.

Nationwide only one percent of the 8,500 companies who support their Guard and Reserve employees have achieved the 5-Star Level of Recognition.

This award means the employer has signed a statement of support for their National Guard and Reserve employees and supplements their salaries.

In addition to the above, Concentra has done something new. It helped create the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network - called the MSCCN.

This organization is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to providing career opportunities and job portability for military spouses through a nationwide network of employers.

With the frequent transfers that are a feature of military life, many spouses have found it difficult to pull up stakes and find work.

In addition, they have often found themselves having to start from the ground floor at each new community where their spouse has been transferred.

MSCCN was started, with Concentra's assistance, by volunteer military spouses to help spouses find jobs and build careers despite the frequent moves.

This organization charges no placement fees to employers, service members or military spouses and is funded through the support and commitment of its network members.

I applaud those who are working to improve the lives of our soldiers and their families.

Texas stands behind our citizen soldiers because they are one of America's unique traditions. The shot heard around the world at Concord Bridge was fired by our first National Guardsman, a Minuteman.

They are always on duty to defend our freedom, and it helps them to know that all of us appreciate the sacrifices they make on our behalf.

The Glory of Texas



Weekly Report
Henry Bonilla

This week marks a special occasion for our great state.

It is the anniversary of our state's independence from Mexico.

On March 2, 1836 a convention of 54 men met in the small settlement of Washington-on-the-Brazos to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The Texas Declaration of Independence was produced, literally, overnight. Its urgency was paramount.

While the founding fathers of Texas prepared the document, the Alamo in San Antonio was under siege by Santa Anna's army of Mexico.

In near-freezing weather, in an unfinished building, the convention voted in the early morning hours of March 2nd to unanimously accept the resolution. Ultimately, fifty-eight members signed the document. And thus was born the Republic of Texas.

The declaration sent a sign to Mexico that Texans would no longer live under what many of them regarded as a tyrannical rule from a distant source.

It was testimony that Texans were ready and willing to fight for their freedom. And fight they did.

Four days after signing the document, William Barret Travis and 184 brave men concluded their gruesome battle against more than five thousand Mexican troops.

The odds were against the Texas volunteers, but they were determined to stay the course and fight until the end.

When the battle was over, only 15 people - mostly women and children - were spared.

Familiar names like Davey Crockett, James Bowie and Juan Badillo lost their lives that fateful day. These brave souls did not give their lives in vain.

The casualties that the Texas forces mounted against Mexico, and the time lost in reducing the Alamo cut short Mexico's campaign.

It gave Sam Houston just enough time to perfect his plans for the defense of Texas and enabled him to win the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836. This victory spelled a final freedom for Texas.

In the saga of Texas history, there is no period as distinctive as Texas' struggle for independence.

The period's heroes are remembered in the names of cities and towns, streets, plazas and public buildings.

The Lone Star flag, inherited from the original Texas Republic, still flies proudly throughout our state.

I'd like to leave you with a quote by Sam Houston just before the Battle of San Jacinto.

"We view ourselves on the eve of battle. We are nerved for the contest, and must conquer or perish. It is vain to look for present aid: none is at hand. We must now act or abandon all hope!

Rally to the standard, and be no longer the scoff of mercenary tongues!

Be men, be free men, that your children may bless their father's name."

Texas Independence Day is an occasion for all Texans to stand proud and remember the men who stood up for their rights and fought for their freedom. God Bless Texas!

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The Brackett News

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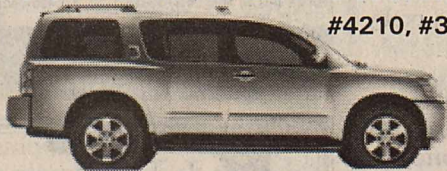
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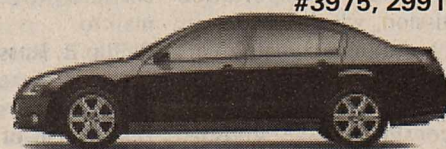


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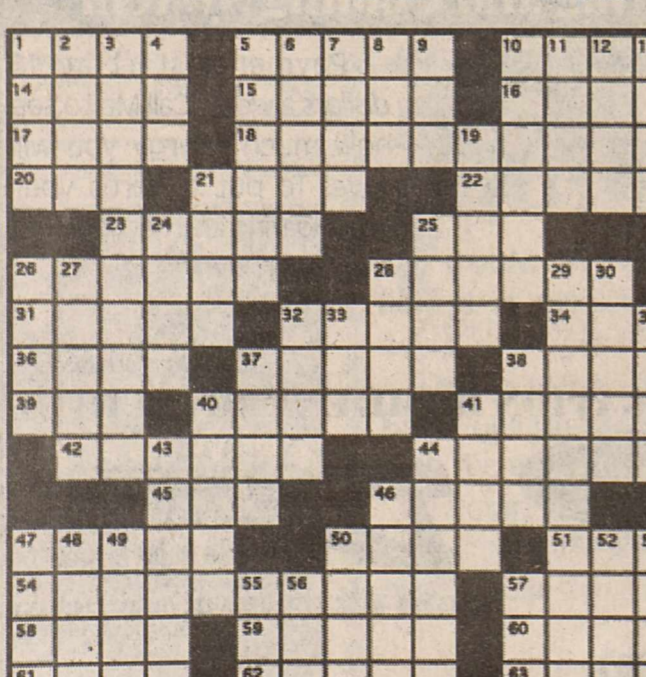
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS 1 Centennial State; abbr. 5 Persian 10 Punches 14 Assert 15 Taboos 16 Odds and ends 17 Violence 18 Oppose verbally 20 Mid-20th-century date 21 Animal shelter 22 Fictional king 23 Noisy impacts 25 Not back 28 Draw 28 "___ it!" 31 Make joyful 32 Lacking originality 34 ___ de plume 36 Have status 37 Sows 38 Character in "Frank-	enstein" 39 Cockney domicile 40 Sharp edge 41 Sheer fabric 42 Glorifies 44 Like some vegetables and some laughter 45 Fresh 46 Accessory 47 Fry 50 Spray 51 Intuition 54 Shortening 57 Met 58 Edible mollusk 59 Hot under the collar 60 Gnat 61 Boy's name 62 First woman in the House of Commons 63 ___ Adams	DOWN 1 Jack, for one 2 Skaling rink 3 Made laws 4 Deposit 5 Salary 6 TV mini-series of 1977 7 Name for two of Henry VIII's wives 8 Word with what or can 9 UN member 10 Ormen 11 Stinky 12 Type size 13 Overindulgent ones 19 Love; Ital. 21 Concern 24 Guitar's ancestor 25 Carryall 26 Flying; pref. 27 Beast of burden 28 Penalty 29 Directed skillfully 30 Peter	O'___ 32 Poet's contraction 33 Disencumber 35 Talking animal 37 Killed 38 Charged particles 40 Animal variety 41 Baked dessert 43 Prompt 44 Sioux's foe 46 Spotted animal 47 Bag 48 In a skillful way 49 ___ Mountains 50 Substance 52 Affirmative answer to "¿Comprende?" 53 Meat concoction 55 Name for an Italian girl 56 Wedded one; abbr. 57 Act like
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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— forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: **THINGS IN A BEDROOM**

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


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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mar. 3..... James Day
Mar. 3..... Johnny Fritter
Mar. 4..... Vincente Lumbaras
Mar. 4..... Trisha Smith
Mar. 5..... Vada Baldree
Mar. 6..... Margaret Byrd
Mar. 6..... Billie Foust
Mar. 8..... Antonio Flores
Mar. 9..... Johanna Smith

Roaring Twenties Solution:

1. Afghan	11. Mirror
2. Bed	12. Nightgown
3. Blanket	13. Pajamas
4. Clock	14. Pillow
5. Closet	15. Radio
6. Comb	16. Robe
7. Comforter	17. Sheets
8. Dresser	18. Slippers
9. Lamp	19. Teddy bear
10. Mattress	20. Telephone



HOROSCOPES

by Charles Cooper

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're in no mood for interruptions at the workplace. At the same time, avoid being too abrupt with the offending parties. A carefully placed word will do the trick.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Someone new comes into your life. This person could become a trusted friend. For some, this means romance.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're in the mood to make a change in your professional life. However, it's the best to slow down a bit. Examine all the options and possible repercussions first.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're at your best this week with group activities. In fact, you're a model of cooperation. Later, you're able to deal with a minor crisis on the homefront quite admirably.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're focusing too much on a material item you've been wanting for a while. It would be nice if you could indulge yourself. However, be more practical and decide whether or not this item is necessary at all.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're full of opinions, and that's fine. However, you have to learn when NOT to express them. Others could be easily offended by your strong views.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A person you'd had a falling out with in the past suddenly asks your forgiveness. Reach into your heart to find the answer. Sometimes, it's best to let go of a grudge.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Family members could be very demanding this week. However, that doesn't mean you have to jump at their every wish. Take some time for yourself; you deserve it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You've been on the fence too long concerning a career decision. This is the week to say yea or nay. Just be sure you're not taking the easy way out.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your mental acuity stands you in good stead this week. Use this to good advantage when dealing with co-workers and higher-ups. This weekend, keep the lines of communication open with loved ones.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Someone's visit you'd been anticipating falls through. Don't allow this disappointment to spoil your entire week. There's work to be done!

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You're not normally a pushover. Still, there's someone trying to rope you into a financial deal who's trying to snow you. Be aware and trust your instincts.

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