

Water district votes to keep interim managers Directors take no action on attorney's alleged rouge appeal

The Kinney County Ground-(KCGCD) voted to extend their agreement with the interim comanagers, Caroline Runge and Vic Hilderbran, at their regular meeting on Feb. 15, at the City Hall Annex.

The item was addressed twice early in the meeting and failed for lack of a majority. Board President Duke Meek did not vote. Chris Ring abstained. Lloyd Lee Davis voted against the matter, while Don Hood and Gloria Benacci voted in favor of it, both citing the pair provided much needed advice and certifications currently not held by any board members.

The item was addressed for a third time by Don Hood after the board returned from executive session and it passed as Meek, Hood and Benacci voted in favor of extending the contracts. Ring again abstained from the vote and Davis followed up by voting against the motion for a second time.

Since the meeting, questions have surfaced on the legality of the vote. Texas Water Code Chapter 36.063 requires a majority of the board and not a majority of the board members present as sufficient for transacting any business of the district.

In an interview with Hildebran on Feb. 21, he stated, "I don't think I am eminterested in causing anymore friction within the community."

Runge and Hildebran were hired last fall, shortly after the resignation of former General. Manager Darlene Shahan, to assist the directors in dealing with the three pending lawsuits and dition.

tors should feel confident people accountable when they ment. enough to make our own deci- fail to get the Board's approval sions without the assistance of in advance. This appeal is go-Vic and Caroline. They have ing to cause delay and cost a been a great help to us, and I lot of money. The Board alone really do appreciate them. It has should decide important issues been a pleasure for me to get to like that," continued Smith's know them personally. How- statement. ever, it is time for our District to modify and reduce their involvement in daily affairs," said Meek as he read from a prepared ing to need to protect this disstatement distributed by Director Beth Ann Smith, absent from last week's meeting.

statement and expressed con- do whatever for the case. He's cerns that the board was not being advised of or consulted on trict. decisions of great importance to the district.

Recently an appeal regarding Boulware et al vs. KCGCD now. I want my board to be enwas allegedly filed by the lightened about what's going district's legal counsel Richard on. We have too much too much Lowerre without consultation with the directors and interested parties in Austin were aware the and even if Ms. Shahan had appeal would be filed, while local directors were not informed until well after the fact.

Lowerre filed an appeal on for approval on any contract she Pennington's decision without a board vote on the matter. I have been at every board meeting since Judge Pennington made cause there is a hidden agenda his decision and I know that the District did not vote to authorize this appeal. I would recuse agendas. We're not here to serve ployed anymore and I am not myself from voting on this mo- TAGD's (Texas Association of tion, but the real issue is that Groundwater Districts) agen-Mr. Lowerre or someone other than the board is making legal plaintiff Jennifer McDaniel. decisions that affect this district. Rick Lowerre had ample time three months - to put this mat- the appeal before the board was ter to a vote by the elected rep- made aware of Mr. Lowerre's resentatives of the District and intention. Again, by all appearthe districts poor financial con- he failed to do so. This ances, it looks like outsiders are District's elected directors have manipulating KCGCD to further

"Concerning the contracts of a duty to the public to make their own agenda, rather than Vic Hildebran and Caroline policy, not the lawyers and not the local directors exercising

Hood responded "I thought we had given Rick Lowerre whatever authority he was gotrict. He was only doing what he was authorized to do. We can go back in the records and Davis agreed with Smith's find where we voted to have him only trying to protect this dis-

"I'm standing here today asking for local control, because we don't have local control right of what Mr. Hood said. I have been to every board meeting given Mr. Lowerre in his contract carte blanch, it was the understanding that she should "I was astonished when Rick have brought that to the board made and that was never done. Intentionally, he (Lowerre) didn't bring that up to y'all bethere. We're not here in Kinney County to serve Mr. Lowerre's das," said local farmer and

> "It appears that several individuals were informed about

Runge, I feel that the time has the general manager. To do that, their control over local water is- his relationship with the former water Conservation District come when our District direc- we have got to hold those sues," concluded Smith's state- general manager and his may- of Hazen & Terrill P.C. and

tion on Lowerre's contract, but zens over the last two months.

District directors took no ac- been called into question by citi-

Attorneys, Paul M. Terrill III erick decision making have Edmond R. McCarthy, Jr. of

Continued on Page 3



7th Annual Chili Cook- Winners

From Left: Second Place Winner Daisy Roach, Fourth Place Winner Nathan Kaufhold, Francine Collins who served for Third Place Winner Shirley White, First Place Winners Mac and Joyce Evans and Event Coordinator Darlene Sandwick. The Evans' were also awarded the People's Choice Award.



Kinney County Commissioner's Court Seeking New Water Board Director

To fill the unexpired term of Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District Director At Large Tootsie Herndon, the Kinney County Commissioner's Court will be accepting letters of interest up until it's next meeting on March 5, at 1 p.m., where a replacement will be appointed.

Letters must be addressed to: Kinney County Judge and Commissioners PO Box 1219, Brackettville, TX 78832 or hand delivered to County Courthouse on Ann Street in Brackettville

"This is the most serious long term issue for this **Court," said Commissioner Marvin Davis.**

Presidents Day

The Brackettville Lions Club proudly placed more than fifty flags around the historic Kinney County Courthouse and the County Library. Local residents and organizations sponsor the purchase of the flags through the local Lions Club.

News BRIEFS

McNamara Pottery

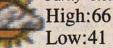
John McNamara's pottery is on display at The Brackett News Office, 111 W. Spring St. The public is welcome to view and even purchase these unique art pieces.

Weekend WEATHER



Mostly Suuny High:63 Low:42





Sunday

Mostly Cloudly High:62 Low:42

There is a new grief support group which is meeting the first be hosting performances by John Tuesday of each month in Slator Hall of First United Methodist Church. All who are experiencing grief are invited to come and support each other in their journeys. Call Pastor Jean Reardon ets are \$15 each. Ticket inforat 563-2823 if you have ques- mation call 830-278-4184. tions. Everyone is welcome.

Ouilt Exhibit

An exhibit will be at John Nance Garner Museum, 333 North Park St. Uvalde, Texas. emonies on March 24th. If you February 6 through March 17, 2006, call 830 278-5018 for Kinney County 20, 30, or 40+ more information.

Elks Charity Golf Tournament

March 3 at the Fort Clark Springs Golf Course, Brackettville, Texas. Shotgun starts istration fee is \$5 per child. at 8:30 a.m., 4 person team, it Camp Instruction by Wayne will be scramble format. Prizes will be awarded to first, second, third and fourth place teams.

Grief Support Group Country Music Opry The Uvalde Arts Council will Conlee, Vale & Alyssa Rodriguez, Liz Talley, and Trey Wilson on March 3, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m at the Grand Opera House in Uvalde. Tick-

> **Little League Information** KC Little League is looking for Kinney County's Past Time Little League Players to be honored at the 2007 Opening Cerplayed Little League ball in years ago, please contact Theresa Quiroz at 563-2235.

KC Little League hosts Baseball Clinic for Major League Players (ages 9-12) on March 4, 2007, from 12 noon - 5 p.m., at the KC Little League field. Reg-Benson, includes hitting, field-Triple A ball for the Ft. Lauder- March 12, at 5pm at City Hall.

dale Yankees, where he played in the Florida State League Championship game. Mr. Benson also played 2 yrs. in Mexico and Canada. Come join the fun with Wayne Benson!

Little League registration for all age divisions will be as follows: Saturday, February 24, 12 PM - 2 PM, HS Gym; Saturday, March 3, 12 PM - 2 PM, HS Gym. The registration fee will be \$30 for one child and \$55 for 2 or more children. Also, please bring a 12-pack of sodas for the concession stand. You will need to bring the child's birth certificate and be able to show proof of residency.

City Council Election

The first day to file an application for City Council Place 1, a position currently held by Ponce Padron) and City Council Place 3, a position currently ing, and basic fundamentals. held by Mary Flores was Wayne Benson played 7 yrs. Feb.12. The last day to file is

Relay for Life Gospel Concert

Organize a Team and Be a Part of the 2nd Annual Relay for Life April 28th-29th. The theme pel Concert featuring the group this year is be a super hero against cancer by raising money for research to beat cancer. Please contact Angie Steelman at 563-5142 for more information on forming a team for Relay for Life.

LEPC Meeting Walk

There will be a special program at the February LEPC Meeting on Monday the 26th. The meeting will consist of a D.V.R. (Disaster Volunteer Reserves) Class lasting approximately 2 hours and will be presented by a Red Cross instructor from the San Antonio area. Please, Members of the LEPC Committee, make a special effort to attend this class. It will provide the foundation we need to begin a truly conprehensive disaster program here in Brackettville and Fort Clark Springs. Any further training will be an extension of this class.

First Baptist Church will be having a special Country Gos-'2 Days Later" on Sunday, March 4, at 11:00 a.m. They will be leading us in worship and ministering in song. For more information call 563.2245.

Charity Cake

Relay for Life Teams Aloha I and Aloha ATPE will be sponsoring a fundraising cake walk March 4, at 1 pm in the school parking lot. The public is asked to support the teams as they raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Historical Society

The Fort Clark Historical Society will be hosting " All in the Family: The Untold Story of a Lakhota Family" Feb. 24, 10am at the Palisado Building on FCS.



Letter to the EDITOR

I am Cecilia Barrera Duran. I came to San Antonio for Thanksgiving and my son's (Ramon Duran) wife Polly suggested we go to Brackettville. My mother was Otila Romo Barrera, her father was Alvino Romo married to Refugio San Miguel married on the 5th of Dec. 1894, in Brackettville. Relatives or descendents of Victorens San Miguel & Catasena De La Cruz married on 04/10/ 1887. My aunt Luz Romo Santiestevan came from California. She is the last sibling living from Alvino's family. I want to know if we have any relatives in Brackettville? Or maybe Uvalde or Del Rio?

> Cecilia B. Duran 11638 Alameda, Socorro TX 79927

HUN Boulder Daily Camera &:

Regular

Unhinged

Super

Editors PLOG

Out there in the world are people who believe that it doesn't matter what the people of this county want - they know what is best and what they want is what we get.

Too bad the people telling us what we are going to get are people that we duly elected into office.

I get the feeling the county commissioners - less the Judge and Nat have little desire to give the people of this county what they want - like we don't deserve to have a pool and a nice playground because we won't take care of it or it's not on the fort and it doesn't make a profit.

I just want to give a little politcal advice...I can appreciate the fact the commssioners have been good money managers, but the voters can't see a million dollars in the bank. What they can see are parks and clean streets. People can also respect leaders who DEMAND that the standard of living come up a notch or two.

When's the next election?

To the older teens and young people hanging out down at the basketball courts. When you litter, vandalize and break beer bottles everywhere - YOU are the ones holding the people down. Leigh V.



The high price of gas power l'he change our world I just heard the music Going you. the tone in our home. If

PetroTyrant

10

Z 10

go hide.

bies remember us for the twinkle phony by Camille Saint-Saens; in our eye when they ask if we The Organ Symphony. That could come and play and then beautiful music brought back a Today has had me thinking homes are not weighing heavily on our hearts; now I have huge memories that stay with us all puddles rolling down my face. of our lives. My sweetie cho-Life is too short to not live it to reographed our first kiss to the We may not aspire to be a head of state but we can take the fullest. When you are dead 4th movement when the organbabysteps to make a difference and gone your babies are not ist pulls out all the stops on the going to remember how clean our homes were, but they will remember that their mother or tive or negative flows through father was happy and filled their our family. It is up to us to set home with love.

we are grouchy then our babies Home from Antonin Dvorak's will be grouchy, our critters will New World Symphony on TV. be fussy and our spouses will I turned off the TV and put on my favorite radio station to hear Isn't it better to have our ba- mine and Robert's favorite symwe say yes!! All because our touching memory of our first kiss. I guess it is those little organ and fills the air with the with a reasonable estimate of most wonderful sounds. We how many years you might have don't listen to it often but when to pay for in retirement. we do we are touched by its beauty and power. I feel that this from? To pay for your retirewas a God Breeze to affirm this ment goals, you'll likely need message to you!

> We all have the power to available to you, including Sochange the world even if it is cial Security and your invest-

Thursday, February 22, 2007 The Brackett News

Want to achieve financial goals? Do the math.



If you breathed a sigh of relief when you put away that algebra or geometry textbook for the last time, you might not be eager to take up the subject of math again.

However, by doing some number crunching, you can put a "price tag" on your long-term financial goals - and that's the first step toward achieving them.

To quantify the costs of your objectives, you must be specific about what you're trying to accomplish.

Do you want to retire as soon as you possibly can and then spend your time traveling the world?

Or are you planning to work until 65 and then open your own small business? Obviously, these are vastly different goals - with vastly different costs to

Once you know what you really want to do when you retire, you should be able to project your annual yearly expenses.

Then, you can ask yourself these questions:

How many years will I spend in retirement? None of us can predict exactly how long we will live.

But if you consider your overall health, your lifestyle habits and your family's history of longevity, you can come up

Where will my income come to draw on all types of income

For questions or corrections please call the editor at 830-563-2852 or email thnews @sbcglobal.net. Letters to the editor must be on subjects of interest and be 350 words or less.

www.thebrackettnews.com

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SSOCIATION

should not exceed 350 words and be on subjects of interest. 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. Letters found or believed to be written by a person other than that of the signed author will be refused. The Brackett News will not publish letters sent via e-mail. Letters published and viewpoints of columnists do not necessarily reflect the editorial beliefs of this newspaper.

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just our little neck of the woods. Our attitude is everything. I want for you what I have Peace! Peace in knowing that I will be remembered for my smile and my positive contagious spirit! I live by these three rules.

Don't sweat the small stuff; what doesn't matter doesn't matter. Laugh every day even if it is at yourself. And love like Goals Achieving the "ideal" rethere is no tomorrow!

We all have the power to change the world in our little certainly not the only one. neck of the woods: it doesn't matter if you are from a big city or a small town!

For more help getting rid of your CHAOS; check out her mentoring group at www.Fly Lady.net or her book, Sink Reflections published by Bantam and her New York Times Best Selling book, Body Clutter published by Fireside.

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ments, such as your IRA, 401(k) and whatever individual stocks and other securities you may own. To help reach the level of

income you'll require, you will need to monitor all these investments over the years, and make changes as needed.

Calculating Costs of Other tirement might be your biggest financial goal, but it's almost

But no matter what goals you have, you'll still need to "do the math" necessary to calculate costs and arrive at solutions.

So, for example, if you'd like website and join her free to help pay for college for your children (or grandchildren), you'll need to look at what college costs today, how much it's likely to cost in the future and how much money you can devote to paying those costs.

To illustrate: For the 2006-2007 school year, it costs, on average, \$16,357 for students attending four-year public colleges and universities, according to the College Board.

If college costs were to rise five percent every year, today's newborns can expect to pay about \$162,000 for four years at a public school.

With the presence of scholarships, loans and work-study arrangements, you might not have to foot the entire \$162,000 bill.

But at least you'll know what you might need - and you can start planning the appropriate savings and investment strategies.

And you can take this same approach to other long-term goals, such as buying a second home or a new business.

Keep in mind, though, that "doing the math" can involve a lot of variables, so you may well want to consult with a financial advisor - someone with the tools and experience to help you chart your course toward your goals.

But don't wait too long - the sooner you start planning, the more pleasant "the math" will be for you.

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Thursday, February 22, 2007 The Brackett News

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Cesar DeLeon

Name: Cesar DeLeon, Jr. Mother: Olga DeLeon Father: Cesar DeLeon Siblings: Jessica Crumley and Crystal DeLeon What Are Your Plans After Graduation?: Go to college and if not to the railroad. What Teacher Influenced You The Most? Mrs. Curry, she pushes me to learn more. What do you think you will miss the most after you graduate? School, friends, football and baseball.



Marisela Talamantes

Name: Marisela Talamantes Mother: Ana Perez Father: Javier Talamantes Siblings: Alejandra Talamantes and Jose Javier Talamantes Family: Grandparents, Manuela and Luis



BISD Students Demonstrate Courtesy Photo Science Skills to Rotary

Submitted by Paula Renken

B. Schroeder brought stu-15th

and Daulton Woodson demon- their web mastering class. strated projects they had com- Teacher B Schroeder has been pleted that dealt with the con- with BISD for 3 years teaching cepts of simple machines. 9th science and technology classes grader Shaun Davis represented and coaching.

the Computer Science 1 class at BHS. He discussed and showed products from the Athletic Prodents from her 7th grade science, grams project that the class uncomputer science 1 and web mas- dertook in the fall. Junior Cesar tering classes to Rotary on Feb Cantu and senior Jessica Seigel showed projects that they had 7th graders Bradley Edwards completed using Moviemaker in

Water district board votes to keep interim leaders; legality questioned

Continued from Page 1

Jackson, Sjoberg, McCarthy & Wilson LLP, representing Boulware et al filed a motion to nio

court to,"...cause Appellants' counsel to appear before the part-time employees of the disthority to act in this appeal. Upon his failure to show such other federal withholdings." authority, Appellees respectfully request that the Court dis- dye test to be conducted by inmiss this appeal."

for the court's response.

Giving a report on recent board activities, Bennaci stated she is working closely with Office Manger Diana Ward to totally reconstruct the books from 2006. This task must be completed in order to be able to turn



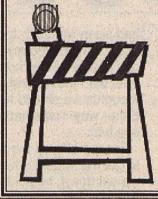
the books over to the auditing firm of Coleman Horton & Company.

A memo from the District's newly formed Finance Commitdismiss the appeal filed by tee reads, "Mr. Ede expressed Lowerre in the Fourth Judicial concern regarding district pay-Court of Appeals in San Anto- roll procedures since district employees do not meet federal The motion pleads with the requirements to serve as contract labor. They are in fact, court and show his lawful au- trict, and as such their wages are subject to Social Security and

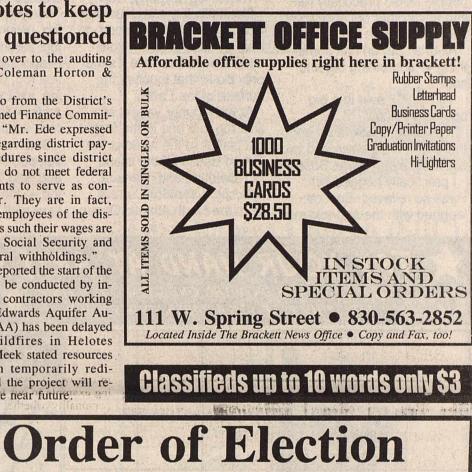
Meek reported the start of the dependent contractors working All parties are now waiting with the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) has been delayed due to wildfires in Helotes County. Meek stated resources have been temporarily redirected and the project will resume in the near future.



PUBLIC FORUM: FULTON STREET CLOSURE



A public forum will be held February 27, 2007, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., at the High School Annex (old High School), Room 15. The purpose of the forum is to discuss the closure of Fulton Street between the two high school buildings.



An election is hereby ordered to be held on May 12, 2007 for the purpose of Board of Trustees Election. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the BISD High School Auditorium between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning on April 30, 2007 and ending on May 8, 2007.

ances and naymundo and Anagracia Perez. What are your plans after graduation? Go to SWTJC at Uvalde.

What teacher influenced you the most? Mrs. Hernandez because she is a good listener and pushes us to do our best.

What do you think you will miss the most after you graduate? All of my friends.

Up to 10 Words in the Classifieds Only **\$3** Call 563-2852 or come by 111. W. Spring St.

Gann Photography 830-966-3744





Brackettville Lions Club P.O. Box 1211 Brackettville, Texas 78832



THE BRACKETTVILLE LIONS CLUB wishes to thank these businesses and individuals for their sponsorship of our first annual fund-raising flag project.

The flags are displayed on ten major holidays throughout the year, beginning November 2006 through October 2007. If you would like to sponsor a flag, please contact Martha Padron at 563-2688 or Tom McNew at 563-9229.

Sponsorship of 25 Flags Everett Eckersley

Sponsorship of 5 Flags Fort Clark Springs Association, Inc. Fort Clark Springs Men's Golf Club Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc. Tully and Darlene Shahan

Sponsorship of 2 Flags Kinney County 4-H Club

Sponsorship of 1 Flag Las Moras Hispanic Organization Kinney County Chamber of Commerce Bank and Trust Duke and Mary Meek Rebecca Moore Ponce Padron Reggie Peña Beau Smallwood Tommy and Jean Seargeant Tommy Dee and Barbara Seargean

Special Thanks to PEDRO R. PENA, Korean Veteran, for his time and efforts in helping us display our United States Flags.

America, Land of the Free, because of our Brave. God Bless America and our Troops

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: Susan Esparza, Early Voting Clerk PO Box 586 Brackettville, Texas 78832

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on May 4, 2007. Issued this the 12th day of February, 2007.

Henry Lutz Signature of Presiding Officer

Orden De Eleccion

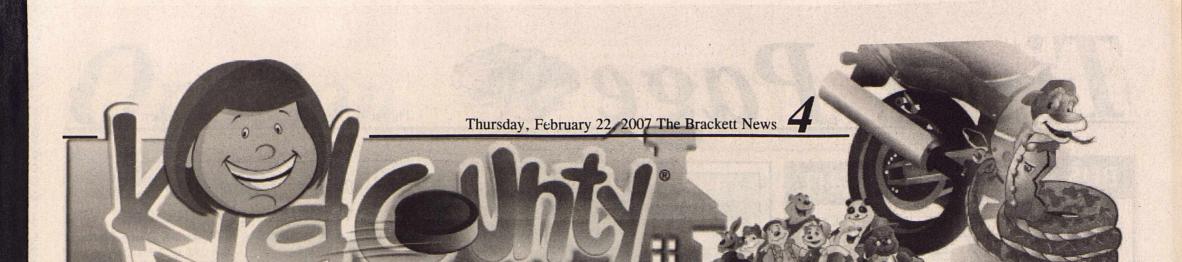
Por la presente se ordena que se llevara a cabo una eleccion el 12 de mayo, 2007 con el proposito de:

Eleccion de la mesa Directiva

La votacion en adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en BISD autitorio entre las 8:00 de la manana y las 4:00 de la tarde empezando el 30 de abril, 2007 y terminando el 8 de mayo, 2007.

La votacion en adelantada ademas se llevara a cabo de tal manera: Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a: Susan Esparza, Early Voting Clerk PO Box 586 Brackettville, TX 78832

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el 4 de mayo, 2007. Emitida este dia 12 de Febrero, 2007 Henry Lutz, Firma del Oficial Que Preside



KID COUNTY . FEBRUARY 2007

By Ivan the Scientist On a dark, cold night, the misty fog hindered my vision.

We all know what happens on a dark, cold, foggy night - but this was different. There was a dark feeling in the air ... a foggy feeling. As I walked down the street, people would practically run into each other because they could hardly see.

All of a sudden I hit something - something big and soft.

"Hi Ivan!" it said in a big, booming voice.

Trembling, I looked up and there was a big smile and two big white eyes! It was Bossco!

I practically hugged him, I was so relieved. Bossco laughed with me and told me I

had been watching too many scary movies and my memories of them were more powerful than the natural good thoughts we should have. Either way, I was happy to see him.

OSE int

Bossco offered me a soda to get me settled down. While we sat down, he asked,

"What is fog, anyway, Ivan?" Basically, fog is a cloud that is very close to the ground. Fog is a little different from other clouds because it's the only cloud that touches the surface of the Earth.

At Kid County, we get a little fog, but one of the foggiest places in the world is the Grand Banks off the island of Newfoundland, Canada. The cold Labrador Current from the North Atlantic Ocean meets the much warmer Gulf Stream from the south. The air over those currents meets and mixes, and creates fog.

The foggiest land areas in the world are Point Reyes, Calif., and Argentia, Newfoundland, each with more than 200 foggy days a year.

If you thought all fogs were created equal, think again. There are radiation fog, sea fog, ground fog, advection fog, steam fog (also called evaporation fog), precipitation fog, upslope fog, valley fog, ice fog, freezing fog and artificial fog - like the stuff at rock music concerts.

Bossco began to laugh and slapped me on the shoulder and said let's make a toast to fog - the scariest cloud we ever met!





Chocolate **Can Cover** Anything!

By Bubbles What is your favorite food covered in chocolate? Is it cherries, pretzels, strawberries or bugs? Bugs?

ered candies are made very simply and some are made with the utmost detail and care. Candy makers use

Mufflers keed it

By Sam K, I have to admit Does that sound weird?

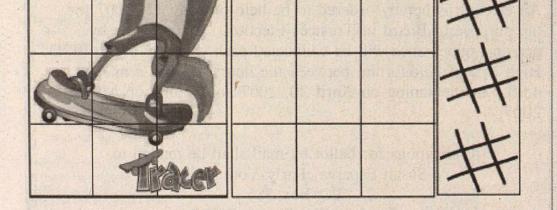
Speaking of sound, a muffler is a device that reduces the amount of sound a machine makes, like the engine in your family's car. It would be really loud without a muffler.

The first muffler was invented by Hiram Percy Maxim to silence firearms. After that, it was used on engines to keep some of the unwanted noise down.

When carmakers designed cars with cabs to protect riders from the wind and rain, they had to make pipes to carry the exhaust out behind the car.

The pipes made a lot of noise, so they made some changes to Maxim's muffler and put one on each car.

Inside a muffler, you'll find a combination of tubes, one inside the other, with holes in them. These tubes control the sound. As the exhaust enters, the tubes cancel the noise



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Yep, some people sell bugs covered in chocolate. But not just any bugs. These bugs are rich in protein and taste very good.

Have I tried them? No! Are you kidding? Not me - no way! I am not as brave as one would think.

I did carry some at the sweet shop just to get people talking around Kid County. If you're not familiar with this tactic, it's called "marketing." Some chocolate-cov-

special ingredients for fillings like real vanilla whip, fresh fruit and - my favorite - mint creme. They cover them with all kinds of chocolate, like milk, dark and sometimes white chocolate.

So, the next time you eat favorite foods like apples, french fries, tater tots, broccoli and carrots or if you see a neat bug - imagine what it would taste like dipped in chocolate. Good eats!

out, a little at a time. Muffler manufacturers do a lot of research to find the best design. **Badly designed mufflers** can hurt your engine because they will not let the exhaust through, and that forces the engine to work too hard.

The right muffler can maintain good power and save gas. Make sure you have your local mechanic check your muffler the next time you're in for a tune-up.

The Mouse and the Motorcycle By Beverly Cleary



tion

Join us as we enjoy this young readers classic.. The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary.

With special permission, each week, one chapter of this book will be printed in The Brackett News.

chapters?

Click on "NiE" on www.the brackettnews.com

Chapter 3

Trapped!

Even though Ralph woke up feeling sick and dizzy, his first thought was of the motorcycle. He hoped it was not broken. He

NiE - Newspapers in Educa- sat there at the bottom of the wastebasket until the whirly feeling in his head stopped and he was able, slowly and carefully, to stand up. He stretched each aching muscle and felt each of his four legs to make certain it was not broken.

When Ralph was sure that he Did you miss the first two was battered but intact he examined the motorcycle. He set it upright and rolled it backward and forward to make sure the wheels still worked. One comfortable home in the handlebar was bent and some of mousehole. It was a good home, made Ralph more eager than the paint was chipped off the rear untidy but comfortable. The ever to escape. "No!" he fender, but everything else children who stayed in Room shouted, his voice echoing in seemed all right. Ralph hoped 215 usually left a good supply the metal chamber. "I won't that he might as well be thrown tossing and turning behind the so, but there was no way he of crumbs behind, and there have it! I'm too young to be out with the trash on a full stom- apple core until, stuffed and excould find out until he figured was always water from the shirts dumped out with the trash!"

out how to start the engine. Now he ached too much even to try.

Wearily Ralph dragged himself over to the wall of his metal prison and sat down beside the body. He leaned back against the side of the wastepaper basket, closed his eyes, and thought about his Uncle Victor. Poor nearsighted Uncle Victor. He, too, had landed in a metal wastepaper basket, jumping there mice in the hotel. I just opened climb the sides, he had been trapped until the maid came and it. emptied him out with the trash. No one knew for sure what had laugh from the second-floor happened to Uncle Victor, but it was known that trash in the working for the summer seahotel was emptied into an incinerator.

Ralph felt sad and remorseful thinking about his Uncle Vic- afraid of them." There were after all. His poor mother, gathering crumbs for his little brothers and sisters while he, selfish lege students working during mouse that he was, sat trapped in a metal prison from which the only escape was to be thrown away like an old gum wrapper.

Ralph thought sadly of his

hung to drip-dry beside the washbasin. It should have been enough. He should have been content to stay home without venturing out into the world fall back in a sorry heap. He apple core to rest his aching looking for speed and excitement

Outside in the hall Ralph bellboy, saying, "These new people in 215 and 216, somehow they got the idea there are management wouldn't stand for

Ralph heard a delighted maid, a college girl who was son. "Mice are adorable but just the same, I hope I never he managed to raise the core find any in my rooms. I'm tor getting dumped out with the two kinds of employees at the trash. His mother had been right Mountain View Inn-the regulars, none of them young, and the summer help, who were colthe tourist season.

"If you don't like mice you better stay away from that knothole under the window in Room 215," advised Matt.

The sound of voices so close

jumped to his feet, ran across the wastebasket floor, and leaped against the wall, only to rose, backed off, and tried again. There he was on the floor of the wastebasket a secheard footsteps and Matt, the ond time. It was useless, utterly useless. He did not have the strength to tip over the wastebasket.

Ralph was not a mouse to paper basket, jumping there mice in the hotel. I just opened Ralph was not a mouse to "Go away," said Ralph give up easily. He considered crossly, because he did not like his problem a moment before to eat food crawling with ants he rolled the motorcycle over to the wall of the wastebasket. Then he seized the apple core ment. The ants left as silently by the stem and dragged it over as they had come. to the motorcycle. By putting his shoulder under the stem end, until it was standing on its blossom end, but when he put his front paws around it and tried to lift it, he found he could not. The core was too heavy to lift up onto the seat of the motorcycle. Ralph was disappointed but when he stopped to think it hope-if someone did happen to over, he saw that even if he could manage to get the apple core on top of the motorcycle, it still would not be high enough to allow him to climb out of the wastebasket.

Bruised and defeated, Ralph dropped the core and decided

In spite of his aches he bite of apple and felt a little better. It was the best food he had eaten for several days-juicy and full of flavor and much better than the damp zwieback crumbs the last guests had left behind. He took several more bites and settled down to a hearty meal, saving the seeds for dessert.

> Two ant scouts appeared on the rim of the wastebasket.

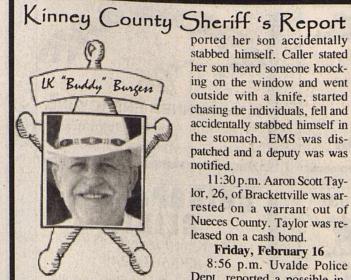
and because it embarrassed him to be seen in such a predica-

When Ralph had eaten his fill of the apple he curled up beside the core. He only hoped that someone might happen to drop a Kleenex over him. It was bad enough to be carried to one's doom in a wastebasket, but to be carried to one's doom by a shrieking maid was unthinkable. There was one tiny ray of drop a Kleenex over him, he just might have a chance to jump and run when the maid tipped the basket up to empty it into the incinerator.

The thought that the boy was sure to miss his motorcycle and start looking for it kept Ralph ach as an empty one. He took a hausted, he finally fell asleep.

Community

Thursday, February 22, 2007 The Brackett News



Tuesday, February 13 8:02 p.m. A 911 caller reported a reckless driver on HWY 90 close to Sycamore Creek. Del Rio DPS was advised

9:57 p.m. Joaquin Israel Fernandez, 18, of Brackettville was arrested for possession of marijuana. Fernandez was released the next day on a \$1,200 PR bond.

Wednesday, February 14 2:40 p.m. Leslie James Bigham, 23, of Monahans was arrested for possession of marijuana. Bigham was released the

next day on a \$2,000 bond. 4:20 p.m. Jesse Ead Smith III. 23, of Brackettville was arrested for revocation of probation. Smith was released the same day on a \$1,000 bond.

Thursday, February 15 1:13 a.m. A 911 caller re-



Rev. Bill Adams Sr.

Stand, Hearken, Hear Thus saith the Lord, stand ve in the ways and see and ask for the old paths where is the good way and walk there in and ye shall find rest for your soul; but they said we will not walk there

ported her son accidentally stabbed himself. Caller stated her son heard someone knocking on the window and went outside with a knife, started chasing the individuals, fell and accidentally stabbed himself in the stomach. EMS was dispatched and a deputy was was notified

11:30 p.m. Aaron Scott Taylor, 26, of Brackettville was arrested on a warrant out of Nueces County. Taylor was released on a cash bond.

Friday, February 16 8:56 p.m. Uvalde Police

Dept. reported a possible intoxicated driver on HWY 90. Saturday, February 17

2:25 a.m. Landon Beau Rice, 25, of Fort Clark was arrested for public intoxication. Rice was released the next day on time served.

Sunday, February 18

4:40 p.m. A man reported someone had stolen items from his property.

5:41 p.m. Fort Clark Security reported a vehicle accident at the NCO club.

7:45 p.m. Jose Guadalupe Vasquez, 34, of Rocksprings was arrested for driving with an invalid license. Vasquez was released the next day on a \$1,200 bond

Monday, February 19

8:14 p.m. A 911 caller reported a fight in progress. A deputy was informed of the situation

Also I set watchmen over you saying, hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said we will not hearken.

Therefore hear ye nations and know, o congregation, what is not disturbing. One thing I obamong them.

Hear, o earth: behold I will bring evil upon this people even Jeremiah 6:16-19

Triumph in suffering

in the work of the Lord.'

This man is a wonderful example of how the Lord uses those who make themselves available to Him. He refused to surrender to bitterness and anger and instead turned to the Lord for hope and help. The Lord then showed this man, opportunities in which he could minister to and help others

He learned that the Lord does not look at abilities, but rather at a person's willingness and availability. J. Sidlow Baxter says that if we could just eliminate our resentings, our refusings, and our rebellion, the Lord would use us beyond our wildest dreams.

How about you? Are you wanting to be made useable for the Kingdom of God? If that is you then just come to the Lord Jesus, surrender you life and your all to Him and He will use you for His glory and honor. Living

Church,

A young mother's apology



Jeff Janca

a western city. He was crippled

and blind for over 15 years. When

he wanted to go to Church, he

had to be carried on a stretcher.

He had to have a nurse care for

him. Bible Scholar, J. Sidlow

Baxter tells of the time that he

met this man. He noticed that this

who had been this man's his

nurse. Through this nurse he

Mr. Baxter talked with a lady

man had a glow on his face.

There was a man who lived in

Recently a young mother and her year and a half old son were visiting our Church. They sat in the pew directly behind us. The baby made a little noise and moved around somewhat during the worship service but it was served was that this young child was already listening to and obeying his mother, (Ephesians 6:1-3). After the service, she gizing for the disturbance. I told her that she did not need to apologize and that I was glad that she was bringing her young son

Come

to Church. I thought she was doing the right thing by starting him off in life in the things of God. As she walked out the Church I prayed a silent prayer that her young child would always want to be there and he would grow up to have a wonderful relationship to the Lord Jesus, (2 Timothy 3:15). I cannot think of a better place or way for a child to grow up. I wish our churches had children all over the place, babies crawling on the floors and then maybe our drug problems, crime rates would be down and the youth prisons would not be so full. The Bible teaches that children are a gift from God, (Psalm 127:3) but parents are given the responsibility of teaching them about the things of God, (Deuteronomy 11:18-20, Proverbs 6:20-23). See you in Church next Sunday. Brother J

Frontier



Margaret Martinez Mendias

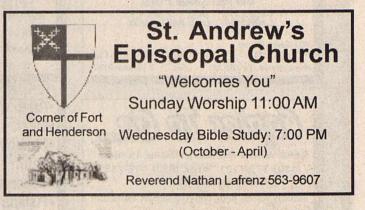
Margaret Martinez Mendias passed away Saturday, February 17 at the age of 84. She surcomed to a heart attack.

Margaret was born in Marfa, TX the fourth of six children. She worked for special weapons out for the U.S. government for 37 years. She traveled all over the world with her job.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Fay Mendias. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Henry B. Mendias, her son, Rene Mendias and two grandchildren; Aaron and Michelle Mendias.

Henry and Margaret were residence of Fort Clark Springs for over 20 years.

She is mourned by family and friends.





First Baptist Church (SBC) Corner of Ann and Veltman Phone: 563-2245 Sunday: Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Adult/Youth/Children Discipleship Training 6 p.m. Evening Service 7 p.m. Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study Pastor Jeff Janca



the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened came up to me and started apolounto my words nor to my law, but reject it. Praise the Lord!



in.

too that this man "rejoices ever-Brackettville more" and is "always abounding

learned that this man had bee used by the Lord to lead 166 people to a saving knowledge of Jesus. He also learned that many for Jesus is awesome! people would call him up asking Jeff Janca for spiritual counsel. He learned Baptist First

808 N. Ann 563-2616 Sunday AM, 9:30 Classes & 10:30 Worship Wednesday PM 6:30 Classes Minister: Ray Melton

First United Methodist Church

109 James Street, next to the clinic

Sunday School 9:30 * Worship 10:45

Staffed Nursery Every Sunday

Hear the Bible, Feel the Spirit, Find a Welcome!

open hearts, open minds, open doors

11:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Sunday Night at the Movies or Bible study. 7:00 pm Wednesday Night Service **Nursery Provided** (830) 563-5529 **Pastor: Ned Sitzes** Frontier Baptist Church (SBC) Corner of Ann & El Paso

the

A Bible Based New Testament Church

9:45 am Bible Study/Sunday School

to

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH EVANGELICAL LUTHER AN CHURCH OF AMERICA **Corner of Fort & Henderson** Sunday: Worship 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 7 p.m. (October - April) Lutheran Church Women 11 a.m. Parrish Hall (Second Monday of Month) Email:www.ourredeemerlutheran.org **PASTOR NATHAN LAFRENZ 563-9607**

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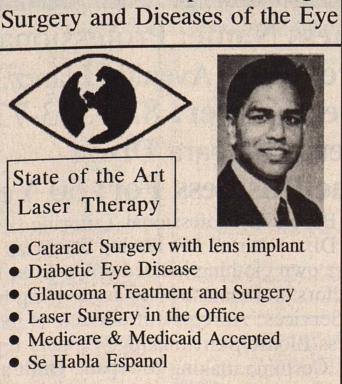
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Service Directory

Thursday, February 22, 2007 The Brackett News

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Weekly Business Profile



Business Name: Professional Tailor Address: 177 Avenida Juarez, Unit 1 FCS Phone Number: 830-563-7306 Owners: Barbara Dixon In The Business For: 50 Years

Type of Business: Professional Tailoring Barbara Dixon started her sewing career as young girl by altering her own clothing handed down from her aunts. "Professional tailors and seamstresses are a dying breed," says Dixon. Special Services: All types of alterations including: Coat relining, Dress/Blouse/Skirt making, Zippers replaced, Pattern drafting, Costume making & repair, Quilt and comforter repair, Pant hems or cuffs and formal dress making & alterations.

Photo from left: Professional Barbara Dixon puts the finishing touches on a costume for the upcoming FSC Festival.

Classified Market Thursday, February 22, 2007 The Brackett News

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

SELL YOUR STUFF STATE WIDE! Place your classified ad in newspapers all across the state of Texas for \$450, Place your ad in one Texas region for \$195 or in two Texas regions for \$390! Contact the newspa-per office today@ 830-563-2852 for more details!

ADOPTION

Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7. Abby's One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-910-5611.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Thriving clothing resale business for sale. Great money maker! Established customer base. Serious inquiries can be directed to 830-278-5195.

EMPLOYMENT

CAREER OPPORTUNITY. I am looking for a particular type sales person. One who will take personal interest in my local business. If your are willing to work, follow instructions and can live on an average of \$3,00 per month until your skills improve; I will train you well, pay you well, and provide advancement limited to your own ability. Must be teachable and driven. Call 830-591-3496, ask for Amanda Martin.

ALAMO SADDLERY SEEKING full time experienced bookkeeping personnel. 830-563-3255

WANTED CARRIER FOR San Antonio Express-News Brackettville area - call Joe Salinas 830-774-3000 or 1-800-613-0473

THE KINNEY COUNTY Groundwater Conservation District is currently accepting applications for the position of General Manager. Please direct all inquiries and/or resumes to P.O. Box 369, Brackettville, TX 78832.

THE ALIBI LOUNGE is looking for bartenders and wait staff, all shifts, will train, experience preferred. Call 830-563-9400 or 563-3053

RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC COOP-ERATIVE, INC. NOW HIRING Groundman/Lineman \$10.00 per hour, Brackettville, Texas. 830-563-2444 www.rgec. coop

O'Rourke Realty Elsa O'Rourke, R × Broker (830) 563-2713

Unit 32, Fort - Comfortable and roomy, 3BR, 2B, big yard. Call for an appointment. Sale/Rent - In historic area, 1BR, 1B rock building with covered carport, cement driveway, 2 lots, 2nd lot

optional. Sale/Rent - Furnished old barracks apartment, 2BR, 1B, and large porch facing golf course, washer and dryer. Membership included -\$30,000. Owner will finance. Unit 14 - Furnished 1 bed R.V. Sec-

ond roof extends over cement driveway. Excellent location on corner lot for added privacy. Price Reduced.

auced, Brackettville - Commercial building, prime location, \$75,000. Leona Ranch - twenty acres Ten acres on Highway 90 with buildings, near city limits, good water, fenced. HWY 90 - Partially constructed as

HWY 90 - Partially constructed ce-ment block building with 4 lots. \$50,000. Near City of Kerrville - 5 acres with

small house, septic, well. Weekend rentals available. orourke06@sbcglobal.net

www.orourkerealty.net

EMPLOYMENT

ADVERTISING SALES POSI-TION open at The Brackett News. Individual must travel to Del Rio and Uvalde to sell advertising space for the paper. Must be HIGHLY motivated and able to work independently. Pay based on sales - plus food and gas stipend paid. Sales experi-enced preferred, but will train a qualified applicant. Serious applicants are welcomed to drop in 111 W. Spring Street for more information and an application.

FOR SALE

MARY KAY COSMETICS, Alana Flurry 563-9435 www.mary kay.com/aflurry

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE, FORT Clark, Unit 14, Lot 5. Sat Only, Feb 24, 9-4.

HOUSE FOR RENT

2 BEDRM, 1 BATH, newly remodeled, central air/heating, tile floors, window blinds, stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer in separate laundry room, carport. \$375/month/Fort Clark Springs 49er Unit. 830-563-6278 ask for Ms. Kaeding.

HOMES FOR SALE

CUSTOM BUILT HOME @ FCSI Over 2,000 sq, ft., 4 Bed, 3 Bath, tiled floors and other extras. Must see! Call 563-9952

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120 Sunset Lane: nice 3BR, 2.5B home with 2,448 + /-sq.ft., stone FP, office area, garage & carport. Choice locale! 155 Warrior: custom built brick home, 1,900 + /- sq.ft., FP,

office, tiled party room with hot tub, workshop, garage & carport, fenced yard.

122 LaMotte: 3BR, 2B home, large screened & tiled porch, roomy workshop, fenced yard.

Avenida Juarez: neat historic home, 2BR, 2B, large screened porch with FP & bar, lovely landscaping.

Unit 38: RV lot in choice locale, offers slab, 50 amp service, **Reduced Price!**

Unit 36: custom built apartment, 1,100 +/- sq.ft., great kitchen, tile floors, covered RV parking

Unit 34: furnished 2BR, 1B apartment, with patio, storage, garage & RV cover!

Unit 14: 2BR, 2B home recent upgrades. What a Deal at \$22,500.

Unit 14: cute apartment & covered parking for RV, some furnishings

Ranches & Small Acreage For Sale



Unit 1, Lot 55- Beautiful creek front townhouse. Lovely setting for this 3B2B unique in style..patio with screened porch. Must see to appreciate cozy home, park at your door. \$95,0000 Unit 3, Lot 6- 2BR 1B single wide mobile home with furniture, dishes, washer/dryer, well kept place, with covered parking and storage shed. \$13,000 Unit 3, Lot 34- Manufactured home, 2BR, 1B, 2nd roof, covered parking, storage shed, Great shape! Great Find! EZ to maintain. \$28,000 Unit 7, Lots 47 & 48- Cute \$ well maintained 3BR, 2B duplex coverted to one unit, corner lot, tile floors, remodeled kitchen.

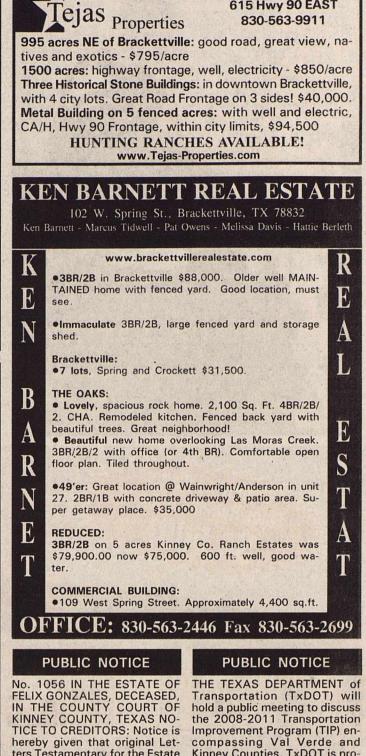
Unit 7, Lots 47 & 48- Cute \$ well maintained 3BR, 2B duplex coverted to one unit, corner lot, tile floors, remodeled kitchen, nice yard with sprinkler system and screened porch. \$68,000 Unit 7, Lot 1- Rustic, clean and comfortable 3BR, 1B unit, with circle drive, picnic table, gas grill, washer and dryer, partially furnished, ready to sell. \$47,000 Unit 14, Lots 49 & 50- RV home, with kitchen, laundry and sitting area down staits with 1/2 bath. Upstairs, a master suite with restroom and closet space galore. Lovingly cared for with ceiling fans, dishwasher, storage shed, fenced yard. \$46,000

Unit 15, Lot 50- 3BR, 2B mobile home, fenced yard, and lots of plants. Some recent remodeling and updates have been started on this home, handyman special with lots of potential.

\$22,500 Unit 12, Lot 16- 3BR, 2B beautiful home with tile throughout. Spacious open plan. Eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, and cedar back porch. The home was built with finest quality with lots of extras. \$143,000 Unit 27- 3BR, 2B manufactured home with open floor plan, FP, deck, laundry room and island kitchen, fenced yard, garage. Very nice!!! Golf course is across the street. \$79,000 Unit 27- For Rent/Sale brand new 2BR, 1B manufactured home across from golf course. Nice area! be in on the deal! \$550 + utilities and deposits. Unit 27- Golf course lots looking onto green or fairway with beautiful mature trees. Price starting at \$3500.00 Unit 27- Gold course. In the course is golf course. \$7500.00

Unit 33- The Masters- Condo 1203, second floor, 1BR, 1B, completely furnished on golf course, excellent condition with extras. Great investment or get-a-way home! \$32,000 Your happiness is our success!

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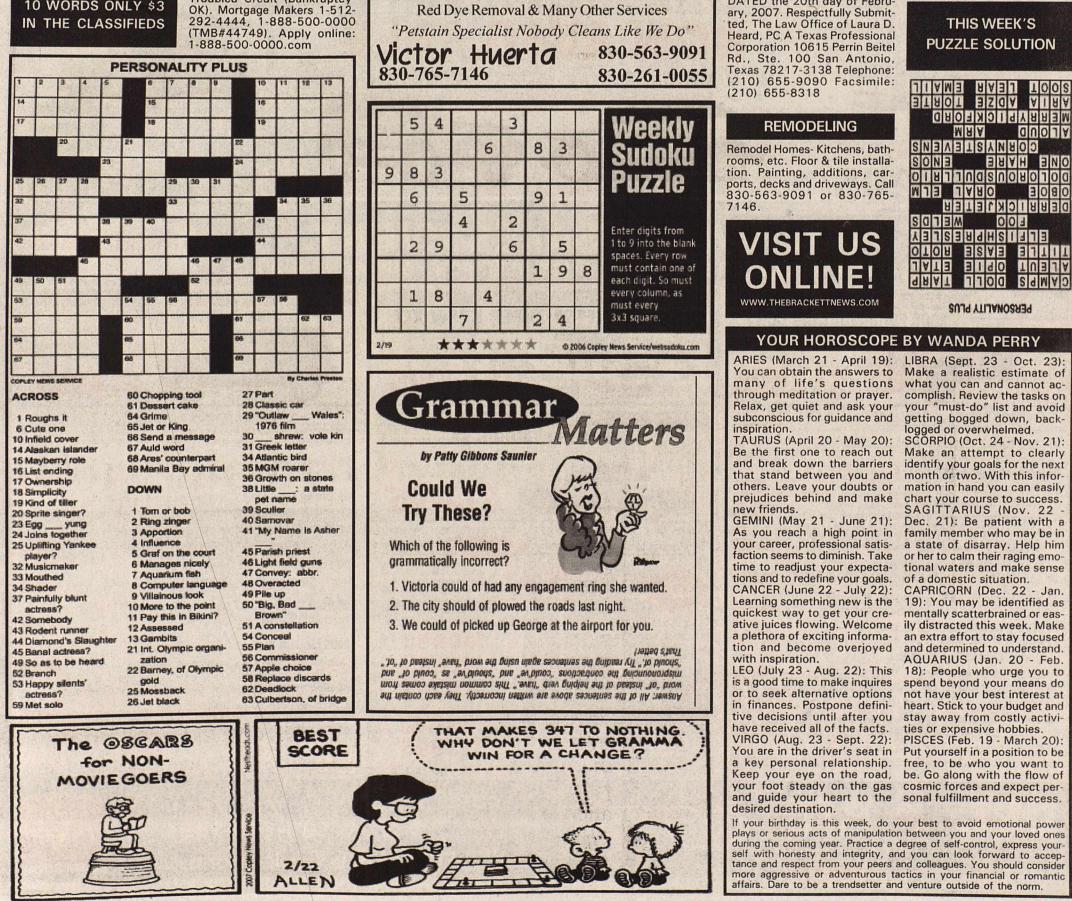
ters Testamentary for the Estate of Felix Gonzales, Deceased, were issued on January 24, 2007, in Cause No. 1056, in the County Court of Kinney County, Texas, to: Frances G. Hidalgo. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to, the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Laura D. Heard, Attorney at Law Law Office of Laura Heard, PC A Texas Professional Corporation 10615 Perrin Beitel Rd., Ste. 100 San Antonio, Texas 78217-3138 at (956) 712-7456. DATED the 20th day of Febru-

Kinney Counties. TxDOT is proposing the four year TIP and id requesting input from the public on these roadway improve-ment projects. This public meet-ing will be held at Del Rio Civic Center Cotton Wood Room, 1916 Veterans Boulevard, Del Rio, Texas. The meeting will begin at 6 pm on March 20, 2007. Please note the viewing of exhibits will begin at 5:30 pm prior to the public meeting. If you have any questions or comments please contact Melisa D. Montemayor, District Advanced **Transportation Planning Director**

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