

The Brackett News

Volume 20, No. 45

Thursday, December 18, 2008

1 Section, 6 Pages

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

Community News

RECITAL
The piano and voice students of Lynn McNew will present a Christmas Recital on Saturday, Dec. 20, 2:00 p.m., First Baptist Church. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served following the recital. Our thanks to Rev. Janca and the First Baptist Church family.

DONATE LOCALLY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

If you are planning to give this holiday season, you are encouraged to give to those right where you live. The Kinney County Church Alliance Food Pantry is accepting donations. Help feed a local senior or a family struggling in these hard economic times. Five dollars or \$500... donations small and large are all appreciated. Please make checks payable to KCCA Food Pantry, PO Box 1109, Brackettville, TX 78832 or contact Deacon Joe Goebel of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church.

DONATIONS NEEDED
Clean used clothes, kitchen utensils, and old toys. For poor people in Mexico. Call 563-2291 for pick up.

4H NEWS

4-H will have its general meeting on Sunday, January 4 at 6:00 pm at the District Courtroom. It is very important that all members make every effort to attend this important meeting before the Stockshow. The Kinney County Livestock will be Friday and Saturday, January 9 and 10th, 2009 at the County Civic Center. There will be a BBQ (\$5.00 a plate) on Saturday, January 10, at Noon. Come out and support your county's youth!

REGION J MEETING
Region J will hold a Public Meeting on Thursday, December 18, 2008, at 10:15 A.M., at the Flying L Guest Ranch, 566 Flying L Drive, Bandera County Texas. Region J will hold a board meeting at 10:30a.m. The agendas are attached.

WATER BOARD MEETING
The Kinney County GCD Board of Directors will hold a regular meeting on December 18, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in the District of the Kinney County Courthouse in Brackettville, Texas.

MASONIC LODGE
Las Moras Masonic Lodge Scholarship 2008 announced the winners for the Charity drawing Fundraiser. The winners were: 1st Prize Caliber Deer Rifle - Johnny Griffith-Alpine, TX. 2nd Prize Case Pocket knife - Nathan Hiebert - Uvalde, TX. 3rd Prize Case of 12 ga. shotgun shells - Kurt Partlow - Brackettville, TX.

LEPC MEETING
Please note the date change to TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, for the LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE SOCIAL at 7pm at the Fire Rescue Classroom at the EMS building. All Kinney County residents who are interested in better preparedness during disasters are invited. Bring spouse or friend along with a Christmas goodie for the refreshment table as beverage will be provided. After a year of work on upgrading disaster planning let us celebrate that Kinney County is better prepared. We all know that this is an ongoing process with many hands making light work.

PHOTO EXHIBIT
Bob Parvin of Fort Clark Springs will have his photos on display at the Firehouse Gallery in Del Rio. The Firehouse Gallery is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 to 5:30 and Saturdays 10 to 2. Location is 120 E Garfield, Del Rio. Bob's photos will be exhibited until December 31 in the side gallery.

Weekend WEATHER

Friday

High: 77
Low: 52

Partly Cloudy

Saturday

High: 77
Low: 43

Partly Cloudy

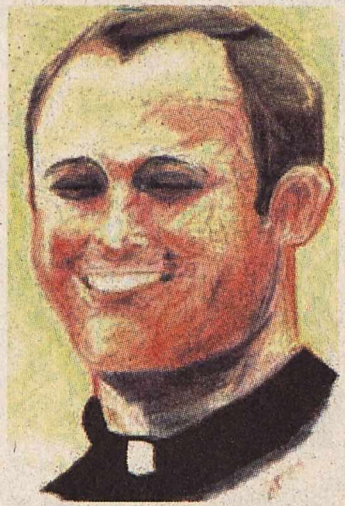
Sunday

High: 55
Low: 31

Partly Cloudy

Brackett's first ever priest to offer mass of celebration

For a town the size of Brackettville, the mass to be held on January 11 at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Parish may



Deacon Henry Clay Hunt III
Drawing by a fellow deacon while serving in the Philippines

quite possibly be a once in a lifetime experience.

On Saturday, January 10, 2009, Brackettville native Henry Clay Hunt III will be ordained into the Catholic priesthood in San Antonio and then return to Brackettville on January 11 to offer his first mass as a new priest.

Hunt will be the first ever from Brackettville to be ordained as a Catholic priest and the first ever to offer his Mass of Celebration at St. Mary Magdalene.

Hunt, the oldest child of H.C. and Mollie Hunt, will be ordained according to the holy orders of the Catholic faith and will find out on the day of his ordination where he will serve.

Hunt explained that it takes approximately nine to 13 years of study and formations before

a man can become a priest.

"It is a humbling experience to go the whole way. It is a gift from God to have the patience to complete it," said Hunt of his priestly journey.

Hunt has served in a missionary capacity all over the world including the Philippines, Italy, Brazil, Guatemala and Mexico.

The family is inviting everyone from Brackettville to join with them as they travel to San Antonio and later return to Brackettville for the Celebration Mass.

"What a gift from God it is that our family was chosen for such a blessing. As parents, we feel as though we are not worthy, but we are most grateful," said Mollie Hunt as she prepares her heart and home for the special event.

INVITATION TO THE PEOPLE OF BRACKETTVILLE



With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God

Through the Invocation of the Holy Spirit and the Imposition of Hands

The Most Rev. José H. Gomez, S.T.D. Archbishop of San Antonio

will ordain

Henry Clay Hunt, III

to the Sacred Order of Presbyter

in

the Roman Catholic Rite

Saturday, January 10, 2009

at 10:00 a.m.

St. Anthony Mary Claret Parish

6150 Roft Road

San Antonio, Texas 78253

Spofford Grant Pays For New Fire Engine



Courtesy Photo

Officials gathered to celebrate the acquisition of a new fire truck paid for by grant money obtained by the City of Spofford. Standing left to right: Spofford City Secretary Sarah Terrazas, Spofford City Councilman John Quigley, Kinney County Commissioner Joe Montalvo, Kinney County Commissioner Pat Melancon and Spofford Mayor Alex Solis.

New fire truck rolls in on Spofford grant

Brackettville - The Office of Rural community Affairs (ORCA) a state agency recently awarded the City of Spofford, a grant in the amount of \$225,350.00 from the agency's Texas Community Development Program to acquire fire protection equipment.

The grant was used to purchase a new E-ONE Pumper Fire Truck to be used by Kinney County Fire Rescue.

Carl Esser, grant administrator and project coordinator stated the grant comes from ORCA's Texas CDBG program

the largest such program in the rural and a vital resource for rural communities.

Every year, HUD provides federal Community Development Block Grant Funds to states, which in turn provide the funds to small rural cities with populations less than 50,000 and to counties that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 and are not eligible for direct funding from HUD.

The new 1,000 gallon Pumper Fire Truck will benefit all residents in Spofford, Brackettville and Kinney County.

CORRECTION: In the December 11, 2008 edition of TBN, Page 1, "City council ups their pay" it was erroneously reported the Brackettville City Council rescinded a "resolution" of November 13, 2007, but it should have read "Action". By the current council voting unanimously, all within the confines of the law, to rescind the 2007 "Action", the Council is not bound by the terms of the City Charter and will, effective immediately, begin receiving each the net amount of \$250 per month and the mayor the net amount of \$500 per month, instead of all \$10 per month as specified in the 2007 Action. The cost to the taxpayers will be nearly \$25,000 annually and make the Brackettville council members the highest paid in the region. TBN apologizes for the error and will continue its honest efforts to report the news and when it must, make the necessary corrections.

Memories of a long ago Christmas

Ernestine Paiz of Brackettville submitted the following Christmas story. It was written by a cousin of hers Roberta Villarreal Shafer of Harbor City, California.

Last year, as my grandchildren gathered around me, the Christmas tress lights reflected in the sparkle of their young, bright eyes. Their small arms were laden with more toys than they could carry. All nine of them were trying to tell me what they found under their Christmas tree.

The grown-ups were trying to hush them, but they were not too different from their children. They all joined in with excitement of Christmas conversation.

As I listened I was filled with nostalgia. My thoughts carried me back to another time. I felt as though I could hear my sisters and brothers at another Christmas. Strange, I thought, this is today. Too many things have changed but the reason we can all identify with Christmas is because of the Spirit and what Christmas stands for.

I decided to sit close to my grandchildren and tell them what Christmas was like when I was a little girl.

The year was 1929. The place was a ranch in Southwest Texas. There was frost in the land.

Icicles hung all around our house. The trees were all covered with ice flakes. It was Christmas Eve. I went to bed as early as I could so morning could come sooner, so I thought.

It was in the early dawn that I awoke. I could hear the wind whistling outside our ranch home. It was an old house, gray from the lack of paint, but what a wonderful house it was. A happy family lived here, I thought. There were three brothers and four of us girls, and of course our wonderful Mama and Daddy. Thinking about Christmas, I drifted back to sleep.

We helped Daddy decorate the tree the day before. My two older brothers, Arthur and Ernest, boasted about who chopped the tree down and who carried it home. We never knew who did which.

The decorations were so different in those days. Many of them were made at home. My younger sisters, Irene and Ora, and my youngest brother Henry, made beautiful chains out of paper colored them with crayons, glued them together and hung them around the tree. Eloise and I were older and we make the lanterns, also out of paper.

We also hung apples, oranges, and stung popcorn. Then

Mama would bring out the store bought decorations that she kept from year to year. They consisted of many little birds of different colors made out of tin foil. There also were little candle holders that were green so you could not see them pinned to the tree.

In those days not every one had electricity, especially out in a ranch. Every family bought their little candles. Some were red, green, blue, and yellow, and the only on Christmas Eve Daddy would take a match and light all the candles on the tree. What a beautiful sight that was! We would gather around the tree and sing "Silent Night" and "Oh! Little Town of Bethlehem."

Later Mama would tell us the story about Christmas and how it all began. How baby Jesus was born in Bethlehem and how people came from everywhere bringing gifts and rejoicing in the birth of our Lord.

Mama kept a family tradition that was carried from generation to generation. On Christmas Eve, she made crinkle fritters. They were round as a pie shell, thin as paper and sprinkled with sugar and cinnamon.

They were delicately made. When they were finished, they looked all bubbly and wrinkled. Mama had her own name for

them - buenuelos.

She said these resembled the little frowns the baby Jesus made when he wanted to cry. She believed in this way. What a wonderful thought that was! I guess in a way this was to remind us about the real reason for Christmas.

Mama made so many cakes and prided herself placing them in rows in a china closet. We would stand back and admire her beautiful work through the glass. How delicious her cakes were with the old fashion icing and fruit that was picked fresh from the ranch.

Soon it was Christmas morning. Irene and Ora woke me up with their excitement over the dolls that Santa brought. What were they screaming about? Henry was pointing his bow and arrow at one of their dolls. He looked up at Mama with that little boyish smile. Of course he was only teasing.

Arthur, the oldest of my brothers, found some silver coins in his shoes. He was so happy because he considered himself, 17, too old to get anything.

Ernest did not have anything under the tree. He pretended not to notice. He did not say a word, but Daddy was quick to ask him to help with some chores.

"Go to the woodshed and bring in some wood, son, and hurry," implored Daddy. Ernest ran out of the house to get the wood, and the next thing we knew, he was back in the house laughing and hugging everyone.

"I have a bicycle! I have a bicycle!" He kept saying. Santa had left his bicycle in the woodshed.

He went out of the house again, and just as he was coming in with his arms full of wood, we heard loud thunder and the rain started to pour.

"Oh no" Ernest said. "I wanted to ride my bike and now it's raining. I have wanted a bicycle for the longest time." We felt so sorry for him, but at the same time it was comical. Irene and Ora started to laugh. We did not dare. He laughed, too.

"It is comical," he said. "You see, at the ranch it would usually rain for days and days. The ground would get really muddy." We knew he would not ride his bicycle for a long time. He stood out in the porch waiting the rain and said "I am glad I have my bike."

Eloise and I had asked Santa for clothes. It had been her idea and I agreed. She had said to me, "Bobbie, we can always use more clothes, besides we both need a coat."

LETTERS to the Editor

Last Thursday evening, the Brackett High School Band and Choir presented their annual Christmas Program. If you were not there you missed a wonderful performance by our Choir and Band. Both the band and Choir did an excellent job. I want to thank them for their performance and also than the new Band Director Cheryl Hunter for working so hard with the students. If you were not there, you missed an excellent time.

Jeff Janca
Brackettville

Response to Lowery letter of December 11:

In a recent letter, I was accused of being interested in water because of my pipeline background. Let me set the facts straight. I owned a pipeline company until 2002. At that time I sold it to the employees at a much reduced price. I am still on the board, primarily because they have not finished the payout. I have nothing to do with the daily operations of Holloman Corp. If they were to try and bring a pipeline into FCS I would be as solidly against them as I am the current board. I am interested in Fort Clark's water because it is the reason that the Fort and City are here to begin with. I have seen what happens when the creek goes dry, as it did Ft. Stockton and it is not a pretty site. It would be much worse here. Water is increasingly scarce in Texas and we should be careful about giving up what could be the Key to the future well being of our community. You said the money in this dispute is not in the water, it is in the pipeline. That sounds good but the real money is in the water rights that have been granted. They are worth 5 thousand dollars per acre foot, and some of our board members have hundreds(or is it thousands) of acre feet already allotted. At a recent meeting Federal and state and local people admitted they do not know how much water is here, what the recharge rate is, or even where it all comes from. Also pictures where shown at one meeting where water for domestic use was being hauled in barrels when the stream went dry. You say your rules will protect our stream as is. Even now when irrigation gets heavy our stream goes down. If a water line is laid, the pressure will mount for more and more water. I would also like to ask, what is your interest in selling our water. At your lectures you speak of WHEN (not if) a line is laid. You have given speeches and apparently studied hard. Why? So you get a reward if water rights get sold? You also stated in your letter that the KCGCD was responsible for no pipeline being laid already. This does not ring true with what I hear you say. I did think your idea of joint ownership of a pipeline by the local entities (county, city and FCS) has merit if it is ever decided there is reason to sell water (which I pray never happens) You also admitted it would 5 to 19 years of study before this is known. So why don't we just wait to give water allotments until we know what we are doing. I can positively say one thing. I do not need money so badly I would put the future of my neighbors homes and happiness at risk.

Sam Holloman

What's your opinion? tnews@sbcglobal.net

The Brackett News

BRACKETT NEWS STAFF
Leigh Volcsko, Publisher

www.thebrackettnews.com

For questions or corrections please call the editor at 830-563-2852 or email tnews@sbcglobal.net.

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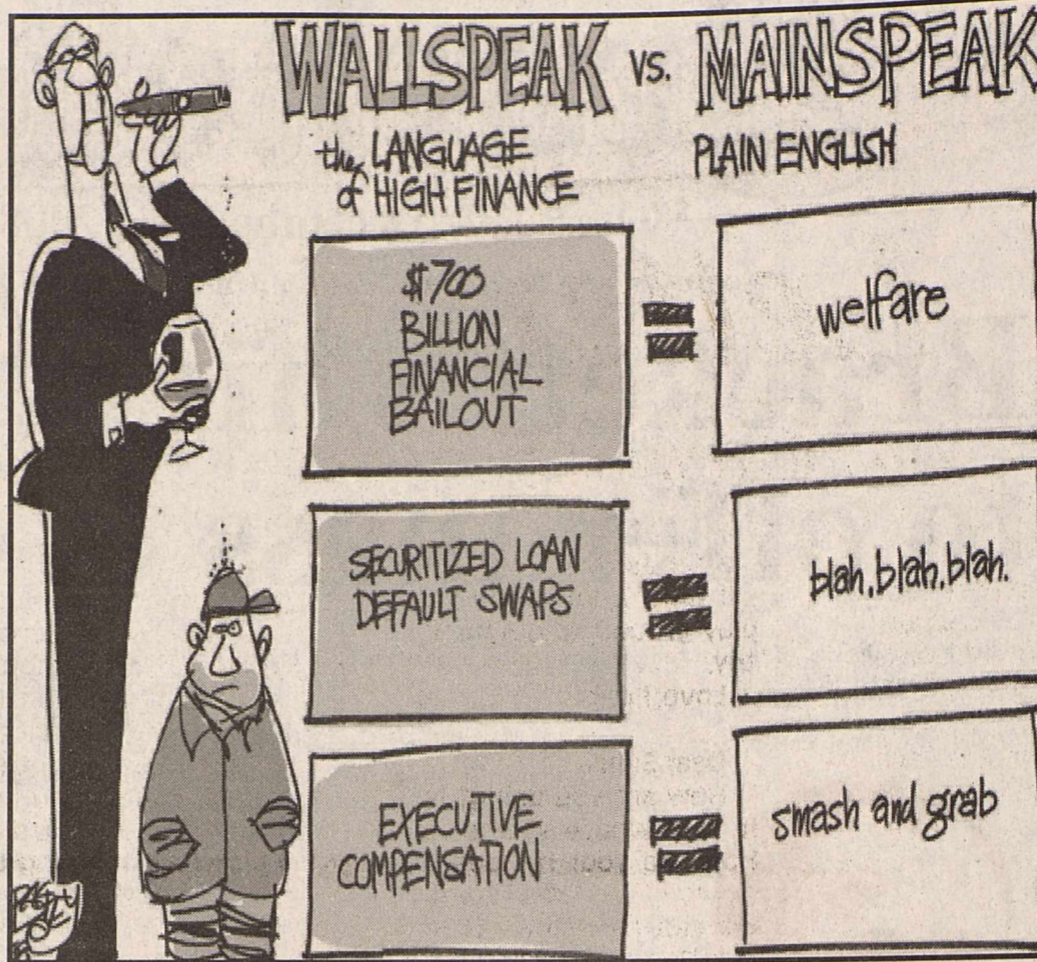
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Letter To Editor POLICY

The Brackett News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. Letters 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.



Consider financial gifts to family



Emily Cooper

At this time of year, you may be thinking about finding the "perfect" gifts for various family members.

You can find any number of thoughtful presents, but if you'd like to give something that can have an impact long after the holiday season is over, consider making a financial gift.

You could, of course, just write a check.

But you may be able to do more for your intended recipients by finding a more creative gift.

Here are a few possibilities:
Stocks — Many people have preferences for products made by certain companies — and they may well enjoy owning the stocks of those firms. Why not surprise your family members with a few shares of these stocks? If you decide to give shares from your own portfolio, you'll need to know what you originally paid for the stock, how long you've held it and its fair market value at the date of the gift. Recipients of your gift will need this information to determine gains or losses if they decide to sell the stock. You'll also need to determine if you have to pay gift taxes. You can give up to \$12,000 per year, free of gift taxes, to as many people as you want. Over your lifetime, you can give up to \$1 million without incurring gift taxes.

Contributions to Section

529 plans — Over the past several years, college tuition costs have increased significantly. If you have a child (or grandchild) who will be headed off to college in a few years, you may want to open a Section 529 college savings plan. The contribution limits are typically quite high for this type of account, and your contributions may be tax-deductible if you are participating in your own state's plan. Plus, your earnings and withdrawals will be exempt from federal taxes as long as the money goes toward paying qualified higher education expenses. (However, withdrawals used for any other expenses may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes.)

Contributions to an IRA — Many people don't fully fund their IRA each year — so any help you can give toward that goal will be important. While you can't contribute directly to someone else's IRA, you can write a check to the recipient for that purpose. For the 2008 tax year, the IRA contribution limit is \$5,000 (\$6,000 for investors who are 50 or older). And the deadline for making contributions for 2008 isn't until April 15, 2009.

Charitable gifts — You may want to make a financial gift to a charitable organization in the name of a loved one. If this person supports the work done by the charitable group, he or she will greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Furthermore, you'll get an immediate tax deduction for your gift, as long as the group has received 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

By making any of these gifts, you'll brighten your family members' holidays — and you'll know that your generosity truly had an impact on their lives.

There are no magic pills



The Fly Lady Marla Cilley

There are no magic pills that are going to make you feel prettier, clean your home, turn the frog you met into Prince Charming or miraculously cure your years of depression.

If for some reason we woke up one morning 100 pounds lighter to a clean home, greeted by a cup of coffee from your husband and the weight of the world lifted off your shoulders you would think you were dreaming or worse having a nightmare.

These dramatic changes don't happen overnight. It has taken years for us to gain the weight and clutter up our homes. Our depression crept up on us too. In many cases we thought our frog was going to be our prince who would save us. The truth is we are the only ones who can save ourselves from this torture we have put ourselves through. That doesn't change the fact that we want, what we want and we want it now. We just want to be happy! We just want to be loved! We just want, want, want!

Commercials on TV entice us to go out and get it now. For only \$299.95 a month; we can have that car we want but it is very hard to read the fine print that says for 72 months with \$2400 down. We don't look at the real cost is almost double what you would pay if you saved up your money and paid cash for it.

This entitlement attitude is all about filling that need to be happy with stuff! This is why our homes are filled with stuff.

This is why we have Hot Spots everywhere because our clutter has taken over all our closets, cabinets and drawers. Oh and let's not forget about that credit card debt that is all we really have to show for our need to be happy.

The debt, the weight and the clutter didn't happen overnight and it is not going to vanish if you make three wishes.

We have to take babysteps. But I can hear you now and see you! I just want to be a size 12 again and live in a clean organized house and be debt free!

Then our actions tell the story. We crash and burn! We try to make the magic happen by going on a crash diet, filing bankruptcy and hiring a cleaning crew to come in and fix our homes. The problem here is that he will be back in the same shape much faster than before and probably with increased measure.

We didn't establish a plan! Or shall I say babysteps! We want, what we want and we want it now! Only to discover that just because we can make things happen doesn't mean that they will stay that way long. We didn't build the foundation we needed to keep the plan consistent. Our impatience set us up for failure once again.

Half the fun of setting goals is reaching them. With weight loss, getting rid of clutter and reducing debt we can enjoy the process and make it a habit.

Did I say that? A habit! That is consistency plain and simple. A way of living that stops our need to search for happiness in those magic pills.

We become happy with daily progress toward our goals.

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What's your opinion?

email us at news@sbcglobal.net

Letters to Santa

Jones Elementary Second Grade Students

Dear Santa
How have you been doing? I wonder if you like giving presents? I have been a nice boy this year. I baked a lot of cookies for you. I wonder if your reindeer have been doing good. I want a Wii really bad.

Love, Zane

Dear Santa
I will want a Playstation Portable for Christmas and two games. I want an X-Box 360 too. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Love, Matthew

Dear Santa
How are you? Do you want cookies and milk? Santa, how are the elves? I hope you know that you are the best. Santa, how do you make the reindeer fly? On Christmas we will leave reindeer food. I would like a DS, Laptop and a big flat screen TV.

Love, Taylor

Dear Santa
How are you? Say hi to Rudolf for me. I hope you have a good Christmas. I will leave you some cookies and milk. I hope you like them. Last time we burned the cookies so we had to make more. Say hi to all of the reindeer. How are all of the reindeer? For Christmas I want Hannah Montana stuff. And a Nintendo DS., and a phone. Say hi to Mrs. Claus. How is Mrs. Claus? How are the elves? I hope they are good. Merry Christmas!

Love, Natalee

Dear Santa
I really want Butter Scotch but my mom won't let me. So I want a laptop that I saw at the store. I want leap frog and a dog game. I have been good I deserve presents. I will leave cookies and milk for you. Tell your elves I said hi.

Love, Gracie

Dear Santa
How are you doing? Do you want cookies? So you want milk too? I want a Wii for Christmas. I want a phone for Christmas. My sister wants a bike. I want an X-Box Three Sixty. I want a bike with pegs.

Love, Eduardo

Dear Santa
I love your reindeer. I love the toy you gave me. Your elves make great toys. I want Butter scotch, Jungle in my pocket and a big giraffe. I hope you have a great Christmas.

Love, Sara

Dear Santa
I want a Wii, puppy, a play ground, and a baby toy.

Love, Franny

Dear Santa
How are you doing? Is it cold where you are? How are your reindeers doing? Are your elves working hard? It is a little cold here in Brackettville. I want a gokart, a bass guitar, and drums. That is all I want for Christmas.

Love, Kalli

Dear Santa
I want a skateboard, an X-Box 360, and a I-pod. Is it cold over there?

Love, Fabian

Dear Santa
I hope you come to Brackettville safely. I want two Hannah Montana dolls. And I also want a Laptop, Hannah Montana's clothes, and I want a baby horse.

Love, Judit

Dear Santa
I love your reindeer. I hope you are doing well, it is cool too. I want a horse and a Hannah Montana game. I hope your reindeers are okay. I want the Butter scotch, and the horse. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.

Love, Piper

Dear Santa
I hope you bring me what I want, but I want a Laptop for Christmas and Hannah Montana doll for Christmas and I-Pod.

Love, Tiffany

Dear Santa
I hope you have a good Christmas. I don't want too much for Christmas. You can get me just 3 things for Christmas. All I want is pants, fishing rod, and fishing box.

Love, Alejandro

Dear Santa
I love the toys you bring me and my family. We hope you are well, Is it cold where you are? It is a little cold here. I would like Hannah Montana guitar, puppy, I-Pod. Santa I hope you have a very good Christmas.

Love, Kristal

Dear Santa
I hope you come to Brackettville for Christmas. I want a PSP and a 3 wheeler for Christmas.

Love, Alex

Dear Santa
I want a DS so I can get a Hannah Montana game for it. I want a computer, I also want Hannah Montana stuff. I want a Wii so me and my brother can play it. Can you give me a Barbie and the diamond castle? I'm going to give you chocolate chip cookies with milk. I want a Hannah Montana house. How is Mrs.Claus? Merry Christmas!

Love your friend, Aries

Dear Santa
I want a Laptop and a Nintendo DS and a lot of games for Christmas. I want a Hannah Montana playhouse, I want a phone for Christmas I want a game boy and I want a Wii and a TV.

Love, Mya

Dear Santa
I want to know if I been good or bad? I want a Wii that has games in it already. I want a I-Pod that has Christmas songs in it. I want a cell phone.

Love, Klarissa

Dear Santa
For Christmas I want a Bratz DS game, a laptop, a barbie and the diamond castle DS. game.

Love, Kristina

Dear Santa
I want a stuffed turtle. I want a toy hedgehog. I want a toy otter. Also, where are you? How are you? Is it cold where you are?

Love, Kyle

Dear Santa
How are you and your elves, and reindeers? Do you know what I want for Christmas because if you don't I will tell you First I want DS. Second a CD.

Love, Jewel

Dear Santa
Can your reindeer fly? Are you real because I want to see your reindeer. Are your reindeer magic? Do you have magic so your reindeer fly? For Christmas I want a XBox 360.

Love, Fabian

Dear Santa
I wish it was Christmas today but it is not. We are waiting for you to bring your reindeers. It is December, how are you doing? I wait for you by my window and sometimes I think that you are here. I have my Christmas lights on and my Christmas tree on too. I want a game for Christmas and a globe and dalmation.

Love, Sofy

Dear Santa
I would like for Christmas is the DS. I really want the DS I have been waiting for that. I wish everyone to have a great Christmas and you too. Can you take my sister, brother, and me for a ride?

Love, Karina

Dear Santa
I like a fish, kind of a gold fish. I love to grow Monkshood and Morning Glory. Those are real flowers. I will try to give you some cookies and some milk. I hope you like the kind of cookies I could give you. I wish I could have my dalmation dog back. Merry Christmas. I've been just good.

Love, Lucero

Dear Santa
How are the elves? Are they having fun? How many people are on earth? I want these for Christmas: Skeleton Model and a totem pole and a plasma car.

Love, Brendon

Dear Santa
I would like an DS, laptop, a pet bunny, and cell phone. I hope your reindeer are ok, Franny, Karina, Jewel, Kimie, and I made presents for you and your elves. It was very fun. Mrs. Claus must be very busy. I left some cookies on the table for you. I really hope your Christmas will be great and Mrs. Claus too. Also all the other elves and reindeer. Say a birthday song on the sixth because it will be Luceros's birthday but we will not be here at school so we all wish her a very Merry Christmas!

Love, Tanner

Dear Santa
I really want a DS and Mario party. Facet, kimonos, morning glory and monkshood, too! And a dress that has things. That is all of the things I want for Christmas. I will give you a present.

Love, Kimberly

P.S. I have been really good.

Dear Santa
I wish it was Christmas today. How are you doing? Is it cold over there where you are? I would like a pink bike with knee pads and helmet, and an Hannah Montana dolls that has clothes and sings. I would like to have High School Musical dolls. And thank you for the presents. Merry Christmas, Santa. I will make you some chocolate cookies.

Love, Yesenia

Letters from Jones Elementary Second Grade Students under the instruction of Mrs. Janca, Mrs. Bonner and Mrs. Baggett

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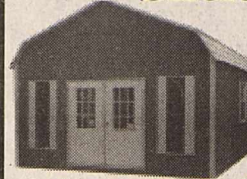
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Weekly Business Profile

Rose Petal II



Pictured from left: Paulita Montalvo, Sherri Elledge, Owners Jenifer and Roy Harris

Business Name: Rose Petal II
Owners: Roy and Jenifer Harris
Address: 201 E. Spring in Brackett
Phone Number: 830-563-7461
Store Hours: M-F 10-1 and 4-6, Sat 10-1

The Rose Petal II is now open inside Brackett Cleaners and is offering fresh flowers, balloon bouquets and plants for all occasions. Let us make your occasion beautiful with fresh flowers. Cash and carry arrangements available daily. Give us a call today at 830-563-7461. Free delivery to Brackettville and Fort Clark.

Wal-Mart
Courtesy Photo
On November 21
Show. On the left
and on the right

Smith

Com
A Bible
9:45
6:00 pm Sun
7:00
Pastor: M
Frontier Baptis

Fir
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Bible study for
Worship Servi
Discipleship T
Evening Servi
Pastor Jef
website: fbc

OUR RED
EVANGEL
Bible Stud
Lutheran
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Wal-Mart donates \$1,000 to Livestock Show

Courtesy Photo By Wal-Mart
On November 21, 2008, Wal-Mart 447 in Del Rio made a donation to the Kinney County Livestock Show. On the left, accepting the check is Tommy Clark, representing Kinney County Livestock Show and on the right is Grace Reyna, associate representing Wal-Mart. The grant is for \$1,000.

Smith accepted into PA program



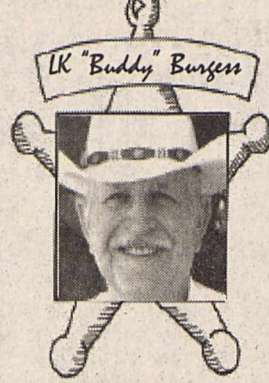
Ashley Smith, 2004 Brackett High School graduate and 2008 Texas Tech Graduate is the daughter of Richard and Beth Ann Smith.

Smith was recently accepted into the Physician Assistant (PA) studies program at the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio.

PAs are licensed to practice medicine and work alongside medical doctors. The PA profession first began in 1965, as an attempt to alleviate the shortage of doctors and provide accessible medical healthcare. Many of the first PAs were former medical corpsmen, who saw a great need for healthcare professionals among civilian life.

Smith will begin her studies in the summer of 2009.

Kinney County Sheriff's Report



Monday, December 8
3:26 pm A woman called to report an 18 wheeler was driving reckless on HWY 90. DPS was informed and dispatched.
5:44 pm A woman called to request a deputy to do a welfare

check on FCS woman. FCS Security was informed.

Tuesday, December 9
2:24 am A woman called to report a possible domestic situation. A deputy was advised and dispatched.

10:00 A caller reported a reckless driver on HWY 90 traveling east in a red car. A deputy was dispatched.

12:40 A man called to report another man had stolen money from him. A deputy was advised.

1:00 A man reported a railroad crossing had been taken down. Railroad officials and a deputy was dispatched.

Thursday, December 11
6:45 pm A border patrol agent called to request a deputy

at the Cline check point. A deputy was dispatched.

Friday, December 12
10:34 pm A anonymous caller reported a gray 4-door car was driving recklessly near the swimming pool and baseball park. A deputy was advised.

7:28 pm A caller reported a broken down vehicle on HWY 90 one mile west of the Cline check point. A deputy was dispatched.

Sunday, December 14
9:29 pm A woman called to report a possible DWI on FCS. A deputy was dispatched.

Lo every one that thirsteth



Pastor Judith Adams

Lo every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money, come ye, buy, and eat: yea, come, buy wine and milk without money without price.

Where fore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?

And your labor for that which satisfieth not?

Harken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and

come unto: hear, and your soul shall live: and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

FAX and COPY at the newspaper office 111 W. Spring

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THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL New Movie (PG-13)
4:30pm 7:10pm No Passes/Discount Tickets

AUSTRALIA (PG-13) 3:50pm 7:30pm

BOLT - 2D (PG) 1:50pm 4:25pm 7:05pm

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) 2:25pm 4:50pm 7:15pm

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) 2:55pm 5:15pm 7:35pm

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) I.D. Required 1:55pm 4:35pm 7:20pm No Passes/Discount Tickets

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13) 2:40pm 5:20pm 7:55pm

TWILIGHT (PG-13) 4:00pm 7:00pm

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
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Come to the Frontier
A Bible Based New Testament Church
9:45 am Bible Study/Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Sunday Night at the Movies or Bible study.
7:00 pm Wednesday Night Service
Nursery Provided
Pastor: Ned Sitzes (830) 563-5529
Frontier Baptist Church (SBC) Corner of Ann & El Paso

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

THANK YOU
The families of David Martinez Sr. want to "thank you" to everyone who helped in some way when he was real sick. Thank you all for your prayers and when he passed away, special thanks to the Templo Elim and Vida Nueva C.C. Church members. Thanks and God Bless you all.

First Baptist Church
Sunday Wednesday
Bible study for all ages 9:45 a.m. 6 p.m. Children's Ministry
Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. 7 p.m. Bible Study
Discipleship Training 6 p.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.
Pastor Jeff Janca Phone: 563-2245
website: fbcbrackett.org 301 N. Ann St.

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First Baptist Church
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
at 7pm December 24
301 North Ann Street

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

Come Celebrate the birth of Christ
at Frontier Baptist Church's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24 at 5:30pm
If you want to come and need a ride, Call Pastor Ned Sitzes 563-9515
Corner of Ann & El Paso streets in Brackett

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
"Welcomes You"
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Corner of Fort and Henderson
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM (October - April)
Reverend Nathan Lafrenz 563-9607

Thank You
To all of the many friends and family who called, came by, brought food and offers of help after Mike's sudden passing you have my heartfelt gratitude. Your prayers and outpouring of love keep me strong. I am truly blessed to have each and everyone of you.
Thank You, Linda Nelson

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Classified Market

Thursday, December 18, 2008 The Brackett News **6**

BUY GOLD & SILVER

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EMPLOYMENT

FORT CLARK MUNICIPAL Utility District (MUD) is accepting application for the position of full time/wastewater operator. Must have a valid Texas driver's license. Must be a high school graduate. Applications can be picked up at the MUD office.

THE FOLLOWING POSITION is open at BIRD: 4th Grade Math/Science Teacher. Download application from website www.brackett.k12.tx.us. See Employment. Applications accepted until position is filled. Direct inquiries to Administrator Alma Gutierrez, 830-563-2492, or alma@brackett.k12.tx.us. Brackett ISD is an equal opportunity employer.

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT 2BR, 1B, Newly Remodeled. Central Air/Heating, Tile Floors, Window Blinds, Stove, Refrigerator, Washer Dryer in Separate Laundry Room, Carport \$400/Month/Fort Clark Springs 49ers unit 830-563-6278 ask for Mrs. Kaeding

FOR RENT FCS Colony Row. Unfurnished in historical area. 3 Bed, 2 Bath. Large laundry room, storage room, over 3,000 sq.ft. \$950 per month plus utilities. O'Rourke Realty. 830-563-2713.

FOR RENT 2 bed, 1 bath, carport, fence \$425 per month plus utilities. O'Rourke Realty. 830-563-2713.

RV SITE FOR RENT on Rancho N.W. of Brackett. Quiet/Secure 830-563-2291

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2004 DODGE RAM 2500, leather interior, grill guard, goose neck hitch, brand new tires, six speed. \$16,000. Call 830-563-7345.

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FREE LEAF PICK UP. Leaves must be in bags. Call 830-563-2291.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TXDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S) Dist/Div: Laredo, Contract 6188-20-001 for ROADSIDE MOWING in KINNEY County, etc will be opened on January 02, 2009 at 2:10 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$123,172.50. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TXDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TXDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TXDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 28413. State Office, Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704. Phone: 512-416-2540, Dist/Div Office(s): Laredo District, District Engineer, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, Texas 78043, Phone: 956-712-7400. Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

O'Rourke Realty

Elsa O'Rourke Broker (830) 563-2713 orourke06@sbcglobal.net www.orourke Realty.net

FORT CLARK

2 STORY - UNIT 1 - 3 bed, 2 baths, fireplace, appliances, tiled patio. Selling below appraised value. Only \$66,000.

EFFICIENCY TOWNHOUSE Presently rented only \$17,000

Unit 14-Price reduced on fully furnished RV now \$13,000

NEW LISTING: Unit 3, FCS 2BR, 2 Bath Fully Furnished mobile Home \$29,000

FOR RENT COLONY ROW. Unfurnished in historical area. 3Bed, 2 Bath. Large laundry room, storage room, over 3,000 sq.ft. \$950 per month plus utilities.

FOR RENT 2 bed, 1 bath, carport, fence \$425 per month plus utilities.

Stan Metcalf Realtor

184 ACRES 13 miles from Brackett. Three acre +/- lake stocked with Bass, Deer, Turkey, Dove & Quail Hunting

SUNSET LANE, 2BR, 1.5 Bath, Fireplace, screened-in porch-carport, storage shed in a nice, quiet neighborhood. Owner motivated, make offer.

CORNER LOTS AVAILABLE on Fairway circle and a lot located on the golfcourse

RV LOT AND COVER in neighbor friendly Unit 37. FCS with 4 storage sheds and washer & dryer. Price reduced at \$37,000

CONDO FOR RENT 830-563-9943 830-563-7336 Ed Stanfield, Broker

FAX & COPY 111 W. SPRING

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Phyllis & Les Meyer Broker/Ranch Sales 830-563-9911 Deborah Isaacs Agent/Residential Sales 830-563-7272

2/2 Mobile Home, on Unite 15, storage room/ bedroom addition, carport, \$27,000 or make better offer!

2/1 Mobile Home, remodeled kitchen, covered parking, no maintenance yard, \$17,000

3/3 Brick Home on the golf course, over 2000 sf, study, fireplace, attached carport, beautiful tile floors throughout, Less than 3 years old and only \$199,000.00

Beautiful 3/3 Stone Home, approx. 2150 sf, custom cabinets, granite, surround sound, covered patio w/wet bar, pecan and fruit trees, landscaped, sprinkler system, 12x32 workshop plus large carport- \$220,000

2 Bedroom 2 Bath condo-Unit 1303, 2 verandas overlooking #1 Fairway and Green. Must see! \$62,000

Unit 14-2 lots with RV cover and 804 sf living area. Make Offer!

Golf Course Lot on Fort Clark Road- \$4500 962 Acres off 674 north of Brackett, improvements, wells, good hunting--\$1195 an acre

Rentals Available- short or long term www.Tejas-Properties.com HUNTING RANCHES AVAILABLE!

LAS MORAS REALTY

104 E. Spring Street • 830-563-2997 Debbie Trant, Owner/Agent & Barbara Voss, Broker

www.realestatetxkinneycounty.com

NEW Listing - 156 Crockett Road: lovely custom built 3BR, 2B rock home, 2,000 +/- sq.ft., rock fireplace and other amenities. Great location with large privacy fenced back yard!

NEW Listing - 122 Pompey Street: nice 2BR, 2B home with recent upgrades. Home has sunroom, privacy fenced yard, sprinkler system, workshop and carport, perfect starter or winter home!

NEW Listing - #167 Unit 1: darling 1BR townhome, tile floors, decorative wood beams in den.

72 Sunset Lane: spacious 2BR, 2B home with upgrades. Includes carport, workshop and screen porches to enjoy the beautiful landscaping!

Unit 21-Historical Property: has 2 apartments, CHA, high ceiling, lots of charm, REDUCED!

214 W. Fulton: well maintained 3BR, 1B home, recently painted + other upgrades.

Casa Verde Nursery: great opportunity for the right person, possible seller financing!

FOR RENT: 2 furnished apartments, Ft. Clark. Ranches & Small Acreage For Sale

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE RV FOR SALE

LOWEST PRICES ON NEW FleetWoods in South Texas Call 1-800-448-7076 RI# 33029

3BR/2 FULL BATH \$9,000 OBO #44 Bliss Circle. Furnished needs floor work in kitchen, currently rented \$450.00 month to month. 830-522-2050

2005 Cardinals by (ForestRiver) 5 wheel deluxe model CAF29TS 830-563-2291 or email us68vet@yahoo.com

10 WORDS \$3 IN CLASSIFIEDS

KEN BARNETT REAL ESTATE

102 W. Spring St., Brackettville, TX 78832 Ken Barnett - Melissa Davis www.brackettville realestate.com

FORT CLARK NEW LISTINGS: 29 LAMOTTE, Wonderful home! 3BR/2B/2 w/ many upgrades. 2,031 sq.ft. MUST SEE!

89 WARD RD: Awesome 4BR/3B Family Home with bonus and media Rms.Fenced yard, 3,000 approx. sq.ft. REDUCED \$180,000

"THE CALVARYMAN" in the historic district. 1BR, 1BA w/ detached garage, CHA. \$42,000. Excellent condition.

OAK LANE: Fantastic 2 story home. 3BR/3B, 2 car garage + separate workshop. Many upgrades and fine features throughout. 2,740 sq.ft. on 1 LOT. Great Location! REDUCED.

115 MESQUITE ST. Very nice home w/ 2BR/1B plus a bonus room/office. Open floor plan, approx. 1,162 sq. ft. Covered RV parking and 2 storage areas. Great buy @ \$69,900.

104 McClelland Located in the historical district, this 2BR/2B townhouse has open floor plan w/ vaulted ceiling. Great second home or rental. Approx. 1,260 sq. ft. REDUCED

155 BLISS CIRCLE, Unit 15, 2BR/2BA, very clean, well maintained mobile home on two lots. \$35,000.

407 FT. CLARK RD. Unique Townhouse located in the heart of the Historical district. 1BR/1B. Approx. 945 sq.ft. FOR RENT

NEW LISTING: UNIT 14, RV lot with metal cover with 1998 Wilderness27' travel trailer. \$32,000. BRACKETTVILLE

602 N. Ann St. Beautiful 4 BR/3B family home w/FP and CHA on 2 lots in a Great Location! New carpet, blinds and paint throughout. Fenced back yard. Approx. 2,900 sq. ft.

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* On F150 Supercrew - \$1600 Supercabs w/ 46L and TX-OK Edition * Texas Edition plus 4.6 V8 * 1000 DWN & TTL 10% APR for 60 months, Sale Price \$9995 * Mileage may vary depending on driving conditions. **6yr/100,000 Powertrain Warranty provided on Certified Preowned * 2.9 APR for 36 months W.A.C. * 30MPG on selective models. ***All Pre-owned certified, **WAC thru FMCC. \$1000 CC w/ FMCC 2.9 for 36 months * 2.9% apr thru fmcc for 36 months wac * 4.9% 60 months W.A.C. * Payments calculated at 60 months w/ 1000 dwn + TTL at 10% APR. ** Payments calculated at 36 months w/ 1000 dwn + TTL at 10% APR

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