



Brackett News

WEEKLY

Stock Show
Jan 13 - 14
See Inside

Volume 23, No. 48

Thursday, January 5, 2012
Kinney County Is Home To Julius Flores - Happy Birthday!

1 Section, 6 Pages

KINNEY COUNTY NEWS

Nutrition Center Menu
Jan. 5
Pork Chop with Mushroom Sauce
Savory Rice
Peas & Onions
Wheat bread
Pear crisp
Milk
Jan. 6
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Garden Salad
Garlic Bread
Fruit Cobbler
Milk
Jan. 9
Pork Chop
Herbed Pasta
Sautéed Spinach
Garlic Bread
Fruit Cobbler
Milk
Jan. 10
Beef Taco Meat
Guacamole
Shredded Lettuce
Zucchini & Tomatoes
Taco Shell
Cookie
Milk
Jan. 11
Chicken & Dumplings
Buttered Carrots
Wheat Bread
Baked Apples
Milk

PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP
Second Thursday of every month 7:00pm at 212 Bowlegs, Fort Clark Springs McNurlins: call: 830-563-9587 for directions
If you have Parkinson disease or similar movement disorder, or are the spouse or partner of someone who does, please join us. We are starting a new support group at Fort Clark, for people in the Brackettville/Fort Clark area. It will give us an opportunity to learn about the latest findings to help with this disease. We are also here to help each other as we travel on this journey. There is new technology and medicines being developed everyday. Join us an please call if you have questions.

AA MEETING
Las Moras Group, Slaton Hall 109, James St. Mon. - Fri. 7 pm.

KINNEY COUNTY HERITAGE MUSEUM
The KCHM is open the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the Month: April 23: 1-4 pm; May 14 and 28: 1-4 pm; and June 11 and 25: 1-4 pm

NEW LIBRARY HOURS
MWF: 9 am - 5 pm
T and TH: 10 am - 8 pm
Saturday: Noon - 8 pm
Sunday: 2 pm - 6 pm

2012 LIVE STOCK SHOW SCHEDULE

FRIDAY JAN 13
Weigh In 8a - 10a
Lambs and Goats
10a Swine
9a - Noon Rabbits
Classes:
Rabbit Classes 2p
Meat Goat Doe 4p
Swine 5p
SATURDAY JAN 14
Mkt Lamb Classes 8a
Mkt Goat Classes
9:30a
BBQ Lunch
12 noon
Awards 1:15p
Auction 2p

LAWYER UP: 11 Legal eagles all from Brackett



By Ashley Castillo Sandoval
Contributing Writer

Eleven graduates of Brackett High all share one thing in common: They passed the Texas Bar Exam and they grew up here...
J. Wayne Ballew is a 1998 graduate of Brackett High School and is the son of Jimmy and Jamie Ballew. J. Wayne attended Texas A&M University where he received his B.S. in Petroleum Engineering in 2002. He then went to South Texas College of Law and graduated in 2005. J. Wayne is currently in Houston, working at Looper Reed & McGraw P.C. "Since graduation, my practice has focused on companies engaged in all aspects of the oil, gas and energy industry. I lead a wide array of transactions and projects in the energy sector, both domestically and internationally, including mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, structured fi-

nance transactions and corporate restructuring," stated Ballew.
Brent Patrick Smith is a 1999 graduate of BHS and is the son of Richard and Beth Ann Smith. Brent attended Angelo State University. He then went on to Texas Tech School of Law where he graduated in December 2010 with a JD and Law and Science Certificate in Water Law. Smith is currently employed in Midland as an Oil & Gas Title Attorney.
Colby Crosby is also a 1999 graduate of BHS and is the son of Steve and Judy Crosby. In 2004, Colby graduated from Howard Payne University with a B.S. in Business Administration. He attended Texas Wesleyan University School of Law with a JD in 2009. Crosby is currently in Fort Worth, practicing oil and gas law, married to Margaret Crosby, Partner in his firm, Brashier Crosby, PLLC.
Lee Davis is a 2002 graduate

of BHS and is the son of Lloyd Lee and Susan Davis. Lee attended Texas A&M University where he received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 2006. He went on to graduate from the University of Houston Law Center in 2011, JD. "Currently in Houston, Texas, at Osha Liang LLP, an international Intellectual Property Law Firm. I assist clients in protecting and enforcing their intellectual property interests worldwide. The firm has expertise in worldwide patent and trademark procurement, portfolio management, licensing, acquisition, due diligence, opinions of counsel, litigation, and strategic IP counseling, among other areas. Osha Liang is recognized as one of the top 50 IP firms in the nation based on the number of patents issued," stated Lee.
Patrick Rose is a 2003 home school graduate and is the son of Pat Rose III and Sharon Rose. Rose graduated from Howard

Payne University with a B.S. in Business Administration in 2007. He went on to graduate from Texas Wesleyan University of Law in 2011. Patrick is currently in Fort Worth, working at the downtown law firm of Carter L. Hampton, P.C. "I practice in the areas of civil litigation, oil & gas litigation, corporate formation law, and wills and estate planning," stated Patrick
Jared Hobbs is a 2003 graduate of BHS and is the son of Ronnie and Candy Hobbs. Jared attended Texas A&M University and graduated in 2007. He went on to attend Texas Southern University and graduated in 2011. Jared is currently working for Davis & Webb Resources, L.L.C in Midland, where he does Petroleum Land Management Services in the Oil & Gas Industry.
Beth Ballew is a 2004 graduate of BHS and is the daughter of Jimmy and Jamie Ballew. Beth attended Texas A&M University

where she graduated in 2008 with a B.S. in Construction Science. She went on to Baylor Law School and graduated in 2011. Beth is currently living in Dallas and is working as an associate attorney for the law firm of Canterbury, Elder, Gooch, Surratt, Shapiro & Stein, P.C. "My firm's primary practice area is construction law and litigation," stated Beth.
Cody Robinette is a 2005 graduate of BHS and is the son of Joe and Olivia Robinette. He graduated from Abilene Christian University and is in his last semester at Texas Wesleyan School of Law. Cody just finished an internship with Judge Hale in the North Texas Federal Bankruptcy Court. Cody is currently living in Plano with his wife Jenna, where she is an Accountant.
Other hometown legal eagles include Jennifer Shahan McIntosh, Beau Watkins and Brandy Meeks.

4H exhibitors participate in workshop

By Ashley Castillo Sandoval
Contributing Writer
Nevada Coe a senior at BHS has been a 4H member for 10 years and a FFA member for 2 years, she enters the last week before the KC Stock Show with

a lot of experience with showing lambs. "Staying on our normal routine," Coe responded when asked what next week would be like. "Feeding in the morning and working the animals in the afternoons," is what

the Coe family has been doing for the last couple of months. Last year Nevada won the Joe Key York award and this year she has set her goals to win it again and the Silver Shearers award. This will be the last year

that Nevada will participate in stock shows, "being in the ring and showing my animals, will be what I miss most about stock shows," said Nevada.
Rolando Gutierrez a junior at BHS has been a 4H member for

9 years. "With pigs, it's a daily routine," stated Gutierrez. The Gutierrez family has 11 years experience showing pigs, so the Gutierrez's know what this last week holds for them.
continued on Page 3



Brackett News Weekly Photo by Ashley Castillo Sandoval - Rolando Gutierrez takes his pig for his daily 20 minute walk.



Brackett News Weekly Photo by Ashley Castillo Sandoval - Nevada Coe shears her lamb in preparation for the Odessa stock show.



Brackett News Weekly Photo by Ashley Castillo Sandoval - Kimberly Stafford and Sara Titchenell practice on posing their rabbits.



Brackett News Weekly Photo by Ashley Castillo Sandoval - David Salazar and McKenzie Castillo take their goats for a walk down Henderson St.

Mr. Brackett says..... We suppose that nearly everyone in Brackettville now has the facts about our city's situation — lack of oversight by the Mayor and council, administration acting without constraint or guidance and non-existent financial policies and procedures. We believe we should consider why we are in the shape we are in and who is responsible for getting us there. Unfortunately all we have to do to see who let us get in this situation is to look in the mirror. As much as we all would like to think it was someone else's fault, the ultimate responsibility falls to us - the voter. There is no dodging the responsibilities. If you are eligible to vote and did not, you are at fault as much as those of us who did vote but voted for a limited slate of candidates. This leads to the other reason we have poor representation on the council - apathy among our citizens.
There are people who live in our town that have education or experience in upper level management which would make them highly qualified to sit on our city council. These are the people we are asking to step forward and serve. The old tired excuse "I don't want to get involved in the politics" is a lame excuse. It is not about politics now; it is about survival of our city and our way of life. Please reconsider your priorities. Because we have not had these types of people step up and be willing to serve, it has severely limited our choices for council and mayor positions. Maybe that is why so few citizens choose to exercise their right to vote. It's time now to step up and get involved. We need to elect aldermen and a mayor for their **qualifications** not because of how popular they were in high school or who their family is. Know why you support someone - make them explain how they will fix our problems, make them have the facts!

GET OUT - VOTE - RUN FOR OFFICE - HELP SOMEONE CAMPAIGN. This is our only way to control what happens in our town.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT BY P.O.P.

Letter To The Editor:

This is one man's opinion. I have lived on Ft Clark for quite a few years. 20+ years. I like the Fort completely. Except for politics, and some policies and actions that affect it. Currently there is a Supplemental Assessment levy of \$42.00. I have paid mine. I have been to few board meetings. Walked out in disgust every time. I have never made any noise before, but enough is damn well enough. So this is my own personal opinion from what little I know, right or wrong.

It appears that the Fort (Board of Directors) is involved with KOA, (Kampgrounds of America) and an inquiry leading to a franchise contract. I believe that something is currently in the works as at the December board meeting there was discussion of when electricity was going to be at the restrooms in the tent camping area. One small step in that direction. The Fort states that we have financial trouble. I don't doubt that. How much money has been spent on cleaning up various ventures in the past? Hunt contract, restaurant contracts, and manager's contracts. And other contracts, as residential lots to a builder locked in until he sells & develops. Some real hair-brained, head scratchers. Behind the curtain. So far we have not imploded.

So, as far as a possible KOA franchise: I have nothing against the business concept of spending money to make money, nor a KOA inquiry. Our RV Park is a plus in many ways. It brings a pile of good folks here. Quite a few become full and part-time residents and an integral part of the fort. It does bring revenue, and is not a drain on fort finances.

Now, KOA has great facilities, brand name, and all the bells and whistles and are attractive. To get into a franchise, with a franchise fee of less than \$12,000, you get customized signage, employee training, proprietary management software, and technology. BUT, as with any franchise, there are issues. Also: 8% royalty and 2% advertising fees every year. There are pluses, exposure of the Fort with advertising for one.

And here's where the rub is for the Fort. The Fort would have to come up to KOA standards at some point: (to my best guess what would be required) RV SITES REHAB: Size, number & spacing. Amperage mix and hookups. Access roads, back-ins, pull-thrus. LANDSCAPING. Upgrade laundry. RESTROOMS, SHOWERS: Unacceptable as they are. Add: a small retail store. A playground area. TENT AREA: Electric, Water? Upgrade tent sites. CABINS: This would be our current motel? The current RV Park is nowhere near a KOA level. What is going to be the payout after the monetary outlays to come up to a viable franchise level? Do we have \$25,000 to \$100,000 or more to invest? Really?

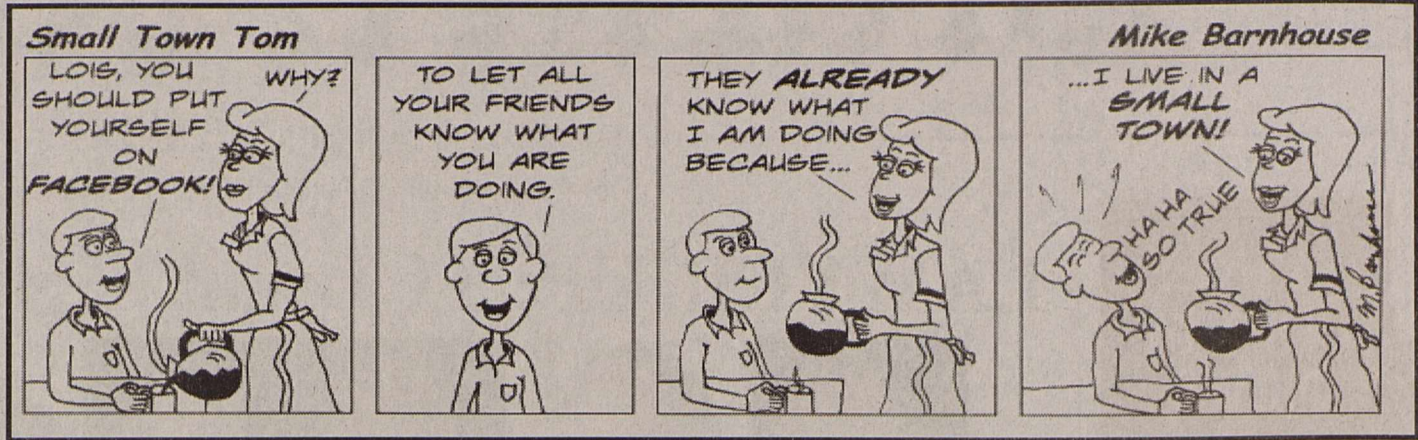
KOA's are not generally extended term. They are area vacation family term. And a little upscale, along with the site-parking fee. (Which is avoided by some RVers) What would be our draw? Golf course. Restaurant (vacationers don't generally cook all meals). Creek, i.e.: Las Moras. Swimming pool. Historic area & Museum. Does this make us a destination?

Were does this put us tax wise? Are we now a business? What portion of the Fort would be considered commercial? Where does this put us insurance wise? These are questions, not condemnations, pro or con. I'm sorry to say, but damn it, the boards have always seemed a little bit Larry, Moe and Curley to me. Nothing personal meant to or about anyone. But, every couple of years, different configurations and agendas. Some agendas and decisions appear somehow personal in nature.

Any decisions, contracts, etc. made by the board affect us all, as members and as homeowners. A lot seem to have been passed by a small majority on the board. We are saddled in the end with the monetary cleanup. I.e., the \$42 "emergency" assessment, not to mention the employee's loss of health insurance.

What's the solution? I don't have a printable answer. Some may include testing of the board candidates and training. But I do believe that now, and in the future, there must be full and complete, black in white, disclosure and full participation discussion and/or vote by the membership on what affects us all. Full in-depth information or something to soften the rumor mill. Or a professional management situation with a viable long-term plan.

Again, my sole opinion.
John Conlin



What Does Investment Landscape Look Like in 2012?



Emily Cooper
Edward Jones in Del Rio

As an investor, you know that 2011 was a somewhat "choppy" year, with the financial markets going through many ups and downs. So what can you expect in 2012?

As baseball Hall of Famer Yogi Berra is quoted as saying: "It's hard to make predictions — especially about the future." And these words are certainly applicable for anyone who would like an accurate forecast of the investment climate.

Yet we do know of some factors that may affect your portfolio in the months ahead. Here are a few of them:

- Strong business fundamentals — This past year, all the noise about the debt ceiling debate, the size of the U.S. deficit and the European financial situation tended to drown out some fairly good news: U.S. businesses' balance sheets were strong for the most part, borrowing costs remained low, and corporate profits were good — and corporate profitability remains a key driver of stock prices. Heading into 2012, these fundamentals continue to look positive, which may bode well for investors.
- Europe's debt crisis — Greece's economic problems made a lot of news in 2011, but they weren't the end of the story in Europe, as major financial difficulties also face Italy, Spain, Portugal and Ireland. It's by no means clear how these problems will be resolved, so don't be surprised to see them lead to intermittent, if short-lived, shocks to the markets.
- Election-year patterns — As

you're well aware, we're voting for president in 2012. But you might be surprised to learn that the S&P 500 index has shown negative returns in only three of the last 21 presidential election years. Coincidence? No one can say for sure — and at this point, no one can say if this pattern of positive returns will continue during this election year. Still, it's an interesting phenomenon. So there you have it: the good, the bad and the quirky. Take them all together, and you still may not be able to foresee what will happen with the markets this year, but you'll have a lot to think about.

But instead of trying to predict what will happen in 2012, you may be better off following these tried-and-true investment strategies:

- Diversify your holdings. By spreading your money among a wide range of investments, you can reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio. Keep in mind, though, that diversification, by itself, can't guarantee profits or protect against loss.
- Don't ignore your risk tolerance. If you worry excessively about market fluctuations, you may have too much risk in your portfolio, which means you may need to make some changes.
- Always look at the "big picture." Financial markets will always fluctuate. But if you can keep your focus on your long-term objectives, and make decisions accordingly, you can avoid overreacting to short-term events.

Like other years, 2012 will bring with it periods of both turbulence and smooth sailing. But by making the right investment moves, you can still chart a course that can allow you to move ever closer to your future goals. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Perfectionism is shelved in 2012



Fly Lady Marla Cilley

Here it is a brand new year with all the promise of a fresh start that comes with it. At FlyLady we have learned that new beginnings can happen any time we choose and it doesn't take a new day, new week, new month or even a new year to start over. That doesn't change the fact that we still love new beginnings and starting fresh. And even though we don't like New Year's resolutions we still make goals for ourselves. This is a healthy thing to do. The other night a dear friend ask me if there was anything I had not done in my life that I really wanted to do. This was a very tough question for me. I am a very happy person and I get to do every day what God put me on this earth to do. There is not much better than that! So I thought about it for about ten minutes and came up with something that seemed very strange to my friend.

I told her I wanted to see a volcano, a glacier and the Grand Canyon up close one day. That was all I could think of at the time. One day I will see them but if my life were to end today; I would not feel sorry for myself because I had not seen them. I have no regrets about anything. Every decision I have made in my life has ended up being a good one even if at the time it was not. I learned from my mistakes and did not pine away my future by beating myself up over past mistakes. None of us are perfect and the sooner we understand this and quit punishing

ourselves for this lack of perfection the better off we will all be.

Perfectionism keeps us stuck in the past so we are unable to function in the present. Let's take that perfectionism bat you are beating yourself up with on a daily basis and use it to hit home runs. Each time you see perfectionism throwing you a curve ball; turn it around and hit it back to where it belongs; Out of sight and out of mind! Perfectionism is clutter. Let's put our perfectionism up on a shelf and forget about it.

Fear is the opposite of love! In fact I believe that it is worse than hate. It is hate disguised as something else. When we uncover our fears and bring them into the light of day; we are acknowledging that we don't have to be perfect and that our fears do not make us less than. Fear of failure is nothing more than a lack of love for you and your abilities. Fear of failure is perfectionism plain and simple!

This year we are going to focus on releasing our perfectionism. Let's use what we are good at to help get rid of this perfectionism. We are good at putting things up on shelves and forgetting about them. It's time we did this with our perfectionism too; out of sight out of mind! Our motto for this new year is; Perfectionism is shelved in 2012!

Are you ready to FLY with your perfectionism stuck up on some forgotten shelf? For more help getting rid of your CHAOS, check out her website and join her free mentoring group at www.FlyLady.net or her book, Sink Reflections published by Random House and her New York Times Best Selling book, Body Clutter published by Simon and Schuster. Copyright 2012 Marla Cilley Used by permission in this publication.

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This year Rolando will exhibit two pigs, rabbits and goats. In preparation for next weekend he has daily 20 minute walks with the pigs, feeding and shearing ahead of him but as a past winner of the Top Hand award, hard work is not a foreign concept. One goal Gutierrez has set his mind on this year, "Grand Champion".

McKenzie Castillo has been participating in stock shows for the past seven years. "The week before the stock show is the most

stressful," stated Castillo. However this year is different for her, she gets to share the experience with her younger brother David Salazar. McKenzie stated "she enjoys teaching David the do's and do nots of proper showing technique." For the Castillo family the week before the stock show is already planned. Animals must brace and lead without hesitation, and animals will be sheared two days before the show so their appearance is top notch. Sara Titchenell and Kimberly

Stafford will exhibit rabbits at this year's stock show. Pam Melancon stated "weighing rabbits regularly is a must during the last week before the stock show." Sara and Kimberly both participated in a workshop to show a few of the newcomers how to properly show your rabbits. This is Sara's 2nd year to do rabbits and Kimberly's 3rd year for rabbits. They are also both in 4H photography - photography will have their display during the stockshow also.

By Ashley Castillo Sandoval
Contributing Writer
Stats submitted by Ralph Almanza

On December 30, The Tigers had their first district game of the season hosting the Charlotte Trojans. In a game that came down to the last seconds, the Tigers fell short by two, 50-52.

In the first quarter the Tigers scored 6 and Charlotte scored 3. In the second quarter the Tigers 15 and Charlotte 17. In the third quarter the Tigers 17 and Charlotte 14. In the fourth quarter the Tigers 12 and Charlotte 18.

Leading the Tigers in scoring was Erbey Martinez 23 points, EZ Rivas 8, Joelson Terrazas 6, Edgar DeLeon and Brandon Sandoval 5 each, and Jonathan Quiroz 3.

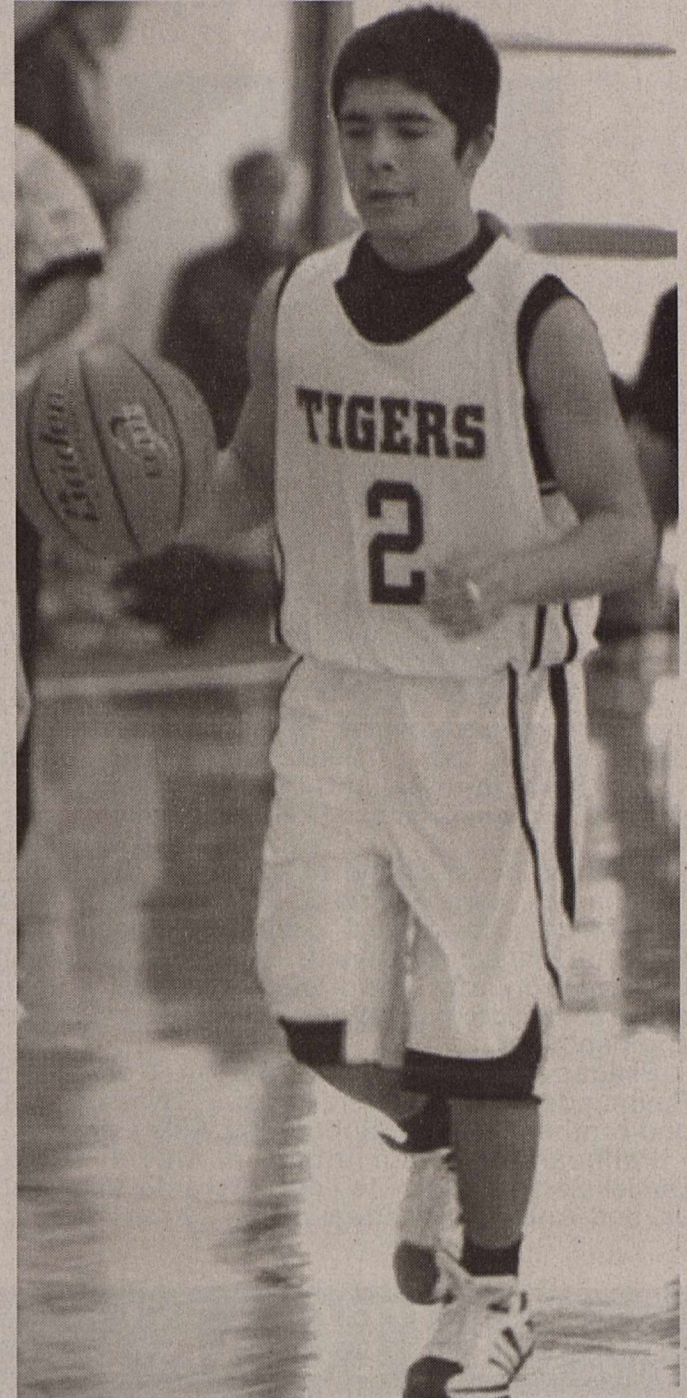
On January 3, the Tigers travelled to La Pryor to compete in their second district game.

The Tigers defeated the La Pryor Bulldogs 46-38.

In the first quarter the Tigers scored 4 and La Pryor scored 5. In the second quarter the Tigers 13 and La Pryor 7. In the third quarter the Tigers 12 and La Pryor 9. In the fourth quarter the Tigers 17 and La Pryor 17.

Leading the Tigers in scoring was EZ Rivas with 12 points, Erbey Martinez 10, Eric Falcon 9, Brandon Sandoval 6, Jonathan Quiroz 5, Joelson Terrazas and Edgar DeLeon 2 each.

The Tigers are 1-1 in district and 11-5 for the season, the next game is in Comstock on January 6.



Brackett News Weekly Photo by Ashley Castillo Sandoval

JV Tigerettes undefeated in District

By Ashley Castillo Sandoval
Contributing Writer
Stats submitted by Rhonda Marquardt

On December 30, the JV Tigerettes hosted the Charlotte Trojans.

Assist leader: Natasha Samaniego and August

Stephenson 2
Steal leader: Peyton Bonner 6
Rebounds leader: Marlinda Rivas 5

On January 3, the JV Tigerettes travelled to La Pryor for their 3rd district game, beating La Pryor 44-16

Leading scorer: Natasha

Samaniego- 15
Assist Leader: Vyviana Flores 3

Steal Leader: Natasha Samaniego -8

Rebounds leader: August Stephenson

The JV Tigerettes are undefeated in district play.

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness STAAR

Submitted by BISS
Continued from last week

8. What are the Student Success Initiative (SSI) requirements for the 2011-2012 school year? Because there will be no performance standards in place for grades 3-8 in the 2011-2012 school year, students cannot be held subject to SSI for that year. Therefore, there are no SSI requirements for the 2011-2012 school year.

9. Will there be SSI retest opportunities for grades 5 and 8 reading and mathematics in the 2011-2012 school year? SSI retest opportunities will not be offered in May or June of 2012 because performance standards for STAAR 3-8 will not be set until October 2012. For the 2011-2012 school year, districts will make promotion/retention decisions based on the same academic information (e.g., the recommendation of the student's teacher and the student's grade in the subject) used to make these decisions in non-SSI grades. As stated in TEC §28.021(a), "a student may be promoted only on the basis of academic achievement or demonstrated proficiency of the subject matter of the course or grade level."

10. Which students will be required to take the STAAR EOC assessments? Students first enrolled in grade 9 or below in the 2011-2012 school year will be required to take the STAAR EOC assessments for courses in which they're enrolled as part of their graduation requirements and will no longer take TAKS. Students enrolled in grade 10 or above in the 2011-2012 school year or who are repeating grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year will graduate under TAKS requirements and do not have the option of taking STAAR assessments. These students will only take STAAR EOC assessments if their campus has been assigned to participate in the mandatory testing activities.

11. What are the testing requirements for a student who first enters grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year but is reclassified to grade 10 for the spring semester? TEC §39.025 specifies that STAAR EOC assessments be used as the graduation requirement starting with students first enrolled in grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year. Regardless of how a student is classified at the end of the year or when he or she is expected to graduate, if the student is first

enrolled in grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, then STAAR is his or her graduation requirement. If a student is on an accelerated path toward graduation, it is likely that he or she will have already earned some high school credits for graduation and therefore may have fewer assessments to take to meet graduation requirements.

12. What are the testing requirements for students who repeat grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year? Repeating grade 9 students in the 2011-2012 school year have TAKS as their graduation requirement. These students will not take the TAKS grade 9 assessments, as these tests are no longer available. However, districts may choose to administer a released TAKS test or a locally developed test to students. Students are eligible to take the TAKS grade 10 assessments as soon as they are reclassified as 10th graders.

13. What are the testing requirements for students in grades 3-8 who are also enrolled in a high school course with a STAAR EOC assessment? Students in grades 3-8 who are also enrolled in a high school course will take that STAAR EOC assessment as required for graduation. Local district policies will determine whether these students are required to take the corresponding STAAR grade-level assessment; however, they must take all other STAAR grade-level assessments. For example, a grade 8 student enrolled in Algebra I will take STAAR grade 8 reading, science, and social studies as well as STAAR Algebra I. Local school district policy will determine whether this grade 8 student will also take the STAAR grade 8 mathematics assessment. Students in grades 5 and 8 may not be denied promotion based on unsatisfactory performance on STAAR EOC assessments. Note that this information reflects the language in House Bill 2135, which was passed by the 82nd Legislature, and is different from what was indicated in the April 22, 2011, district communication regarding the implementation of STAAR. Districts should keep in mind that decisions have not yet been made about how test scores for these students will be used in state or federal accountability.

14. What are the testing re-

quirements for students in grades 3-8 who are receiving instruction in subjects above their enrolled grade? These students will be required to take the STAAR assessment for the subject in which they are receiving instruction if the content covers the entire curriculum for that subject. For example, a student in grade 5 who is receiving instruction in grade 6 mathematics would take STAAR grade 5 reading and science but grade 6 mathematics if the advanced subject matter he or she is being taught covers all the TEKS required for grade 6 mathematics. Students in grades 5 and 8 may not be denied promotion based on unsatisfactory performance on STAAR assessments above their enrolled grade level. Districts should keep in mind that decisions have not yet been made about how test scores will be used in state or federal accountability.

15. If a student is enrolled in middle school and concurrently receiving instruction in a middle school course and a corresponding high school course, is the student required to take both of the related tests? No. A student in grades 3-8 who is concurrently receiving instruction in grade-level curriculum and high school curriculum in the same content area will take the related STAAR EOC assessment as required for graduation. Local district policies will determine whether the student is required to take the corresponding grade-level assessment. For example, a grade 8 student concurrently receiving instruction in grade 8 mathematics and Algebra I will take STAAR Algebra I in addition to STAAR grade 8 reading, science, and social studies. Local school district policy will determine whether the student will also take STAAR grade 8 mathematics.

4H exhibitors participate in workshop



Brackett News Weekly Photo by Ashley Castillo Sandoval - On January 4, 4H rabbit exhibitors participated in a workshop. Weighing the rabbits was a priority at the workshop to ensure the rabbits were in between 3 and 5 pounds. The workshop was held to help the newcomers prepare for the upcoming stock show. From left: Sydney Smith, Frannie Smith, Sara Titchenell, Pam Melancon, Kimberly Stafford, Jackson Abbey and Russell Earwood.

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Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.
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OBITUARY

Alicia Talamantez

May 22, 1945 - December 27, 2011



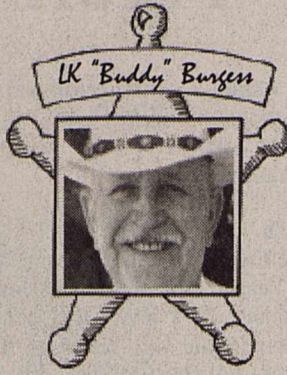
Funeral Service: Friday, December 30, 2011
10:00 am Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
Burial to follow in De Leon Cemetery
Officiating: Father Phillip McNamara

Survived by: husband of 45 years, Gavino S. Talamantez; son, Gavino S. Talamantez, Jr. and wife, Maria; daughters, Sandra Rodriguez and Elizabeth Mata and husband, Jorge; brother, Ruben Garza, Fred Garza and Alejandro Garza; numerous grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews

Preceded by: parents, Senon Garza and Raymunda Sandoval Garza; sister, Sylvia Garza; and brothers, Carlos, Robert and Able Garza.

Pallbearers: Adam Iribarren, David Garza, Daniel Garza, Jessie De Leon, Gerardo Villarreal, Jr. and Anthony Villarreal

Kinney County Sheriff's Report



Thursday, December 22

Tully Ray Brown, 35, of Campwood, was arrested for assault causing bodily injury, family violence. Brown was released on December 28, after posting a \$1,500 bond.

Monday, December 26

A 911 caller report a head on collision on Hwy 90 West at the

county line.

Tuesday, December 27

A woman called to request a deputy's assistance at her house.

Fort Clark Security called to report a couple had been arguing and the female got into a vehicle and ran over the male.

A caller reported a brown Ford Explorer driving recklessly on Hwy 90 just east of Brackett.

A woman called to report someone popping fireworks near her home.

Wednesday, December 28

A woman called to report she had gone to her neighbors house to collect some money she was owed and her neighbor spit on her and tried to slap her.

A Fort Clark woman reported her 1995 Dodge Caravan had been stolen.

A woman called to report a

rollover vehicle on Hwy 90, 15 miles west of Brackett. A deputy reported back that there were 4 occupants in the vehicle.

Friday, December 30

A Uvalde Game Warden reported a possible poaching incident on Hwy 334. He advised a local Game Warden to be on the look out for a white extended cab pick up.

A Fort Clark man reported a deer was stuck in his back door with its antlers cut off. The Game Warden was advised.

Saturday, December 31

A caller reported loud music on El Paso Street.

A caller reported her neighbor's children were throwing fireworks at each other and she was concerned because her own children was outside playing.

A Fort Clark caller reported her neighbor was throwing firecrackers in her carport to scare her cats. The woman stated she had been having problems with him.

A ranch owner called to report someone shooting on a nearby ranch and bullets were coming close to her family.

A 911 caller reported two undocumented migrants had come up to her on her ranch and wanted to turn themselves into the authorities. The Border Patrol was notified of their location.

A security company reported an alarm was sounding off at the school.

A man went to the sheriff's office and requested to speak to a deputy.

IRS Kicks Off 2012 Tax Season with Deadline Extended to April 17

Submitted by IRS

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today opened the 2012 tax filing season by announcing that taxpayers have until April 17 to file their tax returns. The IRS encourages taxpayers to e-file as it is the best way to ensure accurate tax returns and get faster refunds.

The IRS also announced a number of improvements to help make this tax season easy for taxpayers. This includes new navigation features and helpful information on IRS.gov and a new pilot to allow taxpayers to use interactive video to get help with tax issues.

"At the IRS, we're working hard to make the process of filing your taxes as quick and easy as possible," said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman. "Providing quality service is one of our top priorities. It not only reduces the burden on taxpayers, but also helps in filing an accurate return right from the start."

Taxpayers will have until Tuesday, April 17, to file their 2011 tax returns and pay any tax due because April 15 falls on a Sunday, and Emancipation Day, a holiday observed in the District of Columbia, falls this year on Monday, April 16. According to federal law, District of

Columbia holidays impact tax deadlines in the same way that federal holidays do; therefore, all taxpayers will have two extra days to file this year. Taxpayers requesting an extension will have until Oct. 15 to file their 2012 tax returns.

The IRS expects to receive more than 144 million individual tax returns this year, with most of those being filed by the April 17 deadline.

The IRS will begin accepting e-file and Free File returns on Jan. 17, 2012. Additional details about e-file and Free File will be announced later this month. IRS Free File provides options for free brand-name tax software or online fillable forms plus free electronic filing. Everyone can use Free File to prepare a federal tax return. Taxpayers who make \$57,000 or less can choose from approximately 20 commercial software providers. There's no income limit for Free File Fillable Forms, the electronic version of IRS paper forms, which also includes free e-filing.

The IRS also reminds paid tax return preparers they must have and include a Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) on all returns they prepare. All PTINs must be renewed for 2011. Tax return preparers can obtain or renew PTINs online.

Assistance Options

The IRS continues to focus on taxpayer service. The best way for taxpayers to get answers to their questions is by visiting the IRS website at IRS.gov. The IRS has updated the front page of the IRS website to make it easier for taxpayers to get key forms, information and file tax returns. The front page also has links to taxpayer-friendly videos on the IRS YouTube channel. More improvements are planned for IRS.gov in the months ahead.

Last year, the IRS unveiled IRS2Go, its first smartphone application that lets taxpayers check on the status of their tax refund and obtain helpful tax information. The IRS reminds Apple users that they can download the free IRS2Go application by visiting the Apple App Store and Android users can visit the Android Marketplace to download the free IRS2Go app.

Individuals making \$50,000 or less can use the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program for free tax preparation and, in many cases, free electronic filing. Individuals age 60 and older can take advantage of free tax counseling and basic income tax preparation through Tax Counseling for the Elderly. Information on these programs

can be found at IRS.gov.

For tax law questions or account inquiries, taxpayers can also call our toll-free number (7 a.m. to 7 p.m. local time) or visit a taxpayer assistance center, the locations of which are listed on IRS.gov.

Virtual Service

The IRS has begun a new pilot program where taxpayers can get assistance through two-way video conferencing. The IRS is conducting a limited roll out of this new video conferencing technology at 10 IRS offices and two other sites, and may expand to further sites in the future. A list of locations is available on IRS.gov.

Check for a Refund

Once taxpayers file their federal return, they can track the status of their refunds by using the "Where's My Refund?" tool, which taxpayers can get to using the IRS2Go phone app or from the front page of www.IRS.gov. By providing their Taxpayer Identification Numbers, filing status, and the exact whole dollar amount of their anticipated refund taxpayers can generally get information about their refund 72 hours after the IRS acknowledges receipt of their e-filed returns, or three to four weeks after mailing a paper return.

OBITUARY

Amalia Rea Perez

March 2, 1919 - December 30, 2011



Amalia Rea Perez, entered into rest December 30, 2011. She was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Manuel C. Perez.

She leaves behind 3 daughters, Norma, married to Ted Moncada III, Ida D. Holley, widow of Mike Holley and Edna Anne Perez. She also leaves 4 grandchildren, James Woodes, Ted Moncada IV, Roxanne Vickers, Arianna Dial and her husband Michael Dial. She has 3 great grandchildren, Taylor Dodson, Olivia Woodes and Michael Dial II. She also leaves behind 3 sisters, Carmen Jones, Celia Villa and Evelyn Hayden and her husband Pat. 3 brothers, Roger Villa and his wife Joyce, Santiago Villa, Isidro Villa and his wife Rose and a brother-in-law Oscar Perez and his wife Teresa. She has numerous nephews and nieces.

Visitation will be on Monday January 2 at 2:00PM, Rosary will be at 7:00PM at Riojas Funeral Home 1451 South Veterans Boulevard, Eagle Pass, TX

Mass will be held on Tuesday January 3 @ 10:00 AM at Sacred Heart Church, Williams St, Eagle Pass, TX

Followed by internment burial at Our Lady of Refuge Cemetery, 1679 Flowers, Eagle Pass, TX

PUBLIC AUCTION SEIZED/ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES BY KINNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION SEIZED/ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2011

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

LOCATION: KINNEY COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

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- 1998 FORD EXPEDITION - VIN#: 1FMFU17L8WLA08348 - ABANDONED
- 1983 CHEV. TRUCK - VIN#: 2GDC14H3D1188358 - ABANDONED
- 2001 CHEV. BLAZER - VIN#: 1GNCS13W012112498 - FOREITURE
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- 2000 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE - VIN#: 4A3AC34G5YE026934 - FORFEITURE
- 2001 JEEP CHEROKEE - VIN#: 1J4GX58N31C538158 - FORFEITURE
- 2002 CHEV. TRUCK - VIN#: 1GCEK19T82E201458 - FORFEITURE
- 1986 HORSE TRAILER - VIN#: 116786268 - FORFEITURE
- 1999 CHEV. VAN - VIN#: 1GNDM19W8XB119651 - FORFEITURE
- 1997 FORD F150 - VIN#: 1FTDX1723VKC22148 - FORFEITURE
- 2001 FORD EXPLORER - 1FMYU60E31UB35677 - FORFEITURE

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Moore makes Dean's Honor Roll at A&M

Moore - Vargas engaged

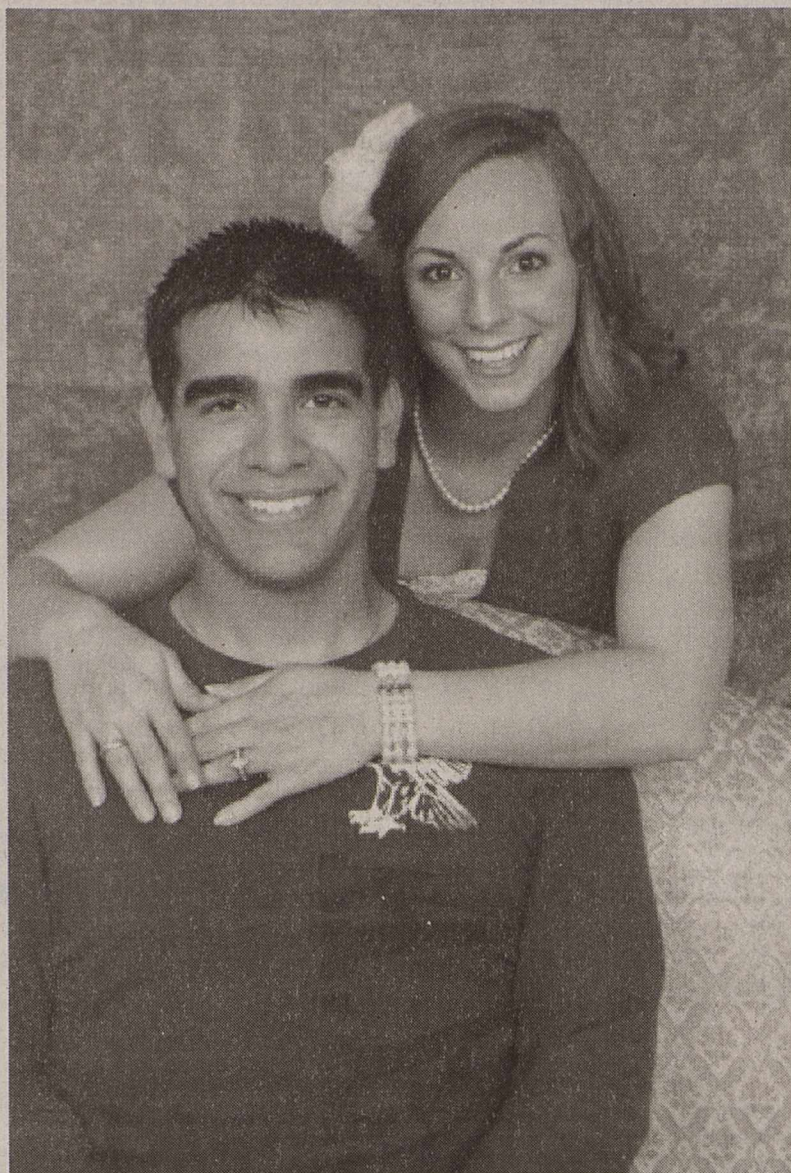


Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly

COLLEGE STATION, Jan. 3, 2012 - Texas A&M University has named its honor students for the fall semester, recognizing them for outstanding academic performance. The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students taking at least 15 semester hours during the fall semester who have maintained a 3.75 or higher grade point (GPR) out of a possible 4.0.

Samantha Moore was recognized as one of the students on

the Dean's Honor Roll. Samantha is a 2009 graduate of BHS and is the daughter of Ms. Susan D. Moore and Mr. Rendall E. Moore.

Samantha is currently a Senior at Texas A&M University and will receive her Aggie ring on March 30, 2012. She is completing her degree in bachelor of science in Kinesiology, and has already completed a minor in Psychology.

Sam has been engaged for a

year and plans to get married the fall after she graduates.

Her fiancé Lt. Andy Vargas is in the Army as a 2nd Lt. Andy graduated from Texas A&M class of 2010 and is the son of Daniel and Katherine of San Antonio.

Samantha plans to earn a doctorate in Physical Therapy after she completes her bachelor's degree. In the mean time she works at BCS Fitness as a personal training assistant.

Texas State Parks Appeal Raises \$335,000 in First Three Weeks

Supporters Reminded: Still Time to Make Year-End Deductible Donations

Submitted by TPWD

AUSTIN - More than \$335,000 has rolled in since Texas State Parks appealed for help earlier this month, citing a \$4.6 million revenue shortfall caused by heat, drought, wildfires and a drop in park visitation.

Park leaders today urged supporters to make a tax-deductible donation before the 2011 tax year ends. And they renewed their call for people to visit state parks, touting cooler weather, parks greening after recent rains, and campfires now allowed again in almost every state park.

"We are tremendously encouraged and very grateful that we've received upwards of \$335,000 in barely three weeks, with steady donations continuing to come in," said Carter Smith, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department executive director.

"That includes a single generous gift of \$250,000, and we're hopeful that with more like that, we will reach our \$4.6 million goal. But every donation, no matter the size, is important and appreciated."

Park officials continue to stress three ways Texans can

help keep state parks open:

• Go to <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/help/parks> to make a tax-deductible, year-end donation.

• Make a donation when you renew your motor vehicle registration.

• Finally, because visitor fees pay for about half of park system operating costs, visit state parks often with family and friends.

TPWD has developed a new Spread the Word web page where park supporters can forward a YouTube video appeal, add an "I Love Parks" Twibbon wrapper on their Facebook profile photo, get buttons or banners for websites or blogs, download posters, and find other ways to share the message.

From Dec. 6-27, people had donated \$64,826 online. Another \$20,685 had been mailed in, including one check for \$10,000. And officials said a steady stream of donations continues to come in each day.

All but about 10 of the 94 Texas State Parks have lifted burn bans, a big change since nearly two-thirds of the parks were not allowing ground campfires this fall because of drought

and wildfire danger. Check each park's web page online for the latest information.

As one way to encourage park visits, Texas is participating in the national First Day Hikes program set out by the National Association of State Parks Directors (NASPD). For the first time in Texas, 48 state parks across the state will offer a wide variety of hikes and nature walks on New Year's Day. First Day Hikes in Texas vary in difficulty and fitness levels, and range from short, leisurely nature walks through forested trails and along boardwalks, to special bird watching hikes, to climbs into the mountains of the Chihuahuan Desert.

To learn about the various Texas State Parks and their offerings, or to make online camping reservations, visit <http://www.texasstateparks.org>. Or call state park information at 1-800-792-1112, option 3, between 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Resources for news media, including photos of drought and wildfires, downloadable video, and radio news soundbites, are in a Park Awareness News Roundup online.

Resolve to stay connected to friends and family in the New Year

Submitted by Statepoint

Despite round-the-clock access to text messaging, email and social networking sites, meaningful connections sometimes seem harder to come by than ever these days.

While it is easy to let all your friends and family know about your new promotion or engagement with a status update online, don't forget the importance of personal correspondence in today's digital age.

This year, resolve to connect better with your close friends and family. Here are some tips to help you keep in touch:

• Start the year off right by wishing your loved ones health and happiness with New Year cards. Consider personalizing the cards with photos of you and your family.

• Make appointments for important phone calls that are easy to put off. If you have an actual appointment, you can't and won't forget to give Mom

and Dad a call. Better yet, make it a standing weekly ritual you will all look forward to each week.

• Want to tell a friend what's new? Send a note on personalized stationery. "You will really brighten the day of your recipient with a card sent in the mail," advises Mariam Naficy, CEO of Minted.com, an online stationery store.

• Throw a party. Nothing beats good old fashioned face-to-face communication. So gather all your loved ones together for a party at your house. There will be time enough to

make meaningful conversation, and complete your duties as host.

• For the really important milestones like birth announcements and engagements, you'll want to let your friends hear about it directly from you. Sites like www.minted.com have the tools you'll need to personalize your announcements.

Life is short. So whether you want to create or improve your connections with family and friends, there is no better time than the present to get started.

Castillo Army Strong



Photo Courtesy to Brackett News Weekly - Daniel Castillo a 2011 graduate of Brackett High recently graduated from Army basic training in Ft. Benning, Georgia. Daniel is the son of Beto and Sonia Castillo of San Angelo and the grandson of Eliberto and Consuelo Castillo of Brackettville.

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• Choir practice 5 pm • Evening Service 6pm
Wednesday: Evening Service 6 pm Youth 6:30 pm
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19 Chandler: take a look at this upgraded 2/1 unit, will make a great rental, Reduced to \$20,000, **New Listing: 1220 Fort Clark Rd:** nice 2/2 stone home in immaculate condition. Choice location on golf course. Open kitchen/den, screened porch, patio & more!

23 Oak Lane: spacious 3/2 home, great kitchen, guest quarters, cabana & fenced yard. **REDUCED 869 Fairway Cr:** custom built brick home on fairway, 4BR, 3B, FP

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129 Redbud: spacious 1BR, 1B home, covered RV parking, hobby room, furniture & appliances included. **REDUCED**

122 Lamotte: nice 3/2 home, FP, carport, fenced yard, will lease


169 Bliss: lovely 3/2 Palm Harbor, 16 x 76, fenced, patio, workshop

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THE CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE is accepting application for Greeter/Secretary. Minimum Requirements: GED and/or High School Diploma and clerical experience. Applications are available at the City of Brackettville, Texas 78832 or log on to www.thecityofbrackettville.com The City of Brackettville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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COLONY ROW DUPLEX- 2 bed. 2 Bath. Large storage room, Spacious laundry room, Partially fenced \$160,000 each side.

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FOR SALE Completely adjustable, electric operated twin bed, cordless remote. Programmable massage. "Wallhugger" Platinum Series P2000. \$750 Also, trundle type twin bed. Makes into a double. \$150 (830) 563-5788

GOLF CARTS from \$800-\$3000; gas and electric. 830-563-5010.[kb]

FOR SALE: Electric Range Amana First Edition, self cleaning oven with Broil cycle and broiler pan. Excellent condition. \$150 830.563.0197

32' MOTORHOME CLASS A. \$6,000 OBO. Dodge 440 engine still runs good. Good tires. For travel or as temporary housing on jobsite. In Brackettville 503.602.2229

21' Tioga Motorhome Class C. 26K Miles on Ford 460. Full bath in rear of RV. Sleeps 6. New refrig. Possible as temporary housing on jobsite. In FCS. \$14,000 Call 503.602.2229

FOR SALE- 3 BR/2B. 2 year old custom built brick house on FCS. 2000 sq. ft. with 1000 sq. ft. covered porch. 2 car garage, oak cabinets, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances. Many upgrades. \$225,000. Call 575-491-6014.

FOR SALE

HOME FOR SALE- 2 Bed/1 Bath. On 2 corner lots across from school. 103 W. Edwards St. Call 830.563.9249

HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER 1058 Fairway Circle, 4/2.5 custom built 2008 home w/ 2450 sq feet. Stop by and pick up flyer for more information or call 830-734-6955

GARAGE SALE

Jan. 7,8,9 Full moon Unit 15. Several Family Garage Sale. Some all day, some all night. Enjoy the hunt and Happy New Year!

FREE BUNNIES

Free pet bunnies with cage. Call 830.563.7516.

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BEVERAGE BARN!!!! Established Business, fully equipped and ready to go. Great Business Opportunity!!!

1332 ACRES, GREAT LODGE with indoor swimming pool, foreman's house, walk-in cooler, Exotics!!!! Just 18 miles N of Brackettville on 674.

3/2 ROCK HOME on large specialty lot behind the Historic District. Home has had some remodeling and electrical work recently done. The home has tile floors, and the full length front porch makes a great spot to sit and watch the wildlife. Please call for a showing. \$120,000.00

NEW Listing 2/2 MANUFACTURED HOME with double roof, carport, and a nice front porch. Home has an add on which contains a family room and laundry room. The new Ac/Heating unit was installed last year. There is a storage shed, the yard is no maintenance and is selling fully furnished. \$48,000.00

REDUCED 1/1 MASTERS CONDO- remodeled, 2nd floor, laminated wood floors in living room and hall, new paint and updated bathroom, selling fully furnished. MUST SEE!! \$38,000.

2 RV LOTS IN UNIT 38- one has a full 60 x 35 cover with small living quarters, 2nd lot has 12 x 18 storage building and carport cover. Asking \$98,900.

2/1 MOBILE HOME- Storage building and carport. \$16,500. owner will consider owner financing.

4/2 ON ANN STREET- large corner lot with pecan trees, 2 fireplaces, enclosed porches, remodeled kitchen and bathrooms. Only \$129,995!

2 GOLF COURSE LOTS on the number 1 fairway, lots have been surveyed asking \$25,000 for both lots.

FOR SALE or LEASE

3/2 HOME IN BRACKETTVILLE- close to school, fenced yard, large covered carport, laminated wood floors in kitchen, dining room and living room. Approx. 1300 sq. ft. Rent \$700/month plus utilities. Sale Price \$74,999.

3/1 UNIT 7 49er- or Rent \$500/month plus utilities.

RENTALS

1/1 Condo at the Masters for rent long or short term.

2/2 TOWNHOUSE IN HISTORIC DISTRICT- refrig, stove, and dishwasher furnished, storage shed, screened in front porch and small patio in the back.

3/2 Rock Home for rent- Stove & Refrig carport fenced yard and storage shed. \$750/month plus utilities.

If you are thinking about Selling give us a Call and let us Help.
www.Tejas-Properties.com

HOMES FOR SALE

HOME FOR SALE: 56 Warbonnet, Fort Clark Springs. 2-car carport/perfect to protect your RV, metal roof, 1-lot with nice yard overlooks the green "open" area, approx. 1628 total sqft heated space, large family room addition with a wood burning stove & French doors open to covered side porch, 3/2, spacious storage/work room and large covered front porch. For information or schedule visit: 770-339-7814 warbonnet56@yahoo.com

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(830) 563-9993 www.kinneycountyrealty.com

Pat Owens, Agent Hattie Berthel, Broker/Owner Tom McIlwain, Agent

610 Fairway Circle 3BR, 2BA, Custom Built 3 yrs old, Country Kitchen, LR living Area, 2 Decks, 1920 SqFT. NEW LIST\$159,000

139 Bliss Circle, 2BR, 2BA, Mobile Home, Remodeled, New Floors, Master Bath, Kitchen, Appliances. PRICE REDUCED.....\$23,500.00

Cavalryman Condo, 1BR, 1BA, Fully Furnished.....\$40,000.00

403 Bliss Circle, 2BR, 2BA, Screened Porch... Quick Sale \$15,000.00

602 N Ann St, 4 BD, 3 BA, 2890+ sqft, Lg living Rm, kitchen/bar, Office, Great for Family , Price Reduced Appointment only.....\$140,500.00

515 W Crocket, 3 BD, 2 BA, 1144 sqft, Kitchen, Living Rm, utility Rm,Price REDUCED for quick sale\$69,000.00

FOR RENT

2BR, 2BA Mobile Home FCS.....\$600.00

1 BR, 1Ba, Loft Unit 22 FCS.....\$400.00

KEN BARNETT REAL ESTATE

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www.kenbarnettrealestate.com

FORT CLARK

- **New Listing Unit 38 Block A Lots 22,23:** Fantastic location \$20,000
- **New Listing 60 Birdie Rd:** Unique 2 BR/2B Custom built home w wrap around porch on 5 lots in great secluded area of Fort Clark. \$97,500. **UNDER CONTRACT**
- **25 Birdie Rd. SOLD**
- **271 Crockett.** Darling 4BR/2B home with tiled floors, great open floor plan, sunroom and beautiful fenced back yard with guest quarters. Many upgrades! **Reduced \$128,000**
- **73 Broken Arrow.** 2BR/2B mobile home. Needs a little TLC. Priced to sell
- **Fairway Circle:** 72'x120' Lot. Walking distance from Las Moras Creek! \$9,500. **MOTIVATED SELLER**
- **Fairway Circle:** 2 Golf Lots w/ mature Oaks. Just walking distance from Las Moras Creek! Beautiful area. \$25,000

BRACKETTVILLE

- **403 Brown St.** 2BR/1B Home on lg. lot
- **7 City Lots - Spring St.**
- **109 W. Spring St.:** Downtown Brackettville 4,400sq. ft. Great Rental Property!

RANCHES

- **225 Acres:** Live Oak County. **SOLD**
- **819 Acres:** 16 miles N. of Brackettville on Hwy 674. Unbelievable Opportunity **Price Reduced**
- **318 Acres:** 17 miles S. of Brackettville on Hwy 131
- **Carta Valley:** Hunting Camp. 191 acres. Six miles west of Carta Valley. Includes RV 4 Deer Stands, generator and 12x20 storage bldg. \$925 per acre

OFFICE: 830-563-2446 or 830-563-5121

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1 BR, 1Ba, Loft Unit 22 FCS.....\$400.00

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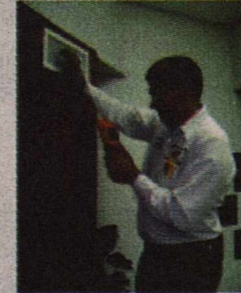
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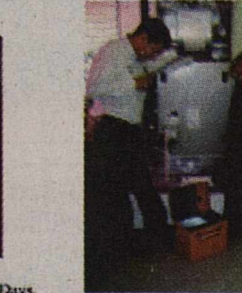
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