



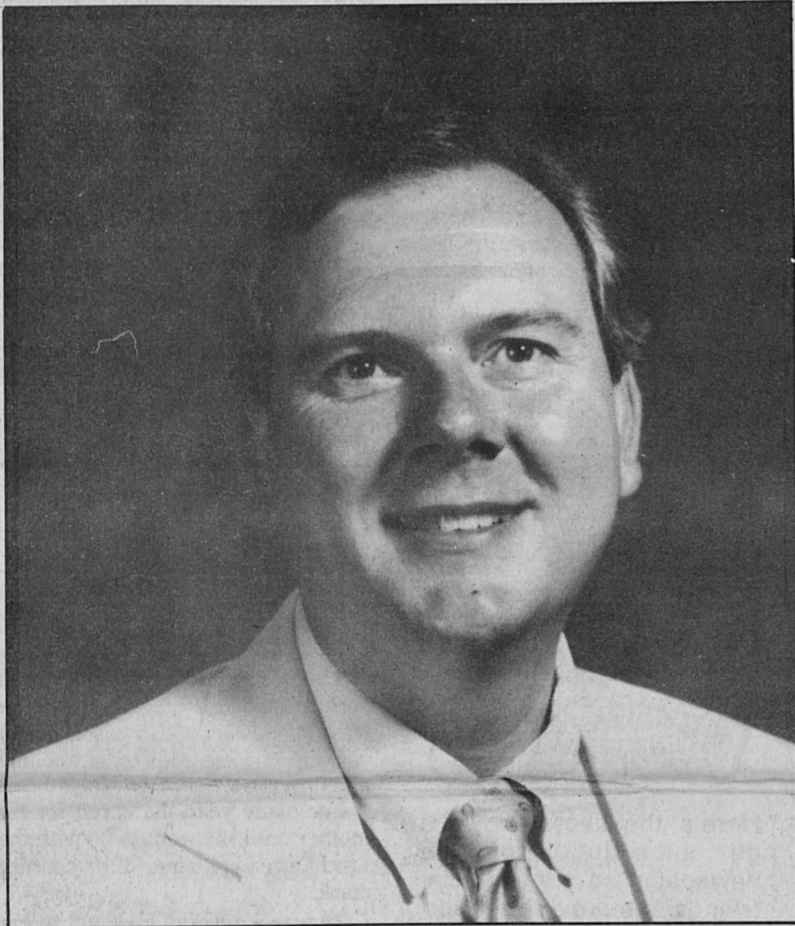
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The Brackett News

Vol. 4 No. 46 Brackettville, Fort Clark, Spofford, and Kinney County, Texas December 23, 1992

"If a man had half as much insight, as he has hindsight, he would have twice as much foresight."

BISD Trustees Name Mills New Superintendent



College, taking eighteen to twenty-one hours per semester and working forty hours per week at Stripling's Department Store.

He then went west to Abilene to attend Hardin-Simmons University where he received his BA in political science and history. He graduated from Hardin-Simmons in May of 1977.

Steve met his wife Merry Beth at Hardin-Simmons, and they were engaged on her birthday in August of 1977.

He went further west to Iraan, Texas, where he got his first teaching job in the Iraan-Sheffield ISD teaching middle school social studies during the 1977-78 school year. In March of 1978 Mr. and Mrs. Mills were married.

During summers Steve and Merry Beth continued their education; both now hold master's degrees from Hardin-Simmons University.

While living in Iraan, Jeffrey and Matthew were born—their two sons.

After teaching in the Iraan-Sheffield ISD for eleven years, the Mills family moved to Brackettville for Mr. Mills to become the elementary school principal; his first working date in Brackettville was August 8, 1988 (8-8-88).

During the Mills' time here in Brackettville, they have been very active in the First Baptist Church where they are members and attend regularly. Steve and Merry Beth both teach a Sunday School class and play the instruments for services as needed.

Also, Mr. Mills is a proud member of the Brackettville Rotary Club.

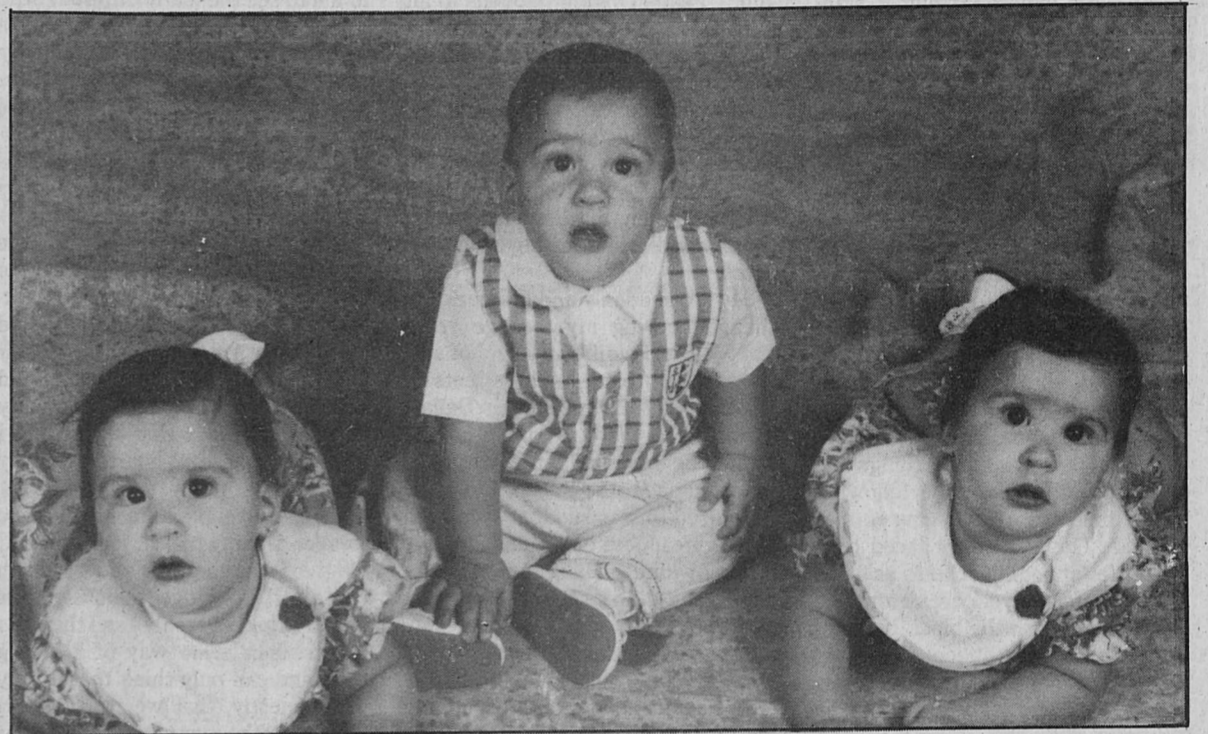
In a special called session on Thursday evening, December 17, 1992, the BISD Board of Trustees named Steve Mills Superintendent effective immediately.

Curriculum Director Taylor Stephensen will fill in as principal of Jones Elementary School.

Our new superintendent was born Grady Stephen Mills on January 7, 1955 to LaNola and Grady Mills.

Steve has one brother, eight years younger, named Jeff.

Having a very stable home, he attended the Castleberry ISD in Fort Worth from first through twelfth grades. His senior year he was in Distributive Education (going to school half time and working half time), and he got his first real job working at Wolf Nursery Warehouse. After high school Steve attended Tarrant County Junior



Happy First Birthday, Elidia (left), Daniel (center), and Elena (right) today, December 23, 1992. Mr. and Mrs. Jose Antonio Molinar are the proud parents of these triplets.



First Kill

Genie Gidge killed her first deer, a 9-point buck with a fourteen inch rack spread Saturday evening, December 19, at the Pinto Farm northwest of Brackettville.

Need To Dispose Of Your Christmas Tree?

Beginning Monday December 28, 1992, through Friday, January 8, 1993, the City will accept discarded natural Christmas trees for disposal.

Please, bring them to City Hall. A large trailer will be in the back yard.

****NO Trash**No Trash**No Trash****
****Trees Only****

Water Cut-Off

The City of Brackettville has scheduled "Water Cut-Off" Day for Tuesday, December 29, beginning at 9 a.m. This is necessary in order to repair/replace fire hydrants. The job will take 6-7 hours. Please bear with us.

Sergeant Named Council Woman

The Brackettville City Council met in special session at City Hall on Tuesday afternoon, December 22, 1992.

Present were Mayor Carmen Berlanga, and Council Members Mary Flores, Chuck Hall, and Ralph Gonzalez.

The council unanimously voted to award Chief of Police David Luna a salary increase retroactive to December 9, the date his probationary period ended.

After an executive session to discuss appointment of a council member for place #2, the council voted to name Jean Seargeant. When contacted by phone, she readily agreed to serve and will be sworn in at a yet unannounced date.

The council tabled any action on City Ordinance #1992-202C. The meeting was then adjourned.

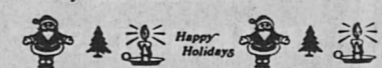
Commissioners To Apply For Zoning Authority

The Kinney County Commissioners Court reconvened a December 14 recessed session on Friday, December 18, 1992, at 3:00 p.m. with Judge Tim Ward and Commissioners Freddie Frerich, Plunker Sheedy, and Alvin McClure present.

To dispose of deferred items, the court voted to table decisions on any retirement buy-back plan; reaffirmed that the Historical tax exemption would remain the same; and again deferred action on additional commitments for street paving.

The court passed a resolution to obtain zoning ordinances authority through the Texas Legislature. State Representative Pete Gallego and State Senator Judith Zaffirini will be asked for assistance in the procedure.

The court entered into executive session after which they approved revisions to the Kinney County Civic Center rental contract and named the Kinney County Sheriff as the county designated law enforcement representative at all functions, private or public, held on any county property or within any county facility.



The Brackett News office will be closed December 24 and 25.

...and a partridge in a pear tree!

Wishing all our friends the very best. May every day of the season bring you the same kind of happiness and joy you've given us throughout the year. It's our pleasure and privilege to be of continued service to you.

Merry Christmas

The Brackett News



Kinney County Court House



Brackettville City Hall

Sheriff's Corner

By Sheriff Norman H. Hooten



"REFLECTIONS 1992"

As Christmas 1992 approaches and yet another year of our life winds down to a close, we experience the usual emotions that come with this time of year; remorse at our failures; satisfaction with our successes; and anticipation that the coming year will be a better one than the one just past.

I don't know about you, but this is usually the time of year that I try to look inward and put things in my life in perspective, a time of self-trial if you will. And, self-trial is often a difficult thing to do if one is truly honest with himself. Each of us has different standards by which we base our self-examination on, as we almost always do when we judge others. Our standards of personal evaluation is often based on our particular station in life, our occupation, our environment, and how we feel about ourselves.

We often expect far higher standards of others than we are willing to give of ourselves and selfishly point accusing fingers at others while patting ourselves on the back for being so perfect. Is this truly being honest with ourselves? You must answer that, each in his or her own way.

The formative years of our childhood and later as teen-agers often have an impact on our lives that stays with us forevermore. I have never led a sheltered life and most certainly did not as a child or a teenager. My childhood was tough, extremely tough in many ways as we were dirt poor in material things and often lived a nomadic life following the oilfields in which my father worked. The challenges faced by a youngster changing schools as often as 7 times in one year are enormous. The "new kid on the block" always has to survive a "face down" of the local school toughs at every new school attended. To yield to the "toughs" is to face a living hell for the remainder of the time that school is attended. The only way to survive is to attack with determination and even if you lose which is often, the "toughs" realize that they don't have an easy mark and in most cases will leave you alone.

But there were also happy times and places in my young life that left indelible memories of close family ties and a way of life that was close to Nature and Mother Earth. I learned of horses, dogs, and a special breed of men that did not sit on their soft, flabby behinds in coffee shops gossiping about others like a bunch of old fishwives. These men had, hard, rope-scarred hands and booted feet and were far more comfortable

squatting down and leaning back against the trunk of a knarled old mesquite tree drinking scalding hot, black coffee out of an old beat up blue-enameled tin cup than sitting primly in a soft-backed chair in a coffee shop somewhere. These men were hard men with hard exteriors and faces and hands burned the color of old leather by the sun and wind. These men did not judge one by the careless words of others, they judged you by what you could do and expected you to do it well to carry your own weight and earn your pay, even if you were only ten years old. They did not tolerate the lazy, the disloyal, the malicious, or the hateful. You were either a man or they had nothing to do with you. Yet if you got bucked off hard, or knocked out of the saddle by a low hanging limb, they would run over each other to be the first to be there to pick you up, dust you off, and give that special wink of the eye that said, "That's O.K., it happens to all of us." But they also expected you to get back on and try again without tears or complaints. Those men would not tolerate excuses and firmly believed in the old adage that, "excuses satisfy only the one who makes them." Yes, they were hard and tough men, but they had honest hearts, kind hearts, as big as all outdoors.

My life suddenly and dramatically changed during my teenage years and I learned a different kind of survival on the tough, mean streets of the big city in and near Dallas, Texas. The hard, though at the same time kind and gentle nature of the people and the way of life I had been used to was suddenly replaced by the meanness and a dangerously different kind of hardness of those who really didn't care who or what you were if you had what they wanted or stood in the way of what they wanted. They had an entirely different code and standard of judging you and you either very quickly learned to adapt to this violent, new way of life and earned their respect and/or fear or you went under by knife, gun, or brutal beatings.

It was during this often violent period of my life, many years ago, that I first learned that trust is often ill-placed and to expect the worst, for it invariably came. But perhaps the development of my inner consciousness during those early years was so deeply ingrained that it has left me vulnerable to the emotions of pain and disappointment when lies and betrayal comes from a trusted friend, and I still cannot understand why some people hate others because of their race or culture, and most especially when we live, work,

and eventually die in a small town community such as ours. And, I still feel frustration, and yes, often anger at seeing soft, flabby men with small minds sit for hours in a coffee shop with nothing more constructive to do but gossip like old women about others, sitting there with their holier-than-thou attitudes of often misplaced criticism and judgment of others usually based on nothing more than gossip they have heard from others of their own cut. As 1992 draws to a close I am disturbed by what I see and feel within our community and county. There seems to be a nagging, underlying current of hate and discontent drifting within the sea of our life like philosophic icebergs, we see the tips jutting sharply above the surface, and know within ourselves that the yet unseen larger portions below are far more ominous and dangerous.

It is more than a little disturbing to me to see the many different little cliques of people that have developed within our community over the past few years, cliques based on the ignorance racial hatreds, culture differences, financial standings, and other even less understandable "reasons". Cliques whose members, in their attitudes and actions, appear to be the declared enemies to the death of those outside their own personal little circle and who have targeted their own special victims their vicious and malicious lies and destructive gossip. This community certainly was not that way when I first came here a quarter century ago.

Do these people set aside the time to take a hard, honest look inward? Do they take the time and put forth the effort to judge themselves as quickly and harshly as they do others? I have no way of knowing that, and can only think that if they did, honestly, that we would see a change in the overall attitude of our community. Perhaps if we all took a page out of the book those hard old cowboys I once knew lived by, and perhaps if we put forth the effort to take a hard, honest, look within ourselves we could see some good in the efforts of others and be less critical of their lives and maybe a little more critical of our own and make the correct adjustments in our attitudes.

We do not have to have those icebergs of hate and discontent that now exist within our community, we could still try and develop old-fashioned concepts of friendship, respect, and forgiveness of and for our fellow citizens and community residents and the individual contributions each makes to our society. We could at least try and put aside the unreasonable and idiotic battle lines that seem to have been drawn because of the cliques that have been developed.

Perhaps the human race will never again have the compassion, respect, and understanding for friends, neighbors, and fellow humans that once existed in the slower, less sophisticated world I knew as a boy. Maybe we think we don't need each other as we used to when people had to depend on each other to survive, and each had his or her own special contribution to make for the common good of all. I don't know if those times will ever return, and to tell the truth I really don't expect them to within my lifetime. But if, and when, some great calamity hits this world and people lose that self-serving arrogance that now prevails throughout the modern world, perhaps then and only then, will people once again be humbled and brought to their knees and once again, maybe, just maybe, the old-fashioned respect, and yes, love, of fellow man will once again emerge.

Why not try and swallow that lump of hate and discontent you have in your throat and try a warm, friendly "hello" the next time you meet one of your self-declared enemies, you might be surprised at the result.

We Could At Least Try, Couldn't We?

So much for my "Reflections, 1992", 1993 is just around the corner and it will be a better year, or will it?

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you from all of us here at the Sheriff's Department. May God Bless you and yours!
That's All!

FREE HEARING TESTS
Mon.-Thurs. 10-5
PLAZA DEL SOL MALL
Next to JCPenney
774-1272
DEL RIO



Between Us

By Joe Townsend



We get a good read on what to expect from the Democratic control of the White House. Those who were gullible enough to vote for Clinton because he was to break with the old "tax and spend" Democratic party can now see what fools they were.

If you feel that to rob thousands of families of their livelihood for the sake of a sub-species of the spotted owl is ridiculous, you are right. If you think it is despicable to rob farms, ranches and human beings of the area of needed water to protect some insignificant minnows, you show good judgement.

If you think this is bad however, hold on to your hat, the worst is yet to come.

Bowing to the demands of his wife and running mate, Clinton has chosen a woman who is a more radical "environmentalist" than his vice president and that is hard to find. His choice of the woman to be Attorney General shows he wants to pay his dues to the women's lobby who helped elect him.

His appointment of a radical activist to handle veteran's affairs shows he is trying to appease those veterans who despise his record as a draft dodger.

Clinton has clearly shown he is more interested in placating lobbyists than seeking to help the American people. His appointment of Babbit to Interior shows he is an enemy of property rights and the public's rights as against the radicalism that feels politicians should have the power to control society.

While it was a great thing for Texas that Clinton took both Benson and Cisneros to Washington, it shows little respect for the true needs of America.

Benson cast the deciding vote to not only give the Panama Canal away but pay Panama to take it. Out of the Senate he can't do such anti-American things again.

Clinton must have Hispanics so why not choose a soul mate who like him had his mistress outside of his family.

His appointment of an anti-defense head of defense shows he lacks concern for the future of our nation.

Being more concerned about how many women, Blacks, and Hispanics he gives lucrative Federal posts, it's self evident this nation is in for a down hill skid.

Give A Gift that will be remembered all year long!!!



Here's the secret—give a gift subscription of this newspaper to your special friends. We provide a colorful gift card to meet any special occasion announcing you as the giver. Now you don't have to worry about shopping for a hard to find gift for that special person to enjoy. Come by our office or call today for specific details on this convenient, exciting gift!

The Brackett News
563-2852

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:
Regarding the November 5, 1992 "Meditations" of *The Brackett News*.

Yes, 90% of the Finnish people belong to church. But are that many "Born Again?" John 3:7 (3:5-7)

Fine and wonderful it is to have a good set of morals. Without the salvation of Christ's Blood on the cross, those good things will not keep a man out of Hell.

/s/Linda L. Tilley

DPA Schedule Driving Tests License Renewal

An officer from the Texas Department of Public Safety will be at the County Courtroom, Kinney County Court House, each **1st and 3rd Thursday**, and each **5th Thursday**, during the normal working hours of county offices.

The officer will be available to give driving tests, or to renew drivers licenses.

His "economic summit" so highly touted and covered by the liberal news media was simply window dressing with a handpicked group called together in an attempt to con them to accept his wild schemes. He brooked no opposition.

His total actions demonstrate a college freshman mentality. And yet this is the man who will be president, elected with the smallest percent of the vote save one other in our history. And the entire nation will suffer, morally, economically and in world esteem and leadership.

And yes, the American people voted themselves into a quagmire of degrading actions and policies.

Unsung Hero

by Joe Townsend



There is a man here who has been here most of his life. For years he was in business. Now for many years he has spent his time ranching and farming.

For many years he cared for his mother until she went to be with the Lord after passing the century mark.

He was a devoted husband to his wife until she passed away. After marrying again he is a fine husband to this day.

He has fought and successfully lived with serious physical problems. He is an exceptionally fine "neighbor" in every sense of the word. He is concerned and helpful to his fellow man.

He is gracious and friendly. Everyone who ever met him thinks well of him. He is a great addition to any list of friends.

Surely Gordon Lackey is an "Unsung Hero".

This Week In History

On December 26, 1620, one hundred three passengers from the Mayflower landed at Plymouth, Mass. ... December 25-26, 1776, George Washington and his troops recrossed the Delaware River from Pennsylvania to Trenton, N.J., and defeated the 1,400 Hessians stationed there ... December 22, 1807, the Embargo Act banned all trade with foreign countries and forbade ships to set sail for foreign ports ... December 24, 1814, a peace treaty to end the war between the United States and Great Britain was signed at Ghent ... December 23, 1913, the Federal Reserve System was authorized in a major reform of U.S. banking and finance ... December 22, 1919, over 250 alien radicals were deported from the U.S. ... December 27, 1927, "Show Boat" opened in New York City ... December 26, 1933, the U.S. forswore armed intervention in the Western Hemisphere nations ... December 22, 1968, the North Koreans released 82 crew members from the U.S.S. Pueblo which was seized earlier in the year ... December 26, 1971, U.S. bombers struck massively in North Vietnam for five days, beginning on this date, in retaliation for alleged violations of agreements reached prior to the 1968 bombing halt ... December 23, 1981, President Reagan ordered sanctions against the new Polish military government in response to the imposition of martial law in that country ... December 24, 1983, the U.S. Congress applied the War Powers Resolution, requiring U.S. troops to leave Grenada by this date ... December 21, 1988, the securities company, Drexel Burnham Lambert, agreed to plead guilty to six violations of federal law, including insider trading, stock manipulation, and falsified records, and to pay penalties of \$650 million.

MEMBER 1992

The Brackett News welcomes letters to the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and context. Letters will be edited to avoid the use of profanity or libelous statements pertaining to the rights of citizens. Letters published and columnist's viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of this newspaper. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Thank You!

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Brackett News.

Publisher - Jewel Robinson
Editor - Jean Faulkenberry

507 S. Ann St.-Leona Ranch Office
Brackettville TX 78832
210-563-2852
Fax 210-563-9538

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The quotation found under the Mast Head on the front page is a copy from "The Rear Vision Mirror," a Fort Worth Newspaper published Wednesday, March 8, 1961.

To subscribe to *The Brackett News*, please clip this application and mail to: *The Brackett News*, P. O. Box 1039, Brackettville TX 78832, or drop by our office at 507 S. Ann St. (next to the bank). Rate is \$15 per year. Please include check or money order with order form. Thank you.

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Subscribe to **The Brackett News.**

Big Mama Sez!

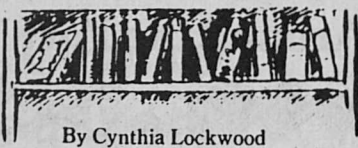


God gives us THINGS to use and PEOPLE to enjoy.

PLEASE REMEMBER that we attempt to include something for everyone within the pages of our paper. We realize that that some folks enjoy finding fault and for those readers we thoughtfully include a socially acceptable number of errors within our publication.

Christmas Dance
Friday - December 25, 1992
9:00 - 1:00
Pre-Sale Tickets - \$8.00 Per Person
Brackettville Civic Center
Music by: Blue Magic
For tickets or table reservations call 563-2676

Library Notes



By Cynthia Lockwood

Library Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Closed Tuesday
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house. Everyone had a good book to read, including the mouse. Ma was reading *Red Square* the latest novel by Martin Cruz Smith, and Pa read *Sports Illustrated: Golf* by Mark Mulvoy. Grandma was planning her vacation with *The Frommer's Guide to Mexico '93 on \$50 a Day* while Grandpa read the large print book by Lillian O'Donnel, *Wicked Designs*. Trying to find out what was wrong with everybody, old Uncle Leroy sat in the corner reading through *The Merck Medical Dictionary*. As the mouse finished *The Cajun Night Before Christmas* he declared "Merry Christmas to all from the Kinney County Public Library Staff and Volunteers."

As always, we invite you to visit the friendliest little library in Kinney County.
 Kinney County Library
 Staff & Volunteers

Book Review



By Mary Mitchell

Sweet Liar

By Jude Deveraux

Ms. Deveraux is noted for her excellent romance mysteries. She has provided another excellent offering.

Her characters are believable and the detail of both setting and character make this the type book you hate to see end. She is on par with Victoria Holt and other top flight writers.

If you haven't sampled her wares, do so!

The Heat Of Ramadan

By STEPHEN HARTOV

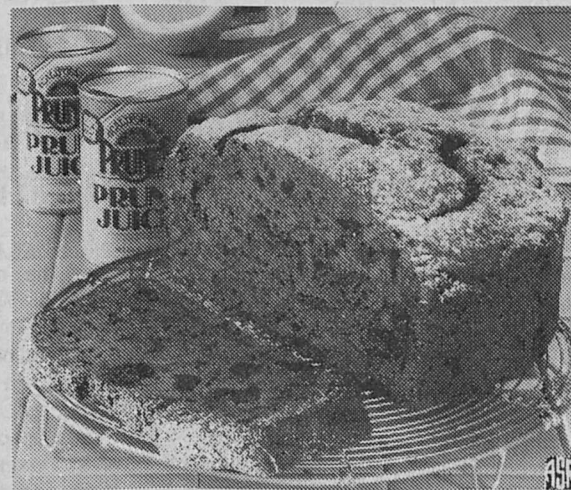
Mr. Hartov has written a strongly compelling espionage novel with much detail which gives it a strongly "true story" feeling.

The author has actually worked in the espionage field and one can sense the reality of his characters and situations.

If you enjoy espionage, we recommend you try this new author's offerings.

Prune-Orange Nut Bread Warms Winter Mornings

Take the chill out of crisp winter mornings with a warm slice of bread fresh from the oven. Prune-Orange Nut Bread is the perfect way to start the day during January, National Prune Breakfast Month, or anytime.



Studded with crunchy walnuts and chewy prunes, this fragrant bread is subtly flavored with a hint of orange. Made with orange and prune juice, it is a nutritious favorite. This bread is easy to make in advance, freeze and reheat or toast, and top with orange marmalade for quick, healthy breakfasts.

California prune juice is more than a healthy drink. It is also surprisingly versatile as an ingredient that enhances a wide variety of dishes and provides important nutrients like potassium, vitamin A and iron.

Prune-Orange Nut Bread

- 1 1/2 cups prune juice
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1/3 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 1/2 cups (about 9 ounces) coarsely chopped pitted prunes
- 1 1/2 tablespoons grated orange peel
- 3 cups flour
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- Dash salt
- 1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts
- 2 eggs, beaten.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In small saucepan bring prune juice and orange juice to boiling. Pour into large bowl. Stir in butter to melt. Stir in prunes and orange peel; cool to lukewarm. Meanwhile, combine flour, sugar, baking soda, salt and nuts in another large bowl. Stir eggs into prune mixture, then add to dry ingredients; mix just to blend thoroughly. Pour into greased 2 1/2-quart souffle dish or other baking dish. Smooth top. Bake in center of oven about 1 hour, 30 minutes until pick inserted into center comes out clean. Cool in dish 10 minutes. Remove from dish; cool on rack. Slice to serve. Wrap remainder securely in plastic wrap or foil.

Makes 1 large loaf (16 servings)

Nutritional Information Per Serving:
 274 calories; 5 g protein; 10 g fat; 44 g carbohydrate; 2.3 g fiber; 32 mg cholesterol; 180 mg sodium.

Make sure you check the book sale table in the back of the library. We've been adding new books as they come in so you never know what you might find. Books make a wonderful Christmas present.

Many thanks to Patty Barnett and the rest of those who donated books and magazines to the library this past week.

The library will close at noon on the 23rd of December for the Christmas holidays and will not reopen until Monday, December 28. It'll be a long weekend without a book, so don't forget.

Have a Good Day Janice



Happiness is... Christmas! And good friends like you!

Thanks for the privilege of serving you.

Kinney County Library
 Cindy & Maria

It's Christmas Everywhere!



Celebrate with those you love.

Earline Thurber

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

Christmas is so many things It's hard to count them all: Shining star above a manger Where three wise men came to call. Christmas is a glistening tree With ornaments and light. It's a time of love, A time of giving too, Where there is peace and happiness And our best dreams come true!

JOY TO THE WORLD ...and to our many friends

Where were you born: Omaha, Nebraska.
 When is your birthday: September 21.
 What is your favorite food: New Mexican Green Chili Dishes.
 What is your favorite movie: *Dances With Wolves*.
 What is your favorite book: *The Captain*.
 What are your hobbies: Arts and crafts, golf, bridge.
 How do your friends describe you: Companionable.
 Describe yourself: Curious.
 How long have you lived in Kinney County: 18 years.
 If you could go anywhere, where would you go: Tibet.
 If you could change Brackettville (Kinney County), how would you change it: Music and Art

Just For The Fun Of It



Molly Schroeder

Appreciation in the schools and some Adult Education courses.
 What would you like to be if you could change your life: Explorer.

Community Calender

- AA: Mondays, 8 p.m., Slaton Hall, 109 W. James St.
- Al-Anon: CAN HELP. Call 563-9205 for time & location of meetings.
- Alter Society: 1st Monday, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Band Booster Club: 1st Tuesday, 7 p.m., High School Band Hall.
- Bass Club: Last Thursday, 7 p.m.
- BISD School Board: 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., School Board Room.
- Chamber of Commerce: 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Cavalry Room.
- City Council: 2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Slaton Hall.
- Commissioners Court: 2nd Monday, 9 a.m., Court House.
- Del Rio Christian Women's Club: 1st Wednesday, 12 Noon, Laughlin AFB. Reservations required.
- FCS Pot Luck Supper: 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., NCO Club. Bring covered dish, plates and utensils.
- Drivers License: 1st, 3rd, & Last Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 12 Noon; 1 - 3 p.m., Court House.
- Duplicate Bridge: Tuesday, 7 p.m., Sabre Room.
- FCS Art Club: Work days Monday and Saturday 11 a.m., Meeting 1st Monday, 1 p.m., Art Studio.
- FCS Community Council: 2nd Saturday, 9 a.m., Shafter Hall.
- FCS Board of Directors: 3rd Saturday, 9 a.m., Board Room.
- FCS Historical Society: 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Sabre Room.
- FCS Museum/Butler's Store: Saturday & Sunday, 1 - 4 p.m.
- FCS Ladies Luncheon: 2nd Wednesday, Noon, Las Moras Restaurant. Make reservations at Adult Center.
- FCS VFW Post #8360 & Auxiliary: 4th Wednesday, 6 p.m., Pot Luck, 7 p.m. Meeting, NCO Club.
- FCS Bingo: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Shafter Hall.
- FCS Las Vegas Night: 4th Saturday, 8 p.m., Las Moras Restaurant.
- FCS Old Quarry Society: 1st Monday, 7 p.m., Sabre Room.
- Friends of Library: No regular schedule. Call library for information.
- KC Historical Preservation Society: 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Court House.
- KC Kickers: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., NCO Club.
- Knights of Columbus: 1st Sunday, 12 Noon, Parish Hall.
- Lions Club: 1st and 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Las Moras Restaurant.
- Masonic Lodge #444: 2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Lodge Hall, Ann St.
- Order of Eastern Star #204: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 407 Bedell St., Del Rio.
- Shriners: 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Las Moras Restaurant.
- Rotary Club: Every Thursday, 12 Noon, Las Moras Restaurant.
- Methodist Ladies Luncheon: 3rd Wednesday, Noon, Slaton Hall. Please make reservations.
- Preceptor Theta Sigma Sorority: 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.
- 12-Step Program: Every Thursday, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall, First Baptist Church.
- Creative Writing Group: Fridays, 9:30 a.m., Golf Club Snack Bar.

Identify The Picture

The first person to come by The Brackett News and correctly identify this picture will be given a Brackett News Cap.

No Winner This Week!! Try Again



Answers to Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
P	A	R	S	I	G	E	T	A	N	O	T	A	F	E	D	S	
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Book Club Notes

A video on *Christmas Around The World* entertained Book Club members at Las Moras Restaurant on December 7. Customs from Austria, the Philippines, Germany, Sweden, France and the United States were shown and compared. We also learned about some local customs.

To go on the Historic Tour scheduled for January 7th, 1993, meet at the Kinney County Library parking lot at 9:30 am. Transportation is promised for rain or shine, and Carmen Berlanga is the tour guide. It is not necessary to be a member of the Book Club to go on the tour with us.

Book of the Month for January's discussion on the 28th is to be Michener's *Texas*. Two books also recommended to readers are: *Daisy Fay* and *The Miracle Man*, a sequel to *Fried Green Tomatoes*, and a book just off the press by Williams and Bryce titled, *Spirits Of San Antonio and South Texas*, a book about spooks friendly and unfriendly. Last month's selection *For All Time*, main setting in Fort Clark, is now in the library and the Librarians report a waiting list.

Early in November, Cynthia Lockwood, County Librarian, compiled a list of ten books recommended for review as follows: *Gate Of The Tigers* by Meigs; *Sul Ross Biography: Mexico* by Michener; *Hank The Cowboy* by Erickson; *Texas Dawn* by Finch; *The Mason Codex* by Barrister; *Way Of All Flesh* by Butler; *Parliament Of Whores* by O'Rourke; *Ismael* by Quinn; and *Dragon* by Cussler.

As 'ladies of the club' we support the Middle Rio Grande Development Foundation in buying a 15 passenger van for the elderly Kickapoo Native Americans; and we are glad to see that JTPA is offering some help to Brackettville.

It's time to share your list of favorite books and special interests and join the Book Club in 1993. Welcome.

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Querecho Christmas One More Time

Well Christmas time is here once again, and once again I've been banned from associating with the youth of Querecho Flats.

Seems to me like them high dollar Christians would start practicing what they preach and forgive and forget. But as long as some of the little darlings mothers is still around that probably won't happen.

I've made my apologies for all my little mess ups, and Lord knows I've tried to behave my self, but there is just something that keeps me from being good more than two or three years in a row.

I apologized for telling all the little kids that there wasn't gonna be any Christmas because Santa got caught stealing caribou during the big reindeer quarantine, and the caribou ranchers hung 'im.

Boy that was a wreck. Before I knew just what I had said, I had 12 or 15 little kids crying like you had cut off their toes or some thing. It took a couple of days before the mothers figured out who had said what and my phone went to ringing off the hook.

I finally told 'em that I would straighten out the misunderstanding the next day when the kids got off the school bus. I thought I did pretty good.

I was waiting at Garlan's Mostly General Store and Post Office when the school bus unloaded the little rug rats. I gathered 'em all up and took 'em inside and bought 'em each a soda pop. Then I told 'em how sorry I was for lying about Santa getting hung for stealing caribou. But I thought it sounded a whole lot better that telling 'em the truth. Because the truth was a whole lot gorier than a hanging.

Curiosity got to 'em and I had to tell 'em the truth or at least what could 'ave been if the circumstances were right.

Yep I told 'em old Santa was killed in a train wreck about 27 miles due east of Billings, Montana. He could 'ave survived if help was a little closer, but as it was he just laid there and froze to death along with 43 of his little helpers.

Garlan run me out of the store. That night I had to go to a bunch of different houses and explain to a bunch of really stupid kids that I was just pulling their leg.

One of the mothers mentioned a head pulling should anything like that ever happen again.

Then I apologized for the time that I was acting really mad just before Christmas and told all the little kids that I was gonna wait up for Santa and when he come flying over the edge of the caprock, I was gonna kill Rudolf and cook 'im for Christmas dinner.

The kids wasn't real sure about that, but they did tell their mothers what I had planned to do. The mothers assured 'em that I was just joking and not to worry about it.

Christmas eve was on us and I had forgotten telling them kids

about the murder of Rudolf. That night about 10:00 a couple of coyotes came into the yard to help themselves to an early Christmas dinner of my fighting cocks.

The only gun that I had handy was a 50 caliber muzzle loader that was fully loaded and very loud.

I touched that cannon off, killed one coyote and woke up the whole damn town. With in a matter of minutes, I was explaining to a bunch of bawling squalling kids that it was a coyote I shot not old Rudolf.

You don't know what spooky is till you have to walk up to a house with a bawling kid in it and a mad mother standing at the door waiting for you.

I guess last year kinda cinched my having anything to do with the youth of Querecho Flats.

You see, the good ladies of the Church Of The Better Than Thou and Pert-Near Perfect People asked me if I would be Santa Claus for the church program.

No Problem.

I don't know why I do things like I do, when I do 'em or how I even think 'em up. But sometimes I get the neatest ideas on the spur of the moment and they seem really great at the time.

Last year, Querecho's Pert-Near Perfect People's Christmas party.

I was to stay plumb out of sight till the exact moment when I was to make my appearance as Santa. I knew the program was gonna be fairly long and I had every thing I needed to make old Santa's appearance one the youth of Querecho Flats would never forget.

I had gone to Roswell and borrowed a cassette tape of a 27 car pile up that a disc-jockey friend of mine had. I had my tape player rigged up to the speaker on the fire truck radio and had a second tape of horses running rigged up to the speaker on my pickup.

The scene went something like this.

My cue to enter. I turned on the horse tape. (Hoping they would think it was reindeer) then I went to hollering into the microphone "whoa you powder headed, over fed, under worked, hay burning, miserabel excuses for reindeer, **whoa I said**, then I flipped on the car wreck tape. Just as I flipped on the car wreck tape I fired my 38 special pistol into the air and screamed into my pickup microphone by **God when I say whoa I mean whoa!!!!!!**

The kids loved the sound effects but the pistol shot and the squealing of breaks caused 3 different women to have minor bladder problems and old Rosalee Scalebender passed smooth out.

A couple of the husbands helped me get out of my Santa suit and Garlan put in on. As quick as I could I got out of town. I tried to tell the ladies how sorry I was, but I don't think they believed me.

I think it was the way I was grinning while I was trying to talk to 'em.

County Agent News
By Allan McWilliams

Have A Reason For Pruning Ornamentals

Now is the time to determine if woody ornamentals need pruning. If you can't justify the removal of each limb or branch, then the best thing to do is put the pruners up and go spade the garden plot.

Some of the right reasons for pruning include removal of dead or winter-killed growth or balancing the top with the root system when setting out new plants. Exposing the structural forms of plants such as crape myrtles can be done by removing small, twiggy limbs that cross one another or overly dense growth. Diseased or insect-injured wood, as well as storm or accident-damaged wood, should be removed as soon as possible.

Shrubs can be rejuvenated by removing the older branches at the base. Pruning can also develop a desired shape or size.

Severe pruning should be avoided if possible. It is better to prune lightly and more often to prevent sun scald to the sensitive inner branches. Never leave large stubs that invite the entry of insects and disease. Prune to within 1/4" to 1/2" of the main stem or trunk.

Plants which bloom in early spring that show new leaves should be pruned after they flower. Those that bloom later in the spring or summer should be pruned during the dormant season. Always use sharp tools to make pruning less burdensome.

Does it have to freeze to have a frost?

Yes, there is a difference between frost and a freeze. Both of these phenomena deal with plant killing temperatures. At the outset, it is important to understand that when you see ice (frost) on plants, a car windshield, or anywhere else, the temperature at that point is 32 F or below. I have heard on numerous occasions, that it does not have to freeze to have a frost. A more correct statement is that you can have frost when the official Weather Bureau temperature is above freezing. If you have ice somewhere, the temperature has to be 32 F or below.

The difference between these two readings is what they represent. First of all, in order to stabilize readings the Weather Bureau takes all official readings inside a shelter at a 5-foot

height. Shelters are generally warmer than the outside air where radiation to the sky allows it to keep getting colder on a clear still night. This is one reason why we prefer to sleep in a shelter.

Now, the real difference between a frost and a freeze is that generally, the overall air temperature during a frost is above freezing, but because of heat loss due to radiation during the night it keeps getting colder and colder near the soil's surface. At times like this, it could be 40 F at 30 feet and 25 F at ground level. This is referred to as an inversion. These usually occur only on clear calm nights. Since cold air is heavier than warm air, if unimpeded, the colder air will move downhill like water. For this reason low lying locations are referred to as "cold pockets". Freezes, on the other hand, are generally characterized by massive movements of below freezing air from the north (Arctic). Such freezes usually have strong winds associated with them and air temperatures are the same regardless of height and site selection. There is little chance of plant survival unless plants are protected from the winds. Wind chill has little effect on plants; it is just that the wind is not blowing the plant and soil heat away as fast.

The differences between a frost and a freeze become very important when we are talking about plant protection. Since it is not as cold as long during the frost period, we have a much greater chance for success than during a 2 or 3 day "Blue Norther". For frosts, usually something simple such as covering the plants works well but during major freezes additional heat becomes necessary for plant survival.

So, the next time someone tells you it does not have to freeze to have a frost, tell them that it may not have to freeze at 5 feet inside a shelter to have a frost, but it definitely must be at the freezing mark to have frost on something.

Hope all of you and your families have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The information in the above article is provided as a service of the Kinney County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and serves people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

Around the Fort By Mike Bowlin

Bridge Anyone?

Six and a half tables played the Mitchell Movement when the Fort Clark Springs Duplicate Club met Tuesday, December 15th.

Nita and Fred Clayton of Del Rio won first place in the N/S direction with Ben Pingnot and Mona Miller a close second.

Rozetta Pingnot and Norma Gould won first place in the E/W direction. Trudy Harber and Helen Lynch won second.

Kickers

Young and old interested in learning Round Dancing! No previous experience needed. Singles welcome - or bring a partner - or meet one at the class to practice with.

Round Dancing is somewhat slower and less vigorous than Square Dancing. You dance with a partner rather than a group or "square." A caller or "cuer" as the Round Dance leader is called, directs the steps. Steps are similar to two, step, fox trot, etc.

Lessons will begin Friday, January 8, at the NCO Club and will continue each Friday night. No pre-registration is required. A donation of \$2.50 will be asked with the first lesson half price.

Professional cuer Jan Farnell of Uvalde will be the instructor.

Young and old interested in learning to Square Dance: No previous experience necessary and singles are welcome.

Lessons will be given each Tuesday, beginning January 5, from 7-9 p.m. at the NCO Club. Pre-registration is not necessary. A donation of \$2.50 will be expected. The first lesson will be half price.

Professional Caller Bob Farnell of Uvalde will be the teacher.

For either Round or Square Dance information, contact Howard Skelton at 563-2973.

Art Club

Meets the first Monday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Art Center (upstairs behind the Maintenance Building).

Anyone with an interest in art is welcome. Dues are \$10 per year.

Upcoming events include a Bud Breen workshop on Western Art in late January or early February.

For information call Juanita Robertson at 563-9575.

Historical Society

Will not meet in December.

On Saturday, January 23, well-known Frio Canyon storyteller Bea Garrison will present a program on *The Legend and Lore of Frio Canyon*.

Anyone interested in becoming a member may call 563-9150. Dues are \$5.00 per year. However, meetings are open to the public.



Voices of Fort Clark recently entertained at the ground breaking ceremony that kicked off the fundraiser to rebuild the Fort Clark bandstand. The group presents four concerts annually and sing for many special functions.



Recreation Department sponsors the annual Post-Thanksgiving Arts and Crafts Show-Sell at the Commissionary Building.



Community Council Secretary Barbara Niemann presents the "Over and Above" award to Charles Downing for sharing his historical knowledge including lecturing to Elderhostel groups.



Ladies Golf Championship winners on December 9 are (left to right) Pat McKelvy (3rd), Jackie Marrs (1st), and Gwen Ladd (2nd).

Fishing Report

AMSTAD: Water clear, normal level; black bass are fairly good in 10 to 15 feet of water off points; striper are good to 15 pounds around the dam on half ounce Ponyhead Jigs; crappie are slow; white bass are good in Zorro and Caballo Canyons; catfish are good to 3 pounds on cheese and stinkbait in 60 feet of water.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, 57 degrees, normal level; keeper sized black bass are slow, good numbers of undersized fish caught on artificial lures; hybrid striper are slow in the keeper range on Rattle Traps and spoons; catfish are good in the 1 1/2 to 2 pound range on shrimp, nightcrawlers and chicken livers; redfish are fair in number but most are too small to keep.

CALAVERAS: Water a little muddy, 75 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are fair in keeper range, fairly good numbers of undersized fish caught on artificial lures; striper are fairly good on artificial and live perch; catfish are good on cheese bait, cut bait, liver, perch and shad; redfish are slow.

CHOKO: Water clear, 57 degrees, 9 inches low; black bass are fair to 10 pounds on deep diving cranks around points and humps; striper are slow; crappie are fair to 3 pounds on minnows; white bass are fair to 2 pounds on live minnows, white jigs, grubs and small cranks; catfish are fair in 15 to 25 feet of water around the river channels on cheese bait, shrimp and liver; jug lines are also productive.

COLETO CREEK: Water clear, 57 degrees, almost 1 foot low; black bass are fair to 3 1/2 pounds on spinners along the shoreline brush area on spinners; striper are fair at Dike 2, most fish are less than 18 inches in length; crappie are fair on shad at night; catfish are good to 9 inches on blood bait.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear, 60 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are slow; striper are slow; crappie are fair in number off state park piers; white bass are fair to 10 fish or so per string, several caught at night off piers under lights, on jigs and minnows; some white bass beginning to show up in the river; blue catfish are good to 4 pounds on trotlines baited with soap in 4 feet of water, some blue catfish caught on deep lines baited with shad. Ducks and geese are plentiful on the upper end.

TEXANA: Water muddy, 58 degrees, normal level; black bass are poor; catfish are fair to 3 pounds on rod and reel baited with worms; rains have been fairly heavy.

Bauguess Receives Lion Award

Thursday, December 17, 1992, Walter R. Bauguess received the Membership Advancement Key Award for outstanding service in the expansion of Lionism as he was recognized for getting six new members into the Brackettville Lions Club.

Golf News

3-PAR COURSE

Thirty players turned out to try their luck at golf the last Monday before the Christmas Holidays.

Two teams tied with a score of 3 under par 24. Donnie Guajardo's team of: Lorraine Osbourn, Jim Stafford, Jim Palmer, and Ed Boyko, and Tom Faulkenberry's team of: Darlene Horning, Dutch Schoolfield, Margo Kendrick, and Tom Baldwin.

There was a chip off between Donnie Guajardo and Tom Faulkenberry, with Faulkenberry winning the chip off for 1st place.

Birdie Hole was #4 and won by Guajardo's team.

There were 3 teams with 2 under Par: P.M. Moore, Shirley Baldwin, Jack Workman, Roger Berset, and Red Udy with 25 (tie). John Osbourn, Pat McKelvy, Bob Burkpile, Mac McCandles, and Del Kendrick with 25 (tie). Dave Yates, Jo Workman, David Galley, Don Herron, and Rick Bacon with 25 (tie).

One team came in with 1 under Par 26: Vern Ebert, Carol Benfield, Lou Sofaly, Edith Palmer, and Ron Frisby.



Brackett Basketball

Tigerettes Win Own Tourney

After winning the Southwest Texas Junior College tournament, the Brackett Tigerettes went in to the 33rd Annual Tiger Tournament heavy favorites.

They opened up the tournament against the Del Rio Junior Varsity Queens. The Tigerettes blew open a 42-11 lead at halftime and went on to a 79-33 thrashing.

Senior Theresa Terrazas sank three 3-point baskets to score 20 points to lead all scorers. Wendy McDaniel scored 18, Dee Frerich 16, Nina Gonzalez and Tanya Frerich 8, Kim Ahrens 4, Ida Aguilar and Lolly Hernandez had a pair each.

In the semifinal round, Dee Frerich helped the Tigerettes with her outside shooting to lead all scorers with 16, and a 52-38 victory against Rocksprings.

Brackett went on to face the Nueces Canyon Lady Panthers for the championship. Frerich picked up where she left off to score 15 in their 46-33 victory.

Ahrens saw plenty of playing time and was tough to stop scoring 10. Gonzalez scored 8, McDaniel 7, and Terrazas 4. Frerich, Terrazas and McDaniel were named to the All Tournament Team.

Tigers Are Struggling

The Tigers were eliminated early in the tournament losing to Del Rio Junior Varsity Rams twice. In the consolation game, J.J. Sandoval played his best basketball game yet scoring 39 points in their tough 63-68 loss. Their record now falls to 3-10.

Coming Up

The Tigers and Tigerettes will travel to Crystal City Tuesday, December 29.



Get Well

The Tiger and Tigerette basketball teams would like to wish Julie Nowlin a speedy recovery from her illness. Get well soon!

Bianca Gomez

Bianca, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Inocencio Gomez, of Austin, was crowned queen of the 1992 Austin Baby Pageant and Diaper Derby on October 25, 1992. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Juanita Gomez, and Mr. and Mrs. Albelardo Fuentes of Brackettville.



Making A Difference

By TAYLOR STEPHENSON, Curriculum Director

Christmas Open House At Jones Elementary

This past week, Jones Elementary School students and teachers presented their annual Open House for parents and school patrons. The halls of the school were decorated with the colors and sights of Christmas. The school looked more beautiful than I have ever seen it with the repainted, newly carpeted elementary decked with reds and greens and blinking lights on miniature Christmas trees. In every room, the children and staff worked to make sure that a Christmas menagerie at its finest was created.

The school hallway that stretches for 300 feet (the length of a football field) was the scene of parents who dashed hurriedly to see the lights of love in their children's eyes. From the hallway, we could choose to enter the classrooms which were alive with Christmas packages, reindeer noses that were bright red (or even the reindeer horns), and red bows in every size. Being a Texan who had been transplanted to New Mexico for many years, my favorite decorations were Christmas trees decked with bluebonnets and other Texas memorabilia. There was something nice about being in Brackettville, Texas, and watching children decorate for Christmas in Texas style.

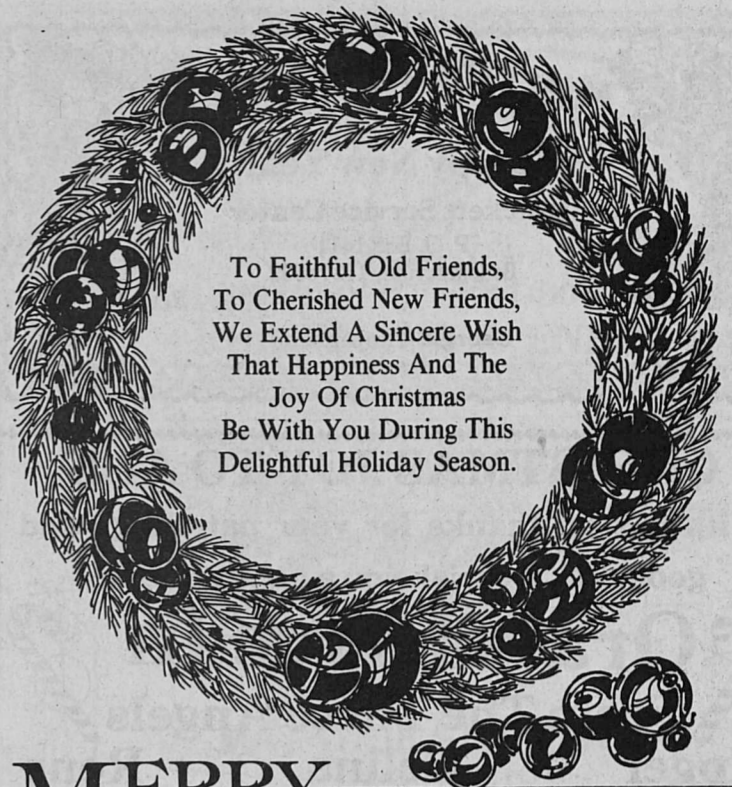
Children performed merrily and well for their admiring parents and friends. Most of the rooms were full so I had to watch from the doorway. However, I was able to watch most of the preparations for the annual open house. I loved the performances, but there was something special about watching the love and sweat that went into the making of this program. I can tell you that the staff of Jones Elementary School knows how to treat children. The kids feelings were placed number one even above the performance goals for programs. This is the way every school should operate, and I can testify to the fact that the staff of Jones Elementary was inspirational as they prepared the children for perhaps the biggest night of the year. I watched the first grade practice which had been made more difficult because of the numbers of children absent because of sickness. The teachers were positive as they worked to beat the deadline.

I watched the second grade as they videoed the children's wishes for Christmas. Each child was given all the time that was needed to make this very special message. The staff enjoyed the videos as much as the kids did. Sometimes children dream about things that we as adults can not visualize because we are not children. Those that watched the videos learned many things about their children. I watched the third grade teachers work to prepare a program that would be filled to capacity and as they dressed each child to look like angelic cherubs. I watched the fourth grade teachers prepare materials with lots of glitter,

and the glitter as it seemed to multiply and stick to everything in sight. In the fifth grade, I was able to choose recorders playing Christmas songs or play with just the right Christmas message of giving and not receiving. The point that I am making is that our teachers did not lose track of the objective in preparing for this open house. The excitement of the children is what made this program a truly beautiful experience. When the children performed, it was spontaneous and exciting because the practices had been positive experiences. Children danced, spoke and sang as if they were on a Broadway stage. The kindergarten and pre-kindergarten children were particularly impressive. The teachers watched with a glowing pride as their children performed beyond even the teachers' expectations.

The cafeteria had Christmas refreshments provided by parents, arranged and planned by the school PTO, and served by Middle School student volunteers. Around the perimeter of the room, we were able to choose a continuous running video for each grade level which showed our own children talking about what they most wanted for Christmas. Parents and interested adults filled every room, the hall, and the school cafeteria where they showed their interest and support for the children. One special moment was when each child presented a special gift which was usually a picture or card for his/her parents. This was a moment that parents did not want to miss.

Well, it was a super evening. The Christmas decorations, songs and dances were worth coming to see. The videos were outstanding. Our children delivered a message of love inspired by their teachers and teacher aides as they presented their programs. I am proud of the town for coming to see what the children and staff presented. I am proud of the children for getting the job done. My pride includes the staff for the way they planned and accomplished this difficult job. We'll do this one again next year! A special thanks to the students, staff and parents of Jones Elementary School. You are making a difference! Merry Christmas, Brackettville.



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Health, Human Services Recommend Reforms

By Judith Zaffirini
State Senator, District 21

"Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees; and both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people." These words by Henry Clay reflect the responsibility assigned to the Senate Interim Committee on Health and Human Services by Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock. He directed us to help restore trust in Texas' mental health, rehabilitation, substance abuse and guardianship systems by investigating abuse and advocating reform.

On Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 the Committee held our last meeting to consider 21 bills drafted from more than 60 issues identified in the course of 15 public meetings and hearings. Witnesses included more than 200 former patients, health care professionals and state agency personnel. Our draft proposals translate into legislation the solutions presented in the Committee's Report to the 73rd Legislature.

Seven bills address abuses in the private psychiatric and substance abuse industries. Highlights of the legislation include providing strong penalties for violating patients' rights; ensuring that patients have access to their mental health and medication records; requiring health care professionals and facility staff

to report wrongdoing; protecting "whistleblowers" to encourage reporting; establishing civil and criminal penalties for sexual misconduct by a mental health provider with a patient; enhancing licensing agencies' oversight abilities; expanding the illegal remuneration law; authorizing agencies to regulate the advertising and marketing practices of facilities; and providing law enforcement, insurers and state regulatory agencies with the necessary tools to fight insurance fraud.

We experienced "deja vu" when Lt. Gov. Bullock expanded our charge by adding medical rehabilitation facilities. Problems were remarkably similar to those in the private psychiatric and substance abuse industries.

Although the Committee received comparatively fewer complaints about rehabilitation facilities, we decided that the similarities justified including them in our proposed legislation. Accordingly, the bills developed for private psychiatric hospitals and substance abuse facilities will provide the same strong protection for patients in inpatient medical rehabilitation facilities.

Fourteen bills focus on Texas' guardianship system. Legal guardianship provides one person with limited or full authority over another individual's life. Citizens most affected by guardianship laws are the elderly, mentally ill, critically ill or injured, and mentally retarded persons in intermediate-care facilities.

Problems include numerous incapacitated individuals with no friends or relatives willing to serve as guardians; unnecessary, unfair and overly broad loss of very basic rights; and minimal court monitoring of guardianship cases.

The bills drafted by the committee include establishing an Office of Public Guardian; setting standards for guardians; improving the monitoring of guardianship cases; facilitating appointment of limited, rather than full, guardianships; and adopting minimum standards for attorneys ad litem in guardianship proceedings.

At our final meeting we heard testimony and incorporated more than 75 amendments to our proposed legislation. The amended legislation probably will change dramatically as it evolves during the legislative process. Copies will be available from committee staff, 512/463-0360, after Jan. 1.

Additional public hearings will afford new opportunities for witnesses to propose amendments and/or to express support or opposition. After that, senators and representatives can attempt to amend our bills as they are debated and considered by the Senate and House of Representatives.

Much progress has been made, but there is still much to be done. In the last 14 months, strong laws were passed, new rules were implemented by state regulatory agencies, a lawsuit against a private psychiatric hospital corporation was settled by the state, and professional groups re-examined their ethical standards and practices.

"We conquer by continuing," wrote George Matheson. The committee continues to work for reforms to conquer abuses. Our proposed legislation should help improve the health, safety and quality of life for Texans.

Beta Sigma Phi Celebrates With A "Carol" Christmas

Members of Theta Sigma and Beta Epsilon were truly "Walking In A Winter Wonderland" as they arrived Monday, Dec. 21, at the beautifully decorated home of hostess Pat Parks for their annual Christmas party.

"Deck The Hall With Holly" was a favorite game as Betas searched the halls and walls decked with four special hand painted wooden ornaments. Barbara Miller, Doraline Keller, Lynn McNew and Leslie Houk were winners.

The sound of "Jingle Bells" ended the Ding-A-Ling Carol game with Nancy Frerich and Lynn McNew winners. Lucky door prize winners were Opal Groce, Nina Batson, Ruby Cheany and Barbara Miller.

Members may have been singing "All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth" but then "Here Comes Santa Claus". During the gift exchange there was a dazzling array of gifts and excitement as year long secret sisters were revealed.

There were no "Chestnuts Roasting Over An Open Fire" but twinkling candles and Santa graced the formal table filled with Christ-

mas treats, hot cider and coffee. Shirley Hadsell served as co-hostess.

Other members dreaming of a "White Christmas" were Pat Callan, Pat Barnett, Pat McKelvy, Delia Curry, Dee Gaston, Marty Isenberg, Luella Gilliland, Lou Green, Flo Stafford, Evelyn Whitley and Betty Ebert.

As members were leaving, greetings of "I Wish You A Merry Christmas", "Joy To The World" and "Let It Snow" echoed into the "Silent Night".

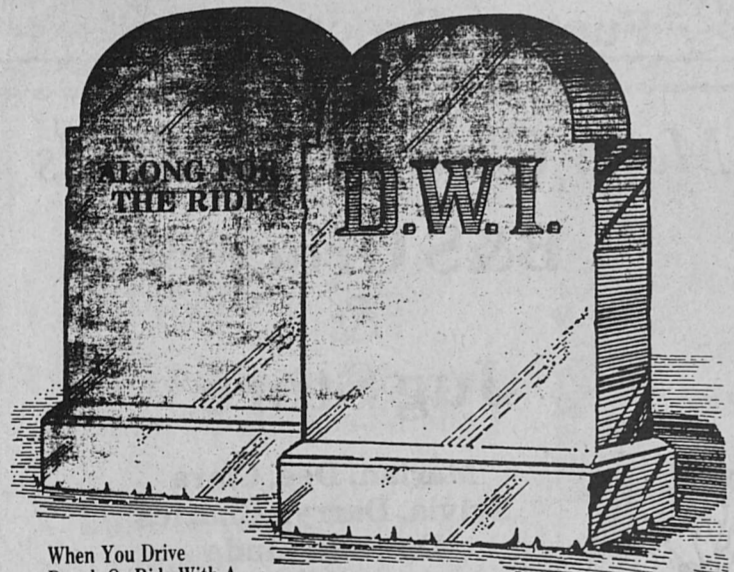


Fort Clark Christmas Lighting Contest Winners

First place: J.E. and Sondra Meil. J.E. hand made the "Choo Choo" Train.

Second place: Albert Kesteloot residence - decorations by Rob. Third (tie) Charlie and Wanda Smith, and Doc and Chick Cruise.

Think twice when a drunk driver offers to take you with him.



When You Drive Drunk Or Ride With A Drunk Driver, You Never Know Where You're Going, Or For How Long.

"I want to work...but I need some help."

JTPA has training opportunities to help you find employment. Whether you need help writing a resume, interviewing for a job, or just searching for a job opening, JTPA can help. If you need help with basic reading, writing, or arithmetic JTPA can help. If you don't have a high school diploma JTPA has a G.E.D. program. JTPA will even sponsor some vocational training. In some instances you can earn wages while you learn job skills. If you want to take advantage of these opportunities you better hurry because JTPA offers help to a limited number of individuals on a first come first serve basis. Find out if you qualify for the JTPA program.

Val Verde County Residents

Del Rio
213 Canal St. 774-4741

Uvalde County Residents

Uvalde
117 N. West St. 278-4491

Kinney County Residents

Brackettville
Brackett School Campus 563-2021

JTPA CAN HELP!

Capital punishment in the U.S.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, there have been 182 executions in the United States, but more than 2,500 inmates await their fate on death row across the country.

Capital punishment laws

36 states have capital punishment laws. Those that do not are:

- Alaska
- Hawaii
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Maine
- Mass.
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- New York
- North Dakota
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

- States with death penalty
- States without



Death row population

Nationally, the population of death row is 2,636. Here are the top 10 death row populations by state, as of Nov. 5:

State	Population
1. Texas	363
2. California	341
3. Florida	319
4. Illinois	144
5. Pennsylvania	143
6. Oklahoma	120
7. Ohio	120
8. Alabama	114
9. Georgia	110
10. Tennessee	104

SOURCE: Chicago Tribune, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc.

Church Directory



St. Andrews Episcopal Church: Henderson & Fort, Sunday Church Service 10:30 A.M. Vicar: Rev. Bill Koons, 512-563-2071.

Frontier Baptist Church (A Southern Baptist Church): Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 A.M., Sunday Evening Service 6:00 P.M. Joe Townsend, Pastor, 512-563-2158.

First Baptist Church (A Southern Baptist Church): 307 N. Ann Street. Sunday School 9:45 A.M., Sunday Worship 11:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., Wednesday Worship 7:00 P.M. Gil Ash, Pastor, 563-2245.

Church of Christ: Sunday School 9:30 A.M., Worship Service 10:30 A.M., Bible Study, Sunday 6:30 P.M., and Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church: Masses Mon. & Fri. 7:00 A.M. Wed. & Sat. 6:30 P.M., Sunday (Spanish) 8:00 A.M. regular 10:30 A.M. Confessions Wed. & Sat. 6:00 P.M. Religion Classes Wed. 6:00 P.M. Sun. 9:00 A.M. Prayer Meeting (Spanish) Wed. 7:00 P.M. Father David G. Zumaya, Pastor.

First United Methodist Church: "Celebrate and Witness" Morning Fellowship 9:30 A.M. Church School Classes 9:45 A.M. Service of Worship 11:00 A.M. Choir Rehearsal Wed. 5:00 P.M. Gordon Miller Pastor.

Merry Christmas
 &
Happy New Year
 Brackett Service Center
 P. O. Box 1411
 Brackettville, TX 78832

Open 7:00 A.M. Road Service
 Matt Georgia Thompsen Junior Joe

Christmas Is In The Heart



CHRISTMAS JOY TO ALL
 With special thanks for your patronage and good will, we wish you a happy holiday

Ora's Drive In
 From The Three Angels
 Roger Celina Rene

CHRISTMAS JOY TO ALL
 With special thanks for your patronage and good will, we wish a very happy holiday to all our customers!

Herbs
 Garage & Body Shop



The manager and residents of the Brackett Seniors Apartments hosted a Christmas party in their Community room Monday afternoon, December 21. Guests were served sandwiches and other goodies from a festively - decorated, bountiful - laden refreshment table. Special guests were the Bingham and Rodriguez families who were the recipients of food and toy gifts. Gleeeful smiles on the children's faces were matched only by those on the "Seniors" faces. Manager Evla Neff presented each resident with a gift.



Merry Christmas

What better time to greet our friends and thank you for your patronage.

Stop N Shop



Letter To Santa

Dear Santa,
 I want a bike and a barbie and a baby doll and a troll.
 I will make uy kookies.
 I Love You
 Lizabeth Smith
 7 years old

Merry Christmas

NOEL

KINNEY COUNTY WOOL & MOHAIR
 Complete Feeds, Salt, Seed and Ranch Supplies, Lumber and Hardware.

MAY YOUR STOCKINGS BE FILLED WITH CHEER
 Merry Christmas to all our friends and customers. Warmest wishes to you and yours.

P.O. Box 1010
 Brackettville, TX 78832
 (210)563-2471

We now carry Mohair Socks & Sweaters

THE JOY OF **Christmas**
 May it be yours now and always!

Southwest Service Company
 Bob & Virginia Yastic
 John Sell Tony Reyes
 Tim McDonald

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
 With special thanks for your patronage and good will, we wish you a very happy holiday

Fuentes Grocery

Merry Christmas, Friends

B&S Grocery & Jug Store

Marian, Dee, Clara
 Sylvia, Darryl, Charles
 Don and Linda

It's the perfect opportunity for us to send you all our holiday best... along with our thanks.

TEN MINUTE OIL CHANGE

QUAKER STATE
 Pennzoil
 Fram Filters

Open Mon - Fri
 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Sat
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

JERRY PARKER, OWNER
 1911 Ave F. Del Rio, TX 78840
 210-775-9858

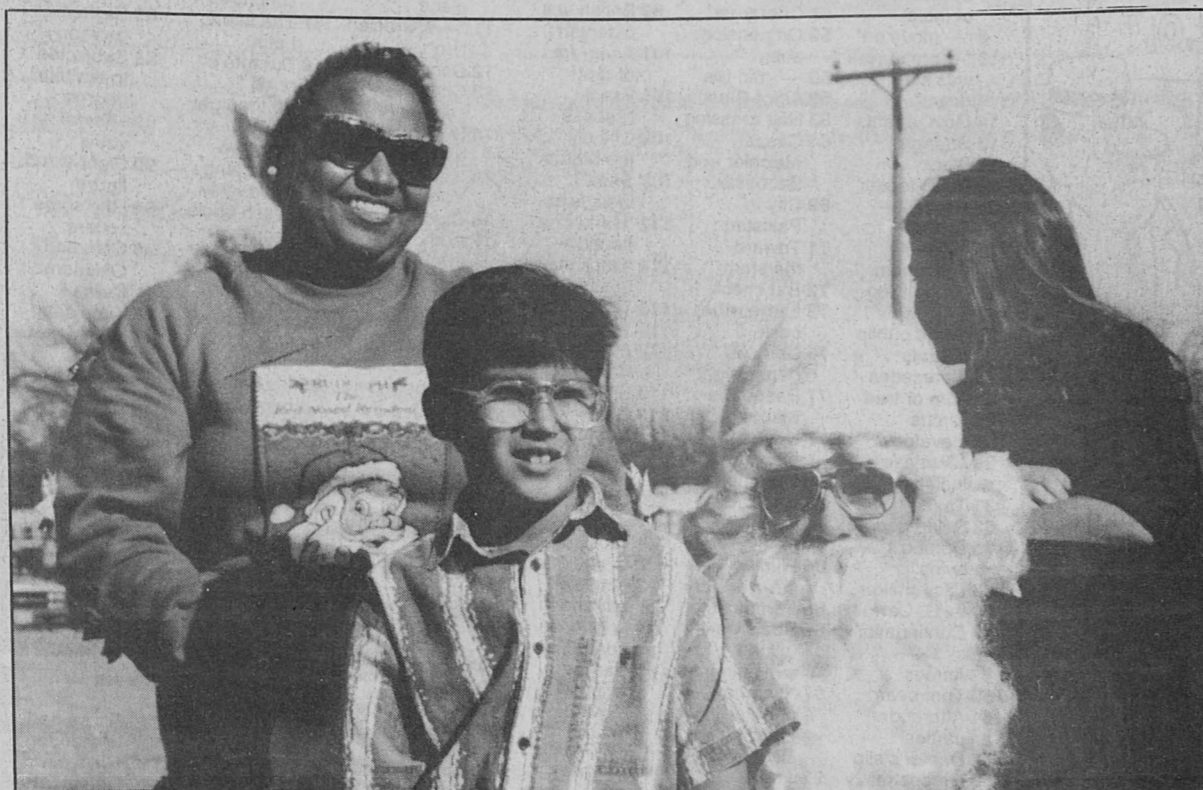
Holiday Greetings To All Our Brackettville Customers.
 Thank you for your business!

Merry Christmas

What better time to greet our friends and thank you for your patronage.

Sunshine Garden Center
 Archie & Jill Woodson

BVFD Escorts Santa To School

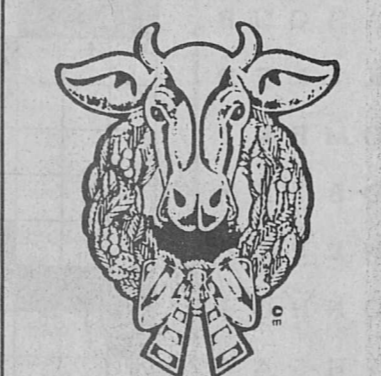


The Brackettville Volunteer Fire Department provided fire truck transportation for Santa Claus on Thursday, December 17, to the Jones Elementary School. Santa visited with the students and distributed candy and fruit. This activity is an annual project of the BVFD.



Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

Hair By Diane
Diane & Brandi



Merry Christmas

To All Our Friends
U-Bar Ranch

Sterling C. Evans Owner Doug Davis Ranch Manager

May All Your Holiday Wishes Come True.
Tom & Jean Faulkenberry

Christmas joy
to you and yours!

THE JOY OF
Christmas

May a very happy holiday season be yours. To our many friends who've been so kind we wish you all the best.

Kinney County
Chamber of Commerce



LP GAS

- ☑ SALES
- ☑ SERVICE
- ☑ MOTOR FUEL
- ☑ TANK RENTALS
- ☑ BOTTLE FILLING
- ☑ HOME DELIVERIES

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BUTANE
PROPANE

"A LOCAL COMPANY" 1-800-543-2630

ROADRUNNER ENERGY

MAY YOUR STOCKINGS
BE FILLED
WITH CHEER

Merry Christmas to all our friends.

Fort Clark Springs Association

Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

From
Mason Shoe & Boot Company

"Thanks for all business"
Henry M. Robertson

Seasons Greetings
And
Happy New Year

To All Our Friends And Customers
From All Of Us At

Eagle Lumber Company
2411 Ave. F 210-775-3508 Del Rio, Texas

Eagle
LUMBER COMPANY
Lumber • Paint • Hardware

Crazy Chicken

Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year

Thank You For Your Patronage
From The Flores Family

Galo, Barbra, Becky,
Jenifer, Sarah

JOY TO THE WORLD
...and to our many friends!

With all the tools at hand, may your holiday season be built upon love, laughter, peace and good will. We're proud to say thank you to all who've been there for us throughout the year.

Davis Hardware Store

Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year
From The Benites Family

Enjoy your home and holiday!

FOR SALE

We welcome this opportunity to thank all our clients at this most festive time.

KINNEY COUNTY LAND CO.

210-563-2447 210-563-2446
P.O. BOX 1035
BRACKETTVILLE TX 78832

WE'D LIKE TO SEND YOU **EACH** A CARD

But there's just too many of you! To all our cherished customers and friends we wish a very merry Christmas.

BREEN GALLERY
Leona Ranch Building
507 South Ann
Brackettville, Texas 78832
(512) 563-2961
(512) 563-2552

BUD BREEN

Las Moras Inn
Christmas Day Buffet

Baked Ham	Vegetable
Mini-Shrimp	Roll
Pig-in-a-Blanket	Soup
Scalloped Potatoes	Desert Bar
Salad Bar	

\$6.95

Las Moras Inn will be closed on December 24 but will be open on December 25, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Golf Club Restaurant will be open on December 24, 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
And closed on December 25

Natasha's Stars

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Use that extraordinary mind of yours to resolve work-related problems. Know that it is all going to change soon. Count on dealing with important people this week — you know, Santa and his gang. By the weekend you will be whooping it up.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Others dominate the scenario this week, and since you're in the Christmas spirit, it's A-okay with you. Many of you will be in never-never land, as you will be so happy this holiday season. Expect to be out and about, doing your thing this weekend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Popularity peaks this week, and you couldn't ask for a better week for this to happen. You are up to enjoying a loving and wonderful holiday. You are open to new horizons and different ways this weekend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You have done more than your share to make this week work. Many of you have "slaved" over last-minute details. There is plenty of time for close negotiations this weekend. If single, your footloose and fancy-free days are likely to be over soon enough.

LEO (July 23-August 22) Don't count on being able to settle down this week at all. It seems as if you are in the holiday spirit, as you do round after round of partying. Count on a weekend of delight and celebration.

VIRGO (August 23-September 22) You know what you are aiming for and what it is you want this week. You seem very close to making this "real," and it's clear you will do whatever it takes to make it so. All the holiday happenings do have you exhausted this weekend. Rest before the next round.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22) You're happy as a cat this week. You

express long-overdue feelings and another responds in kind. You may not be ready to share the news to the world, but by the weekend, you're likely to be in nirvana. Your more loving side emerges.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21) You tend to overdo and go to extremes, especially financially. Who's surprised! You do enjoy the holidays to the max this year. Make a point of getting connected with all those special people in your life. Expect a mellow weekend.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21) You peak this week. You love being you, and you get into all the gift-giving. You have no complaints with Santa this year. By the weekend, you're off, enjoying the people in your life. Expect some special moments.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19) Expect mixed feelings this week, and you will be able to handle the holiday roller coaster ride. Christmas definitely pulls you out of the doldrums, and of all signs, your stocking is the most filled — or so you think. You share the good vibes all weekend long.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18) Expect to soar at certain times of the week, and to be in the pits at other moments. You get a "late" Christmas, and it is worth it. Another indulges you and delights you this weekend.

PISCES (February 19-March 20) You move around and are most visible this week. Santa and his reindeer bring a close-to-perfect Christmas, where friends and family join you for a memorable few days. Whatever, you give thanks in a most interesting way this weekend.

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Vision Teaser



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Curls are added. 2. Bricks are missing. 3. Handbag is smaller. 4. Dress is different. 5. Hat is removed. 6. Car is added.

MagicMaze

LINCOLN AND HIS PREDECESSORS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Buchanan
- Fillmore
- Harrison
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- John Adams
- John Q. Adams
- Lincoln
- Madison
- Monroe
- Pierce
- Polk
- Taylor
- Van Buren
- Washington

(Answer On Page 3)

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Zoroastrian of India
- 6 "— move on"
- 10 "— creature was stirring..."
- 14 Govt. agents
- 18 String
- 19 Black
- 20 Baltic feeder
- 21 Nobelist — Root
- 23 "O — of Bethlehem..."
- 25 "Good King —"
- 27 Some public officials
- 28 It precedes horn or tree
- 29 Circus elevators?
- 30 American Indian
- 31 Tax
- 32 Salad gadget
- 33 Dumbo's "wing"
- 36 Lace-maker
- 39 — G. Carroll
- 40 Continuation of 112
- 49 Across
- 50 Trim beard
- 51 Afternoon parties
- 52 Debtor's slip
- 53 Orchestral instrument
- 54 Ancient ascetic
- 55 Pointed instrument
- 56 Take an SST
- 57 Cherry-red
- 59 On pension: abbr.
- 60 — — tac-toe
- 62 Actor Gibson
- 63 Hair dressing
- 64 Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar
- 69 City in Pakistan
- 71 Toward the stern
- 72 Bar check
- 73 Large wine cask
- 76 Units of gem weight
- 77 Baseball's Mel
- 78 Kentucky bluegrass
- 80 Imagine
- 83 Have you two lives for —?
- 84 Film director's cry
- 85 Farm animal
- 86 She's waiting "till the sun shines"
- 87 "It came upon a midnight clear..."
- 92 Angler's need
- 93 Cuban dictator
- 94 Marshal of France
- 95 Reluctant
- 99 British unit of length
- 101 Anagram of rapt
- 105 Exact likeness
- 106 City on the Mures
- 107 Show indecision
- 112 "Hark! The herald —"
- 114 "Deck the halls —"
- 115 Trite
- 116 Tenor Pinza
- 117 Alan or Barbara
- 118 Biblical name
- 119 Germ suffix
- 120 Numerical
- 121 Felid
- 122 Stock unit
- DOWN**
- 1 Close chums
- 2 Dismounted
- 3 Actress Moreno
- 4 Brief confrontation
- 5 Narrow channel of water
- 6 "— the Church on Time"
- 7 Oil-yielding tree
- 8 "Boys —" (1938 movie)
- 9 Dancer Miller
- 10 Nonexistent place
- 11 "— a Grecian Urn"
- 12 Dogma
- 13 Circle segment
- 14 Draps with garlands
- 15 Island in New York Bay
- 16 Clock faces
- 17 Author of "On the Beach"
- 22 Gorbachev's land
- 24 Within: comb. form
- 26 Organic compound
- 28 British guns
- 31 Purlion
- 33 Kind of moth
- 34 European shad
- 35 Dean Martin party
- 37 Connect or join
- 38 Sine wave
- 39 TV's "— Grant"
- 41 Abbr. on a map
- 42 Strong urge
- 43 Seesaws
- 44 "When? Be Loved?" (1960 song)
- 45 "Barfoot —, with cheek of tani"
- 46 Moslem sacred scriptures
- 47 The same: Latin
- 48 Durante's pride
- 49 To the right
- 56 More than two
- 57 Searching thoroughly
- 58 Dutch uncle
- 61 Brooklyn follower
- 62 Satisfied
- 63 Problem for a princess?
- 64 U —, U.N. dignitary
- 65 It's before dog or rod
- 66 Surname of Pope Pius XI
- 67 New
- 68 Stationary part of a motor
- 69 Plaster foundation
- 70 Kind of code?
- 73 Long claw
- 74 Useful husband
- 75 Impoverished
- 76 Angora or Persian
- 77 "— Town"
- 78 Sheriff's band
- 79 Hop kiln
- 81 — gratias
- 82 Sprite
- 84 Province-town's cape
- 85 Basketball position
- 88 Subjected to the third degree
- 89 Mineral veins
- 90 Eight-sided figure
- 91 Like some collars
- 95 Ohio and Oklahoma towns
- 96 Type sets
- 97 Wrinkles
- 98 White poplar tree
- 99 Yellow
- 100 One of the Fords
- 102 Tease
- 103 Lotion ingredients
- 104 Rich, thick fabric
- 107 Glass container
- 108 Gudrun's husband
- 109 Taj Mahal site
- 110 Norse god of thunder
- 113 Defeat, at bridge
- 114 Reporter's question

Happy Birthday

- December 24 Tom W. Beatty
- December 24 Sam Ferguson
- December 27 Margarita Garcia
- December 28 Hortencia R. Castro
- December 28 Kerry Barry
- December 29 Patricia J. Garberick
- December 29 Preston Taylor
- December 29 Myrna Gonzalez
- December 29 Clarissa Aguirre
- December 30 William D. Thornton
- December 30 Wallace Dimery

Service Directory

Davis Hardware & Ranch Supply
 Originally a part of Petersen & Co. Since 1876
 101 East Spring Street P.O. Box 976
 Brackettville, Texas 78832
 General Hardware Stock Medicines
 Pipes & Fencing Ranch Supplies
 Paint Ammunition
 Phone: 210-563-2528

PRATT Insurance Agency
Farmers Insurance Group
 2116 Avenue F (LaPaloma Village) Del Rio, TX 78840
 *Auto*Home*Life*Fire*Boats
 *Business*Mobile Homes*RV
 SE HABLA ESPANOL
 Bill Pratt Agent 210-775-5183
 Fax 210-775-4876

Dr. Carl D. Utterback M.D.
 Now Taking Obstetrical Patients
 Board Certified By The American Board
 Of Family Practice
 Monday-Friday
 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 (210)278-4588
 2100 Garner Field Road Uvalde, Texas

Kreiger Insurance Agency
 "Complete Insurance Service"
 P.O. Box No. 5
 Brackettville, Texas 78832
 210-563-2408

PEST CONTROL
 Rio Grande
 We Provide A Complete Line Of Residential & Commercial Services For Uvalde & The Surrounding Areas
Exterminators
 278-1464 1-800-456-1464
 Uvalde * Curtis Muecke

SEATBELTS
 Everybody's Wearing Them

Bud Breen, cowboy, ranch foreman, western movie actor, then artist has been painting pictures that capture the beauty of the open country and ranch life that he loves so well.
 Born in Eagle Pass, Texas, Bud grew up on the ranches of Southwest Texas.
 Bud's Brackettville home is his studio, the kitchen table is his easel and his experiences are his inspiration.
Breen Gallery
 507 South Ann Street
 Brackettville, TX 78832
 (210)563-2961

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM
 \$15.00 per year
 Please attach check or money order
 Mail to:
 The Brackett News
 P. O. Box 1039 Brackettville TX 78832
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 Address _____
 City/state/zip _____

LEONA RANCH
 Many thanks for your kind support.
 Wes Robinson
 Jewel F. Robinson

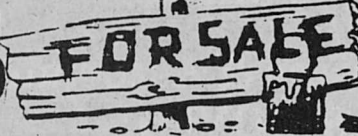
Pronto TV & VCR
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 MICROWAVES AND STEREOS
 Work On All Major Brands
 Free Estimates
 Pickup & Delivery
 No Charge
 OWNER AND TECHNICIAN
 GREG SANDOVAL 210-563-9010, 563-2762
 Brackettville, Texas

Merry Christmas
 And
 Happy New Year

563-2852

Only \$2.00 for 15 words or less and only .15¢ per word thereafter.

CLASSIFIEDS



563-2852

REAL ESTATE

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Elsa & Paul O'Rourke
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FCS Memberships and Rentals Available

For Rent or Sale: 2 bedroom, 2 bath unfurnished town house. Appliances included. \$325 mo. plus utilities.

For Sale: Duplex by house or entire unit. Good rental property. Reasonable.

For Sale: 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. All appliances, partially furnished. 2nd roof and carport. \$14,000. Firm, with membership.

For Sale: 2 bedroom, 1 bath partially furnished home on Fort Clark. Membership and all appliances included. \$32,000.

Attention Hunters - O'Rourke Realty has several very comfortable and attractively priced mobile homes for sale or rent. Call us anytime. Always on duty. 512-563-2713.

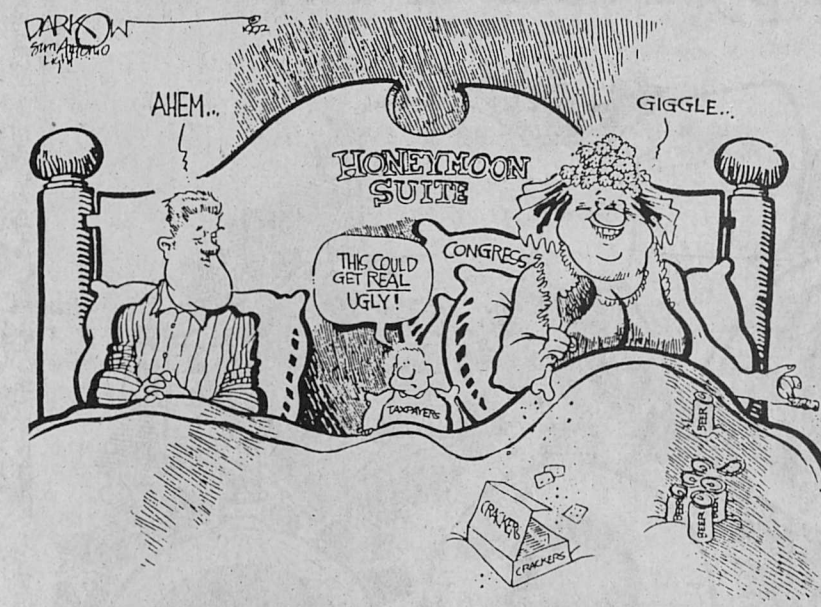
GUITAR LESSONS

Beginning Guitar Lessons \$10 per hour one hour a week. Call 563-2961 8-5 or 563-2077 after 5 p.m.

Veterans Post
by Freddy Groves

NEW LAW REFORMS VA BENEFITS: The Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992 makes major changes in insurance and DIC (dependency and indemnity compensation) programs. The law standardizes DIC payments to surviving spouses of vets whose service-connected deaths occur on or after Jan. 1, 1993 by eliminating the current benefits schedule based on the deceased vet's rank. Effective Jan. 1, 1993, a monthly base rate of \$750 will be payable to surviving spouses of all such veterans. The rate is by \$165 per month if the vet was totally service-connected disabled continuously for at least eight years prior to death. Surviving spouses of vets who died before Jan. 1, 1993, will receive the highest of either the new rate, or the benefit under the old schedule.

Also changed is the insurance coverage maximum under SGLI (Servicemen's Group Life Insurance) from \$100,000 to \$200,000. Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) is increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000 offered on a renewable five-year term basis.



TexSCAN

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Advertise in 299 Texas newspapers for only \$250.
Reach 3 MILLION Texans. Call this newspaper for details.

SWINE COMPANY SEEKS dedicated/aggressive people. Expansion with outside confinement production. Nebraska, Iowa, Texas Panhandle, Georgia. Resumes, 301 N. Shackelford Rd., Suite 201, Little Rock, AR 72211.

PIZZA INN SEEKING qualified franchisees. "Carry-out/delivery & full-service restaurants. *Easy to open & operate. *110 Franchises sold in the last 12 months. For information call 1-800-880-9955.

OTR DRIVERS TIRED of the same old garbage? Want to drive a nice tractor? Work with good people and get good benefits? Call 1-800-285-8267 E.O.E.

COVENANT TRANSPORT NOW hiring OTR drivers. The best team pay in the industry; *27¢ - 29¢ per mile plus mileage and longevity bonus *motel/lover pay *loading/unloading pay *paid insurance. Requirements: *age 23 with 1 yr. verifiable OTR *class A CDL with Haz/mat *students welcome. 1-800-441-4394 or 915-852-3357.

AIRCRAFT MECHANIC TRAINING: Become FAA certified A & P mechanic. Day/night classes. Financial aid available. Job placement assistance. *Aircraft Aviation 1-920-776-7423 or 713-644-7777.

WOLFFANNING BEDS new commercial-home units from \$199. Lamps, lotions, accessories. Monthly payments low as \$18. Call today free new color catalog 1-800-228-6292.

DEBBIE TRANT
210-563-2007 or 775-0010

Janita Hinds Real Estate

One of the Real Joys of the Season is the opportunity to express appreciation for your business. Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

FOR SALE

Mobile Home, 3 bdrm and 2 bath. Fort Clark, Unit 15, Lot 110. Contact Joe at 563-2444.

FREE ESTIMATES

Mata Painting & Dry Wall
Dry Wall Acoustic Ceilings
For free estimates call
210-278-2650

Women in uniform

Women constitute 11% of the U.S. armed forces, as of December 1991. How it breaks down:

Number of women, by service (women as percent of branch shown in parentheses):

Officers

Total: 34,099
Percent female: 11.9%

Army 12,257 (12.1%)
Navy 7,970 (11.3%)
Marines 672 (3.5%)
Air Force 13,200 (13.8%)

Enlisted

Total: 178,954
Percent women: 10.9%

Army 65,806 (11.2%)
Navy 47,040 (9.7%)
Marines 8,141 (4.7%)
Air Force 57,967 (14.4%)

SOURCE: Defense Department

Savings You Can See

The Brackett News
563-2852

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council has a vacancy for a full-time Instructor at the Crystal City JTPA Office and Education Center.

Interested applicants should possess: (1) a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university (prefer TEA Teacher Certification), (2) at least two years teaching experience and/or equivalent professional level work experience (3) should be computer literate and able to use computer laboratory for instruction (4) must have strong ability to communicate effectively in English and Spanish to youth and adult teaching groups, and (5) should possess demonstrated ability in working effectively with students, parents, and community agencies.

Salary according to approved MRGDC Salary Schedule.

Some regional and overnight travel required, therefore applicant must have reliable transportation.

Interested applicants should submit resume, application, and a copy of their college transcript to: Ramon S. Johnston, Deputy Director of Administration, P.O. Box 1199, Carrizo Springs, Texas 78834, (210)876-3533.

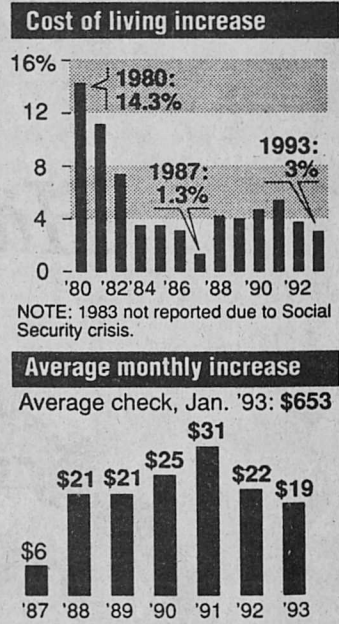
Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

MRGDC is an equal opportunity employer.

#5771

Social Security checks: \$19 more

Social Security checks will be slightly bigger in January with a 3% cost-of-living increase, the smallest in six years:



SOURCE: Social Security Administration

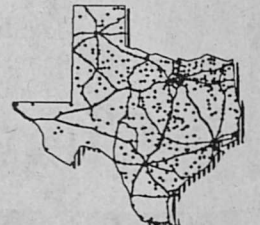
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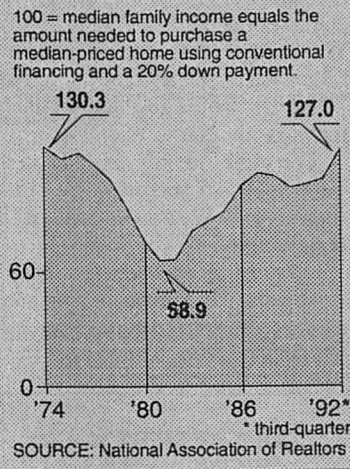
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MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

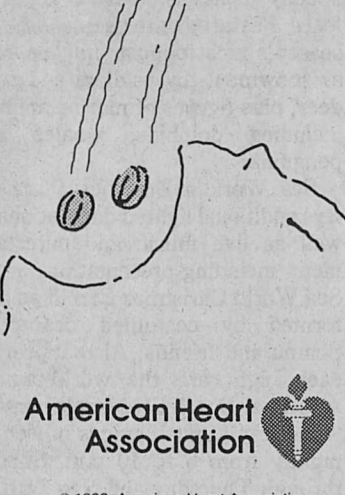
Goodies Galore! At the new Suttler's Store! By the Museum at Fort Clark Springs. Open Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

More Americans can afford houses

The typical U.S. family's ability to buy a house jumped in the third quarter to its highest in 18 years. Housing affordability index, 1974-1992:



BLOOD PRESSURE PILLS ONLY WORK IF YOU TAKE THEM.



American Heart Association
© 1992, American Heart Association

Lone Star Events

Jan. 1—Cotton Bowl Parade and Bowl Game, Dallas. This famous annual New Year's Day football classic pits the Southwest College Conference champion against a nationally ranked team. The parade precedes the event on New Year's day morning and celebrations can be found throughout Dallas on the evening before and after the big game. Contact the State Fair of Texas, P.O. Box 26010, Dallas, 26010. 214/565-9931 or Cotton Bowl Assn. at 214/634-7525.

Jan. 22-Feb. 7—Southwestern Exposition Fat Stock Show & Rodeo, Fort Worth. This show-flavored extravaganza premiered the world's first indoor rodeo in 1917. Now, this nationally famous event includes prize livestock displays, horse shows, a midway and specialty acts. The ever-growing, internationally acclaimed livestock exposition lists over half a million dollars in show premiums, rodeo purse, and educational scholarships. The livestock exhibits include cattle, sheep, swine, dairy cattle and goats, horses, donkeys, mules, pigeons, poultry and rabbits—more than 17,000 head of quality livestock in all. The Stock Show Rodeo is known worldwide for

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All Classified Ads placed in The Brackett News including garages sales must be paid in advance. Thank you for your cooperation!

BRACKETT LAND AND REALTY

Office: 210-563-9115 Home: 210-563-2836
J. Sbarbaro: Broker Mona Miller: Agent

Brackett Land & Realty wishes each of you a Happy Holiday Season and a great 1993. Thank you for your business and I hope you will allow me to help you in your realty needs for 1993.

I will close the office December 22 for the Christmas Holidays and reopen on December 28. If you need information, or help, please call 210-563-9115. I will check daily for messages.

Pets: Lost Or Found

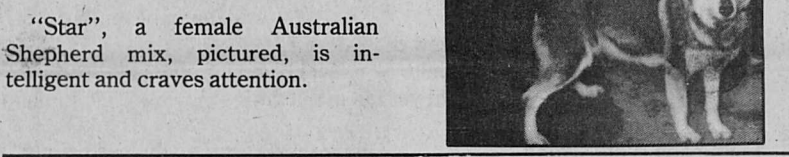
To report lost or found animals, call 563-2704.

In the Pound this week, we still have "Reyna", a female Labrador. She is tan and white. We have a very generous offer from an anonymous person concerning this animal. If the adoptee so wishes, this animal may be neutered at a Veterinary Clinic of his/her choice and the bill for this service will be paid in full.

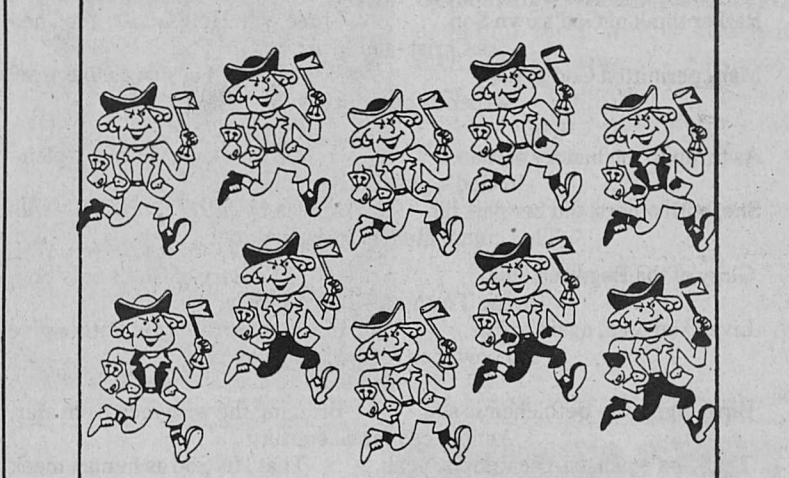
"Bo" arrived in the Pound on Friday. She is a Hound mix, rust in color with yellow-green eyes. Her age is unknown. She is everything anyone would want in a good hunting companion.

This is the last week that these animals can be held at the City Pound. Please help us to find homes for them! They would be such good Christmas and New Year's surprises for someone in need of a "friend".

Come by City Hall to visit these dogs or telephone us at 563-2412.



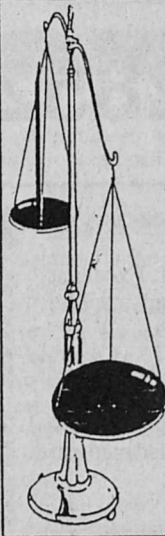
"Star", a female Australian Shepherd mix, pictured, is intelligent and craves attention.



BY GEORGE! Two of the 10 hatchet bearers above look enough alike to be twins. Which two is for you to decide.

Jan. 30—Texas Mohair Festival, Kerrville. The world series of goat shearing takes place in the Hill Country Youth Exhibit Center, which is fitting, since the region still promotes itself as an angora goat capital. A full day of activities includes sheep dog demonstrations, a mohair fashion show and arts and crafts. Contact Kerrville Chamber of Commerce, 1200 Sidney Baker, Kerrville, 78028. 210/896-1155.

Jan. 12-17—San Antonio Sport, Boat and RV Show. This major exhibit attracts thousands of avid anglers, hunters, campers and boating and travel enthusiasts. With more than 400 displays covering 300,000 square feet in the Convention Center, visitors can check out the latest in powerboats, sailboats and boating accessories; the newest recreational vehicles and supplies; the travel/vacation section offering information on resorts, campgrounds, hunting and fishing, lodges and camps, rafting, guest ranches and more. Don't miss the rainbow trout fishing tank, fishing seminars and miniature boat races. Contact Donna Coffen, Double C Productions, Sport, Boat & P.V. Show, P.O. Box 1678, Huntsville, 77432. 409/295-9677.



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Christmas



By Brother James E. Bulloch

Little Baby, helpless, cute, Born in manger giving mute
Testimony of God's great love.
Jesus came by mother Mary. She accepted without contrary
Thought what God asked her from above.

That was many years ago. Jesus' different now you know.
He is King all powerful.
No longer Baby think of Him As this world stands on the brim
Of tribulation terrible.

No longer sentimental be, Hanging lights on Christmas tree,
Celebrating Jesus' birth.
That was a day in history, His birth, God's great mystery,
That day He came to earth.

But Jesus grew a mighty man To accomplish God's plan-
To be God's great salvation.
As man He died, Was crucified,
Our all sufficient oblation.

Now at birthday celebrations We scarce consider incarnations
As the celebrates.
We consider them today, Those on whom we best wishes lay,
Not them as tiny babies.

Why then do we concentrate, Remembering Christ's birth date
As Babe in swaddling clothes?
Perhaps we do so in this way So that in doing this we may
Assume a self-satisfying pose.

Trying others and self to fool And doing becoming fool
In a new devil deceit.
By concentrating on Christ as child, Meek and humble, gentle, mild;
We might yet fall in defeat.

For a baby is not strong In mother's arms such does belong.
Such could not a Savior be.
For a Savior must o'ercome the devil, Freeing us from grip of evil.
A powerful One's needed to set us free.

Rather think of God's own Son, Three with Holy Ghost, yet One.
As Christ - our victory.
Mary permitted God to use Her body so as to bruise
Serpent's heel decisively.

As through the history of man Mary took part in God's plan-
In God's redemptive story.
She, with others, did her part fill. As piece-by-piece 'twas God's will
That culminated in Christ's glory;

Glory of the Begotten One, Glory of God's only Son.
He the Truth, the Life, the Way,
Lived and died, again to live, Into whose hands did Father give
All power on resurrection day.

Birth night, the Bethlehem star Bringing the wise men from afar,
Announced for all eternity
That God's plan had neared the peak, That His Son as human meek
Began His life of testimony.

But the beginning of His age Only served to set the stage
For the drama so extreme.
For He as Baby could not be The Source of God to set us free.
It was Christ, the man, who'd be supreme.

Very soon He's coming back. This time no power will He lack.
He'll come in all His majesty.
Don't look for Him in manger now, Baby born 'midst horse and cow.
As King He'll come to set us free.

As you think of Jesus' glory And of His salvation story
At this His birthday time;
It's not of self or family, Opening presents merrily
In the usual festive clime,

That should be your thought. Rather, it is that you ought
To Christ a present give.
But how are you to know What to give Him. Does He show
You, who these last days live?

Yes. So when you open Christmas present And everything's so pleasant,
All gathered around tree so trim;
Remember what it is you've heard - What He tells you in His word-
Of what you can do for Him.

Give thirsty, drink, and hungry, meat, So that all may eat.
It's what you're asked to do.
Give stranger a room. With clothes naked groom.
These are asked of you, too.

Visit the sick that you find, Being patient and kind
In their infirmity.
Visit the prisoner, too. You'll find quite a few
In jail and penitentiary.

Such will be Christ's birthday present That to Him you present
And lay at His Christmas tree.
For as you do to these others, The least of all your brothers,
He say, "You do it unto Me."

I believe that if you try, And hearing others cry
Out, too, as they helpless lie,
Meeting needs as heaven sent; It will be a birthday present
Acceptable to Christ on high.

Think it's more blessed to Give to others as rich as you?
Is this how God indwells in us?
No! Give to who cannot return. In this way you will learn
The true blessings of Christmas!



Meditations

Celebration and sadness have a "strange mix" during the Christmas Holidays. More people visit friends and relatives and celebrate with the exchanging of gifts than at any other time of year. At the same time, more people feel lonely, helpless, and sad.

Wise men brought gifts to Jesus. We remember the story of those presents of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They unfold the meaning of Christmas for us today.

Gold is a "wealth standard." All of us are more wealthy than we realize. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, the clothes we wear - all may remind us that we're blessed. The eternal wealth of life through God's Son is the highest wonder of wealth that anyone may have.

The frankincense gift reminds of the fragrance that everyone may have. A perfume package may be carried by everyone!

The most popular person two thousand years ago was Jesus. Everywhere He travelled, people followed him -- by the hundreds and thousands. The Bible says, "The common people heard Him gladly." We need this second-dimension of fragrance about us, don't you think? What can we do to "share our perfume" with others?

The gift of myrrh reminds us that bitterness and sorrow comes in life to everyone. We simply can't escape this reality.

Sickness follows some people like a shadow. Financial woes hound others. Broken relationships bring on despair that sometimes settles

HOLIDAY LIGHT MAGIC' SHINING NIGHTLY AT SEA WORLD OF TEXAS

Sea world of Texas in San Antonio is aglow this holiday season with "Holiday Light Magic," and nightly spectacle of thousands of colorful lights, festive decorations and entertainment for the entire family.

This sparkling showcase of holiday beauty and pageantry is presented nightly at Sea World through Jan. 3, with the exception of Christmas Eve, Dec. 24.

Holiday Light Magic enables guests to drive their private vehicles through a mile and a half of brilliant holiday displays - many as tall as 15 feet. Featured are some of the season's most popular images such as snowmen, toy soldiers and reindeer, plus figures of marine animals including dolphins, whales and penguins.

Sea World's Entrance Plaza offers additional lighted decorations as well as live music and entertainment, including presentations of "A Sea World Christmas Carol" as performed by costumed characters Shamu and friends. Also appearing each night are the world-famous Anheuser-Busch Clydesdale horses.

Holiday Light Magic is presented nightly from 6 to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 6 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The Entrance Plaza and drive-through are the only portions of Sea World open for the holiday event.

Admissions is \$9 per passenger car or van, \$20 per commercial shuttle or mini-bus and \$45 per bus. For more information, call (21)523-3611.

WILD BOAR POPULATION

Texas has the largest wild boar population in the United States. This is causing many problems, especially in South Texas. These wild boar or feral hogs are a menace to landowners causing hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage to crops, fences, livestock and wildlife each year. Ranchers, farmers, landowners, state and federal agricultural and wildlife agents all agree that the wild hog numbers must be controlled.

Curtis L. Bruner, president of Curtis L. Bruner's Wild Game offers a profitable solution to the feral hog problem in South Texas. Bruner's processing plant in Devine, Texas buys live wild boar. Public demand for wild boar meat is growing because it is healthier and lower in fat than domestic pork.

The only requirement for trapping wild boar is a Texas hunting license. There is no boar hunting season so they may be trapped year round, according to Captain Harold Oates of Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission in Austin, Texas. However, they must be delivered to the Devine plant alive. Current Texas Animal Health Commission guidelines do permit direct movement of wild boar from property where they are trapped to a slaughter facility such as the processing plant in Devine.

Anyone interested in selling wild boar to the Devine plant may call Jimmy Hester at 210-663-4418.

down over us like fog over Los Angeles.

If you feel that you have received an oversupply of "myrrh" at this time of year, remember also that you have gold and frankincense. And don't let the bitter, sad days spoil the wealth that belongs to you from the other gifts you receive.

Remember that Christmas means "God with us." That's the name of Emmanuel that the Old Testament prophets wrote about. That's the significance of the Apostle Paul's words that "God was in Christ." We have good news -- exciting news to change lives. God loves us, and God wants us to have the best life possible.

Open your eyes to the Big Christmas Story. You'll find that gold and frankincense weighs much more than myrrh. Why not let hope and joy fill your life during this Season?

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Hope You Have
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Roberto Fernandez, Billy Willard, Oscar SanMiguel, Bill Willard

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